CITY EDITION 16 pages • ₹10.00

PRINTED AT . CHENNAL . COIMBATORE . BENGALURU . HYDERABAD . MADURAL . NOIDA . VISAKHAPATNAM . THRUVANANTHAPURAM . KOCHI . VIJAYAWADA . MANGALURU . TRUCHIRAPALLI . KOLKATA . HUBBALLI . MOHALI . MALAPPURAM . MUMBAL . TIRUPATI . LUCKNOW . CUTTACK . PATNA

# JEE (MAIN) 2021

**OUTSTANDING RESULTS YET AGAIN!** 





**AIR** 



PRAVAR KATARIA



**ANMOL ARICHWAL** 

(6278 Classroom + 922 Distance & Digital) \*Still Counting

**Aakashians Qualified for** JEE (Advanced) 2021

in Top 10

**in Top 500** 

in Top 100

# **OUR TOP PERFORMERS WITHIN TOP 100 FROM CLASSROOM PROGRAMS**



**RANJIM PRABAL DAS 5 Year Classroom** 



**GOUTAM DAS** 2 Year Classroom



**VAIBHAV BAJAJ 5 Year Classroom** 



**ISHAV SINGLA** 5 Year Classroom

# SUBJECT-WISE TOP PERFORMERS WITH 💯 Percentile from Classroom Programs



**65 Physics** 

Chemistry

**All Subjects** 













Includes students from Classroom, Distance & Digital Courses



Repeater / XII passed batch courses are also available without learning device.















Though every care has been taken to publish the result correctly, yet the Institute shall not be responsible for error, if any.

# **ADMISSIONS OPEN - Repeater / XII Passed Batches**



**Hybrid Course for Power Step (JEE 2022) / Medical (NEET 2022) with Learning Device** 

Classroom coaching will start as and when our branches re-open as per the state government guidelines. Terms and conditions apply. All pictures shown are for illustration purpose only. Actual product may vary.



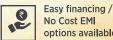
to classroom at no



Continue your learning with learning device (Tablet 26.31 cm)



data plan (if opted



Instant Scholarship & Admission - Get up to 90% Scholarship

OUR BRANCHES AT: Janak Puri (Medical Wing): 8800013110 Janak Puri (Engineering & Foundation Wing): 8800013017 South Extn., (Medical Wing): 8800013111 South Extn., (Engineering Wing): 8800013110 Janak Puri (Foundation Wing): 8800013018 Dwarka (Sec-11): 8800013019 Pitam Pura (Medical Wing): 9560292031, 9560292031, 9560292026, 9560292028 Model Town-II: 9560197324, 9821396797 Punjabi Bagh: 9560197322, 9560197321 Rohini (Sector-4) Foundation Wing: 9560292029, 9821396805 Rohini (Sector-15) Foundation Wing: 9560292029, 9821396805 Preet Vihar: 8468807501 Noida (Sector-18): 8800013020 Noida (Sector-62): 8800013021 Greater Noida: 8800013024 Faridabad: 8800013022 Ambala: 8800012946 Bhiwani: 8800012950 Hisar: 8800013035 Kaithal: 8800012949 Karnal: 8800012947 Kurukshetra: 8800013036 Narnaul: 8800013042 Palwal: 8800013038 Panchkula: 8800013039 Panipat: 8800013040 Rohtak: 8800013037 Sirsa: 8800012948 Yamuna Nagar: 8800012945 Amritsar: 8800013076 Bathinda: 8800013078 Chandigarh: 8800013079 Ferozepur: 7428490291, 7428490290 Jalandhar: 8800013080 Ludhiana: 8800013082 Agra: 8800013099 Prayagraj: 8800013100 Gorakhpur: 8800013101 Jhansi: 8448289995 Kanpur (Kakadeo): 8800013102 Kanpur (Phoolbagh): 8800013103 Mathura: 7428899147 Meerut: 8800013105 Saharanpur: 8800013106 Haridwar: 8800013109 Dehradun (Ballupur Chowk): 8800013108 Dehradun (Rajpur Road): 8800013107 Jaipur (Gopalpura Bypass): 8800013083 Jaipur (Subhash Nagar): 8800013084 Jaipur (Vaishali Nagar): 8800013085 Jodhpur: 8800013085 Bhopal: 8800013087 Ajmer: 8800013118 Bikaner: 8800015946 Udaipur: 7357621555, 7357628555 Sri Ganganagar: 7428593085 Bhopal: 8800013080 Gwalior: 8800013064 Jabalpur: 8800013065 Indore (Geeta Bhawan): 8800013061 Indore (Ranjeet Hanuman): 8800013062 Ujjain: 8800013119 OUR CENTRES AT: Pusa Road: 8447299285, 8447299386, 8377956764, 7011910618 Vasant Kunj: 9711786886 Dilshad Garden: 9350395559 Bareilly: 9997690099, 8881122111 Moradabad: 9119918585, 7455022493, 9720017271 Ghaziabad: 8826050187, 8882546640 Gurugram (Sector-14): 9717508555, 7042494290 (South City-II): 9958064196, 9599488141 Rewari: 9053008274, 9053008275 Bilaspur: 9630098105 Raipur: 7611110515, 7611110512 Bhilai: 7611110534 Haldwani: 9997699977, 8881122111 Rudrapur: 9997693344 Jammu (Gandhi Nagar): 9419607066, 8491907880 (Kachi Chawni): 9419607066, 8899979323 Udhampur: 9419607066, 8899984223 Srinagar (Raj Bagh): (0194) 2454540, 8491047228 / 229 (Nigeen): 9107926842 (Rawalpora): (0194) 2436550, 6006750448.



**SCAN FOR NEAREST CENTRE** 

**Download Aakash App** 





**CALL (TOLL-FREE)** 1800-102-2727

aakash.ac.in



# SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

7/1

YEARS OF FREEDOM

37
YEARS OF JOURNALISM



# **POWERED BY TRUTH & SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER**

# **Cover price ₹125**

Periodicity	No. of Issues	Rate @ Cover Price (Rs.)	OFFER PRICE	Discount %		
3 months	7	875	555	37%		
6 months	6 months 13		1150	29%		
1 Year	26	3250	2085	36%		
2 Years	2 Years 52		3750	42%		
Overseas 26		100 USD	NA	NA		

To subscribe online, visit www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe.

**Subscribe Now!** 



Scan to Subscribe

#### SUBSCRIPTION OPPED FORM

For subscription, please t	Renewal (Subscrip Renewal (Subscrip fill the form, sign and send it hennai – 600 002. E-mail: cu	to Circulation			•
Name:					
Mailing Address:					
			City:		
Pin:	District:		State:		
Landline:	Mobile:		e-mail:		
I am remitting ₹			for 6 months	for 1 Year	for 2 Years
By O DD/Cheque Number	- in favour of THG Publish	ing Private Lim	ited., (Add ₹10	for non-Chenna	ii cheque)
DD/Cheque Number:		Amount: ₹		Date:	
Bank:					

Signature with date:

# SPECIAL

**SUBSCRIPTION OFFER** 

**ENJOY THIS FREE-HIT WITH SPORTSTAR** 



# **Cover price ₹75**

CM YK

Periodicity	No. of Issues	Rate @ Cover Price (Rs.)	OFFER PRICE	Discount %		
3 months	7	525	333	37%		
6 months	13	975	599	39%		
1 Year	26	1950	999	49%		
2 Years	52 3900		1599	59%		
Overseas	26	90 USD	NA	NA		

To subscribe online, visit www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe.

**Subscribe Now!** 



Scan to Subscribe

# SUBSCRIPTION ORDER FORM

DD/Cheque Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

DD/Cheque Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature with date: \_\_\_\_





SC allows Kerala to conduct Class XI exams in physical mode



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat to visit Jammu and Kashmir in Oct.



U.S. President Biden unveils plan to cut methane emissions

Sharath Kamal says appointing a foreign coach is top priority





PRINTED AT · CHENNAI · COIMBATORE · BENGALURU · HYDERABAD · MADURAI · NOIDA · VISAKHAPATNAM · THIRUVANANTHAPURAM · KOCHI · VIJAYAWADA · MANGALURU · TIRUCHIRAPALLI · KOLKATA · HUBBALLI · MOHALI · MALAPPURAM · MUMBAI · TIRUPATI · LUCKNOW · CUTTACK · PATNA





#### Akali Dal chief, 16 others detained in the Capital

NEW DELHI Delhi Police on Friday detained leaders of Shiromani Akali Dal, including Sukhbir Singh Badal and former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, and 15 others following a call for a protest march against the new farm laws.

#### Court pulls up Delhi police over riots cases

A Delhi court on Friday came down heavily on the city police for its "lackadaisical approach" and said no steps for proper prosecution of 2020 riots cases have been taken by the Police Commissioner and other top officers. CMM Arun Kumar Garg made the remarks after the prosecutor failed to appear before the court despite repeated calls.

# SC Collegium on mission mode to fill vacancies

Recommendations include 8 new Chief Justices across HCs

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium, led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, is proceeding with staggering speed to fill vacancies and strengthen the judiciary as seen in the latest slew of recommendations, which include eight new Chief Justices for the High Courts, the transfer of five High Court Chief Justices and the shuffling of 28 High Court judges

across the country. It has been reliably learnt that the eight High Court judges recommended for elevation as Chief Justices of High Courts include acting Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court Justice Rajesh Bindal as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court.

Among the five Chief Justices learnt to have been recommended for transfer is In the fast lane In the last one month, the Supreme Court Collegium has recommended over 100 judicial appointments, several transfers and elevation of judges

■ Nine new judges, named for the Supreme Court, have already taken oath

■ Eight High Court judges recommended for elevation as

■ Five High Court Chief Justices recommended for transfer



Justice A.A. Kureshi of the Tripura High Court. He has been recommended for transfer to the Rajasthan High Court as its Chief Justice. He was in the middle of a prolonged stalemate between the Collegium and the government over his initial appointment as the Madhya Pradesh High Court Chief Iustice about two years ago.

The past month has seen the Collegium recommend

over 100 judicial appointments, several transfers and elevations of judges, advocates and Chief Justices.

The Collegium began its work on a historic note with the successful recommendation of nine new judges to the Supreme Court that were quickly approved by the government.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# GST Council not for inclusion of petroleum products: FinMin

Centre turns down States' plea for compensation beyond June 2022

VIKAS DHOOT LUCKNOW

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has decided to keep petroleum products out of the GST regime, while consumers will have to keep paying the Compensation Cess levied on products like automobiles till March 2026 instead of July 2022 as originally envisaged at the time of rolling out the indirect tax regime.

Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who chaired the first physical meeting of the Council in nearly two years, said a discussion on including petroleum products in the GST regime was held purely at the behest of the Kerala High Court, which had suggested that the Council take it up in response to a writ petition. "The Council members

What's in store | The 45th GST Council meeting was chaired by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in Lucknow on Friday. Among the key decisions are:

■ Concessional tax rates on COVID-19 essential medicines like Tocilizumab extended till December 31

Muscular atrophy drugs such as Zolgensma and Viltepso that cost around ₹16 cr. exempted from GST

■ Import of leased aircraft exempted from I-GST

■ Food delivery apps to collect GST instead

spoke very clearly that they don't want petroleum products to be included in GST at this time. We shall report the same to the court that the Council has discussed it as per their desire, and the GST Council felt this wasn't the time to bring petroleum products into GST," Ms. Sith-

■ Tax on **fortified rice** 

reduced from

GST on cancer

drug Keytruda

brought down

18% to 5%

kernels for ICDS scheme

araman said. The Minister also indicated that the Union government is not inclined to consider some States' demand to extend the five-year period for which they have been assured a 14% revenue growth for giving up several taxation powers to pave the

Tax on fabrics, garments and footwear hiked

The GST Council effected several long-pending tweaks in tax rates, including an increase in the GST levied on footwear costing less than ₹1,000 as well as readymade garments and fabrics to 12% from 5%. The new rates will take effect from January 1.▶ PAGE 12

way for implementing the GST regime. "Legally, compensation was to be paid for five years till July 2022 with an assured level of revenue for the States," Ms. Sitharaman said.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# 'Political change in Afghanistan not inclusive'

#### Neighbours face impact of development: PM

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE NEW DELHI

The political change in Afghanistan did not lead to an inclusive system and the process was not conducted

vijuy swes

CM YK

through negotiation, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his first extensive comments since the Taliban overthrew the government of President Ashraf Ghani.

In a speech at the Afghanistan-themed outreach summit between the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) and the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO), he stated that the neighbours of Afghanistan would be seriously impacted by the developments in that country.

"The first issue is that the change of authority in Afghanistan was not inclusive and this happened without negotiation. This raises questions on the prospects of recognition of the new system. Representation of all sections of Afghans, including women and the minorities, is important," Mr Modi said, speaking in Hindi.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8 INDIA. CHINA MINISTERS MEET **ON SCO SIDELINES** ▶ PAGE 9

# Plea for audit of Kerala temple, trust

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The administrative committee of Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple in Thiruvananthapuram informed the Supreme Court on Friday that the temple was passing through "very difficult times" financially, and accounts spanning 25 years of Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple Trust should be audited along with those of the temple for the same period. It told a Bench, led by Justice U.U. Lalit, that it was necessary to know how much of the temple's pro-

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक

...भरोसे का प्रतीक !

# India sets record with 2.5 cr. COVID-19 shots in one day

#### A gift to PM, says Health Minister Mandaviya

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

India administered a record 2.5 crore COVID vaccination doses on Friday midnight.

In a late night tweet, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said, "Making historic record, India administers 2.5 crore vaccinations today. The nation has risen in honor of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's

tweet when the 2 crore mark

Another day, another record | Over 2.5 crore vaccine doses were administered as of 11.58 p.m. on Friday, the highest-ever on a single day. A look at other days with record number of doses Daily o

was crossed earlier in the

According to the Ministry, as part of the 'Vaccine Seva' campaign, the Minister visited Safdarjung Hospital and He had put out a separate congratulated staff for helping the country reach the

milestone.

The World Health Organization's South-East Asia Regional Office has congratulated India for vaccination milestone.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

SHIV SAHAY SINGH

gered speculation about

"We cannot think of an

Opposition without the

Opposition now is Mamata

with the popular leader,

face of the Opposition," the

The West Bengal Con-

"When there are talks

about the Opposition fight-

Gandhi is the alternative to Narendra Modi or not. No

political party can make

claims about that," Mr.

M ND-NDE

Chowdhury said.

Congress



•Panipat: Aakash Electronics •Sonipat: Balaji RO Water Solution •Rewari: Pooja Automobiles •Agra: S.B.Water Solution; Aarna Watertech Solution's; S.R.K. Enterprises •Aligarh: P.M Electronics; Raghav Enterprises; Kohinoor Electronics •Bareilly: Narayan Enterprises; Murli Gallery; Gala Agencies; SS Enterprises; Sant Agencies; Garg Crockery Stores •Jhansi: New Arora Enterprises; Lalit Radio & Electricals; Soni Agency •Mathura: Mohit RO Services; Gaytri Enterprises; Haji Islam & Sons; Shiv Light House & Brother •Meerut: Singh Sales Corporation; Satyam Distributor •Kotdwar: Shankuntala Enterprises •Moradabad: Jai Engineering & Electronic; Aar Kay Sons;

Supreme Enterprises •Hapur: Sarveshwari Enterprises •Saharanpur: Luxmi Sons •Varanasi: Applied Refrigeration; Modern Sales & Services; Kashika Enterprises; Top In Town; A P Enterprises; A K Enterprises; Jai Mata Di; K R Associates •Belthara: Madheshia Electronics •Dehradun: Lotus Enterprises; Goyal Associates; Wamika Enterprises •Rudrapur: Prime Enterprises •Haldwani: Friends Electricals; Naini Engineering •Muzaffarnagar: V N Traders •Bulandshahar: Nakul Electricals; Laxmi

Available at all leading home appliance stores across the country.

Reliance SARGAM EP ELECTRONIC PARADISE amazon Flipkart



...

punjab national bank

..the name you can BANK upon!

# Akali Dal chief, 16 others detained for protest march against farm laws

Traffic police issue advisories on social media, create diversions to ease snarls

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Delhi Police on Friday detained leaders of Shiromani Akali Dal following a call for a protest march against the new farm laws. Following that, there was heavy traffic in the Capital as a crowd gathered near Gurdwara Rakab Ganj Sahib.

DCP (New Delhi) Deepak Yadav said SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal, former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, and 15 other party leaders were detained at the Parliament Street police station and released in an hour

#### Disallowed march

The police said they had disallowed the protest march and issued a letter to Mr. Badal regarding the same on September 15. In the letter, Mr. Yadav wrote that police were informed that a protest march is being organised by SAD from Gurudwara Rakab Ganj



Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Badal with supporters during the protest against farm laws in the city on Friday. • SANDEEP SAXENA

ranny. Let's unite to mark this

day as the beginning of a re-

newed revolt to bring justice

for farmers," the SAD presi-

dent tweeted. Ms. Badal, in a

Sahib to Parliament on Friday morning and they were not allowed due to the existing COVID guidelines wherein no tweet, said the massive participation in the protest march shows the public anger.

"Farmers have been prot-

COVID guidelines wherein no social or political gatherings are allowed till September 30.

"The protest march not only symbolises the farmers' dissent but will also be remembered as a historic event that struck at the root of ty-

As the crowd gathered near the Gurudwara, Delhi Traffic Police issued updates on social media asking commuters to avoid certain routes and suggested diversions. Heavy traffic was reported near New Delhi, Dhaula Kuan, ITO, Vikas Marg, Delhi Gate, Karol Bagh areas.

"Gurdwara Rakabganj Road, RML Hospital, GPO, Ashoka Road, Baba Kharak Singh Marg will be full due to the farmers' movement. Please refrain from using these routes," the Delhi Traffic Police tweeted. In another tweet, they said that the Jharoda Kalan border has been shut. Heavy traffic was witnessed at Sardar Patel Marg, but police later updated that the route was open for commuters. Intermittent checking of

vehicles by the Delhi Police on Friday morning caused traffic snarls in Gurugram extending up to 2 km from the MCD toll plaza to Shankar Chowk on Delhi-Gurugram Expressway. The Delhi Police set up barricades and carried out checking of the vehicles crossing over to Delhi from Gurugram.

# Court says no steps by top police officer for proper prosecution of riot cases

'This is causing avoidable delay in trial'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Friday came down heavily on the city police for its "lackadaisical approach" and said no steps for the proper prosecution of 2020 riots cases have been taken by the Police Commissioner and other top officials.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Arun Kumar Garg made the remarks after the prosecutor failed to appear before the court despite repeated calls and the investigating officer (IO) came to the court late without reading the police file and was unable to answer the court's queries.

The judge said the record reveals that the Special Public Prosecutor has not been appearing in the case for many dates and even on the last date of hearing, he appeared only after the matter was adjourned.

The judge further said, "This court is pained to note that the SHO Gokalpuri has

not only failed to depute the substitute IO but also to ensure that the IO while appearing at 3.25 p.m., should at least have gone to the case file. He has also failed to ensure the presence of SPP."

The court said: "Such lackadaisical approach on the part of the prosecution as well as the investigating agency in riots cases has been repeatedly brought to the notice of not only the DCP North East and Joint CP Eastern Range but has also been brought to the notice of the Commissioner of Police, Delhi."

However, no steps for proper prosecution of the cases seem to have been taken by either of them and if taken, have not yet been brought to the notice of this Court, the judge said.

The judge said failure on the part of police officers to take appropriate measures for prosecution of the cases is causing "avoidable delay in the trial."

# DU to start 6-week English communication course

Aimed at students from economically backward sections

SHINJINI GHOSH

The Delhi University will launch a six-week certificate course – English Communications Skill Enhancement – for students from economically backward sections and reserved categories.

Selection process

Senior officials said the course will be free of cost and selection will be based on personal interaction with the applicants.

As a pilot project, the course will first be conducted by Shyam Lal College in collaboration with the Institute of Eminence (University of Delhi). According to officials, students who are from a rural background or belong to the SC, ST, OBC, EWS categories and are enrolled in any DU college, can apply for the course

M.K. Pandit, CEO of IoE,

DU, said: "The proposal for the certificate course was put forth by professors itself. We found merit in it as a large number of students who come to DU are unable to communicate efficiently in English due to their background. Given the kind of job market currently, in several instances, it becomes difficult to get employed if one is unable to communicate properly."

He added: "We thought that it was better to enable and empower such students by providing a certificate course, which will concentrate on

communication skills, presentation skills, vocabulary building, personality development and reading habit development."

According to senior DU officials, the portal saw over 200 applications within an hour of the online portal being launched.

Mr. Pandit said, "We are planning to launch the first certificate course on October 2, keeping in mind Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary."

# 6 held for forging papers to send people abroad

Accused include foreign nationals

STAFF REPORTER

Six persons, including Bangladeshi nationals, have been arrested for forging documents and obtaining passports fraudulently to send people abroad, the police said on Friday.

DCP (IGIA) Vikram Porwal said the accused have been identified as Akhtauzzaman Talukder (54) from Bangladesh – the alleged mastermind behind the racket

The agents have been identified as Vibhor Saini (32), Saurabh Ghosh (36), Fahim Khan (24). Two Bangladeshi nationals – Fozil Rabbi Shipon (22) and Rasal (35) – who were being sent

to foreign countries via India on fake documents were also arrested.

Talukder worked as a tra-

vel agent and identified persons from Nepal and Bangladesh who are willing to go to foreign countries after which he called them to India on a medical visa.

He then arranged fake documents and fraudulently obtained Indian passports for them with the help of his other co-agents in lieu of large amounts of money, the police said.

Police said that the matter came to light on September 11, when Rasal, Shipon and Talukder were intercepted by the CISF officials at the IGIA.

# Man held for killing youth in Dwarka

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

ice said on Friday.

A 23-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the murder of a youth in Dwarka's Najafgarh, the pol-

DCP (Dwarka) Santosh Kumar Meena said the accused has been identified as Deepak from Kakrola Dairy.

The police said on Wednesday at 8 p.m., they received information regarding a firing incident near Ajay Park. On reaching the spot, they found a car with bullet holes. On inquiry, it was found that three persons indiscriminately fired at the victim – Amit Shokeen (35)

-, who was declared brought dead in a hospital. During probe, it was found that Shokeen was attacked by three assailants when he was going to purchase liquor with his friends. He sustained 13 bullet injuries. His friends managed to flee from the spot. In aCCTV footage, the accused were identified and Deepak was arrested following a tip-

During interrogation, the accused said he committed the crime because in January, Shokeen had got his father arrested after implicating him in a flase case.

The other accused are said to be absconding.

# Reconsider prohibition of hookah in public: HC

Observation comes on 5 separate pleas

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Friday asked the city government if it will reconsider its order prohibiting use of herbal hookah in public places to contain spread of CO-VID-19 when Delhi Police has also started breath analyser test.

Justice Rekha Palli made

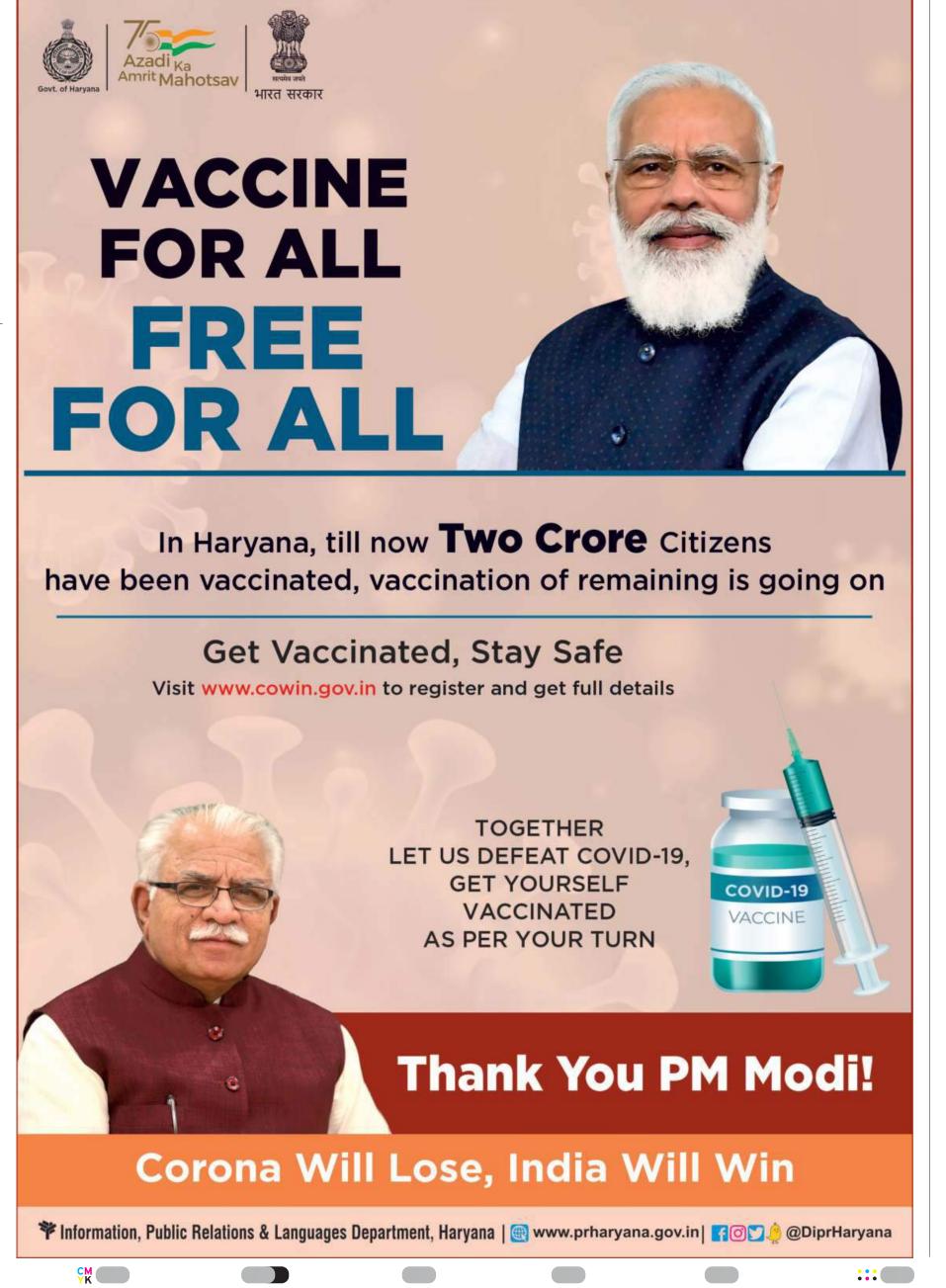
the query on five separate pleas by restaurants and bars seeking direction to the State and police to not to interfere with the sale of herbal flavoured hookahs.

"Delhi government counsel seeks time to get instructions as to why August 3, 2020 order is not reconsidered when breath analyser test is being allowed now. It is expected that DDMA will



consider this aspect urgently," the High Court said as it posted the case for further hearing on September 30.

The petitions has challenged the order of Joint Commissioner of Police (Licensing Unit) prohibiting and excluding the sale or service of herbal flavoured hookahs in restaurant/ bar being run by them.



#### Timings **DELHI**

SATURDAY, SEP. 18								
RISE	06:08	SET 18:23						
RISE	17:09	SET 03:11						
SUNDAY, SEP. 19								
RISE	06:08	SET 18:22						

RISE 17:46 SET 04:14 MONDAY, SEP. 20 RISE 06:09 SET 18:20

RISE 18:19 SET 05:15 **Delhi Weather** 

Delhi City Safdarjang Delhi Palam Today

33°C Rise in day temperatue Light rain and drizze may occur with partly cloudy to cloudy sky

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 34°C Warm and humid day would prevail with partly cloudy sky. Light rain o thunderstorm may occur at some areas.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019 All rights reserved.

#### IN BRIEF

#### Capital logs 33 new COVID-19 cases, 1 death

NEW DELHI Capital recorded 33 new COVID-19 cases on Friday along with one death, according to a health bulletin issued by the Delhi government. The bulletin added that 74,099 tests were conducted in the past 24 hours with a positivity rate of 0.04%. According to the vaccination update shared by the government, 1,36,083 beneficiaries were vaccinated, out of which 77,807 were administered their first dose.

# 'Promise of jobs made by Modi has remained unfulfilled'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Indian Youth Congress on Friday marked the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi by observing it as a national day of protest against unemployment.

The IYC said the country has seen a record level unemployment as the promise made by Mr. Modi has remained unfulfilled. Carrying out a protest march, it said that due to the wrong policies of the government, people are facing double burden of un-

employment and inflation. National President of Indian Youth Congress Srinivas B.V. said: "On the occasion of Prime Minister Modi's birthday, a revolution against unemployment is taking place. The birthday of Chacha Nehru is celebrated as Children's Day and the birthday of PM Modi, who made India unemployed, is being celebrated as National Unemployment Day."

Mr. Srinivas said that Mr. Modi has to understand that employment is not provided by rhetoric, one has to work to provide employment, policies have to be implemented.

THEMAHINDU DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to

an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

# Pleas driven by vendetta, Rakesh Asthana tells HC

His appointment as Delhi Police chief has come under flak

#### STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Gujarat-cadre IPS officer Rakesh Asthana has informed the Delhi High Court that he was facing a barrage of social media campaigns and selective litigations over his appointment as Delhi Police Commissioner at the behest of some "undisclosed individual/rival/interest".

Mr. Asthana took charge as the Commissioner of Delhi Police on July 28. His appointment, which came just days before his superannuation on July 31, has been contested before the High Court by one Sadre Alam and NGO, Centre for Public Interest Litigation

"These petitions are not bona fide public interest litigations (PIL) but are a flagrant abuse of august forum of this court for some hidden personal vendetta of either of them or of someone on whose behest several attempts are being made against me to derail my career," Mr. Asthana said in an affidavit before the High

#### **Undisclosed reason**

Mr. Asthana said the individuals running the NGO has in recent past for "some oblique and ostensible undisclosed reason" have started a bar-



Rakesh Asthana after taking charge as Police Commissioner at the Delhi Police headquarters in the city. • FILE РНОТО

rage of selective actions against him either "out of some vendetta about which I am not aware or at the behest of some individual/interest".

The 60-year-old former Director General of Border Security Force (BSF) stated that apart from CPIL, another NGO named Common Cause has been selectively campaigning against him.

People controlling these organisations have spearheaded a malicious campaign, he claimed, adding that this has been regularly happening since he was appointed as Special Director in Bureau Central

Investigation. This week, the Centre had come in support of Mr. Asthana, saying that his appointment was done in "public interest", taking into account the Capital's policing issues, which had both national and cross-border security implications.

CPIL and Mr. Alam, in their separate pleas, have contended that his appointment was "in clear and blatant breach" of the directions of the Supreme Court of India as Mr. Asthana "did not have a minimum residual tenure of six months", and that no Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) panel was formed for the appointment of Delhi Pol-

ice Commissioner. The pleas argued that the decision of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) in appointing Mr. Asthana was "completely illegal on multiple grounds". The High Court will hear the case on September 20.

# Govt. tells pvt. agencies to follow guidelines to curb dust pollution

'Work can be done only after ensuring dust mitigation steps'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**Environment Minister Gopal** Rai on Friday held a meeting with private construction agencies and gave strict instructions to follow the 14point guidelines issued by the Delhi government to prevent dust pollution.

Mr. Rai said private agencies engaged in construction work in Delhi will have to meet the norms issued to check dust pollution within 15 days and all private agencies should hold a review meeting at construction sites to see which guidelines are being followed and which are

#### **Stern action**

greets people on the historic

18-23 September, 2021

in remembrance of the revered

**GUGGA PIR JI** 

and Punjabiyat

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

CHHAPAAR MELA

symbolises glorious heritage which

**DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS, PUNJAB** 

reflects spirit of Punjab, Punjabi

The Environment Minister warned that the government will take strict action against private agencies not following the norms under the winter action plan.

Construction and demolition activity in Delhi, the government stated, can be undertaken only after ensuring dust mitigation measures. These include dust/wind breaking walls of appropriate height around the periphery of the construction site, the installation of anti-smog gun (s) and the use of tarpaulin or green net on scaffolding at construction sites



A girl protects herself from dust due to strong winds in the city. ■FILE PHOTO

In addition, all vehicles carrying construction material and debris need to be fully covered, should be stored on site and not dumped on public roads or pavements, and construction and demolition waste needs to be recycled on-site or transported to authorised recycling facili-

Fight for breath We all have to fight for our breath together. Therefore, all of us will have to fulfil our responsibility with full sincerity. All private agencies should appoint an employee at their construction sites to see whether the norms are being followed or not. Everyone has to make changes in their daily behaviour," he

"We are focusing on 10 focus points to efficiently exe-

cute our plans. One of the most important points among these is the problem of dust pollution. To curb dust pollution, we called for a meeting of all the agencies in Delhi which are involved in construction activities," Mr. Rai added.

These agencies included the municipal corporations, DDA, CPWD, PWD, Department of Irrigation and Flood Control, and DSIIDC. The Minister directed the agencies' representatives to submit their action plan by Septem-

Apart from these agencies, Mr. Rai said the government had observed that many private agencies involved in construction contribute to the dust pollution problem. So, more than 50 major construction agencies, which included L&T, GMR Group, Raheja Developers, NDMMPL and NBCC among others, were also informed of whatever shortcomings were observed at their end.

"We have communicated strict directions to private construction agencies. They have to comply within 15 days with the guidelines. After that, the government will take action and start proceedings in accordance with the winter action plan," he added.

# Ashram flyover underpass to be completed soon: Minister

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Taking cognisance of issues faced by commuters, Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Satyendar Jain on Friday sought to issue an assurance that work on the under-construction Ashram underpass would be completed soon.

Construction of an underpass on the existing Ashram flyover is underway and aimed at decongesting the flyover, one of the busiest roads in the city, especially during peak hours.

The 410-meter-long underpass, being constructed at a cost of ₹78 crore, will have four lanes, and after its completion, 41% of the traffic on the stretch is expected to utilise it.

Mr. Jain said the work on the flyover is "almost complete" and some problems faced in work related to its construction near Ashram will be fixed at the earliest.

"The work of this underpass near Ashram is almost complete. However, the construction of the underpass has faced some hindrances. This is due to the shifting of the heavy power cables near the under-construction ramp," Mr. Jain stated.

M ND-NDE

# BJP organises series of events on PM's birthday

Photo expo showcasing his life launched

The Bharatiya Janata Party

BJP national president J.P. Nadda launched the 'Sewa and Samarpan' programme from the party's national headquarters by inaugurating a photo exhibition depicting 20 years of public life of Mr. Modi.

pan programme will continue for 21 days during the course of which several programmes will be organised," Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta said.

Leader of Opposition

SOLVED PAPERS

• UGC-NET/JRF, 20

N.D.A. & N.A., 21

SOLVED MODEL PAPERS

U.P. Assistant Professor

UPSC Civil Services (Pre.)

NCHM Hotel

Ramvir Singh Bidhuri organised a celebration among slum dwellers in the Badarpur area where a cake

hundreds of party cadres, took out a 'Tiranga Yatra' Park, ITO to Red Fort.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

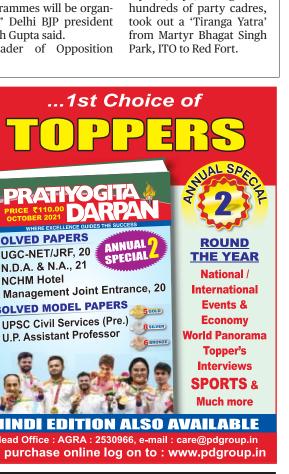
(BJP), on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 71st birthday on Friday, organised various events across the Capital.

"The Sewa and Samar-

in the Prime Minster's name was cut and distributed among residents.

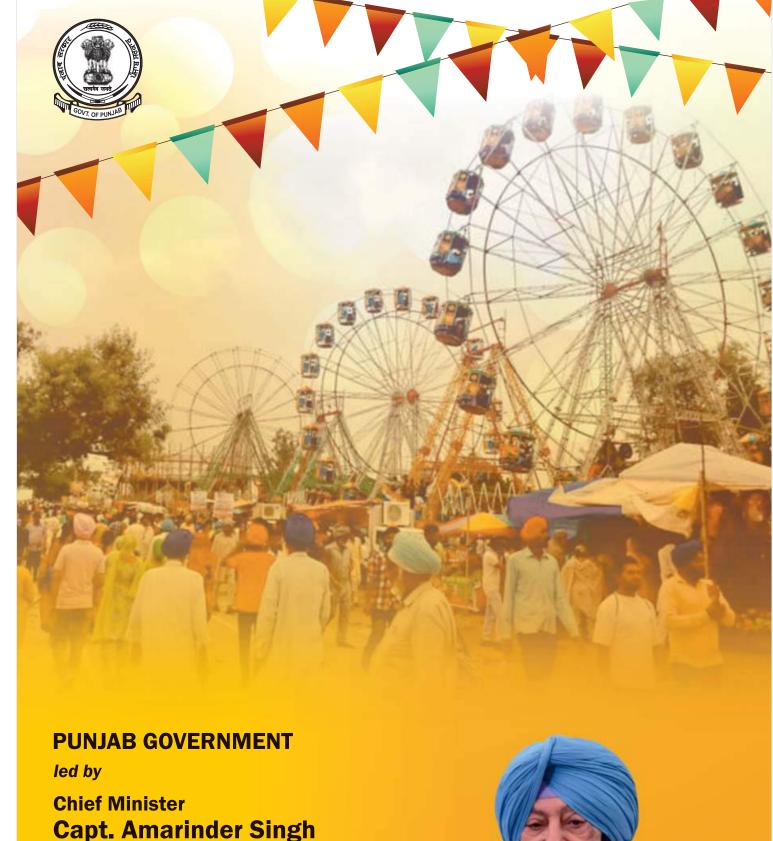
"The residents of unauthorised colonies are very happy that the Modi government has given them the ownership rights of their houses. The residents of Arpan Vihar in the Badarpur area organised a havan for his long life," the LOP

Former Union Ministers Vijay Goel and Satyanarayan latiya, along with from Martyr Bhagat Singh





Regd. DL(ND)-11/6110/2006-07-08 • RNI No. UPENG/2012/49940 • ISSN 0971 - 751X • Vol. 11 • No. 222



# **EDUCATIONAL**

# I5090051. 981833320

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

I, Ranjana kumar W/o Yashpal Kumar R/o C-4/123, Milan Vihar Apartments, 72, I.P.Extension, Patparganj, Delhi 110092 do hereby solemnly affirm and declare that my minor son i.e. Ekansh Kumar correct date of birth is 28th January 2008. But it was wrongly mentioned as 8th January 2008 in his school record.

CM YK

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Axis Bank Ltd that Mr. Vineet Khanna intends to mortgage the Entire First Floor with roof right of House no. 1402 Block- K, admeasuring 670 Sq. Mtr., Situated at Palam Vihar, Tehsil & Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana with our client Axis Bank Ltd against the financial assistance. Whereas Mr. Vineet Khanna & Mrs. Pratima Khanna were the owners of above-mentioned property by way of Original Decree in Suit for Declaration regd. On 28.11.2014. Unfortunately, Mrs. Pratima Khanna and he another son Mr. Vivek Khanna also expired on 02.11.2017 & 27.09.2019 respectively, leaving behind their sole Legal heir named as Mr. Vineet Khanna (as per Application for SMC along with report of Tehsildar).

any person(s) having objection with regard to ownership/mortgage of the aid property is/are requested to intimate in writing to undersigned within 07 days from the date of issue of this notice at below address. In the event new ormation is received within 07 days from date hereof, our Client i.e. Axis Bank Ltd. will proceed with the mortgage process

**DEEPJYOT SINGH, ADVOCATE**A-13, LGF, South Extn-II, New Delhi-49 # 011-26262610, 11, 12

#### **EDUCATIONAL**

TIMING: 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM ©011-42473555 | 9650852636

**PUBLIC ENGLISH MEDIUM BATCH** 11th OCTOBER evening 5.00 pm

OFFLINE



631, Mukherjee Nagar

**GENERAL** 

FACULTY REQUIRED for G.S. & Optional (English Medium), Freshers are also welcome Whatsapp /cont-9717658872

PUBLIC NOTICE

For:- SSC, Banking Railway, ĆSAT Etc. New Offline+Online batch starts on 21 Sept. 2021 11 am to 12:30 pm 2 Demo Classes Free 9250291082, 8802203388

#### Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-9 **LEGAL NOTICE**

INTHECOURTOFTHE HON'BLE SUBORDINATE **JUDGE OF UDUMALPET** 

M.C.O.P.No. 281 of 2019 K.Arumugam son of Kumarasar No.28, Maduraiveeran koil Street, Kinathukadavu, Coimbatore District - 642 109

Nishant Nath S/o.Shambo, No.133/3, Air Force Station, Palam. Cantt New Delhi - 110 010

NOTICETO II RESPONDENT In the above case, the petitioner has filed a petition under section 166 of Motor Vehicle Act for claiming compensation and other reliefs against you and other respondent. Hence you are hereby directed to appear before the this Honourable court personally or by an Advocate on 22.10.2021 at 10.30 a.m, if you fail to appear on that day that the

natter will be decided exprate. S.P.THANGAVELU B.A.,B.L., Advocate, 43, P.C. Building, Vakil Nagarajan Street, Udumalpet - 642 126.



# A GREETING TO REMEMBER

Be it a birthday, an anniversary, an academic accomplishment or even a promotion. Now you can surprise your loved ones by wishing them on

CLASSIFIEDS

Contact Toll Free Number: 180030700404 Advertisements Online, Log on to www.thehi

# Appeal for Identification



General public is hereby informed that one person Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 45 Yrs., Height: 5'6", Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing: Strip Black T-Shirt & Orange Nikker, Place of Recovery: Found dead at Footpath infront of Shop No. 1947 HC Sen Marg Chandni Chowk, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 19A, U/s 174

Cr.PC, Dated 15.09.2021 has been lodged at Police Station, Kotwali, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.

P.S. Kotwali, Delhi Ph.: 011-23977100, 23953442, 8750870121, 8743934160 DP/1519/N/2021

# AAP protests against farm laws in Punjab

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

To express solidarity with farmers amid their ongoing agitation against the three farm laws enacted a year ago on September 17, the Aam Admi Party hit the streets in Punjab on Friday.

The party held candle marches in different parts of the State to extend homage to all those farmers who lost their lives during the ongoing agitation.

AAP MLA and its farmer wing president Kultar Singh Sandhwa said party leaders and workers held candle marches with black bands on their arms in Mansa, Bathinda, Sangrur, Barnala, Pathankot, Ferozepur, Faridkot, Jalandhar, Amritsar and Hoshiarpur districts.

"We demand immediate repealing of all the three farm laws," he said.

Terming the protest held by the Akali Dal in Delhi as a "drama", Mr. Sandhwa said it was "the Badal family" that has contributed to enacting the farm laws.

Mr. Sandhwan said along with the BJP and SAD, the ruling Congress government in Punjab was equally responsible for the destruction of agriculture.

# Amarinder demands scrapping of farm laws

'High time the Central government realised its blunder'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Puniab Chief Minister Captain (Retd.) Amarinder Singh on Friday demanded immediate scrapping of the three farm laws enacted by the Centre, while calling for detailed discussions with farmers to find a way forward.

Pointing out that many farmers had died over the course of the ongoing protests against the laws, the Chief Minister said it was "high time the Central government realised its blunder and withdrew the legislations in the interests of the farmers and the nation".

The Chief Minister was speaking as he inaugurated the third State-level virtual "Kisan Mela" (farmer fair) organised by the Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.

"Till date, the Indian Constitution has been amended as many as 127 times, so why can it not be amended once again to scrap the farm laws and resolve the imbroglio resulting from them?" asked the Chief Minister. "What is the problem in doing it a 128th time?" he demanded



**CM Amarinder Singh** 

to know from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government at the Centre, which he said was "out to ruin farmers". "What is happening with

farmers today is extremely sad, given the immense contribution made by them [farmers] to India's development and progress," Capt. Amarinder said, calling for immediate revocation of the laws, which he said were detrimental to the interests not only of the agricultural community but the entire coun-

Recalling that he had been asked by the Centre to stop Punjab's farmers from going to Delhi in November 2020, the Chief Minister said he had refused point blank

Constitution has been amended as many as 127 times, so why can it not be amended once again to scrap the three farm laws?

to do so as to protest is the democratic right of farmers. "Why should they not protest? How can I stop them?" he asked, stating that he continued to stand with farmers in their fight against the legislations.

#### **Punjab farmers hailed**

Noting the contribution of Punjab and its farmers to the country's growth, the Chief Minister said that the State, with only 1.53% of India's total geographical area, produces about 18% of the countrv's wheat, 11% of paddy, 4.4% of cotton and 10% of milk. For the past many decades, Punjab had been contributing about 35-40% of wheat and 25-30% of rice to the Central pool, he said, expressing pride in the achievements of the State's

# Big storm over short pants in Assam

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A 19-year-old girl appearing for an examination in Assam was made to wrap a curtain around her legs by an invigilator who chafed at her wearing shorts, provoking outrage and allegations of gender bias, and prompting university authorities to order an inquiry.

The girl's family has, however, decided against taking the matter further in the interest of her mental well-being and academic future.

The incident occurred on Wednesday when the girl had gone from her hometown Biswanath Chariali to Tezpur to appear for the entrance examination of the Assam Agricultural University (AAU). She had unhindered access to the venue but an invigilator inside the examination hall objected to her wearing short pants.

The AAU has, constituted a three-member committee to inquire into the "unfortunate incident". Its registrar Tapan Kumar Gohain said the panel headed by dean of the agriculture faculty will conduct the probe and submit its report in 10 days.



Valk-in Interview for the post of JRF (Siddha) - 1 No., at NIS, Chennai / JRI Pharmacognosy) - 1 No., and JRF (Chemistry) - 1 No., at SCRI, Chennai / Field ttendant - 2 Nos., and Data Entry Operator- 1 No., at RRIUM, Chennai for RRDF Project will be held in the above address on 07.10.2021. Details are available in the website www.siddhacouncil.com and www.crisiddha.tn.nic.in and www.nischennai.org Director (Scientist-III) I/C

#### **HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

Telephone No. 01970233116 E-mail ID: ee-deh-hp@nic.ir

#### INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Executive Engineer Dehra Division HPPWD Dehra H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the item rate bids,in the electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

			Bid.		of Bid.
1	Construction of Link road from Dhatehar	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.	05.10.2021
	Maharana Duhak Km 0/0 to 6/495(SH:- C/o Superstructure of 50.00mtr Span prestressed	36,76,360/-	10.00 AM.	74,000/-	(6.00 PM)
	concrete Box Girder Bridge over Tahal Khad at				
	RD 6/280) under state Head.				
2	C/o Link road Langa to Ropa Gharna Mundal	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.14,000/-	
	road Km 0/0 to 7/00 (SH:- P/L Ccpavement in	6,80,124/-	10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
3	Km. 2/350 to 2/620 ) MMGSY Up-gradation of foad from Badhal Bridge to	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.34.000/-	05.10.2021
3	Jambal Bassi via Kanol Panimal in Km 0/0 to	17,01,184/-	10.00 AM	KS.34,000/-	(6.00 PM)
	3/200 (SH:- C/o Embankment at RD 0/150 to	17,01,104/	10.0071111.		(0.00 1 1/1)
	0/900, Hume Pipe at RD 0/370, 0/650 & Crate				
	wall at RD 0/200 to 0/350 ) (Industrial Corridor				
لبا	Deposit)		07.00.0004	D 47 000/	05.40.0004
4	Restoration of rain damage on Nandpur to Barial road Km. 0/00 to 3/00 under Haripur	Rs. 8,62,981/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM	Rs.17,000/-	(6.00 PM)
	Sub Division .(SH:- C/o U-shape drain 2/00 to	0,02,901/-	10.00 AW.		(0.00 FW)
	2/200, 2/700 to 3/00, edge wall at RD. 2/130				
	to 2/160 ( Both side ) 2/800 to 2/850 & CC				
	Pavement at RD 2/060 to 2/100).				
5	C/o Link road from Naker Pul to village	Rs.	27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.10,000/-	
	Mandeli GP Thakurdawara in Km. 0/0 to 1/035 (SH:-P/L G-III & Premix carpet at RD 0/500 to	5,02,767/-	10.00 AW.		(6.00 PM)
	1/035).				
6	Construction of Link road from Nehran Pukhar	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.3,000/-	05.10.2021
	to Kasba Kohasan Road (SH:- C/o CC	13,53,461/-	10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
7	pavement at RD. 1/660 to 2/060).	D-	27.00.0001	Do 10 0001	0E 10 0001
7	C/o Link road Nehar Ghor Kundli Har road Village Gungla to village Parol Dehrian Khabli	Rs. 9,18,532/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM	Rs.18,000/-	(6.00 PM)
	road.(SH:- P/L G-I, G-III & C.C.Pavement	J, 10,JJZ/-	10.00 AIVI.		(0.00 FIVI)
	& premix carpet at RD. 0/500 to 1/035 )			<u> </u>	
8	Restoration of rain damage on Dehipukhar to	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.7,000/-	05.10.2021
	Balas pukhar in Km. 0/0 to 2/915 under Dehra	3,42,470/-	10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
	Sub Division (SH:- C/o CC pavement at RD.				
9	0/0 to 0/100).  Construction of Govt.Sr.School Badhal Thore	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.9.000/-	05.10.2021
, ,	(SH:-C/o Play Ground)	4,30,768/-	10.00 AM.	113.5,000/-	(6.00 PM)
10	Restoration of rain damage on Bangoli Ka	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.5,000/-	05.10.2021
	Talab to Bhatoli via Rour Dibber Road Km. 0/0	2,25,959/-	10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
	to 3/00 under Haripur Sub Division (SH:- C/o				
	Edge wall at RD 1/510 to 1/540, B/wall 1/540				
	to 1/555 & V-shape drain at RD 1/510 to 1/555 in LHS).				
11	Restoration of rain damage on Bankhandi	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.4,000/-	05.10.2021
	Bassa Mehwa Guard Hut Road Km 0/0 to	1,95,438/-	10.00 AM.	,	(6.00 PM)
	12/155 (SH:-C/o 900mm dia Hume Pipe				
	Culvert at RD 9/910 & U-shape drain RD 9/860				
12	to 9/980 LHS) C/o Govt. Degree College at Haripur Tehsil	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.10,000/-	05 10 2021
12	Haripur Distt.Kangra HP(SH:-C/o Boundary	4,87,233/-	10.00 AM	KS. 10,000/-	(6.00 PM)
	wall with brick work and Wovenplain G.I wire	1,01,200	10.007		(0.00 :,
	fencing ) Under RUSA				
13	C/o Link road from main road to Martyar Naib	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.13,000/-	
	Subedar Anil Kumar House GP Dohag Ploti	6,45,559/-	10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
	Km. 0/0 to 0/660 (SH:-C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/350 to 0/660) MMGSY				
14	C/o Bridge over Danoa Nallah on Guler to	Rs.	27.09.2021	Rs.9,000/-	05.10.2021
	nandpur Bhatoli road Km. 0/0 to 5/135 (SH:-	4,67,067/-	10.00 AM.	,	(6.00 PM)
	C/o Approach wall on both side from at RD				ĺ
	3/960 to 3/985 & V-shape drain at RD 3/985				
15	to 4/060 ) SCSP C/o Link road Sira Da Bhro to Bagrot Tillu	Rs.		ļ	05 10 2021
15	IO/O LIIK IOAU SIIA DA DIIIO IO DAUfOI IIIU		27 00 2024	I De 11 000/	
				Rs.11,000/-	
	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under	5,49,993/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM	Rs.11,000/-	(6.00 PM)
	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.		10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
16	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP. C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in	5,49,993/- Rs.	10.00 AM. 27.09.2021	Rs.11,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021
16	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP. C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete	5,49,993/-	10.00 AM.		(6.00 PM)
	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.	Rs. 5,46,624/-	10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
16	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km	Rs. 5,46,624/-	10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021		(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021
	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.	Rs. 5,46,624/-	10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021	Rs.11,000/-	05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021
17	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200.	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP. C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP. C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200.	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/240 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o link road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs.	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021	Rs.11,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021
17	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP. C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP. C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200.	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o link road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs.	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.10,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o link road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khundian in	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/-	(6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021 (6.00 PM) 05.10.2021
17 18 19	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o Ink road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dalain road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050).OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khundian in complex (SH:- P/L interlocking paver block).	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/- Rs. 7,49,490/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.10,000/-	(6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17 18	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/240 to 0/3300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o link road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khudian in complex (SH:- P/L interlocking paver block).  C/o link road PWD Store Bharoli to NH-88 via	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/- Rs. 7,49,490/- Rs. Rs.	10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.10,000/-	(6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17 18 19	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o Ink road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khundian in complex (SH:- P/L interlocking paver block). C/o link road PWD Store Bharoli to NH-88 via Forest Rest House Bharoli (SH:- C/o Flush)	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/- Rs. 7,49,490/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.10,000/-	(6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17 18 19 20 21	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o Iink road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khundian in complex (SH:- P/L interlocking paver block).  C/o link road PWD Store Bharoli to NH-88 via Forest Rest House Bharoli (SH:- C/o Flush/Solid causeway at RD 0/0 to 0/035). OTMNP	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/- Rs. 7,49,490/- Rs. 7,93,560/-	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.15,000/- Rs.16,000/-	(6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)
17 18 19	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/200 to 0/300).OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o Ink road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khundian in complex (SH:- P/L interlocking paver block). C/o link road PWD Store Bharoli to NH-88 via Forest Rest House Bharoli (SH:- C/o Flush)	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/- Rs. 7,49,490/- Rs. Rs.	10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM.	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.10,000/-	(6.00 PM)  05.10.2021
17 18 19 20 21	Km. 0/0 to 2/300(SH:-P/L WMM G-II & premix carpet with seal coat in Km 0/0 to 0/810) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Gugga Mandir to Galua in Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 0/945 to 1/085) Under SCSP.  C/o Link road from Kundli Har to Panjla in Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH:- C/o Toe wall and catch pit at RD 0/240 to 0/330), OTMNP  C/o Talai to Kuru road (SH:- C/o Cement concrete pavement at RD 1/100 to 1/200. OTMNP  C/o Iink road from Upper Pragpur to Karol via Dadari road in Km 2/0 to 3/300 (SH:- Cement concrete pavement at RD 2/900 to 3/050). OTMNP  A/R & M/O HPPWD Rest House Khudian in complex (SH:- P/L interlocking paver block).  C/o Iink road PWD Store Bharoli to NH-88 via Forest Rest House Bharoli (SH:- C/o Flush/Solid causeway at RD 0/0 to 0/035). OTMNP  Repair of Temple Complex at Jawalamukhi	Rs. 5,46,624/- Rs. 87,363/- Rs. 4,37,259/- Rs. 4,83,803/- Rs. 7,49,490/- Rs. 7,93,560/- Rs.	27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021 10.00 AM. 27.09.2021	Rs.11,000/- Rs.2,000/- Rs.9,000/- Rs.15,000/- Rs.16,000/-	(6.00 PM)  05.10.2021 (6.00 PM)

Executive Engineer, Dehra Division HP.PWD.

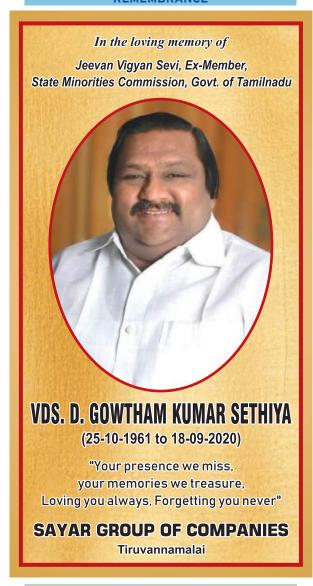
# **OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE**

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES** 



With love and deep sorrow we remember Tmt.Sowmini Vidyadharan, MA, M.Sc., B.Sc., B.T. Retd Headmistress, G.G.H.S.S. Ashok Nagar, Chenna It is been 2 years since you have left us. Your thought lingers every moment inside us. We hope your are safe and guiding us from heaven. Husband: N. Vidyadharan, Son: Dr. Manoj Narayanan, USA Daughter: Maya.V, USA, D-in-Law: Deepa Narayanan, USA ons: Anagh Narayanan, USA & Ram Mohan, USA Blood relatives & affectionate friends Ph: 044-2654 0820 / 94465-40158

**REMEMBRANCE** 



In memory of your loved ones To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact: 011-43579797 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. & For Placing Advertisements Online log on to www.thehinduads.com

**DONATE EYES-GIFT SIGHT** 

Ġ	GO	VERN	MENT OF HARYANA	CORRIGENDUM				
SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD CORP./ AUTH	OLD REFERENCE / NIT NO.	NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP. / AUTH	NODAL OFFICER / CONTACT DETAILS / EMAIL			
1	UHBVN	NIT NO. 37/SE PROJECTS/ AMR	APPOINTMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY FOR ESTABLISHING AMR SYSTEM FOR 11 KV FEEDERS AND THEIR O&M FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS IN R-APDRP & IPDS AREAS OF UHBVN	www.uhbvn.org.in	9356063249 seprojects@uhbvn.org.in			

Pin No. 177101. Tel. No. 01970-233116. e-mail:- ee-deh-hp@nic.in on behalf of Governor of Himachal Prades nt.gov.in or www.etenders.h SAMVAD -13/2022/40 HP / 4134/21-22 HIM LOK SAMPARK M ND-NDE



# on 'Marakkar' release

The Kerala High Court on Friday directed the Centre to consider and take a decision representation against the release of the film Marakkar Arabikkadalinte Simham. Justice P.V. Kunhikrishnan passed the directive on a petition by Mufeeda Arafath Marakkar, a descendant of Kunjali Marakkar.

#### **Kitex Group signs MoU** with Telangana govt.

The Kitex group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Telangana government for projects - at Warangal mega textile park and the industrial park at Hyderabad — the company said on Friday. PTI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The BJP will celebrate 'Telangana Liberation Day' official-

ly and in a grand manner as

it is confident of getting

elected to power in the 2023

Assembly Elections, said Un-

ion Home Minister Amit

all the 17 Lok Sabha seats in

Telangana, having won four

this time and 'lost three seats

narrowly'," he said at a pu-

blic meeting held in Nirmal

Mr. Shah said Sardar Patel's

decisive action then ensured

Hyderabad and Telangana

joined the Indian Union. He

Patel's decisive action

in Adilabad district.

"The party will also win

Shah on Friday.

# SC allows Kerala to hold physical exams

The State reasoned that online mode would prejudice students without access to electronic gadgets

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday decided not to intervene in Kerala government's plans to conduct Plus One examinations offline, saying the expected third wave of the CO-VID-19 pandemic did not seem to be an immediate

A Bench, led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar, however, asked the authorities to take every necessary precaution holding examinations

The court said it was satisfied with the reasons and justifications given by the State, represented by advocate G. Prakash, for its decision to conduct Plus One exams offline by following COVID-19 protocol.

The State had reasoned that online examination would prejudice students without access to "electronic gadgets" such as laptops,

BJP will come to power in Telangana: Shah

He takes potshots at TRS and MIM, says party will also win all 17 LS seats in State

Reaching out: Union Home Minister Amit Shah addressing a

rally at Nirmal in Telangana on Friday. • K.V. RAMANA

took potshots at the ruling

Telangana Rashtra Samithi

and the MIM throughout his

speech even while acknow-

ledging the sacrifices made

by people to break free from



Tough task: A file photo of a Plus One student in Palakkad appearing for the Hindi model exam online

desktops or even mobile phones.

"Students belonging to the lower strata of society are depending on mobile phones/tabs for attending online classes. In many areas, the Internet connection or mobile data are not available. These students will never be able to write online examinations, which will entirely upset the conduct of examination," the State had argued in its

It had said physical examinations would spell an end to many problems, which haunt the online mode, including lack of Internet connectivity, etc, while examination process was on.

The issue of shortage of gadgets among students was also eliminated, the State

the martyrs. What happened

to the vow taken by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao

to celebrate the day officially

during the separate State ag-

itation? Who is he scared

Addressing the mammoth

gathering, Mr. Shah recalled

the mass hangings done in

the giant banyan tree nearby

and sought to know why Mr.

Rao did not even want to pay

his respects to 1,000 tribals

massacred for seeking free-

dom from then rulers. "We

will not let their sacrifices go

in vain, the real freedom for

Telangana is when it breaks

free from Majlis' clutches.

While the car is TRS symbol,

the steering wheel is with

Owaisi," he charged.

of?" he questioned.

had contended. Earlier in September, the

Supreme Court had stayed the Kerala government order to conduct physical examinations for Class 11 students owing to the "alarming" spread of COVID-19 virus. The examinations had been scheduled to start from September 6. On September 3, a Bench led by Justice Khanwilkar had found prima facie force in the argument made by petitioner Rasoolshan A., represented by advocate Prashant Padmanabhan, that the State government did not "seriously consider the prevailing situation before having the physical exam in September this year".

But the State government, later in its affidavit, urged the court to lift the stay order. It had said the examinations could be completed in September, well before October, when experts say the third wave would hit.

It argued that 7.32 lakh students had appeared for JEE (Mains) examinations held in Kerala in August and September.

The affidavit said the State had already conducted the Secondary School Leaving Certificate and Class 12 examinations by adhering to the protocol for the pandemic.

The government listed out the safeguards put in place for the examinations and even undertook to make separate arrangements for students in quarantine or found COVID-19 positive or suspected of having the virus.

It said Plus One marks are added to Plus Two marks to determine the eligibility of the candidate for higher studies, contrary to method adopted by the CBSE and the ICSE. The conduct of Plus One examinations was necessary to evaluate the students for higher studies.

# Judicial probe into rape

Telangana HC acts on PIL petition

suspect Raju's death

MARRI RAMU

The Telangana High Court on Friday ordered a judicial inquiry into the death of Palakonda Raju, suspect in the rape and murder of a minor in Hyderabad's Saidabad. Raju was found dead on a railway track in Station Ghanpur of Warangal district.

The rhird metropolitan magistrate of Warangal will conduct the inquiry and present the report within four weeks. A Bench passed these orders after hearing a PIL petition moved in the form of lunch motion.

The plea was filed by the

Civil Liberties Committee Telangana State president Gaddam Laxman. The petitioner sought a judicial inquiry into Raju's death, describing "meticulously planned and calculated murder by the police".

Advocate General B.S. Prasad informed the Bench that the police had recorded statements of seven "eyewitnesses" with regard to Raju's death.

The petitioner said he believed that the police had taken Raju into custody within hours of sexually assaulting and murdering a six-yearold girl on September 9.



Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Rajasthan, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, west Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over east Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Mahe

Agartala1531.726.3	Kozhikode
Ahmedabad – 32.1 26.1	Kurnool 33.8 24.
Aizawl 20 20.6	Lucknow 12829.623.
Allahabad32.125.0	Madurai 37.4 25.7
Bengaluru 30.9 21.1	Mangaluru 1.430.424.4
Bhopal 2.630.823.4	Mumbai 332.025.0
Bhubaneswar 4.133.025.0	Mysuru 33.0 23.
Chandigarh 4631.423.8	New Delhi 1332.023.0
Chennai	Patna – 31.8 26.4
Coimbatore 34.0 23.8	Port Blair 429.823.
Dehradun 26 30.3 22.8	Puducherry 35.8 24.0
Gangtok 5.7 20.2 17.1	Pune
Goa 631.025.0	Raipur 11.430.024.0
Guwahati 1633.325.0	Ranchi 1929.822.4
Hubballi 29.0 21.0	Shillong 0.323.416.
Hyderabad	Shimla
Imphal 4 26.1 21.5	Srinagar
Jaipur 28.5 24.4	Thiruvananthapuram 3231.223.
Kochi 230.425.0	Tiruchi
Kohima 926.6 18.0	Vijayawada – 35.6 27.0
Kolkata 933.526.8	Visakhapatnam – 34.0 26.8
(Rainfall data in mm: temperature in C	elsius)

# .14 .22 .22 ...9 .20 .90

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI) 502: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air

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

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

particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and prematu death in people with heart or lung disease

# 14 workers injured in bridge

Maharashtra govt. orders an inquiry into mishap

STAFF REPORTER

14 injured as girder of flyover collapses MUMBAI

Fourteen workers were injured after a girder of an under-contruction flyover collapsed in the Bandra Kurla Complex here on Friday. The injured workers were admitted to a hospital, where the doctors said that their condition was stable.



the Nizam's tyranny and

Majlis party. We will definite-

ly celebrate Telangana Liber-

ation Day and pay homage to

'We are not afraid of the

atrocities of the Razakars.

Complex, where a girder collapsed on Friday morning. • EMMANUAL YOGINI

# Ajit Pawar orders shops to shut on Ganesh visarjan

State records 4,410 recoveries, 67 deaths

STAFF REPORTER

All shops in Pune district will remain shut on Sunday on Ganesh visarjan, which marks the end of the 10-day festivities, said Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar on Friday.

The decision has been taken in order to preclude large gatherings, reduce the risk of a potential rise in CO-VID-19 cases and avert a possible third wave of the pandemic, officials said. However, essential services along with restaurants and hotels would be permitted to function normally.

During the day, the State's active case tally dipped to 48,451, with 4,410 recoveries being reported against 3,586 new cases. With 67 deaths, the toll rose to 1,38,389, while total cases stand at 65,15,111. The State's total recoveries have risen to 63,24,720, with the recovery rate at 97.06% and the case fatality rate remaining constant at 2.12%

"Of 5,67,09,128 laboratory samples tested thus far, 65,15,111 (with the average case positivity falling incrementally to 11.49%) have returned positive, with over 1.80 lakh samples being tested in the last 24 hours," said State Surveillance Officer Dr. Pradeep Awate.

Pune reported over 800 new cases, taking its tally to 11,33,916, while eight deaths pushed the total toll to 18,830. As per district authorities, the active case tally has risen to around 8,000.

Mumbai reported 472 new cases to take its tally to 7,37,200, while the active case tally rose to 5,502. Three deaths took the city's death toll to 16,042.

Ahmednagar reported 771 new cases and 10 deaths, taking its total cases to 3,21,940, of whom 6,575 are active. The district's cumulative toll rose to 6,707.



Tender Inquiry No. 82/GHTP/MM-II/HM-215(II) Dated 16-09-2021 Dy. Chief Engineer/MM-II/GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-tender for

the work of "Repair/Overhauling work of 02 no. Transmission Assemblies of BEML make Bulldozers Model BD-155 as per tender specifications of GHTP, Lehra Mohabat as per tender specifications". For detailed NIT and tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 17-09-2021 from 11:00 PM onwards

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GHTP - 44/21 DPRPB 76155/12/446/2021/7975

DELHI Transport Infrastructure

Development Corporation Ltd. (DTIDC) **Delhi Transport Infrastructure** Development Corporation Limited (An Enterprise of GNCT of Delhi) **CORRIGENDUM** 

Calling application for filling up various posts on deputation. DTIDC, an enterprise of Govt. of NCT of Delhi, having it office at 2nd Floor, Maha rana Pratap, ISBT, Kashmere Gate, Delhi invites applications from the eligible and interested employees of Govt. organizations for the following posts on deputation

basis for an initial period of three years:-1. AGM (Works- Civil)/Executive Engineer (Civil) Level- 11 as per 7th CPC (Grade pay Rs. 6600/- pre revised scale) 2. AGM (Works-Electrical)/Executive Engineer (Electrical) Level- 11 as per 7th CPC (Grade pay Rs. 6600/- pre revised scale) 3. Manager (Works- Civil) /Asstt. Engineer (Civil) Level -8 as per 7th CPC (Grade Pay Rs. 4800/- pre revised scale) 4. Manager (Works- Electrical) /Asstt. Engineer (Electrical) Level -8 as per 7th CPC (Grade Pay Rs. 4800/- pre revised scale)

5. Asstt. Manager (Works- Civil) /Junior Engineer (Civil) Level -6 as per 7th CPC (Grade Pay Rs. 4200/- pre revised scale) 6. Asstt. Manager (Works- Electrical) / Junior Engineer (Electrical) Level -6 as per 7th (CPC Grade Pay Rs. 4200/- pre revised scale) The last of receipt of application is extended to 04.10.2021. The further details regarding eligibility, qualification etc. can be seen on the website of DTIDC i.e.

DIP/Shabdarth/0307/21-22

#### M.P. STATE EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE COUNCIL Narmada Bhawan, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.)

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT OF KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS UNDER MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

In Madhya Pradesh "M.P. State Employment Guarantee Counci (MPSEGS) is the State Level Nodal Agency for implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) under the aegis of Panchayat & Rural Development Department- Govt. of Madhya Pradesh. MPSEGS invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from the competent, skilled, experienced and qualified national level organizations and

registered firms for empanelment as "Knowledge Partners". The details about eligibility of firms and scope of works has been mentioned in expression of interest which can be downloaded from web portal www.nregsmp.org and www.prd.mp.gov.in The interested and eligible agencies are requested to submit their proposal for empanelment as "Knowledge Partners". The proposal along with all relevant documents should reach us by

September 22, 2021 by e-mail on e-mail-id commissioner.nregs@gmail.com, psprd@mp.gov.in and jcp.nregs@gmail.com M.P. Madhyam/101993/2021 COMMISSIONER

Court directs District Collector to provide compensation within four weeks SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Bombay High Court on

Friday directed the Maharashtra government to pay ₹10 lakh each as compensation to the widows of three manual scavengers who died while cleaning a septic tank in a housing society in Go-

vandi on December 23, 2019. A Division Bench of Justices Ujjal Bhuyan and Madhav Jamdar was hearing a petition filed by Vimla Govind Chorotiya, Neeta Santosh Kalshekar, and Bani Vishwajit Debnath. The Bench said the case was an "eye-opener" and directed the office of the District Collector to provide a compensation of ₹10 lakh each to the three wo-

men within four weeks. Advocate Isha Singh, appearing for the petitioners, argued that though the deaths occurred as a consequence of a private housing society employing the men as manual scavengers, the State was strictly liable and responsible for providing compensation to the fami-

lies. She said the burden of

eradicating manual scaveng-

cle 17 of the Constitution (abolition of untouchability) was on the government.

ing in accordance with Arti-

Bombay HC awards ₹10 lakh each to widows of three manual scavengers

# Rehabilitation

Government Pleader Poornima Kantharia submitted that in addition to compensation, the government was willing to rehabilitate the women by providing their children scholarships. She also highlighted that the petitioners would be included in the list of manual scavengers.

She told the court that in accordance with its instructions, she had brought three cheques of ₹1.25 lakh each for the petitioners. She earlier informed the court that



lawyer outside the Bombay High Court on Friday. ■ TWITTER HANDLE @LIVELAWINDIA

the builder had deposited ₹3.75 lakh as part of the compensation, in accordance with the directions of the

The court also stated that it would monitor the case to ensure that all the provisions of the Prohibition of Employment of Manual Scavengers Act, 2013, were implemented. It also directed the State government to submit a list of the manual scavengers identified by it and to report on the action taken on the FIR registered after the deaths of the manual scavengers in Govandi.

tehsildar of Kurla.

The court noted that it would examine whether the Government Resolution regarding the payment of compensation to the families of the deceased manual scavengers was complied with.

# **PLEASE CONTACT** Mr. N SELVA KUMAR

**TO ADVERTISE** 

PH: 9820350726

selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU

India's National Newspaper

# Act and friction

A national commission is essential to make appointments to tribunals

ecent developments have demonstrated the Union government's implacable determination to undermine the autonomy of the various tribunals in the country. It recently got Parliament to enact the Tribunals Reforms Act, which contained provisions that had been struck down by the Supreme Court in an ordinance issued earlier. After being sharply questioned by the Supreme Court on the unusual delay in filling up vacancies among judicial and administrative members, it released a set of appointments this week. The Court found that there was cherry-picking among the names chosen by the various Selection Committees. Instead of exhausting the selection list put together by panels of judges and officials, the Government had waded into the waiting list to exercise its choice. In another development, the Government cut short the tenure of the Acting Chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Justice A.I.S. Cheema, by 10 days. Mr. Cheema was set to deliver in some matters on which the NCLAT had reserved judgment before retiring on September 20. The Government's justification was that it was going by its latest law, under which the Acting Chairperson's four-year tenure would end on September 10 and that Justice M. Venugopal had already been appointed in his place. However, a Bench headed by the Chief Justice of India, N.V. Ramana, was of the strong opinion that he should be allowed to complete his tenure, and even remarked that the Court would not hesitate to stay the operation of the Act on its own motion. Fortunately, the matter was resolved quickly, with the Government backing down and agreeing that Justice Venugopal would go on leave until Justice Cheema finished his stint on September 20.

The issue of tribunals has been a source of considerable friction between the Government and the Court. They have often disagreed on the eligibility criteria and conditions of service and a series of judgments have gone against the Government. Clauses introducing changes to the conditions of service of members of the various Tribunals have often been subjected to judicial view. Courts want to ensure that a reasonable tenure was available to the appointees, and do not allow criteria related to age and experience to be used to undermine their independence. Tribunals have always been seen as institutions that were a rung lower in independence as regular courts, even though there is wide agreement that administrative tribunals are required for quicker and more focused adjudication of cases that required specialisation and domain expertise. As several laws now provide for such adjudicative bodies, the executive does have an interest in retaining some leverage over their members. The Supreme Court has repeatedly called for the establishment of a national tribunals commission to make suitable appointments and evaluate the functioning of tribunals. If the Government has been dragging its feet on this, it is only because there is a method to its mulishness.

# Stepping back

Kohli's decision to retain ODI captaincy while relinquishing T20I leadership is strange

aptains have a shelf-life and the player usually outlasts the leader within the individual. This is true across sport and more so in cricket, with its three distinct formats and the attendant pressures. Seen through that prism, it is remarkable that Virat Kohli has had such a long run at the helm since his appointment as Test captain following M.S. Dhoni's retirement from the longest format on December 30, 2014. Since that day in Melbourne, Kohli, both batsman-supreme and aggressive-captain, has striven hard for success and balance. Subsequently, Kohli also held the reins in One Day Internationals and Twenty20Is from early 2017. He got prolific runs be it in Test whites or in the blue shade and he savoured triumphs with his men even if ICC silverware in limited-overs cricket or in the World Test Championship proved elusive. He also leads Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Indian Premier League (IPL), which resumes in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Sunday. Be it finalising playing elevens, evolving strategies, having a word with the selectors or addressing the media, captaincy throws up manifold challenges. The pressure was immense, and Kohli took to social media and announced that he will step down from captaincy in T20Is after the ICC Twenty20 World Cup concludes in the UAE this November.

Over the last few months, there was chatter about the Indian team's captaincy sweep-stakes. And Kohli's move was not entirely a surprise but what remains piquant is that he has not relinquished captaincy in ODIs. Perhaps the 2023 ICC World Cup in India is too massive a brand for Kohli to ignore. Yet, it leaves his successor in T20Is, most likely Rohit Sharma, in an awkward position. Captaincy is usually split between red-ball and white-ball cricket but with Kohli preferring this nuanced choice of both Test and ODI leadership, he is only leaving the crumbs for the imminent captain in T20Is. It is a fact that Rohit has led Mumbai Indians well in the IPL, guiding them to five titles. His relaxed demeanour is in contrast to Kohli's in-your-face aggression, but Rohit gets the work done, both as batsman and leader. With his credentials as Test opener gaining a fresh glow in England, the Mumbaikar, always a splendid batsman in limited-overs cricket, has grown in stature. At 34, Rohit is nearly two years older to Kohli, but for now he is primed for guiding the transition and has seemingly edged past the other candidate Ajinkya Rahane in Tests. But that will happen only if Kohli decides to remain a pure batsman or the selectors intervene. For now, a change, however feeble, has begun in T20Is.

# Picking up the threads from the Afghan rubble

Of all the countries involved in Afghanistan, India possibly has the best credentials to enable Kabul's neutrality



M.K. NARAYANAN

The Taliban does appear to have established control, by and large, over Afghanistan, with the last remaining holdout at Panishir having fallen. Nevertheless, many more questions than answers exist. One significant question is whether the 'Global War on Terror' has been consigned to the detritus of history or

#### Much turmoil, terror shoots

The latest episode in Afghanistan's tragic history has resulted in several thousands being displaced, and many thousands being forced to flee the country. The overweening threat, however, remains including the presence of many newer terrorist outfits, such as Daesh, ISIS-K, al Qaeda, Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), ETIM-K (a militant group from China's Xinjiang), the Fidayeen mahas, all of which are the enduring legacies of 20 years of foreign occupation.

The Taliban have in the meantime, announced the setting up of a 33-member interim government, headed by Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund as the acting Prime Minister. Prominent appointees include Abdul Ghani Baradar as acting Deputy Prime Minister, Sirajuddin Haqqani as acting Interior Minister, Mullah Mohammad Yagoob as acting Defence Minister, and Amir Khan Muttaqi as acting Foreign Minister. Notwithstanding earlier pronouncements by the Taliban, the government is, for the present, solely a Taliban construct, and overwhelmingly Pashtun in character. Pakistan holds certain key cards given the prominent role assigned to its protégés, Sirajuddin Haqqani and Mohammad Yaqoob, the son of Mullah Omar. The new government is unlikely to be fazed by the fact that quite a few members of the interim government are on various terror lists, including that of the United Nations and the United

A great deal of wringing of hands about the choices made may exist, but on a deeper reflection, it would be apparent that the original sin was the U.S. Agreement with the Taliban last year, which conferred on the group a degree of international recognition. Many more aftershocks can also be expected. Hopes of a pragmatic Afghanistan behind the religious garb may thus prove highly

What was achieved in Afghanistan, despite two decades of U.S. and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) occupation, can be summed up in three words: an unmitigated disaster. Destruction of the terror network - essentially of the al Qaeda network - was an objective which was far from achieved. Terror networks were driven underground for a time, but many new variants such as the Islamic State and many offshoots of the same thrive not only in Afghanistan but also in many different regions of the globe.

#### **India's engagement**

The facade of seeking to impose democracy in Afghanistan currently stands exposed, but the real damage possibly done is to the idea of democracy itself. Spending trillions of dollars cannot cloak this flawed effort. India's efforts regarding the economic development of Afghanistan have been rendered infructuous, and its reputation has suffered lasting damage. More serious is the fact that India's relations with the new Taliban leadership remain strained due to its association, earlier with the Northern Alliance, and subsequently with the Hamid Karzai and Ashraf Ghani administrations. This has put India in a different category, compared to many of Af-



as China and Russia. Pakistan clearly falls into a different category as the 'patron saint' of the new

Those who do not heed the lessons of history, it is said, are doomed to perdition. Afghanistan has been the graveyard of the ambitions of many nations in the past, notably Great Britain and Russia. Ever since the days of the Great Game between Russia and Great Britain, and right through the Cold War between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, Afghanistan had been viewed as strategically important. Its strategic value has only increased subsequently. The hasty withdrawal of the U.S. from Afghanistan is not merely a setback for the U.S., but for all those who sided with it.

Beginning with the decision of the Donald Trump Administration to institute talks with the Taliban and not with the government headed by Mr. Ghani - for the withdrawal of U.S. troops which not only legitimised the Taliban and acknowledged their premier role in the affairs of Afghanistan, the U.S. has committed one error after another.

#### **Duplicitous roles**

Its unfailing trust in the creator of the Taliban, the Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), which, while pretending to be an ally, outsmarted the U.S. is another. The Taliban are beholden to the ISI and it was hardly a surprise that the ISI Chief, Faiz Hameed was there to greet Mullah Baradar when he flew into Kandahar. Safe ghanistan's other neighbours such havens of the Taliban for the past

two decades have been in Pakistan and these were not only well known to the ISI, but also nurtured by it. Even the U.S. knew that the Taliban's Shura Council located in (Balochistan)

The near duplicitous role of Qatar, another important U.S. ally, which has nurtured the Taliban leadership in recent years, also bears scrutiny. In a bid to outflank Saudi Arabia (and emerge as the new fulcrum of West Asian politics), Qatar is known to play both sides. While being perceived as a U.S. ally, it pursues its own brand of politics - including that of acting as a shoulder for the Taliban to lean on. Not one, but at least three U.S. Administrations should, hence, share the blame for the catastrophic Afghanistan.

#### The eyes on the pie

The collapse of U.S. involvement in Afghanistan, and the simultaneous rise of the Taliban with their outreach to Pakistan, China, Russia, and to an extent even Iran, are likely to set in train developments that could alter the geo-politics of the region. Russia, though no longer the power it once was, is currently seeking to enlarge its influence in Eurasia, and the Afghan imbroglio gives it an opportunity. China, which envisages domination of Asia as the first step in its bid to become the world's number one power, sees Afghanistan as a prize both from a geo-economic and geo-political standpoint. Eyeing the mineral wealth of Afghanistan is only one aspect; a key objective is to make its Belt and Road Initiative a truly viable entity, and further extend its reach to the Indian Ocean, without being totally dependent on Pakistan.

Many West Asian countries are, meanwhile, assessing the situation in Afghanistan to see how best to take advantage of the fluid situation. The United Arab Emirates and Qatar have already shown their hand. Saudi Arabia is anxious to become involved, more so to of West Bengal

prevent Iran from extending its influence into Afghanistan. Iran is anxious to secure a hold in Afghanistan to ensure its own securitv. Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, which have a rather troubled relationship with Afghanistan, are not unwilling to maintain peace with a Talibanised Afghanistan. The U.S.'s plans to enhance regional security/connectivity through a new Quadrilateral diplomatic platform, meanwhile, may well prove stillborn, even before it takes off.

#### The path for New Delhi

India's concerns regarding Afghanistan have as much to do with geo-political positioning, as to prevent Afghanistan from becoming a crucible for pro-terror forces that could impact India's security. Hence, it must think hard on how to overcome the adverse constellation of forces that have emerged. One possibility is for India to take on a mediating role among the different nations anxious to involve themselves in Afghanistan, and produce a formula that would help maintain Afghanistan's neutrality and ensure that it becomes a buffer zone to prevent further Chinese expansionism towards South Asia.

Seven decades ago, India had performed such a mediating role in bringing tentative peace to what was then Indo-China, now Vietnam. It is critically important for India to ensure the unity and the integrity of Afghanistan, and in turn achieve an agreement in principle to maintain Afghanistan's neutrality.

Of all the countries currently involved in Afghanistan, India possibly has the best credentials to act as an honest broker; India should choose someone who can act like a 'Zelig-like figure' to ensure that the final decision is something that would ensure peace in the region and prevent any major turmoil in South Asia, checkmating both Pakistan and China.

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

# A dark cloud in Kerala's sky of communal harmony

Sane voices that have urged a walk back from recent instances of preaching hatred must be allowed to prevail



SUBIN DENNIS

The remarks made recently by Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, the Bishop of the Catholic diocese of Pala in Kerala on "narcotic jihad" have caused a major controversy. In a speech at a church in Kuravilangad in the State's Kottayam district, he had said that Christians ought to be vigilant against "narcotic jihad", allegedly an organised effort to destroy the lives of non-Muslims by getting

them addicted to narcotic drugs. Pala is one of the dioceses of the Svro-Malabar church in Kerala. Soon after the bishop's speech, some nuns from Kuravilangad accused another Christian priest of delivering a hate speech against Muslims, asking nuns not to buy vegetables from Muslims or travel in autorickshaws driven by them. The nuns reacted by walking out of the mass. In their comments to the media, four nuns expressed their disapproval of the communal remarks made by the priest and the bishop. "Christ did not teach us to sow communalism," one of the nuns said.

Uptick in polarising rhetoric The claim about "narcotics jihad" comes on top of the long-standing allegation by the church authorities that there is a "love jihad" in Kerala, allegedly an organised effort to lure non-Muslim women into marrying Muslim men and converting to Islam. Investigations by agencies, including the National Investigation Agency, have found no evidence to support this claim.

These incidents are part of a definite uptick in anti-Muslim rhetor-

ic by some sections among Christians in Kerala in the recent months. Earlier this year, when Israel bombed Gaza following the forcible eviction of Palestinian families from their homes in occupied East Jerusalem, some Christian social media handles (in Malayalam) came up with vicious propaganda against Palestinians and Muslims. Videos with outright falsehoods about the history of Palestine and Israel were circulated. They completely ignored the fact that Palestinian Christians, being victims of Israeli brutalities as much as other Palestinians, are very much part of the resistance against Israeli occupation.

More recently, there was the demand that the name 'Eesho' (Jesus) given to an upcoming movie be changed, with the film-makers facing intense hate speech from fringe groups. Meanwhile, booklets with anti-Muslim rhetoric are being distributed by the Syro-Malabar church authorities in several parts of Kerala: most notable among these being a booklet by the Thamarassery diocese. There are media reports that following protests, the diocese has expressed regret.

All these militate against the long-standing tradition of Kerala as a place where people of different religions have lived peacefully and in cooperation with one another. Working people's movements, governments, and society in general have by and large focused on material concerns. which made significant improvements in human development and living standards possible, while the religious communities of the State co-existed in harmony. Christians – among whom levels of education and prosperity are the highest among Kerala's religious communities – have been an integral part of this process. But these recent developments, if left



unchecked, do threaten to unravel the path to further progress.

The virulent messages propagated by some major religious figures in the Christian community, and amplified by social media, are cause for concern. What is it that has changed in the recent past that has provided the backdrop for these outbursts?

#### Strong causative factors An important, but under-appre-

ciated, factor relates to the economic conditions that provide a fertile breeding ground for communal hatred. Trade liberalisation has hit plantation agriculture (most importantly, rubber) hard. India joining the World Trade Organisation in 1995 and a Free Trade Agreement (which came into effect from 2010 onwards) with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) were followed by bouts of decline for the real prices (prices adjusted for inflation) of rubber. Christians constitute a large section of peasants who cultivate plantation crops, and these price crashes have meant that many of them have found their economic conditions stagnating or deteriorating. Two consecutive years of intense floods in Kerala (in 2018 and 2019) and the novel coronavirus pandemic crisis that followed

- damaging livelihoods across the globe - have not made things easier. In such circumstances, hatemongering, which blames other communities for hardships, finds a lot of takers. Those who have something to gain by polarising people on communal lines find it easier to train their guns on other communities rather than on deleterious economic policies.

The pandemic has had some peculiar effects on the church authorities. Protracted periods of lockdowns and restrictions on the number of people in church gatherings have meant that church attendance has fallen steeply. Apart from adversely affecting church revenues, these developments seem to have caused a feeling of insecurity among some sections of the clergy who feel that the faithful are slipping away from their influence. In this context, fiery rhetoric that polarises communities while seeking to consolidate their own followers would be a ploy to bring the flock back to their own

At the same time, more people have taken to attending church services using television and the Internet. This has exposed the laity more than ever to the algorithms of social media, where provocative content tends to get more traction. The number of views for a video is likely to go up if its content is more inflammatory and provokes more comments. This algorithm of hatred, in turn, has meant that many video creators, including some clergy, end up believing that such videos are the need of the hour.

# The shadow of politics

The weakening of the Indian National Congress – which the Catholic church authorities in Kerala have traditionally favoured seems to have accentuated the insecurities of the church leadership, and a section of the church authorities could be seen as aligning their positions more in line

with that of the Hindutva forces. Certainly, the actions and positions of some communal organisations have served to increase ten-

sions. Notable among these were the horrific attack in 2010 on a college lecturer, T.J. Joseph, by the Islamist fundamentalist Popular Front of India, and the endorsement by some Muslim communal organisations of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's conversion of the historic Hagia Sophia in Turkey into a mosque. But responding to communalism with communalism has a self-propelling dynamic – the shriller the communal rhetoric from one community, the more it strengthens communal forces in other communities.

# **Peace appeals**

For the sake of Christians themselves and that of society in general, the Catholic clergy must return to a position of reason and restraint. Many Catholic and non-Catholic Christians - apart from others - have urged a walk back from preaching hatred.

A former spokesperson of the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council is among those who have criticised the Pala bishop's statement. A bishop of the Orthodox church has cautioned against church leaders getting trapped in the Sangh Parivar's design to divide minority communities, while a bishop of the Jacobite church has said that the altar should not be used to propagate the politics of hatred. In a joint press conference recently, a bishop of the Church of South India and the President of the Kerala Muslim Youth Federation called for peace.

It is heartening that sane voices are fighting back. It is a battle they must win to save the soul of Kerala as a society where religious communities live in harmony and prosper together.

Subin Dennis is an economist at expressed are personal

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

# 'Bad bank' set up

The Government is mistaken if it thinks that setting up a National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL), or 'bad bank', backed by its guarantee of ₹30,600 crore will end the NPA problems of the Indian banking industry (Page 1, "Govt. sets

up 'bad bank" to clear the NPA mess", September 17). The root causes have still to be addressed. Targeted and directed lending, abrupt policy changes, alleged collusion of top bank managements with business people and grey areas in lending to huge projects are some of

the issues of Indian banking. Even though the professionalisation of the boards of public sector banks had a good beginning, the problem is far from being tackled. The regulator ought to have opted for an asset quality review of banks so as to bring out the realistic

position of quality of the lending portfolio and also initiated holistic steps to improve the quality of lending and professionalisation of the operational and credit risk management aspects of banks. V.P. BHASKARAN,

■ A separate institutional arrangement for handling stressed assets can be harmful for the financial sector in the long run. Put bluntly, besides acting as a disincentive for professionalising appraisal and credit delivery and recovery departments of the banks, the

institutionalisation of 'stressed assets' can further weaken the supervisory and regulatory efforts of the already stressed authority, namely the Reserve Bank of India. M.G. WARRIER,

# The other virus amid a raging pandemic

Kerala reported a new case of the Nipah virus on September 5 even as it continued to register the highest number of COVID-19 cases in the country. A.S. Jayanth reports on an unprepared State's scramble to deal with a familiar adversary and detect how it got transmitted from animals to humans

ohammed Hashim was wheeled into the chaotic casualty ward of the Government Medical College Hospital in Kozhikode in north Kerala from a private hospital on August 31. "It was around 12.50 p.m.," recalled Abdul Kareem (name changed), a healthcare volunteer. "Hashim (12) was on oxygen support, which was taken back by the private hospital staff. I fixed another oxygen mask on his face. Hashim was having seizures as if he was epileptic."

Hashim's mother, Wahida, who was beside herself with anxiety, kept telling Kareem that her son was scared of injections and that's why he was getting seizures. Hashim was whisked off to the 'red area' earmarked for critical patients. An antigen test showed a negative result for COVID-19. The seizures continued, the cause undetected. Soon, he started vomiting profusely.

Wahida and her husband, Vayoli Aboobacker, lost their only son in a private hospital on September 5. Barely a few hours before his death, Hashim had tested positive for the deadly Nipah vi-

#### Fear of the known

Kozhikode and the adjoining districts of Kannur and Malappuram were immediately put on high alert. Entry to Pazhoor, the village where Hashim lived, was barricaded. Nearby wards that fall in Mukkam Municipality and Kodiyathur Grama Panchayat were declared containment zones.

A familiar fear gripped the villagers. From September 4 night, TV news channels had started broadcasting reports about the infection recurring in Kozhikode for the second time after three years. While rushing to Kozhikode from the State capital, Health Minister Veena George confirmed the news about Hashim's death at a brief stopover in Thrissur in the early hours of September 5. "The National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, informed us on Saturday night that the three body fluid samples of the boy have returned positive for Nipah,' she said.

It was a déjà vu moment for many who remembered the scary days of May-June 2018 when the Nipah infection was reported for the first time in Kozhikode. Of the 23 identified cases then, the virus had claimed the lives of 21 people in Kozhikode and Malappuram districts. Two of the infected persons had survived.

The family members of healthcare workers who attended to Hashim were equally alarmed. This provided a grim reminder of nurse Lini Puthussery, who succumbed to the virus while treating one of the infected persons during the first outbreak.

Classified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a "zoonotic illness that is transmitted to people from animals", the Nipah infection can also be passed on through contaminated food or from person to person. In infected people, it causes a range of illnesses. While some remain asymptomatic, others can have acute respiratory illness and fatal encephalitis. The virus can also cause severe disease in animals such as pigs. Fruit bats of the family Pteropodidae - particularly, species belonging to the Pteropus genus - are the natural hosts for the virus, says the WHO.

Symptoms include fever, headaches, muscle pain, vomiting and sore throat. This can be followed by dizziness, drowsiness, altered consciousness, and neurological signs that indicate acute encephalitis. The WHO says patients with severe infection get encephalitis and seizures and end up in coma in 24 to 48 hours. The mortality rate is as high as around 92%.

Following Hashim's death, the National Centre for Disease Control deputed a special team to Kozhikode to assess the situation. A special lab under the aegis of the NIV was set up at the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital to test samples. A special control room was opened at the government guest house. Hashim's parents, some of their relatives, and the healthcare workers who attended to him were all quarantined. By then, some of them had already de-

veloped mild fever. Deserted roads stretched out in front of us when we visited the Munnur locality in Pazhoor two days after Hashim's death. Only a few shops selling essential goods were open. Very few dared to venture out of their homes. COVID-19 rapid response team volunteers helped people, especially senior citizens, get medicines and grocery items, while other volunteers conducted a house-tohouse survey to determine if there were unnatural fever deaths or unreported deaths in recent times. The road leading to Hashim's house was blocked. Some of the local residents refused to talk. "He was a nice, calm boy. He used to roam around the area with his goats," a neighbour later said on the phone.

# Lack of a guideline

Kerala's public health apparatus had won acclaim for its efforts to contain the virus when it was reported for the first



The road to the house of 12-year-old Mohammed Hashim, who succumbed to the Nipah virus, at Pazhoor in Kozhikode district, was closed as the area was declared a containment zone. (Below): Samples of rambutan fruits are collected from the area where Hashim lived. • K. RAGESH



time. A critically acclaimed movie was made on its handling of the crisis. In 2019, another case of the infection was reported: the patient was a 21-year-old youth in Ernakulam district. He reco-

This time, as the days went by, questions emerged about the efficacy of the health system in diagnosing the infection at an early stage. Many asked why the Medical College Hospital did not follow a purported guideline, devised after the first outbreak to screen those with encephalitis, meningitis or Nipah-like symptoms.

According to Vayoli Musthafa, one of Hashim's relatives, the young boy had a fever from August 27. He was taken to a nearby doctor's residence on August 29. He remained at home for two more days, but the symptoms did not subside. Wahida and Aboobacker rushed him to two private hospitals, at Mukkom and Omassery, on August 31 before approaching the Medical College Hospital.

Hashim remained in the casualty ward there for around 23 hours and was subjected to various scanning procedures. According to sources, initially only Hashim's parents were there with him. The next morning, people from their neighbourhood reached the hospital too. Musthafa said that the hospital authorities advised them to shift Hashim to another hospital as the Medical College Hospital did not have a ventilator support for children then. Hashim was once again moved to another private hospital in the city, where doctors suspected something amiss after seeing his condition. Hashim's body fluid samples were sent for a Nipah test, which returned out to be positive.

One of the doctors at the Medical College Hospital said on condition of anonymity that he was not sure if there was a definite guideline for Nipah. "That is a logically and scientifically accepted requirement in a place which has already

documented an infection of a deadly nature like Nipah. When we make requests for such a guideline, it takes time at various levels within the institution and the government. It is quite possible that cases like this may have been missed because of the lack of a proper channelised system in government medical college hospitals," he said. The doctor, however, claimed that in Hashim's case, it wouldn't have made a difference because he was already severely infected when taken to the Medical College Hospital. A sustainable mechanism should be put in place to ensure that the samples of all suspected cases are sent to labs so that no case is missed, another doctor said.

Soon after the first Nipah outbreak the State government had announced its plan to set up a virology institute with international standards in Thiruvananthapuram, and a regional virology lab at the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital. The Institute of Virology set up at the Bio 360 Life Sciences Park at Thonnakkal in 2019 "as an institute of global standards networking Global Virology Institutes with most modern laboratories focusing research, diagnosis and management of emerging and reemerging infectious viral diseases" is taking baby steps. The bio-safety level-III lab proposed at the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital, too, has not made much progress. This regional lab affiliated to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was supposed to help detect infectious diseases such as Nipah, H1N1, West Nile fever, and Kyasanur Forest Disease.

According to sources, the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital had reported a couple of cases of Japanese Encephalitis in May 2018 in the same month the Nipah infection occurred. A public health expert said that those with Nipah would also show positive test results for Japanese Encephalitis. What was termed as Japanese Encephalitis could have been Nipah. There might not have been any follow-up study on the throat swab, cerebrospinal fluid, blood and urine samples of those infected persons, he said.

Althaf Ali, Associate Professor, Community Medicine, Government Medical College, Manjeri, who was part of an expert team that studied the first Nipah outbreak, stressed the need to strengthen the surveillance system in hospitals. "The body fluid samples of patients who are suspected to have symptoms of acute encephalitis syndrome, a notifiable condition by the WHO, should be subjected to mandatory lab tests. These tests should be made available for follow-up studies as well. Though the main attempt is to diagnose Japanese Encephalitis, infections such as Nipah and West Nile fever too can be detected this way," he pointed out.

# Tracing the source

The health authorities, however, highlighted how the healthcare system in the State is under strain. Soon after the first outbreak came the disastrous floods of 2018 and 2019. When it looked like the State was limping back from these jolts, the health system was shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been long-drawn, challenging and relentless. The news of a fresh case of Nipah infection emerged when Kerala was continuing to report the highest number of COVID-19 cases in the coun-

They said that no effort would be wasted in tracing the source of the infection. The Department of Animal Husbandry collected throat swab samples of goats in the area as Hashim was reported to have the habit of rearing them. Body fluid samples of bats and some bat carcasses and bird droppings too were taken for tests at the National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases, Bhopal. However, all of them have returned negative for the virus along with the wild boar samples collected with the help of the Forest Department. After some of his neighbours said that Hashim had eaten rambutan, some of the half-eaten parts of the fruit too were taken to be tested. The results

"One of the biggest challenges now will be to detect how the virus was transmitted from animals to humans. How it happened in 2018 is still unclear. Antibodies against the virus were found in 12 of the 52 samples of fruit bats collected from Changaroth Grama Panchayat and nearby areas in Kozhikode where the first outbreak occurred. There is no evidence other than that," said Dr. Althaf. In 2019, after the infection recurred, the presence of antibodies was found in fruit bat samples in Ernakulam as well. These bats belonged to the species Flying Fox or *Pteropus* medius.

A public health expert, who did not wish to be named, said, "Some people try to compare the source of the Nipah infection with COVID-19, which is factually incorrect. For COVID-19, there has been only one index patient or zero patient, the person in whom the infection was detected first. But for Nipah, every one of the local occurrences so far has had an index case." Detailed research has not been conducted as yet on the presence of the virus in bats in

According to reports, there are 48 species of bats in Kerala, of which seven are fruit bats. An international study titled 'Prioritizing surveillance of Nipah virus in India', published in the PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases journal in June 2019, had claimed that at least 11 bat species in the country could carry the virus. "In addition to seven species in Kerala that were previously identified as Nipah virus seropositive, we identified at least four bat species that, on the basis of trait similarity with known Nipah virus-seropositive species, have a relatively high likelihood of exposure to Nipah or Nipah-like viruses in India," said the study.

P.O. Nameer, Professor and Head of the Department of Wildlife Sciences and Centre for Wildlife Studies, College of Forestry, Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, was one of the co-authors of this study. "There are two important points. One, the samples collected for the study were not from India, but from other countries. Also, 10 of the 11 samples were subjected to only serological examination, which is suggestive of the presence of the virus, and not RT-PCR tests, which are more accurate. So, our study actually called for a detailed investigation into the presence of the virus in Indian bats," he said.

# An integrated approach

Public health experts have also called for an integrated approach to emerging infections, especially those zoonotic in nature. They don't rule out the possibility of the Nipah infection recurring in

M. Muraleedharan, State vice-president of the Indian Medical Association, said zoonotic diseases have been posing a challenge to our public health in the last few decades. "To address these infections, we need to coordinate the treatment methods and health surveillance of the people along with those for animals. Such an approach should also take into view ecological concerns, and a 'One Health' policy should be developed," he said. He suggested that Kerala take steps to set up a research and study centre for animals on the lines of the national lab in Bhopal. The government should also set up bio-safety level-IV high security labs so that testing and diagnosis for infections such as Nipah can be done in the State itself, he said.

Dr. Muraleedharan said that it was high time that the State government implemented a Kerala Public Health Act as well. Now, an age-old Madras Public Health Act is in force in the Malabar region and a Travancore-Cochin Public Health Act is applicable to the rest of the

A doctor at the Kozhikode Medical College Hospital, a major healthcare institution in the Malabar region comprising six districts, underscored the problem of overcrowding in government medical college hospitals, which would have to be dealt with on an emergency basis. During the 2018 outbreak, many of the secondary contacts of the primary cases were in-hospital contacts due to lack of implementation of strict infection control practices. Crowding has to be minimised in casualty wards to prevent any cross infections, he said. There has to be a proper isolation system with the necessary infrastructure and manpower so that parallel medical services to other patients are not compromised during outbreaks like this, he said.

But it also looks like the existing CO-VID-19 protocol has come in handy in the fight against Nipah. "So far, we have seen that Nipah gets transmitted only after the infected person becomes terminally ill. The person is confined to a hospital, in intensive care units or wards. So, the chance of spreading the infection is confined to healthcare institutions and the people there – nearby patients, bystanders and healthcare workers," Dr. Althaf said. Now COVID-19 protocols are in place - people are wearing face masks and are sanitising their hands frequently. All the hospitals have infection-control measures in place.

So far, 143 people on Hashim's contact list, including 17 of those symptomatic for the infection, have tested negative for the virus. Restrictions on social life imposed on Chathamangalam Grama Panchayat and surrounding wards in other local bodies have been gradually eased. Life is slowly returning to normal. An NIV team has collected bat samples in a bid to study the source

of the infection. But a question still remains.

answer.

"Hashim's parents were very particular about maintaining hygiene. We don't believe that he had eaten a rambutan fruit bitten by a bat. He used to eat only freshly plucked ones from trees on his father's property. So, how did he get infected," Hashim's neighbour wondered. We may have to wait for long for an



#### FROM PAGE ONE

# Petroleum products to remain outside GST

While the GST regime had originally been premised on a revenue-neutral tax rate of 15.5%, Ms. Sitharaman said the actual GST revenues had been going down with the effective tax rate slipping to 11.6% due to changes made in the tax rates on various goods and services over the last few years.

"(To be) revenue neutral is to keep it at 15.5% and actually, therefore, if revenues are coming down and you think it is not helping the overall GST collection, what was arrived at the time of introducing GST has been, knowingly or unknowingly, brought down by reduction in tax rates of some items," she said.

To shore up GST revenues, the Council has decided to form two groups of ministers (GoMs) that have to recommend measures withhas been tasked with reviewing tax rate rationalisation issues to correct anomalies in the rate structure, while the other will look to tap technology to improve compliance and monitoring. This, Ms. Sitharaman said, will look at e-way bills, Fastags, compliance and composition schemes to plug loopholes. The Compensation Cess

levied on automobiles, tobacco products and aerated water, over and above the basic GST rate, was to be tapped for covering the gap between States' actual revenues and the 14% annual revenue growth for five years they were assured for adopting GST. The Council had decided last year that the Compensation Cess levy will be extended to repay the principal amount as well as the interest payable on

# SC Collegium on mission mode to fill vacancies

Besides Justice Bindal, the other judges recommended for elevation as Chief Justices of High Courts are Justice Prakash Srivastava for Calcutta, Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra for the Andhra Pradesh High Court, Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi for Karnataka, Justice Satish Chandra Sharma for Telangana, Justice Ranjit V. More for Meghalaya, Justice Aravind Kumar for Gujarat and Justice R.V. Malimath for Mad-

hya Pradesh. Other than Justice Kureshi, the other Chief Justices of High Courts recommended for transfer include Andhra Pradesh Chief Iustice Arup Kumar Goswami to Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh Chief Justice Mohd. Rafiq to Himachal Pradesh, Chief Justice Indirajit Mohanty of the Rajasthan High Court to Tripura and Meghalaya Chief Justice Biswanath Somadder to Sikkim.

# Afghanistan change not inclusive, says Modi

"And that is why it is necessary that the global community should think carefully and collectively while deciding on the legitimacy of the new political system in Afghanistan," he added.

He expressed India's support for the "central role" of the United Nations in the global deliberation regarding Afghanistan.

Earlier, addressing the 21st meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), he stated that the fight against radicalisation was necessary for increasing trust among the SCO member-countries. Mr. Modi, who was addressing

format, said, "The biggest challenges in this region are related to peace, security and trust deficit and the main reason behind these challenges lies in the increasing radicalisation. The recent developments in Afghanistan have highlighted the challenge. The SCO should take the initiative to counter this problem".

the meeting in the virtual

Speaking after Mr. Modi, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan referred to "outstanding disputes" that should be resolved peacefully, and urged the Taliban to fulfil its pledge of building an inclusive government in

# India sets record with 2 crore jabs in one day

Meanwhile, sources in the Health Ministry on Friday said that for India "vaccinating it's citizens is a priority and export of vaccines will be discussed only after the country's require-

"In October, one crore doses of Zydus Cadila will be given," noted the

He added that the Ministry has prioritised vaccine coverage for States due to go to polls next year.

# Plea for joint audit of Kerala temple and trust

"My properties are also with the Trust... In April 2014, the Supreme Court's amicus curiae recommended that 25 years of accounts of both the temple and the trust should be audited... The Trust used to care for the day to day expenses of the temple," senior advocate R. Basant, representing the committee led by the Thiruvananthapuram

district judge, submitted. The committee said that the Supreme Court, in its 2020 judgment upholding the Travancore royals' right of shebaitship over the temple, had ordered an audit "as suggested by the amicus curiae".

Mr. Basant argued that the court was referring to an April 15, 2014, report filed by senior advocate Gopal Subramanium, who

was then amicus curiae. In his report, the amicus had recommended a "special audit" by former Comptroller and Auditor General Vinod Rai of the 25 years of accounts of both the temple and the SPSTT.

Mr. Basant said the temple and the Trust could not be viewed separately and needed to be audited together. The court was hearing an application filed by the SPSTT for a declaration that it was an "independent entity distinct from Sree Padmanabhaswamy

temple" The SPSTT, represented by senior advocate Arvind Datar and advocate Shyam Mohan, said it did not come under the administrative control of either the administrative committee or the advisory committee formed under the Travancore Cochin Hindu Religious Endowments Act of

The court reserved the

case for orders.

# Congress leaders wish Modi on birthday, but flag policy failures

The occasion was observed by cadre as 'unemployment day' and 'anti-farmer day'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A host of Congress leaders on Friday, including former party chief Rahul Gandhi, wished Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 71st birthday. But the party also claimed that the country is paying a price for his government's failure on several fronts. That is why the day was observed as "unemployment day", "anti-farmer day", "high prices day" and "crony capitalists day", party leaders said.

Addressing a press conference, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said birthdays of former Prime Ministers are celebrated as various occasions: Jawaharlal Nehru's birth anniversary is Children's Day, Indira Gandhi's is National Integration Day, Rajiv Gandhi's is known as Sadbhavana Dav and Atal Bihari Vajpayee's birth anniversary is celebrated as Good Governance Day. Ms. Shrinate said Mr. Mo-

di's birthday was being ob-

Marching on: Youth Congress members taking out a protest to mark 'unemployment day' on Friday. • SANDEEP SAXENA

served as "unemployment day" across the country, and added that the party hoped God would give him "the wisdom to see where he is leading the country to".

"It is the Prime Minister's birthday and from this platform, we wish him a happy birthday. We pray for his well being, but we do believe that this day is being celebrated in many parts of the country as unemployment day, anti-farmer day, high

prices day, crippled economy day, as winning over crony capitalists friends day, as ED, IT, CBI raids day, and the corona mismanagement day," Ms. Shrinate told reporters.

'Crippled economy'

The Congress said India was facing the highest rate of unemployment despite the promise of creating two crore jobs every year; 61 lakh government jobs were lying vacant: farmers were on a protest for the past nine months over the new agriculture laws; demonetisation and GST had crippled the economy, investment was at its lowest and the high prices of cooking gas, diesel, petrol, edible oil, pulses, and daily essential items had made people's lives difficult.

The Congress also attacked the central agencies like the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Income Tax and Enforcement Directorate (ED) for becoming "frontal organisations" of the BJP.

Ms. Shrinate alleged that while the country faced shortage of vaccines, oxygen and essential drugs, the Prime Minister was too busy electioneering in Bengal and all the "red flags" were brushed aside to "suit his image".

Among the Congress leaders who wished Mr. Modi were Mallikarjun Kharge, Anand Sharma, Shashi Tha-



For the win: In this photo dated August 18, Neeraj Chopra presenting his lavelin to the PM. TWITTER/@NEERAJ CHOPRA1

# E-auction of gifts to PM gets underway

Javelins used by Olympians find place

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Sports gear and equipment of winners of the Tokyo Paralympic Games and the Tokyo Olympic Games, including the javelins used by gold medallists Sumit Antil and Neeraj Chopra, are the key highlights of the e-auction of about 1,330 gifts and mementos received by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who turned 71 on Friday.

The e-auction, being organised by the Ministry of Culture, started on Friday er 7. The proceeds will go to the Namami Gange Mission.

Some other items under the hammer are the boxing gloves used by Tokyo Olympics bronze medal winner Lovlina Borgohain, signed by the player herself; a badminton racquet autographed by Krishna Nagar, gold medallist at the Paralympics; and a table tennis racquet autographed by Bhavina Patel, silver medallist at the Tokyo Paralympics. The javelins have the highest base price of ₹1

# Challenges loom for Gujarat's 'all new' Cabinet

A significant role for bureaucrats, helmed by Delhi, seems likely as many Ministers have little administrative experience

MAHESH LANGA

The BJP's experiment in Gujarat of dropping all Ministers of the erstwhile Vijay Rupani Cabinet is likely to face challenges as the State heads towards crucial Assembly polls next year.

The 25-member Cabinet of first-time legislator and Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has only three members with prior ministerial experience: Raghavji Patel, who was Minister in the Shankarsinh Vaghela government in 1996-98, Kiritsinh Rana, who served as a Minister in the Keshubhai Patel and Narendra Modi governments and Rajendra Trivedi, who was a junior Minister in the Anandiben

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan

Bhagwat will visit Jammu

and Kashmir between Oc-

tober 1 and 3, his first visit to

the Union Territory (UT) af-

ter the reading down of Arti-

still getting firmed up,

sources said he would inte-

ract with a group of 'pra-

budh varg' (intellectual

class) in Jammu. Currently it

is the only public pro-

Sources in the Sangh said

the RSS Sarsanghchalak,

who usually visits every

"prant" (state) once in two

years has had to cut down

visits over the past year and

gramme on his schedule.

While his programme is

NEW DELHI

Rashtriya

cle 370.

RSS chief likely to meet 'pracharaks'

Swayamsevak

government. Nine of the 24 Ministers are first-time legislators whose exposure at the State government level is li-

"On the surface, it appears as a bold experiment aimed at cutting down the anti-incumbency at the hustings but it's fraught with risks and challenges as well," said a senior BJP leader and four-time parliamentarian from the State.

**Governance delivery** 

According to him, governance delivery may suffer for the time being because most of the Ministers, including the CM, are inexperienced and are likely to take some time to get a grip over the bureaucracy and system.



the

Though the party has done a balancing act and given suitable representation

leadership in Delhi," he ad-

to the major castes and communities in the ministerial berths, top leaders who enjoyed power for years in the government have been relegated to the back and they may create challenges for the administration as well as the party as the polls near.

So far, except some murmurs of protests by supporters of a handful of leaders, there has not been any significant statement or any move by any leader questioning the high command's unprecedented move of implementing "no repeat" for-

"Senior leaders are upset but they are in a wait-and-

mula in the State Cabinet for-

watch mode at the moment," a party insider said, adding some of them will certainly strike at the opportune moment. All leaders and ex-Minis-

ters have maintained that the high command's decision to field new faces in the government has been accepted by all.

According to sources, the challenge for the party will likely emerge from Saurashtra where Kolis, who are the largest caste block, and other OBC communities will become vocal as their representation has declined in the new regime.

# NIA grills LeT terrorist Tunda Militants kill Bhagwat to visit J&K between Oct. 1 and 3 over railway station explosion

party

He has reportedly corroborated certain findings

DEVESH K. PANDEY

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has interrogated Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorist Abdul Karim Tunda in connection with a bomb blast at the Darbhanga railway station in Bihar in June.

Tunda was questioned in Uttar Pradesh's Dasna Jail, where he is currently lodged. It is learnt that during the interrogation, he purportedly corroborated certain findings of the NIA in the Darbhanga blast case and shared some more details that are being verified.

During the probe, the agency had found that the bomb was planted on the Se-



Abdul Karim Tunda

cunderabad-Darbhanga Express train at the instance of Pakistan-based Iqbal Kana, who knew Tunda since 2009 when the latter was also there. It is alleged that back in Pakistan, Tunda had trained Mohammed Nasir Khan – arrested by the NIA for involvement in the Darbhanga case – in configuring improvised explosive devices (IED).

Tunda, originally from Pilkhuwa in Uttar Pradesh, fled to Pakistan via Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia in 1994-95. He was accused of being part of conspiracies to carry out blasts at several places. Over the years, he had allegedly found various ways of preparing bombs using readily available chemicals. He was arrested by the Delhi police close to the India-Nepal border in Uttarakhand on August 16, 2013.

# policeman, labourer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Militants killed a policeman and a labourer in two separate incidents in south Kashmir's Kulgam on Friday.

A police spokesman said militants fired upon policeman Bantu Sharma, a resident of Wanpoh, Kulgam, near the Shamford School around 6 p.m.

"Mr. Sharma sustained grievous injuries. He was shifted to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries," the spokesman said.

Hours after the killing of the policeman, militants shot dead a labourer, identified as Shankar Kumar Chowdhary from Bihar, around 9 p.m. at the Nehama area in Kulgam.

# IS trying to recruit youth online: NIA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has so far probed 37 cases involving Islamic State-inspired moand made 168 dules

"Investigation by the NIA has revealed that IS (Islamic State) is trying to spread its tentacles in India through continuous propaganda online. Gullible youth are targeted on open social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram," the agency said, adding that it can be contacted at 011-24368800 to report such attempts.

# 10-year time frame available to implement NEP: Kasturirangan and another 10 years to eval-

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Mohan Bhagwat

sources added.

COVID-19 pandemic.

a half due to the ongoing

He is expected meet

'pracharaks' and heads of

RSS affiliates working in the

Union Territory and take

stock of the changed situa-

tion on the ground, the

The new National Education Policy had taken into consideration all aspects and concerns of educators and students, said K. Kasturirangan, the chairman of the policy's drafting committee.

In a webinar hosted jointly by The Hindu and Sai University on Wednesday Mr. Kasturirangan ran the audience through the salient features of the policy and addressed their concerns on its implementation.

"We are aware of the geographical and economic imbalances. We have a 10-year time frame (to implement) uate it," he said. In a wideranging discussion, Mr. Kasturirangan said experiences from across the country had been studied, which led the committee to come up with a mechanism to develop every student's capabilities, be it in learning languages, communicating or developing technical expertise.

**Unique abilities** The policy had been drafted with the aim of exploiting the unique capability of a

human being, he said. K.V. Ramani, founder of Sai University, said the institution in its founding year

had already implemented the NEP. The university would provide students an opportunity to pick up subjects of their interest in the true spirit of interdisciplinary education, he said. Iamshed

Bharucha, founding Vice-Chancellor of the University, said he had been excited to return to India after 40 years after reading the NEP. He said he welcomed the academic bank of credit system. "I support the spirit of the proposal because of the obvious flexibility but I have one concern. I hope that it does not force all institutions to follow the same curriculum," he said.

# Webinar on computing and data sciences

Career options to be explored

STAFF REPORTER

SAI University will organise a webinar on career opportunities in computing and data sciences in association with The Hindu on Monday (September 20) at 5 p.m., according to a press release.

The experts on the panel include Krithi Ramamritham, professor of computer science; S. Sadagopan, International Advisory Board, Sai University; Ashank Desai, founder, vice-chairman and managing director, Mastek and K.V. Ramani, founder and chancellor, Sai University.



The session will be moderated by Sen Sumant Utpaul, sub-editor, The Hindu.

To register, please visit https://bit.ly/ SAIWEB3 or scan the QR Code.



# Jaishankar calls for early resolution of LAC issues

In Dushanbe talks, Wang expresses hope that 'India will meet China halfway to move the situation towards stability'

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China must not view India through the lens of its ties with other countries, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar told his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, as they met on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan, on Thursday.

Both discussed the ongoing impasse at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh which, they said, had left relations at a "low ebb".

A statement issued after the meeting, held after the two last met in the same city at the SCO Foreign Ministers' meeting in July, said they agreed to more talks by military and diplomatic officials to resolve the "remaining issues on disengagement".

A Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) statement said, "Both sides had agreed that a prolongation of the existing situation was not in the interest of either side as it was impacting the relationship in a negative manner. EAM therefore emphasised that the two sides should work towards early resolution of the remaining issues along the LAC in Eastern Ladakh while fully

abiding by bilateral agreements and protocols".

According to the MEA, Mr. Iaishankar once again stressed that peace and tranquillity along the LAC, which depended on resolving all the remaining issues of the 17-month-long stand-off, was an "essential basis" for progress in bilateral relations, but it is understood the two Ministers did discuss global developments, including Afghanistan, during their talks.

Mr. Jaishankar said that "Asian solidarity" depended on the example set by India-China relations and, in a possible reference to growing U.S.-India ties, added that China should "avoid viewing our bilateral relations from the perspective of its relations with third countries".

The remarks are significant as Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who addressed the SCO via videoconference on Friday, is travelling to Washington next week to attend the Quad summit with leaders of the U.S., Australia and Japan, where their common position on China's actions in the Indo-Pacific will be watched most closely.

A statement from China's Foreign Ministry quoted Mr. Wang as saying "the recent communication between the

Rebuilding ties: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, left, with his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, in Dushanbe. •PTI

two foreign affairs and military departments was earnest and effective, and the overall situation in the border area was gradually de-escalated."

He said China "hopes that India will meet China halfway to move the situation towards stability and shift it from urgent dispute settlement to regular management and control."

"Both sides need to consolidate the disengagement results of the front-line troops, and strictly abide by the protocols and agreements and the consensus reached between the two countries, to jointly safeguard the peace and tranquility of the border

Eastern Ladakh and transgressed into several areas, leading to the Galwan clashes, in which 20 Indian soldiers, and at least four Chinese soldiers, were killed. Of those areas, the two

troops along the boundary in

sides completed disengagement of troops in the Galwan Valley, both the banks of Pangong Tso (lake) and Gogra, but friction points remain to be resolved at Hot Springs, Demchok and Depsang. Both sides have, for the first time, put in place temporary "buffer zones" to avoid further clashes.

Gen. Rawat's comment

The meeting between the foreign ministers came two days after Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen. Bipin Rawat said India must prepare to deal with its "adversaries" on both fronts: with China and Pakistan. He had also called China's moves on Afghanistan, and "making friends" with Iran and Turkey, a "jointmanship between the Sinic and Islamic civilisations", and asked whether that could lead to a "clash of civilisations" with the West.

Apparently contradicting the CDS's comments, Mr. Jaishankar told Mr. Wang that India did not believe in the "clash of civilisations theory" (famously propounded by U.S. academic Samuel Huntington). "EAM conveyed that India had never subscribed to any clash of civilisations theory. He said that India and China had to deal with each other on merits and establish a relationship based on mutual respect." the MEA statement

Talks on Afghanistan In Dushanbe, Mr. Jaishankar

also held talks with other senior officials on the sidelines of the summit with Afghanistan figuring prominently in many of those discussions, including what he described as "an exchange of courtesies- and perspectives- with President Raisi of Iran." He also met his Iranian counterpart and "discussed strengthening our bilateral relations and working together on regional challenges".

Mr. Jaishankar said he had with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov "a useful discussion on contemporary issues, including Afghanistan". The Minister's interactions also included discussions with the foreign ministers of Belarus, Uzbekistan and Armenia.

# HRW slams harassment of activists, journalists

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A day after the Enforcement Directorate conducted searches on premises linked to social activist Harsh Mander, Human Rights Watch (HRW) on Friday accused the Indian authorities of using politically motivated allegations of tax evasion and financial irregularities to silence human rights activists, journalists, and other critics of the government.

In a statement, HRW said the raids were part of the BJP-led national government's "escalating crackdown on freedom of expres-

sion, association, and peaceful assembly since coming to power in 2014. The authorities have brought politically motivated criminal including under cases, broadly worded terrorism and sedition laws, against activists, journalists, academics, students, and others. They have also used foreign funding regulations and allegations of financial misconduct to target outspoken groups."

"The raids... reflect a broader pattern of trying to silence all criticism," said Meenakshi Ganguly, South Asia director at HRW.

# Higher judiciary set for biggest reshuffle in recent times

Judges of 14 HCs may be transferred

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

Initiating probably one of the largest shuffles in the higher judiciary in recent times, the Supreme Court Collegium, headed by Chief Iustice of India N.V. Ramana. is learnt to have recommended the transfer of judges across 14 of a total 25 High Courts in the country.

The Collegium recommendations would cover the transfers of judges from the High Courts of Allahabad, Bombay, Calcutta, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Madras, Orissa, Patna, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan and Telangana.

There are also multiple transfer recommendations from the same High Court.

The recommendations have been made to transfer judges to different High Courts, including Himachal Pradesh, Patna, Madhya Pradesh, Calcutta, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab and Haryana, Rajasthan, Orissa, Telangana, Allahabad, Jharkhand, Madras, Uttarakhand and Tripura. As noticed, most of the transfers are to-and-from the same High Courts.

The largest number of transfers are from the Allahabad High Court. They are Justices Vivek Agarwal to Madhya Pradesh High Court, Ravi Nath Tilhari to Andhra Pradesh, Chandra Dhari Singh and Yashwant Varma to Delhi High Court, Subhash Chand (Additional Judge) to Jharkhand High Court and M.N. Bhandari to Madras High Court.

The Collegium has recommended the transfer of three judges from the Punjab and Haryana High Court. They are Justices Sudip Ahluwalia to Calcutta. Jaswant Singh to Orissa and Rajan Gupta to Patna.

Two judges have been recommended for transfer from the Calcutta High Court. They are Justices Arindam Sinha and Soumen Sen, both to the Orissa High

Court. Similarly, the Collegium has recommended the transfer of Himachal Pradesh High Court judges, Justices Anoop Chitkara and Sureshwar Thakur, to Punjab and Haryana and Allahabad High Courts, respective-Again, Rajasthan High

Court judges, Justices Sabina and Sanieev Prakash Sharma, have been recommended to be transferred to Himachal Pradesh and Patna High Courts, respectively. Telangana High Court judges, Justices M.S.S. Ramachandra Rao and Amarnath Goud, have been recommended for Punjab and Haryana and Tripura High Courts, respectively.

Bombay High Court judge, Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, has been recommended for Telangana. Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava has been recommended for transfer from Chhattisgarh to Rajas-

Gujarat High Court judge. Justice Paresh R. Upadhyay, has been recommended for Madras High Court. Justices A.M. Badar of Kerala High Court and P.B. Bajanthri of Karnataka have both been recommended for Patna. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam from Madras High Court has been suggested for transfer to Calcutta High Court.

While Orissa High Court judge, Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra, has been recommended for Uttarakhand, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah of Patna High Court has been suggested for transfer to Andhra Pradesh High Court.

# Trinamool leader moves Delhi HC

STAFF REPORTER

Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee on Friday moved the Delhi High Court against the summons issued by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to appear before its office in New Delhi next week in connection with the alleged coal mining scam. Mr. Banerjee, in his peti-

tion filed jointly with his wife Rujira Banerjee, has challenged the summons order issued by the Assistant Director of the ED, asking for his personal appearance along with a voluminous set of documents, on September 21 in New Delhi.

The case arises out of an FIR registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation with respect to alleged offences of illegal mining and theft of coal from the leasehold areas of Eastern Coalfields Limited committed in West Bengal by certain individuals. Based on the FIR, the ED has registered an Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR).

The couple raised "serious apprehensions about the fairness of the investigation" being conducted by the ED.

on Friday staked claim for

at a party meeting here.

Tarigami terms

new passport

rule arbitrary

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CPI(M) leader and Gupkar

alliance spokesman M.Y.

Tarigami on Friday de-

scribed the J&K administra-

tion's move to make vigi-

lance clearance mandatory

for government staff seek-

ing passport as an "arbi-

trary and authoritarian de-

cision to keep them under

constant fear". It should be

rolled back, he said.

SRINAGAR

# Australia informed India about AUKUS, says envoy

'It will not affect Quad Security dialogue'

DINAKAR PERI

Australia had informed India aboutthe new enhanced trilateral security partnership with the U.S. and the U.K. – AUKUS – before it was formally announced, Australian High Commissioner Barry O'Farrell said on Friday. The decision for the part-

nership reflected a much more "challenging strategic environment", which they shared with India, where "great power competition is intensifying", and territorial tensions in the South China Sea, Taiwan and elsewhere were becoming "more challenging", he said.

Mr. O'Farrell stated in a

virtual briefing, "We want to contribute to strategic reassurance measures that ensure no one country believes they can advance their strategic ambitions through conflict. It's not about seeking to provoke any particular regional power, rather it's about ensuring we have the capabilities that contribute along with India and other countries to deterring the types of behaviour that threatens the peace and security in the Indo-Pacific today and in the



future." The Australian Prime Minister and the Foreign Affairs and Defence Ministers spoke to their Indian counterparts to inform them about the decision. However, it was not discussed during the inaugural India-Australia 2+2 ministerial dialogue, he noted.

Indo-Pacific investment in military capability is proceeding in an unprecedented rate and it is being driven by China, which has the largest military modernisation programme under way in the world, Mr. O'Farrell remarked.

He said AUKUS would help improve Australia's defence capabilities in line with the country's 2020 Defence Strategic Update and would not affect the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, which is more of a diplomat-

# Activist plea: Manipur seeks adjournment

area and prevent the recur-

rence of border-related is-

sues," the statement noted,

adding that Mr. Wang said

"as two major emerging eco-

nomies, China and India

must continue to uphold the

strategic consensus of being

opportunities of develop-

ment to each other rather

than threats, push the bilat-

eral relationship and practi-

cal cooperation onto a

Indian and Chinese officials

are due to hold the 13th

round of military talks to re-

solve the situation at the LAC

that began in April last year,

when China amassed its

healthy and stable track."

Military talks

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Manipur government on Friday sought an adjournment in the hearing of a plea for compensation filed by the father of Erendro Leichombam, who was detained earlier this year under the National Security Act (NSA). An activist, Mr. Leichombam was detained for two months for his Facebook posts questioning the efficacy of cow dung and cow urine as a cure for COVID-19 in the context of the death of a BJP leader due to the virus.

A Bench, led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, while orally remarking about the inconvenience suffered by advocate Shadan Farasat, the petitioner's lawyer, who was made to wait for the case only for the government side to seek adjournment, scheduled the next hearing on October 5.

Mr. Leichombam was released from custody in July after the top court had made it clear that he should not spend another night in prison. The court had agreed to examine the issue of compensation, saying "somebody lost their liberty for over two months... It is a serious matter".

# JOHNSON CONTROLS-HITACHI AIR CONDITIONING INDIA LTD

**CHANGE OF CUSTOMER CARE NUMBER** 

It has come to our knowledge that certain unscrupulous and unauthorized persons/entities are using our company's old customer care number 1860-258-4848, which we had surrendered on 31st March 2019, and are also using name of our company, viz., Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Ltd, without our authority, with intent to defraud and lure the innocent members of the public by falsely impersonating us to bring disrepute to our company.

The public at large is advised not to be misled by such fraudulent persons/entities and be cautious while registering the service request/complaint for 'Hitachi' brand Air Conditioners and Refrigerators, wherein a specific service request/complaint number (SRN) is generated as soon as the call is completed and a message containing such SRN is sent to customer's registered

We urge the public not to use the old customer care number 1860-258-4848, which is purportedly being used on behalf of our company or as having any authorization from our company. Anyone dealing with such persons/entities would be doing so at his/her/their own risk and Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Ltd. shall not be held responsible for any loss or damage suffered by such person/entity, whether directly or

Kindly use customer care numbers 756-788-4848 (Mobile & WhatsApp) & 079-7141-4848 (Landline) or email us at customercare@jci-hitachi.com or use your Hitachi India Customer Care App for registering your service/complaint.

# HITACHI

# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY

Applications are invited for the Post of

# **DIRECTOR**

The Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, an Autonomous Body under the Union Ministry of Education, invites applications for the position of Director. SALARY AND SERVICE CONDITIONS: The post carries a pay of

Rs. 2,25,000/- (fixed) per month with other permissible allowances. The appointment will be for a period of three years or up to the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. The Director will be entitled to the following facilities: (1) Rent-

free furnished residential accommodation that will be maintained by the Institute. (2) The facility of an official car. (3) Mobile phone and telephone service (with STD/ISD facility) at the residence as

PROCEDURE OF APPOINTMENT: The appointment will be made from a panel of names recommended by the Search-cum Selection Committee.

APPLICATIONS: Application from interested eligible, individuals duly signed by them and enclosed in an envelope super scribed 'Application for the Post of Director' must reach:

The Secretary, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Rashtrapati Nivas, Shimla-171 005

By Registered/ Speed Post within 45 days of publication of this advertisement. The Institute is not responsible for postal delays.

The Search-cum-Selection Committee reserves the right to consider eminent academicians in the field of humanities and social sciences who may not have applied in response to this advertisement.

Further information can be accessed on the Institute website

# GTTC

SI Rid No Centre

**GOVERNMENT TOOL ROOM AND TRAINING CENTRE** (Indo – Danish project) Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bengaluru – 560010

Ph.: 080-23157189, Fax: 080-23301683 **E-mail**: gttc.mcd@karnataka.gov.in

Details of work

# No. GTTC/PROJECT/Civil-Ele/Works/Tender/2021-22 Dated 16-09-2021

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTIFICATION Government Tool Room and Training Centre invites tenders for the following works through e-procurement.

5	Dia No.	Centre	Details of Work
1	111	Magadi	Training + Workshop building, Boys' Hostel and Canteen, Girls' hostel, Staff quarters and development works.
2	112	Devanahalli	Training + Workshop building, Boys' Hostel and Canteen, Staff quarters and

Last date for uploading the tender documents in e-portal 22-10-2021 upto 4.00 PM. Details can be obtained from e-procurement portal https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or Contact Phone No. +918023010900, +918023010901 during office hours.

Sd/-Managing Director.

Maintain

6 Feet Follow Physical

#### BJP stakes claim to lone **KERALA WATER AUTHORITY** NOTIFICATION SEWERAGE SYSTEM EXPERT RS seat in Puducherry Kerala Water Authority invites online applications to the post "Sewerage

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT Rangasamy to allow the BJP to field its nominee for the The Bharatiya Janata Party Rajya Sabha election.

lution was passed based on the lone Rajya Sabha seat from Puducherry. A resoluthe directions from the party tion to this effect was passed high command. With nine MLAs, three nominated, and Shortly after the meeting, with the support of three In-Home Minister A. Namassidependents, the BJP is the vayam said the resolution major ally in the National Deurged All India N.R. Congress mocratic Alliance in the Unchief and Chief Minister N. ion Territory.

IFB No.

19(2nd

The Minister said the reso-

System Expert" on daily contract basis to assist, guide and mentor an in-house eam of Engineers, Qualified and Interested Institutions/Individuals 15 years of previous experience in sewerage system is essential. Apply through website www.kwa.kerala.gov.in. Last Date: 23.09.2021. Phone No. 8547638045 CHIEF ENGINEER (SEWERAGE, PPD & WASCON)
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

TELANGANA STATE CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING FEDERATION LTD.,

Rc. No. 1043/P&M/ Disposal of Jowar/2020-21, Date: 17-09-2021
Tender Notification for Godown wise online e-Auction on disposal of Jowar procured by TS MARKFED during Rabi 2020-21 for the quantity of 38006.MTs. Online e-auction starts on dated:07-10-2021, from 10:00AM to 3:00PM through e-procurement https://tender.telangana.gov.in/ or https://auction.telangana.gov.in/ i.e., Telangana e-procurement portal (Applications in e-procurement portal will be available from 18-09-2021 AN). For online registration and further details please contact Service providers M/s. Vupadhi Techno Services Pvt Ltd., Ph: 7337445546, 7337445545 & 6309339690, 9912756216. For further details please contact. Ph: 7288879806, and 7288879829. 7288879829. DIPR No.2155-PP/CL-Agency/ADVT/1/2021-22, Dt:17-09-2021 Sd/- Managing Directo

ng Director, Tirupati Smart City Corporation Limited, Tirupati invites Tenders on e-Procurement platform "eligible contractors" for the following Work: NIT Number: TSCCL/NIT/51, Dated: 17-09-2021

Name of the work

Tender Document for " Construction of Multi-Level Car Parking with
Multiplex (basement + 7 Upper Floors) Building including Defect
Liability Period (DLP) of 2 Years" under implementation of Smart City mart City / To Tender LS Rate Non-Engineering Procurement and Construction (Non-EPC) (2nd Call) Tirupati Smart City Corporation Limited, Tirupati invites online bids from interested and eligible bidders to participate for e-procurement vide IFB No: 19(2nd Call) / 21-22/Smart City/TO, The Bidders are advised to visit e-procurement market place at https://tender.aperprocurement.gov.in from 21-09-2021 to download the

tender document and detailed instructions. For any assistance regarding participation in the e-tender contact, Superintending Engineer, e-mail:tsccltirupati@gmail.com. The duly completed documents have to subnit tender on online and that only be considered. All other details including any extension, clarifications, amendments, corrigendum, addendum etc., will be

uploaded on the above-mentioned website only and shall not be published in any other sources The TSCCL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tender offers in part or full without assigning Sd/- Sri GIRISHA.P.S., I.A.S., Managing Director, Tirupati Smart City Corporation Limited, TIRUPATI

TIRUPATHI SMART CITY CORPORATION LIMITED C/o. Tirupati Municipal Corporation, 13-29-M9-1-00, Tilak Road, EAST TIRUPATI, Pin Code : 517501 ittoor District, Andhra Pradesh, India, e mail i

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Deputy Chief Engineer, (Construction) I, Ernakulam Junction

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

# TENDER NOTICE NO.01-DCE-CN-ERS-OT-2021 DATED:14.09.2021

(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION) E-TENDER

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY** 

TENDER NOTICE NO. DCE-II-CN-ERS-OT-01-2021 DATED:15.09.2021 For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction Southern Railway, Ernakulam Junction-682016 invites e-tender for the following work as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal www.ireps.gov.in . The tenderers/contractors/intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal www.ireps.gov.in and only online tenders will be accepted

Item No. 1: Name of the Work: Doubling of track between Kuruppanthar and Chingavanam - Proposed doubling of track between ETM (Excl)-CGV (Excl sections- Supplying of welding portions for welding of rails by Alumino - Therm welding process for rails of 52kg & 60kg - 880 Grade Steels and for 60 Kg - R260 Grade steels and supervision of welding of rails by Alumino Thermit welding technology using Compressed Air Petrol Preheating system with single shot crucible

Item No. 2: Name of the Work: Proposed Yard remodelling at ERS C Cabin and nstruction of new sorting line approach to Ernakulam Marshelling yard. Approximate Cash Period of Completion in Date of Opening

1         35.04         13.10.2021         SIX           2         74.35         18.10.2021         Four           For further details visit internet site www.ireps.gov.in or contact Office of the contact of th				
-	1	35.04	13.10.2021	SIX
For further details visit internet site www.ireps.gov.in or contact Office of	2	74.35	18.10.2021	Four
Deputy Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Ernakulam - 682016.				

# Major restructuring of Railways on anvil

Panel recommends private participation; winding up of CORE, COFMOW; merger of RVNL with IRCON

CHENNAI

The Indian Railways, the country's largest employer and transporter, is heading for a major restructuring plan that could lead to the closure of key establishments, merger of decadesold organisations and private participation in running of its schools and hospitals.

The recommendations of the Principal Economic Adviser Sanjeev Sanyal for Rationalisation of Government Bodies and Proposal for the Ministry of Railways calls for winding up the Central Organisation for Railway Electrification (CORE), the Cen-Organisation Modernisation Of Work-(COFMOW), the shops Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS) and the Indian Railways Organisation for Alternative Fuel (already closed on September 7, 2021).

While railway officials were of the view that the recommendations would be taken up for further discussion, the closure of the IROAF has sent out a signal that the proposal could be implemented partly or wholly in due course of time. Last week, the Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, wrote to the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Railway Board, calling for monthly reports to intimate the action taken on the rationalisation plan, official sources told The Hindu on



Way ahead: The panel recommended winding up of CRIS and handing over all its work to IRCTC. • MURALI KUMAR K.

Friday. In what could be a major coming together of organisations working on the Information Technology platform, the panel recommended winding up of the CRIS, an autonomous society that develops software capacity in the railways that includes passenger ticketing, freight invoicing, passenger train operations, management of train crew and management of fixed/rolling assets, and handing over all its

poration (IRCTC). Going by the plan, RailTel, one of the largest telecom infrastructure providers in the country that focuses on modernising operations and safety systems through optic fibre networks that exist along railway tracks, would

work to the Indian Railway

Catering and Tourism Cor-

be merged with the IRCTC. It has been proposed for the Rail India Technical and Economic Service (RITES) that exports rolling stock to take over Braithwaite & Co Ltd., (BCL) which turned sick in 1992, the sources said.

Among other recommendations were the merger of the Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL), which implements projects relating to creation and augmentation of railway infrastructure, with the Indian Railway Construction Limited (IRCON), a specialised infrastructure construction organisation.

The panel said both the RVNL and the IRCON had similar functions and hence could be merged.

#### Merger of schools

The Principal Economic Adviser recommended merger of railway schools with Kendriya Vidyalayas or handing them over to the respective

# 50,000 youth to get training over 3 years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Railways on Friday launched 'Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana' programme under which it will train 50,000 youth in the age-group of 18 to 35 over three years.

"The aim is to impart training skills to the youth in various trades to bring qualitative improvement.

State governments since "op-

erating the railway schools

takes up a large amount of

time of the railway manage-

ment, whose core compe-

tence is in running and main-

taining the railway service".

Justifying the move, the

proposal noted that of the

7.99 lakh children of railway

employees in the 4-18 age

group, less than 2% were en-

rolled in railway schools. As

of 2019, of the total 33,212

students enrolled in 94

schools, only 15,399 were

Another major reform re-

commended was to establish Central Public Sector Enter-

prises to bring eight produc-

tion units under its fold. This

would mean that the assets,

infrastructure and em-

ployees of three coach facto-

ries - Integral Coach Facto-

**Factories under CPSE** 

railway wards.

The training will be provided in four trades electrician, welder, machinist and fitter - and will comprise initial basic training of 100 hours," Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said. The training would be provided free of cost and participants would be selected based on their matriculation marks.

ry, Chennai; Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala; Modern Coach Factory, Rae-Bareli; three locomotive manufacturing units - Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan; Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi; Diesel Loco Modernisation Works, Patiala and two Rail Wheel Units at Yelahanka (Bengaluru)

and Bela (Bihar), would be

transferred to the proposed

Merger of the Central Training Institutes with the National Rail and Transportation Institute after upgrading the latter into a Central University and an Institute of National Importance, roping in private participation for investments to enhance healthcare facilities open to all in the 125 railway hospitals and 586 health units/polyclinics was also proposed,

# Star astrophysicist Thanu Padmanabhan fades away

Tributes and condolences pour in from across the country

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

Thanu Padmanabhan, eminent theoretical physicist cosmologist, passed away in Pune on Friday He was 64. The Padma Shri awardee collapsed after suffering a massive heart attack at his residence in the morning. He was rushed to the hospital but died on arrival, sources said.

Affectionately known to friends and colleagues as 'Paddy', Professor Padmanabhan, born on March 10, 1957, was a native of Thiruvananthapuram. He did his graduation and postgraduation from the University College, Kerala University, winning Gold medals. He published his first research paper in General Relativity at the age of 20 while being a student.

Following his Masters, he joined the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) for his PhD in 1979 under the guidance of Jayant Narlikar, emeritus professor at the Pune-based Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IU-CAA). He was offered a Research Associateship at TIFR the very next year. He became a faculty there while still working towards his doctorate, which he completed in 1983.



Thanu Padmanabhan

After a stint at the TIFR, he moved to Pune in 1992 and began his long and fruitful association with the IU-CAA, where he became a Distinguished Professor and served as Dean, Core Academic Programmes, from 1997-2015.

K. Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, said in a tweet, "Shocked to hear of the passing of Professor Thanu Padmanabhan. His research linking general relativity and thermodynamics in new ways, and in other areas, has been widely recognized. Scholar, communicator, extraordinary scientist, friend to many. He will be much missed".

Eminent scientist and Padma Shri awardee Arvind Gupta, said: "He dreamt formulae. He never played to

the gallery and did not believe in 'dumbing down' while demystifying abstract physics concepts for the layperson... his passing away is a great personal loss." He recounted the indelible impression that Professor Padmanabhan made through his column in Science Age magazine.

Professor Padmanabhan was an elected Fellow of all three Indian academies of science and of the Third World Academy of Sciences. In all, he has supervised the PhD theses of 16 people.

#### Author of several books Professor Padmanabhan

authored several books, including the comprehensive three-volume Theoretical Physics (2000), the hugely accessible After the First Three Minutes: The Story of our Universe (1998), and a masterful exposition of quantum theory for the layman titled Quantum Themes: The Charms of the Microworld (2009), Structure Formation In the Universe and Sleeping Beauties in Theoretical Physics: 26 Surprising Insights.

Along with his wife Vasanthi, a physicist, he authored the popular Dawn of Science (2019), a lively 24-chapter history of science that was translated into Chinese, Por-

#### IN BRIEF



I-T Dept. widens probe against actor Sonu Sood

The Income Tax Department has widened its tax evasion probe against actor Sonu Sood as it raided multiple premises here on Friday, official sources said, PTI

#### **Income Tax raids on Anil** Deshmukh's premises

The Income Tax Department at multiple premises linked to former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh in connection with a tax evasion investigation. The raids were carried out in Mumbai.

# PAN-Aadhaar linkage

Nagpur and Jaipur. PTI

deadline extended NEW DELHI The government on Friday extended the deadline to link

PAN with Aadhaar to March 31, 2022. The due date for completion of penalty proceedings under the Income Tax Act has also been extended from September 30, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

# NCBS rapped for handling of scientific misconduct

An investigation into allegations of data manipulation in research papers and harassment of junior researchers at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bengaluru, has concluded that the institution was economical with the truth.

While it moved appropriately to retract a problematic paper, the NCBS sought to entirely blame the scientific misconduct on a single researcher when others, including the group leader and principal investigator (PI), too were partially responsible, said an academic committee of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), the parent body of the NCBS, which investigated the affair.

The committe, in a release on Thursday, said: "While the PI and the NCBS-TIFR management did handle the scientific retraction professionally, they were not wholly correct in the public statements after the malpractices were discovered. The PI had shared

the 'raw data' to the Pub-Peer site in haste and without verification. The statement in the press release of NCBS-TIFR that the malpractice was carried out by only one individual, and the statement made by the PI on her website implying that one author had left her lab abruptly were both incorrect." The research paper was published online in the well-regarded journal Nature Chemical Biology. Its listed authors were Siladitya Bandyopadhyay, Susmitnaravan Chaudhury, Dolly Mehta and Arati Ramesh, the last of whom was the PI

and is faculty at the NCBS. After anomalies were pointed out in the images used in the paper, an investigation committee set up by the NCBS concluded that the images were manipulat-

ed by Mr. Bandopadhyay. Mr. Bandopadhyay later said that, while guilty of data fabrication, he was under pressure from Dr. Ramesh.

The overall culture of the lab was "oppressive" and he, as well other junior colleagues, were subject to verbal abuse, he said.

# Uddhav's 'future colleague' remark sparks speculation

He was referring to BJP leader Danve

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

Maharashtra Chief Minister and Shiv Sena president Uddhav Thackeray on Friday raised speculation about a BJP-Sena reunion after he alluded to senior BJP leader and Union Minister Raosaheb Danve as a probable "future colleague" during a public function in Au-

Mr. Thackeray and Mr. Danve, who is the Minister of State for Railways, shared the stage at the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the Aurangabad zilla parishad building. The Chief Minister began his speech addressing Mr. Danve with the remark, "Present here is my former and if we come together, a future colleague..

Despite Mr. Thackeray later implying that it was just a light-hearted remark as he had met his "old friend" (Mr. Danve) after a long time, the Chief Minister's statements quickly lent grist for the political mill. "My meaning was just that...if he



Uddhav Thackeray

[Mr. Danve] comes with us then he will be a future colleague...however, time will only decide what is in store," Mr. Thackeray said, while adding cryptically, "I like the railways for one reason. You cannot leave the tracks and change direction. Yes, but if there is a diversion you can come to our station. But the engine does not leave the tracks."

Speaking later, Mr. Danve said that Mr. Thackeray's remarks possible hinted at his frustration with his alliance partners (the Nationalist Congress Party and the Congress) and that the BJP was willing to renew ties with the Sena owing to their similar ideologies.

# 87% of Mumbai residents show antibodies

STAFF REPORTER

COVID-19 antibodies were detected in 86.64% of the population in Mumbai as per a new sero-survey, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation said on Friday. The survey, fifth since the onset of the pandemic, was conducted between August 12 and September 9, 2021, the civic body said in a release.

Antibodies were detected in 90.26% of the residents who were fully or partially vaccinated, and 79.86% of the unvaccinated population.

The sero-prevalence in the slums was 87.02%, while it was 86.22% in other areas. Among men, the sero-prevalence stood at 85.07%, while it was 88.29% in women.

Almost 65% of the study subjects had received CO-VID-19 vaccines, the survey said. Of the total 8,674 samples examined for the survey, 20% were of healthcare workers. The seroprevalence among health workers stood at 87.14%.

# Mainpuri minor rape case Allahabad HC to monitor investigation

Fresh probe ordered into

OMAR RASHID uate security to the family of

Two years after a 16-year-old girl, a Class 11 student of a Centre-run school in Mainpuri, was found hanging from the ceiling fan in her hostel, a fresh investigation was launched into her death after the original inquiry conducted by a Special Investigation Team was found to have suffered from "serious lapses", leading to the suspension of three senior police officers and pending

action against another. The girl's family had alleged that she was sexually assaulted before being assaulted and murdered as she knew "secret things" about the school, and that the police were trying to protect the accused in the case – the principal of the school, the hostel warden, and another person. The police had prima facie

called it a case of suicide. The new probe would be conducted under the supervision of the Allahabad High Court, which also directed the police to provide adeq-

the girl as well as the petitioner in the case. The court also said: "It is

further directed that in the investigation, all scientific

methods should be applied because defective investigation or investigation without collection of proper evidence results in acquittal and therefore only the conviction rate is only 6-7%. The accused in the case had been booked for murder, attempt to rape and under Sections 7, 8 and 18 of

the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POC-SO) Act on the complaint of the girl's father. The court on September 16, after summoning the Uttar Pradesh DGP, noted that the top police officer of the State Mukul Goel had realised that there were "serious lapses in the investigation of the case and thereby three officers have been placed under suspension". Additionally, an inquiry against the then SP of Mainpuri would be completed at the earliest, the DGP

# TH CROSSWORD+ 13355

21 Dart when boy departs from cart (5)



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

23 Defect after felon's back with gangster during night (9) 25 Tamil rebels embracing nurse in sickness (7)

Display keystrokes of genius.

27 Some of 'em get stressed when speaking! (7)

30 Excess of fatty deposits in her cells too (4,11)

DOWN

1 Knocks over in fight (4) 2 Oddly, a surreal atmosphere (4)

**3** Arsonists left in place of fine warriors? (8)

4 Commissions poets describing love (6) 5 Worker getting annoyed was given support (6,2)

**6** Greg remembers bringing up issue (6)

7 Predator unnerving mountain animals, basically (4)

8 Place this uncovered in glasses (4)

12 Accompaniment for Biryani from Madurai, Tamil Nadu (5)

13 Silver found in every electronic device (5) 15 Fuss with nurse's dress (5)

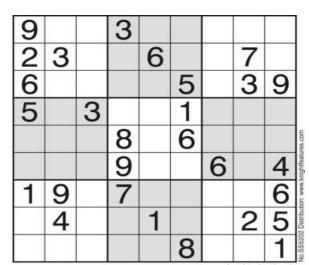
16 Rent cycles from the opposite stand (5) **18** Ban permit (8)

20 Reduce or manage crowds initially in gallery (8)

22 Twist – poor soul killing time with Fagin, ultimately (6) 24 Boxes clearing customs without tax (6)

25 Smart card securing hospital (4) 26 Make hole in the middle to release blocks (4)

# **SUDOKU**



#### Colution to nuzzlo 122E4 Solution to vectorday's Sudeki

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★公公公

50	ııı	Ιτι	or	Ιτ	o t	ou	ZZ	ιe	1.	55	54	٠			Sou	Ιτιο	n to	) ye	ste	raa	y S	Suc	IOK
	D		0		F		٧		S		Т		R		1	3	5	a	7	6	1	2	8
S	0	z	Е	R	-		-	М	Ρ	Α		R	Е	D		U	9	0		U	7	_	U
	0		U		Е		Z		┙		R		٧		4	8	9	3	1	2	7	5	6
Т	R	Α	>	Е	s	Τ	Υ		-	Μ	Α	G	Е	S	7	0	0	E	0	1	0	0	4
	K		R		Т		Α		z		Σ		Α		1	О	2	0	O	4	J	9	
K	Ν	Е	Ε	С	Α	Ρ	s		Т	R	-	F	L	Ε	6	5	4	2	a	7	B	1	3
	0						Α		ш		S				U	J	7	_	J	-	O	-	U
Α	В	R	1	D	G	ш		Т	R	-	כ	Μ	Ρ	Н	3	2	7	1	6	8	9	4	5
			R		Α		D						1		0	4	0	4	0	_	0	0	-7
S	כ	Δ	0	K	$\supset$		-	G	z	0	R	Α	Z	Т	9		B	4	3	5	2	0	1
	S		Ν		z		٧		ш		ш		С		5	7	6	R	1	a	1	3	2
S	U	Ν	S	Ε	Т		Ε	S	Ρ	Α	L	1	Ε	R	0	-	U	U	Day.	0	-1	U	-
	R		0		L		R	_	Ξ		Α		Ν		2	4	3	7	5	1	6	8	9
R	Е	H	J	G	Е	Е	S		Е	S	Η	Е	Е	М	0	0	4	0	0	0	_	7	4
	R		Т		Т		н		3		ш		7		8	9		b	2	3	5	1	4

# **FAITH**

# Supremacy of bhakti

The Bhagavata purana advocates dhyana or meditation as the most efficacious spiritual sadana for all caught in the sorrows of samsara. The text begins with the entreaty to people to meditate on the Supreme Truth, 'Satyam Param Dheemahi.' Dhyana is shown to be inherent in the paths of karma, jnana and bhakti as well.

The text discusses the way of life or dharma practised by the realised souls who are steeped in constant meditation of the Lord. They are ever free of evil tendencies like jealousy etc, and have no attraction to false values of life. By imbibing the ideals of selfless dedication to the path of dharma that they exemplify, people in Kali Yuga are sure to gain peace of mind and practise the sadana of dhyana, pointed out Sri B. Sundarkumar in a discourse. It hails sravana bhakti for, by listening to the glories of the Supreme Lord, the Lord enters into the individual and resides permanently there. That is, the individual becomes very much aware of His presence

within himself and this aids his dhyana practice. Moreover, one achieves the purpose of Veda upasana which is bhakti through this text which is compared to a fruit that has grown and ripened in the Tree of the Vedas. There is no better way to imbibe Krishna bhakti than by savouring the delicious taste of Lord's multifaceted auspicious qualities that permeate every aspect of it. Gradually, the devotee sheds any desire for either worldly gain or even moksha, though generally mukti is sought as a goal. The fruit of meditation now becomes 'Bhagavat aradhana,' or worship of Lord, for its sake alone. In keeping with the Guru-sishya tradition, Vyasa, the author had imparted it to his son Suka and through him the narrative has trickled down to gladden the hearts of all devotees seeking peace of mind.

11 Compose raga for medley (7)

ACROSS

9 Posh accent of say, one discussing Wodehouse? (4,2,4,5) 10 Rush around revolutionary coach (7)

12 Held back before break, according to the Reverend (9) 14 Escape from auditor's first lady assistant (5)

17 Drinks gin cocktail initially missing exams (7) 19 From Spain, the moguls frequently get moving (7)

28 Friend can't mingle with this introvert, in fact (4) 29 One storing grains in soil / ground (4)

# Xi calls for a 'moderate' Afghanistan

Foreign Minister Wang Yi attended 'an informal meeting' with officials from Russia, Pakistan and Iran

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China's President Xi Jinping on Friday called on the new government in Afghanistan "to adopt prudent and moderate" policies and said its neighbours should encourage Kabul to do so, with Beijing stepping up its diplomacy with countries in the region, including Russia, Pakistan and Iran.

Mr. Xi was addressing virtually the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Dushanbe, which Prime Minister Narendra Modi also addressed on Friday. In his speech, Mr. Modi warned of the dangers of radicalisation and extremism posed to the region stemming from the instabili-

Mr. Xi made a similar point, urging the members of the SCO "to encourage Afghanistan to put in place a broad-based and inclusive



Diplomatic push: Xi Jinping addressing participants at the SCO summit in Dushanbe via video link on Friday. • REUTERS

political framework, adopt prudent and moderate domestic and foreign policies, resolutely fight all forms of terrorism, live in amity with its neighbours and truly embark on a path of peace, stability and development". He said the country faced "many daunting challenges, and it needs the support and assistance of the international

community", as he called on SCO members "to step up coordination, make full use of platforms such as the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group and facilitate a smooth

The eight-member SCO, including Russia, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, included Iran as its latest member at the summit. On the Afghanistan issue, China has been stepping up its diplomacy with Russia and Pakistan in particular. Foreign Minister Wang Yi, who attended the summit in Dushanbe, on Thursday held "an informal meeting" with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Oureshi and Assistant to Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Rasoul Mousavi.

The four country grouping, Mr. Wang said, had a role to play "as important neighbours of Afghanistan and influential countries in the region". "It is necessary for us four countries to strengthen communication and coordination, make unanimous voices, exert positive influence, and play a constructive role in the smooth transition of the situation in Afghanistan," Mr. Wang said.

He outlined a five-point proposal for the four countries to follow, including "urging the U.S. to learn lessons from the past", working to tackle "spillover of security risks" and getting the new Taliban regime "to make a clean break with terrorist forces", and providing assistance to the war-torn country.

"Regional countries have three main expectations for the new Afghan government: inclusiveness, counter-terrorism and good-neighbourliness," he said, adding that "China is ready to step up coordination with Russia, Pakistan, Iran and other countries in the region to play a constructive role in preventing chaos, maintaining stability, combating terrorism and violence, realispeace reconstruction of Afghanis-

tan and ultimately achieving lasting peace in the region."

# Biden unveils plan to cut methane emissions

EU, U.S. vow to slash emissions by a third

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN

With about a month and a half to go before the 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26), the UN climate conference in Glasgow, U.S. President Ioe Biden announced the Global Methane Pledge, a U.S.-EU led effort to cut methane emissions by a third by the end of this decade. Mr. Biden made the announcement at the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate (MEF), hosted virtually by the White House on Friday, in which leaders from several countries and the EU, as well as UN Secretary General António Guterres and (India's ) Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, participated.

"This will not only rapidly reduce the rate of global warming, but it will also produce a very valuable side benefit, like improving public health and agricultural output," Mr. Biden said about the initiative.

"We're mobilising support to help developing countries that join and pledge to do something significant – pledge and seize this virtual [vital] opportunity," he said.

Methane, a greenhouse gas, is 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide in terms of its global warming capacity. Approximately 40% of methane emitted is from natural sources and about 60% comes from human-influenced sources, including livestock farming, rice agriculture, biomass burning and so forth.

"We are rapidly running out of time,"Mr. Guterres said on Friday at the MEF." The world is on a catastrophic pathway to 2.7 degrees Celsius heating. There



Joe Biden

is a high risk of failure of COP26." Countries will meet in Glasgow in November to review progress since the Paris Agreement (2015) on climate, with some countries making commitments to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The Paris deal seeks to maintain temperature rises to under 2 degrees Celsius (and pursuing the goal of limiting rises to below 1.5 degrees Celsius) above pre-industrial levels by getting countries to commit to emission cuts.

#### Kerry's India visit

U.S. Climate Envoy John Kerry, who also spoke at the MEF, was asked by Mr. Biden to chair a ministerial session with India, China, Russia and Germany, as per the White House, Mr. Kerry has just returned from a visit to New Delhi where he tried, unsuccessfully, to get a commitment from the government on getting to 'net zero' by 2050, according to reporting in *The Hindu*.

India has announced a renewable energy capacity goal of 450 GW by 2030 and Indian Railways has committed to achieving 'net zero' emissions by that year, but India as a whole has not committed to a time frame for reaching that target. Some 130 countries are considering a net zero emissions target by 2050.

# **UN mission** in Afghanistan gets extension

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

The UN Security Council voted on Friday to extend the UN mission in Afghanistan for six months, and called on the Taliban to create inclusive government.

The 15-member Council acted in a resolution passed unanimously on the UNAMA political mission, which deals with development issues, among others, not peacekeeping.

The document stressed "the importance of the establishment of an inclusive and representative government," although Afghanistan's new Islamist rulers have formed a government made up only of Taliban members and no women.

The resolution also calls for "full, equal and meaningful participation of women, and upholding human rights, including for women, children and minorities."

It was drafted by Estonia and Norway, which welcomed the unanimous pas-

Diplomats said the Taliban did not object to the UN mandate being renewed. "They are obliged to be more flexible," an Afghanistan specialist at the UN said.

"They are more pragmatic" than they were in the first stint in power in 1990s, the person said.

"The Taliban need the UN and this is our leverage" to have an influence on their decision making, the specialist said.

The Council asked Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to brief it every other month on the situation in Afghanistan until the mandate is due again to expire in March 2022 and submit a report.

# Australia shrugs off China anger on nuclear subs

We are interested in ensuring that international waters are always international waters, says PM

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Australia on Friday shrugged off Chinese anger over its decision to acquire U.S. nuclear-powered submarines, while vowing to defend the rule of law in airspace and waters where Beijing has staked hotly contested

U.S. President Joe Biden announced the new Australia-U.S.-Britain defence alliance on Wednesday, extending U.S. nuclear submarine technology to Australia as well as cyber defence, applied artificial intelundersea

Beijing described the new alliance as an "extremely irresponsible" threat to regional stability, questioning Australia's commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and warning the Western allies that they risked "shooting themselves in the foot".

China has its own "very substantive programme of nuclear submarine building", Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison argued on Friday in an interview with radio station 2GB.

"They have every right to take decisions in their national interests for their defence arrangements and of course so does Australia and



A file photo of an Australian Navy submarine during a

all other countries," he said. In a series of media interviews, the Australian leader said his government was reacting to changing dynamics in the Asia-Pacific region where territory is increasingly contested and competi-

Australia is "very aware" of China's nuclear submarine capabilities and growing military investment, he told Channel Seven television. "We are interested in en-

suring that international waters are always international waters and international skies are international skies, and that the rule of law applies equally in all of these places," he said.

Australia wanted to ensure that there were no "nogo zones" in areas governed by international law, the Prime Minister said.

"That's very important

whether it is for things like undersea cables, for planes and where they can fly. I mean that is the order that we need to preserve. That is what peace and stability provides for and that is what we are seeking to achieve."

#### 'Stab in the back'

The move also infuriated France, aghast at losing a contract to supply conventional submarines to Australia that was worth \$36.5 billion when signed in 2016. Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said it was a "stab in the back" from Australia. But the main backdrop to the alliance is China's rise.

# + Junta to put Suu Kyi on graft trial

She faces four new charges, each carrying a maximum sentence of 15 years

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Myanmar's junta will put ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi on trial for corruption, her lawyer said on Friday, adding to a raft of ongoing cases that could see her jailed for decades.

Ms. Suu Kyi has been under house arrest since her National League for Democracy (NLD) government was deposed by the military in a February coup that sparked a mass uprising and a brutal crackdown on dissent. The 76-year-old Nobel lau-

reate is currently on trial for flouting coronavirus restric-

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

The campaign to become Ja-

pan's next Prime Minister

kicked off on Friday, with

four candidates vying for

leadership of the ruling par-

ty in an unusually close race.

two women hoping to lead a

country that has never had a

woman Prime Minister,

though both are considered

The race follows Prime

Minister Yoshihide Suga's

shock announcement last

long shots.

The candidates include



Aung San Suu Kyi

tions during polls the NLD won in a landslide last year, illegally importing walkie talkies and sedition.

Each corruption charge

Race for Japan's new PM kicks off

month that would not run

for head of the ruling Liberal

Whoever the party picks

in a September 29 vote will

become PM and contest a

general election that has to

Outspoken vaccine chief

Mr. Kono's main competi-

tion is expected to come

from ex-Foreign Minister Fu-

mio Kishida, who heads a

large LDP faction that will

back him in the race.

Taro Kono leads public opi-

nion polls for the top post.

be held by late November.

Democratic Party.

Trial to begin on Oct. 1 She will face a new trial on four charges of corruption beginning on October 1 in the capital Naypyidaw, her lawyer Khin Maung Zaw

The newest trial forms part of a junta plan "to get her (Suu Kyi) out of the picture" said Manny Maung, a researcher at Human Rights

Dragging out legal proceedings while Suu Kyi is confined to an unknown location will "impact the abili-

The two other candidates

in the race are vving to be-

come Japan's first woman

leader, but both divisive

right-winger Sanae Takaichi

and former Gender Equality

Minister Seiko Noda are be-

The voting on September

29 will be over two rounds, if

needed, with 383 lawmakers

and an equal number of

rank-and-file members vot-

ing in the first instance. But

the close race makes it un-

likely a candidate will secure

lieved to be long shots.

carries a maximum sentence ty of the NLD to bounce back" and deny her supporters a point around which to rally, Ms. Maung added.

The ongoing trials were delayed for two months as Myanmar grappled with a coronavirus surge and only resumed this week, with Ms. Suu Kyi skipping the first day on health grounds.

Journalists have been barred from all proceedings so far.

junta has also charged her for accepting illegal payments of gold and violating a colonial-era secrecy law, although these are yet to come to court.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

An app created by allies of imprisoned Russian Opposition leader Alexei Navalny disappeared from Apple and Google stores on Friday as polls opened across Russia for voting in a par-

The "Smart Voting" app was created to promote candidates against those backed by Kremlin.

# Ahead of polls, Navalny app goes offline

liamentary election.

# Chinese astronauts back after 90 days in space

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A trio of Chinese astronauts returned to Earth on Friday after a 90-day stay aboard their nation's first space station in China's longest mission vet.

Nie Haisheng, Liu Boming and Tang Hongbo landed in the Shenzhou-12 spaceship just after 1:30 p.m. (0530 GMT) after having undocked from the space station Thursday morning.

State broadcaster CCTV showed footage of the spacecraft parachuting to land in the Gobi Desert where it was met by helicopters and off-road vehicles. Minutes later, a crew of technicians began opening the hatch of the capsule, which appeared undamaged. The three astronauts emerged about 30 minutes later.

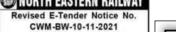
# **APPOINTMENT**

**In** Union Bank

Central Office, Union Bank Bhavan, 239, Vidhan Bhavan Marg, Mumbai - 400 021

Refer our Bank's released advertisement dated 12.08.2021 regarding recruitment of Specialist Officers in Union Bank of India. We hereby inform that Bank has modified the Minimum Marks required under Educational Qualification for SC/ST/OBC/PWBD candidates only and the window is open for ST/OBC/PWBD candidates only to apply online between 18.09.2021, 00.00 Hrs to 24.09.2021, 24.00 Hrs (Both dates inclusive). For details, please refer our Bank's website www.unionbankofindia.co.in.

Sd/-CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (HR)



Dy. Chief Engineer/Bridge/Line/N.E. Railway Gorakhpur acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works:- SN.: 1, E-Tender No.: CWM-BW-10-2021, Description of Work Replacement of Rocker Bearings of Br. No. 84Dn (9x45.7m) at Km 519/0-5 Rapti Rive etween JTB-SWA station in Down Line of GKP-BST section in LJN Division of N F Railway., Approx. Tender Value (₹) 26,12,561.54, Earnest money (₹): 0.00 Cost of tender document: NIL Completion period from the date of issue of acceptance letter: 05 (Five) months. SN.: 2, E-Tender No.: CWM-BW-11-2021, Description of Work: Provision of side pathway arrangement on Open Web Girder Br. No. 31(18x61.0m) between LRD-BLTR & Br. No. 50(14x61.0m) between PNYA-VKNR and Plate Girder Br No 119 UP(7x24.4+1x12.2m) between NNPR-BHTR stations in BSB division of N.E. Railway, Approx. Tender Value (?): 4 93 00 192 52. Earnest money (₹): 0.00 Cost of tender document: NIL of acceptance letter: 08 (Eight) months Date of E-Tender opening 11.00 Hrs or 07.10.2021, • Receipt of E-Tender upto 10.59 Hrs on 07.10.2021 • Detailed E-tender notice Eligibility criteria, terms & conditions are available at website: www.ireps.gov.in

Dy.CE/Bridge/Line/GKF **CPRO/W-180** About any passenger amenity compla SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955

DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN



# Office of **EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAISINGHPUR DIVISION**

H.P. Public Works Department, JAISINGHPUR 176095 Fax: 01894-228031, e-mail: ee-jaipwd-hp@gov-in **Tender Notice** 

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (RS)	EMD (In Rs.)	Time limit	Form No.	Cost of Bidding Documents
1	Construction of Sub-Tehsil Building at Alampur Distt. Kangra (SH:- C/o Civil work, water supply & Sanitary installation, Rain water Harvesting tank, septic tank and site development including Boundary wall)	14353082.00	2,87,100/-	Eighteen Month	6&8	5000/-
2	Construction of type –I Quarters 16 Nos (2 Nos Block) building at Govt. Polytechnical College at Talwar in Tehsil Jaisinghpur Distt. Kangra (HP) (Sub Head: - Construction of Type - I Quarters 16 Nos. (2 Nos. Block 8 Nos each) including water supply, Sanitary installation & Rain water harvesting system)	14032419.00	172900.00	Two Years	6&8	5000/-
3	Construction of Executive Engineer & Assistant Engineer office Building at Jaisinghpur Distt. Knagra (HP) (SH;-Building portion, W.S & S.I and Rain water Harvesting system)	17359891.00	3,47,200	Two Year	6&8	5000/-
4	Construction of Govt Polytechnical collage at Talwar in Tehsil Jaisinghpur Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Construction of 1No Type-V Quarter Civil work including water supply and Sanitary installation)	3931602.00	66,500.00	Two Year	6&8	1500/-

2. Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: - The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website https://hptenders.gov.in Bidder would be required to register in website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to

have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD. May obtain the same from the website:- https://hptenders.gov.in . Digital Signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized Case can use the same in this tender

	3. <u>Ke</u>	<u>y Dates.</u>	
	1.	Date of Online Publication.	24.09.2021 10.00AM
	2.	Document Download Start and End Date.	24.09.2021 10.30AM upto 01.10.2021. 05.00PM
	3.	Bid submission start and end date	24.09.2021 10.30AM upto 01.10.2021. 05.00PM
l	4	Physical Submission of EMD And Cost of Tender document	03.10.2021 upto 10.30 HRS
	5	Date of Technical Bid opening ,Evaluation of technical Bid	03.10.2021 11.00 HRS
	6	Date of Financial Bid Opening	06.10.2021 11.30 HRS

4, TENDER DETAILS

The Tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover. Shall contain scanned copes of all "Technical

Documents/Eligibility information". ii) Cover 2:

Shall contain "BOQ/Financial Bid" where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

5. Submission of Original Documents:- The Bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other technical documents in

Date, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive. 6.BID OPENING DETAILS: The bid shall be opened on 03.10.2021 at 11.00 HRS in the office of the Executive Engineer, Jaisinghpur Division HP PWD Jaisinghpur HP. By the authorized officer. In their interest the tenders are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same

the o/o Executive Engineer HPPWD Division Jaisinghpur as specified in Key dates Sr.No.4 on Tender Opening

7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 90 days after the deadline date

8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders responsibility to verify

> **Executive Enginee** Jaisinghpur Division, HPPWD, Jaisinghpur-1

HP / 4153/21-22 HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK.

	17-09-2021	% CHANGE
Sensex	59,016	-0.21
US Dollar	73.48	0.05
Gold	45,207	-1.15
Brent oil	74.86	-0.07

Brent oil	74.86	-0.07
NIFTY 50		
MILTI 30	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports		
Asian Paints	3303.05	-39.05
Axis Bank		
Bajaj Auto	3822.20	8.70
Bajaj Finserv	16840.20.	107.20
Bajaj Finance		
Bharti Airtel		
BPCL	436.25	-2.80
Britannia Ind		
Cipla		
Coal India		
Divis Lab		
Dr Reddys Lab		
Eicher Motors		
Grasim Ind		
HCL Tech		
HDFC		
HDFC Bank		
HDFC Life		
Hero MotoCorp		
Hindalco		
Hind Unilever		
ICICI Bank		
IndusInd Bank		
Infosys		
Indian OilCorp		
ITC		
JSW Steel		
Kotak Bank		
L&T		
M&M		
Maruti Suzuki		
Nestle India Ltd		
NTPC		
ONGC		
PowerGrid Corp		
Reliance Ind		
SBI Life	1198.80	13.90

UltraTech Cement 7711.85 -5 UPL 742.35 -1 Wipro 665.25 -	Titan	2095.60	1
	UltraTech Cement	7711.85	5
Wipro 665.25	UPL	742.35	1
	Wipro	665.25	
	Wipro	665.25	
	EXCHANGE BATES		

Sun Pharma.

454.10

... 0.15 -50.85

		mber 1
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SEL
US Dollar	73.28	73.6
Euro	86.33	86.7
British Pound	101.04	101.4
Japanese Yen (100)	66.64	66.9
Chinese Yuan	11.35	11.4
Swiss Franc	79.05	79.4
Singapore Dollar	54.45	54.6
Canadian Dollar	57.87	58.1
Malaysian Ringitt	17.56	17.6

#### IN BRIEF



**Tata Motors introduces** special edition of Safari

Tata Motors has unveiled an exclusive edition of its SUV Safari Gold for ₹21.89 lakh."In less than 5 months after introduction, the new Safari reached the milestone of its 10,000th roll-out and today is among the highest selling SUVs in its segment," said Vivek Srivatsa, head. marketing, passenger and electric vehicle business unit.

#### **IIFL Housing, PNB sign** co-lending agreement

IIFL Home Finance Ltd. (IIFL HFL) said it has signed a pact with Punjab National Bank (PNB) for co-lending, "Loan sourcing and servicing will be managed by IIFL Home Finance and 80% of the loan will be provided by PNB," IIFL HFC added.

# Council raises GST on low-cost footwear, garments to 12%

Approves composition scheme for brick kilns to curb evasion but skips gutkha

VIKAS DHOOT

In its first physical meeting in two years, the GST Council on Friday effected several long-pending tweaks in tax rates including an increase in the GST levied on footwear costing less than ₹1,000 as well as readymade garments and fabrics to 12% from 5%

The new rates on these products, a decision on which had been deferred by the Council over the past year owing to the pandemic's impact on households, will come into effect from January 1, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said.

The Council approved a special composition scheme



Deliver tax too: Food delivery apps will become liable to collect and remit the taxes on food orders. • REUTERS

for brick kilns with a turnover threshold of ₹20 lakh, from April 1, 2022. Bricks would attract GST at the rate of 6% without input tax credits under the scheme, or 12% with input credits.

While this will please States like Uttar Pradesh that had sought a special scheme for brick kilns, a decision on extending such a scheme for other evasion-prone sectors like pan masala, gutkha and

The Council also decided to extend the concessional tax rates granted for CO-VID-19 medicines like Amphotericin B and Remdesivir till December 31, but similar sops offered by the Council at its last meeting in June for equipment like oxygen concentrators will expire on September 30.

The Council also decided to make food delivery apps like Swiggy and Zomato liable to collect and remit the taxes on food orders, as opposed to the current system where restaurants providing the food remit the tax.

Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj stressed this didn't constitute a new or extra tax.

# Facility to deepen corporate bond market on anvil: official

'Purchase of investment-grade debt will get a boost'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

In a bid to deepen the corporate bond market, the government is working on setting up a 'backstop facility' as announced in the Budget, a senior government official said on Friday.

Speaking at an event or-

ganised by CII, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Anand Mohan Bajaj, said the government, in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), had raised the foreign investor participation ceiling in corporate bonds from 9% to 15%. "We are working on a very comprehensive facility. It will certainly instil confidence among the participants in the corporate bond



market," he said. Based on a proposal from markets regulator SEBI, an announcement in the Budget for 2021-22 was made with regard to the creation of a 'backstop facility' that would purchase investmentgrade debt securities both in stressed and in normal times, and aid the development of the bond market.

Mr. Bajaj added the Centre was also working on framing an investor charter that would focus on the rights and responsibilities of investors as also a grievance redressal mechanism.

'More transparency'

The investor charter will not only help bring in more transparency in the investment process but also encourage investors to invest with better knowledge.

Speaking at the event, Principal Economic Adviser Sanjeev Sanyal said the government and RBI are working on inclusion of Indian sovereign bonds in global bond indices and some announcement in the space is expected during the year.

# Airlines 'fly high' after passenger traffic surges

Shares of IndiGo parent, SpiceJet jump

Shares of Indian airlines InterGlobe Aviation and Spice-Jet surged after regulatory data showed that passenger growth jumped 136.6% last month as the government started to ease COVID-related travel restrictions.

India had halted air travel in March 2020 as it went into a lockdown to curb the spread of COVID-19. Domestic flights resumed in May 2020, but air travel since has had some limitations as the pandemic progressed.

Domestic airlines carried 6.7 million passengers in August, compared with 2.8 million in the year-earlier period, said the Directorate



InterGlobe

which runs India's largest airline IndiGo, extended gains to a fourth session and scaled a record high of ₹2,168.80 on Friday, while shares of SpiceJet rose up to 7.9% to ₹81.95, their highest level in two months.

Passenger load factor jumped 11.8% for IndiGo and 6.7% for SpiceJet in August from the prior month.

# SC issues notice to Adani unit on Gujarat Urja's curative plea

Bench headed by CJI lists matter for Sept. 30 open hearing

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court, in a rare move, has issued notice in a curative petition filed by Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. (GUVNL) against a July 2019 judgment of the apex court upholding the termination of a power purchase agreement (PPA) by Adani Power (Mundra) Ltd.

The apex court exercises its curative jurisdiction only in extraordinary circumstances, primarily to prevent miscarriage of justice and abuse of process.

A five-judge Curative Bench led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana issued In our prima facie opinion, there are substantial questions of law raised in this curative petition

notice on the GUVNL curative while observing that it had "substantial questions of law" which needed answering. "We have gone through

the curative petition and the relevant documents," the Bench observed in an order dated September 16. "In our prima facie opinion, there are substantial questions of law raised in this curative petition, which require consideration. Issue notice," it ordered, listing the matter to be heard in open court on September 30.

The case relates to Adani Power's termination of the PPA with GUVNL citing GMDC's failure to supply it coal. The Gujarat State Electricity Regulatory Commission and later an appellate tribunal held the termination 'illegal'

On appeal, a three-judge Bench of the apex court led by Justice Arun Mishra (now retired) upheld the termination and ruled that Adani Power be paid compensatory tariff in order to do "economic justice".

# Reforms package will back 3+1 structure, says Moody's

It is credit positive for Bharti Airtel, Jio

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The telecom sector reforms package announced by the Centre will sustain telcos' businesses, is credit positive for operators including Bharti and Jio, and provides support for 3+1 players structure, Moody's Investors Service said on Friday. Moody's said the change

in the AGR definition to exclude non-telecom revenue will ultimately boost sectorwide EBITDA as it would reduce the licence fees paid by telcos. "Should Bharti opt for the moratorium on payments for past spectrum purchases and AGR statutory fees, we expect this could free up around ₹120 billion₹130 billion of cash flow an-

nually, which could be used to reduce debt further," Moody's said. For RIL, the removal of

SUC for spectrum acquired in future auctions would improve profitability for its telecom operations while the extension of moratorium on payments for past spectrum purchases will improve its cash flow generation and strengthen liquidity.

# 'WTO's agriculture pact tilted against developing countries'

Historical asymmetries must be corrected, says Goyal

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Agreement on Agriculture at the WTO is riddled with deep imbalances, which favour the developed countries and have tilted the rules against many developing countries, said Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

The Minister said that historical asymmetries and imbalances must be corrected to ensure a rule-based, fair and equitable order.

Mr. Goyal said this while addressing the G-33 Virtual Informal Ministerial Meeting. Out of a total of 47 G-33 members, representatives



from 21 countries, including India, took the floor to make the brief intervention.

Mr. Goyal said G-33 must strive for positive outcomes on a permanent solution to public stockholding for food security purposes, which was of utmost importance, finalisation of a special safeguard mechanism (SSM)

quickly, and a balanced outcome on domestic support. The Minister urged the members to work collective-

ly to retain the cohesion of the G-33 coalition and strengthen it further by reaching out to other likeminded developing groups to secure their support for a fair, balanced and development-centric outcome on agriculture at the 12th conference in Geneva.

The meeting concluded with the adoption of the G-33 joint ministerial statement reaffirming commitment for expeditious resolution of the WTO's mandated issues in agriculture.

# Ola e-scooters log ₹1,100-cr. sales in 2 days

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ola co-founder Bhavish Aggarwal said sales of S1 electric scooters crossed \$1,100 crore in two days. The executive noted

while the firm has stopped the buying process now, the purchase window will reopen on November 1, just in time for Diwali. On Wednesday, Ola

Electric had commenced the sale process of its electric scooter, which comes in two trims – Ola S1 and S1 Pro. On day one, the company sold scooters worth ₹600 crore.

"In total, over two days, we have done over ₹1,100 crores in sales! This is unprecedented," he said.

# 'Collection efficiency picks up post-COVID wave'

But, recovery not complete: Ind-Ra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India Ratings and Research on Friday said securitisation volumes had picked up post the second wave lull seen in the first quarter of the current fiscal, helped by the im-

provement in collections. The agency, however, said recovery from the impact of the second wave was not yet complete. It had witnessed a recovery in average current collection efficiency to 79% in July from 67% in May across 143 of its rated securitisation transactions.

"Securitisation volumes have picked up post the second wave lull in Q1 FY22 as investors witnessed the return to normalcy in collec-

As investors gain confidence, FY22 securitisation

volumes could be

better than in FY21

tion metrics. As investors gain confidence, overall securitisation volumes in FY22 could be better than in FY21," the agency said in a report. Securitisation is the process of pooling and repackaging of homogenous illiquid financial assets into marketable securities that can be sold to investors.

The report said resumption of economic activity post the second COVID-19 wave had improved sentiment and supported loan performance in June-July.

# corner ₹900 cr. PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Social media

influencers to

With the trend of peddling brands over social media olatforms catching up, influencer marketing pegged to be a ₹900 crore market in India by the end of the year, according to a report by media buyer

Groupm. The fledgling category is expected to grow 25% annually to become a ₹2,200 crore industry by 2025, the INCA India Influencer Report said. The growth in Internet penetration, the proliferation of social media platforms has grown, which has been seized up by brands by engaging with influencers to push their

# Aishwarya brushes aside bitter memories, clinches long jump gold

Ram Baboo sets 35km race walk National record; Parul wins steeplechase; meet mark for TN in 4x400m mixed relay

# **ATHLETICS**

STAN RAYAN

Early last year, B. Aishwarya was writhing in pain. She had hurt her left knee badly and that required surgery. After that, the Bengaluru girl went to coach B.P. Aiyappa for rehabilitation.

The 24-year-old has now transformed impressively and on Friday, she won the long jump gold with a personal best 6.52m in the 60th National Open athletics championships at the Nehru Stadium here.

# **Massive jump**

That was the best jump by an Indian woman in nearly four years and it improved her personal best by a massive

"I had a good take-off in my first jump, the winning one. My next goal is to do



But Aishwarya's favourite event is the triple jump.

"I was expecting her to jump somewhere between 6.40 and 6.60 in the long

per, she has improved on her

speed and now she is able to

"She is an explosive jum-

convert her speed into her jumps well," said Aiyappa. "She has the triple jump

tomorrow and I'm expecting something like 13.80. And I won't be surprised even if she does 14."

**Sherin disappoints** Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu's Sherin Abdul Gafoor, the favourite for the long jump title with a personal best 6.32,

could manage only 6.27. "I did not get the board properly in any of my jumps," said the 21-year-old.

On the track, Railway international Parul Chaudhary staved off a strong challenge from Maharashtra's Komal Jagdale and clocked a personal best 9:51.01 – the fastest time by an Indian in nearly three years - for the women's 3000m steeplechase

gold, her second yellow

Komal also finished with a personal best. Maharashtra's 19-year-old

Tejas Ashok Shirse, who competed in the recent under-20 Worlds in Nairobi, made his senior National debut a memorable one by taking the 110m hurdles gold while C. Kanimozhi of Railways clocked a personal best

13.54 for the women's sprint hurdles title.

Tamil Nadu, comprising T. Santhosh Kumar, Dhivya, Vithya Ramraj and P. Abimaniyu, broke the meet record while winning the 4x400m mixed relay gold which saw the fancied Railways being disqualified after the thirdleg runner Kiran Pahal stepped inside the kerb while jostling for space on the inside with Delhi's Pooja.

There was a National record too, by UP's Ram Baboo in the men's 35km race walk, a new event.

> The results: Men, 3,000m steeplechase:

1. Shankar Lal Swami (Ser) 8:46.05, 2. Mohammed Nur Hasan (Ser) 8:50.00; 3. Balkishan (Ser) 8:50.45; 110m hurdles: 1. Tejas Ashok Shirse (Mah) 14.09, 2. Sachin Binu (Ser) 14.22, 3. Tarundeep Singh (Ser) 14.22; High iump: 1. Jesse Sandesh (Rly) 2.17, 2. Bharathi Vishwanathan (Ser) 2.17, 3. Sarvesh Anil Kush-

ranveer Singh (Rly) 18.46, 2. Devinder Singh (Pun) 18.02, 3. Vanam Sharma (Raj) 17.96; 35km race walk: 1. Ram Baboo (UP) 2:46:31.00 - NR, OR: 2:49:12.00, Manish Singh Rawat, Ranchi, 2021, 2. Sagar Satishchandra Joshi 2:53:43.00; 3. Surinder Singh (Pun) 2:54:22.00.

are (Ser) 2.17; Shot put: 1. Ka-

Women, 3,000m steeplechase: 1. Parul Chaudhary (Rly) 9:51.01, 2. Komal Jagdale (Mah) 9:51.03, 3. Priti Lamba (Rly) 10:22.45; 100m hurdles: 1. C. Kanimozhi (Rly) 13.54; 2. Aparna Roy (Ker) 13.58; 3. K. Nandhini (TN) 13.90; Long jump: 1. B. Aishwarya (Rly) 6.62, 2. Sherin Abdul Gafoor (TN) 6.27, 3. Priyanka Kerketta (Rly) 6.05; 35km race walk: 1. Ramandeep Kaur (Pun) 3:15.17.00, 2. Sonal Sukhwal (Raj) 3:18:35.00, 3. Priyanka

Mixed 4x400m relay: 1. Tamil Nadu (T. Santhosh Kumar, I. Dhivya, Vithya Ramaraj, P. Abhimanyu) 3:26.22 - MR, OR: 3:27.93, Delhi team, 2019; 2. Punjab 3:27.49; 3. Delhi 3:28.01.

Patel (UP) 3:27:56.00.

# NADA on a testing spree

STAN RAYAN

The NADA appears to be on an aggressive testing spree. Every gold medallist at the National Open athletics championships was tested and, in some cases, the minor medallists too.

Since the National Open is the last major athletics meet this year, it looks like the NADA is in some sort of hurry to reach the year's testing target. But the fact is, many of the top names are missing here, even though the World Championships (Oregon, USA, July 15-24) and the Olympics got over a month ago. It will be interesting to know how many out-ofcompetition tests the NA-DA conducted this year.

With the Worlds, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and u-20 Worlds lined up next year, NADA will have much work to do.



# Shamsi looks to make an instant impact

Royals' replacement says he will try his best to help the Rajasthan side win the league

IPL 2021 PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Rajasthan Royals is currently not in the IPL top-four, but the team's World No. 1 T20 spinner Tabraiz Shamsi believes it won't matter when the COVID-hit league res-

umes on Sunday as it will be

a fresh start for all teams.

"I think whether the team is on top or in the fifth, the position at the halfway mark doesn't really count. It's what you do in the second half that matters," Shamsi was quoted in a press

#### Right approach

"I think we are in a good position right now and we have got half of the tournament to go. It depends on how we play the rest of the games," said Shamsi, who is currently in quarantine after having arrived from Sri Lanka earlier this week

Shamsi, who has 40 wickets in 30 ODIs and 49 in 42 T20Is for South Africa, has never been much in demand at IPL auctions. He admitted it did affect him earlier.

"When I was young, not being selected affected me a little bit. But as you grow older, you realise there are bigger things in life. You understand that there are certain things you can't control, and I was certainly in that space.

"I feel like I just have to do my work, and if a team feels I can benefit them with my services, they would pick me like Rajasthan has, and I'm **New arrivals** 

	IN	OUT
	George Garton	Kane Richardson
	Wanindu Hasaranga	Adam Zampa
Royal	Dushmantha Chameera	Daniel Sams
Challengers	Tim David	Finn Allen
	Akash Deep	Washington Sundar
	Glenn Phillips	Jofra Archer
Rajasthan	Evin Lewis	Jos Buttler
Royals	Oshane Thomas	Ben Stokes
	Tabraiz Shamsi	Andrew Tye
Punjab Kings	Nathan Ellis	Riley Meredith
	Adil Rashid	Jhye Richardson
	Aiden Markram	Dawid Malan
Delhi Capitals	Ben Dwarshuis	Chris Woakes
Detni Capitats	Kulwant Khejroliya	M. Siddharth
Kolkata Knight Riders	Tim Southee	Pat Cummins
Sunrisers Hyderabad	Sherfane Rutherford	Jonny Bairstow

I think we are in a good position right now and we have got half of the tournament to go. It depends on how we play the rest of the games

going to try my best to make sure that we win the competition."

Shamsi added that the definition of a good spell in T20s has evolved over time.

"With reference to the conditions in UAE and the short boundaries in Sharjah, I think it is a challenge. But it also means that you have an opportunity to get wickets. Sometimes on grounds like that, a spell which goes for 35-40 runs can be a matchwinning spell, whereas in other games, a spell of three or four wickets can change a

"So, I think it's not just

about taking wickets," said Shamsi, who took three wickets in four IPL games in

#### Warne fan

A Shane Warne fan, Shamsi added he had the opportunity to speak to the Australian a few times.

"Shane was, of course, a legendary leg-spinner and he was always a go-to man for any spinner. From him, I have learned to keep things simple and to be able to remember that we're all different and that cricket becomes as complicated as you make it in your head."



Big challenge: South Africa's Tabraiz Shamsi, the World's No. 1 T20 spinner, will have to contend with the short boundaries at Sharjah and the conditions in the UAE. • AFP

# Finns get off to a flying start

Prajnesh and Ramkumar fail to fire on opening day

#### **DAVIS CUP**

KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Otto Virtanen defied his ranking of 419, played a solid game and defeated the 165th-ranked Prajnesh Gunneswaran 6-3, 7-6(1) to give Finland a flying start in the Davis Cup World Group tie at the Espoo Metro Arena on Friday.

The 74th-ranked Emil Ruusuvuori, Finnish No. 1, made it 2-0 beating Ramkumar Ramanathan 6-4, 7-5.

India will have a mountain to climb on Saturday which will start with the doubles rubber featuring Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan against Henri Kontinen and Harri Heliovaara.

The 20-year-old Virtanen, figuring in just his second Davis Cup tie, played like a champion. He served well, stroked with conviction and retained his composure despite facing a set-point in the 12th game of the second set before crossing the finish line in an hour and 25

A shaky sixth game of the opening set, when Virtanen produced a couple of sharp winners, saw Prajnesh lose serve and the initiative.

Virtanen saved a breakpoint in the next game to tighten his grip over the set and served out the set in the ninth game.

The 31-year-old Prajnesh played a lot better in the second set, but failed to capitalise on the chances that came his way. He saved three break-points in the



Letting it rip: Virtanen played well above his ranking of 419 to beat the 165th-ranked Prajnesh. • FINNISH TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ninth game to keep his nose in front, but missed an opportunity in the 11th game.

Virtanen then saved a setpoint with an ace in the 12th game and took the set to a tie-breaker. The Finn kept his cool, pulling away from the Indian and winning 7-1 much to the delight of the sparse gathering in the indoor arena.

Virtanen served 10 aces and converted one of eight break-points. The trend of losing to opponents ranked much lower than him continued for Prajnesh, who had lost to Borna Gojo of Croatia in March last year.

The second match went along expected lines as the 22-vear-old Ruusuvuori dominated the 187th-ranked Ramkumar. The Indian, despite being involved in many good rallies, could not find an opening against the solid

The results: Finland leads India 2-0 [Otto Viratnen bt Prajnesh Gunneswaran 6-3, 7-6(1) Emil Ruusuvuori bt Ramkumar

# Anrich Nortje wants to take it match by match this season

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

South African pacer Anrich Nortie wants to replicate his last year's IPL performance in the upcoming second half of the T20 league to help Delhi Capitals win its maiden title here.

Nortje, who picked up 22 wickets in 16 matches in his first-ever IPL season in 2020, played an key role in helping DC reach its maiden final, where it lost to to Mumbai Indians here last

DC is set to take on Sunrisers Hyderabad on September 22. "It was here where things started to happen for me in the IPL, but I am looking to take it match by match this season. There's a lot coming up, even after the IPL," he said in a release issued by DC.

"We have to try and remember what we did here the last time we were here and try and implement that again. Hopefully, we can repeat what we did in the UAE the last time we were here,"



Favourite hunting ground: It was in the UAE last year that Nortje made a name for himself in the IPL. ■FILE PHOTO

said the 27-year-old. The fast bowler added that the second half of the IPL 2021 season will be completely different from the first half of the

# **Completely different**

"What worked at one place is not going to work at another place; so we have to take it game by game. The upcoming games in the UAE are going to be completely different from the games we had

"Maybe teams will field different strategies in the second half of the tournament. We have to be switched on now and just be ready," Nortje said.

He feels playing in the IPL before the T20 World Cup in the UAE is certainly going to be a big advantage for all the players. "It's definitely a massive advantage to play the IPL before the T20 World Cup. We have a chance to acclimatise to the

# MI can't afford a slow start: Pietersen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Former England skipper Kevin Pietersen said defending champion Mumbai Indians can ill-afford a typical slow start when the IPL resumes and the M.S. Dhoni-led Chennai Super Kings have a "fantastic shot" at regaining the title after a poor

"Everybody will expect the holders of the competition, Mumbai Indians, to go well, but they don't have a good history of hitting the ground running," Pietersen wrote in a blog in betway.com.

"Everybody wrote off CSK before the IPL started in April, so seeing them go so well was a bit of a surprise. The overseas players, Faf Du Plessis, Moeen Ali and Sam Curran, in particular, delivered the goods.

"But I'm not sure how well this four-month absence will have suited them. If they are ready, it could be a historic few weeks for the franchise."



Sharath. • FILE PHOTO

# Sharath to head junior panel coach Harvinder Singh Sod-

AMOL KARHADKAR

Former Tamil Nadu skipper S. Sharath will chair the National junior boys' selection panel, the BCCI announced in a statement on Friday.

Sharath, the first cricketer to play 100 Ranji Trophy matches for Tamil Nadu, has been appointed from the South Zone. The other members of the panel are former Madhya Pradesh pacer and

hi (Central), former Bengal swing bowler Ranadeb Bose (East), former Gujarat player Pathik Patel (West) and Punjab's Kishan Mohan (North). The BCCI had invited ap-

plications for junior selectors last year but delayed the appointment as the domestic and international junior circuit was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the BCCI's under-19

tournaments scheduled to start later this month, the appointment was formalised on Friday.

The new panel will also pick the squad for next year's under-19 World Cup in the West Indies.

The junior selection committee: S. Sharath (South Zone), chairman; Pathik Patel (West); Ranadeb Bose (East); Kishan Mohan (North), and Harvinder Singh Sodhi (Central).

# Kiwis withdraw from Pakistan series

Cites security concerns; player safety is paramount, says chief executive White

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

New Zealand pulled out of its cricket series against Pakistan on Friday over security concerns, just as the first ODI was due to start, in a devastating blow to the South Asian country.

The move is a massive setback for Pakistan, which has been trying to revive tours by foreign sides after

home internationals were suspended in the aftermath of a 2009 terror attack on the Sri Lankan side.

"Following an escalation in the New Zealand government threat levels for Pakistan, and advice from (New Zealand Cricket) security advisors on the ground, it has been decided the Blackcaps will not

continue with the tour,"

New Zealand Cricket (NZC) said in a statement. Arrangements are being

made for the team to leave the country NZC chief executive

David White said Pakistan had been "wonderful hosts", but "player safety is paramount and we believe this is the only responsible option".

The Kiwis are in Pakistan

for the first time since 2003 and were due to play three ODIs, followed by five Twenty20 matches.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said New Zealand made the decision unilaterally.

"The PCB is willing to continue the scheduled matches," it said in a statement.

# Sachin shocks Gauray, enters second round

Shiva knocks out Subham

# **BOXING**

Y.B. SARANGI

**P**eigning Youth World **C**champion shocked former World championships bronze medallist Gaurav Bidhuri to reach the 57kg second round in the National boxing championships at the Inspire Institute of Sports, Vijaynagar, on Friday.

The Haryana youngster, who had claimed the gold medal in 56kg in the World Youth event in Kielce, Poland, in April last, boxed bravely to beat Gaurav of Railways 4-1 in a closelyfought opening round bout.

Another Worlds medallist and five-time Asian medallist Shiva Thapa knocked out Subham Namata of Steel Plant Sports Board in a 63.5kg first round bout. Important results:

**48kg:** Kuldeep Kumar (Chd) bt

Sushil Sahran (Raj) 4-0.

51kg: Deepak Kumar (SSCB) bt Mukesh Kumar (Del) 5-0; 54kg: Savio Michael (TS) bt Krishna Jora (Jha) 4-1; 57kg: Jobison Yengkopam (Man) bt Vaishak (Kar) 4-1, Mohd. Hussamuddin (SSCB) bt Karan Gupta (MP) 5-0.

**60kg:** Lokesh Chaudhary (Raj) bt Rahul Sresta (WB) 3-2; 63.5kg: Abhishek Yadav (U.P.) bt Bittu Kanwal (Utk) 3-2; 67kg: Ashok Patil (Goa) bt Chander Mohan (HP) 4-1.

71kg: Pawan Kumar (AIP) bt Brandon Oinam (Man) 3-2, Devendra Singh Jhekwan (Utk) bt Sivareddy Annem (AP) 4-1; 75kg: Gagandeep (U.P.) bt Pankaj Kumar (Utk) 4-1.

80kg: Sachin Kumar (SSCB) bt Bobin Chauhan (HP) 5-0, Sumit Poonia (Raj) bt Mudassir Khan (UP) 4-1; 86kg: Prayag Chauhan (RSPB) bt Kapil Pokhariya (Utk) 5-0; Gowtham Palani (TN) bt Vishal Yadav (U.P.) 5-0; 92kg: Harish Singh (Utk) bt Parvesh Musharaf (TN) 5-0; **92+kg:** Sayeed Bin Ali (TS) bt Abhinav Chauhan (HP) 4-1.

# Foreign coach is top-most priority, says Sharath Kamal

Most of the paddler's suggestions have got the nod from TTFI

# **TABLE TENNIS**

RAKESH RAO

NEW DELHI The appointment of a worthy foreign coach is of "top-most priority" for Sharath Kamal among the suggestions made to the Table Tennis Federation of India recently.

The National team is without a foreign coach after the 2018 Asian Games.

As part of the players' representation pertaining to National training camps, domestic events and appointment of a panel of coaches, most of Sharath's suggestions have got the nod from the TTFI.

"I have discussed these points with the TTFI and they have agreed to almost all the points. They are also acting on the requests for training camps. They have assured, the National camps would be at a place suitable to us," disclosed Sharath.

"Ideally, we need a threecoach panel. The deputy head coach's job should be to



deal with under-19 and under-17 players. A third coach should not only assist the deputy head coach but also scout talent and train the under-17 and under-15 players. This system should help a steady flow of players from the junior and youth ranks to the men and women teams," elaborated Sharath.

cluding two sparring partners in each section apart from four coaches - should be at a venue where the players have access to gym and ground facilities, air-conditioned rooms with attached bath, recovery centre About the requirements (sauna/ice bath) under a cer-

tified doctor. "Besides male rath said, "The camp, with physio and masseur, the minimum eight players - incamp should engage a female physio and masseur for our women trainees," emphasised the nine-time National champion. Sharath also expressed

> concern over the packed schedule leading to the World championship in Houston from November 23-

like G. Sathiyan, Archana Kamath, Sreeja Akula, Harmeet Manav Thakkar among others have been playing since August 15. Following the National camp, some of them have travelled to Doha for a WTT event (Sept.20-25). Then they play the Asian championship (Sept. 28-Oct.5).

29. "Consider this. Players

"During the following fortnight, there could be an all-India ranking event (North) which will be good to test our preparedness ahead of three WTT events between October 24 and November 14 (one in Tunisia and two in succession in Slovenia). Then we have a proposed preparatory camp at the Indian Community Centre, California, before heading for the World championship from Nov. 23 to 29.

"As you can see there is a very brief period after the Asian championship when the players can return home. I hope the TTFI keeps it that way. We players need time to recuperate", he urged.

# Australia pulls out of junior hockey WC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Australia on Friday pulled out of several upcoming FIH tournaments, including the junior men's World Cup slated to be held in India later this year, citing COVID-19 related government travel restrictions.

The junior men's World Cup is scheduled in November-December. The venue is yet to be confirmed.

Hockey Australia (HA) also announced that the Tokvo Olympics silver medallist and its trans-Tasman rival New Zealand will also skip season 3 of the Pro League, which starts next month.

"Australia and New Zealand will not take part in Season 3 of the FIH Pro League (scheduled in October 2021) as a result of **COVID** related government travel restrictions and uncertainty in both nations," HA said in a statement.



#### TV PICKS

Premier League: SS Select 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 5 p.m., 7.30 p.m. & 10 p.m. Bundesliga: Sony Ten 2 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 7 p.m. &



**Gukesh wins in Norway** 

GM D. Gukesh of India won the Norway Chess Open 2021 here on Friday, bagging 8.5 points out of 10 rounds with seven wins and three draws. Valentin Dragnev of Austria (7 points) came second while Russia's Evgeny Romanov (6.5) emerged third.

#### Ajeetesh Sandhu T-24 at Dutch Open

CROMVOIRT (NETHERLANDS) India's Ajeetesh Sandhu opened with a three-under 69 to be tied 24th, while Shubhankar Sharma carded a 70 to lie in T-36 position in the first round of the Dutch Open golf tournament here. Niall Kearney lead with a bogey-free 65. PTI



**SC East Bengal signs** Darren Sidoel

SC East Bengal on Friday bolstered its ranks with the acquisition of young Dutch defensive midfielder Darren Sidoel on a deal that will keep him at the club till the end of 2021-22 ISL season. The 23-vear-old Sidoel, who has played under SC East Bengal head coach Manuel 'Manolo' Diaz at Spanish side Hercules CF, joins the team from Spanish second division club Cordoba CF. PTI

#### Ridhima and Gaurika T-13 at Lavaux Ladies Open

PUIDOX (FRANCE) Ridhima Dilawari staged a fine comeback to shoot three-under 69 and be in tied-13th place at the Lavaux Ladies Open on the Ladies **European Tour Access Series** (LETAS). Also joining her was Gaurika Bishnoi, both on one-under 143 and five hehind the leader, teenaged French amateur Emma Falcher. Pranavi Urs was T-21, Amandeep Drall T-28 and Vani Kapoor at T-44. PTI

#### Sayan bowls Dazzlers to a thrilling win

KOLKATA Savan Ghosh picked up three wickets as Durgapur Dazzlers registered a narrow four-run win over Krishnanagar Challengers in a rain-hit Bengal T20 Challenge match at the Eden Gardens here on

Dazzlers scored 67 for seven in the seven-over-a-side affair. Savan and Writtick Chatterjee, who claimed two wickets, restricted Challengers to 63 for six. Challengers' captain Arnab Nandi's 44 went in vain. The scores: Friday: Durgapur Dazzlers 67/7 in 7 overs (Shreyan Chakraborty 2/25) bt Krishnanagar Challengers 63/6 in 7 overs (Arban Nandi 44, Sayan Ghosh 3/15, Writtick Chatterjee 2/15). Thursday: Kanchenjunga Warriors 122 in 19.3 overs (Sudip Gharami 55, Mukesh Kumar 4/15, Vikas Singh 3/27) lost to Barrackpore Bashers 126/1 in 13.4 overs (Sudip Chatterjee 78 n.o., Ankur Paul

LUXEMBOURG

here.

Sania Mirza and Shaui

Zhang of China lost 3-6, 6-3,

terfinals of the €189,708

WTA tennis tournament

the Challenger in

# Osimhen to Napoli's rescue

Celtic lets go the advantage against Betis; West Ham starts well

#### **EUROPA LEAGUE**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Victor Osimhen scored twice as Napoli came from 2-0 down to salvage a 2-2 draw at Leicester, while Celtic threw away a two-goal lead to lose 4-3 to Real Betis and West Ham was a convincing 2-0 winner away to Dinamo Zagreb.

Leicester took the lead as Ayoze Perez fired home at the back post from Harvey Barnes' cross after just nine minutes.

Patson Daka then saw his first Leicester goal ruled out by a VAR review for a marginal offside call, but Barnes' excellent finish doubled Leicester's lead.

Napoli boss Luciano Spalletti held nothing in reserve with his strongest side and the visitors responded in the final quarter thanks to Osimhen.

The Nigerian, who cost €70 million from Lille last year, brilliantly flicked the ball over the imposing presence of Jannik Vestegaard and Kasper Schmeichel to



Saviour: Osimhen, right, celebrates Napoli's equaliser against Leicester on Thursday. • REUTERS

get Napoli back in the game. Osimhen then outjumped Caglar Soyuncu to power home a head for a deserved

Leverkusen rallies Bayer Leverkusen was also a winner as the German side came from behind to beat

Ferencearos 2-1 thanks to a

second-half winner from 18vear-old star Florian Wirtz. Important results: Group B: PSV Eindhoven 2 (Goetze 32, Gakpo 54) drew with Real Sociedad 2 (Januzaj 34, Isak 39). Group C: Leicester 2 (Perez 9, Barnes 64) drew with Napoli 2 (Osimhen 69, 87).

Group D: Eintracht Frankfurt 1 (Lammers 41) drew with Fener-

Galatasaray 1 (Strakosha 67og) bt Lazio O.

**Group G:** Bayer Leverkusen 2 (Palacios 37, Wirtz 69) bt Ferencvaros 1 (Mmaee 8); Real Betis 4 (Miranda 32, Juanmi 35, 53 Borja Iglesias 51) bt Celtic 3 (Ajeti 15, Juranovic 27-pen, Ral-

Group H: Dinamo Zagreb O lost to West Ham 2 (Antonio 22,

# Spurs share honours with Rennes

Mourinho's Roma runs riot against CSKA Sofia

#### CONF. LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Substitute Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg's equaliser allowed Tottenham Hotspur to come away with a 2-2 draw from its trip to France to play Rennes in the new Europa Conference League on Thursday.

Loic Bade's own goal had given Spurs the lead in Brittany but Flavien Tait equalised and Gaetan Laborde put Rennes ahead in the

72nd minute. That lead was swiftly cancelled out by Hojbjerg.

The Conference League is the new third-tier of European club competition and features just one team from each of the continent's biggest leagues. Roma is Italy's representative and Jose Mourinho's side thumped CSKA Sofia 5-1.

**Leading from the front** 

Captain Lorenzo Pellegrini netted twice for Roma with Stephan El Shaarawy, Gianluca Mancini and Tammy Abraham also scoring. Union Berlin lost 3-1 at Slavia Prague.

Important results:

Group C: Roma 5 (L. Pellegrini 25, 62, El Shaarawy 38, Mancini 82, Abraham 84) bt CSKA Sofia

18, Kuchta 84, Schranz 88) bt Union Berlin 1 (Behrens 70). Group G: Rennes 2 (Tait 23, Laborde 72) drew with Tottenham 2 (Bade 11-og, Hojbjerg

Group E: Slavia Prague 3 (Bah



Firing away: Roma skipper Lorenzo Pellegrini nets one of his two goals in the Italian's team

# Ronaldo-driven Man United will look to bounce back

Chelsea's Lukaku goes up against Tottenham's Kane

# PREMIER LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

All eyes are once again on Cristiano Ronaldo as Manchester United aims make amends for a shock Champions League defeat to Young Boys when the Premier League leader heads to West Ham on Sunday.

Second-placed Chelsea is behind United only on goals scored and will look to extend its unbeaten start in a London derby Tottenham.

Liverpool and Manchester City will not expect to be troubled when Crystal Palace and Southampton visit Anfield and the Etihad respectively on Saturday.

#### Pressure on Arteta But the pressure is on under-

fire Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta when the Gunners travel to fellow struggler Burnley. Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has

demanded an immediate



Catalyst: Manager Solskjaer will expect Ronaldo to keep his team's good start going in the Premier League. • REUTERS

response from United after the optimism engendered by Ronaldo's return was punctured in Bern.

Chelsea striker Romelu Lukaku will go head to head with Tottenham's Harry Kane in a fascinating shoot out between two of the Pre-League's leading mier marksmen.

Lukaku has already scored four times in four appearances, including a perfectly-timed header to break Zenit Saint Petersburg's stubborn resistance in the Champions League midweek.

# Weekend fixtures:

Saturday: Wolves v Brentford, Aston Villa v Everton, Burnley Arsenal, Liverpool v Crystal Palace, Manchester City v Southampton, Norwich v Watford.

Sunday: Brighton v Leicester, West Ham v Manchester United, Tottenham v Chelsea.

# FC Goa crushes JFC, enters last eight in style

# DURAND CUP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ISL outfit FC Goa and regimental side Army Green registered contrasting wins in their concluding Group B league match to reach the quarterfinals of the Durand Cup football tournament on

Friday. FC Goa put up a dominant show against ISL rival Jamshedpur FC, defeating the latter 5-0 and finishing on top of the table with an all-win record (nine points).

#### Devendra, Nemil shine

Devendra Murgaokar scored twice and Princeton Rebello once as FC Goa took a 3-0 mostly fielded age-group players, failed to contain the Goan attacks after the break as Muhammed Nemil netted a brace to complete the tally.

lead at half-time. JFC, which

#### Deepak nets winner

Former champion Army Green prevailed over I-League side Sudeva Delhi by a solitary goal to finish second in the group with six

Deepak Singh struck early in the second half for Green. The results: Group B: FC Goa 5 (Devendra

Murgaokar 20, 44, Princeton Rebello 26, Muhammed Nemil 46, 81) bt Jamshedpur FC 0.

Army Green 1 (Deepak Singh 51) bt Sudeva Delhi FC O.

# Kauko included in ATK MB squad for AFC Cup

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA KOLKATA

ATK Mohun Bagan coach Antonio Lopez Habas announced the squad for the AFC Cup inter-regional semifinal against FC Nasaf to be played in Qarshi in Uzbekistan on September 22.

The names were announced after the players underwent a series of screening tests at Dubai, where ATK MB is currently camping.

Habas brought in a few changes in the squad that participated in the group league stage. Ioni Kauko, the midfielder who was a mem-

ber of the Finland side that played the Euro 2020, has been included along with the two wingers, Michael Soosairaj and Prabir Das. Habas is looking to have

the best available selection against FC Nasaf, which will be a very strong opponent to beat at home. According to information

made available by the team, Habas is hoping that Kauko will use his big-league expe rience to inspire ATK MB to produce the right game and overcome its formidable opposition.

Keeping this in mind, Habas has experimented with

while pointing out the opponent's strengths and weaknesses to his players in the last six days at the Dubai The squad:

Goalkeepers: Amrinder Singh, Avilash Paul, Arsh Anwer. Defenders: Pritam Kotal, Ashutosh Mehta, Carl McHugh, Subhasish Bose, Sumit Rathi.

Midfielders: Joni Kauko, Lenny Rodrigues, Liston Colaco, Prabir Das, M. Soosairaj, Bidyananda Singh, Engson Singh, Sekh Sahil, Ravi Bahadur Rana, Abhishek Dhananjay.

Forwards: Roy Krishna, David Williams, Manvir Singh, Kiyan



SPORTZPICS/ISI

# Shruti looks to make an impact in junior Slams

Has worked on her fitness and diet to become athletic and strong

# **TENNIS**

KAMESH SRINIVASAN NEW DELHI

Shruti Ahlawat is 15 years of age and has played only seven ITF junior tournaments to emerge as the No. 1 junior girl in the country.

From being viewed as one with "a heavy body structure" and injury-prone, the bespectacled Shruti has worked remarkably on her fitness and diet to become athletic and strong.

# Coach pleased

Coach Pundreek Chaturvedi, who has been training Shruti for the last year and a half, is understandably pleased with the results, and the potential of his ward.

"Shruti is dong an amazing job. In seven international junior tournaments, she won four titles and was runner-up in one. In doubles she was runner-up thrice.

"Am excited about her performance and progress," Pundreek said.

Even as the 241st-ranked Shruti aspires to compete internationally and boost her world rank, a lot of work is being done on her game to

the higher echelons of the

"We have been working on increasing the pace of her strokes and variation in her game. We are also working a lot on her serve," observed the coach.

prepare her for the grind in

"Shruti was very sensitive



Hard work pays: Coach Pundreek Chaturvedi feels that his ward Shruti Ahlawat is reaping the rewards for the effort she has put in. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

and could not digest her losses. It took a lot of time to make her realise that in order to become a better player, you have to be prepared to lose. At the higher level, the chances of losing

"Now, she fights from difficult situations to win matches. Over time, her personality has been moulded and mindset has been tuned to help her compete in bigtournaments," said Pundreek.

# **Financial support**

The coach feels that with financial support from the government and the corporate sector, Shruti should be able to play about 25 weeks of tournaments in the US and Europe apart from Asia, in the coming season, so as to be ready to make an impact in the junior Grand Slams.

bt Nina Rudiukova & Anastasia

\$15.000 ITF women. Monastir.

Tunisia: Ouarterfinals: Elena

Milovanovic (Srb) bt Sravya

Doubles: Quarterfinals: Shar-

mada Balu & Sravya Shivani bt

Alejandra Gutierrez (Col) &

Veselova (Rus) 6-4, 6-2.

Shivani 6-2, 6-3.

# Harsh and Dia finish on top

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Harsh Fogaat and Dia Arora won the boys' and girls' titles in the AITA Championship series junior tennis tournament on the clay courts of the Dhvan Chand National Stadium here on

Harsh beat top seed Parag Jain 6-3, 7-5 for the boys' crown. With rain washing out play on Thursday, the semifinals were also held on Friday. Harsh had sailed past Aditya Talwar for the loss of five games in the morning.

Fifth seed Dia, who had

outplayed the top seed in

the quarterfinals, defeated

Durganshi by an identical score (6-3, 7-5) in the girls final. In the semifinals, the

fluent Dia eased past Sneha Sundaraneedi. The results: Under-18: Boys

BOYS & GIRLS UNDER-18 tember 2021 | Major Dhyan Chand National Stad

Moment to cherish: Dia and Harsh, who emerged champions. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

(final): Harsh Fogaat bt Parag Jain 6-3, 7-5.

Semifinals: Parag bt Vedant Mehta 7-6(2), 6-1; Harsh bt Aditya Talwar 6-3, 6-2.

Girls (final): Dia Arora bt Durganshi 6-3, 7-5. Semifinals: Dia bt Sneha Sun-

daraneedi 6-2, 6-3; Durganshi

bt Sumeira Jaiswal 6-3, 7-5.

# A shot in the arm for handball

Bluesport Entertainment makes an investment of ₹240 crore

SPORTS BUREAU

 $W^{
m ith}$  a vision to develop the Indian handball ecosystem, Bluesport Entertainment, the official licence holder of the Premier Handball League (PHL), had announced a mammoth investment of ₹240 crore recently.

PHL will be held under the aegis of the Handball Federation of India (HFI). The funding will be used to accelerate the growth of

handball in the country in the next five years. "Apart from creating a professional

handball league, we are also looking at a holistic approach to develop the sporting ecosystem through various strategcollaborations and customised programmes cutructure in India," said Bluesport Entertainment CEO and co-founder Manu Agrawal. Handball has more than

rated to train the players

and coaches as well as up-

grading the handball infras-

85,000 registered players currently. PHL's inaugural edition, which will roll out next year, is expected to attract more people. M ND-NDE

#### Sania and Zhang bow out in the doubles quarterfinals France, fourth seeds Jeevan za 3-6, 6-3, [10-8]. Agarwal bt Davide Galoppini & **INDIANS ABROAD** Nedunchezhiyan and Purav €66,640 Challenger, Rennes, Marco Miceli (Ita) 6-3, 7-6(3); SPORTS BUREAU Quarterfinals: Diego Augusto Raja missed two match

[10-8] to Greet Minnen and pair of Bart Stevens and Tim Alison Van Uytvanck of Bel-Van Rijthoven. gium in the doubles quar-

The results: €189,708 WTA, Luxembourg: **Quarterfinals:** Greet Minnen & Alison Van Uytvanck (Bel) bt Shuai Zhang (Chn) & Sania Mir-

points in the doubles semifi-

nals, and were beaten 4-6,

7-6(7), [10-8] by the Dutch

France: Semifinals: Bart Stevens & Tim Van Rijthoven (Ned) bt Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Purav Raja 4-6, 7-6(7), [10-8].

\$52,080 Challenger, Cary, USA: Second round: Michael Mmoh (USA) bt Sasikumar Mukund 6-4, 6-4.

\$15,000 ITF men, Cairo, Egypt: Semifinals: Diego Augusto Barreto Sanchez (Esp) & Rishab

nards & Francesco Passaro (Ita) 7-6(5), 6-3. \$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Quarterfinals: Li Tu (Aus) bt Abhinav Sanjeev Shanmugam 6-4, 6-3. \$15,000 ITF women, Melilla,

Barreto Sanchez & Rishab

Agarwal bt Alessio De Ber-

Shelby Prince (USA) 6-1, 6-3. Yuka Hosoki (Jpn) & Ma YeXin (Chn) bt Emma Van Poppel (Ned) & Jennifer Luikham 6-1, 6-0.

Spain: Ouarterfinals: Enola Chiesa (Ita) & Sathwika Sama