

LEARN & EARN

Cash Rewards Worth ₹10 Lakh+

Participate in Competitive Exams & Win Exciting Cash Rewards.

Participate, Practice, Learn & Earn

#alwaysahead

Download the App Now!

Google Play | Apple Store

Website: www.iqarena.in | E-mail: support@iqarena.in

**IN BRIEF**

**Ahead of shoot-out, court security was reviewed**

NEW DELHI  
Over two weeks ago, a security review of each of the seven district courts in Delhi was conducted under the chairmanship of a judge from each court. One of the corrective suggestions made was frisking of lawyers on the court premises.

CITY ► PAGE 2

**Cabinet expansion today, says Punjab CM Channi**

CHANDIGARH  
Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi on Saturday said the expansion of his Cabinet will take place on Sunday. Mr. Channi also met the Governor. He said, "Tomorrow all the Ministers will take oath of office."

NEWS ► PAGE 9

1800 123 3455  
Toll-free: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm

Tiles Marble Quartz Bathware

Hot Hindustani & pasand

Asian Granito India Ltd.

MAGAZINE ► 8 PAGES  
CLASSIFIEDS ► PAGE 4

## India is the mother of all democracies, PM says at UNGA

Targets Pakistan, China for exporting terror, ignoring rules-based global order

SUHASINI HAIDAR  
NEW DELHI

Terming India the "mother of all democracies", Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a defence of the state of democracy in India at the United Nations General Assembly on Saturday, referring to his own journey as a politician as an example in his speech.

In a wide-ranging address, Mr. Modi spoke about climate change, poverty alleviation, developments in Afghanistan, and UN Security Council reform.

He also took aim at Pakistan and China respectively with references to support to terror groups and violating



**Global stage:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressing the UN General Assembly in New York on Saturday. ■ ANI

the international rules-based order.

However, Mr. Modi did not mention either country by name, in contrast to Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan who named India

more than a dozen times, in a speech that focused on Kashmir. India later responded to his speech.

"I represent a country known as the mother of all democracies," Mr. Modi said,

### Quad echoes terror concerns

The Quad leaders said they would closely coordinate their "diplomatic, economic and human rights policies" on Afghanistan and deepen their counter-terrorism cooperation. ► PAGE 8

adding that India had entered its 75th year of Independence but had democratic traditions for thousands of years.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 7

## Cooperative Society Act will be amended soon, says Amit Shah

'We will work in tandem with States'

Suppose Diwali is round the corner and someone needs ₹1,000 to celebrate it, but does not have the money due to a medical emergency. Only the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies can help here. No bank will help, banks need documents... These units extend credit on the basis of compassion. AMIT SHAH, UNION HOME MINISTER



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah said on Saturday the Centre will soon bring amendments to the Multi State Cooperative Society Act, and a new policy for the cooperatives is on the anvil. He added that the question that cooperatives are a State subject could be responded to in legal terms but the newly created Ministry will work in tandem with the States and "there will be no friction".

Cash-rich cooperatives in many States are controlled by the Opposition parties, such as the Nationalist Congress Party and the Congress.

The cooperatives decide political fortunes in States such as Maharashtra, Kerala, Gujarat, parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal.

The formation of the Ministry of Cooperation was announced on July 5, and Mr. Shah was allocated the portfolio during the Cabinet expansion.

Mr. Shah said the Centre was also planning amendments to the laws that govern the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), following which the States will be sent an advisory, and they will also have to amend the relevant laws.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 7

## Tejashwi writes to parties for caste census

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
PATNA

Leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Assembly Tejashwi Yadav on Saturday wrote to 33 senior leaders of political parties across the country on the demand for a caste-based census.

Recently, the Centre had informed the Supreme Court that conducting a caste-based census was not feasible. Leaders of 10 parties in Bihar, led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar whose party JD(U) has been an ally of the BJP, had met Prime Minister Narendra Modi to put forth their demand for a caste census.

"Caste-based census needs to be seen as an essential step in nation building. It will actually bring to the forefront the pressing concerns that... India must attend to with a sense of urgency," Mr. Yadav wrote in his letter. "This is a historic opportunity before us to push for an agenda that is essential for making this country more just and egalitarian," he said.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 7

## Alert sounded in Odisha over Cyclone Gulab

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha government on Saturday sounded a warning for the cyclonic storm Gulab, which is expected to cross the coast between its southern districts and north Andhra Pradesh with wind

speeds of 75-85 kmph on Sunday evening.

The associated heavy rain is likely to cause landslides and floods.

The India Meteorological Department informed the National Crisis Management Committee that the cyclone

was likely to hit Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts of Andhra Pradesh, and Ganjam and Gajapati districts of Odisha.

Emphasising on the need for all preventive and precautionary steps to combat the natural disaster, Cabinet

Secretary Rajiv Gauba instructed the two State governments to make efforts to keep the loss of lives to near zero, and to minimise damage to property and infrastructure.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 7

### Practice flight



**Fine-tuning skills:** A Chinook helicopter of the Indian Air Force flying over Dal lake in Srinagar on Saturday, during a rehearsal ahead of an air show on Sunday. Officials said the event was aimed at motivating the youth to join the IAF. ■ NISSAR AHMAD

## Abhishek Banerjee is infusing fresh blood into TMC

SHIV SAHAY SINGH  
KOLKATA

Abhishek Banerjee, the national general secretary of the Trinamool Congress and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew, is slowly and steadily recruiting new talent to restructure the party organisation and looking for new areas for expansion.

Post 2019, as his clout grew in the party, he has tried to transform the party by bringing in poll strategist Prashant Kishor and improving both its image and messaging across social media platforms. The induction of fresh blood is also evident in the party's campaign in Tripura.

DETAILS ► PAGE 9

## Cultural mapping of 75 villages soon

National mission was approved in 2017; IGNCA trial run will begin in October

DAMINI NATH  
NEW DELHI

Having made little progress since its launch in 2017, the National Mission on Cultural Mapping (NMCM) has now been handed over to the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), which is gearing up for a trial run in 75 villages in October, according to officials.

The Culture Ministry had approved the mission in 2017 with a ₹469 crore budget from 2017-18 to 2019-20, according to the administrative approval for the project. However, officials said the project had been slow to take off.

In response to a question in the Lok Sabha on July 19, Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy said the Ministry was working on the cultural mapping mission to build a comprehensive database of ar-



**Heritage hub:** IGNCA aims to cover 5,000 villages by March 2022. Photo shows brass metal craft artisans at M. Venkatayapalem village in Khammam, Telangana. ■ G.N.RAO

tists, art forms and other resources from organisations under the Ministry.

"So far 14.53 lakh artists/artisans have been registered on NMCM portal through secondary sources State/Union Territory-wise. However, no direct benefit

or assistance has been extended through this Mission to the registered artists/institution," the Minister's written reply read.

**Five-year project**  
IGNCA member secretary Sachidanand Joshi told *The*

*Hindu* that the work on creating a database for folk arts and mapping of heritage of villages would be carried out over five years. Volunteers from the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sanghathan, the National Service Scheme and students of sociology and social work would be deputed to collect such data from villages, he said.

"We will start the trial run in 75 villages next month. We are selecting one village in each State and UT as well as villages that have been a part of our freedom movement as we are celebrating 75 years of Independence," he said.

While the entire project would take five years and a budget of ₹89 crore had been approved for it, the IGNCA would aim to complete mapping in 5,000 villages by the end of financial year 2021-2022, Mr. Joshi said.

5 IN TOP 10

17 IN TOP 30

# Rau's IAS Study Circle

Since 1953

300+ overall selections

50 IN TOP 100

## Congratulations Our Super Achievers...

OUR UPSC RESULT 2020

AIR 1

SHUBHAM KUMAR

AIR 2

JAGRATI AWASTHI

AIR 5

MAMTA YADAV

AIR 8

JIVANI KARTIK NAGJIBHAI

AIR 9

APALA MISHRA

AIR 12

MITHUN PREMRAJ

AIR 13

GAURAV BUDANIA

AIR 14

KARISHMA NAIR

AIR 15

RIA DABI

AIR 16

ARTH JAIN

AIR 17

SARTHAK AGRAWAL

AIR 18

RADHIKA GUPTA

AIR 19

SHASHWAT TRIPURARI

AIR 23

SADAF CHOUDHARY

AIR 26

PULKIT SINGH

AIR 28

DIVYA MISHRA

AIR 30

DIVYANSHU CHOUDHARY

AND MANY MORE...

### GS INTEGRATED FOUNDATION COURSE

**UPCOMING BATCHES**

- 1 year Regular Course for CSE 2023
- 1.5 years Weekend Course for CSE 2023

**LIVE - ((ONLINE)) BATCHES**

- 12 Nov
- 16 Oct

**OFFLINE BATCHES**  
(Santized classrooms with Covid safety protocols)

- Delhi 22 Oct
- Delhi 16 Oct
- Bengaluru 30 Oct

Scan here to watch Rau's IAS Online classes review by UPSC aspirants

**ADMISSIONS OPEN APPLY NOW**

Scan here to download Rau's IAS eLearn App

GET IT ON Google Play

NEW DELHI | 011-40786050, 9810184722, 7387992102, 8826939973, 7568054231 | BENGALURU | 080-41426050, 9916039536, 8861822955 | JAIPUR | 0141-4106050, 8209203177, 7568054231

www.rauias.com | 011-40786050 | www.elearn.rauias.com

# Women DCPs to head 6 out of 15 police districts

L-G transfers 39 senior police officers

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Delhi Police will now have women Deputy Commissioners of Police in six out of 15 districts in the Capital.

Among them, three are already serving in their respective districts.

According to an order issued on Saturday, Lieutenant-Governor Anil Bajjal transferred 11 Special Commissioners of Police and 28 Deputy Commissioners of Police and additional DCPs.

The order stated that 2010-batch IPS officer Benita Marry Jaiker, who is currently serving as the DCP of the Seventh Battalion, has been transferred as DCP

South. Shweta Chauhan (2010), serving as DCP of Headquarters, has been transferred to DCP Central. Esha Pandey (2010), DCP, Police Control Room, has been transferred as DCP, South East district.

Three DCPs – Usha Rangani, Priyanka Kashyap and Urvija Goel – have already been posted in the North West, East and West districts.

In another first, three IPS officers – Rajeev Ranjan, Jasmeet Singh and Ingit Pratap Singh – have been transferred as DCP, Special Cell, from their respective districts Outer North, Central and South West.

# Illegal sale of liquor will increase, warn traders

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The closing of about 260 private-run liquor shops in the city from October 1 will result in heavy black-marketing of liquor because of shortage of supply, warned Delhi Liquor Traders' Association on Saturday.

According to the new excise policy, the Delhi government will pull out of liquor trade in the city and private players, who won new bids for liquor stores,

will open from November 17. But from October 1 to November 16, only government-run stores will operate in the city.

Naresh Goel, president of the traders' association, said they had raised the issue with the Delhi government but have not got a reply so far. When contacted, Excise Commissioner Arava Gopi Krishnan said, "The government is taking all steps for the smooth sale of liquor in Delhi."

# Days before shoot-out, court security was reviewed

Most district courts raised issue of lawyers not cooperating in checking, frisking

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

Over two weeks ago, a security review of each of the seven district courts in Delhi was conducted under the chairmanship of a judge from each court, it has been learnt. One of the corrective suggestions made during the review was frisking and checking of lawyers on the court premises.

The shoot-out inside courtroom number 207 of the Rohini court complex, wherein dreaded gangster Jitender Mann alias Gogi was shot dead on Friday, has raised questions over the security arrangements in courts, especially district courts where incidents of criminals walking in with weapons have often been reported.

The security apparatus of courts is such that all seven district courts are to be protected by the district police, whereas the High Court and the Supreme Court are under the protection of Delhi Police's separate security unit. The periphery of the HC and the SC, however, is protected by New Delhi district officers. Each district court has a security committee, which is headed by an Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) who liaises with the police team deployed on the premises.

It has been learnt that the Rohini court complex has the least number of CCTV cameras as compared to other district courts. Rohini has 90



Take no chances: Delhi Police personnel checking vehicles at the entry gate of Rohini court on Saturday. \*R.V. MOORTHY

CCTV cameras installed out of which one isn't functional; Saket and Karkardooma have 774 and 713 CCTV cameras respectively. Patiala House Court has 135, Tis Hazari has over 240, Dwarka has over 180 and Rouse Avenue has over 150. There are no CCTV cameras inside courtrooms, it has been learnt.

### SC took cognisance

After the murder of a judge in Dhanbad in July this year, the Supreme Court took suo motu cognisance of the security of judges and court premises. In view of the proceedings of the apex court, security reviews were conducted for all the courts in Delhi. Police sources said that senior officers of the district, a designated member of the High Court, officials of the Public Works Department, district judges, members of the security committees of courts were present in the meetings.

It has been learnt that during the meeting on security arrangements in Rohini court, the point about checking and frisking of advocates was made. "We raised our concern over how advocates should agree to checking of their ID cards and frisking to ensure no riff-raff enters the premises," an official privy to the meeting said.

In Dwarka court's security review meeting, four major points were raised. The first point: advocates should be checked at entry and exit gates. Second, lawyers' chambers should be shut after 6 p.m. Third, advocates should be given passes – stickers for their vehicles – and no one else should be allowed in their cars apart from the lawyers. Fourth, cooperation of lawyers for checking must be ensured. "Lawyers' chambers are open till late night and clients keep coming. In all the district courts,

lawyers don't allow checking of their chambers. Weapons and alcohol can be easily brought in," an official said.

In Karkardooma court's meeting, similar concerns were raised. Rouse Avenue, officials said, runs smooth as compared to other courts because it's a specialised court with much less numbers of courtrooms. "Problem only arises when there's a crowd," an official said.

A senior police officer said that compliance towards getting frisked is a lot more in HC and SC as compared to the lower courts.

A senior officer said the solution to ensure adequate security at lower courts is to install Radio Frequency Identification machines and designated gates for lawyers. "Facial Recognition System needs to be installed to check for criminals entering the premises. Under vehicle scanning systems should be installed. And most importantly, security of courts should be given to CISF," he said.

Senior advocate Vikas Singh said the police are lying about lawyers not being ready to get their IDs checked and it is their "callous attitude" that is to be blamed. "This shoot-out is the result of huge intelligence failure. Police deployment had been increased since morning. A high-risk prisoner was coming. The police should have known what his rivals were planning," he said.

# Lawyers stay away from work in all district courts

They are demanding better security

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Lawyers abstained from work in all district courts in Delhi on Saturday demanding better security on court premises, a day after gangster Jitender Mann alias Gogi and his two assailants were killed in a shoot-out inside a courtroom in Rohini.

No work happened in district courts except urgent matters such as bail and custody extension as lawyers did not appear before the judges, said Sanjeev Nasir, spokesperson of the Coordination Committee of All District Courts Bar Associations in Delhi. The courts, however, passed orders and judgments that were already scheduled for Saturday.

The strike was called by the committee seeking modification of security norms at the district courts. Mr. Nasir said a team of lawyers also met the Delhi Police Commissioner on Saturday to discuss security matters.

Advocate Manjeet Mathur, secretary of the Rohini District Courts Bar Association, said the strike was peaceful.

'Police action saved lives' According to the FIR lodged in the shoot-out case, Sub-Inspector Vir Singh, who was

# 2 arrests made in Gogi case

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

Two persons have been arrested in connection with the shoot-out inside Rohini court on Friday in which gangster Jitender Mann alias Gogi was shot dead.

The arrests have been made by the Delhi Police Special Cell. The two accused are said to have helped the assailants – Rahul and Jagdeep – who killed Gogi. The two assailants were associates of Gogi's rival Tilly Tajpur. Further investigation is under way, sources said.

part of the security team engaged in the exchange of fire, said in his statement: "Several innocent people could have lost their lives if there was no immediate police retaliation against the two armed assailants... the duo was firing indiscriminately, it was not possible for the police to nab them physically."

Joint Commissioner of Police (Northern Range) is enquiring into the incident, while the case is being handled by the Crime Branch.

We are taking all necessary COVID-19 Precautionary Measures

# SHIRT

## TROUSER & JEANS SALE

Wedding Collection

OPEN 7 DAYS

up to 60% off

MEN & WOMEN  
By Economy Sales: 45086168

ARROW ColorPlus PARK AVENUE LOUIS PHILIPPE

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

# 'Resume classes for primary section, middle school'

Parents, teachers stage protest outside Kejriwal's residence

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A group of parents and schoolteachers staged a protest outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence on Saturday demanding reopening of schools for students of primary section and Classes VI to VIII.

Delhi State Public Schools Management Association chief R.C. Jain said the government had said they would analyse the situation after reopening schools for

Classes IX to XII and then decide on reopening further.

'No COVID case in schools' "It has been close to a month and there has been no COVID-19 case reported from any school. Even the positivity rate in Delhi is below 0.1%," said Mr. Jain.

"We demand schools be reopened not only for Class VI to VIII but also for primary classes. If there is a change in the current scenario, they can be closed

again," he said.

Following an improvement in the COVID-19 situation, the Delhi government had, last month announced that schools for Classes IX to XII, colleges and coaching institutions would reopen from September 1 but only at 50% seating capacity.

The Delhi government had clarified that no student would be forced to attend physical classes and the consent of parents would be mandatory.



Up in arms: Teachers and parents protesting outside the Chief Minister's residence in Delhi on Saturday. \*SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION**  
Woman & Child Development Department Bengaluru(U) Dist.  
Dri M.H. Marigowda Road, Near Kidwai Hospital, Bangalore-29  
Ph: 080-26569344 | Mobile: 9986264898 | https://icps.karnataka.gov.in

No.: GSM/B(N)/Publicity/Nivasi/2021-22 Date: 09.09.2021

### Finding out the Mother's & Father's Address

Name of the Child: Lakshmi, Age: 08 Months, Name of the Father/Mother: Don't Know, Place of Birth: Don't Know, Height: 70cms, Color of the Body: Normal White, Identification Mark: No. Who has admitted: Staff of Soladewanahalli Police Station has admitted child on 18.08.2021 in Govt. Shishu Mandira for taking care, Whom to Contact: Contact Above office address & Phone Numbers.

Sd/- Superintendent  
Shishu Mandira, W&C.D.D. B(U)Dist

DIPR/DDU/JA/1634/2021-22

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused namely Pathmadass @ Mama S/o Gorgh @ George R/o H.No. 249-A, Rama Market, Munirka Village, New Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 204/2009, U/s 420/467/468/471/120B/34 IPC has been registered at P.S. I.P.Estate, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Pathmadass @ Mama cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Pathmadass @ Mama has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Pathmadass @ Mama accused of FIR No. 204/2009, U/s 420/467/468/471/120B/34 IPC, P.S. I.P.Estate, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 17.12.2021.

By Order  
Sh. Rishabh Kapoor, Metropolitan Magistrate-03, Central District, Room No. 150, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/1006/CD/2021-(Court Matter)

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**  
Information & Public Relations (C) Dept, Thiruvananthapuram

No.C2/161/2021/I&PR Dated: 25/09/2021

### Republic Day Parade 2022-Kerala Tableau-Creative Consultant /Fabricator-Applications invited

The department of Information Public Relations will present tableau designs before selection committee of Defence Ministry for getting opportunity in presentation of Kerala Tableau in Republic Day Parade 2022 at New Delhi. Before finalizing the tableau design of State of Kerala, Department has decided to select a creative consultant/fabricator/ Designer in this regard for appropriate concepts and designs. Applications are invited hereby for the selection process. Those who are experienced in this field can apply. As India gears to celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> independence day celebrations Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav the themes/subjects under consider are: India @75- Freedom Struggle, Ideas@75, Achievements@75, Actions @75, Resolve@75 (Themes must be related to Kerala).

Designers can submit more than one design, which should be in original colour along with writeups. The guidelines regarding the preparation of designs of Ministry of Defence can be seen at official website of Information and Public Relations Department ([www.prd.kerala.gov.in](http://www.prd.kerala.gov.in)). The department after scrutinizing the designs received within the specified time and will select good designs and those will be submitted before selection committee of Ministry of Defence. The concerned designer must attend the selection committee meetings of Defence Ministry at New Delhi along with PRD official. TA/DA will be met by the Department. If the submitted designs are approved by the selection committee of Ministry of Defence, the concerned artist will be entrusted to make the 3D model and fabrication works. The expenditure in this regard will be met by Information and Public Relations Department after cost committee evaluation. For more details 04712518447, 04712518013, 9496003239.

The design should be submitted to the address given below, before 2 pm on 05/10/2021 Director Information and Public Relations Department Government Secretariat, south block Thiruvananthapuram 1

Sd/- Shylendran. K.S  
Deputy Director

(1636/F4/2021/I&PRD)

**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION**  
Woman & Child Development Department Bengaluru(U) Dist.  
Dri M.H. Marigowda Road, Near Kidwai Hospital, Bangalore-29  
Ph: 080-26569344 | Mobile: 9986264898 | https://icps.karnataka.gov.in

No.: GSM/B(N)/Publicity/Nivasi/2021-22 Date: 09.09.2021

### Finding out the Mother's & Father's Address

Name of the Child: Advik, Age: 10 Days, Name of the Father/Mother: Don't Know, Place of Birth: Don't Know, Height: 44 cms, Color of the Body: Normal White, Identification Mark: No. Who has admitted: Staff of Banasavadi Police Station has admitted child on 24.08.2021 in Govt. Shishu Mandira for taking care, Whom to Contact: Contact Above office address & Phone Numbers.

Sd/- Superintendent  
Shishu Mandira, W&C.D.D. B(U)Dist

DIPR/DDU/JA/1633/2021-22

**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION**  
Woman & Child Development Department Bengaluru(U) Dist.  
Dri M.H. Marigowda Road, Near Kidwai Hospital, Bangalore-29  
Ph: 080-26569344 | Mobile: 9986264898 | https://icps.karnataka.gov.in

No.: GSM/B(N)/Publicity/Nivasi/2021-22 Date: 16.09.2021

### Finding out the Mother's & Father's Address

Name of the Child: Sisriha, Age: 05 yrs, Name of the Father/Mother: Don't Know, Place of Birth: Don't Know, Height: 105 cms, Color of the Body: Normal White, Identification Mark: No. Who has admitted: Staff of Jnanabharati Police Station has admitted child on 26.07.2021 in Govt. Shishu Mandira for taking care, Whom to Contact: Contact Above office address & Phone Numbers.

Sd/- Superintendent  
Shishu Mandira, W&C.D.D. B(U)Dist

DIPR/DDU/JA/1630/2021-22

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Priti Saini, D/o: Ramotar Saini, R/o: Village Farhedi, P.S. Kularki, Distt. Muradabad, U.P. has been missing since 14.09.2021 at about 9.00 AM, from 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, GB pant Hospital, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 81 dated 14.09.2021 has been lodged at Police Station I.P. Estate, Delhi. The description of missing girl is as under:

Name: Priti Saini, Age: 18 Years 1 Month, Height: 4'2", Built: Medium, Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Black Colour Frock, White Lower and Red Colour Slipper in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing girl please inform to the following:-

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)  
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO  
Police Station, I.P. Estate, Delhi  
Ph: 011-23370928, 8750870426

DP/1004/CD/2021

**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION**  
Woman & Child Development Department Bengaluru(U) Dist.  
Dri M.H. Marigowda Road, Near Kidwai Hospital, Bangalore-560029  
Ph: 080-26569344 | 9986264898, Website: <https://icps.karnataka.gov.in>

No.: G.S.M.B(U).Pub.Res/2021-22 Date: 09.09.2021

### Finding out the Mother's & Father's Address

Name: Adhya, Age: 10 Days, Name of Father or Mother: Unknown. Enrolled by: Staff of Byadarahalli Police Station enrolled the children to Govt. Shishu Mandir on 24.08.2021 for patronage. Place of birth: Unknown. Height: 45 Cms. Body colour: Normal fair. Face identified: Condition of body & mind: Normal. Whom to Contact: Above Office Address & Phone Numbers.

Sd/- Superintendent,  
Shishu Mandira, W&C.D.D. B(U)Dist

DIPR/DDU/1628/AKAR/2021-22

**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION**  
Woman & Child Development Department Bengaluru(U) Dist.  
Dri M.H. Marigowda Road, Near Kidwai Hospital, Bangalore-29  
Ph: 080-26569344 | Mobile: 9986264898 | https://icps.karnataka.gov.in

No.: GSM/B(N)/Publicity/Nivasi/2021-22 Date: 16.09.2021

### Finding out the Mother's & Father's Address

Name of the Child: Gullu, Age: 03 yrs, Name of the Father/Mother: Late Sangeetha, Place of Birth: Don't Know, Height: 87 cms, Color of the Body: Normal White, Identification Mark: No. Who has admitted: Staff of Basco Vastalya Bhavan, Bengaluru has admitted child on 21.07.2018 in Govt. Shishu Mandira for taking care, Whom to Contact: Contact Above office address & Phone Numbers.

Sd/- Superintendent  
Shishu Mandira, W&C.D.D. B(U)Dist

DIPR/DDU/JA/1632/2021-22

**विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय, मध्यप्रदेश भोपाल**

क्रमांक-विशा/र्योर/2021-25 (362), दिनांक 24/09/2021

### निविदा सूचना का शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum)

विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय की निविदा सूचना क्रमांक SB/Store/2021-25 (315) Bhopal, Dated 16/08/2021 द्वारा Non Linear Junction Detector & other equipments के क्रय हेतु ई-निविदा सूचना जारी की गई है। आमंत्रित निविदा अंतर्गत निविदा की समय सारणी में किये गये संशोधन के संबंध में "शुद्धि पत्र" (Corrigendum) जारी किया गया है जो website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgpp/app> पर तथा विभाग की वेबसाईट [www.mppolice.gov.in](http://www.mppolice.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।

सहायक पुलिस महानिरीक्षक, विशेष शाखा (जी), म.प्र. भोपाल  
दूरभाष क्र. 0755-2443654, Email: [sec24-sb@mppolice.gov.in](mailto:sec24-sb@mppolice.gov.in)

G-17358/2021

**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD PROTECTION**  
Woman & Child Development Department, Bengaluru (U) Dist.  
Dri M.H. Marigowda Road, Near Kidwai Hospital, Bangalore-560029  
Ph: 080-26569344 | 9986264898, Website: <https://icps.karnataka.gov.in>

No.: G.S.M.B(U).Pub.Res/2021-22 Date: 16.09.2021

### Finding out the Mother's & Father's Address

Name: Kaif and Daalit, Age: 4 years & 3 years. Name of Father or Mother: Unknown. Enrolled by: Staff of City Market Police Station enrolled the children to Govt. Shishu Mandir on 30.10.2019 for patronage. Place of birth: Unknown. Height: 92 Cms & 91 Cms. Body colour: Normal Wheatish. Face identified: - Condition of body & mind: Normal. Whom to Contact: Above Office Address & Phone Numbers.

Sd/- Superintendent,  
Shishu Mandir, W&C.D.D. B(U) Dist

DIPR/DDU/1628/AKAR/2021-22

**BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004**

BID No. E-24/2021-22 E-TENDERS Date: 16.09.2021

E-Tenders are invited for & behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only E-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have Class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence-S. No., Tender No. (Due Date), Description and Quantity.

- 05215185 (07.10.2021), User Interface with Display, 01 Set. 2. 05215186 (07.10.2021), Chain Pulley Block, 02 Nos. 3. 05215187 (07.10.2021), Filter Element, 10 Nos. 4. 05215191 (07.10.2021), Die & Punch for CNC, 01 Set. 5. 05215174 (08.10.2021), Electronics Board, 03 Nos. 6. 05215175 (08.10.2021), Pressure Gauge, 04 Nos. 7. 051910627H (13.10.2021), Steel Straight Edge 36", Part No. 15610457, 12 Nos. 8. 05215178 (14.10.2021), Recoil PU Hose Pipe, 100 Nos. 9. 05211052 (08.10.2021), Welding Torch PSF, Part No.76113966, 115 Nos. 10. 05215179 (08.10.2021), Digital VWheel Tread Diameter Gauge, 03 Nos. 11. 05191075D (11.10.2021), Gauge for Alignment of Driving, Part No.15630092, 20 Nos. 12. 05211077 (11.10.2021), Respirator for Welder, Part No.76219768, 9165 Nos. 13. 05215143A (13.10.2021), Retort for Furnace, 01 Nos. 14. 05215197 (13.10.2021), Spare Parts for Godrej & Velfort Fork Lifter, 01 Set. 15. 05215198 (13.10.2021), Drive Unit HD1 with Pulse Generator, 01 Set. 16. 09211063A, (18.10.2021), CIRCUIT MODULE PRG-304, to PL No. 18120817, 10 Nos. 17. 10211297, (13.10.2021), Sleeve Part No. 16210463, 982 Nos. 18. 10211362, (13.10.2021), Bolt-Main Bearing Part No. 16141593, 294 Nos. 19. 10211308, (18.10.2021), Spring Part No. 16160113, 8600 Nos. 20. 10211235A, (18.10.2021), Kit Cylinder Test Valve Asm Part No. 16350042, 47 Nos. 21. 10211216A, (02.11.2021), PIN - PISTON Part No. 16141441, 944 Nos. The details of above tenders are available on [www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in) and [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Corrigendum Notice:-  
S.N. 1, Tender No.: 05215185, Bid Inv. No. : 24, Existing due date : 07.10.2021, Revised due date : 30.09.2021  
All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged.

PR/LW/S-28 Principal Chief Material Manager  
f b t /blwvaranasi "Website: [www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in)"

**Timings**  
**DELHI**

<b>SUNDAY, SEP. 26</b>	RISE 06:12	SET 18:13
	RISE 21:32	SET 10:48
<b>MONDAY, SEP. 27</b>	RISE 06:12	SET 18:12
	RISE 22:13	SET 11:43
<b>TUESDAY, SEP. 28</b>	RISE 06:13	SET 18:11
	RISE 22:59	SET 12:37

**Delhi Weather**

	max	min
Delhi City	33	25
Safdarjang	33	25
Palam	32	25

**Delhi Palam Today**  
33°C One or two spells of light rain or thundershow may occur with partly cloudy sky and moderate winds.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
33°C Few spell of rain or thundershower with moderate winds likely at some places. Slight warm and humid day would prevail.

© Copyright SkyMet Weather 2019  
All rights reserved.

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

**IN BRIEF**

**BJP's tribute to Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya**

**NEW DELHI**  
The Delhi BJP on Saturday organised several programmes in the city to celebrate the 105th birth anniversary of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya. Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri distributed ration at several places in his Badarpur Assembly constituency. "It was the motto of Pt. Upadhyaya that work should be done for the upliftment of the poor," he said.

**Officials to visit kin of 25,000 COVID-19 victims**

**STAFF REPORTER**  
**NEW DELHI**  
The Delhi government on Saturday directed officials to visit the families of around 25,000 people who have died due to COVID-19, to inform them about the 'Mukhyamantri COVID-19 Parivar Arthik Sahayata Yojna'.  
The exercise should be completed in seven days, and during these visits officials should help families of the deceased to fill out application for the compensation, an order said.  
Under the relief scheme, a

**INTERVIEW | ASHUTOSH KAUSHIK**

**'Courts should start specifying penal as well as digital consequences'**

Why am I being hounded till now, rues reality show winner

**SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH**  
**NEW DELHI**  
*'Right to be forgotten' is a fairly new concept in India and the courts have so far given varying opinions on a case-by-case basis. The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018, refers to it as the ability of individuals to limit, delete, or correct disclosure of personal information on the Internet that is misleading, embarrassing, irrelevant, or anachronistic. The Delhi High Court is currently hearing two pleas, including one by two businessmen, that deal with this provision, and experts are watching closely for its implications on the law. Reality show star Ashutosh Kaushik speaks to The Hindu on his petition to remove certain online articles and videos relating to his arrest in a drunk driving incident in 2009. Excerpts:*



Ashutosh Kaushik

tacted my lawyer and decided to move the court.

**Why do you want to take the videos and articles down?**

■ If I have faced punishment for my offence, why am I still bearing the brunt of it? I had requested the news portals and channels to take down the stories but they declined. I have faced commercial damages due to these reports and videos. I have even stopped getting work in the entertainment industry. When the court has given me punishment, why should I continue to face 'digital punishment'?

**What happened in the drunk driving case?**

■ The day after the incident, I went to court where I pleaded guilty. The court sentenced me to one-day imprisonment. Now that I have faced the punishment, why am I being hounded till now? The court should specify penal as well as digital consequences.

**You won MTV Hero Honda Roadies 5.0 in 2007 and the second season of Big Boss in 2008, but your public appearances have dwindled**

in recent years. Why?

■ *Azadi ki value usi ko pata hai jisme ghumami dekhi ho* (the value of freedom is known only to those who have experienced slavery). If I had struggled in Mumbai, I would have known how to appreciate it. I had no knowledge of how to speak to people in the industry. My point is, if you are getting things in time, or even late then it's good. But, you should not get anything before your time, or else, it will go waste. It's been 10 years since the incident happened. It was a long time. People change.

**Being a celebrity and a public figure, can you really ask the media to be selective in portraying you?**

■ I am fighting for my rights. No media outlet will report that I go to schools and colleges to educate students against indulging in bad habits such as drunk driving. I run a YouTube channel under my name and all the proceeds from it go to charity.

**How will you prevent individuals from reposting the videos and articles on social media sites?**

■ My priority is to remove the videos and articles from mainstream news channels and big media houses. For any individual, I can only request them. There should be specific provisions in law that a person found guilty of a crime will face physical as well as digital punishment.

Benoy K. Behl, whose documentary captures the spirit of Cham, talks about the layers of meaning in the ritualistic dance

ANUJ KUMAR

The serene and the sacred seamlessly meet in Benoy K. Behl's documentary, *Dance of Liberation of the Lamas*, that captures the spiritual experience of the Cham.

The filmmaker and art historian recently gave a talk on the dance form at an online event organised by the India Habitat Centre.

According to Behl, the Cham is one of the very few living examples of the role of dance in ancient India both from the point of view of the practitioner and also the society for which it is performed.

Tracing its origins, the seasoned art historian and filmmaker says, "The Yogachara School of Buddhism was founded in Kashmir in the 4th century by Asanga and Vasubandhu. This developed into the sophisticated Vajrayana form of Buddhism, which incorporated the Cham dance. From Ladakh till Mongolia, the Cham is the deepest form of meditation of the Lamas."

The purpose of this meditation is for the Lama (priest) to be able to free himself entirely from his own ephemeral personality. "He selects a deity upon whom to meditate until the qualities of the deity grow within him and fill him completely. At that point, he is no longer the Lama ji, but has become the deity," says Behl.

**Unique cultural tradition**

The film captures the social connection between the Lamas and the people. Behl points out that most of the dance traditions have lost their true purpose of spiri-



Charm of Cham: A Lama performs the ritualistic dance. \*SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**Dance of the LAMAS**

tual awakening and have become mere stage performances. "Therefore, the Cham is a unique and important cultural tradition, which reminds us of the philosophical purpose of all Indian dance forms."

Behl was introduced to Cham about 30 years ago and it was after 15 years of research that he shot the documentary for Doordarshan.

To capture the drama of the dance, he began to shoot it sitting very close to the feet of the dancing monks. "In the film, you will notice the robes of the Lamas brushing past my camera's lens. During one such shoot, a few years ago, the sword of a dancing Lama came down on me, as he probably could not see through his mask. Fortunately, it hit the microphone mounted on top of the camera and I escaped unhurt," laughs Behl.

Every dance form has a story behind it that captures its essence. Cham is no different. According to Behl, the people of Tibet and those

who lived in the Indian part of the Himalayas believed that evil spirits resided in the mountains and in the winds. This fear prevented them from accepting the compassionate message of Buddhism. Guru Padmasambhava studied at the renowned Nalanda University, where he imbibed the knowledge of Tantric philosophy and rituals. "He used Cham to destroy the evil forces. Till today, he is revered in the entire Himalayan region."

The Lamas celebrate the victory of good over evil with two days of the monastic dance. Cham begins in the morning with the appearance of Lhalung Paldor. In the ninth century, King Langdarma had persecuted Buddhists. The monk, Lhalung Paldor, disguised as a black hat dancer, came close to the king and killed him with an arrow. The event is celebrated in all the monasteries of the trans-Himalayas as the majestic Black Hat Dance.

Carries deep layers in every twirl of the Lama. In Vajrayana Buddhism, says Behl, evil is not something outside of ourselves. "It is our own ego, our attachment to the illusory world around. It is subdued and transformed through prayers and finally through the experience of the Cham."

The costumes and masks are an integral part of the dance. "The masks are used to cover the ordinary, day-to-day nature of men and present qualities of divinity in them. So there are masks with peaceful and evil expressions. Finally, both symbolise the emptiness of the ultimate nature of all appearances," notes Behl.

All sounds in the Cham are sacred mantras. The drum is a reminder of the deep sound at the beginning of creation and at the moment of the Buddha's enlightenment. "Music is presented as an offering to the divine. It elevates the mind to a contemplative state," says Behl.

Once a great tradition that was practised in Ladakh, Lahaul, Spiti, Kinnaur, Tibet, southern China, and Mongolia, today Cham has been kept alive at annual celebrations in parts of Ladakh and Spiti. "In places frequented by tourists, the dance has lost its original character and meaning and has become a form of entertainment," rues Behl.

दिल्ली सरकार  
आप की सरकार

**RWAs, JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY TO HELP KEEP DENGUE AWAY**

10 हफ्ते  
10 बजे  
10 मिनट

RWA

All the RWAs in Delhi are requested to participate in Delhi Government's "10 Hafte 10 Baje 10 Minute" campaign, to protect their locality from Dengue. Let's go around our homes and localities to check for any signs of stagnant water. If we do find water stagnating, let's drain it, replace it regularly or cover it with a small layer of petrol or oil.

Come, let's play our part in fighting against dengue.

**DEFEAT DENGUE, EVERY SUNDAY**

Testing and treatment facilities are available free of cost in Delhi Government Hospitals

Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of NCT of Delhi  
Arvind Kejriwal  
Chief Minister, Delhi

**EVEN CORONA CANNOT GET IN THE WAY, TWO DROPS TO STOP POLIO THIS SUNDAY**

**26 September 2021**  
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Take your Child upto Five year of age to the nearest Polio Booth for giving Polio drops

**Pulse Polio Immunization facts**

- India has been declared Polio Free. However, Polio Vaccination will continue till global eradication of polio is achieved until danger of Polio virus importation from neighbouring countries persists.
- Routine immunization is the key to sustaining polio free status of the country.
- Routine immunization to infants & young children is essential. It protects children from 12 serious diseases and is available free of cost at all govt. health facilities through out the year.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, DELHI GOVERNMENT  
PULSE POLIO CELL: 23813210  
7th Floor, C-Wing, Vikas Bhawan-II, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054

दिल्ली सरकार  
आप की सरकार

CLASSIFIEDS

thehinduads.com

LIFE MADE SIMPLE

MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

INDEX OF MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

BRIDES WANTED

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

Classification common for Brides, Bridegrooms, Brides & Grooms

Assamese

Awadhi

Bengali

Bhojpuri

Bihari

Chhattisgarhi

English

Gujarati

Haryanvi

Hindi

Kannada

Kashmiri

Konkani

Malayalam

Manipuri

Marathi

Marwari

Nepali

Oriya

Parsi

Punjabi

Saurashtra

Sindhi

Tamil

Telugu

Tulu

Urdu

Advocate

Business

Defence

Doctor

Engineer

Finance/ Banking

Government/ Quasi-Govt.

IAS/ Allied Services

Information Technology

MBA/ CA/ ICWA

NRI

Cosmopolitan

Divorcee

Physically Challenged

MARRIAGE BUREAUS

WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS

COSMOPOLITAN

TRICHUR BASED Malayale Ezhava girl Beautiful 35, 5.3 Aayilam masters degree from British University Reputed family seek alliance from Professionals from India and Allowed of same status. Ph - 9809233060, 9605575318

UNMARRIED, 43, 5.6ft, Uthiram. MA MPhil MSc, Lecturer seeks well-settled groom. Tamil Hindu/Kerala Christian parents. wedin2021@gmail.com

DIVORCEE

HINDU, 39 Graduate divorcee (No Issues), Seeks Well settled groom below 43 Caste No Bar. Mobile No 9962572420, 9597645778

DOCTOR

CSI NADAR, 25/154, MBBS, working. Medium complexion seeks CSI good looking Doctor Groom below 30. Send Details to: tony1796@gmail.com

RC MUDALIYAR, 29Yrs, Doctor. Doctor. Seeks Doctor Groom, IAS, IPS, IFS, Group I, Pillai, Vanniyanu No Bar. Contact: 94422210729.

TAMIL VISWAKARMA Govt Doctor Bride MD (GM) 31/67 Fair Vishagam Seeks Doctors / Govt Officer Bride-groom. Ct: 9445964285

CSI NADAR Gynaecologist (MMS) 32/5.8, Chennai seeks Doctor, B.E in MNC. 9940543201

Doctor Parents need MD/MS, 30-32 yrs upr Brahmin for MD Girl 5.8\*29 yrs Contact: 9826175777

MALAYALAM

HINDU EZHAVA Doctor girl MBBS, Doing MD in AIIMS, 156 cm, 21/06/94, 1.08 cm, Progressive family, Seeking alliance from professionals, preferably doctors. 9847390318, 9446055997, mynasandram@gmail.com

NAIR (VANIYA) girl, 29 Yrs, M.Tech. Gazetted Officer, Scientist, National Informatics Centre, Delhi (Ht), seeks suitable alliance from well educated boys. Caste no bar. 9947788789

EZHAVA MALAYALI girl, 33 years, 151 cm, Furuntathi, B.Tech, MBA (IM, Bangalore), working in International Monetary Fund (IMF), Washington DC, USA as a Financial Consultant. We are inviting suitable proposals. Caste No Bar. Contact Number: 9447710558

Suitable Groom for Ezhava Central Govt Officer, 46 Years, Unmarried, New Delhi, 36 LPA Contact Email Id: nivedita4637@gmail.com.

MALAYALEE Girl 41, MDS Chennai, MS USA, working in US as Family. Parents settled in Chennai seeks Alliance from well Qualified Professionals. Contact 9444769359, 044 22241922.

BRIDES WANTED

TAMIL

WANTED A Groom for the female aged 25, deg: MA Philosophy Caste: SC, Father is a PSU employee (DGM cad), Mother Retd St. Govt Nursing School. Groom should be from well established family. Caste: No bar. Ph: 9442254631

BRIDES WANTED

TAMIL

CSI CHRISTIAN NADAR Girl Fair, Good Looking, 03-04-1986 born / 152cm / M.Sc.Phil. working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Women's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private), Suitable Alliance, Employed / Settled in Chennai / With Clean Habits from Same Community. Contact: 9941812514

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Age 27, Doctor. Groom Wanted. Contact: Kani-9444676645

CSI-NADAR/ 29YRS/ 156cm/ MBBS/ Doctor/ Upper Middle Class/ Seeks Groom Age 29 - 35/ MBBS, MD/ MS/ Doctor/ NADAR/ Chennai, Vellore / India/ CT: 9092549049

SC AD CSI 37/147 cm Dip nurse at Kuwait 1.5 lacs pm-Seeks suitable person Christian/Hindu Medical/Engg to settle at Kuwait.Ct: 96566425699.

MUSLIM 28/168 MD PEAD Seeks prof qualified bridegroom. Ct 8220042091 mdullahsafi@gmail.com

NADAR FAIR slim Beautiful 27/155 PG MNC, Chennai 12L/pa seeks fair trim clean habits IAS/ IRS/ Professional good family Chennai groom, born after Jan 1992. Ct: 9840345669

CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE 26Yrs, CSI, Ad, Chennai. Planning for LLM in US. Email: dr.rajus@gmail.com, 6380498494

VERY RICH and renowned Christian Nadar family with a large business background, wish to have a groom for their beautiful daughter (31 Years) who has finished her MBA in a foreign University. The groom should be well educated from a Very rich family. Contact: 9500026119

AD 25/163 BHMS Doctor Pvt. Hospital seeks Tamil-cultured Well-Educated Settled Dr/Engg/Govt./Bank Officer Groom with Age 30 & Below. 9444220872

HINDU PILLAI 28/167 MS Employed Netherland seeks suitable groom working in Europe.Caste no bar 9894721659

HINDU MUKKULATHORE, Magam Star, 26/170cm, HR Analyst Bengaluru, Seeks Professionally Qualified, Family Oriented Bridegroom from South/Bengaluru/Europe with any of the below Compatible Stars - Bharani, Thiruvathirai, Poomam, Swathi, Anusam, Thiruvonam, Sadhayam, Uthirattathi, Pooram, Hastham, Sub Castes/Inter-caste acceptable \* 0965313500, gopinath.thamarajan@gmail.com.

HINDU NADAR 25/ 163 Pooram M.Arch Fair Seeks Educated well Employed/ Business. Ct: 9444431363

HINDU NADAR Pooratadi 22/165 BE (MBA) Fair seeks Educated Chennai Based Wellsettled Family.9840366663

VELLALAR PILLAI/ Mudaliar Barani 33/162 Govt. Dr. MD (Ped) 3rd year seeks suitable groom. 9944227082

VANNIYAKULAKSHATRIYA, AGE 27, B.E, MHRM, 165, Belongs to Chennai based reputed business family seeks well educated, Business with clean habits from elite affluent family. Mob: 9444147147

VANNIYAKULAKSHATRIYA, AGE 29, M.Sc Psychology, 174, Belongs to Chennai based a reputed business family seeks well educated, Business with clean habits from elite affluent family. Mob: 9445093070

HINDU VANNIAR 37/160 thiruvathirai MBBS DGO Govt. Wheetish seeks prof. groom 7812876681, 8754390535

HINDU RAJAKULA AGAMUDAYAR girl, US Citizen, 25 / 170 cm, Fair, MS from Princeton University, Employed, seeks equally Qualified Groom from the same Community, currently working and Residing in the US. WhatsApp No: +001 6154984448, VM95Family@gmail.com

TN GOVT GROUP A officer 54/163 goodlooking unmarried Hindu Ad/PAI girl from CNB good groom below 60 Govt/ Professional sreemadhuj321@gmail.com

HINDU Adi-Dravida Hastham Kanni 26/154 BE IT Analyst, TCS Chennai seeks suitable Groom/Public sector Unit Groom from Same Caste. 9444157871

26, FAIR, affluent, M.S. S.A. in U.S. working in a reputed firm, seeks a well settled groom. CNB. 9489935653

36 YRS, kallar, Govt. Doctor, Trichy, ayilam seeks suitable bridegroom, 9787621432.

THONDAI MANDALA Saiva Vellalar, 28 yrs, III year MD (Anaesth), Govt College, Chennai, slim, wheatish bride, middle class nuclear family, seeks Groom/Engg/MBA/1st officer, age 36-43, tall, fair, FC/BC, Metro city, abroad. Contact: 9870612583.

Hindu SC-AD Simmam Pooram-2, 29/160, B.Tech, Software Engineer, Chennai seeks Educated Groom. Ct: 9677237576

KONGU VELLALAR Gownder 24Yrs, B.E, MBA, Senior Analyst, Pvt. Chennai, Seeks Groom in same Caste. 8667377680

TAMIL VISWAKARMA 39/150 Tamil Thiruvonam/ RICH/ ME, seeks suitable Same Caste Groom. 9486320982.

PILLAI/MUDALIAR, 25 B.E Kettai Working in Leading MNC, Reputed Business Family Seeks Alliance. 9840093322

DKV 27/167 Fair BE, TCS Chennai, Parents Hindu/CSI, Seeks Groom Dr/ Er. Groom Employee. Ct: 8056143638

HINDU AD/PR Widow 37/160 ME no child, Lecturer at Trichy seeks edu groom, CNB Age upto 42 Ct: 9571105111

HINDU NADAR 27/168 BE / PGDM Bank Rs15 Lakh seeks suitable Bride-groom above 15 Lakh 8072432922

HINDU SC PR Kongu 1984 MBBS DCH Doctor, working in Govt Hospital seeks suitable groom. Ct: 9443640973.

BRIDES WANTED

TAMIL

WANTED A Groom for the female aged 25, deg: MA Philosophy Caste: SC, Father is a PSU employee (DGM cad), Mother Retd St. Govt Nursing School. Groom should be from well established family. Caste: No bar. Ph: 9442254631

PILLAI, 27 B.Tech, 165cm Fair, Well Settled Family Seeks Suitable Groom, CNB, Ct: 8778514465 / 7200866346

MUDALIAR: 23/162, V.Fair, Graduate (UK), Father Business, Elite Family, Only daughter, Seeks groom - Abroad/Business - 7305810258

CHETTIAR (CNB) 500cr, V.Fair, 25/165, MBBS, MS(OG) Having own Industry, Complex, Warehouse, Chennai Seeks Groom-Business/ Doctor- 8925019776

MUDALIAR (CNB): 30 / F, Masters (UK), Elite Business Family, Chennai, Seeks groom - well placed India/ Abroad / Business - 8939012419

HINDU NADAR Girl 29/5'4" MBA (IM) 20L/p.a Dabur, Delhi, Seeks Mumbai/ Delhi Employed Groom. Ct: 9500026119

HASTHAM, 33/154 fair MCA Upper midl Clas Seeks Mudaliar/Pillai Professionally Qualified Groom 8220757159

M BRAHMIN, F Pillai SADAYAM 25/160 MBA seek Educated Employ Veg groom 6374388838/ sujahakp09@gmail.com

Tamil Brahmin Iyer, Vadamal Seek Nadar for Professionally Qualified Affluent Girl 24yrs Chennai Contact: 16daks@gmail.com

ASTASHASRAM, IYER, Revathi, Oct 1972, B.Sc, Seeks well educated/ settled 1st Marriage Iyer Groom only. BHP: sree.lashmi108@gmail.com

Affluent Chennai Family Brahmin inter-caste seeks Affluent Brahmin / Veg Groom for Daughter 24/165, M.Arch. Call: 8625410449

IYER, VADAMA, Vadoola, Karthikai Feb-92/162cms, Ms PhD Now working at Cambridge London as Researcher and doing post Doc, seeks suitable grooms employed in United Kingdom. Ph: 08304875882, 09656630350

MUDALIAR

30/155, Bharani, B.Tech, working in US (H1B) seeks Software Prof. Working / willing to go US Groom with clean habits Contact: 98840 91279/98406 97596 E-Mail: vishnusuresh9816@gmail.com

TELUGU

YADHAVA NAIDU Girl, Maham, 27/152, CTS, Salary 65k, Seeking groom (Any Telugu/Tamil/Marathi Preferable). Ct: 7200901366/9884001366

BALIJA NAIDU Magam 45 age MCA, divorcee without issue Manager Amazon USA, green card holder, Seeks well settled groom working in USA, decent family, Subsect no bar. Contact: 9444955180, 9047225719.

ROYAL ELITE Hyderabad Naidu 25 MBBS MS own Hospital(5) Granite Factory Shopping Malls Etc..500 Crs. Familyseeks Rich groom : 9884510869

EX MAYOR (Andhra) Daughter Naidu 25/ B.E only Daughter Rich above 1000 Crs. Familyseeks only Telugu caste. Ct: 9884510761

HINDU TELUGU Chettiyar 32Yrs MD Anaesthetist, Chennai seeks suitable Hindu Groom, caste no bar (FC/BC) only. Ct: 9965549191, 94425-00590.

KAMMA NAIDU 25, Fair 162/52 MBBS, MD, Reputed Family Seeks Bridegroom. Ct: 9787668282

NAIDU GAVARA Girl 35/172 cm, MSc, Poorathali, Kumbam, Upper Middle Class, Seeks Equally Well Educated Employed Alliance / Business Groom from Same Community, 9842470621, 9489201033.

NAIDU, 23/157, FAIR, BE, MBA, SWEN-GR, SRM Tech, 4Lac. PA, Well Settled Family, CNB. 7299576644, 7299576666

SEEKING UK based South Indian Brahmin preferably PG from Law School for a Telugu brahmin girl PG law Oxford 25/168 Koushika from bureaucratic family Ph: 9448092780

GROOM WANTED

REDDY/REDDIAR M.TECH(IT), IIT Software Engineer in MNC Bangalore, Sept 95 born/5'3" charming and intelligent girl seeks highly qualified handsome groom preferably IIT/IIM background well placed in MNCs or owning a start-up, working in Bangalore. Proposal from Bangalore based Doctor/I.A.S./K.A.S is also welcome. Father is a serving senior I.A.S. Officer. Call: 9110266326 e-mail: subrasuraj1995@gmail.com

GROOM WANTED

KAMMA UNMARRIED 1980 Born, 5'5" MS USA Green Card Very Fair Same Caste & Abroad Groom Only. 7780587530 / 98856 63944. Email: subhask234@gmail.com

Telugu Viswakarma Girl 24, Fair, M, Arch Chennai requires suitable bride groom. WhatsApp details 94440 11069

URDU

DOCTOR / MD BRIDE SEEKS Well settled SMU parents seek completed or pursuing MD/ MS Doctors or well settled Engineers with height 5'10" and above aged between 30 to 34 yrs for their daughter fair, 5'6" completed MD working in reputed hospital in Chennai. Mob: 91 98415 24064

BRIDES WANTED

BENGALI

WB, Kumbhakar fair handsome 28+, 5'11", B.Tech EC, NIT Trichy, Working in Bangalore, Father Retired ISRO Engineer. Very beautiful, 5'6", less than 25 years, working in Bangalore preferred. Caste no bar. Also preferred. 9496879814/9446480814.

TAMIL

ALLIANCE FOR Hindu, Adi Dravida, MBBS 29. 9025333991

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYA Doctor M.D., D.M., slim fair good looking 45/ 175 own hospital 5lac p.m, well settled clean habits rich family divorcee issuesless seeks bride fair and slim doctor or any graduate from decent family unmarried/ divorcee below 39. No expectation cbl 6382218317

BUSINESS

Affluent, Cultured Catholic Family of High repute seeks Alliance for their accomplished Son - 32 Years, Post Graduate Engineer, Running Family Owned Educational Institutions and Business. Looking for an Educated Bride from a well Established, High Profile Family. Caste no bar. Contact Email: ardfamily132@gmail.com

COSMOPOLITAN

Velama Never Married, Hindu Cast No Bar, 43/174 Double MS/Ph.D US Citizen Seeks Slim Girl US/Canada. Contact Parents Only 9966537784

ELITE RICH, Mudaliyar, 1986/182 Mtech; MS Sweden, Uthiradam seeks suitable bride. 919884187197.

Hindu US Cit 46 B.Sc MA Unmarried padmaganisamy@gmail.com, Manager, seeks age 38-41. Ct:7395881522

DIVORCEE

BRAHMIN, ENGR, 38yrs, Poorattadi, Divorced, well settled in Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9884821741/ 9962650932

TAMIL BRAHMIN Divorced 40/182 NRI employed in global company in East-em Europe looking for North / South Indian brahmin girls without issues. No demands simple marriage, contact on whatsapp +919246109979.

DOCTOR

THEYVAR AGAMUDAYAR 29/159 Thiruvonam, MSc Practise at Coimbatore, seeks suitable bride. Ct: 9944496853

HINDI

1985/175CM. IT. 25 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

DOCTOR

THEYVAR AGAMUDAYAR 29/159 Thiruvonam, MSc Practise at Coimbatore, seeks suitable bride. Ct: 9944496853

HINDI

1985/175CM. IT. 25 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

DOCTOR

THEYVAR AGAMUDAYAR 29/159 Thiruvonam, MSc Practise at Coimbatore, seeks suitable bride. Ct: 9944496853

HINDI

1985/175CM. IT. 25 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

Exclusive matchmaking service for the elite

ELITE BRIDES WANTED

BRAHMIN, 34, 193 cms, Businessman, Masters in Engineering from Pennsylvania State University, Lives in Chennai. Parents are into Business. Looking for a well educated match. Contact: 6366448346

YADAV, 29, 170 cms, Businessman, Bachelors from a reputed Institute, Lives in Bangalore. Father is into Business. Looking for a compatible match. Contact: 6366448346

DEVAR, 29, 165 cms, MS Engg, Software Professional, Lives in Canada. Father is a Businessman. Family is affluent. Looking for a compatible and well educated Bride from any community. Contact: 6366448344

GOUNDER/CASTE NO BAR, 35, 175 cms, MSc Agricultural, Civil service, Lives in Chennai, Family is affluent. Looking for a compatible and well educated match. Contact: 6366448344

NADAR, 28, 170 cms, Not Working, Pursuing Masters in Medicine, Lives in Chennai. Father is into Business. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible medical profession match. Contact: 6366448346

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

BRAHMIN, 25, 165 cms, Bachelors in Engineering, Software Professional, Lives in Chennai. Father is a Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a compatible and well educated match. Contact: 6366448345

BRAHMIN, 28, 163 cms, Professional, MA(LLB) from premier Institute, Lives in Chennai. Father is retired and Mother is a professional. Looking for a like minded and well educated match. Contact: 6366448343

PILLAI, 28, 163 cms, Doctor, MD, Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is affluent. Looking for a compatible and well educated doctor match from Mudaliyar/ Pillai community. Contact: 6366448344

NADAR, 23, 160 cms, Not Working, Masters in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a well educated match from the same community. Contact: 6366448346

NADAR, 25, 165 cms, Entrepreneur, MBA, Lives in Chennai. Father is into Business. Family is affluent. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from Nadar community. Contact: 6366448344

Call for Free Consultation 99629 7600 www.elitematrimony.com

HINDI

LINGAYAT WIDOWER 43/5'8" Handsome Business 24LPA Cast No Bar. Prof. Arch. Civil engg. Call 9607939311

MALAYALAM

NAIR BOY, 36, B.Tech. (IIT MI), MBA (IIMC), 170cm, Thiruketta, working in contract, Chennai, family with Tri-vandrum, financially sound. Contact: 8281325227

VANKAVASIYA (Chettiyar) youth 02/06/1975, 189 cms, Poonruttathi, Central Govt. Servant. M.S. MCA. Contact: 9744015049

# Allot land to the evicted, Assam CM told

Students' union accuses govt. of pre-planned move to instigate people in Sipajhar violence case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

The All Assam Minority Students' Union (AAMSU) on Saturday set a seven-day deadline for Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma to allot land for thousands of people being evicted from large swathes of government land in Darrang district's Sipajhar.

The union also accused the State administration of a pre-planned move to instigate the people by not giving them sufficient time to vacate the land.

"We did meet the Chief Minister on the Gorukhuti project [reclamation of 77,000 bighas of government land from squatters] and decided that the people will be given space elsewhere to re-settle. But there was a disconnect between the CM and the Darrang district administration, which showed no interest in the resettlement of the people to be evicted," AAMSU president Rejaul Karim Sarkar said in northern



APCS members submit a memorandum to Governor Jagdish Mukhi requesting intervention in the Sipajhar eviction case, at Raj Bhavan in Guwahati on Friday. ■PTI

Assam's Kharupetia.

He said the eviction notice was given to 244 families in Dhalpur No. 3 village at midnight and were asked to vacate within a few hours.

**No time given**

"They did not give time to the people to dismantle their houses and three mosques. Although the people agreed to shift quietly, the police started damaging their belongings and setting them on

fire. This agitated the villagers," Mr. Sarkar said.

**Impartial probe**

The AAMSU leader said the government must allot land within seven days for the displaced families. "We have agreed to move out, but there is no clarity on where they will go. We cannot trust the district authorities since 800 families evicted on September 20 were shown an inhabitable area where 300 fa-

**Assam's land policy says people living on government land for 10-15 years are entitled to land rights. But here, the government evicted people settled for more than 50 years inhumanely**

AMINUL ISLAM  
AIUDEF legislator

families are already living," he said.

In Guwahati, a team of eight All India United Democratic Front (AIUDEF) legislators submitted a memorandum to Governor Jagdish Mukhi demanding an impartial probe into the Sipajhar incident where two people, including a minor, were shot dead.

"Assam's land policy says people living on government land for 10-15 years are entitled to land rights. But here, the government evicted people settled for more than 50

years inhumanely," AIUDEF legislator Aminul Islam said. Muslims in Assam have been harassed in the name of National Register of Citizens, D (doubtful) voters, declared foreigners, population control bill, cattle protection and such policies, he said.

"It seems that the Chief Minister and his government derive sadistic pleasure from killing and harassing poor people belonging to the minority community. This is being done to please their BJP and RSS masters since the Hindutva forces are losing ground elsewhere in the country," Mr. Islam said.

He said it was natural for people with their backs to the wall to react. "If you strike a beehive, won't the bees sting? The Constitution of India bestows the right to private defence, but that does not mean they should be shot. A CM is for all communities, not for Hindus alone," he said.

# BKU will remain apolitical, says Tikait

'Farmer unions ready to discuss a law guaranteeing MSP with government'

ANUJ KUMAR  
GHAZIABAD

The poll pundits are watching which way the Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) would tilt during the upcoming Assembly polls in Uttar Pradesh. In an interview with *The Hindu*, Rakesh Tikait, BKU national spokesperson, said the union would remain apolitical and that he had no political ambitions. "We are farmers and not into politics. Those who will work for their interests, farmers will elect them on their own," he said.

There are indications that the U.P. government would increase the State Advisory Price (SAP) of sugarcane soon. Mr. Tikait said the BJP would try to distract farmers before the polls. "The party promised ₹370 [per quintal] before the 2017 polls. Even if they increase the SAP after four years, the party has a lot to answer. Considering the inflation, the farmers would not settle for less than ₹425," he said.

Refusing to take credit for mounting the farmers' movement in western Uttar Pradesh, Mr. Tikait said the BKU would continue to work as a pressure group to keep a check on the promises made by political parties to the farmers. "The movement has



Rakesh Tikait

given an opportunity to Opposition parties to become the face of farmers. How will it pan out, I don't know. I have no political ambition," he said.

**Baghpat event**

Describing the ritual ceremony of former Rashtriya Lok Dal president Ajit Singh in Baghpat as a "social event", he said political meanings should not be drawn out of his elder brother and BKU president Naresh Tikait's presence at the event last week. "You will not see me sharing the political stage with Jayant (Chaudhary) or any political leader. We pay tributes to Chaudhary Devi Lal on his birth anniversary as well but that doesn't mean we are politically aligned with the In-

dian National Lok Dal."

On the notion that the BKU cadre would put its weight behind the RLD, Mr. Tikait said there were many in the movement who would eventually vote for the BJP. "There are many who render all support to the movement but I know they will go with the BJP because of local pressures. If the government decides to increase the sugarcane price, it will benefit all farmers, not farmers of a particular caste or religion."

However, he didn't rule out the possibility of members of the Tikait family entering the fray. "I can guarantee only about my vote. I can't assure you of even my wife's."

From raising religious slogans to talking about pensions for personnel of paramilitary forces and permanent jobs for sanitation workers, Mr. Tikait, in his speeches, gives an impression that he is seeking space in the political arena. The movement, he said, had become like a train, where different bogies represent different social classes.

"The movement has given us a platform to reach out to them and foster social amity. The Constitution gives us permission to raise religious

chants. After the Muzaffarnagar mahapanchayat, Muslim farmers tolled bells in temples. Can the BJP make them do this?" he said. "We have realised the Muzaffarnagar riots were sponsored by the BJP."

Referring to the tension between Gurjars and Rajputs over Samrat Mihir Bhoj's statue and the mahapanchayat called by Gathwala khap of Jats in Muzaffarnagar on Sunday, Mr. Tikait said the ruling party was at it again. "They have a specialised wing that works on dividing people, while we seek to mend ties," he said.

Mr. Tikait said farm unions were keen to talk if the government was ready to discuss a law that guaranteed the MSP to farmers. "This government lies to the public. When they put the condition that the laws would not be revoked, we said as the farm laws are currently suspended, we could talk on the MSP law, but there was no response."

On the practicality of the MSP law in a free-market economy, he said when the business houses could put a price tag on their products and the law backs it, why can't farmers get even an assured minimum price on their produce.

# Man acquitted of charges of abducting, raping minor

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court recently acquitted a man for kidnapping and raping a minor. It held "the evidence suggests that the physical relationship between them was consensual".

The case dates back to 2015, when the minor was studying in Class IX.

The man's advocate said the prosecution has failed to prove that the victim was a minor. He also said that the girl's brother said he was 27 years old at the time of the incident and that the girl was five younger to him.

**TO ADVERTISE  
PLEASE CONTACT**

**Mr. N SELVA KUMAR**

**PH: 9820350726**

[selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in](mailto:selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in)

**THE HINDU**  
India's National Newspaper

# Maharashtra govt. calls off Health Dept. recruitment exam

Rajesh Tope blames firm arrangements were outsourced to

STAFF REPORTER  
MUMBAI

In a major embarrassment for the Maharashtra government, recruitment examination for 6,200 posts in the Public Health Department had to be postponed on Friday night. The exam was scheduled on Saturday for which over six lakh applicants had enrolled.

The State government claimed that the company to whom the responsibility of making necessary arrangements was outsourced, was unable to fulfill the duty. As per the schedule, on September 25 and 26, examination for the Group C and Group D posts were to be held respectively.

**Shows carelessness**

The Opposition and student bodies slammed the State government over its carelessness and appointing a company which was already blacklisted demanding inquiry and action against officials involved.

According to the statement issued by the State's Public Health Department, the next date of the examination will be announced only after fulfilling all the techni-



The next date of the examination will be announced only after fulfilling all the technical requirements, the government department said. ■FILE PHOTO

cal requirements.

"The examinations are being postponed because outsourced company Nyasa Communications Pvt. Ltd. could not make the necessary arrangements for the exams in due time," it said. State's Public Health Minister Rajesh Tope apologised to the students and their families for the trouble.

"The Health Department extended all necessary cooperation to conduct the exam to the company. Despite all the cooperation and help, the company conveyed on September 24 at 7 p.m. that it could not finish preparations of providing hall tickets and making seating arrangements," the statement said.

As per the company's agreement with the State government, the Health Department was to provide question papers; rest of the arrangements, including designing website, online applications, provide hall ticket, make sitting arrangements and publish merit list was to be done by the said company.

Leader of the Opposition Devendra Fadnis demanded inquiry into the incident alleging middlemen having infiltrated the system leading to its collapse. "The State government cannot do away with its responsibility. It cannot do a single work properly. It messes everything that it touches," he said.

**H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
"HIM PARIVESH", PHASE III,  
NEW SHIMLA-171009

**Public Notice**

According to the provisions of EIA Notification No. SO 1533 dated 14-09-2006, HP State Pollution Control Board invites suggestions, views, comments and objections on the proposal of M/s A-One Enterprises, (Smt. Monika Garg Prop.), House No. 603, Sector-7, Panchkula, Haryana for extraction /collection of Stone Boulders, Bajri & Sand (Mining of minor minerals) @ 94,386 TPA at Khasra No. 368/288/239/2 (Leased land), falling in Mauza and Mohal-Bangran, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, Distt. Sirmour over an area of 4.2441 Hectares (50-07 Bighas). The aforesaid Project Proponent has submitted Executive Summary (both in Hindi and English) and Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report (Draft EIA Report) (in English only) related to the aforesaid unit for the purpose of perusal by all concerned.

Local affected persons and others having plausible stake in the environmental impacts of the project may inspect the Executive Summary available (both in Hindi and English) and Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan (in English only) as submitted by the project proponent in the offices of: (i) Director (Environment, S&T), Department of Environment, Science & Technology, Paryavaran Bhawan, Near U.S. Club, Shimla H.P.- 171001. (ii) District Magistrate, Sirmour at Nahani Distt. Sirmour, H.P. (iii) Chairman, Zila Parishad, Sirmour at Nahani, Distt Sirmour (iv) District Industries Centre, Sirmour at Nahani, Distt. Sirmour, H.P. (v) Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Pearson Road, FRI Campus, New Forest, Dehradun-248006. (vi) Regional Officer, H.P. State Pollution Control Board, Paonta Sahib Distt. Sirmour, H.P. (vii) Headquarter of the H.P. State Pollution Control Board, "Him Parivesh" Phase-II, New Shimla-171009 during normal working hours on any working day till the Public Hearing is over. In addition to this, these documents shall be also available in the office of the Sub Divisional Magistrate, Paonta Sahib, Distt. Sirmour, H.P. & also on the website of the State Board ([www.hppcb.nic.in](http://www.hppcb.nic.in)). Suggestions, views, comments and objections from local affected persons and others having plausible stakes in the environment impacts of the project will be accepted by the State Board up to 27-10-2021.

Environmental Public Hearing related to the proposal of above-mentioned unit is proposed at Temple Hall, Main Road, Village Bangran, Tehsil Paonta Sahib, Distt. Sirmour, H.P. on 27-10-2021 at 12:30 P.M. Local affected persons and others having plausible stake in the environment impacts of the projects are also invited to participate in the aforesaid Public Hearing. The traveling and incidental costs to attend the Public Hearing shall be borne by the participants themselves.

(APOORV DEVGAN, I.A.S.)  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
H.P. STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, SHIMLA

**CHENNAI BENGALURU INDUSTRIAL CORRIDOR-TUMAKURU INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP LTD (CBIC-TITL)**

5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.  
Phone No. 22267900, Fax : 22267901 website : [www.kiadb.in](http://www.kiadb.in)  
email: [mdbcic23@gmail.com](mailto:mdbcic23@gmail.com)

No. CBICITL/ENGG/ETND-EP-01/7816/2021-22 Date: 24.09.2021

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)

Request For Qualification cum Request For Proposal (RFQ cum RFP) under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 and other relevant Acts through electronic procurement, Government of Karnataka from eligible Agencies, firm, companies, etc who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Sl. No	Name of the Work	Approx cost put to tender (Rs.in Crores) (Including all Taxes and GST)	Bid Security (Rs. in Crores)	Time for completion including Monsoon
1	Design, Construction, Testing, Commissioning and Operation & Maintenance of Infrastructure Works at Activation Area Phase-A of Tumakuru Industrial Node under CBIC Scheme, Vasanthanasapura Industrial Area 4th Phase, Tumakuru Taluk & District including Roads, Cross Drainage Structures, Bridges, Utilities, Area Landscaping, Potable & recycle Water Supply Network, Firefighting System, Storm Water Drainage, Residential/Industrial Sewage Network, Industrial Effluent Collection Network, Power infrastructure work including Substation, Sewage/Effluent Pumping Stations, Rising Mains, Water Treatment Plant (WTP), Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP), Administrative Building on EPC Basis including 4 year Operation and Maintenance.(2nd Call)	840.00	16.80	36 Months

The salient features of the project, eligibility criteria and prescribed formats for submission can be accessed in the RFQ cum RFP document uploaded on the website from Government of Karnataka Procurement Portal [www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in](http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in) after 27.09.2021.

Sd/-  
Managing Director, CBICITL, Bengaluru

DIPR/DDU/ZeN/R.O:1684/2021-22

**STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.**

Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

**OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE**

**DEATH**

**OBITUARY**

**Varadaraja Gopalan**  
ex-Liptons, 94 years  
passed away peacefully in  
Hyderabad on 21-09-2021.  
Deeply mourned by  
Jaya (wife) Ravi, Swarnalata, Suri (children)  
Ph: 040-29553961

**Prof P N Gururajan**  
(15.10.1946 - 20.09.2021)  
Attained Lotus feet of Sriman Narayana  
His 10<sup>th</sup> day ceremony on the 29.09.2021  
Sons, Daughters and Grandchildren  
Ph: 9884097448

For enquiries on announcements in this section, please contact our office at the following number between 10a.m. and 8p.m.  
New Delhi : 011- 43579797  
Rate for New Delhi: (Minimum Rs. 320/- 2 Lines  
Extra Line - Rs.160/-)  
(B/W Display): Rs.60/Per Sq.cm  
(C/Ir Display) : Rs.70/Per Sq.cm  
Log on to [www.thehinduads.com](http://www.thehinduads.com)  
For Placing Advertisements Online

**DEATH**

**SAD DEMISE**

**Sri S. Ramanathan**  
(Ex Firestone Tyres)  
Attained Almighty's Lotus Feet  
on 24th Sept 2021 7.25 am  
Deeply mourned by  
Wife Bhavani, Sons Shekar, Raghuram and their families and a lot of Friends and Relatives.  
+91 9003233129  
[ramanathan\\_bhavani@yahoo.com](mailto:ramanathan_bhavani@yahoo.com)

**REMEMBRANCE**

**1st YEAR REMEMBRANCE**

**K.S. ANANTHALAKSHMI (77)**  
W/o. Late. K.S. ANANTHANARAYANAN  
Daughter in law. Late. K.M. SUBRAMANIAM  
Ex.M.L.A., T. Nagar  
Fondly remembered by:  
A.VEDASUBRAMANIAM, A. SRIRAM  
A.GANESH, A.SHARADA,  
Grand Children & Relatives  
9444034122 / 97102 03636

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](http://www.thehinduads.com)  
DONATE EYES-GIFT SIGHT

**KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**  
Central Offices, Stores and Purchase Dept., K.H. Road,  
Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO. 04 DATED: 22.09.2021**  
Tenders (Pre-qualification and or commercial offers) through e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>) are invited for supply the following goods / services:

Tender No.	Nomenclature	Tender Value in Lakhs Rs. (Approx)	Last date for submission of tender @ 17:00 Hrs.
G-17/21-22	Procurement of PVC Leather Cloth / Vinyl Coated Fabric.	900.00	26.11.2021
G-18/21-22	Procurement of Automotive Glasses.	1300.00	26.11.2021
G-19/21-22	Procurement of 2K PU Paints & Allied Materials.	1300.00	26.11.2021
G-20/21-22	Procurement of Tyre & Tube patches.	170.00	26.11.2021
G-21/21-22	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of DG Sets on Turnkey Basis.	80.00	26.10.2021
G-22/21-22	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Welding machine on Turnkey basis.	25.00	26.10.2021
G-23/21-22	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Screw type Air Compressor & Nitrogen generation Inflator suitable for tyre filling of passenger buses on turnkey basis.	110.00	26.10.2021
G-24/21-22	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Diesel Smoke meter with Engine RPM & Oil temperature gauge / sensor on turnkey basis.	20.00	26.10.2021
G-25/21-22	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Major Garage equipment's on turnkey basis.	350.00	26.10.2021
G-26/21-22	Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Minor Garage equipment's on turnkey basis.	60.00	26.10.2021

Tender numbers G-50/20-21 dated 19.03.2021 Procurement of 2K PU Paints & Allied Material, G-25/20-21 dated 23.12.2020 for the procurement of Tyre & tube patches, G-26/20-21 dated 23.12.2020 Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Plant & Machinery on turnkey basis, G-05/20-21 dated 11.11.2020 Supply and Installation of CCTV surveillance system and G-09/20-21 dated 11.11.2020 Procurement of Automotive Cables & Wires are been cancelled due to technical reasons.

Further any addendum / corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, scope, other tender terms and conditions etc, will be uploaded / published through e-portal only. **NOTE:** Interested suppliers need to register in the e-procurement portal. For further information log into <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>. In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell (Phone No. 080-22230960, 080-22234115). Interested suppliers may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. Mail to [eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com](mailto:eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com) for further information if required.

Sd/-, Controller of Stores & Purchases  
(Tender Inviting Authority)  
DIPR/DDU/LC/1679/2021-22

**STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.**

Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene



FROM PAGE ONE

## India is the mother of all democracies, says PM

“Our diversity is a symbol of our strong democracy, where dozens of languages and hundreds of dialects are examples of a vibrant democracy. It is Indian democracy’s strength that a small child who once helped his father at a tea stall is today representing India as its Prime Minister at the UN General Assembly,” said Mr. Modi, referring to himself in the third person.

The Prime Minister’s statement at the United Nations came a day after his visit to Washington, where both U.S. President Joseph Biden and Vice-President Kamala Harris had underlined the need for strengthening democracy and respecting human rights.

In his response to those comments, Mr. Modi had said that democracy was a shared value, with his remarks at the United Nations adding to that response, particularly his decision to provide his own personal example at the world body.

Turning to veiled references on Pakistan’s role in Afghanistan, Mr. Modi said “regressive mindsets were giving terrorism a political meaning”. “We must be alert that no country uses Afghanistan’s vulnerability for its own selfish interests to use it as a tool,” he added.

### Response to Imran

Earlier, in response to Pakistan PM Khan’s UNGA speech, Indian diplomat at the UN mission Sneha Dubey said he had “misused the UN platform to spread propaganda”, and accused Pakistan of giving terrorists a “free pass”, actively “harbouring and aiding” them while minorities faced attacks in the country.

“We keep hearing that Pakistan is a victim of terro-

rism. This country is an arsonist disguising itself as a firefighter,” Ms. Dubey said in her response to Mr. Khan, who had accused Mr. Modi’s government of promoting “hate-filled Hindutva ideology, propagated by the fascist RSS-BJP regime, [that] has unleashed a reign of fear and violence against India’s 200 million-strong Muslim community”.

Mr. Modi spent a considerable part of his speech on India’s response to the coronavirus pandemic and the scientific development of vaccines, including a “DNA vaccine, an mRNA vaccine and a nasal vaccine”. He extended an invitation to global vaccine manufacturers to “come, come to India and make vaccines”.

Confirming the government’s decision to restart vaccine exports through the international COVAX alliance, Mr. Modi said India has “resumed the process of providing vaccines to those who need it most in the world.”

### Credibility of UN

Mr. Modi said the credibility of the UN and other global governance bodies had suffered on account of the climate crisis, COVID, the global proxy war and terrorism, as well as the outcome of events in Afghanistan.

Quoting from Chanakya’s foreign policy treatise *Arthashastra*, Mr. Modi said “when the right action is not taken at the right time, then time ensures the failure of action.”

“If the UN wants to remain relevant it will need to improve its effectiveness and enhance its reliability,” he added, making a pitch for an expanded Security Council and multilateral reform.

## ‘Cooperative Society Act to be amended soon’

He said the PACS should be strengthened and taken to the grassroots, so that even the marginalised can avail credit. He added that in the next five years the government planned to increase the number of PACS from the existing 65,000 to 3 lakhs across the country.

“Suppose Diwali is around the corner and someone needs ₹1,000 to celebrate the festival. He had an income two months ago but does not immediately have

the money due to a medical emergency. Only PACS can help here. These units extend credit on the basis of compassion,” Mr. Shah said.

Speaking at the first Shikharit Sammelan or National Cooperative Conference, Mr. Shah said some people wondered why the Centre created this new Ministry as cooperatives are a State subject. Mr. Shah said cooperatives can contribute a lot in the development of the country.

## Tejashwi Yadav writes to parties for caste census

“It would play a pivotal role in ensuring social harmony and social cohesion,” he said.

The letters were addressed to Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, National Congress Party leader Sharad Pawar, West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress leader Mamata Banerjee, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, former Bihar CM Jitan Ram Manjhi, Lok Janshakti

Party leader Chirag Paswan, Samajwadi Party leader Akhlesh Yadav, Bahujan Samajwadi Party leader Mayawati, Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, Left leaders D. Raja, Sitaram Yechury, former Jammu & Kashmir CM Farooq Abdullah, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal and former Tamil Nadu CM O. Paneerselvam, among others.

## Alert sounded in Odisha over Cyclone Gulab

“The deep depression over northwest and adjoining westcentral Bay of Bengal moved nearly westwards with a speed of seven kmph in last 6 hours, intensified into Cyclonic Storm ‘Gulab’ (pronounced as Gul-Aab) and lay centered over northwest and adjoining westcentral Bay of Bengal, about 370 km east-southeast of Gopalpur (Odisha) and 440 km east of Kalingapatnam (Andhra Pradesh),” said an IMD bulletin.

The Odisha government is also keeping a close watch on the flood situation

in rivers in the southern districts. Vijay Amruta Kurlange, Ganjam District Collector said, “Preparations are in full swing to shift vulnerable sections of the population.”

Visakhapatnam DC A. Mallikarjuna convened an emergency meeting to take stock. Speaking to *The Hindu*, a senior officer from Andhra Pradesh Eastern Power Distribution Company Limited said all personnel had been put on alert.

(With inputs from Sumit Bhattacharjee in Visakhapatnam)

# Courtroom shooting adds to SC’s concern over security

Centre has turned down a proposal for a special force to guard courts, judges

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

The gunfight and deaths in the Rohini court complex on Friday come just days after the Centre rejected a suggestion by the Supreme Court to form a “special force” centrally to protect court complexes and judges across the country.

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, in August, expressed doubts about the security measures provided inside court complexes.

### Lack of funds

One of the judges on the Bench, Justice Surya Kant, after perusing the affidavits filed by some States on security arrangements, said how they present a “lazy picture”. Many, Justice Kant had pointed out, have complained of lack of funds to even having no money for CCTV cameras.

The top court said merely



Stop and go: Police personnel checking a vehicle at the entry gate of the Rohini court complex in New Delhi on Saturday, a day after the courtroom shooting. ■ MOORTHY R.V.

installing CCTVs in these complexes would not prevent lethal attacks. The court had questioned whether the States were even implementing security guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs for courts.

Friday witnessed two men dressed as lawyers intrude into a courtroom in the Rohini complex and shoot dead Delhi’s most wanted gangster Jitender Mann, alias Go-

gi. The duo was killed in retaliatory fire from police officers.

### State’s responsibility

On August 17, the Centre, however, did not appear keen on taking up the Supreme Court’s suggestion of forming a central security force to protect courts and the judiciary on the lines of the Railway Protection Force. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta

had said the move would not be advisable and the security of courts was best left to the respective State governments.

Mr. Mehta had argued that the problems of security vary in every State.

The Supreme Court had taken *suo motu* cognisance of violence committed within court complexes following the murder of a judge in Jharkhand, Uttam Anand.

## EC mulls deregistering inactive political parties

‘They may misuse tax exemption law’

DAMINI NATH  
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on September 23 notified the updated list of registered political parties. There are 2,796 registered unrecognised parties, and the panel has sought the power to deregister inactive parties.

The EC has raised concern over the possible misuse of the income tax exemption by parties that do not contest elections. Senior EC sources said on Saturday the Law Ministry was yet to respond to the EC’s recent

proposal seeking the power to deregister inactive parties. A senior official said only 673 parties, including recognised and unrecognised, had participated in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. In March 2019, the list of registered unrecognised parties had 2,293 names.

On the latest list of parties are eight national recognised parties – the Trinamool Congress, the BSP, the BJP, the CPI, the CPI(M), the Congress, the NCP and the National People’s Party – and 54 recognised State parties.

## Stuck EVMs worry EC ahead of polls

It moved SC on machines ‘stuck’ in places where elections were held in 2021

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission may continue to be in a bind regarding the availability of electronic voting machines (EVMs) for use in the crucial Assembly elections, including in Uttar Pradesh in early 2022, though the Supreme Court has lifted its relaxation of the period of limitation for legal proceedings in courts due to the pandemic.

The EC, represented by senior advocate Vikas Singh, urgently moved the Supreme Court on September 1 about EVMs ‘stuck’ in Delhi and five other States/Union Territory which had gone to the polls in 2021. Mr. Singh had said in an oral mention

before the court that the poll body needed to quickly move these EVMs to States bound for polls next year.

### Period of limitation

The EC had pointed to a Supreme Court order of April 27, which open-endedly extended the “period of limitation” or the deadline for moving court due to the pandemic, as the problem.

On September 23, a three-judge Bench of Chief Justice of N.V. Ramana, L. Nageswara Rao and Surya Kant directed that limitation period would be back in play from October 3.

However, Mr. Singh told *The Hindu* that the ECI may still have a problem with the



Elections are lined up in Goa, Manipur, Uttarakhand and Punjab in March 2022.

second direction in the court order extending the limitation period up to 90 days, starting from October 3, in cases in which the limitation time had expired between March 15 last year and October 2, 2021.

“The Representation of the People Act of 1951 gives a 45-day window from the date of declaration of election results for a candidate or elector to move the High Court concerned... Here, the court order gives 90 days from October 3. Ninety days means an aggrieved person has time till January 3... The Election Commission will need at least six months to get the EVMs ready for the election in 2022,” Mr. Singh said.

The EC had said there were back-to-back Assembly elections lined up in Goa, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Punjab in March 2022. The election in Uttar Pradesh is on May 14, 2022.

## Kamla Bhasin: feminist, poet, secularist

She placed gender in systems and structures which enabled gender imbalance

ANURADHA RAMAN  
NEW DELHI

A feminist. A regular, diminutive figure at several protests in Delhi. An occasional appearance at music concerts, if time allowed her. A song writer whose songs have been a source of inspiration, sung across borders that divide. A poet whose verses are adrenalin shots for women. A secularist to the core. Call her a force of nature, if you will.

In her 75 years, Kamla Bhasin was more than just a friendly, smiling face. She represented and touched women struggling for a foothold in public places denied to them, moving on in her later years to question the state and governments for their inability to put an equitable system in place. Quiet, firm and unrelenting, her passing away on Saturday found an outlet on Twitter where women acknowledged, in 147



Kamla Bhasin

characters, the debt they owed to her.

### ‘Learning is key’

“You may go into a village with an idea or a plan. But only if you’re willing to learn and be educated by the people you are there to serve, will you make progress. When you’re willing to listen to them, you will begin to see their reality, how caste and class operate, and how in-

equitable society is,” she had shared in the course of an interview.

A developmental sociologist and author, she embraced feminism in the course of her journey across rural Rajasthan, after she returned from Germany in the 1970s. Bhasin’s travels through the countryside opened her eyes to the real world far removed from Delhi offices.

The founder of women’s organisation Jagori, her energies were initially focussed on smashing the patriarchy responsible for the dismal state of women.

Graduating further, she placed gender in systems and structures which abled gender imbalance, and moved a full circle to question the state and elected governments for perpetuating inequalities.

The 1990s reform saw Bhasin connecting the dots

between gender disparity and an unrelenting system, which often found an expression in songs that became popular.

People could relate to the home-spun quality of her verses, shorn of highfalutin words.

### Everyone’s loss

She took on multinational soft drinks manufacturers that drained out water from lakes, depriving people from accessing potable water – all of this found an expression in ditties penned by Bhasin.

Making time in her life for women, and acknowledging the contribution of men who have furthered the cause of equality, embracing secularism as the life-breath of democracy, Bhasin will be certainly missed by half the population that makes up India’s numbers. The other half, too, will feel her absence.

## CJI laments reductive nature of justice system

‘Revisit laws and simplify them’

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana on Saturday said the justice delivery process was so deadening that what was basically a human problem transformed itself into “yet another case” by the end of the day.

This is a “harsh reality”, Chief Justice Ramana said. “Sadly, our system is designed in such a way that by the time all the facts and law are churned out in the court of law, much gets lost in the process,” the CJI noted.

The common man loses control over the fate of his own grievance in the labyrinth of the complex language of various statutes and the process of justice delivery, he said.

The CJI said, “The lawmakers, the legislature, have to revisit their laws and simplify them to suit the practical needs and realities of the time. The executive has to make rules which correspond with these laws for the benefit and welfare of



The legislature and the executive should work in unison, CJI Ramana says.

the people. The legal framework has to be drastically altered to make the justice delivery mechanism people-friendly.”

The legislature and the executive should work in unison, Justice Ramana said. It is only then that people would get rid of the wrong notion that the judiciary, and not the legislature, makes the law.

The CJI was speaking at the inauguration of the new building for the Odisha State Legal Services Authority in Cuttack.

## Himanta alleges instigation by PFI

Assam CM says encroached land in the State is more than the size of Goa

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Saturday that the total area under encroachment in Assam was more than the size of Goa.

He said the State government had evidence of members of the Popular Front of India (PFI) and some individuals, including a college lecturer in Assam, instigating the people where an eviction drive was carried out on September 23.

Two persons died in the operation.

“We have evidence that a



Resisting the move: Villagers protesting against an eviction drive in Darrang district on September 23. ■ PTI

few elements collected ₹28 lakh from the poor, landless families of Darrang district in the last three months, pro-

posing them that they would convince the government against eviction,” Dr. Sarma told journalists on Saturday.

“When they could not resist the drive, they mobilised people and created havoc. We have the names of six people, including the lecturer of a college. We have also found out that PFI members had gone to the site a day prior to the incident in the name of distributing food items to the evicted families,” he said.

He slammed the Congress for its criticism of his government on the issue.

He accused the Congress of “exporting” people to other constituencies to try and capture seats by changing the pattern of population.

## Webinar on emerging careers in law

‘Specialisation should start with basics’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

Law students, who want to practise in specialised areas, should first build a strong foundation in general law, experts opine.

At a webinar on emerging careers in law hosted by *The Hindu* jointly with Sai University on Wednesday, panelists said without getting to know the basic civil law, civil procedure or criminal procedure, it is not going to be easy to deal with specialisation.

They further said court and legal system are where the basics of law operate and students should start from there.

### Demands for lawyers

They said the increasing number of regulatory bodies and specialisations have created a demand for lawyers in various fields like telecom and power.

K.V. Ramani, founder and Chancellor of Sai University, said, “Law students at Sai University will have the privilege of interacting with students from School of Liberal Arts and School of Computing and Data Science as they can choose a minor from any school. At Sai University, law is a multi-disciplinary approach.”

Sai University offers Daksha fellowship to learn advanced skills in Technology Law and Policy and Disputes and Regulatory Practice. The university also offers specialisation courses in regulatory state, competition law, environmental regulations and corporate governance.

“Universities and colleges offer you a package of taking one major and two minors. It’s like retail shopping. Students should be allowed to pick subjects based on their interests,” Mr. Ramani said.

Bahram N. Vakil, founder and senior partner of AZB & Partners, said the U.K. system offers a lot of specialised training. “Each firm puts a lot of time and effort in training their lawyers. In two years, one can do four rotations in corporate, banking, real estate and litigation,” he said.

### Changing law practice

“In college, we need to keep it broad and relevant by focusing on issues like inequality and divisiveness.”

On the changing nature of public law practice, Sri Ram Panchu, senior advocate, Madras High Court, said, “The arbitration law has been amended to make things a little smoother. In the last few years, one can find the judges speaking strongly in favour of mediation, a different way of approaching disputes. India has made remarkable progress in mediation basically through the court-annexed mediation systems. I think the time has come for private and professional mediation.”

### Adding sensitivity

The panels also discussed how law graduates doing public service can add sensitivity to the work they are doing.

When asked about the women in law, Prabha Sridevan, former judge, said, “When I became a lawyer, you either go into litigation or chamber practice conveyancing. But now, there are so many areas where advocacies and legal knowledge are useful. Women show great interest in environmental law, gender studies and gender advocacies. Times have changed and women are now practising with relatively greater ease than before.”

# Quad to counter Afghan-origin terror

Leaders announce commitment to COVID-19 vaccine and climate goals, launch new infra partnership

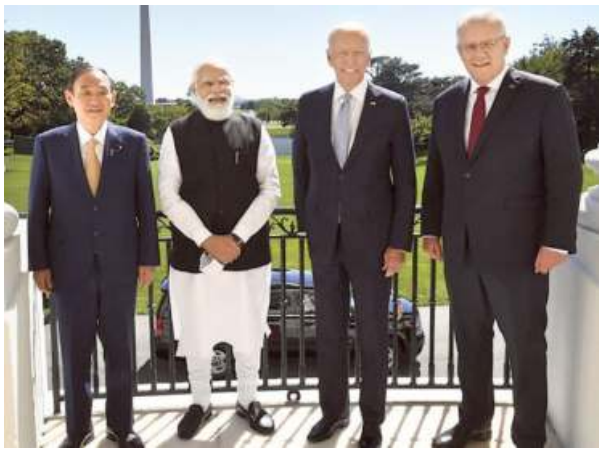
SRIRAM LAKSHMAN  
WASHINGTON

From detailing commitments on COVID-19 vaccines and climate to launching a new infrastructure partnership, the Quad Leaders Summit, which met in person for the first time, announced a wide range of deliverables.

The group, comprising Prime Minister Narendra Modi, U.S. President Joe Biden and Prime Ministers Scott Morrison of Australia and Yoshihide Suga of Japan, also declared new joint positions in the region, such as coordinating diplomatically in Afghanistan.

In their joint statement, the Quad leaders declared they would closely coordinate their “diplomatic, economic and human rights policies” towards Afghanistan and deepen their counter-terrorism and humanitarian cooperation there in accordance with United Nations Security Council 2593 (a resolution passed on August 30, when India held the presidency of the Council). The resolution seeks a negotiated settlement in Afghanistan and calls for the country not to be used as a base to nurture terrorism.

“We reaffirm that Afghan



**Strong bond:** (From left) Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, U.S. President Joe Biden and Australian PM Scott Morrison in Washington. •PTI

territory should not be used to threaten or attack any country or to shelter or train terrorists, or to plan or to finance terrorist acts, and reiterate the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan,” the Quad statement said.

### “Terrorist proxies”

“We denounce the use of terrorist proxies and emphasise the importance of denying any logistical, financial or military support to terrorist groups which could be used to launch or plan terror attacks, including cross-border

attacks,” it said, making a thinly veiled reference to Pakistan.

The four leaders and their delegations met in the East Room of the White House. The meeting lasted a little over two hours. Both Mr. Morrison and Mr. Suga engaged with the press on Friday.

In terms of new positions, the Quad also declared its support for the European Union’s September 2021 Indo-Pacific Strategy. The announcement earlier this month of a Australia-U.K.-U.S. security partnership in the Indo-Pacific (AUKUS) had

gone down badly with France, a key EU nation. Reuters reported that Mr. Suga had welcomed, during the Quad meeting, the announcement on AUKUS.

The Quad called on North Korea to engage in substantive dialogue and for “an end to the violence in Myanmar”. It declared its support for early restoration of democracy in Myanmar and the release of all political detainees, including foreigners.

On climate, the Quad countries intend to “update or communicate ambitious NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions, i.e., climate action targets) “before COP26, the UN climate conference in Glasgow a little over a month from now. It says countries will work with the “intent” to get to net zero emissions “preferably” by 2050 “taking into account national circumstances”. India has not yet made formal commitments for COP26 or committed to achieving net zero by 2050.

### Vaccine supply

In terms of vaccines, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said India would begin supplying Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19

vaccines, with 8 million doses being made available by the end of October from (Tengana-based) pharma company Biological E Ltd.

The Quad also “welcomed” India’s resumption of vaccine exports, as per the joint statement. The group plans to produce at least 1 billion India manufactured vaccines by the end of 2022 in addition to pledging more than 1.2 billion vaccines globally (the U.S. accounts for about 1.1 billion of these).

The group will also prepare for future pandemics and conduct at least one preparedness tabletop or exercise in 2022.

The Quad also launched a new infrastructure partnership which would involve mapping the region’s infrastructure needs and providing technical assistance and evaluation tools for projects. This, the statement said, would work with the Blue Dot Network – a U.S., Australia and Japan’s private sector-led infrastructure effort in the region to counter China’s Belt and Road Initiative. Other initiatives include cooperation on ‘transparent 5G and beyond-5G networks’, cyberspace and space.

# India, U.S. find alignment on Indo-Pacific, fighting terrorism

However, no major deliverables on trade in joint statement

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN  
WASHINGTON

Following the bilateral discussions between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joe Biden, India and the U.S. released a joint statement on their ‘Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership’, that spoke of cooperation in regional groupings, defence manufacturing, and climate. The statement also denounced the use of “terrorist proxies”, and said Afghanistan should not become a safe haven for terror. However, it did not announce any major deliverables, especially so with trade, talks around which will recommence by the end of the year.

Titled, ‘A Partnership for Global Good’, the statement said the two countries would work with regional groups like ASEAN and with Quad members to promote a “free and open Indo-Pacific” and developing a trade and investment partnership “that increases prosperity for working families in both countries”.

On trade – which Mr. Mo-



**Bringing back:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inspecting artefacts which were handed over to him by the U.S. •ANI

di, but not Mr. Biden, explicitly mentioned in his opening remarks at the Oval Office – the two sides said they looked forward to reconvening the India-U.S. Trade Policy Forum before the end of this year. They also said they would convene the CEO Forum and Commercial Dialogue early next year.

Speaking at a briefing after the meeting, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said India’s access to the U.S.’s preferential trade programme via the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) programme, which was revoked under the Trump administration,

was not off the table.

“But obviously, when you have a meeting of 90 minutes you cannot go into each and every issue that is there,” he said.

The Foreign Secretary said Mr. Biden confirmed that he stands committed to the position that the U.S. supports an India-South African initiative at the World Trade Organization for a TRIPS waiver (intellectual property rights) for COVID-19 vaccines.

On terrorism, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to fight terror (including bringing to justice those responsible for the 26/11 Mumbai attacks).

## IN BRIEF



### First phase of Bihar panchayat poll peaceful

The first phase of Bihar panchayat elections passed off peacefully on Friday with webcast and biometric attendance of voters in place to maintain transparency and avoid bogus voting. The 11-phase elections are scheduled from September 24 to December 12. The first phase was held at 2,119 polling stations across 12 blocks of 10 districts and recorded 60% voter turnout.

### Constable gang-raped in M.P.; two arrested

A 30-year-old police constable was allegedly gang-raped by three men, who shot a video of the act and blackmailed her in Madhya Pradesh’s Neemuch district, an official said on Saturday. While the crime took place earlier this month, the constable lodged a complaint on September 13, following which a probe was conducted. A case was registered this week against five persons. The police have arrested the main accused and his mother in connection with the crime, said Anuradha Girwal, the in-charge of the women’s police station. •PTI

# Quad leaders draw up tech plan

The proposed initiatives underline India’s sharp move away from Chinese firms

ANANTH KRISHNAN

Friday’s Quad summit of the leaders of India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. in Washington saw the four countries for the first time outline joint principles on technology, underlining their ambition to work more closely together in developing common standards in particularly critical technologies of the future.

While China did not find explicit mention in any of the Quad statements, its presence still loomed large in many of the outcomes, including in the first Quad “Principles on Technology Design, Development, Governance, and Use” document which said the four countries would ensure that technology “should be shaped by our shared democratic values and respect for universal human rights”.

### Not to be misused

The joint principles said technology should be “developed through a multi-stakeholder approach that is adaptive and dynamic and aligns with universal values, including respect for freedom of expression and privacy” and “should not be misused or abused for malicious activities such as authori-



**Future calling:** The four countries said they would promote a diverse, resilient and secure telecommunications ecosystem.

itarian surveillance and oppression, for terrorist purposes, or to disseminate disinformation”.

The technology document followed the Quad setting up a new critical and emerging technologies working group in March, focusing on technical standards, 5G diversification and deployment and technology supply chains.

At Friday’s summit, it was agreed that the four countries will also establish contact groups on Advanced Communications and Artificial Intelligence “focusing on standards-development activities as well as foundational pre-standardisation research”.

Another key planned ini-

tiative is to launch a semiconductor supply chain initiative “to map capacity, identify vulnerabilities and bolster supply-chain security for semiconductors and their vital components”.

### 5G deployment

On 5G deployment and diversification, the four countries said they would promote “a diverse, resilient and secure telecommunications ecosystem” and launch an industry dialogue aimed at jointly facilitating “enabling environments for 5G diversification, including with efforts related to testing and test facilities”.

The Quad initiatives further underline India’s sharp move away from Chinese te-

lecom firms, which played a major role in the roll-out of 3G and 4G and came to see India as among their biggest overseas markets.

In May, India indicated it would not include Chinese telecom firms in 5G trials, with the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) giving permission to several Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to conduct 5G trials but leaving out Huawei and ZTE, which had hoped to participate.

China at the time expressed “concern and regret that Chinese telecommunications companies have not been permitted to conduct 5G trials with Indian Telecom Service Providers in India”.

India last year put in place stricter curbs to scrutinise investments from China, particularly the acquisition of stakes in the tech sector which saw a surge from 2014 onwards, led by Alibaba and Tencent.

Some of the curbs were announced in April 2020, prior to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) crisis that erupted in May. Following the border crisis, which remains unresolved, Delhi has made clear that trade and investment cannot carry on as normal.

# Opposition demands greater transparency over PM-CARES

DAMINI NATH  
SOBHANA K. NAIR  
NEW DELHI

A day after the Centre told the Delhi High Court that the PM-CARES Fund was not a “fund of the Government of India”, Opposition parties called for greater transparency, pointing out that government employees were asked to donate to the fund, and government websites had also canvassed for donations.

Official government websites, including the national portal [india.gov.in](http://india.gov.in), carried links to donate to the PM-

CARES Fund. Some, such as the Department of Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance, still have links to the PM-CARES website, which has an official .gov.in portal of its own, as on September 25. Official websites of Central Ministries and departments encouraged users to donate to the fund, which was launched in March 2020.

Many of them have since taken down the links directing users to the PM-CARES portal. However, screenshots of the websites over the past year show the link.

Government staff were also asked to donate a day’s salary to the fund in 2020 as part of efforts to combat the pandemic.

Requests for comments from Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Jitendra Singh were not answered at the time of writing.

D. Raja, general secretary of the Communist Party of India, said the government’s claim of transparency held good only if it revealed the names of all contributors and how the fund had been used so far.

## Congress backs Bharat Bandh call by farmers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Congress will join the September 27 Bharat Bandh called by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha in protest against the three controversial farm laws, the party said on Saturday.

The Congress supported the demand of the farmers asking for withdrawal of the laws and giving MSP legal backing, it said.

# Buzz grows over Congress revamp with entry of activist-leaders

Kanhaiya Kumar, Jignesh Mevani are likely to be inducted on Sept. 28

SANDEEP PHUKAN  
NEW DELHI

The possibility of prominent political activists such as Kanhaiya Kumar and Jignesh Mevani joining the Congress on September 28 and the buzz around election strategist Prashant Kishor indicate that the grand old party may be trying to build a new team ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha election through lateral entry.

Coinciding with the birth anniversary of Bhagat Singh, Mr. Mevani and Mr. Kumar are likely to be inducted in the presence of former party chief Rahul Gandhi. It is, however, not clear if the new entrants would be given a national role or would be asked to focus on their respective States.

While Mr. Kumar, one of the youngest members from Bihar in the Communist Party of India’s (CPI) national executive, met Mr. Gandhi earlier this month, Mr. Mevani, Dalit activist and Independent lawmaker from Gujarat, has been in touch with the leadership.

About Mr. Kishor’s entry into



Kanhaiya Kumar

the Congress, there is no clear indication about the timeline even though the issue has been debated among the members of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) as well as G-23, the group of 23 letter writers who sought internal reforms.

The Congress is yet to officially comment on the speculation but remarks made by Mr. Gandhi on July 16 reflect the top leadership’s thinking.

“There are many people who are not scared [of BJP-RSS], but are outside the Congress. All these people are ours. Bring them

in, and those scared within our party should be shunted out. They can go to RSS [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh] people, let them enjoy. We do not want them, they are not needed. We want fearless people,” Mr. Gandhi told a meeting of social media volunteers.

Besides Mr. Gandhi’s hope of adding “fearless” warriors, new faces could give the Congress a much-needed relief in terms of perception that it is only witnessing desertions.

In the past year and half, younger leaders such as Jyotiraditya Scindia, Jitin Prasad, and Sushmita Dev have quit, adding to the sense of drift that has prevailed since May 2019 after the Congress lost two successive Lok Sabha elections.

“When you allow lateral entry, it certainly creates a media frenzy but it has a demoralising effect on the workers who had aspirations to grow in the party,” said Professor Shri Prakash Singh of the Department of Political Science, Delhi University.

**Bhartendu Academy of Dramatic Arts**  
(An Autonomous Institution under the Department of Culture, Govt. of U.P.)

**Admission Notice - 2021**  
Two Year Diploma in Dramatic Arts  
(Full Time Residential Course)

**Session starts from 15th November 2021**

Applications are invited for two year diploma course in dramatic arts conducted by Bhartendu Natya Akademi, which imparts comprehensive professional training in Acting, Direction, Designing and Theatre Techniques etc.

**Medium : Hindi & English**

**Essential Qualification:** Graduation from a recognized university. Good Knowledge of Hindi & English. Working experience of ten plays & comprehensive study of ten Indian & Western plays.

**Age Limit :** 20-30 Years as on 01.08.2021  
(Five Years relaxation in age limit for S.C./S.T./OBC candidates.)

**Reservation:** Candidates in the category of S.C./S.T./OBC/E.W.S. etc will get reservation as per rules.

**Selection:** Selection of Candidates will happen through written test, interview and audition. The Candidates qualifying in above test, interview and audition will have to attend a workshop of two days in the Academy campus for final selection. For this workshop, they will be provided accommodation on a modest sharing basis.

**Decision of the selection committee will be final. Any form of canvassing or approach will be considered as disqualification.**

**Facilities for the students:** Fully furnished hostel, self financed co-operative mess, Cable TV., internet Wi-Fi, Newspapers.

**Fee:** Fee is chargeable for the training but Rs. 4500/- (Rupees four thousand five hundred only) per month will be paid as scholarship for Tuition/Hostel fee, Training material and healthy food.

**Seats:** 20 Seat

Application form can be obtained from B.N.A. office on payment of Rs. 500/- by cash or bank draft in favour of Director, Bhartendu Natya Akademi, Lucknow Or download from the website ([www.bnako.in](http://www.bnako.in)) of the Academy and submit along with bank draft of Rs 500/-. Last date of submitting the duly filled application form is 16.10.2021

**Note-**

- Candidates who have applied in the academic year 2020-2022 and fulfilled the academic qualification and other rules and regulations will be allowed in present academic session 2021-2023 entrance exam and their age will be considered as per that time.
- As per Covid guidelines Academy can conduct online classes for selected candidates. According to Covid situation and as per U.P. Government Covid guidelines entrance examination can be conducted by online mode.
- Entrance exam & Audition will be conducted on 26 and 27 October, 2021 from 9.00 a.m. and practical interview (workshop) will be conducted on 28th and 29 October, 2021.
- As per Government Covid guidelines entrance exam dates and time can be changed.

**Director**

“Bhartendu Bhawan” Vikas Khand-1, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010  
Ph.: 0522-2398466, Fax: 0522-2300598; Website : [www.bnako.in](http://www.bnako.in); Email : [bnako@gmail.com](mailto:bnako@gmail.com)

**Ro No 167761, Ro Date 24/9/21**  
website- [www.upgovt.nic.in](http://www.upgovt.nic.in)

**APPOINTMENT**

**Homi Bhabha National Institute**  
(A Grant-in-Aid Institute of the Department of Atomic Energy and Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

Invites application from an efficient administrator/ Scientist/ Engineer/ Faculty having flair for administration, for the post of Registrar in HBNI.

**Last date for receipt of application: 29 October, 2021**  
For further details, please visit [www.hbni.ac.in](http://www.hbni.ac.in)

**JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WORKS)  
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003  
PHONE: (0291) 2742223 FAX: (0291) 2746539

**SHORT TERM E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

E-Procurement Short Term Tender is invited for purchase of LT XLPE Insulated Aerial Bunched Cables with Bare Messenger Wire for LT Over Head Lines Suitable for Working Voltage upto & Including 1100 V for size 3CX25+25 Sq.mm. under TN-1720 (UBN JVV2122GLOB00219).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at [www.jdvvn.com](http://www.jdvvn.com) and also at <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)  
Raj.Samwadi/0216609

(बिजली संचालन विभागों के लिए टेंडर फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045)

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग अजमेर**  
क्रमांक: अमुअ/अत.तक./एक-2(30ए) निविदा/डी-625 दिनांक: 20.09.2021

**NIB No.: -PWD2122A1475**

**निविदा सूचना संख्या 09 वर्ष 2021-22 के अन्तर्गत स्वीकृत सड़क निर्माण कार्य (डीएमएफटी योजनान्तर्गत) एवं भवन निर्माण कार्य बाबत।**

राजस्थान के राजस्थान महोदय की ओर से वर्ष 2021-22 के तहत एक सड़क (डीएमएफटी योजनान्तर्गत) एवं एक भवन कार्य के लिए उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं केन्द्रीय/राज्य सरकार व उनके अधिकृत संगठनों/ केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग/डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग/एलव्हे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के एए श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हों, से निर्धारित प्रथम में कुल 02 कार्यों जिनकी लागत राशि रु. 751.58 लाख है, के लिए ई-टेंडरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा फार्म डाउनलोड एवं गुरुवार 23 सितम्बर, 2021 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से अपलोड करने की तारीख एवं समय गुरुवार 14 अक्टूबर, 2021 प्रातः 6:00 बजे तक निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट [www.dipronline.org](http://www.dipronline.org) पर एवं निविदा दस्तावेज का विवरण वेबसाइट <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> एवं [sppp.raj.nic.in](http://sppp.raj.nic.in) पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर ऑनलाइन सम्पादित की जायेगी।

**UBN No.: PWD2122WLOB07196, PWD2122WLOB07197**  
(विकास दीक्षित)  
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, अजमेर

**DIPR/C/9610/21**





# China frees 2 Canadians after Huawei deal

Beijing had denied for months that the 2018 detention of Kovrig, Spavor was 'hostage diplomacy'

ANANTH KRISHNAN

For months, China's government had insisted that the more than 1,000-day imprisonment of Canadians Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor was not, as Canada had alleged, a case of "hostage diplomacy".

The two Canadians were detained in 2018, shortly after Canada's arrest of top Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou at Vancouver airport, based on a U.S. warrant, under the then Trump administration, accusing the Chinese telecom company of violating Iran sanctions.

Yet, for all of China's insistent claims that the cases were unrelated, the detention of the two Canadians came to a sudden end on Saturday, barely hours after Ms. Meng was released after the United States Department of Justice reached a deal regarding the criminal charges, agreeing to a deferred prosecution and for her to leave Canada.

Shortly after Ms. Meng left



**End of ordeal:** This combination of file pictures shows Michael Spavor, left, and Michael Kovrig. •AFP

Vancouver airport in the company of Chinese officials and boarded a charter flight to China organised by the government, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that the "two Michaels" were going home, bringing an end to a case that had severely disrupted Canada-China relations and led to allegations of Beijing taking "hostages" to push for the release of Ms. Meng, who is

also the daughter of Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei.

## Meng's return hailed

Her release and return home was widely cheered by the media in China and framed as a major diplomatic win showing China standing up to the U.S. The retaliatory cases against the two Michaels was only a footnote.

The Foreign Ministry, in a statement, said "facts have

long proved that this is a political persecution against a Chinese citizen with the aim to oppress China's high-tech companies."

"The 'fraud' accusations against Ms. Meng are nothing but fabrication. Even HSBC, which is named as a "victim" by the U.S., has issued documents proving Ms. Meng's innocence. What the United States and Canada are doing is typical arbitrary detention," the statement said.

The U.S. statement, announcing the deal that allowed for Ms. Meng's release, said she had "made multiple material misrepresentations to a senior executive of a financial institution regarding Huawei's business operations in Iran in an effort to preserve Huawei's banking relationship with the financial institution... Meng's admissions confirm the crux of the government's allegations in the prosecution of this financial fraud," the statement said.

In August, Mr. Spavor had been sentenced to 11 years in

prison and convicted "of spying on China's national secrets".

Mr. Kovrig's trial opened in March and he was still awaiting a verdict, although already detained for more than 1,000 days.

The Party-run *Global Times* said Mr. Kovrig "was accused of using an ordinary passport and business visa to enter China to steal sensitive information and intelligence through contacts in China since 2017, while Spavor was accused of being a key source of intelligence for Kovrig."

While the two men were kept in harsh conditions in a Chinese prison, Ms. Meng, on the other hand, awaited her verdict out on bail, spent mostly in a mansion in Vancouver that she owned.

"These two men have gone through an unbelievably difficult ordeal. For the past 1,000 days they have shown strife, perseverance, resilience, and grace — and we are all inspired by that," Mr. Trudeau said.

# Myanmar's pro-democracy monks march against junta

They seek the release of prisoners, including NLD members

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
YANGON

Scores of pro-democracy Buddhist monks took to the streets of Myanmar's second-biggest city Mandalay on Saturday, rallying against the military coup in demonstrations that coincided with the 14th anniversary of previous clergy-led mass protests, the Saffron revolution of 2007.

Myanmar has been in turmoil and its economy paralysed since February when the military ousted Aung San Suu Kyi's civilian government, ending a ten-year experiment with democracy.

## Brutal crackdown

Around the country an anti-junta resistance has taken root, prompting the military to unleash a brutal crackdown on dissent. More than 1,100 civilians have been killed and 8,400 arrested, according to a local monitoring group.



**Protest continues:** Buddhist monks taking part in a rally against the junta in Mandalay on Saturday. •AFP

Historically, monks in predominantly Buddhist Myanmar have been seen as a supreme moral authority, organising communities and at times mobilising opposition to the military regimes. But the coup has exposed a schism in the monkhood, with some prominent clerics giving the generals their blessing and others supporting the protesters.

On Saturday, dozens of monks in their bright orange

and crimson robes marched through the streets of Mandalay with flags and banners and threw colourful streamers in the air.

The monks chanted for the release of political prisoners, including members of Aung San Suu Kyi's political party, NLD, which won a landslide in last election.

Some monks carried upside down alms bowls in a symbol of protest to reject the junta regime.

# Amid China's clampdown, HK vigil organiser disbands

Regime can't take away people's conscience: jailed chairman

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
HONG KONG

The Hong Kong pro-democracy group that organised three decades of vigils commemorating the victims of Beijing's Tiananmen Square crackdown voted to disband on Saturday in the face of China's sweeping clampdown on dissent.

The Hong Kong Alliance was one of the most prominent symbols of the city's former political plurality

and its dissolution is the latest illustration of how quickly China is remoulding the business hub in its own authoritarian image.

After announcing the decision to disband, a representative of the alliance read out a letter from their chairman Lee Cheuk-yan, who is currently in jail.

"A regime cannot take away the people's memory and conscience," the letter read. "The beliefs of the

Hong Kong Alliance will be passed on in the hearts of Hong Kongers."

Many of the alliance's leaders are in custody for taking part in the city's democracy movement.

Earlier this month, police charged three senior figures, including Mr. Lee, with subversion — a national security crime.

That same week, officers raided a shuttered museum the group ran.

# Taliban hang bodies of four kidnappers in Herat

In a grim reminder of their previous rule, corpses of the men were displayed in the city's public areas

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
KABUL

The Taliban hanged the bodies of four kidnappers from cranes after killing them during a shootout in Afghanistan's western city of Herat on Saturday, a senior official said.

Herat province's Deputy Governor Mawlawi Shir Ahmad Muhajir said the men's corpses were displayed in various public areas on the same day to teach a "lesson" that kidnapping will not be tolerated.

Graphic images posted on

social media showed bloody bodies on the back of a pickup truck while a crane hoisted one man up.

Another video showed a man suspended from a crane at a major roundabout in Herat with a sign on his chest reading: "Abductors will be punished like this".

The display across several squares in the city is the most high-profile public punishment since the Taliban swept to power last month, and is a sign the Islamist hardliners will adopt fearsome measures similar



People looking up at a body hanged by the Taliban from a crane in Herat. •AP

to their previous rule from 1996 to 2001.

Muhajir said security forces were informed that a businessman and his son had been abducted in the city on

Saturday morning.

Police shut down the roads leading out of the city, and the Taliban stopped the men at a checkpoint, where "an exchange of fire happened", he said.

"As a result of a few minutes of fighting, one of our Mujahideen was wounded and all four kidnappers were killed," Muhajir said in a recorded statement. "We are the Islamic Emirate. No one should harm our nation. No one should kidnap," he said in the video clip.

Muhajir added that before

Saturday's incident, there had been other kidnappings in the city, and the Taliban rescued a boy.

"One kidnapper was killed and three others were arrested," he said. "It saddened us a lot because while we are in Herat, our people are being abducted," he said. "In order for it to be a lesson for other kidnappers not to kidnap or harass anyone, we hanged them in the squares of the city and made this clear to everyone that anyone who steals or abducts will be punished."

# Merkel makes final push for successor

Armin Laschet is pitted against Olaf Scholz in Germany's knife-edge elections

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
AACHEN

Chancellor Angela Merkel on Saturday urged Germans to give her would-be successor Armin Laschet the vote to shape Germany's future, in a last-ditch push to shore up his beleaguered campaign ahead of Sunday's election.

Mr. Laschet, 60, has been trailing his Social Democrat challenger Olaf Scholz in the race for the chancellery, although final polls put the gap between them within the margin of error, making the vote one of the most unpredictable in recent years.

Ms. Merkel had planned to keep a low profile in the election battle as she prepares to bow out of politics after 16 years in power. But she has found herself dragged into the frantic campaign schedule of the un-



**Final appeal:** Angela Merkel standing beside Armin Laschet, left, in Aachen, Germany, on Saturday. •AP

popular chairman of her party, Mr. Laschet.

In the last week of the campaign, Ms. Merkel took Mr. Laschet to her constituency by the Baltic coast and on Friday headlined the closing rally gathering the conservatives' bigwigs in Munich.

Ms. Merkel tugged at the

heartstrings of Germany's predominantly older electorate on Friday, calling on them to keep the conservatives in power for the sake of stability — a trademark of Germany.

"To keep Germany stable, Armin Laschet must become Chancellor, and the CDU and CSU must be the strongest

force," she said.

A day before the vote, she travelled to Mr. Laschet's hometown and constituency Aachen.

"It is about your future, the future of your children and the future of your parents," she said, urging strong mobilisation for her conservative alliance.

## Climate protection

She underlined that climate protection will be a key challenge of the next government, but said this would not be achieved "simply through rules and regulations".

"For that we need new technological developments, new procedures, researchers, interested people who think about how that can be done, and people who participate," she said.

# Icelanders vote with climate on agenda

Nine parties are in the election fray

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
REYKJAVIK

Icelanders were voting on Saturday in a general election dominated by climate change, with an unprecedented number of political parties likely to win parliamentary seats.

Polls suggest there won't be an outright winner, triggering complex negotiations to build a coalition government.

A record nine parties could cross the 5% threshold needed to qualify for seats in Iceland's parliament, the Althing. Upstart parties include the Socialist Party, which is promising to shorten the work week and nationalise Iceland's fishing industry.

High turnout is expected, as one-fifth of eligible voters have already cast absentee

ballots.

Climate change is high among voters' concerns in Iceland, a glacier-studded volcanic island nation of about 3,500,000 people in the North Atlantic.

An exceptionally warm summer by Icelandic standards and shrinking glaciers have helped drive global warming up the political agenda.

Polls show strong support for left-leaning parties promising to cut carbon emissions by more than what Iceland is already committed to under the Paris climate agreement.

The current government is a coalition of three parties spanning the political spectrum from left to center-right and led by Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir of the Left Green Party.

# Blast kills 8 near Somalia presidential palace

Car bomb was detonated at checkpoint

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
MOGADISHU

A car bomb exploded at a checkpoint near Somalia's presidential palace on Saturday, killing eight people, police said, as the al-Shabaab jihadist group claimed responsibility for the attack.

"We have confirmed that eight people most of them civilians died and seven others wounded in the car bomb blast", district police chief Mucawiye Ahmed Mudey told reporters.

The bombing took place during the late morning within a km of Villa Somalia, the presidential palace.

Witnesses said the car bomb was detonated when police stopped the driver for a security check. The blaze spread to other vehicles, trapping their occupants. "They normally stop to

check and clear vehicles before they can pass by the checkpoint. This car was stopped by the security guards and it went off while there were several other cars and people passing by the nearby road. I saw wounded and dead people being carried," said witness Mohamed Hassan.

Among the dead was the Prime Minister's adviser for women and human rights Hibag Abukar, officials said.

Prime Minister Mohamed Roble condemned the attack and paid tribute to Abukar, whom he called "a young hard-working vibrant girl with honesty" as well as a "devoted citizen."

Mr. Roble added: "We have to cooperate in the fight against the ruthless terrorists who regularly kill our people".

THE HINDU GROUP  
**CELEBRATING 143 YEARS**  
WITH YOU  
THE HINDU  
#ILOVETHG

**ANNIVERSARY SALE**

LIMITED PERIOD OFFER  
18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER - 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
UP TO **43% OFF**  
ON THE HINDU GROUP SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

**SHRINE Series**

**PREMIUM Series**

**KIDS Series**

**BOOK YOUR COPY ONLINE**

Visit: [publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/](https://publications.thehindugroup.com/bookstore/)  
For bulk booking, e-mail: [bookstore@thehindu.co.in](mailto:bookstore@thehindu.co.in) | For enquiries call: 1800 102 1878

\*Offer on select books | Shipping charges extra | Terms and conditions apply

SNAPSHOTS



**Life's vital links**  
A new study by researchers from Duke University, North Carolina, U.S., draws attention to the plight of primates living off the endangered primates. Half of the world's primates, roughly numbering 500 species, are in danger of extinction. In their model, 213 primates were linked in a complex web of interactions involving 763 worms, mites and other parasites known to infect them. Cutting enough of these links could trigger off a cascade of extinctions. Such cascades will be worse in isolated places like the Madagascar island.



**Eat well**  
Nutrition can alter mood swings and benefit people with bipolar disorder, according to a new study involving 80 participants and published in *Bipolar Disorders*. In clinical trials, the study found specific fatty acids stabilised mood variability in them. The researchers reduced omega-6 fatty acids, found in red meat, eggs and some oils, and increased intake of omega-3 fatty acids, found in flax seeds and fatty fishes like tuna, salmon. Follow-up studies are needed to confirm that this is indeed effective.

# mRNA vaccine manufacturers loath to share know-how

Moderna said it will not enforce patents related to its vaccine during the pandemic, but it is yet to transfer technology to the South African hub

R. PRASAD

While many low- and middle-income countries have received by far insufficient supply of vital COVID-19 vaccines so far, vaccine inequity has been most striking in Africa. Of the nearly 6 billion doses administered globally, only 2% have been in Africa. And less than 3.5% of people in Africa have been fully vaccinated till date.

In contrast, 54% of the total population in the U.S. is fully vaccinated. After approving booster shots for the immunocompromised people, on September 22, the U.S. FDA greenlighted booster shots for people older than 65 years, adults between 18 and 64 years who are at high risk of severe disease and those at high risk of getting infected and at high risk of serious complications of COVID-19 including severe disease.

**Facilitating manufacture**  
With attempts by the African Union to buy vaccines being unsuccessful, the continent has to wait for donations. It is to correct this anomaly and ensure that low- and middle-income countries can have easy access to vaccines to fight the pandemic that, in April, the WHO and COVAX wanted these countries to produce COVID-19 vaccines themselves. For this, the global health body is facilitating the establishment of technology transfer hubs to transfer necessary technology to manufacture COVID-19 vaccines and provide training to inter-

ested manufacturers in these countries.

The initial focus has been on developing vaccines using the mRNA vaccine platform and expanding to other technologies in the future. According to Dr. Gagandeep Kang, Professor of Microbiology at CMC Vellore, the reason why WHO zeroed in on mRNA vaccines is that such vaccines have been found to be extremely efficacious in protecting against COVID-19, and protection is maintained to a large degree against variants. Second, the technology needed to manufacture mRNA vaccines is very flexible and allows relatively rapid adaptation of the vaccine to variants, if needed. Third, such vaccines can be produced by manufacturers of medicines and medical active substances, and finally, the availability of several technical features that are free of Intellectual Property Rights in many countries of the world.

Dr Kang is also the vice-chair of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation (CEPI) which is the part of COVAX that is identifying technology partners for the hub

The WHO, a South African consortium – Biovac, Afrigen Biologics and Vaccines, a network of universities and the Africa CDC – and COVAX partners are working to set up the first technology transfer hub in South Africa. The assumption is that companies such as Pfizer and Moderna will show a “willingness to transfer

## Reluctance to share

Companies promised to help rid the world of the pandemic, yet are now hesitant in complying

- Following inability of low- and middle-income countries to procure COVID-19 vaccines, the WHO and COVAX wanted them to produce the vaccines themselves with the help of technology transfer hubs
- The initial focus has been on developing vaccines using the mRNA vaccine platform
- As early as October last year, Moderna had announced that it will not enforce patents related to its mRNA vaccine during the pandemic



- However, according to a Reuters report, Moderna is yet to reach a deal to transfer the technology to the South African hub
- Pfizer entered into an agreement with the U.S. to sell an additional 500 million doses at a not-for-profit price for donation to low- and lower-middle-income countries and the organisations that support them
- However, deliveries of the initial 500 million doses began only in August 2021 and only 300 million are expected to be shipped this year

technologies”.

As early as October last year, Moderna announced that it will not enforce patents related to its mRNA vaccine during the course of the pandemic. “We feel a special obligation under the current circumstances to use our resources to bring this pandemic to an end as quickly as possible. Accordingly, while the pandemic continues, Moderna will not enforce our COVID-19 related patents against those making vaccines intended to combat the pandemic,” Moderna said last year.

### Promises unkept

However, according to an exclusive Reuters report, the promise made last year by Moderna is not translating

into reality as the company is yet to reach a deal to transfer the technology to the South African hub. *The New York Times* quoted Dr. Martin Friede, a WHO official and Charles Gore, who runs a United Nations-backed nonprofit organisation, Medicines Patent Pool as saying that they have had “trouble getting Moderna to the negotiating table”.

“We would love to get a discussion with Moderna, about a license to their intellectual property – this would make life so much simpler, but for the moment all attempts have resulted in no reply,” Dr. Friede told *The New York Times*.

It also reported a Moderna spokeswoman saying that the company was “willing to

license its intellectual property for COVID-19 vaccines to others for the post pandemic period.” In effect, contrary to the promise made last year, the company is unwilling to license its mRNA vaccine IP during the pandemic and transfer technology to the South African hub. Vaccination is one sure way to protect people from severe disease and death and end the pandemic.

### Research funded

Incidentally, unlike Pfizer that did not take any funding from the U.S. government to develop its vaccine, Moderna was given \$1 billion as part of Operation Warp Speed to specifically fund its research efforts. Moderna’s vaccine was in part developed by Na-

tional Institutes of Health.

Dr. Lawrence Gostin, faculty director of the O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law and Georgetown University Law Center tweeted on September 22: “LMIC companies are ready & able to produce mRNA vaccines, but Pfizer-BioNTech & Moderna are refusing to share technology & know-how. LMICs are fed-up with going hat-in-hand to rich countries for donations, which never come in time or at the scale needed.” He then added: “Biden can legally compel mRNA manufacturers to sign technology transfer contracts in exchange for reasonable compensation. The DPA [Defense Production Act of 1950] confers vast powers to act for the national defense. The DPA specifically includes “emergency preparedness.”

Under pressure from U.S. President Joe Biden to enter into joint ventures to contract manufacture the vaccines in low- and middle-income countries, Pfizer took an easy route. It entered into an agreement with the U.S. to sell an “additional 500 million doses at a not-for-profit price for donation to low- and lower-middle-income countries and the organisations that support them”, according to a Pfizer release. The company had agreed to sell the first lot of 500 million doses in June. However, deliveries of the initial 500 million doses began only in August 2021 and only 300 million are expected to be shipped this year. The to-

tal one billion doses are expected to be delivered only by next September.

In July, Pfizer signed a deal with South Africa’s Biovac Institute to help manufacture around 100 million doses annually of the mRNA vaccine for distribution exclusively to 55 member States of the African Union. However, as per the Pfizer press release, the drug substance will be manufactured in Europe and shipped to Biovac. Clearly, the agreement is for “fill and finish” of the vaccine, which does not require technology transfer. Also, manufacturing of finished doses will commence only next year.

### Reaching targets

Even as President Biden wants 70% of the global population to be vaccinated by September next year, much of the low- and middle-income countries may not come anywhere close to the target unless companies freely share their technology and know-how.

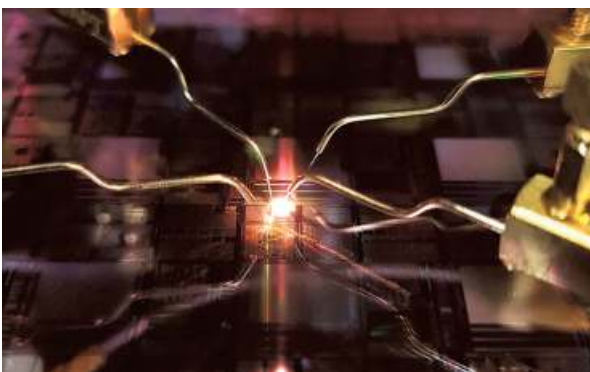
“I see no reason why only one or two companies should be considered when there are several companies that work on mRNA products,” Dr. Kang says. “Moderna is not the only company with the technology to transfer – it was just potentially the easiest. I have no idea why Moderna is not willing to participate given that they have set up contract manufacturing on other continents. However, WHO and COVAX have other potential partners with whom engagement is being explored.”

## Indigenous memory technology moves from lab to fab

The collaborative research can fix faulty chips, cut wastage

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

IIT Bombay researchers have developed a “memory technology” that can, in principle, revolutionise Indian industry and the many applications that need semiconductor chips, such as in the defence sector, automobiles and future aspirations in cell phone manufacturing. Hard disks, flash memory, etc., are examples of memory technology. There is also another form of memory called the one-time programmable memory (OTP) where the memory is written once, stored for a lifetime, and retrieved and used many times. This finds varied uses, one of which is in correcting faulty chips that have been mass produced for specific applications.



**Testing routine:** silicon wafers of 200 millimetre diameter with OTP memories undergo testing. •ANKIT BENDE AND KUMAR PRIYADARSHI, IIT BOMBAY

**Semi-Conductor Lab located in Mohali, Punjab, is the first customer to try and use this technology for internal purposes.**

at 180-nanometre node. Thus, this is a major national milestone for semiconductor innovation, says Prof Ganguly.

### Better process

There exist other methods of achieving OTP memories than described above. However, these demand challenging engineering techniques and also require high voltage, which comes with a large area penalty.

“In contrast, we use a dedicated insulator material which is specially engineered silicon dioxide at 2.5-nanometre thickness to breakdown at 3.3 volt without any special structures along with a standard transistor. Thus, the transistor is not disturbed, and no special high voltage generation is needed,” says Prof. Ganguly, pointing out the attractive features of the technology.

### First customer

Semi-Conductor Lab (SCL), Punjab, is the first customer to try and use this technology for internal purposes. Apart from collaborating with SCL, the team at IIT Bombay partnered with IIT Delhi, SETS Chennai and Defence Research and Development Organization for hardware encryption.

“The concept came out of a PhD Thesis in IIT Bombay... This is the first indigenous 180-nanometre memory technology to have successfully graduated from lab to fab in 2021. It has taken six years in the process of translating research to manufacturing,” says Prof. Ganguly.

rent [which in digital electronics is read as a “0”]. A nanoscale lightning is generated of 3.3 volts to blow the capacitor, leading to a short circuit that produced high current [this is a “1”], says Prof. Ganguly. Thus, the OTP memory remembers either the “0” state or “1” state through its lifetime.

The group, in collaboration with the Semi-Conductor Laboratory, Mohali, Punjab (SCL), has successfully demonstrated CMOS 180-nanometre-based, production-ready, eight-bit memory technology, according to a press release from the office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India. Reiterating this, Prof Ganguly says, “We have shown that the memory cells and arrays pass all the specifications for the trimming application when manufactured in the SCL 180-nanometre CMOS line. These include successful operation between minus 40 degrees C to 125 degrees C and reliability to ensure excess of 95% yield on eight-bit memories.”

According to him, a large fraction of manufactured chips may need to be discarded for faults that can be corrected using this technology. This technology is the first indigenous semiconductor memory technology adoption to manufacturing

### Correcting offsets

For instance, think of a chip that helps read off the temperature. Due to a manufacturing defect, the chip may read 100 degree Celsius as 101 degree Celsius. This “offset” of 1 degree may be corrected by storing the error correction parameter in the OTP memory. This is done uniquely for each chip and once stored, the memory corrects the chip’s output for its lifetime.

“OTP memories are also used for other purposes, mainly three: chip identity, secure information storage and chip calibration for error correction,” says Udayan Ganguly, professor at IIT Bombay, who holds the patents for the invention along with A. Lele, S. Sadana and P. Kumbhare.

### Storing values

To store the correction value, the researchers used eight memory cells, each of which would store one “bit” (that is a value of zero or one). Each of the memory cells consist of an ultrathin silicon dioxide layer which is 10-15 atomic layers thick. This is deposited uniformly over a dinner plate-sized eight-inch silicon wafer to form millions of nanoscale capacitors. “The pristine silicon dioxide layer is insulating, passing a very low cur-

## Rainy Septembers point to monsoon shifts

Changing patterns of low pressure, fluctuations in moisture distribution may cause rainfall variation

JACOB KOSHY

For the first time since 2010, India is poised to see three consecutive Septembers with excess rainfall. Experts say that this is a sign of a change in monsoon patterns though it is too early yet to demonstrably prove that is a lasting consequence of global warming.

As of September 24, monsoon rainfall for the month is nearly 19 cm. The normal for the entire month is 17 cm, and there is still a week’s worth of rainfall to come.

### Spikes in rain

While September is usually the month that marks the beginning of the end, for the monsoon’s four month sojourn over India, both 2020 and 2019 have seen spikes in rain. In 2019, September rain was a staggering 152% or close to 25 cm. To put that in perspective, that is close to what the country gets in Au-

gust (26 cm), usually the second rainiest of the monsoon months. That year saw India get the highest monsoon rainfall since 1994. Last September’s rainfall was 17.7 cm which was not too high but more than what is normal.

From 2013 to 2018, September rainfall has been less than normal save for 2014, when it was 18 cm, or 1 cm above normal.

From 2010-2012, the three years of extra-rainy Septembers did not do much to boost the total rainfall India received. India only got 2% more monsoon rain in 2010 and 2011, and ended up with an overall 7% deficit in 2012 (largely due to weak rains in June and July).

However, both in 2019 and 2020, India received close to 10% more monsoon rain than normal.

When August ended, India appeared to be dangerously close to a rainfall defi-

cit and almost 9% short of what is normal from June-August end.

### Narrowed deficit

This year, with weak August rainfall, the India Meteorological Department said that September rainfall would be stronger than usual but India would still end up with only around 96% of what’s normal. However, rainfall this month has significantly narrowed the deficit from 9% at the beginning of the month to 2% at the last week of September.

A rain-bearing circulation is forming in the Bay of Bengal – unusual for this time of the year – and is expected to bring significant rain over several parts of India for most of the coming week.

“The most obvious reason is that the monsoon is withdrawing much later than usual,” said Mahesh Palawat, Chief Meteorologist, Sky-met, a private weather fore-



**Against odds:** The India Meteorological Department had predicted a deficit in total rainfall, however, rainfall this month has significantly narrowed the deficit. •PTI

cast agency, “This means more September rainfall. But why it’s staying on for longer is still to be understood.”

### Delayed withdrawal

The monsoon normally starts to withdraw by the 1st of September and completely exits by October. Last year, to reflect the increasingly delayed withdrawal of the monsoon, the IMD updated the beginning of the withdra-

wal date to September 17th. In both 2019 and 2020, the monsoon began its withdrawal in October and the same is expected this year too.

“Overall global warming is increasing moisture levels during the monsoon period but this is affecting the distribution of the rain,” said KJ Ramesh, former Director General, IMD, “July and August see periods of active rains and breaks. June and September because they have low base rainfall, even the slightest increase shows up big percentage gains.”

A study by scientists at the Central Water Commission published in *Theoretical and Applied Climatology*, 2018 analysed changes in monsoon patterns and concluded that the monthly variability of the summer rainfall was due to changing patterns of low pressure over the Indian landmass as well as fluctuations in moisture distribution.

## The social life of a vampire bat

Each bat in the colony has its own network of social bonds

REUTERS

When one thinks of the blood-feasting vampire bats, friendship and cooperation may not be among the qualities that come to mind But perhaps they should.

Scientists have shown how those bats that have forged “friendships” with others will rendezvous with these buddies while foraging for a meal.

### Studying female bats

Researchers attached small devices to 50 vampire bats to track night time foraging in Panama, when these flying mammals drink blood from wounds they inflict upon cattle in pastures. The study involved female bats, known to have stronger social relationships than males.

Among the bats were 23 wild-born individuals that had been kept in captivity for about two years during related research into bat social behaviour. Social bonds already had been observed among some of them. After being released back into the



**Bonding:** Captive bats once released were found to join a “friend” during foraging. •GETTY IMAGES

wild, the bats were found to often join a “friend” during foraging, possibly coordinating the hunt.

“Each bat maintains its own network of close cooperative social bonds,” said behavioral ecologist Gerald Carter of the Ohio State University and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, who led the research published in *PLoS Biology*.

### Social bonds

Social bonds among vampire bats as they roost in trees include grooming one another and regurgitating blood meals for hungry pals. The study showed that the social bonds formed in roosts extended into the hunt.

The researchers suspect that the bats, while almost never departing on foraging forays with their “friends,” link up with them during the hunt for mutual benefit. They hypothesise the bats might exchange information about prey location or access to an open wound for feeding.

### Live in colonies

Vampire bats, which inhabit warmer regions of Latin America and boast wingspans of about 18 cm, are the only mammals with a blood-only diet. They reside in colonies of thousands.

“Even besides their social lives, vampire bats are quite special: specializing in a diet of 100% blood is already quite rare among vertebrates,” said co-author Simon Ripperger, a post-doctoral researcher from Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. “They are amazing runners, which you wouldn’t expect in a bat. They have heat sensors in their snouts that help them find a spot to make a bite.”



## Question Corner

### Martian mystery

#### Does Mars have water to enable habitability?

Water is essential for life, on Earth and other planets but Mars has no liquid water on its surface today. New research from Washington University in St. Louis suggests a fundamental reason: Mars may be just too small to hold on to large amounts of water.

The study (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*) used stable isotopes of the element potassium to estimate the presence, distribution and abundance of volatile elements on different planetary bodies. Potassium is a moderately volatile

element, but the scientists decided to use it as a tracer for more volatile compounds, such as water.

They measured the potassium isotope compositions of 20 previously confirmed Martian meteorites and determined that Mars lost more potassium and other volatiles than Earth during its formation.

The researchers found a well-defined correlation between body size and potassium isotopic composition. The finding of the correlation of potassium isotopic compositions with planet gravity is a novel discovery with important quantitative implications for when and how the differentiated planets received and lost their volatiles, Dr. Katharina Lodders from Washington University and a coauthor of the study said in a release.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in



**Pouring taxes:** More than half of the money paid by the consumer to buy fuels goes towards some tax or the other. ■ GETTY IMAGES

## Status quo on petrol

Why has the GST Council decided to keep fuels outside the ambit of the tax regime for now?

PRASHANTH PERUMAL J.

**The story so far:** The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council last week decided to let petrol and diesel remain out of the ambit of the GST, at least for now. The discussion on including the domestic fuels under the GST was taken up by the Council after a nudge by the Kerala High Court, but members of the Council chose to opt for the status quo.

**Why is there a demand to bring petrol and diesel under the GST?**

■ The climbing cost of petrol and diesel has increased pressure on the government to reduce taxes on the fuels in order to rein in their pump prices. The price of petrol has risen above the ₹100-mark in major cities across the country. The government has blamed rising international crude oil prices for the increase in domestic fuel prices. India imports more than 80% of its oil supplies and the price of crude oil in the international market does have a significant impact on domestic fuel prices. However, high taxes are also seen as a major reason for the rise in fuel prices. It should be noted that more than half of the money paid by the consumer to purchase fuels goes towards some tax or the other. Even when international crude oil prices decline, the government has tended not to let domestic fuel prices drop. Instead, it has in the past raised taxes to capture the windfall gains that could accrue to oil companies. For instance, even though the prices of international

crude oil futures dropped to less than \$20 a barrel in April last year due to the huge drop in demand during the global COVID-19 lockdown, the domestic retail price of petrol and diesel continued to stay high. The government says it increased taxes on fuels to compensate for the loss of other revenues. Opposition parties and even the RBI have urged the government to slash taxes to make fuels not only more affordable for the consumer but also to lessen the second-order inflationary impacts since diesel is the main fuel used by road freight operators, and its high price pushes up transport costs.

**Petrol and diesel bring in huge revenues to both the Centre and the State governments. Fuel taxes were projected to contribute almost ₹6 lakh crore to the Central and State exchequers combined in 2020-21**

**Why are Central and State governments reluctant?**

■ Petrol and diesel are two of the most highly taxed goods in the country and bring in huge revenues to both the Central and State governments. Fuel taxes were projected to contribute almost ₹6 lakh crore to the Central and State exchequers combined in 2020-21, and bringing domestic fuels under the GST would effectively mean reducing taxes on them. The highest tax slab under the GST is 28%, while the fuels such as petrol and diesel are taxed at more than 100% currently. So both the Centre and the States are reluctant to lower taxes. The States, in particular, are wary of losing even more of their already curtailed independent power to raise tax revenue by allowing petrol and diesel to be brought under the ambit of the GST since it would make them further dependent on the Centre to receive their share of the taxes. At the moment, the States can independently impose a value added tax on petrol and diesel. The Centre and the States have also justified their decision to tax fuels heavily by saying that the revenue collected helps them fund social programmes. Critics of the government's policy of imposing high fuel taxes, however, argue that high taxes are a drag on the economy. If taxes are reduced, not only would more petrol and diesel be consumed but the money saved by motorists on this count could likely be diverted to other parts of consumption spending, thus boosting economic growth. And if the increment to overall economic output is greater than the revenue foregone through a reduction in the tax rates, the governments could end up actually collecting more revenue than under the current high fuel tax regime.

**What lies ahead?**

■ Since the revenues of both the Centre and the States will be heavily affected by a lower tax on petrol and diesel, it is unlikely that these fuels will be brought under the ambit of the GST any time soon. Even if these fuels are brought under the GST, there is likely to be a steep rate imposed on them to prevent any loss in tax revenues. So the real question is not whether the Centre and the States are willing to bring fuels under the GST but whether they truly wish to reduce taxes on fuels. It should be noted that the share of the final price of petrol that goes towards taxes has increased from approximately 30% in 2014 to about 60% now. So, a scenario in which there is no further increase in fuel taxes may be the best that consumers can hope for.

# Will AUKUS upset the Indo-Pacific balance?

Why are China and other nations irked with the new Australia-U.K.-U.S. security partnership?

NARAYAN LAKSHMAN

**The story so far:** On September 15, U.S. President Joe Biden, along with Prime Ministers Scott Morrison and Boris Johnson of Australia and the U.K. respectively, announced the formation of a new trilateral security partnership called AUKUS (Australia-U.K.-U.S.). Its stated aim is to "update and enhance our shared ability to take on the threats of the 21<sup>st</sup> century just as we did in the 20<sup>th</sup> century: together," according to Mr. Biden.

**What are the terms of the grouping?**

■ The summit announcement specifically referenced its intent for AUKUS to preserve a free and open Indo-Pacific in the long term. Unsurprisingly, it drew a sharp response from China, whose territorial ambitions across the Indo-Pacific may well have been a key factor behind the formation of this group. Beijing's consternation that AUKUS will "undermine" regional peace and "intensify" an arms race likely stems from the cornerstone of AUKUS: a proposal whereby the U.S. and the U.K. will transfer technology to build a fleet of nuclear-powered submarines for Australia within 18 months. A parallel development in the submarine deal was the rupture in diplomatic relations between France and the members of AUKUS because Canberra cancelled a lucrative \$90-billion conventional submarine purchase order placed with Paris and opted instead for the nuclear-powered, but not nuclear-armed, submarine fleet.

**Will AUKUS be a game changer?**

■ The short answer is that it is unlikely, and the reasons are several. First, the U.S., as a leading global military power, already has a strong presence in the Indo-Pacific, especially in a grouping that includes Australia, India, and Japan – the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, or Quad. This involves joint military presence, and a wide array of war games and more in the region. Similarly, the U.S., the U.K., Australia, Canada, and New Zealand are members of Five Eyes, an intelligence-sharing alliance, which also has regional security implications. It is unclear what additional signalling could be achieved



**Adding heft:** Under AUKUS, nuclear submarines will replace Australia's Collins submarine fleet. ■ GETTY IMAGES

through the new trilateral security arrangement that does not fall within the ambit of the Quad, or in the economic realm by deepening the close ties between Washington and ASEAN. This assessment is consistent with India's response to the creation of AUKUS, which saw Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla say, "From our perspective, this is neither relevant to the Quad nor will it have any impact on its functioning." Secondly, AUKUS will not likely deter Beijing's strategic calculus across the region, particularly relating to its maritime ambitions and territorial expansionism. The one element of AUKUS that has potential to cause a recalibration of China's plans in this realm is the nuclear-powered submarines. The countries that have such submarines operational are the U.S. (68), Russia (29), China (12) the U.K. (11), France (8) and India (1). Given this balance, which implies Chinese dominance across the Indo-Pacific, the effect of AUKUS facilitating the development of a nuclear fleet for Australia may tip the scales the wrong way, perhaps by heightening Beijing's anxiety over its nuclear-powered submarine fleet. Should this fuel an arms race in the region, it will raise the stakes over strategic flashpoints such as the South China Sea and Taiwan.

**Does India stand to gain from this development?**

■ Notwithstanding its professed indifference towards AUKUS and stronger reliance on the Quad, New Delhi may indeed derive secondary benefits from having three advanced nations with arguably the most sophisticated military know-how in the world coming together to support a free and open Indo-Pacific. Given the inroads that Beijing has made in recent decades with its Belt and Road Initiative, including through projects or proposals for infrastructure development in Southeast Asia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and beyond into Central Asia, fears in South Block over 'encirclement' by China may be partially mitigated by AUKUS. The catch, however, is that it would likely be well over a decade before the submarine construction plans in Adelaide come to fruition and Australia operationalises a nuclear-powered fleet. To what extent and in what direction the balance of power in the Indo-Pacific would have shifted by then remains to be seen. From New Delhi's perspective, the business-as-usual approach is the best answer to such ambiguities: it implies that India will work with the transnational institutional arrangements in place, roping in like-minded nations into symbiotic partnerships, and calibrate future alliance plans to evolving security situations across one of the most complex strategic ecosystems in the world.

## Why has India agreed to resume vaccine export?

How is the vaccine-sharing platform dependent on Serum Institute for distribution of Covishield in other countries?

JACOB KOSHY

**The story so far:** With close to 85 crore doses of COVID-19 vaccines dispensed in India so far, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya earlier this week disclosed plans to resume export of the India-made vaccine from October, under a programme called 'Vaccine Maitri,' to foreign countries as well as COVAX. The latest supply forecast for global vaccine-sharing platform, COVAX, is that it will have distributed 1.4 billion doses by the end of 2021, less than the 2 billion doses it had aimed for earlier this year. Only 280.5 million doses have been given out through COVAX as of September 15.

**How many doses has India supplied abroad?**

■ According to data from the Ministry of External Affairs, as of May 31, 6.6 crore doses of locally made vaccines have gone out of India either as grants, exports or supplies to COVAX. The last despatch was on March 29. Close to 99% of the vaccines supplied were Covishield.

**Why did India stop vaccine exports?**

■ India's vaccination drive began in January for healthcare workers and was gradually expanded to those aged over 60. Until February, the uptake was slow. The first two months were also marked by a declining trend (that commenced in September 2020) in daily fresh cases of infection. By February, the daily count had dipped to an all-time low of below 10,000 – something not witnessed since June 2020. Some government-backed epidemiological forecasts as well political messaging began giving out the impression that India had likely passed the worst of the pandemic. By mid-February



**Glitches in supply:** COVAX's commitment to supply two billion doses by the first quarter of 2022 is likely to be affected because of inadequate supply. ■ REUTERS

however, several districts in Maharashtra started reporting a sharp spike, and by March the ascension was rapid enough for a growing public demand that vaccines be made freely available. India had not yet approved foreign-made vaccines, and though Bharat Biotech's Covaxin was approved before the results of its ongoing phase-3 trials, there was too little of it available to the public. By March-end, India placed "restrictions" on the export of Covishield, and stopped it by mid-April.

**What is Covishield's role in COVAX?**

■ The Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) was expected to be the mainstay for COVAX. Along with the unexpected spike in demand in India following the second wave, a fire at its facility in January meant it struggled to meet its stated production target of 100 million doses a month and was languishing at around 60

million doses. The speedy production of Covishield was aided by a \$300-million investment in SII, in November 2020, by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to offset the risk from producing billions of doses of vaccine and in case it was proven to be not effective. However, with the second surge and the export restrictions, COVAX and its member-partners have over the last few months expressed concerns that SII's inability to manufacture has meant that COVAX's commitment to supply two billion doses by the first quarter of 2022 would be impacted. African Union countries are expected to receive 470 million doses by the end of 2021, but the forecast is 25% lower than predicted in June 2021.

**What has changed now?**

■ Regarding the resumption of exports, India has said only "excess supplies" will be eligible for exports. Vaccine production has nearly doubled since April and could rise to over 30 crore doses by October, thus freeing up supplies. Several factors favour India. There is a steady decline in new cases, over half the adults have got at least one dose and, despite reports of fully inoculated people catching the infection, there is no worrying rise in severe disease or mortality. However, Covishield continues to be India's vaccine mainstay. The supply of Covaxin has increased, but it still accounts for only around 11% of India's total vaccine output. Millions of doses of Sputnik V, Sputnik Light, Corbevax and ZyCoV-D are projected to be available in the next few months but so far none has started rolling off the shelves. With nearly 100 crore doses needed to fully vaccinate all adults, it is unlikely that all will be fully vaccinated by the year-end. For that, one crore doses need to be administered every day. India's average daily pace now is about 70 lakh doses.

## How will Covishield nod impact travel to U.K.?

What are the new rules for tests and quarantine for Indians? Why is India upset with the guidelines?

SUHASINI HAIDAR

**The story so far:** The United Kingdom updated its travel guidelines for international travel this week, saying that from October 4, the U.K. will recognise passengers vaccinated in the U.S., the U.K. and Europe, and 17 other jurisdictions (16 countries and Taiwan), which do not include India. Adding to the measures, against which India protested, the U.K. amended the guidelines ensuring that passengers from those named countries who had taken the India-made Covishield vaccine would be allowed entry without having to be tested or undergoing the mandatory 10-day quarantine, but Indians who have taken the vaccine in India would still need to go through both.

**Is the U.K. rule discriminatory?**

■ The U.K. guidelines, originally put out this week, were not just discriminatory but also contradictory. The beneficiaries of the new rule would be the allies of the U.K., like European countries and the United States, as well as the named 17 jurisdictions: Australia, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Bahrain, Brunei, Canada, Dominica, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Malaysia, New Zealand, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan (<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-changes-international-travel-rules-4-october>). Many of these countries still have COVID-19 cases, and all don't have higher vaccination rates than India. What made the rules particularly confusing was that many of these countries have accepted India's Serum Institute-made AstraZeneca variant Covishield, including the U.K. itself that received five million doses. Officials said Covishield was not the problem, but the U.K. had questions about India's CoWIN certification process.

**What are the concerns?**

■ U.K. High Commissioner Alexander Ellis didn't spell out the specific concerns, but said British and India officials are in talks to discuss the interoperability of the CoWIN app, which holds the database of vaccinated Indians, with the U.K. NHS app. This has raised speculation that there are questions in the U.K. about the authenticity of CoWIN data, a contention that Indian officials have rejected outright, saying more than 50 countries worldwide have reportedly expressed an interest in adopting CoWIN technology. However, more questions were raised after the government announced a record 2.5 crore vaccinations on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday, which does not match the demonstrated Indian capacity on other days. By the end of the week, both the U.K. and Indian officials said their teams had no "technical concerns" over the process, but the U.K. guidelines still haven't been amended for Indians as the government had hoped. If the issue is not resolved in the coming week, the guidelines will come into place from October 4.

**What was India's reaction?**

■ The government called the British decision "discriminatory" and lodged strong protests in Delhi, London and New York, where External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met his U.K. counterpart Elizabeth Truss on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly and warned of reciprocal measures against the U.K. India mandates travel under an "air travel bubble" arrangement, but accepts mostly Indian citizens and OCI (U.K. nationals of Indian-origin) on flights into India. It also has a separate rule for passengers from the U.K., who must undergo RT-PCR tests and 14 days

of home quarantine when they arrive, and it remains to be seen what further reprisals India would wish to take if the U.K. doesn't resolve the issue (<https://www.civilaviation.gov.in/en/about-air-transport-bubbles> <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesforinternationalarrivals17022021.pdf> ). Significantly, the government has also diluted its earlier position, wherein it demanded that the

**The Indian government has called the British rules 'discriminatory' and lodged strong protests in Delhi, London and New York, where External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar met his U.K. counterpart Elizabeth Truss**

U.K. and other countries not only recognise Covishield, which has World Health Organization (WHO) approval, but that they recognise all Indian vaccines like Covaxin that are certified by Indian processes.

**How does this impact India-U.K. ties?**

■ India and the U.K. are in the process of talks on upgrading ties, including their strategic partnership, negotiating a trade agreement, and discussing cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, and the current controversy makes for bad optics, particularly since it involves the Covishield vaccine, once hailed as a symbol of U.K.-India collaboration with British technology and Indian manufacturing. If unresolved, the issue could also overshadow an expected visit by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson to India in the next few months. His previously scheduled visits in January and then April this year had to be cancelled owing to COVID-19 outbreaks in India and the U.K.

EVERGRANDE

# The 'grey rhino' of China's property boom

With the real estate giant facing the heat of mounting debt, the country's rulers face a dilemma: should they let the company fail, sending a message to indebted developers, or allow a targeted bailout?

ANANTH KRISHNAN

For observers of China's highly leveraged real estate market, the ongoing collapse of Evergrande, the country's second largest – and the world's most indebted – property developer, looks much less like the “black swan” event seen by many foreign investors than what officials in China like to call a “grey rhino” – a danger that lurks in plain sight.

This past week, the company, laden with liabilities in excess of \$300 billion, was struggling to make interest payments. News of an impending default sent shock waves across global markets. If Evergrande's precarious financial situation was hardly a secret in China, what was less clear is how far China's Communist Party, and its leader Xi Jinping who has repeatedly called for reducing debt and attacked what he has called “fictional growth”, were prepared to go to tackle these grey rhinos.

**Poster child**

After all, for all the obvious risk, firms like Evergrande remained key cogs in keeping ticking a debt-fuelled growth model. Would allowing them to fail send a clear message about the need for structural change? Or would it unleash a hard-to-manage contagion that would bring growth in the world's second-largest economy, at a sensitive moment for global economic recovery, to its knees?

“Evergrande is a poster child of what is the most indebted industry in China,”

Dexter Roberts, author of *The Myth of Chinese Capitalism* and a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council, told *The Hindu*. “A poster child of the model of real estate which is bringing on excessive leverage to build apartments, and usually pre-selling them before they're even built.”

Evergrande (known as

**The 'upstream and downstream contribution to GDP of China's real estate sector' is as high as 29%; a 20% fall in real estate activity could lead to a 5%-10% fall in the country's GDP**

Hengda in China) was founded in Shenzhen, in southern Guangdong province, by businessman Xu Jiayin in 1996 just as China's property boom was beginning to take off. Rapid success in real estate – the group manages more than half a billion square metres of land and projects in China, or the equivalent of 5 million 100-square metre apartments, or the size of a small city – saw Mr. Xu branch into new, more flashy ventures, including taking over Guangzhou Football Club in 2010 (the club would hire renowned Italian coach Marcello Lippi and go on to become the first Chinese winners of the Asian Champions League in 2013, as Mr. Xu splashed the cash.)

**The politics of land**  
What distinguishes China's real estate sector, as Mr. Ro-

berts put it, is the unique politics behind its growth model. Local governments in China are highly reliant on land sales for revenues, which account for, by some estimates, half of local revenues, needed for everything from infrastructure projects to social welfare. “This means that they need to continually develop new commercial and residential real estate in order to continue to make enough local revenues to run the government,” he says.

This model explains how China's real estate sector – and key players like Evergrande – grew so big, and grew so big so quickly. According to a paper by Kenneth S. Rogoff and Yuanchen Yang published by the *National Bureau of Economic Research* last year, the “upstream and downstream contribution to GDP of China's real estate sector” is as high as 29%. A 20% fall in real estate activity, they estimated, could lead to a 5%-10% fall in GDP.

**Tackling debt**

But as China's economy – powered in part by real estate growth – boomed, so did its debt levels. If Chinese authorities, over the years, sought to introduce a slew of new measures to slow growth, such as raising the requirements for down payments and forcing banks to cut down on mortgage loans, they were reluctant to take more extreme steps to reduce debt, worried primarily about the impact on GDP growth.

That changed last year, with Mr. Xi's government introducing the toughest mea-



asures yet. The central bank put in place what it called “three red lines” that would force indebted developers to start deleveraging and bar them from getting new loans unless they fulfilled certain financial targets.

Indeed, Mr. Xi had given strong signals since the Party's National Congress in 2017, which marked the start of his second five-year term, when he declared that “houses are built to be lived in, not for speculation”, a comment that rattled real estate developers.

Since then, the rise of housing prices has continued to slow in many second and tier cities with new measures that, for instance, make it tougher to buy second homes.

With the Evergrande crisis, the real estate model now stands at a crossroads.

Beijing-based economist Michael Pettis, writing for the Carnegie Endowment this week, wrote that managing a calibrated landing will be far from straightforward with the spillover effects.

**Financial distress**

“The problem of spreading financial distress is a much more serious problem and one that the regulators seem not to have expected – at least to this extent,” he said. “Property purchases have fallen very quickly, and retail investors in wealth management products have already organised visible protests in many cities. Meanwhile, suppliers and contractors are reeling from potential losses, and since many of them have been paid in real estate, they are likely to try to sell these assets as quickly as possible to satisfy their own liquidity

needs. This cannot help but disrupt the real estate market further.”

If Evergrande may be allowed to fail with a state-led restructuring process, the Party will certainly be concerned about the fall-out: the impact on homeowners who may never see homes they have paid for, on thousands of others who have purchased the company's wealth management products, on the real estate driven sub-economy that sustains millions of livelihoods, on local governments and their financial vehicles that rely on land sales to balance the books.

A targeted bailout is one likely option that comes to the aid of some but not all creditors. At the same time, the Party is aware that actions taken to mitigate their losses in the short-term

would, however, end up only making a longer term structural change, which every economist says is inevitable, all that more difficult.

“The central government is in a really hard place,” Mr. Roberts observed. “They made it clear they need to reduce leverage in order to have a more stable economy. But now they see as they do that, the pain starts to appear.”

“The dilemma then is, do they continue to pursue this course of deleverage, show that they're serious about it, do what they need to do long term? Or do they decide to step back because of the fact that it is becoming abundantly clear that there could be real economic pain? The signs are they are ready to push further this time. They are ready to accept some pain.”

CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI

# The common man CM

The Congress bets on Scheduled Caste leader in Punjab ahead of 2022 poll

VIKAS VASUDEVA

Charanjit Singh Channi was the Technical Education Minister in the Cabinet of Captain Amarinder Singh (retd.). He was one of those Congress leaders in Punjab who revolted against the Chief Minister in recent months in a State that is going to the polls in 2022. But he may not have expected then that he would succeed the captain as Punjab's Chief Minister.

On September 20, after Capt. Amarinder announced his resignation and said he “felt humiliated” by the actions of the Congress's leadership, Mr. Channi, 58, took oath as Chief Minister. He is the first Chief Minister of the State from the Scheduled Caste community.

Soon after assuming office, Mr. Channi, who comes from rural Punjab with a humble background, said his government “is of the poor, for the poor and with the poor”.

A law graduate with a Master's degree in business administration and currently pursuing doctoral research on “Indian National Congress: a study of its central organisation and electoral strategies” in Panjab University, Mr. Channi had accused Capt. Amarinder of failing to fulfil the Congress's 2017 Assembly election promises.

As Minister, he had demanded creating a regular post of ‘Class D’ employees in the State government instead of “outsourcing”



ILLUSTRATION: J.A. PREMKUMAR

them. Within days after becoming the Chief Minister, Mr. Channi announced that all ‘Class D’ employees would be regularised. He also announced curtailing his security cover.

**Political journey**

Born in Makrona Kalan village near Chamkaur Sahib, the three-time legislator saw hardship closely in the early years of his life. Mr. Channi began his political journey by contesting the municipal council elections from Khar town, where his family had eventually settled.

He remained a municipal councillor for three terms and then he became the President of the Kharar Municipal Council twice. He was first elected to the Punjab Assembly in 2007 as an Independent. In 2010, he joined the Congress, and retained the seat in the 2012 and 2017 elections. During 2015-16, when the Shiromani Akali Dal-Bharatiya Janata Party combine was in pow-

er, Mr. Channi was the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly. In 2017, Mr. Channi became a Cabinet Minister.

A handball player and Bhangra (Punjab's folk dance) enthusiast, Mr. Channi has had his share of controversies as well. In 2018, a woman IAS officer had accused him of sending an “inappropriate text” message.

The Punjab Women Commission had taken *suo motu* cognisance of the matter and sought a response from the government. Capt. Amarinder had then asked Mr. Channi to apologise to the woman officer, and said he believed the matter was “resolved” to her satisfaction. But amid the infighting in the party and Mr. Channi's strident opposition to Capt. Amarinder, the issue resurfaced in May when the women's panel chief threatened to go on a hunger strike if the State government failed to apprise her

within a week of its stand on the issue. After Mr. Channi was announced as the new Chief Minister, the National Commission for Women Chairperson, Rekha Sharma, demanded his resignation, citing the allegation.

In 2018, Mr. Channi got embroiled in another controversy when, as a Minister, he chose to flip a coin to decide on a posting for lecturers at a polytechnic institute. While two candidates, chosen by the Punjab Public Service Commission, wanted the same station to work in Patiala, Mr. Channi decided to toss a coin, which he said “was done after both the candidates had agreed to it”. Mr. Channi found himself in a piquant situation in 2017 when a road was built through a park outside his official residence in Chandigarh, apparently on the advice of an astrologer. The local administration later dismantled the road.

**Challenges ahead**

Now that he is the CM, Mr. Channi is looking beyond the controversies. In his public interactions, he has emphasised his common man image, and said the government's priority was to listen to and resolve the problems of the poor. The challenge before him is to rally the Congress, weakened by infighting, behind his leadership and reach out to the voters for a fresh mandate, with only months left for the Assembly poll amid mounting political challenges from a resurgent opposition.

JAGMEET SINGH

# Rising star in Canadian politics

The NDP, with 25 MPs, retains its parliamentary influence in latest election

NARAYAN LAKSHMAN

Canada's New Democratic Party (NDP) may not have succeeded yet in tipping the scales in its favour in the recent federal election, but under its charismatic leader and son of India-born parents, Jagmeet Singh, 42, it could well be the party to reckon with in the future of the country's politics.

Mr. Singh, whose training in Brazilian ju-jitsu makes him no stranger to a fight, helped his party garner 25 seats – and counting – at least one seat more in the Canadian Parliament than during the previous election in 2019. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's Liberal Party won 158 seats, short of the 170 seats needed for majority. Like in 2019, Mr. Singh is expected to play the role of king maker.

His rise will be watched closely in India, as indeed the Canadian Sikh community has always been on the radar of South Block for the occasional, apparently irksome, comments made among the latter regarding Khalistan and Sikh interests in the Indian political milieu. In 2013, Mr. Singh was reported to have been denied a visa to India after he spoke out for justice for victims of the 1984 anti-Sikh riots.

**Fighting in the trenches**

Although today Mr. Singh rivals the style-icon, Gen Z-embracing status of Mr. Trudeau, and has even exceed-



ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R KUMAR

ed the latter's accomplishments by becoming a Tik Tok star and gracing the pages of a men's fashion magazine, he rose from humble beginnings and gritty trench warfare as a criminal defence lawyer in Ontario.

Born in Scarborough, Ontario, to Harmeet Kaur and Jagtaran Singh, Mr. Singh had a difficult childhood in some regards as their family moved regularly for his father's work, and his father struggled with alcoholism. In a memoir published in 2019 he revealed that he had been sexually abused by a school coach when he was 10 years old, and he came out with the details because he “had a platform where I could say a lot of things that might help people out,” he said, adding, “I hope that in the struggles that I faced, I can help people that are facing similar struggles to feel less alone.”

At the time Mr. Trudeau praised Mr. Singh's courage, tweeting that Mr. Singh was

helping to “fight against stigma.”

As part of the multiple relocations that his family went through during his early years, he also moved to Punjab and lived there briefly until his father joined medical school in Newfoundland, to train to become a psychiatrist. At that point the Singh family returned to Canada and settled down in Windsor, Ontario, on the east bank of the Detroit River.

During 2006-2011, Mr. Singh served as a criminal defence lawyer, first for a private firm and then on his own, a stint that he has said shaped his desire to enter politics. “Criminal defence is a bit more liberal, more left-wing because of the... social justice aspect of it,” he said in a 2012 interview.

**Filling a political gap**

In that regard, Mr. Singh apparently fills a vacuum in Canadian politics, blending the growing appreciation of

left-of-centre politics in the context of the pandemic, with 21-century digital savvy that helps him translate his political intentions to a generation that consumes news and political information in a purely online ecosystem.

Among the key issues that he fought for in the most recent federal election are writing off student-loan debt, tackling inflated housing and rental markets, and reducing emissions to 50% of 2005 levels by 2030. At a broad cut, the NDP under Mr. Singh does not shy away from talking about tackling income distribution and taxing the ultra-wealthy, not to mention putting critical issues facing Canada's indigenous minorities front and centre, including attacking Mr. Trudeau for failing to provide clean drinking water to these communities. Polling suggests that indigenous voters may be losing confidence in Mr. Trudeau's Liberal Party.

After veering to the right under the influence of Donald Trump in the U.S., Brexit in the U.K., and similar impulses elsewhere, world politics appears to be returning to the centre or centre-left in some cases as nations are still reeling under the debilitating health and economic effects of the pandemic. If the appetite for state interventionism deepens in Canadian politics too, then Mr. Singh and his party may well be poised to play an even bigger role in shaping their country's future in the years ahead.



# Capitals go top after first-rate bowling effort

Shreyas and Hetmyer chip in with bat to set up eighth win in 10 games; Samson's 70 n.o. in vain for RR



In the thick of it: Nortje delivered for Capitals yet again while Royals were never in the chase despite Samson finding his feet. •SPORTSPICS/IPL

## IPL 2021

SPORTS BUREAU

Delhi Capitals' incisive bowling in the PowerPlay flattened Rajasthan Royals' chase and eventually proved decisive in the team's resounding 33-run victory in Abu Dhabi on Saturday.

With its eighth win in 10 matches, DC regained the top spot and virtually assured itself of a berth in the playoffs.

Although the side has not technically made it yet, no team with 16 points in a 14-match season has failed to finish in the top four.

RR, eyeing a victory to jump to third, slipped to seventh after nine matches.



Running hot: The Knight Riders bowlers have had a lot to cheer about in the second leg. •SPORTSPICS/IPL

TODAY'S MATCHES	
 <b>ABU DHABI, 3.30 P.M. IST</b> <b>HEAD-TO-HEAD</b> Played: 23 CSK 15   KKR 8 In 2021 Played 1   CSK 1   KKR 0	 <b>DUBAI, 7.30 P.M. IST</b> <b>HEAD-TO-HEAD</b> Played: 28 RCB 11   MI 17 In 2021 Played 1   RCB 1   MI 0

# There are always things we can improve on: Padikkal

S. DIPAK RAGAV

After the six-wicket loss to Chennai Super Kings on Friday, Royal Challengers Bangalore opener Devdutt Padikkal felt that the team should have got close to 170 or 180 after his 111-run first-wicket partnership between Virat Kohli.

Taking it deep "When you have a start like that we would like to get to probably 170-180 at least. "There are always things we can improve on and at that point, we were looking to take the game as deep as



Falling short: Padikkal felt that RCB should have scored 170-180 after the start it made. •SPORTSPICS/IPL

possible," said Padikkal. "We felt that the wicket was getting a little tougher and we knew that for some-



## SCOREBOARD

DELHI CAPITALS

Prithvi Shaw c Livingstone b Sakariya 10 (12b), Shikhar Dhawan b Tyagi 8 (8b, 1x4), Shreyas Iyer st. Samson b Tewatia 43 (32b, 1x4, 2x6), Rishabh Pant b Mustafizur 24 (24b, 2x4), Shimron Hetmyer c Sakariya b Mustafizur 28 (16b, 5x4), Lalit Yadav (not out) 14 (15b, 1x4), Axar Patel c Miller b Sakariya 12 (7b, 1x6), R. Ashwin (not out) 6 (6b); Extras (b-2, lb-1, w-6): 9; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 154.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-18 (Dhawan, 3.1 overs), 2-21 (Shaw, 4.1), 3-83 (Pant, 11.4), 4-90 (Shreyas, 13.2), 5-121 (Hetmyer, 16.3), 6-142 (Axar, 18.2).

ROYALS BOWLING Mustafizur 4-0-22-2, Lomror 1-0-5-0, Sakariya 4-0-33-2, Tyagi

ed the strike well and went on to add 62 runs mainly because 43 came off the five overs bowled by spinners Tabraiz Shamsi and Rahul Tewatia after the PowerPlay.

4-0-40-1, Shamsi 4-0-34-0, Tewatia 3-0-17-1.

RAJASTHAN ROYALS Liam Livingstone c Pant b Avesh 1 (3b), Yashasvi Jaiswal c Pant b Nortje 5 (4b), Sanju Samson (not out) 70 (53b, 8x4, 1x6), David Miller st. Pant b Ashwin 7 (10b), Mahipal Lomror c Avesh b Rabada 19 (24b, 1x6), Riyan Parag b Axar 2 (7b), Rahul Tewatia c Hetmyer b Nortje 9 (15b), Tabraiz Shamsi (not out) 2 (4b); Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 121.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-6 (Livingstone, 0.6), 2-6 (Jaiswal, 1.1), 3-17 (Miller, 4.2), 4-48 (Lomror, 10.2), 5-55 (Parag, 11.5), 6-99 (Tewatia, 17.2).

CAPITALS BOWLING Avesh 4-0-29-1, Nortje 4-0-18-2, Ashwin 4-0-20-1, Rabada 4-0-26-1, Axar 4-0-27-1. Toss: RR; MoM: Shreyas. Capitals won by 33 runs.

war 4-0-34-1, Holder 4-0-19-3, Khaleel 3-0-22-0, Rashid 4-0-17-1, Samad 1-0-9-1.

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD David Warner c Rahul b Shami 2 (3b), Wriddhiman Saha run out 31 (37b, 1x4), Kane Williamson b Shami 1 (6b), Manish Pandey b Bishnoi 13 (23b, 1x4), Kedar Jadhav b Bishnoi 12 (12b), Abdul Samad c Gayle b Bishnoi 1 (2b), Jason Holder (not out) 47 (29b, 5x6), Rashid Khan c & b Arshdeep 3 (4b), Bhuvneshwar Kumar (not out) 3 (4b); Extras (b-1, lb-2, w-4): 7; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 120.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-2 (Warner, 0.3), 2-10 (Williamson, 2.2), 3-32 (Pandey, 7.6), 4-56 (Jadhav, 12.2), 5-60 (Samad, 12.6), 6-92 (Saha, 16.1), 7-105 (Rashid, 18.1).

PUNJAB KINGS BOWLING Shami 4-1-14-2, Arshdeep 4-0-22-1, Ellis 4-0-32-0, Harpreet 4-0-25-0, Bishnoi 4-0-24-3. Toss: SRH; MoM: Holder. Punjab Kings won by five runs.

# PBKS edges SRH in thriller

Shami, Bishnoi, Arshdeep trump Holder's all-round heroics

SPORTS BUREAU

A certain Murphy S. Law has spent rather more time around David Warner and Sunrisers Hyderabad this season than they would have liked. On Saturday, SRH crashed out of contention for a playoffs spot with a five-run defeat against Punjab Kings in Sharjah.

Jason Holder's power-hitting (47 n.o. off 29) at the death raised hopes of a rare win. But IPL debutant Nathan Ellis successfully defended 17 in the final over to get the PBKS campaign back on track.

Defending a modest target of 126, Mohammed Shami, in his opening over, had Warner caught behind. In his next over, he got Kane Williamson to chop one on that jagged back off the seam. Shami's first spell read 3-1-5-2 as SRH limped to 20 for two, its lowest PowerPlay total ever.

On a wicket where the ball was gripping and turning, Ravi Bishnoi (three for 24) clean-bowled Manish Pandey.

SRH had just huffed and puffed past 50 in the 12th over,



Hunting them down: Holder, who struck off his very first ball, took three for 19 in four overs. •SPORTSPICS/IPL

er, when Bishnoi made it worse by removing Kedar Jadhav and Abdul Samad in the same over.

Holder and Wriddhiman

Saha fought back with a 31-run stand before the latter was run out after a terrible mix-up. With 21 needed off 12, Arshdeep Singh bowled a brilliant 19th over, conceding four runs and picking up a wicket.

Scattered display Asked to bat, PBKS's PowerPlay was a scattered display of some fortune against pace and streaky boundaries.

Holder came on in the fifth over and struck off the first ball as K.L. Rahul whipped a flick straight to substitute J. Suchith. Three balls later, Holder snared Mayank Agarwal. In the next over, Sandeep Sharma induced an outside edge from Aiden Markram. But the ball fell short of Saha.

Chris Gayle, playing his first game of the second leg, was trapped lbw by Rashid Khan. In the next over, Nicholas Pooran fell to a sharp return catch from Sandeep.

Samad then accounted for Markram, and Suchith took a one-handed catch to dismiss Deepak Hooda. However, a 14-run final over took PBKS to a total which proved enough in the end.

## SCOREBOARD

PUNJAB KINGS

K.L. Rahul c sub (Suchith) b Holder 21 (27b, 3x4), Mayank Agarwal c Williamson b Holder 5 (6b), Chris Gayle lbw b Rashid 14 (17b, 1x4), Aiden Markram c Pandey b Samad 27 (32b, 2x4), Nicholas Pooran c & b Sandeep 8 (4b, 1x6), Deepak Hooda c sub (Suchith) b Holder 13 (10b, 1x4), Harpreet Brar (not out) 18 (18b, 1x4), Nathan Ellis c Pandey b Bhuvneshwar 12 (12b, 1x6), Mohammad Shami (not out) 0 (0b); Extras (b-1, lb-3, w-3): 7; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 125.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-26 (Rahul, 4.1 overs), 2-27 (Mayank, 4.5), 3-57 (Gayle, 10.4), 4-66 (Pooran, 11.4), 5-88 (Markram, 14.4), 6-96 (Hooda, 15.4), 7-118 (Ellis, 19.3).

SUNRISERS BOWLING Sandeep 4-0-20-1, Bhuvnesh-

war 4-0-34-1, Holder 4-0-19-3, Khaleel 3-0-22-0, Rashid 4-0-17-1, Samad 1-0-9-1.

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD David Warner c Rahul b Shami 2 (3b), Wriddhiman Saha run out 31 (37b, 1x4), Kane Williamson b Shami 1 (6b), Manish Pandey b Bishnoi 13 (23b, 1x4), Kedar Jadhav b Bishnoi 12 (12b), Abdul Samad c Gayle b Bishnoi 1 (2b), Jason Holder (not out) 47 (29b, 5x6), Rashid Khan c & b Arshdeep 3 (4b), Bhuvneshwar Kumar (not out) 3 (4b); Extras (b-1, lb-2, w-4): 7; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 120.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-2 (Warner, 0.3), 2-10 (Williamson, 2.2), 3-32 (Pandey, 7.6), 4-56 (Jadhav, 12.2), 5-60 (Samad, 12.6), 6-92 (Saha, 16.1), 7-105 (Rashid, 18.1).

PUNJAB KINGS BOWLING Shami 4-1-14-2, Arshdeep 4-0-22-1, Ellis 4-0-32-0, Harpreet 4-0-25-0, Bishnoi 4-0-24-3. Toss: SRH; MoM: Holder. Punjab Kings won by five runs.

## SCOREBOARD

Innings scan

PBKS	Dots	SRH
48	52	
8	2	
2	5	
29/2	20/2	
6.25	6.00	

Next assignment SRH: Sept. 27 vs RR Dubai, 7.30 p.m. IST PBKS: Sept. 28 vs MI Abu Dhabi, 7.30 p.m. IST

# CSK meets KKR in a clash of form sides



Running hot: The Knight Riders bowlers have had a lot to cheer about in the second leg. •SPORTSPICS/IPL

TODAY'S MATCHES	
 <b>ABU DHABI, 3.30 P.M. IST</b> <b>HEAD-TO-HEAD</b> Played: 23 CSK 15   KKR 8 In 2021 Played 1   CSK 1   KKR 0	 <b>DUBAI, 7.30 P.M. IST</b> <b>HEAD-TO-HEAD</b> Played: 28 RCB 11   MI 17 In 2021 Played 1   RCB 1   MI 0

# There are always things we can improve on: Padikkal

S. DIPAK RAGAV

After the six-wicket loss to Chennai Super Kings on Friday, Royal Challengers Bangalore opener Devdutt Padikkal felt that the team should have got close to 170 or 180 after his 111-run first-wicket partnership between Virat Kohli.

Taking it deep "When you have a start like that we would like to get to probably 170-180 at least. "There are always things we can improve on and at that point, we were looking to take the game as deep as



Falling short: Padikkal felt that RCB should have scored 170-180 after the start it made. •SPORTSPICS/IPL

possible," said Padikkal. "We felt that the wicket was getting a little tougher and we knew that for some-

Dhoni's men eye playoff berth; Morgan's side banks on explosive batting line-up

SPORTS BUREAU

The long break between the two phases of the Indian Premier League has not affected Chennai Super Kings, as it has hit the ground running with two wins from two matches in the UAE so far.

As it takes on Kolkata Knight Riders in Abu Dhabi on Sunday, CSK will walk in with a real chance of sealing a playoffs berth if it can get its eighth win of the season.

In the first two matches, CSK was outplayed in the first 10 overs but the team managed to quickly turn the tide thereafter to post comfortable wins against Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bangalore.

Aggressive approach CSK bowling consultant Eric Simmons highlighted the team's aggressive approach to batting as a reason for its good run this year. "I think the biggest diffe-

rence is the aggression in our batting. We have come out a lot more aggressive than we did last time (in 2020)," said Simmons after the win against RCB on Friday.

Like CSK, KKR also has started the UAE-leg of the tournament with convincing wins over RCB and MI after just two victories from seven outings during the first phase in India.

The Kolkata side has the resources to be competitive with an explosive batting line-up that can take on the CSK medium-pacers who rely on swing more than outright pace.

Another advantage for KKR is that it has played its first two matches at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium and should have a better read on the conditions.

Lockie Ferguson has delivered for the Kolkata side in the last two games and will hope to continue in the same vein against CSK.

# MI and RCB seek to fix batting woes

Rohit and Kohli's outfits are yet to register a win in the UAE leg

SPORTS BUREAU

Royal Challengers Bangalore and Mumbai Indians, both yet to record a win in the second leg of the IPL, clash in Dubai on Sunday.

The teams will seek to find a quick fix to their batting woes. RCB stuttered to 156/6 in a loss to Chennai Super Kings on Friday, just a few days after being bowled out for 92 by Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). MI has not fared much better, recording sub-par totals of 155/6 and 136/8 in its previous two outings.

Skipper Rohit Sharma will be tempted to bring in explosive all-rounder Hardik Pandya, provided he is declared fit. The team is not short on firepower, with the likes of Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Kieron Pollard and Krunal Pandya in its ranks. A few big knocks from the star-studded line-up is sure to bring MI back to winning ways. RCB will have similarly high expectations from its experienced duo, A.B. de Vil-



Time to turn it around: Maxwell and Suryakumar will be eager to click in the crucial game.

liers and Glenn Maxwell.

Both batsmen have failed in this second leg, leading to the side's struggle in the middle overs.

Captain Virat Kohli and Devdutt Padikkal got fifties in the CSK outing, but the openers were unable to step on the gas after settling down.

RCB and MI, with five and four wins in nine matches, need a good result to build some momentum in the playoff race.

## Points Table

Team	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
Delhi Capitals	10	8	2	16	0.711
Chennai Super Kings	9	7	2	14	1.185
Royal Challengers	9	5	4	10	-0.720
Kolkata Knight Riders	9	4	5	8	0.363
Punjab Kings	10	4	6	8	-0.271
Mumbai Indians	9	4	5	8	-0.310
Rajasthan Royals	9	4	5	8	-0.319
Sunrisers Hyderabad (E)	9	1	8	2	-0.637

After the SRH-PBKS match on Sept. 25

E- ELIMINATED

# India looks to prevent clean sweep in ODI series



Sparkler: Smriti was in smashing form in the second ODI.

Australia primed to stretch 26-match winning streak

## INDIA IN AUS

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MACKAY India will be looking to avoid the ignominy of a clean sweep by Australia, which is looking for its 27th consecutive win, when the teams meet in the third and final women's One-Day International here on Sunday.

A no-ball off the final delivery by Jhulan Goswami found India on the wrong side of the result in the second ODI.

Opeer Rachel Haynes' replacement Beth Mooney, Tahlia McGrath and Nicola Carey snatched the game

away from India.

India's bowling attack, barring Jhulan, hasn't really delivered in 2021. Shikha Pandey is very hardworking but can she be a regular partner for Jhulan? Mansi Joshi, Puja Vastrakar and Monica Patel have also not stood up to be counted.

The spin department is India's strength, but it would seem stronger teams have now measured up.

Poonam Yadav's loopy leg-breaks have thus become largely ineffective. Deepti Sharma has been consistent but is more of a restrictive bowler.

The teams (from):

India: Mithali Raj (Capt.), Harmanpreet Kaur (Vice-Capt.), Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, Punam Raut, Jemimah Rodrigues, Deepti Sharma, Sneha Rana, Yastika Bhatia, Taniya Bhatia (wk), Shikha Pandey, Jhulan Goswami, Meghna Singh, Pooja Vastrakar, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Poonam Yadav, Richa Ghosh and Ekta Bisht.

Australia: Meg Lanning (Capt.), Darcie Brown, Maitlan Brown, Stella Campbell, Nicola Carey, Hannah Darlington, Ashleigh Gardner, Alyssa Healy, Tahlia McGrath, Sophie Molineux, Beth Mooney, Ellyse Perry, Georgina Redmayne, Molly Strano, Annabel Sutherland, Tayla Vlaeminck and Georgia Wareham.

Match starts at 5:35 a.m. IST.

# India wins two silvers

Jyothi Surekha in line for a third medal

## ARCHERY

SPORTS BUREAU  
YANKTON (USA)

India picked up silver medals in the compound women's and mixed team events of the World Archery Championships here on Friday.

The trio of V. Jyothi Surekha, Muskan Kirar and Priya Gurjar lost to Colombia's Sara Lopez, Alejandra Usquiano and Nora Valdez 229-224 in the women's title clash.

It was Colombia's third World title.

## Scores tied

The scores were tied 58-58 after the first end before Colombia took a one-point lead in the second.

The Colombians were not too troubled by the gusts of



**Making their mark:** Jyothi Surekha, Muskan Kirar and Priya Gurjar brought home the women's team silver.

• TWITTER/ARCHERYWORLDCHAMPIONSHIPS

wind during the last two ends and secured a comfortable five-point victory.

Later, the mixed pair of Jyothi and Abhishek Verma went down fighting to the Colombian duo of Sara Lopez and Daniel Munoz 154-150.

India led 39-38 after the

opening end, but the Colombians won the next two – the third with a perfect 40 – to lead 117-111.

The Indians, who had two rounds of 36, won the last end 39-37 but lost the match to give Colombia its fourth World crown and first in the mixed team event.



**Combining well:** Jyothi Surekha and Abhishek Verma struck silver in the mixed team event.

• TWITTER/ARCHERYWORLDCHAMPIONSHIPS

Nevertheless, it was a personal milestone for Jyothi, who claimed two podium finishes here to secure her fifth World championships medal.

Jyothi had bagged a team

silver and an individual bronze in 2017 and a team bronze medal in 2019.

The 25-year-old is in the race for another medal in the individual women's competition here.

## Sania-Shuai pair in final

SPORTS BUREAU  
OSTRAVA (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Sania Mirza and Shuai Zhang beat Eri Hozumi and Makoto Ninomiya 6-2, 7-5 in the doubles semifinals of the \$565,530 WTA tennis tournament here.

## The results:

**\$565,530 WTA, Ostrava: Doubles (semifinals):** Shuai Zhang (Chn) & Sania Mirza bt Eri Hozumi & Makoto Ninomiya (Jpn) 6-2, 7-5.

**\$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Doubles (semifinals):** Yasmine Mansouri (Fra) & Himari Sato (Jpn) bt Honoka Kobayashi (Jpn) & Jennifer Luikham 6-0, 6-3.

## TV PICKS

**IPL 2021:** Star Sports 1 & SS Select 1 (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. & 7.30 p.m.

**F1:** Sochi GP: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Star Sports 3, 5.30 p.m.

**Premier League:** SS Select 2 (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m. & 9 p.m.

**Badminton:** Sudirman Cup, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m.

**Bundesliga:** Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 7 p.m. & 9 p.m.

**World Archery Championships:** Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 8.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Monday)

**Golf:** Ryder Cup: day 3, Eurosport (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m.

**Laver Cup 2021:** Sony Six (SD & HD), 4 a.m. (Monday).

## IN BRIEF



## Raducanu splits with coach Richardson

LONDON  
US Open winner Emma Raducanu has decided to replace coach Andrew Richardson with someone who has the experience to keep her at the top level on the WTA Tour. AFP

## Bangalore summer race meeting cancelled

BENGALURU  
The stewards of the Bangalore Turf Club have decided to cancel the Bangalore summer race meeting-2021 owing to administrative reasons. The tentative date for the start of the winter meeting 2021-22 will be announced shortly.

## Tokyo Olympics show instilled self-belief: Neha

## HOCKEY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Indian women's hockey team mid-fielder Neha Goyal says their inspirational performance at the Tokyo Olympics has changed the mentality of the side and instilled self-belief in players.

"Our performance at Tokyo Olympics has changed the mentality and given us the self-belief to compete with any team in the world. Our win over Australia in the quarterfinal brought about a shift in our mentality," the

## Deepak leads a 1-2 finish for Momentum Motorsport

Shahan and Arjun take poles in Saloon and MRF F1600 categories respectively

## MOTORSPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER  
CHENNAI

Deepak Ravikumar of Chennai led a brilliant 1-2 finish for Momentum Motorsport along with Bengaluru's Chirag Ghorpade in the Formula LGB 1300 race in the first round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Car Racing Championship 2021 at the MMRT here on Saturday.

Shahan Ali Mohsin, the 17-year old from Agra and a multiple National karting champion, snatched the pole in the MRF F1600 category just ahead of Chirag Ghorpade (Bengaluru) and K. Suriya Varadhan from Coimbatore.

In the popular Saloon car category, Coimbatore veteran and defending cham-



**On top:** Deepak Ravikumar celebrates his victory in the Formula LGB 1300 race. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

pion Arjun Balu (Race Concepts), expectedly took the pole followed by the Rayo Racing pair from Hyderabad Anindith Reddy and Jeet Jhabakh.

**The results (provisional):**  
**Formula LGB 1300 (Race 1, eight laps):** 1. Deepak Raviku-

mar (Momentum Motorsport, Chennai) 20mins, 04.575secs; 2. Chirag Ghorpade (Momentum Motorsport, Bengaluru) 20:10.045; 3. Amir Sayed (MSport, Kotagiri) 20:12.571.

**Qualifying: MRF F1600:** 1. Shahan Ali Mohsin (Agra) 01:40.148; 2. Chirag Ghorpade

(Bengaluru) 01:40.741; 3. K. Suriya Varadhan (Coimbatore) 01:40.977.

**All Saloons: Indian Touring Cars:** 1. Arjun Balu (Race Concepts, Coimbatore) 01:50.927; 2. Anindith Reddy (Rayo Racing, Hyderabad) 01:52.329; 3. Jeet Jhabakh (Rayo Racing, Hyderabad) 01:52.592.

**Super Stock:** 1. Rithvik Thomas (Race Concepts, Bengaluru) 01:58.645; 2. Deepak Ravikumar (Performance Racing, Chennai) 01:58.841; 3. R.P. Raja Rajan (Performance Racing, Chennai) 01:59.433.

**Indian Junior Touring Cars:** 1. Varun Anekar (Race Concepts, Bengaluru) 01:58.911; 2. K. Srinivas Teja (Performance Racing, Chennai) 02:03.402; 3. Hatim Shabbir Jamnagarwala (Performance Racing, Chennai) 02:05.029.

**Volkswagen Polo:** 1. Aditya Swaminathan (Bengaluru) 1:56.609; 2. Aiman Sadat (Bangladesh) 1:56.747; 3. Arya Singh (Kolkata) 1:56.993.

## Bengaluru FC beats Army Green

To meet FC Goa in the semifinals

## DURAND CUP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

Former Indian Super League champion Bengaluru FC (BFC) came from behind to down the regimental side Army Green 3-2 in the quarterfinal encounter of 130th Durand Cup football, at the Salt Lake Stadium on Saturday.

Army Green took the lead

off a penalty scored by Lalawmkima before Wungngayam Muirang scored the equaliser for Bengaluru FC.

Leon Augustine and Namgyal Bhutia scored one each to give Bengaluru FC the required cushion as Army Green got one back towards the end through T.V. Vibin, who scored the second penalty coming the army men's way.

Bengaluru FC will meet ISL opponent FC Goa in the

second semifinal scheduled to be played on Wednesday.

Mohammedan Sporting and FC Bengaluru United will be locking horns in the first semifinal on Monday.

Salt Lake Stadium is the venue for both the matches.

**The result:**  
**Quarterfinal 4:** Bengaluru FC 3 (WungngayamMuirang20, Leon Augustine 47, NamgyalBhutia 74) bt Army Green 2 (P.C. Lallawmkima 9-pen, T.V. Vibin T V 89-pen).

## Texan Aces takes honours

## BRIDGE

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Texan Aces sustained its good work and beat Formidables by 15 IMPs in the final of the Team of four Gold event in the 18th HCL International bridge championship played virtually on the Real Bridge platform.

Except for trailing by 10 IMPs after the second set, Texan Aces was ahead of Formidables in the final. Texan Aces, represented by Ajay Kkhare, Anil Padhya, G

Venkatesh, Milind Athavale, P. Sridhar, Raju Tolani, Sundaram, Sunit Chokshi, won a prize purse of ₹3,50,000. The runner-up spot fetched ₹2,00,000. Solaris beat Shree Cement by 44 IMPs to pocket a cash prize of ₹1,00,000. The fourth placed team got ₹60,000.

In the team of four Silver event, Dr. SSMC, represented by Amiya Ranjan Das, Bikash Dutta, Goutam Das, Shyama Prasad, Somnath Mitra, Subrata Sadhukhan, beat Ganga Gomti by 17 IMPs to clinch the winner's cheque of ₹80,000. The run-

ner-up collected ₹50,000.

The third and fourth placed teams Prayas and Dr. Sanghi were presented ₹30,000 and ₹20,000;

In the matchpoint pairs event, Uttam Swarup Gupta and Aimesh Raj led with 67.95% after one session in the third stage of elimination, from among 70 pairs.

**The results: Team of four Gold (final):** Texan Aces bt Formidables 107-92; **Third place:** Solaris bt Shree Cement 127-83.

**Team four Silver (final):** Dr. SSMC bt Ganga Gomti 143-126; **Third place:** Prayas bt Dr. Sanghi 111-93.

## TENNIS ROUND-UP

### Ranjeet adds another title

GURUGRAM: Former National champion and top seed V.M. Ranjeet beat Chinmay Dev Chauhan 6-3, 6-3 in the final of the ₹100,000 AITA men's ranking tennis tournament at the Tennis Project in Baliawas on Sunday.

It was the second successive title in the National Capital Region for Ranjeet, who will return home to Chennai and prepare for the Fenesta National championship.

### Parv and Niyati triumph

Second seed Parv Nage beat the top seed Aditya Nandal 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 in the under-18 boys' final of the AITA National series junior tennis tournament at the



V.M. Ranjeet.

Accelerate Academy on the Gurugram-Pataudi Road on Saturday. Niyati Kukreti outplayed Lakshmi Gowda 6-1, 6-1 in the girls' final.

## Prof. Sunny Thomas turns 80

Abhinav Bindra & Co. expresses gratitude and appreciation

## SHOOTING

KAMESH SRINIVASAN  
NEW DELHI

The cream of Indian shooting admired, applauded and expressed gratitude to former national coach Prof. Sunny Thomas who will be celebrating his 80th birthday on Sunday.

"I want to thank you for the guidance and support you provided me throughout my sporting career. As a patient and understanding mentor, you kept us going, through the tough times. Thank you for being a pillar of strength and nurturing me to unfurl my fullest potential," said former World and Olympic champion Abhinav Bindra in a video message to the family.

## Golden era

A retired English professor of St. Stephen's College in Uzhavoor, Kerala, Thomas was the national coach from 1993 till 2012. It was a golden era of Indian shooting as he kept the team together on the path of progress.

"It is definitely not a surprise that all our four Olympic medals in shooting came during your glorious tenure



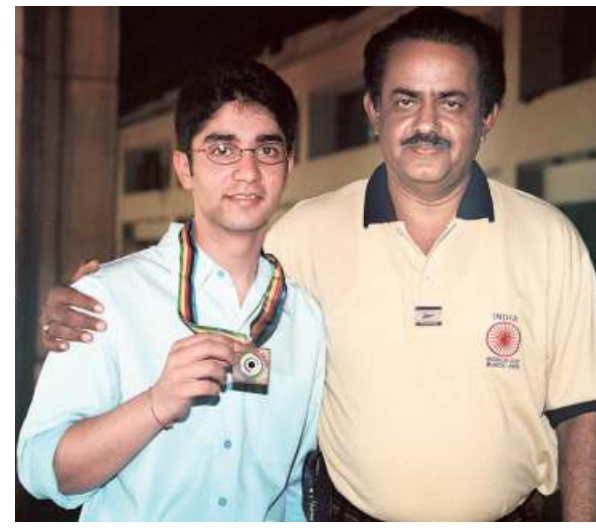
Prof. Sunny Thomas.  
• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

as the coach of the national team," said Abhinav.

Prof. Thomas, who was presented the Dronacharya award in 2001, had a remarkably fruitful stint, as he guided the team win hundreds of medals, in five Olympics, six World Championships, more than 50 World Cups, six Asian Games and five Commonwealth Games.

"A student's success is determined by the calibre of the teacher. A good teacher is like a light in the dark.

"To me, Sunny sir was that light when I started my career. I feel blessed to have had Sunny sir at all important junctures of my career," said the World and Olympic



**Great record:** Bindra reminded that all four of India's Olympic shooting medals came during Prof. Sunny Thomas' tenure as coach. • FILE PHOTO

medallist Gagan Narang, who had phenomenal success at all levels.

## Binding the team

Former world-record holder, Olympic finalist and current coach with the national team, Suma Shirur, acknowledged Prof. Thomas' ability to bind the rifle, pistol and shotgun shooters as a team.

"You understood us, trusted us and we had the trust in you," said Suma as she recalled her being convinced about her world record of 400 only when Prof. Thomas told her.

The pioneer of rifle shooting, Anjali Bhagwat who made the breakthrough in the global arena after making the final in the Sydney Olympics, said, "I feel glad that I achieved all my successes and medals during your tenure.

"I remember how happy you were when I won my first World Cup medal in Sydney. And how proud you were with my four gold medals with new records in the Manchester Commonwealth Games".

Another coach with the Olympic team, Deepali Deshpande, appreciated Prof. Thomas' ability to unite the team. "Now as a coach, I understand how difficult it is. You did it with ease for 20 years".

## Inspiration to all

Another seasoned shooter and coach now, Kuheli Gangulee said, "We are missing your presence in the Indian team at the moment. You are an inspiration to all of us, and a great leader".

After having drawn a blank in the last two Olympics in Rio and Tokyo, Indian shooting does appreciate the remarkable role played by Prof. Thomas while heartily greeting him a 'Happy birthday'.

**75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav**

**आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव**

# MAY OUR SEAS BE FULL OF LIFE, ALWAYS!

Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, is conducting a nation-wide event on "Responsible Fishing for Sustainable Future" in association with State Fisheries Departments, Network for Fish Quality Management and Sustainable Fishing (NETFISH), Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI) and other stake holders. This event aims to create awareness among fishers on the need to practice responsible fishing to protect our marine ecosystems for future generations.

"Responsible Fishing for Sustainable Future" programme will be organised today, 26 September 2021, in the following fishing harbours across all maritime states in India.

**Gujarat:** Veraval | **Maharashtra:** Sassoon Dock | **Goa:** Malim  
**Karnataka:** Mangalore | **Kerala:** Thoppumpady | **Tamil Nadu:** Chinnamuttom  
**Andhra Pradesh:** Visakhapatnam | **Odisha:** Paradeep | **West Bengal:** Petuaghat

**The Marine Products Export Development Authority**  
Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. | **MPEDA**  
mpeda.gov.in