# on Sunday 📰



PM Modi, Danish counterpart Mette Frederiksen hold talks



Kashmiri Pandits restrict movement to designated colonies

China's President Xi vows 'reunification' with Taiwan, amid tension

Pant's Capitals meet **Dhoni's Super Kings** page 16



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in Qualifier 1

that go untaxed or lightly

bring the rate to 15%

taxed in one of the world's tax

havens, their home country will

impose a top-up tax that will

Out of the 140 countries

involved, 136 supported the

deal. Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan

and Sri Lanka have abstained

# IN BRIEF



cleared 13 transfers and appointments of Chief Justices to various High Courts. They are part of a major reshuffle orchestrated by the Supreme Court Collegium led by Chief

**NEWS** ▶ PAGE 8



Asian Granito India Ltd.

### BJP leader's kin, 2 others let off in drugs case: NCP

NCP leader Nawab Malik on Saturday alleged that the Narcotics Control Bureau had detained former Mumbai BJP youth wing president Mohit Kumbhoj's relative Rishabh Sachdeva and two others, but let them off later

MAGAZINE ▶ 8 PAGES

# Union Minister's son arrested after 11 hours of interrogation

Ashish Mishra held for non-cooperation during questioning, says DIG Agrawal

OMAR RASHID

Ashish Mishra 'Monu', son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra, was arrested late on Saturday after over 11 hours of questioning, for non-cooperation during interrogation in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence and farmers' deaths case, a senior police officer said.

DIG in-charge of the probe Upendra Agrawal said Mr. Ashish did not co-operate during interrogation, and was not willing to share certain things asked of him. "For non-cooperation and evasive reply: on these grounds we are taking him into custody and arresting him," Mr. Agarwal said.

Mr. Ashish would be produced before a court, said the officer, adding that the police would carry out a sustained custodial interrogation of the accused.

The Minister's son has been named as an accused in the murder case lodged by farmers after cars belonging to his father's convoy ran over protesting farmers in Tikonia on October 3. Eight persons, including four farmers, were killed in the incident. Following the incident, Mr. Ashish was named in an FIR for murder, crimi-



Ashish Mishra, accused in the Tikonia violence case, arriving at the Crime Branch office in Lakhimpur Kheri on Saturday. • PTI

nal conspiracy, rash driving their and death by negligence, among other charges.

On Saturday morning, Mr. Ashish appeared for questioning at the Crime Branch office in Lakhimpur after the police issued him summons a second time as he failed to turn up after the first one on Friday. Mr. Ashish was asked by the police to appear before them at 11 a.m. The Uttar Pradesh police on Thursday arrested two persons in

connection with the case. On Friday, Mr. Ajay Mishra, told reporters in Lucknow that Ashish did not go to the police as he was unwell. and that he was staying at

Shahpur residence.

'Not present at spot'

Mr. Ajay Mishra maintained that his son was not at the site of the incident or in any of the cars that mowed down the farmers. Mr. Ashish was in their ancestral village Banveerpur attending the annual wrestling event organised by the family, he said.

"My son would also have been killed had he been here," he said, adding that hundreds of spectators at Banveerpur on the day of event were willing to submit affidavits about Mr. Ashish's

# BJP is trying to discredit protest: SKM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), the umbrella body of farmer unions spearheading the ongoing protests against the Centre's farm laws, on Saturday accused the BJP of attempting to discredit the current agitation by resorting to violent measures, and said its intent had been exposed in the backdrop of Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri incident.

Senior SKM leader Darshan Pal said the Lakhimpur Kheri violence should not be seen in isolation as the incident was part of a larger conspiracy against farmers and their ongoing struggle.

"It is an attempt to create an atmosphere to terrorise people and to shut people's voice. The SKM will continue to raise the voice," he said at a press meet in New Delhi.

SKM PLANS 'SHAHEED KISAN **DIWAS'** ▶ PAGE 8

# Global pact on minimum corporate tax of 15%

It will end 'race to bottom' among countries wooing MNCs

REUTERS

A milestone global deal to ensure big companies pay a minimum tax rate of 15% and make it harder to avoid taxation has been agreed after Ireland, Estonia and Hungary signed up to an accord, which U.S. President Joe Biden said levelled the playing

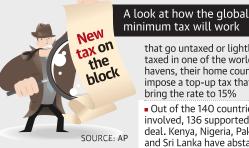
The deal aims to end a four-decade-long "race to the bottom" by governments that have sought to attract investment and jobs by taxing multinational companies only lightly and allowing them to shop around for low

Negotiations have been going on for four years, moving online during the pandemic, with support for a deal from U.S. President Biden and the costs of the CO-VID-19 crisis giving it additional impetus in recent

### Level field: Biden

"Establishing, for the first time in history, a strong global minimum tax will finally even the playing field for American workers and taxpayers, along with the rest of theworld," Mr. Biden said in a statement.

The deal aims to prevent



• Countries will legislate a global minimum corporate tax rate of at least 15% for companies with annual revenues more than \$864 billion

 According to some developing countries and advocacy groups, the 15% rate is too low and leaves far too much poten-If companies have earnings tial tax revenue on the table barely dry on the deal, some

large firms from booking profits in low-tax countries like Ireland regardless of where their clients are, an issue that has become ever more pressing with the rise of "Big Tech" giants that can easily do business across borders.

involved, 136 supported the deal, with Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan and Sri Lanka abstaining for now.

The Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which has been leading the talks, said the deal would cover 90% of the global economy. However, with the ink

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

nance Ministry demanded in a statement that the interests of small economies be taken into account, and said that the 2023 implementa-Out of the 140 countries tion date was impossible. Poland, which has con-

cerns over the impact on foreign investors, said it would keep working on the deal. Central to the agreement

countries were already rais-

ing concerns about its imple-

mentation. The Swiss Fi-

is a minimum corporate tax rate of 15% and allowing governments to tax a greater share of foreign multinationals' profits.

# <sup>+</sup> Will write to EC for ban on poll surveys: Mayawati

'Casteist media' deliberately portray BSP as weak, she says

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LUCKNOW Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati on Saturday said she would write to the Election Commission seeking ban on all pre-poll surveys by agencies and media six months before any elections so that the polls are not impacted and the business of these agencies under

the garb of surveys is shut. At a public meeting on the death anniversary of party founder Kanshi Ram, Ms. Mayawati said as elections approach the "casteist media" or "media sponsored against the BSP" would deliberately show her party to be in a weak condi-

"The party people should



BSP chief Mayawati

manner," she said.

Ms. Mayawati gave the example of the recent polls in Bengal where the TMC had returned to power. She said while the survey agencies had shown Mamata Banerjee to be trailing, the results proved to be opposite.

'Will not derail work' The BSP chief also promised not to derail the ongoing work of the BJP government in "Ayodhya, Varanasi, Mathura and other religious places" if voted to power.

Uttar Pradesh goes to the not be misled by this in any polls in early 2022.

# China here to stay, says Army chief on Ladakh

'PLA build-up is a matter of concern'

DINAKAR PERI

there to stay, the Indian Ar-

on the western front".

"Yes, it is a matter of concern that the large-scale build-up has occurred and



continues to be in place, and to sustain that kind of a build-up, there has been an equal amount of infrastructure development on the vane said at the India Today conclave. "So, it means that they [China] are there to stay. We are keeping a close watch on all these developments, but if they are there to stay, we are there to stay too," he said.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# Water Purifiers This Festive Season Gift Pure Health & Happiness To Your Loved Ones



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M ND-NDE



Justices' appointments

NEW DELHI The Central government

Justice N.V. Ramana.

**STATES** ▶ PAGE 6

With India and China scheduled to hold the 13th round of Corps Commander talks on Sunday, Army chief General Manoj Naravane, referring to the large-scale buildup by China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh, on Saturday said that if the People's Liberation Army (PLA) is

my is there to stay too. Gen. Naravane said if the Chinese side maintained the deployment through the second winter it would "definitely mean that we will be in a kind of LoC [Line of Control] situation though not an active LoC as is there

Close watch

Gen. Manoi Naravane

Chinese side," Gen. Nara-

# Himachal getting less snow: study

Impact of climate change could hurt river basins, say environmentalists

VIKAS VASUDEVA

The hill State of Himachal Pradesh has been gradually witnessing less snow in the past decade and the area un-

der snow is also decreasing. The trend triggered by climate change has alarmed environmentalists, considering the importance of seasonal snow cover as a major input in controlling the hydrology of the river basins in the ecologically fragile State.

A recent study, conducted jointly by the State Centre on Climate Change and the Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad, using Advanced Wide Field Sensor (AWiFS) satellite data has revealed that all major river basins, including the Satluj, Ravi, Chenab and Beas, have



S.S. Randhawa, a co-auth-

or of the study, told *The Hin-*

du, "Based on the average

snowfall data available bet-

ween 2010-2014, we started

to assess the spatial extent of seasonal snow cover in 2015-16. Since then, every year, we have been analysing the snowfall trend, which shows that by and large there has been a negative [reducing] trend in the past decade, but for one odd year. The results currence pattern as well. The snowfall in peak winter is reducing slightly and, in fact, is shifting towards the late winter months or even the early summer months." Soumya Dutta, co-convener of the South Asian People's Action on Climate Cri-

also show that there is a gradual shift in the snowfall oc-

attributed phenomenon to the rising temperatures. "The climate pattern at the global level is changing. Rapid deforestation, extensive construction and unregulated activities are the contributing factors. These factors may be seen as small at the local level but are certainly adding up," said Mr. Dutta.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

### Timings DELHI

- SUNDAY, OCT. 10 RISE 06:19 SET 17:57 RISE 10:23 SET 21:01
- MONDAY, OCT. 11 RISE 06:20 SET 17:56 RISE 11:32 SET 21:56
- TUESDAY, OCT. 12 RISE 06:20 SET 17:55 RISE 12:36 SET 22:56
- **Delhi Weather** Safdarjang

### **Delhi Palam Today** 36°C The weather will be dry A hazy morning turns warm day with uneasy afternoon Night will be pleasant and

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow 36°C** A dry weather to prevail. The morning will be hazy. Day will be very warm

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019

will be pleasant.

# 4 firefighters injured during operation

STAFF REPORTER

Four firemen sustained injuries after a building collapsed due to an explosion during a firefighting operation in Narela on Saturday, the Delhi Fire Service said.

DFS officials said they received a call at 7.15 a.m. about a fire at a factory in Outer North Delhi's Narela Industrial Area and a total of 33 fire tenders were pressed into service.

The fire broke out at a paper plates manufacturing unit on the first floor of the building. "During the firefighting operation, there was an explosion and the building collapsed as a result of which a fireman was injured and three others suffered burn injuries," DFS chief Atul Garg said. The injured firemen were taken to Ganga Ram Hospital.

# 'Civilian killings in Valley a failure of security agencies'

City-based Kashmiri Pandits say violence unleashed to 'derail peace process', demand enhanced security for community members in Kashmir

HEMANI BHANDARI

Perturbed by the recent killing of civilians in the Valley, Kashmiri Pandits residing in the national capital have demanded that the Central government ensure that members of the community are safe in Kashmir and called the incidents a "failure" of security agencies.

Members of various citybased Kashmiri Pandit groups, including Panun Kashmir, All India Kashmiri Samaj, Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, Roots in Kashmir Jammu Kashmir Vichar Manch and Youth 4 Panun Kashmir, gathered at Jantar Mantar on Saturday evening and voiced their anger against the

Dileep Mattoo, president

of Jammu Kashmir Vichar Manch, said his friends and relatives in Kashmir are scared to even step out of their houses unless it's very important. "This has been done to derail the peace process initiated by the Central government. They are trying to divide people again and scare the minority ... just like in the '90s," he said.

Avushi Koul, a city-based student, said the recent killings have resulted in "rumours of another migration of minority groups" in Kashmir due to the "fear psychosis that has kicked in".

'Hope lost'

"There was a certain hope that we would be able to go back to the Valley and work there. But now it would take another decade for my family



Kashmiri Pandits protesting against the killing of civilians in the Valley, at Jantar Mantar on Saturday. • SANDEEP SAXENA

to believe that it is possible to return as they have experienced the trauma very closely," Ms. Koul, whose family left Kashmir in the late

1990s, said.

Badri Raina, a former Delhi University professor, said these killings are not hate crimes but political acts designed to thwart the consequences that followed the abrogation of provisions of Article 370. "Local Kashmiri Pandit associations had alerted the authorities that such things may happen. The security failure seems obvious. It needs to be recorded that the majority of civilians killed this year in the Valley were Muslims," he said, adding that the recent killings must not be used to put mainstream Kashmiri Muslims in the dock.

Utpal Kaul, Global Kashmiri Pandit Diaspora's international coordinator, said when the violence erupted in the 1990s, the government "wasn't strong", which is why the exodus took place, but now what has happened is a reaction to the "pro-India narrative". "What we demand from the government is that it should ensure that the Kashmiri Pandits are safe in the Valley and they are put in a security zone where they feel confident," he said.

M.K. Raina, a Delhi-based theatre personality who had migrated from Kashmir, said while he condemned the killings of minority members, "Muslims were also killed, nobody is talking about that".

### 'Must stand united'

"I think politicians only use us for propaganda purposes, and nothing else. A community must stand united; for 31 years we have been unable to do that and it has to be apolitical. The Muslims that were killed in Kashmir were also our people, the other dimension has to be shown," he said, adding that the biggest

danger is the incidents leading to communal violence.

Arun Koul, a protester associated with Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, said that people in Kashmir were now "facing the same situation that we

faced in the 1990s"

"Kashmiri Pandits have suffered since 1947; our houses were attacked with stones whenever Pakistan would lose a cricket match, not necessarily against India only. No government has come forward to help us as a community. There are other Ministers, apart from Prime Minister [Narendra] Modi, who can look into this issue. The PM cannot look at every issue; the BJP has promised a lot but apart from the ₹500crore package for Kashmiri Pandits, nothing much has been done," said Mr. Koul.

# 'BJP going against HC order on ration scheme'

AAP alleges BJP using Centre as its 'own machinery' to fuel its political ambition

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Terming it "a historic new low" for the political spectrum of the country, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Saturday alleged that the BIP-led Centre had decided to go against a High Court order to fuel its "political ambition".

AAP chief spokesperson and MLA Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that the BJP had used the Centre "as its own machinery" and "blocked" the Delhi government's doorstep delivery of ration scheme.

The Centre had, Mr. Bharadwaj alleged, written to the Delhi government stating that it will not allow the doorstep delivery of ration scheme after the Delhi Sarkari Ration Dealers' Sangh

made a representation to Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal against the scheme.

He said the same group had also gone to court against the Delhi government and witnessed the "court's green light" to the ration delivery scheme. The development points towards a clear "nexus between the BJP and the ration mafia", he alleged.

'Gamechanger scheme'

"It is one thing to go against the law and another to go against the court. The BJP has lost all sense of morality and gone against a High Court order that permitted the Kejriwal government to implement the doorstep ration delivery scheme," he said.

Mr. Bharadwaj said it's a

gamechanger scheme, which thousands of families have given their support to. "These families are eagerly waiting for this scheme to be implemented so they can get out of the shackles of the ration mafia," he said.

In a letter from the Union Ministry of Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution to the Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Delhi government, it was stated that while distributing foodgrains to beneficiaries, the city government had to comply with the norms and provisions of NFSA Act 2013.

The letter also stated that the proposal under consideration for home delivery of ration does not meet the norms of NFSA and the government of India does not allow it. Mr. Bhardwaj said it was noteworthy that the High Court had refused to accept these submissions.

Delhi BJP spokesperson Prayeen Shankar Kapoor said neither the BJP nor the Centre had any problem with the city government's doorstep ration distribution if it "arranged its own ration". The NFSA quota ration is for distribution through fair price shops and it is a countrywide policy, he said.

"Saurabh Bharadwaj should know that even the Delhi High Court has said the government can start doorstep ration scheme but it should never stop ration distribution through Fair Price Shops," Mr. Kapoor said.

# DU second cut-off list sees marginal decline

Many courses closed for admissions

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Delhi University released its second cut-off list on Saturday with the required marks seeing a marginal decline from the first list and many courses being closed for admissions.

Hindu College, which had pegged a cut-off at 100% for BA (Honours) political science, has closed admissions to the course in the second list. Admissions to BA (Honours) philosophy, BA (Honours) English, BA (Honours) Hindi, BA (Honours) history, BA (Honours) Sanskrit and BA (Honours) sociology have also closed at the college.

Ramjas College, which had pegged the cut-off for political science (Honours) at 100%, has not affected any change in the marks required in the second cut-off while the cut-off for BSc (Honours) physics has come down to 99.33% from 100%. The cut-off for the BA Programme combination in the college has dropped to

99.5% from 100%. Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), which had pegged the cut-offs for BA (Honours) economics and BCom (Honours) at 100%, has reduced the asking marks to 99.75% and 99.12%, respectively, in the second

# **UPSC** aspirant found dead

STAFF REPORTER

A 25-year-old civil services aspirant was found dead at her rented accommodation in central Delhi's Rajender Nagar on Friday night. No note was recovered, the police said.

A senior officer said the deceased was from Uttar Pradesh and had come to Delhi in June to prepare for the UPSC exams. She had been residing in Old Rajender Nagar since October 2.

The police said they received a PCR call at 11.50 p.m. regarding the inci-

Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health, 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday (10 a.m.-7.30 p.m.)

### Senior journalist and writer Appu Esthose Suresh starts a Gandhi-inspired platform to filter fake news and hate speeches

# KALLOL BHATTACHERIEE

From communal riots to transistor blasts and crimes of passion, Delhi is no stranger to felonies but the greatest criminal offence in the national capital was committed on January 30, 1948, when Mahatma Gandhi was shot dead at a prayer meeting by Nathuram

In a newly published book – The Murderer, The Monarch and the Fakir: A New Investigation of Mahatma Gandhi's Assassination – Washington DC-based senior journalist Appu Esthose Suresh revisited the murder that shook the nation seven decades ago. Research for the book coincided with the urban protests in America and India in recent years that were heavily influenced by Gandhian slogans and ideals. Appu saw that Gandhi's non-violence had new challengers - fake news and hate speeches. The interconnection between social justice and the need for correct information in the 'hashtag era' was established as Appu witnessed the online clashes between pro- and anti-government activists and cyberwarriors.

Appu and his co-author, Priyanka Kotamraju, not only researched and wrote the book but also took the Gandhian message a step further by starting a Gandhi-inspired social media platform - Pixstory - that flags intolerance and hate speeches.

The Gandhian calling came naturally to Appu, who had been researching on the Mahatma's life and assassination for many years, beginning with his stay at North Campus, Delhi University, which was the first part of the Capital he explored.

**North Campus stories** North Campus, a group of colleges situated next to each other, has nurtured generations of Indians over the last century and been a hub of inspiring tales. While pursuing a bachelor's degree from St. Stephen's College, young Appu discovered one such

In the Rudra North Block where he spent his undergraduate years, Appu discovered that it was St. Stephen's College Principal S.K. Rudra who had asked the Vice-Principal, C.F. Andrews, to visit South Africa and persuade Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi to return to India. Upon his return from South Africa, Mahatma Gandhi



Gandhian calling: Co-authors Appu Esthose Suresh and Priyanka Kotamraju, who started Pixstory, at Gandhi Smriti in New Delhi. Their book on Mahatma Gandhi's assassination was published recently. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

# Social media gets a Gandhian platform:

resided at the residence of Principal Rudra and gave shape to the Khilafat and the non-cooperation movement.

The Gandhian influence stayed with the author during his years in journalism when he worked with *The* Indian Express and several other publications and his academic stint at the London School of Economics, finally leading him to fight a menace that has acquired an all-pervasive form – fake news. The book's co-author, Priyanka, too has a vast experience of working with women and Adivasi groups. She has worked in the past with the famous Khabar Lahariya, a feminist news organisation that is run entirely by women.

Pixstory is already entering into international tie-ups with prominent names and is among the first such Indian-driven ventures which has received substantial support globally. The platform is also available as an app, aimed at giving news and also detecting and filtering fake and misleading information.

Driven by Appu's early political influences, and floated by him and senior journalist Jayanth Jacob, Pixstory reflects the idea that fake news amounts to abuse of power. It calls itself a fact-based and evidence-based social media platform. During a meeting with *The Hindu*, Appu pointed out the way leading social media platforms have been unable to contain the spread of hate as they are based on profit-chasing format.

"We have taken a principled stand that our profit margins will not be high but we will not compromise on filtering hate," said Appu, explaining the element of risk that he is taking in launching a platform that does not intend to empower or reward the hate mongers online.

Like other such ventures, Pixstory has a news section and segments where engagements on social issues of importance will be taken up.

The Pixstory teams are presently operating from Delhi and Washington DC. They include experienced journalists and social media professionals, working round the clock to add the much-needed diversity to the social media world and, hopefully, free it of toxic hate and intolerance.

# The merchant who bought a mosque

Chunnamal Haveli carries many fascinating tales about the change in lifestyle and architecture of Delhi after 1857

NAVINA JAFA

The redone arterial road of Shahjahanabad has attracted attention towards conserving the historical architectural facades of several buildings along the stretch that connects Sri Digambar Lal Jain Mandir to Fatehpuri Masjid.

Along with the facades of heritage homes, there is an urgent need to conserve family and lifestyle histories as part of intangible heritage. In this regard, Lala Chunnamal, the largest living mansion on the iconic street, illustrates a

fascinating account. The Chandni Chowk and surrounding lanes and bylanes represent, along with several other layers, the lifestyles of the landed elites, merchant classes and evolving middle-class professionals. Several mansions reflect the Mughal period and the British rule in Delhi. Many of these families aligned with the Mughals for practical reasons and changed their allegiance to the new British masters, impacting the nature of lifestyles and architecture.

# 'Lalacracy' era

The period and predominance of merchants and the new landed class in different cities have been described as 'Lalacracy' by eminent historian Narayani Gupta in Delhi Between Two Empires 1803-1931: Society, Government and Urban Growth. Built in 1864, the Chunna-

mal Haveli continues to be used by Lala's sixth-generation descendant Anil Pershad and his family. A successful trader, Chunnamal was primarily a cloth merchant (indicative of the exact location of the house in Katra Neel) and had significant trade links in Kolkata, and a summer home in Shimla.



Rich history: The interiors of Chunnamal Haveli characterise Indo-Western aesthetics decor like Belgian mirrors, European furniture, clocks, telephones and fireplaces. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Soon after 1857, Lala Chunnamal bought a large part of the present-day Chandni Chowk and the Fatehpuri Masjid in an auction for a pittance. "Most mosques were closed for a couple of years after the rebellion; many Muslims fled the city. My grandfather, a practical businessman, watched out for the shops around the mosque. The family-owned shops built Shivalayas, Dharamshalas and drinking water kiosks in Shahjahanabad, Mehrauli, Nangloi, etc. So why could he not manage a mosque," remarks Pershad.

He says the family owned the shops from the erstwhile Majestic cinema to the Baptist Church and the area behind the present Bhagirath Palace. "After some years, the family returned the Fatehpuri mosque to the Muslim community. The British recognised the gesture and gave us some villages as a gift," adds Pershad.

Unlike many others, knowingly or inadvertently, the Chunnamal family saved a mosque from being demolished or turned into a bakery shop or a garrison for the armed forces when the British took over after the First War of Independence.

The grand mansion integrated sturdy cast-iron balconies and spun spiral staircaswooden Venetian windows, and used stained glass. The interiors characterise Indo-Western aesthetics decor like the famed Osler glassware chandeliers for candles, Belgian mirrors, European furniture, clocks, telephones, fireplaces, and even maintenance tools for the fireplace. Sophisticated crafts to embellish the interiors include clay tiles from Sindh that provide a carpet look. The gold-plated stucco work in the ceiling is offset with natural indigo.

Ice emerged as a muchwanted product since the British required it to cool their drinks and water. Chunnamal owned the famous Baraf Khana or the ice-making unit in North Delhi, the Old Subzi Mandi and Pul Bangash. "Twice-elected to the Municipal Corporation, he was one of the few Indians who were granted membership of the Delhi Gymkhana Club during the British days," remembers Pershad.

# High life

The Chunnamal family bred horses, some were housed in their home stables, while others were in the Delhi Race Club. A special place for the family was their Rambagh Garden near the Roshanara Club. Viceroys visited, Indira Gandhi came to dine, and the family participated in horse races, including winning the Aminabad horseshow in Lucknow. Some members of the family even came to be members of the secret

society of the Freemasons, who continued to meet in the

Qudsia Bagh in Civil Lines. The courtyard hosted gatherings of courtesans, which women of the family watched from behind the bamboo curtains. Pershad's daughter-in-law Swetcha Pershad described how female service providers like washerwomen and barbers transmitted 'news' from one zenana or women quarters to other havelis. The hustlebustle of the home saw the women under the guidance of a Parsi governess acquire skills in cooking western dishes, accessing recipes from the Woman & Home magazine launched in the 1920s.

Organisations like the UN-ESCO and urban governments in different parts of the world attempt to formulate policies to balance development with preserving historic urban landscapes. They involve stakeholders, incentivise owners of heritage homes to retain facades while making the inside of

dwellings modern. The remaking of the Chandni Chowk requires holistic policies and their execution before many of more than 30 private-public owned heritage buildings are replaced by buildings that do not go with the character of the historical landscape.

(The author is an expert on cultural heritage)

# Kejriwal seeks PM's intervention on coal crisis

He says if situation continues unabated, it would severely impact the power supply in Delhi; BJP questions govt.'s efforts

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the prevailing coal shortage, which he alleged was continuing for the third consecutive month, affecting power generation from major plants supplying electricitiy to Delhi.

The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) Tariff Regulations, the Chief Minister said, mandated that generating stations maintain a coal stock of 10 days and 20 days; but these had dipped to zero to four days at five of the

"Under this situation, the dependency on gas stations supplying power to Delhi increases. However, the gas plants do not have adequate APM gas [Administered Pricing Mechanism] to run at full capacity," Mr. Kejriwal said.

If the situation continued unabated, the CM added, it would severely impact the power supply to Delhi.

Discourage profiteering Mr. Kejriwal sought the PM's intervention for diversion of coal and gas to specific plants supplying power to the Capital and capping of exchange power rates to discourage profiteering by traders and generators from the

These measures, he said, were essential to maintain uninterrupted power in Delhi, which caters to strategic and important installations of national importance.

This was in addition to supplying power to essential services such as cold chains for vaccination drives, hospitals, healthcare centres and **COVID Care Centres among** others, Mr. Kejriwal said.

"In the interest of consumers of Delhi and the power sector, I request your kind intervention to resolve the current crisis at the earliest," Mr. Kejriwal said, adding that steps needed to be taken to avoid such a situation in future.

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor questioned the efforts made by the Delhi government during the last fortnight to ensure proper supply of coal and gas for city's power

"Whenever a crisis hits Delhi, be it pollution, water shortage, COVID-19 or an ensuing power crisis, the Delhi government humbly pleads for help to the Centre, but the moment the crisis passes, AAP criticises the Centre to no end," Mr. Kapoor alleged. "The people of Delhi now well understand this dirty politics of AAP and it will face the consequences in the ensuing civic elections," he said.



# RISE OF THE FRINGE

In recent years, several fringe groups have sprung up espousing the cause of a Hindu Rashtra. While some are gaining traction through social media platforms, others are courting controversies to remain relevant

HEMANI BHANDARI NEW DELHI

n a narrow lane in an East Delhi locality is Vishnu Gupta's makeshift office in a small residential property. The Hindu Sena chief keeps a Bhagavad Gita on his table, a religious poster behind his chair and a sword on the side next to the kitch-

Mr. Gupta claims that he gives a Bhagavad Gita and a sword to all new members of the outfit so that they can "protect their family" and "only scare people, if required, by wielding the sword"

Since the BJP came to power at the Centre in 2014, phrases like "Hindutva", "Hindu Rashtra", "Jai Shri Ram", "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" have become commonplace. One reason for this appears to be the mushrooming of fringe groups. Emboldened by the present regime, these outfits organise public gatherings and protests to propagate their beliefs.

Recently, five members of the Hindu Sena were arrested for vandalising MP Asaduddin Owaisi's house on Ashoka Road. In a Facebook post, a member, Lalit Kumar, who was later arrested, said he and his fellow members wanted to teach Mr. Owaisi "a lesson" because of his "anti-Hindu" speeches.

At Jantar Mantar on August several fringe groups, which had essentially gathered to demand abolition of British-era laws, turned the occasion into an event of "nationalism" where anti-Muslim



Vishnu Gupta, founder and national president of Hindu Sena, at his office in east Delhi. shiv kumar pushpakar

slogans were raised.

### Steady growth

The Hindu Sena, which came into existence in 2011, started with 50 members. Though it registered a steady growth till 2014 to boast a membership of 4 lakh, it added only another 1 lakh new members over the past six years. The outfit now has presence in 16 States, Mr. Gupta said, adding that over 10 lakh people have joined it through social media platforms.

According to Mr. Gupta, the Hindu Sena accepts members "who are already trained Rashtriya in Swayamsewak Sangh shakhas" or those who "want a Hindu Rashtra". "People who think like us come and join us. Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp play an important role in propagating our work and belief. That's how we have grown," he said.

Born in U.P.'s Etah village, Mr. Gupta was only six when he was drawn towards the idea of a Hindu Rashtra. He

was witness to the events leading up to the demolition of Babri Masjid in 1992. "In 1990 and 1991, while attending a school run by the RSS, I used to see crowds gathering in the village and shouting "Jai Shri Ram". There were slogans like 'Baccha baccha Ram ka... Janambhumi ke kaam ka' written on the walls of the village. I felt an adrenaline rush and that's how the feeling of nationalism got instilled in me," he

said. While studying in Dyal Singh College, he joined the Shiv Sena's youth wing. His seniors and peers told him, "You are aggressive, you should join the Vishwa Hindu Parishad's youth wing, the Bajrang Dal". He joined the organisation in 2008.

Mr. Gupta founded the Hindu Sena in 2011 because he wanted to be "more aggressive' and organise events on the issues he wanted. "The ruling party has to do vote bank politics, which is why I can't speak freely for Hindus. I wanted to be free," he said.

Another fringe outfit which made headlines again after the Jantar Mantar incident was the Hindu Force founded by Deepak Singh. He was arrested in the second week of August for his alleged involvement in raising inflammatory slogans at Jantar Mantar.

Speaking after his release from jail on October 1, Mr. Singh said 20-odd people started the organisation a year ago and its present strength was around 6,500. "We work for cows, the Ganga, and Hindus who need help," he said.

Mr. Singh, who used to work for the Bajrang Dal earlier, pursues a straightforward agenda: "Simple objective hai... Samaj main dharmik jagran karna, logon ko rashtra ke prati aware karna, rashta bhawna jagana (The objective is simple - to make people aware about religion, about the nation and instil a feeling

nationalism)". Sudarshan Vahini, another fringe outfit, was founded by Vinod Sharma. He also spent 52 days in jail recently for his involvement in the Jantar Mantar incident. Speaking after his release on September 30, he said his morale was down after the arrest and he might shut down the organisation if he

'keeps getting into trouble". Mr. Sharma founded the organisation in 2016 with three people. Thanks to social media, it now has 1.5 lakh members across the country, he said.

A property dealer by profession, Mr. Sharma said he joined the Hindu Sena but parted ways with Mr. Gupta after a few years as their "thought process" didn't match. Distancing himself from the Jantar Mantar incident, he called the sloganeering "behudgi (reckless)". "Preach your own religion, don't demean any other," he advocated.

# **Visually** impaired man killed in scuffle

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A visually challenged street vendor was killed when a stone hit him while he was trying to intervene in a fight between two persons in Outer Delhi's Sultanpuri on October 6, the police

said on Saturday. DCP (Outer) Parvinder Singh said the deceased has been identified as Radhey Shyam who used to run a small kiosk.

Inquiry revealed that another visually impaired woman used to sleep on the footpath close to Shyam's kiosk. "A man was sleeping at a distance from the woman. When he woke up, he found that ₹20-₹30 was missing from his pocket. He suspected the woman had stolen his money and started quarrelling with her," Mr. Singh said. Hearing the commotion, Shyam came out to intervene. When the accused threw a stone at the woman, it hit Shyam instead, the police said.

# 32 violators fined in dust-control drive

Govt. norms being followed by most construction sites: Rai

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

As many as 32 construction sites were fined around ₹15 lakh for violation of dustcontrol norms after Delhi government officials visited 103 sites on Saturday, according to authorities.

**Environment Minister Go**pal Rai said all guidelines issued by the Delhi government are being followed by most construction sites.

"Today, I conducted a surprise inspection at a construction site of a commercial complex. We found no violations. I am happy that whatever guidelines have been issued by the Delhi government for construction agencies are being followed here. Tin shed has been put up, an anti-smog gun has also

been installed. Water sprin-

kling is being done. I am sure that all agencies of Delhi will follow the government instructions in the same way," Mr. Rai said.

The Minister appealed to all private and government construction agencies to follow the norms. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had on October 4 announced a 'winter action plan' to combat air pollution during winter.



**PWAZIRPUR 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

दिल्ली सरकार

# **EVERY SHOPKEEPER WILL FIGHT** THE BATTLE AGAINST DENGUE



# **DEFEAT DENGUE, EVERY SUNDAY**

To be safe from Dengue, every shopkeeper in Delhi will check their shop and surrounding areas for any sign of stagnant water. If you do find water, drain it, replace it regularly or cover it with a small layer of oil. Come, let us make Delhi Dengue-free

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** 

### New bridge opens over SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY Agra Canal in Badarpur Kattankulathur - 603203

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri on Saturday inaugurated a new bridge over the Agra Canal in the Assembly Badarpur constituency.

# Seamless travel

The bridge has reduced travel time for commuters from half an hour to just five minutes, as they can avoid the route via Kalindi Kunj.

"This bridge is very useful for the people of Delhi as

well as Uttar Pradesh and Haryana and has been constructed by the Flood and Irrigation Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh," Mr. Bidhuri said.

U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had, while campaigning for the BJP during the 2020 Delhi Assembly elections in the Badarpur constituency, promised swift construction work of the bridge.

He had also met Uttar Pradesh Water Resources Minister Mahendra Singh for the same.

(Deemed to be University u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

17th ANNUAL CONVOCATION 2021 30th OCTOBER 2021

NOTIFICATION

The 17th Annual Convocation 2021 of SRM Institute of Science and Technology will be held at Dr.T.P.Ganesan Auditorium, SRM Nagar, Kattankulathur - 603 203 on Saturday, 30th October 2021 at 11.00 a.m.

The eligible graduands who have completed their Degrees from 26th December 2020 to 20th October 2021 can take part in the 17th Annual Convocation.

Considering the pandemic, the Convocation will be conducted through dual mode. For further instructions, visit our website: www.srmist.edu.in/17th-convocation/

REGISTRAR

ENGINEERING | MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES | MANAGEMENT SCIENCE & HUMANITIES LAW AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

# Manoj Tiwari takes out Chhath Rath Yatra to protest festival ban

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

North East Delhi MP Manoj Tiwari on Saturday began a 'Chhath Rath Yatra' from his constituency against the "Delhi government's decision to ban the observance of the festival" at public places.

The BJP leader organised a public consultation at north-east Delhi's Sonia Vihar to seek opinion on the ban on Chhath Puja in early November when other festive events in the run-up to it had been allowed.

"The unequivocal opinion was that Chhath Puja must be observed no matter what," he said. Mr. Tiwari accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of harbouring disrespect for over 60 lakh Purvanchalis residing in the city.

### HOMI BHABHA CENTRE FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION **Tata Institute of Fundamental Research**

Indian Olympiad Qualifier (IOQ) 2021 - 2022

All students wishing to participate in any of the Olympiad programmes in Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Junior Science, Mathematics & Physics must appear for corresponding Indian Olympiad Qualifier (IOQ) Examinations on Jan 9 (Mathematics & Junior Science), Jan 16 (Physics & Biology), and Jan 23 (Astronomy & Chemistry), 2022. Qualification in IOQ is the first step towards participation in the corresponding International Olympiads of 2022.

For more details and enrollment link:

https://olympiads.hbcse.tifr.res.in/

https://iapt.org.in/ https://www.mtai.org.in/

Dates of enrollment: September 25 to October 31, 2021

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thehinduads.com

ness. Looking for an Educated Bride from a well Established, High Profile

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padmapalanisamy@gmail.com, Mana-ger, seeks age 38-41, Ct:7395881522

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Bride from same/other BC/MBC/ Un-

SEEKING HIGHLY educated well

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TAMIL 35/167, BE., MBA., Employed, 6 Lakhs PA. Divorcee, Seeks Suitable

Bride, Caste No Bar. Ct: 98409 56041

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IOT (WHICS) 42 / 183 Fair, Consultant in Leading Hospital in Chennai Seeks Bride. Well Settled family with good Educational Background. Caste no bar Ct : 94434 89505.

tact Parents Only 9966537784

suitable bride. 919884187197.

married/Divorced/Widow issues.9003565434

ardfamily132@gmail.com

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High repute seeks Alliance for their Accomplished Son - 32 Years, Post Graduate Engineer, Running Family Ow-

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BERI CHETTIAR 29 MD Dr 180cm Owns Hospital Chennai seeks Dr. Bride CNB Geetham 9884858014 6383394272

HINDU NADAR 38, B.Sc, Chennai. Sal

HINDU, SC, Adidravidar, 33, M. Tech, Civil Engineer, Thiruvonam, Magaram, Working in Dubai. Ph:

bar FC, BC only seeks good look

ing, affadable, suitable girl be-low 28yrs well settled or business family preferred Parents in Siva-

ned Educational Institutions and Busi- or email:karnesh89@vahoo.com

### THE MARCHINDU 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

Haryany Hindi

Kannada Kashmiri

Konkani

Malayalan Manipuri

Marathi Marwari

Nepali **Oriya** Parsi

Punjabi Saurashtra

Sindhi

Tamil Telugu

Tulu Urdu

Advocate **Business** 

Defence Doctor

Finance/ Banking Government/ Quasi-Govt.

IAS/ Allied Services Information Technology

MBA/ CA/ ICWA

NRI

Divorcee

**Physically Challenged** 

MARRIAGE BUREAUS WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS

# COSMOPOLITAN

MPhil MSc, Lecturer seeks well-set-tled groom. Tamil Hindu/Kerala CHRISTIAN NADAR, Fair 31 yrs/165 tled groom. Christian na gmail.com

CSI NADAR, 25/154, MBBS, working, Details & photo: tuty1796@gmail.com

**DOCTOR GIRL** MD Anesthesiology 32/

165 Fair pretty well mannered and cultured Chennai based well placed doctor family. Father doctor Ker-ala Nair. Mother Tamil Christian. MD MS MCh boys from good families Ćt: 9840050381/ preferred. 9840985383

**Hindu, Telugu,** MD Paed 29Y, Chennai, Alliance from MD / MS Doctor. Phone: 9884614168

HINDU SC PR 25 yrs / 5.6, Poosam, Kadagam, MBBS, Parents Govt, Seeks MBBS/MD/MS, ongoing PG Groom preferably Govt. below 28 yrs. Contact: 94446 53587 / 97881 54437.

ALLIANCE INVITED from brahmin docgrooms PG qualified/doing Suspeciality or IIT with IIM / iil services with clean habits and having good family background for good looking fair ,Vadama lyer girl, age 28 years,height 165 cm from well —to—do family of professionals , doing PG in Gen Surgery... contact no 9444077943 / 9444778154 Surgery.. co 9444788154

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

29 Years Adidravida PG Girl Seeks Groom, Contact Mobile 9441074743

MIISLIM GIRL from Kannur 25vrs/ 160cm Fair good looking Mtech(VL-SI) Working @Semiconductor indusfor Educated proposals

WE ARE from a prominent business family in Ernakulam and are seeking a suitable alliance for our daughter. 24 years/5'3"/B.Tech and MBA. Currently working in a M.N.C. Her grandparents belong to aristocratic families from antonymathew851@gmail.com

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

HINDU THIYYA 28/156 Doctor Girl MBBS doing MD AIIMS seeks Doctors Professtional,IAS,IPS,IFS.9444114016

HINDU NAIR Aswathi aged 34 MBBS DNB working in Kerala seeks well settled Doctor or other professionals groom. Contact: 9345450365 / Whats App: 8144140365

NAIR 27 Thiruvonam 1/2 Dosham M.Phil Maths. Seek Groom around Coimbatore preferred. Ct: 8637611456

MALAYALEE VISWAKARMA(G.S) girl 38/ educated upper middle class family 162, Avittom, Deputy Manager in other BC Communities also accepted. MNC, Chennai. Seeks educated & Em-Ph.No. 9843342955. ployed Groom(CNB). 9445651626 / 9790739037

HINDU - VANNAN Advocate parents seeking alliances from professionals for their only daughter persuing LLM 23 vrs/164 cm. fair, family is financially bride, sound and well settled. Caste no bar advnc1990@gmail.com, 8590192574.

NAIR GIRL 47 Tamilnad Educated MSC PHD Asst Professor Chicago US Citizen.Caste /Language No Bar. Ct 09895824803

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Good Looking, 03–04–1986 born / 152cm / M.Sc M.Phil, working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Womsistant Professor in a Reputed worn-en's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private), Suitable Alliance, Employed / Set-tled in Chennai / With Clean Habits from Same Community. Contact: 9841182514

**CHRISTIAN NADAR,** Age 27, Doctor. Groom Wanted. Contact: Kani-9444676645 CSI-NADAR/ 29YRS/ 156cm/ MBBS/ Doc-

tor/ 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 per son Christian/Hindu Medical/Engg to settle at Kuwait-Ct: 7094014231.

MUSLIM 28/168 MD PEAD Seeks prof in MNC Chennai wheatish color Uthi-ram/Kanni/Raghu dosha from very requalified bridegroom. Ct 8220042091 mdullahsafi@gmail.com Ph/WhatsApp: 9444343467

CHRISTIAN NADAR fair slim Beautiful 27/155 PG MNC Chennai 12L/pa seeks fair trim clean habits IAS/ short/statured congenetal bone de-fect corrected surgically seeks Groom DR/ER contact 8072588393 IRS/Professional good family Chennai groom born after Jan 1992 Ct:

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own House Chennai. Seeks Suitable ee (DGM cadre), Mother Rtd St. Govt Qualified Chennai Employee, Business, Clean Habits from Same Community No Broker whatsapp & Call Groom should be from well established family. Caste: No bar. Ph: 9488707917

TAMIL, CATHOLIC Christian, Vel-M. Pillai. 28. Fair. Sc., Works in chennai, Seeks educated groom(Vellalar Pillai/Mudaliar) Ph-9940283379.

RC CHRISTIAN 29 well Settled Software Engr, doing PG in London seeks well Settled Groom Dr/ Engr/ Businessman based in India, Lon-UNMARRIED, 43, 5.6ft, Uthiram. MA 9176651298

> S/165 yder-yder-lalar / Thuluva Vellalar / Arcot mere-contact: 9787099221, 9842999221 wedin2021@ cm/PG, working for an MNC in Hyder-abad, seeks a God fearing groom clean habits from spectable family. CT: 9944935625

TAMIL MUSLIM Bride (27) BTech IT, Affluent M Tech B'lore Reasearch (Affluent Family) Employed in MNC seeks well Employed / Business Contact:9620432082 Medium complexion seeks CSI good seeks well Employed / Business looking Doctor Groom below 30. Send Grooms Contact whatsapp 7358599354

CHRISTIAN, CSI 27/ 163cm BE/MNC
Chennai, Slim/Fair Pretty Girl, Settled Fmly, CNB. 7299576644,
Seeks Well Qualified Boy. Ct: 7299576666

NAIDU GAVARA Girl 35/172 cm.
NAIDU GAVARA Girl 35/172 cm.
MSc, Pooratathi, Kumbam, Upper Middle Class. Seeks Equally Well Edu-

HINDU PALLAN Pooratadhi 31/155 BE MBA MNC Well Settled Affluent Family OwnHouse Chennai seeks suit able Groom.Caste NoBar.9445005139 HINDU SC. AD. Mesham. Bharani.

mated divorcee girl. Only eliprofile parents contact: 7358659503 33yrs B.E. MBA, SBI Manager. Seeks Suitable Educated Groom. Ct: HINDU 25, SC, Divorce, M.Pharm. 8056104103 165cm Inc- 25000PM Seeks Suitable Groom Caste No Bar. 9710093999 AFFLUENT, BEAUTIFUL 25/5ft 4inch, IM-MBA 18LPA Iyer Haritha Revathi seeking affluent educated groom 26- Good looking Girl 34 (Uthirat-29 well placed within India tathy. Meenam. Ph. D/Physics). Fami-

placed within India 7760845544 FAIR GOOD looking 36/160 never married Dentist (not working) seek match from Doc/Engr/MBA/Grp-1 offi cer, age 36-43, tall, fair, FC/BC, Metro

city/abroad. Contact 8076012583. KONGU VELLALAR Gownder 24yrs, BE,

MBA, Senior Analyst, Pvt. Chennai. Seeks Groom in same Caste.

PILLAI/MUDALIAR, 25 B.E Kettai Working in Leading MNC, Reputed Business Family Seeks Alliance. 9840093322 TAMIL VISWAKARMA 39/150,

Thiruvonam/ Rich/ ME, seeks suitable Same Caste Groom. 9486320982. DKV 27/167 Fair BE. TCS Chennai

Er. Govt Employee. Ct: 8056143638 HINDU SC PR Kongu 1984 MBBS DCH Doctor, working in Govt Hospital seeks suitable groom.Ct:94436-80973.

Parents Hindu/CSI. Seeks Groom Dr.

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

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

Thrissur. We prefer to have alliances from boys, belonging to good Syrian 165, MBBS, MS(OG) Having own Indus-Roman Catholic families with Post try, Complex, Warehouse, Chennai Graduation and settled in Kerala.

### Hindu SC-AD Simmam Pooram-2, 29/ 160,B.Tech,SoftwareEngineer,chennai seeks EducatedGroom.Ct:9677233756

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Saivapillai/Chettiar Boy for Slim, Fair, Homely Girl 26/165, SWE,10LPA Contact: 9444631638

(UK), Elite Business Family, Chennai, Seeks groom – well placed India/ Abroad / Business – 8939012419 MUKKULATHORE 39/155 MBA Divorcee, No Kids, Working in USA Seeks suitable Groom. Ct:9363333297 HINDU SC AD Viruchigam, Anusham 27yrs B.E., seeks suitable Educated, Chennai, Age 28-32. Ct: 9710843632 Ct:

### HASTHAM, 33/154 fair MCA Upper midl Clas Seeks Mudaliar/Pillai YADHAVA NAIDU Girl Maham 27/152

HINDU NADAR Girl 29/5'4" MBA(IIM)

20L/p.a Dabur, Delhi. Seeks Mumbai

9500026119

6381451610

9677025754

9940974050

9551283221

Employed Groom.

Qualified

Govt Employed groom. Ct:

NAIDU ISSUELESS Divorcee 40/165

M.Sc Empld Pvt Chennai, Sks Qlfd & Empld Groom below 48yrs CNB-

GOVT DOCTOR/ MD/ 28 yrs/ 5.6"/ Chennai/Pillai seeks well placed educated Groom. Contact 9535520225

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Suitable Govt. Employee Groom Age

below 28Yrs. jkjaikumar72@gmail.com Call : 96772 49276.

HINDU TAMIL Pillai, Bank Officer, PG

44yrs /5'3", First Marriage, Physically Challenged seeks well Settled Educa-

ted Groom. Caste No Bar. Contact:

MUTHURAJA 28/ 156 BE CSC working

spectable Fly and father Doctor

DOCTOR BRIDE 28 Hindu Mudalia

HINDU VANNIYAR 1982/150 BCA,

Hastham Kanni Raasi, SWE, Chennal, 8 LPA. Caste No Bar. Contact: 9363328257

HINDU NADAR Dec 90/165 cm

HINDU SOZHIA Vellalar (Pillai) 31 157cmx (5.'3") Kanni Rasi, Astham,

Viruchiga Laganam, Computer Science

Well To Do Family Seeks Fair and Good LookingEngineer with Clean Habits from Well todo Family /

HINDU TAMIL Doctor 32/ 158 seeks

Doctors/ Highly qualified/ decent well settled Business family groom

MUDALIAR 29 beautiful fair unconsu-

Good looking Girl 34 (Uthirat-tathy, Meenam, Ph.D(Physics), Fami-ly Seeks Alliance from First and

married Bachelor Bridegroom Aged

– 36 Yrs, Employed, Caste no

Contact : After 7 PM

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30/155, Bharani, B.Tech,

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seeks Software

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hnusuresh9816@gmail.com

IYER FAMILY Elite, Big Business Group

wishes to have alliance for their young

charming looking daughter 28/165 has

The Boy should be tall, well educated from

wedding2021@gmail.com

big business family / corporate group

7550245659

upper caste age 33-36yr 9884202884

Contact: 99442 18418, Nagercoil

9486828754 / 9655065890.

Salary 65k, Seeking groom Telugu/Tamil Naidu Prefer-CTS, (Any HINDU VANNIYAR 1984/154 B.E. Poosam Kadagam SWE Chennai, 16LPA Seeks Suitable Groom. Contact: able) CT: 7200901366/9884001366

BALIJA NAIDU Magam 45 age MCA, divorcee without issue Manager Amazon USA, green card holder. Seeks TAMIL ROMAN Catholic Girl 28/167 BE MS seeks alliance from educated soft–natured good family background settled in Bangalore Contact 8296143384. well settled groom working in USA, de-cent family. Subsect no bar Contact: 9444955180, 9047225719.

HINDU MUTHURAJA 28/ 164 cm B.E., ROYAL ELITE Hyderabad Naidu 25 IT firm from a well educated and up-per-middle class family seeks employ-ed engineering. Graduate from well MBBS MS own Hospital(5) Granite Factory,Shopping Malls Etc.,500 Crs, Familyseeks Rich groom : 98845 10869

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HINDU TELUGU Chettiyar 32Yrs MD HINDU SC/AD/PR, 45yrs Unmarried bride, M.Sc (Zoo), M.Phill (genetics), Ph.D (genetics), M.sc Molecular Medicine (U.K), Seeks unmarried (U.K), Seeks unmarried

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Caste no Bar. Contact: 9042713854. Gavara Chettiyar 32 / 154 / MCA Sadhayam, software 11LPA. Seeks CHETTIAR (PADMASALI) CNB
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HINDU NADAR Age 33 BE/ MS 180cm 600000Lac Working in Canada Groom KA Raman Nadar.Whatsapp-9380791999

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PILLAI, 27/175, Handsome, B.Tech, SWE, Verizone,13Lac.PA, Well Settled Fmly, CNB. 7299576644, BE (CS) MBA 33, 165cm Handsome Uthiradam Magaram First Marriage clean habits Private, Manager Good income, Property living Chennafer. Agamudayar Hindu Mr. Vellalar Christian both are Rtd Supts TN Govt middle class / inter caste no har FC. BC only seeks good look-7299576666 NATHAMA UDAYAR 37 years 167 cm mithunam MS(USA) good looking Di-vorced in a month working in USA 9841931108

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BRAHMIN, 40, ASSOCIATE Project Manager HCL Technologies Madurai, seeks any brahmin girl, 9487851429 Tamil Brahmin, Iyer, 36, Plus 2, 6 lacs p.a, own house. Seeks bride to settle in Thanjavur. Contact:

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KAMMA 32YR/156/BE-ECE Makaram Midunam Sr.Engr L&T 75000 slightly Polio Seeks Bride 9550557682/ 7397792931

NAIDU Boy 31 Fair M.Sc., Central

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Mata Sundari College for Women, Mandi House, Delhi-110002

# **South / South East District:**

Jamia Hamdard Campus, Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi-110062

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# Kawardha clash: Chhattisgarh govt. admits 'minor lapse'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The ruling Congress in Chhattisgarh on Saturday blamed the BJP for the violence in Kawardha town of the State early this week and said the party wants to do the politics of communalism as it has "run out of issues". Addressing a press conference here, three senior Ministers of State, however, admitted a "minor lapse" on part of the local administration to check the entry of a large number of people in Kawardha from outside ahead of the violence despite section 144 of the CrPC was imposed.

On Tuesday, violence occurred in Kawardha during a rally organised by rightwing outfits in protest against a clash between the people belonging to two communities over the removal of religious flags from a thoroughfare in the town.

# 'BJP leader's brother-in-law, 2 others let off in rave party case'

They were freed after NCB received phone calls from Delhi: Maharashtra Minister

STAFF REPORTER

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) leader and Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik on Saturday alleged that the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), which claimed to have busted a rave party on board a cruise ship last week, had detained Rishabh Sachdeva, the brother-in-law of former Mumbai BJP youth wing president Mohit Kumbhoj aka Mohit Bhartiya, and two others, but let them off later.

An NCB team raided the Goa-bound cruise ship last Saturday and claimed to have recovered banned drugs.

A total of 18 persons have been arrested in the case, including Aryan Khan, the son of actor Shahrukh Khan.

Mr. Malik showed photographs and videos of the three individuals - Sachdeva,



NCP leader Nawab Malik addressing a press conference in Mumbai on Saturday. • РТІ

Pratik Gabha and Amir Furniturewala - walking into and then leaving the NCB office. He alleged that they were let off after officials received phone calls from BJP leaders in Delhi. "Call records of these individuals and also that of NCB official Sameer Wankhede should be checked by Mumbai police. The truth will come out," he said.

Leaders of

continue their

verbal duels

NAGESH PRABHU

Opposition parties

Frequent squabbles between

the Opposition Congress and

the JD(S), which had formed a

coalition government three

years ago, seems to be advan-

tageous for the ruling BJP in

the bypolls to the two State As-

sembly constituencies of Han-

gal and Sindgi on October 30.

The Minister said he would write to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray demanding a

high-level probe by the Mum-

bai police. Responding to the allegations at a press conference, the NCB said some of those who were detained were allowed to leave due to the lack of evidence. "The agency does its work as per the law. We are not biased and do not discriminate on any other basis," said Mr. Wankhede.

"A total of 14 persons were brought to NCB Zonal Office for examination. All of them were served notice u/s 67, examined thoroughly and their statements were recorded. Thereafter 8 persons were arrested and remaining 6 persons were let off since no incriminating evidence was found against them. However, in the course of investigation they can be associated if need arises as per law," the NCB said in a statement.

'Check CCTV footage' Earlier, Mr. Malik said CCTV

footage of the cruise and areas connected to the case should be checked by the police along with the phone calls of the three people and that

# RLD promises guaranteed income for urban workers

It will be named after Kanshi Ram, says party chief

Continuing with its Dalit outreach, the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) on Saturday promised a new scheme for urban labour on the lines of the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA) if voted to power.

Promising guaranteed income for urban labour in the unorganised sector, the announcement was made by party president Jayant Singh on the occasion of the death anniversary of Kanshi Ram, who founded the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP).

"Those working in the unorganised sector in urban areas don't get the benefits of government schemes. In the memory of Kanshi Ramji, we are including a special scheme for the urban labour in our manifesto that will



■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

provide them a protective cover and help in their economic growth. It will be named after Kanshi Ramji and help in providing a dignified life to the urban poor,' the RLD chief said.

The announcement was

made as the party concluded its Nyay Yatra with a rally in Agra. Mr. Chaudhary said Kanshi Ram gave voice to the deprived sections of society. "The young generation

plete his unfinished goals. As part of the Nyay Yatra, RLD workers reached out to the underprivileged," he said.

Invoking the founder of the BSP in Agra, known as the Dalit capital of Uttar Pradesh, is being seen as an attempt to reach out to bahujan vote bank. With Chandrashekhar Azad of the Azad Samaj Party showing interest in a seat-sharing arrangement with the Samajwadi Party and the RLD, the announcement's impact will be watched in the coming days.

Prashant Kanojia, incharge of the RLD's SC/ST cell, appealed to public not to forget how farmers were mowed down in Lakhimpur and how Mr. Singh was lathicharged when he went to meet the family of the Hathras gangrape and murder

# Mumbai Police summons CBI chief in data leak case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

Cyber Cell of Mumbai Police on Saturday summoned CBI director and former Maharashtra DGP Subodh Kumar Jaiswl in a phone tapping and data leak case, a senior official said here.

Mr. Jaiswal has been asked to be present to record his statement on October 14, the police official said. The summons was sent by email, he added.

The case relates to the `leak' of a report prepared by IPS officer Rashmi Shukla about alleged corruption in police transfers in Maharashtra when she headed the State intelligence department (SID). Mr. Jaiswal was the director general of police during this period.

It was alleged that phones of senior politicians and officials were tapped illegally during the inquiry and the report was leaked deliberately, but the FIR registered in this regard by the cyber cell does not name Ms. Shukla or any other official.

# **BYELECTIONS**

Leaders of both Opposition parties not only indulged in verbal duels in the just-concluded legislature session but also outside. JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy's outburst every now and then against Congress leader Siddaramaiah for the latter's alleged lack of support during the coalition government has not gone down well with the loyalists of the

On the other hand, the JD (S) is miffed over KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar's strategy of wooing its MLAs and leaders into Congress.

Minority votes: will squabbles between JD(S), Cong. help BJP?

Another bone of contention has been the JD(S) decision to field candidates belonging to the minority community for both bypoll seats. The Congress leaders accuse the JD(S) of trying to divide the minority votes, thereby helping the BJP, a charge denied by Mr. Kumaraswamy. Split of minority votes could harm the electoral prospects of the Congress.

Mr. Kumaraswamy's outbursts against the RSS is also seen by the Congress as aimed

> **OBITUARY &** REMEMBRANCE

at drawing minority votes. The BJP is expected to strongly counter the criticism mounted on the RSS by both the Opposition parties to draw majority community voters. Polarisation of votes on community lines will ensure an upper hand to the BJP even before commencement of campaign.

No sign of unity

Experts say that unity among the Congress and the JD(S) could have projected them as a credible and viable alternative to the BJP, which is facing flak on multiple fronts, includ-

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ing the farmers' protests. A perception of Opposition unity could contribute to a large swing of votes away from the ruling BJP. Fielding of candidates by all three major parties would lead to splitting of votes, particularly minorities, which could benefit ruling BJP.

In Sindgi, the Congress has fielded Ashok Managuli, son of late MLA M.C. Managuli, who was with the JD(S). In Hangal, the party has fielded Srinivas V. Mane, who lost by 6,500 votes to the late C.M. Udasi of the BJP in 2018. Manohar Tahsildar, former MLA, too was an

Services won't be hit

during Maharashtra

bandh: MVA allies

All three ruling parties

in Maharashtra on Satur-

day said that essential

services won't be hit in

the State bandh called

to protest against the

killing of farmers in Ut-

tar Pradesh's Lakhimpur

Congress and the Na-

tionalist Congress Party

held a joint press confe-

rence on Saturday an-

nouncing that all three parties will join the

Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha

MP Sanjay Raut said his

party will participate in

the October 11 bandh in

'Bandh necessary'

Maharashtra.

bandh with full force.

The Shiv Sena, the

The ruling BJP has fielded Shivaraj Sajjanar in Hangal, belying expectations of Udasi's daughter-in-law being picked, and Ramesh Bhusanur in Sind-

The JD(S) has fielded Naziya Shakeel Ahmed Angadi from Sindgi and Niyaz Shaikh from Hangal. In a three-cornered contest, voters might throw their weight behind the ruling party, particularly in the bypolls, and this was the case in several constituencies that went to bypolls in the State in the last two years.



Indian Bank

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Patna Main Branch, Budh Marg, Patna - 800 001 Phone: 0612-3563581, E-mail: p611@indianbank.co.in

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SI. No.		Name of the Account & Name		Reserve Price (in Rs)	Secured creditor's Outstanding Dues	
Bron		& Address of	Details of Immovable Properties	Earnest Money Deposit	Property ID	
Branch		Borrower/ Guarantors		Bid Incremental amt	Encumbrance on Property	
	01 Patna Main	M/S Talpada, PropShri Ranjan Mallik (Borrower) S/o Shri Parmeshwar Mallik, Smt. Chandra Mallik W/o Shri	Deed No-21356 Dated 25.07.2012 in Book No-1, Volume No-	(Rupees Twenty Nine Lacs Fifty FourThousand One Hundred Fifty Four Only)	Rs. 44,48,216/-(Rupees Forty Four Lacs Forty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Sixteen Only) as on 07.10.2021 + interest cost & other Charges.	
		Parmeshwar Mallik & Smt. Sharada Mallik D/o Shri Parmeshwar Mallik & W/o Pramod Kumar Lal Das	Mallik W/O Parmeshwar Mallik, <b>Boundary (as per deed): North:</b> Part Plot No-471 Hal Kharidar Smt Sharda Suman, <b>South:</b> Part Plot No-471 (P), <b>East:</b> 16' wide Road & <b>West:</b> Part Plot No-471 (P).	(Rupees Two Lac Ninety FiveThousand Four Hundred Fifteen only)	IDIB20202137	
		(Guarantor)	(B) All that part and parcel of Plot situated at Mauza-	1000	NOT KNOWN	

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**(33)** 

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TENDER NOTICE No. - GBPNIHE/2021-22/14

Director, G.B Pant National Institute of Himalayan Environment Kosi-Katarmal, Almora, Uttarakhand Invites sealed Tenders for auction of unserviceable/scrap Computer items. The date of receipt of the sealed tenders is 18.10.2021 at 2:30 pm by only Registered/Speed Post/Courier and the tender will be opened on 18.10.2021 at 3.00 P.M. The Computer items may be seen in any working day from 10.00 A.M to 1.00 P.M. up to 13.10.2021 at Institute premises.

The full details of tender are available in the Institute Website http://gbpihed.gov.in. Office Superintendent (Store) Email: Store@gbpihed.nic.in

Addressing a press conference along with NCP spokesperson Nawab Malik and State Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant, Mr. Raut said the bandh was necessary to wake people up against the antifarmer policies of the Central government.



Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut. • FILE PHOTO

"Farmers are not alone in this fight and the process of showing solidarity with them must begin from Maharashtra," said Mr. Raut.

The Shiv Sena leader said he had discussed the need for a joint opposition strategy with NCP's Sharad Pawar and Congress' Rahul Gandhi, adding that other States must follow Maharashtra's lead to express soli-

darity with farmers. NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Friday had asked his party members to peacefully but effectively take part in the bandh. Congress too has already extended its support.

### झारखण्ड सरकार पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग ई-प्रोक्योरमेन्ट सूचना (प्रथम आमंत्रण)

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या - (तेनुघाट) (JJM) 13/2021-22

तिथि - 06.10.2021

Name of the Work: Detailed survey, designing and drawing, Construction of R.C.C. Intake Well cum Pump House, R.C.C. Gangway 50 M long and 3.00 M Wide, 1.00 MLD capacity Unconventional Water Treatment Plant, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 1-100 Kilolitre, capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 23 m, RCC Elevated Service Reservoir – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling height – 2-100 Kilolitre, Capacity Stagling

	1	Supplying and Installation of VT and Centrifugal pump complete job for <b>Dhawaiya &amp; adjoining village Rura</b> turnkey basis" for the year 2021-22.						
1	2	प्राक्कलित राशि	797.66 लाख					
1	3	अग्रधन की राशि	7.98 লাख					
1	4	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य	10000.00					
	5	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	24 माह + 3 माह (ट्रायल रन की अवधि)					
1	6	वेबसाइट पर निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	16.10.2021 समय 02.00  बजे अपराहन्  तक					
1	7	प्री बीड मिटिंग की तिथि	21.10.2021 समय 12.30 बजे अपराहन् तक					
	8	निविदा प्राप्ति (ऑन लाईन बिडींग) की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	30.10.2021 समय 05.00 बजे अपराहन्  तक					
	9	पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्रमंडल, तेनुचाट / अधीक्षण अभियंता पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता अंचल धनबाट, क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग दुमका प्रक्षेत्र दुमका के कार्यालय में परिमाण विगत्र का मूल्य एवं अग्रधन की राशि की मूल प्रति जमा करने की अन्तिम तिथि एवं समय	01.11.2021 समय 04.00 बजे अपराहन् तक					
1	10	तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	02.11.2021 समय 04:00 बजे अपराहन्					
	11	तकनीकी बिड खोलने का स्थान	अधीक्षण अभियंता का कार्यालय पेयजल एवं स्वचछता अंचल, धनबाद।					
	12	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम/पदनाम :	- ई0 राम प्रवेश राम, कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्वचछता प्रमंडल, तेनुघाट।					
1	13	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले कार्यालय का टेलिफोन नं0	9430153040, 9430475767					
1	14	ई— प्रोक्यरमेन्ट सेल का हेल्प लाईन सं0	0651-2480345					

नोट – केवल ई निविदा ही स्वीकार किये जायेंगे। ऐसे सम्बेदक जिन्हें पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग झारखण्ड सरकार का निबंधन प्राप्त नहीं है वे भी निविदा में भाग ले सकते है वशर्ते कि वैसे सम्बेदक को कार्य आवंटित की तिथि से दो माह के अन्दर पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग झारखण्ड सरकार से निबंधन पत्र प्राप्त कर लेना अनिवार्य होगा। अधिक जानकारी के लिए वेवसाईट http://jharkhandtender.gov.in पर कार्यपालक अभियंता

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# उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड कार्यात्य अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर। दूरमाष 05949—282200 कारपोरेट आई०डी० संख्या U40109UR22011SGC025867 Email: eddbazpur@gmail.com Website: www.upcl.org वेद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के अन्तर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु अनुभवी एवं प्रतिष्ठित निविदादाताओं जो <mark>विद्युत सुरक्षा विभाग उत्तराखण्ड शासन/ सरकार</mark> वेत्तीय वर्ष 2021–22 हेतु **"ए" श्रेणी (2021–22 का नवीनीकृत न होने पर वर्ष 2021–22 की चालान प्रति सहित), जी<b>०एस०टी०, आयकर, कर्मचारी गवि**ष निधि, ईं0एस0आई0 विभाग में पंजीकृत एवं विद्युत / निविदा से सम्बंधित कार्यों का अनुमव (कार्य की लागत का 100% ) रखते हो, मुहरबन्द निविदायें (व भागों में) आमन्त्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र निम्न तालिका में दर्शायी गयी निविदा मूल्य धनराशि (जीठएसठटीठ सहित) का वैंक ड्राफ्ट जो अधिशासी अभियन्त विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के नाम देय हो, प्रस्तुत करने पर दिनाक 26/10/2021 13:00 बजे तक कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण खण्य

बाजपुर से प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। यह राशि अप्रतिदेय (Non-refundable) होगी। निविदा प्रपत्र डाक से प्राप्त करने पर रूठ 100— प्रति निविदा अतिरिक्त जन करने होंगे। डाक से प्रेषित निविदा प्रपत्र विलम्ब एंव अन्य किसी भी कारणों से न प्राप्त होने पर विभाग किसी भी प्रकार से उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा। निविदा के साथ प्रथ भाग में वांछित प्रपत्र एंव प्रचलित वैध आयकर, वितीय क्षमता (तालिकानुसार टर्नओवर) सम्बंधित प्रपत्र, विद्युत कार्य के सफलतापूर्वक निष्पादन सम्बंधित प्रपत्र (कार्य की लागत का न्यूनतम 50% का प्रमाण पत्र जो सक्षम अधिकारी द्वारा जारी किया गया हो) तथा धरोहर राशि का बैव ङ्मापट/टीoडीoआरo/सीoडीoआरo/एफoडीoआरo जो अधिशासी अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के नाम बन्धक हो. **(निविदा घरोहर राशि निविद** प्रका**शन के बाद की होनी चाहिये)** साथ लगाना अनिवार्य होगा। निविदायें अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में दिनांक 27/10/2021, को 1330 बजे तक स्वीकार की जायेंगी। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता अथवा उनके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि द्वारा दिनांक 27 / 10 / 2021 को 1530 बजे उपस्थित निविदादाताओं के सम्मुख सार्वजनिक रूप से खोले जायेंगी। निविदा खोलने की तिथि पर अवकाश होने की स्थिति मे निविदा अगले कार्य दिवस पर निर्धारित समय पर खोली जायेंगी। निविदा दो मागों में प्रेषित की नायेगी। भाग−1 के लिफाफें में धरोहर राशि के साथ अन्य वाछित समस्त प्रपत्र होगे एंवम् भाग−2 के लिफाफे में मात्र सम्बंधित कार्यों की दरें होगी। भाग−1 अपूर्ण हो की रिखति में भाग-2 का लिफाफा नहीं खोला जायेगा। निविदा के माग-2 में दी गयी दशें की कैंग्रता न्यूनतम छः माह तक होगी तथा इस हेतु रु० 100.00 (रु० सी मात्र के स्टाम्प पेपर पर शपथ पत्र निविदा के भाग-1 के साथ दिया जाना अनिवार्य होगा। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता को निम्नलिखित निविदाओं / निविदा बिना कोई कारण इगिर किये निरस्त / वापस लेने / संशोधित करने / अथवा विस्तारित करने का पूर्ण अधिकार होगा ।

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# **WESTERN RAILWAY**

**ELECTRIFICATION OF AUGMENTATION** <u>OF POWER SUPPLY TO AIR COMPRESSO</u> Deputy Chief Electrical Enginee

leadquarter Building, Churchgate /lumbai - 400 020 invites offer through tender portal www.ireps.gov.in fo the following tender:- Tender No.: EL/C/CCG/2021-22/01R. Name of Work: Electrification of Augmentation of Power Supply to Air Compressor a /alsad Loco Shed in connection with DFCCIL Work on Mumbai Division o **Western Railway.** NIT Cost: ₹ **54,82,674/-.** EMD: ₹ **NIL.** e-Bid Submission Closing on: 08/11/2021 at 15.00 hrs. e-Bid Opening Date: 08/11/2021 at 15.30 hrs. Instructions to the enderers: 1) Only e-offers submitted online through e-tender portal will be considered. Please note that printed offers will not be entertained. 2) The scope of work are uploaded and are available in electronic format on our ebsite www.ireps.gov.in

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stations launched

Kerala Tourism Minister P.A. Mohamed Rivas launched pole-mounted electric vehicle charging stations, set up under the aegis of the KSEB, in Kozhikode on Saturday.

### **ONGC** begins repair work after gas leak

The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has kick-started repair work on the underground pipeline connecting the well PS-43 following gas leakage from the underground facility in Fast Godavari district, Locals alerted the ONGC-Thatipaka facility authorities about the gas leak on Friday evening, and it was later plugged.

# A.P. nabs red sanders smugglers

Ramanatha Reddy, 3 others held; 66 logs, SUV seized

STAFF REPORTER

Personnel of the Andhra Pradesh Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) on Saturday nabbed one of the most wanted red sanders smugglers G. Ramanatha Reddy, who allegedly has links to global syndicates.

The SEB also nabbed three of Reddy's accomplices and seized 66 logs, along with a container lorry and an SUV worth ₹60 lakh, at the Nadumuru check-post on the Kuppam-Krishnagiri highway.

### Special team

Addressing a press conference, Joint Director SEB V. Vidyasagar Naidu said acting on information about the



In the net: The four smugglers and the seized logs at Chittoor on Saturday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

movement of the contraband towards Karnataka, a special team was formed, which waited at the checkpost. Around 3 a.m., the police intercepted the two vehicles, and nabbed four occupants, one of whom turned out to be Reddy. The accused and the seized goods were brought to District Police Of-

fice in Chittoor. Mr. Naidu said Reddy was involved in 60 cases pertaining to red sanders smuggling in Chittoor, Anantapur, Kadapa, Kurnool and Nellore districts. As per police records, the accused played a vital role in exporting over 500 tonnes of red sanders logs, worth over ₹1,000 crore, to West Asia after forming ties with notorious Dubai-based smuggling operative Shahul Bhai.

He was also a key accused, along with Kollam Gangi Reddy, in a case pertaining to the seizure of 32 tonnes of logs in 2013. He also maintained close links with Kolkata-based international smuggling operative Lakshman.

Reddy, a native of Chapadu mandal of Kadapa district, is residing at Vinjamuru in SPSR Nellore district.

His three accomplices, identified as Eeshwar Reddy, 43, Chinna Mallaiah, 33, and S. Bhimaiah, 40, all belonging to Kadapa district, are also wanted in several cases of red sanders smuggling in Rayalaseema districts, police

# Two arrested on charge of moral policing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Moodbidri police on Saturday arrested two persons on the charge of indulging in moral policing by abusing two women travelling in a car.

City Police Commissioner N. Shashi Kumar, in a communique, said the incident occurred at Moodbidri, Dakshina Kannada district, on Saturday. About six to eight people waylaid a car, in which a couple, along with two other women, were travelling. After enquiring about the religion of the women and finding out they belonged to a different religion from that of the couple, the accused insulted them.

A search was on for the remaining accused, the

the others have sought time to repay the loans. They

would approach a higher

court against the recovery

The case related to the

company borrowing ₹200

crore from two banks in

The loan was to procure

iron scrap through auction

from government-owned

Kudremukh Iron Ore Com-

pany Limited.

ed upon.

procedures, they said.

# RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over central Maharashtra, interior Karnataka, Ravalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over south Gujarat, Konkan & Goa, Marathwada, Telangana, Karnataka, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry

Agartala		34.0 26.6	Koznikode
Ahmedabad	0.4	33.625.9	Kurnool
Aizawl		28.4 –	Lucknow
Allahabad		34.824.4	Madurai
Bengaluru	8	24.220.8	Mangaluru
Bhopal		34.121.6	Mumbai
Bhubaneswar.			Mysuru
Chandigarh		37.125.0	New Delhi
Chennai		35.926.9	Patna
Coimbatore	0.6	30.923.0	Port Blair
Dehradun		31.621.1	Puducherry
Gangtok	3.2	20.216.6	Pune
Goa		32.124.5	Raipur
Guwahati		34.925.0	Ranchi
Hubballi		29.022.0	Shillong
Hyderabad	18	32.521.8	Shimla
Imphal		32.421.2	Srinagar
Jaipur		36.623.0	Thiruvananthapuran
Kochi	. 105.2	27.823.8	Tiruchi
Kohima		25.216.2	Vijayawada
Kolkata		35.227.7	Visakhapatnam

.12 .33 38 .209 .131 .40 .48 39 .199 .144

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

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

...59

reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced

# Jacobites reiterate allegiance to Patriarch of Antioch

Auxiliary for Catholicos Baselios Thomas I to be elected

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Jacobite Syrian Christian Church has reiterated that the church would continue its allegiance to the Patriarch of Antioch under all circumstances and there will be no compromise on the is-

A church spokesman said here on Saturday the Orthodox faction of the Malankara Church had denounced the spiritual leadership of the Patriarch of Antioch.

Any compromise on the issue could be reached only through the recognition of the spiritual leadership of

He claimed that the Su-



A file photo of Catholicos

preme Court verdicts in the Church case in 1958, 1995, and 2017 had said the Patriarch was the head and the Malankara Church was part of the global Syrian Church, said the communication.

'Forcefully taken over' A communication from the Jacobite Church claimed that though 58 churches were forcefully taken over by the Orthodox faction and members were ousted, there had not been any change in allegiance from the Jacobite

It had also been decided to elect an auxiliary for Catholicos Baselios Thomas I, considering his age.

The episcopal synod would decide on the auxilithe communication ary,

# IUML leader's son told to repay bank loan by Oct. 21

Revenue recovery if debt is not cleared by that time

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Steps have been initiated to attach the property of E.T. Feroze, son of Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) leader E.T. Mohammed Basheer, MP, following non-repayment of a bank loan of over ₹200 crore. The action has been in-

itiated on the basis of a petition filed by Canara Bank and Punjab National Bank in the Kozhikode Chief Judicial Magistrate's (CJM) Court, saying Mr. Feroze had failed to repay the loan for Annam Steels Pvt. Ltd. in Chennai. He is the managing director of the company.

The court-appointed ad-

vocate commission P.T. Sreenarayanan Unni issued notices to Mr. Feroze and the other directors on Friday stating that further action would be taken if the debt was not repaid by October

### **CJM's directive**

This follows a directive by A. Fathima Beevi, Kozhikode CJM, on a petition filed against 21 respondents. If the loan is not repaid, the commission has been empowered to take over about 15 mortgages, including a shopping complex in the city, and hand them over to

However, Mr. Feroze and

The agreement was to repay the money within two The action was initiated now based on a petition filed by the banks in 2017 when

the repayment was default-

UAE gold smuggling

Do not enter

tell officials

R. AVADHANI

in Telangana

lands, farmers

502: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statue NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by

critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death

lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# Rain fury



on Saturday. The downpour led to severe traffic disruptions across all the major thoroughfares. • G. RAMAKRISHNA

# Four arrested on charge of raping minor

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Bantwal Town police on Saturday arrested four persons on the charge of raping a minor girl.

While two persons had allegedly raped the girl in a Mangaluru lodge on Friday, one allegedly molested her, besides providing a lodge room to commit the offence, and another accused had allegedly engaged in a sexual chat with the 16-year-old.

According to Dakshina Kannada Superintendent of Police Rishikesh Sonawane, separate teams were formed to nab the accused soon after the girl reported the incident to the police on Friday.

K.S. Sharath Shetty, a resident of Kaup, Maruthi Manjunath, Lodge Sathish, and Hidayatulla have been arrested.

The victim is currently admitted in a government hospital in Mangaluru.

# case accused released

Detention period of Sandeep Nair ends

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Sandeep Nair, one of the accused in the politically stormy UAE consulate-linked gold smuggling case was released from the Central Prison here on Saturday after his COFEPOSA detention period ended.

The National Investigation Agency arrested Nair, along with prime accused Swapna Suresh, from Bengaluru on July 11, 2020.

Later, the NIA, the Customs Department, and the Enforcement Directorate named him as accused in their cases. He was produced before an NIA court in Kochi on July 12 and remanded in judicial custody.

On March 30, 2021, Nair got bail from the NIA court in a Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act case. Later, he became eligible for bail after the Customs Department failed to chargesheet him



Sandeep Nair

within 90 days of arrest.

Nair had made news by complaining in court that the ED had allegedly put pressure on him to implicate the State's top political executive in the smuggling case. The court had recorded his statement in camera.

When mobbed by journalists outside the Central Prison here, Nair pleaded inability to speak about the case because it was sub-jud-

### Asserting their rights on the lands acquired for Thotapally reservoir by the Telangana Government. which was discarded later, the farmers of Ogulapur in Chigurumamidi mandal in Karimnagar district erected flex boards, asking officials not to enter their lands. The flex boards appeared in the fields on Saturday, the day some revenue officials planned for a survey of lands in the

"Officials of Telangana

State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC), Irrigation and Revenue officials, please do not enter our lands. We do not allow any coercion of farmers by officials. Please return about 400 acres of lands that was acquired from farmers. Please give back the land to farmers under GO RT No. 79. Political leaders are preventing the Collector from handing over land to the farmers. The Collector of Siddipet had already started the process of returning the lands to farmers. The farmers had already approached the court," read the flexboard erected by farmers in the fields of Ogulapur on

Saturday. "We came to know that efforts are on to allot these 400 acres not returned to farmers to food processing industry. We have every right on these lands that were acquired for the construction of Thotapally reservoir which was discarded later. We have also approached the High Court in this regard. The High Court has directed the authorities on October 3, 2020, to dispose of the case within six weeks." K. Srinivas Reddy, a farmer from Ogupalur told The Hindu.

M ND-NDE

# Daughters pray over mother's body hoping for return to life

The body was kept in the house for 4 to 5 days

STAFF REPORTER

Two women in Manapparai near Tiruchi prayed over their mother's body, for over four days, hoping she would come back to life. Police attached to the Manapparai station on Saturday recovered the body and buried it in a land belonging family the Sokkampatti.

The daughters, Jecinthal and Jayanthi, both aged over 40, had been nursing their sick mother, Mary, a 75-year-old retired teacher, at their residence in Sokkampatti.

Last week, they brought

pital in Tiruchi city, where the woman was declared dead. "From the city, they

the mother to a private hos-

brought her body to their house and kept praying. On Friday, we received information and went to their residence," a police source

The daughters tried to chase away the policemen, saying that their mother was alive and would soon wake up. "We told them that we were there to help, and if she was alive, they would help get her treated.

We called the 108 ambu-

came to the spot declared the woman dead," an officer said. The daughters continued to resist the body being taken to the hospital. Hours later, the body was taken to the Manapparai

Saturday. At the hospital, the daughters continued to argue with doctors and said their mother had just not eaten since the previous

Government Hospital early

"The doctors said that the body had been kept for at least four or five days," the police said. Counselling will be provided to the daughters, an officer said.

# Vayalar Award for Benyamin

Novelist gets literary honour for Manthalirile 20 Communist Varshangal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Manthalirile 20 Communist Varshangal, a novel by Benyamin, has won the 45th Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Literary Award.

Instituted by the Vayalar Ramavarma Memorial Trust, the award commemorates the celebrated poet and lyricist. It carries a purse of  $\mathbb{T}1$ lakh, a bronze statuette crafted by sculptor Kanayi Kunhiraman and a citation. The novel has been selected for the 2021 edition of the coveted prize by a jury consisting of writers K.R. Meera, George Onakkoor and C.

Unnikrishnan. In Manthalirile 20 Com-



min, who is best known for his award-winning novels such as Aadujeevitham (Goat Days) and Mullappooniramulla Pakalukal (Jasmine Days) and short stories, presents the inhabitants of

the heady mix of politics and religion impacts their daily struggles for existence in this essentially bucolic setting. In his preface to the work, the author explains that he

Manthalir village, and how

had begun working on his tales about Manthalir, a village in Pathanamthitta district, long before the regional novel became a fad in Malayalam. He began writing Akkaporinte Irupathu Nasrani Varshangal, which he calls the first part of the Manthalir stories, in 2005. It deals with the fighting between the Orthodox and Jacobite factions of the Malanakara Church for the St. Thomas church at Manthalir, near Pandalam.

'Twenties' because he preferred to view human life in phases of 20 years each. Manthalirile 20 Communist Varshangal forms the "second part" of these stories.

Even back then, writes Be-

nyamin, he had in his mind a

quartet of 'twenties' novels.

Benyamin, born Benny Daniel, hails from Kulanada, Pathanamthitta. He is a recipient of the Kerala Sahithya Akademi Award, the Crossword Book Award, the JCB Prize for Literature and the Muttathu Varkey Award.

Benyamin will be presented the award on October 27, death anniversary of Ramavarma, at the Nishagandhi auditorium in Thiruvananthapuram.

munist Varshangal, Benyalance service, the staff who

### FROM PAGE ONE

# Global pact made on minimum corporate tax

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen hailed it as a victory for American families as well as international business.

"We've turned tireless negotiations into decades of increased prosperity - for both America and the world. Today's agreement represents a once-in-a-generation accomplishment for economic diplomacy," Ms Yellen said in a statement.

The OECD said the minimum rate would see countries collect around \$150 billion in new revenues annually while taxing rights on more than \$125 billion of profit would be shifted to countries where big multinationals their income.

Ireland, Estonia and Hungary, all low tax countries, dropped their objections this week as a compromise emerged on deduction from the minimum rate for multinationals with real physical business activities abroad.

But some developing countries seeking a higher minimum tax rate say their interests have been sidelined to accommodate the interests of richer countries like Ireland, which had refused to sign a deal with a minimum tax rate higher

Argentine Economy Minister Martin Guzman said on Thursday that proposals on the table forced developing countries to chose between "something bad and something worse"

While Kenya, Nigeria and Sri Lanka did not back a previous version of the deal, Pakistan's abstention came as a surprise, one official briefed on the talks said. India also had qualms up to the last minute, but ultimately backed the deal, they added.

# China there to stay, says Army chief on Ladakh

The 13th round of Corps Commander talks will start at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday at Moldo on the Chinese side, opposite Chushul, a defence

The focus of the talks will be on an agreement for the next phase of disengagement from Hot Springs and the overall de-escalation along the LAC in eastern Ladakh.

Officials said the agreement for disengagement at Hot Springs was within reach as partial disengagement had already been undertaken last vear and there were a few points to be resolved. This leaves the other friction areas of Depsang and Demchok which are going be tricky. The two sides have so far undertaken disengagement from the Pan-

Further, there is the issue of overall de-escalation along the LAC which is also going to be tough given the huge build-up by China that is matched by India as well working out new protocols for patrolling. The People's Liberation Ārmy (PLA) still has more than 50,000 troops deployed along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, according to officials.

gong Tso and Gogra areas.

Gen. Naravane said it was difficult to understand why China sort of opened one more front (in Ladakh) while it has problems on its other borders. "But whatever it might have been, I do not think they have been able to achieve any of those because of the rapid response by the Indian armed forces," he added.

### **Arunachal stand-off**

Citing Chinese military sources, State-run newspaper China Daily described reports of Chinese soldiers being detained by Indian soldiers after a face-off near Yangtse in the Tawang Sector of Arunachal Pradesh as "purely fabricated and hyped by Indian media" and a "smear campaign" by the Indian side.

The incident occurred last week as the two patrol teams came face to face and clashed following which some Chinese soldiers were detained for a few hours and released after the issue was resolved by the local commanders.

According to a military source cited by China Daily, the Chinese border troops conducted a routine patrol on September 28 in the Dongzhang area on the "Chinese side of the Sino-Indian border and encountered unreasonable obstruction from the Indian military". "The Chinese officers and soldiers took countermeasures resolutely and returned after the patrol mission was completed," the newspaper quoted the source as having said.

# Himachal Pradesh getting less snow: study

The study points out that there has been an overall decrease in the area under snow in 2020-21 winter (October to May) in key river basins. The decrease in the Chenab basin was 9% and 19% in the Beas basin. The Ravi and Satluj basins saw 23% less snow area in comparison to 2019-20. The overall decrease in the area under snow has been recorded at about 18.5% in 2020-21 winters against 2019-20, it said.

Notably, about one-third of the geographical area remains under thick snow cover during the winter season. Most of the major rivers like Chenab, Beas, Parvati, Baspa, Spiti, Ravi, Satluj and their perennial tributaries originating from the Himalayas depend upon the seasonal snow cover for their discharge dependability.

The snow cover also helps in controlling the accumulation and ablations patterns of the glaciated regions. Considering the importance of seasonal snow cover as a major input in controlling the hydrology of the basins, seasonal snow cover assessment in terms of its spatial distribution is

rent river basins during the

Director of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Shimla, Surinder Pal also said, "The average precipitation tendency has been decreasing, especially the monsoon rains. Rains and snowfall on an average have seen a decreasing trend in the past 10 years. The gradual rise in temperature could be a reason behind this. Climate change is a worldwide phenomenon," he told The Hindu.

# **Rising temperature**

Environmentalists have expressed concern over the reducing precipitation trend. "The average temperature rise in the region is faster than the peninsular region. The temperature in the high altitudes areas is rising faster than the plains. It has been observed in the past few years that on an average relatively more moisture is being carried towards the Himalayas. But for snowfall to occur, the temperature needs to drop to sub-zero level, so though there's enough moisture the snowfall is declining as the temperature has been rising," said Mr. Dutta.

# Green pacts inked at India, Denmark summit

MoU signed between Reliance and Stiesdal Fuel Technologies to set up hydrogen electrolyser plant in India

SUHASINI HAIDAR

India and Denmark signed two agreements on research in climate change, while another MoU on setting up a "green hydrogen" electrolyser plant was signed between Reliance Industries and Danish company Stiesdal Fuel Technologies as Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Prime Minister of Denmark Frederiksen Saturday.

This was the first summitlevel visit to India since the onset of the pandemic, and the first State visit by a Danish leader since a bilateral freeze on ties a decade ago.

### 'New dimensions'

"We also took a decision today that we will continue to expand the scope of our cooperation, adding new dimensions to it. We have initiated a new partnership in the field of health. In order to increase the agricultural productivity and income of farmers in India, we have also decided to cooperate in agriculture-related technolo-



Deepening ties: Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacting with his Denmark counterpart Mette Frederiksen at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on Saturday. • PTI

gy," said Mr. Modi after the bilateral summit, adding that joint ventures on food safety, cold chains, food processing and water management would be explored as a result of their discussions.

The government agreements, including one between the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and the Geological survey of Denmark to conduct groundwater mapping and the other between the Indian Institute of Science and Danfoss Industries to set up a research centre on carbon-based cooling systems are part of the "Green Strategic Partnership" that India and Denmark forged after a virtual summit between Mr. Modi and Ms. Frederiksen in Sep-

Meanwhile, the commercial MoU between Reliance Industries Limited and Sties-

tember 2020.

dal Fuel Technologies will work on development of a hydrogen electrolyser for zero-carbon hydrogen to be manufactured in India.

Stiesdal founder Henrik Stiesdal is also on Reliance's nine-member "New Energy Council" announced in August this year, with plans to build four factories for the production of solar photovoltaic modules, electrolysers, fuel cells, and storage

batteries in Gujarat.

"I am proud that Danish solutions play a key role when it comes to your very ambitious targets and I think you are an inspiration for the rest of the world. You have set some very ambitious targets when it comes to clean water for over one million households and for renewable energy including offshore wind," Ms. Frederiksen said after the meeting.

India has also been engaged with European partners to drop objections to an India-South Africa proposal at the World Trade Organisation in October 2020 that seeks to have all patents related to COVID medicines and vaccines waived during the pandemic. When asked, MEA officials didn't confirm whether Mr. Modi had raised the issue, but said Ms. Frederiksen had been "impressed" with India's vaccination drive.

"We know that COVID is a major concern for the global community so this issue of how both countries are tackling COVID came up for discussion....We remain engaged with our partners on the WTO [proposal], and it is taking its course," said Reenat Sandhu, Secretary (West) at the MEA.

### **Kim Davy issue**

Ms. Frederiksen is the first Danish leader to be accorded a State visit since 2008, after which relations between the two countries soured over India's demand that Denmark extradite its citizen Kim Davy, who was the accused in the massive arms dump case in Purulia of 1995.

To a question on the issue of Denmark's refusal to deport Mr. Davy thus far, Ms. Sandhu said that "this matter was raised and we have an understanding that the legal process must go forward and both countries are working on it.'

The two leaders also discussed the situation in Afghanistan and shared comrights of women and minorities and the need for an inclusive government, officials

# Govt. clears appointments of CJs

Eight High Courts to get new Chief Justices, five CJs transferred

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The government cleared the transfer of Tripura High Court judge A.A. Kureshi to the Rajasthan High Court on Saturday.

The transfer was one among the 13 transfers and appointments of Chief Justices to various High Courts. They are part of a major reshuffle orchestrated by the Supreme Court Collegium, led by Chief Justice N.V. Ramana.

September had seen over 100 recommendations for appointments, transfers and re-transfers in various High Courts sent from the Collegium to the Government for approval.

Chief Justice Ramana has emphasised that his Collegium is on the warpath to fill up the long-pending vacancies in the High Courts, and urged the Government to



The SC Collegium had recommended the names to the Law Ministry.

ciary to decide recommendations.

The Government has been responding with a steady stream of approvals in the past few days. The clearance in the 13 High Courts was considered crucial as some of them have been making do with acting Chief Justices.

Eight High Courts will get new Chief Justices. Justice Rajesh Bindal, acting Chief

Court, was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court. Justice Ranjit V. More has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court.

Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, acting Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court.

Justice Prakash Srivastava, a Madhya Pradesh High Court judge, has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court.

Justice R.V. Malimath has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. He is presently the acting Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court.

Justice Aravind Kumar has been appointed as the Chief Court. Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra will take over as the Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. He is presently serving as the acting Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court.

Five Chief Justices, including Justice Kureshi, have been transferred.

Justice Indrajit Mahanty, Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court, will take over as the Tripura Chief Justice. Chief Iustice Mohammad Rafiq of Madhya Pradesh has been appointed as the Chief Iustice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. Chief Justice Biswanath Somadder of the Meghalaya High Court has been transferred as the Chief Justice of the Sikkim High Court.

Justice A.K. Goswami has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court. He is presently the Chief Justice of Andhra

# Malabar exercise phase-II to be held next week

Quad members to participate

DINAKAR PERI

The Quadrilateral group comprising India, Australia, Japan and the U.S. is scheduled to hold phase-II of the Malabar naval exercise next week, according to official sources.

This is the first military engagement among the Quad partner countries since Australia, the U.S. and the U.K. unveiled the AU-KUS initiative to deepen cooperation on a range of "emerging security and defence capabilities" which includes equipping Australian with at least eight nuclear powered submarines (SSN).

The exercise will be held over three days, beginning October 12, in the Bay of Bengal, an official source

Phase-I of Malabar, also its 25th edition, was hosted

mands are not accepted by



over three days in the Bay of Bengal.

Guam from August 26-29. The Japan Maritime Self Defence Force vessels, which arrived in India for the bilateral exercise JIMEX, will participate in phase-II. These include Izumo class helicopter carrier Kaga and +guided missile destroyer Murasame, along with their integral SH60K helicopters.

The Malabar exercise commenced in 1992 as an India-U.S. exercise. In 2015, Japan joined as a permanent member, and Australia was included in the 2020

# Drugs shortage in Karnataka govt. hospitals

AFSHAN YASMEEN BENGALURU

Government hospitals in Karnataka are now facing an acute shortage of basic drugs including paracetamol, antibiotics and antihistamine and are being forced to write prescriptions for patients to buy the same from outside.

Sources said there has been an irregular/short supply of basic drugs in all hospitals run by the State Health Department and hospital authorities are unable to get supplies even after four months of indenting. Hospital authorities said except intravenous fluids, all essential medical supplies have been in short supply since May.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The government has ap-

pointed M. Ravichandran as

Secretary, Ministry of Earth

Sciences. He is currently Di-

rector, National Centre for

Ocean and Polar Research,

Goa and has been in charge

of coordinating several of

India's scientific missions to

note from the Appoint-

ments Committee of the Ca-

A key thrust of the go-

binet confirming this.

The Hindu has viewed a

Antarctica and the Arctic.

NEW DELHI

M. Ravichandran to be

He is an expert on polar missions

Earth Sciences Secretary

# SKM plans 'Shaheed Kisan Diwas'

Farmers' unions to take ashes of those who were killed to various districts of U.P.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

The Samvukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), the umbrella body of farmer unions spearheading the protests against the Centre's agriculture laws, said it would observe October 12 as "Shaheed Kisan Diwas (Martyr Farmers' Day)".

"We will observe October 12 as 'Shaheed Kisan Diwas' and we have appealed to the farmers all over the country to join the 'antim ardas' (final rites) of the farmers, who died in Lakhimpur Kheri," said Joginder Singh, president of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (Ugrahan), one of the SKM constituents.

Mr. Singh said Union Minister of State Ajay Mishra should be immediately dis-

vernment is its 'Deep Ocean

Mission.' This June, the Ca-

binet Committee on Eco-

nomic Affairs approved

₹4,077 crore for five years

for the mission to "explore"

the deep ocean for resourc-

es and develop deep sea

technologies for sustainable

nents of the Deep Ocean

Mission is developing a

manned submersible to car-

ry three people to a depth of

6,000 metres with scientific

sensors and tools.

Among the key compo-



Staying firm: Leaders of the SKM at a press conference in New Delhi on Saturday. ■PTI

missed from the Cabinet and arrested on charges of disharmony, spreading hatching conspiracy and murder.

Mr. Mishra's son, Ashish Mishra, who is accused of driving one of the cars that mowed down the farmers has been arrested.

**Protests planned** 

SKM's senior leader Yogendra Yadav said, "If our de-

October 11, then the SKM will launch a nationwide protest programme. After the antim ardas on October 12, a 'Shaheed Kisan Yatra' will be taken out from Lakhimpur Kheri by taking the asthi (ashes) of martyr farmers to each district of Uttar Pradesh and each State of the country. On Dasara on October 15, the effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Home Minister Amit Shah and that of local BJP leaders will be burnt. A 'rail roko' programme will be held across the country on October 18. Besides, on October 26, a 'Mahapanchayat' will be organised in Lucknow to protest against the Lakhim-

# Dalit beaten to death in Rajasthan

Case registered against 11 persons after video goes viral

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A Dalit youth was allegedly beaten to death by a group of persons at Prempura village in Rajasthan's Hanumangarh district and the body was dumped outside his house.

A love affair reportedly led to the crime, after which the youth's relatives and the local Dalit community staged demonstrations for two days and refused to send the body for post-mortem.

The police registered a case against 11 persons in connection with the incident after its video went viral on

social media, and arrested three of the accused on Saturday. Eight others were stated to be absconding. The family members accepted the body after the police action and agreed to cremate

The assailants had forcibly taken the youth, Jagdish, to an agricultural field on Thursday and thrashed him with sticks. One of the accused allegedly placed his knee on Jagdish's neck and others continued to beat him till he lost consciousness. The family members, who

found the body outside their

house, came to know of the crime from the video circulated on social media.

The Opposition BJP has demanded an immediate arrest of all the accused, while claiming that the crimes against Dalits had increased by 21% in the Congress re-

BJP State president Satish Poonia said the national leadership of Congress, busy with "political tourism" in other States, should pay attention to Rajasthan whose image had taken a beating after the Hanumangarh incident.

# to observe Maun Vrat

Congress

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Demanding the ouster of Union Minister Ajay Mishra Teni and the arrest of those involved in the deaths of farmers in Lakhimpur Kheri, the Congress will observe "maun vrat" or vow of silence for three hours on Monday, in front of Raj Bhavans and Central Government offices in every

The protest is to mirror the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah on the incident, said Congress leaders.

Party general secretary organisation K.C. Venugopal directed the State units to organise the event in a letter.

He said, "Farmers, who were eyewitnesses, have openly said they were run over by a vehicle being driven by the son of the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs... It is shameful that the Prime Minister and the Home Minister, whom the Minister directly reports to, have not uttered a word against this cold-blooded murder."

### CWC meet on Oct. 16 The Congress Working

Committee will meet at the AICC office in New Delhi on October 16 to deliberate on the current political situation, including the Lakhimpur violence, decide on organisational elections and discuss forthcoming Assembly polls.

(With PTI inputs)

being carried out in diffe-



# A sense of unease grips Pandit colonies

However, many resolve to stay back in Kashmir Valley despite the fear of targeted killings by militants

PEERZADA ASHIQ BUDGAM

A sense of unease is palpable in the gated Sheikhpora Migrant Colony, home to around 75 migrant Pandits, in central Kashmir's Budgam on Saturday. However, many Pandits have resolved not to migrate again, like in the 1990s, in the face of fresh targeted killings by the militants earlier this week.

The gates of the colony, with a concrete boundary wall and concertina wires for additional security, are bolted from the inside. No outsider is allowed into the premises, not even the milkmen for the time being. During the night, the flash lights ensure that any movement towards the colony is spotted.

"The Budgam authorities have promised that grocery and other essentials are delivered at the colony to avoid our movement outside for the time being. We have been advised against visiting volatile pockets, especially the old city," said a Pandit, who returned to the Valley in 2010 under the Prime Minis-



Present tense: A file photo of the Sheikhpora Migrant Colony in Budgam in central Kashmir. • NISSAR AHMAD

said.

ter's Return and Rehabilitation Scheme

A Pandit teacher, who serves in a government school in the old city, said her family has decided to stay put here.

"I am hopeful it won't be a repeat of the 1990s. We are not shifting for now. We plan to stay back. I am in touch with my Muslim colleagues constantly. They have been helpful. We are safe but a sense of scare is unavoidable after militants targeted teachers inside a school recently," the teacher said.

Many Pandits who live in rented accommodations in Budgam's Humhama area are also planning to shift to designated colonies such as the one in Sheikhpora. "We feel insecure living outside these colonies now," another Pandit, who runs a business,

At least 3,800 Pandit migrants returned to the Valley since 2010, after taking up government jobs. They are staying in designated colonies in south, north and central Kashmir. Security has been beefed up in all the colonies and the administration has reached out to the Pandits to address their security concerns, after militants killed a chemist, a Sikh principal and a teacher

### 'Well-planned plot'

"The recent killings of minority civilians are part of a well-planned terror action plot to drive out the remaining minorities in the Valley. We had already intimated the Centre that the launch of migrant distress sales portal will trigger an anti-minority feeling in some quarters, especially the land mafia," Satish Mahaldar, chairman of the Reconciliation Return and Rehabilitation of Migrants, said. He said these attacks were a reminder that the counter-insurgency strategies had failed. "The premature and triumphalist claims about normalcy in Kashmir got exposed. It needs great statesmanship to overcome the challenges." Mr. Mahaldar said.

The Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee here on Saturday decided that employees from the minority community "won't attend the duty unless the government assures protection".

"Despite inputs and incidents in the past targeting the minorities, the government didn't provide any security to the community," GPC general secretary Navtei Singh said.

He asked the J&K administration to "assure the minoritv community that they are safe in the Valley". "The majority should also come forward and condemn the at-

BJP leader and chairperson of the Waqf Development Committee Darakhshan Andrabi said, "We cannot allow radicals to repeat 1990 again. These target killings are shameful. More disgusting and criminal is the silence of so-called civil society and other responsible religious bodies of Kashmir. The government will eliminate each and every killer and destroy this hate module soon," she said.

# 50 rural local body members quit in J&K

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

More than 50 sarpanches and panches have resigned en masse in two blocks of Ramban district in Jammu and Kashmir over various issues, officials said on Saturday.

They have resigned alleging lack of promised empowerment, unnecessarv interference and their side-lining by the administration during the ongoing public outreach gramme of the Central Ministers, officials said.

The Peoples Democratic Party took a pot-shot at the BJP government, saying the "cosmetic normalcy and pomp and show being projected (in the Union Territory) stands punctured". Officials, however, said the district panchayat officer Ashok Singh held a meeting with the representatives of the agitated members and requested them to withdraw resignation, seeking to assure them that their grievances would be addressed at the earliest.

# A-G rejects plea for notice of contempt to Pegasus maker

Matter already sub judice, T.N. MP told

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Attorney-General of India K.K. Venugopal has refused consent to a request made by Tamil Nadu parliamentarian Thol. Thirumavalavan to permit him to initiate contempt proceedings in the Supreme Court against the controversial Pegasus software creator, NSO Group, the Israel-based company's directors, Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, and his predecessor Rajiv Gauba.

The Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi leader had, in his letter to Mr. Venugopal, said that the company and the top Indian bureaucrats should face contempt proceedings in the background of reports that a Supreme Court judge, now retired, and top court officials were placed under surveillance through the Pegasus software.

But the top law officer refused to agree, saying that the Pegasus snooping controversy was already before

because the RSS or an inde-

pendent agency that they

roped in conveyed to them

the truth that in the next As-

sembly poll they will not

cross 55-65 seats. The reshuf-

fle is a reaction to this feed-

back. But those who lost

their loved ones will not for-

get what they went through.

the top court. A Bench, led by Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, is hearing a batch of petitions, including one by senior journalist N. Ram, for an independent and high-level probe into reports that the Centre mounted "military-grade surveillance" using Pegasus on citizens, including Ministers, parliamentarians, activists, journalists dissenters.

"The question whether the Government of India has used Pegasus software and if so against whom is a matter which is being debated and is currently sub judice before the Supreme Court.. In the absence of such determination having been made, it would be inappropriate for me to grant consent for the initiation of profor criminal ceedings contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Court Act of 1971... I accordingly decline to grant consent under Section 25 of the Act," Mr. Venugopal replied to the parliamentarian.

# INTERVIEW | JIGNESH MEVANI

# 'There can be no Opposition formation without Congress at the helm'

Anti-BJP forces must come together beyond their personal ambitions and interests and rise above the mundane seat-sharing exercise, says Gujarat MLA

SOBHANA K. NAIR

Independent legislator from Gujarat Jignesh Mevani speaks about the reasons for aligning with the Congress, the Opposition makeup for the 2024 Lok Sabha election and the political situation in Gujarat:

Why the Congress?

■ As I pointed out in the press conference with Kanhaiya [Kumar], in this era of unprecedented crisis, when destruction of democracy is at work, the fascist forces have taken over all the organs of the state, when they have become desperate to replace the Constitution with Manusmriti, when they have damaged and distorted all our democratic institutions, in this situation, if you are not able to dislodge the BJP from power, then we are gone as a nation. And to save our nation, Constitution, our social fabric, to save our idea of India, we need a big platform and the Congress being the 'Grand Old Party' is probably the only biggest platform available.

I don't want to claim that other components don't have a role to play. I believe academicians, activists, journalists, scholars... all of us have a role. But there can't be a formation of an Opposition without the Congress being at the helm of it. Importantly, Rahul Gandhi gives us the confidence that he will never compromise with the RSS and the BIP.

In 2017 too, you were in talks with the Congress but didn't join. What has changed since then?

■ I just wanted to carry on

my journey as an activistcum-politician, as an Independent MLA. You may work as a freelance journalist for five years and then you may feel the need to work in a mainstream group. Even if I had won as an Independent legislator for the second time, I would pretty much repeat what I have already achieved. But if I want to expand, to reach out to more people... then the Congress is the best platform.

The Congress is at its lowest ebb. There has been a mass exodus of leaders from the party because of successive



The answer to the question 'if not Modi, then who?' is we, the people

electoral defeats. Why now?

■ I don't care about what is happening with the party, I care about what is happening in the country. I have two options in front of me, either I can be cynical about those who are leaving the Congress

or I can be optimistic and be hopeful about those planning to join the party. I would rather choose the second option. Hardik Patel, Kanhaiya Kumar, Revanth Reddy have joined and more are coming.

Since you have worked for

long as an Independent

legislator and an activist,

will you be able to work within the push and pull of a behemoth party like the Congress? ■ Only time can answer this question. But one thing I can say for sure is that I am a

fighter, there will be struggle,

there will be ups and downs

but finally I shall settle down.

How do you counter the narrative that ultimately boils down to Hindu-Muslim binary?

■ The BJP tries to reduce everything down to Hindu-Muslim binary, but it doesn't work always. The 2017 Gujarat Assembly election and the 2020 Bihar election are examples. In both these polls, unemployment became a big issue. That is what we will be focussing on as a team. Inflation, unemployment and mismanagement of COVID-19 will be key issues on which we will counter the BJP.

The BJP did an extensive Cabinet reshuffle in Gujarat. Wouldn't this help them in removing the

anti-incumbency factor?

■ The reshuffle was clearly

Those who ran from pillar to post looking for hospital beds, Remdesivir injections, oxygen cylinders and so on... can never forgive the BJP. After the West Bengal Assembly election, there has

emerged a race for the lead Opposition role. Doesn't this disarray in the Opposition suit the BJP?

■ In 2024, there can be no Opposition without the Congress being at the centre of it. to be better appreciation of other components of the Opposition. All the anti-BJP forces must come together beyond their personal ambition and interests. This unity should not just be limited to seat-sharing arrangement. They must be seen fighting together on the issues that matter to the public. We, as forces of the Opposition, are not willing to get rid of our pettiness.

At the same time, there has

What is your reply to this regular question: if not Modi, then who?

■ If not Modi, then me! I am educated, honest and hardworking. But jokes apart, the answer to the question 'if not Modi, then who?' is we, the people.

# NIA conducts searches in heroin case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday conducted searches at multiple locations in connection with the 3,000 kg heroin seizure at Mundra Port in Gujarat last month.

The searches were carried out on the premises of the accused persons and suspects in Chennai, Coimbatore and Vijayawada, who were involved in the smuggling of the contraband under the guise of importing semi-processed talc stones from Kandahar in Afghanistan via Bandar Abbas Port in Iran.

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) had seized the consignment and arrested 10 persons, including six Afghan nationals and a Uzbek national, during its probe into the international drug trafficking racket. The Ministry of Home Affairs later transferred the case to the NIA.

### **UT OF LAKSHADWEEP** (SHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING) Ph: 0484 2323448/458 Web: www.ldcl.gov.in

E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.d Dt.: 08.10.2021

# **TENDER**

E-tender is invited for engagemen of manning agent for deployment of officers onboard passenger vessel M.V. LAGOONS operated by LDCL vide Tender No. S/Vessels/Mgmt/LG/2021.

For details and E-tendering please visit website https://tendersutl.gov.in. Tender due on 29.10.2021 at 2.00 PM. For any help in e-tendering, please contact help Desk: 0120-4001002, 4001005, 6277787

Sd/- MD (LDCL)

# 'What is the need of trial if you are putting people in jail for years?'

SC grants bail to a 66-year-old man in drugs case

TSRTC

TENDER NOTICE No. AME(Comp.)/VTPIS(1)/2020-IT, dt. 07.10.2021

Tenders are invited from interested bidders for implementation of Vehicle

racking & Passenger Information System for 4,170 special type buses c

TSRTC. Sealed bids should be submitted in the tender box in Mini

Conference Hall, TSRTC, Bus Bhavan, 1st floor "B" block, Mushirabad Hyderabad from 10:30 hrs. to 14:00 hrs. on 29.10.2021. RFP with ful

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE

**WORKS DEPARTMENT** 

Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-09 / 2021-22

. The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites

6. Available of bid document : From 10.00 A.M. of 11.10.2021 to 5.30 P.M. of

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in Any addendum / corrigendum

: Dt.03.11.2021 at 11.30 AM

percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible

etails can be downloaded from https://tsrtc.telangana.gov.in

: Road Work

Rs.10,000.00

: Super Class

02.11.2021

: 01 No.

cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website

DIPR. R.O. No.: 2215-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2021-22

contractors for Road work as mentioned below

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court has questioned the compulsion to put people in jail for years on end in drugs cases even as their trial takes forever to finish. A Bench, led by Chief Justice N.V.

Ramana, granted bail to a man caught in a room with 35 kg of ganja by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). The court said the man has been in jail for years and "there is no likelihood of completion of trial in the near future".

"What is the need of trial if you are putting people in jail for years?" Chief Justice Ramana asked during the recent hearing.

The Bench had just learnt that the accused had already spent four years in jail as an undertrial. He has been in custody since October 16,

2017. The Bench noted that the man was a senior citizen of 66 years and he cannot spend time behind bars waiting for justice to arrive with the end of his trial.

"How many years can he be kept in jail without trial?" the CJI asked the government side. When the government lawyer

said five years, the CJI shot back, "Why five? Keep him for 10... Then there is no need for a trial."

The Bench said it was even doubtful, at this pace, whether the man would even survive the trial if he continued in jail. "He is already 66 years, by the time you complete your trial, he will not be there," the CJI said. The accused had appealed to the Supreme Court after the Calcutta High Court refused to grant him bail last year.

CHIEF ENGINEER (IT & IE)

Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha

OPR-34117/11/0049/2122

E-mail: ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com



DIPR/C/10285

ipporting in Project Management to JAIPUR DISCOM under "Revamped Reforms-Linke esults-Based Distribution Sector Scheme" against TN - 519 and online bids are invited fro sligible bidders for one year rate contract (ARC-2021) (which may be further ext eriod of one year) for finalization of unit rates for erection work of 33KV/11KV/LT lines, 33/1 KV Sub-stations, 11/0.4 KV Sub-stations and 6.35/0.24 KV Sub-stations, providing ervicing and other miscellaneous works required to execute in day to day activities in respe f various Circle under the domain of Jaipur Discom i.e. JVVNL against TN–520. Participatin idders can download complete set of bidding documents from e-procurement porta http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from 08.10.20 for TN-519 and 12.10.2021 for TN-520 wards. End Date/Time for receipt of online bids through e-procurement portal is 26.10.202 upto 05.00 P.M. for TN-519 and 28.10.2021 upto 05.00 P.M for TN-520. For further detail egarding Works, Tender Notifications & Specifications please visit websit

# JAIPUR VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED Office of The Superintending Engineer (TW), Old Power House Premises, Near Ram Mandi Jaipur-302006, TELE FAX NO.0141-2201022

http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jvvnl TN-519, UBN: No.VVN2122A0142, TN-520, UBN: VVN2122WLRC00272

# SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE Online bids are invited from eligible bidders for "Consultancy Services for assisting ar

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (TW) For Electricity Complaints Toll Free No. 1800 180 6507

# OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED, JAIPUR REGION-I, JAIPUR

Jyoti Nagar, Sahakar Marg, Jaipur-302005 Phone: 0141-2740170(o) acel.jpr.phed@rajasthan.gov.in.com No.:F()/ACE/PHED/Ar.Dausa/NIT-122-123/2021-22/9491-510 Date: 4/10/21

(e-NIT No.122-123/2021-22)

Online tenders are, hereby, invited on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan for the following works from the bidder meeting eligibility as per criteria mentioned in the detailed tende document which can be seen and downloaded from website https://eproc.raiasthan.gov.in enders are to be submitted online in electronic format on website https://eproc.rajastha

NIT No.	Name of Work		Estimated Cost (Rs. in Cr.)	Earne Mone (Rs.)		Last date for submission of tender	Due date for opening	
122/ 2021-22	Work of Augmentation of various RWSs to provide FHTC including one year Defect Liability period of Various SVS under JJM in the jurisdiction of PHED Sub Division Sikrai Dist Dausa		4.36	Bidder has to submit Declaration on Rs. 50/- Plus 30% surcharge stamp paper as per F.D. Circular Dt 23.12.2020		28.10.2021 up to 18:00 Hrs.	29.10.2021 up to 15:00 Hrs	
123/ 2021-22	Work of Augmentation of various RWSs to provide FHTC including one year Defect Liability period of Various SVS under JJM in the jurisdiction of PHED Sub Division Sikrai Dist Dausa		4.72			28.10.2021 up to 18:00 Hrs.	29.10.2021 up to 15:00 Hrs	
NI	T No.		IIB No.			UBN No.		
122/2021-22		PHE:	PHE2122A3626			PHE2122WSOB08150		
123/	2021-22	PHE:	E2122A3626			PHE2122WSOB08151		
123/	2021-22		PHE2122A3626 PHE2122A3626				B0	

PHED, Jaipur Region-I, Jaipur

### OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER MEDICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT Satpura Bhawan, 6th floor, M.P. Bhopal Tel. 0755-2550186 FAX - 0755-2550186, E-Mail. dme12001@yahoo.com.

No. 1089/4/PG/CME/2021

Bhopal, dated 07/10/2021 // Advertisement //

Information regarding P.G. Counseling & Admission Process 2021-22 in Government Autonomous Dental College & Private Dental Colleges for M.D.S. Course

Counseling for P.G. 2021-22 (M.D.S. Course) on the basis of merit list of

The relevant information regarding the above mentioned Counseling, Allotment & Admission process shall be available on Directorate of Medical

NEET MDS-2021 will be conducted by Directorate of Medical Education from

Education website <u>www.medicaleducation.mp.gov.in</u> and also on designated portal https://dme.mponline.gov.in Any Change in the programme will be published on D.M.E. website and

designated portal. Candidates are advised to remain in touch with D.M.E. & M.P. Online

website regularly for updates. No separate advertisement will be published regarding any change.

G-17944/2021

**Director of Medical Education** Madhya Pradesh

M ND-NDE



OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR

3. No. of work

4. Tender Paper Cost

in the website.

5. Class of Contractor

Date of opening of Bid



# Boom! A spraying solution is here to stem stubble burning in Haryana fields

A Bengaluru-based firm is providing technology to aid farmers spray decomposers over 5 lakh acres

There's a different sort of machine at work in Bhupinder Singh's 30-acre farm off the Delhi-Karnal highway.

The boom sprayer, as it's called, looks like a hybrid between a tractor and an autobot from the Transformers; its definitive features are two 20 ft booms that spread out like outstretched wings. On them are equally spaced nozzles that spray bio-decomposers on the freshly harvested rice field.

The decomposers are a powder mixed in water meant to accelerate the process of turning rice stubble into compost. Untreated

rice straw takes 4-8 weeks to disintegrate, which is too long for the average farmer to wait to be able to sow the winter wheat crop. The other option is to employ labour, who will cut the stalk and pile it into bundles, but that's expensive and unaffordable for more than 95% of the farmers.

### **SUNDAY SPECIAL**

"Which is why the simplest solution is a ₹1 matchbox and ₹100 worth of diesel," Mr. Singh said with a smile but also claimed he's never burnt his fields in the last five years. Setting a harvested field alight is an age-

old practice but in recent years it has been linked to worsening air pollution in the Delhi National Capital

### Open to other solutions

With pressure from the Centre, States such as Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have been cajoling, threatening and fining farmers in recent years. While the success of these efforts has been limited, many farmers, while less concerned about the environmental effects of the practice on urban Delhi, are open to trying other solutions.

Which is where the less-



Out of the box: A boom sprayer adding a bio-decomposer into the soil at Karnal in Haryana on Thursday ■ MOORTHY R.V.

than two year old, Bengaluru-based agritech firm, nurture.farm, comes in with its boom sprayer. In an ambitious exercise, 700 of these machines will be at work across 5 lakh acres in Punjab and Haryana, spraying a bio-

decomposer called 'PUSA spray'. A bio-enzyme developed by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, Delhi, this was initially formulated as a capsule.

But, Pranav Tiwari, chief technology officer of nurtu-

re.farm, said it emerged that a capsule is not the best way to deploy the product in the fields.

Hence his company licensed the technology and made it into a powder that can be mixed with water, which is loaded into a tank in the boom sprayer. After spraying, the soil needs to be turned over and irrigat-

When done correctly spraying, turning the soil over and irrigating it for four days - the straw can be disintegrated in eight days, said Mr. Tiwari. With the boom sprayer, he added, an acre can be be sprayed in 7 minutes whereas manually it takes half a day.

Mr. Singh has partitioned his 30 acres into small parcels. A few acres have already been harvested and sprayed, with some sprouting cauliflower as well as shoots of mustard.

But the bulk of his farm -28 acres - is yet to be harvested. Mr. Singh said he expects to begin sowing wheat within 20 days. That means all the rice must be harvested and the stalks sprayed, decomposed and the soil readied for wheat within that time.

### Proof of the practice

Mr. Singh said he's optimistic of keeping the schedule but says the true test will be the yield of the wheat next year. The promise of the PU-SA spray is that because it employs natural enzymes, it will improve soil fertility and because there will be no burning, carbon as well as will be retained.

Nurture.farm is a subsidiary of the Mumbai-based agrochemicals company UPL, fomerly known as United Phosphorous Limited.

Its approach towards farming is much like Uber's towards cars - making it convenient for a farmer to hire a spraying service via an app. There is also a team of 600 'Kisan-mitra', many of them young, college girls, who liaise with the farmers and convince them to use

The plan, said Mr. Tiwari, is that over time farmers will see the value in spraying based on the improved

(The reporter was part of a media contingent taken on tour by nurture.farm)

# ₹143 crore seized from pharma group

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Income-Tax Department searches on a major Hyderabad-based pharmaceutical group has lead to the seizure of about ₹143 crore in cash and detection of unaccounted income to the tune of ₹550 crore.

The agency started the search and seizure operations on October 6 and about 50 locations across six States were covered.

"This pharmaceutical group is engaged in the business of manufacturing of intermediates, Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and formulations. Majority of the products are exported to foreign countries i.e. U.S., Europe, Dubai and some African countries," the Department said.

During the searches, the agency identified the hideouts where a second set of books-of-accounts and cash had been stored. Evidence in the form of digital media, pen drives and documents were seized.

# **Bogus purchases**

The agency detected several issues related to discrepancies in the purchases made from bogus and nonexistent entities, and artificial inflation of certain heads of expenditure.

"Further, evidence of on-money payment for purchase of lands was also found," the agency said, adding that personal expenses were included in the company's books. Land was purchased by the related parties below the government registration value.

According to the I-T Department, several bank lockers were located during the searches.

# Centre restricts syringe exports for 3 months to aid COVID fight

But those meant for other uses can be sent abroad

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Government has imposed a three-month restriction on exports of three categories of syringes to ensure that there is enough to "improve domestic uptake and availability". However complying with demands from local industry, it has allowed exports of classes of syringes not used for COVID vaccines.

Most syringes used in CO-VID vaccination have a capacity of 0.3 ml though bigger ones are also used.

Following a meeting on Saturday on the progress of COVID-19 vaccination, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya told senior health



Mega drive: India has administered 94 crore doses of vaccines

officials in States, that the "immediate milestone" in India's COVID-19 vaccination journey was completing administration of 100 crore doses. India has so far administered 94 crore vaccine

The three categories of syringes that will be subject to this "quantitative restriction" on exports are 0.5 ml/ 1ml AD (auto-disable) syringes, 0.5 ml/1 ml/2 ml/3 ml disposable syringes, 1ml/2 ml/3 ml RUP (re-use prevention) syringes.

### **Covaxin supply**

At Saturday's meeting, Uttar Pradesh had pointed out the "comparatively limited supply of Covaxin" and its shorter span between the doses as a reason why vaccination wasn't proceeding as fast as it could, said a statement from the Press Information

Previous estimates in April by Bharat Biotech had claimed that production would scale to over six crore doses a month by September but actual supply is much lower. Chairman Bharat Biotech Krishna Ella had said in September that output would be scaled to 5.5 crore doses by October.

For India to meet its goal to fully inoculate all adults by the year end, it needs to vaccinate over a crore every day but has consistently averaged a little less than 80 lakh a day since the 2.5 crore doses on September 17.

Mr Mandaviya said more than 8 crore doses were available with States.

# New parliamentary panels named after a month's delay

Sushil Modi will head group on Law and Justice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

After a delay of nearly a Parliamentary month. Standing Committees were notified on Saturday.

Former Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar Sushil Modi, who was widely expected to ioin Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Cabinet, is now the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice. The post fell vacant after Bhupender Yadav's elevation to the Modi Cabinet.

Notwithstanding a raft of complaints against him from BJP leaders, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor survived as the Chairperson Of The Standing Committee of Information and Technology. At a meeting held on July

27, on a day that the panel was to discuss the Pegasus



retained his post as head of

cyberattack, the BJP members staged a walkout. BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, who is a member, shot off multiple letters to Speaker Om Birla accusing Mr. Tharoor of using the committee to take forward the Congress party's agenda.

The government though has little say. It is up to the

than that of the previous

parties who they want to nominate for the Chairperson's post. The Government could, however, allot different committees to the Opposition parties.

As per sources, at least 50 Rajya Sabha MPs have been reassigned to different committees, 28 of these for their poor attendance in the meetings of committees held over the last year.

In a response to The Hindu's report on the delay in the committee formation. the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs had said the process took time because of deliberations on "whether to nominate MPs who have not attended even one meeting of the committees, and also whether they should be renominated to the same

# Creative economy of Durga Puja in West Bengal pegged at ₹32,000 crore

A British Council study, which looked into 10 allied sectors, says the annual festival contributes 2.58% of the State's GDP

The total economic worth of the creative activities involved in Durga Puja festival is about ₹32,377 crore and the festival contributes 2.58% of West Bengal's GDP, reveals a study carried out by the British Council.

The first of its kind detailed study of different aspects of the Durga Puja festival commissioned by the West Bengal Government's tourism department looks at ten creative industries related to the pujas such as installation, idol making, lighting and illumination, retail,

and food and beverages. The project was done between September 2019 and January 2020, with fieldwork completed in an intense threeweek period around the time of the festival, and the report recently released. The report 'Mapping the

Creative Economy around Durga Puja 2019' points out that the economic value of the art and decoration segment was ₹860 crore, and Kolkata accounted for 15% share of the pandal-making industry in West Bengal.

With regard to idol making, the creative economy

sponsorship, advertisement was estimated to be about ₹260 to ₹280 crore, where Kolkata alone accounted for about ₹120 crore. Around 40% of idol-making studios in Kumartuli, the traditional potters' locality in northern Kolkata, are older than 60 years, the report pointed

# **Retail sector**

The highest contribution to the creative economy was the retail sector, which contributed to ₹27,364 crore, registering a 100% spike in sale during the festive season when discounts and offers are given. Other sectors,

The Puia economy | The annual worth of the creative economy around Durga Puja is estimated at ₹32,377 cr.

Food and beverages Installation, arts and decorations

Advertisements ₹504 cr. Sponsorships

Idol making ₹260-280 cr. Literature and publishing

Lighting and illumination

such as literature and pu-

blishing, contributed about ₹260-270 crore while the film and entertainment sector contributed ₹53.2 crore. Another sector that made

\*All figures based on Durga Puja, 2019, cited in British Council report a significant contribution is the food and beverage sector, which contributed a

whopping ₹2,854 crore. Con-

sumer spends in this sector

during the festive month is

this scale and combines both quantitative and qualitative analyses of the open access ecosystem that feeds the festival economy," Barbara Wickham, director of the British Council in India, said in the report. Debanjan Chakrabarti, di-

rector, East and Northeast India, British Council, told The Hindu said the methodology used is not only transparent but also replicable in other parts of India.

The report also pointed out a 120% spike in the number of bus passengers during

believed to be 30% higher the festival, and a 11% spike in air and rail traffic.

"This complex research Livelihood generator as far as we know, the first Nandini Chakravorty, Princi of its kind in India done on pal Secretary, Tourism, Government of West Bengal, said that the livelihood generation based on just one festival in a year is noteworthy. "The festival is the sole source of earnings across the year for many families," Ms. Chakravorty added.

While the report reflects pre-COVID figures, experts said it gives a baseline of the creative economy in the prepandemic situation and if studies are done using the same methodology, the impact of the pandemic and the post-pandemic situation could be understood better.

# **SUDOKU**



# Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

3	8	5		6			7	9
6	2			1			8	
4	1			8				
1	5	4		7				
8	9	2	4	5	3	7	6	1
7	6	3	8	2				
9	3		6				5	
5	4			9				
2	7	8	1	3	5	6	9	4

# Sabarmati Ashram to get a ₹1,200 cr. revamp

The project, spread across 55 acres, has come under criticism from activists

MAHESH LANGA

The Gujarat government has embarked upon an ambitious project to redevelop Mahatma Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram and expand it from its present five acres to approximately 55 acres. The redevelopment will involve restoring all heritage buildings that were built during the Mahatma's time in 1917, relocating families that live there and bringing to life Gandhiji's philosophy and message for those visiting The project, being moni-

tored by Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself, includes plans to spend ₹1,200 crore to turn the Sabarmati Ashram into a world-class memorial with facilities and amenities to allow all Ashram visitors to have a "truly educational and immersive experience with full measure of the meaning and significance of Mahatma Gandhi's life, work, philosophy, and message to the world." The State government has

emphatically held that the redevelopment project, also known as the Gandhi Ashram Memorial and Precinct Development Project, will be done in a manner that is respectful of the original ashram's ethos as it will retain the values that Gandhiji preached - austerity, simplicity, and authenticity.

commitment to undertake the redevelopment of Mahatma Gandhi's Ashram. In the past, many attempts were made but somehow, no progress was made earlier," said K. Kailashnathan, Prime Minister Modi's most trusted bureaucrat in Gujarat, who Ashram redevelopment pro-

"It is Prime Minister Sir's

is personally handling the "Since most of the original



plan will retain the values preached by Gandhiji. • FILE РНОТО

original Ashram functioned and how it embodied Gandhiji's philosophy. Many of the original buildings are also in disrepair. To add to this, the atmosphere of the ashram is also rudely disrupted by noise of traffic, and it is often crowded on account of the continually increasing number of visitors," stated a presentation prepared by the authorities. The revamp project has

been conceptualised by leading architect Bimal Pabuildings lie outside today's tel, who is also involved in ashram, visitors get an inthe revamping of the Central complete sense of how the Vista project in the national

capital. As per the details, the original Ashram was approximately 120 acres when it was first established in 1917. During Mahatma's lifetime in the Ashram from 1917 to 1930, there were 63 buildings built within the Ashram's area. Today, only 43 of original buildings remain.

who currently reside in the Ashram area for historical reasons, 54 have accepted first instalment and 36 families have accepted the second instalment of compensation offered by the

Of the around 250 families

government to move. The rest are still considering their options.

The revamp has, however, triggered controversy and outrage among a section of Gandhians, activists and scholars. At least 130 personalities from various walks of life have opposed the

In a joint statement, they criticised the Centre and the State governments for embarking upon the redevelopment plans, and said the proposed project will severely compromise the simplicity and sanctity of the present-day Ashram. The proposed memorial is more likely to be called at best a 'Gandhi Theme Park' and at worst, the Mahatma's 'second assassination', they said.

In August of this year, the trustees of Sabarmati Ashram Preservation and Memorial Trust (SAPMT) in a statement said they shared many of the concerns expressed by several citizens regarding the future of Sabarmati Ashram.

# **Maritime** activity is vital, says Rajnath

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Stating that unhindered maritime activity is a necessity to move ahead on the path of rapid development, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday that India is a rising maritime power and its prosperity is largely dependent on the sea.

"India's maritime zones must be safe, secure and pollution free. This will fulfil our security needs and ensure environmental health and economic development," Mr. Singh said after conferring gallantry and meritorious service medals on Coast Guard personnel at an investiture ceremony.

A total of 21 awardswere presented.

In the last one year, Cost Guard carried out 70 medical evacuations, conducted 555 search and rescue operations and saved the lives of more than 1,090 people.

Afghan blast

toll crosses 60

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

community buried their

dead on Saturday after a

suicide attack on a mosque

bloodiest assault since U.S.

killed over 60 people, in the

KUNDUZ

Mourners from

Afghanistan's Shia

forces' withdrawal.

# Xi vows full 'reunification' with Taiwan

He says China intends to achieve this by peaceful means as it best serves the interests of both sides

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China's President Xi Jinping on Saturday said "national reunification by peaceful means" with Taiwan "will and can be realised", speaking amid what Taiwan officials have called the worst tensions in four decades.

Mr. Xi was speaking a day before October 10, which is celebrated in China as the 110th anniversary of the 1911 Xinhai Revolution, and marked in Taiwan as its National Day. The 1911 revolution began at Wuchang on October 10 of that year, ultimately leading to the end of the Qing Dynasty and the establishment of the Republic of China (ROC).

After the end of the Chinese Civil War between the Communists and Nationalists, Mao Zedong's Communist Party established the People's Republic of China in 1949 while Chiang Kai-shek's Kuomintang fled to Taiwan, declaring Taipei as the capital of the ROC.

Mr. Xi on Saturday said "the Taiwan question arose



**Testing times:** Xi Jinping at the commemoration of the 110th anniversary of the Xinhai Revolution in Beijing. • AFP

out of the weakness and chaos of the Chinese nation, and it will be resolved as national rejuvenation becomes a reality."

'This is determined by the general trend of Chinese history, but more importantly, it is the common will of all Chinese people," he was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua news agency, adding that "national reunification by peaceful means best serves the interests of the Chinese nation as a whole. including compatriots in

"Compatriots on both

sides of the Taiwan Strait should stand on the right side of history and join hands to achieve China's complete reunification and the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," he said. "Those who forget their heritage, betray their motherland, and seek to split the country will

"The complete reunification of our country will be and can be realised," he

come to no good end.

His comments on the anniversary followed a series of aerial intrusions into Taiwan's Air Defence Identifica-

tion Zone by the PLA Air Force, with a record 38 aircraft on October 1, when China marked its National Day, followed by 39 on October 2 and 56 on October 4. Taiwan's Defence Minister described the current tensions

as the worst in 40 years.

The legacy of the 1911 revolution is contested by both China and Taiwan. Mr. Xi on Saturday said "the past 110 years have shown us that to realise national rejuvenation, the Chinese people must have a strong force to lead us forward, and that force is the Communist Party of China."

### Tsai's national address

On Sunday, Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen is expected to deliver a National Day address. In last year's address, Ms. Tsai said "maintaining stability in crossstrait relations is in the best interests of both sides". She said Taiwan was "committed to upholding cross-strait stability, but this is not something Taiwan can shoulder alone; it is the joint responsibility of both sides."

The current status quo has, however, come under increasing stress, with Beijing stepping up pressure on Taiwan since Ms. Tsai's election in 2016 and re-election last year, accusing her Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) of pursuing "independence".

The Communist Party's official view is, as Mr. Xi said on Saturday, pushing for reunification by peaceful means, although it has not ruled out the use of force. Beijing has also increas-

ingly sought to push back against Taiwan's presence in international bodies and to wean away the 15 remaining countries that continue to maintain diplomatic ties with Taiwan. The Taiwan issue is also among the key tensions in China-U.S. relations, with Beijing recently criticising U.S. comments on the aerial intrusions. On Saturday, Mr. Xi said "the Taiwan question is purely an internal matter for China, one which brooks no external interference"

# Taliban: won't cooperate with U.S. to contain Islamic State

Officials from both sides meet in Doha to discuss evacuations

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Taliban on Saturday ruled out cooperation with the U.S. to contain extremist groups in Afghanistan, staking out an uncompromising position on a key issue ahead of the first direct talks between the former foes since America withdrew from the country in August.

Senior Taliban officials and U.S. representatives are meeting on Saturday and Sunday in Doha. Officials from both sides have said issues include reining in extremist groups and the evacuation of foreign citizens and Afghans from the country. The Taliban have signaled flexibility on evacuations.

Taliban political spokesman Suhail Shaheen said there would be no cooperation with Washington on going after the increasingly active Islamic State group affiliate in Afghanistan. IS has taken responsibility for a number of attacks, including



Suhail Shaheen

Friday's suicide bombing at a mosque in Kunduz.

"We are able to tackle Daesh independently," Shaheen said, when asked whether the Taliban would work with the U.S. to contain the Islamic State affiliate. He used an Arabic acronym for

The weekend meetings in Doha are the first since U.S. forces withdrew from Afghanistan in late August, ending a 20-year military presence, and the Taliban rose to power in the nation. The U.S. has made it clear the talks are not a preamble

to recognition. The talks also come on the heels of two days of difficult discussions between Pakistani officials and U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman in Islamabad. The focus of those talks was also Afghanistan. Pakistani officials urged the U.S. to engage with the Taliban and release billions of dol-

lars in international funds.

# **ELSEWHERE**



Iran's first President Banisadr passes away

Iran's first President after the 1979 Islamic revolution. Abolhassan Banisadr, died in a Paris hospital on Saturday aged 88, after decades of exile in France following his dismissal by Parliament. Banisadr won Iran's first free election in 1980 to become president hot on the heels of the previous year's Islamic revolution.AFP

### 10 injured in drone attack on Saudi airport

Ten people were wounded in a drone attack on a civilian airport in the Saudi city of Jeddah that was blamed on Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels, official media said on Saturday. The Saudi-led coalition fighting alongside the Yemeni government, quoted by the Saudi news agency SPA, said travellers and airport employees were among those injured. AFP

### **Czech PM wins vote but** majority proves elusive

Czech Prime Minister Andrei Babis won the general election on Saturday but will struggle to put together a parliamentary majority. Preliminary results showed the billionaire's ANO party came first with 28% of the vote, a week after he was named in the Pandora Papers investigation. AFP

# Austria's Kurz steps down as Chancellor

He was implicated on graft charges

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Austria's Sebastian Kurz on Saturday announced he was stepping down as Chancellor following pressure on him to resign after he was implicated in a corruption scandal.

In a televised media statement, Mr. Kurz said he wanted to "make space to prevent chaos"

"We need stability," the 35-year-old conservative said, adding it would be "irresponsible" to allow Austria to "slide into months of chaos or gridlock" while the EU member fights the pandemic.

Mr. Kurz said he would nominate Foreign Minister Alexander Schallenberg as new Chancellor, while he would stay on as the leader of his People's Party (OeVP) Parliament.

Vice-Chancellor Greens leader Werner Kogler on Friday asked the OeVP to name another Chancellor, saying Mr. Kurz was "no longer fit for of-

STANLY JOHNY

This is supposed to be an off

season. Winter is yet to set

in. But natural gas prices

soared over the past few

months, especially in Eu-

rope. The price of natural

gas in Europe is now six

times higher than what it was

last year. Across the conti-

nent, natural gas inventories

are falling. On Wednesday,

the benchmark Dutch gas fu-

tures price jumped 40% in

the morning trade to touch

€162.13 a megawatt-hour, an

eight-year high, but reversed

course after Russian Presi-

dent Vladimir Putin assured

Europe of supplies. But even

after the day's fall, gas prices

in Europe remained twice as

high as they were a month earlier. And on Friday, prices

started rising again. What's

driving up the prices?

Several raids On Wednesday, prosecutors raided several locations linked to the OeVP and announced that Mr. Kurz and nine other individuals were under investigation over claims that government mo-



Sebastian Kurz

ney was used in a corrupt deal to ensure positive me-

Mr. Kurz has denied any wrongdoing, reiterating on Saturday that the allegations against him were "false."

"I will be able to clarify it; I'm sure about that," he said

He said some of the text messages he wrote that got him into hot water were composed in "the heat of the moment"

By stepping down, Mr. Kurz avoids having to face a no-confidence motion, which he was expected to lose after his junior coalition partner, the Greens, turned against him.

In the latest scandal, according to prosecutors, the core allegation is that between 2016 and 2018, Finance Ministry resources were used to finance "partially manipulated opinion polls that served an excluparty political interest".

Announcement comes days after Shringla, during his Colombo visit, pushed for early conduct of elections

Sri Lanka may hold provincial polls in early 2022

MEERA SRINIVASAN

Sri Lanka will hold elections to its Provincial Councils early in 2022 after passing a constitutional amendment required to revert to the Proportional Representation electoral system, the government has indicated.

The government's intent to conduct the long-delayed polls became apparent in a meeting of a parliamentary committee on electoral reforms held on Friday. Following the meeting, Opposition legislator and Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA) Leader Mano Ganesan said Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa had agreed to the conduct of polls in the "first quarter of 2022".

announcement comes days after Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla raised the early conduct of provincial polls in Lankan leadership, during an official visit.

**Constitutional changes** However, the prospect of Sri

Lanka's provincial elections hinges on a constitutional amendment needed to revert to the proportionate representation system that was followed until the former Maithripala Sirisena-Ranil Wickremesinghe government in 2017 amended election laws to shift to a Mixed-Member Proportional Representation electoral system, based on a delimitation exercise. With a report on new electoral boundaries failing to get parliamentary approval, authorities hit a roadblock to holding the polls to the nine Provincial Councils whose terms lapsed in 2018 and 2019. They have been under the respective Governors' rule since.

Addressing the media, Mr.

vernment appears confident of being able to pass the amendment and has instructed the subject minister to take necessary steps. Although we are in Opposition, we would support such an amendment in Parliament in the interest of holding the provincial polls without further delay."

In 2019, Opposition MP and Jaffna legislator of the Tamil National Alliance M.A. Sumanthiran presented a private member's Bill seeking early polls to Councils under the old system, by repealing the 2017 law. This was a shift from TNA's earlier position backing the 2017 amendment for electoral reforms that critics cite as the main reason for delayed polls.

The Rajapaksa administration - including President Gotabaya Rajapaksa himself - has in the past underfurther delay, but there has been no follow up action.

vincial elections without

In addition to the constitutional amendment that is required to proceed, there is a cost factor that the government would consider, especially when Sri Lanka's economy is reeling under the impact of the pandemic.

### **UN resolution**

Not just India, but several international actors have endorsed early polls in Sri Lanka. It also found mention in the resolution passed by the UN Human Rights Council in March this year. The resolution, backed by 22 member countries, called upon the Government of Sri Lanka to "fulfil its commitments on the devolution of political authority, which is integral to reconciliation and the full enjoyment of human rights by all members of its popula-

governance. through the holding of elections for Provincial Councils, and to ensure that all Provincial Councils, including the northern and eastern Provincial Councils, are able to operate effectively, in accordance with the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution of Sri Lanka."

Government to respect local

Although the provincial system came as a response to Tamils' demand for greater political power, the Councils have proved important for all political parties, including in the Sinhala majority south, to keep their machinery well-oiled at the grassroot level. This, despite the Centre remaining reluctant to part with land and police powers. The Councils have some legislative powers – by passing statutes - in areas such as agriculture, education, health, housing, and

# U.S. court allows Texas to resume ban on abortions

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

WASHINGTON

A U.S. federal appeals court ruled on Friday that Texas could resume its ban on most abortions, two days after another court suspended the ban.

The decision by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals temporarily set aside Wednes-

Why natural gas prices are soaring around the world

day's ruling, effectively reinstating a ban on most abortions once a fetal heart-

beat is detected. On Wednesday, U.S. district judge Robert Pitman issued a preliminary injunction halting enforcement of the Texas law, saying it violated the 1973 Supreme Court ruling in Roe vs Wade,

which enshrined a woman's legal right to an abortion.

Texas Attorney-General Ken Paxton, a Republican, appealed that decision, and the appeal was granted on Friday. "Great news tonight," Mr. Paxton tweeted after the ruling. "I will fight federal overreach at every turn."

Appointments for patients

seeking abortions after six weeks of pregnancy would be cancelled until further notice, the family-planning

healthcare provider said. Laws restricting abortion have been passed in other Republican-led States but were struck down by the

Supreme Court

needs to step in and stop this madness," Nancy Northup, CEO of the Center for Repro-

ductive Rights, said. The "Texas Heartbeat Act" allows people to sue doctors who perform abortions, or anyone who helps facilitate them, once a fetal heartbeat is detected usually around six weeks.

# Ethiopian forces strike Tigray rebels

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Ethiopian troops and their allies are launching air and ground strikes against Tigray rebels in the northern region of Amhara, humanitarian and rebel sources siad, amid growing speculation of a major offensive.

A spokesman for the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which has been locked in a brutal conflict with pro-government forces in northern Ethiopia for 11 months, said Saturday there was a "massive move" against the re-

The reports come just days after PM Abiy Ahmed was sworn in for a new term, vowing to defend "Ethiopia's honour".

TPLF spokesman Getachew Reda said there had been "mostly air, drone and artillery bombardment" of rebels, and reported a major troop buildup, saying "tens of thousands are amassed" in northern Amhara.

# **Supply constraints**

A host of reasons, from economic recovery to geopolitics, are attributed to the price rise. Global energy demand fell last year when eco-

nomies slipped into COVIDinduced lockdowns. When growth returned this year, especially to Asian economies, demand shot up and energy producers struggled to meet the growing demand, pushing up prices. Even in the U.S., the world's largest natural gas producer, prices rose from \$1.7 per million British thermal units on March 31 to \$6.3 per mBtu on Oct. 5. Europe, which is heavily dependent on imports to meet its energy demand, was particularly hit hard. As part of Europe's shift

towards cleaner energy, many countries had moved away from coal to gas to produce electricity. This increased Europe's reliance on gas. On the other side, the continent's natural gas production has shrunk over the years, as many countries shut down production fields over environmental concerns. If Europe's natural gas production (excluding Russia) was about 300 billion cubic metres in 2005, it fell

to less than 200 bcm in 2021,



Host of reasons, including growing demand led by economic recovery, shift to cleaner energy and geopolitics, behind trend

according to Rystad Energy. Norway, Europe's main producer of natural gas, has seen its production shrink from 117.6 bcm in 2015 to 105.3 bcm in 2021. This has left Europe largely dependent on Russia.

**Energy geopolitics** 

As prices shot up amid growing worldwide demand and falling production in Europe, supplies from Russia via a pipeline that passes through Ukraine and Poland also shrank, which made the situation worse. Russia has built another gas pipeline,

Nord Stream 2, which will take Russian gas directly to Germany bypassing Ukraine and Poland, whose governments are critical of the Kremlin. But supplies to Europe through Nord Stream 2 are yet to start as the pipeline is awaiting approval from European authorities.

In the past when Europe's energy demand shot up, Russia had stepped up supplies. But this year, Gazprom, Russia's state-controlled energy giant that supplies about 35% of Europe's gas requirements, has booked less additional exports than the trad-

ers wanted, adding pressure on supplies. The International Energy Agency said this week Russian exports to Europe this year were lower than they were in 2019. This has fuelled speculation that Mr. Putin is using the energy crunch in Europe to get approval from the EU for the Nord Stream 2 pipeline. Several countries in Europe as well as the U.S. remain critical of the pipeline, which they say would help Russia enhance its leverage over the

# **EXPLAINER**

continent and would also allow Russia to economically punish Ukraine and Poland. U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan told the BBC on Thursday any attempts by Russia to exploit the crisis would backfire.

# **Putin's assurance**

The Kremlin has dismissed such criticism, saying Russia has no role in the energy crunch. On Wednesday, Mr. Putin said the amount of gas flowing through the operational pipeline is set to exceed volumes agreed under Gazprom's contract with Ukraine. He also said Russia could "reach another record of deliveries of our energy resources to Europe, including gas". This temporarily calmed the markets. But Mr. Putin didn't say

how Russia was going to step up supplies - through the existing pipeline or Nord Stream 2? Russian officials have already said Gazprom can send more gas to Europe if Nord Stream 2 comes online quickly. It is to be seen if additional supplies would be tied to a quick approval for the pipeline. Furthermore, the Russian domestic gas market also remains tight. Inventories are running low, and winter is coming, which would shoot up demand constraining Russia's export capacity. And demand is rising not only in Europe and the Americas, but also in Asia. Coal shortages in India and China could drive up prices of natural gas further.

# Blackout in Lebanon after fuel shortage

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Lebanon was plunged into a total blackout on Saturday after two main power stations went offline because they ran out of fuel, the state electricity corporation said.

Mediterranean country is battling one of the planet's worst economic crises since the 1850s, and has in recent months struggled to import enough fuel oil for its power plants.

State electricity in most places is barely available for an hour a day amid rolling power cuts, while the fuel needed to power private back-up generators is

also in short supply. "After the Deir Ammar power station was forced to stop producing power yesterday morning (Friday) due its gasoil reserves running out, the Zahrani plant also stopped this afternoon for the same reason," Electricite du Liban said in a statement.





A comprehensive atlas of the motor cortex cells of the brains of mice, marmosets and humans was published by a consortium of researchers supported by the U.S. National Institutes of Health's BRAIN mission. The 17 studies, published in *Nature*, are the first in a series meant to make an atlas of the entire brain. The studies aim to understand the role of neural networks in controlling our minds and bodies. The studies will map the 160 billion neurons and



### Coded in the dunes

Sand dunes form in the deserts, but these are found not only on Earth but in other planets and comets, too. Scientists have found a way to predict the way winds blow on planets by observing shapes of dunes formed on these surfaces, for example, on Mars or Venus. The work, published in the journal Geology, found that when dunes collide, patterns called megaripples, which are observed on Mars now, form, which can be used to understand wind patterns

# Why three countries have paused Moderna vaccine

After reports showed an increase in myocarditis and pericarditis cases, Denmark, Sweden and later Finland paused use in people under 30 years

R. PRASAD

Denmark suspended the use of Moderna's mRNA vaccine for younger age groups after reports pointed to an increase in the number of myocarditis and pericarditis cas-Myocarditis causes inflammation of heart muscle which can limit the organ's ability to pump blood and can cause changes in heartbeat rhythms, while pericarditis causes inflammation of the outer lining of the heart.

On October 6, Sweden and

A day later, Finland followed suit and paused the use of the Moderna vaccine in people younger than 30 years. Both Finland Health institute and the Swedish Public Health Agency now recommend Pfizer's mRNA vaccine for people younger than 30 years as there is greater experience with the vaccine in this age group. The Swedish Agency said its decision is valid till December 1 this year.

### Slightly higher risk

"A Nordic study involving Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark found that men under the age of 30 who received Moderna Spikevax had a slightly higher risk than others of developing myocarditis," Mika Salminen, director of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare told Reuters.

The Swedish Public Health Agency said that the connection [of myocarditis and pericarditis] is "especially clear when it comes to Moderna vaccine Spikevax, especially after the second dose". For an individual, the risk of being affected by myocarditis and pericarditis is small.

### **Questions on risk**

Meanwhile, the U.K., Hong Kong and Norway, have recommended administering only a single dose of the Pfizer vaccine for children aged 12 years and older.

On why the Moderna vaccine has a relatively increased risk of myocarditis and pericarditis after the second dose compared with Pfizer, Immunologist Dr. Satyajit Rath, formerly with the Delhi-based National Institute of Immunology says in an email that since the serious adverse events are extremely rare it is not even absolutely certain that there is really an increase in this 'risk' of myocarditis with the Moderna vaccine over the Pfizer vaccine. "The two vaccines have not been used in the same populations, and there may well be differences in the people who have received one versus the other which could contribute to this so-called difference in risk (rather than the vaccine)," says Dr. Rath. "Some minor difference in the chemical composition of the two vaccines may have contributed to this so-called risk; even though they are both mRNA vaccines, they are not

### Once, twice or not at all?

Three countries have paused the Moderna vaccine, however, field data show the adverse reactions are extremely rare,

A Nordic study found that men under the age of 30 years who received Moderna Spikevax had a slightly higher risk of developing myocarditis

■ The connection to myocarditis was seen especially **after the** second dose

■ Experts consider that offering one dose provides the clearest benefit for the individual adolescent when the vaccine's benefit is weighed against possible disadvantages

predominantly in males and mild.

■ Adolescents and young children are likely to get infected and transmit the virus to others even while not suffering from COVID-19 disease

■ The Norwegian Institute of Public Health had assessed that the greatest transmission-limiting effect of the vaccines is achieved when two vaccine doses are given Now, two studies

nave reported based myocarditis is een in males and

identical." He also mentions the higher dosage of 100 microgram used in the Moderna vaccine compared with 30 microgram for Pfizer might be another possibility.

Just one dose "One dose provides good protection against a severe disease course, and the protection will probably be better among adolescents at this age than for older age groups," says Camilla Stoltenberg, Director-General of the Norwegian Institute of Public Health in a release. "We consider that the offer of one dose provides the clearest benefit for the individual adolescent when the benefit is weighed against possible disadvantages of the vaccine. The second dose will be considered when there is more knowledge from other countries that have come further in the vaccination of this age group."

Studies in Israel have shown that within six months there is a reduction in vaccine effectiveness in preventing infection after two doses of the Pfizer vaccine. Based on this data, Dr. Rath says there is no evidence to indicate how long a single dose of COVID vaccines will remain effective

"I do not expect that duration to be dramatically different from the one in adults. But in the first place, that is simply a guess, and in the second place, we have no idea of such a duration with a single dose even in adults," he

Young adults, adolescents and young children rarely suffer from severe disease. However, they are likely to get infected and transmit the virus to others even while not suffering from COVID-19 disease. Vaccination of adolescents and young children can help in breaking the transmission chain. But should young adults, adolescents and young children, who are not at great risk of severe risk, be given two doses of even the Pfizer vaccine that has an extremely small risk of causing inflammation of the heart for the sake of breaking the transmission

"The greatest transmission-limiting effect of the two vaccine doses are given. The NIPH [Norwegian Institute of Public Health] has assessed that for this age group [12-15 years], which to a lesser extent than adults and older adolescents has contributed to transmission. The individual considerations of offering vaccination are more important than the benefit to society of limiting transmission," the NIPH said in a release. Even earlier, evidence

showed a tiny risk of myocarditis and pericarditis when young adults received the second dose of Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. The risk was overwhelmingly seen in males and after the second dose. "It is hard to get any grip on why males are more affected, because we have no idea, even if it turns out to be a real and reliable association (between vaccine and illness), what the mechanism involved is," says Dr. Rath. "We do know that, independent of COVID-19 disease or vaccines, myocarditis is somewhat more common in men than in women. But again, we have no clarity about why this is so."

### Resolves on its own

Now, two studies published in The New England Journal of Medicine have reported based on field data that myocarditis is extremely rare and predominantly seen in males and is mild. The condition resolves on its own within a

The first NEJM study found that of the nearly 5.1 million people vaccinated with the Pfizer vaccine between December 20, 2020 and May 31, 2021 in Israel only 136 cases of myocarditis were reported. Of the 136 cases, 129 people (95%) had only mild myocarditis.

The study found that the incidence of myocarditis after two doses of vaccination was highest among males. They found that myocarditis occurred in the population at a "rate of approximately 1 per 26,000 males and 1 per 2,18,000 females after the second vaccine dose, with the highest risk again among young male recipients".

The study also found that the "overall risk difference between the first and second doses was 1.76 per 100,000 persons with the largest difference among male recipients between the ages of 16 and 19 years".

The second study published in NEJM carried out in Israel looked at the incidence of myocarditis after full vaccination with the Pfizer vaccine in a large healthcare organisation. The study found 54 cases of myocarditis from 2.5 million vaccinated health-care organisation members aged 16 years and above. In all, 76% of cases of myocarditis were mild, and the highest incidence (10.69 cases per 1,00,000 persons) was reported in male patients between the ages of 16

# Lunar samples brought by Chinese mission studied

Samples dated to later volcanic lava

REUTERS

Remnants of solidified lava brought back by a Chinese lunar mission were 1 billion years younger than material acquired by other missions decades ago, according to an article in Science, suggesting the moon cooled down later than thought.

Samples brought back by U.S. and Soviet missions were more than 2.9 billion years old. The samples acmission late last year were around 1.96 billion years old suggesting volcanic activity persisted longer than believed.

Last December, the uncrewed Chinese probe touched down on a previously unvisited part of a massive lava plain, the Oceanus Procellarum or "Oceans of Storms," bringing back lunar samples.

One of the main objectives of Chang'e-5, was to

find out how long the moon remained volcanically active. "The Oceanus Procellarum region of the Moon is characterised by high concentrations of potassium, thorium, and uranium, elements that generate heat through long-lived radioactive decay and may have sustained prolonged magmatic activity on the nearside of the Moon," wrote the arti-

The article said the heat source for the magmatic activity might also be the socalled "tidal heating," or heat generated by the gravitational tug and pull of the Earth.

The Chang'e-5 mission made China the third country to have retrieved lunar samples, after the United States and the Soviet Union, which launched the last successful mission to acquire material from the moon.

# The fact of black holes having masses

over 100 times the solar mass has puzzled the community

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

Scientists from Chennai Mathematical Institute, with their collaborators, have analysed data from the LIGO-VIRGO observatories and estimated the fraction of the binary black hole mergers detected so far that show potential to form intermediate mass black holes. This throws light on the puzzle of black holes". black holes form.

Black holes form when a massive star undergoes a supernova explosion towards the end of its lifetime. The black hole forms from the remnants of the explosion. However, there are factors that place limits on the mass of a black hole so formed. According to physicist K.G. Arun of Chennai Mathematical Institute, black holes with masses between approximately 45-135 times the

solar mass are unlikely to be produced by standard stellar evolution as the pair-instability process either limits the max mass of the black hole or completely disrupts the star during the supernova explosion. What puzzles astronomers and cosmologists is that gravitational wave detectors have seen several such "intermediate mass

Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory (LIGO) made the first observation of a pair of binary black holes on September 19,

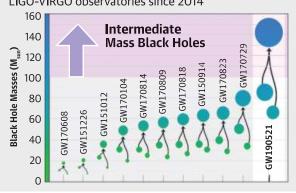
Since then with other gravitational wave observatories about 40 mergers have been detected, of which nearly five have masses above 100 times solar mass.

One of the theories of intermediate mass black hole

# Stellar ghosts

A series of black hole mergers detected by LIGO-VIRGO observatories since 2014

Mergers of black holes and 'kicks' that hold a key to puzzles



formation has to do with 'hierarchical growth'. That is, if the black holes exist among a dense cluster of stars, the remnant (black hole) of a merger can pair up with another black hole close by to form a binary. This can eventually merge to form a second remnant which is more massive. This process, happening in a hierarchical manner, can explain intermediate mass black hole formation.

# **Kicks in mergers**

During the mergers, gravitational waves take away energy and linear momentum, as a reaction, the remnant black hole acquires an opposite momentum. This is the "kick" it receives. These kicks can be quite large, giving it a velocity of up to 1000 kilometres per second. If this kick velocity is above the escape velocity of the star cluster in which the black hole is formed, it literally es-

# The extent of the kick received by the remnant is calculated from the masses and spins of the merging black holes.

capes from the environment and moves out. This prevents it from undergoing hierarchical further

mergers. The extent of the kick received by the remnant can be calculated from the masses of the merging black holes and their spin. "As GW observations give an estimate of these, we can calculate remnant black hole in the population of binary black holes reported by LIGO/Virgo till date," says Parthapratim Mahapatra, Ph. D. student, Chennai Mathematical Institute, who is the first author of a paper on this work published in The As-

The kick estimates help understand which mergers have the possibility of undergoing further hierarchical mergers and forming into in-

trophysical Journal Letters.

studies using astrophysical models to understand whether the components of some of the binaries are formed hierarchically. "This is a complementary approach as we are interested  $\perp$ in the prospects of the remnants participating in further mergers and not whether the observed binaries contain one or more of the black holes which are hierarchically formed," says Prof. Arun. in whose lab the work was

done, in an email to The Hin-

termediate mass black holes.

There have been recent

Using the state-of-the-art understanding of the escape speeds of star clusters and using the kick magnitudes they have inferred for different observed events, the group has calculated what fraction of the remnants may remain in-cluster (provided they originally merged in the cluster). "We find that as many as 17 out of 40 remnants may be retained by the nuclear star clusters," says Prof.

# NRC backs Linear No-Threshold model for radiation safety

This decision of U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission was awaited by specialists

K. S. PARTHASARATHY

Now it is official. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) decisively upheld the Linear No-Threshold model to prescribe radiation safety standards, ending the protracted controversy on the topic. Radiation protection specialists worldwide were eagerly awaiting the NRC's decision.

Over six years ago, during February 2015, Dr. Carol S. Marcus, Mr. Mark L. Miller, Certified Health Physicist, and Dr. Mohan Doss, and others, through three petitions requested the NRC, "to amend its regulations based on what they assert is new science and evidence that contradicts the linear nothreshold (LNT) dose-effect model that serves as the basis for the NRC's radiation protection regulations."

# The model

The LNT model states that biological effects such as cancer and hereditary effects due to exposure to ionising

radiation increase as a linear function of dose, without threshold.

The petitioners support "radiation hormesis," a concept that posits that low doses of ionising radiation protect against the deleterious effects of high doses of radiation and result in beneficial effects to humans.

The NRC denied the three petitions because they failed to present an adequate basis supporting the request to discontinue use of the LNT model. "The NRC has determined that the LNT model continues to provide a sound regulatory basis for minimizing the risk of unnecessary radiation exposure to both members of the public and radiation workers. Therefore, the NRC will maintain the current dose limit requirements," the NRC declared recently.

Petitioners' proposed substantial increase in dose limits to workers; raise the public dose limits to be the same as the worker doses; end differential doses to



**Ionising radiation:** The LNT model states biological effects such as cancer and hereditary effects increase as a linear function of dose, without threshold. • GETTY IMAGES

pregnant women, embryos and fetuses, and children less than 18 years of age; remove the As Low As Is Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) principle entirely from the regulations because they claim that "it makes no sense to decrease radiation doses that are not only harmless but may be hormetic".

# No proof of a threshold

"Convincing evidence has not yet demonstrated the existence of a threshold below which there would be no stochastic effects from exposure to low radiation doses. As such, the NRC's view is that the LNT model continues to

provide a sound basis for a conservative radiation protection regulatory framework that protects both the public and occupational workers. Despite the various studies cited by the petitioners, uncertainty and lack of consensus persist in the scientific community about the health effects of low doses of radiation." the NRC, asserted. The LNT model helps the

agencies to regulate radiation exposures to diverse categories of licensees, from commercial nuclear power plants to individual industrial radiographers and nuclear medical practices.

The NRC noted that although there are studies and other scholarly papers that support the petitioners' assertions, there are also studies and findings that support the continued use of the LNT model, including those by national and international authoritative scientific advisory bodies.

# **Endorsed by authority**

Authoritative scientific advisory bodies such as the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS), the National Council for Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), that have a specialty in the area of radiation protection support the continued use of the LNT model. The National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute of Occupational safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) also endorse the use of LNT model.

The NRC gave due weight to NCRP Commentary No. 27: "Implications of Recent Epidemiologic Studies for

the Linear-Non-threshold Model and Radiation Protection," released in April 2018. The commentary assesses currently available epidemiological evidence and concludes that the LNT model should continue to be utilised for radiation protection purposes.

The NRC received over 3,200 comment submissions, with 635 of those being unique, including submissions from certified health physicists, nuclear medicine professionals, scientific associations, federal agencies and concerned citizens. There were 100 unique comment submissions that agreed with the petitioners. The NRC responded to all questions. Its procedures to arrive at its decision are a model for other regulators to emulate. (Details available at The Federal Register: The Daily Journal of the United States Government, proposed rule - Linear No-Threshold Model and Standards for Protection Against Radiation.)

ulatory Board.

Since the dragonflies (The writer is a former Secretary, Atomic Energy Reg-

ksparth@yahoo.co.uk)

# **Question Corner**

Daring dragonflies

How far can globe skimmer dragonflies

In 2009, it was hypothesised that globe skimmer dragonflies (Pantala flavescens) can migrate thousands of kilometres across the Indian Ocean, from India via the Maldives to Africa, and back again. Now, an international research team led by Lund University in Sweden used models and simulations to verify this.

Marine biologist Charles Anderson observed globe skimmer dragonflies in Maldives, which had flown in from, he assumed, India. When they flew off again, it was towards East Africa.

are too small to be fitted with transmitters, the

researchers examined physiological aspects and calculated how long a globe skimmer dragonfly could stay airborne using the energy that can be stored in its body. In addition, the researchers used meteorological wind models to determine if there are winds that can facilitate the migration.

The found that it was indeed possible for the dragonflies to migrate from India to East Africa and return to India. The globe skimmer dragonfly does not rely on fat stored in its body to fly such long distances. Instead, it takes advantage of favourable winds present during certain periods of the year.

According to the simulated migration experiments using wind models, about 15% of the dragonflies could manage the migration from India to Africa in the spring. In the autumn, 40% could make the same journey in the opposite direction.

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

M ND-NDE

THE HINDU DELHI SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021 FAQ 13



A challenge overcome: David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian honoured for discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch. •AFP

# Heat and touch

Does the knowledge of nerve impulses which can perceive temperature and pressure when initiated help to treat pain?

ЈАСОВ КОЅНҮ

**The story so far:** The 2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was jointly awarded to David Julius, 66, at the University of California, San Francisco, and Ardem Patapoutian, 54, at Scripps Research, La Jolla, California, "for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch".

What is the significance of their work?

■ The two researchers discovered the molecular mechanism by which our body senses temperature and touch. Being able to do this opens the field for a lot of practical chemistry whereby individual cells and pathways can be tweaked, suppressed or activated to quell pain or sensation. How the body senses external

The challenge for pain relieving drugs is to precisely target regions without causing imbalance in other necessary functions. The two scientists' work, the Nobel Prize committee said, significantly helped towards reaching that goal

stimuli is among the oldest excursions of natural philosophy. Entire schools of philosophy were based on speculating how the senses influenced the nature of the reality we perceive. Only when physiology developed as an independent discipline and anatomy came into its own did it become widely accepted that specific sensations were the result of different categories of nerves getting stimulated. Thus, a caress or a punch induces cells in our bodies

to react differently and convert into specific patterns of electrical stimulation that is then conveyed via the nerves to the central nervous system. Since the Nobel Prizes came to be, at least three of them were for establishing key principles for how sensations travelled along skin and muscle sensory nerve fibres. Much like the length, thickness, material and incident force on their strings elicit specific tones out of a guitar or a piano, there are specific nerve fibre types that in tandem create a response to touch, heat and proprioception, or the sense of our body's movement and position in space. However, the prominence of molecular biology means that physiology wanted to go a level deeper and find out what specific proteins and which genes are responsible in this symphony of the nerves.

What is the contribution of David Julius towards this?

■ Capsaicin (8-methyl-N-vanillyl-6-nonenamide), the active component of chili peppers, generates the burning sensation when eating spicy food. Studies on capsaicin showed that when it acted on sensory nerves it induced ionic currents, or the gush of charged particles along a membrane. In the late 1990s, Professor Julius pursued a project to identify a nerve receptor for capsaicin. He thought that understanding the action of capsaicin could provide insights into how the body sensed pain. He and his team went about this by looking for a gene that could induce a response to capsaicin in cells that usually wouldn't react to it. They found one in a novel ion channel protein, later called TRPV1, where TRP stands for transient receptor potential, and VR1 is vanilloid receptor1. They were part of a super family of TRP and it was found that TRPV1 was activated when temperatures were greater than 40 degrees Celsius, which is close to the body's pain threshold. Several other TRP channels were found, and this ion channel could be activated by various chemical substances, as well as by cold and heat in a way that differs between mammalian species.

# What did Ardem Patapoutian find?

■ Growing up in Beirut as an Armenian, during the Lebanese Civil War, Patapoutian has related stories of being captured by militants at university, before he moved to the United States. Patapoutian and his colleagues were working on how pressure and force affected cells. Following an approach similar to that of Professor Julius, they identified 72 potential genes that could encode an ion channel receptor and trigger sensitivity to mechanical force, and it emerged that one of them coded for a novel ion channel protein, called Piezo1. Via Piezo1, a second gene was discovered and named Piezo2. Sensory neurons were found to express high levels of Piezo2 and further studies firmly established that Piezo1 and Piezo2 are ion channels that are directly activated by the exertion of pressure on cell membranes. The breakthrough by Professor Patapoutian led to a series of papers from his and other groups, demonstrating that the Piezo2 ion channel is essential for the sense of touch. Moreover, Piezo2 was shown to play a key role in proprioception as well as regulate blood pressure, respiration and urinary bladder control. Independently of one another, Professor Julius and Professor Patapoutian used the chemical substance menthol to identify TRPM8, a receptor activated by cold.

What applications do these discoveries have?

■ Along with the discoveries of specific genes, proteins and pathways, the scientists pioneered experimental methods that allow insight into the structure of these pain and temperature sensors. The challenge for pain relieving drugs is to precisely target regions without causing imbalance in other necessary functions. These scientists' work, the Nobel Prize committee said, significantly helped towards reaching that goal.

# Explaining the global warming phenomenon

How does the work of three Physics Nobel laureates contribute to our understanding of complex physical systems?

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

The story so far: The Nobel Prize for Physics for 2021 has been awarded to climatologists Syukuro Manabe of Princeton University, U.S., and Klaus Hasselmann of Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, Hamburg, Germany, and physicist Giorgio Parisi of Sapienza University of Rome, Italy. The prize has been given for their "groundbreaking contributions to our understanding of complex physical systems". Professors Manabe and Hasselmann will share half the prize and Professor Parisi will receive one-half of the prize. Professors Manabe and Hasselmann bagged the Prize "for the physical modelling of Earth's climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming". Professor Parisi won "for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales".

How is their work linked?

■ Though the prize-winning work done by the laureates are in different areas, they are broadly linked, as they fall under the umbrella of complex systems, climate on the one hand, and spin liquids on the other, the former a phenomenon that spans length scales ranging from centimetres to the size of the planet and the latter a description of what goes on at a microscopic level. The Nobel is being given to climatologists for the first time since its inception in 1901, and this sends out a message that cannot be repeated too often: there is a solid physics basis to climate science, on which the laureates have spent decades, and many other scientists have striven to establish.

What is the context of Syukuro Manabe's work?

■ The incoming short wavelength radiation from the Sun is absorbed by the Earth and re-emitted outwards as long wavelength radiation. The atmosphere absorbs a part of this outgoing radiation and warms up. This is known as the green-house effect. The green-house effect has been known from the work of French mathematician Joseph Fourier two hundred years ago, although it was given its name much later. This warming of the atmosphere and the ground below it is affected by greenhouse gases water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane and other such. The greenhouse effect also has a positive impact: it keeps the surface of the earth warm and makes life possible. However, when the percentage of the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere increases, this warming also increases and can rise to a degree that is harmful to life itself. Around the close of the 19th century, Swedish scientist Svante Arrhenius estimated that should the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere double, this would cause its temperature to increase by 5-6 degrees.

What is Manabe's key contribution to climate science?

■ In the 1950s and 1960s, Professor Manabe and collaborators made pioneering attempts at modelling atmospheric warming due to the increase in carbon dioxide. He estimated that a doubling of carbon dioxide would lead to a temperature rise of 2 degrees. His model confirmed that the rise in temperature was, indeed, due to the increase in carbon dioxide, because it predicted rising temperatures close to the ground and cooling of outer layers of the atmosphere. If the warming had been







Hidden patterns: Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann won the prize for the physical modelling of Earth's climate.

Giorgio Parisi has been honoured for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems. 

AFP, AP

due to the Sun's radiation, it would have been uniform. It was Professor Manabe's model that pinned the quantitative impact of warming due to carbon dioxide.

What are the important aspects of Hasselmann's work?

■ The term, weather, refers to day-to-day variations in temperature and rainfall, whereas climate describes long-time effects and also seasonal and average behaviour over a long time. While it is very difficult to predict the former, the latter appears predictable, as for instance, in

In the 1950s and 1960s, Syukuro Manabe and collaborators made pioneering attempts at modelling atmospheric warming due to the increase of carbon dioxide. It was Manabe's model that pinned the quantitative impact of warming due to carbon dioxide

year. The striking aspect of Professor Hasselmann's work is that he built a connection between the rapid, randomly varying, "noise-like" weather patterns and inferred from these the "signal" of climate. He built a stochastic climate model that connects the two. He did this around 1980. According to information released by the Nobel Academy, Professor Hasselmann later

the anticipated regularity

of monsoons year after

developed methods to identify the human fingerprint on climate change. The models that he built carried information about warming due to solar radiation, the greenhouse gases and other causes, each of which could be separated. His study, followed by that of others, demonstrated the human impact on climate change through several observations.

Parisi was rewarded for his work on spin liquids. What are these?

■ To understand the work of Giorgio Parisi, it is necessary to understand four concepts with a dash of abstraction to them – spins, frustration, spin glasses and replica symmetry. Spins are like minimalistic line drawings of magnets. Just as magnets point in the north-south direction, spins are arrows that point along one direction. Consider a triangular array of spins that can either point up or down. Let us say that the neighbouring pairs of spins always like to point in opposite directions. In a triangular array with spins A, B

and C, if A points up, and to satisfy the condition, B points down, what will be the direction in which C must point – up or down? If C points down, it will be parallel to B, thus violating that bond. If it points up, it will become parallel to A, thus violating the A-C bond. So, the spin C does not know how to align itself. This is the classic situation called "frustration". If you extend the description of a triangular arrangement of spins to a triangular mesh or net (triangular lattice) and place spins on each intersection, you will see that it is impossible to find a state where all neighbouring spins are aligned opposite to one another. This is a frustrated system.

The information released by the Nobel Academy describes how when a gas – which can be pictured as a collection of tiny balls flying around at random – is cooled slowly, it condenses first into a liquid and then a solid which most of the time is crystalline (with the balls being fixed into a periodic array). However, if the gas is cooled rapidly, it just goes into a glass state where some periodicity is present and some random placements. Similarly, frustration can lead the spin systems to form a spin glass.

What was the breakthrough made by Parisi?

■ In the 1970s, many physicists tried to calculate meaningful quantities out of spin glasses by using "a replica trick" — this is a mathematical technique in which many copies of the system (or replicas) are processed at the same time. However, they were not quite successful. Parisi, in a breakthrough in 1979, was able to identify a structure to the replicas and describe it mathematically. This led to the method being used eventually to solve problems in the field of complex systems. This went beyond physics and helped in solving problems in mathematics, biology, neuroscience.

What are the physical examples of Parisi's work?

Parisi has also studied other phenomena in which simple behaviours give rise to complex collective behaviour like murmurations of starlings. This is a phenomenon that arises when hundreds or thousands of starlings fly together in co-ordinated patterns across the sky. Phillip Anderson's words aptly describe the philosophy of studying such systems, as quoted in the Academy's release: "The history of spin glasses may be the best example I know of the dictum that a real scientific mystery is worth pursuing to the ends of the Earth for its own sake, independently of any obvious practical importance or intellectual glamour."

# Revolutionising the construction of molecules

In what way has the discovery of the two Laureates made the process greener, cheaper and more precise?

R. PRASAD

The story so far: The Nobel Prize for Chemistry has been awarded to German scientist Benjamin List of the Max Planck Institute and Scotland-born scientist David W.C. MacMillan of Princeton University "for the development of asymmetric organocatalysis". Developed by the duo in 2000, this novel technique of catalysis is an efficient, "precise, cheap, fast and environmentally friendly" way to develop new molecules.

What is catalysis?

■ Catalysis is a term used to describe a process in the presence of a substance (the catalyst) that controls and influences the rate and/or the outcome of the reaction. The substance – the catalyst – which helps in achieving this remains intact and is not consumed during the reaction and neither becomes a part of the final product. The catalyst is subsequently removed so as not to add impurity to the final product. Catalysts are often used to produce new and functional molecules that are utilised in drugs and other everyday substances. For example, catalysts in cars transform toxic substances in exhaust fumes to harmless molecules. When silver is put in a beaker along with hydrogen peroxide, the latter suddenly breaks down to form water and oxygen. The silver, which initiated the reaction, does not get consumed or affected by the reaction.

The Nobel release points out that in 1835, the renowned Swedish chemist Jacob Berzelius started to see a pattern. "He listed several examples in which just the presence of a substance started a chemical reaction, stating how this phenomenon appeared to be considerably more common than was previously thought. He believed that the substance had a *catalytic force* and called the phenomenon itself *catalysis*."

What were the conventional catalysts used before the discovery of asymmetric organocatalysis?

Two very different catalysts –metals and enzymes–were routinely used by chemists before Dr. List and Dr. MacMillan developed the asymmetric organocatalysts. As the name denotes, metal catalysts often use heavy metals. This makes them not only expensive but also environmentally unfriendly as sufficient care needs to be taken to ensure the final product does not contain even traces of the catalyst. There are several other challenges when metal catalysts are used. The heavy metals used in these catalysts are often highly sensitive to the presence of oxygen and moisture. Hence, industrial application of this class of catalysts required equipment that ensured no contact with either oxygen and moisture, which made the





Asymmetric approach: Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan were chosen for finding an 'ingenious' way to build molecules that can be used to make everything from medicines to food flavourings. •AP

process expensive.

In the case of enzyme catalysts, the problem arises from their very large sizes. They are often 10,000 times larger than the actual target medicine and can take just as long to make. Enzymes, which are proteins found in nature, are wonderful catalysts. Our bodies also contain thousands of such enzyme catalysts which help make molecules necessary for life. Many molecules exist in mirror images – left-handed and right-handed. But the molecules of interest will be one of the two mirror images. Many enzymes engage in asymmetric catalysis, which help in producing only one mirror image. They also work in a continuous fashion – when one enzyme is finished with a reaction, another one takes over. In this way, they can build complicated molecules with amazing precision.

What makes asymmetric organocatalysts superior to metal and enzyme catalysts?

■ Unlike enzyme catalysts which are huge, asymmetric organocatalysts are made of a single amino acid. They are not only environmentally friendly but also quicken the reaction and make the process cheaper. Most importantly, asymmetric organocatalysts allow only one mirror image of the molecule to form as the catalysts are made from a single, circular amino acid. Chemists often want only one of these mirror images, particularly when producing drugs.

Organic catalysts have a stable framework of carbon atoms, to which more active chemical groups can attach. These often contain common elements such as oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur or phosphorus. This means that these catalysts are both environmentally friendly and cheaper to produce.

Organocatalysts can allow several steps in the molecule production process to be performed in an unbroken

sequence. This is achieved by cascade reactions in which the product of the first reaction step is the starting material for the subsequent one, thus avoiding unnecessary purification operations between each reaction step. This helps in considerably reducing waste in chemical manufacturing. Before organocatalysts could be used, it was often necessary to isolate and purify each intermediate product to prevent the accumulation of a large volume of unnecessary byproducts. This led to loss of some of the substance at every single stage of the

How have asymmetric organocatalysts been utilised by chemists and other industries?

■ Ever since the two laureates developed the novel concept of asymmetric organocatalysis, the field has witnessed rapid development. Since 2000, the asymmetric organocatalysis research area has flourished. A huge number of cheap and stable organocatalysts, which can be used to drive a huge variety of chemical reactions and applications, has been developed. This period is referred to as the 'organocatalysis gold rush'. Currently, the area is "well established in organic chemistry and has branched into several new and exciting applications".

Besides helping the generation of novel molecules used in various industries, pharmaceutical companies have used asymmetric organocatalysis to "streamline the production of existing pharmaceuticals". Thanks to a multitude of catalysts that can break down molecules or join them together, "they can now carve out the thousands of different substances we use in our everyday lives, such as pharmaceuticals, plastics, perfumes and food flavourings". The fact is, according to the release, it is estimated that 35% of the world's total GDP in some way involves chemical catalysis.

M ND-NDE

### MARIA RESSA & DMITRY MURATOV

# Torchbearers of freedom of expression

Journalists from the Philippines and Russia, whose works focused on exposing governments' wrongdoing and corruption, have been awarded this year's Nobel Peace Prize

SRINIVASAN RAMANI

In Focus

■ Maria Ressa's

digital news

focusing

President

Rodrigo

Duterte's

anti-drug

campaign

Dmitry

Muratov

founded

Novaya Gazeta

post-Soviet

Russia and,

according to

controversial

outlet Rappler

specifically on

the Philippines

n awarding the Nobel Peace Prize for 2021 to L two embattled journalists, Maria Ressa from the Philippines and Dmitri A. Muratov of Russia, the Nobel committee has made a clear-cut statement on the state of freedom of expression in an era that has seen the rise and rise of authoritarian "populists" in several countries. It made it amply clear in its announcement that while Ms. Ressa and Mr. Muratov were receiving the prize for their courageous fight for freedom of expression in their respective countries, "they are representatives of all journalists who stand for this ideal in a world in which democracy and freedom of the press face increasingly adverse conditions."

**Investigative journalism** the Nobel Ms Ressa, aged 58, has had a Committee, i long career in journalism 'is the most independent which includes stints as the newspaper in bureau chief of CNN in Mani-Russia, today la and Jakarta, having made ■ They 'are her mark as the network's representatives of all lead investigative reporter in Asia. In 2012, she co-founded journalists who Rappler, a digital media comstand for this ideal in a world pany focused on investigain which tive journalism that began as democracy and a Facebook page called Mofreedom of the vePH before becoming a press face complete website. Rappler increasingly made its mark focusing specconditions' ifically on Philippines Presisays the Nobel dent Rodrigo Duterte's controversial anti-drug campaign, featuring the deaths of thousands of suspected drug dealers and addicts in a series of articles called the "Impunity series" in 2016. The campaign has targeting the poor in extrajudicial deaths and for the impunity afforded to law enforcement agencies in doing

Later, it focused on how social media and internet were being "weaponised" to spread fake news, troll and harass political opponents and to manipulate public discourse, chiefly by President Duterte's campaign, in another series called the "Propaganda series". This series of articles shed light

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Muratov said he expected the award to be given to Russian opposition leader Alexei A. Navalny, who survived a poison attack last year and is currently in prison

......

on organised disinformation using the internet in the Philippines. As the Cambridge Analytica-Facebook scandal, or the Donald Trump presidency's use of social media to weaponise disinformation, or organised disinformation on the internet by covert agencies from Russia, or the barrage of fake news using messenger services in India have shown, the era of the "infodemic" is well and truly upon the world. The Nobel Committee's recognition of Ms. Ressa's work is an acknowledgement of the severity of this problem.

Beyond work on the drug campaign and disinformation, Rappler also exposed

government corruption and shed light on the financial holdings of political leaders and their possible conflicts of interest. Rappler also became a member of the Poynter Institute's International Fact-Checking (IFCN). Rappler's investigative work also earned it the government's ire. In 2017, President Duterte called the outlet by name and falsely stated that it was a "foreignowned" firm in his state-ofthe-union address. The country's Securities and Exchange Commission looked into the company's ownership structure and revoked its licence even as Ms. Ressa herself was charged with tax evasion in December 2018. She denied the charges and the case was in suspension.

Later, the country's Na-

tional Bureau of Investigation filed a "cyber libel" case against Ms. Ressa and a writer for the website and found them guilty with a prison sentence up to six years, but were allowed to post bail pending an appeal. The case, regarded as a blow to press freedom in the Philippines, pertained to an article by a researcher with Rappler, Reynaldo Santos Jr. citing an intelligence report that spoke of a business executive being linked to drug smuggling and trafficking. That the case was made against Ms. Ressa, who was not involved in day-to-day editorial operations at Rappler, raised questions if the Bureau was specifically targeting her even as the media fraternity claimed that the case had a chilling effect on investigative journalism in the coun-

Ms. Ressa welcomed the news of the award saying, "This is not about us [Rappler]. This is about you. Because freedom of the press is the foundation of every single right you have as a Filipi-

no citizen".

Critical towards power Dmitry Muratov, aged 59 and the co-winner of the Prize, is the editor of the Novaya Gazeta newspaper in Russia. The Committee mentions that Mr. Muratov "has for decades defended freedom of speech in Russia under increasingly challenging conditions". Mr. Muratov began his career as a correspondent for the Volzhsky Komsomolets newspaper and later edited news articles at Komsomolskaya Pravda before he and scores of colleagues from the paper left to start their own publication, No-

news for Russian citizens. In 1993, former Soviet Union president Mikhail Gorbachev donated a portion of his Nobel Peace Prize money to the newly set-up newspaper,

vaya Gazeta, with an aim to

run "an honest, indepen-

dent, and rich" source of

helping it buy computers for operations. Remarkably, nearly 30 years after being helped to set up by the architect of the 'glasnost' (openness and transparency) reforms in the erstwhile Soviet Union, the paper's editor has won the same prize.

Mr. Muratov has been the editor-in-chief for more than two decades and the Committee recognises that Novaya Gazeta is "the most independent newspaper in Russia, today, with a fundamentally critical attitude towards power" and that the "newspaper's fact-based journalism and professional integrity have made it an important source of information on censurable aspects of Russian society rarely mentioned by other media." The newspaper also uniquely elects its editors since 2009 who go on to serve two-year

The newspaper, the Committee records, "has published critical articles on subjects ranging from corruption, police violence, unlawful arrests, electoral fraud and "troll factories" to the use of Russian military forces

sia" and is best known for its investigative stories on the war in Chechnya and the wealthy oligarchs in post-Soviet Russia. The publication has suffered for its boldness; six of its journalists have been killed. The most wellknown among them was Anna Politkovskaja, who wrote several telling pieces on the conduct of the war in Chechnya. It is still not known who ordered contract killers to take the life of Ms. Politkovskaja, who was shot dead outside her apartment in

both within and outside Rus-

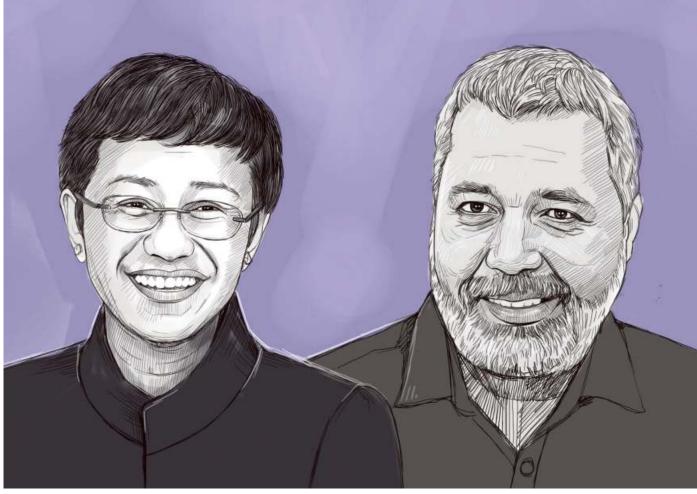
Other hard-hitting stories carried by the newspaper included those on the repression of homosexuals in Chechnya in 2017. The newspaper has been credited with pioneering investigative reporting against the Russian elite with other online publications taking cue from it despite threats to the free press in the country.

Mr. Muratov, in his reaction to the award, claimed that he expected it to be given to Russian political dissident and opposition leader Alexei A. Navalny, who survived a poison attack last year and is currently in jail. Even as the Russian government praised the Committee's awarding the Peace prize to Mr. Muratov, several leading Russian-language news outlets have been recently subject to a crackdown, being termed "foreign agents" and investigative journalists have been forced into exile.

ILLUSTRATION: R RAIFSH

Russia ranks 150 among 180 countries in the latest World Press Freedom Index, released annually by the Reporters sans Frontiers (Philippines is ranked a lowly 138 and India slipped to 142 in the rankings too).

The Committee strongly argued the case for the Prize, by saying that "freedom of expression and freedom of information help to ensure an informed public. These rights are crucial prerequisites for democracy and protect against war and conflict. The award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Maria Ressa and Dmitry Muratov is intended to underscore the importance of protecting and defending these fundamen-



# ABDULRAZAK GURNAH

been widely discredited for

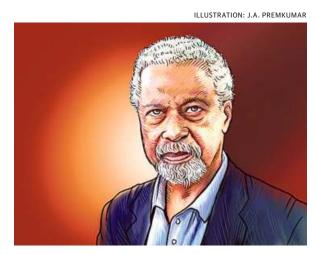
# The chronicler of post-colonial life

The Tanzania-born writer has won this year's Nobel Prize for literature

SUDIPTA DATTA

ver the past few years, there have been shocking images of the human tragedy unfolding on European shores with scores of refugees trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea from Africa. There are frequent incidents of drowning, and Europe, barring Germany and Sweden, has appeared reluctant to open its doors to people fleeing their land for a variety of reasons from poverty to war. The Swedish Academy has awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize for Literature to an author who has chronicled the refugee experience and colonialism's harsh impact in all his books. Abdulrazak Gurnah, one of the most eloquent African writers, won the top prize "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents."

In an interview to Adam Smith of the Nobel Prize Outreach, the 73-year-old Mr. Gurnah called out the "miserliness" of some in Europe to refugees, "as if there isn't enough to go around". Europeans streaming out into the world is nothing new, he pointed out, and stressed that people who are seeking a life in Europe do not come empty-handed. "A lot of them are talented, energetic people, who have something to give. You're not just taking people in as if they're poverty-stricken nothings,



but, think of it as you're first providing succour to people who are in need, but also people who can contribute something," he said.

# Flight from homeland

Mr. Gurnah was 18 when he had to leave the new republic of Tanzania which erupted in violence after gaining freedom from British colonial rule in the 1960s. The riots, targeted against the ethnic community Mr. Gurnah belonged to, disturbed the peace in a land known for its diversity and varied influences, British, African, Portuguese, Arab and Indian.

He began writing when he was 21 years old in England, choosing English as his medium instead of Swahili. The "theme of the refugee's disruption" runs through Mr. Gurnah's 10 novels and short stories.

His best-known novel, Paradise (1994), was short-listed for the Booker Prize and tells the story of 12-year-old

Yusuf who is uprooted from his village and 'pawned' to a rich uncle to pay off his father's debts. Mr. Gurnah's historical fiction talks about communities at war, troubled trading routes and the difficulties of adolescence through Yusuf. The rites-ofpassage story plays out in an Africa about to be taken over by colonialism and violence. His latest, Afterlives, long-listed for the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction 2021, traces the lives of Ilyas and Hamza in the backdrop of the Germans, British, French and the Belgians drawing their maps and dividing Africa. It's the beginning of the 20th century and the conflict in Europe has a devastating impact on colonised east Africa. There's an overriding sense of loss in all his books. In his 2017 novel, Gravel Heart, the protagonist recalls his father feeding him candyfloss. "That was the doorstep of the house I was born in... the

house I abandoned because

I was left with little choice. In later years, in my banishment, I pictured the house inch by inch. I don't know if it was lying nostalgia or painful proper longing, but I paced its rooms and breathed its smells for years after I left."

# Being a refugee

His works are underpinned by a restlessness of a migrant, torn away from familiar surroundings, culture, traditions and language, and having to adapt to everything new. Perhaps the most autobiographical of his novels is Pilgrims Way (1988) in which the protagonist, Daud, faces the travails of being a refugee in an alien land. The story begins in a pub where Daud has bought himself a half-pint of "watery and sour" beer, as an old man grins at him. "Daud thought of the grin as the one that won an empire. It was the pick-pocket's smile, given tongue in cheek and intended to distract and soothe the innocent prey while the thief helped him-

self to the valuables. The Nobel Prize for Literature has had its share of controversies, but critics say the Swedish Academy, which has been accused of not looking beyond Europe, has got it right this time. The prize should help Mr. Gurnah and his poignant writing about Empire and migration acquire new readers, like Svetlana Alexievich's Nobel did in 2015. Hopefully, his novels will also be fi-

nally translated into Swahili.

# THE RESISTANCE FRONT

# Faceless killers in the Valley

The shadowy outfit targets both security personnel and civilians in Kashmir

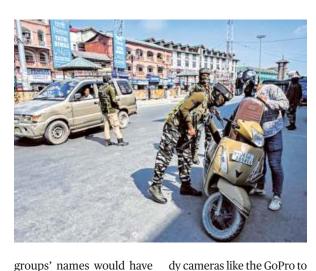
PEERZADA ASHIQ

he killings of seven civilians in six days, including a well-known chemist, Makhan Lal Pandita, and a school principal, Supinder Kaur, have shaken the Kashmir Valley. A littleknown militant outfit called the Resistance Front (TRF) has claimed responsibility for the killings. Security agencies warn that attacks could intensify it in the coming days.

The outfit was born nine months after the Union government ended Jammu and Kashmir's special constitutional status on August 5, 2019. The TRF's name first surfaced after a four-day gun battle was reported near the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara's Keran Sector, starting April 1,

According to police records, five infiltrators from the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) surprised the security personnel by holding on to an inaccessible area of Keran for more than five days in well-accumulated snow. The "well-trained" and "motivated" militants were killed only after the Army's elite troops launched a gun battle that lasted for days. Five soldiers, including a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO), lost their lives. It was the newly-formed TRF's first attack in Kashmir. All the five slain militants remain unidentified till date.

The nomenclature of the outfit was a departure from the past when militant



groups' names would have obvious Islamic references.

"The name TRF was an attempt to secularise the idea of jihad to present the Kashmir insurgency as a political cause rather than a religious war as was manifested by the names such as the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and the Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM)," a senior police officer said.

**New tactics** It was not just the nomenclature, the TRF's operational style and recruiting were also different. Unlike Hizbul Mujahideen's 'poster boy commander' Burhan Wani, who galvanised youth support for an armed insurgencv only to be killed in a gunfight in 2016 in south Kashmir, the TRF is against uploading the pictures of its cadre online or revealing

The faceless and tech savvy organisation took to the social media to propagate its messages. The TRF used bo-

the command chain.

shoot attacks on the CRPF and the Army in Kashmir, which they used to "motivate" their recruits, say officials. On November 26, 2020, TRF militants filmed an attack on the Army's 2 Rashtriya Rifles near Srinagar's Lawaypora area, in which two soldiers were shown being shot dead from a close range and weapons snatched on the Srinagar-Baramulla highway. The TRF also used Twitter handles to claim attacks and issue a chargesheet against those targeted. "To gain traction and attract youngsters, the TRF uses videos from live encounters to show off its deadly capability," another counter-insur-

According to a police report, the TRF and the People's Anti-Fascist Front (PAFF), another militant group, are shadow outfits of the LeT and the JeM. However, the TRF claims to be working independently.

gency officer said.

The initial cadre of the TRF comprised locals trained in Pakistan. They travelled on passports and returned via Wagah, according to the report. Additionally, well-trained young militants are being sent to

Kashmir via the  $\bar{\text{LoC}}$ . The police officer said the TRF's tactics marked a departure from the post-2016 militancy. "There are no 'fidayeen' (suicide) attacks; very little photographs of cadres are available and they choose soft targets through a broad base network of ground workers. A new breed of workers has been created who are not in the radar of the security forces, which makes tracking difficult and attacking

Security agencies managed to dent the outfit's ability to strike when they killed its 'commander' Abbas Sheikh, a resident of Kulgam, in an encounter in Srinagar in August. Security personnel wore sportswears and attacked his hideout, and shot him and his associate from a close range. Sheikh, a veteran from south Kashmir, had been active in militancy for more

than a decade. Inspector General of Police Vijay Kumar described Sheikh's killing as "a big success", which was seen a blow to the TRF's operational capability. However, the shadowy outfit seems to have reorganised itself within weeks, and started carrying out attacks in the Valley, directly targeting civilians.

# India may need to rescind digital tax

As part of the global minimum tax accord it has agreed to, country must forswear such levies

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

India may have to withdraw digital services tax or the equalisation levy and give a commitment not to introduce such measures in the future if the global minimum tax deal comes through.

In a major reform of the international tax system, 136 countries, including India, have agreed to an overhaul of global tax norms to ensure that multinationals pay taxes wherever they operate and at a minimum 15% rate.

However, the deal requires countries to remove all digital services tax and other similar measures and to commit not to introduce such measures in the future, the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said in its implementation plan on Friday.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Life insurers reported a

22.2% increase in first-year

premium (FYP) to ₹31,001.17

crore in September, helped

by market leader and IPO-

bound LIC returning to

While LIC posted a year-

on-year increase in FYP for

the second time this fiscal af-

ter a robust opening in April,

for life insurers collectively it

was the first two consecutive

months of growth this year,

coming on the back of re-

ports of an impending in-

September, the FYP of life in-

surers stood at ₹1,31,981.89

For the six months ended

crease in premium.

growth after four months.



Fine line: 'India is balancing its interests as an importer and an exporter of capital, goods and services'. ■G. RAMAKRISHNA

"No newly enacted digital services taxes or other relevant similar measures will be imposed on any company from October 8 and until the earlier of December 31, 2023, or the coming into force of

LIC-led insurers posted 22%

rise in new premium in Sept.

Firm posts first first-year premium increase in 5 months

year-earlier period, accord-

ing to the latest business

statement released by IR-

DAI. An 11.55% increase in

FYP last month to ₹18,520.21

crore helped LIC reduce the

decline thus far this fiscal to

Private players continued

to maintain their momen-

3.3% at ₹85,112.59 crore.

the MLC (multilateral convention)," the OECD said.

The proposed two-pillar solution of the global tax deal consists of two components - Pillar One which is about reallocation of addi-

crease in FYP for September

Private firms consolidate

For the first half, the premi-

um mobilised by private

players was 27.7% higher at

₹46,869.30 crore. The mar-

ket share of private players

Emkay Global Financial

Services said the September

performance pointed to a

long-term trend of a gradual

shift of the retail life insu-

rance market toward large

private players having a

strong brand. Overall, the

trend of market share conso-

lidation toward bigger priv-

ate life insurers continued to

play out last month, it added

to ₹12,480,96 crore.

was 35.5%

tional share of profit to the market jurisdictions and Pillar Two consisting of minimum tax subject to tax rules.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had earlier this week said that India was "very close" to arriving at the specifics of the two-pillar taxation proposition at the G-20 and was in the last stage of finalising the details.

The Finance Ministers of G-20 countries are scheduled to meet on October 13 in Washington and finalise it.

"As a significant move, the OECD has sought for an immediate and upfront withdrawal of unilateral digital services tax and a commitment not to introduce such measures in the future," Nangia Andersen Partner Sandeep Jhunjhunwala said commenting on the OECD's latest statement.

The modality for the removal of existing digital services taxes and other similar measures needs to be appropriately coordinated, Mr. Ihunihunwala observed.

**Timeline deferred** 

"Pillar Two which was initially proposed to be brought into effect from 2023 has now been deferred to 2024," he added.

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. Partner Gouri Puri said a consensus was key to securing a more stable tax regime for multinationals and governments.

"While the fine print is awaited, India is balancing its interests both as an importer and an exporter of capital, goods and services. The deal will prevent a race to the bottom among countries," Mr. Puri added.

# 'E-com firms log \$2.7 bn in first 4 days of festive sale'

Smartphones 50% of GMV: RedSeer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

E-commerce platforms, including social commerce and online groceries, garnered \$2.7 billion in the first four days of festive season sales between October 2 and 5, according to RedSeer Consulting. The firm said the sector

was on its track to achieve \$4.8 billion gross merchandise value (GMV) for the whole of the current festive season. The first four days of the festive week in CY20 accounted for 63% of the overall sales of the season, while four days this year brought in 57% of sales. Smartphones contributed some 50% of GMV during the first four days, according to a mid-festive analysis done by

RedSeer. "With the festive sales lasting longer than last year [9 days compared with 7 days], we see the customer demand being more spread out across the period than being concentrated in the first half of the festive week," said Ujjwal Chaudhry, an associate partner at RedSeer. "To that tune, we observed sales of \$2.7 bn across e-commerce platforms and we expect another \$2.1 bn over the next five days," he added.

About 75% of customers would make purchases equivalent to or more than that of last year, while many sellers would offer ~10-30% discounts on platforms, with the goal of releasing higher volume sales, the

INTERVIEW | SRIDHAR VEMBU

# Expecting 30-40% staff to work from rural areas'

50% rural offices and 50% urban is a good mix: Zoho CEO

Having successfully operated from a small town like Tenkasi in Tamil Nadu, software provider Zoho Corporation plans to replicate this model in the U.S. The aim is to locate offices in smaller towns Sridhar Vembu, co-founder and CEO, said in a telephonic interview. Excerpts:

Recently, Zoho announced its investment plan in a Bengaluru-based MRI tech start-up Voxelgrids. Why make an investment when you can acquire it?

■ It is a completely different vertical and I do not have any special knowledge on how to run it. If I acquire it, I have to run it since it will be under my leadership. But it already has a leadership team. Arjun is really good. He is a scientist inventor and he has brought the product this far.

So, it's best that it is run independently and they continue to run it.

Secondly, this is still work in progress in terms of some R&D. It's crucial that we allow the team to continue as it is, rather than imposing any revenue requirement. These are reasons why it's best not to set a target.

How do you describe this investment?

■ I would call it more like a strategic know-how investment. It is not really that way. Actually, here the company creates infrastructure and we are investing in them to help. We don't want to control or run it. That's

Will it be an independent



company or under the banner of Zoho?

■ Yeah, it's an independent company. Zoho will have a stake. It will be in our advisory capacity, but we won't be dictating terms to them that's all.

Will you be a long-term investor in this company?

■ We are planning to stick to this long haul. In fact, that is my request to the founders. That's the basis on which we are coming in, because we want to fund the long term committed players in

When do you expect the first product?

■ It should be out in the next 12 months at least. could be next six months. But one reason I don't specifically pin down timelines is, as I often talk about this on Twitter, when something very complex such as R&D is involved, you cannot really predict timelines. So, best to just be vague about it.

What is the average ticket size of your investment in companies such as this?

■ It's not like we have too many investments. There are like four or five, but the total aggregate was about ₹250 crore investment in the last eight or 10 years. So I actually think it's about ₹25-40 crore, in that range.

Do you plan for more investments, or only as and when opportunity arises? ■ As the opportunity arises... We are not actually actively scouting for investcapitalists do. But if someth-

ing that is suitable, that fits

with our vision shows up,

we will take a look. Going forward, how would you describe Zoho? What percentage of revenue will come from new businesses? Zoho itself remains a soft. ware company at its core. vTitan, Voxelgrids are all separate companies, which are doing their thing in their markets. The Zoho Corp mission itself remains very strongly focused on our software offerings. Right now it won't be very significant. In the near future, say

During the pandemic, Zoho opened small regional offices. What's their status?

over 5-10 years, that will

change.

■ We have about 20 in operation right now. All are open. In about three to four vears. I would like at least 30-40% of our staff to work from rural areas, that's the goal. And eventually longer term, at least 50% rural and 50% urban would be a good

What about your geographical expansion? Middle East has been do-

ing very well. We are also expanding aggressively in the EU, we are opening offices in Germany and soon in France. Even in the U.S., we are moving away from major metros and setting up

# Daksh eases to under-16 boys' title

Suhitha sweats it out against the free-stroking Sonal in the girls' final

# **TENNIS**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Top seed Daksh Prasad cruised to a 6-3, 6-2 victory over second seed Rushil Khosla in the under-16 bovs' final of the National sub-junior tennis championship at the DLTA Complex here on Saturday.

With both the boys training at the RoundGlass Academy in Chandigarh and coached by Aditya Sachdeva, there was understandable familiarity about each other's game. The left-handed Rushil was brilliant and erratic in equal measure as he failed to put up a meaningful challenge.

Daksh on the other hand stayed calm and maintained a steady game to crown him-



Young champs: Suhitha Maruri, Daksh Prasad and Mahika Khanna with their rewards. • KAMESH SRINIVASAN

self the champion.

Much in contrast, Suhitha Maruri had to sweat it out in three sets and endure a lot of suspense in the decider to beat the free-stroking Sonal Patil for the girls' under-16 title. It was a double crown for Suhitha as she had won the doubles title with Ruma

In under-14 Rayan Sajjid was quite mature and a notch above the rest, but had to be at his best to get past Venkat Batlanki, who had played the semifinals earlier in the morning. Sajjid prevailed 6-2, 5-7, 7-5.

Mahima Khanna subdued

a fighting Harithashree Venkatesh for the loss of six games to clinch the girls' un-

Balram Singh, member National selection committee, presented the prizes.

The results (finals): Under-16: Boys: Daksh Prasad bt Rushil Khosla 6-3, 6-2. Doubles: Jaishnav Shinde & Tanishq Jadhav bt Daksh & Rushil Khosla 6-4, 2-6, [10-1].

Girls: Suhitha Maruri bt Sonal Patil 6-3, 2-6, 6-4. **Doubles:** Ruma Gaikaiwari & Suhitha bt Abhaya Vemuri & Apurva Vemuri 6-1, 6-0,

Under-14: Boys: Rayan Sajjid bt Venkat Batlanki 6-2, 5-7, 7-5. Doubles: Dhruy Sachdeva & Pratvaksh bt Rethin Pranav & Samprit Sharma 6-4, 6-4.

Girls: Mahika Khanna bt Harithashree Venkatesh 6-3, 6-3. Doubles: Aakruti Sonkusare & Shatakshi Chaudhary bt Harithashree & Manongnya Madasu 2-6, 6-4, [10-7].

# MOTORSPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER

Hvderabad's Rahil Shetty (Gusto Racing) scored a resounding win in the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Racing Championship 2021 third roundhere on Saturday.

The results (provisional, six laps unless mentioned):

National Championship: Prostock 301-400cc Open (Race-1): 1. Rahil Shetty (Gusto Racing, Hyderabad) 11mins, 18.000secs, 2. Rajini Krishnan (RACR Castrol Power Racing, Chennai) 11:18.246, 3. Deepak Ravikumar (TVS Racing) 11:18.340

Prostock 165cc Open (Race-1): 1. K.Y. Ahmed (TVS Racing, Chennai) 11:44.563, 2. Deepak Ravikumar 11:44.697, 3. Jagan Kumar (TVS Racing, Chennai) 11:45.057.

Novice (Stock 165cc) Race-1: 1. Anfal Akdhar (Rock-Racing, Thrissur)

13:03.524, 2. Allwin Xavier (Sparks Racing, Thrissur) 13:03.577, 3. Sarvesh Balappa (Sparks Racing, Hubballi)

One-Make Championship (organised by MMSC): Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup-NSF 250R (Race-1): 1. Sarthak Chavan (Pune) 11:10.598, 2. Kevin Ouintal (Chennai) 11:10.751, 3. Mohsin Peramban (Malappuram) 11:12.621.

Honda Novice (CBR 150): 1. Ikshan Shanbhag (Satara) 13:10.362, 2. Prakash Kamat (Bokaro Steel City) 13:10.401. Theopaul Leander (Chennai)

Honda Hornet 2.0 (Race-1): 1. Kevin Kannan (Chennai) 13:24.412. 2. Alwin Sundar (Chennai) 13:25.148. 3. Ullas Santrupt Nanda (Chennai) 13:25.661

TVS Rookie (Apache RTR 200) Race-1: 1. Shreyas Hareesh (Bengaluru) 12:50.036, Vignesh Goud (Hyderabad) 12:50.143, 3. Jinendra Kiran (Kolhapur) Sangave 12:50.220.

# Winning return for Rahil Bopanna & Shapovalov in second round

# INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU INDIAN WELLS

Rohan Bopanna and Denis Shapovalov of Canada beat Felix Auger-Aliassime and Hubert Hurkacz 6-1, 2-6, [10-4] in the doubles first round of the Indian Wells Masters here.

Bopanna and Shapovalov may run into sixth seeds Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares in the next round.

In the ITF men's event in Tunisia, Niki Poonacha won the doubles title with Grigoriy Lomakin of Kazakhstan.

The results: Indian Wells Masters: First round: Denis Shapovalov (Can) & Rohan Bopanna bt Felix Auger-Aliassime (Can) & Hubert Hurkacz (Pol) 6-1, 2-6, [10-4].

\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir,

Tunisia: Final: Grigoriy Lomakin (Kaz) & Niki Poonacha bt Anis Ghorbel (Tun) & Mirko Martinez (Sui) 6-1, 7-5.

\$15,000 ITF men, Cancun: Quarterfinals: Seita Watanabe (Jpn) & Siddhant Banthia bt Giles Hussey & Adam Jones (GBr) 7-6(4), 4-6, [10-5].

\$15,000 ITF men, Doha: Final: Julian Cash (GBr) & Christian Sigsgaard (Den) bt Patrik Niklas-Salminen (Fin) & Saketh Myneni 6-4, 6-4; Semifinals: Patrik Niklas-Salminen & Saketh Myneni bt Li Hanwen (Chn) & Beibit Zhukayev (Kaz) 7-6(0), 6-0.

\$25,000 ITF women, Redding, USA: Quarterfinals: Katie Swan (GBR) bt Pranjala Yadlapalli 6-4, 7-6(4).

\$15,000 ITF women, Sharm El Sheikh: Final: Bai Zhouxuan (Chn) & Punnin Kovapitukted (Tha) bt Rebeka Stolmar (Hun) & Ashmitha Easwaramurthi 6-0, 6-4.

# IN BRIEF

### **Delhi FC steamrollers** Corbett FC

Anwar Ali scored twice as Delhi FC walloped Corbett FC 5-1 in a Group B match of the I-League Qualifiers at the Bangalore Football Stadium on Saturday.

The results: Delhi 5 (Willis Deon Plaza 45+2, Anwar Ali 75, 90+5, Samuel Shadap 89, Laiwang Bohham 90) bt Corbett 1 (John Chidi Uzodinma 13); Kenkre 2 (Azfar Noorani 14, Yash Mhatre 66) bt ARA 1 (Dahir Bala Alhassan 70).

### Bengaluru winter season from October 21

BENGALURU The managing committee of Bangalore Turf Club has announced that the Bengaluru winter season, comprising of 32 racing days, will commence on October 21, 2021 and conclude on Marcg 19, 2022.

# **RACING**

# King Roger tipped for Artillery Trophy

HYDERABAD: Trainer R.H. Sequeira's ward King Roger, who ran second in his last start. should make amends in the Artil lery Trophy, the main event of Sunday's (Oct. 10) races.

TWIN CITIES PLATE (DIV. I) y-o only (Cat. II), 1.00 p.m.: 1. Akash (8) A.A. Vikrant 56, 2. Briar Ridge (11) Kiran Naidu 56, 3. Divine Chakram (10) Aneel 56, 4. Indian Glory (4) Akshay Kumar 56, 5. Tales Of A Legend (3) Md. Ismail 56, 6. Ashwa Pushkin (2) Ashad Asbar 54.5, 7. Despang (9) P. Trevor 54.5, 8. Inception (6) Kuldeep Singh 54.5, 9. Most Loveable (1) Nakhat Singh 54.5, 10. Ostentatious (7) Afroz Khan 54.5 and 11. Southern Act (5) B.R.

1. DESPANG, 2. INDIAN GLORY, 3. ASHWA PUSHKIN

TWIN CITIES PLATE (DIV. II) 2 (1,200m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II), 1.30: 1. Be Crimson (2) Md. Ismail 56, 2. Cash Register (10) P. Trevor 56, 3. City Of Blessing (7) Mukesh Kumar 56, 4. Magic Mark (1) B. Nikhil 56, 5. Únsung Hero (8) Aneel 56, 6. Ahanu (5) Rafique Sk. 54.5, 7. Cabello (9) G. Naresh 54.5, 8. Exotic Dancer (4) A.A. Vikrant 54.5, 9. Kachnar (3) Abhay Singh 54.5 and 10. Serendip (6) Santosh Raj 54.5.

1. CASH REGISTER, 2. CITY OF **BLESSING, 3. SERENDIP** 

7 TWIN CITIES PLATE (DIV. III) .) (1,200m), (Terms) Maiden, 3 y-o only (Cat. II). 2.05: 1. Blue Origin (5) Akshav Kumar 56, 2. First In Line (4) Khurshad Alam 56, 3. I Am Superman (1) Rafique Sk. 56. . Sea Of Class (9) Mukesh Kumar 56, 5. Challenger (7) Nakhat Singh 54.5, 6. Flower (8) Md. Is-mail 54.5, 7. Precious Gift (6) Kiran Naidu 54.5, 8. Princess Daniale (2) P. Sai Kumar 54.5, 9. Racing Rani (3) Ajeeth Kumar 54.5 and 10. Silk (10) B. Nikhil

1. BLUE ORIGIN, 2. SEA OF CLASS, 3. PRECIOUS GIFT

RAJA SAHEB OF CHALLAPALLI 4 MEMORIAL CUP (1,200m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 2.40: 1. Blink Of An Eye (5) Afroz Khan 60, 2. City Of Blossom (6) Gaurav Singh 60, 3. Burano (3) Ashad Asbar 58.5, 4. Keystone (2) Akshay Kumar 58.5, 5. Rising Queen (7)

Abhay Singh 54.5, 6. Aibak (11) Aneel 53.5, 7. Stud Poker (10) P. Sai Kumar 53, 8, Furious Fun (8) G. Naresh 52, 9. California Beauty (12) B.R. Kumar 51.5, 10. Classy Dame (9) R.S. Jodha 51.5, 11. Hashtag (1) Khurshad Alam 51.5 Thunder Road (4) B. Nikhil 50.

1. KEYSTONE,

5 ARTILLERY TROPHY (2,000m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 3.15: 1. Ashwa Raudee (6) C.S. Jodha 62, 2. King Roger (2) Akshay Kumar 60, 3. November Rain (7) S.S. Tanwar 60, 4. Moringa (8) Surya Prakash 58.5, Forever Bond (4) P. Trevor .5, 6. Royal Pal (5) Aneel 54, 7. Prime Gardenia (1) Koushik 53.5. 8. Dream Jewel (–) and 9. Garden Of Eden (3) Abhay Singh 51. KING ROGER, 2. FOREVER

2. BLINK OF AN EYE, 3. BURANO

BOND, 3. ASHWA RAUDEE  $6^{\,\mathrm{P.V.G.}}$  raju memorial cup (div. 1) (1,400m), rated up to

25 (Cat. III), 3.50: 1. Berkeley (1) Kuldeep Singh 62, 2. Rhine (10)

B.R. Kumar 62, 3. Epsom (13) N.B. Kuldeep 61.5, 4. Air Salute (3)

Afroz Khan 61, 5. Sea Wolf (9) Ajit

Singh 60.5, 6. Winning Player (6) Gaurav Singh 59.5, 7. Shelly Anne (7) Santosh Raj 59, 8. Queen Blossom (11) P. Sai Kumar 58.5, 9 Paree (5) Rafique Sk. 58, 10. Ice Berry (4) C.P. Bopanna 57, 11. Theo's Choice (8) Abhay Singh 56, 12. Proud Legacy (2) Mukesh Kumar 54 and 13. Turf Monarch (12) Surya Prakash 52.5. 1. WINNING PLAYER,

2. RHINE, 3. ICE BERRY NAWAB SULTAN ALI KHAN ME-

MORIAL CUP (1,400m), 5-y-o & upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 4.25: 1. Four One Four (1) Deepak Singh 61, 2. Red Snaper (13) Kiran Naidu 61, 3. N R I Heights (12) Akshay Kumar 59.5, 4. Star Racer (4) Mukesh Kumar 59, 5. Nearest (10) B.R. Kumar 57, 6. Curcumin (5) Aneel 56.5, 7. Blazing Jupiter (6) P. Sai Kumar 56, 8. Gazebo (3) C.P. Bopanna 56, 9. Miss Marvellous (11) Afroz Khan 55.5, 10. Soul Empress (14) R. Ajinkya 55.5, 11. Explosive (2) Kuldeep Singh 55, 12. Sacred Lamp (16) Gaurav Singh 54, 13. Sheldon (9) P. Trevor 53, 14, Dillon (15) B. Nikhil 52, 15. Solo Winner (8) Nakhat Singh 51.5 and 16. Crackershow (7)

Surya Prakash 50. 1. N R I HEIGHTS, 2. SHELDON, 3. FOUR ONE FOUR

8 P.V.G. RAJU MEMORIAL CUP (DIV. II) (1,400m), rated up to 25 (Cat. III), 5.00: 1. Golden Forza (9) Abhay Singh 62, 2. Sun Dancer (3) Akshay Kumar 62, 3. Gurbaaz (12) N.B. Kuldeep 61.5, 4. Fantastic Show (2) R. Ajinkya 60.5, 5. Good Tidings (10) Md. Ismail 59.5, 6. Starwalker (13) G. Naresh 59.5, 7. Royal Girl (5) Gaurav Singh 58.5, 8. Team Player (7) Nakhat Singh 58.5, 9. Fleur (1) B. Nikhil 58, 10. NR I Gift (8) Mukesh Kumar 58, 11. New Hustle (11) Ajit Singh 56, 12. Lightning Pearl (4) Khurshad Alam 53.5 and 13. Royal Avenger (6) Afroz Khan 50.

2. GOLDEN FORZA, 3. N R I GIFT Day's best: KEYSTONE Jackpot: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. Mini Jackpot: (i) 2, 3, 4 & 5; (ii) 5,

1. SUN DANCER,

6, 7 & 8.

Tanala: All races

Treble: (i) 1, 2 & 3; (ii) 3, 4 & 5; (iii)

# **DELHI CRICKET**

### Deepak Punia, **Vishal Panchal shine** an-of-the-Match Deepak

Punia (48 and 4/20) and Vishal Panchal (51 and 3/11) joined hands to guide Unique Sports Club to a 70-run victory over Gush Club in the 2nd All India

Unique Sports prize-money

The scores: Unique Sports 175/6 in 20 overs (Vision Panchal 51. Deepak Punia 48. Jatin 31) bt Gush Club 105 in 20 overs (Deepak Punia 4/20, Vision Panchal 3/11. Abhishek Shakuja 3/18).

### Arpit Rana's 119 takes Airliner to final

tournament

take defending champion Airliner Academy to a 49-run victory over Iai Maa Ambe Club for a place in the final of the 15th Hari Chand memorial (u-17)

Arpit Rana scored 119 to

# The scores: Airliner Academy

274 in 41.3 overs (Arpit Rana 119, Siddharth Kandpal 34, Harshit Singh 3/51) bt Jai Maa Ambe Club 225 in 42 overs (Tarun Bisht 57, Harsh Bidhuri 52, Rishi 38, Siddharth Kandpal 3/12).

### and Rahul excel Half centuries from Jatin

Jatin, Deepak,

Yadav and Deepak Gehlot and Rahul's four-wicket haul helped Baba Haridas Academy beat Airliner Academy by 82 runs in the 1st Birma Devi memorial (u-13) day-night tournament.

The scores: Baba Haridas Academy 242/9 in 30 overs (Jatin Yadav 56, Deepak Gehlot 50. Vedant 3/35) bt Airliner Academy 160/6 in 30 overs (Virendra 71 n.o., Rahul 4/4).

M ND-NDE

# Balanced Capitals, canny Super Kings eye shortest route to final

Pant's side needs to lift its fielding standards and better utilise Ashwin; Dhoni's unit will want to get its bowling right and hope its in-form openers set the tone

**Final spot at stake** As the direct route to the summit clash beckons, here's how Delhi Capitals and





Everything to play for: DC and CSK will go all out to secure a spot in the final scheduled for Oct. 15.

The Qualifier-Eliminator format was introduced in 2011. In the first three editions (2008, 2009 and 2010), the semifinal format was followed

**Qualifier 1: Delhi Daredevils** lost to KKR by 18 runs

Qualifier 2: Delhi Daredevils lost to CSK by 86 runs

2020: **Qualifier 1: Delhi Capitals** 

lost to MI by 57 runs Qualifier 2: Delhi Capitals

bt SRH by 17 runs Final: Delhi Capitals lost to MI

by five wickets

Qualifier 1: CSK bt RCB by six wickets

Final: CSK bt RCB by 58 runs

Qualifier 1: CSK bt MI by 48 runs

Final: CSK lost to MI by 23 runs **Qualifier 1: CSK lost to MI** 

by 25 runs Qualifier 2: CSK bt RCB

by three wickets Final: CSK lost to MI by 41 runs

Qualifier 1: CSK bt SRH

by two wickets Final: CSK bt SRH

2019: Qualifier 1: CSK lost to MI

by six wickets Qualifier 2: CSK bt DC

Final: CSK lost to MI by one run

# IPL 2021

SPORTS BUREAU

hennai Super Kings will ∠take on Delhi Capitals in Dubai in Qualifier 1 of IPL 2021 on Sunday. DC got the better of CSK in both of their meetings during the league

The winner of this match will directly qualify for the final. The loser meets the winner of the Eliminator between Royal Challengers Bangalore and Kolkata Knight Riders.

### Three straight losses

CSK comes into the match on the back of three successive losses, the last one a crushing defeat against Punjab Kings at the same venue. That loss showed that CSK bowlers struggle in flat conditions.

However, they would hope to be better informed about what to do when batters attack them.

The top order has been one of the big reasons for CSK's turnaround this year. Faf du Plessis and Ruturaj Gaikwad set the tone for their entire innings, and CSK would want more of the same.

Ruturaj, in red-hot form otherwise, has been dismissed cheaply in the last two games. He hit a short ball



Battle within a battle: Ashwin versus Jadeja will be interesting to watch. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

from Anrich Nortje straight to mid-wicket the last time these two sides met.

Ruturaj can expect another severe examination from the DC quicks.

Against Punjab, M.S. Dhoni threatened to break free before being bamboozled by a Ravi Bishnoi wrong 'un. Dhoni should consider sending the in-form Ravindra Jadeja ahead of him, regardless

of the situation.

DC, on the other hand, needs to work on its fielding. Glenn Maxwell was dropped twice in the same over which dented DC's chances against

RCB in the last match.

Kagiso Rabada's form at the death this season is a concern as well. He has gone at 10.84 runs per over in the death overs and picked up iust four wickets.

### **TODAY'S MATCH**



**DUBAI, 7.30 P.M. IST** 

(last five matches, latest

game first) 

STAR SPORTS 1 & SS SELECT 1 (SD & HD)

DC skipper Rishabh Pant also needs to come up with a way of utilising R. Ashwin

Against RCB, a team with a clutch of right-hand batters, Ashwin bowled just one over.

CSK is likely to have a similar make-up should Robin Uthappa play ahead of Suresh Raina. But it will still have two left-handers in the playing XI – Moeen Ali at the top and Ravindra Jadeja in the lower middle-order.

DC needs to get more out of its premier off-spinner. How Ashwin is used could have a bearing on the outcome of the match.

- DC got the better of CSK in both the league games
- Dhoni should consider sending the in-form Jadeja ahead of him

# Hardik will bowl from next week: Rohit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India vice-captain and Mumbai Indians skipper Rohit Sharma expects Hardik Pandya to start bowling from "next week" even though he won't like to put a timeline on the subject.

"In terms of his (Hardik) bowling, the physios, trainers are working. He hasn't bowled a single ball yet. We wanted to take one match at a time and see where he stands," Rohit said after MI's last IPL game.

"He is getting better day by day. In the next week or so, he might be able to bowl, who knows? Only the doctors and physios will be able to give an update on

"Personally, he will not be happy with his batting but the team has confidence in his ability. I, too, have confidence in him."

# Want to win the trophy for Kohli: Bharat

N. SUDARSHAN

After guiding Royal Challengers Bangalore to a thrilling last-ball victory over Delhi Capitals on Friday, K.S. Bharat said he and his teammates were highly motivated to win the trophy and ensure Virat Kohli ends his tenure as RCB skipper on a high.

Cherry on the cake

"Definitely, winning the cup [will be great] and giving Virat bhai that title will be a cherry on the cake," Bharat said on Saturday.

"But just playing with him is a very big thing. He loves youngsters and rubbing shoulders with him teaches you a lot of discipline.

# A machine

"He works like a machine in the gym, he's a thorough professional. If he still does it after achieving so much, we are just walking in [to the it's great team] and motivation."

In a side that also has AB de Villiers and Glenn Maxwell, there are learning opportunities galore.

"I am a keen observer of people who do good things and learn from them. So, I wouldn't be going up to them and asking stuff. I have watched all their routines, their intent in doing things and learnt."

At RCB, there is no pressure to play second fiddle to the superstars during a match, Bharat said.

# Mini partnerships

"There's nothing like I have to create a platform for them. We, as a team, aim to get those mini partnerships going. It can be AB, or myself, or Virat *bhai*. We all are prepared to win the game [for our team] and we walk in with that purpose."

Against DC, Bharat got his first half-century of the campaign, but the 28-year-old said he was not looking for personal glory.



Not for personal glory: Bharat feels that a player has to be selfless to succeed at the highest level. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

"These numbers don't matter as long as you are doing well [for the team].

"In fact, numbers can be limiting sometimes. I understood that over a period of time after playing a lot of domestic cricket. You have to be selfless to succeed at this level."

# Hamilton sizzles but Bottas on pole

### Championship leader will start 11th

the Turkish GP but Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas will start from pole as the Brit incurred a 10-place grid penalty for changing his engine.

Hamilton, the championthree

Hamilton improved his sessions.



Hamilton. ■ REUTERS

Row 2: Leclerc (Ferrari), Gasly (AlphaTauri); Row 3: Alonso (Alnine) Perez (Red Bull): Row 4: Norris (McLaren), Stroll (Aston Martin); Row 5: Tsunoda Martin); Row 6: Hamilton (Mercedes), Ocon (Alpine); Row 7: Russell (Williams), Schumacher (Haas); Row 8: Ricciardo (McLaren), Latifi (Williams): Row 9: Giovinazzi (Alfa Romeo), Raikkonen (Alfa Romeo); Row 10: Mazepin

### TV PICKS Thomas & Uber Cup: Star

Sports 3, 12.30 p.m. Australia Women vs India Women: 3rd T201, Sony Ten 3 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 1.40 p.m. F1: Turkish GP, SS Select 2

(SD & HD), 5.30 p.m. Nations League (third place match): Sony Ten 2 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m. & (Final) 12.30 a.m. (Monday). **SAFF championship:** Nepal

vs India, Eurosport (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m.



Malik replaces Magsood

Veteran batsman Shoaib Malik has been included in Pakistan's Twenty20 World Cup squad, replacing top-order batter Sohaib Maqsood, who was ruled out with a back problem, the

# McGrath takes Australia past the finish line

# Indian bowlers put up valiant effort

### INDIA IN AUS PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GOLD COAST

The Indian bowlers put up a valiant effort with very few runs to defend before Tahlia McGrath won the battle of nerves at the death, guiding Australia to a four-wicket victory in the second T20I and helping it clinch the multiformat series 9-5.

# **Inept batting**

Asked to bat, India put up an inept performance and could muster only 118 for nine. Pooja Vastrakar's 37 off 26 balls was the highlight of the innings.

Australia reached the target in 19.1 overs, courtesy McGrath (42 n.o., 33b, 6x4), who launched into Shikha Pandey's 18th over, picking up 14 runs. After Shikha breached

Alyssa Healy's defence with a beauty that jagged back a long way, Rajeshwari Gayakwad got rid of Meg Lanning

Ashleigh Gardener (1) hit a long hop from Harmanpreet straight to point fielder Rajeshwari. Deepti Sharma got the

dangerous Ellyse Perry (1) as Harmanpreet timed her jump to perfection at cover, leaving Australia tottering at 46 for four. Beth Mooney (34 off 36 balls) was cautious for

the better part of her innings as McGrath started smashing the bowlers. Both were dropped by wicketkeeper Richa Ghosh in the same over, McGrath's catch proving costly. Once Mooney was stumped off Rajeshwari and Nicola Carey was also stumped off a rebound off Richa Ghosh's body, Australia slipped to 94 for six before McGrath stepped up to the plate.

Earlier, Pooja's fine exhibition of power-hitting (37 n.o., 26b, 3x4, 2x6) took India past the hundred mark after it was reeling at 81 for



# **SCOREBOARD**

# INDIA

Smriti Mandhana c Carey b Vlaeminck 1 (5b), Shafali Verma c Darlington b Vlaeminck 3 (7b), Jemimah Rodrigues c Darlington b Molineux 7 (13b), Harmanpreet Kaur st. Healy b Wareham 28 (20b, 5x4), Yastika Bhatia run out 8 (11b, 1x4), Richa Ghosh b Carey 2 (10b), Deepti Sharma run out 16 (19b, 1x4), Pooja Vastrakar (not out) 37 (26b, 3x4, 2x6), Shikha Pandey b Gardner 1 (3b), Renuka Singh b Molineux 1 (3b), Rajeshwari Gayakwad (not out) 0 (4b); Extras (lb-2, w-11, nb-1): 14; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 118.

**FALL OF WICKETS** 

1-5 (Smriti, 0.6 ov), 2-12 (Shafali, 2.5), 3-24 (Jemimah, 5.3), 4-50 (Harmanpreet, 8.5), 5-52 (Yastika, 9.4), 6-61 (Richa, 11.6), 7-76 (Deepti, 15.2), 8-78 (Shikha, 15.6), 9-81 (Renuka,

to 118, but it wasn't enough. • TWITTER/ICC

# **AUSTRALIA BOWLING**

Vlaeminck 3-0-18-2, Molineux 4-0-11-2, Perry 2-0-17-0, Gardner 4-0-12-1, Wareham 2-0-14-1, Carey 3-0-25-1, Darlington 2-0-19-0.

# **AUSTRALIA**

Alyssa Healy b Shikha 4 (2b, 1x4), Beth Mooney st. Richa b Rajeshwari 34 (36b, 4x4), Meg Lanning c Richa b Rajeshwari 15 (20b, 2x4), Ashleigh Gardner c Rajeshwari b Harmanpreet 1 (5b), Ellyse Perry c Harmanpreet b Deepti 2 (4b). Tahlia McGrath (not out) 42 (33b, 6x4), Nicola Carey st. Richa b Rajeshwari 7 (8b), Georgia Wareham (not out) 10 (7b. 2x4): Extras (lb-3, w-1): 4; Total (for six wkts. in 19.1 overs): 119.

# **FALL OF WICKETS**

1-4 (Healy, 0.2), 2-35 (Lanning, 6.3), 3-38 (Gardner, 7.5), 4-46 (Perry, 9.1), 5-71 (Mooney, 13.1), 6-94 (Carey, 16.4).

### **INDIA BOWLING** Shikha 4-0-27-1, Renuka 4-1-

27-0, Pooja 3.1-0-21-0, Rajeshwari 4-0-21-3, Harmanpreet 2-0-9-1, Deepti 2-0-11-1. Toss: Australia; Player-of-the-

Match: Tahlia McGrath.

Carrara, 1.40 p.m. IST.

Australia won by four wickets with five balls to spare. Third and final T20I: Oct. 10 (Sunday), Metricon Stadium,

### AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Lewis Hamilton dominated qualifying on Saturday for

ship leader, set a new lap retimes in qualifying. His closest rival for the tit-

le, Max Verstappen of Red Bull, will start alongside Bottas on the front row. time in each of the three

qualifying phases. After breaking the 16-year-old track record in practice on Friday, he broke it again in each of the three qualifying

The grid: Row 1: Bottas (Mercedes), Verstappen (Red Bull);



SPORTS BUREAU

The team of Adarsh Singh, Vijayveer Sidhu, and Anish Bhanwala won the 25-metre rapid fire pistol team gold, beating Germany 10-2, in the junior World Championships here. With only four teams in the race, India was dominant in the two stages

### **Losing out** Ayushi Podder and Aishwary

of qualification.

Pratap Singh Tomar were strong in the two stages of qualification in the mixed team 50-metre rifle 3-position event, but lost the gold



On target: Anish, Vijayveer and Adarsh triumphed in the 25m rapid fire pistol event. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

to Germany 17-31.

India swept the medals in both the double trap events as the competition had only seven Indians in all. The ISSF

categorised it as a Grand Prix, but put the medals in the overall table to boost India's collection to 13 gold, 11 The results: Men: 25m rapid fire pistol team: 1. India (Adarsh Singh, Vijayveer Sidhu, Anish Bhanwala) 10 (556) 866,

six bronze.

Double trap: 1. Vinay Pratap Singh 120, 2. Sehajpreet Singh 114, 3. Mayank Shokeen 111.

Soni 105, 2. Yeshaya Hafiz Contractor 90, 3. Hitasha 76. Mixed team 50m rifle 3-posi-

# silver and six bronze. USA 33 (586) 873.

# Dipti shocks Komalika, Parth beats Sukhchain

Y.B. SARANGI

The unheralded Dipti Kumari stunned World junior champion Komalika Bari to claim her maiden recurve women's individual title in the 40th NTPC National archery championships at the Tata Archery Academy

Dipti, who switched from Indian bow to recurve two years ago, beat Jharkhand Statemate Komalika 7-3 in the final.

ground here on Saturday.

After losing the first set, Dipti, who was successful in two shoot-offs en route the final, shared honours in the second and won the next

three (29-28, 29-28, 27-25). Komalika, also competing in her first National final, crumbled under pressure.

A World junior gold medallist in men's team and mixed team events, Maharashtra archer Parth Salunkhe defeated a more experienced rival, Sukhchain Singh of Services, 7-3 for his first National gold medal in the men's individual event. The results:

Men: Individual: Final: Parth Salunkhe (Mah) bt Sukhchain Singh (SSCB) 7-3.

Kumari (Jha) bt Komalika Bari Third place: Amit Yadav (MP) bt Kapil (RSPB) 6-5 (9\*-9). Women: Individual: Final: Dipti



Moment to cherish: Dipti and Parth bagged their maiden National titles. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

(Jha) 7-3: Third place: Simranjeet Kaur (Pun) bt Ishita (AIP) 7-3.

bt Uttar Pradesh 5-3: Third place: Rajasthan bt Punjab 5-4 M ND-NDE

Mixed Team: Final: Jharkhand

selectors said. AFP India clinches three more gold medals stayed in the second spot with six gold, eight silver and

> 2. Germany 2 (549) 846, 3. Thailand 9 (532) 803.

Women: Double trap: 1. Manvi

tion: 1. Germany 31 (586) 875, 2. India (Ayushi Podder, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar) 17 (590) 880, 3. Czech Republic