



We are transforming for the India of tomorrow

Our customers' needs and technological change is what has driven us for the past 103 years of banking. The many innovations that we have done in our products and services are to provide a futuristic experience you'll keep coming back for.

Today, as we celebrate our 103rd Foundation Day, we re-dedicate ourselves to serving the nation with the promise to keep transforming ourselves for the India of tomorrow.



Union Virtual Connect
 WhatsApp Banking allows customers to avail services like account balance, mini statement, cheque book request, grievance redressal, resetting M-Pin and T-Pin etc



Union DigiConnect Branches
 Truly Digital branches with self-service enabled paperless banking



Union DIGI DOCS
 Automated paperless processing of loan documents, e-stamping and e-signature using Aadhaar



Customer 360° Statement
 An all-in-one account statement reflecting status of your Savings A/c, Current A/c, Loan A/c and all other products availed from the bank



Union Green Deposit
 A term Deposit scheme, offering a unique platform to fulfil sustainability goals for individual customers



Union Roof Top Solar Scheme
 Loans to customers for the installation of grid-connected rooftop solar systems



Union Green Miles
 Loans for adoption of Electric Vehicles and also establishing necessary charging infrastructure





In deep trouble: Rescue team members searching the underground mine in the Srirampur area of Mancherial district, Telangana, on Wednesday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Four killed in coal mine accident in Telangana

Roof of underground mine collapses; unions allege lapses

P. SRIDHAR
MANCHERIAL

Four coal miners were killed when a portion of the roof of an underground mine of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) collapsed on them in the Srirampur area of Mancherial district of Telangana on Wednesday.

The miners were engaged in a roof stitch work inside the SRP 3 & 3A incline underground mine when the roof suddenly caved in at 10.30 a.m., causing fatal injuries, sources said.

The SCCL's mines rescue teams rushed to the spot from Ramagundam and Mandamari and extricated the bodies of the four miners after an operation that lasted for more than four hours.

Protest held

The four deceased miners were identified as B. Laxmaiah, 60; V Krishna Reddy, 57; G. Satyanarayananaraju, 32; and R. Chandrasekhar, 32.

The incident triggered

tensions at the underground mine as members of various trade unions affiliated to the CITU, the AITUC and the BMS flocked to the mine and staged a protest demanding an ex gratia of ₹1 crore each to the families of the deceased workers, sources added.

In a statement, SCCL Chairman and Managing Director N. Sridhar expressed shock and profound grief over the death of four coal miners. He directed the SCCL officials concerned to immediately conduct a thorough probe into the incident and submit a detailed report.

Promises job to kin

He said matching grant, gratuity and other amounts of around ₹70 lakh to ₹1 crore will be quickly disbursed on behalf of the company to each bereaved family of the four deceased miners.

He further added that one eligible member from each bereaved family would be

immediately provided job in the area of their choice in the company.

'10 killed this year'

In a joint statement, BMS national leader K. Lakshma Reddy and Singareni Coal Mines Karmik Sangh (SCMKS) general secretary P. Madhav Naik demanded that the SCCL management own up responsibility for the death of the four coal miners.

They alleged that the incident occurred due to laxity in implementation of safety precautions in the SCCL coal mines.

They pointed out that as many as 10 workers were killed in four separate accidents in the SCCL mines this year.

They wanted the Government to take stringent action against the company officials concerned for the "safety lapses" and strengthen the safety measures in all the opencast and underground coal mines of the SCCL.

Techie held in Telangana for rape threat to Kohli's child

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

A 23-year-old man from Sangareddy in Telangana was picked up by a police team from Mumbai on Wednesday for allegedly holding out threats of rape to the 10-month-old daughter of Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli and actor Anushka Sharma.

The accused was identified as Akubathini Ram Nagesh, a software engineer employed in a private firm. He stayed at a rented accommodation in the O.D.F. Quarters of the town.

Police personnel from the Mumbai cyber crime wing arrived in the area on Tuesday night. He was arrested around 6 a.m. on Wednesday. The Mumbai police were assisted by officers from the Indrakaran police station.

The police said the accused gave rape threats from a Twitter handle - @criccrazygirl - which he operates, after Mr. Kohli came out in support of his teammate Mohammed Shami who was being trolled online with communal slurs following India's loss in the T-20 cricket match against Pakistan on October 24. Screenshots of the accused's tweets were shared widely on social media. The cyber police registered a case on Mr. Kohli's behalf later.

The Mumbai police booked a case against the accused under various sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC) including 354-A (sexual harassment) and sections of Information of Technology (IT) Act.

The Delhi Commission for Women had earlier sought an investigation and issued notice to the Delhi police, seeking a detailed action taken report.

Climate finance is insufficient, says Glasgow draft document

The document urges the developed countries to 'urgently scale up'

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

A draft document of the agreement that countries, including India, are negotiating in Glasgow, Scotland underlines that the promised climate finance by the developed countries is "insufficient to respond to the worsening climate change impacts in developing countries" and urges the developed countries to "urgently scale up."

The provision of finance for mitigation and adaptation of the impact of global warming is one of the key sticking points. The United States, Canada, several countries of the European Union, the United Kingdom and others have dragged their feet on a commitment to provide \$100 billion annually by 2020. India, along with several other developing countries, has for years pointed out that not providing this money implies that the developed countries' demand to coerce major developing countries into a net-zero commitment by mid-century is unjustified. It also violates the core principle of equity and climate justice, they aver.

India's commitment

Last week, in Glasgow, Prime Minister Narendra Modi committed to India reaching net zero by 2070, two decades after 2050. Updated reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change say that the earth's best shot at keeping temperatures from rising beyond 1.5°C by the end of the century is most nations achieving net zero by mid-century. Net zero is when a country's greenhouse gas emissions are balanced by removing an equivalent amount from the



Voice of the future: Youth protesting during the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Britain, on Wednesday. The protesters sketched eyes and '1.5' on their hands to show they are watching and to urge countries to keep warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius. •REUTERS

atmosphere. Mr. Modi also said nearly a trillion dollars in finance was needed from the developed countries.

The countries debating the agreement at the ongoing 26th Conference of Parties (COP) must have a final document in place by Friday, the concluding day of the summit. The draft document also says that it "recognises that limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2100 requires rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing global carbon dioxide emissions by 45% by 2030, relative to the 2010 level, and to net zero around mid-century." It also called upon the nearly 200 countries which are part of the negotiations to "accelerate the phasing out of coal and subsidies for fossil fuels."

Though Mr. Modi has committed to dramatically increase the use of renewable energy by 2030, India is

likely to double its use of coal in the interim given how it sees the economy growing in the years ahead.

"The funds necessary for adaptation must increase," said Bhupender Yadav, Environment Minister. "Our consistent stand has been that developing countries such as India need transparency in terms of what kind of market mechanism will be in place. This is necessary to ensure that the developing and developed countries are on a level playing field."

The draft document also "welcomed" the contributions (of \$413 million) to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF). The LDCF is for a group of countries, several of them island nations, that have the least carbon emissions but also are at greatest risk. Since 2001, it has provided \$1.7 billion for projects that help buffer the impacts from warming.

Independent commentators appeared unimpressed.

"The decision does not recognise strongly enough the extremely urgent need to close the huge 2030 emission gap, and to establish a high-level political process in 2020 to do so. At this stage, the draft only urges parties which have not yet submitted new or updated commitments to do so before 2022, yet many have submitted NDCs that are not at all improved or enhanced and/or are nowhere near sufficient for the Paris agreement's 1.5°C limit," said Bill Hare, Founder, Climate Analytics.

"The UN Secretary General should be invited to convene world leaders at the end of 2022, specifically to address closing the 2030 mitigation and finance gap. If this is pushed off until 2023 then the process will really only be addressed here commitments for 2035, nearly 15 years away, leaving the massive gap in 2030 unaddressed," said Mr. Hare.



Marooned metro: People being moved out of a flooded area in Peravallur, Chennai, on Wednesday. At right, Palar river in spate at Mamandur, 80 km from Chennai. •M. VEDHAN & S.R. RAGHUNATHAN



Eight districts in T.N. brace for severe rain, put under red alert

Police, fire and rescue services, NDRF gear up for contingencies; several international flights cancelled or rescheduled at Chennai airport; cyclone warning in sea ports

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Normal life remained disrupted for the fourth day in many parts of Chennai and coastal districts following rain and waterlogging on Wednesday, even as the north coastal regions in Tamil Nadu braced themselves to face the forecast of severe rainfall on Thursday.

The India Meteorological Department announced the weather system has intensified into a depression and would cross the north Tamil Nadu coast close to north of Puducherry by Thursday evening.

The department has issued red alert for eight districts - Chennai, Tiruvallur, Ranipet, Vellore, Salem, Kallakurichi, Tirupattur and Tiruvannamalai - on Thursday as extremely heavy rainfall measuring above 20.4 cm is expected in one or two places and very heavy to heavy rainfall in a few places. Rain may be of heavy to very heavy intensity over 11 districts including Kancheepuram,

Chengalpattu, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri and the Union Territory of Puducherry. Many other places may record rainfall of varying intensity.

The police, fire and rescue services and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) have geared up to meet contingencies. The NDRF teams reached Puducherry and Cuddalore on Wednesday. Several international flights were cancelled or rescheduled at the Chennai airport and cyclone warning was hoisted in key sea ports.

Central help

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin, who continued to inspect the affected areas in Chennai wearing raincoat and gumboots, said the State would assess the impact of the rain over the next two days before reaching out to the Centre for funds.

The heavy rain spell ensured that waterbodies received copious inflow in many parts. The combined storage of reservoirs in the State was 199.165 tmcft. -

around 89% of the capacity of 90 reservoirs.

According to the IMD, the depression lay centred over southwest Bay of Bengal, about 430 km east-southeast of Chennai and 420 km east-southeast of Puducherry, on Wednesday evening. It is very likely to move west-northwestwards and reach near north T.N. coast by Thursday early morning. It may then move west-northwestwards and cross north T.N. and adjoining south Andhra Pradesh coasts between Karaikal and Sriharikota close to the north of Puducherry by Thursday evening.

On Wednesday, intermittent rainfall continued over many parts of the State. The Ennore port recorded 5 cm, Cheyyur in Chengalpattu district (4 cm), Nungambakkam (3.3 cm), MRC Nagar, Villivakkam and Anna University (3 cm) and Meenambakkam 2 cm between 8.30 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Rain pounded several places the previous night. During the past 24 hours



Fire and rescue services personnel shifting villagers stranded in the Kosasthalaiyaru river. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ending 8.30 a.m., Nagapattinam and Tirupondi in Nagapattinam district received a whopping 31 cm of rainfall. In areas closer to Chennai, rain was relatively mild. While Mamallapuram and Chennai recorded 3 cm, Anna University and Meenambakkam received 2 cm each during the same period.

S. Balachandran, Deputy Director General of Meteorology, Chennai, said as of now,

there are not much chances for the weather system to intensify further and the system is being monitored for its movement. Strong surface winds of 30-35 kmph are likely over the north coastal districts from Thursday morning.

On another system brewing over the south Andaman sea and predicted to form around November 13, he said the system is still far away

and is being monitored for its impact over Tamil Nadu. The department has also issued warning for fishermen not to venture into sea on Thursday due to squally winds.

State gets 50% more rain

Tamil Nadu has already received 50% more rainfall than its seasonal share since October 1. It has recorded nearly 38.4 cm of rains against its average of 25.5 cm. Similarly, Chennai district has registered 50% excess rain than its average of 41 cm so far, he added.

The Chief Minister said the Government would finalise its request to seek financial support from the Government of India for the losses incurred only after the next two days when heavy rains are predicted.

Interacting with reporters after visiting the rain-affected areas in T. Nagar, Chennai, Mr. Stalin said the poor implementation of the Smart City project by the erstwhile AIADMK Government has resulted in T. Nagar facing ma-

joor civic issues during the heavy rains.

"Under the Smart City project, they [the AIADMK Government] have received bribe. T. Nagar is affected much because of that," Mr. Stalin said.

On being asked what he wanted to tell the people, Mr. Stalin said: "We will deliver on what objective and principle and mission, we came to power. We are prioritising the most-affected areas and undertaking relief work and work continues to be implemented."

Alleging that the previous government had not undertaken any civic development work during the past 10 years, Mr. Stalin said ever since his party was elected to power six months ago, it had been identifying areas prone to waterlogging and taking corrective action. "We have completed about 50-60%. And there are more. Once the rainy season is over, we will resolve it permanently."

Medical camps were being organised by the Govern-

ment in relief camps and medical officers have been deputed there. The CM also visited the Sathiyamurthi school campus on the G.N. Chetty Road, Viswanathapuram, Rangarajapuram among others and reviewed the works to drain water.

Earlier, Mr. Stalin visited the State Emergency Operation Centre in Ezhilagam complex on Kamarajar Salai where helpline services were being handled. He also attended a few calls from the general public and directed officials to help them, an official release said.

It said 1,548 people have been housed in temporary camps by the Greater Chennai Corporation and over 4.40 lakh food packets have been distributed.

The government nominated 10 IAS officers to supervise and take preventive measures in coordination with the district administration in as many districts. The coordinators will update the Chief Secretary on a daily basis.



Armed forces should be ready for contingency at short notice: Rajnath
page 10



No separate FIR sought into Zakia Jafri's complaint, says SC
page 11



Dalai Lama says would like to visit China, but prefers to be in India
page 13

Mitchell, Neesham power New Zealand into the T20 WC final
page 15



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

IN BRIEF



West Bengal Governor, Amit Mitra trade barbs
KOLKATA
The West Bengal Government and Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar are once again sparring over the Bengal Global Business Summit, the annual event to attract investment to the industry-starved State.
STATES PAGE 6

Fadnavis covered up fake note case: Nawab Malik
MUMBAI
Maharashtra Minister Nawab Malik on Wednesday accused State BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis of protecting an accused in a fake currency racket and enabling access for Riyaaz Bhati, an alleged aide of Dawood Ibrahim, to the Prime Minister.
NEWS PAGE 10

5 Delhi hospitals report fall in new dengue cases
NEW DELHI
New dengue cases have been falling for the past three to four days in at least five city hospitals, suggest data shared by doctors. Delhi has reported a total of 2,708 cases till November 6.
CITY PAGE 3

Union Cabinet brings back MPLAD Scheme

MPs to get ₹2 cr. each instead of previously approved ₹5 cr.

SOBHANA K NAIR
NEW DELHI

Citing economic recovery, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday restored the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) that was suspended in April 2020 subsuming the funds for the scheme in the consolidated fund of India.

The scheme was suspended for two financial years (2020-21 and 2021-22) but the Government on Wednesday announced a partial roll-back. The MPs will get ₹2 crore instead of the annual approved ₹5 crore.

Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said, "I am happy to state that since we are on the road to economic recovery, with many sectors reporting a positive growth, the Union Cabinet has decided to restore the MPLAD Scheme for the remaining part of the financial year 2021-22."

When the suspension was announced last year, the Government had claimed that ₹8,000 crore that would have otherwise been spent under the scheme will go to



I am happy to state that since we are on the road to economic recovery, with many sectors reporting a positive growth, the Union Cabinet has now decided to restore MPLAD Scheme for the remaining part of financial year 2021-22
ANURAG THAKUR, INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING MINISTER

Steps to help farmers

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved a slew of measures to support farmers growing sugar cane, cotton and jute.

At a meeting on Wednesday, the CCEA increased the price of ethanol extracted from cane

juice for blending in petrol to ₹63.45 a litre. It decided to provide ₹17,408.85 crore to the Cotton Corporation of India as reimbursement for its losses in procuring crops from farmers at minimum support prices. The CCEA also took steps for use of jute in packaging. PAGE 11

the consolidated fund of India and will be used for fighting the pandemic.

Opposition leaders pointed out that the Government so far has not given a record of how it spent the savings from suspending the scheme for a year.

DMK's Rajya Sabha mem-

ber P. Wilson pointed out that the Centre, by way of suspending the MPLAD Scheme, withheld funds for the States during the peak of pandemic when they were battling with financial strain themselves.

WHITE PAPER SOUGHT PAGE 10

NSA meet seeks urgent help for Afghans

Dialogues must not complicate situation: Russia

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

The Third Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan held here on Wednesday called for "urgent humanitarian assistance" to the Afghan people. The call was given in the meeting chaired by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval, who urged close cooperation and consultation among the regional countries over the Afghan scenario. Russian represen-



Talk process: National Security Adviser Ajit Doval with representatives from 7 countries in Delhi on Wednesday. AP

tative Nikolai P. Patrushev said multiple dialogue mechanisms "should not complicate" the unfolding situation in the Taliban-

controlled Afghanistan. A joint statement titled the 'Delhi Declaration' issued after the meeting called for "collective cooperation"

against terrorism and drug trafficking in the region and "expressed concern over the deteriorating socio-economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and underlined the need to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan".

The statement emphasised that the aid should be provided in an "unimpeded, direct and assured manner" and that the help should be distributed across the country in a "non-discriminatory manner across all sections of the Afghan society".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

New online certification system puts exporters in a fix

Many reporting outages on the DGFT portal

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

After crossing \$30 billion for seven successive months, India's merchandise exports have hit a home-grown stumbling block in the first 10 days of this month – a new system mandating on-

line issuance of Certificates of Origin (CoO) for every outbound consignment from November 1 that has put exporters in a tizzy.

Several small exporters are facing challenges in registering on to the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) portal which requires high-quality digital signature certificates, with many reporting outages on the portal that was earlier

used only to issue CoOs for shipments to countries with whom India had a preferential trade pact.

"For the last four days, we have been trying to register on the platform and get a CoO issued for a consignment," said a Mumbai-based exporter, adding that the process used to take much less time earlier.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Trainee wrestler, brother killed

ARNABJIT SUR
SONIPAT

A 21-year-old Haryana-based trainee wrestler, Nisha Dahiya, and her 18-year-old brother, were shot dead by the former's coach, while her mother was left severely injured, on Wednesday inside a wrestling academy in Sonipat here, the police said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

'Small farmers' lost most lives at protest

Marginal farmers, landless cultivators too add numbers, says study

VIKAS VASUDEVA
CHANDIGARH

As the farmers' protest against the Centre's farm laws on the State borders of Delhi is about to complete a year, a recent socio-economic study by researchers associated with Punjabi University at Patiala says most of those who lost their lives during the movement are "small and marginal farmers" and "landless cultivators".

The study titled "Separating wheat from the chaff: farm laws, farmers' protest and outcomes" points out that those who have died cultivated on an average 2.94 acres and if landless farmers who cultivate the contracted land are included, the average size goes down to 2.26 acres.

Lakhwinder Singh, Professor Emeritus, Depart-

Counting the dead

Nearly 80% of the farmers and agricultural workers who died during the protests against Centre's farm laws hailed from the Malwa region of Punjab, a recent socio-economic study reveals



	Malwa	Majha	Doaba	Punjab
Number of farmer deaths	367	59	34	460
Avg. land holding of deceased (in acre)	2.71	2.43	2.63	2.26
Avg. age of deceased	55.67	56.11	58.04	56.67

ment of Economics at Khalsa college, Punjabi University, and Baldev Shergill, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Punjabi University Guru Kashi campus at Talwandi Sabo, have recently presented their findings on the basis of data

of nearly 460 farmers.

600 dead

The estimated number of farmers and agricultural workers, who died between November 26, 2020, and October 26, 2021, was 600, according to the study.

"It is important to note that the farmers who died largely belong to Punjab as many from the State are participating in the protest. The participation is higher and intense in the Malwa region. We collected data of 460 farmers, belonging to Punjab, who had died in the protest," said Mr. Singh, who has been mapping rural Punjab for decades.

Region-wise distribution

"The region-wise distribution shows that the Malwa region has relatively higher average size of cultivated area followed by Doaba and Majha. Hence, the participation in the protest and number of persons who died were also very high from the region – nearly 80%. The Doaba and Majha regions accounted for 12.83% and 7.39%, respectively," he said.

Saplings won't be planted in Central Vista

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The compensatory plantation of 4,040 saplings, for uprooting 404 trees to pave the way for the new Parliament, will not happen in the Central Vista area but 22 km away at the NTPC Eco Park in Badarpur, as per a new Delhi Government notification.

The Central Public Works Department will get an extra year to plant the saplings and permission has been granted to transplant 274 of the 404 uprooted trees in the Eco Park. As per the initial notification, the 404 trees were supposed to be transplanted and the 4,040 saplings were to be planted in the Central Vista area.

The new notification has approved the change in site and granted three months' time to complete the task from the date of permission to remove the trees.

DETAILS PAGE 6

Bengal Minister-directed film is first included for IFFI, then dropped

Bratya Basu's *Dictionary* was initially among films picked for Indian Panorama section

BISHWANATH GHOSH
KOLKATA

A Bengali feature film whose director is now the Education Minister of West Bengal finds itself excluded from – after being included in – the list prepared for screening in the Indian Panorama section of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa.

The 52nd edition of IFFI begins on November 20 and according to the official list released on November 5, as many as five feature films and two non-feature films in the Bengali language were picked up for the Indian Panorama.

The feature films included *Dictionary*, which released early this year during Saraswati Puja and even drew full houses before the second wave of COVID-19 began sweeping through the country. Bratya Basu, the director of the film, subsequently became West Bengal's Educa-



Out of contention: West Bengal Education Minister Bratya Basu and (right) the poster of his film *Dictionary*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



tion Minister after the Trinamool Congress won the Assembly election in the State in May this year.

Omitted in fresh list

Dictionary has, in the lead, two highly popular Bengali actors – Nusrat Jahan (also a Trinamool Congress MP) and Abir Chatterjee – and its inclusion in the Indian Panora-

ma was celebrated by the local media and rejoiced by the film fraternity. A fresh list released by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on November 6, however, did not include the film.

The reason behind its exclusion is not clear yet. For that matter, even its inclusion appeared to be a last-minute decision and an after-

thought, considering it figured at the bottom of the list, at no. 25, even though the other Bengali films selected had been grouped – going by the alphabetical order of the language – at the beginning of the list.

When asked to comment, *Dictionary* producer Firdausul Hasan, who also happens to be the vice-president of the Film Federation of India, said he would get back.

Filmmaker Jayashree Bhattacharya, a member of the feature film jury for the Indian Panorama, said she would respond once she found out what exactly was the matter. Directorate of Film Festivals officials could not be reached for comment.

The Bengali feature films that now figure in the list for the Indian Panorama include *Kalkokkho*, *Nitanto Sahaj Saral*, *Abhijan* and *Manikbabur Megh*.

Youth picked up over 'missing' girl dies in U.P. police custody

Five policemen suspended by Kasganj SP for negligence

ANUJ KUMAR
GHAZIABAD

A 22-year-old man died in police custody in Kasganj district of Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday evening. While the police described it as a case of suicide, the family of the victim suspects foul play.

The Kasganj Superintendent of Police (SP) has suspended five policemen, including the inspector of Sadar police station and two sub-inspectors, for negligence.

Local sources said Altaf, a mason and resident of Nagla Syed in Kasganj, was working at a house where a girl went missing on Sunday. The girl's family lodged a kidnapping complaint against him.

While Altaf's family says he was picked up on Monday, SP Rohan Pramod Botre said he was called for questioning at Sadar police station on Tuesday morning. "During questioning, he requested to use the wash-room. He was taken to the

toilet on the police station premises. When he didn't come out, the policemen on duty opened the door and found him in a grave condition. He was taken to the community health centre where he died during treatment," he said.

Father's U-turn

On Tuesday, Chand Miyan, Altaf's father, expressed dissatisfaction with the police version and said he was forced to leave when he went to see his son at the police station. "I had myself handed over my son to the police on Monday evening when they said he was wanted in a case. When I went to the police station, I was asked to leave. And 24 hours later, I was told he has ended his life," he told reporters.

"The father was understandably agitated on Tuesday but after seeing the post-mortem report and the scene of death, he has decid-

ed not to press charges against the police and given it in writing," Mr. Botre told *The Hindu*. "We made the father speak to the doctor who explained the cause of death was asphyxia due to ante-mortem hanging. The burial was peaceful and there is no tension in the area," he said.

Asked why Altaf was called to the police station, Mr. Botre said the girl's father had given a written complaint on the basis of a video alleging that his minor daughter had been kidnapped by him. "The girl has not been traced yet. "Two teams are actively working on the case," he said.

Though Mr. Botre denied any similarity, the incident comes days after a Dalit youth died in police custody in Agra where he was brought on charges of stealing ₹25 lakh from the warehouse on police station premises.



हरियाणा सरकार

बी.टेक. हिंदी माध्यम से करने का सुनहरा अवसर

गुरु जम्भेश्वर विज्ञान व प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय, हिसार
संगणक विज्ञान व अभियांत्रिकी (कम्प्यूटर साइंस इंजीनियरिंग)
सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी (इनफार्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी)
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स व संचार अभियांत्रिकी (इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, कम्प्युनिकेशन इंजीनियरिंग)
यांत्रिक अभियांत्रिकी (मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग)

दीनबंधू छोटू राम विज्ञान व प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय, मुरथल, सोनीपत
विद्युतीय अभियांत्रिकी (इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग)
यांत्रिक अभियांत्रिकी (मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग)

जगदीश चंद्र बस विज्ञान व प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय, YMCA, फरीदाबाद
यांत्रिक अभियांत्रिकी (मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग)
संगणक अभियांत्रिकी (कम्प्यूटर इंजीनियरिंग)

प्रत्येक शाखा में 30 सीटें

केन्द्रीकृत काउंसिलिंग हेतु वेबसाइट
www.techadmissionshry.gov.in

अधिक जानकारी के लिए
ई-मेल : onlineadmissionhelp@gmail.com
टोल फ्री हेल्पलाइन : 1800-137-3735

केन्द्रीकृत काउंसिलिंग
09.11.2021 से
14.11.2021 तक

दाखिले एवं आवेदन हेतु
क्यू आर कोड स्कैन करें



तकनीकी शिक्षा विभाग, हरियाणा
बेज़ नम्बर 7-12, सेक्टर 4, पंचकुला

सूचना, जन सम्पर्क एवं भाषा विभाग, हरियाणा
www.prharyana.gov.in | [@DiprHaryana](https://www.facebook.com/DiprHaryana)

Samvad-1115/13/10/2022/5553/1997

Tiwari defies ban, offers prayers on Yamuna bank

No party should play politics over Chhath Puja, says Kejriwal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Politics over Chhath Puja continued on Wednesday with North East Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari defying the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) order prohibiting celebrations on the Yamuna banks and the AAP Government taking on its Uttar Pradesh and Bihar counterparts.

Mr. Tiwari offered prayers on the riverbank in Sonia Vihar. He asked why the Delhi Government had declared a ban instead of taking steps to clean the Yamuna water. "What should have been banned is not the Chhath Puja celebrations but the poisonous froth in the river. Devotees are being stopped from going to ghats to prevent the Chief Minister's own shortcomings from being exposed," Mr. Tiwari said.

The Delhi Government



Manoj Tiwari

said it had made better arrangements for the festival than the U.P. and Bihar Governments.

CM extends greetings
Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal celebrated Chhath Puja with devotees at East Kidwai Nagar and DIZ Sector-4, Raja Bazar, where he said that no party should politicise the festival.

"My heartiest greetings to all the devotees on the *paavan parv* (sacred festival) of Chhath. I pray to Chhathi Maiyya to bless all the fami-

lies of Delhi with happiness, peace, prosperity, growth, wisdom and health," Mr. Kejriwal said.

"We have managed to get a grip on COVID-19. This time, due to the pandemic, there were many obstacles. But we tackled them with the blessings of Chhathi Maiyya," he added.

Addressing devotees at Burari, Cabinet Minister Gopal Rai accused the BJP of being "anti-Purvanchal".

"Earlier, when the people of Purvanchal began to celebrate Chhath Puja in Delhi under the BJP Government, no arrangements were made for the festivities. The BJP had so much 'hatred' for the people of Purvanchal," he said.

"I am proud to say that the Delhi Government is making better arrangements for Chhath *vrat* than the Governments of Bihar and U.P.," he added.

HC dismisses plea against DDMA order

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday rejected a petition challenging the Delhi Disaster Management Authority's (DDMA) decision prohibiting devotees from performing Chhath Puja on the banks of the Yamuna.

Justice Rekha Palli said there was no merit in the plea as it did not point out as to how the devotees insist that they are entitled to performing the puja only on the Yamuna banks.

"They have not given any explanation as to why they did not approach the respondents [authorities] if they were desirous of having additional designated sites in the area even after the list of designated sites was made public," Justice Palli said.

The petition challenged the October 29 order of the DDMA restricting Chhath Puja to "designated sites" with requisite permission.

Govt. sprays water, uses boats to clear froth

It is not even a temporary solution as water quality does not change, say experts

NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

To remove the froth in the Yamuna, the Delhi Government sprayed water, used boats and rope to drag it away, and even directed its staff to beat it with sticks on Wednesday.

A Government official said the decision was taken at a meeting held earlier this week.

Experts, however, said it is not even a temporary solution as removing froth does not improve the quality of water. "This is desperation at its worst. The quality of wa-



White mask: Froth floating in the Yamuna in Delhi on Wednesday. ■ SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

ter does not change even temporarily by removing or breaking up the froth. The Government is just managing

the optics. This is a comedy of errors and I don't know whether to laugh or cry," said Manoj Misra, convener of Ya-

muna Jiye Abhiyaan, a civil society initiative for the river's rejuvenation.

He further said that it is the river water that is actually toxic. "If you come into contact with the froth, it can only cause skin irritation. But there could be problems if you ingest the froth," he said.

Suresh Kumar Rohilla, director of water programme, Centre for Science and Environment, Delhi, said, "This is a temporary solution and it will look good, but it doesn't address the core issue of cleaning the Yamuna, which we are far away from."

DU assistant professor, his nephew arrested for wife's murder

He was miffed over bounced cheque

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi police have arrested an assistant professor of Delhi University and his nephew for allegedly strangulating and electrocuting his wife in north Delhi's Burari over personal enmity. The victim has been identified as 33-year-old Pinky Singh and the accused as Virender Kumar and his nephew Govinda.

Two days ago, the police had arrested Virender's former employee Rakesh Kumar in connection with the murder. Rakesh had surrendered at Burari police station on Monday. He told the police that he had murdered Pinky, following which the police discovered the body in her house.

During interrogation, Rakesh initially disclosed that he alone killed Pinky as she asked her husband Virender to kick him out of the house. But his version was not completely believable as he repeatedly changed the sequence of events. On further questioning, he allegedly said

As per the plan, Rakesh was to surrender before the police and Virender was to take care of his family and get him out of jail

SAGAR SINGH KALSI
DCP (North)

that he, along with Virender and Govinda, had hatched a conspiracy to kill her a fortnight ago.

Virender told the police that he had married Pinky on February 16 and during the wedding, her family had given a cheque for ₹5 lakh as gift. But the cheque bounced on account of insufficient funds and he felt cheated. In August, Pinky arrived at his Burari house and asked Rakesh to leave, following which he and his accomplices hatched a plan to kill her. "As per the plan, Rakesh was to surrender before the police and Virender was to take care of his family and get him out of jail," DCP (North) Sagar Singh Kalsi said.

No trace of rape victim's blood on clothes of accused: police

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi police told a court on Tuesday that they had not found the presence of the victim's blood on the clothes of the four accused arrested for the alleged gang-rape and murder of a nine-year-old Dalit girl at Delhi Cantonment earlier this year.

Chargesheet filed

The police, in the supplementary chargesheet filed before the court of Additional Sessions Judge Ashutosh Kumar, also said that there were no traces of semen on the bedsheet and burnt clothes of the victim.

The chargesheet named the four, including Kuldeep Singh and head priest Radhey Shyam, among the accused.

While stating that Mr. Singh's blood was found on his shorts and handkerchief, the police said that the entry made in the register of the cremation ground matched the specimen signatures of Mr. Shyam.

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE (DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT)

4th FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006
Visit us at: <http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in>

PUBLIC NOTICE - BATTERY WASTE MANAGEMENT

Battery (Management & Handling) Rules, 2001 came into force w.e.f 16th May, 2001. These rules mandate various responsibilities on manufacturers, importers, assemblers, re-conditioners, dealers, recyclers, consumers, bulk consumers and auctioneers. Major responsibilities of each of these stakeholders are listed as under.

Manufacturers/Importers

✓ Shall ensure that the new batteries be sold only to the registered dealers and the used batteries are collected back as per the schedule against new batteries sold excluding those sold to original equipment manufacturer and bulk consumer(s).
✓ Shall file a half-yearly return of their sales and buy-back to the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) in **Form-I** latest by 30th June (for Oct-Mar) and 31st December (for Apr-Sept) of every year.

✓ Set up collection centres either individually or jointly at various places for collection of used batteries from consumers or dealers and shall ensure that the collected batteries are sent only to the registered recyclers.

✓ Shall ensure that necessary arrangements are made with dealers for safe transportation from collection centres to the premises of registered recyclers and shall ensure that no damage to the environment occurs during the transportation.

✓ Create public awareness through advertisement, publications, posters or by other means with regards to (a) hazard of lead (b) responsibility of consumers to return their used batteries only to the dealer or deliver at designated collection centre and (c) address of the dealer and designated collection centres.

✓ Buy recycled lead only from registered recyclers.

✓ Bring to the notice of the DPCC or the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India for any violation by the dealers.

✓ Importers shall apply for registration as per **Form II** and **Form III** on the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) online portal for a period of five years (link: <http://cpccbrms.nic.in/>).

Assemblers/Re-conditioners

✓ Shall ensure that the used batteries collected back are of similar type and specifications as that of the new batteries sold and shall ensure that used batteries collected are sent only to registered recyclers.

✓ Create public awareness through advertisement, publications, posters or by other means with regard to hazards of lead.

Dealers

✓ Apply for registration by submitting online application in **Form-IV** available on DPCC website by creating user ID and password for the period of five years.

✓ Shall ensure that the used batteries are collected back as per the schedule against new batteries sold.

✓ Shall ensure safe transportation of collected batteries to the designated collection centres or to registered recyclers.

✓ Shall file a half-yearly return of their sales



and buy-back of old batteries to the DPCC and manufacturer in **Form-V** latest by 31st May (for Oct-Mar) and 30th November (for Apr-Sept) of every year.

Recyclers

✓ Shall apply for registration to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change or an agency designated by it (if not applied already), by submitting information in **Form VI**.

✓ Shall submit half-yearly returns as per **Form-VII** to the DPCC latest by 30th June (for Oct-Mar) and 31st December (for Apr-Sept) of every year.

✓ Shall make available all records relating to receipt of used batteries, sources, quantities and metal yield to be submitted to the DPCC.

✓ Create public awareness through advertisement, publications, posters or by other

means with regards to (a) hazard of lead, and (b) obligation of consumers to return used batteries only to the registered dealers or deliver at the designated collection centres.

Consumers/Bulk Consumers

✓ Shall ensure that used batteries are not disposed off in any manner other than by depositing with the dealer/ manufacturer/ registered recycler/ importer/ re-conditioner or at the designated collection centres.

✓ Bulk consumers shall file half-yearly return latest by 30th June (for Oct-Mar) and 31st December (for Apr-Sept) in **Form-I** to DPCC.

✓ Bulk consumers to their user units may auction used batteries to registered recyclers only.

Auctioneers

✓ Shall ensure that used batteries are auctioned to the registered recyclers only.

✓ Shall maintain records relating to receipt of used batteries, sources, quantities and metal yield and submit to DPCC.

✓ Shall file half-yearly returns of their auctions latest by 30th June and 31st December to DPCC in **Form-IX**.

Note:- As per Batteries (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2010, every dealer of Lead Acid Battery shall obtain registration from DPCC, within 30 days of this Notice and in case of failure legal action including prosecution shall be initiated.

Member Secretary

BLAZERS

SUITS & JACKETS

SALE

upto **60% off**

Formal • Casual • Party Collection
Men & Women wear
By Economy Sales: 9212758425

ARROW raymond ColorPlus

LOUIS PHILIPPE

PARK AVENUE

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

Capital's air quality improves to 'very poor', may deteriorate today

**STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI**
The city's air quality improved to the 'very poor' level on Wednesday from the 'severe' category a day ago, according to official data.

The AQI is likely to deteriorate in the next two days and stay in the 'very poor' to 'severe' category. The contribution of stubble burning in the neighbouring States to PM2.5, in Delhi

was 27% and the number of active fires was 5,317 on Wednesday. The Capital's AQI was recorded at 372, down from 404 on Tuesday, said CPCB's 4 p.m. bulletin. Several towns in north In-

dia, including Bagpat, Panipat, Bulandshahr and Jind faced 'severe' levels of air pollution on Wednesday. Talking about the impact of 'severe' air pollution, Anant Mohan, HOD of Pulmonary

Medicine at AIIMS, Delhi, said every system gets affected in the long run. "Being exposed to polluted air can cause asthma, allergic disorders, eye diseases and cardiovascular disorders," he said.

At 13.4°C, city sees coldest day of season

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI**
The minimum temperature in the Capital on Wednesday settled at 13.4 degrees Celsius, one degree colder than normal and the lowest this

season so far. The Met Department said the temperature is likely to plunge further to 11 degrees Celsius by November 16. The maximum temperature settled at 29.6 degrees Celsius

on Wednesday. The IMD has forecast clear skies over the next few days with calm winds blowing from the Himalayas, which will ensure a sustained drop in temperature.

Fall in new dengue cases in at least 5 city hospitals

Too soon to arrive at conclusion: doctors

**NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI**
New dengue cases have been falling for the past three to four days in at least five city hospitals, suggest data shared by doctors. At GTB Hospital, one of the largest Delhi Government-run hospitals, confirmed new dengue cases fell to 16 on November 8 from 28 on November 2, said a doctor. "The beds occupied by (non-COVID) fever patients have also fallen from 103 on November 2 to 65 on November 8," the doctor said. A similar trend has been witnessed at Delhi Government-run Lok Nayak Hospital. "Now we get about 70 suspected plus confirmed dengue cases every day. Earlier, we were getting about 90-100 such cases and there were days when we got about 120-130 cases," a hospital source said.

Sting operation	
Dengue cases breakdown from October 31 to November 6)	
North Delhi Municipal Corporation	394
South Delhi Municipal Corporation	404
East Delhi Municipal Corporation	144
New Delhi Municipal Council	10
Delhi Cantonment	3
Railway/AAI	5
Untraced after investigation	211
Total	1,171

SOURCE: SDMC

"We need to wait another three to four days to arrive at a conclusion. Fever cases are also going down," he said. Delhi has reported a total of 2,708 cases till November 6 this year, the highest since 2017.

Ashutosh Biswas, Professor (medicine) at AIIMS, Delhi, said they too have witnessed a slight fall in the number of cases. "In the last two to three days, there has been a slight drop in the daily (dengue) cases, but it is not a big drop. Transmission is happening and we are still getting a lot of cases. We expect a good drop in the next two to three weeks," Dr. Biswas said.

Backlog cases
South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) Standing Committee Chairman B.K. Oberoi said dengue cases recorded over the last week (until November 6) "included backlog cases from other hospitals which were not reported earlier".

'Cases may still rise'
"As dengue has been made a notifiable disease, due to better reporting, cases may still go up in the coming weeks," he added. Manoj Sharma, Senior Consultant, Internal Medicine, Fortis Hospital, said the new cases have come down a little in the last four days at the hospital.

"The spike in the cases was also due to the prolonged rains over the last two months, which have now stopped. A further dip in dengue cases will be witnessed in the coming weeks because of fall in temperatures. These factors will affect mosquito breeding and the SDMC is ensuring that all efforts are in place to cut down on the same," said Mr. Oberoi.

IN BRIEF

Three held for procuring drugs through darknet

NEW DELHI
The Delhi Police Crime Branch has arrested three men for allegedly procuring marijuana from Canada through darknet. A total of 1,873 gram of drugs, worth ₹35 lakh, was seized from them. The accused have been identified as Karan Sajani, 24, Sanjeev Midha, 39, and Priyansh, 22, the police said. A raid was conducted at a flat in Shalimar Bagh after the police received a tip-off that the accused were purchasing marijuana, JCP (Crime) Alok Kumar said.

496 students from city Govt. schools clear NEET

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI**
The Delhi Government on Wednesday said 496 students from its schools have cleared the National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET), with 51 of them from just one school in Yamuna Vihar.

Kushal Garg, who secured 700 out of 720, has bagged the 165th rank and secured a seat at AIIMS, the Government said. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia tweeting the results said, "History created by a Delhi govt school student Kushal Garg. He has secured 700 marks out of 720. All India Rank 165, secured seat at AIIMS. Father 10th pass, carpenter. Mother 12th pass, House wife Congratulations Kushal. Proud of you [sic]."

Mr. Sisodia said apart from the Yamuna Vihar school students, 28 from a Government school in Paschim Vihar, 16 from a school in IP Extension, 15 each from Loni Road and Molarband schools and 14 students from Rohini have cleared the exam. Last year, 569 students from Government schools had cleared NEET. Over 15.44 lakh candidates had appeared for the exam this year of which over 8.7 lakh candidates qualified.

THIS IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT A PROSPECTUS ANNOUNCEMENT AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN INVITATION OR OFFER TO ACQUIRE, PURCHASE OR SUBSCRIBE TO SECURITIES. NOT FOR RELEASE, PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY OUTSIDE INDIA.



LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED

Our Company was incorporated as Latent View Analytics Private Limited on January 3, 2006, at Chennai, Tamil Nadu as a private limited company under the Companies Act, 1956, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation issued by the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu at Chennai. Our Company was converted into a public limited company pursuant to a special resolution passed by our Shareholders at the EGM held on June 18, 2021, and the name of our Company was changed to Latent View Analytics Limited. A fresh certificate of incorporation consequent upon conversion to a public limited company was issued by the Registrar of Companies, Tamil Nadu at Chennai on July 18, 2021. For details of change in name and Registered Office of our Company, see "History and Certain Corporate Matters" on page 157 of the red herring prospectus dated October 29, 2021 ("RHP").

Registered and Corporate Office: 5th Floor, Neville Tower, Unit 6.7 and 8, Ramanujan IT City, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Taramani, Chennai- 600113, Tamil Nadu, India; Tel: +91 044 4344 1700; **Website:** www.latentview.com; **Contact Person:** Kesavan VR, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer; E-mail: investorcare@latentview.com; **Corporate Identity Number:** U72300TN2006PLC508481

OUR PROMOTERS: ADUGUDI VISWANATHAN VENKATRAMAN AND PRAMADWATHI JANDHYALA

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFER OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹1 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED (THE "COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE (INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹ [●] PER EQUITY SHARE) ("OFFER PRICE") AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 6,000.00 MILLION (THE "OFFER") COMPRISING A FRESH ISSUE OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 4,740.00 MILLION BY OUR COMPANY ("FRESH ISSUE") AND AN OFFER FOR SALE OF [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 1,260.00 MILLION BY THE SELLING SHAREHOLDERS (THE "OFFER FOR SALE") COMPRISING [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 607.45 MILLION BY ADUGUDI VISWANATHAN VENKATRAMAN (THE "PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDER"), [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 235.20 MILLION BY GOPINATH KOTESWARAN, [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 350.00 MILLION BY RAMESH HARIHARAN, [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 38.68 MILLION BY SUBRAMANIAN RAMACHANDRAN, [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 11.90 MILLION BY DIVYA BALAKRISHNAN, [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 11.48 MILLION BY RAJKUMAR KALYAPERUMAL, [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 7.35 MILLION BY PRIYA BALAKRISHNAN, [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 3.94 MILLION BY NAVIN LOGANATHAN (GOPINATH KOTESWARAN, RAMESH HARIHARAN, SUBRAMANIAN RAMACHANDRAN, DIVYA BALAKRISHNAN, RAJKUMAR KALYAPERUMAL, PRIYA BALAKRISHNAN, AND NAVIN LOGANATHAN TOGETHER, REFERRED TO AS THE "OTHER SELLING SHAREHOLDERS, AND TOGETHER WITH THE PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDER, REFERRED TO AS THE "SELLING SHAREHOLDERS" AND SUCH EQUITY SHARES, THE "OFFERED SHARES"). THE OFFER SHALL CONSTITUTE [●] % OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY. THE OFFER INCLUDES A RESERVATION OF UP TO [●] EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 60.00 MILLION (CONSTITUTING UP TO [●] % OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL), FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES (THE "EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION"), THE OFFER LESS THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION IS HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "NET OFFER". THE OFFER AND NET OFFER SHALL CONSTITUTE [●] AND [●] %, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY. OUR COMPANY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BRLMs, MAY OFFER A DISCOUNT OF UP TO ₹ [●] OF THE ISSUE PRICE TO ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES BIDDING IN THE EMPLOYEE RESERVATION PORTION ("EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT").

QIB Portion: Not Less Than 75% of the Net Offer **Retail Portion: Not More than 10% of the Net Offer** **Non-Institutional Portion: Not More than 15% of the Net Offer**
Employee Reservation Portion : [●] Equity Shares aggregating up to ₹ 60 million

Price Band: ₹ 190 to ₹ 197 per Equity Share of face value of ₹ 1 each.
A discount of ₹ 19 per Equity Share is being offered to Eligible Employees bidding in the Employee Reservation Portion.
The Floor Price is 190 times the face value of the Equity Shares and the Cap Price is 197 times the face value of the Equity Shares.
Bids can be made for a minimum of 76 Equity Shares and in multiples of 76 Equity Shares thereafter.

ASBA#	Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!	# Applications supported by blocked amount (ASBA) is a better way of applying to issues by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For further details, check section on ASBA below.	Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.
--------------	---	--	---

UPI Now available in ASBA for Retail Individual Investors ("RIs") applying through Registered Brokers, DPs and RTAs. RIs also have the option to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account. Investors are required to ensure that the bank account used for bidding is linked to their PAN.

ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except anchor investors. UPI may be availed by Retail Individual Bidders. For details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in ASBA form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" on page 301 of the RHP. The process is also available on the website of Association of Investment Bankers of India ("AIBI") and Stock Exchanges and in the General Information Document. ASBA bid-cum-application forms can be downloaded from the websites of BSE Limited ("BSE") and National Stock Exchange of India Limited ("NSE"), and together with BSE, the "Stock Exchanges") and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") at www.sebi.gov.in. For the list of UPI apps and banks live on IPO, please refer to the link: www.sebi.gov.in. RIs Bidding using the UPI mechanism may apply through the SCSBs and mobile applications whose names appear on the website of SEBI, as updated from time to time. ICICI Bank Limited has been appointed as Sponsor Bank for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of the SEBI Circular dated November 1, 2018 as amended. For offer related queries, please contact the Book Running Lead Managers ("BRLMs") on their respective email IDs as mentioned below. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number: 18001201740 and mail id: ipo.upi@npci.org.in.

- Risks to Investors**
- The 3 BRLMs associated with the Offer have handled 44 public issues in the past 3 years, out of which 16 issues closed below the offer price on the listing date.
 - The Price/Earnings ratio based on diluted EPS (consolidated) for Fiscal 2021 for our Company at the upper end of the Price Band is 38.63.
 - Average cost of acquisition of Equity Shares held by the Selling Shareholders namely Adugudi Viswanathan Venkatraman, Gopinath Koteswaran, Ramesh Hariharan, Subramanian Ramachandran, Divya Balakrishnan, Rajkumar Kalyaperumal, Priya Balakrishnan, Navin Loganathan is ₹ 0.004, ₹ 2.38, Nil*, ₹ 6.29, ₹ 6.29, ₹ 6.29, ₹ 6.29 respectively and Offer Price at upper end of the Price Band is ₹ 197 per Equity Share.
 - Weighted Average Return on Net Worth for Fiscals 2021, 2020, 2019 is 21.15%.

*Average cost for acquisition per equity share is NIL as the Selling Shareholder has acquired share via transfer, ESOP or bonus issue of shares in ratio of 15:1 in the year 2010 and in the ratio 20:1 in the year 2021

BID/OFFER OPEN

BID/OFFER CLOSES ON : FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2021#

#UPI Mandate end time and date shall be at 12:00 pm on Monday, November 15, 2021.

In case of any revision in the Price Band, the Bid/ Offer Period will be extended by at least three additional Working Days after such revision in the Price Band, subject to the total Bid/ Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. In cases of force majeure, banking strike or similar circumstances, our Company and the Selling Shareholders in consultation with BRLMs, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the Bid/ Offer Period for a minimum of three Working Days, subject to the Bid/ Offer Period not exceeding 10 Working Days. Any revision in the Price Band and the revised Bid/ Offer Period, if applicable, shall be widely disseminated by notification to the Stock Exchanges, by issuing a press release and by intimation to the Designated Intermediaries.

The Offer is being made through the Book Building Process, in terms of Rule 19(2)(b) of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Rules, 1957, as amended ("SCRR") read with Regulation 31 of the SEBI ICDR Regulations and in compliance with Regulation 6(2) of the SEBI ICDR Regulations, wherein not less than 75% of the Net Offer shall be allocated on a proportionate basis to Qualified Institutional Buyers ("QIBs"), the "QIB Portion", provided that our Company and the Selling Shareholders may, in consultation with the BRLMs, allocate up to 60% of the QIB Portion to Anchor Investors on a discretionary basis in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations ("Anchor Investor Portion"), of which one-third shall be reserved for domestic Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received from domestic Mutual Funds at or above the Anchor Investor Allocation Price. Further, 5% of the QIB Portion (excluding Anchor Investor Portion) ("Net QIB Portion") shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis only to Mutual Funds, and the remainder of the Net QIB Portion shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to all QIBs, including Mutual Funds, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. However, if the aggregate demand from Mutual Funds is less than 5% of the Net QIB Portion, the balance Equity Shares available for allocation in the Mutual Fund Portion will be added to the remaining Net QIB Portion for proportionate allocation to QIBs. Further, not more than 15% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation on a proportionate basis to Non-Institutional Bidders and not more than 10% of the Net Offer shall be available for allocation to Retail Individual Bidders in accordance with the SEBI ICDR Regulations, subject to valid Bids being received at or above the Offer Price. Further, Equity Shares will be allocated on a proportionate basis to Eligible Employees applying under the Employee Reservation Portion, subject to valid Bids received from them at or above the Offer Price. All potential Bidders (except Anchor Investors) are required to mandatorily utilize the Application Supported by Blocked Amount ("ASBA") process providing details of their respective ASBA accounts, and UPI ID in case of RIs using the UPI Mechanism, if applicable, in which the corresponding Bid Amounts will be blocked by the SCSBs or by the Sponsor Bank under the UPI Mechanism, as the case may be, to the extent of respective Bid Amounts. Anchor Investors are not permitted to participate in the Offer through the ASBA process. For details, see "Offer Procedure" beginning on page 301 of the RHP.

Bidders/Applicants should ensure that DP ID, PAN, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIs bidding through the UPI mechanism) are correctly filled in the Bid cum Application Form. The DP ID, PAN and Client ID provided in the Bid cum Application Form should match with the DP ID, PAN, Client ID available in the Depository database, otherwise, the Bid cum Application Form is liable to be rejected. Bidders/Applicants should ensure that the beneficiary account provided in the Bid cum Application Form is active. Bidders/Applicants should note that on the basis of the PAN, DP ID, Client ID and UPI ID (for RIs bidding through the UPI mechanism) as provided in the Bid cum Application Form, the Bidder/Applicant may be deemed to have authorised the Depositories to provide to the Registrar to the Offer, any requested Demographic Details of the Bidder/Applicant as available on the records of the depositories. These Demographic Details may be used, among other things, for giving Allotment Advice or unblocking of ASBA Account or for other correspondence(s) related to the Offer. Bidders/Applicants are advised to update any changes to their Demographic Details as available in the records of the Depository Participant to ensure accuracy of records. Any delay resulting from failure to update the Demographic Details would be at the Bidders/Applicants' sole risk. Investors must ensure that their PAN is linked with Aadhaar and are in compliance with CDDT notification dated Feb 13, 2020 and press release dated June 25, 2021.

Contents of the Memorandum of Association of the Company as regards its objects: For information on the main objects of the Company, please see the section "History and Certain Corporate Matters" on page 157 of the RHP and Clause 3 (A) of the Memorandum of Association of the Company. The Memorandum of Association of the Company is a material document for inspection in relation to the Offer. For further details, please see the section entitled "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" on page 336 of the RHP.

Liability of the members of the Company: Limited by shares

Amount of share capital of the Company and Capital structure: As on the date of the RHP, the Authorised share capital of the Company is ₹ 300,000,000 divided into 300,000,000 equity shares of face value of ₹ 1 each. The issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of the Company is ₹ 173,720,925 divided into 173,720,925 equity shares of face value of ₹ 1 each. For details, please see the section entitled "Capital Structure" on page 68 of the RHP.

Names of signatories to the Memorandum of Association of the Company and the number of Equity Shares subscribed by them: The names of the signatories to the Memorandum of Association of our Company are Adugudi Viswanathan Venkatraman and Pramadwathi Jandhyala. For details of the share capital history and capital structure of our Company, please see the section entitled "Capital Structure" on page 68 of the RHP.

Listing: The Equity Shares offered through the RHP are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received 'in-principle' approvals from BSE and NSE for the listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to their letters each dated September 2, 2021. For the purposes of the Offer, the Designated Stock Exchange shall be BSE. A signed copy of the RHP and the material contracts shall be filed with the RoC in accordance with Sections 26(4) and 32 of the Companies Act, 2013. For details of the prospectus and documents available for inspection from the date of the RHP up to the Bid/ Offer Closing Date, see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" on page 336 of RHP.

Disclaimer Clause of the SEBI: SEBI only gives its observations on the Offer Documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Offer or the specified securities stated in the Offer Documents or the offer document. The investors are advised to refer to page 282 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of SEBI.

Disclaimer Clause of NSE: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the Offer Document has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to page 283 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of NSE.

Disclaimer Clause of BSE (Designated Stock Exchange): It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the RHP has been cleared or approved by BSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the RHP. The investors are advised to refer to page 283 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of BSE.

General Risks: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in the Offer unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their entire investment. Investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Offer. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of our Company and the Offer, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares in the Offer have not been recommended or approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"), nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the RHP. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "Risk Factors" on page 24 of the RHP.

BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS TO THE OFFER	REGISTRAR TO THE OFFER
<p>Axis Capital Limited 1st Floor, Axis House, C-2 Wadia International Centre, P.B. Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400 025, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 4325 2183 E-mail: latentview.ipo@axiscap.in Website: www.axiscapital.co.in Investor Grievance ID: complaints@axiscap.in Contact Person: Simran Gadh/Pavan Naik SEBI Registration Number: INM000012029</p>	<p>Link Intime India Private Limited C-101, 1st Floor, 247 Park, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai - 400 083, Maharashtra, India Tel: +91 22 4918 6200 E-mail: latentview.ipo@linkintime.co.in Website: www.linkintime.co.in Investor grievance e-mail: latentview.ipo@linkintime.co.in Contact Person: Shanti Gopalkrishnan SEBI Registration No.: INR000004058</p>

AVAILABILITY OF THE RHP: Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the Risk Factors, contained therein before applying in the Offer. Full copy of the RHP is available on website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, websites of the BRLMs, i.e. Axis Capital Limited, ICICI Securities Limited and Hatong Securities India Private Limited at www.axiscapital.co.in, www.icicisecurities.com and www.htsec.com/en-us/hatong-india, respectively and on the websites of BSE and NSE at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORMS: Bid cum Application Forms can be obtained from the Registered Office of LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED, Tel: +91 044 4344 1700, Website: www.latentview.com; BRLMs : **Axis Capital Limited,** Tel: +91 22 4325 2183, **Website:** www.axiscapital.co.in; **ICICI Securities Limited,** Tel: +91 22 6807 7100, **Website:** www.icicisecurities.com and **Hatong Securities India Private Limited,** Tel: +91 22 4315 6857, **Website:** www.htsec.com/en-us/hatong-india and at the select locations of the Sub-syndicate Members (as given below), SCSBs, Registered Brokers, RTAs and CDPs participating in the Offer. ASBA Forms will also be available on the websites of BSE and NSE and the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available at websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

Sub-Syndicate Members: Amrapali Capital & Finance Services Limited, Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Limited, Anand Share Consultancy, ANS Pvt Limited, Ashwani Dandia & Co, Axis Securities Limited, Centrum Broking Ltd, Choice Equity Broking Private Limited, DB(International) Stock Brokers Ltd, Edelweiss Broking Limited, Eureka Stock & Share Broking Services Ltd, G Raj & Co, (Consultants) Limited, Hatong Securities India Private Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, Innovate Securities Pvt Limited, Jhaveri Securities, JM Financial Services Limited, Jobanputra Fiscal Services Pvt. Ltd, Kalpataru Multiplier Limited, KJMC Capital Market Securities Limited, Kotak Securities Limited, LKP Securities Limited, Inventure Growth & Securities Ltd, Marwadi Shares & Finance, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited, Nirmal Bang Securities Pvt Limited, Patel Wealth Advisors Pvt Limited, Prabhudas Lilladher Pvt Limited, Prabhu Financial Services and Trade Bulls Securities (P) Ltd Global Securities Limited, Systematic Shares and Stocks (India) Limited, Tanna Financial Services and Tradovs Securities Pvt Limited

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

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

Place: Chennai
Date: November 10, 2021

LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offering of its Equity Shares and has filed the RHP with RoC on October 29, 2021. The RHP is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, websites of the Stock Exchanges i.e. BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, and on the websites of the BRLMs, i.e. Axis Capital Limited, ICICI Securities Limited and Hatong Securities India Private Limited at www.axiscapital.co.in, www.icicisecurities.com and www.htsec.com/en-us/hatong-india, respectively. Investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to such risk, please see the section entitled "Risk Factors" on page 24 of the RHP. Potential investors should not rely on the DRHP filed with SEBI for making any investment decision. The Equity Shares offered in the Offer have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or any other applicable law of the United States and, unless so registered, may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. Accordingly, the Equity Shares are only being offered and sold (i) within the United States only to persons reasonably believed to be "qualified institutional buyers" (as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act, "Rule 144A") in transactions exempt from, or not subject to, registration requirements of the Securities Act, and (ii) outside the United States in offshore transactions in reliance on Regulation S under the Securities Act and pursuant to the applicable laws of the jurisdictions where those offers and sales are made. There will be no public offering of the Equity Shares in the United States.

For **LATENT VIEW ANALYTICS LIMITED**
On behalf of the Board of Directors
Sd/-
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

CLASSIFIEDS MART
TO ADVERTISE:
www.thehinduads.com
011-43579738 • 43579797

EDUCATIONAL
A-CUBE IAS
ASPIRE | ATTEMPT | ACCOMPLISH
PAPER-IV (ETHICS, INTEGRITY & APTITUDE)
RAPID REVISION COURSE
Features :-
• The only paper to give you an extra edge over others
• High Probability to score 140+ Marks
• Coverage of highly important topics along with case studies
• Mock Test at the end of the session
• Better understanding of this paper will lead to better performance in Interview
Visit us : www.acubeias.com
info@acubeias.com +91-93190 57400, 93190 57800
78, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajendra Nagar, N.Delhi-60

SITUATION VACANT PERSONAL
GENERAL CHANGE OF NAME

VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
www.visionias.in
India's leading organization based in Delhi invites passionate individuals for the role of
CONTENT DEVELOPER
for
GS
in
• English Medium
• हिन्दी माध्यम
• English-Hindi Translator (prior experience)
Skills Desired :
✓ Comfortable in translation (English to Hindi)
✓ Work Experience (at least 1 year)
✓ Have written Civil Services (Main) examination
Send your updated resume to
recruitment@visionias.in

SITUATION VACANT GENERAL
INDIAN MNC requires retired/ VRS/ housewife/ CA above 45 yrs South Delhi - Variable/PFF/ESI Contact - 807660613

FRONTLINE
LEADING THE DEBATE SINCE 1984
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
REGD. OFFICE: PSEB HEAD OFFICE, THE MALL, Patiala
Corporate Identification Number: U01952010SGC033813
(Contact No 96461-11060)
Tender Inquiry No.202/TLC/PTA/2021-22 Dated:09/11/2021
Dy Chief Engineer/TL Circle PSPCL Officer's Flat No.11, Shakti Vihar, Patiala invites E-tender for Construction of 66kv line from 66kv Amarpura to 66kv Sita Gunno section of 66kv line from 220kv Abohar to 66kv Sita Gunno. For detailed NIT & Tender specifications please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 09/11/2021 from 5.00 PM onwards.
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C - 406/21 PSPCL 76155/12/533/2021/9806

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar,
Kumbakonam - 612 001. E-Mail id : crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Ph : 0435-2432322, Fax : 0435-2431746

TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002
The following property/ies mortgaged to City Union Bank Limited will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of Rs.30,98,221/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty One Only) as on 02-11-2021 together with further interest to be charged from 03-11-2021 onwards, other expenses and any other dues to the bank by the Borrowers/ Guarantors No.11 Mr. Chaman Kumar, S/o. Late. Sh. Harish Chander at 51/80, Patwari Mohalla, Badarpur, Delhi - 110044. No.2 Mrs. Rajwati, W/o. Chaman Kumar at 51/80, Patwari Mohalla, Badarpur, Delhi - 110044.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
(Property Owned by Mr. Chaman Kumar, S/o. Late. Sh. Harish Chander)
Property bearing No.28-B, measuring 150 Sq.Yards, i.e. 125.42 Sq.Mtrs., consisting of Ground Floor with Roof Rights, comprising in Kharsa No.42/27, situated extend Abadi of Lal Dora at Badarpur, New Delhi and bounded as under East : House No.28-B of Shri. Mahesh, West : House No.27-B of Shri. Sonu, North : Gali, South : House No.28-B Shri. Mahesh.
Reserve Price: Rs.35,00,000/-
(Rupees Thirty Five Lakh Only)

AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
17-12-2021	City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi - Lajpat Nagar Branch, M-17, Ground Floor, Lajpat Nagar II, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi. Telephone No.011-29840034, Cell No.9310085382

Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale:
(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. (2) The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi - Lajpat Nagar Branch, M-17, Ground Floor, Lajpat Nagar II, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi. (3) The intending bidders should submit only the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd., together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of "City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. (4) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact: Telephone No.011-29840034, Cell No.9310085382. (5) The properties/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there-is" basis. (6) The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at 01.00 p.m. on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% (inclusive of EMD paid) of the sale amount immediately on completion of sale and the balance amount of 75% within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of 25% shall be forfeited. (8) The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. (9) The successful purchaser shall bear the charges / fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. (10) The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. (11) The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 09-11-2021 Authorised Officer
Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001. CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

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

Time to open flights to Thailand, Saudi Arabia, says IndiGo CEO

'Charters doing brisk business as Govt. treads cautiously on international flights'

JAGRITI CHANDRA
NEW DELHI
With the festivities and the holiday season pushing up the demand for air travel, it is time for the Government to improve international connectivity under the "air-bubble" arrangement by adding countries like Saudi Arabia and Thailand, says IndiGo CEO Ronojoy Dutta.



IndiGo CEO Ronojoy Dutta.

While 96 countries around the world recognise India's COVID-19 vaccination certificates, the Government has been cautious in fully reopening international flights. India permits only direct commercial flights to and from 28 countries with which it has a temporary arrangement, also known as the "air-bubble" agreement.

that by December they will reopen," Mr. Dutta told *The Hindu* on Wednesday. Flights or no flights, Phuket remains the top searched international destination on travel portals compelling the market players to invent innovative ways to service this demand. MakeMyTrip has tied up with IndiGo and Go First for charter flights to Phuket. The collaboration will allow MMT to charter an entire plane from either airline, which it will sell by the seat. Passengers will also get end-to-end travel assistance, including airport transfers, Thailand Pass application assistance, early check-in and check-out at premium properties, travel insurance, re-

turn RT-PCR assistance and hotel stay at ₹39,999 for a five-day trip. Charters have been a lucrative business for airlines during the pandemic and have emerged as a new revenue stream. "Earlier we would see one or two charters in a month. Now, they are 11% of our departures," said Mr. Dutta. Before COVID-19, the airline would fly nearly 33,000 departures per month. In the past three months, IndiGo has flown an average of 29,000 flights per month. Therefore, a back-of-the-envelope calculation indicates that the number of charters has gone up from one or two to nearly 3,200 a month, including cargo.

rists and wedding parties. So, is it not the time for the Government to put an entry protocol in place for vaccinated international travellers and reopen scheduled flights fully? "I'd love that to happen, but it's just not practical. Our travel partners, hotels want a big-bang opening but I think it's going to be tough for the Government because in some countries the number of cases is still quite high. We could do a gradual opening internationally, just like we did for the domestic flights. Phuket, Saudi Arabia and then Singapore, and keep moving like that based on country-by-country approach." While the airline serves 24 international destinations, with a firm footing in countries located at a short-haul distance, it aims to now build its network to include those within a radius of seven hours such as "Manila, Beijing, Moscow, Tel Aviv, Nairobi". Only subsequently will the airline look at long and ultra long-haul stations such as London and New York.

Eye on BMC, Congress woos north Indian voters in Mumbai

At least 18% to 20% voters in the city are from U.P. and Bihar

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI
Faced with the reality that the north Indian voter in Mumbai, once politically close to the Congress, has shifted considerably to the BJP, the Mumbai Congress has decided to focus on reclaiming that lost ground. With the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation polls likely to be held in three to four months, it remains to be seen whether such last-minute efforts will deliver.



Politics for votes: Chhath festivities in Mumbai's Wadala area on Wednesday. ■ EMMANUAL YOGINI

"The Congress has always been the first choice of north Indians in Mumbai. Yes, there were some incidents and some mistakes on our part. But that was then, and now we are back with a new team. We are going to north Indians and asking them what they want from us. It will give us positive results," said Mumbai Congress president Bhai Jagtap. Around 18% to 20% voters in Mumbai come from north India, largely from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Of the city's 36 Assembly segments, north Indian voters have a decisive role in at least 15. Similarly, out of 227 BMC wards, 50 to 60 have north Indian voters in a majority. In at least 50 others their votes will definitely decide the winner. With the Shiv Sena having a firm grip on the Marathi voting population, the BJP, since 2014, went all out to capture the city's Gujarati as well as north Indian votes. The results of the 2014 and 2019 Assembly polls, as well as the 2017 BMC polls, manifested overwhelming support for the BJP in these

pockets, which were earlier held by the Congress. In the past, the Congress was always preferred by north Indians in the city. The Congress is the only party where two of its past city chiefs, Kripashankar Singh and Sanjay Nirupam, come from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, respectively. Congress' Rajhans Singh was the Leader of the Opposition in the BMC. Ramesh Thakur, Naseem Khan, Aslam Sheikh and Baba Siddiqui are all big names from the north Indian community. Of these, Mr. Kripashankar, Mr. Rajhans and Mr. Thakur have joined the BJP. According to Mr. Nirupam, the first fissure in relations between the north Indians and the Congress developed in 2008-09, when the Raj Thackeray-led Maharashtra Navnirman Sena went on the rampage, beating hawkers, taxi drivers and autorickshaw drivers, mostly from U.P. and Bihar. "A rumour spread that the Congress-led State government was sponsoring the MNS. I was the only Congress leader who was taking the MNS

head-on. But when people saw no one standing with me, they started believing this rumour." The Mumbai Congress recently announced holding of the 'Uttar Bharatiya Panchayat' in all 227 wards. Its initiative to ease Chhath Puja celebrations also grabbed eyeballs. New faces are being given prominence after some veterans left and joined the BJP. "Those who were given everything by the Congress left the party in difficult times. We don't want to talk about them. We don't need new faces - we are the new faces," said Suraj Singh Thakur, one of the upcoming leaders of the Mumbai Congress. According to Mr. Nirupam, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindutva hardliner image in 2013-14 turned out to be the clincher for the BJP in terms of north Indian votes. "Congress' base vote in Mumbai was north Indians, Dalits and Muslims. When I became Mumbai president, I worked hard to bring these votes back to the party. I don't see that happening as of now," he said.

'Jinnah as PM could have prevented Partition'

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW
Had Muhammad Ali Jinnah been elected as the first Prime Minister of India, the country would not have been partitioned, said Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party chief Om Prakash Rajbhar on Wednesday. Mr. Rajbhar made the comments amid the BJP targeting his ally Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav for referring to Jinnah in the same breath as Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi at a rally in Hardoi recently. "Read the views of Advani ji (Lal Krishna Advani). Read the views of Ataj ji (Atal Bihari Vajpayee). Read the views of all well-wishers of the country, they had praised him," Mr. Rajbhar said of Jinnah when asked by the reporters in Varanasi to comment on his new ally's remarks.

Drugs seized

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KHAMBHALIA (GUJARAT)
A 44-year-old man was arrested in Devbhumi Dwaraka district of Gujarat for alleged possession of heroin and methamphetamine worth ₹88.25 crore, suspected to be originated from Pakistan and smuggled through the sea, a senior police officer said on Wednesday. The accused, identified as Sajjad Ghosi, hails from Thane district in Maharashtra.

Department of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh Administration (GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, CHANDIGARH)
(Hospital Building), Sector 32-B, Chandigarh-160030
PUBLIC APPOINTMENT NOTICE
LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF ON-LINE APPLICATIONS 27.12.2021
Online applications are invited for filling up the following Group 'C' posts of Staff Nurse (Nursing Officer) in Government Medical College & Hospital, Sector 32, Chandigarh on temporary basis, but likely to continue :-

No. of Vacancies						Ex-Servicemen			Total
UR	SC	OBC	EWS	PH (PwD) (OL)	UR	SC	OBC		
64	20	31	16	02	09	05	15	162	

The candidates willing to apply should visit at GMCH website i.e. http://gmch.gov.in and click on vacancy or the site can be accessed by typing http://gmch.gov.in/jobs-and-training for further details like, ONLINE Application form, Pay Scale, Eligibility Criteria, Application fee and Terms & Conditions, etc. In case of Technical Assistance / Difficulty / Enquiry regarding submission of ONLINE Application form candidates can send email at dmeru2021@gmail.com
GMCH/H-4/EA/11/23/2021/29466
Dated, Chandigarh the, 9 Nov 2021
Director Principal GMCH-32, Chandigarh

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Undertaking) Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh Urja Bhawan, Kanwali Road, Dehradun-248001
(Corporate Identity No. U40109UP2001SGC025867/2358) Telephone: 0135-2763672-76, Fax: 0135-2760289, Website: www.uktenders.gov.in
E-TENDER NOTICE (NIT)
Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd., Dehradun invites e-tender for following as detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Item	Tender specification no.	Tender Qty.	Estimated Cost (in ₹)	Average Yearly Turn Over of Preceding Three Financial Year i.e. 2017-2018, 2018-2019 & 2019-2020 (in ₹)	Earnest Money (in ₹) or Bid security declaration	Cost of tender document including GST (in ₹)	Last Date & time of online request for tender and Submission of tender in online & Offline mode	Date of opening of bid Part-I in online and offline mode
1	Computerized Revenue Receipt Book	CCP-I/39/2021-22	20 Lac	7,00,920.00	21,03,000.00	21,100.00	590.00	25.11.2021 upto 17:00hrs	26.11.2021 at 15:45Hrs

For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in.
No.: 473/EE(CM)/UPCLA-2 Dt.: 09/11/2021
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, CORPORATE (C&P-J)
SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATIONS Use LED Bulb Save Electricity. (Toll-Free: 1800 419 0405 or 1912) "Pay Electricity Bill Online 24x7 from www.upcl.org" (For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185/Fax No.: 0135-2760911)

Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation HP Limited
(A State Government Undertaking)
US Club, Shimla - 1
Phone No. 0177-2811001, 2811003, 2811004

RTDC
Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation HP Ltd.
Ropeways and Rapid Transport System Development Corporation HP Limited

Tender Notice
Sealed tenders are invited by the General Manager, Ropeways & Rapid Transport System Development Corporation Ltd. on behalf of Governor of H.P. from interested consultants for preparation of Detailed Project Report for various proposed ropeways and their respective infrastructure throughout the state in Himachal Pradesh as per detail given below:-

S. No.	Description	EMD in the shape of FDR (INR)	Tender Fee (INR)
1.	EOI (Expression of Interest) cum-Financial Bid for Preparation of Detailed Project Report for various proposed ropeways and their respective infrastructure throughout the state in Himachal Pradesh.	30,000/-	5,000/- +GST (5900)

The tender forms and other detailed conditions (TOR) can be obtained from office undersigned on any working day in any working hours 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The tender shall reach in the office of undersigned on or before 23/11/2021 upto 11:00 A.M. & bids shall be opened on same day at 03:30 P.M. in the presence of bidders of their authorized representatives.

General Manager, Ropeways & Rapid Transport System, Development Corporation, H.P. Ltd US. Club, Shimla-1 Email:- gmrtcdhp@gmail.com

Notices to Govt., AVUT on plea challenging jail term to Ansals

Ansals brothers had 'tampered' with evidence in Uphar case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI
A Delhi court on Wednesday asked the Government and the Association of Victims of Uphar Tragedy (AVUT) to respond to the pleas challenging 7-year jail terms awarded to real estate barons Sushil and Gopal Ansal for tampering with evidence in the 1997 case of Uphar cinema fire which had claimed 59 lives. Additional Sessions Judge Anil Antil issued notice on the appeals filed by the Ansal brothers challenging their conviction and the jail term awarded by a magiste-

rial court here on Monday. The Judge also sought a report from the Medical Superintendent of Tihar Jail after it was submitted that Sushil Ansal was admitted to the jail hospital last night after he claimed he was unwell. Reacting to the claim, AVUT chairperson Neelam Krishnamoorthy said, "Having spent little over two nights in jail, Sushil Ansal gets hospitalised, thanks to the loopholes in the system. How quick are they to save their own lives? What of the 59 lives they took so heartlessly?"

During the hearing, the accused objected to the locus of the AVUT. The sessions court, however, directed the accused to serve the copy of the appeal to the Association after its counsel, senior advocate Vikas Pahwa, opposed their submission. The application filed by senior advocate P.K. Dubey before the ASJ on Wednesday claimed that the conviction and sentence of the accused was based upon "assumption, presumption, conjectures and surmises and in miss appreciation of evidence on record."



देश का बढ़ाया मान युवा शक्ति का सम्मान



टोक्यो पैरा ओलम्पिक में शानदार प्रदर्शन से
देश का मान बढ़ाने वाली खेल प्रतिभाओं

का

सम्मान समारोह

मुख्य अतिथि

योगी आदित्यनाथ

मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

डॉ. वीरेंद्र कुमार

मंत्री, सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता
भारत सरकार

अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर

मंत्री, सूचना एवं प्रसारण
युवा कार्य एवं खेल, भारत सरकार

संजीव कुमार बालयान

राज्य मंत्री, पशुपालन, डेयरी एवं मत्स्य पालन
भारत सरकार

उपेन्द्र तिवारी

राज्य मंत्री, खेल एवं युवा कल्याण (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
पंचायती राज (एमओएस), उत्तर प्रदेश

दिनेश खटीक

राज्य मंत्री, जल शक्ति
उत्तर प्रदेश

राजेन्द्र अग्रवाल

सांसद
मेरठ

एवं अन्य गणमान्य महानुभाव

दिनांक : 11 नवम्बर, 2021 | समय : पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे | स्थान : सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल कृषि एवं प्रौद्योगिक विश्वविद्यालय, मेरठ

सोच ईमानदार, काम दृढद्वार

सूचना एवं जनसम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश

कार्यक्रम
का लाइव प्रसारण
DD UP व
[Youtube.com/DDNEWS](https://www.youtube.com/DDNEWS)
[Youtube.com/dduttarpradesh](https://www.youtube.com/dduttarpradesh)
यूट्यूब एवं
[UPGovtOfficial](https://www.youtube.com/UPGovtOfficial)
[CMOUttarpradesh](https://www.facebook.com/CMOUttarpradesh)
[CMOfficeUP](https://www.twitter.com/CMOfficeUP)
सोशल मीडिया हैण्डल्स
के माध्यम से
देख सकते हैं।

Eight arrested for fishing near Olive Ridley rookery

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BERHAMPUR (ODISHA)

Eight fishermen from Andhra Pradesh have been nabbed for fishing in a prohibited area near Rushikulya river mouth in Ganjam district of Odisha, an official said on Wednesday.

To ensure the safety of Olive Ridley turtles during their breeding and mating season, the State government has clamped a seven-month fishing ban within 20 km from the coast at the river mouths of Rushikulya, Dhamara, and Devi from November 1.

Forest officials spotted the fishermen in the no-fishing zone on Tuesday afternoon and seized a trawler and 210 kg of fish, Berhampur Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Amlan Nayak said.

The fishermen were handed over to the fisheries department for action under the Orissa Marine Fishing Regulation Act, the DFO said.

The seized fish were auctioned by the forest staff, Khallikote Forest Range Officer Sidharth Sahu said.

At least three boats and a trawler are engaged in sea patrolling in the area, he said.

Rushikulya mouth is considered as the second biggest rookery for the Olive Ridges after Gahira-matha in Kendrapara district.

12 killed, 32 injured in Barmer bus-truck smash

Both vehicles caught fire after impact

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA JAIPUR

A truck collided head-on with a bus in Rajasthan's Barmer district on Wednesday, leaving 12 people dead and 32 others injured.

The accident occurred near Bhandiyawa village on the Barmer-Jodhpur National Highway and both vehicles caught fire following the collision.

"Twelve people have died and 32 others were injured. Some of the injured were referred to Jodhpur for treatment and some were discharged," Barmer District Collector Lok Bandhu said.

Chaos at hospital

There was chaos at the accident site and hospital where the victims were taken. Fire tenders were rushed to the spot to douse the fire which had engulfed the two vehicles.

"The bus was full of passengers," Shahrukh, one of the passengers on the bus, told reporters in Jodhpur.

Another survivor told reporters that he was sitting in the rear side and jumped out of the window.

He said that those who were sitting at the back managed to jump out through the windows and saved their lives. Those towards the front were trapped.

As soon as the news spread, passengers' family members rushed to hospital. "I have never seen such



Scene at the accident site in Barmer on Wednesday. PHOTO

a heart wrenching scene," said one of the eye-witnesses.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his grief and announced a relief package for the dead and those who got injured in the incident.

"It is saddening that people have lost their lives due to a bus-truck collision at the Barmer-Jodhpur Highway in Rajasthan. In this hour of grief, my condolences to the bereaved families. I pray that the injured have a quick recovery," Mr. Modi tweeted.

Centre's ex-gratia

He said: "An ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh each from PMNRF would be given to the next of kin of those who lost their lives due to the accident at the Barmer-Jodhpur Highway in Rajasthan. The injured would be given ₹50,000 each."

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot spoke to the Barmer District Collector and asked him to ensure proper treatment for the injured.

4,040 compensatory saplings not to be planted at Central Vista area

Delhi Govt. gives permission to plant them at Eco Park, about 22 km away

NIKHIL M. BABU NEW DELHI

The compensatory plantation of 4,040 tree saplings, for uprooting 404 trees for building the new Parliament, will not happen in the Central Vista area, as per a new Delhi Government notification.

Also, the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) will effectively get an extra year, than the original permission, to plant the 4,040 saplings.

Similarly, permission has been given to transplant 274 of the 404 uprooted trees, at the NTPC Eco-Park in Badarpur, about 22 km away, instead of the Central Vista area.

The compensatory plantation of 4,040 tree saplings will also be done at the Eco Park, as per the new notification issued by the Delhi Government on November 9, 2021.

As per the initial permission given by the Delhi Government on September 16, 2020, 404 trees were sup-



The Central Vista redevelopment work in progress: FILE PHOTO

posed to be transplanted and 4,040 saplings planted in the Central Vista area, near the existing Parliament and close to the India Gate area.

"Transplantation of 404 trees which are standing on the site shall be done by user agency at eight pockets in Central Vista, New Delhi," the September 16, 2020, notification giving permission for transplantation of the trees by Delhi Government had read.

On November 25, 2020, The Hindu reported that trees being transplanted for construction of the new Par-

liament building, are being transplanted in the Eco Park, in violation of approval given by the Delhi Government on September 16,

A day later, the Delhi Government sent a show-cause notice to the Central Public Works Department (CPWD), citing the article and followed it with an inspection of the Eco Park.

On December 3, 2020, the CPWD sought for the compensatory plantation of 4,040 trees to be done at the Eco Park, instead of the Central Vista area.

The CPWD also requested

the Delhi Government for a one-year extension for it. The CPWD said that it was not feasible to complete the entire compensatory afforestation by January 2021 and asked for time till January 31, 2022.

The agency also sought permission for transplantation of 274 trees at the Eco Park. As per the new notification, the site change has been allowed and three months to do the plantation from the date of tree removal addition.

"Additional 500 trees shall be planted by User Agency to offset any increase in mortality of transplanted trees," the new notification reads.

A senior CPWD official said the latest notification was the same approval as the previous one, but the location of transplantation had been modified on the CPWD's request. "Most of the transplantation has been already done," the official said.

(With inputs from Damini Nath)

M.P. hospital fire: 3 officials removed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BHOPAL

The Madhya Pradesh government on Wednesday removed three senior officials, including the dean of the Gandhi Medical College, from their posts and suspended a sub-engineer of the maintenance agency, after a major fire in the special newborn care unit of the Bhopal-based Kamla Nehru Children's Hospital killed four infants on Monday night.

The State government also announced several other measures to prevent such incidents in future.

"Gandhi Medical College dean Dr. Jitendra Shukla, superintendent of Hamidia Hospital Dr. Lokendra Dave and Director of Gas Relief Department, K.K. Dubey, are removed from their posts while Avdesh Bhadoria, a sub-engineer (electric) of the Capital Project Administration (CPA), the agency responsible for the maintenance of this hospital, has been suspended," Medical Education Minister Vishvas Sarang told reporters.

Odisha engineer arrested in illegal assets case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BHUBANESWAR

An Odisha-based engineer who had thrown a carton filled with cash into a neighbour's house to escape the scrutiny of anti-corruption sleuths was found to have amassed properties worth ₹14.87 crore - 1.02% of his known sources of income.

The amount, ₹14.87 crore, is the highest ever disproportionate income unearthed by the Odisha Vigilance Directorate.

Over 38 lakh cash

The accused, Pratap Kumar Samal, was arrested on Wednesday. Vigilance officials detected ₹38.12 lakh cash in his possession.

West Bengal Governor, CM's adviser Mitra trade barbs

The former had sought a White Paper on Business Summit

SHIV SAHAY SINGH KOLKATA

The West Bengal Government and Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar are once again sparring over the Bengal Global Business Summit (BGBS), the annual event to attract investment to the industry-starved State.

On Wednesday, a day after assuming the new responsibility of Principal Chief Adviser to the Chief Minister and Adviser to the Department of Finance, Amit Mitra defended the West Bengal government against a charge by the Governor that the ground reality of BGBS belied "resounding success" syndrome.

"On November 9, he strongly supported CM's plan of next Summit and within 24 hours he tweets venom on summits, by putting out a year-old letter to CM & FM, (me)! It is shocking that he seeks response when I had officially responded with a 4-page letter on Summits, giving data on investment offers under implementation, employment generation etc." Mr. Mitra said in a series of tweets.

Mr. Mitra also shared the four-page letter on social me-



Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar



CM's adviser Amit Mitra

dia. "Is he suffering from amnesia and needs help, or is it a Machiavellian omission? Governor said on November 9 at Meet and Greet event as reported, 'We have to ensure there is no room for conflict... no room for adversarial situation.. only one way, togetherness.' Very next day, he tweeted the opposite of these utterances, in a mode of all-out conflict? Shocking!!" he added.

Only a day before, Mr. Dhankhar had called upon the Chief Minister to "come out with a White Paper on #BGBS so that information is available in transparent and accountable manner."

Mr. Dhankhar has sought response from the Chief Minister to five questions relating to BGBS.

"It is our obligation that we need to subscribe to sanctity

of facts, not dictate actions by mere advertisements and statements. We are living in times where Goebbels' stance can no longer cut ice. I am sure in a transparent and accountable manner, information sought herein above and from Finance Minister would be made available at the earliest," the Governor wrote on Tuesday.

Crucial timing

The timing of the war of words is crucial, as it comes at a time when the Chief Minister has announced that the BGBS would be held in 2022.

The last time the BGBS was held was in February 2019. In fact, the Chief Minister, while announcing the sixth edition of BGBS a few days ago, had urged Mr. Dhankhar to visit a foreign country and show-case West Bengal.

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Baggi invites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works(s) through e-tendering process :-

Sr. No. :- 1 Name of work :- Operation & Maintenance of Water Supply System, Sewerage System and Effluent system of SLBS Medical College Ner Chowk for 1 Year in Tehsil Balh Distt. Mandi (H.P.). **E/Cost :-** Rs. 71,24,578/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 1,03,900/- **Time limit :-** One Year.

Sr. No. :- 2 Name of work :- Providing LIS Bagga and Chalag in GP Sainj Tehsil Chachyot Distt. Mandi HP. (SH- C/O 2 No. Delivery Tank, 31 No. Field outlet and Providing, laying and jointing of HDPE pipe of various diameter = 4980 Rmt.) **E/Cost :-** Rs. 47,03,092/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 78,046/- **Time limit :-** Three Months.

Sr. No. :- 3 Name of work :- Providing CAD work in Zone No. 2 & 3 of Balh Valley Medium Irrigation Project in Distt. Mandi (H.P.) (SH- Laying, jointing and testing of HDPE pipes in Distribution Network & New Proposed pipes by replacing Existing RCC pipes, C/O 284 Nos. Outlet Chamber, C/O De-Silting/Sedimentation Tank (Zone- 2 & 3). (Under HIMCAD). **E/Cost :-** Rs. 1,98,51,882/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 2,51,100/- **Time limit :-** One Year.

Sr. No. :- 4 Name of work :- Augmentation of Various WSS for Group of villages in GP Lot, Jahal & Kandi Kamrunag in Tehsil Chachyot Distt. Mandi (HP). (SH- Site devolvement, C/O 2 No. retaining walls behind pump house, C/O Head weir, C/O Source intake with sanitary protection/sealing of source = 1 No., C/O 22 No. Roughening filter intake chamber, C/O RCC Sedimentation tank = 20,000 Ltrs cap., C/O RCC Filter bed of 46.00 Sqm cap. in 2 units, C/O RCC Sump well cum Clear water tank of 35,000 Ltrs cap.= 2 No., C/O RCC dome type sub delivery tank at Node F = 65,000 Ltrs cap., C/O RCC Sump well clear water tank of 20,000 Ltrs cap.= 1 No., C/O RCC clear water tank of 15,000 Ltrs cap.= 1 No., C/O 11 Nos. RCC clear water tanks of 10,000 Ltrs cap. each, C/O 2 No. Pump house and attendant room above 50 HP, providing electrical installation to 2 No. Pump houses, C/O WC/ toilet attach with pump house with providing water supply and sanitary fitting and electrical installation). **UNDER JIM. E/Cost :-** Rs. 1,12,31,644/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 1,45,000/- **Time limit :-** One Year.

Sr. No. :- 5 Name of work :- Augmentation of Various WSS for Group of villages in GP Lot, Jahal & Kandi Kamrunag in Tehsil Chachyot Distt. Mandi (HP). (SH- Laying, jointing, testing & carriage of GM pipe of 80 mm dia & Providing Laying, jointing, testing & carriage of MS pipe of 80 mm dia in R/Main with flanged and butt welded joints & Supply and Erection of Pumping Centrifugal Pumping Machinery with complete accessories for 1st and 2nd stage) (Under JIM) **E/Cost :-** Rs. 35,76,264/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 61,200/- **Time limit :-** Six Months.

Sr. No. :- 6 Name of work :- C/O WSS Badhu Killing Chhhamyar Rajwari and Sali in District Mandi (HP). (SH- Laying, Jointing, testing and carriage of GI pipe and Providing laying, Jointing, testing and carriage of MSERW pipe with flanged and butt welded joints in Rising Main & Supplying and Erection of Submersible & Centrifugal Pumping Machinery with complete accessories) (Under SCSP). **E/Cost :-** Rs. 54,37,139/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 86,900/- **Time limit :-** Six Months.

Sr. No. :- 7 Name of work :- Improvement of LWSS Goda Gagaj in GP Goda Gagaj Tehsil Balh Distt. Mandi (HP). (SH- Laying, Jointing, testing and carriage of Rising main GI pipe with flanged and butt welded joints & Supplying and Erection of Submersible & Centrifugal Pumping Machinery with complete accessories) (Under JIM) **E/Cost :-** Rs. 9,05,415/- **Earnest Money :-** Rs. 18,200/- **Time limit :-** Six Months.

Last date of filling/uploading the tender through e-tendering : 15/11/2021 upto 05.00 PM.

The tender form and other detail and condition can be obtained from the website <https://hptenders.gov.in> or from office of Jal Shakti Division Baggi upto the date specified above.

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti Division, Baggi.

HP / 4642/21-22 HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

Public Works Division, Ahmednagar

Phone No. 0214/2325334 & 0241/2325086

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.32 FOR 2021-22 (Online)

Online E-Tenders in B-2 Form for the following works invited by Executive Engineer Public Works Division, Ahmednagar (Phone No. 0241-2325334/2325086) From the Competent and Interested contractors .Not Necessary Registered with P.W.D. If Global Company having its Branch/ Sub Company in Indian they can Participate in Tender. Superintending Engineer, Public Works Circle, Ahmednagar who reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason there fore.

Sr.No	Name of Work	Estimated Amount	Tender Document sale start & End Date
1	Improvements to MSH.8 to Nimgaon Daku Maithan Taradgaon Nimboi Sitpur Nagapur Nagaiwadi Mirajgaon Guravpimp Chande Byd.Bitkewadi Shinde to Kaparewadi MDR.53 Km.0/00 to 56/270 Tal.Karjat Distt.Ahmednagar	Rs. 5226.77 Lakhs	Dt.11/11/2021 to 06/12/2021, Opening dt. 08/12/2021, Pre-Bid Meeting in the Office of Chief Engineer, P.W. Region Office, Nashik Dt.29/11/2021, at 12.30.Hours
2	Improvements to Karjat Therwad Talwadi Taju Jalapur road MDR.205 Km.0/00 to 30/250 (Proposed Major District road) Tal.Karjat Distt.Ahmednagar	Rs. 2021.63 Lakhs	

The details of works are provided on the websites as below.

- www.mahapwd.com
- <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Public Work Division
Ahmednagar

DGIPR/2021/2022/2650

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ENGINEERING WORKS

Sr. No. (1) E-Tender No.: DRM-ENGG-BSP-T-121-21-22. **Date:** 08.11.2021. **Work:** Augmentation and upgradation of Electric Loco Training Centre Usapur, improvement of surface and fencing of Earmarked parking space at JRMG and Creation of siding facilities for working of heavy duty Rail Grinding Machine (RGM) at JRMG & USL under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Central/Bilaspur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,29,15,395.63. **Completion Period:** 08 Months.

Sr. No. (2) E-Tender No.: DRM-ENGG-BSP-T-122-21-22. **Date:** 08.11.2021. **Work:** Provision of Boulder Apron to protect scoured/scouring bed in and around Bridge No. 54 UP & DN on Champa-Bilaspur section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Central/Bilaspur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 51,24,370.18. **Completion Period:** 03 Months.

Sr. No. (3) E-Tender No.: DRM-ENGG-BSP-T-123-21-22. **Date:** 08.11.2021. **Work:** Provision of Boulder Apron to protect scoured/scouring bed in and around Bridge No. 54 UP & DN on Champa-Bilaspur section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Central/Bilaspur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 51,24,370.18. **Completion Period:** 03 Months.

Start Date of Submission of Tender: From 11.00 hours on 15.11.2021. Last Date of Submission of Tender: Upto 11.00 hours on 29.11.2021.

The complete information of above e-Tender Notices is available over websites: <http://www.reps.gov.in> Bids other than e-bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg)
CPR/10/236 S.E.C.Rly.,Bilaspur.

f South East Central Railway @secral

Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE, Ground Water Division, Sgr.

Gist of e-Tender.

NIT No. -PHE/GWDS 57 of 11/2021, Date:- 11-2021

For and on behalf of lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited in two cover system from registered Water Well Drillers/Contractors as per the details given in tender document.

SNo	Name of work	No. of Hand Pump Wells	Est.Cost Rs. in Lacs	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Programme
01	Construction of 125 mm Machine Drilled Hand Well at Karewa Lasipora.	01 No	Rs.4,00 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	DDC Grants
02	Construction of 125 mm Machine Drilled Hand Well Near Deras GISH Pachan.	01 No	Rs.3,06 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	DDC Grants
03	Construction of 125 mm Machine Drilled Hand Wells at Atran Masjid Rahmoob-R.	01 No	Rs.4,63 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	DDC Grants
04	Construction of 125 mm Machine Drilled Hand Wells at Atran Masjid Kakapora-A.	01 No	Rs.2,60 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	DDC Grants
05	Construction of Tube Well along with Water Tank at Lethpora.	01 No	Rs.7,30 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	PBI Grants
06	Construction of Bore Well near Graveyard at MohdAm Mohalla Kuchmohalla.	01 No	Rs.2,06 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	PBI Grants
07	Construction of Deep Bore Well for Irrigation Purpose Near Chana Bagh Shikargah.	01 No	Rs.3,01 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	PBI Grants
08	Construction of Bore Well near Land of Fayaz Ahmad Rather at Charki Pinglab-B.	01 No	Rs.2,11 Lacs	Rs.500/-	07 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	PBI Grants
09	Construction of 65 No Machine drilled hand pump wells in Halga Chandhara of District Pulwama.	05 No.	Rs.7,543 lacs	Rs.1000/-	15 days	Registered for Drilling 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pump Wells	PBI Grants

Critical Dates/Information.

1. Publishing Date	10-11-2021 (03:00 P.M)
2. Period of Downloading of Bids	10-11-2021 (03:00 P.M) to 20-11-2021 (03:00 P.M)
3. Period of Submission of bids	10-11-2021 (03:00 P.M) to 20-11-2021 (03:00 P.M)
4. Date of opening of tender	22-11-2021 at 03:00 P.M
5. Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer, (Jal Shakti) PHE Ground Water Srinagar/Kashmir-190011	
6. Document Cost : Non-Refundable in the shape of Treasury Challan/receipt deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer (Jal Shakti) PHE Ground Water Division Srinagar at Suddar Treasury Srinagar (The firm shall specify the name of work for which apply)	
7. Bid Validity Period: 180 Days	
8. The bids can be downloaded or updated on www.lktenders.gov.in	
9. Instead of EMD the firm has to furnish "Bid Security Declaration", format of the declaration is mentioned in the Bid Document	

DIP/K-12317/21 Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti PHE Ground Water Division Sgr.

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER NATIONAL HIGHWAYS,

BLOCK-D, NIRMAN BHAWAN,

NIGAM VIHAR, SHIMLA-171002

Notice Inviting Bid

Bid No. PW-CE-NH-CTR-Tender Notice/EPC-36/2021-3272-79 Dated 08-11-2021

RFP for Widening / Strengthening to two lane Chakki-Banikhet Chamba Bhamour road NH 154-A Km 93/0 to 106/0 in the State of Himachal Pradesh on EPC mode. (Tender Job No. EPC-36/2021)

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways through Chief Engineer NH HPPWD Shimla is engaged in the development of National Highways and as part of this Endeavour, it has been decided to undertake Widening / Strengthening to two lane Chakki-Banikhet Chamba Bhamour road NH 154-A Km 93/0 to 106/0 in the State of Himachal Pradesh (Tender Job No. EPC-36/2021) through an Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract.

Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department through Chief Engineer NH HPPWD Shimla now invites bids from eligible contractors for the following project:

State	NH No.	Tender Package No.	Name of work	Estimated Civil Cost of Project*	Completion period	Maintenance Period
Himachal Pradesh	154-A	EPC-36	Widening/Strengthening to two lane Chakki-Banikhet Chamba Bhamour road NH 154-A Km 93/0 to 106/0 in the State of Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 61.35 Crores*	24 Months	05 years

NOTE:-

- The Estimated Project Cost is the Civil Cost of the work without GST and is used only for Evaluation Purpose. The bid should be quoted as per BQ inclusive of GST.

The complete BID document can be viewed / downloaded from official portal of e-procurement portal f MoRT&H (<https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/>) from 08-11-2021 (1800 Hrs. IST) to 23-12-2021 (upto 1100 Hrs IST). Bidder must submit its Technical bid & Financial Bid at (<https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/>), and also Technical Bid at (<https://bids.gov.in/>) on or before 24-12-2021 (upto 1100 Hrs IST). It is mandatory to submit the Technical Bids on (<https://bids.gov.in/>) also. Bids received online shall be opened on 24-12-2021 (at 1130 Hrs IST).

Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Bid Securing Declaration, document fee receipt deposited through Bharatkoshi / NTRP only, Power of Attorney and Joint Bidding Agreement etc. shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before 24-12-2021 (at 1100 Hrs IST). Please note that the Chief Engineer, NH, HPPWD, Shimla-2 reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the BIDs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Officer in-charge
For and on Behalf of Governor of HP
Chief Engineer,
National Highway, Nirman Bhawan
HPPWD, Shimla-171002
Phone/Fax 0177-2629416
e-mail: ce-nh-ppwd@nic.in

SD/-
Chief Engineer (NH)
HP.PWD. Shimla-2.

HP / 4732/21-22

IN BRIEF



Karnataka Chief Minister may meet PM today

BENGALURU
Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai who left for Delhi on Wednesday has sought a meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday. This trip comes amidst the Opposition heightening its attack on the BJP over the alleged multi-crore bitcoin scam.

Investigate Telangana projects: Revanth Reddy

HYDERABAD
Addressing the party leaders' training programme here on Wednesday, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president A. Revanth Reddy said, "corruption worth crores took place in the name of Kaleshwaram and Palamuru projects [by TRS party]. I am challenging Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy to order a CBI probe and I am ready to prove it."

Arrest of senior TDP leaders triggers tension in Kuppam

Leaders camping for civic poll campaign rounded up and shifted to Chittoor

STAFF REPORTER
CHITTOOR

There was high drama in Kuppam following the arrest of senior Telugu Desam Party leaders late on Tuesday, who were shifted to Chittoor. The Andhra Pradesh police said the TDP leaders were served notices under Section 41 (A) of the Cr.PC before being shifted to Chittoor with a condition that those who were not natives of the Kuppam municipality should not enter the area till the civic elections are over.

On the intervening night of Tuesday and Wednesday, a police contingent from the Palamaner and Kuppam subdivisions reached a private guest house in Kuppam, where TDP's Palakollu MLA N. Ramanaidu, former Minister N. Amarnatha Reddy, TDP Chittoor parliamentary constituency president Puli-



Taking stock: TDP MLA N. Ramanaidu addressing a press meet in Chittoor on Wednesday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

varthi Nani and other senior leaders were camping as part of organising the campaign for the Kuppam municipal polls, scheduled for November 15.

In Chittoor, TDP MLC B.N. Rajasimhulu was also confined to his house. The B.V. Reddy Colony in Chittoor was brought under heavy police cover as most of the

senior TDP leaders are residents of the area.

For about an hour, the TDP leaders bolted themselves from inside, objecting to the "excesses" of the police and their move to arrest them without any valid reason. Deputy Superintendent of Police (Law and Order) N. Sudhakar Reddy convinced the TDP leaders and shifted

them to Chittoor.

On Wednesday morning, tension gripped Kuppam with TDP cadres thronging the local party office, expecting the arrival of Mr. Amarnatha Reddy. Police rushed to the spot and controlled the frenzied mobs. Kuppam had witnessed tension after the YSRCP candidate was declared elected unanimously from the 14th ward, while the TDP's woman candidate alleged that her nomination was withdrawn by "forging" her signature.

Mr. Ramanaidu alleged that the police resorted to force to coerce the TDP cadres and to benefit the YSRCP cadres in the municipal polls. Terming it a "black day" in Kuppam's history, he said people were watching the atrocities of the ruling party and would teach a fitting lesson to it.

Come up with measures to eradicate manual scavenging: Madras HC

Judges call for a status report in 4 weeks

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Wednesday directed the State Government to come up with meaningful measures to completely eradicate the practice of manual scavenging by prescribing harsh penalty to perpetrators as a deterrent.

Chief Justice Sanjib Banerjee and Justice P.D. Audikesavalu called for a status report from the government in four weeks. They also impressed upon the need for a fresh enumeration of the people involved in manual scavenging in the State. The judges agreed with advocate Sri-nath Sridevan, representing Safai Karamchari Andolan, which had preferred a public interest litigation petition, on the need to increase substantially the compensation paid for deaths due to ma-

nual scavenging.

The counsel told the court that the compensation amount of ₹10 lakh for each death was fixed way back in 2014. Since the cost of living had increased manifold since then, the amount should be increased to ₹50 lakh, he said.

Though the petitioner had made a suggestion, the government had not indicated the extent to which it would increase the compensation, he said. The judges directed State Government Pleader P. Muthukumar to get instructions in this regard. The Bench also impressed upon the need for the State to educate those involved in manual scavenging and erase the impression from their minds that they cannot take up any other vocation. It said the State was duty bound to rehabilitate them.

HC upholds Centre's notification on OCI students

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has upheld the legality of the March 4, 2021 notification issued by the Union Government under the Citizenship Act, restricting admission of Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) students to professional courses only under the non-resident of India (NRI) quota.

However, the court allowed the petitioner-OCI students to stake claim to admission to engineering and other professional courses in Karnataka only for the academic year 2021-22 even under the general merit category under Government quota in the light of an interim order passed by the apex court. The Supreme Court had recently allowed OCI students to seek admission to medical and dental courses even under general merit category only for 2021-22.

Justice Krishna S. Dixit delivered the verdict while rejecting the challenge by Alekhya Ponnekanti and 123 OCI student-petitioners to the March 4, 2021 notification.

The petitioners had claimed that though they have foreign citizenship by virtue of their birth when their parents were working outside India for a temporary period, they should be treated on a par with Indian citizens for admission to professional courses as they have domicile in India.

Refusing to accept their argument, the court agreed with the Centre's contention that the condition was incorporated to protect the interest of domiciling natives (Indian citizens).

Voice test: court dismisses Kerala BJP president's plea

STAFF REPORTER
KALPETTA

The first class judicial magistrate court at Sulthan Bathery on Wednesday dismissed a petition filed by BJP Kerala president K. Surendran for conducting his voice test in a Central forensic laboratory instead of the State forensic laboratory in Thiruvananthapuram.

The case relates to the allegation that Mr. Surendran had bribed Janadhipathya Rashtriya Party leader C.K. Janu to field her as a National Democratic Alliance candidate in the last Assembly elections. Mr. Surendran said there were chances of



K. Surendran

fabrication if the test was conducted in the State.

Assistant public prosecutor Aneesh Joseph opposed the application stating that the State laboratory had adequate facilities.

Kerala formally revokes order to chop trees in Mullaperiyar

Chief Wildlife Warden, who issued the order, suspended

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala Government has cancelled the controversial order allowing Tamil Nadu to cut 15 trees and clear the undergrowth near the baby dam at Mullaperiyar to commence civic work to strengthen the ageing barrier.

The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) Opposition had alleged that the "dubious order" had served the interests of Tamil Nadu and imperilled that of Kerala in the interstate Mullaperi-

yar dam dispute. A buttressed baby dam would bolster Tamil Nadu's case in the Supreme Court to raise the water level at the 126-year-old Mullaperiyar barrier to a "dangerous" 152 feet.

'Seismically unstable'

It would also undermine Kerala's case for a new dam at "seismically unstable" Mullaperiyar, thus condemning nearly 40 lakh people living downstream to a perpetual state of worry and fear about the barrier's

health. The Congress also said the order issued by Chief Wildlife Warden Ben-nichen Thomas had undermined Kerala's position in the Supreme Court that Tamil Nadu required Central clearance to fell trees in the Periyar Tiger Reserve (PTR).

A top Government source told *The Hindu* that the Cabinet had suspended Mr. Thomas immediately pending an inquiry.

It has tasked Chief Secretary V.P. Joy to investigate the case.

Maharashtra transport staff strike intensifies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

The strike by Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation staff intensified on Wednesday with the Opposition BJP backing the protesters even as Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray appealed to the personnel to resume duty and provide relief to commuters.

Stating that this was not the time for parties to indulge in politics, Mr. Thackeray, in a veiled rebuke to the BJP, urged them not to incite transport workers. A statement issued by Mr. Thackeray's office said the Government had been trying its

best to give relief to MSRTC workers by accepting their demands.

"You are ours, not outsiders...the Government has already told the Bombay HC what steps it is taking to resolve the crisis and the court has expressed its satisfaction. We have also appointed a special committee to look into the matter as directed by the court," read the statement issued by the CMO.

Mr. Thackeray appealed to the transport personnel to withdraw their agitation.

Transport Minister Anil Parab said he had already given written assurances to the workers.

HC to hear Church cases on Nov. 16

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday observed that it would decide on the petitions filed by vicars of various parishes of the Malankara Church seeking police protection for performing services on merit on November 16, as its efforts to drill sense into the Orthodox and Jacobite factions and find a peaceful solution to the disputes did not succeed.

When the cases came up before Justice Devan Ramachandran, the Additional Advocate General submitted that there was no possibility of a reconciliation of the disputes. In fact, the heads of both the factions had been contacted and the Patriarch faction was not willing to concede.

Sabarimala bookings cross 12-lakh mark

HIRAN UNNIKRISHNAN
PATHANAMTHITTA

With less than a week left for the annual pilgrimage season at Sabarimala to kick off, the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) counts on a turnaround in its fortunes with a marked improvement in footfall at the holy hillock.

According to TDB officials, slots booked for darshan through the virtual queue system have crossed the 12-lakh mark. The number, though remains well below what the temple typically received during the pre-pandemic years, still stands in stark contrast to the footfall of less than one lakh last year. The income from Sabarimala, which used to be the TDB's mainstay, had fallen to ₹21 crore during the last pilgrimage season as against ₹270 crore



The income from Sabarimala had fallen to ₹21 crore in the last season.

in the previous year.

"The quota of daily bookings is set at 30,000 against the actual limit of 25,000 to account for the cancellation margin, and if a significant percentage of these bookings converts into actual turnouts, the board may be able to offset a portion of the economic ruin that it has suffered since last year," says TDB president N. Vasu.

Kerala CM backs Joju, terms protest against him fascist

In Assembly, Mukesh raises bid to disrupt film shooting

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A bid by some Kerala Youth Congress workers to disrupt a film shooting in protest against actor Joju George's fallout with Congress workers at a public protest against fuel hike in Kochi last week figured in the Assembly on Wednesday.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan termed the bid to browbeat artists and disrupt cinema production fascist, without naming the party.

CPI(M) legislator and actor M. Mukesh moved a submission, spotlighting Mr. George's "ordeal" after protesting against the roadblock. "Threatening calls beset Mr. George. His children are afraid to go to school,



Joju George

and his aged parents and family are worried," Mr. Mukesh said.

Some persons had derailed the shooting of a Prithiviraj and Sreenivasan movie. The Malayalam cinema industry was struggling to survive the COVID-19

downturn, and the flailing industry could ill endure such production stoppages, he said.

'Will not show mercy'

Mr. Vijayan said "Kerala is not a fertile ground for fascism and strong arm measures would not pass the muster in the State. The Government would show no mercy to entities which violate the right to freedom of speech and expression," Mr. Vijayan said.

"Nobody could arbitrate on what individuals should eat, wear or speak. Kerala swore by creative freedom and individual liberty. It will not allow anybody to take the law into their hands or bully dissenters," he said.

Officials told to take court cases seriously

Circular issued after Karnataka HC rap

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

In the light of Karnataka High Court taking serious exception to the absence of officials during proceedings even when their presence is mandatory, Chief Secretary P. Ravikumar has issued a circular instructing them to comply with court direction when their presence is sought or when they are summoned.

In the circular, Mr. Ravikumar instructed officials to give top priority to court cases. In the event of an official being unable to attend a hearing personally, the Government advocate should be informed in advance. Failure to attend a court hearing when summoned will be

viewed seriously, according to the circular.

In recent months, there have been several instances of the High Court pulling up officials for their absence or inability to comply with a court direction. On Tuesday, the High Court had orally observed that one or two officers of the State Government may have to be sent to jail for not complying with repeated orders to set an example to others about the consequences.

"We cannot tolerate non-compliance of court's directions by the officers every day. You [the officers] have started taking the court very lightly..." Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi had orally observed.

Kalaris back on track post-lockdown

More than 10,000 martial art units in Kerala had stopped functioning abruptly

E.M. MANOJ
KALPETTA

Kalari units that impart Kalaripayattu, an ancient martial art form, are getting back on track in Kerala after an interval of two-and-a-half years.

More than 10,000 Kalari units in the State had stopped functioning abruptly after the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country.

4,500 students

Most of the Kalari units in the State, except those in containment zones, started operating by the second week of November adhering to COVID-19 protocols, A.K. Ibrahim Gurukkal, vice-president, Kalaripayattu Federation of India (KFI), told *The Hindu*.

"Kalaripayattu is an ancient martial art that originated in the country as a part of military training for



Back on track: Students engaging in Kalaripayattu drills at the Wayanadan Kayikabhyasa Kalari Sanghom in Wayanad.

warriors. There are 400 Kalari units in the State under the KFI and close to 4,500 students learn the basics of the martial art form," said Mr. Gurukkal, who runs three Kalari units in Bengaluru, Koodathai in Kozhikode district, and here.

The KFI has also opened its chapters in Lakshadweep, Indonesia, Japan, Germany, France, and Dubai.

"Today, people learn it for varied reasons - self-defence, becoming self-aware and alert, losing weight and flexibility training," he said.

He has been an instructor of Vadakkan Kalaripayattu for the past 34 years. Close to 200 new learners have enrolled in his Kalari units in a week, he said.

"I have a lot of disciples in Italy, Russia, Ukraine, and South Africa. Every year, till the outbreak of the pandemic, they used to come here with new learners and spend a few weeks with me to learn new techniques," he said.

'Easy to learn'

Kalaripayattu has complex movements. But the Gurukkal maintains that it is one of the easiest martial art forms to learn. "All you need is determination," he says.

When the KFI organised a national event at Mysuru in 2019, as many as 800 participants from 22 States took part, he said.

Coringa set for fishing cat collaring project

The exercise involves study of its habitat, feeding habits, threats and movements

T. APPALA NAIDU
CORINGA

Conservation biologists of the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, will begin collaring 10 fishing cats (*Prionailurus viverrinus*) in the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary (CWS) in Andhra Pradesh next week. The country's first such project will be led by principal investigator Bilal Habib.

In Asia, a similar project had been done in Bangladesh. The project, planned in 2020, had to be postponed due to COVID-19.

The State Forest Department had already released ₹45 lakh of the ₹75 lakh total project cost being entirely funded by the Vedanta group.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change had also



First project: The census conducted in 2018 had recorded the existence of 115 fishing cats in the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary.

permitted the project.

"Our team of researchers will begin the fishing cat collaring project next week in the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary. The project begins with enumerating the fishing cat before selecting the animals for collaring," Dr. Habib told *The Hindu* over phone on Wednesday.

"The project involves the fishing cat estimate and collaring, and how it survives in the sanctuary," Dr. Habib said.

"The three-year project will also study its habitat, feeding habits, threats and movements," he added.

The 2018 census had recorded the existence of 115

fishing cats. A significant portion of the Coringa mangrove ecosystem had recently been disturbed because of the clandestine manufacturing of ID liquor in the Godavari estuary.

There is, however, no scientific study on the impact of the illegal activity on the wildlife in general and the fishing cat in particular.

The sanctuary spreads above 235.7 square km. In October, 177 square km area surrounding the sanctuary was declared as eco-sensitive zone.

"The collars are imported," said C. Selvam, Divisional Forest Officer (Wildlife), Rajahmundry.

The sanctuary is yet to be declared as a Ramsar site despite facing various threats to its ecology.



Investigate the deal

The role of middlemen in both the bid process and the Rafale sale agreement must be probed

More than a year following the arrival of the first batch of 36 Rafale fighter jets from France, the controversy over L'Affaire Rafale refuses to die down, notwithstanding the high quality of the planes and their fit to the requirements of the Indian Air Force, which has been desperate to augment its fighter squadrons. Mediapart, a French portal, has now published a set of alleged fake invoices, and claimed that Dassault Aviation paid middleman and defence contractor Sushen Gupta over €7 million in kickbacks between 2007-2012, when the Congress-led UPA was in power, and has claimed that the CBI had proof of this since October 2018. Earlier investigations, including by *The Hindu*, had revealed procedural violations, raised questions over the high price of the fighters, the choice of offset partners, the removal of anti-corruption clauses, waiving the requirement of a bank guarantee among other issues related to the India-France Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) signed in 2016. Mediapart's articles point to the dubious role of middlemen both in the proposal to buy 126 aircraft that was withdrawn, and later in the IGA for flyaway aircraft in 2016. In April 2021, Mediapart had detailed that the French anti-corruption agency had found that Dassault had accounted for payment of over a million Euros to a company run by Mr. Gupta for the manufacture of 50 models of the Rafale – the company does not specialise in making models – besides paying several million Euros in secret commissions to offshore accounts and shell companies. It had also alleged that he had supplied classified documents related to the IGA to Dassault Aviation even as talks between Dassault and the Indian negotiating team were deadlocked over the key issue of benchmark pricing.

In its price-redacted audit report on the Rafale deal, the CAG report, tabled in Parliament in February 2019, while examining the earlier bid process between 2007-12, had pointed out procedural violations in defence procurement – Dassault's technical bid was rejected and later it was allowed to incorporate India-specific enhancements to meet bid-compliant qualitative requirements. The report also unequivocally stated that the defence acquisition process needed reforms and streamlining – points that are buttressed by the new revelations that shed light on the role of defence middlemen in mucking up the procurement process to favour a particular vendor. At the very least, investigative agencies such as the CBI and the ED must probe Mr. Gupta's role in the bid process and the IGA. The Government cannot just wish away the questions that are repeatedly emerging about the Rafale deal and must open an investigation into the procurement process. After all, defence preparedness and national security interests dictate that operational readiness goes hand-in-hand with procedural propriety in defence procurement.

Death by hospital fire

While catering to demand during COVID-19, hospitals must ensure operational fitness

There is no greater betrayal than when what people believe to be safe havens turn into killing fields. The large number of hospital fires being reported in the last couple of years in the country, taking victims at their most vulnerable, could well be a case of criminal negligence and apathy. At least four infants are reported to have died in Monday's fire in the special newborn care unit of Kamla Nehru Children's Hospital in Bhopal. Early November, 11 patients died in a fire that broke out at the COVID-19 ward in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra. In March this year, 10 people were killed in a fire that broke out in Sunrise Hospital, Mumbai. These are only the latest in a series of hospital fires that have, as per some estimates, led to the deaths of over 120 people, most of them COVID-19 patients. Several minor and major fires have been started in hospitals, the former causing damage to property and anxiety for patients, and the latter proved to be deadly for patients but also for some hospital staff. In most of these cases, hospital staff also had to see to the immediate shifting of patients to other safer units.

The link that has been made out between rising hospital fires and the burden of COVID-19 cases is not artificial. Hospital administrators and forensic analyses have laid the cause for the historically high number of cases that hospitals have had to deal with. With the number of cases rising in the first and second waves of the pandemic, demand far exceeded capacity. Hospitals tried to expand their facilities to accommodate as many patients as possible, while there was scarcely any time for infrastructure expansion. While beds and mattresses could be marshalled at short notice, and oxygen cylinders, sometimes, with Herculean effort, hospitals could not add extra power lines, or distribute the load with additional transformers or power units. Ventilators were also pushed into use 24 by 7, certainly not the norm before COVID-19, and with high power requirement for this, it naturally pressed existing infrastructure into overdrive. Single air conditioner units were also operating full time. These resulted in electrical short circuits, and possibly aided by the presence of flammable substances – alcohol-based sanitisers, high oxygen and PPE kits – sparks grew into full-scale fires. It is essential for hospitals that pulled more than their share of the weight during COVID-19 to not only do fire safety audits but also electrical audits, to ensure operational fitness, and specifically to ensure there are no fires. States may mandate it, or incentivise such a procedure in order to draw it up the priority list of smaller and medium-sized hospitals. Hospitals, after all, must remain healing zones, and to ensure that fire accidents are avoided, must be a non-negotiable requirement.

The case of demonetisation in India

Five years on, the trajectory of the policy demonstrates that popular narratives can trump economic facts



KAUSHIK JAYARAM

Popular narratives play a much bigger role in economic policymaking than economists and policymakers acknowledge. If, indeed, these narratives are grounded more in myth than reality, the impact of such policy can be devastating. The demonetisation of high-value currency in India in 2016 is a classic case of policy based on faulty narratives. Paradoxically, the failure of the policy does not appear to dent the narrative and, consequently, there is very little price to pay for its failure.

Across time, the impact

Narratives are often intertwined in the cultural belief systems of the society. Thus, the Great Depression of the 1930s came to be associated with the excesses of the "roaring twenties", though many economic factors were responsible. The Weimar hyperinflation of 1921-24 is so deeply embedded in the German consciousness, that even now, nearly 100 years after the event, German society treasures financial stability and distrusts public debt. Fiscal conservatism remains the dominant narrative and has inhibited the post-2008 recovery in Europe. Though the recent novel coronavirus pandemic crisis has led to Keynesian remedies on steroids in many countries, there is already a murmuring of fiscal imprudence fuelling inflation.

Indeed, narratives in economics, as in other social sciences, create myths which endure despite rational appeal to facts. The

demonetisation story in India is also based on popular myth, the folklore of black money and its association with physical cash. The idea of demonetising large denomination currency as a tool to flush out undeclared hoards of cash was not new. It was done on two previous occasions, in 1946 and 1978, with poor results. But, unlike the limited impact of the previous events, the demonetisation in 2016 caused widespread disruption in the economy, whose costs are still to be properly reckoned.

Five years later, most observers have concluded that this policy was a failure. Very little of its declared objectives – of eliminating black money, corruption, moving towards a "less cash and more digital economy", or increased tax compliance – were achieved. Expectations of windfall gains of some ₹2 trillion-3 trillion failed to materialise as more than 99.3% of the cancelled notes returned to the banks. If black money had existed as stockpiles of illegal cash, clearly all of it was very efficiently laundered. If the objective was to register a permanent upward shift in the tax base, it failed miserably. Perhaps the most telling evidence of the failure is that the cash-in-circulation has now exceeded pre-demonetisation levels.

Touching a chord

And, post-COVID-19, reliance on cash is much higher, and with more higher denomination notes in circulation. By every measure, demonetisation as economic policy was a gross failure. But, as a narrative, it was presented and received in an altogether different light. Despite its manifest failure, the power of the narrative was such that it succeeded in creating a favourable or positive view of the policy.

The folklore of black money and the vivid imagery that accom-



V. RAJU

panies it is easily recognised and understood by the common people, who witness corruption in daily life and see it play out in the cinema, newspaper stories or in daily conversation over the years. The very term, black money, is a loaded phrase, where the specie itself acquires a symbolic and a substantive form. The wealth, representing ill-gotten gains, is perceived to be accumulated invariably in stacks of currency notes and gold, hoarded in safes, boxes, or ingeniously concealed cupboards.

The idea of dramatic action and the striking of a powerful blow against this wealth is deeply satisfying psychologically. It is the stuff of epics. The spectre of black money has been invoked frequently in Indian politics, sometimes truthfully and more often cynically. The narrative of black money is almost always couched in deeply moral terms.

It does not matter, as repeatedly emphasised in several economic studies, there is nothing to distinguish black or white money, except in the way it comes into being. Although income from corruption or criminal activities is by definition black money, most black money is earned through perfectly legal activities though not declared to the tax authorities. More importantly, black money is not really kept in cash except in small quantities but mostly accumulated through real estate and oth-

er assets. However, the way the narrative was framed made it hard for critics to explain their opposition. To denounce it outright would suggest that they have a vested interest in defending black money and corruption.

When it became clear that the cancelled currency was being returned to the banks in larger numbers than expected, the narrative changed focus from black money and fake currency to digital/cashless payments, the latter being elevated to some higher purpose than what it actually is, a mere technological change.

Linked sub-themes

A key point in selling the story was to introduce complementary sub-themes to reinforce the main narrative and, at times, to obscure the facts on the ground. Virtue signalling was key: appeals to nationalism and patriotism are always handy, while modernity and change are implied as means to progress towards some form of technological utopia.

The call to sacrifice has deep resonance in India, as elsewhere. The act (of demonetisation) was an act of collective sacrifice. The people in long queues were reminded of the sacrifices of the soldiers guarding the nation's borders and not to think of their own suffering. Indeed, there was satisfaction in being told that the rich had it worse. In reality, the sacrifice called for was somewhat skewed in its impact, and the suffering of the poor was disproportionately greater.

The real irony lies in the fact that the moral high ground claimed by the demonetisation narrative worked better than contesting narratives of observed reality. It worked because it understood the nature of the moral economy of the poor. For the poor, long used to being at the re-

ceiving end of the state and its representatives, the impact of demonetisation would be one more blow in a series of blows with which they had to perforce deal. At least in this instance, there would seem to be a measure of justice if the rich really did suffer more.

Despite the overwhelming evidence to the contrary, five years after the event, the Government does not acknowledge any failure, or have even a smidgeon of doubt. Noticeably, however, there have been no tall claims of success either.

A self-inflicted shock

Most of the studies, opinion polls, media reports and anecdotal evidence showed an overwhelming support for the policy. Despite personal hardship, long queues, and the loss of income and savings, there was a degree of ambiguity in criticising the decision. Most tended to distinguish the intention from the reality. That the policy was good but perhaps not implemented well seemed to be the main theme. This effectively insulated the original sin – that the very design of the policy ensured its outcome.

The case of demonetisation demonstrates that popular narratives can trump economic facts.

It is clear that where narratives succeed there is very little political cost. A failed policy that carries no cost is likely to generate more such policies. Unlike most economic shocks, which could be traced to endogenous or exogenous causes, demonetisation was an entirely self-inflicted shock, which was very likely carried out as much in a sincere belief in the narrative as in cynical political calculation.

Kaushik Jayaram is a former central banker who worked for many years in an international financial organisation

The red truth of China's 'Common Prosperity Discourse'

Rather than making a radical break and realigning social relations, it seems intended to sustain the existing system



ANAND P. KRISHNAN

From a regulatory crackdown on tech unicorns to clampdown on private tutoring, from exhorting the rich to redistribute wealth to fintech companies forming unions for their workforce, a series of verbal assertions and administrative measures have been upending people's lives in China over the last few months. The common thread binding these disparate actions together is the term, Common Prosperity (*gong-tong fuyu*).

From start to present

Common Prosperity is not an entirely new term, having figured in all political reports at different congresses of the Communist Party of China (CPC) since 1992. However, it has acquired momentum under China's President Xi Jinping as a special campaign. He unveiled its action plan in his speech at the 10th meeting of China's Central Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs in August this year; its text was published in the CPC's theoretical journal, *Qiyishi*, in October. Like with Mr. Xi's various signature political concepts, the theoretical design for this 'New Deal' – as has been characterised in some quarters – is believed to have been provided by Wang Huning, member of the Politburo Standing Committee of the CPC.

The top-down campaign is aimed at engineering a "profound

transformation" of the country, in achieving prosperity for all people in their material and spiritual (and moral) lives. It seeks to tame the excesses generated by the over four decade-long Reform and Opening Up (*gaige kaifang*). Despite achieving industrial transformation and technological growth, widening inequality (income, wealth, and region-based) and unbalanced, or inadequate development are characterised as negative by-products that need fixing. China's Gini coefficient as per available figures, have remained between 0.46 and 0.49 for the last two decades. Being abreast of happenings around the world, the Party-state is anxious about social disintegration and political polarisation, which would end up destabilising its authoritarian rule and question its legitimacy.

Roots in CPC congress

The building blocks for this campaign lie in Mr. Xi's political report at the 19th Congress of the CPC in 2017, where he identified the change in the principal contradiction in Chinese society from earlier years – between unbalanced and inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better life. In fact, several aspects mentioned in the speech on Common Prosperity also figure in that political report – rather, Mr. Xi has chosen to give some extra push to a few of them to hasten results (such as a proposed law on property tax to regulate the highly speculative real estate sector; the first step in that direction is the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China authorising the State Council to initiate



FILE PHOTO/GETTY IMAGES

pilot experiments for five years before national implementation). This drive desires to tighten the Party-state's control over monopolies, regulate the private sector, expand the size of the middle class, and check wealth accumulation. There is an emphasis on equalising access to basic social services but going by past experiences, its effectiveness remains uncertain.

Redistribution and labour

Parsing through the speech, it is notable that the commitment to State-led capitalism is intact, and the pursuit of larger economic goals also remains steadfast. There is little to no criticism of the phenomenon of conspicuous consumption. Mr. Xi continues to encourage people getting rich albeit in a more controlled manner as dictated by the Party-state. Though he wishes to divide the cake well, he is silent on simultaneously increasing its size. He specifies that the action plan should not be equated with egalitarianism, and that excessive guarantees be not provided even if China reaches a higher level of development and acquires stronger financial resources in the future. In doing so, he has signalled that the government would continue its non-intervention in substantive welfare redistribution. In high-

lighting the need to avoid welfareism, which he views as a trap for nurturing lazy people, Mr. Xi's positioning is in sync with the neoliberal logic that views redistribution as anathema to economic growth.

Laying emphasis on the requirement of high-quality workers for high-quality development, Mr. Xi's prioritisation of the development and upgradation of human capital for productivity is indicative of the Party-state's calculated relationship with labour that is rooted purely in the extraction of value. In fact, this is also an extension from his political report at the 19th Congress of the CPC: 'build an educated, skilled, and innovative workforce, foster respect for model workers, promote quality workmanship, and see that taking pride in labour becomes a social norm and seeking excellence is valued as a good work ethic'. Putting the onus on the workers for self-improvement, these formulations are reminiscent of the vocabulary used in the corporate human resources management ecosystem. In imparting such a vision, the Party-state elides its responsibility for workers-centric reforms at a systemic-level.

On the margins still

Once again, the long-pending reform of the household registration system (*hukou*) – to integrate rural migrant blue-collar workers into cities and giving them access to urban services – may very well continue to remain unfulfilled given the strong pushback from city officials. Despite being the backbone of China's economic metamorphosis, the rural migrant labour (*nong-mingong*) will continue to negotiate their second class, lonely

existence in unfamiliar cities and workplaces, in the process, confronting mental challenges that accompany their physical dislocations from home. Further, his criticism of 'involution' and 'lying flat' – recent popular phenomenon, of rejecting the hypercompetitive culture of overwork by tech workers and urban youth – reveals the discouragement of and intolerance against the online resistance of white-collar workers against the gruelling '996' work schedules (9 a.m. to 9 p.m., six days a week).

In a nutshell

That the success of the Chinese economic development model is built on labour repression is a grim reality. The top-down authoritarian system offers concessions from time to time to mitigate unrest but severely cracks down on any bottom-up workers' self-organising (even the recent guidelines allowing unions among gig workers, it is the tech companies who are forming them rather than through any initiatives of workers). Mr. Xi has identified Common Prosperity to be a long, arduous, and complex process. However, from the perspective of redistribution and labour – as evidenced by the increasing precariousness of workers and their continued political disfranchisement – this (Red) "New Deal" looks more rhetorical than being substantive. Rather than making any radical break and realigning social relations, it appears to be intended to strengthen and sustain the existing system.

Anand P. Krishnan is Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

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

Rafale ghost is back

With the new revelations made by the French investigative portal, Mediapart, of kickbacks in the Rafale deal, one only wishes that the Supreme Court of India which had earlier given a clean chit to the deal reopens the case and orders a thorough investigation. This is very much required in view of the huge amount of tax payers' money involved and, more importantly, national security and the interests of the defence forces.

THARCIUS S. FERNANDO,
Chennai

■ There is clearly a lack of transparency in defence deals, and in India, various investigative agencies are puppets in the hands of governments. While the Congress ought to have cancelled the deal in full, the BJP has not cleared doubts raised by the Opposition about the cost structure of the deal which only escalated. The Government has also not made it clear how the choice of certain private entities was made in connection with the various offset deals. It remains to be seen what action can be taken against the French company and high profile

businessmen alleged to have been a part of the chain of kickbacks.

JANGA BAHADUR SUNUWAR,
Bagraokote, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal

Jai Bhim's message

The movie, *Jai Bhim*, has rightly attracted a lot of appreciation. A movie is one which moves people and *Jai Bhim* falls within that exception. It is not a commercial venture. Second, it carries a strong message about the conditions of the deprived sections of society and the atrocities perpetrated on them by those in power. More than anything else, it

conforms to the real story of a socially committed lawyer, a stellar judge and an upright police officer who combined to take the case to its logical conclusion. Conforming to this story, the director and the actors have all played remarkable roles close to reality. The movie presents the positive role played by the lawyer, judge and the police officer but the ground reality is oftentimes different. Unless people draw inspiration from the movie in that spirit, it would just remain entertainment which it ought not to be. But beyond all this, one should not fail to see that

democratic organisations and progressive-minded political parties had made an indelible impression enabling the lawyer to conduct the case with deep social commitment. It is such grassroots-level organisations that have to be fostered and strengthened. Therein lies the success of a society.

N.G.R. PRASAD,
Chennai

On the ground

Finding rhyme frequently, without ryme or reason, and hurling barbs are a part and parcel of politics, especially in Tamil Nadu. The newest round now is

over the management of flooding in Tamil Nadu and Chennai city and the "measures that the AIADMK and the DMK have undertaken". Going by reports and visuals, it appears that the ruling party in Tamil Nadu is trying to alleviate the suffering of the downtrodden. The Chief Minister has been seen almost everywhere. However, for the long term, there needs to be a world-class storm water drainage system in place.

MANI NATARAJAN,
Chennai

Does India have a right to burn fossil fuels?

Chalking out a greener path to development will help India rather than arguing for more coal production



ROHIT AZAD & SHOUVIK CHAKRABORTY

There has been quite a lot of debate on India's dependence on coal against the backdrop of the Conference of the Parties (COP26) meeting. While the coal lobbyists may have obvious interests in continuing that dependence, it comes as a surprise when the progressive circles also provide theories to justify this. Despite the Environment Minister adopting a similar position on the eve of the COP26, the Government of India has, for the first time, made a commitment to achieve the net zero target by 2070. It remains to be seen whether the government will indeed walk the talk since the experience on this count (or other issues) does not necessarily inspire that confidence.

The crux of the theoretical argument is that India needs to develop, and development requires energy. However, since India has neither historically emitted nor currently emits carbon anywhere close to what the global North has, or does, in per capita terms, it has no reason to commit to declining dependence on coal, at least in the near future. If anything, the argument goes, it should ask for a higher and fairer share in the global carbon budget. There is no doubt that this carbon budget framework is an excellent tool to understand global injustice but to move from there to our 'right to burn' is a big leap. It is like arguing that since India was colonised, it has a right to do the same and stopping the country from doing that is injustice.

For development, do the countries in the global South necessarily need to increase their share in the global carbon budget? Thankfully the answer is 'no' and it does not come at the cost of development, even in the limited sense as development is defined generally.

The question of development
One, there is no doubt that economic development requires energy but that does not translate into energy by burning coal. If there are other clean



A couple fills sacks with coal at the edge of the Jharia coalfield in Dhanbad, Jharkhand. *AP

er forms of energy available, why persist on the usage of coal? Normally the argument in favour of coal is on account of its cost, reliability and domestic availability. Recent data show that the levelised cost of electricity from renewable energy sources like solar (photovoltaic), hydro and onshore wind has been declining sharply over the last decade and is already less than fossil fuel-based electricity generation. On reliability, frontier renewable energy technologies have managed to address the question of variability of such sources to a large extent and, with technological progress, it seems to be changing for the better. As for the easy domestic availability of coal, it is a myth. According to the Ministry of Coal, India's net coal import went up from ₹782.6 billion in 2011-12 to ₹1,155.0 billion in 2020-21. India is among the largest importers of coal in the world, whereas it has no dearth of solar energy.

Two, why should the global South be aping the North in the development model it wants to follow? During the debates of post-colonial development in the Third World, there were two significant issues under discussion — control over technology

and choice of techniques to address the issue of surplus labour. India didn't quite resolve the two issues in its attempts of import-substituting industrialisation which worsened during the post-reform period. But it can address both today. The abundance of renewable natural resources in the tropical climate can give India a head start in this competitive world of technology. South-South collaborations can help India avoid the usual patterns of trade between the North and the South, where the former controls technology and the latter merely provides inputs. And the high-employment trajectory that the green path entails vis-à-vis the fossil fuel sector may help address the issue of surplus labour, even if partially. Such a path could additionally provide decentralised access to clean energy to the poor and the marginalised, including in remote regions of India. So, it simultaneously addresses the issues of employment, technology, energy poverty and self-reliance.

Types of injustice
Three, the framework of addressing global injustice in terms of a carbon budget is quite limiting in its scope in

more ways than one. Such an injustice is not at the level of the nation-states alone; there is such injustice between the rich and the poor within nations and between humans and non-human species. A progressive position on justice would take these injustices into account instead of narrowly focusing on the framework of nation-states. Moreover, it's a double whammy of injustice for the global South when it comes to climate change. Not only is it not primarily responsible, but the global South, especially its poor, will unduly bear the effect of climate change because of its tropical climate and high population density along the coastal lines. So, arguing for more coal is like shooting oneself in the foot. It is true that mitigation from the South alone will not make the difference required to stop this catastrophe but burning more coal will not necessarily solve the problem either.

But none of this answers how the wrongs of the past will be righted, the basic premise we started with. We have argued in this very newspaper that one of the ways in which this can be done is by making the global North pay for the energy transition in the South. Chalking out an independent, greener path to development may create conditions for such negotiations and give the South the moral high ground to force the North to come to the table, like South Africa did at Glasgow. The current lack of action against climate change both in the North and South has been maintained by dividing the working classes of these two regions — the North justifying operating coal mines since the South continues to emit more and the South negotiating for a higher share in carbon budget based on the past emissions of the North. This is a deadlock. The need of the hour is a global progressive agenda that does not pit the working class of the North against the South but the working people of the world as a whole resisting the global ruling elite in its aggressive and dangerous model of competitive emissions. Even if one is pessimistic about this path of righting the wrongs of the past, at the very least, it is better than the status quo.

Rohit Azad teaches economics at JNU, New Delhi, and Shouvik Chakraborty is a research fellow at the Political Economy Research Institute, Amherst, U.S.

A slogan no longer sectarian

'Jai Bhim' is inspiring various marginalised communities and not just Dalits to bring about transformative change



HARISH S. WANKHEDE

Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar is often seen only as a Dalit icon. And 'Jai Bhim', a slogan coined by Babu Haldas, a firebrand Ambedkarite working class leader from Nagpur, is usually considered as a sectarian greeting. However, this salutation, which displays the reverence that the deprived sections have for Ambedkar's contribution to their emancipation, is emerging as a political slogan. It connects and inspires diverse marginalised communities towards social and political action.

Towards Ambedkar's vision
Actor Suriya's film, *Jai Bhim*, reasserts the validity of this slogan and extends its application to other subaltern groups. Based on a real-life incident, the film demonstrates the everyday crises in the lives of the poor and illiterate Irulars of Tamil Nadu. We see that the police illegally arrest Rajakannu (K. Manikandan) and his relatives on a false complaint of theft. His pregnant wife Sengenni (Lijomol Jose) watches helplessly as the police torture him. She finds a Left activist-lawyer Chandru (Suriya) who fights and wins her case in the Madras High Court (the character is inspired by Justice Chandru who fought the case). Her victory restores the faith of vulnerable communities in the law.

Ambedkar had envisaged that independent India would safeguard the fundamental rights of the marginalised people. He cautioned that democracy would collapse if institutions failed to do so. Ambedkar disagreed with the Marxists for undermining liberal democratic principles and criticised the Socialists for neglecting the political claims of the 'lower' castes and the so-called 'untouchables'. He assumed that India's modern institutions would be accommodated by the deprived sections and protect their social and political interests.

Till the recent past, the Left leadership kept a subtle distance from Ambedkar's political ideas. They viewed the socio-cultural symbols of the Dalits as disturbing working-class unity. However, it is within the space of local Left activism, especially in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, that engagement with the Dalit question began. The Left in these States acknowledged the contribution of anti-caste leaders like Jyotiba Phule, Periyar and Ambedkar in building social consciousness among the deprived com-

munities and often tried to build social and class alliances to contest the incidents of social injustices. Suriya's character represents this social comradeship between Left activists and the Ambedkarite political agenda.

On Chandru's wall, we see a mural of Karl Marx. In other scenes, various symbols of the communists (such as red shawls and flags, a small statue of Lenin) are shown to suggest the hero's close affiliation with Marxism. However, the film does not address the issue of class and social injustice through populist Left rhetoric such as workers' strikes and mass mobilisation. It resists anti-establishment preaching. While the film critically demonstrates that state institutions such as the police and the judiciary have failed to safeguard the rights of the Irulars, it avoids populist mainstream solutions to tell the remaining story. In the end, we see the court reprimanding and punishing the conservative social elites and the police for assaulting and exploiting a vulnerable tribal people.

Chandru does not have a 'saviour complex'. Instead, he emerges as an Ambedkarite hero who struggles to protect the life and dignity of the tribal people by adopting democratic and legal apparatuses. Further, the film presents the victim Sengenni not as a powerless and wretched spectator but as a dignified claimant of equal rights and justice. It equally focuses on her brave struggle against the powerful establishment and promotes her as a parallel protagonist of the story.

Beyond ghettos
Though Ambedkar's name is cursorily mentioned in the narrative, it is Chandru's commitment and Sangenni's zeal to achieve justice that brings them close to Ambedkar's vision of social justice. Thus, the title of the film assumes meaning. It inspires diverse marginalised groups to also stake claims in modern institutional mechanisms that have been governed so far by caste elites.

With the expansive rise of the right-wing today, the fairness and legitimacy of state institutions are being compromised. The judiciary and the police are often obliged to follow the dictates of their political masters and serve the interests of the social elites. Also, Left-Socialist organisations, except in select regions, have failed to inspire the poor, vulnerable and depressed classes in achieving political and economic transformation. In such a context, the slogan 'Jai Bhim' is moving beyond caste/regional ghettos and mobilising marginalised communities, the youth and intellectuals to bring about transformative change in social and class relationships.

Harish S. Wankhede is an assistant professor at the Centre for Political Studies, JNU, New Delhi

STATE OF PLAY

Triumph of the turncoat

Eatala Rajender's win has caused embarrassment to the TRS and given a boost to the BJP

RAVI REDDY

Six months ago, in the election to the Nandigram Assembly constituency, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee was defeated by Suwendu Adhikari, who was once her close aide. A similar scene played out in Telangana recently. Eatala Rajender, a close confidante of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, fell out with the party leadership and resigned from his MLA post in June this year. Earlier this month, he won against the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS)'s Gellu Srinivas Yadav in the bypoll to the Huzurabad seat by a majority of 23,855 votes. This came as a surprise given the highly charged atmosphere in which the election was held amid allegations of distribution of money.

TRS working president K.T. Rama Rao had asserted earlier that the result would be in favour of the party. Given this confidence, the result is a bitter pill for the TRS leadership. The bypoll to Huzurabad was the fourth bypoll in the State in the last three years. The results have been a mixed bag for the TRS. It won the Huzurnagar and Nagarjunasagar bypolls but lost to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Dubbak and Huzurabad.

Switching camps

A series of events beginning May this year, around the time when the West Bengal election results were announced, saw Mr. Rajender being pushed to a corner. Mr. Rajender, a six-time MLA and Minister, was stripped of his health portfolio hours after a few beneficiaries of assigned lands in the Medak district complained to the Chief Minister that their lands were being encroached upon by the Minister for expansion of a poultry farm owned by his family. Two cases were filed on charges of encroachment against him and a committee of senior IAS officers was appointed to probe the allegations.

All the while, Mr. Rajender claimed that he was being framed by the TRS leadership and vowed to take on his detractors. After a brief silence, he joined the BJP. He launched 'Prajadeevana (People's blessing)', a padayatra, in Huzurabad constituency and reached out to the electorate. The TRS government, meanwhile, began showering largesse worth hundreds of crores on the constituents and launched the much-hyped 'Dalit Bandhu', a scheme to empower Dalits in micro and small enterprises on a pilot basis in the constituency. This did not help the party.

Elbow space in the BJP

A soft-spoken Backward Classes leader with a good following in the constituency, Mr. Rajender's latest victory is bound to give him some elbow space in the BJP. While the bypoll turned out to be a contest between the TRS and Mr. Rajender, the result is bound to give a boost to the BJP which was an insignificant player in the constituency till now. A senior BJP functionary says that Mr. Rajender will carve out a place for himself in the saffron party ahead of 2023 as a strong contender for the Chief Minister's post along with State BJP chief Bandi Sanjay and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy. Though the election has no bearing on 2023, it has given the BJP something to boast about.

TRS leaders are trying to play down the results with Mr. K.T. Rama Rao claiming that the outcome will not have any significant impact on the State's political scenario. But Mr. Rajender's win is likely to halt defections to the ruling TRS from other parties at least for a brief while. It is also likely to embolden the disgruntled elements within to weigh their options.

Meanwhile, the Congress yet again has to find answers to its dismal performance, an addition to the series of poor results it has seen in the bypolls it has fought since 2019.

ravi.reddy@thehindu.co.in

DATA POINT

Europe is back as COVID-19 epicentre

The World Health Organization has expressed grave concern over the recent rise of COVID-19 infections in Europe. In the last four weeks, Europe has seen a 55% rise in COVID-19 cases and is currently the only region where cases are rising. The surge is primarily driven by Russia, the U.K., Germany and Ukraine. However, in the last 20 days, cases have shot up in other European countries as well. This surge in infections can be attributed to the prevalence of the Delta variant. The variant was found in more than 70% of the sequenced samples in Ukraine, Austria and Russia. Google mobility trends suggest that visits to transit stations in some European countries reached pre-pandemic levels this year before the recent rise in cases brought them down.

By The Hindu Data Team

2. INSIDE EUROPE

The chart depicts the case curves of select European countries which are recording a significant number of cases. Russia, the U.K., Germany, and Ukraine are the primary drivers of the surge

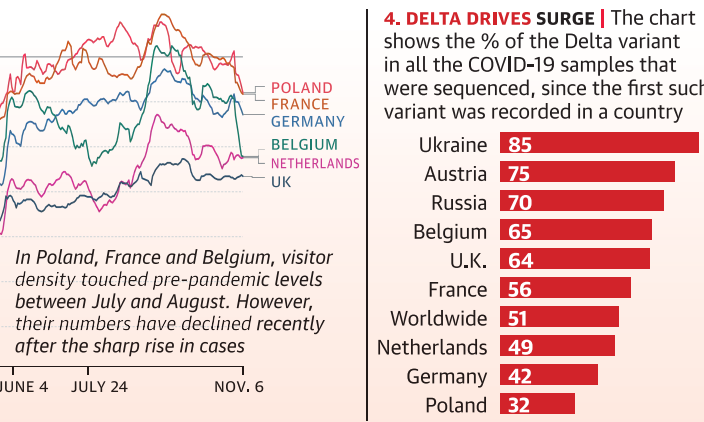
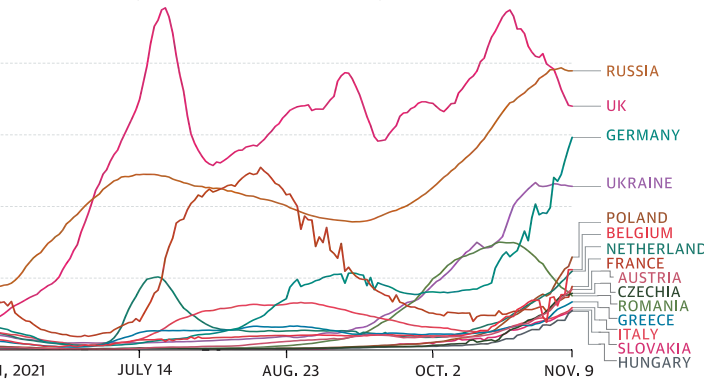
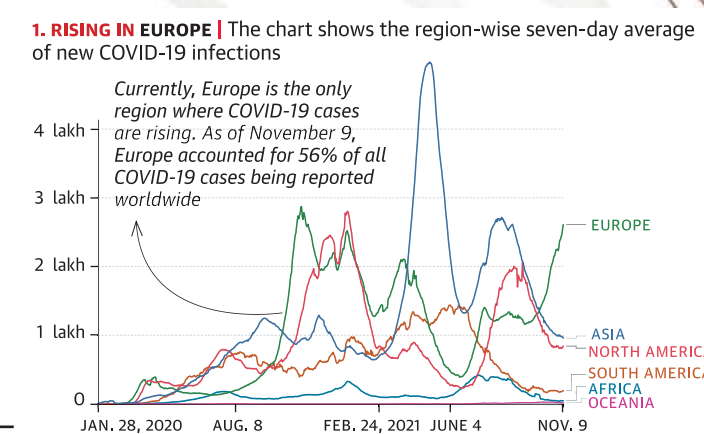
However, in the last 20 days, Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Austria have also contributed significantly to the rise. In the past two weeks, daily COVID-19 cases have risen in 36 of 46 European countries

3. MOBILITY TRENDS

The chart shows visitor trends to transit stations in select European countries which reported a case surge. While there was an increase in visitors from the beginning of 2021, the numbers increased significantly post April

In Poland, France and Belgium, visitor density touched pre-pandemic levels between July and August. However, their numbers have declined recently after the sharp rise in cases

SOURCE: OUR WORLD IN DATA, OUTBREAK.INFO



The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 11, 1971

Palace as hotel opposed

Mr. Tiwari, Leader of the ruling Party in the City Corporation, assured the House to-day [Bangalore, November 10] that the civic body would not grant license for converting the Bangalore Palace, property of the Maharaja of Mysore, into a luxury hotel and shopping complex, as was being proposed. Moves were afoot to acquire the palace and the land surrounding it by the Corporation for converting them into a garden. Replying to a question by Mr. Vatal Nagaraj, leader of the Kannada Chaluvaligars, Mr. Tiwari said that the Finance Committee had urged the Commissioner to acquire the property and prepare an estimate for turning it into a garden. (A project for converting the palace into a 56-roomed luxury hotel and plans to build a swimming pool and a shopping centre in the sprawling lawns were announced recently.) Mr. Vatal Nagaraj urged the Corporation to acquire the palace and the land belonging to it and preserve it as a historical monument which it was.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOV. 11, 1921

Frequent transfers.

It has often been reported that frequent transfers of Professors and Assistant Professors causes dislocation of work in any College and the charge is substantiated by the Chief Lecturer in Physics of the Arts College, Rajahmundry who states "During the two years of its course this class (Physics class) was handled by four or five lecturers in succession and the continuity of the effect of instruction was broken and this, I believe, is chiefly the cause for such a low percentage of success." Though the Principal, in the report on the working of the College for 1920-21 is not prepared to admit that constant dislocation of work was the chief cause, yet he states that it is fairly obvious that it was one of the causes accounting for the failures in Physics. In the interests of students frequent transfers of Professors and Assistant Professors ought to be deprecated and in the interests of Professors and Assistant Professors themselves at least two years time should be allowed to judge fairly the effect of their instruction in any one institution. With regard to accommodation and equipment the report states that the question of moving the College to a site near the jail has been settled and the Government have approved the proposal to acquire certain lands for the construction of the Arts and Training Colleges at an approximate of Rs. 35, 381.

Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on Nov. 15

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

As a part of the year-long commemoration of 75 years of Independence, the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved declaration of November 15 as "Janjatiya Gaurav Divas" to remember the contributions of tribal freedom fighters.

Announcing the decision, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the date was chosen as it was the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, a tribal freedom fighter revered as "bhagwan" by tribal communities. The celebrations would begin on November 15, and events, including cultural activities, would go on till November 22.

In a statement, the government said the Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the proposal "so that coming generations could know about their sacrifices for the country."

Tribal heroes

"India's freedom struggle was strengthened by several movements by tribal communities such as Santhals, Tamars, Kols, Bihls, Khasis and Mizos, to name a few. The revolutionary movements and struggles organised by the tribal communities were marked by their immense courage and supreme sacrifice," the statement read.

Museum in Ranchi

A tribal freedom fighter museum at Ranchi would be inaugurated by the Prime Minister, it said.

In his Independence Day speech in 2016, Mr. Modi announced the setting up of 10 such tribal museums in the country.

Mr. Modi is scheduled to address a BJP tribal outreach event in Bhopal on November 15, which will mark Birsa Munda's birth anniversary, celebrate tribal art and culture and is likely to include announcements of welfare measures for tribal communities, according to BJP leaders.

Centre approves incentives for sugar cane, cotton, jute farmers

Rates for ethanol from sugar cane hiked; price support for cotton growers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

In the run-up to the first anniversary of protests against three farm reform laws, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved a slew of measures that will support farmers growing sugar cane, cotton and jute.

At a meeting on Wednesday, the CCEA increased the price of ethanol extracted from sugar cane juice for blending in petrol to ₹63.45 a litre in the coming sugar marketing season starting December. This is an 80 paise hike from the previous year's. The rate for ethanol extracted from C-heavy molasses has been increased by 97 paise a litre, while that of ethanol extracted from B-heavy molasses is up ₹1.47 as well.

Ethanol blending with petrol is expected to reach 10% next year and 20% by 2025. Oil marketing companies buy ethanol from sugar mills and distilleries at the rate set by the Government. By reducing the sugar surplus and increasing mills' liquidity,



Sweet deal: The rate hike is expected to reduce arrears in payment to sugar cane farmers. • MUSTAFAH K.K.

the rate hike is expected to reduce their pending arrears in payment to sugar cane farmers. Cane growers make up a sizeable chunk of protesters from western Uttar Pradesh and could also be critical voters in the State's coming Assembly election.

The ethanol blending programme also reduced the dependence on crude oil imports, said an official statement.

Price support to CCI

The CCEA also approved a committed price support of ₹17,408.85 crore to the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) as reimbursement for

its losses in procuring crops from farmers at minimum support prices (MSP) over the past seven years.

"In order to safeguard the interests of the cotton farmers, it was expedient to conduct price support operations in cotton years 2014-15 to 2020-21 as prices touched the MSP. Price support operations help stabilise the prices and alleviate farmer's distress," said the statement, adding that around 58 lakh farmers and more than 400 people engaged in processing and trade were dependent on cotton for their livelihood.

The CCI is mandated to

procure all Fair Average Quality grade cotton from farmers without any quantitative ceiling, as and when prices follow below the MSP rates set by the Centre, in a bid to protect farmers from distress sales. Over the last two seasons during the pandemic, the CCI procured a third of the country's cotton production, paying 40 lakh farmers more than ₹55,000 crore.

Jute in packaging

The CCEA approved reservation norms for the mandatory use of jute in packaging this year, stipulating that 100% of foodgrains and 20% of sugar must compulsorily be packed in jute bags. Such reservation consumed two-thirds of the total raw jute production last year. As the Centre itself purchases jute sacking bags worth approximately ₹8,000 crore a year to pack grains, it also ensures a guaranteed market for the produce of 40 lakh jute farmers, mostly in eastern India, and supports 3.7 lakh jute mill workers, largely in West Bengal.

Balance between environmental, defence concerns a better goal: SC

Court was hearing plea against clearance to Char Dham roads

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday said a balance between defence and environmental concerns is a better goal to achieve rather than to pit one interest against the other.

The court was hearing a plea against the environmental clearance given to the defence preparedness along the Indo-China border, the Government said.

"There is no defence versus environment... What you do for the defence is not contrary to the civilian needs or environmental needs," Justice D.Y. Chandrachud observed during the hearing.

The court is mulling on the extent to which it could intervene on environmental grounds when the defence of the nation is at stake in the light of the recent skirmishes on the border with China.

"We cannot deny the fact that at such a height, the security of the nation is at stake. Can the highest constitutional court say we will



A view of the Badrinath temple, one of the holiest shrines of the Char Dham pilgrimage. • FILE PHOTO

override the defence needs particularly in the face of recent events? Can we say environment will triumph over the defence of the nation? Or we say defence concerns be taken care of so that environmental degradation does not take place," Justice Chandrachud had asked senior advocate Colin Gonsalves, appearing for an NGO, Citizens for Green Doon, on Tuesday.

The court had said it was facing a serious predicament when the Government is citing defence needs for the widening of the feeder roads.

Attorney General K.K. Venugopal said the roads need to be widened for transport

of heavy military equipment like missile launchers and even tanks.

"The Forces have to take heavy vehicles, tanks, self-propelled artillery and troops to the Indo-China border... It is the specific need of the armed forces to defend the country against any possible external aggression at the northern border," the government affidavit had said.

It had said bottlenecks would delay deployment in emergency situations if feeder roads are not developed to requisite standards.

The Army has been using these roads post the war with China in 1962.

Cong. to launch protest against price rise on Nov. 14

Under Jan Jagran Abhiyan, leaders will go from district to district saying Govt. policies have led to runaway inflation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday said it would launch a nationwide mass agitation programme, Jan Jagran Abhiyan, from November 14 to 29, where it would reach out to people to explain how the Union government's "failed economic policies" have led to runaway inflation.

The announcement was made at a press conference addressed by party general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, general secretary (communication) Ran-deep Surjewala and senior Congress leader Digvijay Singh, who heads the party's



K.C. Venugopal, Digvijay Singh briefing the media at AICC HQ in New Delhi on Wednesday. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

internal committee on organising and coordinating mass agitations.

Party workers would lead a week-long "padyatra" with

night halts in villages. The programme would begin with "prabhat pehri" (early morning march), followed by "shramdaan" (cleanliness

drive). "Padyatris" would hold numerous small group meetings to communicate the nuances of inflation and its adverse effects on the common man, Mr. Venugopal stated.

Party president Sonia Gandhi, during the recent Congress Working Committee meeting, had stressed the need to train party leaders and workers on ideological issues. The party's training department, headed by Sachin Rao, will be organising three-day training programmes from November 12 to 15 as part of this effort, at Sevagram, Wardha, Maharashtra.

Explaining the context of the agitation programme, Mr. Venugopal observed, "The country is undergoing severe pain due to the policies of the Modi Government, and especially in the last two years, the condition has deteriorated further with a sharp increase in inflation."

Mr. Singh said inflation was now pinching not only the poor but also the middle class. Drawing a parallel with Mahatma Gandhi's Dandi Yatra, he remarked that many were apprehensive about participating in the Dandi March. Mahatma Gandhi told them that he did not

mind if they don't want to participate. He was confident that women would come out in huge numbers. On the day his march reached Dandi, Mr. Singh stated, out of a crowd of 39,000, 19,000 were women. "Mahatma Gandhi led the Dandi March against the tax on salt that hit every household. Similarly, the increase in price of gas cylinders has hit every household... the inflation has hit everyone. Our agitation too will be women centric."

This was only the first edition of the agitation. There would be more such protest movements, he added.

AAP MLA joins Congress in Punjab

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

In a setback to the Aam Aadmi Party in Punjab, its Bathinda Rural MLA Rupinder Kaur Ruby on Wednesday joined the Congress.

Ms. Ruby said the stupendous performance of the Congress Government under the leadership of Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi during the past 50 days had been far better than that of AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal's Government in Delhi, prompting her to join hands with the Congress party.

'No separate FIR on Zakia Jafri plea'

Supreme Court says it only directed SIT to look into the material she brought

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI



The Supreme Court on Wednesday said it had not directed the registration of a separate FIR in 2011 on a complaint by Zakia Jafri, widow of slain Congress MP Ehsan Jafri, about a "larger conspiracy" behind the post-Godhra riots.

A Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar said the Supreme Court, in its September 12, 2011 order, had merely directed its Special Investigation Team (SIT) to "look into" the material brought forth by Ms. Jafri and file a final report before the magistrate Court concerned in Gujarat.

The Bench said the Sep-

tember 2011 order may have been restricted to the Gulberg Society case, which involved the killing of Ms. Jafri's husband by a mob, and not any "larger conspiracy" allegedly tracing its roots to the highest echelons of power in Gujarat led by Chief Minister Narendra Modi in 2002.

Following the apex court order in 2011, the SIT had

gone on to file a closure report in February 2012. It had given a clean chit to Mr. Modi, current Prime Minister, and 63 others, including senior government officials, saying there was "no prosecutable evidence" against them. A 'protest petition' filed by Ms. Jafri against the clean chit was dismissed by the Magistrate. The Gujarat High Court too, in October 2017, refused to entertain Ms. Jafri.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for Ms. Jafri, said though the complaint was never registered as an FIR, it was "treated" as one. Besides, there were no proceedings going on in the Magistrate Court at the time as the Gul-

berg case trial was going on in a Sessions Court.

Challenging the SIT's closure report, Mr. Sibal said they merely accepted the statements given by the "accused". The SIT did not even "look at" a sting operation which was treated as evidence in another (Naroda Patiya) case. The SIT has to explain why they did not do a proper investigation..

He urged the court to intervene against the SIT's closure report. "Communal violence is like lava erupting from a volcano, and it is an institutionalised problem. Wherever lava touches, it scars and becomes fertile ground for future revenge..." Mr. Sibal told the court.

SAD activists and farmers clash, 2 injured

Farmers were waiting to meet Badal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

A violent confrontation took place between a group of farmers and the Shiromani Akali Dal members in Ferozepur on Wednesday.

The incident occurred near the venue of a rally addressed by former Union Minister and SAD leader Harsimrat Kaur Badal. Farmer leaders claimed that at least two farmers suffered serious injuries after SAD members attempted to go along to the protest.

Jagmohan Singh, general secretary, Bhartiya Kisan Union-Ekta (Dakonda), told *The Hindu* that farmers associated with it were prot-

esting peacefully and wanted to meet Ms. Badal to seek answers on their issues, including SAD's role in the controversial farm laws enacted by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) Government, of which the Akali Dal was a part when the laws were passed.

"We have every right to seek answers and today, we wanted to ask Ms. Badal why her party, did initially support the three farm laws. We were assured that Ms. Badal will meet us. When the farmers tried to meet the SAD leaders, they were not allowed and were beaten up. Even gun shots were fired at us," Mr. Singh said.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY KAKINADA
KAKINADA-533 003, AP, INDIA
NOTIFICATION FOR AICTE DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP - 2021-22
Applications are invited from the GATE qualified candidates for Full Time Ph.D admissions (8 seats) under AICTE Doctoral Fellowship (ADF) scheme in the following disciplines for the academic year 2021-22:
(i) Civil Engineering, (ii) Electrical and Electronics Engineering, (iii) Mechanical Engineering, (iv) Electronics and Communication Engineering and (v) Computer Science and Engineering.
Last date for submission of application: 20.11.2021
For details, viz. eligibility, application form, thrust areas and other information, please visit www.jntuk.edu.in
Date: 10.11.2021 Sd/- Registrar

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER WATER RESOURCES ZONE, JAIPUR
सिंचाई भवन, MNIT के सामने, जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग, मालवीया नगर, जयपुर,
Email: acejpr.rw@gmail.com Date: 01.11.2021
No. 5196
INVITATION OF e-NIT No. 09 YEAR 2021-22
On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, invites NIT of following works Name:-
1. Construction of Anicut at Gambhir River near Shree Mahaveer Ji Road Bridge Tehsil Hinduana City Dist Karauli. Estimated cost is 989.54 Lacs.
2. Construction of Anicut at Gambhir River near Mahu Tehsil Hinduana City Dist Karauli. Estimated cost is 855.85 Lacs.
3. Construction of Anicut at Gambhir River near Sidh Ashram Pahadi Tehsil Todabhim Dist Kaauli. Estimated cost is 1050.41 Lacs.
4. Construction of Anicut (causeway) at Gambhir River near Aree-Kirwada-Sekhpura Tehsil Todabhim Dist Karauli. Estimated cost is 1758.43 Lacs.
5. Construction of Anicut on Gambhir River near Village Maidi Dist. Sawaimadhopur. Estimated cost is 1276.16 Lacs
UBN No. WRD2122WLOB01292, WRD2122WLOB01293, WRD2122WLOB01294, WRD2122WLOB01295, WRD2122WLOB01296
The details of works are available on the following websites,
1. www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, 2. www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in,
3. www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, 4. www.watersources.rajasthan.gov.in
Additional Chief Engineer Water Resources Zone, Jaipur
DIPR/C/11201/2021

MISSING JAYAKUMAR, AGE 40
(IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PERSON PLEASE CONTACT BELOW CONTACT NUMBERS)
Name of Police Station: Kundara, District: Kollam Rural (Kerala), Address of Missing Person: Ponguvilla House, Punakkannoor, Kundara, Kollam, Kerala, Missing from: 08.06.2019, Height: 158 CM, Sex: Male, Complexion: White, Details of wearing apparels at the time of missing: Pants and Shirt, Brief of the case: Crime. 1296/2019 U/S 57 of KP. ACT. He was missing from Ajmal (Rajasthan)
District Police Chief : 9497996908
DySP Sashtamcotta : 9497940838
IOP Kundara : 9493987034
Kundara P.S. : 0474-2547239
(1883/F2/2021/I&PRD)

TNPL TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu
E-mail: pm@tnpl.co.in, web : www.tnpl.com
Phone No. : 04324 - 277001 (10 Lines), Extn. 4402 / 4568
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
For Rectification Work in Digester Blow Tank in Hardwood Fibrelane at TNPL Unit-II / MEP
Bidders may request the tender document at the above address by post/mail. Detailed NIB may be viewed in websites : www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in
Date of issue of Bid Document : 12/11/2021
Due date for submission : 19/11/2021
DIPR/3299/Tender/2021 TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper
"சாத்தன கட்டுவது சுத்தத்தின் அடைந்தோம், சாத்தன புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in
PENSION ADALAT Date: 09 November 2021
Pension Adalat with Pensioners and Family Pensioners of Rail Wheel Factory will be held on 15.12.2021 (Wednesday), at Conference Hall, Administration Building, Rail Wheel Factory to redress the grievances of Pensioners/Family Pensioners pertaining to "PENSIONARY BENEFITS" only.
Pensioners, Family Pensioners may send their grievances with full details addressed to Senior Personnel Officer, Rail Wheel Factory, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560 064 to reach on or before 30.11.2021. In an envelope duly superscribed as "PENSION ADALAT" - 2021 or they can also e-mail their grievances to C.vijayachintamani@gov.in
Cases involving purely legal or policy matters will not be entertained in the Pension Adalat.
PRINCIPAL CHIEF PERSONNEL OFFICER

KERALA MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
(Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Kerala)
THYCAUD P.O., THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695014
Tel: 0471-246584, 234569 Fax: 234567
website: www.kmscl.kerala.gov.in, e-mail: tenders_ep@kmscl.kerala.gov.in
CIN No. U24233KL2007SG021616
No. KMSCL/EP/16841/2021 Dated: 10.11.2021
Re-TENDER NOTICE
Online bids are invited for the following
Sl. No. Tender No. Description Online Pre-Bid Meeting Last date of Online submission
1. T424(R)/2021 Engaging third party for Biomedical equipment maintenance in the State of Kerala N.A. 20.11.2021 05.00 p.m.
Tender documents and all other information related to tender and bidding process can be downloaded from the website www.etenders.kerala.gov.in.
Sd/- Managing Director (Tender Inviting Authority)

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS TIRUPATI
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-Tenders are invited for Supply of Paper Material different categories for 2021 - 2022. For Tender Notice & details please log on the web site <http://www.tirumala.org> and <https://tender.ap.eprocurement.gov.in>. For further details contact: 0877-2264355 (or) 0877-2264292.
Roc.No.PR4/13936/Adv.No.220/PRO/2021/Date:10-11-2021 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Government of Kerala TENDER FOREST & WILD LIFE DEPARTMENT
Window No: nprd 21/e 200 • Tender No. A2-2103/2020 • Divisional Forest Officer, Timber Sales Division, Perumbavoor, Mudikkal P.O-683547, Phone-0484-252219 • E-auction of timber on 06/12/14/12/22/12/30/12/2021 from Chalakudy, vettloor, Mudikkal, Chettikulam & Varapuzha depots of Timber sales division, Perumbavoor • PAC : 2 Crore.
Full details on Tender Advertisement appeared above are exhibited before the Office from which the tender originates. For Details on all Tenders above please visit www.kerala.gov.tender/index.htm. Please put in search the Window No for getting the advertisement of your choice. R.O. No. 112/G1/2021/PRD.

ODISHA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Janpath, Bhubaneswar-751022
CIN:U40102OR2004SGC007553
TENDER ALERT
01) E-Tender Notice No.CPC-35/2021-22 : Supply of Porcelain Long Rod Insulators for EHT lines and Substations.
02) E-Tender Notice No.CPC-37/2021-22 : Supply of Battery Chargers for EHT lines & Substations.
For details please visit : www.optcl.co.in & www.tenderwizard.com/OPTCL. Complete set of bidding documents will be available from 08.11.2021, 10.00AM. Sd/- CGM (CPC)
CAD-1775: HIPR-25/2021-22 OIPR-04011/11/0083/2122

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned by Government of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement)
BESCOM invites tender vide Enquiry No.: BESCOM/BC-53/DGM(SG&EV)/2021-22/ENQ-07-15 dated: 10.11.2021 for "Supply, releasing, Fixing, Wiring of LT AC Single Phase 2 wire 5-30 A and LT AC Three Phase 4 wire 5-30 A DLMS Compliant Electrostatic meter of class-1 accuracy in place of existing Electro-mechanical/DC/MNR Meters as per Specifications (Meter rating for Existing Electromechanical 3 phase meters) in Circle wise on Total turnkey basis" through e-procurement.
Last Date for submission of Queries through e-portal: 13.12.2021 before 17:00 Hrs. Pre-bid meeting: 14.12.2021 @ 11:00 Hrs. at Board Room, Corporate office, BESCOM. Issue of Bid Documents: From 24.11.2021 @ 17:00 Hrs. onwards. Last date for Bid Submission: Upto 27.12.2021 @ 17:00 Hrs. Opening of Bid Documents: On 29.12.2021 @ 17:00 Hrs. The tenders can be obtained through e-procurement from the tendering website. Aspiring bidders need to register on e-procurement portal. Further, bidders can take assistance with e-procurement helpdesk at 080-25501216, 25501227. Sd/- Deputy General Manager (Ele), Smart Grid and Electric Vehicle, BESCOM
For Electricity related complaints call: 1912 Download "BESCOM Mithra" Mobile APP

ED attaches assets of ex-DoT official

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has attached assets worth ₹6.32 crore of Somayendra Nath Banerjee, then Deputy Director General (New Technology) in the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), and his associates in connection with a disproportionate assets case.

The properties are in the form of an office premises, two vacant plots, one three-storey commercial building along with plant and machinery, cash in 47 accounts, two vehicles, shares held in demat accounts and two demand drafts.

The ED probe is based on an FIR registered by the CBI, alleging that Mr. Banerjee had amassed huge properties beyond his known sources of income and was in possession of disproportionate assets to the tune of ₹7.58 crore.

According to the ED, the accused official had acquired huge amounts in cash through corrupt practices. The funds were diverted to companies floated by him.

India, U.S. monitoring defence trade projects

They agree to strengthen dialogue on tracking progress

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As part of efforts for co-production and co-development of defence equipment under the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI), India and the U.S. agreed on a revised Statement of Intent (SOI) to strengthen the dialogue by "pursuing detailed planning and making measurable progress" on several specific projects, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) said on Wednesday.

The agreement was made at the 11th DTTI group meeting held virtually on Tuesday. It was co-chaired by Secretary (Defence Production) Raj Kumar and Gregory Kausner, performing the duties of Under-Secretary of Defence for Acquisition and Sustainment from the U.S. Department of Defence. The meetings are normally held twice a year, alternating between India and the U.S. However, this meeting was held via videoconferencing consecutively for the second time on account



Close ties: The Defence Technology & Trade Initiative Group meeting held virtually on Tuesday. • TWITTER/@DEFPROINDIA

of the COVID-19 pandemic, a MoD statement said.

The aim of the group was to bring sustained leadership focus to the bilateral defence trade relationship and create opportunities for co-production and co-development of defence equipment, the statement noted. Four Joint Working Groups focused on land, naval, air and aircraft carrier technologies had been established under the DTTI to promote mutually agreed projects.

"The groups reported to the co-chairs on ongoing activities and collaborative opportunities, including a number of near-term projects

targeted for completion on priority," the MoD stated.

The two sides recently signed the first joint agreement for Air-Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle under the Joint Working Group Air Systems.

A virtual expo of the Defence Industry Collaboration Forum was also conducted on Monday.

"This forum offers an opportunity for Indian and U.S. industries to be directly involved in DTTI and facilitates dialogue between government and industry on issues that impact industrial collaboration," the statement added.

IAF plans aerobatics in Dubai show

Sarang, Suryakiran teams to perform at Al Maktoum International Airport

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India will showcase Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas at the biennial Dubai Air Show scheduled next week. The Indian Air Force's Sarang helicopter display team and Suryakiran aerobatic display team will also perform at the show.

"The IAF has been invited by the Government of UAE to participate with the Sarang and Suryakiran Aerobatics Teams," the IAF said in a statement.

The air show is scheduled to be held at the Al Maktoum International Airport from November 14 to 18.

"The induction of five Ad-



Aerial tango: The Suryakiran team is skilled at performing manoeuvres in the sky. • FILE PHOTO

vanced Light Helicopters (ALH) Dhruvs of the Sarang Team, 10 BAE Hawk 132s of the Suryakiran Team and the three LCA Tejas was completed by November 9. The

induction was supported by the IAF's C-17 Globemaster IIIs and C-130J Super Hercules transport aircraft," the IAF stated.

These teams would be

performing along with some of the best aerobatics and display teams in the world, including the Saudi Hawks, Russian Knights and the UAE's Al Fursan. In addition, the LCA shall be part of the aerobatics and static displays during the show, the statement noted. "The teams are now preparing for the opening ceremony on November 14."

While the Sarang Team has participated in the Al Ain Grand Prix in the UAE in 2005, the Dubai Air Show will be the first occasion for the Suryakiran and the Tejas to show off their swash-buckling aerial manoeuvres here, the statement added.

India confers honorary rank of General on Nepal Army Chief

It is a customary practice followed by both the countries

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Nepal Army Chief General Prabhuram Sharma was on Wednesday conferred the honorary rank of General of the Indian Army by President Ram Nath Kovind at a ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

It is a customary practice by the two countries to confer the honorary rank of General on each other's Army Chiefs.

Gen. Sharma, an alumnus of the Nepali Military Academy, was commissioned into the Army in March 1984. He took over as the Chief of the Army Staff on September 9, 2021.

In his career of over three



Roll of honour: President Ram Nath Kovind with Nepali Army chief General Prabhuram Sharma on Wednesday. • PTI

decades, he has held several high-profile command, staff and instructional appointments. He is also a graduate

of the National Defence College in India and the Army Command and Staff College, Nepal.

Kanpur sees 105 Zika cases in a month

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
LUCKNOW

As many as 105 cases of Zika virus were recorded in Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh in the last month, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters in Kanpur, Mr. Adityanath said the situation was brought under control through surveillance and sanitation drives.

Of the 105 cases, 17 had recovered and tested negative, said the Chief Minister. "There is no need to panic," he stated.

HC expects vaccine supply to continue

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday said it expected the Centre to continue the National Vaccination Programme and supply vaccines against COVID-19 as per its policy.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh made the remarks while hearing a plea seeking supply of vaccines at "reduced" rates. The Bench said there was no reason to monitor the case after the Centre informed that it was providing them free of cost to all States and Union Territories.

The plea, filed by petitioner Mr. Rakesh in May, had then highlighted the cost of the vaccines saying it was "not easy" for most people to pay for them.

The plea had said it was the Central Government's duty to provide free vaccination but it was not being done due to a shortage of sufficient number of doses at the time.

Senior BJP leader gets demolition notice in J&K

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The Jammu Development Authority (JDA) has served a notice on former Deputy Chief Minister of erstwhile J&K State Nirmal Singh to demolish a house constructed "without permission" at Ban village in Nagrota.

According to the JDA order, Mr. Singh, a senior BJP

leader, and his wife, Mamta Singh, have submitted no replies to the show cause notices served.

"You have not obtained the valid permission from the competent authority as prescribed under law (for the house). In exercise of power conferred under Section 7(3) of the Control of Building Operation Act 1988,

you are hereby directed to remove the illegal construction on your own level within five days," the order, issued on November 8, 2021, said.

"If you fail to remove the illegal construction, the same shall be demolished by enforcement wing of the JDA and the cost of removal shall be recovered from you as ar-

rears of land revenue," it added. Mr. Singh is accused of illegal construction between January 2016 and December 2020 near the Army's ammunition sub-depot "in violation of the norms". There were allegations against him that he violated rules that no construction should be allowed within 1,000 yards of defence works.

HC rejects CBI plea in INX Media case

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday rejected an appeal filed by the CBI against a March 5 trial court order allowing the inspection of documents kept in 'malkhana' (evidence room) by Congress leader Karti Chidambaram and other accused and their counsel in the INX Media case.

The CBI said the order reflected intrusion into their investigative process and that the probe would be subverted if the accused persons were allowed to inspect the documents.

The case relates alleged irregularities in the Foreign Investment Promotion Board clearance provided to INX Media for receiving overseas funds.

Navy displays submarine rescue ability

India looking to sign MoUs with other countries

DINAKAR PERI
PANAJI

The Navy demonstrated its submarine rescue capability, available with very few countries in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), to delegations of Indian Ocean countries during the Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC) 2021.

"We have an MoU with Singapore, under which we support each other. It helps understand each other's system," said Cdr V.K. Singh, pilot of the DSRV (deep-submergence rescue vehicle) on the west coast. "We can provide support in the entire IOR. We are looking for MoUs with other countries too."

In his closing remarks at the GMC on Tuesday, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Ka-



Help at hand: The deep-submergence rescue vehicle can go up to a depth of 650 metres. • FILE PHOTO

rambir Singh stressed that the GMC should move beyond dialogue and focus on cogent outcomes.

He proposed "four guiding principles for the future editions: iterative and incremental gains, harnessing complementarities, synchronisation and focussed operations, and lastly upskilling and upscaling the ex-

isting capabilities." The conclave also saw the declaration of 'Common Maritime Priorities', which had been identified during the Goa Maritime Symposium held earlier this year.

India and Singapore have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to exchange practices on submarine rescue and discussions

were on with more countries to have arrangements for them to utilise this mechanism, Navy officials said.

The Navy has procured two DSRVs from the U.S., of which the first one was operationalised at the end of 2018 in Mumbai and the second at Visakhapatnam in early 2019.

The system can go to a maximum depth of 650 metres and rescue 14 people in one go.

The DSRVs are designed to be agile and easily transportable to far-off places, said Capt. Koushik Hota, Officer in Charge, Submarine Rescue Unit (West).

The DSRV, attached to mother ship *INS Sabarmati*, could be transported by heavy transport aircraft like IL-76 and C-17. "From the time of distress to the time of first rescue, we are considering between 72-96 hours," stated Cdr Singh.

CBI takes over case against J&K businessman

Sheikh Imran says matter is sub judice

DEVESH K. PANDEY
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation has re-registered the case against Kehwa Group director Sheikh Imran, a former Srinagar Municipal Corporation Deputy Mayor, for allegedly cheating the Jammu & Kashmir Bank of funds running into crores of rupees.

The CBI has taken over the probe into the case which was earlier registered at the Anantnag police station in 2019.

"The FIR no. 3, 2019, was registered by ACB Anantnag against Sheikh Imran. Therefore it's not true that the alleged accused has been booked by CBI," said Mr. Imran, in a statement to *The Hindu*.

He said the matter under

FIR no. 3 of 2019 was still sub judice before the court concerned and no charges had been framed against any accused person and no cognisance of the case had been taken yet.

"It's also clarified that despite having FIR re-registered, no motion for transfer or investigation has been made by CBI in the matter in the above learned court," he added.

Mr. Imran has been accused of misappropriating the funds provided as subsidy given for setting up a controlled atmosphere store. It is alleged that the group got various credit facilities amounting to ₹138 crore, which was allegedly restructured in connivance with the bank officials for just about ₹78 crore.

TH **CROSSWORD** + 13399 Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answers in our online grids: @ <https://qr.go.page.link/jjpTn> SCAN TO PLAY

(set by Incognito)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8			9			10
11				12		
13	14			15		16
17			18		19	
				21		
22		23		24	25	
26	27			28		29
30					31	
						32

- ACROSS
- Bull in Belize building (4)
 - Film setter eating duck at six in Rome (5)
 - One spinner's over (4)
 - Indian rural organisation for tribe living in TN (6)
 - Some baseball players and actress following feline creature with a piece of salmon (8)
 - A type of drug that can give one a heavenly body? (8)

- Supports for walking stiffly? (6)
 - Designed Mac... even for troglodytes (7)
 - Mason travels around New York giving fake names (7)
 - Discount on some cricket equipment available at last (6)
 - Champion sloppily cleans parts of churches (8)
 - Varied diets are more stable (8)
 - A yew building in the outskirts of Lancaster for advocate (6)
 - In short, a long car (4)
 - Dear husband is followed by a Yankee (5)
 - Associate in Ballygunge (4)
- DOWN
- Don Williams' exhilarated American rockers for starters (4)
 - Sue belly dances in centre of Target (8)
 - Egg spoilt my robe (6)
 - Fruit's audio-visual with rotter wearing glasses (7)
 - Drop male heir behind pier, say (8)
 - Collect gun with that lady (6)
 - Moroccan tie (4)
 - Part of skinless, naked reptilian creature (5)
 - Troop leader composed mail in Indian language (5)
 - Yes, eight managed to get vision (8)
 - Ties boas for example (8)
 - Making gashes for keeping track of runs (7)
 - An endless labyrinth over large river (6)
 - Sally is worried about consuming egg in brass, steel, pewter, and the like (6)
 - Fall outing (4)
 - Creatures found in steel shops (4)

SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 13398

S	T	A	N	D	O	F	F	G	A	M	E	R	A
H	U	I	R	U	M	B	L	E					
I	N	T	E	G	R	A	L	S	T	A	B	L	E
E	O	I	N	B	H	E	R						
L	I	G	H	T	A	L	L	O	R	D	E	R	
D	R	I	O	R	I	S	A						
G	A	R	L	I	C	C	R	I	M	S	O	N	
B	P	I	A	T	T	C	T						
E	X	H	I	B	I	T	S	T	I	M	I	E	
V	O	R	H	E	W								
E	N	C	O	U	R	A	G	E	S	I	N	A	I
R	A	U	R	P	L	O	T	N					
A	R	M	A	D	A	S	T	A	L	L	I	O	N
G	E	A											
E	P	O	N	Y	M	P	R	E	D	A	T	O	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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

FAITH

Subramanya Bhujanga

Adi Sankara has sung more than one hymn on many deities such as Ganesha, Siva, Parvati, and so on. He has two on Ganesha, the Ganesha Pancharatnam and the Ganesha Bhujanga. Sivananda Lahari, Siva Ashtothram, etc. are some of the many stotras on Siva, and the Saundaryya Lahari, Gowri Dasakam, Sarada Bhujanga, Annapurna Ashtakam, etc. are on Goddess Parvati. But the Subramanya Bhujanga is the only stotra of the acharya on this deity and this itself is indicative of its special quality, pointed out Sri B. Sundarkumar in a discourse.

In spiritual parlance, there is a term 'sastra vasana' which means the penchant to study more texts. But such sastra vasana has no use if it does not lead one to learn about God and one's atma swarupa. Anyway, for a sadhaka, even any one text is enough if it teaches him about God and leads him towards God realisation. Just as Gita sastra is singled out as the most essential and comprehensive of all sastras, this one hymn contains within it all that is essential to gain salvation.

When analysing the circumstances leading to the composition of this hymn, the Lord's sankalpa that Adi Sankara should grace humanity with an Uttama sloka on Subramanya is very clear. Under the cover of being in the grip of a painful disease, Adi Sankara is directed to propitiate Subramanya in Tiruchendur. It is not that Adi Sankara, a realised yogi, who reaches the place by yogic power, could not have got rid of this ailment. The hymn teaches us to seek the God's grace as the only hope for the cure for all ills. The first verse is in praise of Ganesha, well known as the remover of hurdles and obstacles of all kinds. In the next verse, the humble tone of the seeker makes us imbibe this most valuable and essential quality by giving up our sense of ego.

Voices on Capitol Hill back CAATSA sanctions waiver for India

The Biden administration remains tight-lipped as it works through details

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN

The Chairman of the powerful U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC), Gregory Meeks (Democrat), has encouraged the Biden administration to consider a waiver of sanctions for India for the purchase of the Russian S-400 Triumf missile defence system...

Lawmakers from both sides of the aisle in the U.S. Congress have, in recent weeks, urged President Joe Biden to waive sanctions on India under a 2017 U.S. law, the Countering Americas Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).

The President is required to impose sanctions on entities doing business with the intelligence or defence divisions of the Russian government under Section 231 of CAATSA. However, Congress also gave the President the authority to "waive the initial application of sanctions" under certain conditions.

While the Biden administration has not articulated its position on CAATSA publicly yet, and declined to provide comments for this story, it is understood to be deliberating on questions such as whom specifically to sanction and at what point in the process sanctions kick in.

The President's National Security Council (NSC) declined to comment on the

White House's position to an October 26 letter from Senators John Cornyn (Republican) and Mark Warner (Democrat), co-chairs of the Senate India Caucus, asking Mr. Biden to waive sanctions on India.

The Hindu also reached out to the Pentagon and three State Department bureaus which provide input into this decision: South and Central Asia (SCA), International Security and Non-proliferation (ISN), and the Bureau of Political Military Affairs (PM) to discuss where they stood in the CAATSA sanctions process. They declined to comment. It is no accident that the executive has uniformly put off articulating a position on this highly sensitive issue before it needs to show its cards.

Strategic Partnership The U.S.-India 'Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership' is expanding and strengthening, including in its security aspects. Apart from the investments both countries are making in the partnership for its own sake, India is also a key element of



India is set to take delivery of the S-400 Triumf missile defence system from Russia by the year end. FILE PHOTO

the U.S.'s overall strategy in the Indo-Pacific. Imposing sanctions and talking about them with India is therefore a delicate and awkward matter, and timing counts for a lot.

"My guess is that the administration is withholding a judgment on CAATSA as long as they can, and at least until after the 2+2 meeting in December, perhaps to see what deliverables come out of it. You certainly wouldn't announce sanctions on India

before the 2+2," said Sameer Lalwani, a senior fellow at the Stimson Center, a Washington DC-based think tank.

The '2+2' is a dialogue between the two countries' Foreign and Defence Ministers.

"The administration is looking for India to produce a mitigation strategy that reassures them that once India gets the S-400 system, it will not have an adverse effect on any other U.S. supplied system that India may also operate concurrently,"

said Ashley Tellis, a former adviser to the George W. Bush administration and U.S. foreign and security policy expert with the Carnegie Endowment.

"And so that mitigation strategy is what the administration started discussing with India several months ago. My understanding is that that process is still underway," he said.

Another factor that repeatedly came up during conversations The Hindu had with experts in Washington is that those who work in national security as it relates to Russia might be in favour of sanctions if they believe the benefits of containing Moscow outweigh the costs of sanctioning New Delhi.

Then there is the fact that India is vital to the U.S.'s interests in the Indo-Pacific.

"One thing that plays in India's favour is that its importance to the United States as part of its own overall China strategy has increased dramatically, I would say, in the last year to two years," said Lisa Curtis, who was Senior Director for South and Central Asia in former President

Donald Trump's National Security Council.

Bipartisan support Additionally, the administration is also keeping an eye on what Congress is thinking. Bipartisan support for a waiver, especially from Republicans, Ms. Curtis said, will make it "a lot easier" when it comes to considering a waiver.

Three Republican Senators, led by Ted Cruz, had introduced legislation, last week, to make it harder for the administration to impose sanctions on a member of the Quad - i.e., India, Japan or Australia. However, the Cruz-led amendment was time bound, and India would be expected to "deepen ties with the Quad" and not keep shopping for weapons in Moscow in about 10 years' time, a Senate Republican aide had told The Hindu.

As far as Congress is concerned, it is not just Republicans whose support is important to this Democratic administration. The Senate is tied 50:50 with Vice President Kamala Harris holding a tie-breaking vote. Mr. Biden

cannot afford to alienate a single Senate Democrat on the CAATSA waiver, as he needs every vote to carry forward his domestic agenda.

"So, even if they have decided on a waiver, why stoke the flames? They have constituencies in Congress, including Senator [Bob] Menendez, that they don't want to irritate unnecessarily by saying to India: 'Don't worry, you're going to get a waiver'," said Jeff Smith, a South Asia specialist at the Heritage Foundation in Washington.

Mr. Menendez, who is the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, had asked Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin to raise the S-400 issue with New Delhi on a trip to India in March this year. His office did not respond to multiple requests from The Hindu for a comment on his current position on a CAATSA waiver for India.

The administration also does not want to give "the wrong impression to Turkey or other countries that CAATSA is no big deal and waivers are easy to come by," Mr. Smith said.

Polish border sees migrant influx

Warsaw accuses Belarus of orchestrating the crisis in retaliation for sanctions

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE SOKOLKA

Poland said on Wednesday it had seen a surge in attempts to breach its border and had pushed back hundreds of migrants to Belarus, after it accused Minsk and Moscow of trying to orchestrate a crisis on Europe's borders.



Survival games: Migrants warming up at the fire at the border near Grodno in Belarus, on Wednesday. AP

The migrants, mainly from the Middle East, have spent days in freezing temperatures on the border, blocked by rows of Polish border guards behind razor-wire.

Western governments have accused Belarusian strongman Alexander Lukashenko of luring the migrants to his country and sending them to cross over into EU member Poland in retaliation for sanctions.

Poland has gone a step further, saying Mr. Lukashenko's main backer, Russian President Vladimir Putin, is masterminding the crisis.

Between 2,000 and 4,000 migrants, reported to be mainly Kurds, have set up a

camp near the border after they made a concerted effort to cross on Monday but were pushed back by Polish border guards.

Spike in crossings Polish officials said on Wednesday there had been a spike in attempted crossings in the previous 24 hours.

Poland's border guard said that large groups of migrants crossed the border illegally, but were all pushed back.

The Defence Ministry said

Belarus was using intimidation to force migrants to breach the border, tweeting two short videos that it said showed a shot fired on the Belarusian side by a man in uniform.

Belarus has levelled its own accusations against Poland, saying Warsaw is violating international norms by blocking the migrants and beating them back with violence.

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki on Tuesday said the migrants were

being used as "human shields to destabilise the situation in Poland and the EU" and pointed the finger at Russia.

"This attack which Lukashenko is conducting has its mastermind in Moscow, the mastermind is President Putin," Mr. Morawiecki told the Polish parliament.

Merkel calls Putin

The EU is now considering new sanctions for human trafficking and EU chief Charles Michel was due to hold talks on the crisis with Mateusz Morawiecki in Warsaw later on Wednesday.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel telephoned Putin to ask him to get Belarus to stop the "inhumane" instrumentalisation of migrants, her spokesman said Wednesday.

Belarus and Moscow have hit back at the accusations, saying the West should deal with migrant flows caused by its military interventions in the Middle East.

'Would like to visit China, but prefer to remain in India'

CPC leaders don't understand different cultures: Dalai Lama

ANANTH KRISHNAN HONG KONG

The Dalai Lama said on Wednesday he would like to visit China as he was "growing older" but "prefer[s] to remain in India peacefully".

The Tibetan spiritual leader also said Tibet had its unique culture but the Communist Party leadership in Beijing "do not understand the variety of different cultures".

Speaking from Dharamsala at an online press conference on Wednesday hosted by the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, the Dalai Lama was quoted as saying by Reuters that "he had no plan" to meet Chinese President Xi Jinping although he added that he "would like to visit again to see old friends" since "I am growing older".

He added: "I prefer to remain here in India, peacefully," he said.

Asked if he would like to visit Taiwan, the Dalai Lama said he would avoid doing so since cross-strait relations were at the moment "quite delicate". He did praise Taiwan for its approach to culture and religion adding that "mainland Chinese brothers and sisters can learn a lot from Taiwanese brothers and sisters" on how they had preserved Chinese culture, including Buddhism. "Regarding Tibet and also Xinjiang, we have our own unique culture, so the more narrow-minded Chinese Communist leaders, they do not understand the variety of different cultures", he said. Reacting to his comments, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said Beijing was "open" to dialogue with the Dalai Lama but indicated it would not engage with "the so-called Tibetan government-in-exile [which] is an out and out separatist political group".



Dalai Lama speaking at an online press conference from Dharamsala on Wednesday. AP

Previous rounds of talks between the Dalai Lama's representatives and Beijing stalled, while the Dalai Lama subsequently relinquished his political role and handed over responsibility to the elected leader of the Dharamsala-based Central Tibetan Administration, which Beijing views as "illegal".

"It is against China's constitution and laws, and it is an illegal organisation," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said. "No country in the world recognises it," he added.

The now suspended talks had discussed, among other issues, the possibility of the Dalai Lama visiting China where he has millions of followers. The talks had, however, broken down over differences over several issues, including the Dalai Lama calling for "genuine autonomy" for Tibetans not only in the Tibet Autonomous Region but in neighbouring provinces of Qinghai, Sichuan, Gansu and Yunnan where around half of Tibetans in China live. The Dalai Lama had said he was supportive of a solution to the Tibet question within the framework of China's Constitution and did not want independence but genuine autonomy. The Chinese government, however, rejected his proposals calling them "disguised independence". Beijing has also insisted it would choose its own successor to the Dalai Lama.

Swedish PM tenders resignation

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE STOCKHOLM

Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lovfen on Wednesday tendered his resignation, a widely expected move paving the way for his designated successor Magdalena Andersson ahead of next year's general election. Television cameras filmed Mr. Lovfen handing his resignation letter to the speaker of parliament, Andreas Norlen.

Mr. Lovfen, who has been in power for seven years, stepped down as leader of the Social Democrats at the party's congress last week.

Ms. Andersson, who is currently Finance Minister, was elected to replace Mr. Lovfen as party leader, putting her on track to become the country's first woman Prime Minister if she wins a vote in parliament.

In Sweden's parliament, political forces are so finely balanced that the Social Democrats need the support of both their Green Party coalition partners and the Left and Centre parties to elect a new Prime Minister.

The Centre Party said it would back Ms. Andersson, and the Left is widely expected to do the same.

The change at the head of the Social Democrats comes as the party hovers close to its lowest-ever approval ratings with elections less than a year away.

Court orders release of Capitol attack records

Judge denies Trump's plea for a stay

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE WASHINGTON

A U.S. judge on Tuesday ordered White House records that could implicate former President Donald Trump in the January 6 attack on the Capitol be released to a Congressional committee.



Donald Trump

Mr. Trump sued seeking a stay to halt the release of the documents, arguing that, as a former President, he retained executive privilege to keep the communications under seal.

U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan said Mr. Trump's request was denied, stating it was in the public's interest to hand over the documents.

Mr. Trump's "position

that he may override the express will of the executive branch appears to be premised on the notion that his executive power 'exists in perpetuity,'" Ms. Chutkan wrote. "But Presidents are not kings, and Plaintiff is not President."

Nobel winning activist Malala gets married

She ties the knot in Birmingham

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE LONDON

Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, who was shot by the Pakistani Taliban for campaigning for girls' education, got married on Tuesday in a small ceremony in Birmingham, central England, she announced on social media.

"Today marks a precious day in my life. Asser (Malik) and I tied the knot to be partners for life," she wrote on Twitter.

"We celebrated a small nikkah ceremony at home in Birmingham with our families. Please send us your prayers," she added.

When she was 15, Yousafzai was shot in the head by

militants from the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, an offshoot of the Afghan Taliban, in her home town in the Swat valley while on a school bus in 2012.

She recovered after months of treatment at home and abroad before co-writing a best-selling memoir titled "I am Malala."

Ms. Yousafzai was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize as a 17-year-old in 2014.

She graduated last year from the University of Oxford with a degree in philosophy, politics and economics. Now 24 years old, she advocates for girls' education, with her non-profit Malala Fund having invested \$2 million in Afghanistan.

ELSEWHERE



J&J vaccines to be sent to conflict zones

WASHINGTON Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the U.S. has brokered a deal between Johnson & Johnson and vaccine-sharing programme COVAX for the delivery of the company's COVID-19 vaccines to people living in conflict zones. REUTERS

'Daily inflow of Afghan refugees reaches 5,000'

TEHRAN Up to 5,000 Afghan refugees a day are crossing into neighbouring Iran, compounding the already heavy burden it faces hosting an estimated 3.6 million Afghans, a relief group said Wednesday. The Norwegian Refugee Council called for more international support for Iran, which despite facing tough U.S. economic sanctions, operates what the council described as one of the most inclusive refugee policies in the world. AFP

Thai court rules against protest speech

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE BANGKOK

A top Thai court ruled on Wednesday that speeches by three protest leaders amounted to a bid to overthrow the country's monarchy, potentially opening the way to treason charges against them.

The controversial speeches at the Thammasat University rally last year tested the boundaries of free speech in Thailand.

New U.S. special envoy for Afghanistan to meet Taliban

Thomas West's 'troika plus' meeting will be held in Pakistan

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE ISLAMABAD

The new U.S. special envoy for Afghanistan will visit Pakistan this week for a meeting with the Taliban Foreign Minister and senior diplomats from China and Russia, a Pakistani official and the U.S. State Department said.

It will be Thomas West's first trip to the region since taking over from Zalmay

Khalilzad, the long-serving diplomat who spearheaded the talks that led to the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The so-called "troika plus" meeting, due to take place on Thursday in Islamabad, will include the Afghan Taliban's new foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi, a senior Pakistani government official said on condition of

anonymity. The State Department said earlier in the week that Mr. West also plans to visit Russia and India.

"Together with our partners, he will continue to make clear the expectations that we have of the Taliban and of any future Afghanistan government," State Department spokesman Ned Price told a briefing this week.

தமிழ்நாடு டாக்டர் எம்.ஜி.ஆர்.மருத்துவப் பல்கலைக்கழகம்
 வசூலா - 600 032
THE TAMIL NADU DR. M. G. R. MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
 CHENNAI - 600 032

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHANCELLOR

SEARCH COMMITTEE NOTIFICATION

The Government of Tamil Nadu vide G.O. (Ms.) No.438, Health and Family Welfare (MCA-2) Department, dated 8.10.2021 have constituted a Search Committee to recommend a panel of three names to The Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor for selection of Vice-Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai.

The Search Committee invites applications for the post of Vice-Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai from distinguished academicians with highest level of competence, integrity, morals, institutional commitment and possessing the educational qualification and work experience as notified by the Government of Tamil Nadu in their G.O. Ms.No.494, Health and Family Welfare (MCA-2) Department, dated 23.10.2018 and published in Tamil Nadu Government Gazette vide Extraordinary Gazette No.363, dated 23.10.2018 copy of which is available in The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University Website www.tnmgmru.ac.in. The Vice-Chancellor shall hold the office for a period of three years (provided that the person appointed as Vice-Chancellor shall retire from office, if, during the term of office, he/she attains the age of 70 years).

Interested candidates possessing the required qualifications and experience may download the prescribed application format from the website of The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University. The filled-in application shall be sent (only in the prescribed format) by Speed Post or in person or through representative duly superscribing the Envelope "Application for the post of Vice-Chancellor, The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University" so as to reach the following address on or before 5.00 P.M. of 3rd December, 2021.

Prof.Dr.S.Moorthy Babu Ph.D.,
Nodal Officer - Search Committee
Crystal Growth Centre,
Anna University,
Chennai - 600 025, Tamil Nadu State.
E-mail: tnmgmruvsearch2021@gmail.com

The advance copy of the application may be sent to the e-mail tnmgmruvsearch2021@gmail.com.

It will be taken into consideration only on receipt of the filled-in application along with copies of the documents in support of the qualification and experience, etc., within the above stipulated time. Applications received after publication of the notification in the website/newspaper alone will be considered but not those received after the closing date.

DIPR/ 1017 / DISPLAY/2021 **Convener - Search Committee**

"சோதனை நடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்"

MARKET WATCH

	10-11-2021	% CHANGE
Sensex	60,353	-0.13
US Dollar	74.37	-0.47
Gold	47,311	0.40
Brent oil	84.90	1.22

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	737.90	0.55
Asian Paints	3108.30	-36.85
Axis Bank	749.35	4.30
Bajaj Auto	3771.70	-22.75
Bajaj Finserv	18326.15	153.65
Bajaj Finance	7581.45	3.95
Bharti Airtel	735.45	22.25
BPL	431.25	0.75
Britannia Ind	3698.50	76.90
Cipla	912.45	-1.70
Coal India	1860.70	-3.80
Dixis Lab	4905.75	-45.55
Dr Reddys Lab	4829.35	37.00
Eicher Motors	2746.75	22.50
Grasim Ind	1874.45	10.60
HCL Tech	1169.15	-3.65
HDFC	2945.60	4.00
HDFC Bank	1555.25	-17.00
HDFC Life	706.50	0.05
Hero MotoCorp	2718.80	4.45
Hindalco	449.75	-14.85
Hind Unilever	2400.15	-31.00
ICICI Bank	780.90	-5.65
IndusInd Bank	1032.20	-36.05
Infosys	1740.15	-2.35
Indian OilCorp	139.45	-0.25
ITC	230.85	2.10
JSW Steel	662.40	-14.25
Kotak Bank	2076.05	-21.15
LBT	1950.15	6.55
M&M	919.65	27.50
Maruti Suzuki	7511.65	-65.90
Nestle India Ltd.	18952.90	12.15
NTPC	137.40	-1.10
ONGC	157.70	1.05
PowerGrid Corp	184.40	-2.15
Reliance Ind	2549.90	28.20
SBI Life	1183.75	-23.50
State Bank	524.40	-4.75
Shree Cement	29355.80	126.15
Sun Pharma	811.10	9.75
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	842.40	6.75
Tata Motors	510.75	1.10
Tata Steel	1298.55	-37.40
TCS	3484.30	-21.40
Tech Mahindra	1566.60	7.40
Titan	2484.60	-27.50
UltraTech Cement	8106.80	-59.20
UPL	771.30	24.95
Wipro	652.60	-5.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 10

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	74.19	74.51
Euro	85.81	86.19
British Pound	100.35	100.82
Japanese Yen (100)	65.54	65.83
Chinese Yuan	11.61	11.66
Swiss Franc	81.25	81.61
Singapore Dollar	55.02	55.27
Canadian Dollar	59.71	59.97
Malaysian Ringgit	17.86	17.94

Source: Indian Bank

Nykaa makes debut with \$14-billion valuation

BENGALURU Indian cosmetics-to-fashion platform Nykaa surged 96% in a blockbuster debut, fetching India's first women-led unicorn a valuation of almost \$14 billion. REUTERS

Jobs, demand, credit growth to kick-start investment cycle

Finance ministry flags input costs, oil prices; sees fuel tax cuts cooling inflation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

India's economy is set for an accelerated uptick in job creation and demand, backed by strong prospects of a revival in investment, a surge in bank credit and easing of inflation pressures, the Ministry of Finance said on Wednesday.

"Armed with necessary macro and micro growth drivers, the stage is set for India's investment cycle to kick-start and catalyse its recovery towards becoming the fastest growing economy," it stated in its review of the economy for October.

With the progress of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign and festival season activity lending renewed opti-



Fresh fillip: 'The pace of COVID-19 vaccinations and festival season activity have lent renewed optimism'. • K.V. SRINIVASAN

mism to the ongoing economic recovery, "further demand stimulation, fuller restoration of supply chains, narrowing of demand-supply mismatches and greater employment generation are in the offing," the Department of Economic Affairs ad-

ded in the monthly review. Forecasting 'a strong possibility' of faster credit growth, it noted that bank credit had been buoyant in September with 'healthy credit penetration in labour-intensive sectors' that augured well for job creation.

India Cements Q2 profit contracts 69% to ₹22 cr.

'Rising fuel, coal prices impacting cost'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

India Cements Ltd.'s standalone net profit for the second quarter ended September contracted 69% to ₹21.97 crore on the impact of the COVID second wave, lower net plant realisation rate, and higher input cost.

The second-quarter results were to be seen in the backdrop of the COVID-led lockdown in the core markets of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and the unprecedented rains and floods in some States, said vice chairman and managing director N. Srinivasan.

Asserting that the second quarter also witnessed cost pressure by way of increasing fuel and coal prices, he



N. Srinivasan

said that all these were expected to put pressure on the output and earnings margins in the coming months.

During the period, total revenue improved to ₹1,190 crore from ₹1,070 crore. Total expenditure rose to ₹1,164 (₹966 crore), of which power and fuel cost ₹355 crore. Cement production improved by 8%.

'New Celerio is 15-23% more fuel-efficient'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. (MSIL) on Wednesday introduced the new Celerio, starting at ₹4.99 lakh. This is the first car in the firm's portfolio to be powered by the K-Series Engine, which the company said helped the new model achieve fuel economy of 26.68 km/litre.

"All-new Celerio with the K10 C engine is the most fuel-efficient petrol car in the Indian passenger car segment," said MD and CEO Kenichi Ayukawa.

"Along with teams at Suzuki Motor Corp., our engineers have achieved major fuel efficiency improvement [of] 15%-23% across variants over the outgoing Celerio," he added.

Buoyant prices to obviate need for MSP: Cotton Corp.

Market prices higher than MSP, may rise further: Agarwal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT COIMBATORE

The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) sees buoyant market prices precluding the need for a Minimum Support Price (MSP) operation during the current cotton season (October 2021 to September 2022).

The CCI procured 2.5 crore bales during the last two cotton seasons in MSP operation and had just about 70,000 bales of cotton with it now, Chairman and Managing Director Pradeep Kumar Agarwal said. The total outgo for the MSP operation in the two seasons was almost ₹70,000 crore. Cotton prices began looking up



Agarwal said. The CCI continues to sell the cotton stocks with it and may go for commercial purchase later if its stocks deplete, he added.

Textiles Secretary Upendra Prasad Singh also told mediapersons on Wednesday, "We do not see a need for procurement (cotton MSP operation) this year." On the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs' approval for committed price support of ₹17,408.85 crore to CCI for cotton seasons from 2014-2015 to 2020-2021, Mr. Singh said that about 50% funds would be released this year and the rest would get a budgetary allocation in the next fiscal.

Paytm IPO crawls to full subscription before close

India's largest IPO saw tepid demand

REUTERS BENGALURU

Indian fintech firm Paytm's initial public offering of up to ₹183 billion crawled towards a full subscription in the final hours of its issue period on Wednesday, signalling tepid demand for the country's largest stock market listing.

As of 0808 GMT, Paytm's offer of 48.3 million shares had received 55.9 million bids, according to stock exchange data.

Institutional investors bid for 1.88 times the shares reserved for them, while retail investors subscribed for 1.5 times the shares on offer.

The lacklustre response stood in sharp contrast to the strong demand for other Indian start-ups like food delivery firm Zomato and e-commerce beauty platform



FSN E-Commerce Ventures (Nykaa), which investors snapped up during the issue period and saw strong market debuts.

Loss-making Zomato's issue was oversubscribed over 38 times and profitable Nykaa's issue was oversubscribed by almost 82 times.

Paytm, backed by China's Ant Group and Japanese firm SoftBank's Vision Fund, has priced its issue at ₹2,080 - ₹2,150 per share.

Kalyan Jewellers turns profit of ₹69 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Kalyan Jewellers India Ltd. reported consolidated second-quarter net profit of ₹69 crore, as against a loss of ₹136 crore in the year earlier period.

Total revenue for the quarter was ₹2,889 crore, compared with ₹1,798 crore in the year earlier.

"The performance has been very strong and we remain confident of the current quarter given the continued easing of COVID restrictions as well as the return of buoyancy in consumer sentiments," said executive director Ramesh Kalyanaraman.

SPORT

TV PICKS

Men's T20 World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.
European WC 2022 Qualifiers: Sony Ten 2, 3 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 10.30 p.m.; Sony Ten 1, 2, 3 & Sony Six (SD & HD), 1.30 a.m. (Friday)

IN BRIEF

George and Jackson drive Clippers' win

LOS ANGELES Paul George finished with 24 points and Reggie Jackson added 23 as the Los Angeles Clippers extended its winning streak to five games with a 117-109 victory on Tuesday over the Portland Trail Blazers. **The results:** Milwaukee 118 bt Philadelphia 109; Utah 110 bt Atlanta 98; LA Clippers 117 bt Portland 109. REUTERS

Formiga — Brazil's most capped woman footballer — to retire

SAO PAULO Brazil's most-capped player Formiga (233 games) is to retire from international duty later this month, bringing an end to a career that included seven World Cups and Olympic Games, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said. Formiga's final game will be a friendly against India on Nov. 25 in Manaus. REUTERS

INRC 2021-22 season from next month

VISSAKHAPATNAM The 2021-22 season of FMSCI Indian National Rally Championship is set to begin here on Dec. 16 after being hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Provisional calendar:
Round 1: Visakhapatnam, December 16-18.
Round 2: Bengaluru, January 28-30.
Round 3: Coimbatore, February 26-28.
Round 4: MMSC, March 28-30.

'We need not be afraid of any opponent'

Women's team coach Dennerby says he has been able to identify the nucleus

FOOTBALL

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA KOLKATA

The Indian women's football team has reached a stage where it should not be afraid of any opponent, feels the National head coach Thomas Dennerby.

The experienced Swede, who took charge of the senior team in August, made his assessment ahead of the team's trip for an international tournament in Manaus, Brazil, later this month.

The team, which is targeting a good outing at the Asian Cup scheduled to be played early next year in India, has been shaping up well under Dennerby at its base at the Tata Steel complex in Jamshedpur.

The team notched up some successful results during the trips last month to Dubai, Bahrain and Sweden. The best performance came against the former Asian



Getting ready: Dennerby has been putting the team through its paces. • TWITTER/INDIANFOOTBALL

champion Chinese Taipei, which it beat by a solitary goal.

"We are reaching a level where we need not be afraid of any of our opponents in the Asian Cup. When we beat Chinese Taipei last month and I was not surprised. I want the players to believe in themselves and come out strong as a proud Indian team in every match," Dennerby told *The Hindu*.

"On the fitness level we are now touching the stage of high intensity running. It is the stage where the teams reach the higher sprint zone that helps in speeding up the game. All these help in better decision-making and greater technical perfection that is needed when facing teams high up in the world ranking," Dennerby said about the current status of India's preparation.

The coach said that preparations have reached a level where he is able to identify the nucleus of the team. "We have been able to identify 15 players as the key performers and among them there are eight or nine who will make the starting 11. We are still working with some positions now and are hopeful of getting the best players in each position before the Asian Cup," he said.

National wrestling championships from today

Geeta Phogat eyeing a comeback in the event

SPORTS BUREAU NANDINI NAGAR (UTTAR PRADESH)

Several top wrestlers, including World and Olympic medallists, will be seen in action at the three-day National wrestling championships to be held here from Thursday.

In the absence of the wrestlers who competed in the Tokyo Olympics — who have skipped the year-ending event due to various issues — elite names like Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik, World championships medallists Sarita Mor and Pooja Dhanda, World under-23 medallists Divya Kakran and Nisha, Worlds medallists

Narsingh Yadav and Rahul Aware, Commonwealth games and Asian medallist Satyaward Kadian, Olympian Sandeep Tomar and Asian medallist Parveen Rana will be seen in action.

Former Worlds medallist and Commonwealth Games gold medallist Geeta Phogat is eyeing a comeback in the event, which will serve as a perfect launch pad for the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games next year.

Power packed units Railways, which had been stationed here for the last month to conduct a camp,

Services, which has selected a team of young and experienced wrestlers, and Harryana will be some of the power-packed units in the championships.

Annual general meeting Meanwhile, the annual general meeting of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) will coincide with the Nationals.

Important topics such as selection criteria of wrestlers for the Olympics and fielding of two teams by a unit at the National championships are likely to be discussed in the meeting.



Geeta Phogat. • FILE PHOTO

Team MRF Tyres triumphs

Clinches the Italian Rally Championship

MOTOR SPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER CHENNAI

Team MRF Tyres clinched the Italian Rally Championship (Gravel) title in the Liburna Rally held over the weekend. Coming into the rally, Paolo Andreucci with co-driver Rudy Briani driving the MRF Tyres Skoda Fabia Rally2 Evo was chasing Umberto Scandola, who retired early in the rally, for the championship.

It was a tough task for MRF Tyres in the ultra-competitive stages of the Italian championship and Andreucci needed to finish at least second to win.

The Liburna Rally was run over nine stages and Team MRF Tyres finished inside the top three on each stage, taking four stage wins to finish second.

Andreucci, who won his 12th Italian Championship, helped Team MRF Tyres to its first Italian Rally Cham-

pionship in its first season itself.

"A great rally ending a great season. At the beginning of the year, we had a goal to get a top-three finish and being crowned champions today is an incredible result," said Andreucci.

"This is my 12th title and this victory is due to the excellent teamwork from MRF Tyres and the H Sport team. Our performances over the last few months have been great," he added.

Riya makes pre-quarters

INDIANS ABROAD

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Riya Bhatia beat Jasmin Jebawy of Germany 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 to make the pre-quarters of the \$60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Chile. Riya also made the doubles quarterfinals in partnership with Maria Fernanda Herazo Gonzalez of Colombia.

In the Challenger in Slovakia, Ramkumar Ramanathan reached the doubles quarterfinals with Sergio Martos Gornes of Spain.

The results: €66,640 Challenger (pre-quarterfinals): Sergio Martos Gornes (Esp) & Ramkumar Ramanathan bt Kristof Minarik & Lukas Palovic (Svk) 6-3, 6-3.
\$60,000 ITF women, Santiago, Chile: Singles (first round): Riya Bhatia bt Jasmin Jebawy (Ger) 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.
Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Maria Fernanda Herazo Gonzalez (Col) & Riya bt Dasha Ivanova (USA) & Jasmin Jebawy (Ger) 6-4, 6-0.

PNG pulls out of Women's WC Qualifier

ANI DUBAI

Papua New Guinea has withdrawn from the ICC Women's World Cup Qualifier 2021 in Zimbabwe from Nov. 21 to Dec. 5 as it is unable to send a team due to several members of the squad testing positive for COVID-19.

There will be no replacement for PNG.

Manish rallies to stop Madhwin

TENNIS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT INDORE

Second seed Manish Suresh-kumar bounced back from a slow start to trounce qualifier Madhwin Kamath 6-7(4), 6-1, 6-1 in the first round of the \$15,000 ITF men's tennis tournament at the Indore Tennis Club on Wednesday.

In the pre-quarters, Manish will face another qualifier Faisal Qamar, who put out Adil Kalyanpur for the loss of six games.

Lucky loser Lohithaksha Bathrinath pipped qualifier Ishaque Eqbal 7-6(4) in the decider to face seventh seed Rishab Agarwal.

Qualifier Ajay Malik beat Aryan Goveas 6-4, 6-2 to set up a pre-quarterfinal against former National champion Dalwinder Singh. S.D. Prajwal Dev got past Vishnu Vardhan to face Nitin Kumar Singh.

The results: First round: Nicolas Tepmahc (Fra) bt Paras Dahiya 6-4, 0-1 (ret.); Philip Sekulic (Aus) bt Dusty Boyer

(USA) 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(7); Alexis Canter (GBR) bt Denim Yadav 6-2, 6-4; Nitin Kumar Singh bt Arvid Nordquist (Swe) 6-3, 2-0 (retired).

S.D. Prajwal Dev bt Vishnu Vardhan 6-4, 6-2; Ajay Malik bt Aryan Goveas 6-4, 6-4; Dalwinder Singh bt V.M. Ranjeet 6-3, 6-1; Bharath Kumaran bt Karunoday Singh 3-6, 7-6(3), 6-2; Rishab Agarwal bt Romain Faucon (Bel) 6-3, 7-5; Lohithaksha Bathrinath bt Ishaque Eqbal 3-6, 6-2, 7-6(4); Faisal Qamar bt Adil Kalyanpur 6-4, 6-2; Manish Sureshkumar bt Madhwin Kamath 6-7(4), 6-1, 6-1.

Mitchell and Neesham power New Zealand into the final

Former's unbeaten 47-ball 72 and the latter's 11-ball 27 take the Kiwis home



Stepping up to the plate: With New Zealand needing 57 off 24 balls, Mitchell and Neesham got into the act. • GETTY IMAGES

ICC T20 WC

AMOL KARHADKAR
ABU DHABI
Martin Guptill did not fire. Kane Williamson, too, crumbled under pressure. But Daryl Mitchell's calculated assault (72 n.o., 47b, 4x4, 4x6), Devon Conway's sensible knock (46, 38b, 5x4, 1x6) and James Neesham's cameo (27, 11b, 1x4, 3x6) took New Zealand to a five-wicket win against England with six balls to spare in the first semifinal of the ICC T20 World Cup at the Zayed Cricket Stadium on Wednesday.

This helped the Black Caps avenge their defeats against the Three Lions in the 50-over World Cup final in 2019 and the 2016 T20 World Cup semifinal. It will be New Zealand's maiden appearance in the World T20 final after losing in the last-four stage twice (2007 & '16).

Chasing a target of 167, the Kiwis slipped to 13 for two. Mitchell, despite struggling to find his rhythm against Mark Wood's pace and Adil Rashid's leg-spin, and Conway steadied the ship with an 82-run partnership for the third wicket. Conway fell

in the 14th over, charging at leggie Liam Livingstone and getting stumped by Jos Buttler.

With 57 required off the last four overs, Neesham went after Chris Jordan, hitting two sixes and a six as 23 came off the 17th over. In the next, the left-hander smashed Rashid for a six before falling in the same over. By the time he left, Neesham had brought down the target to 20 off two overs.

Chris Woakes, England's best bowler till then, was carted around the park by Mitchell. The opener hit sixes off successive balls before sealing the contest with a boundary off the final ball of the 19th over.

Before Mitchell and Neesham's heroics, New Zealand's bowling unit had put in yet another solid performance to restrict England to 166 for four after electing to field.

Even though Moeen Ali (51 n.o., 37b, 3x4, 2x6) and Dawid Malan (41, 30b, 4x4, 1x6) forged a 63-run stand for the third wicket, the Kiwis had things under control.

Moeen was promoted in the batting order to No. 4, after Buttler's dismissal in the

ninth over, to counter the spin duo of Ish Sodhi and Mitchell Santner. With the leggie and the left-armer turning the ball into the left-hander, Williamson was forced to alter his strategy. Santner bowled a solitary

over, part-time offie Glenn Phillips chipped in with one and Neesham delivered two overs to complete the fifth bowler's quota. Morgan's men, boasting of an array of big-hitters, could never really get going.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND
Jos Buttler lbw b Sodhi 29 (24b, 4x4), Jonny Bairstow c Williamson b Milne 13 (17b, 2x4), Dawid Malan c Conway b Southee 41 (30b, 4x4, 1x6), Moeen Ali (not out) 51 (37b, 3x4, 2x6), Liam Livingstone c Santner b Neesham 17 (10b, 1x4, 1x6), Eoin Morgan (not out) 4 (2b); Extras (lb-2, w-9): 11; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 166.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-37 (Bairstow, 5.1 overs), 2-53 (Buttler, 8.1), 3-116 (Malan, 15.2), 4-156 (Livingstone, 19.2).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING
Southee 4-0-24-1, Boult 4-0-40-0, Milne 4-0-31-1, Sodhi 4-0-32-1, Santner 1-0-8-0, Neesham 2-0-18-1, Phillips 1-0-11-0.

NEW ZEALAND
Martin Guptill c Moeen b Woakes 4 (3b, 1x4), Daryl Mitchell (not out) 72 (47b, 4x4, 4x6), Kane Williamson c Adil Rashid b Woakes 5 (11b), Devon Conway st. Buttler b Livingstone 46 (38b, 5x4, 1x6), Glenn Phillips c Billings b Livingstone 2 (4b), James Neesham c Morgan

b Adil Rashid 27 (11b, 1x4, 3x6), Mitchell Santner (not out) 1 (1b); Extras (b-1, lb-4, w-4, nb-1): 10; Total (for five wkts. in 19 overs): 167.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-4 (Guptill, 0.3), 2-13 (Williamson, 2.4), 3-95 (Conway, 13.4), 4-107 (Phillips, 15.1), 5-147 (Neesham, 17.6).

ENGLAND BOWLING
Woakes 4-1-36-2, Jordan 3-0-31-0, Adil Rashid 4-0-39-1, Wood 4-0-34-0, Livingstone 4-0-22-2.

Toss: New Zealand.
Man-of-the-Match: Mitchell.
New Zealand won by five wickets with six balls to spare.

Innings scan		
England		New Zealand
38	Dots	44
14	Fours	11
4	Sixes	8
40/1	PP	36/2
8.30	RR	8.78

Neesham swung it for us, says Mitchell

AMOL KARHADKAR
ABU DHABI
Opener Daryl Mitchell was obviously excited after emerging as the player-of-the-match in New Zealand's memorable win against England in the ICC T20 World Cup semifinal on Wednesday.

"Obviously any game you win for your country is pretty special, let alone a World Cup semifinal," Mitchell said. "It was nice to contribute

and help us get over the line, but we know we have got another big one coming up in a couple of days' time. We are pretty excited about it."

Mitchell singled out all-rounder James Neesham for swinging the game in the Black Caps' favour.

"The way Jimmy came out and struck the ball pretty much from ball one was special. It got us some momentum in the last few overs," he said. "We always knew the

rate was pretty high at that stage. His knock was vital in scripting the win."

England captain Eoin Morgan, despite admitting that the loss was a bitter pill to swallow, complimented Neesham for his cameo.

Devastated
"We are devastated. To be on the wrong side of a close game is not easy to take. We fought unbelievably well today on a wicket that didn't

necessarily suit our batting, but we managed to post a par score. We were brilliant with the ball," Morgan said.

"We were right in the game, if not ahead of the game, until Jimmy Neesham came to the wicket.

"I think throughout those innings, everybody struggled to clear the ropes. I feel that it was just the nature of the pitch. You have to take your hat off to Neesham. He played really well."

Australia, Pakistan clash in battle of equals

With rival openers and pace trios evenly matched, spinners may hold sway

AMOL KARHADKAR
ABU DHABI
There's was one of fiercest opening combinations in Test cricket when Australia was conquering literally every game they played. Come Thursday, Matthew Hayden and Justin Langer will be planning the downfall of each other's outfit in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup semifinal at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

While Hayden, in his maiden assignment as a member of Pakistan's coaching staff, has been instrumental in Pakistan being the only unbeaten team in the tournament so far, he will know his boys' task is cut out against his home team which has Langer in charge.

Besides, the semifinal could be touted as a curtain raiser to Australia's first tour of Pakistan in 2022 after more than two decades, announced hours earlier.

Once Aaron Finch and Babar Azam step out for toss, though, Hayden and Langer will slide away from the lime-light and will be chewing their nails in the dugout, hoping for their respective teams to continue their excellent run.

Finch and David Warner are the closest competitors to Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan in the race for the best opening combination of the tournament.

Ditto with the pace trios, with little to choose between Australia's Mitchell Starc, Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood and Pakistan's Shaheen Shah Afridi, Haris Rauf and Hasan Ali, all of whom have left their footprints over the last three weeks.

In this scenario, the battle

Heavyweight joust

Pakistan and Australia, making it to the semifinal of the ICC T20 World Cup after 2012, will be involved in a high stakes contest at the Ring of Fire

PAKISTAN

2007 SEMIFINALS bt New Zealand by six wickets

2009 SEMIFINALS bt South Africa by seven runs

FINAL lost to India by five runs

2010 SEMIFINALS bt Sri Lanka by eight wickets

2010 SEMIFINALS lost to Australia by three wickets

2012 SEMIFINALS lost to Sri Lanka by 16 runs

3 Pakistan

6 H2H IN T20 WORLD CUP Played

3 Australia

AUSTRALIA

2007 SEMIFINALS lost to India by 15 runs

2010 SEMIFINALS bt Pakistan by three wickets

FINAL lost to England by seven wickets

2012 SEMIFINALS lost to West Indies by 74 runs

It's interesting how the narrative can change really quick. About 10 days ago our team was too old and now we are an experienced team

FINCH
Australia captain

I was a warrior for Australian cricket over two decades, so that does give me the benefit of having wonderful insights into these players

HAYDEN
Pakistan batting coach

of spinners could prove decisive. Adam Zampa has been a revelation for Australia, being the joint-highest wicket-taker in the Super-12 stage with 11 scalps.

On the contrary, despite their ability to stifle batters, neither Shadab Khan nor Imad Wasim have been amongst wickets consistently. If Zampa spins his web around a fearsome middle- and late-middle order of Pa-

kistan, with youngster Asif Ali joining the old warhorses Shoaib Malik and Mohammad Hafeez, Australia could hope to end its run of mediocre returns at the biggest stage of the shortest format.

On the other hand, if Pakistan can halt Zampa's dream run in the middle overs, Hayden can actually hope to wear a bigger smile than that of his left-handed opening partner.

TODAY'S MATCH

Pakistan vs Australia

DUBAI, 7.30 P.M. IST

H2H IN T20 IS

Played: 23

Pakistan 13 | Australia 9 | NR 1

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

I will see it from a different side, says Viswanathan Anand

He will be a commentator in the World title match

CHESS

K. KEERTHIVASAN
CHENNAI
Viswanathan Anand has competed in 10 World chess championships since 1995 and won five. This time the 51-year-old will be travelling for the championship but in a different role. One without the pressure and intense preparations that come with it as a player.

Anand will be one of the official commentators for the 2021 World Championship match between champion Magnus Carlsen and challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi of Russia from November 24 to December 16.

"I will see it from a different side! I will be in a World championship without the tension and pressure. In the end, I am a chess fan and so will be happy in a chess competition," said Anand to *The Hindu* here on Wednesday.

Carlsen's form, observed Anand, has been very impressive in the last year (2020-21). "If you see the two tournaments in Norway (Norway Chess in 2020 & 2021) and the one in Wijk Aan Zee (Tata Steel tournament in 2020), and the other tour events, he is playing continuously and playing well despite a hectic schedule. He is very consciously trying to get himself into good shape for the Worlds," said Anand.



Extra taxing: Vishwanathan Anand feels the addition of two more games will take its toll on the players. • FILE PHOTO

Going by his current form, Anand said Carlsen will be the clear favourite. "Even though there were moments when he has looked wobbly, this is again a perception rather than reality. Because people have unrealistic expectations from him. But if you see the consistency in the tournaments he has won, we still have to call him the favourite," he said.

Nepomniachtchi, according to Anand, has a bit of catching up to do when it comes to fitness. "Because he probably had to do this match practice for the first

time. And I think he took much more time off. But he has managed some reasonable performances. He is strong enough to be a good rival," he said.

Elaborating that 14 games plus tiebreaks (since the 2008 edition, it has been 12-game format with tiebreaks) this time will be taxing on both players, Anand said: "Two extra games will make it slightly more tiring. They now play three games before a rest day and not two games like before. Longer games give both players more chances for a comeback from setbacks," he added.

Court issues notice to BFI

Federation says it has included Arundhati as a reserve

Y.B. SARANGI
KOLKATA
The Delhi High Court on Wednesday issued a notice to the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) over a petition filed by boxer Arundhati Choudhary seeking her selection in the 70kg category for the upcoming World women's boxing championships in Istanbul, Turkey, next month.

The court also issued notices to the Union Sports Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) over the issue, said advocate Sandeep Lamba, representing Arundhati. The case will be heard next on November 22.

In a statement, BFI said the decision to make a one-time exception and select Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain directly for the World championships was taken to give her time to "recuperate" after the Olympics.

It was communicated to all State associations much before the National championships at Hisar, BFI informed the court through its advocates Hrishikesh Baruah and Parth Goswami.

BFI said it has nothing against the petitioner (Arundhati) and has included her as a reserve player.

Domestic season to begin after long break

BADMINTON

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI
The domestic badminton season is set to begin next month after a 20-month hiatus with back-to-back senior-ranking Level-3 tournaments, the national federation announced on Wednesday.

The season will start in Chennai with the first tournament from Dec. 16 to 22 followed by another Level-3 tournament in Hyderabad from Dec. 24 to 30.

Both the events carry a prize money of ₹10 lakh each, and are a part of the Badminton Association of India's (BAI) new domestic format, which was approved in 2019.

The last date of entry for the Chennai event is Nov. 24, while for Hyderabad it is Dec. 1.

BAI secretary Ajay K. Singhania said the domestic season will begin maintaining COVID-related protocols and all players will have to carry RTPCR negative reports.

Brazil will look to seal direct spot

Argentina sweats over Messi's fitness



Unwanted headache: Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni will have to take a call on playing Lionel Messi who is nursing an injury. • AP

WC QUALIFYING

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SAO PAULO
For front-running Brazil, the main aim this week is beating Colombia and securing an automatic spot at next year's World Cup in Qatar with plenty of time to spare in South American qualifying.

For second-place Argentina, the bigger concern ahead of its trip to Uruguay is over the fitness of Lionel Messi.

Messi has travelled to Argentina but has a knee injury that kept him out of two matches for his club Paris Saint-Germain.

Brazil has 31 points and Argentina has 25 from 11 matches – their encounter in September was bizarrely suspended over breaches of COVID-19 protocols. FIFA will decide what to do with it. Ecuador (17), Colombia (16) and Uruguay (16) hold the next three places, but have all played 12 matches.

The top four teams in South America earn direct entry to next year's World Cup. The fifth-place team goes into an inter-continental playoff for a spot in Qatar.

A Brazil victory at the Neo-Quimica Arena in Sao Paulo on Thursday will put coach Tite's team 18 points ahead of fourth-place Colombia, which will have only five more matches in hand. The Colombians are the only team to hold the Selecao to a draw in the current edition

of qualifiers. Some mathematical combinations allow second-placed Argentina to hope for its direct spot with a win against Brazil next week in San Juan, but the Copa America champion will have to beat Uruguay in Montevideo on Friday to have any chance of achieving that in front of its home fans.

There's three other matches in South American qualifying on Thursday, including Ecuador hosting last-place Venezuela and Peru against Bolivia.

Paraguay, in eighth place, will play sixth-place Chile in a match that could nearly end qualification hopes for one of them. Guillermo Barros Schelotto will have his debut as head coach after Paraguay fired Eduardo Berizzo in October.



THE HINDU GROUP

Lit for life is back and it is online.

Lend an ear to some of your favourite authors and thinkers as they prepare to enthrall you with the power of the spoken word.

DAY 1: Friday, November 12



5:30 PM
My Life in Full: Work, Family, and our Future.
Indra Nooyi in conversation with Vinay Kamath.



6:15 PM
Shashi & Sashi.
Shashi Tharoor in conversation with Sashi Kumar on Life, Literature, Language and Politics.



7:00 PM
Junglenama: A Story for our Times.
Amitav Ghosh in conversation with Somak Ghoshal.



8:00 PM
A Viral World: Why Viruses are Necessary.
Pranay Lal in conversation with Ramya Kannan.



DAY 2: Saturday, November 13



10:45 AM
Lessons of the Pandemic.
Dr. Srinath Reddy, Dr. Gagandeep Kang, and Prof. Arun Kumar in conversation with Kamini Mahadevan.



11:45 AM
This is My Story.
Sudha Kongara in conversation with Chitra Mahesh.



12:45 PM
Sense Smell Touch: Collaborating in Theatre Making.
Anuradha Kapur and Deepan Sivaraman in conversation.



1:35 PM
The Song of Draupadi.
Ira Mukhoty in conversation with Pankaja Srinivasan.



4:00 PM
In The Wild: Conversations about Conservation.
Neha Sinha and Sanjay Gubbi in conversation with Mahesh Rangarajan.



5:00 PM
Reclaiming Gandhi.
Subodh Kerkar



6:15 PM
Mind Matters: An Exploration of Lifespan Mental Health in COVID-19 Times.
Dr. Pratima Murthy, Dr. Shekhar Seshadri, and Dr. Soumitra Pathare in conversation with Dr. Ennapadam S. Krishnamoorthy.



7:30 PM
Running Towards Mystery.
The Venerable Tenzin Priyadarshi in conversation with N. Ravi.



THE HINDU



in association with



RAJASTHAN

The Incredible State of India!

THE HINDU

To register for Lit for Life's first virtual event, visit <https://bit.ly/THLFL21> or scan the QR code.



Realty Partner



Banking Partner



Insurance Partner



Knowledge Partner



Bookstore Partner



Text & Context

NEWS IN NUMBERS



A much warmer earth

2.4 in degree Celsius, the rise in global temperature by the end of this century, even if new national pledges to tackle climate change are followed, according to the Climate Action Tracker report on Tuesday. "Even with all new Glasgow pledges for 2030, we will emit roughly twice as much in 2030 as required for 1.5 degree Celsius," the report said, referring to the aspirational goal for warming since pre-industrial levels set down in the 2015 Paris Agreement. Greenpeace called on countries to agree to update their 2030 targets. REUTERS

Fiscal consolidation

35 % is India's gross fiscal deficit in the first half of FY22 as a % of its annual Budget estimate. The Union Government consolidated its fiscal position in the first half of FY22 by limiting the gross fiscal deficit at ₹5.3 trillion. In absolute terms, the deficit was the lowest in the last four years. It was possible primarily on account of the buoyancy in tax collections. But it also came at the cost of lower transfers to the State Governments and a slow pace of expenditure by the Union Government itself. CMIE

Paytm finds buyers

1.89 is the number of times by which Paytm's IPO was oversubscribed at the close of the final day of the sale. The company, which had already raised \$1.1 billion from anchor investors, received \$2.64 billion worth of bids for the remaining shares on offer. Institutional investors bid for 2.79 times the shares reserved for them, while retail investors bid for 1.66 times. Loss-making Paytm, formally called One97 Communications, offers a range of services such as banking, shopping, movie and travel ticketing and gaming. REUTERS

COVID-19 rages on

250 million is the number of reported COVID-19 infections globally as of November 9. Cases are still rising in 55 out of 240 countries, with Russia, Ukraine and Greece at or near record levels of reported cases since the pandemic started. The daily average number of cases has fallen by 36% over the past three months, but the virus is still infecting 50 million people worldwide every 90 days due to the Delta variant. By contrast, it took nearly a year to record the first 50 million COVID-19 cases. REUTERS

Return of the prodigy

767 total appearances by former club talisman and ace midfielder Xavi, who has now been named as the coach of the FC Barcelona team at a difficult moment. This is second only to Lionel Messi's 778 appearances for the club. Barcelona stands a lowly ninth in the Spanish La Liga and is precariously placed in the UEFA Champions League. Xavi was hired as coach after a stint with Qatar's Al Sadd football club, where his team was quite successful. Xavi as a player had won 32 trophies, second only to Andres Iniesta among Spaniards.

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

The distant dream of a clear sky

Why has air quality dipped to dangerous levels in north India? What role do the bursting of crackers and the burning of stubble play in the severely receding air quality?

JACOB KOSHY

THE GIST

■ When there is adverse weather, the effect of key sources of particulate matter pollutants that are ever-present through the year become amplified.

■ The smoke from crackers as well as the metals they contain have been identified as key contaminants. Stubble burning on Deepavali also contributes to more than 40% of the overall increase in pollution.

■ The need for a joint-front has led to the formation of a Commission for Air Quality Management

The story so far: Post-Deepavali, Delhi – and many of the cities in the adjoining National Capital Region – have been enveloped in a familiar pall of particulate matter pollution. The Air Quality Index (AQI) in several cities has breached the 450-mark on a scale of 500. Anything above 400 is categorised as 'severe'.

How bad is the situation?

Air quality for over a week has been calamitous in most of north India. With the retreat of the southwest monsoon, moisture levels have reduced and the cold dry air that results from the overall drop in temperature with the advent of winter starts to settle down. There is also a significant drop in windspeeds during this time. When windspeeds are over 10-15 kmph and temperatures are warm, fine particulate matter rises and is goes into the higher recesses of the atmosphere. But once the monsoon retreats, and windspeed reduces, pollutants take much longer to disperse. The

Farmers in Punjab and Haryana have been incentivised to abstain from burning stubble and there are stringent fines to rein in errant ones.

entire Indo-Gangetic plain, covering large parts of Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and eastern Uttar Pradesh, constitutes an air shed, meaning that roughly the same atmospheric conditions prevail. Therefore, when there is adverse weather, the effect of key sources of particulate matter pollution – road dust, vehicle exhaust from transportation, from the burning of wood for heat and cooking and from heavy industry – that are ever-present through the year become amplified.

What role do crackers and stubble burning play?

The smoke from crackers as well as the metals they contain such as nickel, lead and arsenic have been identified as key contaminants. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) monitors both air and noise levels at several places in the country few days before and after Deepavali to measure this. Since 2017, when the Supreme Court imposed restrictions on bursting crackers, the CPCB reported a reduction of as much as



38% in barium levels in 2020 compared to previous years' levels. However, there has been no significant improvement in particulate matter pollution as many cities such as Delhi, Lucknow, Kolkata and Bhopal recorded a 60% to 80% increase on Deepavali day when compared with that in previous days of the week. Such a measurement does not account for changes in meteorological conditions or increased traffic observed during festivals, and with crackers being the most discernible variable that is present during Deepavali, all changes in air quality are usually attributed to crackers. The burning of stubble, which poses a unique air pollution challenge in parts of North India, may end up increasing pollution levels on Deepavali. Farm fires this year were set to peak – and there are nearly 4,000-6,000 recorded instances of burning in Punjab, Haryana and eastern Uttar

Pradesh on a single day – during Deepavali week. Meteorological forecasts, before Deepavali, had said that in spite of a rise in stubble burning these fires were unlikely to contribute more than 5% of the pollution load. However, on Deepavali, these fires ended up contributing to more than 40% of the load. This was because of a change in the wind direction, which, instead of moving east, turned north-westerly, bringing pollutants from stubble-burning States. Coupled with the fact that wind speeds were near zero in Delhi, this led to a dramatic increase in particulate pollution. Thus, both crackers and stubble add to Delhi's noxious air, but are significantly influenced by the prevailing meteorology.

What is being done about it?

A major realisation that has come about from years of facing the air pollution crisis is

that no State can control pollution in isolation. But it has been difficult to get all States on board. Farmers in Punjab and Haryana have been incentivised to abstain from burning stubble and there are stringent fines to rein in errant ones. However, implementation on the ground is weak. Only a limited fraction – 10-20% – abstain from burning, primarily because burning stubble is the cheapest and easiest option. The fear of political reprisal means that fines are not seriously pursued. However, the need for a joint front has led to the formation of a Commission for Air Quality Management, a full-time body with a Chairman, a core group of members and independent experts.

A paucity of people, who can enforce measures on the ground, and the sheer scale of the problem, which cannot be solved by quick fixes but only through systemic changes, are going to be the key challenges.

Clearing the smog: Public Works Department workers sprinkling water from the tankers to curb the air pollution in New Delhi last week. *R.V. MOORTHY

EXPLAINER

FCRA changes: ease of monitoring vs crippling curbs

What are the new amendments to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010? Why are NGOs moving court against the changes?

K. VENKATARAMANAN

The story so far: The Supreme Court has reserved its judgment on petitions challenging the validity of amendments introduced in 2020 to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, aimed at tightening the curbs on NGOs allowed to receive foreign funds. While NGOs that have termed the amendments as harsh and arbitrary, the Government has argued that its intended to streamline the flow of funds and to enhance transparency and accountability.

What is the background to the amendments?

Foreign donations received by individuals and organisations in India have been regulated by law since 1976. The Act was since repealed and re-enacted with fresh measures and restrictions as the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010. The law sought to consolidate the acceptance and utilisation of foreign contribution or foreign hospitality by individuals, associations or companies, and to prohibit such contributions from being used for activities detrimental to national interest.

The FCRA was amended in September



2020 to introduce some new restrictions. The Government says it did so because it found that many recipients were wanting in compliance with provisions relating to filing of annual returns and maintenance of accounts. Many did not utilise the funds received for the intended objectives. It claimed that the annual inflow as foreign contributions almost doubled between 2010 and 2019. The FCRA registration of 19,000 organisations was cancelled and, in some cases, prosecution was also initiated.

How has the law changed?

There are at least three major changes

that NGOs find too restrictive. An amendment to Section 7 of the Act completely prohibits the transfer of foreign funds received by an organisation to any other individual or association.

Another amendment mandates that every person (or association) granted a certificate or prior permission to receive overseas funds must open an FCRA bank account in a designated branch of the State Bank of India in New Delhi. All foreign funds should be received only in this account and none other. However, the recipients are allowed to open another FCRA bank account in any scheduled bank to which they could

transfer the received funds for utilisation. The designated bank will inform authorities about any foreign remittance with details about its source and the manner in which it was received.

In addition, the Government is also authorised to take the Aadhaar numbers of all the key functionaries of any organisation that applies for FCRA registration or for prior approval for receiving foreign funds. Another change is that the portion of the receipts allowed as administrative expenditure has been reduced from 50% to 20%.

What is the criticism against these changes?

NGOs questioning the law consider the prohibition on transfer arbitrary and too heavy a restriction. One of its consequences is that recipients cannot fund other organisations. When foreign help is received as material, it becomes impossible to share the aid if the recipient NGO does not have the means to distribute on its own. Even the court wanted to know whether this means that one organisation funding other organisations for designated activities is completely prohibited. Lawyers have argued that there is no

rational link between designating a particular branch of a bank with the objective of preserving national interest. It is also inconvenient as the NGOs might be operating elsewhere. They have also cited the recent Supreme Court judgment on the alleged use of Pegasus spyware to argue that 'national security' cannot be cited as a reason without adequate justification.

What does the Government say?

The Government has contended that the amendments were necessary to prevent foreign state and non-state actors from interfering with the country's polity and internal matters. The changes are also needed to prevent malpractices by NGOs and diversion of foreign funds. Preventing possible diversion of funds is also the reason cited for reducing the administrative expense component, as some organisations tended to inflate the actual expenditure incurred.

The provision of having one designated bank for receiving foreign funds is aimed at making it easier to monitor the flow of funds. The Government clarified that there was no need for anyone to come to Delhi to open the account as it can be done remotely.

THE GIST

■ The FCRA sought to consolidate the acceptance and utilisation of foreign contribution and to prohibit such contributions from being used for activities detrimental to national interest.

■ NGOs questioning the law consider the prohibition on transfer arbitrary and too heavy a restriction.

■ The Government has maintained that the changes are needed to prevent malpractices by NGOs and diversion of foreign funds.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

A literal melting pot

A discussion on five books that explain climate change and the road forward

SUDIPTA DATTA

As world leaders participate in the UN Climate Change Conference, hosted by the U.K. and Italy, from October 31 to November 12, in Glasgow and initiate steps to mitigate global warming, we profile five books, which urge the world to listen to nature.

In *Half-Earth, Our Planet's Fight for Life* (W.W. Norton & Company, 2016), the final book of his trilogy on the environment, noted biologist Edward O. Wilson proposed that "only by committing half of the planet's surface to nature can we hope to save the immensity of life-forms that compose it". Unless humanity learns a great deal more about global biodiversity and moves quickly to protect it, we will soon lose most of the species composing life on Earth, he writes. "The Half-Earth proposal offers a first, emergency solution commensurate with the magnitude of the problem: I am convinced that only by setting aside half the planet in reserve, or more, can we save the living part of the environment and achieve the stabilization required for our own survival." The Pulitzer Prize-winning Wilson said setting a goal of protecting half the earth is necessary because "people understand and prefer goals".

In her 2021 book, *Under the White Sky* (PRH), Elizabeth Kolbert is critical of technological interventions to bring nature back. She blames the human species of the Anthropocene epoch of having an unprecedented power over the planet and yet doing everything to take ecosystems to the brink of collapse. The book, written at a time when the average global temperature is over a degree Celsius above pre-industrial temperature, is a result of field trips Kolbert took to places where the situation is calamitous. The only option in these places is a technological intervention, which Kolbert is uneasy about. The question she asks after each trip is whether, after doing so much damage, we can change nature to save it.

Amitav Ghosh has tackled the climate question in two books, the just-released *The Nutmeg's Curse* (Penguin) where he links global warming to colonial policies, and *The Great Derangement* (Chicago University Press, 2016), where he examines our inability to grasp the scale of the problem at the level of literature, history and politics. "My ancestors," he writes, "were ecological refugees long before the term was invented." Ghosh narrates a story he heard from his father: one day in the mid-1850s, the great Padma river [now in Bangladesh] suddenly changed course drowning the village and forcing the inhabitants to move west. He says he later realised that an energy surrounds us, an all-encompassing presence that may have its own purposes about which we know nothing. As he researched for a book on the Sundarbans, he jotted down in his notebook: "I do believe it to be true that the land here is demonstrably alive..." Portents of change could be seen in receding shorelines and a steady intrusion of sea water into lands that used to be cultivated." If you travel around the islands of Sundarbans, the villagers always point towards a receding river or at a village which was either nearer or further away.

In *The Nutmeg's Curse*, Ghosh uses a common spice - nutmeg, believed to cure plague - to link violent colonial ambitions which erased languages and a way of life to ecological devastation.

"It is worse, much worse, than you think," warns David-Wallace Wells in his 2019 book, *The Uninhabitable Earth: Life after Warming* (PRH). "We are currently adding carbon to the atmosphere at a considerably faster rate, by most estimates, at least ten times faster."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Amid a raging pandemic, a changing fiscal framework

The Government's announced fiscal policy stance and the fiscal regime it is running seem contradictory

DIPANKAR DASGUPTA

Recently, the Government cut excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹5 and ₹10, respectively, to ease inflation and give consumption a boost. In this piece dated February 24, 2021, Dipankar Dasgupta argues how high tax burdens showed a contradiction between the Government's fiscal policy stance (favouring expenditure to boost growth) and its actual regime (high indirect taxes). Edited excerpts:

There used to be a time – and this was well before India began to globalise – when each Union Budget announced sales tax increases on tobacco products, especially cigarettes. The demand for cigarettes being somewhat inelastic, the rise in tax was expected to be a shot in the arm for the revenue-starved Government of our poor country.

India is less poor now, having risen to the rank of an emerging market economy. Yet, COVID-19 has ushered in a cataclysm. As opposed to a Budget estimate of 3.5% for fiscal deficit, the revised estimates show a 2.7 times larger deficit of 9.5% for FY 2020-21. Moreover, a comparison of the Government's revised Budget estimates with the original Budget estimates reveals a fall in receipts from every source of taxation except excise. The revised Budget shows a rise of ₹94,000 crore on account of excise duties alone. Presumably, the increase comes from the much-debated excise duty increases on petroleum and diesel. As far as the Budget documents go, the excise duty rise will hardly compensate for the huge falls in other tax revenues. It is not surprising, therefore, that despite the excise rise, the fiscal deficit continues to be higher than the Budget estimate.

Given the nature of the products on which the excise duty has gone up, prices of commodities will rise in general, directly or indirectly. This is because all these commodities fall either in the category of final goods, which individuals purchase for personal consumption, or in the category of intermediate goods, which are used to

produce a variety of essential services. With annual output shrinking by an estimated 7.7%, it is straightforward to conclude that unemployment has risen significantly. And the accompanying price rise will be the unemployed persons' worst nightmare. The result will be severe inequality.

Changed philosophy

As far as shrinkage in output is concerned, it is the unavoidable lockdown that needs to be blamed rather than the Government's mismanagement of the economy. The associated inequalities though

According to the *Economic Survey*, India's average interest rate and growth rate over the last 25 years (leaving out FY 2020-21) have been 8.8% and 12.8% respectively

cannot be delinked from policy and, as political opponents will argue, COVID-19-linked income inequities ought to have been addressed through higher taxation of the rich. Even though such criticism does not lack wisdom, it appears that the philosophy underlying the Government's economic policy framework has changed.

In this context, it is well worth our while to pursue Volume 1 of the *Economic Survey 2020-21*. Chapter 2 of the document considers the basics of fiscal policy with reference to Olivier Blanchard's 2019 presidential address to the American Economic Association. Professor Blanchard's view may appear to run counter to our own Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, according to which the fiscal deficit must be capped under 3.5% or so. The idea underlying the prescription was that a fiscal deficit automatically transformed to Government debt. Such debts along with their servicing liabilities have a tendency to magnify over the years, thereby imprisoning Governments in debt traps. This leaves little room for growth enhancing expenditure.

Professor Blanchard, and following him the

Economic Survey, propose a different viewpoint altogether. Debt financed fiscal spending, according to them, could well be a driver of growth. It can improve the standard of living of the entire population, without necessarily removing inequality.

A Government's fiscal expenditure, Professor Blanchard points out, has stronger multiplier effects during recessions than during booms. In an economic boom, state expenditure may crowd out private expenditure on account of a rise in the interest rate. During recessions, private expenditure is low in any case, on account of a rise in precautionary savings and the grim state of long-term expectations. The Government's fiscal expenditure produces positive growth and this in turn can generate a feel good factor for the private sector over time. What will prevent the Government from sinking into a debt trap? Professor Blanchard shows that the debt-to-GDP ratio can be prevented from exploding if the rate of growth of GDP happens to be higher than the sovereign rate of interest.

According to the *Economic Survey*, India's average interest rate and growth rate over the last 25 years (leaving out FY 2020-21) have been 8.8% and 12.8% respectively. Hence, Professor Blanchard's condition is satisfied, so that debt financing of recession ought not to raise FRBM issues involving fear of future taxation to address past debts. The philosophy of the *Economic Survey* appears to be that expenditure causes growth, rather than distributional equality.

This, of course, is not to support excise duty increases, for it goes against the very principle of the Blanchard argument, which emphasises maintainable debt and expenditure as the vehicle of development as opposed to increased tax burdens. Therefore, there appears to be a contradiction between the Government's announced fiscal policy stance and the fiscal regime it is actually running. But then, Professor Blanchard's argument requires the growth rate to exceed the rate of interest, which was not the case in FY 2020-21.

THE GIST

The *Economic Survey* proposed that debt financed fiscal spending could be a driver of growth without necessarily removing inequality.

Noted Economist Olivier Blanchard states that the debt-to-GDP ratio can be prevented from exploding if the rate of growth of GDP happens to be higher than the sovereign rate of interest.

Excise duty increases go against the very principle of Blanchard's argument which emphasises maintainable debt and expenditure as the vehicle of development.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Today's quiz is based on newspapers and newspaper editors.

1 A former editor of *The Hindu*, this person was also the general secretary of Swaraj Party for a short while in the 1920s and was part of the delegation in the Second Round Table Conference along with Mahatma Gandhi in talks with the British in 1931. Name him.

2 The title "Sardar" was not only used to address the freedom fighter and India's first Home Minister Vallabhbhai Patel, but another statesman and journalist also. This person was briefly the editor of *Hindustan Times* and much later after Independence, served as the Ambassador to China. Name him.

3 The editor of one of the United States' most respected and best-selling newspapers for nearly a decade from 2012 to February 2021, this journalist was also featured in the Oscar-winning film *Spotlight*. The film sheds light on an intensive investigation led by *The Boston Globe* into systematic child abuse by Roman Catholic priests in the Boston area. Name the journalist who was also managing editor of *The Boston Globe* when the investigations took place.

4 India's oldest running periodical first started as a weekly in 1822, ran as a bi-weekly paper from 1832 to 1855 and has been a daily since. It is published in Gujarati and was set up by a Parsi-Zoroastrian scholar, Fardunjee Marzban. Name the newspaper.

5 Among the members of the Oversight Board, created by Facebook to regulate its content and policies with a mandate to even overturn the company's decisions, is a former editor of a prominent newspaper. The newspaper, under his editorship, broke several investigative stories, including the Wikileaks' released Cablegate stories and the Edward Snowden whistle-blower revelations. Name the journalist and the newspaper.



Name this newspaper that was started by Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa in 1903 and was later edited by his son Manilal Gandhi.

Please send your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Previous day's answers to the daily quiz : 1. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, 2. Alexander Kerensky, 3. B.N. Rau, 4. H.N.Kunzru, 5. Tukaram Omble, 6. V.R. Krishna Iyer

Early Birds
Rahul Panwar | Husain Zoopdiwala | Rahul Sai Veyikandla | Murtuza Qureshi | Sidhant Saurav