



Chamoli disaster was caused by an avalanche, says report



New economic package is a hoax, says Rahul Gandhi



Both, in the

second wave of the

pandemic, migrant

workers had been

exposed to financial

and other forms

of hardships due

access and claim

resources offered

by the States/Union

Territories. Migrant

vulnerable to the

to their limited

to the welfare

labourers are

particularly

economic

regression

first and the

Barty battles past Suarez Navarro; Zverev eases into second round



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

Xi honours PLA soldier killed in Galwan, ahead of party's anniversary

**NEARBY** 



Balaji Srivastav given addl. charge of Delhi CP

NEW DELHI Senior IPS officer Balaji Srivastav will hold the additional charge of Delhi Police Commissioner when incumbent S.N. Shrivastava retires on Wednesday, the Home Ministry said. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 3

#### Woman who converted to Islam moves HC

NEW DELH A woman who converted to Islam has approached the Delhi High Court seeking protection for herself and her family claiming that they are being witch-hunted by the U.P. police and media. CITY ▶ PAGE 2

#### **Central Vista: SC rejects** plea against HC ruling

NEW DELHI The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed an appeal filed against the Delhi High Court judgment refusing to halt the Central Vista project work amid the pandemic.

**NEWS** ▶ PAGE 8

**GEOGRAPHY** Module Ex- Faculty Vajiram & Ravi During Covid 3999/
After Covid 9999/Starting on 1st July 2021/5 Seats Let ETU.COM ©9218400100

**OPPORTUNITIES** PAGE 5

# Ensure that no migrant worker goes hungry, SC instructs govt.

Court sets July 31 deadline, tells States to implement One Nation One Ration Card

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI

A government cannot "abdicate" its duties to feed migrant workers, especially during a pandemic, merely because they did not have ration cards, the Supreme Court said in a judgment on Tuesday.

"There is a large number of such migrants who do not possess any card. Their above disability is due to their poverty and lack of education. The State cannot abdicate its duty towards such persons, especially in the wake of the pandemic where large numbers of migrant workers are not able to get jobs which may satisfy their basic needs," a Bench of Justices Ashok Bhushan and M.R. Shah observed in an 80-page judgment.

The court set July 31 as the deadline for the Centre and the States to ensure their "bounden duty" that none among the estimated 38 crore migrant workers, who form one-fourth of the country's population, goes hungry during the pandemic. These workers too have made "considerable contributions" to the country's growth and economic development.

The court ordered the State governments to frame schemes to distribute dry raFighting hunger



The [Labour] Ministry is not alive to the concerns of the migrant workers. The non-action of the Ministry is strongly disapproved JUSTICE ASHOK BHUSHAN Supreme Court judge

tions to migrant workers by July 31. "The States/Union Territories have to make extra efforts to reach migrant

wrote the judgment, said. The Centre has to supply whatever additional quantity of food grains a State demanded. The allocation of additional food grains and running of community kitchens in prominent places to feed workers should continue throughout the pandem-

labourers so that no migrant

labourer is denied two meals

ic, the court directed. Right to food, one of the bour Ministry for its "unpar-

"bare necessities of life", was an intrinsic part of the right to live with dignity, the court told the government.

It ordered all the States to

fully implement the One Na-

a day," Justice Bhushan, who tion One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme by July 31. The scheme allows migrant labourers covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) to access food at any fair price shop with his or her ration card in any part of the country.

> 'Unpardonable apathy' The court slammed the La-

SUPREME COURT donable apathy" in not completing the work of the ₹45.39 crore National Database for Unorganised Workers (NDUW) portal to register and identify migrant workers and unorganised labourers to ensure their rights, welfare and food se-

curity. The court had ordered the Ministry to finalise the NDUW module way back in 2018. The Centre has blamed the delay in implementation on "software" problems.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8 **RULING WELCOMED** ▶ PAGE 8

# Govt. gives nod for Cipla to import Moderna's vaccine

DCGI grants emergency use approval for ready-to-use jab

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) on Tuesday granted permission to Mumbai-based pharma major Cipla to import Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine, making it the fourth vaccine in the country to be given the emergency use authorisation (EUA).

Announcing this at the Health Ministry's press conference, NITI Aayog's member (Health) V.K. Paul said the modalities were being worked out for the import of the vaccine and added that India is also in talks with Pfizer and JJ to add to the basket of vaccines available in the country.

Currently, India has made available three COVID vaccines - Covaxin, Covishield and Sputnik.

7-month storage

Dr. Paul said the Moderna vaccine would be brought in as a ready-to-use injectable vaccine, which can be stored for seven months at prescribed temperature, and that normal storage after a vial is opened is 30 days.

"We are working to ensure that India is able to manufacture this vaccine here. We are also looking at increasing the production of vaccines that are being manufactured in our country to

### One more joins the battle

Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine has become the fourth one to get emergency use authorisation in India

■ Three other COVID-19 vaccines - Covaxin, Covishield and Sputnik B are currently available

■ India is also in talks with Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson to add to the vaccines available

Moderna's vaccine can be stored for a period of seven months at prescribed temperature and normal storage after the vial is

opened is 30 days It has shown to have an efficacy of approximately 94.1% in protecting against COVID-19, starting 14 days after the first dose

boost availability. The permission for restricted use in emergency situations has been granted for the Moderna vaccine keeping in mind the public interest.

"The firm has to submit a safety assessment of the vaccine in the first 100 beneficiaries before rolling out the vaccine, according to the approval order," Dr. Paul said.

He added that an application was received from Moderna through its Indian partner Cipla, following which the vaccine has been granted restricted emergency use authorisation by the drug regulator.

"This new permission for restricted emergency use potentially opens up a clear possibility of this vaccine be-

ing imported in the near fu-

**Based on evidence** 

new variants of SARS-

CoV-2 do not alter the

effectiveness of the

ture," explained Dr. Paul. Cipla, while applying for the license, referred to DCGI notices dated April 15 and June 1 that if a vaccine is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for EUA, then it may be made available without a post-approval bridging trial and the testing of every batch of the vaccine by the

Central Drugs Laboratory.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 8

# Monsoon session likely from July 19 to August 13

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The monsoon session of Parliament is likely to begin on July 19 and go on till August 13. There is no clarity as of now whether the existing

tinue to be followed.

FIR in U.P., M.P.

against Twitter

'distorted' map

An FIR has been lodged

against the managing director of Twitter India,

Manish Maheshwari, and

his colleague, Amrita Tripathi, in Bulandshahr for

allegedly showing a distort-

ed map of India on their

Madhya Pradesh Police has

also registered a case against Mr. Maheshwari ov-

er the distorted map, fol-

lowing a directive by the

State Home Minister, Na-

In Uttar Pradesh, the complaint was filed by a

Bajrang Dal leader who al-

leged that in a world map on Twitter, J&K and La-

dakh were shown as enti-

coincidence. It has hurt my

feelings as well as that of the people of Bharat," said

Pravin Bhati, co-convener, Bajrang Dal. The FIR was lodged under Section 505

(2) of the IPC and Section

Ms. Tripathi, who is

mentioned as India head of

Twitter, posted on Tues-

day: "So is this a good time

to clarify my role at my day

job? As good a time as any?

Presently on the content

partnerships team at Twit-

ter (in India). No spl pow-

ers/authority and definite-

ly not at the level some of

(With inputs from PTI)

you think..."

74 of the IT Act.

"This is not merely a

ties separate from India.

rottam Mishra.

The Cyber Crime Cell of

officials over

OMAR RASHID

website.

LUCKNOW/BHOPAL

of the 540 in the Lok Sabha, and 179 members, of the 232 in the Rajya Sabha, have got both doses of vaccines.

This session will have 20 sittings. Ever since the beginning of the coronavirus ing number of COVID-19 positive cases.

First session after polls

This will be the first session since the May 2 results of the Assembly elections in four sions of Parliament had to tory of Puducherry. Follow- especially the second wave

position will be in a stronger The Opposition parties are likely to take up the man-

West Bengal, the DMK in Tamil Nadu and the CPI (M)-led Left Front in Kerala, the Op-

So far, 403 members, out be truncated due to the rising the victory of the TMC in and the vaccination drive.

# Sabse Pehle Life Insurance

# **SHUBHRA RANJAN**

# **GEOGRAPHY OPTIONAL**

Introducing

**BY NIKHIL LOHITHAKSHAN** 

BATCH STARTING FROM 6th JULY 2021

Timing- 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM

■ Intensive theme-based learning with Exam focused approach.

■ The session starts with Basic concepts in Geography for building

conceptual clarity.

• Answer writing skill development sessions and personal guidance. Regular Map marking sessions and Test Series covering entire syllabus.

Available in Tablet & Website mode.

Introducing

# ANTHROPOLOGY OPTIONAL

**BY THIRUMURUGAN. A & KAVITHA. K** 

BATCH STARTING FROM 6th JULY 2021 Timing- 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM

200+ hours of intensive learning

■ Time bound completion of syllabus with extensive coverage Simple,

lucid explanation of theories and concepts Regular audio visual presentation / Regular tests for mains

■ Intensive answer writing skill development sessions UPSC compatible

Available in Tablet & Website mode.

STARTING FROM: 6<sup>th</sup> JULY 2021

> kolkata@shubhraranian.com

WILL ALSO BE CONDUCTED IN ONLINE (LIVE) MODE +91-8082048324 > lucknow@shubhraranjan.com +91-9807105725 > jammu@shubhraranjan.com > dehradun@shubhraranian.com

+91-7017255545 > bhopal@shubhraranjan.com +91-8269075694 > indore@shubhraranjan.com +91-9674345633 > patna@shubhraranjan.com > bhubaneswar@shubhraranjan.com +91-7008986503

25 Pusa Road, 1st Floor, Karol Bagh, New Delhi - 110005

📞 011-45612719, 9910812719 🛛 🔀 delhi@shubhraranjan.com 🛮 🚳 www.shubhraranjan.com

**GUARANTEED** (A Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual, Savings Plan)

Your key to a bright future

Get Guaranteed Additions\* every year—

✓ Age Eligibility: 90 days - 60 years 
✓ Basic Sum Assured: ₹1 Lakh - No Limit ✓ Policy Term: 15 to 20 years
✓ Premium Paying Term: Policy Term minus 5 years

✓ Loan Available

Call Centre Services (022) 6827 6827

\*Guaranteed additions @ ₹ 50/- per thousand Basic Sum Assured will be added at the end of each policy year till maturity/death in case of inforce policies. For details, contact your Agent/Nearest LIC Branch/visit www.licindia.in or SMS YOUR CITY NAME to 56767474

Follow us : 📍 You Tibe 🔰 👩 LIC India Forever | IRDAI Regn No.: 512



BEWARE OF SPURIOUS PHONE CALLS AND FICTITIOUS / FRAUDULENT OFFERS. IRDAI is not involved in activities like selling insurance policies, announcing bonus or investment of premiums. Public receiving such phone calls are requested to lodge a police complaint. For more details on risk factors, terms and conditions, please read sales brochure carefully before concluding a sale.

Also Available Online

#### IN BRIEF

#### R-Day case: Deep Sidhu. others get fresh summons

A Delhi court on Tuesday issued fresh summons to actor-activist Deep Sidhu and other accused in connection with violence and resultant damage at the Red Fort during the Republic Day farmers' rally this year. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Gajendra Singh Nagar directed all the accused to appear before it on July 12 through videoconference.

#### Woman on two-wheeler injured by kite string NEW DELHI

A 24-year-old woman riding a two-wheeler suffered grievous injuries after a sharp stray kite string stuck to her neck in north-east Delhi's Seelampur, the police said on Tuesday. The woman was riding her scooty on the Seelampur flyover when the kite string allegedly got stuck around her neck causing a deep injury. The woman was taken to a nearby hospital where she is being treated.

#### Six hurt as two families clash over parking

Six people sustained injuries following a clash between two groups in north-east Delhi's Jyoti Nagar. The police have ruled out communal angle. The police said that two neighbours identified as Om Prakash and Shahnawaz live on the same street. They clashed over parking and thrashed each other with sticks.

Name of Work

Design vetting of already designed Components of Thrust Blocks on already laid New pipe network its complete

New pipe network its complete Construction , Providing , aying & fitting of D.I./ G.I. supply mains (feeding mains), sub-mains and distribution network of varied diameters rom common Raw Water Main pt to various filtration plants / Service Reservoir including Providing & fitting of Noneturn valve, Air Release / Alves , necessary Pipe Specials of ISI Mark & specified make(s) . M.S. fittings like

collars etc. complete Successful testing & Commissioning with Trial run

Commissioning with Trial run for 06 months after completion of the Construction work and maintenance for a period of three years on TURNKEY BASIS for WSS Construction of Impounding Reservoir for Sustainability of 11 No. Water Supply Schemes of Ganderbal and Kangan Constituencies\*. Under JKIDFC including Conducting necessary additional Surveys, soil tests which may require in addition already conducted Surveys,

er the Parameters. pecification mentioned in the ender document" rchitectural aesthetics sha

also be kept in consideration make the structures appealir (LUP-1117)

he Schedule showing the critical dates is given below

PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED VIDE THIS OFFICE E NIT NO: 37 OF 2020-21.

Date of downloading of bidding documents

15 Bid submission start date

DIPK-3661/21

, , M.S. fittings like , Cliffs , M.S. Patch

# 3 labourers fall to death at under-construction site

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Three labourers died while another is battling for life after falling from a height at an under-construction DDA site in Dwarka on Tuesday evening. A case has been registered and investigation taken up, the police said.

DCP (Dwarka) Santosh Kumar Meena said that a PCR call was received about

the accident at Dwarka Sector-14. Three of them were declared brought dead when taken to hospital.

The deceased have been identified as Panna Lal, Basant, and Mangal Prasad Singh, while Surender Rai is undergoing treatment.

Preliminary probe revealed that the labourers were in an open lift when the incident happened.

# Case against Twitter for 'giving access to child porn'

FIR registered based on NCPCR plaint

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has registered an FIR against Twitter for allegedly allowing access to child pornography on the microblogging platform following a complaint by the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), officials said on Tuesday.

A case has been registered under relevant provisions of the IPC, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and IT Act, they said. This comes days after the NCPCR, the country's apex child rights body, asked Deputy Commissioner of Police (Cyber

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIF

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE JSD RURAL WATER SUPPLY DIVISION, GANDERBAL

H.Q: CHEKI DUDERHAMA GANDERBAL. E - mail, pherwsd@gmail.com / pherwsd@yahoo.in PhonelFax: 0194-2416292, FRESH e-NIT No. 09 of 2021-22 (PHE JSD RWS Division Ganderbal) Notice Inviting e — Tenders:

FRESH E-NIT No:- 09/PHE/JSD/RWSD/CIVIL OF 2021 - 22.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of UT of J&K e-tenders (Two cover System) on Turn Key Basis are invite including the maintenance cost for a period of Five years from reputed and resourceful contractor /Firms/companies/joint venture of repute in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD/Railways and other state Governments fo

Table (I)

03.90 Lacs. (Pledgec to the Superin-tending Engineer JSD Hydraulid Circle Sringer

including all Taxes

₹ 192.91 26.00 lacs

Cell) Anyesh Roy to explain why no action had been taken against Twitter as per its letter to Delhi Police dated May 29.

In its letter, NCPCR had asked Delhi Police to book Twitter on the basis of the findings of its recent inquiry in which it had found that child sexual abuse material (CSAM) was easily available on the platform.

complaint was The against Twitter Inc and Twitter Communication India Private Ltd., the police said. In its May 29 letter, NCPCR had said that it was found that "the toolkit for deep and dark web" was also available on Twitter.

Class of Con

uperintending
Engineer
Hydraulic
Circle
Srinagar
/Ganderbal.
(HQ
Engineering
Complex Silk
Factory
Soad Rajbagh

# Woman who converted to Islam moves HC seeking protection

Family being threatened, U.P Police and the media on a witch-hunt, says petition

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH NEW DELHI

A woman, who had wilfully converted her religion from Hinduism to Islam, has approached the Delhi High Court seeking protection for herself and her family claiming that they are facing life threats and being witchhunted by the Uttar Pradesh police, media and vigilante groups.

Renu Gangwar, in her petition, said on May 27, she converted to Islam with her "own free will and without any threat or coercion from anyone". Following this, she changed her name to Ayesha Alvi, which was published in a few newspapers.

Threat by media person Ms. Alvi, who is a resident of Tilhar, Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh and working in Delhi, subsequently started getting calls from different

media persons requesting

for a meeting. However,

even after her refusal, the media person came to her place in Tilhar, and against her wishes took photographs and videos without her permission.

One particular media person demanded money while threatening to publish the news about her conversion. "When she denied, he threatened again. Thereafter, he forcefully took ₹20,000 from her," the petition, filed through advocate Kamlesh Kumar Mishra and Nitin Kumar Nayak, said.

Following the incident,

Ms. Alvi made a complaint to the Delhi police chief on June 24, seeking immediate intervention for protection.

Police complaint

'Thereafter, certain other media persons also came and they started making similar demands. Some other people and organisations also started threatening me and my family to force me to reconvert to Hinduism. Feeling threatened, I came back to Delhi today [June 24]," she said in her police complaint.

"On June 26, the petitioner [Ms Alvi] has been informed that her father has been taken away by the Uttar Pradesh police and they are coming to Delhi and would take her back to Uttar Pradesh where she would be forced to file a false complaint/FIR," the petition

It stated that Ms. Alvi is

"under immediate threat of being taken away by force or coercion to Uttar Pradesh by the agencies of the State or any other person".

Ms. Alvi said she is "an adult and she is protected by the Constitution to choose her own faith and she cannot be targeted and harassed for the choice she makes with regard to the religion she follows".

She has urged the court to protect her from being taken away from its jurisdiction "by force or coercion and or by way of any other illegal means by the agencies of the State or any other person".

The petition which is listed for hearing on Wednesday also urged the court "to ensure protection of life, liberty, safety and security of the petitioner, her family member and friends and they be not harassed and interrogated with regard to the conversion of the petition-

## No headway in Dwarka honour killing case

STAFF REPORTER

Five days on, Delhi Police has made no headway in the honour killing case reported from Dwarka in which a couple was shot multiple times allegedly by her family members.

A senior police officer said that over 20 raids have been conducted in Haryana but the accused have managed to remain absconding. "There are leads but they are not working out. Day in and day out, teams have been working to find the accused," the officer said.

The police said that of the six accused who had entered the victims' rented house, three, including the woman's brother and cousin have been identified while the other three are

On June 24, six men entered Kiran Dahiya and Vinay Dahiya's house and shot at them multiple times. Vinay succumbed to injuries while Kiran is still undergoing treatment.

# OBE attendance 5% higher this time compared to 2020

#### Have improved system glitches over time: DU

STAFF REPORTER

Amid altered modes of teaching, learning and conducting open book examinations, Delhi University has said that attendance of students in the OBE held this year was 5% higher than that of last year. The OBE which was intro-

duced last year, due to the ongoing pandemic had initially received complaints from students regarding glitches in the process.

The university, however, said that over time, it had developed methods to improve the system. "The new examination system threw challenges now and then during

its implementation, but the university learnt on the way to tackle each of them and improve the system in the process. Students were able to write their examinations within the comforts of their home or space and teachers were able to evaluate through electronic means," read a varsity statement.

According to data provided by DU, 2.9 lakh students

held in August last year and 1.7 lakh students took the OBE in December 2020.

appeared for the first OBE

#### **Digital certificates**

The varsity added that over 21,000 digital certificates and 3,900 digital provisional certificates were issued in the past year. Apart from online transcripts, migration certificates and provisional mark

sheets, the university will also provide confidential results to students who require the results before they are officially announced.

Second semester examinations for the current batch of first-year students is expected to be held between August 12 and August 24, according to officials while the new semester is likely to begin from August 31.

Govt. launches

app for EMC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

### **WESTERN RAILWAY**

NOTICE FOR VIRTUAL / ONLINE CUSTOMER MEETING FOR "RAIL-SIDE WAREHOUSE AT PDGR" Grant Road lies in the heart of Mumbai. Wholesale markets such as Lamington

Road, Mangal das Market, Kalba Devi, Bhuleshwar etc., are at walking distance from PDGR (Old Railways Parcel depot near Grant Road station) This is a highly commercialized but congested area. Due to space crunch developing a warehouse in this area is a challenge. In this context development of warehouse at PDGR with ample capacity and facility in the vicinity of these business centers shall have enabling effect on the overall business environment. It will bring shops and warehouse near to each other saving time, fuel and labour to businesses. Mumbai Division (Western Railway vants to offer the so ample space available at Parcel Depot Grant Road (PDGR) for development of Rail-side warehouse through tender under PPP node. The identified location consists of built up area, covered shed and oper spaces which can be used by licensee for office purpose, stacking storage, sorting, parking etc. The area offered is 2058.25 Sq. Mt. while reserve price is Rs. 4.83 Cr per annum with escalation of 7% in subsequen ears. Mumbai Division, Western Railway is inviting experienced and reputed companies (Constructions / Logistics etc.) to attend Virtual / Online Custome meeting to be held on 03.07.2021 (Saturday) at 11.00 by Commercia Department, Divisional Railway Manager office, Mumbai Central, Mumbai 400008 to discuss modalities of proposal and drafting tender conditions for levelopment of Rail-side warehouse at Parcel Depot Grant Road (PDGR) Interested parties are requested to send their willingness on acmadvtgbct@gmail.com. Accordingly, link for Virtual / Online meeting will be shared. For any queries please contact to Shri. Saurabh Kumar, ACM (TC) BCT on 022-67644206, 9004499951. Follows us on: twitter.com/WesternRly

VOIDS

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, (UP) Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

**E-TENDER NOTICE** 

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on NOIDA Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these website for any changes/amendments &

S.No.	Job no.	Name of Work	Amount (Rs.)						
1.	2021-22	Supply of Balanced Cattle Feed in temporary Gauvansh Ashray Sthal, Vill-Nagli Wajidpur, Sec-135, Noida.	6825500.00						
The a	The above tenders can be uploaded by date 06.07.2021 upto								

5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 07.07-2021 at 11.00 AM.

Office Sector-39 CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Sr. Project Engineer (Public Health)

MSME TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE CHENNAI **4 WEEK END TRAINING PROGRAMME ON** EXPORT BUSINESS **Procedures & Documentation** Course Duration: 7.00 PM to 9.00 PM 10-07-2021 to 01.08.2021 Course through "ONLINE" Mode (Medium of Instruction "ENGLISH") WIDE COVERAGE / UPDATED SYLLABUS / PRACTICAL DEMOS / EXPERIENCED FACULTY MARKET IDENTIFICATION LEGAL ASPECTS **High Potential Products** Registration & Licensing **Top Importing Countries** Foreign Trade Policy & Schemes Finding Buyer Information GST / Customs Clearance Procedure **EXPORT FINANCE EXPORT DOCUMENTATION** Export Pricing & Payments Contracting & Order Processing Shipping & Containerizing **Getting Finance for Exports** Invoicing / CO / BoE / BL / AWB Forex Risk Management COURSEFEE: Rs.5,900/- (incl.GST) Fees to be paid throu! online GOVT OF INDIA E-MAIL: msmetdceximtraining@gmail.com

Please visit: www.cftichennai in

**OPEN TENDER NOTICE** 

For details Mob: 9444245180 / 9840471561

Please visit : www.cftichennai.in

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, sealed Tenders are invited as detailed below by the Chief Engineer (AE) gricultural Engineering Department. Tender for the supply of Rate Contract Tender for empanelment of installers for the Provision of green house type solar drying units to the farmers' farmers' Group with subsidy assistance under NADP and SMAM at a total cost of Rs.8.75 crore at various places in Tamil Nadu Rate Contract Tender for Empanelment of firms for the design, fabrication and installation of Solal Powered Fencing to the farmers with subsidy assistance under NADP at a total cost of Rs.12.50 Crore at various places in Tamil Nadu ast date and time for issue of tender document : 29.07.2021, 13.30 hrs ast date and time for receipt of tender : 29.07.2021, 14.00 hrs pening date of tender : 29.07.2021, 15.00 hrs ost of tender document (inclusive of tax) (Rs.) : 15000 + 12%6ST (For each work)

The tender documents are available at the Office of the Chief Engineer (AE), Chennai-35, for sale, from the date o otification as mentioned above on all working days. The tenders will be opened on the date and time mentioned above the Office of the Chief Engineer (AE), Nandanay, Chennai-35, Tender documents are available for free download are

DIPR/Tender/1893/2021

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

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

sition of Funds: - Available;
The Bidding Documents and other details can be downloaded from the website: <a href="https://liktenders.gov.in">https://liktenders.gov.in</a> From 25.06.2021 (10:00 a.m) To12.07.2021 upto (04:00 p.m)

Valid Registration certificate of enlistment card clearly indicating the date of registration along with renewal page of Curreancial Year of 2021-22, & Latest GST clearance (NOT BEFORE Otr –IV of 2020 –21) etc. along with Self Attested What's Aproblems and e-mail ID of the contractor must also be uploaded while uploading the tender. The tender document of the work me eferred to, for all other necessary / requisite documents, which are to be uploaded while uploading the lender.

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings (if any), Book of quantitie B.O.Q), Set of terms, conditions of contract and other details can be viewed/ downloaded from the website: <u>www.jktenders.gov.ir</u>

TABLE-II

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-10/2905/2021-22 Date: 28.06.2021

From25.06.2021 (10:00a.m) To 12.07.2021 upto (04:00 p.m)

Raibagh) Srinagar on 05.07.2021 at 10.30 am

08.07.2021 upto04.00 p.m.

12.07.2021 upto (04:00 p.n

In the Office of the:- Superintending Engineer Hydraulic Circl Srinagar/Ganderbal(H.Q. Engineering Complex Silk Factory Roa

(Er. M. Aslam Zargai Executive Engineer PHE JSD RWS Division Ganderbal/Sg

H.Q: Cheki Duderhama Ganderba

# **NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting item rate tenders under two cover system as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from Class-I Contractors (Electrical) registered in KCEI who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work: Providing Basic Electrical Infrastructure Facilities to sub layout at Aerospace Components Park in Hi-Tech Defense and Aerospace Components Industrial Area at Devanahalli, Bengaluru Rural District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is: 26.07.2021 upto 04:00 pm Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru DIPR/DDU/R.O:694/2021-22

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









Sd/-

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & COOPERATIVE **GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND** (OFFICE OF REGISTRAR, COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES, JHARKHAND, RANCHI)

**NOTICE FOR INVITING SHORT TERM E- TENDER** 

t the Office of the Chief Engineer (AE), Nand www.tenders.tn.gov.in and www.aed.tn.gov.in

FOR

**FOR Selection of Agency** 

as Technical Assistance Group (TAG) for Providing Technical & Operational Support and overseeing effective implementation of Jharkhand Rajya Fasal Rahat Yojna (JRFRY)

E- Tender No.-1033, dated- 29.06.2021

Office of Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Department of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Co-operative, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi invites Technical and Financial Proposals from eligible consulting agencies of national and international repute for establishing a Technical Assistance Group (TAG) Office of Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Jharkhand, Ranchi through E-tendering process. This TAG would provide technical & operational support to the Office of Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Jharkhand, and Ranchi in effective

implementation of Jharkhand Rajya Fasal Rahat Yojna (JRFRY). The Request for Proposal (RfP) document towards the same can be downloaded from the website https://iharkhandtenders.gov.in from 29/06/2021 to 15/07/2021 and submit only through NIC e tender portal https://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in with help of Digital Signature Certificate (DSC).

Response to this RFP shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of this document with full understanding of its implications. This section provides general information about the Issuer, important dates and addresses and the overall eligibility criteria for the parties. The RFP/tender document cost of Rs 5,000/- (Rs five thousand only) is to be submitted vide crossed demand draft on any Nationalized Bank/ Scheduled Bank in favour of Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Jharkhand, Ranchi payable at Ranchi.

PR 248777 Co-opretive (21-22)\_D

Disclosure of rate other than financial bid will disqualify the bidder.

Last date for online submission of e-Tender: 15/07/2021

**Registrar, Cooperative Societies** Jharkhand, Ranchi Office of Registrar, Cooperative Societies 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, PashupalanBhawan, Hatia Ranchi, Jharkhand- 834003 Email: Jharkhand.coopregistrar@gmail.com

Deputy Chief Minister + Manish Sisodia reviewed progress of the Entrepreneurship Mindset Curricu-

NEW DELHI

lum (EMC) in schools and launched a web application for all heads of schools [HoS], teachers and coordinators to access EMC-related teaching-learning material.

Mr. Sisodia said that the government has decided to give ₹2.000 to children as seed money after reviewing the prototype they create based on their idea.

"We are ready to give ₹50,000 if children want to form a group of 25 students and create an enterprise. We will use the approach used in Shark Tank [a TV show] to give seed money. Every HoS and teacher should watch that show and implement a similar approach in their schools," he said. Mr. Sisodia said that the school community needs to accept EMC as a subject as it is not just an initiative or a scheme but an indispensable subject that will equip students with the mindset and skills needed to triumph in any challenge.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF MATERIALS MANAGEMENT OFFICER (PURCHASE I) SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SOURA, SRINAGAR, J&K (INDIA) - 190011 Extension: 2275 E-mail: ammoimports@skims.ac.in, Fax No: 0194-2403403 e-NIT No: SIMS 325 (PI) Tender 08 of 2021 Dated: 26 -06-2021.

Subject: Abbreviated e-tender notice for supplying refined oil on

e-tenders are invited for and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir through Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science: Soura, Srinagar, from registered dealers for supplying refined oil on 1 year rate contract basis under single cover system. The detailed e-tende documents are also available at www.jktender.gov.in & www.skims.ac.in.

Supply of refined oil on 1 year rate contract basis	Rs	750/-	Rs. 50,000/=		
Nomenclature	Schedu	ıle			
Online Bid submission end date	05/07/2	5/07/2021upto 3:00 PM			
Hard copy EMD & Tender Fee submiss end date	06/07/2	021upto 3:30 PM			
Technical bid opening date	07/07/2	021 at 12:30 PM			
Complete bidding process will be onling www.jktenders.gov.in & the tenders					

accordance with the provisions of the detailed NIT. NO: SIMS 325 P (I)-e-Tender 08 of 2021-3736-42 - 6493-96

Dated: 26/06/2021

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT OFFICER No: SIMS - 6495 **PURCHASE I** Dated:- 28.6.2021

Sd/

#### Timings DELHI

Safdarjang

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 30 RISE 05:27 SET 19:24 RISE 23:54 SET 10:57 THURSDAY, JUL. 01 RISE 05:28 SET 19:24 RISE 00:00 SET 11:53

FRIDAY, JUL. 02 RISE 05:28 SET 19:24 RISE 00:24 SET 12:46

**Delhi Weather** Delhi City

Delhi Palam Today 42°C Loo type situation expected. Moderate warm winds would continue during day. Evening would also

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 41°C Uneasy hot weather would continue with warm moderate winds and partly

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019 All rights reserved.

### IN BRIEF

NEW DELHI

#### Nurses union writes to PM for Dearness Allowance

AIIMS Nurses Union on Tuesday wrote to the PM, demanding disbursal of Dearness Allowance (DA) to all healthcare workers who have shown "great courage and patriotism by serving the nation during this deadly pandemic". "As most of the healthcare workers are finding it difficult to make both ends meet due to an increase in fuel prices and non-disbursal of DA, we humbly request you to kindly intervene to un-freeze the DA of government servants and to ensure early disbursal of the pending DA with arrears," the letter read.

# City records hottest day of the year

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Capital recorded its hottest day of the year on Tuesday with the maximum temperature settling at 43 degrees Celsius, which is six degrees above normal for this time of the year.

Heatwave conditions prevailed in the city with the humidity level hovering between 78% and 25%.

The minimum temperature was recorded at 27.4 degrees Celsius.

Delhi, which usually comes under the influence of heat waves in May and Iune, had a relatively mild summer with the maximum temperature not rising above the 42.2 degrees Celsius mark. However, delay in monsoon, scheduled to arrive on June 27, has sent temperatures soaring.

### Relief expected soon

The forecast for June 30 reads: "partly cloudy sky accompanied by gusty winds. Heatwave conditions at isolated places. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 42 and 29 degrees Celsius respectively".

Some relief is expected Iuly 1 onwards in the form of thundershowers that are likely to bring down the temperature by a few notches.

# Balaji Srivastav gets additional charge of Police Commissioner

The IPS officer served in the Cabinet Secretariat for 9 years

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Senior IPS officer Balaji Srivastav will hold the additional charge of the Commissioner of Delhi Police when incumbent S.N. Shrivastava retires on Wednesday, the Home Ministry said on Tuesday.

In an order, the Ministry said Mr. Srivastav, a 1988batch IPS officer of the AGM-TU cadre, will discharge duties as the Commissioner of the Delhi Police in addition to his present responsibility of Special Commissioner of Police (Vigilance) till a fullfledged head of the national capital's police force is



appointed. He has previously worked as the DGP of Puducherry and Mizoram and Special Commissioner, Intelligence, Economic Offence Wing and Special Cell, Delhi.

Mr. Srivastava has served Cabinet Secretariat for nine years and handled sensitive assignments. He did Economics (Hons.) from St. Stephens College, University of Delhi followed by M.A. (Economics) from Delhi School of Economics and LL.B. from Delhi University.

S.N. Shrivastava too initially took the additional charge of Commissioner of the Delhi Police in February 2020 in the wake of the communal riots in the Capital following protests over the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019. He was regularised as Commissioner of the Delhi Police only last month.

# 5 cases of rectal bleeding reported in recovered COVID-19 patients

One died due to 'massive bleeding' and severe chest disease

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI Five cases of Cytomegalovirus (CMV)-related rectal bleeding were reported in COVID-19 recovered patients during the second wave at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, a private hospital in Delhi, according to hospital authorities.

One of the five patients died due to "massive bleeding" and "severe" COVID-19related chest disease, the hospital said.

All five patients were immunocompetent before CO-VID-19, which means they did not suffer from any condition that lowered their immunity.

Doctors said CMV is usually present in the body, but it develops into a disease when a person's immunity is lowered after COinfection.

After recovering from COVID-19, you have to build your immunity by eating healthy food. You have to avoid junk food

ANIL ARORA Chairman, Institute of Liver, Gastroenterology and Pancreaticobiliary Sciences

person who recovered from COVID-19, if they have abdominal pain or blood in their stool, they should immediately go to a hospital. Also, hospitals should test for CMV if they see these symptoms," said Anil Arora, Chairman, Institute of Liver, Gastroenterology and Pancreaticobiliary Sciences at the hospital.

**Antiviral therapy** "Out of the five cases with age group of 30-70 were

from Delhi NCR, four had

presented with lower gastrointestinal bleed that is bleeding in stools and one patient presented with intestinal obstruction. Two of them had massive bleed, one requiring emergency lifesaving surgery in the form of removal of right side of the colon and one of them succumbed due to massive bleeding and severe COVID chest disease. Other three patients were successfully treated with antiviral therapy with ganciclovir," Dr. Arora said.

He said that mucormycosis, white fungus and CMV are opportunistic infections and they are looking for people with weak immunity. "After recovering from CO-VID-19, you have to build your immunity by eating healthy food. You have to avoid junk food," Dr. Arora

# 'AAP workers attacked BJP men at behest of Sisodia'

Delegation to meet CP soon: Bidhuri

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Leader of Opposition Ramvir Singh Bidhuri on Tuesday alleged that AAP cadres had attacked and beaten up BJP workers at the behest of Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia. Mr. Bidhuri said a BJP de-

legation would soon meet the Delhi Police Commissioner to urge him to fast-track the investigation. "Deputy CM had gone to Rohtas Nagar to inspect civil work on the construction of a school. The Rohtas Nagar BJP MLA, Jitender Mahajan, had already conveyed to the authorities that they would like to submit a memorandum to Mr. Si-

sodia," Mr. Bidhuri said. The memorandum pertained to termination of services of guest teachers and non-payment of salaries to that all the people who had died because of shortage of oxygen should be given ₹10 lakh compensation and government job, the LoP said.

"As soon as Mr. Mahajan made a move to submit a memorandum to Mr. Sisodia, the AAP cadres started misbehaving with BJP workers. Soon, BJP workers were beaten up for no reason," Mr. Bidhuri alleged.

Sisodia responds In response to the incident Mr. Sisodia tweeted: "Today, protesting against the construction of a school in Rohtas Nagar, BJP leaders and goons ransacked the school. Broke my government vehicle, broke the school gate and misbehaved with the women teachers, engineers and workers present inside. Why are the BJP's so annoyed

# Mahila Cong. leader, others join Delhi BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Delhi Pradesh Mahila Congress general-secretary Parveena Sharma along with 40 other workers joined the State BJP in the presence of its president Adesh Gupta here on Tuesday.

Welcoming Ms. Sharma and others in the party, Mr. Gupta said every citizen of the country had full trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "The party has always been encouraging women and believes women empowerment is our aim. Women are never safe in AAP and Congress," Mr. Gupta alleged.

"In fact, the Congress has lost its base and relevance while women are being physically exploited in AAP. As both parties are without aim or leadership it is only the BJP, which is working

#### about having a school, studyfor people's welfare," he adteachers. In addition to this, it was also to be submitted ing and writing?"

Protesters at Jantar Mantar said rehabilitation measures should have been taken

Khori Basti residents seek relief from demolition order

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Several residents of Faridabad's Khori Basti staged a demonstration at Jantar Mantar here on Tuesday demanding that their houses be spared the Supreme Court-ordered demolition.

The demonstrators also submitted memoranda addressed to the President, the Prime Minister and the Home Minister seeking revocation of the demolition order to protect the lives of lakhs of people during the pandemic.

Holding placards that read, "Save Khori" and "Don't render labourers homeless during a pandem-



residents protest at Jantar Mantar on Tuesday. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ic", hundreds of residents of Khori Basti, which is spread over 170-acre forest land in Faridabad, staged the demonstration around 12 p.m. The demonstrators included a large number of and electricity connections women.

Social activist Sanjay Raj, leading the demonstration, said there were 30-odd religious structures, a gaushala, a burial ground, and a government primary school in the colony.

He claimed that the colony had around 10,000 houses and was inhabited by over a lakh labourers from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Chattishgarh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Tamil

Nadu and other States. Mr. Raj said the residents of the colony were living under the shadow of constant fear and the power

to the colony were snapped

a fortnight ago. Seeking a remedy to the court order, the residents, in a joint memorandum, said the Municipal Corporation of Faridabad is forcing the residents to vacate their houses citing court order was wrong from a "humanitarian perspective".

# 'Life and death'

They further said that the government Harvana should have made arrangements for their rehabilitation before carrying out the demolition. The residents said it was a question of "life and death" for them.

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

# City sees 101 new cases; vaccine stock to last 2 days only

STAFF REPORTER

The city reported 101 new CO-VID-19 cases in 24 hours, taking the total cases to 14,34,094, according to a health bulletin released by

THEMAHINDU

the Delhi government on Tuesday. Also, four deaths were reported, and the total number of deaths stood at 24,971. A total of 66,397 tests were done in a day and TPR was 0.15%. Of the total cases,

E-tender as per details given as follow

dtd. 28.06.2021 outsourcing for a period of 02 year

period of 02 years.

Tender Notice

No. & Date

14,07,592 people have recovered and there are 1,553 active cases

A total of 2,04,522 doses were administered on Monday, as per a vaccination bulletin. "Vaccination in Delhi is

WESTERN RAILWAY

VARIOUS WORKS

Divisional Railway Manager(WA), Western Railway, 6th floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008 invites

BCT/21-22/129 Bandra (East & West Rly colony) - Need based repair on day to day basis by

basis by outsourcing for a period of 02 years

WORK AND LOCATION

i) Kandivali (Carshed) - Need based repair on day to day basis by outsourcing

for a period of 02 year. (ii) Virar (Carshed) - Need based repair on day to day

Sr. No.: 1 to 3: EMD (in ₹): 0. Date & Time of Submission: On 23.07.2021 till 15.00 hrs. Date & Time of Opening

On 23.07.2021 at 15.30 hrs. Regarding detailed tender conditions please visit www.ireps.gov.in Manual offers wi

going on at high speed. On June 28], more than 2 lakh vaccine doses were administered in one day...," AAP MLA Atishi. The city's vaccine stock will last for only two days, as per the bulletin.

74,65,727.03

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

Mr. N SELVA KUMAR

PH: 9820350726 selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in

**TO ADVERTISE** 

**PLEASE CONTACT** 

THE HINDU

India's National Newspaper

THE 選續總 HINDU Air surcharge: Leh, Srinagar

& onward — Rs. 5.00 and

Kathmandu — Rs. 3.00.



**FORTNIGHT** 

# **BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT BUILDING DIVISION NO. -1. RANCHI**

**VERY SHORT NOTICE INVITING RE-QUOTATION** 

(Previous PR No. 248252 Building (21-22) D

Sealed quotations are invited for below mentioned works by the Executive Engineer Building Construction Department, Building Division No.-1, Ranchi from the Authorised manufacturer Distributor/Dealers/Suppliers/Retailers/Registered contractor in the Office of the undersigned on 07-07 2021 up to 3.00 pm and will be opened on 07-07-2021 at 3.30 pm at BCD Division No.-1, Ranchi by Executive Engineer or his authorized representative in the presence of Quotationers or their authorized representative. Who so ever desire may remain present at the time of opening. The Works are:-

Sl. No.	Description	Cost of Specification & Qty.	Time of Completion
1	2	3	4
1	Supply and Installation of 236 Points Medical Oxygen Gas Pipe Line System in Sadar Hospital Ranchi.	5000	45 Days
2	Supply and Installation of 40 Points Med ical Oxygen Gas Pipe Li ne & M anifold for Cov id Care Cen tre in Sub - Divisional Hospital Bundu (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor)	2500	45 Days

The Specification, detail Scope of work and detail of Qty are available in office of Executive Engineer, Building Division No.-1, Ranchi on 05-07-2021 to 06-07-2021 by payment of Demand Draft issued from any State Bank in favour of Executive Engineer, Building Division No.-1, Ranchi, payble at SBI Main Branch Ranchi (IFSC Code 000167) amount as mentioned para 3 above. At the time of obtaining BOQ Quotationers will attached updated GST & IT returned, similar nature work experience Certificate (issued by Govt. body) with request letter otherwise Quotationers will not allowed to obtain BOQ. The quotation should be accompanied with and initial security deposit which will be 2% of

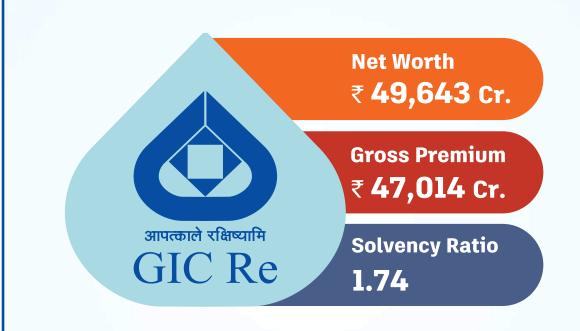
the quoted amount (Refundable) in shape of Bank Guarantee or 5 Years/3 Years Post Office Term Deposit or N.S.C. (8th issue)/fixed deposits of a scheduled Bank duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Building Division No.-1, Ranchi and updated GST return, IT return & Work experience issued by Govt.

Quotationers who have similar nature work experience i.e Gas pipe line, Manifold works experience will allowed to participate for the above work. In the case of Gazetted holiday the quotation will be received/opened on the next working day.

Executive Engineer

PR 248789 Building(21-22)D

**Building Construction Department** Building Division No.-1, Ranchi



# **AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS** FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2021

(Fin Croron)

			(Kill Clores)
SL.	Particulars Particulars	Year Ended	Year Ended
No.	i ditiodiai 3	31.03.2021	31.03.2020
1	Premium Income (Gross)	47,014	51,030
2	Net Profit/(Loss) After Tax	1,920	(359)
3	Net Worth (Including Fair Value change Account)	49,643	35,426
4	Total Assets	134,661	116,196
5	Solvency Ratio	1.74	1.53

### Notes:

- a) Premium income is Gross written premium, gross of reinsurance and net of applicable taxes.
- Earning per share for all period mentioned above, is calculated considering face value of equity shares of ₹5 each as approved in the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 4th August, 2017.
- c) The above is an extract of the detailed format of year to date Financial Results filed with the stock exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the year to date Financial Results are available on the websites of Stock Exchanges (www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com) and the Corporation (www.gicofindia.com)

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors

Place : Mumbai Date: 29th June, 2021

Sd/-**Devesh Srivastava** Chairman and Managing Director DIN: 08646006

# **General Insurance Corporation of India**

"Suraksha", 170, Jamshedji Tata Road, Churchgate, Mumbai 400020, India. | Telephone (Board): +91 22 2286 7000 • Email: info@gicofindia.com Visit us at www.gicofindia.com CIN: L67200MH1972G0I016133 & IRDAI Registration No: 112 GIC Re: Reinsurers to the Nation

Regd. DL(ND)-11/6110/2006-07-08 • RNI No. UPENG/2012/49940 • ISSN 0971 - 751X • Vol. 11 • No. 154

# Allahabad HC refuses relief to interfaith couples

It cites non-compliance of the contentious new law against unlawful conversion

OMAR RASHID

LUCKNOW

The Allahabad High Court has refused to grant relief to interfaith couples, citing non-compliance of the contentious new law against unlawful conversion of religion, in particular the mandatory requirement of submitting a declaration form before the District Magistrate (DM) 60 days prior to conversion.

In three recent cases, the court dismissed petitions filed by interfaith couples citing non-compliance of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance, 2020 (now an

#### 'Conversion not legal'

A Muslim woman from Muzaffarnagar got married to a Hindu man on February 27. She submitted before court that she had converted to the Hindu religion and a certificate by a 'sanskar adhikari' of the

Arya Samaj was issued. Citing sections 8 and 9 of the unlawful conversion law, the court said the woman's conversion "cannot be held to be legal, therefore, no relief can be granted to the petitioners."

In another case, a Muslim woman from Banda entered into 'nikah' with a Hindu man after he adopted Islam on March 5. A certificate of acceptance of religion of Islam by the man signed by a 'kazi' was submitted by the couple.

Citing Sections 8 and 9 of the law, the court held the marriage illegal.

Section 8 of the new law

against unlawful conversion states that one who desires to convert his or her religion, he or she shall give a declaration in a prescribed form at least 60 days in advance to the DM. Section 9 mandates that the converted person shall send a declaration in a prescribed form within sixty days of the date of conversion to the DM.

# AAP sounds poll bugle in Punjab

Arvind Kejriwal announces up to 300 units of free electricity to every household

VIKAS VASUDEVA CHANDIGARH

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Tuesday sounded the poll bugle for the Assembly election in Punjab due early next year by announcing up to 300 units of free electricity to every household, if the party formed the next government.

At a press conference here, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal said: "I believe as per our calculation, the electricity bill for around 77% to 80% households will be 'zero'.'

The AAP supremo also announced that all old and pending domestic bills would be waived and connection to

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

Estimated MAAT for best Earnest Cost of

of last five

inancial years

(in ₹)

4.445

CRORE

hree years out Money

Corporate (Contract & Procurement-II)

(₹)

5.930

LAKH

**E-TENDER NOTICE (NIT)** 

Tender Specification No. CCP-II/6/2021-2022

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd. Dehradun invites e-tender fo

cost

2.963

Date & time of Prebid conference in online mode

Last Date & time of online request for Tender and

submission of tender in online & off line mode

Date of opening of Part-I of tender in online &

For further details, please visit our website <a href="https://www.uktenders.gov.in">www.uktenders.gov.in</a>.

No.: 256/EE(CM)/UPCL/A-2

Superintending Enginee

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use L.E.D. Bulb to Save Electricity (Toll Free No. : 1912



AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal at a press conference in Chandigarh on Tuesday. • PTI

all those that had been cut would be restored, so that people could live a dignified life. "Punjab has surplus electricity, yet there are frequent cuts. There is deficient power for agriculture. We will en-

tender

documer

GST (₹)

17 700

15.07.2021

29.07.2021

30.07.2021

plied 24 hours," Mr. Kejriwal

"Electricity is a very big issue in Punjab and the situation is very bad. Despite being a power-surplus State, the tariffs are the highest in India," he said, and attributed it to a nexus between the private power plants and those in power, who from time to time had looted the people.

#### Personal guarantee

Mr. Kejriwal offered personal guarantee to fulfil all promises. "As soon as we form the government, we will implement the decision of 300-unit free electricity. Also, we will waive the pending domsure that electricity is sup-

estic electricity bills straight away. As far as the promise of providing 24 hours supply, it will take some time. I assure you that between 3-4 years, it will be done. The agriculture sector will continue to get free power, he said.

Hitting out at the ruling Congress, Mr. Kejriwal said: "These are not promises of Captain, but Kejriwal's guarantee," in a veiled attack on Punjab Chief Minister Cap-

tain Amarinder Singh. Responding to questions, Mr. Kejriwal said 'mafia' rule was rampant in Punjab including sand, mining, drugs, liquor, and transport among

# **CLASSIFIEDS MART**

**TO ADVERTISE:** 

www.thehinduads.com

011-43579738 • 43579797



Visit us : www.acubeias.com 🙆 info@acubeias.com

# **ANTHRO'22**

Free Live Online Seminar

for Candidates Interested in VAID SIR'S August 2021 Batches

On July 4 at 2:00 pm

On Our YouTube Channel youtube.com\c\vaidsicsdelhi

For Live Zoom Interaction

pl register at www.vaidsics.com VAID'S ICS, DELHI

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Axis Bank Ltd that Mr. Alok Agarwal & Mrs Tanya Agarwal intends to mortgage the Property bearing no. SF- 171, admeasuring 153.45 sq. mtrs., situated at Shastri Nagar, Tehsil & District Ghaziabad (UP); with our client Axis Bank Ltd against the financial assistanc Mr. Danvir Singh was the owner of the above mentioned property by way of Sa Deed dated 23 12 2002 and be intended to sell the same to Mr. Alok Agarwal 8 Mrs. Tanya Agarwal, but unfortunately Mr. Danvir Singh had expired of 30 04 2021 Now his legal heirs i.e. 1) Mrs. Vedwati (Wife), 2) Mr. Neerai Singl (Son), 3) Mr. Atul Singh (Son) & Mrs. Nisha Chauhan (Daughter) intends sell the above mentioned property to Mr. Alok Agarwal & Mrs. Tanya Agarwal. f any person(s) having objection with regard to mortgage of the said proper s/are requested to intimate in writing to undersigned within 15 days from the date of issue of this notice at below address. In the event no information is received within 15 days from date hereof, our Client i.e. Axis Bank Ltd. will oceed with the mortgage process.

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

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

26.06.2021. Dead Body Preserved for 72 Hours in RML

Mortuary of RML Hospital, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 67A,

DT. 26.06.2021, PS D.B.G. Road, Central Distt. Delhi.

Name: Unknown, Age: 50-55 Years, Height: 5'6"

Face: Long. Complexion: Wheatish, Built: Thin, Black

If anyone has any information or clue about this male

Identification of unidentified dead body is as under:

deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

General public is hereby informed that ar

unidentified male namely Unknown, S/o:

Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found on

26.06.2021 unconscious at in front of

Jagdish Titlor School, East Park Road,

Karol Bagh, Delhi. He was admitted by

ambulance vide MLC No. E-130046/21 in

RML Hospital. Dr. Declared him dead on

Police Station, D.B.G. Road, Delhi

Ph: 011-23613252, 23537374

#### EDUCATIONAL

STOP FAILING IN PRELIMS ORRECTLY SOLVE 80+ QUES IN G BestCurrentAffairs.com PHONE 9463838383

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large that the Resident Welfare Association Golf Link-1 Greater Noida, U.P.-201310 has started a membership drive for esidents / allottees of Golf Link-1 Greater Noida, U.P. who are ye o enroll themselves as members. Interested Resident / Allottee can contact, Resident Welfare Association Golf Link-1, Greater Noida or the undersigned or his mobile or alternately can apply for the membership through the website of the

www.gotflink1.wordpress.com The membership drive is being initiated for the better managemen of the colony with the active participation of all the

Kushal Pal Singh Teotia General Secretary, RWA Golf Link-1, Greater Mob.: +91-9742251058

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADITYA Gangwar have lost my Grade sheets of B.Tech Roll no. 20149016 semesters -.1,2,3,4,5,7 in Rudrapur, Uttarakhand. Contact:

PERSONAL

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that PUNEE I BRAIN NIL KUMAR BHATIA R/O FLAT NO TOWER-1 PARK VIEW RESIDENC Ashok Kumar Sharma (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is informed to the public at large that my clients namely, Anil Khanna S/o Late Sh. J.N Khanna and Sapna Khanna W/o Sh. Anil Khanna R/o B. Khanna W/o Sh. Anil Khanna R/o B-271 Derawal Nagar, Delhi-110009 have severed all relations from their son namely Varun Khanna and have also debarred/disowned him from all their movable/ immovable properties for his continuous disobedience and disrespect. That my clients shall have no connection whatsoever, with the said son in future. Whosoever, having relation with him shall alone be responsible for the same.

PRAVEEN LAROIYA (Advocate)

A GREETING

TO REMEMBER

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

**CLASSIFIEDS** 

Karnataka Veterinary, Animal &

Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar

**E-PROCUREMENT MODE** 

30 Days Short Term Tender Notification

No. R/TPC/KVAFSU/eProc.60/2021-22/172-A Dt.: 24.06.2021

KVAFSU Bidar invites bids through e-procurement in

2 covers system for Supply of Biologicals, Equipments

and Chemicals for IAH&VB, Bengaluru of KVAFSU,

Bidar from Tenderers registered in e-procurement cell

of Government of Karnataka, Total cost of the tendered

amount is Rs. 198.10 Lakhs. The detailed notification

of tender can be obtained by logging on to website:

https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or after 28.06.2021. The

last date for uploading tender documents is 28.07.2021 up to

5:00 PM. Further details can be obtained from the office of

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

Follow Physical Distancing

Sd/-

Dr. M.K. Tandle, Coordinator, TPC,

KVAFSU, Bidar-585226. Ph.: 9448569337

Maintain Hand

Superintending Engineer, WRD., Lower Cauvery Basin Circle, Thanjavur - 613 001
PRE QUALIFICATION APPLICATION AND PRICE TENDER
FORM OF CONTRACT LUMPSUM (Two Cover System)
Tender Notice No. 3 /2021 - 2022/LCBC/TNJ/Dated :29.06.2021. For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, sealed tenders are invited from the eligible contractors for the following work at the office of the Superintending Engineer, WRD., Lower Cauvery Basin Circle, Thanjavur –1

following turnkey work:-

Construction of 33/11kV,

and its associated 33,kV

LILO line (2x0.6km.) at

ViII-Satyon, Block-Lamgara, Distt.-Almora

2X5MVA Substation CRORE

SI. Name of work

opening 7.30 3,80,000 (Puliyanthoppu) Town of Thanjavur District . Eligibility Class of Contractor; Class I State Level and Lower Cauvery Basin Circle Level, 2, Cost of Tender Schedule and GST: Rs.15000 + Rs.2700. 3. Name of Executive Engineer to whom the amount to be remitted: Executive Engineer, WRD., Grand Anicut Canal Division, Thanjavur. Other details can also be available from the Government Designated website: www.tenders.tn.gov.in. Any Corrections / Corrigendum / Extension, if any will be issued in the

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Superintending Engineer, WRD, DIPR/1902/TENDER/2021 Lower Cauvery Basin Circle, Thaniavur

#### **OBITUARY &** REMEMBRANCE **DEATH ANNIVERSARIES** DOB: 12.12.193 DOD 30.66,202 Jundly rumembered by R Thamare Kannan & Friends

Mr. G.BAKTHAVATHSALAM

To dedicate a space in this section. Please contact: 011-43579797

from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. & For Placing Advertisements Online log on to

www.thehinduads.com **DONATE EYES-GIFT SIGHT** 

For enquiries on announcements in this

office at the following number between 10a.m. and 8p.m. New Delhi : 011- 43579797

Rate for New Delhi: (Minimum Rs. 320/- 2 Lines

Extra Line - Rs. 160/-) (B/W Display): Rs.60/Per Sq.cm

(Clr Display): Rs. 70/Per Sq.cm

www.thehinduads.com For Placing Advertisements

#### PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD. (Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001,) Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2010SGC033813,

Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 9646122296) E-Tender Enquiry No. 04/RE/MHP/2021-22

Dated 23.07.2021 Resident Engineer, MHP Division, PSPCL, Talwara, invites E-tender for Re-tubing and repair of 4 Nos. Oil Coolers of 15 MW Hydro Machine of Mukerian Hydel Project of PH-1&2 at Mukerian Hyde Project. PSPCL. Talwara, For detail NIT & Tender specification, please

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

refer to <a href="https://eproc.punjab.gov.in">https://eproc.punjab.gov.in</a> from 26/06/2021 onwards.

DPRPB 76155/12/333/2021/5603

# **ENTERPRISE CONNECT**

Talcher Fertilizers Ltd. successfully concludes Financial Closure of its Coal

**Gasification based Urea Project** Talcher Fertilizers Ltd. (TFL), a Joint Venture of GAIL (India) Ltd. (GAIL), Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF). Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and Fertilizers Corporation of India Ltd. (FCIL), has successfully concluded the financial closure of its mega coal gasification based urea project ocated at Talcher in Angul district of Odisha Informing this here today, Shri Sachchidanand Yadav, Managing Director of TFL, said a consortium of lenders led by State Bank of India has emerged as the financers of the project after ollowing a book building process conducted by M/s SBICAPS on behalf of TFL. Other members of the lender's consortium are Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, Indian Overseas Bank, EXIM Bank, Bank of India and Canara Bank. TFL has been mandated by the Government to revive the erstwhile Talcher plant of FCIL by setting up new greenfield coal gasification based Urea Plant with the installed capacity of 12.7 Lakh Metric Ton per annum (LMTPA) at estimated project cost of Rs 13,277 Crore. The total debt secured by TFL as part of this facility is Rs 9,560 Crore and balance funding shall be provided by its Promoters in form of equity. The debt has been secured after CCEA, chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister, approved in April 2021 the exclusive subsidy policy for urea produced by TFL through coal gasification route. The implementation of the Talcher project is being undertaken through a technology which is being used for the first time in India and is a significant step towards ensuring energy security of the country through harnessing the vast coal reserves of the country in a manner which is more environment friendly than direct fired coal projects. Shri Yaday informed that the project shall act as harbinger in attracting huge investment in the country for coal gasification projects and will pave the way for alternative use of indigenous coal which shall in turn aid in gasifying the stated aim of 100 MT of coal by 2030. The project shall also provide impetus to the economy of Odisha in particular and eastern India in general thereby also propelling India towards Atma Nirbharta (self-reliance).

Shri RK Sabharwal, C&MD, EIL awarded with the highest civilian award of Mongolia "The Order of Polar Star"

Shri RK Sabharwal, C&MD, Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) has been honoured with the highest civilian award of Mongolia "The Order of Polar Star" by His Excellency, the President of Mongolia to recognize the outstanding contribution made by him towards the establishment of first ever oil Refinery in Mongolia. This award was presented on behalf of the Government of Mongolia, by His Excellency, the Ambassador of Mongolia to India, Mr. Gonching Ganbold, at a ceremony organized at the Embassy of Mongolia, India on 24th June, 2021. The Order of Polar Star is the most desirable and prestigious state award bestowed by the President of Mongolia which is highly valuable and distinguished and recognises individuals who have made invaluable contribution with their outstanding hard work, intelligence and sincerity to the prosperity of Mongolia and its friendship with other nations, as well for outstanding contributions in the fields of arts, culture, science and humanity. During his visit to Mongolia, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had announced an extension of a line of credit worth USD 1 Billion by Government of India to Mongolia, After several discussions, the Government of Mongolia decided to utilize this line of credit towards setting up of the first Oil Refinery of Mongolia. This project is the harbinger of energy and economic independence of Mongolia. This will ensure its sustained growth and development. After continued efforts, EIL secured the contract for providing Project Management Consultancy (PMC) services for the 1.5 MMTPA Grassroot

refinery project. The work on this refinery is

progressing well and while creating tremendous job opportunities in Mongolia, would also provide great opportunities to Indian industry to provide its goods and services for the refinery. SJVN Earns a net profit of Rs 1633 crore

Continuing to better its performance year after year, Public Sector SJVN Limited has earned a net profit of Rs 1633.04 crore during the financial vear 2020-21 against Rs 1557.43 crore earned during the previous financial year 2019-20, registering an increase of Rs.75.61 crore, told Sh. Nand Lal Sharma, Chairman and Managing Director of the Company, declaring financial results for the financial year as well as the fourth quarter, after company's Board meeting held here today. He told that during the financial year 2020-21 SJVN had netted a total income of Rs 3213 07 crore against Rs.3095.24 crore during the past year registering an increase of Rs.117.83 crore The Earning Per Share of a face value of Rs.10 has increased to Rs.4.16 against Rs 3.96, he told. He informed that the Board of Directors had declared a dividend of Rs.2.20 per equity share. A dividend payout of Rs.1.80, he told, had already been given earlier as interim dividend while the balance payout of Rs.0.40 will be made shortly. The public sector SJVN had generated 9224 million units of electricity from its five Power Stations comprising of two Hydro Power Stations in Himachal Pradesh, two Wind Power Stations and one Solar Power Station in Maharashtra and Gujarat against Design Energy of 8700 Million Units. Sh. Nand Lal Sharma also informed that SJVN had entered into an agreement with Guiarat Uria Vikas Nigam for implementing a 70 MW Solar Power Plant in Gujarat.

Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW)

vaccinates 35000 people Taking forward the goal of Covid 19 vaccination as a mission, the medical team has now fully utilized the dose of Covid vaccine supplied by the state government under the leadership of General Manager, BLW, Ms. Anjali Goyal and under the supervision of Principal Chief Medical Officer. Till date, more than 35000 persons have been vaccinated. BLW has vaccinated about 85% of the railway personnel. Among the remaining employees, they could not be vaccinated due to being infected with Covid. At the same time, there are a large number of non-railway persons among them. At present, while ensuring the due compliance of the instructions specified by the Government of India, the railway employees, their families and non-railway persons, so far a total of 35204 Eligible beneficiaries have been vaccinated. In which the first dose of vaccination was given to a total of 10943 eligible people including 6100 railway and 4843 non-railway beneficiaries, while the second dose was given to a total of 24261 people including 9465 railways and 14796 non-railway beneficiaries. Keeping in mind the problems of the divyaangjans and elderly persons, the vaccination workers themselves go to them and vaccinate them. The General Manager, BLW has appreciated the

Puniab & Sind Bank celebrates 114th **Foundation Day** 

excellent efforts and unique initiatives. Punjab & Sind Bank celebrated its 114th Foundation Day on 24th June 2021. On this momentous occasion, Sh. S Krishnan, MD & CEO informed that the bank was established in 1908 at Amritsar and has played a significant role in shaping the banking landscape of pre and post independent India. Speaking on the occasion Sh. S Krishnan expressed gratitude towards all the stake holders and customers for being with the Bank during the illustrious journey of 113 years. He further informed that on the occasion of Foundation Day, besides other IT related initiatives, the Bank has launched a special Fixed Deposit product named PSB Swasth Bharat offering 0.15% additional rate of interest to the public who get vaccinated against Covid 19. He further stated that the Bank is offering one-

A Business Initiative stop solution for all the financial needs of the customers and is in the process of revamping its IT infrastructure to offer state-of-art technology to its customers especially millennials. While speaking to us, Sh. S Krishnan informed that presently the Bank is offering lowest interest rates on Housing, Auto and Gold Loan products. The Bank is focusing on its core strength fo augmenting Retail, Agriculture and MSME (RAM) segment credit. After a period of eight quarters the Bank has earned Net Profit of Rs.161 crore during the last guarter of 2020-21. Sh. S Krishnar informed that each PSBian is fully committed & dedicated to serve with renewed zeal and zest. Even during the testing times of Covid 19, we extended the best of the services without any

ONGC declares results for FY'21: posts net profit of Rs 11.246 crore for FY'21

In its 339th Board Meeting held on 24th June 2021, ONGC presented the annual results for FY'21 ONGC Board has recommended fina dividend of 37% (Rs. 1.85 per share). The Company had earlier declared interim dividend of 35% (Rs. 1.75 per share) during the year; thus the total dividend for FY'21 has been 72% (Rs. 3.60 per share). The total dividend payout for FY'21 would be Rs. 4.529 crore. Despite country wide lock-down due to COVID-19 pandemic ONGC has almost reached last year's production levels in case of Crude oil from its operated blocks. The shortfall in Natural Gas production is primarily due to less offtake by customers due to COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in production shortfall of Condensate and Value Added Products (VAP) as well. ONGC has declared total 10 discoveries (3 in onland, 7 in offshore) during FY 2020-21 in its operated acreages. Out of these, 6 are prospects (1 in onland, 5 in offshore) and 4 are pool (2 in onland, 2 in offshore). With the monetization of Ashoknagar-1 discovery, the Bengal basin became the eighth sedimentary basin of India from which hydrocarbon has commercially been produced. This has resulted in up-gradation of Bengal basin to Category-I basin as per the new three tier category -classification of sedimentary basins of India.

NMDC achieves best ever Quarterly **Financial Performance FY 2021** 

India's largest iron ore producer, NMDC has produced 34.15 million tonnes and sold 33.25 million tonnes of iron ore during the financia year 2020-21. This is an 8% growth in production and 6% in sales from the 31.49 million tonnes produced and 31.51 million tonnes sold during FY 2019-20, achieved in an undoubtedly challenging year. NMDC's turnover for FY 2020-21 is Rs 15.370 crore against Rs 11.699 crore during.FY 2019-20, registering a growth 31%. During the 4th quarter of the financial year turnover stood at Rs 6,848 crore compared to Rs 3,187 crore in the CPLY. The Company achieved a record turnover for the 4th Quarter and also in Annua Turnover, both are highest since inception. Profit before Tax (PBT) for FY 2020-21 is Rs 8,902, a 45% increase from the Rs 6,122 crore during FY 2019-20. Profit after Tax (PAT) at Rs 6,253 for FY 2020-21 similarly reflects a growth of 73% from the Rs 3,610 crore achieved in FY 2019-20. NMDC recorded Profit before Tax (PBT) of Rs 4.269 crore and Profit after Tax (PAT) of Rs 2.838 crore in the 4th quarter of FY21, a 188% & 708% respective growth over the 4th quarter of CPLY The Company has registered highest ever PBT & PAT both in any quarter since inception. The company achieved a production of 12.31 million tonnes (MT) iron ore during the Q4 quarter as against 9.47 MT in the CPLY a 30% growth, while realising a 29% growth in sales of iron ore 11.09 MT compared to 8.62 MT during the 4th quarter of FY 2019-20, which is best ever production and sales figures not only for 4th Quarter but also for any quarter since inception.

DP/850/CD/2021

### Government of India **Department of Atomic Energy**

**Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration & Research** No.1-10-153-156, AMD Complex, Begumpet, Hyd-500016

**BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE** 

The Director, (AMD), Begumpet, Hyderabad invites for and on behalf of the President of India, sealed tenders in two parts (TECHNICAL and COMMERCIAL) from eligible Core Drilling contractors, for the following works in the parts of Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand,

Item No.	NIT No., TENDER NO. & SCOPE OF WORK	Estimated job value (in Lakhs INR)	Earnest Money (in INR)	Last Date and time of availability of Tender Documents for download	Date and	Date and Time of Opening of Part I	Period of completion in months
1.	NIT No. AMD/CD/SR/CORE/2021-22/T-(204), Date: 21.06.2021 TENDER NO. AMD/CD/MTPL/RKP/CORE/2021-22/T-204 10,000 m core drilling in Motnutalapalle area, Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh with borehole depth varying from 600 to 850 m.	347.10	NIL *	14-07-2021 at 15:00 hrs.	19-07-2021 at 17:00 hrs.		12 (TWELVE)
2.	NIT No. AMD/CD/ER/CORE/2021-22/T-(205). Date: 22.06.2021 TENDER NO. AMD/CD/ER/RJDH-RKHA/CORE/2021-22/T-205 10,000 m core drilling in Rajdah-Rakha-Kendadih Blocks, East Singhbhum District, Jharkhand with borehole depth varying from 500 to 1000 m.	371.20	NIL *	14-07-2021 at 15:00 hrs.	19-07-2021 at 17:00 hrs.		15 (FIFTEEN)

<sup>•</sup> The Bidder including MSE registered firms shall submit the <u>Bid Security Declaration in lieu of Earnest Money Deposit</u> Without Bid Security Declaration, the bid will not be considered. It is mandatory for the bidders to upload the Bid Security Declaration in Website www.tenderwizard.com/DAE along with the Tender document. Detailed tender notice along with other documents are available on website: www.tenderwizard.com/DAE. Detailed NIT is also available on website  $\textbf{www.amd.gov.in} \ for \ view \ only. \ For \ further \ clarification, \ please \ contact \ on: \ 040-27776342/27776335/27776387.$ 

### IN BRIEF



# HC adjourns bail pleas

The Kerala High Court adjourned to June 30 the hearing on an anticipatory bail petition filed by S. Vijayan and Thampi S. Durga Dutt, former police officers and accused in a case registered by the CBI for torturing and hatching a conspiracy to frame ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan in the ISRO espionage case

#### Schools will remain shut for now: A.P. Minister

VIJAYAWADA Schools in Andhra Pradesh will not reopen on July 1 as planned earlier, in view of the COVID-19 situation. "Children will not be able to attend school as the conditions are still not conducive. But teachers will attend in staggered shifts to be part of the training sessions," said Education Minister A. Suresh

#### Three bodies retrieved from well in A.P.

RAJAMAHENDRAVARAM The bodies of three persons, including that of a girl, who died after their motorcycle plunged into an open well, were retrieved by the State Disaster Response Force personnel on Tuesday. The bodies were fished out from the open well at Dosakayalapalli village in East

#### **Customs given custody** of Arjun till July 6

The Customs has been given custody of Arjun Ayanki, an accused in the smuggling of 2.33 kg gold worth ₹1.11 crore through the Karipur airport in Kerala, till July 6. He was arrested on Monday. Meanwhile, a former activist of the Democratic Youth Federation of India C. Saiesh has been issued notice to present himself before the

# 2015 Assembly ruckus: leaders move SC

They join the Kerala govt., which has also filed an appeal in the case

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

Political leaders accused of creating a ruckus in the Kerala Legislative Assembly joined the State government in the Supreme Court on Tuesday to challenge a High Court dismissal of a prosecutor's request to withdraw a case of criminal trespass, mischief and destruction of public property against

The accused persons include Education Minister V. Sivankutty and other prominent leaders of the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) in the State. They were accused of vandalism on the Legislative Assembly floor during a Budget presenta-

tion in 2015. The televised images showed MLAs coming to blows on the House floor and hurling chairs, computers and other public property soon after the then Finance Minister K.M. Mani began his Budget speech during the United Democratic Front (UDF) government's

As soon as the hearing began, Justice D.Y. Chandrachud started saying "this is a case..." only to stop mid-sentence when senior advocate Jaideep Gupta submitted that he represented the accused persons and had filed a separate appeal in the case, which was numbered by the Supreme Court Registry in the course of the morning.



Assembly as the Budget is presented in 2015.

Mr. Gupta urged the Bench to tag his appeal with the main one filed by the Kerala government and adjourn the case for a later date. This would give the court the time to read his appeal too.

In its appeal, the State government has argued that the legislators' actions in 2015 were protected from legal action by parliamentary

It said the Assembly Secretary ought not to have complained against the MLAs to the police without taking the prior sanction of the Speaker. Besides offences under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the legislators were booked under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property

The public prosecutor's application to withdraw the cases was dismissed by the Thiruvananthapuram Chief Judicial Magistrate on September 22, last year. The Magistrate had concluded that the request was made "without good faith and under external influence". The High Court confirmed the Magistrate's decision in March.

In its appeal, the State government, represented by advocate G. Prakash, said a Magistrate's role was limited when the prosecutor sought withdrawal of the case under Section 321 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. All the Magistrate needed to examine was whether the prosecutor had applied his mind "independently and proper-

# RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim, Bihar and Telangana. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	10	33.6	27.2	Kozhikode		32.8	24.4
Ahmedabad	10	36.6	24.5	Kurnool		35.7	26.0
Aizawl		–	–	Lucknow	5	38.5	28.7
Allahabad		38.4	28.5	Madurai		37,7	26.5
Bengaluru		32.6	20.9	Mangaluru	4.3	30.2	22.2
Bhopal	9.6	36.9	24.0	Mumbai		32.4	25.4
Bhubaneswar		34.8	27.5	Mysuru		33.0	20.4
Chandigarh		41.8	28.2	New Delhi		43.0	27.4
Chennai	1.2	34.2	27.5	Patna		33.2	28.0
Coimbatore		34.0	22.4	Port Blair		31.2	25.6
Dehradun		36.3	25.3	Puducherry		33.4	26.2
Gangtok	3	20.6	18.1	Pune		32.1	21.8
Goa	14	31.6	23.4	Raipur		35.5	26.5
Guwahati	0.3	33.3	26.4	Ranchi		32.2	24.6
Hubballi		29.0	21.0	Shillong	26	20.2	18.0
Hyderabad		34.2	23.8	Shimla		31.0	22.0
Imphal	4	27.6	22.7	Srinagar		33.3	16.7
Jaipur		41.6	30.6	Thiruvananthapuram.		32.4	25.0
Kochi		31.2	24.4	Tiruchi		38.3	26.4
Kohima		25.8	18.4	Vijayawada		37.0	27.0
Kolkata		34.8	28.3	Visakhapatnam		34.8	27.6
(Rainfall data	in mm;	temper	ature in	Celsius)			

#### Pollutants in the air you are breathing Bengaluru ..... ... 7 .26 45 ....66 Chennai ..... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 45 ....46 ..8 .37 65 ..261 .293 Hyderabad ..... ... 3 .85 17 ....41 ...65 Kolkata...... ... 8 .24 23 ....45 ...71 Lucknow...... 16 .16 64 ...114 .124 ....66 .118

Visakhapatnam 13 .43 30 ....45 ...73

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI) 502: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues

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

# SC notice to Karnataka in Gauri Lankesh case

Petition opposes dropping of charges

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought a response from the Karnataka government to a petition made by the sister of murdered activist Gauri Lankesh, challenging the dropping of organised crime charges against an accused in the

A Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar issued notice to the State on the petition filed by Kavitha Lankesh.

Ms. Lankesh, a film-maker, has appealed to the top court against the High Court's decision in April to quash charges under the Karnataka Control of Organised Crimes Act (KCOCA) against Mohan Nayak.

The apex court said the



Gauri Lankesh

accused should not be granted bail until Ms. Lankesh's plea was decided. The Bench then stood the case over to July 15.

Ms. Lankesh, represented by advocate Aparna Bhat, said an SIT investigation had revealed that the accused was part of a syndicate that was behind several instances of organised

# Darbhanga blast suspect went to Pak. thrice to meet handler

Nasir Malik was detained by the NIA in Hyderabad recently

ABHINAY DESHPANDE

The mastermind behind the parcel bomb explosion at the Darbhanga railway station in Bihar appears to have established a credible line of contact with the operatives of Pakistan's intelligence agency, Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI).

Nasir Malik, one of the two brothers detained by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in Hyderabad recently, is said to have made the chemical explosive by taking online bombmaking instructions from his ISI handler, Iqbal Khana alias Asif Khana of Pakistan.

The suspect, who is in his forties, migrated to Hyderabad nearly two decades ago from Kairana in Shamli, Uttar Pradesh, and was part of the ready-made clothes business at Habeeb Nagar. His brother Imran Malik, 35, came to the city last year.

Their handler, Khana, also a native of Kairana and a wanted terrorist in the country, was taking shelter in Pakistan. He was in touch with the Malik brothers, Haji Saleem and Khafeel, and other ISI sympathisers from his place, and was also involved in counterfeit currency cas-

A senior official at the NIA, New Delhi, told The Hindu that during the interrogation, they learnt that Nasir went to Pakistan thrice in the guise of meeting his blood relatives and had sevwith Khana and others, who motivated and radicalised The Malik brothers, along

eral in-person interactions

with Haji Saleem and Khafeel, have also visited Saudi Arabia to meet others who share their ideology. The official said the chem-

ical bomb was originally intended to explode within a few hours of dispatch from the Secunderabad railway station. "They had plans to set fire to the train. Luckily, the plan failed. Had it exploded in the train, there could have been a loss of human lives and property," the official added.

The parcel exploded with low intensity at the Darbhanga junction on June 17.

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

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

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

# NORTH & EAST

# Farmers' movement played a role in Bengal poll: Yashwant Sinha

Trinamool leader meets BKU leaders

ANUJ KUMAR

Trinamool Congress leader Yashwant Sinha said on Tuesday that the party and the National Front of the Opposition parties was in support of the farmers' movethe against ment contentious farm laws. He met BKU national spokesperson Rakesh Tikait, general secretary Yudhvir Singh and other protesting farmers at the Ghazipur border. "We stand by you and in the future meetings of the National Front, it would be discussed how to hit the road to support the demands," he

Mr. Sinha said the farmers' movement played a role in Bengal elections. "When the leaders of the Samyukta Morcha went to Bengal before the Assembly poll, they said people should not vote for the BJP. It contributed to their movement was apolitical and that the BKU was not supporting any political party. "We welcome all the political parties that support our movement but we will not share the stage with any political party nor will allow any political group to use our stage."

# 34 minors died of COVID-19 in three months in Assam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

and less than 18 years.

the outcome. If the BKU plays a similar role in the U.P. elections, this movement will create an impact on the voters' mindset."

Mr. Tikait reiterated that

Mr. Sinha said he had been an MP and could say that the parliamentary procedure was not followed while passing the three farm laws, and the government would have to repeal them. "We are also in favour of bringing in a law guaranteeing the MSP. The MSP should be decided on the basis of the law and not the lar-

of 34 minors in three months in Assam. During this period, 34,606 minors were infected by the novel coronavirus, data provided by the National Health Mission, Assam, showed. An analysis of the children and teenagers showed 5,755 were less than five years old and 28,851 were between six

The State's Health officials said during the ongoing

gesse of the government."

ticularly among those aged

up to 5 years.

phase 3 of the Assam Com-GUWAHATI munity Surveillance Pro-COVID-19 claimed the lives

gramme, most of the children who tested positive stayed with their COVID positive parents or guardians in home isolation. "We have advised positive parents to opt for institutional quarantine," Health Minister Keshab Mahanta said. Officials said many of the 34 children who died had comorbidities pertaining to the heart and kidneys, par-

THE HINDU

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT JOBS

### **GENERAL**

1921 2021

- one of the leading Private Sector Banks

invites applications for engagement of Retired Officers for working at our Inspection Department and for performing back office functions in branches on Contract basis in the cadre given below

 Assistant Manager Senior Manager Manager Chief Manager Last date for filing application: 09.07.2021

For more details and filing application, Please log on to www.tmb.in



The Search Committee of Atmiya University, Rajkot (Gujarat), is inviting nominations / applications for the post of

### VICE CHANCELLOR

- The candidate should be a distinguished academician and possess adequate administrative qualities, highest level of competence, integrity, moral values and institutional commitment. He/She should be an institutional builder.
- He/She should have a minimum of 10 years of experience as a Professor in a University system or 10 years of **experience** in an equivalent position in a reputed research and / or academic administrative organization as per prevailing University Grants Commission (UGC) norms.

The application in the format available on the University website

www.atmiyauni.ac.in is to be submitted on or before

**17-07-2021** to email id **search.vc@atmiyauni.ac.in**. A justification for his/her candidature (within 500 words) along with self-attested copies / relevant documents to be also enclos A hard copy (one copy) of all the above to be sent to Chairperson

Search Committee, Atmiya University, Kalawad Road, Rajkot-360005 (Gujarat) and cover to be superscribed as "Application for the post of VC" so as to reach on or before 21-07-2021.



Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (Established by Reserve Bank of India)

IDRBT, the premier Institute of Banking Technology in India, invites applications for:

\* SENIOR DOMAIN EXPERTS MULTIPLE PROJECT POSITIONS

The last date for receipt of applications is JULY 16, 2021 Please visit www.idrbt.ac.in for details



IF YOU ARE GOOD AT **COMMUNICATION**, WE HAVE THE RIGHT **OPPORTUNITY** FOR YOU @ VELLORE

- MANAGER
- **Human Resources**
- MANAGER
- Corporate Communication and **Media Relations**
- ASSISTANT MANAGER / MANAGER Social Media / Digital Marketing
- SENIOR CONTENT WRITER

Candidates should have strategic thinking skills with meticulous attention to detail. They should be able to work well under pressure, across teams and locations, and meet deadlines. Last date for applying: 15 July 2021

Visit our website: www.vit.ac.in To apply online, visit: careers.vit.ac.in STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED **Rourkela Steel Plant** 

Rourkela - 769 011, Odisha, India Dtd. 26.06.2021 Advt. No. 01/2021 ENGAGEMENT OF DOCTORS IN ISPAT GENERAL HOSPITAL, ROURKELA ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

Rourkela Steel Plant invites applications from the doctors, fulfilling the eligibility criteria given below, for engagement as Super Specialist/ Specialist/ GDMO, on contractual basis, for its hospital at Rourkela.

il. Discipline Nos to be Upper Age | Qualification engaged Limit as on 26.06.2021 as on 26.06.2021 Remunera-Super 69 Years M.Ch. in Burn & Rs.200000/-Specialis Plastic Surgery Specialist MBBS with MD/MS/DNB in Medicine/Radiology/ Pulmonary Medicine/ Rs.120000/-Dermatology/ Anaesthesia/ Nuclear Medicine MBBS with PG Diploma in Radiology/Nuclear Medicine Rs.90000/-GDMO 69 Years **MBBS** Rs. 70000/-

Eligible and interested candidates are required to send the scan copy of filled-in Application Form along with all relevant certificates/documents in support of their eligibility through Email ID recruitment.rsp@sail.in. No other means/mode of application shall be accepted

Closing Date of receipt of Application through Email: 12/07/2021 For full details of the advertisement, application format etc. please visit our company's website <u>www.sail.co.in</u> at the link "Careers" or <u>https://</u>

Registered Office: Ispat Bhawan, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003 Corporate Identity Number: L27109DL1973GOI006454, Website: www.sail.co.ir

There's a little bit of SAIL in everybody's life





# Flying terror

International cooperation is a must in combating new modes of terror attacks

The use of drones to attack an Indian Air Force base in Jammu on June 27-28 brought to the fore a troubling, though not unanticipated, new mode of terrorism for the country. Though there were no casualties at the base, the fact that there were at least two more subsequent attempts to use drones to attack military targets points to the future of terrorism. The use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), autonomous weapons systems and robotic soldiers by states in warfare and policing has raised moral and practical questions that remain unresolved. Non-state actors have caught up quickly. In 2018, Syrian rebels used homemade drones to attack Russian military bases in Syria; later, the same year, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro had a narrow escape after a drone flying towards him exploded a short distance away. In 2019, Houthi rebels claimed responsibility for bombing Saudi oil installations using drones. New modes of sabotage and violence enabled by technology reduce costs and risk of identification for terrorists while increasing their efficacy. Simultaneously, security agencies would find conventional tools redundant in combating terrorism. Terrorism may not even require organisations, as individuals with sufficient motivation and skills can carry out such attacks and remain under the radar like the drones they use. The existing international framework for controlling the proliferation of technology that can be weaponised, such as the Wassenaar Arrangement and Missile Technology Control Regime, is also largely useless in the emerging scenario.

States including India have sought to deal with terrorism with a combination of stringent laws, invasive surveillance, harsher policing and offensives against other countries that support terrorist groups. This approach has only had limited success in ensuring peace anywhere while the human and material costs have been high. The exponential proliferation of new technologies and Artificial Intelligence, vertically and horizontally, will make the task of combating terror even more challenging. The Jammu drone attack, Indian authorities reportedly suspect, was carried out by the Lashkar-e-Taiba, which is patronised by Pakistan. The same group was behind the 2008 Mumbai terror attack in which perpetrators came by boats from Pakistan. India has tried to punish Pakistan for its support to terror groups in recent years which has shown some success. The entry of drones calls for a more complex response to terrorism. Terror groups do capitalise on state patronage but technology is enabling them too to be autonomous in an unprecedented fashion. From turning passenger planes into missiles in 2001, terrorism has come a long way, and one cannot foresee where it will go next. Enhanced international cooperation and consensus on the development and deployment of technologies are required to deal with the challenge. India can and must take an active role in the process.

# Coming soon

New layers of censorship are a threat to the existing space for public discourse

ilm-makers around the world have often made extraordinary efforts to keep cinema alive. Under a repressive regime in Iran, directors such as Abbas Kiarostami, Mohsen Makhmalbaf and Majid Majidi fought for art as a basic social need with films like Where Is the Friend's Home?, The Cyclist and Children of Heaven. In India, during the Emergency when the government apparatus came down heavily on any criticism, the prints of Amrit Nahata's political satire Kissa Kursi Ka, filmed in 1975, were destroyed. Even though a revised version was released in 1978, it invited several cuts from the Central Board of Film Certification. For the past few years, the CBFC has objected to the content of several films, ordering cuts. Now, a proposed amendment to the Cinematograph Act, 1952, will make it even more difficult for film-makers to work on thorny or controversial subjects. The draft Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill 2021, which has been put out for public comments, has a provision that allows the Government to order re-certification of a film already certified by the CBFC. Film-makers argue that the new provision adds one more layer of censorship to the existing process. Already in April, the Government took the ordinance route to scrap the Film Certificate Appellate Tribunal (FCAT), a statutory body set up to hear appeals of film-makers against decisions of the CBFC.

In 2000, the Supreme Court had upheld the verdict of the Karnataka High Court in the K.M. Shankarappa vs Union of India case that the Union government cannot exercise revisional powers in respect of films that are already certified by the CBFC. The draft acknowledges the existing apex court order but has added a new clause: "...that on receipt of any references by the Central government in respect of a film certified for public exhibition, on account of violation of Section 5B(1) of the Act, the Central government may, if it considers it necessary so to do, direct the chairman of the board to re-examine the film". The provision of Section 5B(1) of the Act, the draft says, is derived from Article 19(2) of the Constitution "which imposes reasonable restrictions upon the freedom of speech and expression in the interests of sovereignty and integrity of India..." New restrictive laws have come into place for over-the-top (OTT) platforms as well. Giving the Government powers to vet content not only curbs freedom of expression but also quells democratic dissent. Fresh barriers to content generation are a threat to the existing space for public discourse and are indicative of the current pressures on freedoms from authoritarian tendencies of the ruling establishment.

# Apt judicial reminder in era of over-criminalisation

The criminal justice system needs to take note of the Delhi High Court's recent judgment on 'defining terrorism'



FAIZAN MUSTAFA

The criminal justice system is an instrument of state and a key index of the state of de-Every punishment which does not arise from absolute necessity is tyrannical, said French jurist Montesquieu. In fact criminal law should be used only as a 'last resort' (ultima ratio) and only for the 'most reprehensible wrongs'. Unfortunately, 'crimes' originate in government policy and, therefore, criminal law reflects the idea of 'power' rather than 'justice'. Should civil society activists, students, intellectuals and protesters be charged for the crime of terrorism? Is every criminal a terrorist and every violent crime a terrorist activity? Did Parliament in enacting the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, (TADA) and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. 1967 (UAPA) intend to punish ordinary criminals under these anti-terror special laws?

#### Example of misuse

In the period 2015-2019, as many as 7,840 persons were arrested under the draconian UAPA but only 155 were convicted by the trial courts. Most would eventually be acquitted by the higher courts. Even Congress governments misused TADA (enacted in 1985 and amended in 1987). Till 1994, though 67,000 people were detained, just 725 were convicted in spite of confessions made to police officers being made admissible. In Kartar Singh (1994), the Supreme Court of India had observed that in many cases, the prosecution had unjustifiably invoked provisions of TADA 'with an oblique motive of depriving the accused persons from getting bail'. It added that such an invocation of TADA was

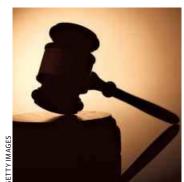
'nothing but the sheer misuse and abuse of the Act by the police'.

UAPA's experience has been worse than TADA. UAPA has also been equally used and abused. The recent 133 page bail order of the Delhi High Court in Asif Iqbal Tanha (June 15, 2021), that led to the release of three student activists, has come as a bolt from the blue for the Delhi police. At the heart of the controversy is the meaning of the term 'terrorism' and when UAPA can justifiably be

#### No consensus on definition

Though there are more than 100 definitions of terrorism available globally, there is no universal definition of the term 'terrorism' either in India or at the international level. The UN General Assembly had given this task to a committee, but in almost 50 years or so there has been no consensus on the meaning of terrorism. The fight against foreign occupation is to be kept out of terrorism as today's terrorist may be tomorrow's freedom fighter. Accordingly, neither TADA nor UAPA has a definition of the crucial terms 'terror' and 'terrorism'. Section 15 of UAPA merely defines a terrorist act in extremely wide and vague words: 'as any act with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security, or sovereignty of India or with intent to strike terror or likely to strike terror in the people....'

How is such a terrorist act committed? UAPA says 'by using bombs, dynamite or other explosive substances or inflammable substances or firearms or other lethal weapons or poisonous or noxious gases ... or by any other means of whatever nature to cause or likely to cause death or injuries...,' What is the meaning of the expression 'by any other means'? When a general word is used in any statute after specific words, it is to be interpreted in the context of specific words. Thus, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) protests cannot be covered by this



In Yaqoob Abdul Razzak Memon (2013), the Supreme Court said that terrorist acts can range from threats to actual assassinations, kidnappings, airline hijacking, car bombs, explosions, mailing of dangerous materials, use of chemical, biological, nuclear weapons etc. Since the three student activists did not do any of these things, Justices Anup Jairam Bhambhani and Siddharth Mridul could not be convinced of their involvement in any terrorist act. Through an authoritative and enlightened bail order entirely based on the apex court judgments, Justice Bhambani reminded the Delhi police of the true meaning of a terrorist act.

#### Other judgments

In Hitendra Vishnu Thakur (1994), the Supreme Court had defined terrorism as the 'use of violence when its most important result is not merely the physical and mental damage of the victim but the prolonged psychological effect it produces ... on the society as a whole'. Its main objective is to overawe the government or disturb the harmony of society or 'terrorise' people...'. Thus, what 'distinguishes 'terrorism' from other forms of violence is the deliberate and systematic use of coercive intimidation'. In Kartar Singh (1994), the Supreme Court held that a mere disturbance of public order that disturbs even the tempo of the life of community of any particular locality is not a terrorist act. By this interpretation, the CAA protests in a few localities of Delhi cannot be termed as terrorist activity. Even in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, the Supreme Court, in Nalini and 25 Others (1999) held that none of the accused had intent to overawe the government or strike terror among people, and therefore the killing of Rajiv Gandhi and 15 others was not held to be a terrorist act or disruptive activity under Section 3 of TADA. In Ram Manohar Lohia (1966),

the apex court explained the distinction between 'law and order', 'public order' and 'security of state'. Law and order represents the largest circle within which is the next circle representing 'public order', and the smallest circle represents the 'security of state'. Accordingly, an act may affect 'law and order' but not 'public order'. Similarly, an act may adversely affect 'public order' but not the 'security of state.' In most UAPA cases, the police have failed to understand these distinctions and unnecessarily clamped UAPA charges for simple violations of law and order.

In the historic PUCL judgment (2003) where the constitutionality of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) was under challenge, the Supreme Court had highlighted another vital dimension of terrorist act by including within its meaning amongst other things the 'razing of constitutional principles that we hold dear', 'tearing apart of the secular fabric' and 'promotion of prejudice and bigotry'.

Justice Bhambhani reiterated the first principle of criminal law, i.e., criminal provisions are to be given the narrowest possible meaning. It is a sad commentary on our criminal justice system that even the mention of this rule of thumb is being considered as a breeze of fresh air in an atmosphere of curtailment of liberties and democracy authoritarianism.

Relying on A.K. Roy (1982) where the constitutionality of the National Security Act (NSA) was

concluded that to ensure that a person who was not within the parliamentary intendment does not get roped into a penal provision, more stringent a penal provision, it must be more strictly construed. The apex court itself had held that while construing preventive detention laws such as the NSA, care must be taken to restrict their application to as few situations as possible. In Sanjay Dutt (1994) as well, the Supreme Court had held that those whom the law did not intend to punish are not to be roped in by stretching the penal provisions. In recent times, the Allahabad High Court had to quash 94 of 120 cases in which NSA has been invoked.

Accordingly, the Delhi High Court concluded that since the definition of a 'terrorist act' in UAPA is wide and somewhat vague, it cannot be casually applied to ordinary conventional crimes, and the act of the accused must reflect the essential character of terrorism. Indeed, the CAA protests were not terrorist acts. Defining terrorism may be difficult but does not everyone know when an act of terror is really committed?

#### What must be done

One hopes that, henceforth, our police will be far more cautious in charging people under black laws such as UAPA, the NSA, etc. In any case, no anti-terror law, howsoever stringent, can really end the problem of terrorism. Pushing a civilised state to state terrorism is the tried and tested strategy of all terrorists. Let us not fall in their

Radicalisation generally succeeds only with those who have been subjected to real or perceived injustices. Let us remove injustice to combat terrorism. The creation of a truly just, egalitarian and non-oppressive society would be far more effective in combating terrorism.

Faizan Mustafa is Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. challenged, Justice Bhambhani The views expressed are personal

# Méndez's anti-torture vision is still distant for India

The belief in the utility of torture is embedded in institutional culture and accommodated by law



DEVIKA PRASAD & ZEBA SIKORA

n a past interview, Juan E. Méndez, former UN Special Rappor-Leur on Torture, recounts his fears while being tortured for "intelligence" by security forces of the military junta in 1970s Argentina: "I was very scared during the interrogations. Twice they had to call a doctor to check if they could continue torturing me without killing me. Only then did I realize that I could die. But when you are in that situation you live minute by minute, thinking of the moment when the torturers will get tired and stop so you can have a break".

Mr. Méndez reminds us of the palpable fear created in the exercise of torture. Decades on, instilling fear through torture – physical or psychological - to reach the "truth", is still seen as an effective interrogation "technique" by security forces. The reality that torture persists suggests that belief in its utility overrides the moral arguments and legal prohibitions

### **Torture does not work**

A latest effort to combat torture during investigation, spearheaded by Mr. Méndez, reinforces empirical evidence that torture does not work. Launched in June 2020, the 'Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering', dubbed the 'Mén-Principles' (https://bit.ly/3A6P8Xo), were developed through a comprehensive, expert-driven consultative

The Méndez Principles aim to provide a cohesive blueprint of practical measures to replace torture and coercive interrogation with "rapport-based" interviews, reinforced through legal and procedural safeguards at every step. They offer practical guidance for non-coercive interrogations; ad dress heightened vulnerabilities in custody; and provide specific guidance on training, accountability and implementation. They are to apply to all authorities who have the power to detain and question people, including the police, military, and intelligence. At their core, the Principles seek to prevent coercive techniques and torture by introducing a paradigm shift away from "confession" based information gathering.

Crucially, they are grounded in scientific empirical studies across disciplines – psychology, criminology, sociology, neuroscience – which establish that coercive interrogation is counterproductive. Extreme torture tactics, such as forced stress positions or waterboarding, have been shown to significantly damage the affected person's memory and recollection of information. Aggressive questioning is more likely to make the interviewee resistant, or 'say anything' just for the threat of violence to stop. Coercive interviewing leads to unreliable information and false confessions. These studies provide scientific evidence to reject the widely-held misconception that a certain degree of 'pressure', or physical pain, will yield accurate information.

### Its persistence in India

With their emergence as a new set of aspirational standards, it is tempting to assess whether the Méndez Principles can readily apply to the Indian context. Unfortu-



nately, enough evidence indicates that the Indian context typifies the belief in the utility of torture, and is embedded in institutional culture and accommodated by law.

In spite of the prohibition of and safeguards against "third degree methods", they are normalised in police practice. Even the National Human Rights Commission has said that "custodial violence and torture is so rampant in this country that it has become al-

most routine" The belief that a certain degree of fear and pressure is necessary to compel a suspect to cough up the "truth" is widely held by police officers. This emerged strongly in a 2019 survey of about 12,000 police personnel across India, published by Common Cause and Lokniti (https://bit.ly/3jw5ljb). Three out of four personnel felt that it is justified for the police to be violent towards "criminals", and four out of five personnel responded that there is nothing wrong in the police beating criminals to extract confessions. Scholars, Khanikar (2018; https:// bit.ly/3h5Wfrq) and Jauregui (2013; https://bit.ly/3AaXwFm), studying the police in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, reveal practices of using tools such as wooden sticks in interrogation, signalling the presence of tools to beat or intimidate, while perversely labelling them with suggestive phrases like "aan milo saaina" ("come to me, my beloved"). Coercion and the

both the choice of tools and approach to interrogation. There would need to be a fundamental shift in police thinking before the goal set by the Méndez Principles of moving from coercive practices to "rapport-based interrogation" can be realised

Structural constraints fuel the persistence of torture, since it is seen to be effective. Investigating officers are in short supply, and have little scope to develop specialisation in investigative work. Working under perceived or actual constraints, of inadequate resources, political pressure, and an overburdened legal system, officers conjure the image of a vigilante cop compelled to take matters into their own hands. Popular films, and political and public support to illegal police killings as in the Hyderabad 'Disha' case (November-December 2019), further legitimise the vigilante cop as the only 'hope' for serving justice.

Tacit acceptance by law Additionally, Indian law creates conditions which further permit torture through the "back door". While confessions before a police officer are not admissible evidence, to prevent the police from resorting to torture, other legal provisions have the effect of indirectly accommodating the use of torture in investigative practice. Section 27 of the Indian Evidence Act permits the admissibility of statements before the police to the extent that they relate to the recovery of material objects, often called 'recovery evidence'. Thus, investigators still have incentive to seek "disclosures", and information implicit in a confession, as central to their investigation. Torture and falsification, by forcing an

accused to sign on blank papers,

resort to violence are common in are known abuses in the use of this provision. In an opinion study of former Supreme Court judges published 2018 bit.ly/3x6zNnU), 12 out of 58 judges acknowledged the heightened risk of torture as the shortcut method to obtain recovery evidence. Yet, Indian law still does not bar tainted evidence obtained through torture or coercive methods as inadmissible. It is up to individual judges to decide whether to rely on it or not.

The introduction of so-called scientific techniques of interrogation, such as lie detectors and narco-analysis, are often presented as the solutions to end physical torture. Iinee Lokaneeta's analysis in The Truth Machines (2020) reveals that introduction of these techniques, without addressing the existing conditions which perpetuate torture, has resulted in psychological forms of torture, supplementing coercive interrogation strategies. While the scientific validity of these techniques in determining the "truth" is held suspect, Indian law allows evidence voluntarily given by an accused through these techniques to be used as corroborative evidence. What can be voluntary in police custody without the protective cover of enforced safeguards?

In all of these ways, Indian law remains ambivalent and fails to fully prevent torture and coercion from creeping in. Structural constraints, popular culture, and political approval have shaped policing institutional cultures to valorise violence and coercion. Without urgent introspection, Méndez's anti-torture vision will remain distant for India.

Devika Prasad and Zeba Sikora are with Project 39A at the National Law

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

### **Relief measures**

In the Government's new stimulus package, one wonders whether there will be any takers for the five lakh free tourist visas given the adverse publicity earned during the second wave. More steps are needed to shore up the battered economy. N.J. RAVI CHANDER,

#### **Public sector units** Privatisation need not be

the panacea for reversing the ills that affect public sector units in India (Editorial page, "Reopen the files, reconsider privatisation", June 29). As the writer suggests, India needs to have a closer look at the Chinese strategy on this issue. As far as legacy PSUs are concerned, selling

# them outright is

inadvisable. India is a democracy and the Government must consider all aspects. Banking is one area which the Government needs to be very careful Chief Justice of India by about what it does. The

of retaining a residual stake of at least 25%. ABHINANDAN PRASAD, Sangli, Maharashtra

Government can also think

### A road map

Of late, the quick, decisive and just verdicts being passed by the Supreme Court offer us hope. The road map spelt out for the former Supreme Court judge Justice R.V. Raveendran is relevant in a time as this. The words. 'commitment to the cause of justice, concern for the

online, scan the QR code

percolate to every level of the judiciary in our country. D<sub>R</sub>. JESSIE LIONEL,

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

A report titled "Jab status linked to resuming business in Northeast" (June 25, 2021) erroneously re $ferred\ to\ Assam\ Chief Secretary\ as\ the\ Chairperson\ of\ the\ Assam\ State\ Disaster\ Management\ Authority$ (ASDMA). Actually, the State's Chief Minister is its Chairperson. The Chief Secretary is the Chairperson of the State executive committee of the ASDMA

common man' should

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

THE HINDU DELHI WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021

# How Narasimha Rao found an ally in Germany

A tribute to the former PM for his vision in executing India's new diplomacy following economic reforms



Diplomacy increasingly blends economics and politics. In this article, I look at how former Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's momentous economic reforms of 1991 played out in Europe's largest economic power.

In September 1991, just before India's Ambassador to Germany, A. Madhavan, was to retire, Prime Minister Rao travelled to Germany, mainly to fulfil an obligation from three years ago, to launch a year-long Festival of India. Some months earlier, India had tried to postpone this event on account of the financial distress that had brought the country to the brink of insolvency, but the Germans were adamant that the commitment made by an earlier Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi, regarding the festival be honoured.

#### A talkfest

In Germany, an 'accidental' Prime Minister who was guiding India towards national renewal encountered a rejuvenated Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, who had just steered his nation to a serendipitous 'unification' with East Germany (which had come to pass thanks to the collapse of the Soviet Union). This created unforeseen chemistry. In effect, Chancellor Kohl decided to take a chance; he seemed to believe that the Rao government would survive though it lacked a parliamentary majority. Taking a small step, the two leaders decided to create an annual talkfest called the Indo-German Consultative Group (IGCG). At this talkfest, non-official public figures of the two countries (about half of them business leaders and the rest from the fields of academia, culture, the media, and science) were to discuss ways to steer the relationship between the two countries towards a new future. Two or three officials joined, but in a listening role; the IGCG's recommendations

would go directly to the two leaders. When I reached Bonn in May 1992, for the first working meeting at the German Foreign Office, I was told that the IGCG was an experiment for the Germans. They had no such me-



Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao being seen off at Delhi airport on his departure for Germany in September 1991. • PIB/ THE HINDU ARCHIVES

chanism with any non-ally country. Incidentally, nor did India, besides one with Japan, dating to the 1950s, which had ossified into an annual, unproductive ritual. In New Delhi, the Ministry of External Affairs was cautiously optimistic about the new mechanism. It gradually appointed about 17 Indian figures, with P.N. Dhar as the co-chair. Germany had already named Deutsche Bank board member Ulrich Cartellieri as cochair, and a sterling group of some 16 members. In both countries, the two Ambassadors worked with the cochairs and the designated members, and discussed actionable ideas. The IGCG met in September 1992, at Bonn's St. Petersburg Castle overlooking the Rhine river. Its recommendations covered a page-and-ahalf. A day later, Chancellor Kohl received P.N. Dhar and I, and declared himself pleased. The Foreign Office, which is not given to hyperbole, said that the meeting had "exceeded their

That set the stage for Chancellor Kohl's visit to India in February 1993, probably the first major visit by a foreign leader to Delhi after the 1991 reforms. While preparing for this visit, Chancellor Kohl's Chief of Staff, Harald Nestroy, raised a problem. It was Kohl's practice to take about 20 'special guests' – top business leaders, a few academics, scientists and public figures on his visits. Kohl wanted he and his guests to meet Rao for a substantive discussion following his own official meeting with the Prime Minister. New Delhi firmly refused: there was no such practice in India. Mr. Nestroy asked whether Prime Minister Rao would accommodate this

special request. I sought and obtained an assurance on reciprocity and used backchannels to convey this request to the Prime Minister. He knew well the importance of that

German opening and agreed readily. At Hyderabad House on February 3, 1993, after lunch, the German businesspersons raised a host of issues over India's reforms, urging improvements. Prime Minister Rao spontaneously invited them to give him all their suggestions. Kohl endorsed this, adding that when the Indian Prime Minister visited Germany a year later to continue their dialogue, they would discuss this further. Prime Minister Rao then added that he would respond to the German requests before he reached Germany. This was done; our response reached Bonn four days before the Prime Minister went there.

#### A new practice

More important, as the aircraft left Delhi, Chancellor Kohl gathered his friends and asked, "Why are we so absent from India?" India had found a good ally. A few months later, for the first and only time in his 16-year chancellorship, Kohl asked the Foreign Office to produce a study on their Asia Policy. When that was finalised (after the draft was debated in the Bundestag), China, Japan and India were named as Germany's three 'strategic partners' in Asia. It was a first for India, in any western country; in those days, 'strategic' carried weight.

At Prime Minister Rao's return visit to Germany in February 1994, we stumbled into a new practice. Indian leaders were always coy about taking business delegations. This was despite the fact that by then, the three Indian apex bodies – CII, FICCI and ASSOCHAM – had begun to jointly host foreign leaders visiting New Delhi, to boost economic exchanges. But they had not "officially" been taken abroad by our leaders. That somehow seemed improper. Japan had a similar inhibition, which lasted much longer, into the 2000s.

When I asked the Foreign Office to confirm a meeting for our businesspersons with Chancellor Kohl, they stonewalled us saying there was no such practice in Germany. Mr. Nestroy then stepped in and confirmed that India could bring the businesspersons, provided they were "accompanying the Prime Minister". But a new problem came up. In New Delhi, high officials from the External Affairs Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office said that the Indian businesspersons were not "officially" with the Prime Minister; they "just happened to be in Germany at that time". That little impasse was sorted out via a direct approach with the Prime Minister, who said he had no problem with the businesspersons being associated with his visit.

The above narrative is a small tribute to P.V. Narasimha Rao for his vision and guidance in executing our new diplomacy following economic reforms. He personally steered this, sweeping away accumulated cobwebs in our thinking. After 30 years, the details or individuals are unimportant. We were all in a new game, unfamiliar with its rules and modes. And we learnt as we went along. My tribute is also to a succession of Indian and German envoys and officials who have raised this bilateral relationship to a much higher level, one that is mutually profitable. Such pragmatism became embedded in our practice of international relations. Prime Minister Rao guided and led us from the front, permitting India a smooth transition to the post-Cold War world. We confront today a different and perhaps more difficult national economy to manage, in the midst of a complex international political front. We need similar adaptability plus an ability to improvise and innovate, guided by the lodestar of national benefit.

Kishan S. Rana is former Ambassador, author of Diplomacy at the Cutting Edge

# The trouble with rankings

A university should be judged within its social perspective



ATANU BISWAS

A culture of ranking is dominating today's world. University rankings such as Times Higher Education and Quacquarelli Symonds create a huge uproar. But should they really deserve to be the yardstick of excellence in today's higher education?

#### The concept of a university

There has been a paradigm shift in the concept of a university in the modern era from the ancient times when universities like Nalanda and Taxila existed. In his 1852 book, The Idea of a University, John Henry Newman assumed that knowledge should be pursued "for its own sake". Newman used the ancient designation of a Studium Generale, or "School of Universal Learning". "A University seems to be in its essence, a place for the communication and circulation of thought, by means of personal intercourse, through a wide extent of country," Newman wrote.

The idea of the university, however, was shaped through the reforms of Wilhelm von Humboldt in Prussia. Ever since the University of Berlin was founded in 1810, the 'Humboldtian' university became a model for Europe, and subsequently for the research universities of the U.S. The central Humboldtian principle was the fusion of teaching and research in the work of the individual scholar, and the objective of the university was to advance knowledge by original and critical investigation, not just to transmit the legacy of the past or to teach skills.

In India, the Universities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras were established in 1857. The immediate interest was to produce graduates to fill up the salaried positions emerging in the wake of colonial rule. The mottos of these universities, however, were "Advancement of Learning", "Śīlastataphalā Vi*dyā*" (The Fruit of Learning is Character and Righteous Conduct), and "Doctrina Vim Promovet Insitam" (Learning Promotes Natural Talent), respectively. In 1919, Rabindranath Tagore wrote: "the primary function of our University should be the constructive work of knowledge".

evolved a lot, blaming the contemporary universities from Newman's standpoint would be like blaming a jet engine for not having the excellences of a windmill, as the philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre said. Back to ranking. In fact, weighted averag-

While the concept of a university has

es of scores for several performance-related

criteria are considered for ranking of the universities. The criteria and their weights differ from one ranking organisation to another. Change in weights may produce a different list of rankings. The criteria constitute research income from industry; ratio of international to domestic staff and students; number of students, research papers, citations; etc. Small but important institutes might thus trail in the ranking race. Also, many people think 'citation' is an inappropriate measure of usefulness of a research paper.

The most controversial part of the ranking methodology maybe reputational survey or academic peer review, where opinions of academics get importance. This component has significant weight, and these rankings have come in for criticism for too much emphasis on perception. Last year, seven leading IITs announced that they would boycott one such ranking, saying they are not satisfied with the transparency of the process.

#### **Churning out papers**

Research publication is important to enhance the rank. Academics are expected to keep churning out papers. An institute invariably seeks a list of recent publications once or twice a year from its faculty members. But how does that help in quality research? Peter Higgs, the 2013 Nobel Laureate in Physics, believes that he would not have got a job in today's academic system because he would not be considered "productive" enough. When his department at Edinburgh University would ask for a list of recent publications, Higgs would reply: "None". Still, today's academics are mostly confined within the world of such 'compulsory' research and publication, for mere survival.

The concept of a university should not be the same everywhere. Universities at Chicago, Harvard and Oxford might fancy making the achievements of their students or professors the yardstick of excellence. However, there are many universities which cater to the local people as the only spectacles of higher education and prism of enlightenment. Their importance is no less than the 'elite' universities. A university should be iudged within its social perspective.

The worth of university rankings, thus, is not very clear. "When we see a foreign University, we see only its smaller body - its buildings, its furniture, its regulations, its syllabus; its larger body is not present to us. But as the kernel of the coconut is in the whole coconut, so the University," Tagore envisaged a century ago. We might need to redefine the idea of a university within the framework of an ever-changing social perspective and need.

Atanu Biswas is Professor of Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

# A vague and wanting statement

The G7 failed to take a firm stance on the prevention of future pandemics

SHUBHAM JANGHU

Recently, the Group of Seven or G7 met in Cornwall, England. The leaders discussed a number of issues, but failed to take a firm stance on the prevention of future pandemics.

### Pandemics of the future

COVID-19 is not the last pandemic we are going to see. Given the closer proximity between humans and animals due to deforestation, displacement of humans, population growth, and the search for wild food, pathogens can easily be transmitted from animals to humans (zoonotic spillover). A report by the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPPR) notes that most of the new pathogens' origins are zoo-

Further, climate change is allowing the permafrost found in Arctic regions to melt and is reviving pathogens and organisms that were either once thought to be long gone or remain unknown. Recently, bdelloid rotifers, a microscopic creature that was slumbering for at least 24,000 years, was unearthed from the permafrost, which is melting in places due to climate change. Revich and Podolnaya (2011) conclude that vectors of deadly infections of the 18th and 19th centuries may make a comeback due to the same reason.

Given that we are still in the midst of a raging pandemic, what was the G7's response to all this? The Carbis Bay Health Declaration of the G7 fails to take any concrete stance on many (or arguably, any) issues. The G7 merely "acknowledge the bold recommendations of the [IPPPR] and the other review committees" and state that they will "continue to work" with other countries, the G20, the World Health Organization (WHO), and other organisations.

The Declaration takes "note" of the IPPPR's recommendation for a potential treaty under the framework of the WHO, suggesting a failure to reach a concrete agreement. Over 25 leaders from other regions have already supported the idea of a new treaty. Such a treaty is needed to plug holes in the current system and strengthen national capacities and

resilience. COVID-19 has taught us that a pandemic anywhere is a pandemic everywhere. If the capacities of developing countries are not strengthened, another virus could spread around the world. Without giving any material support, G7 offers vague commitments to "strive for fairness, inclusion and equity" and "support vulnerable countries".

### Need for a holistic approach

The world needs to adopt a holistic approach for the prevention of future pandemics. Dr. Jorge E. Viñuales et al., in their article in The Lancet, argue that the need is to focus on "deep prevention". They draw a distinction between upstream, midstream, and downstream stages of intervention. Downstream intervention refers to steps taken on the public health front (for example, prevention of disease spread). 'Deep prevention' focuses on upstream and midstream intervention. In the former, one would focus on the 'One Health' approach, which acknowledges the interconnection between humans, animals, plants, and the shared ecosystem. This approach can be given varying levels of intrusiveness. Towards the extreme end, it might involve banning wet markets, such as the one suspected to be the origin of CO-VID-19. China banned such markets in 2003 after the SARS outbreak; however, incentives to keep the industry open eroded the ban eventually. Although the Declaration seems to support 'One Health', it dilutes it to encouraging coordination efforts between the UN, WHO, World Organisation for Animal Health, and others.

Viñuales et al. suggest that the midstream intervention would involve setting up a science and policy panel such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Such a panel could ensure that science informs the law, pre-emptively detect pathogens of concern, and identify potential hotspots for an outbreak and set up a mechanism for regular inspection by the national authority and appropriate international oversight, among other things.

Shubham Janghu is a lawyer practising in New Delhi



### **DATA POINT**

Not under cover In Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat, fewer than 40% of the households had at least one member covered by health insurance, according to the National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-20). Also, in these States, the number of household members who generally chose to go to private sector clinics/hospitals for treatment was relatively higher than in other regions. So, households in these States spent more on health as the average expenditure for hospitalisation cases was seven times higher in the private sector compared to the public sector, according to the latest NSSO report on health. While the problem was acute in these four States, insurance coverage was in general very low across many States. By **Sumant Sen, Jasmin Nihalani & Vignesh Radhakrishnan** 

POOR COVERAGE I The % of households with at least one member covered by health insurance was as low as 12.7% in J&K. In Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, while the insurance coverage and the share of government schemes was relatively high, the share of those who sought the private sector for their health needs was also relatively high. Only States for which there is NFHS-5 published data have been presented

-			•					ance cover was
where ber was h insurance	Share of those insured under govt. schemes*	consult	es which ed the p sector if	ublic	% house consulte health s		rivate	higher among rural household The difference
Total	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	was higher than
12.7	84.6	87.2	92.5	91	12.1	5.6	7.4	10% points in Andhra Pradesh
14.2	64.6	78.6	86.6	83.5	20.7	12.2	15.4	Mizoram, Tripur
14.5	29.3	24.6	18.5	19.4	71.5	72.9	72.7	Assam, Telanga
20	49.1	30.9	40.6	36	67.1	58.2	62.4	na, Meghalaya
20.5	73.1	61	75	70.5	36.9	18.6	24.5	■ In Bihar,
25.7	60.4	81	92.5	87.7	18.3	6.8	11.7	Karnataka and
28.1	46.4	45	61.5	54.7	53.1	37	43.6	Maharashtra, not only was
29.3	89.4	62.4	73.2	69.6	33.4	21.5	25.5	insurance cover
33	53.3	87.2	95	92.7	11	4.4	6.4	age low, but the
34.5	52.5	77.5	84.3	83.3	16.4	13.3	13.7	share of those
39	87	46	59.6	53.8	51.1	38.6	44	insured by govt schemes was al
46.4	93.2	83.3	94.6	88.4	16.1	3	10.3	relatively low
51.5	90	72.3	79.3	76	27.2	20.1	23.5	■ In Assam, whi
60	3.5	67.2	86.2	83.1	29.5	9.5	12.8	60% of house-
60.8	99	36.7	35.5	35.9	58.5	59	58.9	holds had healt
63 <b>.</b> 5	93.2	60.9	83	78.2	35.7	13.1	18	insurance, only
66	89.2	57.3	67.8	61.6	42 <b>.</b> 5	32.1	38.3	3.5% of those had a govern-
70.2	100	37.5	43.2	41.5	56	51.2	52.7	ment-backed
								70.2 100 37.5 43.2 41.5 56 51.2 52.7

\*Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS), Central Government Health Scheme, State Health Insurance Scheme, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), community health insurance programme

### **OBSERVATIONS**

■ In many States, the health insurance cover was higher among rural households. The difference was higher than 10% points in Andhra Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura Assam, Telanga-

■ In Bihar, (arnataka and Maharashtra, not only was insurance coverage low, but the hare of those nsured by govt. schemes was also relatively low

■ In Assam, while 50% of households had health nsurance, only 3.5% of those had a govern<mark>-</mark> nent-backed

an Advocate of this Court for alleged unprofessional conduct. It appeared that a Marwari merchant instituted 58 suits in the High Court and the allegation against the Advocate in question was that after having been consulted by the plaintiff and having obtained confidential information he subsequently declined to appear for the plaintiff and accepted a brief against him in one of those suits. The plaintiff before the court referred the matter to the Advocate-General whose decision was in favour of the Advocate concerned. After hearing the Advocate-General's opinion the Advocate in question appeared on the following day against the plaintiff. To-day the Advocate concerned made a lengthy statement refuting the allegations made against him. He was supported by four other Advocates who appeared as juniors in that case. The hearing is proceed-

fed by its water have been damaged, many

people living on its banks and drinking its

water have fallen prey to river-borne diseas-

es and wells on either side of the river upto a

distance of 15 kilometres have been affected.

This situation should be particularly disturb-

ing to the citizens of Madras who will be get-

ting Cauvery water soon when the Veera-

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FROM THE JUNE

Calcutta, June 27: A special Bench of the

High Court presided over by the Chief Jus-

tice and Justices Woodroffs and Richardson

were engaged in hearing the rule issued on

28 EDITION AS THERE IS NO EDITION FOR

Unprofessional conduct

nam project is completed.

### FROM PAGE ONE

# Ensure that no migrant worker goes hungry: SC

The court ordered the Centre to get its act together and complete the work on the portal by July 31. The Labour Secretary has to file a report in a month thereafter. The Centre should complete the registration of workers by December 31 this year or all their "welfare schemes" would be consi-"tall claims on paper".

Justice Bhushan observed, "The Ministry is not alive to the concerns of the migrant workers. The nonaction of the Ministry is strongly disapproved".

The court said an unorganised worker was entitled to direct bank transfer if there was a State policy.

"Both, in the first and the second wave of the pandemic, migrant workers had been exposed to financial and other forms of hardships due to their limited access and claim to the welfare resources offered by the States/Union Territories. Migrant labourers are particularly vulnerable to the economic regression," the court noted.

It suggested that the Centre ought to "redetermine" the beneficiaries under the Food Security Act in both the urban and rural The Bench directed the

States/Union Territories to register establishments and license contractors under the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 and ensure that they provided the authorities complete details of the workers employed with them.

# Govt. gives nod for Cipla to import Moderna's vaccine

In a statement, Cipla said it is "supporting Moderna, Inc. with the regulatory approval and importation of vaccines to be donated to India. At this stage, there is no definitive agreement on commercial supplies."

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Moderna vaccine has shown to have an efficacy of approximately 94.1%.

Meanwhile, responding to a question about the spread of the Delta Plus variant in India, Dr. Paul said 51 cases of Delta Plus variant have been reported from 11 States and one Union Territory - Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Gujarat, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Haryana and Jammu (as of June 28).

# LeT 'commander' among two militants gunned down in Srinagar

PEERZADA ASHIQ

Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) 'commander' Abrar, who was arrested on Monday, was killed along with another militant and three CRPF jawans were injured in an overnight encounter at Maloora here on Tuesday. "Both the terrorists were killed in the encounter. In CRPF personnel got injured and Abrar, who was with the search party, also got hit," Inspector General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar said. The

condition of the injured personnel was stable, officials

"A foreign terrorist, who fired from inside the house, got neutralised, and Abrar also got killed," Mr. Kumar

"On Monday, at the Parimpora *naka* [checkpoint], a vehicle was stopped and their identity was asked. seat, tried to open his bag and take out a grenade. The naka party swiftly swung into action and grabbed him," the police said.

# Activists welcome top court's ruling

'It should result in universalisation of rations to all migrant workers during the pandemic

The Supreme Court's ruling on Tuesday should result in the universalisation of rations to all migrant workers across India as long as the pandemic continues, as opposed to the government's one-time relief measures, said intervenors in the peti-

Social activists Harsh Mander, Anjali Bhardwaj and Jagdeep Chhokar also welcomed the court's direction to the government to re-determine the number of people covered under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), given that the population has grown since the law was enacted.

"It is significant that the SC has recognised that economic distress does not go away merely with the lifting of lockdowns...," said the intervenors in a statement. "We welcome this important judgment and are happy to note that the plea to universalise rations to all migrant workers across India till the pandemic continues has been accepted."

In its ruling, the SC had di-



Bearing the brunt: Migrant workers outside the Kashmere Gate Metro station waiting for transport to their workplaces in New Delhi on Tuesday. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

rected States to distribute dry rations and run community kitchens for migrant workers, and directed the Centre to provide the needed grains to implement this. The Food Ministry has so far argued that there is no need to revive the Atma Nirbhar scheme under which it had

provided such dry rations for 2.8 crore migrants and others without ration cards last

In their written submission to the court on June 15, the intervenors had highlighted that the benefits of the NFSA as well as the One

scheme were restricted to those with ration cards.

They pointed out that several States had already exhausted their ration card quota under the NFSA, and 22 out of 29 States had less than 5% quota remaining.

"These State-wise quotas

underestimated on account of being calculated as per the figures of the 2011 census and never having been updated since," said the intervenors. They argued for a revision of the quotas using the current population projection of 139 crore, which would increase NFSA coverage to 93 crore people, as against the current figure of 80 crore.

In its ruling, the SC has now directed the Centre "to undertake exercise under Section 9 of the National Food Security Act, 2013 to re-determine the total number of persons to be covered under Rural and Urban areas of the State, which shall be beneficial to a large number of persons."

The intervenors had also argued for emergency cash transfers to be given to migrant workers to pay for cooking oil, milk and vegetables, as well as non-food expenses such as medical and rent needs.

However, the court said it could not issue any direction on cash transfers as they were a matter of policy and

# Aadhaar can be ID proof for GRE, TOEFL

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Indian students writing the GRE or TOEFL examinations will be allowed to use their Aadhaar cards as identification proof from July 1. Making the announcement, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) said on Tuesday that many students have faced difficulties in getting passports due to the COVID-19 lockdowns.

The ETS conducts both the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) and the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), standardised tests which are an admission requirement for many universities in the United States and elsewhere. According to the ETS website, a passport is the only accepted identification proof so far for those taking the tests in India.

This temporary measure will apply until further notice, according to an ETS statement. It will also apply to the new TOEFL Essentials Test, which the ETS will start offering from Au-

### No meeting planned with Sidhu: Rahul

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday denied that he was scheduled to meet former Punjab Minister Navjot Singh

"I don't know what fuss you all are making," Mr. Gandhi told presspersons outside 10 Janpath, the residence of Congress presi-Sonia Gandhi. Though he avoided a direct answer on the meeting taking place on Wednesday, a source told *The Hindu* that it will take place.

On Monday, Mr. Sidhu's team had claimed that the cricketer-turned-politician would be meeting Mr. Gandhi and his sister and party general secretary, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in Delhi. During Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh's Delhi visit last week, he met only a threemember panel of the All India Congress Committee and not the Gandhis.

# 'Chamoli disaster due to avalanche'

The February 7 flash flood claimed 72 lives; at least 200 are missing or dead

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The flash flood on February 7 in Chamoli district, Uttarakhand, that claimed at least 72 lives with at least 200 missing was due to a large mass of snow, ice and rock avalanche along with a hanging mass of rock crashing into the Raunthi Garh valley floor.

This impact pulverised the combination of rock, snow and ice causing a rapid flow downstream of Raunthi Garh and into the Rishiganga valley leading to the deluge, the Geological Survey of India (GSI) said in a report on Tuesday.

The deluge had destroyed the 13.2 MW Rishiganga power plant and damaged the 520 MW Tapovan-Vishnugadh hydel power project, in whose tunnels several workers had been fatally trapped.

The event had sparked global scientific interest with several groups of scientists. both in India and abroad, perusing satellite imagery as



Massive damage: A file photo of the flood-ravaged Tapovan-Vishnugadh hydel project. • v.v. KRISHNAN

well as some teams making field visits to the site to determine the cause of the disaster. A report in the journal Science earlier this month too came to a similar conclusion, reporting that nearly 27 million cubic metres of rock and ice had crashed into the valley floor.

### Warm weather

A contributory factor, according to Saibal Ghosh, senior scientist at the GSI, was unusually warm weather in region. "Observed change in the hydro-meteor-

ological conditions between 4th and 6th February, 2021 (heavy snowfall followed by sudden warmer climate) possibly triggered this huge snow and rock avalanche/ landslide causing sudden domino effect of flash flood in the downstream." Satya Prakash Shukla, De-

puty Director General, International Affairs Division, GSI Central Headquarters, who led the team of geologists investigating the disaster site, said, "Lessons have also been learnt from this event

is an excellent example of multi-hazard phenomena that occurred during the winter time, when this type of phenomenon leading to such disastrous deluge is expected in the Himalayas.'

There was no evidence of a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) having caused the event, he noted.

Due to the large volume of debris and the deluge, an artificial dam had formed near the confluence of Raunthi Garh and Rishiganga river, by the flowing debris which blocked the flow of the Rishiganga river and formed a small lake temporarily.

A study by the National Remote Sensing Centre indicated that the time taken from the initiation of the avalanche and its disastrous impact up to Tapovan barrage site near Joshimath was "barely 50 minutes", which indicates availability of a "very low lead time for raising any warning for the

# NIA takes over Jammu drone attack case

The National Investigation

DEVESH K. PANDEY NEW DELHI

Agency on Tuesday took over the probe into the drone attack inside the IAF station in Jammu early on Sunday. Following a directive from the Ministry of Home Affairs, the NIA has re-registered the case that was earlier lodged at the Satwari police station in Jammu under Sections 3 and 4 of the Explosive Substances Act, Sections 13, 16, 18 and 23 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, and Sections 307 and 120B of the IPC. "The case relates to an

explosion that occurred in the premises of the Air Force Station, Satwari campus, Jammu, on June 27 and a subsequent blast, after about six minutes carried out by drones in a well-planned conspiracy...," said the agency, adding that two IAF personnel were injured in the explosion.

# Atlas of glacial lakes in Ganga basin released

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

With concerns mounting over the impact of climate change on Himalayan glaciers, the Ministry of Jal Shakti has released an updated atlas of glacial lakes that are part of the Ganga river basin. About 4,707 glacial lakes have been mapped in the Ganga ba-

spread area greater than 0.25 ha were mapped using Resourcesat-2 Linear Imaging Self Scanning Sensor-IV satellite data. The Atlas is available on Bhuvan portal of NRSC, ISRO (https: //bhuvan.nrsc.gov.in/nhp/)

Glacial lakes with water

# 'Indians value religious freedom, not integration'

South India more inclusive, says Pew Center report on religious attitudes in the country

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Most Indians, cutting across religions, feel they enjoy religious freedom, value religious tolerance, and regard respect for all religions as central to what India is as a nation. At the same time the majority in each of the major religious groups show a marked preference for religious segregation and "want to live separately", according to a nation-wide survey on religious attitudes, behaviours and beliefs conducted by Pew Research Center, a non-profit based in Washington DC.

For instance, the report found that 91% of Hindus felt

### Free to choose

More than 80% of adults across all major religions in India said that they were free to practice their religion in the country

	/ % o	f Indian adults w	ho said
Religion	They are very free to practice their religion	Respecting all religions is very important to being truly Indian	Respecting other religions is a very important part of their religious identity
Hindus	91	85	80
Muslims	89	78	79
Christians	89	78	78
Sikhs	82	81	75
Buddhists	93	84	86
Jains	85	83	73
General population	91	84	80

truly Indian'.

they have religious freedom, while 85% of them believed that respecting all religions was very important 'to being gious value, with 80% of them stating that respecting other religions was an integral aspect of 'being Hindu'. Other religions showed similar numbers for freedom of religion and religious tolerance. While 89% of Muslims and Christians said they felt free to practice their religion, the comparative figures for Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains were 82%, 93%, and 85% respectively.

And yet, paradoxically the majority in all the faiths scored poorly on the metrics for religious segregation: composition of friends circle, views on stopping interreligious marriage, and willingness to accept people of

other religions as neighbours. The survey found that nationally, three-in-ten Hindus took both these positions: linking being Hindu and speaking Hindi to being Indian, and voting for BJP. But there was a clear geographical skew in their distribution: while roughly half of the Hindu voters in northern and central India fell into this category, only 5% of Hindu voters in the South did so.

Also, Hindu nationalist sentiments were less prevalent in the South.

the South (42%) were far less likely to say that being Hindu was very important to being

Among Hindus, those in

# Cyber skills being used for terror, says Shringla

'Such nefarious acts undermine trust'

SUHASINI HAIDAR

India on Tuesday accused certain countries of using cyberspace expertise to conduct cross-border terrorism. At the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on Tuesday, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said there were widespread concerns that both State and non-state actors were now manipulating ICT (Information and Communications Technology) products.

The comments follow an international report that claimed India's cybersecurity capabilities were weak, and in a year, the government had said, there had been a 300% increase in cyberattacks, including on several power grids, and more recently on Air India's databases

"Some States are leveraging their expertise in cyberspace to achieve their political and security-related objectives and indulge in contemporary forms of cross-border terrorism," said Mr. Shringla, addressing the UNSC debate on "Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Cyber Security".

The use of cyberspace by terrorists to "spread virulent propaganda, incite hatred and violence, recruit youth and raise funds", as well as the ability of states



Harsh Vardhan Shringla

and terrorists to infiltrate networks were other challenges, he said, without naming any countries.

"Such nefarious acts undermine the trust and confidence in the global ICT supply chain, compromise security and could become a flashpoint between States. It is in the interest of the international community to ensure that all actors abide by their international obligations and commitments and not indulge in practices that could have potentially disruptive effects on global supply chains and trade in ICT products," Mr. Shringla

On Monday, the report released by the International Institute of Strategic Studies (IISS) assessed the cyberpower of 15 countries. It graded India as a "thirdtier" cyber-power that had focussed its cyber intelligence and offensive capabilities too narrowly on Pakistan, and not other global threats further afield.

# Central Vista: SC dismisses plea against HC ruling

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed an appeal filed against the Delhi High Court judgment refusing to halt the Central Vista project redevelopment work amid the COVID-19 pandemic and imposing ₹1 lakh fine on the petitioners.

A Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar asked petitioners Anya Malhotra and Sohail Hashmi why they were "selective". The court

harth Luthra, for the petitioners, repeatedly why his clients chose to focus entirely on the Central Vista project and not other public projects in the Capital. "You have been selective

about one project. We do not find in your writ petition anything about any other project.... You have been selective about one project only," Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, on the Bench,

asked senior advocate Sidd-

addressed Mr. Luthra.

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court on Tuesday allowed the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) to continue with preparations to hold the Chartered Accountants (CA) exam in July for 3.74 lakh can-

A Bench, led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar, said it will pass orders on Wednesday and asked the ICAI to place on record a note incorporating its suggestions on the optout option, logistical arrangements, changing of exam centres in case of COVID containment zones, etc.

'Objective standards'

Offer opt-out option to all students, SC tells ICAI

Also, for most Hindus, re-

ligious tolerance was not just

a civic virtue but also a reli-

The court said the ICAI, represented by senior advocate Ramji Srinivasan, should have a "competent authority" with medical experience to chalk out the objective standards by which candidates could opt out of the July exams and try again in the November 2021 examination

In fact, the court said the opt-out option should be available not only for candidates who are COVID-19 positive at the time of exam but also for students who could not prepare for their exams due to extended post-COVID complications certified by an expert. "Have you taken into consideration the post-CO-VID effects?" Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, on the Bench, asked Mr. Srinivasan The court said the ICAI

note should provide detailed plans on how it intends to secure the exam halls from infection. They should not be some converted wedding halls. They should be exclusively used for the exams. The court said the examiners/invigilators etc should be inoculated.

In case of any sudden change in the exam centres, the candidate should either be able to opt out or given a slot at the nearest centre. In case the candidate contracts the infection in the middle of the exams, he or she should be given a chance to appear in the next examination cycle

in November. The Bench was hearing pleas to postpone the CA ex-

am due to the pandemic.



#### Stimulus plan doesn't address demand: CPI

The CPI said the stimulus package announced by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman offered no incentives to boost demand. The CPI said while announcing the ₹6.28 lakh crore plan, the Minister didn't mention where the funds would be mobilised from. "Is this a part of current budget expenditure?" it asked.

#### **Kovind lays foundation** of Ambedkar memorial

President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday laid the foundation stone of a memorial and cultural centre dedicated to B.R. Ambedkar in Lucknow. However, BSP chief Mayawati questioned the timing of the launch. which is a few months before the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly poll.

#### Time to stop talk of rift within MVA, says Raut

Shiv Sena spokesperson Sanjay Raut said while leaders may have different views, the tripartite MVA government in Maharashtra was functioning smoothly. He quashed reports of NCP chief Sharad Pawar being "upset" with the Sena. adding that it was time to put a stop to talk of any 'unease'

#### Jairam moves privilege motion against channel

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh, who chairs the Parliamentary Standing Committee on science and technology, moved a privilege motion against news channel Times Now for "falsified and mischievous" reporting of the proceedings of the panel's meeting.

#### **Assault on Assam doctor:** 36 chargesheeted

GUWAHATI

The Assam police have submitted a chargesheet naming 36 persons, including three children, for assaulting a doctor on June 1. A mob had assaulted Seui Kumar Senapati, a doctor at the Udali Covid Care Centre in central Assam's Hojai district, after a patient died of COVID-19. The doctor had to undergo surgery. The incident had come to light after a video released on social media showed several people hitting the doctor.

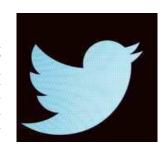
# House panel questions Twitter

Representatives from Google and Facebook appear before standing committee

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Standing Committee on Information and Technology has sought an explanation from social media giant Twitter on why accounts of IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and committee Chairperson Shashi Tharoor were locked.

In a meeting held on Tuesday, representatives from Google and Facebook appeared before the committee on the subject of 'Safeguarding citizens' rights and prevention of misuse of social/online news media platforms, including special emphasis on women's security in the digital space'.



Twitter recently locked the accounts of Ravi Shankar Prasad and Shashi Tharoor.

Sources said the committee members discussed the new IT rules with the representatives of both platforms. Both Facebook and Google have said that they will comply with the new IT

rules. "They said that they will comply with the new IT rules, as much as they can," one of the members said. Facebook pointed out that it was technically impossible to intercept messages in WhatsApp.

The new rules mandate tracing the origin of a particular message if required by the law enforcement agencies. Facebook explained that WhatsApp works on end-to-end encryption. It only sweeps metadata and no messages are intercepted or read.

Earlier in the day, Facebook announced that complying with the IT rules, it would publish an interim report on the content it had removed proactively between May 15 and June 15.

The new rules, which came into force on May 26, mandate large social media companies to publish periodic compliance reports every month, mentioning the details of complaints received and action taken.

Non-compliance with the IT rules would result in these platforms losing their intermediary status that provides them immunity from liabilities over any third-party data hosted by them and gives them immunity from criminal culpability.

# New economic package is a hoax, says Rahul Gandhi

No family will be able to use it for their living, he tweeted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

A day after Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced new sops to give a boost to the COVID-19hit economy, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi called the package a hoax.

"No family can spend the Finance Minister's 'economic package' for their living, food, medicine or their children school fees. Not a package, another hoax!" he said on Twitter.

On Monday, the Finance



Rahul Gandhi

Minister announced ₹1.5 lakh crore of additional credit for small and medium businesses, funds for the healthcare sector, additional loans to tourism agencies, visa fee waiver for foreign tourists and extra funds for

the healthcare sector.

"Some elementary truths: Credit guarantee is not credit. Credit is more debt. No banker will lend to a debtridden business," former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram said in a series of tweets, "Debt-burdened or cash-starved businesses do not want more credit, they need non-credit capital. More supply does not mean more demand (consumption). On the contrary, more demand (consumption) will trigger more supply."

# Atul Keshap is interim U.S. Chargé D'affaires

Biden govt. silent on India envoy

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN SUHASINI HAIDAR WASHINGTON/NEW DELH

The U.S. State Department announced the appointment of Atul Keshap, a senior foreign service officer with years of experience in South Asia, as Chargé d'affaires (CDA) ad interim, in New Delhi, to replace Daniel Smith, who is retiring.

Mr. Keshap's appointment highlights the fact that the White House is yet to send to the U.S. Senate the nomination of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, whose name has been doing the rounds for the Ambassador role in New Delhi since the end of May.

Mr. Keshap was formerly the U.S. Ambassador to Sri Lanka and the Maldives and played a key role in developing the U.S.-Maldives defence relationship. The two countries signed on to a framework for their security relationship last September. He also served as Deputy Assistance Secretary for South Asia and was posted previously to the American Embassy in New Delhi.

"Ambassador Keshap's appointment will reinforce the close U.S. partnership with the Government and people of India, demonlenges like the COVID-19



pandemic," a statement from the State Department said.

Short- and medium- term vaccine access for India, U.S. assistance to India as it fought a second COVID-19 wave in recent months, and India's manufacturing role in a Quad (India, the U.S., Australia and Japan) plan to supply at least 1 billion vaccines for Asia by the end of 2022 top the agenda of the relationship.

While the Biden administration has sent several ambassadorial nominations to the Senate, its silence on the nomination of an ambassador to New Delhi has been conspicuous, "Keshap eminently qualified but what is the deal with the Garcetti ambassadorial appointment to India?" Paul Staniland, a University of Chicago political scientist specialising in

South Asia, said on Twitter. A U.S. Embassy spokesperson said Mr. Smith's appointment was temporary strated by our collaboration as per the practice, but it to overcome global chal-still leaves the Garcetti ques-

# Rajasthan BJP caught in turbulence

Amid factionalism, show-cause notice served on ex-Minister for speaking out against State leadership

NISTULA HEBBAR NEW DELHI

The Rajasthan BJP is facing turmoil, with former Minister Rohitash Sharma accusing the State leadership of "running the party from within office rooms" during the COVID-19 pandemic. The party served a show-cause notice on him for indiscipline, but the incident has drawn attention to the fact that the cleavage in the party between the factions that owe loyalty to and those who oppose former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje continues to exist and flare up.

Ms. Raje, a leader who headed two governments, continues to remain strong within the party with much support while the national

leadership has remained wary of her power. Attempts to place Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat as the State president came a cropper a couple of years ago when she stood her ground.

'Inner-party democracy' During the pandemic, too, her team ran relief operations via the "Vasundhara Jan Rasoi", which was separate from the BJP-led "Sewa Hi Sanghthan" programmes. Ms. Raje's photographs were said to have been removed from party posters, annoying her supporters and providing some of the background for Mr. Sharma's comments.

Speaking to The Hindu, Mr. Sharma said, "Rajasthan



Former CM Vasundhara Raje remains a strong leader within the party.

is represented by several leaders at the Centre but in my district alone. I found it difficult to coordinate relief. I spoke about that, and rather than acknowledging that there is something called inner-party democracy, I was slapped with a show-cause notice for 'indiscipline'."

When asked about him speaking on behalf of a particular faction, he said, "Not

sition can become a leader. Vasundhara*ji* is a leader who brought the BJP to power first with 120 seats and the second time with 163 seats, surpassing the record of Shekhawatji [former Vice-President Bhairon Singh Shekhawat]. When we already have a powerful leader. we should put her forward," he said. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi is our face at the Centre, but in States, people want to see good local leadership and faces. The BJP's situation in West Bengal was because of this lack of a local face, and the same is in Haryana," he noted.

everyone in a leadership po-

Mr. Sharma has been given 15 days from June 25 (when the notice was first

However, BJP State chief Satish Poonia said, "His remarks on relief work are not true. More than 600 of our 'karyakartas' have lost their lives to COVID-19 in the course of serving the public. There are inner-party forums for his complaints, and his citing internal democracy for giving media interviews on party affairs is him being disingenuous."

National general secretary of the BJP and in-charge of Rajasthan, Arun Singh, said out-of-turn would not be tolerated.

As factionalism brews, the Congress and the BJP in the State can only take solace that both suffer from a similar malaise.

# NHRC team member alleges attack in Kolkata

SHIV SAHAY SINGH KOLKATA

A member of the committee of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) set up to probe allegations of post-poll violence in the State on Tuesday alleged that he was attacked in Kolkata's Jadavpur area.

2-7-2021 Up to

16.00 hrs

Atif Rasheed, Vice-Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities and of the Calcutta High Court, Rasheed said.

said some people chased and attacked him when he visited Jadavpur area to inquire into the allegations.

Videos viral

"On the basis of the complaints received, we came here and found 40 houses have been destroyed and the families have left. Some of the goons also attacked us in the presence of the police. If member of the Committee this happens to us, what set up as per the instructions about common people," Mr.

Videos of the locals surrounding the NHRC committee member and arguing with him have gone viral on social media. The High Court had on June 18 directed the NHRC to set up the panel to probe the allegations. The court refused to stay the order on June 21 after an ap-

peal by the State. Over the past few days, the NHRC has asked for comcommittee members either

in person, via mail, or telephonically.

The State BJP leadership raised the issue of the alleged attack. "A court-directed investigation being conducted by the National Human Rights Commission team was attacked at Jadavpur. Democracy is going to the ruins in Bengal," Leader of the Opposition Suvendu Adhikari said on social meplaints and grievances on dia. The Trinamool Congress

# govt. to frame drone policy SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Congress asks

The Congress on Tuesday urged the Centre to prepare a comprehensive policy to deal with armed drone attacks. Party general secretary Randeep Surjewala said the government should act on the advice of defence experts on modern warfare instead of "headline management".

# Kant's tenure extended

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Centre has extended the tenure of NITI Aayog Chief Executive Officer Amitabh Kant by one year till June 2022. He is a 1980 batch retired IAS officer of

FB to publish

interim report

on compliance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Facebook on Tuesday said

it will publish an interim

report this week with de-

tails of content removed

from its platforms proac-

tively, as required under

NEW DELHI

the Kerala cadre, who has been at the helm of the policy think tank since 2016.

Before moving to the NITI Aayog, he was Secretary in the Government of India, handling industrial policy and promotion.

Name of work	Stabilisation of Kuttiyadi Dam by providing					
	supporting concrete structure on the					
	Downstream Face & Allied structures					
	(Civil works) under DRIP-II					
Tender ID	2021_PCKNR_426252_1					
RFB No	DRIP/KYIP/SE/KNR/9/2021/22/NS					
Date of Publishing	15.06.2021					
Bid Submission end date	15.07.2021					
EMD	30,70,000/-					
Tender Class	A-Class					
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Dept., Project Circle, Kannur						

RO/00932/D3/2021/I&PRD

**Embedded Systems Electronics Design Technology** 

The springboard to your Embedded / VLSI Destination Approved by AICTE 

• Affiliated to Kerala Technological University ADMISSION 2021-2023 BATCH Ministry of Electronics & IT How to Apply visit https://nielit.gov.in/calicut National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology, Calicut NIT Campus PO, Calicut, Kerala 673601

the new IT rules. The U.S.-headquartered social media giant will publish a final report on July 15, which will contain details of user complaints received and the action taken, along with data

related to WhatsApp. "In accordance with the IT rules, we'll publish an interim report for the period May 15-June 15 on July 2. This report will contain details of the content that we have removed proactively using our automated tools," a spokesperson said in an emailed statement.

The spokesperson added that the final report would be published on July 15 with details of user complaints received and action taken. The report on July 15 will also contain data related to WhatsApp, which is currently being validated.



VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED (A Government of Karnataka Enterprise) Regd Office: Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited. No.148, Embassy Square, Ground Floor, Infantry Road, Bangalore - 560001, CIN No: U41000KA2016SGC097260, Ph 080-22256688/ 22289966, Fax: 080-22264477. Email: techvini@gmail.com, Website www.vini.in/ Office of the Executive Engineer, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limted, Upper Bhadra Project Division No.1 Kadur, Ph: 08267-295207, Email Id: eeubpdvn1@gmal.com No.VJNL/UBP/EE/D1/Kadur/Tender-1/Drip/Corri/2021-22/143 Dated: 28-6-2021

### **Corrigendum Notification -02 (Through e-procurement only)**

Reference: 1) This office short term tender notification no:80/2021-22 Dated: 08-06-2021. 2) This office Corrigendum notification no: 122/2021-22 Dated : 19-6-2021 Percentage tender on Turnkey Basis thourgh e-protal in Two Cover system is invited by the Exective Enginee

VJNL, UBP, Division No.1 Kadur on behalf of the Managing Director, Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Ltd, Bengaluru for the work mentioned vide indent no: 1691&1693 was published by this office vide reference (1) and corrigendum for the postponement of dates published vide reference no. (2) Now due to technical reasons again the last date of submission of completed Tender Documents & date of opening of Technical Bid are postponed and refixd as mentioned below. Calendar of Events

calendar c	f events. Sd/-	Executive Engineer
Note	: All other terms and conditions of tender mentioned in the reference shall remain un	nchanged except the
U	Executive Engineer, V.J.N.L, UBP, Division No.01, Kadur	16.30 hrs
h	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-1) in the O/o	3-7-2021 at

The Last date of Submission of Completed Tender Documents (Cover-

1 & Cover-2) through e-portal

### ANDHRA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LIMITED (An undertaking of A.P. Govt.) O/o. Chief General Manager (Per) 10th floor, APIIC Towers, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, A. e-Procurement Notice Tender Notice No. 01/CGM(PER)/APIIC/2021-22, Dt.28-06-2021

Tender Notice No.01 - Selection of Human Resource Consultancy Services for Study on Strategic Human Resource Management in APIIC. Bid Download starts from 29-06-2021 at 1:00 P.M and last date for submission of bid is 05-07-2021 up to 3:00 P.M. The details of tender notice and bid documents can be downloaded fron

www.apeprocurement.gov.in Sd/- Chief General Manager (Per) APIIC Ltd., Mangalagiri DIPR 213PP/CL, Dt: 29-06-2021

RAJASTHAN STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
& INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.

(A Raiasthan Government Undertaking) TENDER NOTICE RIICO invites sealed tenders/bids costing more than Rs 2.00 Lacs through eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for th ollowing works/services/supply etc Estimated Unit Head, Udaipur oviding and Laying of Power Lines & Shifting of existing power line at I/A Kaladwas Extn, Udaipur. UBN-RDC2021WSOB00352 contact: Sr. DGM (Civil), Ph. 0141-4593212



No. KPCL/2021-22/PS/WORK INDENT 11266 Dated: 25.06.2021

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION Tender is invited in e-procurement portal for the work of Belt vulcanizing and Repairs of Conveyor Belts of various grades and sizes at coal handling plant Unit - 1, 2 & 3 for a period of One year. Total tender Amount: Rs. 1,86,86,464/-. EMD: NIL. Pre Bid Meeting: 14.07.2021 from 11.00 Hrs. Last date for submission of Bids: 26.07.2021 upto 17.00 Hrs. and Opening of Technical Bid: 28.07.2021 at 10.00 Hrs. Tende documents may be downloaded from the GoK e-Procurement website: https://eproc karnataka.gov.in Further details can be had from the office of the Executive

Engineer (CHP) Mechanical-1, BTPS, KPCL, Kundathini-583152, Ballari (Dist.)

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd. (A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)

(An ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & 0HSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified (ompany)
Sankaramangalam, Chavara-691 583, Kollam, Kerala, India
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 2651217,
Fax: 91-476-2680101, 2686721, E-mail: contact@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com **TENDER NOTICE** Tender ID 1 2021\_KMML\_427154\_1 For the supply of SS Pipe 2 | 2021\_KMML\_427152\_1 | For the Supply of E Power Thyristor **Based Temperature Controller** 

Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or 3 2021\_KMML\_426625\_1 For the supply of Brick Acid Resistant Chavara Sd/- DGM (Mtls) For The Kerala Minerals And Metals Ltd



violence to be sent to the leadership said the matter

मारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH Websites : icmr.nic.in & pgimer.edu.in E. Mail : icmrexampgichd@gmail.com

Phone No.: 0172-2755561 NOTIFICATION - ICMR JRF 2021

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh will hold National level Compute Based test (CBT) for award of Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) in Life science/Socia ance stream on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at various cities across India.

promation brochure, online application form and other details will be available at both ICMR New Delhi website: www.icmr.nic.in and PGIMER website: http://pgimer.edu.ii Tentative dates for filling of online application form will be from 01.07.2021 to 31.07.2021 Only online application will be accepted, no other mode of submission of application will be accepted. Aspiring candidates are requested to visit the above mentioned websites regularly for further updates.

Dated 25.06.2021

1 icma



BRBNMPL invites bids from eligible bidders for following tender Tender No. 028/MYS/VARNIKA-12/2021-22 - Design Fabrication, Erection, Installation, Commissioning and Training of 01 No. of Varnish Reactor (1 KL Capacity) for Varnika at

For downloading tender document, last date of submission of above tender and other details, kindly visit our website www.brbnmpl.co.in. Further corrigendum/ amendment to above tender, if issued in future will be notified on the Company website only. General Manager NMDC Limited



is earlier for Kirandul Complex Complete Tender document is available in websites: www.nmdc.co.in under tender section www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome; http://eprocure.gov.in. Any corrigendum to the above tender will be uploaded only on our website www.nmdc.co.in and will not be published. Prospective bidders should visit the above NMDC Limited website from time to time to take note of corrigendum, if any.

For further details logon to Tender Section of our website: www.nmdc.co.in Chief General Manager(Materials)



stocking medicines

Actor Sonu Sood on Tuesday filed a plea before the Bombay High Court and denied all allegations of stocking, hoarding or distributing COVID-19 medicines. The application was filed seeking permission to intervene in a public interest litigation filed by advocate Sneha Marjadi and activist Nilesh Navlakha concerning COVID-19 management by the State and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation. Previously, the court had asked how actors and MLAs had access to medicines that seemed to be in short supply.

#### HC tells police to find 'big fish' behind fake jabs

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday told the Mumbai police to identify the 'big fish' in cases where over 2.000 people were administered "saline water" in fake COVID-19 vaccination camps allegedly orchestrated by a doctor couple of Shivam Hospital, A Division Bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice G.S. Kulkarni was hearing a bunch of public interest litigation (PIL) petitions concerning the supply and demand of vaccinations in the city. Public prosecutor Deepak Thakare told the court that seven FIRs had been registered and 11 arrested in the case.

#### Maharashtra plans home vaccination for the aged

The Maharashtra government on Tuesday told the Bombay High Court that it proposes to start vaccination at home on an experimental basis for the bed-ridden. Dr. Dilip Patil, Deputy Director, State Family Welfare Bureau, filed an affidavit before a Division Bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and G.S. Kulkarni. The affidavit was filed in a public interest litigation by two city-based advocates — Dhruti Kapadia and Kunal Tiwari - seeking door-to-door vaccination for those above 75 years of age and wheelchair-bound.

#### PMs' museum still under construction, says CPWD

The proposed Prime Ministers' museum is still under construction, having missed its October 2020 deadline due to the COVID-19 pandemic, officials of the Culture Ministry and Central Public Works Department (CPWD) said on Tuesday. Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel visited the site, which is a part of the Teen Murti Estate, where the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) is located, and held a review meeting with Ministry and CPWD officials. Tagbin, the company that will design the museum,

made a presentation.

# Follow Health Ministry advisory till July 31: Centre

'Relaxation of curbs should be carefully calibrated'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Union Home Ministry on Tuesday asked the States and the Union Territories to consider implementation of targeted and prompt actions for COVID-19 management in accordance with the latest Health Ministry advisory, till July 31.

According to the order, issued under the Disaster Management Act, the national directives for CO-VID-19 management, as specified in the Health Ministry advisory dated June 28, will continue to be strictly followed throughout the country.

"All the District Magistrates shall strictly enforce the above measures. For the enforcement of social distancing, State/UT governments may, as far as possible, use the provisions of Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code," the directive said.

Any person violating the measures will be liable to be proceeded against under Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, besides legal action under Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, and other legal provisions as applicable.

**Close monitoring** 

In another letter, Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla said that with a decline in the number of active cases, many States and Union Territories started relaxing restrictions.

However, the process should be carefully calibrated, he wrote. They should closely monitor case positivity and bed occupancy, taking district as an administrative unit. On witnessing any early signs of increase in case positivity and higher bed occupancy, necessary action should be taken for containment and upgrade of health infrastructure. For the districts with high positivity and higher bed occupancy, imposing restrictions may be considered.

The States and the Union

Territories have been asked

to monitor the districts with higher numbers of active cases per million population, as it is an important indicator to predict the need for upgrading health infrastructure and logistics. There should be a continuous focus on the five-fold strategy test-track-treat-vaccination and adherence to CO-VID-19 appropriate beha-

viour, said the letter.

# 35.6 lakh vaccine shots given

Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Bengal lead in jabs administered on Tuesday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

India administered 35.6 lakh (3.56 million) doses of CO-VID-19 vaccines until 9 p.m. on Tuesday. Maharashtra recorded the highest number of vaccinations (3.8 lakh) followed by Andhra Pradesh (2.8 lakh) and West Bengal (2.7 lakh).

Between June 1 and 28, 40.3 lakh doses were administered daily in India on average. At the current rate, a total of 108.2 crore doses can be administered by December 31, 2021, which is around 79.8 crore doses fewer than those required to fully vaccinate all adults (188 crore doses). To fully inoculate all adults by the end of this year, 83 lakh doses need to be given daily on average in the country.

The seven-day rolling average of daily vaccinations in the country dropped to 57.5 lakh on June 28 from 64.3

# **Increasing coverage**

The seven-day rolling average of daily vaccinations in



lakh recorded on June 26. However, it is more than the 46.6 lakh recorded a week before (June 22). It was also significantly higher than the average daily doses recorded a month before (May 28), which was 22.1 lakh.

About 28.9% of adults in India, 60.3% of those aged above 45 years, and 67.4% of people aged above 60 years,

were administered at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, until 9 p.m. on Tues-

Only 4.2% of the country's population is fully vaccinated. The figures are based on the estimated population in

India recorded 44,778 new COVID-19 cases until 9 p.m. on Tuesday, taking the

cumulative caseload to 3,03,60,836. As many as 812 new deaths were also registered, taking the tally to 3,98,480.

Kerala reported 13,550 new infections, followed by Maharashtra (8,085) and Tamil Nadu (4,512). Maharashtra recorded 231 new fatalities, followed by Tamil Nadu (118) and Kerala (104). The figures do not include cases and deaths from Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Ladakh. The numbers are sourced from the respective States' health bulletins.

India records the secondhighest number of seven-day average daily deaths in the world, next to Brazil (1,644). About 1,191 daily deaths were recorded on June 28. The two other countries with the highest fatality count after India were Colombia (678) and Russia (576).

# Cold truth



Washed away: Bodies, many of which are believed to be of COVID-19 victims, are seen partially exposed in shallow graves as rainwater inundated a cremation site along the banks of river Ganga near Allahabad on Tuesday. • RITESH SHUKLA/GETTY IMAGES

# J&J says no trial needed Five firms come together

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

U.S.-based pharmaceutical company Johnson & Johnson has said the requirement to conduct a bridging clinical study of its singledose Janssen COVID-19 vaccine no longer exists in India. The company is in discussion with the Centre on vaccine supply.

The company said it was following Drug Controller General of India's recent anfor conducting post-approval bridging clinical trials for COVID-19 vaccines in India for restricted use in emergency situation in case of those already approved for restricted use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, European Medicines Agency, U.K. Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency of Japan and those listed in the World Health

# in India for Janssen jab for COVID-19 drug trial

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Five pharma majors – Cipla, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Emcure, Sun Pharma and Torrent – will collaborate for the clinical trials in India of investigational, oral, antiviral drug Molnupiravir for the treatment of mild COVID-19.

Describing their collaboration as a first of its kind in the Indian pharma industry, a release on Tuesday said the companies will jointly sponsor, supervise and

monitor the clinical trial that is expected to take place between June and September this year. The trial, for which 1,200 patients are to be recruited, will be conducted across the country.

Dr. Reddy's will conduct the clinical trial and the others will be required to demonstrate equivalence of their products to the product used by Dr. Reddy's.

Molnupiravir is said to inhibit the replication of multiple RNA viruses.

# Tracking the digital divide in Kolkata

40% of students lost out, finds study

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

About 40% primary school students could not attend online classes during the COVID-19 pandemic owing to the digital divide, a report published by Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen's Pratichi (India) Trust found. The study was compiled on the basis of experiences shared by hundreds of teachers across 21 State-run primary schools in Kolkata.

The 72-page report highlights the issues faced by students in accessing digital teaching learning.

### **Devices and data**

"There are two components to the digital divide one is affordability, and whether the families of students can afford devices that are required for digital learning. The second issue is regular accessibility of uninterrupted data, which again has an element of expenditure," Sabir Ahamed, national research coordinator, Pratichi (India) Trust, and one of the authors of the report said.

The findings are based on experiences over six months during the first wave of the pandemic (April to November 2020) shared by primary school teachers.

"So long, the focus was on enrolling as many students as possible and reducing the number of missing children, but the pandemic has brought a situation where the school has gone missing," the report.

The other contributors to the report include Manabi

Online education remains accessible only for a few.

Majumdar, Urba Chaudhuri, Kakali Das De and Sutapa Ghosh. The report focused on

children enrolled in Classes 1 to 5. While schools continued to provide dry rations regularly as a supplement to cooked mid-day meals, teachers have reported nutritional deficiency. Though more families of school students sought dry rations, the researchers feel that the rations were distributed among family members, and in some cases, the child's nutritional needs were not met.

Also, during the period surveyed, Kolkata witnessed one of the worst cyclones of the past few dewhen Amphan battered south Bengal on May 20, 2020. For more than a couple of weeks, the entire teaching-learning process came to a complete halt due to the lack of digital connectivity.

"The report provides us with an understanding of how students are left in the digital teaching learning process. If 40% could not access digital classes in Kolkata, one can imagine the situation in remote areas of the State," Mr. Ahamed

# presses for vaccine equity SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Jaishankar

International cooperation is the way forward to deal with vaccine requirements to counter the threat of CO-VID-19 pandemic, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Tuesday during the G20 Foreign Ministers meeting at Matera in Italy.

The comment came on a day when the African Union said Covishield of Serum Institute of India has been the "backbone" of vaccination gramme in the continent supported by EU under the COVAX programme.

"Institutional multilateralism has been found wanting. Reforms have many forms but vaccine equity will be the immediate test," said Mr. Jaishankar, urging international cooperation to ensure supply of vaccines, medicines, oxygen and protective gear to counter the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Minister's reference to "vaccine equity" echoed closely the statement from the African Union and the Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) which "noted with concern" reports that Serum Institute of India's Covishield vaccine has not received clearance from the European Medicines Authority (EMA).

The AU noted that EU has authorised the European version of AstraZeneca vaccine named Vaxzevria but the same was not extended to Covishield which is meant for India and lower income countries of Africa.

#### nouncement that there was Organization's Emergency no longer any requirement Use Listing.

THERES SWORD + 13287 Display keystrokes of genius.

Type your answers into our online grids!

(set by Gussalufz)

Display keystrokes of genius.

Type your answers into our online grids!

(a) https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

15 Sinking feeling, conclusively, during one's breakdown (5,5)

Display keystrokes of genius.



SCAN TO PLAY

14 No second turn for idiot (4) 18 Massive craze about Gussalufz round America (10)

19 "Bazaar" earnestly covers this subject (4) 22 Spooner's appeal, frivolous in a dopey way (8)

24 Composed of extremely powerful and caustic chemical (6)

**26** Sad end of mammal in calamitous ice age (7) **27** Denounce a monarchy in speech (7)

28 Exceptional actress, really, but careless and without guile (9) 29 Burn evil American company! (5)

1 Control freak to switch staff around every now and then (7) 2 Provide sound lacking, at its core, tonal balance (9)

**3** Traitors at the top sacrificed Britain in war to give away secrets

4 Butter from Netherlands and Austria essentially eliminated by

Brexit, unfortunately (4) 5 Maybe if I am drunk, to be very honest (4,6)

6 Behind Umbertha's cover, crude novel hidden amidst books sold

cheaply (8) 7 Only denials and retreats (5)

8 Wasted years following a tip from bogus analyst (7) **13** Thick, rotating bars and barriers (10)

16 Line delivery lands on? (9)

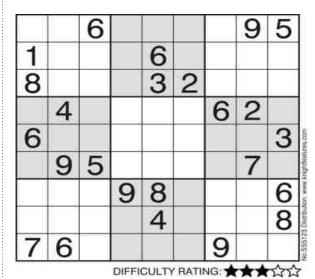
17 Husband's left, overwhelmed by penile dysfunction? This is where one can seek counsel, perhaps (8)

18 A piece of a mosaic set awkwardly, second time! (7) 20 Ribald entertainment shows (not of the soft kind!) (2,5) 21 Eagerly consumes innuendos laden with gossip, ultimately (6)

23 Get rid of tortuous JEE and heartless CAT! (5)

**25** Fancy taking a girl out to swing (4)

### **SUDOKU**



#### Solution to puzzle 13286 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

S	0	С	_	Α	L		Ν	Α	S	Т	Α	L		Q	9	8	3	4	1	2	5	6	7
0		Н		S				Η		ഗ		ш		U	~	×	=	1	-	=	~		-
S	Р	Α	R	S	Е		Е	т	О	ш	т	Е	R	I	2	6	5	8	3	7	4	1	9
0		Ρ		U				Ε		Т		R		С	-7	4	4	0	0	-	0	0	0
	С	Α	R	R	0	Т	Α	z	О	s	Т	Ι	С	Κ	1	.1.	4	9	0	Э	Ö	3	2
		Т		Е		Α		Т		ш		Ν		S	3	1	1	2	5	6	a	7	R
О	R	_	Е	О	F	R	U	_	Т		Α	G	R	Α	J			~	9	U	U	4	U
I				S		Α		0		Κ				Ν	8	2	9	7	4	3	6	5	1
S	W	Α	Ν		U	Ν	H	Ν	Т	Е	Ν	D	Е	D	0	-	~	4	0	0	0	0	A
Т		М		В		Т		Α		Υ		R			0	5	1		9	Ö	3	2	4
1	Ν	0	z	Ε	F	ш	L	ш	ഗ	٧	0	0	Ρ		1	a	6	3	7	1	2	Q	5
Г		Ν		D		L				0		W		0		J	U	O	1	3.0	4	O	J
L	U	G	G	Α	В	ш	Е		-	R	О	Ν	Е	D	5	7	8	6	2	9	1	4	3
Е		S		$\subset$		Α				Д		Е		Α	-	^	~	-	~	ž	-	~	~
D	Α	Т	Α	В	Α	S	Е		Α	s	Т	D	F	S	4	3	2	5	8	1	1	9	6

### **FAITH**

# Lustrous Vamana

The descendants of sage Bhrigu perform asvamedha yaga for Mahabali. Lord Mahavishnu, who has taken the Vamana avatara, knowing this, goes to Mahabali, with a plan to recover the kingdom of the devas, which Mahabali has usurped. Vamana plans to ask Bali for a daana, and to thereby get the kingdom back, said Kidambi Narayanan in a discourse. But as the Lord of everything, He has never asked for anything. He needs nothing and there is nothing that anyone can give Him that He does not already possess. So, when He goes to ask Bali for daana, He is at a loss about how to go about it. So, He shakes with worry! This is brought out by Andal, in Her Nachiar Thirumozhi, where She says "adira pugutha". Adira, meaning shaking. After all, since the Earth itself is His property, it is like asking for His own property! Who, but the Lord, would so humble Himself, in answer to the prayers of those who worship Him?

When Vamana arrives at the place of the yaga, even the lustre of the sages seems to pale. So lustrous is He. When a big lamp is lit, does not the flame of a smaller one seem insignificant? So does the Lord's effulgence dim the brightness of the tapasvis. The sages wonder if the Sun, or Agni has come to witness the yaga, or if the Sanatkumaras have come. The sages welcome Vamana with agni. Vamana is handsome, with his kamandala, umbrella, danda and the maunji (girdle made of munja grass). Mahabali washes Vamana's feet, and says that this water will confer auspiciousness on people, and will cleanse them of their sins. Usually, we bathe in sacred rivers to wash away our sins. But the Lord comes to Bali, and gives Him the opportunity of washing His feet, thereby getting rid of Bali's sins. Mahabali was fortunate indeed, to be so blessed by the Lord.

1 A bunch of taxis moving swiftly (5)

**9** Bus stop stalker seen regularly (7)

ACROSS

11 Gussalufz's dull spear (6) 12 Quite possibly, Kenya's eradicated westbound smuggling (1,4,3)

4 Fanzine going gaga over leftists' leader with upper-class complaint

10 Find loo or skip preliminaries and take a little stroll behind walls? (7)

# Xi honours PLA soldier killed in Galwan

China's presentation of the 'July 1 medal' comes ahead of the Communist Party's 100-year anniversary

ANANTH KRISHNAN

A People's Liberation Army (PLA) soldier who died in the June 15, 2020 clash in Galwan Valley was among 29 people honoured by China's President and Communist Party General Secretary Xi Jinping on Tuesday.

The presentation of the 'Iuly 1 medal' comes ahead of the party's 100-year anniversary, which is set to be marked in Beijing on Thursday with great fanfare, including a speech by Mr. Xi.

Ahead of July 1, Mr. Xi honoured 29 people who were "outstanding party members". Among three of the awardees honoured posthumously was Chen Hongjun, a PLA soldier who died in the Galwan Valley clash last year. China had, in February, announced military honours posthumously for Chen and three others, finally confirming it had suffered casualties some eight months after the

Twenty Indian soldiers died in the clash that marked the most serious violence on



An event under way in Beijing as part of the CPC's 100th anniversary, with Xi Jinping's picture in the background. • AFP

the border since 1967.

Mr. Xi said the recipients of the medal had "maintained staunch faith" which was "to stay true to the original aspiration and dedicate everything, even the precious life, to the cause of the Party and people". He said "generations of Chinese Communists have fought tenaciously for national independence and liberation, for prosperity and strength of the country, and for the happiness of the people."

The PLA, unique among

militaries as the military of a political party, has held its own commemorations ahead of July 1, including a ceremony and series of activities by the Xinjiang Military Command "to learn how PLA heroes, including the martyrs of the Galwan Valley conflict, defended and guarded the country's borders", the Communist Partyrun Global Times reported, adding that the troops took a vow saying, "If war comes, I will not hesitate to rush like

vou to dedicate my last

heartbeat motherland".

Mr. Xi used Tuesday's occasion to call on the more than 91 million party members "to boldly advance toward the second centenary goal of fully building a modern socialist country, as well as the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation", referring to the 2049 centenary of the People's Republic of

**Building border villages** Among those honoured was Zhoigar, a Tibetan resident of a model border village called Yumai, who had in

2017 received a letter from Mr. Xi praising her patriotism and saying her example "will motivate more herders to set down roots in the border area like galsang flowers, and become guardians of Chinese territory". Mr. Xi has pushed a plan since 2017 to build "moderately well-off villages" in border areas, under which 628 villages would be developed mostly along the borders with India and

Bhutan. Some of the new set-

tlements have come up on disputed territory claimed by India and Bhutan.

Other recipients of the award included Wang Shumao for "participation in the construction of the Nansha Islands [as China calls the Spratly Islands], developing civilian forces to safeguard China's legitimate rights in the South China Sea and leading the way in resolutely safeguarding China's territorial integrity and maritime rights without fear of death,' and Wang Zhanshan, a veteran of the Korean War (referred to in China as the "War to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea"), the Global Times said.

Among the winners was Zhang Guimei, awarded for her work in setting up China's first free high school for girls from poor families, Memetjan Wumer, an ethnic Uighur, awarded for being "a leading model against religious extremist forces" in Xiniiang, and Liu Guiiin, a former diplomat, recognised for his contributions to China-Africa relations

# Iraqi fighters mourn those killed in strikes

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Thousands of members of Iraq's Hashed al-Shaabi paramilitary alliance gathered in Baghdad on Tuesday to mourn members killed in U.S. air strikes along the Syrian border.

With chants of "vengeance for the martyrs", the Hashed members massed in Freedom Square near the Iraqi capital's high-security Green Zone, where the U.S. Embassy is located. Security forces were deployed in large numbers, sealing off the Green Zone after recent incursions by armed groups.

Capital Redemption Reserve

Debenture Redemption Reserve

Amount of Interest (Rs)

Place:Bhubaneswar

Date: 29.06.2021

CAD-524

Figures of pervious year have been regrouped/re-arranged wherever necessary.

Lawsuit alleged FB crushed competition by buying out rivals

Judge dismisses competition

cases against Facebook

plaintiffs had alleged that Facebook's acquisition of Instagram in 2012 and WhatsApp in 2014 ran afoul of competition law. In dismissing this case, the judge said there had been a "long delay" between the underlying

events and the lawsuit. The FTC and the New York Attorney General's office said they are reviewing the decision as they decide their way forward.

The judge's actions come as regulators have sought to break up Facebook and as both Democrats and Republicans have been tightening the screws on Big Tech. In June, the administration named Lina Khan, a progressive who has been critical about how large tech companies have wielded their market power, as chairwoman of the FTC.

Pressure has also been growing from Congress. The

Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives voted last week to send a package of six Bills focussed on antitrust (competition) issues in the tech sector to the full House floor for a vote. The package included legislation to increase merger fees, block big tech companies from buying potential competition and curbs on these companies favouring their own products online over those of their competitors'.

Shares hit record highs Following the judge's decision, Facebook's share price increased to a new high of \$358.03 on Monday afternoon and the firm crossed a market capitalisation of \$1

trillion for the first time. Facebook welcomed the ruling and said it competes fairly. "We are pleased that today's decisions recognise the defects in the government complaints filed against Facebook. We compete fairly every day to earn people's time and attention and will continue to deliver great products for the people and businesses that use our services," a Facebook spokesperson said.

(With inputs from the Associated Press)

# Israel's Lapid opens Embassy in UAE

'We're here to stay', says Foreign Minister, urging other nations to 'recognise that'

REUTERS DUBAI/JERUSALEM

Israel's new Foreign Minister inaugurated the country's Embassy in the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday and offered an olive branch to oth-

er former adversaries, saying: "We're here to stay." During his two-day visit, the first to the West Asian nation by an Israeli Cabinet Minister since the countries established ties last year, Yair Lapid was also due to inaugurate a Consulate in Dubai

The trip is an opportunity for the two-week-old Israeli government of Naftali Ben-

and sign a bilateral deal on

economic cooperation.



Warming ties: Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid, left, and UAE Minister of State Ahmed Ali Al Sayegh in Abu Dhabi. ■REUTERS

nett, a nationalist who heads an improbable cross-partisan coalition, to make diplomatic inroads.

"Israel wants peace with

its neighbours – with all its neighbours. We aren't going anywhere. The Middle East is our home," Mr. Lapid said during the ribbon-cutting ce-

high-rise office serving as a temporary Embassy. "We're here to stay. We call on all the countries of the region to recognise that," he said, according to a transcript.

Brought together shared worries about Iran and hopes for commercial boons, the UAE and Bahrain normalised relations with Israel last year under so-called "Abraham Accords" crafted by the then U.S. administration of President Donald Trump. Sudan and Morocco have since also cultivated Israel ties.

The UAE also opened its Embassy in Israel recently.

# Tigray forces 'seize' capital

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN

A federal judge in Washing-

ton DC dismissed two anti-

trust (competition) lawsuits

against Facebook brought by

the U.S.'s trade regulator, the

Federal Trade Commission

(FTC), and a coalition of 48

States and jurisdictions. The

cases alleged that Facebook

crushed competition by buy-

ing out its rivals like What-

sApp and Instagram. After

the ruling, Facebook's

shares hit record highs and

its market capitalisation

crossed \$1 trillion for the

Judge James Boasberg dis-

missed the FTC case on

Monday, saying it was "legal-

ly insufficient" and did not

provide enough evidence

that Facebook had a market

share of at least 60% in the

social-networking market.

The judge said that in goods

markets, market share could

be calculated using revenue

or units sold for instance,

but "this case involves no or-

dinary or intuitive market".

However, the judge did not

dismiss the underlying com-

plaint in the case and gave

the FTC time until July 29 to

In the second case,

brought by a coalition led by

the State of New York, the

file a new complaint.

first time.

Tigrayan forces made further gains against Ethiopian government troops and their allies on Tuesday, with a spokesman reporting they were in full control of the regional capital, residents said Eritrean forces had left.

"We are 100% in control of Mekelle," Getachew Reda, spokesman for the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), said on Tuesday, re-

ferring to the regional capital. There had been some fighting on the outskirts of the city, but that was now finished, he said.

"Our forces are still in hot pursuit to south, east, to continue until every square inch of territory is cleared from the enemy."

Reuters could not independently verify his statement because almost all phone links to Tigray are

The TPLF, an ethnically based political party that dominated Ethiopia's national politics for nearly three decades, has been battling the central government since early November and has made major territorial gains in the past week.

The fighting has forced around 2 million people to flee their homes amid reports of ethnic cleansing, brutal gang-rapes and mass + killings of civilians.

(Rupees in Lakhs)

# Zuma gets 15 months in jail for contempt of court

He refused to appear before investigators

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE JOHANNESBURG

In a historic ruling, South Africa's top court on Tuesday handed the country's former President, Jacob Zuma, a 15-month jail term for "egregious" contempt of court after he refused to appear before investigators.

Mr. Zuma was told to turn himself in within five days, failing which police will be ordered to arrest him and take him to jail.

The ruling sets a precedent for South Africa – and a benchmark for the continent – by jailing a former head of state for failing to respond to a corruption probe. "Mr. Jacob Gedleyihlekisa Zuma is guilty of the crime of contempt of court," Constitutional Court judge

U.S. sending Bangladesh



Sisi Khampepe said.

Mr. Zuma, 79, is accused of enabling the plunder of state coffers during his nearly nine-year stay in office.

Most of the graft investigated by a commission involve three brothers from a wealthy business family, the Guptas, who won lucrative government contracts and were allegedly even able to choose Ministers.

# CSIR- Institute of Microbial Technology Sector 39-A, Chandigarh-160 036

Advertisement No. 06-04

CSIR-IMTECH invites applications from the ndian Nationals for engagement as Consultar on contract basis for one year on fixed remuneration from Rs. 75,001/- to Rs. 1,00,000/- per month. For details, eligibility criteria etc, please visit IMTECH website: http://www.imtech.res.in

Controller of Administration

cost

6 months

1st clas

#### GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU NAGERCOIL CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION Roc.No. E1 /1642/2020 Tender Notice The Commissioner Nagercoil Corporation invites on-line Bids for General Fund 2020-2021 from the eligible Contractors, only before 15.00 Hours on 04.08.2021 For Further details may be downloaded from the following websites https://tntenders.gov.in. E.M.D Estimate Tender Execution Contrac (Rs.in

(Rs.in lakhs

550.00

Construction of

New office

Additional

Building Nagercoil Corporation The bid document can be downloaded from the website https://tntenders.gov.ir at free of cost. 2.lmportant dates: 1.Date and time of Pre bid meeting: 14.07.2021 3.00 P.M. 2. Date and time for downloading bid documents: 03.08.2021- 3.00 P.M.

550000

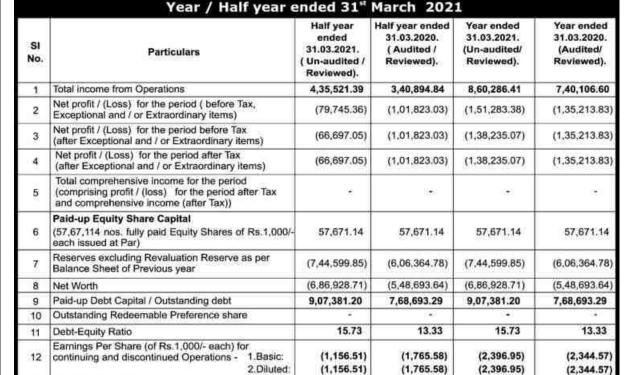
3.Last date and time for submission of bid document, including online submission 04.08.2021 3.00 P.M. 4. Date and time of opening of the Technical Bid: 04.08.2021 Commissioner, Nagercoil Corporation



(Two Cover System) (Through e-procurement Portal Only) Tenders through e-procurement portal mode are invited from the contractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/ Company and having past experience, for the following works

Si No.	Tender Number	Name of the work
1.	KPCL/2021-22/ PS/ WORK_INDENT 11231 Date: 23.06.2021	Erection and Dismantling of Cuplok scaffolding system and water washing & descaling of furnace walls, PLSH coils and RH coils of 4 X 210 MW U-1 to 4 boilers of RTPS(for any ONE Boiler).
2.	KPCL/2021-22/PS/ WORK_INDENT 11264 Date: 25.06.2021	Availing of services of expert personnel for supervision of overhauling works of boiler & its auxiliaries of U-1 to 8.
3.	KPCL/2021-22/PS/ WORK_INDENT 11265 Date: 25.06.2021	Radiography of Weld Joints of Pressure parts of Units # 1 to 8 Boilers during Annual Overhauling works and Emergency Tube Failures for a period of one year.

EMD: Nil. Last date for submission of tender: 23.07.2021 (a) 16:00Hrs. Interested bidders may submit the bids through e-procurement portal website: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/ Clarification: 20.07.2021 @ 16:00Hrs. Last date for submission of completed bids(2Parts): 23.07.2021@16:00Hrs. Opening of Technical Bid (Part-1): 26.07.2021@11:00Hrs. Opening of Financial Bid (Part-2): **28.07.2021@11:00Hrs.** The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to GoK e-procuremen website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Further details can be had from the office of Superintending Engineer (Mechanical Maintenance-1)), RTPS, KPCL Shakthinggar- 584170. Raichur District. Mobile:



ଗ୍ରୀଡ୍କୋ ଲିମିଟେଡ୍ GRIDCO LIMITED

Regd. Office: Janpath, Bhubaneswar - 751022, ODISHA

CIN: L40109OR1995SGC003960

Statement of Standalone Un-audited Financial Results for the

Debt Service Coverage Ratio (0.09)(0.23)(0.22)(0.20)16 Interest Service Coverage Ratio (1.08)(2.61)(1.49)(1.30)The above financial results of the company were reviewed by the Audit committee and taken on record & approved by the Board of Director of the company in its meeting held on 24th June 2021 and have been subjected to "Limited review" by the statutory Auditor of the company. The above results have been prepared in accordance with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standard) Rules 2015 (IND-AS) and amendment

Credit Rating "BWRA-(CE)( Stable) Reaffrimed" by Brickworks Rating & "INDA-(SO)/Stable" by India Ratings & Research.

Asset cover: Redeemable non convertible Bonds issued by the Company during FY 2012-13 and FY 2013-14 are guaranted by the Govt. of

(a) Dates of Interest payment (previous due dates)

Particulars	Tranche-I	Whether Paid	Tranche-II	Whether Paid
Previous Due date	N/A	N/A	15.12.2020	Yes
Previous Due date	N/A	N/A	15.06.2021	Yes

**Particulars** Tranche-II Next Due Date

Outstanding Redeemable preference shares-Formula used for computation of coverage ratios, (a) DSCR= Earning before Interest, tax & Depreciation / Interest, debited to P&L account &

N/A

principal repayment (b) ISCR=Earnings before interest and tax/ Interest.
The Number of investor's complaints pending at the end of the half year: NIL Disposed: NIL and Lying Unresolved: NIL

> For Gridco Ltd. Managing Director OIPR-14069/11/0002/2122

By order of GRIDCO Board

15.12.2021

3,38,52,033

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE WASHINGTON The United States began

shipping 2.5 million doses of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine to Bangladesh on Tuesday, a White House official said, as the South Asian country confronted a wave of new infections.

"Thanks to the U.S. commitment to playing a leading role in ending the pandemic everywhere, 2.5 million doses of the Moderna vaccine will begin to ship to Bangladesh," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Illustrating the urgency, delivery is expected to be completed this week.

Bangladesh, which neigh-

bours India, began a severe lockdown on Monday in response to spiraling infections from the Delta variant. People are restricted to their homes, with offices closed, traffic shut down and the security forces enforcing

compliance. The White House said that its vaccine shipments mostly made through the World Health Organization's Covax programme - come

"We are sharing these

2.5 mn vaccine doses: WH 'No strings attached, free in all senses'

free in all senses.

doses not to secure favours or extract concessions. Our vaccines do not come with strings attached. We are doing this with the singular objective of saving lives," the official said.

Indicative direct rat except yen at 4 p.m.		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	74.02	74.34
Euro	88.17	88.55
British Pound	.102.57	103.02
Japanese Yen (100)	66.96	67.25
Chinese Yuan	11.46	11.51
Swiss Franc	80.44	80.79
Singapore Dollar	55.07	55.32
Canadian Dollar	59.86.	60.12
Malaysian Ringitt	17.82	17.91

1172.55

. 6824.70

..-11.45

-16.95

..-44.75

Tata Steel

Wipro

Tech Mahindra

UltraTech Cement



JLR unveils Range Rover Sport SVR at ₹2.19 crore

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) India has introduced Range Rover Sport SVR in India at more than ₹ 2.19 crore ex-showroom in India. It is available with SVR's 5.0 L supercharged V8 petrol engine that delivers 423 kW power and torque of 700 Nm and is capable of accelerating from 0-100 km/h in 4.5 seconds, JLR India said.

#### After Cairn, Devas sues AI to recover \$1.5 billion

MUMBAI Shareholders in Devas Multimedia have sued Air India (AI) in an effort to recover sums Devas won in arbitration awards against the Indian government and seize its flagship carrier's foreign assets, according to a U.S. District Court filing. The shareholders said Devas and its affiliates were owed more than \$1.5 billion by the Indian government. REUTERS

# 'OPEC risks forcing India to tap Iran for oil if prices stay high'

Pradhan says country has already exhausted its strategic petroleum reserves

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Ahead of a crucial OPEC meeting on July 1, India's Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said he was working to persuade oil exporting countries to moderate surging oil prices and warned that high prices would push the country to tap alternative import sources such as Iran.

Stressing that inflation was a major challenge for the economy, Mr. Pradhan said India had already, over the last few months, exhausted the strategic petroleum reserves it had built up last year by taking advantage of lower oil prices. "India is a very price-sensitive market.



Free flow: Demand for petro products will likely return to pre-pandemic levels by end-2021, says Pradhan. • к. РІСНИМАNI

With utmost politeness, I have got my own spending behaviour. If somebody is planning our Budget is 80\$(a barrel)-driven, then I am sorry. My affordability is the primary thing for me," he

said at the BloombergNEF

Summit. He also said India would choose options offering competitive prices within its 'global diplomatic framework', including Iran if the sanctions imposed on it by the U.S. were lifted.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies (OPEC+) are expected to discuss a possible easing of supply cuts, amid a rebound in global demand, on July 1.

With retail prices for petrol crossing ₹100 a litre in several States, Mr. Pradhan conceded that 'today's price is very challenging'.

"I am persuading my friends in OPEC... I hope the price will be a little bit sober," he said. The Minister also expressed confidence that the demand for petroleum products would return to pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2021.

# RIL, ADNOC ally for UAE petchem unit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) said it has signed an agreement with Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) to invest in a large petrochemical hub being set up at TA'ZIZ in Ruwais, Abu Dhabi.

Under the agreement, the two companies would construct an integrated plant with capacity to produce 9.4 lakh tonnes of chlor-alkali, 1.1 million tonnes of ethylene dichloride and 3.6 lakh tonnes of PVC annually, RIL said.

ADNOC is gearing up for growth with TA'ZIZ, a chemicals hub and industrial ecosystem based in Ruwais, with an investment in excess of AED 18 billion and a number of other projects, it said.

# FM wants monetisation of oil assets expedited

Ministries urged to ramp up capex

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday called for speedier monetisation of oil and gas assets this year and asked Ministries to expedite capital expenditure projects to revitalise the economy after the second wave of COVID-19.

While the Budget has provided an outlay of ₹5.54 lakh crore for FY22, the Minister said public sector enterprises need to complement it with their own steps to ramp up capex. She was reviewing spending plans and the implementation status of Budget announcements with top officials from four departments - Steel, Space, Housing and Urban Affairs, Petroleum and Natural Gas. At the meeting, she asked



Nirmala Sitharaman

the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to try to frontload capital spending and facilitate private investment by providing support and removing bottlenecks.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry was asked to expedite monetisation of assets and the Department of Space was asked to focus on domestic procurement wherever possible, the ministry said in a statement.

# Fresh stimulus to raise fiscal deficit by 60 bps'

'Banks to get ₹70,000-cr. loan window'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The latest credit push for the pandemic-hit sectors and other relief supports will have an additional 60basis point (bps) impact on the fiscal deficit, and can offer an additional liquidity window of ₹70,000 crore to banks, according to a report by SBI Research.

#### Capital relief

Assuming equal distribution of the new announcement of ₹1.10 lakh crore, with 50% and 75% guarantee cover and a risk weight of 100%, banks may have a capital relief of about ₹7,500 crore that can further generate credit of about ₹70,000



The fiscal impact of the

latest announcements and those from earlier is not linear as a substantial portion of the package is contingent liabilities. Ignoring these, the immediate impact will be slightly more than ₹1.23 lakh crore, or about 0.6% of the GDP, SBI chief economist Soumya Kanti Ghosh said in the report.

### Bharti to invest \$500 mn more in OneWeb

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Bharti Enterprises will invest an additional \$500 million in OneWeb, via its arm Bharti Global, to become the largest shareholder in the satellite communications company.

"OneWeb has completed its transformation with the exercise of a 'call option' by Bharti to invest an additional \$500 million into the company," OneWeb said in a statement.

"On completion of the call option and with Eutelsat's \$550 million investment, Bharti will hold 38.6%. The U.K. Government, Eutelsat and Softbank will each own 19.3%," the company said.

# Lanka 'banking on' \$1 bn India swap deal Assistance 'crucial' to help Colombo meet debt obligations: central bank official COLOMBO

Sri Lanka is "banking on" a \$1 billion currency swap from India to meet its debt repayment obligations this year and tide over the current economic crisis, a senior official of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka said.

The island nation has already serviced part of its debt this year, and is preparing to repay the remaining more than \$3 billion over the next six months, officials said. With an international sovereign bond maturing soon, a \$1 billion repayment is due in July.

"We are expecting a \$400 million swap from the Reserve Bank of India in a couple of months through the SAARC facility," said the offi-



cial, who spoke on condition of anonymity given the sensitivity of the ongoing bilateral negotiations. "But the additional \$1 billion is going to be crucial for us," the official added. Sri Lankan President Go-

tabaya Rajapaksa had in May 2020 asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for a "special" \$1.1-billion currency swap to help the country boost its foreign reserves.

"It has been more than a year... it is a decision that has to be taken by the political leadership in India, it is beyond the RBI," the Sri Lankan central banker said.

While official sources in New Delhi earlier indicated that negotiations on the issue were "ongoing", the Indian government is yet to respond to both President Rajapaksa's request, as well as Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa's February 2020 request for a debt freeze, even as bilateral talks have continued at high levels.

On June 21, Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena, held a telephone conversation with his counterpart S. Jaishankar, during which they agreed to co-operate on "common issues in the region", Sri Lanka's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement. The release made no mention of Colombo's pending requests for economic assistance.

Meanwhile, the Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka on Tuesday said in a statement that the country was focussed on managing its debt service obligations this year. Sri Lanka's gross official reserves currently stand at \$4 billion, excluding the "standby" about \$1.5 billion swap agreement with the People's Bank of China.

On inflows, Governor W. D. Lakshman said a \$250 million swap from the Bangladesh Bank was expected in July and the \$400 million SAARC facility from the RBI was expected in August.

SFL bags GM's \_

# SBI to cap free withdrawals at four from July

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

State Bank of India (SBI) would levy service charge cash withdrawals beyond four free transactions at its branches and ATMs for basic savings bank deposit accounts, effective July 1.

The lender said it would collect ₹15 plus GST per cash withdrawal from its own ATMs and branches as well as other bank ATMs.

The first 10 cheque leaves would be free in a financial year. Thereafter, ₹40 plus GST would be collected for a 10-leaf cheque book and ₹75 plus GST for a 25-leaf cheque book respectively. For an emergency cheque book, ₹50 plus GST for 10 leaves or part thereof would be collected. Non-financial transactions and transfer transactions would be free, SBI said.

# ZF to invest €200 mn in India, recasts business

Shapes strategy for rapid growth

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

German firm ZF has announced an investment of about €200 million in India and consolidation of its business domains here to drive growth in the next decade.

The company is into driveline and chassis technology as well as active and passive safety,

"Despite the current severe situation regarding CO-VID-19 in India, the ZF Group strongly believes in the long-term growth potential of the region," said Holger Klein, ZF Member of the Board responsible for Asia Pacific and India. "Therefore, we are launching a Re-India four-point strategy."

This includes an intensive plan to rapidly grow the business in the country.

"We plan to invest



Holger Klein

around €200 million in the next few years to aid this growth through product launches, manufacturing and engineering footprint expansions, hiring and other developments across all business domains," he said.

ZF Group recently divested its shareholding interest of 49% in Brakes India to meet the Anti-Trust guidelines of CCI, post the acquisition of WABCO.

## TPL Q4 net profit surges to ₹62.73 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Tamilnadu Petroproducts Ltd. (TPL) reported standalone net profit for the fourth quarter surged to ₹62.73 crore from ₹1.98 crore in the year-earlier period on higher revenue.

Revenue from operations rose 34% to ₹349 crore. The board recommended a higher dividend of ₹2.50 a share for FY21 (₹1.50), the company said in a statement.

The pandemic had impacted economic activities on a global scale, said Ashwin C. Muthiah, vice-chairman. In these times, TPL, in spite of the challenges, had performed well and with resilience, he said. Having seen substantial growth through value addition in the second half of the year, it had doubled its profitability, he added.

# TVS Auto Solutions unveils digital unit Ki Mobility

Acquires vehicle service app GoBumpr

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

TVS Automobile Solutions Ltd. (TVS ASL) has announced the formation of a new subsidiary Ki Mobility Solutions, an online-to-offline digital platform. The firm has raised ₹85 crore from tech investors for expansion.

"Ki Mobility is the country's first full-stack O2O (online-to-offline) digital platform that would offer quality, standardised and cost-effective service to vehicle owners of two-wheelers, passenger cars and commercial vehicles across the country," said R. Dinesh, director, TVS ASL.

The digital platform is a maiden attempt in the industry to enhance the livelihood of automobile entrepreneurs, he said. "Ki Mobility will provide quali-



R. Dinesh

ty, transparent and cost effective first-time-right service solutions to vehicle owners with the unmatched convenience of thousands of organised multi-brand garage owners in 270 towns across the country," said G. Srinivasa Raghavan, MD, TVS ASL. TVS ASL also announced the 100% acquisition of GoBumpr, one of the largest B2C service aggregation platforms, for an undisclosed sum.

# for eighth year SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

vendor award

Sundram Fasteners Ltd. (SFL) has bagged the General Motors' 'Supplier of the Year' award for the eighth time.

The ₹3,065-crore TVS Group company was the only Indian firm to bag the award, SFL said in a filing with the BSE.

Over the last 25 years, SFL had been supplying components such as transmission shafts and radiator caps across GM brands.

"Despite the pandemicrelated challenges in 2020, we managed to deliver excellence by adroit stock and inventory management, prudent manufacturing planning and intelligent logistics coordination. without compromising the health and safety of our people," managing director Arathi Krishna said.

# A four-year cycle will give the WTC the right touch of authority



BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

n boxing it is said that the big guy will always beat the small guy. Luckily that is not true of all sports (actually, it's not even true in boxing, but that's a convenient belief), or a small country with limited resources where cricket is not even the most important sport would not be the World champions in Test cricket.

India, 11 times larger in area than New Zealand, with GDP 13 times greater (World Bank figures, 2019) and population 260 times more, also have the richest cricket board in the world and a larger pool to choose from. The World Test Championship (WTC) was a reminder that whatever your strengths outside the field, only 11 players can play, and New Zealand's 11 were better than India's on those rain-affected days.

### Hard but fair

Australians like to think of themselves as a team that plays hard but fair; recent events have shown, however, that that is only half true. It is New Zealand who play that way, their fairness including a cloak of decency that often confuses opponents who are forced to behave more decently towards them than they would against other teams. That is often the way. The better behaved get their opponents to behave better too.

Some years after New Zealand formally decided that they would not sledge their opponents, Australia's then coach Darren Lehmann said his team ought to adopt such a policy. It did not last (if it ever began), but it was an interesting development. During the 2015 World Cup final, Australia's wicketkeeper Brad Haddin sledged New Zealand because, he said, they made him "uncomfortable" with their "nice attitudes" in the tournament.

In the last few years, New Zealand have shown that you don't have to be overly aggressive, insensitive or abusive to win cricket matches. This attitude has made them everybody's second favourite side across the world, and the neutrals' favourite. They have set such high standards that if a fielder coughs out of turn, it might be interpreted as poor behaviour!

But civility and graciousness are only one aspect of their game, and that alone isn't guaranteed to win matches. For that you need a team that has the talent and the toughness - Kane Williamson is a good example – to take the battle to the enemy. You can be tough without being boorish, an important lesson for India who might have been the superior side even in English conditions, but looked like a team over-reliant on one or two players.

The result was important, however. If one of the aims of the WTC was to attract new fans to the greatest version of the game, then a draw might have turned many away. Fans deal increasingly in black and white, either and or, and when two teams contesting over five days (six, in this case owing to the rain) come away with a draw, it can be both confusing and distancing. It didn't matter who won so long as one team did; even if for long stretches it did appear as if neither team would.

Did the WTC work? The pandemic meant last-minute rule changes. Percentage of points, not total points, was taken into account, a reckoning that will stay in place for the next cycle ending in 2023. That we finally had a championship with all its flaws, its lack of enthusiasm for many years since it was first mooted in the 1990s, its criticisms even as it progressed must count as a success of sorts.

### Change in format

Virat Kohli thinks the final ought to be a three-Test series, and there's something to be said for that even if it means loosening the tight calendar a bit. Teams in the fray might have to keep some weeks free not knowing whether they might make it to the final. This year, for example, Australia were in the running till they lost four

points for falling two overs short in the Boxing Day Test against India and also missing a tour of South Africa.

There is call for including all 12 Testplaying countries, dividing them into groups with perhaps promotions and delegations. This will not affect bilateral series which are decided by the respective boards anyway.

A four-year cycle will give teams more breathing space, and provide the proper authority. The two-year cycle is fine for T20, but Test cricket deserves a longer stretch, in keeping with the nature of the

To be fair, the artificial world around sport during the pandemic distorted cricket's long-awaited innovation. Many of the expected certainties wobbled in this uncertain world.

The greatest success of the WTC – apart from New Zealand's triumph – was that it was played to a finish, and a champion side emerged. We will get a better understanding when all the elements are in place in the next cycle.

## BAI issues guidelines on vaccination

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The Badminton Association of India (BAI) on Tuesday said it has asked its State units to get its players and officials vaccinated for resumption of the domestic season under strict COVID-19 guidelines.

According to BAI's guidelines, players above 18 years, coaches, technical officials, organising team and staff need to be fully vaccinated and are required to carry their certificates.

For those below 18, it will be made mandatory to carry a negative RT-PCR report with a barcode, 96 hours prior to departure from their respective stations.

# Gritty England finally gets the monkey off its back

Sterling and Kane's strikes end Germany's campaign in the pre-quarterfinals

#### **EURO 2020**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Raheem Sterling and Harry Kane fired England into the Euro 2020 quarterfinals as it sealed a 2-0 win against Germany that ended decades of hurt at the hands of its bitter rival on Tuesday.

Sterling struck with 15 minutes left in a tense last 16 tie at Wembley before Kane clinched England's first knockout stage victory over Germany since 1966.

In the 55 years since England beat the Germans in the World Cup final, the Three Lions had endured a painful litany of defeats Die Mannschaft against when the stakes were highest.

England was eliminated from the 1970, 1990 and 2010 World Cups by Germany, which also beat it in the Euro 96 semifinals Wembley.

#### **Ghosts exorcised**

But Gareth Southgate's side has finally exorcised the ghosts of Paul Gascoigne's tears and its own manager's



Redemption: After years of coming second best to Germany, Raheem Sterling finally brought smiles to the England camp by burying this lay-off past Manuel Neuer. • AFP

penalty miss 25 years ago. England produced a gritty display capped by clinical finishes from Sterling, who now has three goals in the tournament, and Kane who finally bagged his first of

England, yet to concede a goal in the tournament, heads to Rome on Saturday for a quarterfinal against the winners of the last 16 tie between Sweden and Ukraine.

the competition.

Chasing a first major international trophy since 1966. England's side of the draw looks wide open, with a potential semifinal against Denmark or the Czech Republic unlikely to strike fear into its

It was only England's second knockout stage win in the history of the European Championship and its first victory over Germany at Wembley since 1975.

For Germany manager Joachim Low, it was an agonising end to his reign as he prepares to step down after the tournament.

#### **Quarterfinal draw**

- Switzerland vs Spain
- Belgium vs Italy
- Czech Republic vs Denmark
- England vs Sweden/Ukraine

# Back-to-back classics on a dramatic day

France loses its way against an inspired Switzerland; Spain overcomes Croatia



fight in extra-time. • REUTERS



Killer blow: Alvaro Morata's strike sapped Croatia out of any



Saviour: Yann Sommer's perfectly timed leap was enough to stop a poorly taken spot kick from Kylian Mbappe. • AFP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Kylian Mbappe missed the crucial penalty on Monday as world champion France crashed out of the Euro 2020 in a shoot-out against Switzerland, which goes through to a quarterfinal tie against Spain, which itself was taken the distance by Croatia before prevailing 5-3 in

Switzerland triumphed 5-4 on penalties after a remarkable 3-3 draw in Bucharest. France had earlier come from 1-0 down to lead 3-1 and looked to be cruising through, only to concede two late goals.

#### Missed penalty

Switzerland went ahead early on when Haris Seferovic headed in a cross, but it

#### By The Numbers

- 2 With eight goals scored, Croatia and Spain produced the second-highest-scoring match in Euros history
- 3 France's elimination is just the third time in Euros that a side has failed to progress from a knockout game having led
- 9 Number of own-goals in this edition, as many as in all previous editions combined
- 14 The number of shots Kylian Mbappe has taken without scoring in this edition
- 14 The total goals scored in the day's two pre-quarterfinal

looked set to rue the moment early in the second half when Ricardo Rodriguez's penalty was saved by Hugo

By the hour mark the game had turned on its head with Karim Benzema controlling Mbappe's pass to fire in the equaliser and then nodding in Antoine Griezmann's centre.

Paul Pogba's stunning curling strike into the top corner seemed to have put Les Bleus out of sight, but Seferovic pulled one back and substitute Mario Gavranovic netted a last-minute equaliser to force extra time.

With no further goals, the tie went to penalties and all nine kicks were converted before Mbappe saw his effort saved by Yann Sommer.

#### Slipping up

Somehow the drama in Bucharest topped that in Copenhagen earlier, when Alvaro Morata netted an all-important goal as Spain prevailed against Croatia, but only after it also let slip a 3-1 lead.

#### The results:

Croatia 3 (Pedri 20-og, Orsic 85, Pasalic 90+2) lost to Spain 5 (Sarabia 38, Azpilicueta 57, Ferran Torres 77, Morata 100, Oyarzabal 103) (aet, 3-3 after 90 minutes).

France 3 (Benzema 57, 59, Pogba 75) drew with Switzerland 3 (Seferovic 15, 81, Gavranovic 90) (aet. Switzerland won 5-4 on penalties).

# India needs an immediate change of tack

Batters will have to pull up their socks in order to level series

#### INDIA IN ENGLAND

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India will have to change its batting approach and play more freely in order to bounce back against formidable hosts England in the second women's One-Day International here Wednesday.

India conceded as many as 181 dot balls on way to posting a below par 201 which England chased down rather comfortably to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series on Sunday.

Wednesday's game could see India making multiple changes in the playing eleven as the batters' inability to rotate the strike is proving to be a big issue.

Though Mithali scored 72, her strike rate was below par and T20 skipper Harmanpreet Kaur is desperately seeking some consistency.

India went in with only one specialist spinner in Ekta Bisht at Bristol besides the



in the opening ODI. • AP

6-3, 6-4, 6-1.

match since 2017 with a 6-4.

6-3, 5-7, 6-3 victory over 24th

seed Nikoloz Basilashvili. His

last appearance in the sin-

fully to the brink of

a really good gift.

One of my last matches

here, against Ash, No. 1 in

the world, Centre Court,

amazing. I am the most

with the roof. Was

happy player in the

tournament

SUAREZ NAVARRO

in the quarterfinals.

retirement.

Sneh Rana, who did brilliantly with both the bat and ball on her Test debut, can

be the second spin all-rounalongside Deepti

Sharma. On the other hand, En-

All we need is one good knock from the top three and that will give us a platform (to make a significant score) JHULAN

gland played a near-perfect game to outplay an out-ofsorts opponent.

The teams (from):

India: Mithali Raj (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, Punam Raut, HarmanpreeKaur (Vice-Capt.), Deepti Sharma, Taniya Bhatia (wk), Sneh Rana, Jhulan Goswami, Shikha Pan-Jemimah Rodrigues, Arundhati Reddy, Puja Vastrakar, Ekta Bisht, Radha Yadav, Poonam Yadav, Priya Punia and Indrani Roy (wk).

England: Heather Knight (Capt.), Tammy Beaumont, Dunkley, Lauren Winfield-Hill, Shrubsole, Katherine Brunt, Sophie Ecclestone, Amy Jones (wk), Freya Davis, Tash Farrant, Sarah Glenn, Mady Villiers, Fran Wilson, Sarah Glenn and Emily Arlott.

Match starts at 6.30 p.m.

# T20 WC dates confirmed

AMOL KARHADKAR

The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday confirmed that the T20 World Cup will be played from October 17 to November 14.

The announcement came a day after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) informed its affiliates about hosting the tournament in the United Arab Emirates and Oman due to COVID-19 concerns.

Now that the suspense over the window for the T20 World Cup is over, the BCCI hierarchy is hoping to finalise the dates for the latter half of the Indian Premier League, set to start in UAE on September 19.

While October 15 is being looked as a tentative date for the final, the schedule may be crunched should all stakeholders feel the necessity for a longer break between the IPL final and the T20

# Woakes, Root make it 1-0

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

CHESTER-LE-STREET Chris Woakes paved the way for victory and Joe Root delivered it with ease as England cruised to a five-wicket win over Sri Lanka with 15.1 overs to spare in the first ODI on Tuesday.

Woakes claimed four for 18 from 10 overs, restricting the weakened tourists to 185 in 42.3 overs.

Jonny Bairstow took 43 off the target in a frenzy of

boundary-hitting at the top of the order and, after a brief wobble, Root took the hosts across the line with an unbeaten 79 as England reached 189 for five in 34.5

The scores: Sri Lanka 185 in 42.3 overs (Kusal Perera 73, Wanindu Hasaranga 54, Chris Woakes 4/18, David Willey 3/ 44) lost to England 189/5 in 34.5 overs (Jonny Bairstow 43, Joe Root 79 n.o., Dushmantha Chameera 3/50).

# Mark Cavendish wins a stage after five years

van der Poel retains the yellow jersey

# **TOUR DE FRANCE**

REUTERS FOUGERES

A last-gasp addition to his team, Mark Cavendish rolled back the years as he claimed his 31st Tour de France stage victory on Tuesday – five years after his last success on the world's greatest cycling

The Briton, who finished outside the time limit in his previous participation in 2018, crashed out in 2017 and hinted at retirement last year. He is now three victories away from the Tour's all-time stage win record held by Belgian great Eddy Merckx.

Cavendish, back in the Deceuninck-Quick team this season after a fiveyear hiatus, powered past his rivals in the final straight to beat France's Nacer Bouhanni to the line. Belgian Jasper Philipsen took third



Cavendish. • AFP

place while his Alpecin-Fenix teammate Mathieu van der Poel retained the overall

leader's yellow jersey. "So many people did not believe in me, you knowthese guys do," a tearful. Cavendish said afterwards, referring to Deceuninck-Quick Step. "I thought I'd never be back.'

The day had begun with a rider protest, asking for safer racing conditions after numerous crashes.

# Barty beats Suarez Navarro in emotion-filled contest

The latter was making her final appearance at The Championships; Federer survives a scare

# WIMBLEDON

AGENCIES

LONDON Ashleigh Barty's bid to win Wimbledon, 50 years after fellow Australian Evonne Goolagong Cawley bagged her first title, got off to a bright start with a 6-1, 6-7(1), 6-1 victory over Carla Suarez Navarro on Tuesday.

Suarez Navarro, who has returned to the circuit after battling cancer, dominated the second set tie-break and won 7-1 after losing the first set. Barty, however, pulled herself together and cruised through in the decider.

The 41-year-old Venus Williams defeated Mihaela Buzarnescu of Romania 7-5, 4-6, 6-3, serving 10 aces in the match.

Former Wimbledon champion Angelique Kerber advanced by beating Nina Stojanovic 6-4, 6-3.

In men's singles, Roger Federer survived a huge scare to reach the second round when French opponent Mannarino was forced to retire with injury at the start of the fifth set. Eight-time champion Federer was level at 6-4, 6-7 (3/7), 3-6, 6-2 when Mannarino called it quits after just one point in the decider.

The Frenchman, celebrating his 33rd birthday, had suffered a bad fall in the se-

#### venth game of the fourth set. Alexander Zverev served The highlights 20 aces and only 18 unforced

- 1 2018 champion Kerber's errors as he swept pasat first match win at a Major qualifier Tallon Griekspoor since the 2020 US Open. She had three straight On Monday, two-time first-round defeats - 2020 champion Andy Murray won French Open 2021 Aus his first Wimbledon singles Open and 2021 French Open
  - **1** 2010 finalist Zvonareva earned her first Wimbledon main draw win since 2014 ■ 90 - Venus' 90th Major
- gles tournament at Wimbleappearance in singles, an don four years ago ended in Open Era record. The win a five-set loss to Sam Querrey over Buzarnescu was her 90th at the All England A long-standing hip pro-Club in her 23rd Wimbledon blem, which required surgery, then pushed him tear-



Incredible competitor: Barty, right, hailed Suarez Navarro as 'a fighter and genuine champion.' • AP

### THE RESULTS

First round: Men: 6-Roger Fe-Wimbledon gave me

I keep being asked if this is my last Wimbledon or last match. No. I want to play. He [Basilashvili] is ranked 28 and I have hardly played any matches and I beat him. I will keep going

derer (Sui) bt Adrian Mannarino (Fra) 6-4, 6-7(3), 3-6, 6-2, 0-0, retired; 22-Dan Evans (GBR) bt Feliciano Lopez (Esp) 7-6(4), 6-2, 7-5; Sebastian Korda (USA) bt 15-Alex de Minaur (Aus) 6-3, 6-4, 6-7(5), 7-6(5); 4-Alexander Zverev (Ger) bt Tallon Griekspoor (Ned) 6-3, 6-4, 6-1; 9-Diego Schwartzman (Arg) bt Benoit Paire (Fra) 6-3, 6-4, 6-0: 26-Fabio Fognini (Ita) bt Albert Ramos Vinolas (Esp) 7-6(4), 6-2,

Women: 1-Ashleigh Barty (Aus) bt Carla Suarez Navarro (Esp) 6-1, 6-7(1), 6-1; Venus Williams (USA) bt Mihaela Buzarnescu (Rou) 7-5, 4-6, 6-3; Vera Zvonareva (Rus) bt Marie Bouzkova (Cze) 7-5. 6-4: 8-Karolina Pliskova (Cze) bt Tamara Zidansek (Slo) 7-5, 6-4; Tereza Mar-

tincova (Cze) bt 28-Alison Riske (USA) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; 13-Elise Mertens (Bel) bt Harriet Dart (GBR) 6-1, 6-3; 21-Ons Jabeur (Tun) bt Rebecca Peterson (Swe) 6-2, 6-1; 15-Maria Sakkari (Gre) bt Arantxa Rus (Ned) 6-1, 6-1. On Monday: Men: Kevin Ander-

son (RSA) bt Marcelo Tomas Barrios Vera (Chi) 6-7(4), 6-4, 6-4, 7-6(4); Denis Kudla (USA) bt 30-Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (Esp) 5-7, 4-6, 7-6(/4), 6-3, 6-3; Marton Fucsovics (Hun) bt 19-Jannik Sinner (Ita) 5-7, 6-3, 7-5, 6-3; 5-Andrey Rublev (Rus) bt Federico Delbonis (Arg) 4-6, 6-4, 6-1, 6-2; 25-Karen Khachanov (Rus) bt Mackenzie McDonald (USA) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (3): Andv Murray (GBR) bt 24-Nikoloz Basilashvili (Geo) 6-4, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3; Dominik Koepfer (Ger) bt 27-Reilly Opelka (USA) 6-4, 7-6(3), 6-2; 8-Roberto Bautista Agut (Esp) bt John Millman (Aus) 6-2, 3-6,

Women: Viktorija Golubic (Sui) bt 29-Veronika Kudermetova (Rus) 3-6, 6-1, 11-9; 4-Sofia Kenin (USA) bt Wang Xinyu (Chn) 6-4, 6-2; 7-Iga Swiatek (Pol) bt Su-Wei Hsieh (Tpe) 6-4. 6-4; 18-Elena Rybakina (Kaz) bt Kristina Mladenovic (Fra) 6-4,

### Fallen seeds

Women: 28-Riske,

- Men: 15-De Minaur, 19-Sinner, 24-Basilashvili, 27-Opelka, 30-Davidovich
- 29-Kudermetova

# Seema seals Tokyo spot

Women's 4x100 team fails to qualify

### **ATHLETICS**

UTHRA GANESAN

For years, Seema Punia has been battling doubts, from self and others. There have been questions raised on her continuing to receive federation patronage, doubts on whether she was a spent force and concerns on her continued training in Russia without much public information. On Tuesday, she put all that to rest, qualifying for the Tokyo Olympics with a throw of 63.72m.

The 37-year-old was relieved after achieving the mark. "I am thankful to Lalit Bhanot sir for being the only one from my junior days to keep faith in me. So many had declared my career over, I had to prove myself to everyone in the system and outside. There are no words to explain," a teary Seema admitted.

There was little else of note on the final day of the National inter-State championships with the women's 4x100m disappointing in its timing and final attempt to qualify for Tokyo, clocking 44.15 seconds.

4x400m men's squad, too, performed below-par, perhaps unwilling to push itself after being assured of Tokyo participation. The results: Men: 200m: 1. Lo-



Seema. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

vepreet Singh (Pun, 21.04s), 2. Kaliga Kumarage (SL, 21.13), 3 Nithin B (TN, 21.20); 3000 steeplechase: 1. Shankal Lal Swami (Har, 8:46.36s), 2. Vikram Singh (MP, 9:15.53), 3. Md. Nur Hasan (UP, 9:17.96); 4x400m: 1. India (3:05.22s), 2. Punjab (3:09.84), 3. Haryana (3:13.02); Javelin: 1. Rohit Yadav (UP, 77.74m), 2. Shivpal Singh (UP, 77.31m), 3. Sumedha Ranasinghe (SL, 77.28m). Women: 200m: 1. Anjali PD (Ker, 24.01s), 2. BIM Jaya-

manne (SL, 24.08), 3. Harika Devi (Tel. 24.64): 1500m: 1. Harmilan Bains (Pun. 4:15.52s). 2. Chanda (Del, 4:18.96), 3. PU Chitra (Ker, 4:20.29); **3000** steeplechase: 1. Parul Chaudhary (UP, 10:01.58s), 2. Komal Jagdale (Mah, 10:10.31), 3. Nilani Rathnayake (SL, 10:12.02); 4x100m: 1. India (44.15s), 2. Sri Lanka (44.55), 3. Telangana (45.91); 4x400m: 1. India (3:38.46s), 2. India-Mix (3:47.16), 3. Punjab (3:54.77); Discus: 1. Seema Punia (UP, 63.72m), 2. Sonal Goyal (Del, 49.50), 3. Madhu Renu (Raj,

# Arjun takes lead but Aronian catches up

RAKESH RAO

Arjun Erigaisi continued to impress the chess world by beating Levon Aronian once before the Armenian hit back to make it 2-2 in the first set of the quarterfinals in the Goldmoney Asian Rapid online rapid tournament on Tuesday.

match of the day, Magnus Carlsen scored twice over Wesley So before taking the first set 2.5-1.5. Having escaped with a draw in the first game, 17year-old Arjun came up

In the most-followed

with a brilliant finish in the second. He was ready to capture Aronian's queen when the game ended. A little earlier, Arjun missed a fine tactical sequence where he could have sealed the game by

catching Aronian's queen

with a knight 'fork'. Even-

tually, this missed oppor-

tunity did not hurt Ariun. Aronian hit back in the third game to draw level and the fourth game proved an equal draw.

The results: Quarterfinals: Set One: Arjun Erigaisi drew with Levon Aronian (Arm) 2-2; Magnus Carlsen (Nor) bt Wesley So (USA) 2.5-1.5; Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Pol) drew with Ding Liren (Chn) 2-2; Vladislav Artemiev (Rus) bt Anish Giri (Ned) 3-0.

#### TV PICKS

1 & 2 (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. Tour de France: Eurosport (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. England Women vs India Women: 2nd ODI: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m. **NBA:** SS Select 1 (SD & HD),

### IN BRIEF



#### Southee raising funds for girl cancer patient

New Zealand pacer Tim Southee is auctioning a shirt he wore during the inaugural World Test Championship final to raise funds for the treatment of eight-year-old Hollie Beattie diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. The shirt is signed by the entire Black Caps squad. PTI

# in pre-quarterfinals

Riya Bhatia and Junri Sato of Japan and Lulu Sun of Switzerland in the doubles \$25,000 ITF women's tennis tournament here.

# **ODI** with 80% capacity

England and New Zealand. PT

#### sports awards extended HYDERABAD

and Sports has extended the deadline for submitting applications for various National sports awards to July 5. As per the original schedule, the last date for submission was June 28. The the prescribed format to surendra.yadav@nic.in or qirnish.kumar@nic.in. Hard lockdown on account of

#### Fernandinho extends stay at Manchester City

Manchester City captain Fernandinho has signed a the 36-year-old Brazilian at the Etihad Stadium until 2022 month. Fernandinho joined City from Shakhtar Donetsk in



### **Durant to anchor USA's**

Two-time gold medallist Kevin Durant will anchor the 12-member U.S. men's basketball team at the Tokyo Olympics next month. The squad: Kevin Durant. Draymond Green, Kevin Love Bam Adebayo, Bradley Beal, Devin Booker, Jerami Grant, Jrue Holiday, Zach LaVine, Damian Lillard, Khris

BUDAPEST Hungarian fencer Aida Mohamed is about to join a very small group of women by competing in her seventh Olympics. The 45-year-old Mohamed, born in Budapest has qualified to compete in foil at the Tokyo Olympics. Her appearance will make her only the 14th woman to appear at the Games so many

# Argentina seals top spot in group

Messi leads the way in record appearance for country

### COPA AMERICA

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lionel Messi became Argentina's most capped international player on Monday, marking the occasion with two goals as he led his national team to a 4-1 win over Bolivia at the Copa America.

The 34-year-old Messi's 148th appearance for Argentina beat the mark previously held by retired defender Javier Mascherano.

His two goals and one assist helped Argentina ensure top spot in Group A, setting up a quarterfinal against Ecuador on Saturday.

An Argentina team split between frequent starters and substitutes beat lastplace Bolivia easily. Papu Gomez opened the scoring in the sixth minute.

Messi netted the two following goals. The first came from the spot in the 33rd and the second after a beautiful lob over Bolivian goalkeeper Carlos Lampe in the 42nd.

Erwin Saavedra scored for Bolivia on the hour but sub-



Leader: Lionel Messi was yet again at the forefront for Argentina with a brace. • GETTY IMAGES

stitute Lautaro Martinez restored the three-goal cushion in the 65th from close range.

In Rio De Janeiro, Uruguay beat Paraguay 1-0 to finish second in Group A and move into a quarterfinal against Colombia. The result

also left Chile to face defending champion and host Brazil in the next stage.

Edinson Cavani scored from the penalty spot in the 21st minute for the only goal of the match. Uruguay would have had to face Brazil if it had lost to Paraguay, which had already secured its place in the knockout phase.

The results: Group A: Argentina 4 (Gomez 6, Messi 33-pen, 42, Martinez 65) bt Bolivia 1 (Saavedra 60): Uruguav 1 (Cavani 21-pen) bt Paraguay O.

# Clippers keep series against Suns alive

### **NBA**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE LOS ANGELES

Paul George scored 41 points as Los Angeles Clippers kept its NBA Western Conference finals series alive with a battling 116-102 road victory over Phoenix Suns on Monday.

With the Suns poised to clinch a series victory in front of an expectant home crowd, George once again carried the Clippers on his back to elimination.

The Clippers talisman exploded for 20 points in the third quarter alone to take the game away from the Suns, who took a fleeting lead midway through the period with a Chris Paul jump shot.

It was the only time the held the lead Suns throughout game five.

The result: Western Conference finals: Phoenix Suns 102 lost to Los Angeles Clippers 116 (Suns lead series

# Akbar in Drona list

### **MOTORSPORTS**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Indian motorsports' governing body FMSCI has nominated its president Akbar Ebrahim for the Dronacharya Award besides sending Jehan Daruvala's name to the government for Arjuna Award after inexplicably ignoring him last year.

Racer-turned-coach Akbar's name was also recommended for Dronacharya last year but none of FMSCI's nominations for the national sports awards was



short-listed by the government-appointed selection

# AITA nominates Ankita, Prajnesh for Arjuna

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Ankita Raina and Prajnesh Gunneswaran have been nominated for the Arjuna Award by AITA, which has also sent names of Balram Singh and Enrico Piperno for the Dhyanchand honour.

Ankita and Prajnesh both won singles bronze medals at the 2018 Asian Games in Jakarta and Palembang. Prajnesh who is ranked 148, has played five Davis

Cup ties for the country.

In the Lifetime achievement category, Balram, who has a 50 year-long association with Indian tennis, will vie for the honour along with Piperno, who coached the Davis Cup team between 1991-2001.

# FIG confirms Pranati's Olympic quota place

Mary Kom to train in Italy

Mary Kom will take off for dia. I want to avoid them,"

boxing

Assisi in a day or two to join she said.

### **GYMNASTICS**

Y.B. SARANGI

The International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) has confirmed Indian gymnast Pranati Nayak's qualification for the Tokyo Olympics.

As per a FIG communication received by the Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI) on Monday, Pranati, who won a bronze medal in vault at the 2019 Asian

**BOXING** 

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Olympics-bound

M.C. Mary Kom has decided

to join the rest of India's

team in Italy for training to

avoid the added restrictions

on those travelling to Tokyo

championships, has got an all-around slot following the reallocation of quota places under the 2020 continental championships criteria.

The reallocation was done due to the cancellation of the Asian championships, which was an Olympic qualifying event.

After Dipa Karmakar in 2016, West Bengal girl Pranati has become the second gymnast from the country to qualify for the Olympics.

the eight other boxers, who

are set to leave for Tokyo

from there. She was training

at Pune's Army Sports Insti-

and will leave for Italy may

rantine restrictions on those

who are travelling from In-

be tomorrow or day after.

"I have returned to Delhi

"There are stricter qua-

tute so far.

# Aditi qualifies for Tokyo



Aditi Ashok. • AFP

SPORTS REPORTER BENGALURU

Golfer Aditi Ashok booked her spot in the Tokyo Olympics, it was announced on Tuesday. Aditi sealed her second consecutive Olympic appearance by qualifying in 45th place in the women's final Olympic golf rankings.

A three-time winner on the Ladies European Tour (LET), Aditi finished 41st at The 23-year-old turned professional in 2016. A year later, she became the first from India to compete in the prestigious Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour.

# Hard work paid off, says Sajan Prakash

'I have been chasing this mark for the last two years'

### **SWIMMING** M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Last week, Sajan Prakash was under pressure after the 19th International swimming meet in Belgrade. Despite having the best In-

dian performance (1:56.95) in 200m butterfly, Sajan wasn't happy, for he had missed the A cut for Tokyo Olympics. Sajan only had one more

meet in Rome to achieve the Olympic A standard qualification mark and he was feeling the heat.

### **Reworked strategy**

Sajan reworked his strategy before the Rome meet with coach Pradeep Kumar. They analysed his Belgarde race, breaking it into smaller parts, and decided that Sajan needed to gain speed and distance in the early part of the race to qualify.

In Rome, Saian then knew exactly what he had to do and paced his race well to



The big goal: Sajan Prakash knew he had to come up with something extraordinary in the Rome meet to qualify for the Olympics. • FILE PHOTO

qualify. He went fast in the first half of the race, clocking 25.99s for the first 50 metres and 55.56s for the 100m and finished the race in 1:56.38s. He had finally breached the qualifying mark of 1:56.48s which he has been chasing since 2019.

Sajan was a relieved man, and said his hard work in Dubai with coach Pradeep had paid off.

this. It meant a lot to me as I have been chasing this mark for the last two years. Injury and lockdown affected my training. For the last one year I was training hard with my coach Pradeep Kumar in Dubai. It was difficult to get entries for meets. I was denied entry for a meet in France but managed to get one for the Belgrade meet.

"I did my life best in the "I am very happy that I Belgrade meet and knew I mers can try to emulate," he was finally able to achieve had to come up with someth-

ing extraordinary in the Rome. The six days gap we got between the two meets was used to analyse and plan strategy for my race.

"We came to conclusion that I needed to have more power and speed in the first half of the race. I went all out from the start and was able to execute my plans well," he said.

### **Benchmark**

Dronacharya S. Pradeep Kumar said Sajan's effort should be considered as a benchmark in Indian swimming. He also said his ward was capable of improving his performance in Tokyo.

"It is a great achievement and it means he is among the top swimmers in the world. But world standards are improving everyday. I feel Sajan can still improve this performance in Olympics. I consider his effort as a benchmark in Indian swimming which upcoming swim-

# Rahi fine-tunes skills in preparation for Tokyo

With quality competition under her belt, ace shooter confident of good show

### SHOOTING

KAMESH SRINIVASAN

Rahi Sarnobat's charming personality often masks a strong competitive streak. And she has also learnt to respect the self more than the competitors. After winning the sports

pistol event in an absolutely world class field in Osijek, Croatia for her third World Cup gold, Rahi put things in perspective. "Our duty is to consider

ourselves equally good. We cannot go into a competition thinking that these guys are better.

"We have to go in thinking that we are tough competi-

**ATHLETICS** 

Javelin thrower Neeraj Cho-



Rahi Sarnobat. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Olympics, not only took part

ship and the World Cup, but also shot in Croatia's National championship. Her qualification score of 581 in the Delhi World Cup in March has improved to 591 in Osijek.

qualification score. However, I knew it was just a process. I was going on the right path. It was a matter of getsaid Rahi.

She was concerned about getting the technical aspects right, rather than thinking about the medal. The gold was a mere assurance that she was doing things right and getting really ready for

Speaking about Manu Bhaker, who placed seventh place, Rahi said, "Manu is talented, hard working and sincere. I think the only shooter who can do it is Manu. She will do it at the right time. This experience will give her the extra fire to perform much better in the Olympics.

for the Olympics. I had a word with her after the competition. She was expecting something in the final. But, experience is also equally important, like the medal."

With a battery of coaches helping the shooters in fine tuning themselves, Rahi is confident that they are well

# Good mix of experience and young talent: Narang

Feels India's best bet is in 10m air rifle & pistol mixed events

### V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

HYDERABAD
The Indian shooters will be high on confidence at the Tokyo Olympics thanks to their consistent performances at the highest level in recent times, London Games bronze medallist Gagan Narang said on Tuesday.

He said the 15-member squad combined experience and exciting young talent.

"I feel India has the best chance to win medals in mixed events in both 10m air rifle and pistol events. Those who have been at the Olympics can count on their experience, while the young brigade will have no baggage to carry and this can be the biggest advantage," the

38-year-old told *The Hindu*. "The youngsters can afford to just go out there and enjoy the competition and give their best. Everything that is required by the shooters is being provided at the right time. They were sent abroad when the pandemic was at its peak so that their training was not affected.

### Onus to perform

"Never before was there such coordination and effort with the right approach between the Union Sports Ministry, SAI and the federation, along with corporate



Gagan Narang. ■ FILE PHOTO

The youngsters can afford to just go out there and enjoy the competition and give their best

the shooters to perform," Narang said.

"In terms of experience, most of the Indians who will be in Tokyo have won medals at different levels, including World Cups. Their mindset has changed dramatically in the last decade.

## Raring to go

"In our early days, we were just happy to participate in the Olympics, then think of competing in the next one and then target medals. Now, these youngsters are raring to take on the best in their maiden Olympics. Importantly, they are wellversed with the latest rules too," Narang said.



World No. 1 Ashleigh Barty on Tuesday confirmed she would compete at the Tokyo Olympics, headlining an 11-strong Australian tennis team for the Games that includes Nick Kyrgios. The team: Ashleigh Barty, Samantha Stosur, Ajla Tomljanovic, Storm Sanders, Ellen Perez, Alex de Minaur, Nick Kyrgios, John Millman, James Duckworth, Luke



Halep, Wawrinka to miss Tokyo

World No. 3 Simona Halep of

Romania and former Olympic gold medallist Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland on Tuesday announced their withdrawal from the Tokyo Olympics. Three-time Grand Slam title undergone surgery on his left winner, tweeted that the calf properly. AGENCIES A ND-NDE

Wimbledon 2021: SS Select 6.30 a.m. (Thursday)



# Riya-Namigata pair loses

PALMA DEL RIO (SPAIN) Namigata of Japan were beaten 7-5, 6-2 by Himari pre-quarterfinals of the

# **Edgbaston to host Pak.**

Eighty percent crowd capacity has been allowed for the third ODI between England and Pakistan at Edgbaston on July 13 as part of the UK Government's Events Research Programme. Earlier this month, 70 percent capacity crowds (around 60,000 spectators) were permitted at Edgbaston for the second Test between

# Deadline for National

The Ministry of Youth Affairs applications are to be sent in conies are not required due to

one-year contract extension at the Premier League champions. The deal keeps and he is targeting another shot at the Champions League after City lost to Chelsea in the final last



# basketball team

NEW YORK Middleton and Jayson Tatum.

#### Aida Mohamad set to join elite club

times. AP

It is learnt that Neeraj had

are taking part.

ver-level competition where

the likes of Olympics gold

medal favourite Johannes

Vetter of Germany and some

other top javelin throwers



tion for them," said Rahi. Rahi keen on getting some quality competitions under her belt before the Tokyo

in the European Champion-

reached Lucerne but decid-

Struggling

"I was struggling with my

ting enough competition,"

'This was more like a trial

# Neeraj Chopra pulls out of Switzerland event

Javelin thrower decides to give his body some rest after a lot of travel

#### ed to skip the event to give PRESS TUST OF INDIA his body some rest after a lot of travel.

pra pulled out of a top-level **Training** competition in Switzerland The 23-year-old will now proon Tuesday, owing to fatigue. ceed to Upsala in Sweden for Neeraj was to compete in training and is expected to the Spitzen Leichtathletik take part in the Gateshead event in Lucerne, a World Diamond League (England) Athletics continental tour silon July 13. That would be his

Olympics.

Besides Vetter, Andreas Hofmann (Germany), Keshorn Walcott (Trinidad and Tobago) and Bernhard Seifert (Germany), who all are

biggest event before the



above Neeraj in the Road to Tokyo list, are lined up for Neeraj had won bronze in

land on Saturday with an effort of 86.79m, behind season-leader and 2017 world champion Vetter (93.59m) and 2012 Olympics gold medallist and 2016 Games Walcott bronze winner (89.12m). That was his third best performance this season since re-writing his own na-

the Kuortane Games in Fin-

tional record during the Indian Grand Prix 3 in March at Patiala with a throw of 88.07m. A few days later, he reached 87.80m during the Federation Cup at the same

support. Now, the onus is on

#### winner Wawrinka has foot. Halep, two-time Slam injury that kept her out of Roland Garros and Wimbledon had not healed