



www.visionias.in 8468022022

Heartiest Congratulations

to all candidates selected in CSE 2021

8 IN TOP 10 | 71 IN TOP 100
SELECTIONS IN CSE 2021

from various programs of VISION IAS

2
AIR
ANKITA AGARWAL
ABHYAAS

CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION 2020
1
AIR
SHUBHAM KUMAR
(FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM)

3
AIR
GAMINI SINGLA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

4
AIR
AISHWARYA VERMA
 LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

5
AIR
UTKARSH DWIVEDI
 FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM

6
AIR
YAKSH CHAUDHARY
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

7
AIR
SAMYAK S JAIN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

8
AIR
ISHITA RATHI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

9
AIR
PREETAM KUMAR
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

12
AIR
YASHARTH SHEKHAR
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

13
AIR
PRIYAMVADA ASHOK MHADDALKAR
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

14
AIR
ABHINAV J JAIN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

16
AIR
ANSHU PRIYA
 LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

18
AIR
RAVI KUMAR SIHAG
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, हिंदी माध्यम

19
AIR
DIKSHA JOSHI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

20
AIR
ARPIT CHAUHAN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

21
AIR
DILIP K KAINIKKARA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

23
AIR
ASHISH
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

25
AIR
SHRUTI RAJLAKSHMI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

26
AIR
UTSAV ANAND
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

27
AIR
SAKSHAM GOEL
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

29
AIR
BHAVISHYA
 INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

30
AIR
NAMAN GOYAL
 LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS, MAINS ADVANCE COURSE

32
AIR
NAVANDAR ANAY NITIN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

33
AIR
JASPINDER SINGH
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, MAINS 365, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

34
AIR
SHASHVAT SANGWAN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

35
AIR
KARTIKEYA JAISWAL
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

37
AIR
V SANJANA SIMHA
 INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

39
AIR
VISHAL DHAKAD
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

40
AIR
KUSHAL JAIN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

41
AIR
SONALI DEV
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

44
AIR
ANJALI SHROTRIYA
 LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

45
AIR
SHRADHA SHUKLA
 ABHYAAS

47
AIR
NAMAN KUMAR SINGLA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

49
AIR
DIVYANSH SINGH
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

51
AIR
AKSHAY PILLAY
 ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

52
AIR
ANKUR DAS
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

53
AIR
ARPIT SANGAL
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

54
AIR
ARPIT GUPTA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

56
AIR
KIRANMAYI KOPPISSETTI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

60
AIR
SHRADHA GOME
 LAKSHYA, FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

61
AIR
MOHIT KASNIYA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, MAINS 365

63
AIR
KARTHIK PANIGRAHI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

64
AIR
KANIKA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, PT 365, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

65
AIR
PULKIT
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

66
AIR
AKHIL V MENON
 ABHYAAS, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

67
AIR
ANAND MALHOTRA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

68
AIR
ANENDYA RAAJSSHRE
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

69
AIR
GADDAM SUDHEER KUMAR REDDY
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

70
AIR
NARAYAN AMIT MALEMPATI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE, ABHYAAS

71
AIR
SHREYA SHREE
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

72
AIR
PARTH GUPTA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

73
AIR
NAMRATA CHOUBEY
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

74
AIR
AYUSH VENKAT VATS
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

75
AIR
SURBHI SINGLA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

76
AIR
CHARU
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

77
AIR
ASHUTOSH KUMAR
 LUCKNOW FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM, ABHYAAS, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

78
AIR
SURBHI GOYAL
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

79
AIR
SAMPADA TRIVEDI
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

80
AIR
NIKHIL MAHAJAN
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

81
AIR
ISHU AGRAWAL
 LAKSHYA, FOUNDATION COURSE CLASSROOM

83
AIR
SHAILJA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

84
AIR
SUJAWAL JAGGA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

89
AIR
ANKIT KUMAR CHOUKSEY
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

91
AIR
PRAGYA JAT
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

93
AIR
DEEPESH KUMAR
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

94
AIR
INDRASHIS DATTA
 LAKSHYA, ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

96
AIR
MINI SHUKLA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

97
AIR
BHAISARE SHUBHAM ASHOK
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES

98
AIR
ANIKET DNYANESHWAR HIRDE
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, INTERVIEW GUIDANCE

99
AIR
THARUN PATNAIK MADALA
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, ABHYAAS

100
AIR
KIRAN P B
 ALL INDIA TEST SERIES, MAINS ADVANCE COURSE

YOU CAN BE NEXT



Scan the QR CODE to download VISION IAS App. Join official telegram group for daily MCQs and other updates.

f /visionias.upsc /c/VisionIASdelhi /c/VisionIASdelhi



• HEAD OFFICE: Apsara Arcade, Karol Bagh
 | CONTACT: 8468022022, 9019066066
 • 635, Opp. Signature View Apartments,
 Banda Bahadur Marg, Mukherjee Nagar



JAIPUR



GUWAHATI



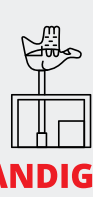
HYDERABAD



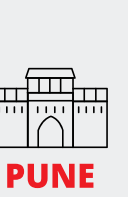
AHMEDABAD



LUCKNOW



CHANDIGARH



PUNE

"You are as strong as your Foundation"

Foundation Course GENERAL STUDIES

PRELIMS cum MAINS 2023

DELHI: 17 JULY, 5 PM | 7 JULY, 1 PM | 1 JULY, 1 PM
29 JUNE, 9 AM | 22 JUNE, 1 PM | 15 JUNE, 9 AM

LUCKNOW: 25th June

CHANDIGARH: 21st June

JAIPUR: 22nd June

HYDERABAD: 13th June

AHMEDABAD: 18th June

PUNE: 20th June



To know more, get
FREE Counseling
or **Register**

फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2023

▶ प्रारंभिक, मुख्य परीक्षा और निबंध के लिए महत्वपूर्ण सभी टॉपिक का विस्तृत कवरेज

DELHI: 24 जून, 1 PM | 5 अप्रैल, 9 AM

LUCKNOW: 7 जुलाई, 9 AM

JAIPUR: 22 जून, 4 PM

लाइव / ऑनलाइन एवं ऑफलाइन कक्षाएँ



ADVANCED COURSE GS MAINS

▶ Targeted towards those students who are aware of the basics but want to improve their understanding of complex topics, inter-linkages among them, and analytical ability to tackle the problems posed by the Mains examination.

LIVE / ONLINE
CLASSES AVAILABLE

16th June | 1 PM

ALL INDIA PRELIMS TEST SERIES

» General Studies » CSAT



for **GS 2023: 26 June**

सामान्य अध्ययन 2023: 26 June

for **CSAT 2023: 24 July**

हिन्दी माध्यम 2023: 31 जुलाई



1 YEAR CURRENT AFFAIRS *for* GS MAINS 2022 *in* 60 Hours

▶ Specific targeted content oriented towards Mains exam

LIVE / ONLINE
CLASSES AVAILABLE

15th July | 5 PM

ALL INDIA MAINS TEST SERIES

» Sociology » Philosophy » PS & IR **26 June**

» General Studies » Essay **26 June**



for **GS 2022: 26 June**

सामान्य अध्ययन 2022: 26 June

for **GS 2023: 26 June**

सामान्य अध्ययन 2023: 26 June

ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM PROGRAMME

GENERAL STUDIES Prelims and Mains 2024 and 2025

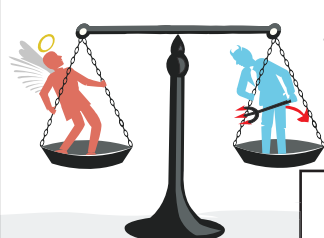
▶ Includes All India GS Mains, Prelim, CSAT and Essay Test Series of 2022, 2023, 2024

DELHI

17 JULY, 5 PM | 7 JULY, 1 PM | 1 JULY, 1 PM
29 JUNE, 9 AM | 22 JUNE, 1 PM | 15 JUNE, 9 AM



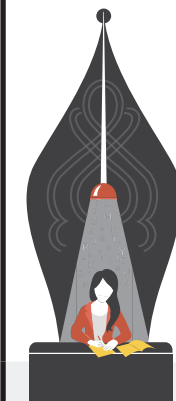
ETHICS CASE STUDIES CLASSES



Case studies covers all the exclusive topic form contemporary and current issues as well as previous Year UPSC Paper Case studies

30th June | 5 PM

ESSAY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM



Learn the art of Essay writing by understanding how to build and interlink different concepts

19th June | 5 PM

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

UPSC CSE Prelims'22, GS Paper

88%

Concept repeats from PrepLadder

PrepLadder
by Unacademy

Padho Utna, Chahiye Jitna

Dream Team | Video Lectures | QBank | NCERT Summary | Mock Tests

Enroll now @ ₹39,999 **₹7200*** | Prices increasing on June 25

*TSC apply

Extra ₹500 off
Use code:
MISSIONUPSC

IN BRIEF



Lok Sabha byelections a crucial test for SP, AAP

NEW DELHI
 Bypolls were held to the Lok Sabha seats of Azamgarh and Rampur in Uttar Pradesh and Sangur in Punjab on Thursday. The results on Sunday will reveal if the Samajwadi Party can hold on to its bastions and the AAP government can withstand the outrage over the murder of singer Sidhu Moosewala.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 13

Trade unions to join stir against Agnipath

NEW DELHI
 The 10 Central trade unions in the Opposition camp and several independent sectoral federations and associations on Thursday decided to support the agitations against the Agnipath scheme. They will join the protests called by the Samyukt Kisan Morcha on Friday.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 12

DAILY GUIDANCE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

POLITY

by Sunil Gupta Sir

Starting From **1st JULY** FEES ₹1999

www.iassetu.com
 26/26, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-60 | T: 88266 19699

Shinde says rebel Sena group has support of 'national party'

Pawar says they have to prove majority, but no BJP leader can guide them in it

ALOK DESHPANDE
MUMBAI
 Days after his revolt against Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and the Shiv Sena-led coalition government in the State, rebel party leader Eknath Shinde on Thursday said the entire operation of splitting the party was supported by a "national party". He, however, did not say it was the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

In response, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar advised the rebels that no BJP leader would come to guide them when they arrived in Mumbai to prove the majority in the Legislative Assembly.

In the evening, the rebel group claimed to have sent another letter to Deputy Speaker Narhari Zirwal, with the signatures of 42 MLAs and claiming Mr. Shinde to be the Sena's legislature party leader.

On Wednesday, the rebel group sent a letter with the signatures of 34 MLAs.

The Sena on Wednesday removed Mr. Shinde and appointed Ajay Choudhari the legislature party leader, to



Split Sena: Rebel leader Eknath Shinde with MLAs at a hotel in Guwahati on Thursday. •PTI

which the rebel group has objected, claiming majority.

Mr. Zirwal's office said that no new letter had been received. "The group leader is decided based on the party chief's letter, and I have received a letter from Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray naming [Ajay] Choudhari as the legislature party leader, which I have accepted," Mr. Zirwal said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12
EDITORIAL ▶ PAGE 8

Disqualify 12 MLAs, Sena urges Deputy Speaker

STAFF REPORTER
MUMBAI
 Shiv Sena Legislature Party leader Ajay Choudhari submitted petitions before the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly on Thursday evening to disqualify 12 MLAs from the rebel group. Eknath Shinde, Tanaji

Sawant, Balaji Kinikar, Anil Babar, Bharat Gogawale, Prakash Surve, Mahesh Shinde, Abdul Sattar, Yamini Jadhav, Sandipan Bhumre, Sanjay Shirsat and Lata Sonawane are the 12 legislators.

MORE REPORTS ▶ PAGE 13

BRICS supports dialogue between Russia, Ukraine

PM hails 'practical' cooperation of group

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI
 Blaming "selfish actions" by western countries for the economic crisis due to sanctions, Russian President Vladimir Putin called for the strengthening of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) at a virtual summit of leaders of the grouping hosted by China on Thursday. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the other leaders discussed the situation in Ukraine and Afghanistan.



Narendra Modi addressing the BRICS summit in New Delhi on Thursday. •PTI

While Mr. Modi focussed on the importance of BRICS in the post-pandemic global economic recovery, Chinese President Xi Jinping called upon members to reject the "Cold War mentality" and oppose what he called "unilateral sanctions" by the U.S. and the European Union.

Meeting point
 Mr. Modi said the BRICS countries had a "very similar view of the governance of the global economy". He hailed "practical" coopera-

tion in a number of areas, including the New Development Bank, a satellite agreement, a COVID Research and Development Centre set up in South Africa, and the mutual recognition of pharmaceuticals, including COVID vaccines and medicines.

The Beijing summit declaration said that BRICS countries recalled their national positions as expressed at the United Nations over the past few months.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Key AIADMK meeting held amid chaos

ARAVIND KUMAR B.
CHENNAI

The executive and general council of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK) that met under chaotic circumstances on the outskirts of Chennai on Thursday could not deliberate on the demand to elect former Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami as its supreme leader.

In an order at the crack of dawn, a Division Bench of the Madras High Court restrained the AIADMK from taking any decision on restoring unitary leadership.

Hostile situation
 Party coordinator and three-time former Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam, who is against amending the dual leadership structure in the AIADMK, the principal Opposition party in Tamil Nadu, faced a hostile situation and stood hopelessly outnumbered at the general council.

Mr. Panneerselvam left the venue in a huff with a few supporters before the meeting ended.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12



We keep more people safe online than anyone else in the world.

By making all Google products secure by default, we protect billions of people from potential online threats every day.

100 Million
 phishing attempts blocked Report phishing every day

5 Billion
 devices protected from unsafe ⚠️ sites every day

15 Billion
 Spam x messages blocked every day

125 Billion
 installed apps scanned ✔️ for malware every day

g.co/safety

Every day is Safer with Google

**UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR,
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI
(PHE) DIVISION SHOPIAN
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NITNo. 17/JSDS OF 2022-23 Dated:-18-06-2022**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Shopian, invites-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bids/Firms/Companies of all classes and all scope registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of PHE Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM).
The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on over all percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No.	Particulars of the work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (Days)
1	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.25 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoirs (GSR) and Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of RCC Intake works. At Water Supply scheme chedi Azh Hakeem of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province	88.28	500/-	1.7656	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
2	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of RCC Intake/head works/sedimentation tank and construction of chain link fencing. At Water Supply scheme Meemender Gagon of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province	76.98	500/-	1.5396	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
3	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves and Execution of ancillary civil works like Intake works. At Water Supply scheme Nadigam Kulpora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province	60.01	500/-	1.2002	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
4	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.35 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR). Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Chain Link Fencing. At Water Supply scheme Shadab Karewa of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province	97.49	500/-	1.9498	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
5	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.15 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR). Execution of ancillary civil works like Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST. At Water Supply scheme Salspora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	54.56	500/-	1.0912	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
6	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.20 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR). Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works/RCC Intake chamber at head of intake works. At Water Supply scheme Balpora Ganopora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	60.36	500/-	1.2072	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
7	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.20 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR) and Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works/RCC Intake chamber at head of intake works. At Water Supply scheme Davgam Ganopora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	84.73	500/-	1.6946	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
8	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.35 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR) along with sluice chamber. Execution of ancillary civil works like Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST. At Water Supply scheme Kachdora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	114.74	500/-	2.2948	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
9	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.15 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR). Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Chain Link Fencing. At Water Supply scheme Krachipathi of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	128.26	500/-	2.5652	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
10	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves. Construction of 0.15 lac gallon Ground Service Reservoir (GSR). Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Chain Link Fencing. At Water Supply scheme Krachipathi of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	89.67	500/-	1.7934	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
11	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST and Construction of chain link fencing. At Water Supply scheme Dimgam Ratipora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	158.40	500/-	3.168	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
12	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST and Construction of chain link fencing. At Water Supply scheme Dimgam Ratipora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	110.62	500/-	2.2124	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
13	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST and Construction of chain link fencing. At Water Supply scheme Dimgam Ratipora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	101.49	500/-	2.0298	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
14	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST and Construction of chain link fencing. At Water Supply scheme Dimgam Ratipora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	111.59	500/-	2.2318	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
15	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. At Water Supply scheme Wangpora 2nd of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	32.07	500/-	0.6414	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
16	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Bath Room/Renovation of Existing Chowkidar Quarter. At Water Supply scheme Kanikot Ringward of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	85.85	500/-	1.717	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
17	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. At Water Supply scheme Hirpora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	94.14	500/-	1.8828	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
18	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. At Water Supply scheme Karewa Jaddi of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	87.66	500/-	1.7532	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
19	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Intake works. At Water Supply scheme Wangpora 2nd of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	74.87	500/-	1.4974	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
20	Name of work: Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves at Various ongoing Schemes of PHE Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission.	167.76	500/-	3.3552	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
21	Construction of 15.00 lac Impounding Reservoir (IR) & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Chain Link Fencing and Conversion of existing SSFP into storage/PST at Water Supply scheme Keagam Sheerpathi of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	249.91	500/-	4.9982	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
22	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Conversion of SSFP into PST/Storage etc. At Water Supply scheme Baskuchan Wasowhallan & Sangren Wazirchek of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province	57.22	500/-	1.1444	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
23	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Conversion of SSFP into PST/Storage etc. At Water Supply scheme Khawara Tachloo of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	46.63	500/-	0.9326	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
24	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Sedimentation Tank, protection works, Construction of Chain Link Fencing at Water Supply scheme Trenz Turkwangam of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	76.06	500/-	1.5212	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
25	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of collection sump. Construction of Pump House cum operator quarter. Chowkidar quarter, Chemical shed, and Construction of Chain Link Fencing. At Water Supply scheme Durpora Chemarag of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	77.82	500/-	1.5564	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
26	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Bathroom/Toilet. Renovation of existing pump house and chain link fencing. At Water Supply scheme Riboon Khujpora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	50.47	500/-	1.0094	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
27	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of 0.20 lac gallon RCC clear water sump. Construction of collection sump, RCC jacketing and construction of RCC Dome to 1.0 lac gallon SR and renovation of Chowkidar Quarter. At Water Supply scheme Agler Heff Shirmal of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	108.1	500/-	2.162	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
28	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Chain Link fencing for water supply scheme Manzipora of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	33.36	500/-	0.6672	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
29	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Ground Service Reservoir (GSR) and Execution of ancillary civil works like Construction of Chain Link fencing/protection work to spring at Water Supply scheme Agler Heff Shirmal of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	69.08	500/-	1.3816	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document
30	Laying & Fitting of Delivery and Distribution Mains consisting of GMS Tubes and Ductile Iron Pipes of different Nominal Bore along with pipe fittings and control valves & Execution of ancillary civil works like Conversion of existing SSFP into PST/Storage. At Water Supply scheme Rashipora Alamun of Division Shopian of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under Jal Jeevan Mission	33.65	500/-	0.763	90 days	As Per Annexure-I to this Bid document

Position of funds: Approved Under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
The tendering authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Shopian
The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM).

CRITICAL DATES

i	Publish Date	20.06.2022
ii	Document Download start Date	20.06.2022
iii	Clarification start date	22.06.2022 from 10:00 AM
iv	Clarification end date	24.06.2022 up to 6:00 PM
v	Bid submission start date	25.06.2022 from 10:00 AM
vi	Bid submission end date	16.07.2022 at 4:00 PM
vii	Date of Bid opening	18.07.2022 at 10:00 AM

1. Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
2. The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
3. The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Shopian. Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Srinagar.
4. The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/7th challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Shopian.
5. The hard copies of the tender document in shape of 11/16/Tracing, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FR/DB and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.
6. The bid shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder withdraws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.
7. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
8. Queries by email if any should be made at enpheshopian@yahoo.in

DIPK-4546/22
Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Shopian

Court allows murder accused to take law exam

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Observing that getting education is a fundamental right, a Delhi court has allowed a murder accused to appear in the All India Law Entrance Test, 2022 conducted by National Law University in Delhi.

The accused, Shashank Jadon, a Delhi-based engineering graduate, was arrested in 2017 by the CBI, along with a cab driver, for allegedly murdering a 27-year-old techie, Ankit Chuan, in Noida in April 2015.

While granting him permission to appear for the exam at Lloyd Law College in Greater Noida, the court said, "Judicial record shows that a similar request made by the accused in 2020 was allowed. Therefore, it seems that it is in the interest of justice, if permission is granted."

Vacation Judge Chandra Shekhar of Rouse Avenue court complex directed the Superintendent of Dasna jail to "make necessary arrangements" for the accused to take the exam.

Officials suspended for alleged link to 'land scam' in north Delhi

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A day after two Sub-Divisional Magistrates and a deputy secretary posted at Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's office were suspended on Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena's directions, sources claimed that the three officials were part of a land scam in outer Delhi.

According to sources, Mr. Saxena has recommended to the Ministry of Home Affairs the suspension of another official - Nagender Shekhar Pati Tripathi, posted as an Additional District Magistrate - for his links to the scam, which revolves around the sale of a Central government land to private individuals between 2015 and June 2021.

All the four officials had, while occupying the office of SDM, Alipur, over the years, allegedly engaged in illegal sale of small parcels of land whose original owner had migrated to Pakistan during Partition, the sources said.

The four officials - Harshit Jain, DANICS, Prakash Chand



L-G Vinai Kumar Saxena
PHOTO

Thakur, ad hoc DANICS, Nagender Shekhar Pati Tripathi, DANICS, and Devender Sharma, ad hoc DANICS - had, during their tenure as SDM, Alipur, passed orders giving away ownership of government land "in criminal connivance with private individuals or entities" for apparent "pecuniary benefits in return".

"While Devender Sharma gave *bhumidari* [land ownership] rights on the government land in separate orders on a single day in June 2015, Prakash Chand Thakur gave away the land rights in June 2019," a source said.

"The process continued with Nagender Shekhar Pati Tripathi giving away *bhumidari* rights of the land in separate orders in November 2019 and Harshit Jain doing the same in June 2021," the source added.

"Owner migrated to Pak." All these land parcels, according to a source, belonged to a man named Karu and were located in Jhangola village in North Delhi district. The land was declared "evacuee property" after his migration to Pakistan and its ownership was legally vested in the Central government.

"While suspension orders of Devender Sharma, Prakash Chand Thakur and Harshit Jain were issued on June 21, the L-G has recommended the suspension of Nagender Shekhar Pati Tripathi, who is a selection-grade officer, to the MHA, which is the competent authority in his case," the source said.

According to sources, action against more govern-

ment officials who were part of these "deals" will follow over the coming days. The government will also reclaim the land, which has been illegally sold to private entities, and any illegal construction there will be demolished, said the sources.

On Wednesday, disciplinary proceedings had been initiated against Mr. Thakur, posted as a deputy secretary in the Delhi CMO, Mr. Jain, SDM, Vasant Vihar, and Mr. Sharma, SDM, VIVEK Vihar, on charges of "corruption and non-probity" in their functioning. The complaint against Mr. Thakur, a source said, pertained to his previous posting and was not related to his present position in the CMO.

Sources said the officials were placed under suspension before completion of inquiries into the allegations against them in line with the L-G's "commitment to zero tolerance towards corruption and ensuring probity in the functioning of the government".

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm 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 websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

A) Fresh-Tender Work:

S.N	Jobs No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
1	15/PM/Sr.M(E&M)-III/2022-23	Providing 12.5 mtr. Semi High Mast Light & Providing street light missing pole in 4 nos. Main Market & different place of sector-34, Noida.	86.96
2	16/PM/Sr.M(E&M)-III/2022-23	Annual Maintenance of 63 KVA Transformer Installed for street light on road between sector-14 & 15, Sector-16, 17, DSC road, Sector-16A and MP-2 road Hajipur road sector-99 and 100) Noida.	32.45
3	11/PM/Sr.M(E&M)-IV/2022-23	Internal Electrification (Rewiring) of different Barat Ghar, Chopal, Toilet Blocks in different villages & Sectors of E&M-IV, Noida.	38.86

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 07.07.2022 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 08.07.2022 at 11.00 AM.

B) Re-Tender Work:

S.N	Jobs No.	Name of the work	Tender Amount (Rs. Lacs)
4	03/PM/Sr.M(E&M)-IV/2022-23	External Electrification work of Noida Entry Gate Kalindi Kunj road sector-94, Noida (Beautification of Noida Gate).	49.79

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 30.06.2022 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 01.07.2022 at 11.00 AM.

Principal General Manager
Noida

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE SRINAGAR KASHMIR
Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 email- kashiflori@rediffmail.com

Subject :- Extension No.01

In view of poor response, the last date for submission of bids invited vide this office e-Tender Notice No.08 of 2022 dated.30.05.2022 for Outsourcing of Entry ticketing system of Akad Park, Pahalgam is hereby extended as per the details given below: -

1. Period of downloading of bidding document	21.06.2022 from 03:30 PM to 05.07.2022 up to 02:00 PM
2. Bid submission Start Date	21.06.2022 from 04:00 PM
3. Bid submission End Date	05.07.2022 up to 02:00 PM
4. Date & time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	07.07.2022 at 02:00 PM

Other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid Tender Notice.

By Order
Sd/-
Accounts Officer
(Member Secretary)
DIPK-4676/22

Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Limited
(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001704)
Regd. Office - 2nd Floor, JUSNL (SLDC) Building, Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi 834 002

1st TIME EXTENSION NOTICE

Time extension against following NITs is hereby extended in following manner: -

NIT No.	Name of the works	End date and time of upload of BID
32/PR/JUSNL/22-23	Design, Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of following work on turnkey basis :- (i) 400/220/132/33 kV, 2 x 500 + 2x200 +2x80 MVA Grid sub-station including construction of Control Room Building & approach road with other civil works at Koderma 400 kV D/C 3 Ph QM Patratu-Koderma Transmission line (150 Km.)	11.07.2022 up to 04:00 PM
33/PR/JUSNL/22-23	Design, Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of following work on turnkey basis :- (i) 400/220 kV, 2 x 500 MVA Grid sub-station including construction of Control Room Building & approach road with other civil works at Chandil 400 kV D/C QM 3 phase Chandil - Dhanbad GSS Transmission line (133 Km.)	Up to 11.07.2022 at 05:30 PM
34/PR/JUSNL/22-23	Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of following transmission line on turnkey basis :- (i) 400 kV D/C 3 Ph QM Patratu-Chandil Transmission line (135 Km.) & (ii) 400 kV D/C QM 3 ph Chandil-Chaibasa (PGCIL) Transmission line (100 Km.)	13.07.2022 at 04.00 PM
35/PR/JUSNL/22-23	Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of following transmission line on turnkey basis :- (i) 220/132/33 kV, 2 x 200 + 2x50 MVA Grid sub-station at Patratu (ii) 220 kV D/C PTPS Link Lines at Patratu (20 Km.) (iii) 220 kV D/C 3 Ph Koderma-Girdih Transmission Line (80 Km.) & (iv) 220 kV D/C 3 phase 400/220 Chandil GSS - Chandil Transmission line (20 Km.)	11.07.2022 up to 04:00 PM

Last date of submission of hard copy of bid, EMD & tender cost in the office of G.M, C&M (Non W.B. Project)
BID Opening date for technical & commercial part

This extension notice is also available on the website www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in
स्वाहित एवं राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचाव। कृपया अपनी शिकारतों को दाल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करावें।
PR No. 269867
Sd/-
General Manager,
C&M (Non W.B. Project)
PR 272280 Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd(22-23)D

Groundwater project showing results: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

There has been a rise of 0.5 to 2 metres in the groundwater near a 26-acre pond made by the Delhi government on the Yamuna flood plains in Palla, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said on Thursday.

The project to collect excess flood water passing through the river during the monsoon was started in

2019. The aim of the project was to divert the water to the pond so that it could percolate and recharge the groundwater.

"In the study conducted by the government, it was seen that the groundwater recharge from this project is moving towards the city from the Yamuna river," Mr. Sisodia said. He describing the project as a success.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-III, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

1 Name of work	Construction of FOB at Adash Nagar for entry from Shalimar Bagh in the section of SSE/W/DLI under AEN/DLI
2 Approx. cost of work	Rs. 8,09,87,434.61 (Rupees Eight Crore Nine Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Four and Sixty One Paise only)
3 Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 5,54,900/- (Rupees Five Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Only)
4 Cost of tender document	Rs. 0/-
5 Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	19.07.2022 @ 15:00 Hrs.
6 Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.reps.gov.in

The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system.
For all terms and conditions please refer tender document.
No manual offers are acceptable.
Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.
No. 128-W/280/E Tender Notice/NIT/29/2022-23/W-3 Dated : 22.06.2022
1530/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE

The Sr.DME/Diesel, Northern Railway, Diesel Loco Shed, Tughlakabad for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tenders for the following work. The tender will be accepted online only in the prescribed tender document.

Subject	Description
Name of Work	"Comprehensive AMC of MASTER CONTROLLER unit in various schedules (Yearly, 3 Yearly and 6 Yearly) fitted in HHP Locomotives."
Place of Work	Diesel Shed, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-110044.
Completion period	24 months
Approximate cost of Work	Rs. 69,49,519.14/- including GST @18% (Rs. Sixty Nine Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen and Fourteen Paise only Including GST @18%)
Earnest Money	Rs.1,39,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand only)
Description of Similar Service Contract	The approved definition of similar nature of work is- "The Tenderer should be

Timings DELHI

FRIDAY, JUN. 24
RISE 05:25 SET 19:23
RISE 01:59 SET 15:19

SATURDAY, JUN. 25
RISE 05:26 SET 19:23
RISE 02:31 SET 16:15

SUNDAY, JUN. 26
RISE 05:26 SET 19:23
RISE 03:06 SET 17:11

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	38	25
Safdarjang	38	25
Palam	38	28

Delhi Palam Today
39°C The weather will be dry. Day will be hot and uneasy. Night will be comfortable.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
39°C A dry weather to prevail. Day will be hot with uneasy afternoon. Night will be slight warm.

© Copyright Skywet Weather 2019
All rights reserved.

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

READ MORE IN-DEPTH CONTENT AT THE HINDU'S WEBSITE
www.thehindu.com

Online exclusives
The Hindu Science Quiz
bit.ly/3y4dznc

A first-person account of Assam floods: The day a town drowned
bit.ly/3X0sHGa

PODCAST
Women Uninterrupted
An inter-generational podcast of women of different age groups engaged in difficult but important conversations. Episode 3 of this five-part series features a teenager discussing dating rules with her mother. This series from The Hindu is brought to you by BSCPL Infrastructure Ltd.

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text to do the same.

Low turnout in Rajinder Nagar bypoll

Cast our ballot for better water supply, sewage networks, say voters; Assembly constituency sees 40% turnout

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Issues related to water and sewage networks were at the top of the mind of voters as they cast their ballots for the Assembly bypoll in Rajinder Nagar on Thursday.

The Assembly constituency with close to 1.65 lakh voters saw a turnout of 43.75%, which was significantly lower than the 58.27% voting that was registered here during the 2020 Assembly polls.

Tushar Verma, 31, a software engineer, said that he felt it was going to be a tough fight between the BJP and AAP candidates.

"There is a huge Punjabi community here and the BJP candidate is a Punjabi. But AAP has also remained connected with people through local WhatsApp groups to address their problems for the past four to five years," he said.

Listing the issues that were on the top of his mind as he cast his ballot, Mr. Verma said sewage water in the area gets mixed with the pot-



A senior citizen being helped out of a polling booth in Rajinder Nagar. •SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

able water supply line at least once or twice a month.

"We then have to buy water from outside. This is a major problem," he added.

Gagandeep Singh, 46, a resident of Old Rajinder Nagar, expressed similar concerns.

"Water and sewer are the main issues in the area. Every year during summer, the water supply is inadequate. Many times, the flow of

pipled water reduces substantially," said Mr. Singh.

Talking about the BJP and AAP candidates, he said, "Mr. Chadha is from this area. He used to visit this area often. But [AAP's candidate] Durgesh Pathak is not from here. Whereas the BJP candidate is a local and a Punjabi."

Mr. Singh's wife Manjeet Kaur, 43, who was carrying

their three-year-old daughter, complained of the area not having well-maintained parks.

Aggressive campaigning
The constituency saw aggressive campaigns led by AAP and the BJP for their respective candidates – Durgesh Pathak and Rajesh Bhatia, who are among the 14 candidates in the fray.

Mr. Bhatia said the voting pattern in the bypoll was as per the party's expectation. He expressed confidence about defeating his AAP rival with a "comfortable margin".

On the other hand, Mr. Pathak said that the people were happy with the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's work in the area. He predicted that AAP will win the bypoll. An AAP leader said that the voter turnout was higher in AAP strongholds – 50-50% – compared to the areas dominated by the BJP.

Since May 26, when the model code of conduct came into effect, a total of ₹11.57 crore has been seized in the form of cash, liquor, bullion and narcotics, while 47,180 defacements have been removed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, officials said. "A total of 24 COVID-19 positive individuals also cast their votes. All precautions were maintained and the infected individuals wore PPE kits throughout the process," said a senior official.

NCDRC halts construction of extra tower in Gurugram project

'Consent of residents of 10 towers not taken to build the 11th tower'

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH
NEW DELHI

The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) on Thursday ordered the developers of M3M Merlin at Sector 67 in Gurugram to immediately stop constructing an eleventh tower, saying it was not included in the initial layout plan.

The NCDRC said the developers, M3M India Private Limited and Consolidate Realtors Private Limited, did not take consent of the residents of the already built 10 towers before taking the approval of the Directorate of Town & Country Planning (DTCP), Haryana for changing the project layout and constructing a new tower.

Around 300 homeowners

of M3M Merlin, represented by PSP Legal, said the site plan in the brochure mentioned only 10 standalone towers and use of best-in-class finishing materials in all apartments, among other things.

The initial layout also included a low-rise Economically Weaker Section (EWS) building. The homeowners said the developers later shifted the EWS housing area to another location and earmarked this land parcel for "future development". In 2020, the developers managed to get approval from the DTCP for the revised building plan for Tower II in the project's EWS Block.

"Going for a new tower is a clear deficiency of service in terms of the Consumer

Protection Act, 2019 and Haryana Apartment Ownership Act, 1983," the NCDRC ruled, while calling Tower II "illegal".

Poor construction
Advocate Aditya Parolia, appearing for the homeowners, said the M3M Merlin project was announced in 2011 and the possession of units began in 2017, after only 5-6 months of which the defects in construction started coming to the fore.

The NCDRC ordered the developers to appoint a statutory-approved architect and engineer and submit a report within a month showing the current status of the construction and the progress on the rectification of its defects.

Hic, hic, hiccups for women customers at city's liquor shops

Despite police assurance, they find vends unsafe after dark

SAMRIDHI TEWARI
NEW DELHI

While making her payment across the counter at a wine shop in East of Kailash, a 25-year-old financial analyst, Raksha Arora, felt a hand on her waist. On turning back, she found a middle-aged man groping her. "I did not raise my voice fearing he may create further trouble; I just moved his hand away and left the shop," Ms. Raksha said.



Several women complained that people hang around wine shops and ogle at them. •SHIV KUMAR PUSHKAR

The incident took place in February this year around 8 p.m. Ms. Raksha said earlier, she was a regular visitor to wine shops even though she was stared at. But after this incident, she avoids visiting wine shops and asks her male friends to buy alcohol for her.

Alcohol buying experiences for women vary but there is an underlying thread of scare that is common. While women are equally keen to avail of the discounts and pick up their choice of liquor from shops, it is the endless male gaze and comments that disturb them.

As the sun sets, the isolated wine shops in Mayur Vihar Extension-I turn into unsafe zones. The lane in front of Star City Mall is narrow with rare vehicular movement. As it gets dark, people gather here and drink openly and play loud music, nearby residents said.

To curb open drinking, the Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22 puts the onus on wine shops to ensure no food outlets come up in their vicinity

that encourage people to drink and loiter around the shops. However, several women complain that people hang around the wine shops and ogle at them.

Many similar complaints of open drinking have been reported from areas with wine shops at ITO, Kailash Colony and East of Kailash. Several women told *The Hindu* that they fear crossing such places. When they walk, they try to avoid eye contact with anybody or use their phones as a distraction.

Varada Nair, 27, a teacher by profession, recalled a recent incident when she was buying alcohol while holding a cigarette in her hand. "Three men in their forties looked at me lecherously, spat on the ground in front of me and left," she said.

Police action
According to Delhi Police, the beat staff is deployed in different areas across the city depending on the number of complaints received. "We keep an eye on all dis-

tricts, and police officers are present at all spots 24x7," DCP (PRO) Suman Nalwa assured.

"Women's safety is our top most concerns and we hope every woman dares to file complaints regarding such incidents," the DCP said, adding, "Whenever a complaint comes to our notice, we devise different strategies based on the number and intensity of cases," Ms Nalwa said. "We welcome all sorts of feedback, suggestions, and complaints; women should dial 112."

Moral policing
Apart from dealing with perverted men at wine shops, women also encounter moral policing at such places.

Charu Pandey, 28, mentioned an incident near an alcohol shop in Kalkaji. "A man who looked 50 walked up to me and said women like me dress up in a certain way, consume alcohol, scream on the streets and disrupt the society," she recalled.

Victim's body 'mistakenly' handed over to different family

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

More than five weeks after the Mundka fire tragedy claimed 27 lives in the Capital, the Delhi Police on Thursday said a victim's body was "mistakenly" handed over to another family.

According to DCP (Outer) Sameer Sharma, one of the victims, Sweety, was wrongly identified as Ranju Devi by her husband, as both had similar identifying markers.

Santosh Kumar, 41, Ranju Devi's husband, said he had "mistakenly" identified Sweety's body as his wife's. "When I looked at the body, she wore white bangles that we had got from Bihar. It is not very common in Delhi. She also had a ring on her finger similar to my wife's," Mr. Kumar said.

"I had performed all the final rites on May 14. It cost me around ₹35,000. I'm a labourer, I cannot afford to pay for another funeral," Mr. Kumar added.

Mr. Kumar said that Sweety's family members had assaulted him alleging Mr. Kumar to have identified Sweety's body as his wife's out of greed.

"They said I did it to claim the ex gratia amount of ₹10 lakh that the Chief Minister had announced. I lost my wife, my three children lost their mother. Our world has been turned upside down. Money doesn't heal such wounds," Mr. Kumar said.

1 killed, 7 rescued from fire in Rohini building

Victim was working at shoemaking unit

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A man was killed while seven people were rescued after a fire broke out at a building in Rohini's Pooth Kalan area on Thursday.

Delhi Fire Services Director Atul Garg said they received a call at 3.57 p.m. about a fire in Rohini, following which eight fire tenders were rushed to the spot. The blaze was brought under control around 6.45 p.m.

DCP (Rohini) Pranav Tayal

said during search operation, one body was found on the ground floor. The victim has been identified as Ajay, 25, a worker at a shoe manufacturing unit in the building. Mr. Garg said the building comprises basement, ground floor and four upper floors. The shoe manufacturing-cum-storage unit was operational in the basement, ground and first floor and the rest of the upper floors were being used for residential purposes.

Shahdara stabbing: kin say accused was shaken by his father's death

Family clueless about reason behind act

SAMRIDHI TEWARI
NEW DELHI

A day after a 28-year-old man stabbed and injured five policemen and a home guard at Shahdara's cyber police station, his relatives on Thursday said they are still in shock over the incident and have no clue as to why and how he went about perpetrating such an act.

Bharat Bhati, a second-year BBA dropout, went on the stabbing spree on Wednesday afternoon and was eventually arrested. His family learnt about the incident around 2.30 p.m. when a police team reached them inquiring about the accused. "Not just me, nobody in the house was aware of what had happened at the police station," said Daksh Bhati, 18, a cousin of the accused.

'He kept to himself'

Bharat stayed with his grandparents and uncle's family at Balbir Nagar in Shahdara. Talking about his cousin, Daksh said he was detached from the family and mostly kept to himself. "He would not eat for days together; would stay aloof most times," he said.

No one in the family knew where Bharat was on Wednesday afternoon. "The police told us that Bharat went to the police station with a complaint regarding our Internet provider, but we don't have Wi-Fi," said Daksh.

The family members said they had no idea how Bharat accessed the knife and when did he leave the house. "We didn't see any knife in Bharat's possession," Daksh said.

Bharat was receiving treatment for depression, said the cousin, adding that he used to run away from



The accused, Bharat Bhati, in police custody. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

clinic, declaring himself "fit and fine".

Daksh said Bharat had been "disturbed" since four-five years, but the death of his father, Ashok Bhati, a month ago shook him. Ashok died in Uttar Pradesh after slipping from the railway station platform. Bharat's mother, Geeta, died of cancer 20 years ago.

The family's domestic help, Neetu, who has been working there since nine months, agreed that Ashok's death impacted Bharat's behaviour.

According to DCP (Shahdara) R. Sathiyasundaram, Bharat came to the police station around 12.45 p.m., went to the third floor and started recording a video. When he was stopped by the policemen, Bharat suddenly pulled out a knife and stabbed several personnel one after another.

After his arrest, Bharat said he was a complainant, but no complaint copy was found on him. The police said he also banged his head against a wall and injured himself. An FIR under Section 307 (attempt to murder) has been registered against the accused, said the police.

All the injured policemen are out of danger, said officers.

RAU'S IAS STUDY CIRCLE

GS + ESSAY MAINS 2022 QIP

REVISE

- ✓ 100+hrs. of Revision & Answer Writing Classes
- ✓ Live-Online Mode
- ✓ Video backup till mains
- ✓ 9 Subject wise Mains Compass Compilations

TEST

- ✓ 15 FLTs = GS(12) + Essay(3)
- ✓ Flexibility to attempt tests till Mains

IMPROVE

- ✓ Sample Answers
- ✓ Multilayered evaluation & feedback by Expert

"Personal Mentorship from Rau's IAS & UPSC 2021 Toppers"

11

Shubhankar Pathak

41

Sonali Dev

68

Anendya Raajshre

73

Namrata Choubey

82

Pooja Kumari Jha

and many MORE...

FOUNDATION COURSES

UPCOMING BATCHES	LIVE-ONLINE BATCHES	OFFLINE BATCHES
<p>1 year</p> <p>GS INTEGRATED</p> <p>Regular Course for CSE 2023</p>	<p>22 Jul</p> <p>Delhi 15 Jul</p> <p>Bengaluru 5 Aug</p>	
<p>1.5 years</p> <p>GS INTEGRATED</p> <p>Weekend Course for CSE 2024</p>	<p>16 Jul</p> <p>Delhi 25 Jun</p>	
<p>5 months</p> <p>MAINS OPTIONAL</p> <p>Regular Course for CSE 2023</p>	<p>1 Jul</p> <p>Delhi 1 Jul</p> <p>Bengaluru 5 Aug</p>	

2022

NEW DELHI-ORN CAMPUS

11-B, Bada Bazar Rd., Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110 060 (Near Karol Bagh Metro Stn.)
Tel : 011 - 4078 6050, 9810184722, 9403705170, 7568054231

2014

BENGALURU CAMPUS

2nd Floor, AKS Plaza, 10 Industrial Layout, Jyoti Niwas College (JNC) Road, 5th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 095 (Karnataka)
Tel : 080 - 4142 6050, 255 35536/37, 8209203177, 99160 35536, 88618 22955

1953

NEW DELHI-CP CAMPUS

309, Kanchanjunga Building, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001 (Near Barakhamba Road Metro Stn.)
Tel : 011 - 23318135/36, 41512737

Tests & classes starting from **26 June** For more details www.rauias.com

Actor Madhavan turns director with his latest passion project: a biopic on former ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan

SRINIVASA RAMANUJAM

Filmmaking is not rocket science. Except, for Madhavan, it was. Between spoonfuls of soup at lunch inside his caravan at Chennai's Prasad Labs, where he is shooting for an advertisement, Madhavan, popularly known as Maddy - dressed in a red shirt and a crisp veshti - recalls the chain of events that led to his upcoming debut directorial, *Rocketry: The Nambi Effect*.

"I have not directed even an iPhone film till now. I have never gone for an edit. I have worked with great directors, but all I have done was my job as an actor, got my money and headed to the bank," he laughs.

That had to change for his upcoming project, where the 52-year-old took charge. With just a few weeks to go for shooting to begin, director Ananth Mahadevan opted out due to other commitments, leaving Madhavan with just two options: shelve the project or take charge.

He decided to do the latter. "I have laughed at close friends who have taken up more than one department, because I questioned their expertise to do that. With this film, direction was thrust upon me 25 days before the shoot. We had to shelve it or swim ahead. The desire to tell the story pushed me to keep going."

Space and time
Rocketry: The Nambi Effect is probably Madhavan's biggest project till date. It premiered recently at Cannes 2022 as part of the Market section. A couple of weeks ago, the trailer was showcased on the Nasdaq billboard at Times Square, New York.

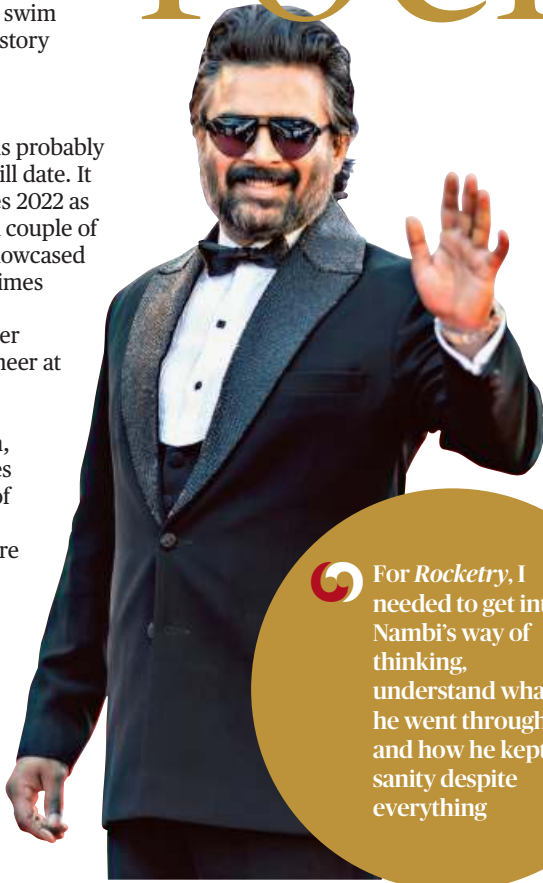
The film, a biopic on former scientist and aerospace engineer at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Nambi Narayanan, will be in English, Tamil and Hindi. It showcases how he was falsely accused of espionage and subsequently, how all cases against him were dismissed by the Supreme Court.

The film hits screens on July 1, but its journey harks back to more than five years when the actor and the scientist met to discuss a possible film project. "I went to meet him [Nambi] with a very shallow James Bond-style idea that I am very ashamed of now," says



The right science
Madhavan (also inset) with Simran in *Rocketry: The Nambi Effect*
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The man who loved rockets



For *Rocketry*, I needed to get into Nambi's way of thinking, understand what all he went through, and how he kept his sanity despite everything

Madhavan. "Someone told me that this is the case of a rocket scientist from ISRO who had an affair with a Maldivian woman, and was then arrested, tortured in jail and subsequently proved innocent."

When Madhavan met the scientist in Thiruvananthapuram, he realised he was reading it all wrong. "There was far more depth to this man," he says about Nambi, who was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 2019. "He had done so much for the nation, including building the first liquid engine in India, but just didn't care to tell anyone. It gave me goosebumps, because I realised, as he told me his life story, that he had put his life at stake on a daily basis. The fever that I got that day has not gone away, and it caught on to every person who read the script."

That sowed the seed for a film that soon became Madhavan's passion project. "We have had great big-budget films on our Independence, but somehow, we have completely missed the amazing scientific achievements in

this country. When an American makes *First Man* or *Apollo 13* or *Steve Jobs*, we imagine that they are capable of that... We have equally great people right here in India."

The film didn't come together without challenges, of course. For starters, Madhavan had to look like both the younger and the older Nambi Narayanan. How did he go about that? "I actually broke my jaw to play the part," he reveals, sharing a short video of the process, "The teeth play a vital part in how old or young you look."

Looking like the scientist was one thing, the next challenge was to get into his mind.

"I needed to get into his way of thinking, understand what all he went through, and how he kept his sanity despite everything," says Madhavan. "I would call him in the middle of the night to ask questions, and he patiently answered all of them."

Search for stories

A younger Madhavan might have depended on his boy-next-door good looks and smile to draw audiences, but not anymore: at 52, Maddy isn't in the mood for romance-driven storylines. "Well, I was out of place even when I was doing *Alaipayuthe* and *Minnale*, because I was 30. Looking at some of my work then, I'm shocked I survived, because my clothes are out of place and my hair is terrible. Stardom was thrust upon me back then," he says.

His go-to cinematic themes, currently, are science-fiction subjects that intellectually stimulate the viewer and highlight the nation's achievements. "I'm tired of people showcasing India in a particular manner in films; I want to make quality films that diversify the way India is seen around the world," he says, adding, "hopefully, *Rocketry* will be a step towards that".

Connecting the dots

The exhibition *Traversing Space - Here & Beyond* celebrates 100 years of Sayed Haider Raza



On point
Germination, 1998, acrylic on canvas next to Bindu et Arbres, 1990, vase; (below) a visitor looks at Raza's portrait in the gallery.

AMARJOT KAUR

The walls of the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) adorn S.H. Raza's paintings which look like massive windows giving a peep into the many phases of Raza's transnational modernism. The vignettes progress thematically from Raza's nature-based landscapes to cityscapes - captured both in India and France - and transit through his metaphysical and spiritual leanings from symbolic to geometric abstraction.

Organised by the KNMA in association with the Raza Foundation and Bikaner House, the exhibition titled *Traversing Space - Here & Beyond*, pays tribute to Raza on his 100th birth anniversary.

KNMA curator Roobina Karode feels Raza's life and art cannot be encapsulated in a single show, but the museum has attempted at highlighting his ruminations on his preferred themes such as *La Terre*, *Bhoomi*, *Germination*, *Birthing of Triangles and Bindu*. KNMA's collection on Indian modernists focuses on the Progressive Artists' Group of Bombay, which was initiated by Raza in 1947 along with F.N. Souza and M.F. Husain, and has collected seminal, rare and substantive works by Raza, acquired from various sources over the years. "We have been building an in-depth collection on artworks created in the 1950s and 1960s in India," informs Kiran Nadar, founder and chairperson of the KNMA.

The exhibition features archival material and photographs loaned from the Delhi-based Raza Foundation and a few works from personal collections of private collectors and gallerists. The curatorial framework and narrative decided which works were best suited to unfold the story of

his life and art as it evolved. "For Raza, his works were never abstract; they were loaded with content and meaning and of course, carried titles that oriented the viewer to individual works," opines Kiran.

Split into various sections, the exhibition starts with Raza's early works and proceeds through his creative phases, increasing interest in the mystical notions and spiritual dimensions of abstraction, especially the symbolism of the *bindu* (dot) which became the central and consistent motif in the artist's comprehension of the cosmos.

His paintings *La Terre*, *Germination* and *Saurashtra* reflect his exposure to modern masters in the West, Indian philosophies and miniature painting traditions, which inspired

Raza to work on Nature's five primordial principles and elements (*panchabhutas* and *panchatatvas*). These paintings were rooted within varied landscapes from India and beyond. Around the late 1970s, Raza's expression evolved into a symbolic or geometric abstraction and his vocabulary articulated elementary shapes like the circle and the triangle. *Bindu*, the circle that represents the breath of the universe, in its concentric presence alluded to its expansion and contraction.

The exhibition also displays handwritten letters sent to Raza by Tyeb Mehta and M.F. Husain. The exhibition is reminiscent of Raza's distinct language which expresses both indigenous and the universal, the contingent and the eternal.

In a world divided by borders and rising insularities, it is inspiring to engage Raza's intense and luminous corpus of works that challenges many of the prevailing assumptions of the present, says Roobina.

The artworks are not on sale and are displayed at Bikaner House. On till June 30.



Divinity in dance

Manipuri dances are a joyous form of worship, where the entire community comes together to express their devotion through dance. Benoy K. Behal gives an online talk on the philosophical quest of the Raasa Lila of Manipur. He will also screen his film 'Celestial Dancers of Manipur' produced for Doordarshan. Organised by the India Habitat Centre, you can join the session on Zoom on June 25, 6 p.m. (Meeting ID: 822 5246 6099/Passcode: 054178). Registration free.



Walk through history

Mehrauli is rich in historical ruins, tombs and other monuments from many eras of Delhi's past. Relive a journey from the pre-Islamic to the late Mughal and colonial period in a three-hour walking tour with Shah Umair Ansari and explore the Mehrauli Archaeological Park and other parts hidden from the crowds in and around Qutub Minar. The heritage walk is part of a series conducted by Purani Dilli Walon Ki Baatein. On June 25 from 4.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Register at <https://rzp.io/1/IFNRY89v>



Spartacus

Tarique Hameed directs well known playwright Badal Sircar's adaptation of *Spartacus*, the novel by Howard Fast. The 80-minute play to be staged by Wings Cultural Society, traces the life and times of the leader of the great slave revolt that began in 71 BC and shook the mighty Roman Empire. At C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, India International Centre, 6.30 p.m.

The rebirth of Nai Duniya

The seven-decade-old Urdu paper is set to go digital

ZIYA US SALAM

A 72-year-old newspaper is ready to shave off its white beard. Helping it speak to young readers is the equally old editor-politician-author Shahid Siddiqui.

Starting in 1950 as an evening paper, *Nai Duniya* was among the first victims of COVID-induced restrictions and challenges. Now it is poised for a comeback albeit as a weekly in digital format. Siddiqui says, "At a time when it is difficult for even English magazines to find vendors, and given the increased online traffic, it makes sense to relaunch *Nai Duniya* in the language of the new world. We will revive *Nai Duniya* as an Urdu weekly in digital format."

Siddiqui is the right person to revive the paper. He relaunched it in 1973 after his father Abdul Waheed Siddiqui had to pay the price for skirmishes with the government.

Recalls Siddiqui, "I was still pursuing my Master's degree from Delhi University when I realised there was a demand for *Nai Duniya*. I revived the paper a little before Emergency and took on an established paper like *Blitz* which was quite popular among Urdu readers. At the time of Emergency, we were the only Urdu newspaper to criticise the government. Incidentally, Indira Gandhi gave us an interview soon after losing power in 1977."

Though *Nai Duniya* developed distinct political contours over time, it started as a hangout zone for the best Urdu writers and poets of Old Delhi. Shortly after the paper went to press around 3 p.m., the poets and writers would gather at its office in Haveli Hisamuddin in Ballimaran.

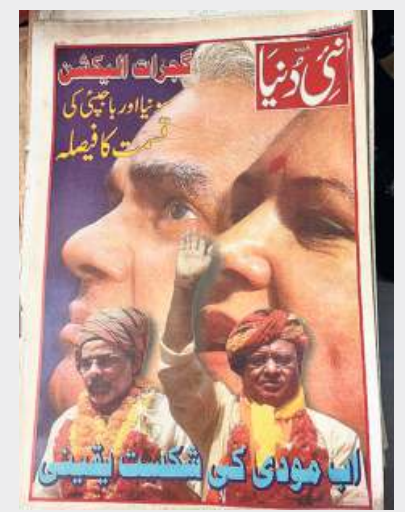
Over endless cups of tea, they would recite poetry, crack jokes and take a dig at the society and polity. Among them were the likes of Zubair Rizvi, Salam Machchishahri and Josh Malihabadi.

As Siddiqui says, "My father had worked with *Al Jamiat*. After the Independence, the newspaper refused to speak against the Congress party. He parted ways and started *Nai Duniya* instead."

The good times of soirees and



Golden era *Nai Duniya* issues of 1973 (b/w) and 2002. (Below) The staff in 1951 with the founder (seated in the centre). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



gentle jokes did not last long. Soon the paper found itself embroiled in a controversy related to Kashmir. The paper had opposed the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah. Its entry was banned in the State. The declaration of the paper was cancelled, its security forfeited and in 1964-65, the paper had to fold up.

"My father brought out two other papers instead - *Himmat* and *Taqat*. They did not last long. Then *Nai Duniya* was revived after Feroz Gandhi introduced a private member's Bill in Parliament against asking for a security deposit for a newspaper. The Bill was passed. *Nai Duniya* once again raised its voice against the ongoing riots and paid the price. There were raids at our place, all the stuff was checked, even the pillows were ripped apart to see if anything suspicious was hidden," recounts Siddiqui.

Finally, *Nai Duniya* came back in a new avatar as a weekly. Within six months, it became the highest-selling weekly in the country, selling from stalls in Kashmir to Karnataka. Denizens of Old Delhi, in particular, used to wait for it and would discuss its stories over endless cups of tea all over again. The government took note too. Its founding editor Abdul Waheed was arrest-

ed during the Emergency.

The Kashmir challenge remained for the paper. Siddiqui received death threats from Lashkar-e-Taiba, Hizbul Mujahideen, etc. in the mid-80s. "I was arrested under TADA after Farooq Abdullah's government was felled," he says.

Yet amidst all the challenges, *Nai Duniya* flourished. Its office moved from the cultural hub of Old Delhi to the more upmarket Nizamuddin.

From an eight-pager, the paper grew into a 24-page tabloid with stories carrying a punch. Along the way, it was the first to introduce computers in Urdu newspapers, started the concept of theme-based pages and invited the best journalists to write for it.

It worked well until the pandemic enforced its closure. Now at 72, it is set to revive again, this time as a digital newspaper, yet with the same old fire and punch.



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

EDUCATIONAL
EMPOWER IAS
THE POWER TO PURSUE YOUR DREAMS
4 AIR
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
FOUNDATION BATCH-2023
by Ujjwal Sir
TEST SERIES: 10 TESTS
Fee for 2022 Rs. 5999/-
Fee for 2023 Rs. 11999/-
2021 Rankers: AIR-38, 64, 93, 156, 218, 220.....
© 8470940655, 9643777673 | www.empowerias.com
53/6, Second Floor, Bada Bazar Road, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-60

TOPPERS IAS
IAS MANUFACTURING INSTITUTE
SOCIOLOGY
500+ PLUS
TEST SERIES for Mains 2022
Starts: 27th June
The Legacy of producing Top Rank holders with Sociology Optional continues...
AIR-3 GAMINI SINGLA CSE-2021
AIR-67 ANAND MALHOTRA CSE-2021
AIR-342 AKARSH SONI CSE-2021
AIR-342 RIJUL CSE-2021
AIR-10 SANJITA M CSE-2019
LAKSHAY P 318 Marks CSE-2019
AIR-383 SUJATA A CSE-2019
AIR-452 ABHISHEK K CSE-2019
AIR-468 AMANDEEP CSE-2019
977 3636 100 www.toppersias.in
3B, 4th Floor, Cromia Centre, Pusa Road, Near Karol Bagh Metro, New Delhi-05

KSG
An Institute For IAS Exam...
UPSC CSE 2021 TOPPERS WITH DR. KHAN
Secure Mains 2022
MAINS DESTINAIRE
(Content Enrichment) Program
DAILY LIVE CLASS
MENTOR SUPPORT
PERIODIC TEST
OTOPs
ADMISSION OPEN
For Enquiry :- 966777 9058 / 882600 2521
DELHI NORTH 9717 380 832
DELHI CENTRAL 9811 293 743
JAIPUR 8290 800 441
BHOPL 7509 975 361
INDORE 9893 772 941
BENGALURU 7619 166 663
BENGALURU 7619 136 662
PATNA 7463 950 774
RANCHI 9939 982 207
IMPHAL WEST 9650 245 599
www.ksgindia.com

KSG
An Institute For IAS Exam...
UPSC CSE 2021 TOPPERS WITH DR. KHAN
FOUNDATION COURSE
OFFLINE BATCHES
JAIPUR (Tonk Road) 24th JUNE 82908 00441
DELHI (Rajender Nagar) 4th JULY 98112 93743
PATNA (Exhibition Road) 11th JULY 74639 50774
RANCHI (Sirom Toli Chowk) 18th JULY 99399 82007
BHOPL (M.P. Nagar) 22nd JULY 75099 75361
INDORE (Bhawar Kuan) 25th JULY 9893 772941
BENGALURU (Koramangala) 31st JULY 76191 66663
BENGALURU (Chandira Layout) 31st JULY 76191 36662
DELHI (Vijay Nagar) ADMISSION OPEN 97173 80832
IMPHAL WEST (Off Campus Centre) ADMISSION OPEN 965024 5599
WEEKEND BATCH 16th JULY
ONLINE BATCH
KSG ONLINE LEARNING (KOL) - FC
Quality of Physical Classes with Convenience of Online
ADMISSION OPEN
For Enquiry :- 882600 2521 / 882661 2521
www.ksgindia.com

TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT
Mr. N SELVA KUMAR
PH: 9820350726
selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in
THE HINDU
India's National Newspaper
READ SPORTSTAR
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT
www.thehindugroup.in /subscribe

Money laundering case: Parab appears before ED
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI
Maharashtra Transport Minister Anil Parab appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) here on Thursday for the third day in a row in connection with a money laundering case registered against him by the agency.
The Minister reached the ED's office at Ballard Estate in south Mumbai around 2.45 p.m., an official said.
The ED has been questioning him in the money laundering probe linked to the alleged violation of coastal regulation zone provisions in the construction of Sai resort in Dapoli beach area of Maharashtra's Ratnagiri district, he said.
Earlier, the ED had questioned Mr. Parab for more than six hours on Wednesday and for over 10 hours on Tuesday.

TRS likely to support Yashwant Sinha in Presidential election

KCR to announce his final decision after party executive meet
N. RAHUL HYDERABAD
The Telangana Rashtriya Samiti (TRS) will in all likelihood support the candidature of Yashwant Sinha, in the election for the President next month.
Party sources confirming the thinking of its president and Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao recalled that he had already dropped a hint in this regard when Nationalist Congress Party president Sharad Pawar called him to seek his support for Mr. Sinha's candidature after his name was finalised on Monday.
However, Mr. Rao will declare his decision when he will discuss the matter at the meeting of the State executive of the party, sources said.
Going by the stand of TRS to maintain "equi-distance" with the BJP and the Congress, it was widely expected that Mr. Rao will stick to the norm even in the voting for President's election after having stayed away from two meetings of the Opposition to select the candidate.
While his opposition to the BJP is understandable given its rivalry with the TRS, Mr. Rao ruled out any truck with the combined



Yashwant Sinha and Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao •PTI

Opposition if it took on board the Congress which, however, enjoys a predominant position in the grouping of seventeen parties.
In such a scenario, the TRS circles anxiously awaited a word from Mr. Rao whether he would prefer to maintain neutrality and abstain from voting or support one or the other side. It was therefore expected that he might plump for Mr. Sinha for 'national interest', especially in the background of his efforts to mobilise the support of various parties in the country to dethrone the BJP.
The presidential election also afforded Mr. Rao the right time to hit back at the BJP after the TRS had suffered a string of reverses,

including electoral losses, at the hands of the saffron party in the last two years.
BJP option weighed
The TRS is also said to have weighed the option of supporting the BJP in the election after it finalised the candidature of Droupadi Murmu since she is a tribal but the negative impact of it seemed to outweigh the benefits. It would amount to yielding to the BJP despite having a running feud with the party.
The move could also demoralise the party cadre.
There was also no reason to strictly oppose Mr. Sinha since he was not a Congress candidate.

der way around midnight and ended in the wee hours of Thursday.
Thursday morning saw the deployment of more security personnel in the university to prevent protesters from disrupting offline exams. "There is no face to the group that is demanding online exams. It is basically made up of students who haven't studied all year and now want the easy way out. What they don't realise is that corporate houses will give more weightage to students who earn their degrees through offline exams," said a senior teacher, adding: "Thankfully, most students want offline exams."
The group demanding online exams began its protest as soon as the university reopened on June 20 after a shortened summer vacation for the conduct of terminal semester exams for both undergraduate and postgraduate students, scheduled from June 21 to July 8. For two days they disrupted the exams and put locks on the gates of various departments.
They put forth several reasons for demanding exams in the online mode, which included lack of a level playing field (because several universities are conducting exams online and their students are expected to score better) and difficulties faced by some students in returning to Santiniketan because of disruption of train services due to the anti-Agnipath movement.
But on Wednesday, another group of students emerged, which broke open the locks and barged into the halls, determined to write the exams in the offline mode. The two groups clashed, with students getting into fist-cuffs and cases of vandalism being reported. According to video clips circulating online, exams in some departments finally got un-

EDUCATIONAL
Under Mentorship of **Vikash Ranjan Sir**
SOCIOLOGY
FOUNDATION TEST SERIES
WITH DAILY ANSWER WRITING FOCUSED ON APPLIED SOCIOLOGY
MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME
CSE 2022-23
20th July ADMISSION OPEN 25th June BATCH STARTS
OFFLINE/ONLINE www.triumphas.com
TOPPERS IN SOCIOLOGY CSE-2021
AIR-25 ASHISH V. SANJANA SIMHA
AIR-37 V. SANJANA SIMHA
AIR-73 NAMRATA CHOURRY AIR-109 ARBISHA NOMAN
Triumph IAS 7678628820
An Institute for Civil Services Examination & Export Guidance (MCA)

EDUCATIONAL
ESSAY TEST SERIES
MENTORSHIP PROGRAMMES
by, **Vikash Ranjan Sir**
25th June BATCH STARTS
Rank-12 for CSE 2021
Rank-23 for CSE 2021
YASHARTH SHEKHAR IAS ASHISH IAS MARKS IN ESSAY 152
Toppers from "Essay For IAS" Course CSE 2021
TOP SCORES IN ESSAY @ Triumph IAS
103 102 102 102 102 102 102 102 102 102
Triumph IAS 7678628820
www.triumphas.com

PAVAN KUMAR'S IAS
(An Academy of General Studies & Public Administration)
REGULAR BATCH
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Admissions Open
TEST SERIES MAINS 2022
GENERAL STUDIES ETHICS
Starts: 25th June Starts: 25th June
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Starts: 26th June
8447532310 | 8447412868
11A/22, 2nd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110060

EMPOWER IAS
THE POWER TO PURSUE YOUR DREAMS
GENERAL STUDIES
DAILY ANSWER WRITING
500+ Questions
by Ujjwal Sir
© 8470940655, 9643777673
53/6, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-60

SOCIOLOGY
CRASH COURSE
CUM
TEST SERIES
for Mains 2022
by Divakar Sir
943580907, 999078811

KRISHNA BHOKARE IAS
AGRICULTURE
OPTIONAL
For UPSC CSE & IAS-2022
MAINS MENTORSHIP & TEST SERIES PROGRAM
Prof. Krishna Bhokare
M.Sc. Agr., ASRB-CAR-NET, University Trapat, Goid (Madhya Pradesh)
8588824247 www.krishnabhokare.in

BUSINESS OFFER
TENDERS
For Sale/Auction: Breakdown Damaged Chiller 750 TR City -01 No's of chiller & 700kgs of R134a Refrigerant gas lying at M/s Indore Treasure Island Matl, Indore (MP). Contact Person for Inspection: Mr. Rahul - 7389934060 Last Date For Inspection & EMD Deposit - 30.06.2022 & Date Of E-auction- 01.07.2022 (3 PM). Auctioneer: Meenakshi- 9625137014 / M / F Islam - 09911003339 (Insurance Claim Material Will Be Sold On 'As Is Where Is', 'Whatever There Is' And 'No Complaint' Basis).
For more details: www.salvagemanagers.com support@salvagemanagers.com

HISTORY OPTIMIST SERIES
SEATS ARE STRICTLY LIMITED*
OFFLINE / ONLINE BATCHES
BATCHES COMMENCE 28 JUNE
INSIGHT
73, OLD RAJINDER NAGAR NEW DELHI - 110060
011-45090051, 9818333201
INSIGHTDELHI.COM

Security tightened in Visva-Bharati University

Students clash over mode of examinations
BISHWANATH GHOSH KOLKATA
Security was beefed up in Visva-Bharati University on Thursday after students clashed over the mode of examinations, with one group demanding online evaluation and another strongly in favour of offline.
The group demanding online exams began its protest as soon as the university reopened on June 20 after a shortened summer vacation for the conduct of terminal semester exams for both undergraduate and postgraduate students, scheduled from June 21 to July 8. For two days they disrupted the exams and put locks on the gates of various departments.
They put forth several reasons for demanding exams in the online mode, which included lack of a level playing field (because several universities are conducting exams online and their students are expected to score better) and difficulties faced by some students in returning to Santiniketan because of disruption of train services due to the anti-Agnipath movement.
But on Wednesday, another group of students emerged, which broke open the locks and barged into the halls, determined to write the exams in the offline mode. The two groups clashed, with students getting into fist-cuffs and cases of vandalism being reported. According to video clips circulating online, exams in some departments finally got un-

Violation of cash transportation rules in Gurugram is now punishable

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GURUGRAM
The Gurugram Police on Thursday issued over a dozen directions to the banks and private security agencies for safe transportation of cash under Section 71 of the Haryana Police Act making any violation punishable with an imprisonment of six months and ₹10,000 fine.
The orders came in the wake of a spate of incidents involving ATM thefts and robberies from cash vans in transit. In a similar case, a gang of robbers had snatched ₹96.93 lakh from the employees of a security firm on Sohna Road on April 18.

5 persons must in cash van
As per the directions, the private security agency enlisted by the bank for cash transportation must hold a licence under the Haryana Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005 and every secured van carrying cash must have at least a staff of five including two armed security guards and two ATM officers or custodians. All those deployed for cash transportation activities must undergo antecedent checks and police verification.
Besides, the secured cash van must be fitted with Global Positioning System and not carry more than ₹5 crore per trip.
The cash loading of the ATMs or cash transportation in urban and rural areas is not allowed after 9 p.m. and 6 p.m. respectively.

J&K apple farmers seek support network

They also demand storage facilities
A. M. JIGEESH NEW DELHI
The first-ever convention of apple farmers from Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, was held in Srinagar on Thursday. A resolution adopted at the workshop says that while apple farmers earn about ₹4,300 crore in a year, the market value of the apples they sell in retail markets is about ₹14,400 crore. "The remaining 70% of the value, i.e., a whopping ₹10,000 crore per year is shared by various stakeholders including corporate players, intermediaries and commission agents, the cold chain owners, transporters, the wholesale traders, retailers, credit institutions and given as tax to governments," says the resolution.
A main organiser of the workshop and former MLA M.Y. Tarigami told *The Hindu* that as the harvesting of apples is about to begin in August, the farmers are unsure about the value for their efforts. "Apple is the lifeline of Kashmir. About 70% of the Valley's population are dependent on apple cultivation. They have suffered huge losses in the last three seasons due to the atmosphere created in the Valley after the abrogation of Article 370. Through this workshop, our effort is to reach out to farmers in 20 districts in the three States of India who cultivate apples. We also passed a charter of demands of apple farmers," Mr. Tarigami said.
Storage infrastructure
The charter called for providing assistance and support for creation of a network of producer cooperatives to create storage infrastructure including controlled atmosphere storage (CAS) and cold chain vehicles, and processing and marketing facilities.
It also demanded a legally guaranteed procurement and minimum support price for apple.
The farmers alleged that corporate buyers have been using frivolous criteria to determine quality of apple.



"Perfectly healthy and good quality fruit is classified as low grade merely because of appearance. This also promotes unhealthy practices of improving appearances through the use of chemicals," the farmers claimed. •FILE PHOTO

losses in the last three seasons due to the atmosphere created in the Valley after the abrogation of Article 370. Through this workshop, our effort is to reach out to farmers in 20 districts in the three States of India who cultivate apples. We also passed a charter of demands of apple farmers," Mr. Tarigami said.
Storage infrastructure
The charter called for providing assistance and support for creation of a network of producer cooperatives to create storage infrastructure including controlled atmosphere storage (CAS) and cold chain vehicles, and processing and marketing facilities.
It also demanded a legally guaranteed procurement and minimum support price for apple.
The farmers alleged that corporate buyers have been using frivolous criteria to determine quality of apple.

In Gujarat, a thumbs up to English from all stakeholders

Subject introduced from Class I in govt.-run primary schools even as ruling BJP and AAP spar over education in the State

MAHESH LANGA
GANDHINAGAR
For the first time, English has been introduced as a subject from Class I in more than 32,000 government-run primary schools in Gujarat from this academic year.

The move is part of the State government's ambitious plan to overhaul the education sector in order to meet the demands of parents who want their children to be introduced to the language from an early age.

Of late, the education sector in the State has been at the centre of a political slugfest between the BJP and the Aam Aadmi Party. AAP has been attacking the State government over the quality of education in its schools, highlighting the lack of infrastruc-

ture and vacancies in teaching posts, and contrasting it with the reforms brought about in the sector by its government in Delhi.

"From this academic year, we have made a beginning by teaching English as a subject from standard I in all government-run schools," Gujarat Education Secretary Vinod Rao said. To begin with, students of Class I-II will be taught basics of the language and from Class III onwards, they will be taught writing also. From Class VI, students will be introduced to bilingual textbooks.

'Good move'
"It is a good move. At least some basic skills of English will be taught to students from the very first day of their



Students of Class I and II will be taught basics of English and from Class III, they will also be taught writing. ■ A.M. FARUQUI

schooling," said Ramesh Thakor, a parent from Ganeshpura village in Mehsana district, whose son is a student of Class III in their village school.

The State Education Department is training teachers in primary schools and also providing them handbooks

on how to tackle the new subject.

Explaining the rationale behind introducing the language in schools, Mr. Rao said there is a demand for English from parents in the rural areas, where Gujarati is the medium of instruction in most government schools.

"We are not changing the medium of instruction in any school. It remains the mother tongue, but we are introducing English as a subject from the first standard itself and that has been appreciated by the Central government also," Mr. Rao added.

Gujarat-cadre IAS officer Anita Karwal, School Education Secretary at the Centre, has lauded the State government's move.

In the State Assembly in March, Education Minister Jitu Vaghani had said that from Class I-II basic skills will be taught and from Class III students will be introduced to English as a full-fledged subject in all non-English-medium schools.

According to Mr. Rao, the government's move has been

appreciated by all stakeholders - students, parents, schoolteachers and others.

New challenge

However, according to teachers, the government will have to recruit staff that can teach students from Class V-VI, or at least train teachers who can impart the new language skills. "We have to remember that most teachers in government-run schools lack adequate knowledge of English and that will be a challenge," a teacher from Sabarkantha district told *The Hindu*.

However, government officials believe that introduction of English from Class I in State-run schools will help stave off criticism of the quality of education in Gujarat schools.

Abhaya murder accused get bail

HC puts on hold life term to priest, nun

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Thursday suspended the sentence of life imprisonment awarded by the Thiruvananthapuram CBI Special Court to Father Thomas M. Kottoor and Sister Sephy, convicts in the Sister Abhaya murder case. The Bench granted them bail.

The order came on a petition seeking to suspend their sentences and grant them bail, filed along with their appeals challenging the Central Bureau of Investigation Special Court verdict.

Fr. Kottoor and Sister Sephy were awarded the sentence after they were found guilty of murdering 19-year-old novice Sister Abhaya. She was found dead in a well at the Pious X Convent of the Knanaya Catholic order in Kottayam in March 1992.



Thomas M. Kottoor and Sister Sephy, convicts in the Sister Abhaya murder case, were granted bail by the HC.

■ FILE PHOTOS

Interim measure

The Bench, while passing the order, observed that after a *prima facie* look at the evidence as pointed out by the defence, and not effectively countered by the prosecution, "we cannot but release the two accused, as an interim measure, suspending their sentence till the disposal of the appeals."

The court ordered that the petitioners be released on bail on execution of a bond for ₹5,00,000 each with two solvent sureties for the like amount to the satisfaction of the trial court. For the first six months after the release, the petitioners shall report before the police station concerned every Saturday at 11 a.m. and thereafter every second Saturday, the court said. Senior counsel for Sister Sephy, P. Vijayab-

hanu, argued that there was no evidence to show that Fr. Kottoor and Sister Sephy had met on the night of March 26, 1992. There was nothing on record to show that the injuries found on the body of the deceased were inflicted by the accused persons or any one of them.

Senior counsel for Fr. Kottoor, B. Raman Pillai, submitted that the sentence passed by the special court was absolutely improper and incorrect. The trial was vitiated by grave illegalities and irregularities. The conviction and sentence were based on the evidence given by three unreliable witnesses.

He argued that the verdict was delivered without examining the evidence in the case.

IN BRIEF



Kerala Opposition leader writes to Union Minister

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
Kerala Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan has urged the Centre to urgently limit the imposition of the Supreme Court-ordered ecologically sensitive buffer zone. He said any further zonation would upend the livelihood of thousands.

Kerala HC grants bail to Youth Congress workers

KOCHI
The Kerala HC on Thursday granted bail to Youth Congress workers who were in custody for protesting against CM Pinarayi Vijayan at the Thiruvananthapuram airport. The court said that the investigators had no case that the motive for the alleged incident was personal enmity.

NIA arrests 3 for Maoist recruitment in Telangana

MARRI RAMU
HYDERABAD

Three members of Chaitanya Mahila Sangham were arrested by authorities of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) here on Wednesday on charge of motivating and recruiting youngsters for the proscribed CPI(Maoist).

Incriminating material including digital devices were seized during the searches before arresting Dongari Devendra, Dubasi Swapna and Chukka Shilpa, officials said.

Case in A.P.

Initially, a case was registered by the Peddabayalu police of Visakhapatnam district in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh State following a complaint lodged by the family members of a nursing student Radha on January 3. The student's fa-

mily alleged that CMS members had lured Radha into the movement and made her join the Maoists operating in forests bordering Andhra-Odisha.

Recruitment of the student was a conspiracy of the CMS, a frontal organisation of the Maoists, the NIA said, noting that they re-registered the case five months later and took up investigation.

Devendra and Shilpa were earlier arrested on charges of links with Maoists. They were lodged in prison and later got bail. Shilpa is practicing as lawyer in Hyderabad.

Condemning their arrest, Telangana State Civil Liberties Committee president and retired professor Gad-dam Laxman urged the government to immediately release the three women.

Notice to KCR, others over land allotment

MARRI RAMU
HYDERABAD

The Telangana High Court on Wednesday issued notices to the State government and others, including ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi party supremo K. Chandrasekhar Rao, in response to a PIL petition over allotment of government land to party in the State capital, Hyderabad. It sought a response within four weeks.

A retired employee, K. Maheshwar Raj, State president of All India Confederation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Organisations, filed the petition alleging that the Chief Minister influenced authorities to get the land allotted to TRS and sought a direction to declare allotment as illegal.

'Congress made revisions to appease minorities'

BJP defends new textbook revisions

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Thursday countered allegations made by Opposition leaders, seers and leaders of various communities on revised school textbooks and said the previous Congress government had made revisions for "appeasement of minority communities."

It claimed that the earlier revision had "insulted" Hindu gods, rulers, rulers of Vijayanagara Empire, Wadiyars of Mysuru, poet Kuvempu and Bengaluru founder Kempe Gowda by removing chapters or reducing text related to them in textbooks. Four State Cabinet Ministers, led by Revenue Minister R Ashok, defended the revision of textbooks by Rohith Chak-

rathirtha-led committee and said the revised textbooks would be distributed to students in the next few days with a list of seven-eight corrections on architect of the Constitution Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, social reformer Basavanna and poet Kuvempu.

They lashed out at the previous government for introduction of textbooks revised by writer Baraguru Ramachandrappa and "magnifying" the achievements of Muslim rulers to appease minorities.

They claimed that the textbooks revised by the Ramachandrappa panel had more than 150 mistakes. The writers had not questioned them, he said. "Why do writers adopt such double standards now?" Mr. Ashok asked.

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)

S. No.	Tender Notice No. & Date	Name of work with its location	Approx. Cost of work	Amount of Earnest Money	Completion period of the work	Date & time for submission of tender & opening of tender
1	32-W-BR-RUB-13-BR-58A Date: 22.06.2022	Replacement of deck plate at Bridge no. RUB 13 near Pragati Maidan station on NDLS-PWL section in the jurisdiction of AXEN/BL/SPL/TKJ and Replacement of badly corroded rivets & members i.e. Lateral bracing, angles, Cross frames & Gusset plates of Br. No. 58-A UP on MB-GZB section under the jurisdiction of AXEN/BL/LMB	Rs. 18648976.44	Rs. 243300.00	(08) Eight Months	Upto 15:00 hrs on 18.07.2022 Opening of tender after 15:00 hrs on same day
2	W-148-140-233-UMB Date: 22.06.2022	Strengthening of heavily corroded/perforated of X-girders at Br. No. 233 UP (5x30.5m) on DUK section, 148 (1x76.2m) & 161 (2x45.7m) on SIR-DLPC section and strengthening of heavily corroded/perforated X-girder at Br. No. 140(10x30.5m) on SIR-NLDM section on UMB Division in the jurisdiction AXEN/BL/UMB	Rs. 8597183.57	Rs. 172000.00	(08) Eight Months	Upto 15:00 hrs on 18.07.2022 Opening of tender after 15:00 hrs on same day

Note :- (i) Above tenders are available on website, IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded. (ii) S.No.2" Re-Invitation of tender. 15/37/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male namely **Naresh Mittal, S/o Unknown, R/o near Bus Stand, Shahdara, Delhi, Age: Approx 61 years, Complexion: Shallow, Height: 4', Built: Normal, Face: Round, was wearing Black T-Shirt, was found at GTB Hospital, Shahdara, Delhi vide MLC No. A2374/15/2022 on 15.06.2022. In this regard a DD No. 68A U/s 174 CrPC, dated 15.06.2022, has been lodged at P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi.**

His dead body has been preserved in GTB Hospital Mortuary. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi
Ph: 011-23815444, 23810633
DP/2457/N/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namely **Gunjan D/o Mahender Dass R/o C-26(D-13), Mange Ram Park, Budh Vihar, Phase-2, Delhi Aged-14 Years** has been registered missing since 27.05.2022 at 7:00 PM from area of P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a FIR No. 294/2022 U/s 363 IPC, Dated 28.05.2022 registered at Police Station Budh Vihar, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Shallow, Height: 4', Face: Round, Built: Thin, Clothing: Red coloured suit and salwar.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi at E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in>

Sd/-
Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641
FAX No. : 011-24368639
DP/1607/RD/2022

SHO, Budh Vihar, Delhi
Tel.: 011-27052772-73
Mob.: 8750870326

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SPECIAL SUB DIVISION GUREZ

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
2nd Call Fresh e-NIT No (79) EE/SSDG/2914-23 2022-23 Dated:-18-06-2022

For and on behalf for Lt. Governor UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez invites tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/Firms/Companies of all classes registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for below mentioned works at various Water Supply schemes of Special Sub Division Gurez of Kashmir Province of UT of J&K, under LANGUISHING. The bidding process shall be completed online on www.jktenders.gov.in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of General Terms and Condition and Technical Specifications and Cover 2nd consisting of Financial Bid on overall Percentage basis in the prescribed BOQ.

S. No	Particulars of the work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender Fee (in Rs.)	Earnest money Deposit	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (Days)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Extension of Distt System at Gujran by way of Providing FHTC's House holder at Gujran, Const. of chain link fencing around structures, Const. of 0.25 lac Gallon capacity RCC Service Reservoir for Gujran, Const. of presetting tank at Gujran, Const. of Sluice Chamber at Gujran and Const. of Crate protection work at head site and supports protection to pipes line at Spots at Gujran WSS Latoou Gujran	59.137	1600	118274	60 days	AAV

Position of under : Approved Under LANGUISHING
The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Special Sub Division Gurez, The awarding authority is District LANGUISHING.

Critical Dates:

I	Publish Date	18-06-2022 at 9.00 AM
ii	Document Download Start Date	20-06-2022 at 9.00 AM
iii	Clarification Start date	20-06-2022 from 10: A.M
iv	Clarification End date	29-06-2022 up to 6: P.M
iv	Bid submission Start date	20-06-2022 from 10: A.M
v	Bid submission End date	30-06-2022 at 4:00 P.M.
vi	Date of Bid opening	30-06-2022 at 5.00 P.M.

1. Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in
2. The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal www.jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.
3. The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document as specified in column 4 & 5 of the table and shall be payable at Srinagar.
A. a. The cost of tender documents should be in form of DD/TR/e challan in favour of Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez
4. The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of TR/e-challan, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover. (5) The bid shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder with draws his bid before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the same shall be considered to be in violation of bid security declaration and shall be dealt with accordingly and the bid shall be declared non-responsive. (6) Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website www.jktenders.gov.in. (7) Queries by email if any should be made at _____ Sd/- Executive Engineer Special Sub Division Gurez

DIP/K-4490/22

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male namely **Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age about 35 years, Height 5'2", Complexion Shallow, Long Face, Thin Built, Wearing Black colour shirt & pant and bare foot was admitted by Cat Ambulance in Aruna Asaf Ali Govt. Hospital vide MLC No. 1286/2022. Thereafter he was referred to Lok Nayak Hospital, where during the treatment he was expired on 20.06.2022. In this regard a DD No. 70-A dated 20.06.2022 U/S 174 Cr.PC. has been lodged at PS Kotwali, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours in Maulana Azad Medical College Mortuary, Delhi for identification.**

Any person having any information or clue about this deceased male may kindly inform to the following.

SHO PS: Kotwali, Delhi
Ph: 011-23953442, 23977100, 8750870121
DP/2462/N/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

General public is hereby informed that this person **Namely: Raju Katiyar, S/o: Sh. Ramesh Katiyar, R/o: Bara Sirohi, P.S. Kalyanpur, Distt. Kanpur Nagar, U.P, Age: about 35 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Strong, Wearing: White colour shirt & Black colour pant and sandal in his feet** has been missing from New Delhi Railway Station, Ajmer Gate side, Kamla Market since 14.06.2022 at approx. 14:30 P.M. in the area of P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi.

In this regard a DD No. 98-A, dated 16.06.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far.

Any person having any information or clue about this person kindly inform to the following:-

SHO P.S. Kamla Market, Delhi
E-Mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph. 011-23230623, 8750870424
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Ph. 011-24368639
Fax: 011-24368639 ZIP NET No. MPKM-0012/2022
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/1602/CD/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that this man namely **Gaurav Dhawan, S/o Virendra Dhawan, R/o I-11/22, Sec. 16, Rohini, Delhi, is missing since 01.06.2022 at 01:00 PM. In this regard a case vide DD No. 91, dated 01.06.2022 has been registered at P.S. K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing man but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing man is as under:**

Name: Gaurav Dhawan, Sex: Male, Age: 32 years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Red and Blue colour T-shirt, Blue colour Jeans and Sports shoes in feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing man, kindly inform to the following:

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO P.S. K.N. Katju Marg, Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-27571162, 27571171
DP/1597/RD/2022

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Sunil @ Sunny S/o Jamail @ Ramesh R/o D-331, Mangolpuri, Delhi** has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 273/16, U/S 356/379/411/34 IPC, P.S. South Rohini, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Sunil @ Sunny** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sunil @ Sunny** have absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sunil @ Sunny of FIR No. 273/16, U/S 356/379/411/34 IPC, P.S. South Rohini, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint/case on or before **06.10.2022.**

By Order
Sh. Vivek Beniwal, Metropolitan Magistrate-07 (NW), Room No. 208, Second Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi
DP/1618/RD/2022(Court Matter)



Tiger by the tail

Sena rebellion was in the making for a while, and does not allow for a quick fix solution

With a majority of the party legislators joining a rebellion led by Eknath Shinde, the Shiv Sena appears to be slipping out of the control of its chief and Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray. The MVA, the ruling tripartite alliance of the Shiv Sena, Congress and the NCP, is unravelling, and it is unclear what will take its place. The Congress and the NCP have pledged the continuation of their support to Mr. Thackeray, who has in turn expressed his willingness to step aside in favour of another leader from the party. The Congress has even offered to provide outside support to the government should it help the Sena put its house in order. Mr. Shinde, until he turned rebel, was a key Sena leader, and has couched his rebellion in ideological terms; the Sena has drifted away from its Hindutva moorings by aligning with the NCP and the Congress, according to him. Mr. Thackeray has responded by reiterating his steadfast commitment to Hindutva, in an emotional appeal to party MLAs to stay together. But that seems to have done little to soothe frayed nerves in the party, and more leaders are flocking to the rebel tent. The MVA alliance was formed after months of political machinations, including the dramatic swearing-in of a short-lived government of the BJP and a section of the NCP that returned to the party quickly. The BJP is waiting for the opportune moment to make its next move, after using its governments in Gujarat and Assam to abet the revolt.

The Sena severed its ties with long-term partner BJP, even overlooking their ideological bonding of Hindutva to reclaim its eroding primacy in State politics. Despite the ideological mismatch among the allies, the MVA partners had compulsions to stay united – until the resentment within the Sena snowballed to challenge the authority of the Thackeray family. This crisis has been in the making for a long time, and the CM's blind trust in the loyalty of his warriors has turned out to be misplaced. To be fair, these MLAs had been complaining about lack of access to the CM and his son and Minister Aaditya Thackeray. The junior Thackeray's attempts to reshape the party as more palatable to the upper-class sensibilities disturbed the rustic, often restive party base that used to be kept on a constant boil by his grandfather and party founder Bal Thackeray. Mr. Shinde is one of the very few mass leaders in Sena, after the Thackerays. He is perceived to be accessible, and holds sway in two districts neighbouring Mumbai, almost six municipal corporations and an equal number of smaller local bodies. He felt sidelined in the new scheme of things, and was waiting for the right opportunity to strike. The Sena is at a crossroads and could even head to a dead end.

Paradigm shift

Under new President, Colombia has a chance for stable growth after years of drug wars

The victory of Gustavo Petro, a former guerrilla, in Colombia's presidential election is one of the most decisive shifts in the South American country's modern history. At war with leftist guerrillas for decades until a few years ago, Colombia had never voted a leftist to power in the past. Even when a wave of leftist victories was sweeping across South America in the early 2000s, it remained a fort of centrist and conservative politics. But Mr. Petro, armed with his promises of overhauling the country's economy and governance, broke into this fort and captured power. He won 50.4% votes in Sunday's election against his rival Rodolfo Hernández's 47.3%. A host of factors, including internal political changes and economic challenges, helped him script history. In Colombia, where a decades-long civil war between the state and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) had had a devastating impact on the public psyche, even mainstream leftist politicians had struggled to win popular support. But FARC's decision to lay down arms and join the political mainstream as part of the 2016 peace agreement widened the scope for leftist politics in the country. Mr. Petro was quick to mobilise this newly created momentum with an economic programme that broke from the Bogota consensus. He vowed to "democratise land", renegotiate free trade agreements that were inimical to the interests of Colombian farmers, expand the country's social security measures, tax the rich more and reduce Colombia's reliance on fossil fuel.

In a country where annual inflation is 10%, the youth unemployment rate is 20% and the poverty rate is 40%, Mr. Petro's promises of change helped him strike a chord with voters. Colombia, despite high economic growth, has one of the highest inequality rates in Latin America. While the civil war has come to an end, drug cartels continue to pose serious security challenges. The way ahead is not going to be easy for Mr. Petro. True, he has the presidency, but the Colombian right, which has ruled for decades, has an outside influence over the state and Congress. Mr. Petro's leftist bloc has only 25 seats in the 188-member lower House. His promise to reduce the country's reliance on fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy could trigger opposition from the powerful oil industry, besides economic impacts. His move to hold talks with the drug cartels and end the drug wars could attract strong opposition from the U.S. Washington would not sit idly if Mr. Petro takes Colombia, the cornerstone of the U.S.'s Latin American policy, towards the left. So, he should brace for challenges emanating not just from his right-wing opponents but also from the world's most powerful country. Mr. Petro, however, should stay focused on the issues at hand and seek to unite the country that has been pulverised by civil conflict, drug wars and economic inequality.

Majoritarian politics, Muslim marginality

It raises questions about the new notions of representation in political life and the future of pluralism in India



ZOAYA HASAN

India is a country of incredible religious, ethnic, and linguistic diversity. Muslims form an important part of that mosaic which would be incomplete without them. Muslim communities themselves are 'diverse, with differences in language, ethnicity, and access to political and economic power'. But, lately, they have faced discrimination regardless of their internal differences in employment, education and housing. Many lack access to health care and basic services. Above all, they often struggle to secure justice despite constitutional protections and equal citizenship guarantees.

The ruling party, its politics

In general, Muslims are under-represented in public institutions and representative bodies in India. While there have been improvements in the representation of most groups, for example, the percentage of backward caste Members of Parliament in the Hindi belt had nearly doubled from 11% in 1984 to more than 20% in the 1990s, Muslims continued to be under-represented in relation to the general population. Upper castes remain the most over-represented in the Lok Sabha with nearly 29% and Other Backward Classes 22% in 2019. Most importantly, there will be no Muslim Member of Parliament in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) when the terms of three of its Muslim MPs in the Rajya Sabha ends in July. It did not nominate any Muslim member to the Rajya Sabha in the recently concluded elections to the Upper House to recompense for their absence in the party contingent in the Lok Sabha. This marks an un-

precedented moment in the history of our democracy as for the first time the ruling party will have no Members of Parliament from the largest minority in the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha, signalling their distance from political power and curtailing their opportunities of getting heard where it matters.

The BJP has no Muslim Members of the Legislative Assembly in the States either. This is a direct result of a political strategy first implemented in Gujarat of winning a majority without minority support. This strategy has been extended to other States, most strikingly to Uttar Pradesh in the 2017 and 2022 Assembly elections, where it won huge majorities with negligible minority support. Muslims have thus been pushed out of the system first by rendering them irrelevant electorally and then rendering them invisible in the public sphere owing to their electoral inconsequentiality.

The erosion of the secular

This raises questions about how inclusive India is to its large Muslim minority population. What is at stake however is not the question of representation of Muslims as much as a series of questions about the new notions of representation in political life and the future of pluralism – which is the bedrock of India's democracy. Pluralism was a way of demonstrating that India's democracy represented everyone and this gradually became the cornerstone of Indian political practice. However, the transformational changes in Indian politics in the last decade have eroded the secular and pluralist basis of the nation. The failure to keep creed out of politics, a major fault line of Indian democracy today, is changing the structure and basis of representation. It is worth remembering in this context that the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had framed the 2022 Assembly election as an 80 per cent versus 20



per cent election, where the 20% group (a dog whistle for Muslims) represented supporters of mafias and criminals thus effectively delegitimising and derecognising a whole community.

The dominant template

This form of brazen majoritarian politics changes the very meaning of liberal democracy, reshaping it to provide expression through state power to the majority while disregarding and excluding minorities. In these circumstances, parties that depend on the support of minorities too end up making them invisible in order to compete on somewhat similar grounds to fit into the dominant template. This approach denies the 'legitimacy of political majorities forged with the aid of minority support or votes'. For this reason Rahul Gandhi was mocked and ridiculed for contesting from Wayanad in Kerala claiming that he has done so because it is a Muslim majority constituency.

As noted above, Muslims have remained under-represented in the legislative arena since Independence. The number of Muslim Members of Parliament has gone up marginally from 23 to 27 (roughly 4%), which is still very low compared to other groups. That modest increase took place even though the share of Muslims candidates decreased. Among the main parties, the overall number of Muslim candidates decreased, from 10.3% to 8%, the biggest decrease reported in State-based parties. The explanation for this cannot be found in the structural

limitations of the first-past-the-post electoral system and the lack of winnability of Muslim candidates. It is political factors, that is to say the growth of majoritarian politics, that is aggravating the problem of under-representation. Over the last few years, majoritarian politics has changed the political landscape markedly in relation to Muslims. Hereafter, decline in representation is apparent in the States where majoritarian politics is a dominant force. In the event, most parties disregard their claims to tickets as they fear their rivals would accuse them of sacrificing the interests of the majority community. Hence, parties are busy reducing the tickets given to Muslims for fear of being branded anti-Hindu if they give fair representation to them or promote and protect their interests.

This trend directly relates to the privileging of the majority community and the ethnicisation of the state. It marks a shift from representative democracy based on inclusive politics in which everyone has equal rights, regardless of caste or creed, to an ethnic-majoritarian politics which treats accommodations of diversity as concessions to minorities at the expense of the majority community.

An instrument of protection

It is certainly not necessary or desirable for Muslim concerns to be represented by Muslims; in fact it is infinitely better for them to be represented by non-sectarian secular parties. But when parties are unwilling to stand up for them when they are explicitly subjected to hate speech or their constant targeting by the state is not countered or when institutions refuse to speak up for them when their homes and shops are illegally demolished and their livelihoods destroyed, then their presence in institutions matters. Instead of being understood as concession, political representation should be

conceived of as an instrument of minority rights protection. The dwindling representation of Muslims in legislatures and public institutions matters also because substantive representation (of the interests of a group) is linked to descriptive representation (their numerical presence). The Indian experience shows that 'access to institutions is a key element to obtaining the state's attention. Interests tend to be better represented once a group has actual representation in public institutions'.

A litmus test

To conclude, diversity in public institutions is essential to promote stability and integration of the state as an institution of governance since an underlying premise of democracy is power sharing along multiple axes – religious, linguistic, regional, caste, tribal, etc. The extent to which ethnic or racial minorities are present in legislatures can be viewed as a litmus test for the effectiveness of a country's democratic system and for redressing ethnic inequalities or addressing discrimination. At the same time it underlines the complexities of democratic politics with regard to the relationship between formal and substantive equality and the question of whether it is enough to give people formal equality, or whether there is a need also to address the structural obstacles that prevent certain groups from making full use of their equal rights, as said in a paper on 'The Political Representation of Ethnic and Racial Minorities', New South Wales Parliamentary Library. One thing is clear from recent Indian experience. Rights without participation in public institutions have been largely ineffective.

Zoya Hasan is Professor Emerita, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and currently Distinguished Professor, Council for Social Development, New Delhi

A turning point for Ukraine and its women's rights

Its ratifying the Istanbul Convention is also timely in the context of Russia's invasion and Kyiv moving closer to Europe



AKANKSHA KHULLAR

The Ukrainian Parliament – the Verkhovna Rada – passed a Bill on June 20 ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. Better known as the Istanbul Convention, it is the most far-reaching international treaty designed to set legally binding standards for governments in Europe for the prevention, protection, and prosecution of gender-based violence. According to official numbers, 259 deputies voted in favour of the bill, eight voted against it, 28 voted blank and 47 abstained.

It will make a difference

While the convention was first signed by Ukraine in 2011 – despite repeated calls from activists to ratify it – the government, for years, remained stubbornly mute on the subject and continued to delay its ratification because of opposition by religious and conservative groups over the term "gender" used in the document, as a recent article by Asami Terajima in the

Kyiv Independent on Ukraine's ratification makes clear. Ukraine in fact, came close to ratifying the convention in 2016 but failed after a majority in Parliament voted against it. As a result, until today, Ukraine was one of the 11 countries that had signed but never ratified the Istanbul Convention.

However, the government's recent decision to ratify the convention is a huge step forward for the protection of women and girls from all forms of violence, whether in Ukraine or abroad, and could not be more timely for a number of reasons.

Gender-based violence

To begin with, the risk of women becoming victims of gender-based violence in Ukraine has increased immensely over the course of Russia's eight-year war. In fact, the increasing number of reports that have emerged since the beginning of Russia's invasion in late February 2022 only suggests that the Russian troops have been using rape and sexual violence as a weapon of war and instrument of terror to control civilians. These fears were further crystallised following Russian withdrawal from Bucha, when some nearly 20 women and girls were assaulted by forces in a basement, nine of whom became pregnant from the assault.

Although, the Russian authorities have denied alleged sexual



abuse by their troops, the truth is that women in Ukraine have been disproportionately affected by the war. And as the tensions continue to rise, the risk of gender-based violence will also be heightened, with survivors suffering more severe levels of abuse. The prompt implementation of the convention could thus equip the Ukrainian authorities to deal with these atrocities and serve to reassure the survivors and provide them with the confidence to seek justice.

Besides, women's rights activists in Ukraine have long been calling for changes – as highlighted in Ms. Terajima's article – in legislation to 'impose harsher forms of punishment against the offenders of gender violence. For instance, domestic violence has been an administrative offence in Ukraine since 2003, which is punishable by a fine, community work of up to 60 hours or by imprisonment of up to 15 days. Then in 2019, systematic domestic vio-

lence was criminalised, which in practice meant that criminal charges will only be imposed if the abuser commits three offences in a year'. However, these pieces of legislation and forms of punishment often fell short of what the victims anticipated as being fair prosecution, discouraging them and others to go through the process of seeking justice.

In this sense, the convention's ratification will not only expand 'the list of abuse against women punishable by law in Ukraine – including but not limited to psychological abuse, stalking, forced marriage, physical and sexual abuse, forced abortion, sterilisation' – but also provide the authorities with the opportunity to bring about changes in its legislation and institutional procedures. In furtherance, it will also mean that Ukraine will be responsible for financing more shelters for women, training social workers to adequately handle cases of sexual violence, and increase resources of assistance available for victims.

Aiding EU integration

Apart from being a decisive step in the fight against gender-based violence, the adoption of the Istanbul Convention will also help in Ukraine's European integration. Guaranteeing human rights is the most important aspect that is considered when European Union (EU)

membership is being extended to a country. It has thus been crucial for Ukraine to demonstrate actions that will bring the country closer to European legislations and values. And a good way of doing this is through the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. The decision is in fact, of particular significance for the Netherlands and Sweden, two 'sceptical' countries that were initially blocking Ukraine's candidate seat but have now eventually agreed to back EU member status for Ukraine.

The ratification, as Ms. Terajima's article highlights, is thus, a big milestone for Ukraine and has been applauded by many institutions, including the United Nations Human Rights Council and the EU Commission on human rights in the hope that it will decrease both the number of gender-based violence and domestic violence cases. It will also bring Ukraine closer to other countries that have already ratified the convention. However, an important thing to keep in mind is the fact that the proper implementation of the convention will require financial resources, which seems like a challenging goal for a country already facing economic downfall due to the Russian invasion.

Akanksha Khullar is the Assistant Manager, Ministry of Women and Child Development Desk at Invest India

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Maharashtra politics

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) seems to have developed unparalleled expertise in breaking and making State governments, according to its desires. In this light, the political events unfolding in Maharashtra are not totally unexpected; the Shiv Sena leadership ought to have sniffed out these moves at the very nascent stages (Page 1, "Uddhav Thackeray fights to keep control over Shiv Sena", June 23). But what is puzzling is why the BJP has not been able to complete the 'defection engineering' job in Gujarat. That rain-hit Assam is also a part of the political game is startling. One hopes that the developments serve as a wake-up call to the Congress and NCP to

safeguard their 'vulnerable' legislators.
A. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

■ The rebellion against Uddhav Thackeray's leadership exposes the cracks in the Shiv Sena. The way Mr. Thackeray talked to rebels indicates that he does not seem to have much of a hold over the legislators. It is more to do with the growing influence of the BJP.
PRABHU RAJ R.,
Bengaluru

■ The political crisis bears a striking resemblance to the sordid political episodes enacted by the BJP in Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka and the triggering of defections in the ruling dispensations in order to grab power. The writing is on

the wall for the Shiv Sena-led MVA coalition. Dislodging elected governments by machinations does not augur well for our democracy.
M. JEYARAM,
Sholavandan, Tamil Nadu

The next President

Ms. Droupadi Murmu could well become the next President of India. At the same time, it is paramount that the country gets a new President who will act as per the Constitution and his/her conscience. One also hopes that if elected, Ms. Murmu takes up issues that relate to Adivasis and tribal people.
THARCIOUS S. FERNANDO,
Chennai

On Agnipath

The rolling out of the Agnipath scheme to recruit Agniveers for India's defence

forces has resulted in chaos. There are many youngsters who will not accept it. Perhaps it could have been introduced as a pilot project and expanded in stages with an adequate number of buffer years. It is too radical a step and should not impact the preparedness of our defence forces.
P.S. RAJAGOPALAN,
Chennai

ED interrogation

It was amusing to read the report, "Neither scared nor threatened: Rahul" (Inside pages, June 23), which summarised the 'gri' of the Congress leader in his having 'withstood' the grilling by the Enforcement Directorate. The ED was only carrying out its assigned duty. As far as Mr. Gandhi is concerned, he should wait till the ED

submits its findings and the courts decide on the processing after that.
MANI NATARAJAN,
Chennai

■ Mr. Rahul Gandhi does not seem to have risen from his mundanity. He needs to wait for the 'results' instead of going to town about his not being 'scared nor threatened' after the intense questioning.
SANATH KUMAR T.S.,
Thrissur, Kerala

Tussle in the AIADMK

The intensifying infighting between Edappadi K. Palaniswami and O. Panneerselvam over the issue of 'single leadership' points to political danger – of another split in the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. It is no

surprise that the AIADMK has been on a slippery slope since the passing of Jayalalitha. It seems to be more about individuals now than the party and its governance.
R. SIVAKUMAR,
Chennai

Need for COVID-19

As new COVID-19 daily cases begin to rise, it is unwise to be complacent; investigating how many new and sub-variants have been detected may be of greater interest to epidemiologists than the common man. It is time to act proactively before the situation goes out of control. Health measures must be put back in place.
V. LAKSHMANAN,
Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

To read more letters online, scan the QR code



Will Agnipath energise or demoralise the military?

PARLEY

The scheme is too massive a change and first needs to be put through a testbed

On June 14, the government announced the Agnipath scheme, which fundamentally transforms the process of recruitment of soldiers, sailors and airmen into the three services. Agniveers, the recruits, will be employed for four years, after which 25% of them will be selected for enrolment in the regular cadre, while the rest will be given a certain amount of money and be shown avenues to get back to civilian life. The scheme has generated a lot of debate, and protests against it have been violent in several parts of the country. To discuss and understand the nuances of the issue, Dinakar Peri spoke to Lt Gen D.S. Hooda (Retd) and AVM Manmohan Bahadur (Retd). Edited excerpts:

There are genuine concerns. Will people who join only for four years, and who are possibly looking at the military as a stepping stone for a future career, have the same levels of morale and motivation that you find among soldiers who are permanently in the military? Is the scheme going to, in some ways, impact unit cohesion, which is absolutely essential? Is the shortened training period good enough to turn a recruit into a soldier who can fit in and function well within a unit?

There are also, in my view, different aspects of different services. Everybody is not going to face the same conditions. Someone in a technical service in a peace station is obviously not going to face the same conditions as someone who is going to spend two-three years deployed along the borders with an infantry unit. So, how will these different conditions impact the Agniveer? Some are saying it could have an impact, while some are saying it will not have an impact on operational effectiveness and readiness. I think it's too early to tell. My suggestion would be that the scheme be put through a testbed. See how it works. Then we can adopt whatever lessons we learn from the testbed.

About treating it as a testbed, wouldn't that have been a better way to begin? And then the scheme could have been rolled out on a larger scale?

DSH: The government has said that we are not going to roll it back, that we are going to implement it. So, even if you do it in this manner, use the first four years as a testbed. The argument that is being made is that the Defence Minister has the authority to make changes where required. But I think the approach to what we are doing currently, and to a testbed, would be different. If we say this is a testbed, I think we will be more open to major modifications wherever required. I am glad the Vice Chief of Army Staff did say something similar, that they are looking at it for the first four-five years as a pilot project.

With respect to the Navy and



Air Force, which are highly technology-intensive, what is going to be the impact, given the short tenure of the scheme and only six months of training?

AVM Manmohan Bahadur (MB): When you're talking about technology, and you have studied something in your school or college or an ITI, and then you're absorbed into a military formation, the systems there are totally different. The basis may remain the same. And it takes a lot of time – in my experience, at least four-five years – for people to be trusted to work on systems in their own individual capacity. For four-five years, you're actually under the tutelage of a senior person. No airman, no air warrior signs for his trade in the clearance form for an aircraft going for flight. It is similar for radars, anti-aircraft missile systems, and so on. I'm sure a similar thing goes for the naval systems too. So, at the ripe time of four years, when they are ready to be exploited to their full potential, you're asking 75% of the people to go. And then you get a new lot coming in and you have to start from scratch. A person who would become a supervisor after five-six years of service leaves. A lot of money and, more importantly, effort and knowledge as well as wisdom are going out of the system. This is something that has to be catered for.

And since we've talked of a trial period, in my opinion, the initial lot who come in should go into non-critical streams of the Air Force and Navy. The same goes for the Army too. Let's see how the people respond. And thereafter, in the next lot, or maybe from the third lot, you tweak the system and modify it to

The numbers are not that high that we're looking at huge militarisation in society. If we are able to give them (Agniveers) some decent, honourable second career, that to a large extent would help allay these fears.

LT GEN D.S. HOODA (RETD.)

take into account the issues that may have arisen. For example, we've done this with the Short Service Commission. It was initially for five years. It was increased thereafter to 10 years, etc.

The terms and conditions state that Agniveers will form a distinct rank and will sport distinctive insignia on their uniform during the duration of their service before some of them come back into the regular cadre. This is a clear demarcation. How is that from the point of view of motivation, especially where there is close camaraderie?

DSH: I wish they had not done this. There is absolutely no difference in the kinds of jobs that they will do in units, there is no difference in how they will be treated. Having a separate insignia sort of signifies two classes of soldiers in a unit. You shouldn't make any sort of distinction at this stage... Because when you do that, even individuals within the unit will look at each other as a separate class, which is not good. As I mentioned, one of the key factors is unit cohesion. That comes in with a sense of common purpose. Everybody feels that everybody is equal.

MB: A different rank or a unique insignia actually hits at the very basis of unit cohesion. The armed forces are a classless lot. You wear a uniform, whether in school or in college or in the armed forces, to remove all economic and societal disparities, and say all are one. And here you have two people fighting, say in the trenches, the enemy is in front, and you have one person wearing one type of uniform and the other one has an insignia signifying him to be somebody who is different. That is not right. I feel the government can do a simple modification, which is to remove this clause. In any case, when the Agniveer leaves after four years, you may call him Agniveer, but he's not an ex-serviceman. The rule says he's not an ex-serviceman.

A major concern that has been expressed on social media is the issue of national security as young military-trained men will be going back to civil society in large numbers every year.

DSH: I don't think it's as much a concern as it is being made out to be... militarisation of society. First, the numbers are not that high that we're looking at huge militarisation in society. There could be some who could be exploited [by anti-social elements], yes. And I think to allay these fears, if we are able to give them some decent, honourable second career, that to a large extent would help overcome these issues about how these armed forces-trained people will behave once they're out in society.

MB: When we are talking in terms of militarisation, the pressures of a jobless existence weigh against the ethos, or the morality, that you may have learned in those four years. That really stretches the elastic, the malleability of one's character, and some may, unfortunately, fall for it. So, the point is, it is not such a big problem – but to say that there is no problem, I think that too would be incorrect. And the way out is we have industry falling head over heels saying that we will give them jobs. I like former Navy chief Admiral Arun Prakash's reply to a tweet from one of the industrialists, where he said, what have you been doing till now, please give us num-

bers? Even now as we speak, ex-servicemen are looking for jobs. We have to move beyond the optics and statements, and do something on the ground to help these people.

What would you say in conclusion?

DSH: I want to reiterate what I said in the beginning. This is a massive change that we have brought about in the recruitment process. I am not sure there has been enough discussion and debate even within the services on how we are going to take people, train them, inculcate in them the ethos of the military, and how long they will serve. I know the service chiefs and service headquarters have been discussing it. There have been discussions with the political leadership. But it has been debated enough within the organisation, at the level of commanding officers and company commanders who are actually going to be bearing the brunt of what is going to happen? My suggestion again is to put the scheme through some kind of a testbed and be open to major changes, if and when required. As AVM Bahadur has also said, you will probably find that there are certain areas, certain pockets, certain traits that are more suited for Agniveers, and some are not. So, this across-the-board option could also be changed a little bit.

MB: We need to look beyond four years. The issue – and rightly so – is that the decisions have been taken by people at the top. When you're talking of the armed forces, the top brass would have retired in four years. And the fallout, if any, good and bad, will be faced by the next set of leadership within the military. I think they need to be taken on board in all the decisions that are going to be taken now – the way this scheme is going to be rolled out and implemented on the ground – because they're going to face the proverbial music.

Additionally, do we need to set up another organisation to look after the people who go out? We have the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, and there are enough [complaints] from the existing ex-servicemen that nothing much has been done. Now we have a larger mass going out every year, a younger lot.



Lieutenant General D. S. Hooda (Retd) is a former Northern Army Commander



Air Vice Marshal Manmohan Bahadur (Retd) is former additional director general of Centre for Air Power Studies



Scan the QR code to listen to the full interview online

Can you provide an overview of Agnipath and put things in context, given the concerns?

Lt Gen D.S. Hooda (DSH): Let me try and take a very dispassionate view and look at both sides. Just like any scheme, there are advantages and concerns. Let me briefly cover both. The advantages, as have been brought out by the government and the military leadership... they've been talking about a younger military, the average age going down from 32 to 26. The rapid turnover of Agniveers in the system, they are hoping, will attract people who are more technologically savvy and are therefore more capable of handling new kinds of modern equipment. That is why they're also hoping to exploit some people from the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and other technical institutes. What has not been stated by the military and the government, but which is obviously a big factor for the adoption of this scheme, is the fact that at some stage, maybe not immediately, Agnipath is going to help reduce the salary and pension budgets. That could go into capital expenditure and for the modernisation of the three forces. Also, by picking 25% of the whole lot of Agniveers, you will possibly get people who can then be trained as non-commissioned officers (NCOs), etc. And with our shortage of officers, it is essential that we have better NCOs in the military.

DATA POINT

The problems plaguing thermal power generators

With a coal-supply demand gap, and international coal prices rising, cash-strapped thermal power generators are left with critical stocks

JASMIN NIHALANI

On June 10, India's power demand touched a record high of 211 MW even as the coal shortage continued with coal stocks available only for eight days. In the last two months, as temperatures soared and the economy recovered, the power demand breached the 200 MW level on several occasions. But the coal stock position at power plants remained worrisome. Consequently, the Ministry of Power sprang into action. To bridge the gap between shortage in domestic supply and increasing demand, power-generating companies or 'gencos' were directed to use imported coal for 10% of their requirement, failing which their domestic supplies would be cut.

How did India get here?

India is the second largest producer of coal, with reserves that could last up to 100 years. Despite that, year after year, the shortage of coal supplies continues to be an issue. Why does India have a recurring power crisis? As seen in chart 1, the domestic production of coal stagnated between FY18 and FY21, but revived in FY22. The power demand too surged owing to economic recovery and hotter weather conditions. In a press release published on May 27, the Ministry of Power noted that "despite efforts to increase the supply of domestic coal, there is still a gap between the requirement of coal and the supply of coal."

Until FY20, domestic sources contributed to about 90% of the power sector's coal receipts; the remaining was filled by imports. But by FY22, the reliance on imports dwindled to 3.8% which built pressure on domestic supplies. As chart 2 shows, the coal imported by power plants declined to 27 MT in FY22 from 66.06 MT in FY17. Coal imported for blending purposes by power plants that run on indigenous coal declined to 8 MT in the last financial year, from 19.7 MT in FY17. Past data show that importing coal for blending has always seen few takers. A bulk of imports was made by power plants designed for imported coal. Notably, their share of imports too saw a decline of 60% in FY22 since FY17. Out of 15 such import-based power

plants in India, five had little or no coal stock as of June 15.

This dip in imports can be attributed to the skyrocketing prices of coal in the international markets (chart 3). The price of imported coal is nearly 5-6 times higher than domestic supply. It is in this scenario that the Power Ministry asked the gencos to import coal. However, States are wary of using imported coal as it would raise the cost of power substantially. The shortfall in domestic supplies and the rising cost of imports have put power plants in a precarious situation (chart 4). About 79 of the 150 plants that depend on domestic coal had critical stocks (<25% of the required stock) as of June 15. Eight import-based coal plants were also at critical levels.

Perennial bottlenecks

The use of imported coal will also push up the price of power supply to the power distribution companies or 'Discoms,' often dubbed as the weakest link in the power sector chain. Discoms owe long-standing dues to the tune of ₹1.16 lakh crore to the gencos. Delays in payments by discoms create a working capital crunch for generating companies which in turn inhibits them from procuring an adequate quantity of coal.

According to the 2019-20 report by the Power Finance Corporation, discoms had accumulated losses up to ₹5.07 lakh crore and were therefore unable to pay generators on time. Discoms in Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are the most financially stressed (see chart 5).

Discoms are bleeding because the revenue they generate is much lower than their costs. This is evident from the gap between the average cost of supply and average revenue realised (see chart 6). Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir, and Rajasthan have the widest gap between revenues and expenses of discoms. Apart from providing power at cheaper rates, some State governments do not revise tariffs periodically. Further, the delay in getting compensation from the government also compounds the woes of cash-strapped discoms.

nihalani.j@thehindu.co.in

Chart 1 | The chart shows India's total domestic coal production in million tonnes (left-axis) and energy requirement in billion units (right-axis) in the past 12 years

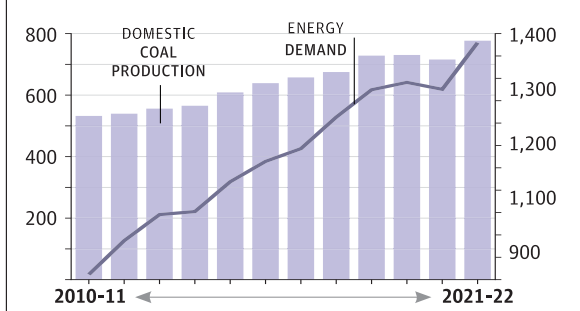


Chart 2 | The chart shows the quantity of coal imported (million tonnes) by imported coal-based power plants (●) and by domestic coal-based plants that use imported coal for blending (●). In the recent years, the usage of imported coal has dwindled across both types of plants

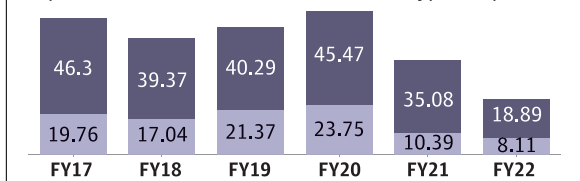


Chart 3 | The chart shows the quarter-wise domestic and international coal prices (₹ per tonne). The price of coal in international markets was on a steep rise while the domestic price remained relatively stable as of Q2FY22

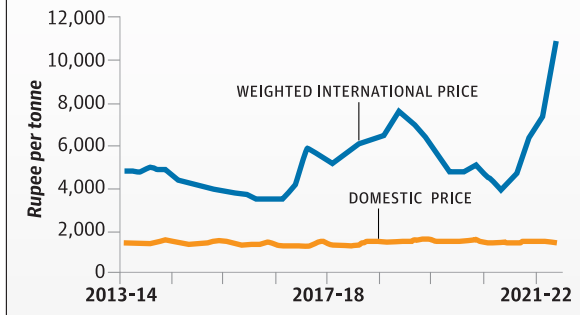
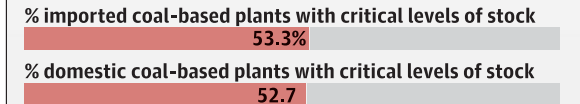


Chart 4 | The chart shows the share of power plants that had critical coal stocks as of June 15, 2022. About 53% of power plants that depend on domestic coal and a similar share of imported coal-based plants had critical levels of coal stock



Source: CEA, PFC, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Power, RBI, POSOCO

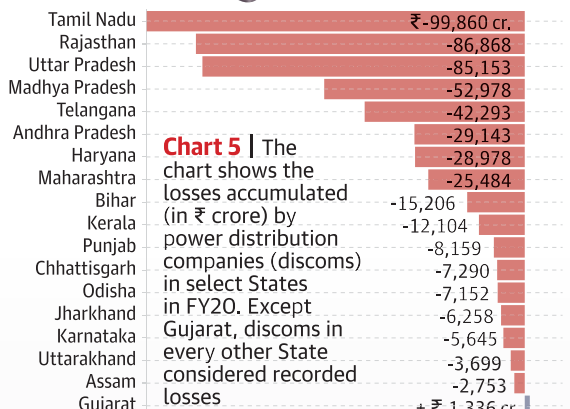


Chart 5 | The chart shows the losses accumulated (in ₹ crore) by power distribution companies (discoms) in select States in FY20. Except Gujarat, discoms in every other State considered recorded losses

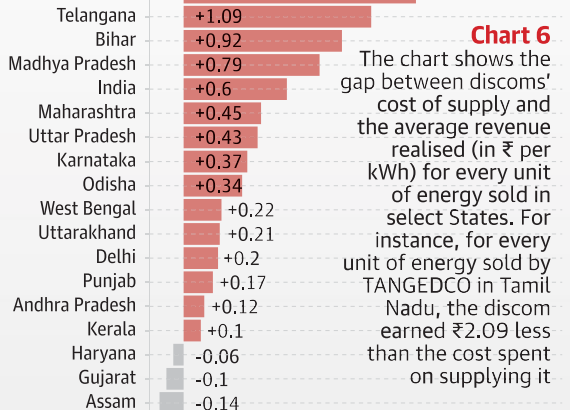


Chart 6 | The chart shows the gap between revenues and so the utility is making a loss. A negative value indicates that the utility is making a profit

The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 24, 1972

Venue for Indo-Pakistan summit

New Delhi, June 23: The Retreat, the weekend refuge of the Viceroy from the tiresome gaiety of Simla during the heyday of British rule, is one of the stately homes with an aura of imperial past which are being hastily refurbished and given a quick face-lift for the Indo-Pakistan summit next week. A 100-year old country house with a chequered history, it was originally built by an enterprising British medical officer before it was extensively remodelled and converted into an official residence for the Chief Commissioner of the Simla Hills. Nestling amidst giant oaks, pines and maples in a secluded estate aside the India-Tibet border road, it commands a panoramic view of the Himalayan snow-line. After Lord Elgin acquired the property in 1896 for viceregal use, it was decorated by Lockwood Kipling, father of Rudyard Kipling, who at that time was Principal of the Mayo Art College in Lahore. During the days of Minto, Hardinge, Chelmsford, Reading, Lytton and Curzon to Irwin, Willingdon, Linlithgow, Wavell and Mountbatten, it served as a rendezvous for official conferences in a country home atmosphere away from the stuffy atmosphere of the Viceregal Lodge in Simla. When Dr. Radhakrishnan gave up the old viceregal residence in Simla, the Retreat was retained as a modest summer residence for the President. But it has been seldom used since Independence except for a few brief spells of holiday by Mr. Nehru.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 24, 1922

The Climbers

The "Englishman" has published the following telegram from Darjeeling regarding the Mount Everest expedition: Discouraging news has been received from Everest. Another attempt was made after a height of 27,200 feet had been reached but only an additional 100 feet was added to the record. Weather conditions experienced are described as terrible. Medical officers of the party have declared that the Members are all more or less incapacitated through their hardships and that several of them are suffering severely through frost bite. Already a section of the party are on their way to Darjeeling to return to England as quickly as possible. A last forlorn attempt was to be made by a party of three between 6th and 14th but as no news of the result has come through it is feared that it has been unsuccessful.

Text & Context

NEWS IN NUMBERS



Boom in media industry

4.3 In %, the expected compound annual growth rate (CAGR) at which the Indian media and entertainment industry is expected to grow and reach ₹4.30 lakh crore by 2026, according to PwC's Global Entertainment & Media Outlook 2022-2026. The growth would be paced by digital media and advertising through deeper penetration of the Internet and mobile devices in the domestic market, along with traditional media, the report said. TV advertising is expected to reach over ₹43,000 crore by 2026. **PTI**

Granting work visas

300 In thousand, the number of temporary work visas the United States will announce to offer to Mexicans and Central Americans when the Mexican president visits Washington next month, Mexico's Interior Minister Adan Augusto Lopez said on Wednesday. Mr. Lopez said 1,50,000 of the visas will be for Mexicans or foreigners who are in Mexico waiting for the possibility of migrating to the U.S. President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador is set to meet his U.S. counterpart, Joe Biden, in Washington in July. **REUTERS**

Loans from China

2.3 In \$ billion, the loan facility agreement signed by Pakistan on Wednesday with a Chinese consortium of banks to help the country's cash-strapped economy in the wake of depleting foreign exchange reserves and depreciation of its local currency. The loan agreement with Chinese banks will boost the crisis-hit Pakistan's reserves and enable Islamabad to make import payments while lending some support to the rupee as well. The Pakistani rupee has lost over 34% since the beginning of the outgoing fiscal year 2021-22. **PTI**

Entering the job market

10.8 In million, the record number of Chinese graduates entering the worst job market in decades at a time when youth unemployment is already more than three times China's overall joblessness rate, at a record 18.4%. Unemployment is awkward for the Communist Party, especially in a year when President Xi Jinping is expected to secure third leadership term. Premier of the People's Republic of China, Li Keqiang, has said that stabilising the job market for graduates is a top government priority. **REUTERS**

Diseases due to flood

4,000 The number of people to contract various waterborne illnesses so far in flood-hit districts, with more than half the cases in the Sylhet region of Bangladesh, as the region faces the worst flooding in 100 years. Authorities in Bangladesh are racing to get drinking water to over 4.5 million people stranded in their homes, an official said on Thursday. About 42 people were killed in the flood, with over 2,000 rescue teams trying to reach victims in 17 districts. **REUTERS**

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

Pakistan's economic muddling and the IMF challenge

The falling rupee, depleting foreign exchange reserves, energy shortage, increasing fuel prices and a complicated external support highlight the contemporary economic crisis Pakistan is in. Will Islamabad find a way out?

D. SUBA CHANDRAN

THE GIST

■ Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves have been depleting during the last one year and it has come down to \$8.9 billion in June 2022.

■ The IMF is willing to support but it wants Pakistan "to address high inflation and the elevated fiscal and current account deficits, while ensuring adequate protection for the most vulnerable."

■ Pakistan's economic and energy situation is serious that demands bold decisions and the situation will worsen in the short term before it gets better, but this has been the nation's history in the last 75 years.

The Pakistani rupee (PKR) has been falling continuously; from 150 in April 2021 to 213 against the dollar on 21 June, an all-time low. Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves have been depleting during the last one year. According to State Bank of Pakistan data, from \$17.2 billion in June 2021, the net reserves with the SBP have come down to \$8.9 billion in June 2022.

The new government has already increased the fuel price – in late May and early June. Besides, the new budget has proposed resuming the petroleum development levy. This would mean increased oil and electricity prices, which has the potential to bring people to the streets. Earlier this month, citing "heightened external vulnerability risk" and the "ability to secure additional external financing," the rating agency Moody's downgraded Pakistan's outlook to negative.

The government-International Monetary Fund (IMF) talks have remained complicated.

Will the IMF bail out Pakistan?

The immediate future of Pakistan's economy would depend on IMF resuming its support. Despite an intense discussion between the two, there has not been a breakthrough until now. Pakistan's relationship with the IMF has remained complicated. Though Islamabad has been negotiating with the IMF repeatedly, there has been an economic nationalism, mostly jingoistic, against approaching the IMF in recent years. Imran Khan, the former Prime Minister made statements and fuelled the sentiments against the IMF. After becoming the PM in 2018, he preferred approaching friendly countries (China and Saudi Arabia) and avoiding the IMF. The new government is now back to the IMF; it expects the IMF to release the payments, expand the support programme, and give a longer rope to repay.

The IMF is willing to support Pakistan but has some conditions regarding

macroeconomic reforms. This was highlighted in the IMF statement after the last meeting in May 2022. The IMF wants Pakistan "to address high inflation and the elevated fiscal and current account deficits, while ensuring adequate protection for the most vulnerable." The IMF would also not want any deviations from what has been agreed to, especially concerning fuel and power subsidies. Besides, the IMF wants Pakistan to be transparent about its debt situation, including what Islamabad owes to China, as a part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Subsidies are politically sensitive; with elections ahead, it would not be an easy decision. The new budget also has proposed resuming the petroleum tax levy. With the above, the new government expects that the IMF will consider resuming its package.

The IMF may agree to support after a few more promises by the government. But the relief may be less than what Pakistan would hope for. Without macroeconomic reforms, the IMF is less likely to expand its support programme, or provide a longer rope to Pakistan, that Islamabad wants.

Will Pakistan pursue macroeconomic reforms?

This has been a million-dollar question. Economists within Pakistan and elsewhere have been arguing for macroeconomic reforms, including the independence of financial institutions. It is a political question that the successive governments led by the Pakistan Peoples Party (2008-13), Pakistan Muslim League-N (2013-18) and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (2018-22) were unwilling to address. Instead, all governments continued to borrow from global institutions and friendly countries.

The budgets have remained populist; the economic governance declined due to corruption, lack of financial institutions' independence, and the export decline. The subsidies in the energy sector – fuel, oil and electricity – remain high. With the present government led by the PML-N and PPP

combine facing elections, they are less likely to take any further bold decisions. Successive governments, especially the previous one, would instead look for external bailouts and support from "friendly" countries.

Will "friendly countries" support Pakistan without preconditions?

Saudi Arabia and China have been supporting Pakistan. Immediately after becoming the Prime Minister, Shehbaz Sharif visited Saudi Arabia to secure a loan. In early May 2022, Riyadh agreed to provide \$8 billion; in December 2021, Imran Khan secured a \$3 billion support. A similar understanding was reached in October 2021. However, Riyadh's support was not unconditional. An editorial in *Dawn* in November 2021 highlighted that Riyadh can ask Pakistan "to return the money at any time if the two countries have divergent views regarding their relationship or ties with a third country, or some other issue."

China has been another significant source for Pakistan. Islamabad has been regularly seeking loans from China within and outside the CPEC projects. While the CPEC projects kept expanding and was projected as a panacea for Pakistan's economic problems, there are many questions over the hidden costs. Pakistan also had to raise the security for the CPEC projects after a series of militant attacks. Pakistan has created a Special Security Division to provide security exclusively for the CPEC projects, increasing the cost further. A larger question is whether Pakistan would divert external aid to pay its debts to China? This has been one of the questions raised by the IMF, way back in 2018, and remains relevant even today.

During the latest Financial Action Task Force (FATF) meeting, there was an understanding that Pakistan has met its requirement. The FATF has agreed to explore the possibilities of removing Pakistan from the grey list.

However, when Pakistan was on the grey list, the IMF had been holding talks with



Islamabad. The big two – China and Saudi Arabia – were not constrained by Pakistan's listing in the FATF. So, the relaxation is less likely to open gates for big investments.

Activists display placards and shout slogans during a demonstration against inflation and fuel price hike in Karachi. **AFP**

Will Pakistan go the Sri Lankan way?

The situation was similar in Sri Lanka – the falling value of rupee, declining foreign exchange reserves, differences with the IMF, and rising fuel prices. All of them led to public protests in Sri Lanka against the government. The economic and energy crises in Pakistan have not snowballed into a political storm as it had happened in Sri Lanka during April-May. Will there be one?

Politically, unlike in Sri Lanka, there is a coalition at the federal level; the main partners – the PML-N and the PPP – have a strong presence and control over the two big provinces, Punjab and Sindh.

To conclude, Pakistan's economic and energy situation is serious and demands bold decisions. The situation will worsen in the short term before it gets better, but this has been Pakistan's history in the last 75 years. With a relief from the IMF, after a protracted negotiation, a few band aids, and the U.S. intervention, Islamabad may muddle through this time as well, until the next crisis.

D. Suba Chandran is Dean, School of Conflict and Security Studies at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru.

EXPLAINER

Open network for digital commerce

What is ONDC and how will it change e-commerce platforms? How will the ONDC network aid online applications?

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA

The story so far: The government of India announced the launch of the pilot phase of open network for digital commerce (ONDC) in five cities in late April with an aim to "democratise" the country's fast growing digital e-commerce space that is currently dominated by the two U.S.-headquartered firms – Amazon and Walmart. The announcement was made by Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal. "After UPI, another game changing idea to democratise commerce – ONDC soft launch today to select consumers, sellers and logistics providers. Get ready for a world of choice, convenience and transparency," Mr Goyal had tweeted.

What is ONDC?

As per the strategy paper on ONDC, it is a not-for-profit organisation that will offer a network to enable local digital commerce stores across industries to be discovered and engaged by any network-enabled applications. It is neither an aggregator application nor a hosting platform, and all existing digital commerce applications and platforms can voluntarily choose to

adopt and be a part of the ONDC network.

The ONDC aims to enable buying of products from all participating e-commerce platforms by consumers through a single platform. Currently, a buyer needs to go to Amazon, for example, to buy a product from a seller on Amazon. Under ONDC, it is envisaged that a buyer registered on one participating e-commerce site (for example, Amazon) may purchase goods from a seller on another participating e-commerce site (for example, Flipkart).

The ONDC model is trying to replicate the success of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in the field of digital payments. UPI allows people to send or receive money irrespective of the payment platforms they are registered on. The open network concept also extends beyond the retail sector, to any digital commerce domains including wholesale, mobility, food delivery, logistics, travel, urban services, etc.

What led to formation of ONDC?

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under Ministry of Commerce and Industries, conducted an outreach



during the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic to understand its impact on small sellers and hyperlocal supply chain functioning. Post which, it found that there is a huge disconnect between the scale of online demand and the ability of the local retail ecosystem to participate. Following this, consultations were held with multiple ministries and industry experts and "ONDC was envisioned to revolutionise digital commerce in India," as per the strategy paper.

The paper added that ONDC has been envisaged as an entity which should be able to work without the need for day-to-day guidance and advisory from the shareholders/members. The independence of the management is linked to the financial independence of the entity, and therefore, the entity will be required to get funding independently and have a self-sustaining financial model.

What is the current status?

Presently, ONDC is in its pilot stage in five cities – Delhi NCR, Bengaluru, Bhopal, Shillong and Coimbatore – with a target of onboarding around 150 retailers.

The government has also constituted an advisory council to analyse the potential of ONDC as a concept and to advise the government on measures needed to accelerate its adoption. Its members include Nandan M. Nilekani, Non-Executive Chairman, Infosys; R.S. Sharma, CEO, National Health Authority; Dilip Asbe, Managing Director and CEO, NPCL; Anjali Bansal Founder and Chairperson, Avaana Capital; Suresh Sethi, Managing Director and CEO, Protean eGov Technologies Ltd.; Arvind Gupta Co-Founder & Head, Digital India

Foundation; Kumar Rajagopalan CEO, Retailers Association of India; Adil Zainulbhai Chairman, Quality Council of India and Capacity Building Commission; and Anil Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.

Over the next five years, the ONDC expects to bring on board 90 crore users and 12 lakh sellers on the network, enabling 730 crore additional purchases and an additional gross merchandising value (GMV) of ₹3.75 crore. The GMV for the digital commerce retail market in India was ₹2.85 lakh crore (\$38 billion) in 2020, which is only 4.3% of the total retail GMV in India.

What are the likely benefits of ONDC?

The ONDC will standardise operations like cataloguing, inventory management, order management and order fulfilment, hence making it simpler and easier for small businesses to be discoverable over network and conduct business.

However, experts have pointed out some likely potential issues such as getting enough number of e-commerce platforms to sign up, along with issues related to customer service and payment integration.

THE GIST

■ ONDC is a not-for-profit organisation that will offer a network to enable local digital commerce stores across industries to be discovered and engaged by any network-enabled applications.

■ The ONDC model is trying to replicate the success of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in the field of digital payments.

■ Over the next five years, the ONDC expects to bring on board 90 crore users and 12 lakh sellers on the network, enabling 730 crore additional purchases.



IN THE LIMELIGHT

Musical biopics: When box office and critics go ka-chung!

With Baz Luhrman's 'Elvis' opening on June 24, a look at the bubbling cauldron of charismatic performances and high drama that goes into the making of a successful musical biopic

THE GIST

- *Elvis* is the latest in a long line of musical biopics from 1968's *Funny Girl* to Lin-Manuel Miranda's directorial debut, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* (2021).
- Taron Egerton's performance as British singer and pianist, Elton John, in Dexter Fletcher's *Rocketman* (2019) won him a slew of nominations and a Golden Globe.
- Hugh Jackman got a best actor nomination at the Golden Globes for his performance as entertainer P.T. Barnum, in Michael Gracey's *The Greatest Showman* (2017).

MINI ANTHIKAD CHHIBBER

With *Elvis*, based on the life of The King played by Austin Butler, and his thorny relationship with his manager, Colonel Tom Parker (Tom Hanks), Baz Luhrman is on familiar ground. The *Moulin Rouge!* director is known for his extravagantly-produced musical numbers. *Elvis* is the latest in a long line of musical biopics from 1968's *Funny Girl* which Barbra Streisand nailed with her portrayal of Fanny Brice to Andrew Garfield's delightful personification of Jonathan Larson in Lin-Manuel Miranda's directorial debut, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* (2021).

Award darlings

Musical biopics, if done right, apart from being first-rate entertainers are award magnets. Andrew Garfield's Golden Globe win and the Oscar nomination continues the tradition of recognition. George C. Wolfe's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (2020), which tells the story of blues singer, Ma Rainey (Viola Davis) and a fraught recording session in 1927 Chicago, received five Oscar nominations and won two for Makeup and Hairstyling, and Costume Design.

Chadwick Boseman's incendiary performance as the hot-headed trumpeter, Levee, won him a best actor nomination.

Taron Egerton's performance as British singer and pianist, Elton John in Dexter Fletcher's *Rocketman* (2019) won him a slew of nominations and a Golden Globe. As Judy Garland in Rupert Goold's *Judy* (2019), Renée Zellweger won the Academy Award for Best Actress, as well as the Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild (SAG), BAFTA and Critics' Choice.

Peter Farrelly's *Green Book* (2018) set in 1962 detailing a tour by African-American pianist Don Shirley (Mahershala Ali) and his driver and bodyguard Frank Valletlonga (Viggo Mortensen),

took the Best Picture Oscar as well as Original Screenplay. Ali, apart from his Supporting Actor win at the Oscars also won at the Golden Globes, BAFTA and SAG.

They will rock you

Also in 2018 was Brian Singer's *Bohemian Rhapsody* on the life of Freddie Mercury (Rami Malek), lead singer of the British rock band, Queen. While there were murmurs against skirting the issue of Mercury's sexuality and the toning down of some of the greater excesses, *Bohemian Rhapsody* was a box office and critics' favourite.

Musical biopics, if done right, apart from being first-rate entertainers are award magnets

Like Ali, apart from taking the Oscar for Best Actor, Malek also snagged wins at the Golden Globes, BAFTA and SAG. *Bohemian Rhapsody* with its towering, anthemic numbers, won Oscars for film and sound editing, and sound mixing.

Hugh Jackman got a best actor nomination at the Golden Globes for his performance as entertainer P.T. Barnum, in Michael Gracey's *The Greatest Showman* (2017). The film won the Golden Globe for Best Original Song for 'This Is Me'.

In the noughties, there was Taylor Hackford's *Ray* (2004) on the life of R&B musician Ray Charles. For his performance as Charles, Jamie Foxx won all the five major acting awards – Oscar, Golden Globe, BAFTA, SAG and Critics' Choice, becoming only the second actor to do so.

James Mangold's *Walk the Line* (2005) on the life of Johnny Cash (Joaquin Phoenix) focuses on the country music singer and songwriter's relationship with singer June Carter (Reese

Witherspoon) and his struggles with addiction. The film got five Oscar nominations, including best actress for Witherspoon that she won.

Six actors in search of an icon

While there are biopics that are straight narratives, Todd Haynes' *I'm Not There* (2007) should get a medal for its unconventionality. Six actors – Christian Bale, Cate Blanchett, Marcus Carl Franklin, Richard Gere, Heath Ledger and Ben Whishaw portray different aspects of counterculture icon Bob Dylan.

For her interpretation as Jude Quinn, an androgynous version of the mid-sixties Dylan complete with Wayfarers, polka-dot shirt and vampiric, long pointed nails, Blanchett won the Golden Globe Award and an Academy Award nomination.

Stream on

The smaller screens have woken up to the possibilities of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll. Peter Jackson's 468-minute love letter to The Beatles, *Get Back*, is a documentary of the Fab Four putting songs together for the album, *Let it Be*, in the studio in January 1969.

Robert Siegel's *Pam & Tommy* – a mini-series on the relationship between *Baywatch* star Pamela Anderson and Mötley Crüe drummer, Tommy Lee, and the sex tape they made on their honeymoon makes for riveting viewing.

Lily James and Sebastian Stan as Anderson and Lee have created living, breathing characters far removed from caricature. There is also Danny Boyle's six-part series, *Pistol*, on the seventies punk rock band Sex Pistols.

The music industry is an irresistible mix of talent, inspiration and unruliness. It is no small wonder then that the lives of the bad boys and the bad girls of the industry translate so well on screen.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Lionel Messi, the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner, celebrates his birthday on June 24. Here is a quiz on famous Argentinian footballers

- 1 In the FIFA quarterfinals of 1986, this Argentinian footballer scored the best goal (pollled by FIFA 2002) in World Cup history against England, setting Argentina on a path to win its second World Cup title. Name this player.
- 2 Name this former physician, footballer and manager, famously called 'el narigón' by his fans, who coached the Argentinian football team to victory in the 1986 FIFA World Cup.
- 3 Name the Argentinian footballer who played in the 1930 World Cup finals as a part of the Argentinian team only to go on and win the World Cup in 1934 for Italy, all the while

- dealing with various threats to his safety.
- 4 Considered one of the greatest South American defenders of all time, this former Argentinian player and manager was the captain of the team that won the 1978 World Cup. He was also a part of the 1986 World Cup winning team. Name this person.
 - 5 Name the Ballon d'Or winner who played for the youth team of Newell's Old Boys club in Argentina. He formed a part of the near-unbeatable Newell's Old Boys nicknamed 'The Machine of '87'. FC Barcelona signed him on the back of a napkin at the age of 12.

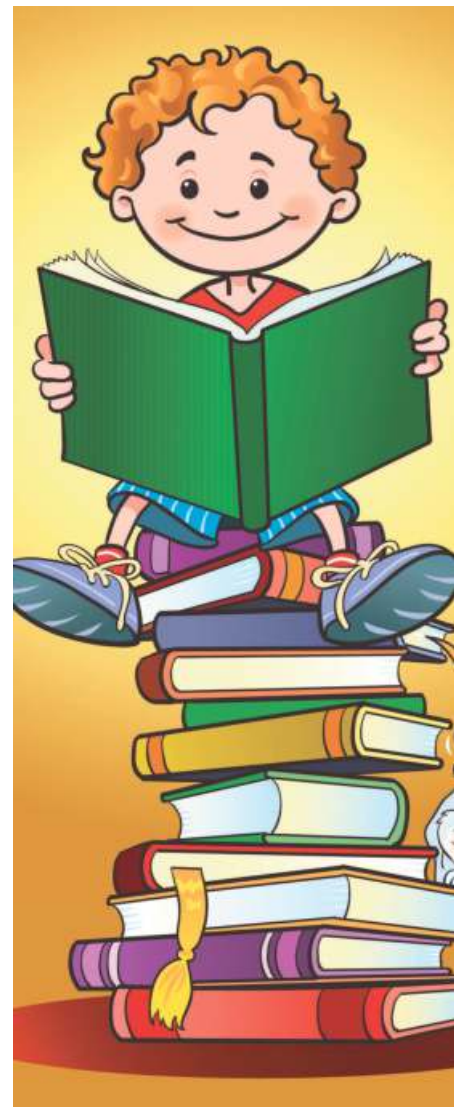


◀ Recognise this former Argentinian footballer who is currently the coach of the Argentina Under-17 football team?

Please send in your answers to the dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

- Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:**
1. Shigeru Miyamoto, the creator of this video game, named the protagonist character after the landlord of Nintendo's warehouse. Name the protagonist. **Ans: Mario**
 2. Name the video game whose title references the term used in the U.S. for motor vehicle theft. **Ans: Grand Theft Auto**
 3. Name the video game created by Alexey Pajitnov which is a portmanteau of a word meaning 'four' and his favourite sport tennis. **Ans: Tetris**
 4. Name the console released by Nintendo in April 1989, with a built-in screen, controls and speakers. **Ans: Game boy**
 5. Name the arcade fighting game that is

- popular for its finishing moves called 'Fatalities'. **Ans: Mortal Kombat**
6. Toru Iwatani is a Guinness World Record holder for developing a game that has the most "coin-operated arcade machines" installed worldwide. Name the video game. **Ans: Pacman**
 7. The creators of this game purchased a book on Tasmanian mammals and picked this animal, naming the character after its species and the visceral reaction to its destruction of boxes. Identify the character. **Ans: Crash Bandicoot**
- Visual: Released in 1989, this city-building simulation video game is also known as 'Micropolis'. Identify the game. **Ans: Simcity**
- Early Birds:** Anjan Banerjee | Thejasvanu Vich | Adasho Krasi | K.N. Viswanathan



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know Your English

"Good morning, sir."
"Good morning."
"What's the difference between 'defensible' and 'defensive', sir?"
"That which can be defended is 'defensible.'
I am afraid it is not a defensible position. His stand is not defensible.
What is not defensible is 'indefensible.'
His behaviour at the meeting is indefensible.
Defensive means 'intended or serving to defend.'
A defensive weapon.
A defensive position.
The opposite of 'defensive' is 'offensive.' Whether a weapon is defensive or offensive depends on whether you are behind the weapon or before it."
"What are the other ways of saying 'I am keen to see him', sir?"
"I am eager to see him.
I am longing to see him.
I am dying to see him.
I am anxious to see him.
You can use any of these. What you choose will depend on the intensity of your desire to see him."
"He aims at becoming a teacher. He aims to become a teacher – which is correct, sir?"
"Both are correct In British English, only 'aim at' was used till recently. 'Aim to', which is American, has influenced British English. Now you find both 'aim at' and 'aim to' in British English.
He is aiming at becoming a pilot.
He aims to be a pilot.
He aims at being a politician.
He aims to be a politician.
He aims to go to the top.
He aims at going to the top.
Fowler's Modern English Usage revised by Cowers (1965) says: 'Until recently it was possible to say with confidence that in Britain this verb in the metaphorical sense of 'purpose' or 'design' or 'endeavour' was idiomatically followed by *at* with the gerund, not by *to* with the infinitive... But the analogy of purpose, try, intend, which take the infinitive reinforced by the general use of that construction with aim in American, is proving too strong...'
"What is the meaning of 'turn back', 'turn round' and 'return back', sir?"
"You return or come back. But don't say 'I returned back.' 'Return' means 'to come back'. Suppose you are standing at a bus stop, I come behind you and call you. You turn round to see who it was that called you. You stay in the same place but you look in the opposite direction.
He turned round when I called him. He was examining the map on the wall. He turned round when he heard some noise.
You leave your home for office. After walking about 100 yards, you remember that you have left your office keys at home. You turn back to collect the keys. When you 'turn back', you turn and go back along the way you came earlier. You retrace your steps. You walk back the way you came. I hope I have made myself clear.
Let's stop here. Goodbye."
"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to letters@thehindu.co.in with the subject 'Text & Context'

People across India have hailed Murmu's nomination, says PM

NDA Presidential nominee to file her papers today for July 18 election

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Droupadi Murmu, National Democratic Alliance (NDA) nominee for the post of President, reached Delhi on Thursday, a day prior to filing her nomination papers for the July 18 election.

Ms. Murmu called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who said that her nomination for the post of President "has been appreciated across India by all sections of society. Her understanding of grassroots problems and vision for India's development is outstanding".

Ms. Murmu met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Home Minister Amit Shah.

The BJP's 14-member committee to oversee the election of the NDA candidate met at the residence of Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi in the morning to tie up the loose ends related to the filing of the nomination papers. The committee discussed the



Strong support: Narendra Modi with NDA's Presidential candidate Droupadi Murmu in New Delhi on Thursday. •PTI

campaign schedule of Ms. Murmu and her tour of various States to secure support.

'Daughter of Odisha'
Odisha Chief Minister and Bi-ju Janata Dal president Naveen Patnaik has supported Ms. Murmu's candidature, calling her the "daughter of Odisha" and appealing to all members of the Odisha Legislative Assembly across party lines to support her.

On Thursday, Mr. Patnaik asked two senior State Cabinet Ministers, Jagannath Saraka and Tukuni Sahu, to sign Ms. Murmu's nomination papers as proposers.

According to the rules, nomination to the polls for the post of President requires the signatures of 50 electors as proposers and seconders.

Sources in the government told *The Hindu* that the Chief Ministers of Meghalaya

and Nagaland, Conrad Sangma and Neiphiu Rio — whose parties, the National People's Party and the National Democratic Progressive Party, respectively, are a part of the NDA — will also be signing Ms. Murmu's nomination papers as proposers.

The Janata Dal(U), again an NDA ally, will likely deputise its national president, Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lallan', and Lok Sabha members Dileshwar Kamait, Chandeshwar Chandravanshi, Sunil Kumar Pintu and Alok Kumar Suman to sign as proposers.

Five tribal MPs of the BJP from Rajasthan have been roped in as proposers.

Lok Jan Shakti Party president Chirag Paswan has extended support to Ms. Murmu. He tweeted: "It is a matter of pride for us that Droupadi Murmu ji has been nominated as the Presidential candidate by NDA."

The result of the Presidential election will be announced on July 21.

Ready to discuss exit from MVA but first come to Mumbai: Raut

MP's remarks to rebel MLAs spark confusion among allies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Exhorting the rebel Shiv Sena MLAs led by Maharashtra Minister Eknath Shinde to return to Mumbai within 24 hours, Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Thursday said if they wished the party to exit the tripartite 'Maha Vikas Aghadi', it would certainly be considered provided they showed the courage to return to the capital and present their demand before party chief and Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.

Mr. Raut claimed that the party was in touch with as many as 22 MLAs who had sided with Mr. Shinde, while adding that if it came to a floor test, the ruling coalition of the MVA (comprising the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and the Congress) would win.

Mr. Raut held a press conference in Mumbai along with Sena MLAs Nitin Deshmukh and Kailash Patil, who returned to Mumbai from the rebel camp.

"Do not shoot letters or



Chaos prevails: Sena MP Sanjay Raut, right, and other party leaders at a press conference in Mumbai on Thursday. •PTI

communicate over mobile phones and social media platforms like WhatsApp and Twitter sitting there in Guwahati. You [rebel MLAs] claim to be firm Shiv Sainiks. If your stance is about Sena leaving the MVA, then we are ready to do so. But first come to Mumbai within 24 hours," said Mr. Raut.

Mr. Raut's remark has not gone down well with his allies, the NCP and the Congress, who have been backing Mr. Thackeray and speaking of saving the government.

"He should have consulted the MVA allies before

making such a statement," said senior NCP leader Chhagan Bhujbal.

Senior Congress leader Prithviraj Chavan said it wasn't clear whether the Sena would go with the BJP if they were ready to exit the MVA as stated by Mr. Raut. "While CM Uddhav Thackeray hasn't said anything of the sort [exiting the MVA], is it under some sort of pressure that Sena leaders are making such statements? I do not think Mr. Thackeray will take such a U-turn within 24 hours. Finally, it is their internal matter," Mr. Chavan said.

BJP wants numbers for polls: Cong.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Asserting that the Congress party stands with the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) in Maharashtra, Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in the Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, on Thursday said that the BJP was trying to bring down the government in the State with an eye on the Presidential polls.

"The BJP is trying to destabilise the Maharashtra government because they want numbers for the Presidential elections," Mr. Kharge told reporters.

"I can directly say that the Central government and the BJP are interfering to destabilise a stable government. All these things like shifting of MLAs to BJP-ruled States like Gujarat and Assam cannot happen in a day's time," he noted.

Other States may be next, says Mamata

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Accusing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of trying to topple the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government in Maharashtra in an "unethical and unconstitutional" manner, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday said that the BJP would target other States next.

"What is happening in Maharashtra is shocking. There should be justice for the electorate's mandate. After Maharashtra, they will topple governments in other States," the Chief Minister told reporters.

Sonia to appear before ED in late July

She has been advised to rest at home, say sources

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has asked Congress president Sonia Gandhi to record her statement with the agency sometime in late July after it accepted her plea to postpone her deposition in a money-laundering case linked to the *National*

Herald newspaper, officials said on June 23.

She was issued a second summons for June 23 by the agency but the 75-year-old Congress leader could not keep the date as she "has been strictly advised to rest at home following her hospitalisation on account of COVID-19 and lung infection".

Sources said the federal agency has postponed her questioning in the case for about four weeks and she has now been asked to de-

pose sometime in the last week of July. Ms. Gandhi was first issued the notice for an appearance on June 8 but after she reported positive for COVID-19, the summons for June 23 was issued.

The Congress president was on June 20 discharged from a private hospital in Delhi where she was admitted for COVID-related complications. She was admitted to the hospital on June 12, days after she tested positive on June 2.

MLAs in Guwahati for temple fair: Sonowal

Three more Sena MLAs reach city early on Thursday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The dissident MLAs from Maharashtra timed their visit to Guwahati with Ambubachi — the five-day fair at the Kamakhya Temple to mark the annual menstruation cycle of the presiding goddess, according to AYUSH Minister Sarbananda Sonowal.

Mr. Sonowal, a former Chief Minister, has been visiting the flood-affected areas of Assam.

"Lakhs of people have been visiting Kamakhya during Ambubachi, which started Wednesday (June 22), every year. They include ministers and MLAs from all over India," he said.

"The Maharashtra MLAs have also come ahead of Ambubachi. One should not politicise their visit just for the sake of it," Mr. Sonowal said

after four more independent Maharashtra MLAs reached Guwahati on Wednesday night.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma also found a divine link to the huddle of the Maharashtra MLAs in a luxury hotel in Guwahati.

"They have brought Goddess Laxmi with them. It is difficult for hotels to find clients during floods in Assam and the MLAs from Maharashtra are ensuring in-

come for the hotel," he said. The hotel where the Maharashtra MLAs are staying has virtually been turned into a fortress.

Except for senior BJP leaders and a few leading traders and businessmen in Assam, none have been allowed in or out by the security forces guarding the hotel.

Among those who were escorted into the hotel were three Shiv Sena MLAs who reached Guwahati by flight on Thursday morning.

LS bypolls a crucial test for AAP, SP

Elections held to 3 Lok Sabha and 7 Assembly seats in U.P., Punjab and Tripura

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

In a crucial test to the Samajwadi Party and the Aam Aadmi Party, byelections were held to Azamgarh and Rampur in Uttar Pradesh and Sangrur in Punjab on Thursday.

The results, which will be declared on Sunday, will reveal if the Samajwadi Party, despite its defeat in the Assembly election, can hold on to its bastions. For the AAP, the byelections, coming on the heels of the murder of Sidhu Moosewala which drew allegations of a law-and-order breakdown in Punjab, will test whether the popularity of the Bhagwant Mann government can withstand the outrage.

The byelections in Uttar Pradesh were necessitated by the resignation of SP chief Akhilesh Yadav and senior leader Azam Khan after both chose to retain the Assembly seats they won in the recent election.

The BJP is particularly



A Reang tribal woman shows her finger marked with ink after casting vote in North Tripura district on Thursday. •PTI

hopeful of winning the Rampur seat, considering it has an equal number of Hindu and Muslim voters. It has fielded Ghanshyam Singh Lodhi who recently joined the party. Asim Raja, hand-picked by Mr. Khan, is the SP candidate. The Mayawati-led BSP is not contesting the seat.

In Azamgarh, it is a straight contest between SP president Akhilesh Yadav's cousin Dharmendra Yadav and BJP candidate Dinesh

Lal Yadav "Nirhua", a popular Bhojpuri actor-singer. Mr. Akhilesh defeated Dinesh Lal in the 2019 Lok Sabha election by a handsome margin. All the four Assembly segments — Azamgarh, Mubarakpur, Sagdi, Gopalpur and Mehnagar — of this Lok Sabha constituencies were won by the SP in the recent Assembly election.

Neither Mr. Akhilesh nor his wife, Dimple, campaigned this time, though the party machinery was de-

ployed in both the constituencies. The party is confident of winning both the seats.

The byelection in Sangrur was called after Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann vacated the seat on winning the Assembly polls. Mr. Mann has held the seat twice, winning in 2014 and 2019. The AAP government has been on the backfoot since Congress leader and popular singer Sidhu Moosewala's murder.

Polls were also held for seven Assembly seats spread across six States. In Tripura, the elections were marred by incidents of violence.

The Congress, CPI(M) and the Trinamool Congress have alleged that BJP cadres unleashed terror and planned assaults, booth jamming and rigging to reduce the election to a farce.

The BJP denied the allegations, and said the polls are taking place under the close watch of the Election Commission.

Cong. targets Modi govt. on freedom of speech

Veteran deletes tweet on Agnipath

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday targeted the Narendra Modi government on the question of freedom of speech over the now deleted tweet by Captain (retd.) Bana Singh against the Agnipath recruitment scheme.

Jairam Ramesh, All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary for communication, tweeted: "The fact that a Paramvir Chakra awardee had to delete an honest, heartfelt tweet against the Agnipath scheme demonstrates that in Modi's India not only Freedom of Speech, but Freedom AFTER Speech is also under peril!"



Captain (retd.) Bana Singh

In the now deleted tweet, Capt. Singh, recipient of the highest military honour of Param Vir Chakra, had said "save the country" from the Agnipath scheme as it would badly damage the youth.

The veteran subsequently withdrew his comments and said he would now wait for the scheme to unfold.

Punjab officials flayed for seeking polling extension

EC seeks answers for last-minute letter

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Thursday expressed its "displeasure" with Punjab government officers for seeking a last-minute extension to the polling hours for the ongoing Sangrur Lok Sabha byelection.

The EC sought explanations from the Punjab Chief Secretary and the Sangrur Deputy Commissioner, who is the Returning Officer, according to a letter by the EC to the Punjab Chief Electoral Officer. The EC stated in its letter that the Returning Officer and subsequently the Chief Secretary had written to the poll body at 4.05 p.m. seeking an exten-

sion to the poll hours, while the polling was originally scheduled only till 6 p.m. Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, who had vacated the Sangrur seat in March after winning the Punjab Assembly polls, said in a tweet today that the poll timing should be extended for an hour as a section of the voters were busy working in their paddy fields.

The EC said the Returning Officer and Chief Secretary's letters amounted to an "attempt of unduly interfering in the election process and influence certain class of voters by conveying them to expedite voting or wait for a time extension."

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY. e-Tender Notice
Tender No: SE/PHC/KKD/04/2022-23. JJM PHASE II (2021-22) - Augmentation of WSS to Kaniyambetta GP and providing FHTCS (5132FHTC) in KANIYAMBETTA Panchayath in Wayanad District. EMD : Rs. 500000. Tender fee : Rs. 15000+18% GST. Last Date for submitting Tender: 18-07-2022 05:00:pm.
Phone: 04952371046 Superintending Engineer PH Circle Kozhikode
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in KWA-JB-GL-6-404-2022-23

DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (UP)
Ph:0522-4918510. Fax:0522-4918506 Website : www.drmlims.ac.in
Ref. No. RMLIMS/IM/2022-23/1327. Dated: 23.06.2022
Tender Notice (2nd Time Offer)
On-line offers are invited through BQQ Based GeM bidding from Manufacturer/ Bidders/Firms/Fabricators for the supply of one Cancer Detection and Awareness Mobile Van with all medical & other equipments including furniture & fixtures on turnkey basis. The offers submitted earlier for the same item by the bidder against GeM Bid No.GEM/2022/B/2210369 dated 26-05-2022 will be treated as cancelled.
The Vendors are required to submit their fresh offer on GeM portal only in two bids system i.e. technical & financial bid as per norms of GeM portal.
For detailed information like terms and conditions, specifications, Date of Submission and opening of bid etc., you may please visit the GeM portal. Details are also available in our website www.drmlims.ac.in for reference only. **Director**

ODISHA HYDRO POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)
OHPC Regd. Office: ODISHA STATE POLICE HOUSING & WELFARE CORPORATION BUILDING VANVIHAR CHOUK, JANPATH, BHOINAGAR, BHUBANESWAR - 751022
Tel: 91-0674-2542983, 2542802, 2545526, Fax-2542102, e-mail - ohpc.co@gmail.com
CIN : U40101OR1995SGC003963
No.OHPC:OHPC:TECH:C&P:04/2022-23/ 4072 Dated : 22.06.2022
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Sealed Tenders are invited in two parts i.e. (i) Techno Commercial Bid & (ii) Price Bid in separate sealed envelopes from the Registered Manufacturers only having valid GST Registration Certificate & IT PAN for supply of the following:
TCN NO. Description of Services Cost of Tender Paper (Non-refundable in Rs.) EMD
OHPC/CO/C&P/05/2022-23 Design, Manufacturing, Supply including Supervision of Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 01 no of 11235 KV, 63 MVA Generator Transformer for Rengali Hydro Electric Project, Rengali 11,800/- (10,000 + GST @18%) Bid Security Declaration Form duly signed by the bidder in lieu of EMD
For details of the tender documents, terms and conditions please visit / refer our website www.ohpcld.com from Dated 30.06.2022. C & P Head
CAD-900: OIPR-04012/11/0007/2223

Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation
राजस्थान कौशल एवं आजीविका विकास निगम
(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise)
Notice Inviting Request for Proposal
RFP No: RFLD/RS/DC/Sankalp/RFP/Tracer Study/2021-22/2470-74 Date:17/06/2022
Managing Director, Rajasthan Skill & Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC) Dept. of Skill, Govt. of Rajasthan, invites proposals (Single Bid Two Envelope System) from reputed and experienced Agencies for conducting a tracer study on -
*Skill Impact, Skill development programs (ongoing) & Tracking of Placement of youths in Rajasthan.
Kindly note that the selection of agencies under this RFP will not guarantee allocation of work and RSLDC will assume no liability or cost towards it. RSLDC makes no commitments, express or implied, that this process will result in a business transaction between anyone.
The undersigned reserves the right to issue addendum/corrigendum/modification or to amend any or all conditions of this RFP Document or to accept or reject any or all proposal(s) or to cancel the whole of this RFP at any stage without assigning any reason thereof and no bidder shall have any cause of action or claim against the undersigned or RSLDC for the same.
UBN No.: SLD2223SLOB00011
Raj.Samwad/C/22/3877 Managing Director

REBUILD KERALA INITIATIVE (RKI)
Planning & Economic Affairs (RKI) Department, Government of Kerala
1A, CALSAR Heather Tower, Near Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram-695001.
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)/PRE-QUALIFICATION
No. RKI/130/2021-PLGEA Dated 23/06/2022
The KW has supported the State of Kerala through Climate Loan Kerala Accompanying Measure (AM) Grants. The RKI invites EOI for the following services under the Grants.
Sl. No. Tender Reference No. Tender Type Consulting Services for
1. BMZ202070183/ KFW508409 International Competitive Bidding Capacity Development for Risk-informed and Effective Urban Planning and Policy Formulation
2. BMZ202070183/ KFW508056 National Competitive Bidding Energy Efficient Water Supply Schemes- Energy Audit and Energy Optimization for Kerala Water Authority (KWA)
Details can be accessed at e-procurement portal: https://etenders.kerala.gov.in. Last date for submission of bids: 27/07/2022, 6:00 PM IST. For general information, please contact: Ph.0471-2332744/2333744. Email: rkisecretariat@gmail.com, rkisecretariat@kerala.gov.in
Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, RKI

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division, 2nd Floor, Shakthi Soudha, 13th Cross Road, 4th B Main Road, M.C. Layout, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru - 560040.
No: EE/(GRN)/TN/GL-07/2022-23 Date: 22-06-2022
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)
Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division for the works detailed below from the registered Contractors of BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-3)
Sl. No. Name of the Work Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakhs) EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1 Improvements of Drains & Asphalting to Cross Roads and Main Roads in Ward No. 103, Kaveripura. 100.00 200000.00
2 Improvements of Drains and Roads in Adharsha Nagara and Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 127, Mudalalapa. 100.00 200000.00
3 Improvements of Roads and CC Drains at Byraveshwaranagara and Surrounding Areas in Ward No. 127, Mudalalapa. 100.00 200000.00
4 Improvements of Drains at Byraveshwaranagara in Ward No. 127, Mudalalapa. 100.00 200000.00
5 Improvements and Renovation of Govt. Primary School Building in Byraveshwaranagara in Ward No. 127, Mudalalapa. 100.00 200000.00
6 Improvements to BBMP Primary School and High School in Ward No. 127, Mudalalapa. 100.00 200000.00
Calendar of Events: 1) The tender document can be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in 2) Last Date for Receipt of Queries: 29-06-2022 upto 15.00 Hrs. 3) Date of Pre Bid Meeting on 30-06-2022 at 15.30 Hrs. at the Office of Executive Engineer (Govindarajanagara Division). 4) Last Date for Uploading the Filled Proposals is 05-07-2022 upto 16.00 Hrs. 5) Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is 06-07-2022 after 16.30 Hrs. Further details can be had from the above office.
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Govindarajanagara Division, BBMP.
PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene

Minister calls for testing, surveillance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Following an upsurge in COVID-19 cases in some States, Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya chaired a meeting with key experts and officials on Thursday to review the situation.

The Minister yet again stressed the need to focus on districts reporting high case positivity and undertake adequate testing (with higher proportion of RT-PCR) and effective COVID-19 surveillance to assess and control the spread of infection in a timely manner.

Dr. Mandaviya directed the officials to continue to focus on surveillance and on whole genome sequencing (WGS) to scan for any possible mutation. The State governments have been instructed to monitor hospitalisations due to COVID-19 and severe acute respiratory infection/influenza-like illness (SARI/ILI).

The Minister said "there should be no vaccine wastage, while focusing on accelerating vaccination among the eligible and vulnerable groups".

The meeting was attended by Ajay K. Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser; Balram Bhargava, Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research; Vaidya Rajesh Korecha, Secretary, AYUSH, and others.

Silchar town cut off for a week

2.8 lakh people marooned; situation worsened after several dykes breached

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

Floodwaters have refused to drain out of Silchar, a southern Assam town, where about 2.8 lakh people have been marooned for almost a week.

The headquarters of Cachar district, Silchar is about 310 km southeast of Guwahati.

"Among the 2.8 lakh affected people are our officers, staff, grocers, labourers and drivers. This has affected the relief service delivery and we have not been able to go to areas such as NH Road, Sharatpally and Das Colony, where the [water] current is still strong," Cachar's Deputy Commissioner, Keerthi Jalli, said after Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma made an aerial survey of the flood-hit district.

"Despite the odds, we have been able to distribute 40,000 litres of water, 24,000 milk cans and 10,000 quintals of rice with dal and oil to the people in the district," she added.

"All the police stations and police lines in Silchar are under water. But that has not stopped our personnel from joining six teams of NDRF [National Disaster Response Force] in rescue operations. Four NDRF teams had to be brought from Odisha because the scale of operations has increased," Cachar's Superintendent of Police, Ramandeep Kaur Dhillon told *The Hindu* on Thursday.



Escape plan: About 40,000 litres of water, 24,000 milk cans and 10,000 quintals of rice have been distributed by the police to the people in Cachar district. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Incessant heavy rainfall in the upstream of the Barak river – it originates in Manipur and flows into Bangladesh as the Surma – has made it flow above the previous highest level of 21.84 metres recorded in 1989. Near Lakhimpur town upstream, the river rose 2.6 metres above the danger level of 23.88 metres a few days ago.

The situation worsened due to breaches in a series of dykes. But the main damage was done by some people of Mahisar Beel, about 4 km from Silchar, who cut a wide passage through the Bethukandi embankment a month ago to drain out the floodwaters.

The water had then ac-

cumulated after overtopping the embankment along the Barak river.

Submerged transformers Assam's Transport Minister Parimal Suklabaidya, who represents the equally affected Dholai constituency nearby, said many areas of Cachar district have been without power and mobile phone connectivity for at least four days. "Some 4,000 transformers are under water in the district," he said.

"We are used to floods almost every year, but this is perhaps the worst in decades," local resident Aniruddha Laskar said.

On June 20, Dipayan Chakraborty, MLA, sent an SOS to the Northeast Fron-

tier Railway (NFR) to set up relief camps on the high platforms of the railway station in the town, the nerve centre of the landlocked Bengali-dominated Barak Valley.

Without any trains to operate since mid-May, when the arterial track through the adjoining hill district of Dima Hasao was damaged extensively, the NFR obliged. "Some 200 people have taken shelter on the platforms since June 21, and more are coming," a Railway spokesperson said on Thursday.

Railway authorities said the pressure would ease in a few days. About 80% of the 26.88 sq. km town remains flooded, an improvement though from the 95% a couple of days ago.

India is central to Australia's world view: Deputy PM Marles

'China seeking to shape world in a way like never before'

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

Australia sees India as "completely central" to its "world view", Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Richard Marles said here on Thursday. Stating that China was seeking to shape the world around it in a way that "we have not seen before", he said Australia and India had a shared objective to try and protect the global rules-based order.

"For Australia, China is our largest trading partner. That's the same for India. For Australia, China is our largest security anxiety and so is for India," Mr. Marles said while talking to a select group of journalists before concluding his India visit.

Responding to questions on China, he said it was seeking to shape the world around it in a way that we have not seen before and that has really evolved in the past decade. "Especially in the last few years, we have seen a more assertive Chinese behaviour with respect to that," he said stating it was seen with India along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and in the South China Sea (SCS).

"We have seen that with respect to the LAC, and the incident that occurred a couple of years ago where there was appalling behaviour against Indian soldiers, and we stand in solidarity with



Richard Marles

India in respect of that incident," he said. "For us, we are experiencing that in the South China Sea."

With India on LAC

Elaborating, he said when Australia looked at what happened at the LAC, it was seeing one country seeking to deal with its disputes not against a set of rules but with power and through force. "That's a concern," he said.

In the SCS too, "we are seeing greater assertiveness on the part of China", he said pointing to the construction of artificial islands and assertion by China on the sovereignty which he said was inconsistent with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). "When we look at Chinese behaviour, what we are seeing is an assertive behaviour which seeks to challenge the established rules-based order," Mr. Marles said.

"That's where Australia and India have a shared ob-

jective of establishing that global rules-based order," he said.

Talking of shared values between India and Australia, the Deputy PM said both were democracies, had rule of law applicable within their countries, and were seeking to build and respect a global rules-based order that was fundamentally important. We also share geography and Australia is an Indian Ocean country, he said. "In that respect all roads lead to India."

Defence and security cooperation between the two countries had seen a significant expansion in recent years. On this, Mr. Marles said they wanted to see greater frequency of activity in operations and exercises and also "greater frequency and complexity" to increase interoperability.

He said the Indian Air Force would take part in Exercise Pitch Black to be hosted by Australia in August.

Talking of the Quad, the Deputy PM said it was not a security alliance, and defence and security was not part of it. Similarly, the AUKUS trilateral initiative was not a security alliance. "It is technology sharing between Australia, the U.S. and the UK," he said. On the war in Ukraine, Mr. Marles reiterated that the position India took on Ukraine was a matter for India.

Group wants new order on MGNREGA workers revoked

Rule mandates recording attendance on a mobile app

SOBHANA K. NAIR
NEW DELHI

The Union Rural Development Ministry must withdraw its order to discontinue manual attendance for Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) work sites with more than 20 workers and use a mobile phone-based application, National Mobile Monitoring Software (NMMS), for recording attendance, the Peoples Action For Employment Guarantee (PAEG), a group of academics and activists working in the field, says.

The PAEG, in a recent letter to Secretary, Rural Development, N.N. Sinha, said that the Ministry's May 13 order is in violation of the NREGA law and also flagged a series of technical and sociological issues with the app.

Section 15 - Schedule 1 that lays down rules about the muster rolls – clearly says that the muster roll



The app wants MGNREGA workers to upload two time-stamped photos daily.

must be accessible to the workers on demand all days during all working hours. If the muster roll is available only digitally, access will be limited.

The app specifies that it is mandatory for workers to upload two time-stamped photos within a pre-determined time window designed by the app.

"This is in direct contravention of Section 3 of the Act which clearly states that workers are entitled to their wages on the basis of work

completed by them that is on a piece rate basis," the letter states.

The app discourages women from being mates which fundamentally undermines the Ministry's own repeated push towards encouraging women workers as NREGA mates.

"Having a smartphone is now mandatory for mates to record attendance on the NMMS. However, many women from poorer households do not have access to smartphones. Even amongst families that have smartphones, it is an accepted reality that women are the last ones to access them as per priority," the letter says.

The app has been designed completely in English and there is no technical help provided to redress problems. In case of a glitch, the workers who come to sites are told to go back, since attendance cannot be registered. This, PAEG said, is a violation of rights.

Pets will have to wait for COVID jab

Vaccine technology ready but necessary approval needed to get it to end users

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

End-users will have to wait a bit longer to get their hands on the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine for their pets with the Central government still working on issuing the necessary approvals to introduce the vaccine in the Indian market.

Globally India is the third to produce SARS-CoV-2 vaccine for animals. Besides use in pets (cats/dogs) and zoo animals in India, the vaccine had export potential, said Yash Pal, Director, ICAR-National Research Centre on Equines.

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar earlier this month launched the animal vaccine and other diagnostic kits developed by the ICAR-National Research Centre on Equines.

The Ancovax Vaccine is an inactivated SARS-CoV-2 Delta (COVID-19) vaccine for animals. The immunity induced by Ancovax neutralises both Delta and Omicron Variants of SARS-CoV-2.

It is safe for dogs, lions, le-



Last in line: The immunity induced by Ancovax Vaccine for pets neutralises both Delta and Omicron variants. *FILE PHOTO

opards, mice and rabbits.

SARS-CoV-2 infects lions/leopards/tigers/cats/dogs in order of disease severity. Currently the disease does not seem to be lethal in dogs, despite high prevalence (~40%) of antibodies (subclinical infection).

Zoo, wild animals

Also based on the mortality of lions/leopards/tigers in India and the rest of the world, the vaccine can be used to provide protection against SARS-CoV-2 in zoo/wild animals. The vaccine technology is ready, but necessary ap-

proval would be required to make the vaccine reach the end users.

"The technology would be commercialised to scale it up," Dr. Pal said. He added that as a research organisation they could only produce about 1,000 doses.

Speaking about the vaccine, Dr. Pal said that his team started working on the vaccine in the beginning of the first wave of COVID-19 in India because immediately after the emergence of the pandemic in humans, there were reports of COVID-19 like illness in cats in the U.S.

Plea to change call sign VT on Indian aircraft

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A petition moved before the Delhi High Court on Thursday sought a direction to the Centre to change the call sign 'VT' of Indian aircraft which stands for 'Victorian Territory' or 'Viceroy Territory', a legacy of British Raj.

Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, in his plea, said the prefix 'VT' is the nationality code that each aircraft registered in India is required to carry. The code is generally seen just before the rear exit door and above the windows. Mr. Upadhyay said all the domestic airlines have the prefix 'VT', which is followed by unique alphabets that define the aircraft and who it belongs to. It said Britain set the prefix 'VT' for all the colonies in 1929. While countries such as China, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka changed their call signs after independence, the prefix has remained on Indian aircraft even after 93 years.

THE CROSSWORD + 13591
(set by Gussalufz)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site @ <https://qrqo.page.link/jjpTn>

SCAN TO PLAY

14 Tornado twisting across Florida's western tip like a pendulum (2-3-3)
16 Akram sprints, occasionally showing this body part (6)
19 Fix decoration on a wall while singing (6)
20 Rebellious Tea Party rules after loss of Liberal trust in 2016, perhaps (4,4)
23 Can judge deduct a little bit from bond money? (4)
25 Ship packed with the best medicine and creams? (10)
28 Hundred grand gets a vehicle (5)
29 Like the government in 1984, spin today's development (9)
30 Mass of half of seed grain divided by five (7)
31 A good man caught in extraordinarily messy procedures (7)

Down
1 Budget shortfall is nearly certain as Norway turns to carbon (7)
2 What an autobiography might reveal about its author's life, mega-dramatically (4-5)
3 Out of control boy in charge (5)
4 Take back what was lost, perhaps, as robber is out (8)
5 Courage to abandon love for a war (6)
6 Enclosure rolling within garden walls? (4)
7 Senior England opener, frequently dropped (5)
8 Plastic studs that grip a wicket (some help for a bowler in a rain-affected match) (7)
13 Deceive and split up (4)
15 English extremists in extremely dire confusion (4)
17 Explain in advance – king is into deep frying, OK? (9)
18 English queen wearing tops (inherited stuff) (8)
19 As if Taj cooked Mexican food! (7)
21 Isn't happy about citizens without papers (7)
22 Man with sloppily glued makeshift solution (6)
24 Private hotel suite & chauffeur, finally! (5)
26 Essentially the aroma of old Bob's feet (5)
27 Charge one for transport (4)

Across
1 One wanting grass after retirement (over a title) (7)
5 Student overwhelmed by exceptionally subtle points (7)
9 Loud, posh lawyer's concluding as loudly as possible (4-5)
10 Opportunity (bar night for a start!) for wife when husband is late (5)
11 Cold food eaten while throwing a tantrum (10)
12 Thakur Durgapratap's source for biryani and korma (4)

SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

Solution to puzzle 13590

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

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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

FAITH

God's helping hand

True knowledge is the jnana by which the soul tries to overcome the primordial ignorance that is the cause for the endless cycle of birth, says Tiruvalluvar with his characteristic brevity. In this Kural, he has condensed the highest philosophical thought in simple terms. Saivism has systematised and explained the esoteric truths about the soul or life, uyr; its eternal relationship with God, whose creation is this entire prapancham; vinal, the good and bad effects of our acts; ariyamai, ignorance, etc, pointed out Sri Nallur Sa Saravanan in a discourse.

"Uyr" is the life that is born in a body. It then lives in it for some time and then takes a new body. It thus travels through various births, when the soul gets the chance to better its own awareness of God. The uyr has to connect with God who is the Eternal Truth. But it is covered with ajnana or ignorance that is held to be anadi or without a beginning. It is made very clear that though ignorance is anadi, it can be brought to an end with divine knowledge. God helps the jiva to come out of ariyamai and endows it with spiritual awareness. Though these truths are not apprehended by all, there have lived men and women who have chosen to make themselves pure in heart and spirit and have lived a life of austere practices. They have spoken of their direct knowledge and closeness with God.

From Tirunavukkarasar's hymns we understand that God Himself becomes the thavam or penance and His grace fosters his spiritual growth at every step. God chooses His ways to help every individual effort both from outside and inside. Manikkavachagar says he attained the state of Siva Jnana by his thavam. Thavam or 'tapas' helps one to attain purity of thought, word and deed and experience His proximity.

India promises Sri Lanka 'fullest support'

Colombo has sought a further \$500 million from New Delhi to import fuel and is awaiting a response

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

India on Thursday assured Sri Lanka of its "fullest support" to help the island tide over its unprecedented economic crisis while "considering further financial assistance", the Sri Lankan President's office said.

A delegation from New Delhi led by Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra, and including Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs; V. Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Adviser; and Kartik Pande, Joint Secretary to the Indian Ocean Region Division at the Ministry of External Affairs, visited Colombo on Thursday.

During the visit, spanning barely half a day, the Indian officials met President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, and held discussions on New Delhi's ongoing assistance, of over \$3.5 billion since January 2022, to the island nation. Indian assistance so far has been extended by way of currency



Staunch backing: The Indian delegation led by Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra meeting Sri Lankan President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on Thursday. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

swaps, loan deferments and credit lines for essential imports.

Colombo has sought a further \$500 million from New Delhi to import fuel and is awaiting a response, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe recently told *The Hindu* in an interview.

IMF talks

The Sri Lankan government is currently holding talks with a visiting delegation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), on a debt restructure programme, but is

also urgently looking for bridging finance to cope with the acute shortages of essentials that have left citizens struggling.

"Sri Lanka has already received essential food items, fuel, medicine, and fertilizer under the Indian credit line facility... The Indian delegation stated that the Government of India and the political authorities are committed to provide continued support to Sri Lanka," President Gotabaya's office said in a statement.

"Both parties discussed

the future course of action of the Indian aid programme to stabilize and revive the Sri Lankan economy, at length," it further said, adding that the Indian delegation arrived in the island "to consider further financial assistance" to Sri Lanka. A statement from the Indian High Commission said: "Both sides highlighted the importance of promoting India-Sri Lanka investment partnership including in the fields of infrastructure, connectivity, renewable energy, and deepening

economic linkages between the two countries."

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, who's in Rwanda to attend the Commonwealth Summit, met his Sri Lankan counterpart G.L. Peiris. "Talked about Commonwealth issues as well as India's support for Sri Lanka at this time," Mr. Jaishankar tweeted about the meeting.

From the beginning of this year, India has signed key bilateral agreements with Sri Lanka, to jointly develop the Trincomalee Oil Tank Farm and set up (through the National Thermal Power Corporation), a solar power plant in Sampur.

Both are located in the Eastern Province. In the renewable energy sector, India's Adani Group signed an agreement to execute projects in Mannar and Pooneryn in the Northern Province, sparking a controversy over its entry into the island's energy sector, outside of any known competitive bidding process. Colombo has defended the \$500 million deal.

Supreme Court order expands gun rights in U.S.

Ruling follows a series of mass firings

ASSOCIATED PRESS
WASHINGTON

The Supreme Court said Thursday that Americans have a right to carry guns in public, a major expansion of gun rights.

The Justices' 6-3 decision follows a series of recent mass shootings and is expected to ultimately allow more people to legally carry guns on the streets of the nation's largest cities — including New York, Los Angeles and Boston — and elsewhere. About a quarter of the U.S. population lives in states expected to be affected by the ruling, the high court's first major gun decision in more than a decade.

The ruling comes as Congress is actively working on gun legislation following recent mass shootings in Texas, New York and California. Justice Clarence Thomas wrote for the majority that the Constitution protects "an individual's right to carry a handgun for self-defense outside the home."

In their decision, the Jus-

tics struck down a New York law requiring people to demonstrate a particular need for carrying a gun in order to get a license to carry one in public. The Justices said the requirement violates the Second Amendment right to "keep and bear arms."

California, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Rhode Island all have similar laws. The Biden administration had urged the Justices to uphold New York's law.

Backers of New York's law had argued that striking it down would ultimately lead to more guns on the streets and higher rates of violent crime. The decision comes at a time when gun violence already on the rise during the coronavirus pandemic has spiked anew.

The Supreme Court last issued a major gun decision in 2010. In that decision and a ruling from 2008 the Justices established a nationwide right to keep a gun at home for self-defense.

Head of Iran's IRGC intel unit sacked

REUTERS

Iran has dismissed the powerful chief of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps' (IRGC) intelligence unit, Hossein Taeb, Iranian state TV reported on Thursday, days after Israeli media accused him of being behind an alleged Iranian plot to kill or abduct Israeli tourists in Turkey.

The station gave no reason for the change, but said Mr. Taeb had been appointed as an advisor to the Guards' Commander-in-Chief Hossein Salami. He will be replaced by Mohammad Kazemi, previously head of the Revolutionary Guards Intelligence Protection unit.

Israel raised its Istanbul travel advisory to the highest alert level on June 13 because of what it said was a threat to Israelis vacationing in Turkey. Before becoming the Guards Intelligence Chief, Mr. Taeb worked at the office of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei.

Afghans search for survivors in rubble, day after massive quake

Villagers rush to bury the dead; toll could be at least 1,000

ASSOCIATED PRESS
GAYAN

Villagers rushed to bury the dead Thursday and dug by hand through the rubble of their homes in search of survivors of a powerful earthquake in eastern Afghanistan that killed at least 1,000 people the previous day.

The Taliban and the international community that fled their takeover struggled to bring help to the disaster's victims.

Under a leaden sky in Paktika province, which was the epicentre of Wednesday's magnitude 6 earthquake, men dug a line of graves in one village, as they tried to lay the dead to rest quickly in line with Muslim tradition. In one courtyard, bo-



Aftershock of hunger: Bags of bread brought by a Taliban helicopter for victims in Gayan on Thursday. *REUTERS

dies lay wrapped in plastic to protect them from the rains that are hampering relief efforts for the living.

The quake was Afghanistan's deadliest in two decades, and, with the full extent of the destruction

among the villages tucked in the mountains only slowly coming to light, officials said the toll could rise.

An estimated 1,500 others were reported injured, the state-run *Bakhtar News Agency* said.

Biden has 'no problem' talking human rights to foreign leaders

WH 'can't speak' of the Biden-Modi meet agenda

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

Asked whether U.S. President Joe Biden would press Prime Minister Narendra Modi "to protect" India's Muslims, when the two meet virtually in July at a summit, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre did not say he would, but said that President had "no problem" talking human rights with foreign leaders.

"He [Mr. Biden] has no problem talking to leaders about humanitarian rights, about freedoms, about the importance of democracy. This is something that the President has done in the past. I can't speak to, specifically, what's going to be on the agenda and what their conversation is going to be," Ms. Jean-Pierre said, at the White House briefing on Wednesday.

She also said Mr. Biden was a "straight shooter" and speaks "very

frankly". "And when it comes to humanitarian rights, has no problem having those direct conversations — leader-leader conversations," she said.

House demolition

Ms. Pierre was also asked if the White House had a comment on Indian authorities demolishing the houses of those protesting against comments made against the Prophet. She did not answer the question.

The Prime Minister and President Biden are expected to meet virtually during Mr. Biden's July 13-16 trip to West Asia. The leaders will meet at a virtual 'I2U2' summit — a four country group comprised of India, Israel, the U.S. and the UAE. Mr. Modi is also attending the Group of Seven meeting in Schloss Elmau, Germany, on June 26-27, where Mr. Biden will also be present.

'Russia captures Donbas villages near Severodonetsk'

Ukraine says it had a population of 1,00,000

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KYIV

Ukraine said on Thursday that its troops lost control over two settlements in the eastern Donbas region where it is fighting fiercely to retain control of the twin cities of Severodonetsk and Lysychansk.

"We lost control over Loskutivka and Rai-Oleksandrivka," said the Lugansk regional governor, Sergiy Gaiday, referring to two hamlets south east of Lysychansk.

Their capture puts Russian troops deeper in the Donbas region where they appear closer to encircling the two urban hubs which are separated

by the Donets river. Mr. Gaiday added that Russian forces were working to capture Severodonetsk, an industrial town with a pre-war population of around 1,00,000 where Ukrainian and Russian troops have been fighting in a brutal stand-off for weeks.

The Lugansk regional governor said Moscow's army was "conducting offensive operations to encircle our troops in the Lysychansk area, and are blocking the Lysychansk-Bakhmut route," a key lifeline out of the embattled area. The Russians are "storming Svyrotyne," he added, referring to a settlement adjacent to Severodonetsk's southern edges.

Suu Kyi moved to solitary confinement

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
YANGON

Ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi remained in strong spirits after being transferred from house arrest to prison, a source with knowledge of the case said on Thursday.

Since being deposited in a coup last year, Ms. Suu Kyi

had been under house arrest at an undisclosed location in Naypyidaw, accompanied by several domestic staff and her dog, according to sources.

"Her future trial hearings would take place inside a courtroom within the prison compound," junta spokesman Zaw Min Tun said.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
TENDER CALL NOTICE
T/D/TM/IGEN-225(Vol-IV)/22/1094
dttd. 07.06.2022

Name of the work - "Allotment of 07 (Seven) nos. of Manual Iron Ore/Iron Ore Pellet Plots".

License Fees : Rs.2,36,09,322/-
Wharfage Fees : Rs.6,83,484/-
Last date & time of submission of bid : 28.06.2022 up to 16:00 hrs.
Date and time of opening (technical bid): 28.06.2022 up to 16:00 hrs.
Refer our website for details : <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.
Traffic Manager
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/166/22-23, Dtd. 23.06.2022

E-mail:ID-sectorb_2006@yahoo.co.in; Tel/Fax :- 0671-2301751/2302751
Government of Odisha
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CUTTACK (R&B) CIRCLE, CUTTACK
('e' - PROCUREMENT NOTICE)
Bid Identification No.CCE.Ctc.(R&B)3/2022-23

- The Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle, Cuttack on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites on Percentage rate basis bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road works as mentioned below.
- No. of work : 04 Nos.
- Nature of work : Road Works
- Class of contractor : 'A', Special & Super Class
- Tender Paper Cost : Rs.10000/- (Online)
- Availability of bid documents : From 30.06.2022 to 16:00 Hours of 15.07.2022 in the website
- Date of opening of bid : Dt. 16.07.2022 at 11.00 Hours.
- The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said web site.

Sd/- P.K.Pradhan
Chief Construction Engineer, Cuttack (R&B) Circle
B-307, OIPR-34012/11/0004/2223

T.S.R.T.C TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No.PSO(c)-W/20/WATER BOTTLES/2022-23, dt.22.6.2022

Sealed Tenders (Complete in all respects) are invited from the Manufacturers only for supply of the following items so as to reach the Purchase Officer(CHE, TSRTC, 3rd Floor, B-Block, Bus Bhavan, Mushirabad, Hyderabad-500020).

- Packaged drinking water bottles with sizes of 250ml, 500ml & 1 Litre bottles as per the BIS specification IS:14543:2016 to deliver to TSRTC Zonal Stores/HYD (Uppal) & Zonal Stores Karimnagar with TSRTC Label and Brand as approved by TSRTC from the Manufacturers of Packaged Drinking Water.

The Tenderers shall download the Tender Form, terms and conditions (with relevant details) from our Website <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> (Tenders).

The filled in tender documents shall be submitted along with the EMD and tender fee by way of DD to the Purchase Officer(CHE, TSRTC, 3rd Floor, B-Block, Bus Bhavan, Mushirabad, Hyderabad on or before 15.00hrs on 12.7.2022. Corporation reserves the right to reject/cancel any tender/all the tenders.

R.O. No. : 314-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23 Date: 23-06-2022 Sd/- CHIEF CONTROLLER OF STORES

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001.
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 96461-22185)

Tender Enquiry No. 258/SS-4(D) (under Vendor Development Policy) Dated: 22.06.2022

SE/Sub-Station(Design)/ TS Organization, C-1 Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Manufacture, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 100 nos. 11KV VCB Panels (SCADA-Compatible) under PSPCL VENDOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 24.06.2022 (09:00 AM onwards).

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

C 241/22 76155/12/945/2021/15161

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
MAHATHMA GANDHI HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER HOUSE
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK/INDENT/12494 Date: 14.06.2022

ABSTRACT "e" SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal only)

Bids in two covers are invited through e-Procurement Portal (Website: [URL:https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in](https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)) for the work of Design, Fabrication, Supply, Testing, Installation & Commissioning of one of slip ring set for 1st and 2nd stage Generators each at MGHE power house, from regular manufacturer/supplier/firm/agency and shall have proven experience in the field of repair and rectification of slip rings to power utilities as specified in the Pre-Qualifying Requirement in "e" tender notification. E.M.D: Rs. 29,750/-
Last Date & Time for on-line submission of tenders: 14.07.2022 upto 16:00Hrs. Opening the Technical Bid: 15.07.2022 at 16:30 Hrs. Further information if required can be obtained from office of the Executive Engineer (EM&O), MGHE Works, KPCL, Jog Falls-577 435, Sagar - Taluk, Shimoga - District, Karnataka. Mobile No. :94495 98853.

Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited (OSMC)
In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar-751 001
Tel.:(0674) 2380608; Website: www.osmclncln.in; Email: proc.osmclncln@nic.in

Assuring Quality, Saving Lives
Notification No.4335/OSMCL/2022 Date : 22.06.2022

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR PROCUREMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES FROM PROSPECTIVE DIAGNOSTIC CENTRES THROUGH EMPANELMENT TO CONDUCT MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY TESTS OF SAMPLES COLLECTED AT VARIOUS GOVT. HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>) are invited from eligible bidders to conduct molecular pathology tests of samples collected at various Govt. Healthcare Facilities as per the particulars mentioned below :

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1.	OSMCL/2022-23/EMPANELMENT MOLECULAR TESTS/05	Procurement Of Diagnostic Services From Prospective Diagnostic Centres Through Empanelment To Conduct Molecular Pathology Tests of Samples Collected at various Govt. Healthcare Facilities	5,600/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Date & time of release of bid	22.06.2022, 5 PM
2.	Date & time of Pre-bid meeting	29.06.2022, 11 AM Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time : 04.07.2022, 3 PM End Date & Time : 21.07.2022, 5 PM
4.	Date & time of online Technical Bid Opening	25.07.2022, 3 PM
5.	Date of demonstration of Equipment (If required by the Tender Inviting Authority for some equipments)	To be informed to those bidders whose bids are found to be technically responsive based on documents furnished in technical bid.
6.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, EMDs, Pre-qualification criteria and other terms & conditions are available in the websites: www.osmclncln.in and <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>. OSMCL reserves the right to reject or modify any conditions of the tender or cancel the tender or cancel the issued purchase order at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director, OSMC Ltd., Odisha
CAD-899 OIPR-10112/11/0022/2223

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU FINANCE DEPARTMENT Internship Programme 2022-23

Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for the "Internship Programme 2022-23" at Finance Department, Government of Tamil Nadu. The programme details are below:

Name of the programme	Nos.	Age Limit (as on 24.06.2022)	Duration	Monthly Stipend
Internship Programme 2022-23	20	22-30 years Age relaxation SC/ST - upto 35 years BC/MBC - upto 33 years	1 year	Rs.20000/-

Eligibility:

- Post-graduates/students pursuing doctoral programmes in majors: Economics, Finance, Law, Commerce, Management, Information Technology, and Statistics. Candidates must have attained at least distinction (75% or a CGPA of 7.5) in their post-graduate degree.
- Working knowledge of Tamil is mandatory

Selection Process:

- Online Assessment (Computer-Based Test) and Personal Interview

Location: The selected candidates will be assigned work in Chennai in various areas of the Finance Department.

Academic Partner: Bharathidasan Institute of Management (BIM), Tiruchirappalli. The application opens on 24th June 2022, and the last date for application submission is July 01, 2022. There is no application fee. For more details and to apply online, please visit www.bim.edu/tfndinternship. Applications other than online mode will not be accepted.

Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009.

DIPR /601/ Display / 2022

"சேர்தனை கடந்து கருத்திதரம் அடைந்தோம், சார்தனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்."

DIGITAL UNIVERSITY KERALA
Curating a responsible digital world

THE HINDU EDUCATION PLUS
CAREER COUNSELLING SERIES

A WEBINAR ON EMERGING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Dr. Saji Gopinath
Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Digital Sciences, Innovation and Technology

Shruti George
Vice President, Sustainability & Innovation, Avery Dennison, Netherlands

Anukripa Elango
Educator, (Moderator)

Saturday, 25th June 2022 @ 5:00 PM

To register visit bit.ly/DUKthe

Scan the QR code

MARKET WATCH

	23-06-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	52,266	0.86
US Dollar	78.32	-
Gold	50,719	-0.45
Brent oil	110.51	-0.79

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	675.30	7.00
Apollo Hosp	3850.50	62.75
Axis Bank	629.35	2.55
Bajaj Auto	3784.80	149.15
Bajaj Finserv	11552.85	117.30
Bajaj Finance	5448.15	8.55
Bharti Airtel	660.20	17.35
BPCIL	307.90	2.00
Britannia Ind	3411.45	7.80
Cipla	933.35	16.45
Coal India	177.15	-2.20
Dixie Lab	3667.30	66.70
Dr Reddys Lab	4294.90	34.00
Eicher Motors	2819.05	156.30
Grasim Ind	1316.05	-8.85
HCL Tech	971.25	9.95
HDFC	2164.20	4.95
HDFC Bank	1335.15	4.90
HDFC Life	558.10	6.30
Hero MotoCorp	2674.10	149.65
Hindalco	317.60	1.15
Hind Unilever	2252.60	49.75
ICICI Bank	699.15	12.55
IndusInd Bank	784.95	7.30
Infosys	1452.45	15.20
ITC	265.50	0.20
JSW Steel	558.95	8.55
Kotak Bank	1684.10	14.40
L&T	1494.30	15.55
M&M	1027.70	43.90
Maruti Suzuki	8271.00	488.25
Nestle India Ltd.	18696.30	201.15
NTPC	136.50	-1.15
ONGC	134.80	-0.05
PowerGrid Corp	208.55	-2.10
Reliance Ind	2464.95	-40.65
SBI Life	1073.85	3.40
State Bank	451.40	3.75
Shree Cement	18533.60	36.85
Sun Pharma	824.90	15.60
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	718.45	9.50
Tata Motors	407.20	14.10
Tata Steel	841.30	3.20
TCS	3308.80	85.85
Tech Mahindra	991.10	11.10
Titan	2041.40	10.20
UltraTech Cement	5410.30	0.35
UPL	633.20	19.55
Wipro	419.05	7.80

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 23

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	78.10	78.42
Euro	81.99	82.33
British Pound	95.33	95.72
Japanese Yen (100)	57.59	57.83
Chinese Yuan	11.64	11.70
Swiss Franc	80.82	81.16
Singapore Dollar	56.16	56.40
Canadian Dollar	60.24	60.49
Malaysian Ringgit	17.72	17.80
Australian Dollar	53.79	54.01

Hero MotoCorp to increase prices

NEW DELHI

Two-wheeler maker Hero MotoCorp on Thursday said it will raise prices of motorcycles and scooters by up to ₹3,000 from July 1. PTI

Govt. said to aim to keep deficit at 6.7%

Centre to miss Budget deficit goal of 6.4%, will seek to cap fiscal slippage within last year's level: officials

REUTERS
NEW DELHI/MUMBAI

India's government will not be able to cut its budget deficit this fiscal year as previously projected, officials said, but will seek to cap the shortfall at last year's level to prevent a major deterioration in public finances.

Efforts to maintain fiscal discipline reflect New Delhi's concern around risks to its sovereign credit rating but will likely limit the government's firepower to check inflation and provide relief to households and businesses.

In February, the government set a fiscal deficit target of 6.4% of GDP for the year to March 2023, compared with a deficit of 6.7% in the last financial year.

The sources said that while increased spending to



Kid gloves: Government is wary of the risks fiscal slippage poses to its sovereign credit ratings, borrowing costs. •REUTERS

provide relief from inflation meant the government would miss this year's target, policymakers would seek to limit the deviation to 30 basis points.

"We will try to contain the

slippage to last year's levels," one of the officials, who declined to be identified, told Reuters.

Surging costs forced India in May to cut fuel taxes and change duty structures, hit-

ting revenues by about \$19.16 billion, while added fertiliser subsidies lifted expenditure. The government and central bank have scrambled to contain prices through fiscal measures and monetary tightening after inflation jumped to multi-year highs.

Risks of slippage
The government is wary of the risks fiscal slippage poses to its sovereign credit ratings. Its debt to GDP ratio, which stands at about 95%, is significantly higher than the 60-70% levels for other, similarly rated economies.

That leaves the government little room to provide additional relief, as the May measures are already expected to drive up the deficit by more than 30 basis points if revenue collection does not

exceed the budget target.

"The government can definitely do more but at what cost? If more steps are taken, it will require additional market borrowing and that will drive up yields and eventually cause higher inflation," said a second source who is aware of the discussions.

The government is reluctant to expand its record market borrowing programme of ₹14.31 lakh crore this fiscal, both officials said.

"From here on, monetary policy will bear the larger burden of initiating inflation-growth corrective balance," said Shubhada Rao, senior economist and founder of QuantEco Research. "The first quarter has been good in terms of tax collection, but... the excise cut could neutralise it," she added.

Sensex rises 1% as auto, IT stocks gain

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Equity indices gained almost 1% led by buying in auto and IT stocks.

The S&P BSE Sensex surged 443.19 points, or 0.86%, to 52,265.72 points.

The stocks which gained the most included Maruti (6.33%), M&M (4.41%), Asian Paints (3.39%), Bharti Airtel (2.76%), TCS (2.70%) and Wipro (1.97%).

"The markets are largely dancing to the global tunes in the absence of any major domestic event and we expect the same trend to continue," said Ajit Mishra, vice president, Research, Religare Broking Ltd. "We reiterate our cautious view and suggest focusing more on stock selection and risk management."

AI can add \$500 bn to GDP by 2025: Nasscom

Investments may touch \$881 mn by '23

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

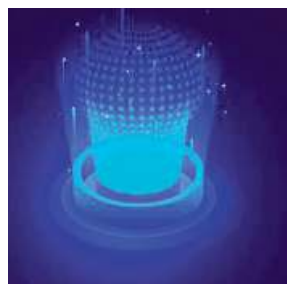
BENGALURU

Nasscom has introduced "AI Adoption Index" in a bid to assess trends of AI adoption in India.

The index was the first detailed assessment of AI adoption, beginning with four key sectors of banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI), consumer packaged goods (CPG), retail, healthcare and industrials and automotive.

These sectors could cumulatively contribute more than 60% of AI's potential value-add of \$450 to \$500 billion to the country's GDP by 2025, said Nasscom in a media conference.

The apex body said global investments in AI had more than doubled over the



last couple of years, from \$36 billion in 2020 to a high of \$77 billion in 2021.

Though AI investments in India were growing at a CAGR of 30.8% and poised to touch \$881 million by 2023, it would still represent just 2.5% of the total global AI investments of \$340 billion. This would mean a massive opportunity for Indian enterprises to drive investments and adopt AI.

VIL defers ₹8,837-cr. AGR dues payment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

Debt-ridden telco Vodafone Idea Ltd. (VIL) has decided to defer payment of additional adjusted gross revenue of ₹8,837 crore dues by four years.

The telco, in a late night filing on June 22, said that the DoT, on June 15, had raised adjusted gross revenue (AGR) demand for additional two financial years beyond 2016-17, which were not covered under the Supreme Court order on the statutory dues.

VIL said its board of directors "has approved the exercise of the option of deferment of the AGR-related dues by a period of four years with immediate effect, in accordance with the said DoT letter."

Brakes India rolls out 'green' castings for Volvo

Castings to be used in engines globally

N. ANAND

NAIDUPETA (AP)

Brakes India has developed and rolled out 'green' castings for Volvo India that will be used for the Swedish auto major's engines globally.

"Initially, we will develop green castings for Volvo that will go into engines for commercial vehicles and off-highway vehicles and later for others," said Sriram Vijji, MD, Brakes India.

"We will churn out more than 1,80,000 tonnes of iron castings annually using environment-friendly manufacturing processes."

The 'green' castings from India will include bearing caps and bearing housing for Volvo engines, said Brakes India officials. Commercial production

RBI moots IT outsourcing norms for banks, NBFCs

Aim is to ring-fence entities from risks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Thursday proposed norms for the outsourcing of IT services to ring-fence banks and other regulated entities from financial, operational and reputational risks.

"The underlying principle... is that the RE should ensure that outsourcing arrangements neither diminish its ability to fulfil its obligations to customers nor impede effective supervision by the supervising authority," the RBI said in its draft Master Direction on Outsourcing of Information Technology Services, on which it has invited comments by July 22.

Regulated entities including cooperative banks, cre-

Outsourcing must not diminish the RE's ability to meet its obligations

dit information companies and NBFCs would be required to put in place a comprehensive board-approved IT outsourcing policy.

"Outsourcing of any activity of the RE shall not diminish its obligations as also of its Board and senior management, who shall be ultimately responsible for the outsourced activity.

"RE shall take steps to ensure that the service provider employs the same high standard of care in performing the services as would have been employed by the RE if the same activity was not outsourced," it said.

Tata Motors, govt. to probe Nexon EV fire

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Tata Motors Ltd. said it was conducting a detailed investigation into a reported fire incident involving a Tata Nexon electric vehicle (EV) in a Mumbai suburb.

A video of a white Nexon EV engulfed in flames had gone viral on social media, prompting the automobile maker's reaction.

"A detailed investigation is being conducted to ascertain the facts of the recent isolated thermal incident," Tata Motors said.

Separately, the Press Trust of India reported, quoting a senior Road Transport and Highways Ministry official, that the government had ordered an independent enquiry into the incident.

SPORT

LIVE TELECAST

Ranji Trophy: (final), Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9:30 a.m.

Sri Lanka vs Australia: 5th ODI, Sony Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 2:30 p.m.

England vs New Zealand: 3rd Test, day 2, Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 3:30 p.m.

U-17 Women's World Cup: Final Draw, Sports 18-1 & Voot Select, 3:30 p.m.

TNPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 7 p.m.

West Indies vs Bangladesh: 2nd Test, day 1, FanCode, 7:30 p.m.

India jumps two places in FIFA rankings

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

The Indian football team reaped a good harvest of its impressive Asian Cup qualification campaign as it gained two places to jump to 104th in the latest FIFA world rankings released on Thursday.

The Blue Tigers are placed just below New Zealand (103rd), who missed out on a 2022 FIFA World Cup spot after losing to Costa Rica 0-1 in the intercontinental play-off earlier this month.

India's ranking among Asian Football Confederation members, however, still remained static at 19th place.

Iran retained the top spot among AFC countries at 23rd place. In the overall rankings, Brazil remained on top, three months after taking the top spot from Belgium (2nd).

Argentina jumped one place to third at the expense of France (4th).

England, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and Denmark complete the top-10.

Payas holds off Yashansh to retain crown

Bodhisatwa overcomes Preyesh to claim the under-17 title

TABLE TENNIS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

ALAPPUZZHA

Delhi's Payas Jain warded off a stiff challenge from teammate Yashansh Malik to win 2-11, 11-5, 11-7, 8-11, 11-6, 8-11, 11-6 and defend his under-19 youth title in the 83rd National junior and youth table tennis championships here on Thursday.

Qualifier Bodhisatwa Chaudhary (Bengal) upstaged sixth seed Preyesh Raj Suresh (TNTTA) 6-11, 11-9, 11-9, 10-12, 11-5, 13-11 to win the boys under-17 title.

The battle between the two Delhi lads went the distance. Yashansh won the first

set easily as Payas repeatedly netted his backhand returns. The top seed soon found the range of his attacking shots and galloped away with the second and third sets.

Yashansh crawled back to draw level and had the momentum on his side when he won the sixth set and led 5-3 at the changeover in the final set. However, Payas unleashed a flurry of forehand shots to push Yashansh on the backfoot. The latter crumpled under pressure and made a few unforced errors to hand over the match to Payas.

Bodhisatwa played a tactical game to outwit Preyesh. The former managed to pre-

vent Preyesh from using his potent weapon – the backhand – and forced his opponent to play to his strengths.

Preyesh after a good start faded away against the aggressive Bodhisatwa. Time and again, Bodhisatwa unsettled Preyesh with blistering forehands and held the whip-hand in the rallies as an error-prone Preyesh stumbled.

Semifinal results: Under-19: Payas bt Ankur Bhattacharjee (Ben) 11-9, 13-11, 12-10, 11-4; Yashansh bt Deepit R. Patil (Mah) 11-5, 6-11, 11-13, 11-8, 11-7, 12-10. **Under-17:** Preyesh bt K. Yengkhom (Man) 11-8, 11-4, 7-11, 12-10, 11-6; Bodhisatwa bt Bajaj Shlok (Guj) 11-5, 11-8, 6-11, 11-6, 11-4.



Best on show: Bodhisatwa and Payas with their reward.

•SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Loew tips Goetze for Germany recall

FOOTBALL

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

BERLIN

World Cup winner Mario Goetze has been tipped for a Germany recall by former national team coach Joachim Loew after returning to the Bundesliga by signing for Champions League side Eintracht Frankfurt.

Goetze completed his transfer from Dutch Eredivisie runner-up PSV Eindhoven by signing a three-year contract.

"I'm really looking forward to playing for Eintracht Frankfurt," said Goetze, who scored an extra-time winner in Germany's victory over Argentina in the 2014 World Cup final.

"The club has developed incredibly and embarked on an exciting, ambitious path which I am glad to be a part of."

Frankfurt has qualified for the Champions League



Glory days: Goetze celebrates scoring the 2014 World Cup final winner against Argentina. •AFP

for the first time since losing the 1960 European Cup final to Real Madrid after winning the Europa League last season.

Sporting director Markus Kroesche said Goetze turned down "numerous offers" in order to join Frankfurt.

Loew, who brought Goetze on as a substitute in the World Cup final, is backing the midfielder to stake a

claim for an international recall despite last playing for Germany in 2017.

"He has all the qualities for it," Loew, who stepped down as coach after Euro 2020, told Sky.

"He will play in the Champions League again, will be the focus here in the Bundesliga and will want to put himself forward for a World Cup place."

Under-23 women lose to Sweden

Italy routs women's U-17 team

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

STOCKHOLM

The Indian women's football team lost to Sweden 1-0 in the three-nation Under-23 tournament here on Wednesday. Mid-fielder Linn Vickius scored the match-winner in the 96th minute. India will take on the USA on June 25.

The Under-17 women's team meanwhile suffered a humiliating 7-0 defeat against Italy in the opening match of a four-nation tournament at Grandisico D'Isonezo stadium here.

The Thomas Dennerby-coached side started off the match by trying to press the opposition high up the pitch and entice mistakes from them. Tackles were flying in

from both sides and it was Italy, which was awarded a free-kick in the fourth minute. Beatrice curled the free-kick but she narrowly missed the target.

Italy almost took the lead in the 10th minute as Dragoni had just Indian goalkeeper Monalisa to beat but the latter stretched and produced a wonderful save to deny the Italian.

However, India's resistance soon lay in tatters as just one minute later

On an exposure tour, the Indian team will compete in two tournaments to gear up for the U-17 women's World Cup in India during October-November.

The results: U-23: Sweden 1 (Linn Vickius 90+6) bt India 0. **U-17:** Italy 7 bt India 0.

Kadhe-Cerretani exit

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

A rjun Kadhe and Jamie Cerretani were beaten 6-3, 2-6, [10-5] in the doubles quarterfinals by Sanjar Fayziev and Evgeny Karlovskiy in the €45,730 Challenger tennis tournament in Oeiras, Portugal.

Other results: \$25,000 ITF women, Prokuplje, Serbia: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Zhibek Kulambayeva (Kaz) & Prarthana Thombare bt Daria Lodikova & Luisa Meyer auf der

Heide (Ger) 7-5, 6-4.

\$15,000 ITF: Chiang Rai, Thailand: Men: Doubles (quarterfinals): Rishi Reddy & Parikshit Somani bt Cui Jie (Chn) & Tsung-Hao Huang (Tpe) 6-1, 2-6, [10-8].

Women: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Ramu Ueda (Jpn) bt Laalitya Kalluri 6-0, 6-0; Anastasiya Poplavskaya (Ukr) bt Priyanshi Bhandari 6-2, 6-3; Natsumi Kawaguchi (Jpn) bt Vanshita Pathania 6-0, 6-1.

Doubles (quarterfinals): Xun Fang Ying (Chn) & Ashmitha Easwaramurthi bt Nana Kawagishi & Chihiro Takayama (Jpn) 6-2, 6-3.

Gold for Srihari, Mihir and Aneesh

SWIMMING

SPORTS BUREAU

Olympian Srihari Nataraj, Mihir Ambre and Aneesh Gowda won golds in the 17th Singapore National swimming championships on Thursday.

National record holder Nataraj clocked 55.32s for the 100m backstroke gold while Ambre produced a personal best 24.66s for the 50m butterfly title. Meanwhile, Gowda won the 800m freestyle gold in 8:14.08s.

The results (Indian medalists only): Men: 800m free: 1.



Indian women draw first blood

Bowlers choke the Sri Lankan batters as visitors pull off a convincing win

INDIA IN SL

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DAMBULLA

The Indian bowlers choked the Sri Lankan women's team, after Jemimah Rodrigues' vital knock on return, to secure a convincing 34-run victory in the first T20I here on Thursday.

Defending a modest 139, left-arm spinner Radha Yadav (two for 22) made her presence felt right after the PowerPlay by dismissing the dangerous-looking Sri Lankan captain Chamari Athapaththu (16) and Harshitha Madavi (10) in the space of three balls.

Reduced to 27 for three inside seven overs, Sri Lanka never managed to get going in the chase. Seamer Pooja Vastrakar further derailed the chase in the middle overs, finishing with a tidy spell of 4-1-13-1.

Great start

Deepthi Sharma gave India a flying start, dismissing opener Vishmi Gunaratne (0) in the second over. The senior off-spinner (3-1-9-1) put Sri Lanka on the back foot early on.

Deepthi also took a stunning catch running in from deep square-leg to give Radha her second wicket of the day.

Kavisha Dilhari waged a lone battle for the hosts with a fighting 49-ball 47 (6x4), but the Indians' top-class bowling and fielding ensured their team emerged an easy winner to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

Earlier, opting to bat, India lost opener Smriti Mandhana (1) in the third



Back with a bang: Jemimah, returning to the Indian side, played a vital knock. ■ SRI LANKA CRICKET

over of the game, the 25-year-old falling to veteran spinner Oshadi Ranasinghe while looking to free her arms.

S. Meghana was out for a golden duck, sent back by old warhorse Ranasinghe.

Having lost two wickets early, it was left to the duo of Harmanpreet and Shafali Verma to take control.

A well-settled Shafali was the next to go, dismissed by Athapaththu on 31.

The Lankans soon got their biggest breakthrough when Harmanpreet (22) was trapped in front by spinner Inoka Ranaweera in the 11th over.

Ranaweera picked two more wickets as she sent back wicketkeeper-batter Richa Ghosh (11) and Pooja Vastrakar (14) to reduce the visitors to 106 for six in 17 overs. Jemimah was left

with the task of giving the Indian total a semblance of respectability.

The scores:
India: Shafali Verma c de Silva b Athapaththu 31 (31b, 4x4), Smriti Mandhana c Athapaththu b Ranasinghe 1 (6b), S. Meghana c Athapaththu b Ranasinghe 0 (1b), Harmanpreet Kaur lbw b Ranaweera 22 (20, 3x4), Jemimah Rodrigues (not out) 36 (27, 3x4, 1x6), Richa Ghosh st Sanjeevani b Ranaweera 11 (15b, 1x4), Pooja Vastrakar b Ranaweera 14 (12, 2x4), Deepthi Sharma (not out) 17 (8b, 3x4); Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (for six wickets in 20 overs): 138.

Fall of wickets: 1-17 (Smriti, 3.3 overs), 2-17 (Meghana, 3.4), 3-56 (Shafali, 9.2), 4-58 (Harmanpreet, 10.1), 5-81 (Richa, 14.1 ov), 6-106 (Pooja, 16.6).

Sri Lanka bowling: Prabhodani 4-0-21-0, Sugandika 3-0-18-0, Ranasinghe 3-0-22-2, Kanachana 1-0-8-0, Ranaweera 4-0-30-3, Athapaththu 2-0-7-1, Dilhari 3-0-31-0.

Sri Lanka: Vishmi Gunaratne lbw b Deepthi 1 (5b), Chamari Athapaththu c Rajeshwari b Radha 16 (19, 2x4), Harshitha Madavi c Deepthi b Radha 10 (17, 1x4), Kavisha Dilhari (not out) 47 (49, 6x4) Nilakshi de Silva c Harmanpreet b Pooja 8 (11, 1x4), Ama Kanachana st. Richa b Shafali 11 (11, 1x4), Anushka Sanjeevani (not out) 10 (8b, 1x4); Extras (lb-1): 1; Total (for five wickets in 20 overs): 104.

Fall of wickets: 1-1 (Gunaratne, 1.2 overs), 2-27 (Athapaththu, 6.3), 3-27 (Madavi, 6.5), 4-54 (de Silva, 12.4), 5-86 (Kanachana, 17.5).

India bowling: Renuka 4-0-25-0, Deepthi 3-1-9-1, Radha 4-0-22-2, Pooja 4-1-13-1, Rajeshwari 1-0-7-0, Harmanpreet 2-0-17-0, Shafali 2-0-10-1.

Toss: India.

Player-of-the-Match: Jemimah.

India won by 34 runs.

Second T20I: June 25, Dambulla.

Talking to Rohit, Pant helped: Jemimah

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

The last few months hadn't been easy for Jemimah Rodrigues. Neither was the wicket at Dambulla on Thursday.

It may not have been the most ideal of tracks for a batter to come back into international cricket, but Jemimah produced a fine

knock (36 n.o., 27b) that helped India win the first T20I against Sri Lanka.

The innings would have done a world of good to her confidence.

She had been dropped from the Indian team for the Women's ODI World Cup in New Zealand.

"After the last Sri Lanka

tour, my journey has not been very smooth," Jemimah said. "There have been ups and downs and it was not easy."

She said she benefited from speaking to Rohit Sharma and Rishabh Pant during that tough phase.

"They said these moments helped you prepare

for something greater that was coming [to you]," she said.

"These are the moments that define you as a cricketer."

She said she had become calmer now. "The last few months helped me understand my game even better," she said.

Bharat impresses after top order falters

Kohli scores 33; skipper Rohit and Gill fall after getting starts

INDIA IN ENGLAND

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LEICESTER

Wicketkeeper K.S. Bharat impressed with an unbeaten 70, even as India's top order failed to get batting practice on the first day of their warm-up match against Leicestershire here on Thursday.

Opting to bat after winning the toss, India's top guns failed to fire as the visitors slipped to 81 for five.

Rain brings early end

However, Bharat shone during his 158-minute stay in the middle before rain brought an early end to the day's proceedings. At stumps, Mohammed Shami was giving Bharat company on 18.

Skipper Rohit Sharma (25) and Shubman Gill (21) got out after getting starts. The opening duo, which is set to begin India's innings in the one-off 'fifth Test', added 35 runs for the first wicket. Virat Kohli scored 33.

India's first-choice wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant, who was representing the English county side alongside Cheteshwar Pujara, Jasprit Bumrah and Prasidh Krishna, held on to the catch of Gill, who found the fence four



Useful knock: Bharat made good use of the opportunity to score an unbeaten 70. ■ REUTERS

times.

For the addition of another 15 runs, India lost the wicket of Rohit, who hit three fours during his 64-minute stay in the middle. Rohit's departure paved the way for Kohli's arrival, and the former India captain looked to take the onus upon himself to prop up India.

In between, Hanuma Vihari (3) departed cheaply off the bowling of Roman Walker. Shreyas Iyer failed to open his account and walked back to the dressing room af-

ter facing 11 balls, having nicked Prasidh to Pant.

Ashwin joins team

Senior off-spinner R. Ashwin, who did not travel to the United Kingdom along with his India teammates after testing positive for Covid, has joined the side here, according to sources.

The scores:

Indians — 1st innings: Rohit Sharma c Sakande b Walker 25, Shubman Gill c Pant b Davis 21, Hanuma Vihari c Bates b Walker 3, Virat Kohli lbw b Walker 33,

Shreyas Iyer c Pant b Prasidh 0, Ravindra Jadeja lbw b Walker 13, K.S. Bharat (batting) 70, Shardul Thakur b Walker 6, Umesh Yadav c Evison b Davis 23, Mohd. Shami (batting) 18; Extras (b-12, lb-4, w-16, nb-2): 34; Total (for eight wickets in 60.2 overs) 246.

Fall of wickets: 1-35, 2-50, 3-54, 4-55, 5-81, 6-138, 7-148, 8-214.

Leicestershire bowling: Bumrah 9-1-34-0, Davis 14-1-64-2, Prasidh 10-2-37-1, Walker 11-5-24-5, Sakande 15-1-56-0, Bowley 1.2-0-15-0.

Toss: Indians.

Sarfaraz Khan lifts Mumbai with a spectacular century

He adroitly shepherds the lower order to take the team to 374; steady Madhya Pradesh closes the day on 123 for one



Rising to the occasion: Sarfaraz played percentage cricket to perfection in his three-figure knock. ■ K. MURALI KUMAR

RANJI FINAL

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR
BENGALURU

Mumbai found strength and spine through Sarfaraz Khan. The batter's 134 (243b, 13x4, 2x6) blended chutzpah and a steely resolve to help the former champion stay marginally ahead of Madhya Pradesh in the Ranji Trophy final in progress at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Thursday.

At close on the second day, Madhya Pradesh scored 123 for one in its first innings while replying to Mumbai's 374.

The Madhya Pradesh openers Yash Dubey and Himanshu Mantri added 47, with the latter taking a shine to left-arm spinner Shams Mulani, hoisting two sixes.

But after tea, seamer Tushar Deshpande trapped the aggressor. Mumbai got the breakthrough but for the remainder of the last session, Dubey and Shubham Sharma battled with ease in their unfinished 76-run partnership.

Mumbai skipper Prithvi Shaw shuffled his bowlers and a few vociferous lbw appeals never found approval. In the initial skirmish for first innings honours, Dubey and Sharma kept Madhya Pradesh in the hunt, setting the

stage for an interesting third day.

Earlier, resuming at the overnight 248 for five, Mumbai lost Mulani to the day's second delivery as Gaurav Yadav darted one back and ruffled the pads. From the other end, Sarfaraz watched his departing colleague and had a quiet word with next man Tanush Kotian. Importantly for Mumbai, Sarfaraz shepherded the tail and strung a series of critical partnerships. As Kotian settled, Sarfaraz lofted Yadav and swept Kumar Kartikeya across the ropes. And once the 50 was secured, he gestured to his applauding mates in the dressing room, hinting that he would stay at the pitch and guide his team.

He remained true to his word, and with Kotian, added 40 for the seventh wicket before Yadav castled the lower-order batter with a superb delivery that moved just a shade to clip the stumps.

Dhawal Kulkarni trudged in and dropped anchor, indulging in some exaggerated leaves outside the off-stump; Sarfaraz employed a short-arm pull of Yadav and as he crossed over crashed into the bowler. In severe pain as the helmet grille struck a side of his face, Sarfaraz rested a bit

■ Thanks to Sarfaraz, Mumbai might believe that it has just about enough to test challenger Madhya Pradesh

before getting up. He steered a four off Yadav and normal service was restored.

Amalgam of emotions

Kulkarni perished after a 36-ball solitary run but importantly was part of a 26-run alliance with Sarfaraz. The latter scooped a four off Anubhav Agarwal and soon reached his fourth ton of the season. The ecstatic centurion presented an amalgam of emotions as he acknowledged the cheers besides doing a war-cry while gazing at the dressing room.

Mumbai had an appetising lunch score of 351 for eight and on resumption, Deshpande fell, but by then the ninth-wicket partnership had yielded 39. Sarfaraz was the last man dismissed while he attempted quick runs, a towering six being part of the package. Thanks to him, Mumbai might believe that it has just about enough to test challenger Madhya Pradesh.

The scores:
Mumbai — 1st innings: Prithvi Shaw b Agarwal 47 (79b, 5x4, 1x6), Yashasvi Jaiswal c Yash Dubey b Agarwal 78 (163b, 7x4, 1x6), Armaan Jaffer c Yash Dubey b Kartikeya 26 (56b, 3x4), Suved Parkar c Aditya Shrivastava b Jain 18 (30b, 2x4), Sarfaraz Khan c Shrivastava b Yadav 134 (243b, 13x4, 2x6), Hardik Tamore c Rajat Patidar b Jain 24 (44b, 3x4), Shams Mulani lbw b Yadav 12 (45b, 1x4), Tanush Kotian b Yadav 15 (39b, 1x4), Dhawal Kulkarni c Himanshu Mantri b Agarwal 1 (36b), Tushar Deshpande c Mantri b Yadav 6 (20b, 1x4), Mohit Avasthi (not out) 7 (11b, 1x6); Extras (b-2, lb-3, w-1): 6; Total (in 127.4 overs): 374.

Fall of wickets: 1-87 (Shaw, 27.4 overs), 2-120 (Armaan, 40.6), 3-147 (Parkar, 50.1), 4-185 (Jaiswal, 59.4), 5-228 (Tamore, 74.5), 6-248 (Mulani, 90.2), 7-288 (Kotian, 102.6), 8-314 (Kulkarni, 112.3), 9-353 (Deshpande, 123.4).

Madhya Pradesh bowling: Kumar Kartikeya 41-6-133-1, Anubhav Agarwal 29-5-81-3, Saransh Jain 20-2-47-2, Gaurav Yadav 35.4-8-106-4, Parth Sahani 2-0-2-0.

Madhya Pradesh — 1st innings: Yash Dubey (batting) 44 (131b, 6x4), Himanshu Mantri lbw b Deshpande 31 (89m, 50b, 3x4, 2x6), Shubham Sharma (batting) 41 (65b, 6x4); Extras (b-6, lb-1): 7; Total (for one wicket in 41 overs): 123.

Fall of wickets: 1-47 (Mantri, 16.3).

Mumbai bowling: Dhawal Kulkarni 9-2-22-0, Tushar Deshpande 12-4-31-1, Shams Mulani 11-0-46-0, Mohit Avasthi 7-3-11-0, Tanush Kotian 2-0-6-0.

Toss: New Zealand.

Determined Mitchell leads New Zealand's rally

Broad and Leach scalp two; Nicholls dismissed in bizarre fashion

NZ IN ENGLAND

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LEEDS

In-form Daryl Mitchell powered New Zealand's revival after Stuart Broad struck early for England on the first day of the third Test at Headingley on Thursday.

New Zealand was 225 for five at close of play, with Mitchell 78 not out following his hundreds at Lord's and Trent Bridge.

Broad, England's spearhead after James Anderson was ruled out with an ankle injury, removed Tom Latham



Unlucky: Nicholls was dismissed when his drive ricocheted off non-striker Mitchell's bat and lobbed to Lees. ■ GETTY IMAGES

in the first over of the day and then captured the prize wicket of New Zealand captain

Kane Williamson during a return of two for 45 in 17 overs. Mitchell, however, held

firm after coming in with New Zealand wobbling at 83 for four following Williamson's decision to bat.

He received fine support from Tom Blundell (45 not out) in an unbroken stand of 102 — their third century partnership of this series.

Devon Conway played on for 26 before Henry Nicholls, who had made 19 off 99 balls, fell in a freak fashion on the stroke of tea.

Nicholls drove hard at Leach only for the ball to deflect off non-striker Mitchell's bat and loop gently to Alex Lees at mid-off.

SCOREBOARD

New Zealand — 1st innings: Tom Latham c Root b Broad 0, Will Young lbw b Leach 20, Kane Williamson c Foakes b Broad 31, Devon Conway b Overton 26, Henry Nicholls c Lees b Leach 19, Daryl Mitchell (batting) 78, Tom Blundell (batting) 45; Extras (b-4, lb-2): 6; Total (for five wickets in 90 overs): 225.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-35, 3-62, 4-83, 5-123.

England bowling: Broad 17-5-45-2, Potts 20-7-28-0, Overton 16-2-41-1, Leach 30-8-75-2, Root 7-0-30-0.

Toss: New Zealand.

Indian recurve women's team makes final

ARCHERY WC

SPORTS BUREAU

The Indian recurve women's team of Ankita Bhakat, Deepika Kumari and Simranjeet Kaur overcame their disappointing show in the ranking round to reach the final and ensure a medal for the country in the Archery World Cup Stage-3 in Paris on Thursday.

Consistent scores

The 13th-placed Indian team received a bye and beat the fourth-ranked Ukraine 5-1 and Great Britain 6-0 in the quarterfinals.

The Indians got consis-

tent scores to oust Turkey, which upset powerhouse Korea, 5-3 in the semifinals to set up a title clash with Chinese Taipei.

The Indian recurve men's team, ranked eighth, got a first-round bye but lost to Switzerland 4-5 (25-25).

The Swiss archers shot closer to the centre in the shootoff.

The second-ranked V. Jyothi Surekha got past Portugal's Johana Horta de Oliveira 147-133, Italy's Elisa Bazzichetto 150-141 and Marcella Tonioli 146-144 and Estonia's Lisell Jaatma 149-148 to make it to the compound women's individual semifinals and stay in the hunt for

a medal.

Jyothi will meet local favourite Sophie Dodemont in the last four.

Muskan Kirar and Priya Gurjar's journey ended in the second round, while Avneet Kaur lost in the opening round.

Abhishhek Verma beat Germany's Sebastian Hamdorf 149-142, American Tate Morgan 146-144 and Slovenia's Stas Modic 148-147 before losing to Puerto Rico's Jean Pizarro 148-147 in the quarterfinals.

Mohan Bhardwaj lost in the second round, while Aman Saini and Sangampreet Bisla exited in the first round.

Teens Popovici, McIntosh grab limelight

Medley double for Marchand; Ledecy's gold harvest continues

SWIMMING

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BUDAPEST

Two teenagers – 17-year-old David Popovici and Summer McIntosh (15) – were the centre of attention at the World Swimming Championships on Wednesday.

Popovici claimed victory in the men's 100m freestyle, and McIntosh won the women's 200m butterfly.

In the other individual finals, 20-year-old Frenchman Leon Marchand completed the men's medley double in the 200m and Kylie Masse won a second Canadian gold when she took the 50m women's backstroke.

The evening ended with another of the US team's veteran stars, Katie Ledecy, carving a place in the record books with the winning women's 200m relay team. It was Ledecy's 21st world



Rising stars: McIntosh set a new junior world record in the women's 200m butterfly; Popovici became the first man to do the 100-200 freestyle double since 1973. ■ AFP & REUTERS



championship medal, more than any other woman.

Australia took silver while Canada, with McIntosh collecting a second medal of the day, held on for bronze.

Popovici, who had become the first Romanian man to win a world title when he took the 200m freestyle, became the first man to do the 100-200 freestyle double at the Worlds

since American Jim Montgomery in 1973.

Dutchman Pieter van den Hoogenband repeated the rare feat at the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

At 15, McIntosh is even younger. The Canadian broke the world junior record as she added the 200m butterfly to the silver she had won in the 400m freestyle on the opening day.

Marchand, who claimed the 400m title on Saturday, grabbed the lead in the breaststroke and held it on the last lap to finish in 1:55.22s.

The results: Men: 100m freestyle: 1. David Popovici (Rou) 47.58s; 2. Maxime Grousset (Fra) 47.64s; 3. Joshua Liendo Edwards (Can) 47.71s.

200m medley: 1. Leon Marchand (Fra) 1:55.22s; 2. Carson

Foster (USA) 1:55.71s; 3. Daiya Seto (Jpn) 1:56.22s.

Women 200m butterfly: 1. Summer McIntosh (Can) 2:05.20s; 2. Hali Flickinger (USA) 2:06.08s; 3. Zhang Yufei (Chn) 2:06.32s.

50m backstroke: Kylie Masse (Can) 27.31s; 2. Katherine Berkoff (USA) 27.39s; 3. Analia Pigree (Fra) 27.40s.

4x200m relay: 1. USA (7:41.45s (MR)); 2. Australia 7:43.86s; 3. Canada 7:44.76s.

Coach turns lifeguard

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BUDAPEST

Artistic swimmer Anita Alvarez was dramatically rescued from the bottom of the pool by her coach after fainting at the World Aquatics Championships in Budapest.

Andrea Fuentes leapt in to rescue Team USA's Alvarez, who had sunk to the bottom of the pool and was not breathing after completing her routine during Wednesday night's solo free final.

"It was a big scare. I had to jump in because the lifeguards weren't doing it," Fuentes was reported as saying by Spanish newspaper *Marca*.

Fuentes, dressed in shorts and a T-shirt, dove to the bottom of the pool and dragged Alvarez to the surface before being assisted to get the stricken swimmer to the edge of the



Presence of mind: Fuentes dragged Alvarez to the surface before anyone else reacted. ■ AFP

pool. "I was scared because I saw she wasn't breathing, but now she is doing very well," said Fuentes. Alvarez was taken on a stretcher to the pool's medical centre, with teammates and fans appearing to be in shock poolside.

The US swim team later released a statement saying that Alvarez was doing well.

Fuentes, a four-time Olympic medalist, told

Spanish radio that Alvarez had fainted due to the effort expended during the routine. "She only had water in her lungs, once she started breathing again everything was OK," said Fuentes.

"It felt like a whole hour. I said things weren't right, I was shouting at the lifeguards to get into the water, but they didn't catch what I said or they didn't understand."

A familiar adversary awaits Nadal

Spaniard's calendar Slam bid faces Djokovic challenge on grass

WIMBLEDON

REUTERS
LONDON

Rafa Nadal's hopes of winning Wimbledon for the first time in over a decade and staying on track for the calendar year Grand Slam will meet a familiar adversary in Novak Djokovic who is bidding to extend his domination at the grasscourt major.

For the first time in his career, the Spaniard has won the Australian and the French Open back-to-back and has the chance to become the first man to win all four majors in the same year since Rod Laver achieved the feat in 1969.

Serbian Djokovic finished one match short of accomplishing it last season when he won the first three Grand Slams but lost to Russian Daniil Medvedev in the U.S. Open final.

When Djokovic won Wimbledon for the sixth time and



Familiar foes: Nadal and Djokovic, the top seeds at Wimbledon have been drawn to clash in the final if they progress. ■ AFP

the third in a row in 2021, it was his 20th major title – putting him in a three-way tie with Roger Federer and Nadal in the race for the most Grand Slam titles among men.

Relatively easy Djokovic's fans argue that Nadal's job was relatively easier at Melbourne Park this year as he did not have to beat the Serb who was not al-

lowed to defend his Australian Open title.

The 36-year-old Nadal, who has not played Wimbledon since his 2019 semifinal loss to Federer, beat Djokovic in the Roland Garros quarterfinals this month before going on to lift a record-extending 14th French Open title and 22nd major.

Nadal's chronic foot problem will again be in focus but his task at Wimbledon,

where he won in 2008 and 2010, is expected to be more challenging with Djokovic unbeaten there for 21 matches.

With world number one Medvedev banned from taking part and second-ranked Alexander Zverev missing due to injury, Djokovic is the top seed and Nadal number two.

Main challengers

Matteo Berrettini, runner-up last year, will fancy his chances of challenging Djokovic, having won titles on grass at Stuttgart and Queen's in the lead-up.

The big-serving Berrettini has won 20 of his last 21 matches on grass with his only loss coming in the 2021 Wimbledon final.

Poland's Hubert Hurkacz will also count himself among the challengers after crushing Medvedev to win the ATP 500 grasscourt tournament in Halle, Germany.

Shrivalli ousts Misaki, enters last eight

ITF WOMEN

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
GURUGRAM

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty fought her way past seventh seed Misaki Matsuda of Japan 6-2, 1-6, 6-4 in the pre-quarterfinals of the \$25,000 ITF women's tennis tournament at the Tennis Project in Balia was on Thursday.

On a particularly hot day, Shrivalli showed the patience and the willingness to battle it out, even when the flow of the contest was not in her favour.

Hard-fought win

In the quarterfinals, Shrivalli will face Punnin Kovapitukted of Thailand who took two hours and 41 minutes in beating qualifier Vineetha Mummadi 7-6(4), 6-1.

Eighth seed Karman Kaur Thandi had her share of trouble but continued to serve hard and blast her forehands in beating Sowjanya Bavisetti 6-3, 6-2. In the quar-



Persistence pays: Shrivalli's patience and willingness to fight yielded dividends. ■ KAMESH SRINIVASAN

terfinals, Karman will face Vaidehi Chaudhari, who overcame a hesitant start to

beat Humera Baharmus in straight sets. The top half was packed with foreign

players, with top seed Diana Marcinkevica, Sofia Costoulas, Saki Imamura and Anna Ukolova making the quarterfinals.

The results: Singles (pre-quarterfinals): Diana Marcinkevica (Lat) bt Mansi Vadyala (US) 6-2, 6-0; Sofia Costoulas (Bel) bt Ekaterina Yashina (Rus) 6-7(5), 6-1, 7-5; Saki Imamura (Jpn) bt Viktoriya Morvayova (Svk) 6-4, 7-5; Anna Ukolova (Rus) bt Momoko Kobori (Jpn) 6-2, 6-4; Karman Kaur Thandi bt Sowjanya Bavisetti 6-3, 6-2; Vaidehi Chaudhari bt Humera Baharmus 7-5, 6-3; Shrivalli Bhamidipaty bt Misaki Matsuda (Jpn) 6-2, 1-6, 6-4; Punnin Kovapitukted (Tha) bt Vineetha Mummadi 7-6(4), 6-1.

Doubles (quarterfinals): Sofia Costoulas (Bel) & Elena Pridanina (Rus) bt Vaidehi Chaudhari & Mihika Yadav 6-1, 4-6, [10-5]; Saki Imamura (Jpn) & Priska Nugroho (Ind) bt Punnin Kovapitukted (Tha) & Diana Marcinkevica (Lat) 6-4, 6-3; Gozal Aitnudinova (Kaz) & Zeel Desai w.o. Luksika Kumkhum & Peangtarn Plipuech (Tha); Momoko Kobori & Misaki Matsuda (Jpn) bt Shria Atturu (US) & Akanksha Nitture 6-0, 6-1.

IN BRIEF



Kyrgios withdraws injured from Mallorca

MADRID Nick Kyrgios withdrew from the Mallorca Championships on Wednesday due to an abdominal injury. The Australian was due to play Roberto Bautista Agut in the round of 16 but pulled out to maximise his chances at Wimbledon, which begins on Monday. Kyrgios said he woke up with a pain in his abs and the tournament doctor advised "that I don't play tonight." ■ AFP

Kevin-Prince Boateng signs new Hertha deal

BERLIN Hertha Berlin has given experienced midfielder Kevin-Prince Boateng a one-year contract extension after he played a key role in helping it avoid relegation from the Bundesliga. ■ AFP

Gurpreet, Vijayveer win 25m stand. pistol golds

BHOPAL Olympian Gurpreet Singh and Vijayveer Sidhu won the 25m standard pistol gold in the men's and junior sections respectively in the 20th Kumar Surendra Singh shooting championship here on Thursday.

The results: 25m standard pistol: Men: 1. Gurpreet Singh 580, 2. Vijayveer Sidhu 576, 3. Vijay Kumar 573; **Juniors:** 1. Vijayveer Sidhu 576, 2. Udhayveer Sidhu 570, 3. Sahil Dudhane 567.

Medical staff to stand trial for Maradona's death

BUENOS AIRES Eight medical personnel, including Diego Maradona's family doctor and nurses, will stand trial for criminal neglect causing the Argentine football legend's death while receiving post-surgery care. ■ AFP

Federer is most beautiful player I've watched play: McEnroe

REUTERS
LONDON

Wimbledon is set to kick off without Roger Federer for the first time in over two decades next week and with the clock ticking down on the Swiss maestro's career, John McEnroe said he was grateful for being able to watch him play the sport for so long.

Federer, who turns 41 in August, has undergone three knee operations in the last two years and has not played a competitive match since his quarterfinal defeat to Hubert Hurkacz at last year's grasscourt Grand

Slam. He won the Wimbledon junior title in 1998 before turning professional the same year.

Since making his debut at the grasscourt Grand Slam in 1999, Federer had not missed a single edition before the 2022 tournament.

"Twenty years, you got to look at the bright side," seven-time Major winner McEnroe told reporters.

"You had a lot of time where you got a chance to watch this guy play and win it numerous times. So, we have to sort of hope that whatever he decides he's happy with. He's 40. He's

made it this far. It's amazing."

The 20-time Grand Slam winner is expected to return to the tour in September when he teams up with Spaniard Rafa Nadal to play doubles at the Laver Cup in London.

"Roger Federer is a living legend. We all know that," said McEnroe.

"He's the epitome of what you would want your kid to be when they grew up. And he's the most beautiful player I've ever watched play. I idolised (Rod) Laver. He's kind of an updated Laver to me."

V.K. Pahuja swimming bulletin released

43rd edition of the 450-page work has six sections

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The 42nd edition of the V.K. Pahuja swimming bulletin was released by the former Union Sports Minister Jitendra Singh here on Thursday.

The 450-page bulletin, spread over six interesting sections, has been compiled by V.K. Pahuja's daughter Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja.

Listing of records

Featuring local, National, and international records, the book also has a compilation of all Indian swimmers who have represented the country in international competition over the last 50 years. It has articles by doctors, lecturers, and swimmers.

Dr. Meenakshi, a presidential Nari Shakti Puraskar awardee, is a long-distance swimmer and serves as the associate professor of Physical Education at Lady Shri



Labour of love: The V.K. Pahuja swimming bulletin was released by former Union Sports Minister Jitendra Singh, right, on Thursday. The author Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja is second from right. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Ram College.

V.K. Pahuja had served Indian swimming and water polo for many decades and was a member of the International Swimming statisticians Association.

Mr. Singh lauded Dr. Meenakshi for sustaining the great work of her father, with suitable support from her brother Priyank and sister Dr. Supriya.

The vice-chancellor of PDM University, Prof. A.K. Bakshi and former international swimmer Sita Ram Sawoo were guests of honour at the function.

Many swimmers were felicitated and the efforts of many others were appreciated. A special mention was made of Delhi's Kushagra Rawat who is currently training in Hungary.

Serena's comeback cut short by Jabeur injury



Serena and Jabeur. ■ REUTERS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
EASTBOURNE

Serena Williams' Wimbledon preparations suffered a blow after doubles partner Ons Jabeur withdrew from the Eastbourne tournament because of a knee injury on Thursday. Williams had returned to tennis at Eastbourne after 12 months away, playing her first two competitive matches since she limped out of last year's Wimbledon in tears with a leg injury.

The 40-year-old American and Tunisian partner Jabeur made it through to the Eastbourne semifinals with wins over Maria Bouzkova and Sara Sorribes Tormo in the last 16 and Shuko Aoyama and Chan Hao-ching in the quarterfinals.

But Jabeur's injury deprives Serena of the chance to hone further her grasscourt game ahead of the start of Wimbledon on Monday. Before Williams made the surprise announcement of her return last week, rumours of retirement had swirled around her for several months. But Williams has accepted a wild-card at Wimbledon as she bids to equal Margaret Court's record of 24 Grand Slam singles titles.

NK Khanna, Telefonken in DCCA Hot Weather tournament title clash

Shiva Singh's unbeaten 100 and 54 not out by Yash Dhull helped NK Khanna Club beat Indian Air Force by nine wickets and enter the final of the DCCA Hot Weather tournament.

In the other semifinal, unbeaten half-centuries by Deepak Khatri and Yogesh Nagar saw Telefonken Club beat Sonnet Club by six wickets.

The scores: IAF 170 in 39 overs (Ravi Chauhan 67) lost to NKCC 171/1 in 20 overs (Shiva Singh 100 n.o., Yash Dhull 54 n.o.).

Sonnet Club 175/8 in 29 overs (Himmat Singh 96) lost to Telefonken Club 177/4 in 26 overs (Yogesh Nagar 66 n.o., Deepak Khatri 58 n.o.).

Pranav and Ankit hog limelight

Pranav Pant top-scored with 128 runs and picked up three wickets as Subhania Club thrashed Young Delhi Sports by 106 runs in the DCCA Under-19 league. Also, Ankit Bhadana picked up eight wickets for just eight runs as Ravi Brothers wrapped up Malviya Club for just 24 to win by 256 runs

In other games, Tanay Aggarwal's seven wickets for 11 runs saw RPCA beat Paragon CC by 204 runs, Harshit Tyagi's century helped Century Club beat Three Star Club by 107 runs, Mohd. Zaid's five-wicket haul led Pioneer CC to a four-wicket win against NK Khanna Club and three wickets each by Sunder Yadav and Vaibhav Tiwari saw Tilak Nagar Colts beat Delhi Blues Club by eight wickets.

The scores: Subhania Club 317/4 in 50 overs (Pranav Pant 128, Vipul 84, Ashwani Chhillar 68) bt YDS 211 in 38 overs

DELHI ROUND-UP

West Delhi Academy makes the final

Man-of-the-Match Dhanya Nakra's 71-ball 98 and three wickets each by Tanishk Yadav and Vansh Haltwal saw West Delhi Academy beat Dahiya Cricket Academy by 99 runs and enter the final of the first Summer Under-14 tournament.

The scores: WDA 248/9 in 35 overs (Dhanya Nakra 98, Rohan 67, Azimul Haq 4/33, Vedansh 3/47) bt DCA 149 in 29 overs (Prince Mishra 59, Tanishk Yadav 3/19, Vansh Haltwal 3/31).

Mihir and Udit shine as DPS, Vasant Kunj posts win

Mihir Dol Ganesch scored an 84-ball 108 and Udit Malik took five wickets as Delhi Public School, Vasant Kunj beat Tuli Cricket Academy by 88 runs in the Late Shyam Kumar Under-14 tournament.

The scores: DPS 272/4 in 35 overs (Mihir 108, Advik Solanki 64) bt TCA 184 in 29 overs (Kartik Sharma 39, Udit Malik 5/40, Manoj Bhatt 3/33).

Push CA and KGF register victories

Harman Devit's 67 not out saw Varun Cricket Academy beat Push Cricket Academy by seven wickets in the Rising Cup Under-13 tournament. In another match, KGF Sports India beat Focus Cricket Academy by four wickets.

The scores: PCA 171/9 in 35 overs (Daksh Digani 54, Aarav Srivastava 35, Arjun Choudhary 3/43, Vinayak Chandriyal 3/19) lost to VCA 172/3 in 26.4 overs (Harman Devit 67 n.o.).

FCA 62 in 15 overs (Piyush 4/20, Yash Bhatti 3/28) lost to KGF 66/6 in 15 overs (Akshat 3/32).