



NEXT IAS

BIG LEARNINGS MADE EASY



Under the leadership of
B. Singh Sir
 CMD, NEXT IAS & MADE EASY

**CSE
 2021**

List of Successful Candidates From NEXT IAS

290
 Selections
 out of **685**
 Recommended
 Candidates

4 AIR AISHWARYA VERMA	6 AIR YAKSH CHAUDHARY	8 AIR ISHITA RATHI	9 AIR PREETAM KUMAR
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• **4** in Top 10 • **9** in Top 20
 • **22** in Top 50 • **45** in Top 100

 Selections from
 • Classroom/Online Courses + IGP : **41**
 • Test Series + IGP : **58**
 • IGP Only : **191**

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| AIR 11
Shubhankar P Pathak | AIR 13
Priyamvada A Mhaddalkar | AIR 14
Abhinav J Jain | AIR 16
Anshu Priya | AIR 20
Arpit Chauhan | AIR 21
Dilip K Kainikkara | AIR 26
Utsav Anand | AIR 27
Saksham Goel | AIR 28
Mantri M Bharadwaj | AIR 29
Bhavishya | AIR 30
Naman Goyal | AIR 37
V Sanjana Simha | AIR 38
Ravi Kumar | AIR 40
Kushal Jain | AIR 43
Shubham Shukla | AIR 44
Anjali Shrotriya | AIR 49
Divyansh Singh | AIR 50
Abhijit Ray | | |
| AIR 51
Akshay Pillay | AIR 53
Arpit Sangal | AIR 55
Pratibha Dahiya | AIR 56
Kiranmayi Koppiseti | AIR 59
Mukul Jain | AIR 61
Mohit Kasniya | AIR 62
Tirumani Sri Pooja | AIR 64
Kanika | AIR 67
Anand Malhotra | AIR 68
Anendya Raajsshre | AIR 70
Narayan Amit Malempati | AIR 73
Namrata Choubey | AIR 74
Ayush Venkat Vats | AIR 75
Surbhi Singla | AIR 77
Ashutosh Kumar | AIR 78
Surbhi Goyal | AIR 80
Nikhil Mahajan | AIR 85
Ashish Kumar | AIR 93
Deepesh Kumari | |
| AIR 94
Indrashis Datta | AIR 97
Bhaisare S Ashok | AIR 98
Aniket D Hirde | AIR 99
Tharun P Madala | AIR 101
Lakshay Anand | AIR 102
Prakhar Chandrakar | AIR 105
Sanket Kumar | AIR 106
Akshat Aayush | AIR 107
Pankaj Yadav | AIR 108
Roja S Rajan | AIR 110
Vikas Mahato | AIR 113
Shantanu S Malani | AIR 115
Sonia Katariya | AIR 119
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Uttam | AIR 123
Kritika Shukla | AIR 124
Riju Shrivastava | AIR 127
Sarwapriya Sinha | AIR 130
Antriksh Jain | AIR 131
Atulesh Jha |
| AIR 132
Mayank Pathak | AIR 133
Kishlay Kushwaha | AIR 138
Twinkle Jain | AIR 139
Nikhil Basavaraj Patil | AIR 144
Narayani Bhatia | AIR 145
Arjun Unnikrishnan | AIR 146
Abhinav | AIR 148
Devesh Chaturvedi | AIR 149
Bhosale S Sanjay | AIR 153
Divyansh Shukla | AIR 155
S Chitharanjan | AIR 156
Pratik Agrawal | AIR 157
Kannedhara Manoj Kumar | AIR 158
Raj Krishna | AIR 161
Bokka C Reddy | AIR 164
Vivek Tiwari | AIR 167
Uma Shankar Prasad | AIR 169
Ankita Mishra | | |
| AIR 170
Karmveer Keshav | AIR 171
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S. Gautham Raj | AIR 212
Mahadik Akshay Sanjay | AIR 214
Sasya Reddy | AIR 215
Rishabh Trivedi | AIR 216
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Abhishek | | | |
| AIR 221
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Mohd Saquib Alam | AIR 284
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Shweta Pandey | AIR 286
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Chhaya Singh | | |
| AIR 292
Akash Verma | AIR 293
Daksh Jain | AIR 295
Rohan Kadam | AIR 296
Rituraj P Singh | AIR 298
Nidhi Goyal | AIR 299
Pranjal Srivastava | AIR 302
Hardik Agarwal | AIR 306
Soumyaranjan Pradhan | AIR 307
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Md. Abdul Rawoof Shaik | AIR 312
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AIR 372 Gauravjeet Singh	AIR 376 Harshit Meher	AIR 377 Rahul Bansal	AIR 381 Manoj K Yadav	AIR 384 Yashwant Meena	AIR 385 Jyoti Yadav	AIR 388 Umesh Goyal	AIR 392 Ritesh Singh	AIR 394 Suvigya S Chandra	AIR 395 S Swapnil Mahadeo	AIR 399 Ishan Soni	AIR 401 Pooja Soni	AIR 403 Aashish Kumar	AIR 404 Ramkrishna Saran	AIR 405 Manjeet Kumar	AIR 406 Gaurav Kumar	AIR 407 Anurag Chopra	AIR 408 M Harshal Rajesh
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AIR 505 Kumar Shanu	AIR 506 Shilpa Khanikar	AIR 507 Akash K Sharma	AIR 508 Gautam Rai	AIR 512 Rohit Singh	AIR 520 Vinay K Meena	AIR 521 P Sravan Kumar	AIR 522 Rajesh Kumar	AIR 526 Vikrant K Singh	AIR 529 Pareekshit	AIR 530 Anjeet Singh	AIR 533 Sonu Kumar	AIR 534 Sudha Chauhan	AIR 536 Rahul Kanwaria	AIR 537 Anshul Nagar	AIR 541 Ritesh Kumar	AIR 543 Abhishek Ranjan	AIR 545 Mohammed S Azeem
AIR 547 Nishant Sihara	AIR 550 Neeraj Kumar	AIR 552 Manda Javali Alfons	AIR 554 Rajkumar Meena	AIR 555 Anurag Meena	AIR 558 Asmar Apurva Dhananjay	AIR 560 Patil Niraj Vijay	AIR 564 Manyala Anirudh	AIR 565 Siddharth Barwal	AIR 566 Buddhi Akhil	AIR 567 Viku L Achumi	AIR 569 Anurag Daru	AIR 571 Abhay K Sonkar	AIR 573 Rekha Meena	AIR 575 Makakmayum Hosni Mubarak	AIR 577 Anjali Verma	AIR 578 M Swapnil Tukaram	AIR 579 Harshivani Singh
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Note : Course-wise details of all the candidates will be uploaded on NEXT IAS website soon.

General Studies Foundation Course 2023

DELHI : OFFLINE BATCHES

Evening Batch

14th July, 2022 (6:00 PM - 9:00 PM)

Morning Batch

25th July, 2022 (8:00 AM - 11:00 AM)

LIVE-ONLINE BATCH

Evening Batch

1st August, 2022 (6:00 PM - 9:00 PM)

BHOPAL CENTRE OFFLINE BATCH for CSE 2023-24

2nd Batch Commencing from 1st Aug, 2022 (5:30 PM - 8:30 PM)

All subjects will be taught by teachers from Delhi.

Mains Advance Course (MAC) 2022

MODE : OFFLINE/LIVE-ONLINE

CURRENT ISSUES

by Vibhas Jha Sir, A.P. Singh Sir, Ruchika Ma'am, Ayaz Khan Sir, Raj Rai Sir, Ashish Kumar Sir, Manjul Sir and Niraj Kumar Sir

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by Ruchika Ma'am

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by Maneesh Singh Sir

ANTHROPOLOGY

by Sudhir Kumar Sir

Live-Online/Offline Batches from 10th Oct, 2022 (2:30 PM - 5:30 PM)

GEOGRAPHY

by Alok Ranjan Sir

Live-Online/Offline Batches from 18th July, 2022 (2:30 PM - 5:30 PM)

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Famed actor-director Prathap Pothan dies in Chennai
page 5



Opposition attacks govt. over notice prohibiting Parliament protests
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Rise in the number of unvaccinated children in India: WHO, UNICEF
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In meeting with Saudi Crown Prince, Biden seeks to repair ties
page 11



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Om Prakash Rajbhar to back Droupadi Murmu

NEWS PAGE 8
NEW DELHI
In yet another setback to the Opposition ahead of the Presidential poll, Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party chief Om Prakash Rajbhar, a key ally of the Samajwadi Party in U.P., announced his party's support for NDA's nominee Droupadi Murmu on Friday.

NEWS PAGE 8

Rubaiya identifies Malik, three others as abductors

JAMMU
Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of former Union Home Minister Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, on Friday identified Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front chief Yasin Malik, 56, and three others as her abductors in the 1989 kidnapping case. She was giving her statement before a special CBI court.

NEWS PAGE 8

Assam, Arunachal CMs agree to realign border

GUWAHATI
The boundary line shown on 29 topo-sheets by a high-powered committee in 1960 will be taken as the basis for the realignment of the border between Arunachal Pradesh and Assam. The Chief Ministers of the two States signed a pact on Friday for minimising the boundary dispute involving 123 villages.

STATES PAGE 4

Gotabaya quits, Ranil sworn in as Acting President of Sri Lanka

Members of Parliament prepare to elect a new President through secret ballot

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Gotabaya Rajapaksa has officially resigned as Sri Lanka's President, the Parliamentary Speaker announced on Friday, ending days of uncertainty since the deposed leader fled the island amid monumental public protests over an economic crisis gripping the country. "I have accepted the resignation," Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana told reporters.

Hours later, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn in as Acting President as per the Constitution, even as members of Parliament prepare to elect a new President from among themselves through a secret ballot. "I hope to complete the process of electing a new President within seven days," Mr. Abeywardana said. Parliament is scheduled to convene on Saturday to initiate the process.

Sri Lanka urgently needs a new President and a government in place to address the worsening economic crisis that has disrupted supply of essentials, including fuel, food and medicines.

According to the Sri Lankan Constitution, if the office of the President falls vacant, a new President must be elected through Parliament within one month. Acting



Heralding a change: Demonstrators celebrating at the Presidential Secretariat after the Speaker announced the resignation of Gotabaya Rajapaksa in Colombo on Friday. • REUTERS

President Mr. Wickremesinghe, according to political sources, has set his sights on the country's top office that has eluded him in his nearly half-century career in national politics.

Significantly, the Rajapaksa's ruling Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP or People's Front) has a majority in the legislature, while Mr. Wickremesinghe is the sole member of his United National Party (UNP) in Parliament. Mr. Wickremesinghe is yet to make an official announcement on his plans, but MPs from different parties told *The Hindu* that frantic discussions were on to

garner support for him.

Should Mr. Wickremesinghe contest, he will face long-time Rajapaksa loyalist Dullas Alahapperuma, who sits in an "independent group" in Parliament. Declaring his candidacy, the senior legislator from the southern Matara district sought the support of fellow MPs, "who believe Sri Lanka needs to embark on a new, constructive course."

Meanwhile, Opposition Leader Sajith Premadasa also said he was running for the presidency, despite it being an "uphill struggle".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Rajapaksa ordered not to leave country

Sri Lanka's Supreme Court on Friday barred former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and former Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa from leaving the country till July 28. The order was passed by the apex court during the hearing of a petition filed by a global civil society organisation.

FULL REPORT PAGE 11

IIT-M ranked country's top higher education institute

JNU, Jamia Millia find place in NIRF's list of best varsities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M), is yet again the top higher educational institute in the country followed by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, and IIT Bombay, according to the Ministry of Education's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2022.

Among the universities, IISc, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jamia Millia Islamia, Jadavpur University and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham were among the top five. And among the top five colleges in the country are Miranda House, Hindu College, Presidency College, Loyola College and Lady Shri Ram College for Women.

The top five medical institutes are All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, Christian Medical College, Vellore, National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru, and Banaras Hindu University. The top five management institutes are Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad, IIM Bengaluru, IIM Kolkata, IIT Delhi and IIM Kozhikode.

This is the seventh consecutive edition of NIRF. It ranks colleges, universities

Report card

A look at the top 10 educational institutions in India, according to Ministry of Education's National Institutional Ranking Framework 2022



Rank	Institution	Score
1	Indian Institute of Technology, Madras	87.59
2	Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru	83.57
3	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	82.35
4	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	82.22
5	Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur	77.83
6	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur	75.94
7	Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee	71.48
8	Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati	69.75
9	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi	69.57
10	Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi	67.25

and research institutions and also provides an overall ranking of all of them combined. Institutes are also ranked across seven subject domains, namely engineering, management, pharmacy, law, medical, architecture and dental.

Accreditation must

A total of 4,786 institutions were evaluated on five parameters – teaching, learning and resources (TLR); research and professional practice; graduation outcome; outreach; and inclusivity and perception.

Education Minister Dhar-

mendra Pradhan said at an event held to launch the rankings that accreditation and assessment of every higher education institution will be made mandatory and all institutions will have to be part of the NIRF ranking system. He said the two accreditation systems – NAAC and NBA – will be merged and institutes will need to have either NAAC accreditation or NIRF rank to be able to get government funds. He also said soon, there will be a system for accreditation of schools in the country.

SEE ALSO PAGE 2

Flood fury



Turbulent times: The 57-year-old bridge across Godavari river that has been closed in view of heavy flooding in Bhadrachalam town in Telangana. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT (REPORT ON PAGE 5)

Delhi court grants bail to Mohammed Zubair

'Voice of dissent is necessary for healthy democracy'

ABHINAV LAKSHMAN
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Friday granted bail to Alt News co-founder Mohammed Zubair in a case related to a tweet posted by him in 2018.

"The voice of dissent is necessary for healthy democracy. Therefore, for mere criticism of any political parties it is not justified to invoke Sections 153A (promoting enmity) and 295A (deliberate and malicious acts to outrage religious feelings) of the IPC," the court said.

Mr. Zubair, however, will not walk free till he gets bail in all six cases filed against him in Uttar Pradesh.

Social media complaint

Mr. Zubair was arrested by Delhi Police on June 27 in this FIR, filed based on a social media complaint claiming the tweet hurt the religious sentiments of Hindus.

The tweet in question contained an image from a 1983 CBFC-approved film *Kiss Se Na Kehna* where a fictional hotel's name had been changed from "Honey-moon hotel" to "Hanuman hotel". With this, Mr. Zubair had posted the text: "Before 2014: Honey-moon Hotel/ After 2014: Hanuman Hotel".

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Schoolgirl gang-raped inside car

All three accused arrested; two of them known to the victim

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 16-year-old girl was allegedly kidnapped and gang-raped by three persons, two of whom she knew, earlier this month after they took her in a car to Gurugram from south-west Delhi's Vasant Vihar, police officers said on Friday.

All three accused, aged 23, 25 and 35, have been arrested and the car has been seized. The 25-year-old was the minor's boyfriend, police said. The trio worked as private cab drivers.

They drove to Gurugram and two of the boys raped her inside the car in a secluded area

MANOJ C.
DCP (South West)

The victim, a Class X student at a government school, and the accused reside in the same locality.

According to annual data released by Delhi Police earlier this year, in over 98.7% of rape cases, the accused were known to the victim – a family member, friend,

neighbour or relative.

DCP (South West) Manoj C. said they received a PCR call around 4 a.m. at Vasant Vihar police station on Friday. The caller, the victim's father, said around 8.30 p.m. on July 6, his daughter had left from Vasant Vihar in a vehicle with three persons and returned the next morning around 7 a.m. "She reported the incident to her parents in the evening, after which they took her to hospital," the DCP said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

For Kolkata's Fab Four, music is the best medicine

All-doctor band Byatikromi on a roll with 200 plus shows across the country over 19 years and counting

BISHWANATH GHOSH
KOLKATA

They are among Kolkata's most sought-after doctors: Dr. Tapas Raychaudhury, renowned heart surgeon who, in 2018, led the team that conducted eastern India's first heart transplant; Dr. Raja Roy, interventional cardiologist; Dr. Shivaji Basu, urologist; and Dr. Vivek Datta, eye surgeon. Forget music, even getting to meet them during the day could prove challenging. Yet these men of medicine have, as a band called Byatikromi ('the exceptional'), outlasted most bands and troupes with their 19-year run of belting out old hits.

Today, the youngest member of Byatikromi is in his late fifties and the oldest in his early seventies; and of the 19 years they have been together, two were taken away by the pandemic, which also altered the way

they perform – from more people on stage to just four of them singing in harmony to recorded tracks; but what's gratifying for them is that they still get to perform. Last week, they performed at the Bengal Club; the following week they have a show at the Fortis Hospital.

Throwback to old times

"We've performed all over the country – we must have done over 200 shows in these 19 years. People ask us how we manage to find time for music in spite of being so busy, but when you are passionate about something, you always find time for it," said Dr. Roy.

For a long time, the group sang old, popular Bengali songs, and over the years, as their own popularity as a group grew, they also added old Hindi and English numbers to their performances. While



(From left) Dr. Shivaji Basu, urologist; Dr. Tapas Raychaudhury, heart surgeon; Dr. Raja Roy, interventional cardiologist; and Dr. Vivek Datta, eye surgeon. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

what they sing on a particular evening depends largely on the mood of the audience, the songs invariably belong to the unhurried times when music was more about melody than noise – the era of Salil Chowdhury and Hemant Kumar and Cliff Richard.

Their journey began in

2004, when they first happened to perform together at Camac Street. "The audience was simply mesmerised," recalled Dr. Roy. In the audience was a hotelier from Bangladesh, who took the doctors to Dhaka where they performed with a group of local doctors. The trip culminated in the release of

a CD that, according to Dr. Roy, "thrilled listeners". And thus, Byatikromi was born.

Not in it for money

"We don't earn anything from the performances," said Dr. Raychaudhury. "We do ask for a sum that is donated immediately to NGOs working for the poor or marginalised."

The group members insisted that their greatest reward from music was relaxation.

"We all have highly stressful jobs, and music relaxes us. Not only that, the kind of songs we sing takes us back to our childhood. We get to relive our younger days. We can sense this happens to our audience as well, which gets a respite from day-to-day stress and struggles. That's the USP of Byatikromi," Dr. Raychaudhury said.

'Roll back licence fee hike'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Trader bodies of various markets in north Delhi on Friday met MCD Special Officer Ashwani Kumar, demanding rollback of the recent hike in health trade licence fee by the civic body. Nitin Gupta, president of the Kamla Nagar Traders' Association, said other issues discussed included problems faced in accessing online services provided by the MCD.

JNU lab attendant arrested for molesting 8-year-old girl on campus

Accused, 52, is the father of the girl's tuition teacher

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

An eight-year-old girl was allegedly molested by a 52-year-old JNU lab attendant on the campus when the girl was on her way to attend tuition classes, the police said on Friday. The accused has been arrested.

DCP (South West) Manoj C. said they received information regarding the molest

tation of a minor girl on July 11 and a case was lodged at the Vasant Kunj (North) police station.

The complainant alleged that when his daughter was headed for her tuition class at Paschimabad in JNU, the accused - the father of the girl's tuition teacher - touched her inappropriately and kissed her. "After returning home, the girl told her

father about the incident, who then filed a police complaint," Mr. Manoj added.

The accused was nabbed the same day and has been booked under IPC Sections 354 (assaulting or using criminal force on a woman) and 354B (disrobing or compelling a woman to be naked), as well as the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, the DCP added.

DU slips one place in NIRF ranking

Will improve faculty-to-student ratio, says V-C; JMI climbs 80 spots in 6 years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In its centenary year, Delhi University (DU) has slipped by one spot to settle at the 13th place in the country, in the seventh edition of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), which Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan released on Friday.

Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) improved its tally, climbing from the 6th spot last year to the 3rd this year. Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) retained the second position among all national universities.

The other universities in the city that made it to the top 50 in the NIRF ranking include Delhi Technological University at the 38th position and Jamia Hamdard University at the 48th position.

While DU slipped in ranking, five of its constituent colleges made it to the list of top 10 Indian colleges.

Miranda House retained its pole position for the sixth consecutive year and Hindu College was placed second.

Jamia's rise

Najma Akhtar, Vice-Chancellor of JMI, said the improvement in her university's ranking was a result of the institution making consistent efforts to improve the quality of teaching, learning and research.

"In NIRF ranking, we progressed from the 83rd rank in 2016 to the 6th rank in 2021. And now figure among

Capital pride



DELHI COLLEGES IN NIRF'S TOP 15

College	2022	2021
Miranda House	1	1
Hindu College	2	9
Lady Shri Ram College for Women	5	2
Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College	7	12
Kirori Mal College	10	17
St. Stephen's College	11	8
Shri Ram College of Commerce	12	10
Hansraj College	14	14
Sri Venkateswara College	15	11

SOURCE: MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

the top three universities of the nation," she said.

Ms. Akhtar attributed the remarkable upswing to "focused and high-quality research" as well as to the high standard of teaching by "the dedicated and devoted faculty of the university".

She said the university had lost many of its faculty members to COVID-19 and this pushed the others to work harder. "Our faculty members did a lot of research work. Their efforts have reflected in the ranking," she added.

Ms. Akhtar said the improvement in terms of teaching, placements and re-

search, etc. had also contributed to the improvement in JMI's ranking.

JMI has become one of the most sought-after universities and the increased number of applications for admissions to the university testifies to this fact, she added.

Room for improvement
Yogesh Singh, DU Vice-Chancellor, said the university administration was going through the NIRF rankings to find out ways of improving its ranking.

"One of the areas of improvement we have identified is the faculty-to-student

ratio. We are in the process of hiring teachers, but the results will show in the next couple of years. I am confident that in the coming years we will plug the gaps and see an improvement in the ranking," Mr. Singh said. Another area where Mr. Singh said the university will focus is research.

The university's best performance over the last five years in the NIRF rankings was in 2018 when it was placed in the 7th spot. Since then, the university was placed 13th in 2019, 11th in 2020 and 12th last year.

Although DU has seen a drop in rankings, many of its colleges are featured in the NIRF's list of top 50 colleges in the country.

Surprise entrant

Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma (ARSD) College made a surprise entry in the list of top 10 colleges in India.

ARSD was ranked 12th last year. In this year's NIRF ranking, the college is placed seventh, above Kirori Mal College, St. Stephen's College and Shri Ram College of Commerce, which are ranked 10th, 11th and 12th respectively.

JNU Vice-Chancellor Santishree D. Pandit congratulated the "JNU community" for representing "excellence with equity, inclusion with innovation and integrity". Ms. Pandit described her university securing the second spot again as a "remarkable achievement".

Man kills self after shooting wife, daughters

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 40-year-old businessman allegedly shot dead his wife and two minor daughters before killing himself at his home in north-east Delhi's Jafraabad, officers said on Friday.

According to DCP (North East) Sanjay Kumar Sain, the deceased ran a business in jeans garments and had recently faced huge losses. His daughters were aged eight and nine years.

The police said the deceased had first intoxicated his wife and the two daughters before gunning them down and eventually shooting himself.

"The couple were found dead on the fourth floor of their building," an officer said, adding that the other family members and relatives of the deceased lived in the same building.

The police added that the couple had two more children - sons aged four and 13 years.

suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health; telephone: 011-40769002, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-7.30 p.m.

Seminar on cracking CSAT, anthropology



STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Hindu's Future India Club in association with Dr. Lakshmaiah IAS Study Circle, B 20, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi, will conduct a seminar on how to crack CSAT and anthropology Optional in Civils/UPSC at Old Rajinder Nagar on July 18 for civil aspirants.

Aspirants interested in attending the free seminar, to understand the importance of choosing the right option for their preparation, may contact Anuradha, Dr. Lakshmaiah IAS Study Circle, on 8708134727.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely (1) Vijay Kumar, S/o Sh. Ganga Ram, R/o: Village Amava, PS. Mankapur, District Gonda, Uttar Pradesh, and (2) Abhishek Verma @ Raju Pehlwan, S/o Ramotaa, R/o: Village Narecha, PS. Chapiya, District Gonda, Uttar Pradesh, have committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 365/21 U/s 392/397/34 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act registered at P.S. Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said (1) Vijay Kumar, (2) Abhishek Verma @ Raju Pehlwan cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said (1) Vijay Kumar, (2) Abhishek Verma @ Raju Pehlwan have absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said (1) Vijay Kumar, (2) Abhishek Verma @ Raju Pehlwan accused of FIR No. 365/21 U/s 392/397/34 IPC & 25/27 Arms Act P.S. Bara Hindu Rao, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 25.08.2022.
By Order
Sh. Anurag Dass,
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate-02,
Room No. 296A, Second Floor,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/2548/N/2022

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (भारत सरकार)
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (रेल मंत्रालय)
RAILWAY BOARD (रेलवे बोर्ड)
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE
to the
Project: Manufacturing and Maintenance of
1200 (twelve hundred) 9000 hp Electric Locomotives

Bid document for the Project: Manufacturing and Maintenance of 1200 (twelve hundred) 9000 hp Electric Locomotives uploaded on IREPS website on 27.04.2022. Corrigenda regarding the Bid Document for the project have been uploaded on Official Website <https://ireps.gov.in>. The interested Bidders are advised to go through the Corrigenda for submission of Bid. The Bid Due Date has extended to 12.09.2022 from 24.08.2022. 1790/2022

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
Sr. DEE/EMU/GZB for and on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender under Two packet system for the under noted work:
GeM Bid Number: GEM/2022/B/2327021 dt. 15.07.2022
Name of work: Cleaning of EMU Car Shed Ghaziabad and disposal of garbage from the shed.
Tender cost: NIL Approximate cost ₹1,08,90,318.56
Earnest Money: ₹2,04,738.00 (payment mode available on GeM website)
Completion Period: 24 Months Validity of offer: 80 Days
Date & Time from tender advertised on GeM website: 15.07.2022
Date & Time from tender submission start and end: 15.07.2022 to 05.08.2022 (15:00 Hrs.)
Tender Closing Date & Time: 05.08.2022 (15:00 hrs.)
Date & Time of tender Opening (immediately when tender submission ends): 05.08.2022 (15:30 hrs.)
Publication cost allocation: 06041132
Note 1: All participant Tenderers/Tenderers will submit their requisite documents along with their tender offer. "No post tender correspondence for submission of additional document shall be entertained after opening of the Technical & Commercial offer. Even suo-moto post tender letters of the tenders shall be treated as null and void".
Note 2: Duplicate documents should not be enclosed/upload loaded.
Tender Notice is available on website of www.gem.gov.in
GEM/2022/B/2327021 Date 15.07.2022 1783/22
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: About 50 years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Face: Oval, Hair: Black and Black beard, Wearing: Dark Blue Colour Polo T-Shirt & Light Brown Colour pant and Chappal in feet has been found dead after accident at Gali No. 12, Lalita Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi on 08.07.2022. In this regard a case vide DD No. 33A dated 08.07.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Laxmi Nagar, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved at Subzi Mandi Mortuary, Delhi.
Any person having any information or clue about this dead found person may kindly inform to the following:-
SHO :
P.S. Laxmi Nagar, Delhi
East Distt., Delhi
Tel. No. 011- 22542992, 22542441
DP/1153/ED/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE

General Public is hereby informed that one male (depicted in the photo) namely Ramveer S/o Sh. Chotthey Lal R/o H.No.108, Gali No. 8, G-Block, Ratiya Marg, Sangam Vihar, Delhi Aged-32 Years has been reported missing since 12.04.2018 from his work place at W.H.O. Building, I.T.O. in the jurisdiction of P.S. I.P. Estate, Delhi. In this regard a DD No.24A Dated 15.04.2018 has been registered at Police Station I.P. Estate, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-
Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'6", Face: Round, Hair: Black, Built: Medium, Clothing: Blue coloured jeans, orange coloured T-shirt and sport shoes in feet.
Any person having any information/Clue about this missing male, may inform to the following:-
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
Sd/-
Tel. No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641 SHO, I.P. Estate Delhi
FAX No. : 011-24368639 Tel.: 011-23378387, 23370928
DP/1651/CD/2022 Mob.: 8750870426

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused Avinash, S/o Suma @ Somnath, R/o H.No.H-1, 232, Madangir, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 203/2022, U/s 379/392/411/34 IPC registered at P.S. Timarpur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Avinash cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Avinash has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Avinash, of case FIR No. 203/2022, U/s 379/392/411/34 IPC P.S. Timarpur, Delhi, is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 25.08.2022.
By order
Sh. Apoorv Gupta,
Metropolitan Magistrate 02, Central District,
Room No. 26, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/2561/N/2022

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system
Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-
S. No. Tender No. Brief Description Qty. Closing Date
01 182152808 PRINTING OF G&SR RULE BOOK IN ENGLISH. 20884 NOS 08.08.22
02 09222387 DISTRIBUTOR VALVE TYPE DOUBLE STAGE 736 NOS 15.08.22
03 09222199 SLACK ADJUSTER COMPLETE 2591 NOS 18.08.22
04 09223322 SIDE BUFFER CASING FOR COACHING STOCK. 3103 NOS 22.08.22
05 09222437 BOLSTER SPRING 4361 NOS 22.08.22
06 09222427 TWIST HEAD FOR AUTOMATIC TWIST LOCK 4607 NOS 22.08.22
07 09222536 SPRING PLANK 475 NOS 29.08.22
08 09222567 KIT FOR CONSTANT 5804 NOS 29.08.22
09 09222586 SECONDARY LASHING CHAIN 2747 NOS 01.09.22
10 09222240 DISTRIBUTOR VALVE 256 NOS 12.09.22
11 09222411 CENTRE PIVOT LINER 4705 NOS 19.09.22
12 09222569 TOP HOUSING 4500 NOS 30.09.22
13 09222270 KIT OF AUTOMATIC TWIST LOCK 8628 NOS 10.10.22
Note:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice No. 28/2022-2023 Dated: 15.07.2022 1781/22
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work:-
1 Name of Work with its location PART-A Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 25 kv ac OHE for electrification of un-electrified sidings/diesel sheds at HN2M & TKD Stations.
2 Approx. Cost of work Rs. 3.21,56,017.03/-
3 Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 3,10,800/-
4 E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period 27.07.2022
5 E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time 10.08.2022 (15:00 hrs.)
6 Fund Allocation EBR IF
7 Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen www.ireps.gov.in
No.: 14-TRD-NDLS-2022-23 Date: 15.07.2022 1784/2022
Serving Customers with a Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Corrigendum No.1
Under noted tender which was to be opened on 19/07/2022 has been cancelled due to administrative reasons
Tender No. TS225038A Due on 19.07.2022
Description of item Manufacturing & Supply of Blown Aluminium Powder as per Northern Railway Thermit Portion Plant Lucknow's standard specification TPP/BALP/2021 (as amended up to date).
Tender Value Rs. 5,20,55,388.62
Tender Document Cost Rs. Nil
Earnest Money Rs. 10,41,110/-
Completion Period 12 Months
Time of Submission of Tender Up 19.07.2022 at 14.30 IST
Date & Time of Opening of Tender On 19.07.2022 at 14.30 IST
Validity of Offer 180 days
Note: The complete information of above E-Procurement tender is available on website www.ireps.gov.in and www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in 1772/22
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

JAMMU AND KASHMIR POLICE DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU

LOOK OUT NOTICE
SHO P/S Bus Stand intimated that on 07.0.2022, one un-identified male dead body recovered from Trikuta Complex BC Road Jammu. Accordingly, an Inquest proceeding U/S 174 Cr. PC Vide DDR No. 30 dated 07.07.2022 was initiated at P/S Bus Stand, Jammu and dead body was shifted to mortuary room of GMCH, Jammu for identification.
For the identification of said body below mentioned description roll is required to be published on daily newspapers for identification / Public in general, having any clue related to the dead body, kindly communicate the same on the below mentioned contact / Telephone numbers.
Description Roll
Age :- 50 years
Height :- 5'7"
Colours :- Wheatish
Dress :- Blue Shirt and Black Pant
Contacts/Telephone Numbers:-
1. DPO, Jammu : 0191-2547807, 0191-2561578
2. SSP Jammu Mail I.D : sspjammu@kpolice.gov.in
3. PCR Jammu : 0191-2542000
4. SP City North : 0191-2547038
5. SDPO City North : 0191-2566621
6. P/S Bus Stand : 0191-2566499
Sd/-
For Sr. Superintendent of Police, Jammu
DIP/J-4966/22

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 196-S/71/2021-22/Tender Notice/TS/GFN
On behalf of the President of India, Pr.CE, Northern Railway, Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi-110001 invites the following tenders through E-Procurement system:-
SN Tender No. Brief Description Qty. Cost of tender (in Rs.) Earnest Money (in Rs.) Tender value (in Rs.) Date & Time of opening of Tender Completion period
1. TS225064 Manufacturing and supply of GFN-66 Liner (60 Kg) for the use with ERC MK-V on 25T concrete sleeper (RT-7008 & RT-8527) suitable to 60 Kg (JIC) rail for 1673mm gauge to RDSO Drawing no. T-6938 & T-6939, Alt. 1 (1 set consist of 1 no. T-6938 & 1 no. of T-6939) as per IRS specification for glass filled nylon 66 insulating liners serial no. T-44-2020 as amended up to date of opening. 2,00,000 pair NIL 1,87,920/- 93,96,000/- 10.08.2022 at 14.30 hrs. 12 months

Corrigendum No.-1
Tender No. Existing Delivery Clause in NIT Amended Delivery Clause in NIT
TS225064 Delivery to commence within 1 months after issue of contract and to be completed with in 12 months thereafter. Delivery to commence within 0 months after issue of contract and to be completed with in 12 months thereafter.
Note:- The complete information of above E-Procurement tender is available on website "www.ireps.gov.in" and Notice has also been updated on the website of www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in of Northern Railway.
No. 196-S/71/2021-22/Tender Notice/TS/GFN Dated:- 15.07.2022 1776/2022
Serving Customers With A Smile

Directorate of Mines Department of Mines & Geology Government of Jharkhand Nepal House (Yojna Bhavan), Doranda, Ranchi - 834002, Email: director-mines@jharkhandmail.gov.in

Notice Inviting Tender
"Invitation of Bid for grant of Mining Lease"
In exercise of the power conferred by Section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Jharkhand Miner Mineral Concession Rules, 2004 (Subsequent Amendments) and the Jharkhand Minor Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2017 (Subsequent Amendments) notified thereunder, Government of Jharkhand has identified a stone block for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease in [Lohardaga] District, Jharkhand, through electronic auction and hereby invites bids in digital format only, from eligible bidders.

Terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document for the Mineral Block and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from website of MSTC [<https://www.mstc.commerce.com/auction/home/mmb/jharkhand/index.jsp>] for the purpose of information only. Timelines, notification, updates and other details of the e-auction process are available on the website of MSTC and the website of Department of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand <http://www.jharkhand.gov.in/mines-geology>. The details of the mineral block are summarized below

Block	Concession Area Ha.	Resource (Cubic meter)	Last Date of sale of Tender Document on MSTC website	Last Date of submission of technical bid & IPO on MSTC website	Date of Opening of Tender
Waina Stone Block	2.05 Acre (0.829 Hectare)	80042.22222	08.08.2022	10.08.2022	12.08.2022

Those interested and eligible for bidding can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the tender fee of INR 25000.00 (Indian Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) plus GST as applicable (non-refundable), from the website of e-auction platform provider. The applicable GST should be paid by Reverse Charge Mechanism by the Bidder and the GST Paid Slip should be attached with the bid letter after purchase of the Tender Document, eligible bidders can register themselves on the above-mentioned website. On successful registration, eligible bidder will obtain Login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process.

Sd/- Director Mines Department of Mines & Geology Govt. of Jharkhand
PR 273770 Mines and Geology (22-23).D

JHARKHAND INDUSTRIAL AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (A GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND UNDERTAKING)

Office of the M.D., JIADA, 3rd Floor, New JIADA Building, industrial area, Namkum, Ranchi-834010
VERY SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (3rd CALL)
Letter No. 361 Dated 15.07.2022
Designation and Address of the Advertiser :- Secretary JIADA, 3rd Floor, New JIADA Building, Industrial Area, Namkum, Ranchi-834010
1. Mode of submission of tender :- Online through www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in
2. Publishing on website :- Date 20.07.2022 Up to 5.00 P.M.
3. Last Date/Time of submission of Bids :- Date 26.07.2022 Up to 5.00 P.M.
4. Last date/Time of submission of EMD & Tender Fee (Hard Copy) :- 27.07.2022 up to 1.00 P.M.
5. Date/Time of Technical Bid opening date :- 28.07.2022 at 3.30 P.M.
6. Details of works:-
NIT No.- JIADA/06/2022-23
1. Bid No. Tender reference No. Name of work Estimated Cost Amount of Earnest money (Rs.) Cost of BOQ (Non-refundable in Rs.) Time of completion of work
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
1 JIADA/06/Bokaro/2022-23 Construction of Road, Cross Drain, 1m x 1m size drain near Shreya Vasthra to Spare India at Balidih Industrial Area Phase-III, Bokaro Region under JIADA, Ranchi. 23,09,478.00 46,200.00 (Rupees Forty six thousand Two Hundred) only 5000.00 03Months
7. The original copy of Tender fee and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) must be submitted in JIADA office up to 27.07.2022 up to 1:00 P.M. If Tender fee and EMD are not received before mentioned date and time tender shall not be accepted.
8. Place to receiving tender fee and EMD :- Office of M.D. JIADA, 3rd Floor, New JIADA building, Namkum Industrial area, Namkum, Ranchi-834010
9. Bid Validity :- 120 days
10. Place of opening of Technical Bid :- Office of M.D. JIADA, 3rd Floor, New JIADA building, Namkum Industrial area, Namkum, Ranchi-834010
11. For any information/complaints the department helpline no. M.B.no.9431386208 may be contacted.
12. Further details can be seen on website-www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in.
Note: The estimated cost mentioned above in sl. No.6 column no.4 is approximate which may be increased or decreased.
Sd/-
Secretary JIADA, Ranchi
PR 273774 RIADA(22-23)D

RJD MLA disqualified from House after conviction

A Special MP/MLA Court had ordered 10 years' RI for Anant Singh on June 21

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Bihar Opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal legislator and "bahubali" (strongman) from Mokama, Anant Singh, has been disqualified by the Assembly Secretariat after his conviction in a case related to the recovery of arms and ammunition, including sophisticated AK-47 rifles and hand grenades.

Singh was convicted by a Special MP/MLA Court in

Patna on Thursday under various sections of the Arms Act, Explosive Substances Act and the Indian Penal Code. The Court had pronounced punishment of 10 years of rigorous imprisonment to him on June 21, following which the Assembly Secretariat issued notification of his disqualification on July 14.

During a police raid at his ancestral house in Ladma of Mokama on August 16, 2019, an AK-47 rifle, 26

rounds of 7.62 bullets and two hand grenades were seized. Singh, also known as 'Chhote Sarkar' in Mokama, faces several other criminal cases of murder, extortion and kidnapping. He is lodged in Patna's Beur Central Jail.

With his disqualification, the notification said, "the list of the Vidhan Sabha members is amended". The tally of the Opposition RJD has fallen to 79. However, the RJD still is the

single largest party in the House followed by the BJP with 77 members.

Singh is the third RJD MLA to lose membership in the last four years.

"RJD will now field whoever Singh wants from Mokama," said BJP spokesperson Chitranshu Gagan. In the last parliamentary polls, Singh's wife Neelam Devi was defeated by JD(U) nominee Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh from Munger constituency.

Assam, Arunachal CMs agree to border realignment based on 1960 papers

Namsai Declaration aims to minimise inter-State dispute involving 123 villages

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The boundary line shown on 29 topo-sheets by a high-powered committee in 1960 will be taken as the basis for the realignment of the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam boundary towards resolving decades of dispute.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Arunachal Pradesh counterpart Pema Khandu on Friday signed the Namsai Declaration for minimising the inter-State boundary dispute involving 123 villages.

List of villages

A list of these villages has been placed before a local commission by Arunachal Pradesh on December 26, 2007.

Namsai is the headquarters of Namsai district in southern Arunachal Pradesh.

"The boundary line delineated and signed on 29 topo-sheets by the High-Powered Tripartite Committee as notified boundary in 1960 would be taken as the basis for the realignment of boundary by both the States," the declaration read.

Present-day Arunachal Pradesh, which attained Statehood in February 1987, used to be the North East Frontier



Arunachal Pradesh CM Pema Khandu and his Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma at the signing of the Namsai Declaration in Arunachal Pradesh on Friday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Tract, administered by the Governor of Assam as an agent of the President of India. It was renamed North East Frontier Agency and brought under the Central government's control in 1954.

According to the declaration, all border issues between Assam and Arunachal Pradesh will be confined to those raised before the local commission in 2007.

12 committees

Following the model for resolving the Assam-Meghalaya boundary dispute, both the States decided to constitute 12 regional committees each co-

vering the districts on either side of the boundary for joint verification of the 123 villages.

These committees will make recommendations to the respective State government keeping in view the historical perspective, administrative convenience, contiguity and people's will, to delineate the inter-State boundary.

The two Chief Ministers agreed in principle that 33 border villages should remain in Arunachal Pradesh and three in Assam although the final decision will be based on the recommendations of the regional committees.

The two Chief Ministers agreed in principle that 33 border villages should remain in Arunachal Pradesh and three in Assam although the final decision will be based on the recommendations of the regional committees

withdrawn the claims on the three Assam villages in November 2010.

The regional committees have been given the August 15 deadline to submit their first tranche of report on the disputed villages and other areas where consensus has been arrived at.

After the regional committees conclude their deliberations and an agreement is arrived at by the two governments, the draft memorandum of understanding will be referred to the Centre for the seal of approval.

The Centre had on March 29 stamped the boundary deal between Assam and Meghalaya on six of the 12 disputed sectors. The remaining six, deemed more complicated, would be taken up soon.

Traitors joined with DMK to seal AIADMK HQ, says EPS

Party workers welcome the interim gen. secy.

STAFF REPORTER
SALEM

Amidst a rousing reception by party cadres in his native Salem district, AIADMK interim general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Friday charged that "traitors" joined hands with the ruling DMK and got the AIADMK headquarters sealed. "It belongs to the AIADMK cadre, and was given to us by our leader M.G. Ramachandran. No one could harm or touch the headquarters until the last party worker is alive," he said.



Party functionaries garlanding AIADMK interim general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami in Salem on Friday. • E. LAKSHMI NARAYANAN

'DMK will pay for it'

"The DMK government is registering cases against former Ministers and functionaries to cripple the party. When our time comes, the DMK will pay for it," he said. Mr. Palaniswami said DMK leader R.S. Bharathi was making allegations against the AIADMK so as to secure a post in his party.

"The AIADMK is not afraid of anyone. As I said at the general council meeting, the DMK will see a new Palaniswami," he said.

Listing the achievements of the AIADMK government under him, Mr. Palaniswami said, "Taking its cue from us, the DMK government provided 7.5% reservation to government school students in engineering and law colleges." The DMK might rule the State but Salem is the AIADMK's fort and the party-led alliance won 10 seats in the district in 2021, he said.

Later, Mr. Palaniswami headed to his residence at Nedunchalai Nagar, with the party workers wel-

coming him at various places on the way.

Speaking at a meeting at the party office in Kallakurichi, Mr. Palaniswami accused Chief Minister M.K. Stalin of trying to dismantle the AIADMK and said none could uproot the organisation as it was a deep-rooted party with massive support.

He said the party could never be destroyed by any number of 'Stalins'. "The AIADMK does not have any dynasty politics, which is the hallmark of the DMK," he said.

"As far as I am concerned, I have risen to the post of interim general secretary from humble beginnings after serving the party. The AIADMK does not encourage dynasty politics, which is a disturbing feature of the DMK. Only in the AIADMK could an ordinary cadre become the interim general secretary. On the other hand, this was not possible in the DMK as it was only promoting dynasty politics," he charged.

NEP in tune with thoughts of Kamaraj on education, says Puducherry L-G

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUDUCHERRY

Lieutenant Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Friday said the Centre's New Education Policy was in tune with the thinking of former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K. Kamaraj about education.

"The NEP gives thrust on improving academic orientation and nutritional health for children. The former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister gave thrust to education and health of children. The government is committed to provide quality education and nutritious food to children," she said participating in the Students' Day function organised by the Education Department on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the late leader Kamaraj.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister N. Rangasamy said the government's vision was to provide quality education to all, irrespective of their financial and social background. He said steps would be taken to fill all existing vacancies in schools. The Students' Day function was the first official event to be held at the newly constructed Kamarajar Manimandapam. The memorial was inaugurated virtually by the Prime Minister a few months ago.

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It is known to all, that allottee of residential flat No. 2-415, Jahangir Vihar, Sec-21, Noida, Smt. Nirmal Chawla W/o Late Sh. Shanti Swaroop Chawla R/o 3, Danley Drive, Westford, MA-01886, USA has executed General Power of Attorney of the above said flat in favour of Sh. Suraj Walia S/o Sh. Rakesh Walia R/o 1501, Tower-14, Valley View, Estate, Gwal Pahari, Sector-2, Gurgaon-122003.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MADRAS RACE CLUB
CIN: U749997N1922NP001455
Regd. Office: Post Box No.2639
Guindy, Chennai - 600032.
Website: www.madrasraceclub.com
Tel.No.: 91-44 22351171/2/3 & 22350774
Email Id: secretary@madrasraceclub.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021-22

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting ('AGM') of the MADRAS RACE CLUB ('The Club') for the year 2021-2022 is scheduled to be held on Thursday, 11th August 2022 at 4.30 p.m. (IST) at the Registered Office of the Club, situated at Guindy, Chennai - 600032, and also through Video Conference ('VC') / Other Audio Visual Means ('OAVM') to transact the business, as set out in the Notice of the AGM. Instructions for Members intending to attend the AGM at the Venue and vote at the venue or join the Annual General Meeting electronically and vote electronically are detailed in the Notice of the AGM.

Notice of the AGM along with the Annual Report 2021-2022 is being sent through electronic mode to those Members whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Club and hard copy is being posted to those who do not have or who have not furnished the e-mail id. The same will also be available on the Club's website at www.madrasraceclub.com and on the website of National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL), www.evoting.nsdl.com the service providers for assisting such members who wish to participate in the meeting electronically.

Club Members are requested to register/update their e-mail address by writing to the Club with details of their membership number and attaching a self-attested copy of PAN Card as identity proof and self-attested copy of any document (viz. Driving Licence, Election Identity Card, Passport) in support of the address of the member at secretary@madrasraceclub.com or to evoting@nsdl.co.in

The Club has engaged the services of NSDL as the authorised agency for assisting Members in participating in the AGM electronically and for providing e-voting facility. Members can cast their vote online from 10.00 A.M. (IST) on Monday, 8th August, 2022, till 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 10th August 2022 (IST). At the end of remote e-voting period, the facility shall be disabled. The Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend/participate in the AGM through VC/OAVM but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.

Only those members, whose names are recorded in the Register of Members as on the 'cut-off date' i.e. Monday, 8th June, 2022 only shall be entitled to vote. In terms of Articles of Association of the Club, no Club Member shall be entitled to vote at or take part in any meeting of the Club until all moneys due to the Club by him have been paid. Hence, Club Members are requested to settle all their dues on or before 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 3rd August, 2022 in order to cast their vote.

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DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

In Loving memory of

Sarabjit Kaur Duggal (Sweetie)
12.08.1954 - 16.07.2020
Missed by all but forgotten by none. Time will remind us of the happy memories, you left behind and the many lives you touched with your kindness.

Rajpal Singh Duggal & Inderpreet Duggal (Roshu) Duggals & Kochhars Friends & Family
Mob: 9811022090

10th ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of our Beloved Father

A.R. RAMAKRISHNAN, B.E
City Engineer (Retd), Corporation of Chennai
10.08.1944 - 16.07.2012

Tendris Remembered by
Sons
R.Arun Prasad
R.Surendra Prasad
R.Goutham Prasaath
Daughters-in-Law
Mital Surendra & Jayanthi Arun
Grandson S.Aswin & S.Harshad

REMEMBRANCE

47th Year Remembrance

In Fond Loving Memory of our Beloved Grand Father & Founder

Late Shri Batchu Purushottam Garu
12.09.1901 to 16.07.1975
From Family Members, Partners & Staff
M/s.B.Purushottam & Co., Chartered Accountants

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Notification No. 4864/OSMCL/2022 Date : 14.07.2022

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF EQUIPMENTS FOR CARDIAC CARE HOSPITAL AT JHARSUGUDA AND OTHER MC&Hs

Online Bids through e-Tender portal (https://tendersodisha.gov.in) are invited from eligible bidders for supply, installation & commissioning of Equipments as per the particulars mentioned below:

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST (Rs.)
1.	OSMCL/2022-23/EQP-CARDIAC CARE / 06	Supply, Installation and commissioning of Equipment for Cardiac Care Hospital, Jharsuguda and other MC&Hs	5,600/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Date & time of release of bid	15.07.2022, 5 PM
2.	Date & time of Pre-bid query submission through email	On or Before 20.07.2022, 2 PM E-mail : proc.osmcl.od@nic.in
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time 27.07.2022, 11 AM End Date & Time 19.08.2022, 5 PM
4.	Date & time of online Technical Bid Opening	22.08.2022, 3 PM
5.	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, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites: www.osmcl.nic.in and https://tendersodisha.gov.in. The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

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Water world: With Godavari in spate, several low-lying areas in Bhadrachalam have gone under water. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Army help sought as flood worsens in Bhadrachalam

Situation in temple town turns grim

P. SRIDHAR
BHADRACHALAM

As the Godavari touched the second highest flood level of 71 feet after 32 years and inched towards the highest ever flood level of 75.6 feet of 1986 at Telangana's Bhadrachalam on Friday night, the State government requisitioned the services of the Indian Army to aid the civil administration in the relief and rescue efforts.

More than 20,900 people from 95 flood affected/prone villages in nine mandals, including Bhadrachalam town, in Telangana's tribal majority district have been moved to 77 relief camps in a major evacuation drive to ward off trouble.

With the Godavari receiving unprecedented inflows to the tune of 23.70 lakh cusecs, the situation in Bhadrachalam turned grim as the floodwaters gushed into various low-lying areas, including all the streets leading to the historic Sri Sitaramachandra Swamy temple dating back to 17th century.

The temple town and the entire Bhadrachalam Agency is grappling with the

Officials in Karnataka told to build houses for people

BENGALURU
The Karnataka government on Friday announced compensation of ₹10,000 for those who have lost their dwellings and directed the district administration to take steps to construct houses for the rain-affected people. It also issued orders for release of ₹500 crore to restore infrastructure.

worst deluge in more than three decades.

The entire Bhadrachalam Agency remained cut off from the rest of the world due to snapping of road links by the raging floodwaters. The temple town remained out of bounds for the second day in a row.

Meanwhile, five teams comprising 101 Army personnel, including 10 medical professionals and 23 engineers, and rescue teams from the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) have arrived in Bhadrachalam Agency on Friday night to help the authorities in rescue efforts. As many as 10 NDRF teams have been deployed.

A film personality par excellence

Actor-director Prathap Pothen left a mark on Tamil and Malayalam cinema

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
KOZHIKODE

Prathap Pothen, who died in Chennai aged 69 on Friday, made his presence felt as an actor in several significant films in Malayalam and Tamil in a career spanning over four decades. He was also a fine director.

Prathap debuted as an actor in the 1978 film *Aaravam*, directed by Bharathan. He established himself as an actor through the director's subsequent films *Thakara* and *Chamaram*.

He excelled as a mentally challenged young man in *Thakara* and as a college student in love with his teacher in *Chamaram*. Around this time, he made a mark in Tamil cinema too, with his performances in films such as *Azhiyatha Kolangal*, *Varumayin Niram Sivappu* and *Nenjathai Kil-*



Prathap Pothen

lathe. Those films were directed by some of the finest filmmakers in Tamil - Balu Mahendra, K. Balachander and Mahendran.

After working with such directors it was not surprising that Prathap wanted to make some quality films himself. The first film he directed was in Tamil, *Meendum Oru Kaathal Kathai*, in which he starred as the he-

tray of the villain Hegde in *22 Female Kottayam*, with which he made a splendid comeback in Malayalam cinema in 2012.

The same year, he gave another superb performance in *Ayalum Njanum Thammil*. After watching that film, director Fazil Katungal cast him in *Once Upon A Time There Was A Kallan*. He played a 70-year-old in the thriller. It won him a Special Jury Award at the 2014 Kerala State Film Awards, but the film has not been released yet.

"He was excited about the film, which was his 100th as an actor," says Fazil. "We could not release the film at that time, but we would shortly be able to do it. It will be a perfect homage to him."

Splendid comeback
Prathap was indeed a capable actor who interpreted the characters in his own way. Remember his por-

Award for 100th film

tray of the villain Hegde in *22 Female Kottayam*, with which he made a splendid comeback in Malayalam cinema in 2012.

"He was excited about the film, which was his 100th as an actor," says Fazil. "We could not release the film at that time, but we would shortly be able to do it. It will be a perfect homage to him."

Farewell, my dear friend Prathap!

A co-star writes a tribute to her buddy, who wowed her with his skills



SUHASINI MANIRATNAM

Hey Prathap, I never imagined in my dreams that I would be writing a tribute for you.

I met you in 1979, I think. You were a young actor and I was a camera assistant to Ashok Kumar.

After a few bridges were crossed and several tables were turned, I ended up acting in Mahendran's film and you played my husband.

In the film, I refused to

communicate with you, but in reality we were chatting endlessly.

You were my first friend in the movie industry. Your intelligence, your sense of humour, and joie de vivre reflected on us. You lit up every set with your knowledge and wit. You made friends very easily. Right from my uncle Kamal Prabhut to Satyaraj to Maniratnam to K. Balachander to Bharathiraja... you won hearts so easily.

You were the most reluctant star sensation in the south Indian film industry. Every director wanted to cast you, every heroine wanted to work with you. You were a technician's dream actor. Right from

Stills Ravi to B.R. Vijaylakshmi, every one adored you.

You, with your Lawrence School upbringing and MCC background, your numerous friends, we were all so envious of you.

You were royal and so classy.

TRIBUTE

I saw a black velvet jacket for the first time in my life, shining so gorgeously on your shoulders.

You were there for me as a friend always. Nothing changed over the years.

I hope my other friends were lucky enough to have had as the first film co star, a star like you. May be I was the lucky one.

You moved on to writing, directing and winning the national award for your very first film.

I won't say you were an underrated genius, but you definitely underplayed your talents.

You had several nick names for many of us but you would never forget mine.

It was Jolly Kutty Mathews.

Thank you for spreading so much joy as never before... farewell my dear friend... we love you where ever you are.

Bet that room will be filled with laughter and joy. Yours,

Jolly Kutty Mathews. Sometimes, Mary Kutty Joyce.

IN BRIEF



HC grants bail to Sreejith Ravi in POCSO case

The Kerala High Court on Friday granted bail to actor Sreejith Ravi in a case registered against him for behaving indecently towards two minor girls at Thrissur. Charges under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act have been slapped on the actor for allegedly exposing himself near a park at Ayyanthole.

Prison term for accused in Valappattanam IS case

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) special court, Ernakulam, on Friday sentenced three convicts to imprisonment ranging from six to seven years in the Valappattanam IS case. The case was registered after some persons from Kannur were found to have joined the IS in 2016. The court found them guilty of aiding the terrorist organisation.

HC: submit cloned copy of memory card by July 18

The Kerala High Court on Friday allowed the investigation officer in the actor assault case to collect the cloned copy/mirror image of the memory card containing the videos of the assault from the State Forensic Science Laboratory, Thiruvananthapuram, and submit it before the court by July 18 in a sealed cover.

Talks on film stars' pay cut to continue in Kerala

A meeting convened by the Kerala Film Chamber here on Friday to discuss ways to overcome the repeated failure of Malayalam movies at the box office remained inconclusive. The meeting was held amidst repeated pleas by the producers that the lead actors must opt for a pay cut as most of the recent releases were flops.

Monkeypox: Kerala on high alert

Condition of patient satisfactory; 16 persons on primary contact list under watch

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

All districts in Kerala have been put on high alert following the confirmation of monkeypox in a 35-year-old man, a native of Kollam district, who had flown into the capital three days ago, Health Minister Veena George said after chairing a meeting of officials here on Friday.

Five districts - Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha and Kottayam - have been put on special alert as the flight contacts of the patient belonged to these districts. These people have been put on surveillance for 21 days and health workers would contact these persons twice a day to check on their health and to watch out for symptoms. In case they developed fever or any other symptoms, they would be

Monkeypox
SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Infection can be divided into two periods

Invasion period (lasts 0-5 days)

Characterised by
Fever | Intense headache | Lymphadenopathy | Back pain | Myalgia | Intense asthenia

Skin eruption usually begins within 1-3 days of fever

- The rash tends to be more concentrated on the face and extremities rather than on the trunk

How it spreads

From an animal to a person

- Animal bites or scratches
- Eating products made of infected animals
- Direct contact with body fluids or rashes

From a person to a person

- Direct contact with rashes, scabs or body fluids
- Extended close contact (more than four hours)

SOURCE: WHO

subjected to all tests, including COVID-19. Sixteen persons are currently on the primary contact list.

Tests would be conducted for monkeypox if any individual exhibited a symptom

specific to the disease. Isolation facilities are being readied in all districts and at all medical college hospitals. The Health department is setting up a monitoring cell at the State level. All districts

are being given clear guidelines.

Monkeypox had been reported in 65 countries and as travellers from these nations were arriving in the State, all four international airports had been asked to maintain vigil.

Meanwhile, a high-level multidisciplinary team despatched by the Centre to Kerala for supporting the State in adopting appropriate public health interventions and conducting outbreak investigation arrived in the State on Friday. The team will work closely with State health authorities in instituting public health measures. They will take stock of the situation on the ground and recommend necessary interventions. The Union Health Ministry is also monitoring the situation in other States and is on the alert for any possible outbreaks.

STAFF REPORTER
KALPETTA

Rahul Gandhi, MP, has urged the Central government to accommodate medical students, who returned from Ukraine owing to the Russia-Ukraine war, in local medical colleges or to facilitate their transfer to medical colleges in other foreign countries.

In a letter to Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Mr. Gandhi said during his recent visit to Kerala's Wayanad, a delegation of medical students from the State, who were enrolled in medical colleges in Ukraine, briefed him regarding the lack of clarity about their eligibility to continue with their medical education in local institutions or their transfer to medical colleges in other countries.

Given the nature of the ongoing conflict, it would be



Rahul Gandhi

Rahul to cover 350 km in Karnataka

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

The Congress's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' to be led by party leader Rahul Gandhi will enter Karnataka from Kerala through Chamarajanagar and cover a distance of over 350 km in the State, said Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president D.K. Shivakumar.

He said an emergency online meeting has been convened by the party general secretary in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Surjewala on Saturday evening, which will be attended by party leaders.

'Accommodate students from Ukraine in medical colleges'

highly challenging for the students who are pursuing a course there to return to Ukraine to complete their degree and fulfil the criteria laid down by the National Medical Commission.

Thousands of Indian medical students pursuing their education in foreign colleges were affected by the pandemic, as well as the conflict in Ukraine. They had approached the Supreme Court to consider their unique situation.

Karnataka bans taking pictures in govt. offices

'There is possibility of it being 'misused'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Friday issued an order prohibiting photography and videography in its offices without prior permission. This followed a petition submitted by the president of Karnataka State Government Employees' Association, seeking a ban.

In his memorandum, the association president had alleged that while it is common for the general public to visit government offices regularly, individuals were taking photographs and videos of the functioning of the offices. They were then being circulated on social media "recklessly" and there was also a possibility of these being "misused",

which "lower the dignity of government offices." The association said that this was causing inconvenience to women employees and officials in the offices.

Following the association memorandum, the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms has said that it is illegal to take photos and videos during working hours without prior permission of the authorities. This is applicable to all government offices, at district, taluk and village levels, besides in the State capital.

However, the order has been criticised by some quarters as a move that will not allow for transparency in the government's functioning.

Woman throws away money offered by Siddaramaiah

She was irate over leaders not visiting violence victims

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BELAGAVI

The relative of a victim of the Kerur communal violence angrily threw back the money given to her by Karnataka's Leader of Opposition Siddaramaiah in Kulageri, Bagalkot district, on Friday, as she was upset that no senior leader or minister had come so far to console the families who had suffered in the group clash at a *dhaba* near Kulageri.

Five persons were injured on July 7 when an angry mob beat up some youth sitting at the *dhaba* near Kerur town.

Mr. Siddaramaiah, while on a tour of Bagalkot district wanted to talk to some family members of the injured



A video grab of the woman, who threw away the money offered by Siddaramaiah. •PTI

and hand over ₹2 lakh compensation, amounting to ₹50,000 each, to four families.

Just as he seemed set to get down and talk to the aggrieved, the car began moving ahead. This angered the woman who had gathered,

an eye-witness said. Rajima Begum, mother of one of the victims, threw the money back at a car which was following his vehicle, he said.

Later, Mr. Siddaramaiah clarified that though he had not visited Kerur, he was monitoring the situation.

Minister in a fix over remarks on MGNREGA

Patil backtracks on his comments about corruption in the scheme in West Bengal

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

Union Minister of State for Ministry of Panchayati Raj Kapil Moreswar Patil has found himself in a difficult situation over the alleged corruption in the MGNREGA scheme in West Bengal. Mr. Patil, who had initially said that he was not aware of any corruption relating to MGNREGA in the State, changed his stand two days later on Friday and said the State government is unable to present the utilisation certificate because of corruption. The change in the

statement comes after the West Bengal unit of the BJP reacted to his comments, saying that he was unaware of the situation on the ground.

On Friday, Mr. Patil said he had come across corruption in implementation of MGNREGA in West Bengal and will visit panchayats the next time he visits the State.

This was in complete contrast to his remarks on Wednesday. The Minister had even urged journalists to provide any information that they had on the issue. The issue of non-payment of MGNREGA wages had been dominating the politics of Bengal for the past few months. CM Mamata Banerjee has alleged that the Union government had not paid wages for MGNREGA since December 2021.



Deficit doubts

Fretting about current account deficit is warranted; fiscal space must be reassessed

In its latest review of the economy encompassing the period from June till July 10, the Finance Ministry is sanguine about India's economic recovery and has asserted that major macro-economic risks have subsided over the past six weeks. The Government's cautious optimism is tinged with impending concerns of a speedier tightening of monetary policies by the U.S. Federal Reserve and the resultant dip in asset markets, which can mar sentiment and consumption, on top of persistent geopolitical strife. But for now, interest rate hikes and measures to curtail the outflow of dollars announced by the central bank, with several steps from the government such as the imposition of windfall taxes and higher import duties on forex-drainers like gold, have been credited for lifting some of the dark clouds over the economy. Despite excise duty cuts on petrol and diesel, the Ministry believes India's fiscal math for the year will not unravel thanks to the recent tax levies, and healthy Goods and Services Tax collections (that could get healthier as some GST rate hikes kick in from Monday). Industrial metal prices slipping to 16-month lows, prices for some food items falling off their peaks and crude oil prices descending in the face of fears of a recession in many developed nations, have helped. However, if these fears do not translate into 'a sustained and meaningful' drop in food and energy prices, India's current account deficit will deteriorate in 2022-23 on account of costlier imports and tepid exports on the merchandise account, the Ministry has cautioned.

India's high import dependence for fuel means oil price trajectories affect most macro parameters, including inflation, growth, current account balances, fiscal management and the rupee. And economic policy-makers are rightfully concerned about the current account deficit (CAD) widening sharply from the 1.2% of GDP last year. There is a vicious circle at work here that may take a while to break. Slowing exports and costlier inelastic imports of oil have triggered record merchandise trade deficits for two consecutive months, exacerbating the CAD which is tripping the rupee, making imports even costlier and widening the CAD further. The CAD may have hit 2.7% of GDP in the first quarter, some reckon, but if developed economies slow down as expected and shale oil supplies pick up, crude oil prices could drop lower and the full-year deficit may improve. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has assured the country of a pointed 'item by item' attack on inflation to ensure growth prospects are not hindered. If the fiscal deficit is not a concern, and tax revenues may, in fact, overshoot Budget estimates owing to high inflation, the Government can consider reviewing its fiscal capacity and think of more measures to stimulate growth and mitigate the detrimental effects of high inflation and interest rates on consumption and investments.

Time for vigilance

Increased testing and building awareness, not stigmatisation, can stop spread of monkeypox

India reported its first laboratory-confirmed, imported case of monkeypox virus when a 35-year-old man in Kerala's capital tested positive. The diagnosis was easy as the individual informed health-care workers of his contact with an infected person in the United Arab Emirates. To cut the transmission chain, people who have come in contact with him in Kerala have been isolated. The first case of the virus outside Africa was first reported in the U.K. on May 6, 2022. Since then, the virus has spread to over 63 countries – Europe has reported 8,238 cases from 35 countries as of July 12, and the U.S., 1,470 cases as of July 14. Never before has the virus spread to more than a hundred people a year during any outbreak in endemic countries except Congo. In fact, sustained transmission beyond a few generations has been rare in Africa. In contrast, the rapid increase in cases and geographical spread have primarily been due to human-to-human transmission largely during sexual contact, especially among men who have sex with men (MSM). While a few rare parties in Spain and Belgium have turned out to be super-spreader events, WHO suspects that "undetected transmission for some unknown duration of time followed by recent amplifier events" to be responsible for cases being detected simultaneously in several countries outside Africa. With cases crossing the 10,000-mark in non-endemic countries, and a large number of cases in Spain (2,034), the U.K. (1,735), Germany (1,556) and the U.S. (1,470), the risk of the virus becoming established in some of these countries is becoming increasingly real.

While the first human case was reported in 1970 in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the virus became endemic in 11 countries in Africa causing small outbreaks, no attempts were made to study it all these years. With the virus having a free run in non-endemic countries, scientists have now unveiled many disconcerting facts: the virus appears to mutate at a much higher rate than what was assumed. And, based on genome sequences from the current outbreak, they have found the emergence of a novel clade of the virus in early March. A recent study has found monkeypox virus DNA in samples of semen, saliva, urine, rectal swabs and faeces, and at high viral loads; the infectious and disease potential of these body fluids was not studied. Whether the new clade by itself has a higher potential for human spread is not known. But surely, close sexual contact is providing the virus much opportunity to spread within the MSM community. With the sustained spread and a few cases already detected in women, the possibility of spread into the general community cannot be totally dismissed. Increased testing, contact tracing and building awareness, and not stigmatising the infected people can stop the spread.

The Ukraine war and the return to Euro-centrism

The political and military aftermath of the conflict could set the stage for the return of a Euro-centric world order



HAPPYMON JACOB

For centuries, Europe imagined itself to be the centre of the world – its order, politics and culture. Decolonisation, the emergence of the United States as the western world's sole superpower, and the rise of the rest dramatically diminished the centuries old domination of the European states and their ability to shape the world in their own image. The contemporary international order is hardly Euro-centric: dominated by the U.S., and challenged by rising great powers or superpowers, it is moving toward a multipolar order wherein Europe's system shaping capabilities have been rather limited. Or so it has been until now.

War and insecurity in Europe

The political and military aftermath of Russia's war on Ukraine could potentially tilt the current global balance and take us back to a Euro-centric world order, albeit far less powerful and dominating than its earlier avatars. For sure, the U.S. continues to dominate the trans-Atlantic security landscape and this is likely to remain so. And yet, the new security consciousness in Europe will reduce Washington's ability to continue as the fulcrum of the trans-Atlantic strategic imagination.

Second, if Donald Trump returns to the White House in 2024, the Europeans are likely to take their own security far more seriously. In any case, there is little doubt that Europe, going forward, will emerge as a major locus of trans-Atlantic security imagination.

The process has clearly begun. If wars have the potential to shape international orders, it is Europe's turn to shape the world, once again. The United States, fatigued from the Iraq and Afghan wars, does not appear to be keen on another round of wars and military engagements. But the mood in Europe seems to be changing; there is a shift in narrative from pacifism to insecurity-induced militarism. And that is where the shape of the international system could well be decided.

The Russian aggression against Ukraine has led to an unmissable feeling of insecurity in Europe, particularly in Germany where this writer recently spent a week talking to officials, parliamentarians, journalists and members of the strategic community. It is as if Europe has been rudely woken up from its lazy slumber and sweet dreams about lasting peace and the virtues of pacifism. A pervasive sense of what some described as "existential insecurity" has brought about a renewed enthusiasm about the future of the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). The European Union (EU) Commission in Brussels has backed Kyiv's bid for EU candidature, and the 30-state military alliance, NATO, has two more members in its fold (Finland and Sweden) all thanks to what the Europeans call "Putin's" war in Ukraine (they make a careful distinction between Russia and Vladimir Putin).

This new military unity is not just words, but is backed with political commitment and financial resources from the world's richest economies. Berlin, for instance, has decided to spend an additional €100 billion for defence over and above its €50 billion annual expenditure on defence. It is set to announce a new national security strategy early next year, and the



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

hope of 'changing Russia through trade' is no longer popular amongst most German policy makers and thinkers. While there is a deep sense of insecurity and vulnerability in contemporary Europe, there is also the belief that NATO and the EU will see better days going forward. To that extent, many consider Mr. Putin's Ukraine war as a blessing in disguise.

Impact on institutions

Germany, the engine of this new security thinking in Europe, is coming out of its self-image of being a pacifist nation. In his address in late February to the German Parliament, Germany's new Chancellor Olaf Scholz called the February 24 invasion of Ukraine a *Zeitenwende* (revolution) in the history of post-war Europe. A country that has for two decades spent no more than 1.3% on defence will now spend more than 2% to beef up its defence.

Notably, there appears little faith in the United Nations or the UN Security Council anymore in Berlin, they have decided to put their faith in a revitalised EU and NATO. It is interesting to note how quickly Europe's trust in democratic global institutions weakened in the face of a war that a non-EU/NATO member is fighting in its neighbourhood.

European states are deeply worried about globalisation-induced vulnerability and this has set in a rethink about the inherent problems of indiscriminate globalisation. What this turn away from

multilateralism in favour of 'Euro-peanism' will do is to further undercut global institutions.

The combined effect of European re-militarisation (however modest it may be for now), its loss of faith in multilateral institutions, and the increased salience of the EU and NATO will be the unchecked emergence of Europe as an even stronger regulatory, norm/standard-setting superpower backed with military power. The EU already has a worryingly disproportionate ability to set standards for the rest of the world. Instruments such as the Digital Services Act and the Digital Assets Act or its human rights standards will be unilaterally adopted, and will be unavoidable by other parts of the world. While these instruments and standards may in themselves be progressive and unobjectionable for the most part, the problem is with the process which is unilateral and Euro-centric. There is an irrefutable ethical problem in a democratic Europe using non-democratic processes to adopt seemingly progressive measures for the rest of us.

Implications for the rest

So, what does this mean for the rest of the world? The recent statements emanating from Europe that 'democracies' should come together to defeat a non-democratic aggressor is a taste of the things to come: a euro-centric worldview of 'friends and enemies' will define its engagement with the rest of the world. India is a friend, but its take on the Ukraine war is not friendly enough for Europe!

Receding multilateralism and rising Euro-centrism would invariably mean that norm setting and system-shaping discussions are likely to be conducted by Europeans, among Europeans, for Europeans and non-Europeans, lead-

ing to fewer consultations and even lesser consensus with the rest of the international community. The EU will lead the way in setting standards for the rest of us and we will have little option but to follow that. For sure, Europe will seek partners around the world: to create a Euro-centric world order, not a truly global world order.

This unilateral attempt to 'shape the world' in its image will also be portrayed as an attempt to counter Chinese attempts at global domination. When presented as such, countries such as India will face a clear dilemma: to politically and normatively oppose the setting of the global agenda by Europeans or to be practical about it and jump on the European bandwagon.

Seen as Europe's war

The key message from the European narratives about the Ukraine war is that European states would want to see their wars and conflicts as threatening international stability and the 'rules-based' global order. Needless to mention that there is little recognition in the West today that the global non-West's political priorities are altogether different – from addressing abject poverty and underdevelopment to managing social cohesion and local conflicts. The genuine surprise in western capitals today at the lack of interest in other parts of the world about the Russian aggression in Europe, and the consequent unease about the lack of empathy from the rest of the world, is indicative of the inherent Euro-centric view of the European nations about the world.

Happymon Jacob is Associate Professor, Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Stamp out this hate speech manufacturing network

The online trolling of the judiciary is a new low, highlighting a sustained and organised campaign of intimidation



COLIN GONSALVES

The recent ferocious attack on a judge of the Supreme Court of India by the IT cell of a prominent national political party has given the impression that there are a significant number of people opposed to the scathing judicial criticism of the former national spokesperson of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Nupur Sharma, for her remarks on the Prophet. Rather, it may well be that an overwhelming part of all religious communities would feel a sense of pride that a person of his standing would stand up to the tyranny of groups engaging in hate speech.

Pertinent questions

The criticism delivered from the Bench for the first time showed that some judges indeed have a spine and are capable of speaking the truth to power. Particularly at this time when Government interference with the judiciary is at its height (with transfers and supersessions of independent-minded judges), the pungent and fully justified remarks of the judge were like a fresh wind blowing through the country and the judiciary, and boosted the confidence of judges to stand up to executive excesses.

Equally important, the events of the past few days and the un-

couth trolling of the judge raise very important questions relating to the ever-growing tendency by the Government to intimidate the judiciary. The questions that arise are: Who are these groups that attack democratic-minded individuals who speak out against injustice? Does the Government have an underground network which operates as an arm of the Government? And, are they financially supported and ideologically encouraged to engage in hate speech? Finally, what should the judiciary do to stamp out organised hate speech of this kind, whether it be against journalists, political opponents of the Government or the judiciary?

Growth, political support

In her book, *I am a Troll*, Swati Chaturvedi describes Internet trolls as persons who sow discord through inflammatory comments on the Internet. She traces the growth of this network from the early 2000s and attributes its steep upward curve to the support it received from a senior political leader in Government. 'Rightwing propaganda websites constantly peddle hate tweets and slander journalists. They are backed up by coordinated hashtag campaigns where anonymous Twitter handles retweet the same tweet continuously until trending begins'.

She gives instances of tweets of 'gory cow slaughter and imaginary instances of love jihad'. Some of them 'mock women who face sexual abuse and harassment.' They did not spare their own party lead-



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

er, Maneka Gandhi, when she set up a helpline called '#IAmTrolledHelp'.

A Twitter handle from this group engaged in sustained abuse of a well-known female broadcast journalist. Another hosted a photostopped picture of a female actor when she joined the Aam Aadmi Party. One of this network asked for 'execution of undertrials without due process saying that the State should not bother to arrest suspects but kill in cold blood'. An extreme episode was when a Congress spokesperson 'was threatened with Nirbhaya-style rape by trolls'. In the context of pellet blinding in Kashmir, there were trolls who called for 'mass murder of Kashmiris, and the dropping of a bomb on a funeral procession'.

When journalist Gauri Lankesh was killed in Bengaluru in 2017, a Twitter handle followed by leaders of the party in power tweeted a message that had much profanity. Other journalists were also threatened that they were 'going the Gauri Lankesh way'.

The Wire reported that a network of 757 Twitter accounts was used to mount attacks against Mohammed Zubair (co-founder of fact-checking website Alt News)

and the website, and that the recovery email id for the anonymous Twitter handle was that of a youth leader of the party in power. These accounts revealed sub-accounts 'which exhibited multiple characteristics associated with bot-like and inauthentic behaviour posting more than 500 times a day at all hours of the day'. The purpose was to manipulate public perception about the arrest of Mr. Zubair.

Similar targeting processes were managed by 'Tek Fog' (a sophisticated app used by online operatives to hijack major social media and encrypted messaging platforms); over eight lakh hostile replies were sent out to tweets by women journalists, of which over five lakh were classified as 'offensive'. The Wire commented that the handlers of 'Tek Fog' are politically aligned and that is why 'India's political elite are silent'. One of the hashtags amplified by these operatives 'reached an audience of around eight crore users'. Newsland reported that this 'well-oiled propaganda machine churned out fake videos and mass tweet links to gear up for Twitter storms'.

An 'attack factory' at work

Online abuse has often led to actual violence as in the case of the attack on a prominent lawyer by persons who barged into his office. This is not surprising because, as reported by Ms. Chaturvedi, 'office bearers of the party in power have publicly supported these trolls'.

The IT cell of the Government has seen its activity expand with the induction of many volunteers and paid workers. Ms. Chaturvedi has reported that the party in power has 'created a bank of thousands of dormant Twitter accounts' to be used for 'synchronized tweeting' and 'storms'. The party also has 'bots created by the central IT Cell which tweets out identical messages simultaneously' so that they 'look like a real user'. These volunteers and employees 'were given a hit list of mainstream journalists who needed to be constantly attacked'. One of the India's most prominent and respected female journalists was attacked in 'filthy terms' and given 'rape threats'. These volunteers and employees use virtual private networks (VPNs) to 'hide the actual location of the user'.

Going back to the incident of Nupur Sharma in the Supreme Court, it is imperative that the Court understands that the country stands with the judiciary. The hate speech tweets are manufactured by a factory of a political party that produces millions of hate speeches. A criminal investigation by an independent special investigation team of the police is called for. Prosecution must follow. This hate speech manufacturing network must be crushed. This is vital for democracy to survive and for the judiciary not to be intimidated.

Colin Gonsalves is a senior advocate practising in the Supreme Court of India. The views expressed are personal

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.

Sri Lanka diary

The economy of Sri Lanka is in a shambles while the 'first family' is busy trying to escape. It is worrying that the government that may be formed in Sri Lanka could be under the leadership of those who had a part to play in the economic downfall of Sri Lanka. It is the wish of everyone that the battered nation does not slide backwards. It is suffering a lot as it is.

C. MOHAN CHANDRASEKARAN, Chennai

Life has come full circle for the once all-powerful President who was dubbed 'The Terminator' for his ruthless crushing of the Tamil rebels. It is ironic that

the Sinhalese who once lauded him have now disowned him. The formation of a consensus government at the earliest, followed by fruitful negotiations between representatives of the disgruntled protesters, based on mutual trust and respect is the bottom line to end this impasse.

Dr. Biju C. MATHEW, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

The developments in Sri Lanka have been shaped by the people; this is what democracy stands for. This sure is an eye-opener for all other democratic countries including India. A government that does not uphold the oaths and promises it has made to the

people can expect to face a bitter end.

S. HARITHA RAO, Wanaparthy, Telangana

The mass protests in Sri Lanka that eventually brought an elected regime to its knees demonstrates only one truth – that whipping up communal and religious passions and securing votes will work up to a certain point. Finally, it is good governance that pays. The Rajapaksa clan played the majoritarian card and got away with colossal war crimes and persecution of the minorities. Now, the very majority which brought them into power has shown them the door. Let us hope that the wounds inflicted by the civil war will heal and

along with economic reconstruction, reconciliation happens.

SHARADA SIVARAM, Ernakulam, Kerala

Unparliamentary words

The Opposition parties need to deeply understand the significance of winning the Lok Sabha election in 2024 and act accordingly. From that perspective, even if the Opposition accurately describes this government using expunged words (Inside pages, "Political uproar over 'unparliamentary' word list", July 15), how many voters are going to change their minds about this government and vote for the Opposition? By raising a storm over the expunging of words, the

Opposition has fallen into the trap of predictability and provided more ammunition to a section of the media, which continuously builds this narrative that the Opposition opposes every move made by the ruling party for the sake of opposing. This is, of course, an issue the common man cannot relate with much, alienating the Opposition even more.

A. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN, Tiruchit, Tamil Nadu

One reason why the Opposition ends up looking silly is that it has not learnt to calibrate its responses to a different style of politics. It needs to be innovative in the way it responds given this government's fondness for

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springing surprises. The Opposition must learn to play this game.

PREETHA SALLI, Mumbai

Presidential candidate

One is afraid that the candidacy of Yashwant Sinha for President is fast becoming infructuous or a damp squib. It is obvious that Uddhav Thackeray has decided to support Droupadi Murmu only to avoid a further split. Needless to say, the candidacy of Ms. Murmu has taken the wind out of the sails of Mr. Sinha's bid and the parties which are supposed to support him.

C.G. KURIKOSE, Malappara, Kothamangalam, Kerala

Fishing in uncertain waters

With fish in the shallow waters of the coastal sea disappearing, fisherfolk in Kerala are staring at penury. **Navamy Sudhish** reports on the disastrous impact of extreme climate events, rising fuel prices, destructive fishing practices, and overexploitation on livelihoods and biodiversity

As dawn breaks, *Vitalis* slowly glides into undulating waves below an azure sky. With a sparse crew of six, she bobs towards the fishing ground some 10 nautical miles off the shore. The boat returns after five hours, its hold nearly empty. A pall of gloom settles as the fishers offload the catch and divide the meagre earnings among themselves. "This is our fourth futile trip in a row. This is supposed to be the peak season for us (traditional fishers) and we are staring at a famine," says Thomas, a fisher from Tangassery, Kollam.

With the territorial waters running out of marine stocks, the boats often venture into deep sea investing a lot of fuel, time and effort. But the shoals stay elusive and the once-abundant fields are reporting lower and lower yields.

"I have been venturing into the sea for over five decades and I don't think we can survive this ordeal. Many species, including croaker and sardine, are fast vanishing from the sea. The traditional sector is heavily dependent on oil sardine and mackerel. For several days now, boats are bringing back only pink perch and anchovy," says 68-year-old Ambrose, a fisher from Pallithottam, Kollam. Oil sardine and mackerel are pelagic fish (fish that live in the upper water column of the sea) and were once available round the year, according to fishermen. Pink perch, on the other hand, are demersal fish, or fish which are found just above the ocean floor.

Every year, Kerala imposes a trawling ban during the monsoon season to ensure the prosperity of the marine stock. Only traditional crafts are allowed to operate during the period of the ban, which lasts for 52 days from June 9 to July 31. All trawling operations till the midnight of July 31 are prohibited. But more than a month into the ban, the traditional fishers are yet to see any monsoon bounty. Though the sea is free of trawlers and there is no competition from the mechanised sector, their holds are never full.

"Many boats have stopped venturing into the sea as the catch is hardly enough to meet operational costs. We require around ₹50,000 for a brief sortie and very often the catch fetches us less than ₹10,000. Two shares of our total earnings go to the boat owner and the rest is hardly adequate to feed our families. We are all neck deep in debt," says Wilson from Neendakara.

Perhaps this was one reason that forced Esthev and Anto, two fishers from Saktikulangara, to take a risky trip despite the squally weather. As their boat, *Kanikkamata*, was idling for 12 days, they ventured into the sea on the morning of July 11 hoping for a brief respite from penury. Hardly one nautical mile into the rough sea, *Kanikkamata* capsized. While the other two crew members were rescued, Esthev's body washed ashore the same day and the search for Anto is still on.

Traditional fishers at sea

A few years ago, '*karamadi*' or '*kamba vala*' (shore seine fishing) wasn't a rare sight along the Kerala coast. With the net cast in a semi-circular shape near the shoreline and hauled together by two groups of fishers, the fishing practice targeted pelagic shoals close to the coast. "Even though the net was cast only 2-3 km from the coast, the catch was good. Today, the practice has become extinct in most parts due to the absence of fish in the shallow waters of the coastal sea. We had hundreds of *kamba valas* in Kerala earlier, but now you will find only 10 or 15," says Esho from Poonthura, Thiruvananthapuram.

Seventy-two-year-old Vasu is familiar with the sea and its intricate system of currents. An old-school fisher, he knows that the surface swimmers move in shoals and turn the brine into shades of red and black. "A whitish tint means pomfrets. The presence of seabirds and air bubbles also helps you in identifying *meenpadams* (fishing fields). A sudden change in currents or in the direction of the wind indicates natural hazards," says the fisher from Alappad. But of late sun, seasons and constellations have failed him in braving the surf. "We can no longer plan trips based on the lunar calendar as cyclones and storms emerge out of nowhere. Though we see a lot of juveniles, the catch is dipping every day. The sea is becoming unreadable. It's a very scary prospect."

There is an increasing sense of desperation in the community, says Jackson Pollayil, a fisher from Thiruvananthapuram and the president of the Kerala Swatantra Matsyathozhilali Federation. Minimum Legal Size (MLS) refers to the size at which a particular species can be caught legally. Fishers used to leave oil sardines of 10 cm in the past, capturing bigger ones. It is a prolific breeder producing around 80,000 eggs in a spawning season. "But total oil sardine landings during the last couple of years present an alarming picture. Today, fishers net oil sardines once they acquire the MLS (even though the sardines are yet to reach the reproductive



Fishermen mend nets at Tangassery harbour in Kollam district after all fishing operations were suspended following an alert about the sea being rough. (Below): A fisherman carries home an outboard engine in Tangassery harbour following the alert. ■ C. SURESH KUMAR



hit an all-time high and each trip leads to huge losses. The boat was seaworthy and I could have operated it for another 10 years. But there was no other option with soaring fuel rates, maintenance costs and a decrease in fishing days due to frequent weather warnings. The trawl ban and COVID-19 had kept our boats off waters for over four months in 2020. Right now the only thing I own is my second boat and since fishing is no longer a lucrative business, only scrap dealers are interested in it. I am keeping the second boat as scrapping it will alert my creditors. If the situation continues, we will have to end our lives like farmers," he says.

According to the association, more than 500 boats have been scrapped across Kerala in the last couple of years. An average trawler requires anything between 150 litres and 700 litres of diesel for its operations. Meeting the fuel expense is a challenge and each outing to the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) can mean mortgages, personal loans and pending bills. "The fisheries sector in the State offers livelihood to nearly 15 lakh families and our catch is worth ₹40,000 crore every year. But the government is doing nothing to protect the sector and Kerala is slowly losing its relevance as a maritime State and export hub," says Joseph Xavier Kalappurakkal, general secretary of the association. He feels all the old fishing grounds have gone dry. "Fishing depended on luck earlier too, but now it has become a matter of pure gamble. Very few trawlers return with a good catch as currents have changed their course and shoals are not visible in many parts," he says.

A vicious cycle

According to a study report presented by the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute on July 5, the Kerala coast saw a massive fall in oil sardine catch in 2021. The total landings came down to 3,297 tonnes, registering a drop of 75% compared to 2020. "This

was the lowest catch of the fish after 1994 in the State. Again, this was 98 per cent lower than the annual average of sardine availability during 1995-2020 which is 1.66 lakh tonnes," says the report.

N. Aswathy, Principal Scientist who conducted a study on the impact of this on livelihoods, says the sector suffered a colossal loss due to the dip. "The annual value of sardine in the landing centres dropped to ₹30 crore from ₹608 crore in 2014, causing a loss of ₹578 crore to the sector. The small-scale fishermen who venture into the sea on outboard ring seines bore the brunt of the dwindling catch as they primarily depended upon this fish for livelihood. Even as many other fish resources showed an increase in the landings, the annual income of this group of fishers was reduced to ₹90,262 in 2021 from ₹3.35 lakh," she points out. Though the State recorded an increase in total marine catch in 2021 compared to the previous year, experts believe this is still low. In 2020, fishers had lost many fishing days due to pandemic-related restrictions and cyclone warnings. A comparison with the fish landings in 2020 does not make sense as that year was an exceptionally lean period.

Climate change might have already activated a vicious circle putting coastal ecosystems under stress. Its impact is reflected in the catch and composition in many parts. "When ocean warming increases, the fish shoals move northwards or they dive deeper. To track this properly we need excellent data from all these regions," says Roxy Mathew Koll, climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune. While there has been a shift in the distributions of fish stocks, extreme climate events are also changing the fishing calendar. "The increasing presence of cyclones and low-pressure areas in the Arabian Sea is another threat. Along with the number, their duration is also on the rise. While the number of cy-

clones has increased by 52% in the Arabian Sea, the time they spend over the sea has increased by 80% (between 2001 and 2019). The ocean absorbs 93% of heat due to global warming and the oceanic conditions often influence cyclonic circulations and monsoon winds. Weather over the Arabian sea has definitely changed and there are more fluctuations and variations compared to earlier times," he adds.

Experts point out that the change in temperatures can trigger the migration of some species and the sardine currently available in the market is from the east coast where the stock is abundant. A. Biju Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, University of Kerala, says the depleting resources will hit both the livelihood and nutritional needs of the fishing community. "Pelagic fish like sardines and mackerels, which form a major part of our fishery wealth, are climate sensitive. The change in surface temperature is one reason for their absence in coastal waters and we can also see that oxygen minimum zones are increasing in the Indian Ocean. If a particular species decreases or disappears from the marine ecosystem, the entire food chain will collapse. We need a longer period of time to know the cascading impact," he says.

Resorting to unethical practices

As the crisis in the sector deepens, many boats are making exclusive fishing trips to fetch 'trash'. Large quantities of edible juveniles are brought back and despatched to the fish meal plants outside Kerala. Since agents offer a good price and take care of all the logistics, some fishers consider it an opportunity to make some quick money. "The market for bycatch has increased and we have seen crates of young sardines in carrier boats. We know it's totally unethical and we are driving the species to extinction. But in the middle of all the hardships, we are unable to resist their offer. We don't have any fixed income and our savings are always zero. What else can we do in case of emergencies," asks Louis from Aroor, Alappuzha.

As per reports, the total fish landings in Kerala also include a considerable percentage of juvenile catch which is used by the fish meal fish oil (FMFO) industry. If this continues unabated, it will be hard to replenish the fishery stocks and the practice can also bring in some undesirable changes in the marine environment. "Currently we have no system to monitor juvenile discards at sea, their quantity or species. Switching from the diamond mesh codend to the square mesh codend can reduce the bycatch of juveniles and other unwanted varieties with no commercial value. It's high time we shifted to such sustainable fishing practices so that there is less biodiversi-

ty loss," says Vinod Malayilethu, Associate Director, Marine Conservation Programme, WWF-India.

The depletion of pelagic fish has also hit the procurement and supply of Matsyafed (Kerala State Co-operative Federation for Fisheries Development Ltd) for its marts. "Over 50% shortage has been reported from some places as the current marine landings are very low. Since some sought-after varieties are fast disappearing from the carts, we are focusing on inland aquaculture," says Dinesan Cheruvatt, managing director. Though the fish consumption of Kerala is largely marine, the State is dependent on supply from other States. "Kerala's total fish landings, including inland catch, comes to around 6 to 8 lakh tonnes. But in Andhra Pradesh, it's around 40 lakh tonnes and farmed fish constitutes a major portion of it. We don't have the domestic production to meet the requirement and further decline of resources will affect our consumption pattern and food habits. Along with promoting aquaculture, conservation measures should be intensified to protect the marine pelagics."

Overexploitation and destructive practices seem to be other factors aggravating the situation. "Though our recommended fleet size is 24,000, the State has over 40,000 vessels fishing in the Kerala coast. Add to it the boats from other States and the number easily goes beyond 50,000. The biggest challenge faced by fishers in some coastal districts like Kasaragod is the illegal vessels from neighbouring States," Cheruvatt adds.

Fisherwomen in deep waters

The situation has also thrown thousands of fisherwomen into distress. Earlier engaged in fish vending and allied activities, they are struggling to make two ends meet. Elizabeth, a 73-year-old vendor from Kollam, says she was rendered jobless in 2021: "Now most women from the coastal belt work as maids, but nobody wants an elderly woman. Most of us are not educated and we are struggling to survive."

Kerala has nearly 50,000 women working in the fisheries sector and most of them are looking for alternative options. "By early 2022, both my sister-in-law and I had no work. All these years our day started at the harbour and we used to walk around 10 km a day to scrape a living. We both are single parents and the only breadwinners of our families," says Sheeba, a vendor from Varkala. After trying her hand at a string of jobs including rubber tapping, she now works as a cleaning staff. "The government officials keep talking about free ration, subsidies and housing schemes. But nobody is there to protect our livelihood and we are a generation with no future," she says.



FROM PAGE ONE

Ranil sworn in as Acting President of Sri Lanka

In his first statement as Acting President, Mr. Wickremesinghe vowed to “re-implement” the 19th Amendment, referring to a 2015 legislation that clipped the Executive’s powers, in turn empowering Parliament. Urging political parties to agree on an all-party government, he said: “Put aside your personal ambitions. Put the needs of the country first.” He emphasised the need for law and order, days after empowering the military to keep them under check. “There are groups that are trying to set the country on fire through fascist methods by suppressing democracy,” he said.

Earlier, Mr. Premadasa was said to be exploring the possibility of teaming up with Mr. Alahapperuma, possibly as PM, but “things are still very fluid,” an opposition legislator said, requesting anonymity. A secret ballot complicates the

exercise, the MP explained, as there was no way to tell which way a legislator voted, despite promising support for one of the two candidates.

Irrespective of who is elected, the new President will have an unenviable task of taking urgent and likely harsh measures to arrest the country’s rapid economic decline.

The change at the country’s helm was sparked by the storming of the President’s office and home last weekend by protesters, that forced Mr. Gotabaya to flee for his life, first to the Maldives and later to Singapore, where he is currently located. Public fury against Mr. Gotabaya and his family members, who held prominent positions of power in the government, surged this year as citizens suffocated amid crippling shortages and soaring living costs that, they said, his government failed to address.

Ban on dharnas in Parliament precinct sets off a controversy

Opposition alleges clampdown on dissent; Om Birla says circular is routine

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A fresh bulletin from the Parliament secretariat ahead of the monsoon session of Parliament prohibiting the members from using the premises for “demonstration, dharna, strike, fast or for the purpose of performing any religious ceremony,” has raised a furore with the Opposition members calling it yet another attempt to bulldoze dissent.

Intervening in the debate, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla sent out a statement saying these circulars are routinely issued. Mr. Birla also urged members to maintain the dignity of Parliament by not using routine information for creating news. The parliamentary officials released copies of similar advisories issued during the Congress-led UPA government.

Congress general secretary (communication) Jairam



A view of the Parliament House in New Delhi. • R.V. MOORTHY

Ramesh launched a broadside at the government calling it “vishguru’s” latest salvo: “D(h)arna Mana Hai!” a play on Darna Mana Hai (Not allowed to be afraid). Replying to Mr. Ramesh’s tweet, Trinamool Congress’s Rajya Sabha floor leader Derek O’Brien said, “Every year they issue these notices in #Parliament bulletins. Demonstrations, dharnas, strikes, fast are part of legiti-

mate parliamentary tactics to register protest. No stopping you. However, can you please update me. Didn’t SOMEONE conduct a religious ceremony recently?”

Mr. O’Brien’s Lok Sabha colleague Mahua Moitra elaborated further. “By the way honourable MP Varanasi performed a religious ceremony on top of new Parliament building just four days ago,” Ms. Moitra tweeted, without naming

Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

‘Muzzling India’s soul’ CPI(M) General Secretary Sitaram Yechury called the circular an attempt to “muzzle the soul of India.” “The more useless the government, the more cowardly it is. Such dictatorial orders mock democracy. Protesting in the Parliament House complex is a political right of the MPs,” Mr. Yechury tweeted.

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Manoj K Jha said orders like these undermine the very idea of disagreements, which are essential to parliamentary democracy. “This order is bizarre and shocking. I would urge the government, please stop this brutal assault on the right to protest. We are moving towards Sri Lanka if we continue like this,” Mr. Jha said.

Om Prakash Rajbhar to back Droupadi Murmu

He says he remains key ally of SP

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

In yet another setback to the Opposition ahead of the Presidential election, the Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) led by Om Prakash Rajbhar, a key ally of the Samajwadi Party (SP) in Uttar Pradesh, announced its support for the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) presidential nominee Droupadi Murmu on Friday.

Addressing a press conference in Lucknow, Mr. Rajbhar said Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had sought his support for Ms. Murmu, who comes from the tribal community, and his party had decided to support her. He maintained that he was still with the SP-led Opposition alliance on other issues.

Signs of discomfort in the Uttar Pradesh Opposition alliance have been visible for a while. Mr. Rajbhar attended a dinner hosted by the



Om Prakash Rajbhar

BJP in honour of Ms. Murmu in Lucknow last week and was not present at the meeting held by SP in support of the Opposition’s joint candidate Yashwant Sinha.

Mr. Rajbhar did not respond to requests from *The Hindu* for a comment on the issue.

This is the latest of several friction points between the SP and Mr. Rajbhar since the Lok Sabha bypolls and Rajya Sabha and Council elections where the SBSP was denied representation.

Delhi court grants bail to Mohammed Zubair

Granting Mr. Zubair bail in this case, Additional Sessions Judge Devender Kumar Jangala held, “The applicant/accused is also stated to have used the words ‘Before 2014 and After 2014’ to point out towards a political party. In Indian democracies the political parties are open for their criticism... The voice of dissent is necessary for healthy democracy.”

Of the six U.P. cases, Mr. Zubair has been arrested in three (Hathras, Lakhimpur Kheri, and Sitapur). In the Sitapur case, he has been granted interim bail by the Supreme Court and in the Hathras and Lakhimpur Kheri cases, he is currently in judicial custody. Mr. Zubair’s lawyers have already moved the top court seeking quashing of the U.P. FIRs or clubbing them together and moving them to Delhi.

As for the case over the 2018 tweet, the judge held that there was no offence in naming a hotel or institution after a Hindu god if done without malice, noting that “Hindu religion is one of the oldest religion and most tole-

rant”. It added, “It is also not out of place to mention that the alleged tweet of the accused was made in the year 2018 but till the date of registration of the present FIR in 2022, no other complaint was received that the tweet of the accused is offensive to the Hindu community or showing disrespect to Lord Hanuman.”

The court went on to note that though the Delhi Police had registered the FIR based on the hurt sentiment of a Twitter user, “till today during the investigation the police has failed to establish the identity of said Twitter user who felt offended by the tweet of the accused” and record their statement under Section 161 of the CrPC.

On the now-added charge under Section 35 of the Foreign Contributions (Regulation) Act, the court agreed with Mr. Zubair’s lawyers that he and his company Alt News had exercised all necessary due diligence as called for under Section 39 of the FCRA to prevent the receipt of any foreign contribution.

Delhi schoolgirl gang-raped inside car

The minor, during counselling, said two of the accused, previously known to her, had met her near the Vasant Vihar market and offered a joyride. The third accused came with the vehicle and all four went to Mahipalpur nearby where they bought and had liquor. “They then drove to Gurugram and two of the boys raped her inside the car in a secluded area,” the DCP said.

A police officer said before dropping the victim at her place on July 7, all four had breakfast at a roadside

stall. The victim tried to defend her boyfriend in her statement before a magistrate, saying he only kissed her while the other two raped her. A case under the relevant sections of the POCSO Act, and Sections 376D (gang rape) and 363 (punishment for kidnapping) of the Indian Penal Code was registered against all three on July 7.

“There are no external injuries on the victim or the accused. Further investigation is under way,” the DCP said.

Fadnavis meets Raj Thackeray, terms visit a ‘courtesy call’

The MNS has shown a marked tilt towards the BJP recently

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis visited Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray at the latter’s residence in Mumbai on Friday.

Despite both leaders terming the meeting purely a courtesy call, it has set political mills abuzz given the MNS’ heavy tilt towards the BJP in recent times.

Mr. Fadnavis met the MNS chief, who is recovering from a hip replacement surgery, at the latter’s residence ‘Shivirthi’ for more than 90 minutes.

“Maharashtra has a politi-



New vistas: Devendra Fadnavis being greeted by Raj Thackeray in Mumbai on Friday. • PTI

cal tradition where we maintain relations with each other regardless of parties. After Mr. Thackeray’s operation, many leaders went to meet him. I had even said in

the Assembly that I would be meeting him soon... So, if I went to meet him, why should anybody have any problems with it?” Mr. Fadnavis said.

Two dead in firing inside Army camp

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Two soldiers were killed and two others were injured in an incident of firing inside an Army camp in Poonch’s Surankote area on Friday morning.

The Army confirmed that two soldiers died. They were identified as Sepoy Abrar Ahmed and naik Imtiaz Ahmed. “Abrar was brought dead to a hospital and Imtiaz succumbed to his injuries later,” official sources said.

Two other injured were airlifted to the Army hospital in Udhampur.

The Army has issued no statement on the incident and refused to reveal the cause behind the firing.

Rubaiya identifies Yasin Malik, three others as abductors

Her next hearing in 1989 kidnapping case is on August 23

PEERZADA ASHQ
JAMMU

Rubaiya Sayeed, daughter of former Union Home Minister Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, on Friday identified Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chief Yasin Malik, 56, and three others as her abductors in the 1989 kidnapping case. She was making her statement before a special CBI court in Jammu. The abduction led to the release of five jailed militants.

“When she made her statement (before the court) she categorically stated that he (Yasin Malik) is the one. She said he is the one and



Legal proceedings: Rubaiya Sayeed arriving to appear before the court in Jammu on Friday. • PTI

his name is Yasin Malik. When asked questions about Malik and photographs were shown, she specifically stated ‘I remember him categorically,’ advocate Monica

Kohli told *The Hindu*. Ms. Sayeed is former J&K CM and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti’s sister. Her next hearing is on August 23.

Gandhi museum brings out magazine on Savarkar

Choice of theme sparks criticism from Gandhians

DAMINI NATH
A.M. JIGEEESH
NEW DELHI

The national memorial and museum dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi has brought out a special edition of its monthly magazine dedicated to Hindutva leader Vinayak Damodar Savarkar – a choice that has sparked criticism from Gandhians and Opposition leaders.

The June issue of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti’s (GSDS) Hindi language magazine, *Antim Jan*, features Savarkar on the cover and articles re-printed from the works of Gandhi on religious tolerance, Savarkar on Hindutva and late Prime Minis-

ter Atal Bihari Vajpayee on Savarkar. A portion from Savarkar’s book *Hindutva* has been adapted for an article with the same title. It also includes articles by other writers on “Deshbhakt Savarkar” (patriot Savarkar) and “Veer Savarkar and Mahatma Gandhi”. An article by the editor of the magazine, Praveen Dutt Sharma, titled “Gandhi ka Gussa” (Gandhi’s anger) has been included as well.

GSDS vice-chairperson Vijay Goel told *The Hindu* on Friday that the magazine’s theme was dedicated to Savarkar as it was his birth anniversary on May 28. “Veer Savarkar was a great man. So was Gandhi, so was Patel. We have to learn from their sacrifice. No one else spent as much time behind bars as Savarkar during the British

rule.” Asked about the controversy surrounding Savarkar’s mercy petitions to the British while in jail, Mr. Goel said the issue was always raised by “those who have not sacrificed at all”. He added that the magazine would continue to publish special issues dedicated to freedom fighters and the August issue would have the theme of ‘Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ to mark 75 years of Independence.

The GSDS, which is chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, oversees Gandhi Smriti – the home on Tees January Marg where Gandhi was assassinated in 1948 and converted into a museum dedicated to him – and Gandhi Darshan, which is the memorial at Rajghat.

Reacting to the magazine’s theme, Tushar Gand-

Dalai Lama’s month-long visit to Ladakh begins

‘Solve border issues through talks’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LEH/JAMMU/NEW DELHI

Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama on Friday, began his month-long visit to Ladakh, and said India-China border disputes should be resolved through “talks and peaceful means”, as use of military is an outdated option.

“India and China are most populated countries and neighbours. Sooner or later, you have to solve this problem (border disputes along the Line of Actual Control) through talks and peaceful means,” the Dalai Lama told reporters in Jammu, before leaving for Ladakh. “Use of military force is outdated now,” he said.



Dalai Lama

A top government functionary said the visit of the Dalai Lama to Ladakh was a “completely religious” one, and no one should have any objections to the tour.

The government functionary said it was not for the first time that the Dalai Lama was visiting a border region.

The Hindu BusinessLine Cerebration Quiz is back

Winners will take home prize money worth up to ₹1.5 lakh

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Are you a corporate genius waiting to be identified? Here’s an opportunity for you. *The Hindu BusinessLine* is back with the 19th edition of Cerebration Quiz 2022, one of India’s biggest corporate quiz championships.

The quiz is open to business professionals, corporate executives, MBA aspirants, and students from India’s B-schools. Registration for the quiz is open till July 22 where participants will be asked to answer 25 questions to qualify for the regional round.



The top six contestants from each city will compete in the virtual regional finals to be held from July 31 to August 15. On August 28, winners of the regional finals from six cities, including Chennai, Bengaluru and Del-

hi, will battle it out for the coveted title at an event in Mumbai. Winners will take home prize money worth up to ₹1.5 lakh. While the first prize will be ₹75,000, second and third prizes will be ₹50,000 and ₹25,000 respectively.

Participants can register at bit.ly/BLQUIZ22 and take the quiz or scan the QR code. Union Bank of India is the title sponsor of BusinessLine Cerebration Quiz 2022, which is powered by ManageEngine.

Greyon Cosmetics is the associate partner.



Bangladesh on path of modernisation: Rajnath

He says Pakistan should learn from India's eastern neighbour

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

Lauding the socio-economic development ushered in by Bangladesh, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said Pakistan should introspect and learn a lot of things from India's eastern neighbour.

"One of our neighbouring countries is struggling with religious fanaticism, bigotry and narrow-mindedness. The country itself is struggling with poverty, unemployment and terrorism and sometimes it tries to harass India also. That country needs to introspect and learn a lot from Bangladesh," he said at an event in Kolkata. While Mr. Singh did not name Pakistan, his remarks



The P17A stealth frigate 'Dunagiri' ship built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders Limited (GRSE), after its launch in Kolkata. (Right) Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launches the ship in presence of Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar. •PTI

were clearly directed at the western neighbour.

The Defence Minister said India, as a neighbour, was happy that Bangladesh was moving fast on the path of development. Mr. Singh said Bangladesh had shunned religious fanaticism and taken the path to modernisation, moderation and secularism. "The kind of socio-economic development ushered in by

Bangladesh is an example for several countries in the world," he said.

Mr. Singh expressed hope that in times to come, Bangladesh would reach greater heights. "India has stood by Bangladesh in sectors such as health, education, economy, connectivity, and security and will continue to do so in the future," he added.

The remarks by the De-



fence Minister come at a time when Bangladesh is celebrating 50 years of its Independence.

Mr. Singh was in Kolkata to attend the launch of 'Dunagiri', a Project 17A frigate at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Limited. "If India is increasing its strength, it is not only for itself but also for its friends," the Defence Minis-

ter said, adding that India wanted friendly ties with all its neighbours. Regarding the crisis in Sri Lanka, Mr. Singh said India was trying to extend all possible help. "We are aware of the difficult times through which Sri Lanka is passing through. COVID-19 has affected us also. Despite that, we are extending all possible help to our friend Sri Lanka," he said.

MSME to help in naval shipbuilding

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In all future shipbuilding contracts of the Navy, 88% of them on cost basis, amounting to investments of nearly ₹1,75,000 crore, are being progressed through Indian enterprises, Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar said on Friday. He was attending the launch of the fourth Project-17A stealth frigate 'Dunagiri' at the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE) in Kolkata.

29 Indian original equipment manufacturers and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) are contributing to this project, Admiral Kumar said.

36 Rafale jets delivered to India: French envoy

35 jets have arrived; one still in France

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

France has delivered all 36 Rafale fighter jets to India, said the French Envoy in India, Emmanuel Lenain, speaking on the sidelines of the French National Day celebrations on Thursday.

However, while 35 jets have arrived in India, one jet still remains in France, official sources said.

One Rafale jet, which is the instrumented aircraft on which the 13 India specific enhancements (ISE) are being tested, is still in France, an official source said on Friday.

The last batch of three Rafale jets had arrived in India in February, taking the total Rafale jets in inventory of the Indian Air Force to 35. As reported by *The Hindu* earlier, work on upgrading all the Rafale jets in service

to the Indian standard configuration with the 13 ISE is currently underway in India.

The naval variant of the French jet, Rafale-M, is in the race along with Boeing F-18 Super Hornet for the Indian Navy's tender for jets to operate from its aircraft carriers. In January, the Rafale-M had demonstrated its compatibility by operating from the Navy's shore-based test facility in Goa, while the F-18 carried out demonstration in May.

India and France had signed a €7.87 billion inter-governmental agreement (IGA) in September 2016 for 36 Rafale multi-role fighter jets in fly-away condition, following the announcement by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April 2015 citing "critical operational necessity" of the IAF.

NIA court denies bail to Abdul Fazili, Fahad Shah

Both were arrested under UAPA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Fahad Shah, 33, journalist and editor of *The Kashmir Walla*, and Abdul Aala Fazili, 39, a research scholar at Kashmir University (KU), were denied bail by a special National Investigation Agency (NIA) court in Jammu on Friday.

Both Mr. Shah and Mr. Fazili, arrested earlier this year, are facing charges under several sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

According to the SIA, they were involved in un-

lawful activities "to propagate the false narrative of the secessionist as well as the terrorist to disintegrate the sovereignty and unity of Union of India and to motivate the Kashmiri youth to exhilarate the subversive activities against the popular government".

"Mr. Fazili has written an article 'The Shackles of Slavery will Break' and published it in the magazine *The Kashmir Walla* as a part of the ongoing strategy to build and propagate the false narrative against Union of India," the SIA said.

India-China military talks on July 17

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The 16th round of military talks between India and China on the lingering border stand-off in eastern Ladakh will be held on July 17 on the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the region, official sources said on Friday.

India has been pressing for quick disengagement of troops from all the remaining friction points in eastern Ladakh, insisting that peace and tranquillity along the border are prerequisites for progress in overall bilateral ties.

Congress says PM Modi is 'harmful for rupee'

Party recalls his attack on UPA government with regard to the falling rupee, when he was Gujarat CM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As rupee touched nearly ₹80 against the U.S. dollar, the Congress on Friday led a scathing attack against the Narendra Modi government and questioned its silence on the free fall of the currency.

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the party said Mr. Modi is "harmful for the rupee" and recalled his comments as Gujarat Chief Minister, when he had attacked the UPA government saying "the prestige of the PM is attached to the falling rupee".

"The currency of a coun-

try falls where the government is immoral and corrupt... I sometimes wonder if there is a race between the Central government and the falling rupee. Who will stoop lower? The prestige of the PM is attached to the falling rupee. The lower it falls, the more credibility and dignity of the Prime Minister is eroded," quoting Mr. Modi, Congress social media head Supriya Shrinete asked what the Prime Minister has to say about his earlier statements now.

Recalling that Mr. Modi had said that the country "is in the throes of despair" un-

This so-called strong PM made the rupee weakest in history

SUPRIYA SHRINATE

der the UPA regime, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi tweeted, "As much noise you used to make at that time, today you are as *maan* (silent) seeing the rupee depreciating rapidly".

"The government, as always, seems directionless. Mr. Modi is toxic and harmful for the rupee. What is the government doing to address high inflation? It is a vicious cycle," Ms. Shrinete de-

manded to know at a press conference.

'False claims'

"Before 2014, Mr. Modi falsely claimed that a 'strong PM' is necessary for the strengthening of the rupee. Now he has proven to be most toxic and harmful for the currency. This so-called strong PM made the rupee weakest in history. The rupee has depreciated more than 7% in the last six months. How long will the Prime Minister keep hiding behind coronavirus, Russia-Ukraine war and so on?" she added.

The Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) had tried to strengthen the rupee by spending about \$40 billion but it seems to have failed, Ms. Shrinete claimed, "because investors do not have even the slightest faith in the policies of the government".

The value of the rupee has seen a fall of nearly ₹22 against the dollar in the past eight years.

Hitting out at the government, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said while the rupee is falling and unemployment is rising, the Prime Minister's Office is finding ways to prevent questions and protests.

AD Command may be counterproductive, says Air Chief Marshal

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

In an important clarification on the Indian Air Force's (IAF) view on the proposed reorganisation of the armed forces into integrated theatre commands, Air Chief Marshal (ACM) V.R. Chaudhari, while stressing the need for an Integrated Air Defence System (IADS) to fight tomorrow's wars in order to ensure aerospace safety as well as effective Air Defence (AD) said, "creation of an AD Command may prove counter-productive".

An integrated AD command is one of the proposed theatre commands that is in the works, in addition to Western, Eastern and Maritime Theatre Commands.

"While there is a need for close coordination between all elements within the same airspace to ensure aerospace safety as well as effective AD, creation of an AD Command may prove counter-productive because AD operations are inextricably linked to Counter Air Operations, as the success or failure of one will dictate the demands on the other," ACM Chaudhari said at a seminar organised by the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies.

Arunachal Pradesh 'beef' sign order to be kept in abeyance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The order directing all hotels and restaurants in the Naharlagun subdivision of Arunachal Pradesh to remove signboards displaying 'beef' by July 18 has been kept in abeyance.

Naharlagun is about 13 km from Itanagar, where consumption of beef is not banned.

The order was issued on July 13 by the subdivision's executive magistrate, Tamo Dada, following a verbal complaint that 'beef' displayed on signboards of eateries hurt the religious sentiments of communities that do not consume the meat.

TAMIL NADU MINERALS LIMITED
No. 31, Kamarajar Salai, Chennai - 600 005.
Phone No. 26882018, 26511972

NOTICE INVITING e-Tender

Description	Sale of Raw Vermiculite (as mined) from Sevathur Mine, Tirupattur District, Tamilnadu
Tender No. & Date	TAMIN/523/VAP-2022, Dated: 13.07.2022.
Tender ID	2022_TNMIN_241835_1
Bid submission end date	16.08.2022 upto 14.00 hrs
Technical bid opening date	17.08.2022 at 16.30 hrs
EMD	Rs. 1.18 Crores (Rupees One Lakh eighteen thousand only)
Tender form fee	Rs. 2,000/- (Rupees Two thousand only)

Note: For further details please visit Tamil Nadu e-tendering portal: <https://ntenders.gov.in>

GENERAL MANAGER (Finance)

T.S.CO-OP OILSEEDS GROWERS' FEDERATION Ltd.,
9th FLOOR, PARISRAMBHAVANAM, BASHERBAGH, HYDERABAD-4.
TEL. No: 23235501/02. E-mail: tscoifed@gmail.com

E-Tender Notice No./P&P/PP-APPT/MEE PLANT/2022-23 Dt: 15.07.2022
TSOILFED, Hyderabad invites a tender from potential and reputed manufacturers, companies authorized suppliers/contractors for the DESIGN, SUPPLY, FABRICATION, ERECTION & COMMISSIONING OF 600KLD MULTIPLE EFFECT EVAPORATOR, ATFE AND PADDLE DRIER WITH SUPPORTING STRUCTURE & SHEETING ON TURNKEY BASIS at our Oil Palm Processing Plant, Apparapet, Bhadrachal Kotagudem District, Telangana State. Note: 1. Publish of e-Tender: 16.07.2022 at 05:00pm. 2. Pre Bid meeting: 26.07.2022 at 3.30pm. 3. Last Date for uploading e-Tender: 06.08.2022 at 3:00pm. 4. All the details related to tender will be available in e-Tender website: <https://tender.telanganagov.in>

sd/- MANAGING DIRECTOR TSOILFED.

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

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Procurement Tender is invited for purchase of "T&C" Type Hardware set for 11 KV, 45 KN Porcelain Disc Insulator Under TN-1802 (UBN JVV2122GLOB00204).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders are available on our website at www.energy.rajjasthan.gov.in/jdvvn1 and also at <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in>

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)
विकासी संवर्धी विभागतः के लिए एल टी नम्बर 1800 180 6045

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER,
LOWER SUKTEL IRRIGATION PROJECT, BALANGIR, AT- LALTIKRA,
DIST :- BALANGIR, PIN-767002. email-ld- ccelsp@gmail.com
Government of Odisha, "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No. 07/2022-23 of CCE, LSP, Balangir

i	Name of Work	CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING FOR RR COLONY OF LSP AT LARKIPALI & SADEPALLI, BALANGIR.
ii	Estimated Cost	Rs.2,68,79,915.00
iii	Period of Completion	10 (Ten) Calendar Months
iv	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	15.07.2022 at 10.30 AM
v	Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal	30.07.2022 up to 5.30 PM
vi	Name & Address of the Officer Inviting Bid	Chief Construction Engineer, Lower Suktel Irrigation Project, Balangir, At-Laltikra, Dist. : Balangir, PIN - 767002

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal <http://tendersodisha.gov.in>. Any corrigendum / addendum / cancellation will be displayed in the Govt. Website only.

Chief Construction Engineer, Lower Suktel Project, Balangir.

A-392 QPR-32333/11/0011/2223

Directorate of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack
Government of Odisha
Date: 12.07.2022

CORRIGENDUM

With reference to the earlier advertisement published for RFP-8 on 07-06-2022 in daily news paper inviting sealed proposals from eligible bidders for "Implementation of Indigenous Vessel Tracking and Two-way MSS Communication System for Marine Fishing Crafts (Mechanized Boats) in EEZ including territorial waters of Odisha using ISRO Satellite Transponders". It is informed that, the last date for submission of tender documents has been extended and revised as per details mentioned below.

Sl.No.	List of Key Events	Critical Dates
1	Last Date for Submission of Bid	16 th August, 2022, 2 PM
2	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	17 th August, 2022, 12 PM
3	Date of Opening of Financial Bid	Will be intimated later

- Tender documents are now available till 16.08.2022 (Tuesday) 2.00PM at www.fishfedodisha.in
- The proposal complete in all respects must reach the undersigned by Speed Post/Registered Post/Drop in the Tender Box only latest by 16th August '2022, 2 PM in a sealed envelope clearly mentioning on the top of it "Implementation of Indigenous Vessel Tracking and Two-way MSS Communication System for Marine Fishing Crafts (Mechanized Boats) in EEZ including territorial waters of Odisha using ISRO Satellite Transponders". The proposals received beyond the last date and time will be rejected. The authority reserves the right to reject any/all proposals without assigning any reason thereof.
- All the terms and conditions as prescribed in previous RFP notice will remain the same.

Director of Fisheries, Odisha, Cuttack

M-21: QIPR-06015/11/0010/2223

bida भिवाड़ी इंटीग्रेटेड विकास प्राधिकरण
एच-5, माता सिंह कॉलोनी, भिवाड़ी, अलवर
दूरभाष: 01493 230819, ई-मेल: bida.bhiwadi@rajasthan.gov.in

क्रमांक: 4114/22 दिनांक: 12.7.22

Expression of Interest
CONSULTANCY WORK OF DPR FOR MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN FOR BHIWADI CITY AND DISPOSAL OF WATER UPTO FINAL DISPOSAL POINT

The Bhiwadi Integrated Development Authority (BIDA), Bhiwadi invites proposal for Consultancy work of DPR for Master Drainage plan for Bhiwadi City and disposal of water upto final disposal point Detailed of EOI, eligibility criteria schedule and conditions can be seen on <https://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> from dated 14.07.2022, 10.00 AM to 28.07.2022, 5.00 PM.

Executive Engineer
BIDA, Bhiwadi

Rajasthan Samwad/C/4957/2022-2023

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Limited, Jaipur
Gandhi Block, Swasthya Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302005
Ph: No. 0141-2223887, Fax: 0141-2228065 E-mail: edepmssc-ri@nic.in
CIN: U24232RJ2011SGC035067 Website: <http://rmsc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in>

No. F-8 (RMSCE/MPM-1/2022-23/NIB/775 Dated :- 11.07.2022

NOTICE INVITING BID

Bids for Item (1) Breast Pump Electric (Professional)- Hospital Use (Multi user) (2) Containers Polypropylene (BPA Free) (3) Glass Beaker are invited from interested bidders up to 16.08.2022, 06:00 p.m. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state, and <http://rmsc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in>.

(UBN-MSC223GLRC00038)

Executive Director (EPM), RMSCL, Jaipur

Office of the Project Director (Housing)
Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage & Infrastructure Corporation Limited
4-5a-24, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur-302004 (RAJ.)
Tel&Fax: 0141-4001187 | Email: rudisco.housing@rajasthan.gov.in

No. RUDSICO/PH (H)/Jpr/2022-23/1387 Date: 11.07.2022

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for Const. of Various Govt. colleges at Dist. Barmer, Jodhpur, Pali, Jalore, Pratapgarh, Dungarpur & Banswara and Furniture supply & Electrical works at Bagrana Depot, Jaipur are invited from interested bidders up to 18:00hrs, 21.07.2022 for item no. 1 to 16 under Two bid system and for item no. 17 under single bid system on E-procurement. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state; and <http://urban.rajjasthan.gov.in/rudisco> departmental website. The total approximate value of procurement is Rs. 6567.82 Lacs.

NT No. 15/2022-23 UBN-RDP2223WSOB00057 to 71, 73 & RDP2223GLOB00072
Raj.Samwad/C/4889/2022-2023 **General Manager (Works), RUDSICO**

BANGALORE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices: Purchase Dept., Shantinagar, Bengaluru-560 027.
No.: BMTCCOSP/STR/SSD/211/2022-23 Date: 15.07.2022

e-AUCTION NOTICE

Scrap Materials available at BMTCC will be sold through e-Auction to be conducted by M/s. M.S.T.C. (A Govt. of India undertaking). The e-Auction schedule is as under- 1) **Scrapped Materials, Date of e-Auction: 27.07.2022.** The interested bidders may log onto www.mstccommerce.com for further details and registration. They may also contact M/s. M.S.T.C. Ltd., at below mentioned address for needful clarification.

Address: M/s. B.T.C. LTD., No.19/5, 19/6, 3rd Floor, Kareem Tower, Cunnning Ham Road, Bengaluru-560 052. Contact phone Nos: 080- 22260054, 22266417, 22287356, Fax No. 080-22256365. BMTCC Contact phone Nos: + 91 7760991153 / 7760991157

Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No.: KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK/INDENT 12486/CALL-2 Dtd: 13.07.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through e-procurement Portal Only)

Tenders are invited through GoK e-Procurement portal: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from the contractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/Company and having past experience for the work of Inspection, Repairs/Replacement of Damaged Instrument & Service Air lines, Boiler Drain Lines in the area of Unit 1 & 2 Boiler area; and Extension of LDO lines to CD & EF elevation in unit 4. EMD: Rs. 38,000/-. Last date for queries/clarification: 20.07.2022 at 16:00Hrs. Last date for submission of completed bids (2 Parts): 25.07.2022 at 16:00Hrs. Opening of Technical Bid (Part 1): 27.07.2022 at 16:00Hrs. Opening of Financial Bid (Part 2): 29.07.2022 at 16:00Hrs. Further details can be obtained from the office of the Superintending Engineer (Mechanical Maintenance-1), KPCL, RTPS, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District, Karnataka State. Mobile No.: 94489 99460.

Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC)
Office of Managing Director, EMI Campus, Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur
Web: <http://www.rsldc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, Email: proc-cell-dot@rajasthan.gov.in

Bid Doc. No. RSLDC/DDU-GKY/Skill Gap Assessment/DDU-GKY/2022-23/3534 Date: 13/07/2022

Bid document for Procurement of services for conducting GP-Wise & Sector Wise skill Gap Assessment & Skill Development Impact Analysis Study in Rajasthan

Mode of Bid Submission	Online through e-Procurement/ e-Bidding system at http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in
Procuring Authority	Managing Director, Rajasthan Skill and Livelihoods Development Corporation -RSLDC
Bid Issue Date & Time	13/07/2022
Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time	15/07/2022 05:00 PM
Last Date & Time of Submission of Bid	19-07-2022 up to 11:00 AM
Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid	19-07-2022 up to 04:00 PM

UBN : SLD223LSLOB00021
Raj.Samwad/C/2214995

PSPCL PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in

Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd.

Public Notice

PSPCL is in the process of registration of suitable firms/buyers as per the latest plastic waste management rules and e-waste management rules for disposal of plastic wastes/scrap and e-waste scrap through e-auction. The documents and other compliances required along with General Terms & Conditions for e-auctioning of sale of scrap, obsolete, unserviceable material of PSPCL for the registration process are available at <https://pspcl.in/e-auction-notice.aspx>. The interested firms may contact office of Controller of Stores & Disposal (South), Shed No. F-1, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala for registration with the PSPCL by fulfilling the requirements of PSPCL and meeting the statutory provisions including those of Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), State Pollution Control Boards, SPCCB(s), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) as applicable.

Sr.Xen/Disposal
PSPCL, Patiala.

C 276/22
PB76155/12/998/2021/15709 96461-48165, 96461-19412

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Project Central-08),
Ground Floor, Annex-2 Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: **EE/PC-8/TEND/01/2022-23** Date: **15-07-2022**

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Project Central-08, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Crores)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Providing White Topping to Nagavara Main Road Gas Bunk 5th Cross Road from ORR to BWSSB GLSR upto 1st Main Road and 5th Block, 1st Stage, 8th Main Road from Government Multipspecialty Hospital to 1st Cross upto Karnataka Bank in Sarvagna Nagar Assembly Constituency.	15.23	15.50

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Website: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> 2) Last Date for Receipt of Queries is 20-07-2022 upto 17.30 Hrs. at the Office of the Executive Engineer - Project Central-08, BBMP. 3) Pre Bid Meeting will be held on 21-07-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. at the Office of the Chief Engineer, Project Central-08, BBMP. 4) Tenders must be Submitted online through e-Procurement Portal on or before 17.30 Hrs. on 25-07-2022. 5) Technical Bids will be Opened on 27-07-2022 at 16.00 Hrs. at the Office of the Executive Engineer - Project Central-08, BBMP. Further details can be had from the above office

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Project Central-08, BBMP.

PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES, HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU
COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE

Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing, Maintain Hand Hygiene

IN BRIEF



Justice Lalit's Bench starts work early

NEW DELHI
Three judges of the Supreme Court drew inspiration from the early hours school children keep and began work earlier than usual on Friday. Justices U.U. Lalit (in photo), S. Ravindra Bhat and Sudhanshu Dhulia started court at 9.30 a.m., a full hour before usual timings. "If children can go to school at 7, we too can come to court at 9!" Justice Lalit told lawyers in his courtroom.

Aspirants who missed CUET can write in August

NEW DELHI
Aspirants who could not appear for the Common University Entrance Test-UG on the first day (July 15) due to a change in centres, will get another chance in the second phase in August, said National Testing Agency (NTA) officials. The exam at two centres in West Bengal's New Jalpaiguri and Punjab's Pathankot, was cancelled due to technical issues. PTI

IndiGo flight diverted after engine vibration

NEW DELHI
An IndiGo flight from Delhi to Vadodra was diverted to Jaipur on Thursday evening after vibrations in the engine. The DGCA is probing the incident. IndiGo's Airbus A320 aircraft suffered from engine vibration for a "fraction of a second", said a DGCA official. The pilots flew the aircraft to Jaipur for checks after a caution message flashed in the cockpit, said the airline.

BCCI appeal may be listed next week

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday said it may list for next week a plea by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to make amendments in its Constitution.

In an oral mentioning before Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana, senior advocate P.S. Patwalia, for the BCCI, said the COVID-19 pandemic had come in the way of a substantive hearing of its application which was filed in 2020.

The case is significant for the BCCI as the date of amendments may decide the tenures of its president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Jay Shah.

The BCCI has urged the court to revise a rule in its new Constitution which mandates that administrators have to go through a three-year 'cooling-off period' after six successive years in the BCCI or any State association.

Rise in unvaccinated children in India

Their number doubled to over two million owing to pandemic, says data published by WHO, UNICEF

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The number of children in India who were unvaccinated or missed their first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP) combined vaccine doubled due to the pandemic, rising from 1.4 million in 2019 to 2.7 million in 2021, as the world recorded the largest sustained decline in childhood vaccinations in approximately 30 years, according to official data published by the WHO and UNICEF.

The increase in zero dose, or those who missed their first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, between 2019 and 2021 is the "first time ever there has been a decline in evaluated coverage in immunisation for India as a whole," Dr. Mainak Chatterjee, Health Specialist at UNICEF India, told *The Hindu*.



Hitting a hurdle: India had recorded steady improvement in immunisation coverage until the pandemic. *R. RAGU

Though immunisation coverage continues to decline the world over, India was able to arrest the trend between 2020 and 2021. The number of children with zero dose rose sharply to three million in 2020. But a further backsliding was prevented and the number dropped to 2.7 million in 2021 due to

catchup programmes such as the third Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI), notes the WHO-UNICEF report.

Nearly 25 million children are born every year in India.

Until the pandemic, India steadily improved immunisation coverage from 43% during the National Family

Health Survey (NFHS) -3 (2005-2006), to 62% in the NFHS-4 between 2015 and 2016 and the NFHS-5 between 2019 and 2021.

India started the fourth round of IMI from February, which is expected to further reduce the number of unvaccinated children in the next round of WHO and UNICEF estimates of national immunisation coverage in 2023, adds Dr. Chatterjee. Annually, India vaccinates more than 30 million pregnant women and 27 million children through the Universal Immunisation Programme.

Globally, the percentage of children who received three doses of the vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP3) - a marker for immunisation coverage within and across countries - fell five percentage points between 2019

and 2021 to 81%.

As a result, 25 million children missed out on one or more doses of DTP through routine immunisation services in 2021 alone. This is two million more than those who missed out in 2020 and six million more than in 2019, highlighting the growing number of children at risk from devastating but preventable diseases.

"This is a red alert for child health. We are witnessing the largest sustained drop in childhood immunisation in a generation. The consequences will be measured in lives," said Catherine Russell, UNICEF Executive Director. The fall in immunisation coverage is especially worrying as it is being accompanied by a rapid rise in severe acute malnutrition due to a fall in income during the pandemic.

Assam court allows jailed poet to sit for exam

19-year-old was arrested in May

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

A local court in eastern Assam's Golaghat district has allowed Barshashree Buragohain, jailed since May 18 for reportedly writing a poem calling for rebellion against the nation, to appear for her degree second-semester exams.

She is a student of mathematics at DCB College in the adjoining Jorhat district. The college is affiliated to Dibrugarh University.

Ms. Buragohain, 19, had filed a petition before the Golaghat district and sessions court through the jail authorities seeking permission to appear for the exam commencing on July 16.

The court on Thursday directed the jail authorities to make necessary arrangements and provide suffi-



Barshashree Buragohain

cient police escort from the jail to her exam centre.

A resident of Jorhat, Ms. Buragohain had been arrested for posting an "objectionable poem" on a social media platform. The poem titled 'Akou Korim Rashtradroh' (I will rebel against the nation again) allegedly supported the United Liberation Front of Asom (Independent) or ULFA (I), a banned extremist outfit.

Increased onion stock to regulate prices: Centre

'States can use it during lean months'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Friday said that it has procured 2.50 lakh tonne of onion as buffer stock for 2022-23. The onion buffer procurement for 2021-22 was two lakh tonnes. The increase in the stock is likely to come in use when the prices of onion go up in the retail market.

The Centre said the onions were procured from the current rabi harvest for the price stabilisation buffer. "The stocks have been procured by the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) from farmers through the Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in

rabi onion growing States of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh," the Food Ministry said in a release.

The stocks will be released through targeted open market sales, the Centre said and added that the States and government agencies could also use it for supplies through retail outlets during the lean months between August and December to moderate price rise.

"Open market releases will be targeted towards States/cities where prices are increasing over the previous month and also in key mandis to augment the overall availability," the release added.

BKU leader opposes food park plan

'Govt. aim is to bring in big corporates and reduce farmers into landless people'

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

The country has an agricultural surplus and there is no need for the government to join hands with the United States, Israel and the United Arab Emirates for food production, said a senior representative of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) on Friday.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, general secretary of BKU Yudhvir Singh said the organisation would "strongly" oppose the food agreement under the I2U2 grouping and argued that the decision would reduce farmers to landless peasants.

"There is no shortage of food in India. In fact, there is bumper crop production in the agriculture sector, which

employs at least 62% of Indian population. So, there is no requirement for such an agreement with foreign countries. The only reason they are doing this is to bring in big corporates into the Indian agriculture sector, which will reduce farmers into peasants," said Mr. Singh, who was in the forefront of the year-long farmers' protest during 2020-21.

UAE pledges funds

His remarks came a day after the UAE committed \$2 billion for building integrated food parks in India, where American and Israeli technology would be utilised.

It is understood that the food parks located in India would be connected to the



Yudhvir Singh

high-tech food storage facilities that are expected to come up in UAE, as the Gulf country appears set to emerge as a global food power.

Long-term impact

Mr. Singh, however, maintained that by committing to

supply land for the food parks and food corridors, India would create greater long-term economic and social disruption for its farming community.

"Farming communities in France and Netherlands are protesting against corporatisation and now we are witnessing similar attempts in India," said Mr. Singh.

A joint statement issued after the I2U2 summit of Thursday had declared that the investment from the UAE would be utilised to build a "series of integrated food parks across India that will incorporate state-of-the-art climate-smart technologies to reduce food waste and spoilage, conserve fresh water."

SC to hear CBI plea to cancel ex-DGP's bail

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear a CBI plea to cancel the anticipatory bail granted to former Kerala DGP Siby Mathews, who is accused of conspiring to frame ISRO scientist Nambi Narayanan and others in an espionage case in 1994.

A Bench led by Justice A.M. Khanwilkar said the plea would be tagged along with similar petitions filed by the CBI challenging the Kerala High Court's decision to grant bail to the other accused in the case, who were either former intelligence or senior police officers. The court listed the case on July 27.

40,000 flood-hit shifted in Gujarat

Crops on over 50,000 hectares damaged; more than 50 roads still shut for traffic

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Incessant rain continue to batter parts of Gujarat; particularly its southern districts and Saurashtra region where floods have caused massive damage to the crops on over 50,000 hectares.

On Friday also, south Gujarat districts and parts of Saurashtra received heavy showers. The authorities have so far shifted more than 40,000 people from flood-affected areas.

As on Friday evening, more than 50 roads are still shut for traffic as flood waters have submerged them.

"By next Monday, it will become normal in the State. We have managed the situa-



Raining misery: NDRF personnel rescuing stranded people from Gandevi town in Navsari district on Friday. *PTI

tion well," said Revenue Minister Rajendra Trivedi.

In Saurashtra and south Gujarat, farmers have been hit hard as flood waters damaged crops sown recently.

"As of now, crops have been damaged in more than

50,000 hectares. We will begin the survey to assess the real damage after the rain stops," a State government official said. According to officials, the government is likely to start the assessment next week and pay

compensation.

The State has already received 55% of the season's rainfall in just two weeks. "In Narmada and Bharuch districts, farmers having banana farms have suffered massive damage," a BJP leader from Bharuch said.

The State government has announced compensation of ₹4 lakh each to the families of 90 people who died of rain-related incidents in the State since the beginning of the monsoon from June 1.

More than 300 animals have died due to floods. The government will provide compensation to those who lost their livestock. Transporters and traders have also suffered losses.

M.A. History exam question lands Periyar University in trouble

It was framed by professors of other universities: V-C

STAFF REPORTER
SALEM

Students sitting for the second-year examinations of M.A. History at Periyar University on Thursday were shocked to come across a question: which caste, among the four, is lower in Tamil Nadu: Maharas, Nadars, Ezhavas, and Harijans.

The question went viral on social media on Friday and landed the university in trouble. The university opened an inquiry.

Vice-Chancellor R. Jagannathan told reporters that the paper was framed by professors of other universities and Periyar University had

no role in the selection of the question. He also promised action against the erring professors.

Kolathur Mani, president of the Dravidar Viduthalai Kazhagam, termed the V-C's explanation unacceptable. "It is true that to avoid leakage, question papers are framed by professors of other universities. But there is a scrutiny committee for every department at the university. This committee should verify the questions before they go to print. But in this case, we don't know what happened. This question reflects the mindset of the professor who framed it and that of the pro-

fessor who allowed it to be printed," he told *The Hindu*.

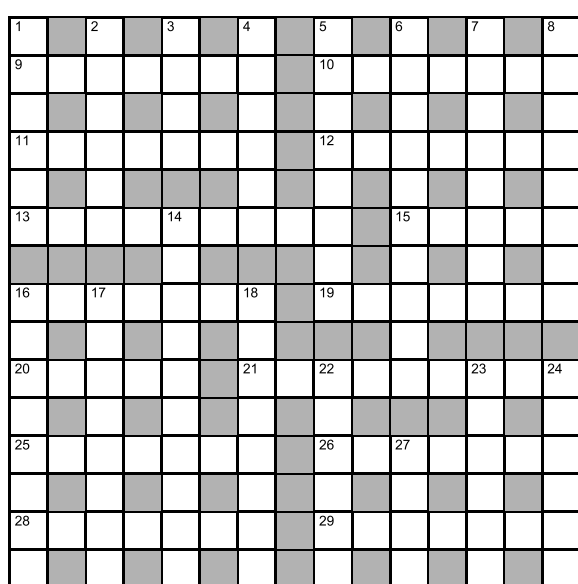
Mr. Mani urged the Department of Higher Education to take stern action against those who were responsible for the question.

In a statement, PMK founder S. Ramadoss called for action against all those involved in it.

Sources at Periyar University said the question was purposely selected to bring the university a bad name. The professors knew that there was no scrutiny committee for the Department of History and the questions would go to print directly, they said.

THE CROSSWORD + 13610
(set by Afterdark)

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



- 19 Meaning? (7)
- 20 The first letter always lets premises/house/apartment in the very beginning (5)
- 21 Russian leader noisily describing American company Nimbus (4,5)
- 25 Essentially tender mineral mostly prevalent to a particular region (7)
- 26 Advocate's boy is in agony (7)
- 28 Receiver is called AXNI (7)
- 29 New Metro (MG Circle) (7)
- Down**
- 1 First chick in corner, in churidar top, dancing is attractive (6)
- 2 Gross urchin nearing minister and national leaders - he is a killer (6)
- 3 Commotion is constant in South Norway (4)
- 4 Anxiety as rest are beaten up by guards outside... (6)
- 5 ...rest shivering at the end specifically facing ghosts (8)
- 6 That man's trilogy's nice, almost melodramatic (10)
- 7 Truman do lingers inside for an instrument (8)
- 8 Place where a game is played, maybe polo with perhaps Aussie man (8)
- 14 Love means close attention, getting people's time (10)
- 16 One fired in outburst, government recruiting a top person for balance between exports & imports (5,3)
- 17 Run away (retreat) from payment, hurry (8)
- 18 An administrator in EU is fantastic creature - union leader admitted (8)
- 22 Attack a politician with new gun (6)
- 23 Swelling is moderate, treat right away (6)
- 24 Mafia boss had to pledge (6)
- 27 Can king have survey (4)

SUDOKU

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

Solution to puzzle 13609

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

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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

FAITH

Stages in bhakthi

If a person falls, he calls out in fear. But a devotee of Goddess Abirami will not call out in fear. Even in such a situation, he will utter the name of the Goddess. Sundarar says in one of his verses that if he were to slip and fall, he will recite Lord Siva's name. That is how bhakthi refines a person, said M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse.

But how does one acquire such intense bhakthi? It does not come by merely chanting Ambal's name once or twice. We must also study spiritual texts about Her. Most importantly, we must be emotionally involved in learning about Her. Meditating on something constantly is one way of study. Avvaiyar says a mind trained to concentrate on something is a mind trained to study whatever is meditated on. And in Her Thiruppavai says one should worship Lord Krishna with the best of flowers; one should sing Krishna's praises and meditate on Him. She asserts that if one does this, then one's sins will be destroyed. Bhakthi means melting for God. Manickavachagar says that if a person sheds tears when he thinks of Lord Siva, he is sure to reach the feet of Lord Siva. Vallalalar says that one should think of Lord Nataraja, experience emotional attachment to Him, and shed tears when thinking of Him, so that one's body is drenched with the tears. Abirami Bhattar records his experience in Abirami Andadi. He says that he studied Ambal's name, and as a result Her greatness was revealed to him.

Evolution of bhakthi is akin to the stages in the ripening of a fruit. The first stage is when the flower appears. Worship and service in temples are comparable to this. Chanting Her name is like the flower yielding a small unripe fruit. The final stage of bhakthi is like a fruit in its final stage, when it is ready to be eaten.

Iran, Belarus to be newest SCO members

With the expansion, China and Russia are looking to frame the grouping as a counter to the West

ANANTH KRISHNAN
BEIJING

Iran and Belarus are likely to be the two newest additions to the China and Russia-backed Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) grouping, officials said on Friday.

Expanding the group is among the issues that leaders of the grouping, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping are likely to discuss at the SCO summit in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, in September.

The current SCO Secretary, General Zhang Ming, a veteran Chinese diplomat, told reporters on Friday the grouping hopes for an in-person summit in Uzbekistan, which could see Mr. Modi meet with Mr. Xi for the first time since 2019.

"So far, all participating countries have confirmed the attendance of their leaders but the format of atten-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the SCO Summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, in this file photo. ■PTI

dance is not finalised. All wish to switch to the traditional way of meeting which is more efficient," said Mr. Zhang, who recently visited Samarkand and said the facilities for the summit would be constructed by the end of this month. "At the same time, the epidemic situation is changing and there are new variants emerging," he said, adding a note of caution, with last year's summit held virtually on account of

COVID-19.

China, Russia and four Central Asian states — Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan — were the founding members of the SCO, while India and Pakistan joined the grouping in 2017 in its first round of expansion. Last year's summit in Dushanbe agreed for Iran to join, while Belarus has also begun the membership process.

"In the Samarkand sum-

mit, we expect the leadership to adopt a document on the obligations Iran must fulfil to gain membership. The legal procedures of Belarus's accession are also about to start. We need to build consensus on the acceptance of Belarus," Mr. Zhang said. "The significance of this round of expansion is that it shows the SCO's rising international influence and that the principles of the SCO charter are being widely accepted."

Sharp contrast

China and Russia are looking to frame the grouping as a counter to the West — particularly after Russia's invasion of Ukraine — and Mr. Zhang sought to draw a sharp contrast between the SCO and NATO.

"There has been discussion in the international arena that the trend of non-alignment is back," he said. "The expansion of NATO is totally different as the SCO is

a cooperative organisation based on non-alignment and not targeting a third party. NATO is based on Cold War thinking. The logic of NATO is creating new enemies to sustain its own existence."

He said the SCO "believes one should not build its safety at the expense of other countries", a statement China has used previously to blame NATO for the Ukraine crisis. Mr. Zhang also hit out at "small circles" — a term China has used in the past to criticise the Quad — underlining India's somewhat unique position in the SCO, whose two most important members, China and Russia, are increasingly positioning the grouping directly at odds with the West.

India will host the SCO summit next year, and Varanasi has been selected as the SCO region's first "Tourism and Cultural Capital", Mr. Zhang said, a title it will hold next year coinciding with India chairing the grouping.

Sri Lanka SC bars Mahinda, Basil from leaving country

Plea sought travel curbs on the brothers and two officials

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Supreme Court on Friday barred former Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa and former Finance Minister Basil Rajapaksa from leaving the country till July 28.

The order was passed by the apex court during the hearing of a petition filed by global civil society organisation Transparency International on the economic crisis in Sri Lanka.



Mounting troubles: Mahinda Rajapaksa, left, with his brother Gotabaya Rajapaksa in Colombo, in this file photo. ■REUTERS

the unsustainability of Sri Lanka's foreign debt, its debt default and the current economic crisis.

Mr. Basil, the younger brother of former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, had tried to leave the crisis-hit island nation on Tuesday.

Mr. Gotabaya fled to the Maldives on Wednesday and then reached Singapore on Thursday following protests

against his government. Sri Lanka is under the grip of an unprecedented economic turmoil, the worst in seven decades, leaving millions struggling to buy food, medicine, fuel and other essentials.

The country suspended nearly \$7 billion foreign debt repayment due for this year out of about \$25 billion due through 2026.

Biden, MBS seek to reset relations

U.S. President meets Saudi Crown Prince after shunning talks with him for long

ASSOCIATED PRESS
JEDDAH

A crucial meeting to repair diplomatic relationship between the U.S. and Saudi Arabia began with a fist bump on Friday as Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman welcomed President Joe Biden at a royal palace in Jeddah.

The first encounter occurred as Mr. Biden stepped out of his presidential limousine in Jeddah for a visit that is intended to reset their countries' longstanding ties.

There was little evidence of any warmth between the leaders, and none of the backslapping or smiles that



Reviving ties: Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, right, greeting President Joe Biden in Jeddah. ■AP

Mr. Biden or the Crown Prince usually display when greeting other leaders.

Mr. Biden had long re-

fused to speak to Prince Mohammed, who is commonly referred to by his initials MBS, the presumed heir to

the throne currently held by his father, King Salman. And he harshly criticised the kingdom for its human rights abuses, particularly the murder of U.S.-based journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

But those concerns have since been eclipsed by other challenges, including rising gas prices and Iranian aggression in the West Asia. At the same time, Saudi Arabia seeks to bolster its security ties with the U.S.

During his visit to West Bank earlier on Friday, Mr. Biden reiterated his country's support for 'two states for two peoples'.

Riyadh opens its airspace to Israeli flights

ASSOCIATED PRESS
JERUSALEM

Saudi Arabia on Friday opened its airspace to "all air carriers," signalling the end of its longstanding ban on Israeli flights overflying its territory — a key step toward normalisation between the two nations as President Joe Biden visits the region.

The announcement is an incremental step toward the normalisation of relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel and builds on the strong but informal ties the erstwhile foes have developed in recent years.

Russia strikes 'military target' in Vinnytsia

Ukraine says attack killed 23 people

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MOSCOW

Russia's Defence Ministry said Thursday's cruise missile strike on the Ukrainian city of Vinnytsia was directed at a building where top officials from Ukraine's armed forces were meeting foreign arms suppliers.

Ukraine has denied any military target was hit, saying the attack killed at least 23 people and struck a cultural centre used by retired veterans.

"On July 14, Kalibr (cruise) missiles were launched at the House of Of-

ficers in Vinnytsia," Russia's Defence Ministry said.

"The facility was hosting a conference of the Ukrainian Armed Forces command with representatives of foreign arms suppliers... The attack resulted in the elimination of the participants."

Ukrainian officials said the victims of the attack included three children, the youngest just four years old.

Russia has repeatedly denied targeting civilian areas, despite mounting evidence that its missiles have hit residential areas.

Briton dies in detention in Donetsk

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MOSCOW

Paul Urey, a British man captured by pro-Russian forces in Ukraine, has died in detention, Moscow-backed separatists said on Friday.

"He died on July 10," Darya Morozova, a representative of the Donetsk People's Republic, said, adding that he had diabetes.

NGOs describe Urey as a humanitarian who worked as an aid volunteer in Ukraine.

Separatists insist Urey was a "professional" soldier.

ELSEWHERE



U.S. House votes for CAATSA sanctions waiver

WASHINGTON The US House of Representatives has passed by voice vote a legislative amendment that approves waiver to India against the punitive CAATSA sanctions. The amendment, introduced by Indian-American Congressman Ro Khanna, aims at providing India protection over its purchase of S-400 missile defence system from Russia to deter aggressors like China. ■PTI

Sikh man, acquitted in '85 AI bombing case, killed

TORONTO The Canadian police have said they are still working to determine the motive behind the targeted killing of Ripudaman Singh Malik, a 75-year-old Sikh man acquitted in the tragic 1985 Air India Kanishka terrorist bombing case. Malik was shot dead in Surrey on Thursday. Malik and co-accused Ajaib Singh Bagri were acquitted in 2005 of mass murder and conspiracy charges. ■PTI

Donald Trump's first wife Ivana passes away

Cause of death is being investigated

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK

Ivana Trump, a skier-turned-businesswoman who formed half of a publicity power couple in the 1980s as the first wife of former President Donald Trump and mother of his oldest children, has died in New York City, her family announced Thursday. She was 73.

The former President posted on his social media app that she died at her Manhattan home.

"She was a wonderful, beautiful, and amazing woman, who led a great and inspirational life," he wrote on Truth Social. The couple shared three children, Donald Jr., Ivanka and Eric.

"She was so proud of them, as we were all so proud of her," he wrote. "Rest In Peace, Ivana!"

Two people familiar with the matter said that police are investigating whether Ivana Trump fell down the stairs. She was found unconscious near a staircase in the home, they said. The medi-



Ivana Trump

cal examiner's office will determine an official cause of death.

"It's been a very sad day, a very sad day," Eric Trump said.

In a statement, he and his siblings called her "an incredible woman — a force in business, a world-class athlete, a radiant beauty and caring mother and friend." "She fled from communism and embraced this country," the three said. "She taught her children about grit and toughness, compassion and determination."

Ivana Trump posted childhood photos of herself laughing with her.

Amid rights concerns, Xi visits Xinjiang

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING

Chinese leader Xi Jinping visited Xinjiang in the country's northwest this week amid concerns over China's detention of a million or more members of primarily Muslim ethnic minorities in the remote border region.

Mr. Xi stressed the full implementation of Communist Party's policies in the region and highlighted social stability and lasting security as the overarching goals, reported the official Xinhua News Agency.

He showed no signs of backing off from an approach that has come under harsh criticism from the U.S. and many EU nations and prompted bans on the export of cotton and other products from the region over reports of forced labor.

Under Mr. Xi, authorities have allegedly carried out a sweeping crackdown on Xinjiang's Uighur and Kazakh communities following an outburst of deadly separatist violence.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one lady **Namely: Anju, W/o Jaiprakash, R/o: H.No. 142, Gali No. 5, Wazirabad, Delhi, Age: 40 Years, Height: 4'10", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Build: Healthy, Wearing: Red Colour Suit - Salwar & Black Colour Slipper in feet** has been missing since 05.06.2022 from her home. In this regard **DD No. 113A, Dated 06.06.2022**, has been registered at **P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi**.

ANJU Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing lady but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing lady please inform to the following:-

Web-site: http://cbi.nic.in **SHO**
E-Mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in **P.S. Wazirabad, Delhi**
Fax: 011-23011334 **Ph: 011-23810069, 23810073**
DP/2428/N/2022

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is here by informed that an unidentified Male (depicted in the photo) name: **unknown** residence and family is **unknown** about **55 years** of age was found dead at In front of Kanishka Complex, G-5, Ground Floor, Kalkaji, New Delhi on **09.07.2022 at 11:50 AM**. In this regard a FIR/DD No. **88-A, dated 09.07.2022** has been registered at **P.S. Kalkaji, Delhi**.

His physical description is as under:-
Sex: Male, Age: 55 years, Height: 5'4" ft., Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Black Shirt and Black Pant.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or Telephone Numbers.

SHO
P.S. Kalkaji, New Delhi
Ph. No. 011-26430607, 26439165
Mob. No- 9871910827, 8750870930
DP/282/SE/2022

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Mohd. Rafiq S/o Zahir Ahmad R/o A-548, Hasrat Road, Uttam Nagar, Delhi & also at H.No. D-387, Mubarakpur, Meer Vihar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 40/10 U/s 498/406/34 IPC P.S. Burari, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Mohd. Rafiq** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Mohd. Rafiq** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Mohd. Rafiq of FIR No. 40/10 U/s 498/406/34 IPC P.S. Burari, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **16.08.2022**

By Order
Reetika Jain
Metropolitan Magistrate (Mahila Court), Central-03
Room No. 149, First Floor, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/2558/N/2022

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Devender Singh S/o Sh. Baldan Singh R/o Village - Patauli, PO Abhi Nagar Sarai, P.S. Chandni Nagar, District - Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh** have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 1180/15 U/s 279/338 IPC P.S. Burari, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Devender Singh** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Devender Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Devender Singh of FIR No. 1180/15 U/s 279/338 IPC P.S. Burari, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **18.08.2022**.

By Order
Ms. Neha Gupta Singh
Metropolitan Magistrate-09,
Room No.286, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi
DP/2562/N/2022

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(Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)

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PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
e-Tender Call Notice

No. EM/IOHP/GW-16/22/431 Date: 04.07.2022

Name of the Work: "Revamping of electrical installations at E House- I & E House-II of IOHP". Estimated cost: Rs.2,82,17,500.00. Last date & time of submission of bid: dt.10.08.2022 up to 17:00 Hrs. Refer our website for details <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>.

EE(EL), IOHP
Paradip Port Authority
PPA/PR/173/22-23, dtd.15.07.2022

EPABX : 2653800/2562847
E-mail : paribesh1@ospboard.org
Website : www.ospboard.org

STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA
[DEPARTMENT OF FOREST, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE, GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA]
Paribesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilakantha Nagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-751 012, INDIA

No.: 12353 / I.Estt.(Misc)/110/2012 Date : 15/07/22

CORRIGENDUM

The shortlisted candidates notified vide this office Notice No - 12057 dtd.11.07.2022 for certificate verification and viva-voce test to determine their eligibility and suitability for the recruitment for the post of Assistant Environmental Engineer.

The shortlisted candidate (SC Women category) bearing ID no OSPCB0001303 is to be inserted in place of ID No OSPCB0002424 for the date of 18.07.2022 for certificate verification and viva-voce test.

PROGRAMME OF DOCUMENT VERIFICATION / VIVA-VOCE TEST FOR THE POST OF ASST. ENV. ENGINEER.

Sl. No.	Date	Reporting time	ID numbers of candidates
01	18.07.2022	9.00 AM	OSPCB0001303

Others shortlisted date wise ID nos. for certificate verification and viva-voce test in the aforesaid notice vide no.12057 dtd.11.07.2022 will remain unaltered.

By order of Chairman
Sd/-
Member Secretary

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Prabhakar, S/o. Sh. Ganga Sahay, R/o: H.No. 279, Resettlement Colony, 3rd Floor, E-Block, JJ Colony, Khayala, Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 457/2016 U/s 33/38 Delhi Excise Act** registered at P.S. Burari, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Prabhakar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Prabhakar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Prabhakar** accused of **FIR No. 457/2016 U/s 33/38 Delhi Excise Act P.S. Burari, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **24.08.2022**.

By Order
Ms. Neha Gupta Singh,
Metropolitan Magistrate-09,
Central, Room No. 286,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/2554/N/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED FEMALE

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely **Basanta Rajbhar W/o Lt. Sh. Suraj Rajbhar R/o H.No. 68, Village Naharpur, Sect.7, Rohini, Delhi Aged-70 Years** has been reported missing/kidnapped since 06.07.2022 at around 3:15 PM from her house, vide **DD No.05A, Dated 07.07.2022** registered at Police Station North Rohini, Delhi.

Her physical description is as under:-
Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'1", Clothing: Green coloured saree and Blue, Pink coloured Slippers in feet.

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

SHO, North Rohini, Delhi
FAX No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641
SHO, North Rohini, Delhi
TEL. : 011-27048210-11
Mob. 8750870330
DP/1673/RD/2022

MARKET WATCH

	15-07-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	53,761	0.65
US Dollar	79.82	0.21
Gold	49,970	-0.68
Brent oil	101.69	4.57

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	730.90	6.45
Apollo Hosp	3931.70	33.65
Asian Paints	2978.15	39.00
Axis Bank	662.20	-6.05
Bajaj Auto	3913.35	50.15
Bajaj Finserv	11840.25	114.00
Bajaj Finance	5915.20	84.35
Bharti Airtel	651.80	10.15
BPCCL	312.10	5.95
Birla Ind	3684.90	38.75
Cipla	966.05	14.90
Coal India	193.40	1.40
Divis Lab	3727.75	-6.05
Dr Reddys Lab	4546.00	-29.40
Eicher Motors	3034.00	78.90
Grasim Ind	1398.20	6.40
HCL Tech	883.15	-19.85
HDFC	2216.10	48.70
HDFC Bank	1362.05	11.00
HDFC Life	539.90	2.75
Hero MotoCorp	2800.05	7.25
Hindalco	350.55	1.45
Hind Unilever	2568.50	-7.70
ICIICI Bank	751.20	-1.20
IndusInd Bank	815.05	-5.85
Infosys	1430.35	1.50
ITC	293.55	2.70
JSW Steel	576.40	-7.60
Kotak Bank	1787.70	17.65
L&T	2189.70	62.25
M&M	1172.50	29.85
Maruti Suzuki	8778.05	210.30
Nestle India Ltd.	18771.50	408.20
NTPC	149.75	1.45
ONGC	126.55	-0.60
PowerGrid Corp	209.30	-5.55
Reliance Ind	2401.80	4.65
SBI Life	1155.45	16.50
State Bank	479.10	-0.25
Shree Cement	19701.80	139.10
Sun Pharma	878.40	-1.50
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	790.55	24.70
Tata Motors	440.20	12.15
Tata Steel	883.80	-24.20
TCS	2994.60	-4.15
Tech Mahindra	973.80	-2.00
Titan	2189.70	62.25
UltraTech Cement	5807.05	72.00
UPL	669.35	-0.80
Wipro	393.85	-7.60

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 15

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	79.68	80.00
Euro	80.10	80.43
British Pound	94.28	94.66
Japanese Yen (100)	57.42	57.65
Chinese Yuan	11.79	11.84
Swiss Franc	81.34	81.67
Singapore Dollar	56.78	57.02
Canadian Dollar	60.92	61.17
Malaysian Ringgit	17.90	17.99
Australian Dollar	53.81	54.03

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF



BMW unveils G 310 RR sports bike at ₹2.85 lakh

CHENNAI BMW Motorrad India on Friday unveiled BMW G 310 RR, its road racing sports bike in the sub-500 class, in two variants with prices starting at ₹2.85 lakh. The bike has been jointly developed by BMW Motorrad and TVS Motor Company, BMW said.

Train, bus travel increase as airfares surge: ixigo

MUMBAI With airfares rising sharply by more than 40% on many domestic routes, online travel portal ixigo said it had seen many passengers taking train or bus rides to escape high airfares. "The recent airfare hike due to rising oil prices has driven customers towards trains and buses, which have shown phenomenal growth," Aloke Bajpai, Group CEO and co-founder said.

China's COVID curbs retard Q2 growth

April-June GDP rises 0.4% as lockdowns crimp industrial output, demand; 2022 growth to miss 5.5% goal

REUTERS

China's economic growth slowed sharply in the second quarter, highlighting the colossal toll on activity from widespread COVID lockdowns and pointing to persistent pressure over coming months from a darkening global outlook.

Friday's frail data adds to fears of a global recession as policymakers jack up interest rates to curb soaring inflation, heaping more hardship on consumers and businesses worldwide as they grapple with challenges from the Ukraine war and supply chain disruptions.

Gross domestic product in the April-June quarter grew 0.4% from a year earlier, official data showed on Friday. That was the worst showing



Costly curbs: Lockdowns impaired economic activity across key cities with output in Beijing shrinking 2.9%. • REUTERS

for the world's second-biggest economy since the data series began in 1992, after a 6.9% contraction in the first quarter of 2020 due to the initial COVID shock.

It also marked a sharp slowdown from 4.8% growth in the first quarter. On a se-

quential basis, GDP fell 2.6% in the second quarter from the previous quarter.

"China's economy has stood on the edge of falling into stagflation, although the worst is over as of the May-June period," said Toru Nishihama, chief economist at

Dai-ichi Life Research Institute. "You can rule out the possibility of a recession, or two straight quarters of contraction," he added.

'Stimulus inflation tango' "Given the tame growth, China's government is likely to deploy economic stimulus measures from now on to rev up its flagging growth, but hurdles are high for PBOC to cut interest rates further as it would fan inflation which has been kept relatively low at present," he noted.

Full or partial lockdowns were imposed in major centres across the country in March and April, including the commercial capital Shanghai, which saw a year-on-year contraction of 13.7% in GDP in the second quarter. Output in the capital

Beijing shrank 2.9%.

While many of those curbs have since been lifted, and June data offered signs of improvement, analysts do not expect a rapid economic recovery. China is sticking to its tough zero-COVID policy amid fresh flare-ups, the country's property market is in a deep slump and the global outlook is darkening.

The imposition of new lockdowns in some cities and the arrival of the highly-contagious BA.5 variant have heightened concerns among businesses and consumers about a prolonged period of uncertainty.

For the first half, GDP grew 2.5% year-on-year.

Chinese stocks rose briefly before turning down, while the yuan fell to a 2-month low on the weak GDP report.

Public capex plan key to long-term growth: FM

'Govt. raised capex by 35.4% for FY23'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said India's long-term growth prospects were embedded in public capital expenditure programmes.

Ms. Sitharaman, attending the third G20 Finance Ministers and central bank Governors meeting hosted by Indonesia in Bali, also said evidence-based policy making was vital for resilient economic systems.

The government has laid stress on capital expenditure to push economic growth hit by the pandemic. It is expected that higher public spending will crowd in private investment.

Ms. Sitharaman raised

Yellen urges G20 to tackle food crisis

REUTERS

NUSA DUA U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen on Friday urged the Group of 20 major economies to take urgent action to address a short-term food insecurity crisis exacerbated by Russia's war in Ukraine, and avoid market-distorting export curbs and stockpiling.

Ms. Yellen, speaking at a meeting of G20 finance officials in Indonesia, said countries should target fiscal support measures to help those most in need, rather than adopting regressive blanket subsidies.

She said the poor in the poorest countries were the most directly affected, setting back development, and undermining efforts to eradicate poverty.



Nirmala Sitharaman • AFP

by 35.4% for the financial year 2022-23 to ₹7.5 lakh crore to continue the public investment-led recovery of the pandemic-battered economy. The capex last year was ₹5.5 lakh crore.

She also highlighted that sustainable global recovery should be pivoted on climate actions and that the focus needed to be on scaling up climate finance and propelling green transitions.

'Allow us to export grains from public stock to needy nations'

WTO showing hesitation in lifting export curbs: Sitharaman

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman asked the World Trade Organization (WTO) to allow India to export foodgrains from its public stockholding to nations which are facing food crisis.

She was speaking at a seminar on 'Strengthening global collaboration for tackling food insecurity' on the sidelines of the third G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) meeting in Bali, Indonesia.

As per WTO norms, countries are not allowed to export foodgrains from public stock holdings as they are procured at subsidised rates. "WTO's restriction is that



grains so procured cannot be brought to the market to export," Ms. Sitharaman said. "It is a condition which exists from the Uruguay Round days. We have repeatedly said that (surplus) than what we have for our small farmers... we are quite willing to trade."

She said that India could help in reducing hunger or

food insecurity but there was hesitation on the part of the WTO.

Many countries in the world are currently facing food shortages due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

A group of about 70-80 countries, led by Singapore, is pushing member-countries of the WTO to accept binding commitments of not extending export restrictions on the foodgrains procured under the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

Some members, however, have voiced concerns regarding a blanket exemption for WFP food purchases due to domestic food security considerations.

Yes Bank to sell ₹48,000 cr. bad loans to ARC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI Yes Bank has allied with JC Flowers ARC to form an asset reconstruction company to sell ₹48,000 crore of the bank's bad loans.

The lender said it had signed a binding term sheet with JCF ARC LLC and JC Flowers Asset Reconstruction Pvt. Ltd. (JC Flowers ARC). Having subsequently fulfilled the requisite pre-conditions, the term sheet had become effective from July 15, 2022, Yes Bank said in a filing.

"Accordingly, the bank has decided that JC Flowers ARC will be base bidder for a proposed sale of an identified stressed loan portfolio of the bank aggregating to up to ₹48,000 crore," the lender said.

'Fund flow to tech start-ups slid 17% in Q2'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU The calendar quarter ended June witnessed a dip in fund flow to the country's tech start-ups ecosystem, according to a quarterly investment analysis released by Nasscom in association with PGA Labs on Friday.

Start-ups in India attracted investments of \$6 billion in the second quarter of calendar 2022, indicating a 17% quarter-on-quarter dip in fund flows.

The number of deals also dropped by 17%. Some 52% of the funding was in the size of \$100 million while the average ticket size was \$29 million.

Federal Bank Q1 net rises 64% to ₹601 crore

Credit growth strong, says Srinivasan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU Federal Bank posted a 64% rise in standalone net profit to ₹601 crore for the first quarter ended June 30 compared with a year earlier.

Net interest income grew 13% to ₹1,605 crore, the bank said at a media conference on Friday. Total business grew 12% to ₹3,35,045 crore. "Our financial performance for Q1 FY23 has been very encouraging and reflects the all-round progress we have been making over time," said MD and CEO Shyam Srinivasan.

"We have delivered strong, broad-based credit

Asset quality improved, with the GNPA dipping to 2.69% compared with 2.8% in March

growth while overall costs have been well managed, resulting in the highest ever profits," he added.

He said asset quality had improved, with the gross non-performing asset ratio dipping to 2.69%, from 2.8% in the previous quarter.

However, the bank's other income, at ₹453 crore, was impacted by lower treasury gains and losses on revaluation of investments, Mr. Srinivasan said.

'States' capex seen soaring 36% in FY23'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI States have budgeted 36% higher capital expenditure during this financial year, which may lead to a sharp increase in their fiscal deficit to ₹8.4 lakh crore, ICRA said in a report on Friday.

The 26 large States, excluding Assam, had spent ₹5 lakh crore in capital expenditure, or ₹1.3 lakh crore more than they had spent in FY20, an ICRA analysis shows. According to the agency, these 26 States were on course to spend ₹6.8 lakh crore in capex this fiscal, or 35.8% more over FY22, when they spent ₹5 lakh crore.

LTTS sees strong deal wins across sectors: MD

Firm's Q1 net rises 27% to ₹274 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU Deal wins were 'very strong' across segments during the first quarter of the fiscal and the deal pipeline was getting stronger, L&T Technology Services (LTTS) CEO & MD Amit Chadha said.

The pure-play engineering-services firm reported a net profit of ₹274 crore for the June ended quarter, a 27% increase compared with the year-earlier period. Revenue grew 23% year-on-year to ₹1,874 crore.

During the quarter, LTTS won a \$50-million-plus deal, four \$15-million deals and two deals with a total con-



Amit Chadha

tract value of \$10 million.

"Our big bets focus has helped us align ourselves with these multi-year customer programmes. Deal wins were very strong in the quarter. Our aerospace and rail segment is seeing a revival of large deal bookings."

BIF refutes 5G 'backdoor entry' claims

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI Industry body Broadband India Forum (BIF) on Friday said suggestions that captive networks should bid for spectrum in auctions was 'extremely irrational'.

BIF refuted the 'misinformation' being propagated to demand a 'level playing field between two completely different sets of services'. COAI, which represents Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, has argued that administrative allocation of spectrum for private 5G networks would be against the tenets of fairness.

SPORT

Sindhu enters semifinals

Heartbreak for Saina, Prannoy and Arjun-Dhruv pair

SINGAPORE OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SINGAPORE P.V. Sindhu pulled off a thriller to advance into the semifinal, but Saina Nehwal and H.S. Prannoy suffered heart-breaking defeats at the Singapore Open Super 500 badminton tournament here on Friday.

Third-seeded Sindhu overcame a strong challenge from China's Han Yue to prevail 17-21, 21-11, 21-19 in a battle lasting more than an hour to book her semifinal berth.

Sindhu is the only Indian left in the fray now.

Meanwhile, Saina's touch seemed to have deserted her as she went down 13-21, 21-15, 20-22 to left-handed Japanese Aya Ohori. The 32-year-old veteran failed to convert two match-points.

In-form Prannoy also showed promise and won



Stretching every sinew: Sindhu pulled off a thrilling win to be the lone Indian standing. • SINGAPORE BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

the first game, but Kodai Naraoka levelled in the second game before sealing it 12-21, 21-14, 21-18.

Prannoy put up an incredible battle in the decider when he bounced back from 7-18 to win eight straight points. Then, from 15-20, he saved three match-points, only to go down in a battle lasting 63 minutes.

The doubles pair of M.R. Arjun and Dhruv Kapila also

stretched the second-seeded duo of Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan of Indonesia but lost out 10-21, 21-18, 21-17.

The results (quarterfinals):
Men: Kodai Naraoka (Jpn) bt H.S. Prannoy 12-21, 21-14, 21-18.
Doubles: Mohammad Ahsan & Hendra Setiawan (Ina) 10-21, 21-18, 21-17.
Women: P.V. Sindhu bt Han Yue (Chn) 17-21, 21-11, 21-19; Aya Ohori (Jpn) bt Saina Nehwal 21-13, 15-21, 22-20.

RACING

Crown Consort primed to deliver in feature

BENGALURU: Crown Consort, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the R.R. Byramji Memorial Cup (1,400m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Saturday (July 16). False rails (width about 3m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 1-30 p.m.: 1. Divine Ray (4) Akshay K 62.5, 2. Winmylove (5) S. John 62, 3. Memoriter (8) Chethan K 61, 4. Casey (9) Salman K 58.5, 5. Ozark (10) T.S. Jodha 58.5, 6. Dr Logan (2) L.A. Rozario 57.5, 7. Aferpi (11) Rajesh K 57, 8. Belvedere (1) C.S. Jodha 56.5, 9. Clever Hans (6) G. Vivek 54.5, 10. Moving Ahead (12) Ashhad A 54.5, 11. Altair (3) Siddharaj 53.5 and 12. Capri Girl (7) Nazerul 53.5.

1. WINMYLOVE, 2. BELVEDERE, 3. CLEVER HANS

2 DELHI CUP (1,800m), rated 20 to 45, 2-0-1. Measure Of Time (4) T.S. Jodha 62, 2. Towering Presence (6) Shreyas S 61.5, 3. Konabos (7) Suraj 60, 4. Star Comet (5) Akshay K 59.5, 5. Lycurgus (1) Arvind K 57, 6. Shubhankar (3) Srinath 57, 7. Banksy (2) Sandesh 55 and 8. Tyto Alba (8) Sai Kiran 53.

1. KONABOS, 2. MEASURE OF TIME, 3. STAR COMET

3 MYSORE CUP (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2-30: 1. Golden Ring (2) Rayan 56, 2. India Strong (1) N.S. Parmar 56, 3. Splendid (7) Sandesh 56, 4. Star Admiral (8) Vishal B 56, 5. Besuge (5) B. Nayak 54.5, 6. Capriati (9) Trevor 54.5, 7. Double Vision (1) Darshan 54.5, 8. Emma (6) Likith 54.5, 9. Fair Counsel (10) Jagadeesh 54.5, 10. Montelena (12) P.S. Chouhan 54.5, 11. Secret Lady (4) P.P. Dhebe 54.5 and 12. The Strikingly (3) Arvind K 54.5.

1. SPLENDID, 2. CAPRIATI, 3. MONTELENA

4 KOLKATA CUP (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 3-0-1. Lord Frankel (7) Salman K 61-5, 2. Green Channel (5) J.H. Arul 60.5, 3. Lord Vader (6) Bhawani S 59.5, 4. Imperial Blue (4) Akshay K 59, 5. Forseti (2) Trevor 55, 6. Blessing Girl (1) Arshad 54, 7. Moon's Elusive (8) Shreyas S 54 and 8. Keystone (3) Yash 53.

1. FORSETI, 2. LORD VADER, 3. IMPERIAL BLUE

5 CHENNAI TROPHY (1,200m), rated 60 to 85, 3-30: 1. Watchmystars (1) Likith 60, 2. Lucky Chance (4) Srinath 59.5, 3. Hukum (7) Md. Aliyar 59, 4. Pride's Angel (6) Sandesh 58.5, 5. Silver Dew (8) Vishal B 56.5, 6. Star Glory (3) Suraj 56, 7. Tactical Command (2) Akshay K 55.5 and 8. Kensington

1. STAR GLORY, 2. KENSINGTON COURT, 3. LUCKY CHANCE

6 R.R. BYRAMJI MEMORIAL CUP (1,400m), 3-y-o, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Faith (6) P.S. Chouhan 57, 2. Fortunate Son (1) N.S. Parmar 55.5, 3. Fortunatus (4) Sandesh 55.5, 4. Yukan (3) Akshay K 55.5, 5. Crown Consort (2) Suraj 54 and 6. Tough Cookie (5) Trevor 54.

1. CROWN CONSORT, 2. FORTUNATUS

7 CHIVAS CUP (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-30: 1. Lauterbrunnen (8) Sai Kiran 61.5, 2. Miniver Rose (10) A. Imran 61.5, 3. Mitsuro (2) Trevor 60, 4. Benediction (4) Ajinkya 59, 5. Dedicatio Boy (7) Kiran N 55, 6. Princess Jasmine (12) Vishal B 54.5, 7. Stunning Beauty (6) Arvind K 53.5, 8. Way Of Life (3) Toussif K 53.5, 9. Dallas Drifter (1) Arshad 52.5, 10. Mark One (11) G. Vivek 52.5, 11. Air Display (9) Jagadeesh

G If the Ranji Trophy is strong and competitive, Indian cricket will be strong and competitive... Let the games be played over five days, instead of four. Once the fifth day is added, you will not have to worry about the pitch, it will deteriorate on its own and the spinners will come into play

AMOL MUZUMDAR
Mumbai coach

The state of play in the Ranji Trophy



A triumph to remember: Madhya Pradesh lifted the Ranji Trophy in 2021-22. ■ PTI

India's premier domestic cricket tournament has improved over the years, but more needs to be done to bolster its relevance and health

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

By the time he was trapped lbw by Jalaj Saxena at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Ground in Rajkot on a warm Saturday morning in March, Yash Dubey had batted for 881 minutes and faced 591 balls. The 23-year-old, who was opening the innings for the first time in his career, had made 289.

It was a monumental innings, without which Madhya Pradesh would not have been able to pile up 585 for nine (declared) against Kerala in that Ranji Trophy league match. With his heroic effort, Dubey had batted Kerala out of not just that league match but the tournament as well.

Some three months later, Dubey would play another significant innings, in the final of the Ranji Trophy against Mumbai at Bengaluru. His 133 laid the foundation for another 500-plus score for Madhya Pradesh, which went on to win the match by six wickets and claim its maiden Ranji Trophy title. (Holkar won the Ranji Trophy four times in the 1940s and early 1950s before it was dissolved and replaced by a Madhya Bharat team, which later became part of the Madhya Pradesh team.)

Madhya Pradesh's triumph and Dubey's innings at Rajkot

tell us a great deal about the Ranji Trophy. Even the career of the bowler who denied him what had looked an almost inevitable triple hundred tells us something about Indian cricket's premier domestic tournament.

Madhya Pradesh isn't the only underdog to lift the Ranji Trophy in recent times. In the tournament's previous edition (2019-20), Saurashtra was the champion. In 2016-17, Gujarat was the winner, and a year later, it was Vidarbha's turn. Gujarat and Vidarbha, too, were kissing the Ranji Trophy for the first time.

In the 88-year history of the tournament, Mumbai has been the champion 41 times, 15 of which were part of a stunning streak of successive titles from 1958-59 to 1972-73. It has contested the final on six other occasions. Two other powerhouses of Indian cricket, Karnataka and Delhi, have been champions eight and seven times respectively.

So when teams with less strong traditions in cricket such as Gujarat or Uttar Pradesh (the champion in 2005-2006) go on to win the Ranji Trophy, it shows that the game is growing across the country. That fact is reflected in the composition of the Indian team, especially beginning with the M.S. Dhoni era.

Amol Muzumdar, Mumbai's

coach and its run-machine during his playing days, believes the BCCI can take credit for the drastic improvement in the domestic game, having built the infrastructure around the country. "Every team [in the Ranji Trophy] has got a structure to it and every team has the infrastructure," he says. "There is a system in place and it is working for every team."

Better facilities

True, these days you can find excellent grounds in lesser known places such as Dindigul (Tamil Nadu), Krishnagiri (Kerala), Lahli (Haryana) or Kalyani (Bengal). The grounds are well maintained and many of them have other facilities, such as gyms, too.

But the kind of wickets you come across may not always be suitable for quality cricket. If Dubey could have been tempted to set up home on that wicket in Rajkot, there are also square turners, where lasting 15 minutes is an achievement for a top-order player.

Because of such pitches – made by the best associations to help their teams win – the BCCI had even tried conducting Ranji matches at neutral venues. That experiment did not quite work,

though. Not that you don't find sporting wickets for Ranji games. For instance, the wickets at Rajkot for the matches before the decider between Kerala and Madhya Pradesh were excellent, and among the best on the domestic circuit: they encouraged both the bowlers and the batters with the right technique and temperament.

But unfortunately, for what would prove the most important contest of the group, there was a wicket on which the first innings of the team batting second was not completed. Muzumdar offers a solution. "Let the Ranji games be played over five days, instead of four," he says. That,

he thinks, will take the pitch out of the equation.

"Once the fifth day is added, you will not have to worry about the pitch, it will deteriorate on its own and the spinners will come into play. And our domestic cricket lacks quality spinners. In red-ball cricket, I cannot see anyone beyond R. Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja."

The Ranji Trophy has changed in so many ways since Muzumdar's days. Earlier, it was played on a zonal basis. So you had teams like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka competing in the South Zone or Mumbai and Maharashtra battling it out in the West Zone, with the top teams qualifying for the knock-out stage. That meant fewer games, but after the teams were divided into groups irrespective of the region, everybody began to get more games.

In the pre-COVID seasons, a team would get at least eight games, even if it didn't make it to the knock-out stage.

"They opted for the current system because earlier there could be a couple of good players in a weaker side and limited opportunities would not allow them to showcase their talents," says former India opener W.V. Raman, who forced his way into the national squad with big scores

in the South Zone Ranji Trophy.

There was considerably less money in domestic cricket at that time. You hardly could have entertained thoughts of making a living by merely being a domestic cricketer. After the increase in remuneration announced by the BCCI last year, a cricketer gets paid between ₹40,000 and ₹60,000 per day. So from just one Ranji match, a player can earn up to ₹2,40,000.

Diverse match-ups

Playing more games is beneficial for players – and not just financially. "The current format is far better because not only do you get more games but you also get to play different teams, unlike the zonal system when you played the same teams every season," says Jalaj, one of India's finest all-rounders, who made his Ranji debut for Madhya Pradesh in 2005-06 and then moved to Kerala.

He is one of those unfortunate players who have not been able to make the national team despite a stellar career in First Class cricket (6,368 runs at an average of 35.57 and 360 wickets at 26.91). Muzumdar thinks Ranji Trophy performances should be rewarded, citing the example of Sarfaraz Khan, who scored 982 runs at an average of 122.75 and hit four hundreds this season. And his career First Class average is 81.61 after 25 matches.

"The form won't last long," points out Muzumdar, who believes a player has to be picked when in form. And he knows it; he went through

several purple patches but had to end his career as one of the finest batters never to have played for India (11,167 runs in First Class cricket).

Raman played 11 Tests and 27 ODIs for India. The Ranji Trophy was his primary 'preparation' for international cricket. "We didn't have the 'A' matches, the Duleep Trophy was a level higher than the Ranji Trophy, but the gap with international cricket was huge," he recalls.

Raman is happy with the way things are in the Ranji Trophy at the moment. Dav Whatmore, the World Cup-winning coach from Australia, once told this writer that First Class cricket in India was as good as in any other country. But he said DRS had to be introduced and that the averages from the Plate division were inflated.

There have been concerns that many domestic players are keener about white-ball cricket in this IPL era. "Even junior cricketers now want to concentrate on power-hitting," says Biju George, a Thiruvananthapuram-based coach who has an eye for catching them young (Sanju Samson is among his wards). He, however, ensures that they learn how to play the ball along the ground first.

And there are men like Muzumdar who continue to remind the kids of such things at the National Cricket Academy and elsewhere. "If the Ranji Trophy is strong and competitive, Indian cricket will be strong and competitive," he says. "It is the nursery of Indian cricket."

STACKING UP



ATP Men's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Daniil Medvedev	26	7,775	20
2	Alexander Zverev	25	6,850	18
3	Rafael Nadal	36	6,165	9
4	Stefanos Tsitsipas	23	5,150	24
5	Casper Ruud	23	5,050	25
6	Carlos Alcaraz	19	4,845	18
7	Novak Djokovic	35	4,770	11
8	Andrey Rublev	24	3,700	24
9	Felix Auger-Aliassime	21	3,445	24
10	Jannik Sinner	20	3,185	27
11	Cameron Norrie	26	3,155	26
12	Hubert Hurkacz	25	3,025	23
13	Taylor Fritz	24	2,975	26
14	Diego Schwartzman	29	2,325	24
15	Matteo Berrettini	26	2,280	16



F1 Drivers' standings

#	DRIVER	TEAM	POINTS	WINS
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull Racing	208	6
2	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	170	3
3	Sergio Perez	Red Bull Racing	151	1
4	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	133	1
5	George Russell	Mercedes	128	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	109	0
7	Lando Norris	McLaren	64	0
8	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	52	0
9	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo	46	0
10	Fernando Alonso	Alpine	29	0
11	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	22	0
12	Daniel Ricciardo	McLaren	17	0
13	Pierre Gasly	AlphaTauri	16	0
14	Sebastian Vettel	Aston Martin	15	0
15	Mick Schumacher	Haas	12	0
16	Yuki Tsuboda	AlphaTauri	11	0
17	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo	5	0
18	Alex Albon	Williams	3	0
19	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	3	0
20	Nicholas Latifi	Williams	0	0
21	Nico Hulkenberg	Aston Martin	0	0



Badminton Men's ranking

#	PLAYER	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Viktor Axelsen	121,606	41
2	Kento Momota	112,704	30
3	Anders Antonsen	98,300	37
4	Chou Tien Chen	93,776	41
5	Lee Zii Jia	91,578	44
6	Anthony Sinisuka Ginting	87,879	39
7	Chen Long	84,400	18
8	Jonatan Christie	83,512	39
9	Loh Kean Yew	77,854	34
10	Lakshya Sen	75,874	41
11	K. Srikanth	72,481	44
12	Ng Ka Long Angus	72,007	38
13	Rasmus Gemke	70,551	39
14	Kanta Tsuneyama	67,848	34
15	Lee Cheuk Yiu	66,061	38



Test Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Joe Root	923	923
2	Marnus Labuschagne	885	936
3	Steve Smith	848	947
4	Babar Azam	815	815
5	Rishabh Pant	801	801
6	Kane Williamson	786	919
7	Dimuth Karunaratne	782	782
8	Usman Khawaja	766	779
9	Rohit Sharma	746	813
10	Jonny Bairstow	742	772

Test Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Pat Cummins	891	914
2	R. Ashwin	842	904
3	Jasprit Bumrah	828	835
4	Shaheen Afridi	827	827
5	Kagiso Rabada	818	902
6	James Anderson	811	903
7	Kyle Jamieson	788	836
8	Kemar Roach	756	780
9	Neil Wagner	747	859
10	Mitchell Starc	739	806

Top Indians

Ramesh Kumar Ramanathan Rank 194 ▲ 11 spots	Prajesh Gunneswaran Rank 292 ▲ 11 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	PLAYER	AGE	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Iga Swiatek	21	8,336	15
2	Anett Kontaveit	26	4,326	19
3	Maria Sakkari	26	4,190	20
4	Paula Badosa	24	4,030	24
5	Ons Jabeur	27	4,010	18
6	Aryna Sabalenka	24	3,267	19
7	Danielle Collins	28	3,131	17
8	Jessica Pegula	28	3,087	16
9	Garbine Muguruza	28	2,886	19
10	Emma Raducanu	19	2,717	22
11	Coco Gauff	18	2,647	16
12	Daria Kasatkina	25	2,635	20
13	Belinda Bencic	25	2,635	18
14	Leylah Fernandez	19	2,588	21
15	Karolina Pliskova	30	2,477	16

Top Indians

Ankita Raina Rank 346 ▲ 14 spots	Karman Thandi Rank 387 ▲ 107 spots

F1 Constructors' standings

POS	TEAM	POINTS	WINS	PODIUMS
1	Red Bull	359	7	14
2	Ferrari	303	4	11
3	Mercedes	237	0	7
4	McLaren	81	0	1
5	Alpine	81	0	0
6	Alfa Romeo	51	0	0
7	Haas	34	0	0
8	AlphaTauri	27	0	0
9	Aston Martin	18	0	0
10	Williams	3	0	0

Top Indians

Lakshya Sen Rank 10	K. Srikanth Rank 11

Badminton Women's ranking

#	PLAYER	POINTS	EVENTS
1	Akane Yamaguchi	111,963	39
2	Tai Tzu Ying	111,645	26
3	An Se Young	104,403	47
4	Chen Yu Fei	103,606	30
5	Carolina Marin	100,380	24
6	Nozomi Okuhara	96,560	28
7	P.V. Sindhu	94,018	44
8	Ratchanok Intanon	90,749	40
9	He Bing Jiao	83,064	33
10	Pornpawee Chochuwong	78,265	45
11	Wang Zhi Yi	72,638	30
12	Busanan Ongbamrunghan	70,294	51
13	Michelle Li	70,130	42
14	Sayaka Takahashi	66,573	35
15	Mia Blichfeldt	63,819	30

Top Indians

P.V. Sindhu Rank 7	Saina Nehwal Rank 24

ODI Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	892	898
2	Imam-ul-Haq	815	815
3	Virat Kohli	803	911
4	Rohit Sharma	802	885
5	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	789	813
6	R. van der Dussen	769	776
7	Ross Taylor	760	841
8	Jonny Bairstow	738	796
9	David Warner	737	880
10	Aaron Finch	715	798

ODI Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Jasprit Bumrah	718	841
2	Trent Boult	712	770
3	Shaheen Afridi	681	688
4	Josh Hazlewood	679	733
5	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	676	712
6	Mehedi Hasan	675	725
7	Chris Woakes	673	711
8	Matt Henry	672	691
9	Mohammad Nabi	657	657
10	Rashid Khan	651	806

T20I Batting

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Babar Azam	818	896
2	Mohammad Rizwan	794	798
3	Aiden Markram	757	796
4	Dawid Malan	754	915
5	Suryakumar Yadav	732	732
6	Aaron Finch	716	900
7	Devon Conway	703	784
8	Nicholas Pooran	667	667
9	Pathum Nissanka	661	689
10	R. van der Dussen	658	780

T20I Bowling

#	PLAYER	RATING	CAREER BEST
1	Josh Hazlewood	792	806
2	Adil Rashid	724	746
3	Tabraiz Shamsi	709	821
4	Rashid Khan	709	816
5	Adam Zampa	698	743
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	668	797
7	Anrich Nortje	658	695
8	Bhuvneshwar Kumar	658	665
9	Maheesh Theekshana	647	647
10	Akeal Hosein	647	647

Elena Rybakina — power ranger, surprise champion, reluctant celebrity

Few expected the 23-year-old to demolish the field at Wimbledon. But she did exactly that, serving notice of her ambitions on the big stage. How did she manage it and what's next for her?

REUTERS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the surface, there was little about Elena Rybakina's statistical past that suggested she would have the tournament she had at Wimbledon. The 23-year-old had won just two of the 61 events she had entered, with a 2-6 win-loss record in finals. She had yet to claim a WTA 1000 title — the quality of the playing field at such events ensures that success there is a reasonable indicator of the potential to do well at a Major.

Before Wimbledon, Rybakina was 17-11 in Grand Slam matches and 11-6 on grass — win-rates ranging from 60-65% aren't to be disdained, but they do not belong in the elite bracket. Moreover, she had struggled in the build-up to the Major, winning just one of three grass-court matches. So, it was no surprise that the bookmakers didn't think highly of her odds of going all the way. They had her as a 100-1 outsider before the tournament got underway.

She came to me and she said, 'I want to be No. 1 in the world.' I was like, 'OK, take it easy a little bit. See if you can win an [ITF] \$25,000.' She wins two in a row, just to prove me wrong. I was 100% sure she could win [a Major]

STEFANO VUKOV, Rybakina's coach

When she did triumph, the World No. 23 became the second-lowest-ranked women's champion at the grass-court event in the professional era, which began in 1968. In this time, just one woman ranked lower than Rybakina has won Wimbledon — Venus Williams in 2007 at No. 31, although she had been No. 1 and already won three of her five career Wimbledon trophies.

"I did not expect to be in the second week of a Grand Slam at Wimbledon," Rybakina admitted, suggesting that

those who had predicted her chances, based on analytical measures of her record until then, had not differed significantly from her own expectations.

But if you had dug a little deeper into her statistical past and subjected her style of play to the 'eye test', there were signals that she could be dangerous, especially on faster courts.

Rybakina has a winning record (7-6) against players who have been ranked No. 1. She also has victories over Major winners, including Serena Williams, Garbine Muguruza, Sofia Kenin and Simona Halep — she added Bianca Andreescu to the list and beat Halep again, at Wimbledon.

Dictating play

Given Rybakina's playing style, the match is often on her racquet. She has 'the big game', with access to rangy, point-ending power through both her serve and flat groundstrokes. One coach described Rybakina as "a right-handed Petra Kvitova" and there are certainly similarities in how both players dictate play — and blow hot and cold.

"It's effortless the power I have," Rybakina said. "I never compare myself with anyone. I just know that I have this gift. I'm tall and I play really fast. It's not something I'm working in the gym or something. This is my weapon, and I'm just trying to use it as much as I can."

At 1.84 metres (slightly over six feet), Rybakina is among the tallest players in the women's game and she puts that height to good use: over the last three seasons, she has twice led the tour in aces and was fifth on the other occasion. She pounded a tournament-topping 53 aces at Wimbledon and also unleashed the edition's second-fastest serve: 122mph (almost 200kmph).

So what changed between being another youngster with the weapons to threaten the best and being able to deploy them strategically over two

weeks to become a Grand Slam champion?

"The last three years ... I had very good matches, great battles, against great champions, and it was always close. In those close moments I was the one who would lose the serve or just miss. Maybe it mentally clicked [this time]. I believed in myself more in this tournament and in the crucial moments I was just solid enough to win," Rybakina said.

In addition to overcoming the mental challenges of breaking through on the biggest stage, she also had to deal with being questioned about her Russian roots right through the tournament. With Russian and Belarusian players banned from the grass-court Major following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the Moscow-born Rybakina would have been excluded had she not switched allegiance from Russia in 2018 for better funding and support.

Topic of discussion

Shifting allegiances isn't normally controversial, but Rybakina's move to play for Kazakhstan was a frequent topic of discussion at her press conferences. "I would say I'm lucky in this because the Kazakhstan federation, they were looking at the same time for [a] player to help," Rybakina said, "and they believed in me, so I was just lucky [that] we just found each other like this."

Rybakina has been guarded in her comments on the invasion. "I just want the war to end as soon as possible. Peace, yeah," she said after her quarterfinal.

But with the Russian Tennis Federation quick to claim Rybakina as "our product" — its president Shamil Tarpishchev told sports website *Championat* that "it's the Russian school after all" — she was pressed on the issue after her triumph.

"I don't know what's going to happen. It's always some news, but I cannot do anything about this," she said,



I think she's one of the best from the young generation. I don't know how old she is, but she's really young. I think. She really plays good

ONS JABEUR, Wimbledon finalist

when asked if the Russian government would be tempted to politicise her victory. "I'm playing for Kazakhstan a very long time. I represent them in the biggest tournaments, Olympics, which was a dream come true."

Rybakina, whose parents live in Moscow, was reluctant throughout the tournament to elaborate on how much time she spends in Russia, saying instead that she lives on the tour. Invited to condemn Russian President Vladimir Putin and the invasion, Rybakina pleaded for understanding. "I didn't choose where I was born. Kazakhstan supported me so much. Even today I heard so much support. I saw the flags. So I don't know how to answer these questions."

Long-term plan

Rybakina's win is the culmination of a long-term plan for tennis in Kazakhstan. The oil-and-gas-rich Central Asian nation has a long tradition of home-grown success in sports such as boxing and cycling but has often relied on recruiting talented tennis players from Russia.

Rybakina made the switch at 19 when her career stalled because of financial issues. The Kazakhstan Tennis Federation stepped in with an offer — represent it in exchange for the cash needed to support the global lifestyle of a tennis player. That decision four years ago has the potential now to transform tennis in the country, given she is Kazakhstan's first singles Major winner and was a step away from winning Olympic bronze in Tokyo, losing the playoff match.

What's next for Rybakina? Can she reprise her Wimbledon form at other Majors or will she add to the growing list of one-time Grand Slam champions on the women's tour?

Her Croatian coach Stefano Vukov told the *BBC* that she has the potential to keep on winning. "She is still raw in so many ways so it's a long process. We started working together at the smallest events and here we are winning Wimbledon. It's just the beginning," he said.

"I was 100% sure she could win one," Vukov added. "She was calm in big moments. I saw that she has this gift. Everybody feels the nerves but she's a very clutch player and she showed me that from the first tourna-



It's effortless the power I have. I never compare myself with anyone. I just know that I have this gift. I'm tall and I play really fast. It's not something I'm working in the gym or something

ELENA RYBAKINA

ments she ever played."

Rybakina believes she will go to New York next month more confident about the US Open, where she has not made it past the third round in three attempts. "The goal for this year was to be top 10 and it's still the same goal," she said. "And to try to win another [Major]. I don't think yet about the US Open. So many good players and different players just won Grand Slams in the past so I really don't know how I'm going to feel. But for sure I think I'm coming there more confident."

Rybakina's success will, however, have some less pleasant effects: she now has a target on her back and will attract more attention as a tennis celebrity, something she doesn't care for.

"Everybody is trying to help me because it's the first time and there is so much attention," she said. "It's not easy for me, because I'm a calm person. I don't really like to be in front of everybody. This part of the job is still tough for me, but hopefully everybody will help me improve in this, like I did in tennis. Let's see. Hopefully it will get better and better."

GAME THEORY

Try telling them they are rabbits with the bat

New Zealand's Trent Boult has the most Test runs of all male cricketers to have batted at No. 11. His average of 16.10 is also the highest for anyone to have played at least 30 innings in that position

MOST TEST RUNS AT NO. 11

Player	Inns	Runs	50s	Ducks
Trent Boult	70	644	1	11
James Anderson	166	624	1	22
Muttiah Muralitharan	98	623	0	20
Glenn McGrath	128	603	1	32
Courtney Walsh	122	553	0	27
Bob Willis	78	452	0	7
Brian Statham	46	348	0	9
Makhaya Ntini	76	344	0	12
Nathan Lyon	50	336	0	5
Josh Hazlewood	47	260	0	7

HIGHEST TEST AVERAGE AT NO. 11 (Min. 30 Innings)

Player	Inns	NO	Runs	Ave
Trent Boult	81	41	644	16.10
Nathan Lyon	50	28	336	15.27
Bill Johnston	33	22	159	14.45
Brian Statham	46	21	348	13.92
Allan Donald	32	17	204	13.60
Bob Willis	78	43	452	12.91
Josh Hazlewood	47	26	260	12.38
Muttiah Muralitharan	98	43	623	11.32
Alan Connolly	38	17	234	11.14
Makhaya Ntini	76	38	344	9.05



PICTURE THIS



Treading water

Players from Greece and Italy compete at the men's water polo competition at the World Aquatics Championships in Budapest, in this photograph.

Water polo is played between two teams of seven players each, over four quarters. The aim is to

score goals by throwing the ball into the opposition net. Each team is composed of six 'outfield' players and one goalkeeper, who is not allowed to cross the half-way mark.

Water polo is regarded as one of the most challenging sports to play.

One reason is because it's contested in an 'all-deep' pool: the players cannot touch the bottom

with their feet. The physical demands of staying afloat by constantly treading water, while competing in a contact sport, are considerable.

Tactical thinking and teamwork play critical roles. Indeed, water polo has influenced other team-sports; some of the ideas of Pep Guardiola, one of modern football's

most brilliant minds, have been inspired by it.

The game's roots can be traced back to Scotland in the 1870s, when it was played as a sort of 'water rugby'. It was introduced in the Olympics in 1900 in the men's category; women's water polo became an Olympic sport a hundred years later.

LIVE TELECAST

Sri Lanka vs Pakistan: 1st Test, day 1, Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 10 a.m.

Badminton: Singapore Open, Sports 18-1 & Voot Select, 10.30 a.m.

TNPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Voot Select, 3.15 p.m. & 7.15 p.m.

West Indies vs Bangladesh: 3rd ODI, Fan-Code, 7 p.m.

Golf: British Open, Eurosport (SD & HD) & Discovery Plus, 2.30 p.m. & 9 p.m.

Formula E: New York E-Prix, SS Select 2 & Disney+ Hotstar, 10.30 p.m.

World Athletics Championships: Sony LIV & World Athletics YouTube & Facebook channel, 1.40 a.m. (Sunday)

IN BRIEF



Former national high jumper Juby passes away

KOCHI
Juby Thomas, a former national high jump champion and the 1999 South Asian Games bronze medalist, died after an accident at Mulanthuruthy on Friday morning. He was 42 and is survived by his wife and three daughters. Thomas, a Railway chief ticketing inspector in Ernakulam who hailed from Piravom, was on his way to work when his bike was knocked down by a vehicle at Mulanthuruthy. He died in a hospital at Tripunithura.

Pranavi Urs wins ninth leg

BENGALURU
Pranavi Urs came up with four birdies in a span of five holes on the back nine in the final round to secure the ninth leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Bangalore Golf Club, here on Friday. She shot 2-over 71 with four birdies against six bogeys and totalled 2-over 209, while Seher Atwal (71), with one birdie against two bogeys, aggregated 5-over 212. Pranavi's fourth win of the season extended her lead at the top of the Hero Order of Merit.

Sathiyam and Manika pair bows out

BUDAPEST
The Indian mixed doubles pair of G. Sathiyam and Manika Batra lost to Tomakazu Harimoto and Hina Hayata of Japan 9-11, 9-11, 7-11 in the semifinals of the World Table Tennis (WTT) Star Contender European Summer Series here on Friday.

Will try our best to win gold: Harmanpreet

India is looking to put the brakes on Australia's golden run

HOCKEY

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU

A confident Indian men's hockey team is looking to put the brakes on Australia's golden run at the upcoming Commonwealth Games, vice-captain Harmanpreet Singh said on Friday.

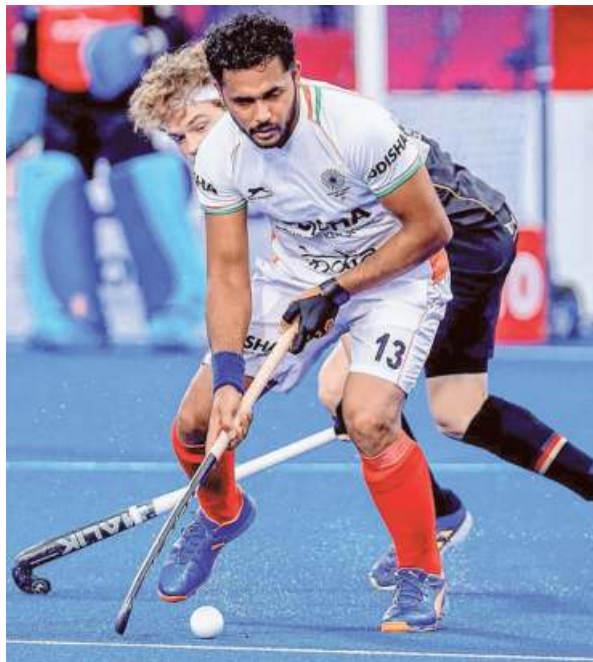
Australia has won all the six gold medals on offer in the men's competition since the multi-sport event in Kuala Lumpur in 1998.

Exuding confidence

But Harmanpreet exuded confidence that his team will be able to buck the trend in Birmingham.

"Our team has been performing well. We played well in FIH Hockey Pro League as well and therefore the confidence is high within the group. We will look to keep winning matches. We will definitely try our level best to win gold at the Commonwealth Games 2022," he said.

"Our preparations for the Commonwealth Games are going on very well. We are working on specific aspects of our game during our training sessions and we are focusing on the learnings from the FIH Hockey Pro League."



On the ball: Harmanpreet says India has been working to plug the loop holes. • FILE PHOTO: BISWARANJAN ROUT

The ace drag-flicker said finishing and defence remain a concern for India but the team was constantly working to plug holes in these two areas.

"We are specifically working on our finishing and defending skills at the moment."

"Overall, we are hitting the right notes in the practice sessions."

"We'll just keep working hard on our game and try to

keep getting better day by day," Harmanpreet said.

"We have been playing practice matches during our training sessions. Our main team has been playing against the rest of the players in the national camp."

"The practice matches have helped us improve our on-field coordination and also provided us with an opportunity to test our strategies," he added.

Bronze for Sakshi

WRESTLING

SPORTS BUREAU

Olympics bronze medalist Sakshi Malik won a bronze medal in the women's 62kg category at the Zouhaier Sghaier Ranking Series wrestling tournament in Tunis, Tunisia, on Friday.

After being pinned by Brazilian Lais de Oliveira, Sakshi benefited as local wrestler Marwa Amri forfeited her match. Then Sakshi, the only Commonwealth Games-bound Indian woman wrestler competing in the event, lost to Germany's Luisa Nemesch 5-2. She still managed a bronze in a field comprising three wrestlers. Sachin Sehrawat (67kg),



Sakshi Malik. • FILE PHOTO

Gyandender Dahiya (63kg), Sunil Kumar (87kg) had bagged Greco Roman gold medals in seriously depleted fields on the opening day.

Arjun Halakurki (60kg) and Deepanshu (97kg) got a silver apiece, while Naveen (130kg) bagged a bronze.

National Combined Totalizator System launched

It facilitates pool dividend calculations, display and distribution to racing patrons

RACING

SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU

The National Combined Totalizator System was launched by the Turf Authorities of India (TAD) here on Friday.

The system will increase transparency among all stakeholders (government, club, racing patrons etc.) while bringing Indian horse racing closer to international

Ramkumar Ramanathan in doubles semifinals

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Ramkumar Ramanathan and John-Patrick Smith beat Radu Albot and Treat Huey 6-1, 6-4 to reach the \$665,330 ATP tennis doubles semifinals in Newport.

In the \$25,000 ITF men's event in Kazakhstan, second seed Prajesh Gunneswaran reached the semifinals with a 7-6(3), 6-2 victory over qualifier Zura Tkemaladze of Georgia. In the women's event, Ankita Raina made the doubles final with Momoko Kobori of Japan.

\$25,000 Challenger, Rome, US: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Yosshito Nishioka & Sho Shimabukuro (Jpn) bt Sriram Balaji & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan 6-4, 6-2.

\$25,000 ITF men, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan: Men: Quarterfinals: Prajesh Gunneswaran bt Zura Tkemaladze (Geo) 7-6(3),

The results: \$665,330 ATP, Newport, US: Doubles: Quarterfinals: John-Patrick Smith (Aus) & Ramkumar Ramanathan bt Radu Albot (Mda) & Treat Huey (Phi) 6-1, 6-4.

€90,280 Challenger, Iasi, Romania: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Diego Hidalgo (Ecu) & Cristian Rodriguez (Col) bt Petros Tsitsipas (Gre) & Arjun Kadhe 7-5, 6-1.

\$15,000 ITF, Monastir, Men: Quarterfinals: Mu Tao (Chn) bt Manish Sureshkumar 6-2, 4-0 (retired).

Doubles: Quarterfinals: Rithvik Choudary Bollipalli & Niki Poonacha bt Maximus Jones (Tha) & Zheng Baoluo (Chn) 6-3, 6-7 (5), [10-6]; Omar Brigida & Gabriele Maria Noce (Ita) bt Guy

Orly Iradukunda (Bdi) & Tushar Sharma 6-2, 5-7, [10-6]; Sai Kar-teek Reddy Ganta & Manish Sureshkumar w.o. Dong Bohua & Sun Qian (Chn).

\$25,000 ITF men, Idanha-a-Nova, Portugal: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Valentin De Carvalho & Goncalo Oliveira (Por) bt Rishab Agarwal & Adil Kalyanpur 6-3, 2-6, [10-7].

\$15,000 ITF women, Guimaraes, Portugal: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Francisca Jorge & Matilde Jorge (Por) bt Ines Murta (Por) & Vasanti Shinde 6-4, 6-4.

\$15,000 ITF men, Lakewood, US: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Jaimee Floyd Angelle & Ronan Jancour (Fra) bt Elijah Strode (US) & Sathi Reddy Chirala 6-3, 6-3.

\$25,000 ITF women, Guimaraes, Portugal: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Francisca Jorge & Matilde Jorge (Por) bt Ines Murta (Por) & Vasanti Shinde 6-4, 6-4.

Christian Eriksen joins Manchester United

The Dane had played for Brentford last season

FOOTBALL

REUTERS
MANCHESTER

Manchester United has signed Christian Eriksen on a free transfer with the Danish playmaker signing a three-year deal, the Premier League club announced on Friday. Eriksen, who needed life-saving treatment on the pitch last year when he suffered a near-fatal cardiac arrest in a European Championship match against Finland in June, returned to action with Brentford after signing a short-term deal in January.

Eriksen is United's second recruit in the close season under new Dutch manager



Eriksen. • REUTERS

Erik ten Hag after the club signed Dutch left back Tyrrell Malacia.

"Manchester United is a special club and I cannot wait to get started. I have had the privilege of playing

at Old Trafford many times but to do it in the red shirt of United will be an amazing feeling," Eriksen said in a statement.

"I have seen Erik's work at Ajax and know the level of detail and preparation that he and his staff put into every day. It is clear that he is a fantastic coach."

"Having spoken with him and learned more about his vision and the way he wants the team to play, I am even more excited for the future."

Eriksen was an Inter Milan player when he collapsed and underwent surgery to be fitted with an implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD) device – which is not permitted in the Italian Serie

A – leading to the termination of his contract.

After signing for Brentford, he made 11 league appearances under Danish coach Thomas Frank, scoring a goal and providing four assists as Brentford finished 13th in its first season in the Premier League.

Spell with Spurs

He is no stranger to the Premier League, however, having spent nearly seven seasons with Tottenham Hotspur, making more than 300 appearances in all competitions for the London side.

He also resumed his Denmark career, scoring against Serbia on his return.

Ban on Russian football teams stays

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAUSANNE
Russia remains barred from Europe's leading football competitions including the Champions League after the Court of Arbitration for Sport rejected appeals by the national soccer federation and four clubs on Friday.

CAS upheld decisions by UEFA and FIFA which excluded Russian national teams and clubs following Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Russia was already excluded from men's World

Cup qualifying and the women's European Championship and its clubs now won't feature in competitions like the Champions League in 2022-23.

"The panel finds it unfortunate that the current military operations in Ukraine, for which Russian football teams, clubs, and players have themselves no responsibility, had, by reason of the decisions of FIFA and UEFA, such an adverse effect on them and Russian football generally, but those effects were, in the panel's view, off-

set by the need for the secure and orderly conduct of football events for the rest of the world," CAS ruled.

The decision leaves national champion Zenit St. Petersburg out of the Champions League group stage. Another Russian team, Sochi, will be left out of the Champions League third qualifying round draw, scheduled for Monday. If Russian had been allowed to take part, it wasn't clear where their home games could be hosted or if Ukrainian clubs would boycott.

143 players picked in season one draft

ULTIMATE KHO KHO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PUNE

South Asian Games medalist Pratik Waikar and star pole diver Pothireddy Sivareddy were among 143 players picked by six franchises for the inaugural Ultimate Kho Kho League slated at Balewadi here from August 14 to September 24.

The 240 players were divided into four categories

according to their performances at international and national levels.

In category A, 77 of 143 players – including Maharashtra's Waikar and Andhra Pradesh's Sivareddy, Tamil Nadu's M. Vignesh and Karnataka's M.K. Gowtham – have been offered ₹5 lakh.

Waikar and defender Gowtham were picked by Telugu Yodhas and Odisha Juggernauts respectively as their first pick.

AITA Series — Adith beats Vansh

SPORTS BUREAU

Adith Amarnath beat third Aseed Vansh Nandal 9-6 in the boys quarterfinals of the AITA National series under-18 tennis tournament at the Joygaon Academy in Jhajjar on Friday.

In the girls' section, Laxmi Sri Dandu beat the second seed Suryanshi Tanwar 9-4 in the quarterfinals.

With rain having upset the schedule, the organisers had best of 17 games format in the quarterfinals, after having played best of three

sets in the pre-quarterfinals.

The results: Boys (quarterfinals): Om Yadav bt Deepam Malik 9-7; Adith Amarnath bt Vansh Nandal 9-6; Keshav Goel bt Dhruv Kumar 9-8 (2); Jason David bt Rakshak Tarun 9-5.

Pre-quarterfinals: Deepam Malik bt Kavin Karthik 6-4, 6-2; Om Yadav bt Nishant Kumar 6-4, 6-1; Vansh Nandal bt Sagar Kumar 1-6, 6-3, 6-2; Adith Amarnath bt Ritvik Nadikude 6-3, 4-6, 6-2; Keshav Goel bt Pratyushraj Goel 6-2, 3-6, 3-0 (retired); Dhruv Kumar bt Gauransh Sood 6-2, 6-3; Rakshak Tarun bt A Mukherjee 6-2, 6-0; Jason David bt Arjun

Rathi 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Girls (quarterfinals): Hannah Nagpal bt Harleen Kaur Dhanda 9-7; Sreenidhi Balaji bt Jennika Jaision 9-2; Asmi Adkar bt Riya Sachdeva 9-5; Laxmi Sri Dandu bt Suryanshi Tanwar 9-4.

Pre-quarterfinals: Hannah Nagpal bt Gia Alana Pereira 9-4; Harleen Kaur Dhanda bt Samya Sikand 6-2, 6-2; Sreenidhi Balaji bt Bhumika Dahiya 6-2, 6-0; Jennika Jaision bt Prashansa Shrivastava 9-7; Asmi Adkar bt Suhani Gaur 9-5; Riya Sachdeva bt Harnoor Kaur Sidhu 6-7(4), 6-3, 6-3; Laxmi Sri Dandu bt Neha Reddy Dandu 6-0, 6-0; Suryanshi Tanwar bt Samaira Malik 9-4.

This too shall pass, Babar Azam to Virat Kohli

Rohit and Buttler also speak up for ex-India captain

CRICKET

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Pakistan captain Babar Azam has backed Virat Kohli to come out of his prolonged lean run with the bat.

After the former India skipper was again dismissed cheaply in the second ODI against England at Lord's, Babar extended his support with a message on Twitter on Thursday: "This too shall pass. Stay strong."

"I just feel that in the present situation Kohli needs support and to be backed. I tweeted wishing him the best because I know how a player feels when he is going through this period and he needs the support of everyone," Babar said on Friday at a pre-match press conference ahead of Pakistan's



Stay strong! Babar Azam, left, says Kohli needs everyone's support during these tough times. • AFP

first Test against Sri Lanka in Galle.

Will bounce back

"For someone who has won so many matches for India, you need one or two innings to bounce back. That's what I feel and I am sure all those who follow cricket will think

similarly," said India captain Rohit Sharma at the post-match press conference on Thursday.

Kohli also received backing from England captain Buttler who maintained that just like every cricketer, it is important to keep in mind the former is "human" and

can have a couple of low scores before getting back into form once again.

"I suppose in a little way it is quite refreshing for the rest of us that he (Kohli) is human and he can have a couple of low scores as well. But, look, he has been one of the best players, if not the best in ODI cricket in the world," Buttler said.

Rival captain's prayer

"So, he has been a fantastic player for so many years and all batters, it just proves, they go through runs of form where they do not perform as well as they do some-times."

"But, as an opposition captain, you know a player of that class is always due, so you are hoping it does not come against us," Buttler added.

Hogg prefers Jadeja over Ashwin for T20 WC

Offie's inclusion will make India's fielding way too light, feels the Aussie

AMOL KARHADKAR
MUMBAI

R. Ashwin may have been recalled to India's T20 side for the forthcoming tour to the West Indies. But Brad Hogg, the two-time World Cup champion with Australia, does not see much of a role for the champion off-spinner during India's T20 World Cup campaign down under later this year.

"I really love Ashwin. I think he is a fantastic bloke, I think he is one of the best off-spinners in the world."

"But, if I am an India selector and I have to select the team going to Australia, I'll have (Mohd.) Shami, (Jasprit) Bumrah and Bhuvu (Bhuvneshwar Kumar) as quick bowlers who are going to be light in the field," Hogg, the former wrist spinner, told *The Hindu* on Friday



On a different wicket: Hogg with Western Australia Tourism MD Carolyn Turnbull and Western Australia deputy premier Roger Cook at a promotional event in Mumbai on Friday. • PTI

here, on the sidelines of an event to promote Tourism Western Australia.

"So if you have Ashwin in there, then all of a sudden you have four players – even (Yuzvendra) Chahal – who will be exposed in the field. Look, I don't like saying anything about him. I just

love the way he keeps working on his game, even playing County cricket whenever possible to try and give his best for India."

"His attention to detail is phenomenal. But at this point, it hurts me to say that when you are looking at the final combination for Australia,

it's that bit about being light in the field that should be considered."

Chahal as lead spinner
While Shami hasn't featured in a T20I since the disastrous T20 World Cup outing in UAE last year, Bumrah and Bhuvneshwar are assured of a place in the squad along with Chahal as the lead spinner.

According to Hogg, Ravindra Jadeja's utility as a multi-dimensional cricketer will not only help him in pipping Ashwin for the second spinner's role, but also makes the all-rounder a vital cog for India. "India is very lucky to have Jadeja. He is showing his true class with the bat. His fielding ability, batting skills down the lower order and the option to bowl spin are exceptional," Hogg said.