



Environment, Railway Ministries plan to save jumbos from train hits
page 12



Biden to visit Saudi Arabia, interact with Crown Prince
page 13



BCCI nets ₹48,390 crore through IPL's media rights
page 15

Chahal, Harshal and openers help India stay alive in T20I series
page 15



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



Jain claims 'memory loss' during ED questioning

NEW DELHI
Opposing the bail application of Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain in a money laundering case, the ED on Tuesday said when Mr. Jain was confronted with documents, he claimed to have lost his memory due to COVID-19.
CITY ▶ PAGE 2

Lawrence Bishnoi to be produced in Mansa today

NEW DELHI
The Punjab police on Tuesday arrested gangster Lawrence Bishnoi from Delhi. A city court granted them transit remand to produce him before the CJM at Mansa in Punjab on Wednesday.
CITY ▶ PAGE 3

Govt. unveils Agnipath recruitment scheme

NEW DELHI
Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday announced the "Agnipath" scheme for recruitment of youth in the armed forces for four years. The process of recruitment of 46,000 men and women will commence in 90 days.
NEWS ▶ PAGE 10

SOCIOLOGY

Foundation Course: 15 June
2 Demo Classes (at 5 PM)
Test Series (Online/Offline): 26 June
9999663160 / adityadse@gmail.com
www.sociologybyadityamogra.com
26/3, Near Madona Hotel, ORN, Delhi

OPPORTUNITIES ▶ PAGE 5

10 lakh persons to get govt. jobs in 18 months, announces Modi

Recruitment likely to focus on vacancies in Railways, armed forces and GST dept.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced that his government would be recruiting 10 lakh personnel within the next 18 months, "in a mission mode", a major drive after recruitment to government jobs was derailed following the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a tweet from his official handle @PMOIndia, early on Tuesday morning, Mr. Modi said: "PM @narendramodi reviewed the status of Human Resources in all departments and ministries and instructed that recruitment of 10 lakh people be done by the government in mission mode in the next 1.5 years."

The announcement came on a day when Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and the three Service Chiefs announced the 'Agnipath' scheme of recruiting youth between the ages of 17.5 and 21 for a four-year stint in the armed forces with a provision of voluntary retention after this period, based on merit.

Unemployment has emerged as one of the major challenges before the Modi government after two years of the pandemic and its attendant economic woes.

An additional problem

Empty posts | As of March 2020, 8.8 lakh jobs were vacant in the Union government. In 2019, the number of vacant posts was around 9.2 lakh (23% of the sanctioned posts) and in 2018 there were 6.8 lakh such vacancies (17% of sanctioned posts). A look at the group-wise share of vacant posts to the total posts across Union Ministries and departments.

Group	No. of staff in service (IN LAKH)	No. of vacant posts (IN LAKH)	Vacancy as a share of sanctioned posts
A	1.14	0.21	15.9%
B (G)	0.80	0.17	16.4%
B (NG)	1.79	0.81	31%
C	28.12	7.67	21.4%
Total	31.91	8.86	21.7%



■ Unemployment has emerged as one of the major challenges before the Union government due to two years of the pandemic and its economic consequences

Union government employees coming out of North Block after their day's work, in New Delhi.
• SHANKER CHAKRAVARTY

with regard to recruitment to government jobs has been the frequent leak of examination papers both for departments such as the Railways and for teacher recruitment as well. During the recently concluded Uttar Pradesh election in fact, police lathi-charged protesting students in Prayagraj and in Patna, Bihar, who had been preparing to appear for Railway Recruitment Board exams but were told that because the question paper leaked, the exam had to be cancelled.

While not sharing figures of which department would be recruiting how many, a senior government official shared that much of the recruitment would be in the Railways, armed forces ('Agnipath' and regular recruitment which had been frozen through the pandemic), the Central Paramilitary Forces, Goods and Services Tax (GST) departments, including customs and excise and administrative staff for government-owned banks and insurance companies.

"The recruitment for GST departments, which are revenue generating departments is important, and for posts which were earlier known as State tax inspectors, recruitment will cover customs and excise as GST pertains to them too. In government-owned insurance firms, while field staff have been recruited regularly, administrative recruitment hasn't taken place in any significant way for the last 15 years," the official said.

It is hoped that the setting of a deadline will help recruitments happen fast.

UNEMPLOYMENT DECREASED:
LABOUR SURVEY ▶ PAGE 11

WPI inflation quickens to record 15.9%

VIKAS DHOOT
NEW DELHI

Inflation in India's wholesale prices quickened to a new record high of 15.9% in May, from April's 15.1%, official data released on Tuesday show. This is the 14th month in a row that WPI inflation has stayed above the 10% mark. Inflation in May 2021 was 13.1%.

Fuel and power inflation accelerated further to 40.6%, from 38.7% in April and 31.8% in March. Inflation based on the WPI Food Index, which had eased to 8.9% in April from 9.3% in March, rebounded to 10.9% in May. Retail inflation had eased slightly to 7.04% in May from 7.79% in April as per data released on Monday.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

Pawar meets Mamata, Left party leaders

NCP chief not running for President

SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Opposition meet on Presidential polls that has been convened by West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar on Tuesday held a series of meetings in Delhi, including one with Ms. Banerjee.

Mr. Pawar ruled himself out of the Presidential race but sources said a shortlist of names will be discussed in the meeting on Wednesday.

Some names that have come up in informal discussions among Opposition leaders include National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah, former West Ben-



Mamata Banerjee and Sharad Pawar during a meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. • PTI

gal Governor and diplomat Gopalkrishna Gandhi and former Finance Minister Yashwant Sinha, who is now in the Trinamool. The name, however, is likely to be finalised only by June 20.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

ED questions Rahul for over 11 hours

The former Cong. chief has been summoned for third time

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Amid heavy police deployment and detentions to prevent protests by Congress workers, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday questioned former Congress president Rahul Gandhi for the second day in a row in connection with a money laundering case linked to the

National Herald newspaper.

The former Congress chief has been summoned for a third time on Wednesday, said ED sources.

Accompanied by his sister and general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Mr. Gandhi arrived at the ED headquarters around 11.05 a.m. But the questioning is said to have started from

11.30 a.m. and went on till 3.30 p.m., when the Congress leader took an hour-long lunch break.

Rejoining the investigation at 4.30 p.m., Mr. Gandhi left the ED office close to midnight as his questioning went on for more than 11 hours.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

Ex-judges write to SC against U.P. demolitions

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Six former judges of the Supreme Court and various High Courts and six senior advocates have appealed to the Supreme Court to take suo motu cognizance of the recent acts of bulldozing residences of those who protested in Prayagraj against the objectionable remarks made by certain BJP spokespersons.

The petition, signed by Justices B. Sudarshan Reddy, V. Gopala Gowda, A.K. Ganguly, A.P. Shah, K. Chandru and Mohammed Anwar, and veteran advocates Shanti Bhushan, Indira Jaisingh, Sriram Panchu, Prashant Bhushan and Anand Grover, cited reports of violence and repression by officials in Uttar Pradesh. They said that instead of giving protesters an opportunity of being heard, the administration sanctioned violent actions.

The petition added that the Chief Minister had directed that the National Security Act, 1980, and the U.P. Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 1986, be invoked against the protesters.

"Videos of young men in police custody being beaten with lathis, houses of protesters being demolished without notice or any cause of action, and protesters from the minority Muslim community being chased and beaten by the police, are circulating on social media, shaking the conscience of the nation. Such a brutal clampdown by a ruling administration is an unacceptable subversion of the rule of law," it said.

"It is a violation of the rights of citizens, and makes a mockery of the Constitution and fundamental rights guaranteed by the State," the petition added.

Success = Right decisions at the right time

Forum IAS

India's Leading Institute for Civil Services Preparation

CURRENT AFFAIRS like.no.other

for Mains 2022* **STARTS 18 JUNE**

for Pre + Mains 2023 **STARTS 07 JULY**

If there is just one classroom program you want to take, it is this. Compliment your preparation and test writing with high quality content from ForumIAS Current Affairs classes.

With our Current Affairs classes, you will cover GS Paper 2 & 3 like no other. The CA Classes at ForumIAS are not spoon-fed Newspaper Classes. We aim to cover dynamic issues of upto past 3 years with issue-based precaution approach adopted for Mains and subject-wise approach for Prelims. Current Affairs classes at ForumIAS focus on three things- 1. Differentiated content, 2. Comprehensive coverage and 3. Focused content.
Attend the first class free at 11 AM on 18th June, at New Delhi.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDANCE PROGRAM 2023 **22 JUNE**

PRELIMS-CUM-MAINS FOUNDATION PROGRAM for freshers by ForumIAS

The most student-oriented foundation program for Civil Services Examination. The CGP 2023 is a 10 month long rigorous mentor backed Prelims - cum - Mains program for candidates who want to write CSE 2023 with their best attempt.

Why CGP?
Because as an aspirant you cannot wait for building the foundation in the first year, answer writing in second and content enhancement in third. The CGP includes the right mix of classes, workshops, answer writing sessions, tests, essay guidance sessions and gruelling 7 AM tests - so that your preparation is competitive in the very first year of joining. Because at ForumIAS, we treat every aspirant, as if he/she is the only one and we mentor them to be the best.

AUGMENTED TEST SERIES FOR OPTIONAL @ForumIAS for CSE Mains 2022

Anthropology Starts: 22 June 2022 Sociology Starts: 23 June 2022 Geography Starts: 24 June 2022

Political Science & IR Starts: 24 June 2022 Public Administration Starts: 26 June 2022

Successful Students of ForumIAS Academy

AIR 01 CSE 2021 Shruti Sharma AIR 05 CSE 2021 Utkarsh Dwivedi AIR 06 CSE 2021 Yaksh Choudhary AIR 08 CSE 2021 Ishita Rathi AIR 09 CSE 2021 Preetam Kumar

55+ students from paid programs of ForumIAS have secured ranks under 100 in CSE 2021, including Rank 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 17, and 19 in Top 20. With more than 300 selections in the final list this year, we have delivered consistent results since we started our journey in 2012.

NEW DELHI: 2nd Floor, IAPL House, 19, Pusa Road, Opp. Metro Pillar 95-96, Karol Bagh - 110005 | **PATNA:** 2nd Floor, AG Palace, East Boring Canal Road Patna - 800001 | 9311740914 | **HYDERABAD:** 1st Floor, SM Plaza, Indira Park Road, Jawahar Nagar, Telangana - 500020 | 9311740410
9821711605, 9311740900 | admissions@forumias.academy | https://academy.forumias.com

Rau's IAS Study Circle Since 1953

5 IN TOP 10 9 IN TOP 20

OUR UPSC RESULT 2021 250+ SELECTIONS IN CSE 2021

OPTIONALS at RAU'S

Available in OFFLINE & LIVE-ONLINE

1 FOUNDATION COURSE for MAINS 2023 starting **July 1 @ Delhi** **Aug 5 @ Bengaluru**

2 TEST SERIES & QIP for MAINS 2022 starting **June 19**

Geography @ Delhi	Mr. Vineet Thaploo	Dr. Surendra Singh @ Delhi	Sociology @ Delhi
Geography @ Bengaluru	Mr. Indrajeet Bariar	Mr. Vikram Kaushal @ Bengaluru	Sociology @ Bengaluru
History @ Delhi	Mrs. K. Kirthika & Mr. Mathimaran Raju	Dr. V.K. Kaushik @ Delhi	Public Ad. @ Delhi
History @ Bengaluru	Mr. Parampreet Singh	Mr. Anubhav Sharma @ Bengaluru	Public Ad. @ Bengaluru
Psychology @ Delhi	Mr. Shoubhik Sen	Dr. C.P. Kaushik @ Delhi	Anthropology @ Delhi
PSIR @ Delhi	Mr. Rahul Puri	Dr. J.C. Sharma @ Delhi	Economics @ Delhi

OPTIONAL ORIENTATION 17 - 19 JUNE

CONFUSED ABOUT OPTIONAL SUBJECT? MEET & INTERACT WITH RAU'S OPTIONAL EDUCATORS MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

Register yourself at **www.rauias.com**

watch Optional Subjects Podcast

NEW DELHI-ORN CAMPUS Near Karol Bagh Metro station
011 - 4078 6050, 9811047222, 9403705170

BENGALURU CAMPUS 5th Block, Koramangala
080 - 414 26050, 9916035536, 8861822955

NEW DELHI-CP CAMPUS (Near Barakhamba Road Metro station)
011 - 23318135/36, 41512737

011 - 40786050 | www.elearn.rauias.com

Jain claims memory loss during questioning

The ED said it had unearthed material indicating more instances of money laundering by Delhi Minister

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Opposing the bail application of Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain in a money laundering case, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday said that when Mr. Jain was confronted with documents related to his alleged hawala transactions he claimed to have lost his memory as a consequence of having suffered from COVID-19.

Appearing for the agency, Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju made these submissions before Special Judge Geetanjali Goel, adding that the ED had unearthed some material indicating more instances of alleged laundering and links of Mr. Jain to one Lala Sher Singh Trust.

More 'evidence'
The agency alleged that certain accommodation entries were made from this trust, which needed further probe. The ED also alleged that in addition to the entries worth ₹4.81 crore found during the check period,



Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain

it had found material to suggest that entries worth a total of ₹17 crore had been made.

Therefore, the agency alleged, the scope of the money laundering case against Mr. Jain was much wider than his earlier assumption.

The agency said that the material with regards to the Lala Sher Singh Trust was from 2018, which the court noted was outside the check period of 2015-2017. The court asked the agency whether it could include this material as part of the probe in the current case.

Did I [Mr. Jain] have a dream then that I would become a politician and hold public office and that this would become a crime? My party was not even formed then

N HARIHARAN Satyendar Jain's counsel

The agency insisted that it had stumbled upon this material during its probe and asserted its right to go ahead with the investigation in this regard.

Arguing for Mr. Jain's bail, Senior Advocate N Hariharan said that the material gathered by the ED did not establish prima facie guilt.

'No malpractice'
Responding to another accusation levelled by the ED - that Mr. Jain had allegedly conspired to launder the money in a 2010 meeting with people

running shell companies in Kolkata - Mr. Hariharan said, "Did I [Mr. Jain] have a dream then that I would become a politician and hold public office and that this would become a crime? My party was not even formed then."

Agency's case
In its earlier remand application, the ED had alleged that accommodation entries were received in four Delhi-based companies beneficially controlled by Mr. Jain - Akinchan Developers Pvt. Ltd., Paryas Infoculture Pvt. Ltd., Mangalayan Projects Pvt. Ltd., and JJ Ideal Estate - in exchange for cash totalling ₹4.81 crore.

These entries were made by Kolkata-based entry operators through shell companies allegedly beneficially owned and controlled by Mr. Jain, the ED had claimed, adding that it had recorded statements of people who had made these entries.

The ED's case is based on CBI's disproportionate assets

case against Mr. Jain, according to which the Delhi Minister had acquired assets disproportionate to his known sources of income between 2015-2017 while holding public office.

Mr. Jain's counsel has argued that he had resigned from these four companies before assuming public office and that he could not be held responsible for the activities of these companies. However, ASG Raju alleged on Tuesday that Mr. Jain's resignation from these companies was a "sham" to create a front for his alleged laundering activities.

Mr. Hariharan also said that Mr. Jain was suffering from a "fatal" condition - sleep apnoea, which too was a consequence of his "severe" COVID-19 infection. He added that a machine was required to constantly monitor Mr. Jain's health which needed uninterrupted power that may not be available inside the jail.

The court has reserved the order on the bail application for June 18.

HC rejects plea against call interception

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has rejected a petition by a suspect in a corruption case, who was seeking to quash an order permitting the interception of his phone calls by the CBI. While rejecting the plea, the court observed that the law of the land weighs "in the favour of public interest over individual interest".

Justice Chandra Dhari Singh stated that the interception order passed by the Ministry of Home Affairs as well as the interception carried out subsequently were fair, reasonable and in accordance with the law. Mr. Kumar contended that the order was violative of his right to privacy.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR.							
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, (JAL SHAKTI)							
PHE, GROUND WATER DIVISION, NOWSHERA, SGR.							
Gist of e-Tender.							
e-N.I.T. No:- PHE/GWDS/ 10 of 06/2022							
For and on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders are invited in two cover system from registered Water Well Drillers/Contractors of Machine Drilled Hand Pump wells as per the details given as under.							
S. No	Particulars of the work	Est. Cost (Lacs)	Earnest money	Cost of Tender Document	Time of Completion	Programme	Technical Sanction
1	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Haripora Sheilpora in District Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days	PRI Grants Under District Capex Budget 2022-23	PHE/GWD/ of 38 of 06/2022
2	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Arwan-A at Malik Mohalla, Dardpora NHO Mushlag Bhat Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 39 of 06/2022
3	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Hallmulla Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 40 of 06/2022
4	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Kathipora Batpora Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 41 of 06/2022
5	Construction of 02 No. 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Arampora and Peerpora ward No.04 and 05 in District Anantnag.	Rs. 6.20	Rs. 12,400/-	Rs. 300/-	10 days		PHE/GWD/ of 42 of 06/2022
6	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Marg NHO Gh. Mohammad Sheikh Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 43 of 06/2022
7	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Kawan Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 44 of 06/2022
8	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well near Mohammad Rafiq Ganie and Others Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 45 of 06/2022
9	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Near Masjid Shareef Chakpath Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 46 of 06/2022
10	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Furch (Mirpora) Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 47 of 06/2022
11	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Dubijpora Ganjipora LG Pora B Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 48 of 06/2022
12	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Near Panchayat Ghar Nipora Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 49 of 06/2022
13	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Ward No 5 Gundijaffar Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 50 of 06/2022
14	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Nasir Mohalla Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 51 of 06/2022
15	Construction of 03 No. 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Hakura, Anantnag.	Rs. 9.30	Rs. 18,600/-	Rs. 500/-	15 days		PHE/GWD/ of 52 of 06/2022
16	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Zagi Marg, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 53 of 06/2022
17	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Near Darsagah at Goswami Wudder, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 54 of 06/2022
18	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Moli Mohalla NHO Nisar Khan at Goswami Wudder Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 55 of 06/2022
19	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Moli Mohalla NHO Altar Khan at Goswami Wudder Ward No.4, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 56 of 06/2022
20	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Near Jamia Masjid Shareef Main Chowk, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 57 of 06/2022
21	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at NHO Muhammad Hussain and Others, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 58 of 06/2022
22	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Fared Khan and Others, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 59 of 06/2022
23	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Lachi Mohalla Goswami Wudder, Anantnag.	Rs. 5.27	Rs. 10,550/-	Rs. 300/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 60 of 06/2022
24	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Masjid Shareef, Syed Ul Mursaleen Badan, Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 61 of 06/2022
25	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well NHO Manzaor Ahmad Wani and Others at Katrip, Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 62 of 06/2022
26	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at NHO Adil Ahmad at Marg Larkipora, Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 63 of 06/2022
27	Construction of 125 mm dia machine drilled hand pump well at Near Ziyarat Shareef Asian Mohalla, Anantnag.	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 6,200/-	Rs. 200/-	05 days		PHE/GWD/ of 64 of 06/2022

NORTHERN RAILWAY		
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)		
N.I.T. No.	06-A, B & C-2022-23-W-V	
1	A	Balance work for development of RPC-4 facilities on line no. 20 at HN2M in the section of ADEN/HNZM. Similar nature of work: Any civil work involving concreting work.
	B	Crossing of 900mm dia water pipe line through 1600mm DIA encasing pipe line under Railway Track for Delhi Jal Board at Km. 24/2-24/4 between Shahbad Mohammadpur and Bijwasan Railway Station on DLI-RE section. Similar nature of work: Construction of bridges with pipe & box supporting technique crossing of underground cable/pipeline line etc.
	C	Repair and extension of approaches by providing 5.10m wide ramp to existing over Bridge (Phase-1) for two wheeler movement at Indrapuri Halt under SrDEN/V/DLI. Similar nature of work: Repair to steel bridges including supply fabrication erection of steel bridge members & field riveting etc. OR Supply fabrication assembly & erection/launching of railway girders/FOB OR Supply, fabrication, assembly & regirdening of Railway steel girder/FOB.
2	Approx. Cost of work	A Rs. 10695008.06/- B Rs. 24371962.53/- C Rs. 24608183.45/-
3	Earnest Money Deposit	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only Note-FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 201025/CE-I/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) A Rs. 203500.00 B Rs. 271900.00 C Rs. 273100.00
4	Completion period of work	A 6 Months B 6 Months C 6 Months
5	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs on 05.07.2022 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. On 05.07.2022.
6	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No. 128-W/280/OET/2022-23/W-V/NIT-06-A, B & C-2022-23-W-V Dated: 14.06.2022 1437/22		

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, बिजली भवन, वाजपुर्व रोड काशीपुर।
दूरभाष 0992-275620 कार्यालय काशीपुर। फोन: 0401 0909200। ईमेल: 2867
E-mail: 2867@ukpcor.com Website: www.ukpcor.org

विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, काशीपुर के अन्तर्गत अधीक्षणित कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.सं.	ई-निविदा संख्या	सामग्री/कार्य का नाम	निविदा परत का मूल्य (₹)	परिष्कार (₹)	कार्य की अनुमानित समाप्ति तिथि (दिनांक)	ई-निविदा प्रक्रिया शुरू करने की तिथि (दिनांक)
1.	02/2022-23	विद्युत वितरण कार्य काशीपुर के अन्तर्गत अधीक्षणित कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।	₹ 9,900/-	₹ 148,000/-	₹ 87,32,000/-	29.06.2022 (17:00 बजे तक)

निविदा से सम्बन्धित सार्वजनिक विवरण के साईट www.uktenders.gov.in पर अवलोकित किया जा सकता है।
निविदा विवरण के 24x7 ऑनलाइन सार्वजनिक साईट www.uktenders.gov.in पर जारी।
पता: 1286 बिजली, 14.06.2022। ईमेल: 2867@ukpcor.com। टोल फ्री नंबर: 18004199405

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender for and 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:

Tender No. TS225040	Due on 12.07.2022
Description of Item	Manufacturing & Supply of Steel Chips as per Northern Railway Thermit Portion Plant Lucknow's standard specification TPP/STCH/2021 (as amended up to date).
Tender Value	Rs. 2,48,74,362.24
Tender Document Cost	Rs. Nil
Earnest Money	Rs. 47,490/-
Completion Period	12 Months
Time of Submission of Tender	Up 12.07.2022 at 14:30 IST
Date & Time of Opening of Tender	On 12.07.2022 at 14:30 IST
Validity of Offer	180 days

Note :- The complete information about above E-Procurement tender is available on website www.ireps.gov.in and www.northernrailway.gov.in. E-TENDER NOTICE No. 196-S/71/2019-20/TENDER NOTICE/TSO/II/STCH Dated: 13.06.2022 1433/2022

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified person whose name, residence and family is unknown, about 50-55 years of age was found dead on 10.06.2022 at 05:17 PM at P.F. No. 3, in front of Child Line Office, Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 45A dated 10.06.2022 has been registered at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

The description of the UIDB is as under:
Sex: Male, **Age:** About 50-55 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Sallow, **Hair:** White and Black, **Eyes:** Black, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **ID Mark:** Tumor on head, **Wearing:** Blue colour Shirt and Creme colour Pant.

If anyone has any information about this UIDB, kindly inform the SHO/Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

SHO
P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi
DP/183/RLY/2022

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
E-TENDER NO.2022RSI8743TC

CORRIGENDUM NO. 1

1.0 Tender Quantity indicated at column 3 of Para 2.0 (Schedule of Requirement) of bid document may be read as 75,210 nos. CTRBs instead of 32,697 nos. CTRBs.

2.0 In Para 8 of Instructions to tenderer for e-tender i.e. for Earnest Money Deposit, the amount of Earnest Money to be read as Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakh only) instead of Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh only).

3.0 All other terms and conditions of the tender will remain unchanged.

Director, Railway Stores (W)
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
Ministry of Railways, Railway Board, New Delhi.
for and on behalf of the President of India.

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

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION WORK
Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Western Railway, RATLAM (MP) invites offer through E-tender portal www.ireps.gov.in under Two packet system for the following tender: Tender No.: RTM/DINL/Dy.CE(C)/103. Name of work: Balance works of earthwork in bank / cutting for formation of new BG line including yards, bridge approaches etc. and construction of minor bridges, road under bridges, side drains, trolley refuge, toe wall etc. between Pitoh-Jabua section in connection with new BG line project between Dahod-Indore of Ratlam Division - Western Railway, NIT cost (Rs.): 452070682.73; Bid Security Rs.: 2410400.00; Bid submission closing date: 15.07.2022 At 15.00 Hrs. Bid opening date: 15.07.2022 At 15.30 Hrs. Instructions to tenderers: Only E-offers submitted online through E-tender portal will be considered. Please note that printed offers will not be entertained. The date of tender, terms & conditions and scope of work are uploaded and are available only in electronic format in our website www.ireps.gov.in 0170 Like us on: www.facebook.com/WesternRly

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

N.I.T. No.	10-22-3/WVE
Name of work with its location	Repair to flooring doors, windows, latrine, bathroom and kitchen etc. for type IV/IV special and type V officers flat at PK Road colony in the section of SSE/W.P.Ganj under ADEN/E-1 & Supply of building materials, manhole covers, G.I. pipes and G.I. fittings, Sanitary fittings, drainage items, CP fitting, commercial boards. etc in the section of SSE/W.P.Ganj under ADEN/E-1
Approx. cost of work	15499963.97
EMD amount	227500.00
Completion period of work	06 Months
Date & Time for submission of tender & opening of tender	Closing date of tender on 12.07.2022 at 15:00 hrs.
Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in

128-W/269/OET/22-23/WE/NIT/10 Dated : 14.06.2022. 1440/22

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male has been found dead at under flyover in front of Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi which lies in the Jurisdiction of P.S. Safdarjung Enclave on 11.06.2022. In this regard a DD No. 94-A Dated 11.06.2022 has been lodged at P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under:
Name: Unknown, **So:** Unknown **R/O:** Unknown, **Age:** 50-55 Years, **Height:** 5'6" Feet, **Face:** Elongated **Built:** Thin, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** White Shirt and Khaki Pants

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the information about the dead male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead male please inform the undersigned.

S.H.O
P.S. Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi.
DP/1262/SW/2022 Ph.: 011-24106346,24106345

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	09 (A, B) -22-23/WVE	
Name of work with its location	(A) Providing & fixing hexagonal net for protection of road side shrubbery border from bad elements at Sardar Patel Marg Railway Officers Enclave in the S/o SSE/Hort./SPM under ADEN/Hort./NDLS	(B) 7863717.71
Approx. cost of work	(A) 1553586.48	(B) 7863717.71
EMD amount	(A) 31100.00	(B) 157300.00
Completion period of work	(A) 04 Months	(B) 06 Months
Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Closing date of tender on 08.07.2022 at 15:00 hrs.	
Website particular notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in	

128-W/269/OET/22-23/WE/NIT/09 (A,B) Dated: 13.06.2022 1441/22

Timings
DELHI

WEDNESDAY, JUN. 15
RISE 05:24 SET 19:21
RISE 20:39 SET 05:50

THURSDAY, JUN. 16
RISE 05:24 SET 19:21
RISE 21:41 SET 06:58

FRIDAY, JUN. 17
RISE 05:24 SET 19:21
RISE 22:33 SET 08:09

Delhi Weather

	max	min
Delhi City	40	31
Safdarjang	40	31
Palam	39	31

Delhi Palam Today
44°C Heat wave conditions to prevail. Day will be very hot and uneasy. Night will be warm. Severe pollution level is likely.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
43°C A very hot and uneasy weather to prevail. Night will be warm. Chances of duststorm and thundershower with strong winds.

© Copyright SkyMet Weather 2019
All rights reserved.

IN BRIEF

Woman raped by govt. hospital worker in Ajmer
JAIPUR
A 23-year-old woman was allegedly raped by a government hospital staff, an acquaintance, when she visited the hospital for a check-up in Rajasthan's Ajmer, the police said on Tuesday. An FIR has been registered and efforts to nab the accused are on, the police said. P11

Construction work halted at Bharat Vandana Park
NEW DELHI
The Delhi government's forest and wildlife department has issued an order directing to cease any construction work at a parcel of land at Bharat Vandana Park project in Dwarka as it found that trees were being "illegally" cut.
On June 11, L-G Vinai Kumar Saxena, who chairs the DDA, visited the project site and directed officials to ensure the "highest standards" of construction in the project.

AAP, BJP spar over CM's absence at launch of cleanliness drive

The citywide drive will be carried out jointly by multiple agencies

JATIN ANAND
NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

Another political slugfest was triggered between the Aam Aadmi Party and the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday after Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal skipped the launch of a citywide cleanliness drive he was scheduled to attend alongside Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena.



L-G Vinai Kumar Saxena and MP Manoj Tiwari participating in the cleanliness drive on Tuesday. ■SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Mr. Kejriwal was designated the guest of honour for the event at Mukherjee Nagar with Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, Tirmarpur MLA Dilip Pandey and North East Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari also scheduled to attend the programme.

But except the L-G and senior Delhi government and civic officials, only Mr. Tiwari turned up from the list of special invitees. Though Mr. Sisodia was not present at the event, he met the residents of poll-bound Rajinder Nagar later in the day, a government source said.

'Not a party event'
The CM tweeted, "A special cleanliness drive is starting

in Delhi from today. I appeal to all the MLAs, MPs and the public to actively participate in this. We have to clean our Delhi together."

While AAP accused the BJP of turning the launch event into a party function, the BJP accused Mr. Kejriwal of running his government only on social media and "insulting Delhi by boycotting the event".

"We were about to go for the event, but the BJP turned a government event into a BJP event. There were seats for BJP office-bearers in the front row. You can't do that," an AAP leader said.

To be held over a fortnight across the city by all civic agencies such as the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the Public Works Department, the New Delhi Municipal Council and even the National Highways Authority of India among others, the cleanliness drive will see all work in tandem for the first time, according to Raj Niwas.

Appealing to the sanitation workers for their proactive participation in the regular upkeep of the city, Mr. Saxena added that he was aware of their grievances and promised to address

them at the earliest.

The episode comes in the wake of the separate and seemingly competitive inspection sprees launched by Mr. Kejriwal and Mr. Saxena since the latter assumed office, which once again underlines the rocky relationship between the Delhi government and the L-G.

"The Chief Minister and the Dy. Chief Minister who were supposed to attend the programme, could not be present due to some reasons," Raj Niwas said in a statement.

Poor road condition
Government sources said the ire of local residents regarding the "bad condition" of a street in Mukherjee Nagar had led to the Delhi government "staying away from the event".

Asked about the allegations, the AAP leader said, "Though it is an MCD road, the Delhi government has sanctioned funds for it and work has started. The BJP should be ashamed that we have to do their work." He added that the work was temporarily halted but has been restarted.

Lawrence Bishnoi to be produced in Mansa today

Punjab police granted transit remand after arresting him

ABHINAV LAKSHMAN
NEW DELHI



Lawrence Bishnoi being produced at a Patiala House court in Delhi. ■FILE PHOTO

The Punjab police on Tuesday arrested gangster Lawrence Bishnoi from Delhi in connection with the murder of Punjabi singer and Congress leader Shubdeep Singh aka Sidhu Moosewala.

A Delhi court also granted them transit remand to produce the alleged gangster before the Chief Judicial Magistrate at Mansa in Punjab on Wednesday.

Duty Metropolitan Magistrate Umesh Kumar at the Patiala House Court complex here allowed the Punjab police to formally arrest Bishnoi after Punjab advocate general Anmol Rattan Sidhu filed an application for the same.

Security deployed

While allowing the police to take Bishnoi to Punjab, the court took on record the submissions of the advocate general that 54 officers had been deployed for security during the transit, including 38 armed police personnel, and that 10 vehicles, including two bulletproof cars, would be part of the convoy.

Opposing the plea to take Bishnoi to Punjab, his counsel Vishal Chopra submitted that there was a legitimate chance of him being killed in transit. He further added that Bishnoi had a strong apprehension that he might be "murdered in a fake encounter by the Punjab police", asking that he be produced before the Mansa court virtually from Delhi.

The court also directed the Punjab police to ensure that Bishnoi's medical examination is conducted before departing from the Capital

and once again before producing him before the Mansa court as per procedure.

Mr. Chopra told *The Hindu*, "The court has allowed him to be taken to Punjab on the specific undertaking of authorities there that they will ensure full security for Bishnoi."

In their remand application, the Punjab police submitted that they had secured an arrest warrant from Mansa for Bishnoi in the murder of Moosewala on June 13. They added that they had identified 20 accused in the killing so far, including Bishnoi, his brother Anmol Bishnoi, gangster Satwinder Singh aka Goldy Brar and others, of whom nine had been arrested.

The Punjab police further submitted that the purported confession statements of the arrested accused "clearly pointed that Bishnoi had tasked the co-accused to carry out the planned killing of Sidhu Moosewala". They further said that Delhi Police had corroborated Bishnoi's role in the killing after interrogating him as well.

The Punjab police went on to claim that the motive

for Moosewala's killing was to avenge the murder of one Vikramjit Singh aka Vicky Middukhera, in which there was an alleged involvement of Shagundeeep Singh, Moosewala's manager.

'Ensure safety'
Before parting with the order, Mr. Kumar said, "Needless to say, the applicant IO/SP Dharamveer Singh and the investigating agency are directed to take all the appropriate measures for safety and security of the accused Lawrence Bishnoi during transit till production of the accused Lawrence Bishnoi before the court concerned in Mansa, Punjab."

Lawrence Bishnoi was initially produced before the court by the Delhi police on Tuesday after they had exhausted his custody in a separate Arms Act case when the Punjab police filed the plea to arrest him in the Moosewala murder case. The Punjab police arrested Lawrence Bishnoi outside the courtroom in Delhi, following which they secured a transit remand to take him to Mansa, Punjab.

OBC stir for 12% separate quota continues

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

People from five OBC communities continued to block the Jaipur-Agra Highway at Aroda village in Rajasthan's Bharatpur district, demanding separate 12% quota in jobs and higher education institutions.
State Tourism Minister

Vishvendra Singh was camping at Bharatpur district headquarters to hold talks with the protesters.

Sangharsh Samiti leader Dilip Singh told *The Hindu* that a 10-member delegation went to Bharatpur on Tuesday to meet the Minister and Divisional Commissioner Sanwar Mal Verma, but the

first round of talks did not yield any positive results.

Hundreds of people have been agitating on the national highway since Sunday evening.

Internet suspended

While the traffic on the highway has been diverted through different routes,

about 10 km before the protest site, the district administration has suspended mobile Internet services in Nadbai, Uchain, Weir and Bhusawar tehsils till Wednesday to check the spread of rumours and prevent the situation from deteriorating. No untoward incident has been reported so far.

Special session for civil services aspirants

They can learn about study plan

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Hindu's Future India Club (FIC) in association with Dr. Lakshmaiah IAS Study Circle will conduct a seminar on career opportunities through the civil services examination held by the UPSC.

The seminar, open to all the civil service aspirants, will be held at 11 a.m. on June 16 in Old Rajinder Nagar, Karol Bagh.

The programme scheduled in the Capital is part of a series of seminars that will also be held in Vijayawada, Tirupathi and Guntur in Andhra Pradesh.

The aspirants will get a chance to learn various study techniques to crack prelims and mains, choose the correct optional subjects and prepare for interviews.



During the seminar, the civil service aspirants will be addressed online by noted former bureaucrats.

Dr. Lakshmaiah will address the aspirants and clarify their doubts in an interactive session. He will also explain how anthropology as an optional subject could assist the aspirants in attaining more marks.

Those interested in attending the seminar can get in touch with Ms. Anuradha at 8708134727.

'Hike in MSP for kharif crops insufficient'

Former Haryana Chief Minister Bhopinder Singh Hooda on Tuesday said the hike in minimum support price announced for rabi and kharif crops had proved that the BJP-led government's promise to double the farmers' income by 2022 was a mere gimmick.

Mr. Hooda said the Centre's announcement about the rise in the MSP for kharif crops was grossly insufficient. "This is why 14 paddy-producing States have demanded a further increase from the Central government, calling this increase in MSP insufficient. But surprisingly, the Haryana government, a major producer of paddy, did not make any such recommendation to the Centre," he said.

When an icon of past fades to black

Microsoft is retiring its 27-year-old browser Internet Explorer today

P.K. AJITH KUMAR
KOZHIKODE

Time was when this icon, designed around the letter 'e', in blue with an orbit around it, would usually be the first one you would click on the desktop of your computer.

For a generation, Internet Explorer, which debuted in 1995, was the gateway to the world of information and entertainment, but it has been steadily losing in popularity and on Wednesday, its creator Microsoft is retiring it.

Like many things associated with the Internet we thought we could not do without, Internet Explorer is also bidding adieu. Remember Orkut? By the time Orkut, a social network site that used to compete with Facebook, shut down in 2014, Internet Explorer was no longer the browser that



Internet Explorer's monopoly that it once had a usage share of 95% is long gone.

most people used to log in for one last time.

Internet Explorer's monopoly - it once had a usage share of 95% - had long gone.

'Cherished memory'

But for those who first surfed the web when the speed read something like 64kpbs, and the possibility of streaming an HD video without buffering would have almost sounded like science fiction, the blue icon of Internet Explorer is a cherished memory. Like actress Priyanka Nair.

"I recall using Internet Explorer to send my photos to directors at a time the connectivity was awfully slow," says Priyanka, the Kerala State-Award winning actress who played a prominent role in *12th Man*.

"Though like everybody else I also migrated to Mozilla Firefox, Chrome and Safari, I still use Internet Explorer on my 20-year-old HP laptop. So I feel sad that Microsoft is retiring it," the actress says.

She has many fond memories about using Internet Explorer. "I started using it while I was at school," she says. "I remember down-

loading mp3 files of songs overnight. Even for those small files, you needed hours to complete the download. So I would keep my laptop switched on all through the night."

A.T. Varun, who used to work as a computer technician in Kozhikode before venturing into business, says he could not have imagined that the icon of the Internet Explorer would disappear from the desktop one day.

"Many of the customers I serviced used only Internet Explorer even when other browsers like Mozilla Firefox and Chrome arrived at the screen," he says.

If you still want to use Internet Explorer, you could do it through Microsoft's replacement browser Edge. It has an Internet Explorer mode.

Introducing

Protect your family with guaranteed income

Also Available Online

LIC's

A Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual, Savings, Life Insurance Plan

DHAN SANCHAY

Enjoy plan maturity with regular Payout

Plan No.:865 UIN:512N346V01

Call Centre Services (022) 6827 6827

For details, contact your Agent/Nearest LIC Branch/visit www.licindia.in or SMS YOUR CITY NAME to 56767474

Follow us on: LIC India Forever | IRDAI Regn No.: 512

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

LIC

भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

Har Pal Aapke Saath

LIC/AR/2022-23/03/ENG

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

EDUCATIONAL DIAS India's Leading Institute For Civil Services Exam 5 IN TOP 100 IN CSE 2021

KSG An Institute For IAS Exam... FOUNDATION COURSE OFFLINE BATCHES RANCHI, DELHI, DELHI, BENGALURU, BENGALURU, PATNA, BHOPAL, INDORE

ANTHROPOLOGY Heartiest Congratulations TO OUR SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES IN CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION 2021

REUNION IAS New Batches V.K. TRIPATHI IAS/PCS OFFLINE / ONLINE / PENDRIVE COURSE

EDUCATIONAL DR. RAMASWAMY IAS ACADEMY Online / Offline Classes ESSAY

EDUCATIONAL EMPOWER IAS THE POWER TO PURSUE YOUR DREAMS GS MAINS TEST SERIES

EDUCATIONAL GEOGRAPHY (Optional) by AJAY RAJ SINGH (Director Geographia IAS Institute)

NO. 1 INSTITUTE FOR IAS/IFS EXAMINATIONS IMS INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

ENSURE IAS By IRS - 2016 PUBLIC ADMIN., GS, ESSAY, ETHICS

IAS 2022-23 New Offline/Online Batch PHILOSOPHY By Dharmendra Kumar

EDUCATIONAL ANTHROPOLOGY by Vijay Singh 35+ Years of Guiding Experience

EDUCATIONAL SOCIIOLOGY FOUNDATION TEST SERIES MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

HISTORYS.BALIYAN 10th REGULAR OFFLINE / ONLINE CLASSES | SEPARATE BATCHES FOR OPTIONAL & GS PAPER-1 MODULE | SEATS ARE LIMITED

CLASSES COMMENCE 20 JUNE INSIGHT 73 OLD RAJINDER NAGAR NEW DELHI - 110060

PHILOSOPHY Test Series for IAS Mains 2022/2023

BHARTI CONCEPT A COMPLETE STUDY CENTRE MATHS by S.S. Bharti

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE DEATH ANNIVERSARIES 7th ANNIVERSARY Mr. C.N.RAMDAS IAS (R)

PHILOSOPHY FRESH EVENING BATCH 27 JUNE 5 PM MORNING BATCH: 11 AM

ALS Alternative Learning Systems edukemy IAS 2022/2023 Essays Module & Test Series

ASTROLOGY SOCIIOLOGY OPTIONAL by Divakar Sir

PUBLIC NOTICE The Bar Council of India Trust-PEARL FIRST NOTICE

EMPOWER IAS PHILOSOPHY Test Series by Dr. Atul Senger

DEATH S. VISVANATHAN Retd. Guard A SPL, Egmore, S/o. M.K. Subramania Iyer

EDUCATIONAL GUIDANCE IAS GEOGRAPHY (OPT.) 500+ Now in a new Framework

PUBLIC NOTICE Whereas, Manglam Multiplex Private Limited (in short "Company") has constructed a Residential Tower (R-01)

PHILOSOPHY Test Series by Dr. Atul Senger STARTING WITH FREE ORIENTATION CLASS

AAP bid to end 'transport mafia' with State-run luxury buses

Punjab's private bus operators want the government to rationalise policies as the transport sector faces an existential crisis

VIKAS VASUDEVA
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab government has decided to start luxury bus services to New Delhi airport from different parts of the State from June 15.

The AAP government claims this would end the 'transport mafia' even as private bus operators have raised questions over the government not responding to their demands.

'Livelihoods at stake'
As Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann are slated to flag off the luxury buses for the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport from Jalandhar on Wednesday, private bus operators have announced to put 'black flags' on their buses in support of their demands.

The bus operators claim their livelihoods are at stake.

Members of the Punjab Motor Union – the private bus operators' body – have welcomed the government's decision to start the bus service, but they say that for over 2,000 private bus operators in the State, the government needs to rationalise its policies as the sector is facing an existential crisis.

"The previous government had last year allowed free-of-cost travel for women in all government buses. This has hurt our business immensely. The business of private operators has gone down by around 50% as women prefer to travel in the State-run buses. Add to this the cost of diesel, prices of which have sharply risen in the past months. The fares have been almost the same



Arvind Kejriwal and Bhagwant Mann will flag off the luxury bus service from Jalandhar on Wednesday. ■ FILE PHOTO

for the last two years. Our livelihood is at stake but the government has not initiated any steps for us," Jarnail

Singh Garhdiwal, one of the members of the 10-member action committee of the Union, told *The Hindu* on

These super luxury buses will charge less than half of what the private transporters are charging

BHAGWANT MANN
Punjab CM

Tuesday. "We have been raising our concerns for the past many months, but it's of no use. Hence we have decided to put 'black flags' on the buses. We will decide our next move if our demands are not met. The State government's decision to start luxury bus services to New Delhi airport is a welcome step as the passengers will get a cheaper ride and end the monopoly of one of the leading bus operators. But the rest of the private bus operators also want their demands fulfilled," he said.

As the debate over the 'transport mafia' continues, the main Opposition party, the Congress, took a dig at Mr. Mann and accused him of "surrendering Punjab to Delhi".

The Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly, Partap Singh Bajwa, said the fact that Mr. Kejriwal is coming to flag off the bus service has reiterated their stand that Punjab is being run from Delhi.

"Our government had taken up the matter several times with the Delhi government to let the government luxury buses ply to the international airport, but to no avail. Now, the AAP government is forced to run the buses as otherwise it would expose them as having an understanding with the priv-

ate operator which, over the years, had a monopoly on the route," he said.

Mr. Mann, on the other hand, said the decision would dig the grave of the 'transport mafia' in the State as henceforth it will be a thing of the past. The Chief Minister in a video message said that for decades only private transporters had run their buses on this route and looted and exploited people. He said these super luxury buses will charge less than half of what the private transporters are charging.

Notably, the Indo-Canadian buses of the 'Badal' family had been plying from Punjab to New Delhi airport for the past several years while the State-owned buses had been plying up to the Delhi inter-State bus terminal.

4 protesters injured in police action

A CORRESPONDENT
IDUKKI

Three Youth Congress leaders and a Congress worker sustained injuries when the police caned participants of a march taken out in Thodupuzha on Tuesday in protest against the alleged attack on Idukki DCC president C.P. Mathew by DYFI activists on Monday night.

The police caned them when they turned violent near the civil station area around 11 a.m. However, the leaders said that the police attacked the march without any provocation.

One of the injured leaders, Bilal Samad has been shifted to Angamaly hospital. He sustained injuries on his forehead and left eye. Others were admitted to a private hospital.

IN BRIEF



Police intensify probe to identify drug supplier

BENGALURU
The Halasuru police are continuing the probe into the drug case, involving actor Siddhanth Kapoor and five others, to identify the person who supplied drugs at the party. They were arrested for allegedly consuming drugs and released later.

Swapna claims meeting Kerala CM at Cliff House

KOCHI
Swapna Suresh, the key accused in the gold smuggling case, alleged that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan had lied when he claimed that he did not know her. She claimed that she had spoken to Mr. Vijayan and his family members at the Cliff House.

T.N. letter on Mekedatu a 'political stunt': Bommai

Stalin wrote to Modi on Monday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday termed Tamil Nadu's letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking his intervention to restrain the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) from discussing the Mekedatu project in its scheduled meeting on June 17 a "political stunt" and "against the federal system".

The Chief Minister said Tamil Nadu's demand does not have any *locus standi* and the Centre will not consider it. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin had written to Mr. Modi on Monday. Mekedatu is a multi-purpose project proposed

by Karnataka, which involves building a balancing reservoir near Kanakapura in Ramanagara district.

Mr. Stalin said the scope of the functioning of the CWMA is limited to implementing the Supreme Court's verdict on the Cauvery issue and it cannot consider any other subject. The matter is *sub judice* and Tamil Nadu's petitions in this regard are pending before the apex court.

Noting that the project in no way involves Tamil Nadu's share of water, Mr. Bommai said, "It is on our share of water, within our State."

Karnataka's representatives will take part in the meeting, Mr. Bommai said.

KCR unlikely to attend Delhi meeting on Presidential polls

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Chief Minister and Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) president K. Chandrasekhar Rao is unlikely to attend the meeting of Opposition leaders convened by his West Bengal counterpart and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee to discuss Presidential election at New Delhi on Wednesday.

Further, it is also unclear whether Mr. Rao will at least depute any leader to represent the party.

TRS meet

Mr. Rao was huddled in a meeting with senior leaders of TRS till late on Tuesday night to discuss the pros and cons of party's representation, having already con-



K. Chandrasekhar Rao

veyed to Ms. Banerjee that he will not attend if the Congress was to take part.

Sources said Mr. Rao's response to Ms. Banerjee's invitation was on expected lines because the former had been playing an active role in national politics by trying to mobilise the support of anti-BJP and anti-Congress

parties in a bid to ensure the emergence of a new regime that gave the country a different model of development.

He added that Mr. Rao wanted a meeting of regional parties prior to consultations with national parties on a united candidate of Opposition to contest the election but Ms. Banerjee expressed reservation due to paucity of time. However, Mr. Rao was not convinced, sources said.

His decision to abstain also stemmed from his plans to float a party at the national level days ahead of the national executive meeting of the BJP in Hyderabad. It was said that Mr. Rao will take the view of the State executive of TRS on June 19 before adopting a resolution.

Govt. open to foreign investment: Kerala CM

'Private investors are not enemies'

STAFF REPORTER
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Left Democratic Front government is open to receiving foreign and private capital for development, provided it does not endanger the State's interests, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has said.

Inaugurating a workshop organised by the CPI(M)-run EMS Academy on Tuesday to discuss the party's Nava Keralam vision document that was unveiled at the recent State conference held in Ernakulam, Mr. Vijayan lamented the conservative mindset that has shunned development projects though investments are key to improving living standards. Declaring the govern-

ment's intention to woo private investors, he affirmed that it would not adopt privatisation as a growth model.

"At a time when the Centre has been hell-bent on privatising public sector undertakings, the State intends to attract investments for infrastructure development and capacity building without abandoning its priorities. As opposed to globalisation, we will pursue means to increase the government's influence in each sector," he said.

Accusing the UDF and the BJP of working to disrupt progress, he called for countering attempts to sabotage development projects through political means.

OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

GENERAL

INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH
(Deemed to be University)
Gen. A.K. Vaidya Marg, Filmcity Road, Santosh Nagar, Goregaon(E), Mumbai - 400 065

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR FOR IGIDR
Please refer to the advertisement for Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), dated 23 March, 2022. In order to increase the zone of consideration so as to receive applications from applicants with eminence and experience, and to progressively align qualifications with the University Grants Commission norms, it has been decided to relax the age criteria for the above post. The details are as follows:-
As the Director of the Institute, and its principal academic and executive officer, the applicant should be an eminent scholar with proven track record of outstanding research and academic achievements, with the highest level of competence, integrity, and institutional commitment. The person should be a distinguished academician, with a minimum of ten years of experience as Professor in a University or ten years of experience in a reputed research and / or academic administrative organisation with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership. An attractive compensation package will be offered commensurate with the industry standards. Applications / nominations along with a detailed curriculum vitae (in the prescribed format only), may be emailed to igidrsearch2022@ibi.org.in or mailed to IGIDR Search Committee 2022, C/o Corporate Strategy & Budget Department, Central Office, Reserve Bank of India, Main Building, 2nd floor, Shahid Bhagat Singh Marg, Mumbai 400001 by 5:30 p.m. on June 30, 2022. The Search Committee set up for the purpose has the right to fill up the vacancy by invitation.
Those who have already applied need not apply again and their applications will be considered on the basis of the revised age criteria, if otherwise eligible.
Age: Age should be below 65 years on June 30, 2022.

ROAD TRANSPORT INDUSTRY REQUIRES
A leading Transport Company with Sales of INR 11 billion, with 125 offices spreading across India and host of other Logistics Services.
GENERAL MANAGER – CHENNAI
Exp. 12-15 yrs, major in Sales. Should be able to lead a team, managing Tamil Nadu & Kerala, operations & responsible for P&L.
REGIONAL MANAGER – CHENNAI
Exp 8-10 yrs, managing entire Tamil Nadu, major in Marketing, good at man management skills. Operation knowledge would be added advantage
SALES MANAGER - Sriperumbudur/Chennai/Coimbatore/Tada
Exp 6-8 yrs, hardcore sales, and generate business.
Candidates from all Industries/verticals are welcome (all positions would require traveling)
Interested can write to careershiring123@gmail.com

NLC India Limited
'Navratna' - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office: Nayveli House - 135, EVR Periyar High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600 010.
CORPORATE OFFICE: 8/02/24, NEWYELI - 607 601, TAMIL NADU.
CIN: L32095TN1958G0003507 Website: www.nlcindia.in
(Advt. No.04/2022)

RECRUITMENT OF EXECUTIVES IN FINANCE & SECRETARIAL (COMPANY SECRETARY) DISCIPLINES
NLC India Limited (NLCIL), a premier 'NAV RATNA' Public Sector Enterprise invites applications from eligible candidates for the following Executive Positions in Finance & Secretarial (Company Secretary) disciplines.

Sl. No.	Post	No. of Posts	Grade & Scale of Pay
1.	Dy. General Manager (Finance)	08	E7 (100000 – 260000)
2.	Chief Manager (Finance)	10	E6 (90000 – 240000)
3.	Additional Chief Manager (Finance)	15	E6 (90000 – 240000)
4.	Dy. Manager (Secretarial)	02	E3 (60000 – 180000)

For Detailed Information on Eligibility Criteria, Important Dates, Online Application, Upper Age Limit, Reservation & Relaxation and Selection Process etc., please refer to detailed advertisement to be released on 17-06-2022 in the career page of NLCIL Website "www.nlcindia.in"

PUBLIC SECTOR IS YOURS: HELP IT TO HELP YOU

PSG HOSPITALS, COIMBATORE
Avinashi Road, Peelamedu, Coimbatore - 641004.
Phone: 04224345679 Web: www.psghospitals.com
(a tertiary care NABH accredited hospital)

We invite applications for the post of
CONSULTANT - MEDICAL ONCOLOGY
Applicant should have minimum of 3 to 5 years of experience post DM in Medical Oncology
SENIOR MARKETING MANAGER
The applicant should be a Postgraduate (MBA) in Marketing from reputed Institution and should possess minimum of 10+ years of experience in handling the Marketing and Business Development of the Healthcare sector.
Role: Senior Level | **Salary:** As per Market Standards | **Preferred Industry:** Healthcare
Address your application to HR Department, PSG Hospitals
Interested candidates apply with CV, photograph to psghrm@psgimr.ac.in

LORDS UNIVERSITY
Applications are Invited for

-VICE CHANCELLOR -REGISTRAR
-DEAN, PROFESSOR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR in:
Agriculture - Soil Sciences, Agronomy, Horticulture, Economics, Microbiology
Pharmacy - Pharmacology, Pharmacognosy, Quality Assurance
Law - Corporate Law, Constitutional, Law, Civil Law, Taxation
Commerce & Management - Finance, HR, Marketing, Digital Marketing
Sciences - Physics, Chemistry, Maths, Zoology, Botany
Physiotherapy - Orthopaedics, Sports Science, Musculoskeletal Science
Computers Science & IT - Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence
Humanities - English, Economics, History, Hindi, Geography, Political. Sci.
Physical Education
- OTHER: Technical Lead/IT Manager, Office Executive
Qualifications: As per UGC/PCI/BCI/NCTE Norms
- Professional English speaking fluency.
- Academic background with education from renowned institutes.
- Prior Research/Industry Experience (preferred).
On Campus Family Accommodation & CBSE School available
Send Your Resume: hr@lordsuni.edu.in
Alwar-Bhiwadi-Delhi Highway, Chikani, Alwar-301028 (Raj.) Ph. 9351233474

Coal India Limited
A Maharatna Company
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

RECRUITMENT OF MANAGEMENT TRAINEE ON THE BASIS OF GATE-2022 SCORE
Advertisement No.: 02/2022

COAL INDIA LIMITED (CIL) - Coal India Limited (CIL) - A Schedule A, "MAHARATNA" Public Sector Undertaking under Ministry of Coal, Government of India, with Corporate Hqs., at Kolkata is the single largest coal producing company in the world and the largest corporate employer of the country with a manpower of 2.48 lakhs approximately, which contributes to around 83% of the total coal production in India. CIL intends to recruit Management Trainees (MTs) on the basis of GATE-2022 score in 04 disciplines viz. Mining, Civil, Electronics & Telecommunication and System & EDP.
For important dates, online application and detailed information on eligibility criteria, number of vacancy, upper age limit, application fee, reservation & relaxations, process of applying, selection process etc. please refer to the Detailed Advertisement to be uploaded on CIL website www.coalindia.in under the link "Career with CIL". Any amendment/modification relating to this recruitment will be notified on CIL website only.
For any queries, write to : supportmtrcct.cil@coalindia.in
Dy. GM/HOD (Personnel/Recruitment)

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

EDUCATIONAL
Crack 67th/68th BPSB by Expert @ Cheapest Cost Pre/mains/Bihar Spl. Call-7520332207.

THE CORE IAS ANSWER WRITING
by Amit Jain Sir
011-41008973 | 91 8800141518
www.thecoreias.com

LAW AMBITION LAW INSTITUTE
"Law is nothing but common sense and logic"
Alok Kr. Ranjan Headmaster
IAS LAW (Online)
ONLINE Test Series
19 June, 22 3 July, 22
8800662140

JUDICIARY FOUNDATION
ONLINE OFFLINE
18 July, 22 18 July, 22
8800660301

JUDICIARY WEEKEND
ONLINE OFFLINE
10 July, 22 10 July, 22
8800660301

CLAT/LL.B. (OFFLINE/ONLINE)
FOUNDATION - 1 Year FOUNDATION - 2 Years
25 June, 22 25 June, 22
8800660380

Interview Guidance Programme for Rajasthan Judiciary
Book your slot @ 9312548656
Toll Free: 1800 12000 2001
Ambition Law Institute
B-10, 1st Floor, Opposite Meerul Sweets Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi - 110009

Geog. / भूगोल by ALOK RANJAN
Admission Open
9311958007/9311958008/09, 9891290953



Cold comfort

Despite the easing of retail inflation, there is no room for complacency

The latest retail inflation numbers point to a slight softening in the pace of price gains, and that should provide policymakers some solace that recent interventions appear to be working. Inflation measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), slowed 75 basis points from April's 95-month high of 7.79%, to 7.04% in May. While it is hard to quantify the effect that the RBI's surprise 40 basis points interest rate increase of early May had on prices, the Centre's May 21 decision to cut the excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹8 and ₹6, respectively, seems to have had an immediate impact. Inflation in the transport and communication category of the CPI slowed by 137 basis points to 9.54% last month. This key category, with a weight of 8.59 that places it behind only cereals and housing, captures the pump prices of the main transportation fuels, making it a crucial indicator of price pressures in the economy. A closer look, however, shows inflation in the category continued to quicken sequentially, even if at a slower pace. Disconcertingly, rural consumers, who have comparatively lower purchasing power than their urban peers and yet are heavily reliant on the fuels for farm operations, experienced a significantly slower softening of only 42 basis points in the year-on-year pace. With the price of the Indian basket of crude oil now having surged by almost 8.5% from April to a 10-year high this month, and the rupee plunging to successive new record lows against the dollar, it would be unwise to drop one's guard especially given the pass-through impact transportation costs have on most other prices.

Food prices, the other driver of retail price gains, offered far less respite with the Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) inflation slowing by only 34 basis points to 7.97%. City consumers experienced an acceleration in food price gains as urban CFPI inflation quickened 11 basis points to 8.2% last month. Nine of the 12 items on the food and beverages sub-index of the CPI, also quickened sequentially, resulting in the month-on-month inflation accelerating 30 basis points from April's pace. Prices of vegetables and those of meat and fish surged 18.3% and 8.23%, respectively, from their year-earlier levels, adding to the nutritional precarity of low-income households. And even though inflation in edible oils slowed from April's pace, there is no room for complacency given that price gains in the vital cooking medium were still running at 13.3% amid persistent supply concerns in the wake of the Ukraine war and the disruption in sunflower oil imports. May's wholesale price data also provide little comfort, with headline WPI inflation quickening to a fresh high of 15.9%. With the RBI's consumer confidence survey showing an appreciable deterioration in households' expectations of the one-year ahead price level, authorities must stay laser-focused on the battle to tame inflation.

End the war

Russia has the primary responsibility to push for a peaceful settlement with Ukraine

The battle for Severodonetsk, the easternmost part of the Donbas where the Ukrainian forces still have defensive positions, has entered the final phase with Russian troops destroying all bridges over the Donets river linking the city with its sister city, Lysychansk. The Russians now have more than 80% control of the industrial city, with the remaining Ukrainian troops trapped without supplies. If Russia takes control of Severodonetsk and Lysychansk, the entire Luhansk Oblast will be in its hands, allowing it to march towards Kramatorsk, the last industrial city in the Donbas still with Ukraine. In recent weeks, Ukrainian troops have taken heavy losses with Russian forces blasting their way into Severodonetsk using artillery fire. Officials in Kyiv have said that up to 200 Ukrainian soldiers are being killed every day and troops are running out of shells and ammunition. While these public statements have been in part to push western allies to ramp up weapons supplies, they also draw a bleak picture of the situation in the east. Despite their brave resistance in the north and northeast, which forced Russia to retreat from around Kyiv and Kharkiv, the Ukrainians never stood a chance to push the Russians back in the Donbas.

The West's strategy has been two-fold. It has sent money and weapons to Ukraine to help it resist Russian aggression and slapped biting sanctions on Moscow to make the war economically painful. While arming Ukraine has certainly slowed down Russia's advances (with heavy losses across the battlefronts), it has failed to stop the Russian war machine. Russia has taken most of the key cities in the east and south, including Mariupol, Berdyansk and Kherson, and Severodonetsk could be the next. The economic sanctions have had a mixed result. Sanctions have hit Russia hard and its economy is expected to contract by 8.5% this year. But, at the same time, it has continued to reap a windfall from high oil and gas prices, while, on the other side, soaring inflation has hit the global economy. And Ukraine's economy, needless to say, faces collapse. As the 'weapons and sanctions' approach has been unsuccessful in its objectives, other options should also be explored to end the war. Between the maximalist positions taken by Russia and the U.S., France, Germany and Turkey have maintained some lines of communication with Moscow and Kyiv. These countries should push both sides for talks and try to revive new proposals where all sides get something and lose something in return for peace. Ending the conflict is an imperative not just for Ukraine but also for the world that has been battered by high prices of everything, from food to fuel. Russia, whose invasion has pushed the world to the brink of a devastating security and economic crisis, has the primary responsibility to end this war through a political settlement.

The 'C' factor in the Russia-Ukraine war

There is little clarity about the extent to which both sides have used cyberweapons — there could be underlying reasons



M.K. NARAYANAN

Well into the second 100 days of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the world is awash with speculation about reasons for the so-called failure of the Russian armed forces to deal a decisive blow against a much smaller Ukrainian army. This may appear to be a one-sided viewpoint, but Russia is yet to achieve what can be termed as a decisive victory in any sector of the current conflict.

Analysing Russia's response

Several reasons have been adduced by experts in the West for the lacklustre performance of the Russian army. Frequently mentioned are: lack of motivation and the poor morale of the Russian forces sent to Ukraine, many of whom were conscripts who had little desire to participate in a bloody conflict; absence of trust between the higher and the middle/lower rungs of the Russian armed forces, leading to a hiatus at the operational level; Russian weaponry being outdated and ineffective to fight an informatinised war under modern conditions, such as the one that Ukraine was waging at present with generous help from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and western powers.

Admittedly, Russian commanders have also proved inept in devising plans and taking appropriate decisions in battlefield conditions against a determined enemy. Viewed against the perspective when the conflict started, that Ukraine would capitulate within a matter of weeks, all this has contributed to a feeling in the West that Russia's armed forces are overrated, and that the threat they pose to the democratic West is greatly exaggerated.

A word of caution is, however, called for. Russia's spending on its military over several decades has been far higher than that of every other country in Europe, including the two most highly militarised countries, viz., the United Kingdom and France. Russia's armed arsenal which has been on public display on several occasions in the recent past, can hardly be written off, even if questions are now being raised about the invincibility of Russia's armed forces. The reality is that much of Russia's advanced weaponry has not been employed in the Ukraine conflict — for reasons best known to the Kremlin — and, hence, the West should not read the 'tea leaves' wrongly, and write off Russia's military strength, lest it encourages misguided elements to embark on any hazardous 'misadventure'.

The role of 'cyber'

Reasons for Russia's lacklustre performance need to be found elsewhere. Given that cyber is often touted as the Fifth Dimension of warfare, it may be worthwhile to examine whether this indeed is the first major conflict in which 'cyber' is playing a crucial role, allowing a weaker nation with cyber capabilities to use it to its advantage. Public memory tends to be short, for it was only a decade ago that a distinguished President of the United States, Barack Obama, had warned that in the event of a conflict or otherwise, cyberattacks would plunge 'entire cities into darkness'.

A former Chief of the National Security Agency of the U.S., which has responsibility for cyber in the military domain, in his memoirs had said that although cyberspace is a man-made domain, it had become critical to military operations on land, sea, air and in space. A former U.S. Secretary of Defence a few years ago, even talked of a possible 'cyber Pearl Harbour' to paralyse nations and create a profound sense of vulnerability'. Likewise, some years ago, the U.S. intelligence community had put out a warning that their nation was un-



GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

der threat as North Korean operatives were in a position to pre-position 'cyber munitions' inside America's critical infrastructure, and detonate them in the event of a conflict. Today, the West regularly portrays Russians using cyber-tactics to destroy nations.

The Russian military oligarchy is indeed among the world leaders in digital disruption and cyber-methodology, and one could have reasonably presumed that even before the conflict commenced, Russia would have swamped Ukraine with an avalanche of digital attacks. Ukraine, for its part, has its own digital army, including a corps of digital weapons. Several weeks into the war, however, there is little clarity as to the extent to which both sides have deployed cyberweapons.

Earlier attacks

There are several publicised instances earlier, of alleged Russian operatives waging a cyberwar against Ukraine. An instance that captured public imagination some years ago was Russia's cyberattack on Ukraine's electric grid, leaving many parts of the country without power for several days, in the midst of a grim winter. Ukrainian cyber security experts have also claimed to have prevented a major cyber operation — linked to the Kremlin — to derail the Ukrainian presidential election some years ago. These were, however, only the tip of the iceberg of Russia's cyber offensive capabilities, *vis-à-vis* Ukraine.

Both sides now possess and use malware such as data-wipers which have proved highly effective. On the day the Russian invasion of Ukraine began, Russian

cyber units are believed to have successfully deployed destructive malware against several Ukrainian military targets. The Ukrainian Satellite Internet Provider, for instance, was the target of one such cyberattack, leading to widespread communications outages. A series of distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks against Ukrainian banking and defence websites occurred simultaneously. In addition, Wiper malware was introduced into several Ukraine Government networks, while the websites of the Ukrainian Defence Ministry and military targets faced a series of DDoS and phishing attacks.

But no Armageddon

None of these, however, is tantamount to what can be described as large-scale cyberattacks. As far as the conduct of the war is concerned, the string of small-scale cyberattacks cannot be said to have had any material impact on the conduct or outcome of the conflict. Hence, the cardinal question is why given that Ukraine has put up such a heroic defence — and to a considerable extent stalled the Russian offensive — Russia has not embarked on a massive all-out cyber-offensive.

It is very likely, and possibly a fact, that there are major difficulties in planning and executing massive cyberattacks on a short timeline to ensure higher efficacy of kinetic attacks. If that be the case, then much of the speculation that cyberattacks in the event of a war provide a perpetrator the capability to enact another 'Pearl Harbour' seems highly unrealistic. The fact that both Russia and Ukraine, which have powerful armies of cyber-specialists, more so hackers (Ukraine even tried to create an international army of hackers to target critical Russian systems), have not succeeded in causing a cyber Armageddon can possibly be seen as a reprieve. But there are possibly other underlying reasons. There has always been a view among cyber experts that 'Cyber Space is not a war zone', and that

it is fundamentally a civilian space — but without doubt leading to a 'new exciting age in human experience, exploration and development'. Thus, it would seem that for all its potential to disrupt civilian targets such as power grids, hospitals, banks and industries, cyber-power is yet to achieve its so-called threat potential in terms of decisive impacts in battlefield situations. As of now, cyberattacks have an impact that is well below the threshold of what a nuclear war, even a limited one, could produce.

The West's line

Meanwhile, the West is currently busy floating some 'red herrings', viz., that Moscow is possibly considering raising the stakes further given that the offensive in Ukraine has stalled. Implicit in this warning is that Moscow may be planning to embark on a nuclear conflict. The West believes that Russia could in such a situation, possibly employ tactical/battlefield nuclear weapons to drive home to Ukrainian defenders the high price of resistance to Russia's offensive. It is not for the first time that the West is peddling such a view, for it has from time to time observed that Russia is a firm believer in 'the value of nuclear weapons as a tool of statecraft'; and that a show-down in Ukraine, employing low-yield nuclear weapons, would help send a clear message not only to Ukraine but also to NATO and the United States as well, in regard to the extent of Russia's determination not to allow any further extension of NATO to the east.

Conjuring up such a scenario with little evidence to support this argument could be dangerous. It could well turn into a self-fulfilling prophecy. There are inherent dangers attached to all such speculation.

M.K. Narayanan, a former Director, Intelligence Bureau, a former National Security Adviser and a former Governor of West Bengal, is currently Executive Chairman of CjQuireX Pvt. Ltd., a U.K.-U.S.A. cyber security joint venture

Malnutrition in India is a worry in a modern scenario

The country's response to its burden of malnutrition and growing anaemia has to be practical and innovative



GAURAV GOGOI

Good nutrition has the power to empower the present and future generations. India's greatest national treasure is its people — especially women and children — but even after 75 years of independence, a majority of them do not get the required diet to meet their nutritional needs. A child's nutritional status is directly linked to their mother. Poor nutrition among pregnant women affects the nutritional status of the child and has a greater chance to affect future generations. Undernourished children are at risk of under-performing in studies and have limited job prospects. This vicious cycle restrains the development of the country, whose workforce, affected mentally and physically, has reduced work capacity.

Marginal improvement

While there has been some progress in tackling malnutrition among children and women over the past decade, the improvement has been modest at best. This is despite declining rates of poverty,

increased self-sufficiency in food production, and the implementation of a range of government programmes. The National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) has shown marginal improvement in different nutrition indicators, indicating that the pace of progress is slow. Children in several States are more undernourished now than they were five years ago.

Stunting, wasting, anaemia

While there was some reduction in stunting rates (35.5% from 38.4% in NFHS-4) 13 States or Union Territories have seen an increase in stunted children since NFHS-4; this includes Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Kerala. (Stunting is defined as low height-for-age.) Malnutrition trends across NFHS surveys show that wasting, the most visible and life-threatening form of malnutrition, has either risen or has remained stagnant over the years (Wasting is defined as low weight-for-height).

India also has the highest prevalence of anaemia in the world (Anaemia is defined as the condition in which the number of red blood cells or the haemoglobin concentration within them is lower than normal). The NFHS-5 survey indicates that more than 57% of women (15-49 years) and over 67% children (six-59 months) suffer from anaemia. My home State, Assam, is among the low-perform-



K.K. MUSTAFAH

ing States, with a huge burden of anaemic cases — 66.4% of women (15-49 years) and 68.4% children (6-59 months) are affected. It is imperative to introspect about these problems, which remain persistent, pervasive, and serious. Anaemia has major consequences in terms of human health and development: it reduces the work capacity of individuals, in turn impacting the economy and overall national growth. Developing countries lose up to 4.05% in GDP per annum due to iron deficiency anaemia; India loses up to 1.18% of GDP annually.

Step up the financing

There is a greater need now to increase investment in women and children's health and nutrition to ensure their sustainable development and improved quality of life. While the Government's focus has been on the consolidation of several programmes to improve out-

comes, there is a need for increased financial commitment. Experts have pointed out that Saksham Anganwadi and the Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment (POSHAN) 2.0 programme have seen only a marginal increase in budgetary allocation this year (₹20,263 crore from ₹20,105 crore in 2021-22). Additionally, 32% of funds released under POSHAN Abhiyaan to States and Union Territories have not been utilised.

Monitor constituencies too

India must adopt an outcome-oriented approach on nutrition programmes. It is crucial that parliamentarians begin monitoring needs and interventions in their constituencies and raise awareness on the issues, impact, and solutions to address the challenges at the local level. There has to be direct engagement with nutritionally vulnerable groups (this includes the elderly, pregnant women, those with special needs and young children), and contribute toward ensuring last-mile delivery of key nutrition services and interventions. This will ensure greater awareness on the one hand and proper planning and implementation of programmes at the grassroots level on the other, which can then be replicated at the district and national levels.

With basic education and gener-

al awareness, every individual is informed, takes initiatives at the personal level and can become an agent of change. Various studies highlight a strong link between mothers' education and improved access and compliance with nutrition interventions among children. We must ensure our young population has a competitive advantage; nutrition and health are foundational to that outcome.

Other steps

I strongly believe that there should be a process to monitor and evaluate programmes and address systemic and on the ground challenges. As a policymaker, I recommend that a new or existing committee or the relevant standing committees meet and deliberate over effective policy decisions, monitor the implementation of schemes, and review nutritional status across States. The country's response to malnutrition and its growing anaemia burden should be practical and innovative. This is critical to make an India that is malnutrition-free and anaemia-free a reality, and not just an aspiration. Every one is a stakeholder and should contribute towards ending malnutrition and anaemia. We should not become part of a tragedy that is preventable.

Gaurav Gogoi is Member of Parliament (Congress party) for Kallabor, Assam

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.

Congress and the ED

The protests by the Congress party over the summons by the Enforcement Directorate to the Congress leaders, Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, are not proper as these are issues that cannot be settled on the streets. They have to be fought in the courts or other appropriate fora. By focusing on trying to gain public sympathy and publicity, the party has unwittingly played into the hands of the Bharatiya Janata Party, which has taken it upon itself to portray the leaders in the Congress party as highly corrupt persons.

V. PADMANABHAN,
Bengaluru

- The interrogation of Rahul Gandhi in the *National Herald* newspaper case, cannot be dismissed as a case of political vendetta and "misuse of central agencies". The Opposition must understand that these theories and lines never always prove the honesty of a specific individual unless carefully investigated. The Congress must exercise patience and resilience, let the investigation take its own course and prove the integrity of the Gandhis. DEBADULLAH HARICHANDAN, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- As a citizen and a "responsible" Member of the Parliament, Rahul Gandhi is duty bound to offer

- clarifications. The drama only makes watchers from the sidelines like me to suspect that "all is not well" with the Congress. KOODUTHURAIYAN, Bengaluru
- Interrogation by investigative agencies is commonplace, but I was at sea to see a sea of supporters of the Gandhis on a 'roadshow' that was stage-managed. It was easy to perceive that many in the procession did not have an iota of loyalty for the leader. The ED needs to carry out its job without hindrance. Cannot Mr. Gandhi manage matters by himself? MANI NATARAJAN, Chennai

- There is nothing wrong if members of the Congress party, leaders and workers, raise a hue and cry over the ED's summons. The reopening of the case is a case of political vendetta. It seems to be a diversionary tactic by the ruling party which is facing problems on many fronts. MOHAN MENON, Arimpor, Thrissur, Kerala
- There is no doubt that central agencies such as the Enforcement Directorate are being used by the party in power to harass the Opposition. The perception is that this is to divert the attention from mainstream issues. The Gandhis have been critical of the

- functioning of the Modi government which, in turn, is only trying to look for opportunities to make political gains. JANGA BAHADUR SUNUWAR, Bagrakote, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal
- Many argue that the Gandhis are corrupt and must face the music. But at the same time, how can one be sure that the ED is not a string puppet? It is strange that only Opposition politicians face summons; it stretches credulity that politicians from the BJP are angels. Also, how is it that certain TV channels seem to know what happened to Mr. Gandhi during his questioning? The minute-by-minute TV studio

- accounts of the hours at the ED's office only raise suspicion that all is not fair. GOMATI VENKATESAN, Hyderabad
- IPL media rights Are the bidders for the Indian Premier League media rights biting off more than what they can chew? Going by this year's viewership data, it is doubtful whether the game would attract eyeballs in the future. There are very few cricketers with charismatic appeal to draw fans either to the stadium or to the TV set in the drawing room. V. SUBRAMANIAN, Chennai

To read more letters online, scan the QR code



The way to end child marriage

A legalistic approach might become counterproductive if women's schooling or skills are not enhanced



SUNNY JOSE & MOHD IMRAN KHAN

Since child marriage is rampant in India, will increasing the age of marriage of women solve this issue? The increase in age of marriage is claimed to bring substantive benefits at the individual and societal levels. Is this claim true? Data from the recently released National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5), 2019-2021, enables us to examine the facts.

Structural factors

Several empirical studies from South Asia establish a significant association between early marriage and adverse health and educational outcomes of women and their children. Specifically, studies associate early marriage of women with early pregnancy, lower likelihood of accessing ante-natal care, higher risks of maternal morbidity and mortality, poor nutritional status of women and poor nutritional and educational outcomes of children. These studies seem to provide a rather compelling case for increasing the age of marriage of women from 18 to 21 years, as a delayed marriage might offer significant public health dividends.

But a closer reading of the evidence shows that the association between child marriage and adverse health outcomes does not emerge in a vacuum. Rather, it is abetted by structural factors, including social norms, poverty, and women's education. It is because of social norms in many regions and cultures that parents begin preparations for a girl's marriage once she has reached menarche. Equally, a large proportion of child marriages take place primarily because of poverty and the burden of the huge costs of dowry associated with delayed marriages. These factors curtail a girl's opportunities to continue her education. And in turn, the lack of educational opportunities plays an important role in facilitating child marriage.

So, what matters more: the age of marriage or the factors that facilitate child marriage? Stated differently, does a woman's age at marriage matter in itself, independent of educa-



GETTY IMAGES

tion or poverty? It is in this context that the NFHS-5 data become salient. NFHS-5 data show that about 25% of women aged 18-29 years married before the legal marriageable age of 18. The proportion has declined only marginally from NFHS-4 (28%). Expectedly, the prevalence is higher in rural than urban India (28% and 17%, respectively). West Bengal has the highest prevalence (42%), followed by Bihar and Tripura (40% each). Oddly, the decline in child marriage has been paltry at best in these high-prevalence States. At the other end of the spectrum are Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala (6% to 7%).

Education outcomes

If we look at the data community-wise, 39% of child marriages in India take place among Adivasis and Dalits. The share of advantaged social groups is 17% and the remaining share is of Other Backward Classes. In terms of household wealth, 58% of these marriages take place among the poorest wealth groups (bottom 40%), about 40% of them take place among the middle 50% and only 2% of them take place among the top 10% of wealth groups. Only 4% of child marriages in India take place among women who have completed more than 12 years of education. Thus, the data confirm that a significant proportion of child marriages takes place among women with less than 12 years of schooling and households that are socially and economically disadvantaged.

Since child marriage is substantially lower among women with a higher level of schooling, it would be interesting to know whether an increase in years of schooling necessarily increases the age at marriage. Expectedly, the average age at marriage in-

creases from 17 years among women who are illiterate and have had up to five years of schooling to 22 years among women who have had more than 12 years of schooling. This indicates that an increase in years of schooling goes hand in hand with an increase in age at marriage. While an increase in education is most likely to delay marriage, the increase in age at marriage may or may not increase women's education.

Since the Prohibition of Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021, fixes 21 years as the marriageable age for women, we examine whether a mere increase in age at marriage without an increase in education bestows women with better nutritional outcomes. While 27% of illiterate women who married before 18 years are underweight (Body Mass Index below 18.5), the proportion is 24% for illiterate women who married at the age of 21 years. A high proportion (64%) of illiterate women are anaemic, in terms of iron deficiency, irrespective of their difference in age at marriage. In terms of the gap between marriage and first pregnancy, it is surprisingly 2.5 years among the former and 1.6 years among the latter. However, the former give birth to a higher number of children (2.4), on average, than the latter (1.4).

Women with 12 years of schooling married before 18 years and at 21 years have hardly any difference in underweight prevalence (14% and 13%, respectively). In iron deficiency anaemia, the prevalence is only marginally higher (54% among the former than the latter (50%). The gap between marriage and first pregnancy is higher among the former (2.6 years) than among the latter (1.7 years), though the latter have fewer number of children (1 child on average) than

the former (1.6). A cross comparison between women who have had more than 12 years of schooling but were married before 18 years and women with secondary education but married at 21 years also underlines the importance of education. While underweight prevalence is almost equal among both, anaemia is marginally higher among the latter. The broad pattern emerges in other indicators as well.

The way forward

To sum up, the health dividend emanating from women's increased age at marriage is not imminent. Increasing the age of marriage without a commensurate improvement in women's education is least likely to yield better health and nutritional outcomes. Instead, it might adversely impact the poor and illiterate. The fact that about one-fourth of women (18-29 years) in India have married before 18 years despite the law tells us that legally increasing the age of marriage may not fully prevent child marriages. By contrast, much of the benefits can be reaped by ensuring that women complete education at least up to 12 years. The case of Bangladesh shows that improving women's education and imparting modern skills to them that increase their employability reduces child marriage and improves health and nutrition. Also, schemes which ease the financial burden of marriage but the eligibility criteria of which should essentially link to educational attainment in addition to age demand attention. The lessons from Janani Suraksha Yojana and the zeal demonstrated in ending open defecation might provide valid insights here.

Educating women is important for their personal freedom, social well being and contributes to human development. A legalistic approach to increasing the age at marriage will produce positive results only if it leads to an improvement in women's education and skill acquisition for employability. In the absence of an enhancement in women's schooling or skills, a legalistic approach to ending child marriage might become counterproductive.

Sunny Jose is RBI Chair Professor at Council for Social Development, Hyderabad, and Mohd Imran Khan is Assistant Professor of Economics at Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai. Views are personal

Dictates for doctors

The draft regulations for professional conduct of doctors require extensive reworking



GEORGE THOMAS

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has published a draft of the regulations it proposes for the professional conduct of doctors and invited comments by June 22. Chapters 2 to 6 deal with the professional conduct of doctors, the duties of registered medical practitioners towards their patients, the responsibilities of doctors to each other, the responsibilities of doctors to the public and allied health professionals, and professional misconduct, respectively.

Areas that need reworking

Much in these chapters is similar to the existing regulations of the erstwhile Medical Council of India. The requirement for every registered medical practitioner to maintain patient records for three years from the last consultation will be difficult to implement for most general practitioners who provide high-quality services at low prices and depend on high volumes of patients to earn a decent income. It will reduce the number of patients who can be attended to, add considerably to costs, and delay treatment. This measure is unwise and should be withdrawn. In the section on informed consent, the statement that "in an operation that may result in sterility, the consent of both husband and wife is required" is poorly thought out and must be redrafted. It is possible that the person requiring such surgery may be single. Even if the individual is married, this regulation is contrary to the principle of individual autonomy.

Following the chapters detailed above, there are 11 guidelines. These guidelines are a curious mix of templates for certificates and extensive instructions. It is interesting that guideline 3, the NMC code of medical ethics, has dropped the controversial Charak Shapath and returned to the Declaration of Geneva. This is a wise move. India is a founder member of the World Medical Association and contributed to the drafting of the declaration. The guidelines on continuous professional development resemble an edict. All practitioners of medicine need to keep abreast of evolving knowledge in medicine to provide competent care to patients. Such continuing education must be sensitive to the needs of the practising doctor. It cannot be a repetition of college education. The rules suggested demonstrate a schoolteacher's approach with excessive regulation and

control. Renaming continuing medical education as continuing professional development is symptomatic of this bureaucratic approach. Typically, medical practitioners utilise a variety of media to enhance knowledge. The easy availability of high-quality content on the Internet has greatly enhanced accessibility. Medical practitioners are mature learners and do not need the stick to be forced to learn.

A committee, the draft says, will decide who can impart continuing education and what the content of such education should be. This lays the foundation for the creation of a new set of rent-seekers who will create such content, get it approved by the committee and sell it to the medical professional who has no option but to undergo these courses. Recertification has been required in the U.S. since 2000. Studies have shown that the major beneficiaries have been corporate programmes licensed by the American Board of Medical Specialties called Maintenance of Certification. The experience in the U.S. demonstrates that there is no value in recertification. It is unclear why India should follow a path known to be useless. This guideline should be removed if not extensively reworked.

Lack of harmony

The blanket prohibition on medical practitioners participating in educational activities sponsored directly or indirectly by pharmaceutical companies and the allied health sector will severely restrict access to the latest developments. It is true that there is much literature on the malign influence of pharmaceutical companies and medical device makers on medical decision-making but prohibiting information flow is unlikely to counter this influence. It is wiser to provide guidelines on such education. In the guidelines on social media, the prohibition of sending scan images on social media will considerably impair communication and needs rethinking.

The guidelines on telemedicine read more like a briefing paper than a guideline. It is one of the most elaborate sections and there is some repetition, but it provides a good framework in a type of medical consultation that became somewhat common during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is a lack of harmony in the draft. The first part, the regulations, read like typical bureaucratic. The guidelines on comprehensive professional development have a schoolmarm air, and the one on telemedicine reads like a chapter from a textbook. In summary, the draft needs extensive reworking.

Dr. George Thomas is an orthopaedic surgeon at St. Isabel's Hospital, Chennai

STATE OF PLAY

A testing time for Pinarayi

The political wrangle could hamper Kerala's struggle to clamber out of the economic recession

G. ANAND

An evolving high-level political scandal, with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at the centre of it, has sparked off protests in Kerala.

Several in the government have been under the scanner since the gold smuggling case grabbed the headlines. A week ago, Swapna Suresh, an accused in the case who was earlier a consulate employee handling the affairs of the Kerala government, stirred up a political storm when she alleged that Mr. Vijayan had sought the UAE Consulate's help to import "contraband metal and ship out tranches of foreign currency" via the diplomatic channel to avoid customs scrutiny.

She also gave a sworn statement to a judicial magistrate stating the same. The government denied the accusation. Ms. Suresh then alleged that the government had dispatched plainclothes officers to raid her house in a reprisal for making charges against Mr. Vijayan. She released 'audio evidence' of an alleged troubleshooter for the government who, she claimed, had tried to arm-twist her into retracting her "damning statement" against Mr. Vijayan. She alleged that the intermediary had told her that Mr. Vijayan and CPI(M) State secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan had channelled their "ill-gotten" wealth into the U.S. account of a religious group. The group denied the charge and so did the CPI(M). Subsequently, the 'intermediary' said on television that he was not a police agent and had acted in Ms. Suresh's best interests and that they were family friends.

The startling developments sparked anti-government street protests. Congress and BJP workers pressed for Mr. Vijayan's resignation. Scenes of Congress and BJP workers scaling police barricades and attempting to overrun law enforcers dominated television screens. The controversy provided powerful ammunition to the Opposition to accuse

Mr. Vijayan of using the might of the state to silence "whistle-blowers" and to dismiss the LDF's lofty statements on upholding democracy and human rights as hollow.

The government reacted to these mounting accusations by removing the officer who is believed to have despatched the intermediary. But the LDF threw its weight behind Mr. Vijayan. The CPI(M) said it perceived a Congress-BJP plot to unleash anarchy by resurrecting old lies mouthed by discredited proxies.

Meanwhile, the State has also faced criticism for allegedly banning black face masks and clothes at an event attended by the Chief Minister. The opposition seems to have adopted black as a symbol of resistance against the government. Black flags were shown to Mr. Vijayan soon after Ms. Suresh's allegations, which caused angry LDF leaders to ask why there was a deliberate move to embarrass the Chief Minister and why the protesters insisted on using one colour to show their displeasure. Mr. Vijayan denied that the government had sought any such ban.

The controversy might not have the shelf life to shape the electorate's preferences in the general or Assembly elections in 2024. Even now, Mr. Vijayan remains secure and strong in government and the CPI(M). The scandal has also pushed the resistance against the SilverLine project to the background, at least for now. It is important to remember that voters had brushed aside similar allegations during the 2021 Assembly election campaign and granted the LDF a second term in power. However, these developments come as a headache for a government that is aspiring to lure global investment and create a knowledge economy. The political wrangle could hamper Kerala's struggle to clamber out of the economic recession caused by the pandemic and increase employment.

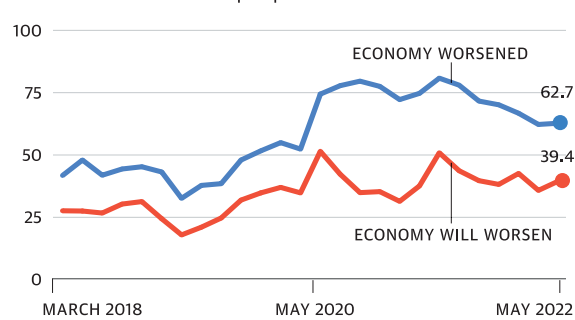
anand.g@thehindu.co.in

DATA POINT

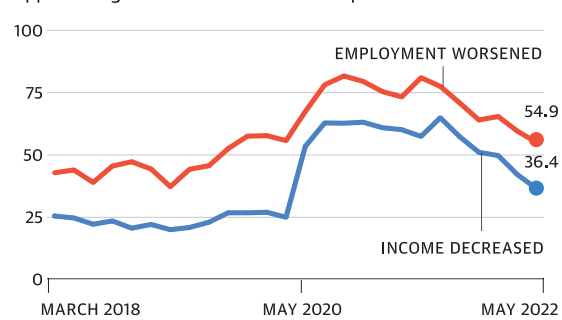
Better incomes but higher expenses

Pessimism about the economy among Indian consumers has fallen from the peaks recorded during the first two waves of COVID-19, but is still nowhere close to the relatively low pre-pandemic levels. The observations are based on the RBI's consumer confidence survey conducted between May 2 and May 11 across 19 major cities. The good news is that there is greater confidence about employment opportunities and income levels in the latest edition of the survey. However, due to high inflation, pessimism is peaking again regarding price levels and spending. At present, while income levels have improved, spending has increased too. Moreover, the CMIE's consumer sentiments survey shows that the improvement in confidence levels is limited to urban areas

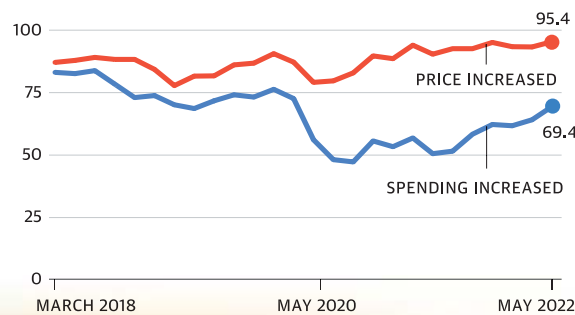
1. General economic situation: The graph shows the share of respondents who said that the general economic situation has worsened and the share of those who expect it to worsen a year later. While the levels of pessimism have come down, they are still nowhere near the pre-pandemic lows



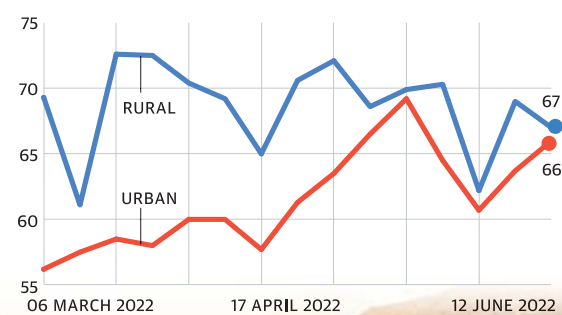
2. Employment and income: The graph shows the share of respondents who said that income levels and employment scenarios have worsened. On both counts, pessimism is at the lowest level it has been since the COVID-19 outbreak and is fast approaching what was seen before the pandemic



3. Prices and spending: The graph shows the share of respondents who said that price levels and spending have increased. Given the high levels of inflation, the share of such respondents was at the highest level since the COVID-19 outbreak



4. Rural sentiments waning: The index of consumer sentiments maintained by CMIE shows that rural confidence is waning and the gap with urban consumers is closing fast. The graph shows CMIE's index of consumer expectations (base = 100 (Sept. - Dec. 2015)) in rural and urban areas



SOURCE: RBI, CMIE

The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 15, 1972

Mrs. Gandhi's speech at the U.N.

Stockholm, June 14: The Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi to-day warned the U.N. Conference on human environment against an ecological crisis adding to the burdens of the weaker nations by the introduction of new considerations in political and trade policies of the rich countries. The fight against pollution should not be at the expense of the third world, she said. Poor countries should not become "museum pieces" in the name of environment. "It would be ironic," Mrs. Gandhi told the 114-nation conference, if the fight against pollution were to be converted into another business out of which a few companies, corporations or nations would make profits at the cost of many. Mrs. Gandhi received a standing ovation from the conference delegates as she entered the hall and went up the dais and also when she ended her address described as an "inspiring" one by the Swedish President of the conference, Mr. Egmund Bengtsson. Despite a bungling by the United Nations Secretariat - a bulletin giving to-day's agenda had said that the plenary session would meet at 10 O' clock this morning and Mrs. Gandhi would speak at 3 p.m. - the spacious hall of "the folks hus" (House of People) was packed to capacity. Mrs. Gandhi said that she was convinced that the unfinished revolution in developing countries could be taken to its culmination when it was accompanied by a revolution in social thinking. After referring to various aspects of the problem of human environment, Mrs. Gandhi said that they were all interlinked and there was no alternative to a cooperative approach on a global scale to the entire spectrum of these questions. "The most urgent and basic question is that of peace," she told the conference.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 15, 1922

Housing problem in Calcutta

Calcutta, June 15: Since 1900, the Calcutta Corporation has been considering the question of erecting model dwellings for poorer classes. Several Committees were appointed and various sites were suggested but the scheme never materialised during the first nine years. A special committee was appointed in 1919 and it recommended that provision should be made in the loans budget for the scheme it had approved. At yesterday's meeting of the Corporation, the Chairman announced that it has not been possible to do so owing to other urgent demands on finances of the Corporation.

Text & Context

NEWS IN NUMBERS



Streak ends

233 Stephen Curry's streak of 3-pointers in postseason and regular-season games that ended on Monday night after a run that lasted three and a half years. For the first time in his career, Stephen Curry couldn't get a 3-pointer to fall in an NBA postseason game. Curry was 0 for 9 behind the arc in the Warriors' 104-94 victory over the Boston Celtics in game five of the NBA finals on Monday night. His 233-game run topped his previous record of 196 straight games and is more than twice as long as any player ever. **AP**

Palm oil imports

33 The percentage by which India's palm oil imports dipped during May this year according to industry body Solvent Extractors Association (SEA). The share of palm oil is about 50% of the country's total vegetable oil imports. India's total vegetable oil imports declined to 10,05,547 tonnes in May this year, compared to 12,13,142 tonnes in the year-ago period. Among soft oils, the import of soyabean oil increased sharply to 3.73 lakh tonnes in May this year, as against 2.67 lakh tonnes in the same period of the previous year. **PTI**

Pollution toll

5 The number of years in life expectancy an average Indian stands to lose if the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines are not followed, according to University of Chicago's (EPIC) Air Quality Life Index (AQLI). "Of all the countries in the world, India faces the highest health burden of air pollution due to its high particulate pollution concentrations and large population," the report said. The Indian population of about 130 crore people live in areas where the annual average particulate pollution level exceeds the WHO guidelines. **PTI**

Record high

15.88 The percentage by which India's wholesale price-based inflation rose in May on the back of rising prices of food items and crude oil. The Wholesale Price Index-based (WPI) inflation was 15.08% in April and 13.11% in May last year. The WPI inflation has remained in double digits for the 14th consecutive month since April last year. Inflation of food items in May was 12.34%, as prices of vegetables, wheat and fruits witnessed a sharp spike over the year ago period. **PTI**

Prophet remark row

337 The number of people arrested by the Uttar Pradesh police in connection with the violence that erupted following Friday prayers on June 10 over a controversial remark against Prophet Mohammad. 13 FIRs have also been registered in nine districts in connection with the case. A mob had pelted stones at the police during the violence in Prayagraj and Saharanpur. At least four other cities witnessed similar scenes. A few motorcycles and carts were also set on fire in protest against the controversial remarks. **PTI**

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

Can the new Google chatbot be sentient?

Is there a possibility of future Artificial Intelligence technologies becoming 'conscious'?

T.V.VENKATESWARAN

The story so far: Blake Lemoine, a U.S. military veteran, identifies himself as a priest, an ex-convict and an Artificial Intelligence (AI) researcher. He was engaged by Google to test for bias/hate speech in the Language Model for Dialogue Applications (LaMDA), Google's nextGen conversational agent. He was sent away on paid leave after claiming that the updated software is now sentient. He claims that the neural network with deep learning capacity has the consciousness of a child of seven or eight years old. He argues that consent from the software must be obtained before experiments are run on it. Google and many tech experts have dismissed the claim. However, this episode, which came on the heels of Google firing Timnit Gebru over her warnings on their unethical AI, has caused ripples in social media.

Is AI technology here?

AI technology appears futuristic. However, Facebook's facial recognition software which identifies faces in the photos we post, the voice recognition software that translates commands we bark at Alexa, and the Google Translate app are all examples of AI tech already around us.

Inspired by the mathematician Alan Turing's answer to the question 'Can a machine think?', AI tech today aims to satisfy the Turing test to qualify as 'intelligent'. Turing was the designer and builder of the world's first computer, ENIGMA, which was used to break the German codes during the Second World War. To test if a machine 'thinks', Turing devised a practical solution. Place a computer in a closed room and a human in another. If an interrogator interacting with the machine and the human cannot discriminate between them, then Turing said that the computer should be construed as 'intelligent'. We use the reverse Turing test, CAPTCHA, to limit technology access to humans and keep the bots at bay.

Which were the first chatbots to be devised?

As electronics improved and first-generation computers came about, Joseph Weizenbaum of the MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory

built ELIZA, a computer programme with which users could chat. ALICE (Artificial Linguistic Internet Computer Entity), another early chatbot developed by Richard Wallace, was capable of simulating human interaction. In the 1930s, linguist George Kingsley Zipf analysed the typical human speech and found that most of the utterances began with 2,000 words. Using this information, Wallace theorised that the bulk of commonplace chitchat in everyday interaction was limited. He found that just about 40,000 responses were enough to respond to 95% of what people chatted about. With assistance from about 500 volunteers, Wallace continuously improved ALICE's responses repertoire by analysing user chats, making the fake conversions look real. The software won the Loebner Prize as "the most human computer" at the Turing Test contests in 2000, 2001, and 2004.

What is a neural network?

A neural network is an AI tech that attempts to mimic the web of neurons in the brain to learn and behave like humans. Early efforts in building neural networks targeted image recognition. The artificial neural network (ANN) needs to be trained like a dog before being commanded. For example, during the image recognition training, thousands of specific cat images are broken down to pixels and fed into the ANN. Using complex algorithms, the ANN's mathematical system extracts particular characteristics like the line that curves from right to left at a certain angle, edges or several lines that merge to form a larger shape from each cat image. The software learns to recognise the key patterns that delineate what a general 'cat' looks like from these parameters.

Early machine learning software needed human assistance. The training images had to be labelled as 'cats', 'dogs' and so on by humans before being fed into the system. In contrast, access to big data and a powerful processor is enough for the emerging deep learning softwares. The App learns by itself, unsupervised by humans, by sorting and sifting through the massive data and finding the hidden patterns.

What is LaMDA?

LaMDA is short for 'Language Model for

Dialogue Applications', Google's modern conversational agent enabled with a neural network capable of deep learning. Instead of images of cats and dogs, the algorithm is trained using 1.56 trillion words of public dialogue data and web text on diverse topics. The neural network built on Google's open-source neural network, Transformer, extracted more than 137 billion parameters from this massive database of language data. The chatbot is not yet public, but users are permitted to interact with it. Google claims that LaMDA can make sense of nuanced conversation and engage in a fluid and natural conversation. The LaMDA 0.1 was unveiled at Google's annual developer conference in May 2021, and the LaMDA 0.2 in 2022.

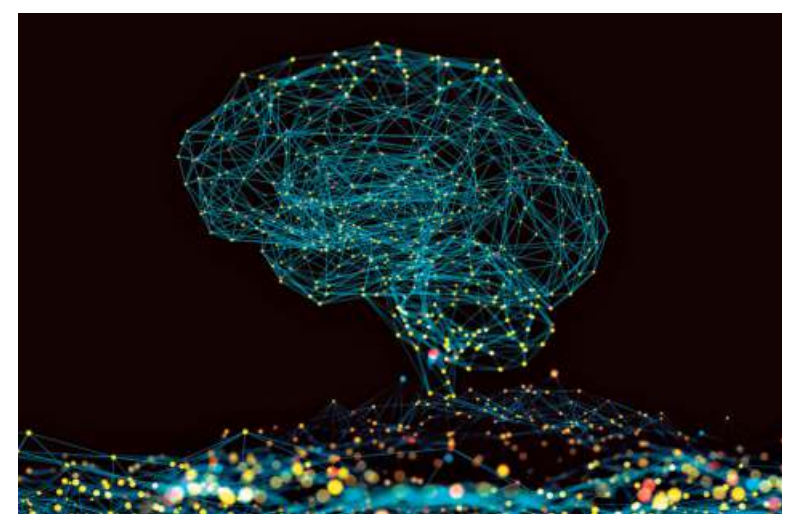
How is LaMDA different from other chatbots?

Chatbots like 'Ask Disha' of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) are routinely used for customer engagement. The repertoire of topics and chat responses is narrow. The dialogue is predefined and often goal-directed. For instance, try chatting about the weather with Ask Disha or about the Ukrainian crisis with the Amazon chat app. LaMDA is Google's answer to the quest for developing a non-goal directed chatbot that dialogues on various subjects. The chatbot would respond the way a family might when they chat over the dinner table; topics meandering from the taste of the food to price rise to bemoaning war in Ukraine. Such advanced conversational agents could revolutionise customer interaction and help AI-enabled internet search, Google hopes.

How intelligent are AI's?

The Turing test is a powerful motivator for developing practical AI tools. However, scholars, such as philosopher John Searle, use the 'Chinese Room Argument' to demonstrate that passing the Turing test is inadequate to qualify as intelligent.

Once I used Google Translate to read WhatsApp messages in French from a conference organiser in France and in turn replied back to her in French. For some time, she was fooled into thinking that I could speak French. I would have passed the



'Turing test', but no sane person would claim that I know French. This is an example of the Chinese room experiment. The imitation game goes only so far.

Further scholars point out that AI tech uses a false analogy of learning. A baby learns a language from close interaction with caregivers and not by ploughing through a massive amount of language data. Moreover, whether intelligence is the same as sentience is a moot question. However, the seemingly human-like conversational agents rely on pattern recognition, not empathy, wit, candour or intent.

Is the technology dangerous?

The challenges of AI metamorphosing into sentient are far in the future; however, unethical AI perpetuating historical bias and echoing hate speech are the real dangers to watch for. Imagine an AI software trained with past data to select the most suitable candidates from applicants for a supervisory role. Women and marginalised communities hardly would have held such positions in the past, not because they were unqualified, but because they were discriminated against. While we imagine the machine to have no bias, AI software learning from historical data could inadvertently perpetuate discrimination.

T.V. Venkateswaran is Scientist F at Vigyan Prasar, Dept of Science and Technology

THE GIST

■ LaMDA, Google's modern conversational agent is enabled with a neural network capable of deep learning. LaMDA is Google's answer to the quest for developing a non-goal directed chatbot that dialogues on various subjects. Such advanced software could revolutionise customer interaction and help AI-enabled internet search.

■ With access to big data and a powerful processor, deep learning softwares can learn by itself, unsupervised by humans, by sorting and sifting through massive data and finding hidden patterns. Google claims that LaMDA can make sense of nuanced conversation and engage in a natural conversation. However, these seemingly human-like agents rely on pattern recognition, not empathy, wit, candour or intent.

■ The challenges of AI metamorphosing into sentient are far in the future; however, unethical AI perpetuating historical bias and echoing hate speech are the real dangers to watch for.

EXPLAINER

A closer look at the Reuters Institute Digital News Report 2022

What does the report say on news consumption patterns? Why are people increasingly losing trust in news media platforms?

G. SAMPATH

The story so far: According to the 2022 Reuters Institute Digital News Report, trust in news is falling in nearly half the countries surveyed, with significant proportions of the public, especially younger age groups, beginning to turn away from news. Further, news consumption is increasingly happening via social media platforms such as TikTok rather than traditional media.

What is the scope of this report?

This study, an annual one commissioned by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, tracks how news is consumed in different countries. This year's report, the eleventh overall, is based on a survey conducted by YouGuv, a British market research and data analytics firm, in January/February 2022 through online questionnaires. It covers 46 markets in six continents. Since it is based on online questionnaires, the findings are not necessarily nationally representative, especially for countries with lower internet penetration. For India, the data is more representative of younger English speakers and not the national population as such.

What are the major trends highlighted in the report?

Broadly, the report documents the ways

in which "the connection between journalism and much of the public may be fraying". It flags six major trends which could have wider socio-political implications. Firstly, people are trusting news content less and less. Second, consumption of traditional news media declined in nearly all the countries surveyed. Third, the proportion of news consumers who say that they "avoid news" has risen sharply across countries, with the report describing the phenomenon as "selective avoidance". Fourth, despite small increases in the proportion of people willing to pay for online news (mostly in richer countries), the growth in digital subscriptions for news content seems to be leveling off. Next, "the smartphone has become the dominant way in which most people first access news in the morning". Finally, the report notes that while Facebook remained the most-used social network for news, it is TikTok that has become the

fastest-growing network, "reaching 40% of 18-24-year-olds, with 15% using the platform for news". TikTok, however, is currently banned in India.

What is 'selective avoidance' of news?

While the majority of people remained engaged with news, the report finds that a growing minority is increasingly choosing "to ration or limit their exposure to it – or at least to certain types of news". The report calls this behaviour "selective avoidance" and says this is one of the reasons why news consumptions levels have failed to increase as per expectations. The proportion that says they avoid news has doubled in Brazil (54%) and the U.K. (46%) since 2017. Across markets, respondents cited a variety of reasons for this avoidance. Many said they were "put off by the repetitiveness of the news agenda – especially around politics and COVID-19 (43%). Some said they were "worn out by the news" (29%). A significant number said they avoided news because they didn't trust it (29%). About one-third (36%), especially those under 35, said that news ruined their mood. About 17% said they avoided news because it led to arguments they would rather avoid, while 16% said reading the news led to feelings of powerlessness. A small percentage (14%) said that they didn't have time for news while 8% said that they found it too hard to understand.

What are the reasons cited for declining trust in news content?

The average level of trust in news, at 42%, was found to be lower than the previous year. Trust levels fell in 21 of the 46 markets surveyed, rising in just seven. The report states that an "indifference to news and its value, along with widespread perception of political and other biases by the media, are two of the main reasons for low trust". The trust levels were also lower among those on the right, compared to those on the left, of the ideological spectrum – a pattern most pronounced in the U.S. In France, on the other hand, the lack of trust closely tracked the class divide, with the 'haves' showing higher levels of trust, while the 'have-nots' viewed media as often aligning itself with the elites. Other reasons for low trust included perceptions of undue influence from business or political interests, with just 19% agreeing that "news organisations put what's best for society ahead of their own commercial or political interests." At the same time, many more said that all or most news outfits "put their own political views (40%) or commercial interests (42%) ahead of society."

What about preferred modes of news consumption?

Across markets and age groups, text is still king when it comes to news

consumption. However, younger audiences, especially 'digital natives' who grew up with networks like Facebook and TikTok, were more likely to say they "watch the news". In India, 58% said that they "mostly read" the news while 17% said they "mostly watch" it. On the other hand, the comparable figures for Finland, which has a historic pattern of high newspaper consumption, was 85% and 3% respectively.

What does the report say about trends in India?

In the section on India, produced in collaboration with the Asian College of Journalism, the report, observing that "India is a strongly mobile-focussed market," says that 72% of the survey respondents accessed news through smartphones and 35% did so via computers. Also, 84% of the Indian respondents sourced news online, 63% from social media, 59% from television, and 49% from print. YouTube (53%) and WhatsApp (51%) were the top social media platforms for sourcing news. India registered a small increase in the level of trust, with 41% trusting news overall. While legacy print brands and public broadcasters continued to have high trust levels, only a minority – 36% and 35% – felt that the media was free from undue political influence and from undue business influence respectively.

THE GIST

■ The 2022 Reuters Institute Digital News Report finds that trust in news is falling in nearly half the countries surveyed, with significant proportions of the public, especially younger age groups, beginning to turn away from news.

■ The average level of trust in news, at 42%, was found to be lower than the previous year.

■ India registered a small increase in the level of trust, with 41% trusting news overall. YouTube (53%) and WhatsApp (51%) were the top social media platforms for sourcing news.

TOOLBOX

Managing your finances from the command line

Understanding three utilities which could help keep us in check with respect to our personal financial expenses

Most of us as consumers and earners would like to keep a track of our personal financial transactions. However, it can be a tedious practice as the volume of transactions are high, diverse and requires parsing of many files. Through this article, we will be introduced to three utilities which can be used to make this job easier for us. The three powerful text processing command-line utilities, grep, sed, and awk, available in the GNU Bash Shell and commonly available in GNU/Linux operating systems can help us keep track of personal spending and earnings. Windows 10 users can use the Ubuntu on Windows feature to utilise the bash shell. See <https://bit.ly/UbuntuOnWin> for instructions on how to download this in the Windows 10 environment.
Written by **Prabodh C.P.**

Let us go through the process step-by-step. All examples in this article make use of the sample data set Expenses.csv containing personal income and expenditure information. (The dataset is available here <https://bit.ly/incomedataset>). This dataset has the following structure.

Posting Date	Day of the Week	Amount	Category	Description	Source
--------------	-----------------	--------	----------	-------------	--------

Let us start with our first utility, grep, a powerful search utility that can be applied to text documents. The general form of using grep is

\$ grep search_pattern file_list

Imagine we want to list all transactions on an American Express credit card. You can achieve that by giving the following command.

\$ grep "American Express Credit Card" Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ grep "American Express Credit Card" Expenses.csv
9/21/19,Saturday,-916.92,Merchandise,Best Buy,American Express Credit Card
9/21/19,Saturday,-214.92,Merchandise,Best Buy,American Express Credit Card
9/21/19,Saturday,-62.61,Merchandise,Best Buy,American Express Credit Card
9/21/19,Saturday,-51.97,Merchandise,Clothes,American Express Credit Card
9/21/19,Saturday,-19.42,Merchandise,Amazon,American Express Credit Card
```

One has to note that the search parameter should be included within double quotes if it consists of any white space. Otherwise, quotes are not necessary.

Sometimes one would be more interested in getting the number of transactions of a particular type; let's say you want to count the number of pharmacy related transactions. The following command can achieve this.

\$ grep -c Pharmacy Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ grep -c Pharmacy Expenses.csv
10
putta:~/TH/Article2$
```

Another common thing we encounter is that we do not remember filenames that contain a specific text in a particular directory. Here also grep can come to the rescue; all you have to do is issue a command with the following syntax.

\$ grep -lr search_pattern folder

Suppose we want to list all files recursively within the Article2 directory containing the pattern awk; the following command achieves that.

\$ grep -lr awk Article2/

```
putta:~/TH$ grep -lr awk Article2/
Article2/sedAWK.txt
Article2/Article.txt
Article2/Print/some.txt
putta:~/TH$
```

As we have seen so far, grep can be used only as a search utility and cannot be used to modify the file contents. Here is where the second utility sed comes in handy. sed is a stream editor used to apply text transformations. When we display the contents of Expenses.csv using the cat command (a command which displays the contents of one or more files without having to open the file for editing), the content may appear closely packed, making it difficult to view the contents. So, let's see how sed handles this in the following command.

\$ sed -e '\n' Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ cat Expenses.csv
Posting Date,Day of the Week,Amount,Category,Description,Source
8/3/18,Friday,-1360,Bills,Rent,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-117.89,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-34.27,Merchandise,Makeup/Skin Care,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-21.59,Merchandise,Amazon,Chase Debit Card
```

It will result in an empty line being added before each line of text, making it easy for the eye to view the contents.

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ sed -e '\n' Expenses2.csv
Posting Date,Day of the Week,Amount,Category,Description,Source
8/3/18,Friday,-1360,Bills,Rent,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-117.89,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-34.27,Merchandise,Makeup/Skin Care,Chase Debit Card
```

One can obtain double spacing by using the following command.

\$ sed -e '\n\n' Expenses.csv

Now let's see how to highlight lines having a specific word. Suppose we want all Food related transactions to be underlined, issue the following command.

\$ sed -e '/Food/a\t===== ' Expenses2.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ sed -e '/Food/a\t===== ' Expenses.csv
Posting Date,Day of the Week,Amount,Category,Description,Source
8/3/18,Friday,-1360,Bills,Rent,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-117.89,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-34.27,Food,,Chase Debit Card
=====
```

Even more emphasis can be achieved by the following command

\$ sed -e '/Food/a\t===== -e /Food/i\t===== ' Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ sed -e '/Food/a\t===== -e /Food/i\t===== ' Expenses.csv
Posting Date,Day of the Week,Amount,Category,Description,Source
8/3/18,Friday,-1360,Bills,Rent,Chase Debit Card
8/4/18,Saturday,-117.89,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
=====
8/4/18,Saturday,-34.27,Food,,Chase Debit Card
=====
```

The following example shows how we can segregate transactions of a particular type, let's say those related to groceries. If we want all grocery related purchases to be written to a separate file say Groceries.csv.

\$ sed -n '/Groceries/w Groceries.csv' Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ sed -n '/Groceries/w Groceries.csv' Expenses.csv
putta:~/TH/Article2$ cat Groceries.csv
8/4/18,Saturday,-117.89,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
8/31/18,Friday,-107,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
9/10/18,Monday,-122.52,Groceries,,Chase Debit Card
```

sed can also be used to perform string substitution. For example, if we want to change all the entries of 'Other' to 'Miscellaneous', it can be done as follows

\$ sed -n '/Other/s//Miscellaneous/' Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ sed '/Other/s//Miscellaneous/' Expenses.csv > new.csv
putta:~/TH/Article2$ grep Miscellaneous new.csv
12/24/18,Monday,-20,Miscellaneous,,Chase Debit Card
1/17/19,Thursday,-1.64,Miscellaneous,,Discover Credit Card
4/4/19,Thursday,-0.56,Miscellaneous,,M&T Debit Card
```

So far, we have seen text processing capabilities of sed. It is now time to look into the awk utility, which is more potent because it is highly programmable. It provides programmable constructs like conditionals, looping, formatting, etc. In our earlier examples, the way text was displayed was not pleasing to the eye. We will now format the content such that its display is more aesthetic. The following awk command shows its formatting capabilities.

\$ awk -F"," 'NR > 1 {printf("%10s\t%3s %16.2f %-10.10s\t %-30s\n", \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4, \$6)}' Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ awk -F"," 'NR > 1 {printf("%10s\t%3s %16.2f %-10.10s\t %-30s\n", $1, $2, $3, $4, $6)}' Expenses.csv
%-11.11s\t %-30s\n", $1, $2, $3, $4, $6)' Expenses.csv
8/3/18 Fri -1360.00 Bills Chase Debit Card
8/4/18 Sat -117.89 Groceries Chase Debit Card
8/4/18 Sat -34.27 Food Chase Debit Card
8/4/18 Sat -21.59 Merchandise Chase Debit Card
```

Now let us look at slightly more complex examples; let's say we want to list the various types of expense categories present in the file. To do this, we should focus on the fourth column, which indicates the transaction category. Additionally, we want only the unique values from this column. We can achieve it as follows. First, we fetch the contents of the fourth column, sort it and later eliminate duplicates using the uniq command.

\$ awk -F"," 'NR>1 {print \$4}' Expenses.csv | sort | uniq

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ awk -F"," 'NR>1 {print $4}' Expenses.csv | sort | uniq
Bills
Direct Deposit
Entertainment
Food
Groceries
Merchandise
```

Suppose we want to find the highest expenditure among all our transactions. This would require more instructions therefore, let us write it as a script named FetchMax.awk.

```
BEGIN {FS=",";max = 0; }
NR > 1 {if ($3<max) {max=$3; maxcat=$4; maxdate=$1}}
END {print "The highest expenditure was $", -max, "in", maxcat,"category on", maxdate}
```

\$ awk -f FetchMax.awk Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ awk -f FetchMax.awk Expenses.csv
The highest expenditure was $ 27308.4 in Tuition category on 9/30/19
putta:~/TH/Article2$
```

Next, let us find the total expenditure for the Merchandise category. The script file CategoryExpenses.awk is shown below.

```
BEGIN {FS=","; tot=0; cnt=0}
NR > 1 {if ($4 == "Merchandise" && $3 < 0 )
{tot += $3;cnt+=1}}
END{
print "Total expenses on merchandise is $", -tot;
print "There were", cnt, "transactions in this category";
}
```

Use the command,
\$ awk -f CategoryExpenses.awk Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ awk -f CategoryExpenses.awk Expenses.csv
Total expenses on merchandise is $ 11691.6
There were 361 transactions in this category
putta:~/TH/Article2$
```

We can improve the script much further by specifying the category during runtime, shown in CategoryExp2.awk.

```
BEGIN {FS=","; tot=0;cnt=0}
NR > 1 {if ($4 == category && $3 < 0 ) {tot += $3; cnt += 1}}
END{
print "Total expenses on", category, "is", -tot;
print "There were", cnt, "transactions in this category";
}
```

\$ awk -v category="Groceries" -f CategoryExpenses2.awk Expenses.csv

```
putta:~/TH/Article2$ awk -v category="Groceries" -f CategoryExp2.awk Expenses.csv
Total expenses on Groceries is 6098.23
There were 115 transactions in this category
putta:~/TH/Article2$
```

We have seen how the three utilities grep, sed and awk form a powerful triad that is essential for anyone dealing with text processing on large texts. sed is best for string processing, and awk is better at handling columnar data. These can be further combined together to achieve even more complex tasks. To sum it up, this troika of utilities is like a swiss knife in the armory of a data analyst.

The author is a research scholar at the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad



THE DAILY QUIZ

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), a transcontinental political, economic, security and military alliance, was founded on June 15, 2001. Here is a quiz on similar alliances, trade blocs and other forums among countries from across the world

- 1 The Visegrád Group, a cultural and political alliance of four Central European countries, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia was established in 1991. The name of the group can be traced to which event in world history?
- 2 This term is used to refer to the eastern part of the Arab world, comprising seven countries located in Western Asia and eastern North Africa. There is a companion term to the above-mentioned term which is used to refer to the western part of North Africa. Mention the two terms.
- 3 The Central American Integration System, an organisation of Central American states was formed in 1991. This was formed with the signing of which protocol? It is also called by another name, after one of the member states of the organisation? What is it?
- 4 The New Development Bank (NDB), formerly referred to as the BRICS Development Bank, a

- development bank established by the BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) has four more members apart from the five founding states. Name them.
- 5 The SAARC Literary Award is an annual award conferred by the foundation of SAARC Writers and Literature since 2001. Who is the only writer to have been given this award twice?
- 6 This is a legally binding environmental agreement signed in 2002 by the member states of the ASEAN to reduce haze pollution in Southeast Asia. What is the name of the treaty?
- 7 The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has been replaced by a new agreement. What is the new agreement called?
- 8 Mercosur is a South American trade bloc established in 1991. The name Mercosur is a portmanteau of which Spanish word? What does it mean?



Identify this international agency with the help of the logo given. Mention the treaty with which this was established. What day is observed every year to commemorate the establishment of this organisation?

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

- Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:**
1. The youngest World Chess Champion. **Ans: Gary Kasprov**
 2. The youngest to become a Grandmaster in chess. **Ans: Abhimanyu Mishra**
 3. India's 1st International Master. **Ans: Manual Aaron**
 4. Who in 2016 became the youngest international master in history. **Ans: Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa**
 5. The position to which this piece is moved on the chess board when a player makes the 1.e4 move. **Ans: The pawn in front of the king by two squares**
- Visual: The name of the computer that defeated the chess world champion Garry Kasparov in May 1997. **Ans: Deep Blue**

Early Birds: Jasroop Singh Walia| Ankush Dhadwal| Ankit Aswar| Khushi Bansal| Richa Jainer

FROM PAGE ONE

Pawar meets Mamata, Left party leaders

Ms. Banerjee called on the NCP chief as soon as she landed in Delhi.

The details of the discussions were not known but Trinamool sources had earlier told *The Hindu* that they were keen on fielding Mr. Pawar as a consensus candidate or a senior politician with wide acceptability.

The NCP chief, who arrived from Mumbai on Tuesday morning, also had a lunch meeting with CPI(M)'s Sitaram Yechury and CPI's D. Raja, in which the leaders are believed to have discussed potential candidates for the July 18 Presidential polls.

Though the Congress and the Left parties were miffed at Ms. Banerjee's "unilateral" move of inviting 22 Op-

position leaders to formulate a joint strategy, the two fronts will be part of her initiative.

Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, chief whip Jairam Ramesh and general secretary Randeep Surjewala will be representing the Congress.

The Left parties, however, will be nominating their MPs for the meeting, instead of their top leadership.

In a letter to the West Bengal Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, Mr. Yechury stressed the need to hold prior consultations to enable the participation of the maximum number of people instead of "unilaterally announcing the date, time and venue".

WPI inflation quickens to record 15.9%

But the further uptick in WPI inflation, in contrast to the consumer price trends, could warrant greater circumspection from the monetary policy perspective, as producers would eventually pass on higher costs to consumers, economists said. May's "inordinately high" wholesale inflation was signalling continued upward pressure on retail inflation in the next few months, cautioned D.K. Srivastava, chief policy advisor, EY India.

Inflation in primary articles also gained momentum, rising to 19.7% from April's 15.5%. LPG inflation shot up from 38.5% in April to 47.7% in May. While diesel inflation eased only marginally from 66.1% in April to 65.2% in May, petrol inflation dropped slightly from 60.6% in April to 58.8% in May. The government had pared excise duties on petrol and diesel on May 21.

"The high rate of inflation in May is primarily due to rise in prices of mineral oils, crude petroleum & natural gas, food articles, basic metals, non-food articles, chemicals & chemical pro-

ducts and food products compared to the previous year," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said.

CARE Ratings' Rajani Sinha attributed the record wholesale inflation to the spike in food and energy prices. "Vegetables and cereals prices surged due to heatwave-led disruptions and have pushed up primary food inflation, while elevated crude oil prices, LPG price hikes and electricity tariff revisions contributed to the rise in fuel and power inflation," she said. The WPI for this March was also revised upwards, reflecting an inflation rate of 14.63% instead of the 14.5% earlier estimated by the Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. "The rise in global crude oil prices is expected to put upward pressure on the headline WPI print for June 2022, even as the weakening of the Rupee is likely to augment the landed cost of imports. We expect the wholesale price inflation to remain elevated at -15%-16% in June," chief economist, ICRA, Aditi Nayar said.

ED questions Rahul for over 11 hours

While the Congress called the repeated summons as "vendetta politics," Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot accused the BJP of unleashing the "terror of Central agencies and bulldozer politics".

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel also took strong objection to the Delhi Police stopping him while he was on his way to the Badarpur police station where some senior Congress leaders and MPs were lodged after detention.

Among the senior leaders who were detained for the second day included party's Lok Sabha leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, General Secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, Randeep Surjewala, Jairam Ramesh, Gaurav Gogoi, Deepender Singh Hooda, Ranjeet Ranjan among others.

Visuals of Rajya Sabha member Jeby Mather and Youth Congress chief B.V. Srinivas being roughed up by the police went viral. "Shame on you @CPDelhi. @AdvJebyMather is Member of Parliament.. Hon'ble chairperson @VPSecretary will take action? Why @smritirani silent when women leader is treated so badly? She is the women & child welfare minister or Troll minister only," Lok Sabha member Manickam Tagore tweeted.

In almost a replay of Monday's scenes, CRPF security personnel of Mr. Gandhi, who is Z Plus security protectee, placed themselves on the foot board of

his SUV as his convoy made it to the ED office.

All the approach roads leading to the ED office or the AICC headquarters were out of bounds for the public as barricades were put up and anti-riot police force, the Rapid Action Force (RAF) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel were deployed to prevent the Congress workers gathering in large numbers.

"We had detained 217 people, including some senior functionaries of the Congress from the New Delhi district and sent to various police stations. They have been released now," said Sagar Preet Hooda, Special Commissioner of Police, Law and Order Division.

Many Congress leaders, however, tweeted they were released at 11.45 p.m., after Mr. Gandhi left the ED office.

There were different versions why the Congress leader was being repeatedly summoned. While agency sources claimed that Mr. Gandhi recorded his statement and checked its transcript minutely, Congress leaders claimed that the investigators took multiple breaks during his questioning.

The questioning is said to be related to the incorporation of the Young Indian company, the operations of the *National Herald* newspaper, the loan given by the Congress to the Associated Journal Limited (AJL) that used to publish the *National Herald*.

Posters of accused removed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

Days after violence broke out in Ranchi after Friday's prayer meeting on June 10, the police on Tuesday released posters of those who indulged in violence, but later removed them.

Earlier on Monday, Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais summoned the State police chief and other officials and asked them to make public the names and addresses of all protesters. The Ranchi police on Tuesday put up the posters carrying photographs of as many as 33 protesters near the Raj Bhavan and sought information about them from common people, but later removed those posters.

Two persons were killed and 20 injured in the violence that broke out on Friday.

Later, the police had clamped curfew and Section 144 of the Cr.Pc and suspended Internet services. Meanwhile, the Ranchi police have lodged 25 FIRs on the incident. Six of the 22 accused are undergoing treatment in a hospital in Ranchi.

ducts and food products compared to the previous year," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said.

CARE Ratings' Rajani Sinha attributed the record wholesale inflation to the spike in food and energy prices. "Vegetables and cereals prices surged due to heatwave-led disruptions and have pushed up primary food inflation, while elevated crude oil prices, LPG price hikes and electricity tariff revisions contributed to the rise in fuel and power inflation," she said. The WPI for this March was also revised upwards, reflecting an inflation rate of 14.63% instead of the 14.5% earlier estimated by the Office of the Economic Adviser, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. "The rise in global crude oil prices is expected to put upward pressure on the headline WPI print for June 2022, even as the weakening of the Rupee is likely to augment the landed cost of imports. We expect the wholesale price inflation to remain elevated at -15%-16% in June," chief economist, ICRA, Aditi Nayar said.

U.P. police may not act against minors accused in Prayagraj

Arrest only of persons who 'were actually involved' in violent protests, says SSP

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

The police on Tuesday said they could take a more relaxed approach against minors accused of violence during a protest in Prayagraj last Friday against comments on the Prophet Muhammad made by a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spokesperson. No innocent person will be arrested, Ajay Kumar, Senior Superintendent of Police, Prayagraj, said.

Mr. Kumar said they were only arresting or would arrest persons who "were actually involved" in the violent protest, "those who are hardcore criminals".

Meanwhile, the number of persons arrested by the police across the State in connection with the protests climbed to 350. The highest number of arrests was in Prayagraj (92), followed by Saharanpur (84).

Among those taken into custody in Prayagraj were four minors. In the first information reports (FIR) lodged in the Prayagraj inci-



Ensuring peace: District Magistrate Sanjay Khatri (centre) visiting the Atala area in Prayagraj on Tuesday. • PTI

dent of June 10, when protesters threw stones at police personnel, the police alleged the mob deployed minor boys for sloganeering and throwing stones at them.

Planned conspiracy
Talking to reporters on Tuesday, Mr. Kumar said that while the police would not spare those who "planned the conspiracy and instigated" the young boys, they could reconsider the action against minors.

"Those who were instigated or are minors, we will consider them. If they are not of bad nature, then we

will give it a thought, consider it and take a decision," the officer said.

The FIRs related to the matter include Section 83 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, which is related to using children for illegal or militant activities.

FIR lodged

In the FIR lodged at the Khuldabad police station, the police said that thousands of persons emerged from the Atala locality after Friday prayers raising religious slogans, and that they started throwing stones at the police

personnel on duty.

They had with them hundreds of minors whom they instigated in sloganeering and throwing of stones, alleged the police in the FIR.

Relevant sections

The FIR lodged at the Khuldabad and Kareli police stations included charges of attempt to murder, criminal conspiracy, relevant Sections of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, and Sections 3 and 4 of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act.

The Khuldabad FIR was lodged against 70 named persons, including Welfare Party of India activist Javed Mohammad and Leftist leader Ashish Mital, and 5,000 unidentified others.

The administration on Sunday demolished Mr. Javed's house, calling it illegal.

In the FIR, the police also alleged that the protesters threw stones and bombs at them from roof-tops, and even fired at them. The protesters referred to the police as "kafirs," claimed the FIR.

L-G asks Jamaat-run schools to shut

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday stopped all academic activities at the schools run by the socio-religious Falah-e-Aam Trust (FAT), a body affiliated to the Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) that was banned in 2019. "No admission shall be taken in these banned FAT institutions. No further registration of these institutions shall be done," an order issued by the Lieutenant-Governor's administration said.

An official said the order was passed subsequent to the directions by the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. "All the students presently studying in these "banned" institutions shall admit themselves to nearby government schools for the current session, which is 2021-22," it reads.

All the chief educational officers, principals and zonal educational officers have been directed to "facilitate students" and "give wide publicity in all dailies and newspapers" about these institutions not being recognised.

Centre clears Agnipath scheme

'Agniveers' can apply for regular employment after 4 years and may get priority

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday announced the 'Agnipath' scheme for recruitment of youth in the armed forces for four years. The process of recruitment will commence in 90 days with a planned intake of 46,000 young men and women this year. This will be the only form of recruitment of soldiers into the three defence services from now.

Mr. Singh said the scheme was aimed at strengthening national security and for providing an opportunity to the youth to serve in the armed forces. Recruits under the scheme will be known as 'Agniveers'. After completing the four-year service, they can apply for regular employment in the armed forces. They may be given priority over others for various jobs in other government departments.

The move is expected to decrease the average age profile of armed forces personnel from the current 32



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announcing the rollout of the 'Agnipath' scheme on Tuesday. • SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

to 24-26 years over a period of time, Lieutenant-General Anil Puri, Additional Secretary, Department of Military Affairs, said. Enrolment to all three services will be through a centralised online system, with special rallies and campus interviews at recognised technical institutes such as the Industrial Training Institutes, and the National Skills Qualifications Framework, Lt. Gen. Puri said. Recruitment will be carried out on an "All India All Class" basis with the eligibility age ranging from 17.5

to 21, with medical and physical fitness standards in accordance with existing norms.

The 'Agniveers' will receive an annual package of ₹4.76 lakh in the first year to ₹6.92 lakh in the fourth year, apart from risk and hardship and other allowances as applicable. Under the 'Seva Nidhi' package, they will receive about ₹11.71 lakh, including contribution and interest, on completion of service. The recruits will have to contribute 30% of their monthly emoluments

Congress attacks govt. over Agnipath scheme

NEW DELHI
The Congress on Tuesday attacked the Centre over its Agnipath scheme for recruitment of soldiers into the Army, Navy and the Air Force, largely on a short-term contractual basis, alleging the decision could 'compromise' the efficiency and operational capability of the three Services. The party also expressed concern about the future of the youth.

to Seva Nidhi, with a matching contribution made by the government. There will be no entitlement to gratuity and pension benefits under the scheme. However, the 'Agniveers' will be provided a non-contributory life insurance cover of ₹48 lakh during their service.

Total budget allocation for defence for 2022-23 is ₹5.25 lakh crore, of which revenue allocation is ₹2.33 lakh crore, capital allocation is ₹1.52 lakh crore, and defence pensions add up to ₹1.19 lakh crore.

Minister to visit Russia for economic meet

Putin will be part of economic forum

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

India will participate in the biggest Russian trade meet that is expected to be launched by President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday.

The Indian delegation for St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) is to be led by Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Chemical and Fertilisers Mansukh Mandaviya and the focus will be on fertilizer and potash supplies as India rushes to ensure uninterrupted fertilizer supply in the kharif season.

Potash supply was hit in February as Western sanctions targeted Russia, the leading supplier of potash in the global market.

This will be the 25th edition of the SPIEF and will take place from June 15 to 18. Egypt will be the guest country this year. In 2017, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the chief guest at the meet.

At the inauguration, Mr. Putin is expected to deliver a major speech on the new economic orientation of Russia since the "special military operation" began in Ukraine on February 24.

The Russian economy was hit by Western sanctions as the war in Ukraine began, leaving Russia with unused supplies of commodities that in normal circumstances would have been exported to the European markets.

Russia currently holds surplus foodgrains, lentils, spices such as coriander, iron and steel, minerals, fertilisers, timber and papers and other commodities and is looking for access to new markets in the Global South.

India has increased purchase of Russian crude as Moscow has been offering hydrocarbons at a steep discount. Commodities traders in the Indian capital have observed that Moscow is offering items at a price not found elsewhere.

The Hindu Group wins first spot at INMA Awards

Honour for marketing campaign

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The Hindu Group has bagged the first place at the INMA Global Awards, 2022 for its integrated marketing campaign for biscuit maker Britannia. "Bring Back Milk Bikis Classic" was the campaign created for the FMCG (fast moving consumer goods) company, which won the first place in the "Best Multi-Channel Client Advertising Campaign" category.

"Unacademy-Let's Crack CSE in Association with The Hindu" received an honourable mention under the "Best Idea to Grow Advertising Sales" category.

Suresh Balakrishna, Chief Revenue Officer, The Hindu Group, said the award was a recognition for *The Hindu's* in-depth understanding of consumers. "This international acknowledgement

has nudged us to create more out-of-the-box ideas that will engage, inform and entertain our consumers," he said.

The awards were instituted by the International News Media Association (INMA), one of the leading providers of global best practices for news media companies looking to grow revenues, audiences and brands amid profound market change. The competition evaluated news media companies across three segments - national brands, regional brands, and media groups.

The 2022 Global Media Awards competition received 854 entries from 252 news media brands in 46 countries.

Participants included newspaper media, magazine media, digital media, television, and radio.

Probe ordered by HC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Calcutta HC directed the CBI to probe the alleged irregularities in the appointments of 269 teachers in the State-run primary schools.

Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay in his order on Monday had directed president of the WB Board of Primary Education Manik Bhattacharya and the Secretary to appear before the agency.

105 hours later, boy out of borewell

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
RAIPUR

Following a rescue operation that lasted for over 105 hours and involved at least 500 people, Rahul Sahu, a 10-year-old specially-abled child from Janjgir-Champa district who fell into an 80-foot borewell on June 10, was rescued late Tuesday night. It was around 11.59 p.m. that Rahul was brought out of the tunnel on a stretcher by the rescue team and taken to Apollo Hospital in an ambulance for which a green corridor was created.

Doctors said they would closely monitor the situation as the boy, despite showing resilience as the operation continued, had weakened considerably due to limited intake of food and fluids. Long exposure to water and mud inside the borewell could have caused some skin problems too.

After the excavators had done their job, ground teams, equipped with drill machines, stepped in to complete the last leg of the tunnel.

The last 1.5 feet were challenging as it involved digging through hard rock and any mistake could have proven fatal.

CJI to decide on urgent listing of PIL against Soren

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday informed the Jharkhand government, during an oral mentioning, that the Chief Justice of India has to take a call on the urgent listing of its appeal against a State High Court decision to entertain a PIL plea for a CBI probe against Chief Minister Hemant Soren in a money-laundering case.

A Vacation Bench of Justices A.S. Bopanna and Vikram Nath advised senior advocate Arunabh Chowdhury, appearing for the State, to give details about the petition to the registrar so that the apex court registry could take orders from the Chief Justice's office about its listing.

The State has moved the apex court in appeal against a Jharkhand High Court order upholding the maintainability of the PIL petitions seeking investigation against Chief Minister Soren for alleged irregularities in granting mining leases and the transactions of shell companies said to be owned by his family members and close associates. In its order on June 3, the HC had concluded that the "writ petitions cannot be thrown



Hemant Soren

away on the ground of maintainability".

Prior to that, on May 24, the top court had asked the HC to first hear the preliminary objections on the maintainability of these petitions.

The allegations in these petitions include the setting up of several shell companies to launder money siphoned off from different welfare funds meant for Jharkhand. They allege that Mr. Soren and several others were involved in the formation of these shell companies. A petitioner, Shiv Shankar Sharma, had sought investigation by the CBI and the ED into the allegations of corruption, misuse of office and money laundering against Mr. Soren. Mr. Soren had strongly denied the allegations.

Beant killer's picture at Darbar Sahib

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH

The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee - the body responsible for the management of Gurdwaras - on Tuesday placed a portrait of the assassin of former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh in the central Sikh museum, situated inside the Darbar Sahib (Golden Temple) complex in Amritsar.

The SGPC also installed a portrait of the former 'head granthi' of Akal Takht Sahib - the highest Sikh temporal seat - Giani Bhagwan Singh at the museum.

SGPC president Harjinder Singh said this was to acknowledge their services. Former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh and at least 16 others were killed in an explosion outside the Civil Secretariat in Chandigarh in 1995. Dilwar Singh, the suicide bomber, was a Punjab police officer who joined Babbar Khalsa International (BKI), a terror organisation striving for a separate Sikh state. Mr. Harjinder Singh said Dilwar Singh had put an end to the atrocities and gross human rights violations committed against the Sikhs then.

INTERVIEW | SHYAM SARAN

India must insist on return to status quo on border in talks with China

Former National Security Advisory Board Chairman says multiple rounds of talks prove Chinese encroachment occurred in 2020, regardless of govt. statements

SUHASINI HAIDAR

Two years after the Galwan clashes on June 15-16, 2020, where 20 Indian soldiers and at least four Chinese soldiers (according to official figures but possibly more) were killed, the government says it has still not ascertained why China amassed its troops in such large numbers on the border, despite 15 rounds of military talks at the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Former Chairman of the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB) and author of the new book *How China Sees India and the World*, **Shyam Saran** says that New Delhi must continue to push for a return to the situation prior to April 2020, when Chinese transgressions were first detected. Excerpts:

It has been two years since the clashes in Galwan, the worst casualties in decades. Why do you think the Galwan clash and all that followed has happened?

■ [Prior to 2020] The India-China border was seen as kind of a model of how two

countries had enough maturity to deal with a disputed border, maintained peace and tranquillity at the border and allowed the relationship in other areas to flourish. What Galwan [clash] represented was a departure from that particular trend that we had in the past decades. Why

did this happen? One is that China's view of power is very hierarchical, it is very sensitive to the balance of power amongst major powers. I think in the context of the growing asymmetry of power between India and China, China's sensitivity to Indian concerns has diminished. China thought it could do this and get away with it.

Secondly, over the last decade or so, while there has been very major improvement of infrastructure on the Chinese side of the border, India, which was lagging behind, actually began to catch up. Unlike the past where Indian patrols and Chinese patrols had infrequent encounters, there is now big increase in the number of



China's sensitivity to Indian concerns has diminished. China thought it could do this and get away with it

times they encounter each other along the LAC in Ladakh.

It is also two years since Prime Minister Narendra

Modi said that China has not entered or is holding any Indian territory. How does China view India's responses? Is it better to be more discreet and deal with China bilaterally?

■ The fact that we have had what about [15] rounds of talks between India and China on the situation on the border, would indicate that there has been in fact, encroachment on the Indian side or the border... otherwise, what are we talking about? If Indian patrols are not being allowed to go to areas which they have been patrolling in the past, is that not a change in the material situation on the border? Whatever may be the state-

ments made, the fact is that we are dealing with a situation where China has advanced territorially in areas which we have been claiming as our own, and exercising jurisdiction over. Whether or not it is a good policy to remain low key on this issue, that is a matter of debate. Perhaps you can explain this by pointing to the fact that we are engaged in a series of consultations or negotiations with the Chinese side, on trying to, you know, get back to the status quo ante.

Is a return to status quo ante April 2020 at the LAC still a possibility?

■ I think [status quo ante] should be an objective, be-

cause China has made a material change in the status quo, which both sides had agreed repeatedly that they will not unilaterally try to alter. So I think the Indian side is fully justified in asserting that if relations have to come back on track, this is what is needed. Making that stand on the Indian side is important.

External Affairs Minister Jaishankar has pointed to the 1987 Sumdorong Chu stand-off indicating that this stand-off may take as much time – seven or eight years to resolve. Do you agree?

■ Mr. Jaishankar is right that it took a fairly long time for us to be able to resolve the

Sumdorong issue. But in the case of Doklam, we were actually able to defuse this within a shorter period of time. And I relate that to the overall, geopolitical situation. Now, could there be another similar kind of a geopolitical situation which may arise in the foreseeable future, where China once again, sees it in its interest to bring down the temperature on this front [with India], particularly in the wake of the ongoing Ukraine war? Possibly. For that reason, I think it is important for us to keep asserting our stand that in order to get the relationship back on track, we need to go back to the status quo.

(Full interview on bit.ly/ChinaIndiaBorder)

Unemployment has decreased, says latest labour force survey

Data show rate of joblessness fell to 4.2% in 2020-21, compared with 4.8% earlier

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The unemployment rate saw a decrease of 0.6% and fell to 4.2% in 2020-21, compared with 4.8% in 2019-20, according to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) for 2020-21 released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation here on Tuesday.

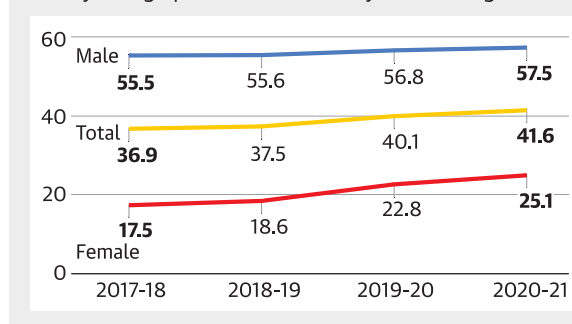
This means that only 4.2% of adults who looked for jobs could not get any work in rural and urban areas of the country in 2020-21.

Rural areas recorded an unemployment rate of 3.3% and urban areas 6.7%.

The National Statistical Office (NSO) uses "rotational panel sampling design" in urban areas to assess the labour force participation rate (LFPR), worker population ratio (WPR) and the unemployment rate, and visits select households in urban areas four times. There was, however, no revisit for the rural samples.

The sample size for the first visit during July 2020-June 2021 in rural and urban

Looking for work | The labour force participation rate (LFPR) has continued to improve further in 2020-21, according to the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey. The graph shows LFPR over years across genders



areas was 12,800 first-stage sampling units (FSU) in 7,024 villages and 5,776 urban frame survey blocks.

First-stage sampling
Out of this, 12,562 FSUs (6,930 villages and 5,632 urban blocks) were surveyed for canvassing the PLFS schedule.

"The number of households surveyed was 1,00,344 (55,389 in rural areas and 44,955 in urban areas) and number of persons surveyed was 4,10,818 (2,36,279 in ru-

ral areas and 1,74,539 in urban areas)," the Ministry said in a release.

The LFPR, the percentage of persons in the labour force (that is, working or seeking work or available for work) in the population, was 41.6% during 2020-21. It was 40.1% in the previous year. The WPR was 39.8%, an increase from 38.2% of the previous year. The WPR is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.

Migrants are defined in

the survey as a household member whose last usual place of residence, at any time in the past, was different from the present place of enumeration. The migration rate, according to the survey, is 28.9%. The migration rate among women was 48% and 47.8% in rural and urban areas, respectively.

Rural jobs
Experts point out that a second visit to the households in rural areas could have provided a bigger and larger picture of unemployment, which did not happen in the survey.

"Overall, the report suggests shifting the government's policy directions as it has become more rural-centric. Creation of rural jobs other than in the agricultural sector and MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) could be priorities for the government at the Union and State levels," Sridhar Kundu, senior research analyst at the Indian School of Business, said.

Presidential polls: special cell set up

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

With the nomination process for the presidential election set to begin on Wednesday, the Rajya Sabha Secretariat has set up a special cell for the poll.

Rajya Sabha Secretary General P.C. Mody has been appointed Returning Officer for the July 18 presidential election. He will also head this cell.

The cell, which has been set up following the instructions of the Election Commission, comprises almost all officials from the Rajya Sabha Secretariat's table office.

Officer on Special Duty Mukul Pande and Joint Secretary in the Rajya Sabha Secretariat Surendra Kumar Tripathi – both assistant returning officers for the election – are also part of this cell.

Since nomination papers would only be available at Parliament house, the cell will ensure hassle-free process for those asking for the forms, and filing their nominations. The election will be held across the country, but counting will take place in Parliament.

PM lauds unsung heroes of Freedom Struggle

He opens commemorative gallery

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The indifference towards unsung heroes of India's Freedom Struggle has continued for a long time, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday, remarking that knowingly or unknowingly, there was a tendency to limit India's Independence to just a few incidents.

Mr. Modi, who was speaking at the inauguration of the "Gallery of Revolutionaries" at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai, said that regardless of social, familial or ideological roles, the goal of all revolutionaries within the country or abroad was the same – India's complete Independence.

'Collective impact'
In a veiled dig at the Congress, the Prime Minister said: "Knowingly or unknowingly, there has been a tendency to limit India's Independence to just a few incidents. Whereas, India's Independence involved the tapasya of countless people and the collective impact of many incidents at the local level was national." The "Gallery of Indian Re-

Plaintiff seeks FIR against masjid panel

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

One of the Hindu plaintiffs in the Gyanvapi Mosque-Kashi Vishwanath Temple dispute on Tuesday moved the district court in Varanasi seeking an FIR against the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee for allegedly trying to erase symbols of Hinduism from inside the premises.

Jitender Singh Bisen, who represents plaintiff Rakesh Singh in legal matters as the power of attorney holder, said he had moved the application stating that the masjid panel was allegedly indulging in erasing signs and symbols that purportedly prove the existence of a temple at the disputed site. He said the court had admitted the plea. Now, it had been listed for next hearing on June 23. He added that his plea did not mention the disputed structure found in the wuzu khana of the mosque and referred to symbols of Hinduism inside the premises.

The main suit filed by the Hindu plaintiffs is being heard by the District Judge, Varanasi.

Three MLAs join BJP in Madhya Pradesh

RAIPUR

Three MLAs from Madhya Pradesh – one each from the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) and an Independent – joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday. The SP's Rajesh Shukla represents Bijawar, the BSP's Sanjeev Shukla is an MLA from Bhind and Vikram Singh Rana represents Siner.

KERALA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Ernakulam - 682 020 Phone: 0947975741
email: kspcbetk@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTICE
Date: 08.06.2022
No. PCB/CL/RDS/PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5}/2022-23
E-Tenders are invited for the supply of Respirable Dust Sampler PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}
Tender ID: 2022_KSPCB_493106_1
Closing date: 16.06.2022 at 05.00 PM
Details available in the site www.etenders.kerala.gov.in & www.keralapcb.nic.in
Sd/-
CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST

ICMR-NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION
INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
Jama-Osmania (P.O.), Tarnaka, Hyderabad-500 007, Telangana State, India.

ADMISSION NOTIFICATION
Applications are invited from eligible candidates for admission into NIN Common Entrance Test - NCET (ONLINE) for 2-years M.Sc. (Applied Nutrition) & M.Sc. (Sports Nutrition) at ICMR-NIN, Hyderabad. Last date: 30th June, 2022. Please see the website <https://www.nin.res.in> for notification and link for application.
Sd/- Senior Administrative Officer

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY. e-Tender Notice
Tender No: Re-Tender 27 & 28/22-23/ZSE/PHC/PKD (1) KIIFB 2017-18 - CWSS to KARIMBA, KONGAD and MUNDUR (Part) PANCHAYATHS - PHASE I - PACKAGE 2- BALANCE WORKS. (2) JJM -2021-22 - CWSS to various panchayats in Malappuzha Phase II - Laying Distribution and providing FHTCS (1310 Nos) from BLL. EMD : Rs. 500000 each. Tender fee : Rs. 17700. Last Date for submitting Tender : 28-06-2022, 03:00:pm.
Phone : 04912544927 Superintending Engineer
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in PH Circle
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in KWA-JB-GL-6-361-2022-23 Palakkad

THE KERALA STATE WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(A Government of Kerala undertaking)
1st Floor, Transport Bhavan, KSRTC Building, Eastfort, Attakulangara P.O., Thiruvananthapuram-695023, Kerala, Ph. +91 471 2454585

E-TENDER NOTICE
Date: 13/06/2022
The Managing Director, Kerala State Women's Development Corporation Ltd. (KSWDC) invites e-tenders for Supply of Sanitary Napkin and Supply and Installation of Incinerator from eligible firms.
Nature of work : Supply of Sanitary Napkin and Supply and Installation of Incinerator
Tender No : KSWDC/PS/SHE PAD/General/2019-2022.
Estimated amount : Rs. 5.5 Crore/-
Last Date of Submission of Bid Online : 02.07.2022 at 5pm
Tender ID : 2022_KSWDC_494216_1.
For more details, visit : www.etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kswdc.org
(Sd/-) Managing Director

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U65110KA1970SGC001919

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through e-procurement Portal Only)
Tenders are invited through GoK e-Procurement portal: <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from the contractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/Company and having past experience for the following works.
1). KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK INDENT 12485, Dtd: 10.06.2022, for Removal of existing damaged insulation Supply & Application of new insulation materials for Raichur TPS-Unit 1 & 2 Boiler (in a phased manner). EMD: Rs. 55,000/-.
2). KPCL/2022-23/PS/WORK INDENT 12486, Dtd: 10.06.2022, for Inspection, Repairs/Replacement of Damaged Instrument & Service Air Lines, Boiler Drains 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: 22.06.2022 @ 16:00Hrs. Last date for submission of completed bids (2 Parts): 25.06.2022 @ 16:00Hrs. Opening of Technical Bid (Part 1): 27.06.2022 @ 11:00Hrs. Opening of Financial Bid (Part 2): 29.06.2022 @ 11:00Hrs. Further information if required can be obtained from the office of the Superintending Engineer (Mechanical Maintenance-1), KPCL, RTPS, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District, Karnataka. Mobile No.: 94489 99460.

दिल्ली प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय
DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
(Estd. by Govt. of Delhi vide Act 6 of 2009)
(Formerly Delhi College of Engineering)
Shahbad Daultpur, Bawana Road, Delhi-110042

B.Tech (LATERAL ENTRY) ADMISSION 2022-23
Delhi Technological University invites online applications for admission in 2nd Year B.Tech. programme for the academic year 2022-23 against the vacant seats in different disciplines through Lateral Entry w.e.f. 17.06.2022 to 04.07.2022. Admission will be made on the basis of Admission Test conducted by the University. Details of the admission Procedure, important dates and discipline wise vacant seats are available in admission brochure at University website www.dtu.ac.in
Sd/- Registrar

Rajasthan Skill & Livelihoods Development Corporation
C-11 Campus JBA Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur - 302004 (Rajasthan)
Ph: +91-0141-2705817, 5103248, Fax: +91-0141-5103248, www.rajasthanlivelihoods.org

1. FACT SHEET AND KEY TIMELINES ABOUT THE PROJECT

1. Tender No.	RS/LDC/Job Fair/2022-23/2030 dated 06.06.2022
2. Name of the Work/Project	"Selection of Service Provider for Organizing Job Fairs for Preliminary job offer of Unemployed Youth of Rajasthan State"
3. Name of the issuer of this Tender	Managing Director, Rajasthan Skill & Livelihoods Development Corporation
4. Date of issue of Tender Document	06/06/2022
5. Date for sending Pre Bid Query	13/06/2022 on e-mail-GM1.RSLDC@gmail.com
6. Pre-Bid Meeting	15/06/2022 at 03:00 P.M at RSLDC office.
7. Publishing of Pre-Bid queries	16/06/2022 on website http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://livelihoods.rajasthan.gov.in
8. Last Date for Submission of Bid	27/06/2022 up to 06:00 P.M.
9. Date of Technical Bid Opening	28/06/2022 at 12:30 P.M.
10. Date of Financial Bid Opening	To be informed later
11. Mode of Financial Bid Opening	Online
12. Address of Communication	Managing Director, Rajasthan Skill & Livelihoods Development Corporation (RSLDC), Jhalana Institutional Area, Jaipur-302004 (Rajasthan)
13. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	2% of tender value EMD shall be deposited through Demand Draft in favor of RSLDC payable at Jaipur.
15. Processing Fee (Non-Refundable)	Rs. 1150/- (Rupees only) The processing fee shall be deposited through Demand Draft in favor of MD, RSLDC payable at Jaipur.
16. Bid Document fee	Rs. 20,000/- per GP) Work order will be issued as per budget available in phase 1 and further will be extended in coming phase(s).
17. Availability of Tender Document	Tender document can be downloaded from http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://livelihoods.rajasthan.gov.in
18. Validity of Proposal	Proposals must remain valid 90 days after the submission date.
19. Method of Selection	OCBS
20. Bid Submission	Bid Submission will be online through single e-Procurement portal http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in only.
1. Project Cost and duration	Rs. 32.95 Cr. (Including GST) (Rs. 1 lakh per block and Rs. 50,000/- per GP) Work order will be issued as per budget available in phase 1 and further will be extended in coming phase(s).

Note:
1. The date of opening of the financial bids will be intimated to the qualified Bidders before the due date through e-mail or telephone.
2. RSLDC reserve the right to change any schedule of bidding process.
Please visit <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>
Raj.Samwad/C/22/3409

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, RAIPUR
(An Autonomous Institute Under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
Advertisement No NF/DR/1/22; Date 03.06.2022
NF/DR/2/22; NF/DR/3/22; NF/DR/4/22; NF/DR/5/22

RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENT
AIIMS, Raipur invites online applications on Direct Recruitment basis from the Indian nationals for Group 'A' posts of Clinical Psychologist (1-UR, Level-10), Law Officer (1-UR, Level-10), Group 'B' posts Junior Engineer (A/C & R) (2-UR, Level-6), Medical Record Officer (Total-4, 3-UR, 1-OBC, Level-6) and Radiotherapy Technician Grade II (1-UR, Level-6).
Last date of receipt of online application is 02.07.2022.
For details of recruitment i.e. eligibility criteria, online application, selection procedure, terms and conditions, further notifications, corrigendum, addendum etc. please visit the website www.aiimsraipur.edu.in.
Dy. Director (Admin.)

CSIR-CENTRAL BUILDING RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ROORKEE-247667

Advertisement No. Estt./2022/01
Closing date: 05.07.2022

CSIR-CBRI is intends to hire 01 Assistant Consultant (Civil Engineering) having 5 years in relevant area of the construction supervision / quality assurance of buildings, mentoring progress, preparation of project progress and completion report proficiency in various project on contract basis for a period of One year which may be extended till the duration of the project at New Delhi, India on fixed remuneration of Rs. 50,000/- For details regarding eligibility criteria mode of interview and terms and Conditions etc. may please visit CBRI website <http://cbri.res.in>
Administrative Officer

GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
Sardar Patel Viduyat Bhavan,
Racecourse, Vadodra 390007
PBX : (0265) 2310582-86, Web: www.guvnl.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
GUVNL invites tenders for procurement of power through Competitive Bidding (followed by e-reverse auction) from 500 MW Grid Connected Renewable Energy Projects with Assured Peak Power Supply along with the Energy Storage Systems (ESS) located in the State of Gujarat through RFS No. GUVNL / 500 MW / RE with ESS (Phase XV) dated 14.06.2022. For tender documents please visit the website www.bharat-electronicstender.com and www.guvnl.com.
The last date of bid submission is 30.07.2022
Date: 15/06/2022
General Manager (RE & IPP)

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA, IRRIGATION & CAD DEPARTMENT
Irrigation Circle, Hill Colony, Nalgonda District

Tender is invited by Irrigation Circle, Hill Colony Nalgonda District vide Notice No: 08SE/IC/2022-23 Dated: 10.06.2022 (2nd call) for work "Repairs to Spillway slope and bucket portion of Nagarjuna Sagar masonry dam including repairs to spillway approach road after floods of 2022 at Nagarjuna Sagar Dam, Nalgonda dist., Telangana" for an ECY Rs. 16,54,99,407/- is available from 15.06.2022 to 22.06.2022 at 3.00 PM and last date for receipt of bid is 22.06.2022 at 5.00 PM for further details see in e-procurement website.
Sd/- K. Dharma, Superintending Engineer,
Irrigation Circle, Hill Colony.
R.O. No.:239-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23

IN BRIEF



Assam flood situation better; toll goes up to 30
GUWAHATI
A pause in rainfall over the past 40 hours has helped improve the flood situation in Assam but the receding water took two lives on May 26, according to an official statement. The drowning of two people, including a child, has taken the toll to 30. Five of them died due to landslips. According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, 12 districts in the State have reported floods while a landslip was reported from Dima Hasao district in the past 24 hours.

DGCA slaps ₹10 lakh fine on Air India

NEW DELHI
The DGCA has levied a fine of ₹10 lakh on Air India for failing to have a compensation policy for passengers who are denied boarding despite holding a valid ticket, in situations such as overbooking. "It appears that the airline doesn't have a policy in this regard, and is not paying compensation to hapless passengers. It is a matter of serious concern and unacceptable," said Director General of Civil Aviation Arun Kumar in a press statement. The matter came to the DGCA's attention when it was conducting checks at various airports to observe compliance with its regulations.

SBI raises deposit and lending rates

NEW DELHI
The SBI has raised its deposit and lending rates following the Reserve Bank's repo rate increase last week. The bank said interest rates had been raised by 0.2% on domestic term deposits of below ₹2 crore for select tenors. For deposits of 211 days to less than one year, the lender will offer interest rate at 4.6%, as against 4.4% earlier. Senior citizens will be offered an interest of 5.1% as against 4.9% earlier. For domestic term deposits of one year to less than two years, customers can earn interest of 5.3%.

Cabinet gives nod for Dholera airport

NEW DELHI
The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on Tuesday approved the development of a new greenfield airport at Dholera, Gujarat, which will be developed at an estimated cost of ₹1,305 crore in the first of its three phases. The project is being implemented by Dholera International Airport Company Limited, which is a joint venture company comprising 51% share of the Airports Authority of India, 33% of the Gujarat government and 16% of the National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust. The first phase will be completed by 2025-2026.

New plan to save jumbos from train hits

Geographical patterns to be analysed; measures that can be implemented by Railways to be proposed

JACOB KOSHY
NEW DELHI

With 186 elephants officially reported to have been killed in collisions with trains in the past decade, the Environment and Railway Ministries are exploring a project to minimise the number of such accidents.

While piecemeal measures have been taken in States, the latest initiative is to analyse patterns geographically and propose measures that the Railways can feasibly implement.

The Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun, an autonomous body, and the Environment Ministry have had an initial round of discussions with Railway officials, said S.P. Yadav of the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

Bilal Habib, a scientist at the WII and one of the leaders of the project, said a draft document was expected to



Fatal hit: Assam, West Bengal and Uttarakhand saw most number of elephants killed in train accidents. A file photo of two elephants killed after being hit by a train at Moraghat.

be readied in July. A preliminary analysis showed the States with the highest elephant numbers were not always the ones with the most deaths. Assam, West Bengal and Uttarakhand were hilly States that saw the most number of casualties, Mr. Habib said. Slopes were a

tricky terrain for elephants and when the animals attempted to cross railway lines, they lingered longer near or on tracks resulting in collisions. "An elephant is the only mammal with six toes, one of which is exclusively for gripping slopes. Due to this, they take more

time to descend slopes and when tracks are located at such locations, they tend to result in accidents," Mr. Habib said.

Creating underpasses or dedicated elephant passes near existing lines are not always feasible for the Railways, given the expenses, as

it required as much as 20 km of pathway on either side of the track.

Mr. Yadav cited instances of elephants refusing to abandon their young were they to get trapped on the lines, resulting in casualties.

In response to questions raised in Parliament on such collisions, the government said that it had put in place measures, such as providing fencing at selected locations, erecting signage boards to warn locomotive pilots about identified elephant corridors, sensitising train crew and stationmasters on a regular basis, clearing vegetation on the sides of the track within railway land, deputing a Forest Department staffer in Railway control offices to liaison with Railway, and have the Forest Department engage elephant trackers for timely action by alerting stationmasters and locomotive pilots.

'ASI Act to be made more flexible'

A subcommittee is to be formed to look into amending the 1958 Act: Minister

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

Union Culture Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Tuesday said the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was working on an amendment to make the law that provides for preservation of monuments and archaeological sites "more flexible and people-friendly". He was addressing the meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Archaeology (CABA) here.

Mr. Reddy, who chairs the CABA, said the amendment was under consideration. Later, speaking to presspersons, Mr. Reddy said a subcommittee would be formed to look into the matter. *The Hindu* had reported on Fe-



G. Kishan Reddy

bruary 6 this year that the Culture Ministry was working on an amendment to the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958, to change the current 100-metre prohibited area around protected monuments to site-specific limits.

According to an ASI statement, the meeting was at-

tended by 25 members, including representatives from 15 States and four retired ASI Directors-General. In a tweet, ASI said: "CABA met to strengthen contacts between ASI & other allied institutions to take archaeology forward. 42 resolutions from members were deliberated. Matters pertaining to excavations, manpower, training, conservation, collaboration with universities among other issues were discussed."

An ASI official said among the issues raised by members were the need for ASI to focus more on employment-generation in the tourism sector, funds to be provided for excavations and training for States to be provided by

the Institute of Archaeology. Meanwhile, in his address, Mr. Reddy said the ASI would put up the national flag at 2,000 monuments across the country on Independence Day as a part of the government's Har Ghar Tiranga campaign.

He added that the G20 leaders summit to be hosted by India next year would be an opportunity to showcase the country's culture and heritage. He said programmes would be organised at ASI monuments and around various festivals and customs.

The CABA was reconstituted by the ASI on May 19, over seven years after its last meeting on October 17, 2014.

Daily COVID cases fall to 6,594

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

With 6,594 fresh cases of COVID-19 reported in the 24 hours to 8 a.m. on Tuesday, the number of active cases has gone up to 2,553 to 50,548, the Union Health Ministry said. There were six deaths during the period. The daily new cases reported on Monday was 8,084.

The daily positivity rate recorded on Tuesday was 2.05%, while the weekly positivity rate was 2.32%. The case fatality rate was 1.21%, the Ministry said. Two deaths were reported from Assam and one each from Goa, Maharashtra, Punjab and West Bengal.

Indian workers treated like slaves in Qatar: BMS

Outfit highlights the issue at ILO meet

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The RSS-affiliated trade union Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) on Tuesday said it had taken up the "slave labour-like" treatment of Indian workers in Qatar with the government and trade union delegates of that country during the 110th International Labour Conference being held in Geneva.

In a statement, the BMS said that since the hosting of the FIFA World Cup was awarded to Qatar, Indian workers had been kept in "slave labour" conditions. The statement also de-

plored the *Kafala* system of managing labour, currently on in Qatar. "The *Kafala* system has caused severe trauma not just to Indian workers but also to workers from other South Asian countries," said the statement. The system, according to the statement, involves seizing of passports of workers, bad living conditions, overtime work, sexual abuse and forcibly making people work in areas in which they have no skills.

The BMS said 1,611 Indian migrants had died in Qatar since 2014 but getting their bodies back was a Herculean task.

Elderly lack financial, social security: study

52% of those surveyed reported inadequate income; 40% said they did not feel financially secure

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A national survey carried out by HelpAge India has shown that 47% of elderly people are economically dependent on their families for income and 34% relied on pensions and cash transfers, while 40% of the surveyed people have expressed a desire to work "as long as possible", highlighting the need to pay greater attention to social security of senior citizens in the country.

The report, released by Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry Secretary R. Subrahmanyam on the eve of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, was based on a sur-



Hand of support: Financial planning and social security need greater attention, says HelpAge India. *GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

vey conducted by the non-governmental organisation with the involvement of 4,399 senior citizens and 2,200 caregivers across 22 cities.

The report said that 52% of the elderly surveyed reported inadequate income; 40% said they did not feel financially secure; 57% said their expenditure was in ex-

cess of their savings; and 45% said the pension amount was not enough for survival.

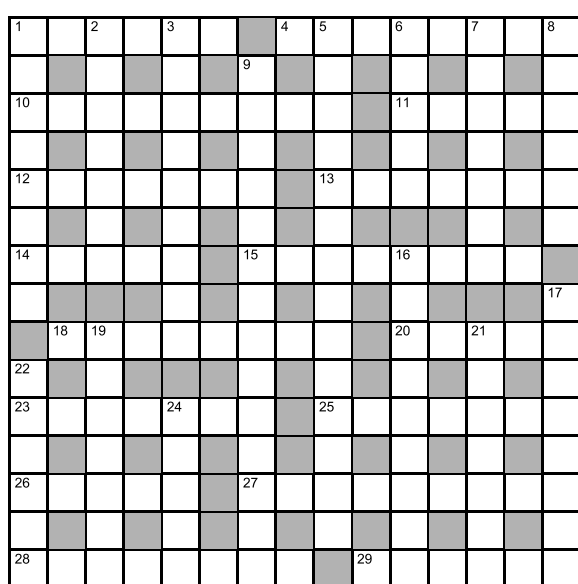
"This suggests both financial planning for later years and social security needs much greater attention," HelpAge India said in a statement, adding that it had been advocating for a universal pension of ₹3,000 a month.

The survey also found that 71% of senior citizens were not working, while 36% were willing to work and 40% wanted to work "as long as possible". As much as 30% of the elderly were willing to volunteer their time for various social causes.

"One good news is that 87% elders reported there is availability of healthcare facilities nearby, however 78% elders mentioned unavailability of app-based online healthcare facilities and a significant 67% elderly reported they do not have any health insurance at this critical stage in their lives and only 13% are covered under government insurance schemes," HelpAge India said.

The report highlighted the way elder abuse is perceived and reported - 59% of elders felt that elder abuse was "prevalent" in society, but 10% reported being victims themselves.

THE CROSSWORD + 13583
(set by KrisKross)



- 15 US city girl welcoming star (3,5)
- 18 Wake up from bed finally at noon, perhaps (6,2)
- 20 Couple of you after retirement can even wed! (5)
- 23 One politician facing every charge (7)
- 25 Win state, breaching border from the east (7)
- 26 Set up a kiosk counter, partly non-functional (5)
- 27 Helping to protect University in decay (9)
- 28 Left fish as presents (8)
- 29 Charlie relaxes and stops (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Force to smuggle millions in trade (8)
- 2 Dressing in black, with maturity (7)
- 3 Sick on vacation - however, after drinking shake, rise quickly (9)
- 5 Cats and spaniels frolicking in daydreams (7,2,5)
- 6 Volunteer to join work to attain money (3,2)
- 7 Atmosphere, say, in rebellious nation (7)
- 8 Keen group of artists? (6)
- 9 Evergreen and enduring duo (6,3,5)
- 16 Quote: "Nature seems endlessly mysterious" (9)
- 17 Swan and duck, initially let loose in marshy area (8)
- 19 In theory, individual to eat bland food and start to recover (2,5)
- 21 Designed ultimately useful font with ASCII characters, to emphasise a point (7)
- 22 Lift movie award, reportedly (4,2)
- 24 Leader deleted more silly post (5)

SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 13582

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

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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

FAITH

Importance of good health

Dhanvantari, an amsa of Lord Narayana, is mentioned in Puranas. He came from the milky ocean when it was churned. The treatise called Bhavaprakasa says Indra wanted to help human beings, because he saw them suffering from diseases, said Velukkudi Krishnan in a discourse. He, therefore, asked Dhanvantari to go to the earth and keep the world free from disease, for that, after all, was the purpose of the Dhanvantari avatara. Dhanvantari was born in the royal lineage of Varanasi, and was known as Divodasa. One version says that Divodasa was the grandson of Dhanvantari. There is a portion of Bhagavata Purana, called Narayana Kavacha, which talks about Dhanvantari.

The court of King Vikramaditya of Ujjain was adorned by nine gems, each of them an expert in some field. The nine gems were Dhanvantari, Kshapanaka, Amarasimha, Kalidasa, Varahamihira, Vararuchi, Shankhu, Vetala Bhatta and Ghatakarpa. The presence of Dhanvantari among the nine gems shows the importance kings gave to the health of their subjects. Ayurveda is the science that is concerned with increasing the lifespan of human beings. It is also concerned with making those long years healthy.

Hindu philosophy says that we take births due to our karma. A jivatma suffers or has pleasant experiences based on its past karma. Among the many things that cause unhappiness and agony in mankind, diseases are perhaps the foremost. It is to mitigate suffering due to disease that Prajapati gave the world Ayurveda. Significantly, in the Srirangam temple, close to the Dhanvantari shrine is the Paramapada entrance. Dhanvantari gives us good health on earth. The Paramapada entrance shows us that moksha too can be given only by Lord Narayana, when our life on earth ends.

U.K. set to send asylum-seekers to Rwanda

ASSOCIATED PRESS
LONDON

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson defended his plan to send asylum-seekers of various nationalities to Rwanda just hours before the first plane was set to leave on Tuesday, saying that efforts to block the flights were "abetting the work of criminal gangs" involved in smuggling people across borders.

Mr. Johnson's government has reached an agreement with Rwanda to deport people who enter the U.K. illegally to the East African country in exchange for millions of pounds in development aid.

The government contends this will deter people from paying criminals to help them take the risky journey across the English Channel in small boats.

The policy has faced a series of legal challenges and sparked heated protest in the U.K.

WHO to hold meet on monkeypox

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GENEVA

The World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday it would hold an emergency meeting on June 23 to determine whether to classify the global monkeypox outbreak as a public health emergency of international concern.

The UN agency is also working to change the name of the disease.

"The outbreak of monkeypox is unusual and concerning," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

In reversal, Joe Biden to visit Saudi Arabia, interact with MBS

President will also hold a virtual summit with PM Modi and leaders of UAE, Israel

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden will travel to Saudi Arabia as part of a larger trip to West Asia in July and his visit will involve an interaction with Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman (MBS), who, according to U.S. intelligence agencies, was the mastermind behind the brutal murder of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018. During his presidential campaign, Mr. Biden had vowed to isolate Saudi Arabia over the killing and make it "pay".

Mr. Biden's trip will comprise a visit to Israel, the West Bank and Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), on July 13-16, during which time he will also hold a virtual summit level meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett and the UAE's President, Mohammed bin Zayed, as part of the I2-U2 (India, Israel, the U.S. and the UAE) country grouping.

In West Asia, the U.S. is engaged in partnerships that include a mixture of countries in the region and those outside, a continuation of the Trump administration's effort to help build Israel's links to other countries. The Israel leg of Mr. Biden's trip, according to a senior administration official, who did not want to be named, was to not just "reaffirm" the U.S.'s "ironclad" commitment to Israel's security but also deepen areas of cooperation across sectors, and enhance Israel's integration with regional countries, such as in groups that include countries from outside West Asia.

"And in this regard, the President will hold a virtual summit with the I2-U2 heads



Poll pitch: During his presidential campaign, Biden had vowed to isolate Saudi Arabia over the killing of Jamal Khashoggi.

of state for discussions of the food security crisis, and other areas of cooperation across hemispheres, where the UAE and Israel serve as important innovation hubs," the official told reporters on a briefing call on Monday. There will also be "side meetings and engagements" which will be announced later.

The President's trip to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, which will follow visits to Israel and the West Bank, is centred around a meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council plus three (GCC + 3). The GCC is an economic and political alliance of six West Asian countries.

"So yes, we can expect the President to see the Crown Prince," the official said.

On Wednesday, the administration official defended the move saying the engagement with Saudi Arabia had helped yield results – notably a truce to a conflict between a Saudi-led coalition and rebels in Yemen, and an agreement by Saudi Arabia and other OPEC+ states to increase output of oil by 50%, ahead of schedule. Petrol prices in the U.S. and elsewhere have been soaring, and while there has been opposition to Mr. Biden's visit to the Kingdom from law-

makers, some have suggested he use the relationship to further U.S. interests.

"From the earliest days of our administration, we made clear that U.S. policy demanded recalibration and relations with this important country but not a rupture," the official said on Monday.

Last week, members of Congress wrote to Mr. Biden asking him to "further recalibrate" the bilateral relationship so it serves American interests. The administration official said Crown Prince Mohammed had played "a critical role" in extending, beyond its initial two months, an April truce with Houthi rebels in Yemen.

Human rights

The President is expected to discuss human rights – a core issue for Democrats – during his time in the region, including in Jeddah. A lot of these conversations are held "behind closed doors" the official said, adding, "And that is the best way to get results."

The official also pointed to the fact that 30 (of 35) countries had voted against Iran at the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA), the UN's nuclear watchdog, last week, as one of the outcomes of increased U.S. en-

gagement in West Asia. The vote asked Iran to cooperate with U.N. inspectors investigating three undeclared sites.

"Whereas a year and a half ago, it was the United States that was isolated internationally on this important issue," the official said.

India, Pakistan and Libya had abstained during the vote, while Russia and China had voted against the resolution.

In the West Bank, Mr. Biden will consult with the Palestinian Authority and "reiterate his strong support for a two-state solution, with equal measures of security, freedom and opportunity for the Palestinian people", White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement.

The administration official said the visit will reinvigorate the U.S.-Palestinian Authority (PA) dialogue and renew the dialogue between the PA and regional countries, especially Israel.

"Of course, when we entered office nearly a year and a half ago, ties between the U.S. government and the Palestinians had been nearly severed," the administration official said, adding that the administration was now regularly engaging the Palestinian leadership and had, since last year, provided more than half a billion dollars in support for Palestinians since last April.

The Trump administration had slashed more than \$500 million in bilateral aid for the West Bank and Gaza and funding for the UN agency for Palestinian refugees. It had also, controversially, recognised Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and moved the U.S. Embassy there.

Russia cuts off last routes out of eastern Ukraine city

Kyiv seeks howitzers, tanks and drones from the West

REUTERS
KYIV

Russian forces cut off the last routes for evacuating Ukrainians from the eastern Ukrainian city of Severodonetsk, a Ukrainian official said, as the Kremlin pushed for victory in the Donbas region.

The last bridge to the city was destroyed, trapping any remaining civilians and making it impossible to deliver humanitarian supplies, said Regional Governor Sergei Gaidai, adding that some 70% of the city was under Russian control.

Ukraine issued increasingly urgent calls for more Western heavy weapons to help defend Severodonetsk, which Kyiv says could hold the key to the battle for the eastern Donbas region and the course of the war, now in its fourth month.

Late on Monday, President Volodymyr Zelensky said the battle for the east-



Combat zone: A Ukrainian serviceman drives a tank towards the frontline at the eastern region of Donbas. *AFP

ern Donbas would go down as one of the most brutal in European history.

The region, comprising the provinces of Luhansk and Donetsk, is claimed by Russian separatists.

"For us, the price of this battle is very high. It is just scary," he said.

"We draw the attention of our partners daily to the fact that only a sufficient number of modern artillery for Ukraine will ensure our advan-

tage," Mr. Zelensky said. Russia's main goal is to protect Donetsk and Luhansk, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said on Monday, after the leader of one of the separatist regions asked for additional forces from Moscow.

Ukraine needs 1,000 howitzers, 500 tanks and 1,000 drones, among other heavy weapons, Presidential Adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said on Monday.

Beijing is trying to endanger regional peace, says Taipei

Remarks on Taiwan Strait wrong, unacceptable, it says

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TAIPEI

Taipei on Tuesday condemned China for saying that the Taiwan Strait is not international waters, and accused Beijing of trying to endanger regional peace with its territorial claim over it.

Taiwan lives under the threat of invasion by Beijing, which views the self-ruled democratic island as part of its territory to be re-taken one day, by force if necessary. The narrow waterway

that separates Taiwan and mainland China is a flashpoint, with Beijing often reacting angrily to passages by foreign warships.

The U.S. and other countries view the Strait as international waters open to all.

On Monday, Wang Wenbin, a spokesman for China's Foreign Ministry, said "China has sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the Taiwan Strait." "It is a false claim when certain countries call the Taiwan

Strait 'international waters' in order to find a pretext for manipulating issues related to Taiwan and threatening China's sovereignty and security," he added.

Taipei on Tuesday termed Beijing's remarks "wrong" and "unacceptable". "China... blatantly violates Taiwan's sovereignty and damages international maritime order to endanger regional peace and stability," the ruling Democratic Progressive Party said in a statement.

German court rejects bid to remove anti-Semitic relic

The 700-year-old statue is in a church

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BERLIN

A German federal court on Tuesday rejected a Jewish man's bid to have a 700-year-old anti-Semitic statue removed from a church where Martin Luther once preached.

The Federal Court of Justice upheld rulings by lower courts on the "Judensau", or "Jew pig", sculpture on the Town Church in Wittenberg – one of more than 20 such relics from the Middle Ages that still adorn churches across Germany and elsewhere in Europe. As in those rulings, judges pointed to the addition in the 1980s of a memorial at the site.

The case went to federal judges after courts in the eastern State of Saxony-Anhalt ruled in 2019 and 2020 against plaintiff Michael Duellmann. He had argued that the sculpture was "a defamation of and insult to the



A file photo of the medieval anti-Semitic carving in Wittenberg. *AFP

Jewish people" that has "a terrible effect up to this day," and had suggested moving it to the nearby Luther House museum.

The federal court found that, viewed in isolation, the original statue "derides and denigrates Judaism as a whole", but that the parish remedied the legal situation by adding the memorial explaining its historical background. That, it added, meant that the parish had distanced itself from the "defamatory and anti-Semitic message" of the statue.

Top U.S., Chinese officials hold 'candid' discussions

But no compromise on core points

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BEIJING

The top Chinese and U.S. security advisers have held lengthy talks, with both sides describing them as "candid" following days of acrimonious exchanges over Taiwan and other issues.

Readouts of the meeting in Luxembourg on Monday were toned down compared with last week, when China's Defence Minister warned his country would not "hesitate to start a war" over Taiwan, while the U.S. Defence Secretary blasted Beijing's "provocative, destabilising" military activity.

But U.S. Security Adviser Jake Sullivan and top diplomat Yang Jiechi did not indicate any compromise on their core points of disagreement, especially Taiwan. "The Taiwan question concerns the political foundation of China-U.S. relations which, unless handled properly, will have a subver-

sive impact," Mr. Yang was quoted as saying by China's official Xinhua news agency. "The U.S. should not have any misjudgements or illusions (about Taiwan)."

A White House official said Mr. Sullivan reiterated the U.S. policy of recognising Chinese sovereignty but expressed "concerns about Beijing's coercive and aggressive actions across the Taiwan Strait".

Xinhua said the talks were "candid, in-depth, and constructive" while the White House described them as "candid, substantive, and productive".

Mr. Sullivan "underscored the importance of keeping open lines of communication to manage competition between our two countries", the White House said. Mr. Yang also agreed on maintaining dialogue, Xinhua said, but made clear that Beijing was not going to shift its red lines.

Sturgeon to outline plan for independence vote

REUTERS
LONDON

Scottish First Minister Nicola Sturgeon on Tuesday said she was nearly ready to give more details on how the nation's devolved Parliament could move ahead with a new independence referendum without the consent of the British government.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and his Conservative Party, which is in Opposition in Scotland, strongly oppose a referendum, saying the issue was settled in 2014 when Scots voted against independence by 55% to 45%.

But pro-independence parties won a majority in the Scottish Parliament in an election held last year, which Ms. Sturgeon said gave her an "indisputable democratic mandate" to push ahead with plans for a second referendum.

Ms. Sturgeon, leader of the pro-independence Scottish National Party (SNP), is aiming to hold a vote by the end of 2023 even though Mr. Johnson has refused to issue a "Section 30" order to allow one.

SALEM CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
2020-2021 15th Central Finance Commission
Solid Waste Management - Purchase of Vehicles
Extension of Tender Date

Roc.No.E4/11873/2020 Date: 13.06.2022

- Purchase of 19 Type of works, Vehicles carrying solid waste in Salem Corporation area Compactor Vehicles, LCV Vehicles, Compactor Bins, HDPE Bins and Road Works in Total Estimate Cost of Rs.1450.75 Lakhs.
- Bid document and other information available at (free of cost) www.intenders.gov.in, www.tenders.in.gov.in, www.salemcorporation.gov.in "e submission" is also permitted.
- Date and time for Tender Procedures.
Submission of bids - 15.06.2022 up to 30.06.2022 - 3.00 P.M.
Opening of bids - 30.06.2022 at 3.30 P.M.

DIPR/2790/Tender/2022 Commissioner, Salem Corporation.

சேலம்நகராட்சி கூட்டுத்துறை அமைச்சுத்தொழில் சார்பு வாகனங்களைப் பரிசீலனை செய்வதற்கான பட்டியல்.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Highways Department
Projects Circle, Chennai-16

TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No. 02 / 2022-2023 / SDO / Date: 14.06.2022

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Item Rate tender through online only will be received upto 20.07.2022, 15.00 hours by the **Superintending Engineer(H), Projects Circle, Chennai** for One bridge work in respect of Chengalpattu (H) Projects Division under Railway Works Programme 2011-12.

Details of Name of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 20.06.2022 onwards in the Government website <https://tenders.gov.in> If any Changes / Corrections / Amendments etc to the tender, it will be published on the above Government website only.

Superintending Engineer (H), Projects Circle, Chennai-16.
DIPR/2809/Tender/2022

சேலம்நகராட்சி கூட்டுத்துறை அமைச்சுத்தொழில், சாலைகள் புதித்து சரித்திரம் பட்டியல்.

BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY RESEARCH ASSISTANCE COUNCIL
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

INVITES PROPOSALS

for
Development, validation & pre-commercialization of products/technologies in the areas of

Healthcare **Energy and Environment** **Veterinary Sciences and Aquaculture** **Agriculture and Secondary Agriculture**

under
i4 (Intensifying the Impact of Industrial Innovation)

Supports industry through:

- SBIRI (Small Business Innovation Research Initiative)
- BIPP (Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme)

PACE (Promoting Academic Research Conversion to Enterprise)

Supports academia through:

- AIR (Academic Innovation Research)
- CRS (Contract Research Scheme)

For online application, scheme details and eligibility criteria, please log on to BIRAC website (www.birac.nic.in)

Last date for submission of proposals: **31st July, 2022** (up to 5:30 pm)

For queries, please contact: GM & Head - Investment, BIRAC. Email: investment.birac@gov.in

MARKET WATCH

	14-06-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	52,694	-0.29
US Dollar	78.04	-
Gold	50,471	-1.55
Brent oil	124.08	1.62

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	704.70	9.45
Apollo Hosp	3706.20	54.30
Asian Paints	2635.40	-25.35
Axis Bank	650.75	1.80
Bajaj Auto	3681.75	-199.50
Bajaj Finserv	11336.50	-49.55
Bajaj Finance	5375.75	17.50
Bharti Airtel	682.05	10.75
Biocon	314.30	-3.65
Britannia Ind	3382.85	23.85
Cipla	964.70	9.95
Coal India	192.20	1.15
Divis Lab	3525.65	51.50
Dr Reddys Lab	4311.05	43.85
Eicher Motors	2722.75	21.95
Grasim Ind	1309.35	16.80
HCL Tech	996.90	5.10
HDFC	2109.50	-18.95
HDFC Bank	1312.00	-14.60
HDFC Life	572.40	-9.60
Hero MotoCorp	2557.60	-41.20
Hindalco	358.30	-8.15
Hind Unilever	2171.00	-25.90
ICI Bank	685.50	-2.50
Indusind Bank	844.20	-21.25
Infosys	1440.55	16.05
ITC	265.45	0.80
JSW Steel	561.90	-2.10
Kotak Bank	1739.20	-11.60
L&T	1544.65	12.60
M&M	1019.25	14.95
Maruti Suzuki	7811.65	-89.95
Nestle India Ltd.	16871.45	17.00
NTPC	151.40	2.50
ONGC	155.95	-3.60
PowerGrid Corp	223.95	1.60
Reliance Ind	2628.10	-34.80
SBI Life	1132.10	-1.60
State Bank	448.10	2.25
Shree Cement	19208.85	73.20
Sun Pharma	825.05	-4.45
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	735.85	-0.10
Tata Motors	405.15	-1.55
Tata Steel	996.15	4.20
TCS	3210.55	-9.05
Tech Mahindra	1030.15	-21.80
Titan	2102.00	-9.40
UltraTech Cement	5428.60	72.45
UPL	715.70	-10.70
Wipro	445.90	-0.20

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 15, 2022

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	77.79	78.11
Euro	81.19	81.56
British Pound	94.07	94.48
Japanese Yen (100)	57.91	58.15
Chinese Yuan	11.55	11.60
Swiss Franc	78.27	78.60
Singapore Dollar	55.89	56.13
Canadian Dollar	60.16	60.41
Malaysian Ringgit	17.58	17.68
Australian Dollar	53.62	53.84

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF



India's palm oil imports slid 33% in May: SEA

NEW DELHI India's palm oil imports declined by 33.2% to 5,14,022 tonnes during May this year, but there was a sharp increase in shipment of RBD palmolein oil by refineries, industry body Solvent Extractors Association (SEA) said. India, imported 7,69,602 tonnes of palm oil in May 2021. PTI

'Hiring outlook most optimistic in 8 years'

NEW DELHI India's job market looks optimistic with 63% of companies planning to add more staff in the next three months, a survey showed. According to the Manpower Group Employment Outlook Survey, the labour market is indicating strong sentiment in the third quarter of 2022, with a net employment outlook of 51%, which is a record high in eight years. PTI

France's Total to buy 25% stake in Adani green hydrogen unit

ANIL-TotalEnergies JV eyes \$50 bn green hydrogen investment over 10 years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT AHMEDABAD

The Adani group said on Tuesday it had tied up with French energy major TotalEnergies SE to jointly create the 'world's largest green hydrogen ecosystem' in Gujarat's Kutch region.

As part of the tie-up, TotalEnergies would acquire a 25% stake in Adani New Industries Ltd. (ANIL), a unit of Adani Enterprises Ltd. (AEL). The joint venture aims to invest \$50 billion over the next 10 years to set up the green hydrogen ecosystem, AEL and TotalEnergies said in a joint statement.

"In our journey to be the world's largest Green H2



Going green: TotalEnergies aims to use the JV to decarbonise the hydrogen used in its European refineries. ■ REUTERS

player, the partnership with @TotalEnergies will fundamentally shape market demand," Adani group chairman Gautam Adani posted

on Twitter. "Our ability to produce the world's least expensive electron will lead to us producing the world's least expensive Green H2,"

he tweeted.

"TotalEnergies' entry into ANIL is a major milestone in implementing our renewable and low carbon hydrogen strategy, where we want to not only decarbonise the hydrogen used in our European refineries by 2030, but also pioneer the mass production of green hydrogen to meet demand, as the market will take off by the end of this decade." TotalEnergies chairman and CEO Patrick Pouyanné was cited in the statement as saying.

In the primary phase, ANIL will develop green hydrogen production capacity of 1 million tons per annum at Mundra before 2030.

RBI may raise rates to 5.9% by year end: Fitch

'Rates may rise to 6.15% by end-2023'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Fitch Ratings on Tuesday said the Reserve Bank was likely to raise interest rates further to 5.9% by December 2022, on deteriorating inflation outlook.

In its update to the Global Economic Outlook, Fitch said India's economy faced a worsening external environment, elevated commodity prices and tighter global monetary policy. "Given the deteriorating outlook for inflation, we now expect the RBI to lift rates further to 5.9% by December 2022 and to 6.15% by the end of 2023 (versus a previous forecast of 5%) and to be unchanged in 2024," Fitch said.

"Inflation has risen to an eight-year high and broad-

Fitch expects GDP to grow 7.8% in FY23, lower than its previous forecast of 8.5%

ens across more CPI categories, posing a severe challenge to consumers. In the past three months, food inflation has increased by an average of 7.3% year-on-year, while healthcare bills are rising at a similar pace." Growth in April-June is likely to improve on a rebound in consumption as COVID-19 cases had subsided towards end-March.

"We now expect the economy to grow by 7.8% this year (2022-2023), revised down from our previous forecast of 8.5%," the rating agency said.

Switch mulls ₹1,000-cr. e-bus unit

EV firm looks to raise £200 million in the short term

N. ANAND CHENNAI

Switch Mobility Ltd., the electric-vehicle arm of Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL), is planning to set up a greenfield unit at a cost of about ₹1,000 crore to make electric buses, said a top official.

"Currently, we are evaluating different sites to make e-buses," Mahesh Babu, director & CEO, Switch Mobility India, said in an interview.

"The plant will come up in the vicinity of one of ALL's existing facilities."

Stating that the company was preparing multiple blueprints based on the EV policies of different States, he said a final decision would be taken in the next 4-6 weeks. The new facility would have an initial, annual production capacity of 2,500 buses. It could be dou-



Green journey: Mahesh Babu, left and Dheeraj Hinduja with EIV 12 electric buses. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

bled based on demand.

On Tuesday, Switch Mobility rolled out its maiden electric bus platform 'Switch EIV 12' for the Indian market. The buses are currently made at ALL's Ennore facility.

"Right now, Switch has an order book of 600 e-buses," said ALL Chairman Dheeraj Hinduja.

Air India's bid to fully acquire AirAsia India gets CCI approval

Tata group raised holding in AirAsia India to 83.67% in 2020

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Competition Commission of India on Tuesday approved Air India's proposal to acquire the entire shareholding of the Tata group's low-cost subsidiary AirAsia India. This would help pave the way for the consolidation of various airline entities owned by Tata Sons.

"The proposed combination envisages the acquisition of the entire equity share capital of AirAsia (India) Pvt. Ltd. (Air Asia India) by Air India Ltd., an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Tata Sons Pvt. Ltd. (TSPL)," the CCI said in a statement.

TSPL currently "holds 83.67% of the equity share



capital of AirAsia India," it added. AirAsia India was set up in 2014 as a joint venture (JV) between Tata Sons and Malaysia's AirAsia Berhad. The Tata group raised its stake in the JV to 83.67% in December 2020.

The nod comes almost six months after the government transferred the owner-

ship of Air India and Air India Express to Tata Sons.

Air India's integration with Vistara, Tatas' JV with Singapore Airlines, is, however, likely to take time as negotiations are still underway with the JV partner.

The Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore had recently expressed concern over the Tatas acquiring Air India as three related entities - Singapore Airlines, Tata Sons and Vistara - have "overlapping passenger routes" between India and the city state, saying it needed to "assess further" whether there was sufficient competition from other unrelated airlines such as IndiGo.

Stocks narrow losses on retail inflation data

Rupee remains unchanged at 78.04

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The equity markets continued to see selling pressure on Tuesday but the losses narrowed compared with the previous session, owing to better-than-expected CPI data released on Monday.

The S&P BSE Sensex lost 153 points, or 0.29%, to 52,694. "The domestic market [was] restrained from heavy sell-off as CPI data moderated on a month-on-month basis and this had a calming effect amid global volatility," said Vinod Nair, head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

The NSE Nifty 50 lost 42.3 points, or 0.27%, to 15,732.

The rupee was unchanged over Monday's rate of 78.04 to the dollar.



Sugandha Sachdeva, VP, Commodity and Currency Research, Religare Broking, said the rupee had depreciated about 5% so far in 2022. "Along with rising crude oil prices, the prime culprit behind the rupee losing value... is the sharp rally in the greenback, which has risen by around 10% year-to-date towards a fresh two-decade peak," she said.

Govt. names Venu Srinivasan to RBI board

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

The Union government has nominated industrialists Anand Gopal Mahindra, chairman Mahindra Group, Venu Srinivasan, chairman emeritus TVS Motor Company Ltd. and Pankaj Ramanbhai Patel, chairman Zydus Lifesciences as part-time, non-official directors on the Central Board of the RBI.

Ravindra H. Dholakia, a retired professor of IIM-Ahmedabad, was also nominated. They would hold office for a period of four years with effect from June 14 or until further orders, whichever is earlier, the Reserve Bank of India said in a statement.

Airlines say it is back to 'business' as usual

Offline meetings, conferences shore up demand for corporate travel, 2 years after COVID-19 struck

JAGRITI CHANDRA NEW DELHI

When the pandemic forced office-goers to work remotely, much of corporate travel ground to a halt.

Those serving the travel and dependent industries were worried that exposure to virtual video-conferences and event platforms could sound the death knell for business travel. But two years later, there has been a '360-degree change', according to India's leading airline.

IndiGo, which controls 59% of the aviation market, saw 100% recovery in corporate or business travel in April and May 2022, and expects the demand to soon exceed pre-pandemic levels, said chief strategy and revenue officer Sanjay Kumar.



Set for take-off: IndiGo expects corporate travel demand to soon exceed pre-COVID levels. ■ FILE PHOTO

"The pandemic has created a new segment of travel, which includes those who used to travel by train but have since been exposed to air travel and are now continuing to remain with this mode of travel," Mr. Kumar explained.

The second factor, he

said, was MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) related travel. "Since the last two years there were no meetings, conferences and exhibitions, and now all of a sudden we are seeing a huge number of these activities," observed Mr. Kumar.

A senior executive at GoFirst, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said, assuming they had seated 40 corporate travellers on a 186-seater plane prior to the pandemic, they were now boarding 45, and in some cases 50, corporate travellers - an increase to 29% from 24%.

Business travel is a lucrative opportunity for airlines for several reasons.

Corporate chunk "Big corporates in the country account for 24-25% of the overall revenue from passenger traffic," said Mr. Kumar. "But if you track the pattern of travel of other categories such as lawyers, doctors, self-employed businessmen, then the entire corporate travel chunk is 46-48% of revenue," he added.

Business travellers also tend to be less price conscious, as the travel is at office expense and they often end up booking their tickets in the last minute, thus paying higher fares. Lastly, they also travel more frequently.

"Corporate travel also drives demand for leisure travel," the GoFirst executive said. "Not only do corporate-travellers commute from metro to metro, or from a metro to non-metro, but they also give us penetration into leisure [destinations]."

According to Thomas Cook Group, the demand for business travel is now more than 90% of pre-COVID levels and is led by IT, consultancy, banking and finance, global accounts and SMEs.

IRDAI extends eased insurance norms for crops

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

Insurance regulator IRDAI is extending the timeline of relaxations pertaining to solvency margin requirement for crop insurance, a move estimated to free up about ₹1,400 crore for the general insurers.

Since 2017-18, the period of admissibility of premium due from government for solvency calculation purpose has been relaxed from 180 days to 365.

"Now, it has been decided to extend the relaxations from 2022-23 onwards till further orders," the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India said in a release on Tuesday.

SPORT

Six billion reasons to believe that the future of cricket is already here

The change is dramatic, disruptive and distinct, and likely to take the game into its next phase faster than was imagined at one time



BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

What do the figures with all those zeroes really mean? When you stare at a word long enough, it begins to look strange and meaningless. Psychologists call this 'semantic satiation'. Look at the IPL rights figures long enough - 50,000 crore, 60,000 crore, six billion dollars, - and there is numerical satiation. The figures begin to look faintly absurd.

The IPL ignores inflation, ignores Covid-induced slowdown, and seems to have carved out a kingdom of its own in the sporting landscape, independent of the economic climate. The pressure is now on the viewers to watch the IPL. Any drop in viewership may be construed as lack of interest and discourage advertisers. We are

in for more hype, more hysteria, greater frenzy - and all that before a ball is bowled next year! That is the nature of the beast.

For those willing to pay the equivalent of a small state's GDP for the rights, it is not about cricket. It is about guaranteeing eyeballs to cement manufacturers, car makers, makers of perfumes and pan masala and tyres and fizzy drinks and more. It is about long-term audiences for their channels.

Attracting viewership

It is about attracting viewership to their other programmes through cricket. The IPL long ago reached the stage when it was too big to fail; now it is flirting with a more dangerous possibility - that of succeeding so well that the next round of rights cannot be sustained. Don't forget somebody has to pay for all this.

What will the Board of Control for Cricket in India do with the 100% revenue increase? It has already announced a hike in the pensions of former players and umpires, which is a good thing, but money-wise small change. Will the extra money

be pumped back into the game or will it be used for more travel and greater comfort of the office-bearers?

Will the BCCI demand greater accountability from the State units? Will the first class fees in the National championships for players, umpires, scorers, groundsmen be increased as many experts have recommended?

Will spectator comfort at our stadiums move from the bottom of the priority list to somewhere closer to the top? Will the IPL be guaranteed a better class of commentator?

According to reports, advertisers paid between 15 and 18 lakh for a ten-second spot during this year's IPL. This will go up now as those with the rights have paid more for them. At what point will advertisers turn away? Then there is the question of the number of teams and matches.

Already there is talk of 12 teams and two IPL tournaments in a season. Perhaps another one abroad. That would take half the year or more. Where would that leave international cricket? Is franchise cricket the future of the game, with the World

Cups the last vestiges of international rivalry?

Perhaps that is an exaggeration - but, as science fiction has showed us, what will be commonplace in the future begin as exaggerations in the present.

Breaking away

There is too the possibility that T20 cricket if not the IPL itself, could break away from the International Cricket Council, form its own eco system and offer players more money, more exposure and a better work-life balance.

When Joe Root admitted as he quit captaincy of England that it had become "a very unhealthy relationship", he might have been, unwittingly, speaking on behalf of international players tired of long tours away from the family, and with incomes barely commensurate with the effort. Add selectorial uncertainties and career-threatening injuries, and earning more for playing less becomes terribly attractive.

The IPL guarantees more money in a shorter period of time; it can be seen as a

domestic challenge with an international flavour, and that can be appealing too.

Recent five-day Tests have been some of the most thrilling in the game's history, yet if a generation of players is convinced that the 20-over game has all the subtlety and nuance of a five-day match, it will be pointless trying to convince them otherwise. Money does make the (cricket) world go round, after all. That the figures for digital rights for the IPL have exceeded expectations is a pointer to the way cricket is expected to be consumed (to use marketing lingo) in the future. Old certainties no longer hold; the difference between the result of the previous rights cycle and the current one is not one of degree, but one of kind. The change is dramatic, disruptive and distinct, and likely to take the game into its next phase faster than was imagined at one time.

Earlier this year, *Forbes* pointed out that Mumbai Indians, the IPL's most valuable franchise at \$1.3 billion is worth more than six Major League Baseball teams or 27 NHL teams. Great news for cricket's economy, but what about cricket itself?

FMSCI to host awards function today

SPORTS REPORTER CHENNAI

After a two-year break due to the pandemic, the Federation of Motor Sports Clubs of India (FMSCI), the National governing body for the sport, will host its annual awards gala at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, here on Wednesday, June 15.

The awards function will bring together all the 2021 National champions in various formats of motorsport besides a host of aficionados and special invitees. P. Kandaswamy, Director General of Police, and Director, Directorate Vigilance & Anti-Corruption, will be the chief guest at the function. At the Awards function, the FMSCI will also honour the teams, besides promoters and sponsors involved in the sport.

Harshal, Chahal help India stay alive in series

Opens Raturaj, Kishan lay the foundation with a 97-run stand; SA falls well short in its chase of 179

SA IN INDIA

S. DINAKAR
VISAKHAPATNAM

This has been a summer of sunshine for David Miller. He has raised the bar, made the impossible seem mundane, and nonchalantly dismissed bowlers with bludgeoning blows.

When seamer Harshal Patel's change of pace extracted a miscued hit from the left-handed Miller, caught well by Raturaj Gaikwad at extra-cover for just three, it marked the decisive moment of the contest.

No comebacks

There were no comebacks for South Africa after Miller's exit and India, winning by 48 runs after bowling out the Proteas for 131, made the series scoreline 2-1 in the third T20I at the ACA-VDCA Stadium here on Tuesday.

The last two games of the series bristle with possibilities.

The Proteas, inserting the opposition, did well to restrict it to 179 for five after a blistering start from Raturaj (57) and Ishan Kishan (54), both faced 35 deliveries, promised much more for India.

However, the South Africans lost wickets early in the chase. Axar Patel took out Temba Bavuma with a change in trajectory and Harshal pulled his length back to force a fatal miscue from Reeza Hendricks.

And Yuzvendra Chahal, bowling with rhythm, skill and control, spun one across Rassie van der Dussen for 'keeper Rishabh Pant to take a sharp catch. The leg-spinner celebrated again when he spun one from the off-tump to consume a heavy-hitting Pretorius.

When the wily Chahal, fighting the ball outside off, had a fighting Heinrich Klaasen reaching out for the sphere and holing out at cov-



The architects: Raturaj found his touch while Chahal's crucial blows spelt South Africa's doom. • K.R. DEEPAK



er, South Africa had lost another game-changer.

This was a night when Raturaj had put his dancing shoes on. He was nimble-footed, creating space and room for expansive strokes. A flicked six off Kagiso Rabada was a sign of things to come.

The intrepid opener slammed five successive boundaries off Anrich Nortje in a dramatic over that saw Raturaj charging down and striking Nortje over mid-on. The South African responded with a nifty lather that flicked the gloves and crashed into his helmet grill before speeding to the boundary. A pristine flick was the best of the boundaries.

An inside-out cover-drive off left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj, after stepping down the track, was a high-quality stroke. Kishan es-

ayed some typically fierce pulls and sweeps. The left-hander showcased his ability to get under the ball to pound it.

The 97-run opening partnership in 10 overs was broken by a delivery of flight and dip that Raturaj knocked back to Maharaj.

Pretorius' slower ball accounted for Kishan (54, 35b).

Hardik Pandya batted with maturity and cricketer's nous to remain unbeaten on a handy 31.

Then came Harshal's four-for and Chahal's treble.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA		SOUTH AFRICA	
Raturaj Gaikwad c & b Maharaj 57 (35b, 7x4, 2x6)	Ishan Kishan c Hendricks b Pretorius 54 (35b, 5x4, 2x6)	Shreyas Iyer c Nortje b Shamsi 14 (11b, 2x6)	Rishabh Pant c Bavuma b Pretorius 6 (8b)
Hardik Pandya (not out) 31 (21b, 4x4)	Dinesh Karthik c Parnell b Rabada 6 (8b)	Axar Patel (not out) 5 (2b, 1x4)	Extras (lb-4, w-2): 6; Total (for five wkts. in 20 overs): 179.
FALL OF WICKETS		INDIA BOWLING	
1-97 (Raturaj, 9.6 overs)	2-128 (Shreyas, 12.6)	3-131 (Kishan, 13.4)	4-143 (Pant, 15.5)
SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING		INDIA BATTING	
Rabada 4-0-31-1	Parnell 4-0-32-0	Nortje 2-0-23-0	Pretorius 1-0-29-2
INDIA BATTING		SOUTH AFRICA BATTING	
Raturaj 57 (35b, 7x4, 2x6)	Ishan Kishan 54 (35b, 5x4, 2x6)	Shreyas Iyer 14 (11b, 2x6)	Rishabh Pant 6 (8b)
Hardik Pandya 31 (21b, 4x4)	Dinesh Karthik 6 (8b)	Axar Patel 5 (2b, 1x4)	Extras (lb-4, w-2): 6
Total (in 19.1 overs): 131.		Total (in 19.1 overs): 179.	

India proves too hot for Hong Kong

The host wins 4-0 to top group

ASIAN CUP

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA
KOLKATA

India scored twice in each half to beat Hong Kong 4-0 in its concluding Group D league fixture of the 2023 AFC Asian Cup qualifying round at the Salt Lake Stadium on Tuesday.

The remarkable win helped India top the group with nine points from three wins and secure a second consecutive Asian Cup main-round berth for the first time.

Hong Kong (six points), too, made it to the final phase as one of the second-best finishers in the six groups.

On the attack

The Indians, looking to seize the initiative, went on the attack right from kick off. They won a corner with barely 30 seconds on the clock. Opting for a short corner, Jeakson Singh sent a sharp cross to the Hong Kong goalmouth.

Ashique Kuruniyan saw his first attempt ricochet off

an opposition defender before Anwar Ali swooped in on the rebound to fire the ball to the roof of the net.

The hosts doubled the lead in the final minute of the first half through a spectacular finish by Sunil Chhetri. The India captain, airborne while receiving a Jeakson free-kick, found the target with a left-footed grounder.

Chhetri's 84th international goal tied him with Hungarian legend Ferenc Puskas and took him to the fifth spot in the international goal-scorers' list.

Despite a torrential downpour towards the end of the opening half, the Indians braved the conditions to keep a grip on the contest. Manvir Singh made it 3-0 in the 85th minute before setting up Ishan Pandita, who completed the tally in injury time (90+3).

The results: India 4 (Anwar 1, Chhetri 45, Manvir 85, Ishan 90+3) bt Hong Kong 0.

Afghanistan 2 (Faisal Shayesteh 16, Mustafa Zazai 35) drew with Cambodia 2 (Brak Thiva 37, Keo Sokpheng 81).



What a start! Anwar found the breakthrough for India in the opening minute. • FILE PHOTO

Neeraj betters National mark, takes silver

Neeraj. • INSTAGRAM/ PAAVONURMIGAMESTURKU



Neeraj. • INSTAGRAM/ PAAVONURMIGAMESTURKU

SPORTS BUREAU

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra bettered his javelin National record (88.07m) by more than a metre with a massive 89.30m effort at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland, on Tuesday.

The effort, in Neeraj's second throw in his first competition after winning the Tokyo Olympics gold last year, brought him a silver. Finland's Oliver Helander took the gold with a personal best (89.83m).

Neeraj opened with 86.92, had a big one in the second, and messed up his next three throws. He closed with a throw of 85.85m. Grenada's World champion Anderson Peters, this year's World leader with a 93.07 in Doha last month, was third (86.60).

Sindhu and Praneeth exit

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
JAKARTA

Two-time Olympic medalist P.V. Sindhu made a shock first-round exit from the Indonesia Open Super 1000 event after losing 14-21, 18-21 to China's He Bing Jiao here on Tuesday.

B. Sai Praneeth lost 16-21, 19-21 to Hans-Kristian Solberg Vittinghus of Denmark.

Sameer Verma won 21-19, 21-15 over France's Thomas Rouxel.

The women's doubles duo of Ashwini Ponappa and N. Sikki Reddy put it across Indo-American pair of Srivedya Guruzada and Ishika Jaiswal 21-15, 21-8.

IN BRIEF

Australia beats Sri Lanka

PALLEKELE Glenn Maxwell (80 n.o.) took Australia to a two-wicket win against Sri Lanka in the first ODI on Tuesday.

The scores: Sri Lanka 300/7 in 50 overs (Danushka Gunathilaka 55, Pathum Nissanka 56, Kusal Mendis 86 n.o.) lost to Australia 282/8 in 42.3 overs (Aaron Finch 44, Steve Smith 53, Marcus Stoinis 44, Glenn Maxwell 80 n.o., Hasaranga 4/58); Target: 282 in 44 overs.

3-0 for Afghanistan

HARARE Noor Ahmed (4/10) helped Afghanistan beat Zimbabwe by 35 runs in the third T20I on Tuesday to win series 3-0. **The scores:** Afghanistan 125/8 in 20 overs bt Zimbabwe 90/9 in 20 overs (Noor Ahmed 4/10).

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: Indonesia Masters, Sports 18-1 & Voot Select, 7.30 a.m.
Ranji Trophy: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 9.30 a.m.

Australia seals World Cup spot



Redmayne. • REUTERS

AASHIN PRASAD
AL RAYYAN (QATAR)

Australia sealed a fifth successive World Cup finals appearance beating Peru 5-4 on penalties in the inter-confederation playoff final here on Monday.

With the score deadlocked at 0-0, Australia coach Graham Arnold brought on substitute goalkeeper Andrew Redmayne, who had just two senior appearances under his belt, for Mat Ryan in the final minute of extra-time.

The 33-year-old Redmayne's unorthodox approach on the goal-line vindicated Arnold's move as he pulled off two saves in the shoot-out to give the Socceroos a momentous win.

While the South Americans were keen on stretching the game into an end-to-end affair, the Aussies seemed intent on slowing it down.

Redmayne arrives

With penalties approaching, Arnold introduced Redmayne, who turned hero by denying Luis Advincula and Alex Valera.

(The writer is in Qatar at the invitation of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy)

BCCI's revenue tops ₹48,000 crore

Star India wins TV, Viacom gets digital

IPL MEDIA RIGHTS

AMOL KARHADKAR
BENGALURU

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has reaped a total revenue of ₹48,390 crore through Indian Premier League's (IPL's) media rights.

At the end of intense bidding over three days through e-auction, BCCI secretary Jay Shah announced the winning bidders on Tuesday.

Star India has bagged the television rights for ₹23,575 crore, while the Viacom 18-led combine has been awarded the digital rights for Indian sub-continent at ₹23,758 crore.

The rest of the world rights were divided between Viacom 18 and Times Internet Ltd. for a total figure of ₹1,057 crore.

It is understood that while Viacom 18 had the highest bid for three of the five global territories (sub-Saharan, Europe and South East Asia & Oceania), the Times group was awarded the remaining two territories (Middle East and US).

Referring to the development as a "red-letter day" for Indian cricket, Shah

claimed the IPL has emerged as the second most valuable sports league globally. "No cricket property in the world has been sold for such a high value and it is with immense pride that I share that IPL today is the second most valuable sports league in the world. In just 15 years, the IPL has moved ahead of the globally popular English Premier League, Major League Baseball (MLB) and The National Basketball Association (NBA)," Shah wrote in a letter to BCCI affiliates, accessed by The Hindu.

"It is indeed a proud moment to see that a league designed and conceptualised in India is now the second-most lucrative sports property."

It will be for the first time that the IPL will be broadcast by different players on television and on the digital platforms. Despite the setback, Rebecca Campbell, chairman, International Content and Operations, The Walt Disney Company, stated that the company is "pleased to extend our association with the Indian Premier League and look forward to offering the next five seasons across our portfolio of television channels."

The winning bidders	
DISNEY STAR	
Category: Indian sub-continent television	Amount: ₹23,575 crore
VIACOM 18 COMBINE	
Category: Digital rights for Indian sub-continent	Amount: ₹23,758 crore
Viacom 18 (Europe, sub-Saharan and South East Asia & Oceania) and Times Internet Ltd (US and Middle East)	
Category: Rest of the World	Amount: ₹1,057 crore

Average revenue through IPL media rights per year	
2008: ₹404 crore	2009 to 2017: ₹911 crore
2018 to 2022: ₹3,422 crore	2023 to 2027: ₹9,678 crore

Bairstow powers England in record chase

Joins forces with Stokes in a whirlwind attack post-tea to secure a series victory



Bairstow. • AP

NZ IN ENGLAND

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NOTTINGHAM

Jonny Bairstow smashed England's second-fastest Test century to lead his country to a record run chase at Trent Bridge and a five-wicket victory in the second Test against New Zealand, clinching the series with one match to spare. Bairstow completed his century in 77 deliveries - one ball more than Gilbert Jessop's record for England set in 1902.

Set 299 to win in a little over two sessions on day five, England reached its target in 50 overs with Bairstow fall-

Boul's record

Boul has scored the most runs by a Test No. 11, surpassing Muralitharan (623). The Kiwi now has 640 in 79 innings

ing for 136 off 92 balls just before the victory was sealed.

Joining hands with England at 93 for four, Bairstow and captain Ben Stokes (75 n.o.) could have played for the draw. Instead, they went

on the attack and added 179 runs for the fourth wicket.

The previous highest successful chase in Nottingham came in 2004 when England's 284 for six defeated New Zealand.

Praveen wins gold, books ticket to World Championships

Tamil Nadu clinches the overall title while Haryana finishes second

ATHLETICS

K. KEERTHIVASAN
CHENNAI

There was a lot of excitement surrounding the men's triple jump event as quite a few athletes were expected to make a new mark in the National inter-State athletics meet here on Tuesday.

In the end, it was Praveen Chitravel of Tamil Nadu who pipped his competitors to win the triple jump gold with a leap of 17.18m and booked a ticket to the World Championships (17.14m) in Eugene next month.

Kerala's Abdullah Aboobacker finished second with a jump of 17.14m. He had already made the cut for the Worlds at the Indian Grand Prix in Bhubaneswar.



Big leap: Praveen won the triple jump gold on Tuesday with a new meet mark. • B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Praveen, Abdullah, Eldose Paul and U. Karthik have also qualified for the Commonwealth Games.

"I suffered a heel injury in the international meet in Rome recently and didn't train much for 2-3 weeks and

came directly to Chennai," said Praveen.

Tamil Nadu bagged the overall championships with 133.500 points. Haryana (101.500) and Uttar Pradesh (99) finished second and third respectively.

The results:

Men: 200m: 1. Amlan Borgohain (Asm) 21.00s; 2. Abhin B. Devadiga (Kar) 21.42; 3. Rahul Ramesh Kadam (Mah) 21.68; **500m:** 1. Harendra Kumar (Del) 14:01.50s; 2. Amit Jangir (Raj) 14:02.01; 3. Dharmender (Raj) 14:02.13. **400mH:** 1. Jabir Madari Palliyalil (Ker) 49.76s; 2. T. Santhosh Kumar (TN) 50.16; 3. Dhaval Mahesh Utekar (Guj) 50.55; **hammer throw:** 1. Niraj Kumar (Raj) 65.52m; 2. Harvendra Singh (UP) 64.97; 3. Damneet Singh (Pun) 63.15; **triple jump:** 1. Praveen Chitravel (TN) 17.18m (NMR, OMR: Arpinder Singh, Lucknow, 17.17m, 2014); 2. Abdullah Aboobacker (Ker) 17.14; 3. Eldose Paul (Ker) 16.81. **4x400m relay:** 1. India-A (Muhammed Ajmal, P. Naganathan, Mijo Chacko Kurian, S. Arokia Rajiv) 3:05.34s; 2. Sri Lanka (S. Aruna Dharshana, H. Deshan, R. Lakshan, G. Niku) 3:06.05; 3.

India-B (S. Barath, Kapil, Ayush Dabas, T. Santhosh Kumar) 3:15.78.

Women: 200m: 1. S. Dhana-lakshmi (TN) 23.27s; 2. Himma Das (Asm) 23.29s; 3. Aishwarya Mishra (Mah) 23.72; **5000m:** 1. Sanjivani Baburao Jadhav (Mah) 16:11.46s; 2. Shraddha Rajani (Guj) 16:14.04; 3. Seema (HP) 16:25.47.

400mH: 1. R. Vithya Ramraj (TN) 57.08s; 2. R. Anu (Ker) 58.99; 3. R. Arathi (Ker) 59.26; long jump: 1. B. Aishwarya (Kar) 6.60m; 2. Lancy Sojan (Ker) 6.49; 3. Sruthi Lekshmi (Ker) 6.35; **hammer throw:** 1. Manju Bala (Raj) 64.19s (NMR, OMR: Sarita Singh, Guwahati, 63.18m); 2. R. Renu (Hr) 59.83.

4x400m relay: 1. Haryana-B (Summy, Bhatari, Nisha, Sindhu) 3:41.90; 2. Tami Nadu (B. Sumathira, Olimba Steffi, K. Roshini, V. Subha) 3:42.39; 3. Kerala (Jamsheela, Sayana, L. Net George, R. Arathi) 3:42.92.

Jaiswal rides his luck to notch up another ton

Uttar Pradesh bowlers do well to restrict Mumbai to 260 for five on opening day of their semifinal

RANJI TROPHY

AMOL KARHADKAR
BENGALURU

Yashasvi Jaiswal continued his love-affair with the Garden City but Uttar Pradesh kept Mumbai in check on the opening day of the Ranji Trophy semifinal here on Tuesday.

On a hot day and a strip at the Just Cricket Academy that had decent carry, Uttar Pradesh did well to restrict Mumbai to 260 for five after electing to field. Jaiswal, the left-handed opener, made the most of two reprieves to notch up his second Ranji hundred.

Happy hunting ground

All his five centuries at the senior level, including three in Vijay Hazare Trophy, have been scored in Bengaluru.

The UP pace quartet persisted with a fifth-stump line in a bid to frustrate Mumbai batters and dry up the flow of runs. Most of Mumbai's batters fell prey to the ploy, with no one barring Jaiswal and Hardik Tamore — who



In fine form: Opener Jaiswal continued from where he left off in the quarterfinals to prop up Mumbai. ■ K. PICHUMANI

made the most of his maiden opportunity of the season with an unbeaten fifty — being able to convert their starts.

While the pacers and sea-

soned spinner Saurabh Kumar kept the batters quiet, captain Karan Sharma's golden arm did the trick twice.

The off-spinner earned the prize scalps of Jaiswal

(caught down the leg) and Sarfaraz Khan (top-edged reverse sweep to the 'keeper).

But Sarfaraz wasn't the only bad shot of the day. Off the third ball of the match,

Prithvi Shaw attempted an audacious drive at one from Yash Dayal that was pitched outside off and moving further away with the left-arms's angle only to edge it to Prityam Garg at second slip.

Trapped in front

Armaan Jaffer, having left the ball well and got his eye in, then tried to flick one off Shivam Mavi and was trapped in front. Similarly, Suved Parkar's two-hour vigil ended when he chased a wide one from Dayal and Saurabh accepted a dolly at point.

Jaiswal, though, kept his composure despite playing and missing several times in the first hour.

Exquisite square drive

While his square-drive off Prince Yadav just before lunch was exquisite, he was fortunate to be dropped twice off Ankit Rajpoot just after lunch.

Dhruv Jurel, the wicket-keeper, lunged forward but couldn't latch on to the ball when the left-hander was on 33. In his next over, Rinku

Singh made a mess off an up-pitch cut at gully when Jaiswal on 37.

Jaiswal quickly regained his composure and avoided extravagant strokes to cross the three-figure mark with a backfoot punch off Prince. However, the next ball from Karan he chased one down the leg and Jurel made no mistake.

Tamore and Mulani then saw off the new ball, with Tamore raising a seamless fifty before the stumps were drawn.

The scores: Mumbai — 1st innings: Prithvi Shaw c Garg b Dayal 0, Yashasvi Jaiswal c Jurel b Karan 100, Armaan Jaffer lbw b Mavi 10, Suved Parkar c Saurabh b Dayal 32, Sarfaraz Khan c Jurel b Karan 40, Hardik Tamore (batting) 51, Shams Mulani (batting) 10; Extras (b-7, lb-7, nb-2, w-1): 17; Total (for five wkts. in 87 overs): 260.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-24, 3-87, 4-170, 5-233.

Uttar Pradesh bowling: Dayal 17-4-35-2, Rajpoot 17-3-47-0, Mavi 11-2-29-1, Saurabh 23-8-63-0, Prince 10-3-33-0, Karan 9-1-39-2.
Toss: UP.

Incredibly Profitable League!



Warriors one win away from title

Wiggins punishes Celtics



Stepping up: Wiggins spearheaded a balanced Golden State offensive. ■ AP

NBA FINALS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN FRANCISCO

Andrew Wiggins scored 26 points as Golden State Warriors battled past Boston Celtics 104-94 to move within one win of a seventh NBA championship crown on Monday.

With Stephen Curry having a rare off-night after his 43-point game four heroics, Wiggins seized control to lead a balanced Golden State offensive effort which leaves the Warriors 3-2 up in the best-of-seven series.

On song

Wiggins shot 12-of-23 while hauling in 13 rebounds with two steals and a block.

The win means the Warriors can clinch the championship when the series heads back to Boston for game six on Thursday.

Wiggins led the Warriors scorers while Clay Thompson provided support with 21 points including five three-pointers. Gary Payton II (15 points) and Jordan Poole (14) both made dou-

ble-digits from the bench.

Curry, the Warriors' talisman and front-runner for NBA Finals MVP, chipped in with 16 points but shot only 7-of-22 from the field, going 0/9 from three-point distance.

It was the first time in Curry's playoff career he has failed to score a three-pointer and the first time he has drawn a blank from beyond the arc in any NBA game since 2018.

Jayson Tatum led Boston's scorers with 27 points while Marcus Smart added 20 and Jaylen Brown 18.

Turnover count

But the Celtics, who effectively marked Curry out of the game for long periods, were left ruing another high turnover count of 18 compared to just six from Golden State.

The result: Golden State Warriors 104 (Andrew Wiggins 26, Clay Thompson 21, Stephen Curry 16, Gary Payton II 15, Jordan Poole 14) bt Boston Celtics 94 (Jayson Tatum 27, Marcus Smart 20, Jaylen Brown 18, Robert Williams III 10). *Warriors lead series 3-2.*

IN BRIEF



Serena gets wildcard for Wimbledon

LONDON
Serena Williams will return to Grand Slam tennis for the first time in a year at Wimbledon later this month after being handed a wildcard entry by the All England Club on Tuesday. The seven-time singles champion has not played since suffering an injury in her first-round match at the tournament in London 12 months ago. ■ AFP



Federer hits a 22-year low in ATP rankings

LONDON
Former World No. 1 Roger Federer is now ranked 68th in the world in the ATP Rankings after missing multiple tournaments due to injury, his worst ranking in over 22 years. The last time the 20-time Grand Slam champion was this far down in the rankings was in February 2000, when he was 18 years in age. He was ranked number 67 back then. ■ ANI

Croatia defeats France

NATIONS LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Luka Modric's early penalty gave Croatia a 1-0 win over off-form France here on Monday as the World Cup holder finished its June run of UEFA Nations League matches without a victory in four outings.

Veteran Croatia captain Modric slotted in his spot-kick after just five minutes at the Stade de France, and the home side could not find an equaliser despite Kylian Mbappe returning to join Karim Benzema in the starting line-up.

As a result, *Les Bleus* are bottom of League A, Group 1, seven points behind leader Denmark, which beat Austria 2-0 in Copenhagen. **The results:**

League A, Group 1: France 0 bt Croatia 1 (Modric 5-pen); Denmark 2 (Wind 21, Skov Olsen 37) bt Austria 0.

League B, Group 2: Iceland 2 (Thorsteinsson 9, Helgason 60) drew with Israel 2 (Grestason 35-og, Dor Peretz 65).

League C, Group 3: Azerbaijan 2 (Emreli 76, Sheydaev 90+3) bt Belarus 0; Kazakhstan 2 (Vorogovskiy 18, Astanov 39) bt Slovakia 1 (Bero 51).

Himanshu Mantri's unbeaten century highlights MP innings

His 123-run stand with Raghuwanshi helps the team reach 271 for six against Bengal on day one

AYAN ACHARYA
BENGALURU

Himanshu Mantri (134 batting, 280b, 15x4, 1x6) completed a gritty maiden First Class hundred, while Akshat Raghuwanshi (63, 81b, 8x4, 2x6) hit a swift fifty to take Madhya Pradesh to a respectable 271 for six at stumps after it was hobbling at 97 for four, on day one of its Ranji Trophy semifinal against Bengal at the KSCA Ground in Alur on Tuesday.

Fielding first, Bengal pacers Mukesh Kumar (2/45) and Akash Deep (2/55) bowled predominantly full to exploit the early swing and seam. They gave away a combined 15 runs in their first spells, with Mukesh picking up a wicket.

Setting it up

Mukesh set up MP opener Yash Dubey for lbw in his third over by maintaining the fourth stump line for the first two deliveries.

For the next two balls, he went closer to the stumps before hitting Dubey on the pads with one that seamed in sharply.



Rising to the occasion: Mantri started off with circumspection before displaying his wide range of strokes on way to a crucial century. ■ K. MURALI KUMAR

Meanwhile, the way Mantri went about his innings spoke of the pressure MP was under in the morning: initially, he was all circumspection, carefully defending deliveries and letting quite a few balls go. The left-hander, who took 49 deliveries to score his first boundary, was happy grafting every step of the way.

Each run during his second-wicket stand of 49 with Shubham Sharma drew generous applause from the MP teammates. But left-arm

spinner Pradipra Pramanik, who last played a First Class game in 2019, ended the resistance with his first ball of the match, clean bowling Shubham with one that gripped and turned.

'Well done'

Mukesh, brought back before lunch, then got Rajat Patidar caught at slip, prompting Bengal coach Arun Lal to let out a loud "*Shaabash beta* (well done, son)" from the sidelines.

Mantri, meanwhile,

reached his 50 off 146 balls with a four but perhaps just as MP was contemplating a move on in the afternoon session, Shahbaz Ahmed returned for his second spell and got captain Aditya Shrivastava to chop on.

Bengal's in-out field meant MP batters had to manufacture boundary opportunities, which caused Shrivastava to attempt a cut shot off a short ball that was too close to his body.

His dismissal brought Raghuwanshi to the crease

and his injection of intent turned MP's innings from one of dour survival to a spirited counter-attack. He raced to 34 off as many balls with four fours and two sixes before completing a half-century off 63 balls.

Raghuwanshi's 123-run stand with Mantri, before the former was trapped in front by Akash, kept MP on an even keel on day one. MP will now hope Mantri can set it up for a big total on the second day.

The scores:

Madhya Pradesh — 1st innings: Yash Dubey lbw b Mukesh 9, Himanshu Mantri (batting) 134, Shubham Sharma b Pramanik 17, Rajat Patidar c Tiwary b Mukesh 7, Aditya Shrivastava b Shahbaz Ahmed 10, Akshat Raghuwanshi lbw b Akash 63, Saransh Jain b Akash 17, Puneet Dategy (batting) 9; Extras (b-2, lb-1, nb-2): 5; Total (for six wkts. in 86 overs): 271.

Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-59, 3-72, 4-97, 5-220, 6-259.
Bengal bowling: Mukesh Kumar 21-6-45-2, Akash Deep 20-6-55-2, Sayan Mondal 13-3-38-0, Shahbaz Ahmed 14-2-70-1, Pradipra Pramanik 14-0-50-1, Manoj Tiwary 4-0-10-0.
Toss: Madhya Pradesh.

Dhruv stumps top seed Swastik

TENNIS

SPORTS BUREAU

Dhruv Sachdeva knocked out top seed Swastik Sharma 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 in the under-18 boys' pre-quarterfinals of the AITA Super Series junior tennis tournament in Chandigarh on Tuesday.

Dhruv made the under-16 quarterfinals as the top seed, and so did Swastik as the second seed.

In girls' under-16 pre-quarterfinals, Radha Sadhra upset top seed Shagun Kumari 6-4, 6-3.

The results (pre-quarterfi-

nals): Boys: Under-18: Dhruv Sachdeva bt Swastik Sharma 6-3, 4-6, 7-5; Vatsal Manikantan bt Prashant Proacha 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; Harsh Fogaat bt Aaradhya Dwivedi 6-0, 6-1; Bhicky Sagolshem bt Varchasva Thapliyal 7-5, 7-6(3); Deepam Malik bt Shanker Heisnam 6-1, 6-3; Om Yadav bt Jevin Kanani 6-4, 6-0; Arntya Ohlyan bt Dhruv Kumar 1-6, 6-2, 6-4; Anmol Nagpure bt Shaafat Ali Asghar 5-7, 7-5, 6-4.

Under-16: Sachdeva bt Heisnam 6-3, 7-6(4); Deepam bt Thapliyal 7-5, 6-2; Dhruv Kumar bt Ohlyan 6-2, 6-3; Vatsal bt Aaradhya 6-4, 4-6, 7-6(4); Kabir Chothani bt Hriday Rawal 6-1, 6-2; Akshat Dhull bt Pragun

Thakur 6-2, 6-2; Jevin Manani bt Pranav Mishra 6-3, 6-3; Swastik bt Parmarth Kaushik 7-6(5), 6-0.

Girls: Under-18: Shagun Kumari bt Dea Sharma 6-1, 6-0; Jaya Kapoor bt Sowkhyia Gaddam 6-0, 6-1; Suhani Gaur bt Ananya Dogra 6-0, 6-1; Riya Kaushik bt Rubani Kaur Sidhu 6-0, 6-1; Saijayani Banerjee bt Suryanshi Tanwar 6-0, 6-0.

Under-16: Radha Sadhra bt Shagun 6-4, 6-3; Aarushi Raval bt Janvi Sharma 6-1, 6-0; Divya Sharma bt Dea 6-2, 6-1; Saijayani bt Mokshika Yadav 6-0, 6-0; Tamanna Panwar bt Mannat Awasti 6-1, 6-3; Isheta Midha bt Kritika Sharma 7-5, 6-4; Jaya bt Suhani 4-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Ex-Olympic champion Puig retires

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN JUAN

Former Olympic tennis champion Monica Puig confirmed on Monday her retirement from the sport, saying her "body had enough" after four surgeries in three years.

Puig was the first Puerto Rican to win an Olympic gold in any sport when she shocked then World No. 2 Angelique Kerber of Germany in the final at the 2016 Rio Games.

Pride of India



Dazzling display: The Indian para-shooters, who clinched a bagful of medals at the Chateauroux World Cup in France, on their arrival in New Delhi. ■ TWITTER/@SAIMEDIA

Ramkumar loses in first round

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

Hugo Grenier of France defeated Ramkumar Ramanathan 7-6(3), 7-5 in the first round of the €134,920 Challenger tennis tournament in Ilkley, Britain, on Tuesday.

Other results: \$15,000 ITF men, Chiang Rai, Thailand: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Parikshit Somani & Manish Sureshkumar bt Natthayut Nithianon & Kasidit Samrej (Tha) 6-3, 6-4; Pruchya Isaro & Thanut Suksumrarn (Tha) bt Paras Dahiya & Faisal Qamar 6-4, 6-4.

\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Shivank Bhatnagar & Dharmil Shah bt Elias Anwar

(Fra) & Hassan Baroudi (Syr) 7-6 (5), 2-6, [11-9].

\$15,000 ITF men, Tay Ninh, Vietnam: First round: Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Son Ji Hoon (Kor) 7-5, 6-4; Kyle Seelig (US) bt Rishi Reddy 6-4, 6-2.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Rishi Reddy & Dhakshinewar Suresh bt Ishaque Eqbal & Tushar Madan 6-3, 6-2; Quoc-Khanh Le & Nam Hoang Ly (Vie) bt David Hough (Aus) & Suraj Prabodh 6-3, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF women, Chiang Rai, Thailand: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Liu Fangzhou & Xun Fang Ying (Chn) bt Laaliya Kalluri & Vanshita Pathania 6-0, 6-0.

\$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: First round: Sayaka Ishii (Jpn) bt Jennifer Luikham 6-2, 6-1.

Indian teams do well

SPORTS BUREAU

Indian boys outplayed fourth seed Bangladesh 3-0 in the ITF South Asia under-12 tennis league phase in Kathmandu on Tuesday.

The Indian girls beat second seed Maldives 3-0 in the round-robin format.

The results (league): Boys: India bt Bangladesh 3-0 (Tavish Pahwa bt Md. Rajib 6-0, 6-1; Fazal Ali Meer bt Kabbo Gayen 6-0, 6-1; Kushagra Arora & Tavish bt Mushfiqur Rahman Apon & Rajib 6-0, 6-1). **Girls: India bt Maldives 3-0** (Prachi Malik bt Imani Moosa Kaleem 6-0, 6-0; Aahan bt Naba Nishan 6-0, 6-1; Prachi & Anandita Upadhyay bt Manha Mohamed Ali & Imani 6-2, 6-1).