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| 7 AIR | | 8 AIR | | 9 AIR | | 11 AIR | | 12 AIR | | 13 AIR | | 14 AIR | | 15 AIR | | 16 AIR | | 18 AIR | | 19 AIR | | 20 AIR | |
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| CHANDIGARH 21 NOV 9 AM | LUCKNOW 21 NOV 5 PM | BHOPAL 21 NOV 5 PM | PUNE 20 NOV 8 AM & 5 PM | JAIPUR 1 & 16 NOV 7:30 AM & 5 PM | HYDERABAD 6 NOV 8 AM | JODHPUR 1 & 16 NOV 7:30 AM & 5 PM | AHMEDABAD 1 DEC 9:30 AM |
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फाउंडेशन कोर्स सामान्य अध्ययन 2025, 2026 & 2027

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| DELHI: 5 दिसंबर, 9 AM | BHOPAL: 10 जनवरी, 9 AM | LUCKNOW: 10 जनवरी, 9 AM |
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19 November 19 नवंबर

THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



US House Speaker Mike Johnson

UNITED STATES
House passes spending Bill to avert shutdown

Washington: The US House of Representatives passed a temporary spending bill that would avert a government shutdown, with support from both parties. The legislation, which extends funding through January, now heads to the Senate. The 336-95 vote was a win for House Speaker Mike Johnson, who faced down opposition from some of his fellow Republicans, in the first consequential vote of his tenure. The Senate and Republican-controlled House must enact legislation that President Joe Biden can sign into law before funding for federal agencies expires at midnight on Friday. **REUTERS**

BANGLADESH
General polls to take place on January 7

Dhaka: Bangladesh will hold the much-awaited general elections on January 7, the chief election commissioner announced on Wednesday, amidst violent protests by the Opposition BNP and its allies demanding a non-party interim government to conduct transparent polls. Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Habibur Awal announced the dates of the elections during an address to the nation that was telecast live - the first such announcement in the history of Bangladesh. **PTI**

MYANMAR
Dozens of junta forces surrender, held: Insurgents

Naypyidaw: Dozens of members of the Myanmar security forces have surrendered or been captured, a rebel group said on Wednesday, as a coordinated offensive by insurgent groups battling the junta gathers pace in several parts of the country. At least 28 policemen gave up their weapons and surrendered to the Arakan Army (AA), while 10 soldiers were arrested, said the armed group which is fighting for autonomy in Rakhine State in the west of Myanmar. A curfew has been imposed in Rakhine State capital Sittwe, where military tanks have been sighted, the administration there said. **REUTERS**

IRAQ
Top court rules to oust Speaker, rival lawmaker

Baghdad: Iraq's top court ruled Tuesday that speaker and a rival lawmaker should be ousted from Parliament, after a feud between the two. The Federal Supreme Court said it decided to terminate Speaker Mohammed al-Halbousi's membership in the House along with lawmaker Laith al-Dulaimi. It did not elaborate on why it was issuing the decision. Halbousi called the ruling unconstitutional, while his party said its members would protest the verdict by withdrawing from key positions in government and the Parliament. **AP**

STAFF HIDING AS FIGHTING UNFOLDED OVERNIGHT: AL SHIFA SURGEON

Israeli troops enter Gaza City hospital, search room by room

Israel: Uncovered weapons, terror infra inside after killing gunmen

NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI
GAZA, NOVEMBER 15

ISRAELI TROOPS entered Gaza's biggest hospital on Wednesday and were searching its rooms and basement, witnesses said, culminating a days-long siege that caused global alarm over the fate of civilians trapped inside.

Al Shifa hospital in Gaza City has become the main target of the ground operation by Israeli forces, who say Hamas fighters have the "beating heart" of their operations in a headquarters in tunnels beneath it, which Hamas denies.

Israel said its troops uncovered unspecified weapons and "terror infrastructure" inside the hospital compound after killing fighters in a clash outside. Once inside, they said there had been no fighting and no friction with civilians, patients or staff.

The military released photos of a soldier standing beside cardboard boxes marked "medical supplies" and "baby food" in English, at a location *Reuters* verified was inside grounds. Other photos showed Israeli troops in tactical formation walking past makeshift tents and mattresses.

World attention has been focused on the fate of hundreds of patients trapped inside without power to operate basic medical equipment, and thousands of displaced civilians who had sought shelter there. Gaza officials say many patients including three newborn babies died in recent days as a result of Israel's encirclement of the facility.

"We can confirm that incubators, baby food and medical supplies brought by IDF tanks from Israel have successfully reached the Shifa hospital. Our medical teams and Arabic speaking soldiers are on the ground to ensure that these supplies reach those in need," the Israeli military said. Dr Ahmed El Mohallalati, a



Medics move a patient through the smoke-filled corridors inside Al Shifa hospital after an Israeli raid on Wednesday. *Reuters*

| DEATH, DESTRUCTION | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| ISRAEL | PALESTINE |
| TOTAL DEAD | |
| 1,200+ | 11,000+ |
| TOTAL INJURED | |
| 5,400+ | 20,000+ |

Qatar seeking a deal to release 50 hostages and three-day truce

ANDREW MILLS & AHMED MOHAMED HASSAN
CAIRO, DOHA, NOVEMBER 15

QATARI MEDIATORS were on Wednesday seeking to negotiate a deal between Hamas and Israel that includes the release of around 50 civilian hostages from Gaza in exchange for a three-day ceasefire, an official briefed on the negotiations told *Reuters*.

The deal, under discussion, which has been coordinated with the US, would also see Israel release some Palestinian women and children from Israeli jails and increase the amount of humanitarian aid allowed into Gaza, the official said.

surgeon, told *Reuters* by phone that staff were in hiding as the fighting unfolded overnight. The sound of what he described as "continuous shooting from the tanks" could be heard in the background as he spoke.

Another witness, reached by phone, said tanks had entered the compound at 3:00 am. The Israeli troops dismounted and spread out in the yard, and began searching the basement and entering buildings. **REUTERS**



Posters of Hamas hostages on window of a museum. *AP*

It would mark the biggest release in hostages held by Hamas since the Palestinian militant group burst over the Gaza border, attacked parts of Israel and took hostages into the enclave. Hamas has agreed to the general outlines of this deal, but Israel has not and it is still negotiating the details, the official said.

It is not known how many Palestinian women and children Israel would release from its jails as part of pact under discussion.

The scope of the Qatari-led negotiations has changed in recent weeks, but the fact that the talks are now focused on the release of 50 prisoners in exchange for a three-day truce and that Hamas has agreed to outline of the deal have not been reported before.

Such a deal would require Hamas handing over a complete list of remaining living civilian hostages held in Gaza.

There was no response from Israeli officials. **REUTERS**

Amid strain in ties, Xi and Biden head to summit in San Francisco

AAMER MADHANI & COLLEEN LONG
SAN FRANCISCO, NOVEMBER 15

PRESIDENTS JOE Biden and Xi Jinping head into their big meeting at a country estate on Wednesday hoping to stabilise US-China relations after a period of tumult, but the US president also is prepared to confront his counterpart on difficult issues such as trade, Beijing's burgeoning relationship with Iran and human rights concerns.

The two leaders, who will meet on the sidelines of a summit of Asian-Pacific leaders, last spoke a year ago. Since then, already fraught ties between the



The two are meeting on the sidelines of a summit of Asian-Pacific leaders. *File*

two nations have been further strained by the US downing of a Chinese spy balloon that had traversed the continental US and over differences on the self-ruled island of Taiwan, China's hack-

ing of a Biden official's emails and other incidents.

The outcome of the talks between two leaders who have known each other for decades could have far-reaching implications for an anxious world that is grappling with global economic cross currents from the pandemic, wars in the Middle East and Europe, upcoming elections in Taiwan and more.

The two presidents are in California for the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, but they will be meeting one-on-one at Filoli Estate, a country house and museum about 40 km south of San Francisco, according to three senior administration officials. **AP**

UK top court: Can't send asylum seekers to Rwanda

MICHAEL HOLDEN & SAM TOBIN
LONDON, NOVEMBER 15

BRITAIN'S SUPREME Court ruled Wednesday that government's scheme to send asylum seekers to Rwanda was unlawful, dealing a blow to PM Rishi Sunak before polls expected next year.

Under the plan, Britain intended to send tens of thousands of asylum seekers who arrived on its shores without permission to the East African country in a bid to deter migrants crossing Channel from Europe in small boats.

But the top court unanimously ruled migrants could not be sent to Rwanda because it could not be considered a safe third country.

The Rwanda scheme was the central plank of Sunak's immigration policy as he prepares to face an election next year, amid concern among some voters about the numbers of asylum seekers arriving in small boats.

The ruling sparked an angry response from some lawmakers in the right wing of his party, who said the government should consider pulling out of the European Convention on Human Rights, even though the court made clear its decision was based on a number of laws and treaties, and not the Convention alone.

The ruling had taken on even greater political significance in recent days after Sunak sacked his Interior Minister Suella Braverman. **REUTERS**

INTERPOL BEGAN TO IDENTIFY 22 WOMEN FOUND DEAD OVER THE YEARS, LEADING TO OVER 1,000 TIPS. NOW, ONE HAS A NAME

Woman killed in Belgium 31 yrs ago identified by her flower tattoo

DERRICK BRYSON TAYLOR
NOVEMBER 15

A BRITISH woman who was killed in Belgium 31 years ago was identified this week thanks to an international campaign that began earlier this year to identify nearly two dozen women who were found dead across Europe, officials said.

The case dates to June 1992, when the body of a woman, given the nickname "the woman with the flower tattoo" by investigators, was found pushed against a grate in a river in Belgium.

She appeared to have been killed violently, according to details released this spring by the

International Criminal Police Organisation, known as Interpol.

The woman's most identifiable feature was a flower tattoo with "R'Nick" written underneath. At the time, the authorities had hoped her tattoo would jog someone's memory.

They were right. Interpol began Operation Identify Me in May, sharing gruesome details of 22 women found in Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands. All of the cases, which are not thought to be connected, have remained unsolved for years, some for decades, despite extensive investigations.

Publicity surrounding the campaign led to more than 1,000 tips, Interpol said in a statement

on Tuesday. One tip came from a person in Britain who recognized the flower tattoo on the news as belonging to a relative.

The family, who were not identified publicly, traveled to meet investigators in Belgium and formally identified the woman, now known to be Rita Roberts, through "distinguishing personal identifiers," Interpol said.

"The news was shocking and heartbreaking," Roberts's family said in a statement. "Our passionate, loving and free-spirited sister was cruelly taken away. There are no words to truly express the grief we felt at that time, and still feel today."

The family said that while the news had been difficult to

■ Interpol began Operation Identify Me in May, sharing gruesome details of 22 women found in Belgium, Germany and Netherlands. All of the cases, which are not thought to be linked, have remained unsolved for years, some for decades, despite extensive probes.

■ The campaign gained attention this spring in part because details from alerts issued to the police about unidentified bodies, were made public for the first time on Interpol's website.



Rita Roberts, a British woman found dead in Belgium more than three decades ago, was recently identified. *NYT*

AN INVESTIGATION BY THE INDIAN EXPRESS WITH INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS - PART TWO

Chelsea FC could face action over secret payments, experts warn

Four leading sports lawyers said that transactions uncovered in Cyprus Confidential documents may have broken UK league rules



Leaked files revealed payments by Roman Abramovich, who funded the club, may have breached strict rules. *Reuters file*

NEIL WEINBERG
NOVEMBER 15

£140 mn

CHELSEA FOOTBALL Club faces fresh questions over how previous owner Roman Abramovich funded the club, after leaked files revealed secret payments that may have breached strict football rules, including those on "financial fair play."

Experts said the transactions, uncovered by *The Guardian* and other media partners as part of the ICJ and Paper Trail Media-led Cyprus Confidential investigation, could lead to the Premier League imposing punishments on Chelsea.

The payments came to light thanks to reporting on a huge trove of leaked offshore records shared with ICJ and *The Guardian* by Distributed Denial of Secrets.

Beneficiaries reportedly include the agent of star player Eden Hazard, an associate of title-winning manager Antonio Conte, and Chelsea FC officials.

The files reveal a decade-long pattern of payments worth tens of millions of British pounds, routed through offshore vehicles belonging to Abramovich and apparently omitted from Chelsea's financial accounts.

Four leading sports lawyers told *The Guardian* that the payments may have broken UK league rules on financial fair play, or FFP, aimed at preventing reckless spending that might put a club's future at risk.

The rules have also been adapted in response to a trend of wealthy benefactors, such as Abramovich, skewing competition by pouring own cash into clubs to buy success, a practice one former Premier League manager dubbed "financial doping."

The Premier League is already investigating Chelsea's finances, after the West London club's new owners voluntarily reported that "incomplete financial information" had been submitted during Abramovich's tenure.

Roman Abramovich bought Chelsea for a reported £140 mn (\$170 million) in 2003 and flooded the club with cash in a relentless push for success.

Roman Abramovich bought Chelsea for a reported £140 million (about \$170 million) in 2003 and flooded the club with cash in a relentless push for success.

The "Roman Empire," as some fans dubbed it, fell only after Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, and Abramovich was subsequently sanctioned by the U.K. and EU, forcing him to sell the club.

The sports lawyers that reviewed the Cyprus Confidential records for *The Guardian* said transactions documented in the files may have covered costs that should have counted toward Chelsea's spending limits, effectively allowing the club to spend more than it was permitted to.

They said some of the transactions may also have broken Premier League rules that require the submission of accurate accounts and a provision demanding that clubs act in good faith, as well as Football Association rules requiring disclosure of payments to agents.

The FA is the governing body for soccer in England.

The files also suggest that Abramovich secretly bankrolled efforts, ultimately unsuccessful, to overturn the FFP rules through the courts, *The Guardian* reported. The infractions could prompt the Premier League to impose punishments on Chelsea, such as a point deduction, experts said.

Football authorities can deduct points from a team's overall points tally for rule breaches following independent commission rulings.

Abramovich's representatives did not return requests for comment. **ICJ**

process, the cross-border collaboration had given a "missing girl back her identity and enabled the family to know she is at rest."

"After 31 years, an unidentified murdered woman has been given her name back and some closure has been brought to her family," Jürgen Stock, the secretary general of Interpol, said in a statement. "Such cases underline the vital need to connect police worldwide, especially when missing persons are involved."

Roberts's case remains active. The authorities in Belgium have asked the public for any information on events around her death.

The Operation Identify Me campaign gained attention this spring in part because details from

each "black notice," alerts issued to the police worldwide seeking information about unidentified bodies, were released to the public for first time on their website.

The notices present various types of victim information, and no two cases are alike. The oldest case dates back nearly 47 years, and the most recent is from 2019. Some cases have more details than others, and a cause of death is not always known.

"We've got to remember that these victims, these women, they've become victims twice," Susan Hitchin, the coordinator of Interpol's DNA unit, said earlier this year. "They've been murdered and then also their identity has been taken from them." **NYT**

INDIA BEAT NEW ZEALAND TO ENTER FINAL

Set Sunday Stage

Shami's 7/57, Kohli's 50th century script famous win at Wankhede



'This one chance we didn't want to let go'

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

THE BEND would have made David Beckham, watching from the grandstand, proud. When it left Mohammed Shami's hand, the ball began on a trajectory just outside the off-stump. Then, without any warning, it suddenly started to dip in. Tom Latham, who had been on the pitch just for two minutes, was beaten. The ball crashed into the batsman's pad. No one, not even the batsman, waited for the umpire to

raise his finger. The wicket brought the stadium, gripped by anxiety, back to life, ended any hope of a New Zealand fightback, and put India on course for what eventually was a comprehensive 70-run win in the semi-final of the World Cup. They will now face the winner of the second semi-final between Australia and South Africa in Sunday's final in Ahmedabad. Shami ended with seven wickets and a bunch of records. Like Virat Kohli, who became the first Indian to score 50 ODI

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

WINNING MOMENTS
Mohammed Shami took seven wickets; Virat Kohli celebrates his 50th century at Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai. P77

SPORT



FULL COVERAGE
PAGE 19

'It feels like a dream, too good to be true'

SRIRAM VEERA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

THERE WAS the leap, the roar and the emotion-draining sinking to his knees before Virat Kohli made the gesture that brought the biggest roar from the packed stands: he raised his hands, and bowed to Sachin Tendulkar, who clapped from the stands. He then blew a kiss to his wife, and had regained his control by then, enough to even wink at someone on the field. The 50th ODI hundred shone

with Kohli's impeccable sense of timing: at Tendulkar's home ground, under the master's gaze, from flesh-and-blood as well as the statue, in a World Cup semifinal with his family and the cricketing world, including Viv Richards, watching. Befittingly, the hundred came up with a shot that had disappeared for a while — the signature swat-flick, one of the great shots of modern-day cricket. A short while later, Kane Williamson came and enveloped Kohli with a big hug that said much about their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

AN INVESTIGATION BY THE INDIAN EXPRESS WITH INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISTS - PART TWO

From Down Under to Switzerland via Dubai, Pankaj Oswal, wife hit a hurdle in Cyprus

Couple closed company meant to develop petroleum refinery in Cyprus after obtaining Cypriot passports



JAY MAZOOMDAAR
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE TALK of town recently for moving into one of the 10 most expensive houses in Switzerland, India-born Cypriot business couple Radhika and Pankaj Oswal failed to open a bank account to operationalise a company set up in 2017 for developing a petroleum refinery in Cyprus. The couple obtained Cypriot passports in 2018 but closed the company, Cypriot Limited, in 2019.

These are part of records of offshore corporate service providers such as ConnectedSky Legal & Corporate Consultants Limited of Cyprus, accessed as part of a global investigation by The Indian Express with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ). In their submissions to Hellenic Bank and Bank of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Before his downfall, Cox & Kings promoter Peter Kerkar sealed \$5-million loan pacts

SHYAMLAL YADAV
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

NEARLY A year before the beginning of the downfall of Cox & Kings and its promoter Ajay Ajit Peter Kerkar, Kerkar's UK-based firm reached agreements for two loans totalling \$5-million in November 2018 — \$2 million from Nicosia-based Global Aerospace Limited, owned by Israeli investor Eliyahu Allalouf, who carries a Greek passport; and \$3 million from another company called the Alyo Group. The Cyprus Confidential data show that Prometheon Enterprise Limited (PEL), a UK-based subsidiary of Cox & Kings, approved a loan of \$3 million from Alyo Group and \$2 million from Cyprus firm Global Aerospace. The High Court of Justice, London ordered winding up of



In letter to Global Aerospace Ltd, Kerkar says 'I am a sophisticated businessman'

PEL on December 3, 2020, according to the UK Company registry. Kerkar is currently in a Mumbai jail and faces a slew of cases being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Enforcement Directorate (ED),

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

After states protest, NMC suspends decision on capping MBBS seats

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THREE MONTHS after its announcement, the National Medical Commission (NMC), the country's apex medical education regulator, has suspended its decision to limit the number of MBBS seats to 100 per 10 lakh population in every state — a move that would have otherwise barred all five southern states from increasing their medical seat capacity for the next academic session (2024-25). The development, announced

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED
Behind protest by states

THE PRESCRIBED limit of 100 seats per 10 lakh population would have allowed addition of 40,000 more seats, but only in states like Bihar and Jharkhand, where there is over 70% deficiency. This led to a backlash from states that have already exceeded the seats-to-population ratio, including all five southern states.

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EXPRESS NETWORK

SETBACK IN TUNNEL RESCUE, BIGGER MACHINE FLOWN FROM DELHI P 9, 15

Behind killing of airhostess, 3 kin in Udupi: 'Obsessed' airline colleague

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 15

AN "OVERLY possessive" cabin crew member working with Air India was behind the stabbing spree in Karnataka's Udupi that left a trainee airhostess and three members of her family dead, police said Wednesday. Aynaz Mohammed (21), a trainee airhostess with Air India, her mother Haseena M (47),



Praveen Chougule held for killing Aynaz in Udupi

elder sister Afnan (23) and brother Aseem (14) were stabbed to death at their home

in Nejaru village on the morning of November 12 by an assailant who arrived around 9 am and left within 15 minutes. On Wednesday, police in Udupi announced that 39-year-old Praveen Arun Chougule — a married man with children — was behind the murders. "We obtained leads on a suspect and yesterday the Udupi police took Chougule into custody from Kudachi police limits.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

In MP's Alirajpur, getting migrants to vote among top concerns

PARVEEN K DOGRA
ALIRAJPUR, NOVEMBER 15

HIS MORNING starts with the call of his rooster. He quickly gets up to take the cattle out to graze in a nearby jungle, as his parents leave for work in the family's fields in Bhavra area, in Madhya Pradesh's Alirajpur district. It's a hand-to-mouth life, but 17-year-old Anil Bedia dreams big. Combating the frequent power cuts and a single-phase dim power supply, constantly

changing the position of his study table to catch the natural light from the window, Anil talks about this dream — to become a doctor. "I want to become an orthopaedic and serve my people. This area desperately needs at least basic health infrastructure and services," says Anil, who studies at Jawahar Navodaya School for talented students in Alirajpur. Carved out of the tribal dis-

trict of Jhabua in 2008, Alirajpur serves as the last signpost of Madhya Pradesh in the south-west. Bordering Gujarat, it is famous for its Noor Jahan mangoes, Rajwada fort, the remains of a British-era 'Victoria Bridge' and for being the birthplace of freedom fighter and martyr Chandrashekhar Azad. Alirajpur, with almost 90% of its population tribal, mainly Bhil, also enjoys another distinction. Located around 200 km from



Alirajpur is Madhya Pradesh's second poorest district. Express

the state's economic capital Indore, it is ranked by the NITI Aayog as MP's second poorest and most deprived district in the Multidimensional Poverty Index. Its literacy rate is 37%, against the state's average of 70.06%. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi announces the country's biggest tribal mission, for most in Alirajpur, accessing schemes remains a challenge.

Migration to Gujarat
Shankar Tadwal, a social worker with the Khedut

Mazdoor Chetna Sangath (KMCS), a trade union of Alirajpur's Bhil tribals set up in 1984, says the district is now full of the aged and the very young. "All adults are in Gujarat toiling to earn a livelihood. Go and see the buses departing from the Alirajpur bus stand to South Gujarat (over 210 km away). Over 200 people crowd into a 56-seater bus," Tadwal says. There are at least 50 points along the border between Jhabua and Alirajpur and Gujarat from where buses and other ve-

hicles leave every hour for different towns of Gujarat. "The issue of child labour is even more serious. One can see children travelling to Gujarat in school dress! Our government is just a mute spectator," adds Tadwal, who has filed a petition in the Supreme Court alleging exploitation of workers from MP in Gujarat. Close to polling date on November 17, Alirajpur's huge migrant population is leading to apprehensions of low voting; in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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EXPRESS ENTERTAINMENT DOSTANA: IF APOLOGIES FROM KARAN JOHAR ARE ON THE TABLE, WHEN ARE WE GETTING ONE FOR THIS? Post Credits Scene: Crude, cringe-inducing, and a complete waste of time, Dostana is undeserving of its reputation as one of Bollywood more progressive films

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EXPRESS AUDIO Drug busts in MH, transpersons in Armed Forces, and Ind vs NZ In 3 Things, we discuss the patterns that emerge from the latest drug busts in Maharashtra, the proposal to enlist individuals from the transgender community into the armed forces, and the World Cup semi final

'Splinter group' of AMU students and alumni under watch for 'IS links'

ATS says 1 AMU student, 5 alumni held; varsity claims not officially informed yet

MANISH SAHU LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 15 A "SPLINTER group" formed from an organisation named Students of Aligarh Muslim University (SAMU), which comprises former and present students of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), is "on the radar" of the Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) of the UP Police over the group's alleged ISIS links, officers said on Wednesday. However, AMU authorities claimed on Wednesday that they have "no information" about any organisation named SAMU. Over the past few days, the ATS claimed to have arrested six members of this splinter group—including five former and one current student of AMU. Three each among those arrested hail from Aligarh and Sambhal and one is from Chhattisgarh, ATS sources said. They added that of these, one person - arrested from Sambhal - has no AMU connection. Police claimed that during questioning, six of the arrested persons claimed to be part of a group (SAMU), formed around two years ago to "promote Islam as well as social services." The agency, however, claims that a "sub-group" was formed and soon started planning "anti-national activities" by allegedly affiliating with ISIS. "The splinter group did not snap their association with SAMU," said a senior po-

FROM PAGE ONE 'It feels like a dream, too good to be true'

relationship. "The great man (Tendulkar) just congratulated me. It feels like a dream. Too good to be true. Sachin paaji was there in the stands. It's very difficult for me to express it. My life partner, my hero - he's sitting there. And all these fans at the Wankhede," Kohli said after the ton. Overtaking Tendulkar and getting to ODI hundred No. 50 is akin to climbing the Everest, but what's really astonishing about Kohli's feat is this: he isn't a genius like Tendulkar was, he isn't as technically sound as Rahul Dravid, he isn't as explosive as M S Dhoni, he doesn't possess the audacious arsenal of Rohit Sharma. But Kohli, the ODI batsman, is the amalgamation of them all. Unsurprisingly, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. It was Tendulkar who set the template for ODI batting. But there have been many times when he hasn't managed to do what Kohli does these days - finish a game. At times, the man who bore one of the harshest match pressures on his shoulders did wilt. Some criticised him then, but it doesn't take in the ecosystem of Indian cricket, and its history. Without Tendulkar, there wouldn't be Kohli. It's an organic evolution. Without Kohli to follow up, Tendulkar's lineage wouldn't be complete. It was Tendulkar who kickstarted the ODI batting revolution in the truest sense. Post that, Kohli has overseen the evolution. It was the occasion for even Tendulkar to feel nostalgic. "The first time I met you in the Indian dressing room, you were pranked by other teammates into touching my feet. I couldn't stop laughing that day. But soon, you touched my heart with your passion and skill. I am so happy that that young boy has grown into a 'Virat' player," he said. "I couldn't be happier that an Indian broke my record. And to do it on the biggest stage - in the World Cup semifinal - and at my home ground is the icing on the cake," he said. Kohli's game sense has been impeccable, in this semifinal as well. Williamson was shuffling his bowlers in mini-spells and whenever he got the big guns on, Kohli would pounce early to set the tone. In the 29th over, when Trent Boult came back to bowl, Kohli ran down the track to smash him for a boundary and bring up the 200 for the team. In the 30th over, when Tim Southee was brought on, Kohli came on strike for the second ball of the over, and yet again, went down the track, waiting to drag-flick the slower one into the wide long-on stands. Boult and Southee were the big challenges, and Kohli took it upon himself to puncture them. There is another late Tendulkar trait that is now creeping into Kohli, especially seen in this World Cup. There is an apparent sense of ease and a sense of inevitability to most of his knocks. Right through this tournament, Kohli has been at his least intense while batting. He is often seen chatting with the wicketkeepers, talking with the umpires and laughing with his partners. He even intercepts throws and relays the ball to the bowlers at the non-striker's end. There's also a sense of familiarity in the batting. Tendulkar had taken risk out of the capricious art of batting - his knocks in his latter years seemed like reruns of favourite shows. One could detect the shots that would come out - the paddle-sweep to spinners, the whisks to square-leg to rotate strike, the hit through or over extra-cover and the general arc he would score in. Same with Kohli, though it must be said that this tournament has seen a T20 influence on him. He has been more positive, attacking early on in his

After states protest, NMC suspends decision on capping MBBS seats

by the NMC on Wednesday, follows strong opposition from states like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, and the Union territory of Puducherry against the new regulation notified on August 16. The regulation -- titled "Guidelines for undergraduate courses under the establishment of new medical institutions, starting new medical courses, increase of seats for existing courses, and assessment and rating Regulation 2023" - states that approval for new medical colleges and an increase in the number of MBBS seats from the next academic session would be based on the seats-to-population ratio. It basically caps the number of undergraduate medical seats in a state to 100 per 10 lakh population. This provision is now in abeyance and will only be implemented for the 2025-26 academic year, after further stakeholder consultations happen, and until consensus can be developed on the matter. According to sources, the Health Ministry asked the NMC to reconsider the move amidst strong opposition from some states. This is among a slew of decisions the NMC has either put in abeyance or rolled back recently following opposition by stakeholders. Only two-and-a-half months ago, it put on hold its new guidelines that made it mandatory for doctors to prescribe only generic drugs, following backlash from the country's largest doctors' body, the Indian Medical Association (IMA), as well as the Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA), which described the move as "not feasible". The rationale behind capping the total seats to 100 per 10 lakh population, according to people in the know, was to ensure equitable distribution of resources, especially faculty members, across the country. This restriction would have allowed the addition of 40,000 more MBBS seats, but only in states such as Bihar and Jharkhand, where there is over 70% deficiency as per the new seats-to-population ratio norm. This is what triggered a backlash from states that have already exceeded this ratio, leaving them ineligible for further expansion. According to data analysed by The Indian Express, at least 13 states and UTs, including all five southern states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Kerala, have more than 100 seats per 10 lakh population. The new NMC norm would have directly affected them. Reacting sharply to the potential impact of the new NMC norm, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin had said that it amounted to "direct encroachment" on state rights by the Centre and disproportionately penalised states which have invested heavily in public health infrastructure. With 11,225 seats, Tamil Nadu has the highest number of undergraduate medical seats in the country, exceeding the cap by 46%; as per the NMC's seats-to-population ratio, it should have 7,686 seats. Karnataka Minister of Medical Education, Sharan Prakash Patil, had said the move would affect medical education in the state as the government had plans to set up more institutions. He had said the stakeholders weren't consulted on the move. Karnataka has 11,020 MBBS seats as opposed to the desired limit of 6,769. Senior officials from Telangana and Karnataka said suspension of the decision would help the government to set up at least one medical college in each district. In Telangana, there are at least eight districts that don't have any medical college. Inspections by the medical education regulator for colleges in these districts are scheduled for December, said a senior official from the state. An official from Karnataka said at least 11 districts don't have a government medical college. "Our feasibility and essentiality certificates, required to be submitted when applying for new colleges, said the required doctor-patient ratio has not been reached in rural areas. We want children from these districts to study medicine at government colleges and provide speciality care to their communities," said the official.

Behind killing of airhostess, 3 kin in Udupi: 'Obsessed' airline colleague

When he was interrogated, he accepted that he had committed the murders. This afternoon, the arrest procedure was completed," Udupi Superintendent of Police Dr Arun K said. According to police, Chougule claimed in his confession statement that he intended to attack only Aynaz, but murdered the others as they tried to stop him. "We have to verify these aspects," the Udupi SP said. Police sources said Chougule appears to have been "obsessed" with his young colleague. "There are three or four motives that the accused has disclosed and we will verify these aspects. Since there are aspects regarding the victim's family which could hurt or defame them, it would be better to confirm the statements of the accused before disclosure," Dr Arun K said. An Air India spokesperson said: "We are deeply saddened by this incident and are extending our full support to the bereaved relatives of the deceased. We will be cooperating with the investigation. In light of this incident, we have de-rostered the accused with immediate effect." According to police, the accused was seen arriving at the house by an autorickshaw driver, who ferried him from the nearby Santhekatte town to the Tripathi Layout in Nejaru village where the airhostess lived when she was not at work in Mangaluru. He was also seen by the auto driver when he returned to Santhekatte 15 minutes later, and was captured on CCTV at many places. The police picked up his trail after analysing phone records of various family members and narrowing down possible suspects on the basis of communications, including chats. Police found that Chougule's phone was switched off when the crime was committed, and was switched back on only on Tuesday in Belagavi district. "Based on technical analysis and human intelligence, we detained the suspect," the Udupi SP said. Chougule's photos were shown to witnesses who had seen him in Udupi before and after the murders, and this helped police confirm their suspicions. The investigation has revealed that the accused had become overly possessive about his colleague, police sources said, adding that "the murder was triggered by jealousy and animosity in this regard". "He was working from the Mangaluru airport as an Air India cabin crew. He is from Sangli in Maharashtra, but had been living here for several years. He is a married man," the Udupi SP said. Chougule is reported to have worked briefly with the Maharashtra police before joining the airline industry a few years ago. "We have to verify if he was in the Maharashtra police as he has claimed. We are verifying if he had been to the (victim's) house before. Our aim was to catch the killer and we have done it. We are yet to verify many other aspects of the case," Dr Arun K said. The quadruple murder occurred a day after Aynaz and her sister Afnan, who was pursuing higher studies in Mangaluru, returned to their Udupi home for Diwali break. The sisters lived in a paying guest facility in Mangaluru to pursue work and education. Following the murders, the accused travelled to Kudachi in Belagavi to spend Diwali with his uncle, an irrigation department engineer, and acted like everything was normal, police sources said. Aynaz's father Noor Mohammed, who works in Saudi Arabia, and an older son who works in an airline company in Bengaluru as ground staff, were not home when the incident occurred. They arrived on Monday to attend the funeral. All members of the family were stabbed with a knife. Hajira (70), the girls' grandmother, was injured in the attack. She managed to lock herself in the bathroom and neighbours rushed there only after they heard her cries once the killer had escaped. It was a neighbour, Aifa Ayub, who filed the police complaint. Five special teams had been constituted to crack the case. On Wednesday evening, Chougule was remanded to 14 days in police custody by a local court in Udupi.

'Chance we didn't want to let go'

centuries earlier in the day, the bowler who snuck into the playing 11 as an injury replacement, too, became the first Indian bowler to take 50 World Cup wickets and the half-century came in just 17 innings, quickest in the tournament's history. His eventual figures of 7/57 are the best by an Indian at a World Cup. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to X to praise India's semi-final hero. "The bowling of @MdShami11 in this game and also through the World Cup will be cherished by cricket lovers for generations to come. Well played Shami." However, there was a moment in the game when Shami and his team mates were not sure if they would be on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad flight for the final. Like the 30,000-odd fans in the stands, including Bollywood A-listers, the pacer too began to fear if India would exit at the semi-final stage of the World Cup for a third consecutive time. "Last two World Cups, we lost (in the semi-finals)," Shami said. "Who knows when or if we'll get a chance? So, we wanted to do everything for this, one chance we didn't want to let go." With this thought in mind, out of sheer desperation to break a threatening partnership more than anything else, captain Rohit Sharma turned to his crisis man in what was his side's first real test of this World Cup. It was the 33rd over of the game. New Zealand, a team that routinely punches above its weight, were doing what New Zealand is known to do - in a modest, understated manner, they were chasing down a mammoth target of 398, pushing another heavyweight to the ropes. After losing two early wickets - both taken by, who else, Shami - Daryl Mitchell and Kane Williamson rapidly brought the Kiwis back into the game. India, in the face of this unprecedented onslaught, were quickly unravelling. Their bowlers, who have gained in reputation over the last six weeks, suddenly looked like they'd lost all their super powers overnight. The fielders, spotless so far, were sloppy, to put it mildly. Rohit was giving Ravindra Jadeja a tongue-lashing for an unnecessary overthrow, which cost an additional four runs. Later, the captain himself looked around sheepishly when he let the ball slip through his hands. K L Rahul had a chance to run out Williamson, but he took off the bails before the ball hit the stumps, giving the batsman a lifeline. The New Zealand captain had another life when he was on 52 after Shami dropped a sitter. Mitchell and Williamson had stunned the crowd into silence. The dropped catches and missed run-outs only added to the frustration. Had India run out of luck? Was the law of averages catching up with the tournament's only unbeaten team? Team India normally feeds off the crowd, and vice versa. Tonight, both were left scratching their heads as New Zealand brought the run chase down to T20 levels: 199 off the last 20 overs with 8 wickets in hand. "At that point, it was important for us to stay calm," Rohit said later. "The crowd went silent, but we knew we needed a catch or run out." With the ball in Shami's hand, there was a sense of hope. And with the second ball of his second spell, the ace bowler struck, removing Williamson first and two balls later, Latham with a brilliant in-swing. The twin strikes dealt a massive blow to New Zealand's hopes of pulling off an improbable win. They kept losing wickets at regular intervals after that and with the chants of 'Mohammad Shami' reverberating inside the seaside stadium, India's best bowler of the World Cup delivered the final blow. Bowling to tailender Lockie Ferguson, who had just hit him for a six, Shami pitched the ball a little short of length and outside the off stump. It kissed Ferguson's bat and Rahul safely pocketed the catch to put the result beyond any doubt.

Getting migrants to vote a concern

2018, the district saw a turnout of only 52%, across its two Assembly seats of Alirajpur and Jobat. Alirajpur District Collector Abhay Arvind Bedekar says: "The administration is making calls to migrant labourers and inviting them to cast votes... We are also sending teams to Gujarat to convince the labourers as well as their employers." There are 2.22 lakh registered voters in the Alirajpur constituency, and about 2.6 lakh in Jobat. A study conducted by the KMCS and authored by Rahul Banerjee, an activist for tribal rights based in Indore, found that family members from over 3 lakh households migrate every year from Alirajpur for about four to six months, bringing in around Rs 40 crore a year in earnings. Agriculture a bane One big reason for the mass migration are the falling returns from agriculture, with the average family landholding in Alirajpur about 0.25 hectare. Pointing out that "an overwhelming 95.7% of the population are cultivators or agricultural labourers", Banerjee says: "The land is mostly of low quality, while forests have been decimated drastically, reducing the supplementary incomes from minor forest produce and animal husbandry. Development schemes are not implemented properly and are mostly riddled with corruption." The state of government schools is one proof, with many running at less than half their strength. Even when it comes to teachers, most are Atithi Shikshak or guest teachers. As per the Madhya Pradesh Guest Faculty Portal, 14,045 teachers are registered in the Alirajpur district, getting Rs 5,000 per month as remuneration. Tribals and schemes Talwad accuses the government of apathy and non-interest toward tribal conservation. "The tribals are losing their identity and dependence on their original produce," he says, alleging that a push for seeds supplied by multinationals has impoverished the tribals. About Central schemes, Tadwal points to other challenges, besides lack of awareness due to illiteracy and absence of means. "Five out of 10 farmers don't have thumbprints that register due to the hard work they do in the fields, at construction sites or at domestic chores. They get left out of several schemes as they fail the biometric authentication of their thumb or fingers. Then, most are denied benefits due to errors in their names, surnames, addresses, and other basic information." The politics In 2018, the Congress had won both the Alirajpur and Jobat constituencies - with its candidates Mukesh Rawat and Kalawati Bhuriya winning, respectively. After Kalawati died in 2021, the BJP's Sulochana Rawat won the bypoll held in Jobat seat. This time, Sulochana's son Vishal Rawat is the BJP candidate from Jobat, while the BJP has fielded Chouhan Nagar Singh again from Alirajpur against incumbent MLA Mukesh Rawat of the Congress.

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BRIEFLY

18 hospitalised after gas leak in meat factory

Nuh: Eighteen women factory workers were hospitalised after they inhaled a leaked gas at a meat factory in Mandi Khera in Nuh on Tuesday, officials said. Medical superintendent of the civil hospital Dr Saravjeet Thapar said they were semi-conscious when they were brought. "Some of the labourers were discharged at night. We have not been able to ascertain what gas caused this," he said. **ENS**

Rashmika deepfake: Police questions youth

New Delhi: Delhi Police questioned a 19-year-old Bihar youth over a deepfake video of actor Rashmika Mandanna that was widely circulated on social media, officials said. The police suspected he had first uploaded the video and later shared it widely on other platforms. He was notified as the video was first uploaded from his account, a senior officer said. **PTI**

Semi-qualified docs, lab technician performing surgery: Police bust racket at South Delhi clinic

ARNABJIT SUR
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THREE DOCTORS and a technician have been arrested for allegedly performing, and allowing, surgeries without requisite medical degrees at a south Delhi clinic resulting in at least two deaths.

Police identified the accused as Dr. Neeraj Aggarwal, who runs Aggarwal Medical Centre in Greater Kailash I, his wife Dr. Pooja, Dr. Jaspreet Singh and Mahender Singh, a lab technician, who allegedly performed surgeries on unsuspecting patients.

Eight complaints over cases of post-surgery deaths are pending against them with the Delhi Medical Council and two complaints with the Delhi Police; the clinic was operating since 2009.

While all three doctors had MBBS degrees, only Dr. Jaspreet, the police said, held a Master of Surgery (MS) but has never performed a surgical procedure himself and used create fake surgical notes to validate the procedures.

In addition to Mahender, they also allowed "other inexperienced people" to perform surgeries for small payments, police alleged.

FAST SURGERY, FAKE DOCUMENTS: RACKET'S MODUS OPERANDI



DR. NEERAJ AGGARWAL, the owner of Aggarwal Medical Centre, who earlier worked as a general physician at the Safdarjung Hospital garnered patients by referring them to his clinic.

■ He charged around ₹20k-25k for surgeries ranging from the removal of gallbladder stones to neurosurgeries.

■ He roped in unqualified professionals to carry out

the surgeries – either his own lab technician Mahendra, other staff members, or an outsourced, unqualified medical professional.

■ They would perform the surgery in 15-20 minutes,

after which the patient would become unstable, and would be declared dead on being shifted to another hospital.

■ For a valid medical record, Jaspreet Singh, the only surgeon at the medical centre, would create a fake surgical note even though he had been absent during the surgery.

■ Police also found the accused used expired surgical blades, syringes and banned medicines.

Police said they used to offer gallbladder stone removal and neurosurgery for up to Rs. 25,000 and finished them within 20 minutes.

Though their latest victim was Jai Narayan, 44, from East of Kailash, who died after a gallbladder stone removal operation in October, the lid off the racket was blown off by a procedure performed at the clinic in 2022.

DCP (South) Chandan Choudhary said probe began after the DMC forwarded the police a complaint from one Asgar

Ali's wife, Naseeb Ul Nisha, a resident of Sarita Vihar.

Ali had gone under the knife at the clinic on September 19 last year for the removal of his gallbladder stone. "Before surgery, the Director of the Hospital, Dr. Neeraj Aggarwal, stated the surgery will be conducted by a 'famous surgeon' Dr. Jaspreet Singh. But before the surgery, he said Dr. Singh will not be able to perform the surgery...and now Dr. Mahendra Singh will conduct it," said the DCP.

Dr. Aggarwal introduced Singh and Dr. Pooja to the complainant following which all three conducted the procedure at the end of which her husband had severe pain and was rushed to the Safdarjung Hospital where doctors declared him brought dead and a case was lodged.

Police later found that Dr. Singh, who signed off on Ali's surgery, was not at the clinic during the procedure. The accused have been sent to judicial custody.

'Nothing can bring back our father now': Grieving victim's kin

ARNABJIT SUR
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

FOR THE family of 45-year-old Asgar Ali, a leather worker by profession, Aggarwal Medical Centre was the only hope they had to cure their sole breadwinner's gallbladder stone issue that he had been suffering from for years.

Said Ali's wife, Naseeb Ul Nisha, 41: "We had been told by some of our neighbours in Sangam Vihar that Aggarwal Medical Centre was well known for surgeries and that my husband will get good treatment there..."

Nisha told *The Indian Express* that she took her husband to the centre on September 19 last year and started noticing "negligence" on the part of the staffers and doctors from get-go.

She said, "They did not check his BP nor did they remove his chain, ring or clothes before taking him to the operation theatre... It also got over in 15 to 20 minutes



Asgar Ali, 45

and the next moment, I see my husband bleeding... my son and I sensed something amiss. The next I knew, he had suffered heavy bleeding and was declared dead."

The family rushed him to Safdarjung Hospital but he was declared brought dead. "We are economically weak and were looking for hospitals within our budget. Government hospitals have a long queue...and he needed immediate medical attention," said Sultan Ali, 24, Asgar Ali's son.

He said, "Not only my father, but several others have also died at the hands of these fake surgeons...nothing can bring back our father now." Asgar is survived by his wife, two sons and a daughter.

'Afraid to go to gate again': kin of 8-yr-old hit by car on Diwali

DHEERAJ MISHRA
NOIDA, NOVEMBER 15

"SHE SAID that she would not be able to go to gate no.2, where the incident happened, to catch the bus. We are considering consulting a psychiatrist after she recovers," said Kamesh Khatana, father of 8-year-old Sharanya Khatana, who was among the three hit by a car in front of Eldeco Amantaran society in Noida's Sector 119 while taking part in Diwali festivities on Sunday.

"It will take around one month for her to recover. I find myself guilty that she has got such a bad memory. It will haunt her whole life, it should have not happened," he said.

"We had planned to go outside to eat on the Diwali... and the children were insisting to see the firecrackers. Thus we stopped at the gate when the car rammed into the people..."

Khatana further said that the other two injured in the incident are still in the hospital. His friend Saurabh Singh, 43, is out of the ICU but his father-in-law Vijay Kumar, 72 is still on ventilator support.

A senior police official said that IPC section 307 (attempt to murder) has been added in the FIR, apart from section 279 (Rash driving) and 338 (Causing grievous hurt by act endangering life or personal safety of others).

A person named Vikas Yadav, a resident of Sorkha village and the driver of the red hatchback car was arrested in the case.

Faridabad: 3-yr-old killed after sexual assault bid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
FARIDABAD, NOVEMBER 15

A THREE-YEAR-OLD girl was allegedly killed by her 47-year-old neighbour after an alleged sexual assault attempt in Faridabad Tuesday, police said, adding that the accused has been arrested.

The accused lived in a rented house close to the victim's, they said. "The girl was playing near her home when the man took her away. He attempted to rape her, but she started screaming. To silence her, he smothered her," police said, adding he later slit her throat.

Around 10 pm, the father reported to the police that his daughter was nowhere to be found. Her body was found inside a bag in the bathroom of a house in the neighbourhood, police said.

The girl's body has been sent for post-mortem examination. Based on the complaint filed by the victim's family, the police have registered a case under the POCOA Act and murder.

Police said the accused has been admitted to a hospital after he sustained injuries following a jump from a roof to escape cops.

HC fines woman Rs 1L for filing PIL to 'settle personal score' with cousin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

OBSERVING IT was "unfortunate" that public interest litigation (PIL) forum is used to "settle personal scores by suppressing the relationship between parties", the Delhi High Court imposed Rs 1 lakh cost on a woman for filing a PIL against her relative when she had claimed no personal interest in the matter.

A division bench of the then Chief Justice Satish Chandra

Sharma and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela in its November 3 order was dealing with a PIL for the removal of alleged illegal construction. The court noted that the petitioner claimed in an affidavit that she had no personal interest in the matter but suppressed the fact that the building owner was her cousin and there was a dispute between the families.

The bench said the woman had not approached the court with clean hands, adding that nothing prevented her from disclosing her relationship with her

cousin.

"The petitioner... as admitted the relationship with Respondent No.5 in open court... as the petitioner was certainly an interested person, the petition deserves to be dismissed with costs... to be paid to Army Battle Casualties Welfare Fund within 30 days from today," the court ordered.

The court refrained from proceeding in contempt, but warned the petitioner to be careful in future, and not to file such frivolous petitions again by suppressing material facts.

HC rejects plea to reopen 100-yr-old Roshanara Club

MALAVIKA PRASAD
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE DELHI High Court has rejected a plea seeking the reopening of the 100-year-old Roshanara Club sealed by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) in September, after noting the authority was finalising a scheme for smooth running of the club.

A division bench of the then Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela observed in its November 9 interim order that a prayer was

made before the Supreme Court to restore the possession to the Roshanara Club and the relief was not granted in the matter. The matter was listed to December 7.

The plea was filed by a few club members seeking a direction declaring the sealing as unconstitutional, violating fundamental and statutory rights of the club, members and its employees, challenging the constitutional validity of Section 3 of The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

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(For political parties to publish in the newspapers, social media platforms & website of the party)

Information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases, who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (As per the Commission's directions issued in pursuance of the Order dated 13.02.2020 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in contempt petition(C) no. 2192 of 2018 in WP(C) no. 536 of 2011)

Name of Political Party : **Indian National Congress**
Name of the Election : **Election to the Legislative Assembly of Rajasthan State 2023**
Name of State/UT : **Rajasthan State**
(1) Name of the Constituency : **HINDOLI - 184**
Name of the candidate : **ASHOK CHANDANA**

| Sl.No. | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 1. | Criminal antecedents | |
| | a. | Nature of Offense |
| | b. | Case No. |
| | c. | Name of Court |
| | d. | Whether Charges have been framed or not (yes/no) |
| | e. | Date of Conviction, if any |
| | f. | Details of punishment undergone, if any |
| | g. | Any other information required to be given |
| 2. | The reasons for the selection of the candidate. Selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate, and not mere "winnability" at the polls (not more than 100 words) | The candidate has been an elected representative in the past. The Candidate has been a renowned sports person. He has also been a minister and is known for his initiatives for sports person. The candidate has carried out many developmental works across the state of Rajasthan and has proved himself to be an able administrator. |
| 3. | Reasons as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates (not more than 100 words) | Charges have been framed only in one case against the candidate. Two cases against the candidate dates back more than five years and one case more than 15 years but there has been no concrete progress in the cases which clearly shows that the cases against this candidate were not really genuine. The Congress party believes that some unconcluded cases should not stop an administrator from his work for public which is why he has been fielded again by the party from this seat. |

(2) Name of the Constituency- **HINDOLI- 184**
Name of the candidate- **ASHOK CHANDANA**

(Shri. Lalit Tunwal)
General Secretary (Organisation)
Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee

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4 THE CITY

AQI AT 398, PM2.5 MAIN POLLUTANT

Air quality maintains 'very poor' run; Punjab farm fires record an uptick

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

CONTINUING WITH the pattern witnessed Tuesday, Delhi's air quality remained in the upper end of the 'very poor' category all through Wednesday. Meanwhile, Punjab saw an uptick in farm fires, recording the second highest single-day figure of the season.

On Wednesday, the Capital's 24-hour average AQI was 398 at 4 pm, with PM2.5 as the main pollutant, according to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB); the AQI stayed over 390 all day.

Out of 35 stations for which 24-hour average data was available at 7 pm, 17 recorded AQI in the 'severe' category, with the highest figure of 444 at Nehru Nagar.

Meanwhile, Punjab recorded 2,544 farm fires on Wednesday, up from 1,776 on Tuesday and 1,624 on Monday, going by data from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI). This is the second highest single-day farm fire count the state has recorded this season, after 3,230 on November 5. Farm fires continued in Haryana as well with 62 instances recorded on Wednesday, up from 21 on Tuesday.

Last week, the Supreme Court had asked the states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan to take urgent steps to stop paddy stubble burning.

The contribution of stubble burning to PM2.5 levels in Delhi saw a spike on Tuesday, and conditions remain favourable for the transport of smoke from burning into Delhi, according to experts.



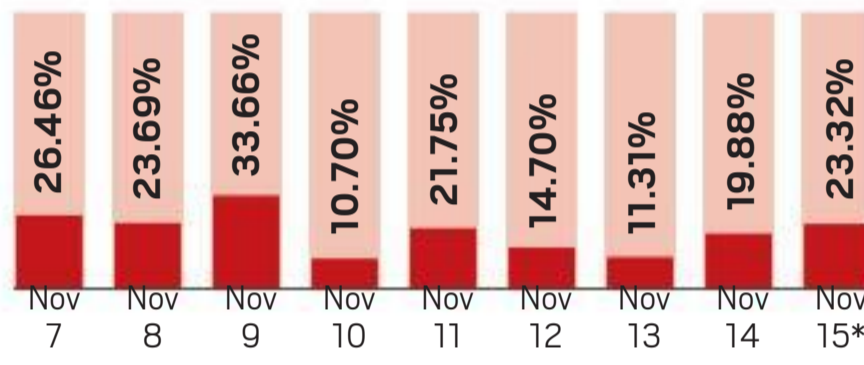
Smog seen over the Yamuna on Wednesday. *Gajendra Yadav*

On Tuesday, the contribution of stubble burning to PM2.5 levels in Delhi was 19.875%, up from 11.313% on Monday, going by data from the Decision Support System.

"Surface winds in Delhi are expected to be very calm over the next two days. Transport level winds are also favourable for the transport of stubble burning smoke," said Gufuran Beig, founder project-director SAFAR, and chair professor, National Institute of

Advanced Studies. While a feeble western disturbance is expected to affect the Western Himalayan Region on November 19, and bring very light rainfall over Jammu and Kashmir, its impact over Delhi could remain limited to a change in wind direction to easterly as opposed to the northwesterly winds that are now prevailing, according to Kuldeep Srivastava, scientist, India Meteorological Department (IMD).

CONTRIBUTION OF STUBBLE BURNING TO PM2.5 LEVELS IN DELHI



Data from the Decision Support System, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology *estimated

'Shadow cabinet' of Sheila-era ministers meet to discuss pollution

New Delhi: A 'Shadow Cabinet' consisting of former Ministers of the Sheila Dikshit-era Congress government on Wednesday deliberated upon what it termed "life-threatening air pollution" in the city accusing both the AAP Delhi government and the BJP-led Centre of "deliberate neglect and inaction".

Delhi Congress president Arvind Singh Lovely chaired the meeting questioning why both the Central and Delhi governments had not bothered to

find a lasting solution to the issue.

"Neither has the Centre convened a session of Parliament nor the Delhi government that of the Assembly, as required in a democracy, to discuss the toxic air pollution... leaders of both are busy in election campaigning in other states instead of tackling Delhi's woes," Lovely alleged.

The Shadow Cabinet meeting included former Delhi Congress Ministers Haroon

Yusuf, Kiran Walia, Mangat Ram Singhal, Raj Kumar Chauhan, and Ramakant Goswami among others.

Following the meeting, two resolutions were passed: to request Delhi L-G VK Saxena and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to convene an all-party meeting to discuss air pollution and to set up a high-powered monitoring committee headed by a Supreme Court judge, environmental experts, and civil society experts to tackle the issue. **ENS**

AAP hurt Purvanchali sentiments by neglecting Yamuna, says BJP

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

BLAMING THE AAP Delhi government for "allowing the condition of the Yamuna to deteriorate" over the years, the Delhi BJP on Wednesday accused it of hurting the sentiments of the capital's Purvanchali community by neglecting the river which was now unfit for the upcoming Chhath Puja festival.

Claiming credit for initiating observance of the festival on the banks of the river in the city after the formation of the BJP government in Delhi in 1993 under



BJP leaders Virendra Sachdeva and Manoj Tiwari

Madan Lal Khurana, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva alleged that the current condition of the river was far cry from being the hub of Chhath festivities. "Since the formation of the government of late Shri Madan Lal

Khurana, Chhath Puja started being celebrated with great pomp in the city but the Arvind Kejriwal government has been playing with Purvanchali sentiments," Sachdeva alleged.

"Today the condition of Yamuna is worse than before. Along with MP Manoj Tiwari, I inspected Kalindi Kunj ghat and saw chemical foam floating in it...the Kejriwal government does not clean the ghats..." he alleged.

Northeast Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari said, "Today, instead of Ganga water and cow's milk, chemicals and dirty drain water are being discharged into the Yamuna."

Special cleaning campaign, fogging, lighting up ghats: Adequately prepared for Chhath festivities, says MCD

SAMAN HUSAIN
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

AFTER TOXIC foam was seen floating on the surface of the river Yamuna in Delhi ahead of the Chhath Puja festival, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) led Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has claimed that it has put all its strength into the Puja preparations.

"Chhath Ghats are being built in every ward with the help of AAP councillors. Apart from this, adequate lighting arrangements are being made there," the AAP said.

So far, the MCD said it has built Chhath Ghats in 100 wards and said 80 to 90 percent of the work



Recently toxic foam was seen floating on the surface of Yamuna in New Delhi. *Express*

of constructing ghats in other wards has also been completed. Further, a sum of rupees 40 thousand has been released to every ward to make lighting arrangements at the Chhath Ghats.

In view of the Chhath festival,

the MCD has also launched a special cleaning campaign in all the parks and around the ghats. "Arrangements for parking of devotees' vehicles have also been made around Chhath Ghats. With this, their vehicles will also be safe



A screengrab of the incident.

Bus catches fire on Noida expressway

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, NOVEMBER 15

A MOVING double-decker private bus going from Sector-37 Noida to Siwan, Bihar, caught fire on the Noida-Greater Noida expressway on Wednesday afternoon, fire officials said.

Around 60 passengers in the moving bus had to jump off the bus to save themselves, officials said.

Gautam Buddha Nagar's Chief Fire Officer (CFO) Pradeep Kumar said that the fire was caused by a short circuit and there was no loss of life in the incident.

"We acted as soon as we received the information. Three fire tenders rushed to the spot and it was doused. First, we rescued the pas-

sengers and then doused the fire. One person received a minor injury while jumping off the bus, who was provided with first aid," said Kumar.

He said the belongings of almost all the passengers were burnt in the fire.

A video also went viral over social media, where it can be seen that huge smoke and flames were coming out of the burning bus.

Meanwhile, in another incident the same day evening, a double-decker bus caught fire on the Yamuna Expressway near the zero point, police said. They said the incident took place on around 100th meters of the expressway and the bus was going towards Bihar's Darbhanga from Delhi. Fire officials said that there was no loss of life in the incident.

Weather conditions prompt rethink on cloud seeding dates

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

DATES FOR a possible attempt at cloud seeding to induce rainfall in Delhi are now being reassessed with conditions being unfavourable around the initial November 20-21 dates that were being considered.

Cloud seeding involves releasing salts into clouds to provide nuclei for water vapour to condense around and form droplets, thereby increasing the possibility of rainfall.

An environment department official said the dates for the pilot project are being reassessed since an earlier assessment that there might be a western disturbance that could affect Delhi around November 18 or 20 no longer holds true.

According to India Meteorological Department officials, a western disturbance is set to affect the western Himalayan region on November 19, but its impact over Delhi could be limited to a possible change in wind direction from northwesterly to easterly.

Cloud seeding would require clouds with moisture over the city, which in the winter, is



Earlier, Nov 20-21 were being considered for the exercise, in light of the pollution situation in the capital. *Express*

brought by western disturbances.

The official, however, added that the process of seeking permissions for cloud seeding as a pilot project this winter has kicked off, with the project likely to require a set of around 10 to 11 permissions, including operational and security clearances from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, the Delhi government, and the Airports Authority of India.

The project in-charge, Manindra Agrawal from IIT

Kanpur said, they are "re-looking and closely following the radar to see what is possible," as the earlier dates are no longer feasible.

Agrawal said the team hopes to affect an area of 300 square kilometers, adding that cloud seeding as a way of dealing with pollution levels may work at scale, but not for a very long period of time. "The ballpark cost estimate is around Rs. 1 lakh per square kilometer," he said.

The process involves using an aircraft, in this case, an IIT Kanpur aircraft that is already fitted with equipment, to release the 'seed' or a combination of salts into the cloud.

Festive season effect: Plan to restrict buses from entering Delhi put on hold

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE DELHI government, which was expected to implement a complete ban on diesel, BS IV petrol and diesel-fueled passenger buses entering the national capital from this week, has de-

cidated to put a pause on the plan till the Chhath Puja festival to avoid inconvenience to the public, said officials.

"Festive season is still on and Chhath puja is also celebrated widely across the city...people are travelling to their home states and back from Delhi for the festivals...So, to avoid any inconven-

ience, we have decided to put restrictions only on trucks for now...and restrict the buses after Chhath festival," said an official.

With Chhath Puja festival concluding on November 17, officials said the restriction on buses may start being implemented this week.

DWARKA EXPRESSWAY LAND ACQUISITION

CM sends inquiry report to L-G, recommends immediate suspension of Chief Secretary

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

A DAY after it was submitted to him, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal sent Vigilance Minister Atishi's inquiry report on corruption allegations against Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar to L-G VK Saxena, recommending immediate suspension and removing him from his post, government sources said.

According to government sources, Kejriwal had also issued directions for the 670-page report - on the alleged involvement of the Delhi Chief Secretary in enhancing an "exorbitant compensation award" for a parcel of land in Southwest Delhi's Bannoli village acquired for the Dwarka Expressway - to be sent to the CBI and ED for the investigation of a possible money laundering angle in it.

Accusing the Chief Secretary of being instrumental in providing illicit profits to a company linked to his son, the report alleges a "... prima facie appearance of complicity" of the CS, along with District Magistrate (Southwest) Hemant Kumar and owners of the land acquired.

CS Kumar termed the allegations and the inquiry an attempt



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal; CS Naresh Kumar. *File*

by the AAP Delhi government to "defame" and "malign" him. He said he did not know the directors of his son's firm and it was he who took action against IAS officer Kumar who, meanwhile, was suspended by the MHA and is facing a CBI inquiry over his alleged role in the matter.

As reported by *The Indian Express* last week, compensation against the acquisition of the 19-acre plot was increased from Rs 41.52 crore to Rs 353.79 crore in May. This led to action against IAS officer Kumar following a complaint from a lawyer with the Centre and the Delhi government alleging that the son-in-law of one of the landowners is the director in a firm that employs the son of the Chief Secretary.

The inquiry, which the Chief Minister had asked Atishi to take up last week based on this complaint, recommended immedi-

ate removal of Kumar from the post of Chief Secretary as well as Ashwani Kumar from the post of Divisional Commissioner so they "do not influence the probe".

According to sources, the report alleges "a conspiracy by senior officers of the Vigilance Department", including Chief Secretary Kumar, to undervalue the "scale of the scam" at Rs 312 crore when the actual compensation award "would have resulted in an illicit gain of Rs 850 crore to the beneficiaries".

The report alleges that the Vigilance Department, which had investigated the matter, had not examined how beneficiaries purchased land in Bannoli village "at only 7% of the circle rate in 2015" adding that there was "a likelihood that the remaining 93% payment may have been done in cash".

Responding to the allegations, the Chief Secretary's office had said Tuesday: "On what basis are such allegations being made?... If the landowners had purchased the land in 2015 at just 7% of the market rate, what was done by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Minister (Revenue), Minister (Vigilance), and officers concerned since 2015 till date? Whether there any interests of these persons in such alleged undervalued sale/purchase?"

'Arrested to silence voice against injustice, graft': Sanjay Singh pens letter from prison

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

AFTER FORMER Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) senior leader and Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh has written a letter from behind the bars, saying that his arrest was made to "silence his voice" against the "injustice and corruption" of the BJP-led government at the Centre.

Singh was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate on October 4 in connection with the alleged Excise Policy scam.

Taking an aim at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Singh



Singh was arrested Oct 4

said, "Arvind Kejriwal's work has become a thorn in Modi ji's eyes. The BJP felt concerned: what will happen if the public starts voting based on education, health-care, electricity, and water? The AAP neither spreads casteism

nor divides society in the name of religion. They focus on the politics of work. That's why AAP became the target. The BJP adopted the path of suppression, choking all the rights of democracy and the constitution from the Delhi government." He further said, "If one wants to raise their voice against the ongoing tyranny in the country, they must be prepared for jail, court cases, and batons."

Singh alleged that he was arrested because he consistently "raised voice against the injustices and corruption of the Modi government".

The BJP did not respond to the AAP leader's comments.

EmpowerHER



EMPOWERING WOMEN, leading transformational changes in Haryana

Underscoring women's empowerment, the Manohar Lal-led government's series of measures to break down barriers hindering women's progress continue to enable them to thrive and contribute to the state's remarkable journey of development

WOMEN empowerment is not just a catchphrase; it holds the key to transforming societies and economies alike. Empowered women contribute to economic growth, social progress, and sustainable development. In a progressive world, empowering women is not just a matter of equality; it is a strategic imperative for achieving sustainable development and fostering inclusive societies.

Against the backdrop of the undeniably pivotal role of women empowerment, the Government of Haryana's visionary approach takes center stage. Aligning with the national vision, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh.Narendra Modi, Haryana's transformative journey towards changing attitudes, fostering women's empowerment, the instrumental role of women in driving national transformation has become a prominent hallmark. There has been a notable transition from mere women development to a more pronounced emphasis on development led by women. Within this context, the Government of Haryana aims to achieve full economic empowerment for women in a secure environment by 2030, and it has initiated a series of measures to ensure the realization of this goal.

Haryana's transformative journey towards changing attitudes, fostering women's empowerment

Under the guidance of Respected Prime Minister, In the past 9 years, the Manohar Lal led government has ushered in a transformative era for women in the state by prioritizing women's empowerment and self-reliance. The state under the visionary leadership of the Chief Minister has made significant strides in empowering women, eradicating the stigma of female feticide, promoting gender equality and ensuring equal representation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). One of the most significant achievements of the government led by Manohar Lal has been its relentless efforts to combat female feticide. Haryana, once plagued by the bane of gender-based sex selection, has witnessed remarkable results owing to the government's commitment to changing this narrative. From a sex ratio of 871 females per 1000 males in 2014 to 932 females for every 1000 males in September 2023, the steady improvement in the state's sex ratio is a testament to the success of the government's dedicated initiatives.

In 2015, Manohar Lal was entrusted with launching the nationwide Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign by Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh.Narendra Modi. This campaign, launched from the historic land of Panipat, aimed to address the issues of female feticide and promote the education and well-being of girls. Through tireless efforts and the support of social organizations and Khap Panchayats, the campaign has made a tangible impact, changing mindsets and improving the lives of countless young girls.

Fifty percent participation of women in Panchayati Raj Institutions

Taking gender equality to the grass-root level, the present state government has increased women's participation in PRIs to an impressive 50 percent. This step not only promotes women's representation but also empowers them



Haryana Chief Minister, Mr. Manohar Lal released a brochure of "Mahila Evam Kishori Samman Yojana" of Women & Child Development Department.



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Manohar Lal interacting with the women from different districts of the state who came to Delhi to see the Parliament proceedings at Haryana Bhawan, New Delhi. (21.09.2023)



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Manohar Lal giving a hearing aid to an elderly woman during the Jan Samvad programme at Narnaund, district Hisar on September 8, 2023.



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Manohar Lal giving old-age pension certificate to a beneficiary during the Jan Samvad programme at village Ugalan (Narnaund), district Hisar on September 8, 2023. Member of Parliament, Sh. Brijendra Singh and MLA Sh. Ram Kumar Gautam are also seen in the picture.



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Manohar Lal going around an exhibition of self-help group during Jan Samvad programme at village Thurana (Hansi), District Hisar on September 6, 2023.

to play an active role in local governance, contributing to the development of their communities.

Beyond statistics, the government's actions have brought about a profound change in the attitude of the people of Haryana towards women, opening the door to countless empowered women making their mark in every field and bringing glory to the state and the country.

A multifaceted approach

Leveraging the guidance from Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh.Narendra Modi's vision for women's empowerment, Haryana State has undertaken comprehensive initiatives aimed at fostering the holistic development and empowerment of women across all strata of society under the exemplary leadership of Chief Minister Manohar Lal, Haryana has implemented an array of initiatives aimed at women's welfare.

These initiatives have been designed to touch upon various aspects of women's lives, ensuring their holistic development and empowerment. Besides this, the Chief Minister has also taken several steps to ensure that unbiased and unhindered higher education is accessible to every female. One of the cornerstones of these initiatives is the establishment of colleges within a 20-kilometre radius. This strategic move has made higher education more accessible to girls, reducing the need for them to travel long distances and providing them with greater opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Meanwhile, the government is also working diligently to set up senior secondary schools within a 3-kilometre radius, ensuring that quality education is just a short journey away, to enhance further the educational landscape for girls in Haryana.

Ensuring safe transportation through the Chhatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana

Recognizing the importance of safe transportation, the present state government has launched the Chhatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojana. This initiative has introduced over 181 special buses dedicated to transporting girls to schools and colleges, prioritizing their safety and convenience. Besides this, during the tenure of the present government, 51 ITIs have been established and girls studying in ITIs are also given a stipend of Rs 500 per month.

In addition to the state-level initiatives, Haryana is collaborating with the Central Government to enhance women's welfare. Many Central Government schemes are complement-

Key measures reflecting CM's commitment to women's economic empowerment

Women working under the outsourcing policy are entitled to the facility of maternity leave that is at par with regular employees. This is a significant step towards ensuring that women have the necessary support and time to care for their newborns without compromising their employment status. Furthermore, a special allowance of Rs 1500 per child as childcare has also been granted for Disabled Women Employees. Additionally, since April 1, 2023, widows and destitute women in Haryana have been receiving a monthly pension of Rs 2750 & will receive Rs 3000 from Jan'2024.

"The determination of India's women, their willpower, their imagination, their ability to take quick decisions, their rigour to achieve the set goals, & the culmination of their hard work, this is the identity of our Nari Shakti"

Narendra Modi

Empowering women through Self-Help Groups

With Haryana boasting 63,295 Self-help Groups (SHGs) at present, Haryana's focus on forming SHGs highlights a positive step towards women's empowerment and self-reliance, wherein many SHGs have evolved into small-scale industries, generating employment opportunities.

In addition the government having allocated a whopping Rs 397.28 crore in financial assistance to these groups, these SHGs have received loans at a mere one percent interest rate alongside stamp duty exemptions. Besides this, 70 Vita sales booths have been earmarked exclusively for women entrepreneurs to promote their active participation in the retail sector. Moreover, for the first time, 33 percent of ration depots have been assigned to women, ensuring equitable business opportunities.

Bolstering Women's Safety

Taking a pivotal step towards women's safety, 34 dedicated women's police stations are now operational, fostering a secure environment for women in the state while providing a

platform for women police officers to voice their concerns openly. 239 women's help desks have been established in police stations. While the government is actively increasing the representation of women in the Haryana Police Force, with a target to elevate it from six percent to an ambitious 15 percent, Durga Shakti App, Durga Shakti Vahani and Durga Shakti Rapid Action Force have instilled a sense of security among the state's women.

As Haryana continues its noteworthy journey towards gender equality and women's empowerment, the Manohar Lal-led government's dedication to this cause remains unwavering. The state serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration, showcasing the promising outcome of visionary leadership and the government's commitment to public welfare and women empowerment driving positive changes and propelling unprecedented socio-economic growth and development.

6 DECISION 2023

CHHATTISGARH • MADHYA PRADESH • MIZORAM • RAJASTHAN • TELANGANA

ELECTION IN NUMBERS

112

The number of Bills tabled in the outgoing Chhattisgarh Assembly, of which 110 were passed

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KEY ISSUES

WHY PRIYANKA IS FIRING '21 JOBS' SALVOS AT CHOUHAN GOVT

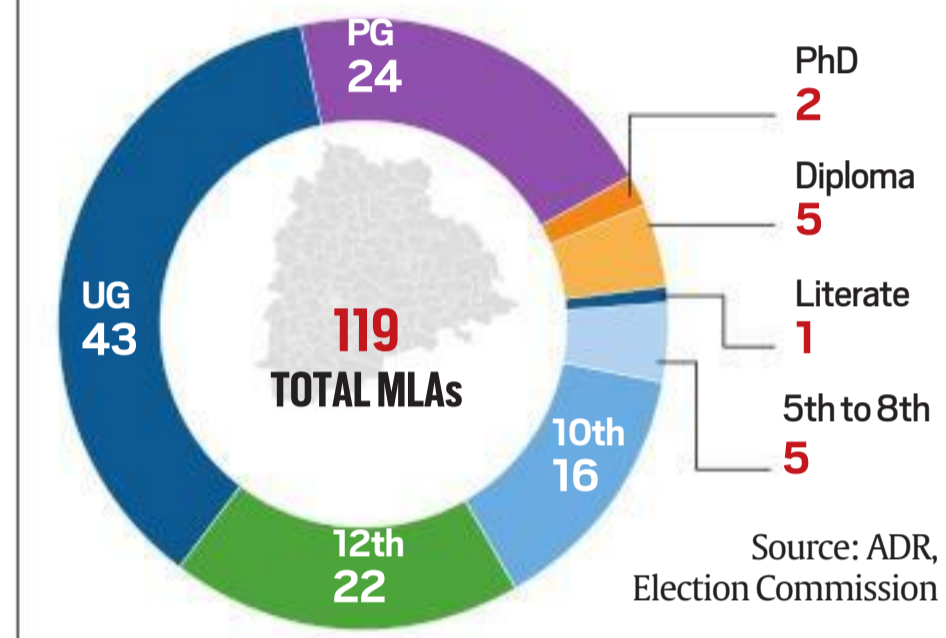


AMID TELANGANA POLLS, GIG WORKERS FLAG ISSUES FOR PARTIES

NUMBER SPEAK

TELANGANA: PARTY-WISE EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF MLAs

| Party | Literate | 5 to 8th | 10th | 12th | UG | PG | PhD | Dip |
|-------|----------|----------|------|------|----|----|-----|-----|
| BJP | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| AIMIM | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| INC | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| BRS | 0 | 5 | 10 | 19 | 41 | 20 | 2 | 4 |
| Inde | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |



I HEREBY DECLARE

DHRUV NARAYAN SINGH, 64
Son of former Madhya Pradesh CM Govind Narain Singh, contesting for BJP from Bhopal Central

MOVABLE ASSETS
₹2.82 CRORE (including of spouse) (Rs 13.26 lakh in 2008)

IMMOVABLE ASSETS
₹45.11 CRORE including agricultural,

commercial and residential properties (Rs 7.99 crore in 2008)

LIABILITIES
₹74.97 CRORE (Rs 2.71 lakh in 2008)

CRIMINAL CASES
None

SOURCE OF INCOME
Agriculture

EDUCATION
MA from Bhopal Uni

BHUPESH BAGHEL CONSTITUENCY

Patan has signs of a CM seat, jobs, water among demands

Borewells have not worked; Baghel promises a factory to meet jobs demand



A BJP wall painting of CM Bhupesh Baghel's nephew Vijay who is also contesting in Patan. PTI

JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU
PATAN, NOVEMBER 15

WHILE five-time MLA and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel is likely to have little difficulty retaining Patan, there are murmurs in the VIP constituency about the lack of jobs and something more basic: adequate water supply.

Khrudih village, where Baghel grew up, has all the trappings of its star status, including a nullah system, a community hall and, particularly, good roads – a development attributed to his rise as CM. A resident, Teksingh Thakur, also mentions “a new water tank, revamped school and tree plantation for beautification.”

However, just 15 km away, the Tulsivillage of around 800 people has the same water concerns as others in Patan. “A majority of our population depend on farming and are happy with the pro-farmer promises made by Baghel. But around 200 villagers are labourers who work on these farms, and have little to gain,” says a farmer, underlining the injustice of a scheme under which while the landless are left out.

Another resident, Sham Yadav, talks about the lack of a hospital, but says the bigger issue for them is the absence of adequate water supply, long after the taps were installed. “We need more water tanks, more borewells.”

The demand of residents of Beloudi village is the same.

Bhupesh Baghel, a local Congress leader from the village, admits there is an issue but says the Baghel government has been working to resolve it. “Even in Beloudi, we tried to get two more borewells, but the water levels were too low. In the future, the problem will be resolved.”

On the Baghel government’s welfare schemes, the villagers say delivery is uneven. Mahesh Nishad, 45, questions the use of the unemployment allowance for him, as the upper age limit is 35.

Baghel’s ‘Adarsh Gauthan (model cow-shelter)’ scheme, under which women self-help groups are provided assistance and monetary help by the government, has more takers. Dhaneshwari Sahu of Sikola village says: “Under Gauthan, there are various economic activities, which have provided us an additional income of Rs 2.5 lakh in the

past four years, divided among six people. Otherwise, I earned Rs 150 per day from farming for four to six months a year.”

However, ultimately, all these schemes are seen as piecemeal in the absence of larger employment opportunities.

The Patan Assembly seat has 2.17 lakh voters, a majority of whom are OBC voters belonging to the Sahu community, followed by Kurmis. Both Baghel and his chief rival, nephew and Patan MP Vijay Baghel of the BJP, are Kurmis. They have contested four times against each other, with Baghel Senior winning three.

In 2018, Baghel had defeated the BJP candidate by a comfortable margin. Vijay won in 2019 from the Durg Lok Sabha seat (that includes Patan) by a massive margin of 3.91 lakh votes.

After the OBCs, which also include Dewangans and Yadavs, the

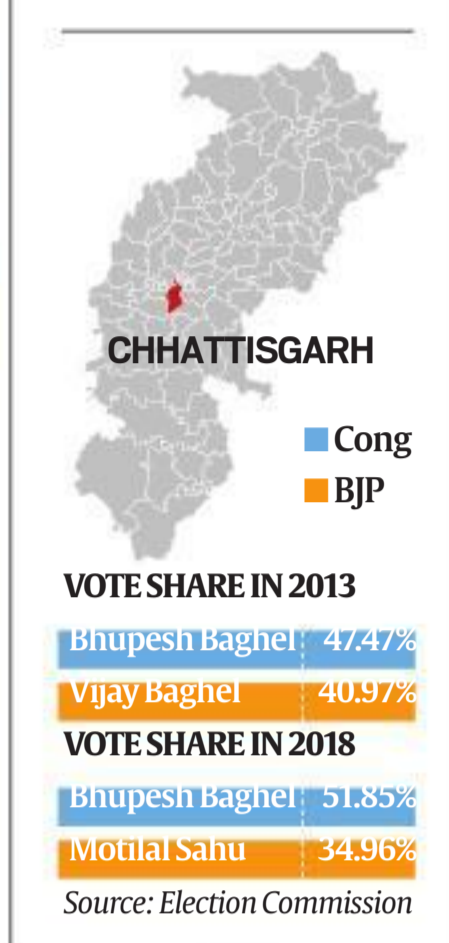
community having a sizeable population is the Harijan Satnami Samaj. While the Satnami Samaj traditionally votes for the Congress, this time many are expected to back Amit Jogi’s Janta Congress Chhattisgarh-Jogi (JCC-J), founded by late CM Ajit Jogi.

“In 2018, the JCC-J candidate got 13,147 votes. Ajit Jogi had a strong hold in Patan and it is believed in 2008, he was a reason behind Baghel losing to Vijay Baghel,” says Shashank Tiwari, a political analyst and journalist.

The JCC-J is not far behind the Congress and the BJP in announcing better paddy prices or schemes for women.

There are two tribal parties in the fray which might take away the tribal vote, around 5% of the total – including the Gondwana Gantantra Party (GGP) and newly formed Hamar Raj. The GGP will

PATAN RESULTS



also get Dalit votes due to its alliance with the BSP.

Asked about the work done in his constituency, Baghel says “a lot of development has happened”. “Good roads have been made, every village and section of society have community halls. Solar lights have been put up in several villages and an irrigation system has been set up.”

The CM also talks about benefits of his schemes reaching villagers, and says more are on the way. “I opened a university while a processing plant for minor forest produce is coming up.”

Jitendra Verma, the district head of Durg for the BJP, says several promises such as the assurance to make Patan a district remain unfulfilled.

However, in an election largely about Baghel, few expect the CM to not prevail. “My vote share will surely increase,” says Baghel.

With 66 tough seats assigned to him, can Digvijaya Singh talk the walk?

ANAND MOHAN J
BHOPAL, NOVEMBER 15

AS THE Madhya Pradesh campaign wrapped up Wednesday, the ruling BJP threw up one word constantly at the Congress – “Bantadhar (or ruinous)”. It was a reference to the pejorative the BJP uses for Digvijaya Singh and his 10-year rule as chief minister of the state in 1993-2003, as well as an acknowledgment of the central role the polarising Congress leader has played in keeping the BJP on its toes.

At a recent rally in Gwalior, Digvijaya barely held back in criticising Congress workers who were not seen in the campaign after being denied tickets. “I am not seeing the faces of those who were asking for tickets. Where are they? Is this your loyalty towards the Congress?” he said.

Digvijaya could argue he has earned the right to deliver this censure. The man who declared he would not contest elections for 10 years after the 2003 loss



Singh has spent the last five years travelling the state. PTI

has spent the better part of the past five years travelling MP. Digvijaya may have tripped here and there, and often trod indelicately onto Hindutva territory that the Congress approached tentatively, but as far as the BJP goes, he has been the face of the Congress offensive.

Not surprisingly, for this election, Digvijaya was given the arduous task of energising the Congress cadre in 66 seats seen as BJP strongholds. He was hand-

picked for the job by Kamal Nath, the Congress’s undeclared CM face for MP. Whether the Congress finds itself in power or not, come December 3, will have a lot to do with these 66 seats.

Digvijaya got onto the task right after senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi’s Bharat Jodo Yatra. By the time Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge had visited the state in August, Singh had already put behind

him an 11-km walk barefoot through the Berasia seat.

During his continuous tours since, Digvijaya has attended gatherings and stepped in to placate angry workers. The Gwalior area where Congress rebel-turned-BJP leader Jyotiraditya Scindia’s writ runs large was one of the regions entrusted to Digvijaya and his son Jaivardhan (who is contesting from Raghogarh). Should the Congress avenge its 2020 government fall and win MP, Jaivardhan is expected to play a larger role.

Some of the other notable seats Digvijaya toured were Budhni, the constituency of BJP CM and its biggest face Shivraj Singh Chouhan; Rehli, the constituency of PWD Minister Gopal Bhargava; and Khurai, where Urban Administration minister Bhupendra Singh is contesting.

But the party is still facing rebellions in over 40 Assembly seats, with many of the party’s candidates shifting to the BSP. Party leaders, however, say the rebellion has been stemmed.

The politics behind Modi’s image with Dalit leader in Telangana

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, NOVEMBER 15

ONE OF the defining images of this election came on November 11 as Prime Minister Narendra Modi consoled a teary-eyed Dalit leader on the stage at a rally in Secunderabad. Behind the photograph of Modi and Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi (MRPS) founder Manda Krishna Madiga, which was shared widely, is the story of the BJP’s outreach to Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the state.

In 16 of the state’s 33 districts the Madiga community outnumbers Malas, another Dalit subgroup. While the BJP has not yet warmed up to the idea of a caste census that the Opposition is demanding, Modi has promised to constitute a committee for the classification of SC sub-groups in Telangana.

The party is concentrating on Madigas since they outnumber Malas 60% to 40% at most places and hold grievances for not getting quota as per their numeri-



PM Modi consoles Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi chief Manda Krishna Madiga in Secunderabad last week. PTI

cal strength.

Manda Krishna Madiga has accused the ruling Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and the Congress of ignoring Madigas, saying: “We have been demanding for several decades that there should be a survey of SC sub-castes, and quota in jobs, education.”

BJP leaders are hopeful that the PM’s announcement will translate into votes but also express caution since the “Malas and Madigas don’t vote en masse

for any party”.

Explaining why the Mala community is in favour of categorisation, Manda Krishna Madiga said, “There are fewer Malas (compared to Madigas) but yet they have a fair share in government jobs and education sector. Madigas need representation based on their numbers.”

According to the BRS government, Dalits constitute 18-19% of the state’s population. The MRPS estimates that based on the 2011 Census the SC population is 54,32,680, of whom 32,22,642 are Madigas and 15,27,143 are Malas.

Of the 119 Assembly constituencies, 19 are reserved SCs while three of the 17 parliamentary seats are earmarked for Dalits (Warangal, Nagarkurnool, and Peddapalli).

The BRS launched the *Dalita Bandhu* scheme to keep the SC community placated. The scheme provides a one-time financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh per beneficiary family but there is discontent in the community that not everyone is receiving the benefits and the selection process is slow.

TRIBAL OUTREACH

The numbers and the politics of PM’s PVTG push

ANJISHNU DAS
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

FIRST ANNOUNCED in the 2023-24 Budget, the PM Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) Development Mission is finally on its way with Prime Minister Narendra Modi launching it on the occasion of ‘Janjatiya Gaurav Divas (tribal pride day)’, in Jharkhand on Wednesday.

The programme, which rolls out amidst an ongoing election season and with the 2024 Battle up ahead – and is timed with the birth anniversary of tribal icon Birsam Munda, plus being launched from his birth place – aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of PVTGs.

Specifically, under the umbrella scheme, 9 ministries will implement 11 interventions, including the PM Gram Sadak Yojana, PM Gramin Awas Yojana, and Jal Jeevan Mission.

In terms of outlay, the PVTG mission is the largest targeting the tribal community, at Rs 24,000 crore. In comparison, the 2023-24 Budget allocated Rs 60,000 crore for the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, Rs 70,000 crore for the Jal Jeevan Mission and Rs 79,590 crore for the PM Awas Yojana.

The government also has umbrella programmes for the development of minorities, vulnerable groups, STs and SCs, for which it allocated Rs 610 crore, Rs 2,194 crore, Rs 4,295 crore, and Rs 9,409

crore, respectively.

According to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, India has 75 PVTGs, who are characterised by “pre-agriculture level of technology, stagnant or declining population, extremely low literacy, and subsistence level of economy”. PVTGs were recognised as a separate category based on the findings of the 1961 Dhebar Commission. In 1975, there were 52 PVTGs and, by 1993, the list had been expanded to 75 in 18 states and UTs.

Data from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the 2011 Census shows that Odisha has the largest population of PVTGs at 8.66 lakh, followed by Madhya Pradesh at 6.09 lakh and Andhra Pradesh (including Telangana) at 5.39 lakh. The total PVTG population is more

than 40 lakh and the largest PVTG is Odisha’s Saura community, numbering 5.35 lakh.

Of the five states voting in Assembly polls this month, four – Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Telangana (data available is combined with Andhra Pradesh) – have PVTG populations.

In Madhya Pradesh, the Baiga and the Barias are the largest groups, at 4.14 lakh and 1.93 lakh, respectively. Baigas, the second most populous PVTG in India, are scattered across the forests of MP and Chhattisgarh (where their population is 89,744), and rely on shifting cultivation and forest produce for sustenance.

In the run-up to the Assembly polls, the Congress in

Chhattisgarh granted habitat rights to the Baigas, recognising the community’s rights to their customary territory, socio-cultural practices, economic and livelihood means. In total, Chhattisgarh has 1.16 lakh PVTGs.

In Rajasthan, there are 1.11 lakh PVTGs, all from the Saharia community.

In Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, the largest PVTGs groups are the Kondasavaras (1.39 lakh) and Kondareddis (1.08 lakh). The BJP has launched several tribal outreach efforts – from choosing Droupadi Murmu as the first tribal woman President to honouring local icons in tribal-dominated regions.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, of the 47 ST seats, the BJP won 31,

the Congress four and regional parties nine.

Among the states going to polls, Madhya Pradesh has the most ST seats, at 47. Between the 2013 and 2018 polls, the BJP’s ST seats fell from 31 to 16; the Congress tally went from 15 to 30.

In Chhattisgarh, with 29 ST seats, the BJP won 11 and three seats in 2013 and 2018, respectively. The Congress won 18 and 25. In Rajasthan’s 25 ST seats, the BJP’s tally fell from 18 in 2013 to nine in 2018, while the Congress got four and 12, respectively.

In each of these three states, the BJP’s relatively weak 2018 performances in the ST seats could have prompted the push to woo tribal voters with the PVTG Development Mission.

PVTG POPULATION IN POLL-BOUND STATES

| State | PVTG populations | Largest PVTG | Population |
|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------|
| MP | 6,08,639 | Baiga | 4,14,526 |
| Chhattisgarh | 1,16,274 | Baiga | 89,744 |
| Telangana | 5,38,994 | Kondasavara | 1,39,424 |
| Rajasthan | 1,11,377 | Saharia | 1,11,377 |

Source: Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Census 2011, Election Commission

2018 ASSEMBLY RESULTS IN ST SEATS

| CHHATTISGARH | | RAJASTHAN | |
|----------------|----------|-----------|----------|
| Party | ST seats | Party | ST seats |
| BJP | 3 | BJP | 9 |
| Congress | 25 | Congress | 12 |
| Others | 1 | Others | 4 |
| MADHYA PRADESH | | TELANGANA | |
| Party | ST seats | Party | ST seats |
| BJP | 16 | BRS | 5 |
| Congress | 30 | Congress | 5 |
| Others | 1 | Others | 2 |

Praveen Chakravarty replaces Tharoor as AIPC head

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE CONGRESS Wednesday appointed Praveen Chakravarty, the head of its data analytics department, as chairman of the All India Professionals' Congress, replacing Lok Sabha MP and CWC member Shashi Tharoor.

Tharoor had been heading the AIPC since the party set up the department in 2017 to reach out and engage with working professionals and entrepreneurs in the country.

Sources said Chakravarty will continue to head the data analytics department for the time being. Chakravarty said the "AIPC will strive to be the first port of call for any professional that wants to contribute, in whatever form or size, to the cause of a modern, liberal India."

"At a time when there is an attack on the very idea of a diverse, democratic India that we cherish, it is incumbent upon professionals to step up and be counted in this struggle to reclaim our nation. Professionals bring a modern, forward looking, future first outlook who understand the primacy of economic development and prosperity, which is what our nation needs," he said.

He said AIPC will provide avenues for professionals to participate in a broad spectrum of activities from digital activism to street activism, hashtag campaigns to ground campaigns, virtual events to physical marches and rallies, community organising to political participation, shaping online discourse to electoral manifesto ideas.

Navy Chief flags fragile situation in South China Sea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE FRAGILE security situation in the South China Sea, in addition to violations of established Codes of Conduct or Confidence Building Measures, poses a clear and present danger to order at sea, Admiral R Hari Kumar said Wednesday.

At the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD), he said that since the Indo-Pacific is the most militarised in the world, it further increases the probability of the competition turning into a conflict. The event was hosted jointly by the Navy and National Maritime Foundation.

"Owing to the increased presence of multinational forces, and differing interpretations of international laws, there is this

fear that the Region's 'global commons' can change to contested seas," the Navy Chief said.

He said that more than 50 warships of extra-regional forces continue to remain deployed in the Indian Ocean Region for different missions, such as for anti-piracy patrol off the Gulf of Aden, adding that the wider Indo-Pacific also has significant naval presence.

Citing two recent incidents, during which trade and connectivity at sea was hampered, he said this contestation at sea can have consequences for security. The incidents he was referring to were the blockage of Suez Canal by MV Ever Green in 2021 and the disruption of Black Sea shipping lanes amid the conflict in Europe.

Sources in the government also said that the Indian Navy has been keeping a close watch on



Vice President Jagdeep Dhankar with Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar in New Delhi, Wednesday. ANI

the movement of Chinese warships and a submarine which are participating in a naval exercise with Pakistan. Both the navies had kicked off a mega naval exercise in the Arabian Sea which

also included their first joint maritime patrol.

"As part of our comprehensive maritime domain awareness, the Indian Navy maintains a close watch on all the movements in the Indian Ocean Region in line with national security interests," a source said.

At the event, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman called the India-Middle East-Europe Economic corridor (IMEC) a win-win situation for all involved, but added that it is not without the existing geopolitical challenges, a worrying manifestation of which is the ongoing conflict in Israel and Gaza.

She said the IMEC will enhance transportation efficiency, reduce logistic costs, increase economic unity, generate em-

ployment as well as lower greenhouse gas emissions.

"It is a multimodal economic corridor that incorporates multiple networks of shipping, railways, and roadways and will also include electricity cables, high-speed data cables, and a hydrogen pipeline," she said.

She said the project will connect Indian ports such as the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority, Mundra (Gujarat), and Kandla (Gujarat) to Fujairah, Jebel Ali, and Abu Dhabi in the UAE, and Saudi Arabian ports of Dammam, Ras Al Khair, and Ghawifat and a rail segment that will continue the IMEC and connect the Saudi Arabian cities of Haradh and Al Haditha, onward to the port of Haifa in Israel.

राष्ट्रीय औषधीय शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान गुवाहाटी NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH GUWAHATI

Employment Notification No. 04(c)/2023 Date: 09/11/2023

NIPER-Guwahati invites online applications for the position of Assistant Professor (Biopharmaceuticals) on a contractual basis from eligible Indian Nationals

Date & time of commencement of Applications 10/11/2023 from 11:00 AM

Last date & time of Applications (to be sent by MAIL) 01/12/2023 up to 5:00 PM

Last date for receipt of hard copy of the application alongwith all enclosures 11/12/2023 up to 12 Noon

For detailed qualifications and other requirements please visit the website: www.niperguwahati.ac.in Sd/- Registrar /ic

MORE FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAIN-2023

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during Chhath Puja festival, Northern Railway has decided to run the following additional Festival Special Train as per details given below:-

| | |
|--|------------------|
| 04070/04069 New Delhi - Purnea Jn. - New Delhi | 02 Trips |
| Train No.: 04070 | Train No.: 04069 |
| ARR. DEP. | ARR. DEP. |
| --- 00:20 | 08:20 --- |
| | New Delhi |
| | Purnea Jn. |
| 02:40 --- | --- 06:00 |

DATE OF RUN: 04070 from New Delhi on 17.11.2023 & 04069 from Purnea Jn. on 18.11.2023.

STOPPAGE: Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Mokama Jn., New Barauni Jn., Begusarai, Khagaria Jn., Saharsa Jn., Dauram Madhepura, Banmankhi Jn. & Purnea Court Stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC-3 Tier Economy Class.

For any kind of information such as detailed Time-Table and stations enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

Visit RailMadad Website - www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app.

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POSSESSION NOTICE (SECTION 13 (4)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice Dated 08.09.2023 calling upon the borrower Sri Nand Kishore Singh S/o Late Sri Ramautar Singh to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being amounts to Rs. 30.37 Lakh (Rs. Thirty Lakh And Thirty Seven Thousand Only), plus int. & other charges within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this 14th day of November of the year 2023.

The Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank for an amount of Rs. 30.37 Lakh (Rs. Thirty Lakh and Thirty Seven Thousand Only) plus interest & other charges thereon.

The Borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Details of Security Assets : Deed No. 9008 Dated 08.09.2022. Situated at Khata No.- 151, Khesra No.- 1011, 1012, Mohalla- Pokhra Mohalla, Rev. Thana no. - 164, Survey Ward no. - 04, Anchal - Hajipur, Subdivision & Sub Registry Office - Hajipur Distt. Sub. Registry Office - Hajipur, Distt. - Vaishali. Total Area - 1.95 Decimal equivalent to 852 sqft. **Boundary - North -** Kali Chaudhary and others, **South -** Rasta and Mukesh Kumar Singh and others, **East -** Mohan Singh, **West -** Niz Jagdish Singh. **Title holder - Sri Nand Kishore Singh S/o Late Ramautar Singh, Sri Prakash Kumar S/o Sri Nand Kishore Singh, Sri Vicky Kumar S/o Sri Nand Kishore Singh & Sri Vijay Kumar Singh S/o Sri Nand Kishore Singh**

Place : Ghauspur Ijra Date : 14.11.2023 Authorised Officer (Canara Bank)

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR
Ganderbal www.cukashmir.ac.in

ADMISSION FOR PH.D. PROGRAMMES: 2023-24

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates with Fellowships (UGC-NET/JRF, UGC-CSIR-NET/GATE/CEED & similar National Level Tests, as applicable) for admission to Ph.D. Programmes in the following Departments for the Academic Session 2023-24: Management Studies, Tourism Studies, Urdu, Economics, Convergent Journalism, Biotechnology, Mathematics, Physics, Physical Education, Education, Information Technology, English, Commerce & Law.

Detailed Admission Notification including programmes, eligibility criteria, admission procedure, general terms & conditions etc is available on the University website www.cukashmir.ac.in. The online applications shall be available at <https://cukashmiradmission.samarth.edu.in> from November 16, 2023 at 3 P.M. & the last date for submission of online forms is November 25, 2023.

No: CU/Kmr/DoA/PhD/Admission/2023-24/001 Sd/- Director Admissions
Dated: 16.11.2023

HARYANA SARASVATI HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
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T: 0172-2585551, 4111694
E-mail: sarasvatihdb.office@gmail.com
Website: www.haryanasarasvatiboard.in

CORRIGENDUM

Please refer to the Eol published on 15.11.2023 regarding setting up of exhibition at Gita Mahotsav-2023 at Kurukshetra. The website mentioned in the Eol may be read as "www.haryanasarasvatiboard.in" instead of www.sarasvatiboard.in. All terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
For Chief Executive Officer
HSHDB, Panchkula
2256/Hry

EAST BOUND FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2023

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during Chhath Puja Festival, Northern Railway has planned to run the following East Bound Festival Special Trains from 16.11.2023 to 19.11.2023 in addition to normal regular trains as per schedule given below:-

EAST BOUND TRAINS FROM DELHI AREA TERMINALS ON 16.11.2023 (THURSDAY)

| Spl Train No. | Station From | Dept. Time | Station to | Arr. Time | Accommodation | Stoppages |
|---------------|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|---|---|
| 04080 | New Delhi | 19:20 | Varanasi Jn. | 09:45 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Lucknow & Pratapgarh Stations |
| 04066 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 23:00 | Patna Jn. | 16:00 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Varanasi, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya & Danapur Stations |
| 01676 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 23:15 | Muzaffarpur Jn. | 21:15 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Moradabad, Chandausi, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Chhapra & Hajipur Stations |
| 05284 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 13:25 | Muzaffarpur Jn. | 07:00 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Sonpur & Hajipur Stations |
| 04002 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 00:05 | Patna Jn. | 15:45 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 04022 | New Delhi | 15:30 | Saharsa Jn. | 16:30 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Siwan, Chhapra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Barauni, Begusarai, Khagaria & Simri Bhakhtiyarpur Stations |
| 02252 | New Delhi (Vande Bharat Express) | 07:25 | Patna Jn. | 19:00 | AC Chair Car | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 05116 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 14:45 | Chhapra | 09:30 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur, Burhwal, Gonda, Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Deoria & Siwan Stations |
| 02248 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 00:30 | Patna Jn. | 16:30 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Govindpuri, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 02246 | New Delhi (Gati Shakti) | 23:45 | Patna Jn. | 15:50 | 3 Tier AC Economy Class | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 05066 | New Delhi | 14:00 | Gorakhpur | 04:15 | 3 Tier AC Economy Class | Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur, Burhwal, Gonda, Basti & Khalilabad Stations |
| 03228 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 09:30 | Ara | 04:00 | Sleeper & General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Dildarnagar, Gahmar, Buxar, Dumraon & Bhiya Stations |
| 02254 | New Delhi | 19:00 | Darbhanga Jn. | 14:45 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC | Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn, Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Mokama Jn., Barauni Jn. & Samastipur Jn. Stations |

EAST BOUND TRAINS FROM DELHI AREA TERMINALS ON 17.11.2023 (FRIDAY)

| Spl Train No. | Station From | Dept. Time | Station to | Arr. Time | Accommodation | Stoppages |
|---------------|---|------------|---------------|-----------|---|---|
| 04060 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 10:30 | Jaynagar | 15:15 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Raebareilly, Amethi, Pratapgarh, Varanasi, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Darbhanga & Madhubani Stations |
| 04012 | New Delhi | 19:20 | Darbhanga Jn. | 16:45 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gorakhpur Jn., Narkatiaganj, Raxaul & Sitamarhi Stations |
| 01678 | New Delhi | 08:10 | Gaya Jn. | 00:30 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Bhabua Road, Sasaram & Dehri-on-Son Stations |
| 02250 | New Delhi (Rajdhani Exp. Special) | 19:10 | Patna Jn. | 07:30 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC | Kanpur Central Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 02246 | New Delhi (Gati Shakti) | 23:45 | Patna Jn. | 15:50 | 3 Tier AC Economy Class | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 02260 | New Delhi | 18:15 | Bhagalpur | 15:15 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Govindpuri, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Patna, Kiul, Abhaypur, Jamalpur & Sultanpur Stations |
| 04004 | New Delhi (Unreserved Special) | 00:10 | Sitamarhi Jn. | 23:30 | General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Sitapur, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Narkatiaganj & Raxaul Stations |
| 05072 | New Delhi | 10:00 | Chhapra | 04:15 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Kanpur Central, Aishbag, Gontingarh, Barabanki, Gonda, Basti, Khalilabad, Gorakhpur, Deoria & Siwan Stations |
| 04048 | Anand Vihar Terminal (Unreserved Special) | 15:30 | Purnea Jn. | 16:05 | General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Patliputra, Hajipur, Barauni, Begusarai, Khagaria, Mansi & Katihar Stations |
| 04052 | Anand Vihar Terminal (Unreserved Special) | 22:45 | Saharsa Jn. | 03:30 | General | Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Hardoi, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Deoria Sadar, Siwan, Chhapra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Barauni, Begusarai, Khagaria & Simri Bhakhtiyarpur Stations |
| 04070 | New Delhi | 00:20 | Purnea Jn. | 02:40 | AC 3 Tier Economy Class | Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn, Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Mokama Jn., New Barauni Jn., Begusarai, Khagaria Jn., Saharsa Jn., Dauram Madhepura, Banmankhi Jn. & Purnea Court Stations |

EAST BOUND TRAINS FROM DELHI AREA TERMINALS ON 18.11.2023 (SATURDAY)

| Spl Train No. | Station From | Dept. Time | Station to | Arr. Time | Accommodation | Stoppages |
|---------------|---|------------|------------------|-----------|---|--|
| 04080 | New Delhi | 19:20 | Varanasi Jn. | 09:45 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Ghaziabad, Moradabad, Lucknow & Pratapgarh Stations |
| 04488 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 23:15 | Gorakhpur | 14:00 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC & Sleeper | Ghaziabad Moradabad, Chandausi, Bareilly Cantt., Sitapur, Gonda & Basti Stations |
| 03576 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 11:55 | Asansol Jn. | 10:20 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Govindpuri, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Sasaram, Dehri-On-Sone, Gaya, Koderma & Dhanbad Stations |
| 04490 | New Delhi | 19:35 | Darbhanga | 16:45 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gorakhpur, Narkatiaganj, Raxaul & Sitamarhi Stations |
| 04146 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 10:15 | Prayagraj Jn. | 20:00 | 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Aligarh, Tundla, Etawah, Govindpuri & Fatehpur Stations |
| 02248 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 00:30 | Patna Jn. | 16:30 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Govindpuri, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 04018 | New Delhi | 14:55 | Bapudham Mothari | 12:15 | 3 Tier AC Economy Class | Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Gorakhpur, Paniai Hawa, Narkatiaganj, Bettiah & Sagauli Jn. |
| 04058 | Anand Vihar Terminal (Unreserved Special) | 08:30 | Jaynagar | 07:00 | General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Patliputra, Hajipur, Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Darbhanga & Madhubani Stations |
| 04028 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 01:00 | Bapudham Mothari | 23:30 | Sleeper, General | Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjehanpur, Sitapur Jn., Gonda Jn., Basti, Gorakhpur, Paniai Hawa, Narkatiaganj, Bettiah & Sagauli Jn. |
| 02246 | New Delhi (Gati Shakti) | 23:45 | Patna Jn. | 15:50 | 3 Tier AC Economy Class | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 05316 | Delhi Jn. | 14:00 | Chhapra | 13:20 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper, General | Delhi Shahdara, Ghaziabad, Hapur Jn., Amroha, Moradabad, Chandausi Jn., Aonla, Shahjehanpur, Hardoi, Lucknow, Ayodhya Cantt., Akbarpur, Shahganj, Jaunpur, Karakat, Dobhi, Aunihar, Gazipur City, Yusufpur & Ballia. |

EAST BOUND TRAINS FROM DELHI AREA TERMINALS ON 19.11.2023 (SUNDAY)

| Spl Train No. | Station From | Dept. Time | Station to | Arr. Time | Accommodation | Stoppages |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| 04062 | Delhi Jn. | 08:05 | Barauni Jn. | 06:30 | 3 Tier AC, Sleeper & General | Aligarh, Tundla, Etawah, Kanpur Central, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Siwan, Chhapra & Hajipur Stations |
| 05284 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 13:25 | Muzaffarpur Jn. | 07:00 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar, Ara, Danapur, Patliputra, Sonpur & Hajipur Stations |
| 03228 | Anand Vihar Terminal | 09:30 | Ara | 04:00 | Sleeper & General | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Dildarnagar, Gahmar, Buxar, Dumraon & Bhiya Stations |
| 02250 | New Delhi (Rajdhani Exp. Special) | 19:10 | Patna Jn. | 07:30 | 1st AC, 2 Tier AC & 3 Tier AC | Kanpur Central Prayagraj, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |
| 02246 | New Delhi (Gati Shakti) | 23:45 | Patna Jn. | 15:50 | 3 Tier AC Economy Class | Kanpur Central, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, Buxar & Ara Stations |

During the Rail journey never travel with inflammable objects like Crackers, Petrol, Kerosene, Gas Cylinder etc.

For any kind of information, such as seat availability and time-table etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

NORTHERN RAILWAY visit us at: www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE Please join us on

SBI State Bank of India
STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna- 800 001

Demand Notice u/s 13(2)

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/s Sri Siddhnath Sav, S/o Sri Budhan Sav, Address: Kurthaul, Near Brahm Sthan, PS- Parsa Bazar, Kurthaul, Patna-804453 have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

| Sr. No. | Name of the Borrower / Guarantor | Details of Properties/Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced | Date of Notice | Date of NPA | Amount outstanding (as on the date of Notice) |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|-------------|---|
| 1. | Sri Siddhnath Sav, S/o Sri Budhan Sav | All that part and parcel of the property vide Sale Deed No.8581 dated 09.10.2015 in the name of Sri Siddhnath Sav S/o Sri Budhna Saw, situated at Mauza-Kurthaul, Pragna Vo Survey Thana-Pulwarisharif, Present Thana- Parsa Bazar, Avar Nibandhan Karyalay- Pulwarisharif & Zila Nibandhan Karyalay & Thana- patna, Mulyankam code No.162, Revenue Thana No.110 (One Hundred Ten), Tazui No.5186, Khata No.136 (One Hundred Thirty Six), Vo Survey Plot no.857 (Eight Hundred Fifty Seven) Ka ansh, Area: 10 Dhur (1.5625 decimal). Boundary: North-Niz Lekhykari, South-Haal Kharidar part Plot No.857, East-Rasta 12 ft wide left by land owner, West-Part Plot No.857. | 16.10.2023 | 12.03.2023 | ₹49,34,415.77 as on 11.10.2023 with further interest and incidental expenses, costs |

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and/or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

The borrower attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Date : 16.10.2023
Place : Patna

Authorised Officer
State Bank of India, SARB, Patna

GOVT. OF BIHAR
BIHAR COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD
L.A.S. Association Building, Near Patna Airport, Patna-14.

POST GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING (PGMAC)-2023
for MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma) in Govt./ Private Medical Colleges of Bihar

Advt. No.- BCECEB(PGMAC)-2023/21 Dated : 15.11.2023 bceceboard.bihar.gov.in

Notice for PGMAC-2023 Stray Vacancy Round Online Counselling

In the light of MCC Notice Ref. F.No. U-12021/2023-MEC dated 14.11.2023 for conduction of Special Stray Vacancy Round of PG Counselling - 2023 for AIQ and State Quota seats of MD/MS/MDS/ DNB Course, Fresh Online Registration and submission of Application form are invited from such qualified, eligible & interested NEET(PG)-2023 candidates for appearing in the Special Stray Vacancy Round Online Counselling of Post Graduate Medical Admission Counselling (PGMAC)-2023, who are not admitted in any Medical Colleges of India and donot come under the conditions of para 3 below on the vacant seats of Government/ Private Medical Colleges of Bihar.

- Special Stray Vacancy Round Counselling will be conducted Online.
- The candidates who fall under below mentioned conditions are not eligible to participate in Special Stray Vacancy Round Counselling of PGMAC-2023 based on NEET(PG)-2023 :
 - Admitted through PGMAC-2023 Round 1 / Round 2 Counselling.
 - Admitted through AIQ on the basis of NEET(PG)-2023 Round 1 / Round 2 / Round-3 Counselling.
 - Admitted through NEET(PG)-2023 Round 1 / Round 2 / Round-3 / Stray Vacancy Round / Special Stray Vacancy Round Counselling conducted by Other States.
 - Allotted through AIQ on the basis of NEET(PG)-2023 Stray Vacancy Round / Special Stray Vacancy Round Counselling.
 - Allotted through PGMAC-2023 Round-3 / Stray Vacancy Round Counselling.

If any candidate duly submits fresh Online Application form by providing wrong information, his/her Security Deposit amount paid for participating in Special Stray Vacancy Round Counselling will be forfeited and he/she will become not eligible for Special Stray Vacancy Round Counselling as Data will be scrutinized before preparation / publication of Merit List.

- The online Registration and submission of Application Form will start from 17.11.2023 and close on 20.11.2023 (10.00 PM).
- Detailed programme and process for Stray Vacancy Round Counselling of PGMAC-2023 [MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma) Course] has been published through Adv. no. BCECEB(PGMAC)-2023/20 dt. 15.11.2023 which is uploaded on Board's website : bceceboard.bihar.gov.in. All concerned are requested to go through the advertisement uploaded on Board's website and act accordingly.

Controller of Examination

BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF TRIBAL ICON BIRSA MUNDA

PM launches ₹24k-cr scheme for vulnerable tribal groups

ABHISHEK ANGAD RANCHI, NOVEMBER 15

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi Wednesday launched a Rs 24,000-crore project for vulnerable tribal groups on the birth anniversary of tribal icon Birsa Munda from Jharkhand's Khunti district.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi pays tribute to Birsa Munda in Ulihatu in Jharkhand on Wednesday. PTI

At a gathering in Khunti, Modi also launched the Viskit Bharat Sankalp Yatra, a nationwide programme to reach out to all villages and include those eligible for various central schemes.

The Prime Minister underlined that his government gave priority to the deprived as "someday he had eaten with them, lived with them and their families".

Explaining the scheme for tribal push, he said like there are most backwards among the backwards, there are PVTGs who are backward among the Adivasi community.

On the third 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas', PM Modi visited Birsa Munda's family members in Ulihatu village in Khunti. He also paid floral tributes to the 25-

foot-tall statue of Birsa Munda in Ranchi at the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Memorial Park-cum-Freedom Fighter Museum at the Old Central Jail where he had breathed his last on June 9, 1900.

During the gathering at Khunti, Modi said: "We take a pledge to fulfil our dream by making India aatmanirbhar and developed by 2047; eradicate the attitude of slavery, be proud of the country's rich heritage, will strengthen the unity of the country and respect those who protect our country and discharge the duties of being a citizen of the country."

India's Amrit Kaal needs a new energy and the mantra for that, he said, is to strengthen the four pillars of this nation—women, farmers, youth, the middle class and the poor.

Modi also released Rs 18,000 crore as the 15th installment of

PM Kisan scheme for over 8 crore farmers across the country. Jharkhand has been showered with schemes worth Rs 50,000 crore and has become the country's first state with 100 per cent rail electrification, he said, adding that tribals had contributed significantly for the country but did not get due recognition.

He said that during the two tenures of the BJP government at the Centre, 13 crore people have come out of poverty. "Before we (BJP) came (to power at the Centre), many people did not even have basic amenities. People have lost hope that their lives will ever change and the government thought they were the 'maa baap (the final authority)' of the people, but we worked for 'seva ki bhaavna' (a feeling to serve)..."

Removing Cong necessary to restore law and order: Modi at Barmer rally

Jaipur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Wednesday alleged that the morale of terrorists and rioters soars wherever the Congress rules due to its "appeasement policy".

Addressing an election rally in Barmer, he said the upcoming assembly election is not just for electing MLAs, but it is for the return of law and order in Rajasthan and to protect the culture and traditions of the state by removing the Congress and bringing the BJP back to power.

The prime minister said that in the last five years, people in the state have not been able to celebrate any festival peacefully.

"Sometimes there are riots, sometimes stone pelting and curfew. This has been the picture of Congress in the last five years. Therefore, it is essential to remove Congress from here," the prime minister said.

Prime Minister Modi said that under the Congress rule, Rajasthan is leading in incidents of atrocities against women. PTI



ON THE MARK

President Droupadi Murmu after paying tribute to Birsa Munda during the celebration of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas in Parliament on Wednesday. Prem Nath Pandey

Rahul, TMC's Sircar target govt over Cyprus Confidential revelations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE OPPOSITION Wednesday targeted the government over the Cyprus Confidential revelations on Indian businessmen and NRIs acquiring citizenship of Cyprus, a destination for floating offshore companies, and keeping a safe distance from Indian law enforcement agencies.

On Wednesday, The Indian Express, as part of a global investigation in collaboration with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) and other media partners, reported that Gautam Adani's elder brother Vinod Adani, industrialist Pankaj Oswal and real estate baron Surendra Hiranandani were among 66 Indians who took the "golden passport" route to Cyprus under a scheme that was called the Cyprus Investment Programme - it was scrapped in 2020. In a post in Hindi on X, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said: "Why did the brothers of the 'Param Mitra' leave India in Amrit Kaal? 'Golden Passport' means a golden opportunity to steal - loot public money, float shell companies and spend abroad."

TMC MP Jawhar Sircar, in a post, said: "Endless scams by black-money racketeers, many Indians. How many Indians named in Offshore Leaks (2013), HSBC Swiss Leaks (2015), Panama Papers (2016), Paradise Papers (2017), Pandora Papers (2021) prosecuted in last 9 years? Now add Cyprus Confidential."

Responding to Rahul Gandhi's remarks, BJP IT Cell in-charge Amit Malviya said it was under the UPA that the India-Cyprus tax treaty was signed, creating a haven for tax evaders. "You practically rolled out the red carpet for investors to bypass Capital Gains tax, with Cyprus not imposing such taxes either. Add to that the low withholding tax rate, and you have got yourself a perfect recipe for creating a tax haven, luring businesses and individuals to funnel money into Cyprus," he said in a post on X.

"The so-called 'Golden Passport' that you accuse us of promoting? It's a relic of your governance, a symbol of the opaque, underhand dealings you endorsed... Those who have left are your 'Param Mitras'... Your legacy of promoting tax havens and opaque financial practices is what drove them out."

Cash seizures in 5 poll-bound states up: CBDT chair

New Delhi: In the five poll-bound states, the Income Tax department has seized more unexplained cash as compared to elections held in those states earlier, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman Nitin Gupta said Wednesday.

"States where we are right now in the elections, we have seized more cash than even what was (seized) in corresponding time in state assembly elections or even Lok Sabha 2019 elections," Gupta said. Around Rs 953.34 crore in cash and other poll inducements is estimated to have been seized so far in the poll-bound states of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana and Mizoram since the Model Code of Conduct came into force on October 9. ENS

Priyanka jibe at Scindia: Toppled a govt, lived up to family tradition

ANAND MOHAN J BHOPAL, NOVEMBER 15

ALL-INDIA Congress Committee general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra Wednesday attacked Union minister and former party colleague Jyotiraditya Scindia, calling him a traitor for "betraying the people by toppling an elected government".

Priyanka was addressing a rally in support of Congress candidate in the Datia Assembly seat of Madhya Pradesh, which will go to polls on November 17.

Attacking Scindia, who had defected to the BJP, she said he followed his family traditions well. "I worked with Mr Scindia

in Uttar Pradesh, his arrogance... people in Uttar Pradesh don't have the habit of addressing someone as 'maharaj'. Party workers would complain that their work was not being done until they called him 'maharaj'. Nevertheless, he has faithfully followed his family's tradition. He toppled your (referring to people) government, which you had voted for," she said.

"There is one thing. Modi ji (PM Narendra Modi) is good at recognising people. He has gathered traitors and cowards from all over the world and taken them into his party," the Congress

leader said. Priyanka claimed that the employment situation has been the best in the country in Congress-ruled Chhattisgarh while it is poor in MP. She also took potshots at Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra, the BJP candidate from Datia, saying he watches movies the entire day to watch "who is in which attire?" Priyanka said Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan can outshine Bollywood legend Amitabh Bachchan. "But when someone talks about work, he starts behaving like Asrani".

Cong candidate from Rajasthan's Karanpur dies

Jaipur: Congress MLA and party candidate from Rajasthan's Karanpur Assembly seat, Gurmeet Singh Kooner, died at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi on Wednesday, ten days before the state goes to polls. He was 75.

Kooner was admitted to the Geriatric Medicine Ward (GMW) of AIIMS at around 5 pm on November 12 and died at 6:25 am on Wednesday, according to the death certificate issued by the hospital. Kooner was suffering from kidney ailments and hypertension and the immediate cause of his death was given as sepsis with septic shock.

Kooner was a three term MLA from Karanpur in Ganganagar district. ENS

SALUTE THE SOLDIER



HC/GD H S TIWARI SCCL BELLAMPALLI 16 Nov-2007 HC/GD S S ROY BIOM BACHELI 16 Nov-2011 CT/GD RAJU NUKALA BIOM BACHELI 16 Nov-2011

CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of these brave hearts. On this day, HC/GD H.S. Tiwari laid down his life while saving the people from capsized boat in the river Chota Mahanadi (MP). HC/GD S.S. Roy & CT/GD Raju Nukala laid down their lives at the altar of duty while fighting with LWE outfits at BIOM Bachel, Chhattisgarh. Their courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to them for their noblest deeds.

ITBP salutes its brave heart Constable Ashish Singh of 31st Battalion, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty on this day in Arunachal Pradesh in 2012. Resident of : Village Glahita, Dist. Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



ON AGENDA

BESIDES A roadmap for science projects for the next five years, on the agenda of Principal Scientific Advisor Prof Ajay Sood's meeting with science secretaries is chalking out a media strategy, including for social media. A public outreach programme will also be launched to promote the 'top nine' science stories.

NO BIAS PLEASE

ON THE occasion of 'Bhai Doof', the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) urged people to take a pledge to ensure equal opportunities to women in organ transplants. NOTTO promotes gender equality in transplants, the apex organ donation regulatory body said. This comes after reports that four of five organ recipients in the country are men. Even when it comes to pledging to donate organs, women take the lead. Of the 86,440 pledges received on the government's new Aadhaar-linked portal, more than 56% are from women.

LAST WISH

VETERAN RSS leader and former chief of the organisation's intellectual cell, Ranga Hari, who died on October 29, had left behind written instructions for his funeral. He had wished that his body should be put to fire at a cremation ground which is not caste-specific. He had also wished that his ashes should be immersed in Bharathapuzha, a river in his home state Kerala. RSS sources said even in his death, Hari wanted to send a message to end caste discrimination and that Bharathapuzha was the only river in India named after Bharat. He was finally cremated at Ivarmadom Smashan in Kerala.

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER AGRA CIRCLE, P.W.D AGRA Short Term Notice inviting E-Tender

Letter No. 6245/14M-AC/2023-24 Dated: 02.11.2023 1. The Superintending Engineer, Agra Circle, P.W.D. Agra on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the Percentage rate bids from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP, PWD, Road work. The Bidder may submit bids for any or all of the works. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 4 of the Instructions to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.

Table with 11 columns: Sl. No, District, Name of Work, Estimated cost (Rs. in Lacs), Bid Security (Rs. in Lacs), Cost of Document (in Rs.), Time of Completion, Address of Executive Engineer, Address of Superintending Engineer, Address of Chief Engineer, Category of Contractor.

3. Time allowed for completion is including Rainy Season. 4. Bid document with detailed terms and conditions will be available online on website http://etender.up.nic.in and Prahari (http://wms.upppwd.gov.in/Prahari) From 18-11-2023 to 25-11-2023. Bids must be submitted online only at e-tendering portal of http://etender.up.nic.in and Prahari App with all documents as per GO No 14/2020/879 (1)/ 23/7/2020/176(lk0)/06 Dt 25-08-2020 on or before 12:00 pm Dt. 25-11-2023. Technical Bid received online will be opened on 25-11-2023 at 12:30 pm. 5. The prospective bidders who do not possess Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) must get the same issued from approved agencies before submission of bids. 6. Contractor should Quote their rates without G.S.T. which shall be paid extra as per applicable at the time of payment. 7. Labour Cess @ 1.00% will be deducted from contractor's bill at the time of payment. 8. Original MM-11 forms proof of royalty shall have to be produced at time of every running bill in accordance to Principal Secretary, Directorate of geology & mining under Pradesh Letter No-2146/86-2019-52(lk0)/2019 Dt. 30.09.2019, G.O. No- 115(1)/86-2020 dated 15.01.2020 and other relevant Government orders, circulars for all the materials procured from the quarries. 9. The bidders are required to submit Original receipt of Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account as per G.O. No.-742/78-2-2018-42 I.T./2017 T.C., I.T. & Electronics Section-2 Dated-03-12-2018 follows as : (1) Online Tender Cost towards the cost of bid document (As per Column 6) by Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account (Non Refundable). (2) Online Bid security (As per Column 5) in favour of designation of Column 9 by Internet Banking of E-tender portal Account. (3) Original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B(ii) of ITB as per G.O. No.-3070/78-2-2018-42I.T./2017(22)I.T. and Electronics Section-2 Dated- 03-01-2018.

(G.K. Varshney) Executive Engineer CD-2, P.W.D., Agra UPID-197423 Dt. 08.11.2023 www.up.gov.nic.in (Anand Kumar) SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER AGRA CIRCLE, P.W.D., AGRA

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU TAMIL NADU SKILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION Request for Proposal (RFP) Ref No. TNSDC/STA/2980/2023, Dated: 14.11.2023 Request for Proposal is hereby invited from the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation for the Selection of a Temping Agency for Providing Staffing / Temping Service in Identifying and Onboarding Skilled Subject Matter Experts for the user Departments. The details of terms and conditions for the RFP can be downloaded from the website https://www.tnskill.tn.gov.in. Interested agencies shall submit their applications through postal/courier. All other details are available in the above website. If there are any changes / corrections in the RFP, it will be published on the above website only. Managing Director

Office of The Superintending Engineer Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Circle-II, Irrigation Department, Uttar Pradesh, Ganga Sinchai Bhawan, Telibagh, LUCKNOW-226025 GeM BID NOTICE GeM Bid No. GEM/2023/B/4181980 On behalf of the Honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Online GeM Bid No. GEM/2023/B/4181980 is invited by the undersigned, from Original Manufacturers or from their dealers/ distributors/ representatives/ channel partners authorized by the firm to participate in this bid, for the supply of Double Action Hydraulic Press, Capacity-10 Ton and Capacity-5 Ton as per departmental technical specifications for divisional workshops of various Tube well Divisions of Irrigation Department, U.P.. Last date of participation in the bid is 30.11.2023 16.00 PM. Details for eligibility, qualification, technical and other conditions of bid etc. are available in the GeM Bid Document uploaded on the GeM Portal. The undersigned reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-bids/annual the bidding process without assigning any reason. Superintending Engineer Central Equipment & Stores Procurement Circle-II, Irrigation Department, U.P., Lucknow

Office of the Superintending Engineer Bulandshahr Circle, P.W.D., Bulandshahr No. 8028/96M(iv)-BSR Circle/2023-24 Dated- 01-11-2023 E-Procurement Inviting Tenders On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Superintending Engineer Bulandshahr Circle, U.P.P.W.D., Bulandshahr invites following percentage rate bid online through http://etender.up.nic.in from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with P.W.D. class as per column no. 10 below Setu work Category as applied from Date 21.11.2023 to 28.11.2023 upto 12:00 Noon as per the prescribed T-2 of Govt. of U.P. The technical bids will be opened online on dated 28.11.2023 at 12:30 P.M. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day, at the same time any validity of bid will be considered from the original date. The date and time of opening of the financial bid shall be notified on the website.

Table with 10 columns: Sl. No, Name of Work, Estimated cost (Rs. in Lakh), Bid Security (Rs. in Lakh), Time of Completion work including rainy season, Tender document fee including GST (In Rs.), Address of Executive Engineer, Address of Superintending Engineer, Address of Chief Engineer, Category.

9 EXPRESS NETWORK

1,400 medical seats still vacant, panel to hold special round of counselling

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

The Medical Counselling Committee will conduct a special counselling round to allot more than 1,400 seats that were left over after previous rounds, it is learnt. The seats remained vacant despite the government doing away with a cut-off.

Registration for the round is likely to open by November 17, with the result likely by November 24.

A similar special round of counselling was conducted for remaining UG seats as well.

"When we have allowed a special round of counselling for MBBS seats, we have to do the same for post-graduation as well. Every seat that has been created is a resource and we have to try to ensure that it gets utilised," said a senior official aware of the matter.

An association of medical colleges from Tamil Nadu has also filed a plea seeking extension of the counselling process to ensure the seats get utilised.

Usually, there are three rounds

of counselling where seats are allotted based on the centralised merit list. There's also a last stray vacancy round where seats are allotted by individual colleges.

All the rounds of counselling in 2023, including the forthcoming special round, will be based on the centralised merit list. This special fifth round of counselling comes even as the government did away with the cut-off third round of counselling onwards with more than 13,000 seats remaining vacant. Usually, the eligibility for PG seats is 50 per cent, which is reduced during the later rounds of counselling, but this is the first time it has been dropped to zero.

An analysis of seat allotment after the third round shows that doing away with the cut off resulted in seats being allotted to candidates who have scored 11 out of 800 in the general category and 5 out of 800 in the OBC category. It also resulted in general category candidates scoring less than SC/ST candidates also being allotted seats.

The NMC is looking at reasons why seats continue to remain vacant.

Top court to Centre: Make model for girls' toilets in proportion to their number

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE SUPREME Court has asked the Centre to set down a "national model for the ratio of the number of girls' toilets per female student population across government-aided and residential schools in the country" before it finalises the draft National Menstrual Hygiene Policy, 2023.

A three-judge bench presided by Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud also asked the government to bring about uniformity in terms of the modalities to be followed for the distribution of sanitary napkins.

The bench, also comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Mishra, also asked the Centre to consider the practices followed in different States in order to arrive at the optimum policy which ensures that an adequate supply of sanitary napkins is made available to female students in schools in the requisite age group and that the modalities for distribution are facilitative in all respects.

The directions came on a PIL filed through Advocate Varun Thakur seeking direction to the Centre, states & Union Territories to ensure provision of free sanitary pads to every female student in classes 6 to 12, separate toilets for females in all government-aided and residential schools and to undertake awareness pro-

grammes on maintenance of toilets and spread of awareness.

Senior Advocate Vibha Datta Makhija, who appeared for petitioner Jaya Thakur, pointed out that adolescent females between the ages 11 to 18 coming from poor families face a lot of difficulties due to the lack of these facilities and eventually leads to their dropping out of school.

On April 10, the court had asked the Centre to engage with all state governments and Union Territories to ensure that a uniform national policy is formulated with sufficient leeway for the States and UTs to make adjustments based on the prevailing conditions in their territories.

It also asked all states and UTs to submit their menstrual hygiene management strategies being executed either with help of funds by Central government or through their funds to mission steering group of National Health Mission.

The court said the mission steering group shall reevaluate national guidelines based on experiential learning of previous decade or so and nominate secretary in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as the nodal officer to facilitate coordination with all other ministries of the Union and state governments and UTs.

On November 6, the Centre told court that a draft policy was formulated for distribution of sanitary napkins to female students in schools across the country.

Uttarkashi tunnel rescue operation faces setback, bigger machine flown from Delhi

AVANEESH MISHRA
UTTARKASHI, NOVEMBER 15

AS THE operation to save 40 workers trapped inside an under-construction tunnel in Uttarkashi entered the fourth day — a part of the tunnel had collapsed at 5.30 am on Sunday — rescuers faced yet another setback when an auger machine brought to drill through the rubble and create a passage struggled to carry out the task.

As the next option, rescuers brought in state-of-the-art, US-made "horizontal dry drilling equipment with auger" on Wednesday. The machine was airlifted from Delhi using two Hercules C-130 planes, and brought to the spot in three parts that were later assembled. The machine is used in operations where drilling is performed horizontally, typically without the use of water or other drilling fluids.

The auger is a rotating drill bit or tool that is helical in shape and is used to create holes or excavate material by removing it from the drilling surface. The rescue plan remains the same — using the "trenchless" technique and creating a passage with 900 mm wide mild steel pipes that the workers can crawl through.

In the first two days, the plan was to remove debris using heavy excavator machines, and prevent more debris from falling using the "shotcrete method" — as soon as debris is removed, concrete is shot



A protest at the tunnel site over delay in rescuing the trapped workers. PTI

at high pressure to prevent more from falling. This was only partially successful.

The rescuers opted for a different approach — of using the auger drilling machine — Tuesday night. About two metres of pipe was also inserted into the debris through the machine. However, the machine, provided by Vardhman Engineering Works, was not able to cut through the debris at a high enough speed. A decision was then taken to remove that machine and bring a bigger one.

"After the previous plans failed, we have switched to the next plan. We are first installing an additional 125 mm pipe for air, food, camera,

and communication. That pipe is already 12 metres in. Also, a state-of-the-art, US-made horizontal dry drilling equipment with auger has arrived from Delhi on two Hercules C-130 planes," Bhopendra Singh, DGM, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) told *The Indian Express*. The RVNL has now been given the responsibility to carry out the drilling operation.

"We are almost certain this plan will work. If not, the final option will be using conventional drilling using the pipe roof umbrella method. Under that, we will build an entire tunnel and it will take five to six days as it goes just around 10 metres a day. However,

we are sure it will not come to that and the second plan will work."

The pipe roof umbrella method is a technique used in tunnel construction, particularly in soft or loose ground conditions where there is a risk of tunnel collapse during excavation. This method involves the use of pipes or tubes to create a protective umbrella-like structure within the tunnel's excavation face to support and stabilise it.

Adesh Jain, owner of Vardhman Engineering Works, said his machine is 35 HP (horsepower) and weighs 9 tonnes, while the new machine is around 175 HP and weighs 25 tonnes. The

platform to support both machines is also different. Through the new machine, 5 metres of debris can be removed per hour. The workers were trapped behind roughly 50-55 metres of debris, some of which has been removed.

"For the last three days we have been trying to get the workers out. But the rock here is very fragile. Whatever we dig, more debris falls. Therefore, we are focusing on inserting the mild steel pipes. The latest machine has arrived. We are two-three metres inside, and the rate of penetration of the new machine is higher at around four-five metres in one hour. Tentatively, it will take 10-12 hours for 50 metres," said Anshu Manish Khalkho, director NHIDCL.

In a statement, the state government said the help of special teams from Norway and Thailand is also being taken. "The rescue team has contacted the Thailand company which had rescued the children trapped in the cave there. Norway's NGI agency has also been contacted to obtain specific suggestions for operations inside the tunnel," said the government.

Meanwhile, tunnel workers and locals gathered at the site and protested against the administration and the construction firm, accusing them of not doing enough to rescue the men. "The construction firm officials are not talking to us properly, nor is there any information on what is happening inside," said Luv Kumar Raturi, a construction worker.

Workers stuck in tunnel complain of nausea and headache

AVANEESH MISHRA
UTTARKASHI, NOVEMBER 15

WITH 40 MEN having spent over 80 hours trapped inside the tunnel in Uttarakhand that collapsed on Sunday morning, the Chief Medical Officer of Uttarkashi, RCS Panwar, Wednesday reported concerns regarding their health.

He said that some of those inside have complained of minor headaches and nausea, and added that delivery of essential medicines, multivitamins, glucose and dry fruits is being ensured through a six-inch pipe to aid the men.

Plus, arrangements have already been made for when the men are rescued. This includes a six-bed makeshift hospital near the tunnel, and provisions to transfer serious cases to AIIMS Rishikesh.

BS Pokhriyal, a general physician, communicated with laborers via the pipe on Wednesday.

Describing the workers' condition, Pokhriyal said that some have complained of vomiting, headache, anxiety and gastritis. In response to these issues, medications for vomiting and provisions such as dry fruits, chickpeas, and puffed rice were sent in.



BURNING TRAIN

Three coaches of the New Delhi-Darbhanga Special Express were damaged after a fire broke out in the train near Etawah in Uttar Pradesh on Wednesday, officials said. Four people suffered minor injuries. The cause of the fire was not known immediately. PTI

No licence for running casino in Goa if applicant convicted: Govt notification

PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA
PANAJI, NOVEMBER 15

CASINO OPERATORS and applicants seeking licences to run a casino in Goa will not be granted one if they or employees in key managerial positions are convicted of a criminal offence that is punishable with imprisonment of at least two years.

The Goa government has amended 'The Goa Public Gambling Act, 1976' and a gazette notification was issued by the government Monday.

According to the amendment, if a casino operator is convicted after getting the licence, the licence shall stand immediately cancelled and the fees paid will be forfeited by the government.

Casino operators seeking a licence will have to submit a police clearance certificate for criminal background checks. The applicants will have to submit information to the government pertaining to details of pending criminal cases against the applicant, shareholders, partners, persons holding significant or controlling interest and senior management officials.

Inmate kills undertrial in Rajasthan jail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, NOVEMBER 15

THE POLICE have lodged an FIR after a jail inmate was killed by another inmate in a Bikaner jail on Wednesday.

According to Beechwal police station SHO Mahendra Dutt Sharma, the incident took place around 1:45 am in the jail barracks when Sajid Husain, who was sleeping, was attacked by another inmate, Budhram Nayak of the same barrack, with a brick, leading to his death.

Sharma said that while the deceased was under trial, accused is serving a sentence under section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code and that both are residents of Hanumangarh district. The SHO added that no previous enmity has emerged between the two.

People's Union for Civil Liberties targeted Rajasthan government over failure "to protect life, liberty and give a safe space to 22-year-old Sajid, who was lodged in Bikaner Jail, u/s 308, IPC (attempt to culpable homicide)."

In a statement, the PUCI said that Budhram, a convict, was a depression patient and had been put into a restricted access special ward with 17 other prisoners, including Sajid. The PUCI demanded a compensation of Rs 50 lakh to the family of Sajid and an independent enquiry.

I&B asks three OTT platforms to remove 'obscene' content

DIVYA A
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

CRACKING DOWN on OTT platforms hosting obscene content, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (I&B) is learnt to have ordered three platforms — Hunters, Besharams and Prime Play — to take down such content or face action.

According to sources, this is the first time where laws pertaining to vulgarity have been invoked against OTT platforms. Various web-series on these platforms were examined and the content was found to be prima facie obscene and borderline pornographic, said sources.

Consequently, notices were issued in the last week of October regarding violation of the IT Rules, 2021, and other laws related to obscenity and vulgarity, including Sections 67 (publishing or transmitting obscene material) and 67A (publishing or transmitting of material containing sexually explicit act) of the IT Act, 2000. The platforms were given five days to ensure compliance.

All three platforms are operated by a Thane-based company, Webworld Multimedia Private Limited. When contacted, a spokesperson of the company confirmed that the content was

taken down, and further review of all content was being conducted.

According to sources, the I&B Ministry has been dealing with a rising number of complaints regarding vulgarity on OTT platforms. While there are 57 registered OTT platforms at present, most of these complaints pertain to unregistered platforms that have mushroomed recently.

All three platforms which were ordered to take down content were unregistered.

Sources said I&B Ministry may invoke Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, in future, which is punishable with imprisonment.

Over the last few months, I&B Minister Anurag Thakur has often spoken about the rise in obscene and abusive content on OTT platforms. "The government is serious about the complaints of increasing abusive and obscene content on OTT platforms. If there is a need to make any changes to the rules over this, the ministry will consider it... The government won't back down from taking necessary action," he had said earlier.

At a meeting with representatives of OTT players in July, Thakur had underlined their responsibility to ensure their platforms don't propagate vulgarity and abuse.

Subrata Roy: The man who built an empire — until it all fell apart

From a chit fund business in 1978, Roy spread his footprint to aviation, realty, media, manufacturing and retail trade. The story of a spectacular rise and a sensational fall

BHUPENDRAPANDEY
LUCKNOW, NOVEMBER 15

FOR VERY long, Subrata Roy led a charmed life.

A thirty-year-old who started a chit-fund business from a small one-room office on Cinema Road in Gorakhpur in 1978 with a capital of Rs 2,000, Roy went on to spread his footprint in every conceivable sector — from aviation to real estate, media, film production, manufacturing and retail trade. It was the kind of expansion a newly liberalised India hadn't witnessed until then, making him the "biggest employer after the Indian Railways", as the *Time* magazine declared in 2004.

Only, the good times were too good to have lasted.

In 2014, Roy was jailed following allegations that his Sahara India Pariwar, which he headed and of which he was the self-anointed 'Sahara Shri', had defrauded investors of thousands of crores.

On Tuesday, Roy died in a Mumbai hospital of a cardiorespiratory arrest. He was 75.

Building an empire

Born in Bihar's Araria district, Roy spent his childhood in Calcutta before his father's job at a sugar mill in UP's Deoria district got the family to move to the adjacent Gorakhpur district. After a diploma in mechanical engineering, Roy started his chit fund business in Gorakhpur before making Lucknow the centre of his business empire.

The imposing Sahara Tower is among Lucknow's earliest high-rises, towering above the nearby buildings at Kapoorthala crossing, one of Lucknow's most prominent locations. Built in the mid-1980s, this was the headquarters of the Sahara India chit fund business and it was here that Roy sat, in his luxurious office on the top floor. In early 1990, after Roy launched his newspaper *Rashtriya Sahara*, which was among the top

three Hindi dailies in the 1990s and 2000s, another Sahara Tower came up close to the first one.

But it is Sahara Shahar — Roy's fortress-like residence in the posh Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow — that's the stuff of stories, both real and apocryphal. Spread across 270 acres, since the mid-1990s, this has been his family home where he lived with his wife, two sons and parents.

It was during the Mulayam Singh government's term in 1995 that Roy got 170 acres on lease from the Lucknow Municipal Corporation; the remaining 100 acres, in the city's green belt, was given to him on lease by the Lucknow Development Authority.

With the land mired in legal hurdles, not all of 270 acres could be developed, but where he could, Roy built big, glamorous auditoriums, theatres, luxurious guest-houses, Sahara India offices, malls, commercial complexes, residential colonies with flats and cottages, and what was unheard in



Outside Sahara Shahar in Lucknow, Wednesday. Vishal Srivastava

those times — a helipad, complete with a fuel station.

A statue of Mother India at the entrance greeted both Roy's high-profile guests and the common Lucknowites, who hoped to get a peek of the mansion behind the high walls but were kept out.

Residents of Vipul Khand colony, which lies across the road

from Sahara Shahar, speak of how, for about a decade after 2000, when the mansion came up, the sounds of choppers taking off and landing and the sight of limousines streaming in and out were part of their everyday life.

Politics & the high table

However, by the mid-1990s,

Roy had made a name for himself in political circles as he hobnobbed with some of the top politicians in Uttar Pradesh then.

Roy is known to have developed close ties with then Congress stalwart Vir Bahadur Singh, who was UP CM from 1985 to 1988 and who, like Roy, hailed from Gorakhpur. After Singh's death in 1989, Roy caught the attention of another rising star in UP politics, Mulayam Singh Yadav, who headed the first Janata Dal government in the state in 1989. By the time Mulayam founded the Samajwadi Party in 1992, Roy had found his space in the leader's inner circle, which included politician Amar Singh, business magnate Anil Ambani and superstar Amitabh Bachchan. Around this time, he is also known to have played a key role in the party's poll contests — both Parliament and the state Assembly.

During the 1996 Lok Sabha election, when the Samajwadi Party fielded film star Raj Babbar

against BJP stalwart A B Vajpayee in Lucknow, Roy took over reins of Babbar's election management.

The consummate businessman that he was, Roy knew who he had to bet on. Vajpayee won that election and became the PM. After the swearing-in ceremony, he came to Lucknow and addressed a public meeting. While Vajpayee was giving his speech, Sahara India choppers showered flower petals at the meeting.

As Roy's clout peaked between 1995 and 2006, Lucknow had its share of Bollywood glitz as top film stars and celebrities, from Amitabh Bachchan to Shah Rukh Khan, Salman Khan, and the Indian cricket and hockey teams, besides prominent politicians, graced Roy's parties and his residence at Sahara Shahar.

The first time Roy faced some government action was in 1999, during the tenure of the BJP government led by Kalyan Singh. Singh had ordered the razing of the boundary walls of Roy's

dream project, 'Sahara Shahar', in the posh Gomti Nagar area, which, according to the Lucknow Development Authority, was made on encroached land. In 2008, then CM Mayawati ordered the construction of a flyover, with the government taking over a big portion of Sahara Shahar.

In 2011, with SEBI taking cognisance of complaints that Sahara India investors were being paid their savings, Roy's empire started to shrink. As his newspaper, TV channels and real estate businesses either stopped doing business or were closed due to court cases, his residence, Sahara Shahar, and Lucknow headquarters of his empire, Sahara Towers, were a deserted look.

On Wednesday, for the first time in a decade, the gates of Sahara Shahar were thrown open. Once again, like the old times, cars streamed in and out as hundreds turned up to pay homage to the man who built — and lost — an empire.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Ease of control

Draft Broadcasting (Regulation) Bill fails to address conflicts of interest that remain a key problem in sector



SMITH MEHTA

A WIDER GAP

It may be only a monthly spike, but high trade deficit will need to be monitored carefully

ACCORDING TO THE official trade data released for October, India's trade deficit hit a record high in October. The merchandise exports grew by 6.29 per cent while the merchandise imports grew by 14 per cent. In absolute terms, in October, India exported goods worth \$33.57 billion while importing goods worth over \$65 billion. A trade deficit refers to the excess of imports over exports in a country that trades with the rest of the world. While any developing economy, such as India, typically has a gap between its exports and imports — with imports leading the exports — the quantum of this gap and what is causing it are key to reading trade data. The trade deficit should ideally not become too high, especially in relation to the overall size of the economy (read the gross domestic product).

On the export front, the increase in October should be seen as a welcome development given the rather anaemic performance of the country in this sector in the recent past. For instance, October is only the second month when merchandise exports have grown in the current financial year that started in April. If one takes the calendar year, October is just the third month when exports have risen. Leading the pack in terms of growth rate were drug and pharma exports, which grew by over 29 per cent in October to \$2.42 billion. Electronic goods, engineering goods and agricultural items also did well. But beyond the growth rate relative to October 2022, the picture changes somewhat. The fact is that in October 2021, India's exports stood at \$35.7 billion. That India's exports in October are roughly 6 per cent below what they were two years ago puts this latest increase in perspective. On the import front, the story is slightly different. Even though import growth has also been negative for India for the most recent months, yet in absolute terms, they have continued to grow from October 2021 (\$53.6 billion) to 2022 (\$57.9 billion) to \$65 billion now.

While both exports and import growth rates have either been negative or muted, October saw a massive divergence between the two trend lines. As a result, India's trade deficit at a monthly level has grown to \$31.5 billion in October — a record high. A big culprit has been the near doubling of gold imports in October — from \$3.7 billion to \$7.2 billion. Even though it is only a monthly spike, a high trade deficit should always be monitored. That's because when India imports more than it exports, the domestic currency's strength relative to other currencies such as the US dollar takes a hit. A relatively weaker rupee further worsens the trade deficit because more rupees are required to buy the same set of imports in the future.

NECESSITY OF EMPATHY

Reduction of a complex political and humanitarian crisis in West Asia to an us-versus-them binary needs to stop urgently

THE RESIGNATION OF poet and cultural theorist Ranjit Hoskote from the Finding Committee for Documenta 16, the 2027 edition of the premier quinquennial art exhibition in Germany, is of a piece with other instances of clampdown on contrarian voices on the crisis in West Asia. In Mumbai-based Hoskote's case, the resignation came after charges of anti-Semitism and sympathising with the BDS (A Palestinian-led movement promoting boycotts, divestments, and economic sanctions against Israel) in an article published in the German daily *Süddeutsche Zeitung* last week. Hoskote had been a signatory to a 2019 BDS India petition protesting a discussion on "Zionism and Hindutva" in Mumbai. In his resignation letter, Hoskote noted that "there is no room, in this toxic atmosphere, for a nuanced discussion of the issues at stake. And now — in what strikes me as a doomed attempt to save a situation that is beyond saving — I am being asked to accept a sweeping and untenable definition of anti-Semitism that conflates the Jewish people with the Israeli state; and that, correspondingly, misrepresents any expression of sympathy with the Palestinian people as support for Hamas."

It is a crucial point that Hoskote makes on the conflation of a complex political and humanitarian crisis into an us-versus-them binary that demands complete and unwavering certainty across the aisles. From elite American universities dissociating from and censoring protesting students to former British Home Secretary Suella Braverman terming the recent pro-Palestinian rallies in London as "hate" marches, since the beginning of the latest conflagration in October, support for the Palestinian cause, attempts to point at Israel's role in the crisis, or marches calling for ceasefire have met with swift pushbacks and accusations of anti-Semitism.

The problem with such cancel culture is that it promotes a rhetoric of umbrage that is myopic and isolatory. In its dissonance from the complexities of the issue and its rigid disowning of the rights of the other, it closes itself to nuance of course, but also to empathy. Hoskote's resignation came on a day when the Israeli pushback against Hamas' act of terror on October 7 reached Gaza's largest hospital, al-Shifa, already beleaguered by lack of electricity and other vital, life-saving resources. It also came soon after a senior member of Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's government stated that Palestinians should voluntarily emigrate to other countries as Israel could no longer accept Gaza as an independent entity. With the death toll in the ongoing conflict estimated to be well over 11,000 and even more displaced, the crisis does not require moral certitude or self-righteous echo chambers. What it needs, instead, is a humanitarianism that recognises the irreparable damage that has already been wrought on both sides, and that needs to stop without further delay.

SAY INDIAN CHEESE

With its cheese recognised on a prestigious global platform, country can finally take its place in cheesemaking cultures

TIME WAS WHEN all that Indians knew about cheese was that a cube of it, stuck on a toothpick with a piece of pineapple and a cherry, made for a party snack. Or that grated over vegetables and popped into the oven till it was golden, it was an effective inducement for fussy young eaters to consume some fibre. From those early encounters with (mostly processed) cheese to now, with the homegrown Eleftheria Cheese's Brunost (Norwegian-style whey cheese) winning fourth place at the World Cheese Awards, India's relationship with this dairy product has come a long way.

While the general lack of interest in cheese in a country that produces and consumes as much dairy as India, may have confounded turophiles, certain indigenous varieties have long existed. The ubiquitous paneer aside, these include the salt-cured and smoked Bandel cheese, developed under the auspices of the Portuguese in their Bengal colony; Chhurpi, a yak cheese made in the Himalayan region for centuries; and Kalari, a hard cheese found in Jammu and Kashmir that was made by nomadic communities as a way of preserving milk.

It's been about three decades since India, finally having wide access to affordable cheese (even if only the processed variety), fell in love with it. For Indians unaccustomed to the complex flavours of a Roquefort or Manchego, the saltiness and creaminess of Indian processed cheese helped make a number of everyday food items, from dosas and uttapams to kebabs and parathas, "special". The mainstream appreciation that India's indigenous varieties are now getting, as well as the domestic development of European cheeses with a distinct Indian spin — Cheddar rubbed with molaga podi, Cabecous infused with pav bhaji masala, among others — shows that the country is finally ready to take its place alongside other proud cheesemaking cultures.

AFTER THE MUCH-DEBATED and controversial introduction of the IT Rules 2021, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) released the draft Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill, 2023 on November 10. The Bill proposes to scrap the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act of 1995, which regulates the broadcast sector, in favour of unified regulation for "broadcasting, OTT, Digital Media, DTH, IPTV". According to I&B minister Anurag Thakur's comments on X, the Broadcasting Services Bill, 2023, would advance the Prime Minister's vision for "ease of doing business" and "ease of living", although looking at the reactions to the IT Rules 2021, which were also introduced under the pretext of national welfare, one might wonder whether the vision here is actually the "ease of control and regulation".

Of course, introducing regulation to serve citizens is a fundamental priority of any democratic system. However, the BJP's history with media regulation suggests anything but public service. This is because its media regulation policies have never achieved what they promised.

The proposed Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill could amplify the erasure or the selective representation of Indian minority communities from the popular imagination and normalise a universal Hindu identity of India. As an example, consider the broad and ambiguous framing of point 36 in the draft, which states, "Where any authorised officer, thinks it necessary or expedient so to do in the public interest, he may, by order, prohibit any cable broadcasting network operator, radio broadcasting network operator, terrestrial broadcasting network operator and IPTV broadcasting network operator from transmitting or re-transmitting any programme or channel if, it is not in conformity with the prescribed programme code and advertisement code referred to in section 19 or if it is likely to promote, on grounds of religion, race, language, caste or community or any other ground whatsoever, disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different religious, racial, linguistic or regional groups or castes or communities or which is likely to disturb the public tranquillity." Hiring an "authorised offi-

In this circus of dishonest, and mis-executed regulations, the government has completely or intentionally missed out on regulating the conflicts of interest that pervade the Indian media industries. Especially since the nexus between MSOs, politicians, and the vertical integration of broadcasting and cable distribution services has, for a long time, impacted the legitimacy of these regulations and the reforms they promised to bring.

cer" working under the government's directions clearly cannot be separated from the government's sphere of influence.

The Cable Television Networks (Regulation) (hereafter, CTNR) Act, 1995, was introduced to curb the menace of illegal cable television networks and regulate the programming and advertising content on television. Under the auspices of the CTNR Act, cable providers were compulsorily required to register themselves and transmit two Doordarshan channels, besides adhering to content regulation. Incidentally, just like the sporadically vitriolic sentiments against Netflix and Amazon Prime Video for "anti-national" content, in 1995, the MIB cited STAR TV's programming as a harbinger of "cultural invasion" to push for content regulation on television. This is despite the fact that the Indian television programming we witness today is a result of the hybridity of media languages (for example, Hinglish) and the adoption of foreign programming formats (think of *Bigg Boss*, *Kaun Banega Crorepati*), both of which are directly attributed to the advent of Western broadcasters in India.

Coming back to the issue of illegal cable operators, for whom the CTNR Act was originally intended, it brought little transparency about the number of operators on the field. This was more to do with how the nexus of operators, politicians, entrepreneurs and broadcasters chose to control the transmission of television. By operating as MSOs (Multi-System-Operators), the likes of SitiCable (owned by Zee TV), Hathaway (STAR TV and Mumbai-based Raheja group), InCable (British-based NRI Hinduja family) turned crews of operators into local franchises for exclusive distribution in specific territories. The intensive rivalries between the MSOs led to collusion with the underworld, and local politicians to protect and expand their cable businesses.

Favouring direct control as a way to improve the opaque cable and television landscape, the MIB, under the aegis of the late Sushma Swaraj, amended the CTNR Act in 2003, making it mandatory for cable operators to submit reports to the government on subscribers, subscription rates and sub-

scribers receiving programmes in basic service tier. Among other requirements, the operators were expected to transmit or retransmit programmes of any pay channel through set-top boxes offering the option of choosing television channels to consumers. The government also set up a maximum price limit on the subscription rates the cable operator could charge. However, it did not stop the MSOs, broadcasters and operators from bundling preferred channels, keeping their interest in mind, and at the expense of the consumer. In retrospect, the CTNR Act in 1995 and its amendment in 2002 are great examples of the government's push for regulation as a way of controlling the network of information and communication infrastructures.

In this circus of dishonest, and mis-executed regulations, the government has completely or intentionally missed out on regulating the conflicts of interest that pervade the Indian media industries. Especially since the nexus between MSOs, politicians, and the vertical integration of broadcasting and cable distribution services has, for a long time, impacted the legitimacy of these regulations and the reforms they promised to bring. However, with a cursory glance at the failures of the CTNR Act, one can observe the government's trust deficit with its citizens. So much so that the draft version of the Broadcasting Services (Regulation) Bill seems like a systematic attempt to control the digital infrastructure as well as every aspect of the citizen's viewing choices. Amid all the debate around "cultural invasion" and "anti-national" programming, the government conveniently promotes oligopolistic media ownership tendencies. How this does not adversely affect the welfare of every Indian citizen it is eager to serve is anyone's guess.

A regulation on conflicts of interest is the need of the hour. All other regulatory measures to facilitate "ease of business" are merely attempts at facilitating "ease of control and regulation".

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SHREEKANT SAMBRANI

PRS (Biki to friends) Oberoi (1929-2023) was the doyen of the Indian hotel industry in the truest sense of the word. He was the senior-most hotelier in the country by age and length of service and the chairman emeritus of the third-largest Indian hotel chain. Much more importantly, he introduced the concept of luxury hotels in India even when the country was hardly on the itinerary of international travellers with deep pockets and Indian business and holiday travel emphasised economy over comfort.

The Taj Mahal in Mumbai was our token presence among posh hotels until the 1960s. Biki's father and the founder of the group, Rai Bahadur M S Oberoi, valued comfort all right, but luxury was not his priority. When Biki took over as the chief executive from his father in the early 1960s, building The Oberoi Intercontinental in the heart of New Delhi was among his first decisions. The Intercontinental Association did not last long, as Biki wanted to pursue his own ideas. Rumour has it that the Rai Bahadur was not quite comfortable with this new path (Biki neither confirmed nor denied this), but Biki had his way and remained on the best of terms with his father all through the Rai Bahadur's long life.

The hotel has undergone complete refurbishing roughly every two decades or so, shutting down for extended periods in the process, but remains the address to be seen at.

The Oberoi in Mumbai, adjacent to the then Oberoi Towers (now The Trident) was

THE EXTRAORDINARY HOST

PRS Oberoi pioneered luxury hotels at a time when economy trumped comfort

The Taj Mahal in Mumbai was our token presence among posh hotels until the 1960s. Biki's father and the founder of the group, Rai Bahadur M S Oberoi, valued comfort all right, but luxury was not his priority. When Biki took over as the chief executive from his father in the early 1960s, building The Oberoi Intercontinental in the heart of New Delhi was among his first decisions.

the extension of the concept of its namesake in Delhi. But the Rajvilas Hotels that opened in the turn of the century Rajasthan added another dimension to uber luxury hotels, frequently listed among the world's best.

I got to know him as his lead consultant for his diversification ideas, which naturally extended to food. In the mid-1980s, edible oil plants were all the rage. A leading Canadian engineering group offered technology and possible funding. I was roped in to provide economic and management inputs. Biki and I soon struck a deep personal and professional bond (he kept his word that I must be his advisor on all his diversification projects, until the late 1990s when he decided that it was better to stick to the knitting).

When the promised Canadian funding did not materialise, Biki persisted with his now keen interest and pursued other possibilities. We explored tie-ups with European vegetable fat processors. We came close to a joint venture with the Indonesian Japfa Group, a giant in the animal feeds and fats industry. We contemplated a novel concept, of locating the processing plant neither in the oilseed growing hinterland nor near a market, but at a port. The idea was to import soyabean, process it, and export the de-oiled meal. The approach was the same as that of the Jamnagar Reliance refinery; it imports petroleum crude and exports refined products, gaining from the handsome margins in India. That would also have been the case with soyabean. Biki was completely committed to the idea, but the Indonesians

demurred, fearing the newly liberalising India could possibly relapse into a licence-permit raj again.

Biki was a complete hotelier and committed to the Oberoi image, at work and away from it. His residences on the farm on the outskirts of Delhi and at the Naila fort near Jaipur (where President Bill Clinton danced with the locals in 2000) easily outdid his hotels in terms of the comfort they offered.

We once travelled to a small Swedish town two hours away from Malmo to meet the Board of the leading Swedish fat processor. It had only one ultra-modern self-service hotel. We arrived late on a Sunday evening. Biki asked the young receptionist if he could get his suit ironed urgently. She smiled and said that was not possible, because the sole local laundry would open on Monday morning at 10. Biki was stunned into silence, since it was an article of faith for him that the hotelier was duty-bound to immediately cater to every desire of the guest. Finally, the lady found an ironing board and she and I did the pressing, which did not please Biki at all!

Astrapping two-metre-tall former member of the President's Guard, the head of security at the Naila fort, described himself as being in the service of HRH Prithvi Raj Singh. That is perhaps the most fitting appellation for this giant of an entrepreneur.

The writer taught at IIM, Ahmedabad and was the founder-director of the Institute of Rural Management, Anand



NOVEMBER 16, 1983, FORTY YEARS AGO

ANIMAL TALLOW IMPORT

THE GOVERNMENT IS prepared to face a discussion in Parliament on animal tallow import. V P Singh, Commerce Minister, made the offer in both Houses after he made a statement on the subject in the Rajya Sabha. In the statement, Singh said that apart from tightening the regulatory provisions, the enforcement machinery had also swung into action with a large number of inspections.

PARLIAMENT PROAR

THE SENSATIONAL KARNATAKA tapes which allegedly unravel Congress (I) attempts to buy

Janata legislators in the state triggered uproarious scenes in both houses of Parliament following a determined Opposition bid to pillory the government for trying to topple non-Congress (I) governments.

PUNJAB ISSUE

OPPOSITION LEADERS IN Parliament warned the government that the Punjab issue was amenable only to a negotiated political settlement and could not be settled through administrative measures. The occasion for a reappraisal of the law and order situation in Punjab was provided by a statutory resolution of Home Minister P C Sethi seeking approval of

the proclamation of October 6 placing Punjab under President's rule.

PALESTINE MEET

MRS INDIRA GANDHI has called a ministerial-level meeting of the non-aligned committee on Palestine on November 18 and 19. An External Affairs Ministry spokesman who announced this said the first ministerial-level meeting of the eight-member committee, set up at the New Delhi summit of the NAM, follows the contacts Mrs Gandhi as NAM chairperson had with various leaders and messages of concern she has received over developments in West Asia.

11 THE IDEAS PAGE

The cost of ambivalence

India's alcohol policy has been driven by the competing pulls of morality, religion and the need to generate revenue — but never by public health



ANAND KRISHNAN

MOST NEWSPAPERS REPORTED a record-breaking sale of alcohol around Diwali this year. Is this a cause for celebration or concern? Any responsible public policy towards alcohol should respect an individual's free choice while nudging them towards decreasing intake and consuming safer forms of alcohol. However, Indian public policy's approach to alcohol reflects our society's ambivalent attitude towards it.

First, the use of the term "alcohol use or abuse". This implies that some amount of alcohol use is acceptable, and at some point, the consumption becomes unacceptable — abuse or harmful use. Medically, alcohol is considered harmful based on its being a risk factor for heart disease and its impact on the liver. For a long time, medical professionals and the WHO held that moderate alcohol use is good for health, based on Western data. The medical profession has traditionally not been vocal on alcohol control and the way they throng alcohol counters in medical conferences indicates that doctors endorse alcohol use.

The societal definition of abuse is when one is not able to discharge one's role or becomes a nuisance to others in the family or society regularly. Only when the externality of its impact on others (domestic violence, traffic accidents, family impoverishment) becomes pronounced, do we call it an issue worthy of a public response. If an individual suffers due to alcohol use disorder — say with cirrhosis of the liver — the attitude often is that no sympathy should be wasted. Most national surveys in the last five years show that around 20-25 per cent of men and 1-2 per cent of women consume alcohol and one in five of them are dependent or indulge in harmful use and need treatment.

Women have generally been at the receiving end of alcohol use by men. That is why most social protests around alcohol have been women-led. In general, our thinking is that the rich can choose to do whatever they want but the poor should behave responsibly as they cannot afford this habit. Upper castes equate alcohol use with "tamasic" food, taking a moral high ground, while most tribal societies openly embrace it. Many Indians, including those from upper castes, consume alcohol at home but not publicly — a clear sign of hypocrisy. A politician, more so a woman, drinking alcohol is seen as irresponsible, even though it may have no impact on his or her performance. Some consider alcohol as a corruption brought in by Western culture, despite enough evidence that it has always been a part of our culture. Alcohol use has always been seen from a religious lens. While Islam forbids its consumption, Christianity is seen as permissive, nothing in Hindu religion bars alcohol consumption. Many religious sects prohibit its consumption. A balance has been struck by society by proscribing it on some days and allowing it on others!

In recent times, the WHO has changed its policy of "some alcohol is good" to "no alcohol is good", following pressure from public health and activist groups. In 2013, when global targets were being set, WHO and some countries opted for a 10 per cent decrease in harmful use of alcohol. India opted for a 10 per cent reduction in alcohol use — not just harmful use of alcohol. This is in keeping with the Directive Principles Of State Policy (DPSP) in the Constitution: "The State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health."



CR Sasikumar

However, our current political approach does not support this thinking. Haryana, for example, after experimenting with prohibition in the 1990s, today has a licencing system that has resulted in alcohol vends every few hundred metres in Faridabad and Gurgaon. These measures have been driven by the revenue generation potential of alcohol sales. Delhi and Haryana have often competed by revising state taxes. Delhi's controversial alcohol policy, revoked last year, allowed vendors to give discounts. Kerala is another example where the need for revenue generation resulted in the state government stepping back from partial prohibition. The Tamil Nadu government, learning from multiple hooch tragedies, has gone into the business of selling alcohol through its State Marketing Corporation to ensure citizens' safety. Most states are not ready to get alcohol into the GST scheme as they fear foregoing revenue. Prohibition in Gujarat is a Gandhian legacy that no one wants to fiddle with. Mizoram, a Christian-majority state, has imposed prohibition and recently, following protests, allowed local wineries.

This muddled approach is compounded by the bureaucracy. India has developed the concept of official 'dry days' — when the sale and public consumption of alcohol is banned, mainly on religious grounds, and salary days. These days get notified so that people can buy in advance and are not inconvenienced. The recently revoked order in Uttarakhand on riders for home use of alcohol exemplifies this bureaucratic approach. Neither the politicians nor the bureaucracy have health at the core of the policy.

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A public health approach to curb alcohol use follows the approach for tobacco control like limiting access (licensing and age bar on sale), raising tax, prohibiting marketing and raising awareness. However, their enforcement is quite weak. Though advertising bans are in place, alcohol firms have flouted them, including in the ongoing cricket World Cup, by using surrogate advertising. Governments have looked away. This violation can be addressed by an appropriate legislative remedy, but governments have not shown any intent to do so.

Addressing this ambivalence and hypocrisy needs open and non-judgemental discussions in society. The false dichotomy between traditionalism and modernism, the professed role of religion and trade-offs between health impact mitigation and revenue generation need to be debated. Alcohol brings the hypocrisy of society out in the open. Are we ready to confront it and take steps to deal with it? Till that time, a rational national alcohol policy will remain a delusion.

The writer is Professor at the Centre for Community Medicine at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. Views are personal

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"In addressing climate change, we must not forget to secure our children's future. Amplifying their voices and needs in the climate conversation is not just an environmental imperative but also a moral one. For if we fail our children, we fail in the most profound way imaginable." — DAWN, PAKISTAN

The power of us

We know that coming together with others is essential to success. Yet, we continue to sow divisions



IN GOOD FAITH
RADHA GOENKA

AS HUMANS, we have only thrived and progressed on the evolutionary scale when we grouped into a collective. Apex animals, like the lion and tiger, ruled the animal kingdom for centuries. They were mightier, faster and more alert — until we formed groups. We began communicating with each other and strategising as a collective. Our collective might was far superior to the apex animals. In groups, we started building on each other's knowledge over generations and became stronger. Our collective might is visible in many facets of life today. Think about any freedom struggle in modern history or our ability to control the deadly coronavirus in record time. We came together as a species, sharing information and supporting each other.

The power of the collective seems quite evident, yet we tend to work against this common principle in so many ways. Whether you look at the way our country is divided along religious and caste lines or in the world as evident with the Russia versus Ukraine or Israel versus Palestine wars.

The "Kolis" or fisherfolk are the first inhabitants of Mumbai city. They inhabit various coastal belts of the city in Worli, Versova and Madh Island to name a few. Walk through the Worli Koliwada, a four-sq km radius, and you see Hindus, Muslims and Christians who have been cohabiting for centuries together without any issues. They identify as a unit. They celebrate each other's festivals with equal fervour and even have unique Koli names and traditions for them. For example, "Narali Purnima" is the day when the Moon is worshipped with a coconut to mark the end of the monsoon and the start of the fishing season. This happens to be on the same day as Raksha Bandhan and is celebrated by all Kolis as a unit. Another progressive and distinctive trait of the Kolis is that they put women first. All the religious idols that they worship are female. The main Hindu deity is Ganga Devi, who they pray to with an offering of two laddoos and ask a "yes/no" question like: Will it be safe to go out to sea today? The goddess answers by dropping one or the other side of the offering that is placed on her shoulder. The Christians pray to Mother Mary as Velankanni Mata and the Muslims to Peer Dargah, which honours two female relatives of the Prophet Mohammed.

The Koli respect every individual as an equal within their Koli unit, making them an unstoppable force. As a unit, they have managed to ward off real-estate sharks. They have even managed to move the government to extend the pillars of the Coastal Road Project, facing the Worli Koliwada, to ensure fair access of their boats, to and fro from the pier. Such is the might of the collective.

In our history, we have been ruled by Hindu, Muslim and Christian rulers at various points. But we are Indian. We all started as hominids. Over time, we have become divided along borders. We are all essentially one unit. It took Covid, a common enemy, for us to realise this.

War hurts everyone. We know this. Yet, over the past year, we continue to witness two large ongoing wars. Russia attacked Ukraine and recently, Hamas attacked Israel.

The internet is a prime example of the power of unity. You could be using an application that is created in India, the device used to access it could be made in Vietnam, the microprocessor inside from Taiwan, the content from Japan and it could be stored on a cloud in the US. In so many ways, we are learning to understand the power of the collective and using it to help humanity. Yet, we make decisions to go to war to divide and undermine each other.

Divide and rule is an infamous tactic. The British used it to conquer India. Between the first and 17th centuries, India was the richest country in the world. The British came in with the East India Company to trade, and quickly wanted more. They knew that purely on strength of arms, they would not be able to conquer the country. So, they pitted us against each other, and they won. Our history reveals that when you divide us, you weaken us. We are not Hindus or Muslims or x caste or y caste. We are Indian.

Gautam Buddha, a visionary who came out of India, understood the power of the collective and unified a large portion of the East, beyond India. He is worshipped far more in Southeast Asia today than in India. Mahatma Gandhi worked tirelessly to erase the fault lines of caste in our country. Parmhansa Yogananda speaks of one universal higher power, that we manifest as different god forms. When we didn't understand that the world was round and there was a solar system, we prayed to the sun and moon as gods, believing that the only way they rose was by our collective prayers. Wisdom of how the world moves changed we worshipped. Worship of God is a way for us to make sense of our world. We should accept that each of us has a different relationship with God, like we have different relationships with our parents or children. We cannot judge each other based on that. Whether it is the divisions we create within our country at the religious or caste level or as a world between countries — why are we reversing the work of so many wise leaders who came before us?

In Hinduism, we believe that the current epoch is the Kalyug — the dark age. This is a time when the worst of mankind is on display, leading to destruction and unhappiness. During these dark ages, an avatar of god, in the form of Kalki — like Ram, Krishna and many others before them — comes to the Earth to save us from ourselves. We need to unite as a world. One religion. One race. The human race. We need Kalki now more than ever. Where are you, Kalki?

The writer is the Director at RPG Foundation and Founder of Pehlay Akshar, The Heritage Project

Great Gatsby of Hindi media

Would Subrata Roy's fate have been different if he came from Old Money?



MRINAL PANDE

FEW PEOPLE embody the '90s as aptly as Subrata Roy, founder of the Sahara Group of companies. He was also known as Sahara Shree. The boy from Araria in Bihar began his career in Gorakhpur, with just Rs 2,000 as his capital. He struck gold with the famous Sahara Chit Fund scheme, which helped India's poorest become investors for the first time.

Roy liked things big. In 1991, he had Amitabh "Big B" Bachchan fly in to launch his Hindi daily, *Rashtriya Sahara*, from Lucknow. He was a star in India's corporate pop culture, dressed in expensive suits, and with high-flying friends in politics and corporate circles. He proceeded to real estate and a glamorous township in Lucknow's rather dowdy Gomti Nagar came up, followed by others. The brochures of the company described it as "an emotionally driven integrated Indian family". The Sahara planes had the legend "Emotionally Yours" on them. This reminded one of F Scott Fitzgerald talking of "a heightened sensitivity to the promises of life".

Rashtriya Sahara was a rather awkward experiment. It had swanky offices with excellent facilities for journalists to commute to and from work, a good canteen where a meal cost only Rs 5, good salaries and bonuses too. But soon, we were pulling our friends' legs for their Sahara uniforms (black trousers, white shirt and a tie), and having to greet everyone with "Good Sahara", their hand over their heart. Roy liked theatrical flourishes and spectacles. A journalist friend

confided they had to suffer "lambi lambi gyan vartayain" from Bade Sahib. One also heard how on the morning of his visit, they would all be made to stand in the arrival hall to greet Bade Sahib and his brother Joy Broto Roy (Chhote Sahib). The brothers were preceded by two women employees sprinkling rose petals on the red carpet. Once, when a cheeky young journalist dared to ask who was actually the editor, he was told the editor was the entire Sahara Parivar, but the managing editor was Joy Broto.

In personal meetings, Subrata Roy was always an expansive host. Unlike the often rather uncouth legacy-media barons, he was charming and well-mannered. He also strategised well to make the till-then-stolid Hindi newspaper market wake up and smell the coffee. He launched attractive schemes for readers, vendors and hawkers. A hawker who sold the paper continuously for 25 days was given a cycle and one who sold 200 copies in a day got a motorcycle as a reward. Particularly promising hawkers from Lucknow were flown on a Sahara plane to Delhi to meet Bade Sahib.

Roy is reminiscent of the famous Jay Gatsby from Fitzgerald's classic, *The Great Gatsby*. When his sons married, almost the entire Delhi cabinet and nearly all the Bollywood biggies, cricketers (who by now wore Sahara jerseys on the field) and media moguls were in attendance. Special chartered Sahara planes flew in the honoured invitees, loaded with gifts. If the

Lucknow media is to be believed, it was a Rs 500 crore wedding!

Like Fitzgerald's doomed dreamer, Roy came from an ordinary middle-class family. Like Gatsby, he had faith in the dream of a grand nation. He knew small-town India and its markets and had the sensibility to jazz up things with theatrical openings and constant re-invention. Roy's was a surreal life when he was on top. He was the only Hindi media baron with a TV channel and hotels in New York and London. He patronised cricket and presented each member of the World Cup-winning Indian cricket team with a villa. *Time* described him as the second-largest employer in India, after the Railways.

The fall began around 2011, with SEBI tightening the noose around the chit-fund scheme. Even now, it holds some Rs 25,000 crore of frozen funds. But during the long legal battles, much of Roy's empire eroded. He lost the case eventually and spent two years in prison. He came out a broken man and his Great Indian Dream lay shattered.

Before you roll your eyes and call him a crook, remember one fact: The easy moral conclusions from Roy's tale are undercut by a flaw in the Great Indian Dream itself. This dream hides two Indias. One is for the aristocratic Old Money, one for the newly rich. In a world where power constantly changes hands, and the rules of the game may do the same, it doesn't take much for the outsider to become an upstart.

The Jazz Age and the roaring '20s that saw

Gatsby's rise gave way to the Great Depression: Almost overnight, making money by bypassing some rules went from being acceptable to a game of Russian roulette. In such uncertain times, the rules of corporate Darwinism seem to decree that only Old Money, with genealogies in business and roots in international capital since the colonial period, shall survive.

The monumental success of the kind Roy achieved in one generation is possible only when the going is good. But as the Depression looms, they suddenly come up against unexpected blockades put up by a bureaucratic state. Most millennials brought up in an atmosphere of fear and censorship (formal or informal) of information, may have a problem understanding this. Let them look up the list of those that have got away since the pandemic — the Mallays, Lalit Modis, the diamond merchants and who knows how many more. They all have one thing in common. They come from old money.

Roy was no different than most ambitious men and women, who have made it out of their small towns and got a seat at the high table. In the ultimate evaluation of his life and works, he was not out of touch with society. He was just one of the many unlucky recipients of a bullet in the Russian Roulette of capitalism.

The writer is a freelance journalist and former chairperson, Prasar Bharati

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ACT, DON'T JUST TALK TORY CALCULATION

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Bans & blame-games' (IE, November 15). The Supreme Court ban on firecrackers was blatantly flouted in the national capital. It triggered a blame game between the BJP and AAP. To make sure that anti-pollution measures yield results, authorities must stop the manufacturing and sale of banned firecrackers. The public also needs to be sensitised about rising pollution levels to reduce the demand for firecrackers. The Delhi government, meanwhile, must collaborate with neighbouring states and the Opposition to make a robust pollution control plan and ensure its implementation.

Aamaan Alam Khan, Jammu

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Sunak's next steps' (IE, November 15). In a bid to placate the centrists, the appointment of David Cameron, former British PM, as the new British Foreign Secretary comes at a time when the Conservative party is grappling with the existential challenges posed by Brexit, the COVID-19 pandemic, immigration and international conflicts. The calculated move by UK's Tory PM Rishi Sunak reflects his readiness to take risks and potentially reset the faltering state of the government. But no one can say Sunak didn't try to keep the Tories afloat amid all the contradiction.

SS Paul, Nadia

WOMEN'S BILL

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Bans & blame-games' (IE, November 15). With the ruling party and the Opposition playing a blame game, the pollution levels in the capital are headed towards an all-time low. In the face of international criticism, Amnesty International has brought up the issue of misgovernance in the region and has proposed that the governments of Delhi, UP, and Haryana come together to counter this issue. In the list of the most polluted cities, six are from the subcontinent. This shows the casual approach of the administration towards protecting human rights. The government should go to the root of the problem and identify the causal factors. The administration should take full responsibility and work on the implementation of policies.

Harshita, Jammu

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'House of inequality' (IE, November 13). The passage and enactment of the Women's Reservation Bill is indeed a milestone in India's legislative history. Reservation for women in Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies will create a domino effect in closing the gender gap and opening up space for more opinions in legislature. But such acts take long before they show results on the ground. Coupled with the vague timeline for implementation and conditional complexities that come with delimitation, the objective of the amendment might delay the goal of surpassing the mere 15 per cent representation by women in current parliament.

Sagar Borade, Thane

Infosys Prize: Air pollution expert among 6 selected

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

PROF N Tripathi, one of India's best known experts on air pollution, was among the six people selected for this year's Infosys Prize, the richest award in the country. Tripathi, a professor at IIT Kanpur, has been awarded the Infosys Prize for science and engineering for his work on setting up air quality network and "for the discovery of new pathways of aerosols formation and growth that provide mechanistic understanding of haze formation", the Infosys Foundation said. Tripathi's colleague at IIT Kanpur, Professor Arun Kumar Shukla was selected for the award in the life sciences category, while Mukund Thattai, a professor at the Bengaluru-based National Centre for Biological Sciences, was given the prize for physical sciences. Shukla has been recognised for his work on G-protein coupled receptors, a key component of cell function, which has opened up new opportunities in the design of novel therapeutics. Thattai, an evolutionary cell biologist, has

been awarded for his work on the "origins of endomembrane organelles, shedding new light on how they emerged from ancient, primordial cells".

For mathematics, the award was given to Bhargav Bhat, a professor at Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton, United States, for his contributions in arithmetic geometry and commutative algebra. Jahnvi Phalkey, a science historian and founding director of Science Gallery Bengaluru, was awarded the prize in humanities for her research in the history of science in modern India, particularly the history of nuclear science which resulted in the book 'The Atomic State'.

The Infosys Prize for social sciences was given to Karuna Mantena, a professor of political science at the Conference for Study of Political Thought, Columbia University in the United States for her work on the theory of imperialism.

The USD 100,000 Infosys Prize, being awarded since 2008, is now given to six outstanding researchers every year, and has established itself as one of the most prestigious awards in the country.

SC: Agreement to sell does not confer any title or ownership

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

AN AGREEMENT to sell does not confer any title or transfer ownership to intended purchaser, the Supreme Court has reiterated in a recent order. "The agreement to sell is not a conveyance; it does not transfer ownership rights or confer any title," a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Rajesh Bindal said in its order earlier this month.

The ruling came on a plea where the question arose as to whether an agreement to sell a property entered into by parties in May 1990 had indeed been executed or not. By this agreement, the intended purchaser had agreed to buy a property from the proposed seller and had paid the full amount. The possession was also handed over to the purchaser.

However, when the seller refused to execute it, the intended purchaser filed a suit for specific performance in October 2001.

The trial court dismissed the suit in September 2004 saying the question of execution of the agreement to sell was doubtful.

The first appellate court reversed the trial court's decision and said the intended purchaser had proved the execution of the

agreement to sell. On second appeal, the Karnataka High Court in 2010 ruled in favour of the intended seller stating that the agreement was in violation of the Karnataka Prevention of Fragmentation and Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1996, which prohibited registration of sale of fragments of a property unless it complied with the provisions of the Act.

The intended purchaser appealed Supreme Court, which noted that the issue of the Fragmentation Act was never raised before the trial court by either of the parties. Allowing the appeal, the SC said: "There was no issue framed with respect to the violation of the Fragmentation Act, and it was not pleaded in the written statement filed by the respondent."

"The defence taken by the respondent was that he never executed the agreement to sell. However, in his deposition during the cross-examination, he admitted to his signatures on the agreement to sell. Thus, in the absence of any issue framed, and given that neither party has pleaded any violation of... the Fragmentation Act, the HC apparently fell in error in holding that agreement to sell was in violation of Section 5 of the Fragmentation Act," the SC said.

38 killed, 17 injured in J&K as bus plunges into 400-ft gorge

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 15

AT LEAST 38 people were killed and 17 injured after a speeding bus fell into a gorge in Doda district's Trangul (Assar) area in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday.

According to Doda SSP Abdul Qayoom, two people succumbed to their injuries at Government Medical College Hospital in Jammu, raising the death toll to 38.

Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, said that the injured are being shifted to the government medical colleges in Doda and Jammu and all possible help is being provided. "Sincere condolences to the bereaved families," he said in a post on X.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh each to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 each for the injured from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund.

Sources said the bus was on its way from Kishtwar to Jammu. When the bus around 4 km away from Rajgarh on the Doda-Batote National Highway, it skidded off the road and fell into an old abandoned road 400 feet down.

Sources said that the ill-fated bus was overloaded as it had 56 passengers on board instead of the seating capacity of 38.

The driver, who was among



Rescue operation underway after a bus carrying passengers fell into a gorge in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday. PTI

the dead, possibly lost control while negotiating a sharp curve on the mountainous terrain, they added.

It was a brand new bus of the 2019 model and was registered in 2020, said RTO Jammu, Pankaj Bhagotra. The fitness documents of the bus were valid up to October 2024, he added.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha expressed shock over the accident. "Extremely pained by the loss of lives in a tragic bus accident in Assar," he said on X. "My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families & wishing for a speedy recovery of those injured

in the accident". He directed the divisional commissioner and the district administration to provide all necessary assistance to the affected people.

Former Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president, Omar Abdullah, expressed grief over the tragic accident. "Sadly for all the talk of progress & development we are not able to stop the steady stream of accidents, often with an unacceptably high death toll," he wrote on X, adding "My heart goes out to the families of those who have died & prayers for those injured".

PDP president and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti expressed her condolences to the families of the deceased.

J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina and general secretary (organisation) Ashok Koul expressed their condolences to the bereaved families and asked the administration to provide all necessary assistance to those affected by this tragedy.

Besides the Prime Minister, President Droupadi Murmu and Union Home Minister Amit Shah also expressed shock and sadness over the loss of lives in the bus accident.

Freedom fighter, CPM founding member N Sankaraiah dies at 102

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, NOVEMBER 15

N SANKARAIAH, a freedom fighter, founding member of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and one of the tallest leaders of the Left movement in the country, died Wednesday in Chennai. He was 102.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin called his death a personal loss and said the funeral would take place with State honours.

Sankaraiah's journey as a revolutionary began at the American College in Madurai. His father wanted him to become a lawyer but his participation in the freedom struggle led to his arrest, days before his final examinations. He spent a total of eight years in prison — both before and after Independence — a time that shaped his belief in communism and social justice. His education remained incomplete.

He emerged as an active CPI worker in the 1940s and quickly rose through the ranks, eventually becoming a key organiser in



He was arrested for taking part in freedom struggle. PTI

Tamil Nadu. He was the party's Madurai district secretary in 1944. He was instrumental in the formation of the CPI(M), breaking away from the CPI in 1964 due to ideological differences. With his demise, former Kerala Chief Minister V S Achuthanandan, 100, is the only founding member of CPI who survives.

Sankaraiah was elected to the Tamil Nadu Assembly in 1967, 1977 and 1980, a marker of his popularity and influence. His tenure was marked by his fervent

speeches for the working classes and the oppressed.

Sankaraiah was also secretary of the party's state committee from 1995 to 2002. His impact was not limited to politics. He was deeply involved in the development of the farm movement and led the All India Kisan Sabha as its General Secretary and President.

Sankaraiah was honoured with the prestigious 'Thagaisal Thamizhar' Award by the DMK government in 2021. He donated the prize money from the award for Covid-19 relief.

G Ramakrishnan, the former state secretary of TN CPI(M) unit, told *The Indian Express* recently that Sankaraiah chose to not accept the government pension for freedom fighters.

"Sankaraiah has always been about the cause, not the applause. His choice to turn down the freedom fighter pension is just one example of his real-deal dedication to India's independence — he felt that he fought the British for his own country, not as a job or for remuneration," Ramakrishnan said.

Suspected grenade explosion behind place of worship in Valley, probe on

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, NOVEMBER 15

A POWERFUL explosion took place behind a place of worship in border Poonch district's Surankote town in Jammu and Kashmir late Wednesday evening. Police confirmed the incident and said that they are investigating the matter.

Meanwhile, sources said that the explosion appears to have been caused by a grenade apparently thrown by someone towards the place of worship where some construction work was already in progress.

However, no one was injured, but the explosion triggered panic in the area.

Local people in large numbers gathered at the spot. Senior police officers including Poonch SDPO Vinay Sharma had reached there.

The police and security forces had cordoned off the area. Forensic experts were also called to ascertain the nature of explosion, sources added.



A farmer makes bales out of paddy stubble instead of setting them on fire at a village in Ludhiana Wednesday. Gurmeet Singh

2,500 fresh farm fires push Punjab tally beyond 33,000-mark; state sounds red alert

Total stubble burning cases 32% less than last year, 54% less than 2021

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, HOSHIARPUR, NOVEMBER 15

THE STUBBLE burning incidents crossed the 30,000-mark in Punjab Wednesday as the state reported 2,544 fresh farm fires, even as a senior police official said that a red alert has been sounded in all the districts and legal action will be initiated if anyone found burning stubble.

Wednesday marked two months of the farm fires season beginning September 15. The fresh farm fires took total number of such cases to 30,661. The cumulative total is 32.5% less than 45,464 stubble burning cases reported in the corresponding period of 2022, and 54% less than 67,020 farm fires recorded in 2021.

Earlier, amid a spike in pollution levels in Delhi-NCR, the Supreme Court on November 7 directed Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan to ensure crop residue burning was stopped "forthwith", saying it cannot let "people die" due to pollution.

Thereafter, Punjab Police chief Gaurav Yadav appointed special DGP (law and order) Arpit Shukla as the nodal officer to monitor action against stubble burning.

Shukla said Wednesday commissioners of police and senior SP have been directed to sensitise farmers, citizens and various stakeholders about the ill-effects of the stubble burning, which is also "a violation of law" and "action could be initiated against them".

"All DSPs and SHOs have been asked to hold discussions with sarpanches and farm union leaders to sensitise them about the ill-effects of stubble burning, which not only affect the urban people but each and every individual," said Shukla, who was on a tour to review the stubble burning cases in Hoshiarpur and

EXPLAINED
One of the reasons for Delhi's woes

PADDY STRAW burning in Punjab and Haryana is one of the reasons for the alarming spike in air pollution in Delhi in October and November. A system developed by the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology to identify the contribution of pollution sources showed stubble-burning accounted for 23% of air pollution in the capital Wednesday.

SBS Nagar districts.

Shukla said 286 FIRs related to stubble burning have been registered at various police stations during the current paddy harvesting season. Additionally, environmental compensation has been imposed in over 3,500 cases of stubble burning, he said.

Meanwhile, Bathinda again reported the highest such cases at 356, followed by 318 in Moga, 264 in Barnala, 262 in Sangrur, 253 in Ferozepur, and 225 in Faridkot, according to Ludhiana-based Punjab Remote Sensing Centre data.

The crop residue burning incidents are on the upswing for the past few days. Punjab had reported 987 such cases on November 12; 1,624 on November 13; and 1,776 on November 14.

The national capital's 24-hour average AQI, recorded at 4 pm, stood at 401. It was 397 on Tuesday, 358 on Monday and 218 on Sunday and 220 on Saturday.

Neighbouring Ghaziabad (378), Gurugram (297), Greater Noida (338), Noida (360) and Faridabad (390) also recorded very poor air quality.

FROM PAGE ONE FULL REPORTSON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

From Down Under to Switzerland via Dubai, Oswals hit a hurdle in Cyprus

Cyprus, Radhika and Pankaj Oswal, as the ultimate beneficiaries of Cyprol Limited, put their "size of wealth" at USD 100 million each from inheritance, savings in personal accounts in Dubai, funds received from the settlement with Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ), gains from businesses such as Burrup Fertilisers, Oswal Middle East LLC etc.

The Cypriot banks, however, were not convinced.

"Please provide more evidence... as the Financial Statement cannot evidence the Depth of their Source of Wealth," wrote a Bank of Cyprus executive in September 2017.

The Oswals left India in 2001 for Australia where Pankaj founded a liquid ammonia plant on the Burrup Peninsula. In 2011, the couple had to abandon their under-construction Perth mansion — dubbed 'Taj on the Swan' — and leave for Dubai after their partners in Burrup Fertilisers accused them of siphoning USD 150 million and the ANZ Bank appointed receivers to recover debts.

A protracted legal tussle ended in a settlement in 2016 when the ANZ Bank paid the Oswals an undisclosed amount in excess of USD 145 million for underselling their 65% stake in Burrup Fertilisers. All charges were dropped against the two.

In April 2017, the couple applied for Cypriot citizenship un-

der the 'naturalisation of investors' scheme (withheld since 2020). In June, they set up Cyprol Holding Limited (CHL) as beneficiaries, and Cyprol Limited under CHL.

In an undated submission made to Eurobank, Cyprus, Cyprol Limited projected an annual turnover of Euro 5 million. The company also named both Oswal Middle East LLC (Dubai) and RPO Projects PTE Ltd (Singapore) as sources of funds (incoming transactions).

To obtain the relevant licence from the Cyprus government, Pankaj Oswal, according to records, authorised two Cypriot law firms for three months — December 2017 to February 2018 — for "the purposes of arranging a meeting between the Investor, the Authorised Persons... and the relevant governmental officials."

The project plan envisaged an estimated investment of EUR 300-400 million for an oil refinery with crude oil processing capacity of approximately 10,000 BPD (Barrels per Day). The construction was scheduled to commence by the third quarter of 2018.

However, according to the last available record in January 2018, the wait for a bank account continued. In May 2018, the Oswals were issued their Cypriot passports. In March 2019, Radhika and Pankaj Oswal identified themselves with their Indian passport

numbers and instructed ConnectedSky "to proceed with the strike off" of Cyprol Limited.

Earlier, Pankaj Oswal had to abandon a USD 3.5 billion oil refinery project at an advanced stage in Gladstone, Queensland, in March 2011 due to the turmoil around his Burrup Fertilisers. Soon after shifting from Perth to Dubai, the Oswals set up Oswal Middle East LLC (OME) as a general trading company. Radhika Oswal got her UAE residency permit in 2011, followed by Pankaj in 2012.

Subsequently, according to Pankaj Oswal's resume, OME promoted the acquisition of two leases of Bauxite mine through a group company Axis Mineral Resources in Guinea, Africa. RPO Projects PTE Ltd was incorporated in Singapore under OME.

Emails and messages for comments, sent by *The Indian Express* to Radhika and Pankaj Oswal and the "authorised signatory" for Cyprol Limited, Sanjay Wali, did not elicit a response.

Pankaj Oswal is the elder son of the late Abhey Oswal, founder of Oswal Agro Mills and Oswal Greentech. His brother, singer-entrepreneur Shaal Oswal, figured in the 2021 Pandora Papers global investigation in which *The Indian Express* reported that he used his company in the British Virgin Islands, during 2010-11, to market coal sold by an Indonesian mining company that he partly owned.

Before his downfall, Cox & Kings promoter Peter Kerker sealed \$5-million loan pacts

Mumbai Police and Gujarat Police.

He was arrested in November 2020 over allegations of siphoning funds through related party transactions. Bail applications in several cases are pending before the Bombay High Court.

The loan agreement between Global Aerospace Limited (GAL) and PEL dated November 12, 2018, signed by Kerker, available in the Cyprus Confidential data, states that the loan was for "General Corporate Purpose" which includes "onward lending to other members of the group for meeting their short term liquidity requirements."

The data show that Kerker wrote to Global Aerospace the same day on "waiver of independent legal advice regarding personal guarantee" with regard to the \$2 million loan, saying "I am a sophisticated businessman and have given personal guarantees before."

That very day, according to the data, three directors of Cox & Kings (chairman Kerker and directors Urrshila Kerker and Pesi Patel) met at 10 am in Mumbai and "approved" the corporate guarantee for the loan.

Minutes of the meetings available in the data dump note that "the meeting had been called to consider and approve

the corporate guarantee in favour of Alyo Group Limited and Global Aerospace Limited (the "Lenders") for the principal loan amount of \$3,000,000 and \$2,000,000 respectively."

Soon after, at 9 am Cyprus time, Global Aerospace Limited met at its Nicosia office "to consider the participation by the Company in an unsecured co-investment opportunity by a way of a loan to be provided to Prometheon Enterprise Limited (the 'Loan') in an effort to expand the business opportunities of the Company for the benefit of its members."

Documents accessed from the Registrar of Companies of Cyprus show that Global Aerospace Limited was re-named Global Base Re Advisory Limited from September 25, 2021. It is promoted by Eliyahu Allalouf of Tel Aviv and its two directors are George Georgiou and Theodora Kaskani.

Allalouf has 28.55 per cent stakes in it while the remaining 71.45 per cent are with a British Virgin Islands firm Transport Holding International Limited (THIL).

The THIL is again 100 per cent owned by Allalouf himself, documents show.

In India, Kerker's hard times began in 2019 when Cox & Kings was sent to a bankruptcy court in October that year after it defaulted on payments.

Cox & Kings and its promoter Kerker came under the scanner after an investigation into allegations of kickbacks taken by Rana Kapoor, Managing Director of Yes Bank, in lieu of granting loans to several companies that later defaulted on repayments. Kapoor is also in custody.

The Indian Express sent questions to Mumbai-based lawyers of Kerker and Kapoor regarding the loans but received no response.

An email sent to Eliyahu Allalouf for comments remained unanswered. Kerker's name also surfaced in the 2021 Pandora Papers investigation of *The Indian Express* in collaboration with the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists.

According to the Pandora Papers, Peter Kerker owned two BVI trusts and was connected to at least half a dozen offshore firms.

It also disclosed that between September 2015 and October 2016, Kerker, through Castleman Management, became guarantor to a \$45-million loan by Cayman Islands-based SSG Secured Lending Opportunities to Kubber Investment (Mauritius) Pvt Ltd, a shareholder of Cox and Kings.

Manipur tribal group gives ultimatum: 'Will set up self-govt'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GUWAHATI, NOVEMBER 15

A LEADER of the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum, a major Kuki-Zomi organization in Churachandpur, Wednesday gave an ultimatum that it will set up a "self government" if its demands are not met in two weeks, "whether the central government recognises it or not."

This statement was made by Muan Tombing, General Secretary of the ITLF, to media persons on the sidelines of a rally held by the body in Churachandpur on Wednesday.

"It has already been six months but nothing of our demand, that is of separate administration from the Manipur government, has been addressed. So, if the voice that we have raised in the rally is not heard, in a couple of weeks, we will set up our self government whether the central recognises it or not..." he said, in a video widely circulated. He did not respond to calls by *The Indian Express* for comments on this matter.

He made this statement during a large rally organised by the ITLF "against atrocities on Kuki-Zo tribals." According to a statement by the body, the rally was held to protest crimes against Kuki-Zomi civilians and it alleged "the cherry-picking of cases by police and central investigating agencies like CBI and NIA to appease the majority Meitei community at the expense of minority tribals."

13 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 65,675.93 ▲ 742.06 (1.14%) NIFTY: 19,675.45 ▲ 231.90 (1.19%) NIKKEI: 33,519.70 ▲ 823.77 HANG SENG: 18,079.00 ▲ 682.14 FTSE: 7,520.67 ▲ 80.20 DAX: 15,715.71 ▲ 101.28

| | | | |
|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| | | | |
| GOLD | USD RATE | OIL | SILVER |
| ₹61,210 | ₹83.12 | \$83.80 | ₹75,000 |

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) as of November 14

International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH MARKETS

Easing inflation triggers rally in bourses globally

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

GLOBAL MARKETS, including India, on Wednesday rallied as expectations of an end to a global rate hike cycle spurred on investors following benign inflation readings in the United States, Britain and India. The benchmark SENSEX shot up by 1.14 per cent, or 742 points to 65,675.93 and the NSE Nifty Index rose by 232 points to 19,675.45 in the buying euphoria.

All sectors participated in the rally with realty, IT and auto among the top performers. The broader indices also traded in sync and gained nearly a per cent each. "Nifty has decisively crossed the trend line hurdle and looks set to test 19850 now. Interestingly, noticeable contributions from heavyweights like Reliance, Infosys and TCS, which were on the sidelines, largely fuelled the rally," said a brokerage firm.

The 10-year US Treasury yield, which shocked investors by leaping over 5 per cent in October, tumbled below 4.5 per cent following the soft inflation report in the US. Dow Jones index of the New York Stock Exchange gained 1.43 per cent on Tuesday. Nasdaq rose 2.37 per cent.

"The market's strong gap-up jump in response to posi-

tive global cues on account of the softer than anticipated US and UK inflation data highlights the optimism for an end to the interest rate cycle as evidenced by the ease in bond yields," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. Infosys jumped by 2.69 per cent and TCS rose 2.03 per cent.

This is likely to draw FPI flows into emerging markets, which is good for India considering the current better earnings season and the festive demand pick-up. The drop in the retail inflation for India also improved the mood. India's annual retail inflation eased to four-month low of 4.87 per cent in October from 5.02 per cent in the previous month, government data showed on Monday

According to Deepak Jasani, Head Retail Research, HDFC Securities, signs of China's economic resilience also helped. China's retail sales rose 7.6 per cent in October. Real estate investment in January-October however was down 9.3 per cent year-on-year. China's industrial output grew 4.6 per cent in October year-on-year, accelerating from the 4.5 per cent pace seen in September. It also marked the strongest growth since April.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

INDIA'S MERCHANDISE EXPORTS JUMP 6.3% YOY, IMPORTS OVER 12%

Trade deficit hits record high in October driven by gold imports

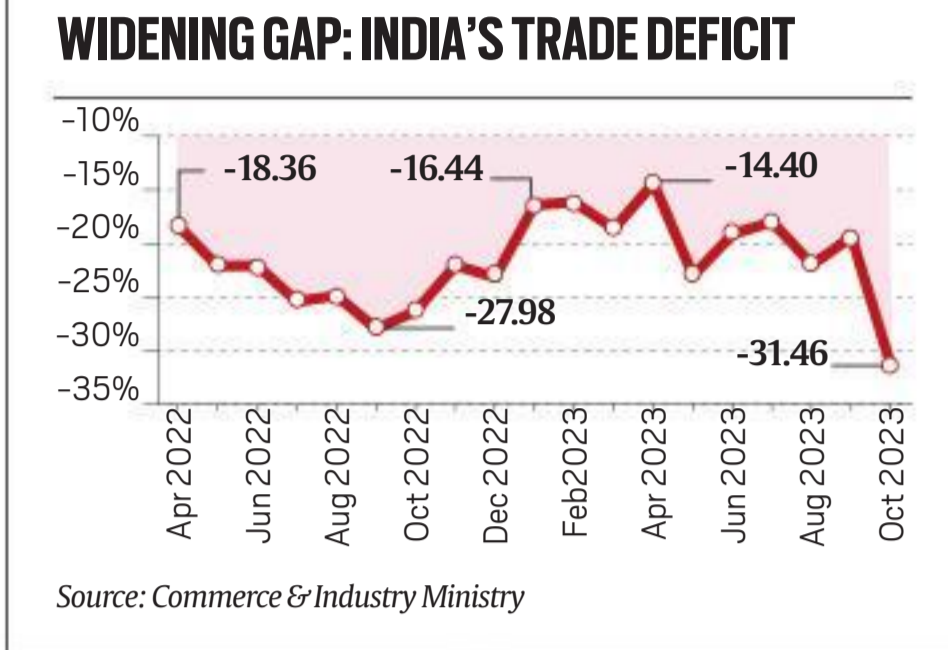
ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

DRIVEN BY gold and silver imports during the festive season, India's trade deficit in October surged to a record high even as India's goods exports entered the positive territory after eight consecutive months of decline due to weak demand in the Western countries and in China due to its property sector crisis.

The trade deficit swelled to \$31.46 billion in October after gold imports surged by a massive 95 per cent to \$7.2 billion last month compared to October last year. Festive demand also boosted Silver imports which leaped 125 per cent to \$1.31 billion, official data released by the Commerce and Industry Ministry on Wednesday showed.

While merchandise exports jumped 6.3 per cent to \$33.57 billion compared to October last year, imports surged over 12 per cent to a record \$65.03 billion. Notably, labour-intensive sectors such as gems and jewellery, textiles, and leather declined 9.82 per cent, 5 per cent, and 8.08 per cent respectively. On the contrary, outbound shipments of electronic, and engineering goods registered a steep jump of 28.23 per cent and 7.20 per cent respectively last month compared to October last year.

"Given the shift in the festive calendar, we had expected the merchandise trade deficit to enlarge to \$22.8 billion in October 2023. The higher than anticipated merchandise trade deficit was on



account of gold, oil," Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist, Head - Research & Outreach, ICRA Ltd said.

Nayar added that non-oil imports should moderate in November, along with exports given a higher number of holidays. "We foresee the trade deficit for the current month at \$22-25 billion. We continue to expect the current account deficit for FY2024 to print in a range of 1.8-2.0 per cent of GDP," she added.

Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal told reporters that trade numbers in October confirm the 'green shoots' of recovery.

"We are hoping that the positive growth in merchandise exports will be sustained in the coming months. Interest rates globally continue to be high. This affects new investment which also affects the procurement of infrastructure equipment. In a lot of Western economies, a lot of consumer loans finance the procurement of goods and if interest rates are high consumer loans are af-

ected," Barthwal said.

EETPC India Chairman Arun Kumar Garodia said that engineering goods exports have risen for the third straight month due to a favorable base.

"While the positive growth witnessed in the past months is reassuring, geo-political tensions and demand slowdown in major advanced economies continue to be a matter of concern for the exporting community. There has been so far the very limited impact of the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas on trade but should the crisis escalate it could hamper the recovery," Garodia warned.

"The positive growth in exports is good. Still, we need to see if this can be sustained. The worrisome fact is that imports too have gone up at a higher rate. The rise in import of crude and gold this year will pressure the trade balance," said Madan Sabnavis, Chief Economic Adviser, Bank of Baroda.

'No deadline for conclusion of India-UK FTA talks'

New Delhi: On the ongoing FTA negotiations with the UK, the commerce secretary Sunil Barthwal reiterated that New Delhi is not working on deadlines but on timelines. "We have internal timelines. Issues of complex nature are there and we are looking at these issues carefully," he added.

The majority of the chapters are either closed or at the advanced stage of negotiations and high-level engagements are various levels are ongoing to iron out the differences, he further told reporters.

"We continue with the 13th round of negotiations and outstanding issues are being discussed. The talks are happening at the track level and also at senior levels... to iron the differences and close it as fast as possible," an official said.

India wants a social security agreement (SSA) under the FTA. The agreement would ensure that employers are saved from making double social security contributions for the employees. ENS

FY24 fiscal deficit seen at 5.9% even if nominal GDP misses Budget assumption

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE CENTRE is confident of meeting its fiscal deficit target of 5.9 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for financial year 2023-24 even if there is any variation in nominal GDP growth as the tax revenue trend is comfortable so far, a senior government official said Wednesday. The government is not looking at any curbs on spending, with some reallocation of savings expected to happen as it looks towards additional allocation for existing or new schemes in the supplementary demands for grants in the upcoming Parliament session, the official added.

Concerns have risen about nominal GDP growth not meeting the Budget assumption of 10.5 per cent as wholesale inflation has been negative for seven consecutive months. Some estimates have pegged the nominal GDP growth to be around 9 per cent which could result in a lower GDP deflator as it is primarily made of the Wholesale Price Index (WPI). The fiscal slippage risks arise from the fact that the government's fiscal deficit target of 5.9 per cent is calculated as a percentage of the GDP. The latest print for WPI inflation rate unexpectedly fell to (-) 0.52 per cent in October, data released on November 14 showed.

"As of now, the tax trends are meeting the Budget target rate. The situation for revenues, from both direct and indirect taxes, is

well placed. Any margin of error in the nominal GDP, if at all, cannot derail Budget estimates," the official said.

Commenting on concerns about the government having a high cash balance which has led to perceptions about a reduction in public spending, the official said the build-up in cash position is temporary as there are bond repayments of around Rs 2 lakh crore lined up in November-December. "We are not restricting expenditure of any kind. Cash controls have been exempted for the first three quarters for capital expenditure, transfers for capital expenditures, and centrally sponsored schemes," the official said.

Capital expenditure reached 49 per cent or Rs 4.9 lakh crore during April-September, the first of the half of the financial year, out of its overall Budget target of Rs 10 lakh crore for 2023-24. At Rs 1.17 lakh crore in September, it was the highest-ever monthly spending by the government on account of capital expenditure in the current fiscal. The total expenditure during first half of the fiscal stood at 47.1 per cent of FY24 budget estimate of Rs 45 lakh crore compared with 46.2 per cent in the year-ago period.

Underutilised funds with various departments would be reallocated to schemes where spending is estimated to be higher or for new schemes announced recently such as the PM Vishwakarma scheme, the official said.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

UK seeking tariff concessions on electric vehicles in FTA talks

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE UK has sought tariff concessions on Electric Vehicles (EVs) during the free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations with India to gain better market access in the Indian automobile market- the world's third-largest, a government official aware of the development said on Wednesday.

This comes as London is aiming to phase out Internal combustion (IC) engines by 2035 and is aiming to boost EV exports outside beyond the

European Union. Notably, access to the Indian automobile market is one of the key asks from UK negotiators as India imposes 100% tariffs on imported cars.

The India-UK FTA that was originally slated to be signed by Diwali last year continues to be negotiated due to pending issues including consensus on rules of origin and intellectual property rights (IPR).

While the talks are in the final stages with the finalisation of 21 out of the 26 chapters both countries are headed into polls and are looking to close the deal prior to the same.



FM ON INDIAN ECONOMY

India is expected to overtake Japan and Germany to emerge as the third largest economy in the world by 2027, said Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday while addressing the Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue. @nsitharamanoffc

RBI orders Bajaj Finance to stop eCOM, Insta EMI Card loans

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday directed Bajaj Finance Ltd. to stop sanction and disbursement of loans under its two digital lending products 'eCOM' and 'Insta EMI Card', with immediate effect.

This action is necessitated due to non-adherence of the company to the extant provisions of digital lending guidelines of Reserve Bank of India, particularly non-issuance of key fact statements to the borrowers under these two lending products and the deficiencies in the key fact statements issued in respect of other digital loans sanctioned

by the company, the RBI said. These supervisory restrictions will be reviewed upon the rectification of the said deficiencies to the satisfaction of the RBI, it said.

For the borrower to proceed with the loan executing contract, a standardised key fact statement (KFS) must be produced, according to the RBI rules. KFS is mandatory to be shared with customers and will outline details of annual percentage rate (APR), terms and conditions of recovery, look-up period as well as grievance related guidelines.

A look-up period is offered to customers during which they can exit by paying principal and proportionate APR with no penalty.

Any charge or fee not men-

tioned in the KFS cannot be charged to the borrower.

In a statement, Bajaj Finance said, "We wish to submit that Key Fact Statement ('KFS') are being issued for the loans booked under the above mentioned two lending products. However, based on the supervisory concerns raised by the RBI, we will undertake a detailed review of the KFS and implement requisite corrective actions to the satisfaction of the RBI at the earliest."

"We re-affirm our commitment to rectify observations of the RBI in Key Fact Statement and comply with RBI Directions at the earliest, and will continue with our endeavor to provide seamless financial services to our customers," Bajaj Finance added.

Need for World Bank's governance indicators to be transparent: CEA

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

RAISING CONCERNS over the use of World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators in ratings assessment by credit ratings agencies, Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran on Wednesday said there is a need for these indicators to be more transparent and less subjective.

"The World Bank...has something called the World Governance Index, which unfortunately or fortunately plays a very significant part in opaque and non-transparent ways in the credit rating assessment deployed by the three credit rating agencies in assigning lettergrades to credit rating of member countries, particularly emerging markets. This World Governance Index itself is a composite of several sub-indices, which are purely based on the subjective opinions of some so-called expert institutions which do not have presence on the ground nor do they understand whether the context in

which they are making these judgements is appropriate or apt for the member countries. But these indices become an important part of the assessment methodology of the credit rating agencies and they do not reveal the extent to which these indices are implanted in their assessment process, the weights they carry, because there seems to be qualitative overlays on top of qualitative assessments," Nageswaran said at a seminar on 'Multilateral Institutions for the 21st Century' organised by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

"So, in other words the easiest way in which multilateral development banking system can help their member countries to access capital for global challenges and development needs is to ensure that their World Governance Index is transparent, less subjective and less arbitrary, more suited to the context, involves participation of developing countries, and also make sure that it's limitations are very well understood by the credit rating agencies," he added. FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

'Food prices need to moderate further'

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

EVEN THOUGH headline retail inflation rate eased in October, food inflation still remains above comfort level and there needs to be further moderation in it, a senior government official said Wednesday.

Data released on Monday showed that retail inflation dropped to a four-month low of 4.87 per cent in October even as food inflation remained broadly static at 6.6 per cent as against 6.62 per cent in September, which was revised up from 6.56 per cent.

"We would like to see a broader moderation in food prices," the official said.

Food prices are still being seen as a risk to retail inflation even as headline inflation has inched closer to 4+/- 2 per cent medium-term inflation target of Reserve Bank of India. Cereals inflation has been in double digits for 14 months in a row along with an increasing trend of inflation in egg, fruits, pulses and products, which recorded inflation rates of 9.30 per cent, 9.34 per cent and 18.79 per cent, respectively, in October.

India, US, other IPEF members ink supply chain resilience pact

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

INDIA, THE US and 12 other members of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) on Wednesday entered into a supply chain resilience agreement that aims to cut dependence on China and help shift manufacturing of crucial goods to member nations.

The 14 countries that are part of IPEF include India, Australia, the US, Japan, Fiji, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and Thailand, and make up for 40 per cent of global gross domestic product and about a third of global goods and serv-

ices trade. "India joins US and 12 other Indo-Pacific Economic Framework For Prosperity partners to ink the IPEF Supply Chain Resilience Agreement, a first-of-its-kind international agreement that will fortify and strengthen global supply chains, foster adaptability, stability and sustainability," Goyal said in a social media post.

Members of the bloc had concluded the negotiations on this agreement earlier in May.

The IPEF is structured around four pillars relating to trade, supply chains, clean economy and fair economy. India has joined all the pillars except trade.

Employees' State Insurance Corp adds 18.88 lakh new members in September

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

EMPLOYEES' STATE Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has added 18.88 lakh new workers under the ESIC Scheme in September, as per the latest payroll data.

Around 22,544 new establishments have been registered and brought under the social security umbrella of the ESIC in September, thereby ensuring more coverage, a labour ministry

The net enrolment of women members was 3.51 lakh in September

statement said. The provisional payroll data of ESIC revealed that 18.88 lakh new employees have been added in September, it said.

Data revealed that more jobs have been generated for the youth as of the 18.88 lakh employees added during

the month, 9.06 lakh employees up to the age group of 25 constitute the majority of new registrations which is 47.98 per cent of the total employees, it stated. Gender-wise analysis of the data indicates that the net enrolment of women members was 3.51 lakh in September. The data shows that 61 transgender employees have also got registered under the ESIC Scheme during the month.

The payroll data is provisional since the data generation is a continuous exercise, it added.

KMML - The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam-691 583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 2651217, E-Mail: md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE
For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in> or www.kmml.com

| Sl No | Tender ID | Items |
|-------|--------------------|--|
| 1 | 2023_KMML_621532_1 | Acid Resistant Brick Lining work of one number of Digester D (K201 D) in IBP |

Chavara 15.11.2023 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No: 1) Re-E-Tender No 211/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, 2) Re-E-Tender No 213/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN
1) AMRUT - Replacing old and damaged 700mm premo pipe (pumping main to Karavelappady pump house) by 700mm DI K9 pipe from Perumanoor pump house to Thevans - Pipeline Work, 2) AMRUT-SAAP-2017-16 Supplying, and commissioning of 1000mm DI K9 clear water main from Kaladarasana junction to new Kaloor sump & Supply, and commissioning of Pump sets and allied works at 40 LL OHSR, Kaloor- 1000mm DI K9 clear water main from Kaladarasana junction to new Kaloor sump, Pump sets and allied works- General Civil Work, EMD - Rs. 2,00,000/-, 2,00,000/-, Tender fee - Rs. 13010, 13010, Last Date for submitting Tender - 05-12-2023 03:00 pm, Phone : 0484-2360645, Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Kochi

KWA-JB-GL-6-1605-2023-24

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
(CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE) CIRCLE
TIRUVANNAMALAI

TENDER NOTICE
TENDER NOTICE NO. 37/2023-2024/HDO, DATED: 14.11.2023

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu, **Percentage tender** under two cover system through online only will be received upto 26.12.2023, 12.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tiruvannamalai Circle for **CRIDP 2023-2024 (CMRDP 4 Laning) One work (TVM-117) pertaining to Sankarapuram (H) C&M Sub Division in Kallakurichi (H), C&M Division.**

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 20.11.2023 onwards in the Government website <https://tntenders.gov.in> If any Changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

DIPP/6040/TENDER/2023

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H) C&M CIRCLE, TIRUVANNAMALAI

14 CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I,hitherto known as SHANTI DEVI,W/O NARESH KUMAR YADAV,Residing at RZ-26, Gali.No-1,East Sagar, Pur, Delhi-110046, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHANTI YADAV.
0040699174-5

I,Vinay Kumar Gupta,S/o Baij Nath Prasad R/O-17G, 515 Second-Floor,Green-View Apartment,Sector-17, Vasundhara Ghaziabad,UP-201012,have changed my name to Vinay Kumar.
0040699177-7

I,VINETA AJEET RUPA,W/O AJEET S RUPA,R/O IPH-2, Jasmine, Niho Scottish Garden, Ahinsa-Khand-2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad(UP)-201014,have changed my name to VINETA A RUPA.
0040699177-5

I,Sweta Chaudhary,W/o-Mr. Samir Kumar,R/O-Home No-258D,Second Floor,IGNOU Road,Maidan Garhi,Delhi-110068, have changed my name to Sweta Sahu,for all,future purposes.
0040699179-3

I,Supriya D/o Anil Kumar R/O J-603 Wembley Estate, Sector 49 Gurgaon (Haryana) - 122018, have changed my name to Supriya Bhardwaj.
0040699183-4

I,Sweta Tiwary,W/o Sh.Akshay Bhambril,R/o Aptment.No.001,Tower.No.A-1,Ground-Floor,Uniworld City(west), Sikokhera, Sector-30,Gurgaon,Haryana-122001, declare that Sweta and Sweta Tiwary both names are the one and same person i.e.me.
0040699177-8

I,Sanjeey Kumar Barthwal,S/O-Chander Mohan Barthwal,R/o Gaur-Saundaryam Tulip-2304, Sector-Tech Zone-4, Greater Noida-West, Utter Pradesh-201009, have changed my name Sanjeev Kumar, for all purposes.
0040699183-2

I,SUMIT DUA,S/O-RAMESH KUMAR D/O-243,2ND-FLOOR BHERA ENCLAVE PASCHIM-VIHAR,DELHI-110063, HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR SON, FROM BHAVAYA DUA TO BHAVYA DUA.
0040699174-7

I,SINNAKANDU ABDULL JALEEL MOHAMED ILYAS,S/O SINNAKANDU ABDULL JALEEL,R/O-81-T GHALIB-ROAD HAZRAT NIZAMUDDIN DELHI,HAVE CORRECTED/CHANGE MY NAME AS MOHAMED ILYAS, FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES.
0040699174-9

I,SHUMAILA W/O MOHD HAROON R/O 75, Gali.No.14,Zakir Nagar,Okhla,Delhi have changed my name to SHAMAILA.
0040699177-3

I,Ranbir Singh,S/O Sohan Singh Senwal,R/O-E-141,Sec-22,Noida,have changed my name from Ranbir Singh to Ranbir Singh Senwal,for all,future purposes.
0040699179-2

I,Rajesh Sharma S/o Ram Nagina Sharma R/o Flat No.404, Luxmi Apartment, Sector-10A, Gurugram, (Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Rajesh Kumar Sharma.
0040699183-8

I,Rajan,S/O-Sh.Ashok Kumar Sharma,R/O-WZ-106(A),Ram Nagar,Tilak Nagar,New Delhi-110018,have changed my name to Rajan Sharma,for all,future purposes.
0040699179-1

I, RAM KRISHNA KHARKWAL,S/O-GOPAL DATT KHARKWAL,R/O FLAT.NO.507/508 ALKANANDA-APARTMENT,SECTOR-4 VAISHALI,GHAZIABAD,UTTAR PRADESH-201010,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME RAMKRISHAN KHARKWAL, FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSES.
0040699177-2

I,Poonam,W/o Parveen Kuchhal,R/O-394, sector-15 sonipat, have changed my name to Poonam Gupta, for all purposes.
0040699179-8

I,PAWAN VERMA,S/O KANWAR LAL VERMA R/O C-10,Mukhram Garden,Tilak-Nagar, Delhi-110018,have changed my name to PAWAN KUMAR.
0040699174-6

I,Md Momin Shaikh,S/o late Mujamil Hussain born on 01/03/1965 residing at Vill-Jaluguti (Luchonbari),P.O.-Jaluguti, dist-Morigaon (Assam), have changed my name to Momin Sheikh before Notary Public at Morigaon (Assam) vide Affidavit dt 10/11/2023.
0050230761-1

I,M.D. SAHIL/S/O MOHAMMAD MUMTAZ, R/O NNG-580, Viklang Colony, Asare-Vojna,Nandgram,Ghaziabad(U P) have changed my name to MOHAMMAD SAHIL SHEIKH,for all purposes.
0040699177-4

I,Jitendra Singh S/O Ramavtar Singh R/O H.No.-187, Rajapur Khadar, Palwal (Haryana) - 121102, have changed my name to Jitender Singh.
0040699183-5

I,JYOTI D/O ANIL KUMAR,R/O H.NO.671, NEAR JETTY, BADEM ASSAGAO BARDEZ, ANJUNA,NORTH GOA,GOA-403509 changed my name to JYOTI KUMAR.
0040699174-3

I,KARABI MANDAL aged about 56 years,D/o Late G.C.Mandal,R/O-QTR IV/1 Kendriya Vidyalaya Masjid Mohd Sector-3,Sadiq Nagar, New Delhi.Have changed my name from Karabi to Karabi Mandal for all future purposes.
0040699179-6

I,Narayan Sahu,S/O Late Sh.Raju Sahu,R/O 26 Hansi Road, Indra Chakarvati Gram, Karnal (Rural) Part-1,Karnal,Haryana-132001, That in my-10th class certificate and marksheet issued by Board of School Education,Haryana mine and my father name has been wrongly-written as Narayan instead of Narayan Sahu and Raju Shah instead of Raju Sahu which may be amended accordingly,for all,future purposes.
0040699177-10

I,JASNA SANEESH,SPOUSE OF,SANEESH KUMAR V S,RESIDENT OF,CHAPPANGULLAKANDY, KARIYATHAN KAVU, KOZHIKODE,KERALA,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM JASNA SANEESH TO JASNA C K.VIDE-AFFIDAVIT DATED-15-NOV-23.
0040699177-9

I,Isha Sarna W/O. Late Mohit Gupta,R/O-A-5/16,3rd Floor,Agreschen Model Town-III,Delhi-110009, have changed my name to Isha Gupta.
0040699183-1

I,Heena w/o Mohd Javed, R/O C-12/20, F/F, Yamuna Vihar, North East-Delhi. Pin:-110053,,have changed my Name from Heena to Heena Saifi,for all,future purposes.
0040699174-10

I,Deepak,S/O Satya Narain,R/O,H.No.79/3, Ward No-4 Sabji Mandi,Pataudi-Gurgaon (Haryana)-122001,have changed my name to Deepak Mudgil.
0070874227-1

I, Shiv Shanker S/O, Sh Devi Prasad Mishra R/O A-866 Budha Marg Mandawali Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Shiv Shankar Mishra for all purposes.
0040699178-1

I, Taranjit Kaur, W/O-Manjeet Singh Aulakh R/O:WZ-49H, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018 Have Changed My Name to Taranjit Kaur Aulakh for all Purposes.
0070874264-1

I, Tript Kaur W/O Late Manjeet Singh R/O:WZ-41A/2, Street.No-10, Sant Garg, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018 My Husband Name Wrongly Mention in My Passport as Late Manjeet Singh. Actual Name of My Husband is Late Manjeet Singh Viridi for all Purposes.
0070874281-1

I, Vikram Dutta S/O Sh.Inder Dutta R/O-H.No.667, Sector-21C, NIT Faridabad, Haryana-121001, have changed my minor son's name Rudra Dutta to Arjan Rudra Dutta, for all future purposes.
0040699193-1

I, Vikram Madan S/O Shri Sunil Madan, R/O T/6/602, Paras Seasons, Sector-168, Noida-201305, do hereby declare that Daksh Vikram Madan and Daksh Madan are same boy. Henceforth I have changed my minor son's name from Daksh Vikram Madan (Aged 11 years) to Daksh Madan for all future purposes.
0040699117-1

I, Virat S/O Sushil R/O Flat No-1101, Tower-7, Exotica Dreamville, Gaur City-2, Sector-16C, Greater Noida West, UP-201318 have changed my name to VIRAT WALIA for all future purposes.
0070874244-1

I, Vivek Chaturvedi S/O Rakesh Chaturvedi R/O B-1403, Elite Golf Greens, Sec-79, Noida G.B.Nagar UP, confirm that in my Passport No.E8653652, my father name was wrongly written as Rajiv Chaturvedi instead of correct name Rakesh Chaturvedi. Correct name of my Father is Rakesh Chaturvedi.
0070874222-1

I, WASEEM HASAN, S/O. SAGHIR HASSAN, R/O A-115, A-BLOCK, JOSHI COLONY, I.P., EXT., PATPARGANJ DELHI-92, Changed my name to WASEEM HASSAN, for all future purposes.
0070874224-1

I,AJEET SHEPHARD RUPA,S/O JULIUS WALTER RUPA,R/O IPH-2,Jasmine, Niho Scottish-Garden,Ahinsa Khand-2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad(UP)-201014,have changed my name to AJEET S. RUPA.
0040699177-6

I,AMRIT PAL SINGH,S/O KULDEEP SINGH R/O A-2/17,MODEL TOWN-1,DELHI-110009,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO AMRIT PAL SINGH (SURNAME)
0040699174-8

I,ANISH AHAMAD,S/O HASEENULLAH,R/O VILLAGE BHAU PUR POST GOPALA PUR DISTT JAUN PUR,UP-P 222137,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ANEES-AHAMAD.
0040699179-5

I,ASHOK RATHI,S/O,SHREE GOPAL RATHI, ADD-F-8/5, MODEL-TOWN-2,NEAR-MODEL TOWN CLUB GTB-NAGAR MODEL TOWN-II,NORTH WEST-DELHI-110009, changed my name to ASHOK KUMAR RATHI,for all,future purposes.
0040699179-4

I, RANE S/O SARANDHOJ KHAWAS r/o Babubasa, CHAMPASARI, Darjeeling, West Bengal-734003 have changed my name to RANEY KHAWAS permanently.
0040699119-1

I,Ayushi D/o Sh.Anil Kumar Sharma,R/O C-503,New Kanchan Junga Plot-No.01, Dwarka, Sector-23, Delhi-110077, have changed my name to Ayushi Kaushik.
0040699174-2

I,Ambreen Ashraf,W/O-Fateen Ashraf Siddiqui,R/O D-39,4th-Floor,Abul-Fazal Enclave, Jamia-Nagar,New-Delhi-110025,have changed my name,from Asmat Aara,to Ambreen Ashraf,for all purposes.
0040699179-7

I,ASHOK S/O ANIL KUMAR,R/O H.NO-13B NEAR-NANAK PAYA GOPAL-NAGAR EXTENSION MITRAON NAJAFGARH SOUTH WEST,DELHI-110043,changed my name to ASHOK KUMAR.
0040699174-4

I,Sonu S/O Lokesh R/O Near main Market, Mohna(204) Faridabad (Haryana)-121004,have changed my name to Sonu Verma.
0040699183-6

I, Shagun Garg S/O Rajesh Kumar R/O B-17, Sector-36, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my minor daughter's name from THIA to THIA GARG for all purposes.
0040699115-1

I, SAMIR SHARADBHAI NAYAK father of SARVINI NAYAK, holder of Indian Passport No Z4982856, issued at DUBAI on 04.02.2019, permanent resident of A-502 SAI TOWER CHS LTD NEAR OLD MHB COLONY GORAI RD BORIVALI WEST MUMBAI-400091 and presently residing at 302 SALEH BIN LAHEJ BUILDING 338 OUD METHA DUBAI UAE do hereby change my daughter name holding Indian Passport No V7753328 issued at DUBAI on 21.06.2021 from SARVI NAYAK to SARVI SAMIR NAYAK, with immediate effect.
0070874227-1

I, Shikha Choudhary W/O Rahul Singh Bana R/O-306, Tower-6, Civiltch Apartment, Sec-7, Vaishali, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Shikha Singh Bana.
0070874251-1

I, RAJENDER KUMAR S/O CHANDERU R/O B-146, GALI NO.11, NEAR 30 FUTAA ROAD, JOHRI PUR EXTN., NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110094. Have changed my name to RAJENDRA KUMAR FOR all future purposes.
0070874277-1

I, Rajan S/O Om Parkash R/O 14/5, First Floor, Shakti Nagar, Delhi-110007 have changed my name to Rajan Sharma.
0070874225-1

I, Pradeep Kumar S/O Ramavtar Aggarwal R/O House No. 3249 Housing Board Colony Sector-3 Ballabgarh Dist. Faridabad, Haryana (121004), have changed my name from Pradeep Kumar to Pradeep Kumar Aggarwal for all future purposes.
0070874278-1

I, NS Shah S/O Bhur Singh Shah R/O B-5017, 14th Avenue, Gaur City-2, Sector-162, Greater Noida West, UP-201318 have changed my name to NARENDRA SINGH SHAH for all future purposes.
0070874257-1

I, Minakshi Kaur Alias Minakshi, W/O Mandeep Singh R/O-104, Vishnu Garden, Tilak Nagar, West Delhi-110018. have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Meenakshi
0070874253-1

I, Mohammad Javed S/O Mahmood Ali R/O-289, 3rd-Floor, Abul Fazal Enclave-1, Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Mohd Javed for all Purposes
0070874256-1

I, Manjeet Singh S/O-Satnam Singh R/O:WZ-49H, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018 Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name from Arshdeep Kaur to Arshdeep Kaur Aulakh for all Purposes.
0070874270-1

I, Manjeet Singh Aulakh R/O:WZ-49H, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018 Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name from Sidak Kaur to Sidak Kaur Aulakh for all Purposes.
0070874273-1

I, LAMA DEOKI w/o RANEY KHAWAS r/o Babubasa, CHAMPASARI, Darjeeling, West Bengal-734003 have changed my name to DEWKI KHAWAS permanently.
0040699119-2

I, Km Shikha W/o Rahul Singh Bana R/O-306, Tower-6, Civiltch Apartment, Sec-7, Vaishali, Ghaziabad have changed my name to Shikha Singh Bana.
0070874254-1

I, Bano Begum S/O Isak R/O -38, Madapur, Mustafabad, Pilkhuwa, Hapur, UP have changed my name to Bano Khatoon.
0070874249-1

I, Balasubramanian Murali, R/O:C4H/168B, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058,Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name,from Srivedika, Sri Vedika to Srivedika Dixidar,for all Purposes.
0040699177-1

I, Akshay Jain S/O Praveen Kumar Jain, R/O R P-91, Pitampura, North West Delhi-110034, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Jaivik Jain.
0070874259-1

I, AADITYA VIKRAM MALIK S/O RAJEEV MALIK R/O 16, B-1 JANAK PURI NEW DELHI-110058 have changed my name to ADITYA MALIK for all future purposes.
0040699155-1

TRAMA Mahto S/O Madan Lal R/O Q-3/17, DDA Flat, Sector-4 Rohini Rohini Sector-7, North West Delhi-110085 Have Changed My Name to Kailash for All Purposes.
0040699123-1

T,Umtila, W/o Rambir Singh, R/O F03, sector 3, Ferozepur, Palwal Haryana-121102. I have changed my name to Urmila Singh for future purposes.
0070874240-1

TNarender Kumar S/O Devinder Singh R/o 336 Rani khera old chopal rani khera north west Delhi-110081 confirm that in my Driving license my father name has been wrongly written as Devinder instead of Devinder. My father correct name is Devinder for all future purposes
0070874284-1

T Najma Abid W/O Syed Abid Ali R/O H.NO. 2741, Gali Chandni Walli, Churi Walan, Pahari Bhojla, Delhi-110006, have changed my name to 'Najma Begum' Vide Affidavit IN-DL93398559344192V at Delhi
0130038087-1

TGopal Krishan Father of Amol R/O Flat No. A-501, The Rama C.G.H.S, Sector-43, Gurgaon Haryana-122003, have changed my minor son name Amol To Amol Khatri.
0040699183-3

T,Har Krishan Lal S/o Jai Dayal, R/O Chhabra nursing home, H.no-1 Teachers colony, sonipat have changed my name to Har Krishan Lal Chhabra, for all purposes.
0040698428-2

SITUATION VACANT OTHERS Urgently requires motivated, hard working and committed Vice Principal. Post graded in any field B.Ed/M.ed with minimum 15 years experience in education & Teaching. Contact: Lt. Col.Mehar Little Angels-Senior Secondary-School-#011-25268053, 011-25275108.
0040699198-1

TECHNICAL Architect /Civil Engineer/ Steel Draftsman. ashscpepl@gmail.com <mailto:ashscpepl@gmail.com>, Walkin -3, Sulochana, Sec-16A, Vashi, Mob : 9820419561
0050230515-1

Padmashri Dr N P Seshadri 2.1.1929 to 16.11.2009 14th Anniversary Distinguished Scholar, Musicologist, Administrator and Founder National Cultural Organisation.
Homage by **Padmashri Dr N P Seshadri Charitable Trust New Delhi - 9810097129.**

PUBLIC NOTICE MY CLIENT KRISHAN LAL GAMBHIR S/O LATE SHRI HEMRAJ GAMBHIR R/O HOUSE NO F 307 IRWDO CLASSIC APARTMENT, RAIL VIHAR SECTOR 67 GURUGRAM- 122003 SEVERE ALL RELATIONS AND DEBAR HER SON CHANDAN GAMBHIR AND HIS WIFE RAJNI GAMBHIR, GRANDSONS PUNIT GAMBHIR AND AKSHAT GAMBHIR, DAUGHTER MONA KATHALIYA W/O ANIL KATHALIYA ALONGWITH HER CHILDREN SAKSHI KATHALIYA AND ADITYA KATHALIYA FROM ENTIRE MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES AND ASSETS DUE TO THEIR HOSTILE BEHAVIOUR, MENTAL AND PHYSICAL TORTURE MY CLIENT SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OF THEIR ACTS, DEBTS AND DEEDS IN FUTURE.
Sd/- DR. SUDERSHAN KUMAR Enrt. No. 07032014, Advocate C.No. 1105, L.C.B. Rohini Court, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE It is for general information that I, DEBASHISH ROY SH. P.K. RAY R/O B-6, TOWER-3, TYPE-4, NROCC GPRA COMPLEX, KIDWAI NAGAR EAST, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110023 declare that name of my minor son aged 15 years has been wrongly written as ADITYA ROY instead of AADITYA ROY in his school record. The actual name of my minor son is AADITYA ROY which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.
Sd/- DR. SUDERSHAN KUMAR Enrt. No. 07032014, Advocate C.No. 1105, L.C.B. Rohini Court, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Mahavir Parsad Dimri has acquired Plot No. A-29, area 50 sq. yds., Kharsa No. 601, Village Nawada Majra Hastsal Delhi, area abadi known as Mohan Garden Extension, New Delhi vide G.P.A. dt. 31.10.1995 executed by Mr. Rakesh Kumar and Now Mr. Mahavir Parsad Dimri is the undisputed owner of above said property. Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client.
Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) H.No. 28/11, Bawank, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi-110024

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE is hereby given that Mr. Brij Bhushan Kumar, Mr. Pratyag Kumar & Mr. Anjum Garg (hereinafter referred to as the said Mortgagees/Borrowers), are purchasing Plot No. A-51, Ground Floor, Block No. A, New Shakti (G-1) known as Shakti Apartments, Plot No. 5, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi from Mr. Rakesh Kapoor & Smt. Anika Kapoor who are it's absolute owners, by virtue of Conveyance Deed dt. 25.07.2022 regd. as Doc. No. 11199 read with Gift Deed dated 03.02.2023 regd. as Doc. No. 1309. The Borrowers will create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our clients IFC First Bank Ltd., 2nd Floor, Express Building-9-10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002. Any person, body, individual, institution having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, assignment, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary disposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title documents pertaining to the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned on or before 10 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claims of such person shall be treated as waived and/or abandoned. Any objections raised after the completion of the 10 days shall not be binding upon the said property or my client.
Ms. Priya Rathi (Advocate) A-38, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-110048 Tel. +91-1149745454

PUBLIC NOTICE The general public is hereby informed that my client Mr. Fateh Naseem S/O Mohd Sayeed R/O 909 Gali Chah Shiri Farash Khasa Delhi-110006 have severed all their relations and connections with their son, Sumair Naseem. My clients have disowned/disinherited and departed from all their movable and immovable properties/ assets, etc. wherever situated as well as they are out of control with my client. Anyone who's dealing with them will do so at his/her/their own risk and responsibility and my client will not be held responsible for any actions, debts, etc.
SK GUPTA (Advocate) En. No. R-1048/08

PUBLIC NOTICE General Public is hereby informed that my client Sh. Ranjpal S/o Late Sh. Kundan Singh R/O A-126, Ghauri, Near Shiv Mandir Chowk, New Delhi-96, have severed all his relations with his grandson Jitender S/o Late Sh. Charanpal and his wife Mrs. Anil and his mother Smt. Manoj W/o Late Sh. Narain, disowned/Debarred them from all his movable-immovable properties due to their bad habits. Anybody dealing with them will do so at his/her/their own risk and responsibility and my client will not be responsible for any act, deed or dealing done by them.
Sushila (Advocate) Old Chambers Off E-21, LJP Lajpat Nagar-1, New Delhi-24

PUBLIC NOTICE Whereas License No. 56 of 2013 dated 07.02.2013, is granted by Director, Town & Country Planning, Haryana (DTPC) in favor of AMB Infrabuild Pvt. Ltd (AMB), corporate office at 18, Second Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon-122003, to develop a commercial colony over an area measuring 10.4375 acres (4.2239 hectare) in Sector-88, Gurugram, Haryana, bearing HRERA no 40 of 2022 dated 23.05.2022.
And whereas, 'Change of developer' in-principle approval (said approval) has been granted to Advance India Projects limited (AIPL), registered office - AIFP Business Club, 5th Floor, Golf course Road Extension, Sector 62 Gurugram 122101, by DTPC vide Memo No. LC-2865/JE (SK)/ 2023/ 38237 dated 09.11.2023 for the said licence no 56 of 2013 dated 07.02.2013 to develop a commercial colony over an area measuring 10.4375 acres (4.2239 hectare) in Sector-88, Gurugram, Haryana, bearing HRERA no 40 of 2022 dated 23.05.2022.

PUBLIC NOTICE Where as License No. 56 of 2013 dated 07.02.2013, is granted by Director, Town & Country Planning, Haryana (DTPC) in favor of AMB Infrabuild Pvt. Ltd (AMB), corporate office at 18, Second Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon-122003, to develop a commercial colony over an area measuring 10.4375 acres (4.2239 hectare) in Sector-88, Gurugram, Haryana, bearing HRERA no 40 of 2022 dated 23.05.2022.
And whereas, the office of the DTPC requires seeking of objections/suggestion against the said approval. Accordingly, vide this Public Notice, suggestion/objections, if any, are hereby invited on the Change of developer in favor of Advance India Projects limited vide Memo No. LC-2865/JE (SK)/ 2023/ 38237 dated 09.11.2023 which is hosted on a) website www.ambgroup.in, also copy is available b) AMB corporate office at -18, Second Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon-122003 and also copy is available at c) AIFP Registered office at AIFP Business Club, 5th Floor, Golf course Road Extension, Sector 62 Gurugram 122101 and d) in the office of Senior Town Planner, Sector 14, HUDA Complex - 3rd Floor, Gurugram Town & Country Planning, Gurugram, Haryana.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER Sr. DEE (G), South Eastern Railway, Chakradharpur acting for & on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders against open tender. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. SI.No.: 1. E-Tender Notice No.: 42-EL-WT-2023-24, Date: 14.11.2023. Name of work: Electrical (G) works in connection with the Development of public siding at Haludupukur (HLD) station. Tender Value: ₹ 21,03,287.22. EMD: ₹ 42,100. SI.No.: 2. E-Tender Notice No.: 43-EL-WT-2023-24, Date: 14.11.2023. Name of work: Electrical (G) works in connection with the work of Soft up gradation of JSG, ROU, BBN & RRP Rly stations over CKP Division. Tender Value: ₹ 3,16,17,637.66. EMD: ₹ 3,08,100. SI.No.: 3. E-Tender Notice No.: 44-EL-WT-2023-24, Date: 14.11.2023. Name of work: Improvement of rake examination facilities at Departure yard. Tender Value: ₹ 1,60,29,850.77. EMD: ₹ 2,30,200. Tender Document Cost: Nil (for SI.No. 1 to 3 each). The date of Closing/Opening: 13.12.2023 at 15.00 hrs. (for SI.No. 1 to 3 each). The tender can be viewed at website http://www.irops.gov.in. The tender/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. (PR-814)

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION e-Procurement Tender Notice No: 32/2023-24/SE(P-JI & WSM)/EE(PD-I)/DB/GV/MC Dt.15.11.2023 Number of works- 13, Value of works: Rs.5.79 Crores Tender Opening Dt.15.11.2023, Closing Date. 30.11.2023 Note: Further details at http://www.tender.appecurement.gov.in O/o the EE (PD-I) Cell No.9848308824 Note: For any other details regarding in respect of above Tender Notice, please contact E.E (PD-1) @ www.appecurement.gov.in website. Sd/- Commissioner, GVMC, Visakhapatnam

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED 1st & Ground Floor, I.T. Bhawan, Mehli, Shimla -171 013 Tel. No. 0177-2623259, 2623513, 2626230, 2623043, FAX: 0177-2626320, Website: www.hpsecd.in No.: SEDC/ST/Agisac/2k23-12473 Date: 14.11.2023

E-TENDER NOTICE e-Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Rate Contract of Procurement of Geospatial Software for one year period. Last date for online e-bid submission is 24.11.2023 (upto 02.30 P.M.) and shall be opened on 25.11.2023 at 2.30 P.M. Detailed Tender Document containing Technical Specifications and Terms & Conditions are available on HPSEDC website www.hpsecd.in and https://hntenders.gov.in/ 0866/HN General Manager (Technical)

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY Corrigendum Tender No. 08235002, Batch No: 202A/23, Dated: 15.11.2023 E-Tender Notice for supply of materials "participation in through" web portal of IREPS-www.irops.gov.in offers are invited for supply of the following materials: The closing time for all tenders is at 14.00 hr. SI. No. 1, Item: Date of opening, Existing Entry: 28.11.2023, To be read as: Cancelled Participants are required to submit their offer only on

EXPLAINED ECONOMICS

Subrata Roy's crumbling business empire

The Sahara group once owned an airline, sports teams, hotels in London and New York, financial companies, mutual funds and life insurance companies, the Aamby Valley township, and a huge land bank. The group is in serious trouble, and most of these assets are now under attachment or have been sold

GEORGE MATHEW
 MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

SUBRATA ROY, who started with a capital of just Rs 2,000, built a business empire by collecting deposits from millions of poor and rural Indians with limited or no access to formal banking services. The cookie crumbled after the markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) moved against him for alleged illegal mobilisation of funds.

Sahara, the group of which Roy called himself the Managing Worker, once owned an airline, an F1 team, an IPL team, hotels in London and New York, financial companies, a mutual funds and a life insurance company, the Aamby Valley township outside Pune, and a huge land bank.

Most of these assets are now either under attachment or have been sold to pay back investors.

Fund-raising plan blocked

Sahara's troubles began after SEBI turned its lens on more than Rs 24,000 crore collected from 3 crore individuals through Sahara Housing Investment Corporation Ltd (SHICL) and Sahara India Real Estate Corporation Ltd (SIRECL) on Optionally Fully Convertible Debentures issued by the two companies. In 2010, SEBI ordered Sahara to refund the money to investors, and banned the two Sahara companies and Roy from raising money from the public.

In 2014, it was reported that only 4,600

investors had come forward to collect the refund. SEBI was unable to trace the rest of the investors.

On March 4 of that year, Roy was sent to jail for contempt in not depositing a sum of Rs 10,000 crore with SEBI. The Supreme Court ordered that he would not be released until he brought in Rs 5,000 crore in cash and Rs 5,000 crore by way of bank guarantees.

In 2013, Sahara sent 127 trucks containing 31,669 cartons full of more than 3 crore application forms, and 2 crore redemption vouchers to the SEBI office.

Luxury hotels sold to pay SEBI

Despite the regulatory ban on the group's core business of fund mobilisation from small retail investors, Sahara bought three overseas hotels, Grosvenor House in London, and the New York Plaza and Dream New York hotels in New York, in 2010.

In 2017, however, the group sold its stake in Grosvenor House for £575 million to clear its dues to SEBI. The Plaza Hotel, one of New York's most iconic buildings, was fully acquired by a fund owned by the Qatari government for about \$600 million, and Dream New York was sold as well.

The group still operates the Sahara Star hotel near the Mumbai airport.

Realty projects across India

In 2013, following a direction by the Supreme Court, SEBI ordered attachment of all properties and bank accounts of the Sahara group and its top executives, including Subrata Roy, and gave HDFC Realty and



Subrata Roy and three other top executives of the Sahara group were questioned by SEBI officials in April 2013. Pradip Das/Express Archive

SBI Capital Markets the mandate to auction 60 Sahara properties in multiple states across India, from Uttarakhand to Kerala and Gujarat to Assam.

There is no official word on whether the auctioneers succeeded in selling the land and realising the expected amounts. Most of these assets are under litigation, and may not have had many takers, a market source said.

Aamby Valley auction stalled

Out of Sahara's total land bank of 33,633 acres, Aamby Valley in the scenic Sahyadri mountains near Lonavala, accounts for 10,600 acres. In 2018, the Supreme Court allowed the Sahara group to sell the Aamby Valley township, spread over 6,700 acres in Pune district, in parts through a court-appointed liquidator.

The auction began in August 2018 with the liquidator inviting bids at a reserve price of Rs 37,392 crore, but the process has not succeeded. In 2023, the Supreme Court rejected a plea by Sahara to lift the attachment of the Aamby Valley project and to allow it to sell 26 per cent stake to Royal Partners Investment Fund for \$1.6 billion.

Air Sahara sold to Jet Airways

Sahara India Airlines began operations on December 3, 1993, and was rebranded as Air Sahara in 2000. As losses mounted, however, Jet Airways Ltd took over its smaller rival for Rs 1,450 crore in 2007, and subsequently rechristened it JetLite.

Sahara later filed a petition claiming that Jet had defaulted on the instalment amount, and it was, therefore, liable to pay the original deal amount of Rs 2,000 crore and not the re-negotiated amount of Rs 1,450 crore. Jet's troubled acquisition of Air Sahara was one of the reasons for its own collapse.

Crash of the Formula 1 dream

In 2011, Sahara decided to put in \$100 million for the development of the F1 racing team Sahara Force India. The Sahara group was to be issued fresh shares of Watson Limited, which owned the team, and liquor baron Vijay Mallya and Roy's group would own 42.5 per cent each, with the remaining 15 per cent equity staying with the family of the Dutch businessman Michiel Mol.

The F1 dream didn't last long. In August 2018, the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), the governing body for F1,

announced that Sahara Force India had become Racing Point Force India after an asset sale by administrators to a consortium led by Canadian billionaire Lawrence Stroll.

MF business fails to take off

Sahara's plans in mutual funds also didn't work out. In July 2015, SEBI cancelled the registration of Sahara Mutual Fund saying it was no longer "fit and proper" to carry out this business, and ordered the transfer of its operations to another fund house.

Sahara was then one of the smallest fund houses with just Rs 134 crore assets under management. The regulator also cancelled Sahara's portfolio management licence.

Insurance arm in legal tangle

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) gave Sahara India Life Insurance a Certificate of Registration in 2004 to transact the business of life insurance. On December 30, 2020, the regulator issued an order saying Sahara India Life was no longer a "fit and proper" promoter, and that the shareholding of the promoters should be transferred to any other "fit and proper" promoter within six months. Following certain questions of financial propriety and governance, IRDAI had appointed an administrator to manage the insurer's business in 2017.

In June 2023, the Securities Appellate Tribunal stayed IRDAI's order directing the transfer of policy liabilities of around 2 lakh policies along with the assets of Sahara group firm to SBI Life Insurance Company.

EXPLAINED INFRA

To build tunnel, rock must be thoroughly examined..., more time spent on studies

EXPERT EXPLAINS
MANOJ GARNAYAK

AN UNDER-CONSTRUCTION tunnel on the Yamunotri National Highway in Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi district collapsed at dawn on Sunday, trapping 40 workers inside. While an official report is awaited, this is how it could have happened — and perhaps how it could have been prevented.

What could have caused a part of the tunnel to cave in?

The failure (the section that has collapsed) is located around 200-300 metres from the mouth of the tunnel. It could have happened due to a loose patch (of rock), which wasn't visible during the construction. The patch might have consisted of fractured or fragile rock, that is, rock with a lot of joints that may have made it weak.

Another reason could be the seepage of water through a loose patch. Water erodes loose rock particles over time, creating a void on the top of the tunnel, which can't be seen. However, these are only general principles, and we must wait for the results of a comprehensive investigation in this case.

What are the ways in which tunnels are excavated in rock?

There are essentially two ways: the drill and blast method (DBM), and by using tunnel-boring machines (TBMs).

DBM involves drilling holes into the rock and loading them with explosives. When the explosives are detonated, the rock breaks apart.

Building a tunnel with a TBM is more expensive than DBM, but much safer. TBMs bore the rock from the front (using a rotating head) while supporting the excavating tunnel behind the machine by installing precast concrete segments.

In India, imported TBMs are used. Each of these machines can cost up to Rs 200 crore.

Does the method of excavation depend on the type of terrain?

A TBM can't be used to drill through very tall mountains. Creating a void through a 1,000-2,000-metre-high mountain by using a TBM leads to rock burst — when a part of the rock suddenly falls due to high stress.

TBMs are ideal for situations in which the rock cover is up to 400 metres tall. Underground tunnels for the Delhi Metro were dug using a TBM at shallow depth. On the other hand, in places like the Himalayas, including Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand, DBM is usually used.

Is the Himalayan region too fragile to tunnel through?

Geologically speaking, the Himalayas are still young (they were formed between 40 million and 50 million years ago) and they



A part of the tunnel in Uttarkashi district has collapsed, walling up the passage. PTI

Tunnel-in-tunnel: How new rescue op is being planned

AVANEESH MISHRA
 DEHRADUN, NOVEMBER 15

AS THE fourth day of operations to reach the 40 workers trapped in the under-construction tunnel in Uttarakhand drew to a close, rescuers prepared to try a new way forward — burrowing horizontally underground without disturbing the loose rock and debris on the surface.

Attempts to smash through the pile of rubble using diggers have not succeeded as the loose, crumbly rock continues to fall, blocking the passage with fresh debris even as a path is cleared. By Monday night, heavy excavators had removed 21 metres of debris, but new debris showers had undone a third of the work, restricting progress to only 14 metres.

Rescuers had planned to abandon the traditional method and start on a new "trenchless" technique of digging on Wednesday, using an auger machine to drill a passage through the debris, in which 900 mm wide mild steel (MS) pipes would be inserted to create a narrow but stable passage for the workers or rescuers to crawl through. An auger is a tool or device with a helical — that is, spiral or screw-like — shaft that is used to bore a hole.

Uttarakhand Secretary (Disaster Management) Ranjit Sinha said such a "tunnel inside a tunnel" would be used in a rescue operation for the first time in India. The operation could not start on Wednesday as the machine at the site could not carry out the task; two C-130 Hercules military transport aircraft then flew in a larger and more modern American-built "horizontal dry drilling equipment with auger" in three parts from Delhi. The tunnelling is now expected to begin on Thursday.

Trenchless technique

Trenchless technology refers to a set of construction methods used to install, repair, or rehabilitate underground infrastructure without the need for extensive excavation or open trenches. This minimises surface disruption, reduces the environmental impact, and often produces results sooner and more cost-effectively compared with traditional digging methods. Trenchless techniques are extensively used in sewage systems, including for installation, repair, and rehabilitation.

Mild Steel pipes

After a tunnel has been created under the surface by horizontal directional drilling by an auger machine, MS pipes, also known as carbon steel pipes, will be put in to create a stable passageway. MS pipes are made from a type of steel with a low percentage of carbon — usually less than 0.25 per cent — and are used across industries due to their versatility, strength, and cost-effectiveness.

Horizontal auger

A horizontal auger machine is essentially a giant drill that worms its way through debris. It consists of a helical screw blade (auger) that is attached to a rotating shaft, which bores through concrete, wood, or rubble. Some auger machines have mechanisms to clear or extract debris from the passage as they progress. In this case, the rescuers plan to use slopes to extract the debris as it is pushed away from the drilled hole.

The passage must be long enough to reach the workers, and it must not crumble during the progress of the operation. To prevent the pipes from shifting or collapsing, bracing or shoring methods could be used to secure them.

are still growing due to the collision between the Indian tectonic plate and the Eurasian tectonic plate.

There are some patches where the rock is indeed too fragile for a tunnel. But at other places, the rock is very good.

I have worked in the Himalayan region and built tunnels without facing major issues. We witnessed very small failures, which were rectified immediately by fixing the crown of the tunnel. So, even though in some places the rock is fractured or fragile, there are technical solutions to fix it.

Also, tunnels do not destroy the ecology of the mountain or hill. Tunnel-building technology is around 200 years old and, if executed properly, tunnels aren't dangerous.

What is the key aspect of building a tunnel?

The first and foremost thing is to thoroughly investigate the rock through which a tunnel is proposed to be made. This is done by sending seismic refraction waves through the rock to check which patches are fragile or solid.

In India, engineers dig a borehole into the rock to extract a core sample, and send it for petrographic analysis (microscopic examination to determine the mineral content, grain size, texture and other features that have a bearing on the mechanical behaviour of the sample). Such investigations help determine if the rock can take the load of the overburden when a tunnel is created. If the rock layer and its strength are good, it takes the entire load of the overburden by redistribution of the stresses, and it remains stable.

What does it take to construct a stable tunnel?

First, even after excavation and providing support for the tunnel, we need to monitor the spot. It's essential to check how the rock is behaving at various places. Monitoring is done by instruments such as stress meters and deformations meters.

Then, the supports provided to the tunnel need to be tested for adequacy. Supports can be of various types — including shotcrete (sprayed concrete that works as a membrane to prevent parts of the rock from falling), rock bolt (a long anchor bolt for stabilising rock excavations), steel ribs or beams, and tunnel pipe umbrella, built by using steel tubes that can hold really fragile rocks.

It is also important that an independent specialist geologist visits the tunnel for examination and to check for probable failures. They will also determine the rock's stand-up time — the duration for which a rock can remain stable without any support. Support is given to the rock within its stand-up time.

Most importantly, in India, more time needs to be spent on studies before starting the construction. Currently, design and construction of a tunnel project is done simultaneously.

Manoj Garnayak is a former project director at L&T and an expert in underground construction. He spoke to Alind Chauhan.

THIS WORD MEANS
APEC
 The Biden-Xi meeting will be the biggest show of the multilateral summit currently underway in California

THE ASIA-PACIFIC Economic Cooperation (APEC) grouping is meeting in San Francisco for the Leaders' Week that began on November 11, and will conclude with the Economic Leaders' Retreat on Friday. US President Joe Biden and China's President Xi Jinping were scheduled to have a first in-person meeting in a year on Wednesday on the sidelines of the summit.



Xi arrived in US Wednesday. Reuters

The grouping

APEC is a regional economic forum that was established in 1989 with the stated aim to "leverage the growing interdependence of the Asia-Pacific and create greater prosperity for the people of the region through regional economic integration".

The 21 members of APEC are called "economies" (rather than countries or member states) because trade and economic issues are the focus of the grouping. Taiwan and Hong Kong attend APEC meetings as distinct entities, even though China says they are parts of China.

The APEC economies are Australia, Brunei, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong (as part of China), the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand, Chinese Taipei (Taiwan), China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, Canada, the United States, Mexico, Peru, and Chile — all located geographically around the Pacific Ocean.

RISHIKA SINGH

EXPLAINED HEALTH

RACE CANNOT BE USED TO PREDICT HEART DISEASE, US SCIENTISTS SAY

DOCTORS HAVE long relied on a few key patient characteristics to assess risk of a heart attack or stroke, using a calculus that considers blood pressure, cholesterol, smoking and diabetes status, as well as demographics: age, sex and race.

Now, the American Heart Association is taking race out of the equation.

The overhaul of the widely used cardiac-risk algorithm is an acknowledgment that, unlike sex or age, race identification in and of itself is not a biological risk factor.

The scientists who modified the algorithm decided from the start that race itself did not belong in clinical tools used to guide medical decision making, even though race might serve as a proxy for certain social circumstances, genetic predispositions or environmental exposures that

raise the risk of cardiovascular disease.

The revision comes amid rising concern about health equity and racial bias within the US healthcare system, and is part of a broader trend toward removing race from a variety of clinical algorithms.

"We should not be using race to inform whether someone gets a treatment or doesn't get a treatment," said Dr Sadiya Khan, a preventive cardiologist at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, who chaired the statement writing committee for the American Heart Association.

The statement was published Friday in the association's journal, *Circulation*. An online calculator using the new algorithm, called PREVENT, is still in development.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

FORMAT C-2

(For Political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal antecedent s of candidates set up by the party

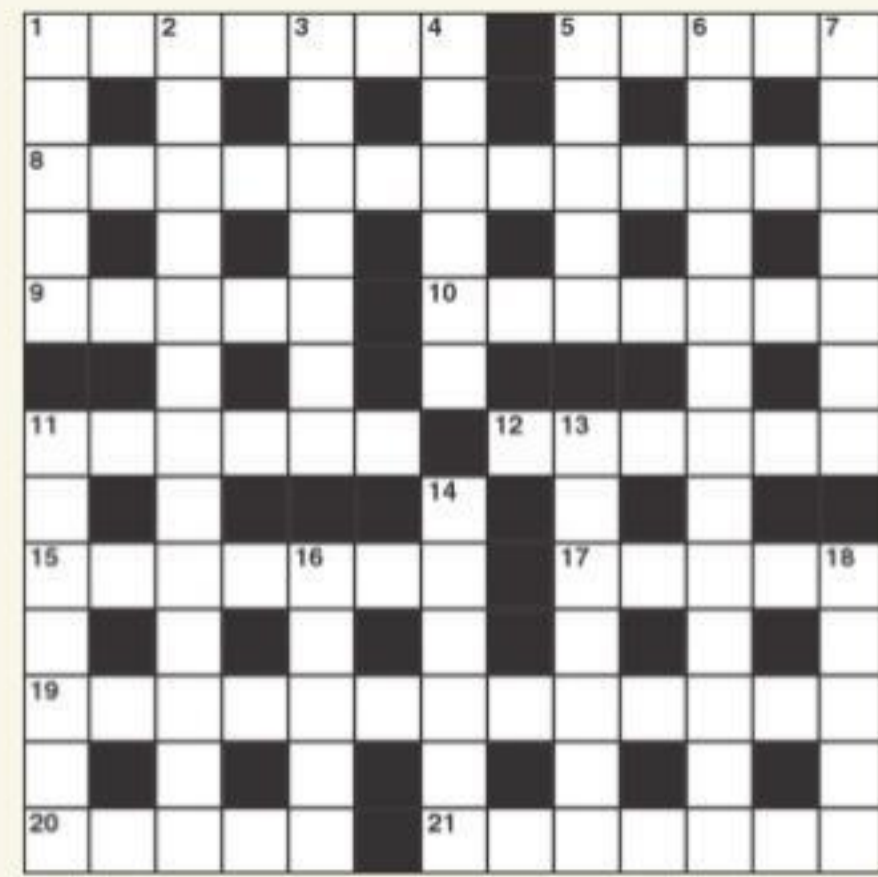
(As per the judgment dated 25th September, 2018 Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**
 * Name of Election : **RAJASTHAN ASSEMBLY ELECTION - 2023**
 Name of State/ UT : **RAJASTHAN**

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | | |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Sl. No. | Name of constituency | Name of candidate | (A) Pending criminal cases | | (B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences | | |
| | | | Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s) | Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s) | Name of Court & date(s) of order(s) | Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed | Maximum Punishment Imposed. |
| 1. | Sardarpura -127 | Ashok Gehlot | 1) MM 12 Jaipur Metro, Case No.2337/2015, Status: Charges yet to be framed 2) AC and MM2 Jaipur Metro 1, FIRNo.472/2014 Status: Charges yet to be framed 3) Rajasthan High Court Jaipur, Criminal Misc No. 123/2018. Status Case is Pending. 4) ACMM 4 New Delhi, Criminal Complaint 3/2023 Status: Charges not framed | IPC 467,471,409,420,120B IPC 409,420,467,468,471 IPC 409,467,471,420,120B IPC 499, 500 | NA NA NA NA | NA NA NA NA | NA NA NA NA |
| 2. | Dungarpur (ST) -158 | Ganesh Goghra | 1) Judicial Magistrate Dungarpur, FIR No. 128/2022, Status : Charges Not Framed | IPC 143,342,347,353, 186. | NA | NA | NA |
| 3. | Kushalgarh (ST) -166 | Ramila Khadia | 1) ACJM Kushalgarh, Case No. 159/2021, Status : Charges have been framed | IPC 332, 323,504 ,506,186, 34 | NA | NA | NA |
| 4. | Pratapgarh (ST) -172 | Ramjal Meena | 1) ACJM Court Pratapgarh, FIR No.17/2005, Case disposed of. | IPC 147,148,149,323 | NA | Fine of Rs.2000 | Fine of Rs.2000 |
| 5. | Bilara (SC) -131 | Mohan Lal Kataria | 1) ACMM 3 Jodhpur Metro, Case No. 147/2022, Status : Charges not framed 2) Special MM Court No.4, Case No. 2008/2017, Status: Charges not framed | IPC 420,467,468,471,474, Negotiable Instruments Act | NA NA | NA NA | NA NA |
| 6. | Raniwara -145 | Ratan Dewasi | 1) Special Court SC-ST Jalore, Case No. 65/2023, Status : Charges Not Framed | IPC 458,352,440,379,34 and 3(1)(V),3(1)(X), 3(1)(XV), 3(2)(V) of SC-ST POAAct, 1989 | NA | NA | NA |
| 7. | Aspur (ST)-159 | Rakesh Roat | 1) Judicial Magistrate Jr.Division Dungarpur, FIR No. 49/2009, Status : Charges framed | IPC 341,323,34 | 25/03/2011 | Case was disposed off and the candidate was given benefit of section 12 of Probation of the Offenders Act. | NA |
| 8. | Begun -168 | Gurjar Rajendra Singh Bidhuri | 1) ACJM Gangrar District Chittorgarh, FIR No. 253/2021, Status : Charges not framed | IPC 147, 148, 149,323,342, 352,365/511. 392/511, 509, 120B, 379,427, 143,341,447,504,506 | NA | NA | NA |
| 9. | Jahazpur-182 | Dheeraj Gurjar | 1) Not known to Candidate, FIR No. 252/2010, Status : NA 2) Not Known to candidate, FIR No. 142/2023, PS. Tughlaq Road New Delhi Status: Charges not framed | 150, 151, 174 of the Indian Railways Act 1989, Section 3 of Prevention of Damages to the Public Property Act, 1984, IPC 283, 143, 188 IPC 323,324 and 3(1)(R) of SC-ST POAAct 1989 | NA NA | NA NA | NA NA |
| 10. | Khanpur -199 | Suresh Gurjar | 1) Not known to Candidate, FIR No. 140/2022 PS Khanpur V Jhalawar, Status : Charges not framed 2) Not Known to candidate, FIR No. 144/2022, PS.Khanpur Jhalawar Status: Charges not framed | IPC 353,504,506,392,188 and 3(1)(R),3(1)(S),3 (2) (VA) of SC-ST POAAct 1989 IPC 143,147,149,283,336,332,353,188 and Section 3 of PPDP Act 1987 | NA NA | NA NA | NA NA |
| 11. | Reodar (SC) -148 | Motiram Koli | 1) Judicial Magistrate Reoder, Case no. 58/1993, Status : Charges Framed | Section 149,147,148,323,341 of the IPC | 17/06/1996 by Judicial Magistrate Reoder | The candidate was prohibited for Six months | NA |
| 12. | Chorasi (ST) -161 | Tarachand Bhagora | 1) 36 Additional Metropolitan Magistrate Ahmedabad, Case No.79196/2023 Status : Charges not framed | Negotiable Instrument Act 1881 | NA | NA | NA |
| 13. | Ladpura - 191 | Naimuddin Guddu | 1) ACJM 6 Kota, Case no. 918/2012 Status: Charges framed. 2) ACJM 4 South Kota, Case No.75/2015, Status: Charges Framed 3) ACJM 7 Kota, Case No.6842/2023, Status: Charges not framed | Section 323,325,341,504,506,427,147 IPC Section 147, 148,149,332,353,283 of IPC Section 323,341,147,149,109 of IPC | NA NA NA | NA NA NA | NA NA NA |
| 14. | Mandal - 178 | Ramjal Jat | Court Name not know to the candidate, FIR No.0211/2023 PS Kareda, Bhilwara, Charges not framed | Section 406,420,384,379,120B IPC | NA | NA | NA |
| 15. | Kolayat - 15 | Bhanwar Singh Bhati | 1) Judicial Magistrate No. 1 KOLAYAT, District Bikaner, Case No. F.R. NO. 197/2021, Status: Final Report Filed | Section 307, 336,283,341 143, 27 of I.P.C. | NA | NA | NA |
| 16. | Kota North- 189 | Shanti Kumar Dhariwal | 1) Supreme Court of India, Case No. SLP 5074/2023, Status: Not named in FIR or during investigation. Protest Petition dismissed but appeal against dismissal is pending in Supreme Court | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 17. | Sadulshahar-01 | Jagdish Chandra Jangid | SC/ST Special Case Court Sir Ganganagar, Case No. 37/2022, Status: Charges Not Framed | 323, 341 , 34 IPC & 3(2) (VA) SC/ST Act 1989 | NA | NA | NA |
| 18. | Suratgarh -04 | Dungar Ram Gedar | Additional Session Judge No. 2 Hanumangarh Case No. 8/97 The case has been disposed of. | Not Known | Additional Session Judge No. 2 Hanumangarh on dated 27.11.1997 | Fine imposed of Rs. 500/- | N/A |
| 19. | Sangaria - 07 | Abhimanyu Poonia | 1. Court Name is not known, FIR No. 561/2010 the matter has been disposed of 2. ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 270/2012, Status: Charge Not framed. 3. ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 453/2013 the matter has been disposed of 4. Metropolitan Magistrate Jaipur Metro 2nd FIR No. 339/2013 the matter has been disposed of | 283,143 IPC 147,341,323,427 IPC Section 3/5 of Prevention of damage to public property act, 1984 Section 3/5 of Prevention of damage to public property act, 1984 | 1- Court Name is not known, date of disposal is 13.05.2022 2-N/A 3-ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, The date of disposal is 22.09.2014 4-Metropolitan Magistrate Jaipur Metro 2nd the matter has been disposed on 19.11.2013 | 1- Fine imposed of Rs. 200/- 2-N/A 3-Fine imposed of Rs. 3000 4-Fine imposed of Rs. 200/- | N/A |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Sl. No. | Name of constituency | Name of candidate | (A) Pending criminal cases | (B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences | | | |
| | | | Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s) | Name of Court & date(s) of order(s) | | | |
| | | | | Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed | | | |
| | | | | Maximum Punishment Imposed. | | | |
| | | | 5. ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 611/2013 the matter has been disposed of | 279 IPC | 5- ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, the matter has been disposed on 28.03.2014 | 5- Fine imposed of Rs. 500/- | |
| | | | 6. ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 262/2016 the status of the case is not known. | 186,189,427,353 IPC | 6- N/A | 6- NA | |
| 20. | Malviya Nagar -54 | Dr. Archana Sharma | ACJM 1 Dausa FIR No. 212/2021. Status: Charges Not Framed. | 323,341,354,384,452,504 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 21. | Mundawar - 61 | Lalit Kumar Yadav | 1- ACJM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st FIR No. 143/2008 Status: Charges Not Framed. 2- ACJM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st FIR No 316/2011 Status: Charges Not Framed. | 3 of Rajasthan Defacement of Property Act 2006 147,149,323, 504 IPC | 1- N/A 2- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A |
| 22. | Ramgarh - 67 | Zuber Khan | 1- ACJM 3 Alwar FIR No. 325/2021 Status: Charges Not Framed. 2- Court name is not known FIR No 690/2023 Status: Charges Not Framed. 3- ACJM 3 Alwar FIR No. 348/2022 Status: Charges Not Framed. | 143,336,504,506,509 IPC 283,341,504,506,427 IPC 420,406,504,506, 120B IPC | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- N/A |
| 23. | Deeg - Kumher - 72 | Vishvendra Singh | 1- Name of court is unknown FIR No. 285/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. | Sections are not known | 1- N/A | 1- N/A | 1- N/A |
| 24. | Churu - 22 | Rafique Mandelia | 1- Court name is not known FIR No. 261/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed 2- MM Court No. 47 Mumbai FIR No. 77/2013, Status: Charges Not Framed | 406,420 IPC & Section 3,4 of MOF Act 406,420,465,467,468,471,120B IPC | 1- N/A 2- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A |
| 25. | Lunkaransar- 16 | Dr. Rajendra Moond | 1- ACJM Lunkaransar, Case no. 84/2022, Status: Charges Not Framed | Sections are not known. | 1- N/A | 1- N/A | 1- N/A |
| 26. | Thanagazi - 64 | Kanti Prasad Meena | 1- CJM Court Thanagazi, case no. 147/2009, Status: Charges Not Framed | 143,283,186 IPC | 1- N/A | 1- N/A | 1- N/A |
| 27. | Chaksu (SC) - 58 | Ved Prakash Solanki | 1- Court name is not known, FIR No. 233/2023, Status: Charges Not Framed 2- ACJM Behror Alwar, case no. is 329/2015, The Caes is Pending | 420,406,120B IPC Negotiable Instruments Act Case | 1- N/A | 1- N/A | 1- N/A |
| 28. | Shahpura - 42 | Manish Yadav | 1- ACMM 2nd Jaipur Metropolitan 1st, Case No. 47983/2017, Status: Charges Framed. 2- ACMM 2nd Jaipur Metropolitan 1st, Case no. is 780/2016, Status: Charges Framed. 3- ACJM Jaipur Metro 2nd, the case no. is 10/2007, the case has been disposed of | 143,188 IPC 147,283 IPC 147,427,341,323 IPC | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- ACJM Jaipur Metro 2nd date of order is 18.12.2012 | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- Rs. 300 fine was imposed. | 1- N/A |
| 29. | Jhotwara- 46 | Abhishek Choudhary | 1- ACMM 2nd Jaipur Metropolitan Case No. 1618/2016, Status: Charges Not Framed. 2- MM 25 Chomu, FIR No. 280/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. 3- ACJM Jodhpur Metro, the case no. is 20515/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. 4- ACMM 1 Jaipur Metro 2nd, FIR No. 594/2015, Status: Charges Not Framed. 5- ACMM 4 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 370/2014, Status: Charges Framed. 6- ACMM 7 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 57/2011, Status: Charges Not Framed. 7- ACMM 2 Jaipur Metro 1st, FIR No. 454/2009, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 3/6 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act 1984 3/6 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act 1984 143,188,283 IPC 3,4 & 6 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act 1984 147,283 IPC 147,148,149,323,447,452,IPC 147,148,149,452,323,341,325 IPC | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- N/A 4- N/A 5- N/A 6- N/A 7- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- N/A 4- N/A 5- N/A 6- N/A 7- N/A | 1- N/A 2- N/A 3- N/A 4- N/A 5- N/A 6- N/A 7- N/A |
| 30. | Sanganer - 55 | Pushpendra Bhardwaj | 1- ACJM 9 Case No. 155/2001 the case has been disposed of. 2- ACJM No. 9 Jaipur Case no. 1129/2008, Status: Charges Framed | 147,148, 149,452,427 IPC 188 IPC | 1- ACJM 9 The case was disposed of on 28.04.2022 2- N/A | Convicted but no punishment/ fine was imposed & relief under section 12 of Probation of Offenders act was given. | |
| 31. | DHOLPUR- 79 | SHOBHARANI KUSHWAHA | 1. JM -3 Jodhpur HQ, Case no. 439/2021, Status: Charges Not Framed. 2. ACJM 2 Bharatpur HQ, Case No. 3620/2022, Status: Charges Not Framed 3. Special District Judge of TNPID CC, Case No. 1/2018, Status: Charges Not Framed 4. Court Name is not known, FIR No. 148/2011, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 420,406& 120B IPC 420,406& 120B IPC 420,406& 120B IPC & Section 5 of Tamil nadu Protection of Depositors act. 1997 420,419,406, 34 IPC , | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 32. | GANGAPUR – 90 | RAMKESH MEENA | 1) ACMM-4 JAIPUR METRO 1, CASE No, 29, 730/2020, The Matter is Pending. | 420,406,467, 468, 471 & 120B IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 33. | MALPURA- 94 | GHASILAL CHOUDHARY | 1) ACMM-7 JAIPUR METRO 2, CASE No, 513/2012, Status: Charges Not Framed. 2) Court Name is not known, FIR No. 204/2013, The Matter is Pending 3) Court Name is not known, FIR no. 270/2023. The Matter is Pending. | 323, 504, 341 IPC 406, 120B IPC 332,535,143 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 34. | LADNUN - 106 | Mukesh Bhakar | 1) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, FIR No,370/2014 Status: Charges Framed. 2) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, FIR No,340/2010, Status: Charges Framed. 3) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, FIR No,449/2007, Status: Charges Framed. 4) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, FIR No,548/2015, Status: Charges Framed. 5) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, FIR No,217/2009 The Matter is Disposed. | 283 IPC 283, 143,435 IPC 147,341,323 IPC 504 IPC Section 3 of Rajasthan prevention of Defacement of property Act, 2006 | 1. N/A 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, Date of order 02-09-2009 | 1. N/A 2. N/A 3. N/A 4. N/A 5. Fine rupees 500/- | N/A |
| 35. | PARBATSAR- 114 | RAMNIWAS GAWARIA | 1) ACMM-2 JAIPUR METRO 1, FIR No,385/2016, Status: Charges Framed 2) CJM JAIPUR District FIR No,247/2016, Status: Charges Framed. 3) ACMM-17 CHOMU JAIPUR METRO 2, FIR No,428/2016, Status: Charges Not Framed. 4) Court Name is not known, FIR no.126/2016, Status: Charges Not Framed. 5) Court Name is not known, FIR no.131/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 143,332,353, 336 IPC 143,186,286 IPC 3/6 of Rajasthan prevention of defacement of property act, 2016 3/6 of Rajasthan prevention of defacement of property act, 2016 3/6 of Rajasthan prevention of defacement of property act, 2016. | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 36. | OSIAN - 125 | DIVYA MADERNA | 1) Court Name is not known, FIR no. 102/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 420,467,471 & 120B IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |

CROSSWORD 5210



- ACROSS**
- Having no right to souvenir might become jealous (7)
 - Restrict credit to a politician (5)
 - He explains to the pupils what has happened (7,6)
 - Judges to be a variety of aster (5)
 - Following Rex in and made certain (7)
 - Describing Hamlet and his difficulty (6)
 - Follow a noisy animal - to its earth presumably (3,3)
 - With a small company the custom is to share accommodation (7)
 - Stick to imitation jewellery (5)
 - Yet it might incur a sharp answer (5,8)
 - Goes over the ground where the knights used to fight (5)
 - Members of the orchestra who take a bow (7)
- DOWN**
- Three is an odd number (5)
 - Right time for the healthy to be admitted to hospital (8,5)
 - More than one player is in new boots (7)
 - Pen has the French ways of writing (6)
 - Many a girl is kind (5)
 - More or less following a style (5,1,7)
 - Knock up a note before ten? It can be true (7)
 - A sound measure (7)
 - One who is against work has a problem (7)
 - They support various trusts (6)
 - More than one barrel used in shooting (5)
 - Birds from other nests (5)

Solutions Crossword 5208 Across: 1 Wages of sin, 6 Toll, 10 Arena, 11 Separates, 12 Underpin, 13 Finis, 15 Evident, 17 Edifice, 19 Unhooks, 21 Tripper, 22 Yahoo, 24 Lapidary, 27 Pizzicato, 28 Alibi, 29 Tale, 30 Martial law Down: 1 Wean, 2 Greenwich, 3 Stave, 4 Fusspot, 5 Impinge, 7 Often, 8 Loves heart, 9 Graffiti, 14 Beauty spot, 16 Economic, 18 Impartial, 20 Sultana, 21 Taproot, 23 Hazel, 25 Diana, 26 View

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip. The _____ is as a frail craft on which we wish to reach the stars. - Giotto (5,5)

RWAAE DIOSMU
OSNRT GOTUHH

SOLUTION: AWARE, SNORT, SODIUM, THOUGH

SUDOKU 5383

Difficulty Level 5s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.



Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 5381



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

There is a lot to be said for keeping your own counsel now, yet someone special does still need to be kept informed as to your movements. It's all a matter of judgment, and that you have in abundance. You're looking forward to new interests.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

In order to minimise misunderstandings over the next few days, why don't you try to be more subtle and diplomatic? Also, do try to be as organised and practical as possible in all your working and routine affairs. Not that I think you'll have any trouble, of course.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Your planets are approaching a very special aspect, which means that whatever is discussed, agreed and finalised over the next few days, will have a profound impact on your most personal aspirations. Events early next week can only confirm this picture.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Cut through confusion, opposition and indecision at home like a hot knife through butter. It is time to adopt a definite stance and stick to it through thick and thin. Partners will respect your courage. On the other hand, if you truly want to get your own way at home, try a little gentle persuasion.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

There is a lot to be said for making domestic and family plans now. It will help if you see coming meetings or arrangements as marking a significant break with the past and the first of a series of magnificent pointers towards the future. If you're preparing for a major romantic adventure, set some time aside next week.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The need for financial security is a general theme in your life. However, when recent initiatives bear fruit you will see that you have done much to assist your long-term fortunes in a down-beat way. But, then, that's you all over; the master - or mistress - of understatement.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You really don't need to prove anything. You have accomplished enough recently to be able to rest on your laurels, at least for a little while. All that is needed is a boost to your generally rather shaky self-image. I have a feeling that any nervousness should clear up over the next three days.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Those who imagine that you have given up the will to fight back are to receive a shock. Believe in yourself and realise that within two weeks you will once again be about to go on the offensive. It's all down to the gradual movements of magnetic Mars, your planetary ruler.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

A very specific planetary aspect today has a very general meaning. You must therefore try to reach a definite and final decision concerning some of your very broad, long-term aims and ambitions. Draw on all your deepest experience to make the right choices.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

The last thing you want to do now is blot your copy-book at work. Therefore, be firm and decisive by all means, but do allow other people to have their say and pay careful heed to their advice. If justice and fair play is called for, you should take the initiative.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

A battle of principle may be worth fighting. But you must consider if any sacrifices are worth making. Some people believe that the end justifies the means, but you may rightly disagree. With Saturn now so significantly aligned, this is a time for taking the most serious possible look at the future.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Some astrologers would not consider that the Moon's position today is a particularly helpful one from your point of view. However, the fact that lunar alignments are encouraging peace and understanding must make you feel better. But keep a watch on escalating costs.

| Sl. No. | Name of constituency | Name of candidate | 4 | | 5 | | |
|---------|------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | | | (A) Pending criminal cases | | (B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences | | |
| | | | Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s) | Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s) | Name of Court & date(s) of order(s) | Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed | Maximum Punishment Imposed. |
| 37. | WEIR (SC) - 75 | BHAJAN LAL JATAV | 1) CID CB COURT JAIPUR FIR no.285/2017, Case Pending 2) Court - Case no. not Known. | 143, 284, 188, 120B IPC Section 8B NHAI ACT 1956. | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 38. | RAJAKHERA - 80 | ROHIT BHORA | 1) CJM, DHOLPUR FIR no.212/2013, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 147, 148, 149, 307 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 39. | MAHUWA - 86 | OM PRAKASH HUDLA | 1) Court Name is not known, FIR no.330/2020, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 188, 269 & 270 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 40. | LALSOT (ST) - 89 | PARSADI LAL MEENA | 1) ACJM 2 JAIPUR METRO-1 FIR no.295/2006, The Matter is Pending. | 302, 201 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 41. | PUSHKAR - 99 | NASIM AKHTAR INSAF | 1) Court Name is not known, FIR no. 230/2023, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 143, 147, 149, 452, 332, 353, 186, 189, 506 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 42. | MARWAR JUNCTION - 119 | KHUSHVEER SINGH | 1) JM COURT Marwar, Junction FIR no.207/2020, Status: Charges Not Framed. 2) JM COURT Marwar, Junction FIR no.152/2021, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 420, 467, 468, 471, 474, 120B IPC 420, 467, 468, 471, 474, 120B IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 43. | KISHANGARH - 98 | VIKAS CHOUDHARY | 1) ACJM 2, AJMER. Case no.634/2012, Status: Charges Framed | 147, 148, 149, 506 & 353, IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 44. | BARI - 78 | PRASHANT SINGH PARMAR | 1) District & Session Court, Gwalior Case no.3109/2020, Status: Charges Not Framed. 2) Court Name is not known, Case no.is not known. The Matter is Pending | 13(1) (B)/13(2) of prevention of corruption act. 1988 30 of Arms Act 1959. | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 45. | NASIRABAD - 102 | SHIV PRAKASH GURJAR | 1) JM, PUSHKAR, AJMER Case no.131/2018, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 147, 149, 341, 323, 451, 352, 427, 325 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 46. | TODABHIM (ST) - 81 | GHANSHYAM MEHAR | 1) ACJM TODABHIM. Case no.177/2018, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 147, 148, 149, 332, 353, 504 & 506 IPC. | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 47. | HINDOLI - 184 | ASHOK CHANDNA | 1) ACMM-VI JODHPUR, FIR No. 268/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. 2) ACJM 8 JAIPUR, FIR No. 0070/2017, Status: Charges Not Framed. 3) Kotwali Ganganagar FIR No. 252/2007, Status: Charges Framed. | 332, 353, 307, 341, 323, 504, 336, 120B IPC & Section 3 of PDPPACT. 147, 149, 332, 353, 188, 427, IPC 420, 466, 467, 468, 471, 474, 477, 477A, 166, 201, 218, 120B IPC, Section 25, 30 of Arms ACT. Section 13(1)(D) (2) of | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 48. | KAMAN - 70 | ZAHIDA KHAN | 1) SPE COURT JAIPUR. CBI NEW DELHI RC 5(S) TO 9(S) 2011 CBI SC III Status: Charges Not Framed. | 353, 106, 341, IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 49. | NEEM KATHANA - 38 | SURESH MODI | 1) ACJM 1st NEEM KATHANA, Case no. 345/2023, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 452, 467, 468, 420, 384, 471, 120B IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 50. | JAMWARAMGARH (ST) - 48 | GOPAL LAL MEENA | 1) Court Name not known. FIR No. 158/2023, Status: Charges Not Framed. | 363, 143, 448, 323, 342, 506, 509, IPC Section 3 (1) (r), 3 (1) (s), 3 (2) (va) of SC/STACT. 1989 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 51. | MAVLI - 154 | PUSHKAR LAL DANGI | 1) Additional District & session Judge Mavli Case No. 558/2019, Status: Charges Not Framed. | | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| 52. | BAYTOO - 136 | HARISH CHOUDHARY | 1) HIGH COURT JODHPUR. Case no. 7437/2021, Case is pending. | section 147, 148, 323, 336, 427 IPC | N/A | N/A | N/A |

(Shri. Lalit Tunwal)
General Secretary (Organisation)
Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee

TODAY'S SEMIFINAL
Australia vs South Africa, 2 pm
Live on Star Sports network



How Indian batsmen shredded New Zealand's plans

India were clinical with the bat as they came up with specific tactics in the semifinal in Mumbai

NEUTRALISING BOULT

With no swing on offer Rohit Sharma took him on, forcing Boult to go over the wicket and cramp him for room. But, Rohit was up to it, as he charged down and smashed him over extra-cover. This now made Boult look for Plan C, which involved targeting Rohit with short balls and bouncers. And when Boult executed them, it travelled the distance as balls were being thrown back from backward square-leg stands.

GILL GOES FOR THE KILL

Having played second fiddle with Rohit, Shubman Gill shifted gears instantly after losing the captain. Two boundaries off Lockie Ferguson followed by another in the next over, put pressure back on New Zealand. Kane Williamson gambled with Ferguson with another over, but if there is a batsman who loves pace it is Gill as he smashed a six and a four. Kiwi's trump card in the middle-overs was off the attack.

KEEPING SANTNER AT BAY

On a pitch which offered turn, Santner had to be treated with respect. But whenever they got an opportunity, they made sure he was punished as Gill hit him for a boundary and a six. It meant, New Zealand had to bring in the part-time off-spin of Glenn Phillips, who Gill and Virat Kohli milked without any trouble. Two timely counter-attacks, two of biggest threats in the middle-overs taken care off.

SHREYAS TAKES OVER

There was a slight hiccup when Gill walked away limping in the 23rd over, bringing Shreyas Iyer to the middle. There was a brief lull before Shreyas took the charge, hitting Rachin Ravindra for a six and a four in the 27th. It was the beginning of what to come as Shreyas not only maintained the tempo but also kept upping the ante in the middle-overs ensuring there was no comeback for the Kiwis with the ball.

THE KOHLI CHARGE

He has been assigned a role, which is to bat deep. But whenever Williamson brought in his strike-bowlers, Kohli ensured he put pressure on them by going for boundaries. And he did with some authority. Off Boult's first ball of a new spell in the 29th, he came down the track to smash him for a boundary. And 10 overs later, when Tim Southee came on, he once again came down the track and smashed him for a six.

SHOWING NO RESPITE

In an innings where they posted 397 runs, the 35th delivered by Santner was eventful — the lone maiden. There were enough wickets in hand, Shreyas didn't fret over dot balls, instead showed the respect he deserved. A New Zealand comeback? In the next over, bowled by Boult, Shreyas and Kohli picked up 17 runs before they pressed the accelerator further in the last 10 as KL Rahul provided the finishing touches.

India in their first World Cup final in 12 years as batsmen set the tone against NZ before bowlers, led by Shami, script 70-run win

INDIA REACH WORLD CUP SUMMIT CLASH FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2011

Finally... finalists

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

ROHIT SHARMA springs to his feet. Virat Kohli brings the bat closer to his chest and gives it a twirl. Shreyas Iyer taps the bat violently on the ground. KL Rahul hangs his bat in the air. As for Shubman Gill, he remains still. The subtle motions, as the bowler runs in, are often an indicator that something special might happen on the incoming ball.

On Wednesday, as India overcame nerves and a gritty New Zealand by 70 runs to enter the World Cup final, it almost unfailingly meant Rohit lofting the ball over covers, Kohli unleashing a bottom-handed whip, Iyer walloping the ball into the stands, Rahul clearing the square boundary and Gill gloriously caressing the ball through mid-wicket.

These montages of ultimate swagger have been playing on a loop over the last six weeks. And while the bowlers have provided the 'wow' factor with breathless displays of seam bowling, like Mohammad Shami did by claiming 7/57, it's the Fab Five who have laid the foundation for most wins as India extended their spectacular run to make it 10 out of 10.

Maybe because it's always been India's stronger suit that batting hasn't been spoken about with the same admiration as bowling. Only once, against England, has a batsman outside the top five had to walk into a tricky situation to bail out the team. Barring that one-off day on a low-scoring pitch in Lucknow, the quintet has got the job done in every match India have played in this World Cup.

Hence, the result seemed almost inevitable when the coin dropped in India's favour at the toss. Rohit had no hesitation to bat first on a flat Wankhede deck, on a humid Mumbai afternoon against a struggling New Zealand bowling unit that had conceded runs in excess of 350 to the other two semifinalists, Australia (388) and South Africa (357).

Rohit goes for jugular

And there's an arrogance about the way the batsmen have gone about executing the demolition job. It begins, as it has throughout the campaign, with Rohit 2.0.

There's a thing in football that when you're trying to take down an opponent that's an equal or stronger, you go and tackle their best player first to get everyone on your team into the match and also send a strong message to the rivals.



New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson looks skyward in anguish after he is caught in the deep off the bowling of Mohammed Shami. Reuters

Cricket isn't a contact sport but Rohit did the next best thing possible: in a non-violent fashion, he went after New Zealand's best bowler, Trent Boult, from the first over, hitting him for boundaries on either side of the wicket on back-to-back balls. New Zealand, who might have missed a trick by opting for Tim Southee ahead of Ish Sodhi on a slow pitch, were rattled. India's batsmen had an answer for every New Zealand plan.

Smashed for two boundaries, Boult went around the wicket. Immediately, Rohit charged to dispatch him over extra cover. They then came at him with bouncers. Casually, he took a step back and thwacked the ball over the backward square-leg fence.

New Zealand would have hoped for a little bit of peace to drag the momentum in their favour after Rohit was caught magnificently at long-off by Kane Williamson in the 9th over. But that wasn't to be.

Gill, who began cautiously, went into counter-attacking mode immediately in the

next over, hitting Lockie Ferguson for two fours. Williamson persisted with his ace pacer even after Gill punished him for one more boundary in the next over but after the opener clobbered him for a four and a six in the 13th, Williamson was forced to take him off the attack.

When Mitchell Santner bowled up and outside off, charged forward and smashed the ball over the sight screen. The next ball, Santner pitched it short and wide, and Gill cut him to the square boundary.

Iyer-Kohli counter

After Gill limped off due to cramps, New Zealand would have hoped to slow down the scoring rate but Shreyas Iyer hammered Rachin Ravindra for a six and a four in the 27th over and immediately, he was taken off the attack as well with Boult replacing him.

But the move to bring pacers in the middle overs did not reap the desired rewards as Kohli went on the offensive. On Boult's first ball of the second spell,

Kohli marched forward and blasted the ball over mid-off for four. Then, in the next over — the second ball of the 30th — he stepped out of the crease once again and whipped Southee over mid-on and sent the ball sailing into the Sachin Tendulkar stand.

Williamson reverted to spin, praying that the ball would turn on a surface that was supposed to assist spinners, and Santner did play his part by bowling a maiden over to Iyer in the 35th. But in the next over, Iyer and Kohli — who apart from surpassing Tendulkar's record of most ODI 100s also broke his record of scoring the most number of runs in a World Cup — looted 17 runs off the next over bowled by Southee.

It was the kind of controlled, coordinated attacking batting that has allowed India to tear apart most bowling attacks so it wasn't a surprise to see them do what they did to New Zealand on a lifeless wicket.

There was already celebratory fervour in the stands when the Indian batsmen returned to the pavilion after setting New

Zealand a target of 398. And it got deafening when Mohammad Shami picked up two quick wickets to leave the Kiwis stranded at 46/2 after the first powerplay.

The noise soon made way for nerves as Daryl Mitchell and Williamson stitched together a partnership of 181 (145 balls) to keep New Zealand interested in what would have been the second-highest run chase in ODIs. New Zealand's audacious effort was aided by uncharacteristically sloppy fielding by India, which included a wild overthrow by Ravindra Jadeja off his own bowling and Shami dropping Williamson.

The pacer ensured, however, that the missed chance did not haunt India as he returned to action was promptly picked up two wickets, including that of Williamson, to snuff out any hopes of a New Zealand fight-back. As has been the case throughout this campaign, Shami — who took a wicket in each of his three spells — had the last laugh. But it was the batsmen who set the stage for the win.

SCOREBOARD

| INDIA VS NEW ZEALAND | |
|--|----------------------|
| WANKHEDE STADIUM, MUMBAI | |
| Toss: India elected to bat | |
| INDIA | |
| Rohit c Williamson b Southee | 47 (29b, 4x4, 4x6) |
| S Gill not out | 80 (66b, 8x4, 3x6) |
| V Kohli c Conway b Southee | 117 (113b, 9x4, 2x6) |
| S Iyer c Mitchell b Boult | 105 (70b, 4x4, 8x6) |
| KL Rahul not out | 39 (20b, 5x4, 2x6) |
| S Yadav c Phillips b Southee | 1 (2b) |
| Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 6) | 8 |
| Total 50 Ov (RR: 7.94) | 397/4 |
| FoW: 1-71 (Rohit Sharma, 8.2 ov), 1-164 (22.4 ov), 2-327 (Virat Kohli, 43.6 ov), 3-381 (Shreyas Iyer, 48.5 ov), 4-382 (Suryakumar Yadav, 49.1 ov) | |
| Bowling: Trent Boult 10-0-86-1, Tim Southee 10-0-100-3, Mitchell Santner 10-1-51-0, Lockie Ferguson 8-0-65-0, Rachin Ravindra 7-0-60-0, Glenn Phillips 5-0-33-0 | |
| NEW ZEALAND | |
| D Conway c Rahul b Shami | 13 (15b, 3x4) |
| R Ravindra c Rahul b Shami | 13 (22b, 3x4) |
| K Williamson c Yadav b Shami | 69 (73b, 8x4, 1x6) |
| D Mitchell c Jadeja b Shami | 134 (119b, 9x4, 7x6) |
| T Latham lbw b Shami | 0 (2b) |
| G Phillips c Jadeja b Bumrah | 41 (33b, 4x4, 2x6) |
| M Chapman c Jadeja b Kuldeep | 2 (5b) |
| M Santner c Sharma b Siraj | 9 (10b) |
| T Southee c Rahul b Shami | 9 (10b, 1x4) |
| T Boult not out | 2 (2b) |
| L Ferguson c Rahul b Shami | 6 (3b, 1x6) |
| Extras (b 4, lb 5, nb 1, w 19) | 29 |
| Total 48.5 Ov (RR: 6.69) | 327 |
| FoW: 1-30 (Devon Conway, 5.1 ov), 2-39 (Rachin Ravindra, 7.4 ov), 3-220 (Kane Williamson, 32.2 ov), 4-220 (Tom Latham, 32.4 ov), 5-295 (Glenn Phillips, 42.5 ov), 6-298 (Mark Chapman, 43.5 ov), 7-306 (Daryl Mitchell, 45.2 ov), 8-319 (Mitchell Santner, 47.5 ov), 9-321 (Tim Southee, 48.2 ov), 10-327 (Lockie Ferguson, 48.5 ov) | |
| Bowling: Jasprit Bumrah 10-1-64-1, Mohammed Siraj 9-0-78-1, Mohammed Shami 9.5-0-57-7, Ravindra Jadeja 10-0-63-0, Kuldeep Yadav 10-0-56-1 | |

Last two World Cups, we lost (in semifinals). Who knows when or if we'll get a chance, so we wanted to do everything for this, one chance we didn't want to let go."

MOHAMMED SHAMI

FAST BOWLER
India are top class, have world class batters who didn't give us a sniff really. You come in and get 400, it's a tick in the box.

KANE WILLIAMSON

NEW ZEALAND SKIPPER
We knew there will be pressure on us. We were very calm, even though we were a bit sloppy on the field.

ROHIT SHARMA

INDIA SKIPPER

TAKING NO PRISONERS

Rohit's high-risk, high-reward approach at top works for the crack team

SRIRAM VEERA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

THE QUESTION that might float up after Rohit Sharma's dazzling momentum-setting 47 in the world cup semi-final is should he be happy with all-out attacking cameos or change tack.

On the match eve, he would say, 'we have to be brave, and hopefully fortune will favour the brave'. The lack of 'bravery' has been the Achilles heel of a few past Indian teams. Rohit has been part of a few such outfits, and even led in the T20 World Cup. Clearly, at his last chance to lead a World Cup, he has decided that something needed to change. And it has to begin with him.

It was just 47 runs, but in 29 balls with four sixes — a commanding deflating tone-setting cameo.

Usually the World Cups over the years have seen some outstanding cameos: Aravinda de Silva's counter-attacking dazzler that sucker-punched India in 1996, Ajay Jadeja's 45 that stunned Pakistan in the same World Cup, Mike Vellata's 45 against England in the 1987 final, Kris Srikkanth's audacious 38 in the 1983 final, or Tamim Iqbal's 53 against India in the 2007 edition.

But Rohit has been repeatedly pulling out gems that have not only demotivated

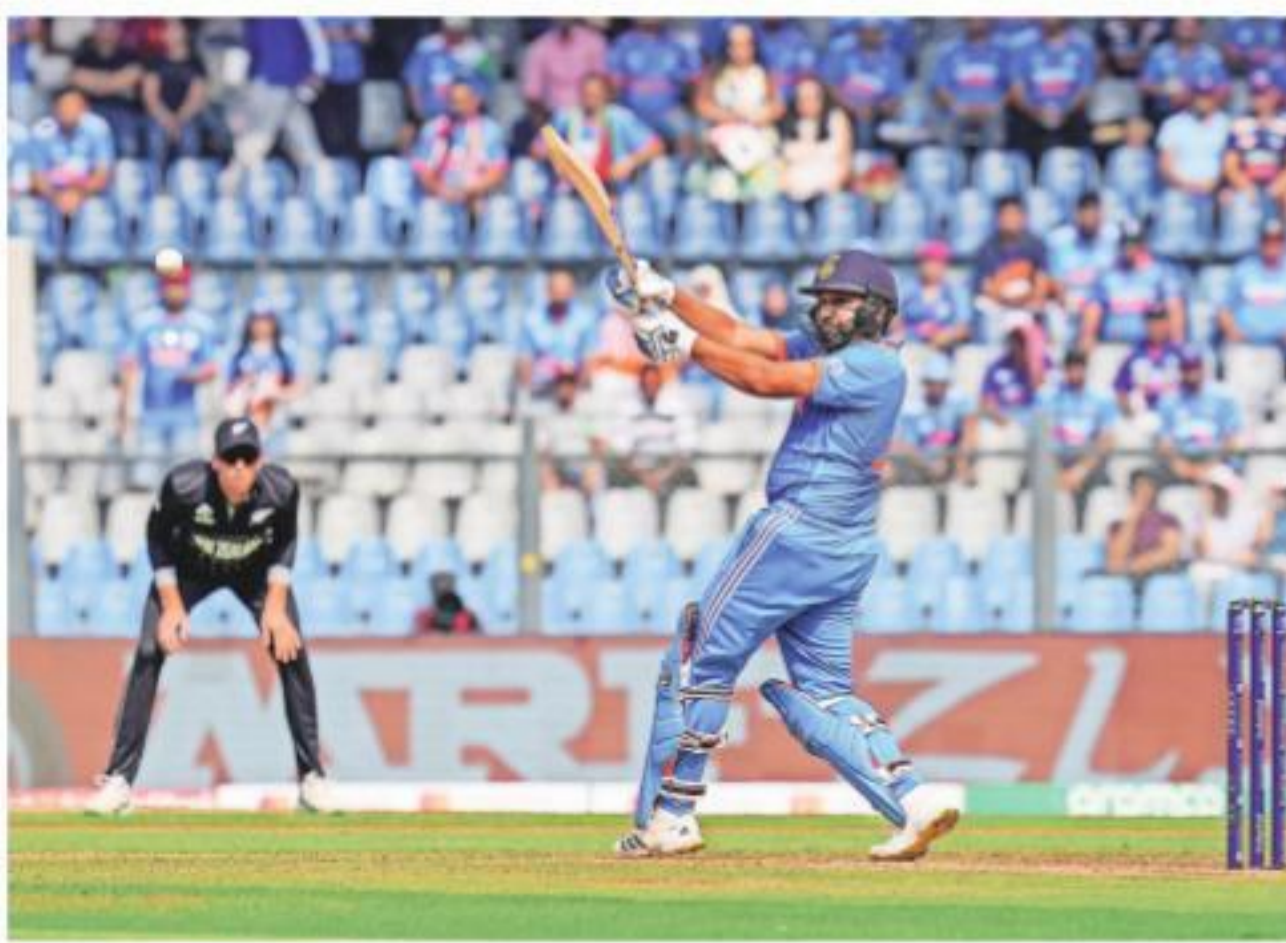
the opponents, but stirred his team-mates — and that is his legacy as a batsman in this World Cup. To make the Indians dare, extend themselves, and go where no batting unit has ventured before. It has allowed the likes of Virat Kohli to breathe easy, not fuss about run-rate, and carry on his tournament-defining batsmanship.

It's perhaps safe conjecture to make that Rohit the all-out adventurous opener would not have materialised had he been the captain. Hence, 'self-less' isn't the adjective that fits as he is obviously doing it with a definite purpose for his team. But still, there haven't been many captains who have stretched themselves like the way Rohit has done.

As it happens with Indian cricket, there were some wild speculations that Indian management might be toying with batting at No.4 to solve the middle-order issues. And the question was put to him in an interview he gave to this newspaper before the world cup.

A firm 'No' came first. "Jiska jidhar batting position hai and those who have won games in that position, why will we change them. Someone else needs to step up." He would then talk about how he is not worried about No 4 as Shreyas Iyer is there.

When was the last time a captain took the onus on all-out aggression on his own shoulders and batted the way Rohit Sharma has done this World Cup? Not



Rohit Sharma's 47 off 29 at the top of the order gave India a flying start. Deepak Joshi

every captain was an opener or were blessed with his skills. But to his credit Rohit, despite the presence of younger players around him, donned the role of the risk-taker. He could give Shubman Gill the role of an all-out aggressor but Rohit didn't

take easy way out. The batting order too has been carefully arranged to facilitate a continuity of aggression. Rohit attacks, Gill doesn't extend himself but he is naturally brisk. Shreyas Iyer swings for the fences, Kohli holds the innings

ATTACK MODE 124.15

Rohit Sharma's strike rate after 10 outings at the top of the order in this World Cup — the best among the top 10 run scorers. Rohit has hit 28 sixes. With 550 runs, he is also the fourth-highest run scorer in the World Cup.

together. Jadeja holds base, Suryakumar attacks. Tying all this together, and the one imparting freedom and energy into this batting unit has been Rohit's blitzes.

It just took four balls for Rohit to decide to go for it in the semi-final. It wasn't a bad ball per se — on a length, on the middle. But Rohit had decided it has to go. There was no room for an aerial shot really but somehow he drag-flicked it just over the leaping short midwicket. Next ball, he slapped on the up, not quite timed, but his sheer will had it plummeting past left of mid-off.

Manufactured shots

The two manufactured shots were the indication of his mood, and a reflection of his intent for this world cup. But it was the



Mohammed Shami's 7-for was the best bowling figures by an Indian in ODIs.
AP

PEOPLE'S CHAMPION

Shami has rewritten the role of a third seamer, from a workhorse deputised to stifle batsmen to a thoroughbred taking wickets

SANDIP G
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 15

BEFORE THIS World Cup, Mohammed Shami was a delight for the connoisseurs. The gliding run-up, the slick load-up and release, the pianist's dexterity of fingers, the divine alignment of the seam upon release, the deviations the spherical leather made at the whim of his mind and the palms. But this World Cup, he became a hero of the masses, when Shami demystified himself, when it did not require the lens of an expert to dissect the beauty of his bowling, when he stamped his art and craft into India's march into the finals, when the world waited for his turn to bowl, as they wait for Kohli's moment to bat, or once they longed for Sachin Tendulkar.

Rarely ever has he disappointed them. His spells essentially set up the game. In the first, he consumed the openers Devon Conway and Rachin Ravindra; in the second, at an even more critical juncture, he ejected Kane Williamson and Tom Latham; in the last he stubbed out the dying embers of a New Zealand victory, by dismissing centurion Daryl Mitchell for his second five-for of the tournament. Two more followed for a tally of 7. His stats now read a scarcely believable 23 wickets at 9.13 in six games this World Cup.

But as much as the numbers, it's the experience of watching him that defines this World Cup. When Rohit Sharma first summoned him, Mohammed Siraj would have felt gutted when he heard the deafening applause. Two tight overs he had bowled, but he was made to feel like he had endured the most horrendous evening of his career. The wait begins, and anticipation crackles, when Rohit signals Shami to bowl. Shami lumbers in from his outpost, unhurriedly hands his cap over to the umpire, hurriedly sets his field and then briskly marks him run-up, an impish smile dwelling on his face.

At this precise moment, the chattering crowd stops their chatter, keeps the paper-bowl of popcorn aside, squeezes the smartphones into the pockets and trains their eyes on the man bending into his run-up. Quietness engulfs the arena of 40,000-odd fervent fans.

It's the quietness of hope, it's the silence that accompanies the impulse that something special would unfold. And as Shami gets into his short, brisk strides, the noise erupts explosively, a harsh piercing screeching that hurts the ears. For a split-second, the silence returns, that is the time it took the audience to process that Conway had nicked Shami behind. And once the sequence registers in the mind, they explode again. The same sequence played out as he picked four more wickets.

SHAMI'S TRAIL OF CARNAGE

The Indian became the first bowler to pick three 5-wicket hauls in a single edition of a WC

Vs New Zealand

5/54

After giving India an opening by removing Rachin Ravindra, Shami strangled the Kiwis in his first game at this World Cup as they slipped from 178/2 to 273 all out.

Vs England

4/22

With a wet outfield to take care of, he bowled with surgical precision as each delivery proved to be unplayable. It was seam bowling at its best as England folded for 129.

Vs Sri Lanka

5/18

Shami made the new ball do all sorts of things as the Lankans crumbled like ninepins. The highlight was Angelo Mathews' wicket, who was bowled by a devilish in-swing.

Vs New Zealand

7/57

On a pitch where pacers from both teams struggled, Shami shone with the new ball, with a semi-new ball and with the old, taking important wickets at crucial junctures.

The eyes, the ears, the mind, the heart, everything converges into him. There seems to be nothing as pure as the crowd cheering for Shami this World Cup. It's Shami-mania. No other fast bowler—not even the wondrous Jasprit Bumrah—has wowed and wooed the crowd as much as Shami has this tournament, transcending love and loyalties. They wait for him, wait for the gesture from Rohit Sharma to warm-up. Bumrah is the superstar, Shami the cult-hero, the man of fire and ice, hope and heartbeat, the pulse and throb, the showstopper and show-runner.

India's fast-bowling is no longer a one-man band. Rohit could throw the ball to any of his primed pace-trio, but Shami is the fulcrum. It's the promise of his destructibility, at any juncture of the match that emboldens his bowling colleagues, even his batsmen, and even his captain. At the back of the mind, Rohit, when free-stroking, knows that there is Shami to steam in, whittle out the opposition batsmen in case of a low-score. He affords Bumrah and Siraj the license to attack.

Thunderous third seamer

It's hard to think of a third seamer that has enjoyed Shami-scale of aura. The great late Malcolm Marshall used to when he burst forth, before he became the new-ball shearer by default. At various times, Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram and Shoaib Akhtar have all donned the role with distinction. But more often than not, the unwritten law was that the best bowlers took the new-ball, unless someone was anointed an enforcer. But Shami clearly is not one by its strict definition, though his role is so encompassing to be straitjacketed by conventional norms.

He, in a sense, has rewritten the concept of the third seamer, as a workhorse deputised to stifle the batsmen into the jackpot-smashing thoroughbred hammering wickets away. To borrow a football phraseology, a False 3. He is, in this regard, a sui generis. The influence of Shami could be better measured through a batting analogy. In the peak years of Australia's white-ball supremacy, their most important batsman was neither Adam Gilchrist nor Mark Waugh or Matthew Hayden, but Ricky Ponting. At a time when most teams slotted the anchor-accumulators at three, here was Ponting inflicting more sustained damage.

It is a moment in time when Shami's talent seems inexhaustible, for you never seem to get to the bottom of it. By now, batsmen world over might have pored endlessly into his footages, micro-dissected every movement of his. Yet, they can't get to the bottom of his genius, they can't get a measure of his craft.

The only paradox is that it has taken the audience too long to appreciate the genius of Shami. Among the three, he was the earliest to represent his country, back in 2013, a time when Bumrah was just making heads turn and toes shake, and Siraj transitioning from tennis ball to leather-ball cricket. Perhaps, Shami made himself easily forgotten. Not for him the tattoos and Ferraris. Not for him the glitz of high-life. He shrank himself from attention, though he kept grabbing wickets, kept adding more layers into his game and kept leaping into cricketing immortality, evolving from a connoisseur's delight to a mass hero.

Shami once told me 'Only those who are scared, bowl cross-seam', says coach

PRATYUSH RAJ
NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 15

OUT OF his 23 scalps in this World Cup, Mohammed Shami has bagged 18 under lights. His upright seam position has been the talk of the tournament, but it's his ability to move the ball both ways in the evening that has made the 33-year-old lethal.

The transformation of Shami, once tagged as a Test bowler who leaked runs in white-ball cricket, started at home in Sahaspur in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad district.

His childhood coach, Mohammed Badruddin, recalls how he even suggested to his ward that he should try and bowl cross-seam, and it was the first time the soft-spoken Shami had given a stern reply to his coach.

"He gave me a stare," laughs Badruddin. "He told me 'ye cross-seam darpok daalte hai (Those who are scared, bowl cross-seam). My strength is my seam, and I am not going to compromise on that.'"

"He never uses cross-seam or a wobble-seam. Even if he gets hit, he never compromises with his seam position."

Badruddin says it was during the lockdown in 2020, when Shami started working on his white-ball bowling. "Every morning, he will keep six white balls in a bucket full of water. It was during that time that he prepared a cricket pitch with floodlights at his farmhouse. He used to bowl with those wet balls at night continuously for three to four hours," says Badruddin.

"On some social media platform, he had read that a former India cricketer called him a red-ball bowler. He would say, 'Mujhe apne uparse ye thappa hatana hai (I want to get rid of this tag),' he says.

It took Shami three years to master the white ball. Damien Wright, who spent a couple of seasons as a bowling coach at Punjab Kings, explains Shami's method and compares him with the likes of Brett Lee and Mitchell

Johnson. "I was amazed with the way he used to go about things and particularly when bowling in the nets. He is a real perfectionist in how he releases the ball. He has a fantastic skillset, but there is a method behind that madness. He gets so many revolutions behind the ball, using his fingers on the seam. It was amazing to watch him do his magic," says Wright, who currently works as a bowling coach at the University of Tasmania.

Wright says Shami is one of the bowlers whose deliveries skid a lot after hitting the surface. He says, "You watch that Ben Stokes dismissal in Lucknow. That ball generated pace off the pitch, more than what the speedometer tells us."

"The seam is always in a great position, and when the ball hits the deck with the seam, which is the hardest part of the ball, it generates pace and bounce. Shami's ball gets quicker from the time he releases it from the hand and by the time it reaches the batsman," he said.

"He is also a rhythm bowler. He has got a strong action. He has got a nice front-leg brace, he has got a nice run-up as well. He might not be that quick but is very similar to the likes of Brett Lee and Mitchell Johnson. Like Shami, they also used to end the match in one spell," he says.

Perseverance pays

Meanwhile, Badruddin credits Shami's hard work, which has made him a formidable bowler. "After coming back from a tour, people generally take a rest, go on a vacation. But not Shami. He will sleep for one day and on the next, hit the nets. Either he will train on his own or call a dozen kids from an academy and will bowl at them from five or six paces," he says.

Shami's seam position and bowling action have not only garnered a massive fan base in India but has also become a subject of interest at the University of Tasmania. Last year, during the T20 World Cup in Australia, Shaheen Shah Afridi had told Shami at the nets, "I have been following you since I started bowling and am a big fan of your wrist position."



(Above) Mohammed Badruddin. (Below) Damien Wright.

Magnificent Mitchell almost pulls off the impossible

SRIRAM VEERA
MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 15

THE BEST tribute to Daryl Mitchell came from Virat Kohli's cry to his teammates. It was the 36th over, and Mitchell had gone down again due to cramps, and was getting some treatment. A ball later, Kohli started to shout at the Indian players to throw at Mitchell's end. The equation for the Kiwis at that stage was 174 runs from 95 balls.

New Zealand had just had a double jolt, losing captain Kane Williamson and Tom Latham to Mohammed Shami. Yet, rightly, Kohli and the Indians, on the field and in the stands, were worried about Mitchell.

To have the World Cup's mightiest bowling attack fretting, and their captain constantly shuffling his fielders, trying to get his best men in the areas Mitchell was targeting, was a sight to behold. Rohit Sharma's GPS would have clocked a few extra kilometres just by the frequent running to his bowlers, devising a plan. Nothing was working.

There is a whiff of what-could-have-been about Mitchell's great knock in the World Cup semifinal. What if he hadn't suffered severe cramps that necessitated repeated attention from the physio? Could he have achieved the seemingly impossible?

For a while, he wasn't able to stand, let alone swing his bat as he was doing until then. He also had to soak in the fall of wickets at the other end and repair the innings with Glenn Phillips, who took his time to find his touch.

"I will do anything for my team to win," Mitchell once said, and he walked the talk for the umpteenth time in his career. He has lived in a few countries, including Australia where he ran into the coaching of Justin Langer. He then turned out for Northern Districts, where he began to flower in the company of senior teammates.

"A combination of that advice and my own stubbornness allowed me to develop my own way to get where I wanted to be," he once told 1news.co.nz. That stubbornness was on show on a Mumbai night. Only he stood between India and a spot in the final.

For a while, he rattled India with his simple, smart, effective technique. He hit nearly every Indian bowler until cramps and wickets held him back. He started again, but lost Phillips and by then, the game had gone too far away from him and New Zealand.

Undoubtedly, he would retire to his hotel room for an intense postmortem. He is the sort who files catches he drops as 'what if?' Moments. The batting analysis gets more thorough.

"I do that every time I finish a game. Did I watch the ball? Was I absolutely ready for a moment that came my way? Did I prepare the best way possible?" he told 1news. "If I can work through that process, and if I can say I did everything I needed to do, I can accept that it wasn't my day, and move on."

He can tick all those boxes in his performance analysis. He was ready for any moment that came his way. He obviously prepared well. And he did everything he needed to do. And it was nearly his day too. At the end of it all, as Kohli hugged him, and patted his head in acknowledgement of his stupendous knock that had India worried, his lips curled into a smile.



Daryl Mitchell's 119-ball 134 forced New Zealand into consideration for parts of their semifinal at Wankhede. Reuters

MATCH MADE IN EDEN

Old foes Australia, South Africa in battle of equals at Eden Gardens

SANDIP G
KOLKATA, NOVEMBER 15

HIS CAZE, wandering to the newly-plastered ceiling of the Eden Gardens press conference room, some of the bulbs flickering to life, South Africa skipper Temba Bavuma confessed feeling nervous before the biggest game yet of his captaincy-journey. As an afterthought, lest he is misconstrued as being timid, he said: "There are obviously solutions or mechanisms that have been given as to how to deal with that anxiety if you feel that it overwhelms you..."

He not only admitted being nervous, but also looked like he was. His Australia counterpart, Pat Cummins, was just the antithesis, smiling broadly and chucking often.

But in these times of media-trained athlete-speak, both barely threw verbal punches at each other. Rather, they were effusive in praising the semifinal adversaries. Bavuma would emphasize that "we are not playing any mickey mouse teams." Cummins would dwell on South Africa's "positive cricket." The closest salvo-fling came when Cummins spoke of his

team's experience in winning finals (2015 World Cup and 2021 T20), but even that was a passing, venom-less reference uttered in the friendliest tone. Bavuma's moment arrived when he said: "The way we have been playing, we deserve to play the final."

There, though, was nothing of the rancour that had filtered into press-conference rooms of encounters past. Like in 1999, Steve Waugh whipped up the most sarcastic of quotes: "I never said South Africa were chokers. I said they couldn't play well under pressure. But if remarks like that upset them, then they have problems." Or when South Africa coach Bob Woolmer responded, fuming: "This is 1999, the choking thing is all played out. Why should we be called chokers when we have an 80% win record? You only have to look at the facts."

No lack of fire

But let the pregame calm be not misconstrued for a lack of fire, a veil of amiability forged by playing as teammates in franchise league. It's just that Bavuma and Cummins are not champions of the verbal rattle, not built in Hansie Cronje-Steve Waugh mould.



Glenn Maxwell and Marnus Labuschagne at a training session. PTI

The mood could have been different had David Warner and Kagiso Rabada been the speakers. Nonetheless, there are enough threads to make this a classical Australia-South Africa clash, an encounter of two hard teams in a relentless tussle to out-muscle, outwit and out-run each other. For much of the last three decades, South Africa's only endeavor seemed to knock Australia off the lofty perch.

The fixation once prompted Waugh to fling another bullet: "In knockouts against us, they try too hard and so they lose." For much of this span, they have been equals. In fact, South Africa have beaten Australia oftener, yet Australia were four-time world champs since, while South Africa are hunting for their first.

At the Eden Gardens, they begin as equals again. Both logged in the same number of points to reach the semifinals, both lost twice and won seven games, both separated by decimals and fractions. Both are built around big-hitting batsmen.

South Africa's arsenal flash the destructibility of Quinton de Kock, Heinrich Klassen, Aiden Markram and David Miller; Australia have a blazing constellation of David Warner, Travis Head, Glenn Maxwell and Mitchell Marsh. Rassie van der Dussen has slotted into the anchor role, though he is capable of lusty blows himself. So could Australia speak of Steve Smith. Both bat deep too. A high-scoring game, thus, would be a carnival of some of the world's most enterprising batsmen. Between these two batting line-ups, they have racked up eight 300-plus totals and 14 hundreds (seven each),

Only that these batsmen would countenance a fleet of supreme, Test-quality bowlers. Sample these: Kagiso Rabada combating Warner and Smith; Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins revving up the pace to de Kock; Keshav Maharaj and Tabraiz Shamsi versus the slayer of spin. Glenn Maxwell; Adam Zampa probing Klassen and Co with his wrong'uns. Perhaps, the only advantage South Africa wields is that they have a quality second spinner, in Tabraiz Shamsi.

Australia have to rely on Zampa and the part-time spin of Maxwell and Shamsi. Maxwell, though, has maintained an economy rate of 4.95. Together, Maxwell and Zampa have accounted for 27 wickets: Maharaj and Shamsi have a combined haul of 21. But the South Africa pair have picked a wicket for every 25th run they have conceded. Australia's corresponding number is 35, the number hiked by Maxwell's average of 52. South Africa have bowled out opponents seven times; Australia on five instances.

Given that the Eden deck could abet the spinners—as both captains reckoned after initial pitch-peeping—Zampa and Maharaj could

turn out to be protagonists. Both are as opposites as spinners could be. Zampa is a wrist-spinner forged in the modern white-ball fire, relying more on his wrong'uns and sliders than the leg-breaks. Maharaj's methods are more classical, reliant on drift, a snappy arm-ball and the away-spinners that break away on helpful tracks. On the other hand, Australia batsmen seem better at dealing with the spinners, given their experience of the subcontinent.

But whatever the nature of the pitch turns out to be, both teams have the weapons to exploit. Both have their weaknesses too. South Africa have been poor chasers—they lost both games when hunting down a target, while clinging onto a one-wicket win too. Australia have a flaky lower middle-order, the form of Josh Inglis (18.71) and Stoinis (21.75) a concern.

Both thus, are flawed and gifted, and both promise to serve up another classic. Australia fuelled by their glittering past, and South Africa fired up by the promise of tomorrow. And when the moment arrives on the pitch, the veneer of calm and nerves that prevailed on the eve of the semifinal could all make way for raw rage and rancour.