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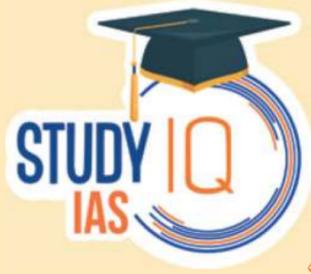
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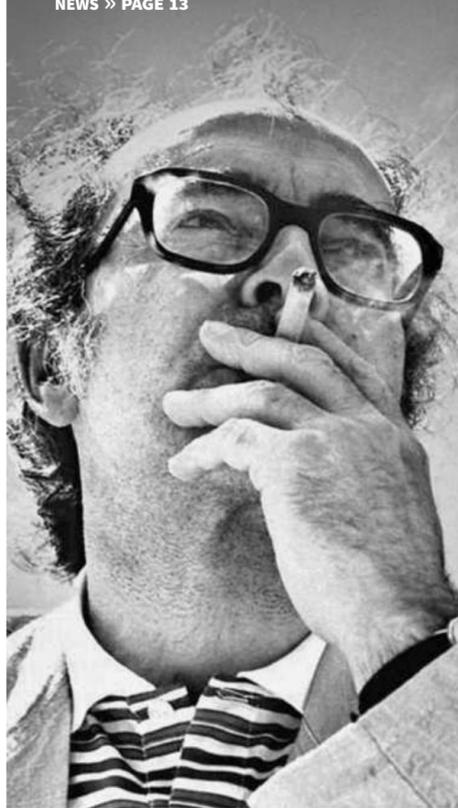
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**Ukraine issue of 'profound concern', says India at UNSC**

**Sriram Lakshman**  
UNITED NATIONS

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was among a group of Ministers, heads of government and representatives at the United Nations Security Council who expressed their concern on September 22 over the continuing conflict in Ukraine.

While he did not name Russia specifically, unlike the representatives of many other countries, Mr. Jaishankar said the conflict was a matter of "profound concern" for the global community.

"The future outlook appears even more disturbing," he said, a day after Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a partial mobilisation of 300,000 potential combatants and a threat of nuclear action.

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**ZELENSKY'S DEMAND**  
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## 109 held in nationwide crackdown against PFI

NIA, ED and police conduct searches across 15 States; most of the arrests made in Kerala, followed by Karnataka and Maharashtra; Popular Front condemns the operation, terms the arrests 'unjust'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

In a nationwide crackdown, 109 leaders and activists of the Popular Front of India (PFI) were arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the police during searches conducted across 15 States on Thursday.

Most of the arrests have been made in Kerala (22), followed by Karnataka (20) and Maharashtra (20), Tamil Nadu (10), Assam (10) and Uttar Pradesh (8).

### 'Baseless claims'

The PFI, through a statement, condemned the raids and termed the arrests "unjust", a witch-hunt against the outfit's members and supporters and "the harassment of its national and State leaders" across the country.



**Under lens:** Popular Front of India former chairman E. Abubacker being taken to the Patiala House court in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

"The NIA's baseless claims and sensationalism are solely aimed at creating an atmosphere of terror. We will never be intimidated by such scare tactics by a totalitarian regime that uses the Central agencies as its puppets," said the PFI national executive council.

The NIA searched 93 places in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Goa, West Bengal, Bihar and Manipur.

"The houses of top PFI leaders and members were covered in connection with five cases registered by the NIA," said an agency official. At 45 locations, the ED officials were part of the joint teams, also comprising security personnel.

The clampdown was based on inputs that the accused were funding terror acts, organising weapon training camps and radicalising people to join banned outfits.

Among the main persons arrested are PFI chairman O.M.A. Salam, vice-chairman E.M. Abdul Rahim, its national vice-chairman P. Koya, former outfit chief E. Abubacker and national general secretary Nasurudeen Elamaram.

The clampdown was based on inputs that the accused were funding terror acts, organising weapon training camps and radicalising people to join banned outfits.

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MORE REPORTS  
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### IN BRIEF



### RSS chief rashtra pita, says imam

**NEW DELHI**  
Umer Ahmed Ilyasi, chief imam of the All India Imam Organisation, described RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat as *rashtra pita* when the latter visited his residence in Delhi on Thursday.

NEWS  
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### BMC denies nod to Sena factions for Dasara rally

**MUMBAI**  
The BMC on Thursday rejected the applications of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena camp and the rival group led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde for holding Dasara rallies at Shivaji Park citing law and order concerns.

STATES  
» PAGE 6

## Nitish's U.P. expansion plan faces pushback from SP

**Sobhana K. Nair**  
**Mayank Kumar**  
NEW DELHI/LUCKNOW

The Janata Dal (United) is aiming at expanding Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's influence on the Kurmi vote bank beyond the State boundaries, especially in Uttar Pradesh. However, a section of the Samajwadi Party (SP) is resisting the idea.

According to sources, the JD(U) has broached the idea of holding joint rallies in the Kurmi-dominated areas of Uttar Pradesh, pitching in to help the SP in mobilising this non-Yadav OBC caste base in their favour.

Since the 2014 Lok Sabha election, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has successfully managed to keep the non-Yadav OBC bloc in its camp.

During the recent Uttar Pradesh Assembly election, the SP had gone on an overdrive to reach out to the non-Yadav OBC bloc.



**Initial promise:** A banner featuring Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav outside the SP headquarters in Lucknow, indicating their alliance for the 2024 Lok Sabha poll. PTI

The 'Kisan Naujawan Patel Yatra' led by SP State president Naresh Uttam Patel had targeted the Kurmi vote bank. However, such efforts did not pay the expected dividends.

**Key vote bank**  
As per the 1931 Census, the last time a caste count was conducted, the Kurmi population, which is concentrated in the eastern and central parts of the State, amounted to a little over

4.7% of the total population. Kurmis can impact the outcome in at least 15 Lok Sabha seats.

The JD(U) is hoping that organising such rallies would help carve a bigger role for Mr. Kumar. This is despite the Bihar CM saying repeatedly that he is not interested in leading the Opposition and would instead work towards forging unity among parties.

SP national spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary



Going by the 2022 Assembly poll results, we are ahead on 24 Lok Sabha seats. In such a scenario, why should we play second fiddle to a party which has no electoral base in Uttar Pradesh?

**SAMAJWADI PARTY LEADER**

said no such conversation was going on between the two sides. Meanwhile, JD (U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh said the Lok Sabha poll was still some time away. "The JD(U) believes in the necessity of Opposition unity and we will make every possible effort for it," Mr. Singh said.

The initial euphoria in Lucknow after the formation of the JD(U)-RJD government in Bihar has now given way to scepticism. Soon after Mr. Kumar was sworn in for the eighth

time as the Chief Minister, this time as the head of *Mahagathbandhan* government, posters with the slogan "UP+Bihar = Gayi Modi Sarkar (If Uttar Pradesh and Bihar join hands, the Modi government will be ousted)" cropped up at the SP's State headquarters in Lucknow. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar together send 120 (80 and 40, respectively) MPs to the Lok Sabha.

### Facing resistance

However, a section of the SP is now resisting the JD (U)'s expansion plans. "Going by the 2022 Assembly poll results, we are ahead on 24 Lok Sabha seats. The BJP is facing dual anti-incumbency - against the Central government and against individual MPs. If we are to build on this, we can easily stretch our tally to 35-odd seats. In such a scenario, why should we play second fiddle to a party which has no electoral base in Uttar Pradesh?" a senior SP leader said.

## Soon, masks may not be must in Delhi

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Orders requiring citizens to mandatorily wear masks at public places in the Cap-

ital are likely to be withdrawn over the coming days as the city sees a steady decline in the number of new COVID-19 cases.

The issue was discussed

at a meeting of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority on Thursday.

**CM BATS FOR BOOSTER DOSE**  
» PAGE 2

## Maoist movement is now on the ebb along the Andhra-Odisha boundary

**SPECIAL**  
**Sumit Bhattacharjee**  
VISAKHAPATNAM

The Maoist movement is on the ebb on the Andhra Pradesh-Odisha boundary, with its cadre and militia strength heavily depleted.

On Monday, the Andhra-Odisha Border Special Zonal Committee (AOBSZC) of the banned CPI (Maoist) released a letter urging the tribal people to join and revive the movement. The



Vehicles being checked in Alluri Sitaramaraju district, A.P., on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

letter, released on the eve of the 18th Foundation Day of the CPI (Maoist), clearly indicated the desperation to keep the movement afloat.

ABOSZC secretary Ganesh said in the letter that the security forces of both Andhra and Odisha were trying to wean away the tribals from the Maoist fold by filing false cases on them and projecting them as surrendered members of the party.

Recent events indicate there is a huge leadership crisis, as almost all remaining top leaders, including Gajarla Ravi, alias Uday, alias Ganesh, and Aruna have fled to Chhattisgarh.

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A health worker with COVID-19 vaccines in Delhi. FILE PHOTO

## Take booster dose ahead of festive season, appeals CM

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday issued an appeal to Delhiites to take the vaccine booster dose ahead of the festive season after taking stock of COVID-19 management at a meeting of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority with Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena.

With the precaution doses of vaccination currently at 24%, directions have been issued that this be scaled up to at least 40-50%.

Government sources said those who attended the meeting agreed that there was still a need to remain vigilant regarding COVID-19.

"Data from sewage surveillance and genome sequencing will be analysed carefully to detect any surge or new variant," a source said. "However, deployment of staff and equipment in hospitals will be scaled down in a calibrated and phased manner," the source said.

# Court reserves verdict on L-G's plea to restrain AAP from hurling charges

I can imagine a politician saying things against another politician but L-G is a constitutional authority, the Judge hearing Saxena's defamation suit tells AAP's counsel; even constitutional authorities have a history, counsel responds

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Thursday reserved its verdict on a defamation suit filed by Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena against AAP and five of its leaders — Sanjay Singh, Atishi, Durgesh Pathak, Saubh Bharadwaj and Jasmine Shah — for levelling "false" and "derogatory" allegations against him.

Justice Amit Bansal reserved the order on the issue of granting interim relief to Mr. Saxena, who sought direction to AAP and its leaders not to further publish derogatory statements against him and to remove such statements published earlier.

Apart from seeking ₹2.5 crore in damages along with interest, Mr. Saxena also sought directions to Twitter and YouTube to



AAP MLAs protesting against the Lieutenant-Governor at the Delhi Assembly. FILE PHOTO

take down tweets, re-tweets, posts, videos, captions, taglines along with pictures of him and his family members, in connection with the allegations.

### The background

The controversy erupted when AAP MLA Durgesh Pathak, during a Delhi Assembly debate on August

29, accused Mr. Saxena of corruption involving change of demonetised notes in 2016 during his tenure as the head of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Alleging a ₹1,400-crore scam, AAP had demanded a CBI probe against Mr. Saxena. During the hearing, Justice Bansal said, "I can

imagine a politician saying things against another politician but not against a constitutional functionary. He (the L-G) is a constitutional authority".

To this, AAP's counsel responded, "even constitutional authorities have some history".

The counsel also said that AAP's leaders had al-

so accused Mr. Saxena, while being the KVIC head, of violating rules in awarding a contract, to design a Khadi lounge, to his daughter.

AAP's counsel called it "a statement of fact" and said it hadn't been denied. Responding to this, Mr. Saxena's counsel said it was a matter of fact that his daughter had assisted in designing the lounge on a pro bono (without charge) basis without charging a single penny for her services. "When no money was taken, how does it amount to corruption," the Judge remarked.

The L-G submitted that AAP and its leaders built their "vilification campaign" on the statements of two accused persons of KVIC who have been chargesheeted in the case relating to the exchange of demonetised currency notes.

## L-G orders inquiry into appointment of 'ghost teachers'

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Lieutenant-Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has ordered an inquiry into the appointment of "ghost teachers" in the Delhi government-run schools, according to government sources.

This development comes a week after Mr. Saxena granted permission to the Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) to conduct an investigation against two serving and two retired vice-principals of Delhi government schools for fraudulently drawing guest teachers' salaries in the name of "non-existent guest teachers" in the Government Boys Senior Secondary School (GBSSS-I) at Mansarovar Park.

Sources said Mr. Saxena has asked for an internal inquiry into alleged irregularities in the engagement of guest teachers in Delhi government schools and the alleged embezzlement

of funds through salaries paid to non-existent or "ghost" guest teachers.

### Punish wrongdoers

Responding to the development, the Delhi government stated, "We welcome any inquiry. If there is any wrongdoing, it should be punished."

"The L-G Secretariat has asked the Chief Secretary to advise Director (Education) to immediately verify the engagement, physical attendance and withdrawal of salaries of all guest teachers engaged by the Delhi government in its schools," a source said, adding that a status report is expected to be filed within 30 days. The note sent to the Chief Secretary read: "The L-G has observed that instances of non-existent guest teachers and embezzlement of funds are of serious concern and cannot occur without the connivance of the principals/vice-principals/accounts staff."

# Kalkaji slum rehab: 285 families selected in third draw of lots

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has conducted the third draw of lots for 285 eligible families from the Bhoomiheen Camp JJ cluster as part of its in situ slum rehabilitation project at Kalkaji Extension. The result of the draw was published on Thursday.

Through its previous draws conducted in February and June this year, the DDA issued allotment-cum-demand letters to 1,576 eligible households at the JJ cluster, while it has constructed 3,024 flats at the project site.

A senior DDA official said there will be "no more" draws for the households at the Kalkaji JJ cluster, adding

that "all eligible households at the Bhoomiheen Camp have been covered".

"Those remaining from the total 2,890 households identified at the JJ cluster are not eligible for a house under the project and a list of these non-eligible households will be published. The eligibility for a house under this project is determined by a committee

based on the documents provided by the families. The list of households that are not eligible has not been publicly disclosed," said the DDA official.

### Confusion over draws

However, the residents at the Bhoomiheen Camp, whose names have yet not come up in the draw of lots, said they were "assured of

more draws to be conducted later".

"Upon seeing the latest draw results, we went to meet some of the officials concerned who told us that they will conduct more draws for the remaining families at the camp. Even a few days ago, we were told that close to 2,900 families from the Bhoomiheen Camp will be

given homes. But we are confused as to what the final number is. We will have to wait and see whether more draws are actually conducted," said Sagar, a resident who has not been allotted a flat yet.

The senior DDA official said the remaining flats (1,163 of 3,024) will be used to accommodate families from the nearby JJ clusters

— Navjeevan Camp and Jawaharlal Nehru Camp. However, no figures have been provided regarding the total number of households that have been identified in the two camps.

Earlier, another senior DDA official had said "a new housing scheme" has been developed for the two camps on a public-private partnership model.

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# Fake electricity bill scam leaves consumers in shock

Over 1,000 complaints received nationwide so far with 200 from Delhi alone; have been sensitising consumers about the fraud: BSES official

**Samridhi Tewari**  
NEW DELHI

**P**resh Gupta, a resident of Malviya Nagar in south Delhi, realised that something was seriously amiss when ₹99,450 was debited from his bank account after he was asked to clear his "unpaid" electricity bill.

He had earlier received an SMS from an unsuspecting mobile number with a payment link attached to it. "Dear customer, your electricity supply will be disconnected tonight because you haven't updated your previous bill," read the message sent out in August.

This was shortly followed by a call from a person, impersonating an electricity board official, asking him to download an application and make a payment of ₹3 through a digital wallet.

With money in his bank account wiped off, Mr. Gupta wasted no time in filing a complaint with the police. When his call records and bank details were scanned, the police realised that they were faced with a new challenge - an electricity bill payment scam. It was found that the app downloaded by Mr. Gupta had facilitat-



A victim of the fake bill scam reported being duped of ₹99,450. FILE PHOTO

**According to a senior police officer, the scamsters sent random messages to people about unpaid electricity bills**

stall a remote access software," the officer said. Money was then transferred from the victims' bank to their fake accounts through remote access.

According to sources, the scamsters were operating from 22 locations across the country.

According to DCP (Intelligence Fusion & Strategic Operations) K.P.S. Malhotra, more than 1,000 complaints have been received nationwide by the Cyber Cell so far with 200 from Delhi alone. Raids were conducted in 22 cities across the country and a total of 30 people arrested, the DCP said.

Senior BSES officials said they have been sensitising consumers about the fraud.

"We undertook an aggressive campaign in the last few months, across multiple platforms including social media, WhatsApp, SMS alerts and consumer newsletter, to inform consumers to be vigilant against these fraudulent calls and messages," an official said.

ed the takeover of remote access of his mobile phone.

A Cyber Cell police officer said efforts to track the phone numbers of the scamsters proved futile as they were found to be switched off and had gone off the radar.

**Modus operandi**

According to a senior police officer, the scamsters sent random messages to people about unpaid electricity bills. "They would tell their victims that the electricity bill had not been updated and threaten to disconnect supply that very night," he added.

Due to genuine fear, many were conned into calling the said number with the receiver impersonating an electricity department official. "The scamsters were able to access the bank account details or in-

# Rain lashes Capital; Met says more in store as mercury dips



A man walks in pouring rain on Kartavya Path in New Delhi on Thursday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

With most parts of the city witnessing rain during the day, the maximum temperature dropped to 28 degrees Celsius on Thursday, which is seven degrees lower than the normal for this time of the year, as per the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The city received 5.6 mm of rainfall in the 24 hours ending at 8.30 a.m. on Thursday and 31.2 mm during the day till 5.30 p.m., as per the IMD.

Palam recorded the highest rainfall - 56.5 mm - during the day while Mun-

geshpur recorded the lowest rainfall of 1 mm during the same time.

The continuous downpour through the day caused a chock-a-block situation on various intersections and key stretches of the city, sending the traffic haywire.

The weather department has issued a 'yellow' alert for Friday, cautioning people about moderate rain at most of the places in the city.

The mercury is likely to remain below 30 degrees Celsius till Monday and gradually climb up to 35 degrees Celsius by Wednesday.

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# International drug cartel busted, two held; 20 kg of narcotics seized

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Two persons were arrested for allegedly possessing 20 kg of narcotics - 10 kg of heroin and opium each - worth over ₹60 crore in the international market, the

police said on Thursday. Special CP (Special Cell) H.G.S. Dhaliwal said the accused, identified as Abhishek Raja, 26, and Nizamuddin, 34. They had received the drug consignment from a handler in Manipur. The drugs were hid-

den in the cavities of their car, the police said.

The Special CP said with the duo's arrest, the police have busted an international drug cartel in which narcotics were being smuggled from Myanmar into India via the Nepal border.

# 'Won't quash FIR against man accused of son's abuse'

**Press Trust of India**  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has refused to quash an FIR registered against a man for sexually abusing his minor son, saying it would be unfair to deny justice to the child only because the incident involves his "real father" and the parents have a matrimonial discord.

While the accused claimed a matrimonial dispute with his estranged wife has been converted into a false criminal case, the court said from the material on record, it was "not persuaded to reach a conclusion that the allegations are absurd".

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma observed that the truth would become clear only during the trial and the child has the right to get justice if he has been sexually abused.

**Timings**

DELHI		
FRIDAY, SEP. 23		
RISE	06:10	SET 18:17
RISE	03:31	SET 17:09
SATURDAY, SEP. 24		
RISE	06:11	SET 18:16
RISE	04:27	SET 17:41
SUNDAY, SEP. 25		
RISE	06:11	SET 18:15
RISE	05:24	SET 18:11

Delhi Weather		
Delhi City	max	min
Safdarjang	28	24
Palam	28	24

**Delhi Palam Today**  
29°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Intermittent spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower with gusty winds to occur.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
28°C A comfortable but humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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## JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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October - 2022 (I)

72

72

LOTS/SHOPS

03

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RERA Regi. No. RAJ/PI/2018/847

01

APJ Abdul Kalam Nagar,  
Jaisinghpura Bas Bhankrota, Jaipur  
RERA Regi. No. RAJ/PI/2020/1293

01

Lakkad Patthar Mandi,  
Jaipur  
(Coal Use Only)

### 49

## RESIDENTIAL PLOTS

09

Hira Lal Shastri Nagar Scheme, Jaipur  
RERA Regi. No. RAJ/PI/2020/1297

11

Anupam Vihar Scheme, Jaipur

11

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08

Rajarampura Scheme, Jaipur

06

Rajat Vihar Scheme, Jaipur

01

Ramnagariya Vistar Scheme, Jaipur

01

Malviya Nagar Scheme, Jaipur

02

Anandlok Scheme, Jaipur

### 14

## SHOP PLOTS

08

Auto Mobile Shop (Type-B)  
Transport Nagar,  
Sikar Road, Jaipur

03

Auto Mobile Shop (Type-C)  
Transport Nagar,  
Sikar Road, Jaipur

01

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Transport Nagar,  
Sikar Road, Jaipur

02

Vidhyadhar Nagar  
Sector-4, Jaipur

### 02

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# Doshi Kaun? As evidence fades on 1984 Kanpur riots, SIT finds clues in a booklet

The BJP government in Uttar Pradesh set up a Special Investigation Team to reopen the anti-Sikh riots cases in Kanpur, but the probe hit a dead end until the investigators chanced upon a report by human rights body PUCL. A rare inclusion in an official probe, the booklet has become the proverbial straw the SIT is clutching at, reports **Ishita Mishra**

**A**vatar Singh turned 65 this year but his neighbours hardly know his name. He is still called by his father's name, Vishakha Singh, the man who died protecting his family and daughter's honour.

Mr. Avtar lost seven members of his family when a mob barged into his house in the Dabauli area of Kanpur on November 1, 1984, a day after former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was killed by her two Sikh bodyguards in New Delhi.

"My father asked me, my mother, four brothers and sister to run. He took a sword and ran towards the mob to save us. My brothers and I rushed to the terrace and jumped from there but only I managed to escape, the rest were caught and killed on the spot. My mother could not run and met the same fate. When the rioters attacked my elder sister, my father beheaded her to save her dignity and then killed himself," Mr. Avtar told *The Hindu*.

He ran to a nearby building and hid there till some people came to rescue him. Mr. Avtar said he went back home in the hope of finding someone alive but could not even identify the bodies of his parents from his siblings as they were charred and dismembered.

He later moved with his three elder brothers who lived at Gumti number 5, about 10 km from Dabauli, and started a grocery store, named after Vishakha Singh, to earn a living.

Almost 38 years since the killings, not a single accused has been convicted of the gruesome crime. Even the First Information Report (FIR) and post-mortem details of the bodies have gone missing from police records.

In February 2019, the Yogi Adityanath government set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the cases registered at two police stations in Kanpur — Nazirabad and Bajaria. The investigating team was also asked to re-examine the FIRs in which the police had filed a final/closure report. The SIT could not find any FIRs, post-mortem reports or even names to start its probe with but a 61-page booklet published by the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) became the proverbial straw it is clutching at now.

The booklet, *Doshi Kaun*, is perhaps the only documented record, apart from the Ranganath Misra Commission inquiry report, available on the crimes and casualties of the Kanpur carnage.

## No convictions

Though the official death toll in the Kanpur riots stands at 127, residents insist the actual number was much higher. A total of 1,251 FIRs were lodged during the riots — the second highest after Delhi — for heinous crimes, including murders, dacoity and rapes.

In 2018, a Supreme Court Bench headed by former Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra directed the Uttar Pradesh government to get the anti-Sikh riot cases reinvestigated by top officials from the judiciary, bureaucracy and police. The apex court's order came while hearing a petition by Manjit Singh, president, Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee in Delhi, demanding justice for the forgotten victims of the Kanpur riots.

The SIT constituted by the State government is headed by former Director General of Police, Uttar Pradesh, Atul Gupta and includes former Judge Subhash Chandra Agarwal; former Additional Director, Prosecution, Yogeshwar Krishna Srivastava; and Deputy Inspector General, Balendu Bhushan Singh. Over a dozen policemen are attached to the team, which moved its base to Kanpur from different cities in the State.

Formed initially for six months, the SIT was given multiple extensions by the State government after reviewing its performance.

The SIT started its probe in the last week of May 2019. "About 95% of the crime evidence — fingerprints, DNA, weapons, forensic-related clues — had been erased as people had renovated the homes burnt during the riots. The shops ransacked by the mobs were nowhere to be found as the map of the city had changed in 35 years. We literally had nothing to start with," said Mr. Bhushan.

Months after the probe began, a Sikh community leader gave the officials a copy of *Doshi Kaun*. Published barely days after the violence in Kanpur, the book had graphic details of the killings, interviews of the victims' kin and description of the deceased as well as the accused. Even those who helped the victims found a mention in the booklet.

## Doshi Kaun enters probe

"I was given the PUCL report by my senior Atul Gupta who received the copy from a Sikh leader associated with Gurdwara Bhai Banno Sahib. I read it thoroughly and got what we needed to start the investigation," said Mr. Bhushan.

The booklet mentioned that the police remained a "mute spectator" during the riots. It also described how hospitals allegedly turned away some critically injured victims and the administration turned a blind eye to the accounts of the eyewitnesses who volunteered to identify those involved in the violence, including politicians and their supporters.

"A few leaders of the Congress in 1984 held a press conference in Delhi and criticised the con-



All that remains: (Above) Avtar Singh shows the photos of his parents and siblings who were killed in the 1984 riots in Kanpur, at his grocery shop; (left) the cover of the PUCL booklet. R.V. MOORTHY



About 95% of the crime evidence — fingerprints, DNA, weapons, forensic clues — had been erased. The map of the city had changed in 35 years. We literally had nothing to start with

**BALENDU BHUSHAN SINGH**  
DIG, SIT

tents of *Doshi Kaun*. They said the booklet had declared some people 'dead' who were later found to be alive. This may have happened because it was the first on-ground investigation done by anyone into the riots. There were cases where those who escaped the attacks kept hiding for several days, forcing their relatives to add their names to the list of the dead," said Sardar Mokam Singh, former president of Gurdwara Bhai Banno Sahib, one of the biggest gurdwaras in Kanpur.

The gurdwara committee too had no idea about the PUCL booklet till March 2019. Soon after the SIT was formed, the shrine organised a few camps in a bid to bring together the relatives of the riot victims who had moved to other places. "A man travelled all the way from Jammu to meet us and gave us a copy of *Doshi Kaun*. After reading it we realised everything written in the book was true," said Mr. Mokam.

The DIG agreed with Mr. Mokam's opinion. "I can say that 99% of the things written in the booklet are true. PUCL's inquiry into Delhi riots also finds a mention in the report of Justice Ranganath Misra Commission, set up by the Congress government in 1986 to probe the anti-Sikh riots in Delhi, Kanpur and Bokaro [Jharkhand]," said Mr. Bhushan.

The Ranganath Misra Commission report, however, had rejected the PUCL's findings in the Delhi riots cases, stating that it was not an official authorised inquiry.

## PUCL: then and now

The PUCL, a human rights organisation formed in 1976 by socialist icon Jayaprakash Narayan, has been documenting and highlighting incidents of rights violations across the country. It has worked extensively in Uttar Pradesh too, bringing out reports on heinous crimes such as the gang rape and murder of a Dalit girl in Hathras in 2020 and the killing of protesting farmers allegedly involving the son of a Union Minister in Lakhimpur Kheri last year.

The "reliance" of the SIT on *Doshi Kaun* has surprised even the members of PUCL.

N.D. Pancholi, founder member and vice-president of the organisation, who was one of the

key authors of *Doshi Kaun*, said neither the police nor the Uttar Pradesh government ever responded to any PUCL reports, be it the Hathras case or the Lakhimpur Kheri incident.

"In the 1970s and 80s, the RSS [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh] and the BJP were part of the people's movement against the Congress government and leaders like [the late] Arun Jaitley helped the PUCL in public outreach... We are not affiliated with any political party but they often choose to cite our reports that suit their agenda," Mr. Pancholi said, citing the example of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi who mentioned the PUCL report on the Hathras case.

Mr. Pancholi told *The Hindu* that during the Kanpur riots they went door to door documenting the incidents of violence. "We met hundreds of people who agreed to share their trauma with us, helping the PUCL bring out a report that is now proving vital for the police in acting against the accused," said Mr. Pancholi.

He said the situation is very different now as people hardly speak for others. They don't even speak for themselves as they want to avoid more trouble, said the PUCL founder-member.

"Intimidation from the government acts as a deterrent in conducting a thorough probe. Earlier, we never faced FIRs for writing such books but now even a tweet can land us in jail for years," said Mr. Pancholi.

## Challenges for SIT

In over three years of its investigation, the SIT has shortlisted 40 cases of heinous crimes from the 1,251 FIRs lodged in 1984. It has filed closure reports in 29 cases and zeroed in on 96 accused involved in the remaining 11 cases. Among them, 23 are dead and four are bedridden due to prolonged illness. Thirty-six people are behind bars, many of them Congress workers from that time.

Mr. Bhushan, however, said the SIT conducted a thorough probe and only after ascertaining all the facts, did they arrest the accused.

The SIT head, Mr. Gupta, said they did not hesitate in making arrests in cases where there was ample evidence. "We had clear orders from the government that those who are not guilty must not be framed and those who are guilty shouldn't be spared, despite their age and political leanings."

## Arrests and protests

In July this year, the SIT arrested Yogesh Sharma, 65, and Bharat Sharma, 60, on charges of murder, dacoity and arson (Section 396 and 436 of the Indian Penal Code) at Vishakha Singh's house.

The accused are brothers of Manish Sharma, a former Congress corporator from Dabauli, who alleged that the arrests were "politically motivated". "A policeman came to our house in January this year and asked several random questions, including where we were during the 1984 riots. The policeman warned me of arrest and left. My elder brothers were arrested in July. They [police] waited all these months just to ensure the BJP got Brahmin votes in the Assembly polls that were held in February-March this year," said Mr. Sharma.

Amarjeet Singh Pammi, a Sikh leader, however, said the SIT action has helped the ruling BJP in Uttar Pradesh pacify the Sikh community, which was angry with the government over the farmers'

protest and the Lakhimpur Kheri incident.

"We fought for years with the State government and the Centre for compensation and justice. Finally, we are getting it now," said Mr. Amarjeet, who is also national vice-chairman of the All India Riot Victims Relief Committee.

## Political affiliations

The BJP may have sought some political mileage out of reopening the 37-year-old cases, but things have not turned out that straightforward. Many people who were with the Congress then are now with the BJP, including Raghendra Kushwaha, a key suspect, whose brother Indrajeet Singh Kushwaha is Ghatampur block chief from the ruling party. Their uncle Shivnath Singh Kushwaha was the local Congress MLA at the time of the riots.

Mr. Raghendra is absconding since the SIT started making arrests, said the police.

The PUCL booklet stated that Mr. Raghendra "brought rioters in buses from Ghatampur to Kanpur and killed many", including war hero Mahendra Singh Siddhu and 10 members of his family by throwing them from the terrace of their house.

"Raghendra's family has shifted its loyalty to the BJP now. His brother has managed to escape arrest due to his political influence in the party," said Mr. Manish.

Kuldeep Singh Bhogal, a prominent Sikh leader from Delhi who fought for the justice of the riot victims, is enraged at Raghendra still being at large. "Why no bulldozer has been sent to demolish Raghendra's house," he asked.

Among those who did not get any benefit of switching loyalties to the BJP is Lalit Pal, son of 70-year-old Kailash Pal, a former Congress corporator. Mr. Kailash was arrested on July 12 on charges of burning a house and looting the assets during the riots. "There is no truth in the charges. My father is innocent," said Mr. Lalit, who is currently a BJP worker.

## Chinks in the probe

Ravi Gupta, son of 68-year-old Siddh Gopal Gupta who has been arrested by the SIT on charges of robbery and arson, said the probe is faulty with "overwritten" FIRs and questionable evidence.

"The FIR showed to me has the name of our shop, Grihasthi General Store. There is no mention of my father's involvement in the riots. We had three workers in our shop at that time. It could be them too. But the policemen arrested only my father who, during the riots, was performing the last rites of his dead mother," Mr. Ravi told *The Hindu*.

"The way the SIT is working, all people above 60 years of age in Kanpur should be wary as they can be randomly picked by the police. They have failed to arrest the real criminals," said Mr. Ravi.

Rohit Singh, son of Ganga Baksh Singh, another sexagenarian arrested by the SIT, said his father had helped a Sikh boy, Paramjeet Singh, who was just seven years old at the time of the riots. Mr. Ganga Baksh was arrested for killing and looting. "What is the police trying to establish? That my father killed a Sikh and saved another? Paramjeet is ready to give his testimony but the court is not allowing us to show any proof," said Mr. Rohit.

Sanjay Jha, the government counsel representing the police, says that bail pleas of the accused are being rejected by the court only because the police have concrete evidence.

## Wait for justice: 37 years and counting

Thousands of Sikhs were killed across India in the riots of 1984

**October 31, 1984:** PM Indira Gandhi is assassinated by two Sikh bodyguards; riots break out across the country; Delhi, Kanpur, Bokaro are worst-hit

**1984 to 2018:** As many as 13 commissions/committees investigate the Delhi riots; only Justice Ranganath Misra Commission, set up in 1985, probes the massacres in Kanpur and Bokaro and submits its report in August 1986

**February 1987:** Ranganath Misra Commission report is made public

**August 12, 2005:** Then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh



A scene of the violence on Delhi streets during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. THE HINDU ARCHIVES

apologises in the Lok Sabha for the violence against Sikhs in 1984

**January 2018:** Supreme Court directs the Uttar Pradesh government to get the Kanpur riots cases probed by an SIT

**February 2019:** A three-member SIT is constituted

**The Kanpur carnage**  
127 Death toll (official figures)  
1,251 FIRs lodged in 1984  
40 Cases shortlisted by SIT  
36 Arrests made in the last three months



# Alan Walker unmasked

**As he prepares to perform in India again, the British-born Norwegian DJ discusses the WalkerVerse Tour and his signature downtempo**

**SB Vijaya Mary**  
vijayamary.sb@thehindu.co.in

Scores of fans in India screaming *Where are you now...* need to look no further. Alan Walker, who rose to fame with the electro house track 'Faded' at the age of 16, is set to bring his WalkerVerse Tour 2022 to fans in Hyderabad, Chennai and Ahmedabad this weekend.

The British-born Norwegian DJ and EDM producer will be performing at the 15th edition of Asia's largest music festival Sunburn Arena that is making a comeback after a pause during the pandemic.

Now 25, Walker first performed in India in 2016 and has since made multiple trips, endearing himself to the audience with his trademark mask, hoodie and the track 'Faded' whose popularity refuses to fade even after seven years of its release.

Popular with gamers as well as party chasers, thanks to his collaboration with PUBG, the DJ has more than 15 billion audio and video streams worldwide, over 42 million subscribers on his YouTube channel, 849.9k on Twitter, 8.9 million on Instagram and 10 million subscribers on Spotify.

Over a video call from Norway ahead of his India tour, Walker says he is looking forward to bringing the WalkerVerse Tour to the three cities. "I am sure it is going to be an awesome experience," he says.

Walker's penchant for movie soundtracks, gaming, programming and graphic design led to his developing an interest in techno and electro music. He created 'Fade' in 2014 as an instrumental tropical house track and later added electro house and released it on YouTube. Not too happy with the outcome, he reworked it with a complete electro track and acoustic sounds, added lyrics and released it as 'Faded' in 2015 under the Sony

Music Sweden label.

The uniqueness of this version is the 90 BPM (Beat Per Minute) – an unusual beat for an EDM track. Explaining why he prefers a downtempo, Walker says, "My original 'Fade', before it became 'Faded', was at 128 BPM. I felt something was wrong with it. So I brought it down to 90 and was happy at the way it opened up the melody and you can hear all that's being played between each kick of snares and hi-hats' claps. It allowed highlighting the melody more than what you can do at the higher BPM."

After 'Faded' topped the singles charts across the globe, a live show became inevitable. Walker made his debut live show at the Oslo X Game show in February 2016, which was followed by a tour across Europe for various dance music festivals. By then 'Faded' became a worldwide phenomenon, putting to rest doubts about whether people can dance to it. The uniquely melancholic mood that Walker presented connected with EDM audiences. There was no turning back. Tracks like 'On My Way', 'Alone', 'All Falls Down', 'Spectre' and 'Diamond Heart' followed, drawing larger crowds at every gig that Walker helmed.

One of Walker's first international collaborations was with Rihanna when he was asked to



**Music unlimited** Alan Walker at the Sunburn Arena earlier this year. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

join her ANTI World Tour in Glasgow, Nice, and Munich in June of 2016. He has also collaborated with Bruno Mars, Miley Cyrus, Sia and Avicii and supported artistes such as Justin Bieber and Kygo performing at several festivals around the world with them.

"In a collaboration, there's a world of music that can back you up. In music, anything is possible. Even collaborating with a stranger is manageable," says Walker, adding, "We look for one good song, where we get the flow, the vibe and a perfect match in melody, sound and music."

The Alan Walker-Hans Zimmer collaboration in 2020 on 'Time' from Christopher Nolan's *Inception*, was another milestone for the young DJ who tweaked the maestro's number with digital



**My mask and hoodie symbolise the unity of the EDM community. Anybody can wear it and become a Walker. anyone could be in my footsteps, anyone could relive the dream that I have, anyone could achieve what I have done**

patterns. Stating that Zimmer is a great inspiration, Walker says, "He's naturally incredible and I hope I will one day make an actual collaboration song instead of reworking his older songs."

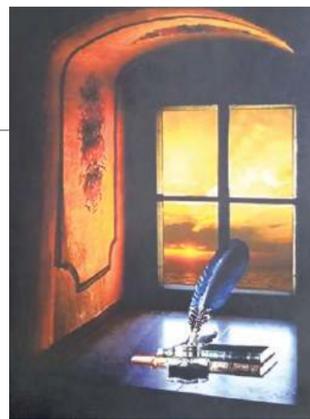
As for the possibility of collaborating with Indian artistes? Walker responds, "I would love to! I have been looking for an artiste like Badshah. That would be interesting if it can happen."

**A community hoodie**

Walker's signature mask-hoodie inspired a line of merchandise selling Alan Walker, the brand. "The intention behind my wearing the mask is not necessarily to become a mysterious icon. I wanted the focus on my music more than me as a person," He shares. "My mask and hoodie symbolise the unity of the EDM community. Anybody can wear it and become a Walker, anyone could be in my footsteps, anyone could relive the dream that I have, anyone could achieve what I have done."

Mostly seen in black, he is in a pristine white jacket-hoodie for this interview. He laughs when asked about the change in colour code and explains, "I have been experimenting recently. It opens up Alan Walker's universe to more colours. We have always been very monotone with the selection of colours. Then we realised that with no headlights, the audience could hardly see the artistes on stage. When we collaborated with Dolce & Gabbana I got a neon green hoodie for a gig in Las Vegas. We realised we could implement colours not just as merchandise but for the artiste's on-stage presence as well."

Walker who started learning to mix music for fun as a child is now part of a large number of DJs that Scandinavia has produced. Is it the air? "It's the water," smiles Walker through his mask. "It rains so much here that everyone is indoors most of the time and spends time gaming, programming, collaborating, producing music and doing anything that can be done on the computer."



**Inked In** The cover of Ashok Lal's book *Roshnai*; (below) the playwright-poet SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## Politics in verse

**Veteran theatre director-playwright-poet Ashok Lal is back with *Roshnai*, a long-awaited poetry collection**

**Ziya Us Salam**  
ziya.salam@thehindu.co.in

Years ago, illustrious Urdu poet Faiz Ahmed Faiz embraced immortality when he penned, '*Mujhse pehli si mohabbat mere mehboob na maang*'. Many read into it the angst of a man torn between intimate love and larger social responsibility in a world of hunger and deprivation. Now many a summer later, a seasoned poet with poetry in his blood and culture on his mantelpiece has made bold to give a neat twist to the couplet.

Turning the premise on its head, Ashok Lal, the genius who has lorded over the world of theatre and literature, writes, '*Mujhse pehli si mohabbat mere mehboob tu mang*'. The couplet belongs to the poem, *Pehli si Mohabbat* which is part of *Roshnai*, Lal's poetry collection which owes much to the past six decades, and not a little to the likes of Mirza Ghalib, Faiz and others.

Poetry comes naturally to him. His father and two elder brothers were poets and his home was often a centre of soirées graced by well-known poets. In his youth Lal wrote humorous poetry, mixing humour with satire. As life expanded its canvas, so did Lal's poetry. *Roshnai* is a product of this inner realisation.

It is this rare ability to express what's in his mind and heart that

sets Lal apart. "As far as the ability to be brave enough to turn Faiz or even Ghalib's couplets on their head is concerned, well, I have always been uncomfortable with Faiz's expressions, the meaning derived therein. For instance, when he says, '*Teri aankhon ke siva duniya mein rakha kya hai*' I don't agree though I know he was not referring directly to his beloved. But 90% of fans would think only in terms of a female. However, in my poem, I refer to the Independence of the country. We did not get Independence in a day, but that day the change began. My idealism of youth, the passion has faded."

His book *Roshnai* is a product of 60 years of poetry. "I wrote a lot of poetry over the years. Some of it got lost and some I could retrieve. This is a book which was waiting to be done; poetry is in my veins though I did not take myself seriously as a poet. At times, I wonder, if I have written a certain phrase, a certain couplet."

For all his self-effacing ways, *Roshnai* demands attention. It has the brightness of a new bride as shown in *Dulhan si Naveli Hai*, the easily identifiable *Dakiya Chala* beside the brave inversion of the couplets of Ghalib and Faiz.

Lal is not resting on the laurels of *Roshnai*. He plans to be back with his powerful street play, *Do Duni Ek*. "I still express myself through plays and poetry. That's my domain," he says, pledging to fight one more round, irrespective of the steep odds.



### STEP OUT



**Mystique of the epic**

The *Mahabharata* has been a source of wisdom for generations of artists. Kolkata artist Shuvaprasanna has unveiled 28 works in oil and acrylic on canvas drawing from the allure and mysticism of the epoch-making creation that represents both conflict and humanitarianism. The evocative paintings come alive through striking contrasts of colour and rich visual textures. The artist while giving his perspective of the tales of the *Mahabharata*, displays a deft interlacing of dream-like ambiguity. At Gallerie Nvyā, 101-103, Square One Designer Arcade, C-2, District Centre, Saket; Till September 24; 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (Sunday closed).

**Caught on camera**

Sanjay Bhattacharya's first mobile photography exhibition is on at the Prithvi Fine Arts and Cultural Centre. Till September 30; At A-1 / 232, Safdarjung Enclave, Opp. AIIMS Trauma Centre; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Sunday closed).

For events, write to [metroplusdelhi@thehindu.co.in](mailto:metroplusdelhi@thehindu.co.in)

## A flavour of festivity

**Popular versions of the Ramlila return to Delhi after a pandemic break with new choreography, dramatic backdrops and familiar stories**

**Soma Basu**  
soma.basu@thehindu.co.in

Come Dussehra and one of the most popular of events unfurls in the city; celebrated versions of the Ramlila have been entertaining Delhi for decades.

This season too, the Shri Ram Bharatiya Kala Kendra (SRBKK) is all set to open its cultural staple, the dance drama, *Shri Ram*, for the 66th time in a row. The inaugural show is slated for September 26 and the performance will have a run of four weeks.

The dance drama, which has travelled across India and to 35 countries over the last six decades, is

the troupe's most iconic production chronicling cultural history. In two hours, forty minutes and 28 embellished scenes, it showcases stories from Lord Rama's birth to his *rajya abhishekam* (coronation) using elaborate costumes, props, fluid choreography and memorable soundtracks.

According to Shobha Deepak Singh, who conceptualised the show in 1957, more than 700,000 spectators have watched *Shri Ram*, which draws new generations of viewers through the decades, even as loyal audiences return each year.

Every aspect of the dance drama, from designing of costumes, jewellery and backdrop to the script,



choreography and lighting, is an in-house production, she adds.

This year, the artistes will lean on the styles of Bharatanatyam, Mayurbhanj Chau, Kalaripayattu and

folk dances of North India, set to Hindustani classical ragas. "Every year, a new element is added to the show as a surprise, but without changing the essence," says Shobha.

The depiction of characters from the *Ramayana*, emphasises human values, brotherhood, unconditional love and respect for elders, all virtues needed in modern times, she

**Gearing up** Grand Ramlila show by Shri Ram Bharatiya Kala Kendra SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

adds. There are 250-odd big and small Ramlilas in the city, which will be returning after a gap of two years. The famous Luv-Kush Ramlila at the Red Fort grounds will be a 10-day show from September 26 with the introduction of a new technology of 3D mapping. Organisers are making a triple-storey stage, measuring 180 feet in length and 60 feet high, with the Ayodhya Ram temple as the backdrop.

Like in previous years, the stage at Pitampura will be handled by the students of the National School of Drama. This year they plan to enact the entire Ram Katha in three-and-a-half hours daily during Navratri.

Watch Bharatiya Kala Kendra's Shri Ram at the Kendra Lawns, 1 Copernicus Marg; Daily show till October 22, 6.30 p.m.; Tickets, priced between ₹3,000 and ₹300, are available at the Kendra office and on [BookMyShow.com](http://BookMyShow.com).



## Five arrested in Karnataka 'PayCM' poster campaign case

A day after the 'PayCM' poster campaign in Karnataka, aimed at highlighting the alleged corruption in the ruling BJP government created a furor, five persons, including some belonging to the social media cell of the Congress, were arrested on Wednesday. Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly Siddaramaiah and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar condemned it and demanded their immediate release. It also generated heat in the legislature.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had taken strong exception to the campaign, which according to him, was a "conspiracy by the Opposition" to demean him and the State.

## Bill for quota to Kannadigas in higher studies tabled

The Karnataka government on Thursday tabled the Kannada Language Comprehensive Development Bill, 2022, in the Assembly for providing reservation to Kannadigas in higher education, linking incentives to industries with jobs for locals among other measures aimed at giving primacy to the language. Kannada and Culture Minister V. Sunil Kumar tabled the Bill that seeks to ensure "extensive use and propagation" of Kannada. The Bill defines "Kannadiga" as a person or one whose parents have resided in Karnataka for 15 years with knowledge of reading and writing Kannada.

# Rahul's message to Gehlot: one man, one post in Cong.

He wants the decision made as part of the Udaipur Declaration to prevail, calls for a united Opposition to fight financial and institutional powers of the BJP and the RSS

The Hindu Bureau  
KOCHI

The commitment of "one man, one post" that was adopted as part of the Udaipur Declaration needs to be honoured, former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi said on Thursday.

His comment comes a day after Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had asserted that he doesn't need to step down from his Chief Minister post to contest the Congress presidential poll.

Mr. Gandhi's position makes it clear that Mr. Gehlot will have to give up his chief ministership if he gets elected as the next Congress president.

Though he refused to answer questions about his candidature in the upcoming presidential elections, he did have some advice for possible contenders.

"The Congress president is not just an organisational post, it is an ideological post. It is a belief system. So, my advice would be that whoever becomes Congress president should remember that he represents the set of ideas, a belief system and a vision of India," Mr. Gandhi said.



Joining hands: Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Ashok Gehlot in Thrissur on Thursday. K.K.NAJEER

Interacting with the media in Kochi, the former Congress chief said Opposition parties should come together to fight the financial and institutional powers and the violent ideology of the Bharatiya Janata

Party and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. Meanwhile, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, who is widely perceived to be a candidate for the post, reached Kochi on Thursday.

Talking to mediapersons at the airport, Mr. Gehlot said the majority of the Pradesh Congress Committees in the country had requested Mr. Gandhi to assume the post.

He said he would request Mr. Gandhi to take up the post.

Asked about the crack-down by central agencies against the Popular Front of India and its members, he said, "My view is that all forms of communalism, all forms of violence, regardless of where they come from are the same and should be combated. There should be zero tolerance on communalism regardless of where it is coming from".

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Thursday rejected the applications of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena camp and the rival group led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde for holding Dasara rallies at Shivaji Park on October 5 citing law and order concerns raised by Mumbai Police.

The civic body issued letters to both factions informing them of the decision. "While both groups sought permission to hold the rally at Shivaji Park, granting one of the applicants permission might create a serious law and order problem," stated the letters signed by the Deputy Municipal Commissioner of BMC's Zone 2. After receiving the applications from the rival camps, the BMC had sought legal opinion as well as feedback from the police.

The Thackeray faction, however, maintained that it would go ahead with the annual event at Shivaji Park despite denial of per-

# BMC denies permission to both Sena factions for rally at Shivaji Park

Abhinav Deshpande  
MUMBAI

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Thursday rejected the applications of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena camp and the rival group led by Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde for holding Dasara rallies at Shivaji Park on October 5 citing law and order concerns raised by Mumbai Police.

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The Thackeray faction, however, maintained that it would go ahead with the annual event at Shivaji Park despite denial of per-

## Bombay HC will hear petitions filed by the Thackeray and Shinde groups today

mission. The Shinde faction had last week obtained the nod for holding the rally at the MMRDA ground in Bandra Kurla Complex on October 5 as an alternative.

On August 22, Anil Desai of the Thackeray-led Sena had submitted an application to the BMC for using the park for the rally.

**Petition to be amended**  
Following the BMC's decision, the Bombay High Court on Thursday allowed the Thackeray camp to amend its earlier petition and challenge the denial of permission. In the original petition, the Sena had sought a direction for the BMC to decide on its application.

A Division Bench of Justices R.D. Dhanuka and Kamal Khata said it would hear the petition on Friday. The court will also hear an application filed by Mr. Sarvankar opposing the Thackeray camp's petition.

# Supreme Court reserves judgment in hijab case

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on September 22 reserved its judgment in a batch of petitions challenging the prohibition on Muslim students from wearing hijab in classrooms in Karnataka.

A Bench of Justices Hemant Gupta and Sudhanshu Dhulia wrapped up the case for verdict after hearing the arguments presented by lawyers for the petitioner-students and the

State for 10 days.

The students had come in appeal against a Karnataka High Court judgment which had held that the proscription on hijab in classrooms was a reasonable restriction. The High Court had concluded that hijab was not an essential religious practice in Islam.

The State argued in the apex court that it had the authority to issue an order to educational institutions to follow the discipline of wearing the prescribed

school uniforms.

Senior advocate Dushyant Dave, for the students, argued that fundamental rights, freedom to choose to what to wear and freedom of faith would not diminish inside a classroom.

Read our data story  
Why the ban is a double blow to Muslim girl students  
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500	Pinball of Traction Motor	144 Nos	03-Oct-22
501	Unreserved Tickets	248856 In Thousands Numbers	06-Oct-22
502	Blower For Smoothing Reactor	160 Set	06-Oct-22
503	General Purpose Machinery Oil VG-100	269.13 KL	06-Oct-22
504	Aluminium Sheet	10706 KG	10-Oct-22
505	RIM Paint, Red Oxide	23380 Ltr	10-Oct-22
506	BL Switch Complete	160 Nos	10-Oct-22
507	High Capacity EMU Type After Cooler	80 Nos	10-Oct-22
508	Set of Suspension Springs	20 Set	10-Oct-22
509	Servo-pump SHC-120	7474 KG	10-Oct-22
510	Insulation Monitoring Relay 110 VOLTAC, Insulation Measuring Range 1-100 KILO OHM	346 Nos	12-Oct-22
511	IOH KIT For Compressor	49 Set	13-Oct-22
512	PVC Flooring Sheet (ICF)	1524 Nos	14-Oct-22
513	Lateral Damper 100 kg	388 Nos	14-Oct-22
514	Silicon Sealant Cartridge	13722 Nos	17-Oct-22
515	Power Supply Arrangement (PSA)	25 Set	17-Oct-22
516	Rubber Sandwich Unit Of M/S Siemens Traction M	237 Set	18-Oct-22
517	Coronary Non Complaint Balloon With Minimum Size Of Diameter 2MM TO 5MM & Length 6MM, 8MM, 12MM, 15MM	500 Nos	19-Oct-22

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## SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that this girl namely **Chandni Kumari**, D/o Sh. Raj Kumar Pd., R/o Jhuggi No. 15, Block 5/35, Kirti Nagar, Delhi is missing/kidnapped since 19.09.2022 at 07:00 AM from her house. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 463/22, dated 20.09.2022, has been lodged at P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under:  
**Gender:** Female, **Age:** 17 years, **Height:** About 5'0", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Pink colour suit, salwar and black colour shoes in feet. If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnapped girl, kindly inform to the following:  
E-mail : [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) SHO  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Kirti Nagar, Delhi  
Fax : 011-24368639 Ph. No.: 8800252403, 8750871126  
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**BEFORE THE HONOURABLE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL AT ERNAKULAM**  
O.P.(MV) No: 1467/2019

K.A. Anish, 190/F-Kadavilparambil House, Rameswaram Village, Vathuruthy, Kochi. : Applicant  
Vs.  
1. Deepak. S/o. Shivakumar, House No. 238-Samaypur Village, Gali No.11, North west Delhi District, Delhi-110042. : 1st respondent  
2. Mukesh Yadav, House No. 238-Samaypur Village, Gali No.11, North west Delhi District, Delhi-110042. : 2nd respondent

The 1st and 2nd respondents herein above take notice that your above case is posted for your appearance on 11.10.2022. In case you fail to appear, the case will be decided ex-parte.

Dated this 27th day of April, 2022.

By order of MACT  
Adv. K.V. Rajan,  
Counsel for the Applicant.

## LEGAL NOTICE

**IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XI ADDITIONAL CHIEF JUDGE, CITY CIVIL COURTS, AT: HYDERABAD**  
O.S. No. 466 OF 2017

Between:  
M/s. Sugna Metals Limited, O/o. 1-8-673, Azamabad, Hyderabad - 500020 (T.S.) rep. by its Managing Director Mr. Bharat Kumar ...Plaintiff  
AND  
Balaji Ispat & Anr. 21/5, 2nd Floor, Revira Apartment, Basappa Road, Shantinagar, Bangalore. (or) O/o. F-2/23, DLF Phase I, Gurgaon NCR, Haryana - 122001. ...Defendants.

Whereas the above named Plaintiff filed suit for money recovery vide OS No. 466/2017 against M/s. Balaji Ispat, praying the Hon'ble Court to pass a decree and judgment in favor of the plaintiff against the defendants directing the defendants to pay for a sum Rs. 19,00,603/- together with interest @ 18% p.a. Defendant M/s. Balaji Ispat, represented by its Authorized signatory, O/o. 821/5, 2nd Floor, Revira Apartment, Basappa Road, Shantinagar, Bangalore (or) O/o. F-2/23, DLF Phase I, Gurgaon NCR, Haryana-122001. Defendant is trying to avoid summons from Hon'ble Court. The Hon'ble Court by its Order dt.06.09.2022 directed the plaintiff to publish the notice. You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court in person or counsel on 14.10.2022 at 10.30am or else the Hon'ble Court will proceed with the suit ex parte, and will be heard and adjudicated in your absence. Hence this notice.

(By order of the Hon'ble Court)  
Sd/- N. VINESH RAJ, Advocate,  
#1-1-28/19F, Chikkadapally,  
Hyderabad-20. Cell No. 9391933606

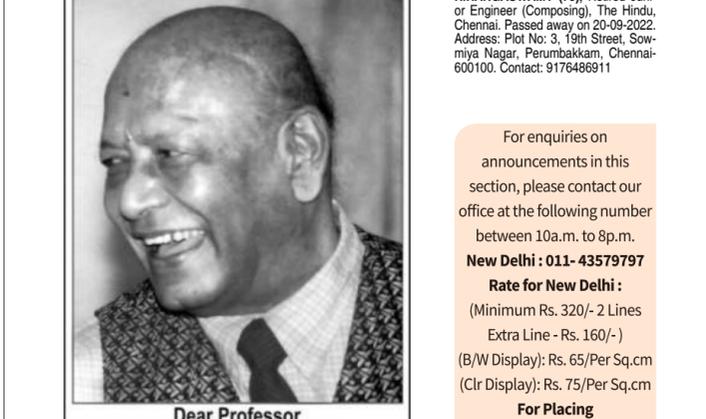
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## Internal democracy

The ECI is right in rejecting the notion of 'leader for life' in political parties

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has rejected the idea of a 'permanent president' for a party, while taking issue with the Yuvajana Shramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP), which rules Andhra Pradesh. The party reportedly elected Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy as its president for life in July 2022. The ECI says such a step is inherently anti-democratic. The YSRCP's response to the ECI's letters sent earlier, that it will conduct an "internal enquiry", borders on the absurd. There is merit in the ECI's view and its insistence on internal democracy, as no individual should be elected leader for life. Any party that participates in a democratic process, and wants to govern and legislate, should include formal and periodic election of office-bearers as part of the way it functions as an association. Indian political parties are of myriad kinds – some, such as the Bharatiya Janata Party or the Communist parties, are structured, cadre-based organisations that function towards an ideological goal or a principle; others, such as the Congress, are more loosely structured collections of individuals with even different strands of opinion but functioning within an association that has core ideals; some others still reflect social or regional cleavages and so on.

Increasingly, the fragmentation of India's polity into a federalised, multi-party system has also given way to domination by "charismatic" individuals or their families, mainly because of the nature of support that these parties enjoy or due to their financing structures which necessitate centralised control by a single coterie or a family. This is why several political parties today do not insist on thoroughgoing internal elections to secure their leadership; and even if they do conduct polls, they lack sufficient contestation and are done to reaffirm the dominance of the high command. In some cases, with electoral politics being a zero-sum game, political parties are loath to allow internal contest, fearing that this could foster disunity, as opposed to nomination and consensus-building on leadership. The ECI has periodically used guidelines issued for registration of parties under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 to remind parties to conduct elections and to ensure that their leadership is renewed, changed or re-elected every five years. But the commission does not have any statutory power to enforce internal democracy in parties or to mandate elections. The lack of such substantive power only leads to parties carrying out the ECI's edicts in a mechanical manner. However, with dynasticism and a lack of internal democracy becoming a matter of public debate, perhaps public pressure would finally bear upon parties to do the right thing.

## Managing sports

Administrators seem reluctant to accept the National Sports Code

When sports administrators make news, it is often not for the right reasons. These past few months, India's sports administrators have been in the news far too frequently. Rarely does a day end before one of them is pulled up by the court, another is forced to resign or yet another stakes claim to a post. In the latest instance, the sports official to hit the headlines has been Anil Khanna, who resigned on Wednesday as the acting-president of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). He had assumed charge after Narinder Batra was forced to quit in July. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has made it clear that it would not recognise any acting/interim president of the IOA. The IOC is not pleased that the long-pending elections to the IOA have not been held and has even threatened India with serious consequences. The IOC could ban India if the elections are not held by December. Then, Indian athletes would not be able to represent the country in events, including the Olympic Games, and India would not be able to receive funds from the IOC. Only a month ago, the Gokulam Kerala football team found out what happens when such a ban is enforced. The players had to return from Uzbekistan, where they had gone to take part in the AFC Women's Club Championship. That was because the world football governing body FIFA had banned the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

The ban has since been lifted and the AIFF has conducted its elections. But there are other sports, such as hockey and table tennis, that continue to be run by the court-appointed committees of administrators. The main reason behind the messy state of affairs in India's sports administration at the moment is the reluctance of the officials, across sports bodies, to accept the National Sports Development Code of India, introduced by the central government in 2011. Its intention was noble. By putting a limit to the tenure and age of an administrator, it had the potential to stop sports federations from remaining as the personal fiefdoms of a few, many of them politicians. At a time when Indian sport is showing more promise than it ever did before – the Tokyo Olympics, the Birmingham Commonwealth Games, the Thomas Cup and the Chess Olympiad have shown that the country has more to offer than just cricket – the administration needs to get its act together. The incumbents should gracefully make way for new administrators with fresh ideas and also allow more former international sportspersons in key administrative posts.

Among the best uses of a census anywhere in the world was perhaps what happened in the United States when, in 1850 and 1860, anti-slavery campaigners used numbers from two consecutive national censuses to build support for the abolition of slavery. They showed the number of enslaved people in the U.S. to be rising – contrary to arguments made by pro-slavery politicians. There have been numerous instances of such revelations using the census.

### A case of the missing census

India's first Census was held in 1872, conducted non-synchronously in different parts of the country. After that, India has held its decadal censuses regularly from 1881 to 2011, despite diseases, world wars, Partition and other instances of turmoil. Citing COVID-19 as an excuse for its postponement now runs thin, as the Government thought it fit to allow large election rallies in the middle of a deadly second wave of the pandemic, that was criminally mismanaged. But there is no tradition of anyone being answerable and explaining why the largest democracy, once held in awe for its ability to make its people count regularly, is not doing so now. As there is no official reassurance that India will not skip its decadal Census, we can declare that we have a case of the missing census.

The best of sample surveys find it impossible to beat a census. It carries the promise of counting each and every Indian. The Government could junk, for the first time, a survey recording falling consumption expenditures in 2017-18, and get away with it. A census is when the state connects to every individual and it will find it hard to hide or duck from the data. Finding out age, gender, economic status, religion and languages spoken yields information of another order, making it a treasure trove of findings and providing pathways for planning and resolving problems, and fixing deficiencies.

Censuses in India – well before the term Big Data became commonplace – have provided great amounts of reliable numbers over time. They enable neat, inter-temporal comparability to where India stands vis-à-vis its own record. Important metrics such as the sharp decline in



Seema Chishty

is a journalist-writer based in New Delhi

the gender ratio in India between the Censuses of 1961 and 1971 alerted Indians to how pre and post-natal factors were reflecting the 'son bias' and leading people to murder girls, born and unborn.

Some unfounded ideas, flowing from bigotry and prejudice, have been slayed by Census headcounts. Consider the data-free assertion that India is heading for a population explosion due to Muslim reproductive rates. This has been systematically taken down due to census data. The Census established that the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is coming down at a very rapid pace and is well on its way to stabilisation. The fall in TFR among Muslims is faster than in any community. The differences in TFR across India have more to do with region and socio-economic indicators, and not religion or caste. The 2011 Census also dispelled the notion of divorce rate differentials between city and rural India. The urban divorce rate (0.89%) is almost equal to the rural rate (0.82%).

### Contentious issues

Well before the novel coronavirus pandemic, the Census was entangled in a battle when thousands took to the streets and bitter protests broke out. The turning of the Census into a gateway for a nation-wide, contentious National Register of Citizens (NRC), with the names of 'genuine citizens' of India made a headcount issue to be one of attempting to revisit who was an Indian and who was not. The Census, if conducted along with the preparation of a National Population Register, a register of all the usual residents which includes citizens and non-citizens, suddenly began to be seen "as the first step towards [the] creation of [a] National Register of Indian Citizens (NRC) by verifying the citizenship status of every usual resident" – this is exactly what the Union government said in an official release on November 26, 2014. Along with large sections of the citizenry insecure about their ability to provide the right paperwork, several State Assemblies issued resolutions that they would not conduct a census loaded with questions not asked before. The experience of the NRC in Assam severely damaged trust in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) nationwide. Despite its completion, the NRC has been deemed by the BJP as not being the 'right' list. That it would be a bad faith exercise till some idea of a right list is eventually arrived at is a valid concern.

The BJP has been wary of assertive demands for a caste census. The Census has often been key to the formation and affirmation of identities over time. But there is now official squeamishness about recording identities that want to be counted and identified. India had its last caste census in 1931. In 2011, after the last general census, a socio-economic and caste census was conducted. But while other data were finalised and published, it conveniently excluded the caste data citing several reasons. It is clear that the disparity between caste groups and the privileges they enjoy versus their numbers in the population may be so stark that it may upend the BJP's Hindutva apocryph that talks of adjustment but wants a complete abandonment

of the social justice plank.

### Relentless data gathering

The Democratic Republic of the Congo completed the second census in its history this year, the previous census having taken place in 1984. The ability to hold a census peacefully, and not coercively, has been the hallmark of a civilised state and state of affairs. It would speak volumes if India were to join the ranks of some other countries which have been without a census since 1990; they include Afghanistan (1979), Lebanon (1932), Somalia (1985), Uzbekistan (1989), and the Western Sahara (1970). Pakistan took nearly 20 years to conduct a census after the one in 1998. It managed one in 2017. The gap spoke of its dysfunction and inabilities, and also of no desire to hear the truth that the facts thrown up would convey.

The census is vital and precious as it is a repository of complete data about the country which is gathered openly, voluntarily, and with the use of public money, making it a social good. It is not as if the Government of India does not want data. Even as it has made the future of the Census a state secret, its drive to gather and vacuum the data of its citizens for its own purposes has been on and without a framework of rules and rights to govern the process of sucking up citizen data.

A law now allows electoral rolls to be linked with Aadhaar. It may not be compulsory but it potentially allows very sensitive data of citizens to be available to the state. The drive to gather data has been relentless. The Ministry of Home Affairs has just notified the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Rules, 2022, even as two High courts are hearing the challenge to the Act. Controversial, these rules outline the procedure for taking of body measurements (it enables enforcement agencies to collect biological samples, retina scan, biometrics and behavioural attributes of convicted, arrested or detained persons). This data hunger sits in perfect contrast to events surrounding the Personal Data Protection Bill 2019. The right to privacy was declared a fundamental right by the Supreme Court of India in 2017. But, ironically, the fifth anniversary of this landmark ruling was marked more by delays to a data protection law for citizens, as the draft Bill was abruptly withdrawn. That too, after hours of deliberation and suggestions for 81 changes. All in all, the missing Census is accompanied by extensive desire to mine the data of citizens, not in a way that offers them any benefits or security, but just goes onto make their relationship with the government more asymmetrical.

The Census is about many things. But, fundamentally, it is a way in which the state, by knocking at all doors, displays its desire to connect with the people who ultimately comprise the nation. It is no wonder that Vikram Seth's classic, *A Suitable Boy*, set in 1951, makes space for the census enumerator. It must be made a priority and used to affirm a sense of comradeship. A census is not about counting sheep and the Government cannot be allowed to sleep at the wheel.



K.K. MUSTAPAH

The Census in India is about many things – it must be made a priority and used to affirm a sense of comradeship

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The redesign

I was happy to receive and read the 'bold and the beautiful' *The Hindu* in its new avatar. I dare to offer a suggestion: is there any way to avoid underlining some of the headings and straplines?

Antony Manoharan,  
Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

The new look is indeed clear, sharp and bold – a change that was overdue. The earlier look was dignified but a bit subdued and understated as the headings in other newspapers caught the eye quicker. I agree that *The Hindu* is now easier to navigate. "Direct straightforward display, bolder typefaces and visuals" were also evident. But we have yet to see the "larger photos and graphics", as mentioned by world-renowned master designer Mario Garcia. A few other newspapers have till now scored over *The Hindu* in terms of infographics and imaginative visuals. We also look forward to the daily's photographers capturing the excitement and the vibrancy of life in India. "A sense of hierarchy across each page", and stories that will "lead you to digital content you should not miss" are claims that seem a trifle exaggerated. But I assume they are statements of intent. "Clutter-free content" is not always easy to achieve on a page with a medley of advertisements and stories of different sizes. The front-page 'promos' of the content are indeed larger, bolder and more attractive. There were

some issues with the Editorial page on the launch day, in terms of the typeface size of the articles. One could nitpick a little more, but on the whole, the new-look *The Hindu* is better-looking and more inviting than before.

S.R. Madhu,  
Chennai

I am preparing for my examinations under the Union Public Service Commission and reading *The Hindu* is essential. The 'bold and beautiful' look is impressive. The attempt to improve the daily's visual appeal deserves to be complimented.

Rahul Baweja,  
Karnal, Haryana

*The Hindu* has been my paper – and cup of tea – for the past seven decades (I am running 90 years). Without exaggeration, I can asseverate that with its new look, the daily stands out in terms of its sheer elegance. I take this opportunity to recall with fondness the reportage of K. Balaraman, Correspondent, years ago, known for his style; the dispatches from Dr. Krishna Rao Shelvankar, Correspondent from London, which were always lucid, and the interesting reviews of concerts and concomitant dance performances, the solo violin performances of Arabhi (the pen name of the music critic). There were also two letter writers who wrote often; I recall the lovely letters of Gubil Sunderesan from Trichy which were to the point. His writing was so inspiring that

it inspired me to start writing letters from my 20th year. The journey continues. About the new design: my son has been rather surprised to see me reading *The Hindu* without my spectacles. My congratulations to Dr. Garcia for giving us a fascinating product.

Mani Natarajan,  
Chennai

Personally, I would be happy to find the Editorial page at least half-filled with letters from readers. But I know that it is beyond me to remind you that active reader-participation generates complete meaning to any publication. I wish the 'Letters to the Editor' column is considered as a barometer of how well the engagement is with readers. The overall 'new look' is alright; I often stand for changes.

P.R.V. Raja,  
Pandalam, Kerala

The new look is elegant, attractive and user-friendly, enabling a faster read. As a reader for the past 44 years, I am addicted to the paper. The day is duller when there is no paper.

R. Thesinghraj,  
Udhagamandalam, The Nilgiris

I began to read *The Hindu* when in college, in 1966. Recently, I dropped reading it for certain reasons – this includes the format. In fact I began to read another daily which met my requirements that included a catchy layout of articles and pictures. I am now back to reading *The Hindu*. The redesign has been carried

out in an appreciable manner that even a senior citizen like me would find great to read and without difficulty. The new design does make for a better reading experience.

V. Rajagopalan,  
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

I am a nonagenarian and have been reading the daily for the past 74 years. *The Hindu* will continue to be my favourite paper, irrespective of its avatars.

G. Jayaraman,  
Bengaluru

It is really great that *The Hindu*, the favourite daily of many a dedicated reader, is 144 years old. The new look will continue to enchant them every morning, particularly when much of the print and electronic media seems to be compromised.

Tharcus S. Fernando,  
Chennai

The redesign of the paper is bold. I have been reading the daily since childhood. As a teacher, I hope the redesign and content will help me professionally.

Riaz Ahmed,  
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

I write this as Honorary Adviser, Bhagat Singh Archives and Resource Centre, Delhi Archives, New Delhi and as an academician. The earlier look was not bad either, but this is better. I have been writing to many a newspaper which I read, to pay attention to readers with vision problems. It is unfortunate that the management in these

papers pay scant attention. Even an issue such as the use of colour has a bearing on reading. *The Hindu* has taken the right step by showing that it cares for eye comfort. I am sure there will be gratitude expressed by elderly readers.

Chaman Lal,  
New Delhi

The new look does make *The Hindu* sharper than before – as the advertisement in the daily says. Every element pleases the reader. The highlighting of key words in the strapline stands out. The news pages breathe and ensure a better reading experience.

Divyalekshmi A.,  
Kollam, Kerala

I have been an avid reader of *The Hindu* since school. I am 60 now. When I was introduced to the daily, I was said to be a reluctant reader because of the font! But I got used to it and developed my vocabulary. The new look *The Hindu* left me astonished as I found the font to be to my liking and what I had yearned for all these years. My congratulations.

Dr. B. Subbulakshmi,  
Erode, Tamil Nadu

Reading the letters in the 'Letters to the Editor' column (September 22), on the new look, seems to create the perception that many of the readers are senior citizens. I do not mean to offend them. *The Hindu* is a paper for every age group. It has adapted itself with changing times and also the march of technology every



To read more letters online, scan the QR code. Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

time this has been warranted. The most welcome aspect is the concern for readers. The reading experience has been enhanced and the changes are welcome.

S. Sivakumar,  
Vilathikulam, Tamil Nadu

As a reader for four decades, I am happy that a reader gets a clear typographic layout keeping in mind changing times with the invasion of social media. It is easy to navigate as the white space makes all the difference. The different fonts enrich the reading experience. The disappointing aspect is that the content has been reduced by 15%.

L. Chinnappan,  
Chennai

I am what you would call a long-time subscriber and reader. As far as the new format is concerned, the extremely bold headings on some pages are very jarring. This new design element has changed what used to be a very decent look to something discomposing. In comparison, the font used in the strapline is easy on the eye.

Dr. V. Krishnamoorthy,  
Chennai

# Should the Election Commission insist on inner-party elections?



**S.Y. Quraishi**  
is a former Chief Election Commissioner of India

**PARLEY**

**T**he Congress is set for elections for the post of party president. Since 1998, barring her son Rahul Gandhi's two-year term, Sonia Gandhi has been party president. This has revived the debate on whether internal elections should be mandated for all political parties. In a conversation moderated by Sobhana K. Nair, S.Y. Quraishi and Rahul Verma discuss the current situation and what can be done.

**Is there any legal ground on which elections can be mandated within political parties?**

**S.Y. Quraishi:** Actually, as far as I remember, there is no law. In [the 1990s], when T.N. Seshan was at the helm at the Election Commission of India (ECI), by an executive order political parties were ordered to conduct organisational elections. And because Seshan was a much respected and feared person, political parties complied with it. Since then, elections are held periodically in every recognised party. If they are not able to hold an election for any reason, they seek condonation [for the] delay, which is liberally granted. And the ECI generally has been very soft on this. The ECI does not question the result or the procedure the parties followed. The ECI expects political parties to abide by their constitution, a copy of which is also submitted to the commission when the parties are registered. It is not for the commission to step in or criticise if anyone is elected unopposed.

**Rahul Verma:** Let me make two points. First, on the legal ground, because there is a great paradox here. India, it seems, is a party-led democracy or democracy based on political parties. But the phrase "political party" [was] nowhere mentioned or described in our Constitution. The definition of a political party for the first time enters through the anti-defection law in 1985. All rules and regulations apply more to candidates than to political parties in India. The courts have made an observation that nothing in Article 324 of the Constitution, or Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 tells us that the ECI can actually regulate internal structures, organisations or elections of the party. Which is why parties, on the left or right, have not been conducting internal elections as you want them to conduct them. In this sense, most political parties in India have become similar, where internal structures and



**Staking claim:** Congress leader Shashi Tharoor meeting the party's Central Election Authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry in New Delhi. PTI

organisations do not follow their own constitutional norms.

**Citing the recent internal elections of the Conservative Party in the U.K., many have claimed that leadership polls within a party diminish its status among the voters because the contestants end up criticising their own party's policies.**

**SYQ:** When we see the U.S. election, for instance, the selection of the candidate to be the presidential nominee is done via debate, in which the contenders condemn and criticise each other. For instance, Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton contested and called each other names, but then Mr. Obama won [as President in 2008], and Ms. Clinton was appointed Secretary of State. I don't know how they get over the bad blood created during the campaign. It could be counter-productive. Theoretically democracy is ideal, but could it in the long term weaken the party? These debates could come to haunt the successful candidate. We saw something similar in the U.K. Democracy should be at every level, and political parties are an essential pillar of democracy. And yet, therein lies the contradiction because every election is divisive. In a contrary scenario, if a party follows a single leader, who they worship and stand united behind, it can lead to a high command culture where only the favourite of the said leader gets promoted over the actually popular leaders. We need to establish a balance between both these options.

**RV:** Any system that you bring in will always come with some positive and negative externalities – there is no perfect rule, there is no perfect law. As Mr. Quraishi also pointed out,



The ECI expects political parties to abide by their constitution. It is not for the commission to step in or criticise if anyone is elected unopposed.

S.Y. QURAISHI

in internal elections, like the U.S. primaries, you are going to have these contests between leaders, and there will be some mudslinging and differences of opinion. But at the end of the day, you have to understand what political parties are. Political parties don't have to be homogeneous in terms of both ideas and leadership. Political parties are aggregations of interests, right? So there are going to be differences within. Having these internal elections, meetings and contests of ideas is important. Second, and as you rightly pointed out, internal elections are key for upward mobility. And that is why what we are witnessing today in India – and South Asia – is problematic for democracy, where all political parties are centralised. They are family-controlled parties, and dynastic politics has become a norm. You won't be able to name more than three or four political parties which have survived 30 years in Indian politics and are today not controlled by a political family, where you can only rise up the ranks in the system depending on the relationship you share with the first family of that party. High command culture is a symptom of the problem which we are witnessing today.

**Would state funding of elections bring in more democracy and accountability within political parties?**

**SYQ:** Well, actually, that's a totally different question and debate. I am against state funding for elections, but instead the government must consider state funding of political parties. Currently, they have to beg, borrow and steal to run their outfits. They take money from the corporates and, of course, there are no free lunches. One very objective criterion of this funding could be the votes they get; for example, the state can pay them ₹100 for each vote polled in their favour. The formula I suggest is completely objective: receive money as per the number of votes polled for you. It is very workable. Unfortunately, political parties seem to like the present confusion, so nobody is talking about it.

**RV:** I completely agree with Mr. Quraishi. There

has been always a conversation on internal regulation of political parties. In fact, the 1999 Law Commission Report strongly recommended that we should have some mechanism for it, and Mr. Quraishi as the CEC in 2011 also submitted a draft on this to the Union Law Ministry. But it was neither accepted, nor did it generate a debate inside or outside Parliament. Obviously, political parties prefer the present situation which is akin to the foxes guarding the henhouse. The formula of how to go about state funding is debatable, but we do have to start thinking about some model of state funding of political parties. I think, going forward, the ECI will have to come up with some innovative ways on how to regulate political parties.

**SYQ:** The ECI does insist on organisational elections, but only gently. The parties do conduct elections, even if you consider them sham elections, but they do go through the ritual. Also an election can happen only if there are two or more candidates in the fray. Getting elected unopposed is also a valid election. It is not just within the political parties, we have seen in panchayat elections and sometimes even in Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections that candidates have got elected unopposed. As I keep saying, the people are the final arbiters. If voters think that the organisational elections were only an exercise in tokenism, then they should throw out such leaders.

**RV:** I don't think we need a law. I think we need a new interpretation and some bold moves from the ECI re-interpreting the existing laws, as happened in the 1990s. I slightly disagree with Mr. Quraishi. You can't leave everything to the people's choice. The reason is, as a voter, I'm basically choosing the best among the worst options. And that's why the ECI has to imagine its role as a regulator of these political parties. And in some ways they have to try out milder options. As Mr. Quraishi pointed out, they are required to hold organisational elections regularly. The parties are required to inform the ECI about changes in their office-bearers. They are required to submit a document of expenditure incurred during elections and in the non-election period. But there is no cost attached to non-compliance. At the same time, I think threats to de-register [a party] are bad. We'll have to find some middle ground.



To listen to the full interview  
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**NOTEBOOK**

## All in a summit's work

From Samarkand and the Maldives to Sharm El-Sheikh, chasing dignitaries to get a ringside view of behind the scenes

Suhasini Haidar

Sometimes, the perks are also the punishment I think, as I look around the beautiful vistas of the "Eternal City" complex built especially for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, on the outskirts of Samarkand - one of many summit venues that we journalists get to travel to, but seldom have the time to truly enjoy. To cover this most recent summit, we had to leave our hotels at 5 a.m., in order to complete security checks in time to cover the day-long summit, only to return to our rooms well past midnight. Little time to enjoy the views, or the rowing canal that also serves as a moat to ensure security for the heads of state living there, or the scaled versions of the many beautiful Uzbek monuments from Samarkand, Bukhara and Tashkent that have been recreated here, the artificially created beaches (in a double land-locked country), or the "volcano" that has been made by drilling a geo-thermal spring 2,000 meters below the ground.

Similarly, I can remember travelling to exotic locales more suited to James Bond than to an ordinary journalist, but have vague memories of anything but the stories we covered: from lush Maldivian resort islands to the sand-scapes of Sharm El-Sheikh, to the pristine mountains around Thimphu. The fly in the ointment to being the fly on the wall at such conferences is that we never actually appreciate the surroundings: I barely dipped a toe in the Maldivian waters, never ran across Red Sea beaches or went dune-bashing in the deserts, nor had a moment to indulge in spectacular Himalayan views, as we spent the day working - a regret one shares with other journalists covering similar summits. Instead, one's memories are of scrambling for transport, hunting WiFi at media centres, and most of all, chasing leaders for just a glimpse of what may become a scoop: that wink, handshake, or a conversation shared that indicates something bigger is afoot geopolitically.

Such opportunities are rare, as leaders and their teams deliberately make themselves scarce...at the 2015 CoP21 summit in Paris, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif



had a "chance" encounter in the waiting lounge that was off limits to journalists, and it wasn't until an obliging official leaked video of their chat that reporters realised its import - resulting in a visit by Mr. Modi to Lahore a few weeks later.

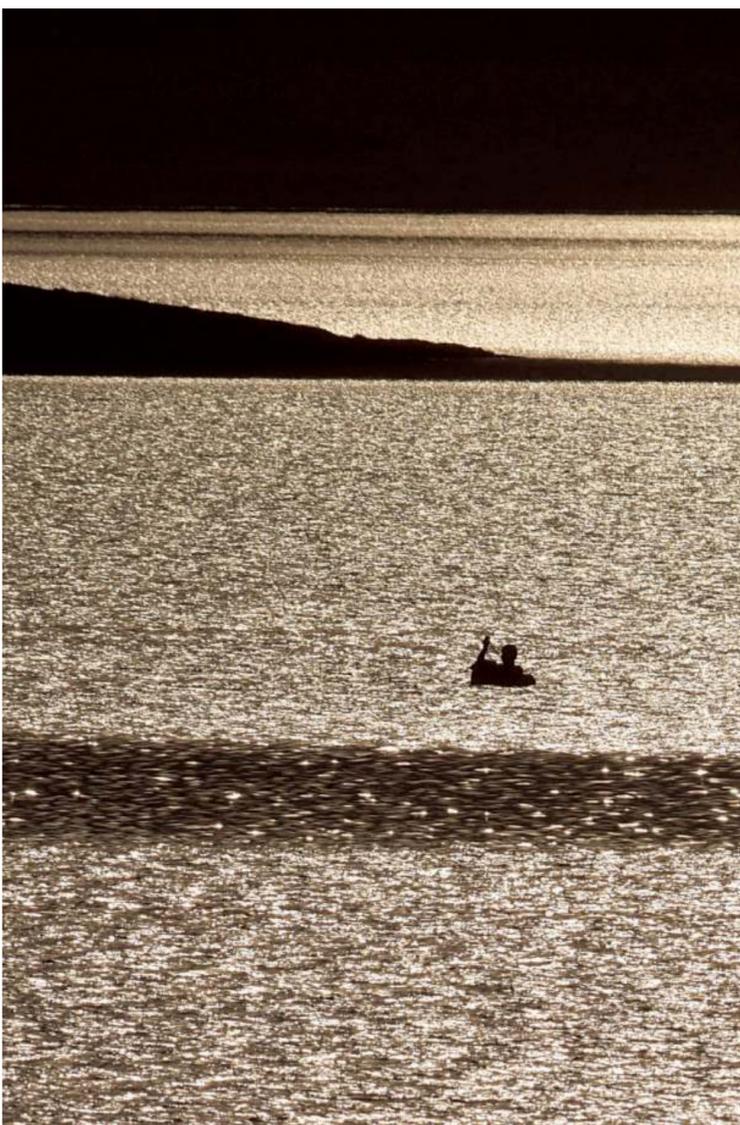
In Hamburg for the 2017 G-20, a corridor conversation between Mr. Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping turned into a detente at Doklam after weeks of a military standoff. (It was perhaps to avoid even the chance of a meeting that both Mr. Modi and Mr. Xi avoided the Pre-summit dinner, tree planting and boat ride planned in the Eternal City for the SCO summit.) Of course, it is much easier these days for the leaders than in the past: in his memoirs, Israeli leader Shimon Peres writes about having to don a big moustache, a wig and a fedora hat when travelling across to Jordan for secret negotiations, in order to escape the press.

As leaders now prefer to deal with their own publicity teams and state-owned Television, it is particularly difficult for independent private media that is relegated to the outer rim of the conference venue. In such situations, I always remember the words of my professor at journalism school, who said, just keep walking... if a door is closed, go down the corridor to the left or right...just keep finding your way through open doors, but don't stop trying. At the eternal city, those words proved useful, as we found doors that opened into a hall where we bumped into several dignitaries, and even got an interview or two as we looked for the elusive possible meetings. Nevertheless, we all know that at the next summit in the next beautiful setting, the chase will begin all over again!

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**PHOTO OF THE WEEK**

Kerala's Malampuzha dam fills up in the monsoon's retreat song, leaving enough water for second paddy crop



A fisherman buoys himself on a tyre on the Malampuzha reservoir bed in Palakkad district of Kerala early on Wednesday morning. The dam's catchment area had received huge amounts of rainfall in the past three months. The water storage in the reservoir augurs well for the second season of paddy cultivation from October to November in the district, the granary of Kerala. There is a network of two canal systems that serve the dam's reservoir of 42,090 hectares. During summer, when there is scarcity of water, the shutters of the dam are lifted to let the water flow into the Bharathapuzha. K.K. MUSTAFAH

**FROM THE ARCHIVES**

The *Hindu*

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 23, 1972

## Higher food output targets

NEW DELHI, Sept. 22. The States have on the whole accepted the targets of additional food production set for them in the emergency food production programme. The programme, drawn up by the Union Ministry of Agriculture to offset the losses in this year's kharif crop on account of drought and floods, envisaged an additional production of about 16 million tonnes of foodgrains during the coming winter and summer. The Agricultural Production Commissioners of States at a meeting here to-day gave an assessment of the kharif prospects and reported the steps taken in the States to realise the additional targets. Mr. T.P. Singh, Union Agriculture Secretary, who presided, told pressmen later that the States were confident of realising an additional yield of between 14 million tonnes and 16 million tonnes if the weather played fair. The emergency production programme envisaged an extra production of 8.75 million tonnes of wheat, 4.5 million tonnes of summer rice, 2 million tonnes of gram and about a million tonnes of jowar and bajra. The Production Commissioners felt that targets for wheat and summer rice were on the higher side. Mr. Singh, however, appealed to them to take a bolder view of the summer rice programme in the light of the encouraging results of last year.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 23, 1922

## Dr. Tagore at Poona

POONA, Sept. 22. Dr. Rabindranath Tagore and Professor Silvan Levy arrived in Poona yesterday afternoon. They paid a visit to Dr. Bhandarkar. In the evening, the Poona Gayan Samar gave them a pansupari entertainment and they visited the New Poona College, Girls High School. "Kesari and Mahratta" office and the Fergusson College. Professor Levy delivered an address at the Bhandarkar Oriental Institute. Dr. Tagore will read a paper on his Vishwa Bharati university and address a public meeting on Sunday afternoon where admission would be by tickets. A conversation has been arranged at the Bhandarkar Institute in their honour on Sunday morning. Another conversation would be held at the New Poona College to discuss educational matters. The party, it is understood, would leave for Mysore on Sunday night. Mr. O.F. Andrews also is expected to arrive at Poona to-morrow evening.

# Text & Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

**Iran unveils new medium-range ballistic missile, says IRNA**

**1,400** In kilometre, the range of Iran's newly unveiled medium-range ballistic missile. The International Institute for Strategic Studies says Iran has around 20 types of ballistic missiles as well as cruise missiles and drones. The London-based research institute said the Islamic republic wants to make its missiles more precise. AFP

**Mahindra in talks to raise money for electric vehicles push**

**500** In \$ million, the amount that Mahindra & Mahindra is expected to raise to accelerate its plans to build electric vehicles (EVs), according to Reuters. Mahindra's new EV unit, for which it is raising the funds, was valued at \$9.1 billion. The carmaker's first electric SUV is expected to be available for sale in January next year. Reuters

**Recent rains in the country may arrest drop in rice produce**

**6** in %, the drop in India's rice production during the kharif season of the 2022-23 crop year (July-June), when compared to the year-ago period, as per the first estimate by the Agriculture Ministry. However, recent rainfall in Jharkhand, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh may arrest the anticipated loss, says A.K. Singh, Director, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI). PTI

**Manchester United report losses, debt rises to £500 million**

**115.5** In £ million, the net loss reported by Manchester United for the 2021-22 season, even though revenues at the football club rose by 18% to £583 million. The 20-time English champions' net debt also increased from £419.5 million in 2021 to £514.9 million this year. United attributed the loss to unrealised foreign exchange losses. AFP

**Americans apply for unemployment benefits**

**2.13** In lakh, the number of applications for unemployment benefits for the week ending September 17 received by the U.S. Labor Department. It is 5,000 more than last week's figures. The increase came despite the Federal Reserve's year-long battle against inflation that's intended to cool the economy and the tight labour market. AP

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## Analysing the Kyrgyzstan-Tajikistan conflict

What are the reasons behind the current clashes between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan? What led to the flare-up between both nations? How can the dispute be resolved? How can the international community help?

## EXPLAINER

Rishabh Kachroo

**The story so far:** Nearly 100 people have been killed and scores injured in violent border clashes between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan over the last week. A ceasefire, brokered by Russia, was agreed on Friday. The two landlocked countries share a 1,000-km long border, a large part of which is disputed. There have been flare-ups in the past as well over sharing water and land resources.

## What is happening at the border?

The last few weeks have seen constant shelling, violent confrontations by local communities, and active engagement by security forces on either side. The Batken region of Kyrgyzstan is seeing families being moved out and getting relocated. According to the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Kyrgyzstan, close to 1,50,000 people out of the 5,50,000 odd population of the Batken region have either fled the area or have been relocated by the state. The situation in Osh, Kyrgyzstan, is no different. The highly militarised borders also add to tensions.

The clashes are replaying old pre- and post-Soviet era legacies. The borders of the two republics were demarcated under Joseph Stalin's leadership. Historically, the Kyrgyz and Tajik populations enjoyed common rights over natural resources. The issue of the delimitation of the border is a relic of the Soviet era. While regular talks have tried to resolve the issue, one of the crucial points of disagreement remains over the map which should be used for demarcation purposes. Almost half of its close to a 1000 km border is disputed.

The creation of the Soviet Union saw the large-scale redistribution of livestock to collective and state farms, which upset the existing status quo. Unfortunately, there was only so much land to go around. The Tajik territory saw their livestock increase, and with scarce grazing land, agreements were signed between the two



**War torn:** Kyrgyzstan's refugees arriving from Batken to Boz-Adir in southwestern Kyrgyzstan. AP

populations over the utilisation of Kyrgyz territory by the Tajiks' livestock.

## What led to the current flare-up?

The ideological basis of the current set of clashes is reinforced by developmental issues, thus providing a fertile ground for the entire geopolitical space to become a hotbed of multiple minor conflicts and clashes. The environmental trajectory of the conflict can be further highlighted by incidents which saw groups from either side planting trees in disputed areas and engaging in a physical confrontation using agricultural equipment as weapons.

Ferghana valley continues to be a site of struggle and frequent violent outbursts, with the location consisting primarily of Tajiks, Kyrgyz, and Uzbeks, who have historically shared common sociological specificities, economic activities, and religious practices.

The collapse of the Soviet Union and the

subsequent dissolution of the then-existing water and land agreements saw the creation of multiple smaller independent farms, which led to a marked increase in water consumption patterns among the farmers. Both countries share multiple water channels with undulating trajectories and flow, which upset equitable access to water on both sides. As a result, small-scale conflicts occur practically every year during the crucial irrigation period.

Both countries, while sharing a closely intertwined historical past, have had differing internal dynamics since coming into statehood. One can trace their instability to transnational challenges and internal ethnic strife. Leaders of both countries have contributed in one way or the other to the continuation of the conflict through the imagination of a particular type of development project, hoping to stabilise the internal dynamics of their respective countries and legitimise their power. This 'de-

velopment project' is similar to how the Soviet Union looked at modernisation – which resulted in the large-scale displacement of nomadic communities, eventually contributing to the 'environment driver' of the current conflict.

## What is the road ahead?

The path to resolution of the conflict will require groups to agree upon a common map. The international community will have to make efforts to solve the dispute by involving elders in the communities, as historically, elders have been used to resolve conflicts. The informal small-scale governance mechanisms would also have to be further strengthened through a concerted effort by the respective countries to stabilise the geopolitical dynamics.

Rishabh Kachroo is a Ph.D scholar at the department of International Relations and Governance Studies at the Shiv Nadar University

## THE GIST

The two landlocked countries, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, share a 1,000-km long border, a large part of which is disputed. There have been flare-ups in the past as well over sharing water and land resources.

The issue of the delimitation of the border is a relic of the Soviet era. While regular talks have tried to resolve the issue, one of the crucial points of disagreement remains over the map which should be used for demarcation purposes.

The path to resolution of the conflict will require warring groups to agree upon a common map. The international community too will have to make greater efforts to solve the dispute by involving elders in the communities.

## The case of nikah halala in India, and a long court battle

What is it and why are women seeking an annulment of halala marriage? How does it affect Muslim women of the country? When is the court going to hear it?

Ziva Us Salam

**The story so far:** Sameena Begum, a Delhi-based victim of instant triple talaq and a fraud marriage approached the Supreme Court in 2018 seeking a ban on nikah halala. Following her petition, the Court issued notices to the Government of India, the National Human Rights Commission, the National Commission for Women and the National Minorities Commission. The five-judge Bench headed by Justice Indira Banerjee shall hear the case this October.

## Why did Sameena Begum approach the Supreme Court?

Sameena Begum filed a PIL seeking the annulment of halala marriage and polygamy. She requested the court that Section 2 of the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937, be

declared arbitrary and in violation of Articles 14, 15, 21 and 25 of the Constitution. She has also requested the court to ensure that provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, apply to all Indian citizens. She contended that nikah halala is rape under IPC Section 375.

She was not alone in seeking annulment of nikah halala. With her was Farzana Parveen who used to live in Noida with her husband Abdur Qadir. Qadir pronounced triple talaq but later put a condition to accept her back: she should undergo halala marriage. Parveen refused to marry another man for the sake of getting back to Qadir. Instead, she sought judicial redress, seeking a ban on nikah halala.

The Koran allows a man to divorce his wife a maximum of two times. On both the occasions, separated by at least one menstrual cycle – instant triple talaq is

not mentioned anywhere in the Koran – he is allowed to cancel the divorce. If the spouses fail to resume cohabitation during this period, they are allowed to remarry without any third-party intervention. This can be done only twice. If the man takes his wife back after the second pronouncement of divorce and then divorces her for the third time, he is not allowed to marry her again. The woman becomes an independent being with full choice over her life.

Halala, the way the Koran speaks of it, empowers women to take independent decisions. It saves women from temperamental husbands who divorce in a fit of anger, then cancel it, then divorce again, unleashing an endless cycle of marriage and divorce.

The Indian reality is way removed from the scriptural injunctions. Often a man pronounces triple talaq in a fit of anger. A

little later, he realises his mistake and approaches a maulana who often tells him that he has exhausted all three chances at divorce; his erstwhile wife is now prohibited to him for reconciliation unless she marries another man, and he either divorces her or dies. For the purpose of going back to the erstwhile husband, sham marriages are enacted wherein a woman marries another man with a pre-decided date and time of divorce. The nikah is conducted with the understanding that the divorce shall take place the next day after consummation of marriage. Usually, nikah halala stems from instant triple talaq and ends with it.

## Is nikah halala prevalent across the globe?

In Saudi Arabia, where divorces are on the rise, no cases of halala have been reported. No case has been reported from the UAE, Kuwait and Yemen either. In India, the Muslim Women's Protection of Rights on Marriage, passed after invalidation of triple talaq by the Supreme Court, is silent on nikah halala. The Act made instant triple talaq a criminal offence but steered clear of halala which takes place as a consequence of triple talaq. If the first husband is punished for giving her instant triple talaq, the second for doing likewise to facilitate her return to her former husband, where does that leave the woman?

## THE GIST

Sameena Begum, a Delhi-based victim of instant triple talaq and fraud marriage, approached the Supreme Court in 2018 seeking a ban on nikah halala. The five-judge Bench headed by Justice Indira Banerjee shall hear the case this October.

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A still from *Reservoir Dogs*

# Are movie remakes relevant in the OTT era?

Remaking, per se, is not a problem: it is about what the filmmaker does with the original film, and the unique vision brought into the new movie

**Praveen Sudevan**

Watching Shakti Soundar Rajan's latest film, *Captain*, earlier this month, spurred a few questions. Foremost among them was: why did he even make it? The film is a ripoff of John McTiernan's *Predator*, one of the greatest sci-fi action movies of all time. This is the fourth film, wherein Shakti has heavily borrowed from well-known Hollywood flicks. He fancies the tag of being the first in Tamil cinema to make films in visual effects-heavy genres like creature features, space flicks, and zombie movies, from which most of his counterparts have shied away due to budget constraints. One could appreciate Shakti for attempting these less familiar genres in Tamil. But the attempts themselves have been ordinary and less original. *Captain*, for instance, is far inferior to its original (released 35 years ago) in terms of screenplay, action choreography, and more importantly, makeup, special effects and visual effects – which are absolutely essential for a monster movie.

There was a time when cinema beyond one's region was not easily accessible. So, filmmakers could adapt films from afar according to local sensibilities. Take Sanjay Gupta's remake of *Reservoir Dogs*, *Kaante*, for instance. He Bollywood-ised Quentin Tarantino's cult classic. The film, apart from succeeding at the box office, earned praise from Tarantino himself.

"I think it was fabulous. The best part is, you have Indian guys coming to the U.S. and looting a U.S. bank. How cool is that. I was truly honoured. And these guys are played by the legends of Bollywood," he said in an interview.

*Kaante* came out in 2002 when international films were still out of reach for most Hindi film audiences. Not many would have known that it was a readaptation of *Reservoir Dogs*. In this day and age, however, when films around the world have become more accessible than ever, do remakes still make sense?

Before answering this question, let's see why remakes within Indian cinema don't work all the time.

### Lost in translation

Over the last few years, Hindi cinema has been increasingly remaking films from the south. This year alone, we saw the releases of *Jersey* (a remake of the Telugu film of the same name), *Good Luck Jerry* (a remake of the Tamil film *Kolamaavu Kokila*), and *Cuttputli* (a remake of the Tamil film *Ratsasan*). Despite the success of their respective originals and being headlined by stars – Shahid Kapoor in *Jersey*, Jhanvi Kapoor in *Good Luck Jerry*, and Akshay Kumar in *Cuttputli* – none of these films succeeded as well as they did in Tamil and Telugu.

For instance, *Ratsasan* worked because it pitted a young, inexperienced cop, who aspires to be a filmmaker, against an intelligent psycho murderer. Vishnu Vishal was apt for the cop's role.

Meanwhile, Akshay Kumar, who is 55 years old and has a superstar persona, was perhaps not the best choice. We can pinpoint reasons for the lukewarm response to *Good Luck Jerry* as well. But the truth is that the success of such remakes has always been unreliable. On most occasions, they do not work because something significant gets lost in translation. Take the case of Feroz Khan's *Dayavan*, which was a remake of Mani Ratnam's *Nayakan*. While the latter is regarded as one of the best-ever films of Indian cinema, the former is merely considered a bland simulacrum of it.

Despite both movies narrating the journey of the larger-than-life Mumbai don, Varadaraja Mudaliar, *Dayavan* did not work because of its setting. Ratnam himself talks about it in the book, *Conversations With Mani Ratnam*. "To me, *Nayakan* is the story of a man going to an alien zone and establishing roots and becoming somebody in that territory," he says, "It is really an underdog's conquest in an alien zone. So, for the Hindi version to root the story in Bombay was itself odd."

Filmmakers, while transposing a story to a different setting, miss out on key elements. Shashank Khaitan's *Dhadak*, the remake of Nagraj Manjule's Marathi film *Sairat*, is a recent example that comes to mind. Both films are typical romantic tragedies. But where Manjule's film stands out is in its portrayal of caste discrimination. He makes it apparent that

the villain of his film is not one person or a few people; it is caste. Khaitan's Hindi version diluted this caste angle, which is the most crucial element of the story.

### Pan-Indian cinema

OTT platforms have been a game-changer over the last three years in India. It has taken stars and filmmakers from a specific region to people from several parts of the country. Films like *Pushpa*, *RRR*, and *KGF 2* performing well beyond their respective linguistic domains is an indication that audiences are ready to accept stars from any part of the country.

Filmmakers and producers who want to take their creations beyond their region now pay more attention to subtitling and dubbing in other languages. As a result, now, a person from Mumbai can watch and understand (to an extent) a film rooted in Madurai. This brings us back to our question: are remakes still relevant then?

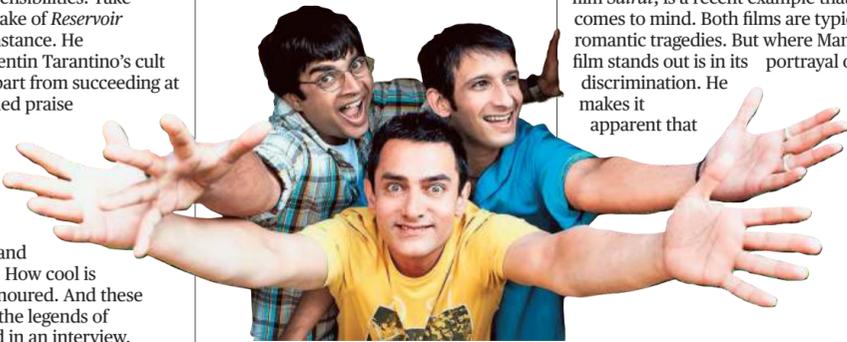
The short answer is yes.

Remakes will not be obsolete because they are not always about casting different people and speaking a different language (say, as *Nanban* did with *3 Idiots*). Merely rooting the same story in another cultural backdrop can produce interesting results. Take Arunraja Kamaraj's *Nenjukkku Neethi* – the Tamil remake of Anubhav Sinha's *Article 15*, a film that discusses caste – for instance. The contrast between the two worlds of these films was noteworthy. Unlike *Article 15*'s Lalgaoon (the fictional town in Uttar Pradesh), we do not see people in *Nenjukkku Neethi* identifying others' caste by their surname. Because, thanks to the social reform movements in Tamil Nadu, even in a village in Pollachi, where the remake is set, caste is absent from people's names. Yet, as the film shows us, it exists everywhere.

Remaking, per se, is not a problem; it is about what the filmmaker does with the original film. Martin Scorsese's adaptation of Andrew Lau and Alan Mak's *Internal Affairs* (which he remade as *The Departed*) is a fine example of a good remake. *The Departed*, while retaining the essence of the original, presents a markedly different style of filmmaking. Scorsese took the story of *Internal Affairs* and made it his own.

Ultimately, a remake – at least a good one – requires what every other film does: a filmmaker's unique vision.

*Note: The term 'remake', in this article, refers to legitimate and illegitimate readaptations of films*



## THE DAILY QUIZ

On September 23, 1889, Japanese gaming company Nintendo was founded. Here is a quiz on video games from across the world.

**QUESTION 1**  
In this video game, players complete lines by moving differently shaped pieces which descend onto the playing field. The completed lines disappear and grant the player points. Name the game.

**QUESTION 2**  
This game is about a pirate cat who sets on a quest to find an ancient amulet while fighting enemies. Name the game.

**QUESTION 3**  
This is a text-based game, and the player assumes the role of a wagon leader guiding a party of settlers in the United States. Name the game.

**QUESTION 4**  
This is a third-person shooter game that centres on a former detective

who attempts to solve the murder of his family while investigating a drug trafficking case involving a mysterious new designer drug. Eventually, the detective becomes entangled in a large conspiracy, involving a pharmaceutical company. Name the game.

**QUESTION 5**  
This is a futuristic racing video game, players compete in the F3600 anti-gravity racing league, piloting one of a selection of craft in races on several tracks around the world. There are seven race tracks in the game. Name the game.

**QUESTION 6**  
This is a music video game which allows up to four players to simulate the performance of popular rock songs by playing with controllers modelled after musical instruments. Name the game.



**Visual question:** Identify the original game using the given picture. Name the hero who rescues his girlfriend from the eponymous character in the game.

**Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz:** 1. Hippocrates described cancer referring to them with word 'karkinos'. Which animal do the word and description denote? **Ans: Crab**  
2. Name the substance that promotes the formation of cancer. **Ans: Carcinogen/cancerogen**  
3. Name the branch of medicine that deals with treatment and prevention of cancer. **Ans: Oncology**  
4. The pink ribbon and the colour pink are used as motifs to raise money for which type of cancer? **Ans: Breast cancer**  
5. Name the actor who died from colon cancer in 2020. **Ans: Chadwick Boseman**  
6. Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines protect against which cancer? **Ans: Cervical cancer**  
7. Name the author who wrote *The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*. **Ans: Siddhartha Mukherjee**  
Visual question: Name this scientist who discovered radiation in the nineteenth century. **Ans: Marie Curie**  
**Early Birds:** Amit Purkait | Manoj Aggarwal | Kritika Rajput | Siddhartha Mukherjee

Please send in your answers to [dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in](mailto:dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in)



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Know your English

"Sir, what is meant by e.g. and i.e.?"

"i.e. is an abbreviation of Latin 'id est' which means 'that is to say' or 'namely.' First you make a statement and add something to clarify it.

I am coming there on the second Saturday of this month, i.e., the fifteenth. In this, there is additional information about the second Saturday. The exact date is given. That is the fifteenth. That is what i.e. is all about. Both i and e should be in small letters and there should be a comma before i.e.

*I am coming there on the second Saturday of this month, i.e. the fifteenth.*

"e.g.; is an abbreviation of Latin 'exempli gratia' which means 'for example', 'for instance'.

*You must avoid crowded places, e.g. theatres.*

Here the statement says that you must avoid crowded places and gives an example of a crowded place. 'e.g.' like 'i.e.' should be in small letters and should be preceded by a comma.

Except in formal writing, don't use these abbreviations. The modern tendency is to say "for instance" or "for example" instead of e.g., and "namely" or "that is to say" instead of i.e.

e.g. and i.e. are generally read aloud as "for example" and "that is to say", respectively. That is, don't pronounce them as "eegee" and "eyeee." I hope you understand now.

"Yes, sir, What is "a bone of contention," sir?"

"A bone of contention" is something that causes disagreement or dispute. You argue about it.

*The age of the retirement has been the bone of contention between the Government and its employees.*

You won't be happy when I tell you that this expression relates to quarrels among dogs. When there are several dogs and you throw a single bone among them, there is a quarrel as to who should get it. This is the origin of the expression "a bone of contention". The word "contention" here is from "contend" which means "to struggle", "to compete." This is different from "context" which means "to be satisfied with what one has." From "content" you get "contentment", from "contend", you get "contention". In contentment, there is satisfaction. In contention, there is quarrel."

"Sir, is it "differ from" or "differ with?"

"When two things are not the same, you say they are different from each other.

*Chalk is different from cheese. She is different from her brother.*

When it is used in the sense of "disagree," you can use either "from" or "with." Both are correct.

*I differ with him on this question. I differ from him on this question.*

That's all for today. Goodbye."  
"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

## Word of the day

**Pulverise:**  
to destroy completely

**Synonyms:**  
grind, crush, crumble, squash

**Usage:** *When grinding the seeds, don't pulverise them to a powder.*

**Pronunciation:**  
<https://forvo.com/search/pulverise/en/>

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to [letters@thehindu.co.in](mailto:letters@thehindu.co.in) with the subject 'Text & Context'

## From Page One

## 109 held in nationwide crackdown on PFI

One of the cases was earlier made against over 25 PFI activists by the Nizamabad Police of Telangana in July. The accused were holding camps to train people for indulging in violence. In one case, the agency has arrested 19 persons. Those picked up from Kerala have been identified as the outfit chief Salam, Jaseer K.P., V. P. Nazarudheen Elamaram, Mohammed Basheer, Shafeer K.P., Abubacker, Prof. Koya and Abdul Rahiman. Seven were held in Karnataka, three in Tamil Nadu and one in Uttar Pradesh. Two persons have been arrested from Rajasthan in another case, while eight from Tamil Nadu held in the third case and 11 from Kerala in the fourth case. The agency also arrested four accused from Andhra Pradesh and one from Telangana connected to the fifth First Information Report. As on date, the NIA is investigating 19 PFI-related cases and has so far arraigned 355 persons in the chargesheets.

The ED has arrested Shafiq Daru Rahmani in Kozhikode for his alleged role in raising funds from the Gulf and laundering the money for use in various illegal activities. "He is an associate of Rauf Sharif, a member of the PFI's Campus Front of India, who was arrested by us in December 2020," said an agency official, adding that the ED had so far attached 23 accounts linked to the PFI and 10 linked to the Rehab India Foundation.

In Telangana and Manipur, the PFI offices were sealed for further searches. Last week, the agency had raided the outfit's training centre in Nizamabad and detained some activists.

(With inputs from different bureaus)

## 'Ukraine conflict of profound concern'

The conflict has also put the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant at risk of damage, a matter that was raised by several speakers. "The nuclear issue is a particular anxiety," Mr. Jaishankar said.

Distant regions – especially in the global South – were feeling the conflict's impact, Mr. Jaishankar said, as he highlighted food and fuel shortages. "We must therefore, not initiate measures that further complicate the struggling global economy," he said. "And that is why India strongly reiterates the need for an immediate cessation of all hostilities and a return to dialogue and diplomacy," he said, repeating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement to Mr. Putin last week in Samarkand at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit, "Now is not the era for war".

Later in his speech, he said, again, that the need now was "to end this conflict in Ukraine and return to the negotiating table".

Mr. Jaishankar also said that even during conflict, violations of human rights and international law were not acceptable. "Where any such acts occur, it is imperative that they are investigated in an objective and independent manner," he said, referring to a massacre that took place in the suburb of Ukraine, which came to light in March 2022. "Politics should never ever provide cover to evade accountability nor indeed to facilitate impunity. Regrettably, we have seen this of late in this very chamber when it comes to sanctioning of some of the world's most dreaded terrorists," Mr. Jaishankar said, presumably referring to China placing a hold on a U.S.-India proposal to sanction LeT terrorist Sajid Mir. He said the Council should consider the signals it was sending by letting "egregious acts" go unpunished and that credibility required consistency.

## Maoist movement at an ebb in Andhra-Odisha

Major operations – including the Ramaguda encounter in October 2016, in which about 30 Maoists were killed and, in Teegalametla in June 2020, when six top leaders were killed in an encounter with the elite anti-naxal force of Andhra Pradesh – has left the movement depleted of strength. A number of top leaders have either died in encounters (Azad and Jambri) or surrendered (Jalandhar Reddy and Sudheer) or have been arrested (Ashok and Dubasi Shankar). The Maoists, then called Naxalites belonging to the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) People's War or the People's War Group (PWG), entered the Andhra-Odisha border region some time in the mid-1980s.

But the movement grew in strength only after foundation of the present party – the CPI (Maoist). It was on September 21, 2004, that two major left wing extremist groups – the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) People's War or People's War Group and the Maoist Communist Centre of India (MCCI) – merged to form the Communist Party of India- Maoist or CPI (Maoist).

Though both the parties, controlling different geographical areas, shared similar ideologies and goals, they differed on a number of counts till the merger. But after a prolonged discussion from 2002, the parties finally merged to form the biggest LWE group in the country, as well as in south-east Asia. With Muppala Lakshmana Rao alias Ganapathi heading it, the combined military strength of the party grew to over 7,000 armed members overnight. The weapons stockpile shot up to over 6,500 items of various makes and calibres that ranged from the AK series to SLRs and from .303 Lee Enfield rifles to locally made double- and single barrel shotguns. The cadre also grew in strength and expertise in manufacturing and using improvised explosive devices (IED) effectively. Till date, IEDs are their mainstay.

## PFI, a group that has been in the cross hairs of security and intel agencies since 2010

The organisation rose to notoriety in 2010 with the chopping of the hand of a professor in Kerala; in 2021, police officers from Assam, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh spoke of its alleged radical activities at a police meet attended by the PM

Vijaita Singh  
NEW DELHI

The coordinated searches and the arrest of around 100 members of the Popular Front of India (PFI) on Thursday by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) were planned on the basis of documents and information collected by the Intelligence Bureau (IB), a senior government official said.

National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval monitored the searches that began in the early hours on Thursday. As it was a countrywide search, Central forces were kept on standby and minimal information was shared with the local police.

This is not the first time that the organisation, comprising mostly Muslim members, which describes itself as "neo-social movement which strives for the empowerment of marginalised sections of India" has been in the cross hairs of the security agencies. In 2010, some members of the PFI attacked T.J. Joseph, a professor in Ernakulam district of Kerala, chopping off his right palm. Mr. Joseph was targeted over a question paper he set for a college examination that had some references to the Prophet, which the attackers said were insulting.

The PFI was founded in



Under arrest: Parvez, PFI Delhi unit chief, being brought to the ED office in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

2007, a year after the merger of three Muslim groups – the National Democratic Front in Kerala, the Karnataka Forum for Dignity and the Manitha Neethi Pasara in Tamil Nadu.

In 2017, the NIA prepared a detailed dossier on the PFI, but it could not be declared an "unlawful association" under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) as officials were divided on the subject. In June 2022, the ED accused the organisation of money laundering, claiming that it had received over ₹60 crore since 2009, including cash deposit of over ₹30 crore.

The PFI said the funds were raised domestically. "It has won the trust of millions of people across the country who help the organisation through their

donations. Due to this, it has been the policy of the organisation since its inception to make any small and large scale financial transactions transparent," the PFI said.

In 2021, at the annual police meet organised by the IB and attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Lucknow, police officers from Assam, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh spoke of the alleged radical activities of the outfit in their presentations. Assam Director-General of Police (DGP) Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta in his presentation on "Countering emerging security challenges in the neighborhood: Way forward" said that the "PFI has given an aggressive push to its propaganda campaign focusing majorly in Muslim majority dis-

tricts of Assam". He said that the PFI was successful in consolidating its position offline and online and has leveraged the polarisation that has taken place in Assam. "The PFI's overt operations in Assam are in line with its *modus operandi* of supporting secular and mass movements. However, behind this garb of neo-liberal and secular mass-based organisation lies the sinister design of PFI," the presentation said.

It added that reports suggested that the PFI could be used by its political wing SDPI (Social Democratic Party of India) to make an entry into the political landscape of the State in the near future. The PFI has played an active role in the recent eviction-related violence in Assam's Dholpur, the presentation said.

## 'EWS quota claims to be for poorest of poor, but denies most deprived'

Krishnadas Rajagopal  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday questioned the logic behind a quota for 'economically weaker sections' which claims to cater to the "poorest of the poor" but leaves out deprived communities who have suffered denial for centuries.

Members of the Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes are shut out from applying under the 10% quota for economically weaker sections (EWS) introduced through the 103rd Constitutional Amendment. The government justifies the debarment of these communities by arguing that they are already part of the 50% reservation for backward



40% of the ST population constitute the poorest of the poor. When it comes to economic criteria, they are *ex facie* the poorest of the poor...

S. RAVINDRA BHAT  
Supreme Court judge

classes. However, petitioners argue in court that their exclusion leaves only the middle class among the forward castes to reap the benefits of the EWS quota.

"Forty per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population constitute the poorest

of the poor. When it comes to economic criteria, they are *ex facie* the poorest of the poor... But their overall reservation is just 7.5%. So there is a large section of them who are kept out because the share of the pie is only that much... Is it a good idea for an egalitarian Constitution to say 'yes, you are the poorest of the poor but sorry we have exhausted your quota! We will give this [EWS reservation] to neither the ST, SC or OBC or constitutionally backward communities but to the other class,' Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, one of the judges on the Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice U.U. Lalit, asked the Centre, represented by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta.

The court said the idea of "economic backward-

ness" was nebulous. "Now, social backwardness can be easily discerned from lineage, caste, creed, occupations and from where people come from. There is an element of permanency in social backwardness. On the other hand, economic condition may be temporary," CJ Lalit said. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari said there were no guidelines to identify economic backwardness. Mr. Mehta countered that there was a certain element of "flexibility" attached to social and educational backwardness. "A community which is socially backward today may not be so 10 years from now," he argued.

He said the 103rd Amendment had strengthened the Basic Structure of the Constitution.

## Varanasi court issues notice to Masjid panel on plea for carbon-dating of structure

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

A Varanasi district court on Thursday issued notice to the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid Committee on an application of Hindu worshippers, who have now sought carbon-dating of the disputed structure known to have been found inside the premises of the Gyanvapi mosque.

District judge A.K. Vishvesha is currently hearing

a suit filed by five Hindu women, who are seeking the right to worship inside the premises of the mosque all-year round. On September 12, the court had rejected an application of the Masjid panel challenging the maintainability of the suit. On Thursday, while admitting the application for carbon-dating of the structure, the court also dismissed an application filed by the panel seeking eight weeks' time to

appeal against the September 12 order. While hearing the application for carbon-dating the structure in question, the court sought the Masjid panel's objections to it and posted the matter for September 29.



To watch a related video What is the Places of Worship Act? [bit.ly/3DLZosb](https://bit.ly/3DLZosb)

## Local toys to promote learning in anganwadi

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Centre has compiled a State-wise national repository of indigenous toys and shared this with all States as part of its special nutrition campaign.

It is using these local, indigenous toys in anganwadi centres for creating awareness and educating children and their families about healthy living and good nutritional practices, a senior official said.



## F-16 help to Pakistan not a message to India: Ratner

Dinakar Peri  
NEW DELHI

The action on F-16 was not designed as a message to India as a result of its relationship with Russia, said Ely Ratner, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defence for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, while stating that they have engaged India on it both before and during the decision.

Mr. Ratner was in India two weeks ago along with Assistant Secretary of State Donald Lu for the inter-session 2+2 meetings with the Ministries of Defence and External Affairs.

## Leicester violence: India asks U.K. to take action

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

India on Thursday said its officials were in contact with the authorities in the U.K. over the recent fights in Leicester where clashes between two communities continued for three weeks.

MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said, "We are in touch with the diplomatic and security authorities to prevent further attacks and take action against the perpetrators."

## Punjab calls Assembly session on Sept. 27, to knock on SC's door

Vikas Vasudeva  
CHANDIGARH

The Punjab government has decided to call a special Assembly session on September 27 and also to approach the Supreme Court against Governor Banwarilal Purohit's decision to withdraw the order of summoning of a session on September 22 during which the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) wanted to bring a 'confidence motion'.

The Opposition parties launched an offensive against the AAP, a day after Governor's decision. The AAP MLAs, on the other hand, held a 'march' from the State Assembly complex towards the Governor's house, protesting against the cancellation of the special Assembly session. The ruling AAP had announced to convene the special session of the Assembly on September 22 to bring a 'confidence motion', following the party's allegation that attempts were being made to topple its government by offering bribes to its legislators by the agents of the BJP.

The BJP members

## The SAD alleged that the special session was summoned to enact a political drama in the State

'marched' towards Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's official residence here as it accused the AAP of raking up the issue of 'toppling' Punjab government in an attempt to divert public attention from its failure in the past six months since it came to power. The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) asserted that the Governor has done the right thing as the special session was summoned "to enact a political drama on the lines of the one which took place in Delhi earlier". Terming the session for 'confidence motion' as a gimmick, the Congress party also congratulated the Governor. Mr. Mann said the State government has now decided to summon the session of the Assembly on September 27 to discuss "various issues pertaining to the State". He termed Governor's decision as "arbitrary and anti-democratic".

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# Godard, who changed cinema's grammar and syntax

TRIBUTE

Jean-Luc Godard was an iconoclast. He "destroyed" cinema and created it, every time he made a new film. He was not bound by any rules or conventions hitherto religiously practised by generations of filmmakers before him.

Scion of an upper-class Swiss family, he discovered to his shame and horror that his paternal grandfather was a close ally of the Nazis. It made him leave home in protest and fend for himself. A fascination for cinema had entered his fertile imagination very early in his life. As a teenager, he went to a dam site under construction and worked there as a helper. The money earned was put into the making of a documentary on the construction of the dam and also a couple of short fiction films.

As a student in Paris, he came close to several of the aspiring young men who had been bitten by the cinema bug. The Cinematheque in Paris had already established itself as the Mecca of cinema and was the natural destination for the seekers. Its illustrious director, Henri Langlois, was all help, mentoring and guiding the young aspirants.

At the age of 19, Godard wrote his first review of a film which was noted for its mature views and an unrelenting passion for cinema.

The post-war period saw a France shaken and shattered economically. The situation was even worse socially and culturally. A monopolistic Hollywood kept on dumping its mindless potboilers on France, filling the cinemas with escapist fare. The native industry too took to the easy way, churning out similar stuff in docile imitation.

Intellectuals such as Jean-Paul Sartre became vocal in their anger and frustration in condemning the capitalist design to drive a highly evolved culture like France's into a captive status and demoralise it. Sartre condemned even a celebrated film like Orson Welles' *Citizen Kane* as an exercise in futility as it remained wholly oblivious of the day-to-day life lived by ordinary people.

Well-known critic and theoretician Andre Bazin took exception to this argument against *Citizen Kane* and went on to defend it in an article titled "The technique of *Citizen Kane*". He stressed that as a work of art, *Citizen Kane* was flawless, and it had indeed redeemed cinema from the depths of degeneration it had been condemned to.

He saw lengthy shots and deep focus as elements adding to the authenticity of the truth portrayed without leaving any scope for interference or manipulation. It had, in his opinion, enhanced the authenticity and relevance of the content.

In a sequel response, Maurice Schroeder, an



The auteur: Jean-Luc Godard pushing cameraman Raoul Coutard (on a wheelchair for a tracking shot) during the shooting of *Breathless*.



**A. Door Gopalakrishnan** is a veteran filmmaker

influential teacher and critic of cinema, held out a view that was different from both. In a three-part piece for the journal *La review du Cinema*, he attempted to define cinema and pared it down to its essentials. He wrote: "It is neither the length of the shot nor the clarity of vision that determines the identity of cinema. On the contrary, it is the nature of the content in terms of the actors and the objects the artist packs into the visuals that is decisive. With the actors' performance and dialogue and the placement of objects within the frame the visuals take on a life."

**Novelty of ideas, clarity of thinking**  
Impressed and attracted by the ingenuity of this argument, Godard went on to join the Cine Club run by Schroeder in the Latin Quarter. Schroeder would invariably introduce every film before its screening. And an open discussion, presided over by him, would follow at the end.

In 1949, Schroeder adopted the pen name, Eric Rohmer, and started a film magazine titled *de Gazette du Cinema*. Only five issues could be brought out before it was folded up. An article by Godard was featured in each of those issues. They were noted for their novelty of ideas and clarity of thinking and above all, a strong passion for the new faith that was cinema.

In the article "Towards a political cinema", the one idea he was emphatically underscoring was that cinema was not merely copying reality, but was itself a part of reality. Godard and his friends were not content with just watching films and writing about them. They were itching to make their own films. Practical training started with

assisting Eric Rohmer and Jack Rivet who were making their debut films.

By the early 1950s, *Cahiers du Cinema* had already started publication under the editorship of Bazin. It attracted some of the best young minds on its editorial board as well as its list of contributors. Bazin himself was their leader and *agent provocateur*. Francois Truffaut, Claude Chabrol, Godard and other like-minded anti-establishment left-wing critics found for themselves a forum to vent their views in *Cahiers du Cinema* that was soon to become the springboard of the *Nouvelle Vague* (New Wave).

Godard, in his 1956 article "Montage, my fine care", propounded a view diametrically opposite to the editor, Bazin. As opposed to Bazin's view that lengthy shots without cuts or interruptions would lend authenticity to cinema, Godard argued that shots of shorter duration should carry the impact better.

While being critical about Hollywood films in general, directors such as Alfred Hitchcock, Ford, Howard Hawks, Otto Preminger, Nicholas Ray and a few others were lauded by Godard. The problem with the run-of-the-mill Hollywood productions was that they were driven by sheer monetary considerations leaving little space for freedom of expression.

**The idea was to make the audience aware that they were watching cinema and not entering it**

About the time, from neighbourhood Italy, neorealism was making a big splash internationally. Critics like Bazin were quick to respond and exhort the young and serious to imbibe its spirit in their work. Films like Rossellini's *Rome*, *Open City* and De Sica's *Bicycle*

*Thieves* were discussed, analysed and written about in all earnestness. The new awareness and exposure might have caught the imagination of the would-be filmmakers.

The situation should be looked up in the context of the seminal document by filmmaker-critic Alexandre Astruc who famously called upon the professionals to make sure that the camera becomes the pen in their hands (*la camera stylo*), sowing the seed of a revolution in filmmaking.

The argument was further crystallised by Francois Truffaut when he proposed the concept of auteur cinema, naming the filmmaker as the author of cinema. And the dictum truly found fruition in the work of Godard over and again, through his career.

**The story of a thief**

In the 1950s, the whole of France was agog with the news of the adventurous and dangerous life of a

small-time thief and his hopeless flight from law.

Michel Poiccard, in his desperate bid to get away from the police, commits the mistake of killing a policeman who had been chasing him on a motorbike. He takes his girlfriend, Patricia, an American girl selling the *New York Herald Tribune* on the boulevards of Paris, with him. In the end, she turns him to the police in an act of treachery and he gets shot to death. Truffaut was very much interested in adapting the story for a film. He started working on a script in collaboration with Chabrol. But after a time they lost interest in the subject.

Godard sought and got Truffaut's permission to make his first feature on the subject. What got him interested in the film was the strange twist in the story - of Patricia giving up Michel to the police.

In Truffaut's story, it is owing to poverty that the boy turns to stealing cars and gets involved in petty crimes. Godard's Michel is someone who is an outsider to social norms and the rule of law and he has only contempt for orderly life. He is a hardened delinquent.

It was Truffaut who arranged a producer for him. Through the producer's contact, he got a distributor who agreed to advance some money for the production. The shooting was done without the usual paraphernalia of film production.

Raoul Coutard, the cameraman, carried the camera himself and shot all the scenes on real locations hand-held. He would walk and run with the artists in tandem. Wherever a tracking shot was required, the cameraman would be seated on a wheelchair and Godard would push it. Lightweight sound equipment made it possible to record sounds as well in the same fashion. Godard used a bare minimum crew for the shoot.

At the time of editing, no effort was made to start a scene with establishing shot and then go on to mid, semi-mid, close shots, and so on. All such conventions were broken. A scene would start with a close view and then continue without establishing either physical or internal connection. In fact, the very idea of smooth transition either by match cut or opticals such as fade-in, fade-out, mix, and so on was all done away with. The idea was to make the audience aware that they were watching cinema and not entering it. Thus, cinema discovered a new terminology - the jump cut. (Satyajit Ray told me once jokingly, Godard has made our lives easier by sparing us the trouble to match shots and seek smooth transitions.)

*A bout de souffle (Breathless)* all on a sudden changed cinema's grammar and syntax. A series of films crossing 100 in number were to follow.

Even at 91, Godard was dreaming of cinema, but the body wouldn't match his mind. It was as if it's not worth living when you cannot act out your wishes. The undying spirit of cinema lives on.

## Cong. presidential poll: filing of papers to begin tomorrow

**Sandeep Phukan**  
NEW DELHI

The process to elect a new Congress president was set in motion, with the party's Central Election Authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry issuing an official notification on Thursday.

While the process of filing nomination starts on Saturday, voting will be held on October 17 and the counting of votes will take place on October 19.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Lok Sabha member Shashi Tharoor have emerged as the front runners in the presidential race.

The party last witnessed a contest for the top post in November 2000 when Congress chief Sonia Gandhi defeated Jitendra Prasad.

Except for a brief period between 1992 and 1998, the top post of the Congress has been with the Gandhis since 1978.

However, with the Gandhis sitting out in the current election, the list of possible contenders could grow. Sources close to Lok Sabha member Manish Tewari said the senior leader was consulting with his supporters and well wishers before taking a final de-

**The voting will be held on October 17 and the counting of votes will take place on October 19**

cision on contesting. Senior leader Digvijaya Singh, who is the national coordinator of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, is also being pitched as a contender.

But more than the number of contestants, Mr. Gehlot's candidature will present a challenge to the leadership. A win and elevation as the Congress chief would mean the party has to choose his successor as the Rajasthan's Chief Minister.

And with just about a year for the Assembly poll in Rajasthan, the Congress top leadership will have to make a careful choice. While former Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot is being considered as a front runner for the post, it is well known that Mr. Gehlot is averse to him since he had rebelled against the Gehlot government in July 2020. Sources said Rajasthan Speaker C.P. Joshi or Cabinet Minister Shanti Kumar Dhariwal were also being talked as possible replacements of Mr. Gehlot.

## RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat rashtra pita, says imam after Delhi meet

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday paid a visit to Umer Ahmed Ilyasi, chief imam of the All India Imam Organisation (AIO), at the latter's residence in Delhi.

Mr. Bhagwat, who was accompanied by senior RSS functionaries Krishna Gopal, Ram Lal and Indresh Kumar, is said to have had a brief discussion with Mr. Ilyasi on issues relating to peace and harmony. Mr. Ilyasi said the meeting was "a family affair". "Bhagwatji is *rashtra pita* (father of the nation) and his visit to my home was an honour to me," he said.

A top RSS functionary told *The Hindu* that Mr. Bhagwat met the imam at his home in response to a long-standing invitation. "The RSS has been in continuous dialogue with Umer Ahmed Ilyasi. Even his father use to interact with former RSS chief K.S. Sudarshan," said the RSS functionary. He added that nothing more should be made of the visit. "Yes, he also met some madrasa students. It was a candid interaction," he added.

Sunil Ambekar, RSS publicity in-charge, described the meeting as part of the continuous *samvad* of the sangh with people from various sections of society. Even during his previous stay in Delhi, between August 21 and 24, Mr. Bhagwat met a delegation of Muslim intellectuals, including former Delhi Lieutenant-Governor Najeeb Jung, Mr. Ambekar noted.

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Ref. No.: WBPDC/L / Tend-Adv/22-23/Corp/CC-1040      Date: 16.09.2022  
NIT No.: WBPDC/L / CORP/NIT/E1594/22-23 (Re-tender)      Dated: 15.09.2022

E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> by the General Manager(M&C), WBPDC, from eligible agencies/companies for "Operation and maintenance of the reverse osmosis (RO) plant at Bidyut Unnayan Bhaban, Corporate Office, WBPDC, for a period of two years." Tender Document Download Start Date: 20.09.2022 from 11:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 12.10.2022 at 10:00 hrs. Contact Person: Smt. Sulagana Dass, Manager (PS), M&C, Contact No: 8240042058. E-mail: [s.dass@wbpdcl.co.in](mailto:s.dass@wbpdcl.co.in) For details please visit <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> CA-718903 (2) /2022

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Bid Document downloading	: 23.09.2022 at 11:00 AM
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Date of opening of PQ Stage	: 27.10.2022 at 6:00 PM
Date of opening of Commercial Stage*	: 04.11.2022 at 11:00 AM
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The College website, which was published in Opportunities of 21st September, 2022 of this newspaper, may kindly be read as [www.svc.ac.in](http://www.svc.ac.in)

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"18 no.s of toilets renovation at Rohini Guest House" (T/C-22-049, Est. cost ₹23.18 Lakhs), "Floor painting, Misc. Civil works @ Keepakkam" (T/C-22-051, Est. cost ₹8.52 Lakhs), "RCC Dykes construction @ SMPCC Unit-1" (T/C-22-052, Est. cost ₹6.68 Lakhs). Sale period extended up to 07.10.2022. Interested tenderers may visit [www.isro.gov.in](http://www.isro.gov.in) or [www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO) for details.

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3	Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender :	28.10.2022 upto 02.00 p.m.
4	Pre-Bid meeting date, time & place	10.10.2022 at 03.30 p.m in Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, College Road, Chennai - 6.
5	Tender opening date, time & place	28.10.2022 at 02.30 p.m in Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, Chennai - 6.
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## IN BRIEF



### Central govt. signs ₹1,700-cr. deal for BrahMos missiles

The Defence Ministry on Thursday signed a ₹1,700-crore contract with BrahMos Aerospace Pvt Ltd for 35 combat and three practice BrahMos supersonic surface-to-surface cruise missiles for two P-15B class of stealth guided missile destroyers of the Indian Navy. "Induction of these dual-role capable missiles will significantly enhance the operational capability of the Navy fleet assets," the Defence Ministry said. BrahMos is a joint venture between the DRDO and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya and the missile derives its name from Brahmaputra and Moskva rivers.

### NCC and UNEP sign MoU on tackling plastic pollution

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in New Delhi on Thursday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to tackle the issue of plastic pollution and achieve the universal goal of clean water bodies through *Puneet Sagar Abhiyan* and 'Tide Turners Plastic Challenge programme'. It was signed between Director-General of NCC Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh and Bishow Parajuli, Resident Representative, UN World Food Programme, in the presence of Rajnath Singh. "The aim is to synergise and collate efforts towards engaging youth for promoting clean water bodies," a Defence Ministry statement said.

### Former judge tasked with amending IOA's constitution

The Supreme Court on Thursday assigned its former judge, Justice L. Nageswara Rao, the task to head an effort to amend the constitution of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and prepare a road map to elections. The order came amid India's run-up to the National Games scheduled in Gujarat. A Bench urged Justice Rao to take up the assignment and ensure a fair approach for the future of Olympic sports in the country. The International Olympic Committee on September 8 had "issued a final warning to the IOA to 'resolve its governance issues' and hold elections or face ban."

### SC resolves to live-stream Constitution Bench hearings

A full court meeting of Supreme Court judges has resolved to live-stream Constitution Bench hearings. For now, the Supreme Court will stream its hearings on YouTube with technical support from the National Informatics Centre. For the long term, the court is planning to launch a dedicated platform to live-stream hearings. The live-streaming may start from September 27. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, the court's e-committee chairperson, said in the full court meeting that the technological requirements for live-streaming is already in place. The decision comes after a recent letter from senior advocate Indira Jaising seeking live-streaming of important case hearings, especially those being heard by Constitution Benches.

# Normalised scores in CUET disregard difficulty level of different subjects, say students

The system doesn't provide a fair comparison, say many aspirants for admission to Delhi University, but officials contend that scores work better than percentiles in deciding admissions and arithmetic operations are possible only with marks

Jagriti Chandra  
NEW DELHI

The marking scheme used in the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) has left several students anxious. One of the apprehensions expressed by the students is that the "normalisation" of marks does not allow for a comparison between two different subjects, putting students who appeared for maths, physics and Hindi at a disadvantage.

Sejal Singh, a student who aspires to join Delhi University, said, "I am applying for B.Sc. (Honours) in maths at Delhi University and I have 96 percentile in the subject converted into 115 marks. As I am from a science background, my second subject is physics in which I have 99.8 percentile converted into 168 marks. But another student from a commerce background who applied for the same course and appeared for business studies instead of physics has a lower percentile of 91 turned into 174 marks. This means that my competitor has more marks than me,



**Making sense:** Students have been complaining of a perceived mismatch between percentiles and normalised scores. R.V. MOORTHY

though I performed better in a tough paper."

She claims that despite having scored 97.7 percentile, she has an overall score of 631 out of 800, while many Humanities students with lower percentile scored more than 700 marks.

According to the eligibility criteria laid down by Delhi University for different courses, students need to submit their best score in three or four subjects depending on the programme they are applying for.

University Grants Com-

mission (UGC) chief M. Jagadeesh Kumar last week said universities across the country would prepare merit lists for undergraduate admissions using "normalised" scores issued by the National Testing Agency (NTA) instead of raw marks.

"Normalisation" is a way to compare the marks of one student with another when an examination in the same subject is held in multiple sessions, each with a different paper, to ensure equity. Essentially, what this method does is that for a given percentile

value, it calculates the average of the corresponding scores on different days. If in a given shift, no student secured a specific percentile value, then linear interpolation is used to give a corresponding score for the missing mark.

However, many university aspirants say a normalised score does not provide a fair comparison between two different subjects and therefore percentiles would have been a better parameter.

A group of nearly 30 students have written to Delhi University Vice-Chancellor

Yogesh Singh, Dean of Admissions Haneet Gandhi and Registrar Vikas Gupta on the issue.

But DU's Dean of Admissions Haneet Gandhi explains why percentiles can't be used at the university for preparing a merit list. "Admissions for a course at DU are not based on the performance of a student in one subject, but in a combination of three to four subjects. Percentiles are prepared on an ordinal scale, and can't be added. You can't do arithmetic operations on percentiles. Therefore, we need marks to do the addition. Further, some courses need prorotation where you give only 25% of weightage to a particular subject," Ms. Gandhi said.

But she agrees that the method "provides parity only within a subject. And there is a debate on how to equate different subjects."



#### Listen to our podcast

Decoding CUET: Will it level the playing field or worsen exclusion?

[bit.ly/356mL4g](https://bit.ly/356mL4g)

## Lancet panel criticises WHO for acting 'too slowly' during pandemic

Ramya Kannan  
CHENNAI

The Lancet Commission on lessons for the future from the COVID-19 pandemic published in the journal on September 14, has issued a set of recommendations for future plans and has also castigated the World Health Organization (WHO) for acting "too cautiously and too slowly" on several important matters.

The report is bluntly critical of not just the WHO, but also the role of governments across the world: "As of May 31, 2022, there were 6.9 million reported deaths and 17.2 million estimated deaths from COVID-19, as reported by the Institute for Health Me-

trics and Evaluation. This staggering death toll is both a profound tragedy and a massive global failure at multiple levels."

The WHO comes in for criticism for acting slowly on multiple issues - including in warning about the human transmissibility of the virus, declaring a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, supporting international travel protocols designed to slow the spread of the virus, endorsing the public use of face masks as protection and recognising airborne transmission of the virus. The commissioners recorded that it was the countries in the WHO's western Pacific region which had a rich experience of dealing with



A health worker taking a nasal swab sample of a woman to test for COVID-19. FILE PHOTO

SARS that reacted with urgency to the outbreak and pursued a suppression strategy conducive to low mortality.

The report further talks of inadequate coordination among governments to contain the pandemic, including travel protocols,

testing strategies, public health and social measures, commodity supply chains, data standards and reporting systems, and advice to the public, despite the very high interdependence among countries.

They did record that the epidemic control was indeed seriously hindered by public opposition to routine public health and social measures, masking and getting vaccinated, indicating low confidence in the government and low health literacy.

The report makes a strong case for sustaining high rates of vaccination coverage, indicating that economic recovery depends on this, and low rates of new, clinically significant COVID infections.

## Centre likely to stop funding trust linked to helpline 1098

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Union government is likely to stop funding the Childline India Foundation (CIF), which was set up as a partnership between the government and NGOs over two decades ago to manage and monitor children's helpline 1098, according to a senior Ministry official.

"It has been decided that all the helplines will be run directly by the government, and not through an NGO," the official said. Asked if the government was planning to wind up the trust, the official replied in the affirmative.

The government would continue to support CIF until the integration of

### It has been decided that all the helplines will be run directly by the government

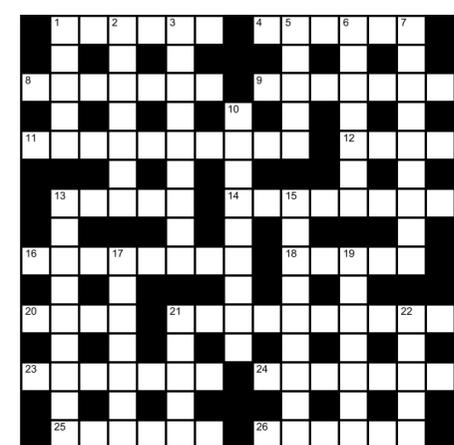
1098 with the national emergency helpline 112 is accomplished to achieve interoperability between the two numbers.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development had given the task of merging the two helplines to the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information and expected it to complete the process in another six months, i.e. March 2023, explained the official.

**THE CROSSWORD + 13668** (set by Bruno)

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

SCAN TO PLAY



- Across**
- Set of numbers essentially formatted with rating: 1-10? (6)
  - Soft at the edges, low in the middle, hard and flat (6)
  - Hazy nuclear explosion (7)
  - English Channel featuring article on English school (7)
  - Complex expression from Olympian's swimming around back half of pool (10)
  - Excited for a drink right away (4)
  - Plants from US state lack identification (5)
  - Family cashed in chips (8)
  - Truth is: mood around colleges' extremely cagey (8)
  - Fraction of supply ultimately stolen (5)
  - Current fashion immodestly revealed (4)
  - One way to summarize numbers from Shakespeare's first act - its twice played (10)
  - Fabric worn by graduate - one inspecting tracks (7)
  - Operator starts to don iron eyeshade (7)
  - Old weapons adjusted to make body armour? (6)
  - Picked up Dark Horse? (6)
- Down**
- Fellow's attempt to get something sweet (5)
  - Majority of those have captured friend - go get them! (5-2)
  - Lover wandering at Marina with love (9)
  - Setter raised son for award (5)
  - You can get fruits here or a vegetable (7)
  - Asian stew with a tomato's skin that's hard to handle (3,6)
  - Worker's body part has many boils (9)
  - Resolving to put sealant at the bottom of feature (9)
  - Function at girl's college's popular around America (9)
  - Inept tennis player Monica visited America (7)
  - AT&T made money (1000 dollars) on needlework (7)
  - Resort in front of church has room (5)
  - Pick bottom of inkpot to support pen (2-3)

## SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

### Solution to puzzle 13667

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

### Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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

**BERLIN**  
**Russian invasion has cost Ukraine '\$1 trillion' in damage**



Russia's invasion of Ukraine has caused almost \$1 trillion of damage, a Kyiv government official said on Thursday. The figure was equivalent to five times Ukraine's annual GDP before the invasion in February, Oleg Ustenko, economic adviser to President Volodymyr Zelensky said at an event in Berlin. AFP

**ATHENS**  
**Greece marginalising gays, Roma and migrants, says report**



Greece needs to work harder to combat intolerance of its LGBTBI and Roma communities as well as migrants, the Council of Europe said in a report on Thursday. Despite a government plan to improve inclusion by 2025, the report found that Greece's LGBTBI community continues to face intolerance and discrimination. AFP

**BEIJING**  
**China's former Justice Minister faces life in prison for bribery**



China's former Justice Minister faces life in prison after a court handed him a suspended death sentence on Thursday for taking bribes and "bending the law". Fu Zhenghua's death sentence will be commuted to life imprisonment after a two-year reprieve, the Intermediate People's Court in the city of Changchun said. AP

**TAIPEI**  
**Taiwan to scrap COVID quarantine for travellers from next month**



Taiwan will fully reopen its borders by ending mandatory COVID-19 quarantine for arrivals next month, the government said on Thursday. The island has largely kept its borders closed and implemented strict quarantine rules, keeping infection numbers low at the expense of being internationally cut off. AP

# Focus on vaccination, return to normalcy: China's CDC scientists

While China has double-vaccinated most of its population, the booster campaign has only covered around two-thirds of them, and the country is still following a 'zero-COVID' strategy with mass testing and lockdowns

**Ananth Krishnan**  
BEIJING

Scientists and researchers at China's Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have made a rare call urging Beijing to focus on a booster vaccination campaign and consider an exit strategy out of President Xi Jinping's "zero-COVID" approach.

The briefing paper published last week by four scientists said, "The pathway forward is clear. Vaccinate with confidence and finish strong."

While China has double-vaccinated most of its population, the booster campaign has only covered around two-thirds of the population. Many health experts say vaccinations have lagged with health-care personnel and resources currently devoted to enforcing the rigid zero-COVID approach, which calls for regular mass testing, lockdowns and quarantines.

There are as yet no signs of a change in approach from zero-COVID to a new vaccination campaign, particularly with an upcoming



**Exit strategy:** A display showing mock-ups of COVID-19 and Omicron variant vaccines from Chinese drugmaker Sinopharm at the China International Fair for Trade in Services in Beijing. FILE PHOTO

once-in-five-year Party Congress, where Mr. Xi will begin a third term, likely to trumpet the success of "zero-COVID".

**Harsh lockdowns**

As of early September, more than 65 million people in 33 cities were in some form of lockdown in China, media outlet Caixin reported, with signs of people's patience for the approach, three years into the pandemic, beginning to wane as more transmis-

sible variants bring harsher lockdowns and challenge what was a successful strategy in 2020. Beijing has also lagged behind the rest of the world in opening up.

The CDC paper acknowledged those concerns. "Everyone wants to return to normal life," the four scientists, Dan Wu, Zundong Yin, Zijiang Feng, and Lance Rodewald, affiliated with the CDC's National Immunization Program and the Chinese Preventive

Medicine Association, wrote. "Vaccination is the key, and time will run out for the vaccination campaign."

"Sustaining optimised protection for a safe, long-term exit of the pandemic will almost certainly require well-timed second booster doses," the paper said. "The last 10% in any vaccination campaign is the most difficult to reach, and in our case, the last 10% is also a critically important group to protect

because the last 10% has an enrichment of people with comorbidities, many of whom are elderly and will suffer the most from COVID-19 if infected."

**Vaccine effectiveness**

It added that "real-world evidence" from outbreaks in Jilin, Shanghai and Hong Kong had shown Chinese vaccines had shown clear "effectiveness where it is needed the most - prevention of serious, critical, and fatal COVID-19 among people of all ages and regardless of co-morbidities."

It said zero-COVID had brought China "a rare commodity - tranquil time" and helped avoid mass deaths, but suggested it was time to consider an exit, which would require a second booster.

This will likely mean several months of a sustained campaign before China can open. But so far, there has been no suggestion of a focused booster campaign with the focus still very much on zero-COVID testing and lockdowns, indicating that a return to normalcy for China could be at least a year away, at a minimum.

# Iran curbs Internet access as protests claim 11 lives

**Agence France-Presse**  
PARIS

Iran restricted Internet access on Thursday after days of protests and unrest that have claimed at least 11 lives, following the death of a young woman in the custody of the morality police.

Public anger has flared in the Islamic republic over the death last week of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, who had been detained for allegedly wearing a hijab headscarf in an "improper" way.

Activists said the woman, whose Kurdish first name is Jhina, had suffered a fatal blow to the head, a claim denied by officials, who have announced an investigation.

During six straight nights of protests, women demonstrators have de-



**Raging anger:** Demonstrators taking to the streets of Tehran during a protest after the death of Mahsa Amini. AFP

fiantly taken off their headscarves and burned them in bonfires or symbolically cut their hair before cheering crowds, video footage spread on social media has shown.

Iranian women interviewed by AFP on the streets of Tehran said they were now more careful about their dress to avoid run-ins with the morality police.

There has been growing international alarm at the Iranian crackdown on the protests, including from U.S. President Joe Biden in an address to the United Nations.

Iranian state media reported that by Wednesday street rallies had spread to 15 cities, with police using tear gas and making arrests to disperse crowds of up to 1,000 people.

# S. Korean leader's U.S. criticism goes viral

**Agence France-Presse**  
SEOUL

Already battling record-low approval ratings, South Korea's President Yoon Suk-yeol has landed in trouble again after his disparaging remarks about key ally the United States were caught on a hot mic.

Mr. Yoon, a political novice who took office in May, is in New York for the United Nations General Assembly, and chatted on Wednesday with Joe Biden during a photo op at the Global Fund where the U.S. President had just pledged \$6 billion.

"How could Biden not lose damn face if these f\*\*\*\*\* do not pass it in Congress?" Mr. Yoon was caught saying to his aides afterwards in footage that went viral in South Korea.

Mr. Yoon's comments appear to refer to Mr. Biden's drive to increase U.S. funding to the Global Fund, which would require congressional approval.

The hot mic comments come just days after Mr. Yoon's office was forced to defend his decision to skip paying respects to Queen Elizabeth II's coffin lying in state, allegedly due to "heavy traffic".

# 'Catholics outnumber Protestants in N. Ireland'

**Agence France-Presse**  
BELFAST

The number of Catholics living in UK-ruled Northern Ireland exceeds the total of Protestants and other Christian denominations for the first time, the results of a 2021 census released on Thursday showed.

The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency said 42.31% of the population identified as Catholic, while 37.36% said they were Protestant or otherwise Christian.

# At UN, Zelensky demands world leaders punish Russia

**Associated Press**  
UNITED NATIONS

Ukraine's President laid out a detailed case against Russia's invasion at the United Nations (UN) and de-

manded punishment from world leaders in a speech delivered just hours after Moscow made an extraordinary announcement that it would mobilise some reservists for the war effort.

Buoyed by a counteroffensive that has retaken swaths of territory that the Russians seized, Volodymyr Zelensky vowed in a video address on Wednesday that his forces would

not stop until they had reclaimed all of Ukraine.

"Ukraine demands punishment for trying to steal our territory. Punishment for the murders of thousands of people," Mr. Ze-

lensky said in English in a pre-recorded video. He said any Russian talks of negotiation was only a delaying tactic, and that Moscow's actions speak louder than its words.

# The Queen has been laid to rest, now U.K. has to confront its challenges

**NEWS ANALYSIS**

**Sriram Lakshman**  
LONDON

'Business as usual' in the U.K. came to standstill on September 8, after the death of Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen's passing has, by and large, rallied people of different political ideologies together and brought to the fore a degree of unity and patriotism. A 10-day mourning period ended on Monday as the country's best known resident was laid to rest, but as the dust settles, the U.K. is going to have to be confronted, once again, with its many serious challenges.

The country's new Prime Minister, Liz Truss, has a full 'to-do' list, particularly on the economy front. There is a cost of liv-

ing crisis in the U.K. driven by high energy costs, which are contributing to high inflation. The pound has fallen to 37-year record low against the dollar, partly due to events outside the U.K.'s control, but partly because of internal forces. The U.K. has low worker productivity and business investment levels relative to other advanced economies. A new report released on Tuesday indicated that despite a cut in corporation tax by 11 percentage points, to 19% in 2017, the U.K. had a private investment to GDP ratio of 9.8% in 2020 - the lowest in the G7 economies.

All eyes are on a 'mini-budget' that will be released on Friday, and include a reversal of taxes, including the corporation tax, previous cuts to which have not spurred business investment. Ms. Truss has

suggested that she is moving towards a version of 'trickle-down economics' with tax cuts benefiting wealthier individuals, who paid more into the system, benefiting more from the cuts than those less well-off. She is convinced of her plan and said, this week, that she was prepared to be unpopular to ensure that Britain weathers this "very, very difficult storm".

**Energy costs**

Minutes before she received news of the Queen's ill health in Parliament on September 8, the Prime Minister had announced a plan to tackle energy costs, estimated to cost £150 billion. Last month the Bank of England had said the U.K. could enter into a 15-month recession starting in the last quarter of this year. The impact of Ms Truss's energy plan on this



**Last goodbye:** Liz Truss and her husband Hugh O'Leary attend the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II in London on September 19. REUTERS

and inflation - which came in at just under 10% in August.

Although Ms. Truss herself voted for the U.K. to remain in the EU, whether she can deliver on the trade deals - one of the post-Brexit freedoms which were touted by the campaign to leave the EU - will be watched. The U.K. has had some measure of success with this - it has

crafted deals with Australia and Japan for instance, but the majority of agreements have been extensions of the terms of deals that the EU had with third countries.

In New York this week for the UN General Assembly (UNGA) debate, Ms. Truss was forced to admit that a U.S.-U.K. trade deal, possibly the prize among trade deals, was

not coming anytime soon. The U.S. accounts for nearly 17% of U.K. trade, according to British government data.

**Trade deal with India**

A trade deal with India is also, apparently, in its final stages, with Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal saying this week that the U.K. was still looking to close a deal by Deepavali (end-October). Wrapping up a trade deal with India is likely to be showcased by the Truss government as a post-Brexit freedom and also an instance of greater engagement with the Indo Pacific. If Ms. Truss is to deliver on the vision of a 'global Britain', she will need to expand and deepen engagement with the region, to implement the "Indo Pacific tilt" articulated in the U.K.'s 2021 review of foreign defence, security and development policies.

Closer to home for Ms. Truss, is the knotty issue of protecting the Northern Ireland Protocol - trying to avoid border checks for goods moving between Northern Ireland and the rest of the U.K. but at the same time not having a border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (which is part of the E.U. and its single market).

The U.K. and the EU are currently attempting to resolve the matter - which is of importance to the Americans as well. U.S. President Joe Biden and Ms. Truss emphasised the importance of resolving this issue in readouts of their Wednesday meeting in New York. Earlier this year, U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi made it clear that Congress would not support a trade deal with the U.K. if the Northern Ireland peace deal was

undermined.

Ms. Truss will also need to mend fences with European allies and tread more carefully than she did in her party leadership campaign - during which she had the "jury's out" when asked whether French President Emmanuel Macron (who paid rich tributes to the Queen recently) was a friend or foe.

**Calls for referendum**

Finally, the Prime Minister will also have to confront calls for a second Scottish referendum on independence from the U.K. once the country returns to business as usual. In 2016, Scottish voters had voted 68% to 32% to remain in the E.U.

The domestic and international issues of the U.K. are intertwined, with the ongoing war in Ukraine adding layers of complexity to the situation.

## IN BRIEF



## Fortis sinks 15% as SC extends stay on IHH's open offer

Shares of Fortis Healthcare sank 15% on Thursday, after the Supreme Court ordered a forensic audit of its share sale to Malaysia's IHH Healthcare. The apex court also awarded six months jail term to former promoters of Fortis Healthcare, Malvinder Singh and Shivinder Singh. IHH had won a bid for a 31% stake in Fortis in 2018, which triggered an open offer for another 26% as per Indian regulations.

## RBI restrains MMFSL from outsourcing recovery activity

The RBI on Thursday directed Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd. (MMFSL), Mumbai, to cease carrying out any recovery through outsourcing arrangements. "However, the NBFC may continue to carry out recovery or repossession activities through its own employees," RBI said. "This action is based on certain material supervisory concerns observed in the said NBFC, with regard to the management of its outsourcing activities," the regulator added.

## Crown forays into workspace management business

Crown Worldwide Group said it had entered the workspace management business to help companies to consolidate their work spaces post COVID-19. "All corporates are now either right sizing or resizing or consolidating their base because the equation of businesses has changed post their digitisation," said Srinivas Krishnan, regional managing director, South Asia.

## Rupee slides to new low of 80.79 on Fed rate increase, stance

Analysts expect RBI to step in and contain volatility in coming sessions, say 'rupee may be seen in a range of 80.40 to 81.20' against the dollar

The Hindu Bureau  
MUMBAI

The Indian rupee on Thursday weakened sharply against the dollar to a new record low in the wake of the U.S. Federal Reserve increasing interest rates by 75 basis points and signalling more such steep increases in the future.

The rupee depreciated by 83 paise to close at 80.79, suffering its biggest single-day fall since February 24, when Russia invaded Ukraine.

"Post super hawkish Fed and sell-off in equity markets, there was significant unwinding of shorts in dollar," said Anindya Banerjee, VP - Currency Derivatives & Interest Rate Derivatives, Kotak Securities. "Central bank seems to have not intervened aggressively," he added.

"However, in the coming sessions, we expect RBI to step in and contain volatility. Therefore, the range of 80.40 and 81.20 can be seen," Mr. Banerjee said.

"Dollar index concerns" "We believe the dollar index can see a significant increase, implying most major market currencies,



**Worrying trend:** India may witness a reversal of FPI flows in the near to medium term, which would spur market volatility. AFP

including rupee, should be under pressure," said Naveen Kulkarni, chief investment officer, Axis Securities Portfolio Management Services. "If we start seeing rupee depreciating, then from a U.S. dollar returns perspective for FPIs, India becomes unattractive.

"We could also witness a reversal of FPI flows in the near to medium term, which will increase market volatility. Higher interest rates in the U.S. will force major central banks, including India, to increase interest rates to stem the pressure on their domestic currencies... We believe, in the near term, Indian equity markets can witness increased volatility," he said.

While the Fed's 75 basis-point increase was on expected lines, financial markets were surprised by the hawkish 'dot plot'.

The dot plot indicated that rates would reach 4.4% by the end of this year – or a cumulative increase of 125 basis points over the remaining two meetings in November and December.

The Fed's stance led Asian currencies to plunge and equities declined. "We expect RBI to... focus on smoothing the move towards 81 over the next few sessions," said Gautam Kumar, head of financial products at Kristal.AI, a digital private wealth management platform. (With Reuters inputs)

## Telecom bill moots licensing of OTT apps, dues waiver

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The government has released the draft of "The Indian Telecommunication Act, 2022" wherein it has proposed several significant changes, including provisions for waiving off dues for financially stressed operators, bringing over-the-top (OTT) platforms (such as WhatsApp, Zoom, Netflix) within the ambit of telecom services that require a licence to operate, and provisions for message interception in case of public emergency.

The Bill, released late on Wednesday inviting comments from stakeholders, seeks to replace the existing framework comprising the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, the Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933, and the Telegraph Wires (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1950, that govern the sector.

"User protection is key" "It's... an interactive system in which industry's concerns are addressed by the government and the government's concern are duly taken into consideration by the industry," Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Thursday. "That is important because we have to look at the protection of users."

The explanatory note said the Bill aims to consolidate and amend laws governing provision, development, expansion and

Bill proposes flexibility to allow deferred payment to help address defaults by a licensee

operation of telecom networks and infrastructure, and spectrum assignment.

The Bill proposes a framework to address defaults in payment by a licensee, whereby under "extraordinary circumstances", the government may allow for deferred payment, conversion of a part or all of it into shares in the licensee or even write-offs. The Bill also simplifies the framework for mergers, demergers and acquisitions, for which the entities would need to comply with norms under the Companies Act, 2013, and only need to inform the telecom department.

Noting that telecom users wish to know who was calling them, the Centre said it had included provisions related to identity to help prevent cyberfrauds using telecom services.

The draft Bill had provided clarity on two critical aspects: insolvency proceedings for stressed telecom companies and bringing OTT platforms and Internet Service Providers (ISPs) under the umbrella of the Ministry of Telecommunications, noted Prashant Tarwadi, director – Corporates, India Ratings and Research.

## MARKETS

## MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	CHANGE
Sensex	59,120	-0.57
US Dollar	80.79	-1.03
Gold	50,399	1.05
Brent oil	90.31	0.59

## NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	946.65	13.75
Apollo Hosp	4608.90	4.10
Asian Paints	3436.00	79.95
Axis Bank	789.20	-17.35
Bajaj Auto	3728.90	-1.70
Bajaj Finserv	1772.35	-29.65
Bajaj Finance	7719.55	28.90
Bharti Airtel	784.10	3.90
BPCL	315.85	-4.20
Britannia Ind	3825.95	60.30
Cipla	1061.90	-8.50
Coal India	227.05	-4.50
Divis Lab	3580.10	6.40
Dr Reddys Lab	4182.40	29.65
Eicher Motors	3748.75	66.70
Grasim Ind	1732.70	12.85
HCL Tech	897.65	-3.30
HDFC	2416.65	-43.20
HDFC Bank	1486.00	-32.35
HDFC Life	545.80	-5.60
Hero MotoCorp	2776.95	0.30
Hindalco	412.10	-0.75
Hind Unilever	2692.75	69.15
ICICI Bank	903.40	-11.85
IndusInd Bank	1216.55	-7.70
Infosys	1367.95	-9.30
ITC	345.05	4.10
JSW Steel	679.35	-5.50
Kotak Bank	1892.75	-25.75
L&T	1888.20	-7.45
M&M	1310.40	3.75
Maruti Suzuki	9401.85	153.95
NestleIndia	18638.30	-11.60
NTPC	168.65	0.05
ONGC	128.65	-2.25
PowerGrid Corp	220.10	-6.95
Reliance Ind	2486.10	-23.65
SBI Life	1285.50	-20.80
State Bank	567.30	-2.40
Shree Cement	21703.50	-320.45
Sun Pharma	908.00	-2.70
TataConsumer		
Product	803.20	-1.00
Tata Motors	432.20	-4.55
Tata Steel	103.60	-0.85
TCS	3007.40	6.20
Tech Mahindra	1048.40	-11.75
Titan	2737.60	70.95
UltraTech Cement	6239.40	-74.35
UPL	721.35	-3.85
Wipro	397.95	-2.80

## EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 22

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	80.66	80.98
Euro	79.71	80.03
British Pound	91.47	91.84
Japanese Yen (100)	56.52	56.75
Chinese Yuan	11.39	11.44
Swiss Franc	82.20	82.53
Singapore Dollar	56.91	57.14
Canadian Dollar	59.89	60.12
Malaysian Ringgit	17.65	17.74
Australian Dollar	53.53	53.74

Source: Indian Bank

## 'Banks may raise more capital via bonds to meet credit needs, lock rates'

Reuters  
MUMBAI

Indian banks may continue their fundraising spree in the next few months by issuing Basel III-compliant and infrastructure bonds as they rush to meet rising credit demand and lock in funds at cheaper rates, analysts said.

"All banks are in need of funds as second half is expected to see a pick up in credit offtake, and currently investor appetite is favourable," said Venkatarishnan Srinivasan, founder and managing partner at debt advisory firm Rockfort Fincap. "We can see more banks issuing Basel III-compliant as well as infrastructure bonds,



with funds getting easily absorbed over the next quarter," he said.

According to market participants, bond issuances by banks could touch about ₹500 billion (\$6.21 billion) this financial year, with a bulk of the issues likely in the next quarter. State-run banks have already raised ₹281 billion

through a combination of Basel III-compliant additional Tier I perpetual bonds, Tier II bonds and infrastructure bonds in the last three months.

Banks' credit growth was at 15.4% on-year as of the 14 days ended Aug. 26, according to RBI data.

State Bank of India leads the pack, having raised ₹109 billion through perpetual and Tier II bonds, but is unlikely to borrow more, traders said. Union Bank of India is expected to offer perpetual as well as Tier II bonds over the next few days to raise about ₹20-30 billion, while ICICI Bank and Axis Bank are also set to raise an aggregate ₹60-80 billion, a banker with a brokerage said.

## 'India set to skip Russia's ESPO crude as freight costs jump'

Reuters  
NEW DELHI

Indian refiners are set to skip purchases of Russian ESPO crude oil this month due to higher freight rates, turning to Africa and the Middle East instead, industry sources said.

India, which rarely used to buy Russian oil, has emerged as Moscow's biggest oil customer after China since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in late February.

Refiners in India have been snapping up almost all grades of Russian crude, taking advantage of discounts after sanctions led some entities in the West to halt purchases. However, higher prices are set to cool Indian demand, channeling supplies to China. "On net back basis after

Indian companies are buying other grades such as those from West Africa that give better yields

factoring in the freight, the landed cost of ESPO is turning out to be \$5-\$7 a barrel costlier in comparison to similar grades from other countries such as UAE's Murban," said an Indian industry source familiar with the matter, adding that Russian oil had previously been cheaper.

Instead of ESPO, Indian companies are buying other grades such as those from West Africa that give better yields, he said.

The price gap between Brent and Dubai benchmarks has also narrowed.

## Air India ties up with Willis Lease for CFM engine maintenance

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Air India on Thursday announced a sale and lease-back tie-up with U.S.-based Willis Lease Finance Corporation for 34 CFM engines installed on 17 planes from its fleet of Airbus A320 family aircraft.

The alliance involves Willis Lease buying 34 engines and providing spare and replacement engines, helping the airline avoid costly and unpredictable shop visits, the former national air carrier said in a statement. Willis Lease will also have an in-country team to co-ordinate and manage the programme and all logistics and transportation involved.



The airline's COO Nipun Aggarwal said that the agreement would enable Air India to "eliminate the maintenance burden and fully derisk itself from the maintenance cost uncertainty associated" with those engines that were not covered under similar programmes offered by the original equipment manufacturer.

## Govt. must rework norms for hospitality sector, says InterGlobe's J.B. Singh

Mini Tejaswi  
BENGALURU

India needs to rework its hospitality policy and especially rationalise norms around building hotels, said J.B. Singh, president & CEO, InterGlobe Hotels, the hospitality arm of InterGlobe Enterprises, which operates hotel chain ibis and the airline IndiGo.

Policy clarity, he said, was key to help the sector – comprising businesses such as tourism, travel, hotel accommodation, food and beverages, entertainment/sports and MICE tourism – tap its full potential. "There is an urgent



J.B. Singh

need to rework hospitality policy as existing policy around building hotels and use of land is extremely inefficient. The way the set back norms work, the height versus set back ratio and the way FSI works, all

need to be... reworked," he said. Under existing norms, economy (or budget) hotels are mandated to build massive car parks that often go underutilised.

"There is an urgent need to rationalise these policies to make our investments more efficient. This is something that the government has to, in consultation with the industry, work on," he stressed.

Mr. Singh said corporate buildings, residences and hotel properties could not be compared. Hotels only sold rooms on rentals and were not realising the FSI through selling real estate, he pointed out.

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

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-20/11257/2022-23 Date: 22.09.2022

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
(Through GOK e – Procurement Portal Only)

Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors holding valid Class-I Contractors (Civil) registered in KPWD who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work of (1). Formation of Industrial Layout including Formation of 18M Wide, 15M Wide & 12M Wide Roads, Including Asphaltting, Construction of RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross Drainage Works & HDPE dual water supply pipeline at MMLP Block, Obalapura Industrial Area, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. (2). Formation of Industrial Layout including Formation of 18M Wide & 15M Wide Roads Including Asphaltting, Construction of RCC Side Drains, RCC Cross Drainage Works, SWD, GLSR, RWH, Borewell, Raising Main & HDPE Dual Water Supply pipeline at Krishnarajapura Block, Obalapura Industrial Area, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : 21.10.2022 upto 04:00 pm.  
Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal  
<https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/2337/Zenkar/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA  
**Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project** KSHIP  
(Karnataka Public Works Department)  
1st Floor, Annex building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 560 001.  
PH: +91-080-2222 6262, 2212 6758/59/60/61 Fax: +91-80-2222 9666 E-mail: piukship@gmail.com

No: PIU: KSHIP: ISO-9001:2015 QMS: 2022-23 /1821  
No: PIU: KSHIP: ISO-14001:2015 EMS: 2022-23 /1820 Dated: 21/09/2022

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) for:**

- Appointment of Third Party Audit Consultancy Services to seek registration of conformity to ISO 9001:2015 International Standard for Quality Management System (QMS) for 247 offices of Karnataka Public Works Department (KPWD) under KSHIP-III Project (ADB 2<sup>nd</sup> Loan)
- Appointment of Third Party Audit Consultancy Services to seek registration of conformity to ISO 14001:2015 International Standard for Environment Management System (EMS) for 61 Divisional offices of Karnataka Public Works Department (KPWD) under KSHIP-III Project (ADB 2<sup>nd</sup> Loan)

A Consultancy Services Recruitment Notice (CSRN) is published on ADB's website along with the Terms of Reference for procurement of above two consultancy services separately. The website includes a link to standard expression of interest (EOI) form that interested consultant firms can download, fill out and submit online through ADB's CMS website, [csrn.adb.org](http://csrn.adb.org). The submission shall be made separately for the above two consulting services.

- For online submission: (1) register with ADB's CMS (Consultant Management System) at <http://www.adb.org/Consulting/cms.asp>, (2) go to <http://csrn.adb.org>, (3) Click on "INDIA", (4) find the captioned project name and click on "view", (5) click on submit "EOI" and (6) follow the instructions. All requested information must be filled in completely.
- Submission of EOI (online only) must be completed on or before 11:59 hours (Manila time, PHT) of:
  - 28-10-2022 for ISO 9001:2015 QMS Third Party Audit &
  - 07-11-2022 for ISO 14001:2015 EMS Third Party Audit.
- On the basis of the submission, the firms shall be shortlisted and invited to submit their proposals. The request for proposal to the shortlisted firms for the above two services are expected to be issued by 15-12-2022. For more information, please contact the undersigned during the office hours or website - [www.kship.in](http://www.kship.in).

Sd/-  
Project Director,  
PIU, KSHIP, Bangalore

DIPR/CP/2324/AKAR/22-23

**TENNIS**

**Tennis royalty descends to bid farewell to the king**



It was quite a collection of tennis luminaries sharing the black indoor hard court for a Laver Cup doubles practice session in London on Thursday, 66 Grand Slam titles among them, a group nicknamed the Big Four: Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal on one side of the net, and Novak Djokovic and Andy Murray on the other.

**FORMULA ONE**

**Tsunoda to stay with AlphaTauri for 2023 season**



Japanese driver Yuki Tsunoda will stay with AlphaTauri next season, the Italian Formula One team announced on Thursday. Tsunoda, 22, is in his second season with AlphaTauri after making his F1 debut last year. He came fourth at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. Tsunoda is the first Japanese F1 driver since Kamui Kobayashi in 2014.

**CRICKET**

**Babar, Rizwan make it a perfect day for Pakistan in second T20I**



Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan took Pakistan to a 10-wicket win over England in the second T20I in Karachi on Thursday. **The scores:** England 199/5 in 20 overs (Moeen Ali 55 n.o.) lost to Pakistan 203/0 in 19.3 overs (Babar Azam 110 n.o., Mohammad Rizwan 88 n.o.).

**ATHLETICS**

**Gebrselassie to be the face of Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon**



Two-time Olympic gold medalist Haile Gebrselassie was on Thursday named the international event ambassador of the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon scheduled to be held on October 16. The Ethiopian, one of the greatest distance runners in history, won the 10,000m gold in successive Olympics (1996 and 2000).

**‘Lord’s game will be special as it’s Jhulan’s retirement’**

Series sweep would be the perfect gift to the veteran pacer who bids adieu after a glittering two-decade-long career, says India captain Harmanpreet

**INDIA IN ENGLAND**

Press Trust of India  
CANTERBURY

The series already in the pocket, India women’s cricket team captain Harmanpreet Kaur wants to give a befitting farewell to veteran pacer Jhulan Goswami by winning the “special” final One-Day International against England at Lord’s on Saturday.

Jhulan, 39, bids adieu to the game after a glorious two-decade-long career at the end of the ongoing tour, and Harmanpreet feels a series sweep would be the perfect gift.

**Enjoy it**

“The Lord’s game is very special for us because it’s Jhulan’s retirement and we want to enjoy that game without any pressure. I’m really happy that we were able to win today,” the India skipper said after trouncing hosts England by 88 runs to win a series on English soil after 23 years.

The last time the Indian women won an ODI series in England was in 1999 when they triumphed 2-1. Also, the third ODI will be the first time the sides meet at Lord’s since the 2017 World Cup final, which England won by nine runs.

“It’s very important (to

win) because that will be her last game. It will be a very emotional moment for all of us and we definitely want to win that game,” Harmanpreet said.

**True inspiration**

Jhulan has been a true inspiration for all players, including herself, she said. “She’s someone who has taught us a lot,” said Harmanpreet, who made her ODI debut at the 2009 World Cup under Jhulan’s leadership.

“When you win the first game, the second game is always important and we always try to finish that game as a winning side and today (Wednesday) also we were looking at that only because we don’t want to carry any extra pressure on ourselves going to Lord’s,” she said.

Harmanpreet, who took over as full-time captain after veteran Mithali Raj retired earlier this year, said: “Everybody stepped up. I enjoy leadership as I’m always in the game,” she said.

England stand-in skipper Amy Jones said the ongoing series against India was a good learning experience for the young bowlers. “Every loss is tough and they got away from us at the end with the bat. Harman batted extremely well. She is very tough to bowl to, and for our young talents, this is good learning,” she said.



**Towering presence:** Jhulan is someone who has taught us a lot, says Harmanpreet. GETTY IMAGES

**India women in England in ODIs (bilateral series)**

	M	India	England	NR	Winner
1986	3	0	3	0	England
1999	3	2	1	0	India
2002	1	0	1	0	England
2006	5	0	4	1	England
2008	5	0	4	1	England
2012	5	2	3	0	England
2014	2	0	2	0	England
2021	3	1	2	0	England
2022*	2	2	0	0	India

\*ongoing series  
India ended a 23-year wait for a series victory in England

**India needs death-over specialists to step up**

Ashwin Achal  
NAGPUR

India’s bowling in the death-overs will come under the scanner in the second T20I against Australia here on Friday.

Rain, however, could play spoilsport. Showers on Thursday forced the Indian team to cancel its evening training session.

In the first match at Mohali, pacers Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Harshal Patel came apart in the closing stages. Matthew Wade feasted on a selection of dummies to comfortably take Australia past a stiff 209-run target.

**Basic errors**

From 55 runs needed off the last four overs, a ferocious Australian onslaught put an end to the contest with four balls to spare. The basic errors committed by Bhuvneshwar and Harshal causes most concern.

The speedsters served juicy leg-side short balls to Wade, who counts the pull shot as his strength. Harshal’s big weapon, the slower balls, were picked effortlessly. Bhuvneshwar, of late more effective with the new ball, could not land the yorkers and slow bouncers.

India will be tempted to draft Jasprit Bumrah, a death-over specialist, into the playing eleven. Bumrah is making a comeback from an injury, and was not included for the Mohali fixture. Left-arm speedster Arshdeep Singh, who



**Dampener:** A wet outfield forced the training sessions to be called off on Thursday. K.R. DEEPAK

proved at the Asia Cup that he can target the blockhole at will, is not in the squad. Umesh Yadav replaced a COVID-19-afflicted Mohammed Shami, but he was expensive as well.

The team management can slot Deepak Chahar in place of Umesh on Friday. Spinner R. Ashwin, left out in the first T20I, is another candidate who can shore up the bowling unit.

**Undoing the good work**

The bowling frailties undid the good work done by the batters. K.L. Rahul, criticised for a low strike rate, showed aggressive intent in his 35-ball 55. Suryakumar Yadav once again underlined his status as an exciting T20 talent with a rapid 46. Hardik Pandya the finisher came to the fore, smashing his way to an unbeaten 71 off 30 balls.

Hardik gave the Indian innings the perfect ending, with sixes off the last three deliveries.

Australia, meanwhile, looks every inch a settled

unit. The reigning T20 World Cup champion has found a promising opener in Cameron Green. Playing just his second T20I, Green batted fearlessly to make a 30-ball 61 on Tuesday.

Steve Smith has efficiently taken on the anchor role from the injured Mitchell Marsh, while Wade delivers the final blow.

If the skies stay clear, India has a shot at redemption.

**The teams (from):**

**India:** Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (Vice-Capt.), Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Deepak Hooda, Rishabh Pant, Dinesh Karthik, Hardik Pandya, R. Ashwin, Yuzvendra Chahal, Axar Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Harshal Patel, Deepak Chahar, Jasprit Bumrah and Umesh Yadav.

**Australia:** Aaron Finch (Capt.), Sean Abbott, Ashton Agar, Pat Cummins, Tim David, Nathan Ellis, Cameron Green, Josh Hazlewood, Josh Inglis, Glenn Maxwell, Kane Richardson, Daniel Sams, Steve Smith, Matthew Wade and Adam Zampa. Match starts at 7 p.m.



Sourav Ganguly. PTI

**IPL to return to home and away format in 2023**

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI

The Indian Premier League (IPL) will return to its original, pre-COVID-19, home-and-away format from the 2023 season, BCCI president Sourav Ganguly has conveyed to the Board’s affiliated state units.

The IPL has been held at only a few venues since the outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020 as the lucrative league unfolded behind closed doors across three venues in UAE – Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi.

In 2021 too, the tournament was held across four venues – Delhi, Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Chennai.

However, with the pandemic under control, the cash-rich league will return to its old format in which each team plays one home and one away match.

“The next season of men’s IPL will also go back to the home and away format with all ten teams playing their home matches at their designated venues,” read a Ganguly’s note to state units.

**Celebrated rivalry to close with a partnership**

Agence France-Presse  
LONDON

Roger Federer will team up with long-time rival Rafael Nadal for the final match of his glittering career, Laver Cup organisers announced on Thursday.

The 20-time Grand Slam champion will play doubles with the Spaniard, who has won 22 Majors, at the O2 arena in London on Friday. Federer and Nadal, representing Team Europe, will face US players Frances Tiafoe and Jack Sock of Team World in the evening session.

**Knee trouble**

Federer, whose most recent competitive match was a loss to Hubert Hurkacz in last year’s Wimbledon quarterfinals, has been struggling with a knee problem and will not play singles in London.

“I’m not sure if I can handle it all, but I’ll try,” said Federer, 41. “This one feels a whole lot different. I’m happy to have him on



**Ideal send-off!** Federer’s glittering career will come to an end with long-time competitor and close friend Nadal alongside him. TWITTER

my team and not playing against him. Playing with Rafa feels really different.

“To be able to do it one more time, I’m sure it will be wonderful and I’ll try my very best. I’ll enjoy it but it will be very hard.”

Nadal said he was looking forward to an “unfor-

gettable” match alongside his Swiss rival.

“One of the most important, if not the most important players in my tennis career is leaving,” the Spaniard said. “At the end, this moment will be difficult. I’m super-excited and grateful to play with him.”

**BCCI AGM, elections on October 18**

Amol Karhadkar  
MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has convened its 91st annual general meeting (AGM) on October 18 at its headquarters here. The meeting gains significance since it will see the election of the new set of office-bearers.

The tenure of the incumbent set – with former India captain Sourav Ganguly as president and Jay Shah as secretary – was set to expire on October 23. But, once the Supreme Court on September 14 incorporated certain amendments in BCCI’s constitution that paved the way for the top brass to extend their term by another three years, the BCCI hierarchy did not waste time in convening the AGM.

**29-point agenda**

The 29-point agenda, along with the notice of the meeting and the draft minutes of the last meeting, was circulated among affiliates on September 22.

While the agenda, accessed by *The Hindu*, specifies election of office-bearers along with a councillor as representative of the BCCI members, a critical point will be to fill up the vacant post of a national selector.

For more than seven months – former India pacer Abey Kuruvilla having resigned after the maximum permissible tenure – the national selection committee has been a four-member panel.

As a result, the West Zone, traditionally the most powerful in Indian cricket, has not been represented in the committee. It will be interesting to see if the BCCI invites applications for the post ahead of the AGM.

The four members of the committee, headed by Chetan Sharma, are set to get an extension. There may be a minor tweak to the junior men’s selection committee.

The AGM will also appoint the BCCI’s representative to the ICC.

**Bumrah fit to take the field in must-win game against Australia: Suryakumar**

Ashwin Achal  
NAGPUR

Suryakumar Yadav stated that fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah is fit and ready to take the field in the second T20I against Australia here on Friday.

Asked about the fitness status of Bumrah and Deepak Chahar, both of whom did not play the first T20I, Suryakumar said, “This is the wrong department. This question should go to the team management or physio (laughs). But yes, the atmosphere in the team is very good. Everyone is first-class fit and ready.”

When quizzed pointedly about Bumrah, Suryakumar said, “He is absolutely ready. There is nothing to worry about.”

**Not aware**

The batter stated that he was not aware of the ugly scenes witnessed at Hyde-



**The hunter is back:** Can Bumrah spark the Indian bowling line-up to life in the second T20I? AFP

rabad, where police resorted to lathi charge on the crowd that gathered to buy tickets for the third T20I. “I do not know what happened. I don’t know what to say. I will watch the video and then comment on it,” Suryakumar said at a virtual press conference.

The Mumbai cricketer did not make much of India’s death-over failings in the first T20I. “We haven’t discussed anything after

Fortunately my family travelled to Mohali (for T20I debut). That was really nice  
TIM DAVID

the last game. The match did go on until the last (over), and there was a lot of dew. You must give credit to the Australian batters. They kept attacking,” Suryakumar said.

# Shardul, Kuldeep Sen set up runaway win for India-A

New Zealand-A's top-order collapses like a pack of cards; cameos from Gaikwad, Tripathi, Patidar and Samson fetch victory with plenty to spare

## NZ-A IN INDIA

S. Dipak Ragav  
CHENNAI

Shardul Thakur (4/32) and Kuldeep Sen (3/30) blew away the New Zealand-A top-order to set up an easy seven-wicket win for India-A in the first match of the three-match one-day series at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium here on Thursday.

Shardul and Kuldeep Sen justified the decision to field as their early spell left the visitors tottering at 74 for eight at one stage before being bowled out for 167.

Chasing a modest target, Ruturaj Gaikwad (41) and Rahul Tripathi (31) laid the platform with a 56-run stand for the second wicket before Rajat Patidar (45 n.o., 41b, 7x4) and Sanju Samson (29 n.o., 32b, 1x4, 3x6) finished off the chase with quick cameos as the

hosts reached the target with 18.1 overs to spare.

### Patidar impresses

Patidar in particular was impressive during his brisk knock playing stylish cuts on either side of the point fielder to get going before pulling the pacers authoritatively.

Earlier, the New Zealand batters' exuberance in the PowerPlay brought about their downfall as the top-order crumbled while facing a disciplined Indian pace attack. Shardul kick-started things in the third over of the day when he went past Chad Bowes' defence with a ball that swung in late and uprooted the leg stump. In his very next over he had Dane Cleaver pulling one straight to fine-leg.

Kuldeep Sen, who gave away four boundaries in his first two overs, corrected his length to be a bit full-

er and reaped the rewards immediately.

In the sixth over, he trapped Joe Carter leg-before and two balls later had Rachin Ravindra caught behind.

He then squared up Tom Bruce with the batter edging to first slip as the visitors slumped to 27 for five in the eighth over.

### Fightback

Michael Rippon (61) and Joe Walker (36) steadied things with an 89-run stand for the ninth wicket and helped the visitors to a respectable total, accumulating runs without taking too many risks. However, the damage done by the Indian pacers in the first hour was irreparable.

**The scores:** New Zealand-A 167 in 40.2 overs (Michael Rippon 61, Joe Walker 36, Shardul Thakur 4/32, Kuldeep Sen 3/30) lost to India-A 170/3 in 31.5 overs (Rajat Patidar 45 n.o., Ruturaj Gaikwad 41, Rahul Tripathi 31).



**Incisive:** Shardul caused irreparable damage to the Kiwi innings with his harvest of four wickets. M. VEDHAN

# Indrajith helps South Zone take the first-innings lead; Sai picks up five

## DULEEP TROPHY

S. Dinakar  
COIMBATORE

Those hands and legs moved in cohesion, the head stayed still and the ball was coaxed through the gap. The moment is enveloped in an old world charm.

B. Indrajith scored briskly, yet it was an innings of serenity, assurance and solidity. His exceptional 118 (125b, 14x4) on a green-top was South's back-bone.

At stumps, South was 318 for seven – a fighting Ravi Teja was batting on 26 – after dismissing West for 270 on the second day of the Duleep Trophy final at the Vivekananda ground here on Thursday.

In the morning, left-arm spinner Sai Kishore, making an impact on a green-top with his height, high-arm action and bounce, and using the seam to get the ball to skid through, scalped five.

It was with a delivery of bounce that he dismissed the unlucky Het Patel (98, 189b, 6x4, 1x6) who topped a pull.

The day belonged to Indrajith. Light of feet, he is a wonderful player of spin.



**Assurance and solidity:** Indrajith scored an exceptional century on a green-top. M. PERIASAMY

Here, on a seaming track, Indrajith faced a different challenge.

Indrajith played close to his body, was judicious around the off stump, 'leaving' deliveries he didn't have to play. His back-lift was straighter and shorter.

Balanced and poised, he he whipped, pulled and cut.

Indrajith completed an immensely satisfying 13th First Class century. However, he fell soon after tea when Ajinkya Rahane had a short-cover in place and got left-arm seamer Jaydev Unadkat to bowl at a drivable length from around the wicket. Indrajith was held at short cover.

Indrajith and a feisty Manish Pandey (48, 69b, 4x4, 2x6) – he stroked well through covers but was done in by a Tanush Kotian off-break – added 105 valuable runs off 124 deliveries for the fourth wicket.

Ricky Bhui left early, flashing at Unadkat. However, there was further resistance from South with Ravi Teja and K. Gowtham (43, 55b, 3x4, 3x6) putting on 62 for the seventh wicket off 98 balls.

Earlier in the innings, Rohan Kunnummal played a few firm strokes before nicking Unadkat, Mayank Agarwal edged a delivery of away movement from the pacey Atit Sheth and skipper Hanuma Vihari cut

and pulled during his knock of 25 before being trapped leg-before by the impressive Sheth.

**The scores: West Zone – 1st innings:** Yashasvi Jaiswal c Bhui b Stephen 1, Priyanka Panchal lbw b Stephen 7, Ajinkya Rahane c Ravi Teja b Thampi 8, Shreyas Iyer c Indrajith b Sai Kishore 37, Sarfaraz Khan c Indrajith b Sai Kishore 34, Het Patel c Mayank b Sai Kishore 98, Shams Mulani lbw b Sai Kishore 0, Atit Sheth c Mayank b Thampi 25, Tanush Kotian c Manish b Gowtham 2, Jaydev Unadkat (not out) 47, Chintan Gaja c Stephen b Sai Kishore 10; Extras (lb-1): 1; Total (in 96.3 overs): 270.

**Fall of wickets:** 1-1, 2-10, 3-16, 4-64, 5-99, 6-101, 7-164, 8-167, 9-254.

**South Zone bowling:** Thampi 15-2-42-2, Stephen 12-2-52-2, Sai Kishore 35-3-8-86-5, Ravi Teja 7-3-15-0, Gowtham 27-1-74-1.

**South Zone – 1st innings:** Rohan Kunnummal c Het b Unadkat 31, Mayank Agarwal c Jaiswal b Sheth 9, Hanuma Vihari lbw b Sheth 25, B. Indrajith c Mulani b Unadkat 118, Manish Pandey b Kotian 48, Ricky Bhui c Jaiswal b Unadkat 4, Ravi Teja (batting) 26, K. Gowtham c Unadkat b Sheth 43, R. Sai Kishore (batting) 6; Extras (b-8): 8; Total (for seven wkts. in 81 overs): 318.

**Fall of wickets:** 1-30, 2-40, 3-101, 4-206, 5-236, 6-243, 7-305.

**West bowling:** Unadkat 18-4-52-3, Gaja 8-4-24-0, Sheth 14-4-51-3, Kotian 27-2-110-1, Mulani 14-0-73-0.

# Sanil and Soumyajit post gritty wins to advance

## TABLE TENNIS

K. Keerthivasan  
SURAT

Sixteen-year-old Suhana Saini of Haryana, one of the most promising young paddlers, produced the lone upset in the women's singles second round table tennis match of the 36th National Games here on Thursday.

In the men's singles, all the top eight seeds sailed into the third round. Suhana overcame Prapti Sen of West Bengal, seeded six, 13-15, 11-7, 13-11, 11-6, 8-11, 14-12 to advance.

**Strong performance** G. Sathiyam and Sharath Kamal of Tamil Nadu, the top two seeds, produced a strong performance to defeat Wesley Do Rosario of Haryana and Ravindra Kotiyam of Maharashtra respectively.

Maharashtra's Sanil Shetty, the third seed, was pushed to the brink before he overcame Divyansh Srivastav (UP) 11-6, 7-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-9, 7-11, 11-9.

**Produce his best** Haryana's Soumyajit Ghosh, seeded seventh, had to produce his best to

beat Raegan Albuquerque of Maharashtra 11-5, 4-11, 11-2, 10-12, 11-13, 11-7, 11-9.

**The results (round-of-32):** Men: G. Sathiyam (TN) bt Wesley Do Rosario (Har) 13-11, 11-6, 11-4, 11-5; Manav Thakkar (Guj) bt Sarth Mishra (UP) 11-5, 11-6, 11-6, 12-14, 11-6; Anirban Ghosh (WB) bt Ishaan Mahesh Hingorani (Guj) 11-8, 5-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-3; Harmeet Desai (Guj) bt Mohammad Ali (SI) 11-4, 11-5, 11-6, 11-8. Sanil Shetty (Mah) bt V. Divyansh Srivastav (UP) 11-6, 7-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-9, 7-11, 11-9; Manush Shath (Guj) bt K. J. Akash (Kar) 11-5, 11-8, 11-2, 11-4; Soumyajit Ghosh (Har) bt Raegan Albuquerque (Mah) 11-5, 4-11,

11-2, 10-12, 11-13, 11-7, 11-9; Sharath Kamal (TN) bt Ravindra Kotiyam (Mah) 11-9, 11-6, 11-6, 17-15.

**Women:** Manika Batra (Del) bt D. Pranitha (TS) 11-5, 11-8, 11-6, 11-8, Takeme Sarkar (WB) bt Nikhat Banu (TS) 9-11, 11-6, 11-8, 11-9, 14-12; Anusha Kutumbale (MP) Riti Shankar (Har) 11-5, 11-6, 11-7, 11-9; Suhana Saini (Har) bt Prapti Sen (WB) 13-15, 11-7, 13-11, 11-6, 8-11, 14-12. Sreeja Akula (TS) bt Anannya Basak (Mah) 13-11, 11-3, 11-8, 11-8; Reeth Rishya (Mah) bt C. R. Harshavardini (TN) 13-11, 11-6, 11-8, 11-2; Diya Chitale (Mah) bt Trisha Paul (Har) 11-3, 11-6, 11-4, 12-10; Swastika Ghosh (Mah) bt V. Kowshika (TN) 11-8, 11-7, 11-5, 11-6.



**Bouncing back:** Third seed Sanil rallied to defeat Divyansh. A.M. FARUQUI

# Legendary race-horse trainer Uttam Singh passes away

## RACING

Vinayak M. Zodge  
PUNE

Legendary racehorse-trainer Uttam Singh passed away in Pune on Thursday, days after celebrating his 103rd birthday.

'Uttamji', born on September 19 in Rajasthan, joined as an apprentice jockey at the Royal Western India Turf Club (RWITC) in 1939. After some years he obtained a trainer's licence and was the first jockey to choose the training profession. In a 50-year training career, he won 19 Classics before retiring in 2002. His first



Uttam Singh.

Classic win came in 1968 when Venus De Milo won the Indian 1000 Guineas at Mumbai. Popularly known as the 'fillies specialist' he trained 7 Indian Oaks (Ladies Derby) winners. He also won the inaugural Pune Derby in 1984 through Pru-

dential Champ. Uttamji's son Zadmal is a trainer at RWITC, while grandsons Subhag and Niranajan are a trainer and a secretary/handicapper at the RWITC respectively.

Mr. K.N. Dhunjibhoy, chairman, stewards of the RWITC, said "Today we celebrate the life of a good man whom I have known for many years. Uttam Singh lived his long life doing what he loved around horses and the world of racing. We wish him God Speed on his final ride."

"Uttam Singh's passing away is sad for the racing fraternity. He had a wonderful innings and his presence will be missed," said Zavaray S. Poonawalla

# Sportstar's first West Sports Conclave tomorrow

## Sports Bureau

Sportstar will host the first-ever West Sports Conclave on Saturday (Sept. 24) in Ahmedabad where a host of speakers will discuss key issues pertaining to the sports ecosystem in the region.

Bhupendrabhai Patel, Chief Minister of Gujarat, will deliver the keynote address and present the Hero Undung Champion and Emerging Hero awards.

The full-day conclave will have different segments including a panel discussion on the return of the National Games and the need for state cricket



associations to implement player contracts. Former India player Parthiv Patel and Ratnakar Shetty, BCCI's first CAO, will be part of it. The Conclave can be followed live on sportstar.thehindu.com.

# Need to improve my fitness and stamina: Anahat

## SQUASH

S. Prasanna Venkatesan  
CHENNAI

Teen squash sensation Anahat Singh, the youngest member of the 2022 Commonwealth Games (CWG) Indian contingent, is impressively articulate for a 14-year-old!

She also surprises you with her self-awareness. "The main thing is that I've learnt a lot about how much effort I have to put in – in terms of training – to not only reach latter rounds (in a big event) but actually win a medal.

"Right now, my fitness,



Anahat. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

like my stamina, isn't that good. So, I need to work on my diet. I'm also lacking in experience.

"The experienced senior players know how to turn the game around if they are losing," she said at

place with Yoo and Levon Aronian.

Praggnanandha (23) fared a shade better than Arjun.

After losing to Aronian, the teenager drew with Anish and beat Ivan Saric for his first victory in the last nine rounds.

Meanwhile, in the FIDE Women's Grand Prix in Astana, Kazakhstan, R. Vaishali (2) drew with Germany's Dinara Wagner in the fifth round.

### The quarterfinal line-up:

Magnus Carlsen (Nor) v Levon Aronian (USA); R. Praggnanandhaa v Vincent Keymer (Germany); Hans Moke Niemann (USA) v Le Quang Liem (Vietnam); Arjun Erigaisi v Christopher Yoo (USA).

**Final league standings:** 1. Magnus Carlsen (Nor, 34/45), 2. Arjun Erigaisi (25), 3. Hans Moke Niemann (USA, 24), 4-5. R. Praggnanandhaa, Vincent Keymer (Ger) (23 each), 6. Le Quang Liem (Vie, 22), 7-9. Christopher Yoo (USA), Levon Aronian (USA), Anish Giri (Ned) (21 each).

10. Jan-Krzysztof Duda (Pol, 20), 11. David Navara (Cze, 19), 12. Radoslaw Wojtaszek (Pol, 17), 13. Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukr, 16), 14. Ivan Saric (Cro, 14), 15-16. Boris Gelfand (Isr) and B. Adhiban (10 each).

### Holding on

In contrast, Arjun (25) held on to his second spot by virtue of a draw against Wojtaszek in the 13th round but lost to Keymer and Anish Giri.

In spite of winning the final game, Giri missed out on a quarterfinal-spot after finishing ninth following a three-way tie for seventh

## LIVE TELECAST

**India vs Australia:** 2nd T20I, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7 p.m.

**Pakistan vs England:** 3rd T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 p.m.

**Nations League:** Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.30 a.m. (Saturday)

# Aditi to lead home challenge in Indian Open

Sports Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Former champion Aditi Ashok will lead a full-strength home challenge when the \$400,000 Hero Women's Indian Open golf tournament returns to the DLF Golf and Country Club, Gurugram, from October 20 to 23.

Among the overseas contenders, Sweden's Linn Grant heads the list. She is currently second on the Ladies European Tour's Order of Merit after winning four titles this season.

The Indian challengers, in the 114-player field, include Tvesa Malik (19th on LET last season) & Diksha Dagar (the 2022 Deaflympics gold medalist), Amandeep Drall and Vani Kapoor, Ridhima Dilawari, Gaurika Bishnoi and Neha Tripathi.

the HCL-SRFI PSA Indian Tour at the ISA courts here on Wednesday.

### Why PSA circuit?

It was her play in the CWG second-round loss to Wales' Emily Whitlock that made her confident of playing in the PSA circuit.

"The opponent was a top-20 player. I didn't really expect much out of it, but the fact that I actually had a very close game with her made me think that I might actually have a chance of doing well in the professional circuit. That's why I started playing PSAs, so that I'll get more experience and fight a bit harder."



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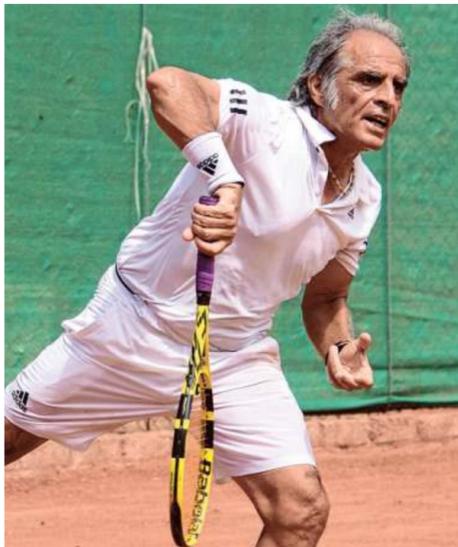
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# Rashid Malik eases past Yogesh Kohli to lift title

Raveen Chaudhary wins over-60 singles and doubles titles; Chandra Bhushan bags the over-55 singles and doubles titles



**Age just a number:** Rashid Malik was on top of his game to win the title. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

**Kamesh Srinivasan**  
JALANDHAR

Rashid Malik of Pakistan beat Yogesh Kohli 6-2, 6-2 in the over-50 final of the ITF Masters tennis tournament on Thursday.

Despite being over 60, Malik always challenges himself by competing in the younger age group. Even though he was not that familiar with clay, owing to the major presence of grass and hard courts back home, Malik was still a picture of energy and elegance as he entertained the small bunch of spectators with his classy game.

Raveen Chaudhary won the over-60 singles and doubles titles, while Chandra Bhushan bagged the over-55 singles and doubles titles. Pradeep Pant,

Rajesh Baruah, Avniash Kunwar were the other winners. In the women's over-35 event, Sonal Vohra, playing two age groups lower, won the title by beating Pinky Sharma and Komal Aggarwal without dropping a set.

**The results (finals): Over-35:** Pradeep Pant bt Ankit Patel 6-0, 6-1; **Over-40:** Rajesh Baruah bt Prafull Arjaria 6-2, 6-2; **Over-45:** Avinash Kunwar w.o. Syed Babar Zaidi. **Over-50:** Rashid Malik (Pak) bt Yogesh Kohli 6-2, 6-2; **Over-55:** Chandra Bhushan bt Yashpal Arora 6-2, 6-3; **Over-60:** Raveen Chaudhary bt Pawan Jain 6-3, 6-3; **semifinals:** Raveen bt Puneet Kumar Gupta 7-5, 2-6, 6-3; Pawan bt Dilip Singh Nongmaithem 6-4, 6-1; **Doubles (final):** Raveen Chaudhary & Pawan Jain bt Puneet Kumar Gupta & Sanjai Kumar 6-4, 6-3.

**Women: Over-35 (league):** Sonal Vohra bt Komal Aggarwal 6-3, 6-3.

## Shapath narrowly misses medal in shotgun Worlds

**SHOOTING**

**Sports Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Shapath Bharadwaj shot 111 (23, 23, 22, 22 and 21) to miss qualification for the ranking round in junior men's trap by two points in the Shotgun World Championship in Osijek, Croatia, on Wednesday. Arya Vansh Tyagi (107) and Shardul Vihan (106) paced 32nd and 36th respectively.

### Bhavya misses out

In the junior women's trap, Bhavya Tripathi shot 103 for the 14th spot. She missed qualification by three points.

Sabeera Haris (100), Preeti Rajak (98) and Aadya Tripathi (76) placed 19th, 22nd and 32nd respectively.

## Twenty teams will vie for honours in Delhi Golf Club League

**Sports Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Twenty teams will vie for honours in the second edition of the Lloyd Delhi Golf Club League beginning here on September 29.

The addition of two more teams from the inaugural edition has resulted in the playing days being raised to 13, leading to the finale on October 22.

Each team has 20 members, a coach and a mentor. Seasoned professionals like Gaurav Ghei and Nonita Lal Qureshi are among the mentors.

It is mandatory for participating clubs to include a player aged over-70, a lady player besides a maximum of two junior players.

### Ghei excited

Speaking at the launch, Ghei expressed his excitement over the ensuing event. "Having grown up

on the Delhi Golf Club course and enjoyed some very special moments of my career here, it feels great to play the role of a mentor and share my knowledge with juniors and other Club members.

Nonita spoke about how she has enjoyed her playing days and now as a coach to juniors on this course.

### Four groups

These 20 teams are divided into four groups.

After the league, where a match involves seven pairs from each team taking on its counterparts on the opponents on a four-ball better-ball Match-play format.

Two teams from each group will advance to the quarterfinals. Thereafter, the matches will be played on knockout basis to ascertain the winner.

## Familiar names in Legends Tennis League

**Sports Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The Legends Tennis League (LTL), featuring players in the over-35 to 70 section, will be played at the R. K. Khanna Stadium from Friday to Sunday.

The event will feature six teams, and some familiar players like V. M. Ranjeet, Vivek Shokeen, Vijayant Malik and Radhika Tulpule.

The teams, Akross Aces, Aviraj Warriors, Bangalore Challengers, Punjab Aces, Rebound Ace Stag Babolat Yoddhas and Tennis Titans will compete against each other and the top four will make the semifinals.

Each tie will feature 14 matches, with each match played on a special 15-point format.

The three-day event is scheduled to be streamed live on *Youtube* channel of the *Sportsworld* network.

# In-form Neymar eyes Pele's mark as Brazil's record scorer

**Associated Press**  
RIO DE JANEIRO

Here's some great news for Brazil: Neymar is winning everyone over this season with his goals and attitude for Paris Saint-Germain.

He's also been injury-free after years of being plagued by ankle, hamstring and foot injuries.

Even though Neymar suffered a small cut in his right knee and needed minor treatment during Wednesday's training session, Brazil coach Tite said he was expected to start against Ghana on Friday in a potentially dazzling attack with Raphinha, Vinicius Junior and Richarlison.

Fans were high-fiving Neymar and having their photos taken with him when he arrived at Wednesday lunchtime in Le Havre for the game against Ghana, the penultimate friendly for both sides before the World Cup in Qatar.

Neymar's work-rate for PSG has been exemplary. He's fitter than for many years and scoring prolifically, with 11 in 11 games overall.

The 30-year-old forward has been creating, too.



**Red hot:** Neymar has been phenomenal for PSG this season with 11 goals in 11 games. AFP

His pass for Lionel Messi in Sunday's 1-0 win at Lyon was his seventh in the French league - level with Messi.

Will this form continue all the way to the World Cup in Qatar, where Brazil aims for a record-extending sixth title but a first for 20 years? Brazil fans hope so.

Even more so if Neymar enters the tournament in Qatar with the additional psychological boost of being Brazil's all-time leading scorer.

He's on 74, behind only three-time World Cup winner Pele's record of 77.

He has another chance of overtaking Pele in a friendly against Tunisia

next Tuesday at Parc des Princes, also the home of PSG. The last time Brazil played at the stadium was in 1992, when Neymar was six months old.

Neymar is a more mature player than at the last World Cup in 2018, where he drew attention with his histrionics and for constantly rolling around on the ground every time he was fouled, even lightly.

Brazil's World Cup opponents in Group G are Serbia, Switzerland and Cameroon.

Neymar will be confident of bolstering his goal tally in those three games as he bids to write his name alongside Pele's as a World Cup winner.

# England's concerns mount as Nations League relegation looms

**Associated Press**  
MILAN

The imminent prospect of relegation from the Nations League's elite is unlikely to worry Gareth Southgate.

What might be troubling the England coach far more is the fitness issues, poor form or fragile club status of some of his key players two months out from the World Cup.

From the team that started the European Championship final against Italy last year, defenders Harry Maguire and Luke Shaw have been dropped by Manchester United and central midfielder Calvin Phillips requires shoulder surgery and could miss the World Cup.

Goalkeeper Jordan Pickford is out injured, center back John Stones has been playing as a right back for Manchester City, and midfielders Declan Rice and Mason Mount have been in underwhelming form for



**Hard at work:** With a lot of first-team players out with injury, the likes of Sterling, Grealish and Rice will have to pick up the slack for England. REUTERS

West Ham and Chelsea, respectively, in the first six weeks of the Premier League.

There's plenty for Southgate to ponder, then, heading into matches against Italy - in Milan on Friday - and Germany - at London's Wembley Stadium on Monday - in a Nations League group where England is in last place after two draws and two losses. Another loss in Italy will

see England drop into the second tier of the UEFA tournament, which will damage the pride of Southgate's squad, if nothing else.

It's the bigger picture - essentially, the World Cup - that is key for Southgate, and what he will effectively be judged on, with some critics having rounded on him after a shocking 4-0 home loss to Hungary in England's last match.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA E-mail :- eerwssbp@gmail.com  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, R.W.S & S DIVISION, SAMBALPUR**  
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
**Bid Identification No. RWSS (SBP)-09/2022-23**

- Name of the Work : CONSTRUCTION OF DIVISION OFFICE BUILDING AT RWSS & S CAMPUS, AINTHAPALI, SAMBALPUR.
- Total Number of Work : 01 Nos (One)
- Estimated Cost : Rs.139.09 lakhs
- Class of Contractor : B & A
- Period of Completion : 8 Months

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender online for bidding
Executive Engineer, RWSS Division, Sambalpur	RWSS (SBP) :- 09 / 2022-23	From 30.09.2022 up to 5.00 PM of 12.10.2022

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "www.tendersorissa.gov.in".  
Subsequent corrigendum if required shall be appeared in the website only.  
Q-1031: Executive Engineer, R.W.S&S. Division, Sambalpur. OIPR-25015/11/0005/2223

**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division, Begur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru - 560068.  
No: BBMP/EE/BD/Tend-08/2022-23 Date: 21-09-2022  
**INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT) - (SHORT TERM)**  
(Two Cover Tender) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with KPWD / CPWD / BWSB / MES / Railways / National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the Construction works detailed below.  
(Standard Tender Document - KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (in Rs.)
1	Package-1-BZ-BD-(W-174,189,193) Name of Work: Providing Name Boards & CC Camera in HSR Layout Ward No. 174, Providing and Fixing CC Camera in Ward No. 189, Hongasandra, Providing Supplying and Fixing the CC Camera all accessories in Ward No. 193, Arakere - (3rd Call)	299.00	4,48,500.00 (Rs. One Lakh to be transferred through e-Portal & Remaining Amount to be provided in the form of BG/DD/FDR)
2	Package-2-BZ-BD-(W-186,189,193) Name of Work: Providing Stainless Steel Street Signage Boards at Jaraganahalli in Ward 186, Providing SS Sheet Signage Boards in Ward No. 189, Hongasandra, Providing Supplying and Fixing Street Name Boards in Ward No. 193, Arakere - (3rd Call)	310.00	4,65,000.00 (Rs. One Lakh to be transferred through e-Portal & Remaining Amount to be provided in the form of BG/DD/FDR)

**Calendar of Events:** 1) The tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK e-Procurement Portal Website: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from 26-09-2022. 2) Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on 28-09-2022 at 11.00 Hrs. at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division, Begur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru - 560068. 3) Tenders must be Submitted online through e-Procurement Portal on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 12-10-2022. 4) Technical Bids will be Opened on 13-10-2022 after 16.30 Hrs. onwards at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division. Further details can be had from the above office.  
Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Division, BBMP.

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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)**  
IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT, 1956, AND  
IN THE MATTER OF SHREE BAHUBALI CASTING (P) LTD. (IN LIQN.)  
C. P. NO. 94/2008  
FORM NO. 63 [See Rule 148(1)]  
**ADVERTISEMENT OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS & WORKMEN TO PROVE THEIR CLAIM**

Notice is hereby given to all the Creditors (Secured & Unsecured) preferential creditors as well as workmen, if any, of the above named company that they are required to submit to the Official Liquidator, Delhi attached to Hon'ble High Court of Delhi to prove their respective debts or claims against the above named Company by delivering at the Office of the Official Liquidator on or before the 30-10-2022 or sending by post to the Official Liquidator so as to reach him not later than the said date, an affidavit proving the debt or claim in the prescribed Form with their respective names, addresses and particulars of the debt or claim, and any title to priority under Section 529A & 530. Any creditor (Secured & Unsecured) preferential creditors as well as workmen, if any, who fails to submit his affidavit of proof within the time limited as aforesaid, will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution of dividend before his debt is proved, or, as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.  
Any creditor (Secured & Unsecured) preferential creditors as well as workmen, if any, who has sent in his proof, if so, required by notice in writing from the Official Liquidator, shall either in person or by his advocate attend the investigation of such debt or claim at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice and shall produce such further evidence of his debt or claim as may be required.  
Sd/-  
Dated this 19th day of Sept., 2022  
(A. K. MAHAPATRA)  
OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR, DELHI, ATTACHED TO HIGH COURT OF DELHI  
8<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, LOK NAYAK BHAWAN, KHAN MARKET,  
NEW DELHI - 110 003. Phone No. 011-24693393-94  
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**THE ODISHA STATE COOPERATIVE BANK LTD.**  
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Bhubaneswar - 751 001  
Ref.No.3234/ OSCB/HRDD/2022-23 Date : 21.09.2022  
**QUOTATION CALL NOTICE**

Sealed Quotations are invited from reputed OEMs / Authorised Distributors for supply and installation of Air Conditioners to be installed at Rourkela, Saheednagar, Paradeep and Cuttack Jail Road Branch of Odisha State Cooperative Bank Ltd.  
The detailed Quotation Call Notice alongwith terms and conditions can be downloaded from the official website [www.odishascb.com](http://www.odishascb.com) from 22.09.2022 to 06.10.2022. The quotation should reach through Speed Post / Registered Post with AD only by 2 P.M. of 06.10.2022 and will be opened on the same day at 4 P.M. in presence of quotations or their authorized representatives.  
Sd/- Managing Director  
OIPR-39012/11/0020/2223

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER,**  
SUBARNAREKHA & BUDHABALANGA BASIN, AT/PO- LAXMIPOSI, DIST.-MAYURBHANJ, PIN-75107  
Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
**Bid Identification No.- 12/22-23 of CEBM, SBB, Laxmiposi**

i. Name of Work	: "Construction of black topping Road from RD 0.00 KM to RD 12.10 KM of Feeder Channel off-taking from RD 17910M of B.B.C. under S.I.P."
ii. Estimated Cost (Lakh)	: Rs.662.33 Lakh
iii. Period of Completion	: 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months
iv. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	: 26.09.2022 at 10.00 AM
v. Last date / time for receipt of bid in the portal	: 15.10.2022 up to 5.00 PM
vi. Name & Address of the O.I.T.	: Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, O/o the CE&BM, Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal "<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>".  
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager,  
Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi.  
cebmsbb2019@gmail.com  
A-518: OIPR-32429/11/0015/2223

**ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED**  
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha  
CIN: U13100OR1955GCG000313, [www.omcltd.in](http://www.omcltd.in)  
**E-Procurement Notice**  
Bid document No.: OMC/S&M/Tender/GDMN/01 Dated: 22.09.2022

1	Work Name	Hiring of machineries along with required manpower, PCL & O&M for preparation of Stacks as per OMPATS (Amendment) Rules, 2021 at Gandhamardan from Ore Mines (Block -A & B) in Keonjhar District, Odisha.
2	Availability of tender documents on the e-tendering portal of Government of Odisha	Date : 23.09.2022; Time : 5.00 PM
3	Last date for submission of Queries	Date : 29.09.2022; Time : 05.00 PM
4	Pre-bid Meeting Dates	Date : 30.09.2022; Time : 3.30 PM through MS Teams
5	Uploading of revised document	Date : 01.10.2022; Time : 5.30 PM
6	Bid Due Date	Date : 11.10.2022; Time : 5.00 PM
7	Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid	Date : 11.10.2022; Time : 5.30 PM
8	Opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the Technically Qualified Bidders
9	Tender Paper Fee (non-refundable including GST)	Rs.11,800/- (Rs 10,000.00+18% GST) Payable online on the e-tender portal of Government of Odisha ( <a href="http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in">www.tendersodisha.gov.in</a> )
10	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Amount: INR. 18,00,000/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs only) Payable online on the e-tender portal of Government of Odisha ( <a href="http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in">www.tendersodisha.gov.in</a> )

All other details can be seen from the Tender Document available on the e-procurement portal of the Government of Odisha ([www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)) and on the website of OMC ([www.omcltd.in](http://www.omcltd.in)). OMC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.  
Sd/-  
GM (S&M)  
CAD-1921: OIPR-30005/11/0131/2223

राष्ट्रीय इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (रा.इ.सू.प्रौ.सं.), कलकत्ता  
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- Hands-on sessions in addition to the regular labs.

**Final year project internship at core Embedded and VLSI companies leading to placements.**

Recent recruiters at NIELIT Calicut : TI, Intel, Analog Devices, Qualcomm, Cadence, AMD, Synopsys, Robert Bosch, Continental NXP Semiconductors, Tata Elxsi, Aptiv, Siemens, Mistral, Microchip, Kyocera Wireless, Schneider Electric, SiSoC Semiconductor, Waferspace, Avencia Systems, Broadcom, Digital Core, Agnitarium, Wipro, Infosys, Gadgeon, Mind Tree, L&T, AT&T, Quest Global, Ignitarium, Netra Semi, Jiva Sciences, Magnum, National Instruments, Mobilexion, Path Partner, Procsys, Schneider Electric, Captronics, VVDN, TCS, CTS, Honeywell, Philips, Sankalp semi etc.

**Dates to Apply 21-09-22 to 05-10-22**

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