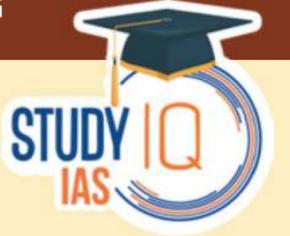


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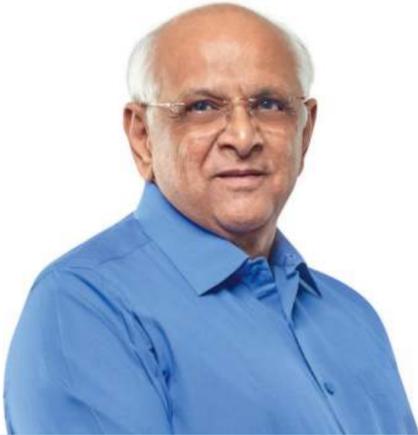
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EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

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Cultural Performances Celebrating 'Vande Gujarat' | Virtual Inauguration of Swarnim Gujarat Sports University
March Past by the Athletes | Torch of Unity | Youth Concert | Live Mascots
Live Performance by Mohit Chauhan and Shankar Mahadevan

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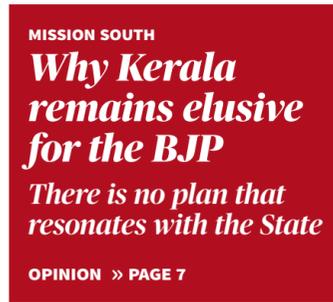
AT THE HELM
Anil Chauhan is new Chief of Defence Staff
NEWS » PAGE 10



INDIA AHEAD
Arshdeep shines as India goes 1-0 up
SPORT » PAGE 15



SC SLAMS CENTRE
No decision yet on Rajoana's mercy plea
NEWS » PAGE 10



MISSION SOUTH
Why Kerala remains elusive for the BJP
There is no plan that resonates with the State
OPINION » PAGE 7



REFERENDUM ENDS
Russia set to annex 4 regions of Ukraine
WORLD » PAGE 13

IN BRIEF



BJP's only task is to destroy AAP, says Kejriwal

NEW DELHI
A day after the CBI arrested AAP's communication head Vijay Nair, party chief Arvind Kejriwal said instead of saving people from inflation and unemployment, the BJP is doing "dirty politics" and its only task is to "destroy AAP".

CITY
» PAGE 3

21 Trinamool MLAs want to defect: Mithun

KOLKATA
Actor and BJP leader Mithun Chakraborty, who has been touring various parts of West Bengal over the past week, has reiterated that he is in touch with 21 Trinamool Congress MLAs who are keen to defect.

STATES
» PAGE 4

Centre bans PFI, 8 front bodies for five years under UAPA

Action comes close on the heels of countrywide searches and arrest of hundreds of leaders of the organisation by the NIA and other agencies

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry on Wednesday declared the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its front organisations, including its student wing, the Campus Front of India (CFI), an "unlawful association" under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA). The Islamist organisation has been banned for five years along with eight associates or front organisations.

The Ministry issued another order empowering the States to notify places associated with the PFI and its front organisations where unlawful activity was taking place. According to the order, the District Magistrates will make a list of immoveable properties of the organisation and make an order



Follow-up action: Security personnel deployed outside a sealed office of the Popular Front of India in Bhopal on Wednesday. PTI

that no person who, at the date of the notification, was not a resident in the notified place shall, without the permission of the District Magistrate, enter, or be on or in, the notified place.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10
MORE REPORTS
» PAGES 4 & 11

SDPI escapes ban, denies PFI link

The Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), which was known as the PFI's political arm, has escaped the ban. An SDPI functionary said it was an independent organisation.

FULL REPORT
» PAGE 11

Sonia likely to meet Gehlot; Digvijaya sets eyes on party poll

Sandeep Phukan
Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Congress president Sonia Gandhi is likely to meet Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Thursday in an attempt to resolve the leadership crisis in the State.

Even as all eyes are on this anticipated meeting, Rajya Sabha member and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Digvijaya Singh could enter the race for Congress president, a source said. He is expected to be in Delhi on Thursday. Mr. Singh has already



There is no drama in Rajasthan. Congress is doing it in a very democratic manner, it will end in two days

K.C. VENUGOPAL
Congress leader

sounded out the top leadership about his decision, but may wait for the outcome of the Sonia-Gehlot meeting for taking the final call, the source said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Centre extends free ration scheme for three months

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union government has extended the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) for another three months from October 1.

This will allow beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act to continue to get five kg of food grains per person per month till December 31. The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting here on Wednesday. This would help the poor and vulnerable sections in the festive season, the Centre said.

The scheme has been in operation since April 2020.

Madan Sabnavis, chief economist, Bank of Baroda, said the impact of the decision on fiscal deficit would be marginal. He said the challenge would be to ensure that procurement of rice was on target because its production is likely to decline by seven million tonnes this year and the government is focussing on giving rice instead of wheat as the stocks of the latter are down. "Stocks of rice and wheat are at 49 million tonnes as of September, one of the lowest stock since 2017," he said.

ASI finds Buddhist caves, temples in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve in M.P.

Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) earlier this year discovered Buddhist caves and stupas, and Brahmi inscriptions, dating back to the 2nd century, and Hindu temples from the 9th-11th centuries, and possibly the world's largest Varaha sculpture also dating to the same period, at the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.



The ruins of temples at Bandhavgarh reserve in Madhya Pradesh.

discovered by the ASI at the national park earlier this year. The exploration took place 84 years after the last such effort in 1938.

"A total of 46 sculptures have come to light and have been reported," Shivakant Bajpai, Superintending Archaeologist, Ja-

balpur Circle, who led the exploration team, said here on Wednesday.

The ASI team discovered 26 mostly Buddhist caves dating back to the 2nd and 5th centuries.

The caves and some of their remains had *Chaitya* [rounded] doors and stone beds typical of Mahayana Buddhism sites.

This discovery brings the total number of caves found in the Bandhavgarh reserve to 76, as 50 are already in the records since the last survey.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10



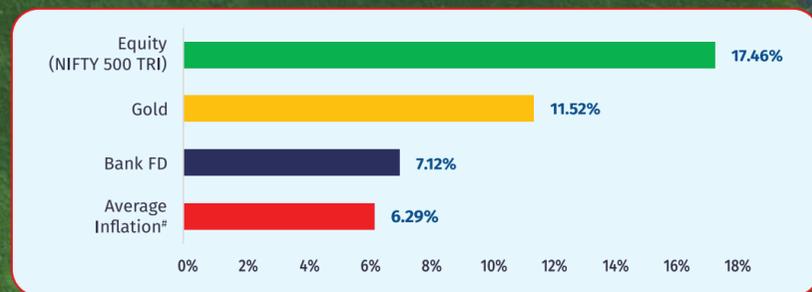
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Source: Bloomberg, RBI Handbook of statistics on Indian Economy, World Gold Council, SBI. *Average Inflation is shown for comparison with returns from various asset classes. Data is of CAGR returns of various asset classes (Equity, Gold, Bank FD) and Average Inflation for the period March 31, 2002 till August 30, 2022. Equities are a volatile asset class. However, volatility in returns reduces as holding period increases. Above asset classes are not strictly comparable. Above chart is for illustration purposes only. Past performance may or may not be sustained in the future. TRI - Total Returns Index. CAGR - Compounded Annual Growth Rate.

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Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

'862 more dengue cases under investigation, surge to continue'

The officially reported caseload of 525 is the highest since 2018, according to MCD; doctors attribute the rise to prolonged spell of rain leading to water accumulation and mosquito breeding

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Capital's dengue caseload stands at 525, according to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's latest report, but sources in the civic body say at least 862 more cases are "under investigation" and the surge is likely to continue in the coming weeks.

"Among the 862 cases, there are also patients who are not residents of Delhi and our investigation involves tracking their addresses and checking whether there is mosquito breeding in the area. We take action to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes," said a senior civic official, adding that the peak in cases will most likely be observed in October.

The 525 cases, according to the MCD's report, are the highest since 2018 (from January 1 to September 21) after the city recorded 129 in-



Fighting the sting: Anti-mosquito fogging under way at a residential colony in west Delhi. FILE PHOTO

fections last week with 72 cases in areas in the civic body's jurisdiction. Of the total reported cases, close to half (230) remain 'un-traced after investigation', which, according to officials, is due to incorrect patient details, while 257 cases have been in MCD areas.

Most cases in MCD areas
Out of 12 MCD zones, the highest number of cases has been recorded in areas under the Karol Bagh zone (30), Najafgarh zone (30)

and Keshavpuram zone (26), while areas under the New Delhi Municipal Council and the Delhi Cantonment Board have recorded a total of six and 13 cases, respectively.

According to Dr. Ritu Saxena, deputy medical superintendent at the Lok Nayak Hospital, dengue cases in the city will increase further due to the prolonged rain leading to water accumulation.

"The number of fever patients has increased.

These patients, including children, are coming to our hospital with fever symptoms and are later on diagnosed with dengue. However, the number of dengue patients is not significant as of now," she said.

When reached for a comment on the cases "under investigation", another senior MCD official did not respond.

However, the civic body issued a statement highlighting that it was continuously working towards controlling mosquito breeding.

It added that a special awareness drive will be conducted during the festival season and a rapid response team has been formed under the civic body's commissioner.

"We [MCD] are also taking legal enforcement for prevention of mosquito breeding and have issued 91,462 legal notices and 33,226 challans for mosquito breeding," the MCD's statement read.

Lumpy skin: plea seeks doctors' team to treat cattle

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday asked the Delhi government and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to respond to a petition seeking the formation of a team of veterinary doctors to deal with cases of lumpy skin disease in cattle.

A Bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad has posted the petition filed by a Delhi resident, Ajay Gautam, for further hearing on October 14.

The petitioner has also sought a direction to the authorities to make available an antidote to stop the spread of the disease and demanded that stray cattle be vaccinated on priority.

"This disease has knocked on the doors of Delhi too and has started infecting cows here. These cows need treatment at the earliest," the plea stated, adding that the city has only one isolation centre for cattle at Rewala in South West district.

MCD not paying ₹1,100 each to 10 lakh students: AAP leader

Staff Reporter
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party on Wednesday alleged that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has given in writing that it will not pay an assistance of ₹1,100 each to 10 lakh students enrolled in its schools for their uniform, books, shoes, bags, among others, and demanded that the civic body immediately disburse funds for the students.

"On the one hand, the Delhi government is setting examples through its education system while on the other, the BJP is subjecting poor children to extreme injustice," said AAP in-charge of MCD Durgesh Pathak.

He said that the future of 10 lakh students in MCD schools is in the dark because of the BJP.

"It is unfortunate that the MCD has refused to give this money and that too in writing. I feel that in India's history, the BJP's government is possibly the first ev-

Civic body denies claim, says it is providing facilities despite not receiving pending funds from the government

er to hold a position that is against the provision of basic amenities to children. This reveals that education is not a priority for them," Mr. Pathak said.

Dismissing the AAP leader's allegations, the MCD said it is providing "a host of basic facilities" to students, including free textbooks, notebooks, stationery, school bags, health facilities, among others. The civic body added that it was providing the facilities despite not receiving pending funds from the Delhi government.

"It was only for the COVID-19 period, when schools were closed, that the amount [₹1,100] was not released. But the funds saved were utilised to provide the best online teaching facility to the students," the MCD's statement read.

JNU begins UG admissions based on CUET scores

Special Correspondent
NEW DELHI

Jawaharlal Nehru University on Wednesday began the application process for admission to its various undergraduate courses based on the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) scores.

The entire process is online and students will have to visit the JNU website to apply. This is the first year that JNU will use CUET scores to admit students instead of conducting its own entrance examination.

Admissions to BA (Hons.) in foreign languages, BSc-MSc integrated programme in Ayurveda biology and certificate of proficiency programmes of JNU for the academic year 2022-23 are being done through CUET (UG) 2022.

"The last date for registration is October 12 and the merit list is likely to be published on October 17," the university said. The classes are scheduled to commence from November 7.

V. Kalyana Rama
Chairman and Managing Director

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CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH AT 34th AGM OF CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA

Dear Members,

A very warm good afternoon to all of you. It is my privilege and honour to welcome you to this 34th Annual General Meeting of your Company. On behalf of the entire Board and Management, I would like to thank each one of you for sparing your precious time and connecting with us virtually once again.

First of all, I congratulate you on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrating 75th year of India's Independence. Over these years backed by the committed workforce and robust democracy, India has emerged as one of the fastest growing economy in the world. At present, India is the World's fifth largest economy and is expected to be among top three economies globally over the next decade.

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the last two years were challenging for all of us. It is indeed satisfying to see that the world has almost overcome the pandemic now. However, there is a widespread uncertainty, owing to severe economic stress, unmet inflation, geopolitical tensions and supply chain disruption, which is threatening to trigger global recession. In such an unpredictable environment, it is heartening that our country has demonstrated admirable resilience and robust recovery driven by the Government's proactive policy measures and skillful management of the pandemic. It is commendable that while astutely addressing immediate challenges, the Government has continued to carry out path breaking reforms and policy interventions to create conducive environment enhancing our competitiveness globally. As a result, the India story is thriving and our Country is poised to attract global investments and grow steadily in future.

Amidst the global disruptions and challenges, your Company has kept its focus on providing uninterrupted logistics support with its efficient services to the trade and industry. It has performed consistently well and improved its strong fundamentals. Your Company is optimistic about the economic scenario going forward and is well poised to seize the emerging business opportunities.

The report of the Directors and Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022, with the reports of Auditors and comments of Comptroller and Auditor General of India have already been circulated to you and with your permission, I will take them as read. Now, I would like to elaborate the brief financial highlights and achievements during the year 2021-22 along with the future prospects of the Company.

ECONOMIC SCENARIO:

Though the outlook for global economy in short term is clouded by considerable uncertainties, its long-term positive outlook is still intact. As per the World Economic Outlook report of International Monetary Fund (IMF), the global growth in 2022 is expected to slow down from 6.1% in the 2021 to 3.2% in 2022 and for India, it has predicted growth of 7.4% and 6.1% in the year 2022 and 2023 respectively. The pandemic has fast tracked the journey into the future through exponential pace of digital adoption and innovations world over. Never before in a short time, so many transformations have taken place. In the turbulent environment, resilience shown by the Indian Economy has kept it buoyant. The release of suppressed demand, the ease of mobility restrictions, nearly universal vaccine coverage, impetus on infrastructure, various initiatives taken by the Government of India are all helping in the revival of business. In this process, the service sector will be the engine of significant growth in which the logistics sector is likely to play a vital role.

Dividend Paid in Cr

Year	Dividend Paid (Cr)
2012-13	327.47
2021-22	543.37

STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES:

Your Company continues to be the market leader in multi-modal logistics in India with the largest available network of container terminals having presence in almost all container handling ports and major industrial hubs. It has a large fleet of rolling stock, containers, handling equipment, IT enabled operations with customs and customers interface enabling your Company to provide efficient and reliable value-added services.

Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved Railways' land policy to implement PM Gati-Shakti Cargo Terminal framework which will help in setting up and development of infrastructure required for boosting the growth of logistics sector.

The Company has developed complete dust proof and moisture free solution for loading, unloading & transportation of bulk Cement & Fly Ash into the silo and bulker through 20' ISO standard containers. This will not only help in capturing the substantial volumes of traffic by rail but will also be an environment friendly mode of transporting commodities in bulk.

To support the EXIM trade dealing with shortage of containers in hinterland, scheme of aggressive discount for repositioning of empty containers for export purpose has been introduced. Steps are also taken to meet the shortage of containers for exporters in which CONCOR provided its own containers for overseas movement. In order to promote the AatmaNirbhar Bharat in container manufacturing, initiatives have been taken by floating EOI for development of vendors for indigenous manufacturing. Subsequently, orders for procurement of 18,000 containers were placed with indigenous manufacturers.

The Company has introduced business solutions services under which single window services for various activities pertaining to custom clearance, cargo and container transportations are being provided in most economic and reliable manner.

The Company has developed solutions for improving its asset utilisation through introduction of shunting locos in phased manner at our major terminals. This will result in efficient handling at terminals and reduction in the detention time. All the new procurements of containers and wagons are of higher carrying capacity. The focus area is now going to be carrying the commodities in bulk and commencement of distribution logistics under PPP mode.

During the year, work was done through many other business initiatives, to name a few are usage of high capacity BLCs rakes for containers movement, carrying wheat in bulk, banana export through special container trains, running of two double stack rakes of 180 TEUs as python rake of 360 TEUs from our terminal at Khatwas (Rajasthan), Bonded trucking facilities, etc.

SUBSIDIARIES, JOINT VENTURES AND ALLIANCES:

To diversify, expand and enter the new markets, your company has entered into different business alliances, including by setting up JVs (Joint Ventures) and Subsidiaries. At Present, your Company has four Subsidiaries and ten Joint Venture (JV) Companies. These alliances are in the related fields of sea port operations, last mile connectivity, container freight stations, air cargo and cold chain logistics. With such partnerships, we have achieved several synergic benefits and they have contributed to the revenues of CONCOR and have helped in the overall growth of its business. Most of the JVs are doing very well and have been paying dividend regularly.

Performance During Last 10 Years (in Cr.)

Year	Capital Expenditure	Net Worth in Cr.
2012-13	580.57	5077.30
2021-22	803.28	10771.30

Infrastructure - A Quick Snapshot

Asset Type	Count
1679 Container Wagons	3741 Container
14 Country Cranes	108 Beach Blanketcranes

Business Volumes, Turnover and Profitability

The year 2021-22 has been the year of outstanding performance for your Company, in which it achieved the highest ever handling volumes of 4 million TEUs as against 3.6 million TEUs in the FY 2020-21 i.e. a growth of 11.8%. It transported 47.69 million tonnes of cargo volume by rail during the year showing 13.5% increase over previous year. It registered a growth of 7.7% and 32.3% in EXIM and Domestic throughput respectively. The Company also achieved the highest ever gross turnover of Rs. 7,857 crores, as against Rs. 6,670 crores in FY 2020-21 i.e. a growth of 17.8%. The Profit after tax of the Company stood at Rs. 1,062 crores with an increase of 111% over previous year.

Capital Expenditure

To achieve the mission of becoming the first choice of our customers, the Company remains firmly committed for development and expansion of its terminals, acquisition of wagons, containers, handling equipment and creating IT Infrastructure. In 2021-22, the Company has developed two new facilities at Multi Modal Logistics Park at Mundra, Gujarat and Rail Transhipment Hub at Swanuggan, Rajasthan. It has incurred Rs. 603 crores as Capital expenditures. At the year end, it has a robust fleet of 16,679 wagons, 37,431 containers, 108 RSTs, 14 gantry cranes and 31 Reefer power packs of different capacity.

TECHNOLOGY AND STANDARDISATION:

The Company is actively involved in leveraging its existing digital assets and has undertaken further investments in technology driven solutions to improve operational efficiencies with focus on providing quality services. With the usage of well established digital assets during the pandemic, all our terminals operated at full capacity. The Company works in paperless e-office environment and all its operating and financial systems are well integrated. As an organisation, we always strive to excel with the use of latest and more advanced technologies. We believe that extensive use of technology will help us respond to the ever-changing business scenarios and stay ahead in the market. To improve its service standards, your Company is working on further automation of its operations by planning implementation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based systems at its terminals. The adoption of AI will improve our service standard as the movement of containers and cargo at the terminals can be captured and shared on real time basis without any manual intervention.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:

Your Company's journey up till now would have been impossible without the dedication and hard work of Team CONCOR. The Company is focussed on attracting, developing and retaining the meritorious talent. It encourages its workforce to identify their short and long term goals and through training, motivation, exposure, etc., guidance is provided to achieve the same. Regular initiatives are taken to keep the workforce updated with the latest technologies and skill-sets that are necessary to fulfil the organisational as well as individual goals.

CONCOR IT Initiatives

1. KYCL - For online track and trace through mobile app, chatbot etc.
2. Mobile App - For customers like track & trace, tariff, company directory, news and terminal information etc.
3. e-filing - replacing the physical files (reports and queries).
4. e-office - replacing the physical files
5. e-filing facility - for online booking of containers.
6. e-contractor billing - for online submission of invoices

It is believed that a diverse workforce brings with it, different perspectives, experiences and competencies and making us more innovative, inclusive, and competitive. The work environment which actively incorporates different ideas, perspectives and leadership styles is encouraged. The endeavour is always to create a workplace that promotes gender equality, diversity and inclusivity. I deeply admire and appreciate the courage and determination of our team, as their professionalism, motivation and dedication has helped us in achieving our goals.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE:

Your Company is a Navratna Undertaking and good Corporate Governance is the core to its success. It conducts its business in a responsible way by maintaining a high level of organizational integrity and ethical behavior. It has put in place the framework of best policies, practices, structure and ethics in the Organisation. Today your Company is a well respected corporate citizen and it has earned the trust and goodwill of all the stakeholders. It is committed to do things the right way, which includes taking business decisions and acting in ways that are ethical and compliant to applicable legislations. In my view the foundation for our success has been rooted in our work culture and values with our ethos of 'Customer Value Creation'.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Your Company always believes in carrying out its business activities in a socially and environmentally responsible manner by balancing the needs of all stakeholders and contributing to the upliftment and well-being of the disadvantaged sections of the society. In this respect, it is fully conscious and sensitive of its role as a corporate citizen and has put in place a well-structured policy on Corporate Social Responsibility. The key areas covered were in the field of health, education, skill development, environment sustainability, sports, infrastructure development, etc. An amount of Rs. 15.17 crores was utilized during the year on CSR activities, which inter-alia included work in the following areas:

- Infrastructure Development of schools.
- Construction of toilet blocks at public places.

WAY FORWARD:

Your Company is sharpening its focus on the holistic growth, which will not only be in terms of profits but will bring positive changes and impacts on the society and environment. This approach will help us creating sustainable value for our customers, employees and other stakeholders.

I am of the firm belief that the logistics is going to be the sunrise sector of the future. With this vision, CONCOR has been moving ahead and taking lot of business initiatives, to tap the opportunities that will come on its way. The pace of economic activity has picked up during FY 2021-22 and the momentum is expected to continue. Economic activities such as expansion of road infrastructure, commencement of operations of dedicated freight corridors, implementation of various plans of Government under PM Gati-Shakti, AatmaNirbhar Bharat, NIP, NLP, PLI, etc. will open new avenues for

Total Income & Operating Income (in Cr.)

Year	Total Income	Operating Income
2012-13	7877.58	4743.38
2021-22	7884.45	4606.16

substantial growth in the logistics sector for which your Company is future ready. The initiatives taken by your Company in the field of moving bulk cargo in containers, increase in double stack movements of containers, expansion of business in neighbouring countries, distribution logistics, Non Vessel Owning Common Carrier (NVOC) service, container as warehouse, development of rail trans-shipment hubs, solutions for First Mile Last Mile (FMLM) connectivity, etc. will substantially contribute towards the future growth of its business.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Before concluding, I on behalf of the Board of Directors, would like to thank the Ministry of Railways, Shipping, Commerce and Industry, Finance other Ministries, Departments of the Government of India, various State Governments, shareholders, investors, JV partners, lenders, suppliers and customers for their consistent support and motivation.

I acknowledge and appreciate the guidance and valuable support of colleagues on the Board, C&AG of India and our Auditors. I also extend my thanks to the electronic and print media for providing constructive coverage.

My heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to all the employees of the Company for their consistent outstanding performance and contributions.

Dear shareholders, I would like to thank you for your trust and confidence which has always been the vital fuel in our majestic journey of steady growth and success.

I wish and pray for the good health and safety of you and your loved ones.

Thank you once again, Ladies and Gentlemen.

28th September, 2022
New Delhi

(V. Kalyana Rama)
Chairman and Managing Director

Note: This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the 34th Annual General Meeting of the Company.

SECTORAL PERFORMANCE:

During the year, Indian Railways registered an increase of 15% in the originating loading cargo from 1,233.22 million tonnes in 2020-21 to 1,418.27 million tonnes in the year 2021-22. The originating containerized cargo transported by rail has increased by 17.63% from 63.23 million tonnes in 2020-21 to 74.38 million tonnes in 2021-22.

In value terms, total exports of the country increased by 43.81% from 291.81 billion dollars in 2020-21 to 419.65 billion dollars in 2021-22. Imports of the country have also registered positive growth by 55.13% from 394.44 billion dollars in 2020-21 to 611.89 billion dollars in 2021-22.

The growth of the logistics sector is largely driven by the economic activities internationally and within the country. The Government has recognized the importance of infrastructure and logistics industry in the economic growth and has taken many initiatives in this direction. The work started under National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), National Monetization Pipeline (NMP) and PM Gati

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BJP's only task is to destroy AAP, it will get Sisodia arrested next week: Kejriwal

Chief Minister says Satyendar Jain, Amanatullah Khan, Vijay Nair already arrested in false cases; asks all party workers to be ready to go to jail as arrests continue in the excise policy probe

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arrested Aam Aadmi Party's communication in-charge Vijay Nair, party chief Arvind Kejriwal said instead of saving people from inflation and unemployment, the BJP is doing "dirty politics" and its only task is to "destroy AAP".

Mr. Kejriwal went on to say that the BJP is going to get Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia arrested next week.

"They [BJP] are scared because AAP won [elections] in Delhi and then in Punjab. We are heading for a victory in Gujarat and they fear that we might win in the entire country. They are left with one task, and that is to crush AAP," Mr. Kejriwal said in a video statement on Wednesday.

"Earlier, they [BJP] arrested Satyendar Jain in a completely frivolous case. Then they arrested Amanatullah Khan in a false case. Yesterday, they held Vijay Nair and next week they will arrest Manish Sisodia as well," said Mr. Kejriwal, adding that if the BJP can get a "small party worker" like Mr. Nair arrested, the party can do it to anyone.

'Be like Bhagat Singh'
On the birth anniversary of Bhagat Singh, the Chief Minister asked all party workers to be ready to make the



They [BJP] are scared because AAP won polls in Delhi and Punjab. We are heading for a victory in Gujarat and they fear that we might win in the entire country

ARVIND KEJRIWAL
Delhi CM and AAP chief

supreme sacrifice like the freedom fighter. "These people [BJP] cannot hang you but they will send every AAP worker to prison. If you are ready to go to prison, remain in AAP or else you can quit and join the other party. Only those who are ready to make the supreme sacrifice like Bhagat Singh should remain in AAP," Mr. Kejriwal said.

"We are taking the country on the path of progress. These people cannot withstand it and are doing everything possible to thwart the country's progress so that they can continue their loot. We have to fight to free our country from these looters," he added.

Attacking his opponents, Mr. Kejriwal said that the country should get rid of those who are openly trading MLAs. "They are shamelessly taking the taxpayers' money out of the country," he said.

The AAP chief reiterated the party's stand that Mr. Nair was coerced into taking Mr. Sisodia's name during interrogation.



AAP communication in-charge Vijay Nair being produced at the Rouse Avenue courts in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

BJP demands resignation of CM, his deputy; says they knew about 'scam'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The BJP claimed "victory" on Wednesday as the Enforcement Directorate arrested liquor businessman Sameer Mahendru in connection with alleged irregularities in the now-scrapped Delhi Excise Policy.

The Opposition party declared that Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia will be the next to be arrested by probe agencies. Accusing Mr. Sisodia of being in the know of corruption

running into thousands of crores, Delhi BJP president Adesh Gupta demanded the resignation of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

"The corruption in the excise policy of the AAP government has been exposed and Kejriwal and his deputy should resign from their posts," Mr. Gupta said.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said AAP and its leaders had begun expressing apprehension about Mr. Sisodia's arrest since they were aware of

ED arrests businessman in excise policy case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate arrested liquor businessman Sameer Mahendru in connection with the Delhi Excise Policy case.

Mr. Mahendru, the managing director of Indospirit Group, is one of the 15 accused in the FIR registered by the CBI against Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia and others, alleging irregularities in the formulation and implementation of the now-withdrawn excise policy. The FIR alleged that Mr.

Mahendru had transferred about ₹1 crore into the account of Radha Industries, which was managed by co-accused Dinesh Arora; another accused named Arun Ramchandra Pillai had received money from him for further transfer to a public servant via Vijay Nair, the former chief executive officer of Mumbai-based Only Much Louder.

Mr. Nair was arrested by the CBI in connection with the case on Tuesday. A city court on Wednesday allowed the agency five-day custody of Mr. Nair for interrogation.

If evidence is found against Sisodia, then he will also be arrested, says Bidhuri

the "swindling" in the alleged liquor scam.

"All the layers of this scam that are being exposed tell that Sisodia is the head of the scam. The arrests of Vijay Nair and Sameer Mahendru, a close aide of Sisodia, make it clear that he is fully involved in the scam and has siphoned off crores of ru-

pees," Mr. Gupta said.

Mr. Bidhuri alleged that Mr. Nair was responsible for taking money from liquor contractors, while Mr. Mahendru was believed to have been "fully active" in making and implementing the now-scrapped liquor policy.

"If evidence is found against Sisodia, then he will also be arrested. The investigative agencies will not stop their work because of the babble of Kejriwal or other AAP leaders," Mr. Bidhuri said.

IN BRIEF



Court says allegations 'not grave', grants bail to AAP MLA

A Delhi court on Wednesday granted bail to AAP legislator Amanatullah Khan in a case related to alleged irregularities in the Waqf Board, saying "prima facie the allegations against the accused are not grave and serious in nature". According to the FIR, Mr. Khan while working as chairman of the Delhi Waqf Board had indulged in several irregularities, including recruiting 32 people by violating norms and government guidelines. "There is no material on record to show that Khan had received a bribe from any contractual employee," the court said. After getting the bail, Mr. Khan tweeted, "Truth has won."

ED 'uncommon species', can't browbeat judge, Jain tells HC

Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain on Wednesday told the High Court the Enforcement Directorate (ED), which is an "uncommon species ruling the country", cannot be allowed to "browbeat" a judge and seek transfer of a money laundering case on the claim of a "bias" without any basis. The AAP leader, while assailing a lower court order transferring the case against him from one special court to another following an application by the ED, said institutions needed to be protected and the judiciary should say such "tactics" are unacceptable. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Mr. Jain, told the court that not interfering with the ED's conduct will bring anarchy, and asserted that "bias" dawned on the agency after the special court judge did not agree to its request for constituting an independent board for Mr. Jain's medical examination.

Instal anti-smog guns at 125 locations by October-end: L-G

Lieutenant-Governor V.K. Saxena on Wednesday directed multiple government agencies to instal anti-smog guns that sprinkle water over a much larger area from atop high buildings at over a hundred locations in the Capital. He was reviewing anti-pollution measures ahead of the winter season. While the installation of such devices was initially planned at 30 locations, Mr. Saxena has directed that these now be installed at 125 locations in Delhi by the end of October, Raj Niwas said. The meeting was called ahead of the quarter that witnesses air quality plummeting to the lowest in Delhi and the NCR. The L-G called for strict enforcement, time-bound completion of related projects affecting air quality, Raj Niwas stated.

Yamuna water level begins to recede

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The water level in the Yamuna in Delhi on Wednesday started to recede after breaching the evacuation mark of 206 metres, with Haryana reducing the flow from the Hathnikund Barrage in Yamunanagar. The water level is expected to recede further over the next few days as there has been no significant rain in the upper catchment areas of the river or in Delhi.

Students learning to always put country first: CM



Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia participating in a mega blood donation drive, launched by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on the birth anniversary of Bhagat Singh, at the Maulana Azad Medical College in the Capital on Wednesday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Wednesday said that the Deshbhakti Curriculum, which was launched on September 28 last year to mark the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Shaheed Bhagat Singh.

Mr. Kejriwal was speaking at Thyagaraj Stadium to mark the completion of one year of the Deshbhakti Curriculum, which was launched on September 28 last year to mark the birth anniversary of freedom fighter Shaheed Bhagat Singh.

Conflict of interest
"There will be instances when our self-interest will be in conflict with the nation's interest. The curricu-

lum is teaching students to always choose the country first," Mr. Kejriwal said. He added that the curriculum is helping remind students about the struggle for Independence.

"Political leaders will not make the country number one. It is the 130 crore people who will make the country number one. I request teachers to instill the spirit of making India No. 1 in the world among students," he said.

Auto union defends grant of membership to contract worker

The Hindu Bureau
GURUGRAM

Rigniting the debate over contractual workers' right to form unions, the workers' union of Bellsonica Auto Component, an auto parts company in Manesar, has defended the grant of membership to a contractual worker before the Haryana Labour Department.

The Labour Commissioner-cum-Registrar, Trade Unions, had in a letter to the auto company's union earlier this month objected to the grant of membership to a contract worker saying that it was against the Rule 5 of the union's constitution. "The action of the union in admitting the workers of contract as members of the union prima facie appears illegal," read the letter. However, the union in its reply on Wednesday

The Labour Commissioner had earlier objected to the membership saying it was against the union's rule

said that its constitution, duly approved by the Labour Commissioner's office, did not make any distinction between a regular and contract worker. It also said that forming a union was a fundamental right accorded by Article 19 of the Indian Constitution, and that the Trade Union Act, 1926, also did not make any distinction between a regular and a contract worker for union formation.

Labour law lawyer Monu Kuhar said the Bellsonica workers' union was within its rights to grant membership to the contract workers.

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- Technical Sanction: Accorded vide No: MED/K/TS/77 Dated: 16.09.2022 circulated vide letter No: MED/K/TS-475/2679-80 Dated:16.09.2022

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the below schedule:

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	20.09.2022
2	Period of downloading of the bidding document	From 20.09.2022 (1800 HRS) to 10.10.2022 (10:00 HRS)
3	Date of Pre-bid meeting	27.09.2022
4	Bid Submission Start Date	From 28.09.2022 (10:00 HRS)
5	Bid Submission End Date	10.10.2022 (1400 HRS)
6	Cost of Bidding Document	Rs. 3000/-
8	Tender document fee to be deposited in	In the shape of e-challan as per the details given below: Executive Engineer Mechanical Division JK LCMA, Srinagar. Account No.: 0115010100000883 Name of Bank: J&K Bank Branch: Shalimar IFSC Code: JAKAOSALMAR The Authority reserves the right to cross check genuinity of the receipt of tender document fee
9	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.1.93Lacs in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division J&K Lake Conservation & Management Authority, Srinagar from bank having branch in Srinagar.
10	Date and time for opening of the Technical Bids online	11.10.2022 at 1400 HRS in the office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division J&KLCMA, Dockyard Nishat
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Naresh Uttam Patel elected SP's U.P. unit chief again

The Hindu Bureau
LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party (SP), principal opposition in Uttar Pradesh, re-elected Naresh Uttam Patel as its U.P. unit chief at a State convention held here on Wednesday.

Addressing the gathering of party leaders and workers, who have come from different parts of the country, party's national president and former CM Akhilesh Yadav said that the recent Assembly elections had shown that only the Samajwadi Party is capable enough to defeat the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the State.

Mr. Yadav said "each one of you worked tirelessly to win the U.P. Assembly elections this year, but the BJP used every trick, misused the official machinery and we did not succeed".

The appointment of Mr. Patel is seen as a renewed effort by the party to make inroads into the non-Yadav OBC vote bank.

21 Trinamool MLAs want to defect: Mithun Chakraborty

The actor and BJP leader who has been touring various parts of West Bengal has made similar claims in the recent past. He visited the party office in Kolkata on Sept. 24, ahead of Puja festivities

Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Actor and BJP leader Mithun Chakraborty, who has been touring various parts of West Bengal over the past week, has reiterated that he is in touch with 21 Trinamool Congress MLAs who are keen to defect.

When he visited the party office in Kolkata on September 24, ahead of the Durga Puja festivities, he said it was just a matter of time before the MLAs defected from the Trinamool. He had made a similar claim at a press conference in July.

When pointed out that a section of BJP leaders were not keen to induct leaders from other parties, he said: "We won't accept rotten potatoes," Mr. Chakraborty said, adding "only those who were not 'liars and thieves' would be brought



Mithun Chakraborty at a Puja pandal in Kolkata's Santosh Mitra Square on Wednesday. DEBASISH BHADURI

into the party". Over the past three days, Mr. Chakraborty visited Balurghat and Chinsurah with State BJP president Sukanta Majumdar where he reiterated the claim.

However, political ob-

servers feel that remarks on defection by Mr. Chakraborty have no basis. Political commentator Subhamay Maitra said such frivolous remarks were not expected of someone of the stature of Mr. Chakraborty. Prof. Maitra, who

teaches at the Indian Statistical Institute, tried to link the remarks with the Durga Puja festivities and added that the BJP was trying to compete with the Trinamool in the festivities and was resorting to "allegations which have no basis".

BJP alleges INL-PFI link, calls for Kerala Minister's resignation

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Kerala president K. Surendran on Wednesday accused the Indian National League (INL) of having links with the Rehab India Foundation, an alleged Popular Front of India (PFI) front organisation.

Mr. Surendran demanded that Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan seek the resignation of Ports Minister and INL leader Ahammad Devarkovil for suspected extremist links. Otherwise, the BJP would agitate against the government on the streets, he said.

Mr. Surendran said INL leader Muhammad Sulaiman was a top office-bearer of the foundation. He alleged that the trust was a front for the PFI to collect funds for terrorist activities under the guise of charity work. He demanded that the Left Democratic Front (LDF) oust the INL from the ruling coalition for as-

sociating itself with a proscribed terrorist outfit. BJP activists took out a march to Mr. Devarkovil's office in Kozhikode demanding his resignation. The march that started from the Kozhikode Corporation office premises was stopped by the police in front of the Minister's camp office.

Mr. Devarkovil defended the INL's secular credentials and strong stance on minority and majority extremism. The INL and LDF governments were united in their stance on fundamentalism and right-wing re- vanchism, he added.

INL State general secretary Kassim Irikkur termed Mr. Surendran's allegations 'poisonous and irrelevant.'

Bengal govt's doorstep ration scheme illegal, says HC

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

In a major setback to the West Bengal government, the Calcutta High Court on Wednesday ordered its Duare Ration Scheme (ration at doorstep) ultra vires to the 'National Food Security Act, 2013 and called it a nullity in the eye of law.

A Bench of Justices Aniruddha Roy and Chitta Ranjan Dash observed that the State Government exceeded the limit of delegation of the enabling Act through the scheme.

"We are, therefore, constrained to hold that the State Government has transgressed the limit of delegation by obliging the Fair Price Shop dealers to distribute the rations to the beneficiaries at their doorstep in absence of any authority to that effect in the enabling Act i.e. 'NFS Act'," the order said.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had announced the scheme ahead of 2021 Assembly polls.

Rahul completes Kerala leg of Bharat Jodo Yatra, to enter Karnataka today

The Hindu Bureau
MALAPPURAM

The Bharat Jodo Yatra being taken out by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi almost completed its Kerala leg on Wednesday. The yatra will enter Karnataka through Gudalur in Tamil Nadu on Thursday afternoon.

"Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra is not Mann Ki Baat of Narendra Modi. He is meeting people and listening to their woes directly. And he has promised to raise their issues in Parliament and Assembly," said All India Congress Committee general secretary Jairam Ramesh.

He met fishermen, ex-servicemen, farmers, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act workers, women's organisations, business and trade representatives, environmentalists, trade union leaders, workers from public, private, and unorganised sectors, and leaders of other political parties as well.

"This has been a yatra for listening, and not talk-



Rahul Gandhi carrying a child on his shoulders during his yatra. SAKEEKER HUSSAIN

ing or sermonising," said Mr. Ramesh.

He said the Congress would continue to be against all forms of communalism. "No matter majority or minority communalism, it makes no difference."

Mr. Ramesh said the Congress would continue to fight all ideologies and institutions that abuse religion for polarising society, and that misuse religion to

spread prejudice, hate, bigotry and violence.

"This fight is of utmost priority to preserve, protect and celebrate the secular and composite construct of our society and nationhood," he said.

Wednesday's yatra began from Pandikkad early in the morning and reached Wandoor by 10.30 a.m. It resumed in the afternoon and reached Nilambur by 7 p.m.

Woman IAS officer scolds student asking for sanitary pad in Bihar

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

When a girl student asked a senior woman IAS officer in Bihar why the government could not provide sanitary pads, she ticked her off and said, "Tomorrow, you attain the age of family planning, you will expect the government to provide Nirodh [condom] too." A video in which Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Harjot Kaur Bamrah is purportedly seen and heard responding went viral on social media on Wednesday.

Ms. Bamrah, a 1992-batch IAS officer, is Principal Secretary, Women and Child Welfare Department, and also heads the Bihar Women and Child Development Corporation.

"When the government is providing us uniform, scholarship and so many things, why can't it provide Whisper [a brand of sanitary pads] for ₹20-30?" a school student is seen asking Ms. Bamrah in a video during a 'Sashakt Beti, Samridh Bihar' (empowered daughters, prosperous Bihar) workshop.

"There is need to change the mindset. Why [should] the government provide you everything free? Tomorrow you'll say government can provide jeans and why not some beautiful shoes thereafter?" Ms. Bamrah said. When another student complains about a broken toilet door at her school, and that boys could enter, the officer is heard asking, "Do you have separate toilets at your home for males and females?" Responding to media queries on the video, Ms. Bamrah said, "It's all false and malicious reporting of an event."

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IAS MAINS 2022

FREE SEMINAR 30th SEPT. 9.30 AM
NEW BATCH 01st OCT. 1.30 PM
OFFLINE / ONLINE LIVE

Mitra's IAS by NIMISH KAPUR
Sanyak Tower, 39 Pusa Road Opp. Metro Pillar No. 120,
Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005
8826469839, 7986119414
Ex Asst. Commdt., CISF
(AIR-6 UPSC CAPF 2012)

PHILOSOPHY

FRESH BATCHES
7th OCT. 5 PM 14th OCT. 11.15 AM

OUR PAST TOPPERS, MOSTLY B.TECH
AIR 2 Athar Amir, B.Tech AIR 40 Gourang Rathi, B.Tech
AIR 3 Anika Jain, B.Tech AIR 43 Jatin Lal, B.Tech
AIR 11 Sanskriti Jain, B.Tech AIR 45 Kumar Harsh, B.Tech
AIR 27 Himanshu Gupta, B.Tech AIR 58 Jagdeep Singh, B.Tech
AIR 27 Saloni Khemka, Non B.Tech AIR 73 Roma Shrivastava, B.Tech
AIR 28 Divya Mishra, B.Tech AIR 91 Ravi Agarwal, B.Tech
AIR 40 Garima Agarwal, B.Tech AIR 91 Ravi Agarwal, B.Tech
AIR 40 Holiyani Gulre, Non B.Tech & Many more

Prep of 1000 Marks
OFFLINE / ONLINE LIVE
EVERGREEN SUBJECT
LOGICAL, SHORT
SYLLABUS & VERY SCORING
PREPARES ESSAY & ETHICS

Mitra's IAS
Opp. Metro Pillar No. 120, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-05
011-45505509, 8826469839
783-704, Apex Towers, Lal Kothi, Jaipur, Rajasthan
Tel: 044-24484858, 044-24911491
0141-6764015, 7303666798

RBI - GRADE 'B' GENERAL

OCTOBER 07, 2022

DEPR
OCTOBER 14, 2022

BLISS POINT STUDIES
9811343411, 9811343464

VACANCIES

1. Krishna, S/o. Janna Gowda, 729, Panchavala Sector - 4, Hariyana State ... 3rd Defendant

2. Lalith Sharma, S/o. Ramgopal Sharma, 20, Beechpatti bilguva Village, Kasiyabath District, Uttarpradesh State ... 4th Defendant

Whereas the above named plaintiffs has filed the suit against you before Principal District Munsif Court, Sankarankovil for Bare Injunction and Declare that Court No. 1765 / 2004 Registered before the Kalugumalai SRO is Null and Void. The 3rd & 4th Defendant are hereby inform to appear in person or by an advocate duly instructed on the day of 15th October 2022 at 10.00 A.M., in the forenoon to show cause against the Suit if you fail to appear the said application will be heard and determined ex parte.

Court Order:
V.KOTHALAMUTHU, B.A., B.L.,
Advocate,
Sankarankovil, TamilNadu
Cell: 8682080401.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
We, Pankaj Aggarwal Son of late Shri Nand Kishore Aggarwal & Paltivi Aggarwal Wife of Shri Pankaj Aggarwal, Both Residents of 101, Dayanand Vihar, Vikas marg, Delhi-110092, have disowned and debarred our son Ujjwal Aggarwal, @ Chintu, aged about 26 years, residing at 101, Dayanand Vihar, Vikas marg, Delhi-110092 from all our moveable and immovable Properties due to his disrespectful behaviour and fully out of our control. We have severed all types of relations with our said son Ujjwal Aggarwal @ Chintu and we shall not be responsible for any act, deed or thing done by him claiming himself to be our son. Any one dealing with him financially or otherwise, shall be doing so at his/her own risk. Costs and consequences and we, above named will have no responsibility/ liability qua aforesaid Ujjwal Aggarwal @ Chintu.

Government of Jharkhand Rural Works Department
JHARKHAND STATE RURAL ROADS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (JSRRDA)
3rd Floor, F.F.P. Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi 834004
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (VERY SHORT TENDER)
(National Competitive Bidding Through e-Procurement)
Re-eTender No.- 43 /2022-23 Dated: 27.09.22
PR no- 268171 dated 11.04.2022

The undersigned on behalf of Government of Jharkhand invites item rate bids through e-Procurement from the eligible bidders registered* in appropriate class with any State/Central Government/State /Central Government Organization for construction of road and maintenance for five years of the works (List of schemes shall be displayed in the website pmsgytendersjhr.gov.in) of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (RCLWEA- Batch-II, 2021-22).

The bid should be submitted online in the website pmsgytendersjhr.gov.in. The bidders should have valid Digital Signature Certificate for online submission of bid.

Sl. No.	District / Block	Repackage	Road Name	Length (in Km)	Total Package Cost (in Lakh)	Earnest Money (in Lakh)	Completion of Time	
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Sarakela Kharsawan / Kharsawan	JH-LWE-II-SRK-01 /21-22 (3 rd Call)	O-Haribhanja to Riding O-Hudangda to Udaipur via Lakhandih	1.12 16.582	1177.76	11.78	30th March 2023	

Details of bid submission is as under:

Procurement Officer	Place of Opening	Availability of tender (on-line) for bidding		Date & time of opening (on-line) of tender	
		From	To	Technical bid	Financial bid
Chief Engineer, JSRRDA, Ranchi	Chief Engineer, JSRRDA, Ranchi	29.09.2022 at 10.30 AM	11.10.2022 upto 5.00 PM	11.10.2022 at 5.30 PM	To be informed later

* Non-registered bidders may also submit bid, however the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authority before signing the contract.

Note :-

- Amount of Bid Security should be taken as mentioned in the Bid Data Sheet of the Bidding Document.
- Cost of Bid Document (Rs. 10000) and Bid Security (as mentioned in the Bid Data Sheet) shall be deposited online in form as mentioned in Bid Data Sheet failing which the bid will be treated non responsive and action shall be taken as per Sec. 2 of ITB clause 12.2 (d). Online payment through RTGS/ NEFT should not be made through SBI.
- In case, it is found, even after the award of work that the bidder has submitted/ uploaded any false/erroneous/fraudulent statement/document, he/she is liable for blacklisting and forfeiture of Bid Security.
- Bidders must submit GST registration certificate without which bid is liable to be rejected.
- Bidders whose names appear in the Debar/blacklist of RWD, any department of GoJ/GoI (including JSRRDA) shall not be allowed to participate in the above bids.
- Bids submitted by bidders, who have long pending ATR(s) / made inordinate delay in execution of earlier allotted construction/ maintenance works of PMGSY, may be rejected summarily.
- In case of any discrepancy/dispute about units/ amount in BOQ, units/amount as mentioned in Current BOR on which BOQ has been prepared shall prevail. Discrepancy in amount shown in Form of Bid Part-II in words and figures shall make bids non responsive.
- Participating bidders are free to submit grievances, if any, against the decision of technical evaluation within five working days from the date of uploading of decision of technical evaluation only through email at jh-cc@pmsgy.nic.in. Grievance submitted after stipulated period shall not be considered.
- Bidders must have valid registration with Employee Provident Fund organization under EPF and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952 failing which the bid shall be rejected.
- Bidders must not quote rate for routine maintenance. The amount for routine maintenance as indicated in the Bill of Quantities must be acceptable to bidders.
- For unbalanced bids, extra performance security will be required to be deposited by the bidder by the time of Agreement.

All other details can be seen in the bidding document which is available in website pmsgytendersjhr.gov.in as per schedule mentioned above.

Chief Engineer
JSRRDA, Ranchi

PR 278751 Rural Work Department(22-23)D

Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Board Secretariat
Corporate Headquarters
M. A. Road, Srinagar - 190 001
Tel: (0194) 2481930-35 ; Fax: (0194) 2481928
Visit us at: www.jkbank.com
Email: sharedept_gc@jkmail.com
CIN: L65110JK1938SGC00048

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the certificates in respect of the under - mentioned shares of J&K Bank have been lost/misplaced and the holders of the said shares have applied to J&K Bank Ltd/ M/s KFIN Technologies Ltd. (Share Transfer Agent) for issue of Duplicate Share Certificates.

S. No.	Name of the Shareholder	Folio No.	Certificate No.	Distinctive No.'s	No of Shares	Address
1.	Abdul Rehman Nengroo	JKB043912	506236	11858731-11864730	6000	Badroo Yaripora, Anantnag-192 231.
2.	Bhat Mohd Yaqoob	JKB011341	503957	8094621-8095620	1000	H.No.20, Lane No. 3, Ishal Aabad, Baramulla, Srinagar, 190018.
3.	Mohd Yaqoob Bhat	JKB011343	503958	8095621-8096620	1000	R/o H.No. 20, Iqbal Aabad, Baramulla, Opp Degree College, Nr. Care Hospital, Srinagar, Kashmir, J & K State-190018
4.	Hassana Akhter	JKB014540	504593	919041-9120040	1000	Hassanpora, Panwalla, Bijbehara, Anantnag-192 124.
5.	Manzoor Ahmad Kuttay	JKB014209	505243	10147041-10148040	1000	20-Near Masjid Sharief, Chandian Pajam, Kulgam, Anantnag, Jammu & Kashmir-192 231.
6.	Rihana Perveen	JKB013934	504462	8988041-8989040	1000	R/o Gulshan Abad, Distt Anantnag, Kashmir, J & K State-192 101.
7.	Showkat Ali Hamdani	JKB026142	504973	9499041-9500040	1000	Gulshan Abad, Sarnal, Distt Anantnag, Jammu and Kashmir-192 101.

The Public is hereby warned against purchasing or dealing in any way with above share Certificate(s). Any Person(s) who has/have any claim(s)/objection in respect of the said shares should lodge such claim(s)/objection with the Bank at the Corporate Headquarters, M. A. Road, Srinagar/Share Transfer Agent at the address given below, within fifteen days from the date of Publication of this notice, after which no claim(s) will be entertained and the Bank/Share Transfer Agent will proceed to issue Duplicate Share Certificates.

Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited
Board Secretariat
Corporate Headquarters
M. A. Road, Srinagar - 190 001, Kashmir

Share Transfer Agent
M/s KFIN Technologies Ltd.
Selenium Tower B, Plot 31&32
Financial District, Nanakramguda,
Serilingampally Mandal,
Hyderabad 500 032

For Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Ref. No.: 4/2022-23

Place: Srinagar
Date: 28th September, 2022

Sd/-
(Mohammad Shafi Mir)
Company Secretary

निविदा सूचना

केंद्रीय विद्यालय नं. 1 वसु सेना स्थल, गुरुग्राम में इच्छुक एवं अनुभवी टेंट (Tent) सेवा प्रदाता जिन्हें पारटेंट सेवा प्रदान करने संबंधित लाइसेंस, जीएसटी नं. एवं अन्य वांछित दस्तावेज हों, वो राष्ट्रीय खेल स्पर्धा हेतु दिनांक 08.10.2022 दोपहर 2:00 बजे तक निविदा जमा करा सकते हैं। टेंडर सम्बंधित विस्तृत विवरण विद्यालय की वेबसाइट <https://afsno1gurugangan.kvs.ac.in> पर उपलब्ध है।

प्राचार्य

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Open E-Tender Notice

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

Name of Work	Approx. Cost of work	Earnest Money to be Deposit	Cost of tender document	Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen
Providing 2 Lane RUB in lieu of Level crossing no.4C at KM 10/27-29 between CNJ-SBB on NDLS-GZB in the section of SSE/W/DLI under ADEN/DLI.	Rs.10,43,06,178.43 (Rupees Ten Crore Forty Three Lakh Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy Eight and Four Three Paise Only)	Rs. 6,71,500/- (Rs. Six Lakh Seventy One Thousand Five Hundred Only)	Rs.0.00/-	21.10.2022 @ 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

*The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system.
*For all terms and conditions please refer tender document.
*No manual offers are acceptable.
*Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/65/2022-23/W-3 Dated : 27.09.2022 2533/2022

Serving Customers With A Smile

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD)
OPEN TENDER NO.RS (POL)058/508/2022
BID INVITATION

Offers are invited for and on behalf of the President of India from the Companies registered with Insurance Regulatory Development Authority for carrying out General Insurance, including Marine Insurance in India, for Marine Insurance of :-

Description of the Covers

Open Cover (Basic) ICC(B) for bulk consignments inclusive of broad conditions: Steel items, wheel, tyres, axles, rails & sheets, angles and other similar items, in bulk only.

Open Cover (All Risk) ICC(A) for specific items, inclusive of defective packaging losses due to handling etc. throughout the passage of insured items upto the ultimate consignee inclusive of broad conditions.

- Locomotives/pares, Plant/Machinery/Signaling/Telecommunication/Microwave/X-ray equipments and Instruments, Hospital Equipments/Diesel & Electrical Loco components/Electrical/Electronic items, similar spares/components and stores of non-fragile nature only.
- Locomotive and Coaches in knocked down/Semi Knocked down condition as per ICC (A) Clause.
- Wheel sets and axles
- All other materials in form of liquid, thinner, paints, varnish etc, in new drums (subject to an excess of 1/2% on whole consignment)
- All material of fragile nature like Insulators/Ceremics/Asbestos/Porcelain and Graphite.
- Locos fully assembled.
- Coaches fully assembled.
- Crane fully assembled.
- Track machine fully assembled/complete knocked down condition/semi knocked down condition.

2. Estimated value of the tender is Rs. 27, 81, 000.

2.1 Non-transferable bid documents containing detailed terms & conditions may be collected from the Director, Railway Stores (M), Room No.306, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi-110001, (Between 9.30 hrs. and 17.30 hrs.) on all working days.

3. The tender document can also be downloaded for use on the website www.indianrailways.gov.in.

4. Offers submitted through the agents will not be accepted.

5. Tenders can be submitted on all working days, to DRS(M) in room No. 306, upto 14:30 hours on 19.10.2022 and the same shall be opened at 15:00 Hrs on the same day in room No. 306, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi, in the presence of bidders who choose to witness the opening of offers. In case 19.10.2022 happens to be a holiday, the date of submission and opening shall be extended to the next working day.

6. Acceptance of the Tender: The purchaser reserves the right to accept a tender for a part or whole of the offer, reject any tender without assigning any reason and may not accept the lowest or any tender. Time for submission of bids would be upto 14.30 hrs. and same will be opened at 15.00 hrs. on 19.10.2022.

Last date for submission of bids : 19.10.2022

(Sunil Kumar Verma)
Director, Railway Stores (M)
For & on behalf of the President of India
Room No. 306, Rail Bhawan,
Raisina Road,
New Delhi-110001

2532-2022
Serving Customers With A Smile

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Ajay Chaudhari S/o Tej Singh R/o H.No. E-16, Ganga Vihar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 273/2007 U/s 420/406/467/468/471/34 IPC P.S. Vivek Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrants of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Ajay Chaudhari** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Ajay Chaudhari** have absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Ajay Chaudhari of FIR No. 273/2007 U/s 420/406/467/468/471/34 IPC P.S.: Vivek Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **29.10.2022**.

By order
Ms. Preeti Parewa,
Ld. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate
Karkardooma Court, Shahdara,
Delhi

DP/1338/SHD/2022

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY OF BUILDING
GATI SHAKTI MULTI MODAL CARGO TERMINAL
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Delhi Division, Northern Railway invites EOI from interested Investors, Transporters, Logistics Service Providers, CTOs and other entities to develop Gati Shakti Multi Modal Cargo Terminal entirely on Railway Land.

SALIENT FEATURES

The aim behind this proposal is :-

- Linking industrial hubs and nearby industries with Railways.
- Providing warehousing, packaging, processing facilities etc in the facility.
- To Attract Cargo from nearby industries.
- Increasing cargo handling capacity and cutting logistics costs.
- To enable transportation of bulk and finished cargo, perishable items, time sensitive cargo etc and reducing turn round time.

STATIONS OFFERED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF GATI SHAKTI MULTI MODAL CARGO TERMINALS

PATAUDI ROAD	GULDHAR
PARTAPUR	PALHAWAS
TAPRI	TOHANA
BAMANHERI	BABARPUR
SAMAR GOPALPUR	

Interested Investors may kindly send their EOI/proposals up to 15.00 hrs on 07.10.2022 to the office of Sr. DOM/Delhi, DRM Office, State Entry Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110055 or send to e-mail id: srdomcdl@gmail.com, Contact details :- P&T-011-23743352, Mob-9717631900

Pis join us on
NORTHERN RAILWAY
Your Convenience - Our Concern
Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL WITH PRECAST PSC PANEL

Divisional Railway Manager (WA), Western Railway, 6th Floor, Engg. Deptt., Mumbai Central, Mumbai - 400 008, invites E-tender as per details given as follows.

Tender Notice No. & Date: BCT/22-23/124 dtd. 26/09/2022; Work and location: Mumbai Division- Virar-Surat section: Construction of boundary wall with Precast PSC Panel & Precast Column and RCC Footing & Column Cap in left over stretches including on DFC side where IR tracks are running parallel to DFC alignment in connection with increase of speed to 160Kmph on Western Railway. (Total length=180 Kms); Approx. cost of work: ₹ 117,33,99,923.36; EMD: ₹ 60,17,000; Date & Time of submission: on 01/11/2022 till 15:00 Hrs.; Date & Time of opening: on 01/11/2022 at 15:30 hrs.; Regarding detailed nature of work, containing cost of tender document (non refundable), EMD, eligibility criteria, similar nature of work, detailed tender conditions, please visit www.ireps.gov.in Manual offers will not be considered. 0479

Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

EASTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. O/ACT/90&92/22-23 Dated: 26.09.2022. E-Tenders (Open) are invited by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Asansol for the following works: **Sl. No., Case No., Name of the Work, Tender Value, Earnest Money, Completion period for the work :** 1) O-AC-T-90-22-23, Open tender for balance Civil Engineering work in connection with provision of 02 Nos. lifts at Asansol Station and construction of high drain at Asansol Station from KM No. 211 to 213 to avoid water logging at ASN under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/IASN, Rs. 63,49,165.17, Rs. 1,27,000.00, 06 Months. 2) O-AC-T-91-22-23, Open tender for construction of one store room (approx. 90 sqm) for keeping the washing materials under AEN/HA/Asansol, Rs. 30,21,633.80, Rs. 60,400.00, 10 Months. 3) O-AC-T-92-22-23, Open tender for CTR (P) work along with other ancillary work in UDL-SNT Main line section & repair and maintenance of track at all assisted siding under the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN/Asansol, Rs. 1,26,75,52.31, Rs. 2,06,300.00, 12 Months. Date and time of closing: 21.10.2022 at 12.00 hrs. Complete details can be seen in the Railways website www.ireps.gov.in

Tender Notice are also available at website www.indianrailways.gov.in www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at: [Eastern Railway](https://www.facebook.com/EasternRailway)
[Eastern Railway Headquarter](https://www.facebook.com/EasternRailwayHeadquarter)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

SMM/ETD/GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India Invites E-Tender against tender no 44225155A. The details are as under:

Description of item	Quantity	Tender due on	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen.
Non Contact Wheel profile measurement system for Electric Locomotives.	01 No.	17.10.2022, 11:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

Note: (1) The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in E-tender system. **(2)** For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. **(3)** No manual offers are acceptable.

No.: 16/44225155A/ETD/GZB Dated: 26/09/2022 2536/22

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ

“शुद्धि-पत्र”

पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ द्वारा e-Tender Ref.No.-RCD/SERAIKELLA/10 दिनांक 07.09.2022 तथा पी०आर० संख्या-PR277300 Road (22-23).D द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना के क्रम संख्या-4 Last Date/Time for receipt of bids 28.09.2022 (12.00 Noon) के स्थान पर क्रम संख्या-4 Last Date/Time for receipt of bids 07.10.2022 (12.00 Noon) पढ़ा जाय।

अन्व सभी सूचनाएं यथावत् रहेंगी।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल,
सरायकेला-खरसावाँ।

PR.NO.278876 Road(22-23):D

Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd.
CIN: U40108JH2013SC001704
Regd. Office: 2nd Floor, JUSNL (S.L.D.C) Building Kusai Colony, Doranda, Ranchi- 834002
(E-mail: cejunnal@gmail.com)

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Due to unavoidable circumstances, tender invited vide NIT No. 99/PR/JUSNL/2022-23 for Design, Engineering, Supply of Materials/ Equipments, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of (i) 02 nos. 220 kV Bays at 220/132/33kV GSS, Chaibasa (ii) 220 kV D/C 3Ph Chaibasa - Gua Transmission Line on turnkey basis is hereby cancelled.

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्रहित में ऊर्जा बचाव हेतु कृपया अपनी विकल्पों को 16003466970(कोल सेंटर) पर दर्ज करावें।
General Manager, C&M (NWBP)
PR No. 272595
JUSNL,Ranchi
PR No. 278785 Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd(22-23)D

Amendment of Tender Notice No. 18/ 2022-2023

Hereby the amendment is publish by Executive Engineer Panchayat (R&B) Division, Vadodara. 390001 Phone No. (0265-2432643) for Tender Notice No.18/2022-23. The last date for submission the tender as Pin code No. below. Other condition will be same as original Tender Notice

Online submission Tender last date	Work Sr. No: 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17	Dt.06/10/2022 18:00 Hrs
Online Tender Opening date	Work Sr. No.: 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17	Dt.07/10/2022 12:00 Hrs
Online submission Tender last date	Work Sr. No: 4, 5, 6,	Dt.10/10/2022 18:00 Hrs
Online Tender Opening date	Work Sr. No.: 4, 5, 6,	Dt.11/10/2022 12:00 Hrs
Online submission Tender last date	Work Sr. No: 9, 13, 14, 16, 18	Dt.13/10/2022 18:00 Hrs
Online Tender Opening date	Work Sr. No.: 9, 13, 14, 16, 18	Dt.14/10/2022 12:00 Hrs

INF-VAD-910-22-23

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items :-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	08215088	PVC INSULATED, ARMOURED, SIZE 6 CORE SIGNALING CABLE,	2422 Kilometre	24.10.22
02	07224075A	FORGED STEEL WHEEL, (K.S.R.)	150 NOS	31.10.22
03	07221077	REAR COVER FOR AXLE BOX	10961 NOS	31.10.22
04	07220454A	OVERHAULING KIT FOR COCK DH7	1419 SET	05.12.22

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details.
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.
Tender Notice No. 49/2022-2023 Dated : 28.09.2022 2539/2022

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Jharkhand Communication Network Limited
(A SPV under DoIT & e-Gov., Govt. of Jharkhand)
Office: Room No-1, 3rd floor, Above Cafeteria, Project Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
CIN : U74999JH2017SGC009474 Contact : 0651-2446680

CORRIGENDUM-I
NOTICE FOR WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Please find below corrigendum-I on published **NOTICE FOR WALK-IN-INTERVIEW for the post of Account Officer:-**

1. Applications received after 10:30 AM on the date of Walk-In-Interview dated 06-10-2022 will not be considered/entertained. Document verification will be start from 10:30 AM.

INTERESTED AND ELEGIBLE RETIRED GOVT.OFFICERS CAN WALK IN FOR THE PERSONAL INTERVIEW ON 06-10-2022. ALONGWITH DOCUMENTS AS PERS.N0. 7 AT OUR OFFICE: Project Building, Dhurwa, Ranchi.

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NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

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

Name of Work	Approx. Cost of work	Earnest Money to be Deposit	Cost of tender document	Date & Time of submission of tender bid and opening of tender	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen
Provision of Ramps on FOB at LC no. C-4 at Patel nagar in the section of SSE/W/DLI/Line under ADEN/DLI.	Rs. 1,64,34,211.40 (Rupees One Crore Sixty Four Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Two Hundred Eleven and Forty Paise Only)	Rs. 2,32,200/- (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Two Hundred Only)	Rs. 0.00/-	11.10.2022 @ 15.00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

*The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in e-tender system. * For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. * No manual offers are acceptable. * Cost of tender document and Earnest Money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.

No.: 128-W/280/e Tender Notice/NIT/66/2022-23/W-3 Dated: 27.09.2022 2534/2022

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PUNE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Motor Vehicle Dept
Extension (Re-Tender)

Extension for below mentioned work of Motor Vehicle Dept. Pune Municipal Corporation Terms & Conditions and other details of mentioned work are written in the respective tender Set and is available on www.mahatender.gov.in for free of cost for viewing.

Tender Set Sale Dates :- 29/09/2022 to 13/10/2022 2.30 PM
Tender Accepted Date :- 29/09/2022 to 13/10/2022 2.30 PM
Tender Bid opening Date :- 14/10/2022 3.30 PM

Sr.No.	Dept Name	Extension Tender No.
1	Motor Vehicle Dept.	PMC / VEHICLE / 2022 / 109

1) Tender set Sale & Acceptance is available on www.punecorporation.org & www.mahatenders.gov.in
2) All Other Terms & Condition are published as earlier.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Motor Vehicle Dept
Pune Municipal Corporation

Advt : 3/703
Date : 28/09/2022

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. NIT/14/22/40, Dated: 20.09.2022

South East Central Railway has implemented an e-system. On the behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Material Manager, South East Central Railway invites e-tenders for supply of the following items. Advertised tenders will be dealt through e-procurement system only. No manual offer will be entertained. These tenders can be accessed under the link www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description	Tender Closing/Opening date & time	Qty.
1	06225008A	Truck Mounted Articulated Bount Crane	11.10.2022 At 10:30 hrs	01 Set
2	01220040	Fuel Pump motor	12.10.2022 At 10:30 hrs	38 Nos
3	03221010B	Hytrl Upper Washer material for primary suspension of Axle box	19.10.2022 At 10:30 hrs	2261 Nos
4	07221582	Paint Enamel Synthetic Exterior White finishing to IS: 8662/2004	19.10.2022 At 10:30 hrs	13880 Liters
5	02221727	Spheri block for Axle Guide link/ TM Torque Arm	28.10.2022 At 10:30 hrs	1000 Nos.
6	03222673	Yoke for Upgraded High Tensile Centre Buffer Coupler	01.11.2022 At 10:30 hrs	5644 Nos.

Railway reserve the right to issue any corrigendum to the tenders. Corrigendum & Important Notice to vendors may be seen in the link www.ireps.gov.in.

Principal Chief Materials Manager
S.E.C. Railway, Bilaspur

CPR/10/231

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE

Shri A.V.Mittal, Dy.CE/ Br./HQ, Northern Railway, New Delhi the then Sr. DEN, Central Railway was convicted to undergo RI for three years and a fine of Rs. 75,000/- by Hon'ble Spl. Judge Mumbai on 28.12.2012 in case No. RC-41(A)/03/MUM for the offence punishable under section 13(2) r/w 13 (1)(e) of Prevention of Corruption Act. Therefore, disciplinary proceeding under Section 14(i) of RS(D&A) Rules-1968 was initiated vide show cause Notice No. E (O) I-2013/PU-2/NR/29 dated 03.01.2019. After considering all the facts and circumstances, the President, as Disciplinary Authority, in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), has imposed the penalty of "Dismissal from service which shall ordinarily be a disqualification for future employment under the Government or Railway Administration", in the Disciplinary proceedings initiated under Rule-14(i) of Railway Servants (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1968. The copy Board's order bearing No. E(O)-2013/PU-2/NR/29 dated 17.05.2022 to this effect together with a copy of UPSC's advice No. 3/356/2020-SI dated 03.06.2021 was sent to Sh. A.V. Mittal at his available residential address, but he has not found on such addresses. Therefore, it is hereby informed to all concerned that Sh. A.V. Mittal, Dy.CE/Br./HQ, Northern Railway, New Delhi has been dismissed from Railway service w.e.f.



Separately together

The Opposition is too divided on issues to form a national alternative to the BJP

With the 2024 Lok Sabha election 19 months away, the chorus on Opposition unity is getting louder once more. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in the last one month has already been to Delhi twice, crooning the anthem to bring everyone together. He is not the only one singing this song. Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao has travelled to Delhi, Patna and Bengaluru to explore an anti-Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) front. The Left parties routinely call for uniting all “secular democratic forces” without really spelling out who will come within this bracket. But despite these parleys, the possibility of a 1977-type Opposition alliance is unlikely to materialise. At an event organised by the Indian National Lok Dal in Haryana recently, several parties came together, but the Congress was pointedly excluded, prompting Mr. Kumar to publicly state that no Opposition alliance can be meaningful without it. Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav is never found wanting in taking on the BJP, but is now sceptical about tying up with the Bahujan Samaj Party and the Congress and is very hostile to the idea of Mr. Kumar trying to expand his footprint into Uttar Pradesh. The Congress is critical for any Opposition unity and its former President Rahul Gandhi is walking from Kanyakumari to Kashmir with the slogan of ‘unite India’. But the party is also caught up in a storm of internal politics at the moment.

The Aam Aadmi Party’s National Convenor Arvind Kejriwal is fancying his prospects of emerging as the alternative to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and does not want to dilute his stakes in a larger formation. The Trinamool Congress (TMC), which is the second largest Opposition party in Parliament, has been eerily silent on ‘opposition unity’. West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee is no longer exhibiting the enthusiasm she showed ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha election. The TMC chose to abstain rather than side with the Opposition in the Vice-Presidential election. It is not as if Opposition unity alone can defeat the BJP. In 2019 in Uttar Pradesh, the SP and the BSP came together but failed to push back the BJP in the State. Still, State-level partnerships of anti-BJP parties can be more viable than national-level attempts. The more these parties try to show unity at the national or multi-State level, the more their contradictions show up. Focusing on each State separately, attending to the local particularities, might be more useful for these parties.

Talent, recognition

Science awards are an encouragement and should not be cut down

The Centre has decided that awards, prizes and fellowships by various ministries and departments need a wholesale relook. The Ministry of Home Affairs, which is executing this directive, has moved much beyond its usual remit of awards for police officers and gallantry medals and irrupted into the world of scientific and medical research. India’s scientific ministries recently made presentations to the Union Home Secretary, Ajay Bhalla, on awards given to scientists at different stages of their career. They also had to list out which were ‘National Awards’ and which were funded out of private endowments. Though a final call is yet to be taken, the quorum – and this consisted of the Secretaries, or the heads of each of these ministries – was of the opinion that most awards ought to be done away with and ministries could either retain only some of the National Awards or institute one or two ‘high status’ awards. The rationale for pruning, Mr. Bhalla has said, follows from a “vision” of Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding “Transformation of the Awards Ecosystem”. In 2018, Mr. Modi had said that his government had modified the system of the Padma awards and ensured it recognised ordinary people doing selfless work rather than well-known personalities who repeatedly bag them. The awards, Mr. Bhalla has said, ought to be restricted, and have a transparent selection process.

Awards and prizes recognise achievement, but in science and medical research, they are also meant to spur younger scientists towards loftier, imaginative goals. Unlike in sport – or even gallantry awards – where it is relatively easier to define a set of benchmarks and confer medals on achievers, scientific research is open ended, circuitous and – as the history of science reveals – punctuated by lucky breaks. It is possible to train talented youth to be Olympians or international cricketers but impossible to create an Einstein or a Chandrasekhar. Almost every Nobel Laureate in the modern era has won various secondary prizes and recognition in their early career and every year; there is as much debate on who was omitted as on the person who won. Recognising early career potential will remain fraught with subjectivity and, with fewer awards on offer, could provoke increased discontent. Contrary to the Prime Minister’s vision, fewer awards may actually miss many more promising talents and amplify epaulettes to the already decorated. Awards cost ministries money but the meeting did not discuss whether cutting costs was a factor in the rationalisation. As it is unclear what existing problem the new scheme solves, the Centre should reconsider the merits of its proposal.

Globe-changing reverberations of the Ukraine war

The justification for Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in February will long be debated. Every big power has fears of being surrounded. On its historically vulnerable western front, Russia had one supportive neighbour, six North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) adversaries, and two who are ambiguously inclined, while Ukraine’s relations with the European Union (EU) and NATO were always a matter of contention. After the Putin-Biden Geneva encounter in mid-2021, the high intensity of interactions between NATO members and Russia raised hopes of a detente, but Russian President Vladimir Putin chose invasion over negotiation, ignoring the degraded and inexperienced state of his armed forces, Ukraine’s military being the biggest in Europe with 2,00,000 men, 6,00,000 reserves, 1,000 tanks and 130 aircraft, Ukraine’s willingness to resist, and NATO’s determination to punish Russia.

The West’s hypocritical sanctions Ukraine has been massively assisted by NATO weaponry, training, communications, satellite and human intelligence, reconnaissance, information processing systems and total control over the global media. While the World Bank is slow to help devastated war-torn nations such as Yemen and Afghanistan, it rushed \$4.5 billion to Ukraine, while the International Monetary Fund came up with \$1.4 billion. The West fails to understand how hypocritical its sanctions appear. For example, the United States exerted much effort persuading India and others to boycott Iranian and Venezuelan oil, only to try to get those shipments back on the market after its opposition shifted to Russia.

For its confused objectives, poor strategy and weak logistics, Russia has paid a high price, militarily, economically and diplomatically. More human losses have already been sustained than during its 10-year intervention in Afghanistan. The war has also caused huge devastation in the



Krishnan Srinivasan

is a former Foreign Secretary

most industrial parts of Ukraine, with over 10 million persons crossing to neighbouring countries and over seven million internally displaced.

Actions and counter-actions

The current Ukraine counter-offensive that claims to have retaken 6,500 square kilometres and driven Russian forces back to the Kharkiv border, led to the announcement by Mr. Putin of holding a referendum in the occupied provinces of Luhansk, Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson (on joining Russia), mobilising 3,00,000 Russian reservists, and threatening to use nuclear weapons. Ukraine and NATO regard these actions as evidence of Russian weakness, noting that an army in retreat loses morale rapidly, and Russian public opinion is highly prone to mood swings.

Mobilisation is something the Kremlin wished to avoid, correctly fearing there was little Russian appetite to fight, especially against fellow Slavs. Experts believe the additional manpower will not offset the intrinsic weaknesses of the Russian forces. Mr. Putin’s tactic through referenda to define parts of Ukraine as Russian – like Crimea – will remain unrecognised, though Russia controls most of Luhansk and Kherson, about 80% of Zaporizhzhia and 60% of Donetsk. Nearly 8,00,000 new Russian passports have been issued in Ukraine over the past two years.

The vision of a multi-polar world could soon fade away with rivalries in a new Cold War becoming sharper and the gulf in mutual understanding widening

In 2020, Russia declared it would use nuclear weapons in four instances: if alarmed by an incoming missile; subjected to attack by weapons of mass destruction; suffered damage to infrastructure that housed its nuclear arsenal, or when conventional war threatened the existence of Russia. Mr. Putin now interprets the current war as an existential struggle in which Russia would make use “of all weapon systems available to us”. Russia has 5,977 nuclear warheads, of which 1,588 are deployed operationally. There has been vigorous western pushback to Mr. Putin’s threat, pointing out that no such thing as a limited nuclear war could exist.

Washington has declared that it will accept no compromise, and is ready to continue the fight until the last Ukrainian if necessary. This disincentivises Mr. Putin, for whom any peace deal is acceptable only if it includes the lifting of all sanctions. Big powers, fearing loss of political legitimacy and strategic status, have always proved unwilling or incapable of ending wars even at great cost to themselves and the victims, even though they knew victory was beyond them.

What are the consequences of the first major armed conflict in Europe since the Second World War? A country devastated by Russia would remain hostile; resistance instigated by the West will continue, making life in the absorbed enclaves difficult. Mr. Putin’s objective of ensuring Russia’s security will remain elusive. If the war drags on, it will suit the West, just as prolonged American entanglement in Afghanistan suited its

adversaries. Under pressure from both domestic anti-war activists and ultra-nationalists, Mr. Putin will suffer reputational damage internationally and domestically. Therefore, even a Russian face-saving outcome could prove pyrrhic.

Today’s world is “shaped by raw power politics, where everything is weaponised”, as the EU Foreign Policy chief Josep Borrell put it, when major powers are divided, the international community polarised and protectionism rampant. Rivalries during the new Cold War would be sharper than its predecessor, particularly through the menace of nuclear arms because the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons will come under huge stress to stay relevant. Elements of western coercion on a massive scale, covering energy, sanctions, finance, banking, cyberspace, digital technologies and social media, signal the weapons of the future.

Where China and India stand

The Russian invasion leaves China in a complicated predicament; Beijing could enlist Russia as a junior partner or buttress it even though China thereby risks confronting its major trade partners, the United States and the EU. As the only permanent member in the UN Security Council not directly involved in the war, China enjoys both leverage and self-interest in shaping the outcome of the conflict, considering the politico-strategic ramifications on its own future. But it has no history or experience of peacemaking or mediation.

The strength of nationalism, based on ethnicity, culture, religion, history and language, will grow. The Ukraine war will lead to major economic shifts. States suffering from western sanctions or affected collaterally will seek alternative financial and monetary platforms beyond the control of Washington and Brussels in order to bypass current transnational financial arteries and challenge the dollar as a reserve currency. Fragmentation of the monetary and financial order should be anticipated, including increased protectionism and a retreat from globalisation which will severely depress the growth of world trade. Clashing self-perceptions by both the West and Russia that are messianic and self-righteous, make the gulf in mutual understanding unbridgeable. Russia declares an intention to shift to an eastward orientation advocated by ideologues of Eurasianism such as Aleksandr Dugin, but rebalancing would be difficult in view of Russia’s major security concerns and the cultural preferences of its élite.

As for India, the diminution of Russia as a partner will set back its longed-for multi-polar world and its security in terms of political support and collaborative projects in defence, space and nuclear energy. However, the expected turn to the U.S. would come at the cost of greater expense and greater conditionality.



AFP

In nature’s warning signs, a nudge to riparian states

There has been an increase in the magnitude, the frequency and the intensity of floods in many parts of the world. As an example, nearly a third of Pakistan is experiencing devastation, with a spread of diseases and severe shortage of potable water after intense flooding. In June this year Assam experienced one of its worst floods in living memory which affected over 30 districts. In some districts in Assam and Bihar, flooding is a recurrent feature, and thus a major impediment in ensuring poverty alleviation and meeting Millennium Development Goals.

Flooding is still considered to be a natural phenomenon that cannot be entirely prevented. But it is compounded by the lack of transparency in the sharing of hydrological information and also information relating to activities (such as by one riparian state) that are transboundary in their effect (affecting other riparian states), thus serving as an obstacle in understanding the magnitude of flooding.

On customary international law

In accordance with customary international law, no state has to use its territory in a manner that causes harm to another state while using a shared natural resource; this amounts to saying that there is a binding obligation on all states not to release water to cause floods in another co-sharer of the river water. This obligation gives rise to other procedural norms that support the management of floods, which include notification of planned measures, the exchange of data and information, and also public participation.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ), in the Pulp Mills on the River Uruguay (Argentina vs Uruguay) case (2010), upheld that conducting a transboundary environmental impact assessment (TEIA) of a planned measure or projects on the shared water course is part of customary international law. In fact, the ICJ noted that the acting state must notify the affected party of the



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results of TEIA to “enable the notified party to participate in the process of ensuring that the assessment is complete, so that it can then consider the plan and its effects with a full knowledge of the facts”.

The Brahmaputra and India’s concerns

Closer home, there is the case of China being the upper riparian in the Brahmaputra, which spans India and Bangladesh, enjoying apparent leverage *vis-à-vis* lower riparian India. During the monsoon, flooding has been the recurrent feature in the last several decades in Assam. India faces other woes in the form of the construction of dams by China. China’s excessive water release, as a “dam controller”, in violation of customary international law has the potential to exacerbate flooding in Assam in future. India’s main concern is that there is no comprehensive sub-basin or all basin-level mechanism to deal with water management of Brahmaputra. Neither India or China are party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (UNWC) 1997 or the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes 1992 (Water Convention).

The UNWC contains a direct reference to floods, which covers harmful conditions and emergency situations. Article 27 of the Convention says: “Watercourse States shall, individually and, where appropriate, jointly, take all appropriate measures to prevent or mitigate conditions...that may be harmful to other watercourse States, whether resulting from natural causes or human conduct, such as floods or ice conditions, water-borne diseases, siltation, erosion, salt-water intrusion, drought or desertification.”

In the absence of any mechanism, India relies

With the devastating effects of climate change visible, riparian states across the world must comply with all the procedural duties pursuant to the ‘no harm rule’

on its memorandum of understanding (MoU) with China in 2013 with a view to sharing hydrological information during the flood season (June to September). The MoU does not allow India access to urbanisation and deforestation activities on the Chinese side of the river basin. With the MoU in the background, India by becoming a party to either the UNWC and the Water Convention could lay the groundwork for a bilateral treaty on the Brahmaputra but subject to the reservation that it should not insist on the insertion of a dispute settlement mechanism provision.

India, Nepal and flood prevention

Floods are also a recurrent problem in the Koshi and Gandak river basins that are shared by India and Nepal. The intensity and magnitude of flooding is rising because of heavy seasonal precipitation as well as glacial retreat due to global warming and human-induced stressors such as land use and land cover changes in the river basin area of Nepal (Terai) and Bihar. It is important that the two neighbours view the river basins as single entities, which will help in facilitating an integrated approach for improved basin and flood risk management. The India-Nepal Koshi agreement 1954 (revised in 1966) is aimed at reducing devastating flooding in the river basin. The treaty-based joint bodies have also tried to refine the early warning systems for flood forecasting. In contravention of procedural customary international law obligation, India considers data on transboundary rivers as classified information, which is one of the key challenges in developing cross-border flood warning systems. In light of the cataclysmic floods in Pakistan and the visible effects of climate change, it is important that all riparian states must comply with all the procedural duties pursuant to the no harm rule. They must also think of becoming a party to either the UNWC or the UNECE Water Convention.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The rest versus the best

The article on engineering education (OpEd page, September 28) eloquently brings out the quality of knowledge and training imparted in most colleges as well as the mirage around salary packages offered to some of our graduates from select colleges. In short, the

rampant inequality of training provided at a very high cost. The social irony is that people who have the wherewithal (social and economic) to acquire knowledge and achieve have no skills to convert knowledge into products and services. Those who have the skills and the propensity to ‘soil their

hands’ are/were discouraged from acquiring knowledge. With proper backing, the “rest” can contribute enormously to India’s GDP.

Venkataratnam R.,
Madurai

Livestreaming

When the print media is reporting ‘sub judice’ matters,

there is no reason as to why the Supreme Court proceedings should not be live-streamed. The intellectual arguments and thought-provoking salvos in court must reach all. Perhaps there needs to be a dedicated national channel for this.

K. Pradeep,
Chennai

The redesign

As an octogenarian who has religiously read *The Hindu* to my heart’s content daily ever since my brimming youth, I find the facelift to be good. The reading experience has improved. I offer my best wishes.

Davis Vithayathil,
Tripunithura, Ernakulam, Kerala



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

Rediscovering the Bay of Bengal

The Bay of Bengal (the Bay) is experiencing an increase in geo-economic, geopolitical, and geo-cultural activity. It is poised to once again play a key role in shaping the maritime order in Asia. Therefore, it is noteworthy that at the fourth BIMSTEC summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the opening of the Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies (CBS) at Nalanda University. The official launch of the CBS has once again demonstrated India's commitment to advancing constructive agendas by forging connections and setting up platforms for all those with an interest in the Bay.



Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy is Associate Professor at the School of Historical Studies and the School of International Relations, and Coordinator of the Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies at Nalanda International University, Rajgir

receives water from some of the world's largest rivers. It is a partially enclosed sea that has given rise to several geological characteristics. It is home to many rare and endangered marine species and mangroves, which are essential to the survival of the ecology and the fishing sector.

Disorder at the Bay
The region's maritime environment has changed as a result of major powers expanding their economic and geopolitical influence. Political and cultural engagement, together with economic competition, have taken on new dimensions. More crucially, the Bay's ecosystem is going through an unprecedented crisis brought on by widespread environmental exploitation and geopolitical unrest. Species extinction is a result of careless exploitation of the maritime environment, which has severe consequences on biodiversity.

Problems such as population growth, altered land use, excessive resource exploitation, salinisation, sea level rise, and climate change are exerting significant strain on the Bay's environment. Operational discharge from small and medium feeder ships, shipping collisions, unintentional oil spills, industrial waste, pollution, and the accumulation of non-biodegradable plastic litter are all contributing to the deterioration of the Bay. A dead zone has formed as a result, and the mangrove trees that protect the shore from the fury of nature

are under more threat than ever.

For a better knowledge of challenges, and strategies to overcome them for the sustainable development of the region, more focused and interdisciplinary study is required on these issues. By founding the CBS, Nalanda University has already started its journey and given the nation a unique interdisciplinary research centre devoted to Bay-focused teaching, research, and capacity building. Additionally, scholars from many countries and academic streams are already participating in CBS's first certificate programme on the Bay.

It is essential that nautical neighbours develop a partnership and cooperate because of the maritime domain's interrelated and interdependent nature, transnational character, and cross-jurisdictional engagement of various governments and diverse organisations and enterprises. A few concerns that need immediate attention include expanding cooperation in maritime safety and security, enhancing cooperation on maritime connectivity and the ease of maritime transit, and boosting investment possibilities in the maritime connectivity sector. The latter subject involves addressing non-traditional threats and fostering group efforts to reduce illicit, unreported, and unregulated fishing. Standardising and harmonising data reporting remains a challenge. Furthermore, regional marine entities should strive to balance opportunities and goals on a national, regional, and international scale.

Littoral governments need to support and promote skill-building, research, and training. Countries in the region will need to mobilise incentives and investments, manage oceanic affairs more effectively, and support people as they switch to alternative lifestyles. Working together is important due to shared nautical concerns and the complexity of the marine environment.

Rethinking the Bay

CBS will offer collaborations in areas such as geo-economics and geopolitics, ecology, trade and connectivity, maritime security, maritime law, cultural heritage, and blue economy to generate opportunities for the Bay region. This will strengthen India's overall framework for maritime engagement, which aims to advance sustainable economic growth for all by fostering closer nautical ties.

The Bay has long been a major commerce hub for the Indian Ocean. It created a conduit between the East and the West in terms of trade and culture. An Indo-Pacific orientation and the realignment of global economic and military power towards Asia have had a considerable impact on the Bay region. The key sea lanes of communication in this area are lifelines for global economic security and are crucial to the energy security that powers the economies of many countries in the region. Further, non-traditional dangers including terrorism and climate change have become more prevalent. The Bay also provides an opportunity for greater regional cooperation in the environmentally friendly exploration of marine and energy resources. The Bay has a biodiverse marine environment. It

The Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies will strengthen India's overall framework for maritime engagement



SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Kerala: the ever-elusive State for the BJP

The party has not been able to work out a plan that resonates with the State

STATE OF PLAY

Biju Govind
biju.govind@thehindu.co.in

Despite its growth in other parts of India, the BJP has failed to get a strong foothold in any southern State barring Karnataka. Luck has been particularly elusive for the BJP in Kerala. For nearly two decades, the national party leadership has been struggling, without success, to elbow its way through the multi-layered bipolar polity led by two main parties in Kerala – the Congress and the CPI(M). With less than two years left for the next general election, the BJP's central leadership has evolved various strategies to win Parliament seats from the southern-most State.

Earlier this month, to fine-tune its organisational apparatus, the BJP shuffled 15 leaders in charge of the party in various States. C.P. Radhakrishnan, a former Lok Sabha MP, who was in charge of Kerala, was replaced by former Union Minister Prakash Javadekar. In its national executive meeting in Hyderabad, the party spoke of going beyond its Hindu support base. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also spoke of wooing Muslims and Christians, which were perceived as plans for the south. Union Ministers have been given charge of six constituencies in Kerala to evaluate the party's prospects and challenges.

In July, the party nominated celebrated athlete P.T. Usha from Kerala to the Rajya Sabha. Six years ago, the party had nominated actor Suresh Gopi to the Upper House, hoping to piggyback on his popularity. Though he could only finish third in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls and 2021 Assemb-

ly polls in Thrissur, Mr. Gopi found favour with the voters, securing 30% of the votes.

Likewise, the party experimented with technocrat E. Sreedharan and retired IPS officer Jacob Thomas in the 2021 Assembly polls in a bid to increase its tally from the one seat, Nedom, that O. Rajagopal had won in the 2016 elections. But its poll ride came to a halt as former Mizoram Governor, Kummanam Rajasekharan, entrusted with retaining Nedom in Thiruvananthapuram, failed. The reckless attempt by party State president K. Surendran to contest from two segments fell flat.

Kerala is perceived as some as a fertile ground for the party, but the BJP leadership has been unsuccessful in working out a game plan that resonates with the State. The faction-riven party is impuissant to even build a leadership in Kerala like other political parties. In the past, the BJP had seasoned mentors and tacticians such as K.G. Marar and P.P. Mukundan who could be relied on to gain political ground. The party paid a heavy price by replacing them with short-sighted leaders who failed to understand the pulse of the electorate and the shifting political realities.

The BJP's central and State leadership have been blamed for their shallow understanding of the socio-economic and political shifts in Kerala. The State unit's power play has been confined to a blitzkrieg campaign, fuelled by funds from the Central unit, during the time of elections, ever since Mr. Modi became the Prime Minister.

The party had spearheaded protests against the Supreme

Court's verdict to allow women of all ages to visit the Ayappa temple in Sabarimala and the agitation against the construction of a private airport at the heritage town in Aranmula. But these protests failed to convert to votes.

The party has also been ineffectual in wooing Christians, especially Catholics, who support the BJP in Goa. For some time now, BJP leaders, including national president J.P. Nadda, have been

meeting Catholic archbishops in Kerala. Under the initiative of Goa Governor P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, three cardinals of the Catholic Church also met Mr. Modi in Delhi to request him to invite the Pope to India. Incidentally, Mr. Modi met the Pontiff at the Vatican when he attended the G20 summit last year.

Today, with the Centre proscribing the Islamist outfit, the Popular Front of India, many BJP leaders believe that the initiative shown by the government in dealing with radical outfits will reap some political rewards. However, this will not be enough as barely any Muslim organisation supports the BJP at present.

If the BJP is to compete with the Congress-led UDF and the CPI(M)-led LDF in Kerala, a top-down approach may not work. The party will have to rectify the flaws in its organisational set-up. Political observers feel that it is high time the leadership addresses the bitter factionalism plaguing the State unit. Leaders of the BJP will have to strike a grassroots connection with workers and identify local issues for election campaigns.

Automation has impacted lower-level jobs in banks

ATM usage, mobile and online transactions, and fewer new bank branches have led to reduced recruitment

DATA POINT

Rebecca Rose Varghese & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

On Wednesday, *Business Standard* reported that the Union Finance Ministry had asked the heads of public sector banks (PSBs) for a plan to improve employee count. A week ago, *BusinessLine* had reported that vacancies announced for clerical posts had significantly decreased this year. The report also showed a declining interest in bank jobs, with increasingly fewer candidates registering for the recruitment/selection programmes. Earlier this year, on March 28-29, the All India Bank Employees' Association carried out a strike insisting that recruitment of workers be increased, among other demands.

The strike and the recent news reports together show that the problem of declining manpower has reached an inflection point. In fact, the cutback on hirings is more pronounced among clerks and sub-staff, while the number of officers has remained constant. This trend was observed in both PSBs and private sector banks (PVBs). However, it is worth noting that the number of officers in PVBs is three times higher than in the PSBs.

Reasons for decline in strength
Data show increased ATM usage, surging online and mobile transactions, and a reduction in the number of new bank branches have reduced footfalls in banks and led to the rapid decline in the strength of clerical staff.

Chart 1A shows the total staff in PSBs and PVBs. It brings out the contrast in recruitment patterns. While the staff in PVBs went up from over 92,000 in FY05 to 5.7 lakh in FY21, the corresponding numbers for PSBs have remained stagnant – 7.48 lakh in FY05 and 7.83 lakh in FY21.

Chart 1B shows the number of officers, clerks, and sub-staff work-

ing in each functioning office of a PSB. In FY06, each working office had 6.6 clerical staff on average, which more than halved to 3 in FY21. Similarly, the number of sub-staff per office reduced from 3.3 to 1.1 in the observed period.

Chart 1C also shows a similar declining trend among clerks and sub-staff in PVBs. However, it is important to note that there were considerably fewer clerks and sub-staff even in the earlier years in PVBs compared to their counterparts in PSBs.

Both Charts 1B and 1C show that the number of officers has remained mostly stagnant. Interestingly, in FY21 there were 14.7 officers for every functioning office of PVBs compared to just 4.3 per office in PSBs. Such a high officer ratio in PVBs meant the disparity between clerical and officer positions was much wider than in PSBs.

Chart 2A shows that the number of ATM withdrawals using debit cards in PSBs had more than doubled – from over 31 crore to 64 crore between 2012 and 2019. A similar but muted increase was recorded in PVBs. A sharp reduction in ATM withdrawals was observed in PSBs after the pandemic outbreak in 2020. Interestingly, the withdrawals did not reach the pre-pandemic levels even in the later years.

Chart 2B explains the reason behind this trend. It shows that both the volume and value of UPI transactions skyrocketed in the pandemic period. This, along with a similar surge in other online transactions, led to a sharp fall in ATM usage post-2020.

Chart 2C shows the number of new bank branches opened. In both PSBs and PVBs, this number declined rapidly post-2016.

The disruption of clerical recruitments due to the advent of machines and core banking solutions is here to stay. And so, it will be interesting to see the response of banks to the Finance Ministry's latest push for more hirings.

Man versus machine

Data show increased ATM usage, surging online and mobile transactions, and a reduction in the number of new bank branches have reduced footfalls in banks and led to the rapid decline in the strength of clerical staff



Chart 1A | The chart shows the total number of staff in public sector banks (PSBs) and private sector banks (PVBs)

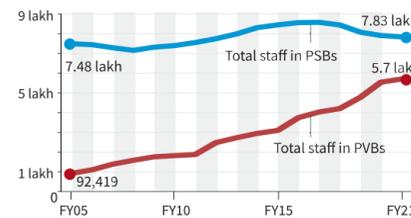


Chart 2A | The chart shows the number of ATM withdrawals using debit cards in PSBs and PVBs

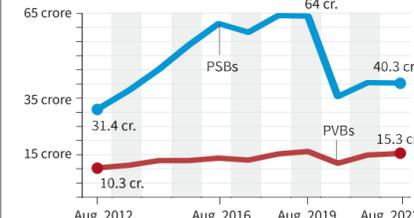


Chart 1B | The chart shows the number of officers, clerks, and sub-staff working in each functioning office of a PSB

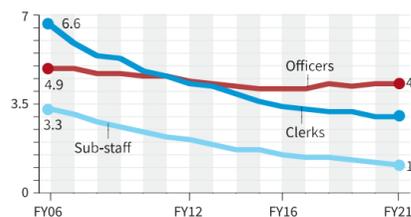


Chart 2B | The chart shows the value (left axis) and volume (right axis) of UPI transactions

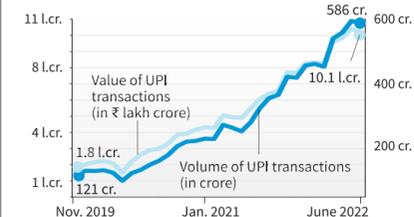


Chart 1C | The chart shows the number of officers, clerks, and sub-staff working in each functioning office of a PVB

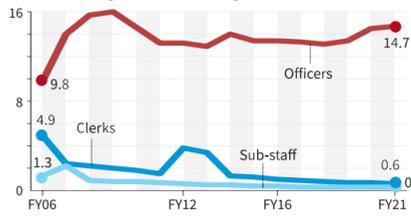
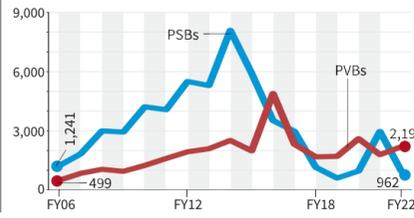


Chart 2C | The chart shows the number of new PSB branches and PVB branches opened in the country



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

The *Hindu*

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 29, 1972

No dramatic solutions to economic problems possible

New Delhi, Sept. 28: The Government's economic experts, who are striving hard to ease the present inflationary pressures, seem to be caught on the horns of a dilemma as to how they should tackle the difficult problems of prices, production and employment, without unwittingly worsening the situation by opting for either excessive caution in the name of conventional wisdom or romantic solutions for keeping up the facade of Congress radicalism at the cost of the country's development. As they grope in the dark for a sensible middle course that would help to preserve the ruling party's socialist image while meeting the practical requirements of this complex situation, the Prime Minister's advisers have apparently come to the lofty conclusion that no dramatic solutions are possible in the sense that by simply amending the economic policy resolution the Government cannot automatically provide a credible remedy for the current malaise which calls for imaginative action. The only way out of this perplexing situation, according to some of these experts, is to try for a general improvement in the performance of various sectors before the economy is able to gather momentum again. They want the political leadership to think more in terms of qualitatively better solutions to well-identified problems of economic growth and employment than wholly in the context of the party's electoral pledges to abolish poverty and usher in an era of socialism as early as possible.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FROM THE SEPT. 30 EDITION AS THERE WAS NO EDITION ON SEPT. 29, 1922

A public lecture

Dr. Rabindranath Tagore, who is on a tour in the south for collecting funds for the Viswabharathi, arrived at Madras yesterday morning by the Bangalore Mail, accompanied by Mr. C.F. Andrews, and was accorded a warm reception at the Central Station by a select number of gentlemen including Messrs. W.H. Hindle of the local Y.M.C.A., V. Chakkarai and T.S. Ramaswami Iyer. They then motored to Mylapore where they stay with Mr. T.S. Ramaswami Iyer. In the evening Dr. Tagore delivered a lecture at the Gokhale Hall on "The vision of Indian history".

Text & Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Free ration scheme for the poor extended by three months

44,762 In ₹ crore, the cost at which the government extended its programme to provide free rations to the poor by three months. The scheme to provide five kg of wheat and rice free of cost to 80 crore people every month, which was supposed to end on Friday, will now run through December 31, 2022. PTI

ED freezes Bitcoin related to a Kolkata gaming app firm

12.83 In ₹ crore, the worth of Bitcoins frozen by the Enforcement Directorate as part of an ongoing money laundering probe against a Kolkata-based mobile gaming app firm that is alleged to have duped a number of people. The accused was transferring the "illegally earned" amount through the gaming app to overseas locations. PTI

U.S. Pentagon admits to killing 21 civilians in Afghanistan last year

12 The number of civilians the U.S. admitted to killing in 2021 according to a Pentagon report. All of the civilian deaths occurred in Afghanistan. The Pentagon also reassessed its counts from the years 2018 to 2020, recognising 10 more dead and 18 wounded, all in Syria. NGOs publish much higher assessments of deaths and injuries from U.S. strikes in conflict zones. AFP

Swiss glaciers melting at record pace due to heatwaves, dry winters

6 The percent of the total volume of Switzerland's glaciers lost this year due to a dry winter and repeated summer heatwaves, shattering previous ice melt records, a report revealed. Three cubic kilometres of ice — three trillion litres of water — have melted away. According to an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, the melting of ice is one of the key threats from climate change. AFP

The number of foreign tourist arrivals dipped by 44.5% in 2021

1.52 In million, the number of foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) in India in 2021 compared to 2.74 million in 2020, a negative growth of 44.5%. India received 677.63 million domestic tourist visits in 2021, an increase of 11.05% from 610.22 million in 2020, the report said. Travel and tourism created 79.86 million (direct and indirect) jobs. PTI

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Limited democracy, unlimited theocracy

When Khomeini established his clerical rule after Iran's 1979 revolution, many expected the new regime to collapse. On the contrary, Khomeini purged internal dissent and consolidated the clergy's grip over the country. However, four decades later, the system the Ayatollah built has started showing signs of age

WORLD INSIGHT

Stanly Johny

There's only a walking distance from the Imam Khomeini Square, the Qajar-era 19th century neighbourhood of the Iranian capital which used to be called Maidan-e-Toopkhaneh, to Ebrat Museum on Yarjani Street. A three-storey structure with torture wings, countless cells, echo corridors and iron doors, the building, designed by German engineers in the 1930s, was the headquarters of a section of the Shah's infamous secret police, SAVAK, before the 1979 revolution. All the dark corridors lead to a circular, roofless inner courtyard that's awash in sunlight. Sculptures of prisoners are hung from the iron grills of the courtyard. SAVAK used to hang prisoners on the grills and torture them — their screams would echo across the corridors and their suffering would be displayed for those in the courtyard. The museum has the images and names of the hundreds of inmates it once held — one of them was Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the current Supreme Leader of Iran.

History repeats

The Iranian authorities turned the prison into a museum in 2002, to showcase the brutalities of the Shah's royal dictatorship. For the regime, the museum is a microcosm of all the evils of the monarchy from which Iranians were liberated by the Islamic Revolution. But four decades after the revolution, repeated protests accuse the Islamic regime of the same repressive reign from which it claims to have liberated the Iranians. After the disputed 2009 presidential election, there was an uprising challenging the official results, which was crushed by the security forces. In 2019, a fuel price hike triggered agitations that spread like wildfire across cities, which were also put down. In the latest flare-up, the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Iranian-Kurdish woman while in custody of the country's infamous morality police, which has often been compared by critics to the Shah's SAVAK, has triggered nationwide protests.

A unique system

Iran's unique political system — which has been designed in such a way that the Shia clergy has ultimate authority in all critical matters related to the state, even as elections are held in regular intervals — is a child of the revolution. While it's popularly called the "Islamic revolution", the anti-Shah popular movement was not only Islamic. True, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who, while in exile in Iraq's Najaf, had called for the Shah's ouster, and became the embodiment of the mass agitations in the 1970s. But Iranians from different political sections, including nationalists, liberals, leftists and trade unionists, had actively joined the movement, seeking freedom from the Shah's dictatorship.

The Shah, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, who had to briefly flee the country in the early 1950s and was restored after the CIA helped the monarchists orchestrate a coup against the democratically elected Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh, was more or less detached from the political reality on ground. He orchestrated grand ceremonies celebrating the monarchy (such as the extravagant 1971 celebration of "the 2,500th year of the Iranian monarchy" spending some \$100 million), banned all political parties except the monarchist Resurgence Party (Hezb-e-Rastak-hiz) and assumed himself the title of Aryan Sun (Aryamehr) — apolitical and spiritual guide of Iran. When an increasingly isolat-



Absolute power: Women cast their ballots beneath a poster of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in Tehran in 2005. GETTY IMAGES

ed Shah tried to consolidate more and more powers in his hands, SAVAK ran amok in the country, rounding up political dissidents.

While the regime is trying to take a higher moral position over the repressive Shah monarchy, the protesters in the street tell a different tale

Iranians are no strangers to political rebellion and defiance. In 1896, Naser al-Din Shah, the fourth Shah of Qajar Iran, was assassinated inside a mosque in Tehran. The assassination and its aftermath would eventually lead to the Constitutional Revolution of 1905-1911, which led to the establishment of a Parliament in Persia. Reza Shah Pahlavi ignored this history of rebellion when he unleashed his forces on increasingly disgruntled protesters, which eventually led to his own downfall. When the Shah fled the country in January 1979, Khomeini was in Paris. He landed in Tehran's Mehrabad airport, which was controlled by the revolutionaries, on February 1, 1979. They turned a disused girls' school in central Tehran into a make-shift headquarters of the Revolutionary Council. And one of the first things Khomeini did was to form a paramilitary force — the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. But the Islamists could not ignore other sections of the revolution completely. So, Khomeini ushered in a new system that would have an elected President and Parliament, while the clerics would remain firmly in control. He promised an Islamic revolutionary government based on Sharia, a model which he called Vilayat-e Faqih (Guardianship of the Faqih, or the Islamic Jurist).

Clerical control

Iran's state has both elected and unelected branches and the unelected branch is more powerful than the former. The President, Parliament (Majles) and the Assembly of Experts are directly elected, while the Supreme Leader, the Guardian Council

and the Expediency Council are appointed by the clergy. The President is the head of the government, which is in charge of running the day-to-day affairs of the country, but is not the head of the state. The Supreme Leader is the most powerful person in the country and is both the political leader and spiritual guide of the Islamic Republic.

The presidential term is four years and Presidents cannot have more than two consecutive terms. The election process itself is largely considered fair (though there were disputes, such as the 2009 elections), but all the candidates are vetted by the Guardian Council, which usually disqualifies an overwhelming majority of the candidates. The 290-member Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majles) has the authority to legislate. But all the Bills the Majles passes should go to the unelected Guardian Council, which would vet whether the Bill is in compliance with the Islamic Constitution and values. The powerful Guardian Council has 12 members, a combination of six religious experts, who will directly be appointed by the Supreme Leader, and six Islamic legal jurists, nominated by the Chief Justice (who in turn is appointed by the Supreme Leader). So the Supreme Leader's office has direct or indirect control over the Guardian Council which oversees the elections, vets the candidates and has a veto over Parliament.

Absolute authority

Unlike the President, the Supreme Leader doesn't have any fixed term. Since the 1979 revolution, Iran has had only two Supreme Leaders — Khomeini (who died in 1989) and Khamenei. The Constitution mandates the 88-member Assembly of Experts to elect the Supreme Leader. The Assembly, which also has the authority to oversee and dismiss the Supreme Leader, is directly elected, but the candidates are strictly vetted by the Guardian Council, whose members are directly or indirectly picked by the Supreme Leader. If there are legal disputes between the elected Majles and the unelected Guardian Council, the 45-member Expediency Council, which ad-

vises the Supreme Leader, will have ultimate adjudicating powers. And all 45 members of the Council are appointed by the Supreme Leader, who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces. In essence, the 1979 Islamic Constitution ensures that the Supreme Leader and the clerical establishment stay firmly in charge of all branches of the state.

Principalists and reformists

There are different political groups in Iran but the political class is broadly divided into two categories — principalists (called hardliners by western media) and reformists. The principalists make up the conservative bloc that enjoys the support of the clergy, whereas reformists advocate political and social reforms from within. The election of Mohammad Khatami as President in 1997 was a critical moment for reformist politics. But Mr. Khatami, an influential and popular reformist, failed to usher in any major changes in the system, which is guarded by the clergy and the security establishment. Hassan Rouhani, the former President, was also a reformist, while the incumbent, Ebrahim Raisi, is a principalist. Currently, the principalists control all branches of the government, including the Presidency and the Majles.

When Khomeini established his clerical rule after the revolution, many expected the new regime to collapse. On the contrary, Khomeini purged internal dissent and consolidated the clergy's grip when the country was fighting an eight-year long war with Iraq. Four decades later, the system the Ayatollah built has started showing signs of age, with repeated mass protests, counter-mobilisation and state violence, overshadowed by an unending economic crisis. While the regime is still trying to keep the memories of the revolution alive and take a higher moral position over the repressive Shah monarchy whose violence has been displayed in Ebrat, the protesters in the street tell a different tale. The uprising over the death of Mahsa Amini could be the latest flare-up, but it is unlikely to be the last as the social disquiet in the Islamic Republic refuses to die down.

THE GIST

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FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Indian National Congress: a grand old party and the demanding path to its revival

The Congress's decline is to be seen in the context of majoritarianism as well as internal factors related to the party. What the party needs now is an organisational regeneration, with democratisation at the front and centre

Zoya Hasan

As the INC gears up for an internal party election in October, this article dated May 3, 2022, by Zoya Hasan elaborates on the various crises within the party.

The Congress party is no stranger to crises, but those it has faced since 2014 are unprecedented and probably the worst in the course of its long history. The party reached a historic low of 44 Lok Sabha seats in 2014 and that only increased to 52 in 2019. It has lost 39 out of 49 State elections since 2014. It managed to win only 55 of the 690 seats in the recent Assembly elections held in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Manipur and Goa. A series of leaders have deserted the party – even those close to the Gandhi family. These defeats and desertions have raised questions and concerns about its very survival. The fact that Congress leaders held extensive talks with a much sought-after election consultant, and was planning to employ his services to revamp the party, brings into sharp relief the existential crisis of the Congress. How do we understand Congress's existential crisis, and what are the prospects of revival?

A platform that does not work
Historically, the Congress had always come to power on a centrist platform reflecting its varied social base, but centrism does not work in a deeply divided polity dominated by a politics of polarisation and communal mobilisation. Essentially, the old form of accommodative politics, which for long held together the Congress's social coalition, is not capable of galvanising the imagination of new India. The Gujarat model of politics marked by an exclusive focus on individual leadership as the driver of election campaigns, a strong sense of Hindu pride, a shift in popular attention to aggressive nationalist appeals regardless of reality or facts, and a complete rejection of the entire democratic past and superimposition of perception over performance appears to hold voters in thrall. Changes unleashed by liberalisation, globalisation, and the information-communication revolution initiated by the Congress have undercut its political ethos and ideological architecture to a greater degree than that of its principal rival. The Congress's decline (and that of other Centre-Left and Left parties) needs to be seen in the context of transformations provoked by the growth and expansion of neoliberalism and majoritarianism, and other factors that are internal to the Congress, most notably, the strong resistance to structural changes within the party.

The party's main problems
The Congress has faced three major structural problems in a political conjuncture defined by 'the great moving Right show', to borrow a phrase from cultural theorist Stuart Hall, and the polarisation engendered by it. These include the leadership issue, organisational stagnation, and the need to project and propagate a clear ideological alternative to the Bharatiya Janata Party



Change of face: Cut-outs of Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra during a party rally in New Delhi on September 4. PTI

(BJP). I have explored these themes in my recent book on the Congress and am taking up some aspects of that here.

The Congress's leadership crisis has undoubtedly played a role in its decline; however, the challenge facing the party is not just about the ineffectual leadership. Simply appointing a non-Gandhi will not dramatically alter the party's dwindling fortunes. In fact, removing them might well reinforce the right-wing agenda.

But fundamental issues concerning organisational change have been repeatedly set aside and weighed down by the debate on dynastic leadership and an obsessive focus on the Gandhis.

It is, however, important to reconstitute the party's leadership at various levels through internal elections. This can transform the Congress into a more representative organisation and could give a boost to the party by changing the perception that it is a family business. At present, the top decision-making bodies are occupied by people who have either never contested a Lok Sabha or Vidhan Sabha election or did so decades ago. Their influence has however grown in direct proportion to the weakening of the party across India. These structural problems have existed for years, and yet the party has not faced them head on. It has demonstrated no urgency for drastic remedial measures despite defeat after defeat. The feeble attempts at revitalisation have focused more on regaining quick electoral viability than on addressing long-term structural issues.

Short on communication
By far the Congress's biggest shortcoming is its inability to communicate its ideological positions and values clearly. The great challenge is to define its message and communicate it to the electorate as an underpinning for political mobilisation. For this, it must unequivocally reaffirm its inclusive vision for a democratic India, and take credit for

its past achievements, which resulted from an adherence to these commitments.

The Congress has three major structural problems. These include the leadership issue, organisational stagnation, and the need to project and propagate a clear ideological alternative to the Bharatiya Janata Party

One big failure has been the Congress's reluctance to tell its own story. The party did not publicise or highlight its distinctive approach, and that was one reason why it did not play to its strengths during the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) rule, allowing itself to be outsmarted by its critics.

The BJP has correctly calculated that so long as it sustains the argument that the Congress was elitist, corrupt and dynastic, it can prevent the Congress from emerging as a credible alternative. What aids and abets these half-truths is the passivity of the Congress in defending its record and letting its achievements to be dismissed and derided, even as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government successfully obfuscates data on its own underperformance in the last eight years.

Combating the communal
The key issue for the Opposition is defining its response to Hindu nationalism. While the Congress is largely agreed on the necessity of combating communal ideas, politics and policies, it has swung between making ideological compromises with majoritarian nationalism and plotting a frontal battle against it. It has often adopted a majoritarian tenor on certain controversial issues in the name of religious sentiment. However, this makes no sense amidst the growing influence of the Hindu Right. Both as a strategy and as

an actuality, the mixing of religiosity and politics does not guarantee electoral dividends. Moreover, the conflict in India is not about the growing prominence of Hinduism in our public life, which most parties accept and promote, but about the BJP's idea of nationalism, which is utterly exclusivist, pitted against the inclusive nationalism championed by the Congress during the freedom struggle.

Indian politics has never been more polarised than it is today; never before has the gulf been so wide. Hence, today, the battle is more fundamental; it is about the very idea of India – the idea of a diverse, pluralistic nation committed to liberal values.

By remaining silent on the way in which nationalism has been redefined, the Congress has ceded the nationalist space to Hindu Right which poses as the pre-eminent torch-bearer of nationalism today even though organisations associated with it made no contribution to the freedom struggle, the crucible which defined Indian nationalism from which they were absent. Yet, its conception of Indian nationhood which it has fought for has prevailed, over the past decade and more, against the Congress's inclusive 'Idea of India'.

Defending a pluralist view of politics and governance is one aspect of the political strategy; the other is grounding its politics in the idiom of social justice which both sidesteps identity politics and resonates with an aggrieved population, alienated by the current dispensation's policies and politics. Overall, the 137-year-old party's revival depends on three things – a consistent narrative to counter divisive politics, the will to restructure the organisation, and drawing strength from constant public action rather than just elections.

Zoya Hasan is the author of the recently published book, 'Ideology and Organization in Indian Politics: Polarization and the Growing Crisis of the Congress Party (2009-19)'

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The naughty marionette: Pinocchio through the ages

How the story of Pinocchio endured since it was first serialised in an Italian magazine

Mini Anthikad Chhibber

With two versions of Carlo Collodi's *The Adventures of Pinocchio* hitting the screens, now is as good a time as any to look at the naughty marionette's journey from a log of wood to a real boy. The seminal work of children's fiction was first published in serial form in the children's magazine, *Giornale per i Bambini*, from July 7, 1881 and as a book in February 1883. Everyone remembers different bits of the story of Pinocchio from the racy nose-growing upon lying to his desperate desire to become a real boy, and his various descents into trouble despite sincere attempts to be on the straight and narrow. My favourite bit of Pinocchio is towards the end when he meets his 'father', the wood carver, Geppetto, who carved and thus created him. Pinocchio meets Geppetto in the stomach of The Terrible Dogfish. Geppetto surviving in the fish's stomach for two years on the supplies of a ship that the monster destroyed was fascinating. The Ladybird book even had a full plate colour picture of Geppetto sitting before a fire on a little stool with a lamp on a hook in the Dogfish's stomach.

Epic hero

Critics have called Pinocchio an epic hero and rightly so. He starts his journey as a log of wood pleading with the carpenter, Master Cherry, not to carve him. Cherry gives him to his neighbour, Geppetto, who wants to become a puppeteer and so carves a marionette, who even half done is impudent, and the minute Geppetto carves his legs, kicks him and runs away. Pinocchio's journey to salvation is nothing short of a pilgrim's progress, meeting villains and friends along the way. On team good is the cricket, who repeatedly tries to advise Pinocchio even as a ghost after Pinocchio's mallet unfortunately finds its mark. Also on team good is the puppet master, Mangiafuoco, who though initially plans to use Pinocchio as firewood to roast his lamb, is kindhearted and gives the marionette money for Geppetto. The Fairy with Turquoise Hair, who also gives Pinocchio good advice, is something of a fairy godmother, appearing whenever the going gets tough, and protecting and looking out for Pinocchio. Chief on team villain are the two comen, Fox and Cat. There are other lesser villains including Pinocchio's school friend, Candlewick, who persuades him to run away from school to Toyland, the Coachman who turns errant school boys into donkeys and sells them, the Green fisherman who wants to fry and eat Pinocchio, and the snake barring Pinocchio's way.

Pinocchio is rife with archetypes from the naïve villager coming to the big bad city (an allegory for the great migration from rural Italy to the cities thanks to the industrial revolution) to the marionette who wants to become a real boy. Science fiction is full of stories of robots who want to become human, from *Blade Runner's* replicants to David in *A.I. Artificial Intelligence*. Coming to Pinocchio-themed films, Robert Zemeckis has released a live action version of the 1940 animated film, while Guillermo del Toro, the master of dark fantasy, is currently directing a stop motion animated version of Pinocchio. The latter is set in fascist Italy of the 1930s. Both versions promise to be jolly rides to the motherboard of stories for children and grown-ups alike.

THE DAILY QUIZ

A quiz on anything and everything 'heart' on the occasion of World Heart Day which is celebrated every year on September 29.

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

QUESTION 1
The heart has five main parts with four chambers. If the lower two chambers are known as ventricles, what are the upper two called? And name the muscular walls that divide the heart into two sides.

QUESTION 2
What do the terms 'tachycardia' and 'bradycardia' denote?

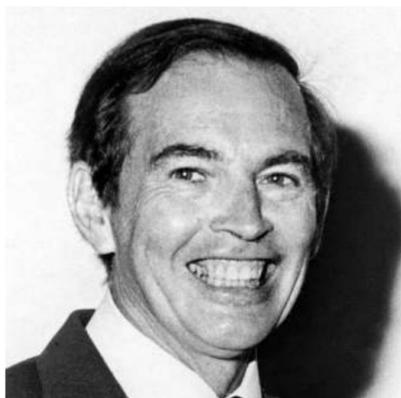
QUESTION 3
The Balaenoptera musculus has the largest heart for any living creature with one specimen weighing nearly 200kgs. What is the common name for the Balaenoptera musculus?

QUESTION 4
What is the fundamental difference between a heart attack and a stroke?

QUESTION 5
Every cell in your body gets blood from your heart except...?

QUESTION 6
Which procedure, nowadays common, involves taking a healthy blood vessel from your arm, chest or leg and connecting it below and above the blocked arteries in your heart?

QUESTION 7
Which classic 1973 album by Pink Floyd has tracks that begin and end with heartbeats?



Visual question: Identify the doctor and how did he create medical history in December 1967? FILE PHOTO

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The word 'rabies' may be related to this Sanskrit word which means "to rage". **Ans: Rabhas**
2. This Greek entity inspired the genus name of the rabies virus. **Ans: Lyssa**
3. This French chemist developed a vaccine for rabies. **Ans: Louis Pasteur**
4. The expansion of FAT which is a procedure for diagnosing rabies. **Ans: Fluorescent Antibody Test**
5. Rabies is commonly associated with this fear which leads to panic when presented with liquid for drinking. **Ans: Hydrophobia**
6. This country has the highest rate of human rabies in the world. **Ans: India**
7. A 'Memorial Celebrity Rabies Awareness Fun Run Pro Am Race for the Cure' was dedicated to this popular character. **Ans: Meredith Palmer (from The Office)**
Visual: This French bacteriologist co-founded the Pasteur Institute. **Ans: Émile Roux**
Early Birds: M. Thaha Ibrahim Buhari| Madhvi Sharma| Vrushali Rane
Compiled by V.V. Ramanan

Word of the day

Imperious: having or showing arrogant superiority; disdain of those one views as unworthy

Synonyms: prideful, disdainful, swaggering, overbearing

Usage: The principal dismissed them with an imperious wave of her hand

Pronunciation: bit.ly/imperiouspro

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

Over 1,400 cases against PFI leaders and activists

The outfit has a 'secret wing' which planned and executed 'revenge attacks', say agencies; several leaders, members were previously affiliated to the banned Students' Islamic Movement of India

Devesh K. Pandey
NEW DELHI

Under lens

Brief profiles of some PFI leaders who were arrested during nationwide raids earlier this month

E. M. Abdul Rahiman (national vice-chairman)

In the mid-1970s when the now-proscribed SIMI was formed, Rahiman, a former librarian, joined the new outfit and later became its all-India president. In the 1990s, under him, the National Development Front was set up. In 2007, when the PFI was floated at a Bengaluru convention, he became the founder and shadow chief of the organisation



Anis Ahmed (national general secretary)

As a student in Bengaluru, Ahmed joined the Karnataka Forum for Dignity, a precursor to the PFI in the State. He played a major role when the PFI expanded its activities in cyberspace. He took regular motivation classes in the outfit, was active on social media, and commented on current affairs and Central government's policies



P. Koya (national executive council member)

He was a SIMI member during 1978-79. Koya was elected a director of the Islamic Youth Centre in 1980. In 1986, he went to Qatar to work in a private firm. In 1989, he returned and joined as a lecturer in Kozhikode. He played a key role in the formation of the NDF along with former SIMI activists like K.M. Ashraf and Abubacker



More than 1,400 criminal cases have been registered against leaders and activists of the now-proscribed Popular Front of India (PFI) and its affiliates across the country over the years, according to investigating agencies.

As alleged, several PFI leaders and members were previously affiliated to the Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), which was banned in 2001. "The predecessor of PFI in Kerala, National Development Fund, was established by former SIMI leaders," said a senior agency official.

The PFI had a well-structured organisational set-up at the national, State and local levels, with a 13-member national executive council headed by its chairman as the supreme decision-making body. Its national general assembly had representatives from each State. The outfit had a "secret wing" which planned and executed "revenge attacks", it is alleged.

According to the agencies, most of those accused of hacking to death Praveen Nattaru, a member of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, in Karnataka's Bellare on July 26 were affiliated to the PFI.

"Over the years, the PFI

members have been involved in such violent crimes. In July 2010, the hand of a professor, T.J. Joseph, was chopped off. Then, there was an active involvement of the PFI and Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) cadres in the 2020 Bengaluru riots. The NIA investigated two related cases and among the charge-sheeted, 47 belonged to the PFI/SDPI," said the official.

In June 2021, explosives were seized from the Padam forest area in Kerala. It was allegedly a PFI training site. "On February 16, 2021, the U.P. Special Task Force (STF) had arrested the national coordinator of PFI's physical education division with explosives with detonators ... in April 2013, the Kerala Police had

seized arms and explosive materials from a camp in Narath. The NIA later took over the Narath case, in which 21 accused were convicted in 2016," he said.

The PFI activists allegedly took part in the anti-Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) protests during December 2019-March 2020. In Uttar Pradesh, 51 cases were registered to probe violent agitations against the Act. "The PFI-led Samvidhan Suraksha Andolan was among the prominent common platforms which coordinated the agitations. Also, the PFI's role in the Delhi riots was investigated by the ED," the official said, adding that the Hijab issue in Karnataka had also been blown out of proportion by its students' wing, Campus Front of India. Besides,

several persons allegedly affiliated to the PFI, particularly from Kerala, had joined the IS and indulged in terror activities in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The agencies allege that the PFI's funding source was also dubious. During the investigation, the Income Tax Department found that deposits with respect to 36 of the 85 bank accounts of the PFI were not supported by the respective financial profile of account holders.



Watch the video

What is the Popular Front of India and why has it been controversial?
trib.al/Cy8MNBt

SDPI escapes govt. action, says it is an independent and secular organisation

Vijaita Singh
Damini Nath
NEW DELHI

The Union Home Ministry on Wednesday banned the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its associates for five years, but the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), known as the PFI's political arm, has escaped the ban. An SDPI functionary said it was an independent organisation and not connected to the PFI.

A senior government official said since the SDPI was a recognised political party, any action would have to be initiated by the Election Commission (EC). The Home Ministry did not respond to calls from *The Hindu*.

The SDPI was formed on June 21, 2009 in Delhi. It was registered with the EC on April 13, 2010. In contrast, the PFI and its associate organisations are registered under the Societies of Registration Act, 1860.

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey did not respond to requests for comment.

A senior EC official said action would have been taken against the SDPI had it been named as an affiliate of the PFI, but it wasn't named as on Wednesday, making it unlikely to face any action at the moment.

Though the SDPI has distanced itself from the



Up in arms: SDPI activists taking part in a protest march at Palakkad in Kerala, in this file photo. K.K. MUSTAFAH

A 'silent killer', says Fadnavis

The Hindu Bureau
PUNE

Dubbing the PFI "a silent killer", Maharashtra Home Minister and Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said on Wednesday that the State government would take steps to completely shut down the PFI and six affiliate organisations in Maharashtra in the coming months.

PFI, it issued a statement on Wednesday condemning the ban.

The party said in a statement that the "decision of the Union BJP government banning PFI and its associate organisations is a direct blow on democracy and the rights of people enshrined in Indian Constitution".

SDPI's national general secretary Elyas Thumbe

Ban RSS first, says Lalu

Press Trust of India
PATNA

RJD chief Lalu Prasad on Wednesday called the RSS a "Hindu extremist organisation" that deserved to be banned. "They keep raising the bogey of PFI. It is the RSS, which is all about Hindu extremism (*kattarpanth*), that deserves to be banned first," said the septuagenarian.

told *The Hindu* that the statement was issued as the Ministry's action was undemocratic and the PFI was an organisation that worked to uplift and empower minorities.

He said the SDPI was a "secular organisation as it has members from all communities" and so far the party had not received any query from the ECI or any probe agency.

Undeclared Emergency in India, says SDPI leader

S. Anandan
KOCHI

The Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI), regarded as the political arm of the Popular Front of India (PFI), will organise widespread campaigns to make people aware of the Emergency-like political situation prevailing in the country, its national president, M.K. Faizy, said.

Talking to *The Hindu* over telephone, Mr. Faizy said the country was facing a "dire situation" with no free expression possible, nor the freedom to work within the Constitution.

While the PFI, in which he was an ordinary member, was an exclusive Muslim organisation, the SDPI was a registered, secular, cadre-based political party featuring people from various communities, he said. "The way forward for the SDPI will be to work among the people as there's no ban on it. The party, which has a laid-down secular ideology and works for the Muslims, Dalits and other backward sections, has an identity independent of the PFI. It will continue to expand its presence across the country," Mr. Faizy said.

He refused to answer queries on the numerical strength of the party cadre and the share of non-Muslims in it. He accused the Centre of misusing investigative agencies and the laws to silence opposition and to scare people from expressing dissent.

Jamaat terms ban selective, Jamiat maintains silence

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

The countrywide ban on the Popular Front of India (PFI) and the arrest of its top leaders has divided the leading Muslim organisations.

While the Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind has maintained silence on the issue, insisting it has "nothing to do with PFI", the Jamaat-e-Islami Hind has asked the government to revoke the ban, calling it "selective, discriminatory and biased".

A Jamaat spokesman steered clear of the ban on the PFI, holding, "We are neither with them nor against them. We would not like to say more. Let the law take its course."

Navaid Hamid, president of the Majlis-e-Mushawarrat, called the raids and arrests "deplorable". "It shows the government's desperation to divert country's attention from real issues. All should condemn it in one voice. Hope the organisation will get justice from courts," Mr. Hamid said.

The viewpoint was reiterated by the Jamaat-e-Islami. "Banning an organisation is neither a solution nor does it suit a democratic society. The culture of banning the organisations is in itself a clear violation of the fundamental rights protected by the Constitution and goes against the democratic spirit and basic civil liberties," Syed Sadatullah Hussaini, the Jamaat's president told the media.

Mr. Hussaini said the Jamaat too had its differences with the PFI over many issues. "We have also opposed them on several counts but that is not the reason to ban an organisation and harass its cadre. It is the duty of the police and administration to maintain law and order in the country. If any individual breaks the law or commits any crime the individual can be prosecuted and dealt as per the provisions of law."

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
PALAR BASIN CIRCLE, CHEPAUK, CHENNAI-600005.
Form of Contract / Lumpsum - Item Rate Contract
Short Term Tender Notice (Two Cover System)

Short Term Tender Notice No.12 PBC / 2022-23 / Dt.27.09.2022

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Superintending Engineer, WRD, Palar Basin Circle, Chennai-5 invites tender for the work of "Construction of an Anicut across the Cheyyar River near Silambakkam Village to feed Magaral Big Tank, Arsanipalal Tank and Vayalathur River Channel in Uthiramerur Taluk of Kancheepuram District" at his office upto 3.00 P.M on 21.10.2022 in sealed covers. The tenders will be opened at 3.30 P.M at his chamber on the same day.

Other information such as name of work, details of Work, Value, EMD, Cost of tender schedule, etc., will be available in the Government website "www.tenders.tn.gov.in". Any Corrections or Modifications will be published on web site only.

Superintending Engineer, WRD,
Palar Basin Circle, Chennai-5.

DIPR/4282/Tender/2022

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

Assuring Quality, Saving Lives

Notification No.7090 / OSMCL / 2022 Dt. : 27.09.2022

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR "SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF RADIOTHERAPY DOSIMETRY & QA EQUIPMENT"

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

Sl.	Bid Reference No.	Item Name	Bid Document Cost inclusive of GST
1.	OSMCL / 2022-23 / Dosimetry & QA EQP / 14	Retender for Supply & Installation of RADIOTHERAPY DOSIMETRY & QA EQUIPMENT.	Rs 5,600/-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Date and time
1.	Date & time of release of bid	28 / 09 / 2022, 5 PM
2.	Date & time of Pre-Bid meeting	30 / 09 / 2022, 11.00 AM Venue : Conference Hall, Odisha State Medical Corporation Ltd., In front of Ram Mandir, Convent Square, Unit-III, Bhubaneswar
3.	Date & time of Online bid submission	Start Date & Time : 01/10/2022, 3 PM End Date & Time : 21/10/2022, 5 PM
4.	Date & time of online Technical Bid Opening	25/10/2022, 3 PM
5.	Date of opening of Price Bid	To be informed to the qualified bidders

The bid document with all information relating to the bidding process including cost of bid document, Prequalification criteria and terms & conditions are available in the websites : www.osmcl.nic.in and <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> . The Authority reserves the right to accept / reject any part thereof or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Managing Director,
OSMC Ltd., Odisha
CAD-1987
OIPR-10112/11/0041/2223

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in
Mobile No. 96461-10914

E-Tender Enq. No. 7319 /P-1/EMP-12093 dated 27.09.2022
Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-1) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2022_POWER_90598_1 for Procurement of paddy straw based Non Torrifed pellets for Co firing in PSPCL Thermal Power Plants as per Scope of work.

For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 27.09.2022 / 05:30 PM onwards.
Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RTP-76/22 PSCPCL-76155/12/1134/2021/17349

MALABAR CEMENTS LIMITED
(A Government of Kerala Undertaking)
An ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015 Company, Walayar Post, Palakkad-678624 - Kerala
Email: materials@malabarcelements.com/bulkind@malabarcelements.com

TENDER NOTICE

Horizontal drilling work at Pandarathu Limestone Mines of Malabar Cements Ltd., Kerala. Appointment of C & F agent for Kayamkulam, Alappayyur. Appointment of C & F agent for Ollur, Thiruvananthapuram. Appointment of C & F agent for Alathur, Palakkad. Undertaking the Contract work of Silo Extraction, Packing and Loading of Cement into trucks, tarpaulin covering and tying and Unloading / Loading of Raw Materials, Stores and spares etc, shifting and stamping of packing materials at CGU, Cherthala. Exploratory Core Drilling Work at Pandarathu Limestone Mines of Malabar Cements Ltd., Kerala. Collection and Transportation of Dry Flyash from NLL Tamil Nadu Power Limited, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu State to Malabar Cements Ltd., Walayar, Kerala/ MCL CGU, Pallipuram, Cherthala, Alappuzha. Collection and Transportation of 40,000 MT Fly Ash from Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited (NLC), Neyveli, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu state to Malabar Cements Ltd., Walayar, Palakkad, Kerala/ MCL Cement Grinding Unit, Pallipuram, Cherthala, Alappuzha. Supply of Automatic Bag Printing Machine. Supply of OTR Tyres Tubelless 1800 x 25. Disposal of Scrap Tyre "MSTC" - 1. Disposal of Old Vehicles Honda City. Please visit mstccommerce.com.

Sd/-: MANAGING DIRECTOR

CENTRAL SANSKRIT UNIVERSITY
56-57, Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi - 110058

INVITING ONLINE APPLICATIONS FOR ONLINE INTERVIEW

Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for Online Interview for engagement of Contract/Guest Faculties in different campuses of Central Sanskrit University, Delhi in various subjects as per requirement for the academic session 2022-2023. For detailed notification regarding number of positions, submission of application, schedule, eligibility conditions, etc., please visit University website www.sanskrit.nic.in

REGISTRAR

Office of the Commissioner and Director of Agricultural Marketing
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

AMENDMENT

In view of urgency T.O. T.No.CE(AM)/AP/GNT/Ep/21/2022-23, Dated : 27-9-2022, the tenders for weigh bridges, Tarpauline sheets and e-NAM Wireless services may be considered as SHORT TENDERS.

Chief Engineer(AM),
O/o Commissioner and Director of Agri.Marketing, Govt.of A.P, Guntur.

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Vojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur

RISL invites e-bids from the eligible bidders for the following:

NIB No./ Date/ Unique bid no.	Particulars	Estimated Cost/ EMD	Start of sale/ Last date
4297/22/09/2022 (RIS223SL0800060)	Rate Contract for the Development of Mobile Applications & FMS of Existing Mobile Applications on IBM Mobile First Platform.	Package-1: Rs.2.10 Cr Package-2: Rs.7.70 Cr EMD Package-1: 4,95,600/- Package-1: 1,87,200/-	22.09.2022 17.10.2022

Details can be seen on the websites <http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in> and <http://doitc.rajasthan.gov.in>. Bids are to be submitted through <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>.

Raj.Samwad/C/22/8345 System Analyst (Jt. Director)

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Regd. Office: Vidyan Bhawan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata - 700 091
CIN : U40109WB200756C113473, www.wbsedcl.in

NIT No.: IT&C/6.10/556 Date: 21.09.2022

The Chief Engineer, IT&C Cell, Vidyan Bhawan, 3rd Floor, 'D' Block, Block - DJ, Sector - II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata - 700091 invites e-tender for "Annual Maintenance Contract of CISCO Routers installed at different site offices under WBSedcl". Tenders are to be submitted online through the website <https://wbtdenders.gov.in>. The details of the NIT will be available on <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> and www.wbsedcl.in from 29.09.2022 (at 14:00 hrs.).

ICA-117253 (3) / 2022

CENTRAL SANSKRIT UNIVERSITY
56-57, Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi - 110058

Walk-in-Interview

Eligible candidates are invited for Walk-in-Interview for engagement of Consultant Engineer (Civil) at the level of Executive Engineer and Consultant Engineers (Civil and Electrical) at the level of Assistant Engineers on purely temporary and contract basis. For detailed notification regarding number of positions, schedule, eligibility conditions etc., please visit the University website www.sanskrit.nic.in

REGISTRAR

Telangana State Medical Services & Infrastructure Development Corporation.
Director of Health Campus, Sultan Bazar, Hyderabad-95, Telangana State.

Tender Notice No.6 /2022/Medicine/MW/TMSMISDC, Dt. 27.09.2022
Tender Notice No.7 /2022/NCD/MW/TMSMISDC, Dt. 27.09.2022
Tender Notice No.8 /2022/DIG/TMSMISDC, Dt. 27.09.2022
Tender Notice No.9 /2022/EQU/TMSMISDC, Dt. 27.09.2022

Above mentioned tenders are invited through e-procurement platform (online) for Procurement and supply of following under Rate contract: T.No.6-Medicines, T.No.7 NCD Medicine Kit Bags/ Drug Kit Bags, T.No.8 Diagnostic Kits & Reagents and T.No.9 Equipments. Managing Director, TMSMISDC reserves the right to cancel the tender at any time without assigning any reason. For complete details, please visit Web site: <https://tender.telanganagov.in> from 01.10.2022 onwards.

Sd/-
Managing Director
DIPR RO.No: 741-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23

VACANCY

ADVERTISEMENT NO.SRFMITI/01/2022

Applications are invited on plain paper as per prescribed format for the 06 posts of Senior Technician (UR-03, EWS-01, OBC-01 and ST-01) to be filled on DIRECT RECRUITMENT BASIS and the post does not arrive for PwD category in the Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institutes in Level-4 in the pay matrix (Rs.25500-81100). The eligibility criteria and application format can be downloaded from SRFMITI (Anantapur) website i.e. <https://srfmtti.dacnet.nic.in/fmttiubdnl.gov.in/nrfmtti.gov.in/nrfmtti.nic.in> and Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare website: agricoop.nic.in.

The duly filled in applications should reach to the office within 60 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in Employment News.

Sd/- DIRECTOR, SRFMITI, ANANTAPUR.

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

S.No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No	Total
1	SE/Transmission-III	T-2272	1

For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit website www.tantransco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgeapp, www.mstccommerce.com/eproc/home/tneb
CIN:U15137TN19725G0006157

"சார்பணம் கட்டுதல் கத்திரிமல் அமைச்சுமல் சார்பணம் புரிதல் சரித்திரம் படைப்பமல்" DIPR/ 4299 / TENDER / 2022

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

No.:KPCL/2022-23/PSWORK_INDENT 12855/Call-2, Date: 26.09.2022

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

Tenders are invited through GOK e-procurement Website: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from the contractors/agencies who are reputed individuals/ Company and having past experience for the work of "Design, Manufacture, Supply, Erection, Commissioning and Testing of Dust Suppression System With High Pressure Mist at MRHS Silo of Units - 1 & 2" at RTPS. EMD: Rs. 16,800/-. Last date for queries/clarification: 08.10.2022, 16:00Hrs. Last date for submission of completed bids(2 Parts): 11.10.2022, 16:00Hrs. Opening of Technical Bid(Part 1): 13.10.2022, 16:30Hrs. Opening of Price Bid(Part 2): 15.10.2022, 11:30Hrs. Further details can be had from the office of the Superintending Engineer(Mechanical Maintenance-1), RTPS, KPCL, Shakhtinagar - 584170, Raichur District, Karnataka State. Mobile No.: 82775 02820.

TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
Head Office, 12, THAMBASAMY ROAD, KILPAUK, CHENNAI-600 010
Ph.No. (044) 26426773 Email id : tnsc.in@nic.in

No. BS6/027421/2022 Dated : 28.09.2022

SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE

Short E-tender No. TNCSO22-23/ ET-32

Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites Online electronic tender for the "purchase of 20,000 Metric Tonnes of any one of dal namely Tur dal (Split - Husked & Fatka) Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Split - Husked & Laired No.2) Lentil locally known as Canadian Yellow Lentil (Whole - Husked & Laired No.2) as per Agmark specification"

Complete short e-tender document can be viewed and downloaded through <https://www.mstccommerce.com/eproc/home/tnsc> and also available in www.tenders.tn.gov.in

The bidders have to participate online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-II or Class-III.

For Registration and further details contact **MSTC LIMITED, Phone: 25222842/ 25251910/ 25261005** e-Mail: mstcsro@mstclimited.co.in
Last Date and Time for Online Submission : Upto 11.00 A.M on 10.10.2022.

DIPR/ 4323/TENDER/2022
MANAGING DIRECTOR
"சார்பணம் கட்டுதல் கத்திரிமல் அமைச்சுமல் சார்பணம் புரிதல் சரித்திரம் படைப்பமல்" DIPR RO.No: 741-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23

JENIN Four persons killed in Israel raid, says Palestinian Health Ministry



A wounded demonstrator being carried during a protest against an Israeli raid, near the settlement of Beit El, near Ramallah, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank on Wednesday.

SEOUL N. Korea fires two missiles on eve of Kamala Harris's visit to Seoul



North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles on Wednesday, Seoul's military said, just days after Pyongyang's last test and ahead of a visit to South Korea by U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris.

ARBIL Seven persons dead, 28 injured in Iran strikes on Iraqi Kurdistan



Smoke rising from the Iraqi Kurdistan headquarters of the Kurdish Democratic Party of Iran, after Iran's Revolutionary Guards' strike on the outskirts of Kirkuk in Iraq on Wednesday.

PINAR DEL RIO Hurricane Ian leaves Cuba without power, takes aim at coast of Florida



Hurricane Ian left a trail of destruction and caused a widespread blackout in Cuba on Tuesday. Ian hit Cuba's western regions for more than five hours early on Tuesday morning.

Ukraine referendum results point to Russia annexation

The U.S. is preparing a new round of sanctions against Russia should it annex the territories and a \$1.1 billion arms package for Ukraine

Reuters LONDON/ZAPORIZHZHYA

Russian-installed officials in four breakaway regions of Ukraine reported huge majorities of votes in favour of joining Russia as the U.S. planned a UN resolution condemning the referendums as "shams" and Russia remained defiant.



Collateral damage: Ukrainian rescue workers carrying a bag with a woman's body after a Russian attack on a school on Wednesday.

The U.S. was also preparing a new round of sanctions against Russia should it annex Ukrainian territory and a \$1.1 billion arms package for Ukraine that will be announced soon, U.S. officials said on Tuesday.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the U.S. and its allies remained committed to European energy security, after Germany, Sweden and Denmark said attacks caused major leaks from two Russian energy pipelines.

Hastily arranged votes took place over five days in the eastern regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, and in Zaporizhzhya and Kherson to the south, that together make up about 15% of Ukrainian territory.

Vote tallies from complete results on Tuesday in the four provinces ranged from 87% to 99.2% in favour of joining Russia, according to Russia-appointed officials.

The head of the upper house of the Russian Parliament said the chamber might consider annexation on October 4. "The results are clear. Welcome home, to Russia!" Dmitry Medvedev, a former President who serves as deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council and an ally of President Vladimir Putin, said.

Within the breakaway territories, Russian-installed officials took ballot boxes from house to house

in what Ukraine and the West said was an illegitimate, coercive exercise to create a legal pretext for Russia to annex the four regions.

UN resolution "This farce in the occupied territories cannot even be called an imitation of a referendum," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said in video address late on Tuesday.

The U.S. will introduce a resolution at the UN Security Council calling on member states not to recognise any change to Ukraine and obligating Russia to withdraw its troops, U.S. envoy Linda Thomas-Greenfield said.

'We could not agree more': Blinken on PM Modi's message to Putin

Sriram Lakshman WASHINGTON

The U.S. was quick to back India's recent and more explicit expression of disdain for Russian President Vladimir Putin's attack on Ukraine, and Secretary of State Antony Blinken was the latest U.S. official to echo PM Modi's message to Mr. Putin that now was not the time for war.

"We could not agree more," Mr. Blinken said, during a joint press event with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, held at the State Department on Tuesday. The Secretary was referring to Mr. Modi telling Mr. Putin in Samarqand, Uzbekistan, on September 16, that this was not the era for war.

One person can stop this aggression tomorrow. And that's Vladimir Putin, says Antony Blinken

"One person has the ability to stop this aggression tomorrow," Mr. Blinken said. "And that's Vladimir Putin."

The Secretary went on to repeat his message from his address to the UN Security Council last week. "And as I said last week, if Russia stops fighting, the war ends, if Ukraine stops fighting Ukraine ends."

"I think it's very important though that voices as consequential as India's make themselves heard," Mr. Blinken said, adding

that it was for this reason that he thought Mr. Modi's comments were "so significant" as was Mr. Jaishankar's "strong, clear" support for the U.N. Charter articulated during his UN-GA speech last week.

Mr. Jaishankar indicated during the press conference on Tuesday that there were several ways in which India was involved in trying to help the conflict situation. The Minister said he was in touch with his G20 and Security Council counterparts. He indicated India had been approached to "weigh in with Russia" at a "particularly delicate moment" about the Black Sea grain initiative (a UN-facilitated programme in July to get Ukrainian food grains out to

the world).

"I had a meeting with the Prime Minister of Ukraine. He did mention some very specific concerns which he thought merited our attention, where he thought we could be of some use," Mr. Jaishankar said, referring to his meeting on September 21 with Denys Shmyhal.

Mr. Jaishankar also said he had been discussing another set of issues with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, and indicated that India was involved, even if not with the overarching prospect of peace, about ameliorating or solving particular issues that had emerged from the conflict. Mr. Jaishankar said he did not want to go into specifics.

EU suspects sabotage in Russian gas pipeline leak

Reuters BERLIN/COPENHAGEN

Any deliberate disruption to the EU's energy infrastructure would meet a "robust and united response", its top diplomat said, after several states said two Russian pipelines to Europe that have been spewing gas into the Baltic had been attacked.

It remained far from clear who might be behind the leaks on the Nord Stream pipelines.

The European Union believes sabotage probably caused the leaks detected on Monday in the Nord Stream pipelines, Josep Borrell said, echoing views aired by Germany, Denmark and Sweden.

Chinese man killed in attack in Pakistan

Press Trust of India KARACHI

A Chinese national was shot dead and two injured on Wednesday when a gunman opened fire inside a dental clinic in Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi, the police said, in what is believed to be the latest targeted attack against Chinese citizens. SSP (South

Asad Raza said that the attacker, in his early 30s, entered the clinic located in Karachi's Saddar area pretending to be a patient and opened fire inside the doctor's room. "The attacker killed the assistant, Ronald Chow, on the spot and injured dentist Dr Richard Hu Lee, 74 and his wife Margaret, 72," the officer said.

Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince is named country's Prime Minister

Associated Press DUBAI

Saudi Arabia's powerful Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman was appointed Prime Minister on Tuesday by royal decree.

The Crown Prince, who is heir to the throne held by King Salman, already wields wide powers and is seen as the kingdom's day-to-day leader.

The royal decree appointing him as Prime Minister was carried by the Saudi Press Agency. It said King Salman will continue to chair the Cabinet meetings that he attends.

The 37-year-old Crown Prince, widely known by the acronym MBS, has taken the lead on Vision 2030, the kingdom's wide-ranging plan to transform its economy and end its dependency on oil.

Country's transformation

The de facto ruler has overseen the most fundamental transformation in the modern history of the Gulf nation and sidelined all rivals after he became crown prince in June 2017.

He is associated with the October 2018 killing of Saudi journalist and critic Jamal Khashoggi, who disappeared after entering the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul. U.S.



Mohammed bin Salman

intelligence officials found that the crown prince likely approved the killing.

The prince said in 2019 that he took "full responsibility" for the killing since it happened on his watch, but denied ordering it. Saudi officials have said Khashoggi's killing was the work of rogue Saudi security and intelligence officials. Saudi Arabian courts say they have sentenced eight Saudi nationals to prison over the killing but have not identified them.

U.S. President Joe Biden once vowed to make Saudi Arabia a "pariah" over the killing, but he visited the kingdom and met with the Crown Prince earlier this year, acknowledging the continued importance of relations with the world's largest oil exporter.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU - PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Building Organisation - Form of Contract : Lumpsum Tender Notice No.11 / VLR - CLE / 2022 - 2023 / Dated : 28.09.2022

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Building Organisation - Form of Contract : Lumpsum Tender Notice No.2 / TVM - CLE / 2022 - 2023 / Dated : 28.09.2022

Government of Karnataka DEPARTMENT OF MINES & GEOLOGY #49, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bangalore-560001 E-mail: dir-mines@karnataka.gov.in No. DMG- 17012/17/2022 Date: 27.09.2022 C. No. 873977 NOTIFICATION AND NOTICE INVITING TENDER "Invitation of bids for grant of Composite Licence for gold and bauxite blocks"

IN BRIEF



Suzlon Energy's rights issue of ₹1,200 cr. to open on Oct. 11

Suzlon Energy on Wednesday announced the opening of its rights issue on October 11. The firm said it would issue up to 240 crore partly paid-up equity shares for cash at a price of ₹5 per share (including a premium of ₹3 per rights equity share) aggregating up to ₹1,200 crore. The issue will be in the ratio of 5 rights shares for every 21 fully paid-up equity shares held by eligible shareholders on the record date of October 4. PTI

'Tea exports rose to 116 mn kg in January-July this year'

Tea exports during the January-July period touched 116.36 million kg compared with 103.38 million kg a year earlier. According to Tea Board data, exports to the largest importing block, the CIS countries, remained almost stagnant at 25.20 million kg as against 24.98 million kg in the period. Industry sources said the conflict between Russia and Ukraine had caused serious shipment problems. UAE emerged as a large importer at 19.14 million kg, up from 8.07 million kg a year earlier. PTI

Manali Petro propylene glycol project hit by clearance delay

The propylene glycol project of Manali Petrochemicals Ltd. (MPL) is behind schedule due to the holding up of regulatory clearances, said chairman Ashwin C. Muthiah. Addressing shareholders at the 36th AGM, he said that the first phase production of 32,000 tonnes per annum would commence within 18 to 21 months of receipt of all approvals for which applications had already been filed. "The project has been delayed due to longer than usual time for processing of environmental clearances," he said.

India doesn't need so many PSBs, says ex-SBI chief

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India needs 'fewer' but stronger Public Sector Banks (PSBs), and the smaller ones could be privatised or merged, former SBI chief Arundhati Bhattacharya said.

Ms. Bhattacharya added that most goals that are expected to be achieved via the privatisation of PSBs could also actually be achieved by enabling state-owned banks and by levelling the playing field.

"Privatisation has never been the answer to all the ills," she told PTI while responding to a question on former RBI governor D. Subbarao's suggestion that the Centre should come up with a 10-year road map for privatisation of all PSBs.

'Cement firms in South not able to offset cost increase'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Despite better demand, the cement industry in the South is unable to pass on the rise in cost of production, said The India Cements' vice-chairman and MD N. Srinivasan.

"Compared with all-India peers who had a reasonable increase in selling price to partially offset the cost increase, the industry in the South had to bear the brunt of severe cost push without any compensating increase in selling price," he said at the AGM.

Govt. scraps sale of Central Electronics to Nandal Finance

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday terminated the strategic sale of Central Electronics Ltd. (CEL) announced last November, and disqualified the successful bidder Nandal Finance and Leasing Pvt. Ltd., based on recommendations of an empowered Group of Ministers handling disinvestment transactions.

While the winning bidder was selected following a "transparent, open and competitive bidding process" and "laid down procedure of strategic investment", and a press release issued about CEL's sale to Nandal Finance on November 29, the Finance Ministry said "certain allegations were received against the bidder" subsequently.

'Demand for PVs will remain strong in festival season'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

The demand for passenger vehicles will remain strong during the ongoing and upcoming festival season despite the thinning of the demand-supply gap due to COVID and supply-side disruptions, said Shailesh Chandra, MD, Tata Motors Passengers Vehicles & Tata Passenger Electric Mobility.

"Till FY22, the journey had been more of demand less supply," he said. "There was more pent-up demand and the industry was struggling to supply

'Budget to reset tax laws to decriminalise sections in I-T, GST'

No compounding under GST yet due to steep penalties, may slash them to curb tax disputes, says Additional Secretary Revenue Vivek Aggarwal

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

The Union Budget 2023-24 will include steps to decriminalise taxation laws, remove provisions in the Income Tax, Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Customs laws that are similar to sections that can be invoked under the Indian Penal Code (IPC), and reduce 'prohibitive' compounding charges under GST, a senior finance ministry official said.

The compounding provisions in GST, which entail penalties from 50% to 150% of the tax amount involved, make it "impossible for anybody to pay", said Vivek Aggarwal, Additional Secretary in the Department of Revenue. As a result, "there has been zero compounding in India till now for all cases filed under the GST Act," the official added.

"Becomes affordable" "That is being relooked at so that it becomes affordable and compounding becomes a better or a first choice for a taxpayer," Mr. Aggarwal explained. "We are looking at raising the threshold limits (for deeming offences as criminal) in GST, and removing provisions that are overlapping with the IPC so that they



Simpler to settle: Aim is to slash penalties so that compounding becomes a better or a first choice for a taxpayer, says official. PTI

become simpler as the GST gets streamlined," he said.

'Reviewing thresholds' While the thresholds for considering tax evasion a criminal offence were also being reviewed under the Income Tax and Customs laws, sections of the IPC that deal with obstructing officers performing their duty and failing to respond to summons for documents, for instance, need not be replicated in tax laws, he indicated.

"As we come to the Finance Bill of 2023, you will see major changes for ease of doing business as well as decriminalisation of tax laws," Mr. Aggarwal said at an international tax conference hosted by ASSOCHAM on Wednesday, noting that this had been identified as a priority area by Prime

Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

'Aim to cut discretion' While some criminal provisions in the tax laws were compoundable, the government was examining the level of compounding that was happening and the extent of discretion being exercised by officers so as to make the process more objective.

"After examining this, we have come to a conclusion that the compounding regime had to be made simpler and discretion had to be reduced. We can increase the thresholds for declaring a particular act as a crime and we can look at removing those sections in those Acts which are actually a duplication," Mr. Aggarwal said.

Stocks extend slide, rupee hits a new low

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Key equity indices extended their slide on Wednesday, dropping almost 1% as a global flight to safety saw FIIs dump local stocks.

The S&P BSE Sensex fell 509.29 points, or 0.89%, to 56,598.28. Sensex stocks which lost the most include ITC (2.9%), Axis Bank (2.8%), Reliance (2.6%), Tata Steel (2.4%) and State Bank (2.0%).

The NSE Nifty 50 too declined 0.87% to 16,858.60.

"Investors continue to be sceptical of the domestic market's higher premium amid the global deceleration; foreign investors are fleeing emerging eco-



nomies," said Vinod Nair, head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

The rupee slid 40 paise to a new low of 81.93 against the dollar. "I think rupee will take support of 82 and remain in the range of 82-80," said Megh Mody, Commodities and Currencies Research Analyst, Prabhudas Lilladher.

'Forex reserves to dip by \$23 billion by Dec'

Reuters
BENGALURU

India's depleted foreign exchange reserves are likely to drop further, falling to their lowest level in more than two years by end-2022, as the Reserve Bank of India continues to defend the rupee from the dollar's rise, a Reuters poll of economists found.

In a battle that has so far failed to staunch the rupee's fall to a record low against the greenback, the RBI has drawn down its foreign exchange reserves by close to \$100 billion, to \$545 billion. Those reserves are forecast to fall

As per the forecast, RBI will likely run down reserves at a rate last seen in the 2008 financial crisis

another \$23 billion to \$523 billion by the end of this year, according to the median forecast from a September 26-27 Reuters poll of 16 economists.

If realised, that would be the lowest level in more than two years, suggesting the RBI will run down reserves at a rate last seen during the global financial crisis of 2008, when they fell more than 20%.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	CHANGE
Sensex	56,598	-0.89
US Dollar	81.93	-0.49
Gold	49,282	-0.60
Brent oil	88.19	-2.09

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	827.10	-17.10
Apollo Hosp.	4268.95	26.00
Asian Paints	3570.65	100.00
Axis Bank	716.45	-21.05
Bajaj Auto	3545.90	-4.00
Bajaj Finserv	1852.20	-27.35
Bajaj Finance	2702.50	-40.35
Bharti Airtel	761.45	0.85
BPLCL	306.00	-4.65
Britannia Ind.	3853.20	29.05
Cipla	1097.15	-1.55
Coal India	210.80	-3.10
Divis Lab	3703.35	23.15
Dr Reddys Lab	4269.70	88.10
Eicher Motors	3628.30	57.75
Grasim Ind.	1669.15	-13.35
HCL Tech	920.80	2.05
HDFC	2244.05	-45.10
HDFC Bank	1389.55	-24.30
HDFC Life	514.45	-6.40
Hero MotoCorp	2593.35	-46.90
Hindalco	360.75	-12.85
Hind Unilever	2702.10	22.85
ICICI Bank	849.50	-3.05
IndusInd Bank	1140.90	-24.20
Infosys	1394.70	-1.15
ITC	324.95	-9.90
JSW Steel	616.50	-20.50
Kotak Bank	1792.60	-6.70
L&T	1835.45	-5.75
M&M	1242.40	6.65
Maruti Suzuki	8726.75	-47.30
NestleIndia	18840.95	168.30
NTPC	157.95	-1.05
ONGC	122.55	-1.90
PowerGrid Corp.	207.70	2.85
Reliance Ind.	2322.45	-63.80
SBI Life	1238.80	-3.50
State Bank	524.85	-11.65
Shree Cement	20844.50	-318.75
Sun Pharma	917.85	20.70
TataConsumerProduct	793.65	-4.20
Tata Motors	399.10	0.30
Tata Steel	95.20	-2.45
TCS	3035.65	18.20
Tech Mahindra	1029.70	7.20
Titan	2576.95	-23.40
UltraTech Cement	6172.95	-19.90
UPL	663.70	-14.00
Wipro	398.05	-0.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on September 28

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.74	82.06
Euro	78.16	78.47
British Pound	86.41	86.77
Japanese Yen (100)	56.50	56.72
Chinese Yuan	11.30	11.34
Swiss Franc	82.62	82.95
Singapore Dollar	56.49	56.72
Canadian Dollar	59.36	59.59
Malaysian Ringgit	17.65	17.73
Australian Dollar	52.34	52.55

Source: Indian Bank

Moonlighting no reason to end WFH, says DXC Tech

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Moonlighting is only one challenge and is not reason enough for a company to put an end to work-from-home that has benefited a large chunk of employees, said DXC Technology India MD Nachiket Sukhtankar.

Tech workers have been doing cutting edge work from home and the WFH regime had been benefiting a bulk of employees in DXC, he said. "If we discovered any obvious conflict of interest, we will... approach such instances case by case," he added.

The Virginia-based IT services firm had recently said it would continue with the work-from-home policy for its 43,000 employees in India.

An empowered GoM decided to cancel the transaction altogether 'after careful consideration'

tions were received against the bidder" subsequently.

"Government examined these allegations and found merit only in one allegation regarding pendency of a proceeding in National Company Law Appellate Tribunal against the successful bidder," the Finance Ministry noted.

The Ministry said the bidder was given a due opportunity to show cause on points of disqualification, following which the Group of Ministers decided to scrap the transaction 'after careful consideration'.

Office of the Deputy Director (sc) Quality Control division, Ranchi Dam side Dhurwa, Ranchi. Water Resources Department Government of Jharkhand. Email id: ddwrjdhr@gmail.com

"SHORT NOTICE INVING QUOTATION"
Quotation Ref. no-WRD/NIQ-01/2022-23, / Dated-----
The Deputy Director, Quality Control division, Ranchi, invites sealed quotations from experienced and resourceful Vendors/Firm's for
" Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) FOR ONLINE CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION / RENUAL SOFTWARE APPLICATION (url-http:// wrdreg.jharkhand.gov.in) FOR WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT GOVT. OF JHARKHAND".
The date time and venue for receipt of quotation are as detailed below:

S. No.	Name and address of the office inviting quotation	Office of the Deputy Director, Quality Control Division (Irrigation), Dhurwa Dam Side, Dhurwa Ranchi-4.
1.	Name and address of the office/ place of receiving the quotation	1. Office of the Deputy Director, Quality Control Division (Irrigation), Dhurwa Dam Side, Dhurwa Ranchi-4. 2. Office of the Superintendenting Engineer, Design, planning and Monitoring, Circle, Water resources Department, Jal Bhawan, Room no 102, Doranda, Ranchi. 3. Office of the Chief Engineer, Water resources Department, Jal Bhawan, Room no 101, Doranda, Ranchi
3.	Sale of BOQ	10 th October 2022 to 15 th October 2022
4.	Last date and time of receipt of quotation	20/10/2022 (3.00 PM)
3.	Date and time of opening the quotation	20/10/2022 (3.30 PM)

Terms and Conditions:

- The company must have comprehensive experience in development and deployment of web portals and must be in the same business for the last 5 years. Must have adequate experience of similar projects preferably in Government sector.
- The firm should have developed and maintained (AMC) at least 5 working websites/ web Applications and undertaken development and maintenance (AMC) of minimum 1 websites for government department.
- The firm must have SSL registration.
- The firm must have registered with the commercial tax department / GST registration.
- The firm must have similar kind of work experience preferably for Jharkhand Government will be given preference.
- The rates quoted shall be in Indian Rupees and shall be inclusive of all taxes, duties and levies as applicable up to the completion of job. Any increase in rates will not be allowed.
- The lowest rate is not the only criteria for allotment of work.
- The term for the AMC will be for 3 (Three) years.
- The payment will be made after deduction of all applicable taxes and after completion of above said work with satisfaction of the department.
- For further details and clarification one can contact the undersigned in his office.
- BOQ can be obtained on prescribed working days on payment of Rupees 2500.00 only in shape of bank draft in favour of Deputy Director, Quality Control division, Ranchi payable at Ranchi of any scheduled bank branch.
- For any clarification one can contact the office on the above mentioned working days.
- Interested party / firm should quote their rates along with their past experience/ credentials in their field in their own letter head.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject/ cancel the quotation without assigning any reason thereof.
(Er Bipin kumar Bhagat)
DY. DIRECTOR(sc) Quality Control Division (Irrig.)
Dhurwa Ranchi-4.
PR28775 (Water Resource)22-23*D

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Sonu Singh, S/o Amar Singh, R/o 12/62, Kalyanpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 1100/2014 U/S 324 IPC PS Kalyanpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Sonu Singh can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Sonu Singh has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Sonu Singh of FIR No. 1100/2014 U/S 324 IPC PS Kalyanpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 17.11.2022.

By Order
Shri Titender Pratap Singh
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (East)
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
DP/998/ED/2022

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

General public is hereby informed that this Girl Name: Namra Aziz, D/o: Abdul Aziz, R/o: H.No. 4503, Hari Masjid, Lambhi gali kucha, Pandit Hauz Qazi, Delhi, Age: 16 Years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Fair, Face: Long, Hair: Black Long, Wearing: Red colour kurti & Black colour plazma and Black colour slipper in her feet, has been missing since 02.09.2022 at 05:30 A.M. from the area of PS. Hauz Qazi, Delhi.

In this regard a FIR No. 208/2022, dated 02.09.2022 U/s 363 IPC, has been registered at P.S. Hauz Qazi, Delhi.

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

Any person having any information or clue about this Girl kindly inform to the following.

E-Mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO
Website: http://cbi.nic.in P.S. Hauz Qazi, Delhi
Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-23210414, 8750870425
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/719/CD/2022

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. Pc.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Rakesh Chander Shrivastav, S/o Rajender Lal, H.No. 471, PKT-7, Sec A-10 Narela, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 01/2020 U/s 33 (1) A/58 (d) Delhi Ex. Act., P.S. Alipur, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Rakesh Chander Shrivastav cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Rakesh Chander Shrivastav has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Rakesh Chander Shrivastav case FIR No. 01/2020 U/s 33 (1) A/58 (d) Delhi Ex. Act., P.S. Alipur, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 23.11.2022.

By Order
DEEPIKA SINGH
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 115, Rohini Court, Delhi
DP/724/ON/2022-(Court Matter)

FOOTBALL

FIFA honours Chhetri, releases series on his life and career



FIFA has released on FIFA+ (its streaming platform) a three-episode series on the life and career of talismanic Indian football captain Sunil Chhetri in recognition of his achievements. The 38-year-old is third in the list for active footballers with most international goals with 84, behind Cristiano Ronaldo (117) and Lionel Messi (90).

TENNIS

Like Federer, Djokovic also wants biggest rivals at his swansong



Novak Djokovic said he wants his biggest rivals to be by his side when he brings the curtain down on his career, much like Roger Federer's emotional goodbye. "Seeing his kids and his family, it also got me emotional. I would love to have my biggest rivals. Because it added something more special and importance to that moment."

GENERAL

Shami tests negative for COVID-19, 10 days after being infected



Mohammed Shami on Wednesday tested negative for COVID-19, over 10 days after he had been infected by the virus. The 32-year-old posted his negative report on his *Instagram* account, hours after the BCCI named veteran pacer Umesh Yadav as his replacement for the three-match T20I series against South Africa.

CRICKET

Pakistan holds its nerve to edge out England in the fifth T20I



Mohd. Rizwan's half-century coupled with a spirited bowling display helped Pakistan beat England by six runs in the fifth T20I in Lahore on Wednesday and take a 3-2 lead in the seven-match series. **The scores:** Pakistan 145 in 19 overs (Mohd. Rizwan 63, Mark Wood 3/20) bt England 139/7 in 20 overs (Moeen Ali 51 n.o.).

Arshdeep, Chahar swing the contest India's way as it thumps South Africa to take a 1-0 lead

Harshal and Ashwin lend good support with the ball; despite a slow start, which saw India registering its lowest PowerPlay score of 17 for one, the home team crosses the finish line with eight wickets and 3.2 overs to spare; Rahul and Suryakumar come up with unbeaten fifties

S. AFRICA IN INDIA

P.K. Ajith Kumar
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

In front of one of the bluest seas of spectators you would ever see, India's new-ball bowlers came up with a superlative show of swing bowling on Wednesday night.

The cream of the South African batting had no answer to Deepak Chahar and Arshdeep Singh, neither of whom had figured in the recent series against Australia. They broke the back of the formidable Proteas batting and justified their captain Rohit Sharma's decision to bowl first in the opening T20I at the Greenfield Stadium.

Crowd delighted

South Africa could make only 106 for eight. Despite a slow start, which saw India registering its lowest PowerPlay score of 17 for one, the host romped home with 3.2 overs to spare, much to the delight of the massive crowd,



Making the ball talk: Miller has no clue to this inswinger from Arshdeep who is the toast of his teammates for his fine effort. M. PERIASAMY



which would have probably liked to see a few more big hits. They nevertheless were able to witness some brilliant bowling by India up front, as the visitors slid to nine for five inside the third over.

It all began with the last ball of the first over. After swinging three balls away from the South Africa captain Temba Bavuma, Chahar moved one in. The middle stump was

knocked off as the ball sneaked through the gate. In the second ball of the next over, Arshdeep incredibly struck thrice. The young left-arm had Quinton de Kock playing away from his body only to get dismissed playing on.

Three balls later, Rilee Rossouw was caught behind, for a golden duck off one that moved away. Off the next ball the dangerous David Miller was bowled

an inswinger. When Aiden Markram (25, 24b) perished lbw to Harshal Patel, South Africa was 42 for six.

Thanks to Wayne Parnell (24, 37b) and Keshav Maharaj (41, 35b, 5x4, 2x6), South Africa went past the 100-mark. That never was going to be enough, especially against a batting lineup featuring an in-form Suryakumar Yadav.

Suryakumar (50 n.o., 33b, 5x4, 3x6) and K.L. Ra-

hul (51 n.o., 56b, 2x4, 4x6) added 93 for the unfinished third wicket to frustrate South Africa.

India made four changes from the side that won the series-decider against Australia three days ago. Hardik Pandya, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah, who complained of back pain, and Yuzvendra Chahal made way for Rishabh Pant, Arshdeep, Deepak and R. Ashwin.

SCOREBOARD

SOUTH AFRICA
Quinton de Kock b Arshdeep 1 (4b), Temba Bavuma b Chahar 0 (4b), Rilee Rossouw c Pant b Arshdeep 0 (1b), Aiden Markram lbw b Harshal 25 (24b, 3x4, 1x6), David Miller b Arshdeep 0 (1b), Tristan Stubbs c Arshdeep b Chahar 0 (1b), Wayne Parnell c Suryakumar b Axar 24 (37b, 1x4, 1x6), Keshav Maharaj b Harshal 41 (35b, 5x4, 2x6), Kagiso Rabada (not out) 7 (11b), Anrich Nortje (not out) 2 (2b); Extras (w-6); Total (for eight wickets in 20 overs): 106.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-1 (Bavuma, 0.6 overs), 2-1 (de Kock, 1.2), 3-8 (Rossouw, 1.5), 4-8 (Miller, 1.6), 5-9 (Stubbs, 2.3), 6-42 (Markram, 7.6), 7-68 (Parnell,

15.5), 8-101 (Maharaj, 19.1). **INDIA BOWLING**
Chahar 4-0-24-2, Arshdeep 4-0-32-3, Ashwin 4-1-8-0, Harshal 4-0-26-2, Axar 4-0-16-1.

INDIA
K.L. Rahul (not out) 51 (56b, 2x4, 4x6), Rohit Sharma c de Kock b Rabada 0 (2b), Virat Kohli c de Kock b Nortje 3 (9b), Suryakumar Yadav (not out) 50 (33b, 5x4, 3x6); Extras (w-6); Total (for two wickets in 16.4 overs): 110.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-9 (Rohit, 2.2 overs), 2-17 (Kohli, 6.1).

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING
Rabada 4-1-16-1, Parnell 4-0-14-0, Nortje 3-0-32-1, Shamsi 2-4-0-27-0, Maharaj 3-0-21-0.

Toss: India; **MoM:** Arshdeep. *India won by eight wickets to take 1-0 lead in three-match series.*

'Great to get wickets early'

M.R. Praveen Chandran
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Arshdeep Singh excelled with the new ball at the Greenfield stadium and broke the back of South African batting with three wickets in the PowerPlay.

On his game changing spell, he said, "It was ob-

viously a great feeling to get the wickets earlier. The plan was simple. The ball was swinging and it was important to bowl in the right areas. We bowled really well in the PowerPlay and credit to Chahar for keeping pressure from the other end."

Keshav Maharaj, who

fought the lone battle for South Africa, said, "It was a difficult wicket and the ball was swinging and credit to Indian bowlers and batters. But we can take some positives from this match, especially the way we fought back and we will try to play better in the next match."



Vihari. FILE PHOTO: R. RAGU

Irani Cup: Vihari to lead Rest of India against Saurashtra

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Hanuma Vihari will lead the Rest of India side against 2019-20 Ranji Trophy champion Saurashtra in the Irani Cup clash, which is returning to the calendar after three years.

The BCCI announced a 15-man squad for the red-ball tournament, which is set to be held in Rajkot from October 1-5.

The squad: Hanuma Vihari (Capt.), Mayank Agarwal, Priyank Panchal, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Yash Dhull, Sarfaraz Khan, Yashasvi Jaiswal, K.S.Bharat, Upendra Yadav, Jayant Yadav, Saurabh Kumar, R Sai Kishore, Mukesh Kumar, Umran Malik, Kuldeep Sen and Arzan Nagwaswalla.

Gujarat all primed to host the National Games from today

Y.B. Sarangi
AHMEDABAD

Gujarat will gain some first-hand experience at organising a multi-sport event when the 36th National Games will be formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the stadium named after him here on Thursday.

Following the 2015 Kerala edition and the cancellation of the Goa edition, the National Games is being held after seven long years. The Gujarat Government relied on its existing infrastructure in six cities - Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Vadodara, Surat, Bhavnagar and Rajkot - to make the mega event possible in 90 days.

Only the cycling track event is being hosted by Delhi.

Athletes from 36 units (States and Services Sports Control Board) will compete in 35 disciplines after handball was dropped at the last minute due to an internal squabble. With stress on indigenous sports, malkhamba and yogasana will make their debuts in the Games.

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra and Olympic medalist P.V. Sindhu - who were present at a build-up event graced by



Taking centrestage: Anju Bobby George, V.V.S. Laxman, Neeraj Chopra, and P.V. Sindhu during the first National Games Sports Conclave. VIJAY SONEJI

Background

The event, which started at Lahore as the Indian Olympic Games in 1924, was held for 12 editions in the pre-Independence era before being rechristened as the National Games, the first edition of which was held at Lucknow in 1948. Lahore has hosted it six times, including the first and last times before Independence. First time it was held in more than one centre was in 1987 in Kerala.

the Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel on Wednesday - will not take part due to injuries, but several others stars are expected

to participate.

While top paddlers Sharth Kamal and Manika Batra have already competed in Surat, Olympic silver medalist weightlifter Mirabai Chanthu, boxer Shiva Thapa, swimmers Sajjan Prakash, Srihari Nataraj and Maana Patel and archers Atanu Das and Tarundeep Rai will be seen in action in the coming days.

Opportunity

For the younger athletes, the sporting extravaganza will be an opportunity to get an experience of competing in a multi-sport event before they repre-

sent the nation.

On the whole, the National Games will provide a new experience for Gujarat's people, who are more used to seeing world-class cricketers than top athletes from other sports.

The host state has not only made its best effort from an organisational point of view, but has also ensured that opportunity is given to its athletes by fielding the biggest contingent.

The next two weeks will tell whether the Games leave an impact on the sporting scenario of the country.

Shooters may 'go with the flow' with Worlds in sight

Santadeep Dey
AHMEDABAD

A number of Indian athletes will be looking to put their best foot forward at the National Games 2022 starting on Thursday in hopes of catapulting themselves into the media spotlight. However, not many shooters will be treating the competition as "top priority".

In fact, the rifle and pistol shooters have been asked to take things easy given the Olympic quota-bearing World Championship in Cairo is knocking on the door, only nine days away from the conclusion of the rifle and pistol events here on October 3.

Shooters, who are a part of the Worlds line-up, will fly straight to Delhi for a training camp scheduled to start on Oct. 5.

Joydeep Karmakar, chief rifle coach of India, says although the National Games is an event steeped in tradition, the shooters may just "go with the flow".

"The National Games have got some heritage and history. Personally, I have a lot of fond memories, having taken part in five editions," Karmakar said.

"The shooters, who are preparing for the Worlds,



Ready to fire: Ramita, right, and Elavenil, second from right, at a practice session on Wednesday. V.V. KRISHNAN

have a huge amount of talent and they're already prepared. They will have that kind of restraint where they'll just go there, shoot and not dwell on what happened too much.

"Because they have to then go prepare for their matches in the World Championship because it is more important for them in comparison to winning a medal at the National Games."

Problem with peaking

Having to peak twice in such a short span of time might be a problem, feels Karmakar. He said: "They need to be very careful about how much energy they are putting in here. "If you're going all out for the State teams and in a week's time, if you have your match in World

Championship, I don't think it's a very nice thing to happen.

"Not taking away any credit from the National Games, but I think because the World Championship is here, the shooters should relax and take it as a training match. They might perform very well here, but they cannot be thinking about it too much."

Mehuli Ghosh and Elavenil Valarivan, both part of the 10m air rifle team at the Worlds, had a pre-event training session at the range as well.

Elated

Elavenil seemed elated to perform in front of her home crowd.

"It is a homely atmosphere because I started training as a shooter here in 2012-13. Things look nice."

IN BRIEF



Gill smashes a stylish, maiden hundred for Glamorgan

Shubman Gill registered his first-ever county cricket century while playing for Glamorgan against Sussex in their ongoing County Championship Division Two match on Tuesday. The stylish batter smashed 119 runs in 139 balls, consisting of 16 fours and two sixes.

Levan Pantsulaia wins Chief Minister's Trophy

A 30-move draw against Ajay Karthikeyan gave top seeded Georgian Levan Pantsulaia the Chief Minister's Trophy for winning the Chhatishgarh International Open chess tournament in Raipur on Wednesday. Pantsulaia tallied 8.5 points from 10 rounds to stay one-point clear of the competition. M. Shyam Sundar, seeded five, took the fourth spot at 7.5 points following a final-round victory over fellow Tamil Nadu player G. B. Harshvardhan. Shyam was the only Indian among the top-five finishers.

Spain snares semifinal spot from Portugal

Alvaro Morata's late strike helps the team sail into the last-four stage where it will join Italy, Croatia and the Netherlands in June 2023, though attention now shifts to the fast-approaching World Cup

NATIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
BRAGA

Alvaro Morata's late strike snatched Spain a 1-0 Nations League victory over Portugal in Braga on Tuesday and sent it into the semifinals.

La Roja needed to win to finish top of League A Group 2, but struggled on another difficult night for the Euro 2020 semifinalists, until Morata's 88th-minute breakthrough.

Spain has not been able to hit top form in the internationals leading up to the Qatar 2022 World Cup, but this hard-fought victory provides a welcome morale boost.

Portugal had the better of the game but Spain brightened in the final stages, with the introduction of several substitutes, including Nico Williams, who headed across goal for Morata to gleefully turn in at



They did it! Assist provider Williams and scorer Morata are over the moon. AFP

the back post.

Spain will join Italy, Croatia and the Netherlands in the semis in June 2023, although attention now switches to the fast-approaching World Cup.

"This is a wonderful sport in which winning is the best antidote to any de-

pression or sadness," said Luis Enrique. "Portugal are a top, top, top team. In the first half I insisted, maybe too much, on having the ball, and we did. It's evident we'd prefer to play the passes in their half."

"(But) the first half was necessary to show that the

ball was ours, and in the second we had the sensation that the goal would come. We're in the final four again."

The results: League A: Group 2: Portugal 0 lost to Spain 1 (Morata 99); Switzerland 2 (Freuler 29, Embolo 30) bt Czech Republic 1 (Schick 45).

Bhowneesh wins Olympic quota place

SHOTGUN WORLD CUP

Sports Bureau

Bhowneesh Mendiratta missed a medal in men's trap but clinched an Olympic quota for Paris 2024 Games with a fourth place finish in the shotgun World Championship in Osijek, Croatia, on Wednesday.

Bhowneesh qualified for the final in fourth place with a score of 121 out of 125, following rounds of 25, 23, 24, 24 and 25. In the semifinals, he topped with a 24, but in the medal round he was first to crash out with a score of 13.

With the top four in each event getting the Olympic quota, Bhowneesh fetched the first Olympic quota in shooting for India for Paris.

Prithviraj Tondaiman shot 119 and missed the final by one point. In women's trap, Neeru shot 111 to place 29th. Shreyasi Singh (110) and Manisha Keer (102) finished 35th and 61st respectively.

The results: Men's trap: 1. Derrick Scott Mein (USA) 33 (22/5 (122)); 2. Nathan Hales (GBR) 31 (22) 121; 3. Kun-Pi Yang (Tpe) 23 (20) 1 (123); 4. Bhowneesh Mendiratta 13 (24) 121; 22. Prithviraj Tondaiman 119; 119. Vivaan Kapoor 107.

Draw keeps Vaishali in eighth spot

Sports Bureau

R. Vaishali drew with former World junior girls' champion Polina Shuvalova in 20 moves following perpetual checks in the 10th and penultimate round of the FIDE Wo-

men's Grand Prix chess tournament in Astana, Kazakhstan, on Wednesday.

Russian Katerina Lagno led the field with 7.5 points. Vaishali was eighth after four players tied at the fifth spot with 4.5 points.

Arjun soars to No. 3 in Asia in javelin with school support

Kamesh Srinivasan
NEW DELHI

Arjun, the National youth champion in javelin, is very excited to show his prowess in the Asian youth athletics championships to be held in Kuwait from October 13 to 16.

A student of Modern Public School in the Capital, Arjun threw the javelin to 72.92 metres to win gold in the National youth championship in Bhopal. He is ranked third in Asia and 10th in the world at present.

The key to Arjun's progress has been the phenomenal support of the school over the last four years.

Keen interest

With principal Mrs. Alka Kapur showing keen interest to promote talented



Phenomenal support: Arjun, with Modern Public School principal Mrs. Alka Kapur. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

students with the best possible support, the school provided javelin from top brands Nemeth and Crown, costing about ₹4 lakh.

The school also arranged for arm strengthening machines at a cost of about ₹2 lakh for Arjun. His tuition fee has been waived and his trips for State and National championships

are also backed by the school.

Arjun is fascinated by the fitness and silken smooth efficiency of Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra.

He tries to tune his training sessions in line with the super star of Indian sports, with the support of coach Raman Jha and the school's physical

education teacher Swati Singhal.

Adjustment

Arjun is allowed to train during school hours and his classes are adjusted accordingly.

"Arjun's impressive performance in the National championship has brought immense glory to the school. I am optimistic that he will excel at the Asian championship too," said the principal/

Arjun's father Ramakant, a sweet vendor, was a discus thrower, despite a farming background. He has been instrumental in guiding his son on the path of excellence.

Before he departs for the National camp, the school has planned to host a befitting ceremony in honour of Arjun, to inspire the rest of the students.

Ebden gets best price of ₹8.45 lakh at Tennis Premier League auction

Sports Bureau
MUMBAI

Karman Kaur Thandi, Ramkumar Ramanathan, Sriram Balaji and Arjun Kadhe breached the ₹6 lakh mark among the Indians in the auction for the Tennis Premier League (TPL). The fourth edition of TPL will be staged at the Balewadi Stadium in Pune from December 7 to 11.

Wimbledon men's doubles champion Matthew Ebden of Australia was picked for the best price of ₹8.45 lakh by Delhi Binny's Brigade.

Karman was taken for ₹6.55 lakh by Bengaluru Spartans, Ramkumar for ₹6.7 lakh by Mumbai Leon Army, Balaji for ₹6.05 lakh by Finecab Hyderabad Strikers and Arjun Kadhe for ₹6.70 lakh by Pune Jaguars.



Star-studded: Leander Paes, Sania Mirza, Sonali Bendre, Kim Sharma, Punit Balan at the auction in Mumbai. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Pune team will also have Rutuja Bhosale and Vijay Sundar Prashanth. "As the home team, I am looking forward to the stadium being full for Pune Jaguars", said team owner Sonali Bendre Behl.

Delhi will have Sowjanya Bavisetti and Siddhant Banthia apart from Ebden. Mumbai Leon Army, co-owned by Leander Paes, also took Jeevan Nedun-

chezhiyan and Valeriya Strakhova of Ukraine. "It is going to be the most exhilarating TPL season yet. It is a testament to the efforts of Kunal Thakur and Mrunal Jain to make the league grow in every edition," said Paes.

"The talent is going to make the fourth edition most competitive yet. The innovative format helps the players test themselves

in pressure situations and improve their game," said Sania Mirza, the brand ambassador for Bengaluru Spartans.

Delhi Binny's Brigade: Matthew Ebden (Aus), Sowjanya Bavisetti, Siddhant Banthia.

Finecab Hyderabad Strikers: Conny Perrin (Sui), Sriram Balaji, Niki Poonacha.

Mumbai Leon Army: Ramkumar Ramanathan, Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan, Valeriya Strakhova (Ukr).

Chennai Stallions: Ilyia Marchenko (Ukr), Anastasia Gasanova (Rus), Anirudh Chandrasekar.

Bengaluru Spartans: Karman Kaur Thandi, Vishnu Vardhan, Sidharth Rawat.

Pune Jaguars: Arjun Kadhe, Vijay Sundar Prashanth, Rutuja Bhosale.

Gujarat Panthers: Ankita Raina, Divij Sharan, Manish Sureshkumar.

Punjab Tigers: Denis Istomin (Uzb), Malek Jaziri (Tun), Diana Marcinkovic (Lat).

SNAPSHOTS

Indian U-17 beats 10-man Oman

The Indian under-17 boys football team converted a couple of penalties to register a 3-1 win over 10-man Oman in a friendly in Muscat.

Gangte converted a penalty in the 10th minute while Thokchom doubled India's lead eight minutes later. Lalpekhlua made it 3-0 in the 69th through a penalty.

Bopanna-Middelkoop duo enters last eight

Rohan Bopanna, seeded No. 1 with Matwe Middelkoop, beat Hamad Medjedovic and Yshai Oliel 4-6, 7-6(4), [10-6] in the pre-quarterfinals of the \$1,019,855 ATP tennis tournament in Tel Aviv on Wednesday.

Other results: €134,920 ATP, Orleans, France: First round: Luca Wienenmann (Ger) bt Niki Poonacha 6-2, 6-0.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Antoine Escoffier (Fra) & Jonas Foretekj (Cze) bt Purav Raja & Divij Sharan 3-6, 6-2, [10-5].

€251,750 WTA, Tallinn, Estonia: Pre-quarterfinals: Lyudmyla Kichenok & Nadiia Kichenok (Ukr) bt Isabelle



Triumphant: The victorious St. Patrick's School team. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Haverlag (Ned) & Prarthana Thombare 6-3, 6-4.

€45,730 Challenger, Lisbon, Portugal: Pre-quarterfinals: Christopher Rungkat (Ina) & Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan bt Goncalo Falcao & Pedro Sousa (Por) 7-5, 6-0.

\$25,000 ITF men, Tay Ninh, Vietnam: First round: Ajeet Rai (Nzl) bt Fardeen Quamar 6-1, 6-4; Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Min Tuan Pham (Vie) 4-6, 6-3, 3-0 (ret.); Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Darrshan Suresh (Mas) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF, Monastir, Tunisia: Men: First round: Luca Wienenmann (Ger) bt Niki Poonacha 6-2, 6-0.

Women: First round: Sarah Mueller (Ger) bt Kaniska Sreenath 6-0, 6-0.

\$15,000 ITF women, Guayaquil, Ecuador: First round: Antonia Samudio (Col) bt Priyanka Rodricks 6-0, 6-2; Smriti Bhain bt Martina Tebes (Chi) 6-0, 6-0.

Aditya Mor topples Namish Sharma
Aditya Mor beat top seed Namish Sharma 6-2, 6-2 in the boys' quarterfinals of the Asian under-16 tennis at the Vijayant Khand Stadium, Lucknow, on Wednesday.

In the semifinals, Aditya will play third seed Daksh Kapoor who beat Rudra Batham. The other semifinal will be between Aradhya Kshitij and second seed

Aashravya Mehra. In the girls' section, top seed Jaya Kapoor set up a semifinal against Arzan Khorakiwala, while Shagun Kumari will face Ridhima Singh.

The results (quarterfinals): Boys: Aditya Mor bt Namish Sharma 6-2, 6-2; Daksh Kapoor bt Rudra Batham 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; Aradhya Kshitij bt Praneel Sharma 6-3, 6-3; Aashravya Mehra bt Advit Tiwari 6-2, 6-4.

Girls: Jaya Kapoor bt Parigya Yadav 6-0, 6-0; Arzan Khorakiwala bt Rubani Kaur Sidhu 6-2, 6-1; Shagun Kumari bt Zufeesh Khan 6-0, 6-1; Ridhima Singh bt Isheeta Midha 4-2 (retired).

St. Patrick's takes Subroto Cup honours
Alpha Kandulna and Anita Ddungdung scored three

goals between them in guiding St. Patrick's School, Gumla, to a 3-1 victory over Wangoi Higher Secondary School, Imphal, in the final of the 61st Subroto Cup under-17 girls football tournament at the Ambedkar Stadium on Wednesday.

Anita put the Gumla team ahead in the fifth minute before TH Remi equalised in the 52nd. Thereafter, Alpha Kandulna clinched the trophy for the Jharkhand team with a double strike in the space of three minutes. Air Marshal Sandeep Singh, Vice Chief of Air Staff, Indian Air Force, presented the trophies.

Sakshi's presence
Olympic medallist Sakshi Malik inspired the girls by congratulating them on playing football so well and hoped that more girls would get opportunities and play sports.

Nandeshwori Devi of Wangoi School was adjudged the 'best player' of the tournament. Jyotsna Bara (best goalkeeper), Ronibala Devi (best coach)

won the other individual awards. Riverside National School, Madhya Pradesh, won the 'fair play' trophy.

The result (final): St. Patrick's School, Gumla, 3 (Alpha Kandulna 2, Anita Ddungdung) bt Wangoi Higher Secondary School, Imphal, 1 (TH Remi).

Kartik takes two-shot lead

Kartik Sharma shot a five-under 67 to take a two-shot lead over the duo of Manu Gandas and Sachin Baisoya at the half-way stage of the ₹1 crore Kapil Dev-Grant Thornton Invitational golf tournament at the DLF Golf and Country Club, Gurugram, on Wednesday. With a two-round tally of six-under 138 Kartik overtook Day One leader Dhruv Sheoran who slipped to the fourth spot following a 73 for an aggregate of 141. Meanwhile, 'rookie' Arjun Puri shot an eight-under 64 to equal the course record of Shubhankar Sharma set during the 2018 Indian Open. Puri shot an 86 on the first day but his remarkable 22-stroke improvement

lifted him from the overnight tied 119th spot to 43rd. The 'cut' came at seven-over 151 and left 56 professionals in the fray.

Gayatri scores six goals

Gayatri Mahavar scored six goals, including a hat-trick, to help Mahila Hockey Academy, Ajmer, beat Punjab Public School, Nabha, 10-0 in a preliminary league match in Group-D of the Charanjit Rai 28th Nehru girls hockey tournament at the Shivaji Stadium on Wednesday. In Group-C, Nisha scored a hat-trick for Rachna Public School, Ghumanhera, to salvage some pride and bridge the gap after the opponent, Sri Guru Nanak School, Rajnandgaon, had taken a 6-0 lead.

The results (league): Pool-A: Naharkatia New HS, Assam 8 (Priyanka Panika 3, Milka Surin 2, Sunita Rajput 2, Joymoti Gorh) bt One Thousand Hockey Legs 0.

Pool-B: GIC BHEL, Ranipur, Haridwar, 10 (Mukta 3, Saloni 2, Gungun 2, Anshika Soni, Manshi, Jyoti Mehra) bt SNNP School, Pune 10-0.

Pool-C: Sri Guru Nanak SSS, Rajnandgaon 6 (Sheetla Yadav 2, Anchal, Vasundhara Mandavi, Anchal Verma, Aradhana Rajbhar) bt Rachna PS, Ghumanhera (Nisha 3).

Pool-D: Mahila HA, Ajmer 10 (Gayatri Mahavar 6, Nikku Gurjar, Shaksi Sharma, Thavri Meena, Chetna Rani Das) bt Punjab PS, Nabha 0.

Sports Awards application dates extended

The Sports Ministry on Wednesday extended the last date of submission of applications for this year's National Sports Awards by three days to October 1. Earlier, the ministry had set September 27 as the last date for online submission of applications.

Ganguly relives Lord's balcony triumph

Former Indian cricket captain Sourav Ganguly relived one of his career-defining moments on top of the Lord's balcony, but with his shirt on, while unveiling a replica of the pavilion's balcony built to mark Durga Puja celebrations in the city.