

Down to the sea in ships

ROOPA LAL

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ MV SwarajDweep, a mainland going vessel, arrived at Port Blair from Chennai on Tuesday with only 130 passengers. The 1200 passenger capacity vessel operating with only 10% of its capacity has not gone well with the citizens. People are of the view that scheduling the 1200 pax capacity vessel to operate with only 130 passengers from Chennai is nothing but criminal waste of taxpayers' money and a colossal negligence on the part of the Directorate of Shipping Services.

The cost of one vessel sailing from Chennai to Port Blair runs into lakhs. If the salary of crew members and officers, port charges, fuel charges, overtime payment and wear & tear of the vessel are included, the loss

MV SwarajDweep operating with only 10 per cent capacity; taxpayers' money going down the drain, rue citizens



incurred will be worth several lakhs. Now nobody else but only the taxpayer has to bear the money wasted by the Shipping department by plying mainland going vessels with only 10% of its capacity. Citizens are of the belief that instead of operating 1200 capacity

vessels like MV SwarajDweep in the Port Blair-Mainland route, the DSS can operate smaller vessels like Nalanda and Sindhu in the mainland routes. However, it needs to be ascertained that 500 passenger capacity vessels can be operated in the

mainland sector only when at least 50% of tickets are sold. On the other side, larger vessels like MV SwarajDweep can be operated into the southern group of Islands. A voyage of MV SwarajDweep to Campbell Bay via Car Nicobar and Nancowry every fortnight will help cater to the bulk passengers as well as cargo at one go. During the peak season when the demand for operating more vessels in the southern group is high, vessels like MV SwarajDweep can be very handy.

Already there is a shortage of cargo fleet with DSS. Operation SwarajDweep in this sector will also help to transport bulk cargo. Under such circumstances, MV SwarajDweep can be put into effective service for the islanders.

Vishal seeks early resumption of water sports activities

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ Mr. Vishal Jolly, BJP's National Executive Member has demanded for early resumption of all water sports activities closed due to administrative issues in a letter addressed to Chief Secretary on Tuesday.

Mr. Jolly in his letter has mentioned that a vast majority of the water sports of these islands had their permits issued by Directorate of Information, Publicity and Tourism only till 31st October 2022, and none of the permissions were renewed in a timely manner. As a result, amid peak tourist season, all water sports across here stand closed leading to dismay among the tourists and bringing ill repute to the destination. Furthermore, in addition to the disgruntled tourists, the owners of all such water sports and thousands of their employees are facing crisis again. The runway closure has already dented the entire season by 40% which has led to incomprehensible losses for the stakeholders. In such times, the failure to renew permissions in a time bound manner has come as a deep shock to the industry. Accordingly, he requested the Chief Secretary to issue necessary directions to the Directorate of



Information publicity & Tourism to immediately renew the permissions of all water sports at the earliest so that the stakeholders can continue their business for the season without any further losses and the visiting tourists also do not face disappointment after having spent huge sums to travel to Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

16 Doctors, para medical staff to join Health dept



PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ In line with the vision and efforts of Government of India, Health Department and National Health Mission in Andaman & Nicobar Islands is committed to ensure availability of sufficient human resources for providing quality health services to the people of the Islands. Accordingly, to achieve the goal of the National Health Mission to improve the quality of the health care services in these Islands, 16 Offer Letters were issued to the aspiring doctors and paramedical staff for joining the Health Services of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The letters were handed over by Ms. Nandini Paliwal, Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health), A&N Administration in a function organized at the

Secretariat of A&N Administration in the presence of Shri Arjun Sharma, Secretary (Health), Dr. Anil Agarwal, Mission Director (NHM) and DHS & other officials to the willing and available candidates. While addressing the gathering, the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health), A&N Administration emphasized the importance of taking care of the people and wished all the health professionals a fulfilling and a satisfying career. Under the National Health Mission in Andaman & Nicobar Islands, efforts are being made to provide accessible, affordable, effective, accountable and reliable health care to all including the poorer and vulnerable sections of the society.

Isles boy shines in Chess rating



PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ Proud moment for Islanders as A Chirag Kumar, a young chess player from Andaman & Nicobar Islands has opened his International Rating as per the latest FIDE Rating list published on 31st October 2022 by World Chess Federation (FIDE). A Chirag Kumar, a class VII student of NCS, Minnie Bay, Port Blair, recently participated in the International FIDE Below 1600 Rated Chess Tournament held at Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh from 4th to 6 October 2022, and performed brilliantly which led him to open the International Rating.

Science, Craft & Arts exhibition at GSSS Oralkatcha



PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Oralkatcha organized a day-long annual School Science, Arts & Craft Exhibition (Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan 2022-2023) at the School premises on Tuesday 01st November 2022. Mr. R.S. Sharath, ACF, Baratang was the chief guest

while Mr. M. Saravanan, SHO, PS Baratang was the guest of honour. The students and teachers participated and collaborated hand in hand to make the event a grand success under the leadership of In-charge of the school, Miss. Brijit Paul, PGT Political Science. The Pradhan Smti. Somari Roy also

graced the occasion. The Judging Panel for various exhibits were Mr. Uttam Sarkar, JE, (Civil) APWD, Mr. Akbar JE, (Mech. & Elec.) APWD and Smti. Saidun Nisha (SMC). All the judges and guests praised the effort of the students and congratulated them for putting their best foot forward.



GET EXPERT OPINION ON BONE & JOINT PROBLEMS

As the pioneers in orthopaedic care are visiting Andaman & Nicobar Islands



MIOT Hospitals Outreach Clinic, the gateway to world-class healthcare, is flying in a Senior Orthopaedic Specialist from MIOT International (Chennai) to spearhead the Orthopaedics Consultation Clinic at Port Blair. Thousands of people from all over the world with fractures, arthritis, failed surgeries, back pain, congenital and spinal deformities have benefitted from MIOT's skill and experience. With over 3 decades of experience, MIOT's expertise in orthopaedics is unmatched.

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PM targets Cong, says earlier govts neglected all-round development of tribals

JAMBUGHODA, NOV 1 /- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said previous governments neglected "all-round development" of tribal areas. It was Atal Bihari Vajpayee's government at the Centre which formed a separate ministry for tribal development, he said, targeting the Congress.

The prime minister was speaking at Jambughoda in Gujarat's Panchmahal district after launching various development projects on the last day of his three-day visit to the poll-bound state. "Tribal development ministry was formed when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was prime

minister. No such ministry existed before the BJP came to power. Money was spent for tribal development works after this ministry was formed, he said. Remember what was the situation of tribal areas twenty years ago in Gujarat when I was made the chief minister.

Those who were in power in the past had not worked for all-round development of tribal areas, Modi claimed. There was a huge gap between the development of tribal and non-tribal areas, the prime minister said, adding that tribal areas lacked basic facilities. "Schools were not

built, food availability was an issue and malnutrition was another major issue. We worked hard to change that situation and with active participation of tribals we largely managed to change the situation, he said. As many as 10,000 new schools were built for tribal students, Modi noted. Today there are two tribal universities, Govind Guru University in Godhra and Birsamunda University in Narmada (district) which are among the finest institutions of higher education, the prime minister said.

The BJP government developed piped water supply facility, micro-

irrigation and put emphasis on the dairy sector for the development of tribal areas, he said.

'Sakhi Mandals' or women's groups were formed "to empower our tribal sisters" and increase their incomes, the prime minister said. Due to everybody's efforts, good roads have reached every village in tribal districts along with 24 hours electricity, he said. The tribal-dominated Dang was the first district in Gujarat to get 24 hours of assured electricity supply which led to the expansion of industries in tribal areas, the prime minister said. Along the Golden Corridor

of Gujarat, twin cities of Halol-Kalol are being developed apace as an industrial hub," he said. It was the BJP government which decided to celebrate November 15 as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' (Tribal Pride Day) to honour tribal icon Birsamunda, he added.

Modi also praised the contribution of tribal communities in the freedom struggle. He visited Mangarh earlier in the day and paid tributes to Govind Guru and thousands of tribal fighters who sacrificed their lives for India's independence, he said. The prime minister on this occasion dedicated to the country and laid the

foundation stones of projects worth Rs 860 crore. He inaugurated a new campus of Shri Govind Guru University, Godhra; Sant Joriya Parameshwar Primary School and Memorial at Vadek village and Raja Rup Singh Nayak Primary School and Memorial at Dandiyapura village.

The PM laid the foundation stone for the building of a Kendriya Vidyalaya at Godhra. He also laid the foundation stone for Godhra Medical College and the expansion of Kaushalya, a Skills University which will be constructed at the cost of Rs 680 crore. (PTI)

Prez appeals to scientists, town planners, innovators to develop techniques to conserve water

GREATER NOIDA, NOV 1 /- /President Droupadi Murmu has appealed to scientists, town planners and innovators to try to develop techniques that help conserve water resources, noting that technology can play a key role in water conservation. Speaking at the seventh edition of the India Water Week, Murmu said providing clean water is a big challenge which requires cooperation from all sections of the society. There will be a need to effectively conserve water to meet the demands of our future generation and technology will play an important role in it. Hence it is my appeal to scientists, town planners and innovators that they try to develop techniques for conservation of water resources, she said. Endorsing recycling of water resources, the president said it can play an important role in conservation and there is a need to raise awareness on the subject. Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat underlined the need to adopt a holistic approach to conserve water resources. In this complex world, the issues related to water security have multi-sector challenges and to effectively tackle them, we need to adopt a holistic approach and keeping that in view, our government merged various divisions working on water resources and it has set an example in front of the world, he said. Spelling out the challenges put forth by climate change, Shekhawat said erratic and scanty rainfall has further aggravated the challenges in the field. Shekhawat said the government is following 5P principles in tackling the challenges of water conservation. They are - political will, public spending, partnerships, people's participation and persuasion all these principles we are working on, he said. Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath, who was also present at the event, said the state has managed to rejuvenate 60 rivers. (PTI)

BJP's ideology favours rising air pollution: Delhi minister Gopal Rai

NEW DELHI, NOV 1 /- /The ideology of the BJP favours rising air pollution levels as the party voiced support to bursting of firecrackers but did not help the Punjab government provide a cash incentive to farmers for not burning crop residue, Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai alleged on Tuesday.

Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena would not have stopped the implementation of the "Red Light on Gaadi off" campaign to reduce vehicular emissions in Delhi without instructions from the saffron party, Rai told reporters after inspecting a construction site here. The LG had put the campaign on hold and returned the file on October 29, questioning the effectiveness of such measures. "The mindset and the ideology of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) favour an increase in the air pollution levels. Punjab would have seen a large-scale reduction in stubble burning had the Centre supported the state government's initiative to provide a cash incentive to farmers for not burning crop residue," Rai said. "We also saw that those in the BJP were busy supporting the bursting of firecrackers in Delhi (on Diwali). They too live in Delhi. All of us should work together to fight air pollution. The Delhi government is doing everything it can and we need support. I request those associated with the BJP to step back from campaigns that increase air pollution," he added. The BJP should stop considering air pollution as a problem of a particular political party or of particular states, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader said.

In July, the governments of Delhi and Punjab had jointly sent a proposal to the Centre and the Commission for Air Quality Management to help them give Rs 2,500 per acre as a cash incentive to farmers in Punjab for not burning stubble. Farmers say a cash incentive can help them cover the cost of the fuel used in operating the machinery for the in-situ management of paddy straw. The AAP government had, in September, announced a complete ban on the sale, storage and use of firecrackers in Delhi. Rai recently said "less bursting of firecrackers" had resulted in a 30-per cent drop in the air pollution levels in the capital on Diwali night. (PTI)

Morbi bridge collapse result of massive corruption, Gujarat govt must resign: Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, NOV 1 /- /AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday alleged that the Morbi bridge collapse in Gujarat was a result of massive corruption and demanded that chief minister Bhupendra Patel resign and the assembly polls be held immediately. Praying for those who lost their lives in the incident, Kejriwal said the assembly polls in Gujarat should be held immediately. The century-old suspension bridge on the Machchu river in Gujarat's Morbi city collapsed Sunday evening, killing 135 people. "The Morbi bridge collapse was a result of massive corruption and I pray for the victims. I feel in a state where such a big number of people have died, the chief minister has no moral right to continue in the top post. The state government should resign in the wake of the incident and assembly elections be held immediately," he said at a press conference. "It needs to be proved that why a watchmaking company which had no experience of bridge construction was allowed to work?" he added. Morbi-based clock and e-bike maker Oreva group was given the contract by the Morbi Municipality to repair and operate the ill-fated hanging bridge for 15 years and charge tickets in the range of Rs 10 to Rs 15 for its use, according to the municipality documents assessed on Monday.

The firm had claimed on October 26 that it had roped in experts for the repair work, adding that the material used was built as per specifications by "specialised firms". The Delhi chief minister also said that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is struggling in Gujarat because the Aam Aadmi Party is there to challenge it in the upcoming state polls. Kejriwal had also cancelled his roadshow in Haryana's Adampur on Monday for the upcoming bypolls in view of the bridge collapse in Gujarat. (PTI)

National Tribal Dance Festival begins in Raipur

CM Baghel says event aimed at protecting traditions and rights of tribals

RAIPUR, NOV 1 /- /Chhattisgarh chief minister Bhupesh Baghel on Tuesday said the wrong concept of development has become a threat to nature and the rights of tribals.

Speaking at the inaugural function of the three-day 'National Tribal Dance Festival' and Rajyotsav (statehood) 2022 celebration at the Government Science College ground in Raipur, Baghel said the festival is

aimed at protecting the age-old traditions and rights of tribals and promoting it across the world. Chhattisgarh came into existence on November 1, 2000 after the bifurcation of Madhya Pradesh. The Chhattisgarh Sarva Adivasi Samaj (CSAS), an umbrella organisation of 42 tribal communities of the state, had announced a boycott of the dance festival accusing the government of failing to protect their reservation

rights. The CM said 1,500 tribal artists from India and 10 other countries - Mozambique, Mongolia, Tongo, Russia, Indonesia, Maldives, Serbia, New Zealand, Rwanda and Egypt - will participate in the third edition of the national tribal dance fest. He welcomed all the participants to the festival and extended his greetings to the people of Chhattisgarh on the statehood day. The changing times have brought a

transformation to people's lifestyle. Today, our thinking of development has been divided into two ways. In one way of thinking, our primitive values persist even today, while the other way which calls itself modern has become an enemy of our nature, Baghel said. The wrong concept of development has become a threat to nature. Besides, it has also posed a threat to the rights of tribals over their "jal jungle zameen"

(water, forest and land), he added.

The tribal dance festival is aimed at protecting the age-old traditions and rights of tribals and promoting it across the world, Baghel said. "If we preserve our traditional values, then solidarity and unity will also prevail. Even that thinking of development will also remain, which is necessary to save the humanity," he said. (PTI)

Gola Gokarannath Assembly bypoll campaigning ends, direct fight between BJP, SP likely

LAKHIMPUR KHERI, NOV 1 /- /With the BSP and the Congress keeping away, the Gola Gokarannath bypoll on Thursday is likely to witness a direct fight between the BJP and the Samajwadi Party.

The bypoll was necessitated by the passing of BJP MLA Arvind Giri from a cardiac arrest on September 6. Campaigning closed at 6pm on Tuesday. Over 3.90 lakh voters will decide the fate of seven contestants in the fray. But the main contest is likely to be between the BJP's Aman Giri, the son of Arvind Giri, and Samajwadi Party (SP) candidate and former Gola Gokarannath MLA Vinay Tiwari.

Despite a wave of sympathy for Giri following the death of his father, the BJP has not left anything to chance and deputed 40 star campaigners, including all major Cabinet ministers and party office-bearers. The BJP's campaign was led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

However, Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Mishra 'Teni' was not part of the party's list of campaigners. Gola Gokarannath is part of Mishra's Kheri parliamentary constituency. Mishra has been in the eye of a storm following the alleged killing of four farmers last October, in which his son is an accused.. (PTI)



Union Minister for Defence Rajnath Singh received a final dividend cheque of Rs 13.73 crore for the Financial Year 2021-22 from the Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Dynamics Limited Commodore, Siddharth Mishra (Retd), in New Delhi

AAP's Satyendar Jain extorted Rs 10 cr', alleges conman Chandrashekhar Triggers slugfest between BJP, AAP

NEW DELHI, NOV 1 /- /Jailed conman Sukesh Chandrashekhar has written to the Delhi Lt Governor alleging that AAP leader Satyendar Jain 'extorted' Rs 10 crore from him in 2019 to ensure his safety in prison, triggering a political slugfest between the AAP and the BJP.

While the BJP called the AAP a "maha thug" party, saying "the conman has been conned", Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal rubbished the allegations saying it was an attempt to divert attention from the Morbi bridge collapse incident in Gujarat. Chandrashekhar, who is lodged in Mandoli jail here in connection with Rs 200 crore money laundering case, submitted a letter to LG V K Saxena on October 8 through his advocate Ashok K Singh, making the startling allegations against the AAP. According to the LG office sources, the letter from Chandrashekhar was received by the LG office and was forwarded to the Chief Secretary of the Delhi government for necessary action on October 18. The letter alleged that more than Rs 50 crore was given to the AAP on a promise of giving Chandrashekhar an important post in the party in South Zone, and also help him in getting nominated to the Rajya Sabha. Chandrashekhar also alleged that he was visited by Jain in Tihar jail, where he was lodged after his

arrest in 2017 in the 'two leaf symbol corruption case'. Jain, who held the portfolio of the Jail ministry, asked him if he had disclosed anything to the probe agency related to his contribution to the AAP, he alleged.

Tihar Jail is run by the Department of Delhi Prisons, Government of Delhi. "Thereafter in 2019 again I was visited by Satyendar Jain and his secretary and his close friend Sushil in jail, asking me to pay Rs two crore every month to him as protection money to live safely in jail, and to get even basic facilities," he alleged. "Jain asked me to pay Rs 1.50 crore to DG prison Sandeep Goel, who, he said, was a loyal associate of his. He forced me to pay and an amount of Rs 10 crore was extorted from me through constant pressure in a matter of two-three months, he alleged in the letter.

He also alleged that the amounts were collected in Kolkata through Jain's associates. "Hence a total amount of Rs 10 crore was paid to Satyendar Jain, and Rs 12.50 crore to DG prison Sandeep Goel," Chandrashekhar alleged and added that he has already given this information to the Enforcement Directorate. There was no immediate reaction available from Goel to the allegations. Chandrashekhar was shifted to Mandoli after he requested the Supreme

Court for the same, saying that his life was under threat. His shift was ordered by the court in August. Chandrasekhar further said that he also filed a petition before the Delhi High Court seeking a CBI inquiry, and the court has issued a notice and the matter is scheduled for hearing next month. "As Jain is lodged in Tihar, he has been threatening me through DG Prison and the jail administration, asking me to withdraw the complaint filed in the high court, and I have been severely harassed and threatened," he alleged, urging the LG to direct the probe agencies to investigate the matter. "The truth has to be out as I am not able to keep it inside me anymore. I am being harassed. The AAP and their so-called honest government have to be exposed and shown that even in jail they are involved in high-level corruption. I hereby undertake to tender full cooperation with complete honesty before any forum," the letter said.

Attacking the AAP over the allegations, BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra claimed that it was a "maha thug" party. "Thug ke ghar thugi karli (A conman has been conned). And the name of the thug is Sukesh Chandrashekhar. And the person who cheated the thug is Aam Aadmi Party leader Satyendra Jain," Patra said. (PTI)

AFFIDAVIT
By this deed I, the undersigned B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. K. BALASUBRAMANIAN (New Name) previously called B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. BALA SUBRAMANIAN (old name), doing private worker (give profession of vocation) and resident of Dairy Farm village, under Port Blair Tehsil, South Andaman District (address) solemnly declare:
1. That for and on behalf of myself and my wife and children and remitter issue wholly renounce/relinquish and abandon the use of my former name / surname of B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. BALA SUBRAMANIAN and in place thereof. I do hereby assume from this date the name/surname B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. K. BALASUBRAMANIAN and so that I and my wife, children and remitter issue may hereafter be called, known and distinguished not by my former name/surname, of B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. K. BALASUBRAMANIAN.
2. That for the purpose of evidencing such my determination declare that I shall all the times hereafter in all records, deeds and writings and in all proceedings, dealings and transactions, private as well as upon occasions whatsoever use and sign the name of B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o K. BALASUBRAMANIAN as my name/surname in place and in substitution of my former name/surname.
3. That I expressly authorize and request all persons in general and relatives and friends in particular, at all times hereafter to designate and address me, my wife, my children, remitter issue by such assumed name/surname of B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o K. BALASUBRAMANIAN accordingly.
4. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my former and adopted name/surname of B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. BALA SUBRAMANIAN and affix B. JAYA KUMAR, S/o. K. BALASUBRAMANIAN my signature and seal, If any this 01st day of November, 2022.
DEPONENT

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
The Executive Engineer, E&M Division, APWD, Prothrapur, Port Blair invites on behalf of the President of India, online Item Rate tender from the eligible Contractors of the Andaman PWD and Non APWD Contractors, irrespective of their enlistment subject to the condition that they must have experience of having successfully completed similar nature of works in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands with Govt. Organizations and do not have any adverse remarks, for the work mentioned below:-
DB-e-Tender/E&M/DIV/PP/PB/2022-23/2162, Dated 26 th October, 2022
1. NIT No. 67/EE/E&M/22-23 Name of Work: "Repair and Renovation of QMS Store at IRBn HQ, Port Mout. SW: Providing IEI ." Estimate Cost: R5,39,814/- EMD : R10,796/- Period of Completion: 45 (Forty Five) Days. (TENDER ID: 2022 APWD 7839 1)
The e-tender from and other details can be downloaded from the website. The Last Date and Time of bid submission will be 21.11.2022 upto 09:30 hours . Other details / information can be seen on website. " https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in .
कार्यपालक अभियन्ता Executive Engineer विद्युत एवं यांत्रिक मंडल, अ.लो.नि.वि. प्रान्तपुर, पोर्ट ब्लेयर E&M Division, APWD, Prothrapur, Port Blair
9241/22

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
The Executive Engineer, E & M Division, APWD, Prothrapur, Port Blair on behalf of the President of India invites Online item rate Tender (in form C.P.W.D-8) from those who having Experience in APWD and Non APWD Contractor irrespective of their Enlistment Subject to the condition that they having successfully completed the similar nature of work in terms of cost in any of the Government Department in A&N Islands and they should not have any Adverse remarks for the work mentioned below:-
DB-e-Tender/E&M/DIV/PP/PB/2022-23/2138, Dated. 21 st October, 2022
1. NIT No. 64/EE/E&M/22-23 Name of Work: "Up-Gradation of Pump and Motors Installed at Pump House Near Water Reservoir, IRBn Campus, PortMout. SW: SITC of 40 HP Kirloskar Electric Induction Motor Coupled with Kirloskar 65/32A DSM Pump including Control Board & accessories" Estimate Cost: R13,45,231/- EMD : R26,905/- Period of Completion: 45 (Forty Five) Days. (TENDER ID: 2022 APWD 7808 1)
The e-tender from and other details can be downloaded from the website. The Last Date and Time of bid submission will be 16.11.2022 upto 09:30 hours . Other details / information can be seen on website. " https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in .
कार्यपालक अभियन्ता Executive Engineer विद्युत एवं यांत्रिक मंडल, अ.लो.नि.वि. प्रान्तपुर, पोर्ट ब्लेयर E&M Division, APWD, Prothrapur, Port Blair
9232/22

Mainstreaming training prog on HIV/AIDS, STD

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ The A&N AIDS Control Society (ANACS) conducted a mainstreaming training programme on HIV/AIDS for the trainees of Yeshuva Institute of Health Science on 31st October 2022, at 11.00 am at Junglighat. About 95 participants participated in the training programme.

Mr. Girish Kumar, AD (SPM), ANACS conducted the training programme. He informed Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is an infection that attacks the body's immune system, specifically the white blood cells called CD4 cells. HIV destroys these CD4 cells, weakening a person's immunity against opportunistic infections, such as tuberculosis and fungal infections, severe bacterial infections etc.

HIV infection can be diagnosed using simple and affordable rapid



diagnostic tests, as well as self-tests. It is important that HIV testing services follow the 5Cs: consent, confidentiality, counselling, correct results and connection with treatment and other services.

Further, he also informed about HIV/AIDS (Prevention & Control) ACT, 2017 to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS, prohibits

discrimination against persons with HIV and AIDS and No person shall be compelled to disclose his HIV status except by an order of court.

Mr. S. Senthil Nathan, AD(CST) informed us about the HIV infection. People can lead a healthy life for a long time with appropriate medical care. Antiretroviral therapy (ART) effectively suppresses replication, if taken at the right time. Successful viral suppression restores the immune system and halts onset and progression of disease as well as reduces chances of getting opportunistic infections. Medication thus enhances both quality of life and longevity. The participants were informed to come forward for 'Knowing their HIV Status' by voluntarily getting themselves tested which will be kept confidential.

Vigilance awareness week by BSI



PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ The Botanical Survey of India organized Vigilance Awareness Week from 31st October 2022 to 6th November 2022, to ensure a responsive and people friendly administration. Joint Director and Regional Head, Dr Lal Ji Singh administered the pledge to all the Scientists and staff members of the office on 31st October 2022, and stated that Self-reliance with Integrity would not only result in removing the negative connotations attached with vigilance work but also contribute positively towards functioning of the administration.

Industries dept organizes outreach sensitization prog



PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ A day-long Outreach Sensitization Programme was organized by the Industries Department at Gram Panchayat, Stewartgunj on Monday to disseminate information about flagship schemes of Govt. of India and other UT schemes implemented by Industries Department viz. Prime Minister's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Entrepreneurship & Skill Upgradation Programme. The programme was attended by Pradhan, GP, Stewartgunj, Pramukh, Zilla Parishad Member and other PRI members. About 53 participants attended the programme, including SHG members, local youth.

At the outset, the Pradhan welcomed the initiative of the Department and appreciated the effort of reaching out to the people. Pramukh, Panchayat Samiti, Ferrargunj encouraged the participants to avail the

Scheme of the Department to upgrade themselves as Employer. The Officials of the Department spoke about the schemes and highlighted the documentation and procedure to avail the scheme. Special emphasis was given to the Prime Minister's Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises, which was launched by Govt. of India after the corona outbreak to strengthen Micro Level Food Processing Units functioning in rural areas.

The Department has been conducting short term training in Coconut Shell and Wooden Handicrafts from 12th October 2022, in this Gram Panchayat. The handicraft products produced during the training was exhibited in the programme which received appreciation from PRI Representatives and participants. The Pradhan and other PRIs have requested the Department to organize a similar programme for augmenting the employability of the local youth.

Last date for IGNOU admission extended

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ The last date for Fresh Admission for PG and UG Programmes (except certificate and semester-based Programmes) in Indira Gandhi National Open University's for July 2022 session is further extended upto 07th November, 2022. For Online admission, please log on - <https://ignouadmission.samarth.edu.in>. For more details, visit IGNOU Website - www.ignou.ac.in or for offline admission contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: reportblair@ignou.ac.in.

IGNOU assignment submission date extended

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ The last date for submission of Assignments for TEE December- 2022 session of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) has been extended upto 30th November, 2022. The students can submit their assignments at their respective study centre during its working hours. For more details, visit IGNOU Website - www.ignou.ac.in or contact IGNOU Regional Centre, Port Blair over Phone: 03192-242888, 03192-230111 or Email: reportblair@ignou.ac.in.

Schedule for AITT

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ The schedule of All India Trade Test (AITT) for supplementary candidates has been received from Directorate General of Training (DGT), New Delhi, for theoretical subjects of Annual pattern (2018 to 2021) & Semester pattern (2014 to 2017), under the Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) for various Engineering and Non-engineering trades. The exam will be held from 25th November 2022 at Government Industrial Training Institute, Dollygunj, Government Vocational Training Institute, Bakultala and Government Industrial Training Institute, Arong. The schedule has been displayed in the notice board of the respective Institution. In this connection the failed candidates of all the ITIs have been directed to submit their exam fee along with the form duly filled in all respect, on or before 10th Nov 2022, in their respective institutes.

NYK, Port Blair, NaiManzil organize 'Run for Unity'



PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ Nehru Yuva Kendra, Port Blair in association with Gram Panchayat, Kanyapuram and NaiManzil, Wimberlygunj has organized a function to celebrate the 147th birth anniversary of Sardar Patel as National Unity Day. To mark the occasion, 'Run for Unity' was organized on October 31 2022, across the country on the call of the Ministry of Home Affairs under the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence. On this occasion, a run was organized from Wimberlygunj to Stewartgunj today. More than 100 youths participated in this run. On this occasion, Mr. A. Soundrapandian, Assistant Conservator of Forest was the chief guest and administered the National Unity Day pledge to the youth and apprised them

about the biography of Sardar Patel and his achievements. While Mr. P. Abdul Bashir, Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Kanyapuram and Adhiksha Nai Manzil coordinated this run and made the youth aware of the life, personality, contribution and messages of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. He has also appealed to the members of youth clubs, volunteers, voluntary organizations, panchayati raj institutions, sports institutions, community institutions and higher, higher and secondary educational institutions of the districts to organize the said run at their level, as well as appealed to the youth to join this program in a big way. All the members of the gram panchayat and school teachers were also present in this programme.

Motorcycle rally by NYK Ragat



RANGAT, NOV 1/--/ The Government is observing the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel as the 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' (National Unity Day) on 31st October every year. This occasion is an opportunity to foster and

reinforce our dedication to preserve and strengthen the unity, integrity and security of our nation. As part of the celebration, the Nehru Yuva Kendra Rangat organised a motorcycle rally from Kadamtala Market to Kadamtala

Bridge. Dr. Ramesh, Animal Husbandry was flag off the rally in presence of Pradhan Kadamtala, Samiti member Kadamtala, Zilla Parishad member Kadamtala and in presence of Deputy Director, NYK.

Spread of Canine distemper virus infection, pet owners cautioned

PORT BLAIR, NOV 1/--/ Since the last couple of months, Canine Distemper Virus infection - a life threatening canine viral disease has been noticed in dogs in and around Port Blair. Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) causes a major disease in domestic dogs that develops as a serious systemic infection in unvaccinated or improperly vaccinated dogs. Distemper is a contagious and serious disease caused by a Morbillivirus that attacks the respiratory, gastrointestinal and nervous systems of puppies and dogs. Symptoms of Canine Distemper in dogs include a high rise in temperature 103 to 104 degrees Fahrenheit

(Diphasic fever), dry nose, congested eyes, ocular nasal discharge, pneumonia, loss of appetite, vomiting, abdominal pain, etc.

Nervous symptoms include restlessness, excitement, chumpy jaw, excessive salivation and convulsions, epilepsy, chorea (jerky movements of a group of muscles), muscle spasms in lips, cheeks, jaw, head, neck, and limb muscle. Cutaneous symptoms like hyperkeratinization of footpads making them hard, the dog experiences difficulty in walking on hard objects leading to lameness.

There is no cure for canine distemper infection. Treatment typically

consists of supportive care and efforts to prevent secondary infections; control vomiting, diarrhea and neurologic symptoms; and combat dehydration through administration of fluids.

Pet owners are advised to take up the following measures to control the spread of infection.

1. Maintain cleanliness in the premises by using mild disinfectant and antiseptic lotion and isolation of affected pet.
2. Make sure your dog is properly vaccinated. Typically the first dose of vaccination is given from 6-8 weeks of age, and then every 3 - 4 weeks until the pup reaches 16 - 20 weeks of age.

3. Limit your unvaccinated dog's exposure to other dogs.
4. Keep food and water bowls clean, not just because of the risk of distemper infection, but as a measure of good hygiene. Most regular household disinfectants kill distemper virus, including a 1:20 dilution of household bleach with water.
5. Feed a semi-solid soft or liquid diet to the dog suffering from Distemper. The balance of water, electrolytes, and probiotics in the body should be maintained by feeding curd. If the dog is suffering from vomitings and diarrhea, then infusion of fluids is a must with the consultation of the Veterinarian.

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FOR APPOINTMENTS :
03192-252052/03192-252522/9531807777

A pessimist sees only the dark side of the clouds, and mopes; a philosopher sees both sides, and shrugs; an optimist doesn't see the clouds at all - he's walking on them

Leonard Louis Levinson

Inflation hits new record in Europe

Fuelled by out-of-control prices for natural gas and electricity due to Russia's war in Ukraine, inflation has hit a new record in 19 countries where the euro currency is used. Economic growth also slowed ahead of what economists fear is a looming recession, largely as a result of those higher prices sapping Europeans' ability to spend. Annual inflation reached 10.7 per cent in October, the European Union's statistics agency, Eurostat, reported. That is up from 9.9 per cent in September and the highest since statistics began to be compiled for the eurozone in 1997.

Natural gas prices skyrocketed in the wake of the invasion of Ukraine as Russia throttled back pipeline supplies to a trickle of what they were before the war. Europe has had to resort to expensive shipments of liquefied gas that come by ship from the US and Qatar to keep generating electricity and heating homes. While liquid gas succeeded in filling Europe's storage for the winter, the higher prices have made some industrial products such as steel or fertiliser expensive or simply unprofitable to make. Consumer spending power has been drained at shops and elsewhere as more income goes to pay for fuel and utility bills. Natural gas prices for short-term purchases have eased recently but remain high on markets for coming months, suggesting that costly energy may be a persistent drag on the economy.

A survey of professional forecasts last week by the European Central Bank showed expectations for inflation next year rose to 5.8 per cent from 3.6 per cent predicted three months ago. The inflation outbreak has been an international phenomenon, sending price increases to near 40-year highs in the US as well. Eurostat figures showed prices for food, alcohol and tobacco have increasingly joined energy prices as a major contributor, rising 13.1 per cent, while energy prices rose an astronomical 41.9 per cent. The economy, which had been rebounding from the COVID-19 pandemic, showed growth of 0.2 per cent in the July-September quarter, slowing from 0.8 per cent in the second quarter.

Economists say a major reason is higher prices, and many are predicting the economy will shrink over the last months of this year and the first part of next year. Higher inflation has sent a chain of tremors through the economy. It has led the European Central Bank to raise interest rates at the fastest pace in its history with two three-quarter point increases at its October 27 and September 8 meetings. That has sent market borrowing costs higher for companies and governments and raised concerns that the war on inflation will hurt growth. Meanwhile, higher bond market costs for governments remain a concern for heavily indebted eurozone countries such as Italy.

Mulayam Singh started Muslim-Yadav combo, Akhilesh has to expand it

REFLEX ACTION

Harihar Swarup

“Ekparindabhinahi mar sakta Ayodhya main (I will not allow a bird to flap its wing in Ayodhya)”—the line famously delivered by Mulayam Singh Yadav in 1990 that was to make him presiding deity of M-Y (Muslim—Yadav) politics in Uttar Pradesh for quarter of a century after that.

The then chief minister of U.P. was responding to the BJP backed VHP's call to karsevaks to gather in Ayodhya on October 30, 1990 and start the construction of a Ram temple there. When frenzied karsevaks tried to break into the Babri Masjid, Mulayam ordered police firing to repulse them—something P V Narasimha Rao could not do on December 6, 1992, leading to demolition of the Babri Masjid. The firing did not immediately earn Mulayam Singh the goodwill of Muslim community. It triggered off anger amongst the Hindus in U.P. and led to communal clashes in the state.

There was curfew in as many as 20 districts and 48 died in Bijnore alone. Mulayam Singh lost the 1991 election that followed and the BJP came to power in UP with as many as 221 seats and Kalyan Singh as CM. It was after the demolishing of the Babri Masjid in 1992 that the Muslims realized the importance of what ‘Netaji’ had done for them in 1990. He became darling of the community and came back to power in the 1993 elections. Such was the faith of Muslims reposed in him that they used to frequently say that had the Netaji been in power in Lucknow, he would not have let the Mosque be demolished.

Mulayam Singh's “parinda” remark came at a time when the BJP leader L K Advani's Sornath-to-Ayodhya Rathayatra had been cut short by Lalu Prasad in Samastipur, Bihar on October 23, 1990. The BJP had

withdrawn its support to the National Front government and then Prime Minister V P Singh's ministry was tattering on the brink, setting off the countdown to the elections. Despite Advani's arrest in Bihar, the karsevaks continued to make their way to Ayodhya from all corners of UP, on foot and even swimming across Sarayuri river.

The BJP saw the Ram temple as a emotional issue that could arouse Hindu opinion in favour of elections. The party hit out at Mulayam over the firing on Ram Bhaktas, took out an asthikalashyatra of the remains of the “martyred” karsevaks and held a memorial meeting for them at Delhi's boat club in April 1991—on eve of the national election that year. Though 28 people died in the firing - BJP stalwart Atal Behari Vajpayee put the figure at 56—the situation could have been worse if not for precautionary measures Mulayam had put in place. Hours before the proposed “karseva” on October 30, the government arrested 1,50,000 karsevaks in UP. For all his differences with then prime minister, Mulayam moved in step with Home Ministry at the Centre. Naresh Chandra, an outstanding bureaucrat whose services were utilised by several Prime Ministers for his tough and out-of-box approach, was the Home Secretary. Raj Bhargava was the Chief Secretary.

“I had 90,000 people confined in cantonments,” Naresh Chandra once said, “Dozens culverts along the

bus routes that would have brought these people were blown up in UP. Trains were cancelled at will”. Chandra had delegated the power to the Home Secretary to Raj Bhargava, who was in the high seat. The Railway Board Chairman was told that if the Chief Secretary gave the orders that a train had to be cancelled, he had to comply.

The effort was to keep the karsevaks out of Ayodhya, so that it did not become an inflammable situation. CM Mulayam Singh cooperated totally with the Centre and did not interfere in the Home Ministry planning. A tough stand on Ayodhya suited Mulayam Singh politically. He had been a beneficiary of Mandal politics, and now wanted to augment and consolidate his OBC base. It seemed good politics to get Muslims – 19–20% of the population in UP—on his side, along with his own Yadav community, who made up around 10%.

The M-Y combine began to crack in 2014 when Narendra Modi came to power. A section of Yadavas, who were getting Hinduised, swerved towards the BJP. Yogi Adityanath's decision to accord the state funeral to Mulayam showed that the BJP continues to eye the Yadav community for support. Mulayam had himself spoken in favour of Narendra Modi in the 2019 elections.

Mulayam leaves a rich legacy for his son Akhilesh Yadav and for the Samajwadi party he built. But he also leaves them a challenge--- to fashion a new constituency that goes beyond the M-Y platform that he forged in 1990 and a way to counter Modi's heady cocktails of Hindutva, nationalism, social welfareism, strong leadership and co-option of OBC and the most backward among them. (IPA)



A roadside vendor sells Jagadahatri puja items in central Kolkata--Arijit Ganguly

World Bank estimate on reduction of poverty level in country is faulty

The Global Hunger Index (GHI) for 2022 has just come out, which shows India occupying the 107th position among the 121 countries for which the index is prepared (countries where hunger is not a noteworthy problem are left out of the index). India's score on the hunger index is 29.1 which is worse than the score of 28.2 it had in 2014. (The lower the figure the less is hunger).

One is so bombarded these days by official talk about India being among the fastest growing economies of the world, India within sight of becoming a \$5 trillion economy, and India being an emerging economic power, that news such as the GHI brings one down to earth. Ironically, the only country in South Asia that is below India on the hunger index, and that too only marginally, is war-ravaged Afghanistan (rank 109); the rank of crisis-hit Sri Lanka is 64, of Nepal 81, of Bangladesh 84 and of Pakistan 99.

The GHI news however should come as no surprise. The fact that hunger in the country is acute and growing, has been pointed out by several scholars. They have used data on per capita daily calorie intake, and per capita annual foodgrain availability to make this point. And they have argued that since growing hunger is a symptom of growing poverty, a proposition that the Planning

Commission had originally accepted, the period of neo-liberalism which has seen secularly growing hunger culminating in this year's GHI, despite the much lauded high GDP growth, must also be a period of growing absolute poverty.

The evidence on secularly growing hunger in the neo-liberal period is quite overwhelming. If we take 1993-94 and 2011-12, the first an NSS “large sample” year closest to the beginning of neo-liberalism, and the second the last NSS “large sample” year for which data have been released by the government, we find that the proportion of the population below 2200 calories per person per day in rural India increased from 58 to 68 per cent; the corresponding figures for urban India where the benchmark was 2100 calories per person per day increased from 57 to 65 per cent.

The figures for 2017-18, another NSS “large sample” year, were apparently so appalling that the government decided to suppress them altogether, and even to discontinue the NSS in the old form. But leaked data show that per capita real

expenditure for rural India as a whole had fallen by 9 per cent between 2011-12 and 2017-18.

There is however a powerful view among many researchers that this apparently growing incidence of hunger should not be taken as evidence of people becoming worse off over time. There are two strands of this argument. One states that because of pervasive mechanisation, the drudgery of manual work has declined over time, so that working people these days do not need as many calories as they used to earlier. They spend less on food than they used to, and diversify their spending towards other ends. The second strand does not mention the decline in the extent of arduous work, but simply states that people are voluntarily diversifying their expenditure away from such elementary goods as foodgrains, towards both more refined and sophisticated food items, and also towards other commodities like children's education and proper healthcare.

On both these counts according to

them, the decline in per capita foodgrain absorption is symptomatic not of a worsening living standard as of an improvement in living standard; hence to draw conclusions about growing poverty from what appears at first sight as growing hunger (but in fact is a voluntary reduction of foodgrain consumption as part of a better life), is entirely illegitimate.

The incidence of poverty, it follows, is not growing but declining, as the government and the World Bank have been claiming (though the latter has recently talked of a rise in poverty during the pandemic).

To repeat, there is no dispute about the decline in per capita foodgrain consumption in India, taking both direct and indirect consumption together, the latter through processed foods and animal feeds; nor is there any dispute about the decline in per capita calorie intake.

The real difference is whether this signifies growing poverty or a diversification of consumption away from foodgrains that is symptomatic of a fall in poverty. The fact that an increase in poverty would cause greater hunger is not in doubt; the point is whether the reverse is true, whether reduced ingestion of foodgrains can be taken as proof of growing poverty. (IPA/ To be continued)

FOCUS

Prabhat Patnaik

Conventional Crossword							
1	2	3		4	5	6	7
9				10	11		
12					13		
					14		
	15	16		17			
18			19			20	
21	22	23					24
25				26			27
28						29	
30					31		

ACROSS		DOWN	
1	Brave man	1	Sword handle
4	Domesticates	2	Period of time
9	Anger	3	Kingly
11	Nominate	5	Projecting corners
12	Light beer	6	Female horse
13	Amused look	7	Send out
14	Permits	8	Sanity
15	Cavalry weapon	10	Liable
19	Letting contract	16	Changes
21	Petty quarrel	17	Freight
25	Crippled	18	Tiny island
26	Ingrained dirt	20	Banishment
28	At all times	22	Form walking surface
29	Ship's record	23	Prayer ending
30	Time in grammar	24	Seeks charity
31	Insect traps	27	Disorderly group

SUDOKU : 3683								
				8				
							3	1
			4	2	3	9		7
7		8			2			9
		1		5		2		
9			3			7		4
8		4	5	9	6			
1	6							
			8					

Yesterday's Solution 3682								
9	5	4	7	2	8	1	3	6
6	8	3	5	1	9	4	7	2
2	1	7	3	4	6	8	5	9
4	3	6	2	9	1	7	8	5
1	2	8	4	7	5	6	9	3
5	7	9	8	6	3	2	4	1
8	4	5	6	3	2	9	1	7
7	9	2	1	5	4	3	6	8
3	6	1	9	8	7	5	2	4

Yesterday's Cross Word Solution 1691								
P	E	S	T		H	E	A	L
O					E	M	I	T
S	H	U	N		P	L	U	M
Y		L	A	T		S	A	P
				V	E	R	S	E
S		M	E	R	I	T		
P	E	A		S	L	U	M	
O	V	I	N	E		N	A	P
T	I	N	E			Z		S
S	L	E	E	K		V	E	N

DISCLAIMER

The views in the articles published here are absolutely the views of the author and The Echo of India does not stand liable for them.

Money laundering case: Anil Deshmukh's son Salil appears before Mumbai court; granted bail

MUMBAI, NOV 1 /--/A special court here on Tuesday granted bail to former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh's son Salil Deshmukh after he appeared before it in connection with a money laundering case.

A special court designated to hear cases related to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) had in February issued a summons to Salil Deshmukh after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) submitted its complaint (charge sheet) in the case. Salil Deshmukh, the elder son of Anil Deshmukh, was arraigned as an accused in the case. After appearing before the court on Tuesday, Salil Deshmukh filed an application through his advocate Aniket Nikam requesting the court to accept his appearance and grant him bail. The court accepted this application and granted bail. The application said the accusations levelled against Salil Deshmukh were "absolutely unfounded". It further said that Salil Deshmukh was never arrested by the ED in the case to date and that he has cooperated in the investigation.

The ED opposed Salil Deshmukh's plea saying he had been summoned by the anti-money laundering agency twice but he never appeared. The ED also stated that though Salil Deshmukh had been summoned by the court in February he appeared only now. "He has no respect for the agency, no respect for the court and so the application may be rejected," the agency said. In the application, Salil Deshmukh said while the scheduled offence remained confined to the alleged acts of omission and commission of his father as the then Home Minister, the present PMLA case has spread its tentacles beyond the precincts of the scheduled offence and certain accusations which have no relation to any schedule offence have been levelled against him. "The accusations against the Applicant are not attributable to any criminal activity relating to a scheduled offence and thus deforms the nature of these transactions, the same cannot come with the fold of proceeds of crime and consequential money laundering," it said. The application also stated that

Anil Deshmukh has been granted bail in the case by the Bombay High Court earlier this month. "The high court in its order had clearly stated that none of the properties or assets (mentioned in the ED complaint) was derived or obtained from proceeds of crime," it added.

Salil Deshmukh is neither named in the scheduled/predicate offence nor has any role to play in any act of omission or commission that may have been attributed to his father, the application said. It further said that Salil Deshmukh has no criminal antecedents and comes from a respectable family and hence is not a flight risk. The ED began its probe against Anil Deshmukh after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) registered a case against him over allegations of extortion made by former Mumbai police commissioner Param Bir Singh. (PTI)



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Notice Inviting e-Tenders

No. 130-DB/RCD/e-tender/2022-23/3585 Wimberly Gunj Dt. 27/10/2022

The Executive Engineer, Road Construction Division, A.P.W.D., Wimberly Gunj invites on behalf of President of India online Item rate tender/ bid from the approved and eligible contractors of the Andaman PWD or all contractors irrespective of their enlistment in APWD or any other Govt. Department subject to the condition that they have experience on executing the relevant magnitude of work as per CPWD works manual and with other GOI Organizations in these Island and do not have any adverse remarks: -

- NIT No. 67/EE/RCD/APWD/WG/22-23 (Tender ID: 2022_APWD_7867_1).
Special Repair of PHC Ferrargunj (Roof, Doors, Windows, Drainage etc) including Guest room and mortuary building. Estimate Cost:- ₹. 40,80,039/- EMD :- ₹ 81,601/- Time of completion:- 06 (Six) Months.
- NIT No. 68/EE/RCD/APWD/WG/22-23 (Tender ID: 2022_APWD_7869_1).
Special Repair/Renovation of JPP Tirur under RCD, APWD, Wimberly Gunj. Estimate Cost:- ₹. 61,74,595/- EMD :- ₹ 1,23,492/- Time of completion:- 02 (Two) Months.
- NIT No. 70/EE/RCD/APWD/WG/22-23 (Tender ID: 2022_APWD_7870_1).
Repair of 3 Homes of Abhudaya Complex Ferrargunj including painting under RCD, APWD, Wimberly Gunj. Estimate Cost:- ₹. 65,86,437/- EMD :- ₹ 1,31,729/- Time of completion:- 06 (Six) Months.
- NIT No. 71/EE/RCD/APWD/WG/22-23 (Tender ID: 2022_APWD_7874_1).
A/R & M/O Water supply under AE/FG during 2022-23. S.W:- Providing Water Supply distribution line to Herpatabad BP camp No.2, Manpur ward No.3, and left out houses of Lambakhari village. Estimate Cost:- ₹. 19,04,342/- EMD :- ₹ 38,087/- Time of completion:- 04 (Four) Months.
- NIT No. 72/EE/RCD/APWD/WG/22-23 (Tender ID: 2022_APWD_7868_1).
Construction of Road side drain, retaining wall from Chunna Bhatta to Surya Chakra Power house (Balance Portion) under RCD, Wimberly Gunj. Estimate Cost:- ₹. 73,67,808/- EMD :- ₹ 1,47,356/- Time of completion:- 06 (Six) Months.

Last date of Submission: 22/11/2022 at 3.00 PM and Opening date : 24/11/2022 at 10.00 AM.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the [website – https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in/nicgep/app](https://eprocure.andaman.gov.in/nicgep/app).

9260/22

E Tender NOTICE

The Pradhan, Gram Panchayat Rampur invites e-tender in Two bid system i.e. Technical Bid & Financial Bid from Electrical contractors (Society / individuals) having a team comprising of at least one lineman / wireman and a helper, one of which should have a minimum qualification of ITI in Electrical (2 years) or a certificate of competency from any of the licensing board for Annual Maintenance Contract (**AMC**) of street lights at all wards of Gram Panchayat Rampur, N & M Andaman for a period of **one year** and same has been posted on the in CPP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.andaman.gov.in>) with the **Tender ID No. 2022_RDPRI_7755_1**. The last date of receipt of online submitted e tender is **10-11-2022 by 11:000 AM**. For any further details, quotationer may contact Pradhan/ Panchayat Secretary Gram Panchayat Rampur through phone No. 9531837405/9531921468

-sd- Pradhan

9251/22

Gram Panchayat Rampur



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Sl. No.	Name of the posts	No. of vacancies					Pay Level (As per 7 th Central Pay Commission)
		EWS	UR	ST	SC	OBC	Total Posts
A	Scientist 'C'	-	02	-	-	-	02
B	Scientist 'B'	-	01	-	01	-	02
C	Technical Assistant	-	01	-	-	01	02
D	Field-cum-Laboratory-Attendant	-	02	01	-	01	04
E	Multi-Tasking-Staff (MTS)	-	01	01	-	01	03
TOTAL POSTS		-	07	02	01	03	13

The detailed Notice for the above posts, including educational qualifications, age limits, commencement of online registration, last date for online registration, last date for submission of application, application fee, etc. is available on our website www.wihg.res.in. Interested Candidates can download the details and apply through the link <http://wihg.co.in> given on the website of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dcharadun (www.wihg.res.in). No other means/mode of application will be accepted. Director, Wadia Institute of Himalyan Geology reserves the right to reject any or all the applications without assigning any reason or not to fill any post, if suitable candidates are not available or because of any other reason. The closing date will be 30 days from the date of publishing of this advertisement in Employment News.

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Business per Employee

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FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 ST MARCH 2022			(₹ in Lac)	
SL. No.	PARTICULARS	31.03.2022 (Audited)		
1	Interest Earned (i+ii)	11,204.47	CRAR 12.91%	
i	Interest on Advances	5,947.35		
ii	Interest on Investments	5,257.12	Interest Earned ₹ 11,204.47 Lac	
2	Other income	1,260.67		
3	GROSS INCOME (1+2)	12,465.14	Av. Working Capital ₹1,47,692.87 Lac	
4	Interest Expended	6,170.11		
5	Operating Expenses (i+ii)	3,593.26		
i	Transaction Costs	2,824.56		
ii	Other Operating Expenses	768.70		
6	TOTAL EXPENDITURE (4+5)	9,763.37		
7	OPERATING PROFIT (3-6)	2,701.77		
8	Provisions	2,420.55		
9	NET PROFIT (7-8)	281.22		

M/s VPL & Co
Chartered Accountants

I Floor, Room No 29, Radha Krishna Complex,
Junglighat (PO), Port Blair, Andaman - 744103

AUDITORS' REPORT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on financial statements: We have audited the accompanying financial statements of 'Andaman & Nicobar State Cooperative Bank Limited' Port Blair, Andaman including its 09 branch out of 41 branches as at 31st March 2022 which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31st 2022, and the statement of Profit and Loss Account for the period ended 31st March 2022.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement: Management is responsible for preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance of the bank in accordance with provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India and the guidelines issued by National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Central Registrar of Co-operative Societies, and accounting principles generally accepted in India so as far as applicable to banks.. This responsibility includes the design, Implementation and maintenance of Internal Control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility: Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with standards on Auditing issued by the institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtained reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements are free from material mis-statement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the Auditors' Judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material Mis-statement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion: In our opinion, and to the best of our information and according to the explanation given to us, the financial statements gives the information required by the act in the manner so required as give a true & fair view in conformity with the accounting Principles generally accepted in India.

a. In the case of Balance Sheet, of the State of Affairs of the branch as at 31st March, 2022; and

b. In case of Profit and Loss account, of the Profit / Loss for the year ended on that date;

For VLP & Co
Chartered Accountants FRN 327122e
Sd/-
(CA Payal Singhal ACA)
Partner, M No. 305791
UDIN No. 22305791AMCXQR6200



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaking to a person who sustained injury in the bridge collapse incident at Civil Hospital in Morbi district, on Tuesday

PM visits Morbi bridge collapse site, calls for extensive inquiry

MORBI, NOV 1 /--/ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called for a "detailed and extensive" inquiry into the Morbi bridge collapse tragedy and said its key learnings must be implemented at the earliest.

As many as 135 bodies have been recovered from the Machchhu river in Gujarat's Morbi town by the armed forces, National Disaster Response Force and other rescue agencies after the British-era suspension bridge collapsed on Sunday, officials said. The Prime minister visited the collapse site and the local hospital where the injured have been admitted. He also chaired a high-level meeting at Morbi to review the situation, the Prime Minister's Office said in a release. "The need of the hour is to conduct a detailed and extensive inquiry which will identify all aspects relating to this mishap," Modi said. Key learnings from the inquiry must be implemented at the earliest and authorities must stay in touch with the affected families and ensure that they receive all possible help in this tragic hour, he said.

The meeting was attended by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi, local MLA and minister Brijesh Merja, state chief secretary Pankaj Kumar and state Director General of Police Ashish Bhatia, among others. Before that, the Prime Minister visited the site of the tragedy and also went to the local hospital where the injured are recovering. He also interacted with those involved in rescue and relief work and lauded their efforts. State minister Rajendra Trivedi said as many as 170 persons were rescued after the collapse. "The kin of all the deceased have already been paid a compensation of Rs 4 lakh each as announced by the Gujarat government. A compensation of Rs 2 lakh announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be deposited soon into their bank accounts through DBT (direct bank transfer)," the minister told reporters in state capital Gandhinagar.

Modi said only 17 people, out of those rescued after the accident, were at present under treatment at various hospitals in Morbi. A senior police official had said on Monday that no person was missing as of now. Police have so

far arrested nine persons, including four from the Morbi-based Oreva Group that was managing the suspension bridge, and filed a case against firms tasked with maintenance and operation of the structure. The clock and e-bike maker Oreva group was given a contract by the Morbi Municipality to repair and operate the ill-fated hanging bridge for 15 years, as per documents of the municipality. The Prime Minister conducted an aerial survey of the location. Later he visited the hospital where those injured in the incident are undergoing treatment. He spent around 15 minutes in the hospital and spoke with at least six

injured victims, officials said. "Prime Minister Modi met the victims and asked them about the incident with sympathy. He also asked them about the treatment they received in the hospital," Gujarat health secretary Manoj Agarwal told reporters. Modi arrived at Darbargadh Palace where he was briefed by officials about what might have gone wrong with the bridge. Later he visited the office of the Morbi district superintendent of police and met local officials and relatives of victims. He then left for Ahmedabad by helicopter after an hour-long visit to the tragedy-struck town. (PTI)

TMC wonders whether Modi will condemn Gujarat govt as he did during bridge collapse in Bengal

KOLKATA, NOV 1 /--/ Criticising the BJP government in Gujarat for the collapse of the Morbi bridge, TMC on Tuesday wondered whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi will condemn that state as he did during a similar incident in Bengal in 2016. The TMC was evidently referring to the collapse of a portion of the under construction Vivekananda Road flyover in central Kolkata during the Assembly poll in Bengal in March 2016. It had led to the death of 27 people and left many others injured. "When a flyover had collapsed in Kolkata during the 2016 Assembly polls, the Prime Minister while campaigning for his party had blamed corruption as the main reason for it. Now let him say the same thing about the incident in Gujarat," TMC state general secretary Kunal Ghosh said. TMC also shared a video clip of Prime Minister Narendra Modi criticising the TMC government for the 2016 flyover collapse. TMC Rajya Sabha MP Sushmita Dev said the bridge collapse at Morbi has exposed BJP's much-hyped

'Gujarat Model'. "In 2016 PM Narendra Modi came to West Bengal and criticised the state government over the flyover collapse. The PM has a habit of politicising every issue if it transpires in an Opposition-ruled state. But a tragic incident has taken place in Gujarat, a state ruled by BJP. So what will he say now? The incident has exposed the Gujarat model," she said. The BJP on its part slammed the TMC for trying to play politics over the tragic incident at Morbi. "It is shameful that TMC is trying to politicise the incident in Gujarat. TMC and its leaders should be the last to talk about corruption. They should stop this vulture politics. The two incidents (at Morbi and Kolkata) have no similarities," state BJP spokesperson Samik Bhattacharya said. As poll campaign was on in Bengal during the Vivekananda Road flyover collapse, several Opposition parties including the BJP, had panned the TMC government in the state for it. The TMC had dubbed the criticisms as "baseless". (PTI)

Mamata likely to discuss LS poll strategies with Stalin during her Chennai visit

CM to travel to southern state today

KOLKATA, NOV 1 /--/ Chief minister Mamata Banerjee will visit Chennai on November 2 and is likely to hold a meeting with her Tamil Nadu counterpart M K Stalin to discuss their strategies for the 2024 Lok Sabha poll, a senior government official said on Tuesday.

Mamata will travel to the southern metropolis on Wednesday as she has been invited by West Bengal Governor La Ganesan to his elder brother's birthday on November 3. The chief minister, who is likely to stay a night in Chennai, may pay a visit to Stalin at his camp office on November 2 soon after reaching there, the official said. The Trinamool Congress (TMC) supremo may also meet several top politicians of Tamil Nadu who are expected to be present at Ganesan's family function, the official added. Expressing doubt over the outcome of the meeting, opposition party leaders questioned Banerjee's trip to Chennai on taxpayers' money to attend a family programme of a 'temporary' governor. La Ganesan had taken up the additional charge of West Bengal on July 18, 2022, besides Manipur after Jagdeep Dhankhar was nominated the vice-presidential candidate by the NDA.

West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee president Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury described Mamata's visit as "Nothing but an attempt to restore her lost credentials in Indian politics". Chowdhury told PTI: "I see no reason why Banerjee is going to Chennai to attend the birthday party of one of the family members of the Governor. I think this is a ploy to develop a good relationship with the Centre so that West Bengal does not get another Jagdeep Dhankhar as its Governor". On the proposed meeting between

Mamata and Stalin, who is also the DMK president, the Congress leader said: "Didi (Banerjee is often called so and means elder sister) knows that she has lost her credibility in national politics. She had held several such meetings with many leaders earlier but those had failed miserably. This is the reason she planned this so-called meeting with Stalin. I see this as her attempt to try to restore her lost relevance in Indian politics." CPM leader Sujan Chakraborty too questioned Banerjee's Chennai travel and called it an "excuse" to leave Bengal



Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee (R) with her TN counterpart M K Stalin — File photo

at a time when people are demonstrating demanding jobs. "I don't see any logic behind a chief minister visiting the family programme of the governor on taxpayers' money. She is actually escaping the state when job aspirants are holding demonstrations demanding employment. She is not at all bothered about them and is fleeing from reality," Chakraborty told news agency PTI when contacted. The School Service Commission scam, which is rocking the state, refused to die down as nearly

100 aspirants demanding appointment in schools blocked the thoroughfares and were detained in the Salt Lake area here on Tuesday. They claimed to have been deprived of teaching jobs in state-run and state-aided upper primary, secondary and higher secondary schools despite having qualified in the recruitment tests conducted by the Commission. Sit-in is on by another 100 SSC candidates continued for about 600 days at Mayo Road in the heart of the city. They claim to have qualified for school teachers' jobs in the past years but "did not find a place in merit lists". Former West Bengal Education minister Partha Chatterjee, a former SSC chairman, a former advisor and a former president of the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education have been arrested by central agencies in connection with the High Court-monitored probe into teacher appointment irregularity scam. Senior BJP leader Rahul Sinha echoed the CPM and described the proposed meeting between Banerjee and Stalin as an "absolutely meaningless" one. "She went to Goa, Tripura and Assam and she could nothing anywhere. The point is TMC has no relevance outside Bengal. She can roam around the country, but that will not yield any result," Sinha said when contacted. Mamata, he said, must think about her party's business in Bengal before holding meetings with Stalin and others. The TMC supremo has in the past met several Opposition leaders to try to forge Opposition unity. She had at a mega rally of her party in September claimed that she would join hands with other opposition and regional leaders to defeat the BJP in 2024. "All Opposition parties will join hands to defeat the BJP. All of us will be on one side and the BJP on the other. BJP's arrogance of 300 seats will be its nemesis. There will be Khela Hobe' in 2024," she said. (PTI)

Centre to give citizenship to minorities of 2 districts of Gujarat

NEW DELHI, NOV 1 /--/ The Centre has decided to grant Indian citizenship to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians coming from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan and currently living in two districts of Gujarat under the Citizenship Act, 1955. The move to grant citizenship under the Citizenship Act, 1955 and not the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA) bears significance. The CAA also provides for granting Indian citizenship to Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians coming from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan, but as the rules under the Act have not been framed by the

government yet, no one so far could be granted citizenship under it. According to a Union home ministry notification, those Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians residing in the districts of Anand and Mehsana in Gujarat will be allowed registration as a citizen of India under section 5 or will be granted certificate of naturalisation under section 6 of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and in accordance with the provisions of the Citizenship Rules, 2009. Such people living in the two districts of Gujarat have to submit their applications online which will then be verified by the collector at the district level. The application and reports thereon shall be simultaneously made accessible online to the central government, the notification read. The collector may make such inquiry as he considers necessary for ascertaining the suitability of the applicant and for that purpose forwards the application online to such agencies for verification and comments as may be required for completing such an inquiry, it said. After completing the entire process, the collector, being satisfied with the

suitability of the applicant, grants him or her the citizenship of India by registration or naturalisation and issues a certificate of registration or naturalisation, as the case may be, the notification said. The Narendra Modi government wants to grant Indian nationality to persecuted non-Muslim migrants -- Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis, and Christians -- from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan who had come to India till December 31, 2014. There were massive protests in some parts of the country after the CAA was passed by Parliament in December 2019 and the subsequent presidential nod. Over a hundred people lost their lives during the protests. However, the



CAA has not been implemented so far as rules under it are yet to be framed. According to the Manual on Parliamentary Work, the rules for any legislation should have been framed within six months of presidential assent or seek extension from the

Committees on Subordinate Legislation in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. In January 2020, the home ministry notified that the Act would come into force from January 10, 2020, but it later requested the parliamentary committees in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha to give it some more time to implement rules as the country was going through its worst ever health crisis due to the Covid pandemic. Last fortnight, the Union home ministry had been granted yet another extension by the Parliamentary Committees on Subordinate Legislation in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha to frame the rules of the CAA. While the permission has been granted from the Rajya Sabha till December 31, 2022, the Lok Sabha has granted time till January 9, 2023. This was the seventh extension given to the home ministry to frame the rules under the CAA. (PTI)

Cong will give non-BJP govt led by Rahul to country: Kharge

HYDERABAD, NOV 1 /--/ In his maiden public address after becoming Congress president, Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday said the Congress will give a non-BJP government to the country under the leadership of Rahul Gandhi.

Joining the Bharat Jodo Yatra here after being elected to the top party post, Kharge launched a sharp attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, accusing him of "spreading lies every day" which could "destroy the country" in the long term. "If anyone will bring a non-BJP government under Rahul Gandhi's leadership, under Congress' leadership, we will do it," Kharge said addressing a public meeting here. The

Congress leader said the Bharat Jodo Yatra was receiving support from the youth in huge numbers as Modi had failed to keep the promise of two crore jobs made to them in run-up to the Lok Sabha elections in 2014. "People are joining Bharat Jodo Yatra in lakhs across the country and in the coming 2024 elections, the Congress government will come to power at the Centre," he said. Kharge lashed out at Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao and accused him of ignoring the welfare of the people of the state while eyeing a national role for himself. "KCR is visiting other states and meeting leaders. He went to Kolkata, then Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Bihar. Look after your own house first. 'By your actions, you are

weakening the party which is alive from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and ready to fight the BJP," Kharge said. "If you are against the BJP, why did you support them on the farm laws? He (KCR) claims to be in favour of a non-BJP government, but is working in tandem with them," the Congress president alleged.

"KCR's government is there because of the support of the people of Telangana. But they are trying to destroy everything. There is no difference between KCR and Modi, both are together," Kharge said. The Congress leader, who arrived here in the afternoon, joined the Yatra at its final destination for the day at the Indira Gandhi statue on Necklace Road where a street corner meeting was held. Rahul, along



with other leaders, party workers and a crowd of supporters who had joined him from the Charminar where he unfurled the national flag, reached Necklace Road. Minutes later, Kharge joined him on stage and the two leaders

hugged each other as supporters cheered on. The corner meeting saw a huge crowd and screens were put up so that those unable to reach close the stage could watch the event from afar. The last time Kharge participated in the Yatra was on October 16 in Karnataka's Bellary and had later addressed a public meeting there. On October 17, polling was held for the post of Congress president between Kharge and Shashi Tharoor in which the former came out victorious. The march on Tuesday resumed from Matha Temple in Shamshabad and halted at the Legacy Palace at Bahadurpura in Hyderabad for an afternoon break. The Yatra's night halt will be at Gandhi Ideology Center in Bowenpally. (PTI)

President Xi expresses 'shock' in his condolence messages to President Murmu, PM Modi over Gujarat bridge collapse

BELJING, NOV 1/--/Chinese President Xi Jinping has sent condolence messages to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying he was shocked to learn about the deadly bridge collapse in Gujarat's Morbi city that claimed 135 lives. In his message, President Xi said he was shocked to learn of the deadly collapse, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported. "On behalf of the Chinese government and

people, Xi extended deep condolences over the deaths and sincere sympathies to the bereaved families and the injured," it added.

On the same day, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang also sent a message of condolence to Prime Minister Modi. Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi also sent a condolence message to his Indian counterpart S Jaishankar over the bridge collapse. Wang extended deep condolences over the deaths and sincere sympathies to the bereaved families and the injured. The more than a-century-old bridge, which had reopened five days back after extensive repairs and renovation, was crammed with people when it collapsed on Sunday evening. As many as 135 people have been killed in the Morbi bridge collapse tragedy and 170 others rescued. Several world leaders, including US President Joe Biden, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid, on Monday extended their condolences to the families of the people who lost their lives in the tragic bridge collapse. (PTI)

Israeli prez Herzog urges citizens to vote in general elections to break political stalemate

JERUSALEM, NOV 1/--/Israeli President Isaac Herzog cast his vote on Tuesday morning in Jerusalem, urging citizens to exercise their franchise at a time when billions of people in many nations are devoid of this key democratic right. Israelis began voting in the morning in the general elections, the fifth in less than four years, to break the political stalemate that has paralysed the Jewish nation. Polling booths opened at 7 am local time. Polls will close at 10 pm but official results are not expected until Wednesday. The process of forming the government could drag on for weeks. "Israel is a true democracy. Millions of voters will go out today to vote and decide as to the future and direction of our nation. This is a thriving democracy with a multitude of voices," Herzog said.

About 6.78 million Israeli citizens are eligible to vote and will elect their 25th Knesset (Israeli Parliament). "We should always respect this enormous right that we have, as there are so many nations and billions of human beings who unfortunately do not enjoy this right," the president said. Asserting that all votes matter, the 62-year-old Israeli leader urged people not to think otherwise. "I want to reiterate: voting makes a difference without a shadow of a doubt. Anyone who thinks that his or her vote doesn't matter is wrong. I, therefore, call on all citizens of this country: exercise your democratic right, and go to vote!" Herzog stressed. Prime Minister Yair Lapid cast his vote at a polling station near his Tel Aviv home after walking there with his wife, Lihi. "Good morning, vote wisely. Vote for the State of Israel, the future of our children and our future in general," Lapid said, dropping a hint to choose his party Yesh Atid (meaning 'there is a future'). The 58-year-old leader started the day with a visit to the grave of his father Tommy Lapid, who was a noted journalist and a playwright-turned-politician. Former prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu cast his vote in Jerusalem in the morning, accompanied by his wife Sara. The 73-year-old leader urged everyone to go out and vote, calling it a "great privilege". Cautioning his supporters that early voting trends show higher turnout in Yesh Atid and "left-wing areas", he called on Likud sympathisers to come out and vote for the party. "I'm a little bit worried," he said, adding, "But with the help of everyone who hears us, I hope the day will end in a smile." Netanyahu, Israel's longest-serving prime minister and among one of the most polarising ones whose leadership plagued by charges of graft has been at the centre of current instability, is facing a battle of political survival. (PTI)

UN nuclear agency starts probe of Russian dirty bomb claim

KYIV, NOV 1/--/ Experts from the United Nations' nuclear power agency on Tuesday were inspecting two sites where Russia has made unfounded claims that Ukraine is manufacturing 'dirty bombs.' International Atomic Energy Agency Chief Rafael Grossi said in a statement that inspections had begun at two locations in Ukraine and would soon be completed. The inspections had been requested by Kyiv in the wake of the Russian allegations. Top Russian officials including President Vladimir Putin have made unsubstantiated accusations that Ukraine is preparing to use a so-called dirty bomb, an explosive laced with radioactive materials.

Russia's UN ambassador Vassily Nebenzia alleged in a letter to Security Council members last week that Ukraine's nuclear research facility and mining company "received direct orders from (President Volodymyr) Zelenskyy's regime to develop such a dirty bomb."

Western nations have rejected the unsubstantiated claim out of hand, calling it "transparently

false." Ukrainian authorities dismissed it as an attempt to distract attention from Moscow's own alleged plans to detonate a dirty bomb in order to justify its own escalation of hostilities.

The IAEA has said that both sites being investigated "are under IAEA safeguards and have been visited regularly by IAEA inspectors" whose mission is to detect undeclared nuclear activities, as well as materials related to the development of dirty bombs. "The IAEA inspected one of the two locations a month ago and no undeclared nuclear activities or materials were found there," the agency said in a statement Monday.

In a separate development, one person was killed and several buildings were destroyed after four Russian missiles hit the southern city of Mykolaiv around midnight, Mykolaiv Gov. Vitali Kim said on Telegram.

Elsewhere, explosions rocked the city of Poltava in northeastern Ukraine early Tuesday, Poltava Gov. Dmytro Lunin said on Telegram. Four Russian drones crashed into

civilian structures in the city igniting a fire, Lunin said. Another three drones were shot down. No casualties were reported. Overnight Russian shelling struck Ukraine's southeastern city of Nikopol and nearby Marhanets, Dnipropetrovsk Gov. Valentyn Reznichenko said. Some 40 shells hit Nikopol, which is located across the Dniپر River from the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, damaging 14 residential buildings, a kindergarten, a pharmacy, a bank and several shops, the official said.

In Marhanets, damage to a power line and loss of power to a water pumping station temporarily left some 40,000 families without running water and 10,000 families without electricity, according to Reznichenko. Power and water were restored by morning.

Ukraine was still grappling Tuesday with the consequences of Monday's massive barrage of Russian strikes which disrupted power and water supplies in multiple Ukrainian cities and villages. Kyiv Mayor Vitali

the density of a crowd hits a tipping point and leads to a deadly crush.

"Five to 10 cm in height makes a big difference when it comes to chest pressure," said Choi Sukjae, an emergency medicine specialist and public relations director of the Korean Emergency Medical Association.

At about 172 cm (5'8"), Kim is taller than many other women in South Korea but still vividly recalls having the breath crushed out of her as people stuck their elbows out protectively and pushed into her chest.

"People were pressing me from both ways; my chest was compressed," she said.

A dramatic video shot in an alley around the corner from where Kim was shows a handful of men managing to wind away from the suffocating crush. One man pulled himself up and out of the crowd by scaling the face of a building, then climbed across its illuminated sign and dropped back to a less packed part of the street, out of danger's way.

More than 100,000 people are thought to have been in the Itaewon streets on Saturday. Hwang Minku, a video forensic expert, said it is difficult to discern the makeup of the crowd from the aerial images of the scene.

Complicating the situation further, many wore costumes that made it hard or impossible to determine their sex or

approximate age, though Halloween celebrations in South Korea tend to draw younger crowds.

What is known is that of the 156 people killed, 12 were teenagers and 104 were in their 20s, according to the Interior and Safety Ministry. Thirty-one others were in their 30s, eight in their 40s, and one was in their 50s. Fifty-five were male and 101 female. Of 151 additional people who were injured, 29 remain in critical condition.

Dirk Helbing, a professor of computational social science at ETH Zurich university who studies crowd dynamics, said the numbers of women and young people killed were "shocking" and needed to be further investigated before drawing final conclusions.

"I do not recall having seen any numbers in the past that (broke down) victims by gender or age," he said. "The disaster shows that we are all vulnerable, perhaps to different degrees."

Helbing has extensively studied Germany's 2010 Love Parade disaster, in which 21 people died as they tried to exit through a bottleneck in a "crowd turbulence" situation he said had "striking similarities" to the tragedy in Seoul.

Crowd turbulence occurs when the group's density is so high that movement becomes fluid, with people pushing into one another involuntarily and

transferring force between their bodies.

"These erratic forces cause a turbulent pattern of motion of the crowd ... (and) someone might stumble, thereby creating a hole in the crowd," Helbing said in an email.

When that happens, people nearby no longer have the counterforce of the person in front of them and fall themselves, creating a domino effect as more and more people fall on top of each other, he said.

"It does not require any relentless behaviour of other people or a readiness to hurt people," he said.

"In fact, in many cases of critical crowd conditions, many people are trying to help each other, but the situation may be desperate, and not even police or first aid units may be able to prevent the disaster from happening once crowd turbulence occurs."

Ken Fallas, a Costa Rican architect who has worked in Seoul for the past eight years, was about 30 metres (yards) from the alley that was the centre of the crush at its peak. He remembers a feeling of helplessness as it unfolded.

"It is not something that you can control," Fallas said. "Most people will think, like, no, if I will be in that situation I will just push back - there's no way to push back - we're talking about probably 300 people behind you and the pressure of 300 people ... to push

back is impossible." Deeper into the alley where Fallas was trapped, Kim said that after she fell, her friend desperately tried to grab her but then disappeared into the crowd.

"I kept hearing people saying push, push' from the back, and people fell," she said. "My friend tried to grab me and got swept away. It was as if a tsunami had swept them away."

But she was one of the lucky ones, managing to get back to her feet with the help of a man in a police costume, and found her friend by a roadside club's stairway.

A club employee pulled her and others inside and helped them escape through the back door to safety.

Even having been that close to where most people were killed, Kim didn't realise anyone had been seriously injured until she saw a row of ambulances as she exited the club.

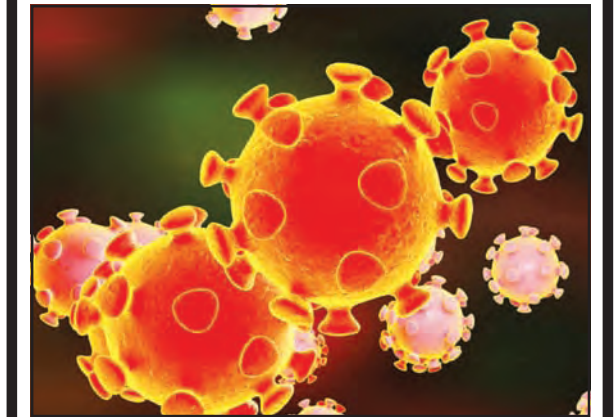
"I saw people on stretchers getting carried out and heard screaming," she said. "But some people still thought the ambulances were part of the Halloween setup."

Days later, she said her heart still races when she hears ambulance sirens, and she feels claustrophobic even in a group of people in her school cafeteria.

"Friends at school talk about the Itaewon tragedy, and it's very difficult for me to listen," she said. (AP)

COVID-19 shown to trigger inflammation in the brain : Study

CANBERRA, NOV 1/--/Scientists have found that COVID-19 activates the same inflammatory response in the brain as Parkinson's disease, according to a study. The research team, led by University of Queensland, has identified a potential future risk for neurodegenerative conditions in people who have had COVID-19, but also a possible treatment. The study is published in Nature's Molecular Psychiatry. "We studied the effect of the virus on the brain's immune cells, 'microglia' which are the key cells involved in the progression of brain diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's," lead author of the study Professor Woodruff said. "Our team grew human microglia in the



laboratory and infected the cells with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

"We found the cells effectively became 'angry', activating the same pathway that Parkinson's and Alzheimer's proteins can activate in disease, the inflammasomes," Dr Albornoz Balmaceda, co-author of the study said triggering the inflammasome pathway sparked a 'fire' in the brain, which begins a chronic and sustained process of killing off neurons. "It is kind of a silent killer, because you don't see any outward symptoms for many years," Dr Albornoz Balmaceda said.

"It may explain why some people who have had COVID-19 are more vulnerable to developing neurological symptoms similar to Parkinson's disease." The researchers found the spike protein of the virus was enough to start the process and was further exacerbated when there were already proteins in the brain linked to Parkinson's. "So if someone is already pre-disposed to Parkinson's, having COVID-19 could be like pouring more fuel on that 'fire' in the brain," Professor Woodruff said.

"The same would apply for a predisposition for Alzheimer's and other dementias that have been linked to inflammasomes." But the study also found a potential treatment. The researchers administered a class of UQ-developed inhibitory drugs which are currently in clinical trials with Parkinson's patients.

"We found it successfully blocked the inflammatory pathway activated by COVID-19, essentially putting out the fire," Dr Albornoz Balmaceda said.

"The drug reduced inflammation in both COVID-19-infected mice and the microglia cells from humans, suggesting a possible treatment approach to prevent neurodegeneration in the future."

Professor Woodruff said while the similarity between how COVID-19 and dementia diseases affect the brain was concerning, it also meant a possible treatment was already in existence. "Further research is needed, but this is potentially a new approach to treating a virus that could otherwise have untold long-term health ramifications." The UQ team was led by Professor Trent Woodruff and Dr Eduardo Albornoz Balmaceda from UQ's School of Biomedical Sciences, and virologists from the School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences. (PTI)

GAME NOTES

India have come to win Cup, we haven't: Shakib

ADELAIDE, NOV 1 /--/ Shakib Al Hasan has no qualms in admitting that Bangladesh are not title contenders in the T20 World Cup and a win against India will be considered an upset. Both Bangladesh and India are on four points from three games. "We haven't come here to win the World Cup, but India have. If we win tomorrow, it will be an upset victory. India are favourites tomorrow," Shakib told reporters on the eve of the game. The cold conditions in Adelaide does create a problem but the key will be adaptability. "It is a little difficult. Hobart was very cold and here it's cold. It is difficult to adjust to this cold but most players have at some point played here. You can't change the weather but we have to manage it," he said. (PTI)

Mithali predicts India-New Zealand in T20 World Cup

MUMBAI, NOV 1 /--/ Mithali Raj has predicted an India-New Zealand final in the ongoing T20 World Cup. The former India captain's semifinalists include South Africa and either England or defending champions Australia. "My predictions for semi-final spot, that is four spots will be India and South Africa from Group 2. From Group 1, it will be New Zealand and a toss-up between England and Australia. And the finalists, there is no doubt, India has to be there, and New Zealand," she told Star Sports. (PTI)

Ukraine football federations asks FIFA to remove Iran from World Cup

Kyiv, Nov 1 /--/ The Ukrainian football federation urged FIFA on Monday to remove Iran from the World Cup next month, alleging human rights violations and supplying the Russian military with weapons. The call was made three weeks before Iran are due to face England in the first Group B game in Qatar. The group also includes the United States and Wales. The Ukrainian federation's executive committee did not ask for Iran to be replaced at the tournament by the Ukraine team which lost to Wales in a European playoff final in June. Ukraine taking Iran's place was the suggestion last week by the country's top club, Shakhtar Donetsk, in a similar appeal to FIFA. FIFA has not commented on the Ukrainian requests and does not typically suspend member federations because of military decisions by a national government. (AP)



BRISBANE, NOV 1 /--/ Captain Jos Buttler led by example with a scintillating knock before his bowlers held their nerves and powered England to a crucial 20-run win against New Zealand in the T20 World Cup here on Tuesday. As far as New Zealand were concerned, Glenn Phillips continued his red-hot form to smash a fiery half-century, but that was not enough as England kept their semi-final hopes alive in the competition. England rode on a solid start by Alex Hales (52; 40 balls) and Buttler (73; 47 balls) to post 179 for six. The openers added 81 runs in 62 balls after England opted to bat. In reply, New Zealand ended at 159 for six. The win took England past defending champions Australia to second spot. On a surface that aided a bit of spin, Phillips (62; 36b; 4x4, 3x6) took on England leg-spinner Adil Rashid, smashing him for two successive sixes as New Zealand needed 54 runs from the last four overs. But the English pace attack made a strong comeback. Mark Wood (3-0-25-1) was superb at the back-end before Sam Curran (2/34) and Chris Woakes (2/34) restricted New Zealand. Curran took the prized scalp of Phillips in the 18th over, almost sealing the game in his team's favour. It was the first defeat for the Group 1 leaders after four matches, and they will face Ireland in their final Super 12 league fixture on Friday. A rain-marred loss to Ireland, followed by a washout against Australia had left Buttler's side in a spot of bother. England now have to go past Sri Lanka in their concluding group match on Saturday to make the last-four. Coming off a scorching century against Sri Lanka, Phillips made England pay for a dropped chance as the Kiwi No. 4 cruised to a 25-ball half-century in their chase of 180. It was England's struggling Test skipper Ben Stokes who triggered the collapse, dismissing Kane Williamson (40; 40b) with a slower ball. Stokes, who had an injury scare after hurting his index finger, came back and broke Williamson's match-decisive stand with Phillips, after it had yielded 91 runs off 54 balls. Wood, then, gave away just three runs and dismissed Jimmy Neesham (6) in an excellent 16th over. Playing his

Jos Buttler leads with feeling as England turn a corner in campaign

Captain's best day in the role comes at perfect moment to revive semi-final ambitions



Ben Stokes is pumped up after getting Kane Williamson. Jos Buttler scored a steady half-century

100th T20I, Buttler brilliantly seized the initiative with a 35-ball fifty in a knock that also took him past former skipper Eoin Morgan as England's leading run-scorer in T20Is. Buttler hit seven fours and two sixes while Hales had seven boundaries and one maximum. Moeen Ali dropped a dolly when Phillips was on 15, but the Kiwi batter overcame the early hiccup and made his intention clear by taking on the Wood, when he whacked him over mid-on for a six. Fortunately for England, the drop did not cost them much with the pacers sealing a fine win. Earlier, the Kiwis came back at the death and took four wickets, including that of Buttler off a run out, and conceded just 22 runs in the last three overs. Tim Southee had a superb penultimate over where he dismissed Harry Brook (7) and Stokes (8) in three balls, something that denied England 10-15 extra runs. Luck also favoured Buttler who looked a bit edgy early on and got two reprieves, on 8 and 40. He got his first life inside the powerplay, when his Kiwi counterpart Kane Williamson seemed to have taken a blinder at the covers, only for the ball to spill out of his hands. Buttler switched gears after the departure of Hales and took on speedster Lockie Ferguson, and this time too, he had his luck on his side with Daryl Mitchell dropping a sitter at square-leg boundary. Continuing his good run after his return, the 33-year-old Hales posted his third half-century in 12 innings since his comeback. The duo did not give the Kiwi pace attack any chance and primarily scored off ground strokes. At the halfway mark, England were 77 for no loss with the duo providing a perfect launch pad for the late order. But the New Zealand spin duo of Mitchell Santner (1/25) and Ish Sodhi (1/23) put the brakes on the England scoring rate. Left-arm spinner Santner was tidy as he varied his pace and bowled wide to slow down the run-rate. It paid dividends for Santner as he deceived Hales with a wide delivery. Moeen Ali (5) was promoted to No. 3, but the move did not yield any result as the all-rounder was dismissed by Ferguson (2/45) in the 14th over. (PTI)

T20 World Cup: Hasaranga, de Silva star as Sri Lanka defeat Afghanistan to keep semi-final hopes alive

BRISBANE, NOV 1 /--/ Dhananjaya de Silva scored an unbeaten 66 as Sri Lanka kept their slim Twenty20 World Cup hopes alive with a six-wicket win over Afghanistan at the Gabba in Brisbane on Tuesday. The Asia Cup champions moved to four points in Group 1 and can still make the semi-finals, but they need other results to go their way. Group 1 leaders New Zealand were playing England, who have three points, in a later game at the Gabba Tuesday after Australia beat Ireland on Monday to move level on five points at the top but behind the Black Caps on net run rate. The loss means Afghanistan are eliminated as they cannot make the semi-finals with one group match against Australia remaining after having two washouts and an opening defeat to England. Afghanistan captain Mohammad Nabi won the toss and chose to bat but Sri Lanka restricted them to 144-8, thanks largely to a fine spell from leg-spinner and player of the match Wanindu Hasaranga. The Sri Lankan run chase got off to a poor start when Mujeeb Ur Rahman spun one back to bowl Pathum Nissanka for 10. (AP)

Chance for India batters to get their act right against Bangladesh



ADELAIDE, NOV 1 /--/ Rishabh Pant's flair and chutzpah at the top might be in demand but India could still persist with an out-of-form KL Rahul when it takes on a relatively weaker Bangladesh in the T20 World Cup, here on Wednesday. Matches against Bangladesh across formats are always like a proverbial banana peel where slipping remains a possibility but India would certainly start favourite in their penultimate Super 12 match. The rude jolt the famed Indian batting line-up got on the paciest of tracks in Perth would have left the coaching staff, especially coach Rahul Dravid, pondering a few points. The 22 runs in three matches with

Yadav and Virat Kohli have already played brilliant knocks while Rohit Sharma looked good in his fifty against the Netherlands. However, Pant's exclusion from the playing XI is pretty baffling as he and Suryakumar Yadav bring that x-factor in the batting line-up. Dinesh Karthik's back spasms issue might just be a blessing in disguise for the Indian team. It may open up the opportunity for Pant's inclusion in the playing XI for the Bangladesh game. Bangladesh have four left-handers in their batting line-up, including skipper Shakib, openers Soumya Sarkar and Najmul Hossain Shanto and middle-order batter Afif Hossain. Dhruva and it will be interesting to see if India continue with Ravichandran Ashwin, who was mauled by David Miller in the previous game, or play Axar Patel. India's attack may not struggle much in dealing with Bangladesh as the troika of Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Arshdeep Singh and Mohammed Shami holds a distinct edge over rival side's batting line-up. A few numbers would corroborate how Bangladesh's batters have struggled in this tournament. Out of the two games they have won, one was a thriller against Zimbabwe while they played a close game against the Netherlands. Despite facing minnows, Shakib's batters have struggled on bowler-

friendly Australian pitches. (PTI)

Squads: India: Rohit Sharma (captain), KL Rahul, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Dinesh Karthik (wk), Rishabh Pant (wk), Yuzvendra Chahal, R Ashwin, Axar Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohammed Shami, Arshdeep Singh, Harshal Patel, Deepak Hooda

Bangladesh: Shakib al Hasan (captain), Najmul Hossain Shanto, Soumya Sarkar, Afif Hossain, Mosaddek Hossain, Mehidy Hasan Miraz, Shoriful Islam, Ebadot Hossain, Nurul Hasan, Litton Das, Taskin Ahmed, Hasan Mahmud, Yasir Ali, Nasum Hossain, Mustafizur Rahman

Match Starts 1:30 pm IST.

It's one place where you feel safe and secure: Dravid on Kohli's hotel room invasion

ADELAIDE, NOV 1 /--/ Virat Kohli's invasion of privacy in Perth was disappointing as it is "one place" where the Indian cricketers get to be away from the constant public gaze, said India head coach Rahul Dravid on Tuesday. A hotel housekeeping staff at the Crown in Perth had filmed Kohli's room and posted it on social media prompting the former India captain to express his disgust. "It's obviously disappointing. It's not very comfortable for anyone, let alone Virat. It is disappointing," Dravid said ahead of the T20 World Cup fixture against Bangladesh. For the reticent head coach, the idea of a hotel room also being in public glare is a petrifying thought. "We have flagged it with the relevant authorities. They have taken action (staff sacked). Hopefully, people are a lot more careful because it's the one place where you feel you are away from people's prying eyes and without the media glare on you and without the photographs that all of these players have to deal with. "It's the one place where you hope to feel secure and safe. If that's also taken away, it's not really a nice feeling." Dravid is happy that Kohli has been able to deal with it in a dignified manner. "I think he has dealt with it really well. He is fine. He's here at training. He's absolutely perfect," Dravid added. A flabbergasted and "paranoid" Kohli on Monday denounced the "absolute invasion" of his privacy by a fan, who shot a video of his hotel room and put that in public domain. Kohli re-shared the video, that went viral on social media, on his Instagram account along with a message, saying he is not okay with such kind of "fanaticism". (PTI)

In words and actions, we have supported KL for last one year: Dravid

ADELAIDE, NOV 1 /--/ Under-fire India opener KL Rahul has had his and skipper Rohit Sharma's unstinted support in "words and action" over the past one year and it will continue for the remainder of T20 World Cup, head coach Rahul Dravid said on Tuesday. Rahul has scored only 22 runs in three games but the coach said that there is no chance of replacing him at the top of the order. India play Bangladesh on Wednesday. "In words and in action over last one year, Rohit and I have shown that we fully back KL," head coach Dravid told media persons on a day when most questions were reserved on Rahul's form. The head coach did all the firefighting for one of his favourite players and someone he sees as a future India captain. "Not at all," Dravid said when asked if there are concerns about Rahul's form. "I think he is a fantastic player. He has got a proven track record. He has done really well. He has been batting superbly and these things can happen in a T20 game sometimes," the coach was lavish in his praise



for Indian vice-captain. "It has not been that easy for top-order batsmen (in this tournament). He was superb in the practice game against Australia. With Mitchell Starc and Pat Cummins, it was a pretty good attack and I thought he batted superbly that day..." Dravid then made it clear that there is no chance that the Bangalore man would be dropped at least in this tournament and is hoping that he will come good in the next four games. If India play four games, effectively they will be playing the final. "I am hoping it all clicks together in the next three or four games. We know his quality, we know his ability, he is suited for these conditions, these pitches. "The head coach didn't forget to mention the qualities that make Rahul a tailor-made player for Australian conditions. "He has got a good all-round game, he has got a strong backfoot game which is very much required in these conditions," he said. So when someone is under such scanner, does it become difficult to back such a player? "The Wall's" reply was an emphatic one and laced with sarcasm. "It's not difficult at all (to back Rahul). Because, we don't pay attention to what people are talking outside. We have certain ideas in mind, certain belief in players. "We played the game enough to know that people will go through ups and downs. We also understand the nature of Indian cricket," Dravid said. He gave the example of how media was after Virat Kohli till he found form and now it's Rahul, whose form is under microscope. (PTI)

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