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Dec 16 Delhi gangrape convicts set to hang early this morning

ANAND MOHAN J & PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE four convicts in the December 16, 2012, gangrape and murder case are set to be hanged at Tihar Jail at 5.30 am Friday, after the Supreme Court, the High Court as well as a lower court in the Capital Thursday rejected their pleas seeking a stay.

In a late-night hearing, the Delhi High Court held that the grounds raised by the counsel of the convicts, including that one of them is a juvenile, had already been dealt with by courts.

The hearing on the execution of the death warrants of Mukesh (31), Pawan Gupta (24), Vinay Sharma (25) and Akshay Kumar Singh (33) had gathered pace five months ago, after the victim's mother moved an application to shift the case from a vacant court, where the matter had remained unheard for months.

Their death warrants had been stayed thrice earlier over pending legal remedies.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ENTERS HOUSE TO CHANTS OF SHAME

Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi arrives at Parliament House to take oath as Rajya Sabha member. *Tashi Tobgyal* **REPORT, PAGE 8**

SC orders floor test in MP today: End state of uncertainty

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G & MILIND GHATWAI
NEW DELHI, BHOPAL, MARCH 19

MOVING TO end the "state of uncertainty" in Congress-ruled Madhya Pradesh following the resignation of 22 MLAs that plunged the Kamal Nath government into crisis, the Supreme Court, overruling objections Thursday, ordered a floor test in the state Assembly with the direction that it must be concluded by 5 pm Friday.

The bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and Hemant Gupta directed that the test be by show of hands, and that the 16 rebel Congress MLAs — six ministers had resigned earlier and late Thursday, the resignations of the remaining 16 too were accepted by the Speaker — be provided security if they wished to participate in the proceedings. It also ordered that the proceedings be videographed.

The strength of the 230-member Assembly has come down to 206 because of the 22 resignations and two vacancies

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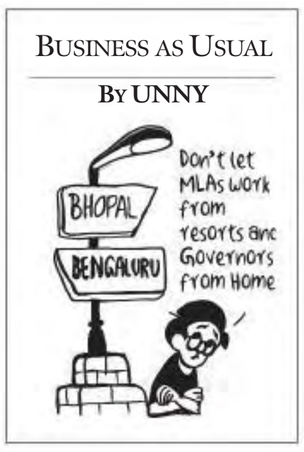
BUSINESS AS USUAL
BY UNNY



DELHI RESTAURANTS SHUT; STAY HOME IF ABOVE 65, BELOW 10

Janata Curfew & Janata Thank You Sunday: PM says don't lower guard

No need to go for hoarding, resolve and restraint are key: Modi to nation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

IN HIS address to the nation Thursday on the coronavirus threat, Prime Minister Narendra Modi cautioned against complacency on the pandemic while asking people to observe a self-imposed curfew on Sunday by not stepping out of homes between 7 am and 9 pm. He also reassured people against shortages, saying there was no need for hoarding.

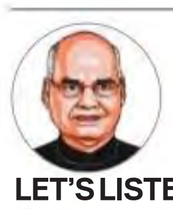
In a nearly 30-minute telecast, he said the March 22 'Janata Curfew' would be a test of people's "self-discipline" in fighting the virus. The only exception to the curfew would be doctors, media and providers of other essential services, and the PM urged people to thank them for five minutes at 5 pm on March 22 by ringing bells, clapping or other means.

Taking note of the impact of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PM addressed the nation on Thursday evening. *PTI*

THE EDITORIAL PAGE



LET'S LISTEN TO THE CRISIS
BY RAM NATH KOVIND
PAGE 12

Contact-tracing in Srinagar after Valley's first positive case

CORONA COUNT
173 CASES | 4 DEATHS
20 RECOVERED

India not to let flights land for a week starting Sunday

ABANTIKA GHOSH & AVISHEK G DASTIDAR
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

AS INDIA reported its fourth novel coronavirus (COVID-19) death and the total number of cases climbed to 173, the government Thursday tightened the lockdown further, banning the landing of all international commercial passenger flights for a week from March 22.

In Punjab, a 70-year-old man, who had returned from Germany via Italy on March 7 and died at a hospital in Nawanshahr district on Wednesday, tested positive. Lav Agarwal, Joint Secretary in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

In Mumbai's lifeline on tracks, fears of a sitting duck

IRAM SIDDIQUE
MUMBAI, MARCH 19

EVERY MORNING, Sushil Tambe leaves his home at 4.45 am to get to Panvel station, 4 km away, to catch the 5.05 am 'CSMT Slow' train. That will take him to Bhandup at 6.30 am where he works as a safai karamchari for the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

He and other safai karamcharis have been warned against taking any leave from work as the BMC is summoning all the resources it has in its fight against the spread of COVID-19 in Mumbai.

Ironically, what brings Tambe to work to fight the virus could itself become the problem, officials fear.

Every day, Mumbai's suburban train network, known as the locals, transports 7.8 million passengers, taking them to their workplaces and back. Operated by the Western Railways and Central Railways, these trains

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Economy infected: Task force has a prescription, concerns mount over delay

P VAIDYANATHAN IYER
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

WITH COVID-19 wreaking havoc in Indian financial markets and global research and rating firms marking down GDP growth estimates by up to 100 basis points, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday acknowledged rising concerns of the pandemic's adverse impact on the larger economy as he announced a "Covid-19 Economic Response Task Force" under Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

On its table are a string of proposals to mitigate the harsh second-round effects of the sudden and sharp destruction of demand.

These could include: an immediate cut in policy rate, regulatory forbearance for sectors in the frontline of disruption, government guarantee for loans to SMEs, deferment of taxes, and livelihood support for unorganised workers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

Informal sector impacted

A FALLOUT is the likelihood of job losses in the informal sector. Industry captains are cautioning against retrenchment because it will not only bring hardship to ordinary people but also add to economic challenges.

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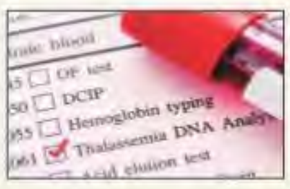
WEB EXCLUSIVE

FROM TABLET TO COMPUTER: HOW APPLE'S IPAD HAS EVOLVED OVER THE YEARS
Over the last decade, Apple has transformed the iPad into a personal computer. Here's a look at how the iPad has changed over the past 10 years

VIDEO OF THE DAY

ARMY TROOPS MOVE OUT TO MAKE ROOM
Two battalions vacated accommodations to set up quarantine facilities

CORONAVIRUS



THALASSEMIA PATIENTS FACE BLOOD SHORTAGE
Patients and caregivers appealed to people to donate blood

EXPRESS AUDIO
What the Railways is doing to combat COVID-19
NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY
In today's episode of the 3 Things podcast, we take a look at the measures the Railways has implemented so far

FROM PAGE ONE

Economy

"The new task force provides a mechanism to get over the bureaucracy's aversion to suggest bold measures and act upon these quickly — especially in unusual times like these. It is likely to include members from the RBI, Sebi, Prime Minister's Office and Cabinet Secretariat," said a source in the loop.

The Task Force will be in regular touch with all stakeholders. "It will ensure all steps are taken to reduce economic difficulties," the Prime Minister said.

Over the last one month, the government has taken several stops to contain COVID-19. Economic ministries including Commerce and Industry, Heavy Industries, Road Transport, Civil Aviation, Pharmaceuticals and Consumer Affairs have met and heard stakeholders. However, there has been no clear assessment on the risks that credit and labour markets are staring at given the expanding lockdown, sources said.

Over the last few days, the PMO and Finance Ministry sought suggestions from experts. But analysts worry that late action will be less potent.

"Ideally, all engines should be firing since markets are rapidly deteriorating. There may be awareness of the damage at the highest levels but action to give markets the confidence is not forthcoming. Hopefully now (it will happen)," said a source.

In less than 10 weeks, the BSE benchmark index of 30 stocks has lost over 30%, and the rupee has depreciated almost 6% vis-à-vis the US dollar.

Since the COVID-19 breakout, Goldman Sachs has revised global growth down to 2% from 3% and India's GDP growth estimate for 2020-21 to 5.2% from 5.8%. S&P Global Ratings too said India will slow down to 5.2% in 2020 compared with its earlier forecast of 5.7%.

What is most disturbing for policy makers is the likelihood of job losses in the informal sector given such a massive contraction of over 1% point compared with the 6-6.5% GDP growth rate estimated in the Economic Survey 2019-20.

The pandemic — with what a top industrialist called "draconian social distancing" norms — slowing down economy, has left much of India Inc worried.

On Wednesday, Uday Kotak, Executive Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and President-Elect of the Confederation of Indian Industry was speaking with half-a-dozen other promoter-CEOs including Shobana Kamineni of Apollo Hospitals, Naushad Forbes and Vikram Kirloskar, among others, to gauge the second-round impact of sudden demand destruction and the support companies may need, particularly with liquidity conditions turning tighter than what they were early January.

A day earlier, almost two dozen promoters and CEOs, including Harshvardhan Neotia, Hindustan Lever's Sanjiv Mehta, Apollo's Sangita Reddy and Kanoria Chemicals' R V Kanoria, had a two-hour discussion which bore out that cash flows have started taking a hit, SMEs are unable to meet repayment obligations, contract workers are being forced out of jobs, and companies are hesitant to raise funds from the primary market.

"We definitely need the government to intervene," said a source present at the meeting.

Corporate India which normally worries about its own bottom line is also concerned that the pandemic will hit those at the bottom of the employment chain the worst. In fact, Vikram Kirloskar, Vice-Chairman, Toyota Kirloskar India, and President of the Confederation of Indian Industry, wrote to all members Tuesday. "...it is critically important that we do not resort to retrenchment, especially of blue-collar workers and contract workers," he told CII members, asking the top leadership, instead, to take a pay cut.

The Prime Minister made a similar appeal to businesses. He asked them to adopt a humane approach towards people rendering services. "Don't cut their salaries. They too have to take care of families and protect them from the disease," he said.

While India is relatively more isolated from the rest of the world, certain sectors that are facing the direct brunt are travel, aviation, hospitality, hotels and restaurant, and real estate.

Mumbai

have arguably the highest passenger density for any urban railway system in the world. Which is also what makes the trains a "sitting duck" in this season of coronavirus infections.

But despite suggestions for the network to be shut down to check against the virus, the Maharashtra government has been reluctant to do so.

Fears of the virus have led to crowds thinning out. From nearly 55 lakh who travelled on Western Railway trains on March 11, the number dropped to under 30 lakh on March 18. Similarly, Central Railway's passengers dropped from 67 lakh to 32 lakh in that period.

However, for many like Tambe, staying at home is not an option. "If there are no trains, riding 50 km to office on a motorcycle is not an option," he said.

Calling the suburban network a "sitting duck" for the spread of coronavirus infections, Shalabh Goel, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) of Central Railway, said "even if a single COVID-19 positive person travels on a local", it could potentially threaten the entire system.

However, he added, "The importance of the suburban rail is known to all. The call to shut it can only be taken by the state government and the Railways."

The state government has advised people to stay at home and urged transport agencies to reduce crowds by around 50%.

Railway officials, however, said there are no plans to reduce trains — let alone shut the system — since that would lead to overcrowding.

Milind Ranade, general secretary of Kachra Vahatuk Shramik Sangh, an association of sanitation workers, said the locals can be shut only if the government ensures that the thousands who depend on them will not lose their jobs for remaining absent from work. "At least 5,000 *safai karamcharis* who live in far-flung suburbs will not be able to report to work," he said.

G V L Satyakumar, DRM, Western Railway, said that they have stepped up their vigil after people under quarantine were spotted on trains. On Thursday, 17 people were deboarded from three trains and on Wednesday, four people from Palghar station as all of them had 'home quarantine' stamped on their hands.

The railways have also stepped up their efforts to decongest the stations and increased the fare of the platform tickets from Rs 10 to Rs 50. Central Railway is using CCTVs to identify areas where overcrowding may be occurring.

PM calls for Janata Curfew Sunday

COVID-19, he said an Economic Response Task Force under the leadership of the Finance Minister will decide on a relief package, based on regular interactions and feedback from all stakeholders and an analysis of all situations and dimensions.

Underscoring the threat of coronavirus, Modi said the world had never seen a crisis as grave as this. "Even World War I and II did not affect as many countries," he said, asking people to avoid the mindset that the disease will not harm India when it has hit hard many developed countries.

Urging state governments to ensure compliance of the curfew on Sunday, Modi said, "22nd March will be the symbol of our effort, our self-restraint, our resolve to fulfil our duty in the service of the nation. The success of the people's curfew, and the experience gained from it, will also prepare us for upcoming challenges... During this curfew, we shall neither leave our homes, nor get onto the streets and refrain from roaming about in our societies or areas." The PM said he wanted people to give him their "coming few weeks and your time", and to show "resolve" and "restraint". "The entire world is going through a phase of serious crisis... In these two months, 130 crore people of India have taken necessary precautions... Complacency in the face of this global pandemic is not correct... We have to take a resolve that we shall protect ourselves... Hum swasth to jag swasth (If we are healthy, the world will be healthy)," Modi said.

A cure or vaccine for coronavirus had not been found yet, the PM said, and the countries which had controlled the situation had done so by taking quick decisions and isolating more and more people.

He said all steps were being taken to prevent shortage of essential items, such as medicines, milk etc, and there was no need for hoarding. He also urged people to avoid routine check-ups and elective surgeries, so as to not burden health services. "You could get required guidance over the phone from your known doctor. In case you have a non-essential, elective surgery scheduled, postpone it by a month," Modi said.

"Patience is an essential virtue in order to avoid this disease. And how does one practise patience? By staying away from crowds, avoiding stepping out of homes... You will not only be unjust to yourself but also to your family," the PM said. He urged those above 65 years of age to stay at home over the next few weeks, comparing the restrictions to the blackouts and drills practised in the last century when there were frequent wars, and urged people to work from home as much as possible.

"I would appeal to every individual to, if possible, call at least 10 people on the phone everyday, explaining to them how to protect themselves from the virus as well as the idea of people's curfew," Modi said.

PM'S 9-POINT MATRA
- Avoid stepping out of homes until absolutely essential
- Those over the age of 60 should remain inside homes
- Observe Janata Curfew on Sunday
- At 5 pm that day, express gratitude to those fighting against coronavirus
- Avoid going to hospitals for routine check-ups or elective surgeries
- Formation of a COVID-19 Economic Response Task Force
- Do not cut wages of domestic help or support staff
- Do not do panic buying
- Stay away from rumours

No flights to India for a week from March 22

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, said the man had a history of diabetes and heart disease.

The MEA also confirmed the death of an Indian patient in Iran. The government said on Wednesday that 255 Indians in Iran were infected.

With senior citizens, with co-morbidites like diabetes, hypertension and asthma, accounting for all the four deaths in the country so far, the Health Ministry issued a fresh advisory, asking those above 65 years and children below 10 years to stay at home.

While 22 fresh cases were confirmed on Thursday, 20 of the total COVID-19 positive patients have recovered so far.

In Agra, Dr Mukesh Vats, CMO, said seven of eight patients who had tested positive earlier had recovered. "In the initial cluster, five people had tested positive. Then a factory owner and his wife tested positive. These initial seven cases have been cured and are being discharged. The last patient who tested positive a few days ago is also recovering, with almost negligible symptoms," he said. Extending the travel ban after barring the entry of passengers from the European Union, Turkey, UK, Afghanistan, Philippines and Malaysia earlier this week, the government on Thursday banned all commercial passenger flights from March 22 till March 29 midnight.

Most of the states and Union territories also imposed fresh restrictions on public transport and gatherings. In Delhi, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced the closure of restaurants till March 31, but takeaway outlets will remain open. He said gatherings of more than 20 people will not be permitted. He also said hands of people to be quarantined at home will be stamped.

States have been asked to reduce the frequency of buses and Metro trains to prevent crowding, and "to enforce work from home for private sector employees except those working in emergency/ essential services".

The Railways has cancelled 155 pairs of trains so far, keeping in view low occupancy and coronavirus pandemic.

Government offices have been asked to stagger timings and allow 50% of Group C and D staff to work from home.

Agarwal, however, said this was not a lockdown. "Lockdown is a very inappropriate word. The government's effort has been to prepare for an evolving global scenario. Our measures started from January 17. To err on the side of caution will help us," he said.

Citing data from the ICMR's random sampling exercise, he said there has been no instance of community transmission of the virus in India.

He refused to discuss the case of a man from Uttar Pradesh who took a train to Tamil Nadu and was found to be positive — a situation that has raised fears of community transmission. Earlier, a 64-year-old man in Mumbai with travel history to Dubai, a 76-year-old man from Kalaburagi in Karnataka who had returned from Saudi Arabia, and a 68-year-old woman in Delhi died.

Meanwhile, on March 21, Air India will fly a dreamliner with a capacity to seat 236 passengers to Rome to evacuate Indians stranded there.

—WITH INPUTS FROM AMIL BHATNAGAR

MP floor test

due to the death of members. The BJP has 107 members.

On March 16, Speaker N P Prajapati, defying Governor Lalji Tandon's direction to the Kamal Nath government to prove its majority, citied the coronavirus threat to adjourn the House until March 26.

Following the court ruling, the Congress issued a whip to its MLAs, directing them to be present in the House on Friday and vote in favour of the government. Chief Minister Kamal Nath told a CLP meeting, "We argued our case strongly. We also put up our arguments over the 16 captive legislators. The court has given a verdict about the trust vote tomorrow. We are not disappointed. We are together."

"The BJP has played a dirty game... They played the game to destabilise us because it was shaken by our pro-poor works. The BJP was plotting from day one because it could not digest the mandate given by the people for development," he said.

The CM will address a press conference Friday noon.

Former CM and senior BJP leader Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who approached the Supreme Court with nine others to seek an immediate floor test, hailed the order as "defeat of injustice".

State BJP BJP president V D Sharma called it "the beginning of the end" of the Congress-led government.

The Supreme Court bench observed that the time given to prove majority is like a "gold mine" for horse trading. "It is why the court has been proactive in ordering floor tests. The idea is to force the hand and make sure the floor test happens as soon as possible," Justice Chandrachud said.

In their order, the judges said: "The Director General of Police, Karnataka, as well as the Director General of Police, Madhya Pradesh, shall ensure that there shall be no restraint or hindrance whatsoever on any of the 16 MLAs taking recourse to their rights and liberties as citizens. In the event that any of them opt to attend the session of the Legislative Assembly, arrangements for their security shall be provided."

They said "proceedings before the Legislative Assembly shall be videographed and, if a provision exists for live telecast of the proceedings, this shall in addition be ensured" and that "all authorities, including the Legislative Secretary, shall ensure that there is no breach of law and order in the course of the proceedings".

"The state of uncertainty in the State of Madhya Pradesh must be effectively resolved by issuing a direction for convening a floor test, bearing in mind the principles which have been enunciated in the decision of the nine-Judge Bench of this Court in *S R Bommai v Union of India* and in the decision of the Constitution Bench in *Nabam Rebia v Deputy Speaker*, Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly," the bench said.

Senior advocate A M Singhvi, appearing for the Speaker, had said that courts had never directed a floor test in a running Assembly. The bench, however, said that the Constitutional principle that emerges is that pendency of decision on a resignation or disqualification with the Speaker is no bar on a no-confidence motion. If the Speaker did not accept the advice of the Governor, one option open to the latter was to ho to the Centre, Justice Chandrachud said.

Singhvi referred to the discrepancies in the *vakalatnama* and affidavits submitted by the MLAs, who had filed an application for impleadment in the case, and sought to drive home the point that they were being held captive against their will.

But Justice Chandrachud said it could well be a matter of non-application of mind, and not necessarily coercion. He said what is clear is that they are all acting in concert. However, it was not possible to infer anything, he said.

Singhvi said a floor test can take place in a running Assembly only when a no-confidence motion is moved or when a money Bill fails. But the bench wondered what would happen when the Assembly is prorogued and a government loses its majority. "Can't the Governor then call the Assembly as not allowing this would amount to allowing a minority government to continue," Justice Chandrachud asked.

Singhvi replied that the Governor can at the most summon a House and then the Speaker takes over. The Governor, he said, cannot dictate the business to the House.

At this, Justice Chandrachud said, "We understand that Governors can't have carte blanche to destabilise elected governments. However, at the same time, the Constitution also recognised some modicum of authority to the Governor to call for a trust vote."

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal said the court will be encouraging demolition of the Constitutional structure if it interprets the law in the manner as sought by the petitioner.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Chouhan, insisted on an early date for a floor test. He contended that the state government was only trying to buy time to do horse trading. He said the powers of a Governor are not subject to whether the House is in session or not.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Governor, questioned the contention that the working of the Madhya Pradesh House had been adjourned due to the coronavirus situation. The Parliament, Supreme Court were all working, he said, adding that democracy was not in the Speaker sitting over resignations and asking for two weeks to decide.

Dec 16 convicts

A bench of Justice Manmohan and Justice Sanjeev Narula observed that the convicts' pending pleas in various courts and fora as a ground to stay execution was untenable in law. The High Court's order came on an appeal by three of the convicts against a trial court judgment, which declined to stay the execution.

Standing Counsel (Criminal) Rahul Mehra, appearing for the Delhi government and Tihar jail authorities, opposed their appeal and urged the High Court to dismiss it so that "the execution for tomorrow (Friday) may be upheld".

During the day, Additional Sessions Judge Dharmender Rana, while pronouncing the order on an application by the four, started with a question: "When would the convicts meet the Creator for their eternal penitence?"

ASJ Rana said the "issue has been pestering the conscience of the community for past some time" and "the time consumed by the process of law has even led some different voices to timorously question the very efficacy of the rule of law". "Let me inform all the suspecting souls that in this great land of Gautam Buddha and Gandhi, rule of law, and not impetuous mob mentality, decides the fate of even the most wretched criminals and most abominable crimes."

After the order was pronounced, the victim's mother told reporters, "I have waited for seven years for this day. My daughter's soul will find peace."

Akshay's wife, who recently filed a divorce petition in a local court in Bihar and waited with her son outside the court, broke down and fainted briefly. Later, beating herself with slippers, she said, "I do not want to live. I want to kill myself."

When the hearing began, A P Singh, the lawyer for convicts Akshay, Pawan and Vinay, provided a list of pending petitions, seeking that the proceedings be adjourned sine die.

Singh told the court that he had filed a second review petition and a curative petition on behalf of Pawan as well as a criminal complaint against Mandoli jail officials. He also said a petition with the NHRC, a second mercy petition with the President of India, a divorce petition by Akshay's wife, a writ petition with the Election Commission, two criminal appeals, and an appeal before the International Court of Justice, were pending.

Singh said Pawan was yet to avail his legal remedy under Article 72 of the Constitution, which pertains to the President's powers to grant pardon. The lawyer also told the court that the death sentence needed to be stayed due to the coronavirus pandemic. "All courts are shut. We cannot even get photocopies."

Special Public Prosecutors Irfan Ahmad and Rajiv Mohan argued that "the condemned convicts were deliberately adopting delaying tactics".

The court observed that Akshay and Pawan did not opt to challenge the rejection of their mercy petitions despite ample opportunity, and that it did not find any merit in the contention regarding pendency of subsequent mercy petitions.

ASJ Rana said that "the condemned convict cannot be permitted to frustrate the court... by simply opting to remain indolent. It is not the case wherein the convict is either unaware of his rights or is not able to exercise them for want of legal aid".

The Supreme Court too rejected petitions filed by three of the convicts during the day.

A six-judge bench of Justices N V Ramana, Arun Mishra, R F Nariman, R Banumathi, Ashok Bhushan and A S Bopanna dismissed the curative petition filed by Pawan, saying, "in our opinion, no case is made out".

Another bench, of Justices R Banumathi, Ashok Bhushan and A S Bopanna, dismissed a petition by Akshay challenging the President's rejection of his mercy plea. Akshay had also alleged torture in jail and that press interviews given by some leaders had influenced the decision of the President. He submitted the first mercy petition on January 31, had then claimed it was incomplete and submitted a second one on March 18.

On his claim about torture, the court said it had already said that this cannot be a ground for review of the President's decision. It also said, "... it cannot be said that the President of India was influenced by interviews reported in the newspapers".

A bench headed by Justice R Banumathi dismissed a petition by Mukesh, which contended that there was no proper consideration of evidence.

After all the legal options seemed exhausted, A P Singh said he was waiting for a copy of the High Court order, after which he said he would move the Supreme Court.

CLARIFICATIONS & CORRECTIONS

09.03.20, PAGE 1

THE CAPTION with the story 'Mumbai washes its hands of lakhs, do's and don'ts don't matter here' wrongly mentioned that the city has 45 cases. Actually, it is the state of Maharashtra that had 45 positive cases of coronavirus till Wednesday. The figure stood at 47 on Thursday.

The error is regretted.

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HANGMAN HERE, ROPE TESTED

Tihar ready for execution in Dec 16 rape-murder case

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

Convicts Mukesh Singh (32), Pawan Gupta (25), Vinay Sharma (26) and Akshay Kumar Singh (31)

HOURS BEFORE the execution of the four death row convicts in the December 16, 2012, gang-rape-murder case, Tihar Jail officials tested the hanging equipment by carrying out dummy executions. The convicts — Mukesh Singh (32), Pawan Gupta (25), Vinay Sharma (26) and Akshay Kumar Singh (31) — will be hanged at 5.30 am on Friday inside Jail No 4 at Tihar.

The last execution in Tihar took place seven years ago, when Parliament attack convict Afzal Guru was hanged. Tihar Director General Sandeep Goel said this is the first time that four men will be hanged together in the jail.

As part of preparations, Pawan Jallad, the hangman from Meerut, reported at Tihar on Tuesday and conducted dummy executions using wheat bags and ropes.

Dummy runs are conducted to test the equipment as well as ropes brought from stores in UP. The wheat bags are filled with sand and hanged to test the strength of the rope. The last dummy run was conducted Thursday evening.

According to the Delhi Prisons Rules 2018, the jail superintendent, deputy superintendent, medical officer in charge, resident medical officer and the district magistrate or additional district magistrate should be present inside the gallows at the time of the execution. Prior to this, they will meet each convict inside his cell in the morning.

Along with prison guards, more than 15 guards have been appointed for the execution. For this purpose, a few prison guards have been called in from Mandoli.

A team of guards, including police constables, head constables and wardens, will also be present at the time of the execution. The jail manual also states that a priest may be allowed, if a prisoner wants him.

DG Goel said family members of the convicts will not be allowed inside the jail. Unlike Guru's hanging, where the body was buried inside the jail, families of the convicts can write to the officials to get their bodies to perform final rites. Before the execution, a doctor prepares a medical report specifying details of how each convict should be hanged based on their weight.

On Friday morning, the prisoners will be guided to the gallows with cotton caps covering their heads. The wardens will position the four convicts on the gallows and the hangman will execute them.

After the execution, the deaths will be confirmed by medical officers. DG Goel said a post-mortem will be conducted, after which the bodies will be cremated.

Dissatisfied with hospital, 6 suspected patients return home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

SIX SUSPECTED COVID-19 patients who were admitted to the isolation ward at Lok Nayak Hospital reportedly left Thursday night as they were "unhappy" with the facilities.

According to hospital sources, the six had a travel history to foreign countries and were referred from Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital on Wednesday evening.

"On reaching the isolation ward, they were irked by the inadequate facilities and left the hospital," said a senior doctor from the hospital.

Dr Kishore Singh, medical director of the hospital, said, "They all were low-risk patients and left the hospital on Thursday night. As per the protocol, we cannot force any patient to stay."

In such cases, officials at the Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme (IDSP) may take action against the hospital. "If any such patient who needs to be quarantined leaves the hospital premises, then the state health department can file a complaint if the need arises," said an official from IDSP.

Police also said they have received information about the patients leaving the hospital at night.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Sanjay Bhatia said, "We received a call around 1.30 am from Lok Nayak that six people, suspected of having contracted COVID-19, have left the hospital. We asked whether the patients had fled the facility but the hospital denied it. Hence, we haven't taken any action against the patients. The hospital has also not filed a complaint against them."

Police said they contacted the patients, who said that they were not "satisfied with the services" at Lok Nayak and decided to leave the hospital and go home.

In pilot project, 95 anganwadis will deliver ration home

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

WITH ANGANWADI centres (AWCs) across the city shut because of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Delhi government has decided to resume limited supply of supplementary nutrition to beneficiaries and home delivery of food by some centres.

Services of all 10,897 AWCs in Delhi have been suspended till March 31 as a precautionary measure against the spread of the virus.

The Indian Express had earlier reported on how this has put on hold the provision of hot meals and nutrition rations to beneficiaries, including children up till the age of three, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

On Wednesday, the Department of Women and Child Development (WCD) ordered that the supplier contractors provide *panjiri* or *paushtic laddoos* — with 500 calories and 15-20 grams of protein — per beneficiary to all anganwadi centres.

However, the supply of hot meals will not be resumed for the time being.

While the family member of a beneficiary will have to go to the anganwadi centre concerned to collect the ration from the worker, at 95 centres, they will be delivered to homes by workers.

"... as a pilot project, one AWC will be selected in each project area (there are 95 projects with around 100 AWCs under each) where the Child Development Project Officer shall ensure that food items are delivered at doorstep to all beneficiaries in that AWC," the order read.

On Wednesday, members of Campaign Against Hunger and Malnutrition had met with WCD Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam to request for an alternate way to ensure that the supply of supplementary nutrition is resumed.

भारतीय वायु सेना /INDIAN AIR FORCE

OUTSOURCING OF MEDICAL SERVICES

1. On behalf of President of India, AOC/ Station Commanders/ Commanding Officers/ Senior Medical Officer, invites applications from the eligible candidates for engagement of specialists for under mentioned units for period 01 Apr 20- 31 Mar 21 on contractual basis for the following disciplines:

Sl No.	Unit	Discipline	Essential Qualification	Place of engagement	Engagement details
01	WAC(U)	Dental Surgeon Medical Officer	BDS MBBS	Station Medicare Centre Subrotopark Delhi-110010	22 visits per month 25 visits per month
02	56ASP	Paediatrician Gynaecologist	MD(Paed) MD(Gynae & Obst)	Air Force Station Faridabad	04 visits per month 02 visits per month
03	8 Wing	Paediatrician Gynaecologist Counselor	MD(Paed) MD(Gynae & Obst) PG in Psychology	Air Force Station Adampur	08 visits per month 12 visits per month 24 visits per month
04	740 SU	Paediatrician LMO/ Gynaecologist Counselor Dentist	MD(Paed) MBBS/ MD(Gynae & Obst) PG in Psychology BDS	Air Force Station Dalhousie	06 visits per month 08 visits per month 02 visits per month 08 visits per month
05	12 WG	Counselor	PG in Psychology	Air Force Station Chandigarh	16 visits per month

2. The candidates are required to intimate their remuneration (Payment) they expect per visit for the fixed duration. The candidate will be selected on the basis of their performance in personal interview and the lowest payment per visit asked by them/negotiated at the time of selection. The candidate has to furnish the following details along with the application as per the format:-

Discipline	Essential Qualifications as per advertisement	Qualification of the applicant	Details of certificate attached	Remuneration required/expected per visit (Rs)	Sign of applicant
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)

3. Interested candidates may apply on plain paper along w.th photocopies of qualification and experience certificates, bio-data with mobile number, two recent passport size photographs addressed to respective Stns/Units for the respective services by hand/post within ten days of publication of advertisement. After verification of documents, eligible candidates will be informed telephonically regarding date, venue and time of the interview.

davp 10802/11/0075/1920

Together we can defeat COVID-19

All manufacturers and retailers need to take note of the following to help ensure maintenance of essential supplies for management of COVID-19 logistics:

- Production, quality, distribution and logistics of masks (2ply and 3ply surgical masks, N95 masks) and hand sanitisers brought under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
- Ramp up production capacity of masks and sanitisers to ensure their fair distribution and retail.
- Quality of sanitisers shall be as specified by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) and the quality of masks to be as per BIS standards.
- Maximum retail price (MRP) of masks and hand sanitisers should be broadly at same levels as prices prevailing before the COVID Pandemic.
- Wrongful claims about products and services using Corona Virus, COVID-19 and other variant of these names would be liable for misleading advertisement, and prosecuted under the Consumer Protection Act.
- Retailers may restrict the number of items sold to each customer to address problem of panic buying. This restriction also applies to other essential supplies such as staple foods, daily necessities and personal hygiene products.
- Retail shops and organized retail-chains may designate specified hours during the day for sale of essential supplies only to vulnerable people like the elderly, to help them avoid contact with public at large.
- Ecommerce platforms to ensure proper hygiene and sanitation of their last mile delivery personnel, kitchens, packing areas and delivery vehicles. These should be cleaned and disinfected from time to time. All last mile delivery staff suffering from symptoms of common cold and flu should be taken off duty.
- Special arrangements may be made for delivery of groceries and cooked food for those who are in home quarantine and to the elderly people. Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) and neighbourhoods to form volunteer groups to ensure essential supplies to them.
- Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) and Director, Legal Metrology through State governments are taking strict action against hoarding and sale above Maximum Retail Price (MRP).

Complaints and suggestions related to maintaining essential supplies for management of COVID19 logistics can be made on the Consumer Helpline below.

CALL TOLL FREE
1800-114000 or
1800-114404

Issued in public interest jointly by -

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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CDSCO NPPA AFFORDABLE MEDICINES FOR ALL

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CORONAVIRUS: STAMPING TO BEGIN FOR HOME QUARANTINE CASES

Restaurants shut as capital tightens lockdown

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

RESTAURANTS IN the national capital will remain closed at least until March 31, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said Thursday, announcing a fresh set of restrictions, including barring gatherings of more than 20 people, to contain the spread of coronavirus.

For the time being, home delivery and takeaway facilities will continue in restaurants extending such facilities, Kejriwal told a press conference, following a review meeting with Lt Governor Anil Baijal and other Cabinet ministers and senior officials of the administration.

The government has also decided that home quarantine will be allowed only after stamping one's hand, so that people at large are aware of the presence of any individual in public spaces in violation of guidelines. In fact, Kejriwal said the government may register an FIR and arrest such violators.

An official statement released by the L-G's office also laid emphasis on the need to abide by home quarantine norms. "Neighbours of all home quarantined people be informed for active vigilance. RWA office bearers, neighbours may be informed about the persons under home quarantine in that residential complex/area. A workable mechanism to make the neighbours/people aware may be devised. FIR for violation of conditions by home quarantined person under section 188 of IPC as prescribed under Regulation 18 of the Delhi Epidemic Diseases, COVID-19 Regulations, 2020 issued by Health & Family Department," the statement said.

Appealing to people to stay indoors as much as possible, Kejriwal said: "A decision has been taken to shut all restaurants in the city. However, takeaway and home delivery facilities will be available. Also, all educational institutes will be shut. Both teaching and non-teaching staff will be working from home. These arrangements will be in place till March 31."

On the Shaheen Bagh sit-in against CAA and NRC, which remains in place, Kejriwal reiterated the ban is applicable on all gatherings, be it religious, family, social, political or cultural.

In a statement, the National Restaurant Association of India said the restaurant industries in all the major metro cities have come together to shut down businesses to help the government curtail the spread of the virus.

"As the single highest contributor to direct and indirect employment, the industry is now turning to the government for immediate support on moratorium for upcoming statutory dues delay in utility bill payments,temporary stoppage on EMI payments & interest, employee unemployment pay cover and a freeze on rental dues without breaking contract," it added.

Meanwhile, the statement issued by Baijal's office also said, "It was agreed that all activities of the Delhi government be segregated into essential/non-essential and all non-essential activities shall remain suspended." Touching on this, Kejriwal said the list of such non-essential services will be announced on Friday.

The Delhi Metro has also issued an advisory to commuters to use the Metro for essential travel only and to maintain social distancing of "at least one metre distance from each other while travelling in the Metro or at the station".

A worker sanitises an autorickshaw at a bus depot in New Delhi. *Praveen Khanna*

CORONA WATCH

CM: Evaluate exam papers from home

New Delhi: The Delhi government Thursday ordered all schools to shut down till March 31, and said evaluation work should be done from home, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CBSE had Wednesday postponed all board exams for classes X and XII, and suspended evaluation of the already held exams. "I have directed all schools, colleges and universities in Delhi to be shut down completely both for students and staff until March 31. All exams, including board exams, will happen only after March 31. I urge all Delhiites to work from home as far as possible," Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said in a tweet.

IIT-D to aid virus research

New Delhi: IIT-Delhi Director Ramgopal Rao has written to students, faculty and staff to say he is "hoping for a breakthrough" in a review of coronavirus research done in the institute. He also said resources would be made available to those working on such research. The institute has also reached out to its alumni in foreign countries and said they would try to make accommodation available to those in problem areas by contacting seniors in the same area. **ENS**

Four new cases in Delhi, 2 in Gurgaon

ASTHA SAXENA & SAKSHI DAYAL
NEW DELHI, GURGAON, MARCH 19

TWO PATIENTS with a travel history to the United Kingdom and Mexico, who were admitted in the isolation ward of Rajiv Gandhi super-speciality hospital in Delhi, tested positive on Thursday for coronavirus, taking the total number of confirmed cases in the city to 14. Of the two men, one is 22 years old and lives in Ashok Vihar, while the other is 32 and lives in Gautam Puri.

Two passengers who came to India from Italy and were quarantined at ITBP facility in Chhawla Camp have also tested positive for the disease. They had been shifted to Safdarjung hospital earlier this week; both are residents of West Bengal.

"We have 26 patients admitted to the isolation ward of the hospital. Of them, two have been tested positive today. Both of them will stay at our hospital for further treatment," said Dr (Col) HC Sharma, medical superintendent, Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality Hospital.

At present, 325 patients are admitted to RML, Safdarjung, Lok Nayak and Rajiv Gandhi super-speciality hospital for treatment. Till date, 1,96,200 passengers from COVID-19 affected countries have been screened at Delhi Airport and placed under surveillance; 4,547 passengers

from affected countries were screened on Thursday.

Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) and Lady Hardinge Medical College have, meanwhile, been authorised by the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) for testing of the virus. At Lok Nayak hospital, 21 suspected COVID -19 patients are availing treatment

In Gurgaon, two more people tested positive. This includes the wife of 44-year-old man who was the second person in the district to test positive, and a 22-year-old woman studying in the United Kingdom (UK), who had returned to India on March 14.

"The student came to Civil Hospital on March 15 with symptoms of fever and a sore throat. The report from National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune has now confirmed she has tested positive. She is isolated at the Civil hospital," said Dr Jaswant Singh Punia, Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Gurgaon.

"We have taken samples of four of her relatives, and have completed the screening process for 253 people who live in her neighbourhood," he said.

In the other case that has surfaced, meanwhile, the patient, aged 56, has been admitted at Safdarjung hospital. Her husband had returned from London on March 7, and had submitted his samples at Safdarjung hospital in Delhi on March 9, where he had tested positive.

"Samples of eight people he had been in contact with were sent for testing, including their domestic helps and others. Their reports are awaited," said the CMO.

The confirmation of two new cases brings the total confirmed coronavirus cases in the district to four. The first person to test positive was a 29-year-old woman who had returned from a holiday in Malaysia and Indonesia. She is at the isolation ward in Fortis Health Care Hospital, Gurgaon.

People make panic purchases, shops run out of stocks

A crowded Reliance Fresh Store in Safdarjung Enclave Thursday. *Tashi Tobgyal*

MALLICA JOSHI & SAKSHI DAYAL
NEW DELHI/GURGAON, MARCH 19

NEWS OF bare shelves in supermarkets in several countries that have seen a sizable number of coronavirus cases have started to have an impact in Delhi as well, with people stocking up on grocery items.

Neighbourhood stores have reported a steep rise in the number of customers placing large orders over the past two-three days.

"We have seen a sudden increase in orders for rice, pulses, sugar — almost double. People are primarily buying basics that can get them through for at least a month," said Chetan Vashisht, who runs Siddhivinayak store in Jangpura Extension.

Online stores such as Big Basket and Prime Now (Amazon) are experiencing a longer turnaround time.

"I tried to place an order for dry goods today to be delivered tomorrow, but was informed delivery will be delayed. Earlier I was able to get things delivered within a two-hour window," said Raashi Sehgal, 42, a resident of Saket.

In Gurgaon, where malls were ordered shut, stock that usually lasts weeks is running out in days.

At a Safal store in DLF5, for example, employees said their stock, which normally lasts a full day, has been running out in barely three hours since the start of this week.

"We get fresh stock every morning and have been getting the same quantity as always, but the surge of demand each morning has been overwhelming. Things like onion and garlic, which can last longer, run out by 10 am. People are buying things in bulk, everyone is worried," said an employee.

"At our store, we have today started the practice of allowing only two people inside the shop at a time, in order to avoid a gathering of several people. We have also started using masks and have placed a sanitiser at our counter for people to use," he said.

At the Le Marche store on Golf Course Road, goods like cooking oil, toilet paper, sanitary napkin, disinfectants and milk are in short supply.

"People have been buying things like flour and milk in bulk since Monday. The situation was especially bad on Wednesday, after it was announced that all shopping malls would be shut. While our store will remain open since the order doesn't apply to supermarkets, people were either confused or concerned the stock would run out," said a shopkeeper.

Mohalla Clinics get ready to step up to a tough new challenge

ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE DELHI government is training doctors working at Aam Aadmi Mohalla Clinics on handling suspected COVID-19 cases. Aimed at strengthening the healthcare set-up at primary level, doctors at the clinics have been advised to report all suspected cases to designated hospitals. So far, 11 confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been reported from Delhi.

To this end, chief district medical officers (CDMOs) of the 11 districts are reaching out to doctors at the clinics to explain the guidelines that have to be followed while screening a patient.

"This is an initiative by the CDMOs in the city. They are calling doctors and sending out WhatsApp messages about dos and dont's to be followed while screening any patient. If any patient shows symptoms, then he/she and their family members are being counselled. We are providing awareness material to mohalla clinic doctors," said Dr Nimmi Rastogi, health coordinator, Dialogue & Development Commission (DDC).

There are approximately 460 mohalla clinics operational in the city, which cater to 160-200 patients a day on an average. Each mohalla clinic has a doctor and three multi-tasking workers.

Meanwhile, the Delhi government has authorised six state hospitals to collect samples of suspected COVID-10 patients. These are Lok Nayak. Guru Tegh Bahadur, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, Rajiv Gandhi Super Speciality, Janakpuri Super Specialty and Deen Dayal Upadhyay hospitals.

"We are also getting private labs on board to provide the testing facility. Roche Diagnostics is the first private lab to get approval for coronavirus testing. Three other labs - BioMérieux, Trivitron Healthcare & Mylab Discovery Solutions — are also in touch," added Dr Rastogi.

Until now, samples were being sent to AIIMS and National Centre for Disease Control.

Places of worship take call: Remember god from home

ASHNA BUTANI
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

WITH SCHOOLS, cinema halls and gyms shutting down amid the COVID-19 pandemic, places of worship have also followed suit. The Archbishop of Delhi has called off prayer services until March 31, while efforts are on at Jama Masjid to ensure not too many people gather for prayers.

After restricting entry to foreign tourists, ISKCON temple shut down on March 18. "Until further notice, ISKCON Delhi will remain closed to the general public and congregation as per government directions to ensure public safety in light of the coronavirus threat," it said.

An official at Akshardham temple said: "We have stopped all exhibitions including the water and interactive show, boat rides." However, the Akshardham complex, temple, Abhishek Mandap and gardens are still open. We have seen very few visitors over the last few days. The temple administration is ensuring that all steel handles, surfaces, etc., are regularly washed and sanitised."

Around 10,000 people gather at Jama Masjid every Friday. *Tashi Tobgyal*

In a circular Thursday, Archbishop of Delhi Anil Couto said mass on Sundays and weekdays in around 60 parishes across Delhi will be suspended until March 31. However, churches will remain open for prayer. "We are regularly cleaning the churches," said a representative.

Shahi Imam of Jama Masjid Syed Ahmed Bukhari said, "The Delhi government is already doing its bit in spreading awareness. The only problem is that around 10,000 people from different parts of the city come to Jama Masjid to pray every Friday. We are trying to prevent people from gathering in large numbers. Local leaders are making announcements to encourage people to pray in their local mosques. Tomorrow is the first Friday since the outbreak has intensified in Delhi, so we will announce the same in Jama Masjid when people gather tomorrow."

DEFER MARRIAGE REGISTRATION, AVOID CROWDING GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SAY OFFICIALS

Amid lockdown & social distancing, weddings, engagements deferred

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

BY EARLY March, the number of positive cases of coronavirus in Italy had crossed 2,500, and as soon as a 29-year-old Delhi-based fashion stylist found out, she cancelled her wedding at Como in Italy. Likewise, a 38-year-old media professional cancelled her four-day wedding festivities in April across Delhi and Goa once the Centre announced suspension of all visas till April 13.

As India takes stringent steps to battle coronavirus, weddings and engagements take a backseat, with many deciding to postpone them indefinitely. "We had booked a hotel in Italy's Como and booked airline tickets too for our wedding on April 15. Of course, we had to cancel the wedding, and the hotel was kind enough to email that they will refund the sum once banks are properly functional," said the stylist.

The couple did consider getting married on the same day at the bride's Delhi house on April 15 but are worried about even a gathering of 30-odd people. "There is a lot of uncertainty. We have pushed the wedding to April 25 for now and have told the planners that this will only be confirmed five days before the wedding, depending on the lockdown," said the stylist.

Delhi-based wedding designer Vasundra Banga (30), who runs Tinselle Events, said that even though November-February is peak wedding season, spring and summer weddings too have become common in North India, and the coronavirus outbreak has impacted business. She said, "We were working on four weddings for the month of April, and now three have been pushed to later dates, and one is still on track."

At Khan Market. *Praveen Khanna.*

The media professional, who cancelled her wedding festivities due in April, said it was the most practical decision to make. She said, "I have a cousin in Canada, and three friends in Germany and Spain, who would not have made it to the wedding. Also, it is not safe to have a gathering. We are getting a refund from the Goa venue."

A bride-to-be, with an April wedding slated in Delhi, said the families will take a call by Monday and may agree to do a small ceremony at a temple instead.

A wedding planner said while she is not discouraging clients, but she is petrified of "exposure as wedding planning requires stepping out of home."

Sub-Divisional Magistrates are requesting people to defer their marriage registrations, if possible. BM Mishra, DM South, said, "If someone insists, registration will be undertaken right away. The logic being that it will draw less people to government offices. However, there is no such standing instruction or anything.

On Thursday, just seven-eight of the 38 shops in the market were open. *Tashi Tobgyal*

Sundar Nagar market body asks traders to shut shop until Mar 31

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

IN VIEW of the COVID-19 pandemic, most shops in South Delhi's upscale Sundar Nagar market will be closed till March 31. This is the first time in its 80-year history that the market, known for jewellery, handicrafts and restaurants, has taken such a decision.

Sundar Nagar Market Traders' Association president Komal Jain said he has given a call to close shops to prevent transfer of disease, adding that those who want to keep their shops open can do so.

"We felt it would be best to close down the market, keeping in mind the safety of our members, traders, staff and also our clients," he said.

When *The Indian Express* visited the market on Thursday, it was mostly deserted — just seven-eight of the 38 shops were open. Even among the shops that were open, some were preparing to shut due to lack of footfall.

Mascot's book shop owner Vijay Chopra, who was in the process of closing the shop, said he will keep it closed for at least four days on the advisory of the

association.

Ojas jewellery and handicrafts shopkeeper D D Pandey also said he will close the shop as there are barely any customers.

Some shopkeepers, meanwhile, were unhappy with the decision and said apart from creating losses, it is also spreading "unnecessary panic".

Gur Sarab Singh, who owns Variety Arts Emporium, said, "This is a posh market... we have been taking all precautions by asking people to regularly sanitise their hands. Such decisions will cause economic loss as people will stop coming to the market."

"The market, like the others in the city, should remain open until the government issues orders to shut down," Singh added.

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

In Noida, govt spaces turn isolation wards

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, MARCH 19

AS THE number of COVID-19 cases rise in Gautam Budh Nagar district, the administration has begun converting government spaces into makeshift isolation wards. As of Thursday, four residents had tested positive while test results of others are awaited.

A 150-bed facility was opened at the Bhimrao Ambedkar Hostel in Gautam Budh Nagar University on Thursday for patients who need to be quarantined. The single-occupancy hostel rooms have been turned into temporary isolation rooms. The rooms have a bed, a mattress, a pillow and a table. The facility has a welcome desk where two-three officials will be present to provide further information.

The Additional District Magistrate and an SDM will be the nodal officers for the facility, while a senior doctor of the health department will oversee medical aspects. Medical officials will work in three shifts, with at least three doctors present at any given time.

The hostel will eventually have a capacity of 300 beds, when fully functional. Patients will be kept at the facility for 14

days and if they show no symptoms, they will be discharged, officials said.

Presently, 10 beds are available at the Government Institute of Medical Sciences and another nine beds in the government pediatric hospital in Sector 30. In addition to this, the Asian Institute of Medical Sciences in Sector 40 and Noida Mitra Hospital in Sector 35, both of which are dysfunctional, will also be utilised for the same.

The district hospital in Sector 30, which was due for inauguration since the last one year, has arranged 350 beds for quarantine.

At present, the hospital only has services for quarantine as no other departments have been set up.

"We are trying to tell people to not panic. People are being brought in for quarantine only if symptoms appear or they have been in contact with a person who contracted the virus. More than 10 samples were sent after two people had tested positive. We are trying to utilise more government spaces," said Dr Anurag Bhargava, CMO, Gautam Budh Nagar.

A quarantine centre in a newly built govt hospital in Noida. *Abhinav saha*

Confusion among foreign students at Delhi campuses

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

IN LIGHT of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jawaharlal Nehru University Thursday asked all students to vacate hostels within 48 hours citing a Delhi government order. For foreign students, it said "special arrangements" would be made.

"The university shall remain closed till March 31. All activities, including services in the hostel, schools and administration, are hereby suspended. Accordingly, all students are required to vacate the hostels," the Registrar said Thursday.

"To facilitate students to leave for home, mess facilities will be available for next 48 hours. No mess facilities and services will be available from March 22-31... IHA (Inter Hall Administration) will make essential arrangements for international students who may not be able to leave for their respective countries," he added.

On what these arrangements would entail, Dean of Students Umesh Kadam said they would

JNU has asked all students to vacate hostels

review the situation in 48 hours.

The lack of clarity on "special arrangements" has put some international students at JNU in doubt. An international student said, "There confusion among us... some people who were able to leave earlier have left. Those of us who are staying back don't know till when we'll be allowed."

"There is also no proper sanitation in hostels, washrooms are not cleaned frequently. They are also not letting food delivery guys enter," claimed the student.

JNU's International Students' Association president, who is from North Korea, has been unable to leave his country. "He was supposed to return in the last week of February," said ISA member Yasmine Omarzada.

At Delhi University, there are two hostels for foreign students, one each for men and women, housing 70 students each. "We can take the decision to vacate the hostel but where will these students go? The second issue is even if we ask students to vacate, aren't we exposing them while they travel? So what we have decided is that in university-run hostels, we will keep it optional to leave the hostel," said Dean of Students' Welfare Rajeev Gupta, who is also Provost of the International Students' House.

DU has students from around 32 countries.

At Jamia, foreign students have been allowed to stay back. "If the rules and government permit, they can leave after informing us. Several of them are still in the hostel," said Jamia PRO Ahmed Azeem.

The university has 259 foreign students from 39 countries, more than half of them from Afghanistan.

Footfall dips, traders at big markets hope govt will help

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

MORE AND more people are shifting to working from home as a safety precaution against the COVID-19 pandemic but for traders in wholesale markets such as Chandni Chowk and Sadar Bazar, this is no option.

With footfall declining by at least 30% in these busy market areas, traders stare at an uncertain future. Seeking insurance cover for businesses hit by the virus, the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) has written to the Union Finance Minister.

"Due to fear psychosis among consumers, we are witnessing just a 25-30% footfall in wholesale and retail markets. As there is no off take in retail market, retailers are not visiting wholesale markets to procure goods," said CAIT general secretary Praveen Khandelwal.

"Wholesale markets of Chandni Chowk and Sadar Bazar are considered the largest distributing centres of trade for the whole country. Normally, around 5 lakh traders visit from all over the country... but there is

Traders said there are hardly any visitors at Chandni Chowk market. *Amit Mehra*

considerable loss now as people don't want to travel," he added.

After PM Narendra Modi's call for a 'janta curfew' on March 22, CAIT said they "may down shutters" but a "final decision will be taken Friday after consultations with trade leaders of all states". There is no decision on closing down markets yet.

Bharat Ahuja, president of Bhagirath Palace Market Association at Chandni Chowk, said only 10% of the usual crowd was trickling into the market area. "It's actually not even 10%, we are saying that to make ourselves feel better. But we can't do anything, we will just have to go get through this. We can bear this situation for the next two-three months but beyond that, we don't know. As of now, health is the priority," he said.

Sanjay Bhargav, president of the Chandni Chowk Market Association, also said work had declined by 90%. "There are hardly any customers. Footfall has fallen drastically. But health is the priority for the government right now and it has to be. As they say, *jaan hai to jahaan hai.* I have asked all my shopkeepers to keep hand sanitisers for the customers," he said.

Jasmeet Singh, who runs a laboratory goods shop in Sadar Bazar, said, "This is a place where people don't find space to walk at all on a normal day... there are hardly any people now."

Kailash Khandelwal, who runs a jewellery shop in the area, said he wasn't getting customers despite prices of gold and silver falling in the last few days. "It's a bad time. Now, people who come are those who already know they want to buy something small. Nobody is strolling in just to have a look," he said.

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS INVITED UNDER THE
CHIEF MINISTER ADVOCATES' WELFARE SCHEME

Dip/Shabdarth/D/0356/19-20

All the advocates who are enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi and are also in the voters' list of Delhi, are hereby informed that the process of registration under the Chief Minister Advocates' Welfare Scheme has been started.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SCHEME:

* Group(Term) insurance providing life cover of Rs. 10,00,000/- per advocate
* Group medi-claim coverage for advocates, their spouse and two dependent children up to the age of 25 years, for a family floater sum insured of Rs. 5,00,000/-

REGISTRATION STARTS: 21.03.2020 at 9:30 AM
LAST DATE OF REGISTRATION: 31.03.2020

For registration, log on to: www.law.delhigovt.nic.in

दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार
DEPARTMENT OF LAW, JUSTICE & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI

CORONA WATCH

A cook at a dhaba at Shimla's Lakkar Bazaar wears a mask. *Pradeep Kumar*

Mumbai's dabbawallas shut shop

Mumbai: Starting Friday, Mumbai's dabbawallas will not deliver tiffins across the city. The decision was taken by the Mumbai Dabbawala Association on Thursday. "The state government has requested people to refrain from going to crowded places. The entire dabbawala delivery network depends on the suburban trains... If we continue to take the trains, we will be putting ourselves at risk... Hence, we took the decision to stop our service till March 31," said Subhash Talekar, the president of the association. **ENS**

Goa zila parishad polls deferred

Panaji: The Goa zila parishad polls, which were to be held on March 22, have been postponed after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call for a 'janata curfew' on the same day. A statement from the Chief Minister's Office said, "Respecting the appeal made by Honourable Prime Minister for 'Janata Curfew' on 22/3/2020 and in the interest of wider participation of electorate in the Zilla Panchayat elections, the State Government in consultation with the State Election Commissioner has decided to postpone the Zilla Panchayat Polling date to 24/3/2020." **ENS**

MP: National parks shut

Bhopal: The Madhya Pradesh government on Thursday announced the closure of all national parks, sanctuaries and tiger reserves in the light of the coronavirus pandemic. The forest department ordered closure of all 35 national parks, sanctuaries and tiger reserves from March 20. In a related development, the Madhya Pradesh Board of Secondary Education postponed the secondary and higher secondary school exams midway. **PTI**

No one counselled him, mother kept in dark, says uncle of suicide victim

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA
JALANDHAR, MARCH 19

THE FAMILY of the 23-year-old coronavirus suspect who is alleged to have committed suicide at Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi on Wednesday night has said his mother was made to run between hospitals till long after his death and is still not aware of the tragedy.

The 23-year-old, originally from a village in Nawanshahr district of Punjab, ran a pizza supply business in Sydney. The mother had gone to visit him four months ago and he was accompanying her back.

His results for COVID-19 are yet to come in. Safdarjung Hospital authorities did not respond to the family's allegations.

The 23-year-old's uncle, who had come to Delhi to receive them, said the mother emerged from the Delhi airport around 7.30 pm, almost two hours after their flight handed, holding a slip with just 'Safdarjung' scribbled on it and no other details. She told him that the 23-year-old had been taken away by officials. "She said he had complained of a headache upon landing, and that the slip was all they gave her while taking him away," the uncle said.

He said they rushed to Safdarjung and that, for an hour, the authorities did not tell them anything. "Then a staff member said he must have been taken to RML Hospital (also a designated hospital for coronavirus in Delhi) because his name was not on their list," the uncle said.

The mother and uncle rushed there next. Again, the uncle said, they struggled for an hour to get some information, before deciding to return to Safdarjung.

They reached around 10.30 pm, and the uncle said he told the mother to wait in a vehicle while he made enquiries. "I saw media gathered in a corner and talking about a man who had jumped from the 7th floor. Little ahead, the body lay in a pool of blood. Police were not approaching it and stopped me at a distance," the uncle said.

He said he pressed the hospital again for details, but no one told him the 23-year-old was dead. "I came out and went near the body, only realising then that it was him," the uncle said, breaking down.

Again, he said, the hospital and police refused to confirm this. "Then, around 12 am, a senior doctor came and broke the news. I tried to ask him how it had happened but he did not give me a reply and a junior staff member said he might have been scared."

Around 1.30 am, the uncle claimed, he returned to where the mother was waiting, and lied that the 23-year-old would be kept in hospital for two days and they should head on to the village.

Having returned home the same night, the uncle drove back to Delhi the next morning. Wishing that the doctors had counselled his nephew, he said they hadn't yet told the mother about the death.

The 23-year-old's father owns a small transport business and is on his way to Delhi from Mumbai. A younger brother is in Class 11.

On Wednesday, in a statement on the suicide, the Health Ministry said, "Patient reached around 9 pm and was taken to the seventh floor for admission and evaluation. When doctors reached the room, he wasn't inside. At the same time, another doctor observed a body around 9.15 pm."

A policeman stops a motorcyclist from entering a street near the residence of a COVID-19 patient in Chandigarh. *Jaipal Singh*

Punjab man who travelled to Germany dies, toll rises to 4

ANJU AGNIHOTRI CHABA
JALANDHAR, MARCH 19

A DAY after he died at a health centre in Nawanshahr district of Punjab, a 70-year-old man, who returned from Germany via Italy earlier this month, was found to be COVID-19 positive.

The man had arrived at the IGI Airport on March 7. Health officials said he had underlying conditions of diabetes, hypertension and heart disease.

Nawanshahr Deputy Commissioner Vinay Bublani, who visited the village, said the man was admitted to the health centre on Wednesday after he complained of severe chest pain. He died later in the day.

While health authorities said the immediate cause of death was a cardiac arrest, State Principal Secretary (Health) Anurag Aggarwal confirmed that the man's sample, which was sent to PGIMER-Chandigarh, had tested positive.

While his entire village, with a population of about 3,000, has been sealed, a list of 52 contacts has been prepared.

The contacts who have been traced have been isolated and kept under observation.

The district administration said entry to the village would be monitored and only essential commodities would be allowed.

Two persons — one from his village and another from a neighbouring village — are reported to have accompanied the man to the health centre. Both have been isolated and kept under observation. The surrounding villages are also under surveillance of the health department.

Six members of a family from neighbouring Hoshiarpur district have also been isolated. All six — a 70-year-old man, his wife, son and three grandchildren — had visited the Nawanshahr man recently. Hoshiarpur Civil Surgeon Jasvir Singh said they are under observation and have shown no COVID-19 symptoms so far. He said samples of all six have been taken for testing.

Following the death of an 82-year-old man from Phagwara in Kapurthala district — he had returned from the UK on March 4 — the area where he was staying has been sealed. The man had pneumonia-like symptoms, said sources. Officials said they could not send his sample for testing "because the cremation took place before the health department came to know about his death". His name was not in the list provided by the state government of those with travel history abroad, said local health officials.

Third person positive in TN, officials deny community spread

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, MARCH 19

TAMIL NADU reported its third positive case of coronavirus on Thursday, a 21-year-old student who returned from Dublin in Ireland on March 17. He is admitted to hospital and is stable. The first positive case in the state has recovered and been discharged.

State Health Minister C Vijayabaskar also said that the state's second positive patient, a 20-year-old with no history of foreign travel or of contact with some such person, was not a case of community transmission. On Wednesday, he had said the man was a "domestic" case.

Originally from Rampur in Uttar Pradesh, the 20-year-old travelled on a train from Delhi to Chennai to find work, and officials are still trying to find out how he acquired the infection. Speaking to reporters on Wednesday, Vijayabaskar had hinted he may be a "domestic" case. On Thursday, he denied that it was a case of community transmission even as officials said he had not gone to Nepal, as hinted earlier. While he is stable, 10 people whom he came in contact with him were quarantined overnight.

All positive cases in India so far have been traced back to either someone with a travel history to countries with reported cases, or to someone in in contact with such a person.

The 21-year-old declared positive on Thursday had been kept in home quarantine after arrival from Ireland, on the basis of his screening at Chennai airport. He reported to Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital in the city on March 18 with symptoms of cough, shortness of breath and fever.

The designated centre for COVID-19, the hospital also received the two other patients in the state.

Tamil Nadu has screened nearly two lakh people for COVID-19 in the past three weeks. Apart from the three positive cases, 3,481 suspected ones are in home quarantine and 39 admitted in isolation wards in hospitals.

Political parties in the state have called for total lockdown as a response to the 20-year-old's case. Anbumani Ramadoss, the leader of NDA ally PMK and a former Union health minister, said the entire country should lock down for three weeks, and that closure of malls, educational institutions and movie theatres was not enough.

Doctor turned away by 4 hospitals over virus fears, now on ventilator

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
MUMBAI, MARCH 19

A JALGAON-BASED doctor, who suffered high-grade fever and breathlessness, was turned away from four private hospitals that demanded the family first get a clearance that the patient does not suffer from coronavirus. After several hours, the doctor was finally admitted at Jalgaon's Government Medical College. However, due to the delay, he is now on ventilator support.

District health officials said the panic over COVID-19 and lack of information have fuelled fear even in private hospitals and doctors, who are turning away patients with symptoms similar to coronavirus. The doctor in question neither has a travel history of flying abroad, nor did he reported any contact with any patient who tested positive for COVID-19.

The doctor had returned from Kolhapur to his hometown Bhusawal last week and developed fever. On Wednesday night he had high-grade fever and suffered breathlessness. His family spent the entire night trying to get him hospitalised. "We first took him to his general physician, who was not there. From there we went to an intensive care hospital, but doctors there said he might have coronavirus and spread it in the hospital," said the doctor's uncle. The family then took him to three more hospitals.

"Every hospital refused to admit him. They said what if he had coronavirus. We told them he had not travelled abroad but nobody listened. We spent the entire night running from one hospital to another," the uncle said.

By 7 am on Thursday, the doctor was brought to the Government Medical College where he was put on ventilator support. Doctors asked the family to move him somewhere else as they did not have critical care support. "That is when we approached the district collector. He ordered GMC to continue hospitalisation," said social worker Pratibha Shinde.

Dr Bhaskar Khaire, dean of the hospital, said the doctor's condition has deteriorated in last few hours due to delay in treatment. "We have conducted blood tests. Since he has no travel history, a coronavirus test is not required. We are waiting for reports. He remains serious and requires ventilator support."

Currently, the government is only testing a person with travel history abroad and with symptoms or close contacts of COVID-19 patients.

MAXIMUM CITY AT STANDSTILL

The Gateway of India in Mumbai wore a deserted look on Thursday. *Pradip Das*

'Very fast' movement on PM's SAARC proposals: MEA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE MINISTRY of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday said "very fast" movement was being made on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposals — put forward during a video-conference on coronavirus attended by leaders and representatives of SAARC nations — with the emergency fund to combat the pandemic in the region already operationalised.

SAARC nations on Sunday vowed to jointly combat coronavirus as Modi proposed an emergency fund with an initial offer of $10 million from India. The Prime Minister had made a series of suggestions that were hailed by the SAARC leaders and representatives.

On Thursday, MEA spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said, "We are moving very fast on most of those proposals and announcements. On the emergency fund, it is already up and running. We have received many requests from other SAARC countries for assistance in the form of masks, shoe covers, gloves, disinfectants and other items.

He said that in line with the Prime Minister's proposal of sharing of best practices, a video-conference was being scheduled in the next few days of health professionals of SAARC countries.

Rlys advises against non-essential travel, suspends concessions

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

INDIAN RAILWAYS on Thursday officially started advising passengers to avoid non-essential travel and indefinitely suspended the concessions given to senior citizens and others to discourage people from travelling in an effort to check the spread of COVID-19. It has also decided to suspend the air-conditioned local train service in Mumbai suburban section for now.

The decision, approved by the Prime Minister's Office, is meant to not let senior citizens, who typically avail of 50 per cent concession on train tickets, be exposed to the risk of the virus. Of the total 53 slabs of concessions given to around 12 broad categories of passengers, only students, patients and persons with disabilities will be able to avail of the stipulated concessions from Friday.

Around 29 crore passengers avail of concessional travels, of which around 12 crore avail of the senior citizens' rebate. The concessions in 53 categories range from 10 per cent to 100 per cent, depending on the type of concession.

While 155 pairs of trains were cancelled due to low occupancy across India and to discourage people from travelling, Central Railway may restore some cancelled trains, citing crowding in other trains in the Pune-Mumbai areas. However, some other zones might further add to the number of cancelled trains.

Meanwhile, as part of disciplinary action, Railways also placed on suspension an Assistant Personnel Officer in Bengaluru, who had put up her son — who returned from Germany via Spain with COVID-19 symptoms on March 13 — in an Officers' Rest House there without informing anyone.

Six passengers from Mumbai, who had 'home quarantine' stamp on their hands, were de-boarded from the Gujarat-bound Saurashtra Express

With strict vigil in place, cases continued to be reported of passengers with history to travelling to COVID-19 affected countries using the public transporter's services.

Six passengers from Mumbai, who had recently returned from Singapore and had "home quarantine" stamp on their hands were de-boarded from the Gujarat-bound Saurashtra Express on Thursday. They were going home to Vadodara. This incident occurred a day after four persons, who had landed from Germany and had similar stamps, were going to Surat on the Garib Rath Express. They were deboarded in Palghar, Maharashtra. Similar cases are being reported from Delhi and other parts of the country.

In its parlays with the Maharashtra government, Railways has said that instead of shutting down local trains, the state might consider shutting down offices, factories, schools etc so that people have no reason to commute on the local trains, sources said.

In race to trace contacts at Kerala hotspot, a husband & wife

'Like preparing a detailed story, weaving in persons and places... can't have any missing links, have to get people to recall specific moments'

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 19

FROM PUBLICISING a route map in the form of a flow chart to tracing every person at risk, Kerala's public health professionals raced last week to contain the fallout after a three-member family from Italy missed the coronavirus screening at Kochi airport two weeks ago — and spent six days outside before testing positive.

In Pathanamthitta alone, where the family was based, 876 primary and secondary contacts were traced, and placed in quarantine at homes or isolation centres.

At the heart of this "massive operation" in the district, which has reported nine cases so far, is the control room of about 30 doctors, public relations officers and health workers at last count.

Right at the forefront is a young couple, both government doctors: Dr Amjith Rajeevan, who steered the contract-tracing drive, and Dr S Sethulakshmi, a member of one of the eight field teams on the ground.

"It's like preparing a detailed story, weaving in persons and places. We can't have any missing links. We had to get people to recall a particular moment from a specific day," says Rajeevan.

But then, he has been there before. The 33-year-old had coordinated contact-tracing in January for the three medical students who returned from China's Wuhan and tested positive — all have since been discharged from hospital.

It's different this time though, he says. The students had been placed almost immediately in isolation and 72 contacts in the high-risk category, mostly other students from Wuhan, had been traced. "But for the family from Italy, talking over phone was not effective. Wearing personal protective equipment, I went to the isolation ward and slowly established a rapport with the help of a psychologist. Their version of travel and contact history was obtained. But there were a lot of missing links or grey areas as they could not fully recall their whereabouts," says Rajeevan.

Dr Sethulakshmi is part of eight field teams on the ground in Pathanamthitta; Dr Rajeevan is doing contact-tracing. *Express*

"The feeling that they are suffering from a disease that has no vaccine has terrified them. They are still being counselled by a professional to get them to recall every single contact," he says.

As each missing link emerged, the field teams took over — doctors, staff at primary and community health centres, and local health workers. Step by meticulous step, they checked CCTV footage from shops, institutions and public spaces, met every contact with exposure, and shared data with doctors, who reverted to the patients for confirmation.

THE CORONA FIGHTERS
AN EXPRESS SERIES

FROM TESTING SAMPLES TO TRACKING CONTACTS AND TREATING PATIENTS, MEET THE MEN AND WOMEN, UNSEEN AND UNHEARD, ON THE FRONTLINES OF INDIA'S FIGHT AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

Sethulakshmi, 32, says "field teams led by doctors put in four days of legwork in Pathanamthitta to identify the contacts and advise them to remain in isolation". In this case, these teams, each comprising a doctor, a junior health inspector or nurse, and a health worker, were armed with spread sheets loaded on their mobile phones.

"Some refused to cooperate fearing isolation. But we had also prepared panchayat-level lists of contacts so that local bodies could address the non-medical requirements of those in isolation," she says.

"In Kerala, even grassroots-level health workers have been trained in infection-control methods, which is important for obtaining quality certificates and accreditation for government hospitals, including Primary Health Centres (PHCs). This training helped a lot," she says.

On the personal front, too, it has been an unprecedented month for the couple, who have a two-year-old son. "In the first few days after the positive cases were reported, the entire team in the control room worked from 8 am to 10 pm. Nowadays, we are at work till 7 pm," says Rajeevan.

Rajeevan works as an assistant surgeon at the PHC in Nilakkal, and is an epidemiological intelligence officer. Sethulakshmi works at another PHC in Pathanamthitta district.

With contact-tracing for the family from Italy almost wrapped up, the two post-graduates in Community Medicine have turned to a new initiative at the district level: mass media surveillance. "We track news reports about the outbreak and forward them to the Health Department for action, if needed," says Rajeevan. "Public health is our main concern."

CORONA WATCH

A Lucknow Metro employee cleans the handrail of a escalator. *Vishal Srivastav*

Man slapped for sneezing, not wearing mask

Mumbai: A man was slapped after he sneezed while riding his two-wheeler in Kohlapur. Another rider told him to not sneeze on others and asked him to wear a mask if he was unwell, citing the spread of COVID-19 and the advisories being issued by the government. "The man got into an argument and asked him to mind his own business... This led to a scuffle between them and the man was slapped. Nobody approached the police station, however, with a police complaint," said an official from the Zuna Razwada police station. A video of the incident, which occurred on Tuesday, has gone viral on social media. **ENS**

Two more trainee officers test positive

Dehradun: Days after an Indian Forest Service trainee officer at the Indira Gandhi National Forest Research Centre tested positive for COVID-19, two more officers tested positive on Thursday. The authorities placed the institute under lockdown. All three officers were part of a team that had travelled to Spain for a training programme. All 28 have been in quarantine since Sunday. According to a government bulletin, a total of 114 samples have been collected for testing till date. **ENS**

Tirupati temple to be shut

Amaravati: The hill shrine of Lord Venkateswara in Tirumala and all other major temples will be out of bounds for devotees while malls and cinema halls would be closed down in Andhra Pradesh till March 31 to check the spread of coronavirus, the state government announced. **PTI**

1 more tests positive in Kerala, CM announces Rs 20,000-cr package

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MARCH 19

Pinarayi Vijayan

ON A day Kerala reported its 28th case of COVID-19 infection, the cash-strapped state government on Thursday announced a package of Rs 20,000 crore to revive the economy.

The latest person to be infected hails from Kasaragod and tested positive on his return from Dubai. As on Thursday, 31,000 people are under observation in Kerala.

On Thursday, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan told the media that COVID-19 had impacted normal life in Kerala. "It has created a lot of trouble in the financial sector. The government has taken certain decisions to revive normal life as well as our economic sector," he said.

A major component of the package is that in April and May, a loan of Rs 2,000 crore would be made available to members of Kudumbashree, the state's poverty eradication and women empowerment scheme. Another Rs 2,000 crore would be pumped into the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in the next two months.

Two instalments of social security pensions (in five categories), slated to be paid in April, would be paid this month and a sum of Rs 1,320 crore would be spent for this, said Vijayan.

"Although 50 lakh people are getting social security pensions, a section of BPL families do not get this. Such families would be given a relief of Rs 1,000 each in this month," he said.

Besides this, all ration card holders in the state, irrespective of whether they are in APL or BPL categories, would get a month's ration free of cost through the public distribution system, he said.

The chief minister said the project of 1,000 hotels selling lunch at Rs 25, which was announced in the budget, would be launched soon.

Meanwhile, several Catholic dioceses in Kerala have decided to abandon Sunday Mass as part of the precautionary steps. The government had directed the religious heads to avoid crowds at places of worship.

THINNING CROWDS

Badi Chaupar in Jaipur on Thursday after the state government imposed prohibitory orders in the city on Wednesday. *Rohit Jain Paras*

J&K issues restrictions across Valley

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, MARCH 19

AS THE first positive case of coronavirus was reported in Kashmir valley on Wednesday, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Thursday imposed restrictions in several parts.

In Srinagar, movement of public transport was prohibited with barricades set up at several points. Shops and establishments in the city's centre — Lal Chowk — remained closed and the entry of commercial vehicles into Srinagar was banned.

"Restriction imposed in #Srinagar city for containment of any likely spread of #Coronavirus. Medical teams are following SOP. There will be initial problems for a day or so. Adm will ensure effective services & supplies. Pl stay at home. Contact District Control Room for any help," Srinagar District Magistrate Shahid Chaudhary tweeted later in the day.

The patient had recently returned from Saudi Arabia. Sources in the health department told *The Indian Express* that at least 20 people who came in contact with the positive case had been quarantined.

The administration said the restrictions on traffic movement and business operations will be restricted till further notice.

An order issued by the Regional Transport Office, Kashmir, barred the operation of bus/ mini bus services, cabs and other passenger vehicles in Srinagar.

Chhattisgarh orders shutdown after first case

GARGI VERMA
RAIPUR, MARCH 19

THE CHHATTISGARH government on Thursday imposed Section 144, a law that prohibits gatherings, across the state and ordered closure of malls, supermarkets, restaurants, clubs and street vendors after a 24-year-old woman was tested positive for COVID-19, the first case in the state.

The woman returned from London on March 15 and reported to AIIMS-Raipur the same day. Four of her family members, including her parents, are kept in isolation. "We are waiting for test results, although none of the family members show any symptoms," a health department official said.

Hours after the woman tested positive, the police enforced a lockdown in parts of Raipur — Samta Nagar, Gudhiyari and Choubey Colony — where the woman lived. "The region is under watch until further order to avoid a health or other emergency," said Raipur SP Arif Shaikh.

The state has opened a hotline through which residents of the area can ask for milk, ration and medicines. "The control room will specifically take calls from the people of these three areas. If they need anything, they can call on the number and we will help," an officer from Raipur district administration said.

As part of the shutdown, the government has suspended interstate bus services and tourist vehicles to contain the spread of the disease, and has asked residents of all hostels in the urban areas to vacate. The government had earlier shut schools colleges and anganwadis in the state till March 31. The examinations of open schools and state board schools have also been postponed.

Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel addressed the public through a social media video and asked the public to step out of their houses only if necessary. "We are ready to tackle the virus but we need to be careful, and observe isolation," Baghel said. He said ration shops and medical shops will remain open.

The shutdown caused panic across the city, with many complaining they were not warned. "We didn't know the shops will be closed and that too indefinitely. It will affect business but I am more worried about the supplies in the house," said Ramkumar Soni, a shop owner in Raipur. Despite government warnings, several medical shops were found to be selling masks at a higher price than usual, citing lack of supplies.

"We are going to tap the travel agencies and community resources to ensure that we have the details of the people who have traveled to the state since March 1," said the officer.

Health Minister T S Singhdeo, who attended a meeting of the disaster management team, said the state has over a 1,000 beds ready for patients.

"We are testing way less than we should be. I have already alerted the Central health ministry, but we need to start testing a larger group of people. Community tracing is going to be difficult... To identify infected people early, we need to make the testing criteria broader," he said.

Rajasthan: All non-essential offices shut down

HAMZA KHAN
JAIPUR, MARCH 19

AFTER THREE new cases were discovered in Jhunjhunu, health officials in Rajasthan on Thursday started a surveillance of the region by 350 teams, even as Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced a shutdown of all non-essential government and semi-government departments, autonomous institutions, corporations, and mandals in the state till March 31.

The Jhunjhunu couple, in their early 30s, and their two-and-a-half-year-old daughter had returned from Italy on March 8. However, they did not show any symptoms and weren't stopped at the Delhi Airport. Subsequently, they travelled to Jhunjhunu by road and did not exhibit symptoms for the next few days too. But as their health started worsening, they were checked at a local hospital and their samples were sent to Jaipur, where coronavirus was confirmed on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, chairing a meeting on coronavirus, the CM instructed that spa, club, bars, etc., in the state be closed until further orders.

He also issued an advisory stating that labourers working in factories be given the facility to work from home as well as a pay with leave.

Public transport to stop in Punjab from Saturday

Chandigarh: As Punjab recorded its first COVID-19 death, the state government Thursday suspended public transport services from Saturday.

The decision includes state-run and private buses and autorickshaws. It has also decided to shut down hotels, restaurants and banquet halls till further orders. The leaves of SSPs, DCs, Commissioners and other senior officers of the districts have also been cancelled. They have also been asked to stay put in their place of posting.

The government has also decided to postpone school examinations on the lines of CBSE. The new schedule would be notified later. Cabinet Minister Brahm Mohindra said the step was being taken to discourage people from travelling. **ENS**

PM'S ADDRESS ON COVID-19

Oppn divided: Some back PM, others call it a gimmick

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

RESPONDING TO Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation, the Congress extended support but criticised him for not suspending the ongoing session of Parliament and demanded more steps.

"I am duty bound to support the PM. In effect, the PM has asked the people to wage the war against COVID with moral armaments. We shall do so on Sunday and in the following days. I have the feeling that the PM will come back in the next few days to announce tougher social and economic measures," said senior Congress leader P Chidambaram.

His colleague Anand Sharma criticised the PM for not shutting down Parliament. "The government has invoked the Epidemic Diseases Act. How can he exempt public representatives? He has no authority under the law to exempt anyone… He is equally subject to the law," he said.

"He cannot say that he and whoever he nominates are exempt… That is hypocritical. Why is he not attending Parliament? You are exposing others and not being present… which House has he attended after the outbreak… let's discuss this in the House... what courage and character is he showing..." he said.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor welcomed the PM's "call to solidarity" and said he would "support the 'janata curfew', while conscious that Sunday is the easiest day to try it." He said there was a need for "more reinforcement of social distancing (including suspending Parliament) and specific economic relief measures."

His colleague and former union minister Manish Tewari said the PM's address "underscores both seriousness and, in a sense, helplessness" of the government. "It is perfectly understandable given the evolving situation sans a vaccine. Reassurance with regard to health infrastructure in addition to preventive measures would have been helpful," he said.

"It is unfortunate that the PM has not spelt out anything about the government's preparation and actions... Apart from the symbolism that he proposed, what is the government doing to mitigate the crisis faced by the majority of India that cannot 'work from home' and survive on their daily earnings? They are already facing the brunt of the current economic recession," CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said.

Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien said the PM should have first addressed Parliament. "Parliament in session. Isn't this temple of democracy hallowed enough to address the nation from? Or a pre-recorded video message? CMs were watching on TV. Chronology? Announce today. Talk to CMs tomorrow. Cooperative federalism? High on gimmicks? Low on solutions," he tweeted.

In the states, Rajasthan Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Ashok Gehlot said: "Our government is with the PM... We have taken all stakeholders along to fight this virus, including Opposition parties..."

In Maharashtra, the Maha Vikas Aghadi government said the symbolic move would help to create awareness. "I support... (PM's) appeal for resolve and restraint..." tweeted Jayant Patil, senior NCP leader and state minister.

BJD chief and Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik tweeted: "Extraordinary circumstances demand extraordinary response. COVID19 is a challenge for the entire human race. Let's all join as one nation and support the appeal of PM Narendra Modiji."

BJP chief J P Nadda hailed the janata curfew proposal and said the decision to set up a task force was laudable. The RSS too came out in support of the PM. In a statement, Sarkaryavah Suresh 'Bhaiyaji' Joshi asked RSS workers to work towards the success of the janata curfew.

WITH ENS INPUTS

Health experts say could have done more

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi's speech on Thursday drew mixed reactions from public health professionals, with praise for its pitch on social distancing but also some criticism for "lack of substance".

Calling his speech a "sensitive, educative and unifying message much needed at this juncture", Public Health Foundation of India president Dr K S Reddy appreciated his call for a 'Janata Curfew'. "The Prime Minister reached out to all of India to respond to this public health emergency with social solidarity. He made social distancing an act of personal conviction, rather than an imposed order, by asking for a voluntary curfew," Reddy said.

Other public health professionals, not willing to be quoted, said that while the messaging was spot on, the real test lay in follow-up action. "That is what will decide the course of the pandemic in the coming days, rather than citizens' determination. As he (the PM) himself admitted, the worst is far from over," an epidemiologist said.

Dr Amir Ullah Khan, a health economist at the Manipal Institute of Technology, felt "the sense of urgency was missing". "Expected something substantial... at least a commitment to improve quarantine facilities... The PM could have also talked about getting the private sector, civil society and community leaders involved."

Sitabhra Sinha, Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai, said, "This might be a way of making people realise how serious the situation is, or maybe a way to normalise a situation in which people might be forced to stay at home for some time. I am not sure whether this would have any additional discernible impact... over and above what we might already be seeing as a result of several measures by the government."

Reddy welcomed the PM's advice to people not to overload hospitals with non-emergency demands as well as the PM's appreciation for doctors and others performing essential services.

Former Union health secretary Sujata Rao was also all praise. "The PM has a great ability to simplify complex concepts. It was good that he focused on citizens' responsibility to take care of their own health and that of the society. I am glad he talked about self-restraint and self-discipline... very necessary at this hour," she said.

India sets up wellness facility for Indian pilgrims stuck in Iran

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE INDIAN embassy in Iran has set up a "wellness facility" in Qom to take care of the coronavirus-infected Indian pilgrims. On Wednesday, the government had said 255 Indians in Iran had tested positive for COVID-19.

The facility has been set up with the help of Iranian authorities.

The Indian embassy tweeted on Thursday, "In cooperation with #health authorities in Qom set up a wellness facility to take care of & undertake 24/7 supervision of infected Indian pilgrims. The hygienic facility, surrounded by greenery, has ample space for the pilgrims to walk around."

It also said two full-time and eight part-time Indian student volunteers are helping out dedicated Iranian medical personnel at the facility.

"All meals are being provided to the pilgrims by the Embassy. We are grateful to the Iranian authorities for their continued cooperation in this endeavor," the embassy said in another tweet.

In a written reply on Wednesday, the government told the Lok Sabha, "The Indian Embassies in respective countries are in touch with the Indian citizens regarding appropriate medical attention, in cooperation with local authorities."

According to sources, there was no change in the government position that they will bring back only those Indians who test negative for COVID-19. In line with this stand, on Wednesday, 195 Indians who had tested negative for an infection were brought back by a special aircraft from Iran and taken to an Army facility in Jaisalmer. With Wednesday's evacuation, the government has so far brought back 584 Indians from Iran.

INDIA JUST INCLUDED THE DRUGS IN TREATMENT GUIDELINES

China trial found no benefit in HIV drugs, says study

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE RESULTS of a 199-subject trial in China on the efficacy of HIV drugs Lopinavir and Ritonavir that India was looking at eagerly, has come out negative.

At 22.1 per cent, the mortality reported in the trial was substantially higher than the 11 per cent to 14.5 per cent mortality reported in initial studies of patients hospitalised with novel coronavirus (COVID-19), according to a study.

The overall documented mortality of COVID-2019, as given out by the World Health Organization (WHO) is 3.4 per cent.

"In hospitalised adult patients with severe COVID-19, no benefit was observed with lopinavir-ritonavir treatment beyond standard care. Future trials in patients with severe illness may help to confirm or exclude the possibility of a treatment benefit," researchers from the National Clinical Research Center for Respiratory Diseases and several other Chinese institutes reported in the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM).

The findings are of importance for India because India's COVID-19 treatment guidelines were just updated to include the drug combination usually used by HIV patients as a second- or even a first-line drug.

The first two patients in India to be administered the drug combination — an Italian couple in Jaipur — have, however, recovered from the disease, according to officials.

The revised clinical management guidelines for coronavirus patients in India says: "There is no current evidence from RCTs [randomised controlled trials] to recommend any specific treatment for suspected or confirmed patients with COVID-19. No specific anti-virals are recommended for treatment of COVID-19 due to lack of adequate evidence from literature. The use of Lopinavir/ Ritonavir in PEP regimens for HIV (4 weeks) is also associated with significant adverse events which many a times leads to discontinuation of therapy. In light of the above, Lopinavir/ Ritonavir should ONLY be used with proper informed expressed consent on a case to case basis for severe cases...along with supportive treatment as per need."

PEP, or post-exposure prophylaxis, involves taking HIV medicines within 72 hours after a possible exposure to HIV to prevent becoming infected with HIV.

Asked whether India plans to report its experience with the use of the drug combination in the two patients (in Jaipur), ICMR's head of epidemiology, Dr R R Gangakhedkar, had last week said, "This is too small a sample size. We will wait for the results of the 199 subject trial in China."

In India, the drug combination is to be used in patients who have hypoxia, hypotension, new onset organ dysfunction (one or more) and also in "High Risk Groups" that includes people with Diabetes Mellitus, Renal Failure, Chronic Lung disease, Immuno — compromised persons or those above 60 years.

The Chinese researchers, though, have considered the possibility that the high mortality was because of a cohort that was very sick. "This randomized trial found that lopinavir-ritonavir treatment added to standard supportive care was not associated with clinical improvement or mortality in seriously ill patients with Covid-19 different from that associated with standard care alone. ...Of note, the overall mortality in this trial (22.1%) was substantially higher than the 11% to 14.5% mortality reported in initial descriptive studies of hospitalized patients with COVID-19,1,2 which indicates that we enrolled a severely ill population," they wrote.

The results of this trial notwithstanding, a combination of these two drugs, and this combination with interferons (proteins released by the body to combat some viruses), are one of the four drug options for which the WHO on Wednesday announced multi-country clinical trials. The other drugs to be tested are antiviral drug Remdesivir and antimalarial drug Chloroquine.

Of 1,514 Indians in Iran, 298 tested positive: Govt

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE CENTRE has informed the Delhi High Court that of the 1,514 Indian nationals tested by the Indian Embassy in Iran, only 298 have tested positive for COVID-19. The Ministries of External Affairs and Health, in a joint report filed before Justice Navin Chawla on Wednesday, stated the low rate is largely due to the large number of medical students in Iran.

The status report stated that the first batch of 108 samples were received on March 7, 2020, of which 65 tested negative. "Samples of 529 more Indians were received on March 10, 2020, which were tested in NIV, Pune. Of these, 384 tested negative. On March 13, 2020, 558 samples were brought to India, of which 476 are negative. On March 15, 319 samples were brought to India, of which 291 are negative," the report said. It added that 192 more samples were received on March 16 and are currently being tested.

The report also said that so far, 389 Indian nationals (including 205 pilgrims, 183 students and one teacher) have been evacuated from Iran.

The report came after a plea sought the airlifting of Indian students studying in different universities in Iran in wake of coronavirus spreading across that country. Nine parents, all residents of Kashmir, also sought direction to the authorities to arrange other modes of transportation, including evacuation through ships in order to provide "humanitarian assistance to the Indian students stranded in different universities of Iran".

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

PASSION FOR AYURVEDA

WHILE SPEAKING on The Institute of Technology and Research in Ayurveda Bill, 2020, Congress MP Shashi Tharoor had a long speech to make. DMK MP A Raja, who was in the Chair, reminded him several times that he had exceeded the time, but Tharoor, an MP from Kerala, where ayurveda has a special place, had a lot to say. He kept asking for three more minutes, but Raja said the time his party had agreed to at the Business Advisory Committee was 17 minutes, and another member may not get time if Tharoor takes the full 17 minutes. When Tharoor finally finished at the 16th minute, Raja advised him to have a *mulethi* to give relief to his throat. Raja then came to his seat — right in front of the row where Tharoor was seated — and was seen having a discussion with the Congress MP.

RESTRICTING MOVEMENT

THE AUTHORITIES in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are leaving no stone unturned as coronavirus spreads in mainland India. After a high-level meeting chaired by the Chief Secretary on Thursday, the Union Territory administration has issued orders restricting helicopter and Dornier aircraft services between its various islands, which only government officials undertaking emergency operations can now use. Similar directions have been issued for movement of ships, and all ship tickets have been withdrawn. Ships are also now to be used only by government officials and professionals of essential services. In an unusual move, the administration has also decided to ban the sale of petrol and diesel to consumers living on the islands.

INSURGENT ALERT

CORONAVIRUS HAS put NSCN-IM, the largest Naga insurgent group, on high alert, prompting the outfit to cancel its 'republic day' celebrations, held on March 21. On Saturday, it will be observed with a modest prayer session and hoisting of the Naga 'flag'. Health Kilonser (minister) of the IM's parallel 'government', Dr A Yanthan, has swung into action and is undertaking awareness campaigns among cadres and armed insurgents. The IM's 'budget session' has been postponed, and any visitors to India's largest insurgent camp — Hebron, a fortress that few are allowed to visit — will be screened as part of COVID-19 precautions.

Gogoi takes oath amid chants of shame, walkout by Oppn

Gogoi says 'they will welcome me soon'; Naidu, Prasad criticise Oppn action

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

SLOGANS OF "shame on you" and "feel the deal" greeted former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi on his first day in Rajya Sabha on Thursday. Justice Gogoi (retd) took oath as a nominated member of the Upper House amid the ruckus and a walkout by Opposition Congress and Left members.

This is perhaps the first time ever that the House has witnessed slogan-shouting and walkout during oath-taking of a new member.

Nominated to Rajya Sabha earlier this week by President Ram Nath Kovind, Gogoi, accompanied by family members, reached Parliament House a little before 10.30 am and walked into the House at 10.56 am. He was greeted by Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, who was then engaged in a conversation with a couple of Opposition MPs.

Gogoi, 65, who retired as CJI in November 2019 after a tenure of 13 months, was ushered into his designated seat — number 104 in the sixth row — by Rajya Sabha officials. Nominated MP Sonal Mansingh, seated next to him, and a couple of other MPs greeted him.

Trouble began as soon as his name was called by Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu for oath-taking. Congress members led by B K Hariprasad stood up and started shouting "feel the deal" and "shame on you." BJP members, including ministers, on the other hand, thumped the desks to welcome him.

Gogoi's oath was drowned in the protests.

Opposition members then walked out to register their protest. A composed Gogoi took his oath Gogoi — in English, in the name of God — and then walked up to the Treasury benches and greeted them.

Opposition members walk out as former CJI Ranjan Gogoi takes oath in RS on Thursday. *PTI*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah were not present in the House at the time. BJP president J P Nadda and several ministers, including Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, were present.

"They will welcome me soon; there are no critics," Gogoi later told reporters while leaving Parliament House.

Not all Opposition members, however, walked out during the oath-taking. Samajwadi Party's floor leader Ram Gopal Yadav did not participate in the protest and greeted Gogoi after he took the oath.

Naidu said it was not fair to shout slogans. "This will not go on record.... What is this? Very unfair and unbecoming of Members of Parliament," he said.

He said members have the liberty to express their views outside the House on the issue. "We know the constitutional position — we know the precedents, we know the powers of the President of India. We should not do anything like this in the House. Whatever views you have, you can express them outside; you are at liberty," he said after Gogoi took his oath.

Prasad said what the Opposition members did was "grossly unfair". He said, "This House has a great tradition of many eminent persons of diverse fields, including former Chief Justices, being nominated by those who, I regretfully say, shouted. Ranjan Gogoi, who has taken oath today, will surely contribute his best as a nominated member. It was grossly unfair on their part to do like that."

Naidu said, "We made our stand clear. We must respect the Members."

Talking to the media later, Congress deputy leader Anand Sharma said Gogoi's appointment was wrong as it severely undermines the independence of judiciary and sends a wrong message to all present and future judges.

He said, "We have strong objections and reservations (to his appointment). Because he is a recently retired Chief Justice of India, who has given many controversial judgments...he himself was a controversial chief justice, and his acceptance and the government's appointment has raised bona fide questions about quid pro quo."

The Congress leader said, "It has lowered dignity of the office that he held...(that it has) disgraced the constitutional scheme of things is very clear...the distancing between the executive, Parliament and the judiciary (has been impacted)."

Sharma said earlier examples of appointments, as mentioned by the minister, "do not hold water" since they were made "after nine years or seven years" of . But in Gogoi's case, he pointed out, the appointment was made "within four months".

Sharma also pointed out: "This former Chief Justice is on record having said that post-retirement appointment, or accepting any position, will be a scar on the independence of the judiciary. So, he himself has become an active party to that along with the government, and that is why we protested."

'Gogoi's great experience will add to standard of debate in RS'

IN AN interview to **LIZ MATHEW**, Union Law and Justice Minister **RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD** counters criticism over nomination of former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi to Rajya Sabha. Excerpts:

THE EXPRESS INTERVIEW
WITH
RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD
UNION LAW MINISTER

Why do you think Justice Ranjan Gogoi, who retired less than four months ago, can be nominated to Rajya Sabha ?

He has been nominated from the eminent persons category from which persons like M S Swaminathan, Raja Ramanna, M G K Menon...a whole range of eminent people entered the Upper House. There have been great journalists, too — Kuldip Nayar, H K Dua, Shobhana Bhartia etc. Let me draw from history. Jawaharlal Nehru appointed Justice Fazal Ali as Governor of Odisha in 1952-53.... Justice Mohammadali Carim Chagla, chief justice of Bombay High Court for nearly 11 years... became a distinguished ambassador in the US, high commissioner in the UK and then chose to become HRD and External Affairs Minister... (Koka) Subba Rao was chief justice of Supreme Court. He contested for the post of President against Zakir Hussain. Was independence of judiciary compromised because of these? Nothing.

The real issue came in 1970s when Indira Gandhi was in power ...The first was supercession of senior judges, Justice (K S) Hegde, (A N) Grover and Justice (Manilal) Shelat... A N Ray was Chief Justice and what was his first job after becoming CJI? To constitute the bench to undo the Kesavananda Bharati case. This was compromising the independence of judiciary.

Then came Emergency, judges were transferred. H R Khanna... was denied the Chief Justice position for two months. Who came? M H Baig, later given a Padma Vibhushan by Rajiv Gandhi.

...Baharul Islam was a Congress member of Rajya Sabha. He contested Assembly polls from Assam but was defeated. In 1972, he was made a High Court judge, retired in 1980. When Indira Gandhi returned to power in 1980, he was rescued from retirement and made a Supreme Court judge where he remained for two-and-a-half-years and delivered a questionable judgment in the case of Jagannath Mishra's cooperative scam, resigned and then came into Rajya Sabha. What do you call it? Then came Ranganath Misra. As a sitting judge, he headed an inquiry commission which gave a questionable finding about the Sikh massacre. Then he became CJI. After retirement, he became NHRC chairman and then sat to bail out the Congress in the Sikh riots issue, then joined the Congress and came to Rajya Sabha. After Rajya Sabha, he was made the chairman to give reservation to minorities. Judges came into politics through election, with nomination, became Governors, but the institution's integrity was never compromised. This background is very important.

What was the criteria for Ranjan Gogoi?

This is the discretion of the President, something you will have to trust. The President decides in consultation obviously. If a former CJI is coming as a fully nominated member to Rajya Sabha without aligning to any party, his great wisdom and experience will add to the standard of debates in the Upper House.... Let me ask you, if an editor is nominated — two (former) editors have been nominated, Kuldip Nayar and H K Dua — does it mean integrity of *The Indian Express* was compromised? Did it affect the independence of *The Indian Express*? The owner of a newspaper was nominated — Shobhana Bhartia. Did it mean that her newspaper has stopped criticising (the government)? No.

But BJP has always criticised Congress for such moves. The BJP claims to be a party with a difference.

This government is led by Narendra Modi. Rajnath Singh, M Venkaiah Naidu, late leaders Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley and Ravi Shankar Prasad fought against the Emergency. We fought for three freedoms — individual freedom, independence of judiciary and independence of the media.... So please don't preach us. That is our commitment; that is our standard for a party with a difference.

Justice Gogoi dealt with several politically sensitive cases such as Rafale, NRC and Ram Mandir in which the government's role came under criticism. There is also a perception that the judgments were line with the BJP's liking. Against that backdrop, don't you think the nomination would trigger doubts in the minds of citizens ?

This is a very sad comment to make. Do you make similar allegations against judgment given by the judges I mentioned — Subbarao to Chagla to many others? ...The Congress has no face.... You have to see these judgments on their merits, whether they were good on facts, evidence and law or not.... Unfortunately, a new trend is developing, some people want to control polity of the country through motivated litigation in Supreme Court corridors. They are those who have been defeated by the people of India. When the judgments are not to their liking, they start raising questions which is unfair.

Former judges, especially Collegium members who came out with him (Gogoi) to make allegations of government interference, have reacted strongly. Your comment

...I don't want to join any issue with any retired judge except to say there are judges, there are judges.

FULL INTERVIEW ON
www.indianexpress.com

CAA protest: Azamgarh court rejects bail plea of 19 accused of sedition

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

A DISTRICT and sessions court in Azamgarh has rejected the bail pleas of 19 people accused of sedition, who were arrested on February 5 in the wake of protests against the new citizenship law and the NRC.

"Considering all aspects of the case and keeping in view the seriousness of the crime", there is no basis for granting bail, District and Sessions Judge Pramod Kumar Sharma ruled.

The 12-page order noted the sequence of events leading to arrests and recounted the contents of the FIR. However, the grounds for rejecting bail are noted in the last two sentences of the order.

The Uttar Pradesh Police has accused 19 people of raising "anti-national" slogans and rioting, among other offences, during a protest at Jauhar Ali Park in Bilariyaganj police station area. Among those arrested is Rashtriya Ulema Council general secretary Tahir Madni (65). According to the FIR, the 35 persons named in the FIR "raised slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath", and also verbally abused Hindus.

The 19 were arrested on February 5 and the bail application moved the next day. The pleas were heard on March 12 and the order was reserved.

They were charged under IPC Sections 124-A (sedition), 147 (rioting), 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups), 504 (insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace), 307 (attempt to murder), 120-B (criminal conspiracy), among others, and under Sections of the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act and The Criminal Law Amendment Act.

The accused cited that they had no prior criminal record, that they were permanent residents of Azamgarh, and that the state police had recovered no weapons at the time of their arrest as grounds for granting bail. However, the order did not discuss any of the circumstances.

OVER THE YEARS, GOVTS GOT IN SOME FAVOURITES

Idea behind a nomination: Learned debate, knowledge, expertise

PRADEEP KAUSHAL
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

EXPLAINED

WHILE PITCHING in favour of making a provision in the Constitution for nomination of eminent people to the Council of States, N Gopalaswami Ayyangar, who was part of the Constitution drafting committee, had stated: "We also give an opportunity, perhaps, to seasoned people who may not be in the thickest of the political fray, but who might be willing to participate in the debate with an amount of learning and importance which we do not ordinarily associate with the House of the People (Lok Sabha)."

The first list of 12 Presidential nominees perfectly represented this sentiment: Zakir Husain, who later became the President; historians Kalidas Nag and Radha Kumud Mookerji; Hindi poet Maithilisharan Gupt; Gandhian author Kakasaheb Kalelkar; scientist Satyendranath Bose; social worker N R Malkani; danseuse Rukmini Devi Arundale; Gandhian scholar J M Kumarappa; jurist Alladi Krishnaswami; actor Prithviraj Kapoor; and medical scientist Major General S S Sokhey.

This was reason enough for Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to state in the Lok Sabha on May 13, 1953: "The President has nominated some members of the Council of States who, if I may say so, are among the most distinguished...in arts, science, etc.... They do not represent political parties or anything, but they represent really the high watermark of literature or art or culture or whatever it may be."

Article 80 of the Constitution states, "(1) The council of States shall consist of (a) twelve members to be nominated by the President in accordance with the provisions of clause (3)..." Clause (3) states, "The members to be nominated by the President under sub clause (a) of clause (1) shall consist of persons having special knowledge or practical experience in respect of such matters as the following, namely: Literature, science, art and social service".

Since Rajya Sabha was constituted in 1952, 137 people have been nominated as its members. These include scholars, jurists, educationists, historians, scientists, litterateurs, journalists, engineers, economists, administrators, artistes, social workers and politicians usually with loyalty to the government of the day.

The nominated category route has come handy for the ruling dispensation to, over the years, get its favourites into the Upper House. For instance, Maragatham Chandrasekar, Congress general secretary and former minister, had the maximum three shots — from 1970 to 1988 — as a "social worker." Former Assam chief minister Anwara Taimur (1988), Indira Gandhi's close associate Nirmala Deshpande (1997 and 2003), former minister Mani Shankar Aiyyar (2010), Madan Bhatia (1982 and 1988), Sat Paul Mittal (1976 and 1982) were among nominated members with allegiance to the Congress.

The BJP brought in former Union minister Subramanian Swamy (2016), journalist and party functionary Chandan Mitra, actor Hema Malini (2003), Navjot Singh Sidhu (2016; he later joined the Congress), and former Lok Sabha member from Robertsganj Ram Shakal (2018) to Rajya Sabha.

Presidential nominees in the present Rajya Sabha are Swapan Dasgupta, Subramanian Swamy, Narendra Jadhav, Suresh Gopi, Mary Kom, Chhatrapati Sambhajiraje, Roopa Ganguly (all nominated in 2016), Rakesh Sinha, Sonal Mansingh, and Raghunath Mohapatra (all 2018).

Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi is the latest in that list.

Nominated members enjoy all powers and privileges which elected MPs are entitled to. They take part in proceedings of the House but are not allowed to vote in the election of the President. They have a voting right in the election of the Vice President. So far no nominated member has been inducted into the Council of Ministers.

A nominated member can join a party within six months of taking his seat in the House. Swamy, for example, has taken the BJP whip, but Dasgupta has chosen not to do so.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Yes Bank case: ED issues fresh summons to Subhash Chandra

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

A DAY after Essel Group chairman Subhash Chandra skipped summons by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) citing his commitment in Parliament as a Rajya Sabha member, the agency has issued him fresh summons to appear on Saturday when the Upper House will not meet. The ED summoned Chandra and Jet Airways' Naresh Goyal for questioning in the Yes Bank case on Wednesday, but none of them appeared.

"Chandra had written to us that he is unable to come to ED office for questioning, as he has to attend Rajya Sabha sittings. So, we have now called him on Saturday. We hope he will now appear, as there is no sitting of Rajya Sabha on weekends," an ED official said.

The Indian Express had on Thursday reported that Chandra was in Rajya Sabha and attended a discussion on a legislation related to unani medicines.

On Thursday, without taking any name, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu made a remark regarding this in the House. "I would like to mention that no member of the House should avoid appearing before any investigating agency, when she or he is called upon to do, by citing the reason of House duty. As lawmakers, it is our bounden duty to respect the law and legal procedures. It applies to all, in all cases, because you can only inform that the House is in Session, seeking further date, but you cannot avoid enforcement agencies or law enforcing agencies' summons or notices. This has to be taken note by all," he said at the end of Zero Hour.

Sources in ED said Goyal skipped the summons, citing that he has to tend to his unwell sister in Delhi. He would be summoned again, the official said.

Reliance Group chairman Anil Ambani appeared before ED on Thursday and was questioned for almost 10 hours. Agency sources, however, said he was not cooperative and has been asked to reappear on March 30.

"Ambani did not answer 99 per cent of the questions. In almost every answer, he said he could not remember transactions. So we have given him sufficient time to come prepared during the next round of questioning," another ED official said.

The agency had also called Peter Kerkar of Cox and Kings for questioning on Thursday. Sources said he was questioned by the investigating officer at length.

In a statement released to the media, the Reliance Group said, "Mr Anil Ambani met ED officials today to clarify on the Reliance Group's exposure to Yes Bank. He reiterated that the Reliance Group's entire exposure to Yes Bank is fully secured and transacted in the ordinary course of business. All transactions between the Reliance Group and Yes Bank are in compliance with the law and financial regulations. Mr Ambani also clarified to the agency that Reliance Group has no direct or indirect exposure to Mr Rana Kapoor or his wife or daughters, or any entities controlled by Mr Rana Kapoor or his family."

The ED had summoned Gautam Thapar (Avantha Group), Peter Kerkar (Cox & Kings Group), Kapil Wadhawan (DHFL Group), Sameer Gehlot (Indiabulls Housing Finance), Subhash Chandra (Essel Group), Anil Ambani, and Naresh Goyal.

In a statement on Thursday, Indiabulls said, "This is to inform that as per letter dated 18th March, 2020 Mr Sameer Gehlaut has informed that he is currently in UK and happy to visit their offices for any information regarding loan to Rana Kapoor on 40 Amrita Shergill property as soon as the ban of flights from UK to India is lifted by Govt of India. In the meantime company has already submitted all information and records for the loan."

The statement denied allegations of irregularities in grant of the loan.

Reliance Group chairman Anil Ambani after appearing before the Enforcement Directorate in connection with probe in Yes Bank case, in Mumbai on Thursday. *PTI*

FROM THE GALLERY

FROM THE CHAIR

RAJYA SABHA

"Please don't talk in between"

KAHKASHAN PERWEEN, In the chair, to SP's Jaya Bachchan who was cross-talking during a discussion on the MSME Ministry's functioning.

LOK SABHA

"You just place your demand. What should be done may be decided by the airport authority. You just say what it is that you want"

OM BIRLA, Speaker to BJP MP Bhagirath Choudhary, who demanded more flight services and airports from his constituency of Ajmer.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Prime Minister, do come to Parliament and address us on everything, including coronavirus"

DOLA SEN, TMC member while speaking during a discussion on MSME.

ROLL CALL

PRIME MINISTER: Not Present
SONIA GANDHI: Not Present
RAHUL GANDHI: Not Present

5 QUESTIONS

BJP MEMBER FROM DARJEELING **RAJU BISTA** RAISED IN LOK SABHA THE ISSUE OF PEOPLE FROM DARJEELING AND THE NORTHEAST FACING RACIST COMMENTS AMID THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK. HE SPEAKS TO **AVISHEK G DASTIDAR.**

How is Darjeeling coping with the COVID-19 outbreak?
Darjeeling has four international borders. Also, after Sikkim and Bhutan closed themselves to tourism, tourists are all coming to Darjeeling. As a result, if we do not carry out adequate screening, the situation will be out of control.

How has the state government responded?
They have done testing etc. But as you are aware, the health infrastructure in Bengal is really bad even though the department is with the Chief Minister. Let alone patients, even visitors will not feel like going to the medical college there. So I have written to the Health minister, Home Minister, and External Affairs Minister. The Home Minister has forwarded my letter to the Health Minister. I have requested that more testing and treatment resources be provided in Darjeeling.

Is there a threat of community transmission there?
Residents of Darjeeling who work in big cities are coming back in hordes due to the COVID-19 scare... The old and infirm living in the villages will be vulnerable.

Why do you say these people are going back to Darjeeling?
What is sad is that since people from our area have Mongoloid features, they are facing racist comments amid the COVID-19 scare. Yesterday in Kolkata, someone pointed at a girl and said, look Coronavirus has come, stay away from her. She started crying and posted a video. A heart patient from Arunachal Pradesh was refused a house on rent in Mumbai because of this discrimination.

How do you want the government to respond?
I have demanded that the government bring out a circular urging people to stop this and maybe arrest a few of these miscreants to set an example.

Cong raises CDR collection, Prasad says no surveillance

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE OPPOSITION continued its attack on the government for seeking call data records of all mobile subscribers across pockets of the country. The Congress raised the issue in Rajya Sabha and demanded that the government reveal how many orders in "specific cases" have been issued and when those orders were issued.

In response, Communications Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said, "I want to assure this House that there is no surveillance. There is no intrusion of privacy. No individual phone is being tapped or conversation recorded."

"Yesterday, the Department issued a public statement that because of new technology, to address the issue of call drops, numbers are being taken as to in a particular area...it is under the shadow or what not. This is being done with the approval and cooperation of the operators. Therefore, I want to say it on record that there is no surveillance, no intrusion, no invasion of privacy at all and we stand committed," Prasad said.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour, Congress's deputy leader in Rajya Sabha Anand Sharma said, "Under the guidelines and the license conditions of the mobile operators, the law enforcement agencies alone can seek the Call Data Records which they have to preserve and make available in specific cases and not for general surveillance purposes."

He pointed out that the issue of "unauthorised access of Call Data Records of several political leaders including the then Leader of the Opposition, Arun Jaitley, was raised in the House" in 2013.

"The House took up this matter and the government was asked to respond. The then UPA government had moved to tighten the guidelines for obtaining of the Call Data Records. Under the new guidelines, such Call Data Records can only be called for after clearance from the Home Secretary, and officers of the rank of Superintendents of Police and above alone are authorised to seek such details."

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram wears a face mask in Parliament. *Tashi Tobgyal*

"Further, the Superintendents of Police have to give a mandatory declaration to District Magistrates about the Call Data Records obtained every month. Nothing of this sort has been done, which has raised bona fide concerns about India being converted into a surveillance State and the Call Data Records being called for. This is also a serious breach of privacy of the citizens," he said.

The Indian Express reported Wednesday that cellphone operators had red-flagged 'surveillance' after local units of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) sought call data records of all mobile subscribers across several pockets of the country for specific days over the past few months.

Sharma asked the government "to place on record of this House the orders of the Home Secretary".

"How many orders in specific cases have been issued? When were those orders issued? When did the concerned Superintendents of Police inform the District Magistrates? And if not, this government is guilty," he said.

Speaking to reporters later, Sharma said what has been done by the government was in clear violation of the existing guidelines and rules.

"We are not satisfied with the answer given. What the minister has said actually is in violation of the guidelines and the law when it concerns to citizens' privacy as laid down by the Supreme Court also. We are concerned that by these actions India is being converted into a surveillance state and what has happened and what continues to happen is illegal and in violation of law," he said.

LS passes Bill to award eminence tag to Gujarat ayurveda colleges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

LOK Sabha on Thursday passed a Bill that seeks to award the institution of national importance status to a cluster of ayurveda institutions in Gujarat even as the Opposition demanded that the government should do more to promote ayurveda at the international level.

Union minister Shripad Yesso Naik said people across the globe are now showing greater interest in ayurveda, which has its origins in India.

Naik, Minister of State for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH), said the Bill will help boost research to bring out hidden capabilities of ayurveda and that its growth will also help bring down the expenditure on healthcare.

The Bill seeks to confer the status of institution of national importance to the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, at Jamnagar, by conglomerating the cluster of ayurveda institutes at Gujarat Ayurveda University campus in Jamnagar. The three institutes which would be clubbed are Institute of Post Graduate Teaching and Research in Ayurveda, Gulabkunwerba Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, and the Institute of Ayurveda Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Moving the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill for passage, Naik said agreements have been signed with 14 nations on ayurveda and in 58 countries, 28 information centres are working for promotion of ayurveda.

Participating in the discussion on the Bill, Congress member Shashi Tharoor said the proposed legislation is both "welcome" and disappointing. Stating that a chunk of Indian households use ayurvedic products, he said it was the engine of growth in Kerala.

Legal security, Tharoor said, is not provided to ayurveda and added that 65-70 per cent of rural India depends on ayurveda but nothing is done to protect the practitioners of ayurveda. The Bill, he said, fails to achieve the larger objective of ayurveda. "I request that what is being done for Gujarat should be done for Kerala," he said, and added that ayurveda cannot be promoted by awarding the eminence status to one college.

BJP MP from Jamnagar Poonam Madan pointed out that the international market for ayurveda is going up.

K Veeraswamy of the DMK said ayurveda is the oldest medical practice and there is a need to establish a council to monitor its practitioners. "If you want to promote ayurveda, there has to be a council — on the line of the Medical Council (of India) — to monitor the practitioners and control them. There should be more journals also," he said.

Cong MP calls for official papers to be sanitised

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

DAYS AFTER the Government signalled that the Budget session of Parliament would not be curtailed because of the spread of COVID-19, a Congress MP in Rajya Sabha on Thursday demanded that official papers supplied to members, , including questions and answers, be sanitised.

"Every morning, we get a bunch of papers from the Parliament House, which contains the Questions and so many other papers. Nobody knows whether all those papers are sanitised or not. Nobody knows where this job of packing is done, nobody knows who is doing this job, nobody knows whether they have sanitised their hands or not," Congress MP Pradeep Bhattacharya said during Zero Hour.

"My suggestion is that all the papers should be properly scrutinised and sanitised, and, the House should be adjourned immediately without any further delay," he added.

Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said "adjournment is no solution", adding that "sanitisers have been given to all the people who have been dealing with these papers".

"Further steps are to be taken keeping in view the suggestions given by Members... if any Member has some more suggestion, he or she can send the same in writing addressed to me or the Secretary-General," he said.

G.B. PANT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HIMALAYAN ENVIRONMENT (NIHE)
Kosi-Katarmal, Almora - 263643, Uttarakhand, India

NOTICE

Considering the advisory from DoPT, Govt. of India dated 17.03.2020 relating to spread of Novel Corona virus (COVID-19) the interviews for research staff under various research projects scheduled on 20 March 2020 and further dates stand postponed till further notice.

Administrative Officer

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग
हरिद्वार
पिन कोड- 249404

सं0: 503/60/01/डी0आर0(सा0शि0)/सेवा-1/2016-17
दिनांक 19 मार्च, 2020

विज्ञप्ति

उत्तराखण्ड शासन के माध्यमिक शिक्षा विभाग के अन्तर्गत विज्ञापन संख्या A-1/S-1/2018 दिनांक 04 सितम्बर, 2018 द्वारा विज्ञापित उत्तराखण्ड विशेष अधीनस्थ शिक्षा (प्रवक्ता संवर्ग-समूह ग) सेवा (सामान्य शाखा तथा महिला शाखा) परीक्षा-2018 के सापेक्ष आयोजित प्रवक्ता-जीव विज्ञान (सामान्य शाखा) की स्क्रीनिंग परीक्षा एवं तदुक्रम में घोषित परीक्षा परिणाम दिनांक 11.02.2019 के अनुक्रम में अर्ह अभ्यर्थियों हेतु आयोजित साक्षात्कार परीक्षा का अंतिम चयन परिणाम दिनांक 19 मार्च, 2020 को घोषित कर दिया गया है। उक्त चयन परिणाम आयोग की वेबसाइट www.ukpsc.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

-sd/-
(राजेन्द्र कुमार) सचिव।

OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL, GOVT. DOON MEDICAL COLLEGE, PATEL NAGAR, DEHRADUN-248001 UTTARAKHAND.
TEL: 0135-2726020, 2726021
E-mail: doonmedicalcollege@gmail.com, Website: www.doonmedical.org

Letter. No. GDMC/Advt./2020/1202 Dated: 19.03.2020

WALK IN INTERVIEW FOR FACULTY RECRUITMENT OF GOVERNMENT DOON MEDICAL COLLEGE, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

A walk in interview will be held on **24.03.2020 at 10:00 am** onwards in Govt. Doon Medical College Campus, Patel Nagar, Dehradun for various faculty positions of Government Doon Medical College, Dehradun. The appointments will be made on contractual basis. The details of vacancies in various departments is uploaded in the website of Govt. Doon Medical College www.doonmedical.org.

Principal
Govt. Doon Medical College, Dehradun

OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL, GOVT. DOON MEDICAL COLLEGE, PATEL NAGAR, DEHRADUN-248001 UTTARAKHAND.
TEL: 0135-2726020, 2726021 E-mail: doonmedicalcollege@gmail.com

Ref. No. GDMC/Advt./2020/1203 Dated: 19.03.2020

WALK IN INTERVIEW FOR SR's/JRs/TUTORS RECRUITMENT IN GOVT. DOON MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL, DEHRADUN, UTTARAKHAND

A walk-in interview for SR's/JR's / Tutors will be held in the office of Principal, Government Doon Medical College, Patel Nagar, Dehradun on every working day w.e.f. **21th March, 2020 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM** till all the vacancies would be filled.

Vacancies in various departments are as follows:

Senior Residents (34) (Medicine-06, TB & Chest-02, Obs. & Gyn.-03, Radiodiagnosis-03, Paediatrics-02, Psychiatry-01, Anesthesia-04, Surgery-04, Orthopeditrics-03, Radiotherapy-02, PMR-1, ENT-01, Ophthalmology-01, Dermatology-01

Junior Residents: (18) (Gen. Medicine-03, Surgery-04, Orthopedics-01, Paediatrics-02, ENT-01, Obs. & Gyne-02, Anesthesia-02, Dentistry-02, Ophathalmology - 01

Tutor: (10),(Mricrobiology-03, Anatomy-01, Pathology-02, Community Medicine-03, Biochemistry-01)

Salary: Senior Resident Rs. 84,000/- pm, Junior Resident Rs. 71,000/-, Tutor- Rs. 56,100/- pm

Qualification: As per MCI norms

Note- Preference will be given to Postgraduate candidate for the posts of Tutor and Junior Residents.

Reservation: As per Rule of Uttarakhand Govt.

Note:-Number of posts advertised may be increased or decreased as per requirement.

Principal
Govt. Doon Medical College, Dehradun

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OLD SECRETARIAT, DELHI 110 054

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: Engagement of Fellows/ Associate Fellows/ Associate Fellows (Media) for Delhi Assembly Research Centre

In continuation of the advertisement issued on 02.03.2020, interested candidates may please note the following clarification in Section V Page 2 of Programme Details (Eligibility Criteria for the Programme) and Question No.6 of Page 2 of FAQ document:

All candidates who are completing their graduation or post-graduation degree in the academic year 2019-20 can include their degrees in the educational qualification to assess eligibility for Associate Fellow or Fellow position. They will need to submit their latest Academic marksheet/transcript on University letterhead at the time of interview and final Degree certificate and Academic marksheet/transcript within 3 months of start of the programme. Their latest marksheet from their currently enrolled degree program shall be considered for evaluation of their academic performance. The last date for application is also extended till 23.03.2020.

Deputy Secretary (DARC)

DIP/Shabdarth/1483/19-20

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
JHARKHAND, RANCHI-834008
Tel- 0651 - 2283465, 2283466, 2283467
Fax -0651 - 2284870
E-mail - jhrgov@jhr.nic.in
www.rajbhavanjharkhand.nic.in

ADVERTISEMENT

Invitation of online application for the posts of Pro-Vice Chancellor, Ranchi University, Ranchi; Pro-Vice Chancellor, Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribagh; Pro-Vice Chancellor, Nilamber-Pitamber University, Palamu & Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kolhan University, Chaibasa.

The Search Committee constituted by the Hon'ble Governor-cum-Chancellor of Universities of Jharkhand for recommending a panel of names invites online application from interested eligible candidates having scholarly pursuit, academic interest, administrative ability and other desired qualifications for the posts of :-

1. Pro-Vice Chancellor, Ranchi University, Ranchi;
2. Pro-Vice Chancellor, Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribagh;
3. Pro-Vice Chancellor, Nilamber-Pitamber University, Palamu &
4. Pro-Vice Chancellor, Kolhan University, Chaibasa

All the instructions and link regarding submission of online application are available on website having URL www.rajbhavanjharkhand.nic.in and www.jharkhanduniversities.nic.in

sd/-
O.S.D. (Judicial) to Governor
-cum-
Co-ordinator, Search Committee

PR 227251 Governor (19-20)_D

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
(ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION)

I.A. No. 4319/2019 IN CS (OS) 2961/2014.
M/s. Dabur India Ltd. Plaintiff ...
V/s.
Mr. Mani Kant Dang & Ors. Defendants...
To

Legal Representatives of Defendant No. 1 (Sh. Mani Kant Dang)

1. Mrs. Tara Dang, Wife of Late Shri Mani Kant Dang, R/o. 3184, Pocket 3, Sector C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070
2. Captain Kushal Dang, Son of Late Shri Mani Kant Dang, R/o. 3184, Pocket 3, Sector C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070

Whereas the above mentioned plaintiff has instituted a **SUIT FOR SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE.** The court, thereupon issued notice/ summon in suit on 03.12.2019 against you, the above named LRs of defendant No.1 and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of this Court that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way therefore, this notice/summon is given by way of publication directing you, the above named LRs. of defendant no. 1 to make appearance before **the Court of Joint Registrar (Judicial) on 27.03.2020 at 11:00 AM** of this court.

Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this court on this the 27.02.2020.

Assistant Registrar (O)
For REGISTRAR GENERAL
RK

Note: If you want to appear in person before the Hon'ble Court, you are required to produce the following documents in order to obtain the gate pass for entry to the high court.
1. Notice served upon the party or any other proof requiring your presence in the High Court.
2. Identity proof (aadhar card, election identity card, ration card, driving license or passport).

GONDWANA UNIVERSITY, GADCHIROLI
(A State University Established by Government of Maharashtra)
Complex, MIDC Road, Gadchiroli, Dist - Gadchiroli, Pin Code - 442605.

Employment Notice No. GUG/33/2020 Date 20/03/2020

Applications are invited for the Post of Professor, Associate Professor & Assistant Professor

Sr. No.	Designation	Subject	No. of Posts	Category
01	Professor	English	01	Open
		Mathematics	01	Open
02	Associate Professor	English	01	S.C.
		History	02	S.C.-1, Open - 1
		Mathematics	01	S.C.
03	Assistant Professor	English	01 (On Lien)	Open
		Mathematics	01	S.T.
		Chemistry	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1
		Physics	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1
		Computer Science	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1
		Applied Economics	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1
		Marathi	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1
		M.B.A.	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1
		Mass Communication	04	S.C.-1, S.T.-1, V.J.(A)-1, Open-1

Prescribed Application form, particulars of the post advertised, qualifications and specialization if any, is available on the University Website: www.unigug.ac.in at "Recruitment tab" at the homepage.

The candidates should fill and submit the application form from 23/03/2020 to the university. The application form should be printed and be submitted to the university on or before 20/04/2020 in eleven hard copies along with the attested copies of certificates, testimonials, documents etc. and registration fees in the form of Nationalized Bank Demand Draft of Rs. 1000/- for OPEN Category and Rs. 700/- for Reserved Categories Drawn in favour of Finance and Accounts Officer, Gondwana University, Gadchiroli payble at Gadchiroli.

Date:- 20/03/2020
Place:- Gadchiroli
Registrar

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION - 2020 [OJEE - 2020]

No: OJEE / 106 Date: 19.03.2020

NOTICE REGARDING EXTENSION OF LAST DATE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION

Candidates who wish to take admission in B.Pharm/ MBA / MCA / M.Tech/ M.Tech (Part Time)/ M.Arch/ M Plan/ M.Pharm/ Int. MBA and Lateral Entry to B.Tech/ B.Pharm Courses in Government and Private Universities and Colleges of Odisha have to appear

OJEE - 2020,

Entrance Examination for all the above Course will be Computer Based Test (CBT).

Last dates for online application is hereby extended as follows

Tentative Dates for OJEE (CBT)	: 1st Week of May, 2020 (Exact dates shall be notified later)
Last date to fill-up Online Application form	: 27th March, 2020
Last date of online application fee payment	: 31st March, 2020
Downloading of admit card	: 20th April, 2020 onwards

For other details, please visit our website: www.ojee.nic.in/ www.odishajee.com.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN,
OJEE, Odisha

MOHANLAL SUKHADIA UNIVERSITY
UDAIPUR - 313 001 (Raj.)
Website : www.mlsu.ac.in Email : vcapplication@mlsu.ac.in
No.MLSU/VCAppt./2020/ 37 Dated : 19.03.2020

Advertisement for appointment to the post of Vice Chancellor

The Search Committee invites applications/nominations from distinguished academicians having a minimum of ten years experience as Professor in a University or College or ten years experience in an equivalent position in a reputed research and/or academic administrative organization and, of highest level of competence. Integrity, morals and institutional commitment as per the provisions of Section 11(3) and 11(A) of the Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur Act 1962 (as amended upto 2019), in the prescribed format for appointment to the post of Vice Chancellor, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur. Applicants are advised to send their Bio-Data/CV in the prescribed format duly signed by the candidate along with required information in soft copy and hard copies so as to reach the office of the undersigned on or before **24.04.2020** upto **5.00PM**.

The candidates shall download the standard format for Bio-Data/CV from the University website **www.mlsu.ac.in.** For further details candidates may visit the University website.

Those candidates who have applied earlier in response to this university advertisement No.MLSU/VC/Rectt./2019/36/518 dated 20.09.2019 are required to apply afresh.

REGISTRAR

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI
4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
NDN/1377/19 (SA)
Smt. Meenakshi ....Applicant
Versus
New Habitat Housing Finance & Development Ltd. & Ors.
To: ....Respondent
1. Mr. Sanjay Anand, R/o House No. 1869, Ground Floor, Rani Bagh, New Delhi-110034. (Respondent No.02)
2. Ms. Kirti Anand R/o House No. 1869, Ground Floor, Rani Bagh, New Delhi-110034. (Respondent No.03)
Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case under Section 17 of SARFAESI Act, 2003 against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before **Ld. Registrar on 15.05.2020 at 10.30 A.M.**
Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 02-03-2020.
Seal BY ORDER OF THIS TRIBUNAL
For Registrar

Jabalpur Municipal Corporation
Notice Inviting Tender (Second Call)

NIT No. W.S./2020/416/PRO/450 **Date 18/03/2020**

Online Tenders for the following work have been processed on the Portal https://www.mptenders.gov.in

Tender Details as below:

Tender No.	:	.....
Name of Work	:	Supply of 1 (one) No. minimum 60 meter Height Aerial ladder Platform for firefighting & rescue.
Probable amount of Contract (in Rs.)	:	13,00,00,000/-
EMD (In Rs.)	:	6,50,000/-
Last Date of Purchase	:	17/04/2020
Last Date of Submission online	:	17/04/2020
Date of Opening of EMD	:	25/04/2020

The EMD shall be in the form of online payment using debit card/credit card/internet banking or a system generated challan in favor of "Ayukt, Nagar Nigam Jabalpur". The EMD receipt & other Bid documents should be submitted through registered post on or before 24/04/2020 Up to 4:30 PM.

Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal.

Sd/-
Additional Commissioner
Jabalpur Municipal Corporation

खादी और ग्रामोद्योग आयोग
सूक्ष्म, लघु एवं मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
मण्डलीय कार्यालय, वाराणसी
संस्कृत विश्व विद्यालय मार्ग, तेलिया बाग, वाराणसी-221002
फोन: (0542) 2208697, 2204434 फैक्स: (0542) 2204434 वेबसाइट: www.kvic.org.in, इमेल: kvicvaranasi@gmail.com

पत्रांक: मंकावा/के.आर.डी.पी./डिजिटल टेक्स/2019-20 दिनांक: 19.03.2020

निविदा की तिथि में परिवर्तन

मण्डलीय कार्यालय, खादी और ग्रामोद्योग आयोग, वाराणसी के अन्तर्गत डिजिटल टेक्सटाइल प्रिंटिंग मशीन खरीद हेतु दिनांक 09.03.2020 के न्यूजपेपरों में निविदा प्रकाशित की गयी थी परन्तु वर्तमान परिस्थिति को देखते हुए यह निविदा दिनांक 30.03.2020 तक जमा की जा सकती है तथा निविदा खोलने की दिनांक अलग से सुचित की जायेगी। इसलिए निविदादाताओं से अनुरोध है कि वह निविदा डालने के पश्चात् कार्यालय में अपना मोबाईल नम्बर एवं ई-मेल आई डी लेटर पैड पर लिख कर देवे ताकि निविदा खोलने की सूचना अलग से दे दी जाए।

उप निदेशक प्रभारी

UPSIDA — कार्यालय वरिष्ठ प्रबन्धक, विद्युत खण्ड-द्वितीय
उ0प्र0 राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण,
प्रशासनिक भवन, सेक्टर बी-1
ट्रान्स दिल्ली सिग्नेचर सिटी, लोनी रोड, गाजियाबाद

ई-निविदा सूचना

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि औद्योगिक क्षेत्र ईपीआईपी, सिकन्दरा, आगरा में स्ट्रीट लाइटों एवं हाई मास्ट लाइटों के वार्षिक अनुरक्षण का कार्य औद्योगिक क्षेत्र सिकन्दरा साइट-सी के मास्टर प्लान रोड पर 70 वाट एलईडी लाइटें लगाने व क्षतिग्रस्त विद्युत खम्बों को बदलने का कार्य एवं औद्योगिक क्षेत्र लालानगरी, अलीगढ़ के आवासीय सेक्टर में 70 वाट एलईडी लाइटें लगाने के कार्य हेतु क्रमशः रू0 16.93 लाख, रू0 5.46 लाख एवं रू0 10.92 लाख धनराशि की सरकारी विभागों/सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों/निगमों/प्राधिकरणों/परिषदों/नगर निकायों में अर्ह श्रेणी में फर्जीकृत एवं विद्युत सुरक्षा विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश शासन लखनऊ में श्रेणी 'क' अनुमोदित वैध लाइसेन्स होल्डर ठेकेदारों/फर्मों से ई-निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है जो दिनांक 25.03.2020 को पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे से 08.04.2020 को सायं 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड की जा सकती है। जिनके दिनांक 09.04.2020 को पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे खोला जायेगा। निविदा दाताओं द्वारा शपथ पत्रों की मूल प्रतियां दिनांक 13.04.2020 को सायं 5.00 बजे तक कार्यालय में जमा की जा सकती है। निविदा सम्बन्धी विस्तृत जानकारी निगम की **website: www.upsidc.com** पर स्थित ई-लिंक एवं यूपीएलसी की **website: http://etender.up.nic.in** पर देखी जा सकती है।

प्रबन्धक, विद्युत खण्ड-द्वितीय
उ0प्र0रा0औ0वि0प्रा0, गाजियाबाद

भारतीय विमानपत्तन प्राधिकरण
AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Notice Inviting e-Tender
(Id No. 2020_AAI_46083_1)

On behalf of Chairman AAI, the Airport Director, Patna Airport invites e-Tender for Job Contract for providing (11 nos.) Eleven Nos. supporting staff for different CNS unit (Operational Area of Airport) including CNS Office at JPNI Airport Patna on contract basis for One Year 3 envelope system. Tender cost **Rs. 24,96,575/-** approx. Last date for online submission of bids is **10.04.2020** upto **1500 hrs.** For detail information please log on to cpp portal **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.** Any clarification/modification in the tender will be uploaded on cpp portal only.

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI
4TH FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act. 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules)1993

In the matter of

OA No. 834/2019

ALLAHABAD BANK Applicant — **VS** — **V. G. ENTERPRISES & ORS.** Defendants

To,

D-1. V.G. Enterprises, Through proprietor, Shri Vicky Gupta
R/o: 2841, Gali Peepal Mahadev, Hauz Quazi, Delhi-6
Also at: G-3/79-80, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-85

D-2. Shri Vicky Gupta, R/0: 2841, Gali Peepal Mahadev, Hauz Quazi, Delhi-6
Also at: G-3/79-80, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-85

D-3. Ms Monika Gupta, W/o Shri Vicky Gupta,
R/0: G-3/79-80, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-85

D-4. Dinesh Gupta, R/0: H. No. 111, 2nd Floor, Pocket 17, Sector 24, Rohini, Delhi-85

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and where as it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way. therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in the Tribunal on **27.04.2020 at 10.30 am.**

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal,the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 05 day of March, 2020

By Order of the Tribunal,
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

J&K PROJECTS CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LTD.
(A J&K Govt. Undertaking)

E-NIT No.: 26 of 2019-20 Dt. 20.02.2020

Due to poor response, E-NIT No. 26 of 2019-20 Dt.: 20.02.2020 for e-Networking for Court Complex Ramnagar, is hereby extended as per following schedule:

1.	Period of downloading of NIT	Upto 26.03.2020 upto 14.00 hrs.
2.	Bid submission dates along with proof of cost of Tender Document and EMD.	Upto 26.03.2020 upto 14.00 hrs.
3.	Date of opening of Technical Bid	27.03.2020 at 12.30 in Office of Dy. General Manager, Unit-Electrical, JKPCC Ltd., Rail Head Complex Jammu
4.	Hard Copies of Technical Bid will be invited from L1 only	

Any other information regarding e-tendering process can be had from the office of undertaking or e-tendering Cell, Jammu.

No.: DGM/E/J/726-28
Dated: 16.03.2020

Sd/- **Deputy General Manager, Unit-Electrical, JKPCC. Ltd., Jammu**

SEARCH FOR MISSING FEMALE

Priyanka

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely Priyanka **D/o** Sambhu Sharma **R/o** C-983, Phase-I, Metro Vihar, Holambi Kalan, Delhi **Aged**-21 Years has been reported missing since 19.02.2020 at 10:30 AM from her residence vide **DD No.52A Dated 19.02.2020** registered at Police Station Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Wheatish, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Clothing:** Pink coloured suit, skin coloured salwar and slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing female, may inform SHO, Narela Industrial Area, Delhi at E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in** or website : **http://cbi.nic.in**

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641
FAX No. : 011-24368639
DP/74/ON/2020

Sd/-
SHO, Narela Industrial Area, Delhi
Tel.: 011-27787593-94
Mob.: 7065036324

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Alisher Azimov

General public is hereby informed that a man namely **Alisher Azimov**, **S/o** Azimov **R/o** Republic of Tajikstan, Passport No. 403032569 has been missing since 11/03/2020 at 10:00 hrs. In this regard **FIR No. 119/20, u/s 365 IPC has been registered at P.S. New Ashok Nagar, New Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing man but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing man is as under:

Name: Alisher Azimov, **Gender:** Male, **Age:** 32 years, **Height:** 6'7", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Identification:** Eyes-blue, **Wearing:** Red colour sweater with black colour jacket and jeans pant.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing Man, kindly inform SHO/New Ashok Nagar, New Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. New Ashok Nagar, New Delhi
Ph. No. 011-22610839, 22610954

DP/55/ED/2020

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA
Mahendragarh (Haryana)-123031

Expression of Interest for Leasing of Canteen/Milk Booth/ Grocery Shop

Interested Applicants/Firms/Bidders are invited for Expression of Interest for leasing of Canteen/Milk Booth/Grocery Shop in the Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh. The detailed information can be downloaded from the University website **www.cuh.ac.in.**

The last date of receipt of EOI is 26.03.2020 upto 11:00 A.M. Any addendum/dedendum/corrigendum/notice in this regard shall be uploaded on the University website only.

Assistant Registrar (E&GA Branch)

SHRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI RASHTRIYA SANSKRIT VIDYAPEETHA
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
A Central Autonomous Body-Under M/o HRD, Govt. of India
B- 4, Qutub Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi – 110 016

No: F. 7(514)/LBSV/UWD/2018-19 **Dated: 12.03.2020**

NIT (ID 2020_SLBS_526684_3)

Sealed item rate Tenders are invited for the work of Round "Q" clock running, operation and comprehensive annual maintenance contract of 120 KLD fab type sewage treatment plant of the Vidyapeetha from the approved and eligible CPWD contractors / specialized agencies. Estimated cost - Rs. 12,03,746/-, Earnest Money - Rs. 24,075/-, Time Allowed - 365 Days (extendable upto 03 years), Tender Fee - Rs. 1000/- (Non-Refundable) 1. Last date & time of receipt of applications: 03/04/2020 up to 4.00 P.M., 2. Last date & time of issue of tender: 07/04/2020 upto 4.00 P.M., 3. Last date & time of Submission of tenders : 09/04/2020 up to 3.00 P.M., 4. Date & time of opening of Technical Bid : 09/04/2020 at 3.30 P.M., 5. Date & time of opening of Financial Bid : 14/04/2020 at 3.30 P.M., 6. For eligibility criteria, other details & corrigendum, if any, please visit websites: **www.slbsrsv.ac.in** & **www.eprocure.gov.in**

REGISTRAR

The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking
(Of The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation)

TENDER NOTICE

e-tenders are invited for the supply of following items

(1) Wet Lease of 600 SD AC CNG Buses,

Re-invited e-tenders

(1) 67472, (2) 67566, (3) 67395, (4) 67529 (corrigendum).

Note: For more details, log on to website **https://mahatenders.gov.in**

PRO/AAM(M)/169/2020 **GENERAL MANAGER**

ओएनजीसी ONGC
EASTERN OFFSHORE ASSET, KAKINADA (A.P.)
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

ONGC, EOA, Kakinada invites Pre-Qualification documents from reputed and interested vendors for providing Consultancy Services for integrated development of KG-OSN-2004/1 & GS-49-2 Fields. **Last date for submission of experience documents for Pre-Qualification:** 13.04.2020 (18:00 hrs). **Clarification meet on:** 30.03.2020 / 11:00 Hrs, Conference Hall, ONGC, Subhadra Arcade, Bhanugudi Junction, Kakinada, AP. Participating contractors / service providers can attend the meeting through video-conference also. Note: For further details, please logon to ONGC website **https://tenders.ongc.co.in**

HAR EK KAAM DESH KE NAAM

NORTH EASTERN ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
CIN : U40101ML1976GOI001658

SHORT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

NO: AGBP/SFC/O&M-06/2019-20/18 **dtd. 17/03/2020**

NEEPCO invites **ON-LINE** bids from the reputed manufacturer of INLET AIR FILTERS for Gas Turbines, who are also approved vendor of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI), BHEL or any other reputed Gas Turbine manufacturers for Design, Engineering, Manufacturing Shop Testing, Inspection at manufacturer's works before dispatch, packing & forwarding, transportation to site including transit insurance, loading & Unloading and supply of inlet air filters for MW-251 MHI (Mitsubishi) and Frame-VI BHEL make Gas Turbines of AGBP, NEEPCO Ltd., P.O. Bokuloni Chariali, Dist: Dibrugarh, Assam, PIN - 786 191 under **"SINGLE STAGE TWO ENVELOPE" system** through Domestic Competitive Bidding (DCB) e-Tendering. For Detail NIT please visit website of NEEPCO ***www.neepco.co.in, https://etenders.gov.in. The bid shall be submitted online through https://etenders.gov.in only.*** Any amendments, updates regarding this bid will be published in the website only.

Dy. General Manager (E/M)

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Chief Engineer, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., invites Open Tender in Single Bid system through E-Tendering on IREPS portal from eligible contractors for the following work. **Name of Work :** Casual Rail Renewal with new 52 kg, 90 UTS rails (260 M panel) and anti corrosive painting of rails in Senior Regional Engineer, Ratnagiri region of Konkan Railway in Maharashtra State. **Tender Notice No.:** KR-W-1-58-2019-22. **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 604.58 Lakhs, Excluding GST. **Closing Date/Time:** 13.04.2020 up to 15:00 hrs for submission of online Offers/Bids. **Completion Period :** Ten Months including monsoon. Manual offers shall not be accepted. Please visit **www.ireps.gov.in** website for details / participation. Corrigendum / addendum will be hosted in this website only.

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Administrative Building, Sector - 6, Noida - 201301 (U.P.)
Website : www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms / contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened / downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: **www.noidaauthorityonline.com** & **https://etender.up.nic.in**. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes / amendments & corrigendum etc.

A) 1) 84/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, Strengthening of W/s (Errection of Re-boring, C/o Foundation & P/F Pumping Plant at various Sectors) Noida. (Re-boring at 50B tubewell 05 No. Submersible at UGR-51,50,43, Mahamaya School and 47) Rs. 47.61 Lacs

2) 85/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, M/o W/s (Annual R/o Bowl assly and tubeshaft for network Sector-80 & 81) Noida. (AMC for Two Year) Rs. 23.33 Lacs

3) 87/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, M/o W/s (R/o Bowl assly and tubeshaft for network Hosiery Complex & Sector-83) Noida. (AMC for Two Year) Rs. 48.39 Lacs

4) 88/SM-Jal-III/ET/19-20, M/o W/s (R/o Bowl assly and tubeshaft for network Sector-125, 126 & 127) Noida. (AMC for Three Year) Rs. 29.40 Lacs

The above tenders can be uploaded by date 02.04.2020 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 03.04.2020 at 11.00 AM.

B) 1) 135/SM-Jal-III/ET/18-19, P/L Sewer & Water line in Newly allotted 5% plot in Village-Barolla) Noida. Rs. 37.05 Lacs

The above tenders can be uploaded by date 29.03.2020 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 30.03.2020 at 11.00 AM.

(M.K. JAIN)
SENIOR MANAGER (JAL)-III
NOIDA

Office : Sector -39

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
SHER-I-KASHMIR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES SOURA, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR
Department of Materials Management (Imports Section)
E-mail: ammoimports@skims.ac.in Fax: 0194-2403404

EXTENSION

Subject: 4nd Extension to the eNIT No. SIMS -324-NIT 20 (Imports) 2019 dated 11.12.2019 (Tender ID 2019_SKIMS_88024_1) to (Tender ID 2019_SKIMS_88024_6) regarding Supply/ Installation, Testing & Commissioning of various Bio-Medical Equipments for various Department, SKIMS.

The NIT is hereby extended as per following schedule:

Last Date of Submission of Online Bids	03.04.2020 upto 4.00 P.M.
Date of Opening of Technical Bids	06.04.2020 at 12.30 P.M.

Further amendments if any, shall be uploaded separately.

No. SIMS-324-eNIT 20 (Imports) 2019-999-1007-4390-4392
Dated: 18.03.2020

Sd/-
Asstt. Materials Management Officer, SKIMS

GUJARAT MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Regd. Office : Block No. 14/1, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Sector-10, Gandhinagar
Ph. 079-23250767, 23250766, 23257696

E-TENDER NOTICE: 28/2019-20

Tenders are invited online for following items **On BI-ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT BASIS** (through internet) from reputed manufacturers. For imported materials Authorized representative/ dealer appointed either by parent manufacture or its subsidiary company should submit their offer. Interested bidders are requested to submit the tender through e-tender process. All tender documents can be downloaded free from web site: **http://gmscl.nprocure.com** between 19/03/2020 to 21/03/2020 up to 15.55 Hrs. Detail Tender Notice is available on website: **https://gmscl.nprocure.com / http://gmscl.gujarat.gov.in, www.statetenders.com** and this office notice board.

Only one authorized person from each company would be allowed to attend Pre-bid metting subject to the production of authorization letter, Valid photo ID Card and product literature of the company conforming that company manufactures the product for which pre-bid is being held.

(1)	PPE KIT

Duration of Downloading Tender (online): 19/03/2020 to 21/03/2020 upto 15.55 hrs.
Last date for Submission (online): 21/03/2020 upto 16.00 hrs.
Last date for Physical Submission on : 23/03/2020 upto 12.00 hrs
Due date of opening of Technical Bid (online): 24/03/2020 on 12.30 hrs

INF/2596/19-20 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAILWAY RECRUITMENT BOARD, AJMER

Corrigendum No. 1
E Tender No. RRB-All-Tender-CEN-03-2019

Name of Work: RRBs- Engaging Exam Conducting Agency (ECA) to conduct Computer Based Tests (CBTs) and all related activities like processing of Results and Panels etc for Recruitment of various Ministerial and Isolated categories in Indian Railways notified in Centralized Employment Notification (CEN) 03/2019. The **revised dates** for pre-bid, online submission of Tender and opening of Technical Bids will be as under: **Date & Time of Pre bid conference :** 07.04.2020 @ 15.30 Hrs at RRB, Ajmer. **Last date & time of online submission of Tender :** 01.05.2020 at 15.00 Hrs. **Date & time of opening of Technical bids** : 01.05.2020 at 15.30 Hrs. All other terms and conditions will remain the same. Corrigendum will be available at IREPS portal i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in**

Chairman/RRB/Ajmer

GOVT. OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, O/O THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RENGALI RIGHT IRRIGATION PROJECT, DHENKANAL
Email Id:- ccerrip@gmail.com
'e' Procurement Notice

A-763

The Chief Construction Engineer, Rengali Right Irrigation Project, Mahisapat, Dhenkanal on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites **on line percentage rate bids** for construction of the work as detailed below.

1. **Name of the work** : Four Nos of works
2. **Tender Cost** : Rs. 190.07 lakh to 476.91 lakh
3. **Bid Document Cost** : Rs. 10,000.00 (on line) for each work
4. **Bid Security** : Rs. 1,90,100/- to Rs. 4,77,000/- (on line)
5. **Class of Contractor** : B to Special Class
6. **Period of Completion** : 12 calendar months (365 days) for each work
7. **Other details are as follows:**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding		Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
		From	To	
Chief Construction Engineer, RRIP, Dhenkanal	CCERRIP-10/2019-20	23.03.2020 10.00 AM	06.04.2020 5.30 PM	07.04.2020 11.00 AM

8. For further details and on line bidding, visit Govt. website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**.

Chief Construction Engineer
Rengali Right Irrigation Project, Dhenkanal
OIPR-32351-11/0010/1920

GUJARAT MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Block No. 14/1
Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan Sector-10 Gandhinagar
079-23250767, 23250766, 23257696

E – TENDER NOTICE: 27/2019-20

Tenders are invited online for following items On BI - ANNUAL RATE CONTRACT BASIS (through internet) from reputed manufacturers. For imported materials Authorized representative / dealer appointed either by parent manufacturer or its subsidiary company should submit their offer. Interested bidders are requested to submit the tender through e-tender process. All tender documents can be downloaded free from web site http://gmscl.nprocure.com between 19/03/2020 to 21/03/2020 upto 15.55 Hrs. Detail Tender Notice is available on website: https://gmscl.nprocure.com / http://gmscl.gujarat.gov.in, www.statetenders.com www.statetenders.com and this office notice board.

Only one authorized person from each company would be allowed to attend Pre-bid meeting subject to the production of authorization letter, Valid photo ID Card and product literature of the company conforming that company manufactures the product for which pre-bid is being held.

(1)	Three Layer Mask
(2)	N-95 Mask

Duration of Downloading Tender (online): 19/03/2020 to 21/03/2020 up to 15.55 hrs.
Last date for Submission (online) : 21/03/2020 up to 16.00hrs.
Last date for Physical Submission on : 23/03/2020 up to 12.00 hrs.
Due date of opening of Technical Bid (online): 24/03/2020 on 12.30 hrs.

INF/2597/19-20 MANAGING DIRECTOR

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.H. CIRCLE, NAYABAZAR, CUTTACK-753004
Ph. No.- 0671-2440841, **Fax-** 0671-2440841,
Email: sephctc@gmail.com

C-590

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

Invitation For Bids (IFB) No. SEPHCTC-10/2019-20 Dtd. 19.03.2020

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Estimated cost (Approx)
1.	WS 39 NH Crossing (At 4 Location near Gopalpur, Phulnakhara, Sky Automobile & Telengapentha.	₹288.98 lakh

1. **Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal** :- 11.00 hours of dt. 30.03.2020 to 17.30 hours of dt. 15.04.2020
2. **Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal** :- 15.04.2020 upto 05.30 P.M.
3. **Date & time of opening of bids** :- 16.04.2020 at 12.30 P.M.
4. **Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid** :- The Superintending Engineer, P.H. Circle, Nayabazar, Cuttack-753004, Odisha, Ph. (0671) 2440841, email: **sephctc@gmail.com**

Further details can be seen from the web site http://tendersodisha.gov.in

Superintending Engineer,
Public Health Circle, Cuttack,
OIPR-13029/11/0011/1920

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda — POWER OF
POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable Property)

(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorised officer of the **Bank of Baroda** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of power conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the security interest (Enforcement) rules, 2002 issued a demand notice within 60 days from the receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) having failed to repay mortgagor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules.

The Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Mortgagor(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property/ies and any dealings with the property/ies will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of Baroda** for the amount stated herein below and further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus cost, charges and expenses till date of payment

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

Name of Borrower / Guarantors & Description of Immovable Properties

Branch / Name of Borrowers/ Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession / Amount Outstanding	Description of the properties
Branch: Tekari Road, Gaya **Borrower: M/s ROHIT HANDLOOMS, Prop- Mr. UMESH PRASAD GUPTA** **Demand Notice: 07.01.2020** **Possession Notice: 16.03.2020** Amount: **Rs.12,42,234.65 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Forty Two Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Four Rupees and Sixty five Paise Only)** as on 31.12.2019 + Interest charges, and expenses.	**1. All that part and parcel of the Equitable Mortgage** of land & building in the name of Mr. Umesh Prasad Gupta situated at Village/Mouza- Kujapi, Khata no. 46 (old)/123(new), Polt no. 125 (old)/2090 (new), Thana- Chandauti, Dist-Gaya, Bihar, Acquired from Sale Deed No.7618 dated 12.05.2010 **Bounded: North:** by Saryu Prasad, **South:** by Vacant Land, **East:** by Nala, **West:** by PCC Road.
Branch: Tekari Road, Gaya **Borrower: M/s SRI SAI ENTERPRISES, Prop- Mr. VIJAY KUMAR SINGH** **Demand Notice: 07.01.2020** **Possession Notice: 16.03.2020** Amount: **Rs.24,20,627.22 (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Twenty Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Seven Rupees and Twenty Two Paise Only)** as on 31.12.2019 + Interest charges, and expenses.	**1. All that part and parcel of the Equitable Mortgage** of land & building in the name of Smt. Jayvanti Devi situated at Village/Mouza- Kharkhura, Gautam Budha Colony, PS- Delha, Ward no.12 At Present- 01, Gaya Nagar Nigam, Dist- Gaya, Acquired from Sale Deed No.5095 dated 21.08.1997 **Bounded: North:** by Saryu Prasad, **South:** by Vacant Land, **East:** by Nala, **West:** by PCC Road.

Place: Gaya
Date: 16.03.2020

Authorised Officer
Bank of Baroda

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, KENDRAPARA-JAJPUR

O-1276

No. Tender Online RCK-01/20 Letter No.- 518 **Date:- 17.03.2020**

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. **Name of the work:** Construction of Building works in the District of Kendrapara
2. **Class of Contractor:** A & Special Class as specified in the column 6 of the Annexure.
3. **Time for Completion:** As specified in the Column-7 of the Annexure.
4. **Detail Projects:** As per Annexure attached
5. **Other Details:**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Superintending Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara- Jajpur	Tender Online-RCK-01/20	23.03.2020 at 11.00 AM	07.04.2020 to 5.00 PM	06.04.2020 up to 2.00 PM	08.04.2020 at 11.00 AM	Will be intimated separately

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Kendrapara-Jajpur
OIPR-25129/11/0013/1920

UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006, Tel.: 0135-2763508 & Fax- 0135- 2763508, CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025566, Website: www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

For and on behalf of UJVN Ltd , Executive Engineer (Civil), Pashulok Barrage Rishikesh, invites sealed & separate tenders from interested contractors for following works:

1. **Tender Notice Reference:**
   NIT No.-26/2019-20/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:- Operation and Maintenance of UJVNL Officer Transit Camp and office of General Manager (SHP) at Maneri Bhali-II Colony, Rishikesh.
   NIT No.-27/2019-20/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:- Construction of New Store at near Intake of Chilla Power House.
   NIT No.-28/2019-20/EE(C)/Pashulok Barrage:- River Training Works of Ghasi Ram Nala for Protection of Main Road (D/S Side) of Chilla Power House at Chilla.
2. **Estimated Value of Tender:-** Rs.9.44 Lakh, Rs. 6.09 Lakh & Rs.24.87 Lakh respectively.
3. **Tender Cost:-** Rs. 590.00, Rs. 590.00 & Rs. 1180.00 (Including GST) respectively.
4. **Earnest Money:-** Rs. 23,600.00, Rs. 15,500.00 & Rs. 62,500.00 respectively.
5. **Period of Completion:-** 12 Months, 03 Months & 06 Months respectively.
6. **Last Date of Downloading of Tender:** 06.04.2020 upto 17:00 Hrs. (IST)
7. **Last Date of Submission of Tender:** 07.04.2020 upto 14:00 Hrs. (IST)
8. **Date of Opening Tender:** 08.04.2020 at 11:00 hrs. (IST)

For eligibility criteria and full and further details kindly visit our web site. The tenders can be downloaded from our web site i.e. **www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com** and tender cost shall be paid at the time of submission of the tender.

प.सं. 152 दिनांक 16.03.2020 **"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"**

CISF asks intel to identify suspected cases at airports, hand them over to health officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

WITH REPORTS of several people suspected to have been infected by COVID-19 escaping quarantine facilities, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has asked its intelligence wing to identify such people at airports and hand them over to health officials immediately. The force has also created a triage centre at airports for screening of suspects and given its personnel a special full-body costume to deal with such suspects.

CISF DG Rajesh Ranjan on Thursday took stock of the force's preparedness and visited the IGI Airport along with CISF's airport security chief M A Ganapathy.

"CISF Intelligence wing personnel deployed at airports for behaviour detection have also been sensitised to look out for potentially infected/sick passengers and alert the security personnel and health officials," the force said in a statement. CISF spokesperson Hemendra Singh said the force has deployed adequate number of personnel and created a "triage area" to help the medical team of Airport Health Organisation and passengers arriving from countries affected by the outbreak.

"Several people are running away from quarantine or violating self-quarantine. Intelligence officials have been trained to identify such people through behavioural patterns. Whether arriving or departing, they will be constrained and handed over to health officials," a senior CISF officer said.

With many passengers creating a ruckus over delays due to testing, CISF personnel have been asked to calm them down.

"CISF personnel deployed at 63 major and international airports have been sensitised to adopt minimum touch concept and also wear masks, surgical gloves, not to touch any item/article of the passenger during pre-embarkation screening," Singh said.

Caution and curbs at places of worship, prayers to continue

UP govt yet to decide on Ram Navami gathering, Golden Temple to remain open

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MARCH 19

FROM TEMPLES to gurdwaras to mosques to churches, religious institutions have been slow in imposing restrictions on people from thronging their premises despite the coronavirus outbreak in the country.

In Uttar Pradesh, which has reported 19 cases of COVID-19 so far, preparations are on in full swing in Ayodhya to host the annual Ram Navami fair to mark the birth anniversary of Lord Ram that attracts a gathering of over 10 lakh people. Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) says the number of visitors to the fair is expected to go up this year despite the state issuing advisories to avoid large religious gatherings.

The district administration is in two minds on whether to allow the religious congregation, and said it will take a decision in the "next two or three days".

"We are going to review the situation and most probably a decision will be taken by March 21-22 and it will depend on the spread of the virus. Ram Navami is on April 2 and we have enough time," Additional Chief Secretary Awanish Kumar Awasthi told *The Indian Express*.

However, the Ayodhya administration is continuing with the preparation as this is the first Ram Navami after the Supreme Court decision on Ram temple. VHP national spokesperson Vinod Bansal said they have decided to not organise big rath yatras, but the celebrations will continue.

On Thursday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a televised appeal, asked citizens to observe a self-curfew on March 22 to curb the spread of coronavirus. In his address to the nation, Modi said the growing challenge posed by the outbreak was not normal, and urged everyone to practise social distancing. In a series of tweets, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, too, urged the public to practise social distancing and pray at their homes.

People use a sanitiser before prayers, at Jama Masjid in Dehradun on Thursday. The management committee has appealed to people to avoid coming to the mosque, and offer namaaz at home. *Express*

In Punjab, Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), the apex body for Sikhs, has refused to close gurdwaras. SGPC is in direct control of 79 and indirect control of 87 gurdwaras in Punjab and Haryana, including the Golden Temple.

SGPC chief secretary Roop Singh said, "Gurdwaras can't be closed. Administration can stop devotees but gurdwaras can't be closed and we can't ask devotees to not come. If administration does something in its capacity, then it is on the government."

Asked if Amritsar administration has asked SGPC to close the Golden Temple, he said, "We haven't been told anything about closing gurdwaras by the administration. We were asked to take precautions and we have been taking all the necessary steps. We understand the situation is serious."

Muslim religious scholars in the Kashmir Valley have called for brief Friday and congregational prayers. The Salafi school of thought, however, has completely called off congregational Friday prayers across Kashmir.

"In case of an epidemic, Islam has asked its believers to exercise caution," the largest Salafi organisation of Jammu Kashmir, Jamiat-e-Ahli Hadith said on Thursday after an emergency meeting to discuss the outbreak.

On Wednesday, Mutahida Majlis Amal — a conglomerate of religious organisations headed by separatist leader Mirwaiz Umar Farooq — asked people to avoid unnecessary assembly in mosques.

The Muslim community in Gujarat, too, has decided to trim its jumma namaz on Friday. The prayer will be held in presence of medical teams in all places of worship, and people will be screened. Prominent Sunni cleric Maulana Khalid Rasheed Firangi Mahali on Thursday appealed to Muslims to not go to large mosques for Friday prayers and asked elders and children to not go to mosques for namaz.

Most dargahs in Mumbai, including Haji Ali and Mahim Dargah, will be shut for the next few days. The Siddhivinayak temple too closed its premises for devotees Monday onwards.

On Tuesday, Oswald Gracias, Archbishop of Bombay exempted believers from attending the Sunday Mass till March 31. The spokesperson for the Archdiocese of Bombay had stated that they were encouraging people to stay at home and the obligation to attend Sunday mass had been lifted.

WITH INPUTS FROM LUCKNOW, CHANDIGARH, AHMEDABAD, SRINAGAR, MUMBAI

Next Italy evacuation over weekend: MEA

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE GOVERNMENT on Thursday said the next batch of Indians stranded in Italy is expected to be evacuated over the weekend, even as it evacuated over 90 citizens stranded at Singapore's Changi Airport. The Ministry of External Affairs also announced a 24x 7 control room, with officers and their telephone numbers, to cover 14 geographical regions.

Giving details of the evacuation exercise for stranded Indians in Italy, the ministry said 380 swab samples of Indians were brought back from Italy. Out of these, four have tested positive for coronavirus and the remaining have tested negative, Dammu Ravi, Additional Secretary in MEA and the coordinator for the COVID-19, said at a media briefing.

A total of 218 Indians, mostly students, arrived here from Milan on Sunday. They were taken to an ITBP quarantine facility in southwest Delhi's Chhawla area.

On evacuation of more Indians from Italy, Ravi said, "You are quite aware of the lockdown situation in Italy and the intra-provincial lockdowns have happened making it difficult to take any support from missions or to be able to evacuate. Despite these challenging circumstances, we have been able to evacuate Indians. We are planning the next batch over the weekend," he said.

India on Thursday evacuated over 90 citizens stranded at Singapore's Changi Airport due to travel restrictions imposed by the government back home, Indian High Commission in Singapore said.

Also, due to Singapore's own travel restrictions on visitors coming from or through ASEAN region, these passengers cannot enter Singapore.

The Indian travellers, most of whom had arrived in Singapore from the Philippines and Malaysia, have left for Mumbai on a Singapore Airlines flight.

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES
(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India)
Azad Bhavan, IB-166, Sector-III, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700 106.
Website : www.makaias.gov.in

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION (RE-ADVERTISEMENT*)

Applications are invited for the following vacancies at Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata.

Sl. No.	Post	Group	Pay Scale/Level	No. of Vacancy	Category	Educational Qualification/ Age limit (As per approved Recruitment Rules)
1	Assistant Librarian	B	(9300-34800) GP-4200 Level-6 (7 CPC)	01	Unreserved	**Educational and other Qualifications required for direct recruitment:** i) Bachelor's Degree with Degree or Diploma in Library Science; or ii) 3 Years experience in research library. iii) Knowledge in Computer Applications. iv) Knowledge in foreign language. **Age Limit** : 35 Years
1	Junior Library Assistant	C	(5200-20200) GP-1900 Level-2 (7 CPC)	01	Reserved for SC	**Educational and other Qualifications required for direct recruitment:** i) Matriculation/Secondary School Certificate. ii) Diploma in Library Science. iii) Knowledge in Computer Applications. iv) Work experience in a reputed library. **Age Limit** : 28 Years

*** THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY APPLIED IN RESPONSE TO THE EARLIER ADVERTISEMENT PUBLISHED IN EMPLOYMENT NEWS DATED 22-28 JUNE 2019; ISSUE NEED NOT APPLY.**

Applications must reach to the **Director, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) within Six weeks from the date of publication of this advertisement in "The Employment News"** along with all copies of certificates and documents. Applicants working in Govt./Semi-Govt./Autonomous Bodies/PSUs should apply through proper channel. The Envelope should be super scribed "Application for the post of .....". The detailed application may be downloaded from the website of the Institute **www.makaias.gov.in**

davp 09123/11/0015/1920 **DIRECTOR, MAKAIAS**

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THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE

THOSE WHO WERE SEEN DANCING WERE THOUGHT TO BE INSANE BY THOSE WHO COULD NOT HEAR THE MUSIC. — FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

THE PRESCRIPTION

Amid alarm bells, PM strikes the right chord as he delivers larger cautionary notes and much-needed assurances

It was a prime ministerial speech to an anxious citizenry. At 8 pm Thursday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi conveyed some well-judged messages to the people in the time of coronavirus. By itself, the decision to address the nation was unsurprising. After all, in his tenure so far as prime minister, Modi has shown an ability and penchant for seizing the moment for mass communication, and also for inviting the people to participate in, and own, the projects and policies of one of the most centralised governments in recent times. This invitation of ownership and participation has sometimes been shown up to be something of an illusion — on demonetisation, most notably. The outcome of that decision made it clear that its successes in political communication far outstripped its economic virtue. But he issued a similar invitation to the people through the Swachch Bharat campaign to considerably more benign effect. In this moment, however, the PM's outreach to the people, and his exhortation to them to acknowledge their own responsibility in it, is wholly positive and welcome. Amid the alarm bells within and from outside, he struck the right chord as he delivered some larger cautionary notes, some much-needed assurances.

The coronavirus crisis is not just the government's challenge, it demands from the citizen both resolve and restraint, "sankalp" and "sayyam", the dissemination of correct information to others, and the good sense not to unnecessarily burden the health care system, the PM said. He warned against complacency — if everyone is not careful, the worst may yet come. In other words, don't be lulled by the relatively low count of cases and deaths. He underlined "social distancing", and the acknowledging of those who must still go out to work for the safety and survival of all. The "janata curfew" that PM Modi exhorted the nation to observe on March 22, and the audible demonstration of respect for those who keep the nation's basic services going, are imaginative ways of nudging the people towards a sense of solidarity when they may feel pushed to isolate themselves, or worse, turn on one another. Of course, this could also be a way of preparing them for a more severe lockdown, should the crisis escalate — the possibility, or warning, of more stringent measures to come. At the same time, the PM assured the people that there was no need to hoard, or to go in for panic buying — the government would ensure the maintenance of essential supplies, he said.

The PM's address was also welcome for its exhortation to compassion for those who are less able to tide over tough times. It is here, though, that his message could be said to lack specifics. He did not talk of waivers and relief proposals and programmes, safety nets and transfers, interventions that could soften the virus's disruptive blow to the most vulnerable, who make up a vast section of the economy, and who are already affected by its slowdown. The announcement of the Covid Task Force has also come a little late and one hopes it hits the ground running — unlike with the disease, the prescription for the economy is on surer footing. Yet, despite the silences, in the end, the PM's speech was more important for what he did say, as it served to lay out the crisis and set the larger stage.

THE DISCONNECTED

Faultlines created by digital divide and differential access are being underlined by coronavirus crisis. It's a sobering warning

THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC may have struck prosperous, consumerist nations disproportionately hard. But the crisis has outlined, more sharply than ever before, the digital divide and differential access, which are pushing the poor to high-risk behaviour. In the shanties of Mumbai, residents with poor access to clean water are denied the first line of defence — the ability to wash their hands regularly. In industrial belts like those in Haryana, workers on production lines and in ancillary units do not have the luxury of working from home. In fact, only people working in sectors with completely dematerialised products are able to work from home in a sustained manner. And the digital divide reduces access to information on the pandemic and measures which the less fortunate could take to contain the spread of infection. Their access is limited to television, which has a dynamic and compulsions of its own, while the educated can rely upon websites tracking the pandemic, which offer broader and more detailed information.

In a digital economy facing a disease against which caution enabled by public information is the only safeguard, the disconnected have-nots are most at risk, both of suffering themselves and of amplifying the footprint of the infection. Indeed, there are divides across geographical borders, too. In the US, Google and Facebook are in talks with the government to help track how people move and gather, using phone data. This will put sensitivities about privacy to the test. But, as in times of war, personal priorities may be set aside in favour of the public interest. This question may not even arise outside the US, since companies in other nations do not have location data of similar depth. On the other hand, in Mumbai, the authorities are using phone GPS to monitor home quarantine and ensure that it is not breached, a novel use for an old technology.

For about two decades, public interest groups in several countries have argued that the internet should be regarded as an essential service, and access to it as a fundamental right. Whether it is for working remotely or for accessing information and maintaining communications while in isolation, the case for reliable connectivity looks more convincing than ever. In pandemics of the future, it could make the difference between nations that are able to shield themselves from contagion, and those that are simply inundated by the wave.

WITH A TUNE AND A JIG

Kerala Police's dancing, hand-washing video shows a force in step with the times

FOR YEARS, POLICE forces across India have made erratic attempts at "community policing" — rough and ready cops try their best to appear people-friendly. In the late 1990s, for example, a burly officer of the Delhi Police would appear on DD Metro and hold forth on issues like traffic rules, laws against littering and end each show with an assurance that sounded almost like a threat: "With you, for you, always." Then there are various PSAs targeted at young people, that informed but did not inspire. Now, under the spectre of the coronavirus, and with a little help from the vitality of the social media, the Kerala Police seems to have cracked the code on actually reaching the public, and making an impact.

For over a minute, six uniformed policemen, wearing protective masks, can be seen in a video instructing people on how to properly wash their hands. There is no boring voice droning on in the background with a running commentary on self-evident protocols. Instead, there's a catchy tune and a jig. In unison, the men of law dance their way through the video and the shares and views the video has got show that it may be reaching its target audience — at this point, anyone in the world.

The Kerala Police's approach to spread awareness about the basic preventive measures to stall the spread of COVID-19 shows that the police are figuring out what every teenager on Instagram has long known. To get noticed in the age of the information overload, everyone needs a gimmick. But then, as more and more people stay at home, surfing the web on their phones, a viral video may well also be the first line of defence to combat the virus.

Let's listen to the crisis

Nature is reminding us to acknowledge, with humility, our quintessential equality and inter-dependency

RAM NATH KOVIND

THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 novel coronavirus has created an unprecedented situation around the world. Humankind is no stranger to calamitous outbreaks of diseases. However, this is the first viral outbreak of this nature and scale in our lifetime.

Today my thoughts are with all those battling the virus, with the families of all the victims around the world, and also with the doctors, paramedics and health officials and all others who have put their lives at risk for the rest of us.

I commend people for their mature response in the face of the crisis. Their support is helping all institutions to work in a coordinated manner to fight the outbreak. Our healthcare system has shown great alacrity and competence in meeting the extraordinary and evolving challenge. Our leadership and administration have proved their mettle in these testing times. I believe that together we will weather the storm. I also commend the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, for taking pre-emptive measures in right earnest to contain the pandemic at the very beginning and reaching out to our neighbours in the SAARC to launch joint efforts to check its spread in the neighbourhood. Even the WHO has acknowledged India's efforts as worthy of emulation for the rest of the world.

The outbreak has forced us to keep a respectful distance from others. This isolation, self-imposed or medically mandated, can be taken as an ideal opportunity to ponder on our journey so far and the future path. As we are passing through a tough phase, let us turn this challenge into an opportunity and try to decipher what nature has been telling us through this crisis. The messages are many, but for the purpose of brevity, I would dwell upon a few here.

We all know that hygiene is the first and obvious lesson. Precaution is the only cure for this new strain of coronavirus. As precaution, what doctors advise is basic hygiene, apart from social distancing. Sanitation and cleanliness are among the humblest of civic virtues, and it is easy to underestimate their significance. It needed a Mahatma to attach the utmost priority to them. In South Africa and in India, his historic campaigns always began with, or ran parallel to, the question of sanitation and hygiene. In 1896, Gandhiji was visiting India, and plague broke out in Bombay. He offered his services to the state, and the offer was accepted. As he was in Rajkot, he volunteered there. Do you know what he did as a volunteer? He inspected latrines and exhorted people to pay attention to cleanliness. We need to imbibe his lessons in our daily life, and in this year of his 150th birth anniversary, we may begin by rededicating ourselves to the cause of personal and social hygiene. The nationwide "Swachch Bharat Abhiyan" (Mission Clean India) is a precursor to this great social awakening.

> Homo sapiens is the only organism that has overpowered all other animals, taken control of the whole planet, and even set foot on the Moon. Now it stands humbled by a microorganism. We would do well to keep in mind the fact that, at the end of the day, we are merely biological organisms, dependent on other organisms for survival. Humankind's craving to control Nature and exploit all its resources for profit can be wiped out in a stroke by an organism we cannot even see with the naked eye. Let us remind ourselves that our ancestors saw Nature as mother, and asked us to respect it.

Respect for nature may be the next lesson intended for us. Homo sapiens is the only organism that has overpowered all other animals, taken control of the whole planet, and even set foot on the Moon. Now it stands humbled by a microorganism. We would do well to keep in mind the fact that, at the end of the day, we are merely biological organisms, dependent on other organisms for survival. Humankind's craving to control Nature and exploit all its resources for profit can be wiped out in a stroke by an organism we cannot even see with the naked eye. Let us remind ourselves that our ancestors saw Nature as mother, and asked us to respect it. At some point in history, we forgot ancient wisdom. When pandemics and abnormal weather phenomena are becoming the norm, it is time to pause and wonder where we lost the way, and how we can still make a comeback.

Equality may be a factor less apparent, but Nature tells us that we all are equal. This new virus strikes beyond manmade distinctions of religion, race and region. The world has been busy drawing distinctions and waging wars over us-vs-them. But we suddenly realise that in the face of a grave mortal threat like the present one, we have but one identity — we are human beings.

Inter-dependency is also something we tend to overlook in normal times. In my speeches, I have often referred to the Sanskrit dictum, "vasudhaiva kutumbakam", which means the whole world is but a family. Today, it turns out to be truer than ever before. We realise how deeply each one of us is connected with everybody else. We are safe in as much as we take care of the safety of others, not only of human beings but also of plants and animals. Faced with an extraordinary crisis, most people tend to be selfish, but this is a crisis that teaches us to think equally of others.

Though voluntary services through social mobilisation are not encouraged due to the highly contagious nature of the disease, there are many ways in which people can help contain and mitigate the viral spread. Every citizen can contribute towards raising awareness and equally by refraining from spreading panic, taking prudent precautions advised by the government. Those who can should also share resources, especially with less resourceful neighbours, and senior citizens who are vulnerable to the disease. The coronavirus challenge underscores the necessity for "action in absence of crisis".

Nature is reminding us to acknowledge, with humility, our quintessential equality and inter-dependency. It is a lesson — imparted at a heavy price — that will come in handy in mitigating global challenges like climate change as well as in building a better, common future. In the meantime, I join you in reaffirming our resolve to come out of the present crisis at the earliest, stronger than ever as a nation.

The writer is President of India

PROTECTING INDIA

Nation must stay with vision of founding fathers to fight threat to secular democracy

BAN KI-MOON

INDIA HAS THE potential to be one of the leading powers of the 21st century. It is the biggest democracy in the world, and is blessed with talented citizens who have made their mark in global business, academia, IT, entertainment and sport. There is so much India can teach the world about its traditions of democracy and *ahimsa* (non-violence), which is why its friends, including myself, were profoundly disappointed and alarmed by the communal violence that disfigured Delhi in recent weeks.

Millions of people around the world remain inspired by the example of Mahatma Gandhi, who led India to independence. One of his greatest admirers was Nelson Mandela, who recognised a kindred spirit in the fight against oppression and discrimination. When Mandela was awarded the Gandhi Prize in 2008, he called on rising powers like South Africa and India to work together so "democracy and equality becomes a reality" in the international order. His words still ring true today.

But speaking as the deputy chair of The Elders, the group of independent global leaders founded by Mandela to work for peace and justice worldwide, I am deeply concerned that Gandhi's vision is now threatened by sectarian violence and divisive political rhetoric.

The attacks on poor, working people, mainly Muslims, in Delhi cannot be separated from the attempts by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to redefine Indian citizenship and who is eligible for it, via the recent Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), and the proposed National Population Register and National Register of Citizens.

> The attacks on poor, working people, mainly Muslims, in Delhi cannot be separated from the attempts by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to redefine Indian citizenship and who is eligible for it, via the recent CAA, and the proposed NPR, NRC. These would appear incompatible with Article 14 of India's Constitution, which clearly states that all citizens are equal before the law. Together, these developments pose searching questions about India's democratic future and its place in the global family of nations.

These measures would appear to be incompatible with Article 14 of India's Constitution, which clearly states that all citizens are equal before the law. Together, these developments pose searching questions about India's democratic future and its place in the global family of nations. Callous imperialism was the handmaiden to India's violent birth as an independent state. Today, only Indians are responsible for the direction of their country.

There is no way that India can overcome its developmental challenges by pitting one religious group against another and turning some Indians into second-class citizens. Yet, I fear this is the precise implication of the CAA and other legislative measures that PM Modi's government has proposed. When people of one religion are denied access to citizenship that is freely available to others, it prompts memories of some of the darkest periods in recent human history.

International observers, including myself, have also been increasingly alarmed at the arbitrary attacks on India's Muslims based on rumours about sensitive issues such as cow slaughter, beef consumption and inter-communal personal relationships.

These actions are tantamount to vigilante punishment, which has a harmful impact on social cohesion as well as the democratic fabric of society. If India were to go further down this path of nationalist and religious discrimination, it would be a political and social catastrophe that could set back the country's development for generations.

The protests in Assam, when this new citizenship law was first introduced on a trial basis last year, were a harbinger of the wider nationwide alarm, and should have prompted the government to pause and listen to its citizens. More than 1.9 million citizens, both Hindus and Muslims, were left off the NRC in Assam when it was introduced in 2019, sparking fears that they could be declared stateless when the next census is carried out in 2021.

Protests against the register and citizenship law united Muslims, Hindus and Indians of other religions, who voiced their common concerns at the threat to secular democracy. This commitment to solidarity was also evident among civil society groups working in Delhi to support victims of the recent violence.

In 2018, together with my fellow Elder Gro Harlem Brundtland, former director-general of the World Health Organisation, I also visited a "Mohalla" clinic in Delhi together with Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, and was hugely impressed by the model of free, universal services regardless of wealth, religion or class.

It is only through free, unified and collective mobilisation that India can achieve lasting peace, justice and prosperity. Your country's founding fathers understood this necessity. Their vision should remain at the heart of your future.

The writer is the deputy chair of The Elders and served as the eighth secretary-general of the United Nations

MARCH 20, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

INDIAN EXPRESS

NO RSS IMPRINT

THE JANATA PARLIAMENTARY board has decided by a majority that no functionary of the party or its legislator shall take part in the day-to-day activities of the RSS. The decision was stoutly opposed by leaders of the Jana Sangh group in the Janata Party, including L K Advani, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nanaji Deshmukh. The crisis over the dual membership question that has been nagging the party for over a year now, continues unresolved and threatens to split the party again. Angry at the Parliamentary Board's decision, the Jana Sangh leaders have made it clear that they will not accept it under any circumstances.

AMU MINORITY STATUS

THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS committee of the cabinet decided to restore to Aligarh Muslim University its minority character. The government will now bring forward in the current session of Parliament a bill to amend the Aligarh Muslim University Act. The law minister, who attended the PAC meeting, has been asked to draft the necessary amendments in consultation with the home ministry. The decision follows a fairly prolonged debate in the country on whether the Aligarh Muslim University should be given back its statu s as a minority institution. The right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions has been recognised in Article 30(1) of the Constitution.

ASSAM TRIBUNE ATTACK

THE CALCUTTA OFFICE of the Assam Tribune on the busy Chittaranjan Avenue was ransacked by a group of agitated Congress (I) supporters in protest against the "tortures" being inflicted on the linguistic minorities in Assam. Over 300 demonstrators went to the paper's office in a procession after staging an hour-long demonstration outside the Assam Bhawan. The deputy commissioner of police (Central) told a UNI correspondent that four police personnel were hit by stones and brickbats hurled at them by the agitated demonstrators.

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

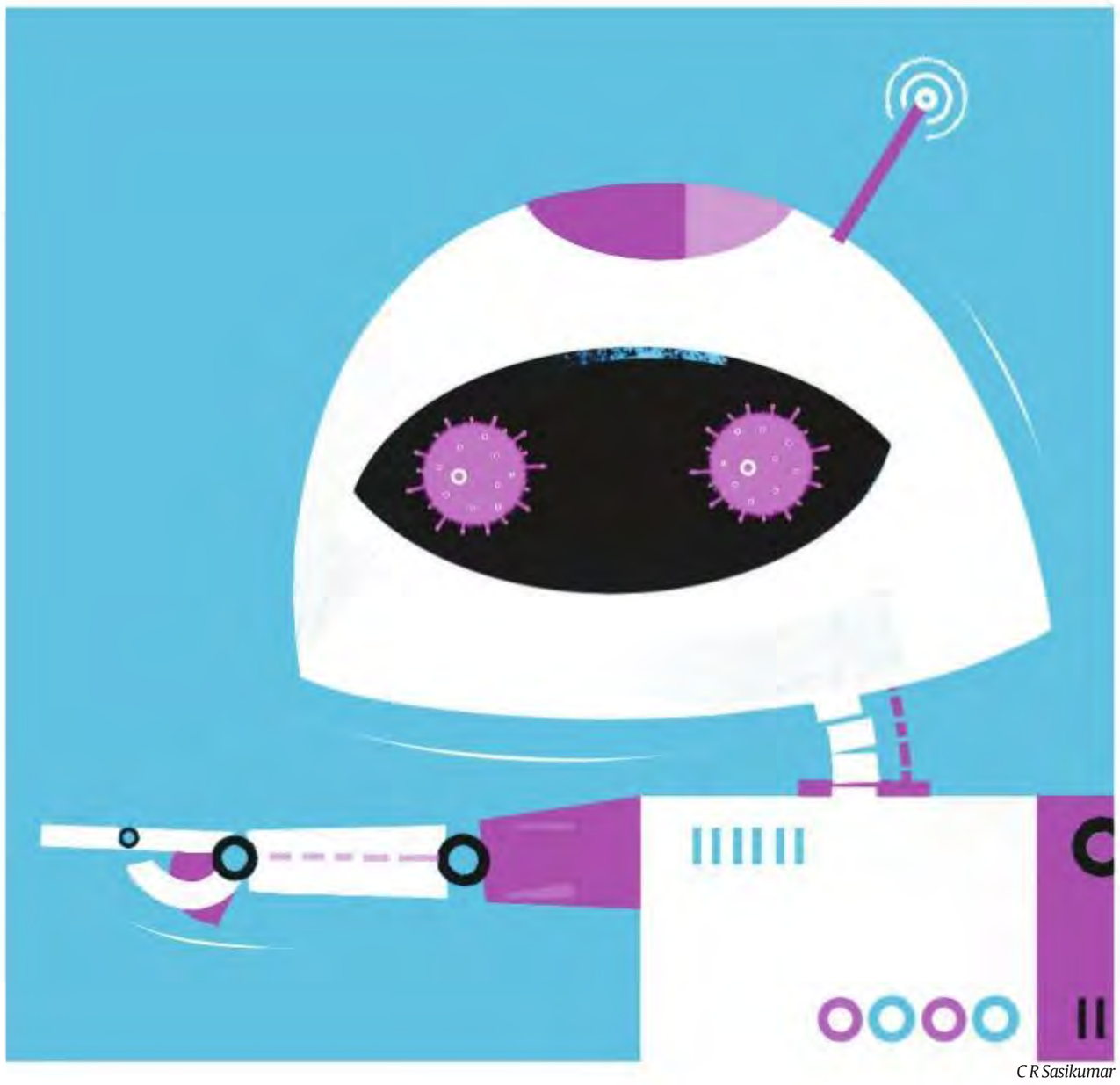
"[China's]Expelling independent reporters over an intergovernmental dispute for which they have no responsibility is unwarranted and, in the current crisis, counterproductive."

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

A different fight-back

Coronavirus crisis is an opportunity for Delhi to build on domestic technological capabilities in artificial intelligence, big data analytics, life sciences and health technology in the private sector

C RAJA MOHAN



C R Sasikumar

A SMALL TECH company in Canada — BlueDot — was among the first outside China to spot a new epidemic spreading out from Wuhan last December. BlueDot, founded in Canada by a medical scientist of South Asian origin, Kamran Khan, tracks the origin and transmission of infectious diseases around the world.

How did Khan and his colleagues red-flag the virus, at a time when local authorities were cracking down on doctors in Wuhan, warning about the dangers from Covid-19? BlueDot did this by sifting through massive volumes of news reports and blogs by individuals, including health professionals flowing out of China.

BlueDot's success was not a fluke; it is really in the nature of its business. As its official website puts it, BlueDot combines "public health and medical expertise with advanced data analytics to build solutions that track, contextualise, and anticipate infectious disease risks". BlueDot is one of the many technology firms leveraging artificial intelligence for business and policy purposes. Their fortunes are rising as the world scrambles to defeat the coronavirus. Many governments are reaching out to tech companies to cope with the corona crisis. The state government of California has just hired BlueDot to help it deal with the challenge.

In China, the Communist Party roped in big tech companies like Alibaba and Tencent in the battle against the virus. In the US, President Donald Trump has set aside his well-known distaste for Democrat-leaning Silicon Valley to tackle what he now calls a war-like emergency. India, which appears to have surprised the world with its success in containing the virus so far, will need all the science and technology it can get hold of in overcoming the crisis that is bound to escalate by the day.

Across the world, policymakers see a growing role for technology in identification, tracking, and treating the coronavirus. For the small tech startups in related areas, this is a moment to shine. For the large tech companies, this is a huge opportunity to deploy their immense capabilities to resolve the specific problems posed by the spread of the coronavirus. In rising to the occasion, they could fend off a lot of the recent negative criticism of their business practices and demonstrate that their commitment to "doing good" is not just empty rhetoric.

"Doing good" is also a sensible business proposition at this time. As governments desperately seek solutions to the crisis, the tech startups and established companies leverage the moment to scale up many technologies, develop new uses and markets.

In China, as the government moved decisively after the delayed initial response, it turned to the well-established mass surveillance system based on facial recognition technologies, sensing technologies to identify those with fever in public places and data from mobile phone companies to trace the people who might be infected, and limit the spread of the disease.

China also developed a Health Code that uses data analytics to identify and assess the risk of every individual in a targeted zone based on travel history and time spent in infected places. The individuals are assigned a colour code (red, yellow, or green) which they can access via popular apps to know if they ought to be quarantined or allowed in public.

While the Chinese use of mass surveillance reinforced the Western image of Beijing as an authoritarian state, many Asian democracies like South Korea have also turned to AI tools to contain the spread of the disease. As it copes with the rapid spread of the coronavirus, the US had no option but to use surveillance to contain it.

Unsurprisingly, the big tech companies in the US, based on collecting and monetising massive amounts of data from individuals, have inevitably become partners for Washington. Unlike in China, where the state can commandeer data held by companies, the relationship between the government, corporations and individual citizens in the US is governed by a welter of laws. The conflict between the rights and interests of these three groups has been intense in recent years.

There is mounting pressure now to tweak these laws to manage the corona crisis. The federal government in Washington, for example, is looking to gain access to mobile phone data and other user information with the tech companies to track the spread of the virus. The US is also liberalising the regulations on the access to, and use of, patients' health records.

Overarching these arguments is a race between the US and China to find new vaccines for the coronavirus and, more broadly, for the mastery of new scientific capabilities — from artificial intelligence to health technologies. The competition, in turn, is promoting a more intensive alliance between science and the state in both the nations.

> What marks out the current technological race between the US and China is the role of private and non-governmental entities. That might well be the missing link in India's effort to beat the coronavirus. The current crisis, however, is also an opportunity for Delhi to build on the existing domestic technological capabilities in the areas of artificial intelligence, big data analytics, life sciences, health technology in the private sector.

The collaboration between science and the state during past crises led to dramatic acceleration of technological capabilities. During the Second World War, science and the state got together to move nuclear physics from the lab to the battle field. The Cold War between America and Russia promoted the development of space technology, microelectronics, communications and computing.

What marks out the current technological race between the US and China is the role of private and non-governmental entities. That might well be the missing link in India's effort to beat the coronavirus. The current crisis, however, is also an opportunity for Delhi to build on the existing domestic technological capabilities in the areas of artificial intelligence, big data analytics, life sciences, health technology in the private sector.

In India, the state has dominated the development of science and its organisation. That was of great value in the early decades after Independence. Today, what Delhi needs is a stronger private sector in science and greater synergy with it in dealing with challenges like the corona crisis.

The writer is director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

Why the Azad Samaj Party

It will fill void due to BSP decline, unite Dalit-Bahujan agitations, counter threats to Constitution from Manuvadi parties

CHANDRASHEKHAR AZAD

THE AZAD Samaj Party (ASP) is not just another political party. It is a movement to reclaim the constitutional rights of every individual, especially the Dalits, tribal people, marginalised communities and women. It's firmly rooted in the ideals of B R Ambedkar and Kanshi Ramji's political vision of "Bahujan Hitay, Bahujan Sukhay". It was Kanshi Ramji who took Babasaheb's ideals to the people at large and united crores of people under one banner in the name of democracy.

The ASP has been formed at a time when the Constitution of our country is in crisis, democracy is in peril and the citizenship of a large number of people in India is threatened. Questions are being raised on the reservation-based rights of the Dalits, Adivasis and backward castes, and the right to speech is under duress.

The economy is down in the dumps due to the policies of the current government, the youth are on the roads, unemployment has peaked, prices are skyrocketing, corruption is rampant and atrocities are committed with impunity. The ruling dispensation of the BJP has no constructive agenda for the nation; its only agenda is to win elections by any means and enslave the Bahujans. To achieve this heinous goal, the BJP is playing on Hindu-Muslim binaries, propagating hate and resorting to violence. The Delhi riots were orchestrated to create divisions in the nation.

At this moment of crisis, the ASP draws inspiration from the teachings of Babasaheb Ambedkar. We believe that the Indian Constitution will safeguard us from this political calamity. We also believe that we can attain our rights through constitutional means, peaceful protests and mass mobilisation.

If the oppressed are being pushed back to slavery, they will galvanise themselves for a long struggle and there will be peaceful protests in the streets of the country. That is the reason for the creation of this new party. When the weak and poor did not have the strength to make their voice heard, it was Kanshi Ramji who showed them that a movement for rights is about self-respect. He showed them that at the vanguard of such a fight are those who associate dignity with the right of every individual for equality.

Kanshi Ramji taught us how to fight for our rights. But his dream is still unfulfilled. Our aim is to fulfil that dream and bring power to the oppressed and Bahujans. The new political formation's primary objective and agenda is to ensure that the Constitution is implemented in full letter and spirit — every article and every aspect of it. Political formations like the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) have been fighting for the cause of Bahujans but the mission remains to be fulfilled.

Unfortunately, after the death of Kanshi Ramji, the BSP compromised with his principles, undermined the leadership roles of the Dalit-Bahujans and brought upper castes to positions of power. This has resulted in its electoral decline and there is deep dissatisfaction within the Bahujan society with the BSP. All this has ended up in bringing Manuvadi forces to power. These forces are now threatening the existence of the Bahujan Samaj and making a frontal attack on the Constitution. There has been a rise in atrocities against people from the Bahujan Samaj. The BSP's decline has created a void. The Bhim Army supported the BSP in previous elections but the party could not convert our support to electoral gain. We also wrote an open letter to Mayawati about the consolidation of Bahujan forces but she did not respond. That is why we decided to fill the void.

It's time to undertake a parivartan yatra against the anti-constitutional and Manuvadi forces. For this nation to grow, it's important that the politics of capitalists and people with money bags is replaced by the politics of the poor and Bahujan. We will not bring to power those who pushed us back to slavery. Bahujan leadership and political power are important and the representation of all communities is the only means to ensure the nation's growth.

Kanshi Ram united Dalit, Adivasi and Bahujan votes and in his movement, gave representation to communities based on their population strength. The unification of Dalit Bahujan agitations, which are scattered today, will be the parivartan yatra's main agenda. We will show the governments of the day what it means to be a democracy and how to bring about social transformation.

I am the son of a primary school teacher who taught me the importance of fulfilling my responsibilities. In the past five years, we in the Bhim Army were playing the role of the Opposition — facing lathis and incarceration. We never lost our self-respect and never bowed before oppression. The idea to create a party is not to move away from the Bhim Army. The Bhim Army runs on the hard work, sweat, blood and contributions of the oppressed.

As a party, the ASP will adhere to constitutional morality. Our guiding principle will be the long cherished goals of liberty, equality and fraternity. I believe that India can become a strong nation only when all sections of the people are given opportunity to take part in the nation-building process. For me, the nation is about its people.

We will try to end all forms of exclusion and discrimination based on caste, religion, sect, race, ethnicity and language. We will work for the universalisation of education and healthcare. That will unleash the huge potential of the Indian masses. Our party believes in participatory democracy and that will reflect in our party organisation also.

It is now upon on all of us to decide whether we want a Manuvadi Bharat or the Prabuddha Bharat of Babasaheb Ambedkar. It is important to dismantle the anti-constitutional Manuvadi governments. That will start with the Bihar assembly elections.

The writer is the founder of the Bhim Army and Azad Samaj Party

Crossing the line of separation

Justice Gogoi's RS nomination underlines need for cooling-off period for judges

RANDEEP SINGH SURJEWALA

THERE IS a light-hearted maxim that lawyers are fond of quoting: "There are two types of judges — those who know the law and those who know the law minister." The Narendra Modi government's tenure has seen the emergence of a third type of judge — those who know the prime minister.

Former Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi's rushed nomination to the Rajya Sabha has drawn legitimate criticism and analysis concerning its timing and has led to many unfavourable inferences, whether justified or otherwise. In this context, it becomes important to revisit the jurisprudence and political commentary on this subject.

Our founding fathers dedicated a considerable amount of time to debating the importance of an independent judiciary and in ensuring that adequate safeguards are installed to prevent interference by the executive or the legislature. This principle was further elaborated upon by the Supreme Court to state that "the constitutional scheme aims at securing an independent judiciary, which is the bulwark of democracy". Consequently, judicial independence along with the doctrine of separation of powers - between the legislature, executive and the judiciary - have been repeatedly held to form part of the basic structure of the Constitution. Unfortunately, these safeguards are now being callously disregarded.

The defence that the BJP propaganda machine is putting forth is that it has happened before. But that is a deliberately disingenuous half-truth designed to mislead the loyal support base that is unlikely to question them further. It is a fact that no elevation of a former judge to the Rajya Sabha was done in an audacious manner that mocks the wisdom of people. There was a cooling-off period (between retirement as a judge and the subsequent nomination), in one case of almost a decade (Justice M Hidayatullah), of almost six years in another (Justice Ranganath Misra). And Justice Baharul Islam was a Rajya Sabha member for over a decade before he became a judge of the Supreme Court and not vice-versa. None of these examples is comparable to the nomination of Justice Gogoi within four months of retirement. His largely deferential treatment of the government qua constitutional challenges, human rights violations and electoral malpractices left much to be desired. Even if these could have been discounted earlier, his nomination to the Rajya Sabha in this rushed manner puts his supporters in an embarrassing position.

No previous government, regardless of the BJP's false spin, adopted such a cavalier attitude to the line drawn between the three pillars of government. In fact, the late Arun Jaitley in 2012 was quick to point out that sometimes post-retirement jobs can influence pre-retirement judgments. Piyush Goyal, Modi's Cabinet colleague, expressed similar views. But the best view of all came from Justice Gogoi himself when he was hearing a challenge to the Finance Act. He is reported to have cited a view that post-retirement appointments (for judges) are "a scar on the independence of the judiciary". It seems that it is easier to profess high ideals than to live up to them. The Law Commission, in its XIVth Report, has also criticised the practice of re-employing retired judges.

In *Nixon M Joseph v. Union of India* (1998), the question was raised by the Kerala High Court. Should retired Supreme Court and high court judges take any job, or contest an election for the legislature? The bench observed: "It is well nigh impossible for a person who has been dreaming of making a mark in the political arena the moment he quits office, be presumed to be unbiased in the discharge of his judicial function. Judges making a bee-line for plum assignments, running after office of profit after retirement, or joining the political bandwagon will certainly erode the confidence of the people in the judiciary."

Earlier governments had a sense of responsibility towards institutions. The current government sorely lacks this. Their singular priority is continuing in office regardless of the cost to the country or its institutions. The time may have arrived to pass a law prescribing a cooling-off period for judges before they are nominated to another public office including the Rajya Sabha. There is also a need for safeguards and checks on post-retirement arbitrations, which have become the rule rather than the exception.

In the Constituent Assembly debates, an attempt to put a restriction on the re-employment of a retired Supreme Court judge by the government did not succeed. B R Ambedkar has observed that the judiciary decided issues between citizens and rarely between citizen and the government, and consequently, the chances of the government influencing the conduct of a member of the judiciary were very remote. This is, as we can all attest, no longer the reality — the government stands as the heaviest litigant and the citizens have to move the courts for the protection of their rights against the state. It is, therefore, imperative that a high-level panel of eminent jurists and politicians be constituted by the judiciary so that the safeguards in the Constitution to protect the independence of the judiciary survive not just in letter but also in spirit.

Finally, the government should remember that while this appointment may ostensibly be at the pleasure of the President, it comes at a great cost to the people of India. History will not forget or forgive this "scar".

The writer is an advocate and the AICC media in-charge

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TEAMWORK HELPS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Talking is key' (IE, March 19). Protocols for testing the Covid-19 infection need to be made uniform. Models adopted by countries that have effectively combatedthe virus need to be emulated. Bickering over the genesis of the virus and demonising people with the infection will widen the trust deficit.

Deepak Singhal, *Chennai*

NO SPYING

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Breach of trust' (IE, March 19). It's shocking to go through media reports claiming that the government was carrying out surveillance of citizens in transgression of the Right to Privacy. The issue raises questions about user privacy guidelines mandated by the Supreme Court. National security cannot be a subterfuge for violating laws.

Sanjay Chopra, *Mohali*

A NEW LEADER

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'From movement to party' (IE, March 18). The emergence of Chandrashekhar Azad as a Dalit leader and his launching of the Azad Samaj Party is bound to create ripples in Uttar Pradesh politics. Those who feel that the BSP chief Mayawati has surrendered to the BJP see Azad as an upholder of the ideals of B R Ambedkar and Kanshi Ram.

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301.

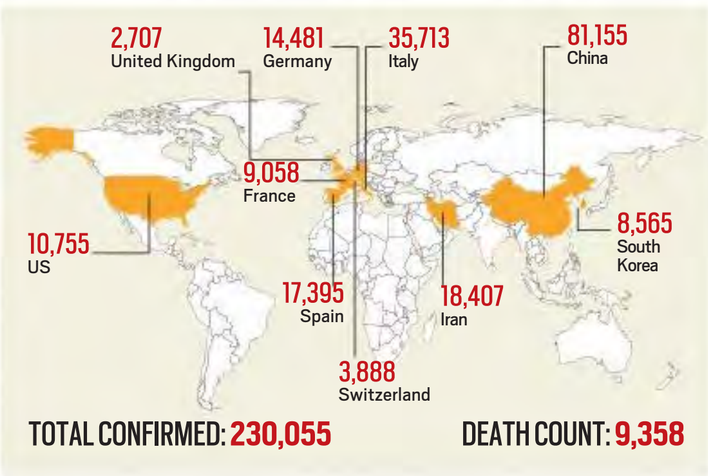
Samiul Hassan Quadri, *Bikaner*

IMPROPER MOVE

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Ex SC judges say Gogoi in RS clouds judiciary's Independence, he says I am for nation building' (IE, March 18). The Constitution prescribes the separation of the judiciary from the executive. Former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi was one of the four judges who held press conference to raise concerns about independence of judiciary. In accepting the nomination to the Rajya Sabha, he seems to have forgotten these concerns.

Vishiwjeet Singh, *Chandigarh*

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK
YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED DAILY



Source: Johns Hopkins University; map updated at 11 pm on March 19

How often (and how) should you clean your home?

CLEAN YOUR HOME EVERY DAY. Many Indians do this in any case. If you do not, start immediately.

USE DISINFECTANT CLEANERS. Some kinds can be sprayed on to surfaces and wiped off; others can be added to a bucket of water for the *pochha*. Several brands are available in the market, look for the ones that claim to kill 99.9% of germs.

SOAPY WATER IS EXCELLENT for coronavirus. Add a little liquid dish soap to a mug of (preferably warm) water and scrub surfaces like kitchen tabletops. Soap dissolves the outer lipid layer of the coronavirus, causing it to collapse and 'die'.

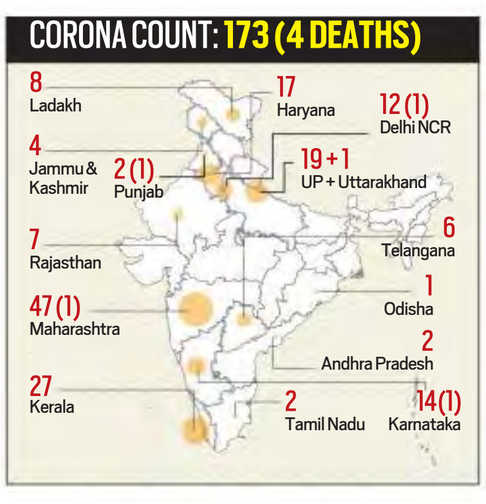
FOCUS ON SURFACES THAT YOU TOUCH THE MOST. If you bring the virus home on your hands and leave it on a surface that all members of the family touch frequently, you will give it to them. See which surfaces are the most high-touch ones in your home; usually, they are the door knobs/handles, light switches, refrigerator and microwave doors, drawer/cabinet/almirah handles, TV and other remotes, kitchen counters and dining table tops, toilet flush handles, telephone receivers (if you still use landlines).

BE THOROUGH. If you clean your home yourself, do it with extra enthusiasm — wipe all the way around handles, for example. If you, like most Indians in the cities, have daily help coming in to clean, supervise their work a bit to ensure they are doing it well.

AFTER YOU ARE DONE, wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water and dry them using a clean towel. Change the towel daily. If you wear gloves to clean surfaces, wash and dry your hands after you've taken them off.

ONCE YOU ENTER THE HOME, take off your shoes close to the door and go straight to the washbasin before anything else. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. This should be done as a general rule at all times, but especially now. Inculcate the hand-washing habit in your children for now and the future.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE



Map based on Union Health Ministry update at 11 pm, March 19. Not all states have been marked. Some state governments may have reported higher numbers.

20 DISCHARGED
Delhi (3), Kerala (3), UP (9), Rajasthan (3), Telangana (1), Tamil Nadu (1)

Have a question on the COVID-19 outbreak and what you should/should not do?
Write to explained@indianexpress.com

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SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

When schools are shut

The COVID-19 outbreak has pulled almost half the world's student population out of class, estimates UNESCO. Why was this massive disruption needed, and why do some countries resist such a move?

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

A NUMBER of countries around the world have shut down schools, colleges and universities because of the novel coronavirus outbreak. Why did some countries feel it necessary to do so while others did not? What is the impact on learning and other areas?

How many students has the outbreak affected?

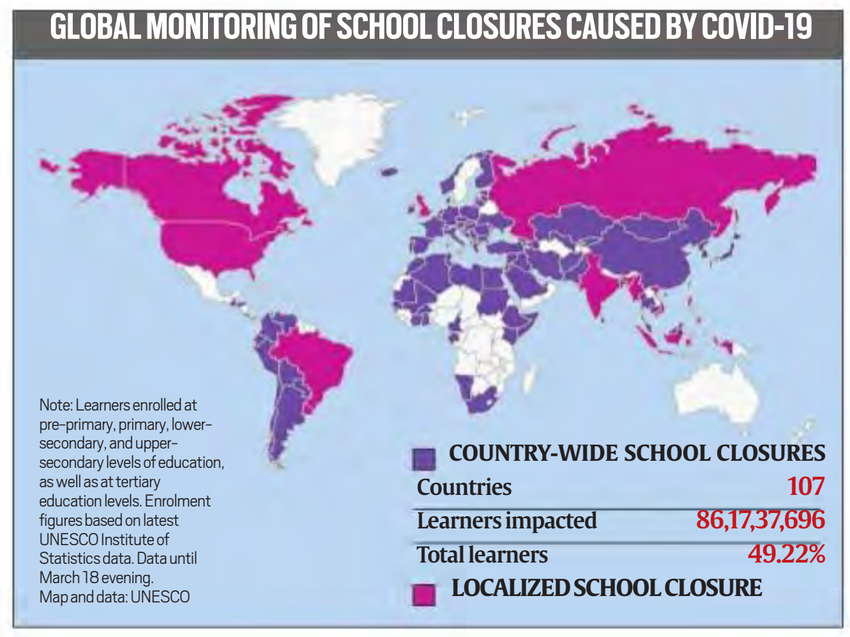
The outbreak has pulled almost half (49.22%) of the world's student population out of schools and universities. According to UNESCO, until late on Tuesday, 107 countries had announced a complete shutdown of classrooms, impacting 86.17 crore children and youth. Although the temporary closure of educational institutions on account of a crisis is not new, the scale of the present education disruption is unprecedented.

Has India implemented nationwide closure of schools and universities?

The Centre announced the closure of all universities and schools on March 16. However, many educational institutions continue to remain open for heads, teachers and non-teaching staff. Also, in many states including Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal, Board examinations are being held as per schedule, forcing Class 10 and 12 students to step out regularly. On Wednesday, the Union government ordered the CBSE, NIOS and all universities and colleges to suspend ongoing examinations. Following this, the Delhi government announced a complete closure of all schools, even for teachers and non-teaching staff. Other state governments are expected to follow suit.

Are school and university shutdowns helpful in mitigating an outbreak?

The World Health Organisation recommends school closure (including preschool and higher education) as one of the "non-pharmaceutical interventions" for mitigating influenza pandemics. The rationale is that children and young people can be vectors of transmission, and high contact rates in schools could abet the spread of the virus. With COVID-19, children and the young have been observed to suffer less than the elderly when infected, but they can still transmit the virus to the elderly at home. With school closures during a pandemic, governments hope to break the chains of transmission. This will help reduce the number of confirmed cases, avoid stressing healthcare systems, and allow more time to develop a vaccine.



Why then are some countries not proactively closing schools?

The cost of keeping schools closed is a reason why governments resist the idea. Closure not only disrupts learning but also has a direct economic cost. Because when schools close, families would have to find childcare. While some may manage to look after children without missing work, many parents will end up skipping work. Those lost work hours are a cost to the economy.

A study published in the *BMC Public Health* journal in April 2008 suggested that a 12-week closure of schools in the UK during an influenza pandemic could cost about £0.2 billion to £1.2 billion per week — around 0.2-1% of the country's GDP. A 2016 study by the Brookings Institution estimated the cost of a four-week closure of schools in the US to be $47 billion. The UK resisted the idea of school closures for a long time for precisely this reason. Their government finally gave in on Thursday, and announced a nationwide shutdown of schools from Friday.

The disadvantages of classroom shutdowns are far greater for students from underprivileged backgrounds. When schools close, their nutrition is compromised. This is already evident in India, where the closure of schools has disrupted the supply of midday meals. Taking *suo motu* cognisance of this problem, the Supreme Court this week issued notices to all state governments to explain how they would ensure the midday meals reach the vulnerable while schools stay shut.

As schools and universities move towards learning online to make up for lost time, students from low-income families risk falling behind as they don't have access to technology or stable Internet connections. That apart, parents of first-generation learners in schools are often unprepared for distance learning and home-schooling.

How are governments trying to minimise learning disruptions after closure?

Countries are adopting distance learning solutions to ensure continuity of education. A COVID-19 task force set up by UNESCO is advising countries in regular virtual meetings with Education Ministers.

China, the first country to impose a lockdown on citizens, was also the first to launch a simultaneous online learning exercise. The Ministry of Education, according to *China Daily*, launched a national cloud learning platform to cater to students in middle school and high school. Simultaneously, a television channel, China Education Television Channel 4, was dedicated to broadcasting classes for primary school students. The learning platforms, *China Daily* said, were separate for different groups to prevent network congestion from too many students going online at the same time. The country also mobilised its three biggest telecoms operators — China Mobile, China Unicom and China Telecom — to boost Internet connectivity.

In India, the closure of schools happened towards the end of the academic year. Hence, as of now, it hasn't caused any significant learning loss. However, if schools and universities were to remain shut beyond March 31, Union and state governments will have to implement distance learning solutions.

The Human Resource Development Ministry has decided to encourage schools and universities to "make full use" of existing e-learning portals such as the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) platform Swayam, and the free DTH channel Swayam Prabha, which telecasts educational videos prepared by the NCERT.

In flats and offices, after a case turns positive

SAKSHI DAYAL, AMIL BHATNAGAR & ASTHA SAXENA
GURGAON, NOIDA, NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

AMONG THE steps taken by authorities after someone tests positive for the novel coronavirus disease, are sanitation of the premises, and contact tracing. Across the country, specially constituted teams are trying to trying to trace each individual that the infected person came in contact with, and monitor people living in that area.

Families and neighbourhood

The moment a resident tests positive in Gurgaon, officials say, Health Department teams begin to track their contacts, test their relatives, and screen their neighbours to try to cut off the spread of the virus.

Samples of the patient's immediate contacts, such as relatives they live with or collagues they work with, are collected for testing. While the patient is isolated, their contacts are placed in home quarantine for 14 days.

Four people have tested positive in Gurgaon so far.

"After that, active surveillance is carried out of 50 houses around theirs, to determine whether any residents have any symptoms, and to test them if they do. After that, there is a 5-km buffer zone, in which teams are deployed to again inspect and see if there is anyone with symptoms," said Dr Jaswant Singh Punia, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Gurgaon.

Hyde Park in Noida's Sector 78 has a confirmed case of infection. *Abhinav Saha*

In case the patient is a resident of an apartment, residents of the entire building are screened for symptoms, officials said.

Tracking of contacts

Simultaneously, health officials begin the process of speaking by telephone every day with every individual on the list to ascertain whether they are displaying any symptoms. They too are asked to stay home. If they show symptoms, they are called to give their samples for testing.

To carry out these tasks, the CMO has constituted 19 teams in the district, each of which is headed by a medical officer. Each team has 4-5 members, including Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) workers, who officials say are especially valuable "because they have the housing details and particulars".

The discovery of a positive case also leads to a prompt effort to "decontaminate" the area in which the patient has resided or worked, officials said. "We decontaminate the area of the office using sprays, and the floor is mopped. In case of a building, we also disinfect the common areas, such as corridors and elevators," the CMO said.

Anganwadi teams at work

In Delhi, which saw four confirmed cases on Thursday alone, *anganwadi* workers are at the forefront of the contact-tracing exercise. The tracing begins immediately, and the workers visit the colony from where the person has tested positive. "There is no defined area; we trace it as per the contacts. The workers visit nearby houses in the colony and ask if anyone has developed any symptoms. Meanwhile, the officers make calls to each contact. If they are not from Delhi, authorities of the concerned state are informed," said Dr Nutan Mundeja, Director General of Health Services, Delhi government.

Officers from the Delhi government's dispensaries have been visiting colonies to spread awareness about the disease. Pamphlets are being passed on, and the workers are teaching hand hygiene and coughing etiquette in the area, Dr Mundeja said.

Sanitisation of premises

In Noida, which has seen four confirmed cases so far, 20 teams have been formed to track contacts.

According to officials in Gautam Buddh Nagar, the sanitisation process is carried out primarily on the premises where the infected patient stays. In the adjacent areas, approximately in the 2-3 km radius, Health Department workers carry out intensive surveys for information, which can be used by the medical authorities for further action.

"In the cases where positive patients were found, their homes and immediate surroundings were sanitised and disinfected. After that the screening process begins and an extensive survey is carried out, during which information about members and their health condition is gathered," said a member of a Health Department team. In the sanitisation process, the areas are sprayed with water, and the surfaces are cleaned with acid-based disinfectant solutions.

Each day the teams, which have 3-4 members each, carry out the screening process till the area in the radius is covered. The process remains the same whether the patient is in a housing society or an independent house, officials said.

As world battles coronavirus pandemic, a few takeaways emerge

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE NEW coronavirus infection that emerged in China in December has now been confirmed in at least 166 countries and territories around the world. It has sickened over 2.3 lakh people and killed over 9,300, with over 82% of deaths occurring in the three countries of China, Italy, and Iran. By now, a significant volume of data and research has been generated, and some key trends have emerged.

1. Testing is crucial...

EXAMPLES of China and South Korea have shown that countries give themselves a fighting chance when they take steps that assume they're worse off than they appear to be.

This is because it can take up to two weeks for an infection to be diagnosed. The virus's incubation time (time taken for symptoms to appear) is thought to be five days — and even after that, it could be several days before people actually go for a test if they are inadequately informed, can't identify their symptoms, or are discouraged by the absence of resources or facilities. Once tested, results could take two days to be available. For this entire time, the virus could be spreading. Uncontrolled circulation could lead to cases doubling every two days — and the number of infections may, in fact, be up to 128 times what it seems to be. If so, the community may actually be facing a full-blown public health crisis.

Taking aggressive steps that look like an overreaction could, therefore, be just the right thing to do. Not only is acting proactively better than being reactive, it may actually be impossible to get on top of the situation after the virus has already spread widely. Any set of hospitals can tackle only a finite number of cases, and too many at the same time will invariably overwhelm them.

And thus the importance of testing. As a government Minister in South Korea — which tested massive numbers with great speed and efficiency — said: "Testing is central because that leads to early detection, it minimizes further spread, and it quickly treats those found with the virus." Testing, he said, was "the key behind our very low fatality rate as well". Data upto Thursday night showed 8,565 cases and only 91 deaths in South Korea.

China too, tested very aggressively alongside imposing massive lockdowns, even if belatedly. On Thursday, China reported no new cases for the first time, and fell behind Italy in the death count.

2. ...As is contact tracing

SINGAPORE, SOUTH KOREA, and Hong Kong have shown that running detailed forensic investigations into every patient's history of recent contacts, followed by tracking them down and, if required, quarantining them, helps. The South Koreans have used apps and GPS tagging of patients, and gone through location and credit card transaction histories; the Singaporeans have proactively identified large networks of possible transmission from each patient, and tracked down the individuals in those networks.

In both these countries, as well as in Hong Kong, details of infected patients have been broadcast for the public. "We want to stay one or two steps ahead of the virus," a top Singapore official has been quoted as saying. "If you chase the virus, you will always be behind the curve."

Steps like these would, however, be very difficult to take in a country like India, both for its size and the characteristics of its population, as well as for reasons of privacy.

3. Free healthcare helps

A MAJOR factor in success or failure in the fight against an epidemic is the degree to which the public responds to the crisis. People must see an incentive to raise their hands to help the government, including by declaring their own illness.

Analysts have note that in South Korea and China, where healthcare is heavily subsidised or paid for by the state, people have come forward to test and be treated. Testing is free in India, too.

In the United States, by contrast, the enormous costs of healthcare nudge people to avoid coming forward, or to wait for long even after symptoms appear. Analyses have shown that fear of healthcare bills may have stretched out the 2009-10 H1N1 outbreak, which killed nearly 12,500 people in the US. On Thursday evening, the number of COVID-19 infections in the US was approaching 10,800 and 154 people were dead — nearly three times the number of deaths (58) just two days ago, on Tuesday.

4. Timing holds the key

AN ANALYSIS in *The New York Times* by Max Fisher and Amanda Taub on the lessons from the coronavirus pandemic mentions a study that used computer modelling to show that had China implemented its testing and lockdown policies a week earlier, 66% of infections would have been prevented — and had it acted three weeks earlier, 95% of infections would not have occurred. Taiwan, which was watching China, actually imposed an epidemic-level lockdown even before the epidemic actually came — and is today only mildly affected, despite being next-door to China.

Italy, on the other hand, is paying the price of getting the timing wrong. It waited too long to impose the lockdown, and by then COVID-19 had spread too far and too deep for its healthcare systems to handle. Fisher and Taub referred to a University of Oxford study that shows how timing was central to Italy's disaster: the cities of Lodi and Bergamo in Lombardy saw a few cases at the same time in February, but while Lodi imposed social distancing rules immediately (February 23), Bergamo didn't do so until as late as March 8. By March 13, Lodi had 1,133 cases and a slowing infection, while Bergamo had 2,368 cases and an accelerating infection.

India has so far seen only a small number of infections, and one reason could be the speed with which it moved to lock out individuals with the potential of bringing the virus into the country.

5. Inequality hits everyone

SEVERAL STUDIES have shown that in an epidemic, the risk of infection and death is greater for everyone in societies that have greater wealth and income inequality. The reason: while the poor are more vulnerable, epidemics do not respect the physical and social barriers between a society's haves and have-nots, and therefore, everyone faces higher risks of infection. This, Fisher and Taub write, is one of several reasons that health experts are watching India closely.

TOP OF THE WORLD

Joko Widodo

INDONESIA

Deaths climb, Joko wants more tests

Jakarta: Faced by a rising death toll from coronavirus and a big jump in infections, Indonesia's president called for testing to be stepped up immediately in the world's fourth most populous country. "I ask that the number of testing kits and the number of test centres are increased and we get more hospitals involved," Joko Widodo said. Less than three weeks since the country of more than 260 million people announced its first case of the virus, its death toll had reached 25 — higher than in any other Southeast Asian country.

AUSTRALIA

Australia closes borders to non-residents

Sydney: Australia is closing its borders to foreigners and pumping about A$100 billion ($56 billion) into the economy as it seeks to minimise the blow from the coronavirus epidemic. Australia has recorded around 600 coronavirus infections and six deaths, a relatively small number compared to other countries, but officials are growing increasingly concerned about the prospect of an exponential rise in cases. With the majority of the cases originating overseas, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Thursday all non-Australian residents would be barred from entering the country from 9pm on Friday. In neighbouring New Zealand, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced the same measure almost simultaneously, with the ban on foreign arrivals there beginning on Thursday evening.

TURKEY

Shops close across Turkey

Ankara: Shops closed across Turkey on Thursday to help halt the coronavirus spread, dimming the economy's prospects and raising questions for hundreds of thousands of workers after Ankara pledged $15 billion in support and advised Turks to stay home. Clothing retailers shuttered and malls, with some 530,000 employees and annual turnover of $160 billion, were set to follow suit after Turkey announced cases of the virus had nearly doubled to 191 including a second death.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi cancels Jeddah festival

Riyadh: Saudi Arabia cancelled "Jeddah Season", a weeks-long entertainment and cultural festival in the Red Sea port city, as part of measures to curb the coronavirus outbreak, state television reported on Thursday. The event, which had been scheduled for June and July, was first run last year under efforts by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

AGENCIES

NO NEW LOCAL INFECTIONS IN CHINESE CITY; GLOBAL TOLL NEARS 10,000

Italy toll overtakes China's, Wuhan offers hope

NICOLE WINFIELD & TIM SULLIVAN
ROME, MARCH 19

THE DEATH toll in Italy from the coronavirus overtook China's on Thursday in a stark illustration of how the outbreak has pivoted toward Europe and the United States.

Italy, with a population of 60 million, recorded at least 3,405 deaths, or roughly 150 more than in China — a country with a population over 20 times larger.

Italy reached the bleak milestone the same day that Wuhan, the Chinese city where the coronavirus first emerged three months ago, recorded no new infections, a sign that the communist country's draconian lockdowns were a powerful method to stop the virus' spread.

On Thursday, a visiting Chinese Red Cross team criticized Italians' failure to properly quarantine themselves and take the national lockdown seriously.

The epidemic has also now reached at least one European head of state, 62-year-old Prince Albert II of the tiny principality of Monaco. The palace announced that he tested positive for the virus but was continuing to work from his office and was being treated by doctors from Princess Grace Hospital, named after his American actress mother.

The worldwide death toll crept toward 10,000 as the total number of infections topped 220,000, including nearly 85,000 people who have recovered.

French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe pleaded with people to keep their distance from one another to avoid spreading the virus, even as the crisis pushed them to seek comfort.

"When you love someone, you should avoid taking them in your arms," he said in Parliament. "It's counterintuitive, and it's painful. The psychological consequences, the way we are living, are very disturbing — but it's what we must do."

Spain has been the hardest-hit European country after Italy, and in Madrid a four-star hotel began operating as a makeshift hospital for coronavirus patients.

The director of the group that runs the Ayre GH Colon hotel tweeted: "365 rooms more to help win the war." The Madrid Hotel Business Association said it has placed 40 hotels with room for 9,000 people at the service of the Madrid region, which has near half of Spain's 17,000 or so cases.

AP

A fitness trainer (above) carries out an exercise class for her neighbours from her balcony in Rome; medical workers bid farewell to each other at the Wuhan railway station. *Reuters*

COVID-19 mortality was 1.4% in outbreak epicentre: study

AGENCIES
PARIS, MARCH 19

THE NOVEL coronavirus proved deadly in 1.4 per cent of all people infected in the Chinese outbreak city of Wuhan, far lower than global estimates of the killer pandemic, researchers said Thursday.

The World Health Organization said this month that COVID-19 proves deadly in 3.4 percent of confirmed cases.

But with limited testing capacity and confirmed cases likely to be towards the severe end of the spectrum, several experts have suggested the true mortality rate may be significantly lower.

A team of researchers in China has now reviewed eight separate public and private data sources on COVID-19 in Wuhan, and believe they have come up with a more accurate mortality estimate. They found that the probability of dying after developing COVID-19 symptoms was 1.4 percent.

"Estimation of true case numbers — necessary to determine the severity per case — is challenging in the setting of an overwhelmed healthcare system that cannot ascertain cases effectively," said the study, published in *Nature Medicine*.

'WHISTLEBLOWER IN WUHAN PUNISHED INAPPROPRIATELY'

Police in China's virus epicentre Wuhan on Thursday apologised to the family of a doctor, who was reprimanded for trying to issue the first warning about the deadly coronavirus outbreak, after a Chinese government investigation found that their action against the whistleblower was not appropriate.

Every 10 mins, one person dies from the virus in Iran

AGENCIES
DUBAI, MARCH 19

THE NEW coronavirus kills one person every 10 minutes in Iran, the health ministry spokesman tweeted on Thursday, as the death toll in the Middle East's worst-affected country climbed to 1,284.

"Based on our information, every 10 minutes one person dies from the coronavirus and some 50 people become infected with the virus every hour in Iran," Kianush Jahanpur tweeted.

Meanwhile, Iran's top leader will pardon 10,000 more prisoners in an apparent effort to combat the coronavirus, state TV reported Thursday.

As part of steps to curb the spread of the new virus that has killed more than 1,100 people in Iran, the country has already released 85,000 prisoners on temporary leave.

Iran will also not celebrate its annual national nuclear day because of the outbreak, the country's nuclear chief Ali Akbar Salehi told state TV on Thursday.

Iran holds an annual celebration of its nuclear programme, during which Tehran announces its nuclear achievements.

Separately, the United Arab Emirates added to its list of people barred from entering all residents who are currently abroad. The decision impacts people whose homes, children, bank accounts and livelihoods are in the country, but who were traveling or outside the country. The ban goes into effect at mid-day Thursday for at least two weeks.

The Middle East has some 20,000 cases of the virus, with most in Iran or originating from Iran.

EXPLAINED

US sanctions worsen situation

THE US sanctions affect Iran's capacity to respond to the crisis. The US has already declared that it will expand its sanctions on Iran and entities that helped the Iranian government in its trade in petrochemicals and other restricted activities. Iran Thursday released a US military veteran as a humanitarian gesture even as the US called on Iran to free other Americans who remain jailed there. While questions have been raised over Iran's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the pandemic has also dented the legitimacy of coercive US sanctions on Iran.

A homeless man outside Westminster underground station in London. *Reuters/Hannah McKay*

US scrambles to assess growing coronavirus toll

MARIA CASPANI & DOINA CHIACU
NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, MARCH 19

HEALTH OFFICIALS across the United States scrambled on Thursday to step up testing for the coronavirus, trying to get a handle on how many Americans have been sickened in the pandemic.

The fast-spreading respiratory disease has widely disrupted life across the country, shuttering schools and businesses and leaving millions to work from home or out of work, hammering the economy and disrupting travel.

New York State tested more than 7,500 patients overnight and ordered three-quarters of state employees to work from home, while the governor of neighboring New Jersey warned that he expected the number of sick people in the state to spiral into the thousands.

More than 10,000 people across the United States have been diagnosed with the illness called COVID-19 and more than 160 have died, with the largest numbers so far in Washington state and New York.

The US Senate was aiming to unveil details of a $1 trillion-plus coronavirus bill later on Thursday intended to help the US economy weather the ill-effects of the growing outbreak. President Donald Trump has been eagerly calling for that package.

REUTERS

Donald Trump with members of the US administration's coronavirus task force at the White House. *Reuters*

Sharp increase in Moscow pneumonia cases fuels fears over statistics

AGENCIES
MOSCOW, MARCH 19

A REPORTED sharp increase in pneumonia cases in the Russian capital and contradictory information around the issue is fuelling fears about the accuracy of official coronavirus data which remains much lower than many European countries.

Russia, which has a population of 144 million, has reported just 199 coronavirus cases and some doctors have questioned how far the official data reflects reality, given what they say is the patchy nature and quality of testing.

A sharp spike in pneumonia cases in Moscow, Russia's biggest transport hub and a city with a population of around 13 million, has further raised doubts. "I have a feeling they (the authorities) are lying to us," said Anastasia Vasilyeva, head of Russia's Doctor's Alliance trade union.

Moscow clarifies cause of 1 death

Meanwhile, Russia reported its first death connected to the coronavirus pandemic on Thursday, initially saying an elderly woman died of pneumonia before changing the cause of death to a blood clot.

The Moscow health department said the 79-year-old, who had tested positive for COVID-19, died in a Moscow hospital.

Brexit talks suffer complications, London braces for shutdown

GABRIELA BACZYNSKA
BRUSSELS, MARCH 19

IT WAS always going to be a challenge for Britain and the European Union to meet an end-of-year deadline to agree on their post-Brexit relationship.

But the coronavirus has just made it even harder, and calls for an extension to the deadline are gaining traction in mainland Europe as parts of the continent go into lockdown.

Talks planned for this week have been postponed because of the outbreak, and the EU's chief negotiator, Michel Barnier, said on Thursday he has the COVID-19 respiratory illness that the coronavirus can cause.

"I tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday," Barnier said in a video message from his home in France where he is now confined. He also issued a rallying cry for fellow Europeans to "win this collective battle, this war, against the virus."

Meanwhile, the UK was bracing on Thursday for the virual shut down of London as underground train stations across the capital closed and Prime Minister Boris Johnson mulled tougher measures to tackle the coronavirus crisis.

Johnson said that unlike during the financial crisis, Britain will put its people first in the fight against the coronavirus and more measures will be announced by the government on Friday. "This time it is going to be different," Johnson said. "(Remember) what happened in 2008, everybody said we bailed out the banks and we didn't look after the people who really suffered — this time we are going to make sure that we look after the people who really suffer from the economic consequences."

REUTERS

EU's chief negotiator for Brexit Michel Barnier tested positive

FDA nod to anti-malarial drug for COVID-19: Trump

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, MARCH 19

THE US government has approved chloroquine, an anti-malarial drug, to treat coronavirus infection, US President Donald Trump said Thursday.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has also approved compassionate use of certain other drugs, currently under trial, for a significant number of patients, Trump told journalists at the White House.

"We are very excited about chloroquine... if it works. The beauty is that these drugs have been out there," he said, announcing the FDA's approval to expedite the tests of the drug for treatment.

"We're going to be able to make that drug available almost immediately, and that's where the FDA has been so great. They've gone through the approval process. It's been approved. They took it down from many, many months to immediate. So we're going to be able to make that drug available by prescription," Trump said.

FDA Commissioner Stephen Hahn, who was also present in the conference, said chloroquine is already approved for the treatment of malaria as well as an arthritis condition.

2 deaths in Brazil; protesters bang pots

AGENCIES
RIO DE JANEIRO, SAO PAULO MARCH 19 (REUTERS)

THE CORONAVIRUS outbreak has hammered Brazil, crushing local markets, infecting more members of the country's political elite and prompting loud protests against President Jair Bolsonaro's handling of the mounting crisis.

Brazil's tourist mecca of Rio de Janeiro reported its first two coronavirus deaths on Thursday, bringing the country's toll to six.

The state government said the two deaths were a 63-year-old diabetic woman in the hilly interior of Rio de Janeiro state and a 69-year-old man, also diabetic, in the city of Niteroi.

President Jair Bolsonaro, who has faced criticism for his lax handling of an outbreak he initially called a "fantasy," issued a decree restricting entry of foreign visitors at land borders with Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Suriname and French Guiana.

Brazil had reported 428 confirmed cases of the virus as of Wednesday evening, more than doubling in three days.

On Wednesday night, Brazil erupted to the sound of banging pots and pans and shouts of "Bolsonaro out!" with housebound protesters expressing their anger toward the president for the second night in a row.

Women bang pots at the window of their house as they protest against Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, in Rio de Janeiro. *Reuters/Ricardo Moraes*

Pak coronavirus cases rise to 453

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, MARCH 19

PAKISTAN'S CORONAVIRUS cases sharply rose to 453 on Thursday, as the military said measures are being taken to make the armed forces' medical facilities available for an "extreme emergency" situation.

Pakistan on Wednesday reported its first two casualties due to the coronavirus that has spread to more than 160 countries, killing over 9,000 people.

On Thursday, maximum new cases were recorded in Balochistan where the number of infected people rose to 81 from 23. Punjab was the next where the number rose from 33 to 78, the *Dawn* reported.

But the worst-hit Sindh province was still on the top with 245 confirmed cases, while Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa had 23, Islamabad 2 and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan 24, the paper said.

Army spokesman Major General Babar Iftikhar told the media that army was fully geared up to support the civil administration in fighting coronavirus.

"Medical facilities of armed forces will be available in case of emergency," he said.

Pakistan also announced on Thursday to close down Wagah border with India for two weeks.

The interior ministry through a notification said that it closed the key border point with India "for an initial period of two weeks (14 days) with immediate effect".

It said the measure was taken to "prevent the spread of COVID-19, in the best interest of both countries".

Pakistan's western border with Iran and Afghanistan had already been closed to curb the spread of the deadly virus.

epaper.indianexpress.com

CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.

(A Govt. of India Undertaking , Ministry of Railways) Regional Office
Chief General Manager (CGM)/ North Central Region(NCR)
6th Floor, IWAI Building, A-13, Sector-1, Noida-201301 (U.P.)
Ph No – 0120 – 4052941, Fax – 0120- 4052988

कॉनकॉर CONCOR

E-Tender Notice

Reference: OPEN E- TENDER NO: CON/NCR/TECH/TANK CONTAINER -REPAIR/2020 Dated 20/03/2020, in Two bid system is invited, for Repairing of Tank Containers at ICD/Dadri, at Container Corporation of India Ltd, North Central Regional office,6th Floor, IWAI Building, A-13, Sector-1, Noida-201301 (U.P.) **Last date of submission of tender is up to 17:00 hrs, on 04/04/2020 on the website www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL, For detailed information and any corrigendum please log on to www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL.**

Chief General Manager /NCR

RAJASTHAN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

(A Government of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Paryatan Bhawan Opposite Vidhayak Puri Thana, Jaipur

No.: 1653 **SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE NO 11 /2019-20** Date: 06-03-2020

Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation Limited (RTDC) Jaipur invites competitive bids for the Various works at Jaipur from the contractors having experience in the field of conservation/restoration of heritage buildings & registered with State Government, Government of India and undertaking of state/central Government in appropriates class & trade The detailed information can be seen at website www.rtdc.tourism.rajasthan.gov.in & sppp.rajasthan.gov.in The tender documents can be downloaded to *http://.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in* from dated 20.3.2020 upto 1.00 P.M and should be deposited on line in electronic format upto 2.00 P.M on dated 20.3.2020 & will be opened at 5.00 P.M. on dated 20.3.2020. The undersigned reserves the full rights to reject all or part thereof the tender. **UBN-TDC1920WSOB00149, 150 & 151**

Raj.Samwad/C/19/6231 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-WORKS**

RAJASTHAN TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

(A Government of Rajasthan Undertaking)
Paryatan Bhawan Opposite VidhayakPuri Thana, Jaipur

No.: 1655 **E-TENDER NOTICE NO 12 /2019-20** Date: 12-03-2020

Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation Limited (RTDC) Jaipur invites competitive bids for **CONSERVATION, RESTORATION & REJUVENATION OF TALKATORA LAKE, JAIPUR**, from the contractors registered with State Government, Government of India and undertaking of state/central Government in appropriates class & trade The detailed information can be seen at website www.rtdc.tourism.rajasthan.gov.in & sppp.rajasthan.gov.in The tender documents can be downloaded to http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from dated 24.4.2020 upto 1.00 P.M and should be deposited on line in electronic format upto 3.30 P.M on dated 24.4..2020 & will be opened at 4.00 P.M. on dated 24.4..2020. The undersigned reserves the full rights to reject all or part thereof the tender. **UBN-TDC1920WLOB00154**

Raj.Samwad/C/19/6230 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR-WORKS**

Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited

(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise)
4, Meera Marg, Udaipur – 313001
Phone: (0294) 2428703-07, 2428744, 2428738, Fax (0294) 2428775, 2428788
Email:- project.rsmml@rajasthan.gov.in

Corrigendum-3 Date-12.03.2020

NIT No. & Date	Description of Work
e-Tender No RSMM/CO/PROJ/Wind Power /2019-20/4/16 date 09.01.2020 UBN no. MML1920WLOB00200	Repairing of WEGs & comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of the wind power project: 15 MW (Phase-V). Last date & time of online submission 30.03.2020 up to 3.00 pm date of opening of techno-commercial (part-1) 31.03.2020 at 3.30 PM

Other terms & conditions have been given in detailed tender for which please visit us at our website **www.rsmm.com** or **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** or **eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** or GM (Projects) on above address.

Raj.samwad/C/19/6133 **SM (Admin.)**

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER

Dy. CME/Carriage Workshop, Ajmer North Western Railway acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender no. Carriage-04-2020 Date 18.03.2020. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Details are as under- **1. Name of work with its location** : "Testing & certification of Pressure Vessels (Air Reservoirs), Electric Hoists, Cranes, Fork lifters & Lifting tackles of Carriage Workshop, Ajmer (As per Scope of Work)." **2. Approx. cost of the work** : Rs. 2,94,375.54/- **3. Tender Document Cost** : Rs. 1,000.00 **4. Earnest Money to be deposited** : Rs. 5900.00 **5. Date and time for submission of E-Tender** : Submission of E-Tender up to 13.04.2020 at 15.00 hrs. **6. Website particular** : **www.ireps.gov.in 7. Eligibility Criteria** : Not Applicable. **Note** : Tender document cost & Earnest Money to be deposited online through payment gateway facility on the IREPS website only. ***308-DH/20***

Contact help line no. 138 for general complaints

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण खण्ड, उ0प्र0 जल निगम, हापुड़

बी0एस0एन0एल0 कैम्पस, मेरठ रोड हापुड़
पत्रांक 339/सानान–5/11
दिनांक 17.03.2020

सशोधित निविदा सूचना

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण खण्ड, उ0प्र0 जल निगम, हापुड़ के पत्रांक 276/सा0–5/08 दिनांक 07.03.2020 द्वारा "जल जीवन मिशन" के अन्तर्गत जनपद हापुड़ में जनता से सम्बन्धित विभिन्न योजनाओं में पाइप लाइन बिछाने कार्य और हाउस कनेक्शन प्रदान करने हेतु ई–निविदा आमंत्रित की गई थी जिसमें ई–निविदा हेतु निविदा प्रलेख दिनांक 13.03.2020 को ऑनलाइन अपलोड कराये जाने थे, परन्तु अधिशासी अभियन्ता के डिस्पैच रिजनेबर, मुख्यालय लखनऊ से अप्रूव्ड न होने के कारण उक्त ई–निविदा ऑनलाइन अपलोड करना सम्भव नहीं हो सका।

अतः समस्त ठेकेदारों को सूचित किया जाता है कि इच्छुक ठेकेदार ई–निविदा को दिनांक 19.03.2020 से दिनांक 25.03.2020 की 17.00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन डाउनलोड कर सकते है। ई–निविदा दिनांक 26.03.2020 को 12.30 बजे कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण खण्ड, उ0प्र0 जल निगम हापुड़ में खोली जायेगी।

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION UP JAL NIGAM, BAGHPAT

Letter no. 479/विविध–6/38
Date- 6-3-2020
Short Term E-Tender Notice

U.P. Jal Nigam, Online percentage Rate E-tender are invited "for making house connection in different villages of District Baghpat under Jal Jeevan Mission" Intending tenders must have experience of distribution system such as house connection / laying of pipe line work, should be available with bidder. Proof of such experience must be submitted by the bidder. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website, http://etender.up.nic.in & http://jn.upsdc.gov.in latest by 19-03-2020 Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their tender, duly filled, online as per schedule given below-

Date for- 1) Uploading Bid document at website 19-03-2020 at 17.00 hrs. 2) Submission of e-Tender fee/ Earnest mony would be deposited by RTGS 19-03-2020 to 26-03-2020 at 15.00 hrs. 3) Online submission of e-bids 19-03-2020 to 27-03-2020 at 10.00 hrs. 4) Opening of technical bid for pre-qualification 27-03-2020 at 12.00 hrs

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER TEMP. CONSTRUCTION DIVISION (E/M), U.P. JAL NIGAM, BUDAUN

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE
Letter No-410/Nivida/32
Dated: 13.03.2020

E-Tenders are invited U.P. Jal Nigam Lucknow from reputed contractor having requisite work experience and financial capabilities **for Supply of Pea Gravel at different Water Supply Scheme District Sambhal.** The tender document shall be available on e-procurement website **http://etender.up.nic.in** from **dated 20.03.2020 at 10:00 am onwards.** Interested contractor can download the above tender document and upload their duly filled from **dated 20.03.2020 to 30.03.2020 up to 05:00 pm** on above e-procurement website. Tender shall be opened on **dated 31.03.2020 at 11:30 am** in the office of Executive Engineer Temp. Construction Division (E/M) U.P. Jal Nigam Moradabad in presence of intending tenderers if any. Tender cost **Rs. 2000.00+18% GST (Non-refundable)** in form of demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer Temp. Construction Division (E/M) U.P. Jal Nigam Moradabad will be uploaded with tender document. Other terms and condition can also be seen on U.P. Jal Nigam website **www.jn.upsdc.gov.in** and e-procurement website **http://etender.up.nic.in** in tender document.

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

CIN-L65910KL1992PLC006623
IV/470A (old) W638A(New), Manappuram House, Valapad, Thrissur, Kerala - 680 567.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/04/2020 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any)will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

DELHI, DELHI, BHOLENATH NAGAR DELHI, 121570700009917, 121570700010001, 0016, 0029, 0407, 0459, 0461, 0462, 0469, 0488, 0499, 121570730004281, 4282, 5202, 5294, 5295, 121570780000020, DWARAKA SECTOR 7, 113760700010994, 1482, 1489, 1500, 1504, 1509, 1510, 1517, 1518, 1521, 1524, 1542, 1544, 1545, 1546, 1547, 1556, 1573, 1576, 1582, 1583, 1588, 1593, 1598, 113760730002611, 4534, 4542, 4543, 4564, 4587, 4631, 4639, GEETHA COLONY, 107590700021203, 1274, 1299, 1540, 1613, 1626, 1655, 1726, 2191, 2297, 2342, 2358, 2375, 2386, 2395, 2396, 2421, 2432, 2440, 2445, 2461, 2462, 2468, 2469, 2472, 2481, 2497, 2503, 2511, 2515, 2517, 2526, 2528, 2544, 2545, 2547, 2559, 2574, 2576, 2579, 2580, 2584, 2592, 2599, 2602, 2604, 2606, 2708, 107590730005197, 5476, 5584, 5588, 5591, 5622, 5626, 5648, 5650, KAKARDOOMA, 102760700010138, 0194, 0226, 0440, 0478, 0491, 0494, 0497, 0498, 0499, 0500, 0508, 0509, 0511, 0512, 0515, 0518, 0523, 0529, 0530, 0536, 0547, 0548, 0550, 0551, 0555, 0561, 102760730006015, 6055, 6083, 6084, 6085, 6091, 6121, 6171, 6172, 6191, 6192, 6243, 6244, 6245, 6306, KALKAJI, 100870700056356, 6755, 8150, 8349, 8443, 8460, 8621, 8805, 9144, 9412, 9587, 9755, 9756, 9828, 9853, 9863, 9884, 9886, 9946, 9947, 9951, 9968, 100870700060041, 0083, 0214, 0220, 0224, 0231, 0260, 0348, 0357, 0465, 0493, 1605, 1966, 1967, 1971, 1984, 1995, 2000, 2001, 2011, 2017, 2025, 2034, 2035, 2045, 2046, 2051, 2053, 2067, 2069, 2072, 2074, 2081, 2085, 2087, 2095, 2097, 2102, 2103, 2107, 2125, 2127, 2134, 2145, 2158, 2159, 2181, 2211, 2217, 2223, 2226, 2231, 2234, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2253, 2276, 2281, 2293, 2297, 2299, 2308, 2310, 2312, 2332, 2333, 2342, 2347, 2354, 2355, 2361, 2365, 2378, 2392, 2394, 2398, 2403, 2404, 2412, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2433, 2435, 2442, 2450, 2451, 2463, 2473, 2482, 2483, 2493, 2496, 2498, 100870730014218, 7783, 7797, 7943, 8039, 8040, 8049, 8094, 8191, 8204, 8206, 8211, 8232, 8242, 8246, 8250, 8268, 8292, 8301, 8302, 8313, 8319, 8331, 8332, 8334, 8366, 8376, 8389, 8390, 8391, 8392, 8414, 8481, 8482, KRISHNAN NAGAR, 108530700016377, 6378, 6399, 6406, 6421, 6485, 6510, 6861, 6872, 6879, 6881, 6925, 6935, 6941, 6953, 6959, 6966, 6987, 6992, 7009, 7010, 7019, 108530730011274, 6053, 6575, 6688, 6968, 7057, 7205, 7249, LAXMI NAGAR, 100890700054344, 5838, 6336, 6773, 7090, 7168, 7199, 7239, 7248, 7249, 7261, 7309, 7315, 7322, 7329, 7344, 7354, 7414, 7419, 7453, 7476, 7493, 7571, 7574, 7579, 7598, 7616, 7625, 7628, 7633, 8505, 8613, 8651, 8666, 8686, 8688, 8690, 8698, 8701, 8707, 8708, 8709, 8710, 8714, 8725, 8727, 8736, 8750, 8751, 8752, 8763, 8780, 8782, 8813, 8817, 8824, 8831, 8841, 8854, 8867, 8871, 8876, 8881, 8885, 8902, 8903, 8908, 8920, 8926, 8932, 8947, 8948, 8966, 8967, 8976, 8994, 8997, 9011, 9012, 9024, 9034, 9038, 9053, 9054, 9067, 9076, 9089, 9092, 9093, 9094, 9098, 9100, 9105, 9108, 9119, 9126, 9127, 9131, 9135, 9136, 9143, 100890730014870, 5236, 5237, 5238, 5261, 5290, 5291, 5296, 5447, 5480, 5581, 5621, 5639, 5645, 5647, 5671, 5697, 5724, MANGOL PURI, 109040700039593, 9872, 109040700042481, 2774, 2961, 2984, 2992, 3011, 3045, 3102, 3122, 3124, 3149, 3201, 3262, 3269, 3284, 3286, 3454, 3475, 3501, 3518, 3522, 4426, 4888, 4893, 4914, 4955, 4969, 4975, 4981, 5005, 5043, 5058, 5070, 5079, 5087, 5114, 5117, 5126, 5132, 5139, 5141, 5147, 5150, 5170, 5174, 5177, 5185, 5201, 5204, 5213, 5228, 5232, 5234, 5239, 5245, 5248, 5249, 5265, 5273, 5300, 5308, 5314, 5330, 5331, 5333, 5335, 5340, 5348, 5349, 5367, 5386, 5390, 5393, 5398, 5412, 5424, 5434, 5435, 5437, 5449, 5450, 5456, 5457, 5482, 5487, 5497, 5513, 5519, 109040730004067, 4492, 4528, 4624, 5929, 5931, 5987, 5997, 6019, 6029, 6111, 6115, 6116, 6117, 6120, 6170, 6171, 6180, 6227, 6278, 6315, RANIBAGH, 108720700012237, 2238, 2241, 2250, 2257, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2293, 2299, 2300, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2324, 2336, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2362, 2370, 2375, 2381, 2384, 2398, 2400, 108720730006305, 6321, 6322, 6423, 6434, 6435, 6546, 6754, ROHINI, 100900700715131, 5254, 5317, 5445, 5632, 5714, 5751, 5761, 5768, 5799, 5808, 5813, 5817, 5834, 5840, 5845, 5847, 5849, 5853, 5857, 5859, 5860, 5861, 5862, 5867, 5872, 5876, 5878, 5880, 5891, 5894, 5899, 5900, 100900730005909, 6144, 6145, 6181, 6190, 6198, 6245, 6247, 6257, 6261, 6284, 6285, 6286, 6292, 6293, 6302, 6331, 6339, SHALIMAR BAGH, 102780700014251, 4404, 4460, 4521, 4974, 4980, 4982, 4994, 4998, 5002, 5005, 5007, 5009, 5010, 5011, 5021, 5023, 5026, 5028, 5032, 5033, 5040, 5043, 5044, 5045, 5046, 5053, 5054, 5064, 5065, 5071, 5072, 5086, 5088, 5090, 5094, 5095, 5096, 5098, 5115, 5116, 5117, 5119, 5125, 102780730004537, 5355, 5368, 5372, 5396, 5397, 5400, 5429, 5432, SHASTRI NAGAR, 108450700018461, 9467, 9770, 108450700020185, 0237, 0260, 0387, 0422, 0501, 0562, 0761, 0762, 0905, 1578, 1606, 1695, 1703, 1707, 1711, 1715, 1720, 1726, 1729, 1730, 1735, 1738, 1744, 1756, 1759, 1765, 1766, 1767, 1769, 1770, 1783, 1794, 1797, 1798, 1799, 1802, 1812, 1815, 1820, 1822, 1826, 1829, 1830, 1832, 1833, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1846, 1848, 1854, 1872, 1888, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1903, 1904, 1916, 1921, 1933, 1939, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1955, 1968, 1975, 1996, 2002, 2006, 108450730008081, 8123, 8169, 8206, 8209, 8210, 8211, 8212, 8228, 8280, 8346, 8347, 8370, 8382, VISHWAS NAGAR DELHI, 123330700017410, 8915, 9011, 9053, 9075, 9356, 9447, 9471, 9496, 9526, 9617, 9621, 9666, 9691, 9713, 9735, 9737, 9760, 9779, 9808, 9865, 123330700020425, 0450, 0478, 0502, 0505, 0514, 0515, 0522, 0523, 0525, 0535, 0539, 0546, 0561, 0573, 0575, 0576, 0579, 0588, 0590, 0592, 0594, 0595, 0608, 0613, 0615, 0616, 0618, 0619, 0620, 0629, 0635, 0641, 0642, 0643, 0645, 0652, 0654, 0655, 0656, 0660, 0663, 0666, 0667, 0670, 0672, 0676, 0680, 0681, 0682, 0695, 0703, 0706, 0707, 0708, 0716, 0719, 0721, 0724, 0726, 0728, 0731, 0735, 0743, 0746, 0748, 0752, 0757, 0759, 0760, 0766, 123330730006296, 6364, 6393, 6394, 6395, 6396, 6431, 6438, 6446, 6452, 6454, 6460, 6486, 6499, 6515, 6521, 6542, 6550, 6551, 6560, 6568, 123330780000043, 0048, 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0453, 0459, 0464, 0465, 0469, 0471, 0473, 0483, 0489, 0490, 0502, 0510, 0514, 0516, 0521, 0524, 0525, 0537, 0544, 0557, 0558, 0560, 0563, 0567, 0568, 0569, 0574, 0575, 0583, 0587, 0590, 0605, 0613, 0614, 0616, 0617, 0623, 0624, 0630, 0635, 0636, 0638, 0649, 0654, 0655, 0659, 0666, 0667, 0672, 0676, 0677, 0689, 0692, 0694, 0714, 0716, 0723, 0725, 0732, 0734, 0738, 122040730007188, 7212, 7237, 7241, 7267, 7282, 7321, 7322, 7325, 7346, 122040780000046, DILSHAD COLONY, 120330700027037, 8007, 8371, 8408, 8492, 9143, 9857, 9870, 9933, 120330700030009, 0325, 0365, 0578, 0620, 0707, 0925, 0960, 0975, 1006, 1015, 1045, 1076, 1080, 1142, 1155, 1175, 1228, 1287, 1309, 1311, 1323, 1391, 1411, 1430, 1441, 1478, 1481, 1500, 1506, 1524, 1528, 1540, 1559, 1564, 1592, 1605, 1622, 1642, 1676, 1689, 1981, 2495, 2557, 2738, 2743, 2744, 2794, 2795, 2842, 2852, 2853, 2854, 2855, 2859, 2861, 2862, 2869, 2874, 2881, 2885, 2893, 2897, 2899, 2900, 2909, 2910, 2914, 2915, 2918, 2922, 2925, 2934, 2937, 2938, 2960, 2977, 2978, 2980, 2984, 2986, 2998, 2999, 3000, 3006, 3007, 3009, 3015, 3020, 3024, 3025, 3031, 3032, 3033, 3034, 3042, 3043, 3048, 3055, 3056, 3063, 3066, 3074, 3076, 3077, 3079, 3082, 3084, 3094, 3095, 3096, 3108, 3112, 3113, 3114, 3115, 3116, 3120, 3124, 3128, 3133, 3137, 3138, 3141, 3143, 3145, 3147, 3153, 3155, 3156, 3157, 3158, 3159, 3162, 3164, 3165, 3166, 3171, 3177, 3178, 3180, 3181, 3183, 3184, 3186, 3187, 3188, 3191, 3203, 3204, 3206, 3207, 3219, 3234, 3236, 3238, 3242, 3243, 3250, 3251, 3252, 3255, 3257, 3259, 3265, 3266, 3267, 3276, 3279, 3280, 3284, 120330730004903, 5403, 6451, 6512, 6535, 6536, 6582, 6649, 120330780000007, DILSHAD GARDEN, 122030700014580, 5240, 6089, 6098, 6099, 6135, 6150, 6167, 6174, 6178, 6195, 6252, 6253, 6307, 6326, 7002, 7007, 7008, 7009, 7014, 7015, 7016, 7019, 7022, 7028, 7032, 7035, 7039, 7040, 7045, 7051, 7053, 7056, 7057, 7058, 7059, 7062, 7079, 7080, 7083, 7084, 7085, 7087, 7088, 7091, 7092, 7093, 7101, 7105, 7106, 7107, 7112, 7115, 7116, 7119, 7122, 7130, 7132, 7136, 7141, 7145, 7146, 7149, 7156, 7161, 7170, 7184, 7186, 7189, 7190, 7192, 7194, 7195, 7197, 7206, 7207, 7212, 7214, 7217, 7218, 7222, 7223, 7225, 7228, 7233, 7234, 7236, 7238, 7244, 7245, 7250, 7253, 7254, 7256, 7260, 7262, 7263, 7264, 7267, 7268, 7273, 7275, 7276, 7279, 7284, 7285, 7286, 7291, 7292, 7294, 7295, 122030730004173, 4174, 4175, 4176, 4177, 4178, 4179, 4180, 4181, 4182, 4183, 4184, 4207, 4256, 4261, 4322, 4337, DURGAPURI CHOWK DELHI, 118870700022407, 4599, 5332, 5388, 6100, 6226, 7596, 7866, 7867, 7870, 7892, 7894, 7895, 7915, 7916, 7930, 7931, 7932, 7933, 7934, 7938, 7939, 7941, 7944, 7946, 7947, 7948, 7949, 7957, 7964, 7979, 7980, 7984, 7997, 8002, 8005, 8009, 8013, 8024, 8025, 8026, 8035, 8040, 8041, 8047, 8050, 8060, 8061, 8066, 8068, 8074, 8077, 8082, 8083, 8084, 8088, 8091, 8098, 8102, 8112, 8116, 8117, 8119, 8128, 8130, 8136, 8138, 8142, 8143, 8153, 8154, 8155, 8157, 8164, 8165, 8169, 8171, 8176, 8182, 8189, 8192, 8207, 8209, 8230, 8234, 8239, 8242, 8246, 8247, 8253, 8255, 8256, 8258, 8259, 8273, 8274, 8276, 8277, 8278, 8280, 8282, 8283, 8292, 8293, 8300, 8301, 8307, 8318, 8331, 8332, 8342, 8350, 8354, 8355, 8357, 8358, 8363, 8364, 8373, 8381, 8382, 8391, 8396, 8397, 8399, 8402, 118870730011205, 1211, 1218, 1266, 1275, 1285, 1298, 1309, 1310, 1348, 1366, 1383, 1385, 1392, 1408, 1409, 1443, 1444, 1446, 1459, 1460, 1461, 1497, 1516, 1522, 1523, 1551, 1552, 1555, 1556, 1557, 1572, 1582, 1590, 1604, 1612, 1613, 1625, 1629, 1655, 1660, 1661, 1662, 1663, GURU ANGAD NAGAR, 109980700014799, 5189, 5500, 5509, 5537, 5619, 5620, 5641, 5643, 5644, 5660, 5667, 5699, 5721, 5728, 5730, 5759, 5773, 6367, 6368, 6378, 6379, 6384, 6386, 6387, 6388, 6389, 6390, 6398, 6400, 6410, 6412, 6413, 6416, 6417, 6418, 6419, 6426, 6431, 6435, 6436, 6438, 6439, 6440, 6442, 6445, 6467, 6468, 6482, 6483, 6485, 6495, 6498, 6511, 6531, 6538, 6577, 6578, 6588, 109980730003273, 3404, 3407, 3409, 3520, JAGATPURI DELHI, 120840700008141, 8142, 8221, 8262, 8270, 8353, 8599, 8612, 8615, 8621, 8622, 8629, 8638, 8656, 8661, 8688, 120840730004274, 4294, 4295, 4296, MAYUR VIHAR PHASE 1, 104630700026848, 8496, 8900, 9182, 9185, 9241, 9310, 9315, 9568, 9629, 9646, 9664, 9707, 9709, 9727, 9734, 9740, 9760, 9766, 9776, 9804, 9823, 104630700030543, 0554, 0573, 0585, 0586, 0606, 0649, 0650, 0662, 0664, 0671, 0678, 0683, 0684, 0694, 0696, 0699, 0712, 0713, 0717, 0723, 0724, 0727, 0766, 0781, 0787, 0791, 0796, 0798, 0808, 0818, 0824, 0829, 0831, 0835, 0837, 0850, 0852, 0861, 0863, 0870, 0872, 0873, 0884, 0888, 0890, 0894, 0896, 0898, 0903, 0909, 0913, 0923, 0937, 0939, 0943, 0947, 104630730007402, 7550, 7551, 8401, 8505, 8514, 8531, 8540, 8541, 8582, 8591, 8613, 8619, 8623, 8625, 8626, 8682, 8696, 8698, 8720, 8721, 8727, 8736, 8737, MAYUR VIHAR PHASE 3, 116240700026914, 7433, 7844, 7944, 8160, 8190, 9553, 9849, 116240700030008, 0009, 0057, 0304, 0422, 0691, 0894, 0702, 0757, 0766, 0810, 0834, 0836, 0842, 0861, 0883, 0887, 0897, 0970, 1023, 1067, 1077, 1081, 1098, 1111, 1127, 1128, 1171, 2074, 2075, 2109, 2110, 2126, 2143, 2149, 2154, 2180, 2185, 2190, 2201, 2210, 2214, 2228, 2237, 2258, 2269, 2272, 2276, 2301, 2310, 2316, 2320, 2322, 2323, 2329, 2336, 2344, 2350, 2351, 2353, 2360, 2362, 2367, 2385, 2387, 2390, 2391, 2396, 2397, 2406, 2408, 2432, 2451, 2458, 2461, 2463, 2468, 2475, 2480, 2483, 2485, 2489, 2502, 2511, 2514, 2523, 2525, 2530, 2538, 2543, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2555, 2567, 2575, 116240730007655, 8694, 8739, 8741, 8742, 8743, 8744, 8773, 8799, 8800, 8801, 8815, 8819, 8823, 8833, 8834, 8835, 8836, 8838, 8852, 8853, 8858, 8859, 8860, 8878, 8881, 8882, 8883, 8886, 8887, 8903, 8931, 8944, 8947, 8949, 8951, 8952, 8953, 8960, 8961, 8962, 8967, 8973, 8991, 9003, 9010, 9011, 9012, 9013, 9018, 9021, 9038, 9039, 9040, 9041, 9058, 9065, MOUJPUR DELHI, 122690700022292, 3265, 3304, 3343, 3605, 4669, 4679, 4687, 4693, 4705, 4725, 4729, 4730, 4733, 4734, 4735, 4736, 4737, 4738, 4740, 4741, 4742, 4744, 4761, 4763, 4776, 4777, 4786, 4794, 4797, 4801, 4807, 4814, 4820, 4833, 4839, 4844, 4845, 4848, 4849, 4850, 4857, 4859, 4863, 4864, 4865, 4866, 4867, 4871, 4873, 4880, 4883, 4884, 4886, 4888, 4892, 4894, 4898, 4900, 4903, 4907, 4908, 4918, 4932, 4933, 4936, 4939, 4942, 4950, 4952, 4953, 4954, 4956, 4965, 4969, 4972, 4973, 4974, 4979, 4982, 4993, 4995, 4996, 4997, 4998, 4999, 5003, 5007, 5009, 5026, 5028, 5029, 5030, 5037, 5038, 5039, 5047, 5048, 5049, 5051, 5054, 5057, 5062, 5064, 5065, 5066, 5068, 5070, 5071, 5074, 5075, 122690730004516, 5610, 5618, 5638, 5675, 5676, 5677, 5702, 5704, 5739, 5743, 5745, NEW DELHI, CHENNA MARKET, 108660700012761, 2854, 2966, 3654, 3673, 3674, 3675, 3687, 3688, 3695, 3696, 3698, 3699, 3700, 3718, 3719, 3725, 3736, 3748, 3753, 3754, 3755, 3771, 3775, 3784, 3799, 3808, 3809, 3811, 3812, 3827, 3829, 3837, 108660730007226, 7237, 7290, 7292, 7293, 7295, 7296, 7297, 7307, 7315, 7332, 7333, 7334, 7335, 7336, 7337, 7338, 7339, 7372, 7373, 7374, 7433, DABRI ROAD, 112000700011073, 1363, 1435, 1457, 1536, 1566, 1592, 1646, 1667, 1726, 1755, 1768, 2018, 2099, 2144, 2172, 2176, 2186, 2187, 2190, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2202, 2215, 2217, 2226, 2227, 2242, 2257, 2260, 2266, 2268, 2275, 2278, 2286, 2294, 2300, 2304, 2310, 2313, 2314, 2316, 2328, 2329, 2331, 2336, 112000730007612, 8253, 9723, 9724, 9725, 9737, 9846, 9865, 9877, 9893, 9943, 9954, 9955, 9970, 9974, 9987, 9989, 9990, 112000730010052, 0097, 0098, 0109, 0113, 0114, 0116, 0117, 0119, 0123, 0127, 0138, 0174, 0175, 0191, GOVINDPURI, 112150700024053, 4138, 4775, 4904, 4943, 4995, 5018, 5062, 5065, 5119, 5147, 5161, 5164, 5200, 5216, 5235, 5241, 5261, 5264, 6031, 6048, 6057, 6069, 6071, 6073, 6086, 6087, 6091, 6092, 6093, 6094, 6095, 6096, 6099, 6103, 6111, 6130, 6145, 6146, 6148, 6149, 6157, 6158, 6172, 6174, 6175, 6183, 6196, 6201, 6208, 6213, 6226, 6231, 6264, 6300, 6301, 6304, 6305, 6314, 6316, 6317, 6319, 6321, 6322, 6346, 6347, 6349, 6351, 6366, 6372, 6386, 112150730010341, 0474, 0476, 0477, 0492, 0498, 0517, 0540, 0541, 0574, 0578, 0620, HARI NAGAR, 108520700012288, 2349, 2572, 2580, 2592, 2602, 2609, 2613, 2618, 2622, 2623, 2625, 2651, 108520730006950, 7267, 7317, 9095, 9343, 9449, 9452, 9580, 9641, 9665, 9692, 9708, 9792, 9819, 9845, INDRA PARK, 111200700012489, 2520, 2769, 2817, 3352, 3370, 3407, 3410, 3412, 3413, 3418, 3429, 3437, 3438, 3439, 3440, 3441, 3446, 3451, 3455, 3468, 3470, 3471, 3474, 3487, 3495, 3497, 3498, 3508, 3509, 3510, 3512, 3518, 3521, 3538, 3544, 3547, 3557, 3565, 3581, 3590, 3591, 3592, 3595, 3613, 3615, 3617, 3618, 3619, 3620, 111200730003612, 3613, 3725, 3726, 3788, 3789, 3792, 3798, 3839, 3860, 3875, 3879, 3881, 3885, 3887, 3914, 3915, JANAKPURI D BLOCK, 108410700023377, 5903, 6268, 6310, 6767, 7831, 7979, 8113, 8304, 8330, 8451, 8679, 8769, 8855, 8867, 8913, 8917, 9002, 9003, 9067, 9085, 9118, 9132, 9154, 9208, 9213, 9235, 9286, 9305, 9796, 9847, 9956, 108410700030123, 0173, 0188, 0203, 0238, 0247, 0266, 0269, 0290, 0297, 0301, 0308, 0311, 0327, 0338, 0350, 0356, 0364, 0370, 0392, 0396, 0401, 0405, 0415, 0425, 0435, 0436, 0440, 0477, 0490, 0507, 0508, 0509, 0525, 0527, 108410730005377, 6651, 7480, 9289, 108410730011675, 1687, 1688, 1701, 1705, 1733, 1741, 1747, 1748, 1749, 1757, 1787, 1812, 1824, 1852, 1869, 1871, 1874, 1904, 1908, 1918, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1985, 1986, 1987, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2029, 2040, 2052, 2074, 2075, 2083, 2084, 2086, 2118, 2131, 2132, 2161, 2190, 2207, KAROLBAGH, 100850700031542, 1988, 2024, 2032, 2141, 2174, 2190, 2248, 2325, 2349, 2383, 2399, 3357, 3361, 3365, 3374, 3375, 3376, 3379, 3390, 3401, 3409, 3410, 3414, 3421, 3422, 3428, 3435, 3436, 3447, 3455, 3459, 3460, 3463, 3464, 3466, 3467, 3468, 3469, 3470, 3471, 3484, 3499, 3501, 3505, 3506, 3507, 3508, 3509, 3510, 3511, 3512, 3529, 3533, 3535, 3536, 3541, 3544, 3546, 3563, 3569, 3578, 3579, 3580, 3582, 3583, 3595, 3600, 3606, 3615, 3631, 3634, 3635, 3636, 3638, 3641, 3663, 3664, 3666, 3667, 3668, 3669, 3679, 3688, 3691, 3695, 3697, 3702, 3708, 3709, 3710, 3718, 3725, 3727, 3754, 3755, 3782, 3783, 3794, 3795, 3803, 3806, 3807, 3816, 3817, 100850730008214, 100850730010220, 0225, 0250, 0252, 0263, 0286, 0289, 0290, 0296, 0297, 0299, 0300, 0306, 0308, 0316, 0323, 0327, 0328, 0332, 0333, 0334, 0346, 0350, 0388, 0393, 0403, 0429, 0431, 0432, 0436, 0437, 0438, 0443, 0457, 0458, 0459, 0460, 0461, 0469, 0470, 0475, 0476, 0477, 0478, 0511, 0518, 0519, 0532, 0533, 0545, 0546, 0550, 0563, 0564, 0565, MAHAVIR ENCLAVE, 109760700017870, 7908, 7921, 7924, 7995, 8419, 8430, 8432, 8436, 8453, 8454, 8457, 8487, 8489, 8496, 8499, 8501, 8504, 8507, 8510, 8512, 8529, 8536, 8553, 109760730004319, 6182, 6325, 6341, 6345, 6383, 6387, 6670, 7818, 7858, 7873, 7874, 7875, 7876, 7877, 7891, 8019, 8020, 8035, 8048, 8049, 8057, 8060, 8061, 8062, 8076, 8092, 8106, 8107, 109760780000002, MAHAVIR NAGAR, 114910700012960, 3182, 3514, 3

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I Surinder Katyal S/o Shri Ram Rang Katyal, resident at E-29, Tagore Garden Extension, New Delhi-110027 inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as Surender Kumar in my Arms Licence. The actual name of mine is Surinder Katyal respectively, which may be amended accordingly. 0040536124-1

I, Jyoti w/o Sandeep Mamgain, R/o-E-583 Dabua Colony, Near Vaishno Devi-Mandir, Faridabad Haryana-121001, have changed my name to Jyoti Mamgain Permanently. 0040536144-1

I, Ajit S/O Pulkit Choudhary R/o-B-345/10, Gaurav Nagar, Anand Nagar, Prem Nagar-II, New.Delhi-110086, have change my name to Ajit Choudhary permanently. 0040536195-1

I, safiq Ahmad S/o Rafiq Ahmad R/o-C-513, Gali No-12, Shri.Ram-Colony, Rajiv-Nagar, Delhi-94. inform that Mohd Shafeeq Saifi and Safiq Ahmad are one and the same person. 0040536144-5

I, Zaara Qamar D/o Qamar Ahmad R/o D-214, Sector-47, Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.-201301 have changed my name to Zaara Q Ahhmad, for all purposes. 0040536086-1

I, Yukti Taneja D/o Vinod Kumar Arora R/o-A-2/4, First Floor, Rajouri Garden, Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Yukti Arora. 0040536144-9

I, Suraj Kumar Pal S/o Sukhmangal Pal R/o-RZ-46, 2ndFloor, Gali-05, Sitapuri, Dabri, N.Delhi-45 have changed my name to Suraj Pal. 0040536150-3

I, Sukrit Kumar Setia S/O Anil Setia R/O House No. 229 Sector-29, Faridabad Haryana-121008 have changed my to Sukrit Setia. 0070703436-1

I, Srender Kumar Mudgal S/o K.R. Mudgal R/o-NP-1141-B, Maurya Enclave Pitampura Delhi-11034 changed my name to Surinder Kumar Mudgal. 0040536169-2

I, Sony Bansal D/o Gopal Das Bansal W/o-Rakesh Kumar Aggarwal R/o-A-135 Vivek-Vihar, Phase-1 Delhi-110095, have changed my name to Sonali Aggarwal for all purposes. 0040536144-7

I, Shama Khan W/o Abid Khan R/o 401, 40-B, Noor Appartment, Gali No.2, Johri Farm, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 inform that by mistake my name Rehana Begum mentioned in school record i.e. 10th Class Marksheet and Certificate of my son Mateen Pathan. The actual and correct name of mine is Shama Khan. 0040536157-7

I, Sarah Ali Habib D/o Mohammad Ali Habib R/o-233/234 2nd-Floor, Mustafa-Lodge Apt, Ghaffar Manzil, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, Inform given name-Sarah Ali And Surname-Habib. 0040536169-4

I, Zarqa Tabssum D/o Mohd Akram R/o-557/22 Zakirnagar, Okhla, N.Delhi-25. have changed my name to Zarqa Tabassum. 0040536150-2

I, Sanjay Kumar S/o Late Shri Mohan Lal, R/o 65 Vijay Laxmi Apartment, Plot No.98 Patparganj, I.P. Extension, New Delhi-110092, have changed My Name from Sanjay Kumar to SANJAY THAKUR for all future purposes. 0040536111-1

I, Rakesh Kumar Batra S/O Daulat Ram Batra R/O-D-25, Ashoka Road, Adarsh-Nagar, Delhi-110033. Changed My Nameto Rakesh Batra. 0040536150-8

I, Rakesh Bhardwaj R/o-8/145, Mehrama Nagar, Palam Airport, Delhi Cantt., New Delhi-110045, have changed my daughter's name, from Dolly Bhardwaj to Akanksha Bhardwaj, for all purposes. 0040536144-3

I, Rakesh Aggarwal S/o Krishan Kumar Aggarwal R/o-A-135 Vivek-Vihar, Phase-1 Delhi-110095, have changed my name to Rakesh Kumar Aggarwal for all purposes 0040536144-6

I, Rajeev S/o Nanak Chand R/o-RZ-139 Gali.No-3A Durga-Park Nasirpur, New Delhi-110045. have changed my name to Rajeev Kumar. 0040536150-4

I, Rahul S/O Bharat Bhusan R/O-B-408, Gali No.4, Majlis-Park, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033. Changed My Name To Rahul Malhotra. 0040536150-7

I, Prakash Chhabria S/o Late Shri.Ram Lal Chhabria, R/o-H.No.B-91, G/F, Gali.No.1, Jyoti-Colony Durgapuri-Chowk, Shahdara North/East Delhi-110032. have Changed my name from Prakash Chandra@Prakash Chand to Prakash Chhabria, for all future purposes. 0040536144-11

I, Pinki Kumari D/o Upendra Sharma R/o-H.No: A-124, Adhayapak-Nagar Nangloi, West/Delhi Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Muskan Sharma, Permanently. 0040536144-2

I, Manjit Singh S/o Sardar Makkhan Singh R/o-976, Block-7 Mehrauli, Delhi-30 have Changed My Name Manjeet Singh. 0040536169-1

I, Nigar Ali W/o Mohammad Ali Habib R/o-233/234 2nd-Floor, Mustafa-Lodge Apt, Ghaffar-Manzil, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi, have changed my name Nigar Ali Habib. 0040536169-3

I, Nidhi, D.O.B. 28.06.1991, D/o Jagdish Kumar, W/o Abhinav Batra, R/o 190, Avtar Enclave, Paschim Vihar, W.D.63, after marriage have changed my name to Nidhi Kumar. In future, I shall be known by this name. 0040536191-1

I, Neena Sahgal W/o Gulshan Kumar Sehgal R/o C-1/87, Sanjay Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Neena Sehgal, for all purposes. 0040536087-2

I, Mohd Badruddin S/o Kalimullah R/o-F-97 Vijay-Vihar Phase-1 Delhi-110085, inform that in my passport my father name is written Karamullah, whereas his correct name is Kalimullah. 0040536144-10

I, Mohd Ayaz Alam S/o Mohd Ishaq R/o-C-44/1B, Gali No.12, Near-matke Wali-Gali, Chauhan-Bangar, Seelampur, Delhi-110053. have changed my name to Ayaz Alam. 0040536144-4

I, Meenakshi Mahendru R/o D-516, Peera Garhi Relief Camp, New Delhi-110056 have changed my minor daughter's name from Kashish Mehendru to Kashish Mahendru for all purposes. 0040536206-1

I, Manpreet Kaur, W/o-Roopak Chandra, R/o B-109, Back Side Ganesh-Nagar, Tilak-Nagar, New Delhi-110018, inform that Manpreet Kaur & Manpreet Chandra both are one and Same person. 0040536157-2

I, Manisha Gupta hereby inform that Mansiha Gupta W/o Sh.Rakesh Gupta R/o B-1004 M2K Victoria Gardens, Azadpur, Delhi-110033 and Manisha both are one and the same person and in future will be known as Manisha Gupta. 0040536157-5

I, Kusum Bhramar, W/o Saurabh Bhramar, R/o-1103, Aster-6, Supertech-Emerald Court, Sector-93A, Noida, G.B.Nagar, UP-201304, have changed my name to Kusum Sharma Bhramar. 0040536157-1

I, Javed Ali S/o Mohd Rafiq R/o R-31/1, 4th Floor, B/s Gali No.1, Near Qadri Masjid, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, Delhi-110025, have changed my name from Nazeer Zaved to Javed Ali 0040536114-1

I, Gulshan Kumar Saghal S/o Sai Das Sehgal R/o C-1/87, Sanjay Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Gulshan Kumar Sehgal, for all purposes. 0040536087-1

I, Gaurav R/o H.No.21A Gali No.1 Sidhatri Enclave Jain Road have changed my name from Gaurav to Gaurav Mundepi for all purpose. 0040536120-1

I, Gaurav Agrawal S/o Jaipal Aggarwal R/o-D-9 First Floor Om Vihar Uttam Nagar Delhi-110059, changed my name to Gaurav Aggarwal. 0040536169-11

I, Deepak Sahgal S/o Gulshan Kumar Sehgal R/o C-1/87, Sanjay Enclave, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Deepak Sehgal, for all purposes. 0040536087-3

I, Dasari Srirama Bhakta Narasimha Maruti S/o D V Kuchela Rao R/o 6-3-664, Flat No-403A, Prestige Rai Towers, Croma Electronics Building, Panjagutta, Hyderabad, AP-500082, have changed my minor daughter's name from Abheeshta Dasari aged 13 years to Hiya Dasari forever 0070703428-1

I, Chandra Prakash/ Chandra Prakash Kamat, (Current Residence:YC- 4, Sah Vikas Apartments, 68 IP Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092) do hereby declare that both the above names are mine only. In some education, job, government and non-government related documents, my name is mentioned as Chandra Prakash, while in some other, it is mentioned as Chandra Prakash Kamat. From now onwards, in/ for all government, non-government, job, education, etc. related works and documents, my name should be taken/ mentioned as Chandra Prakash Kamat. 0040536126-1

I, Bhupinder S/o Ganesh Kumar R/o-UW-32/18, Rajiv Gandhi-Camp, Naraina-Vihar, New Delhi-110028, have changed my name to Bhupinder Kumar for all future purposes. 0040536083-1

I, Bavleen Kohli W/O Shri.Deep Kanwal Singh Thaper R/O-128, Second-Flooor, Narang-Colony, JanakPuri, N.Delhi-110058. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO Bavleen Kaur. 0040536150-1

I Rohit Nagi S/O S.S.Negi R/O-RZ-706/314, Gali-No-6-G, Geetanjali-Park, West-Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046. My Son Name Was Erroneously Written In my Service-Record As Subhankar Negi his Actual-Name is Shubhankar Negi. 0040536157-4

I, Babbu Khan R/o -FA-46. Abul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, Okhla Village, South Delhi, Delhi -110025 to Mohd. Tariq 0070703419-1

I, Atrul Khan S/O Abdul Khan H.No-476, Street No-6, Nehru Vihar, Delhi-110094 Have Change My Name To Mohd Atrul. 0040536157-9

I, Alok S/o Jasbir Singh Sehrawat R/o-K-323, Gali No-4, Mahipalpur, Delhi-110037, have Changed my name to Alok Sehrawat, for all purposes 0040536074-1

I hitherto known as S.Siddharth S/o Shiv Raj Singh R/o-Flat No.F202, Plot No-19A, Sanmati-Kunj, Sector-6, Dwarka, Sec-6, S.O.Dwarka, South-West Delhi-110075. have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Siddharth Singh. 0040536169-8

I Surayya Khalique W/O Arshad Parvez H.No-T/7, F/F Kalan Masjid Nizamuddin Delhi-110013, Changed My Name To Surayya Begam 0040536169-6

I Sunil Kumar S/O Nem Singh R/O-47/80 Street.No.3, Welcome Near Mother Diary Seelampur Delhi-53, have Changed My Name To Mohd Salim. 0040536169-5

I Sumit S/o Sh.Budh Bahadur R/o B-639, Phase-2, Metro Vihar, Holambi Kalan, North West Delhi, Delhi-110082 is also known as Dil Bahadur. Both names are of one & the same person. 0040536078-1

I Sulata Devi Malakar W/o Nikhil Kumar Malakar R/o House No-120, Gali No-6, Shyam Colony Sethpur Part-1, Amarnagar, Faridabad, Haryana-121003, have changed my name to Sulata 0070703424-1

I Shipra mittal w/o Vivek mittal r/o flat no 1602, tower-1, orange county, kalapathar road, indirapuram ghaziabad-201014 have changed my name to yogita mittal for all purpose 0040536201-1

I Shakir S/O Mohammad Suaib H.No-1/1 C-Block, Akhara Near Kabristaan Gate No 1 Welcome Seelampur Delhi-110032 Changed My Name To Mohammad Shuaib. 0040536169-7

I Samnider Kaur W/O Gurmukh Singh R/O D-75 Kirti Nagar New Delhi-110015 Have Change My Name To Samninder Kaur. 0040536150-10

I Sajish Babu Ammikottil R/o House No-771, Ground Floor, Sector-45, Near Huda City Center Metro Station Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 HaveChanged My Name To Sajish Nair As Per Document 0070703429-1

I Sahil S/o Sunil Yadav R/o 152, Rampura Road, Company Bagh, Rewari, Haryana-123401, have changed my name to Sahil Yadav 0070703426-1

I Jawala Prasad Singla S/o Late Shri Prem Chand Singhla R/o C-305 Shri Sai Baba Apartment Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085 I have changed my minor son name from Sabhay Singhal to Sabhay Singla for all future purposes 0040536101-1

I Hitherto known as Jahanvi Uppal D/o Vikesh Uppal R/o-B-123 Anand-Vihar Delhi-110092, have changed my name & shall hereafter be known as Ishika Uppal. 0040536144-8

I Dayawati W/O, Sumit Kumar Bisht R/o Flat No.800 Shree Awas Sector-18 B Dwarka New Delhi-110078 have changed my name to Daya Bisht for all purposes. 0040536194-1

I Bijender S/o Dev Dutt R/o 96 Village & Post Ghangola Gurgaon Haryana have changed my name to Bijender Singh. 0040536074-2

I BUSHRA ILYAS D/o Mr.MOHD. ILYAS R/o 1597, First Floor, Pataudi House, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002 inform that my name has wrongly been written as BHSHRA ILYAS in my passport bearing No. H9333847. My actual name is BUSHRA ILYAS, which may be corrected. Now onwards I shall be known as BUSHRA ILYAS only. 0040536078-3

I Arvinder Singh Gumber S/O Harbans Singh Gumber R/O-Ac-5 (SF) Ganga Ram Vatika. Tilak-Nagar New Delhi-110018 Have Change My Name To Arvinder Singh. 0040536150-9

I Arun Kumar Singla S/o Late Shri Prem Chand Singhla R/o C-305 Shri Sai Baba Apartment Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085 I have changed my minor son name from Nayansh Singhal to Nayansh Singla for all future purposes 0040536108-1

I Arun Kumar Singla S/o Late Shri Prem Chand Singhla R/o C-305 Shri Sai Baba Apartment Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085 I have changed my minor son name from Akash Singhal to Aksh Singla for all future purposes 0040536104-1

I Arjun Kumar Wadhwa S/O Mohan Lal Resident-171-R, Model Town, Sonipat, Haryana Have Changed My Name To Arjun Kumar. 0040536157-10

I Muttalib Baig Mughal alias Mutlag Baig alias Mutlag Baig Mughal alias M.B. Mughal S/o Late Abdul Rahim R/o D-89, Block-D, Abul Fazal Enclave, Part-I, Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Muttalib Baig Mughal for all purposes. 0040536078-2

I, Karna S/o Nawab Singh R/o G-75B Adhyapak nagar, Nangloi, ND-41 have changed my name to Karan for all purposes. 0040536122-1

I Reeta Minj W/O Sukra Minj R/O H-1/24, MohammadPur Village, New Delhi-110066 Have Changed my Name to Reeta Toopo. 0040536157-8

I Razia W/O Shamsuddin R/O-M-32C, Abul-Fazal-Enclave-1, Gali No-5, Nursery, Jamia Nagar, OkhlaSouth Delhi-110025. Have Changed My Name To Razia Begum. 0040536150-5

I Rashpreet Kaur Arora D/O Avtar Singh R/O.WZ-535, plot.no.52, second-floor, Vishnu-garden, New Delhi-110018. have changed my name to Rashpreet Kaur, for all purposes. 0040536157-3

I Rajwinder Kaur Heer W/o Balwinder Kumar Heer R/o 173/1, Kajla Road Banga, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, Punjab-144505, have changed my name to Rajwinder Kaur 0070703425-1

I Pushpa, W/O. Sanjay Sharma R/O. 1/10569, Street No.2, Mohan Park, Naveen Shahdara, Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Rachna Sharma for all purposes 0040536117-1

I Nazreen Islam D/o Mohd Islam R/o-H.No.-1003, Gali No-32, Jafrabad, Delhi-110053, inform that my name is written as Nazreen in my some documents. The actual name of mine is Nazreen Islam and I will be known as Nazreen Islam in future. 0040536157-6

I Mulkh Raj Sharma S/o Late Shri Hari Ram Sharma R/o B-315, Ayur Vigyan Nagar, Andrewsganj S.O South Delhi, Andrewsganj, New Delhi-110049, That I am declaring my name Mulkh Raj Sharma or Mulkh Raj both name of same person, I will make use of my name Mulkh Raj Sharma for all future purpose. 0040536123-1

I Lokesh S/O Ashok Kumar H.No-1538/5 Patel Nagar Sector-15 Part-2 Gurgaon Haryana-122001 Have Changed My Name To Lokesh Sharma. 0040536150-6

I Jawala Prasad Singla S/o Late Shri Prem Chand Singhla R/o C-305 Shri Sai Baba Apartment Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085 I have changed my minor son name from Saumay Singhal to Saumay Singla for all future purposes 0040536097-1

I Aarzoo Kumar S/o Sh.Jagdish Kumar R/o H.No.WZ-315/A, G-Block Extn., Asha Park, Jail Road, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110064 inform that my name has wrongly been written as Aarzoo in my passport No.L7192942. My actual name is Aarzoo Kumar, which may be amended accordingly. 0040536078-4

I, Rahita Pendharkar resident 304 Tower-A, Winter Hills Dwarka Sewak Park Uttam Nagar Delhi 110059 have changed my name to Rachita Pendharkar 0040536161-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

I AAYUSH BHARDWAJ S/o SUNIL KUMAR R/o D 2/48, Remeshwar Park Ext., Loni, Tahsil Loni, Dist. Ghaziabad, U.P. declare that the name of my father has been wrongly written as SUNIL in my Educational Certificate. The Actual name of my father is SUNIL KUMAR

LOST & FOUND

I, Shyam Sundar Sachdeva S/o Sh. Sewa Ram Sachdeva R/o 555, Mandakini Enclave, Alaknanda New Delhi-110019 have lost DDA Allocation and DDA Possession Certificate of Flat No. 555, Mandakini Enclave, Alaknanda, New Delhi- 110019 somewhere in Alaknanda Main Market. Finder may please contact- 9999000444 0040536154-1

It is notified for the information that my original Main Secondary Examination 2018 Roll No.8244803 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Yukti Kalra, R/O.C4B/56, Janak Puri, New Delhi 110058 Mb.9971910202 0040536088-1

It is notified for the information that my, original Qualifying Examination Certificate of main-Secondary Examination of Year-1997, Roll-No.-6132224 issued by CBSE has been actually lost., Name-Simran Sindhu Address-House-No.480, Arun Vihar, Sector-37, Noida-201301, Mob-9811880185 0040536196-2

It, is notified for the information that my, original Qualifying Examination Certificate of main-Senior Secondary Examination of Year-1999, Roll.No-6226627 issued by CBSE has been actually lost., Name-Simran Sindhu Address-House-No.480, Arun Vihar, Sector-37, Noida-201301, Mob-9811880185 0040536196-1

I, Ravi Kumar Sharma S/o. Sh. Jagdish Chandra Sharma R/o. B-1/618, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058 have lost my 10th & 12th Class CBSE marksheet and Passing Certificate vide Roll No.129685 (Year 1980) & 219032 (Year 1982) 0040536130-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is notified for the information of general public that my clients (1) Shri Anand Kumar Sharma S/o Shri Chand Ram Sharma and (2) Smt.Urmila Devi W/o Shri Anand Kumar Sharma both R/o F-18, Jeewan Park, Parvati Niwas, New Delhi have severed all their relations and connections with their son Pankaj Kumar and daughter-in-law Smt. Sarla Sharma because they are out of control of my clients, doing harassment and atrocities against my clients. Therefore my clients have debarred them from all their movable and immovable properties with immediate effect.
Anybody dealing with them in any manner then he/she/they will be doing so at his/her/their own risk, cost and expenses. My clients shall not be liable and responsible for his/her/their acts, deeds and things done by them under any circumstances.
Sd/- B. B. N. DEO, ADVOCATE
S.R-II, B Campus, Janakpuri, New Delhi-58

PROPERTY

Lease Available, Golf Home in Tarudhan Valley Golf Resort, village Dadu, 905 Sq Ft. Contact – 9871926880 0040535953-1

Lease Available Commercial, G.F. Shop, 1422 sq. ft., City Square Mall, Rajouri Garden, Contact -9871926880. 0040535953-2

SITUATION VACANT

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT RESEARCH, NEW DELHI
Requires:
ADMISSION COUNSELOR
Min. Qualification should be graduate with 3 years experience in reputed field & fluency in English.
TELECALLER
Min. Qualification should be graduate & fluency in English.
Walk-in-Interview
21st March, 2020
from 11 am at
Send your resume at
E-mail: jobs.delhi@iihmr.org
Call:
011-30418900, 9818007542, 9910028889, 9810906140

PUBLIC NOTICE

"It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Subhash Shrivastava acquired the property i.e Property No. D-61, Khasra No. 242 min, New Anand Vihar Colony, Ghaziabad, vide Sale Deed dated 29.05.2012 executed by Mrs. Bhuri Devi, and Original GPA dated 16.10.2007 executed by Mr. Nandan Arya in favour of Mr. Mukesh Kumar in respect of the said property is Lost also Mr. Subhash Shrivastava is the undisputed owner of said property till date. OR Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client.
Ajay Kumar Giri - Advocate
H No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024

PUBLIC NOTICE

FREEHOLD DDA BUILT UP LIG FLAT NO. 202, BLOCK AND POCKET A- 3, SECTOR – 7, ROHINI, DELHI. AREA MEASUING 48 SQ MTRS
Public at large a hereby informed that the captioned property is subject matter of Equitable / Registered Mortgage with State Bank of India / Other Bank(s) / FI, and my client _ Smt. Kamlesh Sharma wife of Shri Om Prakash Sharma has entered in to an Agreement to Sell & Purchase/ Bayana/ Agreement to Sell with the present owner seller i.e. Smt. Dina Yadav wife Shri Raju Yadav in respect of the captioned property.
It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm / company, Bank _ financial institution having any claim or any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of documents mentioned above or otherwise and / or objection to the sell, he/ she/ they may lodge/ notify the same to the undersigned with documentary proof/ court judgment within 15 (Fifteen Days) from the day of publication failing which the Sale Deed executed in favor of my Client Smt. Kamlesh Sharma wife of Shri Om Prakash Sharma and/or in the name of her nominees shall be deemed to be clear and marketable without any defect, encumbrance, flaw and impediment and my client(s) is/are free to create Equitable / Registered Mortgage by deposit of Chain of available title documents with any person/ firm/ company, financial institution / Bank.
NIRMAL KUMAR (Advocate)
Mobile - 8587886197, Email - nr2sharma@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients LAXMI NARAYAN S/O TEK CHAND & DARSHNA DEVI W/O LAXMI NARAYAN RESIDENTS OF E-836, MANGOLPURI, DELHI-110083 have severed off all their relations with their DAUGHTER-IN-LAW BIMLA alias VIMLESH W/O LATE LALIT KUMAR & GRAND SON SAURAV S/O LATE LALIT KUMAR R/O E-836, MANGOLPURI, DELHI. My clients have debarred them from all their movable/ immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them or dealt with them regarding any matter shall have his/ her/ their own responsibility.
AJAY KUMAR (Advocate)
RU-367, Pitam Pura, Delhi-34
(M) 9811140559

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all through this Public Notice that my Clients Sh. Inderjeet S/o Late Sh. Gyan Chand and Smt. Lachhmi W/o Sh. Inderjeet both R/o. H.No. 130-131, F-Block, J.J. Colony, Wazirpur, Delhi-110052 have severed all kind of their relationship and disowned & disinherited their son Sanjay and his wife Jyoti from their hard and earned movable and immovable properties due to their misconduct, misbehave and disobedient behaviour. Anybody dealing with them in any manner, shall do the same on his own risk and my clients shall not be responsible for any act, deed and omission of his son Sanjay and his wife Jyoti.
Sd/-
G.S. AHUJA (Advocate)
Ch.No. 151-A, IST FLOOR, W.WING, TIS HAZARI COURTS DELHI-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Indu Bala Suneja D/o Lajpat Rai Suneja H. No. K-47, Double Story, Lajpat Nagar-4, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-110024 declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as Indu Bala and Lajpat Rai in my Higher Secondary School marksheet and certificate and name of mine has been wrongly written as Indu Bala in my service record. The actual name of my mine and my father is Indu Bala Suneja and Lajpat Rai Suneja. Which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENT KRISHNA SHARMA W/O LATE SH. ANAND SWAROOP SHARMA R/O F-26/101, SECTOR-7, ROHINI, DELHI HAS RENOUNCED DISOWNED AND SEVERED ALL HER RELATIONS WITH HER SON ASHISH SHARMA AND HIS WIFE SHUDHA SHARMA FROM ALL HER MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES ON ACCOUNT OF THEIR MISDEEDS. ASHISH SHARMA AND SHUDHA SHARMA SHALL NOT STAKE ANY CLAIM OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER IN THE SAID PROPERTIES OF MY CLIENT. ANY PERSON DEALING WITH ASHISH SHARMA AND SHUDHA SHARMA SHALL DO SO AT HIS OWN RISKS AND PERIL.
Sd/- **(S.K. SHARMA)**
Advocate
Enrl no: D/138/1990, Chamber no.: 597, Ground Floor, Western Wing, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that, my client Mr. Roshan Lal, S/o Late Parshadi Lal, R/o Plot No.C-18, Flat No. A-1, 1st floor, Gali No.17, Hindon Vihar, Sector-49, Noida, Gautam Budha Nagar, U.P-201301, on 17.03.2020 has disown and disinherit Mr. Omprakash (his Eldest Son), his wife and children, Rinku (his third born son), his wife and children and his only Daughter, Smti. Bindu W/o Sh. Tarun, her children, for all times to come from all his movable and immovable properties for all intents and purposes. Any person dealing with them shall be doing so entirely upon their risk and consequences and that my client and his family shall not be liable for any of their act or deeds.
Kumardeb Sengupta
Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that, my clients Mr. Sita Ram, S/o Late Babu Ram and his wife Smti. Naresh, W/o Shri Sita Ram, both R/o House No. 631, Rajiv Gali No.3, Mandawali, Delhi-110092, on 18.03.2020 has disown and disinherit their Second born Son, Mr. Ravinder Kumar and his wife Mrs. Radhika, W/o Ravinder Kumar, D/o Mr. Raj Kumar and their children, for all times to come from all their movable and immovable properties for all intents and purposes. Any person dealing with them shall be doing so entirely upon their risk and consequences and that my clients and their family shall not be liable for any of their act or deeds.
Kumardeb Sengupta
Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

That Our client Sh. Gurmeet Singh and Smt. Gurdev Kaur R/o C-581, Gali no. 10, Majlish Park, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi-110033, debarred their Son Sh. Hardeep Singh and his wife Smt. Gurdeep Kaur with respect to all movable and immovable properties and inheritance and my clients have severed all relations with them and they have shifted at C-598, Gali no. 13, Majlish Park, Azadpur, Delhi along with all their belongings.
Pramod Agarwal Advocate
B-26A, Arihant Marg, Kewal Park
Azad Pur, Delhi-110033

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sukhminder Singh S/O Late Sh. Atma Singh and his wife Smt. Swarn Kaur residents of 26/813, D.D.A Flats, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 have severed all relations with their daughter Ms. Amarjeet Kaur wife of Sh. Deepak Vohra presently residing in Melbourne, Australia. My clients disown and disinherit their said daughter from their movable and immovable properties. My clients shall not be responsible for the acts and deeds of said Amarjeet Kaur.
Anil K. Gujral (Advocate)
Ch. No. 131, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed that I, RANI DEVI W/O MR. GIRDHARI LAL R/O A-304, JHULELAL APARTMENT, PITAM PURA, DELHI-110034, I am the registered owner of PROPERTY NO. RZF- 59, MARAVIR ENCLAVE, PLOT AREA 180 SQ.YDS., KHASRA NO. 84/14/1, VILLAGE PALAM, NEW DELHI-110045, REGD. NO. 508, IN BOOK NO. I, VOLUME No. 9866, ON PAGE 53, TO 57, DT. 22/01/2019, and I have misplaced/lost the original Property Papers, if anybody finds the said documents, Please inform at the above said address or Mobile No. 9811135782.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that my client Shri Yogesh s/o late Dharam Chand Dhingra, r/o B-2/4-C, Budh Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi, declares that at the time of admission of his daughter Kashish Dhingra- student in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Sainik Vihar, Delhi, her name has been mentioned as Kashish Dhingra and my client's name i.e. the name of her father has been mentioned as Yogesh Dhingra. That henceforth the name of my daughter Kashish Dhingra may be treated as Kashish only and that of my client's name i.e. her father's name may be treated as Yogesh Kumar only for all official purposes.
Sd/-
(Raman Jain) Advocate
MSC-254, Yogmaya Mohalla
Gali No. 3, Pahar Ganj,
New Delhi-55

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that plot no. 2771 (old no. NA-22) in sector A, in our Green-fields colony, stood allotted in the name of Smt. Kamlesh Arora W/o Shri Krishan Lal Arora R/o C 701, New Friends Colony, New Delhi since 29.09.2006. Smt. Kamlesh Arora had appointed her husband, Sh. Krishan Lal Arora as her nominee vide nomination dated 29.09.2006, which was confirmed by the company vide letter dated 20.10.2006. The company received a letter dated 26.12.2019 from Krishan Lal Arora, husband of Smt. Kamlesh Arora, the allottee of above plot, informing the company about the sad demise of above allottee on 06.05.2015. He further requested the company to substitute his name in place of his late wife, Smt. Kamlesh Arora, as allottee of above plot on the basis of nomination of his late wife. Anyone having any objection to the substitution of above plot in favour of Shri Krishan Lal Arora, submit their objection within 30 days to
Urban Improvement Co.(P)Ltd,
F-32, Connaught Place, N.Delhi, INDIA
Praveen Kumar
General Manager

COURT NOTICE

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT
(Order 5, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure)
IN THE COURT OF SH. DHARMENDER SINGH, ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL JUDGE, SOUTH DISTRICT, SAKET COURTS COMPLEX, ROOM NO. 204, NEW DELHI
CS. No.-343/2019 N.D.O.H-24/04/20
Cyber Media (India) Ltd., D-74, Panchsheel Enclave, New Delhi-110017 Through its Authorized Officer. Plaintiff
V/s. 1. Auspice Advertising & Management Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. 2. Rohit Nagar, Director C/o. Auspice Advertising & Management Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. 89-A, Pocket-A, Sukhdev Vihar, New Delhi -110025,...Defendants
To The Defendant above name, (D-2)
Whereas you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 24th day of April, 2020, the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte.
Given under may hand and seal of the Court on this 3rd day of March, 2020
Sd/-
Seal ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL JUDGE, SOUTH DISTRICT, SAKET COURTS COMPLEX, NEW DELHI

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT
(Order 5, rules 20 of the Code of Civil Procedures)
IN THE COURT OF:- Sh. BHARAT AGGARWAL, CJ-02, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi Room No. 361.
SUIT No.- 436/19 D/M NO. 906 Dt. 22/02/2020 RS. 6300/-
Title:- M/S CHAUDHARY LABELS PVT. LTD.
V/S M/S SDS DESIGN STUDIO & ANR.
TO
1. M/S SDS DESIGN STUDIO, THROUGH ITS PARTNERS, B-83, SEC 67, NOIDA-201301.
2. SH. AJAY MALHOTRA PATNER, M/S SDS DESIGN STUDIO, B-83, SEC 67, NOIDA-201301
WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summon it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the **30/03/2020** the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte.
GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 13/03/2020.
Sd/-
Judge
Seal Civil Judge-02
Delhi

Municipal Corporation, Kota (North/South)
Rajeev Gandhi Bhawan, Dusshera Ground, Kota-324006
email: nnkota@gmail.com, websites: www.kotamc.org, Ph.: 0744-50190
S.No:- निर्माण/6487-93 **Date: 18.3.2020**

REVISED TENDER NOTICE

E-Tender Notice No. 48/2019-20 Serial No. 6363-69 Date 11.03.2020 & E-Tender Notice No. 49/2019-20 Serial No. 6370-76 Date 11.03.2020 was issued by the Municipal Corporation Kota. Condition number 17.2.d in both tenders have been amended, detail of which can be obtained through **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** websites. Hence, the dates of receiving & opening both tenders are extended up to 20.03.2020.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Municipal Corporation, Kota (North /South)

UJVN Limited
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763508, 2763808 & Fax- 0135- 2763507
CIN No U40101UR2001SGC025866

Date Extension Notice -1

Due to unavoidable reasons, the dates of tender invited for "Procurement of Cement (OPC, 43 grade) confirming to IS: 269-2015 for Vyasi HEP in District Dehradun (Uttarakhand)" against NIT No: 07/UJVNL/03/EE (Civil-I)/VP/2019-20 are hereby extended as follows:
1 **Last Date/Time for submission of bid on the portal:** 07.04.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs.
2 **Last date & Address for Submission of original documents:** 08.04.2020 up to 17:00 Hrs in Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil-I), Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar (Distt-Dehradun).
3 **Date and time of opening of bid on the website:** 09.04.2020 at 15:30 Hrs.
All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged.
Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"
Executive Engineer (Civil-I)
Vyasi Project, Lakhwar Bhawan, Dakpathar
पत्रांक: 156 दिनांक: 18.03.2020
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

ASSAM SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION
ASDM
5th Floor, Katabari, DPS Road, NH-37
Garchuk, Guwahati - 781035
Tender No.: ASDM-1219/2019/104 Date: 20th March 2020
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
For Selection of Agency for 'Preparation of DPR for Skill University in the State of Assam' for Assam Skill Development Mission (ASDM).
The Assam Skill Development Mission (ASDM) invites response to this Request for Pro

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION, U.P.JAL NIGAM, MOHALLA MOTI NAGAR, BIJNOR ROAD, AMROHA

Letter No.: 814/NIVIDA/17
Date.: 16.03.2020

VERY SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

U.P. Jal Nigam, E-tenders are invited for **"Reboring/Shifting of India Mark-II Hand pump in Block Gajraula & Joya Distt. Amroha due to widening of Delhi Moradabad Highway"** Intending tenderers/contractors having requisite work experience & financial capabilities. Tender document shall be available at e-procurement website, **http://etender.up.nic.in.** Interested contractors may view & download tender document and upload their tender, duly filled, online as per schedule given below- **Date for (i) Uploading bid document at website:** 23.03.2020 at 17:00 hrs. **(ii) Online submission of e-bids.:** Up to 30.03.2020 at 12:00 hrs. **(iii) Opening of bid:** 30.03.2020 at 15.00 hrs.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE
(Single Packet System)

Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction)-II, Opposite Railway Hospital, Hasanpura Road, North Western Railway, Jaipur-302 006 for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E Tender. Tenderer shall on-line submit their original/revised offer before the date and time of closing of E-tender. **E-Tender Notice No. :** Tender No. NWR/SC/Civil 102140517 (R) **Name of work with location :** Providing "IN SITU" Glued Insulated Joints of G-3 (L) type for 60 kg rails as per RDSO drawing No. T-2572 and confirming to the specification as per instructions contained in manual for glued insulated rails joints in Jaipur-Ringus-Churu section in connection with conversion of five halt stations into crossing stations at Chhota Gudha, Baori Thikaria, Goriyan, Kayamsar & Rashidpur Khori in connection with JP-SIKR-CUR & SIKR-LHU GC Project. **Approximate cost of work :** Rs. 74,42,781.60 **Earnest Money to be deposited :** Rs. 1,48,900.00 **Completion Period :** 15 (Fifteen) Months **Closing Date & Time of submission of On line E-tender : Upto 15.00 Hrs. on 15.04.2020 Website particulars where complete details of E-Tender can be seen : www.ireps.gov.in Note :- 1. No manual tender will be accepted. 2.** The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Document Cost (TDC) will be submitted by the tenderer only through **net banking or payment gateway only. Note** - Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR), Demand Draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit Receipt will not be accepted as EMD & TDC. The payment is to be made in favour of **"FA & CAO (C), North Western Railway, Jaipur,** otherwise tender will not be considered. *299-DH/20*

Please join us on /NWRailways

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

Regional Office: 04, Nehru Place, Tonk Road, Jaipur-302015 (Raj.)

Tender notice no. QC-32/2(1)/Lab Equip/Purchase/2020-21 Dated: 20.03.2020

Notice Inviting e-Tender

E-Tenders are invited under two bid systems for Rate Running Contract for purchase of Laboratory Equipments from Manufactures and authorized suppliers. Last date for online tender submission is 03.04.2020 (3.00PM) and online tender opening date is 04.04.2020 (3.00PM). Tender documents can be downloaded from e-procurement website https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app of FCI website www.fci.gov.in.

GENERAL MANAGER (REGION)

HSCC (INDIA) LIMITED

A Miniratna Co.
(A Subsidiary of NBCC (India) Limited)
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
E-6A, Sector-01, Noida-201301

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

HSCC/PMSSY-Guwahati/Office & Hospt-Fur/2020 **Dated: 19.03.2020**

Online item rate bids are invited by HSCC (India) Limited as executing agency of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI through e-tendering from eligible applicants who fulfill qualification criteria as stipulated in Vol.-I (NIT/PQ document) for the work **"Supply, Installation, testing & commissioning of Furniture works for Super Specialty Block, GMCH, Guwahati, under PMSSY-III"** Estimated project cost is Rs. 4.45 Crore and Completion period is 02 calendar Months. Further details are available in detailed NIT and Tender documents available online from 24/03/2020 on HSCC websites http://www.hsccltd.co.in, e-tender portal **www.tenderwizard.com/HSCC** and CPP portal. Last Date of submission of Bids: 08/04/2020 at 15:00 hrs.

Corrigendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on said websites and not be published.

Sr. Mgr. (C), HSCC (India) Limited

Nashik Municipal Smart City Development Corporation Ltd. (NMSCDCL)

CIN : U93090MH2016SGC285193
E-mail : pmc@nashiksmartcity.in. **Tel. No. :** 0253-2518833

Tender Publishing Notice Advertisement

E-Tender No. 38

Providing, Lowering, Laying and Jointing DI pipe line for Raw Water Supply at Ramkund, Nashik

NMSCDCL is publishing tender **"Providing, Lowering, Laying and Jointing DI pipe line for Raw Water Supply at Ramkund, Nashik".**

Tender publishing date is **19.03.2020, 03.00 PM.**

Last date of submission of tender **03.04.2020, 03.00 PM.**

The detailed notice inviting tender will be available on **www.mahatenders.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
NMSCDCL

कार्योलय, कार्यपालक अभियन्ता
लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल,सिमडेगा
eemidsim-cemr-jhr@nic.in

निविदा रद्द सूचना

इस कार्यालय का पत्रांकः–05 दिनांकः–03.01.2020 के द्वारा आमंत्रित ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्याः–WRD/MID SIMDEGA/F2-09/2019-20 दिनांकः–03.01.2020 Renovation of Kolebira M.I. Scheme, Block- Kolebira जिसका पी0 आर0 नम्बर–223247 minor Irrigation (2019-20) D है, को मुख्य अभियन्ता, लघु सिंचाई,रॉची का पत्रांकः–398 दिनांकः–27.02.2020 एवं अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, लघु सिंचाई अंचल,रॉची का पत्रांकः–200 दिनांकः–27.02.2020 के आलोक में तत्काल प्रभाव से रद्द की जाती है।

विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु बेवसाईट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in. एवं कार्यालय के सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल,सिमडेगा।

P.R.227219 Minor Irrigation(19-20):D

Prayagraj Nagar Nigam (PNN)

1-Sarojini Naidu Marg, Civil Lines, Prayagraj-211001 Uttar Pradesh

[RFP No.: Date:]

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Online item rate tenders are invited by Prayagraj Nagar Nigam for Supply & installation of open air gyms (outdoor) equipment including necessary civil work in 55 (approx) identified open spaces/parks of prayagraj city under Smart City Mission (SCM) in Prayagraj city.

S. No.	Name of the Package	Estimated amount (Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Tender Fee non-refundable (Rs.)	Time Period
1. 1	Package-3-55 Locations	20619075.00	412380.00	5,000.00	6 months

2.	Method of selection	Lowest financial proposal (L1) of qualified bidders
3.	Name of the Authority's official for addressing queries and clarifications	Prayagraj Nagar Nigam E-mail: **itofficer.mca@gmail.com**
4.	Proposal Validity Period	90 Days
5.	Time of Completion	6 Months
6.	Schedule of Bidding Process	
	Task	**Key Dates**
	Bid upload date/time	17/03/2020, 15:00 Hrs
	Bid Start Date	17/03/2020, 15:00 Hrs
	Bid End Date	30/03/2020 15:00 Hrs
	Opening of Technical Bids	30/03/2020, 16:30 Hrs
	Opening of Financial Bid	To be communicated
7.	Consortium to be allowed	No
8.	Sub-contracting is allowed	Only for civil works

a. The scope of work, technical specification, terms & conditions, BOQ are given in Request for Proposal (RFP) and the same can be downloaded from **http://etender.up.nic.in.**

Sd/-
(Ravi Ranjan)
Nagar Aayukt
Prayagraj Nagar Nigam

Varanasi Smart City Limited (VSCL)

Municipal Corporation, Sigra, Varanasi, UP-221010
Tele: 05422221711, Fax : 05422221702,
Web Site : www.smartcityvaranasi.in

Ref. No: 584/VSCL/19-20 **Date: 18.03.2020**

Re-Tender Notice

1. The Request for Proposals (RFP) for the projects/works mentioned below, with respects to **NIT No.:** 16/VSCL/TENDER/2019-20, **Dated:** 31.01.2020 (**Tenter ID:** 2020_NNVAR_432599_1) is hereby re-tendered due to non-receiving of any bids for further course of action. All the corrigendum issued earlier w.r.t. this tender shall be the part of **RFP Document**.

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Tender Fee non-refundable (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)
(i)	Redevelopment of Dr. Smapoornanand Sports Stadium at Sigra, Varanasi on EPC Model. RFP No: 50/VSCL/DRSSS-EPC-MODEL/Jan-2020.	30,000 + 12%GST	1.11 Crores

2. Tender documents can be downloaded from the e-tendering website - **http://etender.up.nic.in** from **19.03.2020 at 15:00 Hrs. (IST) to 27.03.2020 till 17:00 Hrs. (IST).**
3. Bidders are requested to submit the Tender fee receipt in the office of Chief Executive Officer, Varanasi Smart City Ltd. (VSCL) in the form of DD/ Bankers Cheque issued in favor of "Chief Executive Officer, Varanasi Smart City Limited" Payable at Varanasi.
4. Bidders are requested to submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) receipt in the office of Chief Executive Officer, Varanasi Smart City Limited (VSCL), in the form prescribed in the tender document issued in favor of "Chief Executive Officer, Varanasi Smart City Limited" Payable at Varanasi.
5. **Bidder can send their pre-bid queries is 21.03.2020 till 14:00 Hrs. (IST)** through e-mail on **ceovscl@gmail.com; vscloffice@gmail.com** and **same shall be responded through e-mail by 23.03.2020 in view of Corona Virus advisory.**
6. The deadline of **online bid-submission is 27.03.2020 till 17:00 Hrs. (IST)** and dead line for **Hard/Physical Copy Submission** of Technical Bid documents is **28.03.2020 till 15:00 Hrs. (IST).**
7. The **Technical Bid Opening date is 28.03.2020 at 16:00 Hrs. (IST).**
8. For more details contact Chief Executive Officer, VSCL address- CEO, VSCL O/o Municipal Corporation Varanasi, Contact no. 0542-2221702 and/or through mail at **ceovscl@gmail.com; vscloffice@gmail.com**

Sd/-
CEO/Municipal Commissioner
VSCL/VMC
O/o Varanasi Municipal Commissioner,
Sigra, Varanasi, U.P.

GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY

(Established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Sector-16 C, Dwarka, New Delhi – 110 078
Website: http://ipu.ac.in

Registration of Vendor(s) for Supply of Books

GGS Indraprastha University invites applications for registration of Book Sellers on the terms and conditions prescribed by the University.

Detailed instructions and Prescribed Form can be downloaded from the **University website www. ipu.ac.in** Kindly enclose non-refundable DD in favour of Registrar, GGSIPU, New Delhi of Rs 2,000/- along with the application. **Last date** for receiving the sealed applications will be **20/04/2020.**

Registrar

UJVN Limited

H.O. "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Tele/Fax: 0135-2763509, 2763808 & Fax- 0135-2763507
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025868 | www.uttarakhandjalvidyut.com

Tender Notice

Office of the Executive Engineer (M&G) Kulhal Power Station, Kulhal invites sealed tenders from interested parties.

Tender No.: 22/UJVNL/EE(M&G)/KPS/2019-20:
Servicing & Overhauling of 12.5 MVA, 6.6/132 kV Generator Transformer of Unit- B of Kulhal Power Station

Estimated Cost	: Rs. 759000/- GST Extra
Earnest Money Deposit	: Rs. 23000/-
Tender Fee	: Rs. 590/- (Including GST)
Date of availability of bid on website	: 20/03/2020 15:00 hrs
Last date for submission of tender	: 11/04/2020 15:00 hrs.
Date of opening of tender	: 13/04/202011:00 hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam"s **website www.ujvnl.com.**

पत्रांक: 160 दि0 19.03.2020 **Executive engineer (M&G) Kulhal**

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

AUGMENTATION OF POWER SUPPLY AND PUMPING SYSTEM

E-Tender Notice No. Sr.DEE/GH/32 of 2019-20 Dated: 13-03-2020. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Tender No. EL-GH-840 dated: 13-03-2020. Name of work:** At Panda- Augmentation of power supply and pumping system for Kamakhya laundry, salon & coaching complex. **Tender Value:** ₹85,27,129/-, **Earnest Money:** ₹1,70,600/-, **Cost of Tender document:** ₹5,300/-, **Date & Time of Closing of Tender: 15.00** hrs. of **06-04-2020 and opened at 15.30** hrs. of **06-04-2020.** The complete information with the tender documents of above E-tender will be available upto **15.00** hrs. of **06-04-2020** in the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DEE/Guwahati
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

HARYANA GOVERNMENT

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	HVPNL, KARNAL	AUGMENTATION OF 132 KV S/STN. RAJAUND FROM (1X20/25 MVA 132/33KV)+(2X10/16MVA 132/11KV) TO (2X10/16MVA 132/11KV) TO 2X20/25 MVA 132/33 KV)+ (2X1/16MVA 132/11KV) TRANSFORMER WITH CREATION OF 2 NOS. NEW 33KV BAY TO ACCOMMODATE NEW 33 KV S/STN. DURANA & KITHANA (SURFACE DRESSING, SUPPLY AND SPREADING OF GRAVEL) (CIVIL WORKS).	CLOSING DATE 08.04.2020	Rs. 5800.00 for General, Rs. 2900.00 for Registered Society	https://www.hvpn.org.in.	0172-2583789 Pro@hvpn.org.in
2.	HVPNL, KARNAL	PROVIDING ADDITIONAL 16/20,132/11 KV HOT T/F PLINTH AND ODSG FOUNDATION AT 132KV S/STN. JALMANA (CIVIL WORKS).	CLOSING DATE 08.04.2020	Rs. 15800.00 for General,Rs7900.00 for Registered Society	https://www.hvpn.org.in.	0172-2583789 Pro@hvpn.org.in
3.	HVPNL, SONEPAT	DRAFT E-NIT FOR COMPLETION OF LEFT OUT / BALANCE CIVIL WORKS AT 132 KV S/STN TAJPUR, SONIPAT.	CLOSING DATE 25.03.2020	Tender amount Rs. 33900/- For Gen and Rs. 16970/- for Regd. Society	https://www.hvpn.org.in.	0172-2583789 Pro@hvpn.org.in
4.	H.S.A.M. BOARD, SIRSA	CONSTRUCTION OF MINI-SOIL TESTING LABORATORY IN NGM AT DING	18.03.2020 07.04.2020	5.37 LACS	https:// etenders.hry.nic.in	01666-240743 xenhsamb.sirsa17@gmail.com
5.	HARTRON	ESTABLISHING THE SWAN HORIZONTAL SITES IN THE STATE OF HARYANA ON BEHALF OF VARIOUS GOVT. DEPARTMENT/ BOARD/ CORPORATIONS + 10 OTHER WORK	20.03.2020 20.04.2020	EMD14 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2562456 pmhartron@gmail.com
6.	DHBVN, HISAR	SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRIC LINES UP TO 11 KV VOLTAGE LEVEL ON TURNKEY BASIS BY EXECUTING THE WORK UNDER MGJG SCHEME ON RDS FEEDERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF XEN 'OP' DIVN. HANSINIT NO-20/SE/OP/ HSR/2019-20	11.03.2020 30.03.2020	6.88 CRORE	www.dhbvn.org.in	01662-232629 sehsr@dhbvn.org.in
7.	DHBVN, HISAR	EMPANELMENT OF WELL-REPUTED TRANSPORT AGENCIES/ INDIVIDUAL TRANSPORTERS FOR PROVIDING VARIOUS TYPES OF VEHICLES ALONG WITH DRIVER UNDER 'OP' CIRCLE HISAR NIT-21/SE/OP/HSR /2019-20	17.03.2020 09.04.2020	25 LACS	www.dhbvn.org.in	01662-232639, seopdhbvnhisar@gmail.com
8.	DHBVN, HISAR	SUPPLY INSTALLATION TESTING COMMISSIONING OF ELECTRIC LINES UP TO 11 KV VOLTAGE LEVEL ON TURNKEY BASIS BY EXECUTING THE WORK UNDER MGJG SCHEME ON RDS FEEDERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF XEN OP DIVN. NO. II HISARNIT NO-22/SE/OP/ HSR/2019-20	17.03.2020 09.04.2020	3.18 CRORE	www.dhbvn.org.in	01662-232629 sehsr@dhbvn.org.in
9.	HFDC, AMBALA	OUTSOURCING OF SERVICES OF UN-SKILLED, SEMI-SKILLED, SKILLED AND HIGHLY SKILLED CATEGORIES	18.03.2020 28.03.2020	50 LACS	www.hfdc.gov.in	0171-2551567 gm.ambala@ hfdc.gov.in
10.	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, INDRI	CONST. OF STREET FROM H/O AMARDEEP TO PALA PARJAPAT IN WARD NO. 12 + 24 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 30.03.2020	2.88 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	9416435945 secymc.indri@gmail.com
11.	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GURUGRAM.	CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD BY PROVIDING AND LAYING RMC M-40, PROVIDING AND LAYING OF WATER SUPPLY AND SEWER LINE IN GAYATRI MANDIR TO REVENUE RASTA AND HUKUM YADAV WALI GALI, VILLAGE FAZILPUR, WARD NO. 26 UNDER MCG. + 7 OTHER WORK	16.03.2020 23.03.2020	222.92 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9821395213 ee4@mcg.gov.in
12.	HSAMBOARD, KARNAL	SPECIAL REPAIR OF VARIOUS LINK ROADS IN THE NOTIFIED AREA OF MARKET COMMITTEE INDRI TARAORI & NILOKHERI UNDER WORK PLAN 2020-21 (PHASE-I) GROUP-I, ROAD ID H-3904, 3935, 4036, 4044, 4058, 4063, 4066 + 3 OTHER WORK	24.03.2020 07.04.2020	888.65 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01842220964
13.	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHARKHI DADRI	ADVERTISEMENT OF UNIPOLE, HOARDINGS, PROPOSED PUBLIC UTILITIES AND BUS Q-SHELTERS LOCATIONS FOR CHARKHI DADRI CITY.	18.03.2020 28.03.2020	10 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	9992959222
14.	MC SONIPAT	CATCHING AND CAPTURING MONKEYS IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AREA. + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 17.04.2020	EMD70000/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	semcsonepat@gmail.com
15.	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE SADHAURA	CONSULTING WORK FOR DETAILED ESTIMATE PREPARATION OF CONCEPT PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING, DETAILS STRUCTURE DESIGN OR OTHER REQUIREMENT AS PER SITE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF COMMERCIAL COMPLEX SADHAURA	18.03.2020 27.03.2020	10000/-	ulbharyana.gov.in	secy.mcsadhaura@gmail.com
16.	HARYANA LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD PANCHKULA	PURCHASE OF EAR TAGS	19.03.2020 31.03.2020	EMD2 LACS	http://pashudhanharyana.gov.in	9416172558 hldb-hry@nic.in
17.	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL FATEHABAD	REPAIR WORK IN WARD NO 10 AT FATEHABAD + 13 OTHER WORK	19.03.2020 30.03.2020	185.89 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	9466731655 municipalcouncil fatehabad@gmail.com
18.	HSAMB, JHAJJAR	CONSTRUCTION OF BLOCK AGRICULTURE OFFICER (BAO) OFFICE BUILDING IN NGM AT MATANHAIL IN JHAJJAR (DEPOSIT WORK)	CLOSING DATE 02.04.2020	39.06 LACS	http:// etenders.hry.nic.in	01251-255364 xenhsamb.jhajjar@gmail.com
19.	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, SHAHABAD	26 DEVELOPMENT WORKS WITHIN THE LIMIT OF MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, SHAHABAD (M.)	20.03.2020 27.03.2020	174.57 LACS	http:// etenders.hry.nic.in	9872031812, secymc.shahabad@hry.nic.in

80477/HRY. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in**

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru – 560 001. . Phone No. 080-22265383
website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-47/17571/2019-20 **Date: 17.03.2020**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB invites tender as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement under two cover bid system from Class-II Contractors (Civil) registered in KPWD who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following work Construction of 2.5 Lakh Litres Capacity Sump, Providing & Laying HDPE Water Supply Rising Main and distribution pipelines & Construction of Valve Chambers in Sathyamangala Industrial Area, Tumakuru District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is: **31.03.2020 upto 04:00 pm**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Development Officer & Chief Engineer-1

DIPR/DDU/RO- 2860/2019-20

STATUE OF UNITY
एक भारत, श्रेष्ठ भारत

Statue of Unity, Kevadia
A Grand Tourist Destination in the Making
Inviting Developers / Operator to Kevadia
Request for Qualification for Development of Hotels

A grand tribute to the Iron Man of India, the Statue of Unity is an iconic 182-metre-tall statue situated on the island of Sadhu-Bet. Located between the scenic Mountain Ranges of Vindhyachal and Satpuda and overlooking the Narmada River, the monument has a plethora to tourist attractions in close proximity.

With an endeavor to develop Kevadia as a world class tourist destination and to offer quality stay facilities to the visitors, SardarSarovar Narmada Nigam Limited (SSNNL) is inviting Developers / Operators of Star hotels to develop hotels on DBFOT basis.

Category	Approximate Plot Area	Tender ID
Five Star	3 – 4 acres	404005
Four Star	2 – 3 acres	404004
Three Star	1 – 2 acres	404003

Note: Area subject to modification

SSNNL intends to pre-qualify and short-list suitable Applicants (who will be eligible for participation in the Bid Stage subsequently.

Request for Qualification Document including the technical specifications eligibility criteria etc. can be downloaded from **https://www.ssnnl.nprocure.com** starting 17/03/2020. The Pre-Application Conference is scheduled on 03/04/2020.

Interested Bidders may contact on dgmcpcssnnl@gmail.com for any further details in this regard.

INF/2603/19-20

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA

Regional Office: 4, Nehru Place,Tonk Road,Jaipur-15 (Rajasthan)

Tender notice no. QC-14/Equip/Genl.corresp./raj./2020-21 Dated : 20.03.2020

Notice Inviting e-Tender

E-Tenders are invited under two bid systems for rate running contract for purchase of LDPE covers from Manufactures and authorized suppliers. Last date for online tender submission is 03.04.2020 (3.00 PM) and online tender opening date is 04.04.2020 (3.00 PM). Tender documents can be downloded from e-procurement website https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app of FCI website www.fci.gov.in

General Manager (R)

CIPET: CENTRE FOR SKILLING AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT (CSTS)

Haridwar Road, Post-Bhaniyawala, Doiwala, Dehradun-248140 (Uttarakhand)
Ph.:0135-2695075, 9437043410, E-Mail:cipetdehradun@gmail.com

CIPET/Dehradun/Admin/2019-20/ Date: 20/03/2020

TENDER FOR EOT CRANE

Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) a premier National Institution invited tender for Supply & Install 5 Ton capacity EOT Crane.

Interested parties may obtain the Tender document & technical specification from Administrative department of the above office on payment of Rs. 5000/- as tender fees and send their quotation in the sealed cover on or before 03.04.2020 by 05.00 PM.

Deputy Director and Head reserves right to accept or reject Anyone/All tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Deputy Director and Head

LONAVLA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
E-Tender Notice, For 2019-20

Lonavla Municipal Council invites E-Tender for the work of providing and Laying new Sewerage line at S. R. No. 30, Hanuman Tekadi, Lonavla, Tal.- Maval, Dist- Pune in state of Maharashtra. Please visit website www.mahatender.gov.in (Tender By Location- Lonavla) for details published on Date 20/03/2020

sd/-	sd/-	sd/-	sd/-	sd/-	sd/-
Snehal S. Gaikwad	**Vasant D. Raikar**	**Sachin M. Pawar**	**Sejal M. Parmar**	**Shreedhar S. Pujari**	**Surekha N. Jadhav**
Engineer	Deputy Engineer	Chief Officer	Chairman Water Supply Department	Vice President	President

LONAVLA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.

कनकॉर CONCOR
(भारत सरकार का नवरत्न उपक्रम)
(A Navratna Undertaking of Govt. of India)
CONCOR Annex, NSIC MDBP Building(3rd Floor)
Okhla Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110020

NOTICE INVITING E- TENDER

CONCOR invites E-Tender in Single packets system of tendering for the following work:-

Tender No.	**CON/HR/ADMIN/264/3/2019**
Name of Work	Supply of DLY AC/Non AC Commercial cars for official use on daily hire basis at Corporate Office, New Delhi.
Estimated Cost(2 Yrs)	₹1,37,36,400/-
Completion Period	24(Twenty Four) months.
Earnest Money Deposit	₹2,18,682/- (through e-payment).
Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable)	₹1000/- (inclusive all taxes & duties) through e-payment.
Tender Processing Fee (Non-refundable)	₹5310/- (inclusive all taxes & duties) through e-payment.
Date of sale of Tender (online)	20.03.2020(11.00 Hrs) to 03.04.2020 (Up to 17.00 Hrs)
Date & Time of submission of Tender	06.04.2020 up to 15.00 hrs
Date & Time of Opening of Tender	07.04.2020 at 11.30 hrs

For financial eligibility criteria, experience with respect to similar nature of work, etc. please refer to detailed tender notice available on website **www.concorindia.co.in**, but the complete tender document can be downloaded from website **www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL** only. Further, Corrigendum / Addendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on website **www.concorindia.co.in**, **www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL** and Central Procurement Portal (CPP) only. Newspaper press advertisement shall not be issued for the same.

Executive Director (IM&HR) Phone No.: 011-41222500-700

GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹40,718	₹75.12	$27.16	₹35,444

*Indian basket as on March 18, 2020

SENSEX: 28,288.23 ▼ 581.28 **NIFTY:** 8,263.45 ▼ 205.35 **NIKKEI:** 16,552.83 ▼ 173.72 **HANG SENG:** 21,709.13 ▼ 582.69 **FTSE:** 5,004.19 ▼ 76.39 **DAX:** 8,378.61 ▼ 63.10

*International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH
AVIATION

Pressure on cash flow: Airlines move to reduce costs; IndiGo announces pay cuts

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

GIVEN THAT airlines significantly depend on a continuous flow of cash to remain afloat, Indian carriers are resorting to a combination of strategies including salary cuts, temporary reduction of staff, delaying aircraft deliveries and promotional fare offers to ensure survival. This comes at a time when the aviation industry is undergoing one clampdown after another in the government's efforts to contain the COVID-19 outbreak. However, the financial situation for airlines is only worsening with each passing day. At an industry level, consultancy firm CAPA expects consolidated losses to be in the range of $500-600 million for the ongoing quarter, excluding Air India.

India's largest airline IndiGo on Thursday decided to cut the salaries in the range of 5 per cent to 25 per cent for its employees across all bands. In an e-mail to the airline's staff, IndiGo's CEO Ronojoy Dutta noted: "With the precipitous drop in revenues, the very survival of the airline industry is now at stake. We have to pay careful attention to our cash flow so that we do not run out of cash. Unfortunately, this means that we have to reduce our costs in line with the drop in revenues".

IndiGo, which is India's only cash-positive airline, reported total cash of Rs 20,068.70 crore on its books as of December 2019. The situation for other airlines is even more precarious.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA), in a study of airlines across the world, said that the cash position of most carriers covered less than three months of expenses. Further, even as a typical airline started 2020 with cash to cover two months of expenses, almost 80 per cent of the airlines had less than 1.5 months of cash.

"Airlines are a high fixed-cost industry that depend significantly on cash-flow, it is their life-blood. Unlike manufacturing industries, airlines can't put their product (seats) into storage like a bar of soap and sell them later — each seat revenue lost is lost forever. Therefore anything that curtails their revenues and cash flow harms them disproportionately," said Sanjiv Kapoor, former chief strategy and commercial officer at Vistara.

"Once things normalise, passengers should return quickly. The question is can airlines survive until then? Even if they do survive, how damaged will they be by the time normalcy returns? If they are expected to pay for their arrears and fixed costs for the period their operations were severely curtailed or grounded, they may never recover. This is why governments worldwide are prioritising airline relief funding," Kapoor added.

Concurring with Kapoor's views, CAPA in its research note pointed out that in the absence of serious and meaningful government intervention, such an outcome could lead to several Indian airlines shutting down operations by May or June due to a lack of cash.

The latest move by the government to restrict all international flights from landing in India Sunday onwards would translate into loss of a chunk of revenues for the airlines. According to industry sources, nearly 60-70 per cent of Air India's revenues are from its international operations, while for private carriers it comprises less than 25 per cent of their revenues. For Air India, the move means a large inventory of wide-bodied aircraft with nowhere to fly, and raises a question of whether the airline should fly these aircraft on domestic routes at a time of weak demand, or should it bear the costs of grounding them. "If they can cover variable costs and the apportioned per-cycle maintenance costs, they should fly it. If not, ground it," an industry official said.

CAPA pointed out that a number of further steps are imperative from the industry to tackle the situation. It said that on lines of what some European carriers have done, some Indian airlines may choose to temporarily shut operations by design on the basis of demand.

"Regardless of any fiscal concessions and support that the government may offer, most airlines will have to shrink their operations, and the more vulnerable carriers may shutdown. This will in turn impact the entire aviation value chain, resulting in rationalisation and job losses across airports, ground handling companies, MROs, travel companies, as well as hotels and tourism operators. The prospect of defaults on aircraft lease payments is also likely," CAPA said.

'5-25% CUT'

- IndiGo has cut the salaries in the range of 5 per cent to 25 per cent for its employees across all bands
- The latest move to restrict foreign flights from landing in India Sunday onwards will translate into loss in revenues for the airlines

CURRENCY CLOSES AT ALL-TIME LOW OF 75.12; SENSEX DOWN 581 POINTS TO 28,288

COVID-19 effect: Re falls below 75 for 1st time

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MARCH 19

HIT BY capital outflows, sustained stock market fall and worries over a deepening slowdown, the rupee on Thursday hit a fresh record intra-day low of 75.30 per dollar and closed at an all-time low of 75.12, a fall of 86 paise during the day.

Analysts said the rupee, which fell below the 75 level for the first time, is likely to remain under pressure and fall further to the 77 level in the coming days in the wake of capital outflows. Foreign investors have pulled out over Rs 45,000 crore from equity markets in March so far, putting severe pressure on the rupee.

The rupee has fallen 3.2 per cent from 72.74 on March 2.

Sugandha Sachdeva, vice president, Religare Broking, said, "The outlook for the rupee remains quite weak as it has breached the crucial support of 74.50 mark to test new record lows below 75 mark. The considerable amount of outflows from Indian equity and debt markets over the past few sessions suggests that investors are exiting all asset classes and chasing dollar due to the coronavirus scare, which has soared to highs seen since March 2017."

According to analysts, a weak rupee is likely to benefit exporters and IT companies as they get more Indian rupees on conversion. "It's bad news for travellers and students studying abroad," said an analyst.

On the other hand, the sell-off in the stock markets continued with the Sensex plunging another 581.28 points to 28,288.23 and the Nifty Index falling 205.35 points at 8,263.45.

The BSE metal, capital goods, auto, energy and industrials indices cracked up to 7.17 per cent, while telecom was the only gainer. The broader midcap and smallcap indices plunged up to 4.53 per cent.

Narendra Solanki, head- equity research (fundamental), Anand Rathi Shares & Stock Brokers, said, "Indian benchmark indices opened in negative following subdued trades in its Asian peer markets and US markets. The global markets continued to trade with negative bias and high volatility amid fears over the economic impact of the coronavirus pandemic which continues to weigh on investor sentiments."

During the afternoon session, the markets showed marginal pullback but it largely remained short-lived as exporters body Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) said export sector has started feeling the pinch of the outbreak of coronavirus as international buyers are asking to hold back shipments. The data on total government liabilities also raised concerned as it rose 3.2 per cent to Rs 93.89 lakh crore till December 2019. On the sectoral front, almost all the sectors, led by cyclical, commodities, IT, media and financials, traded in the red.

EXPLAINED

Boon for exporters, bane for travellers

A WEAK rupee is likely to benefit exporters and IT companies as they get more Indian rupees on conversion. However, it is bad news for travellers and students studying abroad.

The considerable amount of outflows from Indian equity and debt markets over the past few sessions suggests that investors are exiting all asset classes and chasing dollar due to the coronavirus scare, which has soared to highs seen since March 2017.

Oil prices rise after 3-day plunge; US Fed move gives fillip to Wall Street

Empty shelves at a Sainsburys supermarket in Watford, Britain, on Thursday. *Reuters*

REUTERS
LONDON, MARCH 19

US OIL prices rose 10 per cent on Thursday after a three-day sell-off as the spread of the coronavirus and a battle for market share between Saudi Arabia and Russia drove prices to their lowest in almost 20 years.

Benchmark Brent, which has lost half its value in less than two weeks, got some respite as investors across financial markets assessed the impact of massive central bank stimulus measures.

Brent crude was up 93 cents, or 3.8 per cent, at $25.81 a barrel by 1416 GMT, having plunged to $24.52 on Wednesday, its lowest since 2003.

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude gained $2.20, or 10.8 per cent, to $22.57 after dropping nearly 25 per cent to an 18-year low in the previous session.

Analysts, however, said gains were likely to be temporary as tumbling demand is compounded by the collapse this month of a deal between OPEC, Russia and others to curb supply.

European and US stocks climbed on Thursday, recovering from earlier losses, in a sign of tentatively more stable markets, as central banks across the world moved to stem a coronavirus-induced financial rout in moves that boosted bonds and provide more access to the dollar.

The US Federal Reserve opened the taps for central banks in nine countries to increase the availability of dollars for contracts made in the US currency in hopes of loosening particularly tight bond markets.

The Fed said the swaps, in which the US central bank accepts other currencies as collateral in exchange for dollars, will be in place for at least the next six months.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 383.61 points, or 1.93 per cent, to 20,282.53, the S&P 500 gained 34.05 points, or 1.42 per cent, to 2,432.15 and the Nasdaq Composite added 229.81 points, or 3.29 per cent, to 7,219.66.

MSCI's world equity index gained 0.09 per cent. The British pound climbed, reversing after slipping past the previous day's trough to the lowest since 1985.

US Treasury yields largely fell in volatile trading on Thursday as investors took stock of a string of new policy responses to the coronavirus pandemic and a report showed new jobless claims soaring. The yield on the benchmark 10-year US Treasury note was at 1.1354 per cent, down 12.3 basis points for the session. But the yield on the 3-month US Treasury bill was up 2.1 basis points to 0.0407 per cent.

BofA, Crisil slash GDP forecasts

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

AROUND HALF a dozen established agencies have recently cut their GDP growth forecasts for India to the range of 5.1 per cent to 5.4 per cent in the wake of COVID-19. The forecasts are for either the 2020 calendar year or the next fiscal. Analysts at Bank of America Securities on Thursday projected FY21 growth in gross value added (GVA) at just 4.7 per cent.

Crisil on Thursday cut its base-case GDP growth forecast for FY21 to 5.2 per cent from 5.7 per cent announced recently.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is expected to trim its FY21 growth projection from 6 per cent, announced in the first week of February, in April or even earlier. **FE**

Virus may slow economic growth: 'GDP may fall 0.5-1%'

CARE Ratings carried out a survey among CEOs, CFOs, investors and economists on the impact of the coronavirus on the Indian economy. Here are some of the findings

78%: 80 of 103 respondents expected the imports to contract further in 2020-21

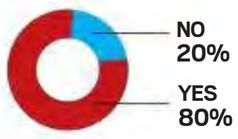
42%: of the respondents felt prices will increase in the next three months

25-100 BPS: 57% of the respondents said that the RBI would go for further monetary policy easing and would cut the repo rate to provide a monetary policy boost economic growth

0.5%-1% FALL IN GDP:
- 52% participants indicated that India's FY21 GDP growth will decline by up to 0.5%
- 22% expect more than 1% reduction in the GDP growth for India in FY21

FISCAL DEFICIT: Nearly 70% expected widening of the fiscal deficit, of whom 35% said the fiscal deficit target will be widened by 0.25% to 3.75% for fiscal year 2020-21

WOULD THE NPA SITUATION OF BANKS BE FURTHER PRESSURED?



Commodity crash: *60 of 104 participants who responded to this question of commodity price trend said there would be downward pressure on the commodity prices up to June 2020, owing to disruptions caused by coronavirus across various countries*

Source: CARE Ratings

FM to meet other ministries to assess COVID-19 impact

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

TO ASSESS the economic impact of pandemic COVID-19, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will hold a meeting with the ministers for Animal Husbandry, Dairy & Fisheries, Civil Aviation, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and Tourism on Friday. The government is expected to offer some relief measures for the sectors affected from the pandemic.

The meeting to take feedback from various economic ministries comes after Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday announced formation of a task force under Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman which will take necessary actions "in the near future" after analysing the coronavirus pandemic situation.

The Finance Ministry has already held some meetings with various ministries and departments and is monitoring the economic situation as a fallout of the COVID-19 outbreak.

In his address to the nation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said keeping in mind economic challenges posed by the coronavirus outbreak, a COVID-19 Economic Response Task Force will be set up.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. *File*

Sebi relaxes compliance for companies, provides more time for filing Q4 results

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, MARCH 19

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Thursday eased compliance requirements for listed companies in the wake of coronavirus outbreak and its impact on the corporate sector.

The regulator has now given a 45-day relaxation for companies to file their fourth quarter results as well as an additional one-month time to submit their annual results.

Companies have also been provided one-month relaxation till May 15 for filing their quarterly governance reports. Besides, the market watchdog has relaxed the time-gap required between two board meetings of a company.

The regulator has now given a 45-day relaxation for firms to file their fourth quarter results as well as an additional one-month time to submit their annual results

"Development arising due to the spread of the virus warrant the need for temporary relaxation in compliance requirement of listed entities," Sebi said in a circular.

With respect to quarterly financial results, companies have been given 45 days till June 30, 2020 to file their March quarter results. Under the rules, firms are required to file their financial results within 45 days from the end of a quarter. As per that time frame, the deadline was supposed to be May 15.

On submitting results for the year ending March 31, the regulator has extended the time till June 30. Normally, listed companies are required to file their annual results within 60 days from the end of a financial year.

"The board of directors and the audit committee of the listed entity are exempted from observing the stipulated time gap between two meetings for the meeting held or proposed to be held between the period December 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020," it said.

However, the board of directors and audit committees would have to ensure that they meet at least four times a year as stipulated under listing regulations.

Among others, the deadline has been extended by three weeks till May 15 for submission of quarterly shareholding pattern and statement of investor complaint report. In addition, a relaxation of one month has been given with regard to filing of half-yearly compliance certificate on share transfer facility and yearly secretarial compliance report.

Sebi said companies can file compliance certificate on share transfer facility till May 31 and secretarial compliance report by June 30.

The regulator has eased the norms in the wake of coronavirus pandemic, which has also resulted in imposition of certain restrictions, including those related to travel.

Govt bans export of ventilators, disposable masks, coveralls

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE GOVERNMENT on Thursday banned exports of specific types of protective gears as well as ventilators in the wake of the novel coronavirus outbreak.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade in a notification prohibited surgical and disposable masks, textile raw material for masks and coveralls and all ventilators "with immediate effect".

According to industry executives, the move comes while some manufacturers have received requests for exports from countries like Italy, which has been reeling under the pressure from the outbreak. "To support manufacturers to access lower cost raw materials and maximise capacity, the short term temporary ban on export of raw materials is good news for mask manufacturers, while the ban on export of masks is bad news for exporters of masks and overseas buyers who had paid advance for urgent delivery," said Rajiv Nath, forum coordinator, AiMeD.

The development comes nearly a month after the DGFT banned exports of other personal protection equipment on February 25, including N-95 masks. At that time, surgical and disposable (2/3 ply) masks were not prohibited. Between April and November 2019, India exported about $845 million worth of those products. In 2018-19, the exports were $1.27 billion, according to data from the Commerce Ministry.

Govt caps price of alcohol used in hand sanitiser manufacture

New Delhi: In order to control the rising prices of hand sanitisers in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak, the government has fixed the price of alcohol used in their manufacture under the Essential Commodities Act, Union Consumer Affairs and Food and Public Distribution Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said on Thursday.

"Under the Essential Commodities Act, the price of such alcohol has been fixed at the levels prevailing on 5th March 2020 till 30th June 2020 ... The govt will be able to control the prices of Hand Sanitizers," he tweeted. **ENS**

FIGHTING COVID-19

Board meets via video conference

New Delhi: The government on Thursday allowed companies to conduct board meetings through video conference and other audio visual means till June 30 as a measure against fighting the virus.

Don't lay off employees: CII

New Delhi: The Confederation of Indian Industry has asked its member firms not to lay off their employees, CII president Vikram Kirloskar said.

Fuel demand drops 11% in Mar

New Delhi: India's fuel demand has dropped by a steep 10-11 per cent in the first two weeks of March as the outbreak of coronavirus (Covid-19) led to the cancellation of flights and reduction in industrial activity.

RBI asks staff to work from home

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India has allowed majority of its staff to work from home while ensuring unhindered business continuity. **PTI**

'Airlines need up to $200 bn in aid'

Geneva: Up to $200 billion is needed to rescue the world's airlines during the coronavirus crisis, global aviation association IATA said on Thursday. **AFP**

ECB helps govts shake off market nerves in debt sales

REUTERS
LONDON, MARCH 19

THE EUROPEAN Central Bank's promise of hefty monetary stimulus brought buyers flocking back to euro bond markets on Thursday, with Spanish and French auctions seeing reassuring demand and Germany's North Rhein Westphalia swamped with bids.

Nervousness remained in the market, however, even after the ECB announced another 750 billion euros of bond buying, with many in the markets pointing to thinner demand for a long-dated French bond as a sign of this uncertainty.

As a result, concerns over upcoming Italian bond auctions, the country worst hit by the coronavirus, remain high.

Meanwhile, Australia made a historic foray into quantitative easing on Thursday and said it would do "whatever is necessary" to ensure funding costs are low and credit is freely available as the coronavirus pandemic jolts businesses.

In another development, the number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits surged to a 2-1/2-year high last week as companies in the services sector laid off workers because of the coronavirus pandemic that has fractured economic activity.

Healthcare professionals gear up to collect swab samples for coronavirus testing in the US on Thursday. *Reuters*

NEW TRANSACTIONS BY FIRM PROMOTED BY BR SHETTY STOPPED

UAE Central Bank imposes curbs on remittance firm owned by Indian

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, MARCH 19

THE CENTRAL Bank of the UAE (CBUAE) has slapped curbs and decided to "oversee the operations management" of UAE Exchange LLC, a remittances and wage protection firm in the Middle East promoted by Indian billionaire BR Shetty. While UAE Exchange and its parent firm Finablr control a sizeable remittances business involving non-resident Indians (NRIs), Unimoni Financial Service, Shetty's Indian operations, said it's "not privy to the remittances business of UAE Exchange Centre and operates as an independent legal entity".

UAE Exchange has stopped new transactions through its branches and online platforms, with the exception of the operation of Wage Protection System, which it is allowed to operate until further notice, the CBUAE said. In order to protect consumers, the central bank has required the exchange house to swiftly settle outstanding remittances and all other already initiated transactions, the UAE regulator said.

UAE Exchange has over 100 branches in the Middle East and is part of Shetty-controlled Finablr, which processed more than 150 million transactions managing $115 billion in volumes for its customers in 2018. Finablr has a direct presence in 45 countries through its licensed operations complemented by a network reach spanning 170 countries.

Unimoni Financial Service, Shetty's Indian operations, said it's "not privy to the remittances business of UAE Exchange Centre and operates as an independent legal entity"

In India, Unimoni has over 2.5 million customers, served by over 3,500 employees through 350 branches across 300 locations. Unimoni operates as a non-banking financial company and AD (authorised dealer) II category registered with the Reserve Bank of India.

The CBUAE inspection team has started an exam ill take additional action, if necessary, once the examination is completed. UAE Exchange was a top player in the UAE's Wages Protection System — which is the electronic salary transfer system that allows institutions to pay worker wages through authorised agents approved by the UAE regulator.

When contacted, Unimoni Financial Services Ltd said it is an independent legal entity operating as per the regulations of the RBI, with its separate governance and operating structures.

"The recent developments at UAE Exchange Centre LLC in the UAE do not have any material impact on the operations of Unimoni. Additionally, UAE Exchange Centre and BR Shetty do not have direct shareholding in Unimoni Financial Services, India," it said in an email reply to *The Indian Express*.

The company said Unimoni India is not privy to the remittances business of UAE Exchange Centre, adding that "Unimoni India is a receiving agent of various global money transfer companies including MoneyGram and Xpress Money, with a remittance operations license under the AD-II category." BR Shetty is the non-executive Chairman of Unimoni.

The troubles at UAE Exchange are expected to impact the parent firm Finablr, sources said. Shetty — the founder of UAE Exchange Centre and NMC Health - recently acquired a majority stake in Travelex, a UK-based foreign exchange company for around $1 billion. Travelex and UAE Exchange were placed under the holding company Finablr, which went for an IPO last year.

Shetty, one of the leading business icons in the Middle East, was listed among Forbes' Top 2 Indian business leaders in the Arab world in 2018. He currently serves as the co-chairman of Finablr PLC, which is listed on the premium segment of the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange (LSE).

He also serves as the joint non-executive chairman of NMC Health PLC, which is listed on the LSE, included as part of the coveted Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 Index and inducted into the MSCI World Index.

DIRECT TAX DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Vivad se Vishwas: Rules & forms notified; e-facility to avail scheme

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

NOTIFYING THE rules and forms for the direct tax dispute resolution scheme Vivad se Vishwas, the Income Tax Department on Thursday also launched an electronic facility for taxpayers willing to avail the scheme.

Under the scheme, taxpayers willing to settle disputes will be allowed a complete waiver of interest and penalty if they pay the entire amount of tax in dispute by March 31 this year.

After March 31, an additional 10 per cent of disputed tax will have to be paid over and above the tax liability. However, disputes related to wealth tax, commodity transaction tax, securities transaction tax and equalisation levy are not covered. The scheme would remain open till June 30.

"To prepare and submit the #VSVS Form: Please go to e-Filing portal: incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in ->Login using PAN (or TAN as applicable) & password ->Select 'Vivad se Vishwas' Tab ->Select 'Prepare and Submit DTVSV Forms'," the Department posted on its official Twitter handle.

The government had earlier notified the rules and five online forms to be filled by taxpayers for availing the Vivad Se Vishwas scheme. "The declaration in Form 1, the undertaking in Form 2 and intimation of details of payment in Form-4 are to be verified by digital signature or Electronic Verification Code (EVC) as applicable for the filing of ITR," the Department said.

Tax experts said that with the COVID-19 outbreak and companies opting for work from home, notification of rules and forms merely 10 working days before the initial deadline will make it tough for taxpayers willing to opt for the scheme and that an extension should be considered.

"The scheme, open till June 30, imposes additional burden of tax in case payment of disputed tax is made after 31st March 2020. The government has notified the forms and rules merely 10 days before the due date, if taxpayers want to obtain maximum benefits to the taxpayers desirous of availing the scheme. Therefore, practically, it may be extremely difficult both for the taxpayers as well as designated authorities to examine all the cases and make payment on/before 31st March 2020," Rakesh Nangia, chairman, Nangia Andersen Consulting said.

"Further, the turmoil due to the global pandemic makes matters worse as various offices and tax practitioners have started working from home. The scheme designed to provide relief to taxpayers stuck in long drawn litigation becomes less attractive and practically very difficult to implement owing to the stringent deadlines, which must be extended by the government," he added.

PwC India partner and leader—corporate and international tax, Frank D'Souza said, "Given that settlement under VsV (Vivad se Vishwas) would mean no further recourse available, no taxpayer would want to leave any issue open, technically or otherwise, in the process. Some of the aspects like whether the scheme amounts to conceding the position by the taxpayer, which were not part of the legislation and later clarified by way of FAQs, have now been clarified as a part of the rules and the forms. Given the limited time available to avail of the benefits of the March 31, 2020 deadline, it remains to be seen if the date would get extended beyond March 31."

The Revenue Department notified five forms for various steps under the scheme, which are required to be filled online. Eligible assessees are required to submit their declaration in Form 1 to the designated authority, which is a very detailed form covering different scenarios.

Further, an undertaking waiving the right to seek or pursue any remedy or any claim in relation to tax arrears under any law shall have to be furnished by the declarant in Form 2.

The declaration form (Form 1) seeks detailed information relating to the nature of tax arrears, assessment year, details of order, amount of tax arrears already paid, etc.

On receipt of the declaration form and undertaking, the designated authority shall, within 15 days, issue an order (in Form 3) directing the assessees to make payment of sum payable after adjusting the amounts already paid.

FIRST DEADLINE OF MARCH 31

- **Under the scheme, taxpayers willing to settle disputes will be allowed a complete waiver of interest and penalty if they pay the entire amount of tax in dispute by March 31**
- **Experts said due to the COVID-19 outbreak and companies opting for work from home, the notification just 10 days before the initial deadline will make it tough for taxpayers**

BRIEFLY

Govt eases import curbs on some chemicals

New Delhi: The government has removed import restrictions on certain chemicals including zinc dross; light, heavy, and full range naphtha, according to a notification. It has also allowed flying clubs to freely import aviation gasoline with certain conditions, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade has said in a notification. For other users, import of aviation gasoline is permitted through state trading enterprises.

Eight executive directors of PSBs shifted

New Delhi: The Centre has transferred eight executive directors of state-run banks with effect from the financial year beginning April 1, according to an official order. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the proposals of the Department of Financial Services on Wednesday.

KMB sells stake in ECA Trading Services

New Delhi: Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) and one of its wholly-owned subsidiary has together offloaded 20 per cent stake in ECA Trading Services Limited (ECA), formerly known as Ace Derivatives & Commodity Exchange Limited.

CIL to convert shares in BCCL into equity

New Delhi: Coal India Ltd (CIL) on Thursday said its board has approved converting Rs 2,539 crore-worth redeemable preference shares held in its arm Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL) into equity shares. Pursuant to the conversion, the state-owned coal miner would get a total dividend of Rs 888.65 crore over a two-year period. **PTI**

Salgaocar in WEF's young leaders list

New Delhi: Indian-origin businessman and director of Vimson Group Vivek Salgaocar has joined the Forum of Young Global Leaders Class of 2020 of the World Economic Forum, which includes 113 other activists, academics, and political leaders from 51 nations. He will join the new class in a five-year programme, from March 2020, which will have executive education courses, expeditions and opportunities to engage experienced people. **ENS**

'COVID-19 spread to negatively impact domestic auto sector'

The continued spread of COVID-19 would negatively impact the domestic auto industry in the near term, India Ratings and Research has said

27%: IMPORT DEPENDENCE OF INDIAN AUTO ANCILLARIES AND ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS (OEM) ON CHINA FOR KEY PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

0.3X: RISE IN MEDIAN NET LEVERAGE OF DOMESTIC PRODUCERS DUE TO POTENTIAL MARGIN CONTRACTION AND ASSET TURNOVER PRESSURE

OTHER ISSUES FACED BY SECTOR IN INDIA:
- Declining domestic sales
- Persistent margin pressure

MAJOR SEGMENTS TO BE AFFECTED DUE TO SUPPLY DISRUPTION FROM CHINA:
- Passenger vehicles
- Commercial vehicles
- Two wheelers

INCREASED RELIANCE ON ADVANCED PRODUCTS: The transition to BS-VI and constant premiumisation of vehicles has increased the reliance of OEMs on the import of technologically advanced products

PRESSURE ON SUPPLY AND DEMAND SIDES: The sector would face pressure from not only supply side but also demand side and exports, if the spread of COVID-19 persists for over two months

***10%:** Expected year-on-year rise in imported components such as steering and braking systems engine parts, electronic components, fuel injection parts, and alloy wheels*

***Supply risk for domestic companies:** Extended production halts in China after the Chinese New Year due to a substantial rise in COVID-19 population have created supply-side risks for domestic auto companies*

Source: Ind-Ra/PTI

ALLEGED MANIPULATION OF BANK STATEMENTS TO OBTAIN FUNDS

SFIO arrests former Rotomac director, two senior officials of Frost International

KARUNJIT SINGH
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE SERIOUS Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) ON Thursday arrested Rahul Kothari, former director of Rotomac Global and son of Rotomac promoter Vikram Kothari, for his alleged involvement and manipulating bank statements to obtain bank funds.

It also arrested the managing director of Frost International Uday Desai and CEO Sujay Desai for fraudulent round tripping of funds and manipulating financial statements to get funds from banks. The Rotomac group has defaulted on loans of around Rs 4,000 crore, while the Frost International group has defaulted on liabilities of Rs 3,500 crore, according to the SFIO.

"During the course of investigation, it has been revealed that the companies were indulging in fraudulent round tripping of funds abusing the scheme of Merchanting Trade," said an official note reviewed by *The Indian Express*.

Merchanting trade is the activity of shipping products from one foreign country to another foreign country.

Both groups are alleged to have hidden foreign exchange losses from their fraudulent trade activity by issuing fake debit notes to foreign entities which were also controlled by them and showing trade receivables on their books to make their balance sheets appear healthy.

"They inter-alia issued fictitious debit notes to many foreign entities, which were under their control, in order to fraudulently transfer these foreign exchange losses incurred during the fraudulent merchanting trade to trade receivables," said the note.

According to the note, the Rotomac group of companies is alleged to have manipulated trade receivables by around Rs 3,000 crore while Frost International Limited is alleged to have manipulated trade receivables by around Rs 3,500 crore.

The Central Bureau of investigation too has initiated multiple cases against the promoters of Rotomac group and Frost International for bank fraud.

The Rotomac group had outstanding dues of Rs 4,000 crore while Frost International has outstanding dues of around Rs 3,500 crore, according to the SFIO.

'Cabinet gave nod to DoT plea to seek 20 years for AGR dues payment'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE DEPARTMENT of Telecommunications' plea seeking 20 years time for operators to pay adjusted gross revenue dues was approved by the Cabinet, Union minister Sanjay Dhotre told Parliament on Thursday. The Supreme Court will hear the government's rescue plan of giving telcos a 20-year repayment period for AGR dues during the next hearing scheduled after two weeks.

"Consequent to the approval by the Cabinet, an application has been moved before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on March 16, 2020, seeking, inter-alia, permission of the Hon'ble Court for the licensees impacted by the AGR judgement to pay the unpaid or remaining to be paid amount of past DoT assessed/calculated dues in annual instalments over 20 years duly protecting the net present value of the said dues using a discount rate of 8 per cent," the Minister of State for Communications told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply.

The Supreme Court on Wednesday had lashed out at Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea and other mobile phone operators for self-assessing their outstanding telecom dues, saying they need to pay past dues with interest and penalty — an estimated amount of Rs 1.69 lakh crore. The SC also came down heavily on the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for allowing companies to re-assess what they owed to the government, and said its order — passed on October 24, 2019 — on revenues for calculating dues was final.

Working on plan to ensure payment of MSME dues in 3 months: Gadkari

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

UNION MSME Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday expressed serious concern over non-payment of nearly Rs six lakh crore dues to micro and small industries by government and private undertakings and said that the government is working on an action plan to ensure the payments within three months.

Responding to a discussion on the working of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in Rajya Sabha, Gadkari said the Centre will revamp khadi and village industries within three months and make them more export oriented.

"Government undertakings procure products but do not pay for three-four months. MSMEs are on the verge of collapse. Passing a legislation is easy ... There are 20,000-22,000 cases"

NITIN GADKARI
UNION MSME MINISTER

He said all banks — scheduled, private and cooperative — and NBFCs are now allowed to lend money to the MSME sector and all loans sanctioned and disbursed under various schemes will be monitored through a central portal in his ministry.

"Government undertakings procure products but do not pay for three-four months. MSMEs are on the verge of collapse. Passing a legislation is easy ... There are 20,000-22,000 cases. As per my estimates, big industrialists, state governments, central government undertakings owe Rs 5.5 lakh crore to Rs 6 lakh crore to small industries," Gadkari said.

"This is a serious situation. We are in discussion with the Finance Ministry and we will find out some solution to it ... We have to give their payments within three months," the minister added.

While six lakh industries have been restructured under the UK Sinha committee on MSMEs appointed by the Reserve Bank of India, the minister said, a proposal to create a 'Fund of Funds' of Rs 10,000 crore has been approved by the Finance Ministry and the Cabinet nod will be sought on it.

In addition, the Finance Ministry has approved a proposal for a 'Distressed Asset Fund' of Rs 10,000 crore and the Ministry will send it for the Cabinet nod, Gadkari added.

On the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), the union minister said he will revamp it in three months and the commission will be strengthened professionally.

The MSME Ministry will appoint a financial consultant to study and suggest methods to strengthen KVIC.

A three-member committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary will be set up and we will revamp KVIC in three months and make it export oriented," Gadkari said.

Acknowledging challenges faced by the sector, Gadkari said the government believed in turning "challenges into opportunities."

Finance Commission sets up panel to review fiscal consolidation road map

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

THE FINANCE Commission has constituted an 8-member panel to review the fiscal consolidation road map of the both state and central governments. The panel will be headed by 15th Finance Commission Chairman N K Singh.

The Terms of Reference of the panel include making recommendations on the definition of deficit and debt for the central government, overall states, the general government and public sector enterprises by considering all explicit and measurable liabilities of the sovereign and by bringing in consistency between the definition of debt (stock) and deficit (flow), the Commission said in a statement on Thursday.

Besides, the panel will also lay down the principles for arriving at the debt of the general government debt and consolidated public sector with appropriate netting to avoid double-counting.

The committee will define contingent liabilities, provide quantifiable measures of such liabilities, wherever possible, and specify conditions under which "contingent" liabilities become "explicit" liabilities of the public sector. Based on the above definition, the committee will review the current status of deficit and debt at different levels.

The panel will recommend a debt and fiscal consolidation road map for FY21-FY25 for the Centre, overall states and general government and attempt building up scenarios for public sector enterprises, it said. Other members of the committee will be A N Jha and Anoop Singh, members of 15th Finance Commission; S Krishnan, additional chief secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu; and Anirudh Tiwari, principal secretary, Government of Punjab.

Besides, one representative each from the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, the Controller General of Accounts, Joint Secretary (Budget) of the Department of Economic Affairs in the Ministry of Finance.

Cabinet likely to clear tabling of Bill on bilateral netting of financial contracts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

IN A major step to implement much-needed financial sector reforms, the Union Cabinet on Friday may approve a proposal to introduce the Bilateral Netting of Qualified Financial Contracts Bill, 2020. As per sources, the Finance Ministry has circulated a draft of the proposed Bill and the same is expected to get the Cabinet's nod.

Once the Bill gets Cabinet approval, it will be introduced in the ongoing session of Parliament, sources said. As of now, bilateral netting for financial contracts is not allowed in India. This has negative impact on banks and other financial market participants.

The Finance Ministry's move comes barely one and a half months after the Economic Survey 2019-20 advocated the "Benefits of Enabling Bilateral Netting for Financial Contracts in India."

According to the Survey, "A bilateral netting agreement enables two counterparties in a financial contract to offset claims against each other to determine a single net payment obligation due from one counterparty to the other."

"Hence, establishing a legal framework for bilateral close-out netting in India would help: (a) reduce credit risk and regulatory capital burden for banks, freeing up capital for other productive uses; (b) reduce hedging costs and liquidity needs for banks, primary dealers and other market-makers, thereby encouraging participation in the OTC derivatives market to hedge against risk…" it said.

"According to RBI estimates, bilateral netting arrangements could have helped 31 major banks participating in India's OTC derivatives market save about Rs 22.58 billion in regulatory capital during FY2017-18.

"At present, major jurisdictions such as the US, U.K., Australia, Canada, Japan, France, Germany, Singapore and Malaysia have legal provisions in place for netting agreements", it added.

Sources also said the Cabinet may clear the draft of the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2020. This Bill will replace the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018 which the Centre wants to withdraw. The Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018 was introduced in Rajya Sabha in December 2018 and sought to provide a legal framework for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by allied and healthcare professionals.

BILATERAL NETTING NOT ALLOWED NOW

- **Bilateral netting for financial contracts is as of now not allowed in India. This has negative impact on banks and other financial market participants**
- **A bilateral netting agreement enables two counterparties in a financial contract to offset claims against each other to determine a single net payment obligation due from one counterparty to the other**

SoftBank shares close down 17% in biggest one-day fall

REUTERS
BEIJING, MARCH 19

SHARES OF SoftBank Group Corp closed down 17 per cent on Thursday in their biggest one-day fall, hammered by investor scepticism over the outlook for tech bets, such as office sharing firm WeWork and ridehailer Uber.

As economic gloom grows over a coronavirus outbreak, SoftBank racked up the second biggest fall in the benchmark index, breaking the 3,000-yen level to close at 2,687 yen. The one-day fall is greater than during the bursting of the dot-com bubble, which evaporated most of chief executive officer Masayoshi Son's wealth, as his plans to build a tech investing empire via the $100 billion Vision Fund stutter.

Uber's shares closed down 22 per cent overnight as people around the world stay home to try and slow the spread of the virus. SoftBank is considering pulling out of a $3 billion tender offer for WeWork, sources said.

The startup has taken long property leases but is exposed to customers pulling out of short co-working contracts as the economy deteriorates. "WeWork is very likely finished as a viable business," analyst Kirk Boodry wrote in a note on the Smartkarma platform, adding that "Softbank faces a third straight quarter of losses for Vision Fund."

The one-day fall is greater than during the bursting of the dot-com bubble, which evaporated most of CEO Masayoshi Son's wealth, as his plans to build a tech investing empire via the $100 billion Vision Fund stutter

PUBLIC HEALTH

Dropping the ball

COVID-19 is spreading rapidly in America. The country does not look ready

President Donald Trump speaks during a White House briefing on coronavirus. *AP*

WHEN A new disease first took hold in Wuhan, the Chinese authorities did not have the luxury of advanced notice. Their initial strategy, in the crucial early weeks of what would become the global pandemic COVID-19, was obfuscation and censorship, which did nothing to halt the spread of the virus that causes the disease. Only now, months after the first cases were reported, have new transmissions slowed to close to zero—and only after an unprecedented, draconian lockdown for hundreds of millions of citizens.

America, by contrast, had the luxury of several weeks' notice. Yet the crucial early weeks when it could have prepared for the spread of the disease were squandered, in a country with some of the world's best epidemiologists and physicians. As of March 11th, almost 1,300 Americans had been diagnosed with COVID-19. Several times more probably have the disease undetected and are transmitting it within communities. And still the country looks behind in its preparations for what now threatens to be a bruising pandemic.

America's decentralised authority, expensive health care and skimpy safety-net will all make the pandemic response harder to deal with. The uncertainty is high, but a plausible scenario—one-fifth of the population falling ill, and a 0.5% fatality rate—would lead to 327,000 deaths, or nine times that of a typical flu season.

How America got here was the result of two significant failures—one technical, the other of messaging. A country of America's size could probably not have avoided a serious outbreak of COVID-19. But with enough information, the early spread of the disease could have been slowed. That lowers the peak of the outbreak, lightening the load on hospitals when they are most overstretched, thereby saving lives. It also gives the health service and the government time to prepare, and the population a chance to learn how to respond.

However, in America the testing regime has worked badly, because of faulty test-kits manufactured by the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and tangles in administrative red tape between the CDC and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), another government agency. "The debacle with the tests probably reflects underlying budget cuts. You can't have surge capacity if you've already been cut to the bone," says Scott Burris, director of the Centre of Public Health Law Research at Temple University. In 2010 the CDC budget was $12.7bn in current dollars; today it is $8bn. Whether skimpy budgeting, bureaucratic blockages or both were to blame is as yet unclear and sure to be the subject of a future investigation.

When there are just a few infections, the health system has enough epidemiologists to track down and quarantine patients and their recent contacts. Without surveillance, however, small clusters rapidly become full-blown epidemics. This is where America finds itself today. The estimated doubling time of the virus is six days. If that remains constant, as is likely, the close-to-1,300 current cases are the bottom of a sickening ride up an exponential curve of infections. "In literal terms, we have no idea about the number of cases because nobody has tested to any meaningful extent," says Marc Lipsitch, a professor of epidemiology at Harvard. "Tens of thousands of cases in the US seems plausible," he adds.

A successful testing regime also buys time for the right messaging. But from the start, President Donald Trump has downplayed the chance of big disruption to ordinary lives and the economy. His insistence that virus hysteria was being amped up by his political enemies has distracted from the crucial message, which is to get ready. His announcement on March 11th of a ban on most travel from Europe was confused (he initially appeared to suggest it would apply to cargo), arbitrary (it excludes Britain) and accomplishes little now that the virus is spreading from within.

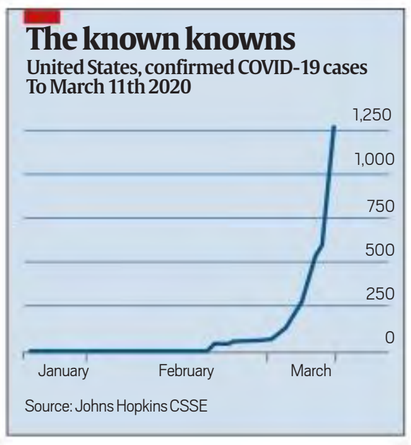
These mistakes cannot be undone. But what matters now is giving people the right information and reinforcing hospitals ahead of the inevitable deluge of cases. Unfortunately, the difficulties in testing and honest messaging look set to persist.

Even after the error in the test kits was detected, the increase in testing has been slow. Andrew Cuomo, the governor of New York, and Bill de Blasio, the mayor of New York City, have been begging the FDA to speed up approval for automated testing, to boost capacity from around 100 tests a day to the several thousand that are needed. A doctor at a Chicago clinic says that she has received no kits, nor guidance on when they will come. When she sees patients with COVID-19-like symptoms she has to send them to be tested at a nearby hospital.

Now that kits are being delivered, researchers are reporting another problem—a shortage of the components needed to extract genetic material from samples. The White House promised capacity of 1m tests by March 6th. The CDC has stopped publishing data on the number of tests performed. But the latest cobbled-together estimates, as of March 11th, are of 7,000 tests in total, well behind almost every developed country with an outbreak.

Mr Trump has minimised the threat all the same. On March 9th he blamed the "Fake News Media" and Democrats for conspiring "to inflame the Coronavirus situation" and wrongly suggested that the common flu was more dangerous. The same day, Nancy Messonnier, an official at the CDC, was warning, correctly, that "as the trajectory of the outbreak continues, many people in the United States will at some point in time this year or next be exposed to this virus."

Correcting the course of the outbreak is vital because America's health infrastructure, like that of most countries, is not equipped to deal with an enormous surge in serious cases. A recent study of COVID-19 in China found that 5% of patients needed to be admitted to an intensive care unit (ICU), with many needing intensive ventilation or use of a more sophisticated machine that oxygenates blood externally. America has 95,000 ICU beds and 62,000 mechanical ventilators, while only 290 hospitals out of 6,000 offer the most intensive treatment. Much of this equipment is already being used for current patients, including those with seasonal flu. Human capacity, such as the number of pulmonologists and specially trained nurses, is also a limiting factor—although in Italy, where the epidemic is raging, specialisms have begun to matter less. Mortality in overwhelmed hospitals will certainly be higher.



To reduce the chances of this happening, rates of transmission must be slowed by encouraging social distancing and telework, and cancelling large gatherings. (Sports events are already being called off: the National Basketball Association season was suspended on March 11th.) But in America authority over public health is largely delegated to the states and some cities. It is for each locality to declare a state of emergency; 13 had done so as of March 11th. The decentralised system means that containment regimes will differ.

America's decentralised authority, expensive health care and skimpy safety-net will all make the pandemic response harder to deal with. The uncertainty is high, but a plausible scenario—one-fifth of the population falling ill, and a 0.5% fatality rate—would lead to 327,000 deaths, or nine times that of a typical flu season

Mr Cuomo has ordered a series of measures: a one-mile containment area in New Rochelle, site of a cluster, serviced by the National Guard; and a state-produced line of hand-sanitiser made by prisoners to ameliorate a shortage. At the same time, New York City and Chicago have so far resisted closing their public schools, noting that many poor households rely on them for meals and child care. Many private universities are cancelling classes and switching to tele-instruction (causing much difficulty for some septuagenarian professors). Harvard gave its undergraduates five days' notice to pack their things and leave.

Maintaining a healthy population requires people not to spread the disease, but also to seek treatment without worrying about crippling debt. America is one of the few countries in the developed world that does not mandate paid sick leave. A mere 20% of low-paid, service-sector workers can count on it. Those without cannot stay at home, because a retail worker cannot just fire up Slack and Zoom as a white-collar office worker might.

Health care is also extraordinarily costly. People who are uninsured, underinsured (ie, liable for a high share of their treatment costs) or fearful of surcharges for using out-of-network hospitals and physicians may keep away—particularly if their pay has recently fallen or stopped altogether. "The idea that people should have skin in the game kind of doesn't work when you're also playing with your neighbour's skin," says Wendy Parmet, a professor of public-health law at Northeastern University. Some insurers, as in Illinois or in California, insist that patients will not be made to pay for testing. But as yet there is no such policy at national level.

Last week Congress passed an emergency appropriation of $8.3bn to fight the virus, which Mr Trump signed into law. Almost all that money will be devoted to front-line measures—such as test-kits, laboratory equipment and additional staff. A bigger fiscal stimulus will probably be needed. Mr Trump and Democratic leaders have sketched competing visions for what to do. The president would like to provide tax credits directly to stricken industries such as airlines, frackers and cruise-ship operators, cut payroll taxes (usually paid every two weeks) and offer paid sick leave to hourly workers. Democrats have proposed more generous paid-sick-leave rules, expanded payments for programmes like unemployment insurance and nutrition assistance, and guaranteed payment of all testing and out-of-pocket treatment costs. The need is urgent, but the haggling could drag on for some time.

Thus far in his presidency, Mr Trump has faced a few crises. Most he generated himself, including various trade wars and bouts of chest-thumping, which could generally be defused. The virus, however, will circulate no matter how much the president may wish it gone. Talking down the risks is not a winning strategy. To fight the outbreak, America needs clear, unvarnished public information and policies based on the best science. Is the president capable of endorsing that?

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IRAN AND COVID-19

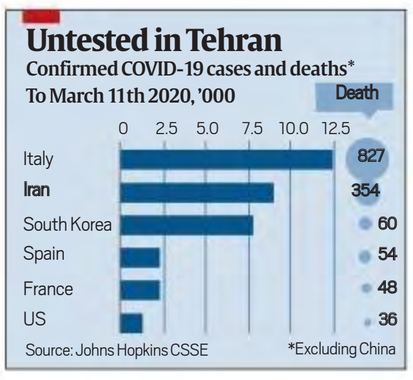
Sickly state

Iran has let its COVID-19 outbreak get out of hand

NOWHERE HAS COVID-19 hit a country's leaders harder than in Iran. Two vice-presidents, ministers and 24 members of parliament (almost 10% of the total) have contracted the virus. Two of those parliamentarians, as well as two former high-ranking diplomats and a member of an advisory council to Iran's supreme leader, have been killed by it. Hassan Rouhani, the president, now hosts sparsely attended cabinet meetings, as questions mount about the absence of other senior officials.

According to the government, the virus has infected 9,000 people and killed over 300. That would make it the second-biggest outbreak outside China (see chart). But no one believes the government's numbers. The outbreak is probably much worse than it is letting on.

Trust in the regime was already low as a result of its killing of protesters in November and its attempt to cover up the downing of a Ukrainian passenger plane over Tehran in January. When the virus struck, officials hid news of it so that voters would turn out for a rigged parliamentary election on February 21st. Visibly sick, the deputy health minister denied a cover-up on February 24th. He tested positive for the virus a day later. The number of infected officials alone suggests



an enormous outbreak. So do public surveys and other indicators. Some in the government think the actual number of cases is closer to 100,000. Outside estimates go even higher.

The government has closed schools, universities and theatres, and told people not to attend large gatherings. Some 300,000 soldiers and volunteers have been mobilised to fight the disease. But these measures have come late and are incomplete. There was no thought of quarantining the holy city of Qom, where the outbreak started. As fear of the virus grew, sick residents fled to other parts of the country, spreading it to every province. Hospitals, dubbed "virus factories" by locals,

Iranian women wear protective masks to prevent contracting coronavirus, as they walk in the street in Tehran. *Reuters*

are overloaded. Yet the mullahs still refuse to close the popular (and lucrative) holy shrines in Qom and elsewhere. Two men even filmed themselves licking the shrines (and were arrested). By contrast Saudi Arabia, with many fewer cases, has banned foreign pilgrims from its holy sites.

Before the virus, Iran's economy was largely isolated, thanks to American sanctions. Now it is even more cut off. Neighbours including Iraq, its main trading partner, are restricting the passage of people and goods. Religious, medical and leisure tourism, worth almost $12bn last year, has dried up. Iranians themselves are not spending ahead of

Before the virus, Iran's economy was largely isolated, thanks to American sanctions. Now it is even more cut off. Neighbours including Iraq are restricting the passage of people and goods. Religious, medical and leisure tourism, worth almost $12bn last year, has dried up

Nowruz, the new-year festival on March 21st. Restaurants, concert halls and hotels have shut for want of business. Shopping malls and bazaars are empty. Some businesses have cut the work week in half, but many employees are not showing up at all. March 8th was the Tehran metro's quietest day in a decade.

As imports become harder to get, inflation is likely to rise. The collapsing price of oil has cut into the profits of smugglers. With little hard currency entering the country, market-watchers expect another run on the rial, whose value has plummeted over the past year. Jamshid Edalatian, an economist, thinks GDP could shrink by 25-30% as a result of the virus.

In February the government said it would punish anyone spreading rumours about a serious outbreak. Officials have blamed America for fearmongering. But the regime's own ailing members have made the scale of the crisis impossible to conceal. And it could get worse for Iran's rulers. Many of them are old, infirm and especially at risk of dying from COVID-19.

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UNITED WE STAND

After spending six days in self-quarantine, *Wonder Woman* actor Gal Gadot (centre) posted an Instagram video on Wednesday, comprising Natalie Portman *(far left)*, Bill Ferrell, and other celebrities, singing John Lennon's *Imagine* to spread a message of unity.

SNAP SHOTS

Test Results

GAME OF Thrones actor Indira Varma *(pictured)* tests positive for Covid-19, two days after her fellow co-star Kristofer Hivju was diagnosed. Verma, 46, essays the role of Ellaria Sand in the popular series. She took to Instagram on Wednesday to break the news. The British actor, who has appeared in films such as *Kama Sutra: A Tale of Love* (1996), *Bride and Prejudice* (2004), and *Exodus: Gods and Kings* (2014), was slated to star in Anton Chekhov's play *The Seagull* at London's West End. She wrote, "So sad so many other shows around the world have gone dark... We hope to be back soon...Phoenix/ Seagull rising from the ashes."

Message of Hope

ACTOR JUDI Dench rang in a glimmer of hope on Wednesday to soothe anxious nerves with a heart-warming video. Her daughter, Finty Williams, took to Twitter to show the 85-year-old *Cats* actor dressed in a fluffy dog hat, where the dog ears pop up in a 10-second clip. She is heard saying, "Oh! There you are. Just keep laughing. That's all we can do."

Lights, Camera... Pack Up

As precautions against the spread of Covid-19 bring shoots and other production-related activities to a halt, here's a look at the setback the entertainment industry is likely to suffer

(Clockwise from above) Stills from *83; Angrezi Medium; Sooryavanshi*

ALAKA SAHANI

NEARLY 60 KM from Jaipur, a battlefield was created for the ambitious *Prithviraj,* which has Akshay Kumar playing the titular historical figure. However, cutting short the shooting schedule, the unit comprising a cast and crew of 3,000 members packed up on Tuesday as a precaution against the coronavirus. "The shoot of *Prithviraj* was progressing smoothly. We had six doctors who used to test the crew every day before the shoot started. Yet, there was hesitation among the crew with regard to coming closer to each other," says action director Pervez Sheikh.

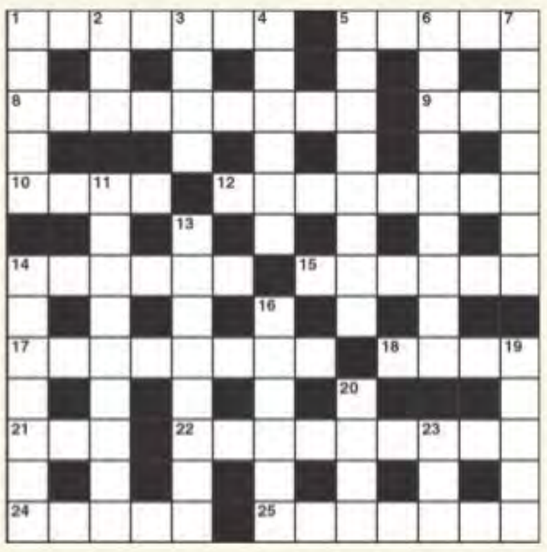
With the coronavirus fear looming large, the upcoming two-month-long schedule of *Prithviraj*, which was supposed to start on April 1 in Mumbai's Jogeshwari, too remains uncertain. Such unexpected disruptions in the production work might affect the Diwali release plan of Chandraprakash Dwivedi-directed *Prithviraj*. Already the making of a host of small- and big-budget movies such as Salman Khan's *Radhe,* Karan Johar's *Takht* and *Brahmastra* is affected due to the pandemic. In fact, the big-budget *Brahmastra*, supposed to release on December 4, has already suffered several delays.

The entertainment industry faces a dry spell at the box office as the release of Rohit Shetty's *Sooryavanshi* is postponed while Kabir Khan's *83* might look for a new release date. The release of two other movies — *Is Love Enough? Sir* and *Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar* — scheduled this Friday, too was cancelled. Anil Nagrath, General Secretary, Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association (IMPPA), believes the present health scare puts the "already precarious" entertainment industry in a terrible mess. "This will cause a backlog of releases. That would affect the fate of upcoming releases. The show business depends on how many screens and theatres a film gets. The funds in the industry keep rotating. If films suffer losses, less money will be invested in productions and so on," says Nagrath. With the shooting of daily soaps stalled, most channels will resort to repeat telecasts or reruns. "In such a scenario, the sponsors are not going to pay the same amount. That will lead to losses for the television channels," says Nagrath. The losses for the film industry alone will run up to thousands of crores, he believes.

The most affected lot in the industry are going to be the daily-wage earners. While Producers Guild of India on Tuesday announced setting up a 'relief fund' for the daily wage earners working in films, television and OTT productions, Federation of Western India Cine Employees (FWICE), which has nearly 35 associations affiliated to it, intends to provide ration and basic materials to them from March 22. Ashok Dubey, General Secretary, FWICE, said, "There are nearly 5 lakh workers and technicians under our federation. At any given time, up to 20,000 people might be employed on a daily wage basis in making commercials, films and television shows. Most of these workers don't get payments on time. On several occasions, even after a film is a commercial success, their payment is not cleared. In the past, we have complained about this to respective channels and producers." This shutdown is also going to affect them because they don't get regular employment. FWICE is still figuring out how to distribute rations. They can't do that at Filmistan studio as per their original plan since large gatherings are not allowed.

In the past few days, the making of a series of high-budget commercials related to IPL have been cancelled, causing a massive financial loss. Kumeil Bachooali, who is a coordinator of background models for commercials, said, "I mostly provide good-looking artistes, who appear in the crowd, and are called background models. They get around Rs 1,200- Rs 2,000 a day. After shooting a couple of TV commercials for IPL, we had to can around 15 projects. Most of these shoots involved big crowds and were to be filmed in stadiums. These shoots are postponed till April 15. Depending on the fate of IPL matches and other restrictions, we will plan our next schedule." Incidentally, on Wednesday, he worked on a public service campaign shoot to creating awareness about coronavirus.

CROSSWORD 4070



ACROSS

1 Trade in the streets (7)
5 In rough terms a fight (5)
8 A Paris rep, perhaps, who fixes the prices (9)
9 Provided meals - part of what a wife does (3)
10 A great sea-power (4)
12 Shakespearean character able to thrive on love? (8)
14 Ill-will of many to a girl (6)
15 Very much the opposite (6)
17 Ale or gin peculiar to the district (8)
18 The last of the wine (4)
21 Have something to confess (3)
22 Make a sorry speech? (9)
24 She made peace in Greece (5)
25 Made a noise when disconcerted (7)

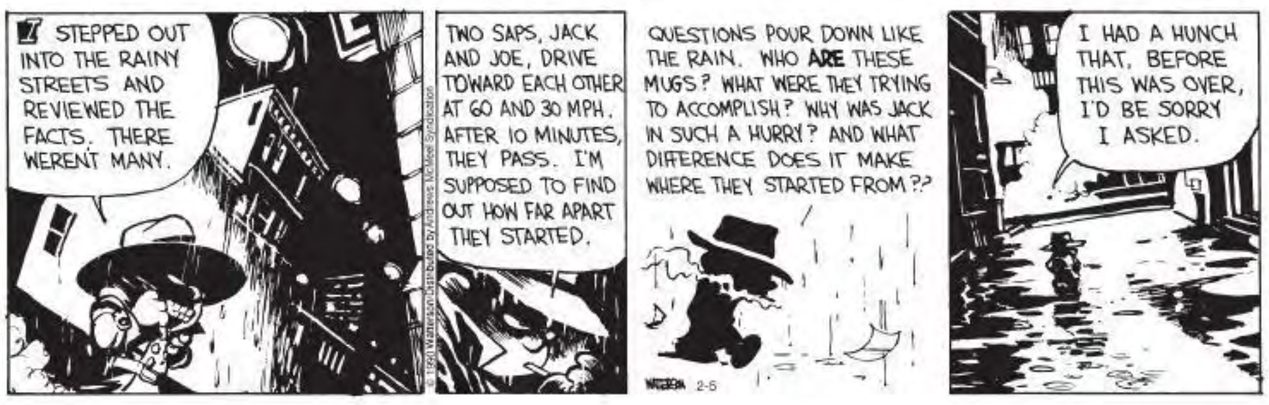
DOWN

1 Food and drink to someone (5)
2 It played its part in Cleopatra's poisoning (3)
3 Left in the cooler, it may be jammed (4)
4 Leading Cuban actors in parts (6)
5 Wordplay of a Socratic kind (8)
6 Somewhat eccentric rest home? (3-6)
7 Newcomer who will leap ahead when detailed (7)
11 Horse-drawn vehicle industry (9)
13 Royalty's own touch of honour (8)
14 He had a signal success in 1901 (7)
16 A kindness done for advantage (6)
19 Horse stepped very softly out (5)
20 Infantry base (4)
23 Fifty is under forty-nine? Well, no (3)

Solutions Crossword 4069: Across: 1 Marginal, 5 Mend, 9 Out of harm's way, 10 Noonday, 11 Leaning Tower of Pisa, 13 Assess, 17 Middleweight, 20 Windsor, 21 In bed, 22 Yo-yo, 23 Heighten. **Down:** 1 Moor, 2 Rotters, 3 Infants class, 4 Awning, 6 Endow, 7 Daybreak, 8 Cost of living, 15 Inhabit, 16 Swerve, 18 Dandy, 19 Aden.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis

CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Today's rather special Moon figures high in your list of planetary priorities, raising the temperature at work and in any legal questions. It also stimulates your creative energies. The most important consideration is to know your rights and stand up for yourself.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Personal projects which once looked fraught with difficulty and beset by obstacles, now seem to be strangely free from problems. The only remaining complications could be financial, though with excellent chances of improvement. It all depends on your sense of timing.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Everything now hinges around your ability to get on with other people. Indeed, it seems as if they have the whip hand, so your best chance may be to agree with their every word, and accept that it can be pleasant to allow others to take the initiative. Your turn will come very soon.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
By all accounts you will have little time left over after completing all those steadily increasing tasks and duties. You'll be burning the candle at both ends, but you'll be no use to anyone if you overdo it, least of all to yourself. Take it one step at a time.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
Financial extravagance is the key today, and the ripples arising from current risks and commitments will be felt for at least two weeks, if not twelve months. Sporting types should be on course for triumphs and trophies, so aim to improve on your personal best.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
This is a remarkable moment for improvements in family relationships and welcome changes in all domestic conditions. Accept that an element of uncertainty is inevitable, but don't let that put you off. After all, someone who has disagreed with you will soon see the error of their ways.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
Your nomadic qualities are being stirred up. Short journeys are likely to be made on the basis of family needs, rather than pleasure, but there is bound to be stimulation for you in encountering new places and environments. The more you travel, the richer your experience will be.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
You appear to be locked into a set of financial attitudes and commitments that no longer suit your requirements or talents. Other people must now make it clear that they back you to the hilt, otherwise there is no reason why you should continue to do your best for them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)
Today's lunar alignments influence all that is most special to you, arousing hope for the future. Don't worry if your ideas are still unclear, but recognise that prestige and professional projects are about to take off. All they need is one last almighty push.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
There is so much going on behind the scenes that you might feel as if you are to be sucked in to something that is only half-understood. You may wish to distance yourself from people who are unnecessarily aggressive. If they are intent on confrontation, then that is their business and nothing to do with you.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
You need more credit and partners may not deserve as much sympathy as you have given them. However, you could have little choice in the matter, and you will almost certainly be obliged to listen to their complaints. You never know, you may even come out with the advice they've been waiting for.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
You may have to choose between two simple options — partnership or career, love or work. So much hope seems to be tempered by seemingly impossible choices. Sit this one out if you wish, in spite of the pressure to act. You should never let other people push you into action before you're ready.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

___should never be treated as a crime. It has to be treated as a health problem. - Ralph Nader (9)

DSAIO

ADENCN

BHRIT

HOSYDD

SOLUTION: ADIOS, BIRTH, CANNED, SHODDY
Answer: **Addiction** should never be treated as a crime. It has to be treated as a health problem. - Ralph Nader

SUDOKU 4154

Difficulty Level 3s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

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

SOLUTION SUDOKU 4153

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

SPINMEISTER

SANITISER, NOT GIN

Shane Warne's distillery has started manufacturing hand sanitiser instead of gin to make up for the shortage of the alcohol-based solution

Tokyo Games could be delayed, but too early to cancel: Coe

REUTERS
LONDON, MARCH 19

World Athletics chief Sebastian Coe said on Thursday that moving the 2020 Tokyo Olympics to September or October due to the coronavirus outbreak was a possibility but it was too soon to take a decision on whether to cancel the Games.

While most of world sport has come to a standstill due to the pandemic, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has remained committed to staging the Tokyo Games as planned from July 24-Aug. 9 despite growing dissent. "Let's not make a precipitous decision when we don't have to four months out," Coe told BBC Sport.

"If you had to ease that date, you'd have to ease it. It's possible, anything is possible," he added when asked if the Games could be moved to September or October. Events are changing by the hour but it is not a decision that has to be made at the moment. We're trying to manage the situation with the information we have but there is not a great deal of information," he added.

"The temperature in the room with the IOC is, nobody is saying we're going to the Games come what may."

Europe has become the new epicentre of the flu-like virus that originated in China late last year and restrictions on movement in several nations have hit the training plans of athletes ahead of Games. IOC president Thomas Bach said they heard athletes' concerns on health and preparation but Coe said ensuring a level playing field for athletes during preparations may not be possible but it is a challenge World Athletics will strive to overcome.

"Recent evidence suggests China seems to be pulling out of this but if you're living in Europe, you're an Italian distance runner and you're confined to your house, that's a massive challenge," Coe told The Times. "Our sport has always been about fairness and a level playing field so we shouldn't feel ashamed to set that as our ambition. The reality is that may not be possible in every case but we want to do what we can to drill down on that. "Some are not able to train properly, some are not able to access public tracks or indoor facilities and we're working to try and help them find these facilities."

The virus has infected nearly 219,000 people globally and caused more than 8,900 deaths so far, sparking concerns over the viability of the Games.

Coe, the driving force behind the success of London 2012 as chairman of the organising committee, said the problem faced by the Tokyo Games was bigger than the mass boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

"I lived through Moscow and that was a crisis... This has probably exercised more thinking time and expended more effort for federations than anything I can remember," Coe added. We're doing everything we possibly can to get our sport and our athletes into the best possible shape through a challenging time and get to an Olympic Games."

Olympic leaders back IOC's Tokyo stance

Regional Olympic officials are rallying around the IOC and have backed its stance on opening the Tokyo Games as scheduled, as direct criticism from gold medalist athletes built amid the coronavirus outbreak.

Leaders of continental Olympic groups praised the IOC after a conference call Wednesday to update them on coronavirus issues four months before the opening ceremony in Tokyo on July 24.

"We are living through an unpredictable crisis and as such, it is important that we have one policy, expressed by the IOC, and we follow that policy in unison," the Italy-based European Olympic Committees said.

However, when the International Olympic Committee published an interview with its president, Thomas Bach, after a separate call with athlete representatives, it prompted a four-time Olympic champion to urge postponing the games.

Bach acknowledged that many athletes were concerned about qualifying events being canceled, but noted that there were still four months to go until the games are set to be opened. "We will keep acting in a responsible way in the interests of the athletes," Bach said.

British rowing great Matthew Pinsent wrote on Twitter that the comments from Bach, his former IOC colleague, were "tone deaf."

"The instinct to keep safe (not to mention obey govt instructions to lock down) is not compatible with athlete training, travel and focus that a looming Olympics demands of athletes, spectators organisers," Pinsent wrote. "Keep them safe. Call it off."

One of the IOC's 100 members had earlier broken ranks in a rare public criticism of the body's unwavering strategy.

HARD TALK

Let's not make a precipitous decision when we don't have to four months out. If you had to ease that date, you'd have to ease it. It's possible, anything is possible. Events are changing by the hour but it is not a decision that has to be made at the moment. "

SEBASTIAN COE
WORLD ATHLETICS PRESIDENT

I think, in the present scenario, with the health scares and all the travel restrictions and all, it is a tough time and at the moment the whole world is thinking about health and safety for its citizens, so I think given the situation it is better if the Games is postponed."

PULLELA GOPICHAND
CHIEF BADMINTON NATIONAL COACH

The IOC wants us to keep risking our health, our family's health and public health to train every day?"

KATERINA STEFANIDI,
2016 OLYMPIC POLE VAULT CHAMPION

AFI's GP stopped in its tracks

Ministry asks federations to hold off events and trials till April 15; javelin throwers in quarantine

NIHAL KOSHIE
NEW DELHI, MARCH 19

SOME OF India's top javelin throwers, including Neeraj Chopra, and coaches have been put in quarantine rooms for 14 days at the National Institute of Sports in Patiala. The deputy chief coach of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has isolated himself for a fortnight.

At least two national campers were told by NIS officials to leave the premises on Thursday though the AFI had asked them to travel to Patiala from their respective training bases for the first leg of the Indian Grand Prix.

At a time when the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has resulted in either the cancellation or postponement of many sports event, including Olympic qualifiers, the AFI over the past week was adamant on its events calendar.

That was till Thursday when the sports ministry in a bid to stop federations like the AFI from conducting national competitions or selection trials issued more stringent restrictions.

All national sports federations were told not to conduct 'tournaments and selection trials' till April 15. Olympic-bound athletes are also to be isolated from anyone not a part of their training camp, the advisory stated. The AFI informed coaches and athletes about the cancellation of the Indian GP. However, there was no official announcement of the event being called off.

The Federation Cup, a qualification event for the Tokyo Olympics, which was scheduled to be held from April 10 to 13 also stands canceled.

When social isolation, self-quarantine and medical screening is being followed across the country and new cases of Coronavirus are being reported daily, the AFI had earlier this week announced that the first and second legs of the Indian Grand Prix series will be held in Patiala on March 20 and 25.

This decision was taken after taking internal feedback from coaches and officials. Spectators were barred though. The AFI accepted over 175 entries from athletes across the country — among them those who would have to take different modes of transport to reach NIS and compete in the same arena as the national campers.

The next day, better sense prevailed and the AFI restricted participation of the Indian GP to national campers and some of the events for men and women were culled. There was no talk of cancellation.

A day later some of India's top javelin throwers, including Neeraj Chopra, Shivpal Singh and Annu Rani returned from their respective training bases in Turkey and South Africa, along with foreign coaches, and headed to the NIS. In 24 hours, they were transferred to 'quarantine rooms'.

Travel pangs

Sprinter Dutee Chand, who is part of the national camp, left Bhubaneshwar and travelled to Patiala. Another national camper too moved out of his training base in Kerala and arrived in Patiala. Both travelled only after checking with the federation if they should.

Both athletes, stayed overnight at the NIS, but were told by officials to head back home on Thursday.

The Indian GP was scheduled to go ahead as planned by the AFI even while its deputy chief coach Radhakrishnan Nair has been in self-quarantine for a week at the NIS. Nair completed the round trip from Patiala-Chandigarh-Trivandrum but on return was suffering from a cough and cold. He is not the only one whose movements have been restricted. Bio-mechanics expert Dr Klaus Bartonietz is also in self-quarantine.

Neeraj Chopra and fellow javelin throwers Shivpal Singh and Annu Rani returned from their respective training bases in Turkey and South Africa, along with foreign coaches, and headed to the National Institute of Sports in Patialia. In 24 hours, they were transferred to 'quarantine rooms'. *File*

THE NIS LOCKDOWN

- **AFI cancels Indian GP on the eve of the event after sports ministry asks all federations not to conduct events and selection trials till April 15.**
- **Star javelin throwers, including Neeraj Chopra, Shivpal Singh and Annu Rani moved to quarantine rooms at the National Institute of Sports in Patiala. They are likely to be in self-quarantine for two weeks after returning from training centres in South Africa and Turkey.**
- **Bio-mechanics expert Dr Klaus Bartonietz is also in quarantine. He coaches Chopra.**
- **AFI's deputy chief coach Radhakrishnan Nair has been in self-quarantine at NIS for a week. He had developed a cough and coach.**
- **Star sprinter Dutee Chand, who is part of the national camp but trains in Bhubaneshwar, asked to leave NIS. She is returning to her home state.**

For athletes such as Dutee, who travelled to Patiala after checking with the federation, the eleventh hour cancellation has been nothing short of a nightmare. On Thursday evening, Dutee travelled from Patiala to Delhi by road from where she will take a flight back to Bhubaneshwar on Friday morning.

"Before leaving for Patiala on Wednesday, I had checked with the Athletics Federation of India if it was advisable to travel. I was told the Indian GP would happen as per schedule. On arrival in Patiala, I was screened and I stayed in the hostel. But today (Thursday) I was told by NIS officials to leave the premises immediately. Now I have to head back all the way to Bhubaneshwar. I understand the current situation with the Coronavirus pandemic and was surprised that the Indian GP was being held in the first place," Dutee said.

Another athlete who did not want to be quoted said: "The AFI's argument is that the Olympics have not been canceled so the Indian GP should be held. But they should have been more sensitive to the issue. The Olympic qualification period is open till the end of June, so national events could have been conducted if and when the health situation in the country improved," the athlete said.

Fed Cup in May

According to an AFI official, the Federation Cup could be held in late May or early June if the Olympics are not canceled by then. Sports secretary Radhey Shyam Julaniya said the new instructions issued on Thursday was done to ensure that national federations cancelled selection trials.

"In the earlier advisory, we had said a sporting event could be held without spectators. But since then, the situation has evolved and we have had to take new measures. Quite a few domestic tournaments and selection trials were being planned. So as a precaution, we have now issued a new advisory and advised that no sporting event be held till April 15," Julaniya said.

AFI president Adille Sumariwalla said "our aim is to keep our athletes safe and also get athletes ready for the Olympic Games which are as of today on schedule."

NRAI postpones all coaching camps, meetings

New Delhi: In line with a government directive, the National Rifle Association of India on Thursday postponed its Olympic selection committee meeting and all coaching camps scheduled for April owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. The selection committee meeting was planned for Friday.

"In view of the outbreak of COVID-19 and as per recent directions received from the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the National Rifle Association of India has decided to postpone its Olympic selection committee meeting scheduled for Friday, March 20, as well as all coaching camps proposed in April 2020, till further directives received," the sports body said in a statement. The sports ministry had earlier in the day advised all national federations to refrain from conducting tournaments and selection trials till April 15 besides asking them to ensure that Olympic-bound athletes are isolated from anyone who is not a part of their training camp.

"The health of our athletes, coaches and administrative staff are of paramount importance to us," NRAI president Raninder Singh said in the statement.

"We urge all Olympic bound shooters and national coaches to refrain from coming to the range till further notice and request they continue with their respective training schedules from their home bases, as best as they can. The senior coaches are also specifically requested to refrain from travel. These are trying times, but we should ensure that we do not lose focus of the larger goal. We wish them all the very best and the pink of health." **PTI**

EXPERT OPINION

Why stronger bodies don't imply better immunity against the virus

SHIVANI NAIK
MUMBAI, MARCH 19

TILL THE Kevin Durant positive turned up and news of a 21-year-old football coach losing his life scrolled on timelines, a hoopster - not named here - remained under the false hope that as high-functioning, fit athletes, sportspersons were somehow not vulnerable to contract the Covid-19. Talk of higher immunity and a stronger body (better lung capacity) had lulled many into believing that the Coronavirus was something that struck only those who were very old or very young or with lungs compromised owing to various health ailments.

Dr Nikhil Latey who has trained a bunch of Olympians over the years, says this false sense of invincibility common among sportspersons is "utter rubbish" in the face of the leveller virus. A bunch of footballers and now NBA stars have been affected, proving that fear of exposure even to the fittest of bodies, is very real. Dr Latey clears some doubts:

Are sportspersons' immunities a better shield against the Covid-19?

Utter nonsense. This sort of thinking is not of the brightest of minds. Nor are all sportspersons the most hygienic of people inhabiting the most hygienic spaces. But to be clear, there is no natural immunity against the Covid-19. The human body has no clear idea yet, of how to deal with this. Ofcourse, fit athletes will not suffer the worst of it.

They might show fewer dire symptoms and even feel fine-ish. Which can make them even more dangerous carriers of the virus and put their families at risk. So even if they don't end up on a ventilator, this is no time to boast about how strong and immune a sportsperson is. Everyone is vulnerable. Everyone needs to take utmost precautions and follow protocol.

Are the contact sports the riskiest?

There are various complications - boxers and wrestlers also undergo crash weight losses which definitely impacts immunity, so they might not be as strong or hydrated as they think. Boxers wipe their sweat, their gum shields get handled by their corners to wash. Badminton courts are enclosed spaces and not the cleanest and there can be sweat on the floor. Spit flies in boxing.

Shooters need to be very very careful about their equipment. And they need to start washing their inners far more regularly. While swimming pools have chlorine, you don't know. For that sort of a virus, you'll really need to up the chlorine levels which might cause discomfort to the swimmers.

Shooters need to be very very careful about their equipment. They need to start washing their inners far more regularly. While swimming pools have chlorine, you don't know. For that sort of a virus, you'll really need to up the chlorine levels which might cause discomfort to the swimmers.

NIKHIL LATEY,
DOCTOR, WHO HAS WORKED WITH OLYMPIANS

So what can those who are training for Olympics still do?

There's no harm in running. And shadows. You have to be very careful about the equipment you use in the gym and ensure it is disinfected and not used by multiple people. You can't be touching others' equipment. We need to decide what's best way forward for those that have already qualified. In fact we need to isolate our qualifiers and not expose them to several people.

So if Sindhu wants to train, it has to be just her, a coach, a couple of sparring partners and not a room full of people. In shooting, a maximum of 4 should train on a range, spaced wide apart between lanes.

You can't have a training hall with 40 kids. You have to reduce their man-to-man contact to absolutely minimum. Clean all gear with Sterillium and keep phones clean. It is best to wash hands with soap to clear nailheads and lines of the hand alongwith the alcohol-based sanitisers.

What are the risks to sportspeople even if the infection might not lead to morbidity?

Look, they might not see the worst of it - and it might be just a fever and cough. But it can affect athletic performance bigtime. There's 4 months for the Olympics - assuming it goes ahead on time - even losing a month can be the difference between a silver and a 4th place. So athletes need to be clear if they are not extremely careful there is every chance of them getting infected. It might be a mild condition. But don't forget these are elite athletes.

As an athlete, their entire life is about high performance. That can get blunted. For ordinary people like you or me, we can just rest it out sitting at home if it's mild.

For Olympic-bound athletes, this is about tiniest of margins and even one month lost is a big problem. So whereever possible, they should isolate and not take this easy. No felicitations or parties or Goodluck sendoffs.

What does it mean for them being based in India and the progression of the infection?

As a country, all the over-reactions from the authorities are necessary. Because if this turns into an avalanche, our healthcare system doesn't have the wherewithal to deal with it, since the best are struggling. So all the talk of slowing it down, flattening the curve, starving the virus off hosts. Trouble is we can't see the endgame here. From the available literature, even if cases are down in China and Korea, it's worrying in Iran, Italy and Spain.

The incubation can be anything between 7-24 days so the 15-day quarantine might not be completely effective. It's grown between 1.1 to 1.4 times, so basically, there's more cases today than yesterday. Things can get real bad, real quickly. There's uncertainty about Olympics. Once the vaccine is figured, Tokyo will look on track.

So, this is a critical time for India. And athletes are no exception. So they need to keep calm, stay humble, maintain strict daily hygiene and not be stupid, thinking they are stronger than others.

Dutch, Spanish and Monaco F1 GPs postponed

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS, MARCH 19

THE MONACO Grand Prix was among three more Formula One races to be postponed on Thursday because of the coronavirus outbreak. The Dutch and Spanish GPs, scheduled for earlier in May, were also called off by governing body FIA.

The first seven races of the season have now been postponed, with organizers saying they will only begin the 2020 championship "as soon as it's safe to do so." Regarding the latest postponements, Formula One and the FIA said they were taking these decisions "in order to ensure the health and safety of the traveling staff, championship participants and fans, which remains our primary concern."

The season-opening Australian GP in Melbourne was called off only hours before it was due to start last Friday. The Bahrain GP, scheduled to start on Friday without fans, and the inaugural Vietnam GP on April 5 were then quickly called off. The Chinese GP in Shanghai on April 19 was postponed in February. The Dutch GP was scheduled to be held on May 3 at the Zandvoort track outside Amsterdam. The Spanish GP was to follow on May 10, with the Monaco race on May 24. The next race on the calendar is in Azerbaijan on June 7.

The mid-season break has been moved from August to March and April and extended from 14 to 21 consecutive days. Teams can choose their 21-day period for ceasing activities. That will allow more flexibility in re-arranging races. The season is scheduled to end with the Abu Dhabi GP on November 29, but could be extended to fit some postponed races in.

English football suspended until April 30

English football will remain suspended until at least April 30 because of the Covid-19 pandemic, with authorities agreeing on Thursday to extend the season "indefinitely" beyond its previous cut-off point of June 1. "We are united in our commitment to finding ways of resuming the 2019-20 football season and ensuring all domestic and European club league and cup matches are played as soon as it is safe and possible to do so," Football Association and the Premier League said in a joint statement.

Domino effect

UEFA's decision to set deadline to make up for lost time may cause new problems

RORY SMITH
MARCH 19

POWER, IT turned out, was the problem: who had it, who wanted it, who would get to keep it. Remove that and present those who scrapped and bickered and threatened to paralyze soccer over it with something they could not barter or bully, and suddenly all the hard, red lines turned a soft, dusky pink. The powerless are in no place to argue over problems.

In the space of five days, soccer has discovered a spirit of "unity." FIFA president Gianni Infantino has noticed it. So, too, has Aleksander Ceferin, his counterpart at UEFA, the organisation that oversees European soccer.

Somehow, it has only been a week or so since they were together in Amsterdam, at UEFA's annual congress, the former offering an olive branch and the latter responding with a flex — posturing and peacocking that now seems to belong to another place, another world. Back then, over there, FIFA and UEFA were at loggerheads over control, over money, over everything. They were not the only ones: The clubs had their agenda, the leagues had theirs. Neither seemed especially concerned by what the players wanted, and nobody ever bothered to ask the fans. The organizers wanted more tournaments, or more of their tournament: more games, more prizes, more of everything, more of anything.

And then, as Juventus and Inter Milan and Real Madrid and Arsenal went into lockdown because of the coronavirus, and then as leagues across the world shuttered the doors, it became obvious the issue was no longer that there needed to be more but that there would not be any, not for some time. There was no use now, squabbling over power, not when it was clear, even to them, that something else was in control. That powerlessness has yielded soccer's new sense of unity. Over the weekend, representatives of all the sport's stakeholders pored over contracts and ran numbers and held talks; just as important, it seems some of them might have listened, too. By the time UEFA convened the first of its conference calls this week — first with Europe's leagues and clubs, then with the Continent's national associations — the framework of a plan was in place.

This summer's men's European championship would have to be postponed, as has been blindingly obvious for some time, and played out in the same locations, and under roughly the same time frame, next year. Various other tournaments — the European under-21 championships, the Nations League finals and the women's European championships — are expected to shift backward to accommodate it.

Earlier this week, UEFA postponed the Euros by one year and set June 30 as the deadline for domestic leagues across the continent to finish their seasons.

In turn, that creates the space and slack in the calendar not only for UEFA to possibly complete the Champions League and Europa League but for the Continent's national leagues to find a conclusion to their current seasons, too. Ideally, UEFA said, that would be before June 30, the date at which the "current sporting season" ends and — more important — a whole raft of contracts expire. If not, UEFA will look at adapting the qualification processes for next season's Champions League and Europa League to create yet more space.

There is an acceptance that none of these plans may be possible, that this season may yet have to be annulled entirely or finished prematurely. There is no pretense of a return to power. For its part, FIFA has postponed its revamped Club World Cup, scheduled to be held in China next year; it has yet to set a date for when it might be played. A few hours after UEFA's declaration, CONMEBOL — the South American federation — confirmed it would move Copa América, from this summer to next, too. The Africa Cup of Nations, originally set to be played next January in Cameroon, has been postponed indefinitely.

Now UEFA, together with Europe's leagues and clubs, must begin figuring out how to play the rest of this season to some sort of satisfactory conclusion, just what to do if that is not possible, and how to help those leagues and clubs whose very existences are threatened by a shutdown that could last for months.

When it announced its emergency meeting last week, UEFA made clear to the various invitees that everything would be on the table, that there would be no red lines, no taboos, nothing set in stone.

Yet so many of the things now under consideration were judged completely unthinkable only last week: a major confederation — or three — shifting its grandest occasion; Champions League fixtures being played on weekends, traditionally a sacrosanct time for domestic action; FIFA's agreeing to delay a competition that Infantino has spent years promoting and selling around the world.

But this, sadly, was not the test. That is still around the corner as the clubs and leagues try — as much as they can, given that the spread of the coronavirus is still wildly unpredictable, that there is no way of telling when sports may be able to resume, or, crucially, when a beleaguered and possibly broken public will have any tolerance for it — to find a way to finish this season and play the next in the space of a year and three months. NYT

In Germany, players opt for voluntary pay cut

Borussia 'Gladbach players approach club management with a generous gesture while a Scottish side tells its team to accept 50% salary reduction or face contract termination

PLAYERS INTERVENE AFTER 'GLADBACH FACES €2 MN LOSS

Players from German football club Borussia Monchengladbach have accepted pay cuts during the coronavirus pandemic. Gladbach sporting director Max Eberl says the players approached the club with an offer of voluntary pay cuts, and the coaching staff, directors and executives have joined in. Eberl says "I am very proud of the boys. A clear signal: we are standing together for Borussia in good and bad times." Gladbach is fourth in the German league and was on course to qualify for a spot in next season's Champions League. Gladbach CEO Stephan Schippers says the club and Bundesliga are in their toughest financial situation in more than 20 years because of lost revenue from tickets, TV and sponsorship. Gladbach played a game last week in an empty stadium. The club estimated it lost about 2 million euros ($2.16 million) in revenue by playing without fans. In Scotland, Hearts has asked all its players and other fulltime employees to accept a 50 percent pay cut, or contract termination.

MADRID STRIKER INVESTIGATED FOR FLOUTING ISOLATION

Real Madrid striker Luka Jovic is being investigated by Serbian authorities for allegedly flouting a mandatory self-isolation measure after returning home from a coronavirus-infected state. The 22-year-old Jovic returned from Spain last week and was seen on the streets of Belgrade and pictured at his girlfriends's birthday party. Serbian state of emergency law introduced as an effort to stop the spread of the coronavirus calls for all those returning from states battling the virus to self-isolate for up to 28 days. The law calls for 1-to-12 years in jail for ignoring self-isolation or quarantine.

WEIGHTLIFTING'S TOKYO 2020 QUALIFYING CRITERIA CHANGED

The International Weightlifting Federation says it has changed its Olympic qualifying criteria in response to the coronavirus outbreak but won't say how the new system works. Olympic qualifying in dozens of sports has been thrown into chaos as continental championships around the world have been postponed. The IWF says it has drawn up a replacement set of qualifying rules and submitted them to the International Olympic Committee but it won't tell athletes or national federations about the changes until the IOC signs off on the plan. The IWF says it has ruled out extending the qualifying period beyond April 30. That means any rescheduled continental championships won't count. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Japanese swimmer Imoto Naoko holds the Olympic torch during the handover ceremony.

OLYMPIC FLAME HANDED OVER TO TOKYO ORGANISERS

The Olympic flame has been handed over to Tokyo organizers in Athens. The coronavirus outbreak forced a bare-bones version of the usual elaborate ceremony. The 80,000-seat marble stadium was empty apart from a handful of officials and participants. The Japanese delegation was absent because of travel restrictions and Tokyo organizing committee head Yoshiro Mori delivered a speech by video from Japan. Mori says "I hereby pledge that on 24 July this flame will be lit at the Olympic Stadium in Tokyo."

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