



NORTH

Girl set ablaze by neighbour, condition critical: Police

Lucknow: A 19-year-old man was arrested on Thursday for allegedly setting a 17-year-old girl on fire in Sitapur district on Wednesday. The victim has suffered around 60 per cent burn injuries and is undergoing treatment in Lucknow where her condition is stated to be critical. Khairabad circle officer

Yogendra Singh said the incident occurred around 5 pm on Wednesday. "The girl and the boy are neighbours and had been in a relationship. The girl informed us that the accused was putting pressure on her to marry him. When she denied, he got agitated and committed the crime," he added. **ENS**



Children dressed as Lord Krishna ahead of Janmashtami, in Lucknow on Thursday. Vishal Srivastav

EAST

Calcutta HC stays warrant against Shashi Tharoor

Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court on Thursday stayed a bailable arrest warrant issued against Congress MP Shashi Tharoor for his "Hindu Pakistan" remark. During the hearing, a bench of Justice Rajasekhara Mantha directed Tharoor's lawyer to serve notice on Sumit Chowdhury, who had filed the case against

the Congress MP, and fixed the matter for hearing on September 20. Tharoor's counsel, Rituz Ghoshal, who is also a Congress leader, moved the petition ex-parte, challenging the warrant against Tharoor, claiming that the summons issued by the chief metropolitan magistrate was faulty. **ENS**

WEST

Man arrested for sexually assaulting dog: Police

Navi Mumbai: A 22-year-old man was arrested by the Kharghar police on charges of bestiality after he allegedly sexually assaulted a stray dog on August 14. He was arrested on Wednesday night and remanded in custody for five days, police said. According to Kharghar police, the accused has been identified as Munna Singh (22), a resident

of Bihar. According to PETA activist Meet Ashar, "The accused had been caught on camera by a group of friends while he was forcing himself on the animal. The group went to police on August 16, but their complaint was registered only on August 21." The officer added, "the accused seems to be a repeat offender." **ENS**

SOUTH

HC grants three weeks parole extension to Nalini

Chennai: The Madras High Court on Thursday granted a three-week extension to the ongoing parole of Nalini, one of the convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. Last month, the court had granted her ordinary leave for 30 days for making arrangements for her daughter's wedding. Her pa-

role was extended after she approached a division bench seeking an extension of one month. During the hearing, the public prosecutor submitted that the Tamil Nadu Suspension of Sentence Rules, 1982, provides for a maximum 30-day period as ordinary leave for a convict at a point of time. **ENS**

Affidavits of Muslim residents spoke of temple demolition, apex court told

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AFFIDAVITS FILED by several Muslim residents of Ayodhya before the Faizabad magistrate after idols were placed inside the Babri Masjid spoke about a temple being demolished to make way for the mosque and a willingness to return the land to Hindus, the counsel for the temple side told the Supreme Court on Thursday.

Senior advocate Ranjit Kumar, who appeared for Rajendra Singh — one of the plaintiffs in the original civil suit in the Ayodhya land matter — told a Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi that these affidavits had not been accepted as evidence by the Allahabad High Court as the authors of these documents were not examined. Kumar told the bench, also

comprising Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer, that these affidavits, 14 in all, were filed in response to a notice issued by the Additional City Magistrate, Faizabad-cum-Ayodhya, Markendeya Singh while attaching the building after idols were placed inside it on December 23, 1949.

The notice, published in three newspapers, asked Hindu and Muslim residents of Ayodhya to appear before the City Magistrate on January 17, 1950, "and put in written statements of their respective claims with regard to the fact of actual possession of the subject of the dispute".

An affidavit by one Abdul Ghani also said that only Friday prayers were allowed as per the orders of the king and later, the British.

Justice Bhushan sought to know if he could establish the



veracity of the statements.

Kumar said the magistrate had verified their sanctity and identity of those who filed them. "These affidavits speak of some facts. They (authors) were not cross examined. If they had said anything wrong, others would have objected," he submitted.

"The notice was by publication. What is the inference to be drawn? They were all residents of Ayodhya... If you give notice, publish in three papers, these statements are verified, their identity is verified..." Kumar continued.



MNS chief Raj Thackeray at the ED office in Mumbai on Thursday. Ganesh Shirshekar

Raj Thackeray questioned by ED, security tightened in Mumbai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

MAHARASHTRA NAVNIRMAN Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray on Thursday was questioned for over eight hours by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) at its Mumbai office, in a money laundering case pertaining to the IL&FS group's loan equity investment of over Rs 850 crore in a company called Kohinoor CTNL. Thackeray's family and senior MNS leaders accompanied him to the ED office at 11:30 am, leaving only around 8:00 pm.

The Mumbai Police had heightened security in the city and detained several MNS leaders early in the morning to ensure no protests broke out. MNS activists had earlier planned to hold statewide protests and gather outside the ED office. The move, however, was called off after the party chief himself made an appeal to his supporters to maintain calm.

The Mumbai Police, on its part, heightened security in parts of Mumbai and had also imposed Section 144 of CrPC (banning unlawful assembly) outside the ED office.

The police also rounded up MNS leaders, including former MNS corporator Sandeep Deshpande. MNS activists,

ENTIRE FAMILY BEHIND MNS CHIEF: RAUT

Mumbai: Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Thursday said the entire Thackeray family is behind MNS chief Raj Thackeray, who appeared before the ED on Thursday. "Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray already said nothing will come out of the ED inquiry. As Sena chief has already extended his support, the entire Thackeray family is behind the MNS chief. Though we are opponents in politics, we are together during tough times. This is the teaching of Shiv Sena patriarch Balasaheb Thackeray," he said to reporters. **ENS**

meanwhile, protested against the summons to their party chief by wearing T shirts which equated the ED to "Hitler".

The case pertains to a loan investment made by IL&FS in 2009. Thackeray, his business partner in Matoshree Infrastructure Rajan Shirodkar, and Unmesh Joshi — the son of former Maharashtra CM Manohar Joshi and owner of the Kohinoor Group — had purchased a 4.8 acre piece of land auctioned by the National Textile

Corporation for a sum of Rs 421 crore in 2005. IL&FS, through its subsidiary Consolidated Toll Network India (CTNL), had acted as a syndication agency for the deal, worth Rs 421 crore. The consortium, called Kohinoor-CTNL, was planning to build a commercial skyscraper called Kohinoor Central.

However, after a real estate slump, Thackeray reportedly exited the consortium by selling shares at a profit of Rs 62 crore in 2009. IL&FS too exited the consortium but subsequently advanced loans of up to Rs 860 cr to Kohinoor-CTNL, which the company could not repay. The precarious financial condition of the company had also led to Unmesh Joshi, who was the only remaining partner invested in the deal, to lose control of Kohinoor-CTNL, which was then taken over by another company.

The ED is presently investigating the role of IL&FS officials for sanctioning loans without ensuring adequate collateral security, which has caused losses to the company.

According to sources familiar with the matter, Thackeray was questioned on the status of his investments in Matoshree Infrastructure, why he exited the consortium, and the financial benefits he received after selling his stake.

"That's all. But court can't say these statements are correct," the bench intervened.

The senior counsel said "to discard them completely because they were not cross examined won't be proper".

"If they (those who filed it) had been produced before the High Court, it would have been different," pointed out Justice Bobde.

Kumar said, "My statements were before the magistrate. There would have been other Muslim parties and they would have objected. I'm not asking to take it as gospel truth, but an inference can be drawn."

"What I want to show is that the puja, darshan, worship was always going on and my right of worship continues as it was before... My right to worship is an unfettered right and it flows from centuries. It should be protected," the senior advocate added.

Kolkata car crash: Arsalan gets bail, elder scion in 12-day custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, AUGUST 22

ARSALAN PARVEZ (22), the scion of Kolkata's renowned Arsalan chain of restaurants, was on Thursday granted conditional bail here, five days after two Bangladeshi nationals were killed in a crash triggered by a speeding Jaguar allegedly driven by his elder brother Raghib Parvez.

Raghib, who was arrested on Wednesday, has been remanded in police custody for 12 days while Arsalan's maternal uncle Mohammad Hamza, who allegedly helped Raghib escape to Dubai, was released on conditional bail.

"Arsalan Parvez, who had taken the blame on himself, and his maternal uncle Mohammad Hamza, who allegedly helped Raghib escape to Dubai, were released on conditional bail by the court. None of them can leave Kolkata," an official said. Raghib has been remanded in police custody till September 3.

Police have claimed that on the night of the accident, Raghib was returning from the birthday party of the son of a prominent Kolkata school's principal. "Just before the incident, he had gone to a birthday party from where he decided to drop his friend. The car was being driven at breakneck speed," a police officer said.

Raghib is said to have returned to the city on Monday.

Late Friday night, the SUV, allegedly being driven at 150 km per hour, rammed into a Mercedes, which then crashed into a police kiosk on a pavement near Park Street, where three Bangladeshi nationals had taken shelter from the rain. Two of them died on the spot; the third is injured. Hamza and Raghib were arrested on Wednesday after the latter returned to Kolkata. Police have charged Raghib with rash driving, culpable homicide not amounting to murder and attempt to commit culpable homicide.

MAHARASHTRA CO-OP BANK SCAM

Ajit Pawar, state NCP chief may face charges as HC orders FIR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

THE BOMBAY High Court on Thursday directed the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Mumbai Police to file an FIR in the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB) scam, in which former deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar and 76 others have been accused of causing financial losses to the tune of Rs 1,000 crore to the MSCB between 2007 and 2011.

The respondents in the case included 37 directors of the bank, including NCP leader Pawar and state party chief Jayant Patil.

In their 84-page order, Justice S C Dharmadhikari and Justice Sandeep Shinde observed that despite an inspection report of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for 2009-10 and chargesheet filed by a quasi-judicial inquiry commission under the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies (MCS) Act showing "glaring irregularities", the police had not filed an FIR in the matter.

Directing the EOW to file an FIR within five days, the judges said that the "report of inquiries/inspection constitutes credible information and/or material which, prima facie, discloses the commission of cognizable offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code and other penal laws".

Andheri resident Surinder Arora had filed a complaint with the EOW in the matter in 2015. He later filed a criminal public interest litigation in the HC, urging it to direct the police to file an FIR.

Addressing the "moot question" of whether the investigating officer was right in opining that the material does not disclose a cognizable offence, the court said, "The state in this case has neither produced a station diary, nor filed a counter-reply, for satisfying our judicial conscience that a preliminary inquiry was held before reaching a conclusion that the complaint of the peti-



Former deputy CM Ajit Pawar (left) and NCP state chief Jayant Patil may face charges along with 75 others

tioner and report of NABARD has not disclosed commission of cognizable offence. Thus, apart from the oral assertion of Shri (Shrikant) Paropkari (deputy commissioner of police, EOW) there is nothing on record to justify the conclusion."

In view of deficiencies pointed out in the inspection report of NABARD, the RBI had in May 2011 directed to supersede the MSCB board of directors and appoint an administrator to look after the affairs of the bank.

"At the relevant point of time, the bank was managed by the board of directors consisting of 48 members, most of whom were MLAs and MPs of the ruling party. The petitioner alleges that due to the irregularities of the members of the board of directors, the bank had showed both, negative growth and development," the court noted.

Relying on the NABARD report and the chargesheet filed under the MCS Act by the authorised officer of the International Banking Division, Co-operative Societies, the court observed: "The inspection report, therefore, not only points out the discrepancies or irregularities committed by the respondent bank and its directors but also point out that the trust reposed in the bank and its officers has been brazenly breached. The report, prima facie discloses that the bank records were forged and the profits were wrongly shown by abusing the Income Recognition and Asset Clarification norms."

Kerala court finds 10 guilty in case of honour killing

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 22

A KERALA court on Thursday found 10 people guilty in a case of honour killing, in which a Dalit Christian youth was abducted and murdered by his fiancée's upper caste Christian family in Kottayam last year.

Of the 14 people arraigned as accused, four were acquitted by the court. The other 10 have been charged under IPC Section 302 (murder) and Section 364A (kidnapping for ransom), among other charges.

Observing that the murder of Kevin P Joseph, 24, was an incident of honour killing, Kottayam Principal Sessions judge C Jayachandran put on hold serving the quantum of punishment to the 10 found guilty.

Since the murder, Kevin's fiancée Neenu Chacko, 21, has been staying with Kevin's family. The court is expected to deliver the punishment on Saturday.

Special Prosecutor CS Ajayan said the court's observation of honour killing can reflect upon the quantum of sentence — the Supreme Court had earlier stated that honour killing is a circumstance to consider it as a "rarest of rare" case.

During the trial, Neenu, a student, had told the court that her father Chacko, an upper caste Christian hailing from Kollam, had threatened her and Kevin over their relationship.

Chacko, who has married a Muslim woman, Rehna, had told his daughter that marrying a "low caste youth would bring dishonour" to his family. Neenu's cousin Niyas also had warned that the

family would not allow her to live with Kevin.

According to the prosecution, Neenu left her house in Kollam on May 24, intending to marry Kevin and disregarding the objections from her family.

Two days later, they jointly moved an application at a register office in Kottayam, for registering their marriage.

When Neenu's family moved a missing person's complaint with the local police, Neenu and Kevin turned up at the police station, where Chacko was present, the prosecution said.

Neenu told the court that the station house officer wanted her go with her family, and had even tried to manhandle Kevin.

Neenu then moved to a hostel in Kottayam and Kevin to the house of a relative, Aneesh.

As per the prosecution, a gang, led by Neenu's brother Shynu Chacko, abducted Kevin and Aneesh on May 27, 2018, after vandalising Aneesh's house. Aneesh was later abandoned by the gang after he was tortured.

However, the gang took Kevin to a village in Kollam and forced him to run into a stream.

His body was found in the stream the next day, apparently indicating a case of drowning. But, the prosecution said, forensic examination had revealed that Kevin was murdered by keeping him forcibly under water.

According to the prosecution, Kevin's father, Joseph, approached the police about his son's abduction, but police initially did not take a serious note of the issue. Neenu too had pleaded for help from the police, which was turned down by officials on the grounds that they were on VIP escort duty and could not spare personnel.

Chit fund scam: FIRs against Raman Singh son

Rajnandgaon: Five FIRs have been registered in Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh against former chief minister Raman Singh's son Abhishek Singh, a former MP, and 19 others in connection with an alleged chit fund scam, police said on Thursday.

Former BJP MP Madhusudan Yadav and Congress leader Naresh Dakaliya have also been named as accused besides 17 directors and core committee members of Anmol India Company.

The FIRs were registered at four police stations on the directive of a local court, Rajnandgaon Additional Superintendent of Police UBS Chouhan said. Nobody has been arrested so far, he said.

Five investors from Rajnandgaon filed petitions before a local court, alleging that the company cheated them of lakhs of rupees by promising high returns. **PTI**

2.66 lakh beneficiaries of farmer assistance scheme found ineligible: Odisha minister

SAMPAD PATNAIK
BHUBANESWAR, AUGUST 22

THE ODISHA government has found that 2.66 lakh recipients of assistance under its Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme are not eligible for the benefit, Agriculture Minister Arun Sahoo said on Thursday.

The government will take a call on the process to retrieve the money from the ineligible beneficiaries after August 31, when the scrutiny is complete.

Speaking to the media, Sahoo said, "This (KALIA) is a large scheme. It was seen that there are some beneficiaries who have been found to be ineligible. Exclusion criteria were created. On that basis, nodal officers were

placed at the GP, block and district level. After scrutiny of more than 72 per cent recipients of KALIA assistance, which is around 36.88 lakh (beneficiaries), 2.66 lakh have been found ineligible," he said.

"The scrutiny process will continue till August 31. When the list is completed, we will let you know the final number," he added. "At the GP level, the nodal officers undertaking this scrutiny have been advised not to let a single eligible beneficiary be left behind."

According to the KALIA website, beneficiaries include small and marginal farmers who can get support for cultivation. Landless agricultural households are eligible for livelihood support, and vulnerable agricultural household covering vul-

nerable cultivators/ landless agricultural labourers are eligible for financial assistance. Vulnerable cultivators/landless agricultural labourers include those affected by old age, disability, disease.

Small and marginal farmers are provided Rs 10,000 per family per year as assistance for cul-

tivation. KALIA targets 10 lakh landless households, specifically SC and ST families. They are supported with a unit cost of Rs 12,500 for activities like goat rearing, mushroom cultivation, beekeeping, poultry farming and fishery.

The website also mentions categories that are ineligible, such

EXPLAINED

Exclusion criteria often overlooked

INELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES crept in through various sources, agriculture department officials said, requesting anonymity. In some cases, multiple members of the same household have applied for KALIA. Others have claimed the benefit without checking exclusion criteria on the KALIA website.



137 Himalayan peaks now open for trekking

New Delhi: In a decision that is expected to give a boost to adventure tourism in the country, the Centre has thrown open 137 Himalayan peaks, including the Kanchenjunga in Sikkim, for domestic and foreign mountaineering expeditions and trekking with immediate effect.

The move was approved by the Union home ministry following a petition by the tourism ministry, which has sought newer avenues to increase tourist footfalls. At present, access to certain Himalayan regions, the northeastern states like Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, and Nagaland, for instance, requires inner line or restricted area permits that are issued by defence and home ministries.

A total of 15 peaks that were as yet beyond reach in the Kashmir region will become accessible with this decision. In addition, 51 peaks in Uttarakhand, 24 in Sikkim, and 67 in Himachal Pradesh have also been thrown open to tourists.

However, access to the sites will remain subject to inner line permits or restricted area permits that are to be issued by the concerned authorities.

Full report on www.toi.in

Govt proposes e-cigarette ban, jail for offenders

New Delhi: The health ministry has proposed a ban on the production and import of electronic cigarettes. The ministry has proposed that the government issue an executive order banning the devices in the public interest, saying it was needed to ensure e-cigarettes don't become an "epidemic" among children and young adults.

Health officials are proposing jail terms of up to three years, with a penalty of up to Rs 5,00,000, for repeat offenders against the new rules, according to a draft of the executive order. First-time offenders would face a prison term of up to one year and a fine of Rs 1,00,000. REUTERS

All 21 guns at Bihar state funeral fail to fire, cop suspended

Ramashankar | TNN

Patna: The police inspector in charge of the Supaul district armory was suspended for negligence on Thursday because none of the guns in the 21-gun salute at Wednesday's funeral of former Bihar chief minister Jagannath Mishra reportedly fired their blanks. A senior police officer, however, said a few shots misfired.

IGP (Kosi range) Suresh

Birendra Singh, in charge of the district armory at Supaul, had been suspended for negligence in duty. IGP (Kosi range) Suresh Prasad Choudhary, however, said a few of the shots misfired

Prasad Choudhary said Birendra Singh, in charge of the district armory at Supaul, had been suspended for negligence in duty. "He didn't examine the blank bullets supplied to the cops for the gun salute," Choudhary said.

Choudhary, however, added: "A few of the shots misfired".

On the other hand, some local residents claimed that none of the 21 guns fired during the gun salute at the cremation at Balua Bazar in Supaul district. The cremation was attended by Bihar CM Nitish Kumar, deputy CM S K Modi, health minister Manoj Pandey and assembly speaker Vijay Choudhary, besides a host of ministers and senior police officers.

Akhara, 'Ram Lalla' lock horns in SC over Ayodhya land

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New Delhi: Fault-lines among Hindu parties, litigating against Muslim parties for ownership over 2.77 acres of disputed Ram Janmabhumi-Babri Masjid land in Ayodhya for last 70 years, widened in the Supreme Court on Thursday with Nirmohi Akhara seeking management rights over the entire disputed land as 'shevatis' (worshippers) and locking horns with Deity Ram Lalla's claim for ownership over the land.

Appearing for the Akhara before a bench of Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer, senior advocate Sushil Jain said no party to the litigation has ever disputed about the Akhara and its priests conducting worship rituals of the deity and managing the inner and outer courtyards of the disputed structure since 1934, when a riot had damaged the mosque.

Jain said the Akhara is not claiming ownership over the disputed land but seeking restoration of its management rights as 'shevatis', which was taken away from it by Faizabad magistrate's December 29, 1949 order after the alleged placing of idols inside the disputed structure. He also ques-



LEGAL TUSSLE

tioned the suit filed by Ram Lalla through 'next friend' Devki Nandan Agrawal in 1989 seeking ownership over the entire land. 'Next friend' is a devotee who moves court on behalf of the deity which is regarded as juridical person.

The Akhara questioned the locus of the deity or 'next friend' Devki Nandan Agrawal and said said Agrawal was not even an idol worshipper. "Under the Hindu law, the property vests in the deity only in the ideal sense and for all practical purposes, it is the shevati, who looks after the deity and the deity's property. It is also accepted that in a shevati office of a manager as well as property are blended together and hence shevati can maintain a suit on behalf of the deity in his own name and need not implead the deity as a party in every case," it said.

Full report on www.toi.in

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

End probe, trial in rape cases of U12 girls in 2 months: Shah

'Chief Secy Must Personally Monitor Sex Assault Cases'



Amit Shah at the western zonal council meeting in Dona Paula, Goa

Panaji: Union home minister Amit Shah on Thursday directed the state governments of western zonal council to put a monitoring mechanism in place to ensure that the investigation and trial of sexual assault against girls below 12 years of age are completed within two months.

"The chief secretary must personally monitor the adherence to the legal provisions of completing investigation and trial within two months in cases of rape and sexual offences involving minors," Shah said at the 24th meeting of the western zonal council, comprising Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra and the Union territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

Shah also said west zone has been instrumental in giving impetus to the Indian economy as the states con-

tribute around 24% to the GDP and 45% to the total exports of the country.

He was speaking at a meeting held at Dona Paula that was attended by the CM of Goa Pramod Sawant, Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnis and Gujarat CM Vijay Ramniklal Rupani, among others.

Shah stressed that after due deliberations, "unequivocal decisions taken by consensus" should be resolved

to further strengthen the federal structure of the country.

"Hence, all the pending issues between the states and the Centre need to be resolved on priority basis through the medium of the western zonal council," he said.

All the chief minister also congratulated Shah for the abrogation of Article 370 and 35A of the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir.

Shah expressed his con-

cern for flood victims in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa and requested the states to quickly assess the damage caused by the floods and send their requirements to the Centre.

He said the Centre has taken an initiative to assess the damage due to floods on its own, for which central teams have already been constituted to visit the flood-affected areas without waiting for reports from the states.

The meeting discussed the master plan submitted by the Maharashtra government for the utilisation of surplus salt pan land for the rehabilitation of slum dwellers.

During the meeting, it was decided that the state government should send a detailed proposal within two months suggesting broad contours of a transparent financial model for the rehabilitation of slum dwellers and the transfer of land and monetisation for the Centre.

State in 2 weeks why you keep changing features of notes and coins: HC to RBI

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Mumbai: The Bombay HC on Thursday lambasted the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for not responding to the question why it frequently changed the size of currency notes and coins.

A bench of Chief Justice Pradeep Nandrajog and Justice Bharati Dangre was hearing a PIL by the National Association for the Blind seeking the production of currency notes and coins friendly to visually challenged people.

On August 1, the RBI was directed to reply and state what its compulsion was in



The Bombay high court said that RBI could not exercise its power in a way that caused inconvenience to people

changing the note size frequently. The court was peeved when the RBI advocate sought time "to collect data and past history and reasons regarding the decision to change notes".

"For a decision you don't need data. We are not asking

you the number of notes you have printed," Chief Justice Nandrajog said. The judges said the claim that notes are changed to tackle fake currency was exposed during demonetisation. "Every currency note issued by RBI went back to RBI," Chief Justice Nandrajog said, adding that "they were looking at a couple of thousand of crore".

The bench questioned the delay in informing it of the reason for changing notes, saying if there is a valid reason it will be told at the first instance. "Is that somebody sitting there saying... just do it?" Chief Justice Nandrajog said.

The judges said that RBI

could not exercise its power in a way that caused inconvenience to people. They said a citizen can also file a PIL asking why the Re 1 note, which is official currency, is out of circulation. "That is the legal tender. Others are promissory notes," Nandrajog said.

The judges said visually challenged people took time to get familiar with the denomination of notes according to their size. "Please at least come and tell us... in future we are not changing the size of currency notes. If that is done, by and large the problem is solved," Nandrajog said.

The RBI has to reply within two weeks.

In a first, NTA announces dates of 13 exams at one go

SEASON BEGINS DECEMBER, ENDS JUNE

Exam	Registration starts on	Examination date from	Examination date to
Indian Institute of Foreign Trade Admission Test 2020	Sept 9, 2019	Dec 1, 2019	—
UGC-NET December 2019	Sept 9, 2019	Dec 2, 2019	Dec 6, 2019
CSIR-NET December 2019	Sept 9, 2019	Dec 15, 2019	—
JEE (Main) 2020	Sept 2, 2019	Jan 6, 2020	Jan 11, 2020
Common Management Admission Test 2020	Nov 1, 2019	Jan 24, 2020	—
Graduate Pharmacy Aptitude Test	Nov 1, 2019	Jan 24, 2020	—
JEE (Main) 2020	Feb 7, 2020	April 3, 2020	April 9, 2020
National Council of Hotel Management JEE 2020	Jan 1, 2020	April 25, 2020	—
All India Ayush Postgraduate Entrance Test	Jan 1, 2020	April 29, 2020	—
Ignou Entrance Test 2020 (MBA, BED)	Jan 31, 2020	April 29, 2020	—
National Eligibility cum Entrance Test UG 2020	Dec 2, 2019	May 3, 2020	—
Jawaharlal Nehru University Entrance Test 2020	Mar 2, 2020	May 11, 2020	May 14, 2020
Delhi University Entrance Test 2020	May 2, 2020	June 2, 2020	June 9, 2020
Indian Council of Agricultural Research	March 1, 2020	June 1, 2020	—
UGC-NET June 2020	March 16, 2020	June 15, 2020	June 20, 2020
CSIR-NET June 2020	March 16, 2020	June 21, 2020	—

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New Delhi: The National Testing Agency announced the dates for 13 competitive exams including joint entrance examination (main), national eligibility-cum-entrance test-UG, the Delhi University and Jawaharlal Nehru University entrance tests and UGC-NET on Thursday. This is the first time the dates for these major centralised competitive tests for admission to various professional courses and eligibility exams have been announced together well in advance.

The NTA, following its successful pilot run is also exploring introduction of "face recognition technology" to check impersonation in these tests.

NTA is expecting a total of 70 lakh registrations for these 13 tests. Earlier, these tests were conducted by seven different agencies, each announcing the test dates separately. From December, 2018 these exams were passed on to NTA.

The Union HRD ministry had asked NTA to prepare the

schedule in advance so that students could plan their preparations and other examining bodies could schedule exams that do not clash with these important tests.

The NTA's new cycle of tests is to commence from December, 2019 with the computer-based entrance exam for the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), the first B-school to have engaged the agency, followed by the University Grants Commission National Eligibility Test and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research National Eligibility Test this December.

According to the schedule, the two JEE (main) 2020 tests will be conducted from January 6 to January 11, 2020, and April 3 to April 9, 2020, respectively. The NEET-UG 2020 will be conducted on May 3, 2020.

"The ministry thought that a common schedule, if announced in advance, has multiple advantages. There are many state-run competitive tests as well as private exams which can be scheduled without them clashing," a senior HRD official said.

The agency is likely to

make a few changes in the online form from this year. A candidate will have to upload a "live photo" during registration. "Photo verification will be done at two stages — once during registration and again as the candidate enters the test centre. During registration the candidate will upload a photo. Along with that, the camera on the computer will click a photo to ascertain that it is the same person filling the form. In case the computer doesn't have a camera, the candidate will get a link via SMS through which he or she can upload a live photo from his or her mobile camera," a senior NTA official said.

"At the entrance of the centre, the camera stationed there will capture a photo of the candidate and match it the database in real time," the NTA official said.

Speaking to TOI, HRD minister Ramesh Pokhriyal said: "NTA has been innovating and evolving in each test. Such modern technology will only make our testing system more robust."

Full report on www.toi.in

NORTHERN RAILWAY CANCELLATION OF TENDER
Due to administrative reason NIT No. 230-TRS-GZB-2018-19-22 for the under noted work to be opened on 20.09.2019 is hereby cancelled. The name of work and other details are as under:-

1. Name of the work	Repair cum Reconditioning (Rehabilitation) of 20 Loco Sets of PCB Cards of 3-Phase locomotives sanctioned under Bulk RSP P.B. No. 1113/2012-13/DRF
2. Approx. cost of work	₹ 7.99,39,005.60
3. Website particulars where cancellation details of tender can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

Corri. No. 230-TRS-GZB-2018-19-22, Dt.: 22.08.2019 2703/2019
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MAHARASHTRA STATE ROAD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED, (MSRDC)
(A Govt. of Maharashtra undertaking)
Opp. Bandra Reclamation Bus Depot, Bandra (W), Mumbai – 400 050
Tel. No.: 022-26517966, Fax: 022-26417993
Website: www.msrdc.org; CIN : U45200MH1996SGC101586
E-Tender Portal: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>
EXPRESS OF INTEREST FOR SELECTION OF ENTITY FOR LEASE OF 1.54 ACRES LAND PARCEL AT NEPEAN SEA ROAD, MUMBAI
Online digitally signed Expression of Interest (EOI) is invited by MSRDC from interested eligible parties for being selected for lease of 1.54 acres land parcel at Nepean Sea Road, Mumbai for 60 years Lease Period.
• The EOI document can be viewed / downloaded through e-tendering portal, <https://mahatenders.gov.in> from 23rd August 2019 at 13.00 hrs to 7th October 2019 till 15.00 hrs.
• Interested parties may download the EOI document on payment of ₹ 50,000/- for the EOI document
• Guidelines to download the EOI document and online submission of EOI can be downloaded from website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.
• The last date of submission is 7th October 2019 till 15.30 hrs
• Right to accept or reject any or all the EOI without assigning any reason whatsoever is reserved with MSRDC.
• Pre Bid meeting will be held on 9th September 2019 at 12.00 noon
Sd/-
Vice Chairman & Managing Director

TIMES ascent
Catapult your career

Balaxi Ventures Limited
Registered Office : Plot No.409, H.No. 8-2-293, Maps Towers, 3rd Floor, Phase-III, Road No. 81, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana, India - 500096. Website : www.balaxi.com

Balaxi Group of Companies is engaged in diversified businesses including international trade and Marketing of pharmaceutical formulations with offices in USA, China, Angola, Guatemala, Dominican Republic and Dubai. We have a range of over 600 formulations including tablets, capsules, injectables, ointments, liquids, infusions, suppositories, and surgical products. **We need the following personnel to support our growing operations. All positions will be based out of our Corporate Office in Hyderabad.**

- 1. PHARMACIST - REGULATORY MANAGER (1 POSITION)**
We are looking for a M.Pharm with 8-10 years of experience in pharmaceutical regulatory affairs which includes the preparation of technical dossiers of pharmaceutical formulations for submission to various regulatory agencies. Fluency in Hindi will help the candidate in interaction with our various suppliers. **Total Emoluments: ₹ 65,000/- per month**
 - 2. PHARMACISTS - REGULATORY EXECUTIVES (10 POSITIONS)**
We need 10 qualified pharmacists to augment our regulatory team. New appointees will be fully trained to prepare technical dossiers of various pharmaceutical formulations. We are looking for young and dynamic individuals with a B.Pharm degree from reputed institutes. Candidates with 2-3 years of experience will be preferred. Fluency in Hindi will help the candidates in interaction with our various suppliers. **Total Emoluments: ₹ 30,000/- per month**
 - 3. ARTWORK DESIGNER (1 POSITION)**
We need an artwork designer for our design department with at least 3-4 years of experience. Candidates must be proficient in Corel Draw, Illustrator and Photoshop. **Total Emoluments: ₹ 30,000/- per month**
 - 4. CO-ORDINATOR (2 POSITIONS)**
We need smart and persuasive coordinators with excellent communication skills to support the top management. Proficiency in MS Excel & Word is a must. Extraordinarily good candidates can expect to climb high up the corporate ladder very quickly. We are looking out for young MBAs with fluency in English. Outstanding candidates can look forward to overseas postings/ official trips. **Total Emoluments: ₹ 30,000/- per month**
- Send your resumes with a photo to jointheteam@balaxi.com

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायबरेली
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raebareli
(An Autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
Munshiganj, Raebareli - 229405, Uttar Pradesh, India
www.aiimsraebareli.edu.in
No. AIIMS/RBL/ADMIN/RC/2019/451 Dated: 22.08.2019
NOTICE FOR WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR AIIMS, RAE BARELI (UP)
The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh intends to fill up 12 (Twelve) posts of **Senior Residents** in different specialities purely on ad-hoc basis in **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rae Bareli, Uttar Pradesh** through walk-in-interview.
The candidates willing to appear in the above said walk-in-interview must submit their brief bio-data (in triplicate) in the proforma attached (Annexure 'A') along with certificate of age, qualification, experience and caste complete in all respects till **30/08/2019 upto 11:00 AM** positively in **office of the Senior Administrative Officer, OPD complex, Munshiganj, AIIMS, Rae Bareli (UP)**. The interview for these posts will be conducted on **31/08/2019 at 11:00 AM** onwards. For further details like total number of posts along with break-up, age, qualification, experience, caste and remuneration etc., the candidates may visit website www.aiimsraebareli.edu.in.
DIRECTOR

GUJARAT METRO RAIL CORPORATION (GMRC) LIMITED
(SPV of Govt. of India and Govt. of Gujarat)
Block No.1, First Floor, Karmayog Bhavan, Behind Nirmal Bhavan, Sector 10/A, Gandhinagar, 382010, Gujarat, India. (CIN : U62200GJ2010SGC059407)
TENDER NOTIFICATION No.: GMRC/O&M/C&H-02/2019 Date: 23-08-2019
E-Tenders are invited from reputed and experienced Contractors for the following tender:

Tender Name	Estimated Amount of Work	Tender Fees
"Cleaning of Depot area including admin block, different bays, roads and maintenance of garden etc. at Apparel Park Depot for Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project – Phase-1"	INR 1.83 Crore	INR 5,000/-

Interested bidders are requested to visit <https://gmrc.nprocure.com> for eligibility criteria, applying/ downloading the tender document. Last date and time for Bid Submissions of E-Tender is 15:00 Hrs on 13-09-2019.
Any alterations in Eligibility Criteria cum Qualification Requirements, and terms of the Tender Document, or any amendment to the Tender Document, etc, will be uploaded on <https://gmrc.nprocure.com> and GMRC's Website www.gujaratmetrorail.com without any obligation or press notification or other proclamation.
Sd/-
Managing Director, GMRC, Gandhinagar

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation
Tender Notice
E- tenders are invited for Designing, editing, printing & Supply of Monthly Magazine of Dr. Ambedkar Foundation from the reputed publishing houses. The firms who have work experience of having completed satisfactorily at least 2 jobs of similar nature for any Govt. Department/Foundation of State/Center/PSUs/ Autonomous Bodies (under Central or State Governments), each of minimum value of Rs.25 Lakhs from 2010-11 with annual turnover of Rs. 1 Crore during F.Y. 2017-18 may apply with Earnest Money Deposit of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs.One lakh only) through online payment gate way provided in the e- procurement portal. Price of Tender document Rs. 1000/- and Tender Forms Available at Website www.tenderwizard.com/TWEPROC or our website www.ambedkarfoundation.nic.in. The tender should be submitted latest by 12 Noon on 16th September, 2019 upto 15:00 Hrs.
Director