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जिन्दगी गम का सागर भी है,
हंसके उस पार जाना पडेगा !!



Appointments

* Ms Tarika Roy (IRAS:1997), Joint Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), was prematurely repatriated to her parent cadre with the imposition of the extended cooling-off condition.

* The tenure of Manharsinh L Yadav (IFS:2007), Director in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), was extended for a period of one year beyond 28.01.2022.

* Brijendra Pratap Singh (ED, SAIL) was selected by PESB for the post of Director in-charge of Burnpur & Durgapur Steel Plants, SAIL

* Pawan Kumar Mishra was selected for the post of Director (Finance), Central Coalfields Ltd. Presently, he is working as, Chief Financial Officer, DNH Power Distribution Corporation Limited

* Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi has been appointed as the new Northern Army Commander. He is presently posted as the Deputy Chief of Army Staff and would be succeeding Lt Gen Y K Joshi in Udhampur, Jammu, and Kashmir

* S. Balachandran (2005:YOA), presently Ambassador of India to the Republic of Suriname, was concurrently accredited as the next High Commissioner of India to Saint Lucia with residence in Paramaribo.

* Vinay Kaushal, (IRS:IT:2011) was appointed as Private Secretary to the Minister for Information & Broadcasting and Youth Affairs & Sports (Anurag Thakur) in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting for a period of five years.

* Ms. B V Umadevi (IFS:1987:CG) was appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. Presently, she is Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.

* Two Deputy Secretary level officers were re-designated as Director namely; Anil Kumar (IRS IT:2008) in the Ministry of Textiles; Gaurav Hariom Gupta (IDSE:2004) in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; Ms. Rohini R. Bhajbhakare (IAS:2008:TN), Private Secretary to Annpurna Devi, Union Minister of State for Education; Ms. Jayanthi Angayarkanni G D (IRSIT:2008), DOPT.

* Sidhil Sasi (ISS:2001), Director in the Department of Investment & Public Asset Management (DIPAM), was repatriated to his parent cadre to avail the benefit of promotion.

The tenure of the foreign deputation of Ms Smita Sirohi was extended for a period of six months beyond 10.01.2022 (i.e. upto 10.07.2022). She is working as an Adviser (Agriculture & Marine Products), under the Ministry of Commerce, at the Embassy of India, Brussels. It may be underlined that prior to her foreign assignment she worked as Principal Scientist, ICAR-NDRI (Karnal).

Ms. Richa Gupta (IDAS:2010) was appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Textiles for a period of four years

Two officers working as Deputy Secretary were re-designated as Director namely Ranjit Kumar (IAS:2008:MH), Department of Personnel & Training and Devesh Gupta (IRS C&CE:2008), Department of Commerce.

The tenure of the additional charge of the post of Development Commissioner, Kandla Special Economic Zone to Akash Taneja (ITS:1990) was extended for a period of six months beyond 24.11.2021 or till the post is filled on regular basis. Presently, Taneja is Additional Director General in the Directorate General of Foreign Trade.

Rajan Sehgal (IFS:1992:KL) was selected by PESB for the post of Managing Director, National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC).

* S Somanath was appointed to the post of Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, Space Commission for a combined tenure of three years inclusive of an extension in tenure beyond the age of superannuation. Presently, he is working as Director, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).

* Kamal Kumar Agarwal (ITS:1997), Director, Election Commission of India, was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre on personal grounds with extended cooling off.

* Dheeraj Bhatnagar (IRS IT:1988), Additional Secretary, Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), was prematurely repatriated to his parent cadre to avail the benefit of promotion in the cadre.

* Vineet Singhal (IRSME:2002) was appointed as Director in the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for a period of five years.

* Prof. Vijay Paul Sharma was appointed as Chairman, Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP). Currently, he is a Professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

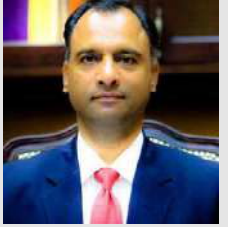
* Mirza Mohammad Abdulla (GM, MOIL Limited) was appointed as Director (Production & Planning) in MOIL Limited, a Central PSU under the Ministry of Steel, till the date of his superannuation i.e. 31.08.2026.

* Ms. Reshma Reghunathan Nair (IRS IT:2011) was appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Women & Child Development for a period of four years.

* Prakash Khichi (CPES:2005) was appointed as Director in the Government e-Marketplace under the Department of Commerce for a period of five years.

Centre accepts VRS of Delhi CS, may join as Delhi's EC in April

The Union Government has accepted the VRS request (Dated 31.12.2021) of Delhi Chief Secretary Vijay Kumar Dev (IAS:1987:AGMUT) w.e.f 20.04.2022. Reportedly, he will join his new responsibility as Election Commissioner in the Election Commission of the National Capital Territory of Delhi in the last week of April; 11 months ahead of his retirement i.e. 31.03.2023. He will occupy this position for a period of six years i.e. upto 65 years of age. Dev was appointed to the post of EC, Election Commission of the NCT of Delhi in the last week of November 2021. The reward may be a recognition of his capability that helped him avoid any controversy with the Kejriwal administration.



IAS

* The post of Deputy Secretary NHA, presently held by Kiran Gopal Vaska (IAS:2008:MP), was re-designated as Director for a period up to 11.11.2026 i.e. total five years tenure. Vaska counts his central deputation tenure.

* Ms. Anuradha Thakur (IAS:1994:HP) was appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs. Presently, she is Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.

* Shashank Goel (IAS:1990:TG), presently in the cadre, was appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

* Shailesh Kumar Singh (IAS:1991:JH), presently in the cadre, was appointed as Additional Secretary and Development Commissioner, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

* Manish Kumar Gupta (IAS:1991:AGMUT) was appointed as Vice Chairman, Delhi Development Authority (DDA). Presently, he is Principal Commissioner, Delhi Development Authority.

* Chanchal Kumar (IAS:1992:BH), presently in the cadre, was appointed as Managing Director, National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

* Ashish Srivastava (IAS:1992:MP) was appointed Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare by cancelling the order dated 04.12.2021 regarding his appointment as Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat (SR). Presently, he is Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development.

* Hari Ranjan Rao (IAS:1994:MP) was appointed as Administrator, Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), Department of Telecommunications (DoT). Presently, he is Additional Secretary, DoT.

* V L Kantha Rao (IAS:1992:MP) was appointed as Additional Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT). Presently, he is Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisition), Ministry of Defence.

* Pankaj Agrawal (IAS:1992:MP) was appointed as Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisition), Ministry of Defence. Presently, he is Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat.

* Vikram Dev Dutt (IAS:1993:AGMUT), presently in the cadre, was appointed as Chairman & Managing Director, Air India Ltd.

* Santosh Kumar Sarangi (IAS:1994:OR), was appointed as Director-General, Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) vice Amit Yadav (IAS:1991:AGMUT). Currently, he is Additional Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education.

* Naresh Pal Gangwar (IAS:1994:RJ) was appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) vice Ms. B V Umadevi (IFS:1987:CG) upon her appointment as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. Presently, he is Joint Secretary, MoEF&CC.

* Further, the Central Deputation tenure of Ashutosh Jindal (IAS:1995:TR) was extended for a period of one year beyond 16.02.2022 i.e. upto 16.02.2023. Presently, he is Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat

* Kumar Ravikant Singh (IAS:2008:UP) presently PS to Pankaj Chaudhary, Union MoS for Finance

* Dr Ashima Jain (IAS:2008:BH) presently working as PS to Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti Union MoS for Rural Development.

* Brij Mohan Mishra (IAS:2008:AGMUT) presently working in the Department of Commerce

* Abhimanyu Kumar (IAS:2011:RJ) was appointed as Deputy Secretary in the Department of Commerce for a period of four years.

IPS

* Jose Mohan (IPS:2002:RJ) was appointed as Inspector General in Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) for a period of 05 years.

* P Aravindhan, (IPS:2010:TN) was appointed as Assistant Director (SP level) in National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for a period of four years.

Punjab: Bhawra is new DGP

Amidst the fingers raised over the Punjab police's responsibility in the "security lapses" during PM Modi's state visit the Punjab Government appointed VK Bhawra (IPS:1987:PB) as the new Punjab DGP. With this, Punjab gets its third DGP in the past three months. UPSC had on Tuesday recommended a panel of three officers "on the basis of seniority and merit" namely; VK Bhawra, Dinkar Gupta, and Prabodh Kumar. Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi and Deputy CM-cum-Home Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa had arrived at a decision to appoint Bhawra as new DGP. Bhawra has replaced Siddharth Chattopadhyaya (IPS:1986:PB) who is facing severe criticism over the PM's "security lapse".




PK Goyal appointed as Goa CS

1991 batch IAS officer of AGMUT cadre Puneet Kumar Goyal has been made new chief secretary of Goa, as the present chief secretary Parimal Rai is retiring on January 31, 2022. Ministry of Home Affairs issued the order of appointment of Puneet Kumar Goyal as the new chief secretary of Goa with effect from February 2 till further orders. MHA issued this order on Friday.

Rising to becoming chief secretary of Goa, Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had considered Parimal Rai for the post of chief secretary of Delhi, but Rai had declined this position citing some reason.





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Corridors of Power

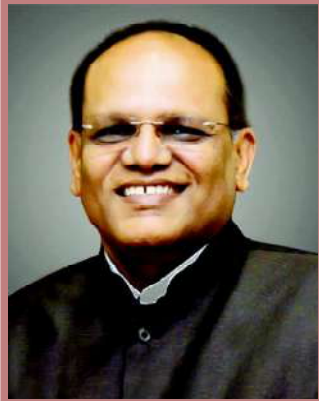
New Year New Happenings

Applauds ! The Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj commended the State government's performance in achieving timely audit of 100% PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions), for the audit period 2020-21.

On screen ! BioAsia is back with its 19th edition! The 19th edition of Bio Asia the annual flagship event of Govt of Telangana, from Feb 24-25, 2022.

Simplify! Directions to the officials of various departments to simplify and reduce the compliance burden regarding inspections, registrations, renewals, maintaining records and other issues.

And more tasks & challenges ! Answer is , Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar hai naa !



'Operation Smile' Smiles Again

Smiles Again ! Telangana State Police in collaboration with other Departments and NGOs, rescued 2785 children from Child Labour during 'Operation SmileVIII' programme conducted from 1st Jan- 31st Jan 2022. First time ! Telangana Police are in the process of testing software which facilitate Drone to be linked to police patrol car & deployed to reach distress call Dail100 in emergencies, the patrolling car will follow the suit.

Just amazing ! CyCops is a software developed by Telangana Police to combat & crack Cyber Crimes is now being adopted by 8 other states of our country. All happenings in the regime of DGP M.Mahendar Reddy ! Kudos.



Back In ACTION

CV.Anand, the Hyderabad city police chief is back in action ! Crusade against drugs and to squeeze the drug racketeers is his first priority. Whoever it may be interstate or international drug racketeer, one has to bend the knees now ! Lot many happenings took place since Mr.Anand took over the charge, first focus on tough policing & second main concern is every khaki should get the respect. Aur kya hona ! Jaha Anand, waha izzat aur aazadi !



Passion Towards Work

TSRTC CMD VC.Sajjanar passion is to work & work ! Since he took over , TSRTC is in news for several initiatives & new beginnings, which are result oriented & quite benefited for the passengers. News is , the CMD visited Zaheerabad RTC bus depot .He inspected the cleanliness of the Depot and interacted with the passengers.As part of TSRTC Bus Day Initiative, travelled to Medaram to review Base Camp & special arrangements by TSRTC for passengers/devotees. As per the report 3845 Spl. buses arranged for devotees. In his regime TSRTC flag will fly higher & higher.



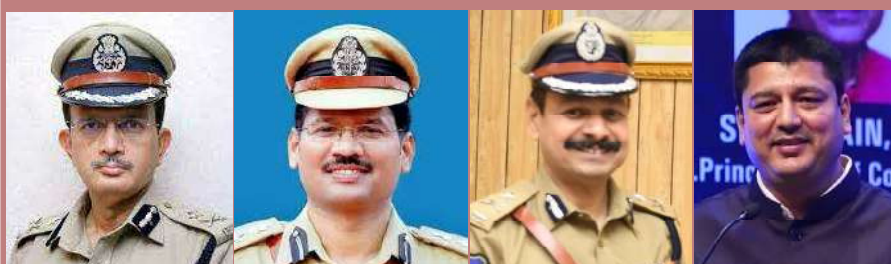
Meet New Principal Secretaries



It's news that four senior IAS officers of 1997 batch have been promoted to the rank of Principal Secretary.

Handlooms and Textiles Secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer, Minorities Welfare Secretary Ahmad Nadeem, Singareni Collieries Company Limited chairman and managing director N Sridhar, and Commissioner for Cooperation and Registrar of Cooperative Societies M Veerabrahmaiah, have been promoted to the Above Super Time (HAG) Scale. Both Shailaja Ramaiyer and Ahmad Nadeem have been redesignated as Principal Secretaries.

Meet New Additional DGPs



It's news that four senior IPS officers of 1997 batch have been promoted to the rank of Addl.DG. Senior IPS officers Vijay Kumar, Y.Nagi Reddy, Devendra Singh Chauhan, and Sanjay Kumar Jain have been promoted to the Above Super Time Scale in the rank of Additional Director General of Police. While Vijay Kumar has been asked to report to the Director General of Police, all others have been retained in their current postings.

Simplicity



H.E Governor of Telangana state & Lt.Governor of Puducherry Dr.Tamilisai Soundararajan is soft spoken, simple & down to earth lady. One mulakaat with her always remains fresh in the mind. And this picture reflects her simplicity ! In the click on the eve of Thai Amavasai auspicious day Governor can be seen distributing prasadam to the needy at Putru Karu Mariamma Temple in Chennai.

Jai Hind

Telangana High Court Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma felicitated Galwan martyr Colonel B.Santosh Babu's parents – B.Upender and Manjula – on the premises of the court in connection with the Republic Day celebrations.

Santosh Babu, who gave his life for the nation during a brutal skirmish with Chinese troops in Galwan valley in 2020 was awarded Mahavir Chakra – the second-highest war-time award in India, for his extraordinary courage and leadership.



New Beginning !



What's happening ! The news is the newly elected members of Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Hyderabad branch committee and its South India Council members formally met Joel Reifman, the US Consul General in Hyderabad. During the meeting discussions took place on collaborations and strengthening the US-India business relationship.

Respect

Rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi ji ! Dr.Andrew Fleming, UK Dy High Commissioner for both the Telugu states remembers Mahatma Gandhi ji on the Martyr's Day. In his message Dr.Fleming stated that Gandhi ji, who always stood for peace, forgiveness & respect.



Dr. Nori Advisor to the AP Govt.

The Andhra Pradesh state government has appointed Dr Nori Dattatreyudu, one of the most experienced and renowned radiation oncologists, as the Government Adviser with a two-year tenure in the cabinet.

Dr Nori Dattatreyudu has 43 years of experience in radiation oncology in the country.He has played an important role in developing new technologies and advanced techniques for breast centres, gynaecological oncology, head and neck oncology, neuro-oncology, and thoracic programs.





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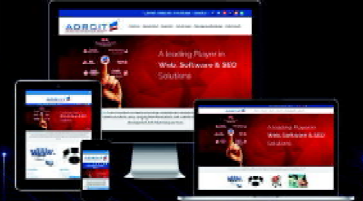
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Naye Saal Ki Aachi Shuruuat



A good start of the New Year with more hopeful beginning. Officers of Core Committee on Issues relating to Safety & Security of Women participated in 'Green Initiative' at Planted Saplings Forest College & Research Institute, Mulugu, Hyderabad. Lady IAS officer Smita Sabharwal, Divya Devarajan, Vakati Karuna, B.Sumati, Christina Z.Chongthu & Priyanka Varghese can be seen in the picture. Thumbs up to 'Telangana Ku Harithaharam'.

Mask Challenge Continues....!



For all the things your love, WEAR MASK ! It's a mandatory care campaign aims to provide safe & healthy atmosphere. When especially top brass & public representatives take precautions and wear masks that will be like a pass on message & indication for entire team & group of people to follow the same. In the pictures four lady officers can be seen wearing masks including Smt. Divya Devarajan, Principal Secretary- Women Development, Child & Disabled Welfare, Hari Chandana Dasari, Collector, Narayanpet, Bharati Hollikeri, Collector , Mancherial and Sikta Patnaik, Collector , Adilabad. Likewise all the officers are maintaining & motivating the people of the state.

The war against corona is not over and wearing masks & maintaining distance is the only way to defeat it. So let's all continue the mask challenge.....!

Inspiring Episode !



Where it's a competition between parents to send their kids to corporate schools ! In fact it's a twist & an example for the parents who are among this race, that recently Yadadri Bhongir District Collector Pamela Satpathy registered her son Naitik Satpathi name at the Anganwadi Center for lower grade education. This is one of the inspiring story for the people to choose Anganwadi & government institutions for education of the kids. Kudos !

Telangana : IAS, IPS officers receive promotions

Prohibition and Excise Director Sarfaraz Ahmad, Municipal Administration Director N Satyanarayana, Joint Secretary for Protocol S Arvinder Singh and Joint Secretary to Environment and Forests M Prashanti have been promoted to the Selection Grade Scale. Both Arvinder Singh and M Prashanti have been redesignated as Additional Secretaries.

Mahabubabad district collector K Shashanka, GHMC additional commissioner Shruti Ojha, Jangaon district collector Ch Shivalingaiah, Director of Youth Services V Venkateswarlu, Sangareddy district collector M Hanumantha Rao, Rangareddy district collector D Amoy Kumar, Secretary to CCLA K Hymavathi, Deputy Secretary for Education M Haritha, have been promoted to the Junior Administrative Grade Scale. Adwait Kumar Singh who is working on the Central deputation in the Central government, also has been given promotion to the same grade.

IAS officers who have been promoted to Senior Time Scale include Rizwanbasha Shaik, Anudeep Durishetty, Koya Sree Harsha, Abhilasha Abhinav, Kumar Deepak, Adarsh Surabhi, Bhorkhade Hemant Sahadeorao, and Tejas Nandlal Pawar.

IPS Officers promoted

Officers who received promotion to Super Time Scale in the rank of Inspector General of Police, are Tarun Joshi, V Siva Kumar, VB Kamalasan Reddy, S Chandrasekhar Reddy, and AR Srinivas. Kamalasan Reddy has been asked to report to the DGP.

Similarly, Tafseer Iqbal has been promoted to the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) in the Super Time Scale and to report before the DGP. The IPS officers who have been promoted to the Selection Grade Scale, include Ambar Kishore Jha (on central deputation) and Nalgonda Superintendent of Police Rama Rajeswari R.

Two IAS officers shifted, six gets new postings

In a minor reshuffle, the State government transferred two IAS officers and gave new postings to six more. Adhar Sinha, Director General of EPTRI has been posted as Special Chief secretary, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries (AH, DD and F) department. Anita Rajendra, secretary AH, DD and F will be the new director general of MCR-HRD Institute, relieving Harpreet Singh, who has been holding Full Additional Charge. Also, A Vani Prasad has been made the Director General of EPTRI, while K Nirmala has been appointed Secretary, Public Enterprises, relieving Jayesh Ranjan from full additional charge. K Manicka Raj was appointed Secretary, Revenue Department, relieving Rahul Bojja from full additional charge while Pausumi Basu was made Additional Commissioner, GHMC. Also, M Haritha was appointed Deputy Secretary, Education Department

Andhra Pradesh: Eight IAS officers transferred

In a minor reshuffle, the state government transferred eight IAS officers and gave fresh postings. According to a GO issued by chief secretary Sameer Sharma, social welfare principal secretary K Sunitha has been appointed as the principal secretary of the minority welfare department, Gandham Chandrudu, the special secretary, minorities department, was transferred and posted as special secretary of the social welfare department. Kartikeya Mishra, the collector of West Godavari district was appointed as the special commissioner of the labour department. Rekha Rani, working as the special commissioner of the labour department, is now transferred as the MD of Kapu Corporation. Ananta Ram, who was the MD of Kapu Corporation, was relieved of his additional responsibilities. Vijayawada municipal commissioner Prasanna Venkatesh was appointed as the collector of West Godavari district. Ranjit Basha, who was the joint secretary in the CCLA office, has been transferred and appointed as Vijayawada municipal commissioner. Andhra Pradesh Bhavan special officer NV Ramana Reddy is appointed as the CEO of AP MSME Development Corporation.

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Public Sector

Minister Pralhad Joshi Launches New Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of NLC



Union Minister of Coal, Mines and Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi said that NLC India Ltd, a Navratna public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Coal has been playing a pivotal role in ensuring India's energy security during the last six decades of performance. The Minister was virtually launching the new rehabilitation & resettlement (R&R) policy applicable to land owners of NLCIL mines area.

The Minister said that the new policy has provisions for enhanced amenities to project affected families. Joshi pointed out that NLCL has signed an MOU with Tamil Nadu government to impart skill development to the youth under Skill India Mission.

Addressing the function virtually, the Minister of state for Coal, Mines and Railways Raosaheb Patil Danve said that besides benefitting the villagers, the policy will lead to further increase in energy production by NLCIL. M.R. K Panneerselvam, Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and C.V. Ganesan, Minister for Labour Welfare and Skill Development, Government of Tamil Nadu also attended the function and urged NLCIL to implement the new policy effectively to benefit the villagers. MPs, MLAs, senior functionaries of the Ministry of Coal, NLCL and the villagers also attended the function.

NMDC Celebrates 73rd Republic Day



NMDC, the largest iron ore producer of the country, celebrated the 73rd Republic Day with patriotic fervor at its Head Office and Projects, duly adhering to the COVID guidelines. Shri Sumit Deb, CMD, NMDC hoisted the National Flag at *Khanij Bhavan*, Hyderabad and addressed NMDC employees. Shri Amitava Mukherjee, Director (Finance); Shri Somnath Nandi, Director (Technical); and Shri Dilip Kumar Mohanty, Director (Production) and other employees of the company were also present on the occasion.

In his Republic Day address, Shri Sumit Deb said, "As our country braces up to become a global leader in the iron and steel sector, NMDC will continue to mine a better future for India. Reaffirming the company's commitment to the nation and its constitutional values, he said "NMDC's social initiatives to empower the citizens of India do not emerge from statutory obligations, but from a sense of duty and compassion."

On this occasion, Shri Deb launched the NMDC Impact League and revamped (new look) NMDC website.

POWERGRID (SRTS-I) celebrates Republic Day



73rd Republic day celebrated at POWERGRID Southern Region Transmission System-I (SRTS-I), Head Quarters Secunderabad with unfurling of National Flag by chief guest on the occasion. Shri Anoop Kumar, Executive Director (SRTS-I). The Chief Guest spoke on constitution and how this guiding document is helping the citizen to achieve the true freedom in the country. On this occasion ED (SRTS-I) released a report of the Asset Management activities of the Region.

Shri NV Raju, Chief GM (Proj.), Shri Harinarayanan, Sr. GM (HR)/HoP and other senior officials, Employees and their family members along with the children were present on this occasion. Republic Day celebrated with enthusiasm and fervor at all establishments of POWERGRID, SRTS-I across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and parts of Karnataka.

IOC to invest Rs 7,000 cr in city gas distribution projects

Oil major Indian Oil Corporation on Sunday said it will invest over Rs 7,000 crore in setting up city gas distribution networks. The investment will be done in those cities for which it has secured a licence, and 33 per cent of the demand potential, in the recently-concluded 11th round of CGD bidding by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board.

Those geographical areas include major districts like Jammu, Pathankot, Sikar, Jalgaon, Guntur (Amravati), Tuticorin, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari, Madurai, Dharmapuri and Haldia (East Mednipore). "These districts contain high demand customers across the industry-commercial-domestic spectrum for PNG (Piped Natural Gas) and CNG (Compressed Natural Gas). Indian Oil plans to invest over Rs 7,000 crore in these new CGD projects, over and above the Rs 20,000 crore already planned for its CGD Vertical," it said in a statement.

After the 11th round of the bidding, Indian Oil, along with its two joint venture companies, is now present in 49 geographical areas and 105 districts spread across 21 states and UTs.

"Gas will play a significant role in India's march towards a low carbon future as part of its Panchamrit pledge during COP-26 summit to reduce total carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now till 2030," IOC Chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya said in the statement.

BHEL Day 2022 celebrated with fervour



BHEL Day 2022 was celebrated at the company's Corporate office in New Delhi where Dr. Nalin Shinghal, CMD, BHEL; Functional Directors on the Board of BHEL, and senior officials of NCR-based divisions participated with great enthusiasm. The CMD also addressed a cross-section of employees through video conferencing on the occasion.

RailTel to Create Several "Edge Data Centres"



RailTel is a Central Government PSU of Ministry of Railways providing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) services and is one of the largest neutral telecom infrastructure providers in the country owning a Pan-India Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) network of 60000+RKM (and growing) along Railway track. The OFC network covers important towns & cities of the country and several rural areas. With a view to accelerate the pace of digital transformation and efficient digital delivery in rural and semi-urban areas, RailTel has decided to create several "Edge Data Centres" in such areas in different parts of the country jointly with partners. This new initiative of RailTel will give boost to Indian Government's mission of Digital India. Edge data centres are small data centres located at the edge of the network, where they are closer to

end users and devices. Having such kind of facility at the edge would enable faster performance and lower latency as organizations will not have to move the data to far-flung data centres to process it. Latency has always been a problem for data centre managers, but in recent times it has become a critical concern in view of wide range of next-generation applications like big data, the Internet of Things, Cloud and streaming services, and other technology trends. RailTel is seeking partners to establish such Edge Data Centres in the Railway premises/land across 102 locations especially Tier-2 and Tier-3 towns. The prospective Business Associates/partners should be a company registered in India. This activity will entail an investment opportunity of around Rs. 500+ Crore. The process to establish these Edge Data Centres has been set in motion with the floating of Expression of Interest (EOI) inviting industry to partner in this exercise.



GAIL acquires 26% stake in ONGC Tripura Power Company

GAIL (India) Limited has acquired equity stake of 26% in ONGC Tripura Power Company (OTPC), which owns and operates a 726.6 MW gas-based combined cycle power plant in Palatana, Tripura. The stake has been acquired from IL&FS Group companies namely, IL&FS Energy Development Company Limited and IL&FS Financial Services Limited. GAIL and

IL&FS Group concluded the transaction yesterday by signing Deed of Adherence (DoA) to Shareholders Agreement of OTPC. The DoA was signed by Santanu Roy, Executive Director (BD, SD & CA), GAIL, Feby Koshy, CEO of IEDCL and Mr. Santanu Sen, Senior Vice President, IL&FS on behalf of IFIN and in the presence of Chairman & Managing Director, GAIL Manoj Jain and Executive Director, IL&FS Nand Kishore. Other shareholders of OTPC have also given their written consent to DoA. OTPC owns and operates a 726.6 MW (363.3 x 2) gas based combined cycle power plant in Palatana, Tripura. Apart from 26% equity acquired by GAIL from IL&FS Group, rest of the equity is held by ONGC (50%), Government of Tripura (0.50%) and India Infrastructure Fund GIP II (23.50%).



Dr. Alka Mittal takes additional charge as CMD ONGC

Director (HR) of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) DrAlka Mittal took additional charge as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Energy Maharatna on 4 January 2022. She has become the first woman to head one of India's most valuable public sector companies. Her appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet for a period of six months with effect from 1 January 2022. Dr Mittal has been serving as Director (HR) since 27

November 2018 and was the senior-most Director on the Board of the energy company.

A post graduate in Economics, MBA (HRM) and Doctorate in Commerce and Business Studies, she had joined ONGC as a Graduate Trainee in 1985. She brings with her an extremely rich experience spanning over three and a half decades. Dr Mittal was the first woman to hold the charge of a full-time Director in ONGC's history. She has also been on the Board of ONGC Mangalore Petrochemicals Limited (OMPL) as ONGC nominee Director since August 2015. She is also on the boards of IIM Tiruchirappalli and NHRDN.

As Director (HR), she has been conferred with the Silver Stevie Award in Woman of the Year category at the International Business Awards 2021 for adopting best-in-class HR practices and making ONGC a great place to work.



Atul Kumar Goel joins Punjab National Bank as MD & CEO

Atul Kumar Goel joins the Bank today and will serve as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in PNB until the end of this month/January 2022. He is slated to take over as the new MD and CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB) with effect from 01.02.2022. As approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), Goel, who was till now the MD and CEO of UCO Bank, will serve as PNB chief up to the date of his attaining the age of superannuation (i.e., 31.12.2024), or until further orders, whichever is earlier. Goel will replace CH. S.S. Mallikarjuna Rao, incumbent MD & CEO of PNB, who is due to demit office at the end of January 2022. Goel has around three decades of professional banking experience in three banks viz. Allahabad Bank (now Indian Bank), Union Bank of India and UCO Bank. He is a qualified Chartered Accountant and has vast experience, exposure and expertise in all major areas of banking, including Large Corporate, Treasury Management, Risk Management, Financial Planning & Investor Relations, apart from Support Service, Business Process Transformation, Compliance, etc.

Meeta Paan Aur Instagram



Jai Hind-Jai Bharat !



Lagta hai PUSHPA ka josh 2022 mein bhi jari rahega.



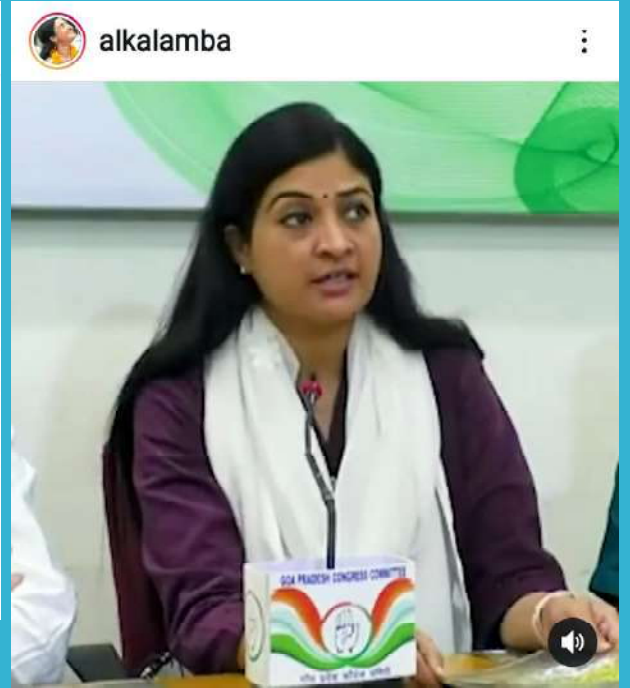
Congrats to Indian Women's Hockey Team for winning BRONZE medal in Women's Asia Cup after defeating China. Kudos !



Teri esii aada pe sanam !



News from Chhatisgarh !Entire family donated the property & took diksha !



Rajneeti chal raha hai !



#WomenPower !



Say cheese ! Selfie of the month.



Just amazing !



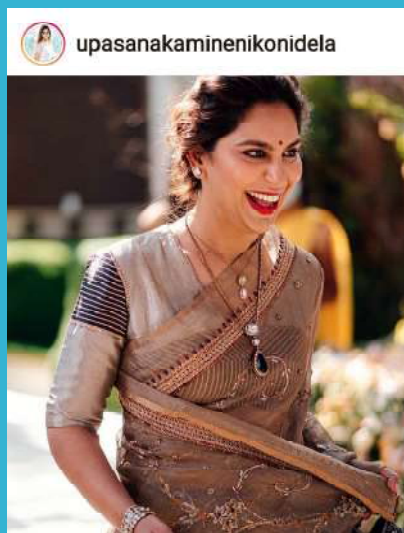
Red : the color of love !



Mansi on screen ! To make faces beautiful.



Hilarious ! I am Gutka Raj....! Lols.



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Now Diamonds Have Affordable Alternative At 'MoStar'

It's a news! MoStar by Durga Jewels, an exclusive moissanite jewellery retail store, is inaugurated in December as a boon for HNIs and Page 3, to provide one of its kind experiences at its boutique. Catering to HNIs and also making diamond look alike affordable for everyone. Do visit and experience yourself, at 3rd floor Sarat City Capital Mall, Kondapur. www.mostarindia.com



Meri Subha Ho Tumhi.....!

Happy Valentine to the sweet new couple Aditya & Namrata! So on this occasion handsome chap Aditya has written a beautiful message for Namrata. "My every moment is beautiful, which I spend with you. "meri subah ho tumhi aur tumhi shaam ho, tum dard ho tumhi aaraam ho, meri duaao se aati hai bas ye sada, meri hoke hamesha hi rahna, kabhi na kahna alvida"! B&G#adityata. That's wonderful. Lots of wishes & blessings to the sweet couple.



Good Initiative!

Republic day celebrated with patriotism & love all over the state & country. And the socialist Kabeer Khan and Mohib Baig have decided to celebrate this occasion with group of old age people. And planned an event at Fatima Old age Home. Good initiative! In fact it's an inspiration for youth & other NGOs of the city. #JaiHind!



Jo Fit Hai Vo Hit Hai

Sonal Sharma (RYT 500) passionate yog teacher is on screen! She has five years of yog experience in designing leading flow and vinaysa yog have depth knowledge about postures, breathing techniques and spiritual elements of yog teaching. So, guys lets all practice yoga in the supervision of yog expert Sonal Sharma at Barfani Yog Shala and stay fit & healthy. Because jo fit hai vahi hit hai....!



Time To Measure Our Imagination

Imagination is the highest kite one can fly. Yes it's true! Abdur Rahman, President of Helping 2 Hands The AR Foundation is on screen with his kite! Occasion Sankranti festival! And it's a time to measure our imagination and inspire with the kite.



21 Years Of Togetherness

Happy happy Anniversary To Amit & Shweta Tibrewala! The happening couple has celebrated 21 years of togetherness with intimacy & love. Anniversary – the day refreshes all sweet memories and increases mutual understanding & closeness between the couple. Best wishes & blessings to the sweet couple.



Teri Har Ada Nirali Hai

Happy wedding anniversary to Chandra Prakash Sethia & Neetu. And let's check out the beautiful message of Chandra written for Neetu. "Teri har ada nirali hai, Iss liye tu muje jaan se bhi pyari hai! 22 salo ki hamari ye love story hai, tu dil jigar jaan meri hai, bus isi tarah pyaar kartey rehna, tumse ye gujarish meri hai"! Kya andaz hai CP! Wishes to the couple.

IRS Officer Mr. Ashok Babu Releases MR Jan Edition

Midnight Reporter's Jewel January edition is out with a bang release by the most happening IRS officer Mr. Nelapatla Ashok Babu, Additional Commissioner of Income Tax, Pune. Click the link for epaper: <https://midnightreporter.com/.../2022/01/january-2022.pdf>



Chhaganlal Jewellers- From Traditional To Contemporary Modern Jewellery

With a legacy that dates back to more than a century, Chhaganlal Jewellers was founded on the belief of ethical, honest & transparent business. Showcasing India's cultural diversity, our jewellery ranges from traditional Polki and Kundan to contemporary modern jewellery set in diamonds & other precious stones. Constantly striving towards excellence all our designs are handpicked after rigorous quality checks and design evaluations so we bring nothing but the best to our clients. What makes us stand apart in the crowd is our superior craftsmanship, diversity of designs and commitment to our clients that is second to none. We look forward to serving you soon.

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Interior Genie transforming spaces into aesthetic, functional and style abodes

Chandni K



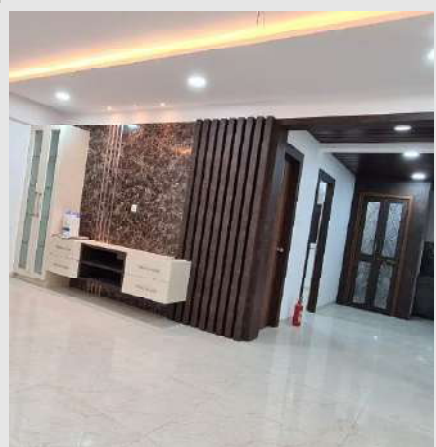
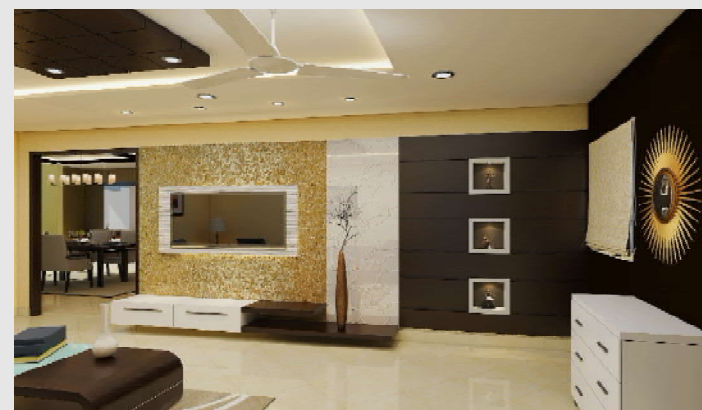
Chandni K is the founder and Interior designer Head of Blissin Interiors and Architects, a firm based in Hyderabad. She carries an immense zeal of passion towards interiors and one can evidently see the spark of warmth and happiness in her eyes when her visionary designs shape up in real functional-beautiful spaces.

Her love towards art and designs made her carrier innings working for a prominent art director. The journey started with the pride, when she got highly appreciated with her very first project in Hyderabad.

It was a complete scratch to execution turnkey project of delivering an elite 3-star Hotel and she handled and executed single headedly. As the time passed on, her experience shined with each project that she has handled and her work speaks the volumes of it.

With more than ten years of industry experience, she specializes in various interior design services offering in both consultation and Turnkey basis. Her portfolio includes designing and executing Residential, plug-in play offices, commercial and leisure spaces. Additionally, Hospitals, diagnostic centres, spas, fitness studios are few zones that she has done a remarkable job with happy client base. Chandni is a strong believer that great design doesn't have to burn the pockets but behold the warmth and happy note at heart while one experiences and live in her created

spaces. Each project has its own merits, and her strength as a designer lies in her inspiring eclectic ability to channel her client's requirements. For her, Interior designing is an ever-dynamic and thrilling space to witness and creatingsuch empowering spaces is her USP. She offers customized designs that reflect your personality and understands that each home exudes an aura of its own. From earthy modest tones to vibrant fluidic patterns, she transforms your abode into a mood board that resonates with you. If you are looking for class interior designs which carry your personality and a style based modern and contemporary concepts, then its Chandni for you.



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गोरी आबादी का हीरो बता रहे ट्रम्प; ईसाई अमेरिका बनाने का भी वादा



अमेरिका में राष्ट्रपति का चुनाव हार चुके डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प मिड टर्म चुनाव में जीत के लिए ईसाई राष्ट्रवाद का सहारा ले रहे हैं। इसके लिए रिपब्लिकन पार्टी की सरकार वाले राज्यों में चर्च में विशेष संडे सर्विस हो रही हैं। इनमें ट्रम्प को ईसाई अमेरिका का नायक बताया जा रहा है। स्वतंत्रता के चर्च में होने वाली इन सभाओं में ट्रम्प को मसीहा बताकर ईसाई अमेरिका की स्थापना को लक्ष्य बताया जाता है।

अमेरिका में नवंबर में हाउस ऑफ रिप्रेजेंटेटिव यानी निचले सदन की 435

सीटों के लिए मिड टर्म इलेक्शन होंगे। इसमें जीत दर्ज कर ट्रम्प रिपब्लिकन पार्टी को तो मजबूत बनाना चाहते ही हैं, साथ ही पार्टी में अपना कद भी बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। ट्रम्प की इस मुहिम में 28 रिपब्लिकन गवर्नर उनका साथ दे रहे हैं।

बाइडेन को शैतान कहते हैं ट्रम्प-ट्रम्प अमेरिका के मौजूदा राष्ट्रपति जो बाइडेन और उनके प्रयासन को शैतान तक घोषित करते हैं। ट्रम्प के समर्थन में प्रार्थनाएं भी होती हैं। टेनेसी की एक सभा में पादरी केन पीटर्स जब एक ऐसी ही सभा को संबोधित कर रहे थे, तो चर्च में ट्रम्प के समर्थन में जोर-जोर से नारे लगाए गए। चर्च में आने वाले जिम विल्स का कहना है कि भले ही बाइडेन अपने को कैथोलिक ईसाई बताते हैं, लेकिन वे चर्च नहीं जाते हैं। ट्रम्प इसी का फायदा उठाना चाहते हैं।

69 प्रतिशत रिपब्लिकन वोटर 2024 में ट्रम्प के सपोर्ट में- पिछला चुनाव हारने के बावजूद डोनाल्ड ट्रम्प अपनी रिपब्लिकन पार्टी में टॉप पर बने हुए हैं। पोलिटिको के एक सर्वे के अनुसार, 69 प्रतिशत रिपब्लिकन वोटर ट्रम्प को 2024 में होने वाले राष्ट्रपति चुनाव में उम्मीदवार के रूप में देखते हैं। उनका मानना है कि ट्रम्प ही पार्टी को जीत दिला सकते हैं।

इन आंकड़ों का मतलब यह है कि ट्रम्प को अब भी अपनी पार्टी में अप्रवृत्त रेटिंग का समर्थन हासिल है। 6 जनवरी की कैपिटल हिंसा की सुनवाई के दौरान रिपब्लिकन पार्टी में ट्रम्प की अप्रवृत्त रेटिंग में 2 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई। इससे पहले ट्रम्प की अप्रवृत्त रेटिंग 67 थी।

ट्रान्सपेरेंसी इंटरनेशनल की रिपोर्ट- भ्रष्ट देशों की लिस्ट में भारत 85वें नंबर पर



भ्रष्टाचार पर नजर रखने वाली संस्था ट्रान्सपेरेंसी इंटरनेशनल इंडेक्स (CPI 2021) ने 2021 के लिए अपनी रिपोर्ट जारी कर दी है। भारत इसमें 85वें नंबर पर है। उसे 40 अंक मिले हैं। पिछले साल भी भारत को 40 नंबर ही मिले थे, लेकिन रैंकिंग 86 थी। पिछले 6 साल की बात करें तो भारत 9 पायदान नीचे आया है। 2015 में उसकी रैंकिंग 38 नंबरों के साथ 76 थी।

पड़ोसी मुल्कों की बात करें तो भूटान सबसे अच्छी स्थिति में हैं। यह देश 68 अंकों के साथ 25वें नंबर पर है। चीन ने अपनी स्थिति में काफी सुधार किया है। पिछले साल इसकी रैंकिंग 78 थी, जो इस बार 66 आई है। हमारा पड़ोसी देश पाकिस्तान 16 नंबर नीचे पहुंचकर 140वें नंबर पर पहुंच गया है। यहां उसका साथ देने के लिए म्यांमार मौजूद है। इसके अलावा श्रीलंका 102, नेपाल को 117 और बांग्लादेश 147वें नंबर पर है।

तालिबान राज में अफगानिस्तान में करफान बढ़ा- तालिबान राज में अफगानिस्तान में भ्रष्टाचार थोड़ा बढ़ा है। 2020 में यह 19 अंकों के साथ 165वें नंबर पर था। इस साल 180 देशों की लिस्ट में 174वें नंबर पर है। उसका स्कोर 16 है। मालदीव भारत की बराबरी से 85वें नंबर पर है। यूरोपीय देशों में करफान और मानवाधिकारों के हालात बहुत बेहतर हैं। यही वजह है कि इस रेटिंग में इन्हीं देशों का दबदबा कायम है।

ऐसे तय होती है रेटिंग-इस इंडेक्स में 0 से 100 अंकों के बीच रेटिंग दी जाती है। जिस देश के नंबर जितने ज्यादा होते हैं, वो सबसे कम करफट माना जाता है। जिन देशों के नंबर कम होते हैं, उनमें भ्रष्टाचार ज्यादा माना जाता है। मिसाल के तौर पर अगर किसी देश के नंबर 0 हैं तो वहां सबसे ज्यादा करफान माना जाएगा। दूसरी तरफ, अगर किसी देश के नंबर 100 हैं तो इसके मायने ये हुए कि वहां करफान बिल्कुल नहीं है।

कोविड के बहाने आजादी को काबू में करने की कोशिश- CPI 2021 की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक- दुनिया में करफान को कम करने के उपाय धीमे पड़ते नजर आ रहे हैं। मानवाधिकार और लोकतंत्र पर भी हमले हो रहे हैं। कुछ देश कोविड-19 का बहाना बनाकर बुनियादी तौर पर आजादी को काबू में लाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। 131 देशों ने 10 साल करफान पर काबू पाने की कोई खास कोशिश नहीं की। दो तिहाई देश ऐसे हैं जिनका स्कोर 50 से कम है और यहां ये बहुत बड़ा मुद्दा है।

ऊंची उड़ान-छूटे पालतू कुत्तों के लिए प्राइवेट जेट कर रहे मालिक



हॉन्गकाँग में इन दिनों पालतू कुत्ते प्राइवेट जेट का सफर कर रहे हैं। कोरोना काल के दौरान वहां एक रोचक घटनाक्रम सामने आया है। दरअसल, कोरोना काल के दौरान बड़ी संख्या में लोग जापान, सिंगापुर, कनाडा, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और अमेरिका चले गए। ऐसे में कई लोगों के पालतू कुत्ते, बिल्ली, चिड़िया और कछुए हॉन्गकाँग में ही छूट गए। लेकिन इन पालतू कुत्तों के मालिक उन्हें लाने के लिए हॉन्गकाँग जाने से कतरा रहे हैं।

क्योंकि हॉन्गकाँग में विदेश

से आने आने पर क्वारंटाइन के सख्त नियम हैं। सभी को 21 दिन तक महंगे होटलों में क्वारंटाइन रहना पड़ता है। चाहे उनकी कोरोना रिपोर्ट निगेटिव आए। लाखों रुपए का होटल का बिल अपनी जेब से चुकाना पड़ता है। ऐसे में मालिक अपने पालतू जानवरों को लाने के लिए प्राइवेट जेट कर किराए पर ले रहे हैं। क्योंकि जेट का किराया महंगे होटल के किराए से काफी कम पड़ता है।

लोगों के सामने ये भी समस्या आती है कि वो अपने साथ फ्लाइट में पालतू जानवरों को नहीं ले जा पाते हैं, क्योंकि सहयात्री कोरोना काल के दौरान जानवरों के सफर पर ऐतराज करते हैं। लोगों ने अपने पालतू जानवरों को लाने के लिए एक क्लब भी बनाया हुआ है।

इसमें वे लोग मिलकर एक प्राइवेट जेट को किराए पर ले लेते हैं। हॉन्गकाँग में केवल अमीर पेट ओनर ही प्राइवेट जेट किराए पर नहीं ले रहे हैं बल्कि मिडिल क्लास पेट ओनर भी इसमें आगे हैं। पेट ट्रांसपोर्ट से जुड़ी ओल्गा रदस्का का कहना है कि कोरोना काल में ये बिजनेस लगभग 700 फीसदी तक बढ़ा है।

उड़ान के लिए लंबी वेटिंग लिस्ट, महीनों का इंतजार भी-पेट ट्रांसपोर्ट के लिए पालतू जानवरों के मालिकों को महीनों का इंतजार भी करना पड़ता है। ट्रांसपोर्ट कंपनी लॉ वोयेज कंपनी की एक अफसर का कहना है कि मालिकों का अपने पालतू जानवरों से बहुत लगाव होता है। उड़ान की लंबी वेटिंग लिस्ट के बावजूद वे अपने जानवरों के लिए पैसे खर्च करने के लिए तैयार रहते हैं।

स्मार्टफोन से कोरोना का पता चलेगा

20 मिनट में मिलेगी रिपोर्ट



अमेरिका में रिसर्चर्स ने कोविड जांच के लिए नया तरीका डेवलप किया है। रिसर्चर्स ने स्मार्टफोन पर बेड डायग्नोस्टिक टूल डेवलप किया है। इस टूल के जरिए रैपिड टेस्ट में लगने वाला समय 20 मिनट हो जाएगा। अच्छी बात यह है कि इसकी मदद से जितनी ही एक्यूरेसी से सैपल टेस्ट किया जा सकता है। इसमें छोटे डिटेक्टर की मदद से कोरोना वायरस का पता लगाया जा सकता है। इस डिटेक्टर की कीमत काफी कम है। इसे ऑपरेट करने और रिजल्ट का पता लगाने के लिए स्मार्टफोन का इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है।

हार्मनी नाम के इस टेस्ट को वॉशिंगटन यूनिवर्सिटी के रिसर्चर्स ने डेवलप किया है। उनका कहना है कि ये टेस्ट वायरस में मौजूद जेनेटिक मटेरियल की भी पहचान करता है। इस वजह से ओमिक्रॉन वैरिएंट का भी आसानी से पता लगाया जा सकता है। छे टेस्ट की रिपोर्ट आने में कई घंटे लगते हैं, जबकि हार्मनी किट 20 मिनट से भी कम वक्त में और उसी एक्यूरेसी के साथ रिपोर्ट दे देती है।

डिटेक्टर में टेस्ट सैपल को रखकर ऑपरेट होगा- टेस्ट में स्मार्टफोन को डिटेक्टर से कनेक्ट कर यूज किया जाता है। डिटेक्टर में टेस्ट सैपल को रखकर ऑपरेट किया जाता है। ऑपरेट करने के 20 मिनट के बाद ही स्मार्टफोन पर संक्रमित व्यक्ति के पॉजिटिव या निगेटिव होने का पता चलता है।

हार्मनी किट 97 प्रतिशत तक सटीक टेस्टिंग होगी PCR टेस्ट के लिए महंगी मशीनों का इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। उनसे मिलने वाले रिजल्ट आम तौर पर 95 प्रतिशत तक सटीक होते हैं। हार्मनी किट 97 प्रतिशत तक सटीक है। रिसर्चर्स का कहना है कि यदि नए वैरिएंट में कोई नया म्यूटेशन होता है, तब भी किट से अन्य दो का पता लग सकता है। हालांकि PCR पर आधारित टेस्टिंग ही अभी ज्यादा भरोसेमंद मानी जाती है।

पाक सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पहली महिला जज



पाकिस्तान के इतिहास में पहली बार कोई महिला जज सुप्रीम कोर्ट में न्यायधीन बनाई गई है। यह ओहदा मिला है जस्टिस आयशा मलिक को। इसके पहले जस्टिस आयशा लाहौर हाईकोर्ट में चीफ जस्टिस रह चुकी हैं। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में उनकी नियुक्ति कई महीनों से लटकाई जा रही थी। कभी बार काउंसिल तो कभी ज्यूडिशियरी के अलग-अलग डिपार्टमेंट्स इस मामले में अड़ो लगाते रहे। आखिरकार सोमवार को चीफ जस्टिस ऑफ पाकिस्तान जस्टिस गुलजार अहमद ने उन्हें पद और गोपनीयता की शपथ दिलाई। प्रधानमंत्री इमरान खान ने जस्टिस आयशा को शुभकामनाएं और बधाई दी है।

यह बहुत बड़ी कामयाबी-न्यूज एजेंसी से बातचीत में महिला अधिकार कार्यकर्ता निगहत दाद ने कहा- यह सुधारों की दिशा में एक बहुत बड़ा कदम है। पाकिस्तान के न्यायिक इतिहास में अब नया अध्याय लिखा जाएगा। वकील और वुमन राइट्स एक्टिविस्ट सादिजा सिद्दीकी ने कहा- जस्टिस आयशा ने तमाम अड़चनों को दूर कर दिया है। इससे दूसरी महिलाओं के लिए भी रास्ते खुल गए हैं।

आसान नहीं था रास्ता- जस्टिस मलिक हार्वर्ड यूनिवर्सिटी से ग्रेजुएट हैं और करीब 20 साल से लाहौर हाईकोर्ट में जज थीं। पिछले साल उन्होंने महिलाओं से भेदभाव के एक कानून को रद्द कर दिया था। मलिक की नियुक्ति इसलिए भी अहम है क्योंकि पाकिस्तान में हमेशा से कट्टरपंथी हावी रहे हैं और इसका असर ज्यूडिशियरी पर भी देखने को मिलता है। रेप और सेक्सुअल हैरेसमेंट के ज्यादातर मामलों आरोपी बरी हो जाते हैं। घरेलू हिंसा के मामलों में महिलाओं को सिर्फ 4 प्रतिशत मामलों में इंसाफ मिल पाता है।

Tourism



Dubai growth buoyed by tourism even as Omicron clouds outlook

Dubai's business conditions accelerated last month as easing travel restrictions and the Expo 2020 exhibition helped boost the city's key tourism industry, before a renewed surge in coronavirus cases.

IHS Markit's Purchasing Managers' Index for the Middle East's main business hub jumped to 55.3 in December from 54.5 in November, staying above the 50 mark that separates growth from contraction, and hitting the highest level since June 2019. Employment also jumped in one of the strongest expansions since the start of the pandemic.

Still, businesses continued to battle higher costs, with input price inflation accelerating to the highest since March. And uncertainty about the pandemic, as the omicron variant started to take hold late last month, meant firms were less optimistic about 2022, with just over 12% confident of growth this year.

Before the omicron strain emerged, the United Arab Emirates had managed to keep cases under control for most of 2021. Infections in the country, of which Dubai is a part, rose above 2,000 for the first time in six months in December.

Philippines lifts ban on foreign tourists as outbreak eases



The Philippines will lift a ban on the entry of foreign tourists and business people next month after nearly two years, in a move to revive the battered tourism industry as the latest coronavirus outbreak started to ease, officials said. Tourism Secretary Berna Romulo-Puyat said the country will reopen its doors to travellers from more than 150 countries with visa-free privileges starting Feb 10. Foreign travellers will no longer be required to quarantine in government-designated centres upon arrival if they have been fully vaccinated

and tested negative prior to arrival, officials said. The government had initially planned to lift the ban on Dec 1 but indefinitely postponed it as the more contagious omicron variant spread, which also prompted authorities to reimpose tighter restrictions. President Rodrigo Duterte warned that unvaccinated Filipinos who defy orders to stay at home could face arrest. Commuters who have not been immunised were also prohibited from public transport in the capital region of more than 13 million people unless on urgent errands, for at least up to the end of the month.

Aaditya: Get double-decker buses to boost tourism



Maharashtra minister Aaditya Thackeray has said that double-decker buses will be introduced in Aurangabad city to boost tourism and make travel cost-effective.

Thackeray was speaking to reporters on Wednesday night after reviewing the ongoing development projects in the city. The Aurangabad Smart City Development Corporation operates a fleet of 100 diesel buses for public transport. Tourism minister instructed the administration to purchase double-decker buses. "The city should have

double-decker buses to boost tourism. These buses are cost effective and can run at a cheaper rate," Thackeray said. With double seating capacity, these buses will help people travel comfortably, he added.

Countdown to February – opening Thailand's tourist floodgates?



The Test & Go program of the Thailand Pass is set to start again from February. Test & Go Version 2.0. In this reboot you will need to book an extra pre-paid SHA+ room, and PCR test, for Day 5 of your stay, in addition to the original version of Test & Go when you only had the one test and room booking on Day 1. Since December 22, when the original Test & Go program was shelved, the Sandboxes have filled the arrival void, with 7 days of SHA+ prepaid hotel bookings in a designated province or region – roam around during the day then check back at your SHA+ hotel overnight. Since the end of December, arrival numbers to Thailand have stumbled. Clearly the original Test & Go was the most palatable entry program and fuelled a short, sharp burst of arrivals into Thailand in November and December, mostly benefiting the southern island of Phuket. Now the big question is if the new, slightly more onerous, version of Test & Go is going to re-ignite the battered Thai tourism industry. There will still be thousands of people who need to return to Thailand, for business or family commitments. But will the tourists start surging through the immigration turnstiles? And where will they come from?

double-decker buses to boost tourism. These buses are cost effective and can run at a cheaper rate," Thackeray said. With double seating capacity, these buses will help people travel comfortably, he added.

New year brings tourism back to Sri Lanka despite omicron fears



In a makeshift kiosk, just off the Kadawatha Interchange in Sri Lanka's western province, golden-orange king coconuts, bright green and yellow mangoes, and small, round wild oranges are stacked in neat piles. A fruit seller slices open a coconut deftly with a knife and hands it to a customer, before turning to serve the next.

Around him, waiting patiently, are a mix of people. Vehicles have pulled up to the side of the road, with drivers waiting for refreshing drinks before resuming their journeys. Sri Lanka, once deserted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is bustling again. And across the island is a most welcome sight: Foreign tourists, who contribute significantly to the country's economy. A tourism hotspot offering surf, sun, sand, cool hinterlands, and UNESCO-protected sites of cultural and architectural significance, Sri Lanka relies heavily on visitors, who before the pandemic accounted for about \$5 billion of foreign exchange earnings, or almost 5 percent of gross domestic product.

Successive COVID-19 lockdowns since March 2020 resulted in the tourism sector grinding to a complete halt, depriving thousands of people of their livelihoods. Crushed by an economic crisis due to dwindling foreign reserves and mounting foreign debt, Sri Lanka is desperate to revive the tourism industry, with a target of making 2022 the "Visit Sri Lanka Year" and generating \$10 billion from the sector by 2025.

January has proven that Sri Lanka may be on course to meet the target. Close to 30,000 people have arrived in the country in the first 10 days of 2022, mostly from Russia, India, Ukraine, the UK and Germany, despite global fears of over the spread of the new, highly contagious omicron variant.

Long road to Malaysia's tourism recovery



The tourism industry has always been one of the main sources of income for the Malaysian economy. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak, the industry pumped some RM86 billion into Malaysia in 2019, adding 3.6 million jobs across the country.

However, due to the coronavirus outbreak in 2020, the highly people-centric tourism industry was suddenly brought to a halt. Countries around the world have rolled out their vaccination drives to inoculate their population against the virus which has brought the number of confirmed cases down significantly.