

Hospital strike ends after Mamata blinks, agrees to upgrade doctors' security

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA
KOLKATA, JUNE 17

THE SEVEN-DAY-OLD strike by junior doctors and 'cease work' in West Bengal medical colleges and hospitals was called off Monday evening after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee accepted their demands and told a delegation that "we are proud of our doctors", and any attack on them "will not be tolerated".

The strike, triggered by an attack on a doctor by the family of a patient who died at the NRS Medical College and Hospital (NRSMCH) in Kolkata, saw doctors across the country joining the protests and observing a shutdown Monday in response to a call by the Indian Medical Association (IMA).



Mamata met doctors in Kolkata, Monday. Partha Paul

A delegation of 31 junior doctors and medical students met the Chief Minister for nearly 2

Draft law seeks 10-yr jail, fine of Rs 5 lakh for attacks on docs

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

LAST SATURDAY, when he wrote to Chief Ministers asking them to frame laws for protection of medical professionals, Union Health Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan attached to it a draft law framed by the Indian Medical Association (IMA).

The draft Protection of Medical Service Persons and Medical Service Institutions



BJP GETS A WORKING CHIEF

J P Nadda, named BJP working president, Union Ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah see off Prime Minister Modi after the party parliamentary board meeting Monday. Prem Nath Pandey P 7

Jal Shakti borrows Nitish idea, considers proposal on a user fee for piped water

SHALINI NAIR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

A SIGNIFICANT proposal being considered by the Jal Shakti Ministry, which was officially constituted Monday, is the imposition of user fees for piped water supply along the lines of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's "har ghar

nal ka jal" scheme in Bihar.

And with the second Modi government signalling the 'nal se jal' policy to provide piped drinking water to every household in the country over the next five years, sources said that considering the overall capital intensive nature of water supply, a user fee will have to supplement the funding by the Centre and

states.

"In the Bihar model, for instance, people pay a basic user fee of Re 1 a day or Rs 30 monthly for the service provided. The water supply is done in the most decentralised manner taking the ward of a gram panchayat as the basic unit which could include as few as 100 households. The

ATTACKS IN SOUTH KASHMIR

Major killed, car bomb hits Army vehicle in Valley



The Army truck targeted in Arihal, Pulwama, Monday. Express

Officer loses life in Anantnag firefight, Pulwama car bomb leaves 8 injured



Major Ketan Sharma of 19 Rashtriya Rifles

EXPLAINED
E.

Challenges on the ground

THE ATTACKS Monday are a reminder of the challenges on the ground for security forces and the administration in the Valley as J&K braces for the start of the Amarnath Yatra next month. The poll panel too is looking at a window for the conduct of Assembly elections in the state before the onset of winter.

BASHARAT MASOOD & ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, JUNE 17

IN TWO separate incidents in South Kashmir Monday, an Army Major was killed in a gun-battle in Anantnag district and at least six soldiers, and two civilians, were injured in a car bomb explosion that targeted a military vehicle in nearby Pulwama, officials said.

The officer killed in the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

2027, India population to cross China's: UN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

IN JUST eight years, India is projected to surpass China as the world's most populous country. According to estimates in a new United Nations report released Monday, India is also expected to add 273 million people by 2050

and will remain the most populated until the end of the century.

The report stated that in 2019, India has an estimated population of 1.37 billion and China 1.43 billion and by 2027, India's population is projected to surpass China's.

The global population is projected to increase by another 2 billion people by 2050, from

7.7 billion in 2019 to 9.7 billion thirty years down the line, according to 'The World Population Prospects 2019' published by the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Between now and 2050, 55 countries are estimated to see their populations shrink by at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

ECONOMY

FRESH LOOK AT NBFC SUPERVISION: RBI
PAGE 15

Heat, lack of nutrition, awareness add to AES, Bihar kids toll over 100

SANTOSH SINGH
MUZAFFARPUR, PATNA, JUNE 17

FROM THE intense summer heat this year to lack of nutrition programmes, effective awareness campaigns and a full-fledged local health facility.

According to medical experts and officials, these are the key reasons behind a spurt in cases of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in north Bihar — from seven deaths in 2018 to 103 so far



EXPLAINED: AES & HYPOGLYCAEMIA P 11

this year, most of them children below 10 years of age.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



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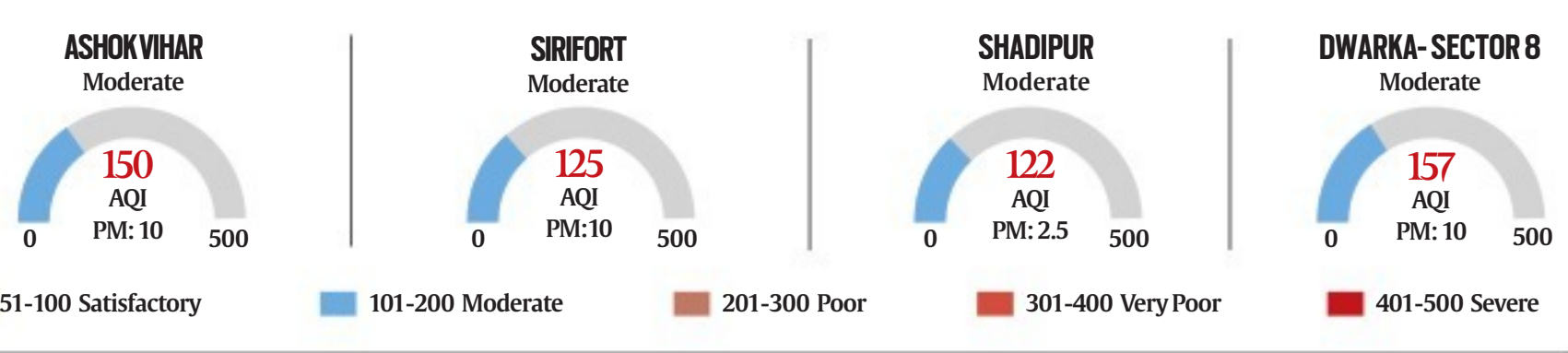
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CLASH BETWEEN POLICEMEN AND SWORD-WIELDING TEMPO DRIVER

Mukherjee Nagar fallout: Home Ministry seeks report, 3 cops booked for assault

ASI says hit on the head with sword, FIR against tempo driver

MAHENDERSINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

A DAY after officers in Mukherjee Nagar clashed with a tempo driver who brandished a sword, injuring an assistant sub-inspector, the Ministry of Home Affairs has sought a report from the Delhi Police. Minister of State G Kishan Reddy said he had spoken to Delhi Police chief Amulya Patnaik and sought action after a BJP delegation called on him.

Sources said initial findings of an inquiry conducted by the JCP (northern range) has found "negligence and unprofessional behaviour" on the part of some personnel. The violence, caught on camera, broke out after the tempo bumped into a police van.

The video shows a police officer and the tempo driver, Sarabjeet Singh, talking as he brandishes a sword, after which the officer walks into the police station nearby. When Singh sees a group of officers holding lathis approaching him, he chases after them with the sword. When an ASI, in plainclothes, tries to control him from behind, Singh attacks him with the sword, following which officers rain lathis and blows on Singh to subdue him.

In the meantime, the tempo, allegedly being driven by his son, hits the officers, the video shows. Officers then subdue the son.

On Monday, police suspended three officers over the violence and filed an FIR against them for assault, DCP

(PRO) Madhur Verma said. An FIR was also filed against Singh and his son. "Both cases have been transferred to the Crime Branch," Verma said, adding that eight personnel were injured.

ASI Yograj Sharma, the plainclothes officer who was attacked with the sword, told *The Indian Express*: "We came to know an ASI was out patrolling and a Gramin Sewa vehicle hit his van. He asked the tempo driver (Singh) to bring his vehicle to the station, but he started arguing and wielded his sword to intimidate him. I was at the station when he came and asked me to send some officers to apprehend a man. I, along with three others, came out, and grabbed Singh from behind. His son slapped me and Singh hit me on the head with the sword. He was very violent. After continuous efforts, we managed to catch hold of him and drag him to the station."

Delhi Police chief Patnaik said, "We have a zero-tolerance policy towards unprofessional conduct or unnecessary excess, even while performing official duties or handling a crowd."

On Sunday, around 500 people protested outside Mukherjee Nagar police station and demanded strict action against the officers. A video surfaced Monday which shows ACP (Shalimar Bagh) KG Tyagi being beaten up by protesters when he went to inform them about the suspension of three personnel.

A senior police officer said the footage is being looked into.



On Monday night, 500 people had gathered outside Mukherjee Nagar police station. *Amit Mehra*

'At police station, they turned off cameras and beat us again'

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

SITTING OUTSIDE their one-room house in Gandhi Vihar Monday, the son of 45-year-old Sarabjeet Singh, who was beaten up by police personnel on a Mukherjee Nagar road Sunday after he brandished a sword, alleged he and his father were assaulted again after being taken to the police station.

"My father had stopped his vehicle at GTB Nagar Chowk, when a police officer shouted at us to move. Due to traffic, we couldn't, but the officer started



A video grab of Sunday's incident

shouting at us. We agitated, but he didn't let us go. He called other officers... who beat us mercilessly with lathis... police later dragged us to the station," he alleged. The son alleged he and his father were locked in a room

Stun guns were ruled out in 2015

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

IN 2015, the then Delhi Police chief B S Bassi had decided to equip policemen with stun guns or tasers for their safety after several attacks on officers were reported. They even decided to procure them, but the idea was later dropped.

Security personnel in the West use "non-lethal" weapons as a means of crowd control. A senior police officer said the idea was to use tasers in situations where a person had to be subdued without lethal force.

"Initially, they ordered half-a-dozen stun guns from a US-based company for a pilot project and asked officers for feedback. The plan was to order more later. A police stun baton with a built-in torch was provided to ACPs and higher-ranked officers in all districts, and they were told to be armed while patrolling, especially at night," an officer said.

But the idea was dropped when some officers raised apprehensions that if the equipment hits the market, it can be misused by the public. "There were also fears of criminals using the weapon, which releases an electro-magnetic pulse to paralyse a person's central nervous system for around 20 seconds," the officer said.

Both Sarabjeet and his son drive the Gramin Sewa van. The son said he dropped out of school and accompanies his father.

Kejriwal condemns cop 'brutality', finds echo in Punjab CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

DELHI CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal Monday condemned the "brutality" by Delhi Police officers in the Mukherjee Nagar incident and also demanded that the Home Minister and the L-G be "strict against rising crime" in Delhi, a day after police officers clashed with a sword-wielding man in the area.

The incident took place following a minor accident involving a police vehicle and a Gramin Sewa tempo.

Kejriwal met Sarabjeet Singh, the tempo driver, and his son at their home and demanded that the policemen who "assaulted" the man be punished. "The manner in which the driver was beaten was brutal... I condemn this assault by Delhi Police personnel in the strongest possible words. I appeal to the L-G, DCP, police commissioner that the officers responsible for the attack be punished severely. No citizen should have to go through this at the hands of police," Kejriwal said after the meeting.

The incident snowballed into a political issue, with MLAs from the BJP and AAP reaching the Mukherjee Nagar police station Sunday night, demanding that police take action against the officers who beat the man, who had charged at them with a sword in his hands.

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh also hit out at Delhi Police and sought Union Home Minister Amit Shah's intervention in the matter, while Delhi Congress chief Sheila Dikshit wrote to the L-G on the "rising crime in the city".

Area MLA Pankaj Pushkar claimed he had raised the issue of chaos at the Mukherjee Nagar signal four days ago dur-



Kejriwal near the family home, Monday. *PTI*

ing a district-level meeting with the police and SDM of the area. In the meeting, Pushkar had demanded that Gramin Sewa tempos and e-rickshaws in the area be regulated to avoid any accidents.

"The context that Sunday's incident happened in is important to keep in mind. With several tempos and e-rickshaws parked in the area, the traffic situation is chaotic. I will be holding meetings with RWAs and market associations soon to find a permanent solution to the problem," he said.

BJP-SAD MLA Manjinder Sirsa was among the first to offer support to Singh and his son. He met the police chief Monday and said he had ensured that a complaint against the officers is filed.

On Sunday night, AAP MLA Jarnail Singh had also reached the Mukherjee Nagar police station. AAP MP Sanjay Singh also met the family on Monday morning, assuring support.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Fourth Municipal Valuation Committee has submitted its Interim report, on which the Corporation has decided to make the report public and invite objections/representations. The objections/representations can be filed within 30 days of the publication of this notice. The objections are to be filed in the office of Joint Assessor & Collector/HQ, A&C Department/SDMC, 20th Floor, E-1 Block, Civic Centre, J.L. Nehru Marg, New Delhi-110002.

Interim report along with detailed public notice is available on SDMC's Website www.mcdonline.gov.in/tri/sdmc_mcdportal/ Sd/-
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BRIEFLY

Auto fare hike comes into force today

New Delhi: Commuters travelling in autorickshaws in the capital will have to shell out more from Tuesday, with the state transport authority issuing a notification on Monday effecting a 18.75-per cent increase on existing rates. The meter down charge will be Rs 25 for the first 1.5 km, instead of existing 2 km. The per km charge has been increased from existing Rs 8 to Rs 9.5. The hike comes just a few months before the Delhi Assembly elections. The move will impact owners and drivers of over 90,000 autorickshaws plying in the city, who had played a crucial role in the rise of the AAP. An official said that fare meters of autorickshaws will be re-calibrated, which will take around 1.5 months. **PTI**

New PG courses at GGSIPU

New Delhi: Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University has introduced new postgraduate level courses in the 2019-20 academic session. These include diploma level courses as well as vocational courses. As announced by Joint Registrar (Admissions) Nitin Malik in a press conference Monday, the state university will now offer three MVoc programmes — MVoc (Automobile), MVoc (Software Development), MVoc (Interior Design), alongside other courses like MSc (Yoga) and BSc Nursing (Post Basic).

Signal-free integrated corridor soon

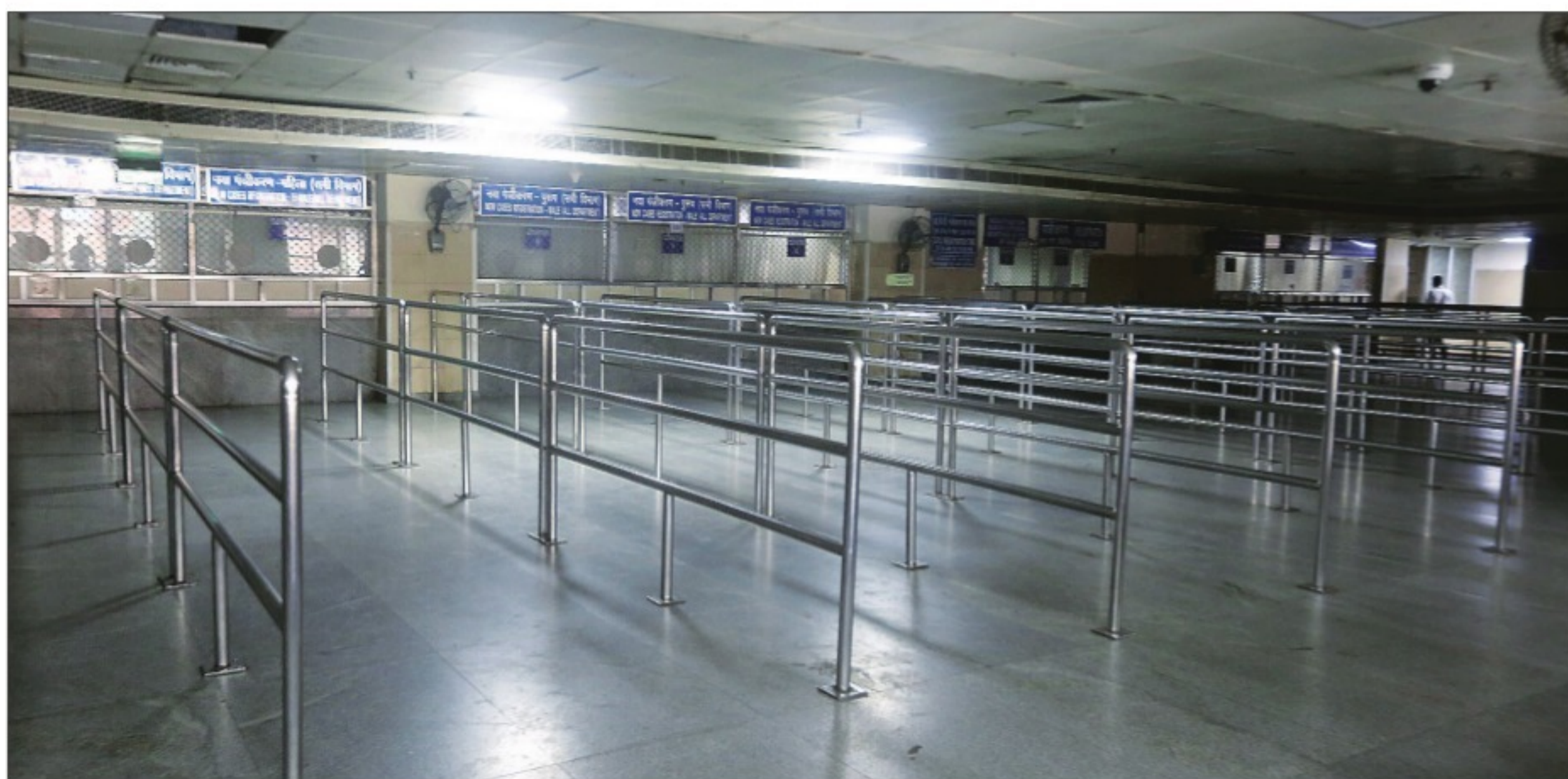
New Delhi: The Unified Traffic and Transportation Infrastructure (Planning & Engineering) Centre has approved the proposal for a signal-free integrated transit corridor between two traffic junctions as part of a national highway in Delhi, officials said. The proposed corridor is between Jwala Heri and Jwalapuri traffic light junction.

Betting operation busted, 3 held

Gurgaon: Police busted an illegal betting operation and arrested three people, all Rohtak residents, who were accepting bets on the India-Pakistan World Cup cricket match Sunday. **ENS**

Cops help recover jewellery

Noida: Police came to the rescue of a woman who forgot her bag containing jewellery worth Rs 15 lakh in a cab Monday. Police tracked the driver and recovered it from the DND flyover, officials said. **PTI**



The out-patient department at Lok Nayak Hospital wore an empty look as resident doctors joined the strike Monday. *Amit Mehra*

DOCTORS RESUME WORK TODAY

Waiting for treatment since Friday, end of strike brings relief to patients

ASTHA SAXENA & ASHNA BUTANI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

DOCTORS AND patients in the capital shared a sense of relief as resident doctors in West Bengal ended a week-long strike Monday evening. Around 15,000 doctors across Delhi had been on strike in solidarity with their colleagues in West Bengal, and healthcare services such as routine surgeries and OPD services were hit as junior doctors stayed away from work Monday.

The family of six-year-old

Anjana spent the day running from one hospital to another. A resident of Dilshad Garden, Anjana swallowed a two-rupee coin Saturday morning, while trying to hide it from her elder sister.

"This is the fourth government hospital we have visited in the last two days. Three hospitals did not treat her since doctors were not available. We cannot afford a private hospital. Thinking that the strike would end today, we reached GTB Hospital at 8 am, but couldn't get an appointment," said Jai Prakash, the girl's father.

At one of Delhi government's

biggest hospitals, Lok Nayak, not a single patient was looked at in the OPD. Usually the hospital sees around 9,000 patients on a daily basis. Only emergency services were functional for a few departments, and the hospital cancelled 80 surgeries.

The family of 50-year-old Mohd Taufeeq, who was admitted with paralysis, was asked to shift him to another hospital since doctors were unavailable.

"We came here last night and now they have asked us to move elsewhere. We have no other option; one cannot fight with the administration. We are

taking him back," said his father Mohd Yassen, shifting him into an ambulance.

Dr Sunil Kumar, Medical Director at GTB Hospital, said, "Resident doctors are part of the nation-wide agitation for doctor's rights. Senior doctors are working in the OPD. However, resident doctors are agitated but still compassionate enough to continue emergency services. They will not let patients die. Only routine operations have been suspended."

The strike, called by the Indian Medical Association (IMA), especially impacted pa-

tients from outside Delhi.

"In the absence of junior doctors, faculty members have pushed themselves to provide treatment to patients... The vacation of the faculty was put on hold for a while," said Dr Nutan Mehta from RML Hospital.

The Resident Doctors' Association (RDA) at AIIMS, which had earlier decided not to join the strike keeping in view patient care, announced the withdrawal of all non-essential services from Monday noon till Tuesday 6 am. Junior doctors attended OPDs from 9 am to 12 pm on Monday.

AAP govt may de-link free bus and Metro plans, roll out the former first

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

WITH THE Delhi Metro indicating that there are hurdles in implementing the free rides proposal for women, the Delhi government is inclined to roll out the exemption scheme in the city's public buses first, and is preparing a separate Cabinet note on the same, it is learnt.

Sources said there will be another Cabinet note on implementing the proposal in the Metro.

The AAP leadership, it is learnt, feels the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation's (DMRC) position that the proposal will have to be placed before a Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) is indicative of a possible delay in its implementation.

While the Transport Department is busy finalising the first draft of the Cabinet note on the proposal, announced by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, there are no indications of the Union government setting up an FFC under the Delhi Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002 yet.

"The CM is quite optimistic that the Centre will set up an FFC and the proposal will be cleared. But even then, it will take a few months for its implementation. The DMRC says it will take eight months, and even if the government pushes, it may take at least six months. On the other hand, it can be rolled out in buses after work-



The free Metro for women proposal will have to be placed before FFC, which is indicative of delay in implementation

ing out the logistics. The Cabinet note on buses is likely to be cleared first," said a senior official.

It will be easier for the government to implement the move in buses as the Transport Minister is the chairman of the board of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC).

The DMRC, on the other hand, is a body where the Centre and the state have equal stake.

The DMRC has estimated that it will need an annual subsidy of around Rs 1,566 crore from the Delhi government, if the scheme is implemented.

The corporation also insists that the subsidy be paid in advance as an abrupt discontinuation of the scheme may jeopardise its finances, considering it has debt of around Rs 32,000

crore to repay.

The FFC, once notified, will be headed by a retired or sitting judge and will have two officers each representing the state and the Centre.

The 5,500-strong bus fleet in the city is managed by the DTC and the DIMTS (Delhi Integrated Multi-Modal Transit System).

The DIMTS manages the nearly 1,700-strong fleet of orange cluster buses, owned by private players.

"Once implemented, women will not be travelling ticketless. There will be special passes and tickets. The Electronic Ticket Machines will be equipped to dispense tickets for free travel. This way, a count of how many women are availing the waiver will be kept," an official said.

Ex-bureaucrat writes to PM countering Sreedharan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

A FORMER principal advisor to the Planning Commission has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying that the Delhi government's proposal to make public transport free for women will help safeguard the interest of women within "our unequal social and economic system".

According to Renuka Viswanathan, who contested the 2018 Karnataka state polls on an AAP ticket, implementing the proposal will promote the participation of women in the workforce, increase their income and lead to a rise in the revenue of the DMRC.

In her letter, Viswanathan sought to counter 'Metro Man' E Sreedharan's arguments against the move: "We, administrators and economists, prefer to avoid subsidies as they distort market signals and pricing mechanisms... We know that most markets are already distorted, since buyers and sellers don't have equal access to information and because people with means cartelize and capture markets. All governments, therefore, use subsidies to support weaker groups, level the playing field..."

BJP picks Chahal to boost cadre strength

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

THE DELHI BJP Monday appointed general secretary Kuljeet Chahal as the 'membership in-charge' of the party, tasking him with increasing the party's primary membership.

With this, the party has started the process of mobilising workers ahead of next year's Assembly polls, and major changes are expected in the organisation in the coming months at the mandal and district levels.

Chahal said he intends to include at least 10 lakh more people in the organisation in the coming months through missed calls and by getting forms filled.

A senior BJP leader said the party is expected to make changes in block and district-level cadres, based on the outcome of a survey to be conducted soon.

However, changes at higher levels for post of presidents, vice-presidents and general secretaries are unlikely before elections. "The party has also asked its ground-level workers to 'poach' workers from the opposition camp by motivating them to work for the BJP. Leaders at mandal and district levels, RWA presidents, market association heads, make a big difference if they are brought to the party," the leader said. Sources said that BJP leaders have been asked to visit JJ clusters and interact with slum dwellers.

AIIMS trauma centre doc abused, police detain kin of patient

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

A JUNIOR resident doctor at the emergency ward of the AIIMS Trauma Centre was allegedly verbally abused and manhandled by attendants of a patient late Sunday night.

Police said a case has been registered and two persons have been detained, while a third is yet to be picked up.

AIIMS resident doctors, who had earlier decided not to join the nation-wide strike so that patient care services are not hit, later announced withdrawal of all non-essential services from 12 pm Monday till 6 am Tuesday. Resident doctors will resume work Tuesday.

Doctors said the incident took place around 11.30 pm at

the emergency ward of the AIIMS Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre, when a patient with a foot injury was brought in for treatment. The family allegedly threatened the doctor and asked him to treat the patient on a priority basis.

"Agar mera patient tune nahi dekha, toh main jaan se maar dunga (I will kill you if you won't treat my patient)," such kind of verbal abuse was used by the patient's attendant. This is happening at an institute like AIIMS, which has a strong security system. There is an urgent need to have a central law to ensure safety and security of doctors," AIIMS Resident Doctors' Association (RDA) president Dr Amarinder Singh Malhi said.

Police said the FIR has been registered under IPC sections 341, 186, 506 and 34.



The DU standing committee has decided to apply eligibility criteria of last year to all courses this year. *Archive*

In pipeline: A body for DU admission queries through the year

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

DELHI UNIVERSITY'S Standing Committee of Academic Council Monday recommended that a full-fledged admission branch be opened in the university to work out admission-related modalities through the year.

Keeping in mind the Delhi High Court judgment asking DU to allow admission of students to undergraduate programmes as per last year's eligibility criteria, the committee also decided to apply eligibility criteria of last year to all courses this year.

DU Admission Committee head Rajeev Gupta also said Monday that registration for other courses, apart from UG courses, will also be extended to June 22, so as to give "equal opportunity to all students".

"Registration portal will remain open for all UG, PG, MPhil and PhD courses till June 22. The last date has been extended for all courses," said Gupta, adding that the day of cut-offs would be notified sometime this week.

Rasal Singh, member of the standing committee, said the decisions were taken in a meeting of the committee on Monday. "The committee decided to keep the eligibility criteria for all courses the same as it was last year, as per directions of the HC."

He said that since DU was a "very big and prestigious institution", with "lakhs of students getting admission in its UG, PG and research programmes every year", admission process would take a long time.

"DU has hundreds of colleges and departments. All are directly involved in admission process as they all are stakeholders. Staff councils of colleges, committee of courses and DRCs of all departments... admission committees of all fac-

EXPLAINED
To facilitate admission process

THE ADMISSION Committee is usually constituted in January every year and registrations begin in May, giving the body around five months to work out modalities. Previously, the administration has tried to start registration process sooner, but could not do so because of multiple changes introduced. If a round-the-year Admission Branch is constituted, the administration will get 12 months to think of potential changes, take feedback from stakeholders, get them passed, and notify it well in advance.

ulties, admission committee of the university, standing committee on admissions and the academic council are all statutory bodies and have important and inevitable role in admission policy framing. So, it involves lots of debate and discussion and requires time as well," he said.

"For an easy, efficient and time-bound admission process, it is the need of the hour that DU have a full-fledged admission branch which works round the year and engages all stakeholders well in time in policy framing and implementation. This is what the committee has recommended," Singh added.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Pinki D/o Sanjay Kumar R/o H.No. B-718, Jawala Puri, Camp No.4, New Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 25.05.2019 from the area of P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 236/19 u/s 363 IPC dated 26.05.2019** has been registered at P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi.

The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under: **Name: Pinki, Father's Name: Sanjay Kumar, Age: 17 years 6 months, Height: 5'3", Face: Round, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: Blue Samaj-Black Chackdar Jeans pant and fancy chappal in feet.** If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641
DP/2314/OD/19

SHO P.S., Paschim Vihar West, Delhi Ph.: 011-25268394 25280980

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one Person **Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o: Unknown, age: 35-40 years** was found dead at Nangloi Railway Station, Metro Station on road, Delhi, **08.06.2019 at 11:48 a.m.** In this regard a case has been lodged vide **Fir/DD No. 32-A dated 08.06.2019 at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi.** The description of the dead person is as under: **Age: 35-40 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Wheatish, ID Mark: A tattoo mark namely "Vijay" on his hand Wearing: Light yellow colour half arm shirt and grey pant.** If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO P. S. Nangloi, Delhi Ph.: 011-25947725, 7065036127

DP/2345/OD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Gudia, D/o: Rajender Singh, R/o: I.G. Colony, Kunwar Singh Nagar, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since **08.09.2013 from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.** In this regard **FIR No. 322/13 u/s 363 IPC, dated 10.09.2013** has been registered at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing /kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Gudia, Age: 7 Years, Height: 2'6", Face: Oval, Complexion: Fair, Wearing: White Frock having Green Lines and Yellow Plastic Chappal in feet.

If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped girl please inform P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.

ACP District Investigation Unit Outer Distt., Delhi Ph: 011-27017805

DP/2310/OD/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Bittu @ Ganga S/o Karan Singh, R/o H. No. 2094/9-A, Gali No. 19, Prem Nagar, New Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **F.I.R. No. 268/19 u/s 324 IPC** has been registered at P.S. Sultan Puri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon that the said **Bittu @ Ganga** could not be found and where it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Bittu @ Ganga** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Bittu @ Ganga** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.08.2019.**

By Order
Ms. Upasana Satija,
Metropolitan Magistrate-01,
Room No. 102, 1st Floor,
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/2317/OD/19 (Court Notice)

Elderly couple tied up at home, robbed in Vikaspuri

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

AROUND 8.30 am Saturday, Ashok Tekchandani (83) went out of his bedroom to have morning tea, usually served by the domestic help. Minutes later, the retired Income Tax department official and his wife Meena (75) were allegedly tied up with a plastic rope, wrapped in a bedsheet, and their mouths were stuffed with cloth, as the domestic help, Keshav, and his accomplice, allegedly robbed the house.

Ashok was also punched in the left eye.

The incident took place at West Delhi's upscale Shankar Garden in Vikaspuri, with the FIR stating that the two accused took

off with Rs 65,000 and gold and diamond jewellery.

The couple were rescued around 11.30 am by their youngest son Kamal, who lives a floor above, after he was alerted by another domestic help who saw Ashok tied up in his room.

"The accused domestic help had been with the family for a week, and his police verification hadn't been done. We have procured footage from a neighbour's CCTV... Arrests will be made soon," said Additional DCP (West) Sameer Sharma. A case under IPC section 392 (robbery) has been filed at Vikaspuri police station.

"Our old domestic help went back to his village on June 7, and we hired Keshav on June 6. He was recommended by a relative," said Kamal (45). He said that when he

rushed downstairs, he saw his father had been "punched near his left eye, unable to raise an alarm because of the cloth in his mouth", while his mother "was in another room in a similar state".

The family has been living in the three-storey house since 1996. While Ashok and Meena live on the ground floor, the couple's two sons and their families occupy the two floors above. "We had not got Keshav's verification done, we don't have his photos either," claimed Kamal.

He alleged that as per the neighbour's CCTV, "Keshav is seen sweeping the area outside the house at 8.52 am, and signals to his accomplice outside to enter the house. At 8.57 am, the accomplice enters the house with a big bag".

DUO FELL FROM 10TH FLOOR

2 cleaning Videocon Tower window plummet to death as lift collapses

ASHNABUTANI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

TWO WORKERS cleaning the window panes of Videocon Tower in Central Delhi's Jhandewalan were killed when the electronic outdoor lift they were standing on snapped and fell from the 10th floor to the third floor Monday.

The victims have been identified as Raju Kumar (23) and Ishtar Khan (22), residents of a slum in Vasant Kunj. "Prima facie, it appears they didn't have any safety equipment. There were no hel-

pets or safety belts at the spot," said a police officer.

DCP (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa said the lift collapsed due to a mechanical failure around 3 pm. "The men were rushed to Lady Hardinge Medical College, where they were declared dead on arrival. A case under IPC sections 304A (causing death by negligence) and 287 (negligent conduct with respect to machinery) has been registered against MS Enterprise, the company that was handling the building's cleaning work," he said. No arrest has been made so far. Khan's brother Samad (38)

told *The Indian Express*, "He has been doing this job for over four years now and was being paid Rs 13,000 a month. He lived on rent in a small house with his wife and their one-year-old daughter. How can they let him use a faulty machine? Even if they had safety gear, would they have survived the fall?"

Khan's brother-in-law Mohd Shakir, also employed with the same cleaning company, was present at the spot when the incident took place. Samad claimed, "We got a call from him at 3 pm about the incident. While my brother never spoke about work,

Shakir often said the company didn't provide any safety belts and that it was scary to be so high up on buildings to clean them. Just because we are poor labourers, are our lives not worth anything?"

Samad works as a security guard in Faridabad and returned from their hometown in Jhansi, UP, Monday morning. "My brother was the sole breadwinner of his family. His wife doesn't work and Ishtar also helped out our unemployed father," he said.

A police officer said, "The men were wearing ID cards of the cleaning company and were employed there. So far, we've

found out that MS Enterprises has been engaged for this cleaning job by Videocon Tower for a few years now, and send workers to clean window panes at regular intervals."

A police officer said the two labourers reached the 10th floor of the 14-storey building and were standing on the lift, cleaning the windows, when it suddenly snapped and fell. "It was a steel panel outdoor automated lift," said a police officer.

The post-mortem will be conducted Tuesday, after which the bodies will be handed over to the families.

Desi ghee, cloned card leads to man's arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

IN A bid to sell Patanjali's desi ghee at a higher rate in Nigeria, a 45-year-old Nigerian national attempted to buy 450 kg ghee from a Patanjali store in New Friends Colony — allegedly using a cloned debit card. It was this order of 30 boxes of desi ghee worth Rs 2.25 lakh on June 14 that eventually led to Shoxy Aby's arrest.

DCP (Southeast) Chinmoy Biswal said, "A PCR call was made June 14 about two Nigerian nationals who made a Rs 2 lakh payment through a card... the Patanjali store owner, who is the complainant, said that when he suspected something amiss and asked for more details, the two ran away."

Biswal said Aby and his accomplice made a payment using a Corporation Bank debit card, but were not allowed to take the desi ghee boxes by the store owner after they couldn't come up with card details and an ID. A case of cheating was registered at New Friends Colony police station.

During investigation, it was found the transaction was made using a USA Discover Bank card instead. Aby was arrested from Alstonia Apartment in Greater Noida. "The chip in the card was cloned and had details of the USA Discover Bank card... Aby's visa expired long ago; he moved to India in 2013. Efforts are on to arrest his accomplice," said Biswal.

Rs 100-cr property case: Court grants bail to Monty Chadha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17



Monty Chadha is one of the directors of the accused firm

A DELHI court Monday granted bail to late liquor baron Ponty Chadha's son Manpreet Singh Chadha, better known as Monty Chadha, who was arrested last week in a case involving alleged failure to hand over a Rs 100-crore township in Ghaziabad to home buyers.

Additional Sessions Judge Gulshan Kumar, however, imposed restriction on movement of the accused and said that he should not leave the country without the court's permission. "In the present case, it has been admitted by parties that the matter/dispute has been amicably settled between them... It is also stated by the counsel for the applicant/accused that in case any other investors come forward, the applicant/accused will settle the matter. When the applicant/accused... have already settled the matter with the complainants... the present application deserves to be allowed," the court said.

In court, senior advocate Vikas Pahwa, appearing for Monty, said, "Settlement has been done with all the claimants who had filed the case."

Monty, vice-chairman of the Wave Group, was arrested on June 12 by immigration officers at Delhi's IGI airport while he was travelling with his family to Phuket in Thailand for vacation.

The FIR has been registered by the EOW of the Delhi Police on a complaint made by K Ramesh, Kaveri Ramesh and others under various sections of the IPC, including cheating, criminal breach of trust and criminal conspiracy.

What's the problem: HC pulls up forest dept over failure to get 1.4 lakh saplings planted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

THE DELHI High Court Monday pulled up the Delhi government's forest department over its failure to comply with its direction to ensure 1.4 lakh saplings are planted in the Central Ridge, and ordered the agency to plant around 60,000 saplings by mid-July. "What's the problem in digging the earth and planting trees?" Justice Najmi Waziri asked.

The observations came after the government said only 3,500 saplings have been planted till



Only 3,500 saplings have been planted so far. Archive

date, with 2,500 more to be planted by this week. The court said the forest department should plant 5,000 more saplings in the Central Ridge and around 50,000 in the Southern Ridge by mid-July.

The private company, which has been directed to procure the saplings, was also pulled up by the judge when it said 1,000 saplings cost Rs 175 lakh. "This is a scam... Each tree would cost Rs 250-350..." the judge said.

The court had earlier directed a private firm to spend the fine imposed on it to plant 1.4 lakh trees and asked the department to ensure its implementation.

5 parking lots at Karol Bagh

New Delhi: The North Delhi Municipal Corporation has started surface parking at five places in Karol Bagh, former standing committee chairman Veena Virmani said.

Parking at Rajinder Nagar, Dev Nagar, Bank Street, Shastrri Park and Ajmal Khan Park has the capacity to accommodate 600 cars.

Individually, while the parking lot at Rajinder Nagar has space for 150 cars, Ajmal Khan Park can accommodate 200 vehicles. Bank Street will have parking space for 150 cars while 100 cars can be parked at Dev Nagar. **ENS**

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Head Office, Udhampur Srinagar Baramulla Rail Link "USBRIL" Project, Satyam Complex, Marble Market, Extn-Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir-180 011 India. Tel: +91-191-2484778

Window advertisement
Notification No. KR/HO/JK/P/1-2019 Dated 14/06/2019
KRCL invites applications for one post of full time Medical Officer on Contract basis to work at Udhampur - Srinagar - Baramulla Rail Link (USBRIL) Project, Jammu & Kashmir.

The walk in interview is scheduled to be held on 17/07/2019 from 09:30 hrs onwards at "USBRIL Project Head Office, Konkan Railway Corporation Limited.", Satyam Complex, Marble Market, Extn-Trikuta Nagar, Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir - 180 011. Candidates should see the details notification, eligibility criteria, date and time of Walk-in-Interview on the KRCL website www.konkanrailway.com at the link -> Recruitment -> Current Notification and may report directly for walk-in-interview at the above date, time and address.

Chief Engineer/Works & Planning

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2019 (OJEE - 2019)

No. OJEE2019/264 Dt. 17/06/2019

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR COUNSELLING AND ADMISSION FOR MBBS / BDS COURSES 2019-20

Activity	Date
Registration and Online Application	20-06-2019 12:00 NOON to 25-06-2019 11:59PM
Publication of list of Registered Candidates	26-06-2019
Document Verification at Nodal Centres	26-06-2019 to 29-06-2019 (10:00AM to 5:00PM)
Medical Board for Physically Challenged Candidates	26-06-2019 and 27-06-2019
Ex-Service Man Board for ES Candidates	21-06-2019 and 28-06-2019
Publication of State Merit List	01-07-2019
Choice Filling and Locking	01-07-2019 11:00AM to 02-07-2019 11:59PM
1st Round Allotment Publication and Down loading of Provisional Allotment Letter	04-07-2019
Provisional Admission (1st Round) at OJEE CELL, Gandamunda, Bhubaneswar.	05-07-2019 to 09-07-2019 (10.00 AM to 05.00 PM)
Joining Allotted Institutions	By 12.07.2019 5.00 PM
Vacant Seat display (including returned All India Quota seats)	24-07-2019
Choice filling and Choice locking	24-07-2019 10.00 AM to 25-07-2019 11.59 PM
2nd Round Allotment and Downloading Provisional Allotment cum Admission Letter	26-07-2019
2nd Round Provisional Admission at OJEE CELL, Gandamunda, Bhubaneswar.	27-07-2019 to 30-07-2019 (10.00 AM to 05.00 PM)
Withdrawal (Resignation) from Admission (no resignation is allowed after this date)	31.07.2019 (10.00 AM to 05.00 PM)
Joining Allotted Institutions	03.08.2019
A Spot Counselling and Admission may be done if vacancy arises due to any reason after 2nd round counselling	04.08.2019 to 08.08.2019 (10.00 AM to 5.00 PM)
Admission Venue : OJEE Cell, Gandamunda, Bhubaneswar	
Last date of Joining Allotted Institutions	12-08-2019
Transfer of vacant seats to Private Medical College for final mop up admission	13.08.2019 after 5.00 PM
Last date of joining in private institutions	18-08-2019

Mail id of OJEE2019: www.odishaojee@gmail.com
Website : ojee.nic.in, odishaojee.com

NB: The candidates who have taken admission in 1st or 2nd round of counselling (All India / State) are not eligible to participate in Spot counselling. (As per MCI and Hon'ble Apex Court directives)

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE

COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH (CSIR)
Anusandhan Bhawan, 2 Rafi Marg, New Delhi- 110001
Advt. No. 02/2019

CSIR is looking for Outstanding Scientists

CSIR invites applications/nominations for two positions of Scientist 'H'/Outstanding Scientists at Technology Management Directorates, CSIR Hqrs, in Level 15 (Rs. 1,82,200-2,24,100) of pay-matrix plus allowances as applicable in CSIR.

For eligibility criteria and other conditions, please see the detailed/complete advertisement No. 02/2019 on CSIR website www.csir.res.in. Interested candidates may send their complete bio-data alongwith list of publication/patents etc. through email/by post to Director-General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Anusandhan Bhawan, 2, Rafi Marg, New Delhi- 110001 on or before 31.07.2019
Email: dgcsir@csir.res.in, dg@csir.res.in

davp 36202/11/0009/1920

INDIAN COMPUTER EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
A STATUTORY BODY OF MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Applications are invited for filling up the following posts in Indian Computer Emergency Response Team on deputation (including short-term contract)/absorption or re-employment basis:-

S. No.	Name of posts	No of Posts	Level in Pay Matrix
1.	Scientist 'F'	03	Level -13A i.e. Rs. 131100-216600/-
2.	Scientist 'E'	03	Level -13 i.e. Rs. 123100-215900/-
3.	Accounts and Finance Officer	01	Level -7 i.e. Rs. 44900-142400/-
4.	Private Secretary	03	Level -7 i.e. Rs. 44900-142400/-
5.	Assistant	01	Level -6 i.e. Rs. 35400-112400/-

For application format, eligibility conditions, requisite qualifications and other details, log on to Ministry's website www.meity.gov.in or ICERT's website www.cert-in.org.in.

Application forms, duly complete, must be submitted by **27.8.2019** to Deputy Director (Personnel), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex, New Delhi- 110003
davp 06101/11/0001/1920

The Nehru Memorial Museum & Library
cordially invites you to a Public Lecture

on
"China-Wielding the Economic Clout"
by
Shri V. Srinivas, IAS
Author
India's Relations with the International Monetary Fund
Chair:
Lt Gen (Retd.) S.L. Narasimhan, PVSM, AVSM, VSM
DG, Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Date: Wednesday, 19th June 2019, at 3.30 pm
Venue: Seminar Room, Library Building
Nehru Memorial Museum and Library
Teen Murti House, New Delhi-110011

All are Welcome

Form No. 5
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL
600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow- 226007

(Area of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh)
Summons For Filing & Appearance By Publication
O.A.No. 195/2019
Date: 14-06-2019
(Summons to defendant under Section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules, 1993)
Original Application. No. 195 of 2019

ICICI BANK LTD. ...Applicant
Versus
AKASH PARMAR & OTHERS ...Defendant

To,
1. SRI AKASH PARMAR
S/o Sri Naresh Kumar Parmar, R/o F- 406, Parsuanath Prestige, Sector- 93, Agb Nagar, Nodia, District- Gautam Buddh Nagar- 201301.

ALSO AT:
Flat No. K1 1601, 16th Floor, Block- K1, Imperial Greens, Plot No. Gh- 01/b, Noida, District- Gautam Buddh Nagar- 201307
2. Smt. Sapna Parmar
W/o Sri Akash Parmar, R/o F- 406, Parsuanath Prestige, Sector- 93, Agb Nagar, Nodia, District- Gautam Buddh Nagar- 201301.

ALSO AT:
Flat No. K1 1601, 16th Floor, Block- K1, Imperial Green, Plot No. Gh- 01/b, Noida, District- Gautam Buddh Nagar- 201307
3. M/S KELTECH INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED
having its registered office at: 7, I.P. Building, E- 109, Pandav Nagar, Near Akshardham Temple, NH- 24, Delhi- 110092 and also Corporate Office at: B- 20, Gf, Near Fortis Hospital, Sector- 63, Noida, District- Gautam Buddh Nagar.

In the above noted application, you are required to file reply in paper book form in Two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/ duly authorized agent after publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 12/09/2019 at 10:30 A.M. failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal
Lucknow

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



MP Chirag Paswan photographs mother Reena at Parliament on Monday. Anil Sharma

SON'S TURN

IT WAS a long day for two mothers in the Lok Sabha galleries, waiting to see their sons take oath as Members of the House. Reena Paswan, wife of Minister for Consumer Affairs Ram Vilas Paswan, had taken a seat in the Speaker's gallery from the outset to watch son Chirag, a second-term MP, being sworn in. Prem Lata, MLA-wife of former Union minister Birender Singh, was also in the VIP gallery. Their son, Brijendra Singh, a former IAS officer, has been elected on a BJP ticket from Hisar, Haryana. The order of oath-taking — first the ministers and then Members elected from states and Union Territories in alphabetical order — left no scope for a short-cut.

HINDI ROUTE

WITH MANY senior Congress leaders losing in the Lok Sabha elections, Kodikkunnil Suresh, an MP from Kerala, is one of the senior-most MPs in the opposition benches. Amid a buzz that his name is also doing the rounds as a possible Lok Sabha leader of the party, Suresh, elected as one of the panel of chairpersons to oversee the swearing-in, took his oath in Hindi. While the move received applause from the BJP side, Sonia Gandhi is learnt to have asked Suresh why he could not take the oath in his native - Malayalam - language. This prompted some other Congress MPs from Kerala to drop the idea of taking oath in Hindi. At least two of them kept aside their Hindi scripts and stuck to English and Malayalam.

WINNING HEARTS

SUMALATHA AMBAREESH, the Independent MP from Mandya, Karnataka, who won with BJP's support, was a big hit on the first day of 17th Lok Sabha. She not only received loud cheers and applause when her name was called to take oath but was also a leader much sought after for photographs outside the House. The presence of a lot of visitors from South India made it more hectic for the actor-turned-politician. Some of the visitors were heard referring to her as 'Clara', a character she had played, and conquered hearts with, in the 1987 Malayalam film 'Thoovanathumbikal'.

GUJARAT UNIT CONTESTS EC DECISION

Separate RS bypolls: Congress moves SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, JUNE 17

THE GUJARAT Congress on Monday moved a petition in the Supreme Court challenging the Election Commission of India (ECI)'s decision to conduct separate by-elections for two Rajya Sabha seats that fell vacant after the election of BJP president Amit Shah and Union Minister Smriti Irani to the Lok Sabha. The notification for the election to be held on July 5, is scheduled to be issued on Tuesday.

The petition, filed by Paresh Dhanani, Leader of Opposition in Gujarat Assembly, is likely to be mentioned Tuesday morning before a vacation bench of the Supreme Court for urgent hearing.

Seeking that the ECI's June 15 notification be set aside, Dhanani in his petition has sought that the ECI be directed to "expeditiously

hold simultaneous elections against the vacancies created in the Rajya Sabha due to the election of Amit Shah and Smriti Irani to the Lok Sabha, in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of People's Act 1951 (RP Act)".

Challenging the ECI's reasoning of the vacancy of the two seats as 'Casual Vacancy' for conducting separate by-elections, Dhanani emphasised that "Section 69 (2) of the RP Act read with Section 67A and Section 68(4), makes it a Statutory Vacancy".

"The Congress Legislative Party is minority in the Gujarat Assembly though it has the requisite numbers in the Assembly to proportionately elect member to the Council of States. The BJP...in order to have its party rule the Rajya Sabha...is trying to use the ECI's Office to impede the mandate under RP Act to elect members to the Council of States..." the petition said.

100 promises fulfilled in 6 months: MP CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BHOPAL, JUNE 17

THE CONGRESS government in Madhya Pradesh completed six months on Monday, with Chief Minister Kamal Nath claiming that 100 promises made in the party's manifesto for the Assembly elections have been fulfilled.

Nath said he has always been a votary of governments presenting report cards from time to time so that people can judge them by the work done. He claimed the model code of conduct for the general elections cost the state government nearly two and a half months, the state government got empty coffers and little time and yet it created history by fulfilling 100 promises.

Referring to the loan waiver promise, the CM said nearly 20 lakh farmers have benefited from

it and the process to extend the benefits to the remaining beneficiaries is on. He said the Congress government has made it compulsory for industries to provide 70 per cent jobs to local residents. He said OBC reservation in the state has been increased from 14 per cent to 27 per cent, and kept promises like halving electricity dues and beginning work on building 1,000 gaushalas.

Aid sought to check crime against women

The state government has sought Rs 880-crore assistance from the Centre to develop a comprehensive mechanism to deal with crime against children and women.

In a letter to Home Minister Amit Shah, the CM said the MP government wants to put in place a comprehensive set-up involving investigating officers, legal advisers, prosecutors and counsellors.

Nadda is BJP working president, Shah continues as party chief

Party wanted Shah, but he wanted to focus on role as Home Minister: Rajnath

LIZ MATHEW NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

THE BJP Parliamentary Board, the party's highest decision-making body, on Monday nominated former Union minister and senior party leader Jagat Prakash Nadda as its working president.

Amit Shah will continue as the party's national president, it decided.

"The BJP Parliamentary Board met today and selected J P Nadda as the working president. He will remain the working president until the BJP's membership drive and organisational elections are over," Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said after a meeting of the BJP Parliamentary Board, attended by both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah.

Singh said Shah, under whom the party has won several elections, himself said that the responsibility of party president should be given to someone else, as his attention will be on fulfilling his responsibility as Home Minister.

Singh told the media, "The Parliamentary Board also wanted Amit-ji (Shah) to handle the responsibility. But he was of the view that he would not be able to



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah with newly appointed BJP working president J P Nadda at the BJP office, in New Delhi on Monday. Express

do justice to the responsibility, so the board decided to make Nadda-ji the working president."

A BJP leader said, "Nadda-ji is not only close to both the Prime Minister and Amit Shah, but is also close to the RSS. In fact, he was one of the contenders acceptable to the RSS for the post of party president in 2014. Now the circle is complete."

Nadda had played a constructive role in the BJP's victory in 2014 General Election and had

become a member of Modi's Cabinet in his first term - he held the Health and Family Affairs portfolio.

According to sources in the party, appointment of a working president is significant given that the party is gearing up for Assembly elections in Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Haryana to retain power. "The internal election process will be on auto pilot, but there are so many day-to-day issues as the party

EXPLAINED

Why Nadda is a natural choice

THE NOMINATION of J P Nadda, 58, is seen as a "natural choice" to the post, and many in BJP see him as Amit Shah's successor who is likely to take over the reins of the party after the ongoing party organisation election is over. Nadda is seen as close to both the Prime Minister and Amit Shah, and also the RSS.

faces the Assembly polls," a BJP leader said. "His (Nadda's) organisational experience, right from the ABVP (the RSS's students' wing) will help him handle the nitty-gritty of the preparations."

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

Chief ministers of Cong-ruled states to ask Rahul to stay on as party chief

MANOJ CG NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

THE CHIEF ministers of the five Congress-ruled states are planning to meet Rahul Gandhi to persuade him to continue as the Congress president. Rahul has returned to India after spending a week abroad but there is still no clarity on whether he would continue at the helm of the party.

Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi is also yet to announce who would lead the party in the Lok Sabha. Sources said Kodikkunnil Suresh, the senior-most Congress MP, and his colleague from Kerala, Shashi Tharoor, are interested in the post. Suresh on Monday took oath as an MP in Hindi, surprising many of his colleagues.

Chief Ministers of four Congress-ruled states — Madhya Pradesh's Kamal Nath, Rajasthan's Ashok Gehlot, Chhattisgarh's Bhupesh Baghel and Puducherry's V Narayanasamy — had met over dinner here last week and they felt they should try to persuade Rahul to continue as the Congress president.

"The rank and file of the Congress is united and is standing solidly behind Rahul. The party will remain disciplined and united if he is at the helm. He should continue as the Congress president..." Gehlot told *The Indian Express* when asked what the chief ministers discussed at the dinner hosted by Nath.

A senior Congress leader, who had attended Nath's dinner, said the view among the elders of the party was that Rahul should not feel demoralised as the defeat was not a defeat of the "principles" that the Congress had fought for. Gehlot said the CMs have sought an appointment with Rahul.



CHANGING COURSE

Noapara MLA Sunil Singh, 15 Trinamool Congress councillors and a Congress councillor joined the BJP in New Delhi on Monday. Prem Nath Pandey

Ministry focus on combating land desertification, says Javadekar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

SAYING LAND degradation and desertification were affecting a large part of the country's landmass, Union Minister for Environment and Forests, Prakash Javadekar, on Monday laid out a his ministry's plan to tackle to problem.

The minister was speaking at an event in the Capital to mark 'World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought'. Javadekar said his ministry will concentrate on reclaiming and rejuvenating infertile land as a major component in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's plan to double farmer income in the country.

In this regard, he said an annual input of Rs 6,000 for each farmer had been conceptualised by his ministry to improve soil quality, among other things, and thereby to increase crop yield.

"Even after 70 years of independence, our irrigation infra-



Prakash Javadekar at Parliament on Monday. PTI

structure is just at 30 per cent and we depend heavily on the monsoons as a water source - a source that is becoming increasingly erratic. This paucity of water is intrinsically connected to desertification and degradation of land; especially forest land. The Prime Minister has set an even bigger and more significant challenge for us in his second term - 'Har ghar ko nal se jal' (tap water for every household). I am happy to announce that over the past five years the forest cover, as well as the tree cover outside of forests, are on the rise. This is how you

INDIA TO HOST COP 14 IN SEPTEMBER

New Delhi: Union Minister Prakash Javadekar announced on Monday that India would host the host the 14th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 14) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) this year to address the issues of land degradation and desertification. The two-week event will be held from September 2-14 in Greater Noida. ENS

counter desertification," he said.

The Minister also announced the launch a flagship project - a collaboration between MoEF and the Bonn Challenge, which is an initiative of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

NO DEVIATION, WARNS CABINET SECRETARIAT

Junior ministers set to get bigger role, files to be routed through them

SHYAMLAL YADAV NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

IN AN effort to involve Union Ministers of State (MoS) in the decision-making process, the Cabinet Secretariat has directed all ministries to ensure that files are routed to the Cabinet ministers through the MoS concerned.

The departments have been warned to ensure that "no deviation on the ground of urgency is made".

While such work allocation orders were usually forwarded to every ministry after governments were formed, this year the new paragraph has been added - it states that all files, including starred questions of Parliament and calling attention motions, will have to be routed to ministers through the MoS.

Earlier, most junior ministers handled relatively low-key sub-juncts such as official language and unstarred questions of Parliament, among others.

According to sources, Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Chandrashekhar Kumar wrote to all secretaries on June 7 and gave a template for work allocation. This is meant to be filled and submitted to the Prime Minister's Office and the Cabinet Secretariat by every department.

The new paragraph added this time states that all matters, barring those that will be disposed of at the level of MoS, "including

Starred, Unstarred Parliament Questions and Calling attention Motions", will be submitted to the minister through the Minister of State. "However," it added, "VIP references addressed to the Cabinet Minister will be submitted directly to her/him."

Several ministers of state were not happy about the lack of sufficient work assigned to them in previous governments. Work allocated to most junior ministers earlier involved matters related to assurances, special mentions, laying of annual reports/rules/regulations, etc, authentication of papers; official language, VIP references addressed to MoS, or any other matter which the minister may like to delegate.

In the absence of delegation of sufficient work to ministers, their role in decision-making was seen as minimal, as hardly any Cabinet minister wanted his/her junior to share power, sources said. The Cabinet Secretariat has now directed all secretaries: "requisite order may kindly be issued as per the template at the earliest and a copy of the order may also be shared with the Cabinet secretariat."

The template states, "It may be ensured that all files are submitted/routed to the Ministers of State strictly in accordance with this allocation of work."

The new Modi government has 31 Ministers of State, nine of them with independent charges.

Resignations of 3 ministers elected to LS accepted by UP Governor

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, JUNE 17

GOVERNOR RAM Naik has accepted the resignation of three ministers — Rita Bahuguna Joshi, SP Singh Baghel and Satyadev Pachauri — who had tendered their resignations after being elected to the Lok Sabha in the just concluded elections.

"Resignations of S P Singh Baghel, Rita Bahuguna Joshi and Satyadev Pachauri have been accepted," according to an official release issued by the Raj Bhavan here.

With their resignations, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has allocated their ministries to other ministers. While additional charge of Women Welfare and Tourism, held by Joshi, has been kept by the Chief Minister, the additional charge of Khadi, Handloom and MSME, held by Pachauri, has been given to Satish Mahana.

Minor-irrigation charge, held by Baghel, has been given to Dharmapal Singh, while Animal Husbandry and Fisheries to Laxmi Narayan Singh. The charge of Family welfare and Mother and Child Welfare Department has been given to Health Minister Sidharth Nath Singh.

Baghel had won from Agra, while Joshi and Pachauri had won from Allahabad and Kanpur Lok Sabha constituencies, respectively.

UP govt to release CM's speeches, press notes in Sanskrit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE LUCKNOW, JUNE 17

THE BJP government in Uttar Pradesh has decided to release important speeches of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in Sanskrit from now on.

According to the government, this is being done for the promotion of Sanskrit.

So far, the publicity and information material, released by the state Information Department, were largely in Hindi with some of the selected materials in Urdu and English.

"To promote Sanskrit, significant speeches of the Chief Minister and government information will also be released in Sanskrit, which was done in just Hindi, English and Urdu till now," said Additional Chief Secretary (state Information Department) Avaneesh Awasthi.

The state Information Department has decided to take help of Lucknow-based Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan for the translation of the Chief Minister's speech for public release.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Director (Information) Shishir Singh said, "It is for the first time that such a step is being taken. We had tried it for the speech of Chief Minister (Yogi Adityanath) delivered at a recent NITI Aayog meeting in New Delhi. We had released the speech in Sanskrit also but to a limited people. We now plan to expand it further."

STICK TO FORMAT FOR OATH-TAKING PRESCRIBED IN CONSTITUTION, SAY OPPN MEMBERS

Pragya adds spiritual guru's name to her own, kicks up row

LIZ MATHEW NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur's move to modify her oath by attaching the name of her spiritual guru as a suffix to her own name stirred a controversy in the opening session of the 17th Lok Sabha on Monday. With Opposition members raising objection, pro-tem Speaker Virendra Kumar ruled that only the name written on Thakur's election certificate will get recorded.

The Bhopal MP's slogan "Bharat Mata Ki Jai", with which

she ended her oath, however, caught on, and some BJP members sworn in after her repeated it, despite protests by Opposition MPs that the oath-taking should be adhered to the form prescribed in the Third Schedule of Constitution.

Thakur, an accused in the Malegaon blasts, took oath in Sanskrit and mentioned the name of Swami Purna Chetnanand Avdhesanand Giri as suffix to her own. This prompted Congress MP's Kodikkunnil Suresh, Benny Behnan and Hibi Eden, along with RSP member NK Premachandran, to raise objections. Amid protests,



Pragya Thakur in Parliament on Monday. PTI

Thakur maintained that that is her full name, and she had mentioned it in the form that needs to be filled before taking oath.

Raising a "point of order", Premachandran said oath-taking

should be in the procedures laid down as per the Third Schedule of Constitution. "You can use the name given in the election declaration certificate only. You are creating new conventions in the House," he pointed out.

As more Opposition MPs joined him, the pro-tem Speaker assured the House that he would go through the records and remove anything "unofficial". Kumar added that only name written on the certificate will remain on records.

Premachandran and some Congress MPs also protested against Thakur's slogan and said

that MPs should stick to the prescribed format. When Congress MPs continued their protests, BJP member Nishikant Dubey was heard shouting, "This is not Pakistan's Parliament; this is the Indian Parliament."

BJP MPs subsequently repeated the slogan after every MP took oath.

Congress president Rahul Gandhi, who took oath as the MP from Wayanad, Kerala, had a word with his party colleagues, and is learnt to have asked them against raising objections to the "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" slogan.

Thakur, an accused in the

2008 Malegaon blast case, defeated veteran Congress leader and former Madhya Pradesh chief minister Digvijaya Singh from Bhopal Lok Sabha constituency. Known for her inflammatory remarks, Thakur courted controversy during the campaign phase when she hailed Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Nathuram Godse as a patriot.

She had also claimed that Maharashtra IPS officer Hemant Karkare was killed by terrorists during the 2008 Mumbai terror attack because of her curse for dragging her into the Malegaon blast case.



NORTH Man held for 'molesting' national-level shooter

Noida: A man accused of molesting a national-level shooter was arrested in Baghpat on Sunday, the police said. The accused, Sonu, had been harassing the survivor for several months, they said. "We received a complaint from the victim about the alleged harassment. She told the police that he had

also assaulted her father and brother to threaten them to remain silent," the SHO said. In January this year, the accused spotted her on the way to practice and allegedly molested her. "Tired of the harassment I left the training and began teaching and training in another academy," her complaint said. **ENS**



Japan's Ambassador to India Kenji Hiramatsu and his wife Patricia Clara Aguado Hiramatsu at the Golden Temple, in Amritsar on Monday. PTI

WEST Didn't flee India, will return once medically fit: Choksi

Mumbai: Diamantaire Mehul Choksi, a key accused in the multi-crore PNB bank scam, on Monday told the Bombay High Court that he left India for medical treatment abroad and not to avoid prosecution in the case. Choksi, currently based in the Caribbean nation of Antigua, told the high court that he would return to India

as soon as he is medically fit to travel. The Enforcement Directorate (ED), which has moved a special PMLA court here to get Choksi declared a fugitive economic offender. In an affidavit, Choksi claimed he left the country on January 4, 2018, while as per the PNB, the alleged fraud came to light on January 16, 2018. **PTI**

EAST Mahatma Gandhi's statue found vandalised in Odisha

Balasure: A statue of Mahatma Gandhi was found vandalised inside the premises of a government-run school in Balasure town, police said on Monday. A room christened 'Bapuji Kakhya' in the school was also found ransacked, with cigarette butts and empty liquor bottles strewn around, a police officer said. The matter came

to light when some locals entered the school premises on Sunday, after noticing that a couple of trees planted inside the compound had been felled, he said. They found the room open and the head of the statue lying on the ground, the officer said. The incident is suspected to have taken place on June 14. **PTI**

SOUTH 3 workers killed in scaffolding collapse at construction site

Bengaluru: Three labourers were killed and 11 were injured when scaffolding put up for the construction of two giant water tanks for a sewage treatment plant collapsed here Monday, police said. A total of 20 labourers were engaged when the scaffolding for the centring work at one of the tanks came

crashing down around noon, they said. Three workers died while 11 injured had been admitted to two hospitals. Six others escaped with minor injuries, police said. The tanks were being built for a sewage treatment plant for the Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board, sources said. **PTI**

BIHAR Heatwave toll at 79, Sec 144 in 2 districts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PATNA, JUNE 17

WITH a heatwave affecting large parts of Bihar and claiming 79 lives so far, the Gaya district administration has imposed prohibitory orders between 11 am and 4 pm.

Gaya District Magistrate Abhishek Singh, in his June 16 order, said, "As the period between 11 am and 4 pm is the worst heatwave time, it is not advisable for people to venture out during the period. There have already been some deaths because of heatwaves. Stepping out of homes during the period can be fatal and there is apprehension of public anger in case of death of people during treatment. It

can cause law and order problems."

As per the prohibitory orders, construction work cannot be carried out and no cultural event or public gathering can take place between 11 am and 4 pm. The order also states that no MNREGA work can be carried out after 10.30 am.

The district administration in Nalanda has also issued similar orders.

As per state government figures, 35 people have died in Aurangabad, 31 in Gaya, 12 in Nawada and two in Jamui so far. The district administration of all affected districts have alerted all primary healthcare centres to remain alert, and health volunteers have been distributing ORS packets in affected areas.

MAHARASHTRA ECONOMIC SURVEY

'Crop sector growth to dip by 8% this year'

KAVITHA IYER
MUMBAI, JUNE 17

FURTHER UNDERSCORING the continuing agrarian distress across the state just months before the assembly polls scheduled later this year, Maharashtra's annual Economic Survey report has pegged growth in the agriculture sector at just 0.4 per cent for 2018-19. In five of the last seven years, the state has reported depressed growth in the farm sector on account of low rainfall and poor irrigation infrastructure.

Advance estimates for 2018-19 in the Economic Survey tabled in the Maharashtra House Monday show that real GSV (Gross State Value Added, at basic prices) in Maharashtra's crop sector is actually pegged to register an 8 per cent decline.

The real GSV of the overall 'agriculture and allied activities' sector will record a 0.4 per cent growth, the Survey stated, in comparison to 2017-18 on account of the 13.9 per cent growth in livestock, 16.4 per cent growth in forestry/logging and a 3.4 per cent growth in fishing/aquaculture.

The 8 per cent dip in value in



The dip is the sharpest fall since 2014, also a drought year, when crop production fell 16.7 per cent. Express file

the crop sector is the worst since 2014-15, also a drought year, when it fell 16.7 per cent compared to the previous year. In 2015-16, growth in GSV in the crop sector was a negative 7.6 per cent. In 2016-17 and 2017-18, GSV growth rate in crops was 25.2 per cent and 0.8 per cent respectively.

The sluggish agricultural growth and the decline in the crop sector point to poor returns to farmers and a slowing down of inputs as drought-constrained farmers struggle to subsist on agriculture. Fifty-three per cent of

Maharashtra's population rely on this sector for their livelihood, meaning that healthy agricultural growth is essential to tackle chronic poverty in the countryside.

The report states, "The share of this sector in the total Gross State Value Added (GSVA) is declining over the period resulting in cascading impact on other sectors like agro-processing industries, trade, hotel and restaurants." It also says a slew of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals is directly linked to this sector.

"The implication of these num-

EXPLAINED
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Drought-like condition in state

THE SHARP 8 per cent drop in crop sector revenue was expected given the drought-like situation in the state. The state received 73% rain during the year, and rabi crop output, which accounts for roughly one-fourth of total output, is estimated to be 65% lower.

bers is that the structural stagnation of agriculture in Maharashtra has not been addressed, and successive governments have not bothered to find remedies to the distress that is evidenced in continuing farmer suicides," said economist Prof H M Desarda, a former member of the state's planning commission.

"The CM parrots the Centre's promises and says Maharashtra

will be a trillion dollar economy soon but farmers are kept on crumbs and subsidies. The irrigation sector is in shambles, and one of the promises that this government came to power on was to reassess the irrigation sector. That has not been done." He said the state, meanwhile, has continued to concentrate on select crops, primarily sugarcane, a politically expedient move as major political satraps have stakes here.

While kharif season sowing was completed on 151.03 lakh hectares, about 0.05 per cent more than in the previous year, average rainfall in 2018-19 was only 73.6 per cent of the normal. With not even a quarter of the state served by an irrigation network, and with over 70 per cent of the state's geographical area lying in a semi-arid region, the report squarely blames the poor performance in the agriculture sector on water scarcity. With a failure of the 'departing monsoon' as the September-October rainfall is called, the area under rabi crops fell by about 50 per cent in 2018-19 compared to the previous year.

According to data, production of pulses is set to register a dramatic fall of 35 per cent while production

of cereals will dip 6 per cent. Among oilseeds, production of groundnut, sesame and sunflower is registering a fall of 33 per cent, 58 per cent and 74 per cent, respectively. Soyabean production is to register a growth of 20 per cent. Meanwhile, cotton and sugarcane production are both up, by 17 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively.

Sugarcane, meanwhile, has also witnessed a fresh surge in area under cultivation, notwithstanding previous efforts by the state government to disincentivise cultivation of cane in water-scarce regions. From 9,02,000 hectares last year, in 2018-19 the area under sugarcane grew to 11,63,000 hectares, a 29 per cent rise, also the largest rise in area under any single crop since the previous year.

Production of jowar is pegged at having fallen by 50 per cent in the kharif season, and by 72 per cent in the rabi season. This has contributed to a widespread fodder shortage especially in Marathwada and north Maharashtra. Until the arrival of the monsoon this year, the state government had to operate at least 1,501 fodder camps across the state, housing more than 10 lakh animals.

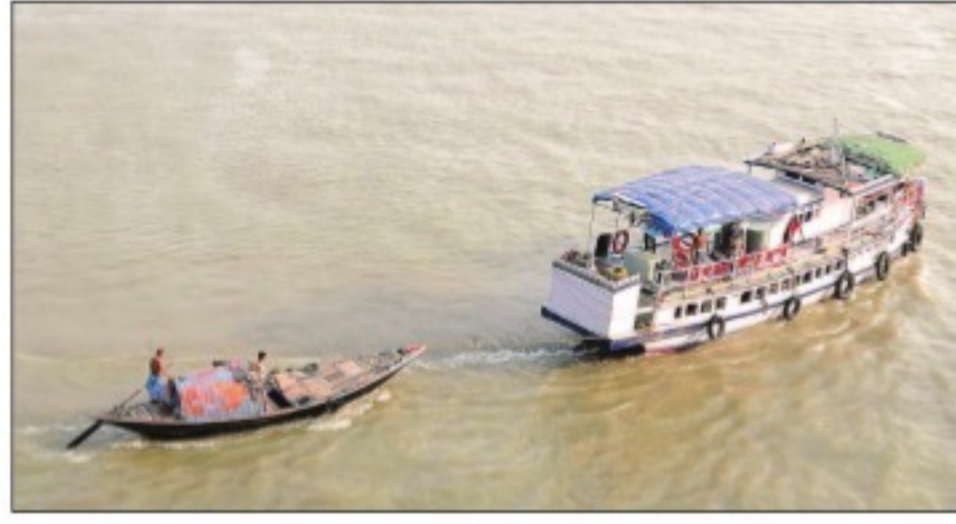
Bengal magician drowns in Hooghly after Houdini act goes wrong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JUNE 17

THE BODY of 40-year-old magician Chanchal Lahiri, popularly known as Mandrake, was fished out from the Hooghly on Monday evening, a day after he drowned in the river while trying to perform an escape act popularised by legendary American stunt performer Harry Houdini.

"The body was recovered around 6 pm by divers of Kolkata Police from Ramkrishna Ghat in Howrah district. Lahiri's elder brother has identified the body," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Port), Syed Waqar Raza said.

On Sunday, a blindfolded Lahiri with his hands and legs tied up was lowered into the river in a cage with six locks. The stunt was that he would come up from the water by untying himself on his



Chanchal Lahiri's body was recovered on Monday. Express

own. According to the police, Lahiri, a resident of the South 24 Parganas district, reached the middle of the river on a ferry just underneath the Howrah Bridge from where he was picked up by the crane and lowered into the river near pillar number 28.

After nearly 10 minutes, when

Lahiri did not resurface from the water, spectators gathered to watch the stunt called the North Port Police Station. Policemen rushed to the spot. Four divers were deployed to search for him. In 2013, Lahiri had performed the same trick successfully in Hooghly river. However, he was

then assaulted by spectators after they saw through his trick.

"He had mentioned the act was to happen in a boat or vessel and there was no connection with water. Hence we allowed him." However, he vaguely mentioned an "extra act" which he did not clarify. We are investigating," a senior police officer said.

"We have also started an investigation as to how a crane reached the Howrah Bridge," the police officer added.

"We tried to spot him. But it seems the stream has swept him away. Because of darkness, we had to temporarily stop our search operation on Sunday evening," a senior police officer had said earlier. This was not Lahiri's first misadventure. He had declared a decade ago that he would walk on the river, but had to beat a hasty retreat later.

WITHPTIINPUTS

Days after alleging gangrape, UP woman kills self, SHO suspended for negligence

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JUNE 17

HOURS AFTER the police registered an FIR against three persons for allegedly gangraping a

24-year-old woman, the victim's body was found hanging at her Badaun residence on Sunday. A suicide note was also found, police claimed.

On Monday, Badaun SSP Ashok Kumar Tripathi sus-

pected the SHO of the police station concerned on charges of negligence. The victim had gone to the police station on June 15 but the SHO allegedly did not register an FIR.

The alleged gangrape, by distant relatives of the victim, took place last month. The FIR was registered on the directions of Bareilly zone ADG Avinash Chandra.

The victim was staying at her parents' residence from

the past few months, said police. Her husband works as a daily wage labourer in Delhi.

A police team went to the victim's residence on Sunday and found the body. An autopsy report said death occurred due to hanging.

"In a suicide note, the victim had mentioned her ordeal and urged police officers to ensure that the culprits are punished," said an officer.

Sources told *The Indian*

Express that nearly two hours before the body was found, the police had registered an FIR against three persons on charges of rape. The SSP said that on June 12, the victim met ADG Chandra seeking directions to register an FIR.

Chandra directed the circle officer to get an FIR registered. Additional Superintendent of Police, City (Badaun), Jitendra Kumar Srivastava said a probe was on.

SAYING GOODBYE

A family member with the son of deceased police officer Arshad Ahmed Khan at a wreath laying ceremony in Srinagar on Monday. Ahmed was wounded on Wednesday in a terror attack in south Kashmir's Anantnag, which also left five CRPF personnel dead. Khan succumbed to injuries in a New Delhi hospital on Sunday. AP

KERALA WOMAN MISDIAGNOSED WITH CANCER

'Yet to recover from chemotherapy'

SHAJU PHILIP
ALAPPUZZHA, JUNE 17

A KERALA woman, wrongly diagnosed with breast cancer earlier this year, is struggling to get her life back on track. The 38-year-old, who underwent one round of chemotherapy, lost her hair and is slowly recovering from from the side effects.

Rajini, who is divorced, lives with her parents, who keep poor health, and her eight-year-old daughter, and she is the sole bread-winner of her family.

Her misfortunes began in February, when she noticed a small lump on her right breast. A native of Alappuzha district's Palamel, she consulted a local hospital, and then went to the surgery department at the Government Medical College, Kottayam.

On February 28, Rajini was advised to undergo a mammogram test at private diagnostic centre. As the result indicated malignancy in the lump, she was asked for a true-cut needle biopsy, and



Rajini, 38, lives with her parents and 8-year-old daughter. Express

one sample was sent to the pathology lab at the medical college, while another sample was taken to a private lab. Within a week, the biopsy result from the private lab also indicated she had cancer. Soon, the case was transferred to the surgical oncology department. Based on the results from two private labs, the oncology department started treatment, and on March 19, Rajini was administered the first course of chemotherapy.

However, after the first round, Rajini got the results from the

pathology department, which ruled out breast cancer. "As requested by the doctors, I took the tissue slides and blocks from the private lab and submitted the same with the hospital's pathology department. These tests also ruled out cancer," she said.

On April 9, she went to the medical college for a second course of chemotherapy, but when she showed the results of the pathology lab, the doctors sent her back without treatment.

"I was told that my case would be discussed at a doctors' conference the next day, and I would be informed. However, even after the conference, nobody informed me about its outcome. Three times I had gone to the surgical oncology department to meet the doctor who had treated me. Those at the general surgery department continued to consider me a cancer patient. Again, the slides from the private lab were tested at the hospital pathology lab, which once again ruled out cancer," Rajani said. She also got herself tested at the Regional Cancer Centre in

Thiruvananthapuram, which ruled out cancer. However, though Rajini was shuttling between labs and hospitals, the lump remained unattended. "It was removed on May 23 only after it got ruptured...," she said.

Rajini has registered a complaint with the police as well as the state health department. "I lost my health. I have been the only bread winner of the family. I would be able to go for work only after six months," she said.

Kerala Health Minister K K Shailaja said she has ordered a high-level probe into the incident. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said the government would provide all assistance to Rajani.

Meanwhile, Dr Ranjin R P, an associate professor at the medical college that referred Rajini to the oncology department, said, "Test results from the pathology lab are normally delayed by one month. Hence, we started the treatment soon after getting the result from the private labs. There was no deliberate lapse on the part of doctors..."

Kerala Lalithakala Akademi refuses to review cartoon award

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
JUNE 17

THE KERALA Lalithakala Akademi on Monday decided against reviewing the award for a cartoon, which triggered a controversy when the Catholic Church alleged that it insulted Christian religious symbol. After the controversy broke out, the CPM-led state government had asked the Akademi to review the cartoon.

The cartoon drawn by K K Subhash is a caricature of Bishop Franco Mulakkal of Jalandhar diocese.

Following the allegations of raping a nun and his subsequent arrest in September 2018, Mulakkal was removed as head of the diocese.

After a council meeting of the Akademi, an autonomous body under the state department of cultural affairs, Chairman Nemoon Pushparaj said the

Akademi's executive and council has unanimously decided not to review the jury's decision to choose the cartoon for the award. "If the cartoon has insulted anyone's religious sentiments, that aspect would be looked into after taking legal consultation, if required. The Akademi sticks to its stand on the cartoon award," said Pushparaj.

Last week, when the Akademi announced the cartoon award, the Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council had protested against the decision, saying it had insulted religious symbols. Subsequently, various Christian organisations had held protests against the Akademi and the government.

The state government had immediately asked the Akademi to review the decision.

However, veteran CPM leader V S Achuthanandan and CPI state secretary Kanam Rajendran had come out against the government's move.

The Indian **EXPRESS**

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Claiming the Indo-Pacific

India must play a key role in shaping the narrative in the region



GIRISH LUTHRA

SEARCH FOR CURE

Clashes involving doctors and patients underscore the need for institutional initiatives to restore the relationship

THE PREVAILING AND emerging international order, characterised by a new form of internationalism and hazy geopolitics, finds centrality in the Indo-Pacific region. It is the new arena for strategic rivalry, within the bounds of interdependence, and all major players have made Indo-Pacific-related policy and posture pronouncements in the recent past. The region's share of world merchandise trade is over 75 per cent and its seaports are the busiest in the world. Its contribution to global GDP is around 60 per cent. The region is also critical to world energy flows, for both suppliers and consumers. The rise of China (and President Xi Jinping's grand Belt and Road Initiative), the realignment of US global strategy, the new approach adopted by India, Japan, ASEAN, France and other key players and new partnerships have further underlined the salience of the region.

It is true that the Indo-Pacific has some very diverse sub-regions, where systems, environments and challenges differ widely. Yet, the region is now a coherent strategic space due to its increased interconnectedness. The geographical expanse of the region, however, is open to interpretation. While the US considers this region to be from "the West Coast of the United States to the western shores of India", the other perception includes the area from "the East Coast of Africa to the West Coast of the United States".

There is an increasing recognition of the importance of maritime security, maritime commons and cooperation. In the last few years, almost every joint or vision statement at the end of summit-level talks or meeting between major maritime powers accords high priority to maritime security and stability.

China has made a decisive move from a continental to maritime mindset, with its maritime orientation becoming central to its overarching ambition of seeking a new model for great power relations. The Chinese posture has underlined the need for an equal and equitable world order, and has stressed that the American approach to global and regional issues has become redundant. The US Indo-Pacific Strategy Report, released on June 1, outlines the US posture and plan to retain its influence in the region, through partnerships and preparedness. It underlines the strategic rivalry with China, identifying it as "a revision-

ist power, which is undermining the international system from within". It considers the Chinese economic model for the region, of inducements and penalties, as "predatory," with China operating in the "grey zone" between peace and hostilities. It also identifies Russia as a "revitalised malign actor". The report consistently emphasises the "Rules-based international order" and "Free and Open Indo-Pacific". It also stresses on the Freedom of Navigation.

India, in recent years, has moved from being a reluctant maritime power to a conscious one. It has sought to align its Indo-Pacific strategy with national maritime interests, and has developed partnerships accordingly. In its first term, the Narendra Modi government accorded high priority to maritime stability and security. It emphasised regional connectivity and growth through Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR). Few key logistic and support bilateral arrangements have been finalised, and some are in the pipeline. The Blue Economy has been given fresh impetus, particularly through Project Sagarbala. Cooperation on the Blue Economy was also included in the action plan at the BIMSTEC meet in Kathmandu. Efforts have been sustained to further enhance India's credibility as a reliable maritime power, with Indian Navy and other agencies taking new initiatives.

But more needs to be done. This is recognised by the new government, as evident from the invitations for its swearing-in ceremony on May 30. The prime minister's maiden visit in his second term to Maldives and Sri Lanka is in part due to this recognition. In order to sustain the focus on the Indo-Pacific, the new government may look into the following.

First, pursue a proactive strategy for the region, including a decisive move to the next level of maritime orientation, and play a key role in the evolving narrative. There is a need to give shape and substance to SAGAR, with an appropriate implementation plan. Bilateral, trilateral, quadrilateral, and multilateral partnerships in the Indo-Pacific should be strengthened. India should initiate new cooperative projects, and accelerate the momentum of ongoing projects in infrastructure, manufacturing, trade and tourism, with special focus on connectivity, coastal areas and ports.

Resilience initiatives can be progressed at bilateral and sub-regional levels, its potential at the regional level can be suitably leveraged to enhance stability and prosperity.

Second, India can play a leadership role in developing a common understanding on Freedom of Navigation. Almost all countries agree that there ought to be Freedom of Navigation in maritime commons. However, the interpretations of international maritime law (IML) related to Freedom of Navigation differ widely. This is particularly relevant with regard to provisions in the UN Convention on the Laws of Sea (UNCLOS), like passage, surveillance and exercises through different maritime zones, and some entitlements in the Exclusive Economic Zone. Further, domestic maritime laws in some countries are at considerable variance with IML. While it is important to stress Freedom of Navigation at key meets, it is equally important to delve deeper in order to develop a common understanding. India's record of abiding by IML and its credibility as a maritime power, make it an ideal candidate to lead such an effort.

Third, increase operational reach, sustenance and the footprint in the Indo-Pacific. This would enable a longer presence in the areas of interest, and concurrently strengthen stability. Bilateral logistic and support arrangements, already agreed to, need to be operationalised and new arrangements finalised.

Fourth, make a tangible impact through Project Sagarbala, with a focus on port development, connectivity, port-led industrialisation, and coastal community development. Investments — planned and forecast — and the potential creation of direct and indirect jobs, should be realised in a timely and effective manner. Similar projects, in partnership with other countries, should be explored. Concurrently, capacity augmentation of the Indian merchant fleet should be undertaken.

And fifth, India should examine the setting up of a Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies, preferably at Port Blair, in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This should be a multi-discipline centre, and may be created following a public-private partnership model.

The writer is former Commander-in-Chief of Western Naval Command and Southern Naval Command

APATHY AND DENIAL

The deaths of manual scavengers in Gujarat must serve as a catalyst: The matter can no longer be brushed aside

AMONG THE MOST significant steps undertaken by the Narendra Modi government in its first term was ending the culture of silence around sanitation. Unfortunately, the zeal of the Swachh Bharat Mission does not seem to have percolated to those at the bottom of the social and economic pyramid in urban India. The death of seven people — three hotel staff and four cleaners — in Dabhoi, a town in Vadodara district, Gujarat, while cleaning a septic tank, is a shameful symptom on many counts. First, it highlights how the provisions of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 continue to be flouted. The deaths are also a reminder of the fact that official statistics, including in Gujarat, serve only to brush under the carpet the fact that manual scavenging continues.

According to the Gujarat Safai Kamdar Development Corporation, sewers are no longer cleaned manually. Yet, as recently as June 2018, four cleaners died after inhaling noxious fumes in a sewer in Vadodara. This seeming contradiction can be explained, at least partially, by the fact that private contractors, some of which are reportedly employed by municipalities across India, frequently flout the safety provisions of the 2013 Act. State governments appear to be in denial of this reality: An inter-ministerial task force set up in 2017 found in its survey across 12 states that the number of manual scavengers was under-reported by about 400 per cent. The implication is clear — most states either severely under-report, or are simply unaware, of the scale of the problem.

The path, going forward, is clear. First, municipalities and state governments across the country, following the example of Delhi and Hyderabad, must ensure that every sanitation worker is provided with equipment that ensures their safety. This must include basic materials like gloves, masks and helmets, to the sewer-cleaning machines that the Delhi Jal Board is ensuring that former manual scavengers, and the families of those who have died manual scavenging, are provided through low-interest bank loans. Second, operators in the private sector must be given both carrot and stick: Any violation of the Prohibition of Manual Scavengers Act must be dealt with severely and the use of the latest technology incentivised. Finally, the Swachh Bharat's ambit must, on a mission mode, ensure that the apathy and denial that has surrounded the practice of manual scavenging, both in governments and the society at large, be put to an end.

DADDY COOL

US politicians get a reminder from electorate that parenting matters even in presidential polls

CHANGING DIAPERS AND keeping track of your child's football matches might come with more perks, as male politicians on the campaign trail for the 2020 US presidential race are realising. It could, for instance, also translate into a happy electorate and what can be more win-win than that? For the first time, male candidates are faced with the question that has dogged their female counterparts for years — what about the children then? The dads in the political fray seem to recognise this changing dynamic, stepping up to acknowledge that parenting is a two-person job.

When it comes to the pursuit of greater professional glory, men — and not just politicians — often seem to have an invisible opt-out clause written in their contracts. It's only in the last decade, with the rise and rise of social media bridging the gap between the personal and the professional, that politicians have realised the efficacy of letting their electorate get a glimpse of their emotional lives. One of the first American presidents to successfully negotiate the thin line between privacy and emotional connect was Barack Obama, who spoke regularly about his daughters, Malia and Sasha. Unlike Obama, the Republican Sarah Palin, pitched as the hockey mom who also fought corruption, failed to garner empathy for her political ambitions when she ran for the vice president's office, not least for her decision to contest when she had a baby with Down Syndrome and two other children at home.

Yet, you only need to look at New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern to realise that contemporary politics has scope, even if limited, to accommodate ambitions and go beyond gendered roles. And that, as for women, it's equally possible for men to be hands-on parents and still run for the highest office of the land.

NEW HORIZONS

ISRO should invite private sector to join in building the proposed space station



AJEY LELE

LAST WEEK, INDIAN Space Research Organisation (ISRO) head K Sivan spoke about India building its own space station by the end of the next decade. The announcement came as a surprise, but ISRO seems to have been working on this project for some time. The first indication came in 2017 when Rs 10 crore was budgeted for an orbital rendezvous and docking experiment between two satellites. Docking expertise is essential when two separate free-flying units in space are required to physically link with each other. This technique is important to link the space shuttle with the space station. The second indication was when the human space flight mission (2021/22) was announced in August 2018. This suggested that India was preparing to undertake microgravity experimentation.

India's space station is expected to be very small with limited utility. It would be placed in an orbit, 400 km above earth. ISRO has mentioned it would start planning for the station only after the successful completion of a manned space flight, slated for 2022. ISRO has now called for proposals for experiments, including docking, to be carried out on the orbiting platform (PS4-OP). For the last few years, ISRO has been experimenting with its PSLV rocket in different ways. Now, a single PSLV rocket can put satellites in different orbits. PSLV launch vehicle is a four-stage rocket. On two occasions (PSLV-C44 and PSLV-C45

missions) in 2019, ISRO successfully converted the fourth stage (PS4) of the rocket into an orbital laboratory. Such laboratories are normally hosted on space stations.

Since the project is in the inception stage, some questions about the proposed space station should be asked.

First, is India trying to reinvent the wheel? Should India not have participated in the International Space Station (ISS) experiment? The ISS is now in the last leg of its existence and is expected to become redundant during 2024-28. India could not have been a part of the ISS in its heyday since it was excluded from such projects because of Delhi's nuclear policy; ISRO and DRDO were taken out of the export control list only in 2011.

Second, what are the scientific benefits of microgravity experimentation? It offers the scientific community a range of subjects to conduct research in, from astronomy and meteorology to biology and medicine. Also, materials is one arena where India should make major investments. Breakthroughs in this field would have major commercial and strategic benefits.

Third, why is India planning for a very small space station? ISS, which is a joint project of 16 countries (the US, Russia, Europe, Japan, etc.), is a 400-tonne station, while the proposed Chinese space station (Tiangong programme) is likely to be a 80-tonne station.

India is proposing a 20-tonne station to serve as a facility where astronauts can stay for 15 to 20 days. Would it not be wise to have a project with much bigger dimensions where scientists can stay longer? There is a need for ISRO to learn from the past experiences of missions to the Moon and Mars. These missions offered limited scope for scientific experimentation since India's heavy satellite launch vehicle, GSLV, was not ready in time, and ISRO could not send heavier scientific payloads. But with India making a breakthrough with cryogenic technology, ISRO is expected to have better options by the end of next decade to carry a heavier payload to the low earth orbit.

Fourth, is the project economically viable? Cost consideration could emerge as a major issue. So, India must involve the private sector in such projects. Recently, NASA has declared that the ISS would be open for commercial business and people could "purchase" a ticket to visit ISS. India could think of developing such projects under a public-private partnership model.

Major projects like the space station are national projects. They may not offer any immediate scientific/technological benefits, but investments must be sustained. Private industrial houses within India should be encouraged to participate in such projects.

The writer is senior fellow, IDSA, New Delhi



JUNE 18, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

EXECUTIONS ORDER

THE SUPREME COURT notice of June 8, asking the Union government to request all states to stay executions till the constitutional validity of the death sentence has been decided, has yet to reach the government. The notice was issued on writ by Mal Singh, challenging the constitutional validity of death sentence under Section 302 of the IPC. The section leaves it entirely to the court's discretion to award death sentence on a conviction for murder. Officials of the law and home ministries said they had not so far heard anything on the subject from the SC. The states are also not aware of any such notice since they are to be informed about this only by

the Centre.

POWER CRISIS

THE CLOSURE OF industrial units in Bombay and the rest of Maharashtra had a telling effect on industry and the working class on the first day of the five-day closure. Enquiries revealed that most of the industrial and textile units in the city observed complete closure, rendering thousands of workers idle. A mill owners association spokesman said practically all the 61 textile units in the city, including those managed by the National Textile Corporation, remained closed entailing the industry a loss of over Rs 3 crore per day. He said those laid off would be paid 50 per cent

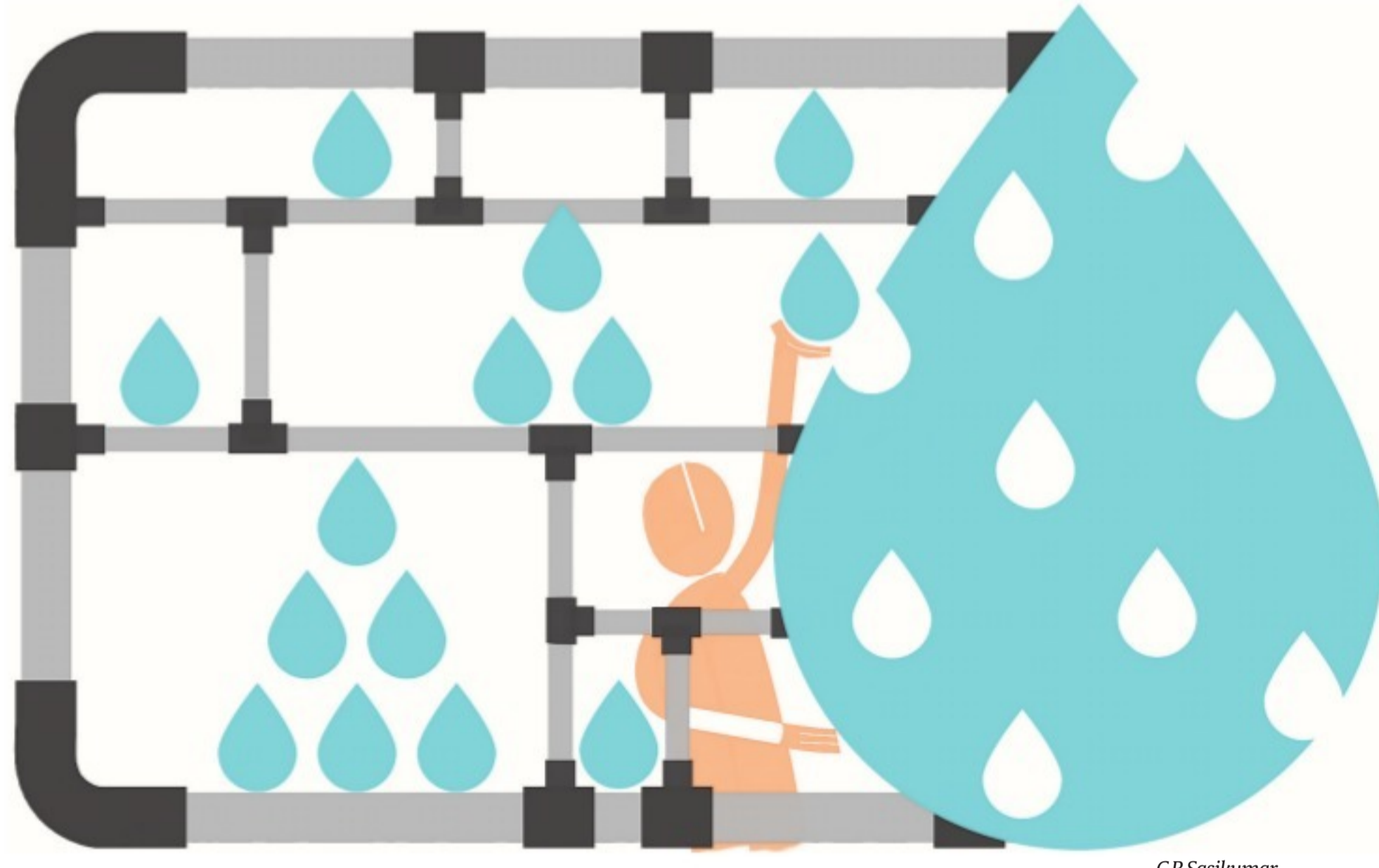
of their wages as lay-off compensation.

ARMS CUTBACK

THE UNITED STATES president, Jimmy Carter, outlined his proposals for cutting nuclear arsenals in the 1980s to the Soviet president, Leonid Brezhnev. Their military chiefs opened direct consultations for the first time since World War II. "I think he sees in it a greater probability of peace and stability," a senior US official said of Brezhnev's reaction to Carter's arms control proposals. The official, who declined to be identified, said one result could be cutbacks in one weapons systems beyond these constrained by the SALT II treaty to be signed tomorrow.

A new approach

Jal Shakti Mantralaya should promote decentralised, but integrated water resource management and service delivery



CR Sasikumar

100 per cent of its used water, and recycles 94 per cent of it, meeting more than half of its irrigation needs through this reused water.

In terms of drinking water, while 81 per cent of all habitations are currently estimated to have access to 40 litres of water per day through some source, only about 18 to 20 per cent of rural households in India have connections for piped water supply. One of the priorities of the new government is to provide piped water supply to all rural households by 2024 in a sustainable manner. The Jal Shakti Mantralaya will also need to promote decentralised, but integrated, water resource management and service delivery, with a key focus on water conservation, source sustainability, storage and reuse wherever possible, by involving the communities themselves, as they are the primary stakeholders. There are important lessons to be learned from the best practices of decentralised planning for water conservation such as in Hiwara Bazaar, Maharashtra and the Swajal model of community-based drinking water in Uttarakhand — which need to be scaled up.

In water stressed areas, especially in the designated dark blocks and in areas affected by water quality issues, surface water based multi-village schemes need to be designed, while in groundwater rich areas, single village, groundwater-based schemes with end-to-end source sustainability measures should be encouraged. These schemes also need to have provisions for rainwater harvesting through household or community storage, which can also be used for recharging groundwater. Other local methods of water storage and conservation must also be encouraged. A good example of local approaches to developing infrastructure for storage of water is seen in Dewas district in Madhya Pradesh. Here, through government support to farming communities for building ponds as alternative storage and supply sources, the district has achieved a 6 to 40 feet rise in the water table, even while increasing irrigated area by 120-190 per cent.

Another area of focus for water conservation in each drinking water scheme is developing infrastructure for collection and basic treatment of domestic non-faecal wastewater, kitchen or bathing waste water — also called greywater — which typically accounts

Raising awareness and changing perceptions on water also needs to be an important priority. Even today, water is regarded as an infinite resource and is abundantly wasted in many parts of the country, while others suffer drought-like conditions. Behaviour change communication initiatives for both internal and external stakeholders will be critical in changing attitudes towards water. All stakeholders, from state governments to citizens must be taken on board and a national consensus will have to be built.

for nearly 80 per cent of the by-product of all domestic water. This may be done through simple waste stabilisation ponds, constructed wetlands and similar local infrastructure projects in order to recycle this water for agriculture, the sector that consumes 80 per cent of our water.

Some states, like Gujarat, are leading the efficient use of agricultural water by bringing in micro-irrigation to over six lakh farmers, 50 per cent of which are small and medium ones. The Andhra Pradesh government is also prioritising water efficiency in agriculture, by earmarking Rs 11,000 crore to bring 40 lakh acres of land under micro-irrigation over the next five years. If these measures are combined with reuse of greywater for agriculture, it will result in a significant reduction of demand from our water resources.

Raising awareness and changing perceptions on water also needs to be an important priority. Even today, water is regarded as an infinite resource and is abundantly wasted in many parts of the country, while others suffer drought-like conditions. Behaviour change communication initiatives for both internal and external stakeholders will be critical in changing attitudes towards water. All stakeholders, from state governments to citizens must be taken on board and a national consensus will have to be built. To that effect, all integrated water management approaches would do well to borrow from the effective behaviour change communication initiatives of the Swachh Bharat Mission, and attempt to create an army of grass roots motivators on water, on the model of the swachhagrahis for sanitation. Initiatives to strengthen the capacity of this field force, sarpanches, and block and district officials are already underway.

This approach of holistic and integrated water management that India is adopting is unique for any large federal country. Just like the country did in the Swachh Bharat Mission, India could lay out a template for other countries on securing national water security by integrating fragmented institutions and making water security everyone's business.

The writer is secretary, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Views are personal

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"It seems extremely unlikely that Tehran has any hubristic inclination to confront the US directly. Yet at present there is no sign that either side is willing to halt the escalation." — THE GUARDIAN

Xi's Hong Kong headache

The street protests threaten to dim Beijing's aura of invincibility



RAJA MANDALA

BY C RAJA MOHAN

CAN WHAT HAPPENS in Hong Kong stay in Hong Kong? The consequences of the continuing protests in the city against a proposed law that lets authorities extradite citizens to mainland China may not remain confined to the island. The simmering discontent in Hong Kong threatens to become a prolonged political headache for President Xi Jinping.

This month saw thousands of people in Hong Kong march in protest against a bill that seeks to prevent the city from becoming a haven for criminals. But the protestors fear the law will be misused to target political dissidents and ordinary citizens and send them to summary trials in China.

Caving into the pressure from the protestors, which escalated after clashes with the police on June 12, the Hong Kong administration suspended action on the bill at the end of last week. The chief executive of Hong Kong, Carrie Lam, announced there will be more consultations with the public on the issues involved. The protestors, however, have continued their marches. Nearly two million people turned out on Sunday demanding that the bill be withdrawn and not merely suspended. They also want Carrie to resign. On Monday, Beijing said it stands firmly behind Carrie.

Protests are not new to Hong Kong and have erupted frequently over the years. Five years ago in late 2014, the "Umbrella Revolution" mobilised people against the proposed electoral reforms that fell way short of the public expectations for deepening representative government. The protests ended after a crackdown by the authorities.

Back in 2003, there were protests against the efforts to implement a new law that sought to criminalise sedition and subversion against the People's Republic of China (PRC). The protests compelled Hong Kong government to withdraw the bill and its chief executive to step down.

The trouble is rooted in the special nature of the relationship between Hong Kong and the PRC. Imperial China ceded Hong Kong to Britain in the 1840s after the First Opium War. Hong Kong soon became a thriving international commercial centre with its special access to southern China. Hong Kong continued to serve as the gateway to China even after the Communists took charge in 1949.

When Deng Xiaoping opened up China for foreign investment in the 1980s, low-cost production from Hong Kong moved across the border. As most of its manufacturing moved into China, Hong Kong reinvented itself as a major financial centre servicing the rapid growth across East Asia.

As he leveraged Hong Kong to modernise China's economy, Deng was also determined to bring Hong Kong under PRC's sovereignty. In 1984, the politically inventive Deng nego-

tiated with Britain a framework for Hong Kong's integration with the mainland based on the principle "One Country, Two Systems". Under it, Hong Kong would become a part of China but retain a significant measure of autonomy for half a century. Integration over an extended period, it was hoped, would be painless. Britain handed over Hong Kong to China in July 1997, just a few months after Deng passed away.

Under the agreement called the Basic Law, Hong Kong retained its currency and political-legal system for 50 years — until 2047. But the inherent contradictions soon came into view as China sought to accelerate the extension of its sovereignty over Hong Kong amidst the city's resistance.

Hong Kong is not a democracy by any stretch; the city's focus has always been commerce and China's growth has energised Hong Kong. Yet, as the frequent protests show, Hong Kongers are reluctant to give up the few political liberties they have — including the freedoms of speech and assembly.

If China had become more liberal, the absorption of Hong Kong could probably have been easier. But China under Xi has moved towards greater political conservatism and ideological rigidity. The Communist Party has probably bet that Hong Kong was too minor a matter amidst China's rise and the grander scheme of things that Xi had in mind.

But the Hong Kong trouble comes at an inopportune time for President Xi. He is locked in a trade war with the US. The US Navy is pushing back against the Chinese naval assertion in the Indo-Pacific and strengthening its security partnerships in the littoral.

The long-dormant Taiwan question seems to be back in play. Beijing does not rule out a forceful unification of Taiwan that it calls a "renegade province". The US insists on a peaceful process of unification that is in tune with Taiwanese popular sentiment. Washington is lending credibility to that proposition with intensified diplomatic and military support for Taiwan. Meanwhile, the Hong Kong protests rob the credibility of the proposition that Taiwan can unify with China on the basis of "One Country, Two Systems".

Sections of the Chinese media have accused the US of orchestrating the protests. But the Trump Administration has shown little interest in promoting human rights anywhere; its main focus is on trade. The US Congress, however, is threatening punishment — by taking away some of the special privileges that Hong Kong enjoys under US law. Trouble in Hong Kong might well provide Trump additional political leverage in the unfolding "systemic rivalry" with China.

With the political aura of invincibility that he has constructed for himself, President Xi can't be seen as bending under American pressure on any issue. Putting the extradition bill on hold last week was a rare political retreat for Xi. He can't afford to have the Hong Kong protests, which are gaining widespread support within the city, linger on.

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

Assam's communal exercise

NRC violates Assam constitutional morality, principles of international law

some tribal leaders who, when asked if they would press for deportation of those declared "foreigners," answered — off-the-record — that they would not take such an extreme stand. Rather, they said the burden of in-migration ought not be on Assam alone.

Civil society is categorical that governments, in the past, betrayed them by not implementing the Assam Accord, and wants effective protection of the rights of the indigenous including prohibition of land transfers: They have become a rapidly shrinking minority in their own land. And the proposal to enact the CAB is seen as the last straw.

The central government's move to establish the NRC and deport four million residents of Assam also leaves India vulnerable to the charge of ethnic cleansing. There are millions of stateless people in the world, and India has now added four million to the list: That these people have lived in Assam for decades and are entirely integrated into the local community makes the Indian case stand out on the international stage for its sheer inhumanity.

Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms that everyone has a right to a nationality. The UN Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 1961, cre-

ates an international obligation to prevent statelessness and prohibits the withdrawal of nationality in situations where persons would be left stateless.

The judiciary, which could have played an important role in restraining the government, has added fuel to the fire. It is one thing to direct measures to prevent illegal migration, and quite another to propose forced deportations. It is perfectly lawful for the state to identify and evict subversives within a migrant population, but it is not permissible to collectively punish millions of poor migrants. Thus, state action must be directed towards sealing the borders and regularising those who have resided in India for decades — as has been done by the Supreme Court in the case of the Chakmas.

The NRC process, however, is downright disgraceful and bereft of the rule of law. Relevant panels have heard heart-wrenching testimonies of people who had their citizenship stripped away in the most arbitrary manner. To establish citizenship, the burden of proof has been shifted — by unconstitutional legislation — to the migrant. The state can arbitrarily pick up members of the minority community, accuse them of being foreigners, and then pack them off to the Foreigners Tribunals to prove their innocence: The presumption of innocence, in this whole process,

has been done away with. The migrants are required to produce documents to prove their presence in the state prior to 1971. This is an onerous condition to have in a state where floods are a regular feature that drown homes and destroy records. The poor, in any case, find documentation impossible to grapple with. History will condemn this exercise as ethnic cleansing, pure and simple.

The Foreigners Tribunals are required by law to have judicial members. Tribunals without judicial members are unheard of. And yet, the Foreigners Tribunals flourish with an ever-increasing number of non-judicial members. Their appointments depend on the advocate's closeness to the political powers-that-be. Their tenure extensions depend on the number of persons they have declared foreigners. Their understanding of the law is sometimes so poor that people declared Indian citizens are tried again, until a tribunal finally declares the person to be a foreigner. The legal principle of *res judicata*, we are told, does not apply.

The judiciary should have kept its distance from this communal exercise that can only bring India shame at the international level.

The writer is a senior advocate, Supreme Court of India, and founder director of Human Rights Law Network

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEW WORLD ORDER

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Bishkek lessons' (IE, June 17). With the uncertainty in the global geopolitical environment, the alignment of Russia and China and the changing goals of Indian diplomacy, it has become necessary to counter the belligerence of the US. Indian diplomacy must emphasise strengthening regional groupings like the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. The outreach to the Central Asian republics is very important because they are rich in natural gas and oil and can help India meet its energy needs. It is, therefore, imperative that New Delhi walks the tightrope between Moscow and Beijing, while guarding its interests.

Pranay Kumar Shome, via email

WATER WOES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'If the rains fail' (IE, June 17). India needs adequate rainfall because it is largely an agriculture-based country. The four-month long monsoon season gives us 80 per cent of rain and it shapes the pattern of farming. This year, we are suffering from a shortage of rainfall. As a result, our economy is also badly affected. It is important to have a plan in place for such contingencies.

Tapomoy Ghosh, Katwa

MORAL BLINDNESS

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Case for

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301. Letter writers should mention their postal address and phone number.

THE WINNER RECEIVES SELECT EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS

compassion' (IE, June 17). It is true that those at the top of our hierarchical, whether in terms of caste or class, remain insensitive to the plight of the masses until they fall prey to themselves. The medical fraternity's support to the case of violence in West Bengal seems hypocritical and opportunistic. In other cases of discrimination, for example of Dr Payal Tadvi, there has been no similar outrage.

Anurag Ekka, Ranchi



14 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



CHINA
Xi to visit North Korea this week

Beijing: Chinese President Xi Jinping will go to North Korea on Thursday for two days, state media in both countries reported on Monday, making him the first Chinese leader to visit the reclusive country in 14 years. Neighbouring China is North Korea's lone major ally and the visit comes amid a protracted dispute over the North's denuclearisation with the US. Kim has visited China four times since March 2018. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and US President Donald Trump held a summit last year in Singapore and one in Hanoi this year, but hopes among observers over imminent progress towards denuclearisation have since faded.

NIGERIA
30 killed in triple suicide bombing

Kano: Thirty people were killed late Sunday in a triple suicide bombing in northeast Nigeria, emergency services reported, in an attack bearing the hallmarks of the Boko Haram jihadist group. Three bombers detonated their explosives outside a hall in Konduga, 38 kilometres from the Borno state capital Maiduguri, where football fans were watching a match on TV. An earlier toll from the blasts, the bloodiest in months, gave 17 dead and 17 wounded. The attack happened around 9 pm, Ali Hassan, the leader of a self-defence group in the town, said.

INDONESIA
Bus crashes after passenger argument, 12 die

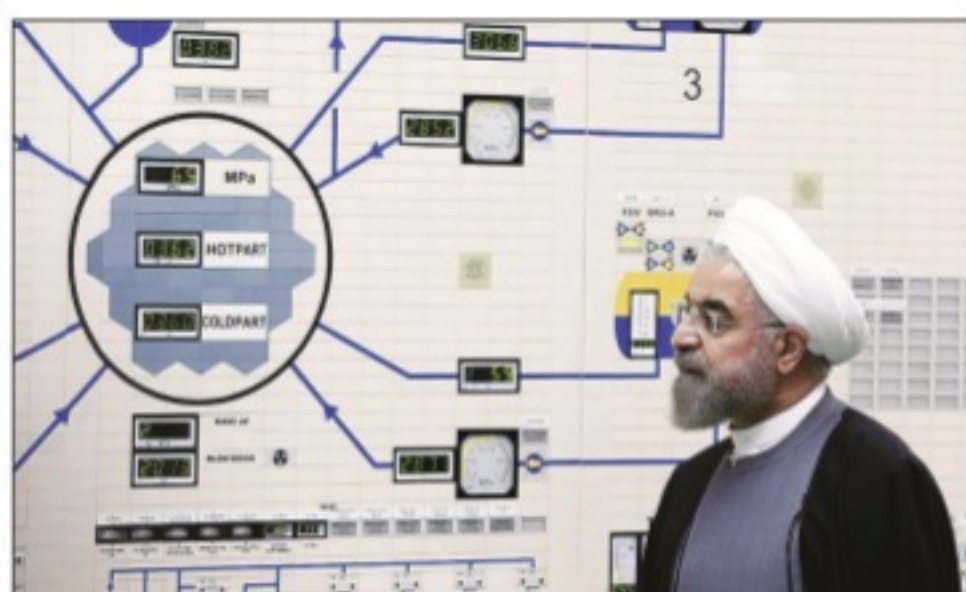
Jakarta: Twelve people were killed and dozens more injured in an Indonesian traffic accident Monday after a bus passenger tried to wrest control of the steering wheel following an argument with the driver, police said. The accident happened at around 1 am Monday when the coach swerved into oncoming traffic on a toll road in West Java, smashing into two cars and causing a truck to roll. Some 43 people were injured in the multi-vehicle accident and rushed to hospital, police said.

Iran says it will break uranium stockpile limit in next 10 days

Putting pressure on nuclear deal signatories, Tehran also warned it could enrich uranium to 20%

ASSOCIATED PRESS
TEHRAN, JUNE 17

IRAN WILL break the uranium stockpile limit set by Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in the next 10 days, the spokesman for the country's atomic agency said Monday while also warning that Iran could enrich uranium up to 20 per cent — just a step away from weapons-grade levels. The announcement by Behrouz Kamalvandi, timed for a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Brussels, puts more pressure on Europe to come up with new terms for Iran's 2015 nuclear deal. The deal has steadily unravelled since the Trump administration pulled America out of the accord last year and re-imposed tough economic sanctions on Iran, deeply cutting into its sale of crude oil abroad and sending its economy into freefall. Europe has so far been unable to offer Iran a way around the US sanctions. The development comes in the



Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said time was running out to save the 2015 nuclear deal. Reuters

wake of apparent attacks on oil tankers last week in West Asia, assaults that Washington has blamed on Iran. While Iran has denied being involved, it has used mines in the past against commercial traffic around the crucial Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's crude oil passes. Kamalvandi accused Europeans of "killing time" as the clock runs down.

EXPLAINED
E Why suggestion of 20% enriched uranium worries West

THE TYPE of uranium used to power a nuclear reaction is the U-235 isotope. But when uranium is mined, most of it comes in the form of U-238 isotopes. Enriching uranium involves taking away atoms of the U-238 isotope to increase the concentration of U-235. Under the nuclear agreement, Iran is allowed to enrich uranium to 3.7%, which means removing 114 U-238 isotopes for every U-235. But Tehran has suggested that it could enrich uranium up to 20%, which means removing another 22 unwanted atoms for every U-235. If uranium is enriched to 90%, it is considered weapons grade. Achieving 90% purity if uranium is already enriched to 20% is a relatively quick process as it requires the removal of just 4 more unwanted atoms for every U-235. So, if Iran enriched uranium to 20%, the West will have reason to worry that it is not too far from developing a nuclear weapon.

their historic role for saving the deal," Rouhani said, according to his website. Under terms of the nuclear deal, Iran can keep a stockpile of no more than 300 kilograms of low-

enriched uranium. Kamalvandi said that given Iran's recent decision to quadruple its production of low-enriched uranium, it would pass the 300-kilogramme limit on Thursday, June 27. AP



At the funeral of Muhammad Bilal Khan in Abbottabad. AP

Pakistani blogger and journalist, known for criticising military, hacked to death

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, JUNE 17

A 22-YEAR-OLD Pakistani blogger and journalist known for criticising the country's powerful military and the spy agency ISI was hacked to death by unidentified men here, police said on Monday.



Muhammad Bilal Khan

Muhammad Bilal Khan, who has over 16,000 followers on Twitter, 48,000 on his YouTube channel and 22,000 on Facebook, was with his uncle Ehtesham, when he was attacked on Sunday night. Dawn quoted police as saying.

Superintendent of Police Suddar Malik Naem said Khan was attacked in the G-9/4 area of Islamabad and was shifted to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. His uncle was severely injured and has been hospitalised, he said. The suspect used a dagger to kill him, Naem said, adding that some people heard gunshots being fired as well. Apart from being a social media activist, Khan was also a freelance journalist. He hailed from Gilgit-Baltistan and was a Shariah graduate from the International Islamic University of Islamabad (IIUI), according to Express News. Soon after his killing, #Justice4MuhammadBilalKhan started trending on social media. Several Twitter users said that his criticism of the Pakistan Army and the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) led to his killing. "Pakistani activist and journalist Muhammad Bilal Khan was shot dead last night in Islamabad. Khan was known for his criticism of the all-powerful military and its notorious spy agency," a man said in a tweet. The deceased's father Abdullah said that his body had marks of a sharp tool. "My son's only fault was that he spoke about the Prophet," he said. A case was registered under various sections including the Anti Terrorism Act.

Ousted Egypt president Morsi dies in court

ASSOCIATED PRESS
CAIRO, JUNE 17

EGYPT'S FORMER president, Mohammed Morsi, the Muslim Brotherhood leader who rose to office in the country's first free elections in 2012 and was ousted a year later by the military, collapsed in court during a trial and died Monday, state TV and his family said.



Mohammed Morsi

The 67-year-old Morsi had just addressed the court, speak-

ing from the glass cage he is kept in during sessions and warning that he had "many secrets" he

could reveal, a judicial official said. A few minutes afterward, he collapsed, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to talk to the press.

State TV said Morsi died before he could be taken to the hospital. Morsi has been in prison undergoing multiple trials ever since the military ousted him in July 2013 and launched a massive crackdown on his Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists. Monday's session was part of

a retrial, being held inside Cairo's Tura Prison, on charges of espionage with the Palestinian Hamas militant group. Morsi's son, Ahmed, confirmed the death of his father in a Facebook post. Mohammed Sudan, leading member of the Muslim Brotherhood in London, described Morsi's death as "premeditated murder" saying the former president was banned from receiving medicine or visits and there was little information about his health condition.

Four-member US-Indian family found dead with gunshot wounds

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, JUNE 17

A 44-YEAR-OLD Indian-American IT professional, his wife and two minor sons have been found dead in mysterious circumstances with gunshot wounds inside their home in the US state of Iowa, shocking the community.

The bodies of Chandrasekhar Sunkara, Lavanya Sunkara, 41, and their two sons, aged 15 and 10, were found in their home on Saturday morning, West Des Moines police said in a statement.

Police said all four had gunshot wounds. Chandrasekhar, known as Chandra, reportedly hailed from Andhra Pradesh.

The Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS) confirmed that he was an IT professional and employed in the department's Technology Services Bureau.

"Our hearts and prayers go out to the family and friends of the Sunkaras," the DPS said in a statement. Counselling services will be available on Monday for any employee needing assistance, DPS Commissioner Stephan K Bayens said.

Officers with the West Des Moines Police Department were sent on Saturday morning to the Block 900 of 65th Street, where they found the bodies.

The police said they all died of apparent gunshot wounds, but an autopsy has been scheduled to determine the exact cause of death. No arrests have been made so far.

"This tragedy will impact family, friends, co-workers, anyone that knew this family," Sergeant Dan Wade said in statement.

"We are continuing to work through this investigation," Wade said.

Beijing stands by Hong Kong leader after massive protests

CLARE JIM & JAMES POMFRET
HONG KONG, JUNE 17

CHINA DOUBLED down on its support for Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam on Monday after days of protests in the Chinese-ruled city over a planned extradition bill, and a source close to Lam said Beijing was unlikely to let her go even if she tried to resign.

Lam's attempts to pass a bill that would allow people in Hong Kong to be extradited to China to stand trial triggered the biggest and most violent protests in the former British colony in decades. As the political crisis entered its second week, demonstrators and opposition politicians braved intermittent rain to gather near the government's offices and call for the bill to be killed and for her to step down. The upheaval comes at a delicate time for Chinese President Xi Jinping, who is grappling with a deepening US trade war, an ebbing economy and regional strategic tension.

Hong Kong has been governed under a "one country, two

'UMBRELLA' LEADER FREED, JOINS PROTEST



Joshua Wong addresses a crowd on Monday. Reuters

■ Leading Hong Kong democracy activist Joshua Wong walked free from prison Monday and vowed to join anti-government protests rocking the city.

■ Wong, the poster child of the huge pro-democracy "Umbrella Movement" protests of 2014, became the latest voice to call for the Chief Executive's resignation.

systems" formula since its return to Beijing in 1997, allowing freedoms not granted to the mainland, including an independent judiciary, but short of a fully democratic vote. Many residents are increas-

ingly unnerved by Beijing's tightening grip and what they see as the erosion of those freedoms, fearing that changes to the rule of law could imperil its status as a global financial centre. REUTERS

REUTERS
LONDON, JUNE 17

CHINA IS murdering members of the Falun Gong spiritual group and harvesting their organs for transplant, a panel of lawyers and experts on Monday as they invited further investigations into a potential genocide.

Members said they had heard clear evidence forced organ harvesting had taken place over at least 20 years in a final judgement from the China Tribunal, an independent panel set up by a campaign group to examine the issue.

Beijing has repeatedly denied accusations by human rights researchers and scholars that it forcibly takes organs from prisoners of conscience and said it stopped using organs from executed prisoners in 2015.

But the panel said it was "satisfied" that the practice was still taking place, with imprisoned Falun Gong members "probably the principal source" of organs for forced harvesting.

Falun Gong is a spiritual group based around meditation that China banned 20 years ago



A file photograph of Falun Gong followers meditating in Hong Kong. Reuters

after 10,000 members appeared at the central leadership compound in Beijing in silent protest. Thousands of members have since been jailed.

It was less clear if the Uighur Muslim minority had been victims, the tribunal found, though it said they were vulnerable to "being used as a bank of organs".

The conclusion shows that very many people have died in despicably hideous deaths for no reason," said the tribunal chairman Sir Geoffrey Nice. Chinese government regula-

tions say human organ donation must be voluntary and without payment, said a spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in London. "We hope that the British people will not be misled by rumours," said a spokesman in a statement sent before the tribunal's final judgement was released. The China Tribunal was set up by the International Coalition to End Transplant Abuse in China, a campaign group, charged with examining whether crimes had been committed as a result of China's transplant practices.

SHE WAS AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS NON-HOLLYWOOD CHILD IN THE 1920s AND 1930s, AND WENT ON TO SET TRENDS IN MARKETING

Gloria Vanderbilt, heiress and builder of a fashion empire, dies at 95

ROBERT DMCFADDEN
JUNE 17

GLORIA VANDERBILT, the society heiress who stitched her illustrious family name into designer jeans and built a \$100 million fashion empire, crowning her tabloid story of a child-custody fight, of broken marriages and of jet-set romances, died Monday at her home in Manhattan. She was 95.

Her death was confirmed by her son Anderson Cooper, the CNN journalist, in a broadcast.

To millions of women (and men) who wore her jeans, blouses, scarves, shoes, jewellery and perfumes, who saw her alabaster face, jet-black hair and slim figure in

magazines, and who watched her move across a TV screen and proclaim that her svelte jeans "really hug your derrière", Vanderbilt was an alluring, faintly naughty fashion diva in the 1970s.

But behind the flair and the practised, throaty whisper, there were hints of a little girl from the 1930s who stuttered terribly, too shy and miserable to express her feelings, and a tumultuous American life chronicled faithfully in the gossip columns: every twist of her affairs, her loneliness, bursts of creativity and the blow of witnessing the suicide of a son.

Eventually, too, the press reported on her real successes in the fashion industry — and on her late-in-life tax, legal and money prob-

lems — and reexamined her life of turmoil with deeper interest. There were also laudatory reviews of her memoirs, which looked back on the painful betrayals of lovers, husbands and her parents — a playboy father she never knew and a negligent teenage mother, whom she forgave.

She was America's most famous non-Hollywood child in the Roaring Twenties and Depression years, the great-great granddaughter of the 19th-century railroad-steamship magnate Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt. In infancy, she inherited a \$2.5 million trust fund, equivalent to \$35 million today, which she could not touch until she was 21, though her mother gained access to nearly



Gloria Vanderbilt in a 1964 photograph. AP

\$50,000 a year.

Newspapers called her a "poor little rich girl". Her alcoholic father died when she was a baby.

Her mother left her with a nanny and parted across Europe on her money for years. When Gloria was 10, her mother and a wealthy

aunt sued each other in the era's most sensational child-custody case. The aunt exposed her mother's escapades and won custody of a child left traumatised.

Growing up in her aunt's mansions in New York City and on Long Island, with servants, chauffeurs, lawyers, tutors, private schools and trips abroad, Vanderbilt searched for fulfillment as an artist, a fashion model, a poet, a playwright and an actress of stage, screen and television. She had affairs with Errol Flynn, Frank Sinatra, Gene Kelly, Howard Hughes and Marlon Brando.

Her friends were Charlie Chaplin, Diane von Furstenberg, Bobby Short and Truman Capote, who was said to have modelled

the character Holly Golightly after her in his 1958 novella, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

She married and divorced three men — a mobster who beat her; conductor Leopold Stokowski, who was 42 years older and preoccupied with his own career; and film director Sidney Lumet. She had two sons with Stokowski and two with her fourth husband, Wyatt Cooper. One son was Anderson Cooper of CNN; another son, Carter Cooper, fell to his death from her Manhattan penthouse.

In the mid-1970s, when jeans were cut mostly for men, the clothing manufacturer Mohan Murjani signed Vanderbilt to market jeans for women with her signature on

the back pocket. She zealously promoted them in memorable television ad campaigns and public appearances, setting new trends in apparel marketing.

Gloria Vanderbilt jeans soon became a \$100 million-a-year business. As competition from other designer labels increased in the late 1980s, however, her fashion income faded. But she continued to spend lavishly. In 1995, she was hit with federal and state liens for back taxes totaling \$2.7 million, and had to sell two of her homes. She denied being broke, but moved into a small apartment owned by Anderson Cooper. The place was "not appropriate to my feelings about sunlight and beauty," she said. NYT

15 ECONOMY

SENSEX: 38,960.79 ▼ 491.28 NIFTY: 11,672.15 ▼ 151.15 NIKKEI: 21,124.00 ▲ 7.11 HANG SENG: 27,227.16 ▲ 108.81 FTSE: 7,334.79 ▼ 10.99 DAX: 12,093.90 ▼ 2.50

GOLD ₹33,620 RUPEE ₹69.91 OIL \$60.72* SILVER ₹38,090

*Indian basket as on June 14, 2019

SECTOR WATCH AVIATION

IndiGo picks CFM engines over P&W for next batch of 280 Airbus aircraft

First A320neo aircraft with CFM LEAP-1A to be delivered in 2020

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

INDIA'S LARGEST airline IndiGo said on Monday it has placed an order with Franco-American engine-maker CFM to power 280 of its Airbus A320 and A321 aircraft - moving away from US-based engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney's PW1100 geared-turbofan engines, which powered 150 of IndiGo's A320 family aircraft. In a statement, IndiGo said that delivery of the first CFM LEAP-1A-powered A320neo aircraft is scheduled in 2020.

IndiGo's decision to sign the deal with CFM, which is owned by US-based GE and French aerospace major Safran, follows a series of problems with Pratt & Whitney's engines on its A320neo planes that often resulted in groundings of these aircraft in the first two years of their service.

The first set of problems with the PW1100 engine model arose in 2016 and was around the powerplant's combustion chamber and a carbon seal - which showed premature degradations. On account of not enough spare engines being available at that point in time, the airline was forced to ground its aircraft resulting in schedule disruptions and restricted flight operations.

The latter issues pertained to the engine's gearbox and knife-edge seals. However, the airline was compensated by the engine-maker for the disruptions.

Among Indian carriers, IndiGo will become the third airline to operate the CFM LEAP-1A engines after Vistara and Air India that also fly the A320neo aircraft. Budget carrier GoAir currently operates its Airbus A320neo planes powered by Pratt & Whitney equipment. At list prices, the deal between IndiGo and CFM is valued at \$20 billion.

FACED TROUBLE WITH ENGINES

■ First set of problems with PW1100 engine model arose in 2016 and was around the powerplant's combustion chamber and a carbon seal - which showed premature degradations

■ On account of not enough spare engines being available at that point in time, the airline was forced to ground its aircraft

"The CFM LEAP engine will allow IndiGo to maintain its strong focus on lowering operating costs and delivering fuel efficiency with high standards of reliability. This new partnership will allow IndiGo to continue to provide affordable fares to its customers," said Riyaz Peermohamed, Chief Aircraft Acquisition and Financing Officer of IndiGo.

The Gurugram-headquartered airline, in 2015, placed an order for 430 A320neo aircraft with Airbus, with an option to convert to the larger A321neo planes. Currently, the airline has 82 A320neo and five A321neo planes in its fleet. Its total fleet consists of 230 aircraft including A320ceo planes and ATR turboprops.

Along with the engine purchase order, IndiGo has also signed a long-term service agreement with CFM to support its fleet of LEAP-1A engines. Currently, over 60 LEAP engines are in operation in India with various airlines. The engine model has been in commercial service for three years and has logged nearly 5 million flight hours.

FOCUS ON MAJOR ENTITIES & THEIR INTER-LINKAGES WITH OTHER SECTORS

Will take fresh look at framework to supervise NBFCs: RBI Governor

'RBI will not hesitate to take any required steps to maintain financial stability'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 17

AFTER REMAINING non-committal regarding direct intervention in the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) sector crisis, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday indicated that the central bank is planning a "fresh look" at the regulatory and supervisory framework of the struggling shadow banking sector.

Though the RBI had recently come out with draft guidelines for a "robust liquidity framework" for the NBFCs and RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said that "the RBI will not hesitate to take any measure to ensure financial stability in the sector" after unveiling the monetary policy on June 6, it stopped short of speaking about reviewing the supervisory framework for the NBFC sector which has witnessed a spate of defaults and payment delays.

On Monday, however, the RBI Governor said: "We are also giving a fresh look at their regulatory and supervisory framework. It is our endeavour to have an optimal level of regulation and supervision so that the NBFC sector is financially re-

SEVERAL NBFCs STRUGGLING TO RAISE FUNDS

■ Defaults by IL&FS which has a debt of around Rs 94,000 crore had affected the entire financial sector this year. Several NBFCs have been struggling to raise funds. Liquidity woes led to payment delays by housing mortgage firm DHFL

■ To reinvigorate growth by improving investment climate, a healthy financial sector plays an important role. In this context, the Reserve Bank has accorded high policy attention to reform both banking and non-banking sectors, the RBI Governor said

silient and robust."

"The Reserve Bank will continue to monitor the activity and performance of this sector with a focus on major entities and their inter-linkages with other sectors. The Reserve Bank will not hesitate to take any required steps to maintain financial stability," Das said at a speech delivered at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration in Mussoorie on Monday.

While unveiling the bi-monthly monetary policy on June 6, Das had said: "We have been closely monitoring the performance and developments in the NBFC and HFC sectors. The RBI will not hesitate to take any measure to ensure financial stability in the sector."

assets, which will sustain the improvements in credit culture." Das had said the central bank had recently reduced the periodicity of NBFC supervision from 18 months to 12 months and is well aware of the position of top entities operating in the sector. "Individual entities themselves are resorting to various measures using market mechanisms to mobilise additional liquidity and additional resources to meet their liabilities and commitments," he had said on June 6.

In May this year, the Central Board of the RBI decided to create a specialised supervisory and regulatory cadre within the RBI in order to strengthen the supervision and regulation of commercial banks, urban cooperative banks and non-banking financial companies.

The RBI also asked NBFCs with asset size of more than Rs 5,000 crore to appoint a Chief Risk Officer (CRO) with clearly specified role and responsibilities amid growing worries over an "imminent crisis" in the NBFC sector due to credit squeeze, overleveraging, excessive concentration, massive mismatch between assets and liabilities and misadventures by some large entities like the IL&FS group.

'Limited impact of GSP withdrawal by US exports'

The withdrawal of benefits under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) effective June 5 will have limited impact on India's overall export trade, but will affect exporters of gems and jewellery the most, ratings agency Crisil said in a report



SECTOR-WISE IMPACT OF GSP WITHDRAWAL		
Sectors	Gems and jewellery	Pharmaceutical products
World exports (\$ bn)	622	600
India's share in world exports	6%	2%
Impact of GSP withdrawal on India's exports to the US	Medium	Low
Impact of GSP withdrawal on India's overall exports	Low	Low

Note: Moderate impact = 5 - 15%; low impact = < 5%; Source: DGFT, International Trade Centre, CRISIL Research

\$142.1 bn
Value of India's total goods and services trade with US in 2018

\$83.2 bn
Value of exports from India to US in 2018

7%
Expected additional duty on exports of precious metal-based and imitation jewellery

15%
Share of gems and jewellery exports that availed GST benefits in 2018

Jet lenders decide to refer airline to bankruptcy court

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 17

Two months after Jet Airways shut down its operations, banks have decided to refer the airline to the bankruptcy court - National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) - for resolution under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy code (IBC) after the bidding process failed to identify a suitable white knight. The fate of the airline, which shut down operations on April 17, 2019 after it ran out of cash, will be decided as per the June 7 circular of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Jet Airways owes over Rs 8,500 crore to lenders.

Later, Former chairman of Jet Airways Naresh Goyal said, "I feel sad and deeply distressed mainly for our loyal employees who have waited months and were anxiously and hopefully awaiting a positive outcome to the Bank Led Resolution Plan. I can only hope and pray that even now a solution can emerge and Jet can fly and fulfil the needs not only of employees but of air travellers who feel the absence of the Joy of Flying."

A meeting of lenders was held Monday to consider the way forward in respect of Jet Airways. After due deliberations, lenders have decided to seek resolution under IBC since only a conditional bid was received and requirement of the investor for SEBI exemptions and resolution of all creditors is possible under IBC, "the airline said.

"Lenders led by State Bank of India have been taking efforts to

The fate of the airline, which shut down operations on April 17, 2019 after it ran out of cash, will be decided as per the June 7 circular of the Reserve Bank

find a resolution for Jet Airways outside IBC but in view of the above, lenders have decided to seek a resolution within the IBC process," it said.

According to banking sources, the bankruptcy process is most suitable method as the bidding process did not evoke a serious proposal from bidders. "Bidders wanted huge haircuts and an investor for takeover of the airline. They also wanted exemption from open offer under Sebi rules. This may not be workable," said an official. As per the IBC procedure, once NCLT takes up the case, an Insolvency professional (IP) will be appointed who in turn will assess the company's financial position and work out potential resolution plans, including liquidation or identifying a suitable investor. If the airline goes for liquidation, banks are unlikely to get much as there are not much tangible assets for loan recovery.

The RBI has changed its earlier norm of 100 per cent mandatory approval from creditors for resolution plan and has now allowed approval of 75 per cent of creditors for the resolution. There will be 20 per cent provisions if resolu-

tion is not implemented in 180 days from the end of review period. Banks will have to make another 15 per cent provision (total additional provisioning of 35 per cent) if resolution is not done in 365 days.

The airline which started defaulting five months ago was looking for an investor to pump in funds but failed to get any funding source. Etihad Airways, which holds around 24 per cent stake in the airline, refused to bring in funds. On March 25, as part of the bailout plan worked out by the lenders, Naresh Goyal and his wife Anita Goyal stepped down from the board. The bid from Etihad Airways disappointed the lenders with the Abu Dhabi-based airline putting in stiff conditions including write-off of debt, bringing in another investor and exemption from open offer. While the Etihad offer has turned out to be another expression of interest without making any binding offer, it refused to chip in with funds in March as its proposal for exemption from open offer and other concessions did not work out.

After the airline shut operations in April, lenders led by SBI opted for a bidding process to identify an investor to take over the airline. SBI Capital Markets was entrusted with the job of the bidding process which got three bids, including one from Etihad with almost the same conditions that it stipulated in March. With the bidding process failing to identify a suitor, lenders approached corporate houses with deep pockets, including the Hindujas.

Airbus launches new A321 jet, close to 200 orders expected



An Airbus A350-1000 and an Airbus A330-300 are seen during the 53rd International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget Airport near Paris, France on Monday. REUTERS

REUTERS LEBOURGÉT, FRANCE, JUNE 17

AIRBUS LAUNCHED a long-range version of its A321neo jet at the Paris Airshow on Monday, aiming to carve out new routes for airlines with smaller planes and steal a march on rival Boeing's plans for a possible new mid-market jet.

The European planemaker will announce close to 200 orders for the new model - the A321XLR - over the week, sources familiar with the matter told Reuters. "We can fly from north-eastern Asia into south Asia, from the Middle East to Bali or from Japan deep into Australia, and so on," said Airbus chief salesman Christian Scherer. "It is therefore the lowest-risk investment for airlines on these kinds of routes."

Leasing company Air Lease Corp became the first customer of the new aircraft, taking 27 as part of a deal for 100 Airbus planes. Sources familiar with the matter

said JetBlue Airways Corp would also buy some of the new jets.

The aerospace industry's biggest annual event, which alternates with Britain's Farnborough Airshow, is traditionally a slugging match between Airbus and Boeing sales teams in the \$150-billion a year commercial aircraft market. But analysts expect this year's show to be relatively subdued, with slowing economies, trade tensions and geopolitical uncertainties unsettling airlines - highlighted by a profit warning from Germany's Lufthansa on Sunday. Airbus and Boeing are also grappling with their own problems. The US planemaker is striving to bring its top-selling 737 MAX jet back into service after its grounding following two fatal crashes. Airbus, meanwhile, is occupied with a long-running corruption scandal. Boeing executives took turns to apologise for the loss of life in the crashes and pledged to apply the lessons learned to future planes.

Sensex falls 491 points amid fears over Indo-US tariff tussle

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 17

POSTING LOSSES for the fourth session in a row, India's benchmark SENSEX on Monday plunged over 491 points amid fears over Indo-US import tariff tussle and fresh geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.

The BSE Sensex settled 491.28 points, or 1.25 per cent, lower at 38,960.79. The index hit an intraday low of 38,911.49 and a high of 39,540.42. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty cracked 151.15 points, or 1.28 per cent, to close at 11,672.15. During the day, the index touched a low of 11,657.75 and a high of 11,844.05. Concerns over the poor advancement of monsoon also unnerved market participants, analysts said.

India has effected a hike in customs duties on as many as 28 US products, including almond, pulses and walnut, in response to higher tariffs imposed by Washington on Indian products like steel and aluminium. This move has raised fears over retaliatory measures from the US side. The rupee also fell by another 11 paise to close at 69.91 against the US dollar in line with intense sell-offs in domestic equities amid concerns over Indo-US trade tariff disagreements. The domestic currency has lost 57 paise in the last three sessions.

The Sensex has lost 796 points or 2 per cent in the past four sessions. Sectorally, BSE metal was the worst hit, losing over 3 per cent, while energy index fell over 2 per cent on Monday. The

EXPLAINED Higher tariff on US goods a fresh concern for market

WHILE US-CHINA trade war has been hurting the markets worldwide, India's retaliatory move to impose higher tariff on products imported from US over the weekend raised fresh concerns for markets and premier indices lost over 1.2 per cent.

Market participants who were worried over domestic and global growth, continuing liquidity issues being faced by financial institutions and high valuations have to now also keep an eye on India's trade relations.

broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices followed benchmarks, dropping up to 1.35 per cent. Tata Steel emerged as the biggest loser with over 5 per cent fall.

"Domestic market has been caught in a bearish grip as investors are increasingly turning cautious led by global trade war which has got murkier. Additionally, geopolitical tensions in the Middle East triggered a sudden spurt in oil prices. Domestic market consolidation will be maintained till global events unfolds like central bank and GST council meet this week," said Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services.

"Weak global cues combined with feeble domestic data were weighing on the sentiment from the beginning. It gradually drifted lower as the day progressed and settled around the day's low. All the sectoral indices traded in line with the benchmark index and

ended lower. Markets are currently facing headwinds from both domestic and global fronts, citing delay in arrival of monsoon, lingering geopolitical tension and rebound in the crude oil prices. Earlier, it was only the broader indices which were feeling the pinch and now the benchmark has also joined in," said Jayant Manglik, president, Religare Broking.

Jagannadham Thunuguntla, head of Research, Centrum Broking, said, "The ambiguity of portfolio allocation is now removed, so this is good for the market in a sense. We will get to see new Finance Minister Nirmala's proposals and approach in the Budget due in about a month. The emergence of clarity is what was important, and now the narrative in markets will be about the economic policies that will be adopted to revive and stimulate the slowing economy."

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

DESPIITE INTEREST payments on domestic and foreign loans accounting for over 30 per cent of the \$35 billion union budget presented by the Imran Khan government last week, Pakistan is banking on two fresh loans to bolster the country's emaciated, debt-ridden economy.

While the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had reached a preliminary agreement last month on a \$6 billion bailout for Pakistan, a rescue plan that Prime Minister Khan had opposed before taking office but has since grudgingly accepted, fresh talks by his administration over a support package from Manila-based Asian Development Bank have stoked further controversy. In a snub of sorts, the ADB has distanced itself from statements by two senior members of the Khan-led administration that the Manila-based lender would provide \$3.4 billion support to Pakistan, instead clarifying that "these discussions are ongoing".

The desperation for lifelines such as the ADB loan underscores Pakistan's increasing reliance on lenders as the country tries to overcome a ballooning Balance-of-Payments crisis that threatens to cripple its economy. Much of this stems from the imbalances arising from Pakistan's surging current account deficit, exacerbated by the country's increasing debt to China, short supplies of foreign currency reserves and stagnating growth.

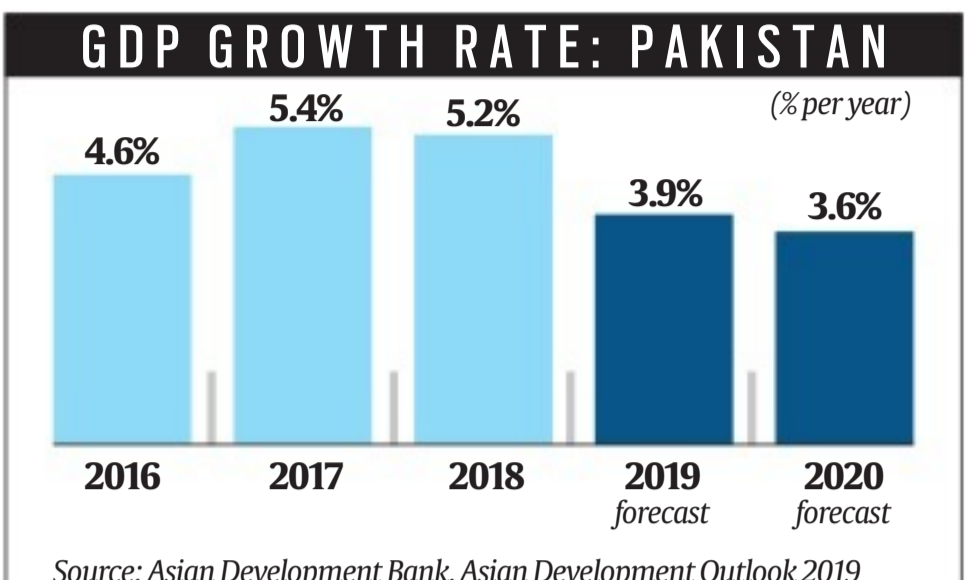
With the economy in a tailspin, policy makers have repeatedly tried talking up the markets. On Monday, State Bank of Pakistan Governor Reza Baqir at a press conference expressed confidence in the country's economic future, and provided assurance that the "two main causes of our instability are being effectively addressed in a credible manner".

Over the weekend, Khan's ad-

viser on finance Abdul Hafeez Shaikh and the Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms Khusr-o-Bakhtiar had announced that the country would get a loan of \$3.4 billion for budgetary support from the ADB, out of which \$2.1 billion would be released within a year. This prompted a rare rebuff by the Manila-based Bank. In a statement issued on Sunday, the ADB, while confirming the meetings with the Pakistani government members, asserted the loan was still a work-in-progress. "These discussions are ongoing and details of the plans as well as the volume of ADB's financial support, once finalised, will be contingent upon the approval of ADB management and its Board of Directors," ADB's Country Director for Pakistan, Xiaohong Yang said.

Meanwhile, funding plan involving the IMF, which comes after months of negotiations and still needs approval from the Fund's Board, is expected to be provided over three years. In a May 2019 statement, the IMF said Pakistan faces a "challenging economic environment, with lacklustre growth, elevated inflation, high indebtedness, and a weak external position". It said the funding programme would support authorities' strategy for stronger growth by "improving the business environment, strengthening institutions, increasing transparency, and protecting social spending".

The IMF bailout funding is typically provided under stringent conditions and most analysts predict that any fresh IMF injection could harm Khan's promise to build a welfare state. The IMF forecasts Pakistan's economic growth will slow to 2.9 per cent this fiscal year from 5.2 per cent in 2018. In February, central bank had only \$8 billion left in foreign reserves. Abdul Hafeez Shaikh, an economic advisor to the prime minister, said foreign loans have now crossed \$90 billion, and exports have contracted over the past five years.



RCap sells 10.75% stake in RNAM for ₹1.4K crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

RELANCE CAPITAL (RCap) Monday said it has sold 10.75 per cent of its stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management Ltd (RNAM) for over Rs 1,450 crore.

and has achieved the minimum public shareholding of 25 per cent in RNAM by reducing the promoter stake, the firm said.

The entire RNAM stake monetisation proceeds of Rs 6,000 crore will be utilised to reduce Reliance Capital's outstanding debt, it said. Based on the above, and other asset monetisation deals presently underway, RCap expects to reduce its debt by at least Rs 12,000 crore this fiscal.

JAL INSOLVENCY ICICI Bank moves NCLAT seeking urgent hearing of matter

New Delhi: ICICI Bank Monday approached National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), seeking a direction to NCLT Allahabad to hear urgently its insolvency petition against Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (JAL) and pass the order without further delay.

tribunal, ICICI Bank submitted that there has been no progress in its insolvency petition filed against JAL, which was filed in September last year. The bank alleged that Jaypee group's flagship firm is delaying admission of the insolvency plea by approaching several judicial forums. PTI

OFFICIALS FROM RBI, DPIIT, MEA ALSO ATTEND MEETING

Goyal discusses data sharing issues with e-commerce firms

Scope of developing Indian data servers, clouds, emails raised with IT firms

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

'SOVEREIGN RIGHT' OF NATIONS TO USE DATA

■ During the G20 trade ministers' meeting earlier this month, Commerce and Industry Ministry Piyush Goyal had said that nations must have the "sovereign right" to use their data for the welfare of their people and advocacy on free trade should not necessarily justify free flow of data

■ Commerce Ministry had earlier said that "gains and costs of cross border flow of data, ownership and sharing of data and efficiency gains and losses on utilising Indian data servers, emails, clouds" are likely to be deliberated during Goyal's meeting with e-commerce firms

COMMERCE AND Industry minister Piyush Goyal Monday called a meeting to discuss e-commerce issues like privacy, security, the benefits and costs of cross border flow of data and means to monitor the use of data. The move follows Goyal's representations during the Group of 20 (G20) trade ministers' meet in Japan earlier this month.

Other issues that "may" have figured in the meeting include anticipated increase in costs and loss in efficiency due to data localisation as well as the timeline to create infrastructure to comply with these norms. Goyal was expected

to discuss the scope, coverage, advantages and disadvantages as well as the cost and benefits of developing Indian data servers, clouds and emails with IT firms. Monitoring the use of data from the lens of privacy, security, safety and choice was also on the agenda of the Minister's meeting with foreign firms. Officials from the Reserve Bank, the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and

Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) were also present at the meeting, which was still in progress by press time Monday.

During the G20 trade ministers' meet, Goyal had said that nations must have the "sovereign right" to use their data for the welfare of their people and advocacy on free trade should not necessarily justify free flow of data.

He further pointed out the need for clarity on issues like privacy and security before making rules on e-commerce, adding that this is why India does not support the joint initiative on e-commerce at the World Trade Organization "at this stage".

"Developing countries need time and policy space to build deepest understanding of the subject and formulate their own legal and regulatory framework before meaningfully engaging in e-commerce negotiations," Goyal stated.

India's draft e-commerce policy restricts storage of data collected here outside the country.

Piramal exits Shriram Transport, sells its stake for ₹2,300 crore

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 17

PIRAMAL ENTERPRISES, controlled by Ajay Piramal, has sold its 9.96 per cent stake in Shriram Transport Finance for around Rs 2,300 crore, making a net gain of over Rs 650 crore in just six years.

"We have sold our entire direct investment of 9.96 per cent in the fully paid-up share capital of Shriram Transport Finance Company to third-party investors on the floor of the stock exchange," Piramal Enterprises said in a regulatory filing Monday. It sold a total of 2.26 crore shares of Shriram Transport via two block deals on the National Stock Exchange - 1.3 crore shares were sold at Rs 1,023.55 per share and another 0.9 crore shares at Rs 1,027.25 per share.

In May 2013, Piramal Enterprises had picked up 9.96 per cent in Shriram Transport Finance, which specialises in financing second-hand trucks, from the Chennai-based Shriram group for Rs 1,652 crore. Piramal has been looking to exit Shriram group, and had even tried to merge it with IDFC group in 2017.

Piramal said it sold its entire direct investment of 9.96 per cent in the fully paid-up share capital of Shriram Transport Finance Company to third-party investors

Apart from Shriram Transport, Piramal also own stakes in Shriram City Union (10 per cent) and 20 per cent in Shriram Capital. Ajay Piramal also picked up stakes in these two companies in 2014 and in 2015 became the Shriram group chairman.

In April 2014, the group had acquired 20 per cent stake in Shriram Capital, the financial services arm of the Shriram Group, for Rs 2,014 crore. With that, Piramal became the chairman of the Shriram group. Later, in June 2014, Piramal acquired 10 per cent stake in Shriram City Union, the retail focused non-banking financial company of Shriram Group, for Rs 790 crore. Piramal had sold the domestic formulation business to Abbott for \$3.8 billion in 2010.

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF TELANGANA LIMITED NOTIFICATION In Principle approval for diversion of 10.1437 ha (7.9657 ha in Medak Division + 2.178 ha in Sanga Reddy Division) Forest land for Erection of 220KV Multi circuit line and UG Cable from 400KV SS Narsapur to the Proposed 220/132/33KV SS Warampet in Ranga Reddy District in favour of TSTRANSOCO...

Government of India Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of Higher Education Technical Section - I CORRIGENDUM Corrigendum in the Advertisement of Appointment of Director of IIT (PPP) Kota, Rajasthan Last date of receiving the application to the post of Director, IIT Kota published in this newspaper on 5th May, 2019 is hereby extended up to 8th July, 2019.

RAJASTHAN SAMWAD Information and Public Relations Department, Secretariat, Jaipur No. :- 130 Date :- 14/06/2019 Request for Proposals Rajasthan Samwad is an autonomous body under the aegis of Information and Public Relations Department, Rajasthan, invites proposals as per Two Stage bidding process under RTPP Rule 2013, for multimedia agencies for handling activities like article writing, content writing, designing, story boarding, animation, jingles, advertisements, TV script video & film making etc.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP) ISRO TELEMETRY TRACKING AND COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC) Plot No. 12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase, PEENYA INDUSTRIAL AREA, Bengaluru-560 058 Ph: 080-28094182, 4541 Fax: 080-28094180

BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE, CORRIGENDUM-I Dtd: 17.06.2019 1. On behalf of President of India, item rate E-Tenders is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for following work NIT No.: ISTRAC/CMG/MAINT/E-TENDER-11/2019-20 Dated: 10.05.2019 Name of Work: Comprehensive annual maintenance of UPS & STS of Pillar make installed in different location at IDSN, Blyalu Village, ISTRAC, Bangalore

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD. (A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE) CIN No. U27310WB19206G0003661 "KANKARIA CENTRE", (4TH & 5TH FLOOR), 2/1, RUSSEL STREET, KOL-71 NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER (e-NIT) No. MAT(P)/ERE/71094/423 dtd. 18.06.2019

GLOBAL TENDER On-line Item rate Bid(s) / Offer(s) in two Part System are invited from reputed, resourceful parties for supply of Sheet Pile in connection with Shore Protection against Massive Erosion to save Country Old Indira Gandhi Water Treatment Plant (GWPL) of KMC at Palta, Kolkata, West Bengal.

Table with 4 columns: Sl. No., DESCRIPTION OF WORK, Date of Availability of e-NIT Tender Document in Website as well as CPP Portal, Last date of Bid Submission (ON-LINE). Row A: Manufacturing, Testing, Inspection, Supply & Delivery of 4800 MT hot rolled "U" type steel Sheet Pile as per specification mentioned below.

KMDA KOLKATA METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY e-NIT No.: SE(FAWS)/T-73(R) of 2019-20 (2nd Call) e-NIT is invited by the Superintending Engineer, FAWS Circle, Water & Sanitation Sector, KMDA, 83/1A, Vivekananda Road, Kolkata-700006 from reliable experienced and resourceful agencies for the works- Name of Work: Laying of D.I (K-9) Pipe with specials of different dia. including supply and installation of valves with construction of valve chambers and temporary and permanent road restoration including all pipe carrying bridges wherever necessary to lay the pipes over canals, drains or any waterways in complete with ancillary works as per tender specifications for primary feeders to UGR at Champdani Municipality along with for primary feeders to different ESRs at Champdani Municipality for Tams-Municipal Water Supply Scheme for Dankuni, Uttarpara, Konnagar, Rishra, Serampur, Baidyabati & Champdani Municipality and adjoining Peri-Urban areas.

KMDA KOLKATA METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY e-NIT No. : SE(FAWS)/T-72(R) of 2019-20 (2nd Call) e-Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer (FAWS), 83/1A Vivekananda Road, Kolkata 700 006 from reliable, experienced and resourceful agencies for the following work: Name of Work : Laying of D.I. (K-9) Pipe with specials of different dia. including supply and installation of valves with construction of valve chambers and temporary and permanent road restoration including all pipe carrying bridges wherever necessary to lay the pipes over canals, drains or any waterways in complete with ancillary works as per tender specifications for primary feeders to UGR at Baidyabati Municipality and Pearnapur Gram Panchayet area for Trans-Municipal Water Supply Scheme for Dankuni, Uttarpara, Konnagar, Rishra, Serampur, Baidyabati & Champdani Municipality and adjoining Peri-Urban areas.

National Institute of Fashion Technology (Ministry of Textiles, Government of India) NIFT Campus, Chheb Kangra, Himachal Pradesh-176001 Phone No.: 01892-260874, Fax No. 01892-260872 e-TENDER NOTICE NIFT -KGR/Admin/820/2018 Date: 18.06.2019 Sealed E - Tender is invited for procurement of Mess/Canteen Services at NIFT Kangra Campus. Last date and time for submission of tenders as mentioned in the tender documents is as under.

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION NIT No: S.W.M.C. No.A7/2860/2018 Dated: 03.06.2019 INVITATION OF TENDER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING The Superintending Engineer (SWM) Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), invites on-line Technical and Financial Bids from eligible bidders to take up "Collection & Transportation of Solid Waste, Street Sweeping Waste (including street sweeping activities), Horticulture Waste and Collection & Storage of Domestic Hazardous Waste in the Zones No. 9, 10 & 13 (Package-V) to the Designated Processing Facility / Dump Site / Depositing Centers of Greater Chennai Corporation" under Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) model and undertake IEC (Information Education and Communication) activities for spreading awareness for properly handling the solid waste.

University of Allahabad E-Tender Notice Tender Notice no. 03/UE/ALLD/2018-19 Dates 18.06.2019 University of Allahabad invites E-tenders from eligible CPWD registered Contractors in appropriate category for (a) Repairing, internal & external painting work at Department of Education, (b) Repairing & painting and changing of asbestos cement sheet at Cricket Stadium Ground, Science Faculty, UoA, Allahabad.

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION Ref - NIT No: S.W.M.C.NO.A7/3025/2017 - Package I Dated: 03.06.2019 Issuance of Corrigendum for Package I (Fourth Call) The Superintending Engineer (SWM) Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), would like to inform that the Corrigendum for the Fourth Call of "Collection & Transportation of Solid Waste, Street Sweeping Waste (including street sweeping activities), Horticulture Waste and Collection & Storage of Domestic Hazardous Waste in the Zones No. 1, 2, 3 & 7 (Package-I) to the Designated Processing Facility/ Dump Site/ Depositing Centers of Greater Chennai Corporation" under Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) model has been issued and uploaded. It is available for download at www.tntenders.gov.in from 03.06.2019 onwards.

Karnataka Soaps & Detergents Limited (A Government of Karnataka Undertaking) Sandal City: P.B. No. 5531, Bengaluru-Pune Highway, Bengaluru - 560 055. Ph: 23378715, 23371103 Fax: 23375102, 23370498 e-Mail: ksdl.dgmmnts@gmail.com An ISO-9001:2015 & 14001:2015 Company Date: 17.06.2019 NOTICE INVITING TENDER Tenders are invited by KS&DL in two cover system through e-Procurement Portal (Website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) with respect to supply of the following Materials/Services.

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION NIT No: S.W.M.C. No.A7/3025/2017-Package-II Dated: 03.06.2019 INVITATION OF TENDER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING The Superintending Engineer (SWM) Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), invites on-line Technical and Financial Bids from eligible bidders to take up "Collection & Transportation of Solid Waste, Street Sweeping Waste (including street sweeping activities), Horticulture Waste and Collection & Storage of Domestic Hazardous Waste in the Zones No. 11, 12, 14 & 15 (Package-II) to the Designated Processing Facility / Dump Site / Depositing Centers of Greater Chennai Corporation" under Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) model and undertake IEC (Information Education and Communication) activities for spreading awareness for properly handling the solid waste.

'UAE assures uninterrupted supply of oil, LPG to India'

New Delhi: OPEC member UAE has assured India of uninterrupted supply of oil and LPG despite disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said Monday. India is 83 per cent dependent on imports to meet its oil needs and is reliant on nations like the UAE to meet half of its cooking gas (LPG) needs. Pradhan in Twitter posts said he held telephonic discussions with UAE Minister and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company Group CEO Sultan Ahmed Al-Jaber over tensions in the Gulf region. PTI

INDIA TO GROW AT 6.6% IN FY20, SAYS FITCH

New Delhi: Fitch on Monday reduced India's growth forecast for the current fiscal for a second time in a row to 6.6 per cent as manufacturing and agriculture sectors showed signs of slowing down over the past year.

DCC GIVES NOD TO FINE AIRTEL, VODAFONE IDEA

New Delhi: The Telecom Department's Digital Communications Commission (DCC), Monday approved imposing penalty on Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea for not providing points of interconnection to Reliance Jio. However, before imposing the fine, DCC has decided to seek Trai's views on revising Rs 3,050 crore penalty.

Bike renting startup Bounce raises \$72 mn

Bengaluru: Bounce, a smart mobility solution provider, Monday said it has raised \$72 million as a part of its Series C-round. Bounce has deployed a fleet of over 5,000 keyless scooters in city and the app allows users to pick up a scooter and drop it at any legitimate parking spot.

IMPORTANCE OF KPCCS IMMENSE TO INDIA: DGFT

Mumbai: Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Alok Vardhan Chaturvedi, addressing the opening session of the Kimberley Process Inter-Sessional Meeting 2019 on Monday, said the importance of Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCCS) is immense to India, with the industry directly employing over a million people. PTI

Pfizer to acquire Array for \$10.64 bn

Bengaluru: Pfizer Inc on Monday struck a deal to buy Array Biopharma Inc for \$10.64 billion in cash to expand its portfolio of potentially lucrative cancer drugs.

Huawei: US ban to wipe \$30 bn off revenue

Hong Kong: China's Huawei Technologies Co Ltd has taken a harder-than-expected hit from the ban, by the United States, with company's founder and chief executive Ren Zhengfei saying the ban will hit revenue by \$30 billion. REUTERS

BRITISH POLITICS

A Conservative clown show

The Tories are throwing away their reputation for economic prudence

BRITAIN'S CONSERVATIVES like to think they are the party of economic competence. Although they have overseen some debacles in recent decades, they have typically had a clear vision for the British economy. In the 1980s, under Margaret Thatcher, they deregulated markets, privatised state-run industries and encouraged home ownership. In the 2010s their defining idea has been fiscal rectitude. By cutting spending and slightly raising taxes they have contained the rise of Britain's public debt.

Competence has turned to chaos. This week Tory MPs nominated ten candidates to replace Theresa May as leader of the party, and thus as prime minister. In a triumph of chest-thumping over economic reason, most say they are prepared to see the country crash out of the European Union without a deal. And, between them, the candidates are championing tax policies that are reckless, unjust and ill-informed.

Britain is a third of the way through the Brexit breathing space that the EU gave it in April. By the time a new prime minister is in place, there will be only three months to go—hardly enough time to renegotiate the deal Mrs May already struck with the EU, even were Brussels prepared to budge. Yet several Tory contenders, including Boris Johnson, the front-runner, promise that Britain will leave on October 31st come what may. The threat of a disorderly rupture with the EU hangs over Britain's economy, which appears to have shrunk in March and April, in part because carmakers halted production after the original Brexit deadline.

You might think that risking the biggest disruption to the economy since wartime was enough incompetence for one party. You would be wrong. Amid creaking public services—on which two-thirds of voters want more spending, even if it means higher taxes—the candidates are proposing huge tax giveaways, often directly to their supporters. Mr Johnson pledges to hand an average of £2,000 (\$2,550) a year to the top 10% of earners. Jeremy Hunt wants to slash corporation tax from 19% to 12.5%. Dominic Raab has suggested cutting the main rate of income tax by a barely credible five percentage points. Michael Gove would replace VAT with a lower sales tax.

These proposals range from unwise to extraordinarily bad. Mr Johnson's tax cuts would be both a waste of scarce resources and grossly unfair. He would reduce their cost by raising national-insurance contributions, a payroll tax. As a result the biggest beneficiaries would be well-off pensioners, because payroll taxes fall only on those in work. The policy is a shameless bribe to the elderly and prosperous Tory party members who choose the leader. Wealthy pensioners have already been coddled during Britain's period of austerity, enjoying protected benefits (such as free access to the BBC, taken away this week to much bleating) even as working-age welfare has been slashed. Many are homeowners who have also ben-



Boris Johnson (left) and Jeremy Hunt, two of the favoured candidates for the post of Conservative leader. Reuters

efited from the soaring property prices that are locking youngsters out of ownership.

Mr Gove rightly condemns "one-club golfers", like Mr Johnson and Mr Raab, who want to cut taxes no matter the circumstances. But Mr Gove's plan to scrap VAT is a booby. The tax distorts the economy less than most levies. It is also less regressive than is often claimed, because of exceptions for basic goods. And because it is paid by businesses throughout a supply chain, with each claiming back the tax paid earlier, it is hard to avoid. Mr Gove's sales tax might be simpler, but it would create a single point of failure where avoidance would be lucrative: the final sale to consumers. Every rich-world economy has a VAT except America, which should have one.

Public-sector receipts
Britain, % of GDP, fiscal year ending

Where are Mr Gove's wonks?

Among the most-fancied candidates, Mr Hunt's plan is the least bad of a dire bunch. Corporation tax deters investment

and is increasingly unsuited to a modern economy of digital, cross-border sales. Yet cutting it so deeply would be odd given the pressures on the budget and the fact that the rate has already fallen from 28% to 19% this decade. It would be better to overhaul the tax to target cashflows rather than profits—as proposed by Sam Gyimah, an MP who wanted to be leader but could not persuade enough of his colleagues to nominate him.

The sum total is a mix of ideas that smack of desperation and panic. Entertaining a no-deal Brexit is a reckless attempt to hold back Nigel Farage's Brexit Party at the ballot box. Mr Johnson's tax cut is a beggarly plea for party members' votes based on self-interest, but with little ap-

Hunt's plan is the least bad of a dire bunch. Corporation tax deters investment and is increasingly unsuited to a modern economy of digital, cross-border sales. Yet cutting it so deeply would be odd given pressures on the budget and the fact that the rate has already fallen from 28% to 19%

peal to the broader electorate. Mr Gove seems anxious to find a benefit in Brexit (the EU requires that member states levy VAT).

Panic produces poor policy. The Tories

should be focused on an orderly Brexit while confronting economic questions that predate the referendum. For the party's market liberals, that should mean deciding how to promote a small-state philosophy in an already deregulated and privatised economy. For moderate "one nation" Tories, it should mean finding policies to help left-behind places and reduce regional inequality. For all of them, it should mean honesty about the fact that, in the long run, spending cannot go up as taxes are cut.

At the moment the Tories are leaving the big thinking on economics to Jeremy Corbyn, the hard-left leader of the Labour Party. They are failing to make the best argument against putting him in Downing Street—that he is a unique threat to British prosperity. Losing that debate is the greatest risk of all.

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SPACE BUSINESS

Orbital ecosystem

A new business in small satellites orbiting the Earth

IN MAY 1999 a group of researchers from the Technical University of Berlin launched an unusual satellite. At a time when most of the machinery in orbit weighed thousands of kilograms, TUBSAT was a petite 45kg. A box that measured 32cm on each side, it carried three video cameras, the idea being to test whether such a tiny spacecraft could capture useful imagery of Earth. The researchers cited low mass, and the resultant low costs, as the benefits of such comparatively tiny satellites. They promised to open up "new market areas" for Earth observation.

It took around 15 years for them to be proved right. A few such "smallsats", sometimes called nanosats or CubeSats, were

Much of recent attention has focused on internet connection constellations in low Earth orbit proposed by SpaceX and OneWeb. These have long been planned, and the billions of dollars required to install them are feeding the entire market

launched every year in the decade up until 2014, when numbers spiked. Planet Labs, a Californian company founded by ex-Nasa engineers, launched 33 smallsats that year, each weighing just a few kilos. Planet's satellites are spiritual successors of TUBSAT, designed to gather imagery of the Earth's surface. The firm sells its customers images from around 150 active satellites it has in orbit.

other satellites in orbit. Perhaps the most outlandish venture is a rescue satellite, designed to pull other satellites down to safety if something goes wrong, to avoid catastrophic collisions with neighbours.

Much of the recent attention has focused on the internet-connection constellations in low Earth orbit proposed by SpaceX and OneWeb. These have long been planned, and the billions of dollars required to install them are feeding the entire market.

Many of the capabilities of the new smallsats already existed, but mostly as government projects or as secretive intelligence operations. America has long sought to inhibit the commercial development of radar satellites, so powerful are their surveillance properties. Military radar satellites, which bounce radio waves off the surface of the Earth in order to build up a detailed picture of it, were said to be capable of detecting enemy submarines by measuring the tiny disturbances that their wakes left in the curvature of the surface of the ocean.

Payam Banazadeh, the boss of CapellaSpace, a startup based in San Francisco and founded in 2016, says his firm will use smallsats to work similar magic. Capella's satellites will use radio waves, rather than light, to create images of the surface of the Earth. Mr Banazadeh says that his smallsats will be able to measure the volume of oil-storage tanks, for example, which are often open-topped to avoid fire risks, simply by

pinging a radar beam into them. The first operational satellite is intended to launch this year, one of a planned constellation of 36. A competitor, Finnish company ICEYE, already has satellites in orbit gathering data.

Capella relies on a host of new space businesses as suppliers. Blue Canyon Technologies, founded in 2008, will provide small thrusters that allow the satellites to be pointed at specific spots on Earth. A company called Phase Four, founded in 2015, will provide tiny ion drives that will allow Capella's satellites to adjust their altitude as needed. This will let the firm capture a wider variety of imagery.

Another new firm, Hawkeye360, takes a different approach. Instead of pinging the surface of the Earth with radio waves, it listens for any that are being emitted by activity down below. This kind of orbital signal sniffing also used to be the domain of governments. But smallsats have advanced to the point where Hawkeye can deploy clusters of three radio-frequency sensing satellites to pick up weak signals from the ground. The company says its primary service will be maritime surveillance, looking for anomalous radio signals such as a fishing vessel turning off its automated identification tracker near a marine protected zone. The stated purpose is to stop illegal fishing and keep ports secure, but it is easy to see how the smallsats could be used to curb oceanic migration too. Hawkeye's first cluster of satellites has been in orbit since December 2018.

The data deluge

All of these new forms of imaging generate huge volumes of data—terabytes a day, enough that getting it down to the ground for processing becomes its own problem.



SpaceX launched a rocket carrying 64 small satellites (smallsats) in December 2018. The concern is that, with so many new satellites in orbit operated by so many different companies, the chance of losing control of one goes up. AP

Some companies want to reduce the amount of data they send back by processing some of it up in space. Barry Matsumori, a space-industry veteran, is boss of Bridgesat, a company that has developed a tiny, powerful laser, which can be embed-

ded in spacecraft and which can beam data down to ground stations at extremely high bandwidths. ICEYE is one of its first customers. Bridgesat's first ground station, in California, is already in operation, and more in Italy and Sweden are on their way. The

plan is to have ten around the world.

The firm has competition from Amazon, which just announced its own backbones service for data out of orbit and into its data centres, called AWS Ground Station. Capella is an early customer of the service, which uses radio waves rather than lasers to get data down from orbit. As with Amazon's cloud-computing business, the idea with Ground Station is to invest in plenty of expensive infrastructure and then charge startups only for what they use, making it easier and more affordable to run a business up in space.

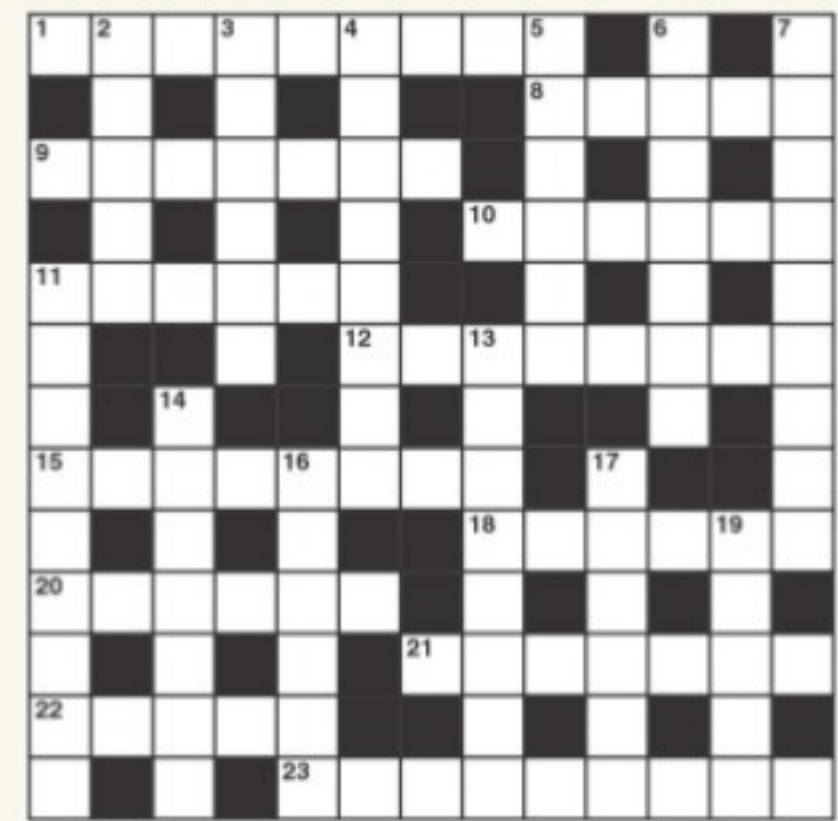
Managing all those extra satellites gets tricky when the companies launching them have to get their orbits perfect the first time. Currently, companies get only one shot. D-Orbit, an Italian company, has built a "carrier" satellite that is designed to boost already-launched smallsats to their correct configuration.

Perhaps the most futuristic new problem for the space business is the risk of debris. The concern is that, with so many new satellites in orbit operated by so many different companies, the chance of losing control of one goes up. A collision could be disastrous, producing a wave of debris with a high chance of wiping out other satellites, potentially crippling the whole commercial low-Earth orbit ecosystem at a stroke. Astroscale, a Japanese company, is tackling this problem by building a prototype craft capable of being launched at short notice in order to grab any malfunctioning satellite and pull it down into the atmosphere where it will burn up before it can collide with anything. The "rescue" craft will use computer vision to lock onto the out-of-control satellite and match velocity with it, then latch onto it magnetically. The company, which has raised \$132m in the past few years, is planning a demonstration of its technology next year.

Earth's orbits suddenly look busier than ever before. Companies are going into space because it offers a different vantage point, allowing them to gather valuable new, previously-unaffordable information. TUBSAT's "new market areas" are at last open for business.

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CROSSWORD 3835



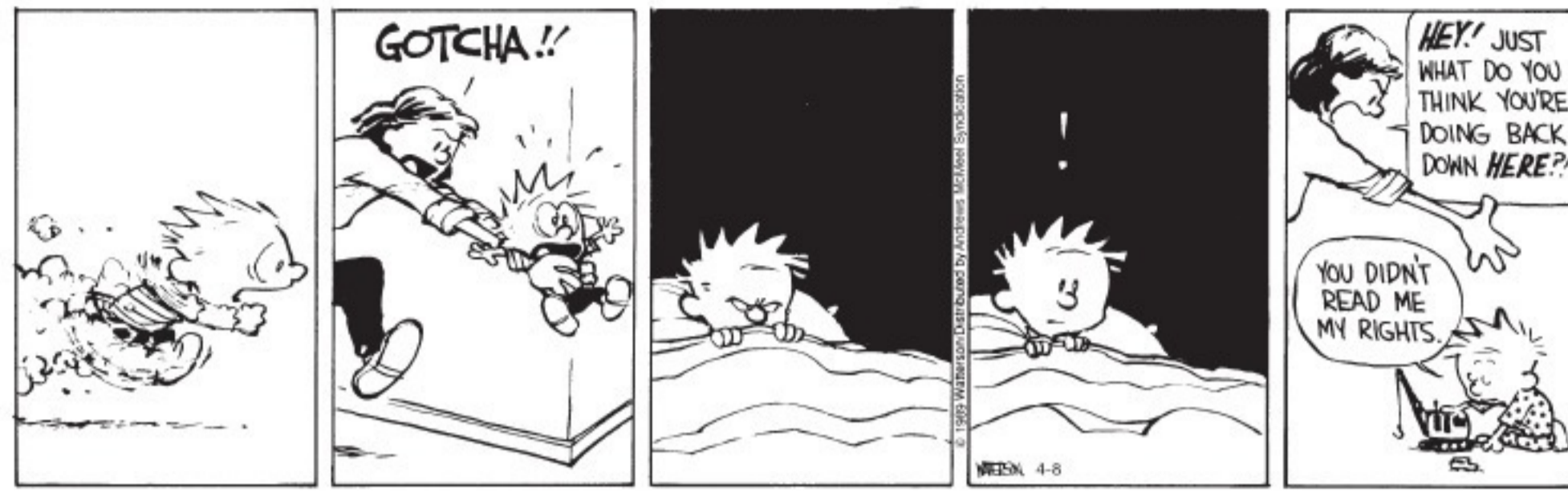
- ACROSS**
1 Granted a liberty for three-card trick? (9)
8 It's made to contain spectacles (5)
9 Break down, strangely enough (5,2)
10 Giving my leg a new treatment with spirit (6)
11 Father has a favourite term of endearment (6)
12 The affluence they enjoy is apparently unmerited (4,4)
15 Charm one's way in (8)
18 He doesn't go for a horse that will finish (6)
20 A mouth organ (6)
21 A new role in flight control (7)
22 Loves an anagram to decipher (5)
23 Autumn sweepings adversely scattered (3,6)
- DOWN**
2 Silent comedy film star (5)
3 Unexpectedly pointless precise direction (6)
4 Possibly I quote an algebraic term (8)
5 Stop time when hurt (6)
6 Tin beef stewed to some advantage (7)
7 Ideal item for a beginner at a furniture factory? (4,5)
11 Woman in service spoils ties in the press (9)
13 Speak falsely yet be quiet! (3,5)
14 It's only produced in an expressionless way (7)
16 Being diverted made us upset (6)
17 Private room taken on holiday? (6)
19 All right, the first mate is about to call up (5)

Solutions Crossword 3834: Across: 1 Hostage, 4 Needs, 7 Elan, 8 Long shot, 10 Appreciate, 12 Oradin, 13 Phoebe, 15 In good form, 18 Admitted, 19 Knot, 20 Laird, 21 Tellers. Down: 1 Hyena, 2 Stampede, 3 Exotic, 4 Nightshade, 5 Echo, 6 Satiate, 9 Designated, 11 Denounce, 12 Overall, 14 Molest, 16 Mates, 17 Impi

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given clue.
The one self-knowledge worth having is to ___one's___ - F.H. Bradley (4...3,4)

DVIOO **EILDMW**

AYNNN **ANSYKW**

SOLUTION: DVIOO: OVIDIAN, NANNY, MILDREW, SWANKY
EILDMW: WILDMAN, MILDREW, SWANKY
AYNNN: ANN, NANNY, NANNY, NANNY
ANSYKW: KNOWLEDGE, KNOWLEDGE, KNOWLEDGE

SUDOKU 3881

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.



Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3880



Horticulture Department
NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Palika Kendra, New Delhi-110001

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174259_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Selection No. 1 Grass Carpet.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 9,99,000/-

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174258_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Palms.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 9,99,283/-

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174255_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Winter/Summer annual Seedlings.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 20,90,793/-

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174257_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Winter/Summer annual Bulbs.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 14,93,400/-

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174251_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Ficus Species.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 14,95,160/-

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174244_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Semi Grown Trees.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 14,99,565/-

Tender ID No.: 2019 NDMC_174252_1
Name of Work: M/o Parks and Garden 2019-20.
Sub Head: Annual Rate Contract for Topiary, Cypress, Junipers, Bougainvillea & Roses.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 23,86,365/-

Date of release of tender through e-procurement solution: 15.06.2019
Last date/time for receipt of tenders through e-procurement solution: 27.06.2019 at 3:00PM
Further details can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>
Note: To participate in e-tender in NDMC registration with e-tendering system Government of NCT of Delhi is mandatory. Sd/- Director(H)

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web : www.ircon.org, CIN-L45203DL1976G01008171

e-Procurement Notice

e-Tender No.: IRCON/2018/HJP-BCA/Track Maintenance/Tender/2019/03 Date: 18.06.2019
Name of Work: Open e-Tenders in two packet system "Maintenance of new BG DN Track between station MOG-BCA for a period of six months in Sonepur Division of E.C.Railway."
Estimated Cost of the work: ₹ 57.88 Lakhs (Approx)
Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission: Upto 15.00 Hrs. on 11.07.2019
For further details and updates, visit website <http://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>.
Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the above website.

CGM/Civil/HB/Patna
1st Floor, Sone Bhawan, Daroga Prasad Rai Path, Patna-800001, BIHAR
Phone:+91-612-2507777; FAX:+91-612-2506888, Email: mahboob.alam@ircon.org

STEM WATER DISTRIBUTION & INFRASTRUCTURE CO. PVT. LTD., THANE
Vardan Commercial Complex, 9th Floor, MIDC, Road No. 16, Wagale Industrial Estate, Thane (W) - 400 604

E-Tender Notice No.4 for - 2019 - 20

E-Tender in two envelope system for the following works are invited from experienced & registered contractors.

Overhauling and repairs to various capacities V.T. pump sets with necessary replacement of spares & modifications at pure water pumping station Temghar.	Rs. 1,21,27,680/-
Annual maintenance contract for repairs, servicing, overhauling & rewinding various H.T. Motors at Raw Water pumping station shahad & WTP Temghar	Rs. 1,99,15,584/-

E-Tender documents will be available for view / downloading on authorized website <http://stem.abprocure.com> from dt. 21.06.2019 to dt. 15.07.2019 Last date of online submission of tenders with e-payment of cost of blank tender form & EMD is dt. 15.07.2019 up to 1500 hrs. Received tenders will be opened on dt. 15.07.2019 at 1500 hrs.
Right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof is reserved by the STEM Water Distrib. & Infra Co. Pvt. Ltd. Thane.

Sd/- Managing Director

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
OPEN E-TENDER

No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162 Dated: 13.06.2019.
The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.ireps.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.ireps.gov.in → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy. CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631.
Sl. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Qty.; Earnest Money Deposit (₹); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST) : [1]; 81190179A; Standard Hardware Kit For 6FRA-6068; 419100 Nos.; 146100; 31.07.2019, 11:00 hrs. [2]; 81190862A; Polyamide [NOMEX] PA VLIES 1 Size: 2.5 x 1000 mm. [In continuous roll of 10 M.]; 7979 Mtr.; 183640; 31.07.2019, 11:00 hrs. [3]; 81190861A; (1) Polyamide [NOMEX-Type-410] Strip. Size: 0.25 mm Thk. X 9 + 0.02 -0.4 mm Width X 507 +/- 0.2 mm long, (2) Polyamide [NOMEX-Type-410] Strip. Size: 0.13 mm Thk. X 8.4 +/- 0.05 mm Width X 90 +/- 0.1 mm long, (3) Polyamide [NOMEX-Type-410] Strip. Size: 0.25 mm Thk. X 9 + 0.02 -0.4 mm Width X 417 +/- 0.2 mm long; (1) 546471 Nos. (2) 3500356 Nos. (3) 35036 Nos.; 110690; 31.07.2019, 11:00 hrs. [4]; 81190863; Polyamide Paper [NOMEX] PAPI, Size: 0.38 X 914 mm. [In continuous Roll of 10 M.]; 228 Mtr.; 0.00; 31.07.2019, 11:00 hrs. [5]; 81190221A; Methyl Alcohol or Industrial Solvent is similar to Methyl Alcohol to IS:517-86 GR. Methanol Pure/Tech; 590 Ltr.; 0.00; 31.07.2019, 11:00 hrs. Principal Chief Materials Manager AD76-084 CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on : www.facebook.com/clwrailways

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice

DEN/II/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. 57-DRM-MB-19-20 closing date 18.07.2019, 16:00 hrs. Name of work: General annual repair work of service building/staff quarters from Balamau (including)-Sitapur City (Excluding)-ON (Excluding) including wood and road works for 2019-20 in the section of SSE/Works/Balamau under ADEN/HRI-II. Tender closing date/time: 18.07.2019, 16:00 hrs. Cost of work: Rs. 63,47,106.79. Earnest Money: Rs. 1,27,000.00. Tender Cost: Rs. 5,000.00. Bidding start date: 04.07.2019 and Period of Completion: 12 Months. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. For detail information please log into www.ireps.gov.in. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card, etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. No.: 57-DRM-MB-19-20 Dated: 14.06.2019. 1914/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

Mubarak Mandi Jammu Heritage Society
Royal Dogra Palaces, Panjithirthi, Jammu
G-mail: mubarakmandiheritagesocietyjmu@gmail.com
Tele Fax: 0191-2563084

EXTENSION NOTICE

Sub:- (a) Emergency Stabilization of Structure in Distress at Mubarak Mandi Complex.
(b) Anchoring & Grouting for Emergency Stabilization of Corner of Pratap Mahal at Mubarak Mandi Complex.

Ref.-: (a) E-NIT/MMJHS/03 of 2019-20 dated: 16.05.2019.
(b) E-NIT/MMJHS/04 of 2019-20 dated: 16.05.2019.

Due to poor response, the critical dates for above mentioned NITs are extended as under:-
1. Last Date of Submission of Online Bids = 21.06.2019 upto 04.00 P.M.
2. Date of Opening of Technical Bids = 22.06.2019 at 12.30 P.M.

All terms and conditions shall remain the same as already advertise.
No. EE/MMJHS/198-203 Sd/- (Er. Mohd. Ayub Wani) Executive Engineer
Dated: 15.06.2019
DIP/J-1161

TENDER NOTICE FOR PROCUREMENT OF MAIN AND SPECIAL LUBRICANTS AND GREASES ITEMS FOR CONSUMPTION YEAR 2019-20

1. Tenders are invited by IHQ of MoD (Army), Quartermaster General's Branch, Directorate General of Supplies and Transport, New Delhi-110105 for and on behalf of the President of India for procurement of MGEO 15W40 API CH-4 combined with MB 228.3 (approx qty 43,050 ltrs), Gear Lubricants Multipurpose 85W140 EP Type GL-5 (approx qty 71,400 ltrs) and Anti Wear Hydraulic Oil HLP VG-32 (Extra Heavy Duty Type) (approx qty 2,00,340 ltrs) for the consumption year 2019-2020 from Indian Manufacturer only. The vendors can search for the tender enquiry on the Defence Procurement Portal in the following way:-
www.defproc.gov.in → Open Home Page → Click on "Tender Search" Type → "Army Lubricants" (Right side of home page)
2. In case of any clarification the officials can be contacted at phone No 011-23018963 & 011-23018592 and e-mail ID ddgstf-ihg@nic.in. These Tenders will be available at www.defproc.gov.in with effect from 0300 PM on 17 Jun 2019.

Sd/- (MK Jha) Lieutenant Colonel Assistant Quarter Master General (POL) for Director General Supplies & Transport
File No : P/72002/2019-20/Q/ST-9/Spl Lubs/AdvT/ST-9 dated 14 Jun 2019. Dated: 15.06.2019 DAVP/10602/11/0016/1920

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
You may not be sure why you should feel so confident about the future. Just appreciate the sense of growing optimism that is due to lift your spirits over the coming few days, under the Sun's intriguing relationship with Jupiter, planet of wisdom and wide open spaces.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
It's time to say another word to all Librans who are in the throes of domestic change — that there is only another fortnight of confusion. In fact, all of you will find it easier to straighten out family complications next month, which has to be good news.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
In your own sweet, quiet way you have built up a considerable fund of wisdom and experience over the years. Now you may come to the aid of various people whose collective ventures are floundering for want of a voice like yours. Speak up — it's time you were heard.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
You may imagine that everything at home is just fine and hunky-dory. However, it's just at times like these that you must take extra precautions. Do your very best to see that family members are happy and contented — even if they're not. I have a feeling you'll soon have some making up to do.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The week's stars begin on a high note, but as the days pass, argumentative influences will creep in. You must therefore be aware that what seems like a golden opportunity now could turn into quite the opposite by next weekend. Also, harsh words today could rebound on you later.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)
You will soon share with your fellow fire signs, Leo and Aries, a superb, if challenging, planetary line-up. However, your optimism may be tempered by the knowledge that in some senses even you may now be out of your depth. It's time to rely on your past experience.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You've been wondering what happened to all your alleged good fortune. Well, today's intriguing planetary patterns provide a pretty good guarantee that events are moving your way. All you have to do is get on the train while it's moving — and hang on tight.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)
Partners, loved ones and close colleagues are about to start moving back to an optimistic high after a few weeks of uncertainty. You may both help them develop their good feelings, and share in their success. You should also help them face up to the truth.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
In many respects you fare better than most at the moment because you have the wit to see a personal situation for what it really is. I doubt if anyone will be able to pull the wool over your eyes. You may even realise that cast-iron practical arrangements might not work out after all.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)
You're an Aquarian, so nobody can really put you on the spot or undermine your confidence unless you allow them to. However, judicious concessions made now will prevent them even making the attempt. Your judgement and timing are crucial, and I suspect that you'll be walking a tightrope — temporarily.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
You are now going through a rather peculiar phase, perhaps because you're not really sure what you want. Try to be a bit more at ease and relaxed with the world in general, without swinging to the other extreme and becoming disorganised and chaotic.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
As long as you keep your eye on the ball, you'll have a good start to the week, so no fears on that score. As the days pass, just keep an eye on those secret worries and frustrated hopes that tend to erupt at moments of irritation or pressure. Talk to friends and those who know best, if you need reassurance.

DELHI URBAN SHELTER IMPROVEMENT BOARD
GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, C-7
RANA PRATAP BAGH, DELHI-110007
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Executive Engineer, C-7, DUSIB, R. P. Bagh Delhi-110007 invites on behalf of Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, percentage rate bid (On Line) on two bid system for the following works.
NIT No:- 07/EEC-7/DUSIB/2019-20 Name of work:- Pay & Use JSC. **Sub Head:-** Up-gradation of 20 seater JSC at JJ cluster, Dairy Munshi Ram near BVK (PID No. 11551). **Esstt. Cost :-** Rs. 27,42,312.00 **Earnest Money:-** 54,900.00 **Tender Cost:-** Rs. 500.00 **Period of completion:-** 150 Days.
NIT No:- 08/EEC-7/DUSIB/2019-20 Name of work:- E.I.U.S. **Sub Head:-** Construction of road by providing & laying RMC Pavement in JJ Cluster at Om Nagar Dhoobi ghat Sangam Park, Mahavir Modern School, R.P. Bagh. (PID No. 11614). **Esstt. Cost:-** Rs. 41,94,739.00 **Earnest Money:-** Rs. 83,900.00 **Tender Cost:-** Rs. 500.00 **Period of completion :-** 150 Days.
Last Time & Date of Submission of Bid:- 28.06.2019 upto 15:00 Hours
Date of Opening Technical Bid:- 28.06.2019 after 15:30 Hours
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/> All the corrigendum (if required) will be uploaded on portal and will not be published in News Paper.
Sd/- (RAJINDER BANSAL) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, C-7 (DUSIB) DIP/Shabdarth/0223/19-20

TAMILNADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
417, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.
Phone: 28191890/ 28190259 / Fax: 044-28190636

SN	Tender / Rate Contract (RC) No./ Item with qty.	Sale period	Pre bid	Submission	Opening
1.	Tender No.477/URO/DME-GKMCH/ I/PNMSC/ENG/19, dt:14.06.19 - Urodynamic Machine (1)	18.06.19 to 24.06.19	20.06.19 11.00 AM	25.06.19 11.00 AM	25.06.19 12.00 PM
2.	Tender No.478/MIC/DME-CBE/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:14.06.19 - LED Inverted Microscope (1)	18.06.19 to 24.06.19	20.06.19 12.00 PM	25.06.19 03.00 PM	25.06.19 04.00 PM
3.	Tender No.479/CSU/DME-RGGGH/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:14.06.19 - Computerized Laboratory with Speech Software (1)	19.06.19 to 03.07.19	26.06.19 11.00 AM	04.07.19 11.00 AM	04.07.19 12.00 PM
4.	Tender No.480/INS/SMCH/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:14.06.19 - Advanced Vascular Flow Instrument (1)	19.06.19 to 03.07.19	26.06.19 11.30 AM	04.07.19 03.00 PM	04.07.19 04.00 PM
5.	Tender No.481/LAUNDRY/DME-RGGGH/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:14.06.19 - Steam Boiler (1)	19.06.19 to 03.07.19	26.06.19 12.00 PM	04.07.19 03.00 PM	04.07.19 04.00 PM
6.	RC Tender No.497/EYE/RC/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:14.06.19 - Various Eye Equipment	19.06.19 to 18.07.19	26.06.19 12.30 PM	19.07.19 11.00 AM	19.07.19 12.00 PM

For details visit www.tenders.tn.gov.in and TNMSC website www.tnmsc.com
DIPR/2008/Tender/2019 General Manager (Equipment)

POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU AND KASHMIR, SRINAGAR
Phone/Fax No. 0194-2443031/0194-2443032 (Sgr) Website: www.jkpolice.gov.in
0191-2459029/2459255 (J) E-mail: phqjk@jkpolice.gov.in

Extension Notice

Following amendment is issued in PHQ NIT No. 29 of 2019 dated 22.05.2019 floated to purchase Anti Riot Gas Mask:-
Last date for tender submission : 29.06.2019
Online opening of tender : 01.07.2019

Detailed tender documents with terms and conditions are available on J&K State e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in.
Sd/- Mubassir Latifi (JKPS), AIG (Provision/Transport), For Director General of Police, J&K, Srinagar.
No. Prov-II/Sec-28/2019-20 35321-40 DIPJ-NB-1221 Dated: 14.06.2019

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of Tourism Kashmir
Tele fax- 0194-2502281, E-mail: dtctc@jktourism.org

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders on behalf of the Hon'ble Governor of J&K State affixed with Rs. 5/- revenue stamp are invited from Registered Dealers/ Suppliers for Content Generation (Images & Text), Designing, Printing/Re-printing and Supply of Promotional Brochures of J&K Tourism.
Offer made should be unconditional. Conditional offer will be rejected. The tender document can be had from the office of undersigned by or before 05 July 2019 upto 4.00 P.M. against the cash payment of Rs. 500/- (Non-Refundable) or a non-refundable Demand Draft for an amount of Rs. 500/- and can also be available on departmental website: www.jktourism.jk.gov.in.
The tender should be accompanied by a CDR/FDR amounting of Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) pledged to Accounts Officer, Directorate of Tourism Kashmir by or before 08 July 2019 upto 2.00 P.M. The offers should be quoted in light of Terms and Conditions as in document. The tender shall be opened on the date as may be convenient to the tender opening committee in presence of tenderers who may wish the same. In case the date of sale of document or deposition of tender/opening of tenders happens to be an off day, the process shall be resorted on next working day. The Department reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
Sd/- Dy. Director Tourism, Publicity
No:DTK/Pub/76-11/138 Dated: 17.06.2019
DIPK-NB-1232



SMILE AWAY

Noted English DJ Fatboy Slim has curated an exhibition dedicated to the yellow emoji. 'Smile High Club', it will feature the artist's personal collection of the yellow icon — arguably the largest in the world. The exhibition opens on June 21 in Lisbon.

He Saw at the Sea Shore

In his new exhibition, TK Hareendran turns his gaze on the ideas of pain, longing and freedom

PALLAVI CHATTOPADHYAY

KERALA-BORN TK Hareendran's canvases at Art Konsult gallery unconsciously place the viewer in the shoes of a researcher. The task is simple: to decipher the meaning of his text-laden paintings in an exhibition titled "Shore of Alphabets". The text appears similar to Egyptian hieroglyphs that utilised pictorial writing, full of human and animal figures, inscribed on pottery vessels and coffins hidden in tombs. The ancient Egyptians called hieroglyphs as *medu netjer* (god's words); likewise, Hareendran sprinkles images of an ox, fish, crab, fly and a man meditating on small panels on an entire wall, interspersing them with the letters of Tamil, English and Hindi.

Language becomes the starting point of the show. Hareendran says, "The Indus Valley script was derived from what people saw and they gave it a symbolic form, be it the moon, hills or birds. These elements were converted into a language, and slowly became expressions for openness, love, freedom or identity without borders."

Returning with a solo after a long hiatus since his exhibition "Path" at Delhi's Niv

Art Centre in 2010, the seashore is another inspiration for the artist. It's a source of sudden happiness or destruction. Among his 100 works on display, all named as the title of the show, is a group of black-and-white photographs shot in Trivandrum and Kochi.

There are boats hugging the sand carpet near the sea and rivers, where broken idols are left unattended. An acrylic-on-canvas is inspired by the same thought, with an image of a face looking at the shore blankly. "Shore is happiness, isn't it? There is no border at the horizon and one can feel a certain kind of flying effect, much like an albatross, when standing there," says Hareendran, who has served as a founding member of Indian Radical Sculptors Association and also worked with the Cholamandal Art-ists' Village near Chennai.

Lost dreams and longing come to the surface as a woman's silhouette stands on the seaside. A fish rests at her feet, as the grey water recedes. "When we are at the shore, we remember about the loss of a childhood dream, or of a friend or a lover. Everyone has this longing," he says. Hareendran feels that certain elements of pain flare up within the body, when one witnesses the sun setting on the horizon and waves hitting the shore.



TK Hareendran; one of his artworks

Measuring Life in Coffee Spoons

A book-themed walk reels out how Delhi's Indian Coffee House became a political hotspot in the '70s

DIVYAA

POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS not allowed", said a board at the India Coffee House in Connaught Place. This was the '70s, ahead of the Emergency. On a balmy Sunday evening, nearly four decades later, a group of history enthusiasts occupy the table at the same venue. The discussion was all but political. "Public opinion on the Emergency has always been extreme, but it can't be one-sided. The idea of this evening is to narrate how things happened and exchange ideas," declared Bela Upadhyay, Founder and Storyteller, Delhi Eventalist, who conducts several historical tours in the Capital.

But this was the first time a large part of her tour was a book discussion. Debutante author Srishti Chaudhary was co-hosting the event. Her recently released book *Once Upon A Curfew* (Penguin; Rs 299) is a fiction set in the Emergency era. She says it was a conscious choice. "I wanted to set it in the past. It would have an old-world charm to set the romance in the time when there were no cell-phones or social media," says the 25-year-old author, even as she admits that the Emergency was a tough and politically turbulent period for her to document.

The lead character of the book, Indu, is named after the then Prime Minister; her father was Chief Counsel to Indira Gandhi. Even though she admired Gandhi all her life, by the end of the novel, she is disenchanted. As the narrative proceeds, Indu with her lover, Rana, a law student, takes readers through Delhi of the '70s, with its politics, cinema and lifestyle.

They often meet at the Indian Coffee House, and that is where the two-hour tour started on Sunday, over cups of coffee and glasses of Rooh Afza. Upadhyay says, "The Emergency wasn't imposed suddenly one day, it had been building up for some months and it was in those days when the cafe became a sort of meeting point for underground discussions." She adds that while the Emergency was on — for 22



Srishti Chaudhary (extreme left) with participants during the event in Delhi. Divyaa; the cover of her book *Once Upon A Curfew*

months starting June 1975 — there weren't too many political meetings at the cafe since large gatherings were banned.

In the book though, there are discussions about Rajesh Khanna's films and Kishore Kumar's songs at the Indian Coffee House. It was during the Emergency that Kumar was "gagged on radio and public broadcasts after he refused to help push the government's agenda", says Chaudhary, adding that "the superstar persona of Rajesh Khanna gave way to the angry young man post-Emergency, and Amitabh Bachchan emerged as the next superstar".

The cover of the book has Indu looking at Regal Cinema, standing in a corner of Palika Bazar, and that's where Upadhyay took the participants towards the end, for photo-ops. The novel was part of Chaudhary's dissertation while she was studying creative writing in Edinburgh.



(Above) Mini Mathur in *Mind The Malhotras*; during her MTV days

Keeping up with the Times

Mini Mathur on making her acting debut at 43, and being the face of the MTV generation of the '90s

EKTA MALIK

TO SEE Mini Mathur and Cyrus Sahukar come together on screen in 2019 is enough to send anyone who grew up in the '90s into nostalgia mode. The two, in their heydays in that decade, enjoyed immense popularity through their stints on MTV. Now, they are back together as Mr and Mrs Malhotra, in a new web series, *Mind the Malhotras (MTM)*, which is a remake of Israeli show, *La Famiglia*.

"Cyrus is not somebody with whom I had fallen out of touch with, and then we reunited while shooting for *MTM*. He is one of my closest friends, we speak on a daily basis, and I honestly got paid to spend time with one of my bestest friends," says Mathur, who plays Shefali Malhotra, a mother of three on *MTM*. "We had met 20 years ago when we joined MTV on the same day, and we even took the same flight," she adds.

The nine-part sitcom, which streams on Amazon Prime, takes us into the life of the Malhotras, where the husband and wife have started therapy, as they are worried their marriage will fall apart, with everyone around them getting divorced. It also marks the acting debut for Mathur, who has otherwise been a regular face on Indian TV and has hosted shows like *Indian Idol*.

"I was not looking for acting work, I have consistently said no to projects, as whatever was offered to me never resonated — kitchen politics, *saas-bahu*, over-dressed naagins and goddesses. The few stints, cameos I did were for friends. I met Sahil Sangha, the producer of *MTM*, at a lunch, and he kept looking at me, and I was like 'weird guy'. He then approached me to play Shefali," she adds.

"And then the whole quirky aspect of Shefali, she is so relatable. She is a woman of today, a millennial parent, part cool, part control freak. She's kind of a doberman who is watching over and protecting her family," says Mathur, a graduate from Lady Sri Ram College, Delhi.

Her chemistry with Sahukar, who plays her husband, Rishabh, on the show is getting good reviews. The comfort shared by the two makes the unique premise of a couple seeking therapy voluntarily, believable. The shows attempts to normalise conversations around therapy and mental health, without making it heavy. "It's high time, don't you think? And we should not immediately jump to stigmatic responses like 'oh she's cuckoo', or



MTV was the first wave of self-expression. Even within the veejays, me and Cyrus (Sahukar) were very boy-and-girl-next-door. We made desi look cool, we were Indians and we didn't have firang names

MINI MATHUR
ACTOR, FORMER TV HOST

'oh their marriage is on the rocks', whenever we hear that someone is in therapy. We have always needed therapy; earlier, it would be an aunt or friend who would hear you out," she adds.

Mathur saw the advent of GECs and the rise of reality TV and now she is part of a global streaming service, which has an international audience. But MTV is something that has remained close to her. "Be it Cyrus Sahukar and Cyrus Broacha, Nikhil (Chinappa), Maria (Goretti) and Malaika (Arora), we have all stayed in touch. We had each others back. I spent five years there. MTV was the first wave of self-expression. And even within the veejays, me and Cyrus were very boy-and-girl-next-door. We made desi look cool, we were Indians and we didn't have firang names," shares Mathur, 43.

She is quite vocal on social media in airing her political and social views, and adept at shutting down trolls. Her recent takedown of a troll who commented that she should get botox has gone viral. "I have been at cusp of many new things. First MTV, then hosting *Indian Idol*, where for the first time we had the audience voting for the contestant. Today, sadly we are making content for TV with the mindset that one size fits all. A couple of years ago, we didn't have a choice. So we shifted to watching international series, as we were not able to relate to these offerings. I think fiction and related content should reflect the times we are living in. As it's not, the digital space is where the rebellion is taking place," she adds.

SNAPSHOTS

Food as Art

GRAPHIC NOVELS created by the late chef Anthony Bourdain will now be adapted into an animated series. The series, *Hungry Ghosts* will be a one of its kind food-meets-horror show. The four-part graphic novels, which were released last year in October, had been created by Bourdain and Joel Rose and were published by Dark Horse. The also have five bonus recipes inspired by the stories. Most of the stories are based around food, as chefs are the primary narrators. One of the stories is about a Russian oligarch who dares chefs to tell tales while playing a Samurai game of 100 candles.



New Designs

THE EGYPTIAN Museum, which is the country's most visited site, given its huge collection of antiquities and its prime location in Tahrir Square, is set for a revamp. The restructuring will include the redisplay of several galleries and the relocation of the Tanis Royal Tombs, which will move into the space vacated by the Tutankhamun collection. The project will cost 3.1 million euros of European Union funding and is supported by a consortium of five European museums. The museum, which opened in 1902, houses more than 1,50,000 objects.



'I try to ensure my characters are uncomfortable or conflicted'

Tanuj Solanki, winner of Sahitya Akademi award for *Diwali in Muzaffarnagar*, on what drew him to writing, and how Muzaffarnagar has changed after 2013 riots

SURBHIGUPTA

AFTER WRITING short stories for newspapers and magazines, Tanuj Solanki, whose day job involves working for an insurance company in Mumbai, wrote his first novel, *Neon Noon*, in 2016. Published by Harper Collins, it received critical acclaim and was shortlisted for Tata Lit Live First Book Award. But it was his second book, *Diwali in Muzaffarnagar*, in 2018, which established him as a writer. The short story collection explores what it means to leave a small town as a young adult, and to return home much later. It has just got him the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puruskar. Excerpts from an interview:

What were your expectations when you first started writing?

I first started writing with an impulse to imitate the writers I read. At some point dur-

ing that initial 'play', I developed a sense of the fictions I wanted to create, and also some semblance of that thing called voice. The expectation since has always been to do it (the writing) well. I can think of no other expectations that I've had. Writing is, and has always been, a pleasure in itself.

What drew you towards writing?

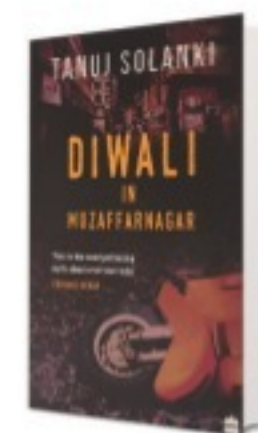
I started when I was 23. Reading was my first pull, and, of course, a bit of silly arrogance — the arrogance of the non-practitioner: 'If you can write a story like that, I can write it better'.

What prompted you to write stories on urban loneliness and life in small towns?

I never explicitly set out to write on or about these two areas, or broad experiences, so to say. Instead, what I've ended up writing has been understood through these terms. This is, perhaps, the result of readers



and reviewers finding something to relate to in the material, something that they describe through these words. That's perfectly natural, I guess.



Tanuj Solanki; the cover of *Diwali in Muzaffarnagar*, which won him the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puruskar last week

Why did you think *Diwali in Muzaffarnagar* was better suited as a short story collection and not a novel?

Thematically, a short story collection can perhaps cover a greater range than a novel, which has to necessarily amplify a smaller range of experience. I must emphasise, though, that there was never a conscious choice for me between writing a

novel or short stories. I wrote one story, had it published in a magazine, and realised that there could be more stories in the same universe. Thereafter, I was invested in the writing of these stories for a considerable period, without much thought paid to the novel form as an alternative. I might one day expand a story in the collection — *Good People* — into a novella.

Were you more comfortable writing stories set in your home town?

Mumbai, Delhi, Pattaya and Muzaffarnagar — these are the places where my characters have been till now. As all fiction writers, I try to ensure that wherever my characters are, they are uncomfortable (or, conflicted). My own comfort or discomfort doesn't vary with where they are.

Post 2013, Muzaffarnagar became a household name but ever since, it's

referred to as the riot-prone town in the media. Does that disturb you?

Muzaffarnagar's various communities have become more guarded, and more gated. That is what disturbs me, as I remember it as a more carefree place. The city has always been infamous for its crime rate, though, so I am not sure if my perception is correct. What is certain is that there is an added pressure on inter-religious interactions. Is it only in Muzaffarnagar, though? Isn't that nationwide?

Which writers have influenced you? What books are you reading currently?

There are too many to name. I'm currently reading a Scandinavian crime novel called *Echoes From The Dead* by Johan Theorin. I've developed a taste for Scandinavian crime, the dour investigation procedures, the etiolated atmosphere, and the social tensions.



Shakib at wheel, Bangladesh on Caribbean cruise

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
JUNE 17

A LITTLE over five years ago, during the Asia Cup in Dhaka, a local reporter who worked for The Daily Ittefaq (a Bengali paper) was talking about how Bangladeshis want their heroes to be humble and down to earth.

"See, in this part of Bengal, stardom is frowned upon. Even if you are a star, you must have your feet on the ground. On your side of Bengal (West Bengal), attitude and aggression from a star player is now accepted. It's a trickle-down effect of India's cosmopolitan culture and global profile," the reporter opined. Like many others, he took Shakib Al Hasan's crickering exploits with a pinch of salt, although he accepted that purely on talent, the left-hander was miles ahead of his team-mates. Shakib had fallen out with then Bangladesh coach Chandika Hathurusingha. He had an altercation with a spectator during an ODI against India at Mirpur. The Bangladesh Cricket Board had suspended him for six months for "serious misbehaviour".

"He (Shakib) has a severe attitude problem, which is unprecedented in the history of Bangladesh cricket. We think that his behaviour is such that it's directly impacting the team," BCB president Nazmul Hassan told reporters, adding: "What is perhaps more alarming is that other players have started to behave like him." The suspension was eventually reduced after Shakib appealed.

On Monday at Taunton, Shakib scored his ninth ODI hundred. It took his tally to 384 runs from four matches in this World Cup at an average of 128. After making his ODI debut in

EXPLAINED Not the Bangladesh of old

GONE ARE the days when teams used to bully Bangladesh with pace and bounce. After South Africa, West Indies found that out to their detriment on Monday as the Tigers completed the highest successful chase of the tournament. The biggest score hauled down at this World Cup, before this game, was 244, and Bangladesh would give heart to chasing teams as batting first and getting over 300 on the board was considered a winning strategy till now. They showed that getting a solid and brisk start and playing sensible cricket through the middle overs was still the way to go after big targets. Intimidating opposition teams with speed used to be an effective tactic for West Indies in their heyday, but one needs genuine pace allied with control. Half the Caribbean attack seemed walking wounded, which compromised their bowling as well as fielding.

2006 and prior to the ban in 2014, he had scored 3,688 in 129 matches at an average of 35.12. In the five years since returning from suspension, Shakib made 2,413 runs from 73 matches at an average of 41.60. He tops the ICC all-rounder rankings. The rap on the knuckles probably had a positive effect.

Bangladesh wants its heroes to be like Mashrafe Mortaza, the boy next door, who still doesn't mind taking a cycle rickshaw to home, when his wife is using the family car to pick their child from school. Shakib is more of a pin-up boy who loves fast cars. The IPL experience has added to the aggressive, swashbuckling side of Shakib's personality. The riches have helped him upgrade his lifestyle significantly. He has been a regular in the world's wealthiest T20 leagues over the past eight seasons.

A few years ago, when he was playing for Kolkata Knight Riders, Shakib was asked during

an interview if he saw himself as Bangladesh's only serious superstar. "Not really, not really," he blushed. Globetrotting – he is wanted in all T20 leagues – has made Shakib more suave than any other Bangladeshi cricketer.

Sample this, when Mortaza comes for press conferences, the majority of reporters from vernacular publications in Kolkata prefer to question him in Bengali. The Bangladesh ODI captain laps up the opportunity. When Shakib comes, the medium of communication remains English.

Those who know him at close quarters would confirm that the 32-year-old remains a soft-spoken and, at times, even shy – especially when someone is praising him – off the field. There's a hint of similarity with Virat Kohli, whose all-out, aggressive approach on the field is somewhat contradictory to his off-field demeanour. By the way, the India captain and the

Bangladesh's star all-rounder get on very well.

At the 2018 IPL auction, Sunrisers Hyderabad roped in Shakib for Rs 2 crore. That KKR didn't retain him had raised a few eyebrows. But the two-time IPL champions decided to change their recruitment policy going ahead. SRH mentor VVS Laxman, however, had described the new acquisition as the team's "MVP" (most valuable player). "Shakib has the ability to turn the match around in any situation. Though he is good with the bat, he doesn't get enough importance as a batsman," coach Tom Moody had said.

Back in Bangladesh, Shakib divides opinion, as can be gauged by the Ittefaq reporter's comments. But few would argue with the quality he offers as a player and his commitment. In January last year, Shakib had badly injured the little finger on his left hand during a tri-series in UAE. "The finger will never be 100 per cent," he had said. For a long time even after full recovery, he played through pain. The recovery period, too, was painful and a bit lonely. Shakib's little daughter Alaina had taken care of her father's loneliness then. He aspired to play the World Cup final. "There's no individual goal. I want to be the team's biggest contributor in the World Cup," Shakib had said last year during an interview with a Bangladeshi TV channel.

After the win against South Africa, he refused to call the result an upset. Today against West Indies, Bangladesh emulated their highest successful ODI run chase.

BRIEF SCORES: Bangladesh 322/3 in 41.3 overs (Shakib-al-Hasan 124 not out, Litton Das 94 not out) defeat West Indies 321/8 (Shai Hope 96, E.Lewis 70, Shakib 2/54) by seven wickets.



Shakib-al-Hasan's sensational counterattacking century paved the way for Bangladesh's first ever win over West Indies in World Cup. AP

Two of the top three successful chases in World Cup history are now in Bangladesh's name. Before Monday's win, they had scored 322 to beat Scotland at the 2015 World Cup in Nelson.

Shakib became only the second Bangladesh player to cross 6,000 runs in ODIs after Tamim Iqbal, and made his fourth consecutive 50-plus score to move past Aaron Finch as the tournament's top scorer with 384 runs.

Now only his bat does the talking

Pandya was in the dock for comments on a chat show, but his childhood coach reveals how the all-rounder emerged stronger



EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP

SRIRAM VEERA
MANCHESTER, JUNE 17

IT'S 7.30 AM and Hardik Pandya is sitting on a sofa at home with his sunglasses on. It's the morning after he had been sent back to India, banned for his comments on the Karan Johar show. Jitendra Singh, his childhood coach, drops in, sees the shades, and leans towards another person there. "He hasn't slept the whole night, na?" Pandya hadn't. Jeetubhai, as he was known, indulges in some small talk and takes Pandya to a corner.

"Tension nahin lena hai. You believe in me, na? You will get back to playing for India very soon. Jo ho gaya, woh ho gaya, no use worrying about it. Come tomorrow to Reliance stadium. Now, smile." Pandya's lips curl weakly.

Next day was Uttarayan, the famous kite festival in January. Everything shuts down, thousands of Gujarati necks crane up staring at colourful kites. However, Jeetubhai had arranged a small session in a corner of the stadium. "I made sure no one else knew – certainly not you press waale!" he recalls. It wasn't the cricketing nets but the badminton court that he had the keys for.

"Chalo, let's play," and Pandya started to slowly get into it. Soon, sweat began to pour out as he immersed himself. "That's what I wanted. We used to play badminton years before – the joy, the sweat. I wanted him to sweat out. He freed him, usko ehsaas hua that he is a sportsman and this is what he is born to do. Not chat shows."

Jeetubhai's home-grown wisdom once again did the trick. "In three days, I knew he was back to normal, especially when he batted on that third morning at the nets. The way he was hitting the ball, my only thought was that he should be back in the Indian team soon."

He called Pandya for another chat. "Look, I can feel it. This time when you get back to the Indian team, you are going to star. I can feel good times are just around the corner. Forget what happened." There was no need to speak about the chat show at all. "I saw that he was upset about what happened. I know him well. He is a very emotional boy. Don't go by his dress and chains, and the style icon he seems to be. Bachcha hai and very pure at heart."

It wasn't the first time Jeetubhai had seen Pandya emotional. In Mumbai, after the semifinal loss against West Indies in the 2016 ICC World T20, Pandya had called his coach to his hotel room. "Please stay with me tonight. Don't say no." The pair kept talking for a while. Pandya broke down now and then, and eventually Jeetubhai dozed off and woke up to see the tired sleep-deprived eyes.

A scene from another time, years ago. Pandya is sprawled on a bed. He is staring



Hardik Pandya has been a revelation in this World Cup, giving India the desired impetus with his belligerence. Reuters

at his phone, presumably, which is live-streaming the scenes from his room. One of the Facebook chats with fans he used to conduct in years gone by. For a minute, nothing happens in the video. Not a word said. Suddenly, he says "I am waiting for your comments".

Shortly, he starts mumbling out questions, nothing interests him. This goes on for 10 minutes. He answers a few in the mumbling-pilot style tone. His voice perks up suddenly when he says: "Be yourself, that's how you can be stylish". He walks around with a swag and the Pandya show ends.

All the swag and "Rockstar", as his IPL team-mate Aiden Blizard nicknamed him after watching him dance, has meant some fans are unaware of his tough childhood. Pandya's father Himanshu, who had taken the five-year old boy to former India cricketer Kiran More's camp, suffered a hit in his business and the family fortunes plunged.

"My brother and I used to get Maggi for Rs 5 and used to request the gardener to give us hot water and we used to prepare and eat it at the ground for lunch and breakfast, 365 days non-stop. Din bhar ground pe pada rehtha tha. Bahar udhari bahut ho gayi

thi, jitna aata woh turant chala jata. Forget 10 rupees, we used to struggle for even five," Pandya had told this newspaper.

"Don't go by his bad-boy image. He is like a coconut: hard outside, soft inside," says Jitendra. He should know. Once, when he was at Baroda nets, Pandya came to see him. This was just after a tour of West Indies. Pandya whisked him in his car that stopped at a car showroom.

"Tu kya soch raha hai? What are you doing? Hope you aren't going to do what I think you are?" the coach said. Pandya replied, "Please don't say no, sir, You have to accept it," and gave the keys to a Celerio.

Another tale now. Pandya hears Jitendra's mother was unwell at hospital and landed up there. "He told me that he was getting a payment of 50 lakh from IPL and that I should take it. I had to tell him to shut up and go!"

Jeetubhai remembers when he first saw Pandya take the now-familiar off-stump guard from where he explodes. "He has that cricketing intelligence. With his batting, he

realised the need to create angles. He also stands deep in the crease with that guard – he told me that he doesn't have to worry about yorkers and bouncers.

It's not so easy to get that yorker at the base of stumps – as he is almost by the stumps, and with bouncers, because he is so back he gets extra time and the bowlers try to pitch the ball fuller for the batter to trouble his head, but it's not easy to get the ball to bounce from a fuller length. If they bang it short, middle of the pitch, because he is back, it almost sits up and he has more time to cut and pull. I only told him, just have a method to keep out the full balls on middle and leg."

That is the essence of Pandya's big hitting. He is just working the angles. He isn't slogging. That's why when a bowler hurls the ball almost yorker-length well outside off-stump, he stays calm, crouches, and steers it through backward point.

But it's his bowling that would have settled a few nerves in the fans, if not in his team-mates. It's the thinking behind it that stands out, more than anything he does with the ball.

What do we recall from his bowling? Leg-cutter? Outswing, inswing? Nope, not



I saw that he was upset about what happened. I know him well. He is a very emotional boy. Don't go by his dress and chains, and the style icon he seems to be. Bachcha hai and very pure at heart."

JITENDRA SINGH,
HARDIK PANDYA'S CHILDHOOD COACH

yet, but the lengths, the lines, the variations, and the little deviations – working the angles, basically.

The moment that made one sit up and take notice came after he bled 19 runs in his second over to Aaron Finch and David Warner last week. His pre-game plans lay tattered. We know he likes to bang in a couple to check the bounce and settles on back of a length and tries to hit it with some regularity. That plan was now gone. He had to do something else. Pandya worked the angles, again, switching from over the stumps to around it, in the same over. He moved closer to the stumps and wider. He moved from back of a length to fuller.

Of late, he has been learning how to work the angles at the crease. He does bowl the slow cutters, too. But seldom has he combined all that as effectively, mixing and matching them, as he did against Australia. To Warner, who was tied down when the ball cuts in from a length towards middle and leg, he dinked the ball in. Later, to Steve Smith, he pinged the off-stump line on a length. To Usman Khawaja, he served two lengths – bouncers and slow-cutters from back of a length. Similarly, against Pakistan, he kept it tight, occasionally surprising them with the bounce he got. "Remember he used to be a leg-spinner before. He only started bowling pace at the age of 18. And he is still learning. He is working hard at it and can improve a lot. I am confident that he will because he wants it desperately," Jeetubhai says.

Pandya is the man live streaming his narcissistic mutterings, he is the one who cried and couldn't sleep after an Indian loss, the one who struggled for money, and one who shares stuff in a chat show thinking it was very cool, and the one who gifts a car to his coach. Fans and critics have a version of Pandya to admire or hate, the Indian team has one to like, his family and coach have a version to love. Of course, he is soon bound to do something to once again make us unsure of what to make of him.



BRIEFLY

Boxer Amir Khan offers help to Pakistan's cricketers

2004 Athens Olympic silver medalist boxer Amir Khan offered to help remedy Pakistan's unfit cricketers after watching Sunday's match at Old Trafford. After the match ended, Khan tweeted "Pakistan lost to India today #ICCWorldCup2019 come July 12th I will avenge the loss and knock out Neeraj Goyat on our upcoming fight in #SaudiArabia." Later, Khan posted pictures of him training at a gym and tweeted "Would love to help Pakistan cricket team with some advice on how to stay fit and strong. How to be disciplined on food, diet and training. The team has talent but need to improve on Strength & conditioning and focus," and tagged PCB.

Sri Lanka warned after media no-show

Sri Lanka have been warned against a repeat of their no-show in the customary post-match news conference following their World Cup loss to Australia, Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) said. The 1996 champions did not send a representative after their defeat on Saturday in a breach of protocol, an ICC official said. The governing body lodged a complaint with SLC, which has instructed the team to comply with their media obligations. "Sri Lanka Cricket wishes to announce that, contrary to various media reports, there won't be any sanctions imposed on the Sri Lanka team by the ICC..." SLC said in a statement. "Sri Lanka Cricket discussed Saturday's incident with the ICC and assured that a similar situation will not occur going forward in the tournament." REUTERS

POINTS TABLE

Team	M	W	L	T	N/R	PT	NRR
Aus	5	4	1	0	0	8	+0.812
NZ	4	3	0	0	1	7	+2.613
Ind	4	3	0	0	1	7	+1.029
Eng	4	3	1	0	0	6	+1.557
Ban	5	2	2	0	1	5	-0.270
SL	5	1	2	0	2	4	-1.778
WI	5	1	3	0	1	3	+0.272
SA	5	1	3	0	1	3	-0.208
Pak	5	1	3	0	1	3	-1.933
Afg	4	0	4	0	0	0	-1.638

Top 4 teams after the ninth round will qualify for the semis.

LEADING SCORERS

384 Shakib-al-Hasan (Ban), 343 Aaron Finch (Aus), 319 Rohit Sharma (Ind)

LEADING WICKET-TAKERS

13 Mohammad Amir (PAK) 13 Mitch Starc (AUS), 11 Pat Cummins (AUS)

1 WORLD CUP • 10 COUNTRIES • 1000 OPINIONS

Brainless, clueless Sarfraz: Shoaib's toe-crusher

Shoaib Akhtar's 11-minute long dissection of Pakistan's performance saw the former pacer call losing captain Sarfraz Ahmed 'brainless' six times, and 'clueless' twice for good measure. Akhtar, who had stuck his neck out predicting a Pakistan's win during chats with Virender Sehwag and Harbhajan Singh, took aim at everyone including Imam-ul-Haq — "issko cover drive maarte hue nahi dekha kisine", Mohammad Amir — "taking three wickets after conceding 340 is not match-winning bowling" and coach Mickey Arthur — "ye banda baitha hua hai. Ya toh hasta rehta hai ya gussa kar deta hai". But Akhtar's worst was saved for his favourite whipping boy Sarfraz.

Taking a leaf out of World Cup-winning captain and current Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's tweet, Akhtar called Sarfraz a 'raillu katta' — literally meaning 'a wandering calf' and in cricketing parlance 'a worthless player' — for electing to bat first.

"Imran bhai ko bhi sochna chahiye ki tweet unke liye kare, jisme capacity ho... Hum yahan se cheekh ke maar rahe hain, phone kar rahe hain. Bhai tereko akal hai ki nahi hai? Thoda use kar le apne dimaag ka. Usme koshish hi ki nahi, maine nahi karna."

While characteristically boisterous, Akhtar's critique had significant undertones of a perception that Sarfraz is a 'yes man' to the team management.

"Management intehaai darze ki bevkoof hai. Kaptaan hamara maamu bana hua hai, jaise ki dusvi class ka student ho."



Taking the Mickey out of Pakistan

During a conversation with this paper on the eve of the India versus Pakistan match, former Pakistan opener Shoaib Mohammad had raved, "When I look at the Australian dressing-room, I see Justin Langer and Ricky Ponting sitting there. The Indian dressing room has Shastris. Why should we go for foreign coaches?" Noone seems to like Mickey (Arthur) in the house.

Shoaib, the great Hanif Mohammad's son, who played 45 Tests and 63 ODIs, is said to be close to the current Pakistan Prime Minister — a carry-over of the old cricket camaraderie. He says current players are not so great compared to previous Pakistan teams. "It's down to talent nurturing, because the coaches that we have across levels, including Mickey Arthur, are "unmitigated failures" in their respective cricket careers. We had a fielding coach (Shahid Aslam) for the senior team for over 10 years who played only 17 first-class matches. Arthur, too, never played international cricket. They might be Level 1, 2 or 3-certified coaches, but unless you have international cricket experience, how would you know the pressure of playing in front of 100,000 fans? This is the reason why our cricket has dropped to 'ground zero' level," Shoaib went on, no-



FANS OF HUMOUR

While former players and pundits lambasted the performance of the team against India, Pakistan fans turned to self-deprecation, winning the internet with one-liners such as: "Virat Kohli ki body language se pata lag raha hay ke larka kaptaan hay. Sarfraz looks like someone woke him up for sehri 5 mins before azaan." Reuters

holds-barred.

He spared Sarfraz though. "I have heard a lot of conspiracy theories against Sarfraz. He should be given more authority instead. His body language shows he has been told off by somebody or the other." The ex-opener, though, has no sympathy for the coach, Arthur. "Mickey Arthur is there just for the sake of being there. He is just enjoying his time."

Burgers, pizzas, gulab jamun, but no win on menu

Momin Saqib was student union president at King's College, London in 2017, but has spent two subsequent summers being Pakistan cricket's most vocal cheerleader and after the loss to India on Sunday, the team's biggest jilted lover. His interview where he declared with certainty that the Pakistani team had spent match-eve eating "burger aur pizze" (burgers and pizzas) has gone viral for the breathless rant. His fulminating flagellation then included suggestions like taking them to Lahore and stuffing the burger-pizza eating gluttons with parathas and kadaai, because their lack of sincerity had meant they didn't know how many calories to consume. In fact, Saqib bellowed, if they had to eat icecream, they ought to all work at Hugo icecream. His fury melted into sobs, adding gulab jamuns and sheesha to the ever-expanding pre-match Pak menu which had led to their "big stomachs" and lame performance.

Saqib in fact, had gained fame, last summer when after Pakistan's 9-wicket win at Lord's over England, he had gushed how he hoped the successful players would play cricket till 40 and be blessed with 10 kids each. Warning preciently that if the team improved its fitness, the World Cup team could "beat India by 17 wickets, England by 3 goals and even win in Antarctica" as he raved on. So the heartbreak was a tirade.

"Hamein mohabbat hain inse," he reassured, "Hum support karenge par mohabbat two-way hoti hai. Do jagah se chalti hai," he added, baring the full force of betrayal, before he urged everyone to flog him. His brother Bilal, who had taken off his sunglasses and wiped his tears, proceeded to wear the shades himself and when urged, punched him once or twice. Earlier, the motormouth who insisted on shredding his team within limits of respect ("respect ke element mein reहेke"), had trolled Saif Ali Khan when he was entering the stadium, calling him "Indian team ka 11th waterboy, who in two movies had killed many Pakistanis and admirably fought for his country." Captain Sarfraz, who he suspected was on sleeping pills (The Yawn), was paid no compliments.

The Mohsin mise-en-scene

Pakistan TV's popular cricket show 'Game on hai' seemed to have planned a sarcastic opening after Sunday's game. "Kya mashallah cricket khela Pakistan ne. Brutal, brutal, brutal," says the anchor. The act didn't last for too long. The pundit switched to brutal mode very soon. The slightly tempered voice on the panel was that of former Pakistan opener Mohsin Khan. Exactly three decades back, at 18, he was seen in JP Dutta's Batwara playing an upright cop opposite Poonam Dhillon. At 48, he can easily be flown to Mumbai for character roles. Bollywood's euphemism for Babuji casting. Listening to him, you know why JP had an eye for talent. Mohsin's comments have the right poise and pauses.

He is only one on air, showing sympathy towards the much-maligned Sarfraz. If the rest of the panel had their way, they would sack the captain, senior players, administrators and selectors. Even Khan saab, Pakistan PM, finds a mention. Mohsin, meanwhile, talks

about his time as coach when Pakistan under Misbah ul Haq defeated England. That's when Shoaib Akhtar turns the television studio into a Pakistan board conference room of sorts. From sacking the coach, they are now selecting one. "If we built your case, Mohsinbhai will you be interested in coaching Pakistan?" Akhtar asks point blank. Mohsin hums and haws. He remains non-committal. The anchor announces a break with a quiz question. The winner is promised an iPhone 7.

After the break Mohsinbhai seems to have made up his mind. He interjects since the discussion has moved on. "I want to say one thing. People of Pakistan know my record as a player, coach and chief selector. If the cricket board needs me I will give my dil and jaan," he announces dramatically. He also squeezes in a line that would have made a screenwriter proud. "Mai maangta hun toh sirf Allah se. Mai ek sajda karta hun, mai hazaron sajde nahi karta. (I only ask Allah. I only pray to one, I don't pray to thousands)," says an emotional Mohsin. Others shake heads, the mood is sombre. Actually, the only time, there was a hint of smile on the faces of the panelists was when the anchor asked the quiz question. "How many wickets did Aqib Javed take in the 1991 Sharjah game against India?" he had asked. For the record, he took 7, that's 2 more than Sarfraz's entire bowling unit against India on Sunday.

FAQ1. What is a Raillu Katta? (rei-loo ka-tta)

The cricket they dished out on Sunday may have been mired in mediocrity, but Pakistan's wit game on Sunday was top-notch. And thanks to them, we might have had a new entry in our cricketing dictionary: raillu katta.

The phrase was all over social media after it was first floated by the country's prime minister, and former WC winning



captain, Imran Khan. "In order to have a winning offensive strategy Sarfraz must go in with specialist batsmen and bowlers because 'Raillu Kattas' rarely perform under pressure," Imran wrote in one of his tweets addressed to captain Sarfraz Ahmed moments before the toss.

Translated literally, it means a wandering buffalo calf (raillu: wanderer; katta: calf) that has become overweight and is of no use. Now, Pakistani players may have looked like wandering calves on field but in cricketing context, it refers to players who do not bring much to the table.

It is a common term used in street cricket in Pakistan. If the teams are of uneven size, because of odd number of players, one player gets to play for both sides to ensure there is a semblance of balance. Usually, he is the weakest link — last to be picked; a bits and pieces player who doesn't specialise in anything. The phrase from Indian gully cricket that comes close to it is kutchha limbu.

Raillu Katta seems to be Imran's pet phrase. He's used it several times before, most notably to describe the foreign players in Pakistan Super League. Addressing a large gathering in 2017, he said, laughing scornfully: "Agar Super League organise kami ho toh... hum bahar se quality playeron ko bulaengey. Hum raillu katton ko Pakistan nahi bulaeengey."

Shoaib Akhtar was quick to follow Imran's lead and called Sarfraz a raillu katta. Elsewhere on social media, the verdict was unanimous: Shoaib Malik, Imad Wasim, Imam ul-Haq were all raillu kattas.

Uber answer to 'How to ask Why'

Broadcasters in India have a relatively easy job: the team does well, plenty of centuries or crucial wickets to highlight and praise to the sky. But imagine the task on the other side of the border. Fakhr-e-Alam, also the first Pakistani to circumnavigate the Earth, video jockey and singer, an award winning actor and PTV Sports presenter sheds some light via twitter.

"Going for POST MATCH on @PTVSp0rts in 15 minutes don't know how to go about it. Should I pretend it's all ok and just another bad day at the office for our team or should I raise the raging questions that angry Pakistani fans have around the world? You all tell me... #PAKvIND"

En route to the studio, he got one key suggestion to his problem. "The gentleman driving me to the studio this morning said he doesn't care about the rest of the World Cup matches and team Pakistan. The team should stay back in UK & drive Uber. That's how bad the heartbreak is for a cricket loving nation."

We were a good team in 90's, now India are better: Sarfraz

NEGATIVE TRUST OF INDIA
MANCHESTER, JUNE 17

PAKISTAN CAPTAIN Sarfraz Ahmed has reconciled to the fact that they "were a better team than India in the 90's" and now the tables have turned. The soft-spoken Pakistan captain was literally hounded by his country's media with a host of uncomfortable questions following the team's heavy defeat against India here on Sunday.

Asked if the Indo-Pak rivalry has fizzled out over the years, Sarfraz said: "We are not handling pressure well. The team that handles pressure in these games win. The Pakistan teams of the 90's, used to enjoy upper hand but now India is better than Pakistan. That's why they win matches."

Prime Minister Imran Khan's advice was "bat first even if the pitch is damp" but Sarfraz Khan doggedly defended his decision, saying the reason for defeat was "failure in all three departments".

The Pakistan Prime Minister and an iconic World Cup winning captain, in a series of tweets on the marquee clash, had spoken about the right approach for the high-pressure game.

"The whole team is not performing well in all three departments. If you talk about fielding, even Virat Kohli had said that he would have fielded. We haven't seen the pitch for two days. There was some moisture and hence I decided on fielding. We won a good toss but didn't hit the right length," said Sarfraz.

A defeat against India inevitably gives rise to conspiracy theories and the post match media interaction was no different.

"Why is it that the players' body language is so negative?" asked one of the scribes. The manner in which Sarfraz kept his counsel was remarkable.

"Maybe you guys have seen something in the body language but fielders are trying their best. Their has been fielding lapses. Rohit could have been run-out twice and had we availed those chances, it could have been a different result."

Another one asked, "Have all players been physically and mentally fit to take on India?" "There are no issues with anyone. Imad Wasim (gastric problem) had an issue but everyone had passed the fitness test. Now that we have lost, you can raise the issue."

The third person's query was about what happened to agitated Mohammed Amir gesticulating to media manager Raza Kitchlew.

"I didn't see anything. Maybe he was angry because he was trying to get wickets which he didn't get," Sarfraz reasoned.

He also clarified on the alleged rift in the dressing room with seniors like Mohammed Hafeez and Shoaib Malik being unhappy with his leadership. "There are no ill-feelings in the dressing room. The boys are backing each other. As far as why I didn't give Hafeez and Shoaib more than an over, it is because I felt there was no need for that. The batsmen were set and they went for runs (11 each) in the only over that they bowled."

We are not handling pressure well. The team that handles pressure in these games win. The Pakistan teams of the 90's, used to enjoy upper hand but now India is better than Pakistan. That's why they win matches."

SARFRAZ AHMED
PAKISTAN CAPTAIN

Warner yet to take Ferrari for a spin: Waugh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON, JUNE 17

FORMER AUSTRALIA captain Steve Waugh feels that David Warner has been playing in "second gear" and is yet take "the ferrari for a spin" in this ongoing World Cup. Warner has so far hit two fifties and a century but Waugh says the explosive opener is yet to reach his destructive best in this World Cup and the semifinals will be the right platform for him to "test the engine out".

"What's daunting for teams yet to face Australia is the notion that Warner hasn't yet taken the Ferrari for a spin on the freeway," Waugh wrote in a column for the ICC. "He has been idling away in second gear waiting for the right moment to put the foot down. Perhaps the semi-finals will be the occasion to test the engine out." Waugh also heaped praise on skipper Aaron Finch for leading from the front with a strokeful 153 against Sri Lanka.

"To win a World Cup your captain needs to lead from the front, either by actions or in words. Right now Aaron Finch is excelling in both. He has remained calm and composed off the field in dealing with the media and has unquestionably been the premier batsman of the tournament so far while controlling the tempo of the matches nicely with his leadership," Waugh wrote. "His innings against Sri Lanka looked destined for a big number from ball one. Together with David Warner they are forging a dominant combination, complementing each other and setting a solid platform for the remainder of the order."

Roy will recover and play a big role at World Cup: Morgan

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MANCHESTER, JUNE 17

AN INJURY to Jason Roy has brought the name Alex Hales back into the frame for England at the Cricket World Cup.

It's a name that was rubbed off the home team's list ahead of the World Cup for what England officials delicately described as an off-field issue.

England captain Eoin Morgan responded last month to Hales being "deselected" by saying the right-hander showed a disregard for team values and "this has created a lack of trust between Alex and the team."

Now, Hales may well be needed. Roy and Morgan were injured — but didn't need to bat — in England's eight-wicket win over West Indies last Friday, and are recovering at a different pace.

England team management on Monday confirmed Roy would miss at least two games this week against Afghanistan and Sri Lanka after scans showed a muscle tear in his left hamstring. Morgan said his back problem had settled down and he expected to be OK.

Questions at the pre-match news conferences centered on Roy, and which players are in contention to replace the destructive opening batsman if he doesn't recover in time for important games next week against defending champion Australia and 2011 champion India.

James Vince will be recalled to the XI to open with Jonny Bairstow against Afghanistan at Old Trafford on Tuesday, with Joe Root reverting to No. 3 despite scoring an unbeaten century when he opened against West Indies.

That's this week's solution. But what



ROFL: England pacer Jofra Archer, laughing all the way to wickets, has recorded three three-wicket hauls in four matches so far. Reuters

happens if Roy has to be cut from the 15-man squad? Hales was the established opener before he was suspended initially for his part in a street brawl also involving England teammate Ben Stokes in September 2017.

Roy and Bairstow forged a winning combination, relegating Hales to a backup role. After the second disciplinary suspension last month, he was cut entirely from the squad.

His management company, 366 Group, last month said Hales was "devastated" after being withdrawn from the World Cup squad, saying England cricket authorities had gone back on assurances that the sus-

pension wouldn't adversely impact on his selection.

366 said Hales underwent rehabilitation measures imposed following his suspension and had apologized.

Morgan, who was critical of Hales' actions last month, was asked if enough time had passed for senior players to be comfortable about having Hales back. He deferred to selector Ed Smith.

"It would be a case of speaking to Ed because ultimately Ed gets the final call and say on who is involved in the 15," Morgan said, "and then addressing how that would look in a changing room setup, yeah."

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS

ENG VS AFG

3 pm onwards from Old Trafford

WEATHER FORECAST
Passing showers

For now, though, Morgan is focusing on Roy returning to fitness so that England doesn't need to call for reinforcements.

"I certainly believe Jason will play again in this tournament," Morgan said. "If not (against) Australia, maybe the following game."

Roy limped off after injuring his leg while fielding early in the match against the West Indies. He missed the latter stage of England's ODI series in the Caribbean in February and March, and more time for his country team.

But England is keeping Roy around the squad because of his ability to take bowling attacks apart and his integral role in the evolution of the ODI squad since its group-stage exit at the 2015 World Cup.

He averages 42 in 80 one-day internationals and his 180 against Australia in Melbourne last year is England's ODI record. He scored 54 in the World Cup opener against South Africa and 153 against Bangladesh in Cardiff.

"He's obviously a huge part of what we've been doing. He's in the best form of his life. So he's very important," Morgan said. "There's a reason we'd keep him around. One, obviously is he's a very key player, but

two is there's a very optimistic chance of him playing."

Top-ranked England is playing Australia at Lord's next Tuesday and then takes on No. 2-ranked India five days later in Birmingham, two games which are a critical test of the host team's status as the title favorite.

Afghans undaunted

Playing against the top-ranked side on its home soil isn't more daunting for Afghanistan skipper Gulbadin Naib than any other game at the Cricket World Cup.

"Yeah, it's good luck for us Jason Roy is not playing tomorrow," Naib said. "Roy is one of the best players in the world now in the last two years. He's one of the world-class, best players."

"England is a strong side, it's a home side, so everything is going England's side... (but) we're here to make some good upsets."

Afghanistan's game plan isn't a secret, with its bowling attack built around a spin department led by Rashid Khan. Afghanistan had some important wins over Sri Lanka and Pakistan and a draw with India last year at the Asia Cup, and beat West Indies to clinch top spot in the World Cup qualifying tournament.

The step-up to the 10-team World Cup competition has been an experience Naib believes his squad is benefiting from.

Conditions on the wickets at Bristol, Cardiff and Taunton haven't been ideal for Afghanistan's spinners so far, but Naib is expecting Old Trafford to be different.

"Rashid is (an) attacking bowler. Every time, he's attacking," Naib said. "Spin is one of the high success rates of the Afghanistan team. If a little bit of spin there, maybe it's a good day for Afghanistan!"

BRIEFLY

33 Russians face doping allegations

Thirty-three Russian athletes from a range of sports face doping cases for using banned treatments from a doctor, the Russian anti-doping agency said Monday. The agency, known as RUSADA, plans to file cases against 19 track and field competitors — two of them athletes with disabilities — as well as five cyclists, a boxer and a gymnast. The athletes haven't been named, but RUSADA deputy CEO Margarita Pakhnotskaya told The Associated Press some were national team members. All of the athletes in the new Russian case are from a sports academy in Chuvashia in central Russia, a region known for its track and field squads. **AP**

Delhi Half Marathon winner in dope net

Jyoti Singh, who won elite women's half marathon gold in the New Delhi Marathon earlier this year, has tested positive for a banned substance, the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) said Monday. Jyoti, who had clocked 1 hour 22 minutes and 20 seconds to win the race, was placed under provisional suspension on May 14. The race was held here on February 24. She is set to be stripped of the gold she had won. "If it is true, she will be stripped of her gold. The silver winner will be upgraded to gold," race director Nagaraj Adiga said. The NADA also said that 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games gold medalist weightlifter K Ravi Kumar has been provisionally suspended for testing positive for a banned substance. **PTI**

Lyngdoh reunites with Bengaluru FC

After spending two seasons with ATK, Eugeneson Lyngdoh returned to his former team Bengaluru FC with the club Monday announcing the signing of the midfielder on a one-year deal. The 32-year-old midfielder once again will join the Indian Super League (ISL) champions after a two-year stint with Kolkata-side ATK, who had signed the Shillong-born playmaker during the ISL draft in 2017. Lyngdoh became Bengaluru's third Indian signing for the season after youngsters Prabhukhan Singh Gill and Suresh Wangiam. "Ever since I first signed for Bengaluru FC I knew I was making the right decision. Now that I am here again I want to relive those moments and create new ones. I am looking forward to being back on the pitch and fighting for titles once again," Lyngdoh said. **PTI**

Totti hits out at Roma management

Former Roma captain Francesco Totti left his position within the club's management in a move that will increase fan opposition to the team's American owner. While he has been a technical director since retiring from playing, Totti said he was left out of decisions about the hiring and firing of coaches and moves in the player transfer market. "I never had the chance to express myself. They never involved me," Totti said. "The first year that can happen but by the second (year) I understood what they wanted to do... They knew of my desire to offer a lot to this squad but they never wanted it. They kept me out of everything. "It's a day that I hoped never would have come," Totti added in a news conference at the Italian Olympic Committee. **AP**

Steering through choppy waters

France captain Renard's World Cup campaign started with a brace and was followed by a blunder but she hopes to end it with a title

CHRISTOPHER CLAREY
NICE, JUNE 17

Wendie Renard, the tallest player in the World Cup, put her left hand at eye level.

"One day you are up here," she said. Renard then moved her hand downward, much closer to the floor. "And the next day you are down here," she said.

The first two matches of the World Cup have been an emotional roller coaster for Renard, the 6-foot-1 central defender who is one of the stars and locker-room leaders of France's team. On opening night in Paris, Renard leapt higher than all opposition — twice — to score with headers off corner kicks in France's resounding 4-0 victory over South Korea. On Wednesday, in a much edgier 2-1 victory over Norway in Nice, Renard made perhaps the biggest gaffe of the tournament so far: scoring the first own goal of her international career with a mystifying poke with the inside of her right foot that tied the score at 1-1. No Norwegian player was in particularly close range, and Renard appeared to have ample time to make a better decision.

"It hurt me, and it could really have hurt us psychologically as a group," she said afterward, making no attempt to dodge responsibility.

But the mistake ultimately did not hurt the team's bottom line: Les Bleues bounced back in Nice to score the decisive goal on a penalty kick by Eugénie Le Sommer.

Soon after Le Sommer converted the penalty, Renard lifted her high in the air, feeling a complex mix of delight, relief and gratitude. "I just wanted to say, 'Merci,' simply merci," Renard said.

Le Sommer and the other French players were quick to show support for Renard, and on Sunday, France's coach, Corinne Diacre, emphasized that solidarity on the eve of France's final group match, against Nigeria in Rennes on Monday. France has already qualified for the knockout round but has yet to secure first place in Group A, which would keep them on track to face the United States in the quarterfinals. "Wendie has recovered from this mistake, which could happen to anyone," Diacre said. "She is someone who is competitive, someone who doesn't like to make this kind of error, but she's moved on, and the group has shown her a lot of empathy."

For Diacre, the 28-year-old Renard can be a sensitive subject. A former defender herself, Diacre took charge of the French team in 2017 and ultimately chose to take the captaincy away from Renard and give the role to Amandine Henry, a midfielder who once played in the United States and who now plays with Renard for Olympique Lyonnais, the dominant women's club team in Europe.

Renard and Henry are the two highest-paid French women's players in the world, according to France Football, with annual salaries of 360,000 euros, or about \$403,000, for Henry and €348,000 for Renard.



Wendie Renard, the 6-foot-1 central defender, is among the highest-paid French women players, picking up €348,000 in salaries. Reuters

Lloyd, US open up last-16 race

NICE: CHINA ARE among the sides hoping to clinch a place in the last 16 of the women's World Cup on Monday after seeing veteran Carli Lloyd inspire the United States to a 3-0 win over Chile in Paris that cleared the holders' passage to the knockout phase. Eight places in the last 16 are still up for grabs heading into the final round of group matches, and former runners-up China meet Spain in Le Havre at 1600 GMT with the two teams still hoping to progress from Group B.

Both have beaten tournament debutants South Africa and lost to former champions Germany, and a draw at the Stade Oceane would be enough for each to

Renard, with her deep voice and commanding presence, remains Lyon's captain, which means playing for France is not only an adjustment for her but for her club teammates, including Henry, who make up the core of the national squad.

"I don't want to talk about that anymore," Renard said in March, in an interview with the French newspaper L'Équipe. "I've moved on to other things. I have a title that is waiting for me and the jersey of my country, which I have never betrayed or sullied, is more important than anything that's been done to me."

Renard was born and raised on the French island of Martinique in the Caribbean. As a girl, she competed in soccer primarily with boys, and she also played handball. She made it her goal to play for Les Bleues after the French men's team won the World Cup in 1998. At age 7, she watched that final against Brazil on television with her father, Georges, who would die of lung cancer later that year. Renard says that she is thinking of her father when she looks skyward as the French national anthem is played before matches, and she dedicated her two goals against South Korea to his memory. "He is listening," she said in the interview with L'Équipe. "He is protecting his daughter, his children. I had a strong relationship with him." Renard moved to the French mainland at age 16 to pursue her soccer dream and initially failed to make the cut at the French national training center in Clairefontaine. But she was accepted into Lyon's developmental program and has become an institution at the club, helping to win 13 straight French league titles and six Champions League crowns, including the last four in a row.

Seven of France's 11 starters against South Korea play for Lyon, including Le Sommer, Henry and right wing Delphine Cascarino. But the most significant crossover is on defense, with goalkeeper Sarah Bouhaddi, left back Amel Majri and central defenders Renard and Griedge Mbock Bathy all starting for both teams. "That familiarity made Renard's mis-

progress, bearing in mind the four best third-placed teams all go through.

"We want to be in the last 16 and we want to do it by beating China. We are not wasting any time thinking about what could happen other than what we have to do," said Spain coach Jorge Vilda.

Already through, Germany need only a point against South Africa in Montpellier to secure top spot in the group and thereby avoid any prospect of meeting the USA in the last 16. Meanwhile, France coach Corinne Diacre is expected to change up her starting XI with the hosts already through ahead of their meeting with Nigeria in Rennes. **AFP**

cue against Norway all the more unlikely.

"The cross came in, I knew there was one forward left," Renard said. "Amel said something to me, and I didn't understand too well. To be safe, I kicked the ball out to give them a corner kick and it ended up in the net. It was not a good look."

Ada Hegerberg, the Norwegian forward who also stars for Lyon and is sitting out this World Cup, considers Renard and Mbock the "best central defender duo in the world."

"It's as if they don't need to speak to know what the other is going to do," Hegerberg wrote this week in France Football. "What characterizes them is the speed with which they challenge opponents and the care they take to quickly and effectively pass to the forwards. They are so technically sound but also have the ability to accelerate the team's rhythm when they get involved in the attack."

Both can score, too, but no player in this World Cup is as big and obvious a threat in the air as Renard, who in 110 appearances for France has scored 22 goals, mostly with headers. The Norwegians spent considerable practice time preparing to defend against her, at one point deploying the tallest man available to them, a team official, to play the role of Renard on corner kicks in training.

"I don't think there's anyone quite like her in the women's game, but I think we prepared very well for it," said Maren Mjelde, a 5-foot-5 central defender who is Norway's captain. "I know I'm not the tallest player, but I can be strong. I know I'm not going to win in the air against her, so I tried to stop her runs and get her out of her rhythm. Pretty much my goal and aim for the game was not to let her score."

It worked, at least in front of the goal the Norwegians were defending.

"I know what I've been through and where I come from," Renard said after her own goal. "And it's not because I made an error that it's going to weaken me. It happens, and we showed our togetherness, and we bounced back well." **NYT**

Suarez, Cavani score as Uruguay crush 10-man Ecuador at Copa

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
BELO HORIZONTE (BRAZIL), JUNE 17

LUIS SUAREZ and Edinson Cavani were on target as Uruguay thumped 10-man Ecuador 4-0 in their opening Group C match at the Copa America on Sunday.

Nicolas Lodeiro opened the scoring after just six minutes before Ecuador full-back Jose Quintero was dismissed for a flailing arm.

With a numerical advantage, Uruguay ran riot at the Mineirao stadium in Belo Horizonte as Cavani and Suarez netted before the break. The rout was completed 12 minutes from time with an Arturo Mina own goal. "We had chances in the first half, we managed to take them and that gave us the tranquility to manage the game," said Cavani, who finally scored his first Copa America goal in his fourth participation.

It was the ideal beginning for Uruguay in a tough Group C alongside champions Chile and guests Japan. "We're not as bad as that," lamented Ecuador's Colombian coach Hernan Dario Gomez. "It was a match that got away from us, especially in the first half when it got away from us in every aspect."

Uruguay were off to a dream start. Suarez crossed from the right and Lodeiro proved the coolest customer in the Mineirao stadium as he beat one defender with his chest control, flicked the ball over another and then hit a crisp, low volley into the bottom far corner. "We knew they would be very tough opponents. The important thing was start the game with maximum concentration and we managed that," said Cavani.

Uruguay were rampant and had the ball in the net soon afterwards only for Cavani to be given offside in the build-up.

Ecuador brought a physicality to the con-



Edinson Cavani after scoring his first-ever Copa America goal. Reuters

test that upset the Uruguayan players and Quintero was perhaps lucky to escape punishment when catching Diego Laxalt with an elbow in an aerial challenge.

But moments later, his arm made contact with Lodeiro's face when challenging for another header, this time drawing blood.

Brazilian referee Anderson Daronco - whose bulging arm muscles put even Ecuador's strapping players to shame - initially showed the full-back a yellow card but after consulting VAR, changed that to red.

That left Ecuador with a mountain to climb. On 27 minutes, Alexander Dominguez made a brilliant low save to turn behind Cavani's half-volley from 15 yards.

Paris Saint-Germain forward Cavani was denied again when Dominguez stunningly tipped his clever back-flick onto the post one-handed. But it was third time lucky on 33 minutes as Diego Godin headed the ball into the

danger area and Cavani acrobatically rasped a bicycle kick from seven yards past a helpless Dominguez, his 47th international goal.

Patient Uruguay

Nahitan Nandez wasted a good chance, shooting straight at Dominguez but Suarez put the game to bed a minute before the break, stealing in at the back post to poke home a flick-off from Martin Caceres.

With the game all but over as a contest, the second half was a damp squib of an affair. Uruguay had the ball in the net soon after the restart but Cavani was offside again.

Ecuador showed plenty of commitment, continuing to rough up Uruguay's more technical players, but never looked like they believed they would get anything out of the game. Uruguay looked content to play a patient possession game without pushing for more goals.

SHOE IN THE OTHER FOOT

Woodland outlasts two-time-defending champion Koepka to win US Open

NEW YORK TIMES
PEBBLE BEACH, JUNE 17

Gary Woodland, a college basketball player turned professional golfer, prevailed by three strokes in the 119th U.S. Open at Pebble Beach on Sunday. Woodland, who came into the tournament 0 for 30 in the majors, closed with a 2-under-par 69 and a 72-hole total of 13-under 271 to beat Brooks Koepka by three strokes. After holding the 54-hole lead for the first time in a major, Woodland came out on a cool, overcast afternoon and staved off challenges from three major winners: Koepka, Justin Rose and Adam Scott, who have spent a combined 37 weeks at the top of the men's world rankings.

Koepka, the two-time defending Open champion and world No. 1, made pars on the last six holes to post a 68 and fall just short in his bid to become the first person since William Anderson in 1905 to win three consecutive U.S. Opens. The 29-year-old Koepka had won four of his previous eight major starts, including the PGA Championship at

Bethpage Black on Long Island last month. He has finished first or second in his last four major starts, a streak of success that conjures comparisons to Tiger Woods in the early 2000s when he won six of 10 major starts in one stretch.

"Played aggressive, and it paid off," Woodland said, adding, "Didn't ever let myself think the tournament was over."

Xander Schauffele shot a 67 to share third with Jon Rahm (68), Chez Reavie (71) and Rose (74) at 7-under. Scott, who made an early charge with an eagle and two birdies in a front-nine 31, cooled off on the final nine and settled for a 68 and a tie for seventh, at 6-under, with the 2010 British Open champion, Louis Oosthuizen (72).

Rose, the 2013 champion, pulled even with Woodland with an opening birdie, but he bogeyed the second. He could not keep pace with Woodland, who played the first eight holes in 2-under to keep a charging Koepka at bay. Koepka began the day four strokes behind Woodland, who was winless the previous seven times he held the 54-hole lead in a tournament. Aided by eight one-putt greens,

Koepka played the first 11 holes in 4-under part to pull to a single stroke behind Woodland.

"All right, man, we've got a ball game now," Koepka said he was thinking. But despite shooting in the 60s all four rounds, Koepka could not keep up with Woodland, whose 69 equaled his highest score of the week.

"Props to him for the way he hung in there," Koepka said.

Woodland, who played basketball at Division II Washburn before transferring to Kansas for golf, said he learned how to control his adrenaline, contain his emotions and play within himself while paired with Woods in the final round of last year's PGA Championship. Woods ended up finishing second to Koepka in that contest, four strokes ahead of Woodland, whose tie for sixth was his best showing in a major until Sunday.

Woods, 43, a three-time Open champion, closed with a 69 to finish tied for 21st at 2-under. Woodland, a native Kansan, confessed Saturday that he never stood over the ball on practice greens as a youngster pretending he was putting to win his national championship. "I don't know if I spent any time on a put-

ting green when I was a kid," he said with a laugh. "I was too busy hitting driver."

Woodland, who had three PGA Tour victories in his first 10 years as a pro, is known as one of the game's longest hitters. During the past five seasons, he has ranked seventh to 13th on the tour in driving distance. He still has the eye-popping power, as he demonstrated Sunday on the 582-yard par-5 14th when he found the fairway with a 314-yard drive and, using a 5-wood, sent his second shot into the rough, just past pin-high. The chip shot was not easy, but Woodland pulled it off with ease, hitting to 3 feet and then making the birdie putt.

For all his length off the tee, the key to his success this week was his play in and around the greens. After his tee shot landed on the fringe, 91 feet from the green on the par-3 17th, Woodland chipped to 2 feet to save par. He then sank a 30-footer for birdie at No. 18 to punctuate a performance in which he scattered only four bogeys over 72 holes.

"I have a short game now I can rely on," Woodland said. "I don't have to focus on ball striking."



Gary Woodland sank a 30-foot putt to finish at 13-under for the tournament, beating Brooks Koepka by three strokes. USA TODAY Sports