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WOMAN WHO ACCUSED OBEROI OF 'RAPE' HELD FOR CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY 9

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Bihar fever death toll crosses 100, no quick solution in sight

Acute Shortage Of Docs, Hospital Beds, Medicines

Piyush Tripathi & Ajay Kumar Pandey | TNN

Patna/Muzaffarpur: Bihar's health crisis continued to worsen, with state government officials saying 103 children, almost all of them below 10, had died by Monday from what is medically known as acute encephalitis syndrome (AES). The children have perished in the past few weeks in Muzaffarpur from the brain disease, which has also been linked to toxins found in litchis. Between 2000 and 2010, over 1,000 children in the district succumbed to the infection, which leads to swelling in the head. The cause itself has eluded researchers, but experts say a deadly cocktail of heatwave, malnourishment and binge-eating litchi on an empty stomach is to be blamed for the high death toll this year. And the cure could



Three children share a bed at Muzaffarpur's SKMC Hospital

of heatwave, malnourishment and binge-eating litchi on an empty stomach is to be blamed for the high death toll this year. And the cure could

have been as simple as timely administration of glucose. Dr G S Sahni, head of pediatrics at Muzaffarpur-based Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH), where the majority of the AES cases are admitted, said it would not be prudent to blame litchi alone. "Then urban kids too should have fallen to the disease," he said. "In the past two decades, there have been barely four AES cases from urban pockets."

Poverty and malnutrition may hold the answer. Most of the children dying from AES belong to the poorest of the poor—the Mahadalit community, including Musahar and scheduled castes (SCs) — and most of them were malnourished.

► Continued on P9

Major killed, 3 hurt in J&K encounter

In 2nd Attack, 9 Soldiers Hurt In IED Blast In J&K

Saleem.Pandit@timesgroup.com

Srinagar: An Army Major died while another officer of the same rank and two soldiers were injured in a gunfight at Bidora village, in Achabal area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, on Monday, a defence spokesman said. A Pakistani terrorist was killed in the encounter. Major Ketan Sharma of 19 Rashtriya Rifles, who died in the Achabal encounter, hailed from Meerut. A police officer said they had found the body of a Pakistani terrorist and seized arms and ammunition from the encounter site. The identity of the slain terrorist was being ascertained.



A teary-eyed M Haseeb Mughal, SSP Srinagar, with the son of his colleague Arshad Khan who died in the terror attack in Anantnag

In another attack, at least nine Army soldiers were injured in an IED blast that targeted a security vehicle of 44 RR at Aarihal village in Pulwama on Monday evening. Those injured in the Achabal gunfight and IED blast were rushed to the Army's 92 Base hospital in Srinagar, officials said.

► Continued on P9

WB docs end strike after Mamata meet

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: Junior doctors in Bengal finally called off their week-long strike and promised to resume duty on Tuesday morning, ending a stir that crippled out patient departments (OPDs) and severely hit emergency services at hospitals across the state.

At a meeting held at state secretariat Nabanna on Monday evening, West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee told a team of 31 junior doctors, "Lakki chhele, ebar tomra strike tula nao (Please withdraw your strike like good boys)", which they agreed to. The "cordial" negotiations between the CM and doctors were broadcast live for about 100 minutes by two regional channels. The doctors, who had

Hospitals shut out patients in city

Most patients who visited government-run tertiary centres such as Gandhi Hospital, OGH and NIMS or private hospitals in the city found the out-patient services shut. While emergency services continued, there were delays, queues and chaos everywhere because of staff shortage. P2

adopted a strident posture against the administration for the initial police inaction against the kin of a bereaved patient at NRS Hospital last Monday (incident that triggered the stir) relented in the face of genuine-sounding assurances from the CM.

► Continued on P8

Bill in Senate to bring India on par with Nato allies

A Republican and a Democrat senator have moved legislation in the US Senate that seeks an amendment in US Arms Control Export Act to bring India on a par with the country's Nato allies when it comes to sale of high-tech military items. If enacted by the Senate, it will further institutionalise the recent designation of India as a major defence partner of the US. P8

Jet insolvency process to start

After failing in their efforts to find a buyer for Jet Airways, lenders have decided to start insolvency proceedings against the grounded airline. SBI had received only a conditional bid, subject to lenders arranging for regulatory exemption on open offer. P14

PM's outreach to Oppn: Your every word counts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Urging the opposition to stop worrying about numbers, PM Modi on Monday said every word of the opposition was important and all efforts should be made for a "nishpaksh" (non-partisan) approach to issues of public welfare and the larger interest of India.

His remarks at the start of the first session of the 17th Lok Sabha echo his announcement on Sunday of a meeting of leaders of all parties and an informal interaction of MPs in what is seen as a bid to break the ice after a bitter poll campaign. "The opposition should stop worrying about numbers. The people have given them a certain number. Every word of the opposition is important. When it comes to Parliament, we should forget the ruling side and opposi-

Ruckus in House over Pragya's oath

BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur's reference to the name of her guru with hers while taking oath drew protests from opposition benches and briefly held up proceedings, leading BJP MPs to raise "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" each time one of them took oath. P 8

tion. We should think of issues with a 'nishpaksh' spirit and work in the larger interest of the people," Modi said. The Prime Minister said an active and effective opposition is a necessity in a democracy and pointed out that a well-argued and factual criticism of the government strengthens democracy.

► Continued on P8

Nadda is BJP working prez, Shah to stay party chief

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Ending speculation over the appointment of a working president, the BJP parliamentary board on Monday appointed former health minister

and senior leader Jagat Prakash Nadda to the post even as home minister Amit Shah will continue to be party president.

Nadda's appointment as working president was on the cards after he was not inducted into the government.

► Continued on P8

Driver kills couple for cash on way to K'taka

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: A 76-year-old city-based landlord and his wife, who were missing since June 12, were found to have been murdered near Humnabad in Karnataka allegedly by their driver for the money and gold the couple were carrying. The decomposed bodies of P Navratan Reddy (76) and Snehalata Reddy (72) were recovered on Sunday from Anantagiri Hills where it had been dumped a kilometre apart in the wee hours of July 13. Driver Satish and his accomplice Rahul were arrested on Monday and Rs 5 lakh and 25 tola gold seized from them.

The murder came to light after the couple's four US-based children didn't receive any calls for several days and they alerted family members in the



Navratan Reddy & Snehalata

city who then approached cops. Reddy owned about 40 acres in Patancheru and over 55 acres in Humnabad (Bidar). He had been travelling frequently between Hyderabad and Humnabad to his rented place to oversee the development of his land. On the night of June 12 to 13, Reddy and his wife had started from their home at BHEL in their Innova with driver Satish. The couple slept during the journey.

► Continued on P3

AP family of 4 found shot in US; probe on

Ujwal.Bommakanti@timesgroup.com

Vijayawada: Mystery shrouds the death of four members of a Telugu family who were shot and killed at their home in West Des Moines city, Iowa, in the US on Saturday. Sunkara Chandrasekhar (44), his wife Lavanya (41) and their two sons aged 15 and 10, were shot and killed, a police statement said. The family was originally from Tsundur in Andhra Pradesh's Guntur district and were living in the US for at least the past two decades.

On Saturday at around 10 am, a local resident contacted the emergency number 911 after being informed about gun shots being heard in Chandrasekhar's house. Police officials, who rushed to the spot, found the four lying dead with



Chandrasekhar

gunshot wounds. Sources close to the family said that they had moved into the house only in March. A family friend, who is also a member of Telugu Association of North America (TANA), told TOI on condition of anonymity that Chandrasekhar has been suffering from depression for a while and that there might have been a dispute in the family.

In an Instagram post, local police explained that at the time of the shooting other family members, including two adults and two children, were living in the house as guests.

► Continued on P6

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TROUBLE IN STORE FOR COMMUTERS THIS MONSOON AS WORK YET TO BEGIN ON 80-KM LENGTH OF ROADS | 4

WAIT FOR RAIN GETS LONGER, MONSOON LIKELY TO HIT TELANGANA AFTER JUNE 27 | 6



■ Patients At Receiving End Of Docs' Strike ■ Many Go Without Food, Water Due To Long Wait ■ Accident Victims Wait In Scorching Heat

Emergency wards open, treatment doors shut



After hrs of wait, patients return without treatment

Amrita.Didyala@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Hundreds of patients who visited government-run tertiary centres such as Gandhi Hospital, Osmania General Hospital (OGH), Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS), Niloufer Hospital and Government ENT Hospital, were denied treatment as out-patient services remained completely shut. While emergency services continued at all hospitals, there were delays, queues and chaos everywhere because of staff shortage.

Private facilities, too, largely remained out of bounds (except for emergency services). As a result, hundreds of patients had to return without treatment. While many others stood in queues for hours together, patients with medical emergency too, had to wait for one to two hours amid the chaos.

Sanjeev Singh Yadav, state secretary of Indian Medical Association, said, "Participation from private and corporate sector hospitals in the strike, including small-time clinics, was almost absolute on Monday." In addition to strike over assaults on doctors, junior doctors are protesting against the state government's decision to increase retirement age of faculty.

At many places, there were delays in arranging stretchers and taking patients inside the hospitals. Among them was 40-year-old Mahender, a paralysis patient who was made to wait at the entrance of Gandhi Hospital in the out-patient ward for almost an hour as there wasn't enough staff or doctors to at-

Protests rock corporate hosps

Doctors organised protests at corporate hospitals, IMA office and government hospitals. They took out a rally to Afzalgunj from OGH and enacted askit to show their plight. The Telangana chapter of Cardiology Society of India also took part in the strike. "Violence against medical professionals should be dealt with severe punishment," its president Dr Kondal Rao said. Maxivision Eye Hospitals suspended OP services and put surgeries on hold. "Criminal charges must be initiated on those who resort to attacks," said Dr Kasu Prasad Reddy, founder, Maxivision. TNN

tend to him. The patient, a migrant worker from Nalgonda, was seen lying helpless in the hospital premises till the staff arrived an hour later.

There were others who had already been turned away by one or two other hospitals. A paralysis patient, Mallesh K, who was turned away from the area hospital in Malakpet and government Unani hospital at Charminar, reached OGH on Monday morning complaining of giddiness and extreme discomfort. Suresh K, who accompanied his mother, and father Mallesh from Nalgonda, said: "We came to Hyderabad three days ago and after visiting two hospitals, we were redirected here. We have been going from room-to-room from morning,

Docs at pvt hosps wore black badges

OP services in private hospitals were affected and patients had to return home without seeing the doctor. "As protest was in the morning, we thought services will resume by afternoon. But, doctors continued their protest," said Ronak Bhati at a private hospital in Banjara Hills. "I came from Ibrahimpatnam to get my son treated. But, services did not resume even after four hours of waiting," said Shanker Rao at a private hospital in Hyderguda. Private hospitals displayed boards reading 'Stop violence against doctors', while doctors wore black badges. —Nabinder Bommala

but there is no clarity on what to do. My father cannot be admitted as there are no doctors."

Patients who had travelled to the city from far off locations such as Mahabubnagar, Nalgonda, Warangal and other states, too, were left in the lurch as they were unaware of the strike and had already been given Monday's date for consultation. Several patients and their attendants were seen crying as they went without food or water in the queues. At several places in the hospitals, volunteers of Helping Hand Foundation were seen outside OPDs, counselling patients and their attendants to come back on Tuesday for consultation. (With inputs from Moulika KV)



IN SUPPORT OF SAFETY AT THE WORKPLACE: Wearing bandage on their hands, with placards in hands, doctors took part in rallies across the city on Monday, bringing out-patient services at most hospitals to a standstill

Suffering for those from far-flung areas

Moulika.KV@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: As the medical fraternity across the twin cities came together demanding that assault on medical professionals be made a non-bailable offence, protests at Gandhi Hospital caused untold sufferings to out-patients, many of whom came from districts and other states.

One among them was a 28-year-old accident victim, B Rajashakar from Karnataka. Rajashakar, who came with his wife to avail treatment for his injured leg, was shocked at the non-availability of doctors.

"We are waiting in the sun with all our luggage from 9 in the morning. It is 1pm now, and we received no help whatsoever. We are new to the city, and do not know where else to go. I cannot even walk on my own. Where do I go?" he asked. Those from far-flung areas had a harrowing time accessing medical facilities.

R Satyanarayana (42), who came from Kurnool, had suffered serious injuries to his leg, forehead and face in an accident last week, and was made to wait in the scorching heat for two ho-

Niloufer staff delay general services

Hyderabad: As OP services were shut at Niloufer Hospital, several staffers assumed that doctors went for a strike and delayed general services sending emergency services for a toss. A woman had to wait for more than 20 minutes for her two-day-old child to be shifted from the ambulance to emergency ward. She was attended by staffers only after she yelled at them. "The situation here is pathetic," said Saba Tabassum Begum, who came from Jeedimetla. "You are not doing me a favour; you are doing your job," she was heard telling the staffers. Niloufer superintendent, Dr V Muralikrishna, said emergency services were running, and situation under control. —Nabinder Bommala

Pregnant women badly hit

Moulika.KV@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Pregnant women were among those worst-affected on Monday. B Kumari, an expecting mother, said, "I could go into labour any day now. I'm terrified there may not be doctors to help me." As services at gynaecology block in Gandhi Hospital's OPD were suspen-

ded, many pregnant women were turned away. "I had complications in my previous delivery and I know how important these visits to the doctor are," said R Jhansi. Nurses said they are requesting patients to come back another day. "Doctors are on strike, but we are guiding the patients," said a nurse on condition of anonymity.

BE IT SEIZURES, HEAD INJURY OR FOR CHANGING THE DRESSING, PEOPLE'S CRY FOR HELP WENT UNHEARD

Double whammy for daily wage labourers

Amrita.Didyala@timesgroup.com

Mohammad Jaffer sat outside the dressing room at OGH for close to five hours. The plaster on his one-and-half-month-old son's right foot needed to be changed. But with no doctor in sight, the daily wage labourer was caught in a dilemma — whether to keep waiting or come back another day, thus forgoing another day's wages.

"My son was born with a defect in inclination of the right foot....We have been asked to come every week to change the plaster. We were given today's date, so I came but there are no doctors. I have already lost today's earnings and not sure how to feed my family tomorrow. If I have to come back another day, I will again lose my daily wage,"

the helpless father said, who had come to the hospital along with his wife Rubina, son and mother-in-law. With no food and water, his wife even took ill during the day.

Several other daily wagers, including construction workers and agricultural labourers, at OGH were either found waiting endlessly or returning dejected.

Sheikh Mastan from Guntur, was one among them. Not only did he wait the entire day only to be told that he wouldn't be attended to by a doctor, but he even lost his bus fare. "I had come with ₹500 hoping to get treatment (for lumbar disc injury), but I am not sure what to do next. I have not even been given the next date for treatment. How can I come back again without any clarity. It costs my entire savings of a week," said the agricultural labourer.



Chaos, loud noises add to distress of patients

Amrita.Didyala@timesgroup.com

Continuous protests on campus, added to the distress of patients already reeling under severe pain and anxiety. Shaken by the chaos, many were seen weeping inconsolably.

"Why is there so much of shouting all around. Where are the doctors," asked a panic-stricken, Samina Begum, who came to OGH on experiencing severe headache. While the hypoglycemia patient was allowed inside the casualty ward and even given treatment after a period of waiting, the loud noises threw her completely off guard. Even while

waiting in the queue, Samina was seen sweating profusely.

Umesh Singh was another example. He was already in acute distress when he landed at the hospital with a deep wound on his head and panicked further on finding no doctor to go to. On spotting him crying, some volunteers assisted him and brought him to casualty ward. There was no suturing material handy and attendants had no one to get the required material. "I have no one with me. My family did this to me," Singh kept saying, in between, his sobs. He too complained of acute headache.

15-yr-old with seizures waits under the sun

Moulika.KV@timesgroup.com

Fifteen-year-old Prasanna was lying on the stretcher outside the OP ward of Gandhi Hospital for more than an hour, waiting for doctors to attend to her. The sun was beating down hard and she burst into tears seeing her mother struggling to get help.

Prasanna arrived at OP ward on Monday morning for a fresh consultation. After receiving treatment at a hospital a few days ago, she was brought to Gandhi Hospital as her bouts of seizures increased and was also suffering from loss of hearing. "Is the strike more important than a person's life?" wailed her mother K Sunitha, AS Rao Nagar resident. "My daughter's health condition is bad. Because of frequent seizures, she is not able to hear. She needs to be kept under medical observation but there is no doctor available. I never felt so helpless. I can't see her suffer like this," lamented Sunitha.

Throughout the day, chaos and helplessness played out in the hospital. With no stretchers, many attendants were seen lift-



ing patients in their arms and trying to enter emergency ward. M Premlatha, 37, an accident victim, was bleeding and found lying on the road in front of OP ward after receiving first-aid in emergency ward. Her brother P Swami said: "We came from Gajwel and had to wait for two hours to take her into emergency ward because there was no staff available to provide us with stretcher." With very little hope of getting treatment, Swami and his mother lifted Premlatha and took her back to their village.



Deep Soni @deepsoni
A white coat has no colour. Don't divide doctors into the political party. #StopViolenceAgainstDoctors #DoctorsFightBack @Beer-BicepsGuy I want to request you brother and also youtube community plz stand with doctors. It's a very serious matter for upcoming doctors like me or anyone else.

Mainak Mascharak @Mainakspeaks
We don't toil for 5 yrs to get beaten up for no faults. This trend of attacking doctors should stop. #stand_with_NRS #SaveDoctors Don't forget doctors are humans too. The whole fraternity stands united. #DoctorsFightBack @tripuramedicalcollege.

Dr Surbhi Sandhu @SandhuSurbhi
Years of hard work to be just worthy of that WHITE COAT. Instead of saving the public's blood, it got stained with MY OWN #SaveThe-Saviour #DoctorsFightBack #TREATUSASHUMANS

G Sampath @samzsays
A simple question to all those supporting the #DoctorsStrike: Will you support the formation of trade unions of medical/paramedical staff in every hospital, public and private? If not, then your support for this strike has nothing to do with the working conditions of hospital staff.

Anchal Awasthi @AnchalAwasthi5

Doctors have all the rights to protest, but how can you not treat the patients and let them suffer, what about your oath? What if the soldiers put their guns down? because Kashmir youth, tries to kill them, we would all suffer, even the doctors will be in danger.

Shreya rai @drshreyarai
Yes! I am a government doctor I'm underpaid and overworked and I still keep my head down and work but u don't get a right to physically molest me or hit me! Cuz I'm a person and I have a right to live! #DoctorsStrike

Sumanth Raman @sumanthraman
Thanks to today's nationwide Doctors strike, lakhs of patients will suffer. Several will die. All for what? Destabilizing @MamataOfficial? Doctors will be none the safer after this strike. Mark this tweet. #DoctorsStrike.

POLITICS FANTTA @PFantta

They beat up one of the #doctor which is totally wrong. And by not doing your duty, many of the innocents would be killed. Good, you revenged your colleague. But your sins are bigger than them. Please be back.

MONDAY'S TEMPERATURE
CITY WEATHER
37.5° / 25° MAX / MIN
GENERALLY CLOUDY SKY

MONDAY'S AVERAGE PPM DATA
AVERAGE VALUE
AQI of Pollutant PM2.5
Reading as on June 17 (7pm)

SANATH NAGAR	25.18	BOLLARAM INDUSTRIAL AREA	34.39
ZOO PARK	23.54	ICRISAT PATANCHERU	16.84
IDA PASHAMYLARAM	23.44	CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	14.81

POLLUTION WATCH
GOOD RANGE 0-60µg/m3

AVERAGE AQI ACROSS FOUR MAJOR CITIES
(AQI-air quality index) (Data for 24hrs till 4pm on Monday)

BENGALURU	52	HYDERABAD	60	DELHI	123	CHENNAI	93
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Source: Central Pollution Control Board

SUNRISE WED | 05:42 AM
SUNSET TUE | 06:52 PM
MOONRISE TUE | 7:51 PM
MOONSET TUE | 6:22 AM
TUESDAY REPORT | Generally cloudy sky. Rain/thunder showers likely to occur in parts of city.
Source: IMD

WHOLESALE PRICES OF VEGETABLES PER KG

TOMATO	₹22 - 30	LADY'S FINGERS	₹25 - 35
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Killer duo produced before Humnabad court

► From P 1

Around 1am, when the car crossed Mannaekhelli toll plaza before Humnabad, Satish took a detour. He got off the main road and drove for about 100 metres to an isolated area where his friend Rahul was waiting. Reddy woke up when Satish stopped the car and got out of the vehicle. Both Satish and Rahul attacked him with an iron rod. By then, his wife had woken up and the duo attacked her too. The couple were then strangled with towels," Humnabad sub-inspector LT Santosh Kumar said.

The duo took the cash and gold the couple had on them and drove through villages, bypassing toll plazas and reached Anantagiri Hills in Vikarabad district where the bodies were dumped.

The two then split, with Satish driving the Innova back to Reddy's BHEL house. He cleaned up the interiors of the car, parked it and left the place. As the couple, who used to call their US-based children at least 10 times a day, did not make any contact since June 12 night, family members grew suspicious.

"Their relatives approached us on June 13 night saying that the couple's phones were switched off. Driver Satish had told the relatives that he had dropped them at home and left. We picked up Satish after he lied about his whereabouts.

He confessed to having killed the couple with the help of a friend for the money," sub inspector Kumar said. He added that Rahul was arrested from Dhunnur village near Humnabad. The accused were produced before a local court in Humnabad on Monday.

Bolarum gate reopens, drive to school gets shorter for students

1.2Km Detour To Enter 3 Institutes Comes To End

Mungara.Sunil @timesgroup.com

Secunderabad: The drive to school for students of St Ann's High School, Valerian Grammar School and Kendriya Vidyalaya, at Bolarum just got easier.

The New Army Gate has been opened for public. With this, students can get to school in time, and life becomes easier for the 1.5 lakh road users that pass through the gate every day.

After a gap of five days, army authorities on Monday, opened a new gate, which was constructed near Holy Trinity Church, Bolarum. "As per decision taken by the Army authority, the new gate was opened for traffic movement. The new



New Army Gate, near Holy Trinity Church, opens at Bolarum in Secunderabad Cantonment on Monday

gate has been planned to regulate movement of anti-natal elements," according to a senior defence official.

Armed soldiers however, are checking the IDs of the road users before letting them pass, as per their routine exercise.

Till June 15, school children had been using an

alternate gate located at Kowkur, which is a detour of 1.2 kilometres. On Monday, the Army also opened Kowkur gate. On average, 300 to 500 students of Yarpal, Kowkur, and adjoining areas used to pass through the gate, either in school vans or along with their parents on two/three wheelers.

On June 12, due to closure of army gate, nearly 200 students of St Ann's High School, were late to school by 15 to 20 minutes. In fact, the school management also clarified that they had not punished the students on June 12. Few staff members too were delayed due to the traffic jam.

"The Army's decision to reopen the gate has come as a major relief for hundreds of students," Anisha Kulkarni, a parent and resident of Yarpal, told TOI.

She added: "We can reach St Ann's High School in five minutes through this gate."

"The Army's quick decision to reopen the gate and allow entry brought great relief to not only the hundreds of students, but also lakhs of commuters too," said CS Chandrasekar, Secretary, Federation of North Eastern Colonies of Secunderabad (FNECS).

Cricket bookie held, ₹20k seized

Hyderabad: A man who has allegedly been organising bets on the ongoing ICC Cricket World Cup was on Monday nabbed by Task Force sleuths even as the West Indies-Bangladesh match was in progress. Task Force sleuths caught V Parashar from Chuddi Bazaar while he was accepting money from punters and seized ₹20,000 cash and three mobile phones from him.

The accused used Cricket Action.com app for betting. Parashar started off as a punter and later became a bookie to make quick money. Twenty punters are understood to have been engaged in betting with Parashar.

Police are collecting details of the punters. This is the second betting related case cracked by the Hyderabad Police this tourney. TNN

2 cops held for taking ₹20k bribe

Hyderabad: ACBSleuths arrested an SI and a constable of Bolarum Police Station for allegedly demanding and accepting a bribe of ₹20,000 from the complainant to release him on station bail.

The accused cops are SI S Brahma Chary and constable M Nagesh. On June 3, a case was registered at Bolarum Police Station against Narsinga Rao, an orchestra troupe operator, for assault and extortion.

After registering the case, the SI through constable Nagesh demanded ₹25,000 from Rao to not arrest him. After making the payment, Rao approached ACBSleuths and furnished the proof of bribery on June 13.

The accused policemen will be produced before court on Tuesday. TNN

Brawl at pub, 3 bouncers held

Hyderabad: Jubilee Hills Police on Monday slapped an assault case against staffers of Amnesia Lounge Bar in Jubilee Hills and arrested three bouncers after they attacked youngsters who were celebrating the birthday of a friend during the India-Pakistan ICC Cricket World Cup match.

On Sunday night, around 12.30am, an argument broke out between the youngsters and a bouncer, following which they were asked to leave. The quarrel took an ugly turn when the bouncers allegedly attacked the group with iron rods. TNN

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After 6-year gap, 700 awarded PhD at OU's 80th convocation

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Osmania University (OU) should commence university social responsibility ventures and teach children from underprivileged sections of the society English and computers, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh governor ESL Narasimhan said during OU's 80th convocation ceremony on Monday.

Close to 700 PhDs and 292 gold medals were awarded during the function, which was held after a gap of six years and for the first time after the formation of Telangana.

Addressing the convocation ceremony, Narasimhan, who is also the chancellor of all state universities in Telangana, urged OU's administration to ensure that students' skillsets match with industry requirements. "The university should implement courses and syllabi which are in tune with industry requirements. Today, there is a huge mismatch between academia



OU alumnus and director, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, S Chandrasekhar felicitates a medallist even as governor ESL Narasimhan looks on during OU's 80th convocation on Monday

and the industry," Narasimhan pointed out.

OU alumnus and director, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, S Chandrasekhar was the chief guest of the event.

"The days when finding a decent job used to be students' main objective are over. Uni-

versities and educational institutions are now promoting start-up culture, newer generations like yours choose to be job creators, not seekers," he said. The OU administration imposed tight security at the venue, disallowing all, including media personnel, from carrying their mobile phones inside the auditorium.

Rules for long-distance buses: A meeting was held with owners of long-distance buses on Monday. They were asked not to enter the city before 10pm. Cases would be booked against them if they broke the rules. TNN

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CRIME FILE

Burglar held, gold seized

A man accused in three burglary cases was nabbed by Narsingi Police on Monday. The cops seized 15 tolas of gold and 12 tolas of silver from A Balaraj. The accused was identified after CCTV footage from the area was scrutinised.

Youth dies in accident

A 26-year-old ferrying mango in an auto trolley died after his vehicle was hit by a lorry near ORR, Medchal. The victim, Lateef Khan, died on the spot. He was heading to Uttoor, when the mishap took place.

6-tola gold chain snatched

A woman lost six tolas of gold after a bike-borne assailant snatched her chain while she walking near Jamia Osmania Track. The woman escaped without serious injuries and alerted the cops. The accused has not been identified as he had covered his face with a handkerchief.

9 cabbies booked

Nine cab drivers, who allegedly ransacked an office belonging to a cab aggregator at Kukatpally and protested semi-naked, were taken into custody by police. A case has been registered.



LONG ROAD TO HI-TEC CITY

Commuters heading from Panjagutta towards Jubilee Hills and Hi-Tec City were caught in a massive traffic jam on Monday after barricades at Jubilee Hills Check Post Metro station were removed and traffic diverted.

Tanzanian arrested for drug peddling, cocaine seized

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Excise sleuths on Monday arrested a drug peddler from Tanzania in Hyderabad and seized three grams of cocaine from his possession.

Acting on specific information, the enforcement wing of the excise department laid a trap and arrested John Paul Mbelle, 29,

at Langar Houz on Monday. John, who is currently residing at Banjara Layout in Haramuru area of Bangalore, has been peddling drugs since the past few years, excise sleuths said.

John, a native of Dar es Salaam City of Tanzania, came to India in 2013 on a student visa. His visa expired three years later, but John continued to stay illegally and was arrested under the Foreigners Act.

After coming out of jail on bail, John started ped-

dling drugs for one Emanuel. In a month, John came to Hyderabad seven times to peddle narcotic substances.

When John arrived to deliver drugs on Monday morning, the excise department sleuths arrested him near Essar Petrol Pump at Langar Houz and seized three grams of cocaine worth ₹25,000 along with a cell phone.

The sleuths handed over the accused and the contraband to the Golconda prohibition & excise sleuths for further investigation.

Langar Houz lake crusaders slam trash assault

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: The Langar Houz lake is strewn with garbage and the foul smell in the area is unbearable, say morning walkers and residents living nearby.

Mustafa Ali, a resident of the area, says, "The lake is nothing more than a dumpyard for people. The civic body that is lacking in staff is struggling to clear the premises."

Not only is waste all around, Ali says, there are more dogs than people in the area which end up eating and spreading the garbage, making matters worse.

Mohammed Abdul Khader, whose brother lives in the area, also says that the



Volunteers remove garbage from Langar Houz Lake on Monday

situation is getting out of hand. "We keep cleaning the area but there is a lack of awareness among people. Many locals openly admit to throwing garbage in the lake. They say GHMC's garbage pickers do not come regu-

larly to the area so they do not have a choice."

While the lake has been walled, residents say at many places this has been broken. "The wall has been smashed at several points because people living in Ahmed Colony,

Afsar Khan colony and other areas to the back of the lake do not have any access point. However, once breaches have been created, these are used by people for illegal activity. Many locals skipping entry fee this way and others dump the

ir waste. At night some youngsters even enter through the breaches and use drugs."

Aziz Mohammed, another resident says, "There is no police patrolling here at all. Guards must be placed at different spots so that the lake is saved from nuisance makers. If people are prevented from throwing their garbage here, those living nearby can at least have healthy lives without the stench and mosquitoes. Besides this, unruly elements will be kept at bay."

When contacted, irrigation department officials said the matter has to be dealt with by the sanitation wing of the GHMC. However, repeated calls and messages sent to the sanitation in-charge went unanswered.

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Defunct streetlights in Nampally jeopardise road safety, pose threat

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One of the streetlights at Sanathnagar, near Hindu Public School, has been kept switched on during the day for the last three days. This is a waste of electricity, that too when energy consumption is already high due to the use of fans and air conditioners to beat the heat. Authorities must ensure that streetlights are switched off during the day — Satyanarayana Yadla

The streetlights inside the Nampally Criminal Court lane are not working since the last three weeks and commuters struggle to see the way at night. The defunct streetlights can also lead to street crimes. I hope the authorities would fix the streetlights as soon as possible as the dysfunctional streetlights are putting people's lives at risk — Abdul Raheem



The road divider below the Jubilee Hills Metro Station has become a site to dump garbage. The divider is being misused by citizens even though there are dustbins in the area. I request authorities to plant saplings on the divider and put up boards warning the public to not dump garbage in the divider — Manan Bothra

A newly-laid cement road at Prakash Nagar, near Evergreen Hotel, Begumpet was dug up to access the water line beneath. It's been two weeks now and the officials concerned have still not restored the road. Commuters are having a harrowing time trying to navigate the road. I request the authorities concerned to fix the road as soon as possible — Sridhar Reddy



METRO DIGEST

Free civil service coaching by state

The minorities welfare department, through Telangana State Minorities Study Circle, is arranging free coaching for civil services aspirants. Applications have been invited from eligible candidates from June 20 and the last date for receiving of applications is July 7.

Applications for BRAOU open today

The online direct admission for undergraduate and postgraduate courses, PG diplomas and certificate programmes at Dr B R Ambedkar Open University for 2019-20 will commence from June 18. Admission and tuition fee can be paid through TS and AP online franchise centres.

Madhapur eatery fined ₹1 lakh

A restaurant in Ayappa Society was penalised ₹1 lakh for sewage leakage, not maintaining silt chambers and not disposing waste as per norms. The inspection was part of the Saaf Hyderabad-Shandaar Hyderabad initiative.

ALMANAC

18-06-2019 (TUESDAY)

Ayanam : Uttarayanam, Ruthuvu : Greeshma, Masam : Jyeshtha, Paksham : Krishna, Thithi : Padyami - 14-30, Nakshatram : Moola - 11-51, Yagam : Shuklam - 19-00, Karanam : Kaulava - 14-30, Varjyam : 10-10 to 11-51 and 22-06 to 23-49, Rahukalam : 15-34 to 17-12, Durmuhurtham : 08-20 to 09-13 and 23-11 to 23-55

NAMAZ TIMINGS

● Fajar | 04:32 am (Wednesday) to 05:36 am
● Zohar | 12:27 pm to 04:46 pm
● Asar | 04:54 pm to 06:50 pm
● Maghrib | 06:58 pm to 08:08 pm
● Isha | 08:15 pm to 04:10am

39 workers from state return after Saudi nightmare

Sushil.Rao@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: The nightmare for 39 workers from Telangana who were working without pay in Saudi Arabia returned to Hyderabad on Monday. They said to have been living in harsh conditions and their employer hadn't paid them as the company was going through a crisis.

The workers' *aqama* (work permits) too had expired which meant their stay had become illegal but such was their situation, they could not even buy a ticket to travel back home.

The Telangana government, in March, had written to the Indian Embassy in Saudi Arabia to assist the workers and help them return to India. On their arrival at the Shamshabad airport, they were received by E Chitti Babu, official of the general administration (NRI) department. Though 39 workers were able to return home, there are many such workers who are stuck in Saudi Arabia for the last one year.

Don't fall prey to agents, Hyd woman warns

Sushil.Rao@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: A 38-year-old woman from the city, who returned from Kuwait after being rescued from a kafil who allegedly ill-treated her, has recorded a video advising women against falling prey to promises of agents. Rehana Begum, a resident of Golconda, also said a large number of women were also languishing in the shelters of the Indian embassy in Kuwait and Kuwait jails for several months and needed help to return.

Begum also mentioned the names of some Hyderabad women who desperately needed help. She returned to a city on Sunday. Her daughter told TOI that her mother was unwell and he had to take her to the hospital. After she landed in Kuwait, she had problems with the kafil and she approached the Indian Embassy in Kuwait on April 25. "However, I had to wait for over a month and a half to be repatriated," she said.

She was approached by a travel agent who sent her to Kuwait on January 25, 2019 to work as a housemaid. After she landed there, she was allegedly sold to another agent who demanded that she work in three houses and was denied food and accommodation.

MAILBOX

Improve bus connectivity

There is a need to improve the public transport system in the city, especially bus connectivity. Despite the huge demand, there are few buses connecting Hakimpet, Risala Bazaar and Bolaram to Medchal via Alwal. People travelling between these



places have to change two to three buses. Hiring an auto is not always feasible. The working class would benefit if the RTC adds more buses on these routes — Rakhi S

Too many speed-breakers

There are too many speed-breakers across the city for no reason. In Domalguda, a small stretch near AV College has three speed bumps. I am sure that not all of these have official sanction. Locals must be made aware that they cannot create speed-breakers wherever they wish. Such speed-breakers pose serious problems for commuters. Bike-riders who do not see these little breaks on the road might just pass over them without stopping causing accidents — Revathi Rao

Roads still not monsoon-ready

Monsoon is around the corner but there are still so many potholes across the city. The road near Model House in Panjagutta always gets flooded. Once the monsoons begin, the situation will only worsen. I hope authorities take adequate steps now rather than get into the act later — M Srinivas

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Authorities play blame game over dug-up roads in the city

Monsoon To Make Matters Even Worse

Mungara.Sunil
@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: It is going to be a double whammy for lakhs of commuters this monsoon. Blame it on the inordinate delay in road restoration and lack of coordination between two utility departments — GHMC and HMWS&SB, work on 80-km length of roads is yet to begin. The cascading effect: traffic snarls, motorists stranded on roads for hours, more fuel wasted and even possible road rage incidents.

According to the GHMC, 80-km length of roads has been dug up in LB Nagar, Charminar, Kukatpally, Serilingampally and Secunderabad up to 50 metres. Surprisingly, senior water board officials invited tenders just a few days ago and work is likely to commence in the coming days. Worse still, both HMWS&SB and GHMC are caught in a blame game over delay in executing the work.

HMWS&SB laid nearly 2,000 km length of pipelines co-

GUTTURAL APATHY

Areas and length of roads dug up for water lines

Area	Length (metres)
L B Nagar Zone	2,675
Charminar Zone	26,084
Kukatpally H B	14,100
Serilingampally	8,035
Total	79,396



Neredmet

Moosapet

vering GHMC peripheral circles with Hudco aid. Roads were restored where trunk mains were laid but work on 80-km length of road where water distribution network is to be arranged is yet to be completed. "GHMC was supposed to submit a detailed report on roads which were dug up for laying pipelines but we are yet to receive the report," a senior

water board official told TOI. "Tenders for 80-km length of roads have almost been finalised. Work is set to be completed by June-end," he said. HMWS&SB director (operations) A Krishna told TOI that tenders had been finalised and works for road restoration would be taken in a day or two. On its part, the GHMC said that it had deposited Rs 8 crore

to the water board for undertaking road restoration works. When contacted, a senior GHMC official said that soon after the water board laid the pipelines, the town planning staff had inspected the areas where the roads were dug up and prepared a list. "In some areas, the work could not be taken up owing to lack of staff," the official added.

NRSC to help map waterlogging spots, 291 teams get ready

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: With monsoon set to hit the state soon, senior officials of key departments are busy working out action plans to tackle the rains. Taking the lead, GHMC said 291 monsoon emergency teams would be deployed across the city. The authorities are also contemplating mapping of vulnerable locations where water-logging is heavy.

"We will map all the vulnerable spots across the city and share it with line departments. The National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) at Shadnagar is assisting us to map the locations," said GHMC commissioner M Dana Kishore on Monday after a meeting of eight line departments, including GHMC, HMWS&SB, police and Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd (HMRL).

This year, 493 monsoon action teams have been formed by all the line departments. The teams have been equipped with a DCM van, a JCB and workers will be given



PREPARED FOR ACTION

crowbars, water pumps, tree-cutters and other equipment. "We have identified locations where rainwater gets stagnated. Static teams will be deployed at the earmarked spots so that water is cleared immediately, so that there are no traffic snarls," said a senior GHMC official. Vehicles which would be pressed into action during heavy downpour were also flagged off on Monday.

"For instance, if an official visits a water-logged locality and finds there is power cut, he can directly call the official to fix the issue. This will be monitored at the central command control room in the GHMC head office," said mayor Bonthu Rammohan.

Campaign launched to promote rainwater harvesting in Hyd

Omer Bin Tahr

Hyderabad: With water levels in the city receding considerably during the summer, an awareness campaign has been launched in the city to emphasise the need to have rainwater harvesting pits. The main aim of the campaign is to encourage rainwater harvesting to increase groundwater level.

"Decreasing groundwater level has become a major worry. The city has turned into a concrete jungle, rainwater has hardly found a place in the scheme of things," said Ilayas Shamshi, chairman, Team NGOs India which is organising the event. Due to the absence of proper rain water harvesting pits, rain water is drained out into canals and drains. "If there are proper pits, the groundwater level will stock up and the present water crisis will come to an end," added Shamshi.

Borewells in several areas have gone dry. Shamshi said that taking up rainwater har-

vesting will solve such problems and will also help replenish the soil. "We came up with the idea to launch a campaign for rain harvesting pits across the city with a slogan 'Recharge Hyderabad' during this season," he said.

Rain harvesting pits are especially useful for residents during the summer months, with most borewells drying up. "At the moment, borewells are being dug up to 400 to 500 feet in many areas which is resulting in reduction of groundwater levels. With vanishing trees and cement roads causing more problems, the NGO is asking people to give recharge pits a thought," said Fareeduddin, the campaign's technical director.

HC issues notice to state over schools violating RTE norms

SagarKumar.Mutha
@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: The Telangana High Court on Monday issued notices to the state and its education authorities to respond to a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition that charged the private schools with violating different provisions of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE Act) and the state with complicity.

The division bench comprising of Acting Chief Jus-

ice Raghvendra Singh Chauhan and Justice Shameem Akther posted the case for hearing in four weeks. The plea was filed by Vijay Gopal from Tarnaka of Secunderabad who was urging the court to declare schools running without government recognition certificate as illegal.

The petitioner appealed to the court to ensure all the private schools in the state comply with section 14 of the RTE Act. As per this section, all private schools should publish Form-I that speaks about self declaration-cum-application for school recognition. He also wanted the court to instruct the

government to constitute the Right to Education Protection Authority (REPA) as per the Act.

The petitioner's counsel B Rachna Reddy said that every school must declare the academic fee structure for the year to the DEO. This rule was being ignored by many schools, she said and added that the RTE Act enforcement agency was failing to ensure all schools furnish their audited account reports to the DEO concerned. "This was indirectly helping the management of the schools to make hidden profits and increase fees disproportionately," she contended.

Nat'l conclave on minority edu ends

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: The India Education Conclave held in Hyderabad under the aegis of MESCO and All India Educational Movement concluded with adoption of several resolutions, including quality education for educationally backward minorities and schemes for minority residential schools in rented buildings pioneered by the government of Telangana.

Muslim educational institutions and educationalists were also urged to take note of the fast-changing nature of education and strive to enhance quality. "There is an urgent need for increasing south to north cooperation among Muslim educational institutions, so that the educational lag of Muslims in some northern states could be done away with through the qualitative experiences and resources of the south," read one of the resolutions.

The conclave noted that Muslim women's access to education has improved significantly over the past few years. However, there is much to be desired in this regard to alleviate their overall condition. The conclave took note of the increasing trend of suicides in campuses both due to academic and ethnic reasons and said that suitable measures are required for curbing such cases.

Regarding the policy of privatisation, the conclave said that the process is depriving many talented students from minority classes. They urged the government to initiate suitable schemes to aid their development and were of the opinion that existing scholarship schemes must be reformed to bring them on par with schemes for SC/STs.

IIT team finds new way to boost solar cell efficiency

Hyderabad: Researchers at IIT, Hyderabad have developed a new process to improve performance of third generation solar cells. The process can enhance light-to-electricity conversion efficiency. Headed by associate professor Jammalamadaka Suryanarayana of magnetic materials and device physics laboratory, the research team had been working towards improving solar cell efficiency. "We used dye sensitised solar cells (DSSC), which are more environment friendly. Unlike silicon cells or thin film solar cells, performance of DSSCs in improving efficiency of light to power conversion was much higher as we could improve its recombination time using magnetic energy," said Suryanarayana. TNN

Aspirants get pep talk from new def officers

Sushil.Rao@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: To guide students aspiring to join the forces, four recently commissioned from the Army, Navy and Air Force held a talk in the city on Monday. Six cadets from the NDA, IMA, AFA and INA also participated and advised students on how to prepare for a career in the armed forces.

Sainik Welfare director Col P Ramesh Kumar told TOI that 114 students, including 15 girls attended the session. The aspirants, who had recently completed their Inter, had gathered from different parts of the state. Flight Cadet Rohan Sai

told the aspirants to come out of their 'comfort zone' and prepare meticulously to crack the SSB in order to join the armed forces. Aspirants were also advised not to lose heart if they don't clear the exam in the first attempt. Speaking on this, Lt Kalyan Nehru who was recently commissioned into the army said that he took it as a challenge when he didn't crack it the first time and achieved it in the next attempt.

At the event, regional sainik welfare officer Sreenesh Nori said that the Telangana government had announced a 2 lakh financial assistance for those selected in the National Defence Academy (NDA).

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AIR-11 AIR-12 AIR-14 AIR-16 AIR-17 AIR-18 AIR-20 AIR-21 AIR-22 AIR-23 AIR-24 AIR-25



HARDIK R. BENDALE Distance	AMRITESH S. GREWAL Classroom	ISHAN GUPTA Classroom	LOHITASHVA GOYAL Distance	ANKUR YADAV Classroom	HARDIK GUPTA Classroom	KARTIKEYA SHARMA Distance	AAROSHI GUPTA Distance	ARYAMAN DAHIYA Classroom	AYUSH GUPTA Classroom	VEDANT P. KASHIKAR Classroom	SOHAM PINCHA Distance
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AIR-26 AIR-28 AIR-29 AIR-30 AIR-32 AIR-33 AIR-35 AIR-36 AIR-37 AIR-40 AIR-41 AIR-42



KSHITIZ BHARDWAJ Classroom	HEMANT KHANDELIA Distance	M. H. SAYAN SHAH Classroom	ANMOL GUPTA Classroom	TAPISH SHARMA Classroom	SHREYAS AGRAWAL Classroom	MALPANI ANANT Distance	KARTIK MITTAL Classroom	DHRUV JINDAL Distance	SHIVANSH JINDAL Distance	SARTHAK MAAN Classroom	VARUN NANDAKUMAR Distance
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AIR-43 AIR-44 AIR-46



ABHINAV AGRAWAL Classroom	MEGHA GUPTA Classroom	KARTIKEYA Classroom
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Family in Tsundur reject help

From P 1
After discovering the bodies, one of the guests rushed out looking for help. He found someone who then called up 911. The police have not revealed the identity of the guests.
Although the police have not given any details about the motive behind the shooting, they have stated that there is no immediate threat to the community and that the deaths directly affect their family friends and co-workers. They have also said that investigations had revealed that at the time of the gun being fired, no outsider had entered the house. This is being interpreted by many that a family dispute may be behind the deaths.
Chandrasekar worked for the Iowa department of public safety's technology services bureau. Sources added that Lavanya too was a software developer. Friends and acquaintances cited his work excellence certificates claiming that he was a hardworking employee.
TANA members got in touch with family members in Tsundur and were told that everyone was in a state of shock. They also rejected any help saying that they did not want any attention.

'Women's curse' caused TDP's loss

Vijayawada: YSR Congress MLA R K Roja, speaking during the motion of thanks to the governor in the assembly on Monday, said women of the state "curse the TDP", which reduced their strength to just 23 in the AP assembly.
"The TDP did not show any respect for women during its five-year rule," Roja said, adding that a woman officer was dragged by her hair by a TDP leader, who was among those defeated in the elections. **TNN**

Record delay for monsoon in Teangana likely this year

Rains Could Be Delayed Beyond June 27

Sribala.Vadlapatla
@timesgroup.com
Hyderabad: The likelihood of monsoon covering the entire Telangana may go beyond June 27, which in itself will be a record. The last such occurrence when the monsoon hit the region when it was part of the united Andhra Pradesh after June 27 was in the year 1972—47 years ago.
In 2018, monsoon hit Telangana on June 4 bringing an early cheer on the faces of farmers. According to weathermen, monsoon usually

DATES OF MONSOON ONSET

TELANGANA	KERALA
June 19, 2014	June 6, 2014
June 13, 2015	June 5, 2015
June 18, 2016	June 8, 2016
June 12, 2017	May 30, 2017
June 4, 2018	May 29, 2018

hits the state between June 7-10. But, this time round, the likelihood of monsoon rains delaying beyond June 27 is also not being ruled out.
In 1972, Kerala experienced the first southwest monsoon rains on June 17, a delay of 17 days from its normal onset date of June 1. The unified Andhra Pradesh received

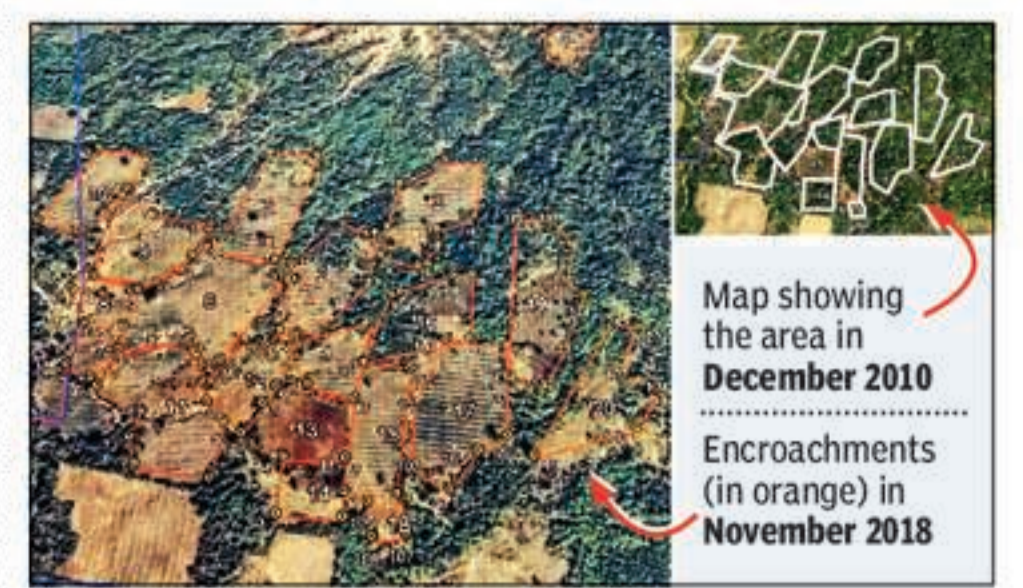
monsoon rains 10 days later—June 27. This was 47 years ago. Going by the delay in the system moving north-north centralwards, it could derail the monsoon's ascent and its arrival could be delayed further beyond June 27, officials explained.
Senior officials recall that monsoon was delayed fi-

ve years ago in Telangana despite hitting Kerala on June 6. "There was a delay of 14 days in the monsoon reaching Telangana because of various factors and the trajectory of the monsoon that year. This year, monsoon struck Kerala on June 8. By the time it makes its way into Telangana, it could be beyond June 25-27," an official reasoned.
"This year, it is going to be a slow and sluggish start due to various reasons. Two key factors are the speed of the westerlies and long-wave radiation," officials said.
Meanwhile, the agriculture department has issued a kharif plan for farmers in view of the delayed monsoon and given suitable sowing dates for crops this season.

Produce land relief cheques, HC tells state

Hyderabad: The Telangana high court on Monday directed authorities to come to the court with compensation cheques pertaining to the land they are acquiring in Mamidyala village in Mulugu mandal of Siddipet district. Farmers' land is being acquired for Kondapochamma water project being taken up by the state.
Farmers were complaining that their land was being taken away and they are facing threat of dispossession without them being compensated and rehabilitated.
The bench of acting Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice Shameem Akther made it clear that it will take up two more similar pleas along with the current one on Monday. **TNN**

Tree felling goes on unabated at Kawal reserve



Hyderabad: Are trees being felled in Sirpur-Kagaznagar forest range and on the fringes of Kawal Tiger Reserve by tribals? Recent satellite images seem to indicate so. Interestingly, forest officials have found that not only Adivasis, even non-tribals are encroaching upon the forest land. They squarely blamed the people of Gond and Kolam tribes for the indiscriminate cutting of trees.
Kagaznagar forest divisional officer Raja Ramana Reddy told **TOI** that several areas (compartments) had been cleared of green cover in the Kagaznagar reserved forest in Kagaznagar section between 2010 and 2018. "Satellite mapping has clearly revealed this. Apart from Adivasis, non-tribals are also resorting to large-scale encroachments. Gonds and Kolams are chopping trees," he said.
Forest officials said 6.4 lakh acres of forest land is disputed and several court cases are pending. Senior officials said the forest area in united Khammam, Adilabad and Warangal districts is worst-affected where land in huge tracts is encroached upon.
Ramana said Kolams be-

longing to Wankidi mandal in Kumaram Bheem-Asifabad district had encroached forest land in 70 acres after making incursions 30 km into the forest.
"We had served notices to them in February. When we issued eviction notices, they approached the high court, which asked us to follow the due process of law," he explained. The tribals were given time till May 15. "However, they moved the court again. We explained the ground situation to the court," Ramana said.
The forest officials are also wary about rise in attacks on them. When some forest officials tried to stop encroachment in 460 compartments of Manchippa reserve forest in Gandharirange on May 29, villagers attacked them. Forest section officer Venkata Swamy was injured when the encroachers rammed a tractor into him.
In fact, attacks by senior forest officials to stop fresh felling have led to friction between the department and Adivasis. Eviction of Kolam tribals on June 12 was taken kindly by tribals and non-tribals in Asifabad district.
In September 2017, eviction of Gothikoyas from forest land by the officials in Jayashankar Bhupalpal district had led to an outrage all across the state.

Cong takes stock of Rajagopal's remarks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK
Hyderabad: The Congress disciplinary committee on Monday took stock of Mungudo legislator Komatreddy Rajagopal Reddy's remarks that the party leadership in Telangana is pathetic and he is likely to join BJP. It prepared a show-cause notice and sent it for an approval from AICC.
At a meeting in Gandhi Bhavan, the committee prepared the show-cause notice asking why action cannot be taken against Rajagopal. "Since the committee has already issued notices twice previously, Monday's notice was sent to AICC for approval," sources in Congress said. Interestingly, Rajagopal had made a scathing attack

Rajagopal in touch with me: Jagga

Congress legislator Jagga Reddy in an informal chat with newsmen said Rajagopal was indeed in touch with him but refused to elaborate any further. "I don't think Cong leaders are looking to join BJP or TRS. I want the leadership to make party working president," he said, on the committee also.
Senior Congress leader V Hanumanth Rao took a dig at state BJP chief K Laxman's claims that several Congress leaders are looking towards the saffron party. At a press conference here, Rao said BJP should feel ashamed of itself after having claimed itself as a disciplined party.

Tell us about probe into NOC case, IAS officer's role: HC to T

Sagar Kumar.Mutha
@timesgroup.com
Hyderabad: The Telangana high court on Monday directed chief secretary of the state to convey to it by August 5 the progress authorities have made in their investigation into Hyderabad's Gudimalkapur NOC scam.
The scam was allegedly committed in respect of a 5,600 square yard plot at Nal Nagar in Gudimalkapur of Hyderabad. Senior IAS officer Naveen Mittal was facing allegations that he had crossed his brief both as then district collector of Hyderabad and also as chairman of the NOC committee in granting the NOC in respect of this land in favour of three private persons.

When the case came up for hearing on Monday, AGBS Prasad requested a bench of acting CJ Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice Shameem Akther to grant them 6 weeks

The case came to the fore after a complaint filed by 80-year-old Shanti Agarwal, who bought this land situated at survey number 284/6 in an auction. She is now fighting to get her land back.
"Tell us the status of the investigation made by the police who registered an FIR in the case, and also about the departmental inquiry launched against Naveen Mittal, and also against the local tehsildar," the bench said earlier.

J Prabhakar, the counsel for Agarwal, said that the will to take things to their logical end is missing in this case. Authorities are dodging the issue, he said. The police too, were not probing into the matter, he said.
There are two orders from this high court that declared the NOC granted in the matter to the three private persons as a fraudulent one, he said. "These persons produced fabricated and unconnected documents and obtained the NOC. Despite the passage of two years after the HC ordered the probe, nothing has been done," Prabhakar said.
The bench questioned the slow pace of probe into Mittal's deeds, and also into the dubious role played by the local tehsildar.

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NEW RESIDENCES OF MLAS



Senior docs join protests in Andhra

Sulogna.Mehta@timesgroup.com
Visakhapatnam: Doctors' protests are gathering momentum in AP. Not only junior doctors, but also senior government doctors and Indian Dental Association (IDA) and other associations such as Praja Aarogya Vedika have joined in.
On Monday, the AP Government Doctors' Association and the AP Junior Doctors' Association, as per the directions of the IMA, conducted a black-badge protest and abstained from elective and out-patient department services for an hour in the morning.
Members of the Indian Dental Association Greater Visakhapatnam conducted a silent protest at the Gandhi statue and abstained from clinical practice.

YSRC MLA offers to protect TDP workers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK
Guntur: Amid uproar over the series of attacks on TDP activists in the state, YSR Congress legislator Kasu Mahesh Reddy has come up with an open offer to protect the workers of Telugu Desam in his constituency.
Mahesh Reddy represents Guraala assembly constituency, which is considered one of the most volatile segments for faction violence in the state. The MLA also appealed to all TDP workers, who have reportedly fled from their villages over fear of attacks from YSRC cadres after the party's victory in the state, to return to their homes.
Speaking at a meeting in the constituency on Monday, Mahesh Reddy criticised TDP

leaders for making baseless allegations on the issue of attacks. "The TDP leaders got habituated to live in media hype and they continue to live in the same space even after facing a humiliating defeat in the elections. They should immediately stop spreading false campaign which is panicking their own party cadres," said Mahesh.
He said YSRC cadres would not resort to any attacks in his constituency and it's his promise to all TDP leaders and cadres. "TDP activists feel YSRC cadres would do to them what they did during their party's rule in the last five years. They are worried our cadres will retaliate. I am assuring them that we will never resort to violence," asserted Mahesh.

Maoists wade into podu land controversy, 'instigate' villagers

Srinath.Vudali@timesgroup.com
Hyderabad: Taking advantage of the 'podu bhumulu' (podu land) controversy; Communist Party of India (Maoist) leaders are allegedly trying to instigate locals of the affected villages in Bhadrachal-Kothagudem district.
After learning about the movement of Telangana State Committee secretary Haribhushan and Khammam Karimnagar Warangal (KKW) secretary Damodar in several villages of the district, a 3,000-member strong contingent of Telangana police, including the anti-Maoist elite force Greyhounds, has started combing operations in the tribal hamlets.
The Supreme Court had earlier directed the state to evict villagers in possession of podu land in Karakagudem, Yadula, Bayyaram, Gundala and Manuguda. The apex court, however, stayed its own order. The villagers have been on protest path since then. The forest land under podu, a form of shifting cultivation, has been a controversial issue for a long time and TRS government had earlier assured that it would resolve the issue, but it was still hanging fire.
In the backdrop of the raging podu land issue, Maoists cadre have been reportedly spreading information that villagers would become homeless and jobless.
"Using the podu land issue, the Maoist party has been spreading misinformation. We have information that 30-40 Maoist cadres visited the villages and instigated people. We suspect Maoist leaders Haribhushan and Damodar were among those visiting villages," a senior Telangana police officer told **TOI**.
Also, Maoist posters have surfaced in interior villages, hinting that the outlawed naxalites were moving in those areas.

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T, AP to resolve water disputes amicably

Jagan Accepts Kaleswaram Project Invite

Gopi.Dara@timesgroup.com

Vijayawada: Andhra Pradesh chief minister Y S Jaganmohan Reddy has accepted his Telangana counterpart K Chandrasekhar Rao's invitation to attend the inauguration of the Kaleswaram Project on June 21. On Monday, KCR met Jaganmohan Reddy at the latter's Tadepalli residence to invite him.

The two chief ministers discussed issues such as inter-state river water, irrigation projects on Krishna and Godavari rivers, distribution of the institutions in the Schedule IX and X of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act apart from other issues concerning both states.

It is said that the two chief ministers have agreed to solve problems related to sharing of Krishna and Godavari waters and the projects proposed by the two states on the rivers without going to river water dispute tribunals.

The chief ministers



CM K Chandrasekhar Rao with AP CM YS Jaganmohan Reddy at Ganapati Sachidananda Ashramam near Vijayawada on Monday

have also decided to convene a meeting of chief secretaries of AP and Telangana on June 24. The secretaries, engineers and other senior officials of the water resources department are also likely to be present at this meeting to resolve the inter-state water issues.

Sources said KCR and Jagan had an initial talk about taking up a combined lift irrigation project on the Godavari to pump water into Nagarjuna Sagar reservoir. This would help both the states to share the Godavari water from this reservoir. This project, if conceived and completed, would benefit Guntur and Prakasam districts through

Nagarjuna Sagar right canal.

They have also agreed to start distribution of assets and liabilities of RTC and give directions to officials. As the AP chief minister had proposed RTC merger with the government, the issue was decided to be taken up as priority to settle.

Earlier, KCR had darshan at Kanaka Durga temple. He then went to the Andhra Pradesh CMO, where he had lunch with Jaganmohan Reddy, along with TRS working president KT Rama Rao, MP Santhosh Kumar and former MP G Vinod, among others. KCR stopped at Prakasam Barrage on the way.

Jumbo tramples 2 women to death

Kamalakar.Rao
@timesgroup.com

Srikakulam: In another episode of man-animal conflict in Srikakulam, that has been on since 2007, an elephant trampled and killed two women in the district on Monday. The deceased were identified as Savara Gayamma (53) and Savara Bodemma (65) from Seethampeta mandal.

Speaking to TOI, Srikakulam district forest officer Ch Swaroop said that four female elephants have been roaming near Seethampeta mandal for water.

"The elephant, who attacked the two women in the pineapple field, seems to have gotten separated from its herd. While it crushed Gayamma to death, Bodemma escaped with injuries," he said. However, after locals rushed Bodemma to Rajiv Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) in Srikakulam town, she was declared brought dead by doctors.

Swaroop further said that a herd of 11 elephants had entered Srikakulam district in 2007 from Lakheri forest of Odisha. Seven elephants died due to various reasons, including electrocution in the last 12 years. "Only four elephants are presently roaming the forest bordering Vizianagaram and Srikakulam. All of

Srikakulam district forest officer Ch Swaroop said that four female elephants have been roaming near Seethampeta mandal for water

them are aged around 12-14 years and are female," Swaroop said.

He told TOI that the forest department will provide a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the kin of each deceased and take appropriate precautionary measures.

Meanwhile, on learning about the incident, Seethampeta Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) project officer L Shiva Shankar Shankar said that an alert has been issued regarding the elephants. He said that all necessary steps like compensation and benefits from the ITDA would be extended to the kin of the deceased.

With these two deaths, the number of people killed by the elephants in the last 12 years in both Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts rises to 13. The district forest officer said that the department has paid a compensation of around ₹83 lakh to the kin of the deceased and for the destruction of crops in nearly 250 acres of land.

Woman ends life: A 35-year-old woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging at her home in Pedagantyada, Vizag on Monday. The deceased was identified as K Varalakshmi. Police suspect family disputes may have led to the suicide. A case was registered. TNN

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9-yr-old killed in road accident

Tirupati: A 9-year-old boy, Loka Prasad, on pilgrimage with his family was killed in a road accident in Tirupati when the driver of an SUV lost control of the vehicle and hit the devotees. Tirumala police have registered a case against the driver who reportedly suffered a seizure and lost control of his vehicle.

Real estate agent burnt to death

Tirupati: A real estate agent died after he was set ablaze by unidentified men in Adoni town of Kurnool district on Sunday night. The victim, Basavaraj (43), was reportedly invited over by the accused for drinks. A case was registered and police have launched a manhunt.

Sandalwood seized in joint op by AP, Kerala

Sandeep.Raghavan
@timesgroup.com

Tirupati: Officials from Kerala and Andhra Pradesh forest departments jointly raided an abandoned sandalwood processing unit that had closed down about 10 years ago and seized around 450 kg of sandalwood in the form of chips and dust, near Gudipala in Chittoor district in the late hours of Sunday.

According to Chittoor East DFO Jagannadh Singh, based on the inputs shared by a sandalwood smuggler Shohibe (34), who was recently taken into custody by the Kerala forest department, a team of around 20 forest department officials led by Munnar DFO Narendra Babu arrived in Chittoor on Sunday in search of the sandalwood dump. "The accused led us to an abandoned sandalwood processing unit where we discovered nearly 450 kg of sandalwood

log," the DFO added. The owner of the abandoned processing unit was taken into custody by the forest department officials.

Meanwhile, officials from the Kerala forest department maintained that they were initially taken into custody by their Andhra Pradesh counterparts but were later released after their identities were confirmed, in addition to ministerial level intervention.

The Kerala team also maintained that their AP counterparts had told them that since the raids were carried out near Chittoor, the seized goods would remain in the custody of Andhra Pradesh.

However, S Saravanan, chief conservator of forests, wildlife management, Tirupati circle, denied the version of the Kerala forest department. Saravanan said the question of detention of the Kerala forest team did not arise.

Searing heat gobbles up 3L poultry birds

Venkatesh.Bayya
@timesgroup.com

Visakhapatnam: Soaring temperatures have claimed the lives of over three lakh poultry birds in the district. MET authorities revealed that temperatures touched 43.6°C in the city while it reached 45°C in the rural belt on Saturday.

"The commercial farmers have suffered more damage. While birds in backyard farms are better able to tolerate high temperatures, those in commercial farms find it difficult to survive as they are packed together in large concrete or metal boxes," said D Ramakrishna, joint director of the animal husbandry department.

Ramakrishna further said that according to the 2015 census there were over 57 lakh birds in the district. The number now, could range anywhere between 1-1.5 crore, he added. Most of the big farms in the district are situated in the core rural mandals

of Anakapalli, Kasimkota, Yelamanchili, Rambili and Nakkapalli.

Given the circumstances, the joint director said that a mandal-wise survey will be conducted in areas where complaints have been raised and all backyard poultry farmers will be compensated.

Thatraju Adinarayana, president of Broiler Farmers' Welfare Association, Greater Visakha, said, "Last week was terrible and many birds died. However, the rate of death has dropped over the last two days. We hope the prices will fall by the end of the month. As of now, undressed chicken is being sold for ₹220 per kilo, while dressed chicken is being sold for ₹180 a kilo."

Addressing rumour that dead birds are being sold to restaurants, Adinarayana said the dead birds are being buried deep in the ground. He said the cumulative loss could be around ₹10 crore.

Leopard attacks 2 girls in Tirumala

Sandeep.Raghavan
@timesgroup.com

Tirupati: Two young girls sustained injuries when a leopard attacked them on the second ghat road leading to Tirumala on Sunday night.

Pavani, 13 and Yamini (21), both residents of Balaji nagar in Tirumala, were returning home from Tirupati accompanied by their respective fathers on two two-wheelers when a leopard pounced upon them and attempted to drag the girls away.

In a bid to save their daughters, one of the fathers found a log and somehow managed to scare the leopard away.

The girls sustained minor injuries on their legs and were rushed to Ashwini Hospital at

Tirumala for treatment, where they are under observation.

Locals and devotees in the area are now living in fear following the attack. Some locals said that forest department officials of the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) have done little to prevent leopard attacks.

"Even though a leopard was spotted near Mokalla Mettu on May 8, which is close to where the incident occurred on Sunday, the forest department has done nothing to capture the leopard," said a resident of Tirumala on condition of anonymity.

However, the forest department was unable to confirm whether the leopard who attacked the girls was the same as the one spotted near Mokalla Mettu earlier.

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POACHING CASE: JODHPUR COURT REJECTS PROSECUTION PLEA TO TRY SALMAN KHAN FOR FILING 'FALSE' AFFIDAVITS



STATUE OF MAHATMA GANDHI FOUND VANDALISED INSIDE A GOVERNMENT-RUN SCHOOL IN ODISHA'S BALASORE TOWN

Trade row to be part of Modi-Trump talks

Indrani Bagchi @timesgroup.com



PM Narendra Modi with US President Donald Trump in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington in this June 2017 photo. Modi, Trump and Japanese PM Shinzo Abe are also expected to hold the second meeting of the JAI trilateral — the core grouping in the Indo-Pacific

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump will attempt to break a growing deadlock on trade while taking forward an increasingly deeper strategic relationship when they meet on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Osaka in June end.

Modi, Trump and Japanese PM Shinzo Abe are also expected to hold the second meeting of the JAI trilateral — the core grouping in the Indo-Pacific.

But all eyes will be on the Modi-Trump meeting, which will be preceded by a meeting between external affairs minister S Jaishankar and US secretary of state Mike Pompeo in Delhi early next week. Pompeo is expected to make a policy statement in New Delhi to clarify on US policies and priorities with India.

New commerce minister Piyush Goyal is also expected to have his first conversation with his American counterpart Robert Lighthizer in the coming days. Sources said, Goyal has indicated that India may not negotiate on the withdrawal of GSP.

In fact, the government has identified some 151 items they want to export to take advantage of the US-China trade tensions. Lighthizer is believed to be implacably opposed to India and will push hard at trade and policy issues, and has threatened to impose Special 301 investigations on India.

While trade is a problem area for India and US, the strategic dimension is gaining momentum.

In the US Senate, Mark Warner (Democrat) and John Cornyn (Republican) have introduced an amendment to the Defense Authorization Act asking for India to get the same access as the US' NATO allies, which will make it much easier for India to purchase high-tech de-

Bill in Senate to bring India on par with US' Nato allies

Washington: Two top American lawmakers have moved a legislation in the Senate, seeking key amendment in the country's Arms Control Export Act to bring India on par with the US' Nato allies. US lawmakers moved legislation to bring India at par with Nato allies — Israel, Australia, New Zealand and South Korea — when it comes to sale of high-tech military items.

The necessary amendment to the US Arms Control Act has been moved by Senators Mark Warner, a Democrat, and John Cornyn, a Republican, which if enacted, will further institutionalise the recent designation of India as a major defence partner of the US.

Platforms and equipment from the US, India has ordered Sea Guardians, multi-role MH-60 'Romeo' helicopters and NASAMS from America.

The US also wants to sell fighter aircraft and a missile defence system to India. But first, a trade dispute has to be resolved.

1st day, 1st show: New MPs flaunt culture

Ambika Pandit & Sushmi Dey | TNN

New Delhi: The portico of the majestic Parliament House presented a colourful picture on the first day of the 17th Lok Sabha with most of the elected members choosing to turn up in their traditional attire. The euphoria was visible, especially among the new members who made the most of the 'photo-op' in front of a battery of mediapersons, moments before or after taking oath.

Some took off their shoes and bowed at the steps before entering the building. Apart from the carefully chosen dress, many members also took oath in different regional languages. Hindi was the most preferred language while some chose to take oath in Kannada, Maithili, Dogri, Bengali, Kashmiri, Manipuri and even Sanskrit.

BJP MPs Harsh Vardhan and Jitendra Singh took oath in Sanskrit and Dogri respectively. Three MPs from Bihar - Gopal Jee Thakur from Darbhan-



(Left) Newly-elected MPs from Bihar Gopal Jee Thakur and Ashok Kumar Yadav, (right) BJP MP from Mysore-Kodagu Pratap Simha arrives at the Parliament on Monday

ga (BJP), Rampriti Mandal from Jharkhand (JD-U) and Ashok Kumar Yadav from Madhubani (BJP) — took oath in Maithili. Thakur and Yadav were dressed in colourful 'Mithilanchal' attire while BJP

MP from Mysuru Pratap Simha's traditional Coorg dress attracted much attention. Two others - Janardan Singh Sigriwal from Maharashtra (BJP) and Rajiv Pratap Rudy from Saran (BJP) - ex-



pressed their desire to take oath in Bhojpuri, but ended up taking oath in Hindi since Bhojpuri is not one of the recognised languages under Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Most women MPs came

from Hatkanangle in Maharashtra, Dhairyashel Sambhajirao Mane, said he could feel a "vibe of nationalism, positive energy and high spirit" in Parliament with so many young faces. "It feels like my first day in school. The excitement of being here is huge," said Sumalatha Ambresh, MP from Mandya in Karnataka.

Telugu actor and the lone independent woman MP Navneet Kaur Rana, who won from Amravati, said her initial nervousness gave way to excitement when she saw other women members. "I hope to raise important issues in Parliament in the next five years," she said.

PM: Active, effective oppn is a necessity

► From P 1

"Sometimes such positive contributions are not noticed as they do not get high TRPs," he said. Though he did not mention the media, he said highlighting such efforts would strengthen the functioning of Parliament.



Modi noted that the recent elections have yielded several firsts such as the highest number of voters exercising their franchise since Independence, a high number of women voters and a higher representation for women in Parlia-

ment. "It is also after several decades that a government has been re-elected with a bigger majority," he said.

Referring to his recent speeches, the Prime Minister said that "we started with 'sab ka saath, sab ka vikas', but the people have added an unprecedented 'vishwas' (trust) to the matter".

He said Monday marks the start of the first session after the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. "I welcome all new MPs. With them comes new hope, new aspirations and new determination to serve," he said.

Modi, Shah & Rahul take oath

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Monday led the swearing-in of new members of Lok Sabha to the chants of "Modi, Modi" and thumping of the desk from the BJP ranks, setting in motion the 17th Lok Sabha which bears an overwhelming BJP presence and a heavily shrunk opposition camp.

The short oath in Hindi by the PM unveiled the process with pro-tem Speaker Virendra Kumar in chair. The panel of presiding officers, K. Suresh of Congress, Brij Bhushan Saran Singh of BJP and Bhartruhari Mahabab of BJD, followed Modi in taking oath.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh was first among the ministers to take oath, fol-

Cong fails to name leaders in LS

Congress on Monday failed to name its leadership in the Lok Sabha but there were indications that the party may retain Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and Kodikunni Suresh, who were deputed to attend the all-party meeting on the eve of Parliament session. Chowdhury is tipped to be the leader and Suresh may be the deputy leader. TNN

lowed by home minister and BJP chief Amit Shah. But the loudest applause was reserved for women and child development minister Smriti Irani, evidently for her giant-killing feat of defeating Con-

gress president Rahul Gandhi in Gandhi family borough of Amethi. Modi and Shah were among those who enthusiastically thumped the desk.

Irani walked around and greeted Sonia Gandhi, who reciprocated the gesture. While the House started with bustle in the treasury benches dominated by the BJP, the opposition camp led by Congress wore a quiet look. The benches were headed by Congress matriarch Sonia Gandhi in the absence of party chief Rahul Gandhi.

The beginning of the morning session saw the ruling camp poking fun at the Gandhi scion. Minister of state Ramdas Athavale shouted, "where is Rahul Gandhi?", which led to mocking replies from his colleagues.

Gujarat Cong moves SC for simultaneous RS elections

Dhananjay Mahapatra @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Congress on Monday moved the Supreme Court seeking simultaneous polls for two Rajya Sabha seats from the state, vacated by BJP leaders Amit Shah and Smriti Irani after their election to Lok Sabha, while accusing the NDA government of influencing the Election Commission to hold separate polls for the seats to enable the saffron party corner both in a "breach of the spirit" of proportional representation.

Leader of opposition in Gujarat Assembly, Pareshbhai Dhanani, sought quashing of the EC's June 15 notification treating the two seats as stray vacancies to warrant separate polls. He said holding of separate elections for the two seats would deny Congress one of the seats which it is entitled to as per its strength in Assembly and as per the law mandating proportional representation in Rajya Sabha.

At present, in the 182-member Gujarat assembly, BJP has 100 MLAs while Congress has 71. If separate polls are held for the two seats, both will be bagged by BJP. The petition filed through advocate Varun K Chopra argued that as per the Representation of the People Act, representatives of each state to Rajya Sabha shall be elected by the members of assembly in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.

"The conduct of election for each vacancy separately would only lead to one result, that is, the victory of the party which commands simple majority in the state legislature," Dhanani said.

Congress analytics chief hits back at 'incorrect feedback' reports

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid reports of a blame game centering around "incorrect feedback" to Congress leadership, the party's data analytics department chief Praveen Chakravarty termed the spate of media comment levelling allegations against him as "plain rubbish".

In a statement Monday, Chakravarty, without specifying a particular report, said, "every line in that column is a lie." He added "similar stories, masquerading as investigative pieces, were plain rubbish... utter disgrace to Indian journalism".

But the data chief's strong rebuttal of criticism of his functioning notwithstanding, there is resentment in the party over how the data department got the public mood so wrong, which was said to be based on regular polls done through an "undisclosed process".



There is resentment in Congress over how Praveen Chakravarty-led data department got the public mood so wrong, which was based on regular polls done

According to senior leaders, the election challenge became difficult after Pulwama terror attack and Balakot response, as BJP seized the nationalism plank. In that backdrop, the fight should have been less about PM Narendra Modi and more about "our issues", they said.

However, feedback to the Congress chief continued to say that there was no post-Balakot sentiment and that Rafale scam was striking a chord with people. It is said to be the reason behind Rahul Gandhi's increasing belligerence over "chowkidar chor hai" campaign. Though the attack is focussed on the data department, the leader-

ship's own assessment of the popular mood and reliance on surveys is also being mentioned though in subdued tones.

Party leaders say that data department's feedback was questioned on several occasions and in one meeting, a veteran even accused Chakravarty of "overselling his polls", saying they could not be trusted. However, the data department prevailed.

Also, the Shakti platform, which was designed as a network of booth-level workers and said to have pooled a massive membership, is viewed to have been a non-starter. Given the results, partymen argue that

door-to-door mobilisation did not happen and are questioning the claims made earlier. Some of the anger against Chakravarty is seen as expected given that he rose sharply in the party over a phalanx of veterans and was accorded a special place by the party chief.

No sooner did he issue his rebuttal that a government order came in circulation that mentioned the appointment of Chakravarty as a member in a panel constituted by NITI Aayog under the BJP government in 2017. The implication was that Chakravarty was not a Congress person.

But some argued Chakravarty joined the party after the said NITI Aayog order, which explained the issue. As he faces the wrath of partymen, the AICC data chief's response suggested that he is likely to continue in his position and retain the faith of Congress leadership.

Humble and affable, says PM about Nadda

► From P 1

Since Shah will need to meet his ministerial commitments, Nadda, as a full-time party functionary is expected to help him with the nitty-gritties of organisational tasks.

"I am confident that under the leadership of Amit Shah and J P Nadda, and powered by the hard work of our karyakartas (workers), BJP will continue winning people's trust and serving our society. We remain committed to building a strong, developed and inclusive India," Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted.

Modi said Nadda a diligent worker who has risen through the ranks due to his hard work and organisational skills. "Humble and affable, he is widely respected across the BJP family. Congratulations to him on becoming the working president of the party," the Prime Minister added.

Announcing the decision, defence minister Rajnath Singh said, "BJP won several elections under leadership of Amit Shah. But since PM appointed him home minister, Amit Shah himself said the responsibility of party president should be given to someone else. BJP Parliamentary board has selected J P Nadda as working president."

This will be the first time the party has appointed a working president. After considerable discussion it was decided that Shah's continuation would be required in view of important state elections coming up and the party also announced a membership drive and organisational elections that will keep cadre busy for several months.



Modi said Nadda a diligent worker who has risen through the ranks due to his hard work and organisational skills. "Humble and affable, he is widely respected across the BJP family. Congratulations to him on becoming the working president of the party," the Prime Minister added.

Med stir ends, tight security for docs among steps decided

► From P 1

The administration-medical fraternity face-off escalated after Matata issued a stern warning of action against the strike during her visit to SSKM Hospital last Thursday. What could have also played on their minds was the rising public opinion against the continuing strike, especially after the CM's appeal for talks last weekend.

The striking doctors returned to the NRS campus on Monday evening and, after another general-body meeting, made a statement: "We hereby announce the withdrawal of the strike by junior doctors."

Several issues were discussed at the Nabanna meeting. They ranged from security measures — collapsible gates for emergency wards, regulated entry for patients' kin and enhanced

KEY DECISIONS

- Security of hospitals to be revamped in 3 weeks
- Not more than two persons can accompany patients
- A nodal officer to be appointed in Kolkata and districts to look after security of all medical colleges and hospitals
- Hospitals to have

- spokespersons, or grief counsellors, who will deal with patients' family instead of the doctors
- A panic button, directly connected to the local police station, to be installed
- Departmental enquiry into police inaction at NRS hospital on June 10

police presence on medical campuses with nodal officers responsible for law and order — to the CM's suggestion for third-party PR professionals, who could act as grief counsellors and handle communication between "overworked doctors" and "aggravated patients' kin" and bridge the gap as well as evacuate cells for patients.

The meeting was held, the CM's caring touch and concrete suggestions and assurances to the issues raised by us. We came here for a discussion because we wanted a solution. The CM's commitment has assured us that our concerns will be looked into and appropriate action taken against the unwanted incidents," one of the junior doctors said after emerging from the meeting.

Trinamool MLA, 12 councillors switch over to BJP

New Delhi/Kolkata: Trinamool Congress MLA from Noapara Sunil Singh joined BJP in New Delhi on Monday, just three days after sharing the dais with his leader West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee. Singh's switchover is the third instance of desertion from the Trinamool camp after the Lok Sabha polls.

Sunil, who is also the chairperson of Garulia municipality, took the BJP flag in the presence of the party's national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya and state leader Mukul Roy. Sunil had 12 TMC councillors of the 21-member civic body with him. The saffron party now has a majority in Bhatpara, Kancharapara, Naihata, Halisahar and Garulia municipalities where the ruling Trinamool had an unchallenged sway.

With Sunil joining BJP, Barrackpore constituency has come under the watch of its MP, Arjun Singh. TNN

Study Deendayal, Syama Prasad to understand us: BJP netas to China

Saibal Dasgupta | TNN

Beijing: A section of BJP is advising Chinese experts to study the works of RSS thinker Deendayal Upadhyaya and Syama Prasad Mookerjee in order to understand the new political order in India.

"Chinese thinkers must study Pt Upadhyaya and Dr Mookerjee to understand the new changes occurring in India under Prime Minister Modi's leadership," BJP leader Tarun Vijay said at a meeting organised by the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) at Sichuan University, in southwest China's Chengdu city.

Several "revolutionary decisions" taken by the Modi government on issues like popularing yoga, farmers' insurance and cheap cooking gas for the poor were inspired by Up-

adhyaya's ideology of integral humanism, Vijay told TOI after the meeting.

BJP leaders, including Vijay and Ram Madhav, have been trying to build a relationship with Chinese authorities on their own, apart from the government-to-government relationship. Madhav recently joined other leaders in hosting Li Xi, a member of the CPC politburo and secretary of the CPC Guangdong provincial committee, who was visiting India.

Oppn protests against Pragma for adding guru's name in oath

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP MP from Bhopal Sadhvi Pragma Singh Thakur's reference to the name of her spiritual guru with hers while taking oath drew sharp protests from opposition benches and briefly held up proceedings, leading BJP members to raise "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" each time one of them took oath.

Amid protests and shouts, Thakur said it was her full name and she had mentioned it in the oath-taking form. The mention of Swami Purna Chetnanand Avdheshanand Giri as suffix to Pragma's name triggered the protests and soon BJP benches were seen responding with loud slogans as well.

Pro-tem Speaker Virendra Kumar sought to know Pragma Singh's full name from the Lok Sabha secretary general. Amid the din, Kumar ruled that only the name written in her election certificate issued by the returning officer would go on record.

Thakur took oath in Sanskrit and ended it with "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" slogan. She defeated Congress veteran Digvijaya Singh by a margin of over 3.5 lakh votes to enter Lok Sabha.

In his speech at Sichuan University, Vijay said, "It will be better if the ideological belief of the new India's leaders expressed through the writings of Pandit Upadhyaya's integral humanism and Dr Mookerjee's cultural nationalism is also studied".

Elaborating, he said that "cultural nationalism and integral humanism, which speak for the last man's progress (antyyodaya), are the main sources of civilisational inspiration of BJP within the constitutional framework of the republic".

Vijay promised to send literature on Upadhyaya and Mookerjee to ISAS executive director Li Tao. "So far they have read the history about our leaders written by Leftist writers. This is why we are sending our literature," he told TOI.

JUST LIKE THAT AJIT NANAN

New Attendance Monitoring Organ

HC curbs on wedding blitz in U'khand by SA's Guptas

Vineet Upadhyay
@timesgroup.com

Nainital: Uttarakhand high court (HC) while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) regarding the high-profile wedding of South Africa's Gupta family at Auli in the Garhwal Himalayas, prevented operating of helicopter services and construction of heli-pad at the venue.

The order, issued by the division bench of Chief Justice Ramesh Ranganathan and Justice Alok Kumar Verma, said, "If as contended on behalf of the petitioner, there is no heli-pad at Auli, and prior to this event, helicopter services were not provided to the said place, the private respondents shall neither construct a heli-pad nor extend helicopter services to such places as that would have an adverse impact on the environment." The judges however allowed the family "to use the nearest heli-pad after obtaining the requisite permission from the authorities concerned."

Earlier, during deliberations, the judges came down heavily on the state government saying that the first responsibility of the government is the state and not "some rich businessman". They also directed the government to ensure that these mindless pursuits of holding marriage celebrations at exotic locations do not result in irreparable environmental degradation.

The court also directed the state PCB to monitor the events of the wedding constantly to check on the environment and ecology of the area.

Armoured vehicle saved soldiers' lives

From P 1

In the third attack in 24 hours, terrorists lobbed a grenade at the headquarters of the 180 CRPF battalion camp in Tral sub-district of Pulwama late on Monday evening. The grenade exploded outside the headquarters. No casualties have been reported.

The first attack happened on Monday morning when a team of securitymen was on a cordon-and-search operation in Achabal. Terrorists fired at the team, who then retaliated.

In the Pulwama attack, the terrorists after setting off the IED, opened fire at the Army vehicle. "Initial reports reveal the vehicle suffered extensive damage," the official said. Three of the soldiers injured in the blast were said to be serious, sources said. Soon after the attack, Army, police and SOG reinforcements were rushed to the spot and a massive search operation was launched. A defence spokesman, however, said some of the men sustained minor injuries in the IED blast. Damage was minimal due to the alertness of the patrol party, he said. The vehicle was an armoured ALS and not a Caspir (a mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicle), he added.

Oberoi 'rape' case: Woman held for criminal conspiracy

34-Year-Old Had Filed False Info In 2nd FIR On Assault, Threat

V.Narayan@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The Oshiwara police on Monday arrested a 34-year-old woman who had on May 4 accused television actor Karan Oberoi of rape. She was held for alleged criminal conspiracy and filing false information in a second FIR on May 25 about an assault and threat received to drop the case against the actor.

The arrest comes a week after police had assured Bombay high court that they would take "appropriate action" against her for allegedly conspiring to stage the assault on herself. Police produced her before a night magistrate and asked for her to be sent to judicial custody as investigation showed she had filed a false case of the "staged attack". She was granted bail. She denied she had anything to do with the assault conspiracy.

She had alleged in the second FIR that she was out on morning walk when she was attacked with a paper cutter by two bikers and was given a chit, saying "Take the case back". Senior police officer Shailesh Pasalwar of Oshiwara police station told TOI: "We have arrested the woman based on technical evidence and also the confession statements of the four youths and her ex-lawyer... We are collecting more evidence. The woman has been

ARREST A WEEK AFTER HC PLEDGE

THE CASE
May 4, 2019 | A 34-year-old woman who claims to be an astrologer files an FIR alleging rape and extortion against actor **Karan Oberoi**. She alleges rape between Jan 2017 and February 2018 after a promise of marriage
May 5 (Sunday) | Oberoi arrested
May 10 | Actor seeks bail, denied a week later
May 28 | Moves HC for bail
June 7 | Over a month after arrest, Bombay HC grants him bail after observing prima facie the rape FIR is doubtful

THE SECOND CASE
May 25 | Rape accuser files a 2nd FIR for assault, threat to withdraw rape plaint
May 30 | Police arrest 4 men
May 31 | They get bail. One claims her lawyer Ali Kaasif Khan, who's his cousin, had directed them to carry out the attack
June 3 | Lawyer surrenders, get bail
June 7 | Prosecution tells HC police will take appropriate action against woman "who is the mastermind of the said attack dated 25th May, 2019"
June 17 | Woman arrested



SECTIONS INVOKED AGAINST ASTROLOGER

IPC Section 182 | Giving false info with intent to cause a public servant to use his power to the detriment of another person
Max Punishment | Six months' jail and/or ₹1,00,000 fine

IPC Sec 203 | A person giving info on that offence which s/he knows or believes to be false
Max Punishment | Imprisonment of up to two years and/or fine

IPC Section 120B | Criminal conspiracy
Max Punishment | Same as that of crime (if attracting a jail term of more than 2 years) committed

booked under the Indian Penal Code sections for 120 (B) (criminal conspiracy), 182 (false information), with intent to cause public servant to use his lawful power to the injury of another person) and 203 (giving false information). "While seeking bail for her, the woman's lawyer Mansha Bhatia said her client was cooperating with the police. "As my client had nothing to hide, we never felt the need to seek anticipatory bail. She has always cooperated with the police and always

been upfront and fearless while dealing with the case," she said, adding: "Investigation will soon reveal that my client is a victim and had nothing to do with this matter."

Police had arrested the four alleged attackers on May 30, and learnt from them that one of them is related to her former lawyer Ali Kaasif Khan and was asked by him to stage the attack. Khan surrendered to the police on June 3, and denied the charge. Khan alleged he was being framed and it was the woman who had hatched the attack plan.

The remand application against the woman says when her lawyer was arrested he said the attack plan was discussed by her with his cousin who is one of the alleged assailants, Altamash Ansari, on May 24, one day prior to the attack. On June 5, she wrote to the police denying her lawyer's accusation as "absolutely false". There was "absolutely no reasons for me to ever do so"... "even on wrong advice of any advocate", she had told the police.

Assistant public prosecutor S V Gavand had on June 7 informed Justice Revati Mohite-Dere of Bombay HC that the "second FIR lodged on May 25, is found to be false." The prosecutor had also said, investigation in the second FIR reveals that the attack on the complainant was staged by the complainant herself in connivance with her lawyer and others.

Niti's new roadmap: Sell only EVs, phase out gasoline by 2030

Dipak Dash@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The government's think tank NITI Aayog has proposed that only electric vehicles should be sold after 2030, expanding the scope of the clean fuel technology beyond two-and three-wheelers. Earlier, a panel headed by NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant had suggested that only electric-powered three-wheelers and two-wheelers with engine capacity of up to 150cc should be sold from 2025.

Now, it has moved a Cabinet note seeking to fix responsibility for different ministries, with the road transport and highways ministry proposed to prepare a framework to phase out the sale of diesel and petrol vehicles by 2030.

It has also suggested that the ministry pilots an e-highways programme — with an overhead electricity network — to enable plying of trucks and buses on select National



NHAI will roll out an experiment of gantry-based tolling system on the Panipat-Ambala stretch of NH-44 which will enable commuters to zip through tolls even at 100-120 kmph

Highways. The proposals are part of the plan to manufacture 50 Gigawatt hour (GWh) batteries by 2030.

The plan comes amid intense lobbying by the automobile industry, which is opposed to the push for 100% electric vehicles, with the Japanese and Korean companies leading the charge with support from Indian veterans such as Rahul Bajaj and Venu Srinivasan. Transport minister Nitin Gadkari — who had once threatened to mandate EVs from 2030 — has now said

that the roadmap will be decided after consulting the industry.

The Cabinet suggested that Gadkari's ministry be tasked with issuing norms for cab aggregators to replace all diesel and petrol-fuelled vehicles with EVs by 2030.

Similarly, the heavy industries ministry would go for complete replacement of all diesel/ petrol vehicles with EVs of all central ministries, agencies and public sector by 2030.

Full report on www.toi.in

Removal of voter's name from list sans hearing illegal: Kerala HC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kochi: It is illegal to remove a voter from the electoral roll without giving him an opportunity of hearing, the Kerala high court has said. Inaction by the voter in getting his name restored also won't justify such action, the court said.

The judgement by Justice Shaji P Chaly came after considering a petition filed by 64-year-old A Subair of Chala in Thiru-

vananthapuram, questioning the removal of his name from the voters' list prepared for the Lok Sabha elections this year. Names of his wife and daughter were retained while his was removed on the report of a booth-level officer that he had changed his residence. Referring to Section 22 of the Representation of the People Act of 1950, the court pointed out that the statute said the voter should be given a reasonable oppor-

tunity of being heard. The judgement said, "On an evaluation of the said provision, it is explicit that it is peremptory in nature and can never be brushed aside or overlooked. The electoral registration officer is duty bound to give the person concerned a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of the action proposed to be taken... No opportunity of hearing was given to the petitioner in this case."

Houdini trick becomes last act for Kolkata's Mandrake

Dwaipayan Ghosh
@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: After a day-long search for magician Chanchal Lahiri (41), who disappeared while performing an underwater escape act in the Hooghly, police on Monday fished out his body from near Howrah. Later in the evening, Lahiri's brother identified his body. An initial police probe established that Lahiri on Sunday had made several mistakes while attempting the stunt popularised by the famous illusionist and stunt performer Harry Houdini almost 100 years ago.

Lahiri, who was to come out of the water after being thrown in with his hands and feet bound, had not only failed to explain his entire act — including his escape plan — to his team, but also wore cumbersome clothing and guards that made swimming in the strong current extremely difficult.

Magician P C Sarkar, a master of such stunts, said perhaps Lahiri "needed a little more practice". Lahiri's team, too, waited about 15 minutes after he was lowered into the water to raise an alarm. "When he did not



STUNT GONE WRONG: Magician Chanchal Lahiri, known by his stage name 'Jadugar Mandrake', was bound and lowered into the Hooghly as part of a stunt. His body was fished out on Monday

surface for a long time, people panicked. Some onlookers said they saw a man struggling, seeking help, in the middle of the river. Police were informed and a team of divers from the disaster management group

joined the rescue operation," said DC (Port) Syed Waqar Raza.

In 2013, when Lahiri performed the same stunt, he was assaulted by the crowd who claimed they felt cheated.

Ex-cop lives with decomposed body of daughter

Rajeev Dikshit@timesgroup.com

Varanasi: A retired police sub-inspector and his wife allegedly lived with the decomposed body of their 30-year-old daughter in their village home in Mirzapur district for over a month until their neighbours got wind of it.

Dilawar Khan's two sons, who live in Aligarh, had allegedly planned a burial for their sister Zeenat on Monday, but police arrived before the body could be taken away. "We are awaiting the post-mortem report to know the actual cause of her death. Since we have not received any complaint so far, no decision has been taken yet to start a case," Mirzapur ASP (City) P Sandey said.

Residents of the Hathiyaphatak neighbourhood suspect that Zeenat died over a month ago. "The stench of the decaying body was first felt a week after her estimated time of death. We informed the police about it but Dilawar would demand to see a search warrant each time the cops visited his house," a neighbour said.

"Finally, some locals contacted Dilawar's two sons over phone who. When they reached their ancestral home on Sunday, they discovered their sister's body," Sandey said. The brothers claimed that Zeenat was mentally challenged and this had taken a toll on their parents' mental health too.

MHA to rank police stations for better governance

Sidhartha@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The home ministry has kicked off an exercise to rank the country's best police stations based on various parameters, setting the stage for a competition for better governance at the grassroot level.

A similar exercise had been undertaken in 2017 but sources said this time the exercise is expected to be more comprehensive and comes after ranking of states on various parameters as well as a race among 115 of the country's most backward or aspirational districts to improve their performance.

While the consultants have been asked to plan a comprehensive evaluation approach, the home ministry has suggested at least seven dimensions for assessment. Each police station will be assessed on crime prevention, including economic offences, and the proactive measures adopted by it. The evaluation will also look at the Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems and other technology, including forensic systems.

Last time, citizen feedback and infrastructure accounted for only 20% weight in the scoring matrix with 80% on other aspects such as crime prevention

But one of the most important parameters will be citizen perception and feedback, as the common man has often been wary of dealing with the police force and is usually reluctant to visit the police station.

Last time, citizen feedback and infrastructure accounted for only 20% weight in the scoring matrix with 80% on other aspects such as crime prevention.

The evaluation itself will be a two-stage process with the first one focused on objective short-listing of police stations using the crime data available with the National Crime Record Bureau. Based on this, the ranking will be done and a defined sample will be short-listed based on their performance emerging from the weighted analysis of the crime data.

NHAI to try new toll system to ease traffic

Dipak Dash@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Exploring new options to beat congestion at toll plazas, NHAI will roll out an experiment of gantry-based tolling system on the Panipat-Ambala stretch of NH-44.

In gantry-based tolling system, there will be no toll gate and the gantry placed above the entire width of the road will be fitted with advanced equipment to read RFID card and registration number plate etc.

NHAI had been preparing to introduce this new tolling system which will enable commuters to zip through toll plazas even at 100-120 kmph speed and charges will be automatically deducted from the tag. But before rolling it out, it required to try out the system in India. IHMCL, a company set up by NHAI to deal with all issues relating to traffic and tolling, has invited applications for setting up of six multi-lane free-flow RFID gantry-based tolling at three locations including three intersections of NH and state highways.

Currently, there is no Indian firm with experience in this field and hence foreign players may join hands with Indian partners to bid for the pilot.

Jharkhand last got a 'new' medical college 50 yrs back

Rema Nagarajan
@timesgroup.com

Can you believe that there is a state that hasn't had a single new medical college opening in half a century?

The last medical college to open in Jharkhand was the government-run Patliputra Medical College in Dhanbad in 1969, long before the state even came into existence. There are just two more medical colleges in the state, both government-run, opened in 1960 and 1961. Jharkhand also happens to be the state with the worst doctor to population ratio of close to one for every 8,200 people.

In spite of this, even in 2019, the year that witnessed the largest ever expansion of medical seats, especially government seats, Jharkhand did not get a single new college. About 231 medical colleges have been opened across India since 2010, yet not one in Jharkhand. An AIIMS has been sanctioned for Deoghar in the state, but that's still in the pipeline. Chhattisgarh is another state with an abysmal doctor-population ratio of 1:4,338. Yet, it too got no new colleges in the 2019 mega expansion. Bihar, with a doctor-population ratio worse than 1:3,207 got just one new private college. Thus the three states

THE TWO WORLDS

STATE	2019 EXPANSION		POPULATION PER DOCTOR
	Colleges	Seats	
THE HAVES GET MORE...			
Tamil Nadu	2	300	253
Karnataka	1	150	507
Jammu & Kashmir	4	400	1,064
...WHILE THE HAVE NOTS ARE LEFT WANTING			
Jharkhand	0	0	8,180
Chhattisgarh	0	0	4,338
Bihar	1	150	3,207

Data source: MCI website

worst off in terms of doctor-population ratios have been largely ignored even in the current year. Unlike Jharkhand, however, Chhattisgarh has added seven new colleges since 2010, four of which were government run, though two of these seven have been debarred from admission this year. Bihar too has added six new colleges from 2010, including four government ones with 100 seats each.

Other states with poor doctor-population ratios such as Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh got seven, four and three government colleges respectively, each with 100 seats in the 2019 expansion. Even states

which already have a glut of doctors, like Tamil Nadu with one doctor for just over 250 people, got two new colleges, one private and one government owned, with 150 seats each. From 2010 onwards, medical colleges and MBBS seats have increased substantially, especially in the government sector. Every big state, including those complaining of over-production of doctors has continued to open new medical colleges barring Jharkhand. UP saw the greatest increase with the addition of 29 colleges taking the total number to 55, second only to Karnataka with 59 colleges. The state has only one doctor for every 3,767 persons.

Angry kin wave black flags at politicians, babus

From P1

Distraught parents lined up at hospitals in Bihar, with the fever now being reported also from neighbouring East Champaran, Sheohar and some parts of Sitamarhi districts. Recently, two blocks of Vaishali witnessed some suspected cases.

What seems to be compounding the problem is acute shortage of doctors, unavailability of key medicines, and lack of nursing staff and beds.

State-run health establishments in Muzaffarpur, including SKMCH, all suffer from this. SKMCH superintendent Dr S K Shahi said the facility has not yet been provided any additional funds for the treatment of AES patients.

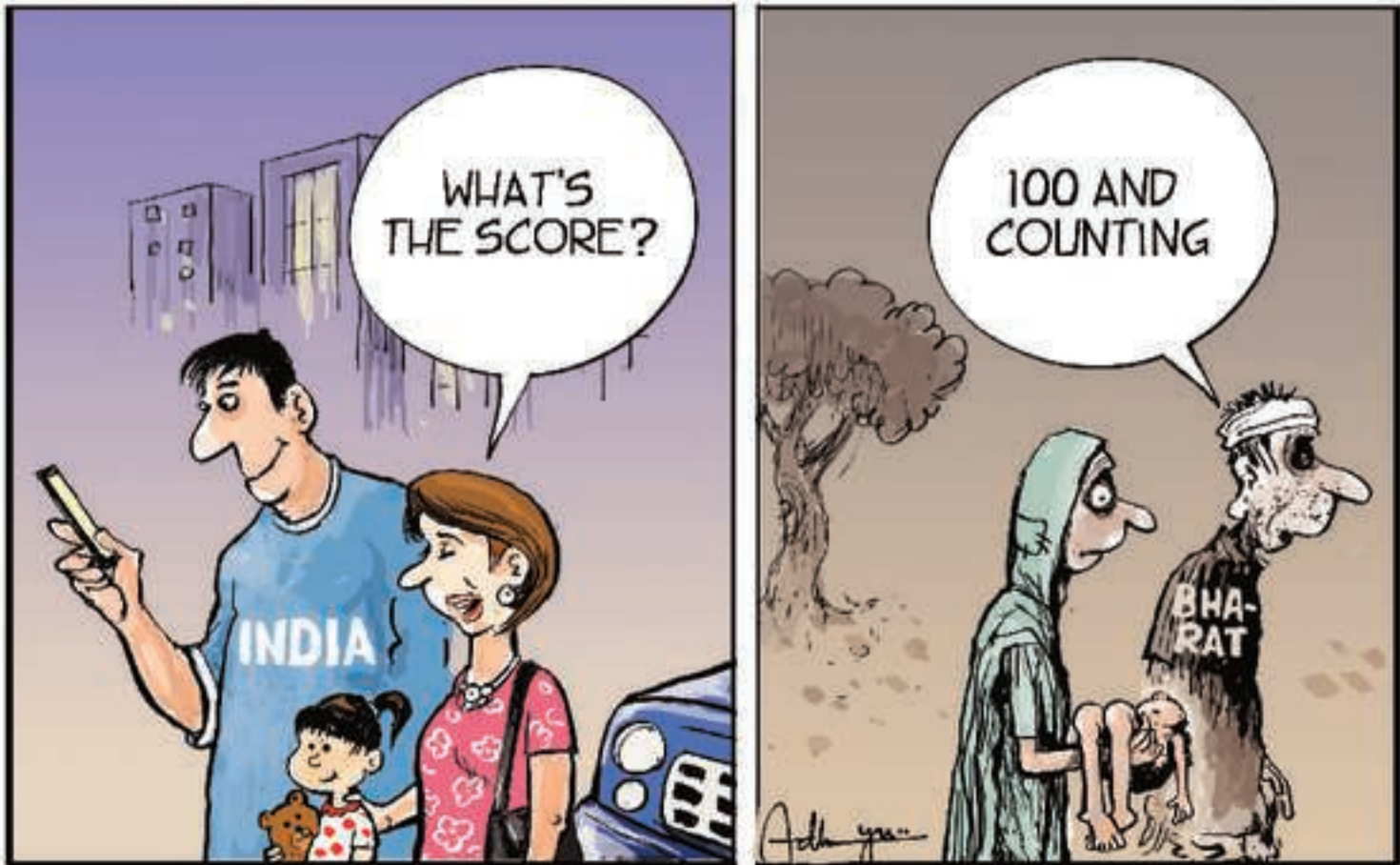
"Infrastructure is not adequate to deal with the influx of patients," he said. Union health minister Dr Harsh Vardhan and state health minister Mangal Pandey, who visited the hospital on Sunday, said a new and separate building for paediatrics with 100 beds would be built soon.

Affected families, many of them angry and waving black flags at politicians and officials, said they were not getting the support they need.

TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL

SANDEEP ADHWARYU

MUZAFFARPUR: ENCEPHALITIS DEATH TOLL RISES



Sunita Devi, mother of 5-year-old Nidhi who died at SKMCH on Saturday, said the hospital is crowded with children who need urgent attention.

But even as the number of patients grew, experts and doctors were unsure what could be at the heart of the disease. According to a study published in The Lancet Global Health medical journal in 2017, children in

affected villages had spent most of their days plucking and eating litchis from nearby orchards, often skipping dinner, which led to an alarming drop in their blood sugar.

When sugar levels drop, the body starts to metabolise fatty acids to produce glucose. But in malnourished kids exposed to toxins such as methylene cyclopropyl-glycine (MCPG) found in

litchis, glucose synthesis is impaired, leading to dangerously low blood sugar and brain inflammation. The same study had recommended minimising litchi consumption, ensuring an evening meal and implementing rapid glucose correction for suspected illness.

Muzaffarpur-based senior paediatrician Dr Arun Shah, member of the national executive committee of Indian Paediatrics Association, said,

"In case of a sudden fall of glucose — termed as hypoglycaemia — the body uses its glucose reserves. Malnourished children have no such reserve in their body. Thus, those given artificial sugar can be saved. But a delay of even half an hour can be fatal."

"Sometimes their households have nothing to eat but litchis are in abundance in the summer. Groups of children can be spotted in litchi orchards all day," said Jahangir Alam, a resident of Dariapur, where most of the cases in the last five years have been detected.

Experts have also connected intense heatwave in the country to the disease, although what role it plays is not clear. "Excessive heat definitely has a part to play in the outbreak of AES and higher number of casualties this year. The temperature has been much higher than in the past couple of years," Muzaffarpur civil surgeon S P Singh told TOI on Monday. In 2017 and 2018, when the summers were not as harsh, the death toll from encephalitis was 11 and seven respectively. Meanwhile, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar will visit hospitals on Tuesday to assess the situation.



A thought for today

When times are tough, constant conflict may be good politics but in the real world, cooperation works better. After all, nobody's right all the time

BILL CLINTON

Reaching Out

BJP's conciliatory tones towards opposition welcome, but much work remains

It is certainly welcome that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP have started their new innings at the helm of Parliament by reaching out to the opposition. As the monsoon session of Parliament began yesterday, Modi emphasised that the opposition need not be perturbed by their numbers in the house and should participate actively in legislative proceedings.



Cruel Muzaffarpur

A children's health crisis in this Bihar district puts spotlight on state's poor governance

It's been a tragic summer for too many children in Muzaffarpur, Bihar. The death toll due to encephalitis has risen above 100. Most of the reported deaths have taken place in Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital. SKMCH superintendent has said that that the countrywide doctors' strike would not have any adverse impact on encephalitis patients.

The Gaga Dance

Comparing the philosophy and popularity of the Lady and the Pope

Radhika Vaz



You know who has a successful Instagram account? Lady Gaga, pop icon. You know who else has a successful Instagram account? Pope Francis, pope icon (sorry i couldn't help myself). You know what else they have in common? Both use stage names.

Handle With Care

Online content viewed privately must be protected, don't compare it to feature films

Vani Tripathi Tikoo



Our daily entertainment - like our everyday communication, eating out and public transport - is being redefined by technology. Long known for their love for storytelling, hundreds of millions of Indians are now turning to the internet for new stories and content.



Indian film productions published online have received critical acclaim from audiences across the globe, signalling the immense potential of online content as a conduit for culture and soft power. Given the reach and power of online content, enlightened stewardship of this space is important - both to counter possible harms and to maximise its potential.

Why should carry bags be charged for? It makes sense, once we factor in the environment

Kumar Rajagopalan



Recently there has been a hue and cry about retailers charging for carry bags, with the issue getting a lot of air time on local radio stations as well. Rightly so. We have been a nation where customers are not accustomed to paying for the humble carry bag.

Retailers knew that their business hinges on a positive experience for customers and such a move could upset some customers. However, most modern retailers in the country adopted this as they understood the spirit of the directive. And the impact was very visible. The consumption of plastic carry bags among the top 50 retailers in the country reduced drastically from around 2100 tons to 900 tons per month.



from it - for a number of reasons. First, most retailers charge only a part of the cost of bags to the customers. Moreover, branding adds value to any product. Customers buy items and hold branded goods in higher esteem. Indiscriminate use of paper can be harmful to the environment and one needs to curb excessive consumption.

dilbert



Practise Eco-yoga For Healing The Earth

Vir Singh

The human species, Homo sapiens, is just one of the millions of species on Earth, but humans are unparalleled as they have the potential to cultivate virtues. Great mind power and a high level of consciousness make humans altogether distinct from all other species.

"Eco-yoga is based on the principle that all life is yoga," says ecophilosopher Henryk Skolimowski. Natural evolution is one of renewal and enhancement of the sustainability of life. Human life is not something that is apart from the evolutionary phenomenon, but is a part and parcel of the whole of life.



Sacredspace

Let It Go

There is joy in letting go. Many of us are bound to so many things. We believe these things are necessary for our survival, security, and happiness.

Thich Nhat Hanh

Climate change's coming for your fish & chips



SOON, YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH JUST THE SAUCE

Gold & platinum: A rare supernova's gift to earth?

Toronto: An overlooked star explosion far away in space may have given the Earth the gift of precious heavy elements such as gold and platinum, a study claims.

The research, conducted by University of Guelph in Canada and Columbia University, overturns our understanding of how heavy elements appeared on our planet. According to the research published in the journal *Nature*, some 80% of the heavy elements in the universe likely formed in collapsars.

Collapsars are a rare but heavy element-rich form of supernova explosion from the gravitational collapse of old, massive stars typically 30 times as heavy as our

sun. Using supercomputers, the researchers simulated the dynamics of collapsars, or old stars whose gravity causes them to implode and form black holes.

Under their model, massive, rapidly spinning collapsars eject heavy elements whose amounts and distribution are 'astonishingly similar to what we observe in our solar system,' said Daniel Siegel, from the University of Guelph. Most elements were created in nuclear reactions in stars and ultimately expelled in huge stellar explosions. Heavy elements found on Earth from long-ago explosions range from gold and platinum, to uranium and plutonium. **PI**

Cod And Haddock Face Extinction As Oceans Lose Oxygen

Fish and chips could be a thing of the past unless more is done to halt global warming, scientists say. Research has indicated cod and haddock face extinction as rising temperatures cut oxygen in the oceans.

Marine zoologist Prof John Spicer said it was a 'major cause for concern'. 'Many large species will almost certainly be the first casualties of our warming, oxygen-poor ocean,' he added.

Experts analysed four types of crustacean and found that when the gas in the water was reduced, they got smaller — supporting the theory that bigger sea creatures are more vulnerable to climate change

The British Antarctic Survey Experts analysed four types of crustacean, which are abundant off coast of the western Antarctic Peninsula.

They found when the gas in their water was reduced, they got smaller — supporting the theory that bigger sea creatures are more vulnerable to climate change. The study,

published in the journal *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, suggests that failure to control greenhouse gases will have a greater impact on marine ecosystems than previously feared.

'Over the past 50 years, the oxygen in our oceans has decreased by around 2-5%. This is already having an ef-

fect on species' ability to function,' Prof Spicer said.

'Unless they adapt, many larger marine invertebrates will either shrink in size or face extinction. This would have a profoundly negative impact on the ecosystems of which they are a part,' he added. Dr Simon Morley of the British Antarctic Survey said: 'Understanding these impacts will teach us much about the mechanisms that will determine the survival of species.'

Studies have suggested the fish will shrink by up to a quarter by 2050. **DAILY MIRROR**



THAT HEADY FEELING | Hundreds of people in Chile's Santiago head a ball in an attempt to set a new Guinness World Record for most people heading a ball at the same time for 5 seconds

Why kids read more if their parents are language-savvy

Toronto: Language-savvy parents are more likely to have children with higher reading scores and are also more attentive when kids read out loud to them, according to a study.

Children learning to read and write English often need to identify patterns in words to be able to read and spell them, said researchers from Concordia University in Canada.

For example, knowing the 'Magic E' syllable pattern can allow a child to understand why an E at the end of a word like 'rate' significantly alters the word's sound from 'rat'. Parents who understand such language complexity are able to spot the difficulties and explain them, researchers said. They also pass on those skills when they listen to their children read, which in turn helps reading development.

The results of the study, published in the *Journal of Research in Reading*, confirmed that parents with higher reading-related knowledge offered more praise and less criticism to their children than those with lower reading-related knowledge. 'Teachers with high reading-related knowledge are better equipped to offer feedback to their students,' said Aviva Segal from Concordia University. **PI**

Those black & white zebra stripes? They keep them cool

London: In a first, scientists have found that zebras can manipulate their black stripes to control their body temperature. The research, published in the *Journal of Natural History*, shows that it is the special way zebras sweat to cool down and the small-scale convection currents created between the stripes which aid evaporation.

They also found that zebras can erect their black stripes — further aiding heat loss. These three elements



BEATING THE HEAT

are key to understanding how the zebras' unique patterning helps them manage their temperature in the heat, according to a UK-based biology technician, Alison Cobb and her zoologist husband, Dr Stephen Cobb.

The duo, who have spent many years in sub-Saharan Africa directing environmental research and development projects, assessed zebras in their natural habitat for the first time to investigate the role of stripes in temperature

control. 'The solution to the zebra's heat-balance challenge is cleverer, more complex and beautiful than we'd imagined. Of course, there is much more work to be done,' Cobb said. The researchers collected field data from two live zebras, a stallion and a mare, together with a zebra hide draped over a clothed-horse in Kenya.

The data revealed a temperature difference between the black and white stripes that increases as the day heats up. Whilst this difference stabilises

on living zebras during the middle seven hours of the day, with the black stripes 12-15°C hotter than the white, the stripes on a lifeless zebra hide continue to heat up, by as much as another 16°Celsius.

The researchers propose that the differential temperatures and air activity on the black and white stripes set up small-scale convective air movements within and just above the stripes, which destabilise the air and the water vapour at the tips of the hairs. **PI**



It says 'skip ad in 10 seconds.' What do you want to do till then?

SHORT CUTS

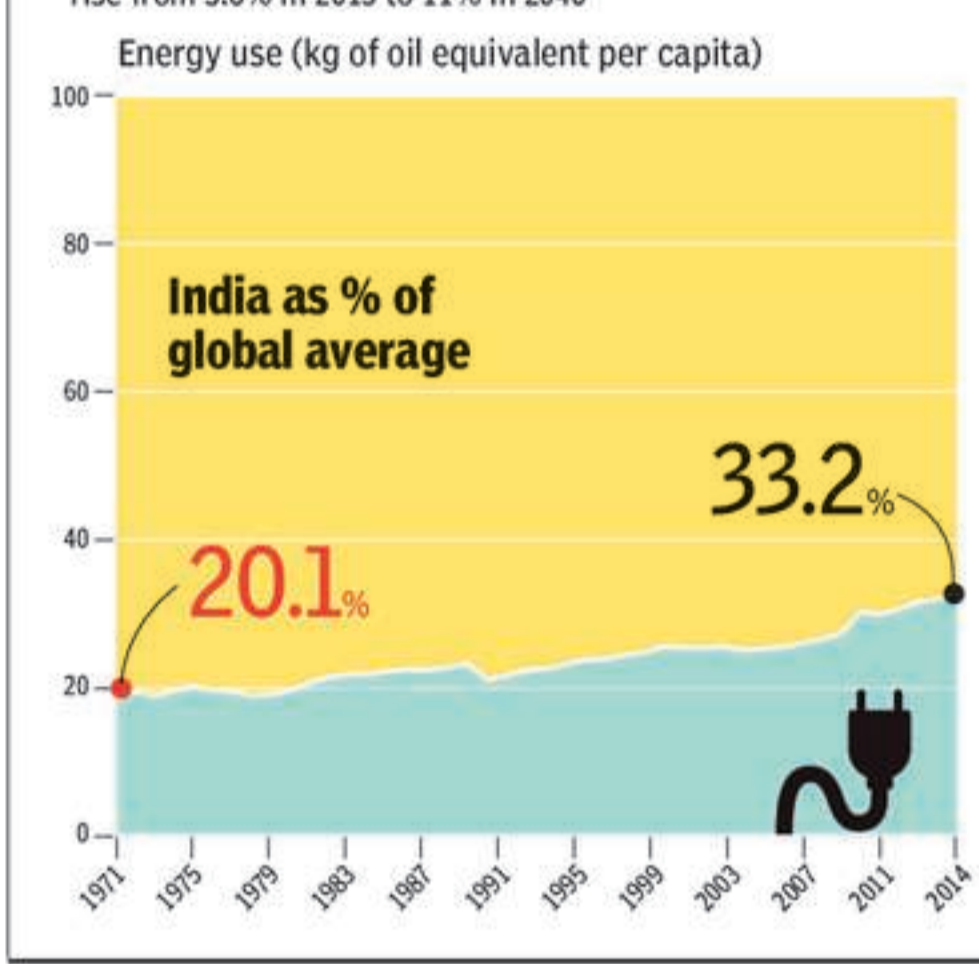
Non-invasive 'Virtual biopsy' device detects if skin tumour is cancerous

Scientists have developed a 'virtual biopsy' device that can quickly and non-invasively determine whether a skin tumour is cancerous and needs to be removed surgically. The device can determine a skin lesion's depth and potential malignancy without using a scalpel, according to the researchers from Rutgers University. The device could make biopsies much less risky and distressing for patients. Currently, physicians who perform surgical biopsies often do not know the extent of a lesion until surgery has already begun. The first-of-its-kind experimental procedure, called vibrational optical coherence tomography, creates a 3D map of the lesion's width and depth under the skin with a tiny laser diode.

INDIA POSITIVE

Per person energy consumption tells India's growth story

You can be sure a country is growing richer when its people start consuming more energy. Back in the 1960s, when India depended on farming, its per person energy consumption was 20% of the world average. As manufacturing and services became important, it grew to 33%. Bharat Petroleum estimates India's share of world energy consumption will rise from 5.6% in 2013 to 11% in 2040.



NETAJI SUBHAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
(FORMERLY NETAJI SUBHAS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY)
AZAD HIND FAUJ MARG, SECTOR-3, DWARKA,
NEW DELHI - 110 078
Phone no. 25000268-Ext.-2325, Fax. 25099025
Website: www.nsut.ac.in

REVISED ADMISSION NOTICE (Ph.D. & M.Tech.) 2019-20

Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT), New Delhi has been established as State University by Government of NCT of Delhi, and is regarded as one of the premier Technical Universities of India. NSUT was upgraded from Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology (NSIT) in 2018, tracing back 35 years of glorious history of nurturing some of the finest minds in the country.

The University aims to identify suitable candidates having keen interest in teaching and research who would like to take up a career in academics and R&D. Exceptionally brilliant candidates having interest in academic career shall be considered for University Teaching-cum-Research Fellowship (TRF). Online applications are invited from eligible candidates for Ph.D. Programme in various disciplines (ECE/CE/Mechanical/COE/IT/BI/Physics/Chemistry/Maths and English) for the academic year 2019-20. The Categories of admissions are given as under:

- a) Research scholars with University Teaching-cum-Research Fellowship.
 - b) Research scholars with fellowship from other sponsoring agencies (UGC/DST/CSIR/DBT/ICMR etc.)
 - c) Research Scholars without any fellowship (self-financing mode).
2. Applications are also invited from eligible candidates for admission to Full Time/Executive (Weekend)/Part Time M.Tech Programmes.

Application Processing Fee (Non-refundable): Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only)

APPLICATIONS OF CANDIDATES, WHOSE RESULTS OF QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (B.TECH/M.TECH, AS APPLICABLE), IS LIKELY TO BE DECLARED ON OR BEFORE LAST DATE GIVEN IN INFORMATION BROCHURE, WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED.

Date of Online Application Submission: EXTENDED UPTO 23/06/2019
Date of Entrance Test: 29/06/2019

For complete details, please visit website <http://www.nsut.ac.in>,
https://www.imsnit.org/imsnit/elearn_pregistration.php,
https://www.imsnit.org/imsnit/elearn_phdregistration.php

Sd/- A.R.(Academic)
DIP/Shabdarth/0221/19-20

RITES LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise)
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

GM (Projects)/RITES Ltd., Kolkata, invites on behalf of NTPC Ltd. online percentage rate bids on double packet system for the following works:
NIT No. 10/OT/RITES/NTPC LTD-BTPS/Rly Sliding (T)2019 Dated 17.06.2019.
Name of Work: Civil & P/way work including supply of P/way materials, On-site work including SSP and other allied works in connection with interim arrangement for unloading of coal rakes inside the plant for Baruan Thermal Power Station of NTPC LTD Baruan, Dist: Seourasar, Bihar. Estimated Cost: Rs.6.54,18,602.00 (Approx.). Earned Money: Rs.6.54,186/. Period of completion: 05 (five) months. Last time & date of submission of bid: upto 11.00 hrs. on 02.07.2019. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website: <https://tenders.gov.in/e-procure/app> Amendment/Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only.

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

E-TENDER NOTICE

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

- (A) 1. 32/Noida/CME(C)/PE-WC-9/ET/2015-16, Name of Work:- D/o Expressway (C/o Underpass by Box Pushing Technology under Noida-Greater Noida Expressway at Ch. 2.36Km) Noida, Cost-Rs. 9482.15 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 01.07.2019 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date 02.07.2019 at 11.00 AM.

General Manager
NOIDA

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

NBCC (INDIA) LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
CIN-L74899DL1960G0103335

Office of General Manager (CPG), NBCC Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No. NBCC/CPG/Consultancy/NSU/Manipur/2019/105 Dated: 17.06.2019
NBCC (India) Ltd. invites open e-tender on QCBS basis from eligible applicants who fulfil qualification criteria as stipulated in NIT for the work: Comprehensive Consultancy Services for Construction of National Sports University at Imphal, Manipur. Estimated Project Cost: Rs. 400 Crores. Last date of submission: 02.07.2019. Completion period: 24 months. The detailed NIT will be available on websites www.tenderwizard.com/NBCC and www.e-procure.gov.in. Corrigendum/addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on said websites and not be published. General Manager (CPG)

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. PCMM/CLW/KOL/E-Procurement/19-20/22 Dated: 13-06-2019. The Principal Chief Materials Manager on behalf of the President of India invites electronic bids from established reliable manufacturer for supply of the following. The following E-Tenders is/are for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website www.ireps.gov.in. For detailed instructions please refer to website. Sl. No.; Tender No.; Description of Stores; Qty.; Due On; Cost of Tender (Rupees); [131]; 34192652; 1. Set of Non-Metallic Pipe (Smoke Detector Pipe) for WAG-9/WAP-7 to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0254/B (Set details uploaded) 2. Set of Non-Metallic Pipe (Smoke Detector Pipe) for WAP-5 to Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0413/B (Set details uploaded); As per tender; 15.07.2019; 0.00. [132]; 37193706; 1. Set of Chain (Bogie-Body Chain) for WAG-9HC/WAP-7 to CLW Specn. No. CLW/MS/3/118 (Set means loco set consisting of 02 items) 2. Set of Chain (Bogie-Body Chain) for WAP-5 to CLW Specn. No. CLW/MS/3/118 (Set means loco set consisting of 05 items); As per tender; 17.07.2019; 0.00. [133]; 37193700; Set of Damper for WAG-9HC as per CLW's Specn. No. CLW/MS/3/009 ALT.3 (Details uploaded); As per tender; 22.08.2019; 0.00

Principal Chief Materials Manager
ABC-086 CLW/Chittaranjan
Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

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.; Earned Money Deposit (₹); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST) : [1]; 81190562A; Brazing Rod, Size: DIA 2 X 600 +/- 6 mm Long; 2779 Kgs; 1040580; 18/07/2019, 11:00 Hrs. [2]; 81190922A; Silver Brazing Alloy Rod, Size: DIA 2 X 500 mm +/- 6 mm Long; 763 Kg; 286540; 18/07/2019, 11:00 Hrs. [3]; 83190883A; Standard Hardware Kit for 6FRA-6068; 1376 set; 40560; 08/07/2019, 11:00 Hrs. Principal Chief Materials Manager ABC-086 CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD

E-Tendering Tender Notice

Deputy Chief Signal & Telecom Engineer/Const./North Central Railway/Jhansi for and on behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender with Two Packet system" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work:-

Sr. No.	E-Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
01	JHS-SNT-C-Tender-2019-02	Indoor and outdoor signaling work in connection with provision of Double line through Electronic Interlocking in Harpalpur-Mahoba	33,38,46,501/-	18,19,200/-

Cost of Tender Form: ₹10200/- (Ten Thousand Two Hundred Only). Date of closing Tender: 15.07.2019 Date of completion period from issue of acceptance letter: 18 Months. Tender on line can be submitted upto 11.45 hrs. on 15.07.2019. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in 80419(K) North central railway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

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: ksgd.mgmts@gmail.com
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.

Sl. No.	Tender Number	Tender Name	Qty.	Published Date	Last date for bid Submission
1	KSDL/2019-20/IND3839	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of 100 KVAR APFCR PANEL	2 Nos	30.05.2019	28.06.2019
2	KSDL/2019-20/IND3840	Procurement of Fragrance Excel-1809	400 Kgs	31.05.2019	28.06.2019
3	KSDL/AGM(S)/2019-20/13	Disposal of Mixed Waste Paper & Waste CBs at KS&DL, Bangalore Complex.	Disposal	01.06.2019	02.07.2019
4	KSDL/2019-20/IND3841	Supply & Installation of Oil type Distribution Transformer 1000KVA.	2 Nos	08.06.2019	08.07.2019
5	KSDL/2019-20/IND3842	Procurement of MSS 75g CB's	400000 Nos	08.06.2019	08.07.2019
6	KSDL/2019-20/IND3844	Procurement of Servo System 320 Lubrication Oil and Servo System Spin 12	15 Barrel 2 Barrel	10.06.2019	10.07.2019
7	KSDL/2019-20/IND3843	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 11KV VCB panel	1 No	13.06.2019	12.07.2019
8	KSDL/AGM (Mtls)/2019-20/12	Engaging of Security service contract for providing Security Supervisors (Civilian), Gunmen, Security Guards (Civilian), Lady Checker & Guide purely on contract basis for a period of one year.	Services	13.06.2019	12.07.2019

Please visit KS&DL website: <https://www.mysorensandal.org> for further details. For any queries/clarification, contact the undersigned.

Sd/- Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: CEE/T&P/SEE/EE/P/AE/P/1/2019-20/3028-32 Date: 17.06.2019

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through E-Procurement Portal only)

KPTCL invites bids on e-Procurement portal for Design, Manufacture, Testing, Inspection, Supply of 2 nos of 12.5MVA, 66/33-11KV Power Transformers conforming to KPTCL Technical Specifications, F.O.R.D at Store/Site basis, including insurance, transportation and unloading against enquiry no. KPTCL/CEE/T&P/12.5MVA/66/33-11KV/533/2019-20.

The bids will be received through e-procurement portal only. The details regarding the subject enquiry in the e-procurement portal can be obtained by logging on to <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> on or after 3:00PM on 20.06.2019. Any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Electricity, Tendering & Procurement, KPTCL, Kaveri Bhavan, 'A' Block, Bengaluru - 560 009
Ph : 080 22274744, Fax : 080-22212456

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.; Earned 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 VIJES 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 A076-084 CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways



MARGOT ROBBIE SAYS SHE'S SICK OF BEING CALLED A BOMBHELL: 'I HATE THAT WORD. I HATE IT SO MUCH'



POP STAR TAYLOR SWIFT DENIES KISSING KATY PERRY AS SHE REUNITES WITH EX-RIVAL IN NEW MUSIC VIDEO

Xi set to visit N Korea, will be 1st Chinese prez to do so

Chinese President Xi Jinping will visit North Korea on Thursday for two days, state media in both countries reported on Monday, making him the first Chinese leader to visit the country in 14 years. Neighbouring China is North Korea's lone major ally, and the visit comes amid tensions between US and North Korea over efforts to persuade Pyongyang to give up its nuclear weapons.

"Both sides will exchange views on the (Korean) peninsula situation, and push for new progress in the political resolution of the peninsula issue." China's official CCTV broadcaster said in a lengthy report that led the evening broadcast.

North Korea's KCNA news agency said that the invitation was made by North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

Following a failed summit between US President Trump and North Korea's Kim in Hanoi earlier this year, Pyongyang has resumed some weapons tests and warned of "truly undesired consequences" if the US is not more flexible. Xi's visit to North Korea kicks off a flurry of high-level diplomatic activity around the peninsula, with Trump set to visit ally South Korea after the G20 summit later this month. **REUTERS**

Japan protests Chinese 'sea survey' near disputed isles

Tokyo: Japan has protested what it says was an unauthorised Chinese maritime survey within its economic waters near disputed East China Sea islands, officials said on Monday. Japan's foreign ministry said that it had lodged a protest with Beijing after a Chinese research ship was seen dropping a wire-like object into the water off the coast of Japanese-controlled Senkaku islands on Sunday.

China also claims the islands, which it calls Diaoyu. The ministry said it urged China to stop the survey. It said it was "extremely regrettable" that the ship did not obtain Japan's permission. Tokyo and Beijing in 2001 agreed to give advance notice ahead of a planned maritime survey in each other's territorial waters. The incident came amid increased Chinese activity in the area. On Monday, Japan's coast guard said four Chinese patrol ships also violated Japanese territorial waters the second time this month. **AP**

Quebec bans religious symbols on job

Montreal: The Quebec government passed a bill on Sunday barring schoolteachers, police officers, judges and other public employees from wearing religious symbols in the workplace, prompting an outcry that civil liberties in the province were under attack. Francois Legault, the right-leaning Quebec premier, had called the bill a necessary measure to ensure the separation between religion and state in an abidingly secular province. It applies to Muslim headscarves, Jewish skullcaps, Sikh turbans and Catholic crosses, among other symbols. **WPT**

Iran says will breach uranium limit, US denounces 'nuclear blackmail'

Tehran Says Europe Has 10 Days To Save N-Pact



President Hassan Rouhani said on Monday that European nations still had time to save the accord. 'It's a crucial moment, and France can still work with other signatories of the deal and play an historic role to save the deal in this very short time,' Rouhani was quoted as saying during a meeting with France's new ambassador in Iran.

Dubai/Washington: Iran announced on Monday it would soon breach limits on the amount of enriched uranium it can stockpile under a 2015 international agreement, in a new point of contention with the United States, which accused Tehran of "nuclear blackmail".

Tensions between Iran and the US are rising more than a year after President Donald Trump announced Washington was withdrawing from the nuclear deal. Fears of a confrontation increased last week when oil tankers in the Gulf were attacked.

The accord, which Iran and the other signatories have maintained following Trump's decision, caps Iran's stock of low-enriched uranium at 300kg enriched to 3.67%. But Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation spokesman Behrouz Kamalvandi said on Monday: "We have quadrupled the rate of enrichment (of uranium) and even increased it more recently so that in 10 days it will bypass the 300kg limit".

"Iran's reserves are every day increasing at a more rapid rate," he told state TV, adding that "the move will be reversed once other parties fulfil their commitments".

The move further undermines the nuclear pact also signed by Russia, Britain, Germany, China and the European Union, but Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said the collapse of the deal would not be in the interests of the region or the world.

A White House National Security Council spokesman said Iran's plan amounted to "nuclear blackmail" and must be met with increased international pressure. The nuclear deal seeks to head off any pathway to an Iranian nuclear bomb in return for the removal of most international sanctions.

Britain said if Iran breached agreed limits then London would look at "all options". Israel, Iran's arch foe, urged world powers to step up sanctions against Tehran swiftly should it exceed the enriched uranium limit. However, European Union

foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said the EU would only react to any breach if the International Atomic Energy Agency formally identified one. The tensions between US and Iran are growing again following attacks last Thursday on two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman, a vital oil shipping route. Trump's administration has accused Iran of being behind the incidents. Iran denies having any role.

Iran's armed forces chief of staff, Major General Mohammad Baqeri, on Monday denied Tehran was behind the attacks and said if the Islamic Republic decided to block the strategic Strait of Hormuz shipping lane it would do so publicly. Iran on Monday accused its main regional rival Saudi Arabia—a close US ally—of adopting a "militaristic, crisis-based approach" for accusing Tehran of carrying out the tanker attacks. **REUTERS**

Pak blogger, an army-ISI critic, hacked to death

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Islamabad: A young blogger and activist, known for his critical views against Pakistan army and spy agency ISI, was stabbed to death by unidentified assailants in Islamabad on Sunday night.

Police confirmed on Monday that 22-year-old Muhammad Bilal Khan, a resident of Gilgit-Baltistan, was killed. His uncle, who accompanied him, was also critically injured in the attack.

A graduate in Islamic law, Khan had expressed his fears about his murder in a video message beforehand. He apprehended that if he was killed, he would be declared a terrorist for his religious views and for sporting a beard.

Khan had more than 16,000 followers on Twitter; over 48,000 subscribers on YouTube and over 2,000 followers on Facebook. A staunch critic of Pakistan's military and Inter-Services Intelligence, Khan was very active on social media.

Islamabad's police superintendent Naem Malik said Khan had received a phone call on June 16 while he was at his uncle's home. Naem said the caller instructed him to go to the G-9 neighborhood in central Islamabad, where he, accompanied by his uncle,

Army confidant made new ISI chief

In a surprise reshuffle, PM Imran Khan has appointed Lt Gen Faiz Hameed as the chief of the powerful Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), replacing current spymaster Lt General Asim Munir after a brief stint of eight months. Lt Gen Faiz Hameed is believed to be a close confidant of chief of army staff Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa. Generally, the ISI chief is appointed for a period of three years. Munir's 8-month stint as head of the ISI chief was one of the shortest among those who have served this office. The ISPR gave no reason for his early departure. Munir, however, has been appointed as corps commander of Gujranwala, in Pakistan's Punjab.

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

met his attackers. They took them to a nearby forest and attacked them, he said. The blogger's father, Abdullah Khan, said Khan had cuts and marks from a sharp tool on several parts of his body. Abdullah said his son had no personal enmity. An FIR was registered by the victim's father at a police station in Karachi Company, Islamabad. Full report on www.toi.in

China stands by Hong Kong leader as calls for her to quit get shriller

Hong Kong: China redoubled its support for Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam on Monday after days of protests against 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 for trial triggered the biggest and most violent protests in decades in the former British colony, now under Chinese rule. Many say changes to the rule of law could imperil Hong Kong's status as a global financial centre.

"The Chinese government, the central government,



Joshua Wong, the face of Hong Kong's 2014 'Occupy' pro-democracy protests, walked free from prison on Monday. 'I believe this is the time for Carrie Lam, the liar, to step down,' he said to protesters.

ment, has always fully affirmed the work of chief executive Carrie Lam and the Hong Kong government," Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lu Kang said in Beijing. On Monday, protesters near

the government's offices blocked roads and urged Lam to withdraw the bill, release arrested students, drop the official description of a rally on Wednesday that involved clashes with the police as a riot, and step down.

A senior Hong Kong official close to Lam told Reuters that Beijing was not likely to let her do so, even if she wanted, saying "it would create more problems than it solves, at all sorts of levels".

Meanwhile, in a coincidence of timing, 22-year-old Joshua Wong, the face of Hong Kong's push for full democracy, walked free from prison on Monday. "I will join to fight against this evil law," said Wong, one of the leaders of the 2014 pro-democracy "Occupy" or "Umbrella" protests that blocked major roads for 79 days. "I believe this is the time for her, Carrie Lam the liar, to step down". **REUTERS**

Spain, France & Germany join forces to build EU combat jet

Paris: Spain on Monday joined a Franco-German project to build a next-generation fighter jet, an initiative touted as key to ensuring Europe can defend itself without depending on allies in an increasingly uncertain world. Dassault Aviation and Airbus will build the warplane which is expected to be operational from 2040, with a view to replacing Dassault's Rafale and Germany's Eurofighter over time. The European project faces competition from Britain, which last year launched its own plans for a new combat jet dubbed "Tempest".

Industry executives have urged European capitals to move swiftly or risk losing out in a global market to bigger players led by the United States, or even China in the future.

The defence ministers of France, Germany and Spain signed an accord launching a trilateral framework of cooperation at the Paris Airshow, sat in front of a mock-up of the jet and with French President Macron applauding behind them. France's Safran and Germany's MTU Aero Engines will jointly develop the new warplane's engine. Dassault and Airbus have delivered a joint industrial proposal to the governments of France and Germany to develop demonstrators for the next-generation fighter, unmanned aircraft that would operate together with them, and a new "air combat cloud" by 2026. **REUTERS**

US top court tosses ruling against bakers

Washington: The US Supreme Court on Monday threw out a lower court ruling against the owners of an Oregon bakery who refused based on their Christian beliefs to make a wedding cake for a lesbian couple in another case pitting gay rights against religious rights.

The justices sent the case back to an Oregon court so it can reconsider its 2017 ruling upholding the state's \$35,000 penalty against the bakery owners for violating an Oregon anti-discrimination law in light of the Supreme Court's 2018 decision in a strikingly similar case from Colorado.

The state court will have to come up with a new decision and potentially could rule against the bakery owners, Melissa and Aaron Klein, a second time even after taking into consideration last year's Supreme Court decision in favor of a Denver-area Christian baker who had refused to make a wedding cake for two gay men.

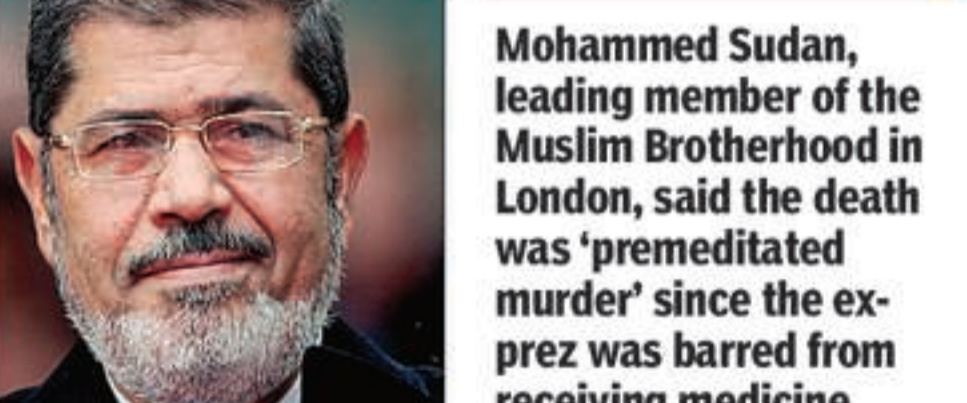
The Kleins argued that the state fine violated their rights of free speech and free exercise of religion under the US Constitution's First Amendment. The Kleins ran a bakery called Sweetcakes by Melissa in Gresham, a city just east of Portland, and were hit with the state fine after spurning the couple, Rachel Bowman-Cryer and Laurel Bowman-Cryer. Kelly Shackelford, president of the conservative legal group First Liberty Institute, which represents the Kleins, characterized the court's action as a victory for his clients. "The Constitution protects speech, popular or not, from condemnation by the government. The message from the court is clear: government hostility toward religious Americans will not be tolerated," Shackelford said.

Jennifer Pizer, a lawyer with Lambda Legal, a gay rights legal group, said she was disappointed the court did not leave the state court ruling intact. **REUTERS**

Ex-Egypt president Morsi dies in court

Cairo: 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.

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



Mohammed Sudan, leading member of the Muslim Brotherhood in London, said the death was 'premeditated murder' since the ex-prez was barred from receiving medicine.

down on his Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists. Monday's session was part of a retrial, inside Cairo's Tura Prison, on charges of espionage with the Palestinian Hamas militant group Morsi's son, Ahmed, confirmed the death in a Facebook post.

Mohammed Sudan, leading member of Muslim Brotherhood in London, called it "premeditated murder" saying that the ex-president was banned from receiving medicine and there was little information about his health condition. **AP**

Huawei, stunned by extent of US ban, to bleed \$30bn in revenue

Hong Kong: China's Huawei Technologies Co Ltd has taken a harder-than-expected hit from a US ban, the firm's founder-CEO Ren Zhengfei said, and slashed revenue expectations for the year.

Ren's assessment that the ban will hit revenue by \$30 billion, the first time Huawei has quantified the impact of the US action, comes as a surprise after weeks of defiant comments from officials who maintained Huawei was technologically self-sufficient.

The US has put Huawei on an export blacklist citing na-



Huawei's international phone shipments have plunged by 40%.

al approval. Huawei had not expected that US' determination to "crack" the firm would be "so strong and so pervasive", Ren said on Monday. "We did not expect they'd attack us on so many aspects," Ren said, adding he expects a revival in business in 2021.

"We cannot get components, cannot participate in many global organisations, cannot work closely with universities, cannot use anything with US components, and cannot even setup connection with networks that use such components." **REUTERS**

BRITISH FIGHTERS INTERCEPT RUSSIA JETS IN ESTONIA

London: Britain's Royal Air Force said Monday that two of its jets deployed in Estonia have been scrambled twice in recent days to intercept Russian aircraft. The RAF said the incidents brought the number of intercepts of Russian planes to eight since taking over the Baltic Air Policing mission in May.

There was no comment from Russia on the claim, but the defence ministry said it scrambled Su-27 fighter jets to intercept US B-52 bombers that were approaching the Russian border from the Baltic and Black Seas. **AP**

TRUMP SCALES THE GOLAN HEIGHTS



TRUMP SCALES THE GOLAN HEIGHTS: The Trump name graces apartment towers, hotels and golf courses. Now it is the namesake of a tiny settlement in the Israel-controlled Golan Heights. On Sunday, Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu unveiled a "Trump Heights" sign, featuring an Israeli and a US flag, to mark the site of the new settlement. The ceremony comes after the US president in late March recognised Israeli sovereignty over the part of the strategic plateau it seized from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War. "Trump is a very great friend of Israel who has taken a decision that has never before been taken," Netanyahu said.

Gloria Vanderbilt, American jeans queen, dies at 95

New York: Gloria Vanderbilt, the intrepid heiress, artist and romantic who began her extraordinary life as the "poor little rich girl" of the Great Depression, survived family tragedy and multiple marriages and reigned during the 1970s and 1980s as a designer jeans pioneer; died on Monday at the age of 95.

Vanderbilt was the great-great-granddaughter of financier Cornelius Vanderbilt and the mother of CNN newsman Anderson Cooper. Coopers said Vanderbilt died at home with friends and family at her side. She had been suffering from advanced stomach cancer, he noted. "Gloria Vanderbilt was an extraordinary woman, who loved life, and lived it on her own terms. "She was a painter, a writer, and designer but also a remarkable mother, wife, and friend."



In the mid-1970s, when jeans were cut mostly for men, the clothing manufacturer Mohan Murjani signed Gloria Vanderbilt (above) to market jeans for women with her signature on the back pocket. She set new trends in apparel marketing

national headlines from her childhood through four marriages and three divorces. She married for the first time at 17, causing her aunt to disinherit her. Her husbands included Leopold Stokowski, the celebrated conductor, and Sidney Lumet, the award-winning movie and television director. In 1988, she witnessed the suicide of one of her four sons.

Vanderbilt was a talented painter and calligrapher who also acted on the stage and TV. She was a fabric designer who became an early enthusiast for designer denim. The dark-haired, tall and ultra-thin Vanderbilt partnered with Mohan Murjani, who introduced a \$1 million advertising campaign in 1978 that turned the Gloria Vanderbilt brand with its signature white swan label into a sensation. At its peak in 1980, it was generating over \$200 million in

sales. And decades later, famous-name designer jeans—dressed up or down—remain a woman's wardrobe staple.

Vanderbilt was born in 1924, a century after her great-great-grandfather started the family fortune, first in steamships, later in railroads. He left around \$100 million when he died in 1877 at age 82. Beneficiary of a \$5 million trust fund after her father Reginald Claypoole died, Vanderbilt became the "poor little rich girl" in 1934 at age 10 as the object of a custody fight between her globe-trotting mother and matriarchal aunt. The aunt, Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, 59, who controlled \$78 million, won custody of her niece.

Couple nearly falls to death before waterfall proposal

A couple has revealed the they almost died, when a romantic proposal went awry. Last week, Finley-Marie Holding and her now fiance, E J Taylor went to the 27-metres-high Henrhay Falls in Wales before the marriage proposal took place. In a Facebook post, Holding revealed she and her partner took a wrong turn and lost their footing in mud. Holding said E J slipped down a steep slope and headed to "a sudden drop into the shallow river". She said she began to

run after him also slipped. "E J smashed into a tree and... he grabbed me before I plummeted to my death." The couple then dragged themselves up to safety. Holding added: "Then he turned to me and said 'I was waiting until we got to the waterfall, but now seems as good a time as any' and handed me a ring he'd made himself."

Brit banned from entering US for 10 yrs over drug text

A British tourist has been barred from entering the US for 10 years after a reference to taking cocaine was found on her mobile phone. Isabella Brazier-Jones travelled to Los Angeles with her friend in March for a trip, but they were stopped by customs officials. Brazier-Jones, 28, said officials searched her phone and found a text that suggested she had taken cocaine. She was deported to the UK and told she was banned from visiting the US for a decade.

'Fake' George Clooney arrested in Thailand

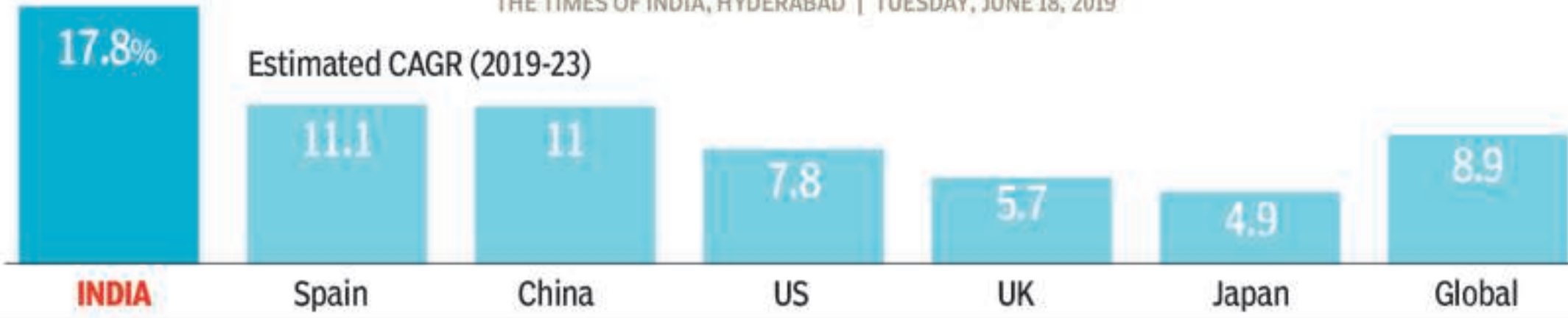
Thai police said they have arrested an Italian man who fled a jail sentence for fraudulently using the name of US actor George Clooney to lure people into investing in a bogus clothing company. Thailand's Crime Suppression Division said Francesco Galdelli, 58, was arrested on Saturday near the city of Pattaya on suspicion of staying in the country illegally.

India will lead global retail e-commerce race

The compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) in e-commerce sales from 2019-23 shows that India will lead in the B2C e-commerce space with a CAGR of 17.8%. The new National E-Commerce Policy unveiled in February hopes to create a facilitative environment for the growth of e-retail. The policy empowers domestic entrepreneurs, encourages Make in India and safeguards consumer interest, among others

TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, HYDERABAD | TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019



Source: Statista

Govt rules out bringing oil products under GST for now

Feels Centre, States Not Yet Ready For Expansion Of List

Sidhartha@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Centre has virtually ruled out including petroleum products within the ambit of GST immediately, turning down repeated demands from the aviation sector and oil companies.

Even the petroleum ministry had taken up cudgels for the sector that has been arguing that benefit of GST is not accruing to them as companies cannot claim input tax credit. The credit can only be claimed if the entire chain from inputs to the final product pays GST.

The Centre is, however, of the view that the change in the regime may not pass muster with the states, which want to retain flexibility in taxing a few items that they have control over: Stamp duty on real estate, excise on alcohol and petroleum products are among the handful of items on which states still have control after the introduction of GST.

WAIT GETS LONGER

Key items outside the ambit of GST

Petrol, diesel | Alcohol | Real estate

Why oil products may stay out

- It will result in a cess being imposed
- Will only benefit companies, no significant gain for consumers
- States not keen on transition

tax regime, leaving only a few items with the state FM. In any case, the overall levy is not going to reduce significantly as the government will impose cess above the 28% rate on petrol and diesel to ensure that there is no loss to the exchequer.

Besides, sources told TOI, politically too the Centre is not keen on moving to GST for products such as aviation turbine fuel (ATF) or jet fuel, despite the high-decibel lobbying unleashed by airlines. The government believes that the taxes on ATF, which airlines say is among the highest in the world, is passed on to consumers. To ensure that the transition to GST is tax-neutral, the Centre and the states will have no option but to raise the levy on air tickets. "There will be no change for the flyers," said a source.

the government has discussed the possibility of shifting to a GST regime for sectors such as real estate, where under-construction units face the levy but on receipt of completion certificate, stamp duty is levied. But the Centre and the states have refrained from expanding the ambit, opting for the new tax mechanism to settle down.

Over the past two years, the government has discussed the possibility of shifting to a GST regime for sectors such as real estate, where under-construction units face the levy but on receipt of completion certificate, stamp duty is levied. But the Centre and the states have refrained from expanding the ambit, opting for the new tax mechanism to settle down.

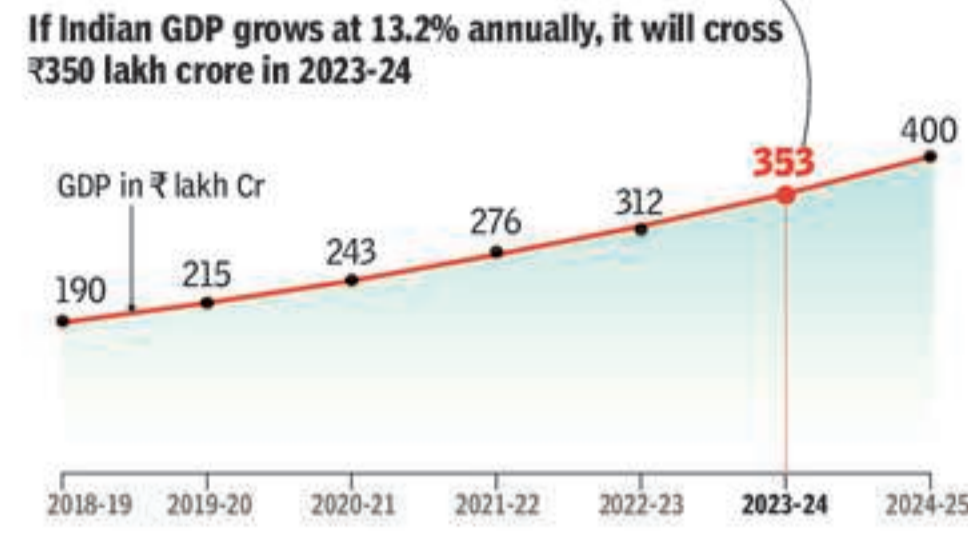
MANY ROADS TO \$5 TRILLION GDP

India can reach \$5-trillion GDP two years ahead of the government's target of 2024, or it could take three more years. As charts here show, dollar GDP depends as much on domestic growth as on changes in exchange rate

Scenario 1 FAST ROAD

Between 2008-09 and 2018-19, India has been growing at 13.2% annually

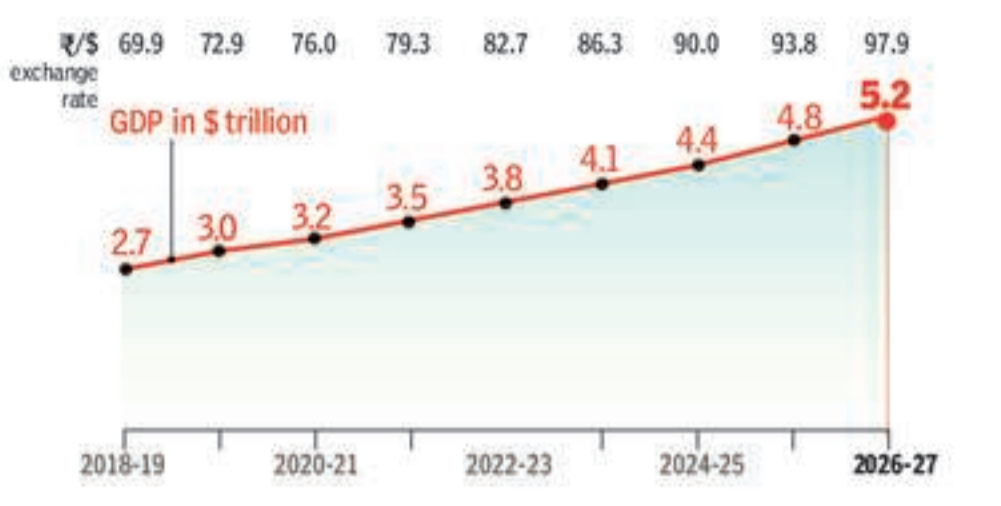
At today's exchange rate, \$5 trillion is equal to ₹349.25 lakh crore



If Indian GDP grows at 13.2% annually, it will cross ₹350 lakh crore in 2023-24

Scenario 2 SLOW ROAD

In the past 10 years, the US dollar has appreciated at 4.3% annually against the rupee. If this trend continues, and assuming economic growth in rupee terms remains at 13.2% annually, India will become a \$5-trillion economy by 2026-27



Scenario 3 FASTEST ROAD

If the dollar instead starts depreciating by 4% annually against the rupee, assuming the same rupee growth, India will become a \$5-trillion economy by 2022-23



Scenario 4 SLOWEST ROAD

If the dollar starts appreciating by 6% annually, and assuming the same rupee growth in rupee terms, India will become a \$5-trillion economy by 2028-29



ICICI moves NCLAT over Jaypee co insolvency

New Delhi: Private sector lender ICICI Bank on Monday approached the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), seeking a direction to the Allahabad bench of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) to hear urgently its insolvency petition against Jaiprakash Associates (JAL) and pass the order without any further delay. In its plea before the appellate tribunal, ICICI Bank submitted that there has been no progress in its insolvency petition against JAL, which was filed in September last year. The bank alleged that the Jaypeegroup's flagship firm is delaying admission of the insolvency plea by approaching several judicial forums.

ICICI Bank further added that the hearing before the Allahabad bench of the NCLT was adjourned almost a dozen times from September 10, 2018, to May 27, 2019, and such adjournments were "unfairly delaying" the resolution process.

DELAYED HEARING

Hearing the matter, a single-member NCLAT bench of Justice Bansi Lal Bhat directed to list ICICI Bank's plea on July 1 for hearing. JAL owes around Rs 1,296 crore and the bank had approached NCLT to recover the dues by filing an insolvency plea against the company under section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). JAL challenged the ICICI Bank petition before the Allahabad high court, but was rejected. Later, JAL moved the Supreme Court, which too refused to stay the application.

"However, despite this, there is no development in this matter," said an ICICI Bank counsel on Monday. "We want direction to NCLT to expedite the matter," the counsel said. AGENCIES

L&T demands 3 seats on Mindtree's board

Shilpa Phadnis & Reeba Zachariah | TNN

Bengaluru/Mumbai: Engineering giant L&T has written to Mindtree demanding three seats on its board as the hostile acquirer makes the final push to check into the mid-tier IT services company. L&T, which has emerged as the largest shareholder with a 30% stake, has sought board seats for its independent directors, sources said.

L&T can only appoint independent directors as long it isn't categorised as promoter. As the takeover stand-off escalates, L&T is also likely to seek promoter status soon after the open offer to public shareholders ends by this month.

L&T's latest missive for board positions turns the heat on Mindtree founders, who along with largest institutional investor Nalanda Capital, have been asking for a better deal from the conglomerate following the hostile acquisition. The four founders together own 13% in Mindtree, while Nalanda holds about 11%.

L&T's push for board seats needs Mindtree shareholders' approval and is expected to render the upcoming annual general meet (AGM) on July 16 a stormy affair, which could also determine the longevity of the founders at the two-decade-old, Bengaluru-headquartered company.

An email sent to Mindtree didn't elicit any reply. In March this year, L&T had bought 20% stake in Mindtree from Coffee Day founder V G Siddhartha. The company later increased its holding by another 10% through open market purchases. Its open offer to buy an additional 31% stake from Mindtree public shareholders, at Rs 980 per share, is under way. The Mumbai-based conglomerate's plan is to have a maximum holding of 66% in Mindtree.

L&T is also likely to oppose Mindtree's hefty special dividend in the upcoming AGM as it feels that the company needs to preserve cash even though it would be the largest beneficiary of such a payout, sources said. The Mindtree's board had recommended a Rs 443-crore dividend bonanza, translating into Rs 27 per share, to celebrate the company's twin achievements of exceeding \$1 billion in terms of revenues and its 20th anniversary. L&T, with its 30% stake in Mindtree, will get over Rs 100 crore as special dividend.

Another 10% through open market purchases. Its open offer to buy an additional 31% stake from Mindtree public shareholders, at Rs 980 per share, is under way. The Mumbai-based conglomerate's plan is to have a maximum holding of 66% in Mindtree.

MAY OPPOSE SPL DIVIDEND

HDFC MF to buy out Essel NCDs from FMPs for ₹500cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: To insulate investors in its five fixed-maturity plans (FMPs) from being hit by the delay in payment by Essel group companies, HDFC Mutual Fund (MF) has decided to buy out bonds of the troubled group from these funds, for an aggregate Rs 500 crore. This means the asset management company (AMC, or the fund house) will buy out the non-convertible debentures (NCDs) of Essel group companies from the schemes, which in turn will pay its investors.

In April, HDFC MF had extended the tenure of two of its FMPs by about a year. The investors in those funds will get their money back soon, along with interest for the delayed period, sources said.

This is the first instance in recent times of a fund stepping in to bail out its schemes so that the investors are not hurt. Incidentally, after HDFC MF had decided to extend the tenure of its FMPs, markets regulator Sebi had sent show-cause notices to the fund house and its managing director, asking why they should not be penalised for the decision.

The special arrangement will apply only to the FMPs that have an exposure to the NCDs issued by the Essel group, which have either already matured in April this year or will mature till the standstill arrangement entered into by the company with Essel group companies is in force, the fund house said.

SHIELDING INVESTORS

Subsequently, in February, most of the lenders had entered into agreements with the Essel group promoters to give them extra time and also agreed to not sell the shares that were with them as collateral for the loans they had advanced to those companies.

Later January this year, faced with liquidity issues, promoters of Essel group had told its lenders — including some of the mutual funds — that they would not be able to pay them on time. The promoters had also requested the lenders for some extra time so that they could sell off some of their businesses to garner funds and pay them back. The loans were also backed by shares of Essel and Zee group companies.

The officials say 5G, "being a more pervasive technology", will have greater interaction with devices, individuals, and businesses, making the threat around security and data leakage even more serious.

Can rupee appreciate against US dollar?

Yes. Twice in the past 10 years, rupee rose vis-à-vis the dollar — from 47.4 to 45.6 in 2009-10 to 2010-11, and from 67.1 to 64.5 in 2016-17 to 2017-18. Rupee appreciation turbo-charges GDP growth, depreciation does the opposite

Journey from \$500 billion to \$5 trillion

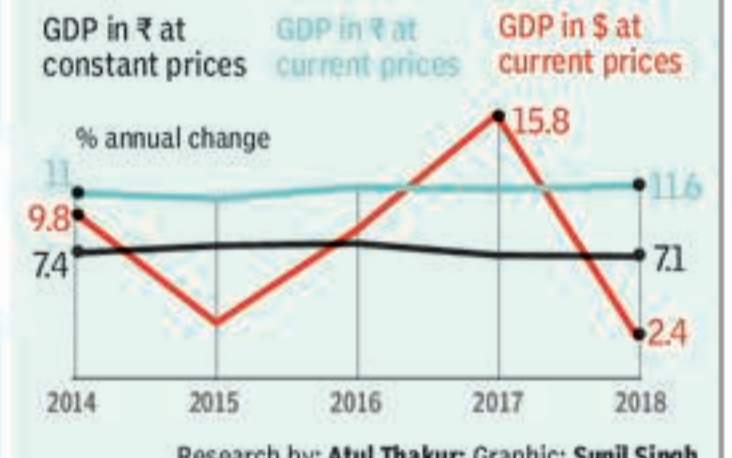
Past GDP milestones & number of years taken to achieve them



Since 2008, China has added over \$1t to its GDP five times. In 2011, its GDP grew by \$1.5t. The most India has added to its GDP in one year is \$362b — in 2017

3 faces of India's GDP growth

GDP growth rate is calculated in several ways. Here are three main measurements, and how they vary



Research by: Atul Thakur; Graphic: Sunil Singh

SwitchOn raises \$1mn in seed funds

Chennai: Bengaluru-based industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) startup SwitchOn has raised \$1 million in a seed funding round led by early-stage AI specialist investor pi Ventures, along with Kris Gopalakrishnan's Axilor Ventures, and investors from The Chennai Angels. This is SwitchOn's first external investment and the startup aims to strengthen the product's tech architecture, expand the team size, and drive market adoption in India and other countries in the European Union and Asia-Pacific region.

Launched in 2017 by brothers Anirudha Banerjee and Avra Banerjee, SwitchOn's industrial tech helps manufacturing enterprises identify operational bottlenecks and improve efficiency. TNN

Circular economy likely to generate 1.4 crore jobs: Kant

New Delhi: Circular economy has the potential to generate 1.4 crore jobs in next 5-7 years and create lakhs of new entrepreneurs, Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said on Monday. Speaking at an event organised by industry body Ficci, Kant said that sustainable development and resource circularity is the need of the hour to implement circular economy.

Circular economy implies reusing waste back into the production cycle to produce new products and uses instead of wasting such materials with embedded resources.

Kant said that by 2050, world population would reach 9.7 billion of which 3 billion people would prosper to

WHAT'S HOT & WHAT'S NOT

► IT and software continued to remain number one in job creator in the country during May followed by manufacturing industry compared to the same month last year

► BPO and call centre industry that was at the third position on the list in May 2018, has dropped out of the top 5 job-creators' list

► Quality and testing sector has entered the top five for the first time since May'18

► Telecom and ISP has found itself on the top 10 list

middle class consumption level. This would require 71% more resources per capita, thereby raising total mineral and material demand from 50 billion tonnes in 2014 to 130 billion tonnes in 2050, he noted.

Kant also stressed on the need of promoting non-go-

vernment organisations to spread awareness and developing circular economy as a national agenda.

Resource efficiency is closely linked to the concept of circular economy which has gained prominence as a policy goal for sustainable development in recent years. TNN

MEA seeks DoT's stand on Huawei

Pankaj Doval@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Ahead of PM Narendra Modi's expected meeting with US President Donald Trump at the G-20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, the ministry of external affairs (MEA) has asked the telecom department to clear the air over participation of Chinese equipment vendor Huawei in 5G, while also asking for possible areas for cooperation with America and Japan in the latest mobile technology.

MEA has sought the clarification from telecom secretary Aruna Sundararajan so that inputs can be "factored into the preparatory material to be sent to the PMO," a communication from the MEA, seen by TOI, says. The move comes at a time when there are "serious concerns" within a section of the



5G CROSS-CONNECTION

government that data of Indian citizens and enterprises could be compromised and accessed by the Chinese establishment if Huawei is allowed to participate in 5G network deployment.

A high-level committee is looking into the matter of Huawei's participation in 5G trials that are expected to begin soon. The committee is headed by the principal scientific adviser, and has senior officials from the intelligence bureau, MEA, home ministry,

IT & telecom ministries, and the cyber security wing.

The US has been firm in its stand against the Chinese vendor, and has even pursued other governments across the world to follow a similar approach in dealing with the company when it comes to 5G equipment.

MEA is seeking information on how India can strengthen the work with American and Japanese vendors on 5G technology. The view is being sought in view of the planned trilateral summit between India, US and Japan on the sidelines of the G-20 summit.

"...the US and the Japanese side have, inter alia, suggested discussing issues of 5G, where India's position and choice of 5G equipment may come up for discussion. In particular,

DoT may suggest possible response in case the other sides seek to know India's views on Huawei," the MEA notes say.

Interestingly, the telecom secretary met a senior official from American telecom equipment provider Cisco on Monday, a sign that the government is trying to find synergies with US telecom companies. While Huawei has already presented its case on data security to the government, top officials in the telecom ministry say that threats regarding its 5G network "are real" and cannot be passed off as mere suspicions.

The officials say 5G, "being a more pervasive technology", will have greater interaction with devices, individuals, and businesses, making the threat around security and data leakage even more serious.

As cyber crimes rise, insurers bat for individuals to opt for risk cover

Swati Rathor | timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Cybercrime is set to cost the world \$6 trillion annually by 2021, up from \$3 trillion in 2015, suggest industry estimates. Wanna cry? Insurance companies say it may be better to get a personal cyber insurance instead.

While cyber insurance policies for corporates have been around for over five years now and companies across sectors such as automobile and pharma have latched on to it to shield themselves against cybercrime, personal cybercrime insurance products came into the market only in the last two years with three private general insurance players offering such policies to individuals.

"Cyber risk is an emerging risk. What is unique about it is that the risk is not a segregated one. For example, if you lose a vehicle, the loss is purely yours and the

company to which the vehicle belongs is in no way impacted. However, in the cyber world, risks travel from individuals to corporates and vice versa. It is interlinked. So, in such a case it is important to protect both," Sanjay Datta, chief (underwriting and claims), ICICI Lombard General Insurance, said.

In March this year, ICICI Lombard along with digital payments solution provider Mobikwik launched a cyber-insurance cover with a sum insured of Rs 50,000 at Rs 99 a month. The company has already sold over 15,000 policies till now.

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance chief technical officer (CTO) Sasikumar Adidamu said one of the challenges in the individual cyber insurance segment is that there are no set guidelines for assessing risk. "There could be a 20-year old spending

eight hours on a study app and there could be a grown-up spending the same amount of time on a banking app. Adequate data is not available to analyse trends which can lead to correct risk assessment for individuals," he explained. In the absence of such data, the basic information that insurers tend to collect includes the number and kind of devices one uses, whether one uses anti-virus or not and the amount of time one spends browsing net, he explained.

Anurag Rastogi, chief actuary and chief underwriting officer, HDFC ERGO General Insurance, pointed out that companies are taking cognizance of the emerging cyber risks and creating products to safeguard individuals. "But, there exists a huge gap in the form of optimism bias, which means that individuals feel they will continue to remain unscathed by cyberattacks. Hence, the onus lies on insurance players to create more awareness about the rising threat of security in the virtual space," he said.

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SBI-led lenders to initiate insolvency process for Jet

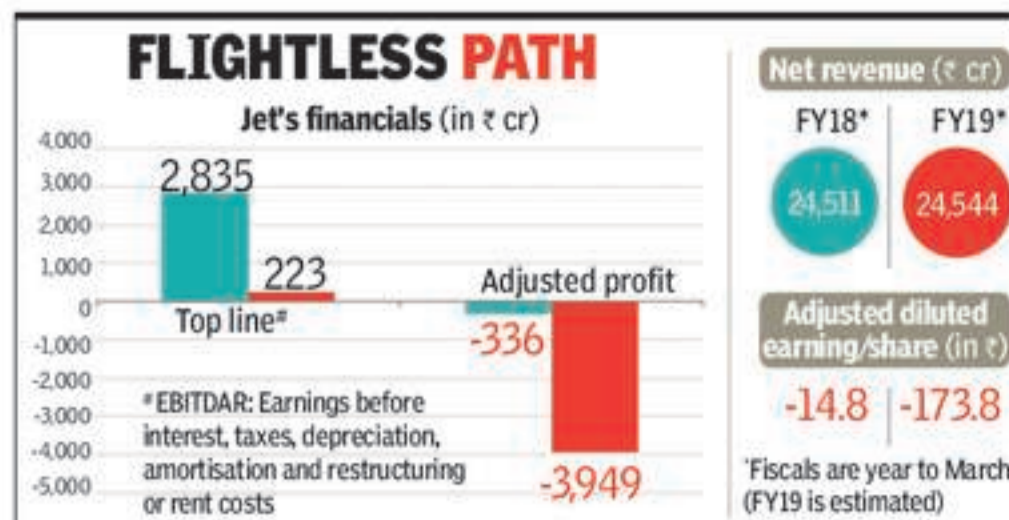
Move Comes After Debt-Laden Carrier Fails To Find A Buyer

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Lenders have decided to initiate insolvency proceedings against Jet Airways after failing in their efforts to find a buyer for the grounded airline. State Bank of India (SBI) said that it has received only one conditional bid, which was subject to lenders arranging for regulatory exemption on an open offer.

SBI, the leader in the consortium of banks, had arranged a meeting of all lenders in Mumbai on Monday to decide the way forward on Jet Airways. "After due deliberations, lenders have decided to seek resolution under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) since only a conditional bid was received and requirement of the investor for SBI exemptions and resolution of all creditors is possible under IBC," SBI said.

Another reason why lenders have decided to go for insolvency proceedings is that Eihahad expects banks to write



off most of their loans to the troubled airline. While a write-off is inevitable given that assets are inadequate, lenders worry that a haircut larger than the liquidation value might be seen as favouring a business. The regulations for insolvency resolution process for corporates define a liquidation value as the amount that is realisable by selling all the assets on the commencement date of the insolvency process.

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) will in any case be hearing on June

20 a bankruptcy plea application against Jet Airways by operational creditors Shaman Wheels and Gaggar Enterprises.

SBI has repeatedly said that insolvency was not a preferred option and only a last resort, as in the airline business, recoverability is difficult from a bankrupt organisation. If the insolvency petition is admitted, the NCLT will appoint a resolution professional who will perform the role of a chief executive, and a committee of creditors will take on the role of the board

of directors. According to bankers, a reference to insolvency would reduce chances of the airline's revival as lessors would take away all their assets. These include planes that were leased to Jet. Lenders and employees would have the top claim on Jet's assets, which include 16 aircraft that are owned by the airline. However, multinational banks including US Exim have a claim on these aircraft against their advances.

Under the 'Waterfall mechanism' in the IBC, which determines the order of priority of creditors, workmen's dues for the period of 24 months preceding the liquidation commencement date, and debts owed to a secured creditor have equal rights. The next in line are the dues of employees who are not classified as 'workmen' for the 12-month period preceding liquidation. Once these dues are met, the unsecured creditors get their money from what is left.

Karnataka to announce new IT policy

Bengaluru: With focus on tier-2 cities, the Karnataka government would soon announce a new information technology policy to drive investment and employment opportunities in the state, a senior government official said Monday.

"We are in the process of formulating a revised IT policy for the state. Our aim is to strengthen the states leadership position in the IT/ITES industry through increased trust on emerging technologies and R&D," Gaurav Gupta, principal secretary, IT department. The objective behind the new IT policy is to push Karnataka as the global first choice for innovation and technology, the officer said. He added that there would be inclusive digital growth by adopting strategies that would promote emerging technologies.

Billionaire Patrick Drahi snaps up Sotheby's in \$3.7 bln deal

Telecom titan Patrick Drahi, the billionaire behind telecoms and media group Altice, agreed on Monday to buy Sotheby's in a deal worth \$3.7 billion, marking the storied art auction house's return to private ownership after 31 years.

The acquisition will allow avid art collector Drahi to join rival French billionaire Francois Pinault at the top of the art world and New York Society, with Pinault's holding company Artemis owning a majority stake in Sotheby's rival Christie's.

Rival French billionaire and LVMH boss Bernard Arnault is equally active in the arts world via his Louis Vuitton foundation.

Drahi's expansion in the United States also has echoes of former Vivendi boss Jean-Marie Messier, who helped Vi-

vendi move into entertainment via the Universal business.



Sotheby's said it would be acquired by BidFair USA, an acquisition vehicle set up by Drahi, which had offered \$57 in cash per share to buy out Sotheby's.

The offer represented a premium of 61% to Sotheby's closing price on Friday, and gives Sotheby's a market capitalisation of \$2.6 billion.

It will result in Sotheby's returning to private owner-

ship after 31 years as a public company. Founded in London in 1744, Sotheby's had the distinction of being the oldest company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

It also marks a new chapter for the auction house that became a destination for a new generation of wealth created on Wall Street, in Silicon Valley and around the world, art experts said. By having been public, in many ways, Sotheby's operated at a competitive disadvantage to its main U.S. rival, Christie's, which was already private, experts said.

"Now the company can become more flexible and nimble as a privately-held enterprise and it will be interesting to see the changes that will be made," said Abigail Asher, a partner at international art consultants Guggenheim, Asher. REUTERS

Tackled Uber's entry with guerrilla-like strategy: Ola

New Delhi: Ride-hailing firm Ola countered American giant Uber's "carpet bombing" entry into the country with guerrilla warfare by going into nooks and corners to gain a significant market share, its founder and CEO Bhavish Aggarwal said. Speaking at the IT Bay Area Alumni meet in California, a transcript of which was made available by the company, Aggarwal said Uber was clearly ahead of Ola in terms of fund infusion but it never was able to gain a dominant market share.

Aggarwal claimed when the "competition was at its peak, Uber was outspending us almost 5:1 to the dollar".

"Yet, we held on to our market share and even today we have 21 market share against our competition. They had to really out spend but we never really able to gain dominant market share in India," he added. He likened the company's strategy to guerrillas stating they will "fight the nooks and corners" and win in



FOCUSED ON NOOKS & CORNERS

the long term. Uber did not respond to an emailed query.

Aggarwal recounted that when Uber entered India in 2013, Ola was a "tiny company" operating in two cities with a mere half a million dollars in the bank.

"We did not have a huge head start against them in India... (however) we were clear about our strengths... we know India better, we ended up building our business model customised around Indian reality in every aspect," he noted. He said Ola looked beyond the top five-six cities and has expanded into now almost 200 cities and towns in India.

"It is not easy running a business in Bihar and Eastern UP, but we had to learn how to do that. That is one example of how we had to customise our business model and execution to fight against competition and against Uber in particular..." he said.

Ola, which has expanded to Australia and the UK, is all set to take the competition with Uber to the next level as it has recently announced setting up an Advanced Technology Centre (ATC) in San Francisco Bay. Ola is building a team of over 150 engineers in the US to work on technologies like electric and autonomous vehicles.

"...we think of the next decade, we want to invest in and we want to be very relevant in terms of a global scale business and also for building new-age, cutting edge technology which impact the new-age business models of the future, there is no better place in the world to do it than here in the Bay area," he said. AGENCIES

Airbus pips Boeing, wins 100-plane order

Airbus won its first order for a new longer range model, the A321XLR, and pressed its advantage over rival Boeing, which is still trying to get its most-popular narrow-body back into the skies after two fatal crashes.

The European manufacturer gave details about the A321XLR on the first day of the Paris Air Show on Monday and said Air Lease ordered 27 as part of a larger 100-plane contract worth \$11 billion at list prices, confirming an earlier report by Bloomberg. The A321XLR could fly on trans-Atlantic routes and has a range of 4,700 nautical miles.

With the A321XLR — for "extra long range" — Airbus has succeeded in beating Boeing to market with a new offering for middle-distance routes, such as between central Europe and the US heartland. Boeing has been weighing a \$15 billion investment in a jet it calls the new midmarket airplane, or NMA. But the US pla-



MORE POWER: The new longer range model, A321XLR, could fly on trans-Atlantic routes and has a range of 4,700 nautical miles

nemaker has put those plans on the back burner until the 737 Max, which was grounded after crashes in Indonesia and Ethiopia, gets the green light from regulators to fly again.

The 240-seat XLR is a variant of Airbus's best-selling A320neo family and will fly 15% further than the existing LR model, aided by extra fuel capacity that will increase its maximum takeoff weight to 101 metric tonnes. By moving

first, Airbus has put pressure on Boeing to respond or risk handing over a large chunk of a segment it once controlled with its 757 and 767 planes.

JetBlue Airways Corp. and Norwegian Air Shuttle ASA, regarded as likely buyers for the XLR, on Friday urged Boeing to go ahead with the NMA that — with a planned range of 5,000 nautical miles — they say will have capabilities the European pla-

Boeing sees Max & other narrow-body aircraft driving the \$16-trillion market

Boeing sees the market for new commercial jet purchases and related services approaching \$16 trillion over the next two decades, fuelled by steady growth in the Asia-Pacific region and a boom in low-cost airlines. The total includes \$6.8 trillion for new and replacement planes, it said Monday in its annual market outlook. Airlines will need 44,040 passenger jets, primarily narrow-body models, about 1,300 more than Boeing projected last year. "Notwithstanding some recent moderation in passenger and cargo traffic growth, all indications are pointing to our industry sustaining its unprecedented streak of profitable expansion," Randy Tinseth, a Boeing VP (commercial marketing) said in a statement. BLOOMBERG

ne can't match. The NMA, which would seat up to 270 people, could begin service around 2025, Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg said in a Bloomberg TV interview. The Air Lease order includes 27 A321XLR, 23 A321neoX and 50 of the A220 jetliner that Airbus acquired from Bombardier Inc. The list price of the baseline A321 is \$129.5 million, while the smaller A220 goes for as much as

\$91.5 million, valuing the total order at \$11 billion before customary discounts. Air Lease's decision to buy A220s provides that model with a seal of approval from one of the world's most closely watched jet purchasers. Steven Udvar-Hazy, Air Lease's founder and chairman, has been nicknamed the "godfather" of aircraft leasing for his role in founding the industry. BLOOMBERG

Rudra Dalmia takes over as exec director of Paytm Mall

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Paytm Mall has appointed Rudra Dalmia to its executive director



to head the online to offline (O2O) marketplace backed by investors like Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba and Japan's Softbank Vision Fund. Dalmia, who joined earlier this year as a senior vice president (SVP) — finance, will also join the board of the company.

The development comes as Amit Sinha, chief operating officer (COO) of Paytm Mall, is reportedly leaving the company after over a decade. The company confirmed this development.

TO ALSO JOIN FIRM'S BOARD

"I know Rudra as a great entrepreneur and a very seasoned executive since long back. I welcome him to Paytm Family and proud to see him as a board member of Paytm Ecommerce," said Paytm founder and CEO Vijay Shekhar Sharma in a statement.

Dalmia, who has a MBA from Cornell, has over 20 years of experience in areas like investment banking, asset management, private equity and analytics. Before joining Paytm Mall he was India head and MD of Danish retail broker Saxobank. He has also worked at companies like Dawny Day International and eBooks. Paytm Mall is looking to scale up its business by over 40-50% in the current financial year as compared to gross sales of \$2.1 billion in FY19.

Last month TOI had reported that audit major Ernst & Young (EY) was hired to conduct a probe into the fraud in the marketplace business of Paytm. As a precaution, going forward, the company is now looking to on-board only authorised vendors in the light of cash-back pilferage as it increases focus on its online-to-offline (O2O) model.

Jury out on RBI role in financial stability: Das

Focus On Growth When Inflation Under Control

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Reserve Bank of India governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday said that the jury is still out on whether financial stability should be added as an explicit objective of monetary policy.

The governor also said that it will endeavour to focus on growth only when inflation is under control.

The remarks by the governor are seen to be hinting at a reluctance to provide a refinance facility for finance companies. This has been a persistent demand from industry since the IL&FS default crisis last year. The Finance Industry Development Council has written to RBI seeking a mechanism of liquidity support for non-banking finance companies. There have also been calls on the governor to ease liquidity to boost growth and help banks overcome the crisis of confidence in lending.

"Post global financial crisis, it has been recognised that price stability may not be sufficient for financial stability and therefore financial stability has emerged as another key consideration

May cut rates by another 25bps: Fitch

The RBI is likely to cut interest rates by another 25 basis points in 2019, following three cuts of a similar quantum so far, due to weak growth momentum and inflation remaining within targeted limits, Fitch Ratings said on Monday. RBI cut the repo rate to 5.75% on June 6, its third cut in 2019, after data showed the economy growing at its slowest in over four years. "We expect another 25 bps cut later in 2019, which will push the policy repo rate down to 5.50%," Fitch wrote in its Global Economic Outlook report. "Monetary and regulatory easing from the RBI, along with a recovery in portfolio inflows, should support a recovery in credit to the private sector and reverse the drag from the negative credit impulse". REUTERS

for monetary policy, though jury is still out as to whether it should be added as an explicit objective of monetary policy," said Das Speaking at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA), Mussorie on Monday.

"The fact remains that though the focus of monetary policy is mainly on inflation and growth, the underlying theme has always been financial stability," he added.

RBI meanwhile has come out with draft norms for a liquidity framework for NBFCs requiring them to keep part of their funds in liquid assets at all times. "It is our endeavour to have an optimal level of regulation and supervision so that the NBFC sector is financially

resilient and robust. The RBI will continue to monitor the activity and performance of this sector with a focus on major entities and their inter-linkages with other sectors and will not hesitate to take any required steps to maintain financial stability," Das said.

According to the governor, the response of the West to the Global Financial Crisis of 2008 has highlighted the importance of coordination of policies at the global and domestic level. He said that the quantitative easing adopted in the West resulted in large amount of liquidity being created, which was channelled to emerging markets in search of yield, creating boom and bust cycles in those economies.

Govt panel okays Trai penalty, telcos to be hit

Piramal sells entire stake in Shriram Transport Fin

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Digital Communications Commission (DCC), the telecom department's apex decision-making body, on Monday, approved imposing penalty on Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea for not providing points of interconnection to Reliance Jio. But before imposing the fine, the DCC has decided to seek the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's views on revising the Rs 3,050 crore penalty recommended by the regulator amid financial stress in the sector.

While DCC approved imposing the fine, it disagreed with a proposal to fine Rjio as it "too failed to deliver quality service to customers".

"DCC has agreed to impose penalty on Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea for not providing points of interconnection to Reliance Jio. However, the Commission has decided to take TRAI's view on revising quantum of penalty in the backdrop of stress in the sector," an official source told PTI.

The TRAI in October 2016 recommended imposing total penalty of Rs 3,050 crore on Airtel, Vodafone Idea for allegedly denying interconnectivity to newcomer Rjio.

The penalty on Airtel and Vodafone works out to be about Rs 1,050 crore each. In

case of Idea it comes to about Rs 950 crore. Since Vodafone and Idea have now merged their businesses, the new entity Vodafone Idea will have to bear the burden of both companies.

The regulator stopped short of recommending cancellation of their telecom licences saying it may lead to significant consumer inconvenience. TRAI's recommendation came on a complaint by Rjio that over 75 per cent of calls on its network were failing as incumbents were not releasing sufficient number of Pops.

"A secretary from a nodal ministry said the penalty should be apportioned and applied on Rjio as well. His point was whether responsibility of providing quality of service by a primary licence holder be shifted on others? However, DCC members did not agree to the view of imposing penalty on Jio," the source said.

The telecom secretary is the ex-officio chairperson of DCC and the panel's full-time members include member (finance), member (production), member (services) and member (technology). Niti Aayog CEO, Department of Economic Affairs secretary, Ministry of Electronics and IT secretary and DIIP secretary are the part-time members of the body.

Chennai/Mumbai: Billionaire businessman Ajay Piramal controlled Piramal Enterprises has sold its entire stake in truck lender Shriram Transport Finance for nearly Rs 2,300 crore, kickstarting the disengagement process with the Chennai-headquartered group.

The shares were lapped up by fund houses including HDFC MF and a couple more. Piramal picked up the stake of 2.26 crore equity shares in the company in 2013, on the back of plans for a banking foray.

He also picked up stakes (of nearly 10%) in Shriram City Union Finance, which is into personal lines of lending and 20% stake in Shriram Capital, the holding company of the group. He was also named the chairman for the group. Attempts to get a banking licence turned futile due to an RBI rule which imposed restrictions on operating both NBFC and bank. Piramal also made an attempt to merge the group company with IDFC for banking foray which had to be called off due to valuation issues and deal structure. Piramal had explored exit options for the past few months.

Fed may resist pressure to cut US rates this week

San Francisco/Washington:

The US Federal Reserve, facing fresh demands by President Donald Trump to cut interest rates, is expected to leave borrowing costs unchanged at a policy meeting this week but possibly lay the groundwork for a rate cut later this year.

New economic projections that will accompany the US central bank's policy statement on Wednesday will provide the most direct insight yet into how deeply policymakers have been influenced by the US-China trade war; Trump's insistence on lower interest rates, and recent weaker economic data.

Analysts expect the "dot plot" of year-end forecasts for the Fed's benchmark overnight lending rate—the federal funds rate — will show a growing number of policymakers are open to cutting rates in the coming months, though nowhere near as aggressively as investors expect or Trump wants.

The Fed is also widely, though not universally, expected to remove a pledge to be "patient" in taking future action on rates, opening the door to a possible cut at its



BUT WILL CUT LATER THIS YR

coming policy meetings. Risks may be rising, but "I don't think they want to box themselves into a corner," said Carl Tannenbaum, chief economist at Northern Trust.

"The markets are set up for a cut in July, and if they don't get it, financial conditions will tighten." The federal funds rate is currently set in a range of 2.25% to 2.50%.

The Fed's policy-setting committee is due to release its latest statement and economic projections at 2 pm EDT (1800 GMT) on Wednesday after the end of a two-day meeting. Fed Chairman Jerome Powell will hold a press conference shortly after. The Fed's last set of economic and policy projections, released in March, showed most policy-

makers foresaw no need to change rates this year and only very gradual rate hikes thereafter. But since that meeting the economic outlook has become cloudier.

Recent US retail sales numbers were strong. But while unemployment has held near a 50-year low of 3.6%, US employers created a paltry 75,000 jobs in May. Inflation, which Powell says is low in part because of temporary factors, continues to under-shoot the Fed's 2% target.

The Atlanta Fed forecast on Friday that gross domestic product will increase at a 2.1% annualized rate in the April-June quarter; a drop from the 3.1% pace of the first three months of the year.

Trade uncertainty has increased as well, with Trump using the threat of tariffs on goods from Mexico to force the country to curb the number of mostly Central American immigrants crossing the US-Mexico border.

He has also vowed to slap more tariffs on Chinese imports if no trade deal is reached when he meets Chinese President Xi Jinping at a Group of 20 summit at the end of this month in Japan. REUTERS



WORLD CUP

"NEW ZEALAND ARE ONE OF THE FAVOURITES. I DON'T WANT TO CALL THEM DARK HORSES, BECAUSE THEY DESERVE MORE THAN THAT. SO OUR DISCIPLINE IS GOING TO HAVE TO BE EVEN TIGHTER AGAINST THEM."
- Chris Morris | SA ALLROUNDER



Kuldeep Says He Was Worried About Not Getting Wickets



Manchester: India's win over Pakistan on Sunday illustrated the gap between the two teams at the moment. India were ahead for most of the game. However, there was a point when Pakistan looked like making a match of it. Fakhar Zaman and Babar Azam were going along nicely and at 117 for one in the 24th over, Pakistan were not completely out of it as rain was around the corner and the DLS equation, which ultimately decided the game, could have favoured them a little more if they had wickets in hand.



A RIPPER: Kuldeep Yadav celebrates the wicket of Babar Azam on Sunday

Best yet to come, warns KL Rahul

Manchester: KL Rahul insists his tone-setting innings in India's World Cup win over Pakistan was just a glimpse of what he can accomplish. Rahul earned praise for his composed knock at Old Trafford on Sunday after taking one of the opening slots in place of the injured Shikhar Dhawan. Rahul made 57 off 78 deliveries in his 136-run opening stand with Rohit Sharma.

The 27-year-old Rahul, who had previously batted at number four and six, is happy to have grabbed his chance but doesn't believe he has peaked yet. "I've had to wait for my chance and I'm just happy that I got to bat in the top three," Rahul said. "If you see anywhere in the world, the other openers have played so well for

India, they've owned those positions. As a kid or as a young cricketer growing up this is what you dream to do. I'm really happy that I got the opportunity and I give myself six out of ten! Hopefully I carry on the confidence and get better."

Rahul said that seeing off the new ball would be key on English pitches. "With the new ball, against any bowler, it's important to see off the first few overs," said Rahul. "Those first few overs are obviously the most difficult time because you don't know what the ball is going to do in the air and off the seam. Once we got through those, we felt a lot more comfortable. It's important to hit a few balls in the middle of the bat and get a few boundaries going." AFP

'IT WAS A PERFECT DELIVERY'

That was not to be as Kuldeep Yadav produced a gem to rattle Azam's stumps, a telling blow after which it became ridiculously easy for India. It was a dream delivery for a wrist spinner, one which drifted away from Azam in the air and spun back viciously after pitching to find the way between bat and pad. Kuldeep's joyful jump said it all even as Azam walked back wondering where that one had come from.

Kuldeep has come into the World Cup on the back of a disappointing IPL season. Sunday's performance would have given him a confidence boost even though he stressed, after the match, that he had never lost his self-belief. "I've always believed in myself. It's only that sometimes you bowl well but don't get the results."

On his special delivery, Kuldeep said: "It was a perfect delivery, deceiving the batsman and forcing him to make a mistake. Azam plays spin very well and he and Fakhar were going smoothly. It was very important to break that partnership."

"Everyone is talking about my rhythm but I never thought that I lost it," he told the media. "It's just happens sometimes that you don't pick wickets. As a player, it can be frustrating when you don't get wickets, for you and even your family. I am a player and when I don't get wickets, I start thinking why am I not getting wickets."

KULDEEP ON HIS MAGIC BALL

"I watched it when we came back for the break. The delivery had drift and turn and any spinner would have loved to bowl that delivery. It was a dream delivery. You can call it a proper Test match delivery. Deceiving the batsman in the air and forcing him to make mistake."

Vice-captain Rohit Sharma was profuse in his praise of the Kanpur lad. "Kuldeep is someone who needs a lot of confidence before going into his spell. We've been talking about it, how big a match-winner he's been for us in the last year or so. He has almost two wickets per game in ODIs (90 wickets in 47 matches) which is a hell of a record," Rohit said.

"He's our match-winning bowler in that middle-over phase, and today (Sunday) you saw how important those crucial wickets were. Of course, he didn't start the tournament the way he would like to, but our job is to just make sure that he gets that confidence, he gets that backing from the team," Rohit added.

"Kuldeep understands his bowling really well. It's just about giving him that confidence, making sure that he knows that he's one of our premier bowlers, and we've done that."

CHahal HAND IN KULDEEP'S MAGIC!

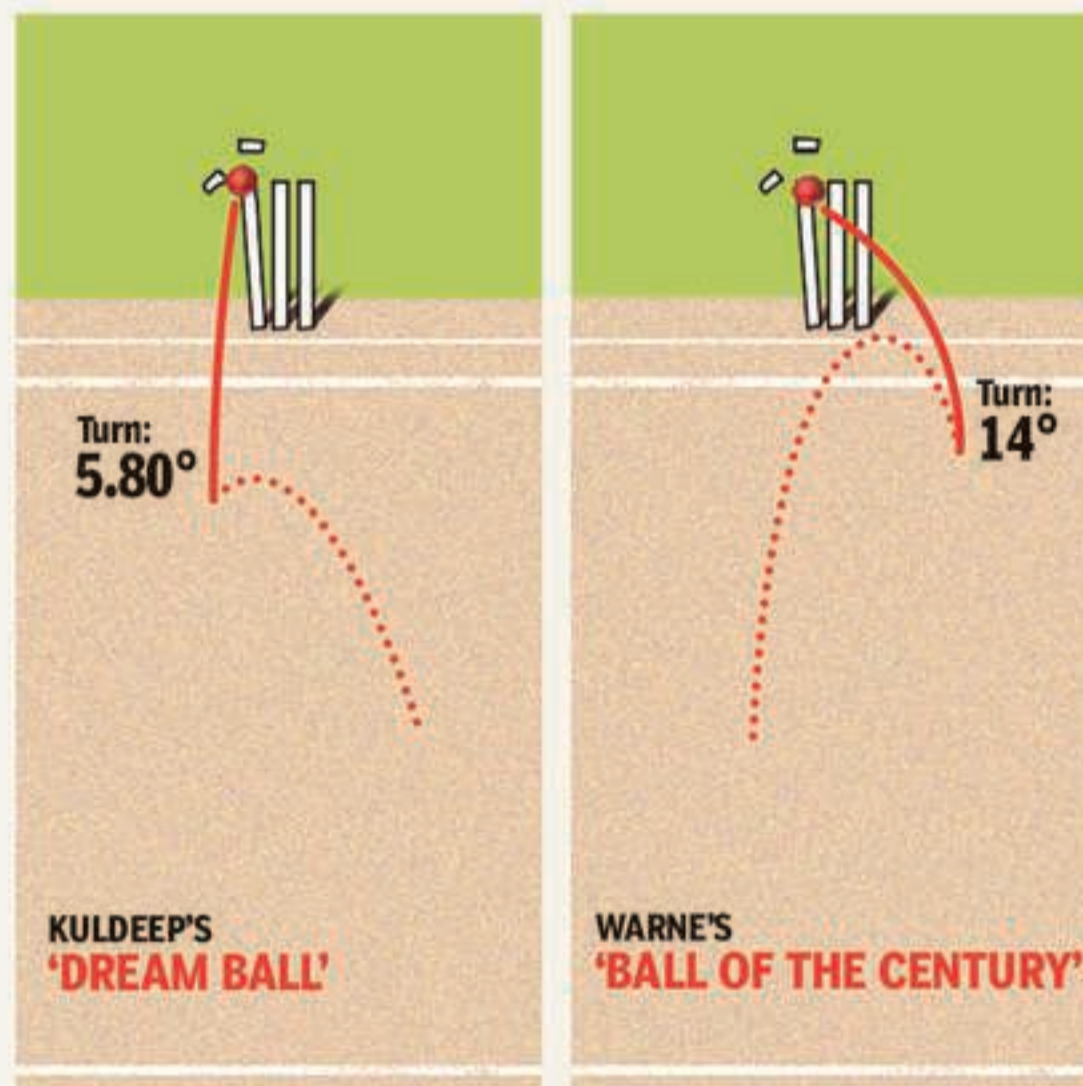
As the cricketing world goes gaga over Kuldeep Yadav's special delivery to Babar Azam, which triggered Pakistan's collapse on Sunday, Rohit Sharma let out a little on-field secret after the game. Speaking to **Yuzvendra Chahal** on Chahal TV (a section where Chahal interviews his teammates), Rohit credited the leg-spinner for plotting the wicket. The drift, obtained by Kuldeep, was an essential part in that spell and it was Chahal who read the conditions right.



"I would like to credit you for Kuldeep's performance. You came up to me and said that to both Kuldeep and you ends needed to be swapped. I spoke to the captain. The ends were swapped and Kuldeep got better drift from that end. Chahal could be a captain," Rohit said. TNN

KULDEEP'S 'BALL OF THE CENTURY'

Kuldeep's delivery to dismiss Babar was tossed up at just 78 kph. It drew Babar forward before pitching and spinning back sharply by 5.80° to bowl him through the gate. A game-changing moment by a game-changing bowler.



The drift got Babar

From P1

The victim in Kuldeep's case was Pakistan's premier batsman, Babar Azam, who was as clueless in his response to the ball as Gattling at those years ago. The ball curved away from the Pakistani right-hander initially because of the drift and just as it seemed that he had the line covered, the ball spun back viciously to dislodge Babar's off-stump.

According to CricViz, Kuldeep's delivery turned 5.8 degrees, beating Babar all ends up in the process. While Babar certainly wasn't expecting so much turn on a relatively placid Old Trafford surface, what really undid him was what had preceded the turn. As all spin bowling aficionados will tell you, it is the drift that accounts for most batsmen at the highest level. And Kuldeep certainly scored on that front, finding 2.96 degrees of drift to deceive the Pakistan No. 3.

Warne had got Gattling with a vicious turn of 14 degrees. With that and Fakhar Zaman's

dismissal just eight balls later, Kuldeep (9-1-32-2) virtually sealed the contest for India. Even more impressively, the 24-year-old's performance came at a time when his confidence had visibly taken a hit. For Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL, he had taken just four wickets in nine matches at an economy rate of 8.7. It led to him even being dropped from the team for the last five games, which wasn't the best way to head into his maiden World Cup campaign.

However, as Pakistan agonizingly found out, his poor form in the IPL was a momentary blip. The drift, dip and turn that have seen him - alongside fellow leggie Yuzvendra Chahal - upstage R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja as India's premier limited-overs spinners are certainly intact.

Warne, of course, was the master craftsman, unfurling deliveries of this nature time and again. While Kuldeep is still learning the tricks of the trade, the Old Trafford delivery shows that the chinaman bowler is heading in the right direction.

Sarfraz puts up a defiant front after rout

Manchester: In the 80s and 90s, one of the major delights about cricket was the rivalry between India and Pakistan.

If India had world-class batsmen, Pakistan had fearsome fast bowlers. More often than not, Pakistan would prevail due to the quality of their bowling, and their ability to churn out match-winners out of nowhere.

Since the last decade or so, though, the fizz seems to have gone out of this battle. For all the hype generated, mostly due to political tensions between the two countries before any game, the match turns out to be easy meat for India. In recent times, it has become just one-way traffic, with India beating Pakistan four times out of five since the 2015 World Cup.

The only exception to this trend was when Pakistan thrashed India by 180 runs in the Champions Trophy final at Birmingham in 2017. Since then, India have outplayed their neighbours twice in the Asia Cup, and on Sunday, by 89 runs (via DLS method) at Old Trafford here.

This was the seventh time that Pakistan have lost to India in the 50-over World Cup, forcing their captain Sarfraz Ahmed to concede that the rivalry is beginning to look too one-sided.

"If you talk about World Cup matches, definitely. We've not won a World Cup game against them," he said, before admitting that India were now the better side.

"And with the rivalry in general, in the 1990s Pakistan had the upper hand but India are definitely better at the moment and that's why they win more matches," he confessed.

"Even in this game, we won a good toss but didn't capitalise despite the pitch having a bit of moisture in it," he added. "It was definitely a very disappointing and disheartening defeat," said Sarfraz.

The defeat prompted further questions about the senior players in the Pakistan team with 38-year-old Mohammad Hafeez, 32-year-old Sarfraz and 37-year-old Shoaib Malik scoring just 21 runs between them batting at four, five and six.

After the loss, Pakistani fans booed and abused the team as it made its way to the dressing room here on Sunday. "You can't just talk about only the senior players, the whole team is not performing well in all three departments - batting, bowling and fielding," Sarfraz said.

It was Pakistan's third defeat in the tournament, and they are now languishing at ninth position in the table. From here, they need to win all their next four games. "We haven't played too well so far. But it's an open pool, we have to win out next four games, and I am hopeful that my team can bounce back," said the skipper.

ENERGY DRINK WITH NATURAL CAFFEINE

PLAY THE DAY

11,000 AND RUNNING

Congratulations to the Run Machine

Fastest batsman to score 11,000 ODI runs
3rd Indian to achieve this feat

FORMER CRICKETERS SLAM PAKISTAN

The swords are out after Pakistan lost their seventh World Cup match against India on Sunday. Former players and media took the players and skipper Sarfraz Khan to task for caving in tamely. Here's what some of them are saying...

"When you had won the toss, you had won half the match there. But what did you do? You tried that we should not win this match. Yet again, brainless captaincy, utterly stupid management."
-Shoaib Akhtar

"Virat Kohli basically played mind games by saying he would have bowled first and we fell into his trap."
-Basil Ali

The team selection to me is not right and I don't see any planning going into this World Cup. Win or lose is part of the game but not this way. We just went down without a fight."
-Wasim Akram

"The only solution that I see to make these players more responsible and aware they

must perform under pressure is to make performance-based payments to them."
-Sikander Bakht

"When we played against India it was the premium match for us and we never wanted to lose, but yesterday the body language of our captain and players was just not positive and energetic enough."
-Muhammad Yousof

"NO MATTER HOW STRONG THIS INDIAN TEAM IS, THE FACT IS OUR PLAYERS JUST DIDN'T DISPLAY THE MOTIVATION, ENERGY OR HEART TO BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES THAT WE CAN WIN THE MATCH."
-Mohsin Khan

"If some player is not skillful enough to execute plans he should be sacked. India lost Kumar early on but they didn't feel his absence as the other bowlers knew what their job was."
-Abdul Razzaq

"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 needs to improve on strength & conditioning and focus."
-British boxing star Amir Khan tweeted

WICKET OFF FIRST BALL IS SPECIAL: SHANKAR

Manchester: Vijay Shankar made his presence felt on his World Cup debut. The Tamil Nadu allrounder is backing himself to play an important role in India's campaign. "I knew that I was batting well but my handy bowling makes me useful. I need to keep on improving on all aspects of game... so that when situation comes I am ready to face it," Shankar told reporters. On getting a wicket off the first ball, he said, "That was a surprise for me as it's rare for someone to get injured and I come in as replacement. Getting a wicket off first ball is special thing for me. PTI

THE TIMES OF INDIA

GUESSTHEGAME

AND WIN A FOREIGN TRIP FOR 2 WORTH RS. 1 LAKH!

I'm in a very good phase of my life: Rohit

Shashank.Shekhar@timesgroup.com

Manchester: In Indian classical music parlance, the word *taseer* is often used to underline the sublime impact a performer has on the aficionados... it's about having power to produce effect which touches one's heart.

Rohit Sharma's batting has *taseer* which enralls the connoisseur at the very core. It evokes hyperbolic praise even from hard-nosed critics. Rameez Raja, former Pakistan player and respected commentator, recently called Rohit Sharma the "Rolls-Royce of batting". Gautam Gambhir once said, "If batting is a catwalk then Rohit Sharma is the showstopper."

His match-winning 140 against Pakistan here on Sunday was another glowing addition to his edifice. Rohit has taken the World Cup by storm with two crucial centuries and a fifty and his 319 in three games have come at an average of almost 160! The 'Rolls-Royce' is purring and India are storming ahead. At the post-match media interaction here on Sunday, responding to a query by TOI, Rohit opened up on his brilliant run of form. "It's a very good phase in my life. Having a newly-born daughter in my life actually has put me in a very good space. And I'm enjoying my cricket coming off a great IPL campaign and



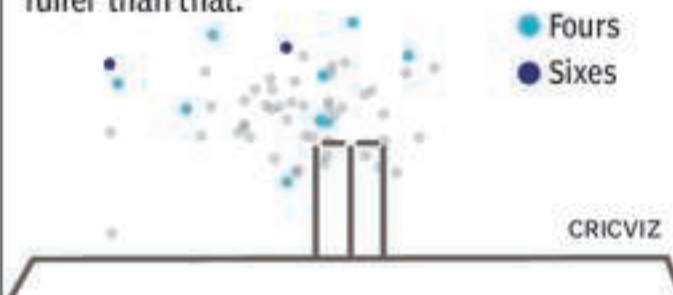
then starting off here. We always knew how important it is to start well in the World Cup. So the focus was always on that."

With regular opening partner Shikhar Dhawan out injured, Rohit opened with KL Rahul at the other end. The two put up a 136-run stand which went a long way in establishing India's supremacy in the match. There were moments of bad communication between the two which almost led to Rohit getting run out twice early in his innings.

So, how challenging is it adjusting to a new player in the middle? "These are the sort of challenges you face, the understanding of when he wants to run that two, when I want to take that single, and things like that. These are very small things, but eventually add up to a

ROHIT SHARMA VS PACE

Rohit scored 78 off 57 balls against pace and 62 off 56 against spin. Against pace, Rohit scored 55 off 30 short balls and 23 off 27 balls fuller than that.



whole lot for the team because at that point we never wanted to get run out." With Dhawan out for a good number of games, Rohit knows he will have to develop a good understanding with Rahul. "We had a lot of communication while we were batting, so slowly we will build on it. This conversation between us is really important. Openers starting well is very, very important."

Conditions were challenging when Rohit came into bat after Pakistan put India in. It was a high-pressure game, the arena was bustling with noise and excitement and it was overcast which promised help to Mohammad Amir and Co. Rohit made light of the situation, playing with ease and his customary poise. "When the conditions are going to challenge you, you've just got to assess

the conditions first. The pitch was under the cover for a long time and it was a little soft when we started. So assessing it in the first phase of the innings and not lose a wicket at that point was very crucial." About the electrifying crowd at Old Trafford, Rohit said, "It was always going to be like that when you play a game against Pakistan. But I think the crowd was evenly poised... 51 percent Indian, 49 percent Pakistan, I would say," he remarked, evoking laughter all around. What went into the emphatic win which preserved India's perfect record over Pakistan in the World Cup? "We were really, really good with the bat and the ball. Yes, we were under pressure when they were batting as they (Fakhar-Azam) had a partnership there. But that's the skill of our spinners. Whenever the opposition has strung long partnerships, these guys have given us breakthroughs."

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE...

A Pakistani journalist, apparently frustrated with his team's profligate ways, put forth a query: "The Pakistan team is under crisis for a long time. What would you suggest to Pakistan batsmen?" Rohit said: *Jab Pakistan ka coach banoonga tab bataoonga* (I will advise them when I become their coach)."

TODAY'S QUESTION WILL THE TEAM THAT BATS FIRST SCORE 320+ RUNS? (Send YES or NO as answer)

PREDICT THE ANSWER TO THE DAY'S QUESTION

500 daily winners get Rs. 500 no minimum spend Dineout e-vouchers
500 winners of 2 semi-final matches and 1 final match prediction win exciting travel vouchers worth Rs. 1000 (no minimum spend)

Not just this, with each correct answer you score 1 run per day.

5 LUCKY WINNERS WHO SCORE 10 RUNS BY 14TH JULY, STAND A CHANCE TO WIN A FOREIGN TRIP FOR 2 WORTH RS. 1 LAKH!

To participate SMS your <PINCODE><Space><ANSWER> to 9880198801

(for example: 110002 DHONI) and fill the form at www.toguess.thegame.com with correct answers by 3 pm today.

Daily participation window - 6 am to 3 pm *T&C apply

JATIN AND PRAGYANSHA CLAIM CADET TITLES

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Jatin Dev and P Pragyansha won the cadet boys and girls singles titles at the Late Samreddy Sudershan Reddy Memorial state ranking table tennis tournament, here on Monday. Jatin of SPHS scored a 11-3, 11-3, 12-14, 11-2, 11-3, 11-6 win over MRishab Singh of YMCAXTTA, while Pragyansha of VPG eased past P Jalani also of VPG 11-5, 11-7, 7-11, 11-6, 11-7.

Results: Boys: Cadet (Final): Jatin Dev (SPHS) bt MRishab Singh (YMCAXTTA) 11-3, 11-3, 12-14, 11-2, 11-3, 11-6. **SFs:** Jatin Dev bt Dhiruv Sagar (GSM) 14-12, 11-7, 11-6; MRishab Singh bt Shaurya Raj Saxena (AVSC) 14-12, 10-12, 4-11, 11-9, 11-6.

Sub-Jr (QFs): Ishan K (AWA) bt Krish Malpani (AWA) 11-8, 11-6, 9-11, 16-14; Ayush Daga (AWA) bt Raju (AWA) 11-7, 11-3, 11-6, 11-9; Trishul Mehra (LBS) bt Karan Saptarshi (MLR) 11-8, 11-6, 6-11, 11-3; Jashan Sai (MLR) bt K Varun (GSM) 11-6, 11-4, 11-6.

Junior (QFs): Trishul Mehra (LBS) bt Anoop Amara (MLR) 13-11, 11-6, 11-9; Pranav Nallari (AWA) bt Yash Goyal (GSM) 11-4, 11-7, 8-11, 11-7; SSK Karthik (AWA) bt Krish Singhvi (MLR) 11-6, 11-4, 11-9; M Raghu Ram (NLG) bt Yash Chandra (PROTT) 11-6, 11-6, 6-11, 12-10; Jashan Sai (MLR) bt Shrey (HVS) 11-6, 9-11, 11-7, 11-8; Sainath Reddy (MLR) bt K Ishan (AWA) 11-5, 13-11, 13-11, 11-6, 11-9.



Jatin Dev and Pragyansha won the cadet boys and girls titles in the Late Samreddy Sudershan Reddy Memorial state ranking table tennis tournament on Monday

Girls: Cadet (Final): P Pragyansha (VPG) bt P Jalani (VPG) 11-5, 11-7, 7-11, 11-6, 11-7, 7-5Fs: P Jalani bt Y Shreya Satyanurthy (GSM) 8-11, 11-9; Pragyansha bt P Sanhita (KWSA) 11-6, 11-4, 11-9.

Sub-Jr (QFs): Mercy (HVS) bt D Devi Sree (MLR) 11-5, 11-8, 8-11, 11-9; Ananya D (GSM) bt Pooja (AWA) 11-6, 11-3, 11-7; Pa-

lak G bt HS Nandini (VPG) 13-15, 11-6, 11-5, 11-5; M Ashlesha Singh (AWA) bt Kaavya (AWA) 12-10, 9-11, 7-11, 6-13, 11-3.

Junior (QFs): K Ikshitha (AWA) bt Afifa (YMCAXTTA) 11-4, 11-7, 11-7; Priyanshi (GSM) bt Pooja (AWA) 10-12, 11-7, 12-10, 11-4; Vidhi Jain (GSM) bt Kaavya (AWA) 8-11, 11-6, 11-2, 11-3; D Ananya (GSM) bt S Saranya (GSM) 9-11, 7-11, 11-6, 11-5; Palak G (GSM) bt CH Godha Thejaswini (NLG) 12-10, 12-10, 11-7; Mercy (HVS) bt Namratha (AWA) 11-9, 11-2, 7-11, 11-5; Diya Vora (HVS) bt Keerthana (HVS) 11-5, 11-4, 11-7; N Bhaavitha (GSM) bt HS Nikitha (VPG) 11-6, 11-7, 11-5.

YOUTH (QFs): Naina Jaiswal (LBS) bt CH Godha Thejaswini (NLG) 8-11, 11-4, 11-6, 13-11, 13-11.

Women (QFs): Shristhi Gupta (AVSC) bt K Ikshitha (AWA) 7-11, 11-4, 11-7, 11-6, 11-6; N Bhaavitha (GSM) bt Palak Stah (AVSC) 11-5, 11-2, 11-8, 11-9; S Priyanshi (GSM) bt Nikitha (PROTT) 11-4, 5-11, 13-11, 11-3, 8-11, 12-14, 12-10; V Laasya (AWA) bt Rachana (GSM) 15-17, 11-6, 11-9, 11-2, 12-10; Naina Jaiswal (LBS) bt S Priyanshi (GSM) 11-4, 11-7, 11-4, 11-5; S Saranya (AWA) bt Vinithra (GSM) 11-6, 8-11, 11-6, 11-8; Varnu Anjay (GSM) bt Diya Vora (HVS) 11-4, 11-4, 11-7, 11-4; G Pranthitha bt NIKITHA (YMCAXTTA) 3-11, 11-9, 11-6, 11-4, 11-6.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ROADS & BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT

Procurement Notice

Online tenders are invited under "e-Procurement platform for (10) Works vide EE (R&B) NH Division, Hyderabad" e NIT. No. EE/R&B/NH/HYD/2019-20/1 Dt. 15.06.2019 can download the tender schedules and have further details from emarket place i.e. www.eprocurement.gov.in. The last date of receipt of tenders is 02.07.2019 up to 3.00 PM.

Sd/-
EE (R&B) NH Division, Hyderabad

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my client Sri Kamlesh Jain S/o. Bhikam Chand Jain intend to purchase the schedule mentioned plot from Sri K. Eshwariah S/o. Sri K. Maliaiah R/o. Rallaguda, Shamshabad and Sri Vadde Chandirah S/o. R. Ramaiah R/o. Munchinthi Village, Shamshabad. If anyone has objection, right or interest in the schedule property mentioned below shall make their claim and contact the undersigned with all original documents in support of their claim within a period of (10) days from the date of this notice, else my client shall conclude the sale transaction and no claims shall be entertained.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All the open plot No.7 admeasuring : 1210 Sq. Yards in Survey Nos. 63(e), 64(e), 65/Part & 66/Part, forming part of Old Sy.Nos. 432/8 and Part of Sy.No.433, in layout known as "SRIRAMA FARMS HUB" situated at Paimakole Village and Grampanchayat, Shamshabad Mandal, Ranga Reddy District and bounded as follows:

NORTH: Plot No.8, **SOUTH:** Plot No.6, **EAST:** 33.0 Ft. Wide Road, **WEST:** 24.0 Ft. Wide Road

ASHFAQ AHMED ADVOCATE

3A, F.F., R.B.V.R. Shopping Complex, Tilak Road, Abids, Hyderabad Ph. 9246520264

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA Revenue (Ia) Department

Office of the District Collector, Rajanna Sircilla
FORM - C NOTIFICATION

(UNDER SECTION 11 OF THE ACT WHERE EXEMPTION GIVEN
US 10-A OF THE RECTLARR (TELANGANA AMENDMENT) ACT,
2016 (Act 212017) (SEE RULE 6/12)

Proc.No. G2/1040/2019 Date : 10.06.2019

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana / Collector, Rajanna Sircilla that a total of 20.28 acres of land is specified in the "Schedule" below situated in the limits of Narayanapur, Dumala & Yellareddypet villages of Yellareddypet Mandal of Rajanna Sircilla District is required for public purpose, to wit for, excavation of 15 R Minor of D3 Distributary Gravity Canal of Malkajpet Reservoir under Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project Package No.9.

Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Narayanapur, Dumala & Yellareddypet villages of Yellareddypet Mandal of Rajanna Sircilla District land measuring, more or less 20.28 acres of standard measurement, whose detail description is as following, is proposed for acquisition.

SCHEDULE

Sl. No.	Area Under Acquisition (in acres)	Name (s) of Enjoyer (s) with Father's / Husband's name	Details of Structures, Trees etc.
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MAJOR MAN: Spectators cheer as Woodland makes his final putt

-13 His 13-under total was one better than Tiger Woods' 12-under winning total on the same course in 2000

US OPEN GOLF

Good guys finish first, sometimes

Woodland Fends Off Koepka Challenge To Win By 3 Strokes

GARY WOODLAND



Pebble Beach: A lifetime of work came to fruition for Gary Woodland at Pebble Beach, where the 35-year-old from Kansas — who turned to golf when he felt his basketball dream just wouldn't pan out — captured his first major title at the 119th US Open.

"I've worked hard my whole life," Woodland said. "I've been surrounded by amazing people and I always just wanted to be successful."

"I fell in love with golf, and it's transcended to today."

Woodland, long known as a long-hitter, has worked tirelessly on other aspects of his game. But the wins have been few — three on the US PGA Tour since he first joined in 2009, none in 30 prior majors that didn't even produce a top-10 finish until the PGA Championships of 2018 and '19. "It's getting there," he said of his game, and he certainly had everything he needed this week.

With Brooks Koepka — winner of four of his last eight majors, runner-up at this year's Masters and chasing an historic third straight US Open — breathing down his neck, Woodland didn't blink.

Even playing partner Justin Rose, his own hopes ended by a trio of back-nine bogeys, gave him a little fist bump.

Woodland took up a golf scholarship at the University of Kansas after he realized that he'd never be a top collegiate basketball player. Lean years on the tour have been accompanied by some dark times off the course. He and wife Gabby were expecting twins in

AT A GLANCE

WINNER: Gary Woodland shot a 2-under 69 to win his first career major with a final score of 13-under 271, the lowest in six US Opens played at Pebble Beach. **JUST BEHIND:** Brooks Koepka's quest for a record-tying third straight US Open title came up a little short. He shot a 68 to finish 10 under for the tournament and is the first player to score in the 60s in all four rounds of the US Open and fail to win. **TIGER WATCH:** Tiger Woods shot a 69 to tie for his second-lowest final round ever at the U.S. Open. He finished the tournament at 2 under in a tie for 21st.

2017 when they learned one had died in the womb. Son Jaxson was born that year, and the two are now expecting twin girls.

Far from a household name, Woodland attracted a wealth of fans this year when the PGA Tour shared a video of him inviting Amy Bockerstette, a 20-year-old with Down Syndrome, to play a hole with him during a practice round at the Phoenix Open. **REUTERS**

PERFECT START

Suarez, Cavani Score As Uruguay See Off 10-Man Ecuador In Style

Belo Horizonte: 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 fouling 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 an important step."

It was the ideal beginning for Uruguay in a tough Group C alongside champions Chile and guests Japan, who meet on Monday in Sao Paulo. "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.

QATAR HIT BACK TO SNATCH PARAGUAY DRAW
Rio de Janeiro: Boualem Khoukhi scored 13 minutes from time as Asian champions Qatar hit back from 2-0 down to earn a 2-2 draw with Paraguay at the Copa America on Sunday.

An Oscar Cardozo penalty and a stunning Derlis Gonzalez strike gave the South Americans a 2-0 lead in Rio de Janeiro but goals from Almoez Ali and Khoukhi in the final quarter snatched a share of the Group B spoils for the tournament debutants. "It's a fair result, we deserved the point we gained," said Qatar's Spanish coach Felix Sanchez.

It left the sides two points behind Group B leaders Colombia. **AFP**



ON TARGET: Uruguay's Edinson Cavani

EVEN TONGA CAN BEAT ARGENTINA, SAYS MARADONA

Diego Maradona has criticized Argentina after its opening loss to Colombia in the Copa America. Maradona told the TyC Sports channel in Buenos Aires "even Tonga can beat us."

Argentina lost 2-0 on Saturday, the team's first defeat in a Copa America opener since 1979.

Maradona, the captain of the Argentina squad that won the 1986 World Cup and coach from 2008-10, criticized the country's soccer federation for putting inexperienced Lionel Scaloni in charge of the national team.

He also took shots at the players, saying they need to "feel" the importance of the Argentina jersey.

Argentina are trying to end a 26-year title drought. The team is last in Group B after this weekend's opening matches, one point behind Paraguay and Qatar and three points behind Colombia.

Argentina's next match is against Paraguay on Wednesday in Belo Horizonte. **AP**

Lloyd clears path for holders USA

Paris: 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 with the two teams still hoping to progress from Group B.

Lloyd became the first player to score in six consecutive women's World Cup matches as the USA defeated Chile and joined Sweden in qualifying from Group F with a game to spare. That the USA's winning margin was nowhere near their record-breaking 13-0 hammering of Thailand was largely down to the heroics of Chile's goalkeeper Christiane Endler.



CARLI LLOYD

FRANCE SMASH TV VIEWING RECORDS

France is once again gripped by football fever. Stadiums are selling out, and TV broadcasters are bumping up the price of advertising slots as millions tune in. TF1, France's main broadcaster, had expected the team's opening match to draw up to 5 million viewers. Numbers peaked at 10.9 million, while almost 1 million followed the game on Canal+. The cost of advertising slots are up by 50-60%.

'ATLETICO MADRID TO SIGN BENFICA'S JOAO FELIX FOR 120 MILLION EUROS'

Atletico Madrid are set to sign Portugal midfielder Joao Felix from Benfica for 120 million euros (\$135 million), Marca said on Monday. Felix, 19, made his first-team debut for Benfica last season, helping the Lisbon side win the Portuguese league title by scoring 15 goals and providing seven assists in 21 starts. He made his Portugal debut in this month's 3-1 win over Switzerland in the UEFA Nations League semifinal. Atletico will pay the player's full release clause imminently, smashing the club's transfer record of 72 million euros which they paid to sign Thomas Lemar from AS Monaco.



FELIX

BRAZIL AUTHORITIES PUT FREEZE ON NEYMAR ASSETS

Paris Saint-Germain striker Neymar's off-pitch woes continue to mount, as Brazilian tax authorities put a freeze on dozens of his mansions and other properties amid a long-running tax dispute, local media reported Monday.

The Folha de S.Paulo newspaper reported that Brazilian authorities blocked 36 properties in Brazil as they seek 69 million reais (\$18 million) in back taxes. They claim that amount is due in



NEYMAR

connection with Neymar's 2013 transfer from Santos to Barcelona. The action means Neymar can use the properties but not sell them.

ANOTHER WARNING: PSG CHIEF BLASTS FRENCH CLUB'S 'CELEBRITY BEHAVIOUR'

PSG boss Nasser Al-Khelaifi warned Neymar and his other highly-paid stars that they must shape-up or ship-out, claiming "celebrity behaviour" at the French champions will not be tolerated. "The players will have to assume their responsibilities even more than before," he said. "They are not here to please themselves and if they do not agree, doors are open."

Dope shame: Nada list reveals new names

Sabi Hussain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Several sportspersons have been added to India's latest hall of shame comprising doping cheats, even as the National Anti-Doping Agency (Nada) continues in vain to educate the athletes and coaches about the danger and consequences of using prohibited drugs/substances.

In the fresh list, it's the usual suspects — weightlifters and track and field athletes — who have again sullied the country's image by resorting to the use of banned substances. Among the prominent names are Delhi Commonwealth Games 2010 gold medalist weightlifter Ravi Kumar Katulu, Penang Junior Commonwealth Championships 2016 gold winner weightlifter Purima Pandey, Patiala Federation Cup and Guwahati Inter-state ath-

letics meet 2018 gold medalist discus thrower Dharam Raj Yadav and New Delhi elite women's half marathon 2019 winner Jyoti Singh, among others.

Jyoti, in all likelihood, will be stripped of her gold she had won clocking 1 hour 22 minutes and 20 seconds to win the race. All athletes have been provisionally suspended by the Nada. These athletes, as well as others in the list, face up to four years in suspension pending a decision on the quantum of punishment by the Nada's anti-doping disciplinary panel (ADDP).

However, what's more alarming for Indian sports authorities is the growing number of young dope cheats — some even schoolkids — reported from the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG). In the latest disclosure by the Nada, Greco Roman wrestler Rohit Ahire, 50m freestyle

swimmer Sahil Pawar and shotputter Satyam Choudhary have tested positive and have been provisionally suspended. The common substance used by them was for increasing testosterone and boosting stamina. The second edition of the KIYG was conducted this year in January in Pune.

The first edition of the Khelo India School Games 2018 for the under-17 athletes saw 12 doping failures, which included five gold medalists.

Leading the charge among those provisionally suspended are weightlifters, which include national champion in the men's 96 kg, Vee-render Singh, Deepika, Vishal Solanki and Seema, apart from Ravi and Purnima. All of them were tested during the 71st men and 34th women senior national weightlifting championships in Vishakhapat-

nam in February this year.

In athletics, the case of Dharam Raj is quite interesting. Nada's dope control officers (DCOs) literally have to chase him down after the discus thrower evaded them for months. Dharam Raj was tested out-of-competition by DCOs at a Bengaluru hotel in a surprise check after he chose to neither report at the national camp nor make his antecedents known. Meanwhile, Kerala's promising long jumper, Sreekanth KM, has been banned for four years w.e.f. November 14, 2017 after he lost his appeal before the ADPP.

Also, it's the end of the road for India's top quarter-miler Priyanka Panwar, whose eight-year suspension was upheld by the ADPP after she lost her appeal for returning dope positive for the second time in her career in 2017.

Murray's love for tennis rekindled

London: Andy Murray has said that surgery helped him rediscover his passion for tennis as he prepares to make his comeback at Queen's Club this week. The 32-year-old will feature in the men's doubles alongside Spaniard Feliciano Lopez on Wednesday, five months after undergoing a hip resurfacing operation. "There have been a number of times over the past 18 months where I did want to stop," he said. "I wasn't bothered about winning matches either because it wasn't fun. Now I like playing tennis, getting out on the court and hitting balls. I want to keep playing if I can because I enjoy it."

Murray said at the Australian Open in January that he intended to retire after Wimbledon due to crippling pain that stopped him from doing everyday tasks like pulling on socks. **REUTERS**

Zverev struggles to get past Haase

Halle Westfalen (Germany): German star Alexander Zverev survived a brief second-set scare to beat Dutchman Robin Haase 6-4, 7-5 and reach the second round of the ATP tournament in Halle on Monday. Second seed Zverev came back from 5-2 down in the second set to win in straight sets in front of his home crowd and set up a second round meeting with American Steve Johnson.

Third seed Karen Khachanov is also in the second round after beating Serbia's Miomir Kecmanovic 7-6 (7/5), 6-4.

France's Pierre-Hugue Herbert sprung a minor sur-

prise as he beat veteran compatriot Gael Monfils 7-6 (8/6), 6-4.

Anderson survives

London: Wimbledon finalist Kevin Anderson had to battle back from a set down to begin his 2019 grass court season with a 4-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4 victory over Britain's Cameron Norrie at Queen's on Monday.

Reigning champion Marin Cilic had an easier afternoon in London as he swept aside Christian Garin 6-1 7-6 (7/5).

Daniil Medvedev, Diego Schwartzman and Nicolas Mahut were also winners in straight sets. **AGENCIES**

Tsitsipas wants to change old order

London: Greek star Stefanos Tsitsipas said he is determined to help break the Wimbledon title stranglehold of tennis' 'Big Four' which has existed since 2003.

The 20-year-old, who is top seed at Queen's this week, said it is time for either himself or the likes of Alexander Zverev to step up as a potential champion at the All England Club next month.

Andy Murray, the 2013 and 2016 Wimbledon winner who is returning at Queen's in the doubles after a long lay-off following hip surgery, said he thought Wimbledon will be won once again by either Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal or defending champion Novak Djokovic.

The trio have captured 14 Wimbledon titles between them.

Tsitsipas, who reached his first Grand Slam semi-

final in January at the Australian Open knocking out Federer on the way, said he hoped there would be a new name on the trophy.

Australia's Lleyton Hewitt, in 2002, was the last man outside of the 'Big Four' to triumph at Wimbledon.

"I want to be honest. I would love to see something different this year and hopefully it will be me," Tsitsipas said Sunday.

"It would give it a little bit of variety, something different to these guys."

"We are responsible as the new generation to work hard to come up with something new and our best games to beat those guys."

Tsitsipas, who arrives ranked six in the world but having lost to unheralded Chilean Nicolas Jarry on grass at 's-Hertogenbosch last week, says the younger players must believe in themselves. "It is only a matter of character and feeling responsible for what we are doing on the court," he said. **AFP**

Osaka not comfortable on grass

London: World No.1 Naomi Osaka admits she has a long way to go to turn her mastery of hard courts onto success on grass as she prepares for Wimbledon at the Birmingham Classic this week.

Osaka has claimed her first two Grand Slams at the US and Australian Open since her last outing on a grass court, when she was thrashed for the loss of just six games by Wimbledon champion Angelique Kerber. "Grass, I'm not really that comfortable with it," said Osaka on Monday. "As a little kid, I never played on grass. It's always the first tournament that's the hardest. I have only practiced twice on grass because it was raining a lot. So, I guess I'm feeling as good as I can."

Osaka, though, is keen to show how much she has improved as a player even on an unfamiliar surface over the past year: "Whenever I come to grass I can only remember the last match I played which is always Wimbledon and last year I played against Kerber and she kind of crushed me." **AFP**

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SHAKIB, LITON LEAVE WINDIES BREATHLESS



CUT ABOVE THE REST: Shakib Al Hasan slashes one to the boundary against West Indies at Taunton

Ton-Up All-Rounder And Das Put On 189 Runs To Hunt Down 322

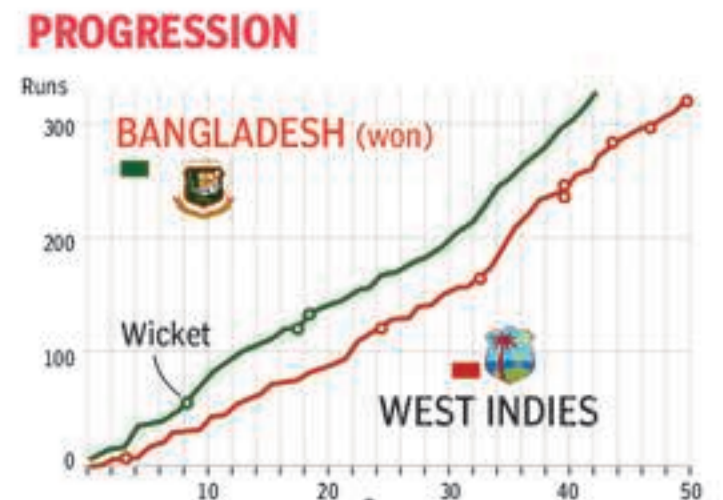
TIMES AT THE WORLD CUP
Gaurav.Gupta@timesgroup.com

Taunton: Enjoying the form of his life in this World Cup, Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan, the world's No. 1 allrounder, slammed a superb century (124 not out, 99b, 16x4) and added a 189-run unbeaten fourth wicket stand with the equally magnificent Liton Das (94 not out, 69b, 8x4, 4x6) in merely 135 balls to help Bangladesh pull off a record 322-run chase against a woeful West Indies with 51 balls to spare here on Monday. This is Bangladesh's highest chase in ODIs, and one which their fans, some 8,000 of whom were at the ground on Monday, will savour for a long time.

Incidentally this was always the second highest successful run chase in World Cup. With this commanding seven-wicket victory — their second in this World Cup, Bangladesh, with five points in five matches, have now leapt to the fifth spot in the table. During their match-winning partnership — the highest for Bangladesh for any wicket in World Cup history — Shakib and Liton, playing just his first game in the tournament, added 95 in overs 30 to 40, which tells you how they completely destroyed the West Indies fast bowlers. Apart from the rain washouts, the 2019 World Cup is likely to be remembered for Shakib Al Hasan's dazzling batting and fabulous consistency. His second hundred in the tournament kept Bangladesh, des-

perate to win this game after two defeats in a row, stay in the race for a semifinal spot. With his previous scores being 75, 64 & 121, the 32-year-old left-hander now has 384 runs in four games@ an incredible average of 128.00, in a tally which includes two fifties and as many centuries. Apart from the ability and guts to play the short ball well, Shakib stunned all with his ability to make room and keep smashing the West Indian fast bowlers down the ground. The West Indies had a chance to grab his wicket when he hooked an Andre Russell delivery awkwardly, but wicketkeeper Shai Hope needlessly ran towards fine leg, where a distracted Shannon Gabriel couldn't go for the catch, resulting in the ball falling between the two. Shakib, however, wasn't the sole hero of Bangladesh's tremendous chase. Das deserved credit too for matching him stroke for stroke during their match-winning alliance. After suffering their third defeat

in five games, the West Indies, who started off with a bang against Pakistan, now are almost out of contention for a place in the semis — they've just three points and sit at the seventh position. Their strategy of relying on just pace and the short ball backfired badly against Shakib and Das and perhaps their biggest mistake seems to be the idea to carry an injured Russell to the World Cup. In a disastrous bowling performance, they conceded as many as 25 wides — 26 being the overall extras total. Earlier, they came out with a perfect strategy to post an imposing score of 321 for eight — despite both their star batsmen Chris Gayle and Russell getting out for ducks. While Hope, who came into this game with an average of over 100 against Bangladesh (three hundreds and three fifties before this knock) played the role of the sheet-anchor, holding the fort with a solid 96 (121b, 4x4, 1x6), the other batsmen played attacking game.



SCOREBOARD

WEST INDIES

C Gayle c Rahim b Saifuddin 0 (13b)

E Lewis c sub (Sabir) b Shakib 70 (67b, 4x6, 6x2, SR 104.47)

S Hope c Liton b Rahman 96 (121b, 4x4, 6x1, SR 79.33)

N Pooran c Sarkar b Shakib 25 (30b, 4x2, 6x1, SR 83.33)

S Hetmyer c Tamim b Rahman 50 (26b, 4x4, 6x3, SR 192.30)

A Russell c Rahim b Rahman 0 (2b)

J Holder c Mahmudullah b Saifuddin 33 (15b, 4x4, 6x2, SR 220)

D Bravo b Saifuddin 19 (15b, 6x2, SR 126.66)

O Thomas not out 6 (11b, SR 54.54)

Extras (1b6, w16) 22

Total (8 wks, 50 overs) 321

Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-122, 3-159, 4-242, 5-243, 6-282, 7-297, 8-321

BOWLING

M Murtaza 8-1-37-0 (ER 4.62)

M Saifuddin 10-1-72-3 (w6, ER 7.2)

M Rahman 9-0-59-3 (w5, ER 6.55)

M Hasan Miraz 9-0-57-0 (w1, ER 6.33)

M Hossain 6-0-36-0 (ER 6)

S Al Hasan 8-0-54-2 (ER 6.75)

BANGLADESH

T Iqbal run out (Cottrell) 48 (53b, 4x6, SR 90.56)

S Sarkar c Gayle b Russell 29 (23b, 4x2, 6x2, SR 126.08)

S Al Hasan not out 124 (99b, 4x16, SR 125.25)

M Rahim c Hope b Thomas 1 (5b, SR 20)

L Das not out 94 (69b, 4x8, 6x4, SR 136.23)

Extras (b1, w25) 26

Total (3 wks, 41.3 overs) 322

Fall of wickets: 1-52, 2-121, 3-133

BOWLING

S Cottrell 10-0-65-0 (w3, ER 6.5)

J Holder 9-0-62-0 (w1, ER 6.88)

A Russell 6-0-42-1 (w1, ER 7)

S Gabriel 8.3-0-78-0 (w2, ER 9.17)

O Thomas 6-0-52-1 (w5, ER 8.66)

C Gayle 2-0-22-0 (w1, ER 11)

"THEY MURDERED WEST INDIES. IT WAS TOTAL MASSACRE."
Curtly Ambrose | West Indies legend

RANK 1 ENGLAND
IND 1/10 UK 1/25
MATCH NO 24
MANCHESTER
ODDS IND 10/1 UK 9/1
RANK 10 AFGHANISTAN

STAR WAR
JOS BUTTLER VS RASHID KHAN
Given the disparity between the two teams, the result may almost be a foregone conclusion. The contest between Jos Buttler and Rashid Khan, though, should be enough to attract viewers. Buttler needs to continue his good run in the likely absence of Jason Roy and Eoin Morgan. It will not be so straightforward against the wily Rashid.

Hit by injuries, England look to get closer to SF

Manchester: Struck by a series of injury setbacks, England will look to get the combination right when they take on the low-ranked but spirited Afghanistan in their bid get closer to a semifinal berth, here on Tuesday. England opener Jason Roy will miss the hosts' next two matches with a torn left hamstring, the England and Wales Cricket Board said on Monday. Roy, who suffered the injury while fielding during England's win over the West Indies on Friday, has been ruled out of Tuesday's group fixture against Afghanistan at Old Trafford and Friday's match against Sri Lanka at Headingley. Meanwhile, England captain Eoin Morgan, who suffered a back spasm in the field against the West Indies, and like Roy did not bat in that match, will be assessed ahead of the Afghanistan clash and could yet play against the tournament minnows. "England batsman Jason Roy, who left the field during West Indies' innings on Friday due to left hamstring tightness, underwent an MRI scan on Saturday in London," an ECB statement read. "The MRI confirmed that Roy has suffered a hamstring tear. As a result of the injury, he will be reassessed on an ongoing basis this week. He is set to miss England's next two matches against Afghanistan (18 June) and Sri Lanka (21 June)." As for Morgan's condition, the ECB said he had undergone a scan at the weekend and received further treatment. "The spasm has settled down and will be monitored over the next 24 hours," the statement added. Himself in doubt for Tuesday's game but Morgan insisted there is no need to hit the panic button just yet.

Buttler likely to lead
In case Morgan isn't fully fit, vice-captain Jos Buttler is likely to lead the team which boasts of a strong bench strength that includes the likes of Tom Curran and Moeen Ali. After suffering a shock loss to Pakistan, England have got their act together, excelling in all three departments and the hosts will want to continue riding on the winning momentum. On the other hand, Afghanistan will be eager to post their first win in the ongoing 50-over showpiece. PTI

HOW THEY STAND

TEAM	M	W	L	NR	NRR	PTS
AUS	5	4	1	0	0.812	8
NZ	4	3	0	1	2.163	7
IND	4	3	0	1	1.029	7
ENG	4	3	1	0	1.557	6
BAN	5	2	2	1	-0.27	5
SL	5	1	2	2	-1.778	4
WI	5	1	3	1	0.272	3
SA	5	1	3	1	-0.208	3
PAK	5	1	3	1	-1.993	3
AFG	4	0	4	0	-1.638	0

MOST RUNS

SHAKIB AL HASAN (BAN) 384 (50-2 | 100-2)

AARON FINCH (AUS) 343 (50-2 | 100-1)

ROHIT SHARMA (IND) 319 (50-1 | 100-2)

DAVID WARNER (AUS) 281 (50-2 | 100-1)

JOE ROOT (ENG) 279 (50-1 | 100-2)

MOST WICKETS

MOHAMMAD AMIR (PAK) 13 (5W-1 | ER-4.72)

MITCHELL STARC (AUS) 13 (5W-1 | ER-5.41)

PAT CUMMINS (AUS) 11 (5W-0 | ER-4.48)

JOFRA ARCHER (ENG) 9 (5W-0 | ER-4.73)

MOHD SAIFUDDIN (BAN) 9 (5W-0 | ER-7.29)

Afghanistan's limitations out in the open at halfway stage

SUNNY SIDE UP
SUNIL GAVASKAR

The whipping boys of this tournament have been Afghanistan. They are a dangerous team in the ultra-short format of the game, but when it comes to Test match and One-day cricket, they have been found wanting. That is mainly due to the inability of their batsmen to give themselves a bit of time at the crease and then play their shots. The T20 format means that batsmen have to ensure as few dot balls as possible and with the fielders generally in run-saving positions, they can get away with the edges with no slip fielders to catch them. In the other formats, this lack of patience is what is the reason for their dismal performance so far. Even then on flatter pitches like in the sub-continent or UAE their batsmen can get runs, but in England where the ball swings in the air and seams off the pitch they have

struggled to put enough runs on the board for their bowlers to pressure the opposition batsmen. Then there's been controversy with a senior member of the team like Mohammad Shahzad being dropped from the squad ostensibly on injury grounds only for him to retort that he is fit and fine. Speaking of injuries, England have concerns with skipper Eoin Morgan nursing a back spasm and Jason Roy also not fully fit. So they could use the Afghanistan game to try others out. Maybe even give Jofra Archer, the quickie, a break. He has been outstanding with his ability to mix the bouncer and the yorkers and the slower one to boot. The spinners Moeen Ali and Adil Rashid are doing their job of containment

plus wickets in the middle overs. Joe Root has two hundreds and has also picked wickets with his innocuous looking off-spin. England look a balanced team and if they can avoid injuries, they will be the team to beat along with India and a rejuvenated Australia. These three teams are playing superb cricket and have the experience and balance needed to come through tough and tense situations. India's easy victory over old rivals Pakistan on Sunday makes you wonder why so much hype about this particular game when there is such a vast gulf in talent and performance between the two. India have been by far the better team for years notwithstanding the defeat in the Champions Trophy. PMG

Stats: Rajesh Kumar

4 With 75 vs South Africa; 64 vs New Zealand; 121 vs England and 101 not out vs West Indies, Shakib Al Hasan has become the fourth batsman to record four successive fifty-plus innings at the start in a World Cup competition, joining Navjot Singh Sidhu (1987), Sachin Tendulkar (1996) and Graeme Smith (2007).

2 Shakib Al Hasan is the second Bangladesh batsman and the tenth overall to hit back-to-back centuries at the World Cup. Kumar Sangakkara remains the only one to post four centuries in successive World Cup innings.

"IT FEELS GREAT. TO STAY AT THE WICKET TILL THE END WAS THE MOST SATISFYING. I'VE BEEN WORKING ON MY BATTING AND IT'S PAYING OFF."
— Shakib Al Hasan

Come on Pakistan, give us a contest

CHEERING COACH
MR. PRIDE

If you are a cricket fan from the 1980s and 1990s, I am sure you would have spent sleepless nights before a match against Pakistan. No matter what the theatre, an India-Pakistan clash has always generated immense interest. It is almost like a final before the final. Little wonder the cheer index was at an all-time high despite the scattered rains at Old Trafford on Sunday. The Indian team performed like champions to make it a no contest. Things have changed over the years and how! The difference between the two sides was glaring but the contest lived up to all its hype and hoopla. Painted faces, animated fans in blue and green provided just the right setting. The 800,000 ticket applicants couldn't have been treated to a better fare although intermittent showers tried to play spoilsport. The fans showed better endurance than nature.

If there is one thing common about the Pakistani cricketers and the English weather, it is their unpredictability. So, it was at the Old Trafford. Vociferous fans had the pleasure of watching two captains at play: Virat Kohli leading from the front, and cool-as-a-cucumber MS Dhoni from the behind the stumps. You can now add Rohit Sharma to this list. The opener served a royal feast. He just kept cruising without losing his acceleration.



Lovely gesture by Virat: Smith

London: Steve Smith has appreciated Virat Kohli's 'lovely gesture' after the Indian skipper asked fans to stop jeering the former Australian skipper during their World Cup encounter on June 9. Back after serving a one-year suspension for the infamous ball-tampering scandal in South Africa, Smith, despite a string of impressive performances, has been getting hostile reception at every English ground at the marquee event. During the clash with India, which Australia lost by 36 runs, the Indian fans booed Smith and chanted 'cheater, cheater' when the defending champions were fielding. Kohli, who was batting at

the time, urged them to calm down and instead cheer his batting. "It was a lovely gesture by Virat," Smith told reporters after Australia's victory to Sri Lanka. Smith said the frequent booing and heckling by the English crowd doesn't affect him but appreciated Kohli's gesture nonetheless. "It doesn't really bother me what the crowds do to be perfectly honest. I am just blocking it all out but it was a lovely gesture from him," Smith said. Kohli and Smith have had their run-ins in the past including the infamous 'Brain fade' controversy during a 2017 Test match in Bengaluru, where Smith was seen seeking help for a referral from the dressing room. PTI

Rahul's approach at the top was impressive

WRISTY BUSINESS
VVS LAXMAN

Rahul came out with a definite game plan and stuck to it with discipline. Pakistan bowled too short with Mohammad Amir as the sole exception. Rohit is brilliant off the back foot, and gorged himself to the freebies as he extended his purple patch. He is batting as well as I have seen him, and it speaks volumes of how driven he is that even after making 140, he was disappointed that he couldn't go on and bat out the entire innings. Rahul was another huge plus from this outing. For India to go all the way, they need their top-order fit and firing. Rahul ticked another box with a polished half-century in his first match as opener in the tournament. Shikhar's injury opened

the door for him and Rahul made the most of his chance, which is exactly what you want to see in a top-class team — competition for places and players pushing each other. Once Rohit and Rahul had put on 136, the base was set for Virat Kohli to come and do his thing. He marshalled the middle of the innings beautifully, until the rain interruption took some of the rhythm away from India's finish. Where they were eyeing 350, India settled for 336, but even that was a massive total in a pressure game. I was impressed by how composed the team was when Bhuvni hobbled off with a hamstring injury. All the other bowlers put their hands up, and it was great to see Vijay Shankar and Hardik Pandya among the wickets. But the standout performer was Kuldeep Yadav.

