



कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।
 मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गोऽस्त्वकर्मणि ॥

You have a right to do your Karmas / duty but have no right to the fruits of action or the end results. Do not let the outcome be the motive of your Karma and do not be attached to inaction.

At FIITJEE, we follow this & such eternal doctrines of Lord KRISHNA. Being detached from Results gives us the motivation to work on each Student, irrespective of his / her chances of qualifying JEE Main or Advanced. Not just Toppers, every Student undergoes a transformation at FIITJEE. We have been rewarded with overwhelming success of our Students in JEE Advanced year after year. **This consistency is loud & clear in**

JEE Advanced 2019

2 in Top 3 and 5 in Top 15 All India Ranks from FIITJEE's Long Term Classroom Programs

**“Zero Stress !
 Top Success !
 What else could
 I ask for ?
 Thank You FIITJEE”**



Himanshu Gaurav Singh
 Three Year Classroom Program (X-XII) at **Delhi (South) Centre**

All India Rank

2

& IIT Delhi Zone Topper
 in JEE Advanced 2019

Qualified RMO, NSEP, INMO, INChO & INPhO | NTSE Scholar |
 495/500 in XII Board | Bronze Medal in APMO | KVPY Fellow : AIR 4 (SA Stream), AIR 8 (SX Stream)

I, Himanshu Gaurav Singh, joined FIITJEE in 2016-17 for Three Year Classroom Program.
 What encouraged me to join FIITJEE was its amazing regularity of producing excellent results as well as the feedback which I got from my friends and seniors about its relaxed yet effective approach towards preparing students for JEE.

Today I am proud to say that I made the best decision of my life by joining FIITJEE.
 “Zero Stress! Top success! What else could I ask for? Thank You FIITJEE!”

FIITJEE's teaching methodology, curriculum, uncomplicated academic environment and top-class study material are aimed to create Excellence.
 This is how I secured AIR 2 in JEE Advanced and achieved other milestones as well.

FIITJEE is the only institute that can mould students into real achievers. FIITJEE helped me live my dream... Now its your turn. I am indebted to FIITJEE for its role in my success. *Himanshu*

**“These seven years
 with FIITJEE
 have set me on a
 path to Life Long
 Excellence !”**



Archit Bubna
 Four Year Classroom Program (IX-XII) + UDAYA - Two Year Classroom Program (VII-VIII) + LITTLE Genie Foundation (VI) at **Delhi (South) Centre**

All India Rank

3

in JEE Advanced 2019

Qualified RMO, NSEP, NSEA, NSEC, INAO (Jr), INAO, INOI, INChO & INPhO | Gold Medal in IJSO | Silver Medal in APhO | 485/500 in XII Board | KVPY Fellow : AIR 8 (SA Stream), AIR 2 (SX Stream) | Representing India in International Physics Olympiad (IPhO), 2019

I, Archit Bubna, joined FIITJEE South Delhi in class 6 in the Little Genie Classroom Program and since then my journey has been nothing short of exciting, empowering and fulfilling. In these seven years I got the BEST of everything The best faculty, best study material, best classroom environment, best test series and the best guidance.

This period of seven years was a period of transition as my understanding of the concepts and my ability to think out of the box while solving problems underwent a significant improvement. The teachers were extremely knowledgeable, dedicated and supported me throughout the journey, clearing all my doubts and addressing my weaknesses.

Regular quizzes, phase tests, AITS, monthly tests helped me to assess where I stood amongst others. All this has enabled me to achieve AIR 3 in JEE Advanced.

“These seven years with FIITJEE have set me on a path to Life Long Excellence.”

To any one aspiring for a great rank in JEE Advanced, I would recommend FIITJEE only! Thank you FIITJEE!! *Archit*

All India Topper (among Girls)
All India Rank
10
 in JEE Advanced 2019

Shabnam Sahay
 Intensive Contact Program at **Vadodara Centre**

Haryana State Topper
All India Rank
14
 in JEE Advanced 2019

Manan Aggarwal
 Two Year Classroom Program at **Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) Centre**

All India Rank
15
 in JEE Advanced 2019

E. Shreepranav Varma
 Four Year Classroom Program at **Hyderabad Centre**

21 FIITJEE Students in Top 50 All India Ranks

| IIT Guwahati Zone Topper | | | | | Tamil Nadu State Topper | | | | | West Bengal State Topper | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| AIR 18 | AIR 22 | AIR 26 | AIR 28 | AIR 29 | AIR 30 | AIR 33 | AIR 34 | AIR 35 | AIR 37 | AIR 38 | AIR 41 | AIR 42 | AIR 46 | AIR 48 | AIR 49 | | | | | |
| Adithya Bhaskar | Gurnoor Singh | Harshit Gupta | Pradipta Parag Bora | Gudipaty Aniket | Ankit Kumar Jain | Prajeeth S | Jash Shah | Pranshu Pandey | Abhinav Jain | Rajdeep Singh Dhingra | Chirag Jain | Koustav Sen | Aman Yadav | Soham Mistri | Abhinav Gupta | | | | | |
| Rankers Study Material at Mumbai Centre | Four Year Classroom Program at Amritsar Centre | Computer Based All India Test Series at Ghaziabad Centre | Intensive Contact Program at Kolkata Centre | Rankers Study Material at Ranchi Centre | Three Year Classroom Program at Ranchi Centre | SUPREME - Four Year Integrated School Program at Chennai Centre | Computer Based All India Test Series at Mumbai Centre | Intensive Contact Program at Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) Centre | Four Year Classroom Program at Delhi (East) Centre | Rankers Study Material at Delhi (South) Centre | Rankers Study Material at Delhi (Dwarka) Centre | Three Year Classroom Program at Durgapur Centre | Computer Based All India Test Series at Amritsar Centre | Four Year Classroom Program at Durgapur Centre | Four Year Classroom Program at Ghaziabad Centre | | | | | |

38 FIITJEE Students in Top 100 and 70 FIITJEE Students in Top 200 All India Ranks (All our Results are from General Category only)

FIITJEE - THE PREMIER INSTITUTE FOR IIT-JEE and More...

To see our Results from Delhi & NCR Centres and more details... please turn over

JEE Advanced 2019 Results – FIITJEE Delhi & NCR Centres

8th Year in a row, Delhi State Topper is a FIITJEE Student | 14 in Top 100 All India Ranks

All India Rank

2

& IIT Delhi Zone Topper



Himanshu Gaurav Singh
Three Year Classroom Program
at Delhi (South) Centre

Qualified RMO, NSEP, INMO, INChO & INPhO | NTSE Scholar
| Scored (495/500) in XII Board Exam | Bronze Medal in APMO |
KVPY Fellow : AIR 4 (SA Stream), AIR 8 (SX Stream)

All India Rank

3



Archit Bubna
Four Year Classroom Program +
UDAYA - Two Year Classroom Program +
LITTLE Genie Foundation at Delhi (South) Centre

Qualified RMO, NSEP, NSEA, NSEC, INAO (Jr), INAO, INOI, INChO &
INPhO | Gold Medal in IJSO | Silver Medal in APhO | Scored (485/500) in
XII Board Exam | KVPY Fellow : AIR 8 (SA Stream), AIR 2 (SX Stream) |
Representing India in International Physics Olympiad (IPhO), 2019

Haryana State Topper

AIR 14



Manan Aggarwal
Two Year
Classroom Program
at Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) Centre

AIR 26



Harshit Gupta
Computer Based
All India Test Series
at Ghaziabad Centre

AIR 35



Pranshu Pandey
Intensive
Contact Program
at Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) Centre

AIR 37



Abhinav Jain
Four Year
Classroom Program
at Delhi (East) Centre

AIR 38



Rajdeep S. Dhingra
Rankers
Study Material
at Delhi (South) Centre

AIR 41



Chirag Jain
Rankers
Study Material
at Delhi (Dwarka) Centre

Other FIITJEE Delhi & NCR Students in Top 500 AIR

| S.No. | Name | A.I.R. | FIITJEE Program | FIITJEE Centre |
|-------|----------------------------|--------|---|----------------------|
| 15 | Shivam Raj | 101 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Delhi (South) |
| 16 | Kaustubh Miglani | 106 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Dwarka) |
| 17 | Harsh Agrawal | 120 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (East) |
| 18 | Aryan Mundada | 121 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Delhi (South) |
| 19 | Dhairya Gupta | 141 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 20 | Ramneet Singh | 146 | Two Year Classroom Program | Faridabad |
| 21 | Niket Jain | 175 | Three Year Classroom Program | Faridabad |
| 22 | Prabhanshu Katiyar | 187 | Four Year Classroom Program | Ghaziabad |
| 23 | Atharv Singh Patlan | 189 | Three Year Classroom Program | Gurgaon |
| 24 | Devanshu Singla | 191 | Two Year Classroom Program | Faridabad |
| 25 | Bhagwat Garg | 197 | Two Year Classroom Program | Gurgaon |
| 26 | Jasraj Singh | 200 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Dwarka) |
| 27 | Hardik Sharma | 201 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Faridabad |
| 28 | Sarthak Rout | 202 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Delhi (South) |
| 29 | Karan Aggarwal | 236 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 30 | Kanishk Singhal | 237 | Rankers Study Material | Delhi (South) |
| 31 | Yash Agarwal | 250 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Delhi (South) |
| 32 | Tushar Singla | 255 | PINNACLE - Two Year Integrated School Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 33 | Aaditya Agrawal | 260 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Dwarka) |
| 34 | Aditya Goel | 262 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 35 | Ayush Pattinayak | 263 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Delhi (South) |
| 36 | Japneet Singh | 268 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 37 | Vibhu Goyal | 284 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 38 | Nishant Kumar | 288 | Rankers Study Material | Delhi (South) |
| 39 | Apar Ahuja | 297 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Janakpuri) |
| 40 | Ayushman Tripathy | 298 | Rankers Study Material | Delhi (South) |
| 41 | Gagan Sharma | 303 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Rohini) |
| 42 | Varun Gupta | 305 | Four Year Classroom Program | Ghaziabad |
| 43 | Rajdeep Das | 308 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 44 | Samiksha Das | 313 | Rankers Study Material | Delhi (South) |
| 45 | Shlok Goyal | 329 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 46 | Suhas Jain | 338 | Rankers Study Material | Delhi (South) |
| 47 | Parth Jindal | 363 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 48 | Shashvat Gupta | 376 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 49 | Pranav Partap Singh Chawla | 378 | Rankers Study Material | Delhi (South) |
| 50 | Tanmay Aggarwal | 383 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Gurgaon |
| 51 | Chirag Wadhwa | 385 | Four Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 52 | Aryan Yadav | 388 | Four Year Classroom Program | Gurgaon |
| 53 | Aryan Singh Nagari | 413 | Two Year Classroom Program | Faridabad |
| 54 | Prashant Mishra | 427 | One Year Extended Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 55 | Ritvik Gupta | 430 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 56 | Subhan Akhtar | 444 | Three Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 57 | Siddhant Sharma | 451 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 58 | Tushar Singh | 456 | Computer Based All India Test Series | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 59 | Aryan Gupta | 459 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 60 | Ananya Gupta | 479 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (South) |
| 61 | Yash Gupta | 480 | Two Year Classroom Program | Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) |
| 62 | Arpit Maheshwari | 487 | Four Year Classroom Program | Ghaziabad |

Gurgaon City Topper

AIR 49



Abhinav Gupta
Four Year
Classroom Program
at Ghaziabad Centre

AIR 59



Ishaan Singh
Two Year
Classroom Program
at Delhi (Janakpuri) Centre

AIR 72



Sarthak Singla
Four Year
Classroom Program
at Delhi (Dwarka) Centre

AIR 87



Arpit Chauhan
Rankers
Study Material
at Delhi (South) Centre

AIR 95



Shubh Agarwal
Three Year
Classroom Program
at Gurgaon Centre

AIR 97



Shubhan Srivastava
Two Year
Classroom Program
at Delhi (Dwarka) Centre

❖ FIITJEE Noida Centre has the Highest Number of Selections in JEE Advanced 2019 in the city for 10th Consecutive year in a row.

❖ FIITJEE Noida Centre Students capture 4 in Top 5 City Ranks.

❖ 2 Ranks in Top 1000 & 9 in Top 2000 All India Ranks are from FIITJEE Noida.

| in Top 200 AIR | in Top 500 AIR | in Top 1000 AIR |
|--|---|--|
| 26 FIITJEE Delhi & NCR Students | 62 FIITJEE Delhi & NCR Students | 113 FIITJEE Delhi & NCR Students |
| Total number of FIITJEE Delhi & NCR Students qualified JEE Advanced 2019 from General Category | | |
| 1206 from Long Term Classroom / Integrated School Programs | 1376 from all Programs | |

| Delhi State Toppers in JEE Advanced / IIT-JEE in previous years ! | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Exam & Year | Name of the Student | Result Significance | FIITJEE Program & Centre |
| JEE Advanced, 2018 | Kalash Gupta | Delhi State Topper & AIR - 3 | Four Year Classroom Program at Delhi (South) Centre |
| JEE Advanced, 2017 | Ananya Agarwal | Delhi State Topper & AIR - 3 | Three Year Classroom Program at Delhi (South) Centre |
| JEE Advanced, 2016 | Animesh Bohara | Delhi State Topper & AIR - 19 | Four Year Classroom Program at Delhi (Punjabi Bagh) Centre |
| JEE Advanced, 2015 | Anjishnu Bose | Delhi State Topper & AIR - 26 | Two Year Classroom Program at Delhi (East) Centre |

| Delhi State Toppers in JEE Advanced / IIT-JEE in previous years ! | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Exam & Year | Name of the Student | Result Significance | FIITJEE Program & Centre |
| JEE Advanced, 2014 | Srajan Garg | Delhi State Topper & AIR - 21 | PINNACLE - Two Year Integrated School Program at Delhi (South) Centre |
| JEE Advanced, 2013 | Kartikeya Gupta | Delhi State Topper & AIR - 4 | Two Year Classroom Program at Delhi (South) Centre |
| IIT-JEE, 2012 | Arpit Agrawal | All India Topper & AIR - 1 | Two Year Classroom Program at Delhi (South) Centre |

All our Results are from General Category only

JEE Advanced 2019 Results – FIITJEE Nationwide Centres

| Number of FIITJEE Students Topping their IIT Zone / State / City | | | In Top 500 AIR | In Top 1000 AIR | Total number of FIITJEE Students who qualified JEE Advanced, 2019 | |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 2 IIT Zone Toppers | 9 State Toppers | 16 City Toppers | 144 FIITJEE Students | 304 FIITJEE Students | 3877 from Long Term Classroom & Integrated School Program | 4584 from all Programs |
| | | | | | This is the Highest number for any Institute in the Country for 23rd Consecutive Year. | |
| | | | | | This is the Highest number for any Institute in the Country for 22nd Consecutive Year. | |

For detailed results and learning from Toppers, please visit www.iitjeetoppers.com

All our Results are from General Category only

We thank our Students & their Parents for Bringing Glory to us !

Where winning is a habit !



FORUM FOR IIT-JEE

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Ph.: (South Delhi: 46106000), (East Delhi: 43002500), (Punjabi Bagh: 45634000), (Dwarka: 28035964), (Rohini: 47064000), (Janak Puri: 45616600), (Noida: 4754800), (Greater Noida: 987113448), (Gurgaon: 4628400), (Faridabad: 4174582), (Ghaziabad: 2820004)

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Students with the
zeal to Excel in

JEE 2020 !

Scan Your
Flaws and get
the Remedy to
Succeed

Xtra
RAY
EDGE TEST

23rd June 2019

Who should appear ?

○ Those who were not able to realise their dream in JEE 2019 and wish to succeed in JEE 2020.

○ Those who have appeared in FIITJEE Talent Reward Exam (2nd June 2019) but were not able to qualify it and wish to capitalize on this opportunity to excel in JEE 2020 .

For more details, visit
www.xret.fiiitjee.com

Why FIITJEE ?

1. **Hostel** – You will get Good Food, Environment Conducive for Studies, Academic Support at hostel - Faculty goes for academic care including doubt clearing.

2. **Overall Contact Hours** – Generally contact hours are 450 hrs (One Year Extended Program) but time is not a constraint if the batch requires that.

3. We hold classes in **reasonable size batches** so that you don't feel lost. We never hold classes in batches of 100 or 200. Large classes are the reasons why students are unable to master concepts & feel stressed and develop despondency & take extreme steps.

4. You get a **doubt clearing cell**, and **Library facility** with presence of faculty for guided studies.

5. Unparalleled **FIITJEE All India Internal Test Series with exacting JEE Main & Advanced Environment** – We are the pioneers of AITS, Test Analysis and Rank Prediction – We can almost always predict your potential JEE Rank.

General Admission Tests

30th June 2019 - for Students of Class XI & XII Pass

14th July 2019 - for Students of Class XI & XII Pass

For more details visit
<http://admissiontest.fiiitjee.com>

Not able to join FIITJEE's Classroom / Integrated School Programs ?

Have the FIITJEE Edge by joining Test Series / Study Material Programs

For more details visit
www.fiiitjee-distancelearning.com

FIITJEE - THE PREMIER INSTITUTE FOR IIT-JEE and More...



NCRB. Centre differ on West Bengal political murders
page 13



CBI files case against Lawyers Collective, its president Anand Grover
page 13

PLAYING TODAY
New Zealand vs South Africa
VENUE: Edgbaston
Live on STAR Sports 1, 2 (SD & HD), 3 p.m.

Morgan leads from the front as England crushes Afghanistan
page 20



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NEARBY



90% support free Metro rides for women: AAP

NEW DELHI
The Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday said that over 90% of the 71,592 people the party surveyed supported the Delhi government's plan to allow free rides for women in metro trains and government-run buses. AAP Delhi in-charge Gopal Rai said the party had reached out to people and 64,972 respondents had supported the scheme.
CITY • PAGE 3

6-year-old girl sexually assaulted by neighbour

NEW DELHI
A six-year-old girl was sexually assaulted allegedly by her 45-year-old neighbour in Outer North Delhi's Bawana on Tuesday, the police said. The accused was nabbed and thrashed by the locals, they said. A senior officer said the Class II student had gone to buy something when she went missing.
CITY • PAGE 4

GEOGRAPHY OPTIONAL
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OPPORTUNITIES ► PAGE 17

Kota MP Om Birla named as NDA's choice for Speaker's post

He will assume office today after being elected by Lok Sabha members

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Two-term BJP MP from Rajasthan Om Birla will be the new Speaker of the Lok Sabha, after he was nominated by the ruling NDA for the post.

Mr. Birla has been a three-term MLA in the Rajasthan Assembly, and represents the Kota constituency in the Lok Sabha. He will assume office on Wednesday after being elected by the MPs.

Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi said that apart from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Roads and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari were the proposers of Mr. Birla.

"The Biju Janata Dal (BJD), the Shiv Sena, the National People's Party, the Mizo National Front, the Akali Dal, the Lok Janshakti Party, the YSRCP, the Janata Dal (United), the AIADMK and the Apna Dal have signed the proposal," said Mr. Joshi.

Congress to back him

The BJP also reached out to the Congress during the day, and by evening, the newly appointed leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Choudhary, said his party too would support Mr.



A happy lot: Om Birla being greeted by his wife, second from right, and family in New Delhi on Tuesday. • SANDEEP SAKENA

Birla's candidature. While it is the norm for experienced MPs to be considered for the position, it will not be the first time that a second-term MP will be appointed.

Before this, Balram Jakhar was Speaker between 1980 and 1989 in his first and second terms respectively. Manohar Joshi of the Shiv Sena was appointed Speaker in his first term in the Lok Sabha, while the late G.M.C. Bhalayogi of the TDP got the position in his second term.

The choice of Mr. Birla, although disclosed at the last moment, is not surprising, with the BJP sending out several signals with one appointment.

A man with an RSS background, Mr. Birla is also an

influential member of the Agarwal community, a bedrock of the BJP's support.

A BJP man from the beginning, he has also been parliamentary secretary with the rank of Minister of State in the Vasundhara Raje government between 2003 and 2008.

In State politics, he is not considered very close to the Raje camp, but enjoys the confidence of Mr. Modi. He has been popular among party members for much generosity, lending out his official bungalow to indigent party workers and helping out those in need of medical assistance.

A LONG-TIME ASSOCIATE OF MODI AND SHAH ► PAGE 12

Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury is Cong. LS leader

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Former West Bengal Congress chief Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury will be the party's leader in the Lok Sabha. K. Suresh from Kerala will be designated as the Chief Whip.

Though the Congress did not make any official announcement, Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi was seen informing other Opposition leaders of the choice on the floor of the House, including Sudip Bandopadhyaya of Trinamool Congress.

The decision came after an early morning meeting of Congress MPs, at which president Rahul Gandhi was present. Though there were reports that Mr. Gandhi could lead the Congress in the Lok Sabha, he seemed to have turned down any such suggestion. In the 16th Lok Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge was the Congress leader and Jyotiraditya Scindia was the Chief Whip.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

An unrelenting scourge



Worrying numbers: A boy with symptoms of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome, which has claimed the lives of 109 children so far, being shifted to a hospital in Bihar's Muzaffarpur on Tuesday. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar ran into a protest when he visited a hospital. • PTI (PAGE 9)

Owner of car used in Pulwama attack among 2 JeM men killed

PEERZADA ASHIQ SRINAGAR

Two Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) militants, including a member of its suicide squad whose vehicle was used to carry out the Pulwama attack on February 14, were killed in an operation of the security forces in Anantnag on Tuesday.

A soldier also died in the

gunfight. The police said the militants, identified as Sajad Ahmad Bhat and Tawseef Ahmad Bhat from Bijbehara, were surrounded by the forces around 4 a.m. at Marhama village in Anantnag, "following a tip-off about their presence." "In the exchange of fire, both militants were killed," said the police.

Sajad Bhat, according to

the police, was wanted in the Lethpora car blast in Pulwama, which left 40 CRPF jawans dead.

"The investigation revealed that the Maruti Eco vehicle, used to carry out the suicide attack, was owned by him," said the police.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Uptick for India on sanitation in UN report

Major drop seen in open defecation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

India has made great gains in providing basic sanitation facilities since the start of the millennium, accounting for almost two-thirds of the 650 million people globally who stopped practising open defecation between 2000 and 2017.

However, a monitoring report by UN organisations released on Tuesday shows that there has been absolutely no growth in the population with access to piped water facilities over that period, while large inequalities remain between rural and urban areas.

As for drinking water, the Joint Monitoring Programme report by UNICEF and WHO shows India has increased the percentage of



Inequalities remain in piped water supply between rural and urban areas.

its population with access to a protected drinking water source less than 30 minutes away, from 79% in 2000 to 93% in 2017.

However, the percentage of households getting piped water has remained stagnant at 44% over the 17-year period.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

Delhi goes looking for giraffes in Thailand zoos

Zoo director asks for the animal in exchange programme

NIKHIL M BABU NEW DELHI

The National Zoological Park, better known as Delhi zoo, has not had a single giraffe for the last four years. The zoo authorities have now written to three zoos in Thailand for the animal through an exchange programme.

Thailand has 24 giraffes in seven of its zoos and the NZP has asked for five of them, an official privy to the development said.

In 2015, Delhi zoo's last giraffe, eight-year-old Ankit, died after suffering a heart attack and kidney failure.

Since then multiple attempts have been made for the zoo to acquire a giraffe. "In the past two years since I



Ankit (left), the last giraffe at Delhi zoo, died in 2015. • FILE PHOTO

took charge, we have written to several other zoos for giraffes in exchange programmes," NZP director Re-

nu Singh told *The Hindu*. Earlier this month, they wrote to zoos in Mysuru and Patna for giraffes and are still awaiting their response.

"To maintain the animal collection and fulfil the objective of imparting education, I hereby propose an animal exchange programme with your esteemed institute," read Ms. Singh's letters sent to the three zoos in Thailand on Tuesday. The letters have been sent along with a list of Delhi zoo's surplus animals, including blackbucks and spotted deer.

"We have an enclosure ready for the giraffes. It has been cleaned and prepared," the zoo director said.

Life term for 4 in Ayodhya terror attack

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ALLAHABAD

A special court here has sentenced four persons to life imprisonment and acquitted one in connection with the 2005 terror attack on a makeshift temple at the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid complex in Ayodhya in which two locals were killed and seven CRPF personnel injured.

Special judge Dinesh Chandra, who announced the verdict inside the Naini Central Jail where the accused are lodged, also imposed a fine of ₹2.4 lakh on each of the four, Public Prosecutor Gulab Chandra Agrahari told reporters here. He said those who got life imprisonment were Doctor Irrfan, Shakeel Ahmed, Asif Iqbal and Mohammed Naseem.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 9

A Pakistani fan video that tickles all

23-year-old Lahore man, who is based in London, trolls the fitness levels of the team

NAMRATA JOSHI MUMBAI

One of the biggest takeaways of the India-Pakistan CWC 2019 match on Sunday was the show of self-deprecating humour by Pakistani fans, manifesting most prominently in their sporting tweets in the face of defeat.

The blockbuster of the day, however, was 23-year-old London-based Lahore man Momin Saqib's "burger-pizzzey-Hico ice cream" gig about a Pakistani fan's pain at the abominable fitness levels of the team.

The hyper melodramatic-comic tone and the relatable "Punjabiness" of the act made it go viral on social media in India as well, and it is still regaling many online. "People are happily sharing the video and editing clips



Comic relief: Momin Saqib's meme on the Pakistani cricket team has gone viral.

into other relevant memes as well," Mr. Saqib told *The Hindu* in an email exchange.

Shot outside Old Trafford, Manchester, the meltdown of the fan is set up like a spontaneous interview. While Momin vents his feelings on the 'betrayal' by captain Sarfaraz Ahmed and how the world came crashing down at the score

of 119, his elder brother, Bilal bin Saqib, wipes his simulated tears with the country's flag. "Everything that happened [in the video] was spur-of-the-moment and totally impromptu," he said.

Mr. Saqib's cricket videos have been popular in Pakistan for a while but this one worked in both sides of

the border. People in Pakistan have been able to relate to it due to the shared disappointment and displeasure that he expressed whereas in India it is the humour that has attracted the audience.

Part of the game

The fun has come as a refreshing relief in the "war zones" that India-Pakistan cricket matches seem to have become of late. Mr. Saqib thinks that cricketer rivalry is equally prevalent in India and Pakistan and both the nations know that winning and losing is part of the game. "Since the emergence of social media's meme trend, we have been able to handle defeat with humour for quite a long time now and that beautifies the game itself," he says.

Many Oppn. leaders to skip Modi's meet

SOBHANA K. NAIR SANDEEP PHUKAN NEW DELHI

Leaders of many Opposition parties are likely to skip the meeting called by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss his "one nation, one election" proposal.

They include Dravida

Munnetra Kazhagam president M.K. Stalin, Trinamool chief Mamata Banerjee, Telugu Desam Party chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and Nationalist Congress Party leader Sharad Pawar.

The issue was discussed at the first floor coordination meeting chaired by Con-

gress Parliamentary Party leader Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday evening. Though Congress chief Rahul Gandhi attended the coordination meeting, he refused to answer whether he would take part in Mr. Modi's meeting.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 12

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June 19-23 ▶ 6:00pm

JUNE 19 6:00pm भूगोल, पर्यावरण एवं लेखन कौशल संवर्द्धन Sachin Arora
JUNE 20 2:00pm इतिहास तथा कला एवं संस्कृति की समग्र रणनीति Hemant Jha
JUNE 21 6:00pm सामाजिक सुदे एवं सामाजिक न्याय Dharmendra
JUNE 22 6:00pm अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंध एवं समसामयिक सुदे Sharad Tripathi
JUNE 23 6:00pm स्वयं तैयारी कैसे करें? "How to Crack Prelim in First Attempt" Manoj Kumar Singh

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It is notified for the information that my original class 12th passing certificate of year 2013 and Roll No. 917225 is issued by CBSE has been lost. SAHIL KANOJIA Finder contact: 7011552168
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Vivek Sir 1st July: Crash course Mains 2019 / Assured increase in previous scores

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NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION
RWAAR/NIC/2019-20/
Dated: 18.06.2019
"Resident Welfare Association of Amrapali Royal" (RWAAR) invites sealed item rate quotations for the following work from eligible bidders (registered contractor with Original GS No. and PAN No. for members shall have to be recified by the contractor at his own cost and risk, and in case the contractor fails to do so, it will be rectified by the RWAAR at the risk and cost of the contractor.
Name of Work : Structural repair including White-washing and Painting of all towers and common areas.
Inspection Period : 18 June 2019 till 26 June 2019
Last date of Quotation Submission : 27 June 2019 till 5:00 pm at RWA office
Date of opening Quotation : 29-June-19 at 05:00 pm in RWA office.
Kanchan Yadav (President - RWAAR)
Mobile : +91817826252

TENDERS
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NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION
RWAAR/NIC/2019-20/
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Public Notice
This is for the notice of the general public that a political party is proposed to be registered by the name of "Indian Nationalist Alliance Party (India)". The office of the party is located at C-106/15, Indira Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226016. The party has submitted application to Election Commission of India, New Delhi, for its registration as a Political Party under section 29A of the Representation of people Act, 1951. Names/address of the office-bearers of the party are as follows:
President/Chairman: Sushel Kumar
General Secretary/Secretary: Nalini Treasurer: Ashish Jaiswal
If anyone has any objection to the registration of "Indian Nationalist Alliance Party (India)" they may send their objection with reasons thereof, to the secretary (political party) Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001 within 30 days of the publication of this notice.
Sushel Kumar

Public Notice
A notice of registration of marriage has been received from Mr. Sagar Sinha & Mrs. Shreshth Sinha R/o 1202, CS-8, Supertech Capetown, 12th Floor, Sector-74, Noida, Distt. Gautambudh Nagar and Mrs. Pragya D/o Mr. Noel Fidelis R/o De Nobili School, Mohalibani, Digwadhi, Ghazipur, Ghazipur-201008 in the office of the undersigned, any person interested therein, may file objection to it on any day upto 02-07-2019 in the office of the undersigned.
Marriage Officer
Noida Gautambudh Nagar U.P.

Public Notice
That General Public at large is hereby informed that one Mr. Panikaj Saini, S/o Mr. Subhash Saini, R/o 6520-6521 A, Pocket 1, Sector 3, Ballabgarh, Faridabad, Haryana-121004, was working as a Manager in the Human Resource and Administration Department of MIS COMMITTEE CARCO CARE LTD. 'Company' incorporated under the Companies Act 1956, having its registered office at Kh. No. 40/6, G/F, A-Block, Gali No-8 Mahipalpur Extn. New Delhi-110037. That since there were serious charges of cheating, fraud & misappropriation of funds of the 'Company', his services have been terminated with immediate effect (17/09/2018) and a criminal complaint has been lodged against him in the concerned police station, which is under investigation. That since Mr. Panikaj Saini, is no more associated with the 'Company', in any manner whatsoever, whoever shall deal with him in any manner, shall do so at his own risk & cost and the 'Company' shall not be liable for the same.
Memo No. - MCF/AEO/2019/

Public Notice
That property bearing no. A-187, situated at Block-A, Third Floor with roof rights, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018 was in the name of Mrs. Satyawati Khanna w/o Late Mr. Bala Ram Khanna after her Death on 10.01.2003, survived by Mr. B. Mukund Khanna, Mr. Madhu Dhawan, Mrs. Uma Devi and Mrs. Sunita Rani Malhotra and Mr. Purshottam Das Khanna, wherein all the surviving legal heirs released their share in favour of Mr. Purshottam Das Khanna vide Deed dated 28.04.2015. If anyone has any objection in this regard, he/she may approach Mr. Purshottam Das Khanna (Ph. +9191319609221) within 7 days of Publication of this notice.

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That property bearing no. A-187, situated at Block-A, Third Floor with roof rights, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018 was in the name of Mrs. Satyawati Khanna w/o Late Mr. Bala Ram Khanna after her Death on 10.01.2003, survived by Mr. B. Mukund Khanna, Mr. Madhu Dhawan, Mrs. Uma Devi and Mrs. Sunita Rani Malhotra and Mr. Purshottam Das Khanna, wherein all the surviving legal heirs released their share in favour of Mr. Purshottam Das Khanna vide Deed dated 28.04.2015. If anyone has any objection in this regard, he/she may approach Mr. Purshottam Das Khanna (Ph. +9191319609221) within 7 days of Publication of this notice.

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LEGAL NOTICE
HIGH COURT OF SIKKIM GANGTOK
No. 3330 Judl./H.C.S.
Date: 03.06.2019
Cri. Rev. P. No. 01 of 2018
Hemlata Agarwal ... Appellant
Versus
Travel Venture International Express P.Ltd. & Ors. ... Respondents
NOTICE
(Under order V Rule 20 of C.P.C., 1908)
To,
Shri Shakti Sharad, Director, Travel Venture International Express P.Ltd., having its registered office and residing at: • 7/6369, Street No. 3, Dev Nagar, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005, • D-172, 1st Floor, Sector-1, Rohini, Delhi-110085, • 125, Vardhman Premium Hall Divali Chowk, Pitam Pura, Delhi-110034.
Whereas an application under Section 397 and 401 read with section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 wherein you have been joined as a respondent has been filed before this Court.
You are hereby informed that the above cited matter has been listed on 09.09.2019 at 10:30 am and that if you wish to urge anything in reply to the petition, you may appear before this Court on that day either in person or through an advocate duly instructed. A copy of the Order dated 30.05.2019 passed in the above cited matter is enclosed herewith for your information.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court on this 3rd day of June, 2019.
By
Deputy Registrar (S)

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Applications are invited from interested and eligible academicians / scholars for (01) post of PR. Chair Professor at National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. The application along with detailed resume must be sent to the Registrar, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. Last date for application shall be 09.07.2019 at 5.00 PM. Details may be seen in University website: www.nluassam.ac.in
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IN BRIEF



Canara Bank to offer only 3 free deposits a month

MUMBAI
Canara Bank customers can deposit cash for free only thrice a month and from the fourth transaction there will be a charge from July 1. Cash deposits of up to ₹50,000 are free for 3 transactions in a month. After that there will be a service charge of ₹1 per thousand, with a minimum of ₹50 and a maximum of ₹5,000-plus GST.

Water crisis is being exaggerated, says CM

CHENNAI
Seeking the cooperation of the people in tackling the severe water scarcity, Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Tuesday said water was being supplied to people in such a way as to make do with the available resources till the onset of monsoon. He indicated that the situation was being "exaggerated". "In case of any issue somewhere, it should not be blown up to create an impression that the entire State is reeling under scarcity," he said.

Weakened cyclone triggers rain in Gujarat

AHMEDABAD
Cyclone Vayu weakened and crossed Gujarat's Kutch district on Tuesday morning, causing rainfall at some places, a Met official said. Rain is likely to continue till Wednesday in Kutch, Saurashtra and north Gujarat, she said. "Warning for ports has been lowered but the advisory for fishermen will continue till Wednesday morning. The low pressure system is going to further weaken," an IMD official said. PTI

Woman Naxal killed in encounter with police

CHHATTISGARH
A woman Naxal was gunned down in an encounter with the police in Chhattisgarh's Dhamtari district on Tuesday, a senior official said. The incident took place around 6 a.m. in a forest near Katti village, Deputy Inspector General (anti-Naxal operations) Sundarraj P. said. After the encounter, security personnel recovered the body of a woman Naxal and a self-loading rifle from the spot, he said. The killed cadre is yet to be identified. PTI

Nitish feels the heat over AES deaths

As toll rises to 109, CM faces protest outside hospital

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar had to face people's protest, on Tuesday when he visited the government-run Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH) here to meet patients admitted with symptoms of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES).

The disease has so far claimed the lives of 109 children since its outbreak in Muzaffarpur more than two weeks ago.

Forces deployed

When Mr. Nitish Kumar, accompanied by his deputy Sushil Kumar Modi, reached the hospital, protesters waved black flags and shouted "Nitish Kumar *wapas jao* [Nitish Kumar go back] and Nitish Kumar *murdabad*."

They later told presspersons that they wanted to meet the Chief Minister to apprise him of the pitiable conditions at the hospital, but policemen refused to allow them inside. A large number of police personnel were deployed at the hospital in view of the Chief Minister's visit.

Mr. Kumar had a meeting with doctors, district health officials and relatives of children in the hospital for an



Seething anger: People shouting slogans against Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar as he was visiting a hospital in Muzaffarpur district on Tuesday. •PTI

hour. He directed Health Department officials to identify areas affected by AES and get an "environmental study" done to analyse its nature and take preventive measures.

He directed that SKMCH be made a 2,500-bed hospital and a waiting hall be built for the relatives of the sick children.

"There should be 24-hour medical facility in the hospital and more doctors must be made available," he told hospital superintendent Sunil Kumar Shahi.

The Chief Minister left the hospital without speaking to the media.

Soon after Mr. Kumar's vi-

sit, Chief Secretary Deepak Kumar told presspersons in Patna that eight more doctors would arrive in Muzaffarpur by Tuesday evening. Free ambulance facility was also being arranged.

Earlier, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan, his junior in the Cabinet Ashwani Kumar Choubey and State Health Minister Mangal Pandey had to face the people's wrath when they visited the hospital.

Ex gratia announced

On Monday, soon after returning from Delhi, Mr. Kumar held a meeting with top State and Health Department officials at his official

residence. He directed officials to visit families and villages of the victims to record their social and medical history. He announced an ex-gratia of ₹4 lakh to the families of those who died.

The death toll from suspected AES has gone up to 109, with the death of five children on Tuesday. Many more are undergoing treatment - 138 at SKMCH and 24 at the Kejriwal Maternity Hospital.

On Dr. Harsh Vardhan's direction, a team of doctors from the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi, is likely to reach Muzaffarpur soon to monitor the situation.

PIL filed in SC seeking an expert team

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Even as the death toll of children due to the outbreak of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) was rising, a public interest litigation petition has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking to urgently constitute a team of medical experts for treatment of children suffering from the disease.

The petition filed by advocates Manohar Pratap and Sanpreet Singh Ajmani has stated that there is complete failure of State machinery to deal with the outbreak of AES or 'Chamki Bukhar'.

"There is no availability of doctors, beds, intensive care units, medical professionals to deal with an epidemic level situation which has resulted in more than 126 reported death of children in Bihar," the plea said.

The petition stated that the disease is completely curable and that most of the deaths are occurring due to lack of medical facilities. It also sought a compensation of ₹10 lakh to the family members of the deceased.

Educational norms for drivers may be eased

Govt. wants to provide job opportunities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government is likely to waive mandatory educational qualification for truckers and bus drivers for seeking a driver's licence in what it says is an attempt to provide employment opportunities.

Under Rule 8 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989, a transport vehicle driver needs to have passed class 8.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said on Tuesday that it would amend this rule and issue a draft notification

shortly for comments from stakeholders.

"The removal of this requirement will open up employment opportunities for a large number of unemployed persons, especially the youth," the Ministry said in a press statement.

The statement said the move would help meet the shortage of 22 lakh drivers in the transport and logistics sector.

The relaxation is applicable for drivers of medium and heavy transport vehicles, which include trucks as well as State transport, school and private buses.

SC seeks Centre's view on Haj private tour operators' plea

Service providers oppose fixed pricing for 10,000 seats

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought the Centre's response on a plea by the Federation of Haj Private Tour Operators of India opposing a fresh condition imposed on private tour operators to charge applicable rates of Haj Committee of India (HCOI) on additional quota of 10,000 seats allotted to them.

The Ministry of Minority Affairs on June 3 issued a circular allotting an additional quota of 10,000 seats to



A file photo of a woman leaving for Haj. •AP

HGOs. "The circular has enunciated certain conditions in relation to allotment

of additional quota of 10,000 seats whereby HGOs have to offer and charge additional quota seats as per HCOI rates," the plea said.

"The condition imposed by the respondent [the government] is practically not executable," and will result in confusion and mismanagement the petition said.

A vacation Bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant posted the case to June 24. In the meantime, it asked the Federation to make their representation before the concerned Ministry.

Four get life term for Ayodhya attack

Makeshift temple targeted in 2005

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ALLAHABAD

A special court here has sentenced four persons to life imprisonment and acquitted one in connection with the 2005 terror attack on a makeshift temple at the Ram Jannabhoombi-Babri Masjid complex in Ayodhya in which two locals were killed and seven CRPF personnel injured.

Slapped fine

Special judge Dinesh Chandra, who announced the verdict inside the Naini Central Jail where the accused are lodged, also imposed a fine of ₹2.4 lakh on each of the four, Public Prosecutor Gulab Chandra Agrahari told reporters here.

Mr. Agrahari said the four who got life imprisonment were Doctor Irrfan, Shakeel Ahmed, Asif Iqbal and Mohammed Naseem. Mohammed Aziz was acquitted for lack of evidence.

Yogi hails ruling

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath welcomed the verdict.

On the sole acquittal in the case, he said the State government would take appropriate action after examining the ruling.

"The judgment is wel-

come. For one person who has been acquitted necessary action will be taken after seeking legal opinion. The government will keep an eye on the case," he said in a statement.

Five heavily-armed terrorists attempted to carry out a suicide attack near the makeshift temple at the disputed site on July 5, 2005. After blasting the outer barricade of the complex, they tried to move towards the inner barricading where troops of the 33rd battalion of the CRPF were deployed.

The terrorists fired heavily at the troops and lobbed grenades in order to storm the *sanctum sanctorum*.

Mr. Agrahari said Naseem procured a mobile SIM card using documents attested by Aziz, and on the direction of Pakistan-based terrorist Kari. He said the vehicle, having a Jammu registration number, used to carry weapons for the attack, was owned by Shakeel Ahmed.

The verdict in the case came nearly 14 years since the attack and after 371 hearings and testimonies by 63 people.

While Irrfan belongs to Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur, the four others are from Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Lunar orbiter spacecraft arrives in Sriharikota

Launch of Chandrayaan-2 on July 15

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The mother orbiter spacecraft of Mission Chandrayaan-2 has reached the launch port of Sriharikota from Bengaluru and will soon be joined by its lander and rover companions, the ISRO said on Tuesday.

Their epic journey of 3.84 lakh km to Moon, to land on it and explore its surface will begin on July 15.

The orbiter was despatched from the U.R. Rao Satellite Centre here late last week and reached the launch port of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre on June 15. ISRO Chairman K. Sivan flagged off the road shipment carrying the lander and the rover at the URS in the presence of URS Director P. Kunhikrishnan and Chandrayaan-2 project director M. Vanitha.

SC defers doctors' plea for security

Says there is no urgency in the matter as their strike has been called off

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday deferred the hearing on a plea seeking protection for doctors in government hospitals, in view of doctors having called off their strike in West Bengal and other States.

A Bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant said there was no urgency in the matter as the strike had been called off. It, however,

noted that the issue of providing security to doctors was a "serious" one and needed a holistic view.

"Now the strike is over, we are not going to pass any order. We listed the matter for today due to urgency," the Bench remarked, while posting the case for hearing by an appropriate bench.

"Can we direct state to deploy police force, [when] we don't know the strength. It's like saying there should not

be any murder," the Bench said adding, "we know it is a serious issue, but we can't provide protection to doctors at the cost of other citizens. We have to take a holistic picture."

Meanwhile, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has moved an application seeking to be made a party in the case. Advocate Alakh Alok Srivastava, in his petition, has sought to depute government-appointed un-

informed security personnel at all government hospitals across the country for ensuring the safety of doctors.

He said that as per a study conducted by IMA, more than 75% of doctors across the country had faced some form of violence. "This study concluded that 50% violent incidents took place in the hospital ICUs and in 70% of cases, the relatives of the patients were actively involved," he said.

Grey wolf from India killed in Bangladesh

Rare animal may have crossed over

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

An Indian grey wolf that was recently killed by farmers in Bangladesh, where the carnivore was believed to have been wiped out eight decades ago, could have been the one that was caught on camera in a part of the Sundarbans in West Bengal two years ago.

The grey wolf (*Canis lupus pallipes*) was killed in the first week of June by farmers near the Bangladesh part of the Sundarbans because it had attacked their livestock.

In April 2017, a wildlife photographer had shot a photograph of a lone wolf in the Indian part of the Sundarbans.

"It is possible that the one that got killed in Bangladesh



The Indian grey wolf that was killed in Taltali town near the Sundarbans. •AFP

is the same wolf spotted in West Bengal two years ago, as both individuals were male," Yadvendradev V. Jhala of the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India (WII) told *The Hindu*.

Zoologists collected DNA samples from the animal to confirm it as a grey wolf.

APPOINTMENT

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Employment Notification No: 1/2019
On line applications are invited for the following Posts :

| Sr. No. | Name of the Post | No. of Posts | Posts reserved for | Age in Years | Pay Band, Scale and Grade pay (Rs.) |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| 01 | Field Officer/ Technical Assistant | 25 | SC-02, OBC-08, UR-13, EWS-02(out of 25 vacancies, 01 for PwD-OH-0A) | 18-30 | Pay of Rs.35400; 7 th CPC-level-6 of pay matrix (pre revised 6 th CPC PB-2; Rs.9,300-34,800 GP Rs.4,200/-) |
| 02 | Accountant/ Superintendent | 16 | SC-02, ST-01 OBC-04, UR-8, EWS-01(out of 16 vacancies, 01 for PwD-HH) | 18-30 | Pay of Rs.35400; 7 th CPC-levels-6 of pay matrix (pre revised 6 th CPC PB-2; Rs.9,300-34,800 GP Rs.4,200/-) |

NOTE: (1) Vacancies notified above are subject to change (2) Relaxation of age will be given as per Government of India guidelines applicable to SC/ST/OBC/PwD/ Meritorious Sports Persons/Tobacco Board Departmental candidates.

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| 01 | B.Sc (Agriculture), Desirable: Knowledge of tobacco cultivation & grading |
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APPLICATION FEES: Application fee (non-refundable) of Rs.500+GST through on line payment. No fees would be required to be paid by SC/ST/PwD and Tobacco Board Departmental Candidates.

The last date for receipt of application is 15/07/2019. The crucial date for determining age limit shall be the closing date for receipt of applications from the candidates.

No offline application will be entertained.

The detailed Employment notification is available on Tobacco Board's website : www.indiantobacco.com.

Place : Guntur Date : 13-06-2019

Sd/-
(A.Sridhar Babu)
Secretary

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION
(A STATUTORY BODY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070
Ph. No. 011-26131576-78,80 Website: www.aicte-india.org

Notice for Empanelment of Advocate

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is in the process of empanelment of Advocates/Additional Advocates to represent AICTE before various Courts of law coming under the jurisdiction of the Regional Office as well as Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and Hon'ble High Court of Delhi for legal advisory work and invites expression of the interest for empanelment of Advocates from Lawyers practicing in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, various High Courts and other Judicial or Quasi Judicial fora.

The details regarding the eligibility, experience, requirement at various Regional Offices and Courts/ Bench and the prescribed format of application are available at www.aicte-india.org/bulletins/advertisements/

All interested lawyers may send their detailed application in a prescribed format to the **Director (Legal), AICTE, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070**, for consideration of their candidature for empanelment by the AICTE on or before 15.07.2019. The applicants shall clearly indicate on the cover of the envelope containing the application "Application for Empanelment of Advocate for _____ (Name of the Court)" while submitting their application.

(Prof. A.P. Mittal)
Member Secretary

Advt. No. Legal/06(03)/2019

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संख्या / No.NIS/1-4/Recruitment/2019 तारीख / Date : 18.06.2019

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION NO: 06/2019

Applications in the prescribed format are invited for filling up the post of Associate Professor (Gunapadham) in National Institute of Siddha, Chennai on Direct Recruitment basis:

Associate Professor (Gunapadham) : 01 Post – SC (Direct Recruitment)

a. Scale of Pay : Level :12 + NPA
(Pre-revised Scale of Pay : PB-3 + Rs.7600 GP + NPA)

The application is to be downloaded from our website, www.nischennai.org. The filled in application together with the attested photocopies of the certificate / testimonials should be sent to "The Director, National Institute of Siddha, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai-600 047" within 45 days from the date of notification in the Employment News.

Other details regarding educational qualification, experience, age, general conditions, etc., are available in our website www.nischennai.org.

Director i/c-NIS

CSIR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANTS
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
Kukrail Picnic Spot Road, Post Office, CIMAP, Lucknow-228015 (INDIA)

Window Advt. No. Consultant/2019 (Date of Walk-in-Interview is 12/07/2019) Reporting Time 9.30 AM to 11.30 A.M.

CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CSIR-CIMAP), a multidisciplinary multiloacational research laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) invites applicants for Walk-in-Interview on 12.07.2019 from Indian Nationals for engagement as Consultants on temporary (non-official) in the area of IORA-RCSTT Coordination Centre on Medicinal Plants at CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow as below:-

| Sl.No. | Name of post | Consultancy fee |
|--------|--|--|
| 1. | Project Manager (Consultant)-1 No. | Upto Rs.1.00 Lakh Consolidated per month |
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The detailed advertisement is available at : www.cimap.res.in under vacancy link.

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Preventing violence

A law to protect doctors is good, and a health-care upgrade is essential

All it took West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to end the week-long strike by junior doctors in the State was a meeting with the agitating medicos and a credible assurance that their safety was a priority for her government. The attack on a junior doctor on June 10 over the death of a patient had sparked the agitation, which spread to other parts of the country when it appeared that the State government was reluctant to negotiate with the striking doctors. Now that Ms. Banerjee has reached out to young doctors and conceded that their demands are genuine, the government, in West Bengal and elsewhere, must focus on addressing the deficiencies afflicting the health-care system as a whole. Reprisal attacks on doctors by agitated relatives of patients who die during treatment are known to happen. Such violence is invariably the result of systemic problems that adversely affect optimal attention to patients, such as infrastructural and manpower constraints. It is apparent that doctors work in stressful environments, sometimes under political pressure with regard to admissions. Several States have enacted laws to protect doctors and other health-care personnel from violence. Last week, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan wrote to State governments highlighting the need for stringent action against anyone who assaults doctors. He asked States that do not have a law to protect doctors against violence to enact one, and circulated a 2017 draft of a law that envisaged imprisonment besides recovery of compensation from perpetrators for loss or damage to property.

However, is such a law really effective? Ironically, West Bengal, the epicentre of a strike that involved nearly the entire medical fraternity across the country, has such a law too. Like the law in most other States, the West Bengal Act provides for a three-year prison term and a fine, which could go up to ₹50,000, to anyone indulging in violence against any "medicare service person", which covers doctors, nurses, medical and nursing students and paramedical staff. The offence is cognisable and non-bailable. It also provides for recovery of compensation for loss. Many other States have similar laws, with the one in Tamil Nadu providing for a prison term that could go up to 10 years. It is clear that having this law did not prevent the incident that sparked the latest agitation. There are no figures available on how many times the medical service person protection law has been invoked. In any case, causing simple or grievous injuries to anyone is a criminal offence under the Indian Penal Code. Treating the issue as a law and order problem is just one way. The real solution may lie in improving health infrastructure, counselling patients about possible adverse treatment outcomes, and providing basic security in medical institutions.

Organisation men

J.P. Nadda's elevation as BJP working president reveals the party's long-term goals

The appointment of J.P. Nadda as the Bharatiya Janata Party's working president is proof yet again that it does not leave anything to chance in the relentless pursuit of its politics. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will continue as party president until his term ends in December 2019, when Mr. Nadda is expected to succeed him. Mr. Shah has been Prime Minister Narendra Modi's close confidant and strategist for several years, and an architect of the party's Lok Sabha victories in 2014 and 2019. The decision to appoint a working president, as Mr. Shah would not be always available for party work, is a sign of the importance the BJP and its ideological mother ship, the RSS, attach to organisation. Except for the communist units, this is in contrast with the general nature of all other parties, which give limited attention to organisation-building. The RSS had meticulously assigned distinct roles to the multiple outfits that it floated over the decades, all converging into the larger stream of Hindutva politics. The BJP's emergence as the primary pole of Indian politics through sweeping victories in two consecutive general elections could strain the organisational edifice of the Sangh Parivar, but not immediately. The orderly, clinical manner in which Mr. Nadda was selected, with the concurrence and prompting of the RSS, demonstrates the Parivar's ability to be clear-eyed in its priorities.

Hindutva politics does not see power as an end in itself but as a tool to advance its ideological goals. Also, individual ambitions are expected to be subordinate to organisational priorities. The rise of Mr. Modi with Mr. Shah alongside, and their combined role in the party's outstanding electoral performances in recent years, have inspired commentaries that put them on a pedestal. Mr. Modi and Mr. Shah will remain in command of the overall scheme of things, and Mr. Nadda, by all accounts, is a proven loyalist to both of them. At the same time, by promoting a new power centre the BJP is also demonstrating that individuals are not indispensable despite the commanding authority and presence of the two big leaders. Mr. Nadda is not as combative as Mr. Shah but is as disciplined, a trait that he imbibed through his long association with the RSS. His elevation is also a continuation of the BJP's efforts to promote leaders who have spent more time in the States than in Delhi – Himachal Pradesh in Mr. Nadda's case. The selection of Thawar Chand Gehlot as the BJP's leader in the Rajya Sabha is also remarkable in this context. A Dalit who came up from a small town through the trade union wing of the RSS, he is an outlier in the Upper House's general character, which is metropolitan, upper class and usually upper caste. Mr. Shah recently stated that the BJP has not yet peaked. The organisational changes are evidently being made in that belief.

An idea whose time may not have come

But the debate on simultaneous elections is useful – it could throw up other reforms to cleanse the electoral process



S.Y. QURAISHI

Not even a month after the world's largest elections in history were over, the debate around "one nation, one election" has been resurrected. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had continued to flag the issue for the last five years, has now called for a meeting on the subject with leaders of other political parties.

The 2014 manifesto of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) read: "The BJP will seek, through consultation with other parties, to evolve a method of holding Assembly and Lok Sabha elections simultaneously. Apart from reducing election expenses for both political parties and Government, this will ensure certain stability for State Governments."

Constant campaigners

In an interview with a news channel in January 2018, the Prime Minister had rightly highlighted the demerits of the country being in constant election mode. "One election finishes, the second starts," he said. He argued that having simultaneous Parliament, Assembly, civic and Panchayat polls once every five years and completed within a month or so would save money, resources and manpower. This, he pointed out, happened on account of a large section of the security forces, bureaucracy and political machinery having to be mobilised for up to 200 days a year on account of electioneering.

The BJP's 2019 manifesto also mentions that simultaneous elec-



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tions for Parliament, State Assemblies and local bodies to "ensure efficient utilisation of government resources and security forces and... effective policy planning". It goes on to say that the party "will try to build consensus on this issue with all parties". It is in this spirit of reform and consensus building that the Prime Minister has revived this debate, calling an all-party meeting for discussions on June 19.

The re-elected Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik, has already welcomed the idea, saying, on June 15, that frequent elections affect the development climate, and hence it is better to have simultaneous elections in the country.

The Law Commission had recommended simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha and the local bodies as far back as in 1999. The BJP's L.K. Advani also supported the idea back in 2010 in an eloquent blog post. The matter was examined by a Parliamentary Standing Committee in December 2015, and was also referred to the Election Commission of India (EC). Both supported it in principle.

Genuine concerns

The concerns raised are indeed genuine, and the idea is worth debating. First, it is becoming more and

more difficult to contest elections. The 2019 general election was the most expensive on record; a whopping ₹60,000 crore was reportedly spent on the whole exercise. Given that there is no cap on the expenditure incurred by political parties, they spend obscene amounts of money in every election. It is argued that simultaneous elections would help reduce this cost.

Second, frequent elections hamper the normal functioning of the government and disrupt civic life. This happens because the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) comes into operation as soon as the EC announces the election dates. This means that the government cannot announce any new schemes during this period. This results in what is often referred to as a policy paralysis. The government cannot make any new appointments or transfer/appoint officials. The entire government manpower is involved in the conduct of elections.

I would also like to add that elections are the time when communalism, casteism and corruption are at their peak. Frequent elections mean that there is no respite from these evils at all. This has directly resulted in the souring of the political discourse, something that was on full display during the 2019 general election.

From the point of view of EC, simultaneous elections make perfect sense because the voters for all three tiers are the same, polling booths are the same and staff/security is the same – the suggestion of "one nation, one election" seems logical.

The hurdles

The idea, however, has some hurdles. First, how will "one nation, one election" work in case of premature dissolution of the Lok Sabha, for instance, as happened in late 1990s when the House was dissolved long before its term of five years was over? In such an eventuality, would we also dissolve all State Assemblies? Similarly, what happens when one of the State Assemblies is dissolved? Will the entire country go to polls again? This sounds unworkable both in theory and in the practice of democracy.

Second, as for the implementation of schemes of the government during the MCC period, only the new schemes are stopped as these could be tantamount to enticing/bribing voters on the eve of elections. All ongoing programmes are unhindered. Even new announcements that are in urgent public interest can be made with the prior approval of the EC.

Additionally, frequent elections are not so bad for accountability after all. They ensure that the politicians have to show their faces to voters regularly. Creation of work opportunities at the grass-root level is another big upside. The most important consideration is undoubtedly the federal spirit, which, inter alia, requires that local and national issues are not mixed up.

Now, as the debate has been rekindled, wider deliberation on the need for a range of reforms must be considered. Till the idea

achieves political consensus, there are two alternative suggestions to deal with the problems that arise due to frequent elections.

First, the problem of uncontrolled campaign expenditure can be remedied by introducing a cap on expenditure by political parties. State funding of political parties based on their poll performance also is a suggestion worth considering. Private and corporate fund collection may be banned.

Second, as I have suggested elsewhere, the poll duration can be reduced from two-three months to about 33 to 35 days if more Central armed police forces can be provided. The problems associated with a multi-phased election have been getting compounded, with more issues being added to the list with every election. Violence, social media-related transgressions and issues related to the enforcement of the MCC which are unavoidable in a staggered election will vanish if the election is conducted in a single day. All that needs to be done is to raise more battalions. This will also help in job creation.

A healthy debate

To conclude, it is undeniable that simultaneous elections would be a far-reaching electoral reform. If it is to be implemented, there needs to be a solid political consensus, and an agenda of comprehensive electoral reforms should supplement it. The pros and cons need to be appropriately assessed and practical alternatives sincerely considered. It is good that the government continues to encourage a debate on the subject rather than forcibly pushing it through.

S.Y. Quraishi is a former Chief Election Commissioner of India and the author of 'An Undocumented Wonder – The Making of the Great Indian Election'

Building confidence, BIT by BIT

Indian bilateral investment treaties need to strike a balance between foreign investor interests and those of the state



PRABHASH RANJAN

As Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman gets ready to present the first budget of the 17th Lok Sabha, she faces enormous challenges. The GDP growth rate is at a five-year low, domestic consumption is sinking, the business confidence index has plunged, and India has recorded its highest unemployment rate in the last 45 years. To add to this list of woes is a claim made by Arvind Subramanian, India's former Chief Economic Adviser, that India's GDP has been overestimated. Foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflows to India in 2018-19 contracted by 1%, according to the government's own data. After an increase of 22% and 35% in 2014-15 and 2015-16, respectively, FDI equity inflows began tapering off since 2016-17 with the growth rate falling to 9% and then to 3% in 2017-18.

Lost opportunity

This contraction in FDI inflows comes at a time when global supply chains are shifting base as a re-

sult of the ongoing trade war between the U.S. and China. India has failed to attract firms exiting China. Many of these supply chains have relocated to Vietnam, Taiwan, Malaysia and Indonesia. India is clearly not the natural/first option for these firms for a host of reasons, such as poor infrastructure, rigid land and labour laws, a deepening crisis in the banking sector and a lack of structural economic reforms.

The decline in the FDI growth rate, despite the well-advertised improvement in India's ease of doing business rankings, interestingly, has coincided with India's decision, in 2016, to unilaterally terminate bilateral investment treaties (BITs) with more than 60 countries; this is around 50% of the total unilateral termination of BITs globally from 2010 to 2018. Unilateral termination of BITs on such a mass scale projects India as a country that does not respect international law. India also adopted a new inward-looking Model BIT in 2016 that prioritises state interests over protection to foreign investment.

In the absence of empirical evidence, one cannot conclude that termination of BITs and adoption of a state-friendly Model BIT adversely impacted FDI inflows. Nonetheless, since studies have shown that BITs positively impact-



GETTY IMAGES/STOCKPHOTO

ed foreign investment inflows to India, an examination of the link between the two should be a high priority for the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Affairs – the nodal body dealing with BITs.

The decision to terminate BITs and adopt a state-friendly Model BIT was a reaction to India being sued by several foreign investors before international arbitration tribunals. The government concluded that these claims were an outcome of India's badly designed BITs, signed in the 1990s and 2000s that were based on a laissez faire template.

Bad regulation

True, India's BITs gave extensive protection to foreign investment with scant regard for state's interests – a characteristically neoliberal model. This design flaw could have been corrected by India negotiating new balanced treaties and then replacing the existing ones with the new ones instead of terminating them unilaterally, which has created a vacuum. Im-

portantly, the design flaw was not the real reason for the increasing number of BIT claims. A large number arose either because the judiciary could not get its act together (an example being inordinate delays in deciding on the enforceability of arbitration awards) or because it ruled in certain cases without examining India's BIT obligations such as en masse cancellation of the second generation telecom licences in 2012. Likewise, the executive – the Manmohan Singh government – got the income tax laws retrospectively amended in 2012 to overrule the Supreme Court's judgment in favour of Vodafone and cancelled Devas Multimedia's spectrum licences in 2011 without following due process, thus adversely impacting Mauritian and German investors.

These cases are examples of bad state regulation. They also reveal an absence of full knowledge of India's obligations under BITs by different state entities. Thus, the Ministry of Finance and Corporate Affairs should invest extensively in developing state capacity so that the Indian state starts internalising BITs and is not caught on the wrong foot before an international tribunal.

In correcting the pro-investor imbalance in India's BITs, India went to the other extreme and

created a pro-state imbalance as evident in the Model BIT.

For a four point plan

Correcting this imbalance should be high on the reform agenda of the government. 'Progressive capitalism' (channeling the power of the market to serve society, as explained by Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz) provides the right template. Indian BITs should strike a balance between interests of foreign investors and those of the state. A certain degree of arrogance and misplaced self-belief that foreign investors would flock to India despite shocks and surprises in the regulatory environment should be put to rest. Clarity, continuity and transparency in domestic regulations and a commitment to a balanced BIT framework would help India project itself as a nation committed to the rule of law, both domestically and internationally, and thus shore up investor confidence. As the 2019 World Investment Report confirms, since India is fast becoming a leading outward investor, balanced BITs would also help in protecting Indian investment abroad.

Prabhakar Ranjan teaches at South Asian University and is the author of 'India and Bilateral Investment Treaties: Refusal, Acceptance, Backlash'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Bihar deaths

If proved to be true, the dereliction of health-care duties in Bihar is unpardonable as it has resulted in over 90 precious lives being lost (Editorial, "The litchi link?", June 18). In India, life is cheap and the underprivileged are almost like the cat with nine lives. It is shocking that simple treatment is not delivered. Even more appalling are the flimsy excuses being used in defence such as the heat wave. Such lapses harm the credibility of the medical fraternity and the outcome is ugly episodes of the West Bengal hospital-type.

DEEPAK SINGHAL
Noida, Uttar Pradesh

■ Undernourishment is a major problem in India, with alarming data on underweight, stunted and wasted children in Bihar. The POSHAN Abhiyaan, which "is a multi-ministerial

convergence mission with the vision to ensure attainment of malnutrition-free India by 2022", must reach every corner of India. On the lines of the Right to Education, a 'right to nutritious food' should also be implemented for children below five.

■ It is unfortunate that announcements made in 2014 about improving the infrastructure in health facilities have still not been met. There are large gaps in the infrastructure. The doctor-patient ratio is way below what is required. It is the same situation for paramedical staff. Technical facilities too are below par, a reflection of the apathy towards the poor in a region known for health-care issues. A long-term strategy must also include special investigative procedures (including autopsies) to reach

the causes of such events quickly. The government needs to increase public spending on health.

Dr. ARUN MITRA,
Ludhiana, Punjab

GM farming

We should not forget that farmers' fields are not botanical gardens (Editorial page, "Serious concerns about Bt brinjal", June 18). Farmers do practise artificial ways and means to grow crops. Brinjal has the one of the most diverse germplasms in the plant world, so fears about its gene erosion appear to be misplaced. As far as nutrition issues are concerned, it may be incorrect to say that GM crops will have low nutrition. The WHO itself is taking an active role in exploiting biotechnology. One should also not forget that there are proper guidelines that have been set by the Codex Alimentarius guidelines on safety assessment of GM

foods. We should at least consider the success of the U.S. where 93% of soybean and maize that is used is GM.

ARJUN SHARMA,
Bathinda, Punjab

Chennai's water woes

The water problem in Chennai began around the late 1950s with the installation of public taps, often below ground level. Then came the hand pump followed by small borewells. Fortunately the groundwater level was by and large satisfactory. Trouble began to brew when the population crossed the five-lakh mark. The 'water history' of Chennai for the past 50 years can be characterised by good rains, floods and a few droughts in between. But the response to the drought this year is a reflection of apathy, inaction, lack of imagination and a total lack of planning. Of course, water tanker owners have hit a gold mine. What is shameful is the

absence of a sustainable plan to reverse this disgraceful situation.

S. RAJAGOPALAN,
Chennai

■ In some of the extensive coverage being given to the 2019 water crisis in Chennai (Chennai city pages), I disagree with the opinion expressed (June 14) that rainwater harvesting (RWH) systems alone could have saved the city; we have not had even a drop of rain in the last six months. I say this as a former director of the IMD. Lack of periodic maintenance of RWH systems is essentially about

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

The second deck headline in the report, "Priyanka's outburst panned, but party men back her" (June 16, 2019, some editions), erroneously referred to byelections due in 11 Lok Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh. The text, however, correctly talks about a clutch of byelections to the Assembly that are due.

"Modi to meet Xi, Putin at SCO" (June 11, 2019) erroneously referred to Sooronbay Jeenbekov as the Uzbekistan President. He is the President of the Kyrgyz Republic.

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Averting deaths in Muzaffarpur

All it could have taken was to ensure that the children had a meal at night



T. JACOB JOHN

Along with my colleagues, I had investigated the so-called mystery disease in Muzaffarpur, Bihar, during its outbreak in 2012, 2013 and 2014. The local name for it was acute encephalitis syndrome, but we found that the disease was not encephalitis but encephalopathy. This distinction is important. Encephalitis results from a viral infection, unless proved otherwise. The pathology is primarily in the brain. Encephalopathy is a biochemical disease, unless proved otherwise. The primary pathology is not in the brain. Specific treatment is scanty for viral encephalitis, but encephalopathy is eminently treatable.

Hypoglycaemia (when the level of glucose in the blood falls below normal) is usually due to an overdose of insulin in children with diabetes. It is easily corrected with oral sugar or intravenous glucose. The easily available 5% glucose solution suffices. Hypoglycaemic encephalopathy, however, is different from simple hypoglycaemia.

The disease pathway

We found that the disease broke out during the months when litchi was harvested, i.e. April, May and June. Muzaffarpur is full of litchi orchards. The illness started suddenly – children were found vomiting, displayed abnormal movements, were semi-conscious, and were convulsing between 4 a.m. and 7 a.m. The disease progressed fast – children went into coma and died within a few days. When sick children were tested, the blood glucose level was always below normal.

This disease was reminiscent of the Jamaican Vomiting Disease, a form of hypoglycaemic encephalopathy. It is triggered when unripe ackee fruits are eaten. These fruits contain a substance, methylene cyclopropyl alanine, which blocks a biochemical process called fatty acid oxidation, or gluconeogenesis.

There are two essential steps: gluconeogenesis is turned on and is then blocked midway by methylene cyclopropyl alanine. The back-up molecules of the unfinished process are certain amino acids that are highly toxic to the brain cells. Ackee and litchi belong to one plant family. My toxicology colleague, Dr. Mukul Das, found generous



PE

quantities of methylene cyclopropyl glycine in litchi fruit pulp.

The disease affected only malnourished children between the ages of two and 10. A majority of them were from families camping in orchards for fruit harvesting. No child from the nearby towns fell ill. Children of well-to-do families never fell ill.

Litchi harvest usually begins by 4 a.m., which means that families are awake before that. They go to sleep early. If children go to sleep without dinner, parents usually do not wake them up and feed them. Litchis are collected in bunches and sent to the collection points, but single fruits fall to the ground. Children are free to collect and share the fruits with their friends.

With this information we made the hypothesis that the disease was hypoglycaemic encephalopathy. Along with my paediatric colleague, Dr. Arun Shah, we conclusively showed that the disease was indeed hypoglycaemic encephalopathy. With all the pieces in hand, we reconstructed the disease pathway.

After prolonged fasting, malnourished children slipped into hypoglycaemia in the morning. Since they had very little reserve glycogen in their livers, they were unable to mobilise glucose from liver glycogen, unlike well-nourished children. The brain needs glucose as a source of energy. As a result of lack of liver glycogen, gluconeogenesis was turned on. Had there not been litchi methylene cyclopropyl glycine, the glucose levels would have been maintained, and the children would have come to no harm. As the children had consumed litchis the previous day, gluconeogenesis had been blocked, aminoacidaemia had developed, and brain functions had been affected. Hypoglycaemic encephalopathy had set in.

We were unable to demonstrate aminoacidaemia in children with hypoglycaemic encephalopathy, but that was done by investigators from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The only missing piece in our

studies was filled in by CDC colleagues.

The disease can be prevented if children are well nourished, but that is not possible in the immediate term. It can also be prevented by ensuring that children eat a meal at night. All families were taught to provide a cooked meal to children before going to sleep at night. Preventing children from eating litchis is not easy, but the quantity of the fruit can be restricted with parental supervision. With all this health education, I was told that the disease number had come down drastically in 2016-18 compared to what it was in 2014-2015. I don't know what went wrong this year.

In 2015, all primary health centres were supplied with glucometers to check the blood glucose levels of sick children. Doctors were instructed to take a blood sample for glucose estimation and, irrespective of the results, infuse 10% glucose intravenously. To correct mild hypoglycaemia, 5% glucose is enough, but here the problem is not hypoglycaemia alone, but aminoacidaemia as a result of blocked gluconeogenesis. To prevent any further back-up amino acid from accumulating, the fatty acid oxidation process has to be turned off quickly. That requires raising blood glucose level to abnormally high levels so that insulin secretion is stimulated, and that in turn turns off the gluconeogenesis.

No sustained health education

What Dr. Shah and I found was that if ill children are infused with 10% glucose within four hours of onset of brain dysfunction, recovery is fast and complete. If only 5% glucose is given, or if 10% glucose is not administered within four hours, recovery is unlikely. I do not have detailed information from the field, but there seem to have been some human slip-ups this time.

Glucometers have not been maintained well. Health education was not sustained. New doctors are not familiar with all the information. Instead of 10% glucose, 5% is given. Children are taken mostly to private clinics and are then referred to the Sri Krishna Medical College in Muzaffarpur city since ambulance services are free of cost and easily available. Ambulances take more than four hours to reach the city hospitals from many rural clinics. We might think each error is minor, but when all the errors add up they contribute to deaths that should have been averted.

T. Jacob John is a retired professor of virology from CMC Vellore

Doctors and patients deserve better

Violence against doctors is a symptom and not the disease. Structural and policy changes in India's hospitals, and not increased security, may help in controlling it



SANJAY NAGRAL

Yet another chapter in the sickening saga of violence against doctors in India is coming to an end. It mostly ran a predictable course: junior doctors in a state-run hospital in Kolkata were attacked by the angry relatives of a patient who died there, junior doctors across West Bengal went on strike, outraged senior doctors paid lip service to their cause, medical associations went on a token strike, and there were calls for stricter laws and for increasing security for doctors. It was the usual narrative involving lumpen mobs, allegations of political instigation, unrealistic expectations from patients, overworked doctors, and calls for increased security, which included bizarre demands for bodyguards and even bouncers. Perhaps the only novelty was the rather knee-jerk and insensitive response by a Chief Minister suffering from a poll hangover, which seems to have acted as further provocation.

Will punitive action, new laws or increased security change this scenario? Will we never see an incident like this if such measures are taken? As someone who participated in a strike by junior doctors as long back as 1985 in response to an assault by a corporator in Mumbai and continues to witness such events in the public hospital where I work, I can only dismiss these as rhetorical questions. But is there something beyond this customary discourse that springs from the debris of such a fracas that we should recognise? In medical parlance, is there a disease that is producing these symptoms in recurring fashion? These are questions worth examining.

Examining the setting

The setting in which a majority of such incidents have taken place offer some clues. The most common scenario is that of a patient being brought to the casualty ward of a public hospital in a critical condition by family members or neighbours. If the patient does not survive, there is the reality or perception that treatment was not administered to him or her in time. The tipping point is when the staff in hospitals display insensitivity when they are questioned



MEP

about delays. It is true that the emergency wards of India's public hospitals are chaotic, disorganised and resemble conflict zones. While there are several factors that contribute to this, the complete absence of the globally recognised protocol of 'triage' is a big reason. Triage involves a rapid examination of a patient to determine whether he or she needs instant care, early care, or care that can wait. The absence of this protocol means that emergency wards are often occupied by patients with all sorts of minor injuries. Data from a study at our hospital showed that more than 90% of patients frequenting the casualty ward over a two-year period had minor injuries which could have been easily treated in a smaller setting. In India, when people go to the police with a complaint of an assault, they are advised to go to a government hospital even if they have very minor injuries, to record them to strengthen their legal case. All these patients come to the casualty ward adding to the crowd and the burden of the hospital staff. If the staff have to treat only 10% of the load of critical patients, they would do a much better job and perhaps even save lives.

The huge workload in large teaching hospitals in cities, such as in Kolkata's Nil Ratan Sarkar Medical College and Hospital, is also the result of the poor capacity of suburban and rural hospitals to handle sick patients. This uneven scenario is due to excessive centralisation of funds, staff and equipment.

A growing chasm

A dangerous argument that is put forth in the aftermath of such attacks is that people's expectations have increased. I am not sure what this means in a system where the bar has been set very low. Are people who see huge delays, rickety ambulances and lack of equipment or malfunctioning equipment not supposed to respond? Isn't it possible

that common citizens who see swanky private hospitals delivering quick, organised care wonder why they get such a raw deal? That they now realise that just putting an oxygen mask on an individual who is gasping for breath is not enough, a ventilator is needed? In other words, is the realisation that there is a more effective way of care, which the common man is being denied because of his or her inability to pay for it, the cause for anger which periodically explodes in a perverse manner?

One reason why laws are unlikely to work is that patients and their families or friends do not come to a hospital with a plan to attack. Attacks are impulsive responses in an emotional moment. What may work instead is softening the blow on families by examining how, where and who delivered the bad news to them. If family members in moments of intense grief are now regularly donating organs to their near and dear ones, there must be something that we are doing right. This is happening probably because the news is broken to them in a planned and organised manner by a trained transplant coordinator, usually in the sanitised setting of an intensive care unit of a large private hospital.

Demanding change

As members of a profession who have been trained in the method of science, we can do better than imitate the impulsive, inappropriate responses of those who attack the first doctor in sight, as well as the political class. We can certainly do better than come up with ludicrous demands such as appointing bouncers or bodyguards in hospitals. Several structural and policy changes in the way India's hospital systems work can reduce, if not eliminate, the perception that there is negligence in caring for patients. Medical associations who swing between fawning over politicians when they need favours to faux militancy after an incident, such as the one that took place in Kolkata, need to take the lead in demanding policy change.

In the heat of this debate it is worth remembering that in spite of being caught in the pincer of a tottering public health sector and an unaffordable private sector, a large majority of our patients show tremendous tolerance, resilience and trust in their interaction with us. We all deserve better.

Sanjay Nagral is a Mumbai-based surgeon

SINGLE FILE

Linking civilisation, culture and religion

We need to make sense of these terms in less exclusive ways

UDAY BALAKRISHNAN



ABHILESH KUMAR

The words civilisation and culture are banded about a lot these days. We are defensive about the first and protective of the other to a point where insulation becomes exclusion. Add religion to the two and we have a venomous plait that is near impossible to undo. Collectively we need to step back and

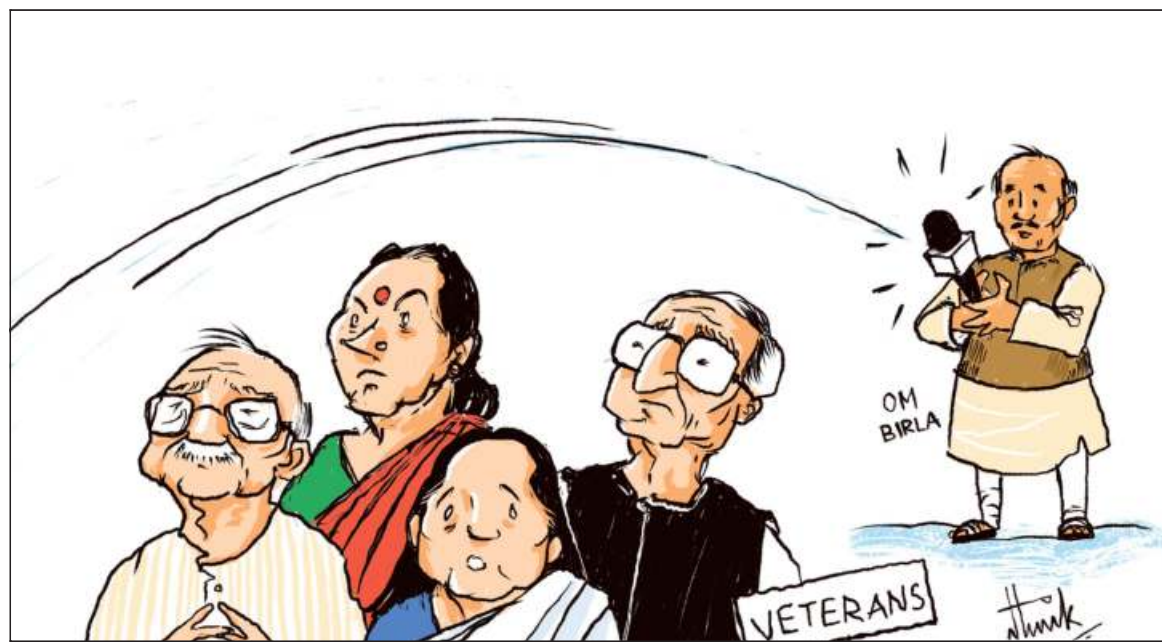
look at these terms in perspective, if only to make sense of them in less exclusive ways and appreciate the common thread that runs through them. This is more important now as majoritarian points of view are being mistaken for, or are being passed off as, voluntary consensus.

Let's take religion first. Is mine better than yours? This is a question that has no answers, no sensible ones in any case. However much we may argue, there is much to commend in each faith and a lot to condemn in every one of them. The great philosopher, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, observed: "To admit the various descriptions of God is not to lapse into polytheism. When Yajnavalkya was called upon to state the number of gods, he started with the popular number 3306, and ended by reducing them all to one Brahman. "This indestructible enduring reality is to be looked upon as one only." So where is the big difference between the many faiths in India? I, for one, am proud of the juxtaposition of a temple, a mosque and a church at Palayam in my home town Thiruvananthapuram, and hail the Holkar queen of the Maratha Malwa kingdom, Ahilyabai Holkar, for preserving the Gyanvapi Mosque even as she rebuilt the Kashi Viswanath Temple. There is a lot to learn from our past.

Culture is more problematic than religion. It is an omnibus term that hints at something good. But in the way it is deployed, it is a loaded and sinister term seeking to establish the superiority of one way of life and the inferiority of another. In his thoughtful book, *The Seduction of Culture in German History*, the sociologist Wolf Lepenies suggests a direct relationship between the German understanding of culture, which "has remained the catchword by which the Germans tried to distinguish themselves from the rest of the civilized world", and the rise of Hitler. Totalitarianism has deep roots in the collective minds of people. To be aware of it and keep it in check is a task cut out for civilisation.

As a term, civilisation is somewhat ambiguous but it strongly suggests harmony, unity, tolerance, enlightenment and confidence. But civilisation can be easily destroyed, as the renowned art historian Kenneth Clark cautions, "by cynicism and disillusion just as effectively as by bombs". That happens when, quoting Yeats in his book *Civilization*, he exclaims, "The best lack all conviction, while the worst /Are full of passionate intensity." How true.

The writer teaches at IISc, Bengaluru

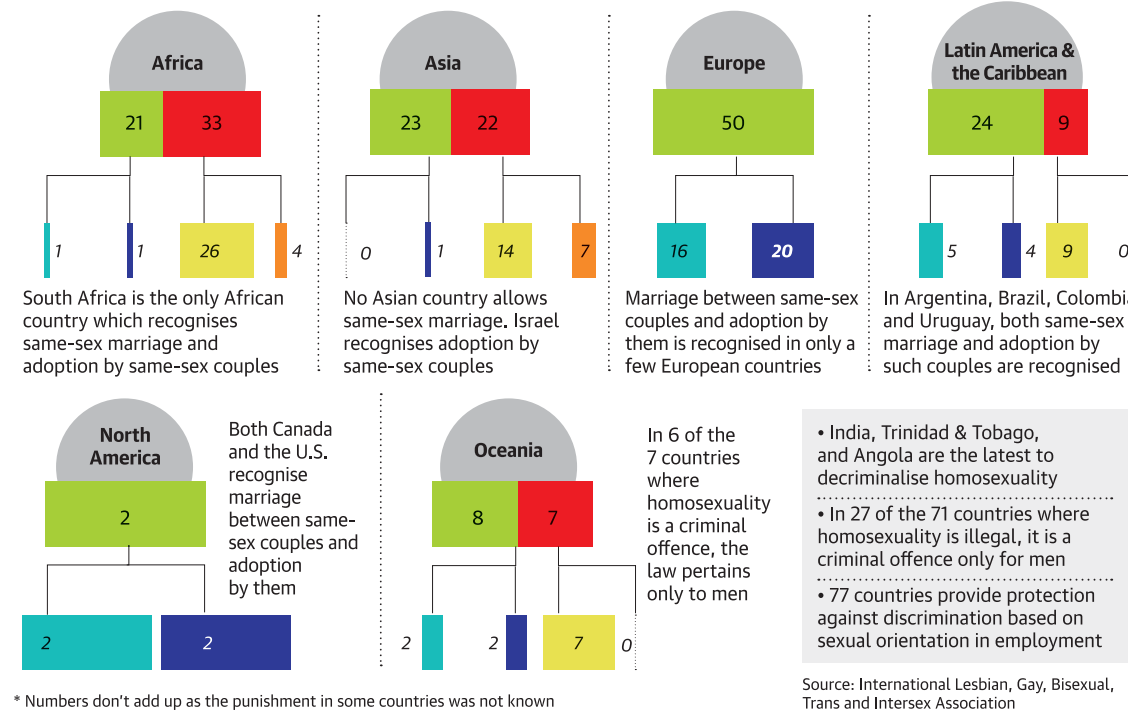


DATA POINT

Not a free world yet

Fifty years since the 1969 Stonewall Riots in New York City, which sparked an LGBT liberation movement in the U.S. and elsewhere, 36% of countries are yet to decriminalise homosexuality. In 6% of countries homosexuality is punishable by death. A region-wise look at the progress achieved. By Srvaya C

How to read the graph* | The first rung of the flowchart shows the number of countries in each region where homosexuality is not a criminal offence (■) and is a criminal offence (■). The second rung breaks down the countries further into four groups – countries which recognise same-sex marriage (■); countries which recognise adoption by same-sex couples (■); countries where the maximum punishment for homosexuality is imprisonment (■); and countries where homosexuality is punishable by death (■)



FROM The Hindu ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 19, 1969

P.M.'s choice of Giri not fully supported

All day to-day [June 18] and until late to-night, there was hectic political activity in the capital [New Delhi] with an endless series of high-level consultations between the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, and her senior Cabinet colleagues and the principal Congress leaders over the selection of the Congress party's nominee for the Presidential election. But even after these intensive discussions, it was not clear whether Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her close supporters will be able to have their way in getting Mr. V.V. Giri nominated as the Congress candidate. The party leaders led by the Congress President, Mr. Nijalingappa, were still opposing Mr. Giri's nomination on the ground that a tried and trusted Congressman - which clearly meant one of them - should be chosen for this key post in view of the many political uncertainties ahead.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 19, 1919.

Swadeshi Campaign.

Another swadeshi cloth store to sell purely indigenous cloth was opened last night [June 18] at Morarji Goculdas Market [in Bombay] by Mr. Gandhi. One of the organisers of the movement, Mr. Narandas Purshotamdas, in opening the proceedings said that the necessity of opening the stores arose from the fact that there had been promulgated two swadeshi vows, the pure swadeshi vow and the mixed swadeshi vow. Those who had taken the first vow found it difficult to obtain such goods from the existing stores. The stores they were opening would sell only goods manufactured from Indian yarn charging only five per cent on the cost price so that the buyers would get clothes at the cheapest rate. Mr. Gandhi in declaring the stores open, said that the swadeshi vow was necessary for the progress of a nation and if they took a vow to use swadeshi clothes only, they would achieve truth.

CONCEPTUAL Epistocracy

POLITICS

This refers to a form of political governance where the votes of people who are well informed about politics are weighed more heavily than the votes of people who have very little political knowledge. This is in contrast to democracy where everyone's vote is given the same weight despite the large differences in the political knowledge possessed by individual voters. The idea of epistocracy was first proposed by American political scientist Jason Brennan in his 2016 book *Against Democracy*. Supporters of epistocracy believe that such a system will incentivise people who are ignorant about politics to educate themselves in order to vote.

MORE ON THE WEB

Watch | The Hindu Explains: Why is the Strait of Hormuz important?

<http://bit.ly/HormuzStrait>

U.S. deploys more troops to West Asia

Pentagon reiterates its claim that Iran was behind tanker attacks; Russia and China call for restraint

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

China and Russia warned on Tuesday about escalating West Asian tensions after Washington said it would deploy 1,000 more troops to the region and renewed accusations that Iran was behind a tanker attack.

The U.S. moves came as Iran set a 10-day countdown for world powers to fulfil their commitments under a nuclear deal abandoned by Washington, saying it would otherwise surpass the uranium stockpile limit mandated by the accord.

"I have authorised approximately 1,000 additional troops for defensive purposes to address air, naval, and ground-based threats in the Middle East," acting Pentagon chief Patrick Shanahan said in a statement. "The recent Iranian attacks validate the reliable, credible intelligence we have received on hostile behaviour by Iranian forces and their proxy groups that threaten U.S. personnel and interests across the region."

Meanwhile, in an interview to Time magazine on Monday, Mr. Trump said he would order a U.S. military response if Iran had to be stopped getting nuclear arms, but he was not eager for war otherwise, downplaying the attacks on the oil tankers. He, though, accepted the U.S. intelligence assessment that Iran was behind the explosions.

"I would certainly go over nuclear weapons," he said, "and I would keep the other a question mark."

The U.S. has blamed Iran for last week's attacks on two tankers in the Gulf of Oman, a charge Tehran denies as "baseless". The Pentagon released new images on Monday that it said showed Iran was behind the attack on one

of the ships. The U.S. argument centres on an unexploded limpet mine on the tanker ship *Kokuka Courageous* that it says was removed by Iranians on a patrol boat.

"Iran is responsible for the attack based on video evidence and the resources and proficiency needed to quickly remove the unexploded limpet mine," the Pentagon said in a statement.

The U.S. released a grainy video last week it said showed the Iranians removing the mine. The images released on Monday show the site where the unexploded mine was allegedly attached, the Iranians on a patrol boat who are said to have removed it, and damage from another device that did explode.

'Won't wage war'

However, Iran President Hassan Rouhani insisted on Tuesday that Tehran would "not wage war against any nation." "Despite all of the Americans' efforts in the region and their desire to cut off our ties with all of the world and their desire to keep Iran secluded, they have been unsuccessful," Mr. Rouhani said.

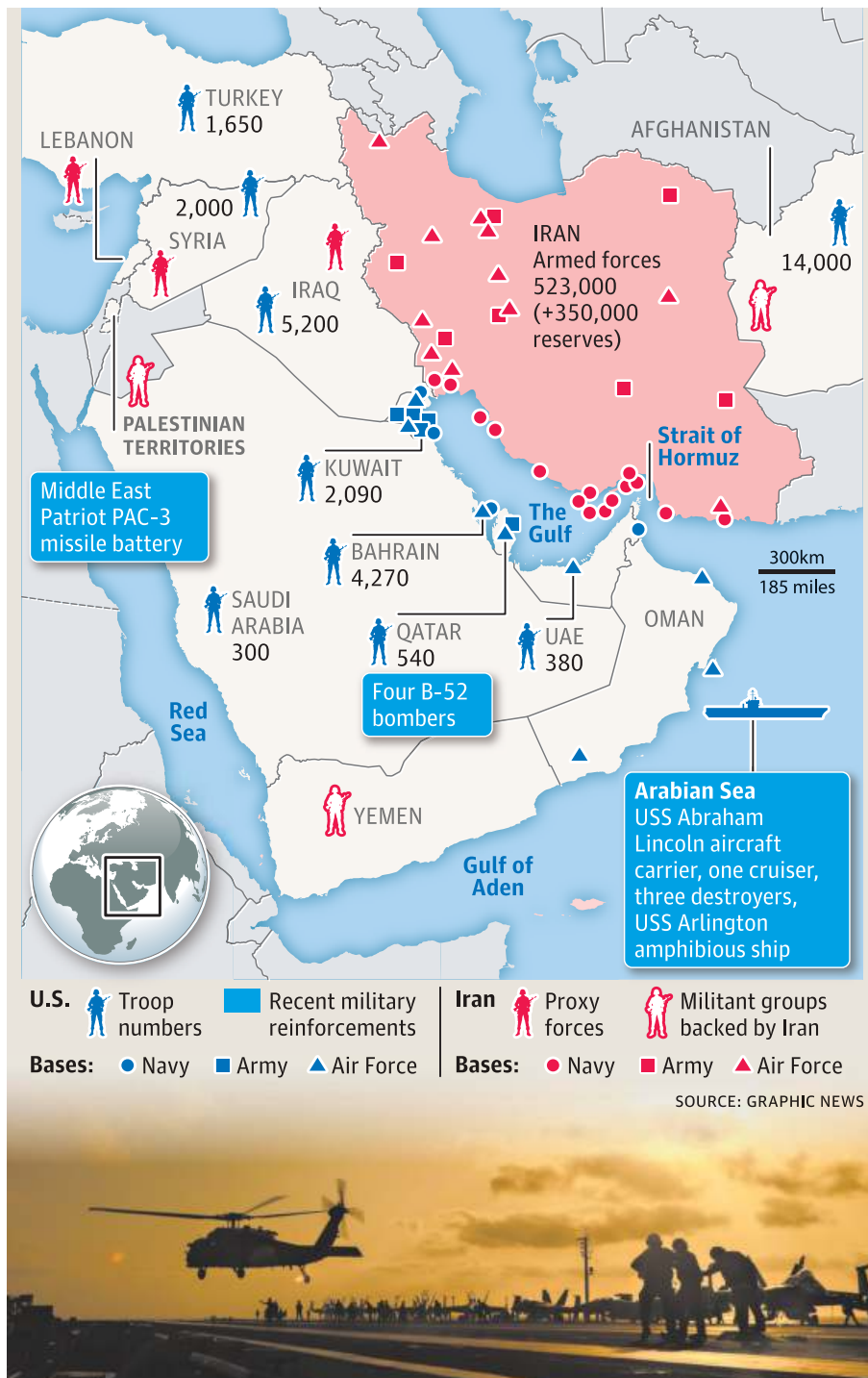
In Moscow, President Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov urged all sides "to show restraint." "We would prefer not to see any steps that could introduce additional tensions in the already unstable region."

China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi warned all sides "not to take any actions to provoke the escalation of tension in the region, and not to open a Pandora's box." He urged Washington to "change its practice of extreme pressure" but also called on Tehran not to abandon the nuclear deal.

(With Reuters inputs)

Face to face

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said the U.S. is considering a 'full range of options' amid rising tensions with Iran. He, however, emphasised internal diplomacy over military response. A look at the current U.S. and Iranian troop deployment in West Asia



Lam shelves extradition bill for now

REUTERS
HONG KONG

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam on Tuesday signalled the end of a controversial extradition bill that she promoted and then postponed after some of the most violent protests since the former British colony returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

In a closely watched press conference, Ms. Lam apologised for the turmoil but refused to say the bill would be "withdrawn", only that it

wouldn't be re-introduced during her time in office if public fears persist.

This was the strongest indicator yet that the government was effectively shelving the legislation that would allow people to be extradited to mainland China to face trial, even if it fell short of protester demands for the government to scrap the bill altogether.

"Because this bill over the past few months has caused so much anxiety, and wor-

ries and differences in opinion, I will not, this is an undertaking, I will not proceed again with this legislative exercise if these fears and anxieties cannot be adequately addressed," Ms. Lam told reporters.

Ms. Lam, asked repeatedly whether she would quit, refused to do so, saying there remained important work ahead in the next three years, which would bring her to the end of her current five-year term of office.

Pak. Army chief gets more say in economic matters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD

In a move that would further expand the powerful Pakistani military's influence, Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa has been made a member of the newly-formed National Development Council (NDC) headed by Prime Minister Imran Khan, the *Express Tribune* reported on Tuesday.

The military is now set to play a greater role in economic matters of Pakistan.

The 13-member NDC will set policies and strategies for development and provide guidelines for regional cooperation, according to a notification. It will provide measures for local coordination and provincial Chief Ministers will also be invited to the council's meetings.

IN BRIEF



Shanahan drops out of Pentagon head race

WASHINGTON
U.S. President Donald Trump announced on Tuesday that acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan will withdraw his nomination to lead the Pentagon. The announcement came in a tweet from the President, who said Mr. Shanahan had done "a wonderful job" but would step aside to "devote more time to his family." He added that the Secretary of the Army, Mark Esper, will be the new acting Secretary. AP

UN calls for 'independent' probe into Morsi's death

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GENEVA

The UN human rights office called on Tuesday for an "independent inquiry" into former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi's death on Monday while in state custody.

"Any sudden death in custody must be followed by a prompt, impartial, thorough and transparent investigation carried out by an independent body to clarify the cause of death," said Rupert Colville, spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

He noted that Morsi "also



Mohamed Morsi

appears to have been held in prolonged solitary confinement," and said the investigation must "encompass all aspects of the authorities' treatment of Morsi to examine whether the conditions of his detention had an impact on his death."

Libra is Facebook's cryptocurrency

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN FRANCISCO

Facebook is leaping into the world of cryptocurrency with its own digital money, designed to let people save, send or spend money as easily as firing off text messages.

"Libra" – described as "a new global currency" – was unveiled on Tuesday in a new initiative in payments for the world's biggest social network with the potential to bring crypto-money out of the shadows and into the mainstream.

Facebook and some two

dozen partners released a prototype of Libra as an open source code to be used by developers interested in weaving it into apps, services or businesses ahead of a rollout as global digital money next year.



An eponymous nonprofit association based in Geneva will oversee the blockchain-based Libra, maintaining a real-world asset reserve to keep its value stable.

The initiative has the potential to allow more than a billion "unbanked" people around the world access to online commerce and financial services, said Libra Association head of policy and communications Dante Disparte.

Libra Association debuted with 28 members including Mastercard, Visa, Stripe, Kiva, PayPal, Lyft, Uber and Women's World Banking.

Facebook will be just one voice among many in the association, but is separately building a digital wallet called Calibra.

U.S. will deport millions of illegal migrants: Trump

Immigration agency will begin process next week: President

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

The United States will start removing "millions" of illegal migrants next week, President Donald Trump said on Monday, adding that Guatemala is preparing to sign a safe third country deal.

"Next week ICE will begin the process of removing the millions of illegal aliens who have illicitly found their way into the United States. They will be removed as fast as they come in," Mr. Trump said on Twitter, referring to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.

He added that "Guatemala is getting ready to sign a Safe-Third Agreement," an apparent reference to a pact in which migrants entering Guatemalan territory would have to apply for refugee status there, not in the United States.

The U.S. is facing a surge in migrant arrivals from Gua-



Donald Trump

temala and other impoverished Central American countries which are plagued by gang violence.

Mr. Trump has called it "an invasion," and has made the fight against illegal migration a central plank of his administration.

'Conditional aid'

Earlier on Monday, the U.S. said it would not offer any more aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras unless they take "concrete actions" to deter undocumented migrants from heading for the U.S. For fiscal 2019, \$370 mil-

lion initially planned will be allocated to other foreign policy priorities, the State Department said, and all future aid is now conditional.

"We will not provide new funds for programs in those countries until we are satisfied the Northern Triangle governments are taking concrete actions to reduce the number of illegal migrants coming to the US border," State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortigas said.

Under a deal between the U.S. and Mexico this month to avert threatened tariffs, Mexico agreed to deploy 6,000 National Guardsmen to reinforce its southern border, and to expand its policy of taking back migrants as the United States processes their asylum claims.

"Mexico, using their strong immigration laws, is doing a very good job of stopping people," Mr. Trump said on Monday.

China declines to confirm if it hosted Taliban's Baradar

Saudi paper reported that the leader was in Beijing for talks

ATUL ANEJA
BEIJING

China on Monday declined to confirm that it had hosted Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, the Taliban's deputy chief of political affairs, ahead of a crucial seventh round of talks between the Afghan militant group and the U.S.

"I cannot confirm that and I have to learn and check about the relevant situation before answering your question," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lu Kang said in response to a question during his regular media briefing.

Arab News, the daily from Saudi Arabia, had reported on Sunday that Baradar, who heads the Taliban office in Doha, is visiting Beijing for talks with Chinese officials, days ahead of a crucial seventh round of talks in Qatar with U.S. officials. China has



Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar

played an increasingly active role in the Afghan peace process, alongside the U.S. and Russia.

Key stakeholders

The daily said that in April, China, Russia and the U.S. had pressed the Taliban to hold talks with Afghan politicians and civilians as an important step to end the 17-year conflict. "It seems that Taliban leaders are making efforts to hold consultations and exchange their views

with key stakeholders ahead of the next round. The visit is an indication that the seventh round is important," the newspaper quoted Abdul Hai Mutmayen, who was the Taliban's chief spokesman in Afghanistan's Kandahar province, as saying.

Back channel talks

In the past, China has held talks with the Taliban. In mid-July 2015, an Afghan Taliban delegation led by Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai from the Qatar office had held back channel talks in China, prompting the Chinese Foreign Ministry to say that it maintained contact with all parties engaged in Afghan peace talks.

In the same year, the Taliban and the Afghan government representatives had reportedly met in Urumqi, the capital of China's Xinjiang Province.

KERALA INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (KINFRA)
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

Request For Proposal (RFP)

KINFRA invites online bids from competent & financially sound agencies/firms for the following work.

Name of work: Selection of Operating Agency to Operate, Maintain and Manage 3 Nos of Warehouses (Food Processing) at KINFRA Mega Food Park, Palakkad

| Bid Fee | EMD | Last Date |
|-------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Rs 2,950/- (Inclusive of GST) | Rs 50,000/- | 03/07/2019 at 5:00PM |

The RFP document(s), can be downloaded from the e-Government Procurement (e-GP) website (www.tenders.kerala.gov.in). For more details visit the website www.kinfra.org
Place : Thiruvananthapuram Sd/-
Date : 19/06/2019 Managing Director

एवएलएल लाइफकेयर लिमिटेड
(आरंभ संस्था का उद्भव)

HLL Lifecare Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
CIN: U25193 KL 1966 GOI 002621

Regd. & Corporate Office, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 012, Kerala
E-mail: exports@lifecarehll.com, Ph: 0471 - 2354949

Global Tender for Selection of Overseas Operations Associate for International Business Division

HLL Lifecare Limited, a Mini Ratna Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India invites tenders from interested parties for managing and to-end operations/activities in Brazil on behalf of their International Business Division.

Pre bid meeting: 26th June, 2019; 11:00 HRS at HLL Lifecare Limited, Trivandrum
Last date for submission of tender: 9th July 2019, 17:30 HRS

The tender document and other details are available in website www.lifecarehll.com. Subsequent amendments/ addendum, if any, will be published in the above mentioned website.
Associate Vice President (IBD)

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Call for Supplier Registration

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For detailed item list and mode of application, please visit <https://supplier.bhel.in> and select Unit as "BAP-Ranipet"

Note: Registration process for items required by BHEL is always open at <https://supplier.bhel.in>. Prospective suppliers (including MSEs & owned by SCs/STs) may visit this site and apply for registration in the respective Unit'. MSE and SC/ST entrepreneurs are eligible for concessions as per MSME Act 2006

For clarifications, if any, please call, Manager/Purchase (SDC), BHEL-BAP-Ranipet : 04172-241664, 284474.

**HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING**

(Office of the Chief Engineer, 1st Floor, PH Building, Seshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
(Phone No. 080-22274892 E-mail: cekhedr@gmail.com Website: cekhedr-hfw@karnataka.gov.in)

No: H&FWD/Eng.Wing/CE/TA-1/AE-3/TND/Nabard-RIDF-XXIV/Corrigendum-4/2019-20/487 Date: 17-06-2019

CORRIGENDUM TO TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender invited vide Notification No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,3&5/TND/NABARD-RIDF-XXIV/2018-19/3872 Dated: 08.03.2019 & Corrigendum issued vide Nos: (1) 138 Dated: 04.05.2019, (2) 190 Dated: 14.05.2019 and (3) 293 Dated: 23.05.2019 for the work of **Construction of additional 3 (Three) floors to New MCH Building at Holenarasipura in Hassan District.** Now the calendar of events are revised for this work as under :-

- 1) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: **01-07-2019 upto 16.00 Hrs.**
- 2) Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **03-07-2019 at 16.00 Hrs.**

NOTE: 1) All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2) Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through news papers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer
HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080 - 40931272
website : www.kiadb.in e-Mail: cdoce@kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-02/3490/2019-20 Date: 17.06.2019

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY
(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender for providing consultancy services for Project Management Consultancy Services from Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following work: Name of Work: (1) Consulting Services for Proof Checking of Design, Project Management Consultancy for the work of Establishment and Commissioning of 1.2MLD capacity CETP in two modules of 0.60 MLD capacity to be implemented in phased manner for treating the waste water generated from chemical units at Kolhar Industrial Area, Bidar District to ZLD on turnkey basis including operation & maintenance of plant for a period of 60 months. Estimated amount: Rs.4434.00 Lakhs. Approx. EMD: Rs. 2.00 Lakhs.

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>.

Scheduled of dates are as follows:

- Last date to receive pre bid Queries : 24.06.2019 Up to 17:00Hrs
- Pre bid meeting will be held on : 26.06.2019 at 12:00 noon
- Last date for submission of bids is : 15.07.2019 upto 16:00Hrs
- Time and date of opening Technical bids is on : 17.07.2019 at 11:30Hrs.

Sd/-
Chief Development Officer & Chief Engineer

DIPR/DDU/RO-458/2019-20

MARKET WATCH

| | 18-06-2019 | % CHANGE |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| Sensex | 39,046 | 0.22 |
| US Dollar | 69.70 | 0.30 |
| Gold | 33,720 | 0.30 |
| Brent oil | 62.71 | 1.78 |

NIFTY 50

| | PRICE | CHANGE |
|-------------------|----------|---------|
| Adani Ports | 421.40 | -1.45 |
| Asian Paints | 1380.05 | -21.90 |
| Axis Bank | 775.75 | -1.95 |
| Bajaj Auto | 2855.60 | 19.40 |
| Bajaj Finserv | 8246.25 | 124.95 |
| Bajaj Finance | 3509.30 | 42.80 |
| Bharti Airtel | 345.15 | 1.15 |
| BPLCL | 385.55 | 7.40 |
| Britannia Ind | 2867.25 | -31.95 |
| Cipla | 547.60 | 2.45 |
| Coal India | 260.35 | 5.05 |
| Dr Reddys Lab | 2591.25 | 37.10 |
| Eicher Motors | 19731.85 | 4.00 |
| GAIL (India) | 308.05 | 2.10 |
| Grasim Ind | 879.65 | 0.30 |
| HCL Tech | 1089.60 | 14.70 |
| HDFC | 2153.00 | -20.00 |
| HDFC Bank | 2417.25 | -4.75 |
| Hero MotoCorp | 2667.80 | 19.55 |
| Hindalco | 189.95 | -3.65 |
| Hind Unilever | 1809.60 | -8.45 |
| Indiabulls HFL | 609.80 | -44.90 |
| ICICI Bank | 422.15 | 7.95 |
| Indusind Bank | 1409.00 | 9.35 |
| Bharti Infratel | 270.10 | -2.05 |
| Infosys | 750.15 | 9.60 |
| Indian Oil Corp | 157.65 | 2.35 |
| ITC | 275.10 | 0.10 |
| JSW Steel | 263.55 | 3.35 |
| Kotak Bank | 1461.85 | 1.50 |
| L&T | 1505.30 | 6.55 |
| M&M | 625.90 | 0.85 |
| Maruti Suzuki | 6439.00 | -142.65 |
| NTPC | 132.40 | 0.15 |
| ONGC | 166.15 | 1.75 |
| PowerGrid Corp | 197.80 | 3.75 |
| Reliance Ind | 1281.00 | -1.30 |
| State Bank | 340.05 | 2.20 |
| Sun Pharma | 378.45 | -4.45 |
| Tata Motors | 158.30 | -0.45 |
| Tata Steel | 472.30 | -0.80 |
| TCS | 2250.85 | 1.65 |
| Tech Mahindra | 741.55 | 5.00 |
| Titan | 1257.50 | 1.45 |
| UltraTech Cement | 4511.45 | 56.15 |
| UPL | 999.70 | 4.75 |
| Vedanta | 168.10 | 4.05 |
| Wipro | 298.00 | -1.15 |
| YES Bank | 109.30 | -6.85 |
| Zee Entertainment | 339.35 | 1.25 |

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 18

| CURRENCY | TT BUY | TT SELL |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
| US Dollar | 69.50 | 69.82 |
| Euro | 77.76 | 78.11 |
| British Pound | 86.98 | 87.41 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 64.19 | 64.49 |
| Chinese Yuan | 10.04 | 10.09 |
| Swiss Franc | 69.51 | 69.86 |
| Singapore Dollar | 50.68 | 50.92 |
| Canadian Dollar | 51.77 | 52.01 |
| Malaysian Ringgit | 16.61 | 16.73 |

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

June 18 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

| | | |
|--------------------|------|--------|
| Retail Silver (1g) | 40.1 | (39.9) |
| 22 ct gold (1 g) | 3145 | (3132) |

'Investor sentiment lowest since 2008'

Fund managers stay away from equities and banks, prefer bonds and cash, says BofAML survey

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Concerns related to an escalating trade war, possible recession and ineffective monetary policy have made fund managers bearish to a level last seen during the sub-prime crisis of 2008.

According to the latest global fund manager survey by Bank of America Merrill Lynch (BofAML), fund managers are moving away from placing bets on equities and banks and preferring bonds and cash with the cash levels with fund managers seeing the biggest jump since the 2011 U.S. debt crisis.

"... pessimism driven by concerns over trade war/recession, monetary policy impotence, low strike prices for policy puts; tactical 'pain trade' is higher yields and



Bleak future: Cash levels with fund managers have seen the biggest jump since the 2011 U.S. debt crisis. ■ AFP

higher stocks, especially if Fed cuts 25 bps [basis points] Wednesday," stated the survey report released on Tuesday.

The survey, based on responses of 230 fund managers, who collectively manage assets worth \$645 billion, al-

so revealed that the global growth expectations of fund managers plunged by the largest quantum since November 1994 when the Mexican peso crisis led to an international financial crisis.

Further, the cash levels – a higher level signifies lack of

conviction – saw its biggest jump and is currently at 5.6%, which is one percentage point higher than the 10-year average of 4.6%.

The survey also showed "huge June rotation to bonds, cash, staples, utilities, and huge rotation away from equities, banks, Eurozone, tech."

Incidentally, the survey saw the second biggest ever month-on-month drop in terms of equity allocation even as growth expectations collapsed by a record 46 percentage points month-on-month to net 50% investors expecting global growth to weaken over the next 12 months.

While the survey did not specifically look at India-specific issues, the record bearish stance is likely to af-

fect equities across the world.

China impact

The recent past has seen the equity markets in the emerging market pack, including that of India, fall on account of concerns related to the on-going trade war between the U.S. and China.

Further, the slowdown in China has impacted markets across the world, clearly showing that no single market or economy is insulated from the global economic concerns. Incidentally, the India VIX index, which is looked upon as a measure of near-term volatility, has been on the rise in the last few trading sessions as investors remained jittery over the trade war happening between India and the U.S.

Lenders move NCLT against Jet Airways

Remaining directors Ashok Chawla and Sharad Sharma quit carrier's board

LALATENDU MISHRA
MUMBAI

State Bank of India (SBI)-led consortium of lenders on Tuesday started insolvency proceedings by dragging defaulter Jet Airways (India) Ltd. and its promoters to the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)

Jet, 51% owned by Naresh Goyal and 24% by Etihad Airways, owes about ₹8,000 crore to a consortium of lenders.

The airline has a total liabilities, including bank loans, of about ₹25,000 crore. A petition had been filed in the Mumbai bench of NCLT to recover the dues, lenders confirmed. The petition is expected to come up for hearing on Wednesday.

Reacting to the news, the Jet Airways stock plunged



54% intraday to finally close the day at ₹40.45, down 40.78% on the BSE.

Meanwhile, the two remaining directors on its board, Ashok Chawla and Sharad Sharma, resigned.

In a regulatory filing, Jet Airways said they left "in view of the board continuing to be in non-compliance

with the provisions of the Companies Act and no additional directors being appointed and the process of bank-led resolution plan not moving forward."

Mr. Goyal, who was eased out by the banks in March along with his wife Anita Goyal to facilitate the entry of a new buyer, expressed sadness over the development which landed Jet in NCLT after complete erosion of value.

"I feel sad and deeply distressed mainly for our loyal employees, who have waited for months and hopefully awaiting for a positive outcome to the bank-led resolution plan," Mr. Goyal said in a statement.

"I can only hope and pray that even now a solution can emerge and Jet can fly and

fulfil the needs not only of the employees but for air travellers who feel the absence of the Joy of Flying," he said.

Etihad's response

In an e-mailed response to a query by *The Hindu*, Etihad Airways said it did its best to salvage the airline and would continue the efforts in the rescue plan.

Jet Airways employees expressed shock on the development and said it was too late to revive the airline.

"What is left now of Jet?... The NCLT process will take time and all the value will be wiped out. Even if a bidder comes, there will [be] no pilots, engineers and employees left to fly any plane if any," said Rohit Chaudhary, senior commander, Jet Airways.

RBI slaps ₹1 cr. penalty on HDFC Bank

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a ₹1 crore penalty on private sector lender HDFC Bank for violating know your customer (KYC) and anti-money laundering (AML) norms, the central bank said on Tuesday.

"RBI had received a reference from customs' authorities regarding submission of forged bill of entries (BoEs) by certain importers to the bank for remittance of foreign currency," the RBI said.

The central bank added that the examination in this regard revealed violations of the RBI directions on KYC/AML norms and on reporting of frauds.

'Ex-CEA's paper does not consider key indicators'

'Agri-, services-related metrics ignored'

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI

Former Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramanian's analysis of economic growth is incorrect as it ignores the indicators related to the bulk of economic activity, such as those measuring the agriculture, services, and informal sectors, A. Vaidyanathan, former Planning Commission Member, has said in an interview.

Mr. Subramanian had recently written a paper for the Harvard University in which he had said that India's GDP growth during 2011-17 had been over-estimated. Where the official numbers showed that the economy grew at an average of 7% during the period, Mr. Subramanian said the more accurate number was more likely about 4.5%.

"From what I can understand, Mr. Subramanian is saying that he thinks there is some doubt about the accuracy of the GDP growth estimates," Mr. Vaidyanathan said. "And that he was devising a procedure to verify whether this bias exists or not on the basis of the relationship between certain selected proxy variables and the official estimates."

The first question to be asked is what the relationship between these proxy variables and the overall growth rate is, Mr. Vaidyanathan said.

"There is no explanation about any of this," he added. "He (Mr. Subramanian) takes about 17 variables and relates all of these to the entire GDP estimate, not to any particular sector." I am saying that this is a totally incorrect procedure."

Industrial output

"You could say, perhaps, that the variable used is im-



Arvind Subramanian

portant for industrial output," Mr. Vaidyanathan explained. "But even that is not at all clear to me. What does loan disbursement or electricity generation tell you about the GDP growth, even in manufacturing? That is itself problematic."

He further says that the variables used by Mr. Subramanian had nothing to do with the agriculture, services or informal sectors.

"Therefore, the inference that this proves over-estimation is totally off-base," Mr. Vaidyanathan said. "I am surprised that the media and the economic policy establishment is discussing it seriously as something that requires a special commission to be set up. You don't judge these arguments on the basis of the weight of someone's office but on the basis of the argument itself."

He went on to explain that the trends for each of the three major sectors – agriculture, manufacturing and services – show that growth dropped off about seven years ago and that there is no indication of an over-estimation in any of the sectoral growth numbers.

"None of these trends suggests any over-estimation," Mr. Vaidyanathan said. "If anything, people will say you are under-stating growth."

'Incentivise investments in IPOs, MFs, set up development mission'

Can help govt. earn ₹1.75 lakh cr. this fiscal: memorandum

ASHISH RUKHAIYAR
MUMBAI

Capital market participants have suggested the government establish a 'National Development Mission' by incentivising investments in public issues and mutual funds that could help the exchequer garner ₹1.75 lakh crore during the current financial year.

The funds can be used for national development activities.

The suggestion, which is part of the pre-budget proposals submitted by market participants, states that the government can provide certain tax benefits for such investments that could also, in turn, enhance the equity investment culture in the country.

"We propose that all indi-



■ GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

viduals and HUFs should be eligible to invest in IPO/FPOs/mutual funds for... a sum of ₹50,000 per annum.

To incentivise this investment, 50% of the amount invested should be allowed as a deduction from the gross total income of the individual/HUF," stated the memorandum submitted to the

Finance Ministry.

The memorandum further states that the government would be able to garner at least ₹1.75 lakh crore in 2019-20 even if only 50% of the tax assesses use this avenue to invest.

'No-obligation capital'

The advantage of this fund raising is that as it is in the form of equity so it is sunk capital with no obligation to either return the funds or to give regular return on the funds invested, added the note.

Interestingly, the amount mobilised could go up to as much as ₹2.45 lakh crore in the next five years as the number of assesses rise and more tax-payers use the incentives to invest in equity, as per the note.

Airlines post 3% rise in passenger traffic in May

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The summer holiday season helped airlines register nearly 3% growth in passenger traffic in May after witnessing a contraction in the previous month for the first time in six years.

In April, the suspension of operations by Jet Airways, the second largest market player, led to a sharp rise in airfares leading to airlines collectively seeing a negative growth of -4.5%.

India has been among the fastest growing aviation markets in the world and saw double-digit growth for more than four years until December 2018.

Peak travel season

The peak travel season as well as induction of planes by airlines to fill the gap left by Jet Airways led to their seeing two lakh more passengers last month than May 2018.

Domestic carriers altogether flew 1.2 crore passengers last month, according to Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA's) monthly data.

"Induction of new aircraft and discounts offered by the airlines have marginally lifted the passenger traffic."

"We expect higher growth in the coming months as more seat capacity comes in and airlines are also likely to announce further sales as we move into the off-peak period," said Sharat Dhall, COO (B2C), Yatra.com

Low-cost carrier IndiGo has the largest share of the market pie at 49% of total passengers, followed by SpiceJet (14.8%), Air India (13.5%) and GoAir (11.1%). SpiceJet continues to be at the top in terms of passenger load factor or seat occupancy on flights with its planes being 93.9% full.

E-com firms take up data localisation issues with Goyal

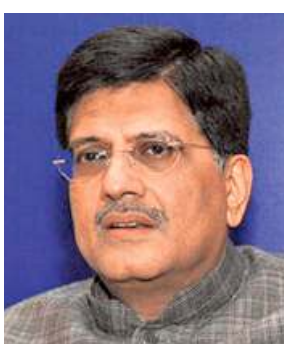
Also flag data provisions in draft e-commerce policy

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI

E-commerce companies on Monday voiced their concerns about the Reserve Bank of India's data localisation norms with Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal.

They also highlighted the data-related provisions of the draft e-commerce policy during the meeting. Mr. Goyal asked them to submit their concerns in writing within 10 days and assured them that his Ministry would take them on board.

'Towards a framework' [The meeting was held by Mr.] Piyush Goyal in order to understand their concerns and take their suggestions towards building a robust data protection



Piyush Goyal

draft e-commerce policy released by the government, especially provisions related to treatment of data.

"For example, we tried to explain to them that the provision that the government should have the sovereign right over all data at all times was unviable," the CEO of one of the companies present at the meeting told *The Hindu*. "For many businesses that is the only intellectual property that they have. I think, on the aggregate data point, they are coming around."

The other issue was the government's demand for data from companies, where the companies argued that the data should be shared only for law and order and investigation situations.

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IN BRIEF



SEBI allows futures on commodity indices

MUMBAI The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has allowed exchanges with commodity derivatives segment to launch futures contracts on commodity indices. The capital markets regulator further said that exchanges wanting to launch such futures contracts would have to take its approval and submit at least three years' data of the index constructed along with certain other data.

Essel fiasco: HDFC AMC stock tanks 6.3%

NEW DELHI Shares of HDFC Asset Management Company dropped 6.32% to close at ₹1,807.75 on the BSE on Tuesday after it decided to provide liquidity to some fixed maturity plan schemes of HDFC MF that have exposure to Essel Group firms. The move assumes significance with the mutual fund industry grappling with liquidity crisis after concerns over the ability of Essel Group and IL&FS to meet their debt obligations. PTI

Cognizant to buy Irish firm Zenith Technologies

BENGALURU Cognizant has agreed to acquire Ireland-based Zenith Technologies for an undisclosed value. The buy will strengthen Cognizant's Internet of Things capabilities and life sciences domain expertise. Zenith Technologies specialises in implementing digital technologies to manage and optimise drug and medical device production for operational efficiency and regulatory compliance.

Bajaj Holdings acquires majority control in Maharashtra Scooters

Tussle ends; BHIL's holding in MSL rises to 51%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

After a long legal battle, WMDC (Western Maharashtra Development Corporation), a Government of Maharashtra undertaking, has transferred its 27% stake in Maharashtra Scooters Ltd. (MSL) to Bajaj Holdings & Investment Ltd. (BHIL) for ₹71.58 crore plus 18% interest from January 2006.

WMDC has transferred 3,085,712 shares at a price of ₹232 a share compared with ₹151.63 which BHIL was willing to pay previously.

BHIL said it had made the necessary payment to WMDC by way of cheques on January 14, 2019 and the



Piecing together: WMDC has transferred about 3.1 million shares at ₹232 apiece. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

shares had been transferred.

Upon the acquisition of 27% stake of MSL from WMDC, BHIL's holding has increased to 51% in MSL and thus, MSL has become a sub-

siary of BHIL with effect from June 17, 2019, the company said. MSL, which was incorporated on June 11, 1975 as a joint sector company promoted by Bajaj Auto Ltd.

(BAL) and WMDC Ltd., started manufacturing geared scooters from August 13, 1976, in technical collaboration with the erstwhile BAL.

WMDC, in 2003, offered to sell its 27% shareholding in MSL and Bajaj Holdings & Investment Ltd. had confirmed its willingness to buy these shares. But since WMDC and BHIL could not agree on a price, the price at which the shares were to be sold was jointly referred to a sole arbitrator that valued MSL at ₹151.63 a share. But the WMDC challenged it in the Bombay High Court and filed a special leave petition. The Supreme Court ordered the revised price.

Readymade garment exports rise in May

'Government scheme aids industry'

M. SOUNDARIYA PREETHA
COIMBATORE

Export of readymade garments has increased 9.25% in April-May this year compared to the corresponding period last year.

"This is clearly because of the support announced by the government in March 2019 for garments and made-ups," said Sanjay K. Jain, chairman, Confederation of Indian Textile Industry. The Centre announced a Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) in March.

"There has been pick up (in exports) during these two months (in April and May). We are awaiting operationalisation of the Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies," ac-

ording to Chandrima Chatterjee, adviser, Apparel Export Promotion Council.

Garment exports grew 14.15% in May compared with the same period at last year. Garments worth \$1,528.02 million were exported in May this year compared with \$1,338.57 million in May last year, Mr. Jain said. However, textile exports dropped 1.94% in May this year compared with last May. "We are just two months into this financial year. As we go along, export of textiles will pick up.

"There is a slowdown in China and so, export of yarn and fabric to this market was down," said Siddhartha Rajagopal, executive director, Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council.

Tea Board, mjunction in pact for tea e-marketplace

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Tea Board has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with mjunction Ltd. for introducing a new e-marketplace for tea.

The initiative is expected to improve cost-effectiveness and price-discovery. The new system is expected to be in place by September.

The MoU is to design, develop, implement and maintain the e-auction platform at Jorhat, Assam and mjunction has been appointed as the system integrator.

"[The] Tea Board will be provided an inclusive e-marketplace platform that will help in cost effectiveness and time management and secondary and tertiary buyers from all over the country are expected to get on board," mjunction said. Though Assam grows the largest quantity of tea in India, it has only one auction centre and the process of production-to-payment takes over a month. mjunction plans to shorten this cycle with features like automated catalogue management.

Tea Board officials said that they were introducing the platform to push price discovery. The platform is likely to initially handle about 200 million kg (which is grown in the vicinity of Jorhat).

mjunction MD and CEO Vinaya Verma said that the upcoming tea e-marketplace in Jorhat would help the company make a difference to a large number of buyers and sellers, giving them access to a wide range of services from a single platform.

Revolt unveils its first electric bike

Promises mileage of 156 km on a single charge

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Electric two-wheeler start up Revolt Intellicorp on Tuesday unveiled its first electric motorcycle – the RV400.

The company, founded by co-founder of Micromax Rahul Sharma, will roll out the bike in Delhi initially, followed by the national capital region, Chennai, Pune, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Nagpur and Ahmedabad in the next four months.

The bike, which comes enabled with artificial intelligence features, promises to give a mileage of 156 km on a single charge. The pre-bookings for the bike start from June 25 via the company's website as well as Amazon's. "The RV400 is the first step towards providing sus-



Charged up: Pre-bookings for the RV400 start from June 25 via the company's website and Amazon's. • KAMAL NARANG

tainable, affordable mobility to every Indian home," Mr. Sharma said.

To give customers options for charging, the Gurugram-headquartered firm will also set up "swapping stations,"

initially across Delhi where riders can swap their batteries. The rider can 'easily remove' the portable battery to charge at home or office, the company said in a statement.

Cotton imports may rise to 22 lakh bales during the current season

Lower international prices lead to surge in shipments

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COIMBATORE

Import of cotton in the 2018-2019 cotton season is expected to be 22 lakh bales, almost seven lakh bales higher compared with the previous season.

The Cotton Advisory Board, which met on Tuesday, estimated (provisional) cotton production this season (October 2018 to September 2019) to be 337 lakh bales of 170 kg each.

"Though the area under cotton has been almost the same for the last two years, productivity has dropped. The board, in its previous meeting, estimated production in the current season to be 361 lakh bales. However,



it is learnt that farmers did not go in for the fourth or fifth pickings for various reasons. Hence, the production estimate was revised," said K. Selvaraju, secretary general, Southern India Mills' Association, who took part in Tuesday's meeting.

"In our estimate, the actual imports can be between 28 lakh bales and 30 lakh bales when the season ends. The board has estimated it to be 22 lakh bales," he added.

The international price of cotton is lower compared to the domestic price. It is not just the mills, but traders are also importing, especially African cotton. There are offers for American cotton too, added J. Thulasidharan, president of Indian Cotton Federation.

Meanwhile, cotton consumption (total demand) during the current season is expected to be lower at 361.5 lakh bales as against 386.65 lakh bales last season.

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SMALLER, QUICKER, SHARPER

Digital advertising is blending with the traditional, to create an interesting jugalbandhi, where the giants must be light and nimble

SHUBHO SENGUPTA

I jumped into digital advertising about 10 years ago, after a longish stint in traditional advertising (TV and print-driven, mostly). Digital those days was mostly website banners with offers, spammy mailers and brochure-type websites, and clients would normally allocate 2-3% of the marketing budget, to the medium.

Today, digital advertising is set to grow at 31.96% CAGR, according to a Dentsu Aegis Network Digital Report released earlier this year. The Indian advertising market itself is estimated to grow at 10.62% CAGR until 2021. So while digital has about 17% of the market share now, this is only going to rise. Last year, a report by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) and Kantar IMRB put down this growth to the trust people were beginning to have in online advertising.

Increasingly, digital jobs are replacing older, traditional roles: at the Dentsu Aegis Network (a top Japanese-held network of ad agencies), 1,600 out of a total 3,500 employees now exclusively work on digital, contributing to nearly 50% of revenues. A creative director in digital at a mid-sized agency gets about 25 lakh upwards, annually. And a top digital agency could charge ₹8 lakh a month as just creative fees, unheard of 10 years ago.

As we go to press, Webchutney,

the digital agency, has got more award nominations than traditional ad agencies at the 2019 Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity, held every year in France. Webchutney also won 14 awards at the recently held Kyoorius Creative Awards. Meaning they were neck to neck with the bigger, traditional Ogilvy's 15. "This is the most definitive indicator that the digital vs mainline agency battle is over. They are now peas in a pod, birds of a feather," says Sidharth Rao, the co-founder of Webchutney. One of the most recognised digital faces in the country, he held up his agency's winning entry Huggle Bot, as an example of this.

Webchutney and Google Zoo Australia (the Google creative think tank) worked for over four months on Huggle Bot, which let Flipkart customers 'huggle' online during its Big Billion sale. Such a partnership was impossible to even think of a few years ago, when a digital agency would typically 'execute' the big, traditional agency's work. (A lot of my work as digital lead at a famous



Delhi

Satbir Singh, co-founder of Thinkstr, the writer of the much-loved and awarded Incredible India campaign, says not much disruptive work has come out of Delhi in the past one year; odd, considering the bigger clients and bigger budgets were here.

Barring a few, like the BJP campaign. "Unlike most brand campaigns that release one piece across media to become 'integrated,' the BJP and their creative teams used all media touchpoints brilliantly. Ten out of ten." Incidentally, Thinkstr is the start-up that launched the #StartupIndia project a few years ago, with a fresh, bold approach.



Mumbai

Malvika Mehra, the two-time Cannes Gold Lion and D&AD pencil winner points out how large-network agencies are investing in smaller 'intellectual' specialist hubs. Malvika, after longish stints at Ogilvy and Grey, had started Tomorrow Creative Lab, a design innovation lab that married design and technology. The country's biggest advertisers (such as Hindustan Unilever) quickly approached her with work, and soon the big networks came calling. Last month, Dentsu picked up a stake and it's now Dentsu India Tomorrow Lab.

A clutch of new 'integrated marketing', digital-driven agencies have come out of Mumbai, and Harshil Karia's Schbang leads the pack with 50 new accounts and 28 awards in the past year. Harshil feels the future is all about the creative use of technology.

Ashish Khazanchi, ex-Ogilvy, and the founder of the very successful Enormous Brands agrees the biggest disruptor has been tech. "In the past, it was one strategy for all of India; now thanks to technology, we can have as many strategies as number of people." He loved the Carvaan (digital radio player) work out of Mumbai, by The Womb. The idea for the product itself was the agency's. Also noteworthy is the Enormous campaign for Motorola, an on-ground campaign that focused on reviving small, travelling cinemas in Maharashtra, through the 'projector', a Moto phone.

Finally, DDB Mudra's 'Free Period', where the agency partnered with Stayfree to create a vocational-training programme for sex workers held during the days the women have their menstrual periods. Such brilliance.



VANGMAYI PARAKALA

FOOD REVIEW

Destination-wedding planner Suruchi Joshi and her chef-husband Nikhil Joshi are all for food as a means to feel good. It's just that their indulgences, even if for instant gratification, are non-processed, non-dairy, good-for-your-gut ones. Off sugar and preservatives for health reasons for over a year now, Suruchi would miss eating easily-available, 'popular' foods. Take Nutella for instance – people became wary of the hazelnut spread, when they realised that its main ingredients are not hazelnut and cocoa, but actually a ton of sugar and palm oil. So at Nut and Bowls – it started in March last year with deliveries of vegan snacking alternatives – there's a house-made Rawtella, which is 70% hazelnut, with cacao sourced from Peru, and coconut sugar blended in. "Listen to monks. Keep it simple," says Suruchi.

The vibe: Located in a side-lane in GK 2 market, Nuts and Bowls is a quaint space with a fresh, bright, light feel, which is on brand with what they want to do with their food. The furniture is minimal, but earthy. Their cutlery includes bowls made of stripped down, polished coconut shells, sourced from Vietnam. They also stock bamboo straws for you to buy.

Do try: Their Energizer smoothie bowl. The base is a lightly crea-

Going with the gut

Nut and Bowls is a vegan delivery service and cafe, run by a strictly vegan husband-wife duo

my house-made almond mylk (which they say is 30% almonds as opposed to packaged mylk the nut content of which is in the single digits), with organic cacao, peanut butter, banana and dates blended in. The neat strips of of cacao nibs, house-made granola, shaved coconut toppings, and a couple of frozen strawberry slices add just enough texture if you're not into drinking your breakfast.



If you're a millennial, you definitely want to give into the stereotype here for their Smashed Avocado Toast. The tang of lime and tomato is just right, and the garnish of pomegranate and microgreens makes the fresh dish even fresher.

Also, their Zoodles with the Creamy Basil Pesto, especially if you look down upon gluten-free pasta. They make the zucchini noodles (just as anything else on the menu) only upon order, in the kitchen nook that's right in front of

A happy tummy A view of the toasts at Nut and Bowls, including the Smashed Avocado Toast (below) and a housemade mint and chilli dip (top right)

the tables. The hot and creamy cashew-based "white sauce" might convince you that you don't really need butter to make things better.

Buy their Bliss Balls off the counter before you pay and leave. The classic vegan and paleo-friendly snack, made of dates, cacao, and nuts is easy to carry on-the-go, for that post-lunch, pre-dinner dip in blood-sugar levels.

Skip: The Quinoa Beetroot burger. The patty of sprouted quinoa, beetroot, and black-beans is interesting, but the multigrain bun is thick and makes the experience avoidable.

Go with: A book, laid-back friends, a relaxed date; or a parent or older cousin, if it's for a post-shopping recharge smoothie.

Space bar: 15 covers in a just over 250-square-foot space; child-friendly, but not for kids of the running-around age, given the open kitchen and space crunch

How much? ₹900 for two

Reach: Best to drive. Chirag Delhi on the Magenta Line is the closest metro station, but that's still a 10-minute car ride away.

PRODUCTS

Li'l girl power



In their 20th year now, the Powerpuff Girls, high-energy pint-size superheroes with slightly squeaky voices, but big courage, are on apparel and accessories available on the POPxo online store. Sweatshirts, phone covers, wall clocks, notebooks, the collection is based on Cartoon Network's animated crime-fighting trio Bubbles, Blossom and Buttercup. Even on the products, they confront arch-rivals Mojo Jojo, HIM and Fuzzy Lumpkins.

Available at popxo.com, ₹399 upward

For a listing or to be featured here, email us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



EXHIBITION

On Joel Rendón

The Embassy of Mexico in India in collaboration with India International Centre is presenting an exhibition titled Joel Rendón: Mexican Master Engraver. Considered one of the best engravers in Mexico, Rendón has devoted his life to generate a movement that will revalue engraving in Mexico and abroad.

VENUE: Art Gallery, IIC Annex
TIME: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.



FOOD

Breakfast menu

Anglow Whisky Bar and Anglo Indian Kitchen is curating a special breakfast with Poached Eggs, Bacon Devilled Eggs, Classical Scrambled Eggs, Baked Beans and Gunpowder Scrambled Eggs, Malabar Paratha. The Vegetarian menu includes Healthy Oat Upma, Power Up Kedgeree and Spinach and Brie Cheese Crepes.

VENUE: 57, Khan Market
TIME: 9 a.m. onwards



FILM

A Sticky Wicket

Directed by Yasmin Kidwai and Fazal Kidwai, A Sticky Wicket will be screened today. The film shows how sports empowers, irrespective of gender, and sets one free, physically, mentally, and emotionally. The screening of the film, which is set in an urban slum of Delhi, will be followed by a discussion.

VENUE: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC
TIME: 6:30 p.m.



MUSIC

Blues night

Lost Radio duo Sushant and Diyatom will play a set titled Big Bang Blues. The duo, known for performing all-acoustic acts featuring a wide genre of music including blues, country and classic rock-retro covers, will entertain audiences with hummable tunes.

VENUE: Saints N Sinners, GF-21 Global Foyer, Golf Course Road, Sector 43, Gurugram
TIME: 8:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.



ART

Polish posters

The India International Centre and the Polish Institute is holding Between Art Deco and Modernism – Polish posters from 1918-1939, an exhibition of archival posters from the collection of the Poster Museum at Wilanow. Poster design is a source of national pride in the larger Polish artistic tradition.

VENUE: Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex, IIC
TIME: 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Preparing your car for the MONSOON

Get your car rain-ready by sending it for service and ensuring these must-dos are followed



JAIVEER MEHRA

As the monsoons near, we begin to prepare for it – umbrellas are brought out from storage, rain coats are purchased. In the same way, your car also needs to be prepared for the onset of the rainy season.

Here are some points that should be looked into while readying a car for the monsoon months.

Tyres

With the onset of the monsoon, having a set of tyres with a good amount of tread is a must. Wet roads have heavily compromised traction, made worse by water occasionally mixing with leaked oil and other vehicular fluids. The treads on your tyres help in channelling this mix away from contact surfaces, thereby improving grip. Today, most tyres have tread-wear indicators – a small rubber bar between the grooves on a tyre – built into them. As your tyre wears down, the tread indicator starts thinning out, too. Once the tread indicator wears off, it's definitely time to replace the tyres.

Wiring and battery

Water and electrics are two things that don't work well together. You don't just

need to make sure that your car's electricals are in good working order, but you also need to check the condition of the maze of exposed wiring running around your car. Improper wiring or those with the insulation peeling off have a good chance of shorting, especially when they come into contact with water, and that can be a safety hazard to you and others as well.

Take a patient look at visible cables and also make sure any aftermarket electrical fittings are wired using high-quality cables. If they aren't, it wouldn't be unrealistic to expect a short circuit with highly unpleasant consequences – least of which will be a void warranty.

It is also advisable to make sure your battery is in proper working shape. Have it replaced if required, as monsoons generally require heavier use of electrical components such as lights, wipers, etc.

Running lights

Working headlamps, tail-lamps and turn signals are a minimum requirement, no matter what the weather. However, headlamps



lamps during the monsoon and over-cast weather can hamper visibility, which is when you require your car's lights working properly, to be noticeable to other road users. Begin with running all lights together – the headlights (in both, low and high beams), brake lights and hazards/indicators. If you've noticed your lights get dimmer or inconsistent, you need a new set of bulbs. Flickering or fluctuating lights can also indicate a weak battery. Fixing an uneven beam is crucial to your safety as well as that of oncoming vehicles.

It's also a good practice to have the headlamp or tail-lamp lenses cleaned if they have gotten fogged up or if moisture has settled inside the units.

Brakes

Properly working brakes are a must in your car, no matter the circumstances or weather. Worn-out brakes could in-



crease braking distances, and there is also a chance of failure. You can test your brakes at home by starting the engine, letting your car idle for a while and pressing the brake pedal with uniform

force – if the pedal continues to sink, there might be a leak in the system. Also, if you feel a judder in the brake pedal during your daily driving, it could mean the pads have worn out and need to be replaced.

Make sure your car's braking system is properly inspected by a professional, and change worn-out components as soon as possible. A well-maintained set of brakes is one of your biggest friends in the rains – particularly so, as braking distances are longer on wet roads.

Wipers and washers

Check your wiper blades to see if they leave behind any smudges or lines of water on the windscreen. If they leave either, it is time to have them changed, as during the monsoons you will be required to use them almost every day. Owing to infrequent use throughout the year, and particularly in the summer, the rubber on the blades tends to crack, making the wipers ineffective for when you need them the most.

It is also important to keep the wiper-washer fluids topped up with soap water (or wind-shield water fluid) as sticky debris can be difficult to clear from the wind-shield and might also damage it. Make sure to keep an eye on the washer reservoir level and top it up as and when it runs low.

Leaks and rust

Given our weather conditions, it isn't uncommon for rubber seals around panels such as sunroofs, windows or wind-shield to begin to leak over the years. Also, a rather common occurrence is the clogging of drain holes located around the car, that can cause rust if water accumulates in the area.

It is best to identify the source of leaks as soon as possible and have them rectified; the drain holes can be unclogged after proper service and cleaning. Check around the windows, sunroof, door sills and carpets for signs of

moisture, as it will be an indicator of the car having a leak.

Rusting too is a major issue, and it's best to have the rusted areas treated or replaced before it spreads. Cars tend to be more prone to rusting in the wet season, given the higher levels of moisture and variations in temperature.

Paint and body work

While leaks in the rubber seals around the car can cause rusting, another area of concern is places where the paint coat has been damaged. Exposed metal is more prone to rusting, and it's best to get these areas repaired at the earliest, as rusting can make the problem worse.



Also, keep the underside of your car clean, as well as clear of the road's grime and dirt; these are what lead to chassis corrosion. A coat of polish after a wash is highly recommended, as it not only makes your car look shiny, but also forms a protective layer on the body.

Pre-monsoon service

Sending your car for servicing is essentially a one-shot opportunity at having most of the above issues identified and fixed, including those that you may miss or are unable to rectify yourself.

You can also opt for professional cleaning and polishing packages, as part of the service, to better protect your car from the elements.

Spares

The monsoons can be incredibly unpredictable at times, with spells of bright sunshine making way for heavy rains and vice versa. It is a good idea to keep a few items handy in your car, especially at this time of the year. While unrelated to the car itself, keep spares like an umbrella, a set of clothes and a spare towel in the car, in case you do get caught out and it starts to rain. Those aside, it's also convenient to have spares for components such as the wiper blades and fuses on hand. For car emergencies, have phone numbers handy.



Be equipped Learn how to better protect your car from the elements
*SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

POOCH CAFE



PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



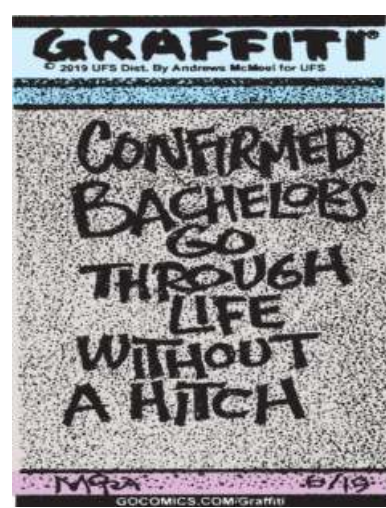
TIGER



WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



HEALTH CAPSULES
by Bronn Striith
CAN COFFEE AFFECT MY BLOOD PRESSURE?
EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, COFFEE CAN CAUSE A SHORT-BUT SUDDEN RISE IN BLOOD PRESSURE. BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT COFFEE CONSUMPTION CAN CAUSE A PERMANENT SUSTAINED INCREASE IN BLOOD PRESSURE. IN FACT, THOSE WHO DRINK COFFEE AND TEA TEND TO HAVE A LOWER RISK OF HEART DISEASE OR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE.

THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13100

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9 Deficiency of red blood cells (7)
10 Globes (7)
11 Stinking (5)
13 Without doubt (9)
15 Declared to be a saint (9)
- Down**
1 Banter – corn husks (5)
2 Cook in an oven (5)
- 18 Roughage (5)
21 Hormone produced in the pancreas (7)
22 Copy (7)
23 One of Harpo's brothers (7)
24 Mischievousness – rascally tricks (7)

- 3 War (5,8)
4 Tricky question (6)
5 Scottish dance (8,5)
6 French president (6)
7 Liverpool's river (6)
12 _ Pound, American poet (4)
14 Shakespearean king (4)
15 Cower (6)
16 One who fails to arrive (2-4)
17 Elder (6)
19 Courageous (5)
20 Adversary (5)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated June 20, 2019.

Solution No. 13099

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TV PICKS

ICC World Cup: Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 3 p.m.
FIFA Women's World Cup: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

Veteran coach Lingappa passes away

SPORTS REPORTER
BENGALURU

Veteran athletics coach N. Lingappa, 95, passed away due to age-related illness on Tuesday here. Lingappa, who had trained several international athletes during the course of his over 60-year career, received the Dronacharya Award in 2014.

Lakshmi Sahithi stuns Yubrani

SPORTS BUREAU
CHANDIGARH

Qualifier Lakshmi Sahithi Reddy beat top seed Yubrani Banerjee 7-6(6), 6-1 in the women's pre-quarterfinals of the ₹200,000 AITA ranking tennis tournament here on Tuesday.

Pre-quarterfinals: Men: Mohit Mayur bt Udayan Bhakar 6-3, 6-1; Neeraj Yashpaul bt Garry Tokas 6-4, 6-0; Suraj Prabodh bt LR Balaji 6-2, 6-0; Hardeep Singh Sandhu bt Atharva Sharma 6-4, 6-2; Jagmeet Singh bt Shubham Malhotra 7-6(5), 6-4; Dalwinder Singh bt Sai Kartteek Reddy 7-5, 3-6, 6-3; Puru Upadhyay bt Karan Singh 6-3, 3-0 (retired); VM Ranjeet bt Kavin Masilamani 6-2, 6-3.

Women: Lakshmi Sahithi Reddy bt Yubrani Banerjee 7-6(6), 6-1; Prerna Bhambrani bt Sarah Dev 6-1, 6-1; Sravya Shivani bt Akanksha Nitture 6-4, 1-6, 7-6(4); Avika Sagwal bt Shilpi Swarupa Das 4-1 (ret.); Renne Singhla bt Rashi Malviya 6-4, 6-4; Kashish Bhatia bt Anaam Almas 6-3, 6-1; Bhargavi Kalaga bt Rutuparna Choudhary 6-3, 6-1; Salsa Aher bt Ayush Singh 6-0, 6-0.

Heartbreak for Sasi Kumar

SPORTS BUREAU
FERGANA (UZBEKISTAN)

Fifth seed Sasi Kumar Mukund lost his way from the brink of victory and was beaten 3-6, 7-6(2), 6-2 by Altug Celikbilek of Turkey in the second round of the \$54,160 Challenger tennis tournament here on Tuesday.

The results: \$54,160 Challenger, Fergana, Uzbekistan: Singles (second round): Altug Celikbilek (Tur) bt Sasi Kumar Mukund 3-6, 7-6(2), 6-2.

First round: Sidharth Rawat bt Vladyslav Manafov (Ukr) 7-6(2), 6-2.

\$25,000 ITF men, Harare: Singles (first round): Takanyi Garanganga (Zim) bt Rishi Reddy 6-2, 6-2; S.D. Prajwal Dev bt Constantin Bittoun Kouzmine (Fra) 6-1, 6-2; Guy Orly Iradukunda (Bdi) bt Dhruv Sunish 6-4, 6-4; Simon Yitbarek (Swe) bt Ishaque Egbal 7-5, 6-4.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Muzi Sibanda (Zim) & Dhruv Sunish bt Niklas Johansson (Swe) & Anurag Nenwani 6-3, 7-5.

ATK signs Roy Krishna

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Former champion ATK drafted in Fijian striker Roy Krishna as its first international signing ahead of the sixth season of Indian Super League, on Tuesday.

Krishna, who has captained the Fiji national side, had the best part of his club career in New Zealand.

He last played as a striker for Wellington Phoenix FC, which competes in the Australian A-League, and became the top-scorer of A-League scoring 18 goals in 25 appearances.

ATK, which has recalled the Spanish coach Antonio Habas after two failed seasons under English coaches, will be hoping that Krishna continues with his form in his first Asian assignment.

Divij Sharan looks to step on it

He's happy to have qualified for the ATP-500 event in Halle

TENNIS

KAMESH SRINIVASAN
NEW DELHI

Divij Sharan is totally devoted to his tennis, travelling across the globe. Despite not having regular partners, he has managed to get good results in the professional circuit, in which he feels "doubles is crazy, especially on grass."

Happy to have qualified for the ATP-500 event in Halle, Divij said that he would be partnering Marcelo Demoliner of Brazil till Wimbledon.

"Earlier, players used to make a team for the whole year. Now, in a few weeks or maybe two to three months, players in the top-30 to 40 rankings change partners if things do not work well," said Divij from Halle.

Different world

"It is a different world. We are travelling all the time. Only when I come home briefly,

once in a while, I get to know what is happening," said the 32-year-old Divij, who made it to the Wimbledon quarterfinals last year.

He did start the season well by winning the Pune ATP event with Rohan Bopanna apart from the Davis Cup doubles rubber against Italy in Kolkata. Then, the two opted to part ways in pursuit of higher goals, after the Phoenix Challenger in the second week of March, and ended up facing each other in the first round of the ATP event in Munich.

Quick changes

"In the match tie-break, we were up 8-2 or so and then Bopanna and partner were leading 9-8.

"We managed to pull it off at 12-10. Doubles matches change very quickly," recalled Divij, who went on to make the final in that event with Demoliner, in only their



New arrangement: Divij Sharan will partner Marcelo Demoliner of Brazil till Wimbledon. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

fourth tournament as a pair.

"In Stuttgart, we had 10 match points against Denys Molchanov and Artem Sitak. Eight of them were on their serve. Not that we played bad. We had two match

points on our serve, and they played great points. I take it in my stride. But Demoliner, is quite serious about his tennis and feels the loss more," said Divij.

With Jeevan Nedunchezhi-

yan, Purav Raja, Leander Paes, Sriram Balaji, Vishnu Vardhan being regular on the doubles circuit, there is a strong Indian presence from Challengers upwards.

Good sign

"It is good that we have so many of our players in the tournaments. We get along well. Singles is hard, but Sumit Nagal is getting good results now after being a bit down," said Divij.

"Somdev (Devvarman) had the best fitness and did a great job at this level. Looking at Rafael Nadal, it is amazing how he has been able to cope with it despite all the injuries and still find a way to win the French Open," said Divij.

With the World Cup cricket on, Divij said that he would like to catch up with the action once in England as it was difficult to watch cricket on television in some of the European countries.

What a Matchester!



Inter-State National athletics in Lucknow

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

The 59th National inter-State senior athletics championships, scheduled to be held in Kolkata in mid-July, will now be held in Luck-

now from August 27 to 30.

The championships will be the Athletics Federation of India's main qualification event for the World championships in Doha.

IOA heaves a sigh of relief

Sports Ministry guarantees participation to all athletes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The confusion and threat around international sporting events to be hosted by India seems to have abated after the Sports Ministry categorically reaffirmed that all qualified athletes from all recognised countries would be allowed participation regardless of political issues.

Clarifies position

In a letter to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) on Tuesday, the ministry clarified its position and guaranteed participation to all athletes.

"It is the policy of the government that India will hold international sporting events and will permit all qualified athletes belonging to any NOC recognised by IOC, or any national federation affiliated to the International Federations concerned, to participate.

"Such participation of athletes shall be without prejudice to our principled positions and policies on other political matters, including issues such as international recognition or otherwise of



Narinder Batra. ■ PTI

the country of origin of the athletes," the letter, a copy of which is with *The Hindu*, said.

"This stated policy guarantees the participation of all eligible athletes, sports persons and officials in international sporting events organised in India under the auspices of the IOC. Such commitment stems from our world view of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', which in essence is also the spirit behind the International Olympic movement," the letter added.

Positive

"The Sports Minister and sports secretary were extremely positive and helpful for an urgent and immediate resolution for this issue. My sincere thanks to the office

bearers, executive board and all members of the IOA for their unconditional support and trust which motivated and encouraged me," IOA president Narinder Batra said.

It may be noted that India had lost quota places in two events at the shooting World Cup earlier this year due to lack of visas for Pakistani shooters, followed by loss of hosting rights for the Junior Asian wrestling cChampionship in March.

"Last year, there had been trouble after a Kosovan boxer was denied visa for the Women's World Championships.

However, things had eased a bit after the IOC clarified to *The Hindu* in March this year that there was no blanket ban on India's hosting rights in an important sporting year with several Olympic qualifying events scheduled and that every international federation was free to assess the impact and act accordingly regarding events in India.

Nevertheless, IFs and IOC had been insisting on government guarantees for international events.

Kiran Jadhav trumps strong field for air rifle gold

SHOOTING

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Kiran Jadhav of Navy beat a strong field, that included the Asian Games gold medalist Deepak Kumar, to win the gold in men's air rifle in the 19th Kumar Surendra Singh shooting championship at the Dr. Karni Singh Range in Tughlakabad on Tuesday.

The brilliance of Jadhav was such that he not only won the gold with a 2.2 point margin over Youth Olympics silver medalist Shahu Tushar Mane, but had also topped qualification with 631.2 ahead of Aishwarya Prapat Singh Tomar, in a field that had 322 shooters.

The youngsters were in energetic form, and endured



On target: Kiran Jadhav struck it rich. ■ KAMESH SRINIVASAN

back-to-back three finals with ease.

Mane looked to have preserved the best for the youth competition, as he beat Dhanush Srikanth by 0.5 point with a fine last shot.

In the women's rifle 3-position event, Olympian Anjali Bhagwat showed that she still could give the young guns a run for their money

by clinching the bronze medal behind former World Champion Tejaswini Sawant and World Cup medallist Lajja Gauswami.

In men's 25-metre standard pistol, Olympian Gurpreet Singh won the gold, with a 581, beating Achal Prapat Singh Grewal and Vijayveer Sidhu by six points.

The results: 10m air rifle: Men: 1. Kiran Jadhav 252.3 (631.2), 2.

Shahu Tushar Mane 250.1 (629.2), 3. Aishwarya Prapat Singh Tomar 228.7 (631.0).

Junior men: 1. Dhanush Srikanth 252.5 (627.1), 2. Aishwarya Prapat Singh Tomar 251.9 (631.0), 3. Surya Prapat Singh 229.0 (623.3).

Youth men: 1. Shahu Tushar Mane 251.1 (629.2), 2. Dhanush Srikanth 250.6 (627.1), 3. Surya Prapat Singh 229.0 (623.3).

50m rifle 3-position: Women: 1. Tejaswini Sawant 455.7 (1155), 2. Lajja Gauswami 451.0 (1149), 3. Anjali Bhagwat 439.3 (1150).

Junior women: 1. Nischal 454.5 (1159), 2. Zenab Hussain Bandoorkwala 446.8 (1136), 3. Yashika Shinde 432.9 (1126).

25m standard pistol: Men: 1. Gurpreet Singh 581, 2. Achal Prapat Singh Grewal 575, 3. Vijayveer Sidhu 575.

Junior men: 1. Vijayveer Sidhu 575, 2. Dilshaan Kelley 572, 3. Anish Bhanwala 569.

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