



Chanakya Mandali Pariwar

Since 1996
WHERE CIVIL SERVICE IS SERVICE TO PEOPLE, SERVICE TO THE NATION

Shri. Avinash Dharmadhikari
Founder-Director-Teacher
IAS 1986 - Former Director General, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan
Handled the office of Maharashtra Chief Minister

Seminar on "Pursuit of Success in Competitive Exams"

an interactive session with **Avinash sir** at 6pm on **28th June** at **Delhi Centre**

2-Day Mains Workshop

4, 5 July 2019

UPSC Comprehensive 2020

Batch starts on **12th July**

UPSC Gestalt Test

Personalized study tips based on Psychometric Test

Competitive Talent Search (CTS) Exam

Offers scholarship for meritorious students in the form of concession in UPSC Course Fees

Exam stages
Prelims 8 July **Mains 9 July** **Interview 10 July**

Our Eminent Visiting Faculties

Amitava Bhattacharya, IAS 1980, Former Central Information Commissioner, Ex-Secretary UPSC
Dr. D K Bhalla, IAS 1986 (Retd.), Advisor to CM, Nagaland
Adv. Makrand Adkar, Practicing in SC since 1989
Dr. Bhooshan Kelkar, Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence
Anil Sivakumar, Astrophysics, Linguistics, Counselling Psychology
And many other serving, retired civil servants and professors.

Delhi Centre - 78, Third floor, Above Popular Fruit Juice, Bada Bazar Road, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi.
Contact : **8308837032, 8308837038**
E-mail : chanakyaamandalideli@gmail.com | www.chanakyaamandal.org



Fire at furniture market; metro services hit

NEW DELHI
A major fire broke out at an unauthorised furniture market in south-east Delhi's Kalindi Kunj close to a metro line on Friday morning. No injuries were reported but metro services between Kalindi Kunj and Jasola Vihar Shaheen Bagh were suspended for nearly five hours. Normal services were restored around 10:30 a.m.

CITY • PAGE 3

Gym owner thrashes woman toll collector, held

GURUGRAM
A 40-year-old gym owner has been arrested for allegedly beating up a woman toll collector over payment of charges at the Kherki Daula toll plaza here on Friday. The accused allegedly threatened to kill and rape the woman. Accused Manjeet was a co-accused in a 2011 murder case wherein his friend had shot dead a toll collector at the same toll plaza.

CITY • PAGE 3

Begin your Self Evaluation Now!!
UPSC Level Free Test Series for GS Prelims 2020
Most Successful & Highest Rated Test Series
Evaluation against 50,000 students in India via 35 TESTS exactly on UPSC lines
FOR GS PRELIMS 2020
Join 100% FREE of COST
crack IAS.com
GATEWAY TO IAS
9217070707

Amid protests, triple talaq Bill introduced

Opposition says that it violates the Constitution

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
The Narendra Modi government on Friday introduced the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019, also known as the triple talaq Bill, in the Lok Sabha, amid protests by Opposition members who said it violated the Constitution. The Bill, the BJP-led government's first legislation in the second term, was introduced after the Opposition asked for a division of votes. The treasury won with 186 "ayes" to the 74 Opposition "nays".

543 cases reported
Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, who introduced the Bill, said the legislation was meant to ensure gender justice and equality. The Bill was not about religion but a "question of dignity of women and we are committed to safeguarding [it]". There were 543 cases of triple talaq reported in the country. Even after the Supreme Court banned the practice, over 200 cases were reported and this necessitated, in his view, a Bill that addressed the issue. "The job of Parliament is to legislate, and it is up to courts to interpret the law," he said. Several Opposition members stood up to protest as

The legislation is meant to ensure gender justice and equality. It is not about religion but a question of dignity of women and we are committed to safeguarding [it]. The job of Parliament is to legislate, and it is up to courts to interpret the law

The Bill conflates civil and criminal laws. It is a textbook example of class legislation as it is pointed at one community...

The Bill violates constitutional rights as it stipulates a 3-year jail term: a similar offence by non-Muslim men attracts only a year in jail

SHASHI THAROOR
Congress

RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD
Union Law Minister

ASADUDDIN OWAISI
AIMIM

soon as Mr. Prasad was asked by Speaker Om Birla to table the Bill. The Speaker asked Shashi Tharoor of the Congress, N.K. Premachandran of the Revolutionary Socialist Party and Asaduddin Owaisi of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) to present their views. Mr. Tharoor said he was against triple talaq, already voided by the Supreme Court, but opposed the Bill as it conflated civil and criminal laws. The Bill was a "textbook example of class legislation" as it was pointed at one community - the Muslims - even though abandoning wives was not unique to it. Mr. Owaisi said the BJP's "affection" for Muslim women and its advocacy of gender justice were suspect, considering the party's opposition to the entry of Hindu women into the Sabarimala temple. The Bill violated constitutional rights as it stipulated a three-year jail term for men, whereas a similar offence by non-Muslim men attracted only a year in jail. Mr. Premachandran made similar points against the Bill, which had faced objections from Opposition parties from the beginning. They had claimed that jail term for a man for divorcing his wife was legally untenable.

Madrassa teacher attacked for not saying 'Jai Shri Ram'

Claims he was hit by car in Rohini

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI
A madrasa teacher was allegedly hit by a car after he refused to say "Jai Shri Ram" on Thursday evening in Rohini. DCP (Rohini) S.D. Misra said the victim, Mohd. Momin, told the police that around 7 p.m., he was taking a stroll near the madrasa when a white car pulled over and its occupants started talking to him. "Mohd. Momin was contacted by an investigating officer [on Thursday evening] but he said he will file his complaint in the morning. In

his complaint [filed on Friday], Momin said he was asked by the men in the car to repeat some words [Jai Shri Ram] written on a sticker pasted on the vehicle. When he refused, they hit him and he sustained injuries," Mr. Misra said. The police have registered a case under Sections 323 of the IPC and started a probe into the incident. "During preliminary investigation we found an eyewitness who gave a sequence of events [on Thursday evening]. Momin's claims have not been substantiated so far," the DCP said.

'Operation Bandar' code name of Balakot strike

No specific reason in choice of name

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
The air strike by the Indian Air Force (IAF) on a terrorist training camp in Balakot, Pakistan, was code-named 'Operation Bandar'. "It was code-named Operation Bandar but was known to very few," a defence source said on Friday. There was no particular reason in the choice of the name, the official stated and added, "It could have been anything." **Secrecy maintained**
To maintain secrecy, the Mirages took off directly from their home base in Gwalior at the time of the mission crossing Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir to the target and back. "Everything was carried on as usual to maintain secrecy," a defence official had stated. As a response to the Pulwama terror attack which claimed the lives of 40 security personnel, 12 IAF Mirage-2000 fighter jets struck on Jaish-e-Mohammed training camp in Balakot inside Pakistan in the early hours on February 26 with precision guided munitions.

Kejriwal meets PM, offers 'full cooperation'

Delhi Chief Minister assures Modi of Ayushman Bharat relook, invites him to see AAP govt.'s work

JATIN ANAND NEW DELHI
Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Friday assuring him of what the Delhi government officially termed was its "full cooperation for the further development of Delhi". Mr. Kejriwal, the State government said in a statement, also "appealed that it is important for Delhi and Central governments to work together". The 20-minute-odd meeting, which commenced around 11.30 a.m., was the third meeting between the two since the formation of the Aam Aadmi Party government in the Capital in early 2015 and the first after the commencement of the NDA government's second

term in office. In addition to congratulating Mr. Modi for his victory in the recent Lok Sabha polls, the Chief Minister also invited him to visit the AAP government's flagship Mohalla Clinics and schools administered by it. **Conciliatory note**
Mr. Kejriwal, who has on innumerable occasions accused Mr. Modi of attempting to obstruct the functioning of his government indirectly through the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, seemed to strike a conciliatory note in Friday's meeting. He offered to "examine" if the Centrally-sponsored Ayushman Bharat health scheme "could also be integrated into the Delhi govern-

ment's", after having criticised it on several counts recently. "Ayushman Bharat was briefly discussed. Informed Hon'ble PM that Delhi Govt's Delhi Health scheme is much bigger and wider in scope. However, assured him to examine if Ayushman Bharat scheme could also be integrated into our scheme (sic)," the Delhi Chief Minister tweeted. **Water storage project**
The Delhi government statement said Mr. Kejriwal also sought the Central government's cooperation for an "ambitious" project aimed at the natural storage of water in the Yamuna floodplains. "Mr. Kejriwal said that since Delhi faces an acute water shortage, particularly in summer months, this project once implemented will ensure that storage of water during a single monsoon will be sufficient to meet Delhi's

Kaleshwaram project inaugurated

B. CHANDRASHEKHAR HYDERABAD
The Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP), claimed to be the world's largest multi-stage and multi-purpose lift irrigation scheme, was inaugurated on Friday by Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan Nara Chandrababu Naidu in Jayashankar-Bhupalpalay district, where the first barrage of the project is located. It is meant to irrigate over 37 lakh acres of new and existing ayacuts and supply drinking water to Hyderabad and villages en route.

TELANGANA CM DEDICATES PROJECT TO PEOPLE • PAGE 8

Icy stretches



Soldiering for peace: Thousands of people stretched and twisted as the world marked the International Day of Yoga on Friday. In India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi headlined the main event at Ranchi. Here, soldiers take part in a session in the Himalayas. • PTI (PAGE 13)

GST Council eases returns filing process

T.C.A. SHARAD RAGHAVAN NEW DELHI
The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, at its 35th meeting on Friday, took a number of decisions aimed at easing the registration and returns filing process, including the use of Aadhaar for registrations, introduction of e-invoicing and setting a deadline for the roll-out of the single-return filing system. The meeting, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, decided to allow the use of Aadhaar as the identity and address proof for registration for the GST. No other documents would be required, and authentication can be done using a one-time password, Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey told reporters.

CONTINUED ON • PAGE 12

I stopped a strike on Iran, says Trump

Reprisal move was for downing drone

REUTERS WASHINGTON
U.S. President Donald Trump said on Friday that he aborted a military strike on Iran because such a response to Tehran's downing of an unmanned U.S. surveillance drone would have caused a disproportionate loss of life. In a series of early morning tweets, Mr. Trump said U.S. economic sanctions against Iran were having an impact and more were imposed late on Thursday, following the destruction of the U.S. drone by an Iranian surface-to-air missile. **3 sites were to be hit**
Mr. Trump said the plan was to hit three different sites in response to the drone's downing, and that he was told 150 people would have



Trump said that economic sanctions against Iran were having an impact. • AP

died. "Ten minutes before the strike I stopped it, not proportionate to shooting down an unmanned drone. I am in no hurry, our military is rebuilt, new, and ready to go, by far the best in the world," he tweeted. Earlier, Tehran had received a message from Mr. Trump warning that a U.S. attack was imminent.

IRAN INSISTS DRONE VIOLATED AIR SPACE • PAGE 14

'IS was initially unaware of Easter attacks'

MEERA SRINIVASAN COLOMBO
The Islamic State (IS) may have claimed responsibility for the Easter terror attacks in Sri Lanka, but its chief Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was initially not aware of the horrific serial bombings, according to a top official familiar with the probe. The ongoing investigation in Sri Lanka has revealed that a local Islamist radical, who is an IS sympathiser, had contacted the IS leadership after the attacks. "Through a third party, he [the suspect, now in custody] had pleaded with the IS for recognising the blasts carried out by jihadists, who had 'sacrificed' their lives," the senior official told *The Hindu*. **CONTINUED ON** • PAGE 12
CHARGESHEET FILED • PAGE 13

UNIQUE SHIKSHA

India's top-ranked Civil Services Preparations & Coaching Institute

IAS SEMINARS

HOW TO PREPARE: DURING GRADUATION, AFTER COLLEGE & WHILE WORKING.

Shri Anil Swarup
IAS (Retd.) & author of bestseller

Amrit Singh Chopra
Director, Unique Shiksha

23rd June (Sun)

32B PUSA ROAD • 2.30 PM

G3, OLD DLF COLONY, SEC-14, GGN • 11.00 AM

Limited Seats. Block Free Seat at www.uniqueshiksha.com/iasseminar

3 in the TOP 5 in CSE 2018

6 in the TOP 20 in CSE 2017

RANK 2 Akshat Jain
RANK 3 Junaid Ahmad
RANK 4 Shreyans Kumar

Fresh Foundation, CSAT & Test Series available across all centres | All courses now available Online as well

8287 360 360 | www.uniqueshiksha.com | info@uniqueshiksha.in | /UniqueShiksha

Unique Centres: Pusa Road | GTB Nagar | Preet Vihar | Saket | Sec. 14 (GGN) | Lucknow

CLASSIFIEDS MART
TO ADVERTISE:
www.thehinduads.com
011-43579738 • 43579797

EDUCATIONAL

ALS Alternative Learning Systems **IAS 2019-20**

HISTORY OPTIONAL
Under the guidance of **Hemant Jha**
Classroom Programme - Karol Bagh

HIGHLIGHTS The only classroom programme which helps one attain 300+ marks — The only class which ensures almost all questions in the Main Examination — Many in direct way including statements

Batch Begins JUNE 24

TIME: 03:00pm, VENUE: 20 Pusa Road, Karol Bagh

कक्षा कार्यक्रम - डॉ. मुखर्जी नगर

विशेषताएं एकमात्र कक्षा कार्यक्रम जो मुख्य परीक्षा में 300+ अंकों को सुनिश्चित करता है - एकमात्र कक्षा अध्यापन जो मुख्य परीक्षा में पूरे जाने वाले लगभग सभी प्रश्नों के उत्तरों को सुनिश्चित करता है - यहाँ तक की कथन संबंधित प्रश्नों के उत्तर भी

बैच प्रारंभ JUNE 24

समय: 08:30am, स्थान: Vardhman Plaza, Nehru Vihar

9911172230, 9999648884, 011-28751379

150+ Selections Including 2A, S, 6, 12, 22, 23, 39 RANK in RAS 2016

Samyak
An Institute For Civil Services
Under The Guidance of Selected Officers & Subject Experts From Delhi & Jaipur

EXCLUSIVE ENGLISH & HINDI MEDIUM BATCH STARTS

RAS IAS IAS & RAS
Hindi Med. 7 AM Hindi Med. 8 AM English Med. 4 PM English Med. 4 PM
3 Years Integrated Course Along With Graduation @ 4 PM - 7 PM
Personal Counselling Session Every day @ 9 AM to 7 PM
Gopalpura Bypass, Near Riddhi Siddhi, JAIPUR 9875170111, 9414988860

The Undisputed Leader in Civils Coaching

IAS IPS IAS Academy IFS IRS
Shaping India's Next Generation Leaders

General Studies 2019
New batch 24th June 2019

Morning at 7:30 am Evening 5:00 pm

TEST SERIES @ 2500/- ONLY

Weekend batch 22nd and 23rd June

SRI CHAITANYA IAS ACADEMY
22-B, Rajender Nagar Right Side, Main Bazar Marg, Pusa Road, Near Metro Pillar-112, New Delhi-60.
Ph: 01145609516/17, 9910023640, 9910023530

THE STUDY (An Institute for IAS)

HISTORY
By **MANIKANT SINGH**
PERFORMANCE ENHANCING PROGRAMME
MAINS EXAM-2019
OPEN LECTURE TOMORROW 9:00 AM
A New Batch in **English Medium**
Starts from **WORLD HISTORY 25th JUNE 6:00 PM**
at Mukherjee Nagar

210, Virat Bhawan, Near Post office, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-9
PH: 42870015, 27653672, 9999516388, 9999278966

EDUCATIONAL
ALS MAIN TEST SERIES at KAROL BAGH

ALS ALPHA GS MAIN TEST SERIES
with A Team of Best Experts
Your gateway to Success in IAS Main Exam through our 'Personalised Dynamic Evaluation' & 'State-of-the-Art' 'Active Student Profiling System' with comprehensive and contemporary coverage of all G.S. Papers

OPEN SESSION YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED. 23 JUNE | 11:00 AM

Venue: 20 Pusa Road, Near Karol Bagh Metro Station, Opposite Metro Pillar No. 97, Delhi-05
9999648884, 9891990011

20 Years Humble Contribution to Nation Building **ANALOG IAS ACADEMY**

ANALOG IAS now in DELHI
GENERAL STUDIES (Prelims cum Mains)
Starts from 25th June

- ▶ Classes Monday to Saturday
- ▶ Revision Test on Every Sunday
- ▶ Optional classes commencing soon

Demo Classes on June 22nd, 23rd and 24th

01149785868, 8494990066

ANALOG IAS ACADEMY
2nd Floor, Building Number 5, Pusa Road, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005
mail: delhi@analogeducation.in website: analogeducation.in

GS TEST SERIES MAINS TS
COMMENCES : 25 JUNE

PRE-CUM-MAINS TEST SERIES
COMMENCES : 13 JULY

67/100 Questions in Prelims 2019 & 80% Questions in Mains 2018 came directly from Insight Test Series

ADMISSION OPEN ONLINE/OFFLINE
To enrol visit www.baliyans.com

INSIGHT IAS ACADEMY
73, Near Axis Bank, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-60
011-45090051, 9818333201, 9871216382

दीक्षांत Education Centre
An honest effort एक ईमानदार प्रयास

सामान्य अध्ययन
FREE COACHING & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME
भारत सरकार एवं गैर-सरकारी संगठनों द्वारा वित्तपोषित

विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संघ से
UPENDRA ANMOL
नये फाउंडेशन बैच हेतु
निःशुल्क कार्यशाला

के साथ कक्षा प्रारंभ

25 JUNE 6 PM

समाजशास्त्र
DR. S. S. PANDEY
नये फाउंडेशन बैच हेतु
निःशुल्क कार्यशाला

2 JULY 9 AM

के साथ कक्षा प्रारंभ

289, Dhaka Johar, Near Dushahara Ground, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09
011-27608204, 9312511015, 8851301204

EDUCATIONAL
ALS OPTIONAL AT KAROL BAGH

OPTIONAL Batches BEGIN WITH OPEN SESSION
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

HISTORY BY HEMANT JHA	24 JUNE 3:00pm
GEOGRAPHY BY SACHIN ARORA	25 JUNE 3:00pm
POLITICAL SC. BY C.K. SINGH	25 JUNE 3:00pm
SOCIOLOGY BY DHARMENDRA	25 JUNE 3:00pm

VENUE: 20 Pusa Road, Near Karol Bagh Metro Station, Opp. Metro Station Pillar No. 97, New Delhi-110005
9999648884, 9891990011, 28751379

Triumph IAS
Innovating Knowledge. Inspiring Success

ESSAY FOR IAS 2019-20
ESSAY FOUNDATION BATCH BEGIN 28 JUNE ONLINE/OFFLINE
ESSAY TEST SERIES ADMISSION OPEN ONLINE/OFFLINE

Top Scores in CSE-18 Under Guidance Of **Vikash Ranjan Sir**

KANISHK KUMAR	AIR 01
VAISHALI SINGH	146
DILEEP P. SINGH	151
ANASH PARSAL	145
ANAND K. SHARMA	141

www.triumphias.com 7840888102
23-B, 3rd Floor Pusa Road, Old Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-110060

GS-TEST SERIES
MAINS 2019-20 MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

TEST: 12+12 (Classroom + Self-practice Test)
1 year Current Affairs Classes (Subject wise) by Amit Sinha, Vikash Ranjan & Subject Experts

23 JUNE

PRADIP SINGH IAS	MARKS IN GS	433
GAURAVIET SINGH IAS	MARKS IN GS	418

SOCIOLOGY TEST SERIES
PERSONAL MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME by Vikash Ranjan
ADMISSION OPEN

DR. BHAVESH	MARKS IN GS	318
GAURAVIET SINGH	MARKS IN GS	309
PRADIP SINGH	MARKS IN GS	307
NAMRATA JAIN	MARKS IN GS	301

www.triumphias.com info@triumphias.com
7678628820 9911156808
23-B, 3rd Floor Pusa Road, Old Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-110060

100 प्रश्नोत्तर के रूप में **ECONOMY**
ENGLISH & हिन्दी माध्यम में

CLASS STARTS 25 JUNE 6:00PM

R. KUMAR BPS 64th Test, 65th Pre Class also Available
आस्था IAS 8800233080
M-1A, Jyoti Bhawan, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-09

M. PURI ONLINE GS PAPER 2
A Course without which your IAS Preparation is incomplete
ADMISSION OPEN
www.stellariiasacademy.online

Stellar IAS ACADEMY
Your Ambition Our Guidance
Ground Floor, Dainik Bhaskar Building, Sector 25-D, Chandigarh.
Mob: 99152-14599

YOUR DREAM, OUR MISSION
YOUTH DESTINATION IAS-PCS

GS FOUNDATION (ENGLISH MEDIUM)
27 9:00 AM June

इतिहास
By **रजनीश राज सर**
24 June 8:30AM

HISTORY OPTIONAL TEST SERIES STARTING FROM **23 June**

ETHICS 25 3:30 PM June
By **अभय कुमार सर**
ONLINE/ LIVE CLASS AVAILABLE

9811334434, 9811334480
www.youthdestination.in | youtube: youthdestinationias | FB: youthdestinationias
639, DR. MUKHERJEE NAGAR, OPP. SIGNATURE APARTMENT, DELHI-110009

EDUCATIONAL
OPTIONAL STRUGGLING WITH GEOGRAPHY OPTIONAL SCORE!!

MasterStroke
A Transformational Programme focussed on **"TESTING RATHER THAN TEACHING"**
WITH **SACHIN ARORA**

Enroll Fast, Limited Seats
22 June, 12PM
KAROL BAGH
Available Offline & Online

ALS Alternative Learning Systems
20 Pusa Road, Near Karol Bagh Metro Station, Opp. Metro Station Pillar No. 97, New Delhi-110005
9999648884, 9891990011

UNIQUE SHIKSHA
India's top-ranked* Civil Services Preparations* & Coaching Institute

HISTORY SEMINAR
by **Mr. K. S. SINGH** 23rd June, 2019, 5:00 pm

Seminar for Freshers & all other aspirants on how to master answer writing & conquer History

*as recognised by Indian Education Congress Awards - 2016, '17, '18 & '19
For Enquiry www.uniqueshiksha.com
8287 360 360

UNIQUE SHIKSHA
India's top-ranked* Civil Services Preparations* & Coaching Institute

SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR
by **Mr. Ankur Aggarwal** 23rd June, '19, 11:00 am

Seminar for Freshers & all other aspirants on how to master answer writing & conquer Sociology

*as recognised by Indian Education Congress Awards - 2016, '17, '18 & '19
For Enquiry www.uniqueshiksha.com
8287 360 360

UNIQUE SHIKSHA
India's top-ranked* Civil Services Preparations* & Coaching Institute

PHYSICS by DP Vajpayee Sir 1st July 11:30 AM with Paper - II

CHEMISTRY by Dr. R.K. Singh 1st July 1:30 PM

MATHEMATICS Rigid Dynamics from 20th June 2:00 PM Starting PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

By Manoj Jaiswal 15+ yrs. of teaching exp. Attend Free seminar on 23rd June 9:00 AM Classroom programme & Test Series. Physics / Chemistry

All India Test Series from 23rd June 9 AM ONLINE / OFFLINE Classes Available

DIAS
18/1, 2nd Floor, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110060.
www.diasindia.com
011-40079000 9350934622

EDUCATIONAL
UNIQUE SHIKSHA

India's top-ranked* Civil Services Preparations* & Coaching Institute

POL. SCIENCE SEMINAR
by **Dr. S. B. Singh** 23rd June, 2019, 2:00 pm

Seminar for Freshers & all other aspirants on how to master answer writing & conquer Pol. Science

*as recognised by Indian Education Congress Awards - 2016, '17, '18 & '19
For Enquiry www.uniqueshiksha.com
8287 360 360

UNIQUE SHIKSHA
India's top-ranked* Civil Services Preparations* & Coaching Institute

IAS लोक प्रशासन Atul Lohiya
निःशुल्क कार्यशाला
24 जून 6:30 PM
27655134, 9810651005

UNIQUE SHIKSHA
India's top-ranked* Civil Services Preparations* & Coaching Institute

SOCIOLOGY SEMINAR
by **Mr. Ankur Aggarwal** 23rd June, '19, 11:00 am

Seminar for Freshers & all other aspirants on how to master answer writing & conquer Sociology

Test Series also available

*as recognised by Indian Education Congress Awards - 2016, '17, '18 & '19
For Enquiry www.uniqueshiksha.com
8287 360 360

GENERAL

REQUIRED
For Delhi, Jaipur & Jodhpur Centres

Expert Faculties
GS, Current Affairs, Maths, Reasoning, Psychology, Hindi & All other Subjects.
Faced IAS/Bank PO/CTET Interview or good teaching experience.

- Video Editors -05
Adobe after effects, Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw, Adobe Premiere Pro.
- Digital Marketing Persons
Digital Marketing Manager, Content Strategist, SEO & SEM Specialist, Bot developer, Social Media Marketing, Email Marketing Specialist, User Experience Designer.
- Typist -10
(Hindi & English, 60 wpm)
- Studio Assistant -25
Graduate + Basic Computer Course

Whatsapp your resume at
Delhi : 82873-49902
Jaipur : 89550-07318
Jodhpur : 74120-64214
or Email: support@utkarshjodhpur.com

Also upload your resume & fill the registration form at www.utkarshjodhpur.com/career.php

©Utkarsh Innovations Pvt. Ltd.
Digital Publishing • Test Prep • e-Commerce
A Sister Concern of Utkarsh Classes, Jodhpur

Shortlisted candidates will be informed via call/email for a screening test followed by an interview.

EDUCATIONAL
65th BPS & UP-PCS
Rajesh Sir's Initiative
PT Classes & TEST SERIES
25 June (4 pm)

BPS ACADEMY
M-3, Satja House, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-9
8447039179, 8447051258

PANINI IAS CLASSES
संस्कृत साहित्य
by **KB SIR & OTHER**
1st Batch 7am
Next Batch 23 JUNE
9am & 6pm
RANUL GARG
9959122675, 9911480369, 8076250997

SITUATION VACANT
GENERAL

VISIONIAS
INSPIRING INNOVATION
www.visionias.in
India's leading organization based in Delhi invites passionate individuals for the role of

CONTENT DEVELOPER for GS
in English Medium
हिन्दी माध्यम

Skills Desired :
✓ Understanding of the requirement of UPSC
✓ Excellent Communication skills with positive attitude
Send your updated resume to recruitment@visionias.in

Smartcoach
BE SMART. LEARN SMART

THE MOST INNOVATIVE & REVOLUTIONARY INSTITUTE FOR UPSC (ONLINE/CLASSROOM)

WALK IN INTERVIEW FOR DELHI CENTRE (PUSA ROAD)
FULL TIME/PART TIME

CONTENT POSITIONS NEEDED FOR ALL AREAS OF UPSC (PRELIM/MAIN) (CTC: 3 LACS TO 7.2 LACS p.a.)

- CONTENT MANAGERS
- CONTENT DEVELOPERS
- QUESTION MAKERS (PRELIM / MAIN)
- EVALUATORS / REVIEWERS / QUALITY MGRS

PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO CANDIDATES WHO HAVE CLEARED UPSC PRE/MAIN (2013-2018) AND TO CANDIDATES WITH CONTENT EXPERIENCE IN UPSC FOR MORE THAN 2 YEARS

SALARY WILL BE OFFERED AS PER INDIVIDUAL'S COMPETENCY & EXPERIENCE/EXPOSURE IN UPSC EXAM/COACHING

MANAGEMENT/ OTHER POSITIONS (CTC: 2.4 LACS TO 6 LACS p.a.)

- CENTRE MANAGER
- ADMIN MANAGER
- COUNSELLOR
- FRONT OFF EXEC.
- GRAPHIC DESIGNER

VENUE: SMARTCOACH FLAT NO. 8, 1ST FLOOR, PARAM TOWER, PUSA ROAD (NEAR RAJENDRA PLACE METRO / OPP. BLK HOSPITAL)

DATE: 22, 23, 24, 25 JUNE (12.30 pm to 7.30 pm)
PLEASE COME WITH DETAILED CV & PASSPORT PHOTO

CONTACT NUMBER: 91278061 39 / 44

IN BRIEF



Adityanath suspends two over negligence of duty

LUCKNOW
Yogi Adityanath has dismissed from service a jailor and a deputy jailor rank officials for dereliction of duty, a government official said on Friday. Both officials had been placed under suspension after lapses in their respective jails.

DSP suspended over Gadchiroli attack

MUMBAI
Nearly one-and-a-half months after a Naxal attack in which 15 personnel of the Gadchiroli police were killed, the government on Friday announced the suspension of a senior police officer for not following the Standard Operating Procedure (SoP).

28 die in jumbo attacks in Odisha in 3 months

BHUBANESWAR
Two persons died when a wild tusker attacked them in the outskirts of a village in Odisha's Angul district on Thursday, thus taking the human death toll to 28 in encounters with wild elephants in the past three months.

Bihar AES deaths echo in Rajya Sabha

Members ask Centre to improve health facilities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Opposition parties in the Rajya Sabha on Friday raised the issue of the deaths of more than 130 children at Muzaffarpur in Bihar and sought the Central government's urgent intervention for improving health facilities in the hospitals concerned. They also demanded compensation for the affected families.

Earlier, some Opposition members intervened when Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu was reading out obituary references on the death of former members and asked that a similar reference be made for the children who died in Bihar.

As the matter was not listed in the agenda for the day, the Chair asked the Secretary General to include it and the House observed silence to condole the deaths. Subsequently, Mr. Naidu allowed CPI member Binoy Viswam to make a brief submission during Zero Hour, without a discussion on the issue.



Insurmountable loss: Family members mourn the loss of their child due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in Muzaffarpur on Friday. ■PTI

The CPI member asserted that the hospitals had no medicines, no infrastructure.

"Nobody takes care of them. Sir, what about the malnutrition? These children, these kids, are dying mainly due to malnutrition. They have no food, no vitamins and no drinking water. Water in these villages is most scarce. The Central government and the State government should urgently intervene in Bihar," Binoy Viswam said.

A HUNDRED DEATHS, AND NO ANSWERS ■GROUND ZERO

Death toll touches 124

ASIAN NEWS INTERNATIONAL MUZAFFARPUR

The toll due to acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) touched 124 in Muzaffarpur district on Friday. As per the data, a total of 104 deaths were reported at the government-run Shri Krishna Medical College and Hospital while 20 children died at Kejriwal Hospital in the district due to the vector-borne disease till Friday.

Following the public outcry over the lack of facilities

in the government-run Shri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH), the hospital management had converted a prisoners' ward into an intensive care unit (ICU) to accommodate the rising number of AES patients.

The decision came after Chief Minister Nitish Kumar passed instructions to convert the prisoners' ward into the ICU to treat the children. He also directed the doctors to take measures to contain the disease.

SC denies extra time for medical counselling

603 seats lying vacant across the country

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday declined to give additional time for counselling to fill up around 603 vacant seats in postgraduate medical and dental courses in deemed universities and private colleges across the country.

A vacation Bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant made the decision a day after the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare objected to the extension of the deadline for counselling, which ended on May 31.

The top court was hearing a petition filed by Education Promotion Society of India (EPSI), a registered group of 1354 educational institutions, seeking the extension of the counselling date for stray vacancy round to fill the empty seats.

EPSI counsel had contended that counselling for the vacant seats could be



Not in favour: The Centre argued that extension of deadline would set a bad precedent for the future. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

completed within days if the court gave the permission. The country needed more doctors and the seats should not be wasted, counsel said.

In response, the Centre had argued that such an extension of counselling deadline would set a "bad precedent for the future years" as it would "completely dilute the object of having a cut-off date".

Four rounds conducted
The Centre submitted that the Medical Counselling Committee (MCC) of the Directorate General of Health

Services (DGHS) had conducted three rounds of counselling - first, second and mop-up round. In addition, there was also a fourth round - stray vacancy round that was conducted by universities at their own level.

There are total 4,561 postgraduate seats for the academic session 2019-20. "After completion of Stray Vacancy Round by the concerned Deemed Universities, the remaining 603 (Clinical 31 + Non-Clinical 572 = 603) seats are lying vacant in various Deemed Universities," the Ministry said.

SC halts road works through tiger reserves

Seeks government's response

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered an immediate halt to the construction of a road that passes through a corridor between the Rajaji and Corbett Tiger Reserves. "There appears to be numerous violations of the Forest Conservation Act," it said.

A Vacation Bench of Justices Deepak Gupta and Surya Kant issued notice to the Uttarakhand government, asking it to reply, within three weeks, to a report filed by the court-appointed Central Empowered Committee (CEC).

The road, which traverses a "critical" corridor between the Rajaji Tiger Reserve and the Corbett Tiger Reserve, is being built without the statutory approval of the National Board for Wildlife, the CEC said in its report. "As per the 2014 data of All India Tiger Estimation, the area supports up to



The SC has cited numerous violations of the Forest Conservation Act. ■AFP

four tigers per 100 sq km..." it said.

The CEC sought an immediate halt to the construction activities in the Rajaji Tiger Reserve as it would "adversely impact the habitat and wildlife of the ecologically sensitive area".

The court found out that the neither the advice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), nor permission form the Wildlife Board had been taken.

Contract worker dies in fire on warship

The Visakhapatnam warship is under construction at Mazgaon Dockyard

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

A contract worker died and another suffered minor burns after a fire broke out on *Visakhapatnam*, an under-construction warship of the Indian Navy, at Mazgaon Dockyard Ltd. here on Friday.

In a statement, Mazgaon Dockyard Ltd. said the contract worker succumbed possibly to asphyxia and burn injuries. Another contract worker suffered minor

burns. "A minor fire took place in Yard 12704 (*Visakhapatnam*), the first of class of Project 15 B during grinding operations in tank at the dockyard. The fire broke out around 4 p.m. and was brought under control by 7 p.m."

Sanjay Surase, Medical Superintendent, JJ Hospital, said Brajendra Kumar, 24, was brought dead with 100% burns.

Fire brigade officials said they joined fire fighting operations at 5.44 p.m. The blaze erupted on the second deck of the ship and eight fire-fighting engines, along with a quick-response vehicle, had been pressed into service.

"The fire is confined to second and third deck of the warship. Fire-fighting operation is under way along with dockyard fire-fighters. Smoke has spread in the warship. We suspect that one person is trapped inside," Mumbai Fire Brigade's Chief

Fire Officer, Prabhat Rahangdale, said.

Visakhapatnam, the largest warship of its class, was unveiled for construction in Mazgaon Docks in April 2015. It is the first of four stealth guided missile destroyers to be built under Project 15-B Class of the Indian Navy. *Mormugao, Imphal* and *Porbandar* are the others under construction.

"The cause of the fire will be ascertained after a proper inquiry," an official said.

'Only one in four received PM-KISAN money'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

While the Union government has expanded the PM-KISAN scheme to all farmers with great fanfare, only one in four of the intended beneficiaries have received income support from the scheme so far, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar told the

Rajya Sabha on Friday.

With a long verification process delaying payments, the Centre has now announced that farmers will get benefits retrospectively from the time their names are uploaded in the database, rather than from the time their details are verified.

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme, announced in the last interim budget of the previous government, provides an annual sum of ₹6000 to land-owning farmers in three instalments of ₹2,000 each. The new government has extended the scheme to larger farmers, raising the total

number of beneficiaries to 14.5 crore families.

So far, 3.29 crore farmers have received the first instalment, while 2.85 crore beneficiaries have received the second, according to the data Mr. Tomar provided in Parliament. In total, the Centre has disbursed ₹12,305 crore to farmers.

Jumbo 'yatra' comes in for flak

Assam plans to send 4 juvenile elephants to Gujarat by train

RAHUL KARMAKAR GUWAHATI

An animal rights group on Friday filed a public interest litigation petition in the Gauhati High Court challenging the Assam government's decision to transport four juvenile elephants, two of them females, in railway wagons to Ahmedabad in Gujarat for the annual Rath Yatra festival at the Jagannath temple on July 4.

Urmil Mala Das and Nandini Baruah, representing NGO Avinava Prayash, filed the PIL petition under Article 226 of the Constitution giving High Courts power to issue certain writs.

"Permission has been granted to list the PIL on Monday," said Bhaskar Dev Konwar, appearing for the petitioners.

Another petition against the shifting of elephants was filed by Sangeeta Iyer, a Canada-based activist, before the High Court via email on Friday. The petition is yet to be accepted.

The order for dispatching the elephants is being processed by the Conservator of Forests (Eastern Assam Circle) after it was signed by Ran-

jana Gupta, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife). The elephants are to be transported from eastern Assam's Tinsukia by train to Ahmedabad, covering 3,106 km.

'Norms violated'

The petitioners have contended that the decision of the State government is in violation of the relevant provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and relevant orders of the Supreme Court in this regard. Moreover, the dispatch of the elephants in railway wagons in the prevailing heatwave conditions in north Indian States, would subject the animals to extreme stress, pain and cruelty and they may not survive the long journey.

The elephants belong to private owners. It appears that two of the elephants were not captive born but were caught from the wild and domesticated. Microchips were implanted on the two elephants in June 2015 and ownership certificates for the said elephants have also been issued specially to facilitate their transportation to Ahmedabad," the petitioners said.

The Indian elephant is a Schedule-I animal under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and Section 9 of the Act prohibits their capture from the wild. Capturing of wild elephants is permitted only under very limited circumstances as provided in Section 11 and 12 of the Act.

The elephants in question are being transferred to Ahmedabad on a six-month lease. The petitioners also contended that 53 elephants from Assam given on lease to other States have not been returned. The growth of a "big black marketing racket in regard to transportation of elephants from Assam and Arunachal Pradesh" has come to light, they said.

Police identify Barpeta attackers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

The police have identified four people belonging to a little-known right wing group for stopping a public vehicle and assaulting a group of Muslim men in western Assam's Barpeta town on June 18. They forced

them to say 'Jai Shri Ram', 'Bharat Mata ki jai', and 'Pakistan murdabad'.

The incident came to light after a video of the purported attack and forcible chanting of these slogans went viral on social media.

"We have identified the youths from the video and

will be arresting them soon," Barpeta's Additional Superintendent of Police Pankaj Kumar Kakati told reporters on Friday.

He also said the cyber cell was monitoring the social media platforms for action against those posting communally-charged comments.

Case against lawyers' body: NHRC steps in

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to report within four weeks on the status of the probe in its criminal case registered against Lawyers Collective.

The NHRC sought the report in response to petitions raising questions about the CBI's move. In his petition, Henri Tiphagne, who is associated with Human Rights Defenders' Alert-India, expressed grave concern over the case registered by the agency on June 13 against Lawyers Collective, its president Anand Grover and other unnamed functionaries.

NHRC said that complainant alleged that the CBI was trying to harass the lawyers for their humanitarian work.

NOTICE
This photograph is of one Ummer, A, S/o Abdulla, 38/15, Anjilath House, Kusalnagar, Koorg District, Karnataka State, who is an accused in Payangadi Police Station Cr. 676/2015 u/s 376, 506(i), 426, 384 r/w 34 IPC, Sec. 3(2)(v) of SC/ST (PoA) Act and Sec. 66(E) of IT Act and now he is absconding. Investigation so far conducted reveals that he is hiding somewhere in Karnataka State after committing the offence. If any information obtained about him, matter may please be intimated to the following phone numbers.
Dy Supdt. of Police, Taliparamba : 0460 -2203247, 947990139
Payangadi Police Station : 0497 2876233, 9497980871
Sd/-, District Police Chief, Kannur District, Kerala
[F2/227/2019/1&PRD]

**GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM
RECRUITMENT FOR THE POST OF PRINCIPAL**
Applications are invited from eligible Indian Citizens for the post of **Principal - 01 post (unreserved)** on Short Tenure / Deputation basis in **Pondicherry Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology**.
The applicants may access the details regarding essential qualification, experience, age etc., and download the prescribed application format at www.py.gov.in / www.pondytourism.in. Eligible candidates may submit the duly filled in application form with all required attested testimonials to "The Director of Tourism, Tourism Department, No.23, Ambedkar Salai, Uppalam, Puducherry-605001" by speed post or deposit personally on or before 15th of July 2019 5.00 PM. The Department reserves the right to shortlist the applications/ fill or not to fill the vacancy without assigning any reason.
**(L.MOHAMED MANSOOR)
DIRECTOR OF TOURISM**
No.63/DIP/AD(Press)/2019-20

CENTRE FOR DNA FINGERPRINTING AND DIAGNOSTICS
(An autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Gov. of India) Inner Ring Road, Uppal, Hyderabad-500039, Telangana, India, Tel: +91-40-2721 6000, Fax: +91-40-2721 6008, Website: <http://www.cdfdi.org.in>
CANCELLATION OF ADVERTISEMENT No. 01/2018
The Advertisement No. 01/2018 issued for filling up the post of Junior Hindi Translator-2 Nos. & Hindi Typist -1 No. which was published in Employment News on 06.10.2018 is hereby CANCELLED due to administrative reasons.
The application fee of ₹ 500/- submitted by General and OBC candidates is being refunded.
For application fee Claim Form, please visit our website <http://www.cdfdi.org.in>. Inconvenience, if any, caused in this regard is deeply regretted.
Sd/-
I/c - Administration
CDFDI

**Government of India
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)
UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION AUTHORITY OF INDIA (UIDAI)
Technology Centre, Bengaluru**
TC/UID/Admn/Deputation-TC & DC/10/Vol-IV/2018 Dated: 14-06-2019
VACANCY CIRCULAR FOR THE POST OF DEPUTY DIRECTOR (NETWORKS) IN UIDAI TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, BENGALURU.
Unique Identification Authority of India invites applications in the prescribed form for the following post on deputation basis for Technology Centre / Data Center located at Bengaluru.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Scale of Pay & Grade Pay (As per Vth CPC)	New Scale of Pay (Pay Matrix)	Number of the post vacant
1	Deputy Director (Networks)	Rs. 1,5600 - 39100 plus Grade Pay of Rs. 6600/-	Level - 11	01

For application form, eligibility criteria, desirable qualification / experience and related details, please visit: www.uidai.gov.in. Application completed in all respects along with the APARs, (latest 5 years) Vigilance clearance etc. should be sent through proper channel to ADG(In charge), UIDAI Tech Centre, Bengaluru on or before 19th July 2019.
Sd/- Deputy Director

**सी.एस.आई.आर - केंद्रीय विद्युत् रासायन अनुसंधान संस्थान
CSIR - CENTRAL ELECTROCHEMICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE**
कलकत्ता / Karaikudi - 630 003.
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW NOTIFICATION No. PS-09/2019

Position & Stipend	Essential qualification	Age limit	Date, Time and Venue for interview
Project Assistant-I ₹.15,000/-p.m. + HRA (02 Positions)	Diploma in Mechanical Engineering / EEE with 55% marks (50% marks for SC/ST)	28 Years	05.07.2019 (Friday) at 9.00 AM Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu.
Project Assistant-II ₹.25,000/-p.m. + HRA (03 Positions)	M.Sc. Chemistry / B.E in EEE with 55% Marks (50% Marks for SC/ST)	30 Years	
Project Assistant-III ₹.28,000/-p.m. + HRA (01 Position)	M.Tech., in Materials Technology / Metallurgical Engineering / Materials Engineering with 55% Marks (50% marks for SC/ST)	35 Years	
Junior Research Fellow (P) ₹.31,000/-p.m. (01 Position)	B.E / B.Tech or M.E/M.Tech. in Chemical Engineering / Biotechnology / Nanoscience & Nanotechnology / Polymer Science and Engineering / Mechanical Engineering / Biochemical Engineering with 55% marks (50% marks for SC/ST) with NET/GATE	28 Years	

For further details, please visit www.cecri.res.in
प्रशासन अधिकारी / Administrative Officer



A new course

President's address should have fleshed out PM Modi's agenda of winning the trust of all

President Ram Nath Kovind's address to the joint sitting of Parliament set out the philosophy and priorities of the Narendra Modi government that has been re-elected. It outlined the rupture that has come to characterise Mr. Modi's politics, marked by his 2014 victory, and pointedly ignored the progress India had made during earlier years. The President said his government was "committed to that very idea of nation-building, the foundation for which was laid in 2014." Harnessing the thoughts of social reformer Sree Narayana Guru and Rabindranath Tagore to emphasise brotherhood among all sections and the celebration of the human spirit would have been uplifting if only the rest of the speech dwelt on those ideas in some detail and with force. In the absence of elaboration, such grand intent in the initial paragraphs was not reassuring. The Prime Minister's newly added objective of winning the trust of all governed, *Sabka Vishwas*, was not fleshed out meaningfully. Sardar Patel, Babasaheb Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi found mention, but not Jawaharlal Nehru, the founding Prime Minister whose vision and unflinching commitment to secularism, pluralism and progress set the Republic on a sustainable course.

The 'New India' that the President mentioned is a departure from that founding vision, and there was no ambiguity on that aspect. He struck a chord with the constituency of the government, but not with all. The notion that there is a non-sectarian development agenda that is impervious to identity politics is good to have, and the Prime Minister's evangelical fervour in driving its schemes is laudable. But triumphalism around many schemes such as the Swachh Bharat Mission has deflected public attention from the serious tasks ahead and an honest discussion on achievements. New focus on water conservation and management and the rural economy is not a moment too early. These are critical areas. Mr. Kovind also spoke of the government's intent to expand scientific research and higher education. A speech by the President is significant not for the technical details it offers, but for the vision. The cultural nationalist agenda of the ruling dispensation that has made intellectual curiosity and academic integrity dangerous in India is not the route to any of these goals. The restrictions on cattle trade and violence against those employed in it – mostly Muslims and Dalits – have not merely become a protracted communal conflict but are also among the factors that have pushed the rural economy off the rails. Announcing yet another scheme for cattle, as the President did, is not confronting the real, self-inflicted problem. What differentiates one dispensation from another is not the material ambitions but the social purpose and direction of such pursuits. The clarity on that aspect in the address may be stimulating for many, but certainly not good for India.

A stable planet

India is set to become the most populous nation; improving the quality of life is crucial

The key message from the UN's *World Population Prospects 2019* report is that national leaders must redouble their efforts to raise education, health and living standards for people everywhere. India is projected to become the most populous country by 2027 surpassing China, and host 1.64 billion people by 2050; the world as a whole could be home to 8.5 billion people in just over a decade from now, and the number could go up to 9.7 billion by mid-century. The projections should be viewed in perspective, considering that alarmist Malthusian fears of inability to provide for more than a billion people on earth did not come true. Yet, there are strong arguments in favour of stabilising population numbers by raising the quality of life of people, and achieving sustainable development that will not destroy the environment. The UN report shows migration to countries with a falling ratio of working-age people to those above 65 will be steady, as those economies open up to workers to sustain economic production. Japan has the lowest such ratio, followed by Europe and the Caribbean; in over three decades, North America, Eastern and Southeastern Asia will join this group. India meanwhile will have a vast number of young people and insufficient natural resources left for exploitation. Preparing for the changes and opportunities migration offers will depend on a skills revolution.

At the national level, achieving a reduction in fertility rates in States such as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh – which are high as per Sample Registration System data – is a challenge for India as it seeks to stabilise population growth. This is possible if the State governments set their minds to it. They must singularly focus on improving education and health access for women, both of which will help them be gainfully employed. On the other hand, a rise in life expectancy has brought with it a policy imperative that is bound to become even more important in coming decades. A growing population of older adults is a certainty, and it opens up prospects for employment in many new services catering to them. Urban facilities have to be reimagined, with an emphasis on access to good, affordable housing and mobility. The Sustainable Development Goals framework provides a roadmap to this new era. But progress in poverty reduction, greater equality, better nutrition, universal education and health care, needs state support and strong civil society institutions. Making agriculture remunerative and keeping food prices stable are crucial to ensure nutrition for all. India is set to become the most populous nation. For its leaders, improving the quality of life for its people will be a test of political will.

Smart diplomacy in five moves

India needs to see through many balancing acts to deal with regional tensions



HAPPYMON JACOB

The nature and dynamics of Southern Asian geopolitics are undergoing a radical transformation, slowly, steadily and in an irrevocable manner. One of the world's most volatile regions and hitherto dominated by the United States, Southern Asia is today at an inflection point with far-reaching implications for the states in the region, and for India in particular. Is New Delhi adequately prepared to weather the incoming geopolitical storm?

To begin with, there is a sharp, though often understated, great power competition in the region with the U.S. caught between its reluctance to part with its quickly fading glory on the one hand and unwillingness to do what it takes to maintain its regional influence on the other. And yet, when challenged by China and Russia in the regional geopolitical landscape, the U.S.'s superpower instinct is to push back, often leading to short-sighted decisions and confused policies. The resultant geopolitical competition for space, power and influence in the regional scheme of things is undoing the traditional geopolitical certainties in Southern Asia. Russia and China are jointly and individually challenging the U.S.'s pre-eminence and drafting smaller countries of the region into their bandwagon/s.

Despite our unease and traditional suspicion towards great power system shapers and manag-

ers, the simple fact is that a benign unipolarity or a balanced multipolarity with some amount of great power concert is generally better than unbalanced multipolarity. Unbalanced multipolarity when combined with a situation of power transition in the regional sub-system, as is perhaps the case today, might prove to be destabilising. We are perhaps at the cusp of such a moment in Southern Asia.

The China pivot

Then there is the emergence of the 'China pivot' in the region. Washington's role as the regional pivot and power manager is becoming a thing of the past with Beijing increasingly able and willing to assume that role. Regional geopolitics, from Iran to Central Asia and from the South China Sea to the Indian Ocean region, is increasingly being shaped by China. China is the new regional hegemon with states in the region jumping on its bandwagon without much resistance. When new powers are on an ascendance, its neighbours tend to recalibrate their policies and old partnerships and alliances. Regional holdouts and challengers such as India will need to balance themselves tactfully to steer clear of the rising hegemon's ire.

Yet another feature of the current regional sub-system is the presence of an extreme trust deficit among the various actors in the region. That India and Pakistan, or China and India do not trust each other is not news, but a trust deficit exists between even seemingly congenial partners such as the U.S. and India, Russia and China, and among traditional partners such as Iran and India, and Russia and India. The varying degrees of trust deficit when combined with other



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

factors such as unresolved conflicts, misunderstandings or the occurrence of a crisis could easily push the region towards more conflict and friction, and obviously less cooperation and regional integration.

The rising war talk in the region is yet another contemporary feature of the Southern Asian regional sub-system. The possibility of a military conflict between Iran and the U.S. (a path the hawks in Washington are pushing U.S. President Donald Trump to pursue) which in turn would draw many more countries in the region into it leading to widespread instability, potential for India-Pakistan border skirmishes and possible escalation, an escalating China-U.S. trade war, and the many proxy and cold wars in Afghanistan and West Asia will keep the temperature high in the region for the foreseeable future.

In sum, a power transition in the Southern Asian sub-system, an extreme trust deficit and the escalating war talk pose ominous signs for the region.

The layers

This is not a pretty picture; certainly not for India, a country that is caught right in the middle of these tectonic developments and that habitually reacts to geopolitical developments with character-

istic tardiness. And yet, true to its DNA, India is likely to adopt a slew of balancing acts. This is perhaps the most appropriate strategy to adopt under the circumstances provided it does so with a sense of clarity and purpose instead of merely reacting. There are at least five layers of balancing acts that India would need to adopt in order to weather the incoming geopolitical storm. At level one, it would need to balance its innate desire to get closer to the U.S. with the unavoidable necessities of not excessively provoking China both in the maritime and continental domains. Clearly, getting too close to the U.S. will provoke China, and vice versa.

The second layer of this balancing game should drive India's West Asia policy. Here it would have to take care of its energy and other interests (including the Chabahar project) with Iran and not alienate the U.S., Saudi Arabia and Israel by doing so. While Iran's share in India's energy imports is steadily decreasing, alienating Iran might not suit India's strategic interests in the longer run.

As a third balancing act, dealing with the Russia-China partnership will be crucial for India's continental strategy, be it with regard to arms sales, the Afghan question or checking Chinese dominance of the region. New Delhi should be clever enough to exploit the not-so-apparent fissures between Beijing and Moscow. A related concern should be the growing relationship between Pakistan and Russia which must be dealt with by smart diplomacy rather than outrage.

Yet another layer that requires careful balancing by India is the strategic partnership between Pa-

kistan and China. While Pakistan is the revisionist power in the region, China, being a rising superpower and an already status quoist power in the region, could potentially be persuaded to check Pakistan's revisionist tendencies. This again requires a great deal of subtle effort from New Delhi to convince Beijing that it has great stakes in regional strategic stability. What must be noted is that both Beijing and New Delhi, despite their sharp differences and unavoidable strategic competition, share a stake in the region's stability. Therefore even a small measure of rapprochement between them, as it seemingly exists today, could stabilise the region to a great extent.

Handling Afghanistan

Finally, if India is serious about having a say in Afghanistan's future, it would need to enact several balancing acts there: between Russia and China, China and Pakistan, the Taliban and Kabul, and the Taliban and Pakistan. In a constantly changing Afghan geopolitical landscape, the contents of India's interests should also evolve.

New Delhi should keep in mind that it must, by all means, be careful to avoid getting caught in a nutcracker geopolitical situation in the region. Engaging in a delicate balancing game is undeniably the need of the hour, and let us remember that balancing such seeming contradictions is what smart diplomacy is meant to achieve.

Happymon Jacob teaches at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and is the author of 'Line on Fire: Ceasefire Violations and India-Pakistan Escalation Dynamics'

Why South Asia must cooperate

A shared vision is essential to attaining the Sustainable Development Goals



SYED MUNIR KHASRU

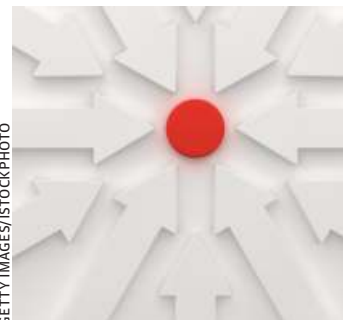
South Asia covers only about 3.5% of the world's land surface area but hosts a fourth of its population, making it a region of significant importance for international development. In spite of the geographic proximity countries in this region enjoy and their common socio-cultural bonds, this is one of the world's least integrated regions. Intra-regional trade is a meagre 5% of the total trade these countries do globally, while intra-regional investment is less than 1% of the region's overall global investment. South Asia's average GDP per capita is only about 9.64% of the global average. Accounting for more than 30% of the world's poor, the region faces myriad economic and environmental challenges.

Lack of initiatives

While the countries share a host of common development challenges, economic cooperation remains less than adequate. While a few noteworthy regional initiatives such as the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) Initiative have

been undertaken to bring the countries closer together, economically and socially, there is scope for much more. For a region with common development challenges of inequality, poverty, weak governance and poor infrastructure, a shared vision of attaining the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provides enormous opportunities for cooperation, collaboration, and convergence (3C).

Compared to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were a set of eight objectives to be achieved by developing nations with support from developed nations by 2015, the SDGs are more universal, inclusive and integrated in nature. The 17 goals and their 169 targets are interconnected and cannot be implemented by countries working in isolation. Many are transnational in nature and require regional efforts. South Asian countries could benefit a lot by adopting a regional framework of cooperation that can support, strengthen and stimulate the SDGs. The SDGs highlight not only the importance of regional approach towards achieving the goals but also the regional synergy and resulting positive value additions towards achieving the SDG 2030 Agenda. In the SDG Index 2018, which is an assessment of countries' progress, among 156 countries only two South Asian countries, Bhutan and Sri Lanka, are in the top 100. India is ranked 112th.



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Most South Asian countries have made good progress in ending extreme poverty, but they face persistent challenges to goals related to industry, innovation and infrastructure, zero hunger, gender equality, education, sustainable cities and communities and decent work and economic growth. These apart, most of South Asia continues to be vulnerable to climate change and climate-induced natural disasters.

Varying performances

A closer look at the country-level data shows that India is performing well in Goal 1 (no poverty), Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation), Goal 12 (sustainable consumption and production), Goal 13 (climate action) and Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) while doing poorly in goal 2 (zero hunger), Goal 5 (gender equality) and Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure). Like India, Bangladesh is doing well in Goals 1, 6, 12 and 13 but poorly in Goals 2 and 9, and lagging behind

in Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy). While doing well in Goals 1 and 12, Pakistan needs improvement in Goals 2, 4, 5 and 9, similar to India and Bangladesh. It also needs improved performance with respect to Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth). There are a lot of similarities among these three big economies of South Asia with respect to achieving some specific SDGs as well as exhibiting poor performance in some common goals.

A regional strategic approach to tackle common development challenges can bring enormous benefits to South Asia. SDGs related to energy, biodiversity, infrastructure, climate resilience and capacities development are transnational, and here policy harmonisation can play a pivotal role in reducing duplication and increasing efficiency. In a study titled 'SDGs Needs Assessment and Financing Strategy: Bangladesh Perspective', Bangladesh has undertaken exemplary initiatives for analysing its available resources and additional funding requirements for SDG implementation, suggesting that the country requires an additional \$928 billion to fully implement the SDGs. The study identifies five possible sources for SDGs financing: public sector, private sector, public-private partnership, external sector and non-government organisations. On the other hand, data for many of the SDG targets and indicators for the Maldives are unavailable. Similarly, India has

formulated some pragmatic plans and initiatives to improve food and nutrition security from which many of the neighbouring countries can benefit.

To address institutional and infrastructural deficits, South Asian countries need deeper regional cooperation. On financing the SDGs in South Asia, countries can work towards increasing the flow of intra-regional FDI. The private sector too can play a vital role in resource mobilisation.

Taking everyone along

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the platform for regional economic cooperation in this region, has become moribund and remains unsuccessful in promoting regional economic cooperation. If the countries of South Asia, the fastest growing region of the world, can come to a common understanding on regional integration and cooperation in achieving the SDGs, it can unleash a powerful synergistic force that can finally make South Asia converge. A convergence towards achieving a common socio-economic agenda gives hope that no one in South Asia will be left behind in the journey towards eradicating poverty and enduring dignity to all.

Syed Munir Khasru is chairman of the think-tank, the Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG), with a presence in Dhaka, Melbourne, Vienna, and the UAE

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.

The yoga way

The article, "What yoga can teach us" (Editorial page, June 17) suggests that if international negotiations started with the practice of yoga, it could result in a calm ambience and allow for wise decisions to evolve. My take on this is that as the land of science, we in India should implement and demonstrate to the world how our discussions in Parliament and elsewhere take place in a calm and quiet ambience created by its practice and how wise and mature decisions are churned out. In the current situation, many of the ardent advocates of yoga in India are not found to be in a state of calm and maturity, in turn provoking divisive tendencies in society. More often than not they are found to make emotionally explosive remarks to instigate disquiet rather

than peace. A theory of science has to be proven for its acceptance.

P.G. MATHEW,
Kochi

Party hopping

India needs a stringent anti-defection law more than a 'one nation, one poll'. There may be reasons for those in the Opposition moving over to the ruling party, but the perception is that there is more to it than meets the eye (Page 1, "Four TDP Rajya Sabha members join BJP", June 21). People have high expectations from Modi 2.0 when there are core issues such as a faltering economy and agriculture. The BJP must encourage healthy democratic practices.

U.A. PRAVEEN,
Warangal, Telangana

■ The Prime Minister's statesman-like pronouncements after

assuming office raised hopes of a refreshing new era. However the cross-over confirms that political morality remains as low as ever. The fact that the MPs are under the scanner points to what could be at play. The BJP's dire need for a majority in the Rajya Sabha is understandable but not at the cost of democratic principles. The anti-defection laws need to be revisited.

MANOHAR ALEMETH,
Kannur, Kerala

Doctors' safety

In his article, "Doctors and patients deserve better" (OpEd page, June 19), Dr. Nagral has given us an understanding of the roots of the pervasive evil of violence against doctors and nurses in India. But as a medical practitioner working overseas for the last 18 years, I can say that such violence is not unusual in western

countries. It has become the subject of discussion in medical literature and the lay press in the U.S. The common feature of these attacks is "victim shaming" by administrators and senior management in hospitals. In other words, the doctor or nurse concerned is made to feel that it is they who brought on the attack due to a 'lack of proper communication', or 'insensitivity at a time of bereavement/emotional distress'. There is now a call for these attitudes to change and to bring in an atmosphere of caring for the victim of the attack. Nothing changes unless systems change. The writer would agree that this dictum is the basis for a lot of the work that follows audits of unexpected or poor outcomes after surgery. The surgeon cannot be made to shoulder the entire blame, or make the corrections

necessary to prevent recurrences. Based on this principle it would behoove us to look at what systemic changes would help prevent violence in hospitals. Parliament has to pass laws or amend the Code of Criminal Procedure appropriately to make violence against doctors, nurses and hospital personnel in the line of duty a cognisable offence. Appropriate changes in the Evidence Act that would make video-recorded evidence adequate to prosecute a violent offender and extending the statute of limitations to allow such prosecution to happen up to five years would also be necessary. The prescribed punishment should also be made clear and based on other such laws currently in place in Commonwealth countries.

Dr. PHILIP G. THOMAS,
McAllen, Texas, U.S.

Seek foreign assistance

The Chennai urban agglomeration is reported to have a population of around 9 million, and receives an average annual rainfall of about 50 inches. The Dallas-Fort Worth metro area in the U.S. has a population of 6.8 million and receives an annual rainfall of only 36 inches. I have lived in a Dallas suburb for a few years without experiencing any drinking water scarcity. If at all there was any shortfall in water supply, it was restricted to the operation of sprinklers to water lawns. Many residences have private swimming pools. The main reason for this happy situation can be ascribed to excellent planning. The Tamil Nadu government could seek the assistance of the U.S. government.

V. NAGARAJAN,
Chennai

MORE LETTERS ONLINE:
www.hindu.com/opinion/letters/

A hundred deaths, and no answers

Cases of acute encephalitis syndrome have seen a spike in Muzaffarpur this year, already claiming more than a hundred lives. **Jacob Koshy** reports on the appalling state of health care in Bihar, even as the debate on what is causing the deaths rages on

For three days, Bihari Mahato and Shyam Babu Saha's families have shared a hospital bed. The two daily-wage labourers, who have had to give up work for three days, haven't exchanged a word, though they have much in common. Both have a boy and a girl each. And their children are battling for life.

Sundar, Mahato's three-and-a-half-year-old son, is naked, emaciated, delirious and has a distended stomach. Himanshi, six months old and in a striped shirt and shorts, looks bigger and healthier than Sundar. She sleeps longer – fitfully, her mother Vimla says. Both families are from different districts of Bihar. Mahato is from Muzaffarpur and Saha is from Sitamarhi district. Their children were suddenly taken ill. When the children were convulsing and feverish, they were rushed to the Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH) in Muzaffarpur. The doctors noted that their blood sugar had dropped precipitously.

Both children are being given dextrose saline (a sugar solution often administered intravenously), but their parents are nervous. "The fever has subsided but it keeps returning," says Saha. "The doctors aren't paying us much attention." But that's a quibble given that many other ailing children are sprawled out on mattresses on the floor. Amidst peeling plaster, strewn banana peels, stomping doctors, nurses, journalists and television crew, the children's ward at SKMCH is symptomatic of the confusion and panic that has gripped Muzaffarpur since early June.

The floor above the general ward is home to the Intensive Care Units (ICUs). Each of the five ICUs has eight beds. Not one of the beds has fewer than three children hooked to bleeping monitors and intravenous lines. Unusually for an ICU, there's little restriction on non-hospital staff shuttling in and out, but unlike the squalid paediatric wards below, there are no patients sprawled on the floor. The floor is clean, the air-conditioners work, the nurses are extra vigilant, and yet here's where death lurks around the corner.

Season of trouble

There is a protocol for doctors. As soon as children are wheeled in, they are monitored for fever, convulsions and signs of confusion or loss of consciousness. "What I've seen is that several children are brought too late. Unfortunately we lose them," says J.P. Mandal, a resident doctor at SKMCH. Between June 1 and 17, 312 children were admitted to the hospital under the umbrella diagnosis of acute encephalitis syndrome (AES). According to the Bihar health department, 85 died. The bulk of the dead, 48, were children aged three to seven. Twenty-nine children were less than three years of age. As of June 21, 104 of the 424 children admitted since January 1 had died. Encephalitis, which refers to an inflammation in the brain due to a viral or bacterial attack, causes fever and almost never a drop in blood sugar. In the current epidemic, as well as in previous ones in Muzaffarpur, the doctors have marked cases of and deaths by hypoglycaemia (drop in blood sugar), which is unusual.

While Bihar loses hundreds of children to AES every year, there were sharp spikes in 2012 and 2014, when 395 and 372 children, respectively, lost their lives. Through the years, AES cases have been reported from several districts in Bihar: Gaya, Patna, Aurangabad, Saran, East Champaran, Sitamarhi and Vaishali. Government figures show that the peak years of 2012 and 2014 saw Muzaffarpur account for 35-40% of hospital admissions. While this year's incidences and deaths are fewer in comparison, the season of trouble is far from over. The outbreak in 2012 took place between May and November. In 2014, it was from May to July. There's no saying how long the current outbreak will last. A common refrain among district administration officials and some doctors is that the yearly outbreak ceases in intensity soon after the monsoon rains begin in Bihar. Why is that? Nobody ventures an explanation.

Sanjay Kumar, the State's top civil servant in charge of health, says he cannot quite put a finger on a "single, determining factor" that is responsible for 2019 turning out to be a bad year. It could be the ongoing heatwave – several parts of Patna, Gaya and even Muzaffarpur have recorded temperatures in excess of 4-5°C over what's normal for this time of the year. At least 80 people have succumbed to the heatwave. "The added heat and humidity could have made young children particularly susceptible to dehydration," he reckons. "It could also be an infectious disease. It could also be because of children eating litchis."

Kumar says all the children who are admitted belong to the lowest socioeconomic rung; there are no instances of infection in cities or even semi-urban localities. He emphasises that the government had been prepared this year



Children with acute encephalitis syndrome undergo treatment at the Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital in Muzaffarpur, Bihar. As of June 21, 104 of the 424 children admitted since January 1 had died due to AES. (Below): Parents of Dileep Kumar, who died in SKMCH, in front of their home in Manika Bishunpur Chand village, Muzaffarpur. •RANJEET KUMAR



We work in the fields and there are litchi orchards aplenty where we live. But this boy isn't capable of plucking fruit on his own. We do feed him some fruit as well as other food but we don't starve him.

INDAL PASWAN
Father of patient

too, like in the past, for the outbreak. It stocked up and supplied oral rehydration solution, ensured that medicine and equipment were provided at medical colleges and district health centres, and conducted public awareness campaigns about the imminent outbreak. However, he admits that the district's key referral hospital, SKMCH, wasn't equipped to deal with the deluge of patients. "This year will be a turning point. The bed capacity will be increased to 1,500 and we will have a virology lab [to better investigate vitals of patients and determine disease causes]."

Debating the litchi link

Arun Shah, a paediatrician and private practitioner who has been working in the city since 1984, insists that the spike in AES cases and in fatalities is a result of malnourished children suffering brain damage after eating litchis, particularly unripe or overripe ones. In a 2014 paper, Shah and virologist T. Jacob John had argued that the children in Shah's clinic in Muzaffarpur were found to have extremely low blood sugar levels and signs of brain damage. While viral or bacterial infections that cause encephalitis (an inflammation of brain cells due to an infection) were well known in Muzaffarpur and neighbouring districts, many of them were taking sick and dying due to encephalopathy (brain damage, in this case, due to an environmental toxin). In 2016, a detailed investigation, published in *The Lancet Global Health* by the National Centre for Disease Control, India, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, found "confirmation" that litchis contained a chemical called methylene cyclopropyl glycine (MCPG). These are naturally occurring toxins that cause hypoglycaemia and metabolic derangement in children.

When a child is malnourished, her body, having exhausted its reserves of glucose from the digestive tract and the liver, typically turns to fatty acids in biochemical desperation to supply blood sugar to the brain. MCPG, the theory

goes, thwarts this mechanism. This can send the brain into hypoglycaemic shock triggering convulsions and, if unaddressed, even death. "But please don't blame litchis," stresses Shah. "It is the pride of Muzaffarpur."

At a press conference two years ago, to underline that the litchi fruit was only a triggering factor and sickened only malnourished children, Shah and John ate a bowlful of the fruit in front of television cameras to emphasise that it was malnutrition, and not the fruit, that was the dominant cause of the disease. Shah is unambiguous that the children are suffering because the government didn't do enough. The recently concluded Lok Sabha election distracted the government from adequately preparing for the outbreak, he says. In 2016, he was part of a government-constituted committee that prescribed guidelines: Children shouldn't be allowed to skip their evening meal, they should avoid stepping out in the heat, and local public healthcare centres must stock up on anti-convulsion drugs as well as dextrose. These were adhered to in 2017 and 2018. And that's why there were relatively fewer reports of AES, he argues.

While encephalitis outbreaks in Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur were due to other causes, and children from Muzaffarpur and neighbouring districts have battled viruses such as the Japanese encephalitis virus, the large-scale litchi cultivation in Muzaffarpur, which contributes about 40% of the State's litchi production, "can't be ignored as a triggering factor," he points out.

At SKMCH, several parents of the ailing children are categorical that their children did not eat litchis. The authors of *The Lancet* study found that two-thirds of children who were sick had eaten litchis. "We work in the fields and there are litchi orchards aplenty where

we live," says Indal Paswan, whose two-and-a-half-year-old son is prostrate on a hospital bed. "But this boy isn't capable of plucking fruit on his own. We do feed him some fruit as well as other food but we don't starve him."

Mandal is insistent that there is a virus or some biological agent that is responsible for the recurrent outbreaks. He scoffs at suggestions of the litchi's complicity. Children who were brought to the hospital were "poor but not classically malnourished," he says. If malnutrition and litchi consumption were the causes, then there ought to have been a fairly constant number of deaths every year. This has not been observed, he says. "A peak and an ebb in cases and deaths is what we see. And that's more typical of a biological agent."

That no virus or bacteria has been isolated yet in Muzaffarpur is because the hospital lacks adequate facilities to collect tissue and blood samples from patients and preserve them adequately for examination. "I'm confident that at some point this will be found and there will be no mystery," Mandal says. The focus of treatment, he adds, is to ensure that convulsions are brought under control and blood sugar levels are restored.

What Shah and Mandal do agree on is that the vast majority of deaths could have been prevented if the children had made it to a hospital on time. The most important medicines were easily available, and most of the primary health care centres were well stocked and equipped to deal with AES cases.

No time to grieve

Yet, four-year-old Mohammed Jahid lost his life. Until he fell sick, Jahid had spent his days playing with his older siblings and cousins in the village of Bishunpur Chand, Musahari. His home was a single room thatched hut that did not have a

toilet. His and his cousins' houses lay at the edge of an orchard that had several rows of tall, stout litchi trees. In June, there were only a few fruits that clung to the trees. Most had been plucked and carted away for sale by the owner of the orchard who lives in Patna. "He didn't show any signs of illness. He had a fever for two days," recounts Jahid's aunt, Asha Khatoon. "We took him to a private doctor nearby." One night, Jahid became delirious, and his father Mohammed Idris rushed to get an autorickshaw to take him to a hospital. He didn't find one immediately as the roads had been dug up. When they made it to SKMCH, Jahid was immediately taken to the ICU, but he didn't survive beyond three hours. A day after burying Jahid, Idris was away to find work as a daily-wage labourer. There were still two boys, two girls and a wife to feed.

Dinesh Ram, who lives half a kilometre away from Jahid's house, mourns the loss of his three-year-old son, Dileep Kumar. The boy had complained of stomach pain for three days and the local doctor had prescribed a tonic. That didn't work. When the child turned febrile, Ram scrambled to get him to SKMCH that was about 20 km away.

The Bihar government has announced ₹4 lakh as compensation to every family that has lost a child to AES. Ram didn't know that. He was unaware that he had to collect a death certificate from the hospital to claim the compensation. He'd thrown away the medical receipt after he had his son cremated. "We are poor and unaware. I really don't know what to do. There are other children to take care of," he says.

Poor health record

Irrespective of whether a biological agent or malnutrition is to blame, Bi-

SKMCH is a tertiary care centre and a medical college-cum-hospital. We have our limitations. Encephalitis is not the only thing we deal with. Several primary health centres are well-equipped and well-staffed, but people somehow believe that they can only be saved here.

J.P. MANDAL
Resident doctor at SKMCH

har's poor track record in ensuring that the poorest have access to adequate nutrition and distrust in the public health care system are major causes for the deaths. "SKMCH is a tertiary care centre and is a medical college-cum-hospital. We have our limitations. Encephalitis is not the only thing we deal with. Several primary health centres are well equipped and well staffed, but people somehow believe that they can only be saved here," says Mandal. "There are clear state-directed guidelines on what signs and symptoms doctors have to watch out for, and there is a clear action plan. Just following it is adequate."

A senior government official, who doesn't want to be identified, says doctors in several primary health care centres are "afraid" of doing anything beyond the bare minimum to rescue a child. "Because the primary health care centres and health centres are located in a village or community, there's a greater chance of violence in case a child dies. Over the years, this has led to a lack of trust among people in their nearest health facility and they opt for tertiary care. Solving this remains among the government's key worries," he says.

Moreover, Bihar's position at the bottom of national health indices makes novel diseases harder to detect and known diseases harder to treat. According to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) of 2015-2016, 48% of children in Bihar were stunted, compared to the national average of 38%. Bihar also performed poorly in terms of its ability to spend and implement schemes that provided nutritious food to children and expectant mothers. Two-thirds of eligible children did not get healthy meals, the NFHS report noted.

Shah says he's decided to embark on an experiment to conclusively prove that malnutrition is the single biggest cause of Muzaffarpur's tragedy. Along with a team, he will be identifying villages in blocks that show maximum mortality. He says before the litchi season next year, he will personally ensure that children are well fed and that they don't eat too many litchis or loiter about in the heat. "I promise you there will be zero deaths. Then perhaps the State administration can become more serious about addressing hunger and malnutrition," he says.

But today, the State has failed Muzaffarpur's children.



FROM PAGE ONE

'IS was initially unaware of Easter attacks'

About 48 hours after the April 21 attacks, which claimed over 250 lives, the IS took credit for the bombings, with the group's Amaq news agency releasing a visual of the Sri Lankan suicide bombers, standing by a black flag of the IS, apparently pledging allegiance. The faces of all but one – the alleged ring leader Zahran Hashim – were masked. At the time, IS analysts had pointed to the "delay" in the claim, with some of them even terming it "uncharacteristic" of the terror group.

Sri Lankan investigators are yet to find concrete evidence of whether the local jihadists were directly connected to the IS. "They were all sympathisers of the IS, but it remains unclear how they maintained links with the IS, if in fact they did. Now we have also come across some other radicals here who are supporters of the IS," the official said, requesting anonymity, due to the sensitivity of the ongoing probe.

'Another key suspect'

Investigators also expect to draw out more specific information in the coming weeks from five Sri Lankan suspects who were deported from Saudi Arabia last week. One of them, Mohamed Milhan, is believed to have been chosen the likely successor of Zahran Hashim, to lead the radical National Thowheed Jama'ath (NTJ).

Significantly, investigators have traced Milhan's involvement in two cases that

are now considered important precursors to the Easter killings. The first involves the shooting of two policemen, in November 2018, at a checkpoint in the eastern Batticaloa district from where Zahran Hashim hailed and the other being the shooting of a Minister's coordinating secretary in March, in the central town of Mawanela. The secretary, who was seriously injured, is now in hospital.

Milhan's name was also mentioned in a memo dated April 11, sent from a top Sri Lankan police official to the security services, warning of possible suicide attacks targeting catholic churches. The letter is proof of prior intelligence – including information shared by India – having been available.

Investigators have established that Milhan left the country on April 17 – about a week after the letter was circulated, and four days before the deadly bombings. "We are hoping to retrieve Milhan's phone and laptop from the authorities in Saudi, to pull out more evidence of his role in the plot," the official said.

The interrogations have revealed Zahran Hashim's "dictatorial tendencies".

"The youth he drew, including most other suicide bombers for the Easter mission, were keen on fighting foreign wars for the IS – in Syria or Iraq. But Zahran had told them 'nothing doing', and that this assignment in Sri Lanka was as holy and important," the official said.

GST Council eases returns filing process

"The Council also approved into law decisions taken by it in earlier meetings, such as raising the turnover threshold for GST registration to ₹40 lakh a year, from ₹20 lakh a year, and extending the Composition Scheme to services," Mr. Pandey said. "These were earlier by notification, now they have been put in the law."

Electronic invoicing

The Council also decided to introduce the electronic invoicing system in a phased manner for B2B transactions. Phase-1 is proposed to be voluntary and would roll out from January 1, 2020.

Related to this, the Council also decided that registered multiplexes shall be required to issue a tax invoice electronically and for this purpose an electronic ticket issued by them shall be deemed to be a tax invoice.

"The decision to implement the e-invoicing model means that technology will continue to play a critical role in tax administration," Pratik Jain, Partner & Lead-

er, Indirect Tax, PwC India said. "While this system could initially be implemented for the B2B segment only, with e-ticketing for multi-screen cinema halls a similar mechanism is also proposed for B2C segment."

"One of the major decisions is roll-out of e-invoicing concept from January 2020, which will remove the burden of generating e-waybill," Vishal Raheja, Deputy General Manager of GST at Taxmann said. "This concept will be a milestone towards ease of doing business as the taxpayer will generate the invoice electronically and there would not be any requirement to generate an e-waybill."

In addition, the tenure of the National Anti-Profitteering Authority has been extended by two years.

"Now that the GST Council has approved extension of National Anti-Profitteering Authority by two years, one would expect the framing of rules and guidance from Government as to what constitutes profiteering," said R. Muralidharan, Senior Director, Deloitte India.

'No goals can be met if Centre, States do not work together'

Minister highlights 'unprecedented' devolution of funds



Nirmala Sitharaman leaving after a meeting of the GST Council in New Delhi on Wednesday.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

While the Centre has the responsibility of setting the direction of economic growth, it is the responsibility of the States to implement it on the field, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Friday.

"No goals can be achieved if the States and the Centre don't work together in cohesion," Ms. Sitharaman said during a pre-Budget consultative meeting with State Finance Ministers.

She also highlighted that the devolution of Central taxes to the States had increased from 32% to 42% during the first tenure of the NDA government. "An un-

Why slogans and placards, asks Speaker

Advises members to abide by House rules, tells MPs to 'stop talking' during introduction of talaq Bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Friday questioned the practice of MPs trooping into the Well of the House with placards.

"Why should 'zindabad-murdabad' slogans be raised (in) the Well or placard be brought in the Well? Those interested in doing so have the freedom to do so outside," he said.

In his first press conference after assuming office, Mr. Birla said elections in India have always been a "transparent and accountable exercise" and referred to the Opposition forming the government after the 1975 Emergency.

"If this was not the case, after 1975 the Opposition would never have been able to form the government," Mr. Birla told reporters.

Though he didn't make any reference to electronic voting machines (EVMs), his remarks are significant in the backdrop of several Opposition leaders expressing



Listing his priorities: LS Speaker Om Birla at a press conference at Parliament on Friday. •PTI

doubts over the integrity of EVMs.

The Speaker noted that the 17th Lok Sabha had as many as 256 first-time members, including 46 first-time women MPs. In all, the Lok Sabha has 78 women MPs, including the youngest MP from Odisha who is just 25.

Mr. Birla mooted the idea of developing an app that can educate first-timers on the various rules and procedures.

The Speaker, who represents the Lok Sabha constituency of Kota – considered a coaching hub for students appearing in IITs and other competitive exams – spoke of developing the Parliament library into a digital facility that can benefit students and researchers.

Be precise, MPs told

Talking about his priorities, he said he would work to enhance the House's dignity

and advised members to abide by rules and regulations.

On the first day of presiding over routine Parliamentary proceedings on Friday, Mr. Birla asked members to be brief and precise while asking questions. During Prime Minister Narendra Modi before asking the first question, Mr. Birla asked him to come to the point.

Defections illegal, TDP tells RS chair

House puts BJP numbers at 75

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Rajya Sabha Secretariat on Friday revised the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) number even as a delegation of Telugu Desam Party (TDP) MPs called on Rajya Sabha Chairman and Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu to ask him not to recognise the defected TDP members as part of the BJP.

Reduced to two

The BJP's numbers in the Upper House now stand at 75 while the TDP is reduced to two members from an earlier strength of six MPs.

The action by the RS Secretariat follows the cognisance taken by the Rajya Sabha Chairman's office where it noted that the breakaway faction of the TDP

had sought the merger of the TDP legislature party under Section 4 of the Anti Defection Law.

But the TDP submitted a memorandum to Mr. Naidu in which it argued that there had been no political merger between the TDP and the BJP and that's why the TDP Legislature Party in the Rajya Sabha cannot merge with the BJP.

"Having gone through the law what we now understand is, merger of a political party has to take place at only the organisational level. It cannot take place at legislature party level. Since the TDP and BJP have not merged at the organisational level this is not a legal merger," Mr. Galla told reporters after making their submissions.

BJP engineered defection of TDP leaders: Mayawati

Congress terms it a murder of Constitution and democracy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) president Mayawati on Friday mocked the BJP for "engineering defection" of four Rajya Sabha MPs from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) by pointing out how the ruling party used to "call two of them Andhra's Mallya," referring to their alleged default on bank loans.

On Thursday, TDP leaders Y.S. Chowdary, C.M. Ramesh, Garikapati Mohan Rao and T.G. Venkatesh, called on Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu to inform him of their decision to join the BJP.

"Yesterday when the President was giving assurances to the country on behalf of the government, the BJP en-



Mayawati

gineered defection of four TDP MPs," Ms. Mayawati tweeted. "The BJP had earlier dubbed two of these MPs 'Andhra's Mallya' but now after joining their party, the lawmakers have become *doodh ka dhula* (pure after being cleansed with milk). It is clear that everything is fair in the BJP brand of politics and nothing is wrong."

The Congress strongly questioned the defections "undertaken to manufacture a majority" in the Rajya Sabha and described it as "murder of democracy."

"Horsetrading is now the bedrock of BJP's so-called 'expansion'. This reprehensible phenomenon, sans any ideological moorings is murder of Constitution and democracy," said Congress' chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala. "Such sinister attempts virtually abrogate the Anti-Defection Law," said the Congress leader.

"In July, just before the Gujarat Rajya Sabha elections, the BJP blatantly and shamelessly used money and state machinery to lure at least 14 Congress MLAs," said Mr. Surjewala.

Forest cover up by 1%, says Javadekar

'For one tree chopped for development work, three to four are planted'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Environment Prakash Javadekar on Friday told the Lok Sabha that India's forest cover was up by 1% in the last one year, while former Minister and his own party's MP Maneka Gandhi disputed the fact, cautioning him that satellite imagery could be misleading, with sugar cane crops being mistaken for trees.

Responding to supplementaries during Question Hour, Mr. Javadekar said for one tree chopped for development work, three to four



Prakash Javadekar

were planted either in the same area or elsewhere.

Responding to Ms. Gandhi, he said satellite imagery was taken at regular intervals and it was unlikely that sugar cane crops were

counted as such.

According to a latest report, over 24.39% of the country's geographical area now consists of green cover. He said 125 crore trees would be planted along highways to increase the green cover.

The Minister, in response to a separate question, said the government did not agree with a private weather agency's report on climate change that 11 out of 15 hottest places in the world are from India. Mr. Javadekar was responding to BJP MP Jagdambika Pal's questions, stating that the government

did not agree with the findings of the agency, El Dorado Weather, and the data on its website vary every day.

"The report of hottest places – 11 out of 15 hottest places in the world are from India – is based on a newspaper article quoting a private weather forecasting agency El Dorado Weather. The agency in its webpage reports the 15 places with maximum temperature of the last 24 hours on a daily basis and the hottest places vary each day. The government does not agree with the findings," he said.

Restore central Tamil news unit at AIR: Raja

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha member D. Raja on Friday demanded that the central Tamil news unit at the All India Radio (AIR) headquarters in Delhi be immediately restored.

"I am raising an urgent matter of public importance related to Tamil language, the most ancient and great classical language. This language is spoken by more than eight crore people in India today. Sir, we are sensitive to the language question. Tamil is spoken significantly in all south Indian States," said Mr. Raja during

'Consider Bills pending in RS as lapsed'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman M. Venkaiah Naidu on Friday suggested that a Bill pending for more than five years in the Upper House should be deemed to have lapsed, calling for a wider debate on the issue.

"The Bills passed by the Lok Sabha, and pending in the Rajya Sabha, lapse with the dissolution of the House of the People... they have to be reintroduced in the Lok Sabha and the entire process has to be gone through afresh. This means a lot of delay. Can we make any change in this regard?"

In all, 22 Bills passed by the 16th Lok Sabha, which were pending in the Upper House, lapsed. "In effect, the Lok Sabha has to take up these 22 Bills again for consideration and passing... it would take a minimum of two sessions for doing so," said Mr. Naidu. Among them were the Land Acquisition Bill, Consumer Protection Bill, Triple Talaq Bill and the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill.

Status quo sought in Sabarimala

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Revolutionary Socialist Party (RSP) MP from Kollam in Kerala, N.K. Premachandran, introduced a private member's Bill in the Lok Sabha on Friday that sought to restore the ban on menstruating women from entering the Sabarimala temple.

Striking down the ban on entry of women, the Supreme Court, by an order in September 2018, had thrown open the doors of the temple to all women.

Mr. Premachandran's Bill, The Shree Dharma Sastha Temple (Special Provisions) Bill, 2019, proposes to continue the practices in place before the Supreme Court order.

Sharing the grief



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh consoling the family members of a victim of the AN-32 crash, after his mortal remains were brought to the Palam AFS in New Delhi on Friday. •PTI

16 held after Bhatpara firing; BJP marches with bodies

Team of MPs to visit the area, submit report to Amit Shah

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

As many as 16 people were arrested in connection with Thursday's firing at Bhatpara in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district in which two persons were killed and 11, including six policemen, were injured.

While Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee ordered the police "to bring the situation under control in 72 hours", according to government officials, the BJP demanded an inquiry by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the incident.

Locals blamed the police for the firing, while the police denied the allegation. Two men, Dharamveer

Trinamool to skip meetings

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Trinamool government in West Bengal will continue its boycott of meetings called by the Centre until the Union Home Ministry stops sending advisories to

the State under Article 355 of the Constitution, party MP Saugata Roy told the Lok Sabha on Friday. Article 355 pertains to the duty of the Union to protect the States against external aggression and internal disturbance.

dent of violence was reported.

The BJP announced that three MPs, including Bengal MP S.S. Ahluwalia, would visit Bhatpara on Saturday. The team would "submit a report to the national president Amit Shah," a BJP note said.

IN BRIEF



Smriti Irani writes post against bullying

NEW DELHI
Union minister Smriti Irani wrote a strong post against bullying on Instagram on Friday after her daughter was humiliated and mocked in school. She said she deleted her daughter's selfie because of a bully in her class. She further said that her daughter had asked her to delete the post, which she later did.

YSRCP seeks 50% quota for OBCs in Parliament

NEW DELHI
A private member Bill moved by YSR Congress Party's V. Vijayasai Reddy in the Rajya Sabha has sought 50% reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBC) in State Assemblies and Parliament. While introducing the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2018 (insertion of new articles 330A and 332A), Mr. Reddy said there were over 2,400 OBC categories in India and around 2,000 were never represented in Parliament. "The objective of the Bill is that 50% seats in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies should be reserved for OBCs in proportion to their population," said Mr. Reddy.

Thakur warns of action against erring bus owners

SHIMLA
A day after the Kullu bus accident left 44 dead and 34 injured, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur said his government would take stern action against bus owners found guilty of overloading. Talking to the media during his visit to Kullu on Friday, the CM said the Additional District Magistrate had been instructed to conduct an inquiry into the incident. He also enquired about the condition of the injured at the regional hospital. **PTI**

Trinamool MP raises NaMo TV issue in LS

NEW DELHI
Trinamool Congress MP Mohua Moitra on Friday raised the issue of NaMo TV and its broadcasts during the recently concluded Lok Sabha election, demanding that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting "close the legal loophole that enabled the broadcast". She raised the issue in the Lok Sabha during Zero Hour. "I urge the Information and Broadcasting Minister to close the legal loophole that enabled broadcasting of this channel as soon as possible as it gives an unfair advantage to the ruling party," she added.



Stretching it: (Clockwise from top) Naval officers and cadets performing yoga on board the decommissioned *INS Viraat* to mark the 5th International Day of Yoga in Mumbai on Friday; participants at an event in New York's Times Square; and sadhus at the Kamakhya temple near Nilachal Hills in Guwahati. **AP, PTI & RITU RAJ KANWAR**



Stretching it: (Clockwise from top) Naval officers and cadets performing yoga on board the decommissioned *INS Viraat* to mark the 5th International Day of Yoga in Mumbai on Friday; participants at an event in New York's Times Square; and sadhus at the Kamakhya temple near Nilachal Hills in Guwahati. **AP, PTI & RITU RAJ KANWAR**

Let our motto be yoga for peace: PM



Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Ranchi, Jharkhand, on Friday. **REUTERS**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT RANCHI/NEW DELHI

"Yoga is above religion, caste, colour, gender and region - it is above everything. We should make efforts to take yoga from cities to villages and tribal areas. Let our motto be yoga for peace, harmony and progress," said Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday, leading the fifth International Yoga Day celebrations at Prabhat Tara ground, Ranchi. Stating that yoga has provided a perfect blend of

knowledge, karma and *bhakti*, the Prime Minister noted: "I want to make yoga an integral part of the lives of the poor. Diseases make a poor person poorer; I want to take yoga from cities to the villages, to the jungles, to the poor. Yoga belongs to everyone and everyone belongs to yoga." "Today, when the world is accepting yoga, we have to further research on yoga; we have to unite yoga with medicine, physiotherapy and artificial intelligence," he said.

Yoga known globally thanks to Modi: Shah



Union Home Minister Amit Shah performing Yoga in Rohtak on Friday. **AKHILESH KUMAR**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said it was owing to efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi that "Yoga" has got recognition at international level and it was acting as an ambassador, attracting the whole world towards India's age-old culture. He was speaking at the State-level function of 5th international Yoga day celebrations in Haryana's Rohtak as a chief guest. Mr. Shah said foreign in-

vaders ruled India for a long time and since then Yoga got to be practised only by 'saints and gurus'. "Though several programmes were organised from time to time in the country for the promotion of Yoga, it got recognition at international level in the year 2014, when Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister," he said. "Yoga is a practice which not only ensures physical and mental development of an individual but also provides strength to perform work with ease," he said.

NIA files chargesheet against IS module

Agency says it was planning terror attacks in Delhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) filed a chargesheet against 10 people who were arrested from Delhi and Amroha in Uttar Pradesh last year for allegedly propagating the Islamic State ideology. NIA said the accused were preparing to make remote-controlled IEDs and wanted to establish the 'IS Caliphate' by resorting to large scale terrorist attacks in and around the National Capital Region. The agency filed the chargesheet in a special NIA court at Patiala House in Delhi where it said "the group wanted to manufacture IEDs, to be detonated by remote-controlled devices, of more than 100 metres range." It said two of the accused also recorded videos that were to be published after their suicide attacks. The accused against whom chargesheet was filed are Mufti Mohd Suhail (30) Anas Younus (21) Zubair Malik (22) Rashid Zafar Raq (24) Md. Saqib (26) Md. Absar, Said (24), Md. Gufran (25) Md. Faiz (25) and Naim



A soldier guarding the headquarters of the National Investigation Agency in New Delhi. **AV. SUDERSHAN**

Choudhary (22). NIA had registered the case on December 20, 2018 against Mufti Suhail and others on the allegation that he had formed an IS module with others to commit terror activities and the module was amassing weapons and explosives. "They had named this module as 'Harkat-ul-Harb-E-Islam' (Movement for War of Islam). This group owed its allegiance to IS and wanted to establish an IS Caliphate in India by resorting to large scale terrorist attacks in and around National Capital Region. The group carried out reconnaissance of some locations in and around NCR," the agency said. Searches were conducted

at 17 locations on December 26 last year in Delhi and U.P and 12 pistols, 163 assorted ammunition, one improvised missile launcher, 98 mobile devices/phones, 25 kg of explosive chemicals, hardware/electronic materials including 120 alarm clocks to make IEDs, and incriminating books/material were seized from the premises of the accused persons. The module was being guided by three IS handlers based abroad. "The module made extensive use of encrypted social media applications/chat platforms. These have been recovered from their mobile phones," NIA said.

U.S. keen to accelerate ties in wake of huge Modi mandate

We are at a high point in Strategic Partnership, says official

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN WASHINGTON

The U.S. wants to use Secretary of State Michael Pompeo's visit to New Delhi next week to capitalise on the early days of Modi 2.0 and accelerate its ties with India. However, trade concerns and India's planned purchase of the S-400 missile shield from Russia remain problematic. "We're at a high point in the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership, and we think we have an unprecedented opportunity to broaden and deepen that relationship," a Senior State Department official, who did not want to be named, told reporters on a briefing call on Friday. "And so we want to seize this moment early in his second administration to accelerate what has been the upward trajectory of our relationship and to set some



Mike Pompeo

ambitious goals," the official said, referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi having secured a strong mandate after the recent elections. The State Department confirmed that Mr. Pompeo will hold talks with Prime Minister Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, who was described by the official as "one of the visionaries behind the expansion of the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership."

Mr. Pompeo will also deliver a speech on the future of the relationship in New Delhi and discuss economic aspects of the relationship with business leaders and industry members. "Our companies have concerns over market access and the lack of a level playing field in important sectors, and recent Indian government measures, such as increasing tariffs on a range of products, restricting e-commerce operations, and limiting the free flow of data are particularly problematic - not just for U.S. companies, I would say, but for Indian companies and their long-term competitiveness," the official said. "We want both of our nations to thrive." With regard to Iran, Mr. Pompeo is expected to discuss oil and India's development of Iran's Chabahar port.

India likely to raise terror, financial crimes at G20 meet

Open to negotiations on data localisation, e-commerce

SUHASINI HAIDAR KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE NEW DELHI

India is likely to raise issues of terrorism, energy security and climate change financing, and call for stricter international laws on economic fugitives when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits Osaka for the G20 summit of the world's largest economies on June 28-29, said senior officials in New Delhi.



Former Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu. **PTI**

Indicating that the government might still be open to negotiation on the two major issues of e-commerce and data localisation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Sherpa for the summit, former Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu said that both policies, which have come in for severe attack from several western countries, were still being debated within the country. "We have certain views on e-commerce and data localisation. Those issues are being debated and discussed at various forums within the country. As far as G20 is concerned, we will put forward our views as they are emanating from the discussion within the country," Mr.

Prabhu told journalists at a briefing on the summit agenda. This year's summit under Japanese Presidency has the theme of "Human centred future society" and will take up digital economy, artificial intelligence, global health, ageing and marine plastic waste as subjects of deliberation. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, in a speech on May 30, laid the agenda for the summit and highlighted the global nature of data as opposed to its localisation. The Government of India is bracing for pressure on its data localisation guidelines at the G20 summit, given an outcry particularly from the United States and Japan on the Reserve Bank's circular

last year that stipulated that all "data relating to payment systems" must be "stored in a system only in India." In the May 30 speech, Mr. Abe announced that he would push for a "Data Free Flow with Trust," or DFFT system. Making a veiled reference to the Indian plan of a "single closed-off room", he said data localisation would result in "immeasurable losses". Diplomatic sources confirmed that the DFFT would be on the agenda to be adopted by the G20 nations. India has also faced bilateral backlash from the U.S. on the guidelines. While the State Department denied reports on Thursday that it would link data localisation laws to curbing HI-B visas, U.S. officials have made it clear to New Delhi that they expect a change in the guidelines proposed by the RBI. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, who attended the trade ministers of G20 conference last week, also convened meetings of industry bodies, as well as had a meeting with the Finance and External Affairs Ministers this week and discussed India's stand at G20.

Punjab to call all-party meet on groundwater depletion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Amrinder Singh on Friday said it was high time that steps were taken to tackle the problem of depletion of groundwater "as the State was on the verge of turning into a desert". "Posterity will not forgive us in case we fail to act now," said Capt. Amrinder, as he announced that an all-party meeting would be convened soon to evolve a broad con-

sensus to comprehensively address the problem of depletion of groundwater. The Chief Minister was chairing a high-level meeting of Cabinet ministers, political leaders, senior officials, water experts, scientists and representatives of the farmer organisations and industry to discuss ways and means to resolve the alarming situation emerging out of fast depleting groundwater table across the State here.

A.P. STATE AGRO INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A GOVT. OF A.P. UNDERTAKING)
Admn. Office: D.No. 55-17-2 to 4, 5th Floor, Stair Corporate Building, Road No.2, C-Block, Industrial Estate, Autonagar, Vijayawada - 520 007.
Ph:0866-2558803, Fax: 0866-2558804, Website: www.apagros.org, E-mail: apagrosspeshi@gmail.com
NO. AGROS/FMD/EOI/ST Lab/2018-19 Date: 20.06.2019

EOI NOTICE INVITING SEALED QUOTATIONS
Sealed Quotations are invited from reputed manufacturers and importers for supply commissioning validation of equipment to Soil Testing labs and Pesticide Testing labs of Department of Agriculture, Andhra Pradesh. The details of EOI Schedule cost, submission particulars etc., may be seen in our website: www.apagros.org Sd/- V.C. AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
e-TENDER NOTICE
Tender No: 1-4/SE/PHC/PKD
KIFB & NABARD- WSSs to Elavanchery, Ampalappara, Karimpa, Kongad, Koppam, Vilayoor panchayaths- Construction of WTP, OHSR, RWPM, Pumphouse, pumpset, distribution line etc.. EMD: ₹ 2,00,000 - 5,00,000/- Tender fee: ₹ 11,200-16,800/-
Last Date for submitting Tender: 24-07-2019 3:00 pm. Phone: 0491-2544927
Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in www.tenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-60-2019-20 Superintending Engineer PH Circle, Palakkad

Government of Kerala
TENDER
FOREST & WILD LIFE DEPARTMENT
Window No:19/122 Tender No. B1-2641/19 Divisonal Forest Officer, South Wayanad Division, Kalpatta Pin-673121. Phone No.04936203428 E-Auction/Re-Auction of Teak Timber, poles, billets and firewood collected from various Dumping Deposits of Cheddiel Range coming under Wayanad Forest Division on 11.15.25/7/2019, 6/22/31/8/2019, 6/17,27/9/2019,16,15,30/10/2019, 5,12,27/11/2019 and 17, 31/12/2019. EMD: ₹ 50000/- PAC 14 C/19
Full details on Tender Advertisement appeared above are exhibited before the Office from which the tenders are being invited on all working days from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. For details visit www.kwa.gov.in/ Tender orders may be placed only through the window. No intimation of the advertisement of your choice. R.O.No. 78/G1/2019/PRD

ANNA UNIVERSITY
CHENNAI - 600 025
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Ref No. 5726/PP4/ET/DAST/DLSPSA/2019
On-line Tenders in Two Bid System are invited for Supply and Installation of following equipment for the Professor and Head, Department of Applied Science and Technology, Anna University, Chennai - 600 025.

Sl.No.	Tender Ref. No.	Name of the equipment	Qty.	approx. cost ₹
1.	5726/PP4/ET/DAST/DLSPSA/2019	*Dynamic Light Scattering Particle Size Analyzer (DLSPSA)	1	35,00,000/-
2.	5863/PP4/ET/GCMS/DAST/2019	Gas Chromatography - Mass Spectrometry	1	60,00,000/-

The tender documents can be downloaded by registering in the website <https://tenders.gov.in> using Digital Signature Certificate and E-Token from 05.30 p.m. on 22.06.2019. The filled-in tender documents can be submitted by uploading in the website up to 03.00 p.m. on 09.07.2019 and will be opened at 03.00 p.m. on 10.07.2019. For EMD and other detailed tender conditions, future corrigenda etc., please visit the website (<https://tenders.gov.in>) and any press advertisement will not published in this regard.
REGISTRAR i/c
DIPR/2105/Tender/2019

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/ETND-EP-04/3751/2019-20 Date: 20.06.2019

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK e - Procurement Portal Only)

Item rate Tenders under two cover system are invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from Class-I Contractors (Civil) registered in KPWD who have got adequate financial resources & sufficient past experience for the following works as per the schedule given below:

KW-4: Name of Work: (1) Providing and laying Ductile Iron pipe Raising main for providing Tertiary Treated water from the proposed 40MLD Tertiary Treatment Plant at Narasapura Industrial Area to the Industrial areas at Vemgal, Hoskote, Masthenahalli, Jakkasandra, Malur etc., Kolar & Chikkaballapura District. Approx cost put to tender: Rs.8473.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.84.73 Lakhs. Time for completion Including Monsoon: 10 Months, Class of Contractor: KPWD Class-I (Civil).
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 : 03.07.2019 Up to 05:00 pm
- Pre bid meeting will be held on : 05.07.2019 at 12:00 noon
- Last date for submission of bids is : 23.07.2019 upto 04:00 pm
- Time and date of opening Technical bids is on : 25.07.2019 at 11:30 am.

Sd/-
Chief Development Officer & Chief Engineer-1
DIPR/DDU/RO-490/2019-20

Iran insists U.S. drone violated air space, vows to defend borders

'Won't hesitate for a moment to decisively respond to any aggression'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Iran vowed on Friday to defend its borders after downing a U.S. drone it insisted had violated the country's airspace, after it emerged that President Donald Trump had approved and then called off retaliatory strikes on Iranian targets.

The downing of the drone — which Washington insists was above international waters but Iran says was within its airspace — has seen tensions between the two countries spike further after a series of attacks on tankers in the Gulf which the U.S. has blamed on Tehran.

The commander of the aerospace arm of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards said the drone was warned twice before it was downed over the Gulf of Oman.

"This aircraft possesses a system which allows it to relay the signals and information it receives to its own central system," Brigadier General Amirali Hajizadeh told state television.

Under pressure to respond to the high-stakes incident near the strategic Strait of Hormuz, Mr. Trump issued orders for retaliatory strikes, but then called it off.

The U.S. President had struck a combative tone in his public comments before rowing back. "Iran made a very big mistake!" he tweeted in response to news Iran had shot down the Global Hawk surveillance aircraft. "This country will not stand for it, that I can tell you," he said later at the White House.

Fears of open conflict

But as the pre-dawn incident whipped up fears of open conflict between the U.S. and its declared foe Iran, Mr. Trump moved swiftly to dial back tensions. "I find it hard to believe it was intentional, if you want to know the truth," Mr. Trump said.

Following the President's mixed message, the U.S. special representative on Iran, Brian Hook, called on Friday for diplomacy.

"Our diplomacy does not



Threats and actions: Wreckage in Tehran on Friday of what Iran claimed was the downed American drone. *REUTERS

give Iran the right to respond with military force," he told reporters in Saudi Arabia. "Iran needs to meet diplomacy with diplomacy, not military force."

Oil prices edged down slightly on Friday following the previous day's surge that saw prices soar more than 6%, while the price of gold — seen as a safe haven asset —

struck near six-year highs.

Iran said it had called in the Swiss Ambassador, whose country has represented U.S. interests since the severance of diplomatic relations in the aftermath of the Islamic revolution of 1979, to issue a formal protest.

Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi provided the

Ambassador with "indisputable" evidence that the drone had violated Iranian airspace, the Foreign Ministry said.

Mr. Araghchi "reiterated that Iran does not seek a war and conflict in the Persian Gulf", but warned: "The Islamic Republic of Iran would not hesitate for a moment to decisively defend its territo-

ry against any aggression." Iranian television later broadcast images of what it said was "debris" of the downed drone recovered from Iran's territorial waters. "The debris was floating. We recovered it from the sea inside our territorial waters," a general said.

'Unprovoked attack'

The Pentagon denounced the "unprovoked attack," claiming that the Navy drone was 34 km from Iran when destroyed by a surface-to-air missile. It published a map showing the flight path of the drone, which indicated that it travelled outside of Iranian waters and included a photograph showing coordinates when it was downed.

Mr. Zarif provided different coordinates for the downing of the drone by a domestically-manufactured Khordad 3 air defence battery.

The drone's downing came at a time when Iran was already accused by Washington of carrying out attacks on tankers in the congested shipping lanes heading out of the Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz.

Airlines halt flights over Strait of Hormuz

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Some of the world's leading carriers, including British Airways, Qantas and Singapore Airlines, on Friday suspended flights over the Strait of Hormuz.

The suspensions came after the Federal Aviation Administration in the U.S. issued a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) "prohibiting U.S.-registered aircraft from operating over the Persian Gulf

and Gulf of Oman". The NOTAM was in response to "heightened military activities and increased political tensions that might place commercial flights at risk", an FAA statement said.

The FAA's notice applies only to U.S.-registered airlines, and United Airlines said it was suspending its Newark-Mumbai service. But European and Asian operators including KLM and Qantas followed suit.

'Refrained from shooting U.S. plane with 35 on board'

REUTERS
LONDON

Iran refrained from shooting down an American plane with 35 people on board that was accompanying the downed drone in the Gulf earlier this week, a Revolutionary Guards commander said on Friday.

Amirali Hajizadeh, head

of the Revolutionary Guards aerospace division, was quoted as saying by Tasnim news agency: "With the U.S. drone in the region there was also an American P-8 plane with 35 people on board. This plane also entered our airspace and we could have shot it down, but we did not."

North Korea lauds friendship with China as Xi wraps up trip

Kim hails the 'the immutability and invincibility' of ties

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PYONGYANG

North Korea lauded its ties with historic ally China on Friday as Xi Jinping wrapped up a highly symbolic two-day visit to his nuclear-armed neighbour, with both countries facing deadlock in their negotiations with U.S. President Donald Trump.

Kim Jong-un told the Chinese President that his visit was an opportunity to demonstrate "the immutability and invincibility of the DPRK-China friendship before the world", the KCNA news agency reported, using the abbreviation of North Korea's official name.

At a time when "serious and complicated changes are happening in international and regional situations", KCNA said, the two leaders agreed to "promote close strategic communication" and develop their "common interests".

Pulling out all the stops Pyongyang pulled out all the stops to welcome Mr. Xi, the first Chinese President to visit in 14 years — a period in which Pyongyang has carried out five nuclear tests and launched missiles capable of reaching the entire U.S. mainland.

China always prefers stability in its neighbourhood and the North's nuclear provocations strained the relationship during the Cold War allies, with Beijing back-



All smiles: Chinese President Xi Jinping and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un watching a gymnastics performance at the May Day Stadium in Pyongyang on Friday. *AP

ing UN sanctions on Pyongyang and Mr. Kim not visiting to pay his respects for more than six years after inheriting power.

But as he embarked on a flurry of diplomacy last year, Mr. Kim ensured that Mr. Xi — whose country is the North's key diplomatic supporter and main provider of trade and aid — was the first head of state he met.

Mr. Kim travelled to China three more times to meet Mr. Xi, and Pyongyang has been keen for the Chinese President to reciprocate.

Analysts say Mr. Xi, who flew back to China on Friday, intended to use the trip as a way of signalling to Mr. Trump his influence with Mr. Kim, a week before the G20 summit in Japan.

The world's top two economies are embroiled in

protracted trade war and their leaders are expected to meet in Osaka.

Talks deadlocked

Nuclear negotiations between the North and the U.S. are also deadlocked, after the second summit between Mr. Kim and Mr. Trump broke up in Hanoi in February with the two unable to reach a deal on sanctions relief and what the North might give up in return.

North Korean media did not carry comments by Mr. Kim reported by Chinese broadcaster CCTV, which quoted him as saying that he was "willing to be patient" in the talks with the U.S., but wanted "the parties concerned" to meet him halfway. Mr. Xi told him China "positively evaluated" the North's efforts, CCTV said.

FATF warns Pak., but keeps it off the blacklist

Watchdog urges the country, which is still on the greylist, to finish the stipulated action plan by Oct.

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

Pakistan has avoided being placed on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) blacklist during the multilateral financial watchdog's plenary meetings in Orlando, Florida held from June 16 to 21.

However, the country, which continued to remain on a greylist, was given a warning at the end of the plenary session and told that it lacked a proper understanding of transnational terrorist financing.

Indian efforts

The mention of transnational terrorist financing is significant in light of India's efforts to isolate Pakistan on the international stage in the con-

text of its support for terror in Kashmir. "The FATF expresses concern that not only did Pakistan fail to complete its action plan items with January deadlines, it also failed to complete its action plan items due May 2019. The FATF strongly urges Pakistan to swiftly complete its action plan by October 2019 when the last set of action plans are set to expire. Otherwise, the FATF will decide the next step at that time for insufficient progress," a FATF statement released on Friday read.

In June 2018, Pakistan was placed on a FATF greylist of countries whose laws do not adequately deal with money laundering and terrorist financing and agreed to a 10-

point action plan to strengthen its anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism and proliferation regime.

On Friday however, the FATF said in a statement that while Pakistan had taken steps to improve its AML/CFT regime, "it does not demonstrate a proper understanding of Pakistan's transnational TF [terrorist financing] risk."

When the last FATF plenary session concluded in February, days after a terrorist attack killed over forty Indian security personnel in Pulwama, Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan had avoided being blacklisted despite pressure from India. Pakistan-based terror outfit, Jaish-

e-Mohammad (JeM) claimed responsibility for the attack. However it also did not take Pakistan off of the greylist as the country had wanted.

In April this year Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi had said that being greylisted could cost Pakistan \$10 billion a year.

Blacklist, greylist criteria

To stay off of the FATF blacklist, the support of at least three of a total of 36 (excluding two regional organisations) FATF members is required. Fifteen members need to support a country's move off of the greylist, as per the FATF charter.

FATF continued to call for countermeasures against Iran and North Korea.

The FATF noted that Iran had not completed its action plan which expired in January 2018 and listed seven points for Iran to complete, noting however that Iran had made progress, including by passing the Anti-Money Laundering Act.

Countermeasures against Iran would continue to be suspended, a statement released on Friday said, with "the exception of FATF calling upon members and urging all jurisdictions to require increased supervisory examination for branches and subsidiaries of financial institutions based in Iran, in line with the February 2019 Public Statement."

(With inputs from Suhansi Haidar in New Delhi)

No renegotiation of Brexit, says EU

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BRUSSELS

The European Union (EU)'s top leaders on Friday fired a Brexit warning to whoever wins the battle to become the next British Prime Minister, saying the divorce deal could not be changed.

Boris Johnson will face Jeremy Hunt in a run-off vote to decide who takes on the tricky task of piloting the country's departure from the EU. Both say they want to renegotiate the deal.

European Council president Donald Tusk said the bloc would remain "very precise and also patient".

"Maybe the process of



European Council president Donald Tusk. *REUTERS

Brexit will be even more exciting than before because of some personal decisions in London but nothing has changed when it comes to our position," Mr. Tusk told reporters after a summit of EU leaders in Brussels.

He said that all remaining

27 EU leaders were adamant there could be no changes to the near 600-page legal accord struck in November last year.

"We are open for talks when it comes to the declaration on the future U.K.-EU relations if the position of the U.K. were to evolve, but the withdrawal agreement is not open for renegotiation," said Mr. Tusk.

Jean-Claude Juncker, the head of the European Commission, said there was nothing to add because leaders "repeatedly and unanimously there will be no renegotiation of the withdrawal agreement".

ELSEWHERE



30 killed in Indonesia matchstick factory blaze

JAKARTA At least 30 people, including several children, were killed when a fire ripped through a private home that operated as a matchstick factory in Indonesia on Friday, said officials. Binjai police chief Nugroho Tri Nuryanto said a gas canister explosion may have set off the blaze. AFP

Foetus found in S. Africa plane's toilet

JOHANNESBURG Cleaners found an abandoned fetus blocking the toilet of an plane in South Africa on Friday, the domestic FlySafair airline said, prompting the offloading of passengers and a police investigation. The fetus was discovered by cleaning staff as the plane was being prepared and passengers boarded for an early morning flight from Durban to Johannesburg. AFP

India placed on 'Tier 2' in human trafficking report

U.S. seeks amendment to Penal Code

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

The U.S. State Department has released its 2019 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report, highlighting the need for action against domestic trafficking. India continued to be placed in Tier 2 on the country trafficking scale.

The 2019 report highlights the national nature of trafficking: in 77% of the cases, victims are trafficked within their own countries of residence, rather than across borders. Victims of sex trafficking were more likely to be trafficked across borders while victims of forced labour were typically exploited within their own countries, the report says, citing International Labour Organisation (ILO) data.

Three categories

The report categorises countries into three groups based on the Trafficking Vic-

tims Protection Act (TVPA), U.S. legislation enacted in 2000. The categorisation is based on efforts to meet minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking.

India was placed (i.e., remained) in Tier 2, which comprises "countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards."

The recommendations for India include amending the definition of trafficking in Section 370 of the Penal Code to "include forced labour trafficking and ensure that force, fraud, or coercion are not required to prove a child sex trafficking offence," and to establish Anti-Human Trafficking Units in all districts with funding and clear mandates.

DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL) PLANT SDW S/E SRINIWASAPUR: NEW DELHI: 110065 Press N.I.T. No. 01 (2019-20)			
S. N.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement solution
1	Construction of R.C.C. boundary wall and restoration of damaged stone masonry boundary wall of East side at Okhla STP. (Re-Invite) 2019_DJB_174644_1	1,24,45,502/-	20/06/2019 10/07/2019 up to 3:00 PM
2	Cleaning of Gravity Duct No. 3 from Taxi Stand behind Cambridge School to Okhla STP. (Re-Invite) 2019_DJB_174644_2	2,10,81,670/-	20/06/2019 10/07/2019 up to 3:00 PM

* Further detail in this regard can be seen at <https://delhi.govtprocurement.com>
Issued by P.R.O. (Water)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 94/2019-20

Ex. Engineer (Civil) Plant SDW S/E

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA DEPARTMENT OF SPACE SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, SRIRARIKOTA-524124.			
E-TENDER BRIEF NOTICE			
e-Tender Notice No. CMG/C/G 1987017, N 1987018		Date: 18/06/2019	
1. On Behalf of the President of India, Item-rate/ Turnkey tender is invited through e-tendering for the following work(s).			
Sl. No.	Description	Details	Details
1	Title of Work	Package (A) : Design, Supply and erection of Electro Mechanical Equipments for 1 MLD sewage Plant at DOS Colony, Sullurpeta on TURNKEY CONTRACT	Package (B): Civil and PH Works for Sewage collection and Processing Tanks, Sludge bed, Plant Room, Operator room and Approach road at DOS Colony Sullurpeta on ITEM RATE CONTRACT
	NIT No & Date	CMG/C/G 1987017, Dt:18/06/2019	CMG/C/N 1987018, Dt:18/06/2019
2	Estimated Cost put to tender	₹ 115 Lakhs	₹ 181 Lakhs
3	Period of Completion	08 Months	06 Months
4	Period during which the tender documents can be requested :	From:25/06/2019,10:00 Hrs To: 05/07/2019,14:00 Hrs	
5	Last date and time for uploading of tenders : 08/07/2019,14:30 Hrs		
2. Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) from website www.isro.gov.in/ / www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO . For further details and purchase of tender documents visit www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO . Ph:08623 226447, 226420.			
Group Director, CMG, SDSC SHAR			

PARADIP PORT TRUST
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE
Name of the work : "Supply, installation & commissioning of plain water Dust Suppression System in CQ1 & CQ2 berths with backup area and siding plots including 03 years O&M with all spares and consumables etc".
Estimated Cost : ₹ 3,72,32,960/-
Last date & time of submission of bid : 19.07.2019 up to 17:15 Hrs. Refer our website for details <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>
Executive Engineer (M) Workshop Division-I
PPT/PR/133/19-20 Dt.21.06.2019

central mine planning & design institute limited
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008, Jharkhand, India
Email : hodmm.cmpdi@coalindia.in Visit us at <http://www.cmpdi.co.in>
Tender Notice No. : CMPDI/MM/GLOBAL TENDER/19-20/003
Offers are invited through E-Tendering (ON-LINE BIDDING) for the following :

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description
01	CMPDI/MM/GT/19-20/4011/AK/GC-CBM-SNT	Supply of Portable Micro Gas Chromatograph with accessories, Suitable for Coal Mine gases & Hydrocarbons.
02	CMPDI/MM/GT/19-20/4012/AK/GC-UMD	— Do —
03	CMPDI/MM/GT/RND/19-20/4004/AK/Camera/ET	Supply of Borehole Inspection Camera along with data analysis software.
04	CMPDI/MM/GT/19-20/2016/RK/Terrestrial 3D Laser Scanner (TLS)/ET	Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Training of Terrestrial 3D Laser Scanner (TLS).

Estimated Cost for Sl. No. : (1) ₹ 50,30,000/-, (2) ₹ 80,00,000/-, (3) ₹ 20,00,000/-, (4) ₹ 7,95,00,000/-
Earnest Money for Sl. No. : (1) ₹ 1,00,600/-, (2) ₹ 1,60,000/-, (3) ₹ 40,000/-, (4) ₹ 10,00,000/-
No tender fee is payable for above tender(s). Tender Document and Tender Details of the above tender(s) can be downloaded free of cost from www.cmpdi.co.in eprocure.gov.in and www.coalindiatenders.nic.in 24.06.2019 onwards. For On-line Bidding, Bidders should possess Class III/III Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) and should enroll themselves at <https://www.coalindiatenders.nic.in>. Information regarding the procedure for enrolment, bidding, etc. is available on the same website.
HOD (MM)

MARKET WATCH

	21-06-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	39,194	-1.03
US Dollar	69.58	-0.20
Gold	34,300	0.82
Brent oil	65.18	1.33

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	402.00	0.80
Asian Paints	1383.00	-9.05
Axis Bank	771.05	-0.35
Bajaj Auto	2875.55	-21.75
Bajaj Finserv	8392.45	-25.40
Bajaj Finance	3565.85	-16.70
Bharti Airtel	343.80	-4.75
BPCL	380.00	-5.20
Britannia Ind	2826.70	-7.35
Coal India	559.25	0.25
Coal India	254.25	-6.10
Dr Reddys Lab	2551.55	-13.25
Eicher Motors	19719.20	-73.95
GAIL (India)	311.60	0.45
Grasim Ind	897.75	-3.05
HCL Tech	1076.25	-11.10
HDFC	2140.80	-58.45
HDFC Bank	2414.20	-12.15
Hero MotoCorp	2606.00	-59.70
Hindalco	197.65	3.35
Hind Unilever	1766.65	-38.40
Indiabulls HFL	612.00	12.25
ICICI Bank	430.80	-2.60
Indusind Bank	1448.65	13.05
Bharti Infratel	275.35	-3.70
Infosys	750.20	-4.70
Indian Oil Corp	153.85	-2.90
ITC	274.25	-2.75
JSW Steel	267.15	-2.10
Kotak Bank	1489.80	-28.55
L&T	1539.75	-17.35
M&M	627.45	0.30
Maruti Suzuki	6417.25	-199.50
NTPC	134.55	0.00
ONGC	170.95	-1.05
PowerGrid Corp	199.90	-1.05
Reliance Ind	1279.50	-17.25
State Bank	349.40	4.25
Sun Pharma	382.80	-7.70
Tata Motors	158.90	-0.35
Tata Steel	497.65	-3.35
TCS	2249.85	-28.10
Tech Mahindra	740.45	14.90
Titan	1292.35	-14.25
UltraTech Cement	4595.15	19.10
UPL	890.10	19.85
Vedanta	172.40	0.40
Wipro	285.85	-1.10
YES Bank	109.60	-4.95
Zee Entertainment	345.65	-6.05

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 21

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	69.35	69.67
Euro	78.47	78.83
British Pound	87.77	88.18
Japanese Yen (100)	64.51	64.81
Chinese Yuan	10.09	10.14
Swiss Franc	70.62	70.95
Singapore Dollar	51.08	51.32
Canadian Dollar	52.55	52.81
Malaysian Ringgit	16.71	16.79

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

June 21 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	41	(41.3)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3237	(3213)

'No cap on H-1B visas in reprisal for data norms'

U.S. clarification comes in the backdrop of a media report

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

The U.S. State Department has said that it is not considering capping the number of H-1B visas for countries that adopt laws that restrict data being taken out of their borders ("data localisation").

The comments are a reaction to a report by the news agency Reuters, which said the U.S. was considering capping H-1Bs at 10-15% of all H-1Bs for countries that had a data localisation policy.

"The U.S. has no plans to place caps on H-1B work visas for nations that force foreign companies to store data locally," a State Department spokesperson told *The Hindu* via email. "The Trump Administration's 'Buy American and Hire American' executive order called for a broad review of U.S. worker visa programmes, including the H-1B programme," the statement from the spokesperson said, adding, "This review is not targeted at a specific country and is completely separate from our ongoing discussions with India about the importance of ensuring the free flow of data across borders."

Permanent residency
The H-1B visa allows temporary employment of foreign workers in U.S.-based firms, in occupations that "require the theoretical and practical application of a body of highly specialised knowledge and a bachelor's degree or higher in the specific specialty, or its equivalent," as per the U.S. Citizenship and Information Services (USCIS). The H-1B, while being a temporary visa, is a pathway to permanent resi-



Unrelated issues: The 2017 order on review of the H-1B is not targeted at any country, said a statement. ■ GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

dency (a "Green Card") in the U.S.

There is a Congressional-ly-mandated cap of 65,000 H-1B visas under the general category and a further 20,000 for advanced degree holders.

However, there are no country-wise caps for H-1B. Some H-1Bs – such as those for academic, research jobs and non-profit organisation positions – are cap exempt.

The Trump administration had taken several steps to tighten the screws on the H-1B programme, since U.S. President Donald Trump signed the 'Buy American and Hire American' order in April 2017.

Some of these changes have focussed on combating fraud (such as through site visits) and ensuring that the probability of higher qualified workers getting visas is increased (such as by reversing the order in which general and master's degree H-1B lotteries are conducted each year).

Less attractive
Other changes have made the H-1B programme less attractive.

For instance, an attempt

to prevent H-1B spouses from getting a work permits (an 'H4 EAD') is in the works and could severely alter family dynamics and the ability of foreign worker families in the U.S. to support themselves.

The Reuters report came days before U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo is due in New Delhi in preparation for talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi, U.S. President Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in Osaka, Japan on June 28-29, where they would discuss the strategy for the Indo-Pacific.

Mr. Pompeo's discussions in New Delhi are also expected to feature a list of contentious topics between India and the U.S., including data localisation, 5G telecommunication, India's plans to purchase the S-400 Triumf missile defence system from Russia.

"During his June 12 speech, Secretary Pompeo highlighted the significance we attach to the U.S.-India relationship, and noted he looked forward to his trip to New Delhi next week to advance our strategic partnership," a spokesperson said.

IRDAI okays standalone own-damage policy

Bundled policies for third-party, own-damage cover not compulsory

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) on Friday allowed insurers, with effect from September 1, to issue standalone annual own damage (OD) cover for cars and two-wheelers, both new and old.

"Consequently, the issuance of bundled policies for cars and two-wheelers will not be compulsory," the regulator said in a partial modification of a circular it had issued in August in the backdrop of a Supreme Court order.

Policyholders have the option to renew the OD component of a bundled cover falling due on or after September 1, 2019, with the same insurer or different insurer, on an annual basis,



Conditions apply: Insurers must ensure that OD cover is offered only if a TP cover already exists. ■ GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

the latest circular on IRDAI said.

Insurers will, however, continue to have the option to offer package policies, in addition to stand-alone OD and TP (third party) policies. Long term, stand-alone OD policy will not be permitted for the present, the regulator said. Last year, implement-

ing the directions of the Supreme Court, the regulator had introduced longer term third party cover for new vehicles – three years for cars and five years for two-wheelers.

In doing so, it had given insurers the options of providing long-term package cover comprising motor TP

and OD insurance for three or five years as the case may be; or a bundled cover with a three or five-year term for the third-party component and a one-year term for the OD.

The introduction of the mandatory long-term TP insurance cover meant an increase in the cost of insuring new cars and two-wheelers, something that automakers sought to cite as a reason for slow-down in sales.

While permitting the issue of standalone OD and TP covers, the IRDAI has asked the insurance companies to ensure that those seeking OD should have a valid TP.

"Insurers shall ensure that OD cover is offered only if a motor TP cover is already in existence or is taken simultaneously."

RCap reduces outstanding CPs to ₹75 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Reliance Capital on Friday said it had reduced its outstanding commercial papers (CPs) to ₹75 crore from ₹950 crore earlier as it redeemed ₹875 crore of CPs in the last two months.

"ICRA had revised the ratings on our short-term debt programme (CPs) of ₹950 crore to A4 on April 26, 2019.

The company has redeemed CPs of ₹875 crore on the respective due dates in the past 2 months, and the outstanding CP is now ₹75 crore, which will also duly be redeemed on its maturity date i.e. July 24, 2019," the non-banking finance company informed the exchanges.

'Banks couldn't take call on Etihad's demands'

It wanted relaxation on open offer: SBI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Banks had no authority to consider the relaxation demanded by Etihad Airways, which had submitted a conditional bid for Jet Airways, the State Bank of India informed the exchanges.

Banks decided to refer Jet Airways for bankruptcy proceedings after the resolution process initiated to attract investors failed.

"Subsequent to the closure of the bidding, as no binding bids were received, discussions were held with Etihad and other prospective investors to find a way for infusion of funds," SBI said. "Etihad had sought certain relaxations viz. waiver of open offer, assurance

of flying slots etc. As the lenders did not have any authority to accommodate some of the relaxations sought by Etihad, it was not considered feasible to negotiate on the conditions laid by Etihad," it added.

SBI said with the financial position of Jet Airways being weak, lenders were continuously trying for a viable resolution for the last one year. Reputed consultants such as SBI Caps and McKinsey were roped in as process advisers. After the closure of the bidding process, since no binding bids were received, discussions were held with Etihad and other prospective investors to find a way for infusion of funds, SBI said.

Deloitte's Nanavati is RP for RCom

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

The bankruptcy tribunal on Friday approved the appointment of Aneesh Nanavati of Deloitte as the resolution professional (RP) for Reliance Communications and its two subsidiaries – Reliance Telecom and Reliance Infratel.

According to RCom's own admission, financial creditors have made claims worth ₹57,382 crore from RCom and its two subsidiaries as of June 16.

The committee of creditors informed the tribunal that all the three companies had unanimously chosen Mr. Nanavati as the RP as the nature of business of all the three entities are inter-connected.

'Walmart broke anti-graft rules in India, elsewhere'

Agrees to pay \$282.7 mn for violation

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON

Global retail giant Walmart has agreed to pay \$282.7 million to settle charges of violating anti-corruption regulations of the US while operating its business in India, China, Brazil and Mexico, the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) has announced.

According to the SEC, these violations were conducted by Walmart's third-party intermediaries who made payments to foreign government officials without reasonable assurances that they complied with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

The SEC said Thursday that it has charged Walmart with violating the FCPA by failing to operate a sufficient anti-corruption compliance

Walmart valued international growth and cost-cutting over compliance

CHARLES CAIN,
Chief of the SEC Enforcement Division's FCPA Unit

programme for more than a decade as the retailer experienced rapid international growth. Walmart agreed to pay more than \$144 million to settle the SEC's charges and approximately \$138 million to resolve parallel criminal charges by the Department of Justice for a combined total of more than \$282 million, the SEC said. "Walmart valued international growth and cost-cutting over compliance," said Charles Cain, Chief of the SEC Enforcement Division's FCPA Unit.

Adani Ports to raise up to \$1 billion via bonds

May use funds for capex, to retire debt

PIYUSH PANDEY
MUMBAI

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) began road shows in Ahmedabad and Mumbai on Friday to raise up to \$1 billion by issuance of foreign currency denominated bonds. The road shows will happen in Hong Kong and Singapore on Monday and Tuesday, respectively.

"The company is planning to raise up to \$1 billion in dollar bonds for capex and refinancing existing loans. It can raise anywhere between \$500 million and \$1 billion. The final size, tenor, and pricing will depend upon the investors appetite," said a source in the know of the development.

Moody's, Fitch Ratings and S&P Global Ratings have assigned Baa3, 'BBB-' and

'BBB-' ratings with a stable outlook to the proposed foreign currency denominated bonds issuance by the company.

Other terms

"In accordance with the approval of the company's board, the pricing, tenure and other terms of the foreign currency denominated bonds to be issued pursuant to the issue will be determined by the finance committee of the company, in its meeting which shall take place on or after June 26, 2019, and such details shall be intimated to you in due course," the company said in a filing with the exchanges. The company's debt has increased to ₹26,000 crore as on March 31, 2019, compared to ₹22,200 crore a year ago.

Mondelez bets on low sugar items

Chocolate major aims to balance indulgence with wellness

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

At a time when consumers are increasingly becoming health conscious, global chocolate maker Mondelez, which owns the Cadbury brand, is experimenting with products with lower sugar content to balance indulgence with wellness.

According to the global head of the multinational, the company could reformulate its strategy based on the response of the consumer though the attempt would be to ensure that the new products taste like the old ones.

Reformulating products
"Sugar is a discussion at the moment and so we need to reformulate some of our products," said Dirk Van de Put, global CEO and chairman, Mondelez International.

"We will see what the reaction is to this product.



Healthy bite: Mondelez says the attempt will be to ensure that the new product tastes like the old one. ■ REUTERS

And we will take it from there if we have to reformulate more of our products. And you can understand this is quite a bit of work as we want the new product to taste the same as the old product," he said while addressing the media.

This assumes significance as, early this month, the company launched its highly-popular Cadbury Dairy

Milk with 30% less sugar.

On a different note, the global CEO, while stressing that India is one of the most important markets for the company, said that Mondelez will always be open for acquisitions.

"We feel that there are a number of areas where we are better off making an acquisition instead of developing in-house," he said

Manulife to take stake in Mahindra AMC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Mahindra AMC, a subsidiary of Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services, has entered into an agreement with Manulife Asset Management (Singapore) Pte Ltd., in which M&M Financial Services will have 51% stake in the AMC arm and the foreign partner, 49%.

"With 49% stake, Manulife will bring in \$35 million into the business," said Ramesh Iyer, vice-chairman and MD, Mahindra Finance.

Mahindra Finance, which has 100% stake in the venture, will see its stake diluting due to fresh issuance of shares.

Mahindra AMC plans to beef up growth with this partnership in the retail segment.

THE HINDU GROUP

Good English is now just a call away

Sign up for

STEP COACH

and get Expert English guidance on call.

STEP Coach has something special for English learners from all walks of life.

<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">PROFESSIONAL</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft better e-mails • Strike good conversations • Make impressive presentations 	<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">JOB SEEKER</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ace interviews • Express views clearly • Improve articulation
<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">TEST PREP</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand questions well • Answer with clarity 	<div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">GENERAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve all round understanding • Unlock new opportunities

Visit BIT.LY/STEPC

Standardised Test of English Proficiency
from THE HINDU GROUP

IN BRIEF



Aurobindo pharma unit gets USFDA warning

HYDERABAD
An active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) manufacturing facility of Aurobindo Pharma in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh has been issued a warning letter by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA). "This action follows the earlier inspection of the site by the USFDA in February 2019," the drug maker said in a regulatory filing on Friday. It, however, did not share details of the warning letter.

Azerbaijan Airlines to start flights to India

MUMBAI
Azerbaijan Airlines has announced its first direct flight linking India and Azerbaijan from Baku to New Delhi, from June 25, 2019. The flights will operate every Tuesday and Friday in Boeing-757. The frequency will double by September/October this year, the airline said. Azerbaijan is one of the 41 countries in the world allowing Indians to acquire a visa on arrival with a simplified e-visa procedure.

CCI gives approval for Indiabulls, LVB merger

CHENNAI
The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed scheme of amalgamation of Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. (IHFL) and Indiabulls Commercial Credit Ltd. with Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd. (LVB). The scheme of amalgamation remains subject to receipt of applicable regulatory and other approvals. The proposal was considered by the CCI at its meeting held on June 20, IHFL said.

'Coming global slowdown may impact IT firms'

Digital talent shortage and macroeconomic concerns may weigh on growth, says Everest Group CEO

**MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU**

Indian tech firms as a group are performing well in the first (April-June) quarter as they are successfully moving closer to the global digital transformation and IT modernisation market, says Dalas-based analyst firm, Everest Group.

In an exclusive interaction with *The Hindu*, Peter Bendor-Samuel, CEO Everest Group, said: "During Q1, Indian IT service providers may be able to achieve growth similar to what they posted in the Jan-March quarter. However, from the next quarter onwards, growth might happen at a decelerated pace. This is because the factors, which was responsible for the previous 12 months' growth, will start wearing out and global macro concerns will weigh on

decision making."

Tech bellwether TCS will open the first quarter of the 2019-20 earnings season on July 8, followed by Infosys on July 12. Everest Group further added that overall, Indian IT service providers would continue to see strong growth driven by both cyclical factors (e.g., cyclical upswing in North America continuing at least in the first half of 2019) and secular factors (e.g. migration from pilot-to-programme transition of digital projects).

Aggressive investments
Indian players such as TCS, Infosys, HCL, Wipro and TechM, while being a bit late in recognising digital opportunities compared to global players such as Accenture, are now making aggressive investments in technology and skills, and would benefit



New wave: Technology firms are successfully transitioning as digital transformation players. ■SOMASHEKAR G. R. N.

from the combination of their existing client relationships and new rigour in digital capability investments, he said.

"Indian tech firms are suc-

cessfully transitioning as digital transformation players. Their implementations are rapidly maturing from pilots to full-fledged digital contracts. The need for scale is

playing to the Indian firms' strengths and they are capitalising on these strengths," Mr. Bendor-Samuel said.

On the outlook for the year, he said the rest of the year remains strong as the benefits of IT modernisation and the competitive imperatives of digital transformation add to a growing backlog of work, sustaining growth rates well above the global GDP.

Also, a strong North American economy combined with worldwide spending on digital transformation and IT modernisation drive a buoyant market.

The Everest Group chief added: "We expect some tailing off of growth as the year progresses, due to a slowing global economy which will reduce discretionary spend and stretch out digital transformation budgets.

"However, we anticipate that the sector will continue to outperform global GDP with Indian firms increasingly well positioned to capture a significant portion of this growth."

As per the Everest Group, beyond macro challenges, talent shortage for digital-ready workers will get worse in the coming years.

"Combined with high attrition levels and skill shortages, India will witness a scramble. Adding to the choke will be global consulting firms (Big 4) who are now busy expanding operations and hiring in India.

"Visa restrictions have already impacted India's on-shore talent base. Going forward, this shortage can prove to be a key secular impediment for the Indian IT," Mr. Bendor-Samuel cautioned.

Axis Bank to expand digital footprint in T.N.

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI**

Axis Bank is exploring the possibility of enhancing its digital footprint in Tamil Nadu by adding cash recyclers, said a top official.

"We are a dominant player in Tamil Nadu, having 314 branches, 1,400 automated teller machines (ATMs) and 300 cash recyclers," said Ravi Narayanan, president, head-branch banking, Axis Bank.

"We were the early movers and have been in Tamil Nadu for the last 25 years," he said. Cash recyclers are used for depositing cash round the clock.

"This year, we will add 28 branches and 34 ATMs in Tamil Nadu." He added the bank was planning to double its market share and triple the book size.

2-wheeler sector to grow 6-8% in FY20: TVS Motor

BS-VI transition could pose challenges

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI**

Two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer TVS Motor Company Ltd. is expecting the domestic two-wheeler industry to grow by about 6% and 8% during the current year against 5% reported last year, despite the prevailing uncertainty in the industry.

In a note to the shareholders, the company said that the industry's growth would be impacted by higher year-end inventory across the industry, higher product costs due to escalated commodity prices of last year and advanced safety regulation implementation from April



2019. From April 2020, the industry would undertake a significant change in migrating from BS-IV to BS-VI emission norms. Hence, it added, in the second half of 2019-20, BS-VI transition would pose some challenges and that TVS Motor was gearing itself to meet the same.

World Cup pushed sales of big TVs in India: Samsung

Sales of ultra-premium models rose five times

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU**

In May, just ahead of the World Cup, Samsung India saw a 110% growth in the sales of its 55-inch and bigger TVs such as QLED TV, ultra high definition TVs.

The company also said that the sales of its ultra-premium 75 inch and above TVs grew five times in the same period, indicating consumer preference for larger screen TVs to enjoy the World Cup.

Samsung had seen customers in smaller towns such as Vijayawada, Vishakhapatnam, Hubballi, Jodhpur, Agra, Jabalpur, Nagpur,



Raipur, Ludhiana, Dehradun, Jalandhar, Cochin, Coimbatore, Baroda, Ranchi, Tirupati, Asansol, Madurai and Kolhapur, among others, upsizing to larger screen TVs, that is evident in the rising demand for Sam-

son's QLED TVs in these cities. Samsung, which claims to be the market leader in the Indian TV industry, commands a 47% market share in the premium 55-inch TV segment.

Eyes 55% share

"We want to take this share to 55% by this Diwali riding on the rising sales of large screen TVs," said the company. With the recent launch of Samsung QLED 8K TVs, Samsung is eyeing 70% market share in ultra-premium TVs (75 inch and above) from its current market share of 53%, it further said.

Ashok Leyland rejigs top management

Bid to shape future growth strategies

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI**

Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL), the flagship company of the Hinduja Group, has made top-level management changes.

These organisational changes are also in line with the company's plans to shape the future growth strategies of the company and its portfolio of investments, said the company in a statement.

Gopal Mahadevan, who was recently appointed as whole-time director in addition to his current role as chief financial officer and president, customer solutions business, will also be

responsible for information technology, corporate strategy and business analytics.

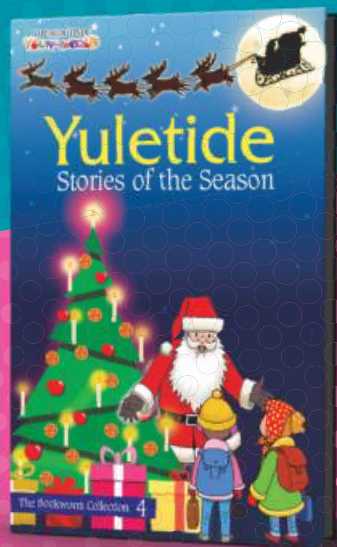
Anuj Kathuria has been appointed as chief operating officer and will be responsible for medium and heavy commercial vehicle business.

Nitin Seth has been named chief operating officer and will be responsible for light commercial vehicles, defence, international operations and power solutions business.

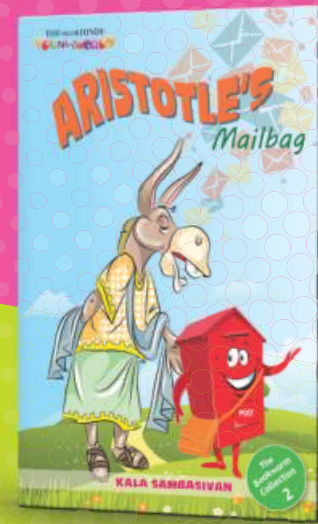
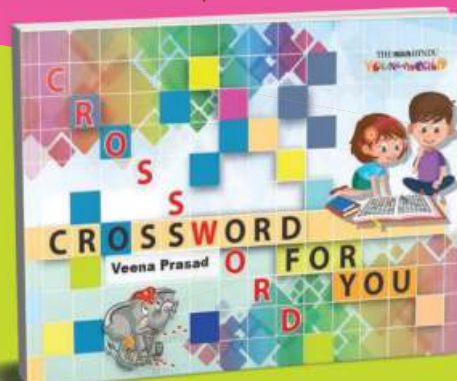
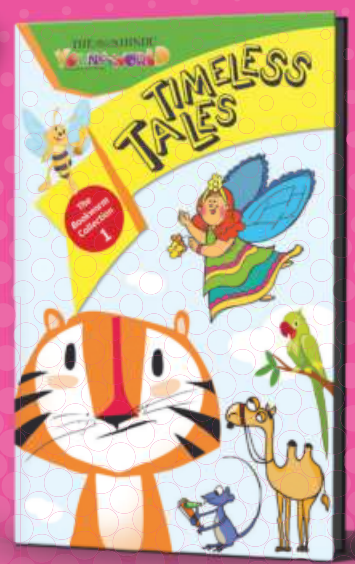
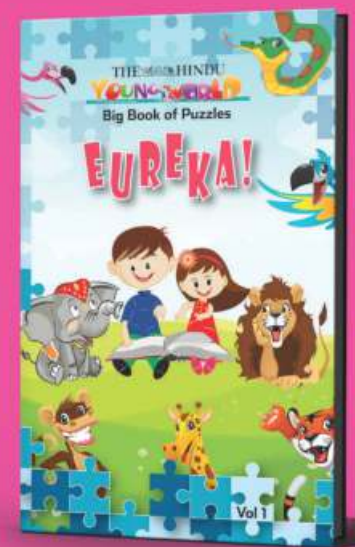
N. Saravanan, who was recently appointed as chief technology officer, will also be responsible for the electric vehicles business, according to the company.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS FROM THE HINDU GROUP

THE HINDU GROUP



KEEP
YOUR KIDS ENGAGED
WITH
BOOKS
FROM
THE HINDU
YOUNG WORLD



BOOK YOUR
COPY ONLINE



To book your copy, Visit: www.thehindu.com/publications | For bulk booking, e-mail: bookstore@thehindu.co.in

For any enquiries call: 1800 3000 1878



Akanksha Deo Sharma, IKEA's only Indian designer, on her creative process and being a part of the Swedish giant's new project to combat air pollution

Girl with the rice straw project

SONAM SAVLANI

At 27, it is impressive how much Akanksha Deo Sharma lives up to her multi-hyphenate tag: industrial designer, textile innovator, visual artist, she remains IKEA's first, and only, Indian hire and the youngest designer at the Swedish furniture and home accessories giant. She juggles it all by dividing her time between Delhi, Malmö (Sweden), and Shanghai (China).

Though her work with IKEA has made headlines, Sharma's found several other tools for self-expression: starring in artists Thukral & Tagra's short film, or mounting her own audio-visual project, *Talk is Cheap*, with former boyfriend, poet-novelist Jeet Thayil – "where I was doing film and he was doing spoken word poetry".

Then, as homegrown brands such as Raw Mango, Nimai and Ikai started going beyond traditional models, she landed their campaigns. "Mostly, the shoots I've been part of have involved 'real' people," she says, as we agree the word 'modelling' doesn't quite sum up the experience accurately.

The NIFT graduate's fashion innings – and possibly her obsession with textiles – began with an internship at Cell DSGN, the parent company of innovative fashion label II.11 / eleven eleven. "I learned so much there; about *bandhani* and natural indigo dyeing, and even block printing," she shares. Eventually, she consulted with Love Birds on their knitwear. Most recently she collaborated with Levi's to customise a pair of denims, with *kantha* embroidery and indigo dye.

Even her art is often textile driven. In 2017, she was part of a group show in Norway, titled *AOTANOTA (All of the Above, None of the Above)*. In an installation about memory and the idea of home, she used her grandmother's blue sweater as a starting point, and supplemented it with red Mohali wool torsos in various stages of distress.

"I haven't done a lot of it, but it's nice to dip in and out," she says, about her creative offshoots. "It's essential for me to express myself through different mediums. Though IKEA, of

course, is the biggest project I have on hand, these [cultural] projects are all extensions of my personality."

Which brings us to her latest collection with IKEA, made in response to the alarming situation in North India, where nine of the world's 10 most polluted cities are located. Her work with rice straws is part of a bigger initiative by the company to battle air pollution. Excerpts from an interview:

Tell us about Förändring? Förändring means change in Swedish. It's part of a bigger IKEA initiative, Better Air Now [launched in 2018], to tackle air pollution. We work with rice straws that farmers are left with, post-harvest – which are burned, contributing to the dense smog. There are many people working behind the scenes, dealing with policy makers, talking to NGOs, to the UN. They came to me with the raw material, to show customers something tangible that can be made with it. The collection featuring vessels, lamp shapes and mats, is just the tip of the iceberg.

What were the challenges?

Once you get the material, you understand the qualities of it. Then, at our factory, we determine its capabilities, and the techniques it lends itself to. Here, we learned we could mould this material by turning it into pulp, and we could combine it with fabric waste to make yarn or rope. We also learned we could use it to make textiles. A lot was a first for us. The moulding process was the most fascinating for me. You can really play around with how coarse, or thick, or smooth you want the material to be. I've worked with papier-mâché before but not

on an industrialised scale; it was almost like working with sculpture.

Boutique brands or a behemoth like IKEA – who can pivot more easily towards sustainable design? It's a tricky question. Smaller companies can easily put it into practice. That's why you see a lot of entrepreneurs moving in that direction. It's more difficult when a huge corporation like IKEA makes that decision. In terms of impact, a corporation will have a far bigger one. But they also take a long time to pivot.

How do you keep up with the dialogue around responsible design?

I don't think I am up to date with everything. But within IKEA we talk a lot



about things that matter to us as a company. Sustainability and circularity are what we're headed towards in a big way. We want to be 100% circular by 2030. Otherwise, I just try to keep my eyes open. I maximise my trips by seeing as much art as possible.

Recently, I was in Milan and I caught *Broken Nature: Design Takes on Human Survival*, an exhibition curated by Italian author-editor Paola Antonelli. It deals with technology, science, and our future. Adidas and Lego were part of this as well, showcasing their efforts with ocean-retrieved plastic. Scientists were talking about other materials we should be looking at in the future.

You've been with IKEA three years. How would you describe your process?

For me, the creative process changes with every project. It's never fixed, never rigid. The knowledge database, the suppliers, the materials are all variables. Änglatårar was about bringing two cultures together. With Förändring, we started with the material first. With Tänkvärd, which released in April, we again worked with sustainable materials, but it was more about evoking an emotion. I've really tried to experiment with textiles in Tänkvärd – jute, cotton, linen. It's easily one of my favourites so far.

Your understanding of people and cultures was really put to the test with Änglatårar.

We were opening in India at the time. Our creative leader, Mia Lundström,

knew we should do a special collection to mark the launch. There was a traditional collection, and another that was meant to be young and contemporary. I worked with Paulin Machado, who is Swedish but had lived in India for four years, on that one.

We found obscure connections between our cultures. She told me about how she took *kaju katli* home and people thought it resembled a silver fish they have at midsummer. Language played a big part, too. I'd inadvertently start learning Swedish when I was with her. There were similarities in phonetics, with Hindi, which we drew out through the patterns in the collection. We abstracted the languages such that you can look at it and it feels familiar, but it's not any particular language. It's just forms and symbols.

What patterns have emerged in work so far?

I really like to work with textiles and textures. I've been able to push boundaries when it comes to textiles within IKEA – not just through patterns, but working from the construction level, right from the loom and yarn stage. The goal is to develop something that has more character to it. I like a sense of imperfection. I'm drawn towards objects that make you want to touch and feel; something raw and not quite 'industrialised'.

What's next?

I'm collaborating with artists within IKEA. There's a group of Thai designers and a Jordanian artist.



The good harvest

IKEA's 'Better Air Now' initiative comes at a time when, according to think tank NITI Aayog, roughly 39 million tonnes of rice straw are being burnt annually in Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. The Förändring collection – vessels and lampshades using 60% straw pulp and 40% fabric waste, and rugs made from straw twisted into cords – will be in stores later this year.



Networking right

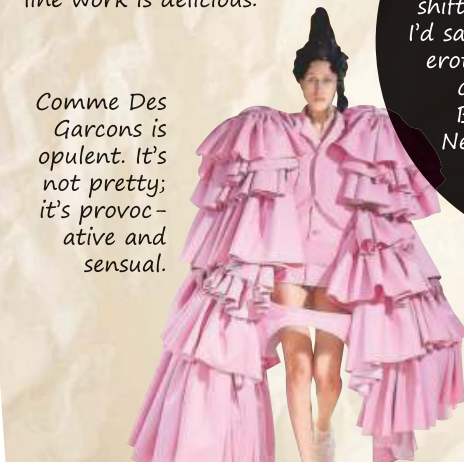
The girl who once studied commerce at Gargi College has come far. While Sharma may not collaborate as much with other brands (like the *kantha* edit she did with Levi's, pictured below) anymore, her time at IKEA has offered her other opportunities. "It's interesting to meet with people who IKEA is collaborating with. They come from different walks of life and bring something new to the table. One such person I met recently [at the Democratic Design Days] was artist Olafur Eliasson. It's fascinating to understand their design process."



Irving Penn's food photography is gross, tactile and oh so erotic.

I love Arpita Singh's smaller scale works. Her line work is delicious.

Comme Des Garçons is opulent. It's not pretty; it's provocative and sensual.



My collection moodboards are tightly defined, but my personal one is constantly shifting. If I had to describe it, I'd say these images are sensual, erotic. I'm always looking for colour and form – like Brazilian artist Ernesto Neto's evocative work and Ricardo Bofill's strong colours.

Olafur Eliasson's work is multilayered, visually lush and absorbing. You unravel new elements each time you look at it.

Lucio Fontana's work flirts with breaking the two-dimensionality of the picture plane.

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



MUSIC AND DANCE

K-pop contest

Korean Cultural Centre India is hosting the 2019 LG K-pop Contest, with 430 participants from Delhi performing live on the day. The vocal teams, comprising 170 participants will sing popular Korean pop numbers, while the teams in the dance category will showcase choreographed K-pop routines.

VENUE: 25-A Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar - IV, **TIME:** 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.



CRICKET

World Cup 2019

Catch up on World Cup matches on a big screen as you build your own platter of four or six appetizers from a range of options such as Armagh Mushroom Bites, Crispy Onion Rings, and others amongst a list of 28. The menu also includes beer buckets and shots trays.

VENUE: The Irish House, Epicuria Food Mall, Nehru Place **TIME:** 12 noon - 12 midnight.



GIG

Abhishek Ahuja live

UNO Chicago Bar & Grill will host a music and dining experience. Their menu will include grills, pizzas, and drinks. Musician Abhishek Ahuja will play indie rock. Abhishek's journey started with country music. He then went on to perform with bands like Shinedown & Seether. UNO is known for their Chicago deep-dish pizza.

VENUE: Gardens Galleria Mall, Sector 38, Noida **TIME:** 8 p.m.



MUSICAL

Eclectic night

Boiler Room, supported by Budweiser Experiences, is back in India with a musical showcase this Sunday. The line-up features both home-grown talent and international artists who are shaping the electronic and contemporary music culture. This includes the likes of Solid Blake, Silvia Kastel, and Zokhuma.

VENUE: The Lalit, Kitty Su **TIME:** 9 p.m. onwards



FESTIVAL

Summer Sonata

The festival of Opera, Ballet and Concert will be held this Monday. In addition to the screening of the film *Die Fledermaus* on the Austrian composer Johann Strauss Jr, there will also be a classical performance by soloist Carlos Kleiber, and the Bavarian State Chorus and Orchestra of some of Strauss' best-loved operetta.

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

FILM REVIEWS

Kabir Singh: A paean to toxic masculinity

What's new in a film about an entitled, reckless hero and a heroine without any agency?



An infantile bully Kabir Singh is a Devdas with anger issues and no strong women •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

NAMRATA JOSHI

The character Kabir Singh (Shahid Kapoor), or Arjun Reddy (of the Telugu original) for that matter, is basically an updated Devdas, a loser in love, with additional anger management issues, who hits the bottle at the drop of the hat. There's even a Chinni babu in his life in the form of bestie Shiva who keeps coming to his rescue and appears to have no life whatsoever of his own. Not a single character in an apology of a script – from his college principal to the family to the hospital staff – seems to have any *raison d'être* other than pandering needlessly to a man, who, instead of any sympathy or indulgence for his “troubled” mind, needs serious treatment and therapy to control the inherent noxiousness he is spreading in the world around him. The entire arc of the film is to somehow make Singh's negativity attractive, explain it away as “unconventional” and have him find redemption despite his unforgivable

ways. Well, he is a genius at everything after all, even at performing surgeries when sloshed and coked out. Having watched and balked at *Arjun Reddy* (2017) for its celebration of a misogynistic, infantile bully of a hero, Kabir Singh felt like a doubly suffocating experience. One that actually makes you feel violated. *Devdas* at least had the headstrong Paro and graceful Chandramukhi – two beholden women alright, but with personalities of their own – to bring some sense of balance to the man-woman game. Here, the woman is denied any agency whatsoever. She is a property, marked and owned by the man. She will meekly follow him wherever he takes her, eyes always down, is masochistic in allowing herself to bear with his violent ways. While the soulful ditty in the background plays “*tujhe hi to mera haq hai* (I have the right on you)”. He is the protector



Kabir Singh

DIRECTOR: Sandeep Reddy Vanga
CAST: Shahid Kapoor, Kiara Advani, Kamini Kaushal, Suresh Oberoi, Arjan Bajwa, Adil Hussain
RUN TIME: 174.30 minutes
STORYLINE: Medical student Kabir Singh falls obsessively in love with his junior Preeti and turns into an alcoholic surgeon when his love is denied

and the saviour. There is barely any nuance, no credibility when it comes to the love affair. It's more perverse than persuasive, humiliating than affirming when it comes to the woman. There are women who fall for this gent, who officiously tells them not to wear lipstick into the surgery and adorn their *chunni* (dupatta) properly. Where is the much mythologised and attractive masculinity and bad-boy charisma? There is no sense of place either, be it Delhi (no Delhi is not merely Punjab and Punjab) or Mumbai. The finale is ludicrously convenient making one wonder whether to laugh or cry. The entire film, just like the original, is dependent on and propelled by the performance of the star at the centre. And, however good Shahid Kapoor might be in living the trauma and angst of the character, you still can't get away from the sickening male entitlement. I almost choked at his treatment of his house-help, and when Shiva suggests that Kabir should marry his sister to get some stability in life. Who is he to take the decision for his sister? No, but she likes Kabir like so many other women do. Why? What does the filmmaker think women are meant for? Be sacrificial goats at the male altar? There's a point in the film where the hero slaps the heroine and gives her an ultimatum of six hours to leave her family and come to him. The girl sitting ahead of me at the press screening let out a sigh of fear and loathing. A man somewhere at the back yelped in approval. I despaired. If this is the great idea of man-woman dynamics, if this is a “*hatke*” love story, well just tell me another one. End of rant!

Toy Story 4: Heavy on the charm and existential issues

The supposedly last installment of the hugely popular franchise, resonates with deeper truths and profundities about identity, joy and imagination



Still fresh In possibly its last instalment, *Toy Story* doesn't disappoint •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

NAMRATA JOSHI

When it comes to Disney Pixar, the detailing and nuances in animation is a given, as is the coming alive of the cartoon world through the star voices. The biggest high, however, is how the story and its emotional pitch don't just entertain and create a sense of wonderment, but also make the fantasy feel real, rendering the characters human. Each of them throbs with a life and individuality of her/his own, and is in relationships and situations that are utterly relatable. Everything still feels as fresh in the fourth and possibly last of the *Toy Story 4* franchise, just as it did in the first one. Woody, Buzz and other toy friends move on from “their kid” Andy to Bonnie, and go on a road trip with her family. This is being touted as the final adventure of their lives. A simple story conceals deeper truths and profundities. How the toys

Toy Story 4

DIRECTOR: Josh Cooley
CAST: Voices of Tom Hanks, Keanu Reeves, Jordan Peele, Annie Potts
RUN TIME: 100.04 minutes
STORYLINE: Woody, Buzz and other toy friends, now with Bonnie go on a road trip with her family, in what is being touted as the final adventure of their lives.

are meant to be taken away for helping the kids that they belong to. How toys are like foster parents, bringing up babies and making them get by; as Woody (voiced by Tom Hanks) does, slipping into Bonnie's backpack to make her first day at the kindergarten smoother. The toys are like loyal, loving, empathetic, stress-busting pets. To love and be loved by. The ones who give you the warm and cosy feeling, and that assurance that everything will be alright. Or as the film puts it: “Being there

for a child is the most noble thing a toy can do”. The creation of a toy can help a kid get out of the introverted life to find a sense of self, as does Bonnie on making Forky, from a plastic, disposable fork. The essential amusement comes from the dilemma of Forky – is he a toy or is he trash? Even here, there lies a larger message – of discovering and valuing yourself, though it is communicated subtly. There is action in the form of Duke Caboom (Keanu Reeves), the Canadian stuntman who has been enlisted to help get back the lost Forky. There are minor stabs of fear too, at the antique store with the Bensons. All in all, *Toy Story 4* is a good mix of all the *rasas*. The most compelling thread however, is of being a lost toy, about the urgency of having a second shot at “getting a kid”, of being able to belong – to children, to other toys, or just to one's own self.

POOCH CAFE



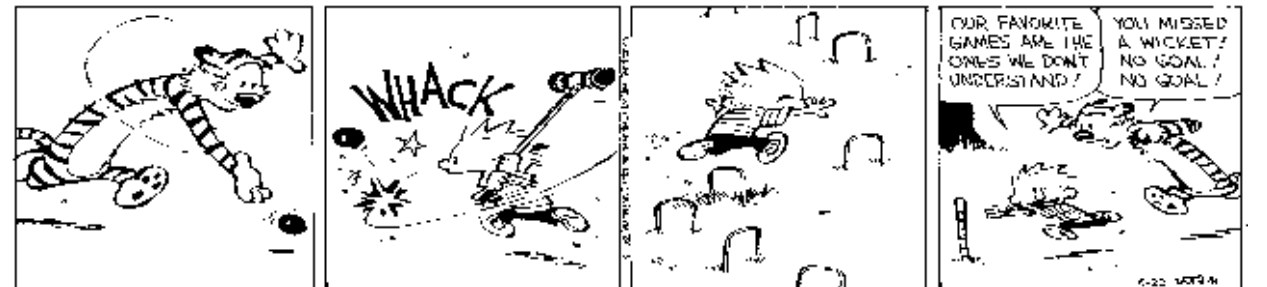
PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



TIGER



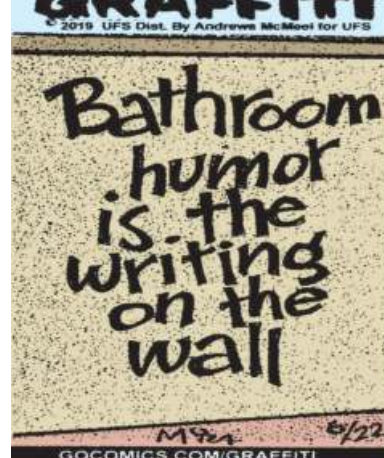
WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



GRAFFITI



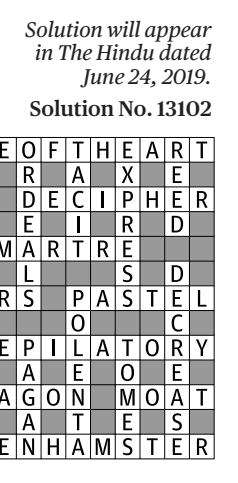
HEALTH CAPSULES

WHAT ARE THE VARIOUS TYPES OF MEDITATION?
THERE ARE MANY TYPES AND SUBTYPES OF MEDITATION. AMONG THEM: 1) LOVING KINDNESS, OR METTA MEDITATION, 2) BODY SCAN OR PROGRESSIVE MEDITATION, 3) MINDFULNESS MEDITATION, 4) BREATH AWARENESS MEDITATION, 5) ZEN MEDITATION, AND 6) TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION.

THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13103

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9					
		10				
11						
					12	13
14				15		
				16		
18	19					
20					21	
22						23

- 6 Incurion (4)
7 Unpleasantly wet and cold (4)
10 Smuggled goods (10)
12 Dying of hunger (8)
13 Practise (8)
16 Filmdom (6)
18 Prickly adhesive seed case (4)
19 A long, long time (4)
- Across
1 Covering for the wrist (4)
3 Likened (8)
8 Relocate (4)
9 Non-military (8)
11 Fiendish (10)
14 Riches (6)
15 Middle (6)
17 Genealogical chart (6,4)
20 Improved (8)
21 Person regularly
- 'economical with the truth' (4)
22 Left over (8)
23 Regard lecherously (4)
- Down
1 Loss of status (8)
2 Recommended consumption of fruit and veg (4,1,3)
4 Egyptian god, father of Horus (6)
5 Detective (7,3)



Solution will appear in *The Hindu* dated June 24, 2019.

Solution No. 13102

facebook.com/subhartiuni

www.subharti.org



SWAMI VIVEKANAND
SUBHARTI UNIVERSITY
Meerut
UGC Approved



250 ACRE CAMPUS
220+ COURSES
18 COLLEGES
REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SESSION 2019-20

Where Education is a Passion...

Online Application Forms available at www.subharti.org

Central Admission Cell also open on Sunday from 8 AM to 4 PM

Awarded "Excellence in Education - 2019" Conferred by CSR - Group

Ranked 3rd in Private Universities in INDIA With Best Students-Teachers Ratio

Ranked 1st in INDIA'S Law Schools of Excellence - 2018 Conferred by GRMC - Competition Success Review

sms SVSU <Course Name> and send to 53030

SUBHARTI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & ENGINEERING - 9639010192, 9639222288

B.TECH (CS, IT, EC, EEE, ME, CE, Food Tech.)

B.TECH HONS. IN
Computer Science & Engineering with specialization in
1) Big Data Analytics 2) Cloud Computing
3) Internet of Things and Intelligent System
4) Artificial intelligence and Machine Learning

B.TECH (Lateral Entry for Diploma or B.Sc. Holder)
(CS, IT, EC, EEE, ME, CE, Food Tech.)

M.TECH

(CS, Cyber Security, Microelectronics, RF & Microwave Engg, Power Electronics & Drives, Energy Technology, Production Engg, Structure Engg., Construction Mgmt. Environmental Engg. & Management)



NATUROPATHY



GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

TO BE A DOCTOR in

NATUROPATHY & YOGIC SCIENCES

B.N.Y.S.

Medical Degree in Naturopathy & Yoga
Eligibility - 12th (PCB 50%)

Duration - 5 1/2 Years (4.5 years + One year Internship)

NEET NOT REQUIRED

Call: 9639015554, 9639010531

JOURNALISM



B.J.M.C. (Bachelor of Journalism & Mass Communication)

B.F.T.P. (Bachelor of Film and Television Production)
Industrial tie-up for practical & Training with GULSHAN KUMAR FILM AND TELEVISION INSTITUTE OF INDIA Noida Film City

M.J.M.C. (Master of Journalism & Mass Comm.)
M.J.M.C. (Lateral Entry)

Call: 9639010464, 9639010408

POLYTECHNIC

Polytechnic (CSE, EEE, ECE, ME, Civil)

Polytechnic 2nd Year. through Lateral Entry

(CSE, EEE, ECE, ME, Civil)
Call: 9639010035, 9639222290

MANAGEMENT



BBA (Trade Fair, Event & Convention Management) For MBA Students

MBA (Human Resource Management, Financial Management, Marketing Management, Information Technology, International Business), Banking & Finance, Fashion Design, Hotel & Tourism Management, Retail Management.

MBA (Real Estate Valuation, Plant & Machinery Valuation, Logistic & Shipping, Trade Fair, Event & Convention Management, Logistic & Supply Chain Management.

E-MBA MHA

B.Com B.Com (Hons.)

DBA ADBA

M.Com PGDSM

Call: 9639010331, 9639222290

LAW



BA.LLB • LLM
P.G. Diploma in

- 1) Human Rights Law 2) Media Law Patent
- 3) Patient Practices 4) Labour Law
- 5) Intellectual Property Rights

Call: 9639010415, 9639222290

HOTEL MANAGEMENT

BHMCT (Bachelor of Hotel Management & Catering Technology)

MHMCT (Master of Hotel Management & Catering Technology)

DIPLOMA
Food & Beverage Service
Food Production & Bakery

Call: 9639010708, 9639222290

Infrastructure & Facilities

- WI-FI FACILITY • MODERN I.T. LABS • AIR CONDITIONED LIBRARIES • INDUSTRY ORIENTED PLACEMENT MODULES
- 24X7 POWER BACKUP • CANTEEN & CAFETERIAS • INDOOR & OUTDOOR SPORTS • TELECOM FACILITIES
- LEGAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE • TRAINING & PLACEMENT CELL • HIGH END SECURITY SERVICES
- STATE OF THE ART AUDITORIUM • STATIONERY & GROCERY SHOPS • WORLD CLASS ACCOMMODATION
- PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT CELL • MEDICARE & DENTICARE FACILITIES • BANKING SERVICES • ANTI RAGGING CELL
- TO-AND-FRO TRANSPORTATION FROM THE CITY • COUNSELING SESSIONS WITH EXPERT COUNSELORS
- WIDE RANGE OF SPORTS & RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES • GYMNASIUM WITH WORLD CLASS FITNESS PROGRAM

ACADEMIC COLLABORATION



SUBHARTIPURAM, NH-58, Delhi- Haridwar Bypass Road, Meerut, U.P., INDIA.

Contact for Admission: 9639222288/ 89/ 90/ 91/ 93/ 98

E-mail: admission@subharti.org