



Facebook censored anti-BJP content during election: Derek O'Brien

page 12



1 crore houses likely to be completed by 2020, instead of 2022: Puri

page 13

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

Behrendorff, Starc and Finch put Australia in semifinals

page 20



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NEARBY



AAP MLA sentenced to three months in jail

NEW DELHI
Rejecting a plea for lighter punishment, a court here on Tuesday sentenced AAP MLA Manoj Kumar to three months in jail for interfering in the election process during the 2013 Assembly polls. However, the court later granted him bail on a personal bond of ₹10,000 till July 25 after his counsel submitted that he wanted to challenge his conviction.

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

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OPPORTUNITIES ▶ PAGE 17

State of health

Among bigger States, Kerala secured the highest score in the 2017-18 composite health index prepared by the NITI Aayog, which incorporates 23 indicators. Graph shows the scores for 2015-16 and 2017-18 and the change in rank between the two time periods



REPORTS ON PAGES 3 & 9

Help fulfil the dream of a safe, modern, inclusive nation: PM

Congress missed opportunities to establish true secularism, he tells Lok Sabha

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called upon all parties to move forward together to fulfil the dream of a safe, modern and inclusive country, a call reflected, he said, in the positive mandate that his government received in the last election.

He was speaking in the Lok Sabha, replying to the debate on the motion of thanks to the President for his address to both Houses of Parliament. Mr. Modi criticised what he termed the Congress's "missed opportunities" in the past to establish true secularism. He said the mandate that his government received was a validation that it was moving in the right direction, a direction, he said, that valued both welfare and progress.

He extensively quoted

I challenge you to find a single instance, in any function of the past UPA government, of any contribution by late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee having been remembered, whereas I have, twice from the ramparts of the Red Fort, said all those who came before me contributed to where we are today as a nation. So, Vajpayeeji may have been from the BJP, what about the contributions of P.V. Narasimha Rao or even Dr. Manmohan Singh?..

NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister



from the speeches of Mahatma Gandhi, Ram Manohar Lohia and Jawaharlal Nehru, and said his own government's direction, including in the field of sanitation and water, emanated from their words.

Mr. Modi made a strong rebuttal of the Opposition's accusations that he was not mindful of those who came before him. Instead, he ac-

cused the Congress of only promoting the Nehru-Gandhi family at the expense of other leaders. "I challenge you to find a single instance, in any function of the past UPA government which remembered any contribution by late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, whereas I have, twice from the ramparts of the Red Fort, said all those who came before me

contributed to where we are today as a nation. So, Vajpayeeji may have been from the BJP, what about the contributions of P.V. Narasimha Rao or even Dr. Manmohan Singh? Former President Pranab Mukherjee was in another party all his life, but it was the NDA government that acknowledged his contributions and awarded him the Bharat Ratna. The contributions of leaders other than those belonging to a particular family are undermined," he said.

The Congress hit back, saying the Prime Minister was still in campaign mode. Its leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhary said the party was glad that Mr. Modi at least had been compelled to quote Pandit Nehru.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12
MARAN, MOITRA HOG
PRIME TIME ▶ PAGE 12

Antigua not providing Mehul safe haven, says its PM

'His citizenship will be revoked; he will be extradited once he exhausts his legal options'

A step ahead

A timeline of events that followed Mehul Choksi's escape to Antigua and Barbuda



- July 2018 MEA receives information that Mehul Choksi, a key accused in the alleged PNB scam, has taken refuge in Antigua and Barbuda (A&B)
- Aug. 2018 India seeks extradition of Choksi who holds an A&B passport
- Nov. 2018 Choksi says he can't return, cites multiple chronic ailments
- Dec. 2018 On CBI's request, Interpol issues a Red Notice against Choksi
- Jan. 2019 He surrenders Indian citizenship

June 25, 2019: PM Gaston Browne says that Choksi will be extradited to India after he exhausts his legal options

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Antiguan Prime Minister Gaston Browne has said diamond merchant Mehul Choksi, a prime accused in the ₹13,578 crore Punjab National Bank fraud case, will be extradited to India after he exhausts all his legal options there.

As reported by *Antigua Observer*, Mr. Browne also said Choksi's citizenship would be revoked in "short order".

"His citizenship was processed; he got through but the reality is his citizenship

will be revoked and he will be repatriated to India; so there is recourse. It's not a case that we are trying to provide any safe harbour for criminals, for those who are involved in financial crimes," he was quoted as having said over the weekend.

Mr. Browne said: "We have to allow for due process. He has a matter before the court and as we said to the Indian government, criminals have fundamental rights, too, and Choksi has a right to go to court and defend his position. But I can assure you, after he has ex-

hausted all of his legal options, he will be extradited."

Asked about Antigua's decision to revoke Choksi's citizenship, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Tuesday told the reporters: "I do not have information on this matter. I would not like to comment on it."

According to a source in the Ministry of External Affairs, nothing has been conveyed officially to New Delhi by the Antiguan government on the issue.

(With agency inputs)

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

SC declines plea for CBI probe into lawyer's murder

Issues raised in the petition should be heard by 'jurisdictional High Court': Bench

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday declined to entertain a petition seeking a CBI inquiry into the murder of advocate Darvesh Yadav, who was allegedly shot dead on the Agra court premises during a victory procession after her election as Uttar Pradesh Bar Council president.

A Vacation Bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B.R. Gavai said the issues raised in the petition should be heard by the "jurisdictional High Court", that is the Allahabad High Court.

"All prayers are pertaining to the incident and U.P. Bar Council...Move the Alla-



Darvesh Yadav

bad High Court...This is a specific matter, let's not generalise the whole thing," the Bench said.

Ms. Yadav, the first woman president of the State Bar Council, was shot thrice by another lawyer Manish Sharma, who allegedly had

been her long-time acquaintance.

Mr. Sharma reportedly shot himself immediately, said the petition filed by advocate Indu Kaul.

"Ms. Yadav succumbed to her injuries on the spot. Mr. Sharma was taken to the hospital where he died later," the petition said.

Police security

Ms. Kaul sought direction for providing police security to women advocates on court premises and for women-friendly amenities beyond court working hours throughout the country.

She highlighted other incidents of suffering by women advocates in the Su-

preme Court, the Delhi High Court and districts courts in Delhi.

'File separate writ'

To this, the Bench said the petitioner could file a separate writ petition on the issue.

Ms. Kaul argued that safety of women lawyers on court premises and at chamber blocks should be paramount or else incidents like these could be discouraging for the new woman entrants in this honourable profession.

She had sought a direction to the U.P. Bar Council to pay a compensation of ₹25 lakh to the family of Ms. Yadav.

Cold-blooded murder, says Tabrez's family

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
SARAIKELA

"My son-in-law would have been alive had the administration showed a little bit of sympathy and given him the minimum medical attention," says Shehnaz Begum, mother-in-law of Tabrez Ansari, the victim of a mob lynching in Jharkhand.

"First, it was the religiously motivated mob that meted out instant justice, and second, the administration committed a cold-blooded murder by letting Tabrez die of excruciating pain," Ms. Begum said.

FULL REPORT ON ▶ PAGE 13

High Court nod to screen Patwardhan's film

Centre had denied permission to screen 'Vivek' at the Kerala film festival

K.C. GOPAKUMAR
KOCHI

The High Court on Tuesday allowed the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy (KSCA) to screen Anand Patwardhan's documentary *Vivek* (Reason) at its ongoing International Documentary and Short Film Festival of Kerala (IDSFFK) in Thiruvananthapuram.

Justice Shaji P. Chaly granted the academy permission, subject to clause 2(i) of the guidelines for the certification of films for festivals.



Patwardhan's documentary deals with the rise of ultra-nationalism in the country.

As per the clause, exemption from certification can be granted for screening at film

festivals of non-commercial nature and before delegates which should include film-makers, media students, critics, film theorists, film-lovers, and all those associated with the production and business of films and members of the media duly registered with the festival authorities.

The court made it clear that the academy and the film-makers had not been granted permission to screen the film at any other place without the certification or consent of

the Union Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

'Provide protection'

It also directed the State government to provide protection for the screening in case any law and order problem arose at the venue.

The order was passed when a writ petition filed by the KSCA and Mr. Patwardhan, challenging the action of the Centre in denying permission for screening the documentary, came up for

hearing.

Vivek talks about the murders of rationalist scholars such as Narendra Dabholkar and Govind Pansare, the rise of ultra-nationalism in the country, the oppression of Dalits and Muslims, caste-based discrimination, and the suicide of Rohith Vemula.

The petitioners said the Information and Broadcasting Ministry had turned down a request of the academy for exempting the film from certification under Section 9 of the Cinematograph Act.

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RISE 05:25 SET 19:23
RISE 00:49 SET 13:08

THURSDAY, JUNE 27
RISE 05:26 SET 19:23
RISE 01:21 SET 14:02

FRIDAY, JUNE 28
RISE 05:26 SET 19:23
RISE 01:54 SET 14:57

Delhi Weather max min

Delhi City 39 28
Safdarjang 39 28
Palam 40 28

Delhi Palam Today
41°C Dry weather with humid and hazy morning. Day will be hot with partly cloudy sky. An uneasy afternoon.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow
42°C Slight rise in temperature. Dry and hot weather with few clouds to continue. A comfortable night.

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Air quality of Delhi-NCR

Delhi	133	Gurgaon	116
Ghaziabad	94	Faridabad	177
Noida	90	Greater Noida	182

Good 0-50 Satisfactory 51-100 Moderate 101-200
Poor 201-300 Very poor 301-400 Severe >401

AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY
(AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) | SOURCE: CPCB

DELHI TODAY

Exhibition: Between Art Deco and Modernism- Polish posters from 1918-1939, an exhibition of archival posters from the collection of the Poster Museum at Wilanow at Main Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre (IIC), 11 a.m. onwards.

Exhibition: Exhibition of the works of Mexican Master Engraver, Joel Rendón at Annexe Art Gallery, India International Centre, 11 a.m. onwards.

Exhibition: A solo painting exhibition by Kumar Umesh at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Dance: Yajnaseni, a solo thematic Kathak performance exploring the relationship of Krishna and Draupadi by Sangita Chatterjee, at The Stein Auditorium, IHC, 7 p.m. onwards.

(Mail your listings for this column at cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

A year on, Burari house fights 'horror' tag

Surviving brother of the Chundawats keen to sell the residence, but rumours make it a difficult bargain

HEMANI BHANDARI
NEW DELHI

"We haven't even deleted their phone numbers. Both my children used to talk to their cousins in Delhi regularly and I had constructed rooms to accommodate all of them in our new house in Chittorgarh [Rajasthan] where we shifted last December after my son's wedding," said Dinesh Singh Chundawat, the brother of Lalit Singh, who, along with 10 other members of his family, was found dead at their Burari residence on July 1 last year.

While the neighbours of the Chundawat family in Burari have moved on, the chatter about the incident refuses to die down. "Whenever people cross the street, they point at the house and say 'Ye wahai wala ghar hai' [it's the same house]," said a 39-year-old woman who lives next door.

It's almost a year since 11 members of the Chundawat family – Lalit (45); his elder brother Bhavnessh Singh (50); their wives Tina (42) and Savita (48) respectively; their children Neetu (25), Monu alias Maneka (23), Dhruv alias Dushyant (15), and Shivam (15); their sister Pratibha alias Baby (48) and her daughter Priyanka (33) – were found hanging in their house in a circular formation, with their mouths gagged and limbs tied. The oldest member of the family, 77-year-old Narayan Devi, was found dead in the adjacent room.

'Waiting for right price'
Mr. Dinesh Chundawat, a building contractor in Chittorgarh, told *The Hindu* that he has no plans to move to Delhi and that's why he wants to sell the house. "I will eventually sell it. At the

REVISITING THE CASE

- On July 1, 2018, around 7 a.m., a neighbour made a PCR call to inform the police about 11 bodies found hanging in a house in Burari
- It was initially suspected to be a case of murder as the bodies were found blindfolded, gagged, and their limbs tied up, but investigators discovered 11 diaries scribbled with notes detailing a ritual that the family was performing
- The diaries were dictated by Lalit who believed the "spirit" of his late father, Bhopal Singh, was communicating with him
- The family regularly performed puja for the departed soul of Bhopal



(Left) The 11 pipes protruding out of a wall in the Burari house had become a spectacle following the deaths; Dinesh Chundawat got rid of them soon after getting the possession of the house. ■ FILE PHOTO: SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA, SANDEEP SAXENA

Singh, fondly called 'Daddy' by everyone, and the members were often heard saying 'Daddy ke aane ka time ho gaya' [it's time for Daddy to arrive]

The police conducted a psychological autopsy (a retrospective reconstruction of the deceased's life) of the 11 members. The report, received in September 2018, observed

that the family members did not intend to kill themselves. They were, in fact, performing a ritual, which they believed would bring prosperity, but it proved fatal

moment, people are thinking that they can get it for free because of all the haunted rumours. I will sell it when I get the right price because my brothers constructed it with a lot of effort, I can't let it go as waste," he said.

Mr. Chundawat was successful in renting out one of the three shops on the ground floor of the house about six months ago, but superstition got the better of the deal.

The woman who had taken the shop on rent to run a grocery store called off the deal a day before the opening. "She paid an advance of ₹35,000 and cleaned the shop for three days. But elders in her house objected to her plan and said 'Bhootiya ghar hai yeh' [this is a haunted house]. She could not convince them and asked me to return the deposit money, which I did," he said.

The brother wants to get rid of the rumours attached

to the house and for that he himself stays there for a few days almost every month. He has also allowed two assistants, who earlier worked with Lalit at his plywood shop, to stay in the house. "In fact, the neighbours also tell people that there is nothing to be afraid of, but what can one do about the educated illiterates," he said.

At the house, a note on the gate still has Lalit's name. "3 meter ke bill yahan daalein.. reading ke liye sampark karain.. Bhuvnesh Singh Lalit Singh [leave bills for three meters here. For reading, contact Bhavnessh Singh, Lalit Singh] [sic]."

A neighbour claimed that Mr. Chundawat wants to sell the house for ₹1.5 crore but has got an offer for ₹1.3 crore.

Meanwhile, the Delhi Police Crime Branch, which was tasked to probe the deaths, is waiting for two Forensic Science Laboratory reports to close the case.

"One report on the handwriting in the diaries recovered from the house and another on the mobile phones and iPad records are awaited. A closure report will be filed after that," said a senior police officer.

Psychological autopsy
The Burari incident is the second case in the recent past in which the Delhi police have conducted a psychological autopsy, the first being the Sunanda Pushkar death in 2014. The report accessed by *The Hindu* observed that none of the members who died "had an intention to put an end to his/her life" and that it was not a suicide but an accident that occurred during the course of performing a ritual.

The three doctors who conducted the psychological autopsy said that the family members had prepared for the coming days. "Priyanka kept work pending for the

coming Monday. A packet of milk was kept in the fridge probably for the next day usage. Lalit has recharged the mobile phones of his family members a day before the incident. A [pot of] soaked chana was found in the kitchen probably kept for next day meal. No effort to 'wind up' by family members was observed," the report said.

The report also stated that the family "was not intending to attain moksha"; it was a ritual to be followed "periodically for their financial betterment".

The doctors in their report also observed that Lalit was diagnosed with a psychological problem and was advised to consult a psychiatrist, which was not adhered to. "Lalit got his voice back after his father's death and found it as a blessing. The false belief of Lalit was dictated and reinforced by the regular prayers at their house for a decade," the report read.

No decision taken to make Hindi must: JNU

'Students spreading misinformation'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Jawaharlal Nehru University on Tuesday clarified that it had taken no decision to impose Hindi in the curricula of its undergraduate programmes. The move came in response to opposition by the JNU Students' Union (JNUSU) and other organisations on the matter.

The students had alleged that JNU was trying to get the Academic Council to make Hindi compulsory for BA and B.Tech students.

"The JNU administration has not taken any such decision. The agenda item of the Academic Council was related to a discussion on a letter from the University Grants Commission seeking the views of the university on Hindi as a possible course in the undergraduate pro-

grammes," said JNU Registrar Pramod Kumar.

Mr. Kumar said that it was unfortunate that some students had spread misinformation claiming that JNU has imposed Hindi as a compulsory subject in undergraduate programmes.

He added that discussion on the agenda item in the meeting has been deferred.

The JNUSU responded to the agenda item being dropped by congratulating students for resisting the "Hindi Imposition".

"JNU admin drops Agenda 16 that was brought to impose Hindi on BA-B. Tech students. Let's be vigilant against anti-student policies of JNU VC and his cronies Long Live Multicultural India! Let's celebrate our diversity! [sic]" tweeted JNUSU president N. Sai Balaji.

AUD to reopen portal for EWS students

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Ambedkar University Delhi (AUD) is reopening its registration portal only for students belonging to Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category between June 26 and June 30 in order to implement 10% reservation for EWS students.

For all other students, the portal closed on June 24. "The university is implementing the reservation in a phased manner.

In the Academic Session 2019-20, 10% reservation will be implemented and 15% will be implemented in the next Academic Session," the university said.

It added that the applicants who have already applied and belong to the EWS category need not apply again. However, they need to upload the relevant documents related to the EWS category on the admission portal.

As many as 12,800 students applied for BA courses offered at AUD's Kashmere Gate campus, till the portal closed on June 24.

The Karampur campus received 3,029 applications for its BA courses.

A total of 991 students applied for the B.Voc courses, the university said. The first cut-off list is scheduled to be out on July 9.

CM wants report on vulnerable waterlogging points in Capital

Directs officials to take all possible effective measures

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday directed government officials of various departments concerned to submit status reports on vulnerable waterlogging points in the Capital.

While the Chief Secretary was directed to submit a report within a week, the Mr. Kejriwal told the officers concerned that there were shortcomings in dealing with waterlogging in the previous years.

"Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday directed the senior officials to take all possible effective measures to ensure that residents of Delhi do not face any inconvenience due to



Waterlogging during the coming monsoon, the government said in a statement.

The Chief Minister's direction came during a programme to launch the Flood Control Order report for the current year in the presence of his Cabinet colleagues and all the top officers of the

Delhi government and civic agencies.

Mr. Kejriwal, the government said in the statement, directed Chief Secretary Vijay Dev to ask all the departments concerned to provide a list of all the already identified vulnerable waterlogging points across Delhi within the next seven days along with the status report of what has been done to prevent waterlogging and problem areas, if any, before the monsoon sets in.

The Chief Minister also lauded the efforts of various departments and inter-departmental coordination in tackling floods in the Yamuna Flood Plain areas and other low-lying areas during monsoon.

Two AAP rebel MLAs get a week to reply to charges of defection

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) rebel MLAs, facing disqualification under the anti-defection law, were given a week's time by the Delhi Assembly Speaker here on Tuesday to submit their replies over joining the BJP.

The two legislators, Colonel Devender Sehrawat and Anil Bajpai, who represent the Bijwasan and Gandhi Nagar Assembly constituencies, joined the BJP ahead of the recent Lok Sabha poll, but maintain that they did not fill the primary membership form of the party.

Personal hearing

On Tuesday, the two lawmakers were represented by their counsels at a personal hearing before Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel.

Following the hearing, according to sources, the two MLAs were given a week's time to furnish their replies on the matter.

Notices were issued to the two on a petition moved by AAP Greater Kailash MLA and party spokesperson Saurabh Bhadraraj, accusing them of joining the BJP ahead of the general election.

Mr. Sehrawat and Mr. Bajpai said that the newspaper clippings annexed with Mr. Bhadraraj's petition were "illegible" and demanded that they be provided typed and translated copies so that they are able to submit their response on the charge of defection.

Mr. Sehrawat and Mr. Bajpai had joined the BJP in the presence of senior party leaders, including Union Minister Vijay Goel in May.

GRP organises Delhi tour for ragpickers

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Government Railway Police (GRP) here on Tuesday organised "Delhi Darshan" as a part of summer activities for ragpickers and vagabond children staying around the railway stations.

DCP (Railway) Dinesh Gupta said that the trip to Qutub Minar, National Science Museum, Lotus Temple, India Gate etc. was organised for 38 ragpicker children studying in Open School run by GRP in collaboration with an NGO.

Similar programmes were organised on June 22 and June 23 wherein counselling was held for 40 drug abuse children, said Mr. Gupta. He added that many more programmes would be organised in the coming days for these children.

North civic body blames govt. for financial crisis

'Municipality is owed over ₹960 crore'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Standing Committee chairperson, Leader of the House and other leaders of the North Delhi Municipal Corporation on Tuesday attacked the Delhi government for the poor financial status of the civic body.

Loss of revenue

They claimed that the non-implementation of the Fourth Finance Commission had resulted in a loss of revenue to the tune of ₹968.97 crore to the civic body. The calculation has been made taking into account the amount of money that would be due to the North body if recommendations of the Fourth Finance Commission were implemented between 2012 and 2016, compared to the mo-

ney already paid.

Additionally, various recommendations of the Fifth Finance Commission, applicable with retrospective effect from April 2016, which could have helped the civic body's financial situation were also not implemented. These include special grants to run hospitals, reimbursement for maintenance of drains, reducing collection charges of transfer duty, reducing collection charges by electricity discounts and others.

Chairperson Jai Prakash claimed that the Delhi government was carrying out a "mathematical gimmick" to make it out that a higher percentage of funds were being sent to the corporation but this was not true compared to earlier devolutions.

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IN BRIEF

Official of bike-taxi firm arrested for fraud

NOIDA
Accused of duping 2.25 lakh investors of nearly ₹1,400 crore, an additional director of a motorcycle-taxi firm has been arrested, the police said on Tuesday. Vinod Kumar Chauhan, who was evading arrest, was held in Greater Noida on Monday. Garvit Innovative Promoters Limited, a Greater Noida-based company, lured investors with a marketing scheme, "Bike Bot", promising to double returns in one year, the police said.

Two men thrashed for 'smuggling' cattle

GURUGRAM
Two persons were allegedly assaulted by a mob in Gurugram on Tuesday on the suspicion of smuggling cattle, the police said. Two vans were intercepted by a group of "cow protection unit" near Islampur village.

Head constable found dead

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI
A 48-year-old head constable of Rajasthan Armed Constabulary allegedly shot himself while on duty in North Block on Tuesday afternoon.

No note has been recovered, the police said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) Madhur Verma said the victim was deployed outside Union Finance Ministry at guard duty.

Police said the incident happened at 12.40 p.m. "The CCTV footage of the incident has been obtained and examined. He had completed his 3 hours duty and was on a break before resuming the next 3-hour duty when the incident happened," Mr. Verma said.

He was upset over something, the officer said, adding that probe is under way.

His body has been shifted to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital mortuary for post-mortem.

He is survived by wife and two sons, the police added.

Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health, Telephone: 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. -7.30 p.m.

AAP MLA sentenced to three months in jail

For interfering in poll process during 2013 Assembly elections

NIRNIMESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

Rejecting a plea for a lighter punishment, a Delhi court on Tuesday sentenced AAP MLA Manoj Kumar to three months in jail for interfering in the election process during the 2013 Assembly polls.

The court later granted bail to the MLA on a personal bond of ₹10,000 till July 25, after the his counsel submitted that Kumar wanted to challenge his conviction.

The chargesheet said the MLA and his supporters had closed the main gate of a municipal school at Kalyanpuri where the polling was taking place, locking the poll officers inside the booth.



Manoj Kumar

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Samar Vishal sentenced the MLA from Kondli under Section 131 of the Representation of People Act, 1951, and under Section 186 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions) of the IPC.

"None of the reasons given on behalf of the convict compels me to consider a lighter sentence, considering that the convict interfered with the poll process — a conduct that is not only illegal but also undemocratic," Mr. Vishal said in his judgment, while rejecting Kumar's plea for release on probation.

"The punishment needs to be deterrent... Kumar is sentenced with simple imprisonment for a period of three months with fine of ₹10,000 under Section 131 of the RPA; and for another three months under Section 106 of the IPC... Both the sentences shall run concurrently," the ACMM said.

15 gangsters arrested from bash for boss

40 guests detained from Najafgarh farmhouse, later released; 9 pistols recovered

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Fifteen gangsters were arrested and 40 'guests' detained from a party in west Delhi on Monday night, the police said on Tuesday.

Released from jail

The party was organised to welcome their crime boss Kapil Sangwan who had recently come out on parole from a jail in Haryana.

Before he reached the venue, a team raided the venue where there was liquor, music, and food, an officer said.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime) Dr. A.K. Singla said the crime branch team got in-pat about the party being organised at a farmhouse in Najafgarh.

"At 11.40 p.m., two teams



The arrested gangsters in police custody on Tuesday.
• SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

raided the premises at Goyla Dairy and apprehended 55 persons. Out of which, 15 were identified as gangsters who were involved in heinous crimes cases like murder and robbery. We have recovered nine pistols with 65 rounds from their possession," said Mr. Singla. He added that the rest 40

'guests' who were held from the venue were released after they gave their complete details. Many of the gangsters had arrived at the party with their wives.

'Verifying details'

"We are verifying the details of 'guests' if they are involved in any crime. No

We are verifying the details of 'guests' if they are involved in any crime. No arms were recovered from their possession

DR. A.K. SINGLA
Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime)

arms were recovered from their possession," said Mr. Singla. He added that Sangwan has several cases of murder, attempt to murder, extortion, criminal intimidation and possession of illegal firearms registered against him in Delhi and Haryana.

"He was in jail since 2016. On Monday, he was released from Bhondsi jail on parole," the officer said.

Man bludgeons friend, throws him on rail track

Wanted to marry victim's wife: police

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Desperate to marry his friend's wife, a man allegedly bludgeoned him with a brick and left him unconscious on the railway track where the victim was run over by a train, the police said on Tuesday.

The 20-year-old accused has been arrested, they said.

A senior officer said they received information on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday that a body was lying on the railway track near Prem Nagar railway crossing on Rama Road.

The accused, Gulkesh, was attracted to the wife of the victim, Dalbir, and wanted to marry her. So he hatched a conspiracy to kill him, the police said.

Misled probe

After the crime, Gulkesh called the police and cooked up a story to mislead the investigation. He was present at the spot when the police came and he told them that someone killed Dalbir and threw his body on the tracks.

The police found se-



The accused, Gulkesh.
• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

parated legs on the tracks while the remaining body parts were spotted a km away from the spot.

When Gulkesh was questioned about bloodstains on his clothes, he could not give satisfactory answers, the police said.

"Later, Gulkesh confessed to the crime. He said he had called Dalbir on Monday evening and asked him to meet near the railway track," said DCP (West) Monika Bhardwaj. When they were walking near the track, Gulkesh hit Dalbir with a brick, leaving him unconscious, Ms. Bhardwaj said.

He then threw the victim on the track. The accused said he had told Dalbir's wife Pooja about the incident, the police added.

Father-in-law kills woman after feud over fixing bulb, surrenders

Separated from her husband, victim was living with in-laws

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A man was arrested for allegedly killing his 33-year-old daughter-in-law on Monday after an argument over fixing a bulb in central Delhi's Paharganj, the police said on Tuesday.

After the crime, Bhagat Ram surrendered to the police, they said. A senior officer said the victim has been identified as Neeraj.

The woman had been married to Bhagat's son for the last 10 years but they were living separately for seven years now.

While she lived with her in-laws, the husband lives in Gurugram and works for a private firm. The couple separated after having compati-

bility issues, the police said. The victim did not get along with her in-laws. On Monday night, Neeraj removed a bulb, which was fixed by Bhagat after which an argument ensued between the two. Soon, the matter was resolved.

After some time, when her in-laws were dining, Neeraj came and sat with them

to eat. Bhagat did not like this, the police said.

"The accused said the woman was holding a kitchen knife and he tried to snatch it from her when it 'slit her throat'. The sequence of events is being verified," an officer said. After the incident, the accused went to the police station and narrated the incident, police said.

Domestic violence

Neeraj and her husband were going through a divorce case and she had filed a domestic violence case against him, the police said.

A case under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code has been registered and further investigation is under way.

Vasant Vihar triple murder: after call records, cops check Internet usage

Motive was to kill caretaker; 'two kinds of weapons used in crime'

SAURABH TRIVEDI NEW DELHI

After getting no significant leads by scanning call records of suspects and victims in Vasant Vihar triple murder case, the police are now going through Internet Protocol Detail Record, said an officer on Tuesday.

On June 23 morning, the bodies of Vishnu Mathur (78), his wife Shashi (75) and their caretaker Khushboo (22) were found in their two-bedroom flat on the first floor of Vasant Apartments.

The police claim to have scanned call data records (CDR) of all three suspects, who were picked up for questioning on Monday. The same was done for the victims but all efforts turned futile, the officer said. "One of the suspects had switched off his phone at 8.43 p.m. on

The elderly couple was stabbed twice in neck with separate weapons. However, the accused used both the weapons to kill Khushboo. Her throat was slit around 35 times

INITIAL POST-MORTEM REPORT

the night murder but used the Internet on his phone via another SIM card till 12.15 a.m. Khushboo was using the Internet on her phone till 12 a.m., including Voice Over IP call and video calls," said the officer.

The initial post-mortem report states that two kinds of weapons in the commission of the crimes, the officer said. The elderly couple was stabbed twice in neck

with separate weapons. However, the accused used both the weapons to kill Khushboo and her throat was slit around 35 times.

'Two people involved'

"One of the weapons used in the murder is sharp while other was slightly blunt. It is suggested that there were two persons who killed the victims. The movie behind the murder was to kill Khushboo," said the officer. The officer said they recreated escape route of two persons — a man and woman — who were seen entering and leaving the building on a motorcycle on the day of the incident. "We have found out various escape routes that could have been taken by the suspects. We have scanned over 200 CCTVs," said the officer.

Man convicted of bursting firecrackers on Diwali

NIRNIMESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

In a first, a Delhi court has convicted a man for bursting firecrackers on Diwali after the Supreme Court-mandated 10 p.m. deadline at central Delhi's Paharganj in 2018.

However, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (ACMM) Jitendra Singh let off the accused by admonishing and fining him ₹500 as the cost of the court proceedings. The prosecution had sought the maximum sentence.

According to the prosecution, the accused continued to burst firecrackers even after he was told not to by a police officer on duty in the area.

The police then arrested him but later released him on bail as the offence under Section 188 (disobedience of an order...) of the IPC is a bailable offence.

The maximum sentence provided for the offence is one month's simple imprisonment or ₹2,000 fine or both. The court held him guilty on the basis of the evidence by the officer who had arrested him. The accused admitted the allegations but said he was unaware of the SC order.

Delhi drops to fifth spot in NITI Aayog Health Index

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Delhi dropped two places to the fifth spot in the ranking for the performance of seven Union Territories in the health sector, according to the second edition of the Health Index released by government think tank NITI Aayog on Tuesday.

The report 'Healthy States, Progressive India: Report on Rank of States and UTs' has ranked states in three categories — larger States, smaller

States and UTs "to ensure comparison among similar entities".


As per the ranking released, Chandigarh which was at the second spot in the first edition of the Index, topped the list this year with a score of 63.62. Chandigarh was followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli at number 2 position with a score of 56.31. Interestingly, Dadra and Nagar Haveli was the worst performer last time with a score of 38.64.

Lakshadweep, which topped the list last time, slipped to the third position, followed by Puducherry, Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar and Daman and Diu.

The report showed that Delhi's index score dropped by 0.61 to 49.42, due to poor performance on certain indicators, including proportion low birth weight among new borns, treatment success rate of new microbiologically confirmed TB cases, average occupancy of an office for three

key state posts for last three years, proportion of auxiliary nurse midwife position vacant at sub centers, proportion if facilities functional as first referral unit and functional cardiac care units per district.

On the other hand, Delhi showed positive incremental performance for some indicators, including full immunization coverage, proportion of institutional deliveries and average occupancy of a district chief medical officer.



DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
June 26, 2019

HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER

DRUGS are deadly

HARMFUL EFFECTS OF DRUG ABUSE

- Infectious Diseases • Impaired Health • HIV/AIDS
- Frustration and loss of mental peace • Absence from School/College
- Loss of Job/Income • Urge to commit crimes • Ruin of family and life

SAY NO TO DRUGS

E-mail to CP, Delhi at: cp.amulyapatnaik@delhipolice.gov.in
Write to: CP, Delhi at: P.O. Box No. 171, GPO, New Delhi

FOR IMMEDIATE POLICE HELP CALL 100 TO SHARE INFORMATION CALL 1090

IN BRIEF



CISF man stops woman from leaping off FOB

NEW DELHI
A 21-year-old woman was stopped by a Central Industrial Security Force officer from jumping off a Foot Overbridge at a metro station here on Tuesday, a senior official said. The incident took place around 7.30 a.m. at Inderlok station. CISF ASI Umesh Panday was able to pull the woman back just as she was about to jump, said the official.

DCW seeks information on rape accused on bail

NEW DELHI
The Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) on Tuesday sought information from the Delhi police on all rape accused who have been released on bail. This comes after the rape and murder of a 7-year-old girl in Narela on June 15. The accused in the case was earlier convicted of raping a minor in 2011. He was released on bail after spending a year in jail.

'More Mayapuri scrap units may be sealed in next two-three days'

Action against shops in the area in April had led to violence

NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

In the next two to three days, industries operating in west Delhi's Mayapuri without applying for "consent to operate" and paying Environmental Damages Compensation (EDC) will be sealed, a senior Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) official told *The Hindu* on Tuesday.

Earlier this month, DPCC had imposed fines amounting ₹3.76 crore on 122 units for working without 'consent to operate' and also for not following pollution control measures.

"Power supply to 41 units has been disconnected based on DPCC's directions and about ₹1 crore has been paid by the units as EDC, but a few more are yet to pay," the DPCC official said.

The sealing of scrap units in the area in April had led to violence. Following the incident, four teams from DPCC carried out a comprehensive

Power supply to 41 units have been disconnected based on DPCC's directions and about ₹1 crore has been paid by the units as EDC, but a few more are yet to pay

DPCC OFFICIALS

survey from May 14 to 30 in C, D, E and W blocks of Mayapuri Phase-2 and fines were imposed based on it. Out of the 122, 102 did not have "consent to operate", while 20 were not sticking to the pollution control norms.

Of the 102, 41 units fell under 'red' and 'orange' category of industrial units, considered highly polluting.

"Sixty-one other units, which fell under green category, has been given time to fix the issues," the official added.

The fines were issued following orders from the Na-

tional Green Tribunal (NGT). Gurvinder Kumar, general secretary of Old Motor and Machinery Parts Dealers Association, said that 41 people got notice that their units will be sealed.

"There was a meeting with the police on Monday and they told us to cooperate. We will approach the court. What else can we do?"

Flashback

On April 13, a team of government officials, police and paramilitary personnel, came under attack from local scrap dealers while conducting a sealing drive on polluting units in Mayapuri.

The sealing drive was undertaken following a stern order by the NGT on April 11 when it pulled up the Delhi Chief Secretary and the DPCC for not taking steps to curb pollution caused by the units. The NGT directed the officials to show cause as to why their civil imprisonment should not be directed.

BJP must take action against economic fugitives: AAP

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party on Tuesday said the Central government cannot run away from its responsibility on black money issue. "Mere talk is not enough,

BJP government will have to take strict action against economic fugitives," AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, said.

Mr. Singh said that a Standing Committee report on black money is worrying. "Only talk will not bring this

money back. The Centre will have to take stern steps. People like Nirav Modi and Vijay Mallya, who robbed the country of thousands of crores, have been hoodwinking the Indian government. We will have to take strict ac-

tion against them. The Centre will have to explain, What happened to the government's Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill? What action did the government take against economic fugitives?" the MP asked.

Over 6,000 child deaths in six years at Kalawati hospital: RTI

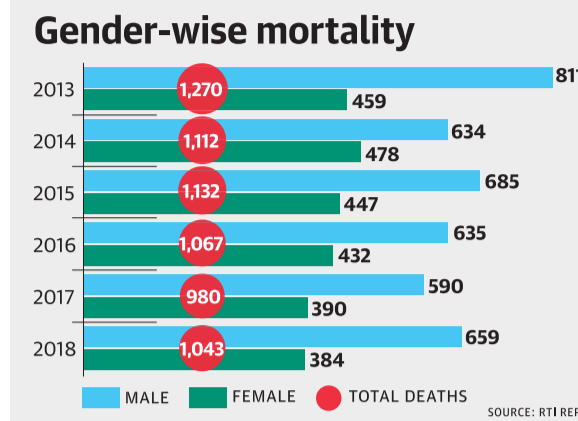
Premature births, septicemia and other infections are the common cause

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

Death toll due to acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) has touched 150 in S.K. Medical College and Hospital in Bihar with the Central government ensuring that emergency services are made available to reduce fatalities. Closer home Central government-run Kalawati Saran Children Hospital, a super-specialty hospital for children, has been registering over 1,000 deaths each year due to various medical conditions.

One of the largest government hospitals for children in India, Kalawati Saran Children Hospital caters to the poorest of the poor children. The hospital was given a budget allocation of ₹11.81 crore last year.

As per information obtained under the Right to Information by activist Rajhans Bansal, the hospital has reported 6,044 child deaths since 2013. This includes 4,014 male and 2,590 female child deaths. The hospital registered 1,394 deaths in its emergency alone during this period. From 2008 to 2012,



SOURCE: RTI REPLY

10,081 deaths were registered while other Central government hospitals, including Safdarjung registered 5,960 deaths and RML 1,034 deaths during the same period.

Growing number

"We get the maximum number of admissions of the most sick and malnourished children in India. Cases referred here are from other medical centres, mostly being children who are administered wrong treatment or who didn't get treatment on time. Despite the hospital witnessing a growing number of pa-

tients from across India, the infrastructure and manpower are inadequate to meet the demands of the patients," said a senior health ministry official.

He added that efforts are being made to ensure that hospital equipment, staff and medical supplies are adequate to cater to the children.

Doctors here explained that the most common cause of death at the hospital includes premature births, respiratory infections, septicemia and other infections. Also 50% of the deaths are reported in the first 48 hours of

admission which indicates that these children are brought to the hospital in a very critical condition.

Causes of death

According to the World Health Organization, the leading cause of death among children under five in 2017 were preterm birth complications, acute respiratory infections, intrapartum-related complications, congenital anomalies and diarrhoea. Neonatal deaths accounted for 47% of under-five deaths in 2017.

"Child deaths can be prevented by providing immediate breastfeeding, improving access to skilled health professionals for antenatal, birth, and postnatal care, improving access to nutrition and micronutrients, promoting knowledge of dangers among family members, improving access to water, sanitation, and hygiene and providing immunisations. However, many of these life-saving interventions are beyond the reach of the world's poorest communities," it noted.

BJP postpones meet to chalk out 'Assembly election plans'

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A significant meeting to chart the way forward for its strategy for the upcoming Delhi Assembly elections was postponed by the State unit of the BJP as a mark of respect to Rajasthan BJP chief Madan Lal Saini, who passed away.

The meeting, which will now be held on Wednesday morning, will focus on what the party claimed was a "comprehensive scheme" for the expansion of the party where the party's national organisation general secretary Ram Lal will be in attendance.

Day-long deliberations on chalking the way forward for its campaign, in addition to zeroing-in on potential candidates for the Assembly elections, will be held at the party state headquarters on Wednesday.

'Happy' LoP's wife got robbed: AAP

Party says BJP will now realise how unsafe the Capital is

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Aam Aadmi Party chief spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj on Tuesday said that he was "happy" that BJP MLA Vijender Gupta's wife was robbed since the BJP will now realise how bad the safety situation in Delhi is.

"When a woman steps out of her house, her chain getting snatched by people on a bike is a traumatic incident, especially for senior citizens and they would be afraid to leave their houses... I am happy that Vijender Gupta's wife got robbed. I am happy about it. At least now they [BJP] know what is happening to common man. Else they don't realise it," said Mr. Bharadwaj, while addressing a press conference at the AAP headquarters in Rouse Avenue.

"The condition is very bad in Delhi and Vijender Gupta and the BJP should understand this and do something about it."

Responding to Mr. Bharadwaj's statement, Mr. Gupta said, "Such statements just reiterate the fact that Aam Aadmi Party never was, is, or will be serious about the issue of women's safety. All they care about is politicising incidents instead of actually doing something on the ground to improve women's safety in the city."

In Delhi, the city police reports to the Lt. Governor, who is appointed by the Central government. In the past also, AAP had attacked the Central government on law and order problems in the city.

'Fake data'

AAP also alleged that Delhi Police was "shamelessly" "manipulating" statistics to show that crime has decreased in the city. However, the allegation was contested by the city police.

"The Delhi police keep putting out statistics to make its point about crime. But the

fact is, it is the police who register the cases and if they want to suppress the number of crimes reported, they simply choose not to register cases or register under less serious sections to bring down the number of serious crimes reported. This manipulation is being done by the Delhi police shamelessly," Mr. Bharadwaj said.

"How can the Police Commissioner do the business of fake statistics and make fool [of the people]?"

Cops' contention

In a written statement, Delhi Police PRO, Madhur Verma, said: "The Delhi police have ensured maximum visibility on road through integrated picket checking, foot patrolling... These measures have yielded positive results in the form of downward trend in heinous crimes and crimes against women. These statistics are a part of computerised record and cannot be disputed."

'Probe anomalies in Waqf Board appointments'

Khan indulging in nepotism: Congress

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Congress on Monday alleged that Delhi Waqf Board chairman and Okhla MLA Amanatullah Khan had "committed irregularities" and was "indulging in corruption and nepotism" in the appointments to the Delhi Waqf Board. The Congress alleged that seven of the 33 members on the board were close relatives or associates of Mr. Khan.

"While making 33 appointments in the Delhi Waqf Board, Mr. Khan flouted all norms right from the advertisement for the posts till the final selection. The conduct of the chairman and his Selection Committee, comprising his close relatives and AAP leaders, smack of a bigger and deeper recruitment scam, which needs a thorough investigation," the Delhi Congress said.

Congress spokesperson Jitender Kumar Kochhar said that on February 26, vacancies were advertised in newspapers inviting applications for 33 posts in the Delhi Waqf Board and interviews were conducted on March 1-2 in order to limit the number of applicants. "The selection committee was full of chairman's relatives and AAP leaders, in order to facilitate the selection of his own relatives and people from his village," Mr. Kochhar alleged.

The Delhi Congress said that seven relatives and close associates of the chairman were selected and they demanded a high-level CBI inquiry into the "recruitment scam". The party also said that a CBI inquiry was already pending against the chairman for "dubious" appointments made in the Waqf Board during his first tenure in 2016.

72 projects under Smart City Mission finished: NDMC

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The New Delhi Municipal Council has completed 72 projects under the Smart City initiative, including installation of water ATMs and decentralised sewage treatment plants and 39 more projects are in the pipeline, NDMC chairman Naresh Kumar said on Tuesday.

Mr. Kumar was addressing a press conference on the completion of four years of Smart Cities Mission (SCM), one of the flagship programmes of the Central government.

"We are working mainly on 10 aspects of the Smart Cities Mission... It is a continuous journey," Mr. Kumar said. The 10 areas in which work is happening under the SCM, includes, governance, communication, infrastructure, education, and conservation of resources.

He said that governance is their main focus area and added that NDMC-run schools have student exchange programmes and they are in talks with the Centre for an exchange programme with schools in Africa. "NDMC is committed to complete most of the projects by 2019-20," an official statement said.

Haryana Staff Selection Commission
Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula-134154
(www.hssc.gov.in)
ANNOUNCEMENT
Notice to candidates for Interview for the post of Junior Engineer (Civil) of HUDA against Advt. No. 07/2017, Cat. No. 28.

On the basis of Written Examination (Online Computer Based) held from 09.04.2018 to 11.04.2018 and Scrutiny of Documents on 10.06.2019 and 17.06.2019 for the post of Junior Engineer (Civil), Cat. No. 28 against Advt. No. 7/2017, the candidates bearing following Roll Nos. have been called for interview/viva-voce provisionally and further subject to the fulfillment of their eligibility conditions as per respective advertisement and service rules. The marks secured by the last short listed candidate have been given in bracket:-

Cat. No.28, Junior Engineer (Civil) Total 61 Posts
General (59 Posts)

717280284	717280344	7172802917	7172804140	7172804355	7172805389
7172805241	7172805389	7172805434	7172807128	7172809118	7172809490
7172809654	7172810559	7172811045	7172811490	7172811801	7172812865
(150)					
SC (20 Posts)					
7172804035	7172806912	7172806983	7172806153	7172806170	7172806217
7172801405	7172802866	7172802874	7172802880	7172803186	7172803807
7172804721	7172804623	7172806525	7172805138	7172805258	7172805265
7172805432	7172805521	7172805612	7172806021	7172807070	7172807204
7172807247	7172807295	7172807498	7172808517	7172808818	7172809537
7172809538	7172809973	7172810851	7172810740	7172811062	7172811361
7172811388	7172811407	7172811613	7172811696	7172811784	7172812646
7172812877					
(132)					
BCA (11 Posts)					
7172809380	7172809742	7172809953	7172801147	7172801173	7172802807
7172803081	7172803165	7172803742	7172804350	7172804461	7172805627
7172806422	7172807361	7172807449	7172807530	7172808584	7172808952
7172808629	7172808961	7172809102	7172809481	7172810138	7172812874
(138)					
BCB (05 Posts)					
7172808277	7172801130	7172801207	7172803888	7172804341	7172804344
7172809590	7172808884	7172807114	7172808003	7172809490	7172809855
(142)					
EBRC (06 Posts)					
7172802115	7172803533	7172805403	7172806433	7172807073	7172807111
7172807219	7172807336	7172807448	7172807499	7172809441	7172811493
7172811691	7172811737				
(142)					
ESM GEN (04 Posts)					
7172802949	7172804177	7172806516	7172808662	7172809506	7172809550
7172812417	7172812869				
(SHEP 90 & DESM 114)					
ESM BCA (02 Posts)					
7172805513	7172808414	7172809728	7172812570		
(SHEP 106 & DESM 114)					
ESM BCB (03 Posts)					
7172802864	7172805228	7172806506	7172807643	7172811487	7172811916
(84)					
OSP BCA (01 Post)					
7172801815	7172803090				
(118)					
OH (01 Post)					
7172805443	7172810697				
(124)					

NOTE:- The interview of the above candidates will be held on 22.07.2019. The candidates are advised to download the Admit Card for interview from the website of the Commission on/after 19.07.2019 and report at 09.00 A.M. in the Commission office Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula. They are also directed to bring all original documents, set of attested copies of all documents.

2. While every care has been taken in preparing and uploading the result, possibility of inadvertent/technical errors cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves the right to rectify the same later on.

3. The result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. www.hssc.gov.in.

Sd/-
(Under Secretary)
for Secretary Haryana Staff Selection Commission
Dated:-23.06.2019

Samvad-77099

डॉ. बी.आर. अम्बेडकर विश्वविद्यालय दिल्ली
Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR UNIVERSITY DELHI
(Accredited with NAAC 'A' Grade)

EWS - Admission Notice 2019-20

It is to inform that Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) reservation is going to be implemented in Admissions 2019 at Ambedkar University Delhi. In this regard, candidates belonging to EWSs category are advised to visit website: www.aud.ac.in between 26th June 2019 to 30th June 2019-5 pm.
Admission Helpline: 011-23863740, 011-23863743
Email id: admissions@aud.ac.in

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one boy (depicted in the photo) namely **Rajesh, S/o Malkhan Singh, R/o Village Bilaspur, P.S. Gannaur, District Sambhal, U.P.**, has been missing from H. No. 2988, Kucha Mai Dass, Sitaram Bazar, Delhi on 11.06.2019. In this regard a FIR No. 83/19, u/s 363 IPC, Dated 16.06.2019 has been registered at Police Station - Hauz Qazi, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age: 16 years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'0", Face: Round, Build: Medium, Clothing: Wearing red colour Shirt and black colour Pant.

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing boy, may inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph.No.: 011-24368638, 24368641
P.S. Hauz Qazi, Delhi
DP/6379/CD/19 Ph.: 011-23210414, 23212482

SARDAR SAROVAR NARMADA NIGAM LIMITED
(A wholly owned Govt. of Gujarat Undertaking)

Works under the Chief Engineer (E &M), SSNNL, NPHP, 2ND floor, Block-A, Narmada Bhavan, Jail Road, Vadodara-390001
Tender Notice No. 07 of 2019-20
Name of Work : Work of Supply, Erection and Commissioning of 500 KVA Transformer & DG set at Food Court Building near PRO, at Kevadia.
(i) **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 208.398 Lakh
(ii) **Last Date / Time of online bid submission :** 08/07/2019, Up to 18.00 Hours.

For further details please visit website <https://www.nprocure.com>, www.statenders.com and www.sardarsarovardam.org
INF-BRD-267-2019-2020

Government of Jharkhand
Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute
Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minorities and Backward Class Welfare Department Morabadi, Ranchi - 834008
Tel: 0651-2551824 e-mail: tri.directorate@gmail.com / dir-triran@gov.in

Lt. N. 686 Ranchi, dated : 21.06.2019

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Ranchi, Jharkhand will publish its journal 'Seng Durang' issue no XXXVII(47) 2019. This issue will be based on 'Tribal Philosophy'. In this regard, the institute is inviting papers (Research paper, Thematic Essay/Surveys, Notes from the field, Book review & Reports) on this theme and on topics selected, but not restricted, to the following sub-themes. The articles should be submitted by last week of **August 2019**.

Title of Sub Themes :-

1. Tribal Religion in India : Its Nature of Persistence, Philosophy
2. Defining the Indigenous Tribal Religion
3. Religious Beliefs and Practices of the Tribals of Jharkhand
4. Religious Rituals and Ceremonies of the Tribals of Jharkhand
5. The Cosmos and Religion in the Folklores of Tribals
6. Women in Tribal Religions
7. Tribal Theology
8. Eschatology of Tribals
9. Metaphysics / Ontology of Tribals
10. The Significance of Spiritual Semiotics.
11. Myths - Mythologies and Tribal Religion/Philosophy
12. The necessity of Tribal Philosophy in discipline of Philosophy

For important points for submission of article please visit our website www.trijharkhand.com or institute's notice board.

Sd/-
Dy. Director

PR 209692 (Welfare)19-20FD

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
S&T Branch, Jabalpur
OPEN TENDER • NIT Dtd. 20.06.2019
The Divisional Railway Manager (S&T), West Central Railway, Jabalpur, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites applications on prescribed tender form for the following work:- NIT No.: JBP/N/Tele/Tender/2019/07, Dated 20.06.2019. Name of work with location: Provision of maintenance free earthing arrangement at station & interlocking LC gates and telecom installation over Jabalpur Division. Approx. cost of the work: ₹ 13,11,295.60. Address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased: DRM(S&T)'s Office, 1st Floor, DRM Building, Jabalpur. Earnest Money: ₹ 26,300/-.

Date & Time for opening of tender: 18.07.2019 at 15.00 Hrs. Complete details of tender notice available on the Railway website <http://www.wcr.indianrailways.gov.in> and also placed on notice board of the DRM(S&T)'s Office, WCR, Jabalpur. Complete tender form can also be downloaded from above website.

Asstt. Divn. Sig. & Telecom Engineer, West Central Railway, Jabalpur

रैल वेबसाइट के माध्यम से निम्नलिखित सूचना हेतु 138 पर एच एच सूचना हेतु 182 पर क्लिक करें।

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are invited from eligible tenderers for "Out Sourcing un-skilled Housekeeping & Cleaning/ Horticulture Manpower". For more details of date of issue & submission tender please visit at www.nsic.co.in or contact:

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Haryana tightens provisions of Act to curb cow slaughter

A technical mistake in the Act corrected, the word beef included in it'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

The Haryana Cabinet on Tuesday amended the Haryana Gausvansh Sanrakshan and Gausamvardhan Act, 2015, by adding the word 'beef' to it.

The new Bill - Haryana Gausvansh Sanrakshan and Gausamvardhan (Amendment) Bill, 2019 - authorises any police officer, not below the rank of sub-inspector, or any person empowered by the government, to enter, stop and search any vehicle used or intended to be used for the export of cows or beef, said an official statement released after the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar.

An official told The Hindu that a technical mistake in the



Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar at the Civil Secretariat in Chandigarh on Tuesday. *AKHILESH KUMAR

instruments and documents.

The provisions of Section 100 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, would apply to search and seizure under the Act.

Other Cabinet decisions

The Cabinet also decided to exempt from market fee pulses used as raw material in the food processing industries located in the State, amending the Haryana Agri Business and Food Processing Policy, 2018. It also decided to include the castes - Jogi, Jangam, Jogi Nath, Maniar, Bhat, Rahabari and Madari (Hindu) - in the list of nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes.

The meeting approved the proposal to denotify the land acquired for the Dadpur Nalvi irrigation scheme.

the Act was corrected with the addition of the word 'beef'.

The Act had earlier mentioned 'cow' alone.

The statement said the authorised officer could seize cow or beef and the vehicle in which it was found, if he/she suspected

that any provision of the Act was being contravened, and ensure the production of the cow or beef in court. The authorised officer could also enter and search any premises used or intended to be used for slaughter of cow and seize cow or beef and collect evidence, including

Odisha to bring poverty below 5%

To lay stress on agriculture development, says Governor

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha government will lay emphasis on agriculture development and farmers' welfare as a major strategy for bringing poverty below 5% over the next five years, Governor Ganeshi Lal said here on Tuesday.

Addressing the inaugural session of the 16th Assembly, Prof. Lal said the State government will continue with the pace of irrigation development with an investment of ₹50,000 crore in addition to commitment on the existing projects.

Interest-free crop loans

Stating that sustainable input management is the key to agricultural productivity, Prof. Lal said the State government has envisioned that all farmers and landless agricultural labourers would be covered under the KALIA scheme.

Prof. Lal added the government will provide interest-free crop loans to small and marginal farmers up to ₹1 lakh.

Mentioning that empowerment of women has been the key to the State's progress, Prof. Lal said the government will ensure that women self-help groups under Mission Shakti programme will get government business worth ₹5,000 crore. The Governor further said that the State government proposes to create Mission Shakti as a separate department and form a State-level federation supported by SHG federations from gram panchayat, block to the district. Mission Shakti buildings will be constructed by the government in each gram panchayat and district headquarters, he added.

He said that the government will pursue the cause of one-third reservation for wo-

men in Parliament and State Assemblies to its logical end.

The Governor informed the House that the government will bring a new industrial policy in line with the perspective plan with emphasis on creation of job opportunities.

'Make in Odisha'

Stating that the government will carry forward the benefits accrued from last two editions of the 'Make in Odisha' campaign, Prof. Lal said efforts will be made to create 30 lakh employment opportunities in six focus sectors, and 75% jobs will be reserved for qualified local youths in all upcoming industries in the State.

This session of the Assembly will be held in two phases - from June 25 to July 3 and from July 12 to August 8. Finance Minister Niranjani Pujari will present the budget on June 28.

'Fatter' NRC exclusion list today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

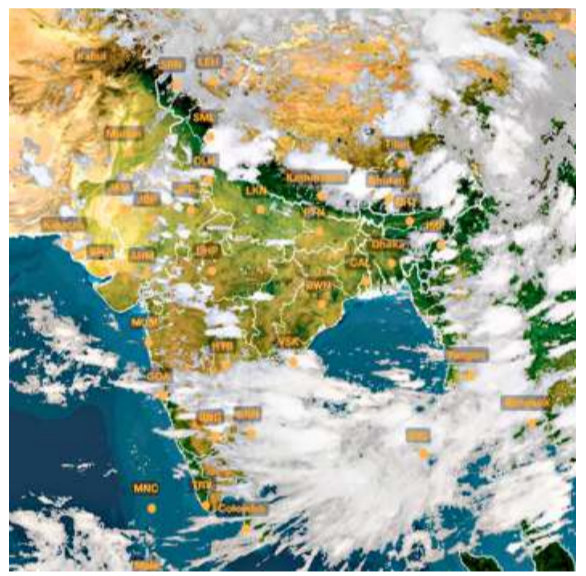
The office of the National Register of Citizens State Coordinator is scheduled to publish an 'additional exclusion list' on Wednesday containing the names of those who figured in the complete draft published on July 30, 2018, but were later found "ineligible for inclusion".

This, rights activists said, could fatten the list of NRC-excluded people, who currently number 40.07 lakh. The Association of Citizens' Rights said many people included in the draft NRC cannot be assured of their citizenship status until they don't find their names in the additional list.

People marked as D-voter, and those declared foreigners by Foreigners' Tribunals and their families would also figure in the additional list.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Bihar, Gujarat, west Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha, Konkan & Goa, Telangana, Rayalaseema and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Table with columns: CITY, RAIN, MAX, MIN. Lists weather data for various cities.

Table with columns: CITY, SO2, NO, CO, PM2.5, PM10. Lists air quality data for various cities.

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI) SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

'No decision on Ram Rahim parole so far'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Tuesday said that no decision has so far been taken on the parole plea of Sirsa-based Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim.

"Anyone who is entitled for parole can ask for it, we can't stop anyone," said Mr. Khattar here.

He added that so far no decision has been taken and any decision that is in the interest of the State will be taken.

Request process Mr. Khattar said that parole request is made to the jail superintendent, from there it is sent to the Deputy Commissioner concerned, who then asks for a report from the police. And then the DC will give his recommendations, he said.

"If we (government) will have a role to play, we will do so, if there's no role of the government, it won't," he added.

The Dera chief, who is lodged at Rohtak's Sunaria jail following conviction in two rape cases and murder of a journalist, had applied for parole for 42 days to undertake farming at his fields in Sirsa.

3 schoolchildren killed as dumper falls into river

BANIHAL, JAMMU

Three schoolchildren were killed while one more was missing after a dumper they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into the Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district on Tuesday, the police said. The officials said a rescue operation was launched and seven people were taken to a hospital, where Manjit Singh (7), Pooja Devi (15) and driver Manmohan Singh's son Gaurav Singh succumbed to injuries. PTI

Feeling the heat



College students cover their faces to protect themselves from the heatwave on the outskirts of Sareikela town in Jharkhand. *BISWARANJAN ROUJ

HC seeks fresh order on jumbo transport

'After taking into consideration all aspects of the transport'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

The Gauhati High Court on Tuesday asked Assam's Chief Wildlife Warden Ranjana Gupta to issue a fresh order regarding the controversial train trip of four juvenile elephants from the State to Gujarat after taking "into consideration all aspects of the transport" of the animals.

The order of the Division Bench, comprising acting Chief Justice Arup Kumar Goswami and Justice Manish

Choudhury, is likely to affect the transporting of the elephants, especially after the State's Additional Advocate General told the court that the railways do not have air-conditioned wagons to take the animals from eastern Assam's Tinsukia to Ahmedabad.

Ms. Gupta had on June 12 issued the order "under pressure from the top" for transporting the elephants - females Joytara and Rani, and males Babul and Rupsing -

on a six-month lease for participating in the annual Rath Yatra festival of Ahmedabad's Jagannath Temple on July 4.

Animal rights and wildlife activists protested the move, as it would expose the elephants to heatwave conditions along much of the 3,106 km they would travel in a metal railway wagon. They also noted the poor elephant management of Jagannath Temple, which had taken a few jumbos from Assam earlier.

Two INLD MLAs in Haryana join BJP

Resign from membership of Assembly

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHANDIGARH

Two Indian National Lok Dal MLAs - Zakir Hussain from Nuh and Parminder Singh Dhull from Julana - in Haryana joined the BJP on Tuesday in the presence of Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and BJP's State unit president Subhash Barala.

'Mission 75'

Mr. Khattar said the party was approaching the upcoming Assembly polls in Haryana with "Mission 75", aiming to win 75-plus seats in the 90-member House.

"The party's graph has been on the rise on account of the good work done by the BJP governments at the Centre as well as in the State," he said.

'Pro-people work'

Mr. Hussain and Mr. Dhull said they were keen to join the BJP as they were impressed with the party's ideology of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' and the pro-people work done by it in the State.

Both the leaders said they had tendered their resignations as INLD legislators to the Haryana Assembly Speaker Kanwar Pal Gujjar.

Rajasthan govt. to merge medical insurance schemes

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT JAIPUR

After the Congress government's decision to implement the Centre's health insurance scheme, Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana - an exercise has been launched here to merge the flagship scheme with the Bhamashah Swasthya Beema Yojana (BSBY), introduced by the previous BJP regime in Rajasthan.

The State is currently providing benefits under the

BSBY to 97 lakh families, with a health insurance cover of ₹3 lakh per year. With the integration of the schemes, all eligible families will get benefits up to ₹2 lakh every year.

Medical & Health Minister Raghu Sharma said here on Tuesday that the premium for new scheme, to be implemented through government-run hospitals and empanelled private hospitals, would be paid by the Union and State governments in the 60:40 ratio.

TAMIL NADU Dr. J. JAYALITHAA FISHERIES UNIVERSITY. Nagapattinam - 611 002, Tamil Nadu. Advertisement No. 02/2019. Applications are invited in the prescribed form to fill up the posts of University Officers in the University.

OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CONST. DIVN. NO. 1, JAMMU. NOTICE INVITING TENDER. e-NIT No. CD-I/30 of 2019-20 Dated 18-06-2019. For and on behalf of the Governor, J&K State e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt.

DISTRICT POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU. LOOK OUT NOTICE. As reported by SHO P/S Gharota, Jammu applicant namely Ramesh Singh S/O Sita Ram R/O Amb, Bhalwal, Jammu reported that his son has been missing since 10.11.2017, regarding which missing report vide DDR No. 15 has been lodged at P/S Gharota on 15.01.2018.

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

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Table with columns: Sl. No., Details of job, Estimated Cost. Includes contact information for Mr. N SELVA KUMAR and Mr. GAURAV SEHGAL.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM NO. 155 [See rule 329] [Creditors' Voluntary Winding up]

Notice convening final meeting Name of Company - CARMATE India Private Limited

Notice is hereby given in pursuance of Section 509 of the Companies Act, 1956 that a Meeting of the creditors of the above - named Company will be held at Registered Office of the company at 1st Floor, The Great Eastern Centre, 70 Nehru Place, Behind IFCI Tower, New Delhi - 110019 on Friday, 9th day of August, 2019 at 02:00PM. for the purpose of having an account laid before them showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the liquidator and also of the creditors, determining by a Special Resolution of the Company the manner in which the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the liquidator shall be disposed of.

Dated this 26th day of June, 2019 Mukesh Singhal Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICE

FORM NO. 155 [See rule 329] [Creditors' Voluntary Winding up]

Notice convening final meeting Name of Company - CARMATE India Private Limited

Notice is hereby given in pursuance of Section 509 of the Companies Act, 1956 that a General Meeting of the members of the above - named Company will be held at Registered Office of the company at 1st Floor, The Great Eastern Centre, 70 Nehru Place, Behind IFCI Tower, New Delhi - 110019 on Friday, 9th day of August, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. for the purpose of having an account laid before them showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the liquidator and also of the creditors, determining by a Special Resolution of the Company the manner in which the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the liquidator shall be disposed of.

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PHILOSOPHY

30 June: Free orientation Class / Test series for Mains 2019 begins

1st July: Crash course Mains 2019 / Assured increase in previous scores

By Vivek Sir

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READ FRONTLINE EVERY FORTNIGHT

Raju Shetti: Uddhav's drought tours for selfish political ends

Alleges govt. favouritism in holding fodder camps where BJP, Sena leaders in power

SHOUMAJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

Lambasting Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray's drought tours, farmer leader and former MP Raju Shetti on Tuesday said Mr. Thackeray's sudden concern for farmers in the face of the Assembly elections smacks of political opportunism.

The Swabhimani Paksha chief alleged that priority was given to the fodder camps run by leaders of the BJP-Sena government, and claimed there was widespread corruption in these camps.

"Mr. Thackeray's visits to the drought-hit parts of Maharashtra are merely for his selfish political ends. Why has not Mr. Thackeray taken action against crop insurance firms in the last four years? Why is he bringing them up now in his speeches in a phoney show of solidarity with farmers?" Mr. Shetti told *The Hindu* from Kolhapur.

He said it is clear that insurance companies are fobbing off farmers, and yet the go-



Uddhav Thackeray



Raju Shetti

vernment, of which the Sena is part, does nothing to stop them. "Cases of data alteration in crop cutting experiments, which form the basis of farmers' claims for securing crop insurance, are rampant in Marathwada, especially in Parbhani district. Yet, the inaction of district officials and lack of action by ruling party leaders proves that they are in cahoots with these companies."

He said information obtained via RTI has revealed that 41 lakh of the 65 lakh farmers in the eight districts that comprise Marathwada have not been given insurance. "I am reliably in-

formed that these firms have made a handsome profit of ₹1,237 crore only in the Marathwada region."

Alleging that the government only organised fodder camps in areas where their leaders were in power, Mr. Shetti said farmers in Chandwad in Nashik had to agitate for two months before a proper camp was set up in their area.

"In another instance, a young Swabhimani Paksha activist, who had started a fodder camp on his own in Ahmednagar's Pathardi taluk in the beginning of the drought, had to repeatedly petition ruling party legisla-

tors and MPs to sustain it. It was only after I called all BJP leaders in Ahmednagar that the ruling party provided resources," he claimed.

The former two-time MP from Hatkanangale in Kolhapur, who was upstaged in the general elections by Sena's Dhairyashel Mane, had earlier hit out at Mr. Thackeray and the Sena in a Facebook post.

"Farmers and their plight were forgotten when the BJP and the Sena used to bicker among themselves. One has never heard Mr. Thackeray or the Sena expressing concern over the rising farmer suicides, which have increased during the rule of the BJP-Sena in the State. It is only about the building of the Ram Mandir," Mr. Shetti said.

In his post, the former MP chastised the BJP-Sena government for non-implementation of its ambitious loan waiver scheme, alleging that 30 lakh farmers were yet to avail of the benefits of the scheme since it was announced in 2017.

Those imprisoned during Emergency will get pension, Fadnavis tells Assembly

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday said those who were imprisoned during the Emergency will be provided pension and a citation.

Speaking in the Assembly during the Question Hour, Mr. Fadnavis said pension is an honour more than money for those who served jail term during the Emergency. "Many people refused the pension. But some are still poor, who lost jobs after being arrested for no fault of theirs," he said.

Earlier, Minister of State for Relief and Rehabilitation Madan Yerawar, while responding to a question by NCP member Ajit Pawar, said 3,267 applications for pension have been approved so far. Of these, 1,179 applications were approved on the basis of the ₹100 stamp paper submitted to prove that the applicant served a jail term during the period.

Mr. Pawar asked how can the pension be given without proof and what was the guarantee that the stamp paper was genuine.

To this, Mr. Yerawar said the applications were scrutinised by a committee headed by the district collector



Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis arriving at Vidhan Bhavan for the monsoon session of the Assembly. • FILE PHOTO

and only genuine ones were approved. "A budget of ₹42 crore was finalised for the pension scheme, and of this, ₹28 crore to ₹29 crore has been disbursed," he said.

BJP member Parag Alavani said those imprisoned during the Emergency are now senior citizens and finding it difficult to make frequent visits to the collectorate. "It is not true that the pension can be availed of by just submit-

ting an affidavit. There should be a separate cell at the collectorate to handle the pension scheme," he said.

Subhash Patil of the Peasants and Workers' Party said his father and uncle had served 18 months in jail and that his family had to face a lot of hardships. "Those who served in jail during the Emergency want honour more than money. It would be good if the pension

amount is increased to ₹25,000 and a citation is also given," he said.

However, Mr. Fadnavis rejected the demand for an increase in the pension amount, saying, if needed, it would be considered in future. But, he agreed for a citation along with the pension.

As per the government's decision, those who were imprisoned for a month will be given a monthly pension of ₹5,000 and those jailed for more duration will get ₹10,000 per month. If those imprisoned have died, their kin will be given a monthly pension of ₹2,500 (for jail term of a month or less) and ₹5,000 (for jail term of more than a month).

Congress member Basavaraj Patil demanded an increase in the pension amount for those who participated in the 'Marathwada Mukti Sangram' (liberation of Marathwada).

To this, Mr. Fadnavis said pensions for those who took part in the freedom struggles for Goa, Marathwada and India are on par, and have recently been hiked. Emergency was imposed in India from June 25, 1975, to March 21, 1977, by the then prime minister Indira Gandhi.

Pilgrims progress



Long walk begins: Warkaris leave Dehu with the *palkhi* of Saint Tukaram Maharaj for Pandharpur on Monday. Around two lakh people from across the State gathered at Dehu to kick off the annual pilgrimage. • JIGNESH MISTRY

NCP holds 'begging' stir to clear water dues of ministers

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

The youth wing of the NCP on Tuesday staged a novel protest by begging money to foot the pending water bills of official residences of the Chief Minister and other ministers in Maharashtra.

Members of the NCP youth wing's Mumbai unit staged the *bheek maango* (begging) protest outside the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, after media reports claimed that bungalows of the CM and some other ministers are in the civic body's list of water bill defaulters. According to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), dues worth ₹7.44 lakh are pending against the connection provided at the CM's bungalow Varsha.

NCP youth wing's working president Suraj Chavan said, "The BMC cuts water supply when common citizens fail to pay bills for a month or two. But the bill of the CM's bungalow has been pending for several months."

Ex-AAP leader complains of harassment by online stalker

PRAKASH KAMAT
PANAJI

A former Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader has filed a complaint with the women's police station in Panaji against an online stalker, claiming she has been stalked and sexually harassed on social media platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp.

Cecille Rodrigues, a single mother, who was the first runner-up in the reality dance show *Super Mom* in 2013, has also posted a video online, where she has narrated the harassment meted out to her. The post has gone viral.

In her complaint, which was filed on Monday evening, she said the accused had called her for inquiries about Zumba classes which she conducts. "After that, he started harassing, irritating, and stalking me with several messages using lewd and vulgar words on Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp."

She said she now fears for the safety of her minor son. The complainant further said she was forced to approach the police, when around midnight on June 22, the accused began harassing her on WhatsApp.

Goa freedom fighter Mohan Ranade passes away

PRAKASH KAMAT
PANAJI

Veteran freedom fighter from Goa and Padmashri Mohan Ranade (89) died on Tuesday in Pune, after a prolonged illness.

Ranade was a member of the Azad Gomantak Dal, a group of revolutionaries who believed in the doctrine of armed attacks against the Portuguese colonial rule and participated in ambushes on several Portuguese installations in Goa. Police stations were their



Mohan Ranade

major targets.

Following his arrest in 1955 for an armed attack on Betim police station, the Sangli-born Ranade, who was undercover

as a Marathi school teacher in Goa, was sentenced to 26-year imprisonment at Fort of Caxias near Lisbon.

He was arrested after he received gunshot wounds to his lungs, from which he recovered. He served first five years in a solitary confinement in Goa, after which he was tried in Portugal.

He served 14 years in prison on account of his struggle for Goa's independence.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has expressed grief over

his demise. "Ranade has contributed immensely to the struggle movement of Goa and was imprisoned for 14 years," the Chief Minister said.

He paid tribute to the departed freedom fighter, at a public function near Panaji on Tuesday.

Urban Development Minister Milind Naik represented the State government at the cremation ceremony in Pune on Tuesday afternoon and offered condolences to the bereaved family.

Order on Sanatan lawyer's bail plea on July 5

SHOUMAJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

A special court on Sunday heard the concluding arguments on the bail plea of right wing lawyer Sanjeev Punalekar, who was arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with the 2013 murder of rationalist Narendra Dabholkar. Additional Sessions Judge R.M. Pande said the order on Mr. Punalekar's bail plea will be passed on July 5.

Presenting the results of Mr. Punalekar's psychoanalysis test before the court, the counsel for the CBI urged the court against granting bail to the advocate, who is the counsel for Sanatan Sanstha, on grounds that he could tamper with the evidence.

Stating that the prosecution's contention was exaggerated, Virendra Ichalkaranjikar, Mr. Punalekar's counsel, said



Narendra Dabholkar

right from the beginning of its investigation against the accused, the CBI has erroneously cast him in the role of a 'sadhak' of the Sanatan Sanstha and not as a lawyer.

"Furthermore, there is nothing incriminating, or intimidating, in the letter retrieved by the CBI, which Mr. Punalekar had written to Dabholkar in 2012," Mr. Ichalkaranjikar said.

Mr. Punalekar and his aide, Sanatan Sanstha member Vikram Bhawe, were arrested by the CBI on May 25 after the agency alleged that the duo participated in the conspiracy to murder Dabholkar, especially in destruction of evidence and in aiding and abetting Sachin Andure and Sharad Kalaskar - named by the agencies as Dabholkar's killers.

After two custodial spells with the CBI, the court on June 20 had acceded to the agency's request seeking Mr. Punalekar's custody for a third time.

The agency said it needed to interrogate the lawyer on allegedly incriminating documents and files seized from his laptop during his arrest on May 25.

On June 23, the CBI told the court that it did not require any further custody of Mr. Pu-

nalekar, following which the judge sent the accused to judicial remand.

In his statement to the CBI last year, Mr. Kalaskar, who was recently interrogated in connection with the Govind Pansare murder, had allegedly said that Mr. Punalekar, known for his defamatory statements against Dabholkar, had asked him to destroy the weapons.

According to the CBI, Mr. Kalaskar had revealed that it was Thane-based Mr. Bhawe, who had allegedly planned the reconnaissance and had pointed out Dabholkar to the assailants. The agency claimed that Mr. Bhawe had even planned the getaway route for the shooters after the crime.

Dabholkar was shot dead while out for his morning stroll on Pune's Omkareshwar Bridge on August 20, 2013.

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SEARCH FOR MISSING



Gopal Singh

General public is hereby informed that a Male namely **Gopal Singh Mehta S/o Kishan Singh Mehta, R/o Village & Post Supi, PS. Mukteshwar, Distt. Nainital, UK., Age : 36 yrs., Height : 5'6", Complexion : Shallow, Face : Round, Build : Normal, Wearing : Pant and Shirt,** has been missing / kidnapped since 12.04.2018 from Infront of New Delhi Railway Station, Radha Kishan Dhaba, Pahar Ganj, Delhi. In this regard a case **DD. No. 76-A dated 23.12.2018** has been lodged at PS. Paharganj, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnapped Male but no clue has come to light so far.

If anyone have any information about this missing / kidnapped Male please inform undersigned.
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in,
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639
SHO
DP/6388/CD/19. PS. Paharganj, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23520787, 23524746

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

SAD DEMISE

UMA DEVAGUPTAPU
15th October 1959 - 23rd June 2019
Exemplary Human being. Inspiring Woman. Adored Child. Irreplaceable Sister. Loving Wife. Proud Ma, and Cherished Colleague passed away on 23rd June 2019 in Hyderabad.

Lovingly and eternally remembered by:
Nangia, Devaguptapu and Boddupalli Families & Friends

12th day ceremony on 4th July at A' La Liberty, Road No. 12, Banjara Hills, Lunch at 12:30 noon.
Ph: +91 9849659109

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. T. SELVARAJ
Former General Secretary, Lakshmi Vilas Bank Employees Union Former Vice - President, NCSE Former General Secretary, LVB Retirees Organisation Founder - Managing Trustee - Unity Foundation. Sadly missed along life's way, quietly remembered every day. No longer in our life to share, but in our hearts, you're always there.
Wife, Sons, Daughters-in-law and Grand Children

DEATH

MR. N DANDAPANI
Retd Central Bank of India Passed away on 21/06/2019 IN HYDERABAD, Deeply Mourned by Lots of Family & Friends

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IN BRIEF



TDB picks holes in Sabarimala Master Plan

PATHANAMTHITTA
The works department of the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) has detected certain flaws in the zoning process and layout plan prepared by the High-Power Committee for implementation of the Sabarimala Master Plan. The TDB Chief Engineer has taken up the matter with the technical committee constituted in connection with the execution of the master plan. An expert team has found certain marked deviations in the layout plan and its zoning.

Telangana set to host seed testing event

HYDERABAD
Telangana is set to host the triennial International Seed Testing Association (ISTA) congress here from June 26 for the first time in Asia. The eight-day congress will have the main event for three days and technical committee meetings/sessions over the next five days. Experts, scientists, policy makers, researchers and members of the seed industry from over 80 countries will deliberate on seed policies, production and quality aspects.

Terror suspect arrested from Doddaballapur

BENGALURU
Officials from the National Investigation Agency on Tuesday arrested a 28-year-old terror suspect in Doddaballapur town in Karnataka. The accused, Habibur Rahman Sheikh, was allegedly involved in the 2014 Burdwan bomb blast case in West Bengal. He had been on the run since then, said officials. Rahman, a native of West Bengal, is suspected to be a member of the terror organisation Jamaat-ul Mujahideen Bangladesh.

'Give 9.19 tmcft Cauvery water to T.N.'

CWMA directs Karnataka to release the quantum for June from Biligundlu on the inter-State border

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI**

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) told Karnataka on Tuesday to release 9.19 tmcft (thousand million cubic feet) of water for the month of June from the Biligundlu point on the inter-State border to the Mettur Dam in Tamil Nadu.

This is a reiteration of the CWMA's direction to Karnataka on May 28. That time, however, the IMD had forecast a "normal" monsoon. But as it turned out, there was paucity of rain in June — 37% less than what is normal.

Karnataka's obligation
Karnataka has to release 9.1 tmcft in June and 31.24 tmcft in July. However, only about 1.7 tmcft has been released so far, said a person privy to



Awaiting inflow: A view of the Water Measuring Station at Biligundlu in Krishnagiri district of Tamil Nadu. ■ FILE PHOTO

the proceedings of the meeting on Tuesday.

Karnataka's obligation — according to the Supreme Court order — is "subject to normal inflow," the person underlined.

"Karnataka has been directed to release what it is

and new directions given accounting for the progress of the monsoon.

Live storage

As per the Central Water Commission's last update on June 13, the total live storage available in reservoirs in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Telangana is 5.48 BCM (billion cubic metre) which is 11% of the total live storage capacity of these reservoirs.

The storage during the corresponding period last year was 15% and average storage of the last 10 years during the corresponding period was 15% of the live storage capacity of these reservoirs.

Thus, storage during the current year was less than the corresponding period last year and also less than

the average storage of the last 10 years during the corresponding period. In Karnataka's reservoirs, the storage is 8% less than what is normal for this time of the year, while in Tamil Nadu the storage is 41% less than normal. The Cauvery basin, on the whole, has 40% less water this year than its 10-year average. The quantum of water to be released is in line with the Supreme Court's order on February 16 last year.

While conferring authority on the CWMA to decide on releasing Cauvery water, the Supreme Court said Karnataka's share was 284 tmcft, Tamil Nadu's 404 tmcft, Kerala's 30 tmcft and Puducherry's 7 tmcft. Besides this, the court reserved 10 tmcft for environmental purposes and 4 tmcft for natural flow into the sea.



Creating awareness: Tara Cavanagh, Minister Counsellor Home Affairs, second from left, addressing the media in Chennai on Tuesday. ■ K. PICHUMANI

Australia cautions illegal immigrants

'Zero Chance' to enter country

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI**

The Australian government is launching a campaign 'Zero Chance' to raise awareness among people trying to enter the country illegally by boats.

"The message of Zero Chance is simple. Anyone who tries to come illegally to Australia by boat has zero chance of success," Tara Cavanagh, Minister Counsellor Home Affairs, told reporters here on Tuesday. "You will be turned back from Australia if you attempt to come illegally by boat," she added.

Broader campaign

People in Tamil Nadu will soon start to see advertising and other communication materials as part of the Zero Chance campaign, Ms. Cavanagh said. This is part of a broader campaign that will be rolled out in about 10 countries in the region.

"Australia's strong border policies remain the same. These have not changed since the election," she said.

Ms. Cavanagh said people smugglers tend to lie about international immigration

policies and might try to cheat them by telling them that the country's policies have changed following the recent elections.

Australia has so far turned back 847 people on 35 vessels trying to enter Australia illegally, as part of the Operation Sovereign Borders that has been implemented since 2013, she said. However, she refused to quantify the number of people trying from India or Sri Lanka to get into Australia by boat illegally.

Resettlement plan

To a query on refugees trying to enter Australia, she said those who wish to enter the country must apply through refugees resettlement programmes, and Australia works with the UNHCR to identify those people.

The campaign will be undertaken through NGOs that have some partnerships with Australia to educate people on not taking up these illegal and dangerous boat journeys, said Michael Costa, Deputy Consul General for South India.

No State has sought NDRF aid, govt. tells RS

'No drought prediction system in place'

**NAVAMY SUDHISH
KOLLAM**

Despite several States reeling under the severity of drought and consequent crop failure, none of them has sought financial aid from the National Disaster Relief Fund in 2019-20.

Answering a question by K. Somaprasad in the Rajya Sabha on the impact of drought on the environment, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change said according to the Indian Meteorological Department no drought prediction system was currently in place.

Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Babul Supriyo said no studies had been

conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on the impact of drought on the environment so far.

Four key sectors

"However, the government has conducted study which provides assessment of the impact of climate change in 2030 on four key sectors of the economy, namely agriculture, water, forests and human health, in four climate sensitive regions of India, viz, the Himalayan region, the Western Ghats, the Coastal region and North Eastern Region," he said.

The report was prepared by the Indian Network for Climate Assessment.

Andhra Pradesh will withdraw bauxite mining GO, says Jagan

TDP govt. didn't allow mining but it failed to scrap the order

**STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA**

In an apparent bid to end the bauxite mining controversy, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on Tuesday announced that the State government would scrap the GO relating to bauxite mining.

"There is no logic to continue bauxite mining if the tribal people are opposing it. The State will not lose anything by continuing the mining. We want peace and tranquillity," he said addressing the Collectors' Conference on the second day at Praja Vedika at Undavalli, near here, on Tuesday. "It is necessary to ensure that the tri-

bal people are not attracted to Maoists. They need to be taken into confidence," he said.

There is a demand from various quarters, including political parties, that the GO 97 that authorises the Andhra Pradesh Mining Development Corporation (APMDC) to undertake the mining activities be withdrawn. Ever since the State government (combined Andhra Pradesh) accorded permission to the mining during the tenure of former Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy in 2007, the issue acquired political hues. In fact, it had become an election issue.

Telugu Desam Party presi-

dent N. Chandrababu Naidu, during his padayatra in 2013, had promised that the TDP would annul the proposal for bauxite mining in the Agency area of the district. Though he did not allow mining, he did not withdraw the GO.

Referring to ganja cultivation, Mr. Reddy said a major operation would be carried out in August to check the menace. Solutions to stop cultivation and provide alternative livelihood to the tribal people were required, he said. Awareness meetings and rehabilitation measures were required to ensure that the tribals do not take up, he said.

Security beefed up as demolition of Praja Vedika begins

Ruling, Opposition parties trade charges against each other

**STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA**

The demolition of Praja Vedika, a sprawling conference hall next to former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and TDP national president N. Chandrababu Naidu's residence at Undavalli near here, began on Tuesday.

Security near the building has been beefed up with the police providing 'four-tier security cover'. Earthmovers and construction workers have reached the spot.

Meanwhile, the issue of demolishing the conference hall continued to generate heat with ruling and Opposition parties trading charges against each other.

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, on the second day of Collectors' conference on Tuesday, reiterated his stand that the structure



Earthmovers being pressed into service to pull down Praja Vedika at Undavalli.

would be pulled down.

Vijayawada MP Kesineni Srinivas, on his official Facebook page, expressed the view that the government could put the proposal on hold until an alternative arrangement was made to hold government meetings. The hall was constructed with taxpayers' money and razing it would be a loss to the State

exchequer. Also, the government would have to shell out public money if the meetings were to be conducted at private facilities.

Speaking to reporters near Praja Vedika, I&PR Minister Perni Venkata Ramaiah sought to know why the TDP leaders were making hue and cry when the government was pulling down an illegal structure.

The building was constructed without any permission from the CRDA and the River Conservation Board, and had no NOCs, he claimed.

"The public will not appreciate if the lawmakers break the law. Everyone is equal before the law. The cost of construction was escalated to ₹8.9 crore from ₹4 crore for whose benefit?" he asked.

Quota cauldron



Loud and clear: Protesters belonging to the Maharishi Valmiki community tried to lay siege to the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru during a rally to demand 7% to 7.2% reservation on Tuesday. The rally started from Davangere on June 9. ■ G.P. SAMPATH KUMAR

Nagari civic body to put the clock back

54-year-old tower, a tribute to John Kennedy, is all set to get a fresh look

**K. UMASHANKER
CHITTOOR**

After lying in a dilapidated state for over two decades, the 54-year-old clock tower in the heart of Nagari town in Andhra Pradesh is all set to get a fresh look. The renovation works, which were approved a few days prior to the election schedule this year, have resumed after a gap of three months.

The clock tower at the town centre was erected in 1965 in memory of the assassinated American President John F. Kennedy on his second death anniversary. A portrait of his was placed at a vantage point on the tower. Why Kennedy, that too in



The JFK Memorial Tower Clock under renovation in Chittoor district.

a place thousands of miles away from the United States? It's a tribute to the man. A.K. Venkata Ramana, alias Thamba Naidu, an

ardent admirer of Kennedy and the then sarpanch of Nagari, then a village, was behind the construction of this historical structure.

Over the years, the tower became the prime monument of the Nagari municipality.

Incidentally, Nagari saw hectic activity of the British Raj with troop movements in trains during the First and Second World Wars, thanks to its proximity to Chennai (erstwhile Madras) and Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu.

Though a couple of the British colonial buildings suffered total dilapidation and eventual disappearance in the town, this post-colonial clock tower

withstood the vagaries of nature and time and has assumed regal significance.

Local landmark

For Nagari's residents it has become a landmark. People mention 'Clock Tower' to their outstation relatives or guests and ask them to wait there to be picked up. A vegetable market and petty businesses have come up around the local monument.

Cyclone Laila in 2010 and the rains of November and December in 2015 weakened the tower, bringing it to the brink of collapse.

Locals kept demanding the tower's renovation and civic approval was received this year.

Joint effort to conserve wildlife at Bandipur

Inter-State meet discusses ways to mitigate man-animal conflict in the region

**E.M. MANOJ
KALPETTA**

A meeting of senior forest personnel from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala at Bandipur in Karnataka recently decided to make concerted efforts to conserve wildlife in the region.

The meeting, convened by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) regional zone, Bengaluru, discussed various issues including invasive plants, steps adopted for vulture conservation, movement of radio-collared mammals such as tigers and elephants and measures to mitigate man-animal conflict. B. Anjan Kumar, Chief Conservator of Forest (Wildlife, Palakkad), told *The Hindu*.

The meeting decided to intensify the combined ef-



Joint effort: The meeting of forest personnel discussed measures to mitigate man-animal conflict. ■ FILE PHOTO

orts to eradicate invasive plants such as *Senna spectabilis* which posed a major threat to the wildlife habitat in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. Mr. Anjan Kumar said.

Though the Kerala Forest Department had begun various programmes to curb the spread of the plant in the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary,

similar steps were yet to be taken by the adjacent tiger reserves in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, he said.

been regularly monitoring the vulture population but Karnataka needed to strengthen its efforts.

Tiger conservation

The standard operating procedure of the NTCA, such as joint patrolling, share enforcement-related information and monthly meeting of officials of the border areas of the on Tuesdays reserves and protected areas, would be executed effectively for the conservation of the big cat.

Joint conservation measures with public participation would be executed to mitigate the increasing human-wildlife conflict on the forest fringes.

As part of it, information regarding radio-collared animals and their movements would be exchanged.

Plea for bail in Anthoor case adjourned

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI**

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday declined to issue an interim directive to the police not to arrest M.K. Girish, suspended Secretary of Anthoor municipality in Kannur, in a case relating to the suicide of an NRI businessman.

Counsel for Mr. Girish sought a directive not to arrest him when the anticipatory bail petition was taken up for hearing. The suspended officer apprehended that he would be arrested in the case registered by the Valappattanam police.

According to him, the building permit was granted in the name of Paloli Purushothaman, father-in-law of deceased Sajjan Parayil.

He had neither submitted an application for building permit nor for a completion certificate.

IN BRIEF



K. Natarajan to be new Coast Guard DG

NEW DELHI
K. Natarajan has been appointed as the next Director General (DG) of the Coast Guard. He will take over from Rajendra Singh. Natarajan is currently the ADG of the force's Western Sea Board, which looks after the maritime boundary from Gujarat to Kerala. PTI

'It is safe to eat litchi fruit,' says doctor

CHENNAI
"It is safe to eat litchi fruit. Children and adults who are well nourished can eat litchi without worrying about any health problems," says virologist Dr. Jacob John, who led a team that confirmed the role of Methylene cyclopropyl glycine (MCPG) in causing hypoglycaemic encephalopathy.

Woman delivers baby in U.P. health centre's toilet

SHAMLI
A staff nurse at the government community health centre here was transferred while two senior officials were issued a warning after a pregnant woman delivered her baby in the clinic's toilet, an official said on Tuesday. The nurse has been charged with not attending to the pregnant woman. PTI

Rape case registered against Vice-Chancellor

JABALPUR
A rape case has been registered against Vice-Chancellor of Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, P.D. Juyal, following a court direction, police said. A forty-year-old woman had approached the court claiming that she was raped by Mr. Juyal. She sought a direction to the police to file an FIR and investigate her complaint. PTI

Kerala tops the list for best performing State in health

Uttar Pradesh retains the worst performer tag in the NITI Aayog index

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Kerala continued to top the list for the best performing State in the health sector among the 21 large States, while Uttar Pradesh retained the worst performer tag, according to the second edition of NITI Aayog's Health Index released on Tuesday.

Kerala, which got an overall score of 74.01, was followed by Andhra Pradesh (65.13), Maharashtra (63.99), Gujarat (63.52) and Punjab (63.01), Himachal Pradesh (62.41), Jammu and Kashmir 62.37, Karnataka (61.14) and Tamil Nadu (60.41).

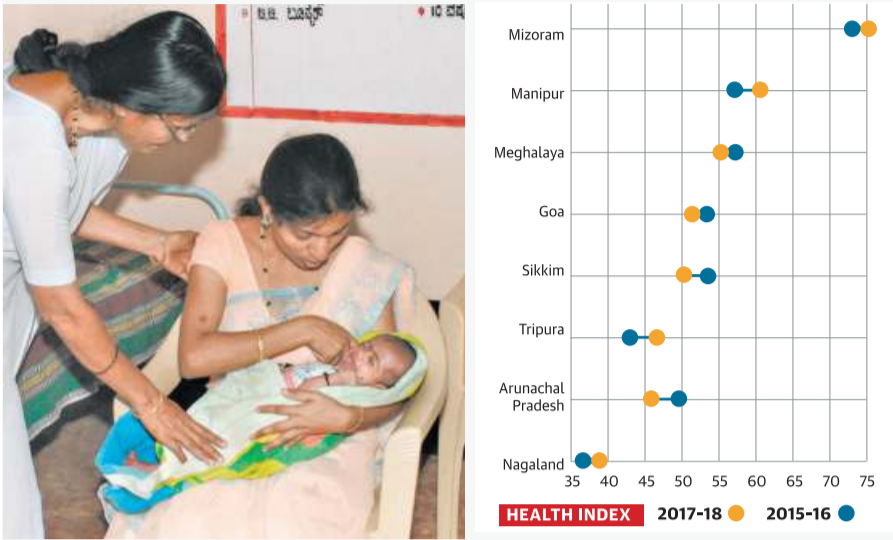
Fall in score

Uttar Pradesh continued to be at the bottom of the list with its score falling to 28.61. Other States at the bottom of the list were Bihar (32.11), Odisha (35.97) and Madhya Pradesh (38.39).

The report 'Healthy States, Progressive India: Report on Rank of States and UTs' has ranking in three categories – larger States, smaller States and Union Territories "to ensure comparison among similar entities."

Health of smaller States

Graph shows the score secured by smaller States in the composite health index prepared by the NITI Aayog, which incorporates 23 indicators, in 2017-18 and 2015-16



Among the UTs, Chandigarh jumped one spot to top the list with a score of (63.62), followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli (56.31), Lakshadweep (53.54), Puducherry (49.69), Delhi (49.42), Andaman and Nicobar (45.36) and Daman and Diu (41.66).

The Index ranks the States and Union Territories based on 23 health-related indicators, including neonatal mortality rate, under-five mortality rate, proportion of low birth weight among new-borns, proportion of districts with functional Cardiac Care Units, full immunisation coverage and proportion of specialist positions vacant at district hospitals.

The report stated that on-ly about half the States and UTs showed an improvement in the overall score between 2015-16 (base year) and 2017-18 (reference year). The report added that among the eight Empowered Action Group States, only three States – Rajasthan, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh – showed improvement in the overall performance.

31.4% of Indian children will be stunted by 2022: report

Country needs to double its efforts to control malnutrition

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Almost one in three Indian children under five years will still be stunted by 2022 going by current trends, according to an analysis of the country's food and nutrition security released on Tuesday. Over the last decade, child stunting – which is a measure of chronic malnutrition – has reduced at a rate of about 1% per year, the slowest decline among emerging economies. At this rate, 31.4% of children will still be stunted by the 2022 deadline. India must double its rate of progress to reach the target of 25% by that time, says the report.

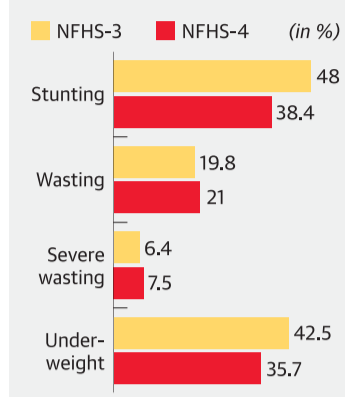
Analysis of progress

The report, which is a baseline analysis of the country's progress in achieving the second Sustainable Development Goal to end hunger, was prepared by the UN World Food Programme in collaboration with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

Foodgrain yields have risen 33% over the last two decades, but are still only half of 2030 target yields, says

Food for thought

Under-5 malnutrition rate (USMR) in NFHS-3 & NFHS-4



HIGHLIGHTS

- Poorest wealth quintile has highest stunting, wasting and underweight prevalence (51.4%, 24.2%, 48.6%) as against highest wealth quintile (22.2%, 17.9%, 20.1%)
- Mothers having low BMI have higher prevalence of stunted, wasted and underweight children
- Children of illiterate mothers have higher chances of stunting, wasting and being under-weight

SOURCE: NATIONAL FAMILY HEALTH SURVEY 2005-06; 2015-16 | MOSPI, WFP

the report. Even so, the Indian farmer is producing more foodgrains than ever before, making the country self-sufficient in this regard. Unfortunately, the consumer's access to rice, wheat and other cereals has not increased at the same rate, due to population growth, inequality, food wastage and losses, and exports. As a result, the average per capita consumption of energy among the poorest 30% of the population is 1811 kilo calories, much lower than the

norm of 2155 kilo calories per day. The signs of unequal access are starker among children. In States like Bihar (48%) and Uttar Pradesh (46%), almost one in two children are stunted, while it is only one in five children in Kerala and Goa (20% each). There are high rates of stunting among children in the poorest wealth quintile (51.4%), Scheduled Tribes (43.6%) and Scheduled Castes (42.5%), and children born to mothers with no education (51%).

Election to six RS seats from T.N. on July 18

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI/CHENNAI

Elections to six Rajya Sabha seats from Tamil Nadu will be held on July 18, according to the Election Commission. The term of office of six members of the Upper House – T. Rathinavel, V. Maitreyan, K. R. Arjunan, R. Lakshmanan (all belonging to ruling AIADMK) and D. Ra-

ja (CPI) will expire on July 24. Kanimozhi (DMK), whose term is also to end the same day, has been elected to the Lok Sabha. Notifications for the elections will be issued on July 1, while the last date of making nominations is on July 8. Counting will be done on July 18, after the polls. The Assembly currently

has 232 MLAs against its sanctioned strength of 234 following the death of DMK Vikravandi K Rathamani MLA and the resignation of Congress Nanguneri MLA H Vasanthakumar. To get elected to the Rajya Sabha, a candidate needs the support of 34 MLAs. Based on the individual strength of parties, the

AIADMK (123 MLAs) and DMK (100) are likely to send three members each to the Upper house – the latter with the support of the Congress (7) and IUML (1). T.T.V. Dhinakaran is the lone independent MLA. While the AIADMK has promised a berth to the PMK, the DMK has assured a berth to the MDMK.

Nalini to be produced in court on July 5

MOHAMED IMRANULLAH S.
CHENNAI

S. Nalini, 52, a life convict in the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, will appear before the Madras High Court on July 5 and argue in person a case filed by her seeking ordinary leave for six months to make arrangements for the marriage of her daughter now residing in London.

Justices M.M. Sundresh and M. Nirmal Kumar on Tuesday allowed a petition filed by the convict seeking permission for arguing the case in person without engaging a lawyer. The judges held that every litigant had a right to argue their case in person and such right could not be denied to select individuals.

However, acceding to a request made by Additional Public Prosecutor C. Ayyapparaj who urged for necessary orders to ensure that she gets produced in court without any unpleasant incident, the judges directed the petitioner to strictly abide by regulations under the Tamil Nadu Prison Manual.

They also ordered provision of necessary police escort for her presence in the court. The orders were passed after the convict rejected a suggestion made by the prison officials to utilise the video conferencing facility for arguing the case.

On April 9, she had filed the present plea along with a habeas corpus petition seeking ordinary leave. Since then, the matter was adjourned periodically since the prison officials expressed reservations in producing her before the court citing security reasons. But the judges refused to buy the argument.

SC questions Rajeev Saxena's medical plea

Demands bail surety from relatives

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked Rajeev Saxena, an approver in a money laundering case related to the AgustaWestland chopper scam, if his relatives are willing to stand surety for him for allowing him to travel abroad for medical treatment.

A vacation Bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and B.R. Gavai asked Mr. Saxena's counsel to apprise it by Wednesday whether his sister and sister-in-law are willing to stand surety for him by paying ₹5 crore each as guarantee that he would come back for the trial in the case.

ED opposes

During the hearing, the Enforcement Directorate, represented by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, contested the order passed by the Delhi High Court allowing Mr. Saxena to go abroad for treatment for blood cancer and other ailments.

The Solicitor General told the court that Rajeev Saxena had no roots in India and he might not return if permit-



Rajeev Saxena

ted to go abroad. "We understand your apprehensions. His [Mr. Saxena's] passport is for limited period. If you can suggest other conditions, then they can also be imposed... Your apprehensions may be right or wrong, but are you [government] powerless to get him back," the Bench said.

Responding to this, Mr. Mehta said, "No country will say that it is powerless." He further argued that the government was willing to provide medical treatment for Mr. Saxena's ailments.

The Bench has now posted the matter for Wednesday.

On March 25, a trial court here had allowed Mr. Saxena to become an approver in the chopper deal case.

FIR against 19 villagers for highway blockade

Their act was a symbol of protest

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

The police on Tuesday filed an FIR against 19 people of Harivanshpur village in Vaishali district of Bihar for blocking NH-22 for three hours on June 18 in protest against the death of seven children due to suspected Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES). The protesters were also demanding supply of drinking water in the village. Most of the accused, though, have left the village.

Harivanshpur, under the Bhaganpur police station, is close to Muzaffarpur, where so far 131 children have died due to AES. The village has been reeling under acute water crisis for some time. On June 18, when the villagers came to know that Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was to visit the Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH) in Muzaffarpur, they came out on the highway and blocked traffic for three hours. They also shouted slogans against the government.

On June 23 too, the villagers staged a protest when Lok Jan Shakti Party MLA Raj Kumar Sah and party MP Pashupati Kumar Paras came to their area. They held the LJP legislators as a

hostage for some time. The police had a tough time taking the LJP leaders out of the village.

Sanjay Kumar, officer in charge of the Bhaganpur police station, told *The Hindu* over the phone that the villagers blocked the highway for three hours and most of the accused persons have fled the village.

However, the villagers said they did not block the highway and they staged a protest five km away from it over the death of children and lack of drinking water. "Our children died due to AES and most of the villagers now have left their homes to save their children from the deadly disease...but, the administration has filed an FIR against our menfolk who were the sole breadwinners of the families", a woman told a news channel.

The villagers also said the FIR had been lodged against those from whose families children had died due to suspected AES. The local police, however, expressed ignorance about it. "I'm not aware that four among those against whom FIR has been lodged, have their children died due to AES", said Mr. Sanjay Kumar.

Disability pension will now be taxed

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

Disability pension for military personnel who retired normally from service and not invalidated will now be taxed, according to a notification issued by the Finance Ministry.

In the notification dated June 24, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said that "such tax exemption will be available only to armed forces personnel who have been invalidated from service on account of bodily disability attributable to or aggravated by such service and not to personnel who have been retired on superannuation or otherwise."

Disability pension are of two types, war and normal. War disability is 60% of the last salary drawn in case of 100% disability and normal disability is 30% of the last salary drawn in case of 100% disability. It goes down proportionally for lower percentage of disability.

The move has come under criticism from the military fraternity. As per procedure, the CBDT will now issue a circular to all the banks for implementation as they are the ones that disburse the pensions.



Off the track: A damaged coach of the Howrah-Jagdalpur Samaleswari Express. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Freak accident kills 3 railway employees

Samaleswari Express rams tower car

STAFF REPORTER
BERHAMPUR

Three railway employees were killed and some passengers were injured when the Howrah-Jagdalpur Samaleswari Express (18005) had a head-on collision with a track-maintenance 'tower car' between Singapur and Keutagada stations in Odisha's Rayagada district around 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday.

The engine of the train caught fire due to the head-on collision, while two coaches got derailed. Sources said the express train was on the same track as the track-maintenance tower car, which was engaged for track work.

Citing "human error", the East Coast Railway authorities have suspended the station masters of the Singapur and Keutapur stations. The Commissioner of Railway Safety, Kolkata, has been tasked with a detailed probe into the mishap.

According to a press release, the deceased were Suresh, a technician, Sagar, a senior electrical engineer, and Gouri Naidu, a technician.

At the time of the accident, there were about 148 passengers in the train. A few of them received minor injuries and were given first aid. The Railways said in a statement it had ordered a probe into the matter.

'Impressive' tortoise discovered in Arunachal

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

A tortoise considered beautiful enough to be named 'impressed' has been discovered in Arunachal Pradesh.

A team of herpetologists from the Forest Department and two NGOs – Help Earth and Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) – found the Impressed Tortoise (*Manouria impressa*) in Yazali area of the Lower Subansiri district a few days ago.

This is the first record of the tortoise in India, taking



The newly found 'Impressed' Tortoise. *SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

the count to five and the non-marine chelonian count to 29. Chelonian is an order of reptile that includes turtles, terrapins and tortoises.

"There are only two species of tortoises under the *Manouria* genus. India was known to be the home of only the Asian Forest Tortoise

(*Manouria emys*) until the discovery of the Impressed Tortoise," Guwahati-based Jayaditya Purkayastha of Help Earth told *The Hindu*.

The Asian Forest Tortoise, the largest in mainland Asia, is found only in the north-east, as are 20 of the other 28 species of chelonians.

"The male Impressed Tortoise is smaller than the female which is 30 cm in length. This *Manouria* species is one-third the size of the Asian Forest Tortoise," Dr. Purkayastha said.

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DIRECTOR

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAMA
(An autonomous Institute under ministry of culture, Govt of India)

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ADMISSION NOTICE

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MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: The language of Instruction shall be English. The language of performance will be multilingual (South Indian Dravidian Languages). The language of writing the examination shall be English or any one from the Southern region.

NO. OF SEATS: 20 (Twenty)

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The minimum qualification shall be Graduation or equivalent degree in any discipline from a recognized University. It is relaxable in the case of extraordinary talented candidates from the tribal, folk and traditional performing Arts families.
2. Sufficient knowledge of theatre with participation in at-least 4 (four) productions.

AGE LIMIT: Minimum 21 years and maximum 30 years as on 1st June, 2019.

SCHOLARSHIP: Finally shortlisted Candidates for the course will be given scholarship of Rs.4,500/- per month for the academic year.

FORMS AVAILABLE AT: Downloaded the form from NSD website www.nsd.gov.in and may be submitted with a DD of Rs.150/- favoring NSD, Bengaluru Chapter. A filled up form may be sent by post or by hand to the address below.

Address: Centre Director, National School of Drama, Bengaluru Centre, Kalagrama, Mallathalli Behind Bangalore University, Jnanabharathi Campus, Bengaluru-560056.

For any further enquiry please contact on Phone No. 080-2318-3027/ or e-mail: nsdbengalurucentre@gmail.com

LAST DATE:

The last date for submitting the duly filled application form is 10th July, 2019. No application will be entertained after this date.



Lynching redux

In Jharkhand, another instance of mentality combining with a communal motive

The death of a 24-year-old man in Jharkhand days after he was brutally beaten by a mob is a sordid reminder that the disturbing phenomenon of lynching is not going away any time soon. The assault on Tabrez Ansari also followed a recognisable pattern. The victim was Muslim and came under the suspicion of a mob, which chose to mete out vigilante justice, and someone in the crowd recorded trophy footage. This one was not motivated by cow vigilantism or suspicion of transporting cattle for slaughter or possessing beef. Yet, the communal angle was on display, with the crowd forcing him to shout 'Jai Sri Ram' and 'Jai Hanuman', confirming that vigilante justice and mob lynch mentality are invariably accompanied by a sectarian motive in the present context. Following a public outcry, some of the villagers allegedly involved were arrested on suspicion of murder. However, the conduct of the police typifies the official apathy and tacit acceptance of mob justice as a way of life in some parts of the country. Ansari was tied to a tree and beaten for hours before they came to his aid. They merely took him into custody based on a complaint of theft, and neither recorded his injuries nor mentioned in the FIR that he was assaulted. It was only after his condition worsened in jail that he was taken to hospital, where he died.

It is distressing that lynching, as a consequence of vigilantism, communal bigotry and the dissemination of hate messages and rumours on social media, has acquired the status of a preponderant social trend. The Supreme Court noted this when it observed in a judgment last year that "rising intolerance and growing polarisation expressed through [a] spate of incidents of mob violence cannot be permitted to become the normal way of life or the normal state of law and order". It directed States to take specific preventive, punitive and remedial measures. It mooted a special law to deal with lynching and the appointment of a nodal officer in each district to combat the threat. While these measures are not yet in place, the latest incident must be thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators brought to book. However, the larger issue has to be faced squarely by the political leadership. Organised vigilantism by cow protection groups was initially behind a wave of lynchings; rumour-mongering through social media platforms came next. The Ansari incident shows that the problem has transmogrified into a sinister form of enforcing the chanting of Hindu slogans by citizens professing other religions. It may well be that the unseemly political use of the religious chant of 'Jai Sri Ram' in Parliament by some ruling party members to heckle those in the Opposition ranks is finding its echo on the streets.

A city gone dry

The water crisis in Chennai needs holistic and widely resonant solutions

Chennai's aspirations to grow into a global economic hub appear considerably weakened as it struggles to find water. The shadow of drought from 2018 has stretched into the torrid summer this year, evaporating not just the city's reservoirs, but the prosperity of its residents who are forced to hunt for tankers, pay bribes and spend hours even at night waiting for trucks to dispense some water. Ironically, Tamil Nadu's capital, which in a normal year gets anything between 1,300 mm and 1,400 mm of rainfall, has been laid low by the indifference of successive governments. That residents are now given minimum piped water and meagre tanker supplies totalling a third of the installed capacity of 1,494 million litres a day, that too mainly from desalination plants, faraway lakes and farm wells, is proof of the neglect of water governance. Yet, even searching questions posed by the Madras High Court to the AIADMK government have elicited only vague assurances on meeting basic requirements and restoring 210 waterbodies to augment future storage, rather than a firm timeline. Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami was wont to dismiss reports on water scarcity as "an exaggeration", and he must end this business-as-usual approach. A time-bound plan is needed to augment the resources in the Greater Chennai region encompassing the neighbouring districts of Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram. This plan should be tasked to a Special Officer, to be framed by officials in consultation with credentialed experts in research and academia, and public comments invited before it is finalised.

Given the large base of tanks and reservoirs in Greater Chennai – over 4,000 waterbodies of significance – prudent rainfall management can help it through withering summers and weak monsoons. A white paper with a full assessment of these wetlands and their storage potential should be a priority for the State's Sustainable Water Security Mission. Deepening storage in the four major reservoirs must get priority. Such a project must quantify the increase in storage and set an early deadline of a year. These measures can harvest the bulk of the rain in a good year, and prove superior to the fire-fighting approach of installing expensive desalination plants and bringing small quantities by rail from another district. Tamil Nadu made rainwater harvesting mandatory quite early, but failed to follow it up with an institutional mechanism to help citizens implement it. The government should give monetary incentives to NGOs, as NITI Aayog proposed in its Water Index report, to encourage them to install systems and show quantifiable recharge outcomes. On the consumer side, devices and practices to reduce wastage should be promoted, especially on commercial premises. Droughts are bottlenecks for profit, and several actors have developed a vested interest in transferring water to the city at high cost. Long-term solutions can end this cycle.

The future of parliamentary democracy

When any individual eclipses his party in a parliamentary election, it is uncharted terrain for the system



M.K. NARAYANAN

Weeks after the nation gave a decisive mandate to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), political analysts are yet to come up with plausible reasons for what happened. No one had forecast this kind of majority, though there are many who now claim they saw it coming.

The magnitude of victory

The figures say it all. First and foremost, in 2019 the NDA eclipsed its performance of 2014. It secured 352 seats, while the Congress-led alliance came next with 91 seats. The BJP tally of seats was 303 while the Congress secured 52. Regional parties such as the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, All India Trinamool Congress, YSR Congress Party, Shiv Sena, Janata Dal (United), Biju Janata Dal and Bahujan Samaj Party each secured 10-23 seats, demonstrating the overwhelming nature of the Modi victory. In 224 of the 303 seats it won, the BJP vote share exceeded 50%, compared to 136 in 2014. The BJP retained over 81% of the seats it had won previously.

With regard to voting percentages, the BJP vote share this time was around 37.4%, while that of the Congress was 19.5%. Analysing the results on the basis of seats won and voting percentages conveys an impression that the BJP had enlarged its reach not only in Gujarat, but also in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh (which only a few months earlier had dealt the BJP a resounding defeat in the Assembly elections). The reality may, however, be different. What is more true, perhaps, is that the BJP's vote share among the Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes appears to have gone up. Also interesting is an analysis that first-time voters and younger sections among the electorate revealed a clear preference for the BJP.

Mundane statistics still do not explain the scale of victory. Various theories have been floated, viz. that India was entering a new epoch in which Mandir-Mandal politics had no place; caste and subaltern politics had receded into the background; and we are seeing a new India. These are mere facile arguments being put forward to explain an unprecedented victory which no one saw coming. Certain strategists meanwhile have speculated that the "victory" could be attributed to: the adoption of a new revolutionary approach to 'data-driven' communications; the utilisation of 'influence politics'; and the employment of new 'social media tactics', which had the potential to change the behaviour of the electorate. This again makes for good copy, but the truth of what led to such a massive victory for the BJP still eludes everyone.

Without issues

What, perhaps, is nearer the truth is that 'issues' as such had little resonance in the just concluded elections. The Opposition concentrated its attack on the weakening economy, but it is conventional wisdom that the true state of the economy or the lack of jobs is often irrelevant to voters when other matters of greater significance intrude. The Prime Minister, knowingly or unknowingly, never entered into a debate on the economic aspects, thus denying the Opposition a platform. The Opposition also had little occasion to bring up the Mandir issue, since the BJP never projected it as a major election card this time. Mandal politics has long since lost its edge, as the benefits to be derived from it have since become part and parcel of the political philosophy of every party in the country. The



V. SUDRISHAN

Opposition, hence, had little ammunition to deploy against the ruling dispensation.

For its part, the BJP (as also some analysts) has argued that it was people-friendly policies such as the cooking gas subsidy, the Atal Pension Yojana, and the Ujjwala scheme that had created a wave in their favour. This again is more ill-lusory than real.

This election was one of a kind, in which issues did not matter. This may seem like an 'anomaly', but in much the same manner as 'anomalies' during revolutions in science led to new paradigms, the Opposition failed to recognise the change that had taken place this time. This, together with the unparalleled polarisation and a Hindu consolidation, meant that the Opposition had probably lost the election even before the majority of the electorate had got to the polling booths.

It is hardly surprising in these circumstances that the grand Opposition alliance proved to be a damp squib, and not only because of their internal squabbles. Whether in Uttar Pradesh or across other States, the Mahagathabandhan was doomed from its inception. The electorate could not quite understand what the Mahagathabandhan was opposing. This was an extraordinary situation, the like of which has not been seen previously.

The ruling dispensation was, perhaps, as clueless as the Opposition about the changes taking place. Bereft of any grand strategy,

by default it took a leaf from the strategy of the most consummate politician in the ranks of the BJP, L.K. Advani, viz. whipping up nationalist fervour and passions, and employing high decibel rhetoric towards this end, not excluding the demonisation of Pakistan. This created an atmosphere in which the BJP stood for patriotism, one by which the Opposition could be branded as anti-national if they contested the arguments put forward by the ruling party. Pulwama and Balakot were critical to the success of this strategy and the BJP employed both to the hilt. Vast segments, especially in the northern belt of the country, were swayed by this type of propaganda, and there was hardly any requirement for the BJP faithful to spread this message.

Policy orientation of this nature required a towering symbol and voice. Mr. Modi with his powerful oratory was the quintessential person for this task. He did his part splendidly, addressing over a 100 rallies in the space of six weeks, covering over one lakh kilometres, in which economic issues, unemployment, farmers' distress, Mandal-Mandir were conspicuous by their absence. Nationalism was the theme, and defending the nation's integrity from threats of every kind, especially terror attacks from Pakistan, was the line of propaganda. The strategy succeeded far beyond the expectations of the BJP. One person alone was the architect responsible for this victory. The 2019 verdict was, hence, a verdict for Mr. Modi, and not for the BJP.

What does the 2019 election victory of Prime Minister Modi presage for parliamentary democracy? Parliamentary democracy is the cornerstone of the edifice sanctified by the Constitution. If any part of the edifice, and especially its cornerstone, is affected or diminished, it could spell damage to what we have come to believe since 1950. The question is not

rhetorical, but requires a well-considered answer.

When any individual, the Prime Minister included, eclipses his party that is notionally responsible for victory in a parliamentary election, then we are entering uncharted waters, where current rules do not apply. Across the world, there is a wave today in favour of tall and powerful leaders – from Donald Trump to Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping – but they do not head parliamentary democracies. In a parliamentary democracy, the Prime Minister is clearly the first among equals, but is not larger or bigger than the party.

Presidential-style vote

In 2014, Mr. Modi had crested the wave of disillusionment against the then ruling dispensation, which had been in office for a decade. This was not, however, the case in 2019, where incumbency and the inability to deal with a variety of issues had led to a degree of disillusionment with the BJP. Yet, Mr. Modi proved invincible, and the party benefited from it. Few among the electorate possibly voted for the BJP; they voted for Mr. Modi and what Mr. Modi stood for. The reality is that the electorate voted as if it were a presidential election to elect Mr. Modi.

Where does this leave parliamentary democracy? If political parties are redundant, can parliamentary democracy survive? If the current trend is maintained, it could well mean the end of parliamentary democracy. Now that the elections are over, it might be worthwhile to look dispassionately at the growing trend of favouring 'maximum leaders' to the detriment of the parties they lead, and to the policies and practices the latter espouse. This does carry risks for the future of parliamentary democracy.

M.K. Narayanan is a former National Security Adviser and a former Governor of West Bengal

The state of Indian prisons

The National Crime Records Bureau must be more prompt and open in releasing data



MRINAL SHARMA

Indian prisons make news when there is a jail break, a prison riot or when the lawyers of high-profile businessmen or economic evaders fight against their extradition to India. And in the midst of the election process this year, the release of the data-driven report, the *Prison Statistics India 2016*, published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in April went largely unnoticed.

This edition of the report is different from its earlier versions on account of its omission of certain key demographic data. Despite these gaps, the report raises a number of red flags signalling the rot in India's prison system. But before we go forward, a simple question needs to be asked. Who are our prisoners?

The report tells us that at the end of 2016, there were 4,33,033 people in prison; of them 68% were undertrials, or people who have yet to be found guilty of the crimes they are accused of. India's under-trial population remains among the highest in the world

and more than half of all undertrials were detained for less than six months in 2016. This suggests that the high proportion of undertrials in the overall prison population may be the result of unnecessary arrests and ineffective legal aid during remand hearings.

No demographic details

The most significant shortcoming of the report lies in the NCRB's failure to include demographic details of religion and the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe status of prisoners, which are crucial to understanding India's prison population. This information was consistently published for the last 20 years and instrumental in revealing the problematic overrepresentation of Muslims, Dalits and Adivasis among under-trials in prisons.

The report of 2015, for instance, said that Muslims, Dalits and Adivasis accounted for 55% of the under-trial population even though they made up only 50% of the convict population and 38% of the total Indian population.

Another disturbing point is the rise in the number of people held under administrative (or 'preventive') detention laws in Jammu and Kashmir (a 300% increase), with 431 detainees in 2016, compared to 90 in 2015. Administrative, or 'preventive', detention is



GETTY IMAGES

used by authorities in J&K and other States to unfairly detain persons without charge or trial and circumvent regular criminal justice procedures.

Data on prisoner release

But a new and important addition to the report is the number of prisoners eligible to be released and actually released, under Section 436A of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which allows undertrials to be released on a personal bond if they have undergone half of the maximum term of imprisonment they would have faced if convicted. In 2016, out of 1,557 undertrials found eligible for release under Section 436A, only 929 were released. Research by Amnesty India has found that prison officials are frequently unaware of this section and unwilling to apply it.

In 2017, the Law Commission of India had recommended that undertrials who have completed a third of their maximum sentence

for offences attracting up to seven years of imprisonment be released on bail. Perhaps the NCRB should consider including the number of such undertrials in its upcoming report for informing the policy on the use of undertrial detention.

The 2016 prison statistics do not mention the number of prison visits by official and non-official visitors which typically include district magistrates and judges, social workers and researchers. This number, while not as disaggregated as it should be, must nevertheless be used to provide some information on independent monitoring of prisons. This is essential to uncover torture and other forms of ill-treatment, increase transparency and balance the power asymmetry in prisons.

Mental health concerns

The relevance of prison visits is underlined by the number of "unnatural" deaths in prisons, which doubled between 2015 and 2016, from 115 to 231. The rate of suicide among prisoners also increased by 28%, from 77 suicides in 2015 to 102 in 2016. For context, the National Human Rights Commission in 2014 had stated that on average, a person is one-and-a-half times more likely to commit suicide in prison than outside, which is an indicator perhaps of the magnitude of mental health concerns

within prisons.

The NCRB has said that about 6,013 individuals with mental illness were in jail in 2016. It does not provide information on whether these prisoners were diagnosed with mental illness before entering prison, making it difficult to determine whether prison conditions worsened their plight.

The report states that there was only one mental health professional for every 21,650 prisoners in 2016, with only six States and one Union Territory having psychologists/psychiatrists. Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, the three States with the most prisoners with mental illness, did not have a single psychologist or psychiatrist.

All things considered, the report has important information which can be used to facilitate a dialogue on improving prison policies. But these conversations will be limited and the public's right to know about the functioning of the criminal justice system thwarted if critical information is delayed inordinately or withheld without credible reason. The NCRB's apparent reluctance to be prompt and open about its prison statistics does not bode well for the democratic discourse in India.

Mrinal Sharma is Policy Adviser, Amnesty International India

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.

Minimally decent life

It has been proved time and again that mere recognition of a right and enacting it as a law does not translate into necessary action on the ground (Editorial page, "Basic needs, basic rights", June 25). The basic duty of a democratic government, which is "of the people, by the people, and for the people", is to meet the basic needs. If this basic duty, for which the democratic form of government exists, cannot be performed without it being reminded by means of a law, then the very purpose of electing that government becomes meaningless.

Every political party in its election manifesto routinely promises all these basic needs. But once elected, its agenda appears

to be dictated by big businesses and political interests. Earlier, food security and the right to education were enacted as laws. But they have made little difference. In the absence of a real and firm commitment to address basic needs, mere recognition of a need as right and enacting it as a law will remain on paper. Instances such as Muzaffarpur will keep repeating themselves.

KOSARAJU CHANDRAMOULI, Hyderabad

The writer may have made a point with some of his arguments (Editorial page, "Basic needs, basic rights", June 25), but making the Directive Principles of State Policy enforceable to some extent can address the issue in simpler ways. As a mature

democracy, people are expected to find a way out against all odds, as there are also constitutional and legal provisions in place. The government cannot be expected to do everything. It only 'helps' people to achieve what they want and what they 'need'. Being unable to meet our needs is perhaps a reflection of our failures as a cooperative unit.

BITRA RAGHUVeer, Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh

There have been numerous instances of government apathy and neglect as far as our basic needs and rights are concerned, especially when it concerns those in the lowest strata. Governments, State or Central, do not feel threatened or worried as they seem to have developed a system which revolves

around issues that can be stoked at periodical intervals and are enough to win the confidence of the masses. Above all is an illusory pride in achieving global standing in some areas which matters more than basic rights. The writer's justifiable demand, that erring governments should be held responsible and accountable for their inabilities and incompetence, will not strike a chord as governments have a hold over the minds of most people.

G.B. SIVANANDAM, Coimbatore

Defection and ethics

It is well-known that in India, politics and opportunism go hand in hand (Editorial, June 25). Scruples, ethics, principles, honesty and service to the electorate are fast-fading political traits. N.

Chandrababu Naidu did the same by toppling his father-in-law, N.T. Rama Rao, while Chief Minister of Telangana, appears determined to decimate the Opposition. Unfortunately, even the Speakers in Assemblies turn a Nelson's eye to constitutional mandates. In the present case, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha should have made an attempt to curb this unethical practice. Finally, money, numbers, and a warped vision to implement a political agenda determine the future of this country.

BHASKARA RAO SIDDAPALLI, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

A water vision

Many readers ("Letters to the Editor" column) seem to be looking at the water crisis in

peninsular India where most of the rivers in this part of India are rain-fed. But contrary to belief, the Gangetic regions and large parts of northern India are facing a water crisis. The government's move to have a Jal Shakti Ministry should look at water management in a holistic manner. Steps to build the water pipeline infrastructure should also promote safeguarding precious freshwater. We cannot pass the next five to 10 years relying on the government's promises on environmental protection. Citizen's movements need to start picking up the leads. The participation of every citizen is vital.

KIRTI WADHAWAN, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

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

The loss is not just Istanbul

Why Recep Tayyip Erdogan's grip on Turkey is weakening



MOHAMMED AYOOB

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has often said, "Whoever wins Istanbul wins Turkey." This must have come to haunt him last Sunday when Ekrem Imamoglu, the Opposition CHP (Republican People's Party) nominee, defeated Binali Yildirim, the AKP (Justice and Development Party) candidate, decisively in Istanbul's mayoral election. What must have added insult to injury was the fact that Mr. Imamoglu garnered close to 55% of the votes, thus increasing his vote share by seven percentage points compared to the March 31 result when he had barely managed to defeat Mr. Yildirim. Under pressure from Mr. Erdogan and his party, the High Election Board annulled the March 31 election result on flimsy technical grounds. It is clear that many AKP supporters switched to supporting Mr. Imamoglu this time, punishing Mr. Erdogan and his party for their high-handedness.

The beginning of the end?

Does this mean the beginning of the end of Mr. Erdogan's semi-authoritarian rule in Turkey? If one accepts the fact that the Istanbul verdict is a bellwether for what could happen in the rest of the country when the national election is held, then it is good news for the Opposition. The verdict is very important because one-fifth of the Turkish population lives in Istanbul and the city contributes over 30% of the national wealth to the country's GDP. Moreover, Istanbul is not alone in sending the signal that large segments of the population are disenchanted with Mr. Erdogan and the AKP. The second and third largest cities in the country, Ankara and Izmir, also elected Opposition candidates in the March 31 election, as did several other urban concentrations. It is the Anatolian heartland with its conservative and religious orientation that has so far stood by the AKP. But even there Mr. Erdogan's popularity seems to be waning.

One of the main reasons for this is the very visible downturn in the economy and the precipitate fall of the Turkish currency over the past year. Some



REUTERS

of this is the result of Mr. Erdogan's continuing feud with the U.S. More important, the AKP government has grossly mismanaged the economy by spending unwisely on giant and prestigious projects like a new airport in Istanbul, which is slated to be the world's largest, and constructing bridges and gigantic mosques that have depleted resources and driven the government into debts of huge proportions. With the building boom turning into bust and inflation rising, the average voter has been hit hard. This has also begun to alienate the religiously observant bourgeoisie in the towns and cities of interior Anatolia who had formed the financial backbone of the AKP and the engine of growth during Mr. Erdogan's long tenure first as Prime Minister and then as President.

Simultaneously, Mr. Erdogan has alienated a section of his Islamist base by constantly quarrelling with Fethullah Gulen, the leader of the Gulen movement. Following the abortive military coup of July 2016, thousands of Gulen supporters, the most educated and skilled among the religiously observant population, are in jail and thousands of others have been sacked from their jobs. Several universities and schools run by the Gulen movement have been closed and this has affected the quality of education in the country.

Alienating the Kurds

Mr. Erdogan's popularity has also diminished because his recently cultivated ultranationalism seems to have boomeranged. This ultranationalism was intended to placate his allies in the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), which provides the AKP government crucial support in Parliament, but it

seems to have driven many moderates to side with the Opposition instead. This is particularly true of the Kurdish population – and Istanbul with about three million Kurds is the largest Kurdish city in the world – that has been alienated by Mr. Erdogan's stridently anti-Kurdish rhetoric and the resurgence of conflict between the state and the PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party). Mr. Erdogan's military campaign against the Syrian Kurdish enclave has added to Kurdish disenchantment with him.

Ankara's ill-conceived involvement in the Syrian civil war has cost Turkey hugely. A massive inflow of refugees and an expanding defence budget have added to its economic woes. At the same time, the Turkish government has been engaged in a running feud with its principal NATO ally, the U.S., over trade issues, differences regarding the Syrian Kurds, and the Turkish decision to buy the S-400 anti-missile systems from Russia. The U.S. has threatened economic sanctions if Ankara acquires the S-400 systems. Turkey has been defiant on this issue, and the first S-400 deliveries are scheduled for July. Experts believe that these sanctions will kick in automatically under the CAATSA (Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act), a 2017 Congressional law penalising any country that has purchased military equipment from an American foe. The continuing spat with the U.S. threatens to negatively affect the Turkish economy further, with the lira plummeting to new lows following the U.S.'s threats of sanctions.

Some good news

While all these factors point to a gradual but certain weakening of Mr. Erdogan's hold on power, it is too early to say that it will lead to him being unseating in the next election. Parliamentary and presidential elections are more than four years away and much can happen in between to reverse the Istanbul verdict, especially given the way Mr. Erdogan has concentrated power in his hands and misused it to muzzle the media and harass opponents of all hues. Nonetheless, the Istanbul election does indicate that the President's semi-authoritarian rule has not been successful in quashing the democratic spirit among Turkey's voters. This is good news.

Mohammed Ayoob is Senior Fellow, Center for Global Policy, Washington, DC, and University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of International Relations, Michigan State University

An indecent settlement

Johnson & Johnson's paltry settlement for faulty hip transplants is problematic



PRASHANT REDDY T.

There have been no mass tort cases in India like the Acetabular Surface Replacement (ASR) hip implant case. In this, Johnson & Johnson has been accused of selling its faulty ASR hip implants to approximately 4,700 Indian patients between 2004 and 2010. The company announced a global recall of the ASR hip implants in 2010 after doctors in the U.K. and Australia reported an extremely high failure rate for the implant. The metal in the implant was apparently degenerating, causing damage to the bone and tissue, apart from leaching dangerous metals like cobalt and chromium into the blood stream of the patient. By 2013, J&J announced a \$4 billion settlement to cover the claims raised by 12,000 patients in the U.S.

Meanwhile, in India, individual patients filed cases against the company before consumer courts. There was no governmental response till 2017 when the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) set up a committee of experts to probe the matter. This committee stated that J&J, as part of its global recall, had published advertisements in two English language newspapers informing patients that it was effecting a recall of the ASR hip implants and would pay for the revision surgery of those patients who required the implant replaced. Apparently 1,032 Indian patients contacted the company in response to these advertisements. And of these patients, the company paid for revision surgeries of 254 patients, while another 774 patients were kept on monitoring. The remaining 3,600 patients are likely not even aware of the issues with their hip implants because J&J did not contact each patient individually.

The challenge before court

In 2018, an expert committee under Dr. R.K. Arya recommended that J&J be ordered to pay each patient a baseline compensation of ₹20 lakh and additional compensation based on the age of the patient and disability suffered by him. When the DCGI ordered J&J to pay compensation as per the formula laid down by the expert committee, its order was challenged before the Delhi High Court



PRASHANT REDDY T.

on April 8, 2019 by J&J which argued, and rightly so, that only courts of law and not regulators like the DCGI could order payment of compensation.

In May, the company struck an entirely different chord, claiming that it was willing to pay ₹25 lakh to patients who had a revision surgery and approached the government's committee, provided that the payment was not construed as an acceptance of any liability. As per the court's order, this settlement offer would not affect the patient's right to claim further compensation subject to the fact that any possible future award of compensation from a court would have to be adjusted with the ₹25 lakh already paid. The order records that J&J was in effect extending this offer to merely 67 of the 289 patients who had approached the 'expert committee' of the Central government because only these 67 patients had been "verified" and had received revision surgeries.

Problems with the settlement

There are several problems with this settlement. The first is that the patients who are the most important stakeholders are not party to this litigation. One of the fundamental tenets of law is that no order, not even one that is perceived to be a favourable order, should be passed by a court of law without hearing the parties who are going to be impacted by the order. The only way patient interests can be protected is to invite patients to be part of the process. This is not merely an issue of abstract theory but one of practical implications. For instance, if there was even one lawyer for the patients present in court, he or she would have informed the court that most patients have not approached the expert committee of the government because it was as clear

as day that the committee did not have any legal powers to award damages. Instead, most patients moved consumer courts seeking compensation. Thus, dealing with the claims of only the 289 who contacted the committee is pointless. The same lawyers would have also informed the court that as per the expert committee report, J&J has knowledge of at least 254 patients who have had revision surgery. Why then is J&J prepared to pay only 67 patients who had the revision surgery? Also, what of the remaining 3,600 patients who have not been informed of problems with the implant?

The perfect smokescreen

The second problem with this payment of ₹25 lakh per patient is that there is no theory of damages supporting the payment of this amount. Normally damages are split under different heads such as loss of future earnings and solatium for hardship – all of which will be calculated on the basis of the age of the patient. A 40-year-old patient who has a much higher earning potential than a 60-year-old patient deserves to be compensated at a higher rate. J&J needs to explain the basis of treating all the patients equally. The expert committee had recommended ₹20 lakh as a baseline compensation to which more could be added as per a formula it proposed. Going by this formula, the compensation payable to these patients would depend on age and disability and would be far in excess of the ₹25 lakh proposed by J&J. The High Court needs to guarantee some transparency in this regard since there are pending cases before the consumer courts which will be dealing with similar questions.

The third tragedy with this settlement is that it provides the perfect smokescreen to both J&J and the DCGI who have so far had to deal with intense media scrutiny over their failure to take care of patient interests. By presenting to the media a deal that has the blessings of the Delhi High Court, both J&J and the DCGI will get away with the appearance of having taken care of patients even when it is clear that ₹25 lakh is a pittance of a compensation. The image of this settlement which costs J&J a paltry sum of ₹16.75 crore will end the public pressure on the company despite no justice being done to the patients.

Prashant Reddy T. is a Senior Resident Fellow at Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

SINGLE FILE

Wayanad's hope

Rahul Gandhi has his task cut out in Wayanad, which is among the poorest performing districts in Kerala

P.K. AJITH KUMAR



On a hot afternoon in Jaipur recently, the driver of the cab in which I was travelling wanted to know where I was from. Kerala, I replied. Where in Kerala? Wayanad, I said. He smiled: Oh yes, Rahul Gandhi's constituency.

The hilly district in northern Kerala has suddenly become a familiar name across the country thanks to the Congress president contesting the parliamentary election from there. And what a wise decision it turned out to be.

Ever since making its debut as a Lok Sabha constituency in 2009, Wayanad has been one of the safest bets in Kerala for the Congress, due largely to the unwavering support enjoyed by the party's ally, the Indian Union Muslim League. The late M.I. Shanavas from the Congress had won both the previous Lok Sabha elections from Wayanad, after losing all the five he had contested elsewhere.

Given Mr. Gandhi's stature and the response to his campaign, he was expected to significantly improve Shanavas's victory margin of 20,870 in 2014. He lived up to the expectations by winning 4.31 lakh votes.

Earlier this month, Mr. Gandhi came to Wayanad to thank the voters, ensuring it continues to stay featured in national news.

There was a time when it hardly figured even in State news. I remember having to tell someone, when I was a student in Thiruvananthapuram, where exactly Wayanad was located. Most people then imagined Wayanad as a place full of forests and tribal settlements. This is sadly not true anymore. Wayanad continues to lag behind many districts on most indices. It has among the lowest per capita incomes in the State. It has poor infrastructure. It only ranks high on tourism, which has paved the way for the mushrooming of a large number of hotels and a real estate boom. But this has come at a heavy cost to the environment. Wayanad is nowhere near as green it used to be, nor is it as cold. There was a time when very few shops used to sell fans. Now people switch on air conditioners during the summer. Earlier, we would see much heavier showers during the monsoon. Lakshidi, the gateway to Wayanad district, once recorded among the highest average rainfall in the country. That has now become a distant memory.

What hasn't changed is the quality of medical care, which remains as poor as before. Even now, a seriously ill patient in Wayanad has to go to Kozhikode, some two and a half hours away. During his campaign, Mr. Gandhi had talked about setting up a new medical college. Given the Congress's poor show this election and reports about Amethi's disappointment with Mr. Gandhi's performance, Wayanad is hoping for more from its new MP.

P.K. Ajith Kumar is Senior Assistant Editor with The Hindu



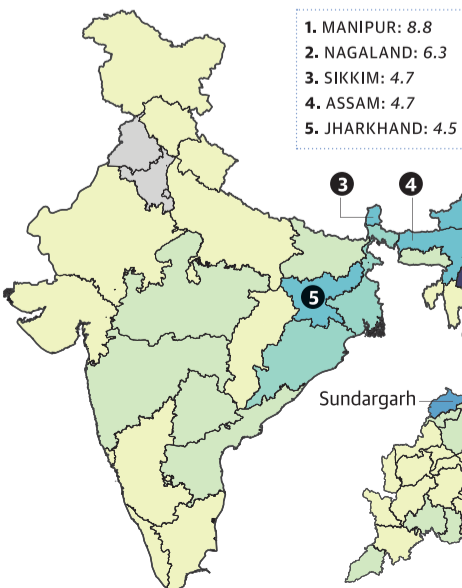
DATA POINT

Many tongues

In many northeastern and eastern States, at least three languages are spoken by a significant proportion of the tribal population, while in the rest of India the effective* number of languages is fewer. Effectiveness depends on how widely a language is spoken in a State. By Srravya C. & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

State-wise split

As many as nine languages have a significant number of speakers among the tribal people in Manipur, while in Uttar Pradesh only one language is widely spoken



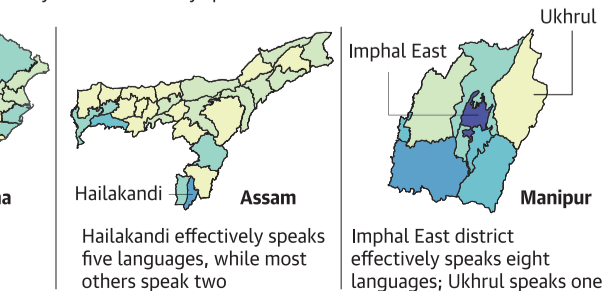
Languages galore in the Northeast

The table lists the States where five or more languages have a significant number of speakers among their tribal populations

State	Languages effectively spoken
Assam	Bodo, Assamese, Miri/Mishing, Karbi/Mikir, Garo
Jharkhand	Santali, Hindi, Ho, Kurukh/Oraon, Mundari
Manipur	Thado, Mao, Tangkhul, Kabui, Paite, Himar, Liangmei, Vaiphei, Kuki
Nagaland	Konyak, Ao, Lotha, Angami, Chakru/Chokri
Sikkim	Nepali, Bhotia, Lepcha, Limbu, Sherpa

Variations at the district level

There is high variation in the effective number of languages spoken across districts in most States. For instance, there are effectively five languages spoken in Sundargarh, Odisha, while only one is effectively spoken in most other districts of the State



Source: Census 2011 *To know how the effective number of languages is calculated using the Laakso and Taagepera method, see <https://bit.ly/2LhyFZA>

FROM The Hindu ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 26, 1969

High yielding tapioca and sweet potato

The Central Government is expected to release nine high yielding tapioca hybrids and three sweet potato hybrids shortly. These hybrids have recorded two to three times more yield than the existing varieties. They were evolved at the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum, and their release was recommended by a two-day workshop on tuber crops held here [New Delhi]. The Director of the Institute, Dr. M. L. Magoon, explained at the meeting the salient features, including production potentials, of the tapioca and sweet potato hybrids. The workshop felt that early release of these new varieties would bring about a major breakthrough in tuber crops production in the country. Noting the lack of attention to the problem of collection of valuable germ plasm of the different tuber crops, the workshop recommended that a co-ordinating unit be established to undertake intensive survey and collection from different parts of the country.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 26, 1919.

Protest against Repression. Mr. Gandhi's Speech.

A public meeting was held on Tuesday night [June 24] in Bombay under the auspices of the Satyagraha Sabha at which resolutions were passed protesting against the Rowlatt Bills and praying the Viceroy and the Secretary of State to withdraw the legislation. Another resolution moved by Mrs. Avanthikabai Gokhale prayed for withdrawal of the deportation order against Mr. Horniman in view of the fact that the reason given by the Secretary of State in justification of the said order was found to be not capable of being substantiated. Mr. Gandhi in his concluding remarks said that if they could hold similar orderly meetings all over India the Government would have to cancel the orders against Mr. Horniman. If the people of India did their duty the Government would have to do their duty.

CONCEPTUAL Bond vigilante

FINANCE

This refers to any of the large bond market investors who aggressively sell government bonds in the open market as a mark of protest against the policies adopted by the government or the central bank of a country. The huge selling of government bonds can cause the price of these bonds to witness a sharp drop in price, thus leading to a significant rise in their yields. In other words, bond investors can cause a considerable rise in the borrowing rates of governments, thus exerting significant pressure on them. While some view bond vigilantes as harmful speculators, others see them as an essential force disciplining governments that spend beyond their means.

MORE ON THE WEB

Watch: The state of Indo-US ties

<http://bit.ly/PompeoUS>

FROM PAGE ONE

Help fulfil the dream of an inclusive nation: PM

"Speaking of what was done in the past, let us remember that today is June 25th, the 44th anniversary of the Emergency, a blot on India's democracy, when democratic rights were suspended, the press was crushed, all to keep someone in power," Mr. Modi said.

He said calls currently on for putting certain people in jail or denying bail and parole were the work of the court system, not the political executive, adding, "This is not the Emergency where governments jailed people as they liked."

Referring to the Triple Talaq Bill, Mr. Modi accused the Congress of missing opportunities to work for women's empowerment, first by bringing separate civil codes for various religions, and specifically in the context of the Shah Bano judgment in 1985 that led to the passing of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights of Divorce) Act, 1986 passed by the then Rajiv Gandhi-led government. He referred to a recent interview of then Minister Arif Mohammad Khan who, he said, had quoted senior Congress leaders at that time and the cavalier attitude they had taken towards the future of the Muslim community. "You missed an opportunity then, I appeal to you to support the Bills we have brought now that pertain to human rights," he said.

Higher targets

Prime Minister Modi said that rather than belittle his predecessors, he believed in reaching for higher targets, like making India a \$5 trillion dollar economy and to bring piped water to all homes. "You [the Opposition] stay high above, for in

your heights you have lost touch with the roots and reality. I am content to be on the ground," he said.

He added that his government had, within three weeks of assuming office, taken many important steps including universalising an income support scheme for farmers, announcing scholarships to students and financial aid to families of policemen who had died on duty, as well as a pension scheme for the unorganised sector.

Quoting extensively from former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's 1951 speech given at the launch of the Congress party's manifesto before the first general election, Mr. Modi said the 75 years of independence and the 150th birth anniversary of the Mahatma should be occasions to reflect on Mr. Nehru's words on privileges and duties.

"It has been the immemorial lesson of India that it is duty that comes first, and rights and privileges flow from it...there are of course rights and there are privileges for which we have to fight and we have fought; even so, if we forget our duty, then those rights and privileges will not remain long with us," he said, quoting Mr. Nehru, adding that it was the job of people's representatives to engender such values in society.

Mr. Chowdhary said: "I think we have scored a great success that at least the Prime Minister who used to previously remain reluctant to quote any Congress leader today was compelled to quote Pt. Nehru at the end of his speech. So, I think this was our great victory." (With inputs from Sandeep Phukan)

Maran, Moitra hog prime time

DMK leader raises Tamil Nadu issues, Trinamool MP says 'fascism is rising'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The falling water table and water shortage, farmers' debt, the process of updating of the National Register of Citizenship (NRC) and mob lynching were among the issues raised by Opposition leaders in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday during the debate on the President's Address.

Former Union Minister and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam member Dayanidhi Maran used the debate to lead a scathing attack on the Tamil Nadu government, calling it the "most corrupt" and the ruling AIADMK a "slave of the BJP".

Mr. Maran's comment against the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam that has only one MP drew sharp reactions from the Treasury benches. When BJP members Nishikant Dubey and Rajiv Pratap Rudy pointed out that rules did not allow to speak about issues outside the President's Address, the DMK member retorted by saying that it was the duty of "the master to



In a country where Ministers cannot produce degrees to show that they graduated from college, you expect dispossessed poor people to show papers as proof that they belong to this country?

—MAHUA MOITRA, Trinamool MP

take care of the slaves". Protesting against the comment, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Arjun Meghwal asked the Chair to expunge it. Speaker Om Birla said any unparliamentary reference would be removed.

Mr. Maran asked the BJP to "introspect" why the people of Tamil Nadu rejected it in the recent Lok Sabha election, and said the ruling party's strength did not lie in itself but in the Opposition's weakness.

He also accused the BJP of misusing agencies such as the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate and the Election Commission.

Apart from raising the issue of the National Educa-

tion Policy that suggested the use of Hindi as one of the third languages, Mr. Maran focussed on the water scarcity in the southern States. He said there were drought-like conditions in nearly half of India and an acute water crisis in Tamil Nadu, especially in Chennai, but the State government was complacent.

'Narrow nationalism'

Claiming that there is a danger of "fascism rising in India", Trinamool's Mahua Moitra accused the government of pushing a brand of nationalism that was narrow.

"The first sign is a powerful and continuing nationalism that is being speared into our national fabric. It is

superficial, it is xenophobic, it is narrow. It has a lust to divide. It is not a desire to unite," she said.

Ms. Moitra targeted the process of updating the National Register of Citizens (NRC), a reference to which was made in President Ram Nath Kovind's address on June 20, and said only one community was being targeted.

"Citizens are being thrown out of their homes and are being called illegal immigrants. People who have lived in this country for 50 years have to show a piece of paper to prove they are Indians. In a country where Ministers cannot produce degrees to show that they graduated from college, you expect dispossessed poor people to show papers as proof that they belong to this country," she asked.

She said the 2019 election was won on "WhatsApp, fake news and manipulating minds". West Bengal BJP chief Dilip Ghosh countered saying the citizens in West Bengal were suffering from the Trinamool's politics.

FB censored anti-BJP posts: Trinamool MP

It was a *de facto* campaigner: O'Brien

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Trinamool Congress has accused social media giant Facebook of being a "de facto campaigner" of the Bharatiya Janata Party during the Lok Sabha election.

Derek O'Brien, party MP, said in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday that "Facebook censored anti-BJP content and its Delhi office was an extension of the BJP Information Technology (IT) cell."

Facebook did not respond to the allegations.

Mr. O'Brien's remarks assume significance as last year the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) instituted a preliminary inquiry to determine whether the U.K.-based Global Science Research and Cambridge Analytica illegally harvested and misused data of Indian Facebook users. The investigation was based on a reference from the government following allegations of illegal Facebook data.

On Tuesday, participating in the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President for his address, Mr. O'Brien said that 80% of the political advertisements on Google were funded by the BJP.

"The media should investigate. Sarvani Foundation, which was later renamed as Association of Billion Minds, was nothing but a surrogate for pushing BJP ads... it's a sordid story. Facebook is a non-disclosed ally of the BJP. FB got lot of benefits in



Facebook is a non-disclosed ally of the BJP. FB got a lot of benefits in return

DEREK O'BRIEN
Trinamool MP

return," the MP said. In another discussion, Sanjay Raut of the Shiv Sena called for removing the special status of J&K by scrapping Articles 370 and 35A.

"The special status of J&K is against the interests of other States like Bihar and Odisha, which have also been demanding the same. It cannot have special status if it considers itself part of India. Kashmir threatens us that it will merge with Pakistan or break away. Now these threats will not work," Mr. Raut said.

The Nationalist Congress Party's Majeed Memon attacked the government for the increase in lynching attacks and referred to the killing of 24-year-old Tabrez Ansari in Jharkhand.

"In the name of new India, one should not impose an illiberal socio political order... It is a country of all communities and faiths," CPI MP D. Raja said.

'Bengal in Emergency-like situation'

BJP believes in democracy and is committed to protecting it, says Javadekar

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The situation in West Bengal is akin to a "state of emergency" under Mamata Banerjee's rule, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said on Tuesday, asserting that the BJP believed in democracy and is committed to protecting it.

Earlier, the West Bengal Chief Minister hit out at the BJP, saying that while Tuesday was the anniversary of the Emergency imposed in 1975, the country had been going through a "super emergency" for the past five years.

Outside Parliament, Mr. Javadekar said, "The way Mamata is conducting things in West Bengal is no less than the state of Emergency. She is doing a very bad job at running the State."

'Will fight for Bengal'

The Union Minister said his party and the government were committed to safeguarding democracy and would fight for West Bengal, the way his party workers did in 1975.

"The way violence is being promoted is against democracy. The BJP and this



Call for change: Congress and CPI(M) MLAs stage a walkout to protest against 'cut money' allegedly taken by Trinamool Congress leaders and workers. ♦PTI

government is committed to safeguarding democracy and believes in *Sabka saath, sabka vikaas*. We saved the country from Emergency in 1975 and now, we will fight in West Bengal too," he said. The story of Emergency when the "entire country was turned into a jail" should be narrated to all generations so that the freedom is not lost again, he said.

In a tweet, Ms. Banerjee said, "We must learn our lessons from history and fight to safeguard the democratic institutions in the country."

Antigua not giving Mehul a safe haven, says its PM

"It is an internal process. The legal process has to be exhausted. India continues to be engaged with the Antigua and the Barbados government in this regard," said the source.

The Enforcement Directorate, which is probing money laundering charges against Mr. Choksi, has in a Mumbai High Court offered to provide an air ambulance and a team of medical experts to bring him back from Antigua and arrange

for all necessary treatment in India. The agency's submissions were in response to his claim that he was unable to return due to persistent health issues.

In March, Mr. Choksi had submitted before a special court in Mumbai that he had a long history of heart ailments and a blood clot in the brain. To this, an agency official said, there was no major hospital in Antigua for treatment of serious heart conditions.

Amit Shah to visit Kashmir for two days

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Home Minister Amit Shah will be on a two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir from Wednesday.

This will be his first visit to the State after assuming charge as the Union Home Minister. Mr. Shah is expected to oversee security arrangements for the Amarnath Yatra that commences on July 1. He will also attend the Unified Command Headquarters meeting in Srinagar.

Day after arrest, J&K editor gets bail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Srinagar-based Urdu daily *Aafaq's* editor and owner Ghulam Jeelani Qadri, 62, on Tuesday was granted bail by the local court, a day after he was arrested in a 28-year-old case.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate sought the appearance of the local police officer on July 31 "to explain delay in execution of the warrants issued 26 years ago against Mr. Qadri."

Centre skirts queries on J&K delimitation and NRC

Both Ministers of State for Home fail to give direct reply

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Centre on Tuesday avoided providing a direct reply on whether it was planning to conduct a delimitation exercise in Jammu and Kashmir to "remove regional imbalance in the State". It also skirted a question on whether it planned to extend the National Register of Citizens (NRC) exercise across the entire country.

Earlier, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) MP Asaduddin Owaisi raised a question in the Lok Sabha as to whether J&K had not been included in the delimitation exercise taken up in the country and whether the government was considering undertaking it with a view to removing the regional imbalance in the State.

Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy said in a written response that J&K was not included within the purview of the Delimitation Act, 2002, as Article 170 of the Constitution that deals with delimitation of constituencies of the Assemblies had not been extended to the State.

"Delimitation of legisla-



Check list: NRC officials examining documents at an office in Dhubri in Assam. ♦AFP

ture Assembly constituencies in J&K is carried out under Section 47 and 141 of the Constitution of J&K," Mr. Reddy said.

He said there were 37,33,111 voters in the Jammu division, 40,10,971 in the Kashmir division and 1,79,147 in the Ladakh division.

He said the Election Commission had not fixed the dates for holding the Assembly elections in the State.

Responding to the question on whether there was any proposal to extend the NRC across the country and if so when, Minister of State for Home Nityanand Rai

merely said, "The exercise to update NRC 1951 is being conducted under the special provisions in respect of State of Assam."

"The NRC is being updated at present in the State of Assam as per the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955, and the provisions contained in the Schedule framed under Rule 4A (4) of Citizenship Rules, 2003. NRC, Assam was prepared in 1951 as a non-statutory process by recording particulars of all persons enumerated during Census 1951," Mr. Rai added. In its election manifesto the BJP had said it would introduce NRC across the country.

₹50 cr. in fake currency seized in past three years, says Minister

Highest number of cases from West Bengal, Gujarat and U.P.

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

Over ₹50 crore in fake currency was seized by different investigating agencies in the past three years, the government informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. A little over ₹5 crore was seized this year.

The highest number of 53 cases were registered in West Bengal, followed by Gujarat with 42 and Uttar Pradesh with 34.

One of the reasons cited by the government in 2016 for scrapping ₹500 and ₹1,000 denomination notes was that it would wipe out fake currency in circulation. India had accused Pakistan's



Kishan Reddy

ISI of printing high-quality fake Indian currency notes and channelling them into the Indian market.

Culling data from the central Fake Currency Compilation System of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Minister of State for

Home G. Kishan Reddy said in a written response that 20,068 pieces of fake ₹2,000 notes were seized across the country till June 18 this year. The annual crime report of the NCRB is yet to be published.

This is the first time the government has shared year-wise data on fake currency post-demonstration.

As many as 53,254 FIRs were registered and 357 accused have been arrested this year. Government data show that 13,513 pieces of fake ₹500 notes, 10,682 of fake ₹100 notes and 2,233 pieces of fake ₹200 notes were seized.

Four members of terror outfit arrested in Kolkata

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

The Special Task Force (STF) of Kolkata Police on Tuesday arrested four operatives of an ISIS-affiliated terror outfit at two railway junctions here. Those arrested include three Bangladeshi nationals and one

Indian. The accused, who are members of the Neo-Jamat ul Mujahideen, were produced before a city court, which remanded them to 14 days of police custody. The Bangladeshis arrested had taken shelter in India to escape arrests in their country, Kolkata police said.

Trinamool leader returns 'cut money'

Had taken bribe for a canal project

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

In what could be a first of its kind in the history of the country, a politician on Tuesday officially returned the "bribe" — described as "cut money" by Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee — taken from the local residents in Birbhum district of south Bengal. Party area president Trilochon Mukherjee returned ₹2.28 lakh collected from the locals to dig a canal.

Across the State, people — especially those in rural areas — are demanding refund of the illegal commission charged by local Trinamool leaders to deliver

various government benefits and services.

The Chief Minister had recently asked the party leaders and workers to return such money, which had created widespread commotion in the State. The BJP too turned it into an issue.

Mr. Mukherjee returned ₹1,617 lacs to 141 persons, the elected villagers said. They thanked Ms. Banerjee for the "money back policy". Mr. Mukherjee however sounded a little sullen. "The money was raised for developmental work but it was returned today," he said.

The canal project never took off.

(With agency inputs)

Cross-LoC traders' meet in Tashkent

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

Three months after the Home Ministry suspended cross-Line of Control trade in J&K, traders on both sides met in Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent and urged India and Pakistan to "come up with the modalities and technical mechanism to restore the operation as soon as possible".

"Both the governments did not do enough to put the mechanisms on modern lines, which left the twin routes vulnerable to possible misuse. The abrupt suspension of trade has resulted in an opportunity loss," said a joint statement issued by 19 traders groups.



APPEAL
Name of Patient: Gauraksh Saini, 4 years. Hospital Name: Christian Medical College. Diagnosis: Thalassemia Major. This is a type of Blood Disorder which is life threatening the best option for him would be to undergo Allogeneic Peripheral Blood Stem Cell Transplant (PBST). The estimated cost of PBST at this hospital is approximately Rs. 14,00,000/-.

We request Kind Hearted Philanthropists to save him. Kindly send donation by Cheque/D.D./M.O favouring Save Poor Lives A/c Gauraksh Saini S/B Account No.20100913487, which is exempted under 80G of I.T.Act.
Contact: SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST (ADMIN. DIVISION), Flat No.A4, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No.76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaiapuram, Chennai - 600 028. Ph: 044-42044165, Mobile: 984607377, E-mail: savepoorlives@gmail.com Our website: www.savepoorlives.com
Donation given to patients upto March 2019 for Rs. 4,26,89,335/- and scholarship 7,30,000/-.

When injuries, insults and callousness tore apart a young life

Jharkhand lynching victim's family members say the mob meted out 'instant justice' and the administration committed a cold-blooded murder

SATYASUNDAR BARIK
SARAIKELA

She is distraught and inconsolable, yet Shehnaz Begum, mother-in-law of Tabrez Ansari, 24, victim of a mob lynching in Jharkhand, gathers all her strength to speak. "My son-in-law would have been alive had the administration showed a little bit of sympathy and given the minimum medical attention," she says, holding her teenage widowed daughter. "First, it was the religiously motivated mob that meted out instant justice, and second, the administration committed a cold-blooded murder by letting Tabrez die of excruciating pain. To save his life, the police at least could have admitted him in a hospital," she said. Tabrez's family lives in

the nondescript Kadamdia village, 15 km from the district headquarters town of Saraikela. Three days after his death, District Collector of Saraikela-Kharasawan Chhabi Ranjan and Superintendent of Police Karthik S. reached Kadamdia late on Monday evening to assure the family of justice. A group of district officials landed in the village early Tuesday morning. Media professionals and rights activists have been thronging the place.

'Undeserving sentence'
"My son-in-law did not deserve such a death," Ms. Begum kept saying to everyone.

Tabrez, who lost both his parents at an early age, migrated to Pune eight years ago to find work. In April, he



Deeply hurt: Sahista Parevez, right, wife of Tabrez Ansari, with her mother at home in Saraikela. • BISWARANJAN ROUT

returned to get married. On April 27, his marriage with Sahista Pervez, 19, was solemnised. The couple would have gone back to Pune in a few days.

According to his extended family members, he was re-

turning after meeting his aunt in Jamshepur on June 17 night when some people of Dhatkidih village caught hold of him and branded him a thief.

"Tabrez could have been let off with a few slaps. All

hell broke loose when he revealed his name. He was tied to an electric pole and beaten up the whole night. Later, he was dragged to nearby bushy areas and another round of thrashing started. He was also forced to chant 'Jai Shriram' and 'Jai Hanuman'," said Mohammed Mansoor Alam, Tabrez's uncle, who had gone to meet him at the Saraikela police station.

Tabrez's family members were shocked when they met him at the station. "Initially, I was not allowed to enter the police station. Then I heard someone saying, 'Why did he not die till now?'. On enquiry, I found that it was Papa Mandal, the main accused, who was shouting right inside the police station. I could not hold

myself back. I entered the police station forcibly only to find Tabrez having bruises all over his body and blood stains on his face, hands and legs," Ms. Begum said. His wife fainted.

Plea on deaf ears

After a day, the family members again met him in jail. "His condition was even worse. I pleaded with the authorities to admit him to hospital, but nobody paid any heed," Ms. Begum said. Tabrez was admitted to the District Headquarters Hospital only when his condition suddenly deteriorated on June 22.

After the video of the lynching went viral on social media and Tabrez was heard chanting "Jai Shriram" and "Jai Hanuman", as directed

by the mob, the media started taking note of the incident. Only then, the police swung into action.

"We have so far arrested 11 persons, including Papa Mandal. An investigation is going on," Mr. Karthik said.

When his attention was drawn to the alleged administrative bias in handling Tabrez's case, especially when his health condition turned poor, Mr. Karthik said, "We are not the authority to give a medical certificate. Doctors carried out medical tests on him. Tests such as X-ray and ECG were carried out multiple times."

On the police recording only his "confession" and not trying to identify the assailants, Mr. Karthik said the staff had messed it up. Two had been suspended.

A blot on humanity, says Rahul

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday termed the lynching of a man in Jharkhand a "blot on humanity", and questioned the "silence" of the BJP.

"The brutal lynching of this young man by a mob in Jharkhand is a blot on humanity. The cruelty of the police who held this dying boy in custody for 4 days is shocking as is the silence of powerful voices in the BJP ruled Central & State Govts.," he tweeted.

Earlier, the issue of mob lynching was also raised by Opposition members in the Lok Sabha during the debate on the President's Address.

All India United Democratic Front Badruddin Ajmal too raised the issue on the floor of the House.

Trade, missile on agenda during Pompeo visit

U.S. Secretary of State to have a busy day today with talks with Jaishankar and Doval, apart from a meeting with Modi

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

India will once again press its case for a waiver of U.S. sanctions on the \$5.4-billion Russian S-400 Triumf anti-missile deal, but will discuss Washington's concerns over the issue during talks with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Wednesday.

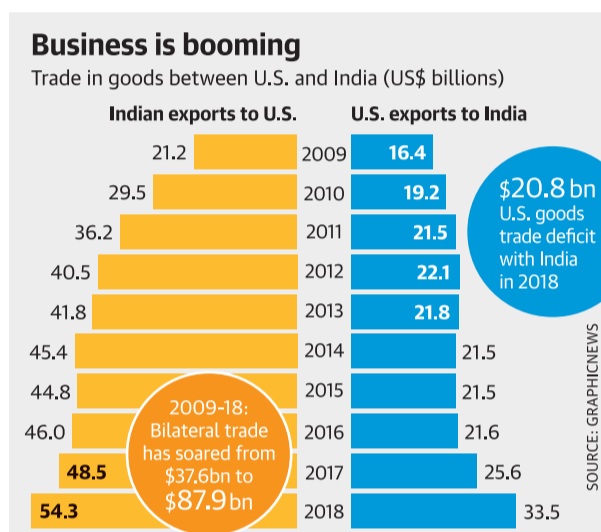
On a visit to Delhi to prepare for the Trump-Modi meeting this weekend, Mr. Pompeo landed on Tuesday evening ahead of meetings with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Wednesday, where he will also call on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Mr. Pompeo will start his day with full delegation meetings with Mr. Jaishankar

followed by a press briefing. No MoUs or agreements are expected to be announced, though negotiations on two important agreements – the Industrial Security Annex and the Geo-spatial cooperation agreement BECA – have made considerable progress. Mr. Pompeo will hold a closed-door interaction with Indian and American businesses to speak about the impasse over a trade deal and the U.S. withdrawal of India's GSP (Generalized System of Preferences) status.

U.S. demands

In the evening, he will meet Mr. Modi before the latter leaves for Osaka, and also give a public address aimed at India's youth. Mr. Pompeo will leave for Osaka early



Thursday morning. While strategic relations and people-to-people ties are on the agenda during the main

talks, trade issues between the two countries are expected to take centre stage, diplomatic sources said. In ad-

dition, the U.S.'s objections to the purchase of S-400, its sanctions on imports of oil from Iran and Venezuela as well as its new demand that India must not allow Chinese telecom major Huawei to participate in 5G network trials are like to come up for discussion.

The sources acknowledged that the U.S. had made its concerns over the S-400 deal and other issues known, and India fears becoming "collateral damage" of U.S. relations with other countries. In the past few weeks, senior U.S. diplomats and officials have suggested that if India goes ahead with S-400 deal, the U.S. will not offer India certain hi-technology platforms or hold back on F-21/F-35 sales as it

had done with Turkey that has also bought the S-400.

"[The U.S.] must realise that we have defence ties with Russia which we cannot wish away," a government official said. "If you look at it from a legal point of view, India fulfils the requirements for a CAATSA waiver," the official said, referring to the U.S. law that bans military purchases from Russia, Iran and North Korea.

On the Huawei issue, Mr. Jaishankar is likely to tell Mr. Pompeo that the government will balance the national security implications of the Chinese firm with the local telecommunications market's demands before deciding on 5G trials. Last week, China urged India to take an "unbiased decision".

SC not to get involved in RS bypolls issue

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court declined on Tuesday to entertain a plea challenging the Election Commission's decision to hold separate bypolls to two Rajya Sabha seats in Gujarat. The seats fell vacant on the election of BJP president Amit Shah and Union Minister Smriti Irani to the Lok Sabha.

The court asked the petitioner, Gujarat Congress leader Pareshbhai Dhanani, to file an election petition before the Gujarat High Court after the polls. The Bench said it would not intervene now as the poll process had already been set in motion. "This issue raised after the issuance of the EC notification can only be challenged through an election petition. That is the statutory position," the Bench said. It said contesting polls was not a fundamental right. It was "a statutory right".

Seems like U.S. is coercing India, says House Foreign Affairs panel

Asks Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to strengthen ties

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

The Chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC), Eliot Engel, wrote to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Monday, saying there was a growing view that the Trump administration was coercing India on various fronts rather than negotiating with it.

Mr. Engel, whose committee has oversight responsibilities over the State Department, sent his letter as Mr. Pompeo's tour of Asia, including India, kicked off. The letter highlights the timing of the U.S.'s withdrawal of GSP (preferential trade access) benefits to India and the removal of waivers of sanctions on importing Iranian oil. It urges Mr. Pompeo to reaffirm the India-U.S. partnership and bring coherence to it.

"There is a growing view



Eliot Engel

decision to end waivers related to U.S. sanctions on Iran could alienate India when we need to be working with our partners to prevent destabilising Iranian activities," it said.

Trade related challenges
India, which depends heavily on oil imports to meet its growing energy needs, had grudgingly stopped new import orders of Iranian oil from May 2, when waivers of U.S. Iran oil sanctions expired. This has placed further strain on the relationship with Washington.

"I urge you to use your visit to not only reaffirm and strengthen the U.S.-India strategic partnership, but also convey a coherent set of objectives and predictability to the new Indian government that will help this relationship reach its full potential," Mr. Engel wrote.

1 crore houses by 2020: Puri

Says government will beat 2022 target set under PMAY(U)

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government's target of constructing one crore houses by 2022 under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) could be completed by the end of 2020, Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister of State (independent charge) Hardeep Singh Puri said on Tuesday.

Speaking on the fourth anniversary of the launch of three schemes for urban development – PMAY (U), the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and the Smart Cities Mission – Mr. Puri said the NDA government had spent 554% more in five



Hardeep Singh Puri

minister said. "As against a target completion date of 2022, I am more or less confident that we can have all the sanctioning done by the first quarter of 2020 and more or less completion by end of 2020," Mr. Puri said.

Of the ₹1.26 lakh crore committed for the scheme, ₹52,113 crore had been released so far, Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra said. Under the scheme, beneficiaries from economically weaker sections (EWS) can get ₹1.5 lakh for the construction of homes. The scheme also includes in situ slum redevelopment and credit-linked subsidies.

BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED
'A Mini Ratna Company'
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

ABRIDGED NIT

Open Tenders are invited on-line on the e-tendering portal of CIL <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> for the work of "Hiring of HEMM for removal of OB, extraction and transportation of Coal with fire-fighting from XIII, XI/XII, VIII/C/X/X, VIII/B, VIII/A seams of Benedih Patch, Amalgamated Block-II OCP of Block-II Area, BCCL" vide NIT No. : BCCL/CMC/e-Tender/F-HEMM-OS/2019/237 Date : 24.06.2019. Document download start date is 01.07.2019. Document download end date/bid submission end date is 19.07.2019. All prospective bidders are advised to visit <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> for online participation in the tender. Details of tender will be mirrored on <http://www.bcclweb.in> and <https://eprocure.gov.in>

Sd/-
General Manager (CMC), Koyla Bhawan, BCCL

V.O.CHIDAMBARANAR PORT TRUST
General Administration Department
Tuticorin - 628 004

Electronic Tenders (Two Cover system) are invited by V.O.Chidambaranar Port Trust, Tuticorin from bidders fulfilling the Eligibility Criteria for pre-qualification as stipulated in the respective tender documents for the work of "Providing Manpower Service in different categories of Manpower on outsourced basis in various Departments - at V.O.Chidambaranar Port Trust".

1	Estimate Amount	Refer Port website: www.vocport.gov.in (9 tenders)
2	Contract period	Two Years (extendable up to one year)
3	Downloading of Bid document from VCOPT online e-tendering website	From 28.06.2019 to 18.07.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs) www.vocport.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/VCOPT
4	Pre-bid meeting	On 08.07.2019 at 11.00 hrs in Conference hall, Administrative Building, VCOPT, Bharathi Nagar, Tuticorin.
5	Last Date and Time for submission of Tenders through online	On or Before 15.00 Hrs. on 18.07.2019
6	Date and Time for opening of Part I (Cover I) (Techno-commercial bid)	At 15.30 Hrs. on 18.07.2019
7	Validity of tender	90 days from the date of opening the Part I (Cover I) – Techno-commercial bid.
8	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Refer Port website: www.vocport.gov.in (9 tenders)
9	Tender Submission through	E-Tender portal www.tenderwizard.com/VCOPT

For further details visit the Port e-tender website www.tenderwizard.com/VCOPT

Secretary

GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)-III
Sector-VII, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022
Phone No.011-26167618

N.I.T.No. 06 (2019-20) SW-III

S. No.	Description	Amount Put to Tender, Earnest Money and tender fee	Date of release of tender in E-Procurement Solution	Last Date/ Time of receipt of tender Through E-Procurement Solution
1	Shifting of water connection in the command area of MBR UGR and nearby area of Malviya Nagar Constituency under SW-III	Rs.43,27,920/- Rs.87,000/- and Rs. 500/-	24.6.2019 Tender I.D. No. 2019_DJB_174906_1	06.7.2019 At 2:00 P.M

Further details in this regard can be seen at (<https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SW)III
Advt. No. J.S.V. 102/2019-20

DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (EAST) I
M 16 MAYUR VIHAR PKT E PHASE II NEW DELHI 110091

PRESS NOTICE TENDER
NIT No. 12 /East-I/ (2019-20)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Contract Value (ECV)/ Amount put to tender	Earnest Money (EMD)	Tender Fees	Date of Release of tender in E-Procurement Solution & Tender ID No.	Last Date/ Time of receipt of tender E-Procurement Solution
01	Providing and laying 450/400 mm dia M.S. lined water Line from Ramney Wells Shakarpur Chungi to BPS Mandawali in AC-57 in East-I	2,71,42,181/-	5,42,850/-	1500/-	24.06.2019 2019_DJB_174_930_1	15.07.2019 At 03:15 PM

Further details in this regard can be seen at <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>

ISSUED BY P.R.O. (WATER) EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (EAST)-I
Advt. No. J.S.V. 95/2019-20

V.O. CHIDAMBARANAR PORT TRUST
CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
TUTICORIN - 628 004
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
Re-Tender

Only through E-Tendering Mode
VCOPT E-tendering Website: www.tenderwizard.com/VCOPT

NIT No & Dated	01CE/RCM&BMR/2019-20 ID/1457	Dated	25.06.2019
Name of work	Maintenance and Operation of Sewage Pumps in Pump House at Colony Area and Administrative Office Area for a Period of Two Years in VCOPT	Estimated Amount	Rs. 17,99,622/-
Downloading of Tender documents from VCOPT online e-tendering website.	26.06.2019 to 05.07.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.	Last Date and Time for submission of Tenders online and payable to the EMD Tender Fee through RTGS/NET	05.07.2019 up to 15:00 hrs.
Online Price bid opening date and time	05.07.2019 up to 15:30 hrs	For further details, please visit Port's website www.vocport.gov.in	

NMDC Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
10-3-31/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad-500 028
Telephone: 0091-40-23538710/23538713 to 23538721 Ext: 230/229
Fax: 23538781/23538711. CIN: L13100AP1958G001674
E-mail : csreddy@nmdc.co.in, bnkumar@nmdc.co.in, ksmuthy@nmdc.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (GTE)
(E – Procurement Mode only)

E-tenders are invited for following item from reputed manufacturers directly or through their dealers / accredited agents through MSTC portal website https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprochome/nmdbcubuyer_login.jsp

Tender No. & Description	Pre Bid Meeting	Display & Sale of Tender Documents	Tender Fee and EMD
HQMM/4004-18/042001/85 Dated 24.06.2019 - Procurement of 01 No. Track Dozer of 300 HP to 360 HP along with Operation & Maintenance spares for 4 years/10000 hours whichever is earlier required as per specifications mentioned in Annexure-I for Diamond Mining Project, Majhgawan, Panna -488001 (MP), India	10.07.2019 at 11:00 A.M. to 10.07.2019 2nd Floor, Masab Tank, Hyderabad	DRAFT 26.06.2019 to 10.07.2019 FINAL 20.07.2019 to 09.08.2019	Rs. 5900/- or US\$ 100 & Rs. 200000/- or US\$ 3500

Prospective bidders may visit our websites : www.nmdc.co.in; CPP Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in>; <https://mstccommerce.com> and may download the tender documents. Any corrigendum to the above tender notice will be uploaded on our website and MSTC e-portal only.

Jt. GM (Materials)

NLC India Limited
'Navratna' - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office : First Floor, No.8, Mayor Sathyamurthy Road, FSD, Egmore Complex of Food Corporation of India, Chennai - 600 031.
Corp. Office : Block-1, Noyyal-697 801, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu.
CIN No.: L9309TN1956G0003597, Website: www.nlcindia.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR SUPPLIES (e-Tender Notices SI.No.2 to 9)

SI.No. Tender Ref./Scope of supplies & Qty. reqd.

- 1.NITPL/TUTICORIN/ENQ/NITPL/19-20/00143/C&P 01 (01) Dt.21-06-2019: Supply, dosing and monitoring of cooling water treatment chemicals. B.G.Amount: ₹ 3,00,000/-
Due date of opening: 23-07-2019
- 2.UNIT: MM COMPLEX: ENQ/19-20/000639/MM17(02), dt.18-06-2019: Procurement of cover compound and rubber solution (Two items).
Due date of opening: 15-07-2019
- 3.ENQ/19-20/000762/MM05(05), dt.21-06-2019: Procurement of 2000 Sets of Beater Wheel Beater Plates. Due date of opening: 24-07-2019
- 4.PTE No: ENQ/19-20/000823/MM01(03), dt.21-06-2019: Hydraulic Cylinder
Due date of opening: 23-07-2019
- 5.ENQ/19-20/000743/MM02(07) dt.22-06-2019: Labyrinth rings both inner & outer for the Impact Idlers. Qty.: 9404 SETS.
Due date of opening: 24-07-2019
- 6.PTE. No. ENQ/19-20/000735MM01(03) dt.22-06-2019: 7 items of gear box internals.
Due date of opening: 23-07-2019
- 7.PTE No.ENQ/19-20/000854/MM01(01) dt.25-06-2019: RG 10 Bushes.
Due date of opening: 26-07-2019
- 8.ENQ/19-20/000704/MM05(05), Dt: 22.06.2019. Procurement of 2 Items of Lightning Arrestors.
Due date of opening: 22-07-2019
- 9.ENQ/19-20/000710/MM05(05), Dt. 24.06.2019. Procurement of 2 Items of Seamless Tubes.
Due date of opening: 22-07-2019

Cost of tender document:SI.No.1: ₹ 1,000/-
Date & time of opening:SI.No.1: 15-07-2019 at 15:00 Hrs.

FOR E-TENDER DOCUMENTS DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT: www.nlcindia.com
NEVELI BOOK FAIR 2019: 5th to 14th JULY 2019

War of words between U.S. and Iran intensifies

Trump threatens to 'obliterate' parts of the Islamic Republic after Tehran says new sanctions mean end of diplomacy

REUTERS
DUBAI

U.S. President Donald Trump threatened on Tuesday to obliterate parts of Iran if the Islamic Republic attacked "anything American", as Iran said the latest U.S. sanctions had closed off any chance of diplomacy.

"Any attack by Iran on anything American will be met with great and overwhelming force," Mr. Trump tweeted just days the U.S. came within minutes of bombing Iranian targets. "In some areas, overwhelming will mean obliteration," the U.S. President tweeted.

Mr. Trump on Monday signed an executive order imposing sanctions against Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and other senior figures. Sanctions against Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif are expected later this week.

"Imposing useless sanctions on Iran's Supreme



Talking tough: Iran President Hassan Rouhani speaking at a meeting with officials in Tehran on Tuesday. • AP

Leader and the commander of Iran's diplomacy is the permanent closure of the path of diplomacy," Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi tweeted. "Trump's desperate administration is destroying the established international mechanisms for maintaining world peace and security."

The moves came after Iran

shot down a U.S. drone last week and Mr. Trump called off a retaliatory air strike minutes before impact. It would have been the first time the U.S. had bombed Iran in decades of hostility between them. Mr. Trump said last week that he had decided at the last minute that too many people would die.

In a televised address on

Russia backs Iran claims

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MOSCOW

The U.S. drone shot down by Tehran last week was in Iranian airspace, the head of Russia's Security Council said on Tuesday, despite U.S. claims to the contrary.

"I have information from the Defence Ministry of the Russian Federation that this drone was in Iranian airspace," Russian news agencies quoted Nikolai

Tuesday, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said sanctions against Mr. Khamenei would have no practical impact because the cleric had no assets abroad.

Desperate move

Mr. Rouhani, a pragmatist who won two elections on promises to open Iran up to the world, described the U.S.

Patrushev as telling reporters in Jerusalem. He was in Jerusalem for talks with U.S. and Israeli officials.

Meanwhile, Moscow accused Washington of being reckless with new sanctions on Iran, saying it stood in solidarity with Tehran. "U.S. authorities should think hard about where this reckless course of action can lead," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

moves as desperate and called the White House "mentally retarded" – an insult that other Iranian officials have used in the past about Mr. Trump, but a departure from Mr. Rouhani's own comparatively measured tone. "The White House actions mean it is mentally retarded," Mr. Rouhani said. "Tehran's strategic

patience does not mean we have fear."

'Will breach deal'

Meanwhile, a top Iranian security official said the country will "resolutely" abandon more commitments under a 2015 nuclear deal with world powers on July 7, Fars News Agency reported on Tuesday.

"As of July 7, Iran will forcefully take the second step of reducing its commitments" to the nuclear deal, Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, was quoted as saying by Fars.

This was so "countries who interpreted Iran's patience with weakness and inaction realise that Iran's answer to the American drone's violation of its airspace will be no different than its reaction to devious political efforts to limit Iranian people's absolute rights," he added.

Trump denies sexual assault allegation

She's not my type, says U.S. President

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Monday that writer and columnist Jean E. Carroll was lying about him sexually assaulting her and that she was not his type.

"I'll say it with great respect," Mr. Trump said to *The Hill*, a media outlet that covers Capitol Hill. "No. 1, she's not my type. No. 2, it never happened. It never happened, OK?"

Mr. Trump went to say Ms. Carroll was "totally lying" and added that he did not know her.

Ms. Carroll, 75, a writer and columnist for *Elle* magazine, said Mr. Trump had assaulted her in 1995 or 1996, in the dressing room of Bergdorf Goodman, a high-end store in New York City. Ms. Carroll had run into Mr. Trump there, she said, and agreed to help him shop for a gift. Her story was first published last week by *New York* magazine, as part of excerpts from Ms. Carroll's new book.

She told two of her close friends, as per what she says in the book excerpt. One friend asked her to go to the police and the other said that Mr. Trump would "bury" her with his "200 lawyers".

The *New York Times* reported that it had confirmed with both friends that Ms. Carroll had spoken to them about the incident.

Mr. Trump has used the explanation of someone not being his type or his "first choice", when confronted by sexual assault allegations.

A total of 16 women, including Ms. Carroll, have publicly accused Mr. Trump of sexual misconduct. The President has denied all allegations. Hours before Mr.



Writer and columnist Jean E. Carroll

Trump's interview with *The Hill*, Ms. Carroll had said that nothing had come of all the earlier assault allegations.

Sick of it: Carroll

"With all the women, it's the same: He denies it, he turns it around, he attacks, and he threatens – and then everybody forgets it until the next woman comes along," Ms. Carroll told CNN. "I am sick of it. I am sick of it."

"I love that I'm not his type. Don't you love that you're not his type?" Ms. Carroll told CNN's Anderson Cooper on Monday night.

Ms. Carroll, a registered Democrat, told the *Washington Post* on Friday that she had voted for Hillary Clinton in 2016.

Last Saturday morning, Mr. Trump compared his situation to Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's.

"It's a total false accusation and I don't know anything about her. And she's made this charge against others," Mr. Trump said, drawing a parallel between the current situation and the Kavanaugh case.

The Supreme Court justice was publicly accused by three women of sexual assault in his younger years but was not disqualified from the confirmation process and eventually got confirmed.

'Lanka gearing up to hang drug offenders'

Official says President Maithripala Sirisena has signed papers for execution

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Following up on his earlier pledge to hang drug offenders, Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena has recently signed papers for the execution, according to a top government source.

The move is in connection with the 'National Drug Prevention Week' being observed from June 23 to July 1, the senior official source told *The Hindu*, on condition of anonymity.

The government or the President's office has so far not officially commented on the development, which comes three months after

President Sirisena announced that he had fixed a date to hang convicted drug traffickers, effectively lifting a four-decade-old moratorium on capital punishment.

Call for halt

Rights watchdog Amnesty International on Tuesday said it was "alarmed to learn" that the Sri Lankan government was preparing to execute at least 13 prisoners convicted in drug-related crimes.

In a statement, Amnesty urged Mr. Sirisena to immediately halt his "plans to resume executions" for drug offenders, referring to earlier

media reports suggesting "preparations are under way".

However, Sri Lanka's Commissioner General of Prisons T.M.J.W. Thennakoon dismissed the reports as "completely wrong". "As of June 25, 8 p.m., I have received no official communication from the Presidential secretariat regarding this," he told *The Hindu*, when contacted on Tuesday.

Govt. ad

Last week, local media reported that President Sirisena was considering signing papers to execute drug offenders. In a full-page go-

vernment advertisement on the 'National Drug Prevention Week', carried in the state-run *Daily News* on Monday, the words 'Death penalty for drug dealers' were highlighted in bold, red font within a circle, resembling a stamped seal.

Sri Lankan courts have sentenced many convicts to death in the past, but no one has been executed since 1976, with their sentences invariably commuted to life. The most recent verdict came last week, when the Colombo High Court awarded death sentence to a man found guilty of possessing 4.40 gm of heroin in 2013.

Next British PM to be announced on July 23

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

The winner of the contest to replace Theresa May as leader of Britain's ruling Conservatives and Prime Minister will be announced on July 23, the ruling party said on Tuesday.

Former Foreign Minister Boris Johnson is the favourite in the race, battling Britain's current top diplomat, Jeremy Hunt. The two candidates will seek to woo an estimated 1,60,000 party members who will make the final choice. "The announcement of the next leader of the Conservative party will be made on Tuesday 23 July," the statement said.



Boris Johnson

Meanwhile, Mr. Johnson said on Tuesday it would be "bizarre" if the EU opted to impose tariffs on British goods in the event of a no-deal Brexit. "It would be a return to Napoleon's continental system," he added, invoking the 19th-century French emperor, who attempted to blockade Britain in the Napoleonic Wars.

Stephanie Grisham is new White House Press Secy.

Was spokeswoman for Melania earlier

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump on Tuesday named Stephanie Grisham – until now spokeswoman for his wife Melania – the chief White House Press Secretary, taking over an office that has seen sharply deteriorating relations with the media.

The appointment, announced by Melania Trump on Twitter, replaces the outgoing Sarah Sanders, who oversaw the near ending of once traditional daily White House press briefings and fought repeatedly with journalists who accused her of lying.

Ms. Grisham will also hold the more strategic post of Communications Director, the first lady tweeted.

"I am pleased to announce @StephGrisham45



Stephanie Grisham

will be the next @PressSec & Comms Director!" Melania Trump wrote. "She has been with us since 2015 - @POTUS & I can think of no better person to serve the Administration & our country."

Ms. Grisham is a Trump loyalist, having joined his presidential campaign back in 2015 and winning a reputation as a tough operator in the first lady's office.

Sherin case: father pleads guilty to lesser charge

Mathews had been charged with murder

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
HOUSTON

In an unexpected turn, the Indian-American father, accused of killing his 3-year-old adopted daughter Sherin Mathews and hiding her body in a culvert in suburban Dallas, has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge, according to media reports.

Wesley Mathews, 39, pleaded guilty to injury to a child by omission even before his capital murder trial opened at a Dallas district court on Monday. The lesser charge comes with a lighter possible sentence.

Mathews had been charged with capital murder of a person under the age of 10 in the death of his special needs adoptive daughter, Sherin, in October 2017. If convicted, Mathews would face life in prison



Wesley Mathews

without the possibility of parole.

Now, with the charge of first-degree injury to a child by omission, Mathews could get probation or face prison and life with the possibility of parole after serving 30 years, a local news site reported. Entering the guilty plea immediately moved Mathews' trial into the punishment phase on Monday, it said.

IN BRIEF



U.S. border agency acting head to leave on July 5

WASHINGTON The acting Commissioner of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency, John Sanders, is resigning and will leave his post on July 5, the agency said on Tuesday, a move that coincides with an outcry over the treatment of 250 detained migrant children at a Texas border patrol station. REUTERS

Police kill 3 suspected Rohingya traffickers

COX'S BAZAR

The Bangladesh police killed three people suspected of trying to smuggle 15 Rohingya Muslim refugees to Malaysia on Tuesday near the main refugee camp, an official said, the second such incident in as many months. REUTERS

India-Pak. clash over Nizam of Hyderabad's funds in U.K.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON

A decades-old legal dispute between India and Pakistan over around £35 million belonging to the Nizam of Hyderabad at the time of Partition and deposited in a London bank account has reached an important stage in the U.K. High Court.

The Nizam's descendants, Prince Mukarram Jah – the titular eighth Nizam of Hyderabad – and his younger brother Muffakham Jah, have joined hands with the Indian government in the legal battle against the Pakistan government over the funds lying with the NatWest Bank plc in London.

The dispute revolves around £1,007,940 and nine shillings that were transferred in 1948 from the then Nizam of Hyderabad, Osman



Prince Mukarram Jah – the titular Nizam.

Ali Khan, to the High Commissioner in Britain of the newly-formed Pakistan. That amount has since grown into millions.

"His Exalted Highness Nizam VIII and his younger brother have waited decades to receive what their grandfather gifted them. Pakistan has blocked access for 70 years and we hope the recent trial will mean a final resolution at last," said Paul Hewitt, partner at Withers law firm, which is represent-

ing the eight Nizam in the Royal Courts of Justice in London. Justice Marcus Smith has been presented with arguments from both sides in the case listed as – The High Commissioner for Pakistan in the U.K. versus seven others, including the Union of India and the President of India. The judgment is expected in six weeks.

The late Nizam Osman Ali Khan, who faced the quandary of joining Pakistan or staying with India at the time of the funds transfer back in 1948, had later reportedly sought the return of the funds. NatWest Bank has since held on to the funds deposited into the account of then Pakistan High Commissioner Habib Ibrahim Rahimtoola in safekeeping until its rightful legal owner is established.

THE HINDU GROUP

Number of prepositions in English

200

150

250

Number of words in the Oxford dictionary

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81,476

2,51,456

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MARKET WATCH

	25-06-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	39,435	0.80
US Dollar	69.36	-0.01
Gold	34,470	0.58
Brent oil	65.26	0.72

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	405.65	-0.35
Asian Paints	1363.10	-13.05
Axis Bank	781.65	18.80
Bajaj Auto	2843.70	26.80
Bajaj Finserv	8346.15	-8.50
Bajaj Finance	3579.85	34.50
Bharti Airtel	348.60	3.50
BPL	393.10	12.25
Britannia Ind	2807.70	27.20
Cipla	550.05	0.15
Coal India	258.35	1.60
Dr Reddys Lab	2536.05	22.65
Eicher Motors	19116.85	18.65
GAIL (India)	309.70	3.00
Grasim Ind	902.15	15.50
HCL Tech	1079.00	1.10
HDFC	2172.80	23.90
HDFC Bank	2428.70	10.75
Hero MotoCorp	2584.65	-1.60
Hindalco	202.50	4.30
Hind Unilever	1756.45	-8.00
Indiabulls HFL	621.55	2.45
ICICI Bank	433.65	4.20
IndusInd Bank	1449.65	-11.90
Bharti Infratel	269.80	-3.00
Infosys	748.10	2.60
Indian Oil Corp	154.60	2.55
ITC	278.50	2.25
JSW Steel	267.05	9.25
Kotak Bank	1483.90	13.30
L&T	1535.00	-6.00
M&M	641.65	6.80
Maruti Suzuki	6522.50	62.60
NTPC	138.45	2.85
ONGC	166.20	1.00
PowerGrid Corp	201.60	2.55
Reliance Ind	1295.85	33.45
State Bank	356.55	3.35
Sun Pharma	385.75	2.30
Tata Motors	160.45	1.15
Tata Steel	498.00	11.75
TCS	2267.80	-7.70
Tech Mahindra	724.35	-3.90
Titan	1318.15	18.10
UltraTech Cement	4596.05	21.25
UPL	934.95	-1.60
Vedanta	170.35	1.90
Wipro	285.30	1.40
YES Bank	110.05	-1.90
Zee Entertainment	343.20	1.85

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 25

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	69.14	69.46
Euro	78.68	79.04
British Pound	88.04	88.46
Japanese Yen (100)	64.58	64.89
Chinese Yuan	10.05	10.10
Swiss Franc	70.77	71.10
Singapore Dollar	51.07	51.32
Canadian Dollar	52.46	52.71
Malaysian Ringgit	16.68	16.78

Source: Indian Bank

Gold jumps ₹200/10 gm on global cues

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Gold prices jumped by ₹200 to ₹34,470 per 10 gm in the capital on Tuesday on increase in demand from local jewellers and positive global markets as investors are preferring the yellow metal as safe haven amid U.S.-Iran tensions.

Tracking the movement of gold, silver prices also rose by ₹110 to ₹39,200 per kg on higher uptake by coin makers and industrial units.

Traders said increased buying by local jewellers and positive global market pushed spot gold prices in the domestic markets.

Globally, gold prices were trading higher at \$1,429.80 an ounce, while silver prices were up at \$15.52 an ounce in New York.

"The international spot gold prices traded near \$1,430 an ounce to six-year high witnessing strong buying on safe haven," HDFC Securities Senior Analyst (Commodities) Tapan Patel said.

Sinha-led panel proposes ₹5,000 crore stressed asset fund for MSMEs

The fund will assist units becoming sick due to changes in external factors

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI A committee formed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), headed by former SEBI Chairman U.K. Sinha, has recommended a ₹5,000 crore distressed asset fund for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

The fund will assist units in a cluster where there is a change in the external environment such as plastic ban, which had resulted in large number of such entities becoming non-performing. "This would be of significant size which makes equity investments that help unlock debt or help revive sick units. It is a variation of venture capital fund, meant for equity investment of ₹1 lakh to ₹10 lakh in proprietary or partnership MSMEs, which

Cash in circulation fell post note ban: FM

'Demonetisation exercise of 2016 succeeded in reducing notes in circulation by ₹3.4 lakh crore'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Demonetisation, coupled with increased digital transactions and the reduced cash usage in the informal economy, led to a reduction in currency in circulation by ₹3.4 lakh crore, according to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

'Significantly lower'

Replying to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Ms. Sitharaman said that the level of currency in circulation as of May 31, 2019, was significantly lower than what it would have been if demonetisation had not happened.

According to the data provided, the value of notes in circulation on November 4, 2016, (four days before demonetisation was an-



Notes in circulation have been growing at an average annual growth rate of 14.51% since October 2014. *SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

nounced) stood at ₹17.74 lakh crore, which has now increased to ₹21.71 lakh crore as of May 31, 2019.

However, Ms. Sitharaman said that the notes in circulation had been growing at an average annual growth rate

of 14.51% since October 2014. "At this rate, notes in circulation would have increased to ₹25,122.53 billion (₹25.12 lakh crore) as on May 31, 2019," Ms. Sitharaman said in her reply. "As actual notes in circulation on May

31, 2019 are only ₹21,713.85 billion (₹21.71 lakh crore), demonetisation, followed by digitalisation and reduction of cash use in informal economy, has succeeded in reducing the notes in circulation by as much as ₹3,408.68 billion (₹3.4 lakh crore)."

Ms. Sitharaman went on to cite Reserve Bank of India data to show that the number of counterfeit bank notes detected decreased from 762,072 pieces in 2016-17, to 522,783 in 2017-18 and 317,389 pieces in 2018-19 and hence "demonetisation resulted in curbing of the counterfeit currency".

However, she did not mention whether this reduction in detection of fake currency was due to their incidences coming down or their sophistication surpass-

ing the RBI's ability to detect.

"A significant growth has been observed in digital transactions in the country post demonetisation," Ms. Sitharaman added. "Growth of digital transactions in terms of value has increased to ₹188.07 lakh crore in September 2018 from ₹12.27 lakh crore in November 2016. Digital transactions in terms of volume have increased to 241.88 crore in September 2018 from 91.83 crore."

The Minister also said that demonetisation led to a "significant positive impact on most theatres of violence" in the country since illegally held cash formed a major chunk of terrorfunding, and that the note ban rendered the cash held with terrorists worthless.

Foreign e-commerce firms warned against steep online discounts

Govt. committed to protecting small traders, says Goyal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

India has told foreign e-commerce firms such as Amazon and Walmart's Flipkart that they must ensure compliance with new foreign investment rules aimed at deterring them from providing steep online discounts.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal has said that while the government was prepared to listen to concerns about its new foreign direct investment (FDI) rules, it was committed to protecting small traders from predatory behaviour by foreign-funded companies.

The comments were made by Mr. Goyal during a closed-door meeting on Monday with several e-com-



merce companies.

No retrospective changes Mr. Goyal also said that the e-commerce policy would not have any retrospective changes. All stakeholders would be given enough time to adhere to it, he added.

The Minister also urged the e-commerce companies to honour the spirit as well

as the letter of the law.

Mr. Goyal also directed the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) to immediately form a committee headed by an Additional Secretary in DPIIT, with representatives from the Department of Commerce, and ministries of MSME and Consumers Affairs, besides legal experts from the government, to hear grievances and provide clarifications on FDI in e-commerce.

"The Minister reiterated that the government will ensure that small retailers and kirana shops thrive in the country," the Commerce Ministry said in a release.

(With inputs from Reuters)

DHFL partially defaults on CP repayment of ₹375 crore

Lender could pay only 40% on a 'proportionate basis'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

Mortgage lender Dewan Housing Finance Ltd. has partially defaulted in repaying its investors of commercial paper. The company could pay only 40% of the aggregate amount.

According to a notification to the stock exchanges, DHFL paid 40% of ₹375 crore, which is ₹150 crore, "on a proportionate basis."

"The balance of ₹225 crore will be paid once the surplus cash flow position improves over the next couple of days," the lender said.

While DHFL met liability obligations of ₹40,000 crore since September, there was no recourse from lenders, it said. The company met all its financial obligations through a combination of in-



ternal accruals, sell down of its loan assets and monetisation of non-core assets.

Earlier this month, ratings agency ICRA downgraded the rating on the ₹850-crore commercial paper (CP) of the lender to 'junk grade', after DHFL delayed interest payment to the investors of non-convertible debentures (NCD). In June, ₹750 crore CPs were maturing, ICRA had said.

"Pursuant to the down-

grade by rating agencies, expecting a default for the Commercial Papers (CP) much before they had fallen due, the mutual funds had already taken a 100% mark-down on their CP investments," DHFL said.

Even after these downgrades, DHFL met its obligations of CP holders and paid ₹375 crore (for other CPs that matured earlier) before Tuesday's partial default, it said.

DHFL further added that it was already in the process of selling down its loan assets, including wholesale project loans, to make good all its obligations and maintain its 100% commitment to all its creditors as it had done ever since the liquidity crisis started in September 2018.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
TENDER NOTICE
Tender No : 11/19-20/HWD Supply and delivery of PET preform for 1000 ml bottle with 28 mm PCO long neck for KWA bottling plant at Aruvikkara, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. EMD : Rs. 34100/-, Tender fee : Rs. 2500/-, Last Date for submitting Tender : 15-07-2019, 03:00:pm
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in / www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Phone : 04722-888280 KWA-JB-GL-6-68-2019-20

CPWD TRIVANDRUM • NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
NIT No. : 01/IISER TVM PZ/2019-20
The Executive Engineer, IISER TVM Project Division -I, CPWD, Trivandrum on behalf of the President of India invites online composite percentage rate bids from approved and eligible category contractors of CPWD and those of appropriate list of MES, BSNL, RAILWAYS and KERALA STATE P.W.D. for the following work(s):
Name of work : Construction of I No.Boys Hostel and I No. Girls Hostel under Phase-II for Indian Institute of Information Technology at Pala, Kottayam including internal water supply, sanitary installation, drainage, development work and internal electrical installations, solar water heater and firefighting works etc.
Estimated Cost : Rs. 20,21,25,081/-
(Civil: Rs.19,04,07,169/-+ Electrical:Rs. 1,17,17,912/-)
• Earnest Money : Rs. 30,21,251/- • Period of Completion : 420 days • Last time and date of submission of bid upto 15.00 hours on 12.07.2019
The bid forms and other details can be obtained from website www.tenderwizard.com/cpwd. The press notice is available also on www.eprocure.gov.in

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Mail id : pramanik_s@ongc.co.in, M. : +91 9643301935
For details, please visit https://tenders.ongc.co.in

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
(An ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & OHSAS 18001 & SA 8000 Certified Company)
Sankaramangalam, Chavara-691 583, Kollam, Kerala, India
Ph: 0476-2686722 to 2686733 (12 Lines), 2651000,
Fax: 91-476-2680101, E-mail: kmmll@md3.vsnl.net.in, URL: www.kmmll.com
TENDER NOTICE
Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal https://tenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmmll.com

No.	Tender ID	Items
1	2019_KMML_282174_1	For the supply of Diaphragm Valve
2	2019_KMML_278750_1	Supplying of materials, construction and commissioning of three numbers of deep tube well of 230 meter approximate depth using UPVC pipes at the designated sites (TP Unit, KMML), which gives a minimum yield of 40 M ³ /Hours of raw water
3	2019_KMML_282391_1	Sale of 9 TPH Packaged Boiler 'as is where is basis' at TP Unit, KMML
4	2019_KMML_282878_1	Civil foundation works for the 70 TPD Air Separation Plant - Phase IV

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Projects worth ₹11 lakh cr. remain stalled: FinMin

298 projects have issues to be solved

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Projects worth almost ₹11 lakh crore remain 'stalled' or have issues under consideration, according to data provided by the Finance Ministry, with the Railways, roads, and power sectors accounting for more than half of these stalled projects.

According to an answer provided to the Lok Sabha on Monday by the Finance Minister, the government's Project Monitoring Invest India Cell (PMIC) has resolved the issues surrounding 740 projects worth ₹30.5 lakh crore. However, 298 projects worth ₹10.98 lakh crore still have problems that are yet to be resolved.

According to the data, the projects under the Ministry

of Railways seem to be the most problematic. While the PMIC has resolved all issues surrounding 42 projects in the sector worth ₹77,555 crore, there are still 115 projects worth ₹4 lakh crore "in which issues are still under consideration".

On the other hand, projects under the Ministry of Power have seen the highest success rate of issues being resolved. While 36 projects worth ₹2.05 lakh crore are still under consideration, the PMIC has resolved issues around 201 road transport projects worth ₹2.21 lakh crore, with 89 projects worth ₹1.83 lakh crore under consideration.

Madras HC dismisses Cognizant's plea

CTS, foreign shareholders filed writs over tax disputes on buybacks

MOHAMED IMRANULLAH S.

CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Tuesday dismissed as not maintainable a batch of writ petitions filed last year by software major Cognizant Technology Solutions (CTS) India Private Limited and its non-resident shareholders Cognizant (Mauritius) Limited and Cognizant Technology Solutions Corporation based in New Jersey with respect to alleged tax disputes to the tune of over ₹2,500 crore.

Justice K. Kalyanasundaram refused to entertain the cases on the ground of availability of an effective alternative remedy of filing statutory appeals before the authorities concerned. He granted liberty to CTS India to approach the Commis-



sioner (Appeals) and its two foreign shareholders to approach the Dispute Resolution Panel (DRP) if they were aggrieved over the demand raised by the Assessing Officer.

In their individual writ petitions, the two foreign shareholders claimed that CTS India had substantial cash surplus in 2013 and hence it decided to buyback its shares from them under Section 77A of the Companies

Act of 1956. Accordingly, each share of the company was valued at ₹23,915 based on Discounted Free Cash Flow method and the entire buyback transaction was completed by May 22, 2013.

However, after a lengthy inquiry, the Assessing Officer in 2017 found that that the Fair Market Value of each share was only around ₹8,000 and therefore the share holders were liable to pay tax for the excess consideration received by them. Explaining the case, Additional Solicitor General G. Rajagopalan informed the court that CTS India had not declared any dividend since 2003 to avoid payment of Dividend Distribution Tax (DDT).

In 2013, a new provision (Section 115QA) was intro-

duced in the Income Tax Act for imposing Buyback Distribution Tax (BBDT) from June 1, 2013. Therefore, in order to avoid DDT as well as BBDT, "the petitioners entered into a dubious transaction by fixing exorbitant amount for the shares so that they could take undue and unintended benefit of the India - Mauritius Tax Treaty and thereby indulge in treaty abuse," the ASG alleged.

After recording his submissions, the judge said, the Assessing Officer had passed only a draft assessment order so that it could be taken on appeal to the DRP comprising of experts in the field. Since fixation of share value was a complex process, the DRP would be the appropriate authority to adjudicate, he said.

Gandhinagar Railway and Urban Development Corporation Limited (GARUD)
8th Floor, Block No. 18, Udyog Bhavan, Sector-11, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India : 382017. Email: garud.gandhinagar@gmail.com
TENDER NOTICE
GARUD invites RFP for Selection of Operator for Management of Helipad Exhibition Ground at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
Details of Tender are available on website: https://garud.nprocure.com
Tender is available for download from 25/06/2019 at website and Due Date of the Tender is 16/07/2019.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER(PQ)
KOZHIKODE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(AMRUT)
File.No.EG21/61457/17 Date.21.06.2019
Competitive tenders are invited under AMRUT for Construction Supply Installation, Testing, commissioning and operation & Maintenance for five years of the sewage treatment plants for Kozhikode Medical College with septage Treatment Facilities for surrounding areas with Electrolytic Technology.
PAC:Rs.14,10,64,556/-
Date of closing of Tender: 3.00 pm on 23/07/2019
Tender fee and Earnest Money Deposit etc. as per prevailing rules. Further details are available at LSGD website and E-Tender website from 28.06.2019 onwards.
(https://etenders.kerala.gov.in)
(https://lsgetenders.kerala.gov.in)
(sd)
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Sealed tenders are invited in Two bid system for Hiring of 20 Data Entry Operators (DEOs) at I.G. Mint, Hyderabad as per Tender No. 6000013152/113/Admin dated 26.06.2019. For further details the interested bidders may visit the Mint website http://igmhyderabad.spmcil.com. The bidders may also download the tender document from 26.06.2019 onwards. Further Amendment/Corrigendum, if any, to this tender will be notified in the above website only.
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DGM & HOD

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E-TENDER NOTICE
NIT No: SECL/BSP/CMC/e-Tender/332, date 19.06.2019, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_142074_1, Location of work: Korba Area, Govra Area, Hasdeo Area, Chirimiri Area, Baikunthpur Area, Bishrampur Area, Bhatgaon Area and Raigarh Area of SECL. Estimated Cost: Rup. 11,17,15,949.40
Description of Work: Hiring of 22 nos. of Ambulances with basic life support with factory fitted A/C on daily rental basis along with drivers for 24 hours deployment basis for different Areas of SECL as per following details: Slice-A: 04 nos. Ambulance, Working Hours- 24 Hours/day, Fuel efficiency- 12 KMs/ Ltr, Average Running 4000 KMs/month/vehicle (+/- 25 %) Slice-B: 18 nos. Ambulance, Working Hours- 24 Hours/ day, Fuel efficiency- 12 KMs/ Ltr, Average Running 7000 KMs/month/vehicle (+/- 25%). Start date&time for submission of bid: 27.06.2019, at 11hrs, End date & time for submission of bid: 12.07.2019, at 17hrs, Date&time for opening of bid: 15.07.2019, at 11hrs.
GM(CMC) SECL,Bilaspur
Note : For details and submission of bid please visit website CPP www.eprocure.gov.in, and e-procurement portal of CIL https://coalindiatenders.gov.in & www.secl-cil.in. In case of any misprinting/ error,details as per website document will be considered as final.
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IN BRIEF


Anish N. Nanavaty appointed as RCom's RP

MUMBAI
Reliance Communications (RCom) has informed that Mumbai bench of the NCLT has approved the appointment of Anish N. Nanavaty as the resolution professional (RP) of the company with immediate effect. "The NCLT, in its hearing dated June 21, pronounced the approval for the appointment of Anish N. Nanavaty as the RP of the Corporate Debtor with immediate effect," RCom said in a filing to exchanges.

LIC trims stake in Asian Paints by 2%

NEW DELHI
Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has sold more than 1.92 crore shares through open market transaction. With the sale of these shares, stake of LIC in Asian Paints has now come down to 3% from 5% earlier, as per a regulatory filing by the insurer. The total sale value could not be ascertained as the insurer sold the shares over a period of time between January 9-June 24, 2019. PTI

DRL unveils generic drug for cystic fibrosis in U.S.

HYDERABAD
Dr. Reddy's Laboratories (DRL) said it had launched in the U.S. Tobramycin Inhalation Solution USP, a therapeutic equivalent generic version of Tobi (tobramycin) Inhalation Solution. Indicated for the management of cystic fibrosis, Tobi brand and generic had U.S. sales of around \$97 million moving annual total (MAT) for the 12 months ended April 2019, Dr. Reddy's said.

Dhanuka plan for Orchid gets NCLT nod

Creditors expected to get ₹1,116 crore, including a resolution plan value of ₹610 crore

K.T. JAGANNATHAN
SANJAY VIJAYAKUMAR
CHENNAI

The Chennai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has approved the ₹610 crore resolution plan submitted by Dhanuka Laboratories for city-based debt-ridden Orchid Pharma.

While clearing the plan, the NCLT also rejected the application filed by Accord Life Spec Pvt. Ltd.

Accord Life Spec is a part of the ₹1,700-crore Accord group, established by DMK MP S. Jagathrakshakan.

Accord indicated that it was ready to revise its proposal to ₹615 crore, given an opportunity. With the NCLT clearing the decks for Dhanuka, creditors are expected to get ₹1,116 crore, including resolution plan value of ₹610



Insolvency proceedings were ordered against the pharma firm in a case filed by Lakshmi Vilas Bank. •GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

crore, cash in the balance sheet (around ₹330 crore) and fixed deposit money with SBI (₹184 crore). It may be noted that U.S.-based Ingen Capital LLP quoted ₹1,490 crore in the first attempt of the insolvency process. The plan, however, came a cropper when the

U.S. firm failed to make the committed upfront payment. Ingen Capital's resolution plan was approved by the NCLT on September 17, 2018.

As per the approved resolution plan, Ingen Capital was expected to deposit ₹1,000 crore upfront to the

financial creditors. However, Ingen sought more information, which was not allowed by the resolution professional. The Dhanuka plan was earlier caught in an unusual conundrum when Punjab National Bank (International) Ltd., a member of the CoC (committee of creditors), sought a change in their voting to "dissenting" after the resolution was voted in favour by the CoC with 67.07% voting share.

Voting percentage

Once this change is considered, the voting for the Resolution Plan would be 65.53% (the required percentage of voting, however is 66%). Following legal advice, the resolution professional chose to file Dhanuka's plan with the NCLT and sought

guidance with regard to accepting the change in stand by Punjab National Bank (International) and on the treatment of voting percentage.

Besides Gurgaon-based Dhanuka and Chennai-based Accord, Hyderabad-based Covalent Laboratories too was in the fray for Orchid.

Dhanuka is a prominent manufacturer and exporter of oral cephalosporin APIs. Covalent is also specialised in manufacturing cephalosporins and its intermediates.

In August 2017, the NCLT ordered insolvency proceedings against Orchid in a case filed by Lakshmi Vilas Bank. The company reportedly owed ₹3,200 crore to a consortium of 24 banks.

Orchid figured in the second list of RBI that had the names of 28 large defaulters.

FCA India launches Jeep Compass Trailhawk

The top variant is priced at ₹26.8 lakh

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

FCA India has launched nationwide sales of its Made-in-India Jeep Compass Trailhawk all-wheel drive sport utility vehicle (SUV).

Trailhawk, the topmost variant of Jeep Compass, is priced at ₹26.8 lakh, and would be available at all 82 FCA retail touch points across the country.

Off-road capabilities

The Jeep Compass range begins at ₹15.6 lakh (all-India).

The vehicle is loaded with off-road capabilities. With higher ground clearance, the new series has 6% improvement in fuel efficiency and comes with a 9-speed automatic transmission BS-



VI turbodiesel engine.

Kevin Flynn, president and managing director, FCA India said, "We are offering a lot more of the Jeep DNA in the Trailhawk which we believe Indian customers will appreciate and enjoy."

"Our trail-rated all-wheel drive SUV has all the core ingredients that a Jeep SUV should have," he added.

Visaka to set up ₹100-crore plant in T.N.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Visaka Industries on Tuesday said it would be setting up a plant to make non-asbestos, autoclaved fibre cement Vnext boards in Tamil Nadu with an investment of ₹100 crore.

While not mentioning the location in the State where the plant will come up, the company said the facility would take the capacity of its Vnext Division from 1.70 lakh tonnes to 2.20 lakh tonne.

The plant will cater to the market demand for Vnext board in the southern region.

Visaka Industries now has plants for Vnext boards in Telangana, Maharashtra and Haryana.

TPG, Piramal looking to exit Shriram Capital

PEL acquired 20% stake for ₹2,014 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Private equity firm TPG Capital and Piramal Enterprises Ltd. are looking to exit Shriram Capital Ltd., the latter said on Tuesday.

"Both PEL and TPG are evaluating the feasibility of selling their respective shareholding in SCL," Shriram Capital said in a statement.

'Long-term strategy'

The company said it understood that PEL's evaluation of exit from SCL was a part of its long-term strategy to fund growth of its financial services business, while TPG's evaluation of an exit from SCL was consistent with its investment review practices.

"If and when definitive documents for such a transaction are executed, appropriate disclosures will be made in accordance with applicable laws," it added.

Piramal had acquired 20% stake in Shriram Capital, the financial services arm of the Shriram Group, in 2014 for ₹2,014 crore.

Earlier this month, the company sold 9.96% stake in Shriram Transport Finance in a secondary market deal.

D.V. Ravi, managing director at Shriram Capital and a managing trustee for Shriram Ownership Trust (SOT), said Shriram Group enterprises would be managed and governed by the trust, going forward.

Impresario to raise \$50 million to ramp up restaurant business

To source funds from LCatterton Asia

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

Mumbai-based Impresario Entertainment & Hospitality Pvt., which owns and runs a bouquet of fine-dining restaurant, cafe and lounge brands such as Social, Smoke House Deli, Salt Water Café, Mocha and Flea Bazar Cafe, is raising a fresh investment of \$50 million to fuel its market expansion activities.

In December 2017, the restaurant chain, promoted by celeb restaurateur Riyaz Amlani, had raised \$45 million from LCatterton Asia, the regional franchise of Connecticut-based global private equity firm LCatterton, with over \$15 billion of capital under six funds.

Expansion plans

"This time again, the funds are going to come from the same PE firm. We will use this money to expand all our existing brands and also to foray into new formats," said Amlani, CEO & MD, Impresario.

Impresario currently has 23 outlets of Social, its all-day cafe and collaborative workspace format. "We are witnessing great traction around Social and, therefore, we are scaling up this model. We will have 150 outlets of Social across the country by 2024," he said.

The food company recently launched Ishaara, an exclusive brand of restaurants manned by the speech and hearing impaired. The first store has come up in Mumbai, while more Ishaara outlets are on the cards.

A team of 28 people is required for each Ishaara outlet. "Speech and hearing impaired people are very



Riyaz Amlani

special in many ways. They are more attentive, focussed and come with a natural smile, a critical prerequisite for hospitality," Mr. Amlani added. Other Impresario brands that are going for expansion include: Smoke House Deli, Salt Water Café, Mocha, Slink & Bardot, Flea Bazar Cafe and Prithvi Cafe.

According to Mr. Amlani, Impresario is looking at opening 35 outlets of Flea Bazar Cafes. Bengaluru alone will have four of them. These are curated food courts that serve local, authentic cuisine such as Naga, Chettinadu, Andhra or Mangalore. Impresario is currently in the process of creating a bunch of home delivery brands to compete with existing players such as Swiggy, Zomato, Uber Eats, Foodpanda, FreshMenu, JustEat, Faaso's etc.

"There's also something called the late-entry advantage. If our customers are reaching us at our outlets, we should also reach them in their homes. We are planning exclusive home delivery brands for South Indian, North Indian, Chinese, European and ethnic-food specialties," Mr. Amlani added.

Impresario has a revenue mandate of ₹1,000 crore by 2024.

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

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Does your organisation have a 'preparedness' philosophy?

Corporates that are good at crisis management are always those that have a response planned much before disaster strikes

LIFFY THOMAS

In Chennai, water scarcity has led some software companies operating from the city's IT Corridor – better known as Old Mahablipuram Road (OMR) – to ask a sizeable number of their employees to work from home, to deal with the crisis.

Amidst stories of such measures being taken to deal with the problem, there is a technology park that is reaping the benefits of an investment in a water management system that it made a year ago.

On Chennai's IT Corridor, RMZ Millenia Business Park with 26 companies and over 20,000 employees took the help of a consultant, Green Environment India, to implement an IoT-based real-time water management system.

"This pilot project has been hugely successful and has helped us save water by 40%, there-

by enabling us to maintain and double the stocks," says Jiji Thomas, associate director, RMZ Corp.

The water saving they achieve is made possible by real-time alerts to check leaks and warning on abnormality in consumption. The system also warns of any deterioration in water quality and helps optimise the function of STP plants. From early March this year, the IT park started an



aggressive campaign, asking its tenants, which include IT and automobile companies, to reduce consumption.

"We would measure consumption by making an inspection, tower-wise, and would let each stakeholder know how much of water consumption should reduce, and ensured agreement on targets," says Thomas.

As part of the on-going campaign, daily updates are sent to

the tenants and employees on how much water has been consumed and how much, saved. Microsoft's Hyderabad campus is also characterised by water-preparedness. It has a slew of water-conservation initiatives in place, which include sensor-based taps, aerators for taps, and back-up water for contingency. An automated Centrifuge System treats 20,000 litres of waste water in an hour.

Corporates that promote a philosophy of preparedness at their offices are always better equipped to deal with such crises. Challenges can come in different forms. And so, the preparation has to be many-faceted. During the Kerala floods, corporates that were able to muster employees for relief work were useful. During the traffic nightmare that Gurgaon witnessed in 2016, actions by some organisations demonstrated the need for preparedness and having a disaster management strategy well in place.

ManipalCigna Health Insurance has a 'Rain Advisory Committee' comprising em-

ployees from different functions and locations. This was formed after the Andheri bridge collapsed due to the heavy rains that hit Mumbai in July 2018. The Committee monitors weather, forewarn employees about inclement weather conditions, and offer recommendations to the senior management on what steps should be taken.

During the Kerala floods, ACC Cement, in addition to donating funds, had employee volunteers from its offices in Kochi, Bengaluru and other cities working to provide ground assistance.

"Employees are the most important voices during a crisis," says Aditya Narayan Mishra, CEO, CIEL HR Services. He says an organisation has to be proactive in taking the right steps and also in communicating the situation to the workforce. Employees can be the single biggest determinant in how fast and how well an organisation responds to a crisis, and recovers from it. "And, during a crisis, communication that comes from the top management is always more trusted and credible," says Mishra.

Learn about job trends in supply chain management

A van that is travelling across India offers information about opportunities in the field



PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Safeduate, a training, skilling and consulting firm that specialises in supply-chain management and logistics, has launched a 'Car-O-Job' campaign, which has a van travelling across India.

The campaign is aimed at educating the youth, especially those in the 20 to 26 age group, about jobs in supply chain management and logistics.

Equipped with high-tech virtual reality (VR)

technology, the van will have stops at Agra, Chennai, Delhi, Indore, Jaipur, Kochi, Lucknow, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Pune, Ranchi, Bhopal, Raipur and Coimbatore.

Wherever this van stops, students can browse 'Safe Job portal', the in-house job portal of the company, to find relevant job opportunities and get experience of warehouse operations, through VR technology, said a release. For details, visit www.safeduate.com

TalentSprint to remove paywall on job preparation programmes

TalentSprint is making its online job preparation programmes free for all job-seekers from July 1. Earlier, its online job preparation programmes, which include 6000 videos, 2000 ebooks and 1,50,000 prac-

tice questions, came with a price tag.

According to a press release from TalentSprint, from July 1 all premium content would be offered free through its YouTube channels. All its videos, ebooks

and practice questions will be made available in a structured and phased manner.

TalentSprint's faculty will conduct periodic live classes on these channels to keep its audience informed about upcoming exams, prepara-

tion strategies, and latest question patterns, added the release.

The YouTube channels are titled TalentSprint Aptitude Prep and TalentSprint Coding Prep.

GENERAL

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GENERAL

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Recruitment for the Post of Registrar, Deputy Registrar, Executive Engineer and Senior Scientific Officer

Applications are invited from the eligible Indian Nationals for the post of Registrar (01), Deputy Registrar (01), Executive Engineer (01) and Senior Scientific Officer (02). For further details, please visit the Institute website <http://www.nith.ac.in>. The last date for submission of application is 31st July, 2019 upto 05:30 P.M. Sd/-
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WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR THE POST OF SECURITY SCREENER ON FIXED TERM CONTRACT BASIS

Walk-in-interview for the post of Security Screener on Fixed Term Contract Basis is scheduled to be held at Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Calicut and Chennai Airport as per the following schedule.

Station	Date & Time	Venue
Kolkata	28.06.2019 10.00 AM	AAI Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited, Cargo Complex, 2 nd Floor, Near Airport Gate No. 3, NSCB Airport, Kolkata-700052
Ahmedabad	30.06.2019 10.00 AM	ATS Training Cell, Gr. Floor, Terminal-4, SVPI Airport, Ahmedabad-380003
Calicut	05.07.2019 10.00 AM	Nalanda (Training Hall), Administrative Office, Airports Authority of India, Calicut Airport, Calicut-673647
Chennai	07.07.2019 10.00 AM	AAI Cargo Logistics and Allied Services Company Limited, Integrated Air Cargo Complex, Meenabakkam, Chennai Airport, Chennai 600027

For further details regarding salary structure, qualification, age, date & venue, selection process etc. candidates may see the detailed advertisement on AAI/CLAS website www.aai/cls-ecom.org under 'CAREER' section. N-13/2019-20

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MS/MD/DMB, or membership of the royal colleges with 3 years of experience after registration (Pathology, Dermatology, Orthopedist, ENT, Radiology, Anaesthesia, Gynecology, Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, Internal Medicine, General Surgeon, Family Medicine, Emergency Medicine)
Salary Range (Per Month in INR)
INR 6,00,000 + 2 Bed Room Apartment
- Super Specialists/ Consultant**
DM/MS/ABMS/GFPC/CCST/CCCT with registration (Endocrinology, Urology, Gastroenterology, Rheumatology, Neonatology, Cardiology, Neurology, Neuro Surgery, Critical Care Medicine, Nephrology, Emergency Medicine, Retina, Oculoplasty, Pediatric Ophthalmologist & Plastic Surgery)
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Staff Nurses - BSC with three years of experience (Labour room, NICU, Operation Theatre, Dental, Endoscopy and Emergency Department)
Salary Range (Per Month in INR)
INR 75,000 - 1,00,000
- Technicians**
Perfusionist, EEG/ Neuro Technicians, Audiologists, Cat/Tab/ Cardiovascular Technicians - with three years of experience
Salary Range (Per Month in INR)
INR 90,000 - 2,00,000
Endoscopy Technician, Anesthesia/ OT Technicians, CSSD Technicians with CBSPD/ IAHC(SMM), Dietitian, Optometrist, Radiographers (ESWL), Sonography(MRI) - with three years of experience
Salary Range (Per Month in INR)
INR 75,000 - 1,50,000
- Others**
Housekeeping Supervisors (Bachelor Degree in Hotel Management with Hospital or Hotel experience), Medical Records Technicians (MSc/ BSc.)
Salary Range (Per Month in INR)
INR 50,000 - 1,00,000

Please Apply : hrabudhabi@gmail.com



Design talk
(Clockwise from extreme left) The stained glass elephant at the Masti in Dubai; photo of the Royal Enfield showroom in Saket; Asha Sairam and Pankhuri Goel
• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Branded in India

Two Delhi-based designers who recently won at the *Perspective* 40 Under 40 Awards in Hong Kong, talk about why India is uniquely positioned to provide interior design solutions globally



VANGMAYI PARAKALA

Last month, *Perspective*, the architecture and design magazine honoured two Delhi-based design principals in its 13th annual 40-under-40 awards. Pankhuri Goel, 35, and Asha Sairam, 31, from Studio Lotus, won in the interior design category at the awards that recognise talent from Asia. Over their decade with Lotus, their career trajectories have seen a gradual rise: Asha started as an intern while studying communication design at the National Institute of Fashion Technology; Pankhuri was a junior principal, three years after graduating with a degree in exhibition design from the National Institute of Design.

Back from Hong Kong, the duo talks about how India is well-placed to cater to interior design globally, and how their experience with Lotus has shaped their unique way of working with client briefs.

Edited excerpts.

Has either of you built a niche in the interior design space?

Pankhuri: That's something we've consciously not done. It just so happened that I've done more retail and adaptive reuse, and Asha has done F&B and hospitality. We tried to create that distinction at some point, but what's really exciting for us, and the teams that work with us, is the fact that we're constantly doing something new.

What's new about your approach as designers?

Pankhuri: What we try to do is really engage, question, and poke holes in the client's brief. We find that doing that produces results far richer than what we create on our own with their concept note.

You've both dealt with big brands, in terms of name and scale. Were you able to keep this up with them too?

Pankhuri: We've been lucky with clients who are deeply involved. I've been working with Royal Enfield for 6-7 years now, but it started when they were going through a complete overhaul in branding.

They wanted a deeper connect with the youth, so they came to us for more than just a design of their retail space. They wanted us to be partners through the branding change, which manifested in their flagship store (in Saket).

The story that we came up with was that this isn't about just the motorcycle, but the experience of motorcycling. It was a little shift but we created a whole story of a man so passionate about motorcycles and motorcycling that he starts living in his garage. Everything we did in the retail experience, was governed by this story: what is the kind of furniture he will have in his garage, what are the artworks he'd have up?

Royal Enfield has now rolled out some 500 odd stores with the same retail identity across the world, as they're expanding.

I think these projects become rich because of the stories we manage to tell. Currently, we're doing a campus for Royal Enfield in Chennai. The architecture, the interiors, everything.

Asha, you've remotely designed for Masti in Dubai, from Delhi. How were you able to transfer the 'Indian' identity?

Asha: Masti was one of our first international projects. [After a lot of thought] we took the most obvious Indian metaphors celebrated it. Like a stained-glass elephant at the bar. What we realised is that in the West, when you're doing restaurants, you'd choose furniture from catalogues of brands that already exist. But doing it from India, Masti became a great opportunity to collaborate with many people. Like, we roped in Ayush Kasliwal, a designer in Jaipur who works with craftsmen, so he made all the decorative lights here.

Pankhuri: Now, in most of the international projects, we actually manufacture most things here and ship them.

Will the work you saw at the *Perspective* Awards influence your practice going forward?

Pankhuri: I personally wasn't very overwhelmed by what we saw



there. I think what we do would be at par, and in some ways probably richer due to the access to craft in India. But also people are experimenting a lot. At Lotus, we're always saying things should be timeless, so I think that's something that changed for me. The F&B space is so fast-moving that you can do something really experimental.

Also, being in Hong Kong city – there's so much happening in the area of adaptive reuse, because it's such a congested city. They're trying to use every structure and create a new purpose for it. In India, we just let things lie as they are instead of just using spaces. That I think, was the big learning.

What would like to see more now from the design industry in India?

Asha: More soul, more stories, more craft, more narratives. Specifically the F&B market in India is so under-evolved. Can a restaurant be other things? You can't keep slotting into one purpose spaces any more, because people no longer use spaces in that way. The idea is to question how we can expand the definition a space and its use.

Pankhuri: And only then do you actually influence people and lifestyles. That's what our game is really about.

PEOPLE

Smile, with this Delhi band

Basking in the glowing reviews for their latest album, Play it by Ear is performing live



The first few chords of *Smile*, and the vocals that follow, transport you to a time when music was defined by melody. You wait as the song unfolds, and what comes after the tempo picks up is an easy-on-the-ear composition. It's the fourth song on *Press Play*, Delhi-based band Play It By Ear's second album, released online (iTunes, Saavn, and Amazon) a couple of months ago.

The band has four members in its current form – Martin Chauhan, 36, on lead vocals and rhythm guitar; Samir Krishnamurti, 35, on lead guitar and harmonica; Tushar Pandey, 33, on bass; and Sarthak Bhayana, 25, on the drums. But when they started off in 2014, Play It By Ear was an acoustic duo with only Martin and Samir. They went professional after winning the Songdev Renault Free Music Award in 2015. Tushar and Sarthak joined soon after.

Their music is a style of acoustic-driven rock, blending heart-warming riffs with introspective lyrics. This has received critical acclaim. In 2016, for instance, *Everyone* and *Waiting on the Sky*, two songs from their earlier 10-track album, Flicker Flicker Flash, won a contest organised by the famed Abbey Road Studio in London. Their reward was a re-mastering deal for the two numbers.

While most of their listeners are online, they find that a few places in Delhi too promote their kind of music. "Piano Man genuinely encourages original music," Martin says. The band played to an encore here, a few weeks ago.

Martin's forever favourites are '50s and '60s folk-rock duo Simon and Garfunkel, Samir is inspired by the indie music wave of the 1990s and 2000s. The two are self-taught musicians, while Tushar has trained in Hindustani classical music since he was six, transitioning into playing grunge only in college. Sarthak, on the other hand, is a Trinity College London graduate, who studied rock and is now exploring jazz. Collectively though, the band's interests span Sufi, metal, indie rock, grunge, and blues.

"We like to improvise and play around with musical styles. So when we play, we play by the ear," says Samir. And so, their name. "It is an eclectic mix. Although our listening styles are different, all of us want to make original music. That keeps us together," says Martin.

Watch them live on June 27th, at the Piano Man, 32nd Milestone, Gurugram; 8:30 p.m. onwards

SYEDA FARIDA

PLACES

Aboard platform 9^{3/4}



The recently opened Hogwarts Kafe in Ashok Vihar tries to teleport us right to J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter universe. Even at the entrance, the café brings the 'chamber of secrets' to life, with the main door modeled so. The décor of the café has a Sorting Hat, wizard's broomsticks, the Hogwarts school robe and cloak, and also dementors, the prison guards from Azkaban, in various corners. On the café's walls are printed pictures from the Harry Potter movies, and the area is divided into the four houses of Slytherin, Hufflepuff, Gryffindor, and Ravenclaw. As for the food, there's spider web nachos, snitch ball keema, and more – all reminiscent of the many elements from the school of witchcraft and wizardry. For a true Potterfan, the cold butterbeer (non-alcoholic), is highly recommended especially given this 40° heat.

Price for two, ₹ 1,000; Closest metro station: Rohini West

SONAKSHI GOEL

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

FOOD REVIEW

Summer nibbles and hydration, at La Latina, the latest restaurant serving elevated Spanish tapas in a vibrant space

SANGRIA EVENINGS

NAVAL SATARAWALA CHOPRA

As soon as you walk up the white-washed staircase of La Latina, you are transported to one of Barcelona's many the chic cafes.

The vibe: Cool throughout, be it the central community table with a DJ station, or the tapas bar seating in a corner. There is also balcony seating for those who cannot do without nicotine. Most importantly, chefs Rishi Bhardwaj and Stephane back up their surroundings with the best tapas in Delhi, with options for both vegetarians and non.

Do try: You see it in the movies – a table full of small plates, different

colours, different flavours. This was my table at La Latina. It was a remarkable feat given the length of their menu, for the flavours not to overlap.

The mushroom croquettes, which were crisp and crumbly on the outside, and packed with umami goodness on the inside. The charcuterie platter was abundant – I loved the smoked duck breast in particular, which is unusual on such a platter. The citrus, raw and cooked salad was carefully put together and had everything your taste buds would want – fresh, crunchy, flavourful. The marinated anchovies are a must. The gazpacho, something I

wouldn't ordinarily order, was excellent – came as a sorbet, great seasoning.

The octopus, difficult to pull off, with aioli and smoked paprika was spectacular. The pork on the menu, both in belly and rib form, was finger-lickin'. The king prawns in olive oil, and with a black-garlic miso could be eaten by the truck loads. The asparagus served Spanish style with ajo blanco (cold garlic, almond and grape sauce) came with a surprising mango yolk. When you are served the lamb chops with a creamy potato

mash, you dispense with cutlery, use your fingers, and dig in. That good.

The sweet miso tart was divine – a delicate melange of flavours and textures. The churros, the most recognized Spanish dessert, were a little chunkier than I like, but still very good. The chocolate soufflé with olive oil ice cream is set to be a Delhi crowd-pleaser.

Skip: There were only two disappointments, and given I ate here before they officially opened, I'm confident they will fix it. But, the patatas bravas, a staple at any tapas restaurant, was all wrong on

flavour, though right on crunch. The Serrano ham croquettes had very little ham.

Go with: As with all great Spanish tapas bars, go alone, go with family, go with friends! Kids allowed till 7 p.m.

Space bar: 50 covers, across 900 sq feet.

How much: ₹2,500 for two (excluding drinks).

Getting there: N11 GK-1 market. Best to use a ride sharing app as their sangrias and wines are hard to put down.

Opening this Friday, June 28th



Tapas in town Celadon Salad and Sweet Miso Tart with Drunken Cherries • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



CRICKET

World Cup live

This World Cup, cricket lovers can get a front row experience of watching the match live while enjoying Veg. Bhel Puri, Veg Nacho, Vegan Chilli Teriyaki (grills), Broccoli Zucchini Bell Pepper satay, Masala French Fries. Non veg options include Chicken Lollipop, Murgh Kasturi satay, Chicken wings and Jasper Pizza.

VENUE: NOI @The Chanakya, Chanakyaपुरी
TIME: 11 a.m - 1 a.m



FOOD

Coastal cuisine

Zambar brings a new menu inspired by the food of rich South India. Relish Andhra Fish Curry and Nadan Curry. The dishes can be best enjoyed with lemon, tomato and coconut flavoured rice, biryani and flaky Malabar Parotta. Kids can try dishes named after Tom & Jerry, Chota Bheem.

VENUE: Zambar, 3rd Floor, Ambience Mall, Gurugram
TIME: 12 noon-11.30 p.m.



MUSIC

R D Burman tribute night

Vocalist, composer, and keyboard player Vinayak Gupta will do a live rendition of Burman's iconic songs. Having a versatile musical background, Vinayak has performed in venues across Switzerland, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Macau, Bali and has had two successful US tours.

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



F&B

Dishes with a twist

Inferno is offering a special 99 menu which is a modern take on food, drinks, and music. Apart from a wide array of dishes like the Palak Patta Chat, Bulgarian Cheese Sticks, Biryani Arancini Balls, Chicken 65, and Herb Crusted Chicken, visitors can try cocktails like the Classic Cosmopolitan and Whiskey Sour.

VENUE: Plot 6 and 7, Sector 29 Gurgaon,
TIME: 12 noon - 12 a.m.



BEVERAGES

Summer cocktail fiesta

To keep summer blues at bay, Pier 38, an Indo Arabic Kitchen & Cocktail Bar, is offering innovative cocktails like Tippy Watermelon, Coco Bae, Hawana Dreams, Blushing Lady. Presented in shells of fresh fruits like watermelon, pineapple and coconut, these drinks have been prepared to make visitors feel refreshed.

VENUE: Cyber Hub, DLF Cyber City, Gurugram
TIME: 12 noon - 12 a.m.

'Stories of the human spirit connect with me'

In a quick interview, Bollywood actor Deepika Padukone reveals why she prefers to do films that speak to her



Beauty on the inside
Deepika Padukone at Cannes' red carpet; (right) in the first look of *Chhapaak*
• GETTY IMAGES AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



PRADEEP KUMAR

A race against time. It is ironic that this metaphor should describe my conversation with Bollywood actor Deepika Padukone, considering that the Swiss watchmaker Tissot, for whom the actor is a brand ambassador, has set it up. As I walk up to greet her, I could imagine a virtual stopwatch counting down the precious seconds spent not conversing, but Deepika, 33, smiles, and assures that we'll have a "more detailed conversation" another time.

The actor, who is married to Bollywood star Ranveer Singh, has not had a starring role in an Indian film since *Padmaavat* (which featured the couple) in January 2018. The dry run is likely to continue through

2019, as Deepika's next film *Chhapaak* (which refers to a splashing sound in Hindi), inspired from the real life story of acid attack survivor Laxmi Agarwal, is only scheduled for release on January 10, 2020.

The X factor

Ask her about playing the role of Malti in *Chhapaak*, and Deepika prefers to play coy. She says, "It is obviously a story of the human spirit, and that is what drew me to the film. There are lots of inspiring stories that one experiences or comes across - in human interactions or in the form of scripts. Sometimes, some of these stories speak to you slightly more than the others. [*Chhapaak*] was that for me," she says, adding that Meghna Gulzar, the film's director, had

to narrate only a "couple of scenes" to her before she felt an "instant sort of connect" with the story.

But for Meghna, *Chhapaak* wouldn't have happened for the actor. "I was not in the head space, honestly, at that point to do a film like *Chhapaak*. I was looking for a love story but I still gave it a shot, and she (Meghna) came and narrated it. I surprised myself, and I actually ended up doing something completely different," adds Deepika.

A few days ago, the actor took to Instagram to announce that filming for *Chhapaak*, which she is also producing, was complete. "It has been a very involved process. Because when you're an actor and a producer, I think you're a little more invested and involved

creatively. You feel that you're contributing a lot more to the film beyond just being an actor. I hope January [2020] comes soon," she says.

She is also part of 83, the Kabir Khan film about Kapil's Devils, the moniker given to the victorious 1983 cricket world cup winning Indian team.

Deepika, who is set to play the role of Romi Bhatia, wife to Dev's character played by Ranveer Singh, is also one co-producing the film. "Again it was the human spirit that drew me to the film. It's a story of human triumph, and of grit and determination," says Deepika.

She adds that she would apply the same metric to choose a project for digital streaming platforms, if one were to come her way. "It is about where I am in life at that point, both crea-

tively and emotionally," she says.

Voice of the voiceless

In 2015, Deepika chose to open up about her battle against depression, and has since then gone on to found The Live Love Laugh Foundation (TLLLF). Its primary work concerns the state of Karnataka with the focus on confronting the stigma surrounding mental health issues, and to spread awareness on the same.

Ask her how best to take the cause to rural India, where misinterpretation of mental health problems is still commonplace, she says, "Contrary to popular belief, rural India is way more open to the idea of seeking help, at least, from our experience. They are way more open to having a conversation

on the importance of mental health than what we've seen in urban India."

The actor believes that funding is what that has been lacking in this fight. "The minute you see money coming in... automatically you have doctors, psychiatrists and counsellors going into these [rural] areas

on a weekly basis, and meeting people for follow-up sessions." And that's the area where TLLLF is supporting Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA), who are already engaged in this line of work. "The foundation has been clear on one thing. It is that we do a little, but impactful work," the actor says, adding that they're looking to expand their rural outreach programme in Karnataka.

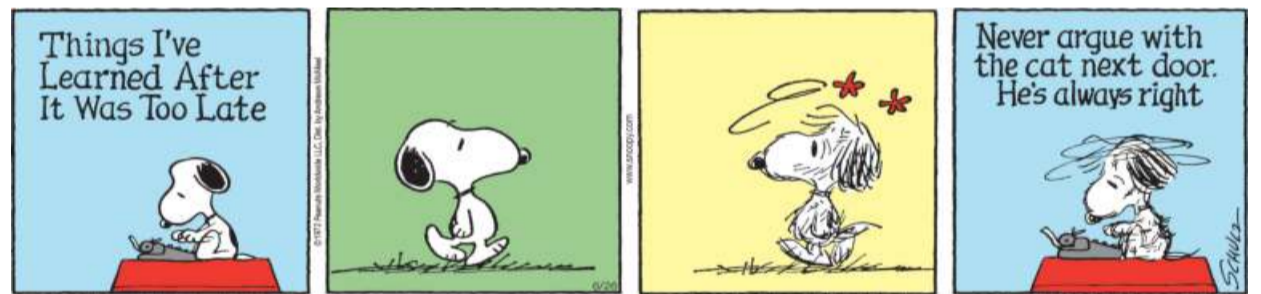
At this point, I'm reminded that my time has run out. But I find a nano-second to squeeze in another question. Will we see Deepika Padukone in a south Indian film anytime soon? And she goes, "Sure!", only to be dealt with a follow up query - when? "Whenever," she smiles, and bids goodbye.

A LONG INNINGS
Former Indian cricket team captain Kapil Dev was also associated with English county clubs: Worcestershire in 1983-84 and Northamptonshire in 1981-83.

POOCH CAFE



PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



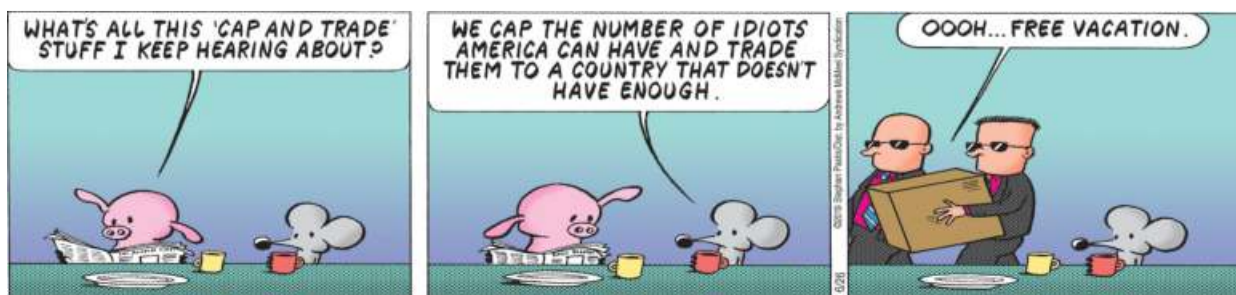
TIGER



WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



GRAFFITI
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IF YOU MAKE YOUR BED I AM YOU HAVE TO LIE IN IT

HEALTH CAPSULES
by Bronn Smith

WHAT DOG BREED IS MOST LIKELY TO BITE?

I WOULDN'T HURT A FLY!

NO SURPRISE HERE! AN OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE STUDY REVEALED THAT PIT BULL TERRIERS ARE THE MOST LIKELY BREED OF DOG TO BITE A HUMAN. SECOND: MIXED BREED DOGS. 4.7 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE U.S. ARE BITTEN BY DOGS EVERY YEAR, 20% REQUIRING MEDICAL CARE.

THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13106

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- 6 Musical speed (5)
- 7 One employed to do odd jobs (8)
- 8 Percussion instrument (12)
- 12 Boldness (8)
- 15 Arrears of work (7)
- 16 Follow secretly (6)
- 18 Drunkard (5)
- 19 (Of sparkling wine) extremely dry (4)

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Solution will appear in *The Hindu* dated June 27, 2019.

Solution No. 13105

- Across
- 1 Immense (8)
- 5 Restless desire (4)
- 9 Zirconium, for example (5)
- 10 Wise king of Israel (7)
- 11 Good enough (12)
- 13 Maintenance (6)
- 14 Desert-dwelling rodent (6)
- 17 Science of the properties of celestial bodies (12)
- 20 Hampered (7)
- 21 One who loafs about (5)
- 22 Tale (4)
- 23 Gloaming (8)
- Down
- 1 Deciduous trees (4)
- 2 Proceeding as

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An epochal day remembered as the Windies clash beckons India

Rain hampers scheduled practice, but the forecast is promising ahead of Kohli's men's next assignment on Thursday



K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR
MANCHESTER

A historical day, steeped in awe and nostalgia, dawned to the accompaniment of rain at Manchester. Kapil Dev holding aloft the Prudential World Cup on June 25, 36 years ago at Lord's, has shimmered forever in the collective memory of all Indians. The remembrance gives a huge fillip to the good old days of a generation that grew up in the 1980s.

But there was nothing heartening from a sporting point of view here on Tuesday. The constant drizzle moistured red-bricked walls, tiled roofs, swaying trees, hurriedly opened umbrellas and, wretchedly for cricket, the turf at Old Trafford with its covered pitch, lush-green outfield and five pigeons looking for worms.

Optional indoor nets

Understandably, the Indian team cancelled its scheduled practice stint and instead opted for a round of optional nets at the indoor facility with its massive black and white picture of Wasim Ak-



Eye for perfection: Virat Kohli displayed twinkle-toes and finesse during an indoor nets session at Old Trafford on Tuesday. • AP

ram, who played for home county Lancashire, near the entrance. The Pakistani great is snapped up side-on in his final delivery stride, about to unleash aesthetic violence with the red cherry.

Virat Kohli, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Ravindra Jadeja and Vijay Shankar turned up and, among the support staff, Ravi

Shastri kept a sharp eye. The coach is the lone link that the Men in Blue have with Kapil's Devils. Shastri was part of the 1983 squad and played in five games. Incidentally, he featured in the preliminary clash against the West Indies here at Old Trafford. His left-arm spin garnered three wickets and that, with a simi-

lar effort from seamer Roger Binny, helped India stun the defending champion by 34 runs.

In the thick of things

Since then, the Mumbaier evolved over many summers, donned various roles, most of them linked to com-

mentary, and finally occupied the coach's chair.

Older and with a broader midriff and slower gait, Shastri remains very much in the thick of things. His gaze was on Kohli as the Indian captain had an extended hit in the three nets – two bowling machines and one for



Ravi Shastri, with his 1983 World Cup medal. • ALL SPORT

throw-downs.

Shastri observed Kohli's shoulder-alignment while the batsman unfurled a volley of strokes. A straight drive, issued like a gun-shot, had everyone scrambling and yelling 'watch it'. Later, sweeps, paddle and conventional, were finessed and Kohli displayed twinkle-toes too while essaying lofted shots.

Interestingly, Bhuvneshwar, who is recovering from a hamstring strain, bowled briefly. The medium-pacer had missed last Saturday's game against Afghanistan at Southampton, and is on the



England has reached the finals thrice but has never won an ODI World Cup.

road to recovery. The selectors, including chairman M.S.K. Prasad, Gagan Khoda and Jatin Paranjpe were present. Paranjpe manned the bowling machine when Jadeja kept hoisting with abandon, one such effort cannoned into the roof's mesh and forced the scribes, watching from their balcony tier, to instinctively duck.

slammed tennis balls at the batsman's head. The all-rounder either swayed or pulled with panache. As the session concluded, Bangar's son Aryan wheeled in his left-arm spin and bowling coach Bharat Arun offered tips.

Good news

Meanwhile, the wet weather outside was the kind that made the heart yearn for hot chocolate. Thankfully, there is some good news as the forecast for Thursday, when India takes on the West Indies, is sunny.

Much water has flowed down the Thames since Kapil's men defeated the mighty West Indies in an unforgettable final and, as India progresses in the World Cup's latest edition, form and fortunes have changed over the last three decades.

Kohli's men remain on the ascendant while the West Indies desperately needs a win to nourish its fragile hopes of staying alive in the championship. Time flies, things change.



Aggressive intent seemed to be the morning's theme as Shankar worked on his pull and hook while batting close and with a racquet

Finch, Behrendorff-Starc duo put Australia in semifinals

After the skipper's century propels the side to 285, the left-armers shoot out England for 221

SHAYAN ACHARYA
LONDON

England's hopes of making it to the World Cup semifinals received a jolt as it suffered a 64-run loss to Australia at Lord's on Tuesday.

Left-arm seamer Jason Behrendorff claimed five for 44 and Mitchell Starc four for 43 as the host lost the plot while chasing Australia's 285 for seven and was bundled out for 221.

Put in to bat, Aaron Finch's captain's knock of 100 off 116 deliveries – his second century of the tournament – to guide Australia to a competitive total.

In reply, England was reeling at 53 for four at one stage after its top-order failed to fire.

Though Ben Stokes (89) and Jos Buttler (25) forged a 71-run stand for the fifth wicket, the equation changed once Marcus Stoinis sent back the latter.

Stokes then built a 53-run alliance with Chris Woakes (26) before being castled by Mitchell Starc. After his exit, England's hopes died.

Earlier, on a cloudy morning, the Aussies got off to a solid start with Finch and David Warner (53) forging a 123-run opening partnership – their fifth 50-plus association in a row.

Moeen strikes

However, England applied the brakes through Moeen Ali who got Warner for 53. Skipper Finch, who



In the zone: Finch found his range yet again. • AFP



Yorked! Stokes is done in by a Starc special.

• DAVID ROGERS/GETTY IMAGES

earned a reprieve on 15, went on to score his 15th ODI century off just 115 balls.

But he was dismissed by Jofra Archer off the next ball,

hitting straight to long-leg.

It was left to wicketkeeper Alex Carey, who smashed 38 off 27 balls, to take the defending champion to 285.

THE FACE-OFF					
New Zealand vs Pakistan					
EDGBASTON					
HEAD-TO-HEAD					
	WILLIAMSON	SARFARAZ			
	MATCHES	NZ	PAK	TIED	NR
Overall	106	48	54	1	3
World Cup	8	2	6	0	0

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1, 2 (SD & HD), 3 P.M.

Where they stand

Team	Mat	Won	Lost	NR	PTS	NRR
Australia	7	6	1	0	12	0.906
New Zealand	6	5	0	1	11	1.306
India	5	4	0	1	9	0.809
England	7	4	3	0	8	1.051
Bangladesh	7	3	3	1	7	-0.133
Sri Lanka	6	2	2	2	6	-1.119
Pakistan	6	2	3	1	5	-1.265
West Indies	6	1	4	1	3	0.190
South Africa (E)	7	1	5	1	3	-0.324
Afghanistan (E)	7	0	7	0	0	-1.634

*till the England-Australia match on June 25; E: Eliminated

STAT SPHERE

1 Behrendorff returned a career-best 5/44 as he combined with Starc (4/43) to become the first left-arm pace opening pair to share nine wickets in an ODI

1 Finch is the first batsman to record two hundreds against England in the WC – he had scored 135 in Melbourne in 2015

4 The Warner-Finch duo is the fourth to notch up three century partnerships in a WC:

- Aravinda-Gurusinha (1996)
- Gilchrist-Hayden (2007)
- Dilshan-Sangakkara (2015)
- Warner-Finch (2019)

6 Stoinis' run out is Australia's sixth, the most for a side in this WC

15 Number of ODI centuries for Finch, the fourth quickest to achieve the feat

- 86: Amla
- 106: Kohli
- 108: Dhawan & Warner

- 112: Finch
- 126: Root
- 143: Anwar

44 Australia's lowest score after the first PowerPlay (10 overs) so far. It has not lost a wicket in this period in six of the seven games

- 55/0 vs Afg, Bristol
- 48/4 vs WI, Nottingham
- 48/0 vs Ind, Oval
- 56/0 vs Pak, Taunton
- 53/0 vs SL, Oval
- 53/0 vs Ban, Nottingham
- 44/0 vs Eng, Lord's

England has lost three of the four games when chasing in this WC (vs Pak, SL & Aus) while it was successful against WI

Next assignment

AUSTRALIA: June 29 vs New Zealand, Lord's, 6 p.m.
ENGLAND: June 30 vs India, Edgbaston, 3 p.m.

SCOREBOARD AUSTRALIA VS ENGLAND

AUSTRALIA
Aaron Finch c Woakes b Archer 100 (116b, 11x4, 2x6), David Warner c Root b Moeen 53 (67b, 6x4), Usman Khawaja b Stokes 23 (29b, 1x4), Steve Smith c Archer b Woakes 38 (34b, 5x4), Glenn Maxwell c Buttler b Wood 12 (8b, 1x4, 1x6), Marcus Stoinis run out 8 (15b, 1x4), Alex Carey (not out) 38 (27b, 5x4), Pat Cummins c Buttler b Woakes 1 (4b), Mitchell Starc (not out) 4 (6b); Extras (lb-4, w-4): 8; Total (for seven wkts. in 50 overs): 285.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-123 (Warner, 22.4 overs), 2-173 (Khawaja, 32.2), 3-185 (Finch, 35.3), 4-213 (Maxwell, 38.2), 5-228 (Stoinis, 41.5), 6-

250 (Smith, 45.4), 7-259 (Cummins, 47.1).

ENGLAND BOWLING
Woakes 10-0-46-2, Archer 9-0-56-1, Wood 9-0-59-1, Stokes 6-0-29-1, Moeen 6-0-42-1, Rashid 10-0-49-0.

ENGLAND
James Vince b Behrendorff 0 (2b), Jonny Bairstow c Cummins b Behrendorff 27 (39b, 5x4), Joe Root lbw b Starc 8 (9b, 2x4), Eoin Morgan c Cummins b Starc 4 (7b, 1x4), Ben Stokes b Starc 89 (115b, 8x4, 2x6), Jos Buttler c Khawaja b Stoinis 25 (27b, 2x4), Chris Woakes c Finch b Behrendorff 26 (34b, 2x4), Moeen Ali c Carey b Behrendorff 6 (9b, 1x4), Adil Rashid c Stoinis b

Starc 25 (20b, 3x4, 1x6), Jofra Archer c Warner b Behrendorff 1 (4b), Mark Wood (not out) 1 (2b); Extras (b-1, lb-5, w-3): 9; Total (in 44.4 overs): 221.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-0 (Vince, 0.2), 2-15 (Root, 3.3), 3-26 (Morgan, 5.5), 4-53 (Bairstow, 13.5), 5-124 (Buttler, 27.2), 6-177 (Stokes, 36.6), 7-189 (Moeen, 39.3), 8-202 (Woakes, 41.3), 9-211 (Archer, 43.3).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING
Behrendorff 10-0-44-5, Starc 8.4-1-43-4, Cummins 8-1-41-0, Lyon 9-0-43-0, Stoinis 7-0-29-1, Maxwell 2-0-15-0.

Toss: England.
MoM: Finch.
Australia won by 64 runs.

Lara recovering after hospitalisation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Former West Indies captain Brian Lara was rushed to the Global Hospital in Parel on Tuesday noon after he complained of uneasiness and chest pain.

He is in the city as an expert commentator for Star Sports for the ICC World Cup.

While the hospital authorities refused to divulge any information, sources said that he underwent a series of medical investigations including an angiography.

He is being kept under the observation of cardiologist Dr. Praveen Kulkarni and may be discharged in a day or two.



Brian Lara. • AFP

"He is doing well. The tests reports have not shown anything worrisome", said a source.

A statement from the hospital said that the patient has clearly stated that he does not want his health condition made public.

According to sources, Lara was rushed to the hospital from a nearby hotel and the hotel's in-house doctor accompanied the legendary cricketer. Sources said that Lara was on leave as a commentator from June 24 to 27.

Exertion in gym

Later, Lara in an audio recording said he may have exerted himself a bit at the gym in the morning which led to a pain in the chest.

As the pain continued, he went to the hospital for some tests and added the doctors were happy with the results.

The West Indian great thanked all for the concern saying he would be back in his hotel 'tomorrow'.

Unforgettable moment: Patil

Nation remembers us every year on June 25, says Yashpal

'83 MEMORIES

VIJAY LOKAPALLY
HYDERABAD

Sandeep Patil does not remember his wife's birthday or his wedding anniversary. "True. But 25th June 1983 is a date which is part of my life. Unforgettable."

For Yashpal Sharma, too, it is a significant day. "The nation remembers us every year on June 25th. It is an invigorating feeling when we remember that historic moment."

Patil has many pleasant memories and anecdotes related to the World Cup triumph. Some told, some not.

"Watching the West Indian players make their way into the Indian dressing room is vivid. It was kind of them. I must say it was a scene none would have thought of. But it happened. What a formidable line-up it was and what a moment when all those great names came to our dressing room after the match got over," Patil recalled.

At the lunch break (matches were of 60 overs-a-side duration), Patil saw someone tapping his shoulder. "I turned to face Viv (Richards). He was praising me for my innings against England (in the semifinals). The West Indians were almost certain they were winning the final. Who would have known! I sat near the Lord's dressing room window soaking in the joy, watching the celebrations all over."



Pat from the PM: Indira Gandhi greets Yashpal after India's World Cup triumph. Patil is on the right. • THE HINDU ARCHIVES

On return, the team was felicitated by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at Hyderabad House. "Imagine being served by the Prime Minister... She broke protocol to receive us alone at the Gate and then, at the reception, she served each member personally. What a moment it was! I asked for Paani-Poori and she accompanied me to the stall serving the snacks," recalled Patil.

Abiding memory

For Yashpal, the abiding memory was the six he hit off Bob Willis in the semifinal at Manchester. "I was sitting in the stands (in 1979) when Richards hit Mike Hendricks for a similar six. It was on my mind and wanted to emulate that shot. I picked Willis' line

early. I was not even sure of playing but was pleasantly surprised to be picked ahead of Vengsarkar. I batted at different positions but was glad I could contribute."

Yashpal was India's second highest run-getter, with super knocks against West Indies in the opener and the semifinal.

"I have happy and some not so happy memories. Somehow I never got recognition from my captain (Kapil Dev)," Yashpal said.

Kapil's response to *The Hindu* was: "I have always talked of Balvinder Sandhu's ball to Gordon Greenidge, Kirti Azad's ball to Ian Botham, how can I not talk of Yashpal. His batting was the key and he was an important part of the win."

We owe it to storytellers, writers: Kapil

Presenter/sports anchor Nikhil Naz releases his book *Miracle Men*

'83 MEMORIES

RAKESH RAO NEW DELHI

For most people present in the banquet hall of a city hotel on Tuesday afternoon, it was nostalgia time. Precisely 36 years after lifting the Prudential Cup, Kapil Dev was among those sharing some anecdotes connected with India's first World Cup triumph.

The occasion was the release of the book *Miracle Men* written by presenter/sports anchor Nikhil Naz. The function was attended, among others, by former cricketers and sports journalists from print and electronic media.

The famous catch

Asked about the famous catch he took to dismiss Vivian Richards in the final, Kapil underplayed the effort and said, "That's what we were told to do by our coaches — when running back, try to take the catch sideways."

"During those days, the fielding drills were not like what you see today. Today, it



Nostalgia: Kapil Dev shares interesting anecdotes connected with India's first World Cup triumph during the book launch. ■R.V. MOORTHY

is far more intense and fielders are far more aware of what they need to do to get better."

Madan Lal, another key member of the victorious team, hailed Kapil's captain-

cy and denied having "snatched the ball from Kapil" to bowl the over that saw the dismissal of Richards.

"No one can snatch the ball away from a captain. Irrespective of seniority, Kapil was a quality all-rounder," said Madan Lal.

No comparison

The all-rounder described Kapil's catch and the epic knock of 175 against Zimbabwe as "without a parallel." He said, "comparisons are not always fair but Kapil's efforts remain beyond compare."

Naz touched upon the research behind the book and revealed, "While working on this book I discovered it was not true that the India-Zimbabwe match was not shown because BBC was on strike."

BBC gives it a miss

"The truth was, on that day (June 18) four matches were scheduled. The BBC chose to cover the England-Pakistan match and the one involving Australia and West Indies, thereby giving the other two matches — India-Zimbabwe

and New Zealand-Sri Lanka — a miss."

Kapil was quick to add, "I remember, no match was shown live that day. I think, two matches were recorded and showed later."

He praised Naz for putting it all together and expressed his admiration for storytellers, authors and writers, for bringing these stories to the next generation. "We sportspersons owe it to you"

Also present at the function was former India captain Bishan Singh Bedi, who was part of the selection committee that chose India's World Cup squad.

Bedi praised the cricketing acumen of selectors Kripal Singh and Hanumant Singh and acknowledged the immense contribution of Ambar Roy and Chandu Borde, the other two selectors.

"There was agreement on every member selected. We believed these boys could win. Each player gave his all and returned with the Cup that very few expected to come India's way," he concluded.

Cavani helps Uruguay top group

Meets Peru in quarterfinals; Japan and Ecuador eliminated



Firing it in: Edinson Cavani's perfectly-timed header against Chile gave Uruguay the bragging rights in Group C on Monday. ■REUTERS

COPA AMERICA

REUTERS RIO DE JANEIRO

A late header from Edinson Cavani gave Uruguay a 1-0 win over holder Chile on Monday which saw it snatch the top spot in Group C at its opponent's expense and set up a quarterfinal meeting with Peru.

The striker glanced Jonathan Rodriguez's cross into the net in the 82nd minute to break the deadlock in a finely balanced game played with a fierce competitive edge even though both teams had already sealed their place in the last eight.

Cavani had been sent off in Uruguay's 1-0 defeat to Chile in the 2015 quarterfinals and he and his team-

mates celebrated the goal as if it had just won them a trophy.

In Belo Horizonte, Japan and Ecuador were eliminated after their 1-1 draw gifted Paraguay a quarterfinal berth as one of the two best third-placed sides.

The results: Group C: Uruguay 1 (Cavani 82) bt Chile 0; Ecuador 1 (Mena 35) drew with Japan 1 (Nakajima 15).

India's recovery after the 2007 fiasco can be an inspiration



BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

Sport can be cruel. Yesterday's champions become today's no-hopers, top teams sink below the level required to remain competitive. Younger players and fans know only failures, older ones try to convince them of the power of the glory days.

Take a look at the World Cup table. The three teams at the bottom are Afghanistan, South Africa and the West Indies. South Africa were the No. 1 team not so long ago and West Indies twice World champions. Afghanistan, except against India, have looked somewhat out of their depth, leaving the romantics struggling to find inspiring things to say about them.

An oft-repeated story

Yet in recent years, Afghanistan's has been the story of cricket. A team put together in times of strife in the refugee camps of another country, whose 'home' turf is a third country. The story has been told many times, yet it still surprises commentators that someone like Mohammed Nabi looks so "cool and calm" in the face of "great pressure" as he did while nearly getting his team over the line.

A bit of perspective here. Nabi has been through worse than a yorker-rich over from Jasprit Bumrah. His father was kidnapped and held for ransom while his country was in turmoil.

At least one cricketer was killed by an American raid. Australian all-rounder Keith Miller put things in perspective

when he said, "Pressure? There's no pressure in cricket. Real pressure is when you are flying a Mosquito with a Messerschmitt up your a@#!" No doubt Nabi and his mates will have their own definition of 'pressure'. Cricket is unlikely to figure in it.

West Indies might have just squeezed into the World Cup with a five-run win over Scotland, aided by an umpiring decision because there was no DRS in the qualifying tournament.

But they have a team capable of playing with the big boys on level terms. Individual successes didn't mesh well enough to carry them forward, however. Had they done well, made it to the final, it would have revived the game back home that's been struggling in recent years against official corruption, diminishing pool of players, administrative apathy and the drawing power of other sports.

Both West Indies and South Africa lost key players through injury, but their decline recently has been the other story of cricket. Rebuilding can be a long and troubling process; after this performance, older players are likely to call it a day (Chris Gayle said before the tournament that this would be his last), and younger players will wonder if they can handle the transition.

It is a fate that Pakistan and Sri Lanka face too, although in their cases, there is still a mathematical chance that they could qualify. A slim one, though.

When the focus is on the big boys, there is a perverse delight to be had (besides the regular pleasure) when a less fancied team shows the world they can play the game too.

This year — and not for the first time in a World Cup — it has been Bangladesh's turn to cause fancied teams periods of worry. They may not make it to the semifinals; too many things have to fall into place before that can happen.

But they have displayed an energy and a never-say-die spirit that is the essence of all sport.

With some luck (and better catching) they could have added Australia to their list of scalps, along with South Africa and West Indies. David Warner, dropped on 10 went on to make 166, and Bangladesh's reply of 333 (chasing 381) moved the match into the realm of the might-have-beens. In Shakib Al Hasan, seemingly at his peak at the age of 32, Bangladesh have the potential player of the tournament, an all-rounder who has been carrying the team on his shoulders. Shakib's centuries against England and West Indies were followed by a five-wicket haul against Afghanistan; performances that haven't really got their due. Only Kapil Dev and Yuvaraj in the years that India won have done this double before.

Slower wickets, fewer runs

Bangladesh have two matches left, against India and Pakistan, and although they beat India in the 2007 World Cup and Pakistan in 1999, the odds are not in their favour. But Afghanistan's performance against India would have given them cause for cheer. Slower wickets have ensured fewer runs and thus closer matches that have favoured the lesser teams.

The bottom three can take heart from India's recovery after their disastrous performance in 2007. India bowed out of that World Cup in some disarray, having failed to qualify for the knockout.

The picture of the senior players with shocked expressions, some of them weeping openly, made an impact on a disappointed nation. Yet in four years' time the team had been rebuilt and did well enough to win the World Cup. Sometimes defeat can force changes that lead to victory.

Italy's dream return continues

Beats China to make the quarters for first time since 1991



Opening salvo: Valentina Giacinti, No. 19, scores Italy's first goal with the Chinese goalkeeper out of position. ■REUTERS

WOMEN'S WC

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE MONTPELLIER

Italy reached the women's World Cup quarterfinals for the first time in nearly three decades after beating China 2-0 in Montpellier on Tuesday.

A 15th-minute tap in from Valentina Giacinti and substitute Aurora Galli's fierce drive three minutes after the break saw Milena Bertolini's side see off a committed Chinese side and match its best run in the competition back in 1991.

The Italians will on Saturday aim for a shot at their first ever appearance in the last four.

"It's a great result after a difficult match. Today wasn't a display of beautiful football

but the girls gave everything and we were clinical," said Bertolini to TV station Rai. "To reach the quarterfinals is hugely satisfying."

Fancying its chances

Italy will fancy its chances after a dream-like run in France that saw it win Tuesday's last 16 clash after topping a group containing Marta's Brazil and pre-tournament dark horse Australia.

Giacinti started the move that gave Italy the lead after already having one effort ruled out for offside, feeding Barbara Bonansea on the edge of the box before the Juventus attacker slipped in Elisa Bartoli.

Roma defender Bartoli's low effort was eventually tapped by Giacinti following Peng Shimeng's smart save

and indecision from the Chinese defence.

The Italians had chances to extend their lead through Giacinti and her AC Milan teammate Valentina Bergamaschi, who forced a superb save from Peng, but China pinned them back as the half wore on.

Drilled low shot

However Italy effectively sealed its semifinal spot almost immediately after the restart through Galli, who collected Alia Guagni's pass and composed herself before drilling a low shot past Peng.

The results: Pre-quarterfinals: Italy 2 (Giacinti 15, Galli 49) bt China 0.

Spain 1 (Hermoso 9) lost to USA 2 (Rapinoe 7-pen, 75-pen); Sweden 1 (Blackstenius 55) bt Canada 0.

Sonogo beats Prajnesh

Antalya, Turkey: Pre-quarterfinals: Lorenzo Sonogo (Ita) bt Prajnesh Gunneswaran 6-7(3), 6-0, 7-5.

\$15,000 ITF men, Harare: First round: Ishaque Eqbal bt Ethan Denzel Sibanda (Zim) 6-2, 6-2; Dhruv Sunish bt Aryan Goveas 6-7(4), 7-5, 7-5; Michael-John Every (Cuw) bt Yash Yadav 6-1, 6-2.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Guy Orly Iradukunda (Bdi) & Aryan Goveas bt Lucas Catarina (Mon) & Mehluli Don Ayanda Sibanda (Zim) 6-4, 6-4.

\$25,000 ITF women, Naiman, China: Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Meiqi Guo & Mei Xu Wu (Chn) Yarden Akler (Isr) & Snehal Mane 6-3, 6-3.

India bids to host 2023 IOC session

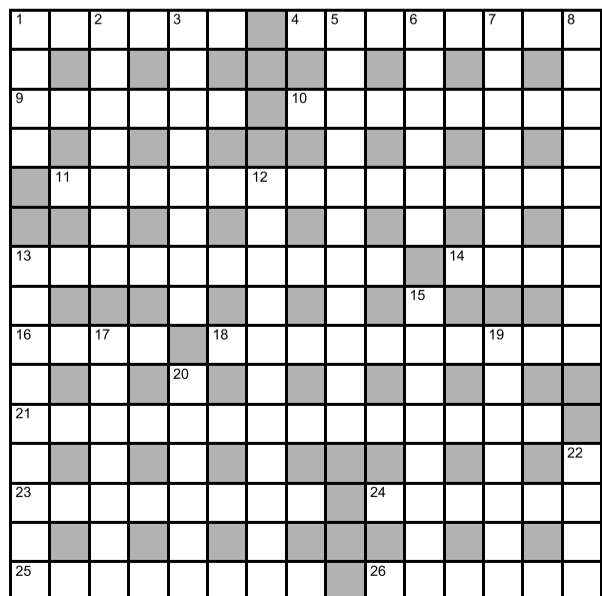
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LAUSANNE

India on Tuesday proposed to host the 2023 IOC session in Mumbai, which is expected to choose the host city for the 2030 Winter Olympics.

IOA President Narinder Batra and member Nita Ambani submitted the formal bid to the IOC chief Thomas Bach here. Batra is set to be elected as a new IOC member during the Session on Wednesday.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12662

(set by Avtaar)



- 13 One who narrates stories about visiting exotic destinations, excepting South India (10)
- 14 President Eisenhower's staff (4)
- 16 Foreigner waives a claim (4)
- 18 Personal digital assistant? (10)
- 21 Supermom prepared healthy food with added milk (4,2,3,5)
- 23 Mention of deficit at Iona (8)
- 24 Clammy pound is filled with waste at the boundaries and on the left (6)
- 25 "It shows who's not fit to overcome tumour", Spooner said (4,4)
- 26 Sally's ashes (6)
- 5 French soup is garnished with chives and soy (11)
- 6 Welsh sappers have recovered something that explains heredity (6)
- 7 This language — extremely beautiful — variant of Bulgarian (7)
- 8 Darkest, medium-brewed drinks stocked in the local area briefly (9)
- 12 Paintings by Rembrandt finally recovered during legal proceedings may be fantastic sights (11)
- 13 National team wants new ball in the beginning (3,6)
- 15 Eventually, you grow fat playing this game (3-2-3)
- 17 Very clear and detailed order about festival in the North (7)
- 19 Naval vessel has top part flooded (2,5)
- 20 Deadly squall at Romania has moved upwards (6)
- 22 Set retracting ends of the polyp and cyst evenly (4)

ACROSS

- 1 Old city gang is backed by Gulf (6)
- 4 Found mean old dogs, say (8)
- 9 Hot model, starting to undress, is unmoved (2,4)
- 10 Footwear imbued with slightly coarse stains (8)
- 11 Protest against unreasonable tax organised at last, say, by Hagar the Horrible (4,10)

DOWN

- 1 His tribe left Europe in a hurry (4)
- 2 Note from Avtaar's guru (7)
- 3 Faculty position attracting Psychology's top talent eventually gets cancelled (8)

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 12661

4	9	3	7	2	5	8	6	1
1	6	5	3	8	4	7	2	9
7	8	2	9	1	6	5	3	4
3	1	9	4	5	7	2	8	6
8	4	7	6	3	2	1	9	5
5	2	6	8	9	1	3	4	7
2	7	4	1	6	3	9	5	8
9	5	1	2	4	8	6	7	3
6	3	8	5	7	9	4	1	2

FAITH

Text that inspires

The Mahabharata is an extraordinary grantha that continues to exercise tremendous influence on people. Its vastness is matched by the innumerable riches it offers to humanity, pointed out Sri Sankararama Dikshitar in a discourse. When forced to live in exile, the Pandavas initially find it difficult to accept this situation. By listening to the stories of Nala and Damayanti, Savitri and Satyavan, etc, narrated to them by the sages, the Pandavas learn that adversity is common, though people in distress tend to think that their plight is the most miserable. They also realise that there is a limit to the trials and tribulations faced by human beings. Later, on the advice of Vyasa, Arjuna leaves for the Himalayas to do practice austerities for getting new astras from the devas. He propitiates Siva to obtain the Pasupata astras.

With Arjuna away and irked by his absence, the Pandavas brood about his state. Sage Lomasa, who had been to Indra Loka, visits them and gives them tidings of Arjuna. They learn from him that Arjuna has obtained the Pasupata from Siva; that he is now a guest of Indra and that after completing some tasks for Indra, he would join them. In the meanwhile, the Pandavas are advised to go on a pilgrimage to all the holy places in Bharata Varsha.

The epic throws light on the purpose of pilgrimage. Ideally a pilgrimage should be undertaken under proper guidance; bathing in the sacred rivers, performing sacred rituals and worshipping the deities are ordained for the pilgrim. Sage Lomasa, who accompanies the Pandavas, is well versed in the legends and lore associated with each of the sacred places and conducts the rituals ordained for pilgrims. He explains about the holy rivers that are endowed with the power to sanctify the people who bathe in them.

TV PICKS

ICC World Cup: Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 3 p.m.

IN BRIEF



Arjun Maini returns to F2 for short stint

NEW DELHI
Young Indian racer Arjun Maini on Tuesday announced his return to the FIA Formula 2 grid for the upcoming rounds in Austria and Silverstone. Maini had switched to sports car racing this season after a forgettable F2 outing with Trident last year when constant car issues did not allow him to give his best. He eventually finished 16th in the championship with 24 points. The 21-year-old is in the middle of the 2019 European Le Mans Series but the dates of the two F2 rounds don't clash with his sports car racing commitments. PTI



Williams confirms Lowe's departure

LONDON
Williams chief technical officer Paddy Lowe will not return to the struggling Formula One team after his departure was confirmed on Tuesday. Lowe had been on a leave of absence since the week before the F1 season got underway after a series of production issues delayed the roll-out of the new FW42 for pre-season testing. That followed a bitterly disappointing 2018 season that saw Williams finish last in the constructors' championship. "After a period of careful reflection I have reached the decision that I will not return to work at Williams," said Lowe in a team statement. AFP



Injured Andreescu out of Wimbledon

LOS ANGELES
Rising Canadian talent Bianca Andreescu will miss Wimbledon as she continues to recover from the shoulder injury that forced her out of the French Open, Tennis Canada said on Monday. Andreescu, who turned 19 on June 16, withdrew from the French Open after beating Marie Bouzkova in three sets in the first round, handing American Sofia Kenin a walkover into the third round. In March, Andreescu had topped Angelique Kerber to become the first wild card to win the Indian Wells title. Ranked 60th going into Indian Wells, she rose to 24th and was ranked 25th on Monday. AFP



Umtiti happy at Barca despite exit rumours

MADRID
Barcelona's French international defender Samuel Umtiti says he is happy at the club and is not looking to leave, rumours linking him with a move from Camp Nou notwithstanding. The 2018-19 campaign was a difficult one for Umtiti, despite winning La Liga with Barcelona and the 2018 FIFA World Cup with France. After an impressive first season after joining from Lyon, Umtiti struggled with an ankle injury which seriously affected his fitness and form, to such an extent that this summer has seen rumours that Barcelona is looking to sell him. IANS



Hail the champion: The triumphant Indian team with Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju. ■SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Minister offers all support to the women's hockey team

Skipper Rani Rampal says squad gained confidence from its Hiroshima show

**BHRIGU BAGGA
NEW DELHI**

The Minister of State of Youth Affairs & Sports, Kiren Rijiju has extended all support to the women's hockey team as it prepares for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The team, which won the FIH Women's Series Finals in Hiroshima during the weekend, was felicitated on Tuesday.

"The Indian women's hockey team has played very well and made us proud. I

shall visit both the men and women's team and their coaches in Bengaluru to discuss what all they need for the qualification process," said Rijiju.

Skipper Rani Rampal said the squad had gained confidence from its performances in Hiroshima and would strive to build on it.

Unbeaten campaign
During its unbeaten campaign, India scored 29 goals and conceded four.

"Things have developed quite a bit and I want to lead by example, to inspire girls to come out and to raise the level of hockey in the country," she said.

In fact, striker Lalremsiami showed exemplary spirit ahead of the semifinal against Chile.

In spite of learning of her father's demise, the Mizoram player went on to take the field to make her father proud.

Vice-captain and goal-

keeper Savita Punia said, "Our focus is to do our job."

But when we look at the social media and elsewhere and realise so many people are backing up, it feels good from the core."

Punia also lauded Dutch coach Sjoerd Marijne terming him "lucky" for the team.

"You can see it in his eyes, the intensity to win is the same. He makes us feel at home and we work as a family," she added.

Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar continues to excel

SHOOTING

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI**

Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar continued to excel as he finished second behind Olympic medalist Gagan Narang, and topped the juniors in the 50-metre rifle prone event in the National shooting selection trials at the Dr. Karni Singh Range, Tughlakabad, on Tuesday.

On a light day when there were no medals being contested in the 19th Kumar Surendra Singh Shooting championship, as the qualifi-

cation process was in full swing in women's air pistol and men's rapid fire pistol, it was a good outing for the elite shooters at the 50-metre range.

Tomar, who dominated the more challenging rifle 3-position event with a touch of assurance, shot 621.5, as Gagan pipped him by 0.4 point.

Cream of shooters
Subhankar Pramanick was third ahead of a clutch of good shooters like Akhil Sheoran (620.3), Swapnil Kusale (619.3), Sushil Ghaley (619.2), Olympian Chain Singh

(618.6), Asian Games silver medalist Deepak Kumar (615.4) and Olympian Sanjeev Rajput (615.30) who incidentally had won the gold in the event a day earlier.

Meanwhile, it was big improvement from the junior gold winning effort of Tomar who had shot 616.3.

Exciting Wednesday

Action is expected to hot up in the 10-metre range on Wednesday, when the cream of women air pistol shooters like Abhidnya Patil, Annu Raj Singh, Chinki Yadav, Devanshi Rana, Esha Singh, Harshada Nithave, Harveen

Srao, Heena Sidhu, Mahima Turhi Agrawal, Maliaka Goel, Pushpanjali Rana, Rahi Sarinobat, Shilpi Bisht, Shri Nivetha compete in the last batch for qualification, before the final for the top eight.

The men's rapid fire section will have the second stage, followed by the final.

The results:
Trials-5: 50m rifle prone: Men: 1. Gagan Narang 621.9; 2. Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar 621.5; 3. Subhankar Pramanick 620.6.
Juniors: 1. Aishwarya Pratap Singh Tomar 621.5; 2. Rishi Gi-reesh 616.8; 3. Fateh Singh Dhillon 615.7.

Nadal flags Wimbledon's seeding system

Says it is not in sync with the official world rankings

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MADRID**

Rafael Nadal has complained about Wimbledon's seeding system after the Spaniard was placed at number three, behind Roger Federer, for next week's Grand Slam in London.

The other three major tournaments all match their seeding to the official world rankings but Wimbledon uses its own formula to dictate the order, combining ranking points with form in grass-court competitions.

It means Nadal will be seeded three and Federer two at the All England Club this year, despite their positions being the reverse in the rankings list.

"Wimbledon is the only tournament of the year that does it like this," Nadal told Spanish television channel Movistar on Monday night. "Obviously it would be better to be two than three but if they think I have to be three I will accept three and fight to win the matches I have to win."

"Having said that, the only thing that doesn't seem right about this issue is that it is only Wimbledon that does it. If they all did it, it would seem more correct."

"It's not only about my particular case. There have



Rafael Nadal.

■CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

been many occasions when players have played well all year on all surfaces but Wimbledon does not respect the ranking they have earned.

"And for this reason they get more complicated draws."

Federer and top seed Novak Djokovic will be at opposite ends of the Wimbledon draw, separated until the final, but Nadal is guaranteed to have either Federer or Djokovic in his half, and could meet them in the semis.

"For me personally, it means if I am three, to get to the final, Djokovic or Federer will be in my half," Nadal added. "But that can only happen in the semifinals and to get there I have to win five matches. Today I'm far away."

EME to jack up Laser Class training

Ropes in a foreign coach for the first time

**V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD**

The EME Sailing Association, in coordination with the Laser Class Association of India, has, for the first time, sought the services of a foreign coach to train 25 sailors across India at the Hussain Sagar Lake here, according to LCAI secretary Alok Kumar Yadav.

Target Olympics

Alok told *The Hindu* that the target was to produce medalists at the 2020 Tokyo and 2024 edition of the Olympics.

"The primary objective is to enhance performance levels of our sailors in this category and accordingly LCAI

came up with a programme under which Indian coaches will work in close coordination with foreign coach William Jack of Malta, who is now handling the camp in Hyderabad," he said.

"The plans also include training in international sailing conditions with quality equipment," Alok said.

"There will be at least three more training camps over the next few months across India," he said.

"The 12-day camp here will conclude on June 30 and this should also help the sailors make an assessment of their preparations for the EME Sailing Week commencing in the first week of July," he said.



Sailor Jack! William Jack of the Sail Coach Academy, Malta.

■G. RAMAKRISHNA

Girish Koushik is India's 63rd GM

Says he's 'relieved to have achieved his goal'

**SHREEDUTTA CHIDANANDA
BENGALURU**

Girish A. Koushik has taken the long road there but he has finally arrived at the destination of his dreams. Last week, the 22-year-old from Mysuru became India's 63rd Grandmaster at the 37th Balaton International Chess Festival in Hungary.

Girish had completed his second GM norm in Mallorca late in May, and the third in Budapest the following week. Only 11 Elo rating points separated him from the figure of 2500 (live), and he duly crossed the line in Balatonlelle.

"It's an amazing feeling," says Girish, who becomes Karnataka's third GM after MS Thej Kumar and GA Stany. "I am relieved that I have achieved my goal." But the joy is tinged by a sense of what might have been. Early in his career, as he amassed one title after another, completing his first GM norm as far back as 2011, Girish was identified as one of India's brightest young prospects.

But while expenses mounted steadily, financial support proved hard to come by. It was becoming too much of a burden. So



Girish Koushik.

■SHREEDUTTA CHIDANANDA

Girish and his family had a decision to make, and they chose to shift their focus to academics. As he turned 15, Girish quit playing serious chess. For nearly seven years, he remained away from the higher levels of the sport, only indulging his passion occasionally.

Job done

This May, as he completed his Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electronics and Communication (from the city's RV College of Engineering, with flying colours), Girish set off for Europe with eyes on his long-cherished goal. He held one GM norm and an Elo rating of 2444 as he flew out the night of his final engineering paper; despite little prepara-

tion, he would return in four weeks' time, the job done.

"Everyone expected that I would become Grandmaster much earlier," says Girish. "Up until 2011, I was possibly the top young player in the country; then I watched as many kids who were behind me became Grandmasters. But I have no regrets. Today, I have a job offer (from a global tech firm) in hand and I am a Grandmaster. I have two careers; others don't."

As Girish contemplates his future, a career in chess again looms as an option. But going upwards from here will be a lot harder. A top coach would have to be a priority (his father, H.V. Arun Kumar, is the only coach Girish has worked with all his life), as would regular participation in major tournaments.

"With the right training, I'm convinced he can get to 2600 and maybe even higher," says Arun. "Seven years ago, we were at a crossroads and we had to abandon his chess dreams. Now, we are at another turning point in his life. If we can find sponsorship, our choice would still be chess. It is my hope."

(With inputs from C.K. Muralidharan)

Shamini, Soumyajit survive; Raj Mondal out

TABLE TENNIS

**RAKESH RAO
SONEPAT**

Former National champion K. Shamini had to battle all the way against Nikita Sarkar to move into the second round of the National-ranking table tennis (North Zone) tournament here on Tuesday.

Pushed to the brink, Shamini won 11-8, 9-11, 7-11, 11-9, 11-7, 8-11, 11-8 to set up a clash with the 2018 National champion Sutirtha Mukherjee, seeded three.

Experience also helped veteran Anindita Chakraborty in stopping Venkatesan Koushika in five sets. Riti Shankar, Shruti Amrute and Yashini Sivashankar needed seven sets each to get past Frenaz Chipia, Rony Maria and Mamta Prabhu. The seeded players will be seen in action on Wednesday.

Among the men, the only surprise result came when

Uttarakhand's Gautam Duirvansh knocked out Raj Mondal 11-7, 11-8, 17-15 to reach the main round.

Former National champion Soumyajit Ghosh advanced to the main draw but not before he was taken the distance by Punjab's Vikram Aditya. Soumyajit won 11-6, 10-12, 10-12, 11-3 to top the four-man group.

The results (first round): Women: Senhora D'Souza bt Priyadarshini Das 4-2; Anindita Chakraborty bt Venkatesan Koushika 4-1; Riti Shankar bt Frenaz Chipia 4-3; Mallika Bhandarkar bt Shreya Ghosh 4-0; Harsha Vardhini bt Shanmathy Sathyamoorthy 4-3; Diya Chitale bt Suhana Saini 4-0; Shruti Amrute bt Rony Maria 4-3.

K. Shamini bt Nikita Sarkar 4-3; Yashini Sivashankar bt Mamta Prabhu 4-3; Kaushini Nath bt Oishwaryaa Deb 4-2; Anuska Dutta bt Srushti Haleangadi 4-2; Anusha Kutumbale bt Garima Goyal 4-1; Nikhat Banu bt Kushi Viswanath 4-1; Moumita Dutta bt Rupsa Bhattacharya 4-1; Tanushree Das bt Ananya Basak 4-3.

Good day for India

ASIAN U-12 TENNIS

**SPORTS BUREAU
DHAKA**

Indian boys overwhelmed Bhutan and Bangladesh, dropping a solitary game in six matches in the ITF Asian under-12 tennis tournament here.

Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka are the other teams in the competition, which is South Asian regional qualifying event.

The Indian girls team had a more competent opponent in Sri Lanka but pulled through for a 3-0 victory, thanks to the fine efforts of Ika Raju Kanumuri, Riya

Sachdeva and Samiksha Damas.

The results (league): Boys: India bt Bhutan 3-0 (Manas Dhamne bt Wangchuk Yoezer Dorji 6-0, 6-0; Arnav Paparkar bt Tshering Tashi Nima 6-0, 6-0; Rethin Pranav & Paparkar bt Tshering & Namgyel Jigme Pema 6-0, 6-0); **India bt Bangladesh 3-0** (Dhamne bt Nadim Mollah 6-1, 6-0; Pranav bt Sajib Hossain 6-0, 6-0; Dhamne & Paparkar bt Sajib & Md. Bhuiyan Jawad 6-0, 6-0).

Girls: India bt Sri Lanka 3-0 (Ika Raju Kanumuri bt Harabage Shashinika Chandrasiri 6-0, 6-4; Riya Sachdeva bt Ruvika Rajakaruna Lewkebandara 6-1, 6-3; Riya & Samiksha Damas bt Harabage & Arushi Charuni Thomasge 6-2, 6-0).

CCFC concerned over AIFF's move

FOOTBALL

**SPORTS REPORTER
CHENNAI**

I-League champion Chennai City FC, in a letter to the general secretary of All India Football Federation (AIFF) Kunal Das, has expressed its concerns over recent media reports that states the Federation's desire to anoint the Indian Super League as the "top and most prestigious league in the country."

Request for invitation
CCFC has also requested a

special invitation from the AIFF for the Executive Committee meeting to put forward its views on the league's future.

"We request you to grant us special invitation to the scheduled Executive Committee meeting on July 3rd, 2019 either collectively (all I-League club owners present) or individually, as the current champions of the I-League."

The club has also sought a resolution to the pending I-League prize winner's money as reported by *Sportstar*.

CAB announces probables

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA**

The Cricket Association of Bengal on Tuesday named 34 probables for the 2019-2020 domestic season. The selected players will join a fitness training camp starting here from July 1.

The probables: Manoj Tiwary, Wriddhiman Saha, Mohd. Shami, Ashoke Dinda, Sudip Chatterjee, Abhishek Raman, Koushik Ghosh, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Vivek Singh, Anusup Majumder, Writtick Chatterjee, Shreevats Goswami, Ayan Bhattacharjee, Amir Gani, Pradipta Pramanik, Prayaz Ray Barman, Shahbaz Ahmed, Ishan Porel, Mukesh Kumar, Sayan Ghosh, Amit Kuila, Ritwick Roy Chowdhury, Akash Deep, Raju Halder, Agniv Pan, Shreyan Chakraborty, Subham Chatterjee, Ramesh Prasad, Mithilesh Das, Sumit Mahanta, Nilkantha Das, Kanishk Seth, B. Amit and Ravikant Singh.

Dhindsa stays as CFI chief

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA**

Parminder Singh Dhindsa has been unanimously re-elected the president of the Cycling Federation of India (CFI).

Maninder Pal Singh and Pratap Jadhav have been elected as secretary general and treasurer respectively.

The newly-constituted management committee of CFI unanimously proposed to appoint outgoing secretary general Onkar Singh, who is also the secretary general of the Asian Cycling Confederation, as the Chairman of the CFI.

It also formed two commissions - Athletes Commission and the Women's Commission, headed by Arjuna Awardees Amar Singh and Minati Mohapatra respectively.

Asian junior squash today

**SPORTS BUREAU
MACAU**

In all, 32 Indians (boys and girls) in various age categories are participating in the Asian junior individual squash championship to be held here from June 26 to 30. The event was held in Chennai last year.

Twenty four of them have earned seedings with Avalokit Singh and Anahat Singh given the top billing in the boys' and girls' u-13 sections respectively.