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DATE	SUBJECT		SUBJECT	
10 th June	INDIAN ECONOMY		INDIAN ECONOMY	
11 th June	MODERN HISTORY		MODERN HISTORY	
12 th June	GEOGRAPHY		GEOGRAPHY	
13 th June	CURRENT AFFAIRS		CURRENT AFFAIRS	
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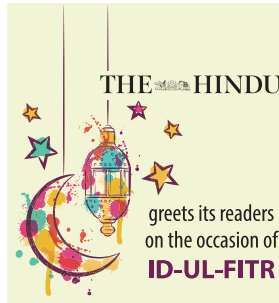
NEARBY

Detained for cheating, man dies in police custody

NEW DELHI
A 25-year-old man who was detained in a cheating case at the Delhi Cantonment police station died in custody on Tuesday afternoon. A magisterial probe has been initiated, police said.

CAPITAL ▶ PAGE 2

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OPPORTUNITIES ▶ PAGE 8

BSP will go it alone in bypolls to 11 U.P. seats, says Mayawati

But adds that there is no breakup yet of the alliance with the SP

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party alliance was put on hold in Uttar Pradesh after BSP chief Mayawati on Tuesday announced that her party would contest alone all 11 seats in the upcoming Assembly byelections.

She cited "political compulsions" behind the move and claimed that the Yadavs had deserted the SP and hurt the alliance's prospects.

Ms. Mayawati, however, kept the chances of a reunion in future alive with the ultimatum that SP chief Akhilesh Yadav would have to train his cadre to be "missionary" like those of the BSP's. Ms. Mayawati said, "There is no breakup of the alliance yet."

Political compulsions cannot be fully overlooked. The SP's base vote didn't stand fully with the party even in seats where they are strong. The SP people should emulate the BSP cadre in being prepared under any circumstances to struggle against the anti-people stance of the BJP

MAYAWATI, BSP chief



If our ways are separate, we welcome that... The SP will also prepare to contest all 11 seats if the alliance breaks. For us, alliance is not important at this moment

AKHILESH YADAV, SP president

After her announcement in Delhi, Mr. Yadav, who was in Ghazipur, responded that his party would also prepare to contest all 11 seats if the alliance broke, putting a question mark over the future of

the tie-up, just days after its unsuccessful run in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. While the BSP won 10 seats, the SP returned with just five.

"If our ways are separate, we welcome that as well and

congratulate...", said Mr. Yadav, not making any direct comment on the BSP chief.

Praise for Akhilesh

Ms. Mayawati praised Mr. Yadav and his wife Dimple personally for treating her with the respect of an "elder and a role model" and said that, in return, she treated them "like my own family" after the alliance was formed. "Our relationship was not built for just political interests. In future, this relationship will continue to remain in every moment of happiness and grief. Our relationship will not end," she said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 14
DESERTION, DISCORD RATTLE CONGRESS ▶ PAGE 14
A PARTING NOTE ▶ EDITORIAL

In relief for Kiran Bedi, SC restrains Puducherry govt.

Bars decisions having financial implications or transfers

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In relief for Puducherry Lieutenant Governor (LG) Kiran Bedi, a Vacation Bench of the Supreme Court on Monday restrained the Congress government in the Union Territory from implementing any decision involving financial implications or transfer of officials.

The order by a Bench of Justices Indu Malhotra and M.R. Shah was based on an urgent plea by the Union of India and Ms. Bedi's office for clarity on the issue of control over bureaucrats in the wake of a turf war between the Lieutenant Governor and the Chief Minister.

The Bench further issued notice to the elected government and allowed the Cabinet to meet on June 7, but



Kiran Bedi

said decisions that entailed serious financial implications and those on transfers could not be implemented till the next hearing scheduled for June 21.

Kapil Sibal, appearing for the elected government, said the direction to temporarily halt Cabinet decisions amounted to a virtual stay on the Madras High Court's decision, which had curbed

the LG's powers to interfere in the day-to-day administration, especially when an elected government was in place. But the court did not relent.

'Requires rectification'

The Central authorities said the High Court's decision had brought the "administrative machinery of Puducherry to an impasse" and required urgent rectification. Their plea said the Puducherry LG enjoyed "greater discretionary power" than the Delhi LG. The Puducherry LG had a "special responsibility towards the Union Territory of Puducherry and is under the overarching control of the President."

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 14

Giriraj Singh roils ruling NDA in Bihar with remarks on Iftar

Tweet spurs sharp reaction from allies, rebuke from Shah

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Union Minister Giriraj Singh's remarks on the presence of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi at an Iftar in Patna appeared to widen the rift in the ruling NDA in Bihar, with several politicians reacting sharply to the comments.

On Tuesday, Mr. Singh tweeted in Hindi, along with the photographs of Mr. Kumar and Mr. Modi attending Iftar events hosted by Hin-



Giriraj Singh

dustani Awam Morcha (Secular) leader Jitan Ram Manjhi and the Lok Janshakti Party, an ally of the NDA, in Patna on Sunday and Monday.

"How beautiful would it

have been had a fruit feast been organised during Navratri with the same fervour and similar photographs been taken. Why do we lag behind in observance of our own religious customs and ceremonies, while staying ahead in putting on a show in observing those of others?" wrote Mr. Singh, considered a close confidant of BJP president Amit Shah.

Mr. Singh is also known for his hard-line Hindutva stance and remarks.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 14

Patients turn litigants as new rules stall therapy

Licence a must for stem cell treatment

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH
NEW DELHI

Several critically ill patients have been forced to line up at the Delhi High Court after they suddenly stopped getting medication following the implementation of the Centre's New Drugs and Clinical Trials Rule, 2019.

The March 19 notification, issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, marked "stem cell derived products" under the definition of "new drugs". It also mandated that such formulations be approved by the

Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO). The new rules require clinics engaged in such "new drug" therapy to acquire a marketing licence. But there is no provision for an interim arrangement for patients during the application process.

A Bench of Justices G.S. Sistani and Jyoti Singh said that as an interim measure and till such time as the clinics' applications for licences are processed, the patients should continue to receive therapy from their clinics.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 14

Ilaiyaraaja wins copyright battle

He is entitled to 'special moral rights': HC

MOHAMED IMRANULLAH S.
CHENNAI

For scores of fans of the much-celebrated film music composer R. Ilaiyaraaja, this could well be music to their ears.

The Madras High Court on Tuesday ruled that he was entitled to "special moral rights" over 4,500 songs composed by him for more than 1,000 movies in his career spanning over four decades.

Decreeing a civil suit filed by him in 2014 against a group of music labels, including Malaysia-based Agi Music, Echo Recording of Chennai, Unisys Info Solution of Andhra Pradesh and Giri Trading Company of Mumbai, Justice Anita Sumanth held that the composer was entitled to the moral rights in line with Section 57 of the Copyright Act, 1957.

Right of composer

The Section protects the right of a composer to claim a right over his compositions even after assigning them wholly or partially to others.

It also entitles him to restrain or claim damages in respect of any distortion, mutilation, modification or other act in relation to his work if such distortion, mutilation or modification would be prejudicial to his



Ilaiyaraaja

honour or reputation.

Pointing out that the composer had already reserved his right to initiate proceedings for damages and other monetary relief against the music labels, the judge reiterated that he holds the right to do so as and when he thinks fit.

Rights over recordings

However, she also held that Echo Recording, too, had the right to exploit the rights over the sound recordings obtained by it from various film producers.

"The second defendant [Echo] has obtained rights in regard to the sound recordings comprised in the songs set out in Annexure-I to the written statement and is entitled to exploit the same specifically and strictly in the form and manner as contained in the respective cinematograph films only," the judge clarified.

UGC gives 6 months to fill faculty vacancies

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

All colleges, universities and deemed universities have been given a six-month deadline to fill up their faculty vacancies, via a process that

will be monitored at every step by the Ministry of Human Resource Development and the University Grants Commission. Institutions which fail to meet the deadline were warned that their

UGC grants may be withheld.

Pushing recruitment into mission mode, the UGC issued revised guidelines on Tuesday.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 11

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A year later, restrictions on offering namaz lifted

Accident victim manages to lodge FIR after 10 months

Detained in cheating case, man dies in police custody

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Army is expected to be a model for others, says NGT

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Directing the Army to cooperate with the Delhi Cantonment Board in implementing rules pertaining to solid waste management, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Tuesday dismissed a plea moved by the Board seeking permission to change two of the wards identified earlier, that were to be developed as "model wards".

A Vacation Bench comprising NGT judicial member Justice K. Ramakrishnan and expert member Justice Nagin Nanda observed that the Army is expected to be a model to others by complying with rules.

The directions came when the green tribunal was hearing a petition moved by the Delhi Cantonment Board in which it said that two of the zones identified earlier for compliance of solid waste management are under the jurisdiction of the Defence Ministry.

IN BRIEF

Gupta files defamation case against CM, Sisodia

NEW DELHI
BJP legislator and Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly, Vijender Gupta, on Tuesday filed a defamation case against CM Arvind Kejriwal and Deputy CM Manish Sisodia for “maliciously” his image by accusing him of being part of an alleged “conspiracy” to assassinate Mr. Kejriwal.

J.P. Agarwal seeks action against Chandni Chowk RO

NEW DELHI
Former Congress MP and the party's candidate from Chandni Chowk seat, J.P. Agarwal, on Tuesday requested the Delhi CEO to initiate criminal action against the RO of Chandni Chowk parliamentary constituency.

Tiwari condemns Health Minister's statement

NEW DELHI
BJP State chief Manoj Tiwari on Tuesday condemned Delhi Health Minister Satyender Jain's statement to the effect that the Delhi government would not implement the Ayushman Bharat scheme in the Capital.

BJP MLAs to inspect desilting of drains today

NEW DELHI
BJP MLAs will inspect the status of desilting of drains across the Capital on Wednesday to assess if these will be able to function effectively with the monsoon scheduled to arrive by the end of June.

Gahlot visits Sarai Kale Khan transport office

NEW DELHI
Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot on Tuesday visited the transport authority office at Sarai Kale Khan as part of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's 'direct citizen feedback' and 'project monitoring' initiative.

Sisodia takes bus rides for feedback from city women

‘No one unhappy with announcement on free rides for women’

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
A day after announcing an intent that the Delhi government will make bus and metro travel in the city free for women, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday took rides in buses for feedback. Mr. Sisodia said that he talked to about 50 people in the buses and not even one of them said it was a bad idea.

Addressing media after the bus rides, Mr. Sisodia said that many women travelling in buses told him that they have never travelled in the Metro. “They said they



Manish Sisodia interacting with women passengers in a bus on Tuesday.
*SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

could not afford Metro rides. However, they are willing to take the Metro, given the rides are made free,” he said.
On Monday, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, while

announcing the plan had said that it was in line with his government's intent to encourage the use of public transport, make it “safer” and to promote the participation of more women in the city's workforce.
The Opposition had decried the move as “misleading” and a “poll plank” following the defeat of AAP in the recent Lok Sabha election.
At a press conference earlier during the day, Mr. Sisodia attacked the BJP for “opposing” the plan, arguing, “People are very happy with the scheme.”

Free travel for women on buses, metro: Tiwari seeks White Paper

‘Move a gimmick to improve AAP's electoral fortunes’

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI
Bharatiya Janata Party State president Manoj Tiwari on Tuesday asked Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to bring out a white paper in relation to the Capital's current public transport and the pollution scenarios in the wake of the Delhi government's announcement to provide free travel for women aboard buses and metro trains.
Mr. Tiwari alleged that the announcement was a “gimmick” to improve the “electoral fortune” of the Aam Aadmi Party with Assembly elections scheduled for early next year even as he raised nine questions related to both sectors and sought answers from the Chief Minister.
In a letter to Mr. Kejriwal, Mr. Tiwari argued that Delhi's public transport system

was on the verge of “collapse” as both the Delhi Transport Corporation and the cluster bus service had “failed” citizens.
‘Women say no freebies’
“A wider section of working women do not want freebies. They actually want better, safer and reliable transport services,” he said as he requested the Chief Minister to come out with white papers on both issues.
The North East Delhi MP also demanded answers in relation to particular issues such as the number of buses, facilities for women commuters in buses and metro trains, approval of Phase IV of the Delhi Metro, the collection and use of green tax and steps taken to control dust and vehicular pollution.
Mr. Tiwari claimed that

the number of public-run buses had come down from around 5,500 from the time that the AAP came to power in 2015, to 3,200 at present. “Most of the buses being around 9-10 years old are in poor condition and not road-worthy. At least 700 to 1,000 DTC buses are out of service on a daily basis due to breakdown, leaving just around 2,200-2,500 buses on the roads on any given day,” Mr. Tiwari argued.
Mr. Tiwari further claimed that the Delhi government had not been able to spend an amount of ₹2,000 crore collected as green tax from commercial vehicles entering Delhi. “It is really strange that the Delhi government is sitting on such huge funds and making no efforts to use it for taking anti-pollution measures,” he complained.

Operation Blue Star: Sikh body demands apology

Terms it a planned conspiracy and a hateful attack against the community

JATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI
Terming it a “planned conspiracy” and a “hateful attack” against the Sikh community, the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC) demanded an apology from the Government of India for the execution of Operation Blue Star on the eve of its 35th anniversary here on Tuesday.
DSGMC president and SAD-BJP legislator from Ra-

jouri Garden, Manjinder Singh Sirsa, also demanded compensation for the families of those killed during the operation, which was carried out between June 1 and June 8, 1984, in addition to provisional benefits for Sikh military personnel who left the Indian Army in disapproval of it.
“We have requested time from the President in addition to several Union Ministers concerned to submit a

memorandum in regard to our demands on June 7. This is a different government, we are aware; and our demand is clearly in line with its vision of inclusion across communities and religions,” Mr. Sirsa told *The Hindu*.
At a press conference, he said the DSGMC would also demand the formation of a time-bound Commission of Enquiry and a sitting Supreme Court judge-headed special investigation team for

a thorough probe into the operation.
Mr. Sirsa also demanded that facts related to Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, head of the Damdami Taksal, and his followers who were killed during Operation Blue Star launched by the Army at the Golden Temple complex, needed to come out. “A probe needs to be conducted to come out with facts which have been buried under allegations,” he said.

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08 JUNE 6:15PM	"IN CONVERSATION WITH THE TOPPER: STRATEGY FOR GS & ESSAY" Priyanka Shukla IAS TOPPER
09 JUNE 6:15PM	HOW TO CRACK CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION Jojo Mathew
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BY **Hemant Jha** **16 JUNE | 3:00 PM**

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS

HISTORY Hemant Jha **GEOGRAPHY Sachin Arora** **SOCIOLOGY Dharmendra** **POLITICAL SCI. C.K. Singh**
Batch Begins with OPEN SESSION - 10 June, 3:00pm

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Yamuna — up-close and personal

In the first of a 3-part series, *The Hindu* deep dives into the river's pollution

NIKHIL M BABU
NEW DELHI

On a summer afternoon, 52-year-old Mohammad Saheed was neck deep in the murky waters of the Yamuna near ITO, searching for coins. He said, “I used to fish in the river for a living. But in the mid-90s, there were no more fish due to pollution and I started collecting coins, which people offer to *ma* Yamuna. What else would I do?”

Yamuna — once the life-line of Delhi, along whose banks the Mughals built the Red Fort and the city of Shahjahanabad (Old Delhi) — is one of the “most polluted rivers in the world” and is getting more polluted, say experts.

Despite different plans to clean the river, *The Hindu* found that deadlines for multiple works to curb pollution have not been met. Also, enforcement of many rules for the same remains only on paper.

A report, which is yet to be made public, submitted to the National Green Tribunal (NGT) by a Monitoring Committee (MC) appointed by it, states that the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has not met multiple deadlines. In the ‘Second Interim Report’, the MC said the DJB did not stick to the deadline of plugging of 11 drains which flow into the Yamuna, said sources. It also asked the DJB to provide fresh deadlines for at least three of the 11 drains.

The Hindu visited different stretches along the river, starting from Palla where the Yamuna enters Delhi, and travelled downstream to Wazirabad, ITO and Okhla. While water sample collected from Palla was almost transparent, it was black where Najafgarh drain joins the river, next to the city’s iconic Signature Bridge.

Except for Palla, at the other three locations, puja items and other wastes were being dumped into the river, despite a ban by the NGT.

Though only 2% of the 1,400-km-long Yamuna flows between Wazirabad and Okhla, it constitutes 76% of the pollution load of the river, stated the MC. The Supreme Court and the NGT have also pulled up different authorities responsible for cleaning the river, for their laxity. “The river has been reduced to a stream of sewage. The pollution levels are alarming but authorities are not doing enough,” said Manoj



Men look for valuables in the polluted Yamuna at Kalindi Kunj in New Delhi. ■ FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Delhi's dying river

- The Yamuna is 'one of the most polluted rivers in the world'. It is getting more polluted, say experts
- The water is extremely dangerous. Some water is bound to enter our system while bathing in the river. The heavy metals present in the water can affect the heart, brain, and can even cause cancer
- Coliforms — bacteria causing disease — is as high as 31.8 million MPN/100 ml in certain stretches of the Yamuna in Delhi as against the Central Pollution Control Board standard of 5,000 MPN/100 ml for a class-C river. It can cause water-borne diseases like hepatitis-A, cholera, typhoid, ring/hookworms, among others

- Though only 2% of the 1,400-km-long Yamuna flows between Wazirabad and Okhla, it constitutes 76% of the total pollution load of the river, stated a monitoring Committee appointed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT)
- In the past, the Supreme Court and the NGT have pulled up different authorities responsible for cleaning the river, for their laxity

WHY POLLUTED?

- There is very little water in the river to maintain a natural flow
- 22 natural drains carrying sewage and industrial effluents flow into the Yamuna

PROBLEMS

- Despite different plans to clean the river, deadlines for multiple works yet to be met
- Weak implementation of rules to curb pollution
- Involvement of multiple departments makes implementation of plans complicated



Water samples from different stretches of the Yamuna in the city. ■ V. V. KRISHNAN, SANDEEP SAXENA

Misra, a former IFS officer, convener of Yamuna Jiye Abhiyaan — a group fighting to clean the Yamuna. R.S. Negi, member (drainage) of DJB, said the issue is more complicated. “Laying of sewer pipes in Delhi is not easy. It should have been done at the time of developing the colonies but the unauthorised colonies came into being without sewage networks. We have to lay the networks now, which makes it extremely difficult,” he said. On health issues, senior consultant physician at Sir Ganga Ram

Hospital S.P. Byotra said, “The water is extremely dangerous and even while bathing, some of it enter our system through mouth and nose. The level of coliform bacteria, present in faecal matter, is so high in the river that it can cause diarrhoea, typhoid, jaundice and other intestinal infections.” At Wazirabad, ITO, and Okhla people were seen bathing in the river.

Why polluted?
The experts and the MC stated that two of the major

causes of pollution are less water in the river in Delhi and 22 drains dumping sewage and industrial effluents into it. To solve the first issue, the water flow has to be increased. The second one can be addressed by treating the sewage generated in the city.

“The water is black and smelly and the quality is that of drains,” said Sushmita Sengupta, programme manager of Water Programme at Centre for Science and Environment. “If there is more water in the river, the pollutants will be diluted and the Yamuna can rejuvenate itself,” said Mr. Misra.

The long struggle

In 1994, the SC took cognisance of a newspaper article “Quiet Flows Maily (dirty) Yamuna” and summoned CPCB to explain. Later on, different stakeholders, including the Delhi government, DJB, civic bodies, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana government became part of the case.

“In the 1990s, the population in Delhi outstripped the development. The number of unauthorised colonies spiked and with no sewage network and waste was dumped in the Yamuna,” said Manu Bhatnagar, principal director, Natural Heritage Division of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage. Later, the government came up with three actions plans to clean the river — Yamuna Action Plan I, 2, 3. The third plan is currently being implemented. For the first two phases, ₹1,514.7 crore was spent. In a judgment on January 13, 2015, on a case filed by Mr. Misra, the NGT formed the ‘Maily se nirmal Yamuna’ Revitalization Plan, 2017, which was set to be completed by March 31, 2017. But that did not work out and the NGT in July 2018 formed the MC, headed by two retired bureaucrats, to primarily implement the 2015 judgment.

A silver lining?

“Rhine river in Europe was polluted and eight countries, including Switzerland and France, came together to restore to it a point where salmon fish came back to the river. This is an example for India,” Mr. Bhatnagar said.

He said it was possible to clean the Yamuna. “All these cities fixed their sewage system, and we need to do the same,” he added.

Man arrested for abducting 9-year-old girl

Accused wanted to pressure victim's mother into marrying her, say police

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A nine-year-old girl was kidnapped allegedly by a mason in Rohini’s Vijay Vihar because he wanted to put pressure on her mother into marrying him, the police said on Tuesday.

The missing complaint was lodged by the victim’s mother on Sunday at 4 a.m., a senior officer said. The complainant said she had sent the girl to buy eggs around 2 p.m. However, when the girl did not return, she approached the police.

A case on charges of kidnapping was registered and teams started to look for the girl.

The egg-seller allegedly

told the police that she had left the shop at 2.30 p.m. “CCTV footage near the shop showed the girl on a bike with a man. Though the registration number of the vehicle was clear, it did not lead us anywhere because the two-wheeler had been sold off many times,” said an officer.

In another footage, the girl was seen talking to the man but only his shadow was visible. A boy from the neighbourhood was seen crossing the spot where the duo was talking.

The neighbour was questioned after which the accused was identified. The accused worked as a mason at the victim’s house, the police said.

The girl’s mother said there was a possibility of Kamlesh [28] kidnapping the girl.

‘Hired for repair work’
“The woman said she had hired Kamlesh for repair work of the house’s leaking ceiling about three months ago. Along with two others, he completed the work in five-six days. During this time, he had become friendly with the girl and used to offer her money and sweets,” the officer said.

The police then raided Kamlesh’s rented accommodation but he had vacated it the same day, they were told. His call records showed

that he made the last call from Nizamuddin after which he switched it off. It was found that the accused belongs to Uttar Pradesh’s Mahoba.

With the help of CCTV footage from the railway station, it was revealed that he had taken the train to Mahoba from where he was nabbed at 6 a.m. on Monday.

The minor was rescued and the accused was arrested, the police said.

During interrogation, he said while doing the repair work, he had proposed to the woman for marriage but she had refused. “Then he hatched the plan to kidnap the girl,” the officer added.

Foreign national cheats ex-CBI official of over ₹30 lakh

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A man has been arrested for allegedly duping a retired CBI official in 2018 of nearly ₹36 lakh here after posing as a woman on social media network, the police said on Tuesday.

DCP (West) Monika Bhardwaj said Arthur Okeke from Nigeria and a resident of Chander Vihar, was arrested from the Outer Ring Road on

Monday. The 33-year-old was also arrested by the Jaipur police in a cheating case recently, the police said.

The victim in September 2018 had approached the police stating that he met Arthur, who posed as a woman named Grace Dennis, on Facebook. He said they had become friends. “Arthur said her mother was admitted in a hospital in India while she was stuck at the Mumbai air-

port due to some document issue,” Ms. Bhardwaj said. Subsequently, the victim got a call from an unknown number who posed himself as a customs officer. He as asked to submit some amount for clearance of Arthur’s documents.

He deposited ₹35.80 lakh in nine different bank accounts, Ms. Bhardwaj said.

The contact numbers were put on surveillance and Ar-

thur was identified. Raids were conducted in nearby cities as he kept changing his location.

The police said Arthur had come to India in 2014. Later, he, along with his associates, allegedly started duping people on Facebook. “After befriending people on the Internet, they would dupe them by seeking money for payment of customs duty on some pretext,” Ms. Bhardwaj added.

Two held in Govindpuri public urination case

Victim had 17 criminal cases against him

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Two brothers have been arrested for allegedly beating a man to death in south-east Delhi’s Govindpuri, the police said on Tuesday.

The incident took place on Monday when the 27-year-old victim had objected to public urination near his house. DCP (South-East) Chinmoy Biswal said the accused have been identified as Ravi and Neel Kamal. The victim, Leelu, was a person of disrepute and had 17 criminal cases registered

against him.

Leelu was sitting outside his house when the accused’s father Man Singh (65) started urinating on the street, the victim’s family said. When Leelu objected to it, the brothers intervened and a fight broke out. The accused then hit Leelu with a stone slab, they alleged. However, local enquiry had revealed that Leelu had slapped Singh when he saw him urinating. The police had registered a case on charges of murder and common intention on Monday.

Man held for killing wife

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

A 30-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly killing his wife in March, the police said on Tuesday.

Balender Poddar from Bihar and a resident of Jahangirpuri allegedly told the police that he killed Anmol because he suspected her of infidelity.

The woman’s children, one of whom is also Balender’s, were witness to the crime, they said.

A minor has been apprehended in connection with the case, the police added.

U. P. Power Transmission Corporation Limited

Tender Notice against specification No. ESD-538 through E-Tendering

E-Tenders in two parts Part-I and Part-II (valid for six months are invited for the work mentioned here under:- Construction of 2x40 MVA, 132/33KV Substation Chhanbe, Mirzapur with SAS on turn-key basis including supply, erection, testing & commissioning of all equipments/materials and all civil works as per details mentioned below:-
Speen. No.: ESD-538 **Name of Sub-station:** 132/33KV Sub-station Chhanbe, Mirzapur.
Transformation Capacity: 2x40 MVA **Earnest Money (Rs.):** 28,25,000.00 (Twenty-Eight Lakh Twenty-Five Thousand only) To be submitted on a non judicial stamp paper of Rs. 10,000.00 in favour of SE, ESD-IC, UPPTCL, Lucknow as per prescribed format given in the bid document. **Schedule Date of submission & time:** 04.07.2019 12:30 hrs **Schedule Date of Opening & time:** 05.07.2019 15:30 hrs In case of public holiday on 05.07.2019, the opening date will be on the next working date.

The package in general includes but not limited to design, engineering, manufacturing, handling, safe storage and supply & erection of transformers, breakers, isolators, L.A.s, P.T.s, C.T.s, control and protection panels, SAS system equipments, panels based on IEC 61850 protocol, metering system, main and auxiliary structures, control and power cables, station grounding, earthing, Lightning system and all associated essential electrical and civil works, including earth filling foundations, anchor bolts, cable trenches, drainage, water supply, control room building, fencing, roads etc, as per national international standards and terms and conditions of Form-A of UPPTCL. However, the 40MVA Transformers shall be provided by UPPTCL and their supply shall not be in the Scope of Tenderer. Similarly construction of Residences, Approach road and boundary wall of substation shall also not be in the scope of this tender.

The package also includes testing and commissioning of the entire substations in a time bound schedule and all items & accessories required for completion and commissioning. Complete tender documents against this Bid specification can be downloaded from e-procurement website of U.P. Govt, etender.up.nic.in and tenderer will require to pay a non-refundable fee of Rs. 18,000 (inclusive of 18% GST) towards cost of tender documents through RTGS/NEFT in “UPPTCL SBI A/C No. 30231982762” (IFS code -SBIN0003347). Tender document can be submitted only on e-procurement website etender.up.nic.in up to schedule date & time. Tenderer (s) are requested to get them registered with U.P. Electronics Corporation so as to obtain digital signatures for participation. The bid of the firm without tender document fee, against the purchase of document, and without EMD will not be considered. Tender document fee will be deposited through RTGS/NEFT in the UPPTCL account mentioned above and a proof of such deposit e.g. UTR no., Name of Account, scanned copy of pay-in slip countersigned by the tenderer should be uploaded along with tender documents. Earnest money deposit (EMD) will be deposited through RTGS/NEFT in UPPTCL account mentioned above and a proof of such deposit e.g. UTR no., Name of Account, scanned copy of pay-in slip countersigned by the tenderer should be uploaded along with tender documents OR in the form of Bank Guarantee in favour of Superintending Engineer, Electricity Substation Design Circle-II, If EMD is deposited in the form of Bank Guarantee, scanned copy of EMD BG alongwith a scanned copy of confirmation mail of the same, from the bank issuing the BG will be uploaded with the tender document. No tender documents including tender fee, EMD B.G. and other commercial papers are required to be submitted in hard copy or through messenger at the time of bid opening. Part-I containing prices of Electrical & Civil works respectively shall be opened separately at a later date to be informed accordingly.

Undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason. Please visit e-procurement website etender.up.nic.in as well as our website www.upptcl.org for all amendments, corrigendum, modifications and extensions till the date of submission of tenders.
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION DESIGN CIRCLE-II, 13th FLOOR, SHAKTI BHAWAN EXTENSION, 14 ASHOK MARG, LUCKNOW-226001, E-procurement website: etender.up.nic.in, UPPTCL website: www.upptcl.org
“SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION”
R. O. No., 191/ESDC/11(GS)/TENDER/ A/19, R. O. Dated 4-6-19

E-TENDERING PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, CD-I, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, GNCTD Opp. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur Office Complex New Delhi- 110027 invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors for the following works:-

1. NIT No. EEICD-1/DB/2018-19/394 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173041_1) H.O.A.-2217-Plan (MLALAD), Name of Work:- Providing and fixing outdoor exercise fitness equipment(open Gym) at Various Parks in Madipur Assembly Constituency. AC-26. E.C. Rs. 45,23,043/- Earnest Money Rs. 90,461/- period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 14.06.2019 at 3:00P.M. & 3:05P.M respectively.)
2. NIT No. EEICD-1/DB/2018-19/370 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173033_1) H.O.A.-2217-Plan (MLALAD), Name of Work:- Repair/Renovation of existing room in Triveni Apartment at Tilak Nagar Assembly Constituency AC- 29. E.C. Rs. 5,36,785/- Earnest Money Rs. 10,736/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 10.06.2019 at 3:00P.M. & 3:05P.M respectively.)
3. NIT No. EEICD-1/DB/2018-19/383 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173123_1) H.O.A.-2217-Plan (MLALAD), Name of Work:- Demolishing and construction cement concrete internal road in Vasundhara Co Operative Group Housing Society Ltd. In Dwarka in Matiala Assembly Constituency. E.C. Rs. 12,20,341/- Earnest Money Rs. 24,407/- period of Completion 90 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 07.06.2019 at 3:00P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
4. NIT No. EE/CD-1/DB/2019/02 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173120_1) H.O.A.-2711-Non Plan, Name of Work:- Repair of existing boundary wall from Kakraula regulator (Old) to Ranhola Bridge (i.e.RD 30180m to RD 34350m) on right bank of NG Drain. E.C. Rs. 39,79,348/- Earnest Money Rs. 79,587/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 07.06.2019 at 3:00P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
5. NIT No. EE/CD-1/DB/2019-20/01 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173117_1) H.O.A.-2711-Non Plan, Name of Work:- Repair of existing boundary wall from Ranhola Bridge to Pankha Road drain Outfall (i.e. RD 34350m to RD 37180m on right bank of NG Drain). E.C. Rs. 40,39,450/- Earnest Money Rs. 80,789/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 07.06.2019 at 3:00P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
6. NIT No. EE/CD-1/DB/2018-19/316 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173114_1) H.O.A.-2217-Plan (MLALAD), Name of Work:- Providing and fixing of steel gates at Ajay Enclave & Sant Garh Colony in Ward No.13 of Tilak Nagar Assembly Constituency-29. E.C. Rs. 22,53,595/- Earnest Money Rs. 45,072/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 07.06.2019 at 3:00 P.M. & 3:05 P.M respectively.)
7. NIT No. EE/CD-1/DB/2018-19/315 (ID No. 2019_IFC_173111_1) H.O.A.- 2217-Plan (MLALAD), Name of Work:- Providing and fixing of steel gates at different locations in Tilak Nagar Assembly Constituency-29. E.C. Rs. 27,80,251/- Earnest Money Rs. 55,605/- period of Completion 60 Days. (Date of submission & opening of bid on 07.06.2019 at 3:00P.M. & 3:05P.M respectively.)

Note :- 1) Details of above mentioned works & eligibility criteria can be seen and downloaded from the web site https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in
2) Amendment(s) / alteration(s) / corrigendum if any, will be available at website only.

Executive Engineer
Civil Division-I
Irr. & Flood Control Deptt.,
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
DIP/Shabdarth/0150-19-20

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE ASSANDH
Detail Notice Inviting e-Tender
Online E-tenders on <https://etenders.hry.nic.in> are hereby invited from the eligible agencies/ firms/companies for providing below mentioned:- posts for Municipal Committee, Assandh (Karnal) on contract basis under the Haryana outsourcing policy for a period of One year from the date of reckoning of the contract.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER BOTH FOR L&C SOCIETIES AND CONTRACTORS	
Start Date & Time of Bid Preparation & Submission	31-05-2019 from 05.00 PM
Expiry Date & Time of Bid Submission	15-06-2019 upto 05.00 PM
Expiry Date & Time of Bid Manual Submission	20-06-2019 from 05.00 PM
Tender Opening Date	21-06-2019 from 11.00 AM

Sr. No.:- 1
Post:- Helper
Quantity of Manpower :- 1 No
Tender Document Fee (Non-refundable):- 1000/-
EMD for L&C Societies and contractor (Rs.)::- 10000/-
Time Period:- One Year
Note:- The other terms and conditions can be seen on any working day in the office of undersigned.

-sd-
Secretary
Municipal Committee
Assandh
PRDH 76637

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
The Executive Engineer, (B&R) Division, HPPWD, Baijnath on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for each of the following works from the eligible and approved contractors registered with HP.PWD as class C and D and class A,B,C, and D for Bitumen work. **The Contractor enlisted in appropriate class can tender for his own class as well as one step below as per rule 8.1 and 9.0 of enlistment contract Rule 2015.**

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time Limit	Cost of Tender Form	Eligibility/ Class
1.	Detail Estimate for Balance wok of Bhamber Dadoan Balli Malli road km. 0/0 to 4/675 i/c Bridge over Dhal K h a d . (S H :- Construction of 12.20 Mtr Span R C C T - B e a m B r i d g e , Improvement of road, R/Walls, C.D. work, WBM-I, WBM-II, Tarring work, Side drain and parapets). (Under NABAD RIDF-XXIV).	1,47,94,781/-	1,80,500/-	Eighteen Months	Rs. 5000/-	"B"
2.	Construction of Bridge over Sukhad Kher on link orad to Village D a n d e l and Ganguli (Under NABAD RIDF- XXIV). (SH:- Construction of 91.674 Mtr Span R C C Box Girder Bridge (3 Equal Span of 30.00 Mtr each with approaches).	1,29,33,369/-	1,61,900/-	Eighteen Months	Rs. 5000/-	"B"

1. Date of publication on or before **12.06.2019.**
2. **Date of release of invitation for bids through e-procurement 15.06.2019**
3. Cost of Bid form of tender shall be in shape of demand draft (non refundable) only in form of demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer, HP.PWD, Baijnath.
4. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** -The bid document is available online and bid shall be submitted online on website bidder would be required to register in the website, which is free of cost. For submission of bids the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized certifying Authorities. Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in the e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website <https://hptenders.gov.in> Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.
5. **Submission of original documents:-** The bidders are required to submit(a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document(b) original bid security in approved form and (c) form No.7/8 duly signed by the contractor(in judicial Paper) with bid document as per provision of general rules No.27 with Executive Engineer Baijnath Division within two days after the opening of the technical qualification part of the bid, either by registered post or by opening of the technical qualification part of the bid, either by registered post or by hand failing which the bids either by registered post or by hand will be declared as non-responsive. Bidders should attach the scanned copies of cost of documents EMD (the earnest money in shape of call deposit of post office or fixed deposit/demand draft of schedule bank duly pledged in favour of undersigned payable at Baijnath) and other documents as specified in the tender document in the online bid. The original instruments in respect of cost of documents and EMD and GST are required to be submitted to the tender inviting authority on or before the time of opening of bids, failing which the bid will be declared non-responsive. The detail of cost of documents, EMD specified in the tender documents should be same as submitted online (scanned copies) otherwise tender will summarily be rejected.
6. **Last date/ Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement Tendering: 29.06.2019 up to 10.30 AM** (time). Technical part of which will be opened on the same day at **11.00 AM**.
7. The site for the work is available.
8. Only online submission of bids is permitted, therefore, bids must be submitted online on website <https://hptenders.gov.in>. In the interest of tenders are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
9. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.
10. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.
11. Applicant should furnish certificate regarding no litigation/ arbitration case pending with department.
12. Applicant should also furnish affidavit regarding all information supplied is true and Two work in hand.
13. For Periodic maintenance works contractor shall have all required machinery such as Hot Mix Plant, Tar Boiler, Road Roller etc, or should submit the undertaking/affidavit regarding providing to him such machinery of owner's having such machinery.
14. The contractor shall have all required machinery such as Truck/ Tipper, Mixture, water tanker Vibrator etc or should submit the undertaking/affidavit regarding providing to him such machinery of owner's having such machinery.
15. All kind of material Shall be arranged by the contractor itself from the authorized firms/dealers as per clause No-10A.

Executive Engineer,
Baijnath Division,
HPPWD Baijnath.

HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK BHAWAN

HP / 0291/19-20

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Delhi Buses and Metro
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Dip/Shabbardh/D/0017/19-20



Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Delhi Government has proposed to make bus and metro rides free for women to ensure women safety while travelling. Your suggestions on implementation of this scheme are invited.

You can send your suggestions at:

Address: Chairman, DDC, Delhi Govt.,
33, Shamnath Marg, Delhi – 110054.

Email: delhiwomensafety@gmail.com

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Girl's body found on tracks in Palwal

Case filed against juvenile suspects

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GURUGRAM

In a suspected case of rape and murder, a teenage girl was found dead on the railway tracks in neighbouring Palwal two days ago, the police said on Tuesday.

Based on the complaint of the girl's father, a case of rape and murder has been registered against two minors. Both the juveniles in conflict with the law are on the run.

The police said the post-mortem report was awaited to ascertain the cause of death and confirmation of rape.

"The post-mortem was conducted on Monday, but the report is still awaited. The girl's viscera has also been preserved and sent for further examination," said Assistant Sub-Inspector Bhim Singh, posted at the Palwal Government Railway Police Post.

The girl was found dead on the railway tracks on

June 2 around 7.30 a.m.

In a missing complaint filed at the Chand Hut police station on June 2, the family said the girl went out with the duo after she received a call on her phone in the early hours. While the girl left her own phone behind, she took along her father's cell phone, which is also missing.

Father's allegation

After the body was found, an FIR was registered at the GRP Palwal Police Post by the girl's father alleging that his daughter was raped and murdered by the duo. The two have been named in the FIR.

Mr. Singh said police teams have mounted raids at several places in search of the duo, but they were still at large.

"The girl and the two boys are all school drop-outs and were known to each other. The girl's father is a farmer," he said.

Bengal serial killer who murdered 7 women held

Victims sexually assaulted by accused

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA

The West Bengal police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested an alleged serial killer who has confessed to killing seven middle-aged women in the rural areas of Bardhaman and Hooghly districts.

"Earlier this week, we arrested Kamaruzzaman Sarkar in connected with a murder. The accused has confessed to killing six more women," said Bhaskar Mukherjee, Superintendent of Police (Rural) Bardhaman. He said all the murders were committed between October 2018 and May 2019.

According to the police, the accused sexually assaulted the victims after injuring them with heavy, blunt objects.

Most of the victims were targeted when they were alone at home. The accused entered the house on the pretext of taking electricity meter readings.

Initial clues

The police got initial clues after the murder of a woman from Gaora village in Bardhaman district. CCTV footage of the suspect wearing a red helmet and riding a red motorbike was obtained and all police stations were alerted.

Sarkar, 42, was arrested on Sunday and has been remanded in police custody for 12 days.

The police are also taking the help of a psychiatrist to assess the mental state of the accused.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Assam, Gangetic West Bengal, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura. Heat wave conditions likely in many/isolated parts over Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Vidarbha, south Haryana, Marathwada and Telangana

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala.....	12.....	29.4.....	26.1	Kozhikode.....	35.4.....	34.4.....	25.0
Ahmedabad.....	.....	42.8.....	28.3	Kurnool.....	.....	38.9.....	27.5
Aizawl.....	.....	27.3.....	19.0	Lucknow.....	.....	40.0.....	27.2
Allahabad.....	.....	42.8.....	29.0	Madurai.....	.....	2.3.....	40.0.....
Bengaluru.....	.....	31.8.....	22.1	Mangaluru.....	.....	34.8.....	25.1
Bhopal.....	.....	44.5.....	31.8	Mumbai.....	.....	34.4.....	28.7
Bhubaneswar.....	.....	37.4.....	25.8	Mysuru.....	.....	32.9.....	22.0
Chandigarh.....	11.3.....	38.4.....	21.8	New Delhi.....	.....	41.5.....	28.7
Chennai.....	.....	38.5.....	30.6	Patna.....	.....	38.6.....	27.6
Coimbatore.....	.....	35.6.....	25.0	Port Blair.....	.....	13.....	33.6.....
Dehradun.....	.....	38.1.....	23.0	Puducherry.....	.....	37.4.....	28.8
Gangtok.....	0.2.....	25.1.....	15.5	Pune.....	.....	36.8.....	24.8
Goa.....	.....	34.2.....	26.5	Raipur.....	.....	43.0.....	27.6
Guwahati.....	29.6.....	29.4.....	23.3	Ranchi.....	.....	22.....	36.2.....
Hubballi.....	.....	32.0.....	23.0	Shillong.....	.....	90.9.....	20.0.....
Hyderabad.....	8.7.....	36.8.....	24.1	Shimla.....	.....	5.2.....	28.7.....
Imphal.....	.....	30.7.....	20.2	Srinagar.....	.....	2.7.....	19.7.....
Jaipur.....	.....	45.0.....	34.6	Trivandrum.....	.....	22.3.....	31.7.....
Kochi.....	.....	32.0.....	26.6	Triruchi.....	.....	40.3.....	28.4
Kohima.....	10.2.....	32.7.....	16.3	Vijayawada.....	.....	38.8.....	28.0
Kolkata.....	.....	34.8.....	27.5	Visakhapatnam.....	.....	8.7.....	34.0.....

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing						Yesterday
CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	CODE
Ahmedabad.....	116	83	28	64	.....	.....
Bengaluru.....	9	69	57	52	.....	91
Chennai.....	16	11	58	131	.....	.....
Delhi.....	5	7	24	303	.....	.....
Hyderabad.....	10	29	23	47	61	.....
Kolkata.....	5	44	12	75	105	.....
Lucknow.....	12	25	86	282	.....	.....
Mumbai.....	23	15	79	20	43	.....
Pune.....	.....	.....	29	.....	.....	.....
Visakhapatnam.....	10	76	35	69	109	.....

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Fatehabad, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 322 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Haldia, West Bengal recorded a healthy AQI score of 38

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.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.
CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
(Office of the Deputy Health Officer)
Public Health Department : Karol Bagh Zone
Anand Parbat, New Delhi-110005 Phone No. 011-25818502,
E-mail ID No. dhokbz@gmail.com
No. DHO/KBZ/2019/690 Dated:- 31.05.2019

TENDER NOTICE
Sub:- Sealed-Short notice tender for purchase of Fuel Wood for Cremation Ground, Inder puri, Karol Bagh Zone for the year 2019-2020.
Sealed short notice tenders in double bid system i.e. Technical and financial bids are invited for supply of 400 metric tons Fuel Wood (300 metric ton fuel wood-kabar wood and 100 metric tons of Farra Wood) for Cremation Ground, Inderpuri Karol Bagh Zone, North DMC for the year 2019-2020. Technical and financial bids will have to be deposited in the one envelop by each supplier. The tenders will be received in the office of Dy. Controller Accountants. Karol Bagh Zone. Room No. 108 Nigam Bhawan, Desh Bandhu Gupta Road, Anand Parbat, Karol Bagh, New Delhi from 06.06.2019 up to 17.06.2019 at 2:00 PM. The tenders will be opened on the same day i.e. on 17.06.2019 at 3:00 PM sharp in the presence of tenderer's and the members of the Board. The tender documents, terms and conditions & detailed specifications of the wood can be obtained from the office of Dy. Health Officer, Room No. 407, MCD Nigam Bhawan, Desh Bandhu Gupta Road, Anand Parbat, Karol Bagh , New Delhi-110005 on payment of Rs. 1000/- (non-refundable) along with form 06.06.2019 to 17.06.2019 upto 11:00 AM. The tenders will be deposited along with earnest money at the rate of 2.5% of the total cost in the form of Demand Draft from Scheduled Bank in favour of Commissioner, North Delhi Municipal Corporation.
This is issues with the prior approval of the competent authority.

Deputy Health Officer
Karol Bagh, Zone
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The borrowers above named having failed to repay the amount despite the receipt of the above referred statutory notice, NOTICE is hereby given to the borrowers above named and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the Property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this 31st day of May 2019.
The borrowers above named in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the Property and any dealings with the Property will be subject to the charge of City Union Bank Ltd., for an amount of Rs.14,65,00,140/- (Rupees Fourteen Crore Sixty Five Lakh One Hundred and Forty Only) and interest thereon from 27-11-2018 till the repayment of entire dues.
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Place: New Delhi, Date: 31-05-2019 **Authorised Officer**

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Advertisement No. 75/2019

Date of opening of online portal: 05.06.2019
Last Date for receipt of online Applications: 04.07.2019

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Sl. No.	Engineering Stream/Position	No. of Posts	GATE-2019 Papers & Code	Base Qualification* (BE / B.Tech. / B.Sc. Engineering)
1.	Chemical	06	Chemical Engineering (CH)	Chemical Engineering / Chemical Technology / Petrochemical Engineering / Petrochemical Technology
2.	Mechanical	09	Mechanical Engineering (ME)	Mechanical Engineering
3.	Electrical	03	Electrical Engineering (EE)	Electrical Engineering / Electrical & Electronics Engineering
4.	Instrumentation	04	Instrumentation Engineering (IN)	Instrumentation Engineering / Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering/ Instrumentation and Control Engineering / Instrumentation and Electronics/ Instrumentation and Process Control / Instrumentation Technology.
5.	Civil	03	Civil Engineering (CE)	Civil Engineering
6.	Information System	01	Computer Science and Information Technology (CS)	Engineering in Computer Science
7.	Laboratory Supervisor	10	Chemistry (CY)	Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Chemistry or equivalent degree with specialization in any of Analytical Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Industrial Chemistry, Polymer Chemistry, Petroleum Chemistry, Environmental Science, Environmental Chemistry, Applied Environmental Chemistry and (General) Chemistry

*Candidates having any other degree/combination degree, example Production Engineering, Automobile Engineering, Mechatronics, Construction Engineering, etc. other than those specifically mentioned above are not eligible to apply. These exclusions are only indicative and not exhaustive.

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RECRUITMENT OF EXECUTIVE (HR) IN 'A' GRADE THROUGH UGC(NET)-December 2018

The details of number of posts, eligible AGU-NET-Dec-2018 Subject, Code and eligible base qualification are as under:

Sl. No.	Designation and Grade	No. of Posts & Category	UGC NET - Subject & Code	Essential Qualification
1	Executive(HR) - 'A' Grade	05* (UR-02, OBC (NCL)-02)*	Labour Welfare / Personnel Management / Industrial Relations / Labour and Social Welfare / Human Resource Management (Subject Code – 55)	Two years MBA/ Equivalent with specialization in Personnel Management/HRD/HRM or Two Year Post Graduate Degree / Equivalent in Personnel Management / IR / Labour Welfare.

* UR-Un-Reserved, OBC (NCL)-Other Backward Class(Non Creamy layer)

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Together, Let us build a Clean India

Sanatan Sanstha lawyer, aide in judicial custody

Court denies CBI extension, says no fresh progress in probe

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

A special court on Tuesday sent Sanjeev Punalekar, counsel for the fringe rightwing outfit Sanatan Sanstha, and his aide, Vikram Bhawe, to judicial custody in connection with the murder of rationalist Narendra Dabholkar.

Mr. Punalekar and Mr. Bhawe, who were arrested by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on May 26, were produced in court on expiry of their CBI custody.

The court of additional sessions judge R.M. Pande denied the CBI further extension of their custody, observing that the agency had not made any fresh progress in its investigation during the time the accused was in their custody.

Probe agencies have claimed that Mr. Punalekar and Mr. Bhawe participated in the conspiracy to murder Dabholkar, especially in destroying the evidence and in aiding and abetting Sachin Andure and Sharad Kalaskar, his alleged assailants.

Arguing for a 14-day custodial extension, special public prosecutor Prakash Suryavanshi said the CBI needed time to analyse the data retrieved from Mr. Punalekar's laptop and mobile phone seized during his arrest.

Mr. Suryavanshi said Mr. Punalekar had harboured one of the accused Sanstha members in the 2009 Madgaon blast in Goa. He said the agency needed more time to probe how Mr. Bhawe conducted the reconnaissance before Dabholkar's murder, and to interrogate



Sanatan Sanstha lawyer Sanjeev Punalekar (centre) was arrested in the Dabholkar murder case, last month. ■ FILE PHOTO

him on the details of the getaway motorbike used by the two shooters.

Arguing against the CBI's plea, defence counsel Virendra Ichalkaranjikar said the agency's allegation of Mr. Punalekar participating in a conspiracy to murder Dabholkar was "not tenable".

"The CBI claims that advocate Punalekar had advised Mr. Kalaskar, the alleged shooter, in June 2018 to destroy the pistol used in a crime that occurred in 2013. This vague, 'post-incident' allegation does not hold water. Furthermore, despite seizing Mr. Punalekar's laptop and mobile on May 27, the agency has made no progress to retrieve the data," he said.

In September last year, seeking an extension of Mr. Kalaskar's custody, the CBI told the court that in July 2018, the accused had dismantled four country-made pistols and thrown them in the creeks of Greater Mumbai and Thane, suggesting that one of the firearms could be the weapon used to kill Dr. Dabholkar.

In his statement to the CBI last year, Mr. Kalaskar 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 allegedly revealed that it was the Thane-based Mr. Bhawe who had planned the reconnaissance, pointed out Dabholkar to the assailants and even planned the getaway route for the shooters.

Besides the arrests of Mr. Andure, Mr. Kalaskar and Dr. Virendra Tawde – said to be the alleged mastermind of the murders of Dabholkar and veteran Communist leader Govind Pansare – the CBI has arrested Amol Kale, Amit Digvekar and Rajesh Bangera in connection with the conspiracy to kill the two rationalist thinkers.

Mr. Kale, Mr. Digvekar and Mr. Bangera, who were granted default bail in December last year in the Dabholkar case, are incarcerated in Bengaluru for their suspected roles in the killing of journalist Gauri Lankesh.

'Mumbai will be sustainable within 4 years'

CM, Aaditya Thackeray say several measures being taken to safeguard environment

AANCHAL DHARMANI
MUMBAI

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday said efforts are being made to make Mumbai and Maharashtra more sustainable so as to safeguard the environment.

Mr. Fadnavis was speaking at a function organised by the Directorate of Environment and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on the eve of World Environment Day. Yuva Sena chief Aaditya Thackeray was the chief guest of the event, held at the Yashwantrao Chavan auditorium in south Mumbai. Environment Minister Ramdas Kadam, and Minister of State for Industries and Mining, Environment, Public Works Pravin Pote Patil were also in attendance.

Mr. Fadnavis said, "We have taken action in numerous ways, and within the span of the next four years, Mumbai will become a sustainable city." He said the Metro rail project will make public transport more accessible, thereby having a posi-



Going green: CM Devendra Fadnavis, flanked by Yuva Sena's Aaditya Thackeray and Environment Minister Ramdas Kadam, hands over cloth bags to children. ■ ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

tive impact on the environment and pollution levels.

Mr. Thackeray said hybrid buses have been introduced in Nashik and electric taxis have been introduced in Nagpur, "but this is only the beginning."

In a suggestion to Mr. Fadnavis, he said, "Rainwater harvesting and

solar panels should be introduced along the Mumbai-Pune Expressway due to the guaranteed rainfall both cities receive."

Speaking about the plastic ban in the State introduced last year, the Yuva Sena leader said, "States such as Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh have

followed in our footsteps after seeing its benefits."

The function also included a dance performance by school students and a video focusing on the climate change phenomenon. Individuals and organisations who contributed to the cause were honoured.

Rajesh Patnekar is new Goa Speaker

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PANAJI

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA Rajesh Patnekar was on Tuesday elected as Speaker of the Goa Legislative Assembly in a special session of the House.

He defeated his Congress rival Pratapsinh Rane. The post of Speaker had been lying vacant since Pramod Sawant resigned to take over as Chief Minister following the death of his predecessor Manohar Parrikar in March.

The special session was called by Goa Governor Mridula Sinha to elect the



CM Pramod Sawant looks on as Pratapsinh Rane (left) greets newly elected Speaker Rajesh Patnekar at the Goa Assembly in Porvorim on Tuesday. ■ ATISH POMBURFEKAR

new Speaker. Mr. Patnekar, who was the candidate of the National Democratic Al-

liance, polled 22 votes, while Mr. Rane got 16 votes in the 40-member House.

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IN BRIEF



Actor Sheela gets J.C. Daniel Award

KOZHIKODE Actor Sheela will be presented with J.C. Daniel Award, the highest honour in Malayalam cinema. She is only the second woman to get it, after Arannmula Ponnammamma in 2005. Sheela has been chosen for the award for her contributions to the film world. The award comprising a cash prize of ₹5,00,000, a citation and plaque will be given away at a function here on July 27.

Coal miner dies in roof collapse in Telangana

ADILABAD A coal miner, Kalaveni Ramulu, died in a roof collapse in RK 5B coal mine of Srirampur area of Singareni Collieries in Telangana's Mancherial district while Satish, his colleague was injured in the mishap, which took place on Tuesday. The injured was being treated at the Srirampur Area hospital. Trade unions in the Singareni Collieries accused the management of not taking sufficient precautions towards prevention of accidents inside the underground mines.

Homeguard booked for bid to set woman on fire

MACHILIPATNAM A home guard and his three aides were booked for their alleged attempt to set a woman on fire after an argument over temple funds at Posinavarapalem village in Guduru mandal of Andhra Pradesh's Krishna district on Monday . The woman, identified as Chintala Chandrakala, alleged that the accused doused her with petrol and tried to set her on fire. She lodged a police complaint on Monday after she underwent a medical examination at the government hospital.

Kerala takes steps to stop spread of Nipah

Team with members from various institutes under Union Health Ministry has reached the State

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOCHI
The Kerala government has strengthened surveillance and preventive measures as the Nipah virus infection was confirmed in a 23-year-old patient in a private hospital. The patient will not be shifted from the present hospital as it may lead to the spread of the infection, said Kerala Health Minister K.K. Shylaja. The hospital was taking good care of the patient, she added.

Principal Secretary (Health) Rajan Gobragade, speaking at a media briefing along with the Minister, said that steps had been initiated to look into the deaths registered in the State during the three weeks. The surveillance was to pick up any unnoticed case that had symptoms similar to Nipah, he said. This was to plug the spread of the infection and to trace its origin, he added.

Ms. Shylaja said that the health team would place on home quarantine people who had been in contact with a person reported with the infection, to contain further spread of the virus.

Usually, the incubation period for the disease was said to be 14 days and the worldwide practice was to keep the patient in quarantine for a longer period, she added.

The expert team here would be taking a decision on these matters, said the Minister.

Six-member team
A six-member team from various institutes under the Union Health Ministry are here to provide expertise on tackling the Nipah infection. Dr. Animesh Ray, Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, Dr. B.



On alert: Healthcare professionals in the Government Medical College, Ernakulam, taking precautions in the wake of Nipah virus threat. ■ H. VIBHU

Anup Kumar, virologist, National Institute of Virology, Alappuzha, Dr. Vikram V. Holla, Assistant Professor, Neurology, NIMHANS, Dr. Sanket Kulkarni, Deputy Director, National Centre for Disease Control, New Delhi, Dr. K. Regu, Joint Director, Entomologist, NCDC, Kozhikode, and Dr. Chdiesh Nagarajan, Assistant Director, Microbiology (Zoonosis), NCDC, Delhi, would be working with the Kochi and Kozhikode teams.

A similar team was active during the infection in Kozhikode last year and they had worked along with the Kozhikode team that controlled all preventive activities.

Training had been going on in batches for doctors and other healthcare workers over the last two days. In particular, the Kozhikode medical team had the benefit of previous experience in checking the spread of the virus in north Kerala.

Centre sends team

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI
Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Harsh Vardhan on Tuesday deployed a team of six officers who arrived in Kerala to oversee the “epidemiological investigation protocol, contact tracing for early detection of suspects, testing protocols for suspects and review of isolation facilities.”

Speaking to the media, Dr. Vardhan said a control room (011-23978046) had been established and a team from the National Institute of Virology, Pune (ICMR), was being sent to the affected area with monoclonal antibodies.

Testing bats
“A team from the National Institute of Virology (NIV) Pune has been put in place



Harsh Vardhan

for conducting/testing bats for Nipah virus. We have also sought help from the State Wildlife Department,” he said.

In a release issued on Tuesday, the Ministry noted that the State government had already started “contact tracing and surveillance, standard capacity building for health functionaries, ambulance fleet drivers and others and infection control activities in hospitals.”

Police flag fake messages on social media

G. ANAND THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
The Kerala police have cautioned against a marked increase in misinformation and alarmist propaganda on the Nipah virus since the infection reappeared in Kerala last week. Investigators say they have found at least two self-styled social media evangelists of naturopathy, who dangerously promote magic cures, quack treatments, and non-clinical methods to treat the virus. The police say these persons used their online presence to spread false information against the State-coordinated medical interventions to contain the outbreak.

Be alert, no need for panic: Shylaja

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOCHI

Kerala Health Minister K.K. Shylaja on Tuesday reiterated that there was no need for panic in the community as Nipah virus, though highly contagious, cannot spread just because a suspected case was living in the neighbourhood. “There are certain hygiene precautions that need to be maintained when in public places. The disease becomes infectious only when symptoms appear and not during the incubation period,” she said.

Karnataka JD(S) chief Vishwanath quits, points to coalition's failures

Blames former CM Siddaramaiah

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

Janata Dal (Secular) Karnataka president A.H. Vishwanath on Tuesday resigned from his party post owning “moral responsibility” for the party's poor performance in the Lok Sabha polls. However, he also expressed unhappiness over the ruling coalition's functioning and the government's performance over the last one year.

The resignation comes just ahead of the coalition partners' plans to expand the State Cabinet.

Mr. Vishwanath's decision suggests this discontent is not restricted to him. Many senior leaders feel that those beyond the Gowda family get little recognition in the JD(S). A leader said seniors in the party were worried about Mr. Vishwanath emerging as a “alternative power centre” for disgruntled members.

Many grouses

Mr. Vishwanath was apparently upset with the way his community (Kuruba) was being treated by JD(S) leaders. His frustration had come to the fore after the party took a beating in the K.R. Nagar Municipal Council elections. Mr. Vishwanath had lashed out at Tourism Minister S.R. Mahesh, accusing him of denying ticket to Kuruba aspirants .

Speaking to presspersons here on Tuesday, Mr. Vishwanath specifically targeted the former Chief Minister and head of the coalition coordination committee Siddaramaiah. The JD(S) leader has been engaged in a public spat over the latter's alleged failure to take



A.H. Vishwanath

every one along to ensure smooth functioning of the government.

He said neither he nor Congress State president Dinsh Gundu Rao were part of the committee.

He was reportedly also unhappy over being sidelined in the party, and not consulted over key issues. However, he gave credit to Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy for staying on despite “torture from friends”, a reference to the Congress.

Mr. Vishwanath alleged that a “conspiracy” was hatched – comparing it to a “khedda operation” – to compel Mr. Deve Gowda to contest from Tumakuru rather than Mysuru to ensure his defeat. This, he said, was a “loss to the State”. However, he refused to name Mr. Siddaramaiah as the man responsible for the defeat. To a question, Mr. Vishwanath ruled out joining the BJP.

Meanwhile, the Congress, which has been facing trouble with “rebel” MLAs threatening to jump ship, is now facing the ire of the party's old guard. Days after senior leader Roshan Baig expressed unhappiness over being sidelined, another senior leader Ramalinga Reddy hit out at the party leadership over neglect of seniors.

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Hardeep Puri to launch cleanliness 'league'

NEW DELHI
As a part of its annual Swachh Survekshan or sanitation survey of cities and towns, the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry will launch the Swachh Survekshan 2020 League, a quarterly assessment of cleanliness, on Thursday.

Vistara eligible to fly to Thailand, awaits rights

NEW DELHI
The Tata Sons-Singapore Airlines joint venture, which is waiting to launch international operations, is eligible to fly to Thailand, with the Centre nominating it as an airline that can connect destinations between the two countries as per their bilateral agreement.

HC restrains Asus from selling phones

NEW DELHI
The Delhi High Court has restrained Taiwan-based computer hardware and phone maker Asus Technology from selling its Zenfone range of smartphones in India as it was "deceptively" similar to Indian phone brand Zen Mobile.

Meghalaya govt. defends notice to Punjabi residents

Notice sought land ownership details

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The Meghalaya government has defended the Shillong Municipal Board's (SMB) notices asking Dalit Sikh residents of a "disputed" locality to provide documents establishing them as owners of the land or the structure there.

On Monday, Deputy Chief Minister Prestone Tynsong ruled out any dispute since the land of the locality called Punjabi Lane – also, Sweepers' Lane or Them iew Mawlong – belonged to the SMB since an agreement in 1954 with the local tribal chieftain.

Mr. Tynsong's reaction followed the decision of the Harijan Panchayat Committee (HPC) of the Punjabi Lane to serve a legal notice on the SMB demanding withdrawal of the notices.

tee (HPC) of the Punjabi Lane to serve a legal notice on the SMB demanding withdrawal of the notices.

Robert Vadra appears before ED

'I have fought for almost a decade over baseless accusations'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Robert Vadra, husband of Congress leader Priyanka Vadra, was again questioned by the Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday in connection with three properties in London.

Before entering the ED office, Mr. Vadra released a statement on social media, saying it was the 13th time that he was appearing before the agency. "As I make my way for the 13th time, post almost 80 hours with the Enforcement Directorate, answering any number of ques-

Navy aircraft, satellites scout for missing An-32 in Arunachal

Families of missing personnel kept in the loop, says IAF

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI/GUWAHATI

Search and Rescue efforts of the Indian Air Force (IAF) to locate its An-32 transport aircraft that went missing on Monday with 13 onboard over Arunachal Pradesh were stepped up on Tuesday, with overnight efforts giving no leads.

"The Navy's P-8I aircraft joined the search operations today. Cartosat and Risat satellites of the ISRO are taking images of the area. Post sunset, search by helicopters have ceased. However, search by all sensors with night capability and the ground party will continue throughout the night," the IAF said in a statement.

On Tuesday afternoon, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Air Com-



Eye in the sky: The P-8I aircraft of the Navy will aid the search in thickly forested areas.

mand Air Marshal R.D. Mathur visited Air Force Station Jorhat and met the families of the missing personnel. They are being regularly updated on the progress of search for the missing aircraft, the IAF said.

The An-32 got airborne from Jorhat in Assam at 12.27 p.m. for the Mechuka Advanced Landing Ground in Arunachal Pradesh but lost contact around 1.00 p.m.

Navy spokesperson Capt

DK Sharma said the P-8I took off from INS Rajali, Arakonam in Tamil Nadu, at 1.00 p.m.

It has a powerful Synthetic Aperture Radar, which will be utilised during the SAR sweeps to locate the missing aircraft.

The IAF had pressed into service a C-130, one AN-32, two Mi-17 helicopters and one Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH). An Army ALH is also part of the search team.

Navy chief issues guidelines on austerity and equality

Aimed at optimal use of manpower and resources

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh, who took charge last week, has issued a series of 26 measures to the rank and file of the force on social and ceremonial practices towards "optimal utilisation" of manpower and resources.

These include cutting down on unnecessary deployment of personnel for events, restricted usage of decorations after name, promoting equality among the ranks and asking juniors not

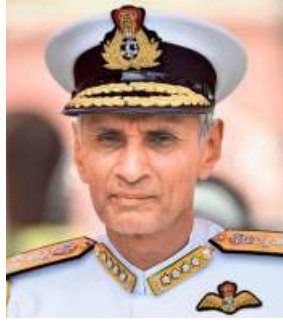
In addition, ground teams of the Army and the ITBP are scouting the area.

Location transmitter

The An-32s are equipped with an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT), which will be active for a few days after a crash.

It gets activated when the impact of a crash is 20 times that of gravity or 20g, and works based on line of sight, which means the search aircraft have to pass overhead to be able to pick up its signal. No signal had been detected from the ELT so far, IAF officials said.

During the search, aircraft are assigned different paths based on the coordinates within the search area. Once a possible lead is identified, helicopter and ground teams are sent in. The terrain is posing major challenges and the weather is unpredictable, with rain hampering the search.



Admiral Karambir Singh

to be "subservient".

"As a modern fighting force, it is important that we imbibe contemporary social and ceremonial practices towards optimal utilisation of manpower and resources," the signal or internal communication issued by the

UGC gives 6 months to fill all faculty vacancies

Guideline violation could result in a loss of grants

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

All colleges, universities and deemed universities have been given a six-month deadline to fill up their faculty vacancies, via a process that will be monitored at every step by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Institutions which fail to meet the deadline were warned that their UGC grants may be withheld.

Pushing recruitment into mission mode, the UGC issued revised guidelines on Tuesday, noting that "shortage of quality teaching faculty in HEIs [Higher Educational Institutions] is one amongst the many issues confronting the higher education system in the country".



There are at least 5,000 vacant positions in 48 central universities alone. UGC oversees over 900 universities and more than 40,000 colleges across the country.

"HEIs should...ensure that all the vacant posts, along with the reservations details, are uploaded on the online portal https://nherc.in. The monitoring of the filling up of the vacancies would be done by the MHRD and UGC through this portal," said the revised guidelines. The portal belongs to the National Higher Education Research Centre run by the MHRD.

The six-month timeline allows 15 days for the identification of vacant posts, the details of which must be uploaded on the NHERC portal by June 20, 2019. Within 30 days thereafter, the competent authority of each institution is required to give its approval to fill up the vacancies.

The posts must then be advertised in the next 15 days, and selection committees constituted simultaneously, with dates fixed for their meetings.

By the end of the fourth month, applications must be scrutinised and interview letters sent to shortlisted candidates and also uploaded on the institution's website. The fifth month is reserved for conducting interviews and selecting the final candidates.

By the end of six months, appointment letters should have been issued, and uploaded on the NHERC portal.

SC extends PG medical admissions deadline

Also bars petitions in other courts

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Maharashtra government to hold the last round of counselling for postgraduate medical and dental seats by June 14.

It ordered the State to give wide publicity to the extension of the admissions deadline from June 4 to 14. It said no other court would entertain petitions filed on this matter.

The order by a Vacation Bench led by Justice Indu Malhotra follows an interim direction last month to the State to not implement the 10% economic quota for the admissions for the 2019-20

academic year.

The Maharashtra government issued notifications dated February 12 and March 7 last to implement the 10% reservation for the economically deprived classes. They were stayed by the apex court in a recent order.

Government criticised

On Tuesday, the court slammed the government for "creating a mess" and troubling candidates who aspire to get their postgraduation.

It clarified that candidates would not be allowed to change their earlier preferences.

CSIR orders probe into journals

Large-scale manipulation and duplication of images found in 130 papers

R. PRASAD
CHENNAI

On June 3, the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) began an investigation into the large-scale manipulation and/or duplication of images within the same paper or in different papers by scientists at the Lucknow-based Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR).

At last count, 130 papers published in peer-reviewed journals by scientists from the institution have problems with the images. A chief scientist at the institute Dr. Yogeshwer Shukla alone has published 40 such papers.

Time bound probe

"The committee was formed on June 3, immediately after the matter was brought to my attention on May 31. The committee has been given defined time period, with a request to complete the investigations as speedily as possible," Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, Director-General of CSIR (right), has ordered a probe into the incident.



Searching for truth: Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, Director-General of CSIR (right), has ordered a probe into the incident.

CSIR told The Hindu in an email.

On May 31, The Hindu published the first report on 73 papers with questionable images.

The second news item was published by it on June 1 when 33 additional papers with similar problems published by CSIR-IITR scientists were found on Pubpeer website.

Pubpeer allows independent scientists to publish post-publication review of scientific papers.

"The three-member com-

mittee will investigate all the papers [from CSIR-IITR] that have been listed in public domain and alleged to have [problems with images]," Dr. Mande said.

The names of the committee members were not revealed to allow the investigations to be as impartial as possible.

Involvement of directors

In response to a question on how the committee would view the issue considering that papers by a former director of the institution Dr.

Kailash Gupta and the current director Dr. Alok Dhanu too have problems according to independent scientists who posted on Pubpeer, Dr. Mande said: "The committee has been told personally by me to be objective, fair, and fiercely impartial in their investigations."

Omnipresent problem

On what action would be taken against scientists found guilty, Dr. Mande said: "CSIR has a zero tolerance policy on the issue of scientific integrity. In the past, such matters have been dealt with very firmly. If anyone is found to be guilty of manipulations thereby leading to deliberate scientific fraud, the person will face suitable disciplinary action."

Since publishing papers based on manipulated images is not restricted to CSIR-IITR but appears to be a systemic problem, Dr. Mande said "Concrete remedial steps are being taken to address the issue."

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WALK-IN INTERVIEW
The Regional Institute of Education, Mysore will conduct Walk-in interview on the dates as shown against each post on contractual basis for the Academic Session 2019-20.

Table with 5 columns: Sl. No., Name of the Post, Number of Posts, Consolidated Remuneration Per Month (Rs.), Date & Time of the Interview. Rows include Professor Physics Chemistry, Assistant Professor Physics, Assistant Professor Mathematics Chemistry, Assistant Professor Botany, Assistant Professor Health/Physical Education, WET In Computer Science, Professional Assistant (Library), and Laboratory Assistant.

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A parting note

The BSP's resolve to go it alone in the U.P. by-polls does not come as a surprise

The Opposition appears to be in meltdown mode following the BJP's sweeping victory in the Lok Sabha election. Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati announced on Tuesday that her party's alliance with the Samajwadi Party stands terminated for now, and that it would contest the coming by-polls in 11 Assembly constituencies in Uttar Pradesh on its own. The SP and the BSP were rival poles in U.P. politics until the 2017 Assembly elections, when the BJP wrested power with an impressive majority. Ms. Mayawati and the Yadav family at the helm of the SP had a long history of mutual animosity, which also mirrored the tense relations between Dalits and Other Backward Classes, their respective social bases. With their very existence under threat from the BJP's ability to aggregate a host of populist issues around the Hindutva theme and woo Dalit and OBC caste groups, the BSP and the SP buried the hatchet to form an alliance, which included the Rashtriya Lok Dal, ahead of the Lok Sabha election. The alliance appeared to be doing well with victories in three key by-elections, but the general election results came as a rude surprise for them. They won only 15 of U.P.'s 80 seats, while the BJP took 62. The vote share of the alliance was significantly lower than the combined strength of the individual parties in 2014.

It should not have come as such a surprise. The collapse of backward caste politics has been in the making in U.P. Voters had begun to view the BSP, the SP and the RLD as cabals for good reason. Numerous members of the two families had captured power using the SP and the RLD as vehicles of personal profiteering. Slogans of social justice could no longer hide the emptiness of their politics. Transfer of power from generation to generation and laterally to a host of relatives did not merely mock the ideal of social justice but also questioned the public's common sense. With voters waiting for an opportunity to shake them up, the SP, the BSP and the RLD were no match to the BJP's ideological, organisational and monetary might. Ms. Mayawati rightly pointed out that Yadavs, the core base of the SP, did not rally behind it this time. Similar was the case with Jats, the RLD's core base. The appeal of the BJP's Hindutva and the welfarism agenda cut across castes, but the degeneration of backward caste politics enhanced it. Ms. Mayawati has not ruled out the possibility of an alliance with the SP in future. The dominance of upper castes in the BJP is too glaring to be missed, and caste fissures could return. But in their present form the SP and the RLD do not inspire trust among erstwhile supporters, though the BSP cadre is relatively more committed. The rising tide of Hindutva has challenged long-held assumptions in politics and the churn could last a while.

Low tactics

India and Pakistan must cease targeting each other's diplomats and their guests

India has issued a public statement of protest over the harassment of guests attending an Iftar party hosted by the Indian High Commission in Islamabad on June 1. Guests were allegedly intimidated and stopped by Pakistani security force personnel from attending the event. Those who did attend reportedly had their cars towed away. Describing the action by Pakistani security forces as "against all notions of civilised behaviour", India has asked the Pakistan government to conduct an inquiry into the incident. This development follows alleged actions by Indian security agencies in stopping guests to the Pakistan High Commission National Day function in New Delhi in March, as well as at its Iftar party on May 27. On both occasions, the Pakistan government had protested in similar terms, terming the behaviour of the security agencies towards invitees as being in "blatant disregard of traditional eastern values" and violative of the Vienna convention for diplomatic protocol. It is clear that regardless of how undignified the actions appear, both governments are following a tit-for-tat approach to ties, targeting even diplomatic missions. Last winter, for example, Pakistan authorities refused to give clearances for gas connections for heating in the Indian High Commission's residential complex in Islamabad, despite the biting cold; while Indian authorities reportedly blocked construction workers from entering the Pakistani residential complex in New Delhi to undertake urgent repair work. Other forms of harassment that plumbed new depths included ringing the doorbells of diplomats at late hours of the night to intimidate them, and even tailing cars ferrying diplomats' children from school.

This cycle of undiplomatic behaviour simply vitiates an atmosphere already fraught with tensions, and must end. Post-elections, the Indian Air Force has removed airspace restrictions, and Pakistan has begun to open airspace routes to and from India that it had closed after the Pulwama attack. Such positive steps need to be augmented. Earlier, Pakistan granted former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj permission to fly over its territory, and India made a similar concession to Pakistan's Foreign Minister. India and Pakistan have extremely serious issues to resolve. The harassment of diplomats and their guests is a diversion from the issues at hand. With a new government assuming charge in India, and a possible meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation next week, it is likely that both sides will try to turn the page in bilateral ties. The new External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, is a former diplomat himself and should reach out to his counterpart in Islamabad to raise the level of engagement above the petty point-scoring that such harassment of guests at diplomatic functions represents.

The immediate neighbourhood

SAARC still has the potential to become a platform for South Asian interests and shared growth



SUHASINI HAIDAR

The government has shown its commitment to its strategy of "Neighbourhood First" by inviting the leaders of neighbouring countries for the second time to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's swearing-in ceremony on May 30. The focus will continue this week when he makes his first visit in this tenure to the Maldives and Sri Lanka, something that has become tradition for all Indian Prime Ministers.

The obvious difference between Mr. Modi's invitations to his taking office the first and second time is that in 2014 they went to the leaders of the eight-member South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), while in 2019 they went to leaders of the seven-member Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). BIMSTEC includes five SAARC members (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka), and Myanmar and Thailand, while leaving SAARC members Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Maldives out, due to the geographical location of the Bay of Bengal.

Subsuming the other

However, to extrapolate from this that BIMSTEC has replaced SAARC, or that the Modi government is in effect building the foundations of BIMSTEC over the grave of SAARC is both illogical and contrary to the founding principles of these organisations. SAARC, as an organisation, reflects the South Asian identity of the countries, historically and contemporarily. This is a naturally made geograph-

ical identity. Equally, there is a cultural, linguistic, religious and culinary affinity that defines South Asia. Therefore, just as rivers, climatic conditions flow naturally from one South Asian country to the other, so do the films, poetry, humour, entertainment and food.

As a result, since 1985 when the SAARC charter was signed, the organisation has developed common cause in several fields: agriculture, education, health, climate change, science and technology, transport and environment. Each area has seen modest but sustainable growth in cooperation. For example, from 2010, when the South Asian University began in Delhi, the number of applicants for about 170 seats has more than doubled. SAARC's biggest failure, however, comes from the political sphere, where mainly due to India-Pakistan tensions, heads of state have met only 18 times in 34 years; it has been five years since the last summit in Kathmandu.

BIMSTEC, on the other hand, is not moored in the identity of the nations that are members. It is essentially a grouping of countries situated around the Bay of Bengal, and began in 1997 (Bhutan and Nepal joined in 2004), a decade after SAARC. The organisation did not even have a secretariat until 2014. While it has made some progress in technical areas, leaders of BIMSTEC nations have held summits just four times in 22 years. With India's growing frustration over cross-border terrorism emanating from Pakistan, it hopes to build more on BIMSTEC's potential. But the organisation is unlikely to supplant SAARC for a specific reason.

One of BIMSTEC's two founding principles is: "Cooperation within BIMSTEC will constitute an addition to and not be a substitute for bilateral, regional or multilateral cooperation involving the Member States." Its official literature describes it as "a bridge between



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

South and South East Asia" and a "platform for intra-regional cooperation between SAARC and ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] members." It is significant that two of the leaders at Mr. Modi's swearing-in on Thursday – Nepal Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli and Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena – have also emphasised that BIMSTEC would not replace SAARC.

India's SAARC aversion

What explains the deep resistance to SAARC in India? Terrorism emanating from Pakistan is clearly the biggest stumbling block cited by the government. Mr. Modi cancelled his attendance at the last planned SAARC summit in Islamabad in 2016, after the attack on the Indian Army's brigade headquarters in Uri. Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan followed suit.

This principled stand by India, however, doesn't extend to other organisations such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), into which India and Pakistan were inducted in 2017. Unlike SAARC, which has never presumed to resolve bilateral issues of its members, the SCO is a security-based regional organisation that is keen to work on conflict resolution in the region; it even organises military exercises between members. It is difficult to reconcile the staunch opposition to attending a SAARC summit where India is at least the largest country, with the acquiescence to the SCO, where Russia and China take the

Decolonising the Chagos archipelago

India can play a pivotal role in bringing about an agreement among Mauritius, the U.S. and the U.K.



PINAK RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) voted last month by a huge majority (116 out of 193 members) to demand that the U.K. "withdraw its colonial administration" within six months over the Chagos archipelago in the Indian Ocean in favour of Mauritius. The archipelago is better known for hosting the U.S. military base at Diego Garcia. The non-binding vote was a rebuke to the U.K.

Coercive measures

For several decades the Chagos archipelago has been the cause of a dispute between Mauritius and the U.K., over the decision in 1965 to separate Diego Garcia from the rest of the archipelago for setting up the military base, in collaboration with the U.S. Mauritius, a British colony, achieved independence in 1968 but the U.K. refused to return the Chagos archipelago, claiming sovereignty over the islands. The U.K. depopulated Diego Garcia by expelling all its inhabitants, to facilitate the building of

the military base, paying just £4 million as compensation to Mauritius. In contravention of international human rights laws, from 1967 to 1973, the U.K. forcibly moved around 1,500 Chagossians to Mauritius and Seychelles, and prevented them from returning to their homes. The dispute festered over the decades, with Mauritius, as per its Constitution, rightly claimed sovereignty over Chagos and challenged the U.K.'s stand.

In February this year, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) had ruled that the U.K. had "illegally" detached Diego Garcia from the archipelago and split the islands. The ruling, also non-binding, observed that the decolonisation of Chagos was incomplete and the U.K. had the obligation to complete the decolonisation process. The court rejected the U.K.'s argument that the ICJ lacked jurisdiction and the matter was a bilateral issue.

The U.K. had invented a new category called the British Indian Ocean Territory and argued at the ICJ that it had sovereignty over the Chagos. The U.K. also stated, in support of its position, that the military base at Diego Garcia was essential to provide maritime security against terrorists, organised crime and piracy. The U.K. did not act on the ICJ ruling, compelling Mauritius to take the case to the



FILE PHOTO/REUTERS

UN, which has now accepted its sovereignty over the whole archipelago. The ruling highlights the isolation of the U.K. and the U.S. on this issue.

The U.K.'s decision to depopulate Diego Garcia was an egregious example of human rights violations. The U.S. and the U.K. have often wagged their fingers at developing countries on human rights violations and now find themselves in the dock for the same at the UN.

Mauritius is naturally elated and Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth has welcomed the UNGA resolution. The African Union, which has backed Mauritius to the hilt, has stated that it was unthinkable that in the 21st century parts of Africa are still under colonial administration.

India has played an important role, away from the public glare, in

this whole affair. India's relations with Mauritius are unique and it was a foregone conclusion that India would solidly back Mauritius's claims, given India's active role in decolonisation. The U.S. and the U.K. tried to influence India to restrain Mauritius. Both countries conveyed to Mauritius they could not hand over the Chagos as long as it is required for defence purposes. The realistic view is that nothing will change but some accommodation or agreement can be worked out. India is likely to play a not too insignificant role in working out a modus vivendi.

Though India was a strident critic of military bases in the Indian Ocean during the Cold War, geo-strategic changes in the last three decades have thrown up new challenges, with China making inroads into the Indian Ocean and occupying islands illegally in the South China Sea. The increasing footprint of China in the maritime domain has led to counter-vailing measures in the formation of the Quad, a loose formation of Australia, Japan, India and the U.S., and the renaming of the U.S.'s Pacific Command as the Indo-Pacific Command.

Resolving Diego Garcia

India-U.S. defence ties have also progressed significantly with the signing of the Logistics Exchange

Memorandum of Agreement, which provides mutual access to the armed forces of the two countries to selected military facilities. The other significant bilateral agreement is the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement, which facilitates encrypted communication between the two militaries. These developments have a bearing on Diego Garcia and India's more nuanced view on this military base.

Eventually, the issue of sovereignty will have to be finessed by agreements that allow continuation of the military base at Diego Garcia with guarantees that Mauritius will retain sovereignty over the Chagos archipelago. Mauritius will agree to lease out the island for a long period to the U.S. for maintaining the military base. The U.K.'s role is more problematic in the aftermath of the ICJ ruling and the UN resolution. It would be best for London to step back and hand over sovereignty to Mauritius and simultaneously work out the leasing arrangement with the U.S. India can play a pivotal role in bringing such an agreement to fruition.

However, over time, India began to see the benefits of leading SAARC, where neighbours became force multipliers for India's power projections. Some such as Bangladesh and Sri Lanka even outstripped India on growth and human development indicators, leading to more opportunities for engagement with them.

For a revival

There remain other possibilities. In a region increasingly targeted by Chinese investment and loans, SAARC could be a common platform to demand more sustainable alternatives for development, or to oppose trade tariffs together, or to demand better terms for South Asian labour around the world. This potential has not yet been explored, nor will it be till SAARC is allowed to progress naturally and the people of South Asia, who make up a quarter of the world's population, are enabled to fulfil their destiny together.

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Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty is a former Ambassador and Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs; he is a Visiting Fellow at the Delhi-based Observer Research Foundation. The views expressed are personal

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.

Language issue

The crisis caused in non-Hindi speaking regions as a result of the draft education policy has been defused.

But it cannot be termed a complete reversal (Page 1, "Mandatory Hindi goes out of draft education policy", and Editorial, "Crisis defused", both June 4). Insistence on one common language for the country is impractical. Apart from the mother tongue, English functions well as a link language. Considering the diverse nature of our country, it would be ideal to have only the two-language formula – mother tongue and English. However, this should not prevent individuals from learning other languages.

D. SETHURAMAN,
Chennai

■ One cannot discount the fact that Hindi is culturally

alien to the south. In such a situation, it is baffling why the Union government repeatedly followed attempts to ignore these strong sentiments. The south has done well economically and culturally without the need for Hindi. Language is to be learnt out of love and necessity, not because of a policy.

ANAND ARAVAMUDHAN,
Chennai

■ Straitjacketing a linguistic and culturally rich pluralistic nation like India into a Hinduland is wrong. The insistence on Hindi already impacts the job prospects of non-Hindi speakers in some areas of employment such as banks and the railways. The three-language formula was never earnestly implemented in the Hindi-speaking States. One hopes that this government is not pursuing what George Orwell

ominously hinted at: "Control the language and you control the people."

H.N. RAMAKRISHNA,
Bengaluru

■ Any language is an asset and the south, especially Tamil Nadu, has suffered in blocking the entry of Hindi. As a result, many a youngster has missed numerous opportunities on the job front. When Hindi is important, it becomes a necessity to know the language. Considering a language as taboo is being short-sighted.

T.V. SREKUMAR,
Puducherry

Bonhomie to end?

The possible parting of ways between the leaders of the Bahujan Samaj Party and the Samajwadi Party, Mayawati and Akhilesh Yadav, respectively, is not unexpected (Page 1, "Future

of SP-BSP turns uncertain in U.P.", June 4). Their gathbandhan was not based on conviction, social welfare objectives and ideology. Their one-point agenda, of routing the BJP, did not gain any traction. Politicians may attempt to grab power using any means but it is only the intelligence of voters that will ultimately prevail. In the same way, one can expect the bonhomie between the DMK and the Congress to fade.

B.S. JAYARAMAN,
Coimbatore

Water scarcity

All of India is staring at a water crisis. Water Resource Ministers in every State should ensure that they get the required expertise to store and use the rainwater that is expected during the monsoon. Blaming rain deficiency is not what they should be doing. Instead

they should, on a war footing, be ensuring that lake beds are cleared, silt removed from dams and rivers and every building, however big or small, has a working rainwater harvesting system.

G. PADMANABHAN,
Bengaluru

One of a kind

I still have a handful of dry curry leaves left in a packet which has travelled all the way from Mysuru to Delhi and guarded like treasure ("Open Page", "A plant waits for its patrons", May 26). Living in Delhi for about a year made me realise that it was neither morning yoga nor a cold shower which

would refresh the mind. It was only the fragrance of those curry leaves from the kitchen that did the magic. The struggle to find those leaves in vegetable markets in Delhi was no less than a treasure hunt.

A visit to our home in Jharkhand would leave my mother fretting about the plants. She would bestow her faith in the neighbours to look after them. I would often tell her not to worry and would get the sharp answer, "It is the small things that make life good." And boy, was she right.

AASHISH BHAGAT,
New Delhi

MORE LETTERS ONLINE:
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CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

A sentence in the Editorial, "Slowdown confirmed" (June 3, 2019), read: "Growth in gross value added (GVA), which is GDP minus taxes and subsidies, fell to ... slowdown." It should have been "minus taxes and plus subsidies".

The Readers' Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail:readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

Fine-tuning the education policy

Details about financing and institutional structures must be fleshed out



AMITABHA BHATTACHARYA

After about four years in the making, the draft National Education Policy, 2019 is out in the public domain, with comments sought from all stakeholders till June 30. Drawing inputs from the T.S.R. Subramanian Committee report and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), the K. Kasturirangan Committee has produced a document that is comprehensive, far-sighted and grounded in realities.

The idea that lifelong education is based on four pillars – learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and learning to be – has inspired the committee to cover every aspect of the education sector: school, higher, vocational and adult education. It also includes the whole gamut of professional education – engineering, medicine, agriculture, law, etc. It explains the scientific rationale behind the policy’s prescriptions and suggests how the proposals can be translated into practice at the State and Central levels.

Unique features of the policy

The draft policy seeks to revamp all aspects of the sector and does not shy away from suggesting brave new ideas.

In school education, one such idea is to cover children of 3-18 years [instead of the present 6-14 years under the Right to Education (RTE) Act], three years under early childhood care and education (ECCE) and four years under secondary education. Based on evidence from neuroscience that over 85% of a child’s cumulative brain development occurs prior to the age of six and that ‘school preparedness’ at Anganwadis is light on educational aspects, ECCE would facilitate play and discovery-based learning for children of that age group.

Another innovative idea is to achieve ‘universal foundational literacy and numeracy’ through initiatives like the National Tutors Programme and the Remedial Instructional Aides Programme. Introduction of school complexes, a system of modular Board Examinations to allow flexibility, setting up Special Education Zones in disadvantaged regions, recognising teachers at the heart



RITU RAJ KONWAR

of the system, moving teacher education into the university system, and stressing the importance of learning new languages are among the key recommendations.

The way ahead for higher education has also been marked by bold propositions. The aim is to double the Gross Enrolment Ratio from 25% to 50% by 2035 and make universities the hubs of research (with Tier 1 universities/institutions devoted primarily to research and some teaching, Tier 2 universities devoted to teaching and some research, and Tier 3 institutions comprising mainly colleges that are to be converted gradually into degree-giving autonomous institutions). The policy recognises the crucial importance of liberal arts (it recommends setting up five Indian Institutes of Liberal Arts offering four-year courses) and the study of modern and classical languages (it recommends setting up National Institutions for Pali, Prakrit and Persian). It proposes separate institutions for regulation, funding, standard setting and accreditation, a National Research Foundation, and a Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog/ National Education Commission. Interestingly, vocational education, meant for 50% of the students, is sought to be integrated with school and higher education.

Challenges in implementation

These are progressive ideas, but there are roadblocks in their implementation. These mostly relate to funding requirements and governance architecture.

First, what is recommended is a doubling of public funding to 6% of the GDP and increasing overall public expenditure on education to 20% from the current 10%. This is desirable but does not appear to be feasible in the near future given that most of the additional funding has to come from the States.

Though innovative financing schemes have been proposed, involving the private sector, how those schemes will shape up remains to be seen.

Second, while establishing new institutions for Pali, Prakrit and Persian appears to be a novel idea, shouldn’t the Central Institute of Indian Languages in Mysuru be strengthened and perhaps even upgraded to a university with an extended mandate to take care of these languages?

Third, expanding coverage under the RTE Act to include pre-school children is extremely important, but should perhaps be introduced gradually, keeping in mind the quality of infrastructure and teacher vacancies. Amendment of the Act can perhaps wait for a while.

Fourth, the idea of setting up the Rashtriya Shiksha Aayog under the Prime Minister and having it serviced by the MHRD is crucial in order to integrate the approaches and programmes of multiple departments. However, it is fraught with many administrative problems and possible turf battles. Bringing medical or agricultural or legal education under one umbrella is likely to be met with stiff opposition. What is going to happen, for example, to the National Medical Commission Bill, 2017?

Fifth, the idea of regulation being brought under the National Higher Education Regulatory Authority, standard setting under the General Education Council and funding under the Higher Education Grants Council may require a revisit so that there is synchronisation with the current Bill for the Higher Education Commission of India. Besides, the draft policy is silent on the Institutions of Eminence and agencies like the Higher Education Funding Agency.

Last, language issues have to be handled sensitively in view of their emotional overtones, as witnessed recently. Protests are often made without understanding the spirit of the text.

The details about financing and institutional structures should be fleshed out at the earliest, perhaps by an inter-departmental committee under the Cabinet Secretary. It is time for all conscientious persons to study the report and suggest the best path forward. If the political leadership backs it, implementation of the policy will transform our nation.

Amitabha Bhattacharya is a retired IAS officer who has also worked in the private sector and with the UNDP. Views are personal

For more inclusive private schools

Suggestions for better implementation of the Right to Education Act



‘AMERICA! V. NARAYANAN & KAVYA NARAYANAN

In India, the right to education was made a fundamental right by inserting Article 21A by the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002. It was enabled with the subsequent enactment of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009. However, its implementation has been a challenge for most States as they have discretion in how the Act gets implemented. Thus, as the new academic year dawns upon us again, a slew of queries and complications related to various provisions of the RTE Act need to be addressed.

No child left behind

The RTE Act bears many similarities to the U.S.’s No Child Left Behind Act, including school accountability, assessment standards and teacher training. Like the U.S., in India too States have been given major leeway in deciding the course of implementation. However, a problem that recurs every year is mandated access to underprivileged sections of society. Section 12 (1) (c) of the Act mandates all private schools (except for minority schools) to allocate 25% of their seats to economically weaker sections, i.e. those families with an income of less than ₹2 lakh a year, and other disadvantaged groups like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the physically challenged. The State government will then reimburse these schools for students admitted under this provision, at an amount per month that is determined by the State rules.

The process for admission under Section 12 (1) (c) is far from perfect. This is evident in the large number of vacancies in several cities in the country. For instance, on the last day of admissions under the RTE Act, under the first lottery there were 20,835 vacancies in Maharashtra.

Tamil Nadu, which has always been at the forefront of educational progress in India, has made certain strides in the implementation of Section 12 (1) (c). It has widened the ambit of “disadvantaged sections” to include HIV positive children and transgenders. A central-



ISTOCK PHOTO

ised database has been created by the State where people can access all the matriculation (State board) schools in the State which lie within 1 km of their residence. Another notification has been issued by the Tamil Nadu government to bring all schools affiliated to boards other than State boards under the control of its Director of School Education for RTE implementation.

Issues to be addressed

However, several issues remain. One of the main concerns is the absence of several CBSE schools on the school database set up by the State. Despite the use of GIS tagging, several parents complain that the system is faulty in identifying nearby schools. Financial problems continue to mar the system – many schools collect money for textbooks and uniform though this is part of the State-stipulated fees. This is a chain reaction: the Centre is supposed to release up to 70% of the funds for this programme which is often delayed. A PIL was recently filed before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court seeking direction to the Centre to release all pending RTE funds to Tamil Nadu. A Right to Information (RTI) petition found out that in the past seven years, the Tamil Nadu government has allocated a sum of ₹368.49 crore, while the Central government has allocated only ₹27.8 crore under the RTE in the same period. This leads to a financial crunch for the State and, by extension, the schools.

While moving the system online has led to transparency, in many States, including Tamil Nadu, the management committee as per the RTE Act has not been notified. RTE rules also state that unfilled seats can be filled again in September but governments have no con-

spicuous public announcements regarding this.

There have also been several grievances regarding the ‘1 km radius’ criterion, especially for rural residents who may not have any private schools in their vicinity. This criterion will eventually widen the rural-urban divide in educational outcomes. The Kerala Rules are more progressive as they acknowledge terrain limitations and the State has made provisions for adequate arrangements for providing elementary education.

Need for inclusion

The window for the admission process for RTE Act vacancies in private schools is very narrow. This causes many parents to miss the deadline, despite thousands of vacancies. The procedure for admission should be made through a single-point window online for all school boards, with computer kiosks to assist parents who may not be able to fill the form online. A mobile application should be built with live information on the number of seats available in each school under the 25% quota. An RTE compliance audit should be conducted for all schools every year by the State Education Department. Any aid given to private schools must be tied to the levels of compliance achieved by the school. Several schools do not adhere to the 25% quota. These schools should be penalised and derecognised if continuous violations occur. Every school should declare prominently that it is RTE compliant – and the admission procedure, including deadlines, should be conspicuously displayed at the school premises. On the government side of things, funds need to be released in a timely manner, so that it inspires confidence in schools to fill all the vacancies.

Section 12 (1) (c) of the RTE Act recognises the need for inclusion, and explicitly establishes responsibility on all stakeholders to contribute towards this goal. Consequently, private schools, which often become islands of the privileged class, will now become more inclusive. This socialisation will benefit all classes of society as we rise above our social biases to make our children not just better learners but better human beings.

‘America! V. Narayanan is an RTE activist through the INODA Organisation and spokesperson of Tamil Nadu Congress. Kavya Narayanan is currently pursuing an entrepreneurship programme in IIMB

SINGLE FILE

Making science accessible

We need to rethink how we organise scientific knowledge

MANU RAJAN



GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK PHOTO

The ability to self-correct is considered a hallmark of science. Journals publish material that advances a field in new ways. Studies that yield negative or non-confirmatory results of previous findings do not get priority, leading to insufficient replication of results. The peer-review process

for ensuring quality can also be marred by the personal interests of the reviewers. The dissemination of scientific findings has retained this basic form even after moving online.

We need to rethink how we organise scientific knowledge and whether it should continue to be structured in journal form. Research has become almost inaccessible to ordinary citizens due to subscription fees. Academic publishing must embrace a more democratic, dynamic and collaborative process. While the different variants of the newer open access model aim to distribute published research online and free of cost to the reader, the fees for publication is often met by the author, the employer, or through a research grant. To increase profits, publishers sometimes compromise on quality and accept undeserving articles.

Under the OpenWetWare project of MIT, 20 labs in different institutions around the world use a wiki-based site to share data, materials and equipment. The ground-breaking work on the twin primes conjecture was done primarily in a comment thread via the Polymath Project.

The procedure of citations in a traditional journal paper accords them the same status irrespective of whether their results are presumed, strengthened or challenged. A new model would let us know with a click whether ideas are likely to become redundant or are truly load-bearing. Rapid, collaborative and iterative processes can improve veracity of scientific knowledge through large-scale participation.

Max Planck once observed that revolutions in science must sometimes wait for funerals. Though democratic initiatives such as Hackathons are gaining ground, our research institutions are still wedded to the antiquated journal system. Even the few digital institutional repositories that exist are centred on journal papers; other assets potentially generated in-house such as lessons learned from projects could also be included. At the institutional level, researchers continue to be recognised primarily for the number of papers they publish and the citations these papers can garner.

Individualism and secrecy get rewarded; there is no incentive for knowledge sharing. The need for wider collaboration between different constituencies of knowledge production and dissemination has policy implications at the macro level as well. Instead of chasing the mirage of high global rankings of a few isolated institutes of excellence, should a democratic society’s priorities not be to figure out ways to encourage knowledge creation and sharing across different levels of society?

The writer is an Information Scientist working in the Archives and Publications Cell of the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru



DATA POINT

Voting pattern

A comparison of phase-wise vote shares of the BJP and the Congress in the 2019 Lok Sabha election shows that the BJP’s contested vote share remained above 48% except during the first phase, while the Congress’s share consistently hovered around 20-30%. Although the BJP contested in a substantial number of seats in the first two phases, its overall vote share was significantly lower compared to its performance in the other phases, since it fared poorly in most of south India. It polled over half of the total votes in the fifth phase conducted on May 12. By **The Hindu Data Team**

Phase	Total Seats	Seats contested by BJP	Seats contested by Congress	Contested vote share of BJP (%)	Contested vote share of Congress (%)	Overall vote share of BJP (%)	Overall vote share of Congress (%)
1	91	83	83	25.94	18.71	23.62	17.25
2	95	50	53	48.14	32.36	25.84	18.53
3	117	99	92	48.21	31.72	40.53	24.92
4	71	59	57	52.47	22.97	44.69	18.41
5	50	47	44	53.96	21.72	50.86	19.34
6	59	54	46	52.72	19.49	48.71	15.56
7	59	44	46	49.96	23.97	37.87	19.38

■ In A.P. and Telangana, which went to polls in the first phase, the BJP’s contested vote share was 1% and 19.45%, respectively. YSRCP and TRS polled the most votes in those States

■ In the fourth phase, despite receiving only 17% of the contested votes in Kerala, the BJP garnered over 40% of the overall votes due to its dominance in Gujarat, Maharashtra & northern U.P.

■ In the second phase, the BJP performed marginally better. But it put up a poor show in T.N. where its contested vote share was 28.52%. The DMK dominated in the State

■ In the third phase, the Congress polled close to 25% of the overall votes, its highest among all phases. The party’s vote share failed to go above 20% in the other phases

Comparison with 2014

The BJP’s highest vote share was in Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Uttarakhand. In these States it improved its 2014 performance. Its lowest vote share was in Sikkim, Andhra Pradesh and Lakshwadeep

State	BJP’s 2014 overall vote %	BJP’s 2019 overall vote %
Himachal Pradesh	53.85	69.11
Gujarat	60.11	62.21
Uttarakhand	55.93	61.01
Sikkim	2.39	4.71
Andhra Pradesh	8.52	1.0
Lakshwadeep	0.43	0.27

Major States and number of seats which went to polls:

Phase 1 A.P. (25), Telangana (17), U.P. (8), Maharashtra (7),

Phase 2 T.N. (38), Karnataka (14), Maharashtra (10), U.P. (8)

Phase 3 Gujarat (26), Kerala (20), Maharashtra (14), U.P. (10)

Phase 4 Maharashtra (17), Rajasthan (13), U.P. (13), M.P. (6), W.B. (8)

Phase 5 U.P. (14), Rajasthan (12), M.P. (7)

Phase 6 U.P. (14), Haryana (10), M.P. (8), Delhi (7), W.B. (8)

Phase 7 Punjab (13), U.P. (13), M.P. (8), W.B. (9)

FROM The Hindu. ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 5, 1969

No Hindi in govt. or aided schools in Tamil Nadu

The Chief Minister, Mr. M. Karunanidhi, said here [Madras] today [June 4] that Hindi should not be taught in any form in Government and aided schools in the State, although “minority” schools and Central schools might teach it as the main language or use it as the medium of instruction. He told reporters that if the Government allowed teaching of Hindi as the alternative main language in schools, it would amount to reviving it. Mr. S. Madhavan, Education Minister, who was also present when Pressmen met the Chief Minister, said it would be “dangerous” to allow Hindi to be taught in schools as the main language. A reporter pointed out that in many high schools Hindi was being taught as the main language to students in the English medium sections. “If that had been so, it was wrong”, Mr. Madhavan remarked. The Education Minister’s attention was drawn to a circular issued by a Tambaram school asking parents to take away their wards who were studying Hindi as the main language, since the Director of School Education had ordered that Hindi should not be taught in the school. Mr. Madhavan denied that any new orders had been issued by the Department. He, however, reiterated that the policy of the Government was to have only English and Tamil taught in schools.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JUNE 5, 1919.

The Reforms Despatch.

The Indian Association of Calcutta has issued [in Calcutta] a lengthy statement expressing its opinion on the Despatch of the Government of India of the 5th of March. The Association says that the Government of India failed most signally in its duty. The outer framework of the scheme of the Joint Report has been preserved but the Government have made recommendations which strike at its very root and alter it beyond recognition. The Association fails to discover any trace of responsible government or anything approaching to responsible Government in their recommendation.

CONCEPTUAL

Disruptive innovation

BUSINESS

This refers to any innovation that creates a market for a new product that disrupts an established market that is already big in size. The birth of new technologies like the Internet and email, for instance, severely disrupted the traditional postal network that served a huge market. The term was popularised by American business scholar Clayton Christensen in his 1997 book *The Innovator’s Dilemma* although it was first proposed in academic circles much earlier.

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<https://bit.ly/2lekelO>

FROM PAGE ONE

BSP will go it alone in bypolls, says Mayawati

However, stressing that “political compulsions cannot be fully overlooked,” Ms. Mayawati said she was sad to point out that the “SP’s base vote, meaning the Yadav samaj” didn’t stand fully with the SP even in seats where they are in strong numbers.

Referring to Budaun, Firozabad and Kannauj, where Yadav clan members Dharmendra Yadav, Akshay Yadav and Dimple Yadav lost, Ms. Mayawati said their defeats “force us to think...” as she claimed there was an internal sabotage within the community, perhaps a reference to Mr. Akhilesh’s estranged uncle Shivpal Yadav damaging the party.

“When SP’s own base vote in its key seats got scattered, then how would they have transferred their base votes to the BSP,” she asked.

Ms. Mayawati said the “SP people” have a lot to improve upon and asked them to emulate the BSP cadre in being prepared “under any circumstances” to struggle against the “casteist, communal and anti-people”

stance of the BJP. “And if I feel, that the SP chief along with his political work, is successful in making his people missionary, then we can surely walk together again in future. But if for some reason, he is not successful, then it would be better for us to walk alone,” she said.

Talking to reporters in Ghazipur, Mr. Yadav said if there was no alliance in the by-polls, his party would consult its leaders and prepare to contest in all 11 seats. “If the alliance is broken or things have been said about the alliance,” he would introspect, he said.

Mr. Yadav was in Ghazipur to meet the family of SP leader Vijay Yadav, a Zilla Panchayat member who was murdered a day after the 2019 Lok Sabha election result was declared.

“For us alliance is not important at this moment. What justice will that person who has been murdered get, is more important,” said the SP chief, who tried to avoid the question many times.

Relief for Bedi as SC restrains Puducherry govt.

It said the High Court did not understand the true import of the Government of Union Territory Act of 1963 and Rules of Business of the Government of Puducherry of 1963. Officers were being threatened with contempt action and this was leading to “administrative chaos.”

Solicitor-General Tushar

Mehta, appearing for the LG, had recently told the Supreme Court that governance in the Union Territory had come to a standstill after the High Court decision in April held that ‘incessant’ interference from the LG would amount to running a “parallel government.”

Giriraj Singh roils Bihar NDA with *Iftar* remark

Earlier, Mr. Kumar had not only attended the *Iftar* hosted by Mr. Manjhi but had also received an invitation from the opposition Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) to rejoin the *mahagathbandhan* (grand alliance).

Ever since the JD(U) leader decided last week that his party would not join the Union Council of Ministers led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for having being offered only a “symbolic representation”, ties between the JD(U) and the BJP are said to have suffered a strain. Though the State BJP and JD(U) leaders have publicly denied any rift, speaking privately to *The Hindu* some have admitted that “all has not been going well and anything is possible in the near future in Bihar between the two parties”.

Reacting to Mr. Singh’s remark, Mr. Kumar remarked to reporters, “*Isiliye ye sab karte hain, taaki aap log news banayiye* (he [Mr. Singh] does these things so that you can make news of

it)”. His deputy and senior State BJP leader Sushil Modi asserted, “There is no rift in the NDA...we celebrate both *Iftar* and *Holi* with equal zest and we feel proud of being Hindu”.

‘Warn him, not BJP’
However, the JD(U)’s newly appointed State Building Construction Minister Ashok Chaudhury reacted: “Has anybody stopped Giriraj Singh from arranging fruit feast during Navratra? I wish to warn him, not the BJP but him alone, that he must refrain from making such statements”.

With Mr. Singh’s remarks proving to be an embarrassment to the State BJP, it was left to Mr. Shah to intervene. The BJP president had admonished the Begusarai MP and asked him to refrain from making statements, according to a BJP leader.

Earlier, LJP leader Chirag Paswan said, “Our party would like to tell him that we celebrate all festivals.” (With PTI inputs)

Patients turn litigants as new rules stall therapy

One of the appellants, Krishna Tokas, in his plea filed through advocate Ajay Kohli, said he was suffering from a spinal injury and the notification of the new rules had resulted in stoppage of his Human Embryonic Stem Cell Therapy, which was required for his day-to-day sustenance of life and basic activities.

Health impact

His plea contended that if his treatment was discontinued even for a few days, it would have a serious impact on his health. Mr. Tokas said the clinic administering the treatment was now unable to function until it obtained a licence.

Aditya Kumar and Rahul Kaushik, in separate petitions, said they were suffering from Becker’s Muscular

Dystrophy, a rare, X-linked recessive inherited disorder.

Another petition was filed by Ms. Rita Devi, suffering from Dilated Cardiomyopathy, who had also stopped receiving Human Embryonic Stem Cell Therapy.

‘Submit all information’
The Bench said the treatment being provided to the four patients should not be hindered. It also said the clinics in question should submit all information on the treatment to the CDSO. “The authority shall examine whether the treatment or the products being administered, prima facie, fall within the scope of the expression ‘New Drugs’..., and communicate its view to the petitioner and the said clinic,” the Bench added.

Desertion, discord rattle Cong. ahead of revamp

Vikhe Patil quits; Gehlot-Pilot divide out in the open

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

As the Congress and its chief Rahul Gandhi take their time to carry out an “overhaul” of the organisation after the debacle in the Lok Sabha election, cracks within the party have begun to surface.

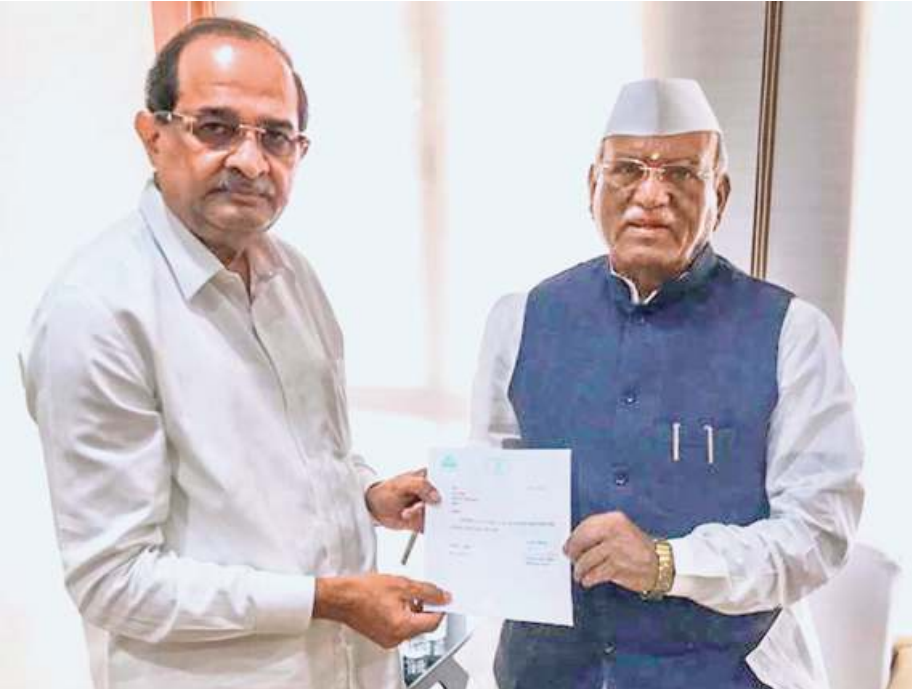
On Tuesday, former Leader of the Opposition in the Maharashtra Assembly and party veteran Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil resigned from the Assembly amid rumours that he could be following his son, Sujay Vikhe Patil, to the BJP.

The Congress in Rajasthan is in a churn after Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, in a TV interview, reportedly asked his deputy, Sachin Pilot, to shoulder responsibility for the party’s defeat in Jodhpur.

In an interview telecast by the ABP news channel on Monday, Mr. Gehlot said that Rajasthan Congress chief Sachin Pilot was quite confident that Vaibhav Gehlot would win the seat.

“So, I think he should take responsibility for at least this seat and there should be a post-mortem on why we lost Jodhpur,” Mr. Gehlot said. “A wrong impression is created in the media that the Pradesh Congress Committee and Chief Minister don’t get along.”

The Congress, however, downplayed the episode and blamed the media for ‘distorting’ the interview. “Mr. Ashok Gehlot has clearly said he takes collective responsibility for the defeat, that is both for the party and



Bidding adieu: Senior Congress leader in Maharashtra Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, left, tendering his resignation to Assembly Speaker Haribhau Bagade in Mumbai on Tuesday. ■PTI

government,” Congress’s communications chief Ran-deep Surjewala said.

“It seems a section of the media has become blind followers who can’t do anything other than praise the BJP and criticise the Congress,” he added.

‘Out of context’

Mr. Gehlot tweeted to say the comment had been taken out of context.

“This was in reply to some questions during the interview... some sections of the media are taking it out of context,” he tweeted, along with a video of the interview.

On May 25, during a meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC), Mr. Gandhi is reported to have blamed the Rajasthan Chief Minister for putting “personal inter-

Ashok Gehlot has clearly said he takes collective responsibility for the defeat, that is both for the party and government

RANDEEP SURJEWALA
Congress spokesperson

ests above party”, and charged him with focussing only on his son’s seat.

However, party officials close to Mr. Gehlot, who spoke on condition of anonymity, denied these charges, saying the Chief Minister had campaigned across the State for 26 days.

With the Congress losing all the State’s 25 Lok Sabha seats despite winning the Assembly polls just five months earlier, the ruling party in

Rajasthan has witnessed outbursts by several senior Congress leaders in the State.

State Cabinet Minister Lachand Kataria had posted a resignation letter on social media, which had been turned down by the Chief Minister last Saturday.

Tourism Minister Vishwendra Singh took to Twitter to lash out at the police and the administration, while Dausa MLA Ramesh Meena blamed the bureaucracy for preventing elected representatives from working.

In Haryana, a news report talking about a possible change of guard in the party’s State leadership saw supporters of Haryana Congress chief Ashok Tanwar taking to Twitter to blame senior Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda for the debacle.

Party seeks White Paper on rising bank fraud

Demands steps to rescue economy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday demanded a ‘White Paper’ on the rising incidence of bank frauds and cited a report by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to press its demand.

“Through an RTI query, it has been revealed that the the bank fraud cases rose in last one year to 6,800 to the tune of ₹1,500 crore,” Congress spokesperson Jaiveer Shergil said at a press conference at the party headquarters.

In 2017-18, the total number of bank fraud cases stood at 5,916, amounting to ₹41,460 crore, Mr. Shergil added.

Criticising the BJP government for not disclosing the names of wilful defaulters, he said, “The Supreme Court in 2015 directed the RBI and the government to disclose the names of the wilful defaulters. But the names have not been disclosed yet. Why is the BJP hiding these names?”

The Congress also appealed to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to take stock of the Finance Ministry and rescue the economy. “The BJP needs to come out of its election celebration mode to rescue the sinking economy from the bank frauds and flying fraudsters,” he said.

The remarks at the press conference notwithstanding



Jaiveer Shergil

ing, the Lok Sabha poll debacle seems to have put the principal Opposition party on the defensive.

Despite focussing on jobs and economic growth during the election campaign, the Congress has so far only offered a muted reaction to the fourth-quarter GDP growth figure of 5.8%, the slowest pace in the last five years, as well as the release of the official data on unemployment.

Congress president Rahul Gandhi, who had raised the issue of jobs and the economy as the main campaign plank, didn’t offer any comment even on social media platforms.

Chief spokesperson Ran-deep Surjewala, however, addressed a press conference on June 1 to criticise the increase in LPG cooking gas prices. “Modi 2.0 government has given a return gift to the people after coming to power,” he said at the time. “The Congress demands immediate reversal of the hike in cooking gas,” he stated.

PDP and NC oppose Centre’s delimitation plans

Govt. inflicting pain, says Mehbooba

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Regional parties in Jammu & Kashmir on Tuesday said they would oppose any move to implement the delimitation plan to increase seats in the State assembly, following speculation fuelled by a meeting of Governor Satya Pal Malik and Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi.

“When delimitation takes place in the rest of the country, the BJP is welcome to apply it to Jammu and Kashmir. Until then we in the National Conference will oppose, tooth and nail, any attempt to make changes without a mandate from the people of the State,” said NC vice-president and former

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah.

People’s Democratic Party president Mehbooba Mufti said she was distressed to hear about the Centre’s plan to redraw Assembly constituencies in J&K.

“Forced delimitation is an obvious attempt to inflict another emotional partition of the State on communal lines. Instead of allowing old wounds to heal, the Government of India is inflicting pain on Kashmiris,” said the former Chief Minister.

Jammu and Kashmir People’s Movement chief Shah Faesal asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to address the anxieties of the people of J&K on the proposed delimitation exercise.



Shah chairs meeting on petroleum

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a big-ticket inter-ministerial meeting on issues related to the petroleum sector at his North Block office on Tuesday.

A senior government official said the meeting revolved around the rich investments made by the State-owned oil and gas firms in Mozambique, an important trade partner in Africa. In 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi began his maiden Africa tour in Mozambique.

The meeting assumes significance as the government is yet to indicate any impending oil crisis that can arise in the wake of the American sanctions on Iran. Iran has warned that any military confrontation with the U.S. would push oil prices above \$100 a barrel. India imports about 10% of its oil requirements from Iran, which have been halted post sanctions. Hence, alternative sources have to be explored.

The meeting was attended by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, Commerce and Railways Minister Piyush Goyal and Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

Representatives from the ONGC and Bharat Petroleum were also present. Last year, ONGC Videsh announced that Mozambique had given its approval for the development plan for the Golfinho-Atum natural gas field in the Area 1 block in the Basin.

Bharat Petroleum has proposed to invest \$2.4 billion and Mr. Shah and others reviewed the deal before it goes to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

(With PTI inputs)

J&K election schedule to be out after Amarnath Yatra

EC to seek legal opinion on continuing President’s Rule

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission on Tuesday said that the schedule for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly election would be announced later this year, after the conclusion of the Amarnath Yatra.

The EC, under Article 324 of the Constitution and other laws, unanimously decided that conduct of the Assembly elections in the State would be considered later.

Regular monitoring

“The Commission will keep on regularly and on real-time basis monitoring the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, taking inputs from



all necessary quarters and after the conclusion of Amarnath Yatra will announce the election schedule,” it said.

The poll body had earlier sought some clarification from the Union Home Ministry on the issue, after examining the reports from the

Ministry refuses to share details on notice to Rahul

Cites RTI Act to turn down query

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Home Ministry has refused to share details on its notice to Congress president Rahul Gandhi following a complaint questioning his Indian citizenship, citing provisions of the RTI Act barring disclosure of information that will, among other things, impede the investigation.

In April, the Home Ministry served a notice to Mr. Gandhi, asking him to clarify within a fortnight his “factual position” on a complaint by BJP’s Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy questioning his citizenship status.

In an RTI application, the Ministry was asked to provide a copy of the notice to Mr. Gandhi and details of the response received from him.

“The information sought cannot be disclosed under Section 8 (l) (h) and (j) of the RTI Act,” it said in response to the application filed by PTI. Section 8 (l) (h) bars disclosure of “information which would impede the process of investigation or



Rahul Gandhi

apprehension or prosecution of offenders”. Provision (j) bars “information which relates to personal information the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest, or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual”.

Replying to another query in the RTI application, the Home Ministry said it was not required to maintain records of notices issued to individuals on their citizenship status.

The RTI query requested the Ministry to provide details on notice(s) issued to all individuals questioning their citizenship status between 2009 and 2019.

Three separatist leaders held in ‘terror funding’ case

Delhi court allows NIA 10-day custodial interrogation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI/SRINAGAR

Kashmiri separatist leaders Shabir Shah, Asiya Andrabi and Masarat Alam Bhat were arrested on Tuesday in connection with a terror funding case and produced before a Delhi court, which allowed the National Investigation Agency (NIA) their 10-day custodial interrogation.

The case relates to alleged terror funding in the Valley and involves Jama’at-ud-Da’wah (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed, the 2008 Mumbai terror attack mastermind based in Pakistan.

The NIA arrested the trio during in-chamber proceedings before Special Judge Rakesh Syal and sought 15-day custodial interrogation, said advocate M.S. Khan, who is appearing for the accused.

Shah and Andrabi were already in custody in separate cases, while Alam was brought from Jammu and Kashmir on transit remand where he was lodged in jail for alleged terror activities.

Both Shah and Andrabi were produced before the



Shabir Shah

court from jail in pursuance of the production warrants issued earlier.

Meanwhile the arrest of Shah and Alam evoked sharp reaction from the Hurriyat. “The shifting of Mr. Alam Bhat to the Tihar Jail by the NIA on Tuesday reflects arrogance of power. He has been behind bars continuously for the last nine years and his detention was quashed 37 times by the court. It seems those raising their voice for their fundamental rights peacefully within the contours of the law are made to rot in jails and interrogation centres,” said Hurriyat chairman Syed Ali Geelani.

Bilquees Shah, wife of Democratic Freedom Party (DFP) chief Shabir Shah, said she was informed by the NIA that Mr. Shah was arrested in a case registered in 2017.

Mr. Shah, who was earlier arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in July 2017, has been sent to judicial remand till June 13.

“How can they arrest my husband when he is already in Tihar Jail? He had no hearing scheduled on Tuesday but on June 16,” she said.

A DFP spokesperson also condemned the NIA’s move. “Such cheap acts cannot deter Mr. Shah from advocating the rights of the oppressed people,” he said.

Most separatist leaders were rounded up by the NIA in an operation against “illegal funding in J&K” that started in 2017.

Those arrested included JKLF chief Yasin Malik, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq’s spokesman Shahid-ul-Islam, Mr. Geelani’s son-in-law Altaf Ahmad Shah and Nayeem Khan.

(With PTI inputs)

IN BRIEF



Mrutyunjay Mohapatra appointed IMD chief
Renowned scientist and cyclone warning specialist Mrutyunjay Mohapatra was on Tuesday appointed chief of the India Meteorological Department (IMD), according to a Personnel Ministry order.

BJP wins power in West Bengal civic body

The BJP on Tuesday wrested control of the Bhatpara municipality in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas. This is the first civic body which the party has won in the State.

Parties miss deadline for giving donation details

The BJP and the Congress are among the parties that are yet to submit details to the Election Commission on the donations they received through electoral bonds.

No dissent in NEP panel: Centre

All members had signed the alternative version, says Union HRD Ministry

Anticipating trouble with the mandatory Hindi clause of the draft National Education Policy, all members of the committee which drafted it were asked to sign off on an alternative version even before the original draft was released, according to committee chairman K. Kasturirangan and senior officials at the Human Resource Development Ministry.

Several versions
"All [committee members'] signatures are there on this version," said a senior official closely involved with the preparation of the draft policy, disputing reports that two members of the commit-



K. Kasturirangan

tee - K.M. Tripathy and Ram Shankar Kureel - had disagreed with the changed language.

The official confirmed that several alternative versions of the draft had been pre-approved even before the committee officially submitted it to the new HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal

'Nishank' on his first day in office on Friday. Former ISRO chief Kasturirangan, who headed the drafting committee, also told The Hindu on Monday that alternative options had been approved and prepared. The draft report was, in fact, originally submitted to former HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar more than five months ago, on December 15, 2018, as confirmed by the submission letter reproduced at the beginning of the document.

Javadekar's denial
However, Mr. Javadekar denied that the NEP draft committee members had been asked to sign off on an alternative version without the mandatory Hindi clause

while he was in charge of the Ministry. It was "baseless", he told The Hindu. The Ministry did not release the report until the Lok Sabha elections were completed, and the new government had taken over. At a review meeting on Tuesday, HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank asked officials to prepare an action plan on how the various Indian languages across the country can be developed in an integrated manner, according to a Ministry statement. "We should also try to do further research in the wealth of knowledge hidden in our ancient texts and integrate them with modern day science, the Minister opined," the statement said.

Prasar Bharati will retain its autonomy: Javadekar

His predecessor, Smirti Irani, had run-ins with broadcaster

State broadcaster Prasar Bharati's autonomy will be retained, Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said on Tuesday after launching high-definition DSNG (digital satellite news gathering) vans at Doordarshan Bhavan in New Delhi.

"Autonomy of the Prasar Bharati is important and one must remember it gets its autonomy from an Act that was brought in post-Emergency to ensure that no one can tamper with its autonomy. And we too want that work smoothly and bring new programmes and find new dimensions," he said.

Mr. Javadekar's comments assume significance against the backdrop of former Information and Broadcasting Minister Smriti Irani's constant run-ins with the state broadcaster. Last February, rejecting certain



Prakash Javadekar

directives issued by the Ministry, Prasar Bharati Chairman Surya Prakash sought to remind the government that the organisation was an "autonomous" body and deciding on its behalf would amount to contempt of the Prasar Bharati Act.

'Credible programmes'
Mr. Javadekar lauded Doordarshan (DD) and All India Radio (AIR) for their credible programmes and coverage, and asked officials to promote channels such as DD Bharati.

He said the new vans would help DD in collection of high-quality visuals from outdoor spots. DD News has acquired 17 high-definition DSNG vans, which are capable of transmitting signal in HD and multi-camera production. Mr. Prakash said the public broadcaster was moving ahead in the direction of the "Sabka Vishwas" policy propounded by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Information and Broadcasting Secretary Amit Khare said a three-year plan had been approved by the government to develop the infrastructure of Prasar Bharati at a cost of ₹1,054 crore. "There are many channels in the country that claim to be the fastest, but DD and AIR command the highest credibility." DD and AIR have the highest numbers of viewers and listeners in the country, he noted.

Sparring partners



Sporting spirit: Union Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs Kiren Rijiju with champion boxer Mary Kom during a visit to the Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Tokyo seeks '2+2' meet with Foreign, Defence Ministers

S. Jaishankar, Japanese counterpart speak over phone

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and his Japanese counterpart, Taro Kono, held a telephone conversation on Tuesday and discussed maritime security in the Asia-Pacific region. This was the first consultation between the two since Mr. Jaishankar took charge on June 1.

"Foreign Minister Kono expressed his view that toward the realisation of a free and open Indo-Pacific, the role and responsibility of India as a global power is ex-



S. Jaishankar

tremely huge. Foreign Minister Kono also stated that it is Prime Minister [Shinzo] Abe's turn to visit India this year," a release from the Embassy of Japan said.

The discussion on the freedom of navigation in the Asia-Pacific region is significant as it comes against the backdrop of the continued multilateral consultations, in which both India and Japan are participants. Both India and Japan are parties to the 'Quad' dialogue process that includes Australia and the U.S. Mr. Abe visited India in 2017 when Mr. Jaishankar was the Foreign Secretary. The Japanese Minister also asked for a "2+2" meeting involving the Foreign and Defence Ministers.

Transgender rights Bill to be reintroduced

Gehlot assumes charge, lists priorities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

In the first 100 days of the Narendra Modi government's second term, the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry will reintroduce the lapsed Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016 and pay out the ₹3,000-crore arrears in the scholarship scheme for Scheduled Caste students, Union Minister Thaawarchand Gehlot said on Tuesday. Assuming charge of the Ministry for a second time, Mr. Gehlot said the Ministry would start several projects that had been approved and announced earlier within 100 days, including the National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation in Bhopal and the Centre for Disability Sports in Gwalior, both in Madhya Pradesh.



Thaawarchand Gehlot

Mr. Gehlot, a Rajya Sabha member from Madhya Pradesh, said the transgender rights Bill, which was introduced in Parliament in 2016 and passed by the Lok Sabha in December 2018, had lapsed and would need to be sent to the Cabinet for approval again and then introduced in Parliament. The Bill, meant to protect the rights of transgender people, had been criticised by the Opposition parties and members of the trans community for violating rights.

With airspace ban, Id turns bleak for Kashmir students

Around 250 of them are stuck in Central Asian universities

PEERZADA ASHIQ SRINAGAR

As many as 250 students from Kashmir studying in Central Asian countries will be unable to join their families for Id as a result of Pakistan's decision to bar its airspace for India-bound flights. Aamir Janwari, a second year medical student at a university in the Kyrgyz capital Bishkek, told The Hindu over the phone that he and 28 other students had been trying to get tickets since March. "The airlines keep cancelling flights. We feel stranded here," Mr. Janwari said. "I visited my home in Kashmir's Sopore way back in August last year. We so



Id shopping apace in Srinagar on Monday.

wanted to be with our families on Id. I hope the Pakistani government will withdraw the ban order soon," he said. Ifshan Ashraf Trumboo, also a medical student from Kreeeri in Baramulla, echoes Mr. Janwari's travails. "Ticket prices have gone up four-fold and become un-

affordable for students trying to get home," Mr. Trumboo said. Appeal to PMs He appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistan counterpart, Imran Khan, to resume dialogue and resolve the issue, pointing out that between 250 and 300 students from Kashmir are enrolled in Central Asian universities. Nazeer Ahmad, a resident of Pulwama, whose son is enrolled in a medical college in Uzbekistan, said his Id celebrations were dampened this year. "I have just one son. He is unable to travel on Id. It's him we celebrate our Id with. The two countries need to mend relationships for the larger good," he said.

Dutt was freed despite Centre refusing pardon

Release Rajiv case convicts as same criteria should be extended to them, says lawyer

S. VIJAY KUMAR CHENNAI

The Centre rejected a mercy petition moved on behalf of Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt in December 2015, just two months before he was released for "good conduct" by the prison authorities in Maharashtra, documents accessed by The Hindu show. Mr. Dutt was released in February 2016, eight months ahead of the completion of his five-year prison term. The Union Home Ministry, in its communication to the Home Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, on December 30, 2015, said: "The pardon petition filed by Justice (Retd.) Markandey Katju, Chairman, Press Council of India, and also 60 other Indian citizens on behalf of Sanjay Dutt



Sanjay Dutt

alias Balraj Dutt at present lodged in the Yerwada central prison, Pune, Maharashtra, has since been duly considered and the same has been rejected by the competent authority." In a delayed reply to a query by A.G. Perarivalan, one of the

seven life convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, under the Right to Information Act, the Ministry has given details of convicts whose petitions seeking remission of sentences, including that of Mr. Dutt, were rejected. Mr. Dutt, one of the convicts in the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment. The celebrity's release came weeks after a five-member Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in Sriharan alias Murugan & others vs the Union of India ruled that the Centre was the appropriate authority to reduce sentences in cases of offences under the Arms Act. "The Yerwada prison authorities admitted in writing that the Central go-

vernment was not consulted while granting remission of sentence to Mr. Dutt. But they did not disclose the fact that the Centre had rejected the mercy plea of the actor, which should have been a crucial point while considering his petition for premature release. We are not questioning or challenging the release of Mr. Dutt. Our argument is that the criteria for releasing him should be extended to other prisoners similarly placed," K. Sivakumar, one of the lawyers for Perarivalan, said on Tuesday. He said the release of Mr. Dutt was on the basis of provisions under the Maharashtra Prison Manual and not by invoking rules of the Criminal Procedure Code or Constitutional provisions.

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Due date for e-tender and sealed tender on 25.06.2019 at 11 am respectively. Bidders may opt either e-tender or sealed quotation method (should not be opt both the options). Help Desk (e-tendering): 08040482000/ +919686115318 for clarification contact O(A) : 04842323448/ 09446073122.

China warns tourists, firms on U.S. travel

It says they may be harassed by law enforcement agencies; rebuffs criticism of trade paper by Washington

REUTERS
BEIJING/WASHINGTON
China warned its companies operating in the United States on Tuesday that they could face harassment from U.S. law enforcement agencies, as it also rebuffed U.S. criticism of a trade white paper as “singing the same old tune”.

Relations between the world's two largest economies have nosedived in recent months due to a bitter trade war, U.S. sanctions against Chinese telecoms giant Huawei Technologies and U.S. support for Chinese-claimed Taiwan.

Tensions rose sharply after Washington slapped additional tariffs of up to 25% on \$200 billion of Chinese goods, prompting Beijing to retaliate.

After having warned Chinese students and academics on Monday about risks involved in studying in the U.S., the government on Tuesday widened its warning to include Chinese companies and tourists.

“In recent days, there have been incidents of gun violence, robberies and thefts in the United States,” China’s Ministry of Culture and Tourism said.

“The department reminds



Facing the heat: A manager checking a tactical vest at a factory in Guangzhou, which exports most of its products to the U.S. •REUTERS

Chinese tourists to fully evaluate the risks of going to the United States, to understand the maintenance of public order of their destination, the laws and regulations, and to conscientiously raise their awareness of safety measures to ensure their safety.”

Chinese companies and citizens in the United States should also be aware of harassment from law enforcement agencies, China’s Foreign Ministry added.

‘Pursuing blame game’
The Trump administration said on Monday that China was pursuing a “blame game” in recent public state-

ments and a weekend white paper that misrepresented the trade negotiations.

In a joint statement, the U.S. Trade Representative’s (USTR) office and the U.S. Treasury reiterated their view that China’s negotiators had “back-pedalled” on important elements of a deal that had been largely agreed, including on an enforcement provision. “Our insistence on detailed and enforceable commitments from the Chinese in no way constitutes a threat to Chinese sovereignty,” USTR and the Treasury said. “Rather, the issues discussed are common to trade agreements and are necessary to address the systemic

issues that have contributed to persistent and unsustainable trade deficits.”

‘U.S. backtracked’
China on Sunday issued a government policy paper on the U.S.-China trade dispute in which it asserted that the United States bore responsibility for setbacks in the talks, citing three instances in which Washington had backtracked on commitments made during the negotiations.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told reporters that the United States was “singing the same old tune”, and urged Washington to read China’s

white papers and stop telling itself it is infallible.

Chinese Vice Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen, a prominent member of Beijing’s negotiating team, said in presenting the paper to the media that it would be impossible for the United States to use “extreme pressure” to force concessions from China.

Acrimonious rhetoric between Beijing and Washington has steadily increased since talks broke down in early May over U.S. accusations that Beijing had backtracked on commitments to codify in law changes to its intellectual property and technology transfer practices to address U.S. demands.

The agencies, which have taken the lead in negotiations for the U.S. side, said that the impetus for the negotiations was China’s “long history of unfair trade practices” and U.S. negotiating positions have been consistent throughout the talks.

There have been no talks scheduled since the last round ended in May, and it remains unclear whether Mr. Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping will meet when they both attend the G20 leaders summit this month in Japan.

Sri Lanka situation ‘extremely worrying’, say OIC envoys

‘The lives and livelihoods of Muslims are threatened’

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Communal violence targeting Muslims in Sri Lanka has regional and global security implications, envoys of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) countries in Sri Lanka have cautioned, urging the government to take “every measure necessary” to prevent such incidents.

“The developing situation over the past few days has been extremely worrying with regards to the safety and protection of the Sri Lankan Muslim community, including some foreign Muslim refugees. The lives and livelihoods of Muslims, including their local stores and large business establishments, are threatened by the prevailing conditions with unforeseen, dangerous consequences,” they said in a joint statement on Tuesday.

Further, they sought “swift and stern judicial” action against perpetrators of communal violence, regardless of their “religious and political influence” in Sri Lankan society.

Their message comes a day after all nine Muslim Mi-



A Muslim woman standing outside her burnt house in Kottampitiya. •FILE PHOTO

nisters stepped down from their positions, in the wake of a fasting Buddhist monk’s demand that three prominent Muslim politicians – a Minister and two Governors – resign over Easter bombings. Scores of people marched in support of the monk, until he called off his hunger strike on Monday evening. The collective resignation of Ministers has stirred Colombo’s political circles, even as it pointed to the extent of the Buddhist clergy’s influence.

As many as 14 OIC-member states have missions in Colombo. Select envoys, who attended an Iftar ceremony hosted by President

Maithripala Sirisena on Monday, had a discussion with him following the event, on the developments since the April 21 Easter terror attacks. Conveying their concern over the “demonising” of Muslims by sections and the growing instances of hate speech, they requested President Sirisena to take steps to de-escalate tensions, sources present at the meeting said.

Speaking at the ceremony earlier, President Sirisena had said “the country will be doomed” if conflicts arise due to different ethnicities.

After the resignation of two Muslim Governors on Monday – following allegations linking them to Easter attacks suspects – President Sirisena appointed former Colombo Mayor A. J. M. Muzammil as Governor of the Western Province on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, a three-member committee has been appointed at the Police Headquarters to receive any complaints against former Minister Rishad Bathiudeen, and Governors M.L.A.M. Hizbullah, Azath Salley, who resigned on Monday.

IN BRIEF



Court denies Assange extradition request

COPENHAGEN
WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange should not be extradited to Sweden for a rape investigation, but can still be questioned in the case while he is imprisoned in Britain, a Swedish court has ruled. He would face a maximum of four years in prison if convicted of rape. AP

Indian-origin woman jailed for killing stepdaughter

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW YORK

An Indian-origin woman in the U.S. has been sentenced to 22 years to life in prison for strangling her nine-year-old stepdaughter to death in a bathtub in August 2016, a crime described as “unimaginable” by the court.

Shamdal Arjun, 55, of Queens, New York, was convicted last month of second-degree murder by a jury that deliberated for less than one hour before

Queens Supreme Court Justice Kenneth Holder. She was sentenced on Monday to an indeterminate term of 22 years to life in prison.

“The defendant in this case goes beyond the tales of evil stepmothers. This defendant committed the unimaginable – she wrapped her hands around her stepdaughter’s little neck and squeezed the life out of her,” acting Queens District Attorney John Ryan said in a harsh statement.

Phenomenal trade deal with U.K. possible: Trump

‘Two or even three times of what we’re doing now’

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

U.S. President Donald Trump promised a “phenomenal” post-Brexit trade deal with Britain as he met outgoing Prime Minister Theresa May on Tuesday to boost their frayed alliance against a backdrop of political turmoil.

As protesters angered by his state visit flew a huge bal-



Donald Trump with Theresa May in London. •AFP

loon of a baby Trump in diapers and blocked traffic in central London, the U.S. leader heaped praise on Ms.

May and scorn on Opposition Labour chief Jeremy Corbyn.

The U.S. President dismissed thousands of protesters rallying nearby as “fake news” and said he turned down a meeting with Mr. Corbyn – who himself took part in the protest – branding him a “somewhat negative force”.

“There is tremendous potential in that trade deal. I say probably two and even three times of what we’re doing right now,” he told a joint press conference with Prime

Minister Theresa May. Supporters of Brexit believe a new trade agreement with the United States is crucial to Britain’s success outside the EU.

Concern over NHS
But there are concerns among some British politicians that the much-loved state-run national health service would be opened up to U.S. private companies. “When you’re dealing on trade, everything is on the table. So NHS or anything else. A lot more than that,”

Mr. Trump told reporters.

Ms. May is stepping down in the coming weeks over her failure to deliver Brexit on time, but she and her Health Minister have said the NHS is not for sale.

On Tuesday, she said Britain remained committed to “an ambitious free trade agreement” after Brexit. But she added: “The point about making trade deals is, of course, that both sides negotiate and come to an agreement about what should or should not be in that trade deal for the future.”

Sudanese opposition rejects military’s plan

To continue civil disobedience

REUTERS
KHARTOUM

Sudan’s opposition on Tuesday rejected a plan by its military rulers to hold elections within nine months, a day after the worst bout of violence since Omar al-Bashir was ousted as President in April.

At least 35 people were killed on Monday when security forces stormed a protest camp in Khartoum.

The military council that has ruled since Mr. Bashir’s overthrow afterwards cancelled all agreements with the opposition alliance.

But Madani Abbas Madani, a leader of the alliance, said an open-ended civil disobedience campaign would



A protester in Khartoum on Tuesday. •REUTERS

continue to try to force the council from power. “What happened – killing protesters, wounding and humiliation – was a systematic and planned matter to impose repression on the Sudanese people,” he said.

Gunman shoots down 4 in Australia

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SYDNEY

Four people are dead and one person injured in Australia after a gunman opened fire late on Tuesday in the northern city of Darwin, said authorities.

A 45-year-old man has been taken into custody. The Northern Territory police said there were no further public threats, and the incident was not believed to be terror-related.

“Today, June 4, 2019, has been a devastating day in the Northern Territory,” Chief Minister Michael Gunner told reporters.

The suspected shooter was known to the police, having been released from prison in January.

Chinese cartoonist Badiucio unmask after Beijing threats

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
HONG KONG

A Chinese cartoonist whose anonymous political satire earned him comparisons with Banksy – and the wrath of Beijing – has outed himself as a former law school student who became politicised after watching a Tiananmen Square documentary in a dorm room.

Mr. Badiucio, whose subversive pieces regularly mock President Xi Jinping, has revealed his face and his personal story for the first time in the hope it will help protect him from the Chinese authorities.

He says he and his family have been under threat ever since he was forced to cancel a highly anticipated show in Hong Kong last year, with Chinese police allegedly telling relatives “there would be



Badiucio standing in front of his artwork titled ‘Light’ at his studio in Melbourne. •AFP

no mercy” if he didn’t pull out.

“I don’t think the Chinese Communist Party will ever forget or forgive its enemies, which in this case is me,” he said from Melbourne, where he currently lives. “The only way to defeat that kind of terror is to expose everything openly... so everyone around in the world can see

what’s going in China.”

Mr. Badiucio, 33, grew up in Shanghai and was considering a career as a lawyer until one night he and three friends began watching a downloaded Taiwanese drama. Unbeknown to them, the file had *The Gate of Heavenly Peace* – a detailed documentary about the 1989 crackdown on Tiananmen square protesters – spliced in. The group was transfixed.

None of the young men – all students at East China University of Political Science and Law – had ever heard of the uprising or its bloody ending, thanks to party censors and the “Great Firewall”. “Not a single teacher talked about that issue in law school,” added the artist, who is keeping his real name under wraps.

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NOTIFICATION
EMPANELMENT OF SUPPLIERS OF TUR DAL FOR THE YEAR 2019-20 (REVISED GUIDELINES)
Karnataka Food Civil Supplies Corporation invites online application, with revised guidelines, from eligible suppliers for supply of Tur Dal for PDS and other welfare schemes of Government of Karnataka, for registration for participating in the e-auction conducted through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka. The detailed terms and conditions for registration eligibility criteria, procedure to participate through e-auction etc., can be obtained from the website: **www.ahara.kar.nic.in** or **www.kfcsc.com** and the interested participants should get registered on the online registration portal of e-government of Karnataka at **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/eprocurement/regn/supplier_registration/terms.seam** and after obtaining e-procurement user id the applicant shall get registered for technical evaluation on **<https://kfcsc.kar.nic.in/kfcscdd4/login.aspx>** The revised guidelines permit the participation of applicants outside Karnataka State also. Last date for registration is **11.06.2019, 3.00 pm**. The e-auction is tentatively scheduled on **14th and 15th of June 2019**. The enrolment of applicants for subsequent e-auction for 2019-20 for supply of tur dal is kept open till further notice. For clarifications if any please contact- (1) Commissioner, Food & Civil Supplies Department Gok, at 080-22262187 **e-mail.com.fcs-ka@nic.in** in **ddpd.fcs-ka@nic.in** **ddit.fcs-ka@nic.in** (2) Center for e-governance Room No.141, M.S. Building Gate Number 2, Bengaluru-560 001, CEG Helpdesk number: 080-23010900/01 and 080-38013000. Applicants may also contact the Joint Director/Deputy Director of Food department at the district headquarters.

Sd/-
Managing Director

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING
(Office of the Chief Engineer, 1st Floor, PHI Building, Seshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
(Phone No. 080-22274892 E-mail: cekhdsdp-hfw@karnataka.gov.in / cekhdsdp@gmail.com)

No: H&FWD/Eng.Wing/CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,3&5/TND/Nabard-RIDF-XXIV/Corrigendum-3/2019-20/293 Date: 23-05-2019

CORRIGENDUM TO TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tender invited vide Notification No: HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,3&5/TND/ NABARD -RIDF-XXIV/2018-19/3872 Dated: 08.03.2019 & Corrigendum issued (1) No: H& FWD/ Eng. Wing/CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,3&5/TND/Nabard-RIDF-XXIV/Corrigendum/2019-20/138 Dated: 04.05.2019 and (2) No: H&FWD/Eng.Wing/ CE/TA-1&3/AE-1,3&5/TND/Nabard-RIDF-XXIV/Corrigendum/2019-20/190 Dated: 14.05.2019 for the work of **Construction of additional 3 (Three) floors to New MCH Building at Holenarasipura in Hassan District (Sl. No.3).** Now the calendar of events are revised for this work as under :-
1) Last Date for Receipt of Tenders: **17-06-2019 upto 16.00 Hrs.**
2) Note of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **19-06-2019 at 16.00 Hrs.**
NOTE: 1) All the rights are reserved by the under signed for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. 2) Henceforth, any changes in the schedule / contents will not be published through news papers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal. The other conditions in the tender will remain unaltered.
Sd/- Chief Engineer
HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer
VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.3 Arasikere
Ph: 08174233111 e-mail: eeypd3ask@gmail.com

No: EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-03/YGC/TN04/C-04/2019-20/159 **Dated:29.05.2019**
Corrigendum-4 Ref: 1.SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION /TN-04/2018-19/1085 Dated: 02.03.2019 2. Corrigendum-1 of EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-03/YGC/TN-04/C-01/2018-19/1111 Dated: 07.03.2019 3. Corrigendum-2 of EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-03/YGC/TN-04/C-02/2018-19/33 Dated: 23.04.2019 4. Corrigendum-3 of EE/YP/VJNL/DIV-03/YGC/TN-04/C-03/2018-19/140 Dated:21.05.2019

The“Percentage” tender is invited through e-portal on behalf of Managing Director, VJNL, Bengaluru by the undersigned vide tender notification ref (1). The following corrections are made to short term tender notification TN 04/2018-19/1085 dated: 02.03.2019. Statement showing the details of corrections made in tender notification.

Sl. No.	Calendar of Events	DATES AS PER CORRIGENDUM-3	MODIFIED DATES
a.	The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document, i.e. the Tender Schedules, bid documents and other documents in the web site http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (non-refundable) from	22/05/2019 to 06.06.2019	30.05.2019 to 10.06.2019
b.	Last date of Submission of Bid.	06.06.2019 at 16.00 Hrs	10.06.2019 at 16.00 Hrs.
c.	Pre bid meeting at the Chief Engineer office, VJNL, Yettinahole project Zone Tumakuru.	29.05.2019 from 11.00 to 12.00 Hrs	04.06.2019 from 11.00 Hrs to 12.00 Hrs
d.	Opening of technical bid at the Superintending Engineer office, VJNL, Yettinahole project circle No-01 Tumakuru.	10.06.2019 at 11.00 Hrs	12.06.2019 at 16.30 Hrs
e.	Date of Opening of financial bid.	12.06.2019 at 16.30 Hrs	14.06.2019 at 16.30 Hrs

Note: Except the above, all other conditions remain unaltered.
Sd/-Executive Engineer VJNL, Y P Division, No.3 Arasikere

MARKET WATCH		
	04-06-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	40,084	-0.46
US Dollar	69.26	0.00
Gold	33,370	0.52
Brent oil	61.72	0.48

NIFTY 50		
	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	425.55	0.80
Asian Paints	1421.50	-37.75
Axis Bank	282.80	-10.15
Bajaj Auto	2983.90	-50.70
Bajaj Finserv	3312.85	-35.25
Bajaj Finance	3531.15	20.10
Bharti Airtel	352.40	-0.35
BPCL	408.35	-8.75
Britannia Ind	2963.10	-7.10
Cipla	562.65	-5.60
Coal India	263.40	2.50
Dr Reddys Lab	2665.35	-58.75
Eicher Motors	20043.45	95.30
GAIL (India)	358.25	0.80
Grasim Ind	886.50	-8.55
HCL Tech	1085.85	-29.35
HDFC	2223.95	-6.50
HDFC Bank	2452.30	-4.80
Hero MotoCorp	2752.70	-87.55
Hindalco	197.80	-1.60
Indus Indriver	1815.60	-24.10
Indiabulls NPL	796.45	-14.40
ICICI Bank	419.10	-3.80
IndusInd Bank	1638.00	-24.65
Bharti Infratel	274.00	5.25
Infosys	735.30	-9.35
Indian Oil Corp	165.35	-4.35
ITC	279.25	0.70
JSW Steel	274.20	-0.35
Kotak Bank	1531.35	0.10
L&T	1569.80	10.40
M&M	650.75	-2.65
Maruti Suzuki	7051.80	28.90
NTPC	135.05	1.95
ONGC	170.60	-1.55
PowerGrid Corp	192.95	-0.10
Reliance Ind	1351.65	-8.55
State Bank	352.40	-3.05
Sun Pharma	411.15	-5.65
Tata Motors	173.25	-1.25
Tata Steel	497.65	0.00
TCS	2183.10	-59.20
Tech Mahindra	748.30	-9.30
Titan	1248.00	-18.25
UltraTech Cement	4692.00	-70.30
UPL	1010.95	3.85
Vedanta	165.90	1.70
Wipro	293.75	2.45
YES Bank	152.80	3.35
Zee Entertainment	346.05	-13.50

EXCHANGE RATES		
Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on June 04		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	69.06	69.38
Euro	77.63	77.99
British Pound	87.53	87.94
Japanese Yen (100)	63.86	64.15
Chinese Yuan	9.99	10.04
Swiss Franc	60.45	69.78
Singapore Dollar	50.43	50.67
Canadian Dollar	51.38	51.62
Malaysian Ringgit	16.53	16.62
Source: Indiat Bank		

BULLION RATES CHENNAI		
June 04 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses		
Retail Silver (1g)	39.6	(39.4)
22 ct gold (1g)	3097	(3076)

DHFL delays repayment of NCDs worth ₹900 crore

MANOJIT SAHA
MUMBAI

Mortgage lender Dewan Housing Finance Corp Ltd (DHFL) has delayed repayment of non-convertible debentures (NCDs) of about ₹900 crore as the company is facing a liquidity crunch. The NCDs were due for repayment on Tuesday.

In a late evening statement on Tuesday, the mortgage financier said this was technically not a default since there was a ‘cure period’ of 7 days, within which it could service its obligation.

“As per the Trust Deed, in the event that payment of interest on the NCDs is not met on the due date, there is a cure period of seven (7) working days to meet the obligation. In case the non-payment continues post that cure period, only then the same shall constitute an event of default,” DHFL said in its statement.

“The company is taking all steps necessary and shall ensure that the payment fallen due by way of interest is paid within the above mentioned Cure Period of seven (7) working day. Hence this is a delay & not default,” it added. Following the default by IL&FS in August, many NBFCs are facing liquidity crunch. To conserve liquidity, DHFL had stopped premature FD withdrawals. DHFL also sold its strategic retail assets including Aadhar housing, Avanse and DHFL Pramerica Asset Managers to ensure liquidity for repayments. In May, Care Ratings downgraded NCDs worth ₹17,655.12 crore to BBB- from A, due to delays in the announcement of a strategic investor that DHFL planned to bring in. Since September 2018, DHFL has repaid close to ₹40,000 crore of financial obligations, the lender said.

Global growth to slow in 2019, says WB

Forecasts for India through 2021 remain intact; prognosis for impact of U.S.-China trade tensions grim

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

The World Bank Group has downgraded global real GDP growth to 2.6% for 2019, down by 0.3 percentage points from its previous forecast in January. Growth is expected to increase marginally to 2.7% in 2020. India's growth forecasts are projected to be 7.5% per annum in 2019, 2020 and 2021 - not having been downgraded from their January estimates.

The multilateral development bank's June 2019 Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report, titled, ‘Heightened Tensions, Subdued Investment’ says the global economy “has continued to soften and momentum remains weak” and investment, sluggish.

Downside risks to global growth, as per the report, include rising trade barriers, a build-up of government debt and slowdowns that were deeper-than-expected in sev-



All is not well: Downside risks to global growth include rising trade barriers, build-up of government debt. ■K.R.DEEPAK

eral major economies. Sluggishness of investment in Emerging Markets Developing Economies is part of a protracted (barring the 2016-2018 recovery) slowdown following the global financial crisis, as per the report.

“Stronger economic growth is essential to reducing poverty and improving living standards,” said World Bank Group President David Malpass, in a statement.

IL&FS saga: SFIO for action against auditors

Seeks action for recovery of losses

PTI
NEW DELHI

Having initiated a crackdown on a suspected coterie of fraudsters in the IL&FS case, the government's financial fraud probe agency SFIO has recommended necessary action against guilty auditors and also a detailed internal investigation by the RBI to identify the reasons for the delay in detecting the lapses.

The Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) has also recommended necessary action as per the Companies Act by the current management of IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN) for recovery of the losses suffered by the company due to the fraudulent conduct of the coterie, officials said.

In its first charge sheet, the SFIO had identified a nine-member coterie be-

hind the huge financial fraud at IFIN which, it alleged, connived with the statutory auditors and some independent directors to defraud the company while running it as a personal fiefdom.

The charge sheet has been filed after an extensive probe into the affairs of IFIN, a subsidiary of Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS), while similar probes are underway for other group entities, including the parent firm that ran into deep financial trouble last year after it was found to have amassed huge stressed loans totalling over ₹90,000 crore. The SFIO said it was observed that the RBI, in its inspection reports 2015 onwards, had repeatedly pointed out to the non-compliance to group exposure norms at IFIN.

SEBI probe into Leel Electricals sees a twist

Promoters seek action against investor

ASHISH RUKHAIYAR
MUMBAI

The ongoing regulatory probe into the alleged siphoning off of funds in Leel Electricals, formerly Lloyd Electric and Engineering Ltd, has taken a new turn with the promoters filing a complaint with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) against well-known investor Porinju Veliyath, who till recently was also one of the largest public shareholders of the company.

The listed entity had alleged Mr. Veliyath was trying to ‘arm-twist’ the firm at a time when it is in the midst of a forensic audit – mandated by the SEBI – and wants the regulator to probe whether he was intentionally deflating the stock by spreading rumours before the probe was completed.

Further, the firm also sought SEBI to restrain him from speaking about the company till the probe was underway as the matter was sub-judice.

“SEBI may investigate specifically that the price of the scrip has been falling and he has been deflating, depressing the price of stocks of LEEL by spreading baseless allegations,” stated the complaint by Leel Electricals, highlighting that the share price fell from ₹56 to ₹12 in a short duration.

“We would therefore be grateful if the SEBI could investigate and in the interim, using its wide powers in the interest of investors and securities market, restrain Mr. Porinju Veliyath from speaking to the media on the complaint in this matter,” added



the letter written on May 14.

Sale to Havells
This assumes significance as the company is under the regulatory radar for alleged siphoning off of funds by entities after it sold its consumer durables business to Havells India in 2017 for about ₹1,600 crore.

Incidentally, the complaint regarding alleged siphoning was made by Mr. Veliyath whose investment firm Equity Intelligence India owned almost 7.5% in the firm till December 2018. While the current holding of Mr. Veliyath's firm in Leel Electricals could not be ascertained, disclosures on the exchange show he had been consistently paring his holding.

When contacted, Mr. Veliyath declined to comment. Bharat Punj, MD, Leel Electricals, did not respond to calls and messages.

The company is of the view that since SEBI is a civil court under Section 11(3) of SEBI Act and a civil proceeding is currently underway in the matter, any comment by an individual could impede or influence the inquiry and hence, a restraining order is required.

so that new debt adds to growth and investment.”

Slowdown in U.S.

Advanced economies, as a group, are expected to slow down in 2019, particularly the Euro area, due to weaker investments and exports.

U.S. growth is expected to slow to 2.5% this year, down from an estimated 2.9% in 2018, and then down to 1.7% and 1.6% in 2020 and 2021, respectively. In India, where growth was 7.2% in FY2018/2019, investment – both, private and in public infrastructure – offset a slowdown in government consumption.

Economic activity slowed in the last quarter of 2018, and spilled over into the first quarter of 2019.

India's growth at a projected 7.5% is supported by credit growth and an accommodative monetary policy. “Support from delays in planned fiscal consolidation

‘India joblessness data not factored into World Bank growth estimates’

Investment figures, manufacturing weaker than expected

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON DC

The new macroeconomic data released by the government last Friday, which showed joblessness for 2017/18 at 6.1%, a 45-year high, was not factored into the World Bank Group's June 2019 Global Economic Prospects (GEP) report, Ayhan Kose, Director of the Bank's Global Prospects Group told *The Hindu*, during a briefing call with reporters.

“This data is rather new. Obviously we have not [taken] it into account ... our cut off date for the data as we indicated in the report is May 23 [2019]. Having said that, India's GDP growth slowed to 5.8% in the first quarter [of 2019] from 6.6% in the previous quarter,” Mr. Kose said.

“Manufacturing activity and investment figures were weaker than expected.” This, Mr. Kose said, was attributable to the uncertainty in the run-up to the elections and was “somewhat expected.”



■GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

India's growth forecasts are projected to be 7.5% per annum in 2019, 2020 and 2021 – not having been downgraded from their January estimates. A growth rate of 7.2% is estimated for

at the central level should partially offset the effects of political uncertainty around elections,” the report says.

“The continuing weakness in corporate and financial sector balance sheets remain a constraint for growth despite recent improvements in the Ease of Doing Business in India,” Ayhan Kose, Director of the World Bank's Prospects Group said to *The Hindu*, in a conference call with reporters to discuss the forecasts.

The prognosis for the impact of U.S.-China trade tensions is grim. “... adverse effects from weakening growth and rising policy uncertainties involving the world's two largest economies would have predominantly negative repercussions,” it says. A no-deal Brexit could have ‘severe impact’ on the U.K. and to a lower extent, on its European trading partners in the event of disruptions and delays at the border.

2018. In its 2014-2019 term, the NDA government had faced criticism over its handling of data. For instance, the unemployment data from the National Sample Survey Office, leaked in January, was officially released only last week, post-elections. In January, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation published revised GDP growth numbers for 2017, showing an increase of 1.1%, with growth pegged at 8.2%.

In March, 108 economists and social scientists from around the world, wrote an open letter ‘Economic Statistics in Shambles’ to highlight the data credibility problem.

World Bank representatives did not wish to comment on the data credibility issue during Tuesday's briefing call.

RBI study moots boost to acceptance infra for digital payments

‘Need to cut volume of paper-clearing’

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

While there has been robust growth in the volume of retail electronic transactions amid a strong regulatory framework, the country needs to enhance its payments acceptance infrastructure, a study on digital payments by the Reserve Bank of India has observed.

The findings are from a report on ‘Benchmarking India's Payment Systems’, which provides a comparison of the payment ecosystem in India with the payment systems and usage trends in other major countries.

The central bank had undertaken the exercise of benchmarking India's payment systems vis-à-vis payment systems in a mix of advanced economies, Asian economies and the BRICS nations.

Robust value

“The study found that India has a strong regulatory system and robust large value and retail payment systems, which have contributed to the rapid growth in the volume of transactions in these payment systems,” RBI said.

“The report, however, notes that India is required to take further efforts to bring down the volume of paper-clearing and increase acceptance infrastructure to enhance digital payments,” the RBI said.

The data used for the benchmarking were mostly for the years 2012 and 2017.

While the report acknowledged that the growth in the volume of payment systems transactions had been strong and steady, the relatively high level of cash in circulation offered scope for a higher level of digitisation of payments, it said.

“There is an increase in Point of Sale (PoS) terminals, including mobile terminals, which, however, may not be enough to cater



to the large population,” the report said.

The report observed low digital payment of utility bills, despite the existence of the Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS), an integrated interoperable bill payment system which started live operations from October 12, 2017.

‘Lag in broadband infra’

The report also said digital communications infrastructure in the form of a robust mobile network is growing strongly, though broadband infrastructure “lags behind.”

The report highlighted that the last few years since demonetisation have witnessed a sea change in the payments landscape, with large growth in digital payments.

In 2018-19, the volume growth of retail electronic transactions was 95%, compared to 51% in the previous year, mainly due to the steep growth in the use of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), the report said.

The report also said that the level of credit card penetration in India was low when compared to advanced countries, where it was a preferred option for making payments.

“To encourage usage of cards, card infrastructure is required to be robust, strong and secure. Further, the last-mile availability of PoS terminals is relatively lower in India and much needs to be done in this regard,” it added.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS:TIRUPATI
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-tenders are invited for Printing and Supply of 08 Lakhs Nos. of TTD Diary (Big) and 02 Lakh Nos. of TTD Diary (Small) for the year 2020. For Tender Notice & details of e-tender please log on to the web site
<http://www.approcurement.gov.in> or
<https://tender.approcurement.gov.in>.
For further details if any please contact:0877-2264292.
Roc.No.PR4/13907/Adv.No.99/PRO/2019/04-06-19. EXECUTIVE OFFICER

KMML 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
Phone: 0476-2686722 to 2686733 (12 lines), 2651000.
Fax: 91-476-2686101, 2686721
Email: kmml@md3.vsnl.net.in, URL: www.kmml.com
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Competitive Tenders are invited for following. For more details please visit the E-Tendering Portal <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in> or www.kmml.com

No	Tender Id	Items
1	2019_KMML_278081_1	Construction of foundation for dedicated fire water storage Tank in KMML
2	2019_KMML_279737_1	For the Supply of LED Linear T-Bulb
3	2019_KMML_279455_1	For the Supply of Bearing Block BB 100
4	2019_KMML_277826_1	For temporary storage shed to be capped with HDPE / Sheets suitable materials in KMML
5	2019_KMML_280344_1	For prospective competent end user for the STOCK PILED IRON OXIDE FROM OUR PONDS IN KMML
6	2019_KMML_279163_1	For the supply of SS PIPES

Chavara 05.06.2019 For The Kerala Minerals And Metals Ltd
Our Products: Titanium Dioxide, Titanium Tetra Chloride, Nano Titanium, Titanium Sponge

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division,
Begur Road, Bommanahalli, Bengaluru-560068.
No: BBMP/EE/BPD/TEND/02/2019-20 Date: 03.06.2019
INVITATION FOR SHORT TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)
The Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division, BBMP, invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/National Highways or any State Government Organization for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount put to Tender (₹. in Lakhs)	EMD (₹. in Lakhs)
1.	Construction of Dialysis Center at Ward No 190. (3rd Call)	145.42	1.50

Calendar of Events : (1) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 17.06.2019 upto 4:00 pm. (2) Last Date for Receipt of Queries on 17.06.2019 upto 04:00 pm in the office of the undersigned. (3) Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on 10.06.2019 at 11:30 am in the Office of the Chief Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division. (4) Technical Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Bommanahalli Project Division on 19.06.2019 at 11:00 am. (5) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: After Approval of Technical Bid through e-procurement. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website: <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> or www.bbmp.gov.in
Sd/- Executive Engineer - Bommanahalli Project Division
Pay Development Charges - Help to Develop Bengaluru

UDAIPUR SMART CITY LIMITED
Municipal Corporation, Udaipur, Town Hall, Udaipur
Tel: 0294-2425325 Website: www.udaipursmartcity.in, E-Mail: uscl2016@gmail.com
Notice Inviting E-Tender E-01/2019-20 Date:-28.05.2019
NIT No.: USCL/dev { }/2019-20/01
The USCL invites online unconditional bids through e-procurement portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> from eligible bidders as per criteria mentioned in bid document, for following works.

S. No	Name of work	Estimat ed Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Bid Security (Rs. in Lacs)	Tender Fee Processing Fee pay to M.D. RISL, Jaipur	Period of completion	Publish date & time of downloading of bid documents	Pre-bid meeting	Last date of submission of bids	Last date & time of submission of documents in hard copy as stated under	Date of opening of technical bids
1	Supply, Installation, & Commissioning of 5 Nos. Weighing Bridges at Udaipur	25.00	0.50	1,000/- 1,000/-	3 Months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	10.06.19 up to 06:00 PM	11.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	11.06.19 at 04:00 PM
2	Supply, Installation & operation of 5 years of Automatic Bottle Crushing Machine at various places in Udaipur	29.00	0.58	1,000/- 1,000/-	3 months /60 months O&M	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	10.06.19 up to 06:00 PM	11.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	11.06.19 at 04:00 PM
3	Construction of Boundary wall for C&D waste centre at Kurnahronka Bhatt	30.00	0.60	1,000/- 1,000/-	3 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	10.06.19 up to 06:00 PM	11.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	11.06.19 at 04:00 PM
4	Conservation & Development Work of Historic Gate "Ram Pole" in the walled city Udaipur	68.00	1.36	1,000/- 1,000/-	4 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	10.06.19 up to 06:00 PM	11.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	11.06.19 at 04:00 PM
5	Procurement of Mobile Trommel for Blomining along with conveyors for ULB	85.00	1.70	1,000/- 1,000/-	3 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	10.06.19 up to 06:00 PM	11.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	11.06.19 at 04:00 PM
6	Extension of Control and Command centre building	98.00	1.96	5,000/- 1,000/-	6 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	10.06.19 up to 06:00 PM	11.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	11.06.19 at 04:00 PM
7	Development, Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of Plastic waste to Fuel Plant on VGF Basis at Balicha, Udaipur	150.00	3.00	5,000/- 1,000/-	6 months /180 months O&M	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	11.06.19 at 11:00 AM	21.06.19 up to 03:00 PM	24.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	24.06.19 at 04:00 PM
8	SITC of 200 Kw/p Roof top solar Power Plant at MRF Facility, Titardi with 12 years O&M	161.00	3.22	5,000/- 1,000/-	6 months /144 months O&M	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	11.06.19 at 11:00 AM	21.06.19 up to 03:00 PM	24.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	24.06.19 at 04:00 PM
9	Construction of civil work for C&D Waste Processing Plant at Balicha	161.00	3.22	5,000/- 1,000/-	6 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	-	21.06.19 up to 03:00 PM	24.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	24.06.19 at 04:00 PM
10	Supply and Establishment of Construction and Demolition waste processing plant (50 TPD along with Paver and Brick Manufacturing Machinery) at Udaipur	175.00	3.50	10,000/- 1,000/-	6 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	11.06.19 at 12:00 PM	21.06.19 up to 03:00 PM	24.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	24.06.19 at 04:00 PM
11	Heritage Conservation work of Bagore ki haweli Udaipur	195.00	3.90	10,000/- 1,000/-	6 months	01.06.2019 from 11:00 AM	11.06.19 at 12:00 PM	21.06.19 up to 03:00 PM	24.06.19 (Up to 03:00 PM)	24.06.19 at 04:00 PM
12	Design, Supply, Installation, Erection, Commissioning and operation & Maintenance of Municipal solid waste Treatment equipments and Machineryes for 30 TPD capacity at Titardi site Udaipur (With operation and Maintenance for 5 years)	300.00	6.00							

IN BRIEF



Low-cost carrier IndiGo unveils non-stop flights

NEW DELHI
Low-cost carrier IndiGo launched Mumbai-Dammam and Chennai-Kuala Lumpur non-stop flights. The former will commence operations from July 5 and the latter from July 15. IndiGo will also operate a second direct flight between Mumbai and Doha from July 15. Introductory fares start at ₹6,999. "We are committed to expanding our network to meet travellers' requirements," said William Boulter, chief commercial officer.

Bank of China starts India operations

MUMBAI
Bank of China, one of the four largest state-run commercial banks of China, has started India operations with a maiden branch in Mumbai. "The launch of Chinese bank in India comes after a series of successful meetings between Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2018 to strengthen the strategic engagement between the 2 countries," the lender said.

Ashok Leyland inks pact with Suryoday SFB

CHENNAI
Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) has entered into a three-year pact with Suryoday Small Finance Bank Ltd. to offer end-to-end financial solutions to ALL's customers. The bank will work towards catering to customer needs through auto loans with easy monthly repayment plans, the bank said in a statement. Moreover, it would leverage technology for enhancing customer experience, the bank added.

Manipal to buy TTK stake in Cigna

₹500-cr. transaction to help raise Manipal Group's stake in JV to 51%, from 19.5%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

TTK Group has decided to exit from the Cigna TTK health insurance joint venture (JV) by selling its 31.5% stake to Manipal Group for ₹500 crore.

Manipal Education & Medical Group (MEMG) chairman Ranjan Pai told *The Hindu* that his company would increase its holding in the JV to 51% from the existing 19.5% at a cost of ₹500 crore. The Cigna Corporation of the U.S. will continue to hold 49% stake.

"We are buying the stake from TTK Group as they are exiting. However, all these, except the name change of the joint venture, are subject to further approvals from the regulator." With TTK's exit, the name of the JV has been



Chairman Ranjan Pai (second from left) says MEMG's aim is to become India's third-largest health insurance firm.

changed to ManipalCigna Health Insurance Company Limited.

The venture has also adopted a new corporate identity, a new logo and a new website. These changes are effective immediately and all future business activ-

ities will be under the new company name.

Dr. Pai said: "Our aim is to become the third-largest standalone health insurance player in the country in the next couple of years."

Star Health Insurance, Apollo Munich, Religare and

MaxBupa are the leading standalone health insurance players in the country.

High-growth sector
Health insurance is a high-growth sector in the country, growing at a compounded annual growth rate of 26%. Medical inflation has been high with disease burden seeing a steady rise in the country.

"Despite all these, the country is underinsured. However, people are slowly realising the importance of having a safety net when it comes to health," he added.

The Indian insurance sector had "tremendous" growth potential and was an important market for Cigna Corporation, said Jason Sadler, president, Cigna International Markets.

Airtel Africa eyes \$750 mn via LSE listing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel on Tuesday said its subsidiary Airtel Africa expected to raise at least \$750 million through its listing on the main market of the London Stock Exchange (LSE).

The proceeds from the listing, Bharti Airtel added, would be used to reduce the net debt.

"The offer is targeted to raise \$750 million (plus a primary greenshoe option of up to 15%) and will be used to reduce the net debt," Bharti Airtel said in a filing to the stock exchanges.

Bharti Airtel further added that Airtel Africa was also considering a listing of its shares on the Nigerian Stock Exchange.

Queen Maxima warns govts. against rise of monopoly, oligopoly

Situation likely in emerging economies

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN
THE HAGUE

Governments in developing economies should guard against the possibility of businesses growing into monopolies or oligopolies, Queen Maxima of the Netherlands said on Tuesday.

"As new technologies appear, the likelihood of a winner-takes-all situation could be more pronounced in emerging economies, especially in the digital space," Queen Maxima said while speaking at the plenary session of the Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2019 here.

"Because of the absence of infrastructure, a new innovative player can build an ecosystem to address the innovation challenges around their business models," she added. "This is, of course, needed to transform a market in the beginning, but might lead to a monopolistic or oligopolistic market structure." The Queen went on to say that it was therefore important for regulators in developing countries to mitigate against excessive market concentration.

Key prerequisites

"For all these things to work in an inclusive and fair way, we will need certain prerequisites," she said. These key prerequisites include cybersecurity, digital ID systems, customer data protections, financial and digital literacy, data privacy and connectivity to all segments of the population.

The Queen did add that regulation should not stifle innovation but at the same time should protect consumers and the stability of systems. Speaking on the



Queen Maxima

previous day, U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo had also shared advice for governments seeking to encourage entrepreneurship, as India is currently doing.

"First, entrepreneurs need the right to private property – both physical property and intellectual property," Mr. Pompeo said. "Without this fundamental right – one that we take for granted too often, I think – there's no incentive to innovate, because there's no reward for that innovation."

"The second thing entrepreneurs need is the rule of law," he added. "It's pretty basic – a legal system that is predictable, consistent, creates enforceable rights, and creates understandings among suppliers and customers and employees – all of those things that permit organisations to thrive and to prosper."

The third element, Mr. Pompeo said, was for governments to "stop strangling business." This is pertinent to India as it tries to climb the ranks of the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index.

(The correspondent is in The Hague at the invitation of Foreign Press Center, U.S. Department of State.)

CVL steps into Ayurveda sector with Herbolab buy

Buys 64.6 % stake for ₹32.2 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

Marking its entry into the Ayurvedic medicines' segment, CESC Ventures Ltd. (CVL), a RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group company, has acquired a stake in Herbolab India Pvt. Ltd. that makes Ayurvedic medicines and products.

In a regulatory filing, CVL said that a 64.6% stake had been bought in the 29-year-old company for ₹32.2 crore. The company, which has a pan-Indian presence, clocked a turnover of ₹1.94 crore in 2018-19. It has the brand name of 'Dr. Vaidya's'.

"The investment in Herbolab will help the company expand its existing portfolio into the ayurvedic products

The acquisition will help the firm expand its portfolio into the Ayurvedic products segment

segment," the firm said, adding that the acquisition would bring in synergies to the company's business and long-term strategies.

CVL, which was listed in January this year as part of the recast of the group's flagship CESC Ltd., has three business segments – business process management, property and FMCG under which there are brands like Too Yumm and Evita. Too Yumm marked the group's entry into packaged snack foods business in 2017.

CCI fines pharma firms, others ₹74 cr.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has levied a total fine of more than ₹74 crore on pharma firms – Himalaya Drug Company and Intas Pharmaceuticals – along with its senior officials as well as two Madhya Pradesh-based drug groupings for indulging in anti-competitive trade practices.

The regulator held the drug associations and pharma firms responsible for mandating the requirement of obtaining no objection certificate prior to the appointment as stockists which resulted in limiting and controlling the supply of drugs and medicines in Madhya Pradesh.

Lulu Group to open 25 GO Sport superstores

Group to invest ₹250 cr. in next 5 years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Tablez, the retail arm of Abu Dhabi-based LuLu Group, will open 25 GO Sport multi-brand superstores in India in the next five years at an investment of ₹250 crore.

The first store was launched in Mumbai in May, the second would be opened on June 8 in Bengaluru while another three GO Sport outlets would come up in other cities by the end of this year.

Dedicated zones

Each of these 10,000-14,000 sq ft GO Sport stores would have dedicated zones for outdoor, trekking, climbing, workout/gym and serious sports.



Adeeb Ahamed

"The sports superstore format is something new in India.

"GO Store will bring together some 70 of the world's biggest and specialist sport and fitness brands under one roof," said Adeeb Ahamed, managing director, Tablez.

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL PROJECT ENGINEER
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, PIU
CIVIL LINE NARSINGHPUR (M.P.)
PHONE No. 07792-230465 E-mail:-dpepiu.narsinghpur@mp.gov.in
JABALPUR DATE 30-05-2019
Online bids for the following works are invited from registered contractors and firms of repute fulfilling registration criteria :

S. No.	Tender Portal No.	Name of work	District	Probable Amount Contract (Rs. in lakh)	Ernest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (in Rs.)	Period of completion (in months i/c Rainy Season)	Name of office to which physical submission to be sent
1	2019_PW_PIU_2804_0_1	Balance work of Govt High School Building at Kunda Chhota Distt Narsinghpur (M.P.)	Narsinghpur	68.52	68520.00	10000.00	06(Six) Months i/c rainy season	Office of the Additional Project Director, South Civil Line, Near G.C.F. Barrier, PIU Jabalpur (M.P.)
2	2019_PW_PIU_2805_7_1	Construction of Combined Tehsil Office Building Saikheda Distt. Narsinghpur (M.P.)	Narsinghpur	375.08	375080.00	15000.00	12(Twelve) Months i/c rainy season	Office of the Additional Project Director, South Civil Line, Near G.C.F. Barrier, PIU Jabalpur (M.P.)

1 All details relating to the Bid Document (s) can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from the website, <http://mptenders.gov.in>
2 Bid Document (s) can be purchased after making online payment of portal fees through Credit/Debit/Cash Card/Internet Banking.
3 The Bid Document (s) can be purchased only online from 09.00(time) 30.05.2019 (date) to 17.30 (time) 11.06.2019 (date). Other key dates may be seen in Bid Data Sheet.
4 Physical submission (EMD and Technical Bid) shall be received in the above mentioned office of the Additional Project Director, MPPWD, PIU only through Speed Post of Indian Post and Telegraph Department on date 11/06/2019 up to 5:00 PM
5 Amendment (s) to NIT, if any, shall be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

DIVISIONAL PROJECT ENGINEER
PWD PIU NARSINGHPUR (M.P.)
G-11714

Department of Industries Directorate of Industries
3rd Floor Nepal House, Ranchi 834002 Jharkhand

NOTICE
FOR
SELECTION OF CONSULTING/ CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT/
COMPANY SECRETARIAL FIRM AS A RESOURCE INSTITUTIONS (RI) FOR
FORMATION OF PRODUCER COMPANY FOR
CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT IN JHARKHAND

Directorate of Industries, Department of Industries, Govt. of Jharkhand is in the process of developing Clusters through Producer Company to access them technical, financial and Grant in aid under various schemes of Govt. of India like SFURTI Scheme, MSME-CD schemes and other State sponsored scheme for cluster development. A Consulting/ Chartered accountant/ Company Secretarial firm as a Resource Institutions (RI) capable of forming Producer Company are invited to participate in bidding process.

The detailed RFP documents can be downloaded from the official website of the Department i.e. <http://www.jharkhandindustry.gov.in/>. The last Date for Submission of bid is **17.06.2019 till 16.00 hours**. The bid will be opened **18.06.2019 at 1630 hours**.

sd/-
PR 207853 (Industries)19-20*D Director Industries

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Bharat Nirman through Rural Roads
Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency,
First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun.

Ref.No. : 2474/11-02(xiv)ITCO/URRDA/18 Dated : 31-05-2019

BHARAT NIRMAN UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice-02(Garhwal Zone-WB)/2019-20

The Government of India has received a loan/credit number "LN 8864 IN" from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association towards the cot of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works as detailed in NIT. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Chamoli, Dehradun, Pauri, Rudrapur, Tehri & Uttarkashi for 37 number of Package with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 161.50 Crore including their maintenance for two years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent".

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 15-06-2019

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with the CONCERNED/RESPECTIVE CIRCLE OFFICES only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time submission of bids.

Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 12-07-2019 01:00 PM. For further details please log on to www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in

Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun
DIPR-UK-8030

* Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.
Note : For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

JHARKHAND COMMUNICATION NETWORK LIMITED
(A SPV under DoIT& e-Gov. Govt. of Jharkhand)
Registered Office: H/No. – 347, Project Building 3rd Floor, HEC Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004
CIN: U74999JH2017SGC009474, Contact:0651-2446147

NIT. (Tender Ref:- JCNI-08/2019). Short Notice Tender

Jharkhand Communication Network Ltd. invites online bid through e-Procurement process from eligible firms/agencies for "Hiring Of Human Resource Agency or Recruitment of Various Posts for JCNI" based on scope of work as mentioned in re-tender document. The bid shall be downloaded/submitted online from the Website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>. The bidder(s) should have necessary portal enrolment with their own Digital Signature Certificate

(a)

S.N.	Name of Work	EMD	Cost of Tender Document	Period of Validity
1	"Hiring Of Human Resource Agency or Recruitment of Various Posts for JCNI"	Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousands Only) in the form of Demand Draft or Bank Guarantee in favour of CEO, Jharkhand Communication Network Ltd. Payable at Ranchi, Jharkhand	Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees One Thousand only) in the form of Demand Draft in favour of CEO, Jharkhand Communication Network Ltd. Payable at Ranchi, Jharkhand	180 Days

(b) Period of availability of tenders online date & time bidding on-line/last date of seeking clarification/date of opening of tender papers are given below:-

S. N.	e-Procurement Officer	Place of Opening and Pre-Bid	Availability tender on-line for bidding	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid
1	Sri Anurag Lakra Call No. +91-9430732109 Or Email id: jcni.itdept@gmail.com	Jharkhand Communication Network Ltd. 3rd floor, Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004	Bid Downloading Date From 03/06/2019 at 4:00 PM to 17/06/2019 at 01:00 PM	Date and time of Online Bid Submission From 04/06/2019 at 03:00 PM to 17/06/2019 at 03:00 PM 18/06/2019 at 04:00 PM

Sd/- CEO
Jharkhand Communication Network Ltd. Ranchi, Jharkhand

P.R. 207836 Information Technology(19-20)-D

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
7TH CIRCLE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT GOPESHWAR

S. N. 2333/ 110 -7/2019 Dated 29/05/2019

National Competitive Short Notice Bidding (e-Tendering)

Superintending Engineer, 7th Circle, Public Works Department, Gopeshwar on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhand" invites through e-tendering for the construction of following works. Tenders from Serial No. 1 to 4 are of single bid system and tender at Serial No. 5 is of two bid system. All detail information relating to tender shall be available on <http://www.uktenders.gov.in> from dated 04.06.2019.

S. No.	Name of work	Amount of Bid Security (Rs. Lakhs)	Validity of tender (in days)	Cost of Tender Document	Completion Period (in months)	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	Under State Sector Hill side cutting, Scupper Construction and muck disposal work from KM 0/0 to 1/40 in Chamoli Distt., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi for Gopeshwar mandir Marg to Vaitarni-Sirokhoma-saituna-Bairagana M.R.	1.96	120	4000 + G.S.T	9	Registration in Category C or above for Road Work Under State Govt./Govt of India
2	Under State Sector Hill side cutting, Scupper Construction and muck disposal work from KM 2/0 to 3/40 in Chamoli Distt., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi for Gopeshwar mandir Marg to Vaitarni-Sirokhoma-saituna-Bairagana M.R.	2.04	120	4000 + G.S.T	9	Registration in Category B or above for Road Work Under State Govt./Govt of India
3	Under State Sector Hill side cutting, Scupper Construction and muck disposal work from KM 0/0 to 1/40 in Chamoli Distt., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi for Village Dungal -Bijrakot-Chhinka (Kothagadhar) to Nauridhar- Baula-Durgapur Bridge M.R.	2.14	120	4000 + G.S.T	9	Registration in Category B or above for Road Work Under State Govt./Govt of India
4	Under State Sector Hill side cutting, Scupper Construction and muck disposal work from KM 2/0 to 3/40 in Chamoli Distt., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi for Village Dungal -Bijrakot-Chhinka (Kothagadhar) to Nauridhar- Baula-Durgapur Bridge M.R.	2.06	120	4000 + G.S.T	9	Registration in Category B or above for Road Work Under State Govt./Govt of India
5	Under State Sector improvement and Black topping of Gopeshwar - Ghingram M.R. to Nail-Kuday M.R. in Chamoli Distt., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi	5.30	120	5000 + G.S.T	9	Registration in Category A/A+ and above for Road Work Under State Govt./ Govt of India

Note- Above tenders are being invited in anticipation of permission to divide the cutting works into parts.

DPR UK 8032

India holds the aces in its opener against a wounded South Africa

Kohli's men, rested and refreshed, will be keen to hit the ground running; the Proteas are in a predicament after two defeats and injuries to Steyn and Ngidi

ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP
ENGLAND & WALES 2019
PREVIEW

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR
SOUTHAMPTON
It's been a week since the ICC World Cup commenced with the game involving England and South Africa at the Oval. The last few days witnessed a medley of lop-sided clashes and nerve-shredding upsets but India, cricket's commercial heart, was yet to stride onto the turf. After the Indian Premier League concluded on May 12, Virat Kohli's men rested a bit, jetted to holiday destinations and a few of them lit up their Instagram accounts.

Mixed bag
Once they assembled back in the United Kingdom, two warm-ups were played. The mixed bag featured a defeat against New Zealand and a triumph over Bangladesh. Finally, India will turn up at the World Cup when it

takes on South Africa at the Hampshire Bowl here on Wednesday. Interestingly when Kohli addressed the media on Tuesday afternoon, a conch being blown could be briefly heard. Obviously a fan had sounded out the battle call and the expectations are bound to quadruple. India holds the aces against a rival that is coping with its present predicament

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of having suffered two losses. The result against England was on expected lines, but the defeat to Bangladesh was a hope-snuffing one. South Africa has to play remarkably well in the remaining fixtures to stay in contention for a knock-out berth.

THE FACE-OFF
South Africa vs India
SOUTHAMPTON
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Table with 5 columns: Matches, SA, Ind, Tied, NR. Rows: Overall, World Cup.

The absence of the injured duo of Dale Steyn and Lungi Ngidi will further hurt the Proteas while Kohli's men step in with added confidence. Ranked second in the ODI rankings, India is in the top-matrix but it has some worries. In the two practice games, the opening alliance of Rohit Sharma and Shikhar Dhawan yielded a mere three and five. A lot depends on the kind of starts that Rohit and Dhawan can bequeath and the two have it in them to strike big. Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri would be hoping that the warm-ups were a blip from an otherwise solid pair. Rahul at No. 4 K.L. Rahul has seemingly cemented himself at the No. 4 spot after scoring 108 against Bangladesh in the practice

joust. But he has to do more. With Kohli and perhaps M.S. Dhoni, flanking him on either side at three and five, Rahul has to be both the glue and the spicy sauce. The all-rounders' quotient is sure to have Hardik Pandya while others like Vijay Shankar and Ravindra Jadeja may get a look-in based on the conditions. Bumrah's role Speedster Jasprit Bumrah's role will be huge and India would like to believe that its seamers and wrist spinners are better than what South Africa could fling. For the Proteas, veteran Hashim Amla, declared fit for the clash, and Faf du Plessis have to excel while Kagiso Rabada helms an attack that is relatively anaemic despite the presence of a wily Imran Tahir.

In England, eyes are equally cast on the pitch and the skies. The surface here recently ushered in the host's 373 for three and Pakistan's 361 for seven. Yet, with clouds being constant sentinels, the speed merchants can gain additional venom.

Mild drizzle forecast The forecast hints at mild drizzle and both Kohli and his counterpart du Plessis will gaze at the weather-gauge, when they pick their resources. The teams (from): India: Virat Kohli (Capt.), Rohit Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan, M.S. Dhoni, K.L. Rahul, Ravindra Jadeja, Kedar Jadhav, Dinesh Karthik, Hardik Pandya, Vijay Shankar, Jasprit Bumrah, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Mohammed Shami, Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav. South Africa: Faf du Plessis (Capt.), Hashim Amla, Quinton de Kock, J.P. Duminy, Aiden Markram, David Miller, Chris Morris, Beuran Hendricks, Imran Tahir, Andile Phehlukwayo, Dwaine Pretorius, Kagiso Rabada, Tabraiz Shamsi, Rassie van der Dussen and Lungi Ngidi. Umpires: Richard Kettleborough and Michael Gough; Third umpire: Richard Illingworth; Match referee: Ranjan Madugalle. Match starts at 3 p.m. IST.



The battle begins: India skipper Virat Kohli will go into the contest against South Africa with added confidence.

Happy we are finally going to play, says Kohli

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR
SOUTHAMPTON
There was an air of calmness around Virat Kohli. He walked in confidently, took his time to settle down, wore his spectacles and patiently answered the questions. Ahead of the World Cup clash against South Africa, Kohli struck an optimistic note in the pre-match press-conference at the Hampshire Bowl here on Tuesday. First-up he said: "We are very happy that finally we are going to start playing." And then when asked about South Africa being plagued by injuries, he refused to take the opposition lightly: "South Africa is very talented, a very dangerous side on their day and even with the replacements, they will be a very strong side." Fringe benefits The Indian captain admitted that his unit's late start in the World Cup comes with its share of fringe benefits: "It is a bit of an advantage, I have



Huge responsibility: India's bowling will rest on Jasprit Bumrah's shoulders.
to say, in terms of understanding how the games have gone, what the conditions have to offer, what the over-cast conditions bring into play or when the sun is out. "It's a totally different ball game altogether (especially) what the conditions are at 10.30 in the morning compared to afternoon. We have had a lot to absorb." Kohli lauded his squad's

the most balanced side." Jadhav is fit The skipper also revealed that Kedar Jadhav is back to 'full fitness' and when a South African scribe probed about Kagiso Rabada's disparaging remarks against him, Kohli was at his diplomatic best and said he would rather talk straight with the fast bowler. And would he like to emulate his prolific starts from previous World Cups - Kohli had scored centuries in India's opening games during the 2011 and 2015 editions? The Indian captain replied: "When I walk out to bat, come down the stairs, people will say we need a hundred. "My focus is, if I am in a position to be able to do that again, but more importantly make the team win, that will be my goal. "And if it takes a hundred runs, 150, 50, 60, 70, 40, whatever it is, I am ready to do that."

Important to stay strong: du Plessis

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SOUTHAMPTON
World Cup press-conferences may seem as brutal inquiries for South African captains. In the 2011 edition, Graeme Smith had wet eyes at Dhaka. And on Tuesday, after leading his side to two defeats in the latest championship's opening rounds, and then coping with the update on Dale Steyn being ruled out, Faf du Plessis kept grace as his second skin while the queries probed into his squad's foibles. The South African skipper said he has to enhance his men's confidence: "It's important to stay strong. The team will feed off my energy and they will look up to the leadership group in the team. But I am at the top of that so it is important that I stay positive." Ruing the absence of



Faf du Plessis.
Steyn and Lungi Ngidi, du Plessis said: "We haven't had one game where we have had our strongest 11 playing on the field yet. "You still have to make sure your squad is strong and have back-up plans." The Proteas leader hoped for a turnaround starting with Wednesday's game against India: "I said (winning) six games is the target, so with seven games left, it would be great if we can start that (against India)."

Steyn out of World Cup

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SOUTHAMPTON
Ahead of its crucial game against India, South Africa woke up to the bad news of Dale Steyn being ruled out of the rest of the World Cup. The ICC's event technical committee through a press-release stated: "Steyn has suffered a second shoulder injury which has not responded to treatment and has ruled him out of bowling for the foreseeable future. His replacement (Beuran) Hendricks is a left-arm fast bowler." Later, the South African team manager Mohammed Moosajee explained: "Dale's case has been unique. We know that upon his return from the IPL, due to shoulder discomfort he had numerous scans done which didn't reveal anything of significance, aside from chronic, inflammatory changes. "However, upon our arrival into the United Kingdom, once he started bowling, a different problem emerged, what we call a shoulder impingement syndrome. "He consulted an orthopaedic specialist in London, had an injection in the problematic area which unfortunately did not resolve the symptoms. So a decision was made to replace him." Steyn has battled various injuries over the last two years and at 35, another round of rehabilitation and recovery, can be gut-wrenching. He did bowl in the nets at the Hampshire Bowl here on Monday evening, but with doubts persisting about his ability to sustain intensity during a second spell, the team management had no other choice but to seek a replacement.

Buoyant Bangladesh meets New Zealand

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON
Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has set his sights on a memorable 200th ODI as his side chases a second successive win when it takes on New Zea-

land on Wednesday. Shakib was the key man when Bangladesh upset South Africa by 21 runs in its opening match on Sunday. His 75 helped steer Bangladesh to its highest ODI score (330 for six).

THE FACE-OFF
Bangladesh vs New Zealand
THE OVAL
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Table with 5 columns: Matches, Ban, NZ, Tied, NR. Rows: Overall, World Cup.

Sri Lanka survives Afghan scare

ASSOCIATED PRESS
CARDIFF
Sri Lanka recovered from a dramatic batting collapse to knock over Afghanistan for 152 and seal a 34-run win for its first victory on Tuesday. The Sri Lankans imploded from 144 for one to 201 all out in an innings delayed by nearly three hours because of rain at Sophia Gardens in the Welsh capital. Chasing a revised target of 187 from a maximum 21 overs, Afghanistan slumped from 34 for no loss to 57 for five and battled back through a 64-run stand between Gulbadin Naib (23) and Najibullah Zadran (43).

Next assignment
AFGHANISTAN: June 8 vs New Zealand, Taunton, 6 p.m.
SRI LANKA: June 7 vs Pakistan, Bristol, 3 p.m.

Sri Lanka again responded and took the final five wickets for 31 runs, with recalled seamer Nuwan Pradeep taking four for 31. The 1996 World Cup winner had lost its opening group game to New Zealand by 10 wickets. Afghanistan has two defeats from two matches, after a loss to Australia on Saturday. The error-strewn match

on Tuesday featured 52 extras - Sri Lanka's 35 was the second-highest scorer in its innings - to strengthen the feeling this was a contest between the two teams likely fighting to avoid last place in the 10-team group. The Afghans' only win at a World Cup remains the one over Scotland in 2015 but they'll feel this match slipped from their grasp, especially when Sri Lanka was reeling at 159 for three after three wickets in an over from Mohammad Nabi. Sri Lanka, which made the fastest 10-over start of this edition by racing to 79-0, lost its last nine wickets for 57 runs in 15.4 overs.

SCOREBOARD SRI LANKA VS AFGHANISTAN
SRI LANKA: Dimuth Karunaratne c Najibullah b Nabi 30 (45b, 3x4), Kusal Perera c Shahzad b Rashid 78 (81b, 8x4), Lahiru Thirimanne b Nabi 25 (34b, 1x4), Kusal Mendis c Rahmat b Nabi 2 (2b), Angelo Mathews c Rahmat b Nabi 0 (2b), Dhananjaya de Silva c Shahzad b Hamid 0 (4b), Thisara Perera run out 2 (4b), Isuru Udana b Dawlat 10 (21b, 1x6), Suranga Lakmal (not out) 15 (13b, 2x4), Lasith Malinga b Dawlat 4 (14b, 1x4), Nuwan Pradeep b Rashid 0 (4b); Extras (lb-10, w-22, nb-3): 35; Total (in 36.5 overs): 201.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-92 (Karunaratne, 13.1 overs), 2-144 (Thirimanne, 21.2), 3-146 (Kusal Mendis, 21.4), 4-146 (Mathews, 21.6), 5-149 (Dhananjaya de Silva, 22.6), 6-159 (Thisara Perera, 25.4), 7-178 (Udana, 31.3), 8-180 (Kusal Perera, 32.2), 9-199 (Malinga, 35.6).
AFGHANISTAN BOWLING: Dawlat 6-0-34-2, Hamid 7-0-53-1, Muejeb 3-0-19-0, Nabi 9-0-30-4, Naib 4-0-38-0, Rashid 7.5-1-17-2.
AFGHANISTAN: Mohammad Shahzad c Karunaratne b Malinga 7 (12b, 1x4), Hazratullah Zazai c Thisara Perera b Pradeep 30 (25b, 3x4, 1x6), Rahmat Shah c Mathews b Udana 2 (11b), Hashmatullah Shahidi c Kusal Perera b Pradeep 4 (17b), Mohammad Nabi b Thisara Perera 11 (16b, 1x4), Gulbadin Naib lbw b Pradeep 23 (32b, 2x4), Najibullah Zadran run out 43 (56b, 6x4), Rashid Khan b Pradeep 2 (4b), Dawlat Zadran b Malinga 6 (18b, 1x4), Hamid Hassan b Malinga 6 (5b, 1x6), Muejeb Ur Rahman (not out) 1 (1b); Extras (b-1, w-15, nb-1): 17; Total (in 32.4 overs): 152.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34 (Mohammad Shahzad, 4.4 overs), 2-42 (Rahmat, 7.5), 3-44 (Zazai, 8.4), 4-57 (Shahidi, 12.5), 5-57 (Nabi, 13.4), 6-121 (Naib, 24.5), 7-123 (Rashid, 26.1), 8-136 (Dawlat, 30.4), 9-145 (Najibullah, 31.6).
SRI LANKA BOWLING: Malinga 6.4-0-39-3, Lakmal 6-0-27-0, Udana 6-0-28-1, Pradeep 9-1-31-4, Thisara Perera 4-0-19-1, Dhananjaya de Silva 1-0-7-0. Sri Lanka won by 34 runs (DLS method).
Toss: Afghanistan. MoM: Nuwan Pradeep. Match reduced to 41 overs.

The India lens As Kohli's men start their campaign, hoping to win India's third title in 12 editions, a look at some iconic moments from the past World Cups. By Vignesh Radhakrishnan

Timeline of World Cup matches from 1975 to 2015, featuring player photos and key statistics for each year.

VIJAY LOKAPALLY

Miracle Men by Nikhil Naz
He was a four-year-old, playing tennis-ball cricket, when Kapil Dev's team was winning the World Cup, the first time ever for an Indian team. Many years later, Nikhil Naz, a sports presenter with NDTV, met some of his heroes and planned a 20-chapter story around their triumph, building up from the wins before the cup, and ending with Kapil holding the trophy aloft.

It resulted in a book replete with anecdotes, some of them little known, as Nikhil creates situations which have stayed with cricket lovers for eternity. The Kapil Dev catch which dismissed Viv Richards has assumed iconic status here, but there is a lovely tale that the author narrates to relive the game-changing moment at Lord's.

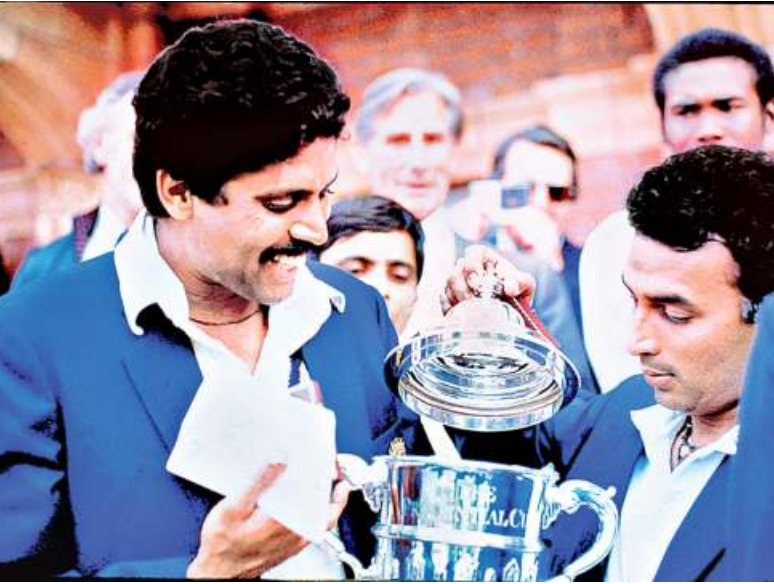
Richards has "feasted" on Madan Lal and Kapil looks to make a change to "arrest" the flow of runs. The game appears to be fast slipping away. "Maddipa, you take a break. I'll get you back after a few overs." Madan is thinking hard, reflecting on the game at Berbice a few months ago when India beat West Indies for the first time ever in a one-day international. "Kaps, give me the ball. I got Vivin Berbice, I'll get him here too. Just one more over, please," Madan pleads with the skipper, who relents. And India get the most prized wicket, and the match too.

Nikhil succeeds in re-creating the final, writing about moves emanating from the field, where Sunil Gavaskar comes up with priceless advice for the captain. Like suggesting Mohinder Amarnath be pressed into the attack. "They aren't finding him the easiest to play," Gavaskar observes. Amarnath plays his role of an all-rounder and India makes history, mocking the bookmakers and experts by going on to win the World Cup.

There's just one error: As the last West Indian wicket falls, Nikhil writes, "Amarnath runs and picks up a stump." The truth is Amarnath missed picking up the stump and was left with no souvenirs from the match. Gavaskar had managed to lay his hands on the ball that Amarnath bowled to take the final wicket.

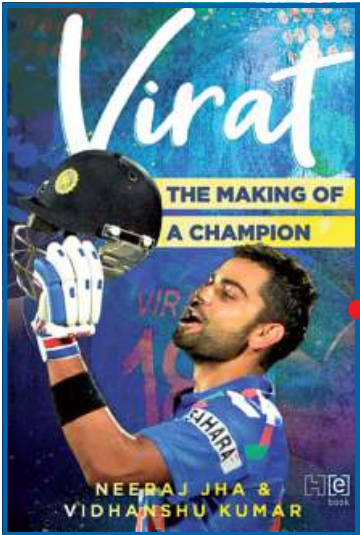
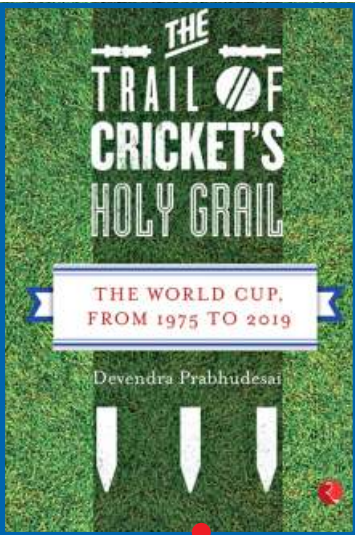
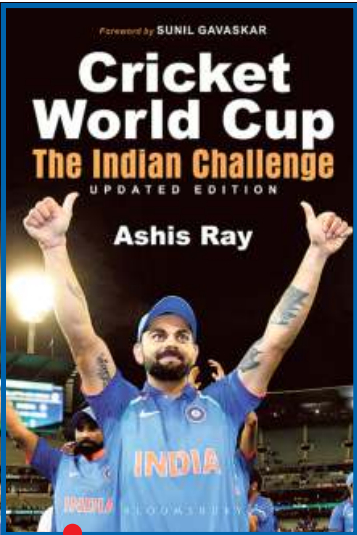
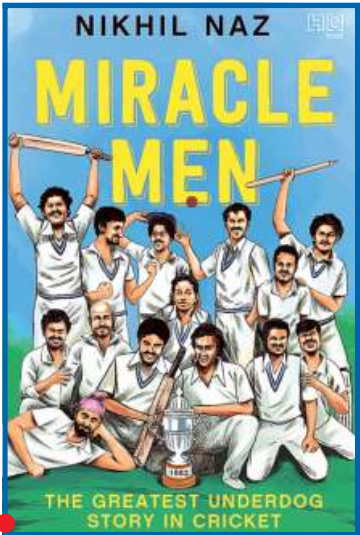


Bringing the cup home Team India celebrating the 2011 win; Kapil Dev and Sunil Gavaskar with the 1983 trophy



THE SUMMER OF CRICKET

When the lazy season in India meets active sports in the UK, we take the middle path, watch TV, have a beer, and read a book or two



from 1975, with a neat fact file on some of the classic matches. The book tests the memory of the cricket fan with some searching questions. Mr favourite one is from the 1979 chapter: "I was a specialist bowler and captained my country in the first two World Cups. I did not take a single wicket in the six matches that I played in the 1975 and 1979 World Cup. Who am I?"

Rupa, ₹195

Virat: The Making Of A Champion by Neeraj Jha & Vidhanshu Kumar

This is a well-packaged tribute to one of India's finest cricketers. Anecdotes, narrated with quotes from people close to Virat Kohli, family, friends, and colleagues, make it an interesting read. The book details Kohli's rapid rise, from the boy who just wanted to play cricket, to one who became captain of the Indian team and broke several records both personally and for the team. Eighteen chapters make up the 184-page book, which, most of Kohli's fans, will probably read in a sitting.

Hachette India, ₹250

For cricket lovers, *Miracle Men* is a tribute to the greatest underdog story in cricket. It would have been enriched had the author also spoken to R. Mohan, G. Viswanath and Dwarkanath Sanzgiri, three eminent cricket writers from India who covered the 1983 World Cup.

And then there's also praise from Sachin Tendulkar: "A bril-

liant book that took me on a nostalgia ride. Fine storytelling," and VVS Laxman: "passionate and hilarious."

Hachette India, ₹399

Cricket World Cup: The Indian Challenge by Ashis Ray

In this updated edition, veteran cricket writer and commentator Ashis Ray takes the reader on a

roller-coaster ride of World Cup, bringing alive some of the most pulsating games across nine chapters. The 216-page book has special appeal for Indian fans. It gives details of India's history at the World Cup with behind-the-scene stories. Among the privileged few to have witnessed KapilDev's epic 175 not out against Zimbabwe at Tunbridge Wells,

Ashis, who admits he was late for the match, recalls what Kapil said after the match: "I think in every cricketer's life - when you've played for 15-20 years - some of the days come out as your days, manufactured by God, given to you. Whatever you do, nothing can go wrong. Perhaps, that innings was like that."

Bloomsbury, ₹499

The Trail of Cricket's Holy Grail: The World Cup, From 1975 to 2019 by Devendra Prabhudesai

Devendra Prabhudesai has authored biographies on three iconic Indian cricketers - Sunil Gavaskar, Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid. All best sellers. Here he attempts a quiz book with chapters on each edition of the cup



ANURAG TAGAT

For the last couple of years, Mumbai rapper Vivian Fernandes aka Divine has made all the right moves to ensure that he won't just settle for a few seconds in the limelight. Contribution to promo songs for Netflix's *Sacred Games*, and other brand associations led up to the release of *Gully Boy*. After that, Divine was everywhere - stadiums, colleges, festivals and more. His latest association is with Puma, for a rap anthem called 'Sock Them', to cheer the Indian cricket team at the ongoing ICC World Cup in England and Wales. Released on June 1, it also features skipper Virat Kohli.

Gully gang for the World Cup

Divine's latest collaboration with Puma is a cricket anthem for the men in blue

Divine says he was more than eager to write a song for the men in blue. "It's the best feeling ever! I've always been a fan of cricket and a Team India supporter. I've been

playing and watching cricket since I was a kid," he says. Ask him about his favourite memory attached to the sport and he says in a beat, "India winning the World Cup (in

2011), and the six by MS Dhoni that won it."

The rapper has previously worked with Puma for their collaboration-heavy song 'Suede Gully' -



CHEERING FOR INDIA

New Delhi alternative Carnatic rock band The Iyer Project released their own 'Team India Anthem' independently last week, one that captures the euphoria attached to matches, with Hindi and English verses cheering the cricket team on, over a dexterous dose of Carnatic guitar leads, *mrtdangam* and *dhol*.

Street pep (Clockwise from left) Divine, The Iyer Project, and Virat Kohli in the video

• SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

featuring Khasi Bloodz, Prab Deep, Madurai Souljars and more - back in 2017. For 'Sock Them', he brings on his "favourite producer in the game right now", Karan Kanchan. He explains, "We both wanted it to have a stadium feel." Even though it's commissioned, Divine says he doesn't treat the project any differently from his own work: "There's obviously a theme that I have to follow. I bring in the producer, we merge styles, and hope for the best outcome!"

Divine launched the song offline, with a live performance at Mumbai's Khar Social on May 30. He says he just might include it in his future performances. Right now, of course, he's also putting finishing touches to his forthcoming album, *Kohinoor*, which was announced earlier this year. He offers an update saying, "I have been working on it for months, and it's very close to how I want it to be. Lots of news coming soon."



PRODUCT

All natural



Designer Ravi Gupta's new collection, *Sundar*, a menswear collection inspired by the elements of the city garden that also holds early Mughal-era monuments. Embroideries are picked from nature's hues, while the geometric patterns come from the architecture. In keeping with the structure of the garden, garments are semi-formal and formal, made from raw silk, linen, cotton and cotton blends.

Available at Shop No. 3, 4, 33, 34, Community Centre, New Friends Colony; ₹30,000 upward

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

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



EXHIBIT

Environment

On the occasion of World Environment Day, makred annually today, Select CITYWALK has organised a 5-day long exhibition, with a series of thought-provoking installations. Each showcases the de-evolution of the environment. The exhibit aims to highlight matters of concern that are threatening planet Earth.

VENUE: Select CITYWALK, Saket
TIME: 10 a.m. -11 p.m.



FOOD

New thali

This summer, the restaurant chain Social has introduced a new thali lunch. Guests can choose between three distinct palates: Oriental, Continental, or Indian. The menu is available in veg and non-veg avatars, will contain an assortment of dishes like pastas, noodles, momos, tikkas, and curries.

VENUE: Hauz Khas Social, Vasant Kunj Social
TIME: 12 noon - 4 p.m.



PERFORMANCE

Bharatanatyam

Today's schedule in the ongoing 6-day long International Musical Convention of Spic Macay, will feature two performances: First is a Bharatanatyam recital by dancer and choreographer Vidushi Malavika Sarukkai. This will be followed by a Hindustani vocal recital by Ustad Rashid Khan.

VENUE: Jawaharlal Nehru University
TIME: 6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.



WORKSHOP

Paper stencilling

National Award winner Ram Soni will demonstrate *Sanjhi*, an ancient art of paper stencilling that was practised across Mathura and Vrindavan. It was traditionally used to make ritualistic and ceremonial rangolis in temples dedicated to Lord Krishna. The term *Sanjhi* is derived from *sanjh*, meaning dusk.

VENUE: Experimental Art Gallery, IHC
TIME: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.



CONCERT

Shehnai and tabla

Naman, an evening of Indian classical music, will see Lokesh Anand perform on shehnai. This will be followed by a solo tabla recital by Suraj Nirwan. Lokesh was born into a family of musicians like shehnai legend Pt Anant Lal and Pt. Daya Shankar. Suraj is a tabla player trained in the old Delhi Gharana.

VENUE: Amalats Hall, India Habitat Centre
TIME: 7 p.m.

Author and conservationist Zai Whitaker discusses the genesis of her latest book, which looks at human-animal conflict

The mongoose mother

SWETA AKUNDI

Having lost their home – the dense forests where canopies cover the sky in large patches – to woodcutters, Gundu and Keeri, the mongoose couple is moving closer to a village with wide fields and even wider skies.

In her latest book, *Adventures of the Humongoose Family*, author and conservationist Zai Whitaker takes a topic as serious as deforestation and loss of habitat, then treats it with gentle humour. For the 65-year-old, mongooses aren't just an academic subject; they're family.

Raising pets

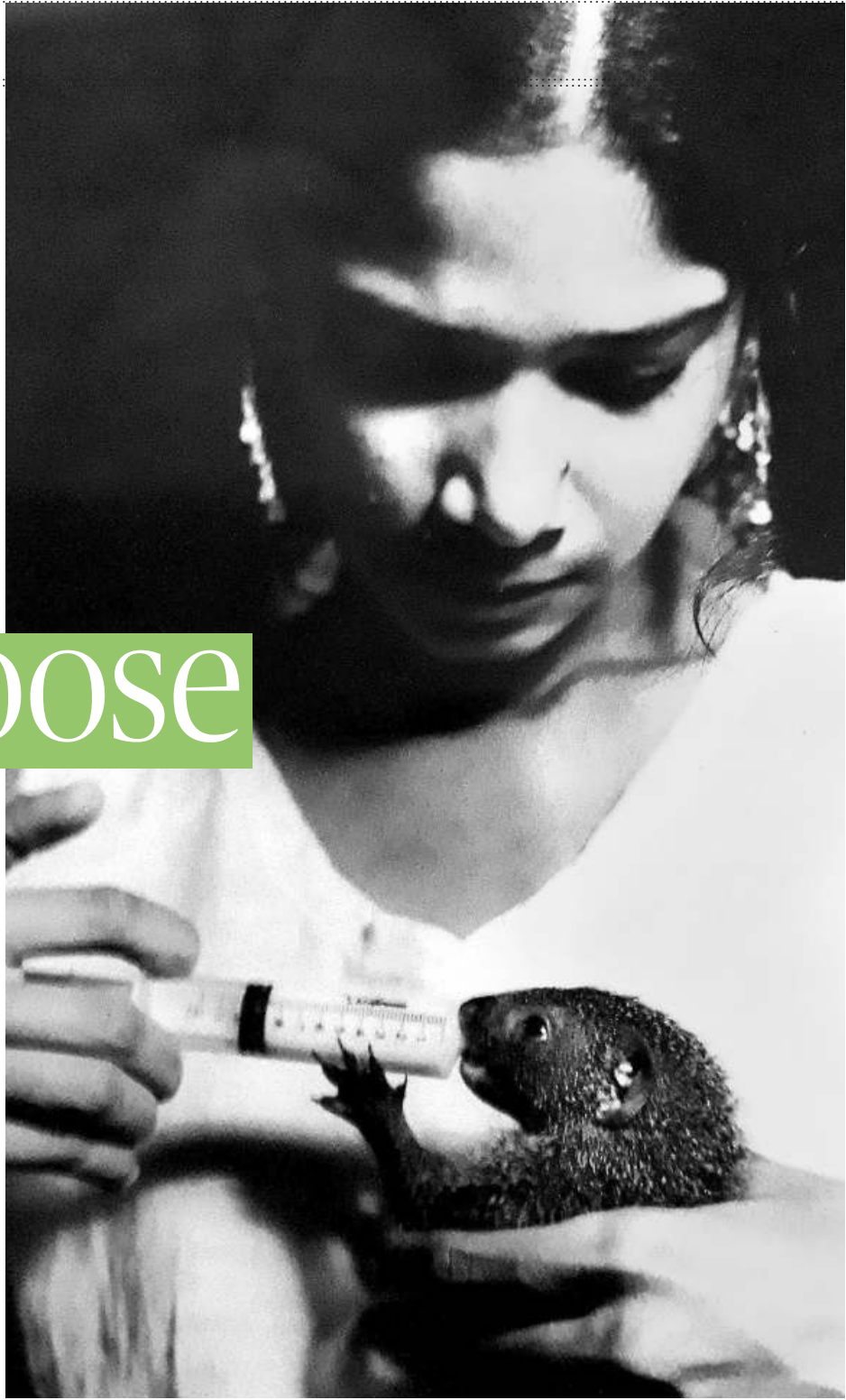
It was the early 1970s. Zai, the daughter of the late conservationist Zafar Rashid Futehally, who was Honorary Secretary of the Bombay Natural History Society, and grand niece of ornithologist Salim Ali, had moved to Madras as Snake Park founder Romulus Whitaker's young bride.

The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 had not come into implementation yet and the young couple often set out to observe mongooses in the wild.

"On these trips, we would often find abandoned, injured baby mongooses and I would take them with me and nurse them to health," says Zai. They became a part of her family; at one point she had five or six of them living with her.

"We released most of them into the wild again, but a couple newly-borns remained with us. We gave them all sorts of embarrassing nicknames," she laughs, "but Poochie stuck for both."

Zai's life started revolving around the ani-



mals: feeding them, hunting for insects, and looking after them.

"Rom and I discovered that they loved boiled eggs – something they couldn't find in the wild!" she says.

Raising them, she found exactly what "inquisitive, maddening and affectionate" characters, mongooses can be. In particular she recalls an eventful trip to the Anamalai hills, looking for King cobras with Rom.

"Like any family, we thought only we could take care of our pets and I took the two with me in a cane basket," she says. They were staying at a tea plantation near Valparai, and had gone to the forest in the morning, leaving her pets in her room.

"When I got back, I could find only one in the basket," she says. She let out a screech that brought everyone in the huge house running to her. They eventually found the mongoose inside a toilet bowl looking lifeless. "It had nearly died. We rescued it, dried it, and gave it a little bit of brandy."

"You'd imagine that after such a traumatic incident, it'd learn to stay away from toilet bowls, but in a few hours it was fine and running around again, peeping inside the bowl. You could see its little brain going, 'hmm, what would happen if I were to jump in again'," she recalls.

That, to her, was the epitome of what a mongoose is: "They would wake us up at 4.30-5 am in the morning nipping on our ears. They constantly needed attention, entertainment and company" – dogs times 10.



Rescued
(Far left) Zai, in her 20s, feeding her pet mongoose
■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Writing for children

A trademark feature of her book is the observations Gundu and Keeri make about the 'human herd', much like those children would make about adults.

"When you write for children, the perspective completely shifts. Your concerns, fears, and priorities as children are vastly different," explaining why she never takes children's books lightly.

While she is now the director at The Madras Crocodile Bank Trust, for many years in Kodaikanal, she was a school teacher. "I would sneakily test my stories on my students first, to get an idea of the response they'll get," she says.

In fact, it was during a workshop for children that she met her ex-husband. "Rom was giving a presentation on Indian snakes via a projector, and it was pitch dark. Suddenly one of the grass snakes got loose and it was pandemonium, the children were jumping on us for protection," she recalls.

The two went on to raise not just mongooses, but two humans of their own as well: their son Nikhil is a wildlife management expert, and Samir, a conservation biologist.

As much as *Adventures of the Humongoose Family* is about the human-animal conflict, it's just as much about the rollercoaster ride Gundu and Keeri's babies put them through. It seems that her experiences as a mother too, translate into the book. "Parents will want the children to be safe and the children will want to have fun. That's a conflict right there!"

Adventures of the Humongoose Family, by Tulika Publishers, can be pre-ordered at www.tulikabooks.com

SHOWCASE 23

Paper dreams

Artist Niharika Rajput makes realistic paper and wire sculptures of birds and teaches children her craft



SWETA AKUNDI

Big changes can be brought on by small things – miniatures, in fact, as Delhi-based Niharika Rajput will tell you. The artist makes realistic paper and wire sculptures of birds – she has done so for over 100 species so far, and passes on her craft to children at workshops in schools.

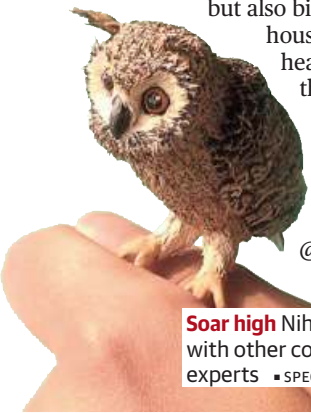
The sculptures are one part of the workshops; the other, more subtle but just as impactful, is the awareness she raises, through her craft. "You can't overemphasise the importance of education in children," says Niharika, "We know that certain birds frequent our backyards, but we don't really pay attention to them or study them." She collaborates with other conservationists and experts who can make children more aware of their surroundings.

This is what she has been doing in Ladakh for the past three years. Last year, she headed the first Ladakh Bird Festival. Of the many birds in the region, "We pointed out the state of Black-necked cranes in particular, and how heavy tourism affects their breeding pattern," she says.

For World Sparrow Day too, she held workshops, that not only taught children how to make hanging models of sparrows,

but also bird feeders and bird-houses. Next, she is headed to Texas, to do the same for hummingbirds and then, to Nagaland.

Check out her work on Instagram, @paperchirups



Soar high Niharika collaborates with other conservationists and experts
■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

POOCH CAFE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



TIGER



WUMO



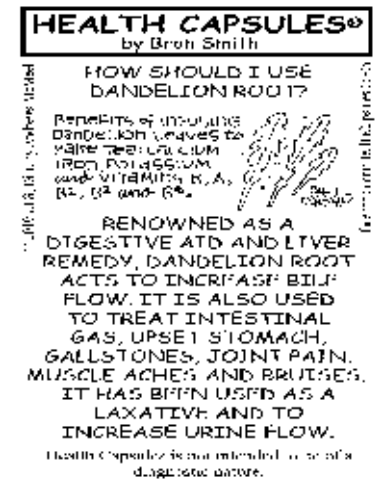
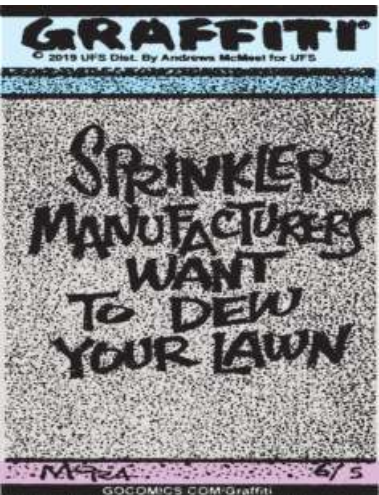
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



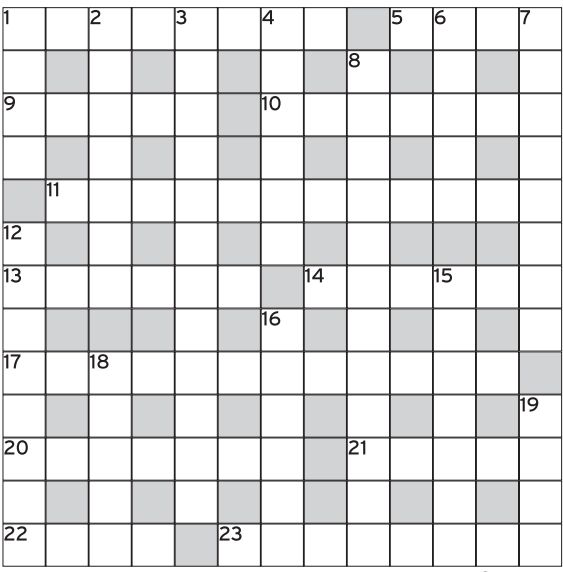
PEANUTS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13088



- © GUARDIAN NEWS AND MEDIA LTD., 2016
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 - 5 Compent (4)
 - 9 Peers of the realm (5)
 - 10 Vanity (7)
 - 11 Soldiers regarded as expendable in battle (6,6)
 - 13 Perplexed – rotten (6)
 - 14 Exactly right (4,2)
 - 17 Unbearable (12)
 - 20 Beyond endurance (3,4)
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 - 22 Established standards (4)
 - 23 Marvellous (8)
- Down**
- 1 Lather (4)
 - 2 Gauche – obstinate (7)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated June 6, 2019.

Solution No. 13087





IN BRIEF
Researchers turn plastic waste into jet fuel

WASHINGTON
Scientists have found a novel way to turn daily plastic waste products like water bottles and plastic bags into jet fuel. Researchers at Washington State University in the U.S. melted plastic waste at high temperature with activated carbon, a processed carbon with increased surface area, to produce jet fuel. PTI



Indian wins \$2.7 million in raffle draw in UAE

DUBAI
An Indian expat won a staggering \$2.7 million in a monthly raffle in the UAE. Sanjai Nath R, who had purchased the ticket at Big Ticket Abu Dhabi, won the bumper prize, 10 million dirham, the *Khaleej Times* reported. While Mr. Nath won the first prize, five other Indian expats were among the top 10 winners. PTI



FB unveils interactive game show in India

MUMBAI
Facebook on Tuesday announced its first interactive game show, titled "Confetti" in India. Starting June 12, the show will air from Wednesday to Sunday on its video platform – Facebook Watch. The game will challenge participants to answer pop culture trivia questions to win ₹3 lakh in cash prize. IANS

An experimental Ebola cure may also protect against Nipah virus

Four out of eight monkeys infected with the virus survived after Remdesivir dose

DONALD G. MCNEIL JR.
An experimental drug has protected monkeys against infection with Nipah virus, a lethal disease and emerging pandemic threat for which there is no approved vaccine or cure, scientists reported on Wednesday.
The antiviral drug, Remdesivir, is also being tested against the Ebola virus in the outbreak now under way in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The only current treatment for Nipah virus infection is a monoclonal antibody that is still experimental; it was tested during an outbreak in India last year.
In the new trial, eight African green monkeys were given lethal doses of Nipah virus. Half of them later got intravenous Remdesivir. All



Checking spread: If approved, the drug will be an extra line of treatment that could be used quickly. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

four monkeys that got the drug survived; the four that did not died within eight days.

If the drug wins approval for use against Nipah, "it will give us an extra treatment that could be used relatively quickly," said Emmie de Wit, a virologist at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and one of the

study's lead authors. "The average person who reaches a hospital dies within two days, so it's hard to protect them once they're infected."

Ebola and Nipah belong to different viral families, but Remdesivir – made by Gilead Sciences and also known as GS-5734 – appears effective against both.

In mice or cells cultivated

in the laboratory, the drug has also shown some effectiveness against two other pandemic threats: Lassa fever and MERS coronavirus. It is also effective against Respiratory Syncytial virus, which infects children all over the world.

Although the outer shells of all these viruses are very different, their polymerases – the genome-copying enzyme that Remdesivir targets – are similar, Ms. de Wit explained.

The study, done jointly by the NIAID and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was published in *Science Translational Medicine*.

Nipah virus, which causes encephalitis and pneumonia, is lethal in about 70% of cases. NY TIMES

Google Maps updates for bus, train rides

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Google Maps users will now see bus travel times from live traffic across 10 major Indian cities as well as get live train status for Indian Railways trains on the platform.

Also, another feature will combine suggestions of auto-rickshaw and public transport for users. These "India-first features" will allow users plan public transport trips quickly and easily, Google said in a statement.

The feature uses Google's live traffic data and public bus schedules to calculate delays. It is now live in Delhi, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Pune, Lucknow, Chennai, Mysore, Coimbatore, and Surat. It will help users know when their train will arrive by indicating the running status in real-time.



Amul Speaks your language!

'Czar of Indian Cuisine' Jiggs Kalra passes away

He helped revive indigenous lost recipes

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Celebrated chef and culinary revivalist Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra, popularly known as Jiggs Kalra, passed away early morning on Tuesday. He was 71.

Announcing his father's demise, the iconic chef's restaurateur son Zorawar Kalra said his father was his "mentor, inspiration and his biggest hero".

"With profound grief and sadness, I would like to announce the demise of my beloved father, Jiggs Kalra. He was my mentor, my inspiration and my biggest hero," Mr. Zorawar said.

Mr. Kalra, who held titles like the "Czar of Indian Cuisine" and "Taste maker to the Nation", conferred upon him by eminent writer Khushwant Singh, was best known for his role as a culinary revivalist.

In an illustrious career spanning over four decades, he had been instrumental in reviving some of the indigenous lost recipes as well as



Jaspal Inder Singh Kalra

cooking styles while introducing Indian cuisine to international audiences.

"He worked tirelessly towards promoting his beloved Indian cuisine globally."

Among the delicacies that Mr. Kalra introduced were the kebabs served in the erstwhile royal kitchens of India, most notable being the Galouti.

Being a food columnist and author, gastronome, food consultant, were among other feathers in his cap.

In 1997, the Government of India appointed him as advisor to the India Trade Promotion Organisation.

Food safety is everyone's business: WHO

An estimated 600 million cases of food-borne diseases occur annually around the world

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

"Food safety is everyone's business," says the World Health Organisation (WHO) which has released figures that estimate 600 million cases of food-borne diseases occur annually worldwide. This translates into one in 10 people falling ill after eating contaminated food.

"Food safety is an increasing threat to human health. Children under 5 years of age carry 40% of the food-borne disease burden with 1,25,000 deaths every year," said WHO.

A note issued by the organisation said the first-ever World Food Safety Day was



Common cause: Access to safe food is key to sustaining life and promoting good health. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in December 2018 and this year it would be celebrated on June 7 with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) facilitating

member-States' effort to celebrate it.

"Access to sufficient amounts of safe and nutritious food is key to sustaining life and promoting good

health. Food-borne diseases impede socio-economic development by straining health care systems and harming national economies, tourism and trade," it said.

Food is the starting point for our energy, our health and our well-being. We often take for granted that it is safe, but in an increasingly complex and interconnected world where food value chains are growing longer, standards and regulations are that much more important in keeping us safe.

"The way in which food is produced, stored, handled and consumed affects the safety of our food. Complying

with global food standards, establishing effective regulatory food control systems, including emergency preparedness and response, providing access to clean water, applying good agriculture practices (terrestrial, aquatic, livestock, horticulture), strengthening the use of food safety management systems by food business operators, and building capacities of consumers to make healthy food choices are some ways in which governments, international organisations, scientists, the private sector and civil society can work to ensure food safety," the health organisation noted.

India at 95 on Gender Index

It is among 43 nations under 'very poor' category

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India ranked 95th out of a total 129 countries in the first-ever SDG Gender Index, which measures strides made in achieving gender commitments against internationally set targets.

The index has been developed by Equal Measures 2030.

The index finds that no country has fully achieved the promise of gender equality and that the global average score of 65.7 out of 100 is "poor". This means that almost 1.4 billion, or 40%, of the world's girls and women live in countries failing on gender equality and another 1.4 billion live in countries



India scored highest on health (79.9) and hunger (76.2). • ISTOCKPHOTO

that barely pass.

Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Slovenia, Germany, Canada, Ireland, and Australia rank as the top 10 countries in the index, while the bottom 10

comprise Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigeria, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Yemen, Congo, DR Congo and Chad.

A score of 100 indicates the achievement of gender equality in relation to the underlying indicators. A score of 50 would indicate that a country is about halfway to meeting its goal. India's score of 56.2 means that it is among 43 countries in the 'very poor' category.

India scores the highest in health (79.9), followed by hunger (76.2) and energy (71.8). Among the SDGs, on which the country performs poorly are partnerships (18.3), industry, infrastructure and innovation (38.1) and climate (43.4).

Apple gears up for content as it nixes iTunes

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SAN JOSÉ

Apple on Monday announced enhanced privacy features as it harmonised software across its lineup of devices, while dropping iTunes store as it gears up for new kinds of digital content.

Apple chief Tim Cook unveiled software improvements for iPhones, iPads, Apple Watch, Apple TV, and Mac computers in Silicon Valley.

The company revealed the demise of the iTunes online shop that changed the music industry.

The technology giant also previewed iOS 13 for its mobile devices.

A documentary on Satyajit Ray's sleuth

It is based on Feluda, the fictional detective who has captivated readers for decades

INDRANI DUTTA
KOLKATA

Little did he know that the documentary he had embarked upon as a cinematic tribute to Satyajit Ray would require pledging the family silver and through crowd funding. Director Sagnik Chatterjee's *Feluda : 50 Years of Ray's Detective* is now set to release this week after doing the festival circuit for a year.

Feluda, a fictional investigator who came to life through a story in a children's magazine in 1965, turned 50 in 2016. While much has changed in the city of his birth, Feluda's appeal has endured the passage of time, catching the fancy of readers within the State and beyond, with a young woman travelling from Pune to visit the fictional character's action-sites.

The nearly two-hour documentary probes, documents and revisits the books and films woven around



Thespian Soumitra Chatterjee, left, with director Sagnik Chatterjee. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

him. Above all, it seeks to celebrate the character whose films can still fill theatres. "The film is a journey undertaken in first person from a Feluda fan", said Mr. Chatterjee, who assisted Ray's son Sandip in directing the later Feluda movies.

Many felt that Feluda, also known as Prodosh Chandra Mitra, was born out of Ray's interests in crime thrillers inspired by Arthur Conan Doyle... "that the character was fashioned after Ray himself." However, while Ray's

novels (translated into Indian and foreign languages) were well read, it was the films which left a lasting imprint. Ray made only two Feluda films – *Sonar Kella*, set in Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, and *Joy Baba Felunath*, set in Varanasi.

The documentary was shot in London, Jaisalmer, Varanasi, Mumbai and Pune, besides Kolkata.

The magic of Feluda is such that not only have three generations of actors (since Soumitra Chatterjee) faced

the camera to enact the role, three generations of director – Satyajit ray, son Sandip and grandson Souryadip – were involved in the projects. Costumes have been done by Sandip Ray's wife Lolita

Although the project was off to a good start with a producer, Mr. Chatterjee, an alumni of Pune's Symbiosis University, faced financial problem as the producer withdrew after initial involvement.

"I dug my heels in as I was in no mood to give up...", he said, taking good loans and scraping personal savings. Finally, crowd funding to the tune of ₹15.5 lakhs helped the ₹50 lakh project see the light of the day.

"Ray was my inspiration... if the maestro had to face financial difficulties even after the success of films like *Pather Panchali* and *Goopy Gayen*... I knew that I just had to follow his footprints and be resolute," he said.

NTPC unfolds a Green Chapter for a Clean Planet

World Environment Day

5th June, 2019

NTPC – A Maharatna company with an installed capacity of 55126 MW has a mixed portfolio of Fossil and Renewable energy for Low Carbon foot-print. Its endeavour has always been to ensure a clean and sustainable environment with respect to Air, Water and Land.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES

- Super Critical and Advanced Super Critical Technology for higher efficiency and lower emissions
- High Efficiency Electro Static Precipitators (ESP)
- Flue Gas De-sulphurisation (FGD) and De-NOx Systems
- LDO and LSHS in place of HFO as secondary fuel
- Carbon Sink of more than 34 million trees in line with INDC-2030

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AND CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Closed cycle condenser cooling with higher Cycle of Concentration
- High Concentration Slurry Disposal (HCSD) for Fly Ash
- Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP), Ash Water Recirculation, and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)
- "Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD)" approach
- Rain water harvesting and Water Policy
- Air cooled Condenser Technology and Dry Bottom Ash
- Floating Solar in Water Reservoirs

SOIL POLLUTION CONTROL AND CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Conducted Grand Challenge for Ash utilization ideas for India
- Sound Waste Management through Reduce, Reuse and Recycle
- Bio Methanation and Vermi-culture
- Well defined Bio-Diversity Plan put in place

(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

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