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WHY GUJARAT GOVT SCRAPPED NAVRATRI VACATION FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

A year after the Vijay Rupani-led Gujarat government announced a Navratri vacation, it has decided against it. And not without a sense of déjà vu. The Indian Express explains why the idea has been unsettling for the BJP

VIDEO OF THE DAY

MS DHONI
The grandmaster of cricket



FULL COVERAGE

RAHUL GANDHI IN WAYANAD
'My door is open for everyone in constituency'



EXPRESS AUDIO

World Cup Locker Room: Dhoni's Glove Row, AB de Villiers

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Daksh and Gaurav discuss the controversy around Dhoni wearing a military insignia, reports of AB de Villiers wanting to come out of retirement and the Ind vs Aus match

FROM PAGE ONE

Gauhati HC

taken to a detention centre for illegal migrants in Assam's Goalpara district. The FTs - 100 across the state - are quasi-judicial bodies meant to "furnish opinion on the question as to whether a person is or is not a foreigner within the meaning of Foreigner's Act, 1946".

A division bench of the Gauhati High court comprising Justice Manojit Bhuyan and Justice Prasanta Kumar Deba said Sanaullah should be released from detention on the condition that he furnishes a bail bond of Rs 20,000 with two local sureties. The order states that Sanaullah's biometrics shall be obtained before his release and prohibits him from leaving the territorial jurisdiction of Kamrup (Rural) and Kamrup (Metro) districts.

Senior advocate Indira Jaising appeared at the Gauhati HC and argued on behalf of Sanaullah. Other lawyers comprising Sanaullah's legal team are H R A Choudhury, Syed

Burhanur Rehman and Aman Wadud. Rehman told *The Indian Express*, "We had filed a writ petition against the FT order and an interlocutory application (IA) seeking his release. Hearing the writ petition, the honourable court has issued notices to the Union of India, government of Assam, NRC authorities, the Election Commission of India and a retired Assam police officer Chandram Das."

The basis of the "reference" to the FT was an interrogation investigation report by Das, then sub-inspector of the Border wing, against Sanaullah in 2008-09. The three witnesses named in that report Amjad Ali, Mohammad Kuran Ali and Mohammad Sobahan Ali - all residents of Kalahikash village under Boko police station of Kamrup district from where Sanaullah is from - lodged an FIR against Das earlier this week saying that their depositions were fictitious, that their names were included without permission

and that signatures were faked.

Sanaullah's family and lawyers had pointed out multiple anomalies in Sanaullah's purported confession, attached in the investigation report, and alleged it was completely fabricated.

Sanaullah in this "confession" says that he was born in Dhaka in Bangladesh. "As per my knowledge, I was born at village Kasimpur of Dhaka district in Bangladesh. I cannot remember the name of police station. I am an illiterate person, I have not cast vote till date." A part of the alleged confession is in Assamese.

Imran Khan

out the possibility of a "pull-aside" meeting between the leaders.

Khan, in his letter, is also learnt to have said that Pakistan follows a policy of peaceful neighbourhood. Sources also said that the Pakistan PM is understood to

have stressed on the need to work together on the basis of "mutual respect and trust" to address challenges faced by people of both the countries, including poverty and underdevelopment.

In the letter to both Modi and Jaishankar, sources indicated that the need to advance the goals of regional peace, progress and prosperity through collective endeavours has also been underscored.

This is similar to the read-outs of the phone conversation on May 26, which were made public.

In their first conversation since the NDA government was re-elected for a second term, Khan had dialled Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 26 and said that he looked forward to advancing his vision for "peace, progress and prosperity".

In response, Modi had said that "creating trust and an environment free of violence and terrorism were essential" for cooperation in fostering "peace, progress and prosperity" in the region. The indication was that India would stick to its red lines on dialogue with Pakistan, where it has maintained that talks and terror cannot go together.

Dhoni gloves

equipment. In addition to this, the logo also breaches the regulations in relation to what is permitted on wicketkeeper gloves.

The statement came hours after the BCCI sent a letter to the governing body seeking permission for Dhoni to wear the gloves with the "Balidaan Badge", the regimental dagger insignia of the Army's Special Forces. On Thursday, the ICC had sent a communication to the Indian team management, asking for Dhoni to remove the insignia.

Speaking to reporters earlier, Vinod Rai, who heads the Committee of Administrators (CoA) overseeing Indian cricket, said that the BCCI doesn't "propose to escalate this non-issue".

Sources said the CoA was not aware of Dhoni sporting the insignia during India's opening World Cup match against South Africa until media reports highlighted the issue. India will play their second match against Australia Sunday.

BCCI sources said prior permission is required from the ICC even to wear a non-commercial logo at the World Cup. In Dhoni's case, the sources said, no prior permission was sought.

Meanwhile, the issue snowballed across social media with the hashtag #DhoniKeepTheGlove trending on Twitter - and fans, cricketers, celebrities, politicians and even Army personnel voicing their support for Dhoni.

In a Twitter post Friday, Congress leader and former Union sports minister Ajay Maken requested the newly sworn-in Sports Minister Kiren Rijju, to "intervene". "@KirenRijju ji, As a former Sports Minister, may I request you to kindly intervene & let #DhoniKeepTheGlove 'ICC regulations do not permit messages relating to political, religious or racial activities/causes' Thus Insignia on Dhoni's

RBI eases norms for debt resolution

plan under the new "Prudential framework for resolution of stressed assets" before the default.

The central bank also changed its earlier norm of 100 per cent mandatory approval from creditors for a resolution plan and has allowed approval of 75 per cent of creditors.

On April 2, 2019, a two-member bench of the Supreme Court had said "the impugned circular will have to be declared as ultra vires as a whole, and be declared to be of no effect in law".

The previous circular had directed banks and lenders to refer any defaulting loan account of over Rs 2,000 crore to the bankruptcy court under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy

Code (IBC) if it is not resolved within 180 days of default.

Though the judgment was a setback for the central bank, which was planning to extend these norms to non-banking finance companies (NBFCs), several defaulting power projects got a temporary reprieve. Several companies from the power and shipping sectors had challenged the February 12 circular, arguing that the time given by the RBI was not enough to tackle bad debt.

The February 12, 2018, notification, which was announced after an asset quality review that detected a huge level of non-performing assets (NPAs) in the banking sector, had replaced the RBI's earlier instructions on the resolution

of stressed assets that required banks to file an insolvency application in case of non-implementation.

What had upset corporates was the framework for loan resolution, which defined a one-day default norm in line with the IBC framework. NPAs of the banking system has already crossed the Rs 10-lakh-crore mark. The RBI had sent a list of 12 big defaulters to banks for resolution under IBC and later identified another 28 defaulters.

The RBI's revised circular states that lenders should initiate the process of implementing a resolution plan (RP) even before a default. In any case, once a borrower is reported to be in default by any of the

lenders, they should undertake a prima facie review of the borrower account within 30 days from such default.

"During this review period of 30 days, lenders may decide on the resolution strategy, including the nature of the RP and the approach for implementation of the RP. The lenders may also choose to initiate legal proceedings for insolvency or recovery," it said.

"All lenders must put in place board-approved policies for resolution of stressed assets, including the timelines for resolution," it said. Lenders should recognise incipient stress in loan accounts, immediately on default, by classifying such assets as special mention accounts (SMA).

DHFL shadow looms over real estate, auto

Sources said DHFL "will repay" the remaining Rs 890 crore of interest dues next week as it expects to receive payments from sale of assets. They added that DHFL has repaid almost Rs 40,000 crore worth of liabilities since September 2018.

Mutual funds taking a hit on their Net Asset Value (NAVs) over the last two days are, however, not taking any relief from this. UTI Mutual Fund on Friday said it has written off its entire exposure to DHFL securities which has defaulted on repayments.

The funding models of housing finance companies and NBFC loan companies, which have become increas-

ingly reliant on short-term instruments to fund longer-term assets, have been particularly affected by the liquidity squeeze. One reason believed to be the root cause of troubles at DHFL and other NBFCs is their business model.

While they borrowed short-term funds through the commercial debt and commercial paper market, they lent long term to home loan borrowers and to the construction sector. As troubles intensified after default by the IL&FS group last September, it snowballed into problems for NBFCs having significant exposure to the wholesale market. Mutual funds, their key source of funding, have turned extremely risk

averse in view of the defaults.

The mutual fund industry's exposure to DHFL fell sharply from Rs 18,235 crore at September-end 2018 to Rs 6,500 crore at April-end 2019. This reflects that the company is not being able to rollover its debt and is relying on asset sales and securitisation to repay loans.

"Indian NBFCs (Non Banking Financial Institutions) liquidity are sensitive to market sentiment as their business models rely on short-term wholesale funding, which can dry up fast if market sentiment turns negative. Funding models of housing finance companies and NBFI loan companies, which have become increas-

ingly reliant on short-term funding to fund longer-term assets, have been particularly affected by the liquidity squeeze," Fitch Ratings said in a report Friday.

NBFCs now account for nearly 20 per cent of credit to the economy compared with about 15 per cent five years ago. The funding squeeze has contributed to higher credit costs and a slowdown in loan growth for the NBFCs.

DHFL's outstanding loan portfolio grew at a CAGR of nearly 24 per cent from Rs 40,451 crore as of March 31, 2014 to Rs 61,775 crore as on March 31, 2016 and then at a CAGR of nearly 19 per cent in the following 30 months.

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Aligarh

the circle officer and members of the forensic team are part of it. We will transfer the case to a fast-track court for speedy justice." He added that a probe is on to ascertain if anyone else is involved.

Aligarh

Five policemen, including the Station House Officer, have been suspended for alleged lapses in investigation and an enquiry has been set up.

While the family has alleged the girl was also raped, police have so far maintained the post-mortem report does not corroborate it. However, another test is being conducted. "The body was more than 72 hours old and the cause of death is shock and haemorrhage. There was putrefaction and entry of maggots. A vaginal sample has been sent to the forensic lab and confirmatory tests are being conducted," Anand Kumar said.

Aligarh SP (Rural) Mani Lal Patidar, who is supervising the SIT, said rape has not been established so far.

Aligarh police said the National Security Act may be invoked against the accused and police will also consider adding charges under the Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act depending on the findings of the autopsy report. "Other details are also being investi-

gated. As per the family, there are a few others involved and we are investigating that," said Kumar.

According to police, Jahed had borrowed Rs 50,000 from the girl's grandfather. Three days before the incident, the two ran into each other, and he asked Jahed for the remainder of the money, roughly Rs 10,000.

"It amounted to a few thousands. I was willing to let go of it. But he told me, 'dekhh lenge tumhe'. I have no enmity and did not take it seriously. I could never imagine he would do such a heinous act," the girl's grandfather told *The Indian Express*. According to police, both accused are daily wage labourers. Locals said they "came in contact because of their gambling habit", and Jahed was known in the area as the "satta king".

On Friday, homes of both men were deserted as their families had fled in fear. "Once we find their family members, we will question them as well," said the SHO of the police station concerned.

WITH INPUTS FROM AVANEESH MISHRA

Moily

should not lead to decelerating the Congress unity and stability. You should not allow that. When there is a deceleration, factional feuds will take place, disunity will take place. He has to reign over the party. It is a crucial time. He has a national duty, not only duty to the party, to build this party, sustain the party, and its unity and stability," he said.

Moily, who lost the Lok Sabha election from Chikkaballapur in Karnataka, said the "party cannot be in a relaxed state". "Ultimately, the unity and integrity in the party has to be kept always. One or

two defeats in elections should not deter our party leaders. He (Rahul) has to... quell indiscipline," he said.

"After Sonia Gandhi took over the reins of the Congress party from Sitaram Kesri, there had been unity and stability in the party. There was no division, no split. So that trend will have to be continued. Just because there has been two defeats... it cannot (affect the party's unity)," he said.

"Democracy in this country is very much wedded to the stability of the Indian National Congress... by serving and strengthening the Congress party, we are not only serving the party, but strengthening the democracy of the country," he said. "Even if he wants to step down, of course the rank and file of the party do not want Rahul Gandhi to step down because he has given that kind of absolute leadership and strength to the party... success or failure cannot be gauged by that... He has to put the Congress on the right lines and then only leave. Not before," he said.

Asked whether the inactivity was triggering factional feuds, Moily said: "That is how people are raising their voice here and there. That has to be quelled at any cost. It has to be done either by Sonia Gandhi or by the Congress president."

On whether Sonia should take charge now, he said: "I am not telling you that. It is left to them... but Sonia Gandhi along with Rahul Gandhi will have to reign and stop all these. Inaction is very costly for the Congress, costly for the democracy of the country."

Collegium was recommended to be elevated as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court. His appointment was cleared by the Centre on May 22.

Justice Ramasubramanian, the senior-most judge from Madras High Court, was recommended to be elevated as the Chief Justice Himachal Pradesh High Court. The government is yet to clear his elevation.

Justice RS Chauhan, the senior-most judge in the Rajasthan High Court and who at present is functioning in Telangana High Court as Acting Chief Justice, was recommended by the Collegium to be elevated as Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court. The Centre is yet to clear Justice Chauhan's elevation.

On Monday, taking over as Law Minister, Ravi Shankar Prasad, replying to a question on pending appointments to the higher judiciary, had said: "As a Law Minister, I will not be a post office simplicitier. The Law Minister and the Law Ministry has a role as a stakeholder, obviously giving due regard and respect to the Collegium system. But as Law Minister, neither I nor my department will remain a post office. We have a stake and we shall continue to pursue that stake in consultation with the Honourable Supreme Court and Honourable High Courts to expedite the appointments."

In November last year, the transfer of Justice Kureshi to the Bombay High Court had created a stir in Gujarat High Court with members of the bar observing a strike protesting against his transfer.

The Gujarat High Court Advocate Association (GHAA) had passed a resolution that said the association "believes that such a transfer is unjustified and certainly has no connection with better administration of justice" and that it "impinges upon independence of judiciary".

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YOUR HONOUR

Lt-Governor Anil Bajjal and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal with the new High Court Chief Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel, at Raj Niwas Friday. *Amit Mehra*

For feedback on free Metro plan, AAP slots 1,000 sabhas

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE AAM Aadmi Party will hold 1,000 public meetings across the capital in the next seven days to get feedback on the proposal to make travel on the Metro and buses free for women.

The decision was taken in a meeting attended by MLAs, councillors and office bearers of the women's wing of the party, at the residence of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal. A detailed feedback report will be collated at the end of the week from surveys and interactions during the meetings.

"The MLAs, councillors and women's wing will hold meet-

ings in their respective areas to get public feedback on the issue. A total of 1,000 meetings would be held in the next seven days. All MLAs, councillors and office bearers of the women's wing have been given a target of 10 meetings each," said Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia.

Party workers will talk to residents in their areas and take notes. One question will be whether residents support the scheme and, if they do, why.

They will also be asked if they agree with the "BJP's opposition" to the scheme. If someone says they do, their reason will also be noted down.

"The BJP has been opposing the move in different ways. The idea is to explain the scheme,

and understand the public's view," Sisodia added.

Earlier this week, Kejriwal had announced that his government wants to make travel for women free in DTC and cluster buses as well as the Delhi Metro.

The move, which comes a few months ahead of the Assembly polls in the capital, was criticised by Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri Thursday.

"We believe that this is a historic proposal and it will not only strengthen women's security in Delhi but also contribute towards their empowerment. Women who could not pursue jobs due to travelling costs will now be able to do so. This will add to Delhi's economy," Sisodia said.

Fire at Jeevan Deep building, 100 people evacuated

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

OVER 100 people were rescued from Jeevan Deep Building at Parliament Street Friday evening after a fire broke out inside a storeroom on the fourth floor.

The incident took place at 5 pm and the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) rushed seven fire tenders to the spot.

Fire chief Atul Garg said, "Prima facie, it appears a short-circuit caused the fire."

S K Dua, divisional head of the DFS, said that while 50 people were rescued from the fourth floor, another 70-80 were rushed out of their offices on the third and fifth floors.

"We deployed 30 personnel to douse the fire. The smoke in the storeroom on the fourth floor spread to other parts of the building... people couldn't see. We had to break a few glass windows to let out the smoke," he said.

Mahesh Kumar (55), a security official said, "I was blinded by the smoke... the fire spread and burnt several files."



The fire broke out on the fourth floor. *Praveen Khanna*

Stuck in traffic, woman gives birth to boy inside ambulance

Ghaziabad: Meena Devi went into labour Friday and was en route to a hospital when she was stuck in traffic. Near the Gaushala underpass, the ambulance couldn't move for around half an hour. By the time the ambulance managed to get to the

hospital, Devi had given birth to a baby boy.

"We were stuck in traffic for half an hour. Hearing her scream in pain, passersby tried to clear the road," said driver Ram Mohan. Dr Deepa Tyagi said this is Devi's third child. **ENS**

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At Rohingya camp, a festival under shadow of disease

As temperature peaks, children suffer diarrhoea; men reel under heatstroke

NAOMI KLINGE & SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

A DECADE ago, when Fayazul Kalam was a teenager, he fled Myanmar for Bangladesh. By the time he turned 18, he found himself in Jammu, and six months later, at Delhi's Kalindi Kunj Rohingya camp.

Inside a one-room house with no toilet, Kalam and his wife raised two children. The camp was beginning to feel like home, when a fire gutted 47 homes on April 15 last year.

A year on, the houses haven't been rebuilt, and 200-plus people have built temporary homes at an adjacent plot, using bits of blankets, mattresses, wooden doors and cardboard pieces—all susceptible to fire.

Salimullah (35), who lives and runs a shop there, said, "The Zakat Foundation of India (ZFI) was to build the homes, but that didn't happen. We've made the structures using materials donated to us last Ramadan."

ZFI president Dr Syed Zafar Mahmood told *The Indian Express*, "The Centre released a mandate that banned construction in the area... we don't know why or when the ban will be lifted."

The old plot is now covered with flowers and creepers. Next to it at the new camp, the sweltering summer is taking a toll on 66 Rohingya families—electricity connection is temporary and when the "line" is cut, rented fans and coolers become useless.

"Children are the worst hit... they get dehydration, diarrhoea and rashes. In the last month, I had to take my two children, aged three and five, to the dis-



The camps at Kalindi Kunj (above) and Okhla. Gajendra Yadav



Salimullah (35), who lives and runs a shop there, said, "The Zakat Foundation of India (ZFI) was to build the homes, but that didn't happen. We've made the structures using materials donated to us last Ramadan."

persary thrice... every time at the cost of work," said Kalam (26), who drives a rented e-rickshaw. For Salimullah, the fire meant double jeopardy, as his kirana store on the main road was also gutted. "I set it up again, but since this is a low-lying area, people have stopped coming here because it's inconvenient... they hesitate," he said.

Eid festivities, too, were low-key at the camp. "It would have been a celebration if we were back in the old camp... Most of us have heatstroke now," Salimullah said. Once summer ends, rain will bring another

problem—flooding. "The camp is low-lying and even with a little rain, water can enter homes and bring new problems... it happened last time too," said Mohd Shakir, a resident.

A few kilometres away at Shaheen Bagh are clusters of displaced pockets—a group of families from UP's Ayodhya to 85 Rohingya families from Myanmar. The housing is similar to the camp at Kalindi Kunj, with five hand-pumps for 300-plus people.

Mohd. Ayas (30), recovering from a bout of typhoid, said he had to rush his 10-month-old son to a dispensary nearby at least four times in the last month.

"He vomits and has an upset stomach. The heat has caused blisters on his arms, doctors have asked me to give him ORS," said Ayas, a daily wage, who has

missed work for over two weeks. Last week, when temperature touched 47 degrees Celsius, Ayas took his two children to the Kalindi Kunj Metro station. "We just sat on the steps—it was cooler than being here and the baby stopped crying," he said.

The hand-pump under a tree's shade remains busy all day. Toddlers sit in a puddle there, while their mothers wash utensils and clothes.

"It's the only way to handle the heat, even though the water is dirty and smells. Younger children end up drinking it and then fall sick. Drinking water is expensive if you are a daily wage earner... it costs Rs 15-20 for a water can. It's so hot that a family of five needs two such bottles daily... some days, we let them drink the hand-pump water," said 30-year-old Rashida Begum.

AAP GOVT'S OUTCOME BUDGET

Govt misses targets for laying water pipelines, getting e-bus

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE OUTCOME budget 2019-2020 released by the Delhi government Friday revealed the poor state of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), with the average fleet utilisation falling from the targeted 87% to 84.63% in 2018-19. The government has set a target of operating the fleet at 90% for 2019-2020.

As many as 3,897 DTC buses were operational in Delhi against the target of 4,176 in 2018-19. The number of operational buses in 2017-18 was 3,974. However, the average daily ridership of the public transporter improved slightly as it stood at 33 lakh against a target of 32.93 lakh in 2018-19. The target has been raised to 33.50 lakh in 2019-20.

The outcome budget, presented by Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, was introduced in 2017-18 by the AAP government in Delhi. For the period 2018-19, it covered all major departments and agencies combined into eight major sectors. There are a total of 567 schemes which were evaluated on the basis of 2,220 output and 1,549 outcome indicators, with Sisodia calling it the "biggest achievement" of the government.

Similarly, AAP government's ambitious project of procuring 1,000 e-buses to combat air pollution in the city has been delayed by at least a year due to the model code of conduct, stated the budget report.

"As per the revised schedule, the bids will be received on July 10, 2019. The induction schedule of the buses will be delayed accordingly," it said.

The government had ap-

| AMBITION AND REALITY | | | | |
|--|--|----------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Programme | Indicator | Target 2018-19 | Achievement 2018-19 | Target 2019-2020 |
| Mohalla Clinics | Functional clinics | 530 | 191 | 530 |
| 24 Delhi govt hospitals referring patients to 48 empanelled pvt hospitals for free surgery | Patients referred for surgery, procedures performed within prescribed time | 3,000 | 2,263 | 3,000 |
| DTC buses | Avg daily ridership (in lakh) | 32.93 | 33 | 33.5 |
| Viability gap funding towards cluster buses | Avg daily ridership (in lakh) | 12 | 12.24 | 12 |
| | Average fleet utilisation | 97.00% | 98.60% | 97.00% |
| | Cluster buses operational | 2,758 | 1,679 | 2,679 |
| Water supply to unauthorised colonies | New pipelines laid (in km) | 5,300 | 4,413 | 4,700 |
| | Unauthorised colonies connected to pipelines | 1,521 | 1,374 | 1,525 |
| Sewerage facilities in unauthorised colonies | Sewer line laid to replace old/defective line (in km) | 950 | 996 | 1,125 |
| Improvement of school libraries | Percentage of students in primary section using library once a month | 100.00 | 99.00% | 100.00% |

proved calling tenders for the first batch of 385 full-electric buses on March 2 this year. The tenders were floated on March 10 but the process was interrupted due to the polls.

The government has managed to meet most of the targets in departments such as education and health.

Failing to meet the target of setting up water pipelines in 291 unauthorised colonies, the Delhi Jal Board laid pipelines in 144 colonies during the financial year 2018-19. There are a total of 1,665 unauthorised colonies in Delhi.

For the coming year, the government has set a target of laying water pipelines in 151 unauthorised colonies, including the 147 pending from last year.

Despite Kejriwal's order, work on PWD roads slow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

DESPITE CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal's ultimatum to the Public Works Department last year to complete road repair work by December 15, the department has faltered in many areas, Delhi government's 2019-20 outcome budget released Friday revealed.

While work on the Ring Road and Outer Ring Road has been completed, many other roads are still in disrepair. With complaints pouring in from different parts of the city, the PWD had allocated

Rs 50 crore to strengthen Rohtak Road. However, work is yet to begin. The department claimed it sent estimates of Rs 46 crore in 2016 to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, but did not receive sanction.

Around 1.4 lakh CCTV cameras were to be installed at important locations. But the PWD failed to meet this target as well. "The work has been awarded to Bharat Electronics Limited and was started," the report said.

Repairs of bridges and flyovers is half done, while 6,101 of 7,458 LED lights have been installed at dark spots.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

MARTYRS OF CISF ON 08TH JUNE



CISF proudly remembers the supreme sacrifice of these brave hearts. On this day, they laid down their lives at the altar of duty. Their courage and bravery would remain an abiding source of inspiration for the force. The force will remain eternally indebted to them for their noblest deeds.



The above mentioned Martyrs of 1/11 Gorkha Rifles (BATALIK) had made the supreme sacrifice during "MT Trishul Expedition" in 2009 in a true act of grit and valour. The brave soldiers will always be remembered for their enthusiasm and courage. To these brave Martyrs we pledge that we shall always be guided by their immortal spirits and do their name proud.

CO AND ALL RANKS, 1/11 GORKHA RIFLES (BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE) (BATALIK)

Rfn Linchon Pradhan of 1/11 Gorkha Rifles (BATALIK) made the supreme sacrifice during "OP VIJAY" on 08 Jun 1999 in a true act of valour. The brave soldier will always be remembered for his raw courage and indomitable team spirit. To this braveheart we pledge that we shall always be guided by his immortal spirit and make his name proud.

CO AND ALL RANKS, 1/11 GORKHA RIFLES (BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE) (BATALIK)

Lnk Indra Bahadur Rai of 1/11 Gorkha Rifles (BATALIK) made the supreme sacrifice during "OP RAKSHAK (J&K)" on 08 Jun 2006 in a true act of valour. The brave soldier will always be remembered for his raw courage and indomitable team spirit. To this braveheart we pledge that we shall always be guided by his immortal spirit and make his name proud.

CO AND ALL RANKS, 1/11 GORKHA RIFLES (BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE) (BATALIK)

Sepoy NS Rama Mohan Reddy was a courageous and motivated soldier who made supreme sacrifice on 12 Jun 2001 while fighting militants in an encounter near Khanabal (J&K). On this day today, the ROYAL JATS proudly remember him and his supreme sacrifice. The tale of your valor still motivates all of us and the Paltan is proud of you.

COLONEL SS TANWAR AND ALL RANKS 2 MECH INF [1 JAT (LI)]

NMDC Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
P.O.: Donimalai Township, Taluk - Sandur, District-Ballari Karnataka, Pin - 583 118 CIN: L13100AP1958GOI001674

OPEN TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sealed tenders in two-bid system are invited from the competent and experienced bidders for the following work:
Tender No: CE/W/15 (88) / 2019 vide date of notification: 08/06/2019 and Name of work: "Construction of RCC retaining walls, chain link wall & dry stone pitching for slope stabilization between Pit-2 and Pit-3 at KIOM" with estimated cost of ₹184.77 lakhs and period of completion for work: 09 Months (including Rainy season) with EMD is ₹1,84,773.00 and sale/download period from 08.06.2019 to 08.07.2019. For accessing the tender document or download from NMDC Limited website <https://www.nmdc.co.in/nmcdctender/default.aspx>. For any clarification, bidders may contact DGM (Civil), by mailing to diomcivil@nmdc.co.in or by fax message to 08395-274644. For and behalf of NMDC Ltd. DGM (Civil). Dated: 08-06-2019

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No. U27310WB1920GOI003601
SECOND FLOOR, JVL PLAZA, NO. 626, ANNA SALAI, TEYNAMPET
CHENNAI - 600 018

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Interested resourceful Contractors may download the tender documents from Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, shall be hosted in Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> only.

| Sl. No. | Description of work and NIT No. | Tender Document available on B&R's Website | Due Date of submission of Bid |
|---------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Supply & Installation of Solar LED Street lights on PAN India basis including 5 years warranty. NIT No.: B&R / MDS / 71104 / EESL / SLSL / NIT / 0538 dated 04.06.2019 | 04.06.2019 | 13.06.2019 |

Interested resourceful Contractors may download the tender documents from Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, shall be hosted in Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> only.

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: NIT/02/19/11 Dated: 07.06.2019
Controller of Stores, Eastern Railway invites e-tenders for supply of the following items:

| Sl No. | Tender No. | Description | EMD (₹) |
|--|------------|--|-----------|
| Tender Opening Date: 14.06.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 1 | 09181970 | Procurement of Brush Holder complete for traction Motor etc. | 30,380 |
| Tender Opening Date: 19.06.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 2 | 19191024 | Purchase of spring coil inner etc. | 88,620 |
| Tender Opening Date: 21.06.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 3 | 21195012A | Procurement of under Frame Brake Gear arrangement etc. | 2,07,360 |
| Tender Opening Date: 24.06.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 4 | 08191615 | Procurement of 6V, 120 AH capacity VRLA battery | 10,54,810 |
| 5 | 21191028 | Procurement of Constant Contact Polyurethane Side Bearer Pad assembly for H.S Bogie without Housing etc. | 17,39,860 |
| Tender Opening Date: 26.06.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 6 | 10181875A | Finger contact with Flexible Shunt Assy. | 1,47,640 |
| Tender Opening Date: 28.06.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 7 | 08191484 | Procurement of Battery Box | 56,250 |
| Tender Opening Date: 01.07.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 8 | 08195025 | Procurement of Roof Mounted AC Package Unit (RMPU) | 1,53,080 |
| 9 | 09181975 | Procurement of Motor Contactor (E.P Contactor) etc. | 30,880 |
| 10 | 10182337A | Procurement of set of OH kit for ELGI make etc. | 35,710 |
| 11 | 10191005 | Procurement of Suspension Spring etc. | 6,68,930 |
| 12 | 10191058 | Procurement of High Current Carrying Capacity Contactor etc. | 3,84,880 |
| 13 | 10191172 | Commutating Pole Assembly (N-Pole) | 66,310 |
| 14 | 10191177 | Axle box Assy. complete etc. | 73,710 |
| 15 | 10192145A | Procurement of set of wiper ARM etc. | 36,960 |
| 16 | 10192221 | Relays etc. | 4,54,780 |
| 17 | 10192425 | Programme switch HPAR (HQQA/ZCPA type) etc. | 38,140 |
| 18 | 14181126A | Procurement of Surge suppressor | 52,870 |
| 19 | 19191042 | Purchase of L type brake block etc. | 2,51,450 |
| 20 | 21181413D | Procurement of Door Assembly (Double Link) for BOBRN Wagon etc. | 99,650 |

Note: All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS website. (STORES-11/2019-20) ABC

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PATNA
(An Institute of National Importance under MHRD, Govt. of India)
ASHOK RAJPATH, PATNA - 800 005 (BIHAR)

Advt. No. NITP/01/2019-20
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Institute is inviting Tenders in sealed envelopes for supply of following items/services: (i) Group Health Insurance for NIT Patna students, (ii) Applied Thermodynamics Lab equipment through TEQIP-III, (iii) Running Guest House at NIT Patna, (iv) Hiring of Housekeeping Services Agency, (v) Empanelment for Vehicle Hiring, (vi) Providing Internet (Lease Line) Bandwidth in the Campus, (vii) Construction of Light Weight Prefabricated Structure on the First Floor of "Old Guest House" at NIT Patna. The complete details of tender, specification, tender documents are available on the Institute website www.nitp.ac.in. The duly filled Tenders documents has to be submitted through Speed Post/ Registered Post/ dropped on the sealed Tender Box only on the address of Registrar, National Institute of Technology Patna, Patna - 800 005 clearly specifying the Tender Ref. No. and Description on the top of the envelope on or before the Last Date of submission of Tender as mentioned in the Tender document. Any Addendum or Corrigendum will be published on website only. Registrar

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Tender No. S&T/Sig/L/MB-Div/144/2019-20 Dated: 06.06.2019
Sealed (Open) tenders are invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/CMB for and on behalf of President of India on the prescribed form with the following details:

| | |
|--|--|
| a) Name of work: | Trenching, cable laying, erection & wiring of signals, relays wiring, & part supply of power supply equipments, signals post, signal units, location box and commissioning & testing of Signalling work in connection with interlocking of balance eight Level Crossing Gates on Moradabad Division. |
| b) Approx. cost | Rs. 3943658.32 |
| c) Earnest Money | Rs. 78900/- |
| d) Last date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender | 08.07.2019 up to 14:00 hrs. and 08.07.2019 at 15:00 hrs. |
| e) Website particulars | www.ireps.gov.in |

Tender documents will be available at www.ireps.gov.in, EMD and tender cost will be submitted on same website. 1811/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Tender Opening Date: 03.07.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs.

| | | | |
|--|-----------|--|----------|
| 21 | 14181063 | Procurement of Telephone cable | 37,410 |
| 22 | 14185183 | Procurement of SMPS based JPS 4 LRE etc | 2,30,100 |
| 23 | 19191023 | Purchase of spring coil inner etc. | 2,54,980 |
| 24 | 21171317E | Procurement of Door Operating Complete for 'BOBYN' Wagon etc. | 71,550 |
| 25 | 21181001 | Procurement of Buffer Spindle (B.G.) etc. | 90,160 |
| 26 | 21181318 | Procurement of Locking Bolt for Flap Door (BOXN Wagon) etc. | 42,470 |
| 27 | 21181477C | Procurement of Gear Box (RH) and Gear Box (LH) of BOBYN Wagon etc. | 1,21,910 |
| 28 | 21191009 | Procurement of Locking Plate for Cartridge Taper Roller Bearing Class-E* (6"x11") for Freight Stock etc. | 55,900 |
| 29 | 21191013 | Procurement of Snubber Spring (20.3 t Axle Load) for Casnu Bogie etc. | 40,380 |
| 30 | 21191082 | Procurement of Slack Adjuster complete type IRSA -600 for BOXN Wagon etc. | 5,79,670 |
| Tender Opening Date: 08.07.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 31 | 10191025 | Single Interrupter Vacuum Circuit Breaker etc. | 3,69,100 |
| 32 | 19191004 | High tensile center buffer coupler etc. | 4,56,530 |
| 33 | 20191025 | Procurement of Lateral Damper and Vertical Damper etc. | 6,12,470 |
| 34 | 20191114 | Procurement of Sliding Door (Left Hand/Right Hand) for EMU Coaches etc. | 2,03,520 |
| 35 | 20191129 | Procurement of Low maintenance Lead Acid Battery 90 Ah (LM) (PP-CO) container for EMU/ MEMUs etc. | 2,15,690 |
| 36 | 20191156 | Procurement of Brush Holder assembly etc. | 76,330 |
| Tender Opening Date: 09.07.2019, Time: 13.30 hrs. | | | |
| 37 | 07181080A | Procurement of Pre-Laminated Compreg Sheet, Size: 1397 MM x 1067 MM x 3 MM to RDSO Specn. No. CK-513 (Rev-0 of December 2005 with 05 Amendments, Last Amendment No. 5 issued in September-2015 or Latest & Corrigendum No. 1 of June 2015), Colour-Cool Blue, Colour Shade Code No. NAC-SP/05, Shaded one side | 45,090 |

Note: All above mentioned tenders are e-tenders and all tenderers are requested to submit their bids on-line through the IREPS website at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. For more details regarding the above mentioned tenders and other supply tenders please visit IREPS website. (STORES-11/2019-20) ABC

Woman alleges rape by professor, FIR registered

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, JUNE 7

A WOMAN was allegedly raped by a professor of a premier higher education institute in Jodhpur at a Noida guest house Thursday afternoon, police said.

According to police, the alleged incident took place when the woman went to meet the professor to seek his help in finding a job. Police said he had "either studied or worked with" the woman in the past. Police were yet to make an arrest Friday night, and said they are confirming the professor's credentials. A senior officer said, "The

woman went to meet him to give her resume, so that he could help her in finding employment in a field he was connected with. Later, she approached police with a complaint alleging that he had raped her. We have registered an FIR in this matter."

A case has been registered under IPC section 376 (rape), police said. A medical check-up of the woman and the professor has been conducted and officers are going through findings of the report, police said.

He added that the next steps in the investigation would include taking detailed statements from the victim, the professor and people at the guest house.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Opened E-tender based on single Packet system (Tender notice No. M/C&W/14/2019-20 dt. 06.06.2019) are invited by Divisional Rail Manager/ Mech./C&W/Varanasi/N E Railway for and on behalf of President of India for following work:-

| Description of Works | Approx. Value | EMD Money |
|--|----------------|-------------|
| Hiring of a pickup van (Minimum specification 2765 mm long cargo box with covered body and 1.7 MT pay load etc.) for coaching depot Chhapra with commercial registration, all taxes/GST, fuel, maintenance, driver, Parking and other Charges etc. for 24 hours for three years. | ₹ 16,69,653.06 | ₹ 33,400.00 |
| Completion Period from the date of commencement of work-36 months i.e. 03 Years. | ₹ 2,000/- | ₹ 2,000/- |
| Validity of offer - 45 days. | | |

Date and time of closing of E-tender :- 09.07.2019 at 14.30 Hrs.
Date and time of opening of E-tender :- 09.07.2019 at 15.00 Hrs.
Tenderers may submit their offers online up to 09.07.2019 at 14.30 hrs. Pl go to the website www.ireps.gov.in to see the complete details and upload the tender.
CPRO/Mech-58 Sr. DME/C&W/BSB
"About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955"
"Never travel on roof and foot boards"

पश्चिमांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि.
(उ.प्र. सरकार का उपक्रम)

ई-निविदा सूचना:- अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य/ आपूर्ति के लिए ई-निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है। ई-निविदा की अंकित धरोहर धनराशि व निविदा प्रपत्र मूल्य धनराशि Punjab National Bank Shiv Chowk, Muzaffarnagar Account No. 0332002100036077, IFSC Code PUNB0033200, Branch Code 0332 में जमा कराकर बैंक में जमा का साक्ष्य यथा योज्य यू.टी.आर. संख्या, पे-इन-स्लिप मूल की प्रति की प्रति (इश्यूइंग बैंक के कन्फर्मेशन मेल की प्रति) ई-निविदा के साथ सम्बन्धित वेबसाइट जिसका विवरण नीचे अंकित है पर अपलोड कर भाग- प्रथम में संलग्न होनी आवश्यक है। अत्यकालीन ई-निविदा खुलने की तिथि 22.06.2019 है। अत्यकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 12/ 2019-20:- विद्युत नगरीय वितरण उपखण्ड- प्रथम, मुजफ्फरनगर के अन्तर्गत कांवेड यात्रा मार्ग पर सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से परिवर्तकों की बेरिकेटिंग करना, विद्युत पोलों पर पन्नी बांधना, तारों पर बन्धु- बेटन बांधना, लाईन का मरम्मतिकरण एवं अन्य सम्बन्धित कार्य। अत्यकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 13/ 2019-20:- विद्युत नगरीय वितरण उपखण्ड- द्वितीय, मुजफ्फरनगर के अन्तर्गत कांवेड यात्रा मार्ग पर सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से परिवर्तकों की बेरिकेटिंग करना, विद्युत पोलों पर पन्नी बांधना, तारों पर बन्धु-बेटन बांधना, लाईन का मरम्मतिकरण एवं अन्य सम्बन्धित कार्य। अत्यकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 14/ 2019-20:- विद्युत नगरीय वितरण उपखण्ड- तृतीय, मुजफ्फरनगर के अन्तर्गत कांवेड यात्रा मार्ग पर सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से परिवर्तकों की बेरिकेटिंग करना, विद्युत पोलों पर पन्नी बांधना, तारों पर बन्

Abode of Knowledge

SATURDAY | JUNE 8 | 2019

378 PTU MERIT POSITIONS GRABBED BY CGC STUDENTS, BREAKS RECORD

1,192 PTU merit positions secured by CGC, Landran students till date, incentives like cash prizes and laptops to be awarded to merit holders

THE merit list of the final examinations conducted by IK Gujral Punjab Technical University in April 2018 has been released and students of Chandigarh Group of Colleges, Landran have yet again broken their all time record by grabbing 378 merit positions in a single year. The college has witnessed a 23% surge from the last-released merit list with 52 Gold positions and 47 Silver positions along with 265 other merit positions. This has accounted for over 1,000 PTU merit positions held by the students of CGC Landran till date. Out of



which 98 are Gold, 106 Silver and 86 Bronze positions.

As many as 35 students from Hotel Management and Biotechnology scored 10 SGPA along with over 150 students who have brought laurels to the college by securing above 9 SGPA. Hotel Management 4th Semester students Aarif Khan, Chanda N Kumar, Chetna, Munish Kumar, Piyush Jain,

Rochak Jamwal, Roshan Vij and 6th semester students Sonia, Sunita Bhandra, Ambers Sood have clinched Gold positions by fetching 10 SGPA each. Business Management 6th semester student Akansha Arora (9.64 SGPA) and Aakriti Bansal (9.32) from Biotechnology claimed top merit positions. Aayushi Panwar, Bhavya, Deepanshu Kumar, Muskaan

Batra and Tavleen Kaur Jolly pursuing Computer Science Engineering clinched Gold Medals by securing 9.40 SGPA each while Tanishq Jain from IT engineering has grabbed 9.27 SGPA.

The Silver spots have been led by MCA students Shiv Prakash, Yashika Arora along with Samreeti Sharma and Antriksh Jain from B.Tech Electronic and Mechanical Engineering respectively. Prati-bha, Manvi Sharma, Jyoti Tegwan from Biotechnology have made their college proud by securing silver with 9.86 SGPA. M.Pharm 2nd Semester student, Chahak Kakkar

also claimed silver in the PTU merit list. In order to encourage the bright students, CGC Landran has introduced an academic reward policy which guarantees cash prizes and laptops to the university position holders.

Satnam Singh Sandhu, Chairman, CGC and Rashpal Singh Dhaliwal, President, CGC Landran, congratulated the students stating that their efforts and dedication had paid off. They reiterated their commitment to maintain and continuously upgrade the quality of education which includes adopting the model curriculum initiative to enhance industry exposure and bridge the academia-industry interface.

Akal Academy, Baru Sahib

While Akal Academy Baru Sahib won the inter-academy girls basketball and hockey tournaments, Akal Academy Mander won Gold in the girls football tournament

THE finals of 15th Sant Attar Singh Memorial Hockey Tournament & 7th Inter Academy Football Tournament for Girls held at Baru Sahib yesterday. A total of 25 Akal Academies from various states who had won their league matches in their respective states were selected for final rounds at Baru Sahib. All the teams played their best. Akal Academy Baru Sahib and Akal Academy Dhindsa reached the finals of the basketball tournament beating Akal Academy Ajitara and Akal Academy Puranewala respectively. In the final, Akal Academy Baru Sahib beat Akal Academy Dhindsa with the score of 15-7.

In the hockey tournament, Akal Academy Baru Sahib and Akal Academy Fatehgarh Channa reached the finals beating their rival teams Akal Academy Bhai Desa and Akal Academy Teja Singh wala respectively. Akal Academy Baru Sahib beat Akal Academy Fatehgarh Channa by score of 9-0. The finals of the football tournament was played between Akal Academy Mander and Akal Academy Balbehra. Akal Academy Mander beat Akal Academy Balbehra by score 3-2.

The tournaments were special as girls from rural academies put up outstanding performances which reflected the overall development of these rural girls both in academics and sports activities in Akal Academies established and run by The Kalgidhar Trust Baru Sahib under the guidance of Baba Iqbal Singh Ji.



ETERNAL UNIVERSITY: EXCLUSIVELY EDUCATING AND EMPOWERING GIRL STUDENTS

THE Eternal University sponsored by Kalgidhar Trust is situated in the pristine valley of divine peace, Baru Sahib, Himachal Pradesh as per the visions of reverend saints and educationists of the 20th century, Sant Baba Attar Singh Ji, Mastuane Wale and Sant Baba Teja Singh Ji by their devoted disciple Baba Iqbal Singh Ji, President, former Director Agriculture, Himachal Pradesh and President of Kalgidhar Trust. It has been established by an Act No 3 of 2009 by Government of Himachal Pradesh to provide cutting edge scientific and technical education amalgamated with spiritual rejuvenation for holistic development of young talent to serve the mankind with love and devotion for promoting universal brotherhood and eternal peace. The university with its seven constituent colleges, accredited by NAAC and duly recognised by UGC, AICTE, INC, NCTE, DST, DBT, DSIR and DRDO, is now imparting value-based education exclusively to girl students. It provides the safest, cleanest, healthiest, drug free and most intellectually exhilarating environment for holistic develop-

ment of its students. The Eternal University has been offering more than 70 UG, PG and PhD, degree courses most suitable to women preference and empowerment, inclusive national development and fulfilment of the millennium sustainable developmental goals. MSc in Psychology, B.Lib I. Sc, BSc in IT, B.Tech in ICT, PGD in Renewable Energy are some of the new courses being offered from the academic session 2019-20. The university has highly qualified, trained, experienced and devoted faculty with state-of-the-art infrastructure, well-equipped laboratories and digital teaching and learning facilities to conduct the programmes to the maximum satisfaction of all the stakeholders. The Hon'ble Governor of Himachal Pradesh Shri Acharya Dev Vrat was the Chief Guest at the 6th convocation of the Eternal University held on November 24, 2018, who had appreciated the Gurukul type of education in the university and blessed the nearly 300 recipients of various degrees at the convocation.

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35-year-old jeweller shot dead inside store

BSP leader held for ponzi scheme that duped 2 lakh people

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

AMIL BHATNAGAR NOIDA, JUNE 7

A 35-YEAR-OLD jeweller was shot dead inside his store in Outer Delhi Friday afternoon. A PCR call was made by Kanhaiya, the brother of the victim, Ram Singh Verma, after 3 pm, when he found him lying in a pool of blood inside his store in Vikas Nagar, Ranhola.

A BSP leader who allegedly cheated more than 2 lakh investors through his company surrendered before a local court Friday.

Sanjay Bhati, the alleged owner of Garvit Innovators Promoters Limited (GIPL), was accused of cheating people under the garb of a "multi-level marketing scheme" called "BikeBot", which promised to double people's investment within a year.

The surrender comes a day after the franchisee head of the company, Vijay Pal Kasna, was arrested from Meerut.

"Sanjay Bhati has been sent to 14-day judicial custody and we will seek remand custody. Sanjay and various officials of GIPL had been named in 33 FIRs for alleged fraud. The accused would take Rs 62,100 from people and promise greater returns. As per investigation, it appears that almost 2.25 lakh people invested in it. The Noida Economic Offences Wing is probing the matter while a Special Investigation Team has been set up as well," said Vaibhav Krishna, SSP Gautam Budh Nagar.

According to police, Sanjay has been booked under the Gangster Act and his properties

are in the process of being attached. One of the company's offices is located in Greater Noida.

The company officials would ask for the money to be invested in a 'bike taxi' against which a return was promised every month. The company extensively used social media and other platforms to popularise the scheme and also hired 'motivators' to spread it through word of mouth. Glossy pamphlets with figures of bikes were also distributed to people. The investors were also promised a bonus.

The ponzi scheme, which had been operating for the past three years, started falling apart as investors failed to get returns.

The accused have admitted to fraud worth Rs 1,300 crore, officers said. As per police data, fraud worth Rs 80 crore has so far been confirmed. The company allegedly had 7,000 bikes, out of which only 2,000 were registered, police said.

"As per investigation, it has been found that the scheme had spread to Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, apart from Western UP. Efforts are on to trace the other accused," said SSP Krishna.

The cases have been filed under IPC sections 420 (fraud), 406 (criminal breach of trust), 467 (forgery), 506 (criminal intimidation) among others.

THIRD DEATH AT POLICE STATIONS IN A MONTH

Brought in for questioning, man dies in police custody, 3 cops suspended

JIGNASA SINHA NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

A 25-YEAR-OLD man died in police custody at North East Delhi's Nand Nagri police station Thursday — the third death inside police station premises in the past month. Three personnel from the police station — head constable Abhishek and constables Uddham Singh and Vishal — have been suspended.

According to an officer, Govinda Yadav and his accomplice Nayeem (30) were arrested from Sunder Nagri by two policemen Thursday morning. Police claimed Yadav was arrested under the Excise Act and taken to Nand Nagri police station. Around 10.30 pm, he was rushed to GTB Hospital, where he was declared dead.

An investigation into his death will be undertaken by a Metropolitan Magistrate. Usually, if the MM does not find irregularities, he assigns the task to a Sub-Divisional Magistrate. In this case, police admitted there were "issues" while filing the FIR.



Govinda Yadav's body was shifted to the mortuary amid heavy police presence. Praveen Khanna

which he fell on the floor, unconscious, Meena said, adding that police officers rushed him to the hospital. Asked why he was arrested, an officer claimed the men were allegedly carrying 17 boxes of illicit liquor. While police said the MM's probe and post-mortem will shed more light on the matter, an officer claimed Yadav had "a stomach ache".

The family, however, alleged misconduct by police. Yadav's cousin Reshma claimed, "I was called to Nand Nagri police station at 7 pm but they didn't let me meet my brother. Instead, officers demanded money for bail but I told them we can't afford to pay that much."

The family claimed none of them were allowed to meet Yadav before his death at the police station. The family claimed they re-

ceived a call late at night that Yadav had died at GTB Hospital. On Friday, his body was shifted to the mortuary amid heavy police presence.

Yadav's father Ram Gulam Yadav (55) claimed that his son's body had bruises on the arm and legs. "Police must have beaten him up because we weren't informed about his illness and were only called after he died," he claimed. Meena, however, said the post-mortem report will take time and there is no evidence of external injury.

According to the family, Yadav was a labourer who barely earned enough to provide for his two younger brothers and father.

On June 5, a 25-year-old man died after he was brought in for questioning at Delhi Cantt police station. He was picked up on charges of cheating an ex-serviceman. Police claimed he suffered an epileptic episode. On May 27, a 55-year-old man died after he fell from the balcony of the Bawana police station, right after he was questioned about his son's whereabouts.

कार्यालय अधीक्षण यंत्री, राष्ट्रीय यांत्रिकी सेवा, भोपाल मंडल भोपाल पुराना सचिवालय भोपाल. निविदा विज्ञापन क्र.: 01/2019-20. दिनांक 4/6/2019. मंडल अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदाओं आमंत्रित की जाती है।

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

TWO WOMEN by the same name, a delivery staff who got the wrong address and a cheque book that reached the wrong destination led to Rs 3.6 lakh going missing from the bank account of a woman, who lives in Dwarka.

Police said a 49-year-old woman was arrested for impersonating her neighbour, with whom she shares her first name, and withdrawing the money from her account after forging her signature and even getting an ATM card made.

Police said the accused was delivered the cheque book by a

delivery staff, who got confused because of the same first name and since the two women lived in homes facing each other.

"Instead of returning the cheque book, the woman made fraudulent transactions from the complainant's bank account," said a senior police officer.

Police said the accused and the complainant knew each other, and the former was aware of her neighbour's signature.

"The woman initially withdrew Rs 50,000 to see if it works, and when the bank authorities did not grow suspicious, she made four more transactions. The accused also got an ATM card and a passbook

issued," the officer said, adding that she also shopped for Rs 15,000.

Police said before the accused could spend the money, officers caught up with her and recovered Rs 3,62,000 in cash, the original cheque book and the ATM card from her possession.

DCP (Dwarka) Anto Alphonse said the case came to light when the complainant visited her bank to withdraw money for repair work at home.

"The complainant had applied for the cheque book in February but never received it. She went to the bank in May and was informed that money had been withdrawn from her account," Alphonse said.

BRIEFLY

50-year-old found dead

New Delhi: A 50-year-old man was found with his throat slit at the servant's quarters in the capital's South Avenue area, which houses the residences of Members of Parliament, police said Friday. DCP (New Delhi) Madhur Verma said the victim, Suresh, was killed by two people, and had allegedly lost money over gambling.

Two gang members held after shootout

New Delhi: The Special Cell Friday arrested two men, wanted in two separate cases of murder, after a brief shootout at Pusta Road. The accused, Salman (24) and Nazim (23), are members of the Nasir gang which operates in North East Delhi.

26-year-old woman 'kills herself'

New Delhi: A 26-year-old woman allegedly committed suicide by jumping off the terrace of a building in South West Delhi's Ghitorni early Friday. Police said the woman allegedly jumped after an argument with her husband, a tailor. No suicide note has been recovered.

Man held for harassing woman

Gurgaon: A man was arrested for allegedly making lewd gestures at a woman on a Metro train, police said. The incident took place when the train was between IFFCO Chowk and Huda City Centre stations. ENS

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (e TENDER NOTICE) STATE FORENSIC SCIENCE LABORATORY 5-CIVIL LINESS SAGAR (M.P). No. FSL /STORE/SB/DNA33/2019 Dated.06/06/2019. ONLINE TENDER NOTICE. Online tender are invited by Director State Forensic Science Laboratory, Sagor on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following on website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app

Delhi's healthcare scheme better than yours: CM to Centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

DELHI CHIEF Minister Arvind Kejriwal wrote to Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan Friday and said the Delhi Health Scheme is 10 times better than the Centre's Ayushman Bharat scheme. Comparing both on three categories, Kejriwal claimed that while the Centre's scheme has "restrictions", the Delhi government's "Quality Healthcare for All" scheme is available without limitations for the city's entire population.

The move comes a day after the Union minister wrote to the chief ministers of four states that are yet to implement the ambitious health scheme, under which medical and hospitalisation expenses for almost all secondary care and most tertiary care procedures will be covered.

"I feel proud to inform you that Delhi has been running on a model which is 10 times better than Ayushman Bharat. We still receive patients from neighbouring states like UP and Haryana... no patient from Delhi visits any of these states for treatment. Delhi is already following

a health scheme and it will be unfair to start another similar scheme. Implementing Ayushman Bharat will cause trouble to Delhi's residents," Kejriwal wrote in the letter.

The letter explains the "limited coverage" offered by the Centre's scheme, which has been implemented in five government and 16 private hospitals in Delhi so far. The scheme is managed by the National Health Authority (NHA) across the country.

Ayushman Bharat is applicable to only those with an income less than Rs 10,000 per month, and does not cater to those who have a scooter, motorcycle, refrigerator and phone. The scheme in Delhi is available to two crore citizens of the capital, said Kejriwal, and patients need to pay only for a few medicines that are unavailable due to their high cost. "Ayushman Bharat covers medical expenses up to Rs 5 lakh, whereas the Delhi government bears all medical expenses, even if the bill runs up to Rs 30 lakh or more," he added.

"We want to improve the existing health scheme. Please let us know if you come across any facility missing from our scheme. We will implement it," he said.

बिहार सरकार. विहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0 पटना (बिहार सरकार का उपक्रम). राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धाई0 पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0-05 / 2019-20. बिहार जल विभाग का पदनाम एवं पता. निविदा आमंत्रण की तिथि. निविदा कागजात प्राप्त (डाउनलोड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय. निविदा जमा (अपलॉड) करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय. निविदा बिक्री का स्थान. प्री-ब्रीड मीटिंग की तिथि, समय एवं स्थान. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (टेन्डरनोट ब्रीड). निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (विशेषीय ब्रीड). निविदा वैधता की तिथि. कार्य का विवरण. कार्य का नाम, अधिकार प्राप्त की तिथि, अंश, अंश का प्रतिशत, अंश का मूल्य (₹), अंश का मूल्य (₹), अंश का मूल्य (₹), अंश का मूल्य (₹), अंश का मूल्य (₹), अंश का मूल्य (₹).

E-Tender Notice DAHOD SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT LIMITED. Dahod Smart City Development Limited (DSCDL) invites online E-Tenders for "Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Bus Operator for Operation and Maintenance of 15 Nos. CNG buses and related facilities for City Bus Service in and around Dahod City". Tender ID : 362622. Estimated Cost (In Rs.) Rs. 12.55 Cr/- EMD (In Rs.) Rs. 5,00,000/- Tender Fee (In Rs.) Rs. 10,00,000/- Contract Duration 5 years. Bid Document Downloading start date 06/06/2019. Last Date for online Submission of Tender Document Date/Time 27/06/2019 up to 17.30 Hrs. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: (1) The tender document for this work can be downloaded from website www.nprocure.com. (2) Other Details of NIT shall be seen on website. (3) The original copy of Tender fees and EMD along with one set of Technical Bid along with two(02) printed copies of the entire proposal, one marked ORIGINAL and the second one as DUPLICATE and a soft copy on non rewritable electronic storage media with all the contents of your proposal shall be submitted to Chief Executive Officer (DSCDL), Jilla Sewa Sadan, Chhapri, Dahod-389151, by RPAD/ speed post only on or before Date: 02/07/2019 up to 17.00 Hrs. Chief Executive Officer, DSCDL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. This Tender notice shall form a part of contract document. Tender No. 2018-2019. Chief Executive Officer. Phone: 8866447546; Email: dahodsmartcity20@gmail.com

DU council members object to changes in criteria

New Delhi: Five members of Delhi University's Academic Council (AC) and Executive Council (EC) have written to the Vice-Chancellor over "arbitrary" changes in the eligibility criteria for undergraduate courses, which they said lack approval of statutory bodies.

This time, DU has introduced many changes, including in the eligibility criteria, which is creating confusion among students. This includes making maths compulsory in 'best of four' subject calculations for Economics (Hons) or having varied percentage scores in English for different subjects.

The percentage of marks required in qualifying subjects for admission has also been increased in various cases. In their letter, EC members J.L. Gupta and Rajesh Jha, and AC members Seema Das, Sudhanshu and Pradeep Kumar said the changes could adversely affect admission of the reserved categories. "These changes are arbitrary, unwarranted and uncalled for, as admissions are finalised on the basis of merit as reflected in the cut-offs of various courses, thus causing chaos among students," they wrote, and demanded that the earlier criteria be restored. ENS

7 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

SC, ST, Kapu, minority, backward: Jagan names 5 Dy CMs for Andhra

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, JUNE 7

IN A bid to represent all sections of society after a landslide victory, Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy announced Friday that Andhra Pradesh will have five deputy CMs — one each from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, backward classes, minorities and the Kapu community.

The decision, unprecedented in Indian politics, was announced at a YSRCP legislative party meeting at the party headquarters at Tadepalligudem in Amaravati. Jagan also said that his Cabinet will have 25 ministers, who will all be sworn in Saturday.

In the previous TDP Government, N Chandrababu Naidu had two Deputy CMs — one Kapu and the other an OBC.

Jagan told the MLAs that the five deputy CMs will represent SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities and the Kapu community. The Kapu community, which had backed the TDP in 2014 shifted to Jagan in the state elections, hence the representation in the Cabinet.



Jagan said ministers will get two-and-half-year tenures. PTI

"The Cabinet will represent the aspirations of all communities," said Jagan.

Sources close to Jagan said that out of the 25 ministers, eight will be from OBCs, 5 from SCs, one from STs, four from the Kapu community, four from the Reddy community, one from the Kamma community, one Kshatriya and one Vysya.

According to sources, Jagan

also warned that the ministers' tenure would be for two-and-half years and if they do not perform well or if he feels that they should be replaced, he would do so. He also stated that he would make way for new faces halfway through his term.

Jagan said that the Cabinet would be a mix of seniors who worked with his father, late Dr Y S Rajashekara Reddy, and young

MLAs. MLA from Kadapa Ahmed Basha, former Congress ministers Botsa Satyanarayana, Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose, Dharmana Prasad Rao, and seniors like Balineni Srinivas Reddy, Ambati Ram Babu, A Ramakrishna Reddy may find a place in the Cabinet. Contrary to expectations that the ministry would be loaded with Reddys, Jagan has made it clear that all communities will get representation.

"As people of all sections and castes put their faith and trust in Jagan, he is trying to have representatives of all castes and communities in the Cabinet. This is to appease all the sections of society," said a party leader.

However, with 151 MLAs, there is a lot of pressure on Jagan with MLAs vying for ministerial berths and posts. Jagan also told the MLAs that he would not tolerate any corruption. "People are watching us closely. We have a big mandate and an even bigger responsibility. There should be no corruption at any level, and we should maintain transparency in all our dealings," Jagan told the MLAs.

PM begins second term with visits to Maldives, Sri Lanka

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

WITH AN eye on China's proactive moves in the Indian Ocean region, India will strengthen defence partnerships with at least two key projects in the Maldives as Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits the island nation in his first bilateral visit in the second term.

Modi and Maldives President Ibrahim Solih will jointly inaugurate two projects — the Coastal Surveillance Radar System and the Composite Training Centre of the Maldives National Defence Forces.

Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale described the two as "important projects", valued at about Rs 180 crore, which will be remotely inaugurated by the two leaders. This is part of weaning away Maldives from Beijing, as China has made deep inroads into the Maldivian establishment during the Abdulla Yameen regime.

Modi will also travel to Sri Lanka, where he will review the progress on a key trilateral MOU which India, Japan and Sri Lanka have signed — the development of the East Container Terminal in Colombo, located just about 3 km away from the China-supported "port city", which is being built on reclaimed land.

Ahead of his first visits since winning a second term, Modi Friday stressed on "maritime neighbours" and said the visit will strengthen close ties with both countries. This is the most clear indication of the importance attached to the visit, in the backdrop of Beijing's moves in the neighbourhood.

Gokhale, when asked, however said, "I don't think we should see our cooperation with any country in our region as necessarily having some ulterior motive or being directed against another country or being part of some grand strategy. I think our objective is that infrastructure development in our region benefits our



Strategic priority to counter China footprint

CHINA'S STRATEGIC footprint in India's neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean region has been a key question on Delhi's mind. Narendra Modi's first bilateral visit in his second term as PM appears to be aimed at addressing the question, by displaying strategic priority to the Maldives and Sri Lanka. Executing key defence and strategic infrastructure projects will enhance capabilities of the neighbours, much to Delhi's advantage.

economy and the economy of that country."

"We recognise that we have limited capabilities, within those capabilities we are making all efforts bilaterally but when major foreign investors like Japan are also willing to join project which are of our national interest, we have no objection in doing it with them. This is a model I can say you will see not just in Sri Lanka but in the coming days in a couple of other neighbouring countries as well."

Before the visits, Modi said: "I am confident that my visit to the Maldives and Sri Lanka will further strengthen our close and cordial ties with our maritime neighbours, in line with our 'Neighbourhood-First Policy,'"

HARYANA HEAT

INFIGHTING IN the Haryana Congress is showing signs of intensifying. Days after a meeting of the Haryana Congress coordination committee witnessed heated exchanges between state president Ashok Tanwar and loyalists of former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, there is fresh trouble. Hooda has called a meeting of his supporters — MLAs, senior and middle-level leaders and office bearers — on Sunday to discuss the next course of action. He perhaps wants to show his strength and give a clear message to the high command. It is seen as an attempt to mount pressure on the much-weak high command to remove Tanwar as PCC chief and hand over the baton to either him or a person of his choice ahead of the Assembly elections.

MINISTRY MATTERS

WHEN THE new list of ministers and their portfolios was released after the oath ceremony, the Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Drinking Water and Sanitation ministries were merged into "Jal Shakti" under one minister. This had been promised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an election rally in Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu, on April 13. Interestingly, the relevant rules of Business Allocation are yet to be amended and in the absence of any such order, several officials of related departments in Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and the erstwhile Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and some other departments are holding their breath and speculating on which ministry they will go to. All correspondence of the Jal Shakti ministry is at present being done with the earlier names.

GREEN THOUGHTS

AT A recent World Environment Day event, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, heading the new Jal Shakti Ministry, spoke of how environmental degradation has much to do with straying from Indian culture. He lamented how a country that until two-three generations ago revered the environment in the form of *jal* (water), *vaayu* (air) and *bhoomi* (earth) now has to observe World Environment Day like other countries. His Cabinet colleague from the Environment Ministry, Prakash Javadekar, gave a more contemporary reference. Recalling how he too didn't have access to a toilet as a child, and how over the years human waste has contaminated our water bodies, he repeated the lyrics of the Bollywood song '*Ram teri ganga maili ho gayi paapiyon ke paap dhote dhote*'.



Home Minister Amit Shah comes out of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's residence, after a meeting of key ministers, in New Delhi, on Friday. Anil Sharma



Dilip Ghosh

Defying govt diktat, BJP takes out victory rallies in Bengal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JUNE 7

THE BJP took out election victory rallies in Cooch Behar and Hooghly districts on Friday, a day after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee announced a ban on such marches. Defying the government direction, BJP workers were seen hitting the streets in those districts and waving party flags and banners.

Annoyed with this, Banerjee slammed the BJP for not following the state government's diktat. "They will not follow our rules, yet they will stay here. If they don't respect our laws and views, then we will do the same with them. If they don't show respect to the administration here, we will also not respect them. This ban is for everybody. One cannot say they will not follow it," Banerjee said.

It was an apparent response to West Bengal president Dilip Ghosh's statement that they will forcefully take out victory rallies across the state. "Who is she to say whether victory rallies will be held or not. We will take out such rallies if we wish so," Ghosh said.

On Thursday, Banerjee had asked the police not to give permission to anyone to take out poll victory rallies. Banerjee had taken the decision to curb post-poll violence, which intensified across the state leading to clashes between workers of BJP and TMC.

Group of key ministers meets on 'agenda for governance'

ENS & PTI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

AHEAD OF the first session of the 17th Lok Sabha, a group of key ministers in the newly sworn in government met on Friday to discuss Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "agenda for governance" in his second term, sources said.

The committee met at the residence of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who chairs the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs. Home Minister Amit Shah was among the ministers who attended the meeting.

"The senior ministers discussed the PM's agenda for governance as well as the government's agenda in the upcoming Parliament session," said a source.

The meeting was held a day after the government made late-

evening changes in the cabinet sub-committees to include Singh in key committees of the Union Cabinet — Parliamentary Affairs, Political Affairs, Investment and Growth, and Employment & Skill Development.

A decision on the pro-tem Speaker, who will administer oath to new members, election of Speaker on June 19, and presentation of the Union Budget on July 5 are some of the important issues the committee is believed to have discussed.

The session will be held from June 17 till July 26.

The meeting was also attended by Union ministers Narendra Singh Tomar, Ravi Shankar Prasad, Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Dharmendra Pradhan and Pralhad Joshi.

Earlier in the day, Joshi, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister,

met Congress Parliamentary Party chief Sonia Gandhi seeking her party's cooperation for smooth functioning of the Parliament session. Joshi's visit to Sonia's residence is part of the government's exercise to reach out to the Opposition. The meeting lasted around 15 minutes, sources said.

Joshi also met Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad and DMK's Leader of House in the Lok Sabha T R Baalu.

Besides presentation of the budget, the government is planning to convert into law 10 ordinances, including the one to ban the practice of instant triple talak.

The ordinances were issued in February-March this year by the previous government. But the Bills which sought to convert them into law could not be passed by Parliament.

Meghalaya: NPP gets national party status

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GUWAHATI, JUNE 7

THE NATIONAL People's Party (NPP) — which leads the government in Meghalaya — was accorded the status of a national party on Friday, Meghalaya CM Conrad Sangma said on Twitter.

The NPP, which is BJP's ally in the Northeast, is also part of the alliance government in Manipur. The party has a presence in Nagaland and is contesting a few seats in Assam in the general elections. In this year's Lok Sabha polls, NPP was in "friendly contest" against the BJP on multiple seats in the Northeast.

"The recognition of #NPP as National Party status will surely motivate each member of the family of NPP and will further enable us to work for the greater cause of the region and its people," he said.

Mamata refuses to attend Niti Aayog meet

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JUNE 7

IN ANOTHER stand-off with the Centre, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday said that she will not attend the Niti Ayog meeting on June 15 and questioned the think tank's financial powers.

"...Niti Ayog has no financial powers or power to support state plans, it is fruitless for me to attend the meeting," she wrote in a letter addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"The experience of the last four-and-half years we had with the Niti Aayog brings me back to my earlier suggestion... that we focus on the Inter State Council constituted under Article 263 of the Constitution, with appropriate modifications, to enable the ISC to discharge its augmented range of functions," Banerjee said.

Cabinet Secy Pradeep Sinha's term extended

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE NDA government gave a third extension to Cabinet Secretary Pradeep Kumar Sinha for three months, on Friday, making him the longest serving Cabinet Secretary in the past seven decades.

Sinha's tenure was earlier extended by one year each in 2017 and 2018.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the extension in service beyond June 12, 2019, stated an order from the Personnel Ministry.

Sinha was appointed Cabinet Secretary, the topmost civil bureaucrat in the country, in May 2015 for a fixed two-year term, which was extended twice earlier.

Before Sinha, one of the longest serving Cabinet Secretaries was Y N Sukthankar from May 14, 1953 to July 31, 1957. The first Cabinet Secretary N R Pillai served from February 6, 1950 to May 13, 1953.

AMIT SHAH GETS NEW PERSONAL SECY

NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

New Delhi: A 2009 batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre, Saket Kumar, has been appointed as personal secretary to Home Minister Amit Shah. Kumar was earlier personal secretary to MoS Railways Manoj Sinha, who was dropped from the Modi Cabinet following his defeat in the Lok Sabha elections. An order of Department of Personnel and Training stated on Friday that Kumar was being appointed as Personal Secretary to the Home Minister till July 29, 2023. ENS

Besides them, Ajit Kumar Seth held the post from June 14, 2011 to June 13, 2015, and K M Chandrasekhar from June 14, 2007 to June 13, 2011.

Sinha, a 1977-batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre, earlier served as the power secretary. He has also worked in several other important positions in the Union government.

At Wayanad roadshow, Rahul renews attack on BJP

ENS & PTI
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, MALAPPURAM, JUNE 7

CONGRESS PRESIDENT Rahul Gandhi reached Kerala on Friday for a three-day visit to his constituency of Wayanad, which he won with a margin of 4.31 lakh votes.

After landing at Kozhikode airport, Rahul drove directly to reception meetings in various parts of Malappuram district, which is within Wayanad constituency. Braving heavy rain, hundreds of Congress and IUML workers joined Rahul in a roadshow held as a thanksgiving exercise.

Reviving his attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi after



Congress president Rahul Gandhi at a roadshow in Wayanad on Friday. PTI

the Lok Sabha poll debacle, Rahul accused him and the BJP of spreading "hatred and intol-

erance" and said the Congress would continue to fight them. He said his party would

emerge as a strong opposition and defend the poor. "Modi might have so much money. He might have the media by his side... He might have rich friends with him, but the Congress will continue to fight against the intolerance created by the BJP," said Rahul, travelling in an open vehicle along with state leaders during the roadshow. "The hatred and intolerance created by the BJP and Modi will be dealt by the Congress with love and affection," he said.

As the vehicle inched its way through the crowded road, party workers danced with flags and posters with pictures of their party chief, chanting "we are with you". "I will fight for the people of

Wayanad. I will take up the issues of Wayanad inside and outside Parliament. I will work for the constituency, work with you, listen to you," Rahul told the crowd.

The Congress leader was staying at the public works department guest house in Kalpetta, the district headquarters of Wayanad, on Friday night. On Saturday he is slated to visit the MP's facilitation centre at the district collectorate and then move to other reception centres in the district.

After meeting voters at six locations in Wayanad on Saturday, Rahul will camp in Kalpetta, and on Sunday he will tour parts of Kozhikode district, which also falls within Wayanad Lok Sabha seat.

Denial of LoP status to Cong illegal, can be challenged in court: Singhvi

MANOJ CGG
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE DENIAL of Leader of Opposition status to the Congress in the Lok Sabha on the ground that it does not have 10 per cent of the total strength of the House will be "illegal" and "contrary to law" and the party, if it wants, can challenge the decision in a court of law, Congress leader and lawyer Abhishek Singhvi said on Friday.

Speaking in his personal view and capacity, Singhvi told *The Indian Express* that the 1977 law that governs salaries and allowances of the Leaders of Opposition in Parliament makes

no mention of the 10 per cent rule.

"I believe strongly that the denial of Leader of Opposition status is illegal and contrary to law. Leader of the Opposition is a status conferred. And status can be conferred by law. The law is the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977, which specifically has the definition that the Leader of the Opposition means in either House the leader of that party having the greatest numerical strength."

He said the Act "nowhere mentions the 10 per cent rule". The Congress, he said, has the single largest numerical strength among the opposition parties. Referring to the 10 per cent

rule spelt out by first Lok Sabha Speaker G V Mavalankar, he said, "The Speaker had issued a direction on the executive side for the limited purpose of recognising the allotment of seats inside the House, or the time allotted to participate and speak in debates or the rooms allotted for offices in Parliament for different parties. For this purpose, he said that time will be given according to 10 per cent to the Leader of the Opposition and all other people with less than 10 per cent will be called groups."

"The purpose of that ruling was limited to procedural things like seat, time and room allotments..." he said.

8 EXPRESS NETWORK



NORTH

Twitter restores Chinar Corps handle after suspending it

Srinagar: The Twitter handle of the Army's Srinagar-based Chinar Corps was Thursday suspended by the social media giant, but restored on Friday, an official said. The Twitter verified the handle and added back its followers, the Army official said. The official said it was unclear as to why the account was sus-

pending. "We contacted the Twitter and the handle was verified and restored. Its followers have also been added back," the official said. "#ChinarCorps Twitter handle is fully functional & verified. Thank you all ... #AwaamArmyConnect #TerrorismFreeKashmir @adgpl..." it said. **PTI**



People walk past pictures of the victims of the Surat fire tragedy on Friday. The fire, which broke out on May 24, killed 22 students at a coaching centre in the city. **PTI**

EAST

Villager killed by wild elephant in Chhattisgarh

Jashpur: A wild elephant attacked and killed a villager in Chhattisgarh's Jashpur district, the fifth such death reported from the area in just over a month, a forest department official said Friday. The latest incident of elephant attack took place Thursday evening in Birimadga village when the deceased, identified only as Amrit, was working at

his farmland, said Krishna Kumar Jadhav, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Jashpur Division. The 45-year-old villager failed to notice the wild tusker entering his agriculture field, he said. All of a sudden, the jumbo caught hold of Amrit, lifted him with its trunk and slammed him on the ground, killing him on the spot, Jadhav said. **PTI**

WEST

HC orders release of man on death row for rape-murder

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court on Friday ordered the release of a man who was on death row on charges of raping and murdering an eight-year-old in January 2012. Nazir Javed Khan was given the death sentence by a trial court on the charges of murder, and life imprisonment for raping the child. However, the

High Court held the man guilty only of destruction of evidence and ordered his release since he had already served seven years imprisonment. The court also directed the Maharashtra government to pay compensation of Rs 10 lakh to the child's parents "for negligent investigation into death of their daughter". **ENS**

SOUTH

Kerala: 7th suspected case tests negative for Nipah

Kochi: Concerns related to the spread of Nipah in Kerala were allayed further, with Kerala Health Minister K K Shailaja on Friday saying samples of one more person suspected to be infected with the potentially deadly virus have tested negative. One more person currently being treated at the isolation ward of the Medical College

Hospital in Kochi has tested negative, the minister told reporters in New Delhi. The government had Thursday announced that samples of six people, including three nursing staff, who had initially attended on a college student infected with Nipah virus, had tested negative. The health of the college student has improved. **PTI**

MALEGAON BLAST CASE TRIAL

Pragya appears, complains of chair, dust and an infection

SADAF MODAK
MUMBAI, JUNE 7

APPEARING IN court for the first time since the trial in the 2008 Malegaon blast case began in December, accused and BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur had one answer for the two questions she was asked: "I do not know". Thakur chose to stand through most of the proceedings, complained about the seating arrangement and the cleanliness of the court, and wondered why she was called at all.



Pragya Singh Thakur at the special NIA Court. **Prashant Nadkar**

Special Judge VS Padalkar invoked his powers under Section 313 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to record an accused's statement, and asked Thakur, "Do you know how many witnesses have been examined by the prosecution?" Standing outside the witness box, Thakur said she would have to ask her lawyer. "Mujhe nahi maloom (I do not know)," she said.

The judge then said that after examination of witnesses, including those injured in the blast and medical experts, it could be concluded that a blast had taken place at Bhiku Chowk on September 29, 2008. He asked her what she had to say about that. "Mujhe jaankari nahi hai (I have no information)," Thakur said.

Thakur appeared for the trial after the special court rejected her request to grant exemption for a week. It had earlier ordered all the seven accused, who are out on bail, to be present before it at least once a week.

The MP landed in Mumbai from Bhopal and appeared be-

fore the court around 12.40 pm. She was asked to sit in the accused's box at the end of the courtroom, where she was joined by two co-accused, Sudhakar Dhar Dwivedi and Sameer Kulkarni. Within minutes, she requested if she could stand, as she had issues with her spinal cord. The court permitted her to stand and asked her to place herself near the witness box.

The court asked Dwivedi and Kulkarni the two questions Thakur was asked. Both said that 116 witnesses had deposed so far and that they had nothing to do with the blast.

With two witnesses present on Friday, the court directed that the proceedings continue after lunch. Thakur's lawyers J P Mishra and Prashant Maggu asked the court if she could leave, but the court directed her to attend the proceedings.

After lunch, the court began recording the evidence of a re-

tired executive magistrate from Malegaon, who had been part of the inquest panchnama of five of the six killed in the blast. The deposition and cross-examination continued till after 5 pm.

During the proceedings, Thakur requested that she be allowed to stand. The judge said that he was asking on humanitarian grounds if she preferred to sit or stand during the proceedings. Thakur told the court that she could not hear properly due to a throat infection and would prefer to come forward near the seating row for lawyers and litigants. The court allowed her request. One of the cushioned chairs was emptied by a lawyer and offered to her. Thakur, however, continued to stand near the window along with an aide till 5 pm even as the chair near her remained empty in the packed courtroom.

When the judge returned to his chamber after the proceedings, Thakur told the investigat-

ing officer of the NIA that she was not offered a proper chair to sit. Even as her lawyers tried to placate her, Thakur said, "Aisi kursi de ke kya siddh karna chahate hai? Is par baithneki halat nahi hai... jhaadu lagane ki bhi vyavastha nahi hai kya... mujhe har cheez se allergy hai (What is being proven by giving me such a chair? It is not fit for me to sit. The courtroom has not been swept, I have allergies)." She pointed to the dust in the court.

Her lawyers told her she should have told them about this during the proceedings, and the court would have been requested accordingly. Thakur, however, continued to complain, stating that she was an undertrial and until proven guilty she had a right to sit, and if found guilty she could be hanged.

"The judge and lawyers are speaking among themselves. If I was a lawyer, I would have spoken too. Why have I been called?" Thakur asked her lawyers. Mishra told her that all accused are expected to be present before the court whenever directed as per its orders. Thakur said that she wanted to file an application regarding her complaints but eventually did not file one.

The hearing was adjourned to Monday. All the accused, including Thakur, will be expected to appear before the court at least once next week.

Thakur is facing trial under sections including murder, criminal conspiracy and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. She had last appeared before the court on October 30, 2018, when charges were framed against her.

Four 'Pakistani spies' arrested, police say plot to revive militancy in Jammu busted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, JUNE 7

JAMMU AND Kashmir Police on Friday arrested four more alleged Pakistani spies and said it has busted an ISI plot to revive militancy in the Jammu region.

Saddam Hussain, Mohammad Shafi and Mohammad Saleem were all arrested from the state's Kathua district, while Safdar Ahmed was held from Udhampur district's Basantgarh area. The four were arrested on the basis of information provided by two alleged Pakistani spies — Nadim Akhtar and Mushtaq Ahmed — in police custody since May 29.

With this, the total number of alleged Pakistani spies arrested by the Army and police over the last nine days has gone up to six.

Inspector General of Police for Jammu zone, MK Sinha, said the arrested were radicalised and motivated to join terror ranks. They were awaiting instructions, he said, adding that they were also told to send photographs and videos of the movement and installations of security forces to people across the border.

2 ex-SPOs among 4 JeM men killed in Pulwama encounter

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, JUNE 7

TWO SPECIAL Police Officers (SPOs) who joined militant ranks were among four Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) men killed in Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district on Friday.

Shabir Ahmad Dar and Mohammad Salman Khan, residents of Pulwama and Shopian districts respectively, were killed less than 24 hours after they abandoned their posts. J&K police said after deserting, the SPOs had become the members of JeM and were killed in an encounter.

A police spokesperson said that a cordon and search operation was launched by joint forces at Panjran village in Litter area of Pulwama district on Thursday evening following the presence of militants in the area.

"During the search operation, the hiding terrorists fired on the search party. The fire was retaliated leading to an encounter," the spokesperson said.

The gunbattle, which continued for more than 12 hours, led to the death of four militants.

"In the ensuing encounter, two listed terrorists and two SPOs who had recently deserted (the force) and become members of the proscribed terrorist



A house damaged during the encounter in Kashmir's Pulwama district. **Shuaib Masoodi**

organisation JeM were killed," the police spokesperson said.

The slain militants have been identified as Ashiq Hussain Ganaie of Panjran in Pulwama, and Imran Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Arihal, Pulwama.

A senior police officer in South Kashmir termed the desertion of the SPOs and their subsequent joining of militant ranks a "serious" matter, but added that counter measures are already in place to deal with the "challenge", and now measures are being further "strengthened".

"We are further investigating the matter very thoroughly and checking if any of their (the

SPOs') colleagues were aware about the plans to joining the militant ranks," said the officer.

Militants lob grenade, 2 cops injured

Srinagar: Two policemen were injured after militants lobbed a grenade at a police station in North Kashmir's Sopore on Friday afternoon.

"Terrorists lobbed a #grenade at Police Station @SoporePolice. Area under cordon," Kashmir police zone tweeted.

A senior police officer in North Kashmir told *The Indian Express* that both of the injured policemen are stable. **ENS**

IS man from Kerala to family: Want to return

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JUNE 7

A 25-YEAR-OLD man from Kerala, who is believed to be fighting for the Islamic State in Syria, has expressed his desire to return home after the fall of the terror outfit's so-called caliphate in that country, security sources told *The Indian Express*. He also told his family in a phone call that the IS members in Syria were in "utter poverty, fighting for food".

Sources said that Firoz alias Firoz Khan, who hails from Elambachi village in Kasaragod, was among the over dozen youths who left the district in June 2016 to join the IS. While most of the others in that group moved to Afghanistan, Firoz illegally entered Syria.

"We got a call from Firoz last month. He spoke to his mother Habeeba and expressed his desire to return and surrender. The call came after their caliphate fell to US-backed forces in Syria. He told his mother that they were in great trouble and in utter poverty, fighting for food," a close

relative told *The Indian Express*.

According to the relative, Firoz told his family that the IS had conducted his marriage with a woman from Malaysia, who later left him. "Firoz wanted to know whether he would face any case if he returned home. He wanted to surrender, but did not mention where he planned to do so. We have not heard anything from him since then," the relative said.

Security sources said they were aware of the phone call. "Firoz had been in touch with his family. We had information that he had exhorted his relatives and friends to join the IS and indulge in terror activities. He is one of the accused in the Kasaragod IS module case," sources said.

Intelligence agencies had also found that scores of youths from Kannur district had migrated to Syria to fight for Islamic state. Last year, a youth named Shajahan Valluvakandy, 32, of Koodali in Kannur, was deported from Turkey while trying to enter Syria. "From Kannur district, around 35 persons, including women, had left for Syria. Most of them got killed fighting for the IS," said an officer.

Activists claim hunger death in Jharkhand's Latehar, officials deny

ABHISHEK ANGAD
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

A 65-YEAR-OLD, Ramcharan Munda, died of "hunger" on June 5 in Mahuadarn block of Latehar district in Jharkhand, according to Right to Food Campaign activists. State officials, however, denied it was a hunger death and said that the family was benefiting from "government-related schemes".

Afsana, who is part of Right to Food Campaign, visited Munda's household and said, "There was no grain in the entire house and they hadn't cooked food for the last three days. The Point of Sale machine was not working for the last three months due to network issues and villagers had not got any rations. This machine is used for biometric-based ration delivery system." The villagers had unsuccessful-

fully petitioned for offline ration system two months ago, she added.

Sudhir Kumar, the SDM of Mahuadarn, denied the claim that Munda died of hunger. "It does not look like it was a hunger death. He had an Ayushman Bharat card, was a beneficiary of Ujjwala scheme, received pension and had a ration card," he said.

He also claimed that Munda had grain. However, he conceded that the POS machine not working due to network issues. "The earlier dealer had died and the new dealer had petitioned for offline ration distribution. This area does not have internet facility. The DC had ordered offline distribution of rations and we are doing it now."

This is the 20th death in Jharkhand in the last two years, according to Right to Food Campaign, which is an informal network of organisations working on right to food in India.

Kolkata beef festival cancelled after threat calls

Kolkata: Organisers of the Kolkata beef festival cancelled the event after receiving threat calls. The festival, first named 'Kolkata Beef Festival' and later named 'Kolkata Beep Festival', was scheduled to be held at a cafe in the city on June 23.

The organisers of the festival said it was "aimed to celebrate good food". "Our motive was to organise a food festival. However, we have received a number of calls since we put out the event in social media. Some of the calls were a direct threat. Since we cannot ensure the security of the vis-

itors we have decided to cancel it," said Arjun Kar, founder of Accidental Note, the company which organised the festival.

A post on the Facebook page of the event said, "Yesterday, Arjun received 300+ calls, a lot of them to show support, but a lot of them were direct threats... Keyboard warriors kept abusing us and sending us hate filled messages, and some seemed genuinely hurt by the idea of the festival. Most importantly, we cannot ensure the safety of all of you amazing people who were planning to attend and our team." **ENS**

AFTER GADCHIROLI ENCOUNTER

Fearing Maoists, brothers stay away; villagers unsure about their safety

VIVEK DESHPANDE
GADCHIROLI, JUNE 7

IN GUNDURVAHI, a remote Gadchiroli hamlet situated 18 km from Bhamragad town, residents were unable to decide if they could ensure the protection of two fellow villagers, if and when they return, from Maoists.

Brothers Vishnu and Sadhu Doka Lekami, sons of Gundurwahi village patil Doka Lekami, are in contact with police. But they have not been seen in the village following an encounter between police and Maoists on April 27. Ramko Narote, a member of CPI (Maoist) Gadchiroli divisional committee, and Shilpa Dhurva, had died in the encounter just outside the

village. While Vishnu (24) disappeared that day, Sadhu (26) disappeared around 10 days later.

The villagers did not blame the brothers for the encounter. "Ramko and Shilpa had come to Kishor Podadi's (a villager) house to take medicine and money. After the two were killed, Kishor disappeared from the village. A few days later, his parents also left. The police came later to retrieve their belongings," the villagers said, adding that Ramko and Shilpa were not carrying weapons.

When the villagers were asked why they would not plead with the Maoists for the security of Sadhu and Vishnu, when they believed that Kishor had probably tipped off the police about Ramko and Shilpa, they had no answer.

The police claimed that the names of Vishnu and Sadhu figured as suspects in some Maoist banners after the incident.

Vishnu and Sadhu said they left the village fearing Maoists, who may see them as probable informers. "They have viewed us with suspicion earlier," the duo told *The Indian Express* in their first media interaction since their disappearance.

The Maoists have alleged that the encounter was fake. The police have rubbished this, saying a proper panchnama of the spot led to recovery of a .303 gun, an exploded pressure cooker bomb and empty rounds of AK rifle.

The encounter was followed by a Maoist ambush on May 1, in which 15 police commandos were killed. The rebels claimed



Vishnu Lekami's wife Chhaya at Gundurwahi. **Deepak Daware**

in pamphlets and banners that this was revenge for the "brutal cold-blooded murders of the two women by police".

Recalling that day, Vishnu

said, "I was going to Fulnar village to collect mahua flowers. A little further from my village, I heard a blast and firing. I saw Maoists on a hillock. I got scared,

dropped my bike and started running back to the village. But the police caught me. I tried to explain to them I am not a Maoist. But the police took me to Kothi police station and questioned me. Later they let me go."

When asked why Maoists would suspect him, Vishnu said, "I am a carpenter and go to many villages for work. Maoists always suspect those who step out of the village frequently. They think such people work as police informers. Two years ago, they questioned me after a firing incident."

A police officer, who is in contact with the two brothers, said, "Maoists zero in on those who go out for work. They have killed many on this ground, though they were not informers. This

trend has increased after they suffered the biggest casualty of 40 cadres April last."

Sadhu said, "At a meeting after the April 27 incident, I came to know that Maoists named me as a doubtful person. So I left."

Last year, Sadhu was taking a Maoist cadre, Ashok Pallo, for medical treatment to Bhamragad when police caught them. While Sadhu was allowed to go, Pallo was arrested and jailed. "Maoists suspected I failed Pallo," said Sadhu.

The police, however, slapped preventive sections against him and he was taken to Bhamragad for a court hearing, the officer said.

Vishnu spoke to his family on mobile phone despite poor connectivity. "The police had brought the two to Bhamragad,

where his wife Chhaya spoke to him. A few days ago, the two also spoke over phone to us, seeking protection from Maoists. We said he should reveal the real story of the encounter," the villagers said.

The police officer said, "By all means, we can facilitate their return to the village. But the villagers also know how the Kasnasur villagers had to leave after Maoists killed three innocent persons in January for last year's loss of 40 cadres."

Vishnu and Sadhu, meanwhile, seemed almost certain that they would not be able to return to Gundurwahi village. Asked about his wife and nine-month-old daughter Vaishnavi, Vishnu said, "They will come here to be with me."

MURDER OF 2-YEAR-OLD IN ALIGARH

'Little did we know a bit of money would cost so much'

AMIL BHATNAGAR
ALIGARH, JUNE 7

A CANDLELIGHT vigil calling for justice for the two-year-old girl murdered in Aligarh passed through the centre of the village in the evening. As police began to verify more facts about the murder, the family kept thinking of the debt that allegedly cost the girl her life.

The girl was killed allegedly by two men who kidnapped her from outside her home on May 30, and disposed of her body in a garbage dump. The motive is suspected to be a monetary dispute between one of the accused and the girl's grandfather.

The victim's family had recently moved to Aligarh. The family said the girl was born following five years of prayers and treatment, after the mother had lost a child during pregnancy. The father, involved in farming work, said they lived a content life. The child's mother and other relatives said that financial matters were decided by the grandfather, and he barely discussed these matters with others.

"He had given Rs 50,000 to the accused 1.5 years ago. We were not told much about it since he takes all the decisions. We didn't question it either. Little did we know that a small amount of money would cost us so much," said a relative.

The grandfather said he was ready to let go of the remaining debt of Rs 10,000,

and did not heed a warning by the accused during a chance meeting days before the murder. "When I saw him on the street, he got a little agitated. I have no ill feelings towards anyone. Even when she was kidnapped, I never thought he would do it. It struck us later," said the grandfather, sitting under a makeshift tent outside his house. This was the spot from where the girl was allegedly kidnapped a week ago.

"The stench of the body is still in my head. It was being pulled apart by dogs, and the cleaner spotted it. All of us rushed along with the family. The sight was unbearable. The family deserves justice," said the village pradhan.

Villagers said the criminal record of the other accused was well known. In one alleged incident, he could be seen dragging and beating his wife outside his house. According to police, he was also booked for allegedly raping his daughter in 2014.

"He beat her (wife) with sticks and she was in a bad state... We intervened and managed to prevent more injury. He was a problem for all of us," said the pradhan.

The two-year-old's family recalled a child full of energy. "She was very friendly and talkative. She had an answer for everything, even when she could barely speak," said a relative.

On Friday, the narrow lanes that were her playground were thronged by policemen and an anxious crowd.

Such incidents happen, we take action: minister

Lucknow: When asked about the Aligarh murder case, Uttar Pradesh Agriculture Minister Surya Pratap Shahi told the media that such incidents happen, but strict action is taken against them.

Shahi said, "Dekhiye, ye ghatnayein ho jaati hain. Lekin aisi ghatnao ke khilaf sakhti se hum karyavahi karte hain. Kuch mansikta bhi iske saath hoti hai (Such incidents happen. But we take strict action against such cases. People's mentality is also somewhat responsible for this)."

When contacted, he said, "I did not make any controversial statement, and it was run in bits and pieces. What I said is that sometimes such incidents happen because of bad mentality, but we take strict action on them. I did not say anything wrong." **ENS**

ED files money laundering case against Raghav Bahl

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

RAGHAV BAHL, the founder of the *Quint* news portal and Network 18, has been booked by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a case of alleged money laundering for holding undeclared foreign assets.

The ED case is based on a chargesheet filed by the Income Tax Department against Bahl under the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) Act. The I-T department has alleged that Bahl did not disclose funds to the tune of Rs 2.38 crore used to buy a London property. The charge has been denied by Bahl.

ED sources said an Enforcement Case Information Report had been filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in the matter.

In a communication sent to PTI, Bahl acknowledged the ED action. He alleged he was "getting the sense of being hounded for doing no wrong despite paying all taxes honestly and diligently".

"I also have no defaults when it comes to the debt obligations of myself or my business concerns," he said in a letter emailed to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and the chiefs of the CBDT and the ED.

Bahl, in the letter, said he and his wife had made "full disclosures" in their tax returns which address the legal issues in the notices issued by the I-T Department.

"I have already challenged the show cause notices and subsequent acts in a writ petition before the Allahabad High Court," he said in the letter.

Bahl said he was writing to the Minister "to intervene not just on my behalf but to see to it that a necessary and laudable drive to track and punish money launderers and black money hoarders is not allowed to degenerate into diversion of resources to hound innocents".

"Indeed, such action takes away from the authorities ability to pursue real perpetrators, which would serve to defeat the very objectives of these legislative measures, besides wasting precious judicial time and resources," he wrote.

BEFORE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-III, DELHI
4th Floor, Jeevan, Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Notice under Section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993.
In the Matter of **O.A.No. 425/2018/DRT-III**

ARCIL ...Applicant
Vs
Darmender Singh & ANR ...Defendants
Dharmender Singh (D-1), A-23, Sector Delta 1, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301.
Brijesh Kumar (D-2), A-23, Sector Delta 1, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301.

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal **16-07-2019 at 10.30 A.M.** Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before the Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **27th day of May 2019.**

By Order of the Tribunal
Assistant Registrar, DRT-III, New Delhi

RECRUITMENT OF PROFESSORS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS, SENIOR RESIDENTS AND JUNIOR RESIDENTS FOR TRIHMS MEDICAL COLLEGE, GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Interview will be held in the office of the Director, TRIHMS, Naharlagun on 22nd June, 2019 at 1000 Hrs, onwards for recruitment of (A) **Professors** : One post each for General Medicine, Pathology, Anaesthesiology, Paediatrics and Radiodiagnosis. (B) **Associate Professors** : One post each for Radiodiagnosis and General Surgery and two posts for General Medicine, (C) **Senior Residents** : One post for Paediatrics and two posts for Radiodiagnosis. (D) **Junior Residents** : Four posts for General Surgery and One post each for Paediatrics, TB & Chest, General Medicine, Psychiatry and Anaesthesiology.

- Eligibility criteria as per MCI norms.
- All interested candidates need to send the CV and copies of relevant documents to trihms.hr@gmail.com, on or before 15th June, 2019.
- All candidates have to bring original documents and a set of extra copies of the same, at the time of the interview.

For further details and other detail please visit www.trihms.org or contact Dr. B.V.S Murthy Mobile No. 9612484018. Email ID : trihms.hr@gmail.com.

Sd/-
(Dr. Moji Jini)
Director, TRIHMS

पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार,
Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt Of India,
Research Fellow Program (MRFP) Conducted at
भारतीय उष्णदेशीय मौसम विज्ञान संस्थान, पुणे / Indian Institute Of Tropical Meteorology (IITM),
डॉ. होमी भाभा मार्ग, पाशाण, पुणे- 411 008 / Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune-411008
(विज्ञान सं. कार्मिक/07/2019) (Advt. No. PER/07/2019)

Applications are invited for selection of JRF under MoES Research Fellows Program (MRFP) as follows:

| Name and Number of Positions | Reservations |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| IITM-MRFP Research Fellow (30 nos) | (UR- 14, OBC-8, SC-4, ST-2, EWS-2) |

MoES invites applications for recruitment of JRF under the DESK programme of MoES, being implemented by IITM. MRFP is Ministry's dedicated JRF/SRF program in which eligible fellows will be selected through nation-wide selection processes and subsequent interviews. Selection will be against each of the advertised positions.

More details on essential qualifications etc. are available at IITM website www.tropmet.res.in/Careers. Aspiring candidates may submit their applications along with their CV online by 15th June 2019. Hard copy of the application will not be accepted.

Director, IITM, Pune

NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAMA
NEW DELHI - 110001

CALL FOR ENTRIES

21st BHARAT RANG MAHOTSAV-2020
(INTERNATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL OF INDIA)

National School of Drama invites proposals for participation in the 21st Bharat Rang Mahotsav (International theatre festival of India) which will be held in New Delhi in February 2020. The festival will feature work by directors, theatre groups and drama institutions from India and abroad and will showcase outstanding productions that have been performed for the public before 31st August 2019. The plays which have been already showcased in the previous BRM's and 8th Theatre Olympics will not be considered for the 21st BRM.

Applications are invited from interested theatre Director, Theatre groups & Drama Institutions in the prescribed Performa (available along with other details on the NSD's website- www.nsd.gov.in along with clear recording of the production in Pen Drive. You may also apply online portal through URL link: <https://brmapplication.nsd.gov.in>. Only one entry from a Group/Director/ Drama Institutions will be accepted. The decision of the Selection Committee will be final and binding to all. Last date for receipt of application addressed to **The Director, National School of Drama, Bahawalpur House, Bhagwandas Road, New Delhi-110001 is 10 September 2019.**

Phone: 011- 23073647, 23388249
Fax: 011-23384288
Email: festivalcell@gmail.com, festivalcell@nsd.gov.in
Website: www.nsd.gov.in

davp-09130/11/0016/1920

चौधरी रणवीर सिंह विश्वविद्यालय, जौड़
Chaudhary Ranbir Singh University, Jind
(Established by the State Legislature Act, 28 of 2014 and Recognized U/S 2(f) & 12-B by UGC Act, 1956)

ADMISSION NOTICE 02/2019

Online Applications are invited for Admission to the following Programs w.e.f. 05.06.2019:

MCA, MCA (Lateral Entry 2nd Year), M.Tech (CSE), M.A. (Education), M.A. (Music — Vocal & Instrumental), B.P. Ed., P.G. Dip. in Yoga, M.A. (Yoga)

Opening Date of Online Registration : June 05, 2019 (Wednesday)
Closing Date of Online Registration : June 29, 2019 (Saturday)

| | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Physical Efficiency | B.P.Ed. (Men) | July 3, 2019 at 09.00 A.M. |
| Test (PET) | B.P.Ed. (Women) | July 3, 2019 at 11.00 A.M. |
| Display of First Merit List | | |
| Document Verification & Fee Submission (First Merit List) | | |
| Display of Second Merit List | | |
| Document Verification & Fee Submission (Second Merit List) | | |
| Display of Third Merit List | | |
| Document Verification & Fee Submission (Third Merit List) | | |
| Physical Presence, if Seats remain vacant | | |
| Students to Report on July 11, 2019 upto 11.00 A.M. | | |
| Display of Merit List (Physical Presence) | | |
| Document Verification & Fee Submission (Physical Presence) | | |

For further information, please visit www.crsu.ac.in or Contact at: 01681-241008, 241021.

Note:

- The **Processing Fee** i.e. Rs. 500/- (Rs. 125/- for SC/Differently Abled of Haryana) must be Deposited through Online (Debit Card/ Credit Card/ Net Banking) Mode only upto June 29, 2019. The Processing Fee is non-refundable.
- Candidates have to Submit Self Attested Copies of all concerned Documents along with Application Form **latest by 2nd July, 2019 upto 05.00 P.M.** to the concerned Department/Office and show the Original Documents on the day of Admission otherwise his/her Candidature will not be considered for Admission.

Admission Helpline:
Contact No. : 01681-241021, 241028, Mobile: 09316519667.
E-mail: admission@crsu.ac.in, dusupport@crsu.ac.in (For Technical Queries)

Sd/-
REGISTRAR

DR. BABA SAHEB AMBEDKAR MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL
GOVERNMENT OF NCT DELHI
SECTOR- 6, ROHINI - 110085
Phone No.: 011-27058778, Email Id: bsamchdelhi@gmail.com

Walk In Interview

Walk-in-interview for the following faculty posts are to be held on 25/06/2019 from 10.00 AM onwards for various faculty positions in **Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Medical College & Hospital, Rohini, Sector-6, Delhi- 110085:**

| S. NO. | NAME OF DEPARTMENT | Professor | Associate Professor | Assistant Professor | TUTOR |
|--------|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. | Anaesthesia | UR-01 | UR-01, SC-01 | - | - |
| 2. | Biochemistry | - | - | OBC-01 | UR-01 |
| 3. | OB&G | - | - | UR-02 | - |
| 4. | Dermatology | UR-01 | UR-01 | - | - |
| 5. | Forensic Medicine | - | - | - | OBC-01 |
| 6. | General Medicine | - | UR-01, OBC-02 | UR-01, SC-01, OBC-01 | - |
| 7. | General Surgery | OBC-1 | UR-01, OBC-1 | UR-02, OBC-01, SC-01 | - |
| 8. | Microbiology | - | - | - | UR-01 |
| 9. | Orthopaedics | OBC-01 | OBC-01 | UR-01 | - |
| 10. | Ophthalmology | SC-01 | - | - | - |
| 11. | Oto-laryngology | OBC-01 | OBC-01 | - | - |
| 12. | Psychiatry | UR-01 | UR-01 | - | - |
| 13. | Physical medicine & Rehabilitation | SC-01 | - | OBC-01 | - |
| 14. | Physiology | UR-01 | OBC-01 | - | OBC-01 |
| 15. | Pharmacology | OBC-01 | - | - | UR-01 |
| 16. | Pathology | - | UR-01 | - | OBC-01, ST-01 |
| 17. | Paediatrics | SC-01 | UR-01 | - | - |
| 18. | T.B. Chest | OBC-01 | - | - | - |
| 19. | Radio diagnosis | UR-01 | ST-01 | UR-01 | - |
| | TOTAL | 13 | 15 | 13 | 7 |

Note: No. of Posts may be increase or decrease depending upon the availability of seats. All the communications regarding any change will be intimated only through website.

The appointments will be made purely on the contractual basis for two years or till the regular incumbents join. A total of 02 number of posts will be reserved for Differently abled persons candidate from amongst the advertised posts depending upon suitability and availability of candidates who apply.

The candidate may appear for a lower post also subject to, the candidate accepting the remuneration fixed for the lower post, while retaining the designation of the senior post.

In case of retired Govt. officers, the rules for remuneration will be applicable as prescribed for such candidates.

The number of posts may vary depending upon the actual availability of posts at the time of interview. Application form and other information such as age, qualifications, remuneration and other details can be viewed and downloaded from our official website www.bsamch.ac.in. **Keep checking the official website for any change/update in the schedule etc. as no other type of communication will be sent.**

Willing candidates may preferably apply in the downloadable form (in MS word) and e-mail the same to the e-mail id-bsamchacad@gmail.com by 17/06/2019 or submit the hard copy of the application by hand or by post on or before 18/06/2019 by 4 PM on any working day in Dr. BSA Medical College.

Sd/-
Dr. Achal Gulati
Director Principal

DIP/Shabdarth/0167/19-20

DELHI POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT,
(GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
4th & 5th FLOOR, ISBT BUILDING,
KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-6
(visit us at website : <http://dpcc.delhigovt.nic.in/>)

F. No. DPCC/WMC I&III/2019/

Dated:

Kind Attention: All Health Care Facilities operating in NCT of Delhi

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India has notified the Bio Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016, for the proper management of the Bio Medical Waste. As per these rules all persons who generate, collect, receive, store, transport, treat, dispose, or handle bio medical waste in any form including Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Clinics, Dispensaries, Veterinary Institutions, Animal Houses, Pathological Laboratories, Blood Banks, Ayush Hospitals, Clinical Establishments, Research or Educational Institutions, Health Camps, Medical or Surgical Camps, Vaccination Camps, Blood Donation Camps, First Aid rooms of Schools, Forensic Laboratories and Research Labs are required to obtain mandatory authorization under the Rules, from DPCC..

All the health care facilities operating in NCT of Delhi are hereby directed to apply for authorization under the Bio-medical Waste Management Rules, 2016 at the earliest but not later than 15/06/19. Action shall be taken against any health care facility found operating without applying for authorization in DPCC/ not having valid authorization from DPCC after 15/06/19 including closure of the facility and/ or levying of Environmental Damage Compensation charges.

Sd/-
DIP/Shabdarth/0176/19-20
Member Secretary

26 dead, over 50 hurt in UP dust storm

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LUCKNOW, JUNE 7

A severe dust storm and lightning in various parts of Uttar Pradesh claimed at least 26 lives and left 57 people injured as houses and walls collapsed and trees were uprooted, prompting authorities to launch large-scale relief operations on Friday.

Mainpuri district bore the worst brunt of the vagaries of nature late on Thursday night as six people died there in separate cases of wall collapse and lightning, the state relief commissioner said.

Forty-one people were injured in the district and uprooted trees blocked vehicular movement on the state highways, leading to massive jams for a considerable amount of time.

Police said most of the injuries occurred when people sleeping inside their mud houses were caught unawares by the thunderstorm, which was accompanied by rain, leading to wall collapse.

People were also injured when signboards and hoardings got snapped at several places, and fell on them, the police said.

"While six people died in Mainpuri, three each died in Etah and Kasganj, two each in Farrukhabad and Barabanki, and one each in Moradabad, Badaun, Pilibhit, Mathura, Kannauj, Sambhal, Ghaziabad, Amroha, Badaun and Mahoba in incidents related to dust storm and lightning," data released by the state relief commissioner said.

An official press note said different parts of the state witnessed dust storms late on Thursday evening, resulting in wall collapse and uprooting of trees. Thirty-one cattle died and 16 houses were also damaged in the incidents, officials said.

A financial assistance Rs 4 lakh has been announced by the chief minister for the family of the deceased.

Earlier, Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati demanded that the state government should come forward with adequate relief and compensation.

Telangana: 12 Congress MLAs who switched to TRS haven't resigned yet

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, JUNE 7

THE 12 Congress MLAs, who gave a representation to the Telangana Assembly Speaker to merge their group with the TRS Legislature Party (TRSLP), are yet to officially resign from the Congress.

Maheshwaram MLAP Sabita Indra Reddy is vice-president in Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC), while Athram Sattu and Rega Kantha Rao are the party state unit's general secretaries. They have not resigned from their posts yet.

However, as the 12 legislators represent two-thirds of the 18 Congress MLAs in the state Assembly, their request for a merger with the TRS has been approved by Speaker P Srinivas Reddy.

"The Speaker agreed to their request to merge their group



AICC Telangana in-charge RC Khuntia and TPCC president N Uttam Kumar Reddy at a press conference in Hyderabad on Friday. PTI

with the TRSLP as they constitute two-thirds of the total 18 Congress MLAs," an official of the Telangana Legislature Secretariat said.

Congress leader Shabbir Ali said that the MLAs sent voice messages or text messages over the phone, hinting that they will resign. "But none of them have

actually quit the party or from the party posts. They are either conveying their intentions through media or via messages on phone... They have to first resign from the party if they want to join any other party," Ali said.

On Friday, seats were also allotted to the 12 rebels alongside TRS members in the Assembly,

indicating that they are now members of the TRS. The Legislature Secretariat issued a note that the Speaker had accepted the group of 12 Congress MLAs as merged with TRSLP. The groups' request to merge with TRSLP was also accepted by TRSLP leader and Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and the decision was conveyed to the Speaker.

Sources in the TRS said that 11 Congress MLAs had been trying to join the TRS for the last five months, but the party leadership scuttled their attempts due to the anti-defection law. On Thursday, however, Congress MLA from Tandur, P Rohith Reddy suddenly announced that he was resigning and joining TRS.

"This gave the group another opportunity to seek a merger with the TRS. With Rohith Reddy joining them, the rebels' strength rose to 12, which is two-thirds of the total of 18 Congress

MLAs and they can escape the anti-defection laws. They immediately went and met TRS working president KT Rama Rao, who sent them to the Speaker," a party leader said.

TPCC chief N Uttam Kumar Reddy said that over the last five months, the TRS worked on luring the Congress MLAs.

"This was very well-planned to make the Congress lose the Leader of Opposition status in the Assembly. If the merger of the Congress MLAs group is not reversed, which is our demand, AIMIM with 7 MLAs will be the Leader of Opposition, which is an ally of TRS," he said.

Meanwhile, the rebel MLAs said they were waiting for the merger process to be completed. "We will formally send resignation letters to Congress after the formalities are completed. We did not want to discuss with Congress leaders..." R Kantha Rao said.

Muzaffarnagar riots: Police attach properties of accused

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, JUNE 7

THE POLICE have attached the property of Ravinder Singh, 50 for not appearing in court hearings in the murder case of one Shahnawaz, who was killed at Kawal village in Muzaffarnagar on August 27, 2013 leading to the killing of two Jat youths, identified only as Sachin and Gaurav the same day.

The killings had later triggered large-scale communal riots in Muzaffarnagar and adjoining districts from September 7 that year, leaving 62 people dead and more than 60,000 displaced.

A Muzaffarnagar court has been hearing the case and had issued summons and arrest warrants too against the six accused for not attending court proceedings. Last month, the court had issued order for attachment of properties of all the six persons when they did not appear before the court.

"A police team Thursday reached Ravinder's residence in Malikpur village and attached the properties. Although there was no one in the house, the doors were unlocked. The police only found a few household items that were handed over to a local resident," SHO of Jansath police station, Santosh Kumar Tyagi, said.

Shahnawaz was allegedly murdered by two Jat men, the fallout of an alleged "eve-teasing incident."

MHA asks NGOs to apprise it of changes in office-bearers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE MINISTRY of Home Affairs has issued a notice to all associations registered under Foreign Contributions Regulation Act (FCRA) to mandatorily inform the ministry of any changes in their office bearers. The ministry has said failure to do so would invite penal action.

"All persons who have been granted a certificate of registration under sections 11 and 12 of FCRA have reported entails of their office bearers / key functionaries while applying for registration under the act. It is noticed that some associations, persons having been registered under the Act, have changed their office bearers/key functionaries without approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs and without updating this data on a real time basis through the online application meant for change if these details," the MHA notice said.

The notice further said all such associations and persons s are called upon to submit online application for change of such details "within one month from the date of issue of this public notice".

Mumbai: Former club-level cricketer stabbed to death

MOHAMED THAYER
MUMBAI, JUNE 7

A FORMER club-level cricketer was stabbed to death allegedly by three bike-borne assailants on Thursday night in Bhandup.

The victim, Rakesh Pawar (34), was at a petrol pump in Bhandup, when the three had an argument with him following which they allegedly stabbed him several times.

The police said they had identified the assailants while Pawar's family members and locals alleged that a local youngster, who is notorious in the locality, his father and a friend — all missing since the murder — were responsible for the killing.

"We have registered a case of murder. The three people on the bike have been identified and we are on the lookout for them. The motive behind the murder is still not known and we are investigating several angles," said Akhilesh Singh, Deputy Commissioner of Police (zone VII).

"Local residents told us that there were fights between Pawar and the 19-year-old, who is the son of a slumlord in the area. We wanted to interrogate he has been missing," an officer said.

Jaishankar meets Bhutan's top leadership, discusses bilateral ties

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar on Friday met Bhutan's top leadership, including Prime Minister Lotay Tshering, and discussed important elements of the bilateral partnership and cooperation in the hydropower sector.

Jaishankar is in Bhutan on a two-day visit — his first bilateral visit after being appointed as External Affairs Minister.

Prime Minister Tshering appreciated Jaishankar's visit to Bhutan soon after assuming the office. "H.E. @DrSJaishankar, Minister for External Affairs of India called on Lyonchen Dr. Lotay Tshering, Lyonchen welcomed and expressed his appreciation for visiting Bhutan soon after assuming the post of External Affairs Minister," the Bhutanese Prime Minister said in a tweet.

Jaishankar tweeted: "It was

a pleasure to call on @PMBhutan Dr. Lotay Tshering. Conveyed PM @narendramodi's greetings and had a cordial conversation on important elements of the bilateral partnership."

Ministry of External Affairs official spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said that Jaishankar had a "constructive conversation with a close partner." He tweeted, "Constructive conversation with a close partner. EAM@DrSJaishankar called on @PMBhutan Dr. Lotay Tshering and conveyed PM @narendramodi's greetings. High-level exchanges & engagements have further enhanced our bilateral connections."

Earlier, Jaishankar was welcomed by his Bhutanese counterpart Tandi Dorji at the airport. Jaishankar and Dorji discussed issues of mutual interest.

Kumar said the two leaders discussed issues of mutual interest with emphasis on development partnership.



Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanya Jaishankar meets Prime Minister of Bhutan Lotay Tshering in Thimpu on Friday. ANI

ALWAR GANGRAPE

FIR against SHO, 7 others in dock

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, JUNE 7

MORE THAN a month after an 18-year-old Dalit woman was gangraped by five men in front of her husband in Rajasthan's Alwar district, the state government has decided to register a case against the then station house officer (SHO) of the Thanaghazi police station for inaction in the matter.

The victims and their family had alleged that after they reported the matter to the police on April 30, officials deliberately didn't take action for seven days and didn't arrest the accused, despite repeated pleas by them.

The accused also made a video of the crime, which was later circulated on social media, something that the family said could have been stopped had timely action been taken.

Additional chief secretary, home, Rajeeva Swarup told *The Indian Express* on Friday that the department has issued direc-

tions that an FIR be registered against the then SHO.

"We have ordered action in the matter and the directions have been issued today. A case will be registered against the SHO concerned under section 166A of the IPC and SC/ST Act for not registering FIR, disciplinary action against three officials - the circle officer, the SHO and a constable - will be taken," Swarup said.

He added that disciplinary action will also be taken against 7 police officials. The circle officer (Alwar rural) will also be posted out of the district.

"Seven police personnel including one sub-inspector, one assistant sub-inspector and five constables are being posted out of the range. An explanation is being sought from the SP and the additional SP," said Swarup.

The gangrape and the alleged police inaction had caused nationwide outrage, with the opposition BJP cornering the Ashok Gehlot-led Congress government in the state, accusing it of covering up the incident.

Hope path is cleared for Ram temple here, says Yogi in Ayodhya

MAULSHREE SETH
AYODHYA, JUNE 7

IN HIS first visit to Ayodhya after the Lok Sabha polls, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveiled a seven-foot specially carved wooden statue of Ram and later in the day expressed a hope that the path for the construction of the Ram Temple here is cleared in keeping with the "sentiments of the country and the world."

Adityanath, who visited Maniram Chavni later in the day to participate in the birthday celebrations of Mahant Nritya Gopal Das, said that while the original copy of the constitution had an image of "Pushpak viman" carrying Ram to Ayodhya but governments that were formed in the country since 1947 had "distanced themselves from 'Ram'."

He claimed that it was only after Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power that work was undertaken to give Ayodhya its "identity", right



UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath unveils a statue of Lord Ram in Ayodhya on Friday. Vishal Srivastav

from Ramayana Circuit to promotion of its cultural heritage.

"Resolution of the problems related to Ram Janmabhoomi; and clearance of way for construction of Ram Temple in accordance with the sentiments of the country and the world," said Adityanath in Ayodhya, while also making a wish for

long life of Mahant Nrityagopal Das. "When Narendra Modi became Prime Minister, constructive work began for development of Ayodhya including that of Ramayana circuit," claimed Adityanath, listing development works undertaken by the Centre as well as his government in the state for

lot is disoriented in space - he is fully in control but he loses sense of where he is due to clouds and goes into a mountain. This kind of thing is more unlikely in a modern aircraft but this was an old one. Second is a catastrophic incident, say an engine explosion, the chances of which are minimal."

"CFT can happen there because of the terrain in which we are flying. The aircraft doesn't fly very high because it doesn't want to go above the clouds and we lose contact with the ground in the valley areas," said the pilot.

FROM PAGE ONE

125 hours and counting, An-32 still missing

where we take a turn towards Mechuka ALG. The aircraft was last in touch with us just ahead of Along, and so we are searching the whole area after the last known location as per SOP," said a senior IAF official.

"This is a problem peculiar to the North-East and it can happen to even the most modern aircraft. Depending on how the aircraft met with the accident, it may have disintegrated and parts sprayed all over. The terrain is hilly and densely forested with thick canopies, unlike say Uttarakhand, which makes a vi-

sual search from the air next to impossible."

According to the official, the area is also inaccessible with hardly any villages or population which makes reports from the ground minimal. "Even our own ground troops will take time to reach any of these areas, leave alone conduct a thorough search. I can understand why people would expect something as big as an aircraft to be located quickly but the North-East takes time," the official said.

Responding to criticism that the outdated ELT beacon was re-

sponsible for the delay in locating the aircraft, the official said that "people forget that ELT is a line of sight device, it needs to be directly in line to communicate with the satellites or any helicopter flying above. In case of the area we are looking in, the device could have rolled over and gone into a gorge or in a gap which limits its line of sight except to a helicopter flying exactly above it. ELT device works fantastically well in plains but not in such terrain."

The official also said that the ELT beacon has battery life of 36

hours. "We had only 3-4 hours available on Monday before nightfall and then bad weather the next day, virtually limiting the time available for searching," the official said.

The new ELT beacon has an extra feature. Besides sending the same signal, it also sends the exact GPS location which makes it easier to pinpoint and reach the device. "Without any signal, it would have made little difference, contrary to what some people are arguing," the official said.

Meanwhile, the IAF said in a

statement that some family members of those on board the missing aircraft met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Thursday, where they were briefed about the search efforts. The IAF has also been in touch with separately, it added.

Refusing to speculate on the cause of the An-32 aircraft going missing, an IAF pilot who has flown on that route said that "when an aircraft goes suddenly missing with no radar or radio contact, there are two possibilities. One is CFIT or controlled flight into terrain where the pi-

BODY & MIND

SHORT COURSE

[0-20 YEARS]

Preterm babies have higher risk of heart disease as adults

BABIES WHO are born too soon may be more likely to develop heart disease as adults than full-term infants, a study suggests. Adults who were born before 37 weeks gestation were 53 per cent more likely to develop heart disease than people who were full-term babies, researchers found. And people who'd been born a bit early — at 37 to 38 weeks gestation — were 19 per cent more likely to develop heart disease. Babies born prematurely often have difficulty breathing and digesting food in the weeks after birth. Premies can also encounter longer-term challenges such as impaired vision, hearing and cognitive skills, as well as social and behavioral problems. Preterm birth has also been linked to an increased risk of high blood pressure and diabetes decades later. **REUTERS**

[20-50 YEARS]

Racism can have toxic effects on human health, says study

People who face racism may be at an increased risk of inflammation and chronic illness, a study has found. Inflammation serves to protect an organism from a health threat. However, if someone feels under threat for long periods of time, their health may suffer significantly with chronic inflammation. "If those genes remain active for an extended period of time, that can promote heart attacks, neurodegenerative diseases, and metastatic cancer," said a researcher. The research shows that racist experiences increase inflammation in African American individuals, raising their risk of chronic illness. "We know discrimination is linked to health outcomes, but no one was sure exactly how it harmed health," said a researcher. **PTI**

[50+ YEARS]

Mild brain injuries tied to lasting functional deficits later

People who have mild traumatic brain injuries may be more likely to have lasting functional deficits that get in the way of daily activities than patients who experience other types of injuries, a US study suggests. Although long-term cognitive and physical impairments are well known after-effects of moderate to severe traumatic brain injuries, doctors are less certain of the expected course of recovery for people with mild traumatic brain injuries, researchers note in *JAMA Neurology*. The new study involved 1,154 patients with mild traumatic brain injuries and 299 patients with orthopedic injuries but no head trauma. "Unfortunately, many patients with mild traumatic brain injuries do not get any follow-up care after being discharged," said a researcher. "We need to do more to learn how to improve on the natural course of recovery so patients can get back to their lives more quickly". **REUTERS**



Lan Truong

How to be a more confident version of yourself: Some tips

Self-confidence doesn't magically make you better at what you do, but it does prime you to take the risks necessary to achieve your goals.

ERIC RAVENS CRAFT

SELF-CONFIDENCE is a bit like the running water in your house. You may not know every detail about how it works or where it comes from, but it's painfully obvious when it's not there. Like when your water is shut off, a dearth of self-confidence has a huge negative impact on your health and lifestyle. Fortunately, there are things you can do to shore it up.

High confidence leads to more chances to improve

Self-confidence is your belief in how good you are at something, but it's not a measure of your actual skill. So why does it matter if you believe in yourself? According to Charlie Houpert, the author of *Charisma on Command* and the founder of a 2.7-million-subscriber YouTube channel of the same name, confidence doesn't just make you feel better, it also helps you take risks to make tangible improvements to your life.

"Internally, true self-confidence will lead to more positivity, happiness and resilience," Houpert said. "Externally, high self-confidence will lead to taking more risks, which directly correlates with reaping more rewards." The *Oxford Handbook of Positive Psychology* puts it another way: "If the person lacks confidence, again there will be no action. That's why a lack of confidence is sometimes referred to as 'crippling doubt.' Doubt can impair effort before the action begins or while it is ongoing."

If you believe you can get your dream job if you apply, there's a chance, however small, you might get it. If you don't believe that you can get it, and you don't apply, it's guaranteed that you won't. Self-confidence doesn't magically make you better at what you do, but it does prime you to take the risks necessary to achieve your goals.

How you can improve your self-confidence

If building self-confidence is a matter of

changing your beliefs about yourself, it's going to take some work. You can say, "I'm good enough, I'm smart enough and, doggone it, people like me" into the mirror every day — and it couldn't hurt — but there are more practical, effective tools you can use, too.

Be 'hyper honest' with yourself

Houpert suggests being "hyper honest" with yourself as a simple, everyday way to exercise your confidence.

"For example, let's say someone asks you what you do for fun or what you do for a living," he said. "If you find yourself biting your tongue or hiding something, evaluate that. That's an indication to either stop doing that thing or, more likely, accept that part of yourself and own it."

This doesn't mean you have to share every part of your personality with everyone you meet. You can share your geeky hobbies with your geeky friends but stick to work topics at work. However, you can find someone to share yourself with. "When you stop hiding parts of yourself from other people, you'll find you feel more confident in who you are," Houpert said.

Start working out

Many people start working out to lose weight or build muscle, but exercise can also be a huge boost to your self-confidence. The American Psychological Association has noted that exercise can improve your mood and — along with regular treatment and therapy — help combat depression and anxiety. It can also help improve your confidence if you stick with it for a while. Working out regularly requires a commitment, and keeping that commitment is an accomplishment. Not only does sticking to a new healthy habit make you feel more confident, but you can also spot physical improvements to your body and health over the long term.

Try things that make you uncomfortable

Stepping outside your comfort zone is, as you might expect, uncomfortable. Houpert said that's the point. "Confidence is ultimately about being comfortable in a wide variety of situations that would make most people feel uncomfortable," he said. "So if you stretch your comfort zone every day, very quickly you'll have a large comfort zone and be able to feel more comfortable even when outside of it."

This can involve more daunting changes, like taking a new job or confronting someone you usually avoid. However, it can also take smaller forms, like striking up a conversation with someone new if you're normally shy, or trying a new food. According to Houpert, it's more important that you regularly expand your comfort zone rather than occasionally throwing yourself into the deep end.

Try a new look

How you dress can affect how other people perceive you, but it can also affect how you perceive yourself. Wearing different clothes can prompt you to think or behave differently. This effect isn't just limited to feeling good about yourself. Adam D Galinsky, a professor at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, found that participants in a study who wore a white lab coat exhibited more focused attention.

In other words, when people dressed like a doctor, they behaved more like a doctor, or at least how they thought a doctor might behave. If you want to feel more confident, dress the way a confident version of yourself would.

Defy your impostor syndrome

Impostor syndrome is a nasty mental bug

that convinces you that your accomplishments don't really count and that you're going to be found out as a fraud. This doubt can creep in because it's easier to remember faults but more difficult to remember successes. Make a habit of periodically writing down or reflecting on times you've done things well. It's easier to be confident in your abilities when you remember them.

Adjust your posture

Much like how you dress, the posture you adopt can affect how you feel about yourself. While it might feel a little silly at first (remember that tip about stepping outside your comfort zone), trying out powerful stances can help adjust your frame of mind. Research from Ohio State University suggests that something as simple as sitting up straight can make you feel more confident in what you're doing.

Avoid the arrogance trap

As you start to express yourself more confidently, it's natural to worry about becoming arrogant in the process. However, according to Houpert, arrogance isn't confidence run amok. "Arrogance is more the result of insecurity than high self-confidence," he said. "Confidence is self-satisfied while arrogance requires external validation to feel good. So you get people who brag to solicit the recognition of others. Someone with true self-confidence is capable of being assertive and standing up for themselves, but they're unlikely to adopt a tone that others perceive as arrogant. Oddly enough, the best defence against arrogance is developing true self-confidence."

If you start out doubting yourself, it will take time before you feel like you belong. In the interim, your own creeping doubt can try to tell you that feeling good about yourself or standing your ground is really arrogance. Recognising that this is a symptom of insecurity — and that being aware of the symptom is its own form of inoculation against it — can help you push past it.

NYT

DIET DIARY



BY ISHI KHOSLA

Exploring another cultivation option, better for environment

AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES have undergone tremendous changes over the centuries, most of them in response to the changing demands of populations. Economics, high-yield, pesticide and pest-resistant, and inclusion of superior nutritional or culinary traits, enhanced taste and appearance are some of the significant changes. With the burden on the environment, and the population expected to touch the 9-billion mark by 2050 and the importance of saving the ecosystem, the application of new technology in agriculture has given birth to hydroponics.

Plants are among the few organisms that can synthesise all the required nutrients from inorganic ions, water and carbon dioxide using the energy captured from the sun.

Hydroponics, as the name suggests, (hydro means water and ponos means labour), is a method of growing plants that takes advantage of this fact by providing all the nutrients in a liquid solution with or without solid material. An unconventional farming technique, it does not depend on soil, fertile land and water resources for cultivation.

Hydroponic systems have been extensively used by scientists for botanical research.

In recent decades, NASA has done extensive research on hydroponics. By recreating a Mars-type of environment, it uses LED lighting to grow in a different colour spectrum with much less heat. Scientists at NASA believe that hydroponics will help advance space travel with creation of support systems in space similar to earth.

Comparisons of the nutritional content of hydroponic and soil-grown produce is challenging, and available research involving direct comparisons is limited. Both traditional and hydroponic farmers can influence the nutritional content of produce by adding nutrients to the soil or growing medium.

The advantage of hydroponics is that there is no danger of plants absorbing heavy metals that may be in the soil. Only time will tell whether growing vegetables in soil is more beneficial than hydroponically grown ones since we do not yet fully understand all aspects. For instance, raw soil produce can be a source of beneficial microbiome that is probiotic soil-based bacteria.

For the environment, hydroponics are believed to use 90 per cent less water than conventional cultivation. They produce four times the yield in the same space and several crops grow twice as fast. With the growing health concerns around pesticides and chemical use in our vegetables and fruits, hydroponics offer a solution. Further, these plants can be grown in the confines of your home and at work places. This is of special value for people who have limited green spaces. Not only would it help save us and our future generations, but also contribute to a healthier ecosystem.

Author is a clinical nutritionist and founder of www.theweightmonitor.com and Whole Foods India

Is waking up super early really something to brag about?

ADAM POPESCU

TIM COOK, the CEO of Apple, rises a little before 4 am every day. President Trump wrote in his 2004 book that he only needs four hours of sleep a night. David Cush, the former Virgin America CEO, has said that he wakes up at 4.15.

Is the key to success emulating high-profile achievers who are hacking their bodies to increase productivity? Even if capitalism favours early wake-up times, at least as a badge of honour, there is no data that shows that successful people get less sleep.

Americans sleep, on average, less than seven hours a night, which means that many of us get less sleep than the American Academy of Sleep Medicine recommends.

What happens when we don't get enough sleep?

In a 2003 study, researchers at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard

Medical School found that reaction times and performance on cognitive tasks plummet for those getting four hours of sleep and those getting six hours of sleep.

In the study, 48 healthy adults, aged 21 to 38, had their sleep chronically restricted. Those who slept less than six hours a night "produced cognitive performance deficits equivalent to up to two nights of total sleep deprivation."

In 1999, researchers at the University of Chicago monitored a group who slept only four hours a night — a common amount for those who wake up very early — for six days in a row. That group quickly developed higher levels of the stress hormone cortisol, higher blood pressure and produced half the usual amount of antibodies to a flu vaccine.

Dr Charles A Czeisler, a professor of sleep medicine at Harvard Medical School, calls early rising a "performance killer," because, he says, regularly getting four hours of sleep is the equivalent of the mental impairment of being up for 24 hours.

But would you still face these issues if you

sleep for eight hours and wake up at 4 am?

Maybe. No matter how much sleep you get, if you're not wired for rising at the hour of the wolf, and most of us aren't, according to many sleep specialists, messing with that normal rhythm is still detrimental.

Even if you think missing out on just a few minutes — say, getting up just a half-hour earlier — isn't significant, think again. In March, researchers at the University of South Florida and Pennsylvania State University reported that losing out on as little as 16 minutes a night could have serious negative impacts on job performance.

When we delay or speed up our internal body clock, it can have the same consequences as not getting enough sleep, a phenomenon known as advanced sleep-wake phase disorder. "The reason is that our circadian rhythm tells our brain when to produce melatonin, our sleep hormone, so if you try to wake while your brain is still producing melatonin, you could feel excessive daytime sleepiness, low energy, decline in mood and cognitive impact," said



Getty images

Lisa Medalie, a behavioural sleep medicine specialist at the University of Chicago Sleep Disorders Center.

What if I don't need that much sleep?

"There are a handful of people who can

function adequately on a shorter sleep duration than the average person, but it's very, very rare," Medalie said.

Missing even two hours here, an hour there, then having a wildly different sleep pattern over the weekend, is the gateway drug to chronic sleep deprivation. Fatigue, irritability and overall mental confusion are the dangers and symptoms of such deprivation.

The benefits of sleeping

Sleep can boost immunity. In a study published in 2015, researchers found that shorter sleep duration was connected to an increased risk of getting a cold.

Sleep may be connected to weight gain. If you get less than seven hours a night, you can put on weight, since sleep loss can adversely impact energy intake and expenditure. That's because, in part, the chemical that makes you feel full, leptin, is reduced, while, ghrelin, the hunger hormone, increases.

Additionally, there is a connection between sleep and mood. The less you get, the

worse you may feel. People with sleep issues may also be at higher risk for depression and anxiety, while those disorders can also interfere with sleep.

Tips on getting more sleep

The National Sleep Foundation recommends sticking to a sleep schedule. It won't happen right away, and you'll have to build and buy back your debt. But that recovery may take only weeks or months.

One way to start: Set a goal and regular bedtime, and turn your bedroom into a comfortable, dark, sleep-friendly area. That could mean blackout curtains, maybe a sleeping mask or earplugs.

Exercise helps. So does cutting heavy foods or alcohol before bed. And let your body wake you up, a key to regaining natural circadian rhythm. Reading before bed relaxes the mind — and don't do it on your phone. Better yet, turn off your phone or place it in the other room until morning.

NYT



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

The only mantra

Policy must pray to one god — formal jobs



MANISH SABHARWAL

THE BHAGWAD GITA has important advice for policy entrepreneurs: "What lies between us and our greatest goals are not obstacles, but clearer paths to lesser goals." Jobs are a lesser goal than wages. India's problem is not unemployment — this has bounced in the low and narrow range of 4-7 per cent for 50 years — but employed poverty. Our traditional labour market shock absorbers — farm employment and self-employment — are dying because kids born after 1991 are unaccepting of self-exploitation and recognise the wage premiums, identity, dignity, soft skills, apprenticeship effect, and financial inclusion of formal jobs. I'd like to make the case that policy should pray to one god — formal jobs. And since goals decide strategy, our focus areas become clear.

India's 6.3 crore enterprises only convert to 12 lakh GST registrants, 10 lakh provident fund payers, and 19,500 companies with a paid up capital of Rs 10 crore or more because of our regulatory cholesterol — 58,000-plus compliances, 3000-plus filings, and 5000-plus changes every year. We need massive ease-of-doing business that rationalises (cuts down ministries, compliances, and filings), simplifies (adopts a universal enterprise number and one labour code) and digitises (adopts a paperless, presenceless and cashless process for all employer compliance by shifting from uploads to websites to an API architecture with straight-through-processing). All jobs change lives in ways that no subsidy can but formal jobs in formal enterprises have many externalities.

India's labour laws have an insane reverse payroll wedge — employers are forced to deduct 40 per cent-plus of gross wages from *chithi waali* salary (gross wages) for employees with monthly wages up to Rs 25,000. Yet, *haath waali* salary (net wages) are only 9 per cent lower for employees with monthly wages above Rs 25,000. This wedge murders formalisation and confiscates property from the poor; all wages belong to employees in a cost-to-company world. Fixing this wedge needs competition; EPFO is the world's most expensive government securities mutual fund (300-plus basis points for administration fees) and Employees' State Insurance

(ESI) is the world's most expensive health insurance programme (less than 50 per cent of contributions are paid out as benefits). The reform agenda is clear — employee contribution must be made optional, employees must choose who handles their employer contributions, and social security programme fees must be capped to their costs. One driver of 20 million new social security payers has been the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojna — this partial reimbursement to employers for incremental low-wage employees has incentivised social security enrolment, is easy to verify, and hard to fudge and should be extended for a fixed period of three years.

Our skill development system faces the difficult trinity of cost, quality and quantity combining with challenging changes to the world of education. In a world where Google knows everything, knowing is not as important as lifelong learning and hard skills become a necessary but not sufficient condition for the wage premium. Apprenticeships are the future of learning, yet India only has 5 lakh apprentices instead of 1.5 crore (if we use Germany's number of 2.7 per cent of the labour force). Changes could include merging the two central government initiatives, Regional Directorates Of Apprenticeship Training (RDAT) and Board of Apprentice Training (BOAT), operate effective online matching platforms and reinforcing the regulatory legitimacy of apprenticeships as classrooms to overcome the trust deficit with employers. Most importantly, we must enable degree-linked apprentices (skill universities await clearance for linking apprentices to degrees via distance and online delivery).

There must also be a focus on financialisation reform and sustainable competition. Fairly-priced capital catalyses formalisation, yet India's credit to GDP ratio is 50 per cent (rich countries are at 100 per cent). Sadly, Arunachal Pradesh is at one per cent and Bihar is 17 per cent. Lowering our cost of money has begun but sustainably targeting a higher credit to GDP ratio needs more bank licences, fixing the governance at nationalised banks, blunting the asset liability mismatch at NBFCs (some irrationally funded 30 per cent of their balance sheet with commercial pa-

per) and restoring the sanctity of the 270-day IBC bankruptcy deadline. More Indian enterprises need formal financial credit — capital investment and working capital availability drive productivity — without replicating the rash lending between 2008 and 2014 that gave us Rs 14 lakh crore worth of bad loans. Sustainably expanding credit at reasonable prices without stealing from our grandchildren needs thoughtfully-crafted competition.

India can't be ruled from Delhi. China building infrastructure and moving 400 million people off farms wasn't the child of Beijing but 200 mayors competing for investment. While there may be something such as India's capital market, land and labour markets are local. A hundred mayors and 29 chief ministers matter more than one prime minister for job creation. We should consider making labour a state subject and must continue the decentralisation of funds, functions and functionaries to states while simultaneously creating accountability, capabilities and resources in city governance. We can't take jobs to people and need to take people to jobs but the governance deficit of cities is blunting migration.

Jawaharlal Nehru wrote in *Discovery of India* that "India is a geographical and economic entity, a cultural entity amidst diversity, a bundle of contradictions held together by invisible threads. She is a myth and an idea, a dream and a vision, and yet very real and present and pervasive". He is one of many reasons that Pakistan and India, born on the same night, have had very different destinies (the GDP of Pakistan is now less than Maharashtra). But I'm sure that after reviewing decades of evidence, Nehru would acknowledge that the nutty economics of the 1955 Congress Avadi resolution and slogans posing as policy like Garibi Hatao kept many Indians in employed poverty.

The 67 per cent-plus turnout in our recent election not only reflect the invisible threads that hold India together but capture an aspiration that breaks with India's economic past. This *dua* needs policy to pray to the one god of formal jobs.

The writer is with Teamlease Services

CONTINUITY & CHANGE

Neighbourhood first remains India's foreign policy priority, but the emphasis has shifted from SAARC to BIMSTEC

AS PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi begins his second innings in diplomacy this week with a visit to Maldives and Sri Lanka, his foreign minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar has chosen Bhutan as his first foreign destination. If Modi brings a bigger political mandate and loads of self-assurance to India's international relations in his second stint, Jaishankar's impressive diplomatic skill promises to turn PM's political will into concrete outcomes for India. That Jaishankar served three years as foreign secretary during Modi's first term and enjoys PM's trust and confidence means Delhi now has a formidable team to direct Indian diplomacy. In his first public remarks as foreign minister a day before he left for Thimphu, Jaishankar gave a preview of where India's foreign policy might be headed. There are elements of continuity as well as prospects for significant change.

Jaishankar has signalled that he will continue to sustain the legacy of his predecessor, Sushma Swaraj, in putting the welfare of Indians abroad at the very top of the Foreign Office's agenda. Over the last few years, Swaraj has transformed the relationship between Indian missions abroad and the common man. If the embassies and consulates were once seen as aloof and unhelpful, they are today viewed as the first resort for distressed Indians in distant lands. Continuity is also visible in Jaishankar's renewed emphasis on "neighbourhood first". But there is no mistaking that the expansion of the geographic scope of what Delhi means by neighbourhood. Jaishankar confirmed that the invitation to the leaders of a Bay of Bengal forum for prime minister's inauguration is a shift away from a narrowly defined South Asia with its multitude of structural problems. The BIMSTEC is replacing SAARC as the primary forum for India's regionalism. Delhi's interest in the Bay of Bengal and the PM's enduring focus on Indian Ocean island states underlines the emerging maritime dimension of India's neighbourhood policy.

Modi's diplomacy has every reason to bask in the massive support for an assertive foreign policy seen during the elections. But no country, however powerful, can control all the external variables shaping the foreign policy environment. Jaishankar's remarks show that Delhi is acutely conscious that international landscape for Indian diplomacy is no longer predictable; nor is it benign. Delhi, according to Jaishankar, will not be daunted by the new strains in the global economic order and the new Cold War between the US and China. If South Block's default bias is to hide behind slogans of non-alignment and "strategic autonomy", the new team is confident that Delhi can secure India's interests in this complex environment. The new boldness on "what" India wants to do in the world during Modi's second term is now matched by "how" it wants to do it. Jaishankar has underlined the importance of overcoming weaknesses like project implementation in other countries, preventing bureaucratisation of the relations with neighbours, and improving inter-ministerial coordination.

SLIPPERY SLOPE

NBFC crisis could accentuate contagion risk in financial sector. Cabinet committee on investment and growth must address it

THE WOES OF non-banking finance companies and housing finance companies continue to reverberate through the financial system. A few days ago, Dewan Housing Finance Corporation defaulted on its interest obligations. Its short-term rating has been cut to default. Financial conditions have worsened with spreads of NBFC bonds rising significantly in the recent past. At one level, the argument can be made that lenders are re-evaluating their risk. That the market is discriminating between the better rated NBFCs and those whose balance sheets appear problematic. And, that an intervention at this stage will create problems of moral hazard. But, there is genuine concern that the DHFL default can "accentuate contagion risk in the financial sector", as noted by the investment house CLSA in a note. This needs to be addressed.

A possible solution is for the RBI to open a special borrowing window to provide liquidity to NBFCs/HFCs. As was done during the financial crisis of 2008, the central bank, under sections 17 and 18 of the RBI act, can provide short term liquidity to NBFCs, till financial conditions normalise. But, the RBI doesn't seem inclined towards this route, presumably because it will be difficult to differentiate between NBFCs. It could also nudge banks to increase their lending to NBFCs. To this effect, it has already eased norms for maintaining risk weights on bank lending to NBFCs. Further easing of systemic liquidity could boost flows to NBFCs. The question is will risk-averse banks lend? Part of the problem is that the difficulty in differentiating between illiquid NBFCs from those that are insolvent. To address this, some have advocated for an asset quality review to reveal the true state of NBFCs' books. While this will address issues of information asymmetry, such a move may end up prolonging the crisis. Perhaps, the RBI could identify systemically important NBFCs and backstop them through banks.

But the larger issue of resolution of financial firms remains. Situations such as the current one warrant swift resolution so that problems remain contained. Perhaps, the newly formed cabinet committee on investment and growth could contemplate bringing back the FRDI bill, with modifications to address contentious issues like the bail-in clause and deposit insurance.

FAST AND FURIOUS

The bouncer is the surprise weapon in this World Cup

IT BEFITTED THE fast-bowling legacy of Joel Garner and Malcolm Marshall that an English cricketer of Barbadian descent, Jofra Archer, whipped up the short-ball revolution in this World Cup in the opening match against South Africa. Short-balls have caught unsuspecting batsmen unawares this World Cup. There was little foreboding of such an exigency. After all, they had stepped into the English summer with the promise of truckloads of runs, given how the de-venomed surfaces have behaved of late. No other grounds in the world had seen such a frequent incidence of 300s and 400s — England managed 481 against Australia last year in Nottingham — in the last five years. But bowlers, armed with the daring, muscle and ruthlessness to bang the ball short, unencumbered to see batsmen writhing in pain or quivering in fear, have ensured that those runs that are to be made are tough, sweat-soaked runs.

If a Barbadian can, so can their continental cousins from Jamaica, the land of Michael Holding, Courtney Walsh and arguably the most brutish exponent of the short-ball, Patrick Patterson. None of their successors — Andre Russell, Oshane Thomas and Sheldon Cottrell — carry that ring of raw intimidation, but they've shown they can be as hostile as their vaunted predecessors with the short-ball, as the Pakistan batsmen were subjected to. So was Australia's top-order, which was perhaps a better denominator of short-pitch bowling's value. Bred as they are on hard Australian surfaces, they're supposed to cope.

Not that the worth of a short-ball needed spotlighting. In fact, it's not a mere delivery, it's a statement. The most macho, unsubtle statement of intent in the game. And as the World Cup rolls on, the winner could be not only the one that can dish out the most sustained spell of high-class short-pitch bowling, but the one that can also handle it most efficiently too.

WE GOT TRUMPED

US president has exploited the discord between nations to his country's advantage



KHALED AHMED

THERE ARE MORE countries than ever before who hate America today under President Donald Trump. He has alienated Europe on NATO and the rest of the world doesn't know which side he is on. He is against China and some argue that he should also be against Russia to retain a foothold within a scared European Union. Because the main enemy is China, Trump favours India, the rising economic power in the world. He has taken on Iran and finds it easy because Iran is pitted against "fellow-Muslim" Arabs across the Gulf.

Trump wants Iran choked. He wants the world to not buy its oil. American sanctions were in place from way back but exemptions were made for eight importers of Iranian oil that included India and China. Some of the "exemptees" have quickly "adjusted" by stopping their imports while the others are in the process of kowtowing to Trump. He asked India to comply — the help rendered by the US on the Masood Azhar issue was Trump's bargaining chip — and India has submitted, forgoing its deserved status of the big nation of the region. Next, Trump wants to squeeze India on trade.

If the Saudis are happy that they have got Trump to squeeze Iran, they will soon realise that the US president is not so kind. He will demand that Saudi Arabia and the UAE go back to producing more oil to make up for the shortfall that will be caused by the sanctions on Iran. The Saudis were putting a lid on oil production to prevent it from going cheap.

Aligned with Trump, the Arabs do not mind that the US has approved Israel's move to shift its capital from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem — all this while the Palestinians are being thrashed by the Israeli army.

The world — perhaps only the Islamic world — deserves Trump. Muslims are fighting each other in the states they inhabit even as these states take on each other — Iran and the crumbling states next door like Iraq and Syria are good examples. The Arabs triggered a new inferno by staging the Arab Spring of 2011. The Spring started going wrong from day one and the toppling of the Muslim dictators didn't lead to the halcyon days of democracy but more trouble, except, perhaps, in Tunisia — even though its youth formed the largest number of IS warriors in Iraq-Syria.

Trump doesn't mind General Sisi ruling Egypt, the most populous Arab state. Egypt has just passed a constitutional amendment after a referendum on April 22, advancing President Sisi's one-man rule. After all, his dictatorship was ushered in by millions of Egyptians demonstrating against the oppressive but elected government of President Muhammad Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood that was beginning to go after the large minority of Coptic Christians in the country.

The Economist reflected thus on why the Muslims can't live with democracy: "Secular Arabs and their friends in the West now argue that because Islamists tend to regard their rule as God-given, they will never accept that

a proper democracy must include checks, including independent courts, a free press, devolved powers and a pluralistic constitution to protect minorities."

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, after promising the "State of Medina" to Pakistanis, is trying to mend fences with India — the neighbour Pakistan has bothered over the years with its revisionism on Kashmir and by using non-state actors for crossborder terrorism. Since Pakistan had used this strategy against Afghanistan as well, Khan has his task cut out. He has gone to Iran saying he is going to stop the cross-border attacks against it. (One Iranian Baloch terrorist called Abdolmalek Rigi entered Pakistan and was educated in madrasa Jamia Banuria in Karachi, the alma mater of Masood Azhar. His outfit then killed Iranians inside Iran.)

Pakistan is trying to get out of the mess it got into by fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan and bringing hard Islam upon itself. Imran Khan can't do it without adopting the rhetoric of the Islamists that brought down the Arab Spring. India is better placed to face up to the vagaries of Trumpism but it has unfortunately lifted the lid off its own "religious revival", negating its pluralist past. Pakistan has suffered at the hands of religion. Will India have to take a long route to normalcy before peace prevails in South Asia, Trump or no Trump?

The writer is consulting editor, Newsweek Pakistan

JUNE 8, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

BHASKARA LAUNCHED
INDIA'S SECOND SATELLITE — Bhaskara — was hurled into space at 4 pm from a Soviet cosmodrome. The satellite, named after the ancient Indian astronomer, is functioning normally, according to telemetry data received at ground stations in Sriharikota, Ahmedabad and Bangalore in India and Bears Lake, near Moscow, shortly after the successful launching. The 444-kg experimental satellite, designed and built ISRO contains sophisticated instruments for carrying out remote-sensing experiments over India using TV camera and microwave radiometers. The launching of Bhaskara has been hailed by Indian and Soviet leaders as an-

other important milestone in Indo-USSR cooperation in space research.

NO SECOND APPEAL
RESPONDING TO THE prime minister's letter to the chief justice of India on the arrears of court cases running into hundreds of thousands, the judiciary has come out with the specific suggestion that there should be only one appeal in any suit or proceeding. The letter, written before the recent chief justices' conference, said: "The number of appeals should be reduced to the minimum and the hearings should be so regulated that adjournments are cut down as much as possible."

FARMERS' LOBBY WINS
THE HUNDRED-DAY-OLD Banarasi Das ministry managed to survive today in the Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha by surrendering to the farmers' lobby, which threatened to vote it down on the demands for grant of the transport ministry if the tractor-trolley tax was not abolished. For 45 minutes, the fate of the ministry hung in the balance as it faced certain defeat with the farmers' lobby, constituted mostly of the BLD members, refusing to pass the demands. In the absence of Das, Rama Shankar Kaushik, minister for health and excise, and Madhukar Dighe, minister for finance and parliamentary affairs, tried to quell the revolt.



13 THE IDEAS PAGE

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"If Trump wants to stop the latest Syrian butchery, he will have to do more than tweet."
— THE WASHINGTON POST

Welfare policy and Modi 2.0

Welfare in Modi's first term was about grand announcements and ambitious targets. The real challenge of building a high quality 21st century welfare state awaits



YAMINI AIYAR

HOUSING, SANITATION, GAS connections (Ujjwala), direct benefit transfers (DBT), income support (PM-Kisan) — contrary to early indications, the Narendra Modi government's first term proved to be far more welfareist than was expected of a government that campaigned on the slogan of minimum government. With the benefit of hindsight, many pundits now argue that it is this medley of schemes that convinced voters to give the Modi government a resounding encore. Regardless of the many mysteries of the Indian voter, there is no argument that these schemes will remain the hallmark of Modi 1.0.

In their implementation, these schemes had all the ingredients of Modi's political style — grand announcements, ambitious targets, tight centralised monitoring and outreach — resulting in an accelerated pace of activity. But they also brought to the fore deeply contested questions about the architecture of the welfare state, its functions and capability. The effectiveness of welfare policy under Modi 2.0 will rest on how it navigates this terrain and its willingness to invest in building state capacity.

First, on the relationship between technology, income support and bureaucracy. Technology lay at the heart of the Modi 1.0 welfare project. Early in its tenure, the government embraced Aadhaar and DBT with gusto. And in its last few months, it began the transition to basic income support through PM-Kisan. Underlying this approach is the assumption that technology can substitute for an incompetent and corrupt welfare bureaucracy. Moving money directly to beneficiary accounts removes bureaucratic layers and tightens monitoring, thus improving efficiency and curbing corruption.

But recent studies show that rather than reducing bureaucracy, getting the DBT architecture right requires significant bureaucratic intervention. From opening accounts to promoting financial literacy and facilitating bank transactions, local bureaucrats are critical to DBT.

Importantly, targeted programmes like PM-Kisan require bureaucrats to identify eligible beneficiaries. To do this, critical data like land records and socio-economic caste census needs to be regularly updated and disputes between claims of citizens and official records should be negotiated.

Getting the DBT architecture right, as I have argued in joint work with economists Shrayana Bhattacharya and Lant Pritchett, requires bureaucrats to engage citizens and coordinate across departments — a skill that Indian bureaucrats simply do not possess.

Countries like Brazil and Mexico have invested in large cadres of social workers at the local government level to do just this. But in the rush to bypass bureaucrats through DBT and transfer cash directly into bank accounts, this crucial investment has been ignored. The success of welfare programmes in Modi 2.0 will depend on willingness to recognise that building a competent welfare bureaucracy, even if its only task is to move money, will require empowering local governments with skills and resources.

But responsive governments require active citizen participation. Digitised efficiency risks casting citizens as passive recipients of government largesse rather than active



CR Sasikumar

claimants of rights. This is not romantic activism. Technology, by its very nature, creates centralised systems that are distanced and bewildering for ordinary citizens in ways not different to the frustrating everyday encounters readers of this newspaper have with call center agents.

Digitised welfare systems genuinely risk closing off spaces for citizens to complain, protest and demand accountability when rights are denied. The centralised, tightly-monitored push for meeting targets adds to this challenge. Consider the many documented instances of using coercive threats (cutting ration and electricity) to meet Swachh Bharat goals. This is not to argue against administrative efficiency, rather to highlight risks that need resolution. A balance needs to be struck between efficiency gains through centralised control and responsiveness through decentralised, citizen-centric governance. Striking this balance will be a critical challenge for Modi 2.0.

Second, with Ayushman Bharat, Modi 1.0 took a significant step towards engineering an architectural shift in India's welfare system, away from direct provisioning (government running hospitals and schools) towards financing citizens (through income support and health insurance) and regulating private providers. But can a state that struggles with routine tasks regulate a sector as complex as healthcare? Consider this. In the United States, medicare employs 6,000 staff to cover 44 million beneficiaries who handle insurance audits, pricing, and anti-trust cases.

The staffing requirement, at equivalent levels in Uttar Pradesh alone, would amount to 10,000 employees. Importantly, in a sector like health where predatory practices are rife, well-functioning government hospitals are a necessary check and balance. Regulation cannot be a substitute for investing in public systems. Ayushman Bharat must be complemented with a concerted focus on strengthening public hospitals.

Third, on Centre-state relations in welfare policy, rationalising the 400-plus central government welfare schemes and restoring them to their rightful place — states — re-

mains an important unfulfilled promise of Modi 1.0. This multiplicity of central schemes has served to entrench a silo-driven, one-size-fits-all approach that is inefficient as it fails to capture state-specific needs. The proposed expansion of PM Kisan and the possible transition to a quasi-universal basic income make the need to rationalise existing schemes, and address overlaps and complementarities with existing schemes like MGNREGA, even more pressing.

But, sensible rationalisation needs a coherent framework. The World Bank's social protection analysis calls for developing a national social protection strategy with a core basket of schemes that states can adapt to their needs. Greater flexibility to states was also recommended by the Niti Aayog's chief ministers sub committee report in 2016. Implementing these recommendations will require a radical shift in the role of the central government away from designing and controlling schemes to strategic thinking and supporting states. There are obvious trade-offs with administrative efficiency from centralised schemes that will need to be negotiated. Can Modi 2.0 fulfill the long-awaited promise of cooperative federalism?

Finally, no government can afford to ignore India's learning crisis. Yet this was one of the most under-prioritised areas in Modi 1.0's welfare agenda. The newly-released national education policy emphasises the urgent need to ensure all students achieve foundational literacy and numeracy. This needs to be adopted and implemented in mission mode.

Welfare in Modi's first term was about grand announcements and ambitious targets. But the difficult task of building a high quality, 21st century welfare state awaits Modi 2.0. India doesn't need new schemes, rather it needs consolidation and balancing between competing welfare strategies. Getting this right will require significant investments in state capacity. This is the welfare challenge for Modi 2.0.

The writer is president and CEO, Centre for Policy Research

Countries like Brazil and Mexico have invested in large cadres of social workers at the local government level to do just this. But in the rush to bypass bureaucrats through DBT and transfer cash directly into bank accounts, this crucial investment has been ignored.

The success of welfare programmes in Modi 2.0 will depend on willingness to recognise that building a competent welfare bureaucracy, even if its only task is to move money, will require empowering local governments with skills and resources.

Election isn't the ideology

Elections are only a means to an end for the RSS's millennial project



AAKASH JOSHI

IS THE CULTURAL nationalism espoused by those that follow the ideologies of V D Savarkar and M S Golwalkar one that has an essential connection to democracy? Or, to ask the more fundamental question, is majoritarian politics at its core democratic?

In his article 'Election is the ideology' (IE, May 28), Vinay Sitapati makes a compelling case to answer these questions in the affirmative. Hindu nationalism, he argues, emerges around the same time as the British colonial government first began to provide limited franchise to Indians (with the Government of India Act of 1919), and given that India is a society "composed of groups with identities" rather than one of "individuals with interests", "the logic of democracy began to be seen through the prism of demographics".

But democracy is not just about who wins an election. It is, equally, about the sort of public those that seek to rule create, on the road to power.

There is, of course, an intrinsic (even necessary) connection between majoritarianism and democracy — both are based in the ultimate analysis on the legitimacy that winning an election provides. Yet, there is — or ought to be — something more to democratic politics than merely the logic of electoralism. And there certainly is more to Hindutva than winning elections.

Among the Hindu nationalist organisations that emerged in the 1920s, the RSS and its offshoots today hold the greatest sway. The core of the RSS remains, by and large, aloof from electoral politics and like the other ideologically-driven movement that emerged in India in 1925 — the communists — there is a purity of purpose associated with this distance from power. The idea of the Hindu Rashtra is more than just that of a "Hindu vote-bank". It is a conception of history, nationhood and citizenship that is the antithesis of Sherlock Holmes' famous dictum — it twists facts to suit theory, rather than theory being determined by facts.

There is, for example, no doubt that the RSS and its subsidiaries have worked tirelessly over the last century to create a Hindu nation from an assortment of castes and tribes. Yet, is the ultimate aim of the Hindu Rashtra merely a vote-bank that encompasses all Indians other than Muslims and Christians? Unlike the Congress, or various other political formations, power is not an end in itself for the Sangh — it is the means to propagate and further a particular kind of

society, where individuals are both products of and vehicles for "cultural nationalism".

Organisationally and ideologically, the separation between the RSS and BJP is telling. The latter has, on the one hand, as Sitapati puts it, "catered to Hindu castes microscopically while painting the Muslim as the broad brushed 'Other'" and on the other, its discourse has become increasingly intolerant — think "Congress mukt Bharat", "urban naxal" and, of course, "anti-national". The ideological core of the Sangh, though, has behaved differently since its political wing attained a majority in the Lok Sabha. Take for example Sarsangchalak Mohan Bhagwat's statement ahead of the Bihar elections in 2015, calling for a review of reservations at a time when the BJP was doing its best to build alliances across castes. Or the invitation to and then the celebration of former President and Congress stalwart Pranab Mukherjee's address at a flamboyant RSS function in Nagpur by the top leadership of the Sangh.

Another clear sign of the priorities of the RSS is its disproportionate engagement with the Marxist-Leninist left. Electorally, the communist parties are hardly a challenge to the BJP, except perhaps in Kerala. Yet, academics, universities and intellectuals who are often barely a light shade of pink are accused of being anti-state actors, or alienated from "Bharatiya culture" and holding a "fascistic and dogmatic worldview" ("Most intolerant of them all" by Manmohan Vaidya, IE, June 26, 2018). The explanation for this obsession with what is now a minor political force is not, cannot be, electoral. It comes from the desire for a hegemony that is also intellectual, social and cultural.

With political power, this road to dominance is far smoother. It can be done through re-writing textbooks or through pliant vice chancellors. It can use the media, and it can use cinema. It can make freedom fighters of collaborators, patriots of assassins, rewrite history, science and geography, even medicine. But not all it does is with the next election in mind. The project has a timeline that goes far beyond the half-decade cycle.

None of this is to say that the Hindu right is in any sense aloof from political power, or that the Sangh has not been united on the ground in creating arguably the most successful contemporary election-winning machine. But to state that two decisive Lok Sabha wins have completed the millennial project, that "the Hindu Rashtra is here" is premature. That project will continue to fight for dominance in the realm of ideas, food habits, literature, economics, cinema and all the myriad ways in which "cultural nationalism" can be imagined. Equally, for those that wish to oppose such total hegemony, the resistance cannot be limited merely to elections.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ASSUMING WEAKNESS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A Ticket to Ride' (IE, June 5). A scheme that subsidises women in public transport is antithetical to the idea of gender equality. Any special reservation or subsidy for a target group implies that such a group is weaker than the rest. Gender inequality rests on the notion that women are weaker and a subsidy would inevitably endorse such a belief instead of jettisoning it. It is only by erasing the assumption of inequality that true equality can be achieved.

Ahona Chakrabarty, Kolkata

RAJNATH OMITTED

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'All in a day's work: Morning order omits Rajnath from key panels, he is in by night' (IE, June 7). It was wrong of the government to notify Home Minister Amit Shah in all eight cabinet committees (CC) and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in only two CCs. An impression has been created that Shah is in a dominant position. It is not clear what prompted the PM to shift Singh from the position of home minister he held in the earlier cabinet. Singh is far more senior than Shah.

MC Joshi, Lucknow

OPPOSITION NEEDED

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Lessons from the verdict' (IE, June 7). Given the indifferent state of the economy and the record level of unemployment, the 300-plus seats won by the BJP cannot be based on the performance of the government during 2014-2019 but entirely on the hopes the electorate has for the coming five years. A disjointed and lacklustre Opposition will not be able to hold the government to account. A stronger Opposition is needed.

R Narayanan, Navi Mumbai

LETTER OF THE WEEK

VALUE OF ENGLISH

THIS REFERS TO the editorial 'Tongue twisted' (IE, June 4). English has played an important role in globalisation. The exhortation to promote languages other than English at the work place is regressive. The government should understand that English is also a skill to keep people and firms afloat in the global market. In India most quality science books and newspapers are available in English. Attempts to devalue English language in India could disconnect the country's youth from the rest of the world.

Amiyavrat Kumar, Navi Mumbai

ARTS AND SCIENCE

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'An invitation to the liberal arts' (IE, June 7). The recent trend in education system of India shows that we are still driven by the traditional ambition of producing doctors and engineers. The subjects with social and political importance and politics have become a tool for securing good marks up to class 10 and are forgotten thereafter. The prestige associated with the "science stream" is because its scope is vast and a science student can at any time pursue the subjects of her choice. This is not the case for humanities or commerce students. This problem needs to be addressed so that students can follow their aptitude and aspiration, not just "follow the stream".

Piyush Verma, Delhi



DHANMANJIRI SATHE

It's politics, stupid

There has been no incentive to push labour-intensive industrialisation in India

THE INDIAN ELECTORATE has spoken and spoken clearly. The BJP, with Narendra Modi as the prime minister, will be at the helm of affairs for the next five years. The economic issues facing the new government have been discussed at length. One such chronic problem has been unemployment.

Pervasive unemployment is a result of long-term policy focus on capital and skill intensive industrialisation. Even after the economy was opened up in 1991, the policy focus did not shift towards labour-intensive industrialisation. This should have happened as India is a labour abundant economy. But industrialisation policy, de facto, continued to prefer capital and skill intensive industrialisation, keeping the employment generation low.

Why has the employment question been neglected?

The first possible reason could be that the voters do not exert enough pressure on political parties in asking for jobs. In the more recent elections, the focus has been increasingly on corruption in high places and what kind of "social security" the party will give to the people if elected. Also, the electoral discourse is animated by announcements with respect to distributing free consumables like

rice, clothes and even laptops.

The voters have privileged non-economic factors (like caste, dignity, religion, nationalism, etc) over economic factors like joblessness. After all, in a democracy, the parties will dish out what the voters want and hence the disregard for employment issues.

Middle castes have waged agitations for employment, but they have been for government jobs. There are hardly any agitations by the poor for any kind of jobs. This is possibly because the poor are not able to organise themselves and do not see unemployment as a systemic problem. This is very much different from what happens in democratic, developed economies where unemployment is the first issue discussed at the time of elections.

The BJP under Modi did try to make unemployment an issue in the 2014 elections. But in 2019, the party concentrated mainly on non-economic issues including nationalism and Hindutva. The Congress, especially its leader Rahul Gandhi, spoke about joblessness to a certain extent. But they got a pitiable response in terms of votes.

The second possible reason seems to be the lack of state capacity. With the first

Five Year Plan (1951), the Indian state showed tremendous capacity to take forward capital-intensive industrialisation. The state's capacity in terms of raising resources, working out a broad vision and its capability to implement it, was high till 1966. This becomes apparent in the success of the Green Revolution. But since the 1970s, the state seems to have lost the power to mobilise resources and ideas.

Assuming that the Indian state does actually want to move in the direction of labour-intensive industrialisation, what are the ideas that have come up? Hardly any. The previous Modi government had floated the policy of "Make in India". But a look at the 25 sectors selected as focus areas in this policy shows that only three or four are labour-intensive (like leather, construction, textiles and garments). In the export policy that was announced, the focus seems to be more on FDI in defence industries, which would be capital and skill intensive. There is not even a slight movement in India towards anything resembling the "township and village enterprises" like China.

Another important factor that may have contributed favourably towards capital and

skill intensive industrialisation could be the potential for rent-extraction from the big companies that inhabit this domain. Indian elections have been increasingly mired by the humongous use of money power. Most of the money used is unaccounted for. Big companies are capable of generating huge amounts of "black" money, which are then given to the political parties. A politician is prone to ask in any endeavour, "What's in it for me?" In a capital-intensive project, he can get back "lots". He does not get back much from a labour-intensive project as the investment required, by definition, is comparatively quite small. This could be a reason for massive projects being sanctioned over the last few decades.

So, in India, where there is hardly any electoral pressure to change policy in favour of employment-oriented policies, the tendency is to favour capital-intensive industries. Unless the voters themselves put intense pressure on the government to create jobs, there is hardly any likelihood of the policies changing.

The writer is professor of economics at Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune

14 THE WORLD

IN COLD NUMBERS
4 MILLION

The number of Venezuelan refugees who have fled economic and humanitarian crises in their homeland, all but 700,000 of them since the end of 2015, UN aid agencies said on Friday.

TOPOF THE WORLD



After the blast

SWEDEN
25 people injured in blast

Stockholm: A powerful explosion ripped through two apartment buildings in a Swedish city on Friday, slightly injuring 25 people, officials said. The cause of the blast wasn't immediately known. The explosion blew out dozens of windows and destroyed balconies in the buildings in central Linköping. One of the buildings has five stories, while the other has four floors. "As for now, we don't have any information to believe this is terror-related," said police spokesman Bjorn Oberg.

UNITED KINGDOM
2 women hurt in homophobic attack 'for refusing to kiss'

London: Two women were punched and robbed in a homophobic assault on a London bus, police said Friday, as media reported they were left covered in blood after refusing their attackers' demands to kiss. The incident took place in the early hours of May 30 after the two women, in their 20s, boarded a night bus in West Hampstead. "As they sat on the top deck, they were approached by a group of four males who began to make lewd and homophobic comments to them," a police statement said.

EAST CHINA SEA
'Near miss' for US, Russian warships

Tokyo: The US and Russian militaries accused each other of unsafe actions on Friday after an American guided-missile cruiser and a Russian destroyer came within 165 feet (50 meters) of each other in the East China Sea. The US 7th Fleet said the Russian destroyer put the safety of the USS Chancellorsville and its crew at risk, forcing it to reverse all engines at full throttle to avoid a collision. The Russian military accused the Chancellorsville of making a dangerous maneuver by crossing the path of the Russian destroyer Admiral Vinogradov.

May's reign ends, UK PM steps down as Conservative leader

REUTERS
LONDON, JUNE 7

BRITISH PRIME Minister Theresa May stepped down as leader of the governing Conservatives on Friday, officially triggering a contest to replace her that could see her party embrace a tougher stance on Brexit.

May announced she would step down last month after failing to deliver Britain's departure from the European Union on time. She will continue to work as PM until her party elects a new leader, a crowded race that will be defined by Brexit and competing approaches on how to deliver Britain's biggest foreign policy shift in more than 40 years.



Outside 10 Downing Street in London, Friday. AP

"For the remainder of her time in office, she will be building on the domestic agenda that she has put at the heart of her premiership," her spokeswoman told reporters.

May exchanged letters with leaders of the influential 1922 Committee of Conservative lawmakers, according to a statement from the committee. Her team has been keen to shape her legacy beyond the Brexit failure, but she bequeaths to her successor a nation where traditional political divides are being eroded by strong beliefs on whether Britain should leave the EU, and how it should do so.

BORIS WINS BID TO STOP COURT CASE

'FALSE CLAIMS'
The case revolved around a claim famously emblazoned on Johnson's "Leave" campaign bus that Britain would be 350 million pounds a week better off outside the EU.



FRONTRUNNER
Johnson is among Conservative lawmakers hoping to replace Theresa May as party leader and therefore as PM.

'DEBATE CONTINUES'
Johnson's lawyer, at a hearing on Friday, said "debate about the accuracy or otherwise of £350m continues to this day".

Trump allows high-tech US bomb parts to be built in Saudi Arabia

MICHAEL LAFORGIA & WALT BOGDANICH
WASHINGTON, JUNE 7

WHEN THE Trump administration declared an emergency last month and fast-tracked sale of American arms to Saudi Arabia, it did more than anger members of Congress who opposed the sale on humanitarian grounds.

It also raised concerns that the Saudis could gain access to technology that would let them produce their own versions of American precision-guided bombs — weapons they have used in strikes on civilians since they began fighting a war in Yemen four years ago.

The emergency authorisation allows Raytheon Company, a top American defense firm, to team with the Saudis to build high-tech bomb parts in Saudi Arabia. That provision, which has not been previously reported, is part of a broad package of information the administration released this week to Congress.

The move grants Raytheon and Saudis sweeping permission to begin assembling the control systems, guidance electronics and circuit cards essential to the company's Paveway smart bombs.

Multiple reports by human rights groups over the past four years have singled out the weapons as being used in airstrikes on civilians. One attack, on a Sana funeral home in October 2016, led the Obama administration to suspend bomb sales to the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen.



President Trump discussing weapon sales with Saudi crown prince Mohammed bin Salman last year. Reuters

"Few nations should be trusted less than Saudi Arabia... they have fomented human atrocities, repeatedly lied to the US and have proved to be a reckless regional pariah."

RAND PAUL
REPUBLICAN LEADER

"Saudis and Emiratis have become so intertwined with the Trump administration that I don't think the president is capable of distinguishing America's national interests from theirs"

TOM MALINOWSKI
DEMOCRAT

The new arrangement is part of a larger arms package, previously blocked by Congress, that includes 120,000 precision-guided bombs that Raytheon is prepared to ship to the coalition. These will add to the tens of thousands of bombs that Saudi Arabia and the UAE have already stockpiled, and some in Congress fear the sur-

plus would let the countries continue fighting in Yemen long into the future.

The emergency declaration prompted a broad bipartisan pushback from lawmakers who were concerned not only about the war, but also about whether the Trump administration was usurping congressional authority to approve arms sales. **NYT**

EXPLAINED

Europe wrestles with mixed messages

IN RECENT weeks, the Trump administration and its allies have sent mixed messages to Iran — sending more troops and carriers to the Arabian Sea while announcing that they were seeking negotiations, not war.

Its allies in Europe are trying to salvage the 2015 nuclear deal. Amid these efforts, they are attempting to make sense of a US strategy that appears to be straddling the middle, the *New York Times* reported. Tehran, meanwhile, has frozen almost all diplomacy with Washington.

With both sides showing little enthusiasm for talks, this impasse has become a worrisome matter for all the other stakeholders.



The aftermath of the bus crash in Dubai on Friday. AP

Dubai: 12 Indians among 17 killed in bus accident

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBAI, JUNE 7

AT LEAST 12 Indians were among the 17 people killed in a horrific bus accident in Dubai when the vehicle, coming from Oman, rammed into a low-clearance sign, police and the Indian mission here said on Friday.

Nine persons were seriously injured when the driver of the bus, belonging to the Omani bus transport company Mwasalat, wrongly entered a road not designated for buses towards Al Rashidiya metro station here on Thursday.

Dubai Police authorities said that there are still some unidentified bodies and the number of Indians who died in the accident could increase further. "With great sadness we inform that Indian fatalities in Dubai bus accident have gone up to 12," Vipul, Indian Consular General in Dubai, tweeted.

He said that the embassy officials are at the Rashidiya police station and mortuary to extend all assistance to the families of the victims. "Our effort now is to get formalities completed soon so that mortal remains can be repatriated soon," he said.

The bus, carrying 31 passengers, crashed into a height barrier that cut the left side of the bus and killed passengers sitting on that side, the *Gulf News* reported.

Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar expressed his condolences to families of the deceased. "Deeply grieved by the unfortunate bus accident in Dubai that has claimed 12 Indian lives. My sincere condolences to the families," he tweeted.

Vipul also released a list of the Indians killed in the accident. The Indian Consulate also issued a helpline number- +971-565463903- for any queries related to those travelling on the fated bus.

NASA's plan: \$35,000 a night at space station

KENNETH CHANG
NEW YORK, JUNE 7

BECOMING A NASA astronaut is far harder than getting into Harvard — of the thousands of hopeful spacewalkers who apply, NASA accepts only a handful.

But now ordinary people — at least, ordinary people with tens of millions of dollars to spend — can buy a trip to orbit.

NASA announced Friday that for the first time it is allowing private citizens to visit the

International Space Station, the only place where people currently live off the planet.

Bigelow Aerospace of North Las Vegas, Nevada, has already reserved four launches. The company will use SpaceX, the rocket company run by Elon Musk, to take private astronauts. Each flight would have four seats.

Axiom Space of Houston is also arranging flights and hopes to fly tourists next year.

In the 2000s, seven private citizens did visit the space station, but those trips were

arranged through the Russians, who operate half of the station. At the time, NASA said it was not interested in such ventures.

Friday's announcement was one of several new policies designed to allow companies to take advantage of the space station for more commercial activities.

But there are still limits to what NASA astronauts can do: For example, NASA astronauts would be allowed to film a television commercial in space, but would not be allowed to endorse a product. **NYT**

■ NASA is allowing commercial companies to arrange such trips.

■ The agency plans to charge companies about \$35,000 a night for use of the station's facilities, including air and water.

■ The companies would charge more to cover flights to and from space, and to make a profit



GRUELLING GAOKAO BEGINS

Students arrive at a school in Beijing on Friday for the first part of China's annual national college entrance exam or gaokao, which is regarded as one of the toughest in the world. Reuters

'Who would like it when someone comes to your neighborhood and tears the place up?' Recyclers cringe as Southeast Asia says it's sick of the West's trash

MIKE IVES
TELOK GONG, JUNE 7

BLACK SEDANS with government plates raced through a town near Malaysia's main seaport, flashing blue sirens as they approached rogue trash dumps.

The raid, in Telok Gong this week, was among the latest efforts by officials to shut down unlicensed dumps holding plastic scrap imported from the United States and other rich countries.

"Everybody knows those dumps are illegal," said Modh Faiz Tamsir, a butcher hawking fly-covered beef in a parking lot on Telok Gong's main drag. "We

don't like them."

After China, once the world's primary dumping ground, imposed restrictions on "foreign garbage" in late 2017, countries across Southeast Asia began taking in the West's plastic waste.

Within months, Malaysia had replaced China as world's largest importer of plastic scrap. But this country, and others across the region, soon saw the waste as an environmental nightmare, and a heavy backlash has begun. With public support, some advocacy groups have urged officials to permanently ban the import of plastic waste.

But at a time when the world is awash in such plastic, some ex-



A child at a garbage dump in Tondo, Philippines. Reuters

perts worry this backlash could block the flow of raw material to Southeast Asia's aboveboard recyclers and manufacturers — and raise the chances that plastic scrap will end up in rivers, oceans, dumps and illegal burn sites.

By imposing blanket bans on imported waste, "you're potentially risking damaging the good recyclers' business," said Kakuko Nagatani-Yoshida, the United Nations Environment Program's coordinator on chemicals and waste in the Asia-Pacific region.

"When those people lose a business opportunity, then in the future you have fewer options for waste management," she added. "And I don't think any

government should have fewer options; you always need more."

China's abrupt waste restrictions of 2017 were a response to years of pollution there by low-end recycling. Around the same time, unlicensed trash dumps, many of them owned by mainland Chinese investors, began appearing in the back alleys of Telok Gong and other towns near Southeast Asian ports.

"They just popped out of nowhere two years ago," said Soh Ah Boon, the Malaysian owner of a junkyard about 15 miles by car from Telok Gong that collects material from local sources.

By March 2018, the peak of the surge, Malaysia was import-

ing about 139,000 tons of plastic waste per month, up from about 22,000 tons per month a year earlier, according to official trade data analysed by Khor Yu Leng, an economist in Singapore who studies Southeast Asian commodities. The US was the largest source, followed by Japan, Britain and Germany, she said.

As plastic imports rose across Southeast Asia, pollution became more noticeable — typically in the form of trash-clogged rivers or smoke from ragtag incineration sites, according to environmental groups.

Local opposition grew, too. "Who would like it when someone comes to your neigh-

borhood and tears the place up?" Soh said at his junkyard between drags of a cigarette.

But the current waste crackdowns have not clearly distinguished between truly hazardous garbage and other types of plastic that can be safely recycled again and again, said Douglas Woodring, the founder of the Ocean Recovery Alliance, a nonprofit based in California and Hong Kong that works on plastic pollution. "You're categorising these as a dangerous substance, which they are not if you process them the right way," he said. "They're just like any other commodity — like copper, steel, metal, wood and paper." **NYT**

REUTERS

NMDC Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
10-3/31/A, CASTLE HILLS, MASAB TANK, HYDERABAD - 500 028
CIN: L13100AP1958GQ1001674

E-AUCTION SALE OF ROUGH DIAMONDS FROM NMDC DIAMOND MINING PROJECT, MAJHGAWAN, PANNA

NMDC will display lots of rough diamonds of about 18350 carats from 12-06-2019 to 14-06-2019 at NMDC Diamond Mining Project, Majhgawan, Panna and from 17-06-2019 to 21-06-2019 at NMDC Offices, Mumbai to be sold through e-auction conducted by M/S MSTC Limited.

For further details regarding Time of display, E-Auction and admission procedure, bidders may visit NMDC Website: www.nmdc.co.in or GM, Panna at 07732-271234 or contact DGM (Comm), Panna at mobile no. +91-9490491735 or OIC, Mumbai at mobile no. +91-9889045806/M/s MSTC Limited +91-9650554645/+91-7406047889.

SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI SHRINE BOARD, KATRA
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Chairman, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB), Katra, J&K Sealed Tenders on the prescribed format affixed with Revenue Stamps worth Rs. 6/- are invited from Reputed Professional Firms/Companies dealing in Facility Management Services for Providing Mechanized Cleaning/Sanitation Services at Sarswati Dham, Jammu.

In the event of e-Filing, Intended Bidders may download the Tender Document consisting of E-NIT, BOQ, Terms & Conditions etc. from the website: www.jktenders.gov.in & www.maaishnodevi.org directly with the help of Digital Signatures Certificate.

No.: CO/SW/98/494-497
Dated:- 07.06.2019

Add. Chief Executive Officer,
SMVD Shrine Board, Katra.

"IMPORTANT"

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KOLKATA METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Tender No.: EE/Div-IVT-01/KMDA of 2019-20

Sealed Tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, Division-IV (W & S Sector), 83/1A, Vivekananda Road, 3rd Floor, Kolkata-700066 single part from reliable, resourceful, bonafide and experienced agencies/contractors for the following work: **Name of the Work; Estimated Value (₹); Earnest Money (₹) & Cost of Tender Document (₹)** are as follows: Extension of 48 mtr over flow pipe of ESR-2 at Titagarh to dispose off the over flow water to Municipal surface drain at B.T. Road to prevent mosquito breeding problem of the locality within Titagarh Municipal area for Trans Municipal Water Supply Scheme under Titagarh, Khardah Municipality (under JNNURM); ₹ 2,21,223.13; ₹ 4,450/-; ₹ 750/-

Time of Completion: 21 Days. Last Date & Time for submission of Application: 17.06.2019 up to 2.00 P.M. For further details please contact the above office or visit our websites.

KMDA/66(03)/Headliner(04)/19-20
Visit: www.kmdaonline.org

PROVISION OF 2 (TWO) NOS. LIFT AT TINSUKIA DIVISION

Tender Notice No.: TSK/Elect/V88 Dated: 04-06-2019. Works tender through E-Tendering System for and on behalf of the President of India are invited for the works as details below: **Brief Description of Item:** At Tinsukia Division: Associated works for provision of 2 (Two) Nos. lift at New Tinsukia & 2 (Two) Nos. lift at Manani Jn Railway Station. (No. LVTS-14/TSK/777)

Tender Value: ₹ 16,151/- **Earnest Money:** ₹18,300/- E-Tender will be closed at 13.00 hrs. on 28-06-2019. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available up to 13.00 hrs. of 28-06-2019 in website <http://www.reps.gov.in>

Divl. Rty. Manager (Elect), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

TAMIL NADU SLUM CLEARANCE BOARD COIMBATORE CIRCLE
NOTICE INVITING TENDER FORM OF CONTRACT: "LUMPSUM" (TWO COVER SYSTEM)
Tender Notice No. SCB/19/1/DB/2019 Dated: 07.06.2019

For and on behalf of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, one sealed tender consisting of two separate sealed covers one for Pre-qualification with EMD and another for price schedule with name of work duly superimposed to be enclosed in B cover are invited from the registered contractors under Class - I land above in TNSCB (Government Departments / Government Undertakings / Public Sector Undertaking, registered as a legal entity in India by the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, Seivapuram, Shivayaya Mahal (opp), Penur North, Coimbatore - 26, upto 3.00 PM on 09.07.2019 and the same will be opened at 3.15 PM on the same day in the presence of the Tender Scrutiny Committee.

| S No | Name of Work | Tender Value including GST Rs. in Lakhs | EMD (in Rs.) |
|------|---|---|--------------|
| 1 | Construction of 112 tenements (G+1) at Valsara in Coimbatore district under vertical - III Affordable Housing Project in Partnership of Housing For All. CER.No.105/HFA/2018-19 (Re-tender) | 723.52 | 372,000 |
| 2 | Construction of 144 tenements (G+1) at Mesasalai in Udhagamandalam under vertical - II Affordable Housing Project in Partnership of Housing For All. CER.No.108/HFA/2018-19 (Re-tender) | 921.60 | 471,000 |
| 3 | Construction of 152 tenements (G+1) at Cherangudi in Udhagamandalam under vertical - II Affordable Housing Project in Partnership of Housing For All. CER.No.109/HFA/2018-19 (Re-tender) | 1003.30 | 512,000 |
| 4 | Construction of 98 (G+2) tenements adopting T.D.No. HFA 33/2019 with internal water supply and electrification works including development works at Sundaralam Vally in Coimbatore Corporation under Housing For All. CER.No.01/HFA/2018-20 | 585.92 | 356,000 |
| 5 | Construction of 352 (G+3) tenements adopting T.D.No. HFA 37/2019 with internal water, Sanitary and electrification works including necessary development works at Chikkathasamsalayan in Mettupalayam taluk of Coimbatore District under Housing For All. CER.No.02/HFA/2019-20 | 2401.10 | 1,211,000 |

The cost of tender, schedule and EMD should be drawn as Demand Draft or Banker's cheque fixed deposit from Nationalized/Scheduled Bank, payable at Coimbatore in the prescribed form in favour of Executive Engineer, Coimbatore Division, TNSCB, Coimbatore. The tender documents may be obtained from the office of the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle, TNSCB, Seivapuram, Shivayaya Mahal (opp), Penur North, Coimbatore - 26 on written requisition along with cost of the tender document to a value of Rs.17,700 upto 3.00 PM on 08.07.2019.

1. The conditions and other details may be seen in the tender documents and also the same will be made available on all working days in the office of the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle TNSCB Coimbatore - 26.

2. The tender documents are also available at www.tenders.in.gov.in which can be downloaded at free of cost. The bidder shall keep a watch over the web site till the preceding date of tender.

Conditions for participating in the tenders may be seen from the website www.tenders.in.gov.in.

The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.

Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore Circle,
TNSCB, Seivapuram, Shivayaya Mahal (opp), Penur North, Coimbatore - 26

Office of Superintending Engineer, Moradabad Circle, P.W.D. Moradabad
E-Procurement Short Term Notice Inviting Tender

No. 2867 / Nivida-Moradabad/19-20 Dated : 31-05-2019

1. On behalf of the Governor of UP, tender for following work are invited by the Superintending Engineer, Moradabad Circle, PWD Moradabad online on website <http://etender.up.nic.in> from registered contractors in column No-8 from 10.06.2019 at 10.00 am to 15-06-2019 at 5.00 pm. Amount mentioned in column no. 5 & 7 shall be mandatory deposited by Net Banking Only through E-tender portal. Technical bid /Prequalification of tenders shall be opened on 17-06-2019 at 12.00 noon in office of undersigned by tender committee in presence of authorised representatives/bidders who wish to be present. Financial bid of the tenders who qualify in technical bid shall be opened on date and time as specified by a notice in the office of undersigned. In case of Government holiday the required process shall be carried out on next working day.

| Sl. No | DISTRICT | Name of Work | Estimated cost (Rs.in lacs) | Bid Security (Rs.in lacs) | Time of completion of the work (Including rainy season) | Cost of tender documents including GST (RS.) | Category of road contractor eligible |
|--------|-----------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 1 | Moradabad | Construction of Minor Bridge Over karula river having span 3x18.75 M. with approach, additional approach road and protection work in village Kazipura khalsa to Bharpur ki Madiaya km. 2 in District Moradabad under Rajya Yojna (Genral) | 380-00 | 21-00 | 12 Month | 2354.00 | "A" Bridge category |

Rules/conditions & details of the tender are available at website <http://etender.up.nic.in>.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer, PWD Moradabad Circle, P.W.D. Moradabad
For and on behalf of Governor of UP

UPID-140704 Dated 04.06.2019
WWW.UPGOV.NIC.IN

ICMR - REGIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE, N.E. REGION
Post Box No. 105, DIBRUGARH - 786001, ASSAM, INDIA

No. RMRC/DIB/S&P-16/Adv. 1 (Proj. Acute_Viral_Hepatitis)/2019-20/711 Date: 07/06/2019

Notice Inviting Sealed Tender after Pre-Bid:

(ICMR, Regional Medical Research Centre, N.E. Region (The Director), Dibrugarh, Assam invites Sealed Tender in Double bid system i.e. Technical and Price Bid from the reputed foreign/Indian manufacturers, authorized dealers/stockists and in case of imported item from their authorized Indian agent for supply & satisfactory installation of the following Equipments/Instruments for its Research Centre. Interested suppliers are requested to go through the website "<http://www.rmrc.org.in>" & "Central Public Procurement Portal(ePublishing)" for the list of equipments and details specifications and terms & conditions.

The last date of submission of tender/quotation: **21st June 2019.**

TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
COIMBATORE - 641 063
RATE CONTRACT NOTIFICATION - 2019-20

On behalf of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, sealed tenders are invited for the supply of Chemicals, Glassware, Laboratory apparatus, Scientific Equipments, Fragile and Non-Fragile items etc., for the institutions Colleges and Research Stations of the University during the financial year 2019-2020. The firms should have three years of experience as on 01.01.2019 in "MANUFACTURER" of the said items, they must supply and hold a valid "Manufacturer's License" for each of those items which are mentioned and also must possess approved or patented brand names as trade marks. The term "Manufacturer" also includes manufacturers in their sole agents or their dealer whom they authorize to manufacture the goods. The manufacturers should submit only one bid. The tenders should be submitted from the office of the Controller, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore - 641 003 on payment of Cost of Rs.1875/-(Rs.1800 + GST 5%) through a demand draft in favour of the CONTROLLER, TNSAU, COIMBATORE, payable at Bank of India, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Branch, Coimbatore. The successful bidder's publication of this notification is 25.6.2019 upto 11.00 am. The last date for receipt of final tenders is upto 1.00 pm on 25.6.2019. The tenders will be opened at 2.00 pm on 25.6.2019. If the tender opening day happens to be a holiday, the tenders will be opened on next working day.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.TNSAUCOIMBATORE.COM

कार्यालय : जिला परिषद, चतरा
(Phone: 0654.122288,
E.mail: districtboardchatar@gmail.com)

शुद्धि पत्र

अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 01/ZP/2019-20, Group. I जिसका पी0आर0 संख्या 207039(District) 19-20 में अपरिहार्य कारणों से तिथि को संशोधित किया जाता है, जो निम्नवत है:-

1. ई निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय - 14.06.19 को 5:00 बजे अपराह्न तक
2. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय - 15.06.19 को 5:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।
3. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय - 17.06.19 को 02:00 बजे अपराह्न तक।

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी
जिला अभियंता,
जिला परिषद, चतरा

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No. U27310WB19206G1003601
SECOND FLOOR, JVL PLAZA, NO. 676, ANNA SALAI, TERNAMPET
CHENNAI - 600 018

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

ITEM RATE Offer(s) in two part system are invited from reputed, resourceful and experienced parties meeting prescribed qualifying criteria for following work:

| Sl. No. | Description of work and NIT No. | Tender Document available on B&R's Website | Due Date of submission of Bid |
|---------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Design, Supply, Installation & Commissioning and Maintenance of CCMS / Smart Meter based CCMS Boxes / any other relevant street light controlled technology for lighting control of installed LED Lights in Odisha state | 31.05.2019 | 10.06.2019 |

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
E-Tender Notice No. RE-DNR-Engg-Gr-234-WT-02 Dated: 04.06.2019

On behalf of the President of India, Chief Project Director, Railway Electrification, Danapur, invites open & sealed tender for the following work from experienced, financially and technically sound contractors, to be opened on 03.07.2019.

(1) Name of the work & its location : Construction of 3 Nos. TSS at Raxaul, Bargania and Bajpati including all associated works viz Retaining wall, Approach road in connection with Railway Electrification of Raxaul - Darbhanga - Samastipur section of Group 234 in Samastipur division of E.C. Railway.

(2) Approximate cost of the work: ₹ 2,46,77,240.91/- (3) Earnest Money to be deposited : ₹ 2,73,400.00/- (4) Date for submission of the tender and opening of Tender : For submission: From 19.06.2019 & Up to 11:00 Hours on 03.07.2019. Tender will be opened at 11:30 Hrs on 03.07.2019. (5) Website particulars, Notice board location where complete details of E-tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. : website <https://reps.gov.in/> Notice board location & Add. of the office : Office of the Chief Project Director (Engg.), Railway Electrification, Danapur, (Near Jagjeevan Stadium), PO-Khagaul, Patna-801105, (Bihar).

Chief Project Director (Engg.),
Railway Electrification, Danapur
PR/443/RE/Engg./7/19-20/44

BRIDGE & ROOF CO. (INDIA) LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)
CIN No. U27310WB19206G1003601
SECOND FLOOR, JVL PLAZA, NO. 676, ANNA SALAI, TERNAMPET
CHENNAI - 600 018

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Interested resourceful Contractors may download the tender documents from Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> Corrigendum / Addendum, if any, shall be hosted in Co's Website <http://www.bridgeroof.co.in> only.

Rail Land Development Authority
(A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Railways, Government of India)
Near Safdarjung Railway Station, Moti Bagh-I, New Delhi-110021
Phone : 011-24122834, 24122835 Fax : 011-24104793

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

EOI No: RLDA/2019/Comm/Pallanthruthi/EOI/06 of 2019 dated 07.06.2019

EOI for Grant of lease for Commercial development of 1.7 Ha of land at Pallanthruthi Island

Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) is a statutory authority under Ministry of Railway, RLDA intends to call EOI for commercial exploitation of 1.7 Ha Land at "Pallanthruthi Island near Kollam, Kerala" by leasing for a period of 30/45 years. This land parcel lies in Ashtamudi lake area in coastal region of Kerala. Development Control Regulation CRZ IA Category will be applicable on this land parcel and as per CRZ notification, No new construction is permitted except Project relating to department of Atomic Energy, Pipe lines, Installation of weather radar etc.,. One of view is that this land can be utilized for Eco Tourism, Aqua Tourism, Energy Generation by non-conventional Method, destination cultural and social activity like Picnic Spot, Destination Wedding etc. without resorting to any permanent construction i.e. by using camps, containers etc. subject to the permission/approval of Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority (KZMA).

The Last date of Submission of EOI is 28.06.2019 up to 15:00 Hrs.
For complete details, visit website www.rlda.indianrailways.gov.in

DGM/Tender

"CORRIGENDUM"

The e-procurement notice invited vide this office letter No. SD-III-CB-tender/2019-20- 2346 Dated 25-05-2019 for the work "Furnishing of Circuit House at willy's park Shimla (SH- Providing and fixing Furniture articles)", which is schedule to be opened on 22-06-2019 and published in various news papers vide Release Order No.0104/2019-20. The amendments in key dates are hereby made as under:-

| Before amendments | After amendment may be read as under |
|---|---|
| 1. Date of Online Publication | 10-06-2019 17.00 HRS |
| 2. Document Download Start and End Date | 10-06-2019 17.00 HRS up to 21-06-2019 17.00 HRS HRS |
| 3. Bid Submission Start and End Date | 10-06-2019 17.00 HRS up to 21-06-2019 17.00 HRS HRS |
| 4. Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document | 22-06-2019 upto 11.00 HRS |
| 5. Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by Opening of Financial Bid. | 22-06-2019 11.00 HRS |

The other terms and conditions will remain the same.

"HIM SUCHANA AWAN JAN SAMPARK"

379/HP

GOVT. OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR
'e' Procurement Notice No. SECIC 02 of 2019-20

50-A

1. Name of the Work :- Construction of Dry Weather Control Structure at 85M U/S of Railway Bridge across Dhaudia Nallah near Malapatapur.
2. Tender Cost :- Rs. 3,79,96,424.00
3. Bid Document Cost :- Rs.10,000.00 (online)
4. Bid Security :- Rs. 3,80,000.00 (online)
5. Class of Contractor :- "A" Class & "Special" Class
6. Period of Completion :- 06 Calendar Month
7. Other details are as follows :-

| Procurement Officer | Bid Identification No. | Availability of Tender On-line for bidding | | Date of opening of Technical Bid (Cover-1) |
|---|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| | | From | To | |
| Superintending Engineer, Central Irrigation Circle, Bhubaneswar | SECIC PID 02 of 2019-20 | 12.06.2019 10.00 Hrs. | 01.07.2019 17.00 Hrs. | 02.07.2019 11.00 Hrs. |

8. E-mail ID :- secic.dowryahoo.com
Further detail conditions can be seen from the Govt. website www.tendersorissa.gov.in

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer
Central Irrigation Circle

32160/11/0002/1920

HARYANA GOVERNMENT
CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

| Sr. No. | NAME OF DEPARTMENT | OLD REFERENCE/NIT NO. | NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM | WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH | NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/E-MAIL |
|---------|--------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 1. | DHBNV | NIT NO 03/SE/OP/CGN/12019-19 | DATE EXTENDED UPTO 18.06.2019 | www.dhbnv.org.in | 0124-2322427 se.gurgaon@gmail.com |
| 2. | DHBNV | NIT NO 621/DHMM DATED 21.12.18 | DATE EXTENDED UPTO 14.06.2019 | www.dhbnv.org.in | 8059888680 semmdhbnv@gmail.com |
| 3. | HVPNL | E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 52/CWFG-25/VOL-II/2018-19 DATED 08.02.2019 | CORRIGENDUM NO. II ONLINE TENDER IS INVITED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 1 NO. 12.5/16 MVA T/F PLINTH FOUNDATION, OSD3 FOUNDATIONS, ODCT, AT 2220KV S/STN MIRPUR KURALI (R - 3). (ONLINE TENDER ID:116066) ESTIMATE COST/EARNEST | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 4. | HVPNL | E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 43/CWFG-25/VOL-II/2018-19, DT. 11.10.2018 | CORRIGENDUM NO. III ONLINE TENDER IS INVITED FOR PAINTING OF CONTROL ROOM BUILDING WITH MINOR REPAIRS, PROVIDING ALUMINIUM DOORS AT MAIN AND YARD ENTRANCE, ELECTRICAL WIRING, 200 MM THICK CC LAYER, CC ROAD, MAIN GATE. | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 5. | HVPNL | E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 35/CWFG-25/VOL-II/2018-19 DATED 11.05.2018 | CORRIGENDUM NO. IX ONLINE TENDER IS INVITED FOR REPAIR OF CABLE TRENCHES AND PROVIDING NEW TRENCH COVER ON UNCOVERED LENGTH OF TRENCHES IN EXISTING 66 KV YARD AT 220 KV S/STN. A-3, PALLA. (ONLINE TENDER ID-82799) ESTIMATE | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 6. | HVPNL | E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 46/CWFG-25/VOL-II/2018-19 DATED 22.11.2018 | CORRIGENDUM NO. V ONLINE TENDER IS INVITED FOR EXTENSION OF SWITCH HOUSE BUILDING AT 66 KV S/STN. PARTAP STEEL. (ONLINE TENDER ID-16027) ESTIMATE COST/EARNEST MONEY (IN LACS):- RS. 35.89 LACS/RS. 0.718 LAC | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 7. | HVPNL | E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 51/CWFG-25/VOL-II/2018-19 DATED 30.01.2019 | CORRIGENDUM NO. II ONLINE TENDER IS INVITED FOR EXTENSION OF SWITCH HOUSE BUILDING AT 220 KV S/STN. PALI (FARIDABAD). (ONLINE TENDER ID:-113683) ESTIMATE COST/EARNEST MONEY (IN LACS):- RS. 20.20 LACS/RS. 0.404 LAC | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 8. | UHBVN | NIT NO.244/P&D/2019-20/ BID NO B-588 | CORRIGENDUM-I BIFURCATION/TRIFURCATION OF OVERLOADED FEEDERS, AUGMENTATION OF CONDUCTOR OF HT LINE AND NEW DT, UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE UHBVN, AMBALA ON TURNKEY BASIS OPENING DATE: 24.06.2019 | www.uhbvn.org.in | 01723019143 xenddiuhbvn@gmail.com |
| 9. | UHBVN | NIT NO.247/P&D/2019-20/ BID NO B-591 | CORRIGENDUM-I BIFURCATION/TRIFURCATION OF OVERLOADED FEEDERS, AUGMENTATION OF CONDUCTOR OF HT LINE AND NEW DT, UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE UHBVN, KATHAL ON TURNKEY BASIS OPENING DATE: 24.06.2019 | www.uhbvn.org.in | 01723019143 xenddiuhbvn@gmail.com |
| 10. | HPGCL | NIT REFERENCE NO.124027, BIDDING DOCUMENT NO. S/CE/PLG/NT/PC/ RGT/PP/FGD-250 & CORR-1 DATED 21.05.2019 & CORR-2 30.05.2019 | THE AMENDMENT REGARDING INCORPORATION OF ADVANCE PAYMENT CLAUSE IN THE PAYMENT TERMS | www.hpgcl.org.in | 0172-5022439 himanshu.gupta@hpgcl.org.in |
| 11. | HARTRON | E-TENDER-HARTRON/ENGG, DIV, SDOG/2019-20/2 | SETTING UP THE 50KLD PACKAGED SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT (STP) ON ADVANCED MBBR TECHNOLOGY AT HMSDC COMPLEX, GURUGRAM | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 0172-2570076 engineeringdivision10@gmail.com |

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaaproecurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

76727/HRY.

HARYANA GOVERNMENT
TENDER NOTICE

| Sr. No. | NAME OF BOARD/CORP./AUTH | NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER | OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME) | AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES | WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH | NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL |
|---------|--|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 | KURUKSHETRA BOARD KURUKSHETRA | CONSTRUCTION OF WATER KIOSK OPPOSITE SIDE OF LAXMI NARAYAN MANDIR SANCHIT SAROVAR, KURUKSHETRA AND EAST SIDE OF BRAHMASAROVAR, KURUKSHETRA | 07.06.2019 18.06.2019 | 8.34 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | Chief Exec. |
| 2 | KURUKSHETRA BOARD KURUKSHETRA | RUNNING OF SATKAR BHOJAN (ON SUBSIDIZED RATES) IN NORTH SIDE OF WESTERN HALF OF BRAHMASAROVAR KURUKSHETRA | CLOSING 13.06.2019 | 20 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01744-270187 kdkbkr@gmail.com |
| 3 | HVPNL | PROCUREMENT OF 11 KV LIGHTENING ARRESTORS | 04.06.2019 04.07.2019 | EMD-9000 | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 4 | HVPNL | PROCUREMENT OF VARIOUS NUMERICAL RELAYS. | 05.06.2019 05.07.2019 | 2.82 LACS | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 5 | HVPNL | PROCUREMENT OF 33 KV VACUUM CIRCUIT BREAKER (2000A) | 05.06.2019 05.07.2019 | EMD-80000 | www.hvpng.org.in | 0172-2583789 pro@hvpng.org.in |
| 6 | UHBVN | AUGMENTATION OF 33 KV S/STN TARRORI WHICH INCLUDES EXTENSION OF SWITCH HOUSE BUILDING, U/FENCING, CULTVERT, FOUNDATION AND EARTH FILLING ETC. | 4-06-2019 14-06-2019 | 24.76 LACS | www.uhbvn.org.in | 9356063248 xenoviluhbvnpanchkula@gmail.com |
| 7 | UHBVN | HIRING OF JEEP (BOLERO) FOR THE USE OF CHIEF COORDINATION OFFICER, UHBVN ROHTAK | CLOSING 13.06.2019 | 6000 | www.uhbvn.org.in | xenopuhbvnrcyirohtak@gmail.com |
| 8. | HSAMB ROHTAK | ORDINARY REPAIR OF LINK RODES OF CONSTITUENCY MEHAM FROM GROUP NO. 1 TO 20 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019-20 + 2 OTHER WORKS | CLOSING 19.06.2019 | AS PER DNIT | http://etenders.hry.nic.in | 01262-270274 xenrohtak.hsamb@gmail.com |
| 9. | MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HANSI | CONST OF TOILETS IN SD COLLEGE IN HANSI | 04.06.2019 11.06.2019 | 11 LACS | etenders.hry.nic.in | 9813082444 |
| 10. | MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PANCHKULA | SUPPLY OF GOOD EARTH/ORDINARY CLAY FOR COVERING THE MALBA AT TEMPORARY DUMPING GROUND, SECTOR-23, PANCHKULA | 07.06.2019 13.06.2019 | EMD-50000 | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 2583695 mcpanchkula@gmail.com |
| 11. | MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PANCHKULA | HIRING OF LANDFILL COMPACTOR + 1 OTHER WORK | 07.06.2019 13.06.2019 | EMD-1 LACS | https://etenders.hry.nic.in | 2583695 mcpanchkula@gmail.com |
| 12. | MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHARKHI DADRI | DE-SILTING AND REPAIRING WORK OF NALA/DRAIN | 05.06.2019 11.06.2019 | 20680 | etenders.hry.nic.in | 9813082444 |
| 13. | MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNANAGAR-JAGADHRI | CONST OF STREET WITH COVERED DRAIN IN ROOP NAGAR COLONY & ROOM NAGAR EXT.COLONY & COVERING OF NALA ALONG JITENDER HOSPITAL OF WARD NO.1 + 31 OTHER WORKS | 05.06.2019 09.06.2019 | 6.61 CRORE | | |

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Sunil Kumar S/O Jaswant Raj Barolia R/O-45/4, Ground-Floor, East Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008, Have Changed My Minor Son's Name Suveer To Suveer Barolia For All Future Purposes. 0040498537-1

I, Satish Kumar Mehta S/O- Balwant Singh Mehta R/O-H-105, First-Floor, Shivaji Park, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026, Have Changed My Name To Satish Mehta For All Future Purposes. 0040498537-3

I, Neetu Bhatia W/O Jaspal Singh R/O-87, 1st Floor, Ram-Nagar, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051 have changed my name to Navneet Kaur for all purposes. 0040498450-2

I, Manisha Kumari D/O Subhash Chand R/O-Street No-6, Old Add, RZ153-B, New Add-RZ-370 East Sagarpur Delhi-46, have changed my name to Manisha 0040498395-1

I, hitherto known as Umesh Kumar Om Shamesh Kumar Gaur S/O Sh.Om Shankar Gaur R/O-4590, Kucha-Bibi Gohar, Charkhevalan, Delhi-110006 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Umesh Kumar Gaur. 0040498480-5

I, Yash Pal R/O 145, Sector-9, Pocket-1, Dwarka, New Delhi have changed name of my minor son from Shreyansh Chhabra S/O Yash Pal Chhabra to Shreyansh Chhabra S/O Yash Pal for all purposes. 0040498394-1

I, Virinder Kumar Malik S/O Late Sh. Raj Krishan Malik R/O-B-1 Jangpura-B, New Delhi-110014 have changed my name to Virinder Kumar Malik, for all future purposes. 040498450-5

I, Vipul S/O Shyam Lal Aggarwal R/O G-3/12-13, Third Floor, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Vipul Aggarwal. 0040498461-8

I, Vinod Kumar S/O Hans Raj R/O-BL-20, L-Block, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110058, have changed my name to Vinod Gandhi 0040498431-1

I, Vidushi Sangwan D/O Mr. Sanjay Kumar R/O D-165, Sec-61, Noida, UP-201301. That Vidushi and Vidushi Sangwan is one and same person belongs to me. 0040498402-1

I, Vandana Jain W/O Parvash Jain residing D-809, Second Floor Saraswati Vihar Pitampura Delhi, have changed my name to Vandana Jain for all purposes. 0040498396-1

I, Ubaid Ahmad S/O Shamsuddin R/O H. No.2822, Mohalla Niyariyan, Kamla Market, Aijmeri Gate, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohammad Ubaid for all purposes. 0040498407-1

I, Sunita Pandurang Chaugule D/O, Pandurang Vithal Chaugule R/O Flat No. 42 Bldg No-4, 6th Flr Satya Sonal CHS Goregaon East, Mumbai 400063, have changed my name to Ankita Anand Jadhav. 0040498306-1

I, Sunil Kumar Gautam S/O Jagmohan Gautam R/O-A-15, Pink-Appartment, Near-White house, Paschim-Vihar, New Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Sunil Gautam, permanently. 0040498505-5

I, Soumya Suman Subudhi S/O Sh.Bijaya Kumar Subudhi R/O-109 Shree Awas (L-and-T) MIG-Ground-Floor Sector-18-B Dwarka, Amberhal New Delhi-110075, have changed the name of my minor daughter aged about 1-year and 7-month from Myrah Subudhi to Nirosha Subudhi, for all future purposes. 0040498450-4

I, Shubam Jain Bakliwal S/O Sh. Sanjay Bakliwal R/O A-761, Sushant Lok Phase 1, Galleria DLF-IV, Gurgaon, Haryana have changed my name Shubam Bakliwal to Shubam Jain Bakliwal for all future purposes 0040498406-1

I, Sabita D/O Late Sh. Bhagwan Singh & W/O Dharam Singh R/O Vihara-Mohammadpur Ahir(13), Mewat Haryana-122105, inform that in my father army records my mother name was wrongly-written as Bhagwani Devi, whereas her correct name is Bhagwati Devi. 0040498461-5

I, Ruby W/O Anukul Kumar R/O-N-187, Jal Vayu Vihar Sector-25, Noida-201301, have changed my name to Ruby Kumari for all future purposes. 0040498512-1

I, Rini Dhupar W/O Gaurav Dhupar R/O H-146, Karampura, New Delhi-110015, have changed my name to Rini Malia Dhupar. 0040498450-10

I, Ranu Kumari, W/O Sachin Tyagi, R/O Vpo-Makanpur, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.201014, Changed My Name To Richa Tyagi. 0040498505-2

I, Ranjeet Kaur W/O Avtar Singh resident BG-6/46-B Paschim Vihar, Delhi 110063, have changed my name to Ranjit Kaur. 0040498478-1

I, Rakesh S/O Maha Singh informs that I have changed the name of my son Tanishk To Tanishq Shokeen R/O B404 PNB Apartment, Plot no.11, Sec-4, Dwarka, New Delhi for all purposes. 0040498459-1

I, Rakesh Kumar S/O Sh. Chatter Singh R/O 19/10/2, West Moti Bagh Sarai Rohilla, Delhi-110035, my name was mentioned in my some documents as Rakesh Kumar Sharma instead of Rakesh Kumar, Rakesh Kumar and Rakesh Kumar Sharma both are same person. 0040498529-1

I, Pramod Jha S/O Sh. Chiranjeev Jha R/O 3rd F-312, First Floor, Sector-3, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201012 have changed my name from Pramod Jha to Pramod Kumar Jha for all purposes. 0040498483-1

I, Nitin Bharati S/O Sanjai Bharti R/O D-176, Gali No-7-C, Bhajanpura, Garhi-Mendu, Delhi-110053, Have Change My Name To Nitin Bharti. 0040498450-9

I, Neetu D/O Sh.Tilak Raj R/O-BE-28, Near RAM Garia Gurudwara Hari-Nagar New Delhi-110064, have changed my name to Neetu Kataria permanently. 0040498480-1

I, Neelam Banivah W/O Sahdev Dahiya R/O 96 Akash Kunj Sector-9 Rohini, Delhi, have changed my name to Neelam Dahiya permanently. 0040498484-1

I, Namrata D/O Hukum Chand W/O Arun R/O Block-R-52-H, Dilshad Garden, Delhi-110095 have changed my name from Namrata Jatav to Namrata for all purposes 0040498404-1

I, Meenal Jain W/O Amit Kumar Singhal R/O B-148, Oriental-Apartments, Sector-9, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Meenal Singhal for all purposes. 0040498461-6

I, Mausina D/O Asfak Ahmed R/O-V-17/6, Gali No.15, Vijay Park, Maujpur, Delhi-110053, have Changed My Name from Mausina to Mausina Ahmed for all Purposes. 0040498461-9

I, Subhash Jain S/O Makhan Lal Jain R/O B-94 Preet Vihar Delhi-96 Have Changed My Name To Subhash Chand Jain. 0040498480-7

I, Manisha Yogesh Patil wife of, No-6495765H, Sec Yogesh Patil, R/O Bhadola, Tehsil/District Buldana, State Maharashtra have changed my name Manisha Patil to Manisha Yogesh Patil vide affidavit, 187625 dated 27-05-2019 before notary Govt of J&K. 0020386917-1

I, Manish Kumar Vaid S/O Sh. Mahesh Vaid, R/O C-5/41-A, Keshav Puram New Delhi-110035, have changed my name to Manish Vaid for all purposes. Both are same person. 0040498416-1

I, Malaika Miranda D/O John Miranda R/O B-206, Lajpat Nagar Part-1, Lajpat Nagar, South Delhi, Delhi-110024, have changed my name to Malaika Miranda Sharma for all purposes. 0040498399-1

I, Mahima W/O Akshat Porwal R/O C-502, Maurya-Apartments, I.P.Extension, Patpargani, Delhi-110092, Have Changed My Name To Mahima Sagar Porwal, For All Future Purposes. 0040498461-10

I, Lalit Kumar Choudhary S/O Shri S.L. Choudhary R/O D-79, Princes Park Hostel, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi-110001, have changed my minor son's name from Vidhit to Vidit Choudhary for all future purposes. 0040498448-1

I, Lalit Kumar Choudhary S/O Shri S.L. Choudhary R/O D-79, Princes Park Hostel, Copernicus Marg, New Delhi-110001, have changed my minor son's name from Vidhit to Vidit Choudhary for all future purposes. 0040498437-1

I, Krishana Devi D/O Late Sh. Bhagwan Singh & W/O Ram Kanwar R/O-H.No.248, Village-Mandapura, Sherpur, Gurgaon, Haryana, inform that in my father army records my mother name was wrongly-written as Bhagwani Devi, whereas her correct name is Bhagwati Devi. 0040498461-3

I, Krishan Kumar S/O Late Sh. Bhagwan Singh R/O-H.No.04, Village-Begumpur, Delhi-110086, inform that in my father army records my mother name was wrongly-written as Bhagwani Devi, whereas her correct-name is Bhagwati Devi. 0040498461-2

I, Km. Bena Mishra W/O Abhay Narayan Mishra, R/O-Wz-106, Street No-3a, Sadh-Nagar, Palam Colony, Delhi-110045, Changed My Name To Bina Mishra. 0040498505-7

I, Karan Singh S/O Sh.Lakshmi Chand, R/O-H.No.112/2, Ashok-Mohalla, Street No.-2, Bhootoon-Wali Gali, Nangloi, Delhi-110041, have changed my name to Karan Singh Dabas S/O Sh.Lakshmi Chand Dabas for all purposes. 0040498480-3

I, Kaptan Singh S/O Late.Sh.Bhagwan Singh R/O-H.No.04, Village-Begumpur, Delhi-110086, inform that in my father army records my mother name was wrongly-written as Bhagwani Devi, whereas her correct name is Bhagwati Devi. 0040498461-1

I, Kamal Kumar Kishnani S/O Mool Chand Kishnani R/O H.No.-429, First Floor, Sector-27, Gurgaon-122002 have changed my name from Kamal Kumar Kishnani to Komal Kishnani for all future purpose. 0040498466-2

I, Kamal Garg S/O Jai Kishan Dabas R/O-A-22, Naraina-Vihar, Kair, New Delhi-110028, have changed my name to Kamal Kishore permanently. 0040498505-6

I, K. Akila W/O Kartik R/O 677-A/S-126, Kanak Durga Colony, R.K.Puram, Sector-12, Delhi-110022 Have Changed my Name to Kartik Akila. 0040498505-1

I, Jugo Dadhara W/O Late Ghanakanta Saikia R/O Vill: Garehagi PO-Panibharal, Biswanath Chariali, Assam-784176, have changed my name to Joga Maya Saikia. 0040498504-1

I, Ekta Singh D/O Shri Ram Manohar Singh R/O Flat No. 735, Om Apartment, Sector-14, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075, have changed my name to Krishna Gautam. 0040498398-1

I, Jaskirat Singh S/O Sh. Rajinder Pal Singh Nandhra, R/O 3, Maulana Azad Society, Lotus Enclave, Parwana Road, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Jaskirat Singh Nandhra for all purposes. Both are same person. 0040498460-1

I, Jai Pal Singh S/O Late Sh.Amby Prashad R/O-SD-501, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, informs that name of my wife has been wrongly-written as Bimla in my Service-Record.The actual name of my wife is Vimla, which may be amended accordingly. 0040498480-4

I, Jagmohan Singh S/O Inder Singh R/O CA-112C DDA Flats Hari Nagar New Delhi-110064 have changed my name to Jagmohan Singh Sethi for all future purposes. 0040498466-1

I, Ishita Rawal W/O Nakul Gupta R/O of C-5, MDI Campus Mehrauli Road, Sukhralli, Gurgaon, Haryana, shall henceforth be known as Ishita Gupta vide affidavit no.42AA 089624 sworn before notary Suman dated 28/03/2019. 0040498409-1

I, Ghaz Nafar Elahi S/O Mahmood Alam, R/O-51-F, Block-H, Obaid-Apartments, Abul Fazal-Enclave, New Delhi have changed my name to Ghaznafar Elahi. 0040498450-6

I, Gagan Deep Singh son of Late Sh.Pritam Singh Sandhu holder of Indian Passport No M2577191 issued at Delhi India on October 21, 2014 permanent resident of 56 Pragatisheel Apartments Sector-9 Rohini Delhi-110085, and presently residing at 97 Stonecrair Drive Cambridge Ontario Canada N1T1W5 do hereby change my name from Gagan Deep Singh to Gagandeep Singh Sandhu with immediate effect. 0040498451-1

I, Dharan Pal S/O Late Sh.Bhagwan Singh R/O-H.No.04, Village-Begumpur, Delhi-110086, inform that in my father army records my mother name was wrongly written as Bhagwani Devi, whereas her correct name is Bhagwati Devi. 0040498461-4

I, Deepak Kumar Bhatnagar S/O Vidhacharan Lal R/O Bhatnagar-Medi Care-Center, Opp-Female Hospital Idgah Road, Bulandshahr, U.P.203001, Changed My Name To Deepak Bhatnagar. 0040498505-3

I, Deepak Bhatnagar, R/O. Bhatnagar-Medi Care-Center, Opp-Female Hospital Idgah-Road, Bulandshahr, U.P.203001, Changed My Minor Daughter Name Ishana To Ishaana Bhatnagar. 0040498505-4

I, Alok Kumar, S/O Shri Deep Chandra, R/O-FF-2, Plot No.22, Sector-5, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201010, have changed my name to Alok Mishra for all future purposes. Further it is stated that Alok Kumar & Alok Mishra is the same person. 0040498480-2

I, A Ramkumar S/O Palanisamy Arivazhagan R/O-D-103, Kaveri-Apartments, Plot No-4, Dwarka, Sector-6-Delhi-110075, Has Changed My Name To Ramkumar Arivazhagan. 0040498450-7

I, A Hemachander S/O Palanisamy Arivazhagan R/O-D-103, Kaveri-Apartments, Plot No-4, Dwarka, Sector-6-Delhi-110075, Has Changed My Name To Hemachander Arivazhagan. 0040498450-8

I, Naveen Kumar Mandolia S/O, Shyam Sunder R/O A-30 Vikas Vihar Dwarka Sector 15, New Delhi 110078, have changed my name to Naveen Kumar for all purposes. 0040498493-1

I, Ratan Prakash S/O Sh.Nathuram R/O-B-268 A.V.Nagar near-Ansal-Plaza Andrewsganj South, Delhi-110049 have changed my name to Rattan Prakash for all purposes. My actual name is Rattan Prakash. 0040498450-3

I, Rahul Bajaj alias Rahul Kumar S/O Harpal Bajaj R/O-B-266, New Ashok-Nagar, Delhi-110096, have changed my name to Rahul Bajaj. 0040498461-7

I, Girish Kumar S/O Wilayat Lal Manchanda R/O D-37, First-Floor, Chanakya-Place, Part-1, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, Have Changed My Name to Girish Manchanda. 0040498480-9

I, Baba Singh S/O Dalip Singh R/O WZ-88, Old Sahib-pura, MBS-Nagar, New Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Bawa Singh for all purposes. 0040498450-1

I, Anil Kum Jain S/O Basheshar Nath Jain R/O-M-15/29, GF, DLF-City Phase-II, Gurgaon, Haryana-122010 have changed my name to Anil Kumar Jain. 0040498480-6

I, Kishore Kumar Sharma S/O Sh. Ganpat Ram Sharma R/O-B-806 Pragati Sheel Appt. Bairwa CGHS Flat No-5C, Sector-11, Dwarka New Delhi her/his Disowned & debarred her my Son Gagan Sharma & His wife Smt. Mamta Sharma from her entire movable/immovable properties My client shall not be responsible in any way for his acts or claim as he broken all links whatsoever/hereafter Sd/-M.K. Sharma (Advocate) Reg.No. 5632004, D.C. Office, Kapashera, New Delhi

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Maithili Makrand Appalwar D/O Makrand Appalwar, R/O Flat No 703-704, Bldg. No. 14, Indra Darshan II, New Link Road, Oshiwara, Andheri (West), Mumbai, 400053 have changed my name to Maithili Rinku Makrand Appalwar as per Gazette No.-M-1920909. I state that both the names Maithili Makrand Appalwar and Maithili Rinku Makrand Appalwar are of same person and I will be known as Maithili Rinku Makrand Appalwar for all purposes in future.

LOST & FOUND

It is notified for the Information that my original-Provisional Certificate and 10th-Central-Marksheet of Central-Board of Secondary-Education, New Delhi of the year-2016-2017 of Roll No.8765979, has been actually lost. Meenakshi Chauhan D/o Rakesh Chauhan, RZ D-1/195, Gali No.5, Mahavir-Enclave, New Delhi-110045. 0040498480-10

I, PrithviRaj Chavan S/O-D-R Chavan, Flat.No.B-601, Kaveri Apartments, Alaknanda, New Delhi, have lost my Property Document Relinquishment deed of Flat.No.B-601, Kaveri Apartment, Alaknanda, Kalkaji, New Delhi. Finder contact. 0040498537-2

I, Jyotica Gupta W/O Mr. Nitin Gupta R/O 1769, Sector-B, Pocket 1, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-70, have lost my allotment letter, Buyers Agreement & Payment Receipts of Property no T-19/1203, Unitech Horizon, Greater Noida. Finder may contact- 9711033475. 0040498432-1

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate and mark statement of Main Secondary Examination of Year 2010 Roll No. 6172727 and Senior Secondary Examination of Year 2012 Roll No. 9164505 Issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Anshul Kumar S/O, Vijay Bahadur Address -A-104, 1st Floor Sharma Market Pul Palhadpur New Delhi-110044 & 9555126820

DOCTORS

BREAST EXAMINATION, Inability in Sex, Fighre Maintain, Dark Circle, Fatness, Childlessness, Waist/ Knee Pain, Paralysis, American Qualification Doctor Shah - 28938680/9819606364. 0070658100-2

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my client Smt. Kamaljit Kaur aged 48 years, W/O Late Sh. Davinder Singh R/O 6/2, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018 decessed her son Mr. Hardeep Singh S/O Late Sh. Davinder Singh aged 27 years at present R/O 343/1, Gali No. 1, Than Singh Nagar, Anand Parbat, New Delhi-110005 and his wife Ms. Ramanjeet Kaur from getting any right in the property, assets, movable or immovable and business whether belongs to my client or her late husband as there is some dispute between her son and his wife and due to that the business and peace of the family has been disturbed. That any person dealing with them shall be responsible himself/herself for the same at their own risk, cost and consequences. Dr. Vinod Kumar (Advocate) Ch. No. 183A, Patiala House Court, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

Sale and Mortgage of Freshhold Residential builtup Property being Entire Ground Floor of Property No. NR16-A, area measuring 100 Sq.Yds., Situated at Jangpura Extension, New Delhi-14 (Herein after referred as the "said property"). Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mr. Shresh Dhar Dubey and Mrs. Sanju Dubey intends to purchase the above said property acquired by Mr. Harvinder Singh Rana from his father namely Mr. S.Gian Singh Gifl Deedly registered with Sub-Registrar of Assurances, No.1643, in Book No.1, Volume No. 3248 on Pages 1+2, registered on dated 04.03.2003 (SR-V) for the said "That all the previous chain documents of the entire property in favour of Mr. S.Gian Singh are not available with seller, Mr. Harvinder Singh Rana as reportedly not handed over by his father to him during his life time. That Mr. Shresh Dhar Dubey and Mrs. Sanju Dubey are availing the loan to purchase the said property from my client PNB Housing Finance Ltd. and the said property would be the security to the loan availed by them. If any person including banks, financial institutions or any other person, relative, organization, company, firm or government authority having any claim, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever into or upon the above referred property is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing with documentary evidence by registered Ad Post to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 7 (Seven) days of publication of this notice to the undersigned on phone No: 0114560363 & 989900723 failing which the same shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned. In the event of no response being received to this notice, the purchase of this property shall be completed by our client without any reference to and with-out in any manner being affected by any such right title, interest or claim whatsoever. MANISHA CHAUDHARY - ADVOCATE JUS LEGALIS, 210, VARDHMAN STAR CITY MALL (NEAR RAMPHAL CHOWK), SECT-7 DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110075 011-45606363, 989900723

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that my clients, Shri Nimal Singh Channa S/O Late Sh. Suleet Singh and his wife Smt. Kamaljeet Kaur, both residents of Plot No.418, Sector-5, Flat No. FF-3, Vaishali, Ghaziabad-201010, have severed all their relations with their son Sh. Gurpreet Singh Channa and have disowned and disinherited him from all their movable and immovable properties since he is neither obedient nor under the control of my said clients and henceforth, my clients shall not be responsible for any social, financial and/or other services, activities, conduct, omission or commission whatsoever of their said son. Sd/- (R. S. CHAGGAR) ADVOCATE 68/W, WING, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054 PH. 9891782970

NOTICE

BNARAS HOTEL LTD. Address of Regd. off. Nadesar palace compound, Varanasi, U.P. 221002. NOTICE is hereby given that the certificate(s) for the under mentioned securities of the company has/have been lost/misaid and the holders of the said securities has/have applied to the company to issue duplicate certificates any person who has a claim in respect of the said securities should lodge such claim with the company at its registered office. Within 15 days from this date since the company will proceed to issue duplicate certificates without further intimation. Name of Holder's Pramod Kumar Agrawal, Kind of Securities Equity, Face Value 100/- No. of Share 1000 Folio No. P018888231111 Number (S) 675626-576550, 674870-674500, 678051-678075, 675301-975325, New Delhi. Name of Applicant: Nalini Agrawal

Public Notice

It is informed that my client Kishore Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Ganpat Ram Sharma R/O-B-806 Pragati Sheel Appt. Bairwa CGHS Flat No-5C, Sector-11, Dwarka New Delhi her/his Disowned & debarred her my Son Gagan Sharma & His wife Smt. Mamta Sharma from her entire movable/immovable properties My client shall not be responsible in any way for his acts or claim as he broken all links whatsoever/hereafter Sd/-M.K. Sharma (Advocate) Reg.No. 5632004, D.C. Office, Kapashera, New Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

"It is hereby informed to the public at large that my client Smt. Keki Devi W/O Late Ram Lal R/O H.No. 67-A, Sawan Park, Ashok Vihar Ph-II, Delhi has dis-owned his son Digamber @ Bhura his wife Rekha and their Children Ms. Rajni, Ms. Shashi, Ms. Roshni Anil from all her movable and immovable properties. So any person dealing with them shall be doing so at his own risk and my Clients shall not be responsible for any of their acts, things and deeds". Sd/- Raveesh Kumar (Advocate) B-1715, Shastrri Nagar, Delhi-52

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be known to all, Sh. Om Prakash S/O Late Sh. Shiv Charan R/O B-21, Azad Colony, Budh Vihar Phase-2, Delhi-110086, has disowned/debarred his son Sh. Amit Chauhan from all his movable and immovable properties and has disbarred him from all the rights in the family and he shall not be responsible for any acts or deeds to be done by Sh. Amit Chauhan in future. Sd/- RAVEESH KUMAR (Advocate) 4921, Mundka, Delhi-41

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be known to the public at large that my client Mrs. SHAKTI DEVI W/O SURESH RATTAN LAL AGE 53, R/O House No. A-75/1, Kd. No. 805, Flat No. T-1, 3rd Floor, A-North East, West Vinod Nagar near main road DLF-2 has disowned/disinherited her both sons namely: 1. Azad S/O Rattan Lal 2. Anil Lal S/O Rattan Lal from the movable & immovable assets and severed all relations with them in the event of any domestic/matrimonial disputes/liabilities my client shall not be responsible for both of them and all my proceeds with any one of them shall do so entirely at his/her own risks, costs, consequences & responsibilities. Sd/- Neelaj Aggarwal (Advocate) Ch. K-134, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Maha Devi W/O Mani Kant Mania is the owner of the property bearing Plot No. R. 17, measuring 82.3 Sq. Yds., comprised in Khasra No. 317052, Village: Hasthal in Abad known as Vikas Nagar East, New Delhi, New Delhi. My client has relinquished the above mentioned documents. Sd/- Neelaj Aggarwal (Advocate) Ch. No. 111A, Rohini Courts, Delhi-85

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sh. Shrichand S/O Late Sh. Kanhaya Lal & Smt. Promilla W/O Sh. Shichand R/O House No. 10, Sector-13, Bhagwan Nagar, Ashram, New Delhi-110014, have disowned & severed all their relation with their son Gagan Kumar and his wife Tanuja Gantam from their movable & immovable properties/assets. Any person dealing with them shall be doing his/her own risk, cost & responsibility. My client shall not be responsible for any act/deed.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients Sohan Lal S/O Sh. Sumen Lal and Jai Devi W/O Sh. Sohan Lal both R/O D-53, Jasola Extension, Near Usmania Masjid, New Delhi, have severed their all relation and disowned /debarred their younger son Vikas S/O Sh. Sohan Lal from their all movable - immovable properties and assets. My clients shall not be responsible for his any acts and deeds done by him. Sd/- Ayubul Akmal (Advocate) Ch. No. 457, Saket Court, New Delhi-17

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Vinender Kumar S/O Rambr Singh & Smt. Anita W/O Sh. Vinender Kumar both R/O H. No. 6, Saini Mohalla, Bijwasan, New Delhi-110061, have severed all relations with their son Mr. Rahul Thakran R/O H. No. 5, Saini Mohalla, Bijwasan, New Delhi-110061 and have disowned/dishherited Rahul Thakran from all their movable and immovable properties with immediate effect. Anyone dealing with him shall be doing so at his/her own risk and consequences. The general public is further notified that my clients shall not be responsible for any acts, deeds, well being/hurt or life of Rahul Thakran in any manner. Sd/- KANWAR UDAI BHAN SINGH SENHRAWAT (ADVOCATE) Chamber No. 505, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001. Phone: 9810975691

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my clients Shri Mahabir Prashad Gupta S/O Late Sh. Sundu Ram and Smt. Bimla Devi W/O Sh. Mahabir Prashad Gupta both R/O House No.13, UGF, New Loyal Pur Colony, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051 disown their son Sh. Nawal Krishna Gupta and his wife Smt. Shweta Gupta (presently residing at B-5 Radhey Puri, Delhi-110051) and their children from all movable and immovable properties owned by my clients in all the manners and from their all the acts, which have been done by their son and his wife in all the manners. My clients have no concern with their son and his family and in case anybody deals with their above-said son and his family in any manner, he or she shall be responsible for the same and the said acts shall have no legal and binding force upon my aforesaid clients. Sd/- Sandeep Garg (Advocate) 101/32-B, Shree Ganesh Complex, Veer Savarkar Block, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur, Delhi-92

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that my clients, Shri Nimal Singh Channa S/O Late Sh. Suleet Singh and his wife Smt. Kamaljeet Kaur, both residents of Plot No.418, Sector-5, Flat No. FF-3, Vaishali, Ghaziabad-201010, have severed all their relations with their son Sh. Gurpreet Singh Channa and have disowned and disinherited him from all their movable and immovable properties since he is neither obedient nor under the control of my said clients and henceforth, my clients shall not be responsible for any social, financial and/or other services, activities, conduct, omission or commission whatsoever of their said son. Sd/- (R. S. CHAGGAR) ADVOCATE 68/W, WING, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054 PH. 9891782970

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POLICY WATCH

STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Govt goes back on stat restructuring order, says NSO to be headed by Chief Statistician

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

ISSUING A corrigendum to its earlier order of restructuring the statistical system, the government has now stated that the National Statistical Office (NSO) will be headed by Chief Statistician of India-cum-Secretary (Statistics and Programme Implementation). The May 23 order, which had cleared merger of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) and Central Statistics Office (CSO), had only mentioned Secretary (Statistics and Programme Implementation) as the head of NSO and not mentioned Chief Statistician of India. The May 23 order had not equated the Secretary (S&PI) with the post of Chief Statistician of India as was done in the earlier resolution notified by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on June 1, 2005, and had also skipped any mention of National Statistical Commission (NSC).

The 2005 notification, in line with recommendations of the Rangarajan commission, had said that the NSO would be headed by an officer of the rank of secretary, who will be designated as the Chief Statistician of India and will also function as the Secretary of the NSC, whereas the May 23 order had mentioned NSO to be headed by Secretary (S&PI), with various divisions reporting to Secretary through the Director Generals. Experts said not equating the post of Secretary, MoSPI with the CSI would have meant making the reporting authority for statistics to be a bureaucrat, rather than giving it as ex-officio charge to the Chief Statistician of India for carrying out statistical work. Pronab Sen, the Country Director for the India Programme of the International Growth Centre and former Chief Statistician of India, said

An earlier order, which cleared NSSO & CSO merger, had only mentioned Secretary (S&PI) as head of NSO

this modification takes care of the problem as mentioning only Secretary would have changed the nature of the position of the head of NSO. "Selection of Chief Statistician is based on the criteria of someone being familiar with statistics, data, whereas a Secretary doesn't require those conditions. Mentioning only Secretary (as the head) would have changed the nature of the post and this modification takes care of the problem," Sen told *The Indian Express*.

The previous NDA government in one of its last decisions on May 23 had cleared merger of the NSSO with the CSO under an overarching body, NSO, under the MoSPI, a decision which was perceived by many experts as a dent on the autonomy of the Indian statistical

system. The MoSPI had said that the order for restructuring the Indian official statistics system was issued "in order to streamline and strengthen the present nodal functions" of the ministry and "to bring in more synergy by integrating its administrative functions within the ministry."

Experts had said that NSC's control over NSSO would go away with the merger. They had also pointed that there is no clarity regarding the role of NSC in the May 23 order.

In January, the acting chairman of NSC, PC Mohanan and JV Meenakshi, Professor at the Delhi School of Economics resigned from NSC protesting against withholding of the NSSO's first Annual Survey on Employment and Unemployment for the year 2017-18. The NSC is yet to be reconstituted.

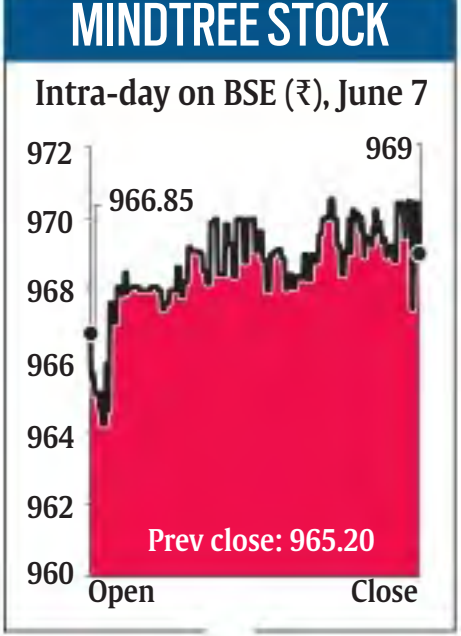
AT ₹980/SHARE L&T announces ₹5,030-crore open offer for IT firm Mindtree

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 7

ENGINEERING MAJOR Larsen and Toubro (L&T) on Friday put out its delayed letter of offer for Mindtree shares without raising the Rs 980 per share offer price and said that there were no competing offers for the mid-size IT firm.

The open offer of nearly Rs 5,030 crore for acquisition of over 5.13 crore equity shares, representing 31 per cent of the voting share capital of Mindtree, will now open on June 17 and end on June 28. "Larsen and Toubro makes a cash offer of Rs 980 per fully paid up equity share of the face value of Rs 10 each, to acquire up to 5,13,25,371 equity shares representing 31 per cent of the voting share capital... to the shareholders of Mindtree Ltd," said the letter of offer communicated to the BSE by Mindtree Ltd, according to a PTI report.

"The target company is expected to operate as an independent company within the Larsen & Toubro Group in the short to medium term. The board of directors of the target



company may recommend consolidation of the target company with other entities in the Larsen & Toubro Group, which may be given effect to after obtaining the necessary approvals under applicable law," it added.

Earlier, the open offer was supposed to commence on May 14 and end on May 27. However, L&T delayed in sending responses to the queries raised by the Securities and Exchange Board of India regarding the letter of offer.

Mindtree shares closed up 0.39 per cent at Rs 969, while Larsen and Toubro's share price closed down 0.21 per cent at Rs

Nippon Life makes open offer for 22.49% RNAM stake

New Delhi: Nippon Life Company has announced an open offer to acquire nearly 22.49 per cent stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management (RNAM) for Rs 3,179 crore under a deal with Reliance Capital which is exiting mutual funds business.

Nippon Life Company would acquire up to 13.82 crore equity shares or about 22.49 per cent shares of Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management (RNAM) at Rs 230 per share, according to the RNAM's draft filed with regulator Sebi on Friday. PTI

1,513.25 at the BSE on Friday. The last date by which a committee of independent directors of the target company (Mindtree) is required to give its recommendation to its shareholders for this offer is June 13, 2019.

Meanwhile, the last date for upward revision of the offer price and/or the offer size is June 14, 2019, according to the filing on the exchanges.

After having acquired a near 20 per cent stake in Mindtree from Cafe Coffee Day founder V G Siddhartha in March, L&T mandated Axis Capital to buy as much as 15 per cent shares of

Mindtree from the open market. Over the last few weeks, the engineering major has been busy shoring up shares in the IT firm. The total shareholding of L&T as on June 6, 2019 stood at 28.90 per cent, according to data on BSE.

On March 18, L&T had signed a definitive share purchase agreement with Siddhartha and his related entities — Coffee Day Trading Limited and Coffee Day Enterprises Limited — to acquire 20.15 per cent stake in Mindtree at Rs 980 per share aggregating to approximately Rs 3,269 crore. FE & PTI

SBI cuts cash credit, overdraft rates by 25 bps; set for repo linked home loans

ENSECONOMICBUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 7

STATE BANK of India (SBI), the country's largest bank with almost a quarter share of the banking business, has decided to fully pass on the reduction in Repo rate by 25 basis points by the Reserve Bank of India to its customers of cash credit (CC) and overdraft (OD) [limits above Rs 1 lakh] with effect from July 1, 2019.

According to SBI, the effective Repo Linked Lending Rate (RLLR) for CC and OD customers will be 8 per cent. The bank has also introduced repo-linked loan product for home loans with effect from July 1, 2019. As per SBI's formula announced in May, the new rate for savings bank deposits above Rs 1 lakh and up to Rs 1 crore will be 2.75 per cent below the current repo rate. The current Repo rate is 5.75 per cent.

In May, SBI linked its interest rates on savings bank deposits and short term loans to the repo rate of the RBI. SBI went ahead even though RBI had deferred the plan to link the rate of interest to external benchmarks like the repo rate or Treasury Bill rate following opposition from other banks. Savings account deposits with balances less than Rs 1 lakh will continue to earn 3.5 per cent interest — the same as the old rate

BoM cuts 1-year MCLR by 0.10%

New Delhi: Bank of Maharashtra has cut the benchmark one-year MCLR by 0.10 per cent to 8.60 per cent with effect from June 7, 2019. The one-year MCLR is the benchmark against which most customer loans such as auto, personal and home loans are priced. PTI

fixed for these accounts. This interest rate is also subject to change by the bank as per RBI rules, but it will not be reset automatically as the repo rate moves. Many banks were lobbying against linking loans to an external benchmark rate, fearing a fall in margins. On April 4, the RBI announced that it has put on hold its proposal to link interest rates on deposits and short-term loans to an external benchmark like the repo rate or Treasury Bill "taking into account the feedback received during discussions held with stakeholders on issues such as management of interest rate risk by banks from fixed interest rate linked liabilities against floating interest rate linked assets and the related difficulties and the lead time required for IT system upgradation".

'Rate cut may not push credit demand as NBFC crisis deepens'

Credit growth is unlikely to pick up despite the three successive rate cuts by the RBI due to the capital constraints at banks and the deepening crisis in the non-banking lenders sector, warns a report by ratings agency Fitch

Slow growth: Credit growth is expected to remain slow, despite the latest interest rate cut, as most banks are capital-constrained and NBFCs are facing tighter funding conditions

***20% of all credit with NBFCs:** Non-banking financial companies (NBFC) currently account for a fifth of the overall credit as against 15 percent five years ago

On DHFL crisis: On the troubled Dewan Housing Finance Corporation crisis, the report termed the recent events as a "demise", highlighting the funding risks for the broader NBFC sector

Increased cost, slow loan growth: The funding



squeeze has led to increased cost for the shadow banking sector and a slowdown in loan growth them, the report said

NBFCs' dependence on short-term funding: Liquidity of NBFCs is sensitive to market sentiment as their

business models rely on short-term wholesale funding, which can dry up fast if market sentiment turns negative

More issuing in offshore bond markets: The agency expects NBFCs to become more regular issuers in the offshore bond markets, which can be "credit positive" if managed prudently

Bank NPAs fuelled NBFCs growth: Issued related to non-performing assets (NPA) issues at banks only led to NBFCs' importance growing much higher, which was funded by short-term funding, in particular, commercial papers issued to mutual funds

FOR ₹950 CR Indiabulls Real Estate promoters to exit realty biz; sell 14% to Embassy

PRESSTrust OF INDIA NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

INDIABULLS REAL Estate promoters have sold 14 per cent stake through open market transactions to Embassy Group for Rs 950 crore, as part of the group's strategy to focus on financial services and exit from realty business.

Promoters have around 39 per cent stake in Indiabulls Real Estate, of which 14 per cent, representing over 6.3 crore shares, have been offloaded through bulk deal on Friday. Indiabulls Group is looking to exit the real estate business so that it can get regulatory ap-

provals for the proposed merger of Indiabulls Housing Finance with the Lakshmi Vilas Bank.

With this deal, Bengaluru-based developer Embassy group will get entry into Mumbai and Delhi-NCR, the two biggest property markets in the country.

According to the bulk deal data available on the BSE, promoters entities have sold 6,30,95,240 shares to privately-held Embassy Property Developments Pvt Ltd at Rs 150.45 apiece, aggregating to nearly Rs 950 crore. At this price, the company has been valued at nearly Rs 6,800 crore, higher than the current market cap of nearly Rs 5,800 crore.

Europe's 5G to cost \$62 bn more if Chinese vendors banned, say telcos

GWÉNAËLLE BARZIC PARIS, JUNE 7

A BAN on buying telecoms equipment from Chinese firms would add about 55 billion euros (\$62 billion) to the cost of 5G networks in Europe and delay the technology by about 18 months, according to an industry analysis seen by Reuters.

The United States added Huawei Technologies, the world's biggest telecoms equipment maker, to a trade blacklist in May, prompting global tech giants to cut ties with the Chinese company and putting pressure on European countries to follow suit.

Washington alleges Huawei's equipment can be used by Beijing for spying, something the company has repeatedly denied.

The move by US President Donald Trump's administration comes as telecoms operators worldwide are gearing up for the arrival of the next generation of mobile technology, or 5G, which promises ultra-fast mobile internet for those able to make the heavy investment needed in networks and equipment.

The estimate is part of a report by telecoms lobby group GSMA, which represents the interests of 750 mobile operators.

GSMA has already voiced concerns about the consequences of a full ban on Huawei, whose products are widely purchased and used by operators in Europe. Huawei is one of the key supporters of the lobby group, several industry sources said. The 55-billion-euro estimate



Employees wait for a shuttle bus at a 5G testing park at Huawei's headquarters in Shenzhen, China. Reuters File Photo

Facebook stops Huawei from pre-installing apps on phones

London: Facebook said on Friday it has stopped letting its apps come pre-installed on smartphones sold by Huawei in order to comply with US restrictions, a move that deals a fresh blow to the Chinese tech giant. The social network said it has suspended providing software for Huawei to put on its devices while it reviews re-

cently introduced US sanctions. Owners of existing Huawei smartphones that already have Facebook apps can continue to use them and download updates. But it's not clear if buyers of new Huawei devices will be able to install Facebook's apps on their own. AP

reflects the total additional costs implied by a full ban on purchases from Huawei and Chinese peer ZTE for the roll out of 5G networks in Europe. The two Chinese vendors have a combined market share in the European Union of more than 40 per cent. "Half of this (additional cost)

would be due to European operators being impacted by higher input costs following significant loss of competition in the mobile equipment market," the report said. "Additionally, operators would need to replace existing infrastructure before implementing 5G upgrades." REUTERS

'Urgent measures needed on export credit decline'

ENSECONOMICBUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

COMMERCE MINISTER Piyush Goyal Friday asked the Reserve Bank of India, ECGC and other banks to work out modalities to make credit in foreign currency available to exporters at the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus a maximum of 200 basis points. Pointing out that the volume of export credit has been on a declining trend for the last few years, the minister said the situation needed "urgent measures".

"The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has been asked to look into \$25 billion line of credit from its foreign currency reserves for swap to well performing Banks, and also to look into priority sector lending norms for export credit. Concerned departments have been asked to provide details for improving gold card scheme for export credit to be submitted to RBI," stated the commerce ministry in a release following a meeting on export credit chaired by the minister.

He has also told the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) to submit a report on issues like shifting from subsidies to "cheaper" availability of loan in foreign currency to exporters and ECGC enabling a credit guarantee to cover foreign currency lending to and extending export factoring for micro, small and medium enterprises. Other issues in focus include simplification of banking procedures for exports and the EXIM bank's provision of refinancing in foreign



Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal along with Minister of State for Commerce Som Parkash at a meeting to discuss issues related to export credit, in New Delhi on Friday. PTI

currency to commercial bank to support export credit, particularly to MSMEs.

The minister further deliberated on the interest subvention scheme utilisation and stressed the importance of finding ways to maximise the impact of such subvention, suggesting that the subvention scheme may be used better as backstop guarantee for credit, increasing ECGC's coverage for export lending purposes. He asked RBI, EXIM Bank and SBI to study the matter "in detail" and present it in a follow up meeting to be held in Mumbai on June 30. He also directed the con-

G-20 MEETING Trade war clouds outlook as finance chiefs meet in Japan

ASSOCIATED PRESS FUKUOKA, JUNE 7

FINANCE MINISTERS and central bank governors meeting in Japan this weekend will try to make headway on longstanding issues such as how much global giants like Facebook and Amazon should pay in taxes.

They're likely to end up focusing a large share of their attention on how to keep global growth on track when the world's two biggest economies are entrenched in an escalating trade war.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who has headed trade talks with Beijing along with US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, was due to meet with Yi Gang, governor of China's central bank, on the sidelines of the G-20's annual financial gathering in Fukuoka in southern Japan.

But it was unclear if their meeting, a possible prelude to talks at the G-20 summit later this month between US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping, might lead to a restart of those talks after weeks of stalemate.

As the Trump administration prepares to expand retaliatory tariff hikes of up to 25 per cent to another \$300 billion of Chinese products, Beijing has sought to highlight China's capacity to endure and overcome hardship.

UTI Mutual Fund writes off exposure to crisis-hit DHFL

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JUNE 7

UTI MUTUAL FUND (MF) on Friday said it has written off its entire exposure to the securities of crisis-hit of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL), which has defaulted on repayments. DHFL shares, which crashed around 16 per cent on Thursday, plunged another 11 per cent on Friday to close at Rs 83.50 on the BSE following the rating downgrade to the default status.

Care Ratings has downgraded DHFL's bank facilities of Rs 42,713 crore, non-convertible debentures of Rs 46,655 crore, fixed deposits of Rs 8,940 crore and subordinated debt of Rs 2,205 crore to the 'D' category. The total liabilities of DHFL downgraded to the D category amount to Rs 102,563 crore.

"In light of the above development UTI MF anticipates there would be enhanced pressure and legal action on DHFL from all creditors, including exercise of early redemption clause and legal options by various lenders. This is expected to further delay the recovery efforts of the company in disposal of its assets in an orderly manner," UTI MF said in a release.

Considering the high level of uncertainty as to recovery timelines and value, the fund house said it has raised "the markdown to DHFL debt securities from 75 per cent to 100 per cent in the schemes which has an exposure

The fund house also introduced an exit load on certain schemes from Friday, which been done to deter speculative action in the funds and to safeguard the interests of the existing investors

to DHFL." If there is any recovery in future, the provision would be written back to the schemes on actual receipt basis, it added.

The fund house also introduced an exit load on certain schemes from Friday, which are UTI Treasury Advantage Fund, UTI Ultra Short Term Fund, UTI Short Term Income Fund, UTI Dynamic Bond Fund and UTI Bond Fund. "The introduction of the exit load is on prospective basis (i.e. will be applicable only to investors who invest in these schemes from June 7, 2019 onwards and not to existing investments)," the release said.

This has been done to deter speculative action in the funds and to safeguard the interests of the existing investors, it added.

Meanwhile, DHFL said on Friday it was taking all necessary steps to ensure payment of the due interest within the seven-day period as prescribed under the respective trust deeds pertaining to the non-convertible debentures.

On Thursday, Tata Asset Management Ltd said it has proposed to create segregated portfolio of securities of DHFL held by three schemes immediately after expiry of mandatory load free exit period of 30 days. The schemes

are Tata Corporate Bond Fund, Tata Medium Term Fund and Tata Treasury Advantage Fund.

According to rating firm ICRA, the liquidity position is stretched as evidenced by delay in meeting debt obligation by the company. "The company has Rs 750 crore commercial paper (CP) programme maturing in June 2019 with first repayment on June 7, 2019. Given the stretched liquidity position and limited visibility on fund raising, DHFL is unlikely to be able to service its debt obligation with regard to CP programme in a timely manner," ICRA said.

Banks are also worried about their huge exposure of close to Rs 50,000 crore. "Challenges faced by accounts like DHFL have already been factored in when we have given our estimate for the stress that the bank would have to deal with in FY19-20 and included in our estimates for slippage and loan loss provisioning for the current financial year," SBI said.

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Thursday said the central bank is closely monitoring the developments in the NBFC sector and housing finance companies and will ensure that financial stability is maintained.

TO BE APPLICABLE DURING FY2019-20, SAYS CERC Average power purchase cost rises to ₹3.60/kWh in FY19

Discoms face burden of growing losses and over ₹70K cr worth of additional costs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE NATIONAL average cost of procuring non-renewable energy-sourced power from generators, or the national Average Power Purchase Cost (APPC), for distribution companies (discoms) in FY19 has increased nearly 2 per cent from the last financial year to Rs 3.60/kWh.

"This APPC shall be applicable during FY2019-20 and until further orders for the purpose of deviation settlement in respect of the open access and captive wind and solar generators fulfilling the requirement of regional entities," stated the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) in an order issued on Friday.

The national APPC in 2016 was set at Rs 3.40/kWh, accord-

RISE OF 6% IN NATIONAL APPC SINCE 2016

■ Since 2016, the national APPC has seen an overall increase of 6 per cent

■ The national APPC in 2016 was set at Rs 3.40/kWh, according to the order. It increased 2.35 per cent to Rs 3.48/kWh in 2017, with the hike in cost decelerating in 2018 to Rs 3.53/kWh — a growth of 1.44 per cent

■ Discom losses rose 43 per cent to over Rs 21,500 crore at the end of 2018-19, from around Rs 15,100 crore in the preceding financial year

■ Improving financial health of discoms, including reducing their debt and losses, is expected to be a major focus for the Narendra Modi government

ing to the order.

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Since 2016, the national APPC has seen an overall increase of 6 per cent.

At the same time, discoms face a burden of growing losses and over Rs 70,000 crore worth of additional costs that they are unable to recover from consumers, due to infrequent hikes in electricity tariffs by states.

Discom losses increased 43 per cent to more than Rs 21,500

NDDB'S RESPONSE TO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Mother Dairy holding firm terms ₹1K cr fraud allegations 'baseless'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

FOLLOWING A complaint of alleged fraud amounting to over Rs 1,000 crore at Mother Dairy Fruit and Vegetable Private Ltd (MD-FVPL) that was forwarded by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) for "necessary action" and to the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) — the holding company of MDFVPL — has termed the allegations of fraud as "false and baseless" in a written response to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

In May, *The Indian Express* reported that after having received a complaint from an individual Dharmendra Pratap Singh, the DEA directed the same to the MCA on April 29, 2019, "for necessary action under intimation to the department." It had also forwarded the same to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

In his letter, the complainant alleged various instances of fraud including investment of Rs 190 crore of farmer dues in IL&FS at a time when the infrastructure major was already defaulting on its debt papers and alleged fraud in utilising contributions of more than Rs 450 crore from NDDB in illegally setting up over 15 subsidiaries and channelising Rs 100 crore into them and then making the companies disappear.

The letter also alleged fraud in utilising over Rs 500 crore funds of central government in setting up milk producer companies for dedicated supply of milk but continuing to purchase large volumes of milk from other private dairies.

In its response to the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers

'INVESTMENT OF ₹190 CR IN IL&FS'

- The complaint alleged various instances of fraud, including investment of Rs 190 crore of farmer dues in the debt-ridden IL&FS
- It further alleged fraud in utilising more than Rs 500 crore funds of central government in setting up milk producer companies

Welfare, NDDB said, "the investments in IL&FS were initiated in February 2016" under the previous chairman and MD and that these investments were made on temporary surplus cash available with the company.

Stating the allegations of fraud relating to investments in IL&FS were "false and baseless", it pointed that "even the Central Government Employees Provident Fund Organisation and private PF Trusts (including GCMMF - AMUL) have made investments in IL&FS." It made the case that, "shouldn't these organisations be also investigated whether powers to be in these organisations have received kickbacks." NDDB further stated that "no payment is due to farmers from MDFVPL."

On the allegations of setting up over 15 subsidiaries, NDDB stated that in 2002-03, MDFVPL formed eight subsidiaries/step down subsidiaries for various objectives such as to take care of processing operations, marketing operations, broad base marketing operations, as well as to take care of sales operations of joint ventures. It added

that after opposition from Dr Verghese Kurien, who was the former chairman of GCMMF, the then chairman of NDDB and GCMMF decided that NDDB would ask its subsidiary MDFVPL to discontinue this initiative.

"After discussions with state co-operative organisations and requisite approval of board and regulatory authorities, all the eight subsidiaries were amalgamated with MDFVPL ... by 2006-07," said NDDB in its response to the Ministry.

It further said that the subsidiaries were formed for "specific purposes and later amalgamated into the holding company, with proper approvals of board/regulatory authorities." "The allegations of fraud without any credible evidence are mischievous, misleading and factually incorrect," NDDB said in its response.

On the allegation of utilising central government funds in setting up milk producer companies but continuing to purchase large volumes of milk from other private dairies, NDDB responded that the producer companies are independent legal entities and an agreement is there between MDFVPL and producer companies and the price paid by MDFVPL is not below market price. It also said that the producer companies supplied about 21.25 lakh kg per day milk to MDFVPL in 2018-19, while MDFVPL's own procurement was about 7.5 lakh kg per day.

Of the balance requirement, about 2.25 lakh kg per day was supplied by co-operatives and only additional quantity of 3 lakh kg per day required to meet consumer demand was sourced from private sources. "In view of above any allegation of fraud in this matter is false and malicious," the NDDB response said.

'IT firms may face volatility in BFS space'

The banking and financial services (BFS) space for IT firms is expected to be volatile in the near term, and escalation of the global trade war may continue to weaken modest optimism of April 2019, says a latest report by Kotak Institutional Equities



Dependence on global clients: BFS segment is a staple for Indian IT services companies serving global clients, particularly in US and Europe, and it accounts for major chunk of overall tech services basket

Lower overall tech spending: Large BFS firms expect a better business environment from April, but the external environment has turned for the worse in the past few weeks, and overall tech spending growth will be lower than last year

Escalating trade war, Brexit overhang: The escalation of trade wars in the past few weeks and the Brexit overhang can continue to weaken the modest optimism of April 2019

OTHER KEY RISKS TO BFS SECTOR:

- Slowdown in economic growth
- Escalation of trade tensions,
- Lowering of interest rates
- Volatility in equity markets

Shift to low-cost locations: Some BFS firms have indicated greater shift to low-cost locations to manage costs

Growth in tech budgets to be lower: Overall growth in technology budgets of BFS companies would be lower than that in 2018

Putin expresses solidarity with China; criticises US in trade, Huawei disputes

REUTERS ST PETERSBURG, JUNE 7

AGGRESSIVE US tactics such as a campaign against Chinese telecoms firm Huawei will lead to trade wars - and possibly real wars - Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday, in a show of solidarity with China alongside its leader Xi Jinping.

In some of his strongest words on the subject, Putin accused Washington of "unbridled economic egoism". He singled out US efforts to thwart a Russian gas pipeline to Europe and a US campaign to persuade countries to bar Huawei, the world's biggest telecoms equipment maker, from supplying network gear.

His broadside, at an economic forum in St Petersburg on the same platform as Xi, was a clear show of unity with China at a time when Beijing is locked in a trade war with Washington and Moscow's own ties with the



Russian President Vladimir Putin (right) along with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia, Friday. AP

West are at a post-Cold War low. "States which previously promoted free trade with honest and open competition have started speaking the language of trade wars and sanctions, of open economic raiding using arm-twisting and scare tactics, of eliminating competitors using so-called non-market methods," said Putin.

"Look for example at the situation around Huawei which they are trying not to just squeeze out,

but to unceremoniously push out of the global market. It's already being called the first technological war of the emerging digital era in some circles."

The world risked slipping into an era when "general international rules will be exchanged for the laws of administrative and legal mechanisms ... which is how the United States is unfortunately behaving, spreading its jurisdiction over the whole world," added Putin.

Protect global multilateral trade system: Xi

Moscow: Chinese President Xi Jinping called on Friday for world powers to protect the global multilateral trade system and said it was important to find a solution to trade disputes despite disagreements. Speaking at the St Petersburg economic forum, Xi said China supported globalisation and described it as a historical trend that remained intact.

The Chinese President — speaking in Chinese, which was interpreted into Russian and translated into English by Reuters — also called US President Donald Trump his friend and said he believed the US was not interested in rupturing economic ties with China. REUTERS

'Former Deutsche Bank co-CEO included in tax scam probe'

REUTERS FRANKFURT, JUNE 7

GERMAN PROSECUTORS are probing former Deutsche Bank co-chief executive Anshu Jain and 78 other current and former bank officials as part of an investigation into a dividend tax-stripping scheme, German daily *Handelsblatt* reported on Friday.

The scheme, called "cum-ex", involved several other banks across the globe.

Walmart to deliver groceries inside customers' homes in three US cities

REUTERS NEW YORK, JUNE 7

THE ONLINE delivery wars are heating up inside shoppers' homes. Walmart is now offering to have one of its employees deliver fresh groceries and put them in your refrigerator when you're not home. Walmart, the largest grocer in US, said Friday it will offer the service this fall for over one million customers in three cities: Pittsburgh, Kansas City, Missouri, and Vero Beach, Florida.

Later this year, the service, called InHome Delivery, will also accept returns for items purchased on Walmart.com. The new service is part of Walmart's drive to expand its shopping options that include curbside pickup and online grocery delivery.

Amazon offers a similar service in certain cities, dropping off packages inside homes, garages or car trunks. But the service is not



A box of merchandise is unloaded from a truck and sent along a conveyor belt at a Walmart Supercenter in Houston. AP

for groceries. With Walmart's new service, customers place a grocery delivery order online and then select InHome Delivery and a delivery day at checkout. Walmart workers will use smart entry technology and a proprietary wearable camera to access the customer's home.

That allows shoppers to control access into their home and give them the ability to watch the

delivery remotely. Walmart said that the workers will go through an extensive training program that would prepare them for things like how to select the freshest groceries and how best to organise the refrigerator. "Now, we can serve customers not in just the last mile, but in the last 15 feet," wrote Marc Lore, CEO of Walmart's US e-commerce division, in a corporate blog post.

Voda Idea gets NCLT nod to hive off fibre assets into separate entity

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE NATIONAL Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has granted approval to Vodafone Idea to hive off its fibre assets into a separate entity named Vodafone Towers.

The move to hive off the fibre business was to achieve operational efficiency and also monetisation of the assets. As per estimates, around 1.56 lakh route kilometre of fibre assets owned by the company are worth around Rs 15,000 crore.

Vodafone Idea's CEO Balesh Sharma recently said all the options are being considered for fibre assets, including forming a joint venture with Airtel but no final decision has been taken. FE

Protester arrested at Jeff Bezos' re:Mars conference in Vegas

ASSOCIATED PRESS LAS VEGAS, JUNE 7

A WOMAN was arrested Thursday after approaching Amazon CEO and founder Jeff Bezos and yelling about chicken farms on stage at a conference in Las Vegas, authorities said.

Bezos' appearance at Amazon's re:Mars event at the Aria resort was briefly interrupted before the woman was surrounded by security guards and ushered away. Direct Action Everywhere spokesman Matt Johnson identified the protester as 30-year-old Priya Sawhney of Berkeley, California.

Sawhney was held on suspicion of misdemeanor trespassing and may face more serious charges, Las Vegas police Officer

At Amazon's re:Mars event at the Aria resort, 30-year-old Priya Sawhney was protesting conditions at a California poultry farm that supplies Amazon

Laura Meltzer said. Bezos was explaining plans to send satellites into space when the woman appeared on stage. Johnson said Sawhney was protesting conditions at a California poultry farm that supplies Amazon. She never got close to Bezos, who remained seated opposite a moderator to whom he joked, "Do you have a response to that?"

BRIEFLY

Govt welcomes new NPA norms

New Delhi: Welcoming the new norms announced by the central bank, which whittles down the February 12, 2018 circular struck down by the Supreme Court in April, commerce minister Piyush Goyal said the new stressed assets resolution framework offers "relief to businesses facing temporary financial issues, empower lenders to take decisions, improve credit availability in the economy and protect jobs, thereby boosting the economy."

Sebi, MCA pact on data

New Delhi: To curb white collar frauds, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs and Sebi will start automatic sharing of data between them.

RBI: Consumer confidence falls

Mumbai: After a sharp upsurge to 104.6 in the March 2019 round, the consumer confidence index fell to 97.3, suggesting that Indians turned pessimistic about jobs and price levels, the Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS) of RBI showed.

Govt seeks Budget inputs

New Delhi: The government Friday sought inputs from citizens on the Union Budget 2019-20 with a view to make the Budget making exercise more inclusive. The comments have been sought on government's 'mygov.in' portal by June 20.

₹2 crore fine on Kotak Mahindra

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank Friday imposed a fine of Rs 2 crore on Kotak Mahindra Bank for not complying with its directions regarding dilution of promoters' shareholding in the company.

'FY20 growth may hit 7.2%'

New Delhi: Goldman Sachs Friday pegged the Indian GDP growth to accelerate to 7.2 per cent in 2019-20 on lower oil prices, political stability and removal of infrastructure bottlenecks. PTI

US employers add 75K jobs

Washington: US hiring slowed in May as employers added just 75,000 jobs, a sign that businesses may have become more cautious on slowing global growth. AP

Crude oil rises nearly 2%

New York: Brent futures gained \$1.12, or 1.8 per cent, to \$62.79 a barrel, by 1717 GMT. US WTI crude rose 92 cents, or 1.8 per cent, to \$53.51 a barrel, after Saudi Arabia said OPEC was close to agreeing to extend an output production cut beyond June. REUTERS

NCLAT halts liquidation process of Sterling Biotech

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, JUNE 7

THE NATIONAL The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has stayed the liquidation process of debt-ridden Sterling Biotech till further orders.

Two-member NCLAT bench headed by Chairman Justice S J Mukhopadhyaya stayed the operation of May 8, 2019 order of the Mumbai bench of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) directing liquidation of the firm. "Until further order, the operation of impugned order dated May 8, 2019 so far as liquidation is concerned shall remain stayed. However, the Liquidator will ensure that the company remains a going concern," the bench said.

20 REVIEWS CINEMA & MUSIC



DVD & BLU-RAY
A DOG'S WAY HOME
★★★
₹ 1199/-

BHARAT ★★★

Director: Ali Abbas Zafar **Cast:** Salman Khan, Katrina Kaif, Sunil Grover, Jackie Shroff, Tabu, Disha Patani, Satish Kaushik, Sonali Kulkarni, Mushtaq Khan

Postcard from the Past



SHUBHRA GUPTA

FOR A superstar who has only lately allowed himself to be seen on screen with a middle-aged paunch-and-grizzled-jowls, to admit to being seventy plus is an act of bravery. Has Salman Khan finally grown up?

Yes, that's how old Bharat No Surname is, when the film opens. He has no last name because that's a way to belong to the whole country: 'tujhme poora desh hai, Bharat', he is told by his beloved father. And in the arc he draws of his life, which we see mostly in flashback, it is evident that we are seeing the story of Bharat, the nation. This parallel unfolds with verve and strong dollops of emotion in the first half, as we see the sundering of Bharat's family in Lahore during the bloody tumult of the Partition and follow them to their arrival in a Delhi refugee camp.

In the first half, there is scope and sweep. Post interval, though, the film sags. Comprehensively.

Zafar, who works well with Khan, strikes the right notes initially when he shapes his hero as an unlettered but determined-to-do-the-right-thing-by-his-family youth, accompanied by his best friend Vilayati (Grover). There's a stint in a circus, with Bharat risking his life as a stunt artist, and a coveted trip to the Middle East to help dig oil.

There's enough conviction in these portions which carries Bharat, and us, through, even though Khan is given enough hero-giri moments to keep him in the foreground at all times. You get a sense of time past, of faded history in the recreation of those grand-but-tawdry circuses, and the 'maut ka kuans', which are now relegated to small town fairs, and job-hungry Indians chasing the oil boom in the Gulf, as hard-working labour.

It's a pity that the director-star duo don't take this as far as they could. They had a story which had the potential to become a solid reckoner of post-Independence nation-building, and how things rolled from

then on, and a free hand to craft it. But the opportunity is squandered in unnecessary songs and dances, an aiming-for-cheap-laughs bad-taste comic thread which involves making a stutterer the butt of jokes, and improbable situations: want to meet Hindi-film-song-loving-sea-pirates? Step right up.

Kaif makes the most of her role, as the feisty Kumum aka 'Madam-Sir' who comes into Bharat's life, and who stays on, for the most part, without, gulp, either *mandap* or *mangalsutra*. The whole live-in thing is quite clunkily done, and with doty reasoning, but while it lasts, it makes a statement. Kaif's 'get-up' varies from scene to scene (eyebrows bushy to bushier; the tan a shade darker or lighter) and her Hindi is still effortful, but she takes Khan on, head to head.

The good thing about the film, despite its eye-roll moments, is its attempt to create an 'ordinary' man without any particular skills. And the underlining of a nation which belongs to us all. Vilayati, played ex-

cellently by Grover, is a Muslim. The dialogue may be over-the-top but it takes us back to the time when pan-Indian films would speak fearlessly about *dosti* and *bhaichara* amongst sworn enemies, about how people are the same everywhere, and that the Partition hasn't divided *dils*, which still beat for each other. Yes, it's all very *Bajrangi Bhaijaan*, and all very 'filmi', haha, but who doesn't love the idea of long-separated loved ones being reunited? Treacle it may be, but the tears are real. And moving: my eyes were moist, even when I knew I was being played.

Yes, it's hard to believe that a 70 year old can beat off four menacing young men bent upon making mincemeat of him. But then this is a Bhai movie. He staggers, but is the last man standing. But of course. He may have fixed a grey beard to his chin, but his chest still ripples. What else? In a Salman Khan movie, anything is possible, even tall tales that are meant to transcend borders.

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Rising from the Ashes

X-MEN: DARK PHOENIX

★★★★

Director: Simon Kinberg
Cast: Sophie Turner, James McAvoy, Nicholas Hoult, Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence, Jessica Chastain

SHALINI LANGER

THE 12TH in the X-Men franchise, counting the two Deadpool films; part of an alternative timeline; officially designated the last of the X-Men instalments; with something called 'The New Mutants' coming up in 2020.

Dark Phoenix does carry a lot of baggage, not to mention fatigue factor, and the burden of *Avengers: Endgame* and of the inevitable comparisons with a recent Marvel film with a woman as lead, which can seem quite similar.

And yet, it brings to the table something special. It gives us a heroine who is unapologetically strong, stronger than all the men in the room, sturdier than the one she is in love with, with no feminine qualities to make her go down easy with the audiences.

In her stern leather trench coats, trousers, boots and T-shirts, her hair pulled back from her face, her eyes brooding, her face in pain, a stunning Sophie Turner as Jean Grey gives us a superhero who is as traumatised as they come, in the process lending this film a pulsating heart, and her *Dark Phoenix* blazing wings.

Such is the intensity of her performance in all her portrayals — from the girl who was abandoned to the woman whom the world fears as they can't pigeonhole her — that even the mighty Lawrence as Mystique fades.

The only one who gets an equal emotional range is McAvoy as Charles Xaviers, who in the year 1975 brought in Jean, then 8, after an accident she miraculously survived, to his school for gifted children. The film sets off in 1992, with a space shuttle mishap that requires a globally televised rescue by the X-Men, and where Jean undergoes her transformation.

Dark Phoenix also dwells on an interesting dynamic between Charles and his wards, pondering whether it is just the interests of the latter that drive him or is he seeking personal glory by pushing his X-Men into increasingly risky zones. It dab-



bles, if briefly, with the failings of anyone in his position of absolute control, and also the fickleness of a world where superheroes can quickly be branded villains if they stray outside their demarcated boundaries.

One wonders if *Dark Phoenix* would not have been a better film if it focused on this inter-play of its characters, their egos and misunderstandings, their friction and bonds, and women and the definitions that bind them (Mystique tells Charles whether he shouldn't rename his team given it's the women who have been mostly saving the men). The whole alien invasion thing, led by a colder-than-ever platinum blond Chastain as Vuk, is an inferior and lazy plot by comparison — though she does manage to do quite a bit of running wearing stilettos. The reason causing Jean to fall out with Charles also seems contrived beyond a point.

Still, it gives the film a reason to go looking for Magneto (Fassbender, always a delight) — even if in an ashram-like setting where words pop up in Hindi, like 'elephant painting' — to see Magneto turn an army of guns onto Vuk, to stage a climax in and on a train, and to set twisted metal wagons flying up into the sky.

That is a sight you won't easily forget.

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Looking at a World Turned Upside Down

FUNAN (ANIMATION)

Director: Denis Do
Cast: Bérénice Bejo, Louis Garrel, Colette Kieffer, Aude-Laurence Clermont Biver, Brice Montagne

GLENN KENNY

IN 1988, the Japanese director Isao Takahata broke new ground in animation with *Grave of the Fireflies*, an almost unbearably grim story of children in a devastated post-World War II Kobe. That picture used the medium of animation not just to depict the deprivation and suffering of its young characters, but also to show their memories and the better world they imagine.

Funan, a new and striking animated film directed by Denis Do, tells the story of a Cambodian family separated during the Khmer Rouge-ordered migrations of the mid-1970s. Here, a child, separated from his parents and moving from labor camp to labor camp, does not find solace in memories or imagination. Most of the movie focuses on

the parents and their determination to escape their own enslavement and find their son.

Do's tale is resolutely earthbound. He uses animation as an interrogation into the practice of fictional depiction derived from actual atrocities. Do almost always cuts away when the Khmer Rouge functionaries shoot or hang subjects who have displeased them. But he is unflinching when displaying the corruption and personal betrayals that bloom and spread when your neighbour becomes your (armed) captor.

The director is of Cambodian extraction but was born and raised in France; he chose to tell this story in the language of his home. Louis Garrel and Bérénice Bejo voice the couple Khoun and Chou, who face a relentless barrage of undesirable choices, with exceptional sensitivity.

For a film that aims to reach older children and young adults, its moral is unusually bracing: There sometimes is hope at the end of a bad road, but only if you live to reach that end.

NYT



Just Another Job

THIS ONE'S FOR THE LADIES (DOCUMENTARY)

Director: Gene Graham
Cast: Michele Moore, Poundcake, Terrill Ross, Tarik Sanders, Tamisha

BEN KENIGSBURG

THIS ONE'S for the Ladies, which exposes the private lives of male exotic dancers, is a rare documentary to be released with an NC-17 rating — a classification that, in this instance, seems as much about marketing as anything else. The whole point of the film is to desexualize stripping: to show it as a job, its practitioners as hard-working performers and their clients as looking for escape.

The director, Gene Graham, has said he made the movie in part as a response to the lack of diversity in *Magic Mike*. The subjects are mostly African-American; the focus is

on a New Jersey troupe known as the Nasty Boyz and the group's regular clients. (Even the clients go by nicknames like Poundcake and Double Trouble.)

The insights are not groundbreaking. Stripping pays well, especially when viewed in a context of profound economic inequality. The dancers and their patrons are shown as everyday parents and spouses. Sweet Tee says that she's shy and that her presenter's persona is just for the club. Tarayyah, the daughter of a dancer named Raw Dawg, says her father's work is "OK by me."

Despite discussions of history and racial tension — there's a brief aside about traditions of African dancing that predate slavery, and one client attends a rally in Washington, DC, to protest racially charged shootings by the police — the movie's determination to make stripping mundane has a way of infecting the film. Even the dancing sequences, often shot in poor lighting as if on a smartphone camera, look perfunctory.

NYT

BREAKING DOWN NEWS

Gag Files

On humour, or the lack of it on airwaves these days



BY PRATIK KANJILAL

THERE WAS a run on British visas this week, apparently because of a tourist rush on account of the World Cup. But it could as well owe to the excitement generated by Donald Trump's visit to London. What could be more stirring than seeing the baby Trump blimp take to the skies again? Perhaps, it flies for the last time, because it is appar-

ently being acquired by a museum. Never mind, there's the float of Trump tweeting first thing in the morning from atop his thunderbox. And the crowds of protesters who turned out with placards bearing testimony to the durability of British humour. The coverage of the protests, and the volume of airtime given to embarrassing POTUS, was fairly uplifting. *The Guardian* commented on FLOTUS "aerating" the lawn with her high heels. The British have been tending their lawns since Stonehenge was built, and they take such things personally.

The great Bette Midler summed up the public mood in the UK on Twitter: "Trump said he was greeted by thousands in the UK, but they were actually thousands of protesters. How does he always hear the opposite of the truth? Donald, if you're reading

this you SHOULD NOT slam your **** in a door!" Midler had tangled with Trump online after he had attacked London mayor Sadiq Khan, for the crime of repeatedly making liberal and inclusive gestures.

Speaking of repeat offences, try this reaction for size: "You have a terrible habit of alliteration and repetition when you continue to repeat and labour on the same point multiple times with some kind of a glorious insecurity that when the point is made the first time it will be seen to be so facetious that I will not be able to comprehend its logic but unlike you I'm smart enough to understand something when it is said for the first time so will you please sir not consider this to be a kindergarten class where you have to repeat the point 10 times

over thank you unless you want to be my onion for the evening and let me tell you that it will not be a very pleasurable experience because I will grill you peel you fry you sauté you and then serve you to yourself and by the way the technology... you know your image froze for a while you know why because your logic also froze and secondly your silly and childish attempt to create internal trouble within the government is really foolish because both Rajnath and Nitin Gadkari and Amit Shah have been happily sworn in while your supreme leader came in unshaven looking extremely unhappy was flopping around and then went back understanding that he's an embarrassment to himself. Thank you, at least I don't repeat myself, and sorry for that

What could be more stirring than seeing the baby Trump blimp take to the skies again? Perhaps, it flies for the last time, because it is apparently being acquired by a museum

long sentence."

This is a real sentence, really spoken at length on television by Arnab Goswami, and while it lacks the literary merit of masters of the form like James Joyce and William Faulkner (who once held a Guinness Book record for a sentence 1,288 words long in *Absalom! Absalom!*), it is nevertheless a landmark in television history. Even the most garrulous cricket commentator, who reports rapidly unfolding events, could not possibly match this sentence, focused on just one allegation — that of repetition. It is such a tremendous feat that Republic has put the clip titled 'Arnab goes non-stop' of one minute and 44.52 seconds on YouTube for keeps. Is that just celebrating a long performance, or is the channel trolling its own anchor?

Meanwhile, Goswami's former colleagues at Times Now are doggedly stalking stand-up comic Hasan Minhaj in the hope of having him on a programme with Navika Kumar. He had done two episodes of his Netflix show *Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj*,

during the run-up to the Indian general elections, and after the results, well-researched drollery was met with machine-gun bursts of Indian trolletry. But what caught Times Now's attention was a section about cable news anchors, where Navika Kumar found mention. And so they sent him an invitation, which Minhaj rejected as a 'trap', an ambush that he refused because the show was too "intense". Which is a polite way of saying that he has no interest in blood sports.

But Times Now is as insistent as a road-side Romeo in the movies, and sent him an invitation to an allegedly less intense show by Navika Kumar, *Frankly Speaking*. In evidence of lower intensity, they sent him a clip of Kumar's show with Jaggi Vasudev, which is a bit like trying to seduce a hilsa fan with a turnip salad. They just can't understand that Minhaj is a comic, and that his allusion to Kumar, which had set the ball rolling, should not be regarded as fan mail. No sense of humour on the airwaves, these days.

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21 BOOKS

What Can't Be Said Is Written

The layers upon layers of Raj Kamal Jha's new novel dress the collective wound of a nation



(Above) Coming ashore in the city. (Below right) Raj Kamal Jha Photos: Neeraj Priyadarshi

NSMADHAVAN

"WHAT CAN'T be said can be written, because writing is a silent act..." so said a minor character in Raj Kamal Jha's fifth and latest novel, *The City and The Sea*. In fact, she said that not in the novel, but at a banquet to honour her, for having won the Nobel Prize for literature in 2009. Herta Müller, the German novelist, makes a Hitchcock-like cameo appearance in the novel as a hotel receptionist, does nothing remarkable other than handing over a map of the German town by the sea to the new boarders who have come to vacation. Müller grew up in Romania, under the evil gaze of Nicolae Ceausescu's secret police, and, later, her life was under threat of certain death, when she refused to collaborate with the government.

The words from Müller's Nobel acceptance speech, in a way, sums up Jha's novel. It is about writing things that can't be said. Rape is one such thing that is pushed under an iron shroud of silence. The R-word is unsaid in the novel. Our collective memory is triggered when Jha begins his novel, "My name I cannot tell." Without names, we are helpless to comprehend the world. Sitting in a newsroom, a corny subeditor gave in to temptation and called her Nirbhaya. The 2012 Delhi rape case is the kernel of this novel. Actually not, not the kernel, but more of an irritant. The kind that makes its way into the oyster — the proverbial grain of sand. In defence, the organism uses a fluid to coat the intruding agent and finally, a pearl is born.

The creative process seems to be similar here. Jha covers the collective wound of a nation with layers upon layers of complex storytelling. It is about what can't be said. The un-

speakable. And when what can't be said is written, you don't speak about it, instead you cover it with... mostly with deceptive contradictions and inversions. The first of them is the protagonist, whom the reader would vaguely identify with Nirbhaya, is inverted to an implausible mother, vacationing on the Baltic coast of Germany. She has come out of a coma in a hospital and it is in her dream about the future that she is transported to a German city by the sea. While she abandons the city for the sea, in the city a boy is searching for his lost mother. One of the perpetrators of the crime, the juvenile, is also seen journeying through the labyrinthine city.



THE CITY AND THE SEA
RAJ KAMAL JHA
Penguin Hamish Hamilton
267 pages
₹ 499

The city and the sea. One is landlocked, dense with people, a concrete jungle, as the adage goes. The unnamed Baltic city has a beach, which would be mostly empty, as Müller, the friendly receptionist, gratuitously informs the woman. She is probably in search of an escape from her reality. This is the stuff that dreams are made of, in classical Sigmund Freud mode: unconscious forces that construct a wish expressed by dreams, and the censorship within distorting the wish. The boy's travels through the city, too, assume a dream-like quality. Characters at odds with reality. They conjure up images of long voyages for themselves, to unknown meridians. Through these peregrinations of the mind, Jha is, perhaps, trying to tell the reader that reality is horrible. So horrible that he seldom mentions it.

Jha's book alternates between the city and the beach. Disjointed images are arrayed. The writer is relying on the gestalt, rather than vanilla storytelling. It is cinematic. "Freeze the frame," says the writer at one place; his voice is stentorian, more like an auteur's. In alchemising reality, the author sometimes resorts to magic realism: more Anthony Burgess than Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Colours are neon. The woman is feeling that the hotel building is crumbling down: "The carpet, its skin, twists and tears in a line of lightning that darts down its entire length."

In the end, does the novel work? Metronomic iteration of chapters between the city and the sea feels inorganic in places, a cross that the author seems to have prefabricated to bear. The persistence of dreams sometimes evokes Dali, and like the painter's images, sometimes they sag.

But when writing about a deep scar in the mind, a pestering irritant, the author seems



to have chosen the impact over the event; impact not upon the collective psyche, but on discrete individuals' fragile minds. All through the book, he has succeeded in conveying that he is writing about the unsaid: A novel about silences. As the woman feels, "She has never heard silence like this. So big and so deep that she hears sounds from within her." Reality knocks at her door through sounds without — street sounds, the purr of the radiator inside the bathroom, they are so many. The city, the sea, the boy, the mother, the crowd, the loneliness, the sounds within and without — Jha takes us through a fascinating journey of binaries. In the end, the novel wins.

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Talkin' About a Revolution

The life and times of the Hungry Generation of modern Bengali poets, arguably the most dynamic and divisive literary movement of its generation

SAMANTAK DAS

IN NOVEMBER 1961, a one-page pamphlet, written in English and titled *Manifesto of the Hungry Generation* was published from 269, Netaji Subhas Road, Howrah, West Bengal. It began by stating, "Poetry is no more a civilising manoeuvre, a replanting of the bamboozled gardens; it is a holocaust, a violent and somnambulist jazzing of the hymning five, a sowing of the tempestual Hunger." It went on to declare, "Poetry is an activity of the narcissistic spirit. Naturally, we have discarded the blanketyblank school of modern poetry, the darling of the press, where poetry does not resurrect itself in an orgasmic flow, but words come out bubbling in an artificial muddle. In the prosed-rhyme of those born-old half-literates, you must fail to find that scream of desperation of a thing wanting to be man, the man wanting to be spirit." Thus was born, perhaps the most debated and certainly the most divisive, "movement" in modern Bengali poetry, that of the Hungry Generation, whose founders and followers were labelled "Hungryalists".

Three names appeared on top of that first declaration of the need for a new kind of poetic sensibility — Debi Roy ("Editor"), Shakti Chatterjee ("Leader"), and Malay Roychoudhury ("Creator") — a fourth name, printed at the bottom, that of the publisher Haradhan Dhara, was in fact Debi Roy's pseudonym. Missing was the name of Malay's older brother, Samir, who was, in many ways

the catalyst for the birthing of the Hungry movement, not least because he brought his friend, the poet Shakti Chatterjee, into it in the first place.

Maitreyee Bhattacharjee Chowdhury's book is the first full-length study of the Hungryalists and it does a fine job in delineating the contours of a poetic movement whose effects on modern Bengali poetry and culture are yet to be properly evaluated, perhaps because we are still too close to the many turns and twists of the birth, development, maturity, and untimely demise, of the Hungry revolution and its protagonists for a dispassionate assessment. In her Introduction, Bhattacharjee Chowdhury makes it clear that while she will trace a chronological account of the Hungryalists, she is not going to make an attempt "at mapping every little nook and corner visited by these poets... [which] would be... an impossible task and not necessarily rewarding" and also that she will take some poetic licence with the facts because "the story of poetry found and lost is the only personal journey that survives in the end, everything else becomes a myth."

In a 2015 documentary film on 50 years of the Hungryalist movement, the director, Tanmoy Bhattacharjee, begins by asking Malay Roychoudhury why the Hungry generation's poetry "failed", to which the movement's "creator" retorts, "Who says it has failed? You? Or him? Listen, young man, the movement did not fail. What has failed is society, what has failed is literature." The Hungryalists attempts to locate the causes of

this "failure", if indeed failure it was, as well as the enduring afterlife of a movement that had all the ingredients of a successful potboiler, with large dollops of love, sex, drugs, intrigue, backstabbing, madness, violence and politics (the Naxalite movement followed close on the heels of the Hungryalists and the split in the



THE HUNGRYALISTS: THE POETS WHO SPARKED A REVOLUTION
MAITREYEE BHATTACHARJEE CHOWDHURY
Penguin Random House
198 pages
₹ 599

Communist Party of India took place whilst the Hungry movement was still on), not to speak of the imprisonment of Roychoudhury and the subsequent international outcry that led to an outpouring of support from some of the leading poets from across the globe.

This is not an easy story to tell, in large part because there are still bitter divisions of opinion regarding the roles played by some of the iconic founders of contemporary Bengali poetry (Sunil Ganguly, Shakti Chattopadhyay, Sankha Ghosh, to name just three) in the Hungryalist period, all of whom have their passionate supporters wherever Bengali poetry is discussed, debated, created.

Perhaps, because she is located in a city other than Kolkata (Bengaluru) and because she is not a Bengali poet *per se*, Bhattacharjee Chowdhury is able to marshal her facts and put forward her opinions with the kind of dispassionate distance that someone located in the midst of the cultural churn of Kolkata's literati would find difficult, if not impossible, to do. For which her readers should be grateful, even if they may not always agree with her sometimes glib characterisations (e.g. "Bengalis are anyway a timid race, and when attacked physically, the intellect in them is puzzled about the necessity of action"; or "Bengal was a ruin, a confused mess, and writers seemed to be its finest casualties" and analyses (e.g. her discussion of "the easing out of Buddhadeva [Bose] from Jadavpur University"). But, despite these (minor) quibbles, or, perhaps because of them, *The Hungryalists: The Poets Who Sparked A Revolution* should be essential reading for anyone interested in the history of modern Bengali, indeed modern Indian, poetry in the turbulent era of sex, drugs and rock and roll.

The writer is associate professor, department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, Kolkata



WHEN THINGS FALL APART

American novelist Tayari Jones's *An American Marriage*, a portrait of a young African American man's wrongful incarceration in a false rape charge and its devastating impact on his marriage, has won the £30,000 Women's Prize for Fiction award. *An American Marriage* also won the \$35,000 Aspen Words Literary Prize in April.

True Lies

An intriguing debut novel that explores the toxic remains of the American dream

RAM SARANGAN

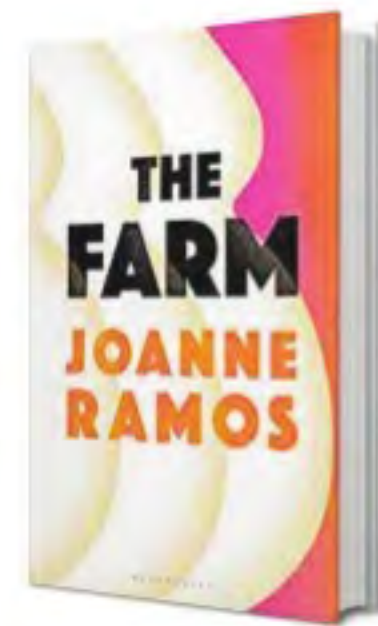
IT MUST be a sign of the times that a borderline-dystopic world is hard to tell apart from the "next big thing" incessantly pursued by capitalist bigwigs. Upon grasping the general concept of Joanne Ramos's *The Farm*, that is being touted as one of the best debuts of the year, one of the first chilling reactions is the thought — "Doesn't this already exist?". This blurred landscape, taken together with some very intriguing characters, is exactly what makes Ramos's debut novel about the toxic remains of the American Dream so gripping.

The surrogacy debate is addressed in the very first pages of the book by the controlling head of the Golden Oaks "gestational retreat", Mae. While meeting Reagan, "the holy triffecta" of Premium surrogates (Caucasian, "pretty but not sexy", "smart but not intimidatingly so"), she says the premise of her "farm" is that of free trade. Both parties are happy with the deal. Both walk away with "more than adequate" compensation. The plutocratic clients, for whom the expense of hiring a surrogate is likely no more than a small accounting error on their balance sheets, get their premier babies handed to them with no fuss. All is well at the gestational retreat, as Mae tells her clients, among whom is also Jane.

Jane Reyes is on the other end of the scale from Reagan, as far as Golden Oaks is concerned. She is Filipino, mother of a newborn, for whom babies are a family business, in one way or another. Her elder cousin, 70-year-old Evelyn Arroyo (or Ate, as she is referred to), is to babies what Cesar Milan is to canines — to the point where the "richest of the rich" scheduled their deliveries according to her calendar. Ate is, perhaps, the most intriguing, well-developed character in the book, representing the struggles of immigrants from a different perspective than Jane's. The book primarily revolves around these four characters, set in the "farm" that is presented as a world-class luxury spa.

If the characters breathe life into Ramos's story, which would otherwise be no different from any number of sci-fi dystopian tales, it is the setting that allows Ramos to play in the space of ambiguity from beginning to end. Golden Oaks, which, if readers allow the larger plot to slip from their minds while turning the pages, sounds a lot like a resort that you would want to check into. The Hosts there are given the full "relaxation" experience, starting with the robes that symbolise a high-tier spa, to a fully curated diet of healthy delicacies and all other manners of pampering.

Indeed, the tell-tale signs that all is not well can mostly be overlooked, by the characters as well as the readers. The constant cameras are practically a staple at many high-end resorts anyway, the strict control on diet is something people pay for at health camps or with personal dieticians. The procedure of checking the bodies of hosts for ticks when they return from a walk is the only tangible "unease" inducing moment



THE FARM
JOANNE RAMOS
Bloomsbury
325 pages
₹ 499

until the very last twist in the book, which highlights the fragility of the whole set-up.

There are subtler, less tangible signs, of course. It's in the way the women have no say in whether a particular test is conducted as long as the client asks for it. It's in the way the doctors gradually appeared to look past the women as if they were nothing but containers for what held true value — the plutocratic foetuses.

Ramos's delicacy ensures that you always stay in the realm of questioning whether the line had been crossed. However, this is, perhaps, what leads to one of the biggest problems in the book — Mae. For those programmed to look for a villain in every story, Mae is the one in this book (and the shadowy, wealthy, obscure clientele such as Madame Dang). Her situation is best described as one on the threshold of true riches — she has dined with billionaire clients, experienced the lifestyle and now wants it for herself. She is strict, excessively controlling, and while she arguably never crosses the threshold into true villainy, she gets very close.

The final portion of the book gives the impression that Ramos decided to "villain-wash" Mae after suddenly realising that the owner of the Oaks was moving out of ambiguous territory and into clear-cut villainy. The character development seems hasty, out of sync with the rest of the novel and seemingly done to reach a certain end rather than for the sake of the story.

Ultimately, Ramos's book does not hold satisfying answers. Her premise and characters are gripping, and it is almost certain that the questions her book leads to regarding agency, capitalism, empowerment, objectification, immigration, wealth inequality and thought-colonialism will make for many lively book club debates. It can be said that *The Farm* is a classic example of themes outgrowing the book that highlighted them — but the book is no less engaging or insignificant for it.

SHELF LIFE

Sun and Shade



IN BEYOND THE BOULEVARD
ADITI SRIRAM
Aleph
201 pages
₹ 399

IN MOST tourists' experience, Puducherry is as pretty as a picture postcard — and as flat as one, too. The typical tourist experience of the little coastal town, also a Union Territory, is limited to the brightly-painted, bougainvillea-shaded rues of the French Quarter. You stroll through the streets, have a Franco-Tamil meal at one of the delightful little restaurants, buy a chipped, faded *objet d'art* from one of the antique shops, and, finally, wind your way towards the beachside boulevard to watch the sun set.

In *Beyond the Boulevard*, Aditi Sriram offers a deeper look at this quiet little town — aspects of which, the average tourist might catch a glimpse of as she speeds down the narrow streets on a hired bike. This slim "biography" — part of a series of biographies of cities, including Mumbai

and Patna — leads the reader by the hand through the various upheavals that this otherwise-sleepy town has been through in its long history. A passage early in the book, in which Sriram lists the various names that Puducherry has worn over the centuries, beautifully captures this: from a Tamil settlement in the first century CE that was referred to by the Romans as Poduke or Puduvai to Vedapuri in the 12th century to Puduicheira (Portuguese, mid-16th century), Poelsjeri (Dutch, early 17th century), Pochechery (Danes, mid-17th century), Pondicheri (French, 18th century).

Sriram uses the evolving and changing nomenclature to unpack everything that the city has been through its history and everything that it means to people today, whether they are locals, weekenders from Chennai, tourists from other parts of the country and the world of spiritual seekers, who prefer the cloistered peace of nearby Auroville. It's a rigorously researched work that — the notes at the back of the book offer enough references for anyone who wants to write another book about the town. Sriram is successful insofar as she attempts to broaden the average reader's understanding of the town beyond the "exotic".

Sriram also draws attention to some of the town's more pressing problem, such as water shortage, but steers clear of truly addressing the question of what life is really like in Puducherry. So while the reader gets a fairly good idea of Puducherry's history and an introduction to some of its most colourful characters, an immersion into its day to day life — food, culture, environmental issues — remains wanting.

POOJA PILLAI



BRIEFLY



I'm normally pretty close and I've actually been a fair way back for the last few weeks. I didn't know I was over there, but someone told me about five minutes ago that I was a fair way over. Got away with that one, fortunately."

MITCHELL STARC
ON THE BIG NO-BALL RIGHT BEFORE CHRIS GAYLE'S DISMISSAL

'Bad umpiring sent ripples through the dressing room'

Nottingham: Carlos Brathwaite said the West Indies were on the wrong end of too much poor umpiring following a 15-run defeat by champions Australia. None though as devastating as Chris Gaffaney missing a Mitchell Starc no-ball before he dismissed Gayle for 21 the next ball.

"I don't know if I'll be fined for saying it but I just think that the umpiring was a bit frustrating," said Brathwaite. "Even when we were bowling we thought a few balls close to head height were called wides. And obviously three decisions in one over as far as I can remember being dodgy, it was frustrating and sent ripples through the dressing room. To lose Chris in a chase of 280, who can probably get 180 of them himself, broke the start that we wanted to have," he fumed.

'Umpires were being intimidated'

MICHAEL HOLDING, commenting on television, was scathing about the "weak" officiating on show at Nottinghamshire's headquarters. "The umpiring in this game has been atrocious," said Holding, one of game's stellar fast bowlers of all time. The 65-year-old Jamaican added that Chris Gaffaney and Ruchira Palliyaguruge had caved into pressure created by prolonged Australia appeals. "For one, even when I was playing and you were not as strict as they are now, you were allowed one appeal," recalled Holding. He didn't stop. "You don't appeal two, three, four times to the umpire. They are being intimidated which means they are weak," he said.



SIGNING IN THE RAIN

Shaheen Shah Afridi obliges autograph hunters in Bristol on Friday. Pakistan's match against Sri Lanka here was washed out due to rain. Reuters

Under Southern Cross they stand again

A far cry from the team in strife last year, Aaron Finch & Co are now showing the shades of the famed Australian doggedness



EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP

SRIRAM VEERA
LONDON, JUNE 7

TWO TEAMS are known for their remarkable bouncebackability when things are loaded against them: Australia and Pakistan. But there is a difference between the two teams' jailbreaks that can be best explained in what transpires during a game.

When Pakistan, whom India face next Sunday, are in a tight spot, we wait for them to rise above the situation, for that passion to bedazzle us. The opposition doesn't matter.

When the Australians — India's opponents this Sunday — are under the pump, we wait for the opposition to crack under pressure. More than what the Australians do, we wait to see how the opponents wilt. Like how the West Indians fell in Nottingham on Thursday. We wait for the Australians to hang in there and get through improbable situations.

Pakistan's fight is more reactionary in nature; almost as a way to cock a thumb in the world's eyes. After one or two banal performances and when the world starts to sneer they produce marvellous cricket — not necessarily a team effort but individual acts of brilliance, which spark a revival.

Australia's fightbacks aren't couched in that framework of passion; even their incredible return-from-dead scenarios are framed in system and process. It's the Australians doing that thing called Australianism.

As if it's a national genetical trait that we have come to expect from the sun-roasted men from down under. Over the years, that trait has been sanitised because of its insane frequency. When Pakistan squeeze out of improbable situations, it elicits an all-knowing laughter from us. Smile in admiration at veterans of jailbreaks. When Australians do it, it makes you shrug in respect. Wince in admiration.

When Pakistan do it, it seems it emerges from a bottomless mystic pit of *junoon*; when Australians do it, it seems to kick in from a known reservoir of doggedness. Both don't surprise us but both seem to come from different places in human spirit — everyone knows there is a difference between Pakistani *junoon* and Australianism.

When Pakistan do it, it seems it emerges from a bottomless mystic pit of *junoon*; when Australians do it, it seems to kick in from a known reservoir of doggedness. Both don't surprise us but both seem to come from different places in human spirit — everyone knows there is a difference between Pakistani *junoon* and Australianism.

Colin Croft remembers a day in 1980 when Greg Chappell wandered over to their dressing room after yet another Australian loss to West Indies. "Greg told (Clive) Lloyd that 'you guys are damn good now. We can't beat you but give us 15 years, we are setting up a youth policy at grassroots and we will be the Test leaders. 15 years later, in 1995, they beat West Indies in West Indies and were the leaders. Just as he said. I remember that day as yesterday,'" Croft says in obvious admiration at Nottingham, where West Indies would contrive to lose all the little-big moments to implore in another game to Australia.

It's a bit ironical that Australia is yet again at the forefront of another youth policy at grassroots, but this time with debatable results. There has been an insistence of minimum number of youngsters in state teams but it has led to couple of problems. Slightly older cricketers are dropping out, feeling unwanted in this pursuit of youth, and youngsters are graduating up to state teams, without enough performance at grade cricket. And as the senior players drop out, the youngsters are finding themselves cocooned with other inexperienced kids — and cricket quality has dipped.

The thing that the Australian system used to throw up in the past was the youngsters learning from seniors, boys maturing as they play with men, but that seems to have gone down a bit with the youth-first policy. Not long ago, Shane Warne had called for an introspection. "Yes, Warner and Smith will help but Australian cricket needs a complete overhaul regarding the following: Coaching at all levels, the ridiculous Under-23 programmes, academy etc. As we are not producing quality smart cricketers — why?"

The number of 'quality smart cricketers' might be dwindling but Australia have yet again turned up at this World Cup with a real chance of winning it. If they do, they might have to thank India. It was in India earlier this year, just when the cricketing world thought Australians would be walkovers without Smith and Warner, they triumphed in some style. They made more runs than India, they took more wickets, they controlled the middle overs better. Adam Zampa grew in confidence, Aaron Finch returned to form and Usman Khawaja dominated.

So much so when Warner and Smith returned to the team, they needed to perform to hold onto their spots. All that has helped Australia who always had an excellent bowling attack. In Nathan Coulter-Nile, they found the seaming all-rounder that they wanted. Glenn Maxwell and Finch can be counted to perform when there isn't much spice on the pitch and if Warner steps up, as he did in the IPL, then this team can conquer the world.

If they do, it would be despite of all the structural problems that exist in Australian cricket. And it would be because this is a team that has got so used to winning — and knows how to use that hard-earned reputation against opponents.

Consider the West Indies game. Australians were far from looking invincible during the chase. At one stage, Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc had less than 10 overs between them and Zampa, Coulter-Nile, and Maxwell were looking rather ineffective. Where are the overs going to come from? Who is going to take the wickets? Was there a Pakistan-like bezazzlement? Nope.

It was more the Australian reputation playing with the minds of West Indians. Aided by their own iffy decisions — but that's the thing with Australia, they always seem to bring out the worst in the opposition. Where Pakistan transmogrify into super heroes and reduce the opposition as mere witnesses, Australia create self-doubts that leads to iffy decisions in the opposition.

There was no reason for the West Indies batsmen to take on the last couple of deliveries in the second spells of Cummins and Starc, but they went for risky options and faltered during the chase. Australians make teams lose their cool. It makes them doubt themselves, unsure, and it leads to immature cricket.

India would have to be careful about it. Careful not to be careless, if you get the idea. Not to play into Australians' reputation. Be wise in the little-big decisive moments that can potentially turn the game around.

1 WORLD CUP • 10 COUNTRIES • 1000 OPINIONS

Afghan cricket arrives, navigating past public hangings, abductions

VARYING THEIR daily routines to avoid kidnappings and being late for practice sessions due to public hangings. Afghanistan's journey to the World Cup is littered with stories of heroism and overcoming obstacles. And in an interview to New Zealand's Radio Sport, Afghanistan's chief development coach, Englishman Andy Moles, outlined the kind of challenges the players have faced. "A player was late for practice one day and I tore into him because he had a bit of a habit for being bad at timekeeping and then at the end of it I asked 'why are you late today?' and he said, 'well they blocked the streets off today because in the night one of the special forces soldiers had been hung on the lamp post as a signal to the locals not to be friends with the Americans or any of the special forces,'" Moles was quoted as saying by *New Zealand Herald*. Moles was Afghanistan's coach at the 2015 World Cup and is now tasked with shaping up the country's future stars. He, however, conceded the outside factors make the job difficult. "Most of the stuff happens in the morning, in peak traffic, so I try not to travel at peak times and vary my routes as one of the biggest issues these days is kidnapping," he said. "You have to make sure you're travelling different routes every day at different times of the day so you don't become an easy target." Cricket, Moles feels, is the only way to a

secure future. "Everywhere you look...you see kids playing what they call 'tennis ball cricket'. It's a way they can better their lines."

England's international fans

WITH MORE than five players in the England team being born in foreign countries with skipper Eoin Morgan born in Ireland, Joffra Archer born in West Indies, Jason Roy born in South Africa and Ben Stokes in New Zealand, fans from these countries are also showing their love for their native cricketers with New Zealand leading the way. With his father Gerard Stokes moving to England to coach Workington Town Rugby League Club, the Christchurch born cricketer spent his childhood at the town called Cockermonth in England. Stokes' parents Gerard and Deborah moved back to New Zealand in the early 2010s, and the cricketer spends his time away from the team with his parents in New Zealand. During the New Zealand-Bangladesh match on Wednesday, some New Zealand cricketer fans were seen wearing Ben Stokes Jerseys in England colours and supporting the Black Caps. While Mitchell Santner ensured that New Zealand won the game, the Kiwi fans would certainly hope for someone to play like Ben Stokes against



EXTRA COVER
Sophia Gardens' groundstaff carry rain cover as it drizzles in Cardiff on Friday. England face Bangladesh here on Saturday. Reuters

Afghanistan and against other teams to guide the side into their second successive semi-final appearance.

An inspiration from football
THE 'STRAPPED for Cash' band and the Barmy Army have come up with England's World Cup anthem — Three Lions (and a Crown). The music video that

was released on Wednesday features England football boss Gareth Southgate, a big cricket fan. "It's coming home, it's coming home/Cricket's coming home... Captain Morgan's England never will be down..." says the song. It's basically a re-adaptation of the Lightning Seeds' 'Three Lions' that had sent the nation crazy during Euro '96. "Learn the words, clear your throat, and get behind the team! This is the people's anthem, and you can bet it'll help in-

spire Eoin Morgan and his men as it gets being belloved from every corner of the Oval, Edgbaston, or wherever we happen to be playing," the Barmy Army has urged on their website.

Oracle Swann

THERE WAS Paul the octopus, Marcus the pig, baby pandas, Shaheen the camel, Citta the elephant and Achilles the cat. Way back in 1966 in England there was also Pickles the dog, who found the lost Jules Rimet Trophy that the hosts would later win. Now, in England 2019, there is a Swann. Graeme Swann. The former England spinner had considered running naked to celebrate the hosts' 104-run win over South Africa in the tournament opener. But even after the Poms lost to Pakistan, Swann predicts England will win the World Cup. "I'm certainly still backing them to go on for World Cup glory this summer," he told reporters. Meanwhile in India, an astrologer is claiming India will win the title. But who can trust humans these days?

A shot at redemption

Bangladesh head coach Steve Rhodes had a 33-year association with Worcestershire which came to an end

when he was sacked in January 2018. It was reported he delayed informing the county about the arrest of all-rounder Alex Hepburn, who was later charged with two counts of rape in December 2017 and convicted of one of those charges and jailed for five years. After spending most of his life at the west Midlands club as player and coach, Rhodes also lost out on the chance to coach the England Under-19s at their World Cup, post investigations into his failure to report. The enforced break was followed by him being named as one of six scouts by England national selector Ed Smith, after which he wound up in Bangladesh on a two-year contract as head coach. The quiet Midlands life was in stark contrast to his first year — a roller-coaster. The Tigers won their first-ever trophy at a tri-series against Ireland and West Indies, but he had to guide the shell-shocked Bangladesh team to emerge from the trauma of the Christchurch terror attack. "Bangladesh have given me this opportunity and I'm grateful to them," he told BBC. "Hopefully I can play my part, albeit very small. The players are the key ones and the important ones," he said. On his return trying to plot the fall of his home nation, though, Rhodes reckons he is uniquely placed. "I'm the only English international head coach at the World Cup and that makes me so proud," he told BBC.

Poppies, military hats, daggers: a hot potato for the ICC



ICC objected to Dhoni's use of an army insignia on his wicketkeeping gloves.

MIHIR VASAVDA
JUNE 7

FEBRUARY, 2003: Andy Flower and Henry Olonga walk out for Zimbabwe's opening match of the World Cup wearing black armbands. They were protesting against the country's then-president Robert Mugabe. The International Cricket Council (ICC) didn't charge the two. Instead, they were let off with a warning.

NOVEMBER, 2016: During the third Test against India in Rajkot, England players - led by Alastair Cook - take the field wearing a poppy on Remembrance Day. They also observed a minute's silence for the soldiers who lost their lives during the World War I. This was done with ICC permission.

MARCH 2019: Virat Kohli leads out the Indian team wearing military hats for the third ODI against Australia in Ranchi as a mark of respect to the soldiers who died in the Pulwama attacks. The ICC, once again, did not object, saying the BCCI had taken permission.

On Friday, world cricket's governing

body objected to MS Dhoni's use of an army insignia on his wicketkeeping gloves. The 'Balidan' symbol was spotted on the former India captain's gloves during the World Cup opener against South Africa.

The ICC instructed him to remove it for the upcoming matches, saying it violated their laws related to clothing and equipment, which bars players from displaying personal messages. The clause also states that approval wouldn't be granted for "messages which relate to political, religious or racial activities or causes." The BCCI, on Friday, tried to seek ICC's permission by convincing them that the badge wasn't political in nature. But they did not budge.

The lack of consistent application of the rules arise from the fact that the ICC does not define what actions constitute as 'political, religious or racial' in nature. It's a challenge faced by most international federations, including FIFA.

But unlike the ICC, they have been prompt in at least sanctioning the players under the existing framework.

The poppy case is a prime example.

While the ICC gave England the green signal to wear a red flower on their shirts in 2016, FIFA threatened to punish the country's football team that was planning to wear the poppy for a World Cup qualifier against Scotland.

FIFA, too, have explicit rules on players' displaying personal messages on their clothing, equipment, and even undergarments. Law 4 of FIFA's regulation states: "The basic compulsory equipment must not have any political, religious or personal slogans, statements or images... The team of a player whose basic equipment has political, religious or personal slogans, statements or images will be sanctioned..."

It was a repeat of the controversy that had overshadowed England's match against Spain in 2011. Back then, FIFA turned down England's proposal, saying it would give rise to more such initiatives around the world, which would "jeopardize the neutrality of football."

Ultimately, a common ground was reached wherein England players were allowed to wear the poppy while the anthem

The lack of consistent application of the rules arise from the fact that the ICC does not define what actions constitute as 'political, religious or racial' in nature. It's a challenge faced by most international federations, including FIFA.

was played and black armbands during the match.

Even five years later, FIFA could not define if the poppy symbol was political or religious in nature. Yet, since it was in violation of the laws it slapped the English FA with a fine of £35,000.

The decision was appealed at CAS but before the case would reach its conclusion, FIFA modified its rules. The revised law states: "When commemorating a significant national or international event, the sensibilities of the opposing team [including their supporters] and the general pub-

lic should be carefully considered."

FIFA tweaked its law after realizing that this would be a recurring issue each November - since Remembrance Day often coincides with an international match-day.

Because of the unique position they often are in, and the wider reach in middle of a major event, athletes often use sporting arenas as a backdrop for making a social statement. It dates back to US sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos protesting the country's treatment of black citizens during the 200m medal ceremony at the 1968 Games to the more recent anthem protests, where the National Football League players have protested against police brutality by kneeling during national anthems.

There is an argument that Dhoni's actions was not very different from the use of the poppy symbol by England's cricketers and footballers. Both are, in essence, a tribute to the respective country's soldiers. The ICC has taken a softer path for the poppies and FIFA has evolved its position on the issue over the years.

Dhoni may have to remove the insignia from his gloves for now. But it is unlikely we have heard the last on this issue.

No sweat: Nadal blows past Federer

Spaniard reaches 12th Roland Garros final as gusty winds, gutsy opponent overwhelm Swiss; Thiem-Djokovic to resume today

AP/REUTERS
PARIS, JUNE 7

IT'S ROUGH enough for Roger Federer - well, let's be honest, anyone holding a tennis racket - to try to deal with Rafael Nadal's unflinching excellence on the French Open's red clay.

Mix in a wild wind, and Federer, so great for so long, against anyone else and anywhere else, morphed into merely good. And good, even Federer's brand of good, was not nearly enough Friday.

Nadal made quick work of Federer in their first meeting at Roland Garros since 2011, outperforming his rival 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 in air whipping at more than 20 mph (12 kph) to reach his record 12th final in Paris as he pursues his record 12th championship.

This was Federer's most lopsided Grand Slam defeat since he gathered a measly four games in a loss to - guess who? - Nadal in the 2008 French Open title match.

"He makes you feel uncomfortable the way he defends the court and plays on clay. There is nobody who even plays remotely close to him," said Federer, who hadn't entered the tournament since 2015. "I don't even know who I need to go search for, to go practice with somebody who plays like him. I was thinking that during the match."

Nadal has never lost a semifinal at the clay-court major. Never lost a final, either. When told of those facts, Nadal replied, matter-of-factly: "It's incredible, being honest."

He's also never lost to Federer at Roland Garros, improving to 6-0. Overall, Nadal leads their series 24-15. Federer had won their past five meetings, but those were all on hard courts.

It's a whole different task to take on Nadal on clay, in general, and at the French Open, in particular, where he is 92-2 for his career.

In Sunday's final, the No. 2-seeded Nadal will play No. 1 Novak Djokovic or No. 4 Dominic Thiem. Their semifinal, played second Friday, was suspended for the day in the third set because of rain in the evening. Thiem was leading 6-2, 3-6, 3-1 when play was halted. About 45 minutes later, officials announced the match would resume Saturday. That means whoever wins would be competing for a fourth day in a row in the final against a well-rested Nadal.

This was the first time since 2011 the four top-seeded men were in the Roland Garros semifinals.

In the women's final Saturday, No. 8 Ash Barty will face unseeded 19-year-old Marketa Vondrousova of the Czech Republic. It's the first time either has played for a major title.

Nadal, meanwhile, is bidding for his 18th. Among men, only Federer has more, with 20.

Like so many times before, it was Nadal's topspin-heavy lefty forehand, his relentless ball-chasing and his return game that gave Federer fits. Even frustrated the guy so much that the generally stoic Federer smacked a tennis ball toward the stands after getting broken to trail 2-1 in the third set.

It would soon be over.

"It's just amazing how he plays from deep and then is able to bounce back and forth from the baseline," Federer said. "I didn't play a poor two first sets, in my opinion. I thought Rafa really had to come up with the goods to make the difference, and the difference was a passing shot here, a pickup there."

Blithely put. The fact is, Nadal's passes and pickups - not to mention his reflexes - are not of this world. More than once, he slid to his right, beyond the doubles alley, to extend a point by retrieving the seemingly irretrievable with a backhand, then followed it up by sprinting to his left for a jaw-droppingly precise forehand that flew out of Federer's reach and veered to land near a line.

And more than once, Nadal punctuated the point by pumping his fist and yelling, "Vamos!"

The wind was so unchecked that it knocked a tarp off its moorings behind a baseline. It tossed loose dirt from the court into both players' eyes, so much so that Federer joked it felt as if they were playing in a sandbox. There was also drizzle and temperatures of about 60 degrees (15 Celsius). Enough to make one wish the retractable roof due to be installed before the 2020 French Open were already in place.

Even Nadal described the conditions as "so hard, so difficult to manage."

"It's just really complicated, you know," Federer said. "So you're trying to see how much can you do... or you cannot do. Are you playing



Rafael Nadal beat Roger Federer 6-3, 6-4, 6-2. A tally of just nine games meant it was Federer's heaviest Grand Slam loss since managing only four against Nadal in 2008. Reuters

OUTPLAYED

81 First serve percentage (72/88) registered by Rafael Nadal during his match against Federer. The Swiss could manage just 61 per cent despite slowing down his first serve.

35 Number of net approaches made by Federer in gusty conditions against a skillful volleyer like Nadal. The Swiss, who had won an average 70 percent of net approaches coming in to this match, had made 60 net approaches in his win against Wawrinka.

34 Playing in extremely windy conditions while trying to dictate play, Federer ended up committing 34 unforced errors, almost twice as that of Nadal's 19. Federer went into the match with a larger racquet head against Nadal on clay for the first time and it did help him in his backhand shots.

19 Number of points won by Nadal in rallies of 10 shots or more. It included the last 11 of the match that was dominated by Nadal with his solid defence and court coverage.

flatter or with more spin? Are you keeping the ball in play? Are you going for stuff?"

With an aggressive, charge-to-the-net style, he had been broken a total of only four times by his first five opponents. But Federer was more hesitant against his nemesis, and Nadal won 6 of 13 return games.

The 37-year-old Federer was serenaded off the court by spectators' chants of his first name. He raised his right arm for a quick wave as he walked away - perhaps for the final time. He missed the tournament in 2016 with a bad back, then skipped the clay-court circuit the next two years.

For Nadal, this was the latest impeccable performance in a recent resurgence. He entered

I think I surprised myself maybe how deep I got in this tournament and how well I actually was able to play throughout. Next year, just like with any other tournament, I don't know. We'll see what happens. But I definitely enjoyed the clay court season and the French Open, so that would help the chances, I guess, to return."

ROGER FEDERER,
ON RETURNING TO FRENCH OPEN NEXT YEAR

May without a title in 2019, his worst start to a season in 15 years. But the 33-year-old Spaniard began finding his form at last month's Italian Open, beating Djokovic in that final. In Paris, Nadal is up to his annual standards.

"He's been playing better and better every week," said Nadal's coach, Carlos Moya, the 1998 French Open champion. "He's been playing well in this moment, which is his main goal: Roland Garros."

One more victory to go for a dozen titles in Paris.

Federer delights fans with hint of Paris return

After his brutal defeat, dozens of eager fans crammed around the door of a media centre hoping to catch a sight of the Swiss great speaking to reporters. "This may be the last time we see him in Paris," said one, explaining why she was waiting outside a room instead of watching tennis still being played at Roland Garros.

But the holder of a record 20 men's Grand Slam singles titles gave cause for hope when he hinted he would return next year.

"I thought it was a great tournament. I really enjoyed it," Federer told reporters. "Crowd support couldn't have been better. Maybe one of the best ever in my entire 20-year career that I have been on tour at a slam."

"Them always being there for me, supporting me in practice, at the matches, on the grounds whenever I came and showed up, they were always happy to see me. So that was nice. You know, I think I surprised myself maybe how deep I got in this tournament and how well I actually was able to play throughout. "And next year, just like with any other tournament, I don't know. We'll see what happens. But I definitely enjoyed the clay court season and the French Open, so that would help the chances, I guess, to return."

Barty, Vondrousova shrug off sexism row to reach final

REUTERS
PARIS, JUNE 7

ASHLEIGH BARTY and Marketa Vondrousova set-up a Roland Garros final showdown on Friday, shrugging off a sexism row which had seen their semi-finals shifted away from the tournament's showpiece court.

Barty, 23, reached her first final at the majors, coming back from a set and 0-3 down to defeat 17-year-old Amanda Anisimova 6-7 (4/7), 6-3, 6-3 in a rollercoaster semi-final.

Czech teenager Marketa Vondrousova also made sure of her place in a maiden final at the Slams by edging out Britain's Johanna Konta 7-5, 7-6 (7/2). Vondrousova, 19, is the first teenager to reach a major final in 10 years since Caroline Wozniacki at the 2009 US Open and the first at Roland Garros in 12 years.

Saturday's final will be the youngest final at a Slam since the 2008 Roland Garros championship match when 20-year-old Ana Ivanovic defeated Dinara Safina, 22.

Eighth seed Barty is the first Australian in a French Open final since Samantha Stosur finished runner-up in 2010.

"That was amazing, both good and bad," said Barty who will rise to the top three in the rankings next week.

'Hardest thing I've done'

"It was the hardest thing that I ever had to do. I am really proud of the way I fought especially in the conditions which were cold and windy."

Both semi-finals got underway after accusations of sexism were made against French Open organisers who had decided to shift the matches away from the showpiece Court Philippe Chatrier.

The main arena had already been scheduled to stage the men's semi-finals between Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic against Dominic Thiem.

The WTA said the decision, taken after Wednesday's play was washed out and prompted by fears of more rain Friday, was "unfair and inappropriate".

Former world number one Amelie Mauresmo of France said it was a "disgrace".

Barty, 23, raced into a 4-0 lead with successive breaks as Anisimova, plagued with nerves, managed just one point. The 17-year-old saved two set points in the sixth game to finally get on the board and retrieved a break for 2-5.

She broke twice again for 6-5 but faltered when she served for the set before securing the tiebreak.

Anisimova then led 3-0 in the second set, with Barty failing to win a point.

However, in a perfect capsule of the unpredictable semi-final, played out in front of a half-full Court Suzanne Lenglen, Barty claimed the next six games to level the tie.

The Australian, who once famously took a break from tennis to pursue a cricket career, even recovered from a break at 1-2 down in the decider. She eventually held her nerve as Anisimova, bidding to become the youngest finalist in Paris since Martina Hingis in 1997, fell apart despite gamely saving five match points.

'Kinda froze'

"I mean, I was kind of, like, frozen and I couldn't really get into my game," said Anisimova of her wretched start although she has the consolation of knowing she'll be in the top 30 next week.

Over on a damp and windy Court Simonne Mathieu, world number 38 Vondrousova battled past 26th seed Konta who was bidding to become Britain's first female French Open finalist since Sue Barker won the 1976 title.

When she steps onto Chatrier on Saturday, it will be Vondrousova's first experience of the arena.

"I watched (compatriot) Lucie Safarova when she played finals there in 2015 when I was junior, but I never played there. So it's going to be something huge," she said.

Konta looked the stronger player for large periods of the match but a staggering 41 unforced errors proved costly.

The match was played in an atmosphere more associated with first-round ties rather than semi-finals - in front of a smattering of spectators on the 5,000-capacity arena.

"The way it looks probably speaks for itself more than anything," said Konta after the match in reference to the court.

Neymar, accuser testify in rape allegation case

ASSOCIATED PRESS
RIO DE JANEIRO, JUNE 7

A 26-YEAR-OLD model who has accused soccer star Neymar of raping her is testifying to police about the alleged incident. Najila Trindade arrived at a police station in Sao Paulo on Friday accompanied by one of her lawyers.

The Associated Press doesn't name alleged sexual assault victims unless they make their identities public, which Trindade did in two television interviews earlier this week.

Last Friday, she told police that Neymar raped her in a Paris hotel on May 15. The player denies the accusation. Neymar testified for almost two hours in Rio de Janeiro's police headquarters Thursday in a cybercrimes investigation linked to the allegation.

Brazilian soccer confederation reported earlier that Neymar had received a subpoena to speak with authorities about his posting on social media of images and messages of the accuser without her authorization in possible violation of her online privacy.

Neymar arrived to testify shortly after 7 p.m. local time and left shortly before 9 p.m. He spoke to journalists afterward at the police headquarters but didn't provide any details about his testimony in the alleged cybercrime case.

"I only want to thank the support and messages that everybody sent," said the player, who was using crutches because of his injured right ankle.

Neymar is expected to speak to authorities in the next few days about the rape allegation, which is being investigated separately in Sao Paulo, where the woman filed a formal complaint with police Friday. The complaint alleges the Brazilian soccer star raped her in a Paris hotel room May 15. A doctor gave a statement to Sao Paulo police Thursday about a medical examination he gave the accuser.

Neymar denies any wrongdoing. After word of the woman's allegation became known, the player shared social media posts meant to show that the accuser had sent him friendly messages following the alleged rape.

Injured ankle

Neymar injured his ankle in a friendly match against Qatar on Wednesday held as a warmup for the Copa America soccer tournament.

The accuser, Najila Trindade, a 26-year-old model, made her first public comments about her charge this week, telling two Brazilian television stations that Neymar raped her and engaged in "aggression," or physical violence.

The Associated Press doesn't name alleged sexual assault victims unless they make their identities public, which Trindade did in the TV interviews. She told the SBT channel that Neymar became aggressive after she refused to have unprotected sex with him. She said the player had sexual intercourse with her despite her refusal and hit her repeatedly.

"I said: 'Stop it, stop it, stop it.' He did not communicate, he just acted," Trindade said.

Her lawyer, Danilo Garcia de Andrade, said late Thursday that Trindade is suffering "threats; she's taking medicines; she has problems sleeping and of course she is scared." He did not say what kind of threats she received or who they are coming from.

Meanwhile, a video emerged on social media Thursday night that appears to show Neymar and his accuser in a physical altercation. It is unclear how or when the video was made, and the AP has no way of verifying it.

Neymar da Silva Santos, Neymar's father and agent, said the new video is evidence that his son was set up by Trindade.

Trindade denied that during her TV appearances. "I wouldn't expose myself this way to take money from Neymar. There is no logic, there is no sense," she told one interviewer.

Neymar denies any wrongdoing. After word of the woman's allegation became known, the player shared social media posts meant to show that the accuser had sent him friendly messages following the alleged rape.

BRIEFLY

Warriors owner banned for shoving player

Golden State Warriors minority owner Mark Stevens, who shoved the Toronto Raptors' Kyle Lowry during the NBA Finals game on Wednesday, will be fined \$500,000 and banned from attending NBA games for one year, the Warriors and the NBA said on Thursday. Lowry tumbled into the front row of the crowd in Oakland while diving for a loose ball during the fourth quarter and Stevens, who was sitting courtside, used one hand to push the player as he was getting back on his feet.

India hope for a turnaround vs Thailand

India will look to end their campaign in the King's Cup football tournament on a positive note when they take on hosts Thailand in the third-place play-off match here Saturday. While revenge will be on Thailand's mind after the 4-1 in the AFC Asian Cup in January. Speaking at the pre-match press conference, India coach Igor Stimac made clear his intentions of continuing from where his team left off against Curacao. Despite a brave effort in the second half, India lost 3-1 to Curacao.

Skipper Manpreet stars in Poland win

Captain Manpreet Singh led from the front with a brace, guiding India to a hard-fought 3-1 win over Poland in the FIH Series Finals hockey tournament, here Friday. After a barren first quarter, Manpreet scored in the 21st and 26th minutes while Harmanpreet Singh converted a penalty corner in the 36th minute as India registered its second consecutive win. Poland's lone goal was scored by Mateusz Hulboj in the 25th minute. World no. 5 India were far from impressive, especially after thrashing world no. 21 Poland 10-0 in the Azlan Shah. Chief coach Reid admitted that the hosts had an off day but said Poland are a better team than what the ranking suggest. "Poland are much better side than what we think, they are no.2 in the world in indoor hockey. We weren't sharp today," Reid said.

AGENCIES

England err, Holland recover

Defensive errors in extra-time cost Southgate's team final spot as the Dutch come back from behind

SIMONE EVANS
PORTO, JUNE 7

BEFORE ENGLAND'S Nations League semi-final against the Netherlands, manager Gareth Southgate made it clear that his team were taking the new tournament very seriously. "We want to get into the habit of winning big matches," he said. But after Thursday's 3-1 loss, after extra time, to Ronald Koeman's Dutch side, England are left contemplating a different kind of habit — losing semi-finals.

Just as in the last four defeat by Croatia in the World Cup in Russia a year ago, there was a feeling that victory was within their grasp and better decision-making — from the players and Southgate — might have led to a different result.

The first decision that needs to be questioned was the decision by Southgate not to field any of the players from European champions Liverpool or Tottenham Hotspur who had played in the Champions League final in Madrid five days earlier.

So captain Harry Kane started on the bench along with Liverpool skipper Jordan Henderson and Tottenham attacking midfielder Dele Alli. All three might have normally expected to start such a game.

In marked contrast, Koeman started two Liverpool players with Virgil van Dijk his usual dominant self at the back and Georginio Wijnaldum showing no signs of fatigue in midfield. Either the Nations League was a tournament that truly mattered for England or it was the glorified friendly tournament that it's critics had suggested was the case when it was introduced.

Southgate's selection, quite simply, did not suggest a win at all costs attitude and while Kane's exclusion was understandable, given his recent injury lay off and lack of match sharpness, the absence of Henderson was felt.

Fabian Delph barely featured for Manchester City in the second half of the season and England looked much more dynamic when Henderson eventually replaced him in the 77th minute.

Then there were the two awful mistakes made by England during extra time which cost them the game. John Stones was caught dawdling in possession as the last man and then played a short pass to Ross Barkley which the Chelsea midfielder handled poorly with a misplaced pass that gifted the Dutch



England manager Southgate consoles John Stones, whose errors cost them dear, after their match in Porto. Reuters

Southgate's selection, quite simply, did not suggest a win at all costs attitude and while Kane's exclusion was understandable, given his recent injury lay off and lack of match sharpness, the absence of Henderson was felt.

the third.

"I'm asking them to play a tough game at the back - if we didn't play that way we wouldn't be here," said Southgate, defending his insistence on playing out from the back.

"We didn't lose because of how we wanted to play; we lost because of poor execution and fatigue," he added.

But this wasn't a training session to practice distribution from the back. In a must-win situation, defenders don't take unnecessary risks or get caught slowly meandering on the ball.

The argument, put forward by some, that the alternative to such an approach is rudimentary, aimless long balls from the back, is a classic false dichotomy.

It is possible to be committed to playing intelligent passes from defence without taking unnecessary risks — that involves decision-making more than technique for players at this level. There were positive moments for England in the game and Jesse Lingard's

goal following a flowing move from the back, ruled out after video review for a fractional offside, was the kind of football Southgate is trying to encourage.

But as Cristiano Ronaldo showed, with his hat-trick against Switzerland in their semi on Wednesday, the great players deliver when it matters the most.

This is the fourth semi-final in a row that England have lost and while 1990 and 1996 belong to different eras, the last two merit some scrutiny. England have surely moved out of the era of transition, of experimenting and of building for the future. If the steps forward they have taken are to mean anything they need to add the steel and ruthless attitude, on the bench as well as on the field, to win those big games.

BCCI turns down RCB's request for mixed-gender T20 match

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, JUNE 7

THE SUPREME Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) has turned down a request from IPL team Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) to hold a mixed T20 exhibition match, featuring Virat Kohli and international women cricketers, including Harmanpreet Kaur and Mithali Raj.

The RCB had planned to conduct the mixed-gender game after the ongoing ICC World Cup. Even before the BCCI gave their approval, promotions for the game were being aired during the IPL. On Friday, the CoA decided against giving permission as BCCI rules don't allow contracted players to be part of exhibition games.

"The RCB had asked for permission for a mixed-gender Twenty20 exhibition match, as part of a campaign launched by Royal Challenge Sports Drink but it is against the BCCI rules. The BCCI doesn't allow players to be part of exhibition games and that is why the request was turned down," a BCCI source confirmed to *The Indian Express*.

The franchise ran a promotional campaign titled #ChallengeAccepted. The date of the game wasn't mentioned during the campaign. The franchise issued a press release in April. In the statement RCB captain Kohli said: "Be it men or women, cricket is one game, and I want to urge fans to break the boundaries that exist in their mind that divides the sport by gender. Equality in sports is ultimately a reflection of equality in life, and if we want a better tomorrow, then we need to say #ChallengeAccepted and start breaking down all stereotypes."

Harmanpreet and Raj were also quoted in the RCB statement.

"People say that women's and men's cricket is not equal because we are not able to face the same challenges on-field. To all those fans, I want to say that neither does the idea of facing a ball at 150 kmph daunt me, nor do I worry about the size of the stadium while hitting a boundary," Harmanpreet said.

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