



## IN BRIEF

**DSCSC asked to shift its liquor shop**

NEW DELHI

The Delhi State Civil Supplies Corporation has been asked to shift its liquor shop from Hans Bhawan in ITO complex after receiving complaints about people drinking openly and creating nuisance. PTI

**Air quality of Delhi-NCR**

City	AQI	Category
Delhi	126	Moderate
Gurgaon	106	Good
Ghaziabad	139	Poor
Faridabad	97	Satisfactory
Noida	128	Moderate
Greater Noida	102	Good

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

## DELHI TODAY

**Talk:** Seminar on "Internet Governance - Background, Development and the Asian Perspective" by Samiran Gupta, the Head of India for Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) at Seminar Rooms, Institute of Chinese Studies, Civil Lines, 3 p.m.

**Book Launch:** K. Satchidanandan, eminent poet and critic will release the book "Colours of Loneliness and other stories" authored by Paramita Satpathy. Followed by noted novelist Chandras Choudhury will be conversation with the author at Lecture Room-2, India International Centre (IIC), 6.30 p.m.

**Exhibition:** "Vriksha", an exhibition featuring the work of 30 artists celebrating the eternal power of trees - painting, photographs, drawings, sculptures and ceramics, curated by Uma Nair at Main Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex, IIC, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

**Exhibition:** "Delhi Evolution through Flora and Time", a solo show by Vidur Sodhani at Delhi O Delhi Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

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

## 61% DU freshers from unreserved category

About 3% admissions each under ST, EWS categories so far

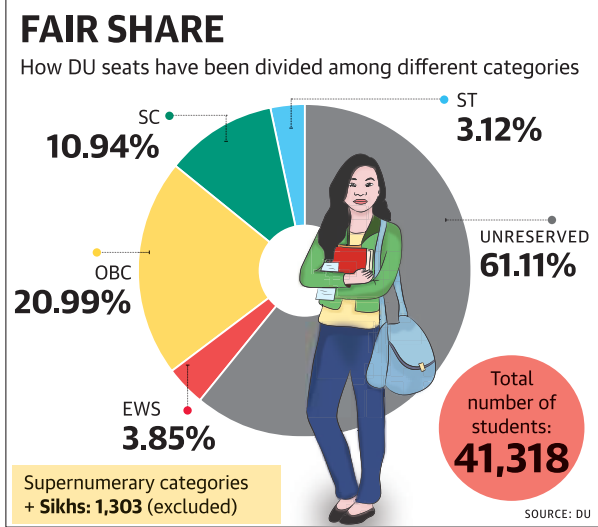
SIDHARTH RAVI  
NEW DELHI

Among the students admitted to the UG courses at Delhi University, as of Monday, more than 60% belong to the unreserved category, analysis of university data showed.

Compared to this, only about 3% students each have been admitted under the Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Economic Weaker Sections (EWS) categories for which a reservation of 7.5% and 10% have been allotted, according to the university's bulletin of information.

Among Scheduled Caste students, while 15% reservation has been allotted, only 10.94% students have been given admission. On the other hand, for Other Backward Castes (OBC), for whom 27% has been allotted, 20.96% students have been admitted.

According to data shared by DU, 42,621 students were admitted to colleges under various categories, including supernumerary quotas such as Persons with Disabilities (PwD), Kashmiri migrants (KM), Defence category (CW). Reservations under these categories are extended over and above the allotted seats in each course and have been excluded from the



present calculation. It should also be noted that SC and ST students who qualify under the cut-offs for unreserved category are not included in the reserved quota.

**Ratio likely to change**  
With the third cut-off list released on Monday, admissions to several courses under different categories remained open and are likely to effect the ratio. The ratio of admissions under different categories follows a similar distribution in final registrations as well. Among the 2,58,388 applicants to DU's courses, the ST and EWS ca-

tegories were about 3%, the UR category had 59% applicants, OBC category 21% OBCs and SCs about 14%.

Dean of Students' Welfare Rajeev Gupta, commenting on the lack of ST students, said that despite efforts, students from different parts of the country chose different universities and professional courses which might lead to lower numbers. With regard to the low levels of admission under the EWS category, he said that problems with obtaining income certificates and the fact that it is a new category is likely to have affected the turnout.

## Withdrawals, fresh admissions continue

A day after third cut-off list was released

NIDHI MISHRA  
NEW DELHI

With the release of the third cut-off list for merit-based undergraduate courses at Delhi University, colleges witnessed admission withdrawals and new applications once again on Tuesday.

Up to 2,732 admission cancellations took place on Tuesday alone, a university official said. With several popular courses still open for admissions, including B.Com (Hons.) at Shri Ram College of Commerce under the unreserved category, openings under reserved categories and several colleges reopening admissions as well, many students are still deciding where to pursue their higher education.

**Easy switch?**

Ishita Rana who had secured admission at Jesus And Mary College under the second list decided to migrate to Hansraj College after the release of the third list. "North Campus has

more opportunities as it is sort of a closed campus with many colleges in the vicinity and hence, one can have more exposure on academic as well as extracurricular fronts," she said.

But an easy switch is not available to everyone. For Ishita Issac, for instance, who wanted to join St. Stephen's College because of which she didn't apply to JMC under the first list, college authorities refused to admit her under the third list as she exceeded the second cut-off. With no options left she has decided to take admission at Shaheed Bhagat Singh College.

**Fourth list on July 15**

In North Campus, several students were making rounds of campuses trying to find courses they were eligible for.

Students applying to colleges under the third list are required to complete admission formalities by Thursday. The fourth list will be released on July 15.

## BJP leaders call for unity within party

Discuss strategy for Assembly polls

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The BJP convened a meeting to discuss its strategy for the upcoming Delhi Assembly elections at its State headquarters here on Monday. According to insiders, it was also an exercise in "reducing differences" between senior members of its local leadership.

The meeting was chaired by national organisational secretary Ram Lal.

**Detailed road map**

Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari said a detailed road map regarding the party's campaign for the ensuing elections had been prepared, stress was laid on working in a united manner to unseat the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)

from power and ensure the formation of a BJP government, party insiders claimed.

"Some leaders who attended the meeting, including Mr. Tiwari, suggested that leaders should voice differences within the party instead of airing them through the media as was happening," said a party source.

In a video message regarding the meeting, Mr. Tiwari said, "We will work in a united way to bring back the BJP to power in Delhi."

According to sources, there was an agreement among the participants regarding the fact that it would be "difficult to defeat the AAP" if the entire leadership "is not on the same page over common issues".

## CM failed to keep promise on power charges: BJP

To present plea on tariffs at DERC meet

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Tuesday accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of "failing" to keep his promise to provide relief on fixed electricity charges to the Capital's residents and announced it would take up the matter at a public hearing here.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Vijender Gupta said he would present his petition on tariffs for 2017-18 and 2019-20 at a public hearing of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) scheduled to be held on Wednesday. "The Chief Minister on September 3, 2018, had assured that he would provide relief from the fixed charges on

electricity...but he failed to provide any relief," Mr. Gupta alleged.

Subsequently, on June 2 this year, Mr. Kejriwal had claimed that the fixed charge component of power tariffs was raised by the DERC last year "without consulting the Delhi government" and again promised to provide relief on the fixed charges, the BJP leader said.

"But he has so far failed to provide any relief due to connivance with discoms. In the petition to the DERC, I will insist that the fixed charges, power purchase adjustment charges [PPAC] and surcharge and pension trust surcharge must be immediately rolled back," he said.

## Ambedkar University releases first cut-off list

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Cut-offs for the merit-based undergraduate programmes at Ambedkar University Delhi were released on its website on Tuesday.

**Steep differences**

The university, which is funded by the Delhi government, extends 85% reservation for students from the National Capital Territory (NCT) while 15% seats are reserved for others.

This reflects the steep difference in cut-offs for students from Delhi under various categories

The highest cut-off has been announced for 12 seats under the unreserved category for B.A. (Honours) psychology 98.5%, however, for students from NCT the cut off is 97.75%.

One of the lowest cut-offs was offered for B.A. in sustainable urbanism at 85.5% for unreserved students from NCT and 90.50% for

non-NCT students. While the university also extends reservations under various constitutionally mandated quotas, as in previous years, no seats are made available for students outside of the NCT, under the OBC category.

Other courses offered by AUD include B.A. (Honours) in economics, English, history, sociology, psychology, and social science and humanities at its Kashmere Gate Campus.

The second campus in Ka-

rampura offers B.A. in law and politics, social sciences and humanities and in sustainable urbanism. The university also offers masters programmes in various disciplines.

**Six cut-offs**

Admissions under the first cut-off will take place on Wednesday and Thursday and the next cut-off will be released on July 12. The university is scheduled to release six cut-offs as of now.

IN BRIEF

**Man held for creating fake govt. identity**

**NEW DELHI**  
A 21-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly creating fake ID of Pay and Accounts Officer in the government's Public Financial Management System. DCP (Cyber Crime) Anyesh Roy said Nour Mohd Ali pretended to be one Lalit Dagar and claimed to be the newly appointed Pay and Accounts Officer. He had requested for approval from the concerned department but after scrutiny by the Accounts Department, no such person was found.

**HC curb on online shopping sites**

**NEW DELHI**  
The Delhi HC has restrained e-commerce companies from selling health and beauty products of direct sellers, Amway, Modicare and Oriflame, without their consent. It gave the interim order on the pleas of these three sellers alleging that products under their brands were being sold on the e-commerce platforms at cheaper rates.

## Two arrested for Model Town, New Friends Colony robberies

Manhunt on for their accomplice; stolen items recovered

**STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI**

Two criminals have been arrested for their alleged involvements in several armed robberies here, the police said on Tuesday.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (North-East) Atul Thakur said both Saffan alias Af-fan (23) and Chand (22) are from Uttar Pradesh's Murad Nagar.

"A countrymade pistol, six live cartridges, a stolen motorcycle and a robbed scooty, have been recovered from their possession," the officer said.

On Monday, the police said they received a tip-off regarding the robbers coming to Jyoti Nagar after which a trap on Loni Road and the two were nabbed.

During interrogation, the accused allegedly told the police about their involvement in two recent armed robberies in which the CCTV footages had gone viral. The accused had robbed a businessman, Varun Behl, at gunpoint in the parking

## 7 more held for Cong. leader's murder

More arrests likely in the June 27 killing, say police; two pistols, car seized

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
FARIDABAD**

Seven more persons have been arrested in connection with the murder of Congress leader Vikas Chaudhary last month, the police said on Tuesday.

Four persons have been arrested earlier in this connection and more arrests are likely, they said.

The arrested have been identified as Atul, Saurabh, Sunil alias Monu, Amardeep alias Honey, Dharamjeet, Naveen and Sooraj.

While Atul, Saurabh, Monu and Honey were present outside the gym at the time of the murder, the remaining three had provided shelter and logistics to those who fired shots at Chaudhary, said Faridabad Police Commissioner Sanjay Kumar on Tuesday.

Saurabh and Atul had also carried out the recce of Chaudhary's house and gym at the instance of one Sachin before the murder.



The arrested persons in police custody. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Gangster Kaushal's wife Roshni, his servant Naresh alias Chand, Harender and Manjesh were earlier arrested in this connection and the name of these seven accused had come up during their interrogation.

**Nabbed after a tip-off**

Crime Branch Sector 30 had got a tip-off after which a trap was laid on Tigaon Road and Saurabh and Atul were arrested. Two pistols

and six cartridges were seized from them.

The rest four were arrested by DLF Crime Branch team in Surajkund and their car was seized.

Saurabh told the police that as per the plan they had reached outside the gym in two separate cars on June 27 morning.

Five persons in a sedan parked their car outside the gym and two of them shot Chaudhary. They then sped

off in the car which was driven by Sachin.

They abandoned the car in Sector 76 and drove away in another car.

Saurabh and his three associates, armed with weapons, were seated in a car parked around 100 m away from the murder spot to give back-up.

Saurabh, Atul, Dharamjeet, Sunil and Naveen hold previous criminal record with cases of murder, robbery, causing hurt and carrying illegal weapons registered against them, said Mr. Kumar. He added that efforts were being made to arrest the remaining accused.

Chaudhary was hit by multiple bullets in Sector 9 at 9.30 a.m. when he came out of the gym.

**Sharp criticism**

The broad-daylight murder had evoked sharp criticism against the ruling BJP-led government by Congress leaders.

## Wife and son arrested for murder of govt. employee

Another man held; one still on the run: police

**STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI**

Three days after a Central government employee was found murdered at his residence, his wife and minor son along with an associate have been nabbed in connection with the case, the police said on Tuesday.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-East) Chinmoy Biswal said the accused included the victim's wife, their 16-year-old son and a neighbour, Rishabh (20).

On July 6, at 5 a.m., the police received a PCR call regarding a murder after which they reached the spot and found the employee of Directorate General of Audit Central Expenditure lying dead with stab wounds on his back.

During interrogation, his wife allegedly told the police that her husband used to come home by 7.30 p.m. but



One of the accused, Rishabh. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

on the night of the incident, he came at 11.30 p.m. She also said the doors of the house were open at the time.

"She said she woke up at 3 a.m. to go to the washroom when she saw her husband lying dead and ₹1.5lakh was missing," Mr. Biswal said.

**Motive behind murder**

During examination, the police said there were contradictions found in the versions of wife and her son. On sustained questioning, Sunita confessed to the murder.

"She said her husband was an alcoholic and used to ill-treat her and children. She then along with her son conspired to kill him," the DCP said.

**Promised ₹1.5 lakh**

The duo contacted the minor's friend whom they promised to give ₹1.5 lakh if he helped. The friend then roped in Rishabh.

"On the night of the incident when the victim returned home drunk and slept off, his wife and their son signalled the friend and Rishabh to enter the house. The duo then stabbed the victim to death while the mother-son kept guard," the officer said, adding that his wife had concocted the story about the money to stage it like a robbery.

The police are conducting raids to arrest the minor's friend.

## Auto driver, passenger killed in accident

**STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI**

Two persons, including an auto driver, were killed and three passengers injured when the autorickshaw rammmed a stationary vehicle on an outer road in Jahangirpuri on Tuesday.

It seems that the auto driver, Sukhvinder, lost balance as he had dozed off, the police said. There was no alcohol found in the driver's body.

After the police reached the spot, they rescued the injured persons and rushed them to a hospital. One passenger, Rahul, was declared brought dead.

"The three other passengers have received serious injuries but their condition is stable," said a police officer.

He confirmed that a case under Indian Penal Code sections of rash driving and the fatal accident has been registered at Jahangirpuri police station.

## Man arrested for plotting attack on mother to blackmail relative

Accused wanted to reclaim mortgaged property: police

**SAURABH TRIVEDI  
NEW DELHI**

A man has been arrested for allegedly conspiring to implicate three persons in a murder case as he wanted to reclaim a mortgaged property from his distant relative, in south-west Delhi's Sagarpur, the police said on Tuesday.

**'Marriage expenses'**

Prakash hired three persons to shoot at his mother to make it look like "an attempt to murder", they said. He also roped in his niece, Mohini, in the conspiracy by "promising to bear all expenses for her marriage if she helped", the police added.

On June 21, a PCR call was received that a woman was shot at outside a temple in Sagarpur. A team reached the spot and took the injured, Mahendri, to a nearby hospital.

She had sustained a bullet injury in the stomach, the police said.

"Mohini said she was

with Mahendri during the incident and named three persons – Saman, Anil and Kuldeep – as accused," said an officer.

Mohini, who is also an eyewitness in a murder case of her paternal grandmother that happened in 2014 in Meerut, said the same accused tried to kill Mahendri. The three accused are out on bail now, the police said.

During the investigation, the police scanned CCTV footage of the area and also sent a team to Meerut to check the whereabouts of three persons.

In the footage, the suspects seen did not match the descriptions of the three accused named by Mohini and the police got suspicious. "Even the mobile location of all of them did not corroborate their presence in Delhi. We then questioned Mohini again," the officer said.

She confessed to her involvement in the conspiracy hatched by her maternal

uncle. Following this, Prakash was nabbed and during interrogation, he said he roped in his two brothers-in-law and a man in the plan.

In 2004, his parents had taken a loan against the agricultural land from a distant relative in Meerut for his marriage. When he wanted to get the land back, the two sides got into a fight and the three accused shot Prakash's mother-in-law.

**False charges**

"He wanted to implicate the three accused of 'attempt to murder' [of his mother] and then get them arrested. He wanted to blackmail them into releasing the land," said an officer. Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-West) Devender Arya said Prakash and three others have been arrested under sections of attempt to murder and planning a conspiracy. Mohini has turned an approver, he added.

## Accused jumps from fifth floor of court, dies

**STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI**

A 23-year-old man died after allegedly jumping off the fifth floor of Saket court in south Delhi on Tuesday, the police said.

He was arrested on Monday in connection with his involvement in two cases of snatching. He was taken on one-day remand which expired on Tuesday, the police said.

The incident was reported at 4.36 p.m. inside the court premises when he was being produced in room number 508 by an investigation officer and two constables, said Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Vijay Kumar.

He was rushed to the AIIMS Trauma Centre where he was declared brought dead.

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

# Judiciary can't direct govt. to frame laws on marital rape: HC

Court rejects petition seeking guidelines to make rape a ground for divorce

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday declined a plea seeking direction to the Centre to frame guidelines for registration of FIR for marital rape and laws to make it a ground for divorce.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice C. Hari Shankar said the court cannot direct the government to frame laws as it is the domain of the legislature and not the judiciary. It said the issue of marital rape has to be dealt by the legislature and not the judiciary.

The High Court was hearing a plea filed by advocate Anuja Kapur who also sought that there should be a clear guideline for registration of cases related to marital rape under framed guide-



lines and laws, so that accountability, responsibility and liability of the authorities concerned can be fixed.

Earlier, the Supreme Court had refused to entertain a petition filed by Ms. Kapur on the issue, and asked her to approach the High Court for relief.

"As marital rape is not a ground for a divorce in Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, Mus-

lim Personal Law [Shariat] Application Act, 1937 and Special Marriage Act, 1954, it cannot be used as a ground for divorce and cruelty against husband," her plea had said.

**Petitioner's contention**  
She contended that there was a lot of confusion over the law under which an FIR or case related to marital rape can be registered.

"There should be a clear guideline for registration of the case of marital rape under framed guidelines and laws," the plea said.

Ms. Kapur said since marital rape is not a crime, there is no FIR registered by a wife against her husband, rather, it is being compromised by the police "to maintain the sanctity of the marriage bet-

ween the victim and her husband".

## Cites survey report

Her plea also cited a report of National Family Health Survey which said that nine out of every 100 men across India agreed that a husband is justified in beating his wife if she refuses to have sex with him.

"The survey also reported that 15 out of every 100 men in India do not agree to the fact that a wife is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband when she is tired or not in the mood," the plea said.

"Five out of every 100 women in India reported that their husband had physically forced them to have sexual intercourse with him even when they didn't want it," she added.

# HC tells Railways to spell out steps taken to ensure clean drinking water

Order came on plea seeking probe into water quality

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought response of the Railways on the steps it has taken and proposes to take to ensure availability of clean and safe drinking water on its trains as well as stations.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice C. Hari Shankar issued the direction after the Railways said it has set up chlorination plants to treat the water it was getting from several sources.

The Railways said it was also periodically sending samples of water collected

from its stations to accredited laboratories for testing for the presence of bacteria like E.coli.

The HC then asked the lawyer for the Railways to file an affidavit indicating the steps it has taken and proposes to take in future for ensuring clean drinking water on its trains and stations.

The HC was hearing a petition by NGO, Centre for Public Interest Litigation, seeking "an independent and preferably court-monitored probe into the neglect of the quality of the drinking water supply and the manipulations in the award of contracts for supply of chlorina-

tion plants for past several years".

The NGO said the Railways was neither adhering to the standards laid down for drinking water by the Bureau of Indian Standards nor following the Indian Railway Medical Manual.

It said that water being provided on stations and trains ought to be tested at reputed laboratories as not all accredited labs have the facilities to properly test the water samples. The plea has claimed that "the water treatment infrastructure for disinfection of water by chlorination has almost completely collapsed."

## Vicious cycle



A family in search of potable water on a humid Tuesday afternoon in New Delhi. • V.V. KRISHNAN

# Court awards 1 year jail for two power thieves

Imposes fine of ₹20 lakh each on duo

NIRNIMESH KUMAR  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court has sentenced two power thieves to one-year simple imprisonment each, holding them guilty of drawing power illegally to recharge e-rickshaws in East Delhi's Trilokpuri in 2017.

Additional Sessions Judge Devendra Kumar Sharma at the Karkardooma courts also imposed a fine of ₹20 lakh each on the two accused.

They were found stealing power in a raid by a team of BSES Yamuna Power Limited officers in their premises.

Holding accused Hafiz and Rakesh guilty in the case, the Judge said: "It is clearly proved beyond any doubt by the complainant that the accused Rakesh and Hafiz were present at the spot. There was no meter found installed at the

inspected premises. Also, there was direct theft of electricity using supply illegally through wire connected from BSES feeder pillar. Further, the said direct supply was being used for non-domestic purpose i.e. e-rickshaw charging."

"Accordingly, both the accused namely Hafiz and Rakesh are held guilty and convicted for the offence punishable under Section 135 of the Electricity Act and are also held liable for the civil liabilities for using electricity illegally for non-domestic purpose under Section 154 (5) of the Electricity Act", the Judge further said.

The court further directed the convicts to pay a fine of ₹20,08,06 each to compensate the company. However, the court granted bail to both the accused to file appeals against their conviction.

# Power discoms issue monsoon advisory

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Power discoms have issued a 'monsoon advisory' for its consumers to ensure their safety and prevent accidents and outages during the rainy season.

A BSES spokesperson said the monsoon action plan of BYPL and BRPL are in place.

Referring to the advisory, the spokesperson said people should stay away from electrical installation and stop children from playing near them. The main switch should be turned off in case of water-logging, and earth leakage circuit breaker should be installed, he said.

Helpline numbers 19123, 399 99 707 (South & West Delhi) and 19122, 399 99 808 (East & Central Delhi) areas have been set up for consumers to report broken cables, poles or exposed wiring, he added.

# 'AAP waits for report to decide on Haryana polls'

MLA Alka retweeted a news article on this

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party is waiting for an internal report from its Haryana unit to take a decision on fighting the State Assembly election due later this year, a party leader who was part of the AAP Political Affairs Committee (PAC) meeting on Tuesday evening said.

"We are waiting for the report from Haryana and after that we will take a decision on fighting the election," the party leader told *The Hindu*.

Earlier in the day, AAP MLA Alka Lamba, who has been vocal about her opinions against the party, had retweeted a news article that AAP will not be contesting Haryana Assembly election due this year. "What role does Haryana has in AAP now? AAP's use and throw attitude continues," she said in her tweet.

# ₹17 lakh compensation to kin of accident victim

Was killed after being hit by car in 2015

NIRNIMESH KUMAR  
NEW DELHI

A Motor Accident Claims Tribunal has awarded a compensation of ₹17 lakh to the family of a man who was killed after being hit by a car in north Delhi's Samaypur Badli in 2015.

Presiding Officer of the tribunal, Devender Kumar Jangala, directed the owner-driver of the car to pay the compensation as the court declared as fake his claim that the vehicle was insured with HDFC Ergo General Insurance Company.

According to the complaint, the car, which was coming from the wrong side, hit the victim who was

# Pleas seeking quashing of NEET result dismissed

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday rejected several petitions which had sought quashing of result of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) 2019 claiming several questions had more than one correct answer.

Justice Anu Malhotra noted that Judges cannot take the role of experts in academic matters unless the candidates demonstrate that the key answers are patently wrong on the face of it. The Judge also remarked that experts of various subjects had taken into account all aspects which needed to be considered for arriving at the correct answer.

The HC passed the common judgment on four separate petitions.

# 'BJP opposed land allotment for mohalla clinics again'

Was killed after being hit by car in 2015

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) member and Aam Aadmi Party MLA Somnath Bharti on Tuesday said that BJP representatives in the DDA again opposed land allotment for mohalla clinics during a board meeting without any "concrete basis".

Mr. Bharti said that during a meeting chaired by Lieutenant-Governor Anil Bajpai, he raised the issue of "unjustified denial" of land by the DDA for construction of mohalla clinics in Delhi.

"The L-G referred the matter to the DDA and asked it to have a relook into it. Interestingly, the BJP representatives in the DDA again opposed the land allotment in the meeting without any concrete basis", Mr. Bharti said.

# Communal harmony on show at idol installation ceremony

Days after Hauz Qazi incident, members from minority community distribute food, water to devotees

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Over a week after a temple was vandalised in Central Delhi's Hauz Qazi area, hundreds of people descended on the street for installation of idols in Durga Mandir on Tuesday.

The procession was carried out by several Hindu groups from across the Capital and was attended by members of the minority community as well, who also distributed food, water and other edibles to the devotees.

## Police deployment

"Whatever happened was done by fools. The police should take strict action



Members from the Muslim community welcoming the Shobha Yatra at Hauz Qazi area in Old Delhi on Tuesday. • SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

against the culprits. We all live here in peace and we have participated in the procession with our Hindu brothers to make it a suc-

cess," said a resident who identified himself as Ashraf Qureshi.

The procession began around 11 a.m. from Durga

Mandir street with devotees chanting slogans such as 'Jai Shri Ram' and 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai'. The procession went through Katra Baniyan, Naya Bas, Khari Baoli, Vivekanand Chowk, Fatehpuri Mosque and back to Durga Mandir street amid heavy police deployment.

The temple priest, along with a few others, then installed the idols and performed the rituals.

A resident who identified himself as Haji Sarfraz said, "It was a small parking matter which turned into a communal issue. Whether it's a Shobha Yatra or a Moharram procession, people from Old Delhi participate in everything. We attended this to give

a message of peace to the entire country."

Meanwhile, shopkeepers decided to keep their establishments shut for a while. The shops were reopened by late afternoon.

Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari who was present at the procession said, "There has been brotherhood prevalent between the Hindus and Muslims for years. A few bad elements have damaged the temple premises and affected the brotherhood prevalent over here since ages."

On June 30, a scuffle over parking between one Aas Mohd. and Sanjeev Gupta took a communal turn after which the area remained tense for two days.

DELHI ☀️ Timings

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10		
RISE	05:31	SET 19:22
RISE	13:19	SET 00:31
THURSDAY, JULY 11		
RISE	05:31	SET 19:22
RISE	14:20	SET 01:08
FRIDAY, JULY 12		
RISE	05:32	SET 19:22
RISE	15:20	SET 01:47

<b>Delhi Weather</b>	max	min
Delhi City	34	29
Safdarjang	34	29
Palam	36	28

**Delhi Palam Today**  
36°C Humid condition to increase. Day will be warm with cloudy sky with chances of rain.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
37°C A cloudy and humid weather will prevail. Day will be very warm with patchy rains possible.

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**THE HINDU**  
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# Police seek court's nod to probe Pehlu Khan case

Chargesheet names his sons, truck owner for transport of cows

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT JAIPUR**  
After facing embarrassment over a chargesheet filed in a court in Alwar district naming dairy farmer Pehlu Khan, allegedly lynched by cow vigilantes in 2017, as “an accused who [had] died”, the Rajasthan police have sought the court's permission to further investigate the cow smuggling case against his two sons and owner of the pick-up truck. According to the chargesheet filed on May 24, Pehlu Khan's sons, Irshad and Aarif, and truck owner Khan Mohammed were accused of illegally transporting cows out of the State. In a fresh application filed in the court of Behror Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, the police have expressed their intent to further probe “certain aspects” of the case. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot had tried to control the damage by declaring that the investigation was done



Pehlu Khan's son Irshad. • FILE PHOTO

ed to their home town Nuh in Haryana. The truck owner has also claimed that he had sold the vehicle before the incident took place. Pehlu Khan, 55, and his sons were transporting cows, after purchasing them at a cattle fair in Jaipur on April 1, 2017, when they were waylaid near Behror on the Jaipur-Delhi National Highway by a mob of self-styled cow vigilantes and beaten up. Pehlu Khan succumbed to his injuries in a hospital after two days. A case was registered against Pehlu Khan, his sons and others on April 2, accusing them of transporting cows out of the State without getting a valid permit from the competent authority under the Rajasthan Bovine Animal (Prohibition of Slaughter and Regulation of Temporary Migration or Export) Act. The police had seized six vehicles with 36 bovine animals during the incident.

# Top cop probing Kathua case transferred

It was IGP Mujtaba's work that resulted in conviction of six of seven accused

**PEERZADA ASHIQ SRINAGAR**  
Crime Branch Inspector General of Police Syed Afadul Mujtaba, who became the face of the Kathua rape-and-murder probe, was on Tuesday transferred to a lesser significant post by the administration. According to the government order, IGP Mujtaba “is transferred and posted as managing director of the Police Housing Corporation against an available vacancy”. The State Home Department, governing all the security wings in J&K, comes directly under Governor Satya Pal Malik. Mr. Mujtaba and his team of officers had received both

bouquets and brickbats for the 13-month-long investigation into the murder-and-rape of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua in January last year. It was the Crime Branch investigation that resulted in the conviction of six of the seven accused, including four policemen, in the case in June this year. Mr. Mujtaba joined the J&K Police in 1984. He served the State as top officer in capital Srinagar during challenging times such as the 2008 Amarnath row and the Shopian case. In his recent interviews, he said that the Kathua case became a tough case “in the wake of destruction of evidence, streets protests and polarisation”. The officer had also called for filing an appeal against the seventh accused and “enhancing the quantum of punishment for six others”.

# Give certificate, security to cow transporters: Yogi

To prevent incidents like mob lynching

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT LUCKNOW**  
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has instructed the Gau Seva Ayog to provide certificates to those transporting cows and take responsibility for their security, government sources said on Tuesday. This would prevent “incidents like mob lynching”, said the sources after a meeting of the U.P. Gau Seva Ayog. Mr. Adityanath also instructed the GSA to check cattle smuggling or operation of illegal slaughterhouses, a government spokesperson said quoting the CM. **Details not known** The details of the certificate and the logistics of the security are not known. State Minister for Animal Husbandry Jai Prakash Nishad said he could not provide

the details as he did not attend the meeting. The CM has reportedly instructed the GSA to create “public awareness” about the protection, conservation and promotion of cow progeny. The GSA chairperson and vice-chairperson have also been asked to visit districts to monitor cow protection and conservation, a spokesperson said. The district police head and the magistrate would have to compulsorily attend these meetings, implying a proper protocol, he added. **Pilot project** In a bid to check abandonment of old, infirm or unproductive cattle, the CM also directed officials to provide ₹30 daily per cattle head to the farmers or NGOs to rear them. It would be started as a pilot project in Bundelkhand.

# Activist couple held for 'Naxal links'

Were living in Bhopal using fake documents: U.P. ATS chief

**OMAR RASHID LUCKNOW**  
The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terror Squad on Tuesday arrested an activist couple from Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh for their alleged links with Naxal ideology. **‘Translators’** Dismissing the allegations, the arrested couple's family members said that both were “professional translators” with a record of activism and academics. Manish Srivastava and Anita Srivastava were arrested from their present residence in the Shahpur area of Bhopal, U.P. ATS chief Aseem Arun said. The two are accused of living in Bhopal using false identities and fake

documents. “For now they are booked for forgery,” said Mr. Arun. Further action will be taken against the duo after an examination of the recovered “literature” and “digital media”, said the officer, without providing details. The Srivastavas belong to Machlishahr in Jaunpur district of eastern Uttar Pradesh. The ATS said it made the arrests after it got inputs that some people with “Naxal ideology” were engaging in “anti-national activities”. The ATS also picked up six others from three locations in Deoria and Kanpur but released them after questioning. Their laptops, pen drives and mobile phones were seized and will

be subject to data extraction, the police said. The six mostly included activists, said sources: Brishesh of the Mazdoor Kisan Ekta Manch of Deoria and his wife Prabha, who is from the Savitri Bai Phule Sangarsh Samiti; Kripa Shankar, who runs an anti-fascist front, and his wife Vrinda, a teacher in a private school. **‘State oppression’** Mr. Srivastava's sister Seema Azad dismissed the allegations against the couple. Ms. Azad said that the arrests were another “false story” concocted as part of “State oppression”. She added that the couple were political and social activists with a record of translation and writing work.

# 'File progress report on crop burning issue'

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI**  
The National Green Tribunal has asked Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh how they intend to tackle the problem of crop burning, a major contributor to air pollution in Delhi, this year. A Bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel asked the three States to file progress reports indicating the “strategies and proposed action plan” to tackle the problem. The NGT direction came following news reports on deaths in the National Capital due to air pollution and crop burning leading to poor air quality.

# BJP left red-faced as eight councillors return to Trinamool

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
KOLKATA

Eight councillors of Halisahar Municipality, who had recently switched allegiance from the Trinamool Congress and joined the BJP in New Delhi, returned to the TMC on Tuesday, leaving the saf-

ron party red-faced.

Thirteen councillors of the 23-member municipality located in North 24 Parganas district joined the BJP on May 28, five days after the results of the Lok Sabha election were declared. On Tuesday, eight of those 13, led by Ansu-

man Roy, the chairperson of the civic body, came to the West Bengal Assembly and met Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to announce their return to the TMC.

State's Urban Development Minister Firhad Hakim held a press conference in the

presence of the councillors and said that a section of the BJP leadership was in a hurry to "engineer defections within the TMC to score brownie points with the party leadership". "The BJP had threatened these councillors and forced them to switch sides,

but they cannot take away the love for Mamata Banerjee from their hearts," Mr. Hakim said. The Trinamool leader blamed BJP leader Mukul Roy and MP Arjun Singh for "engineering the defections".

BJP general secretary in-charge of West Bengal Kailash

Vijayvargiya said he was not aware of the development. He said that a "screening process" was in place for a background check on TMC leaders joining the BJP. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh has also raised objections to "indiscriminate induction of dis-

senters from the TMC".

On July 7, at a meeting of senior BJP functionaries in West Bengal, Mr. Vijayvargiya had said that several TMC leaders were in touch with the BJP but the party will not take anyone who is accused of financial wrongdoings.

## Student dies after falling from classroom window

SILIGURI

A Class IX student, Rishab Arya, died and his batchmate, Hrithik Kumar Singh, was injured after they fell through an open window of their classroom on the second floor of the school at Fulbari near here. Principal T. Rajni Prasad said the students fell while pushing each other during lunch break on Monday. PTI

IN BRIEF



**Rane to be in judicial custody till July 23**  
MUMBAI  
A court in Sindhudurg district on Tuesday remanded Congress MLA Nitesh Rane and 17 of his supporters in judicial custody till July 23 in connection with last week's assault on a deputy engineer of the NHAI. Mr. Rane and others were produced before the court in Kankavali town this afternoon. PTI

**Karnataka duo, accused of murder, held in Goa**  
PANAJI  
Goa Police on Tuesday arrested a man and a woman who were on the run after allegedly killing a senior citizen in Udipi, in Karnataka. A team of Old Goa Police station led by inspector Jivba Dalvi arrested the couple from St Cruz village near Panaji. PTI

**NCP MLA Pandurang Warora resigns**  
MUMBAI  
Pandurang Warora, the NCP MLA from Shahapur constituency resigned as MLA on Tuesday.  
Mr. Warora was accompanied by Shiv Sena leader and PWD minister Eknath Shinde when he went to Assembly to meet the speaker Haribhau Bagade to hand over his resignation letter, according to sources. With this the strength of the Sharad Pawar-led party has come down to 39. PTI

# Cabinet clears sops for port operators

## Benefits extended to 50 years for greenfield ports

**SHARAD VYAS**  
MUMBAI  
The Maharashtra government has unveiled a number of sops for private port operators months before the Assembly elections. The Cabinet on Tuesday cleared changes to the Maharashtra Port Policy - 2016, allowing major concessions in wharfage charges (reducing them to half from three times), extending benefits to 'greenfield' ports and multimodal jetties up to 50 years from 35 years, and extending the period of concessions for shipyards to 30 years from 10 years. The changes were made based on the representation made by the Indian National Shipowners Association, Association of Multimodal Transport Operators of India (AMTOI) and other stakeholders last month, officials said.  
*The Hindu* had reported last week that several concessions were in the offing for around 500 private and public ports across the State, including an assurance from the government to recommend to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council a cut in levy to 5% from the existing 12% for "multimodal" re-transport operators in Maharashtra. The Cabinet also cleared the use of the jetties of the Maharashtra Maritime



As per the new recommendations, shipyards will get concessions for 30 years. • FILE PHOTO

Board for a proposed Ro-Ro service, tourism and other training purposes. The Cabinet approved new measurement rates for the foreshore land - a land string that margins a water body - for which development charges will have to be paid upfront as per ready reckoner rates.  
Senior officials said the 5% GST levy on road transport operators is far less than that imposed on multimodal operators, who have to pay 12%. AMTOI had requested the government to ensure a reduction in this duty. The government has promised to take up the issue with the Centre once AMTOI provides the relevant data to back its claims. The new Cabinet changes will also reduce the current rebate given on inter- and intra-State movement in ports and jetties, officials said.  
The amendments will also address concerns around the security of the State's ports. Recently, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis had, along with the Indian Navy, declared 20 ports in Raigad alone - of the 591 ports in Maharashtra - as "sensitive", and made the information public in the Legislative Assembly.

# Now learn of RSS role in 'nation-building'

## University in Nagpur introduces RSS history for second year B.A. (History) students

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
NAGPUR  
The history of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and its role in 'nation-building' have been included in the syllabus of a university based in Nagpur, where the Sangh has its headquarters.  
The Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has included RSS history in the syllabus for its second year B.A. (History) course.  
While the third section of the syllabus has details about the role of RSS in nation-building, the first section speaks about the estab-

lishment of the Congress party and the rise of Jawaharlal Nehru, and the second section dwells on issues like the civil disobedience movement.  
A source close to the development said the move is part of efforts to make students aware about 'new trends' in history.  
Satish Chafle, a member of the Board of Studies of the university, said on Tuesday that a chapter on the Sangh's role in nation-building has been introduced in the History of India (1885-1947) unit, which is part of the fourth

semester for the second year of Bachelor of Arts (History).  
The university syllabus had a chapter on "introduction to RSS" for the M.A. (History) course in 2003-2004.  
"This year, we have introduced the contribution of the RSS in the nation building for the students of history so that they can know about new trends that take place in history. New trends like Marxism, new Marxism or new modernism have become a part of history as new trends," he said.

Justifying the move, Mr. Chafle said rewriting of history brings new facts before the society.  
The induction of a chapter on the RSS has created a flutter. Maharashtra Congress spokesperson Sachin Sawant tweeted, "Where would Nagpur University find reference of RSS & Nation Building? It is most divisive force which collaborated with British, opposed freedom movement, didn't hoist Tricolor for 52 yrs calling it inauspicious, wanted Manusmriti in lieu of constitution, spreads Hatred."

# Goa airport scene irks authorities, netizens

## Need quality tourists who will come, spend and enjoy Goa, says GFP leader

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
PANAJI  
A picture of several passengers sleeping on floor near the Goa airport's departure gate has gone viral on social media, prompting the authorities to issue instructions that such incidents should not recur.  
The Goa airport is part of the Navy's *INS Hansa* base, which is home to several fighter squadrons, including MiG 29K.  
In the picture that went viral, several passengers who arrived in Goa on Sunday night were purportedly seen sleeping on floor near the airport's departure gate with their footwear scattered



This picture that went viral shows several passengers who arrived in Goa on Sunday night sleeping on the floor near departure gate of the Goa airport. • TWITTER

around, making it look like a scene at a railway station.  
Several netizens, including the ruling ally Goa Forward Party's vice president Durgadas Kamat, expressed their concern over the way the airport was being turned

into a railway station.  
"Scene @aigoairport. Do we need such cheap tourist in Goa? @aigoairport should act on this. We don't need scum like these to visit Goa. We need quality tourists, who will come, spend and enjoy Goa and its beauty. #BrandGoa cannot be compromised at any cost," Mr. Kamat said in a tweet.  
A Goa-based journalist in a tweet said such a sight was embarrassing and that it was time to take tourism more seriously in the State.  
Responding to the tweets, Goa airport director Gagan Malik said he has asked the officials concerned to ensure such incidents do not recur.  
"We share your concern. This is one of the kind incident and noted with due concern. The instructions to concerned have been issued to be more watchful and ensure no repeat," Mr. Malik tweeted.

# Protesting farmers sowed banned HTBt cotton, says lab report

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
MUMBAI  
A laboratory report has confirmed that farmers in Akola indeed sowed banned Herbicide Tolerant Bt (HTBt) cotton by way of protest last month, a State government official said on Tuesday.  
The farmers, under the banner of Shetkari Sanghatna, had sown HTBt cotton seeds openly, demanding that the ban on these seeds be lifted.  
The District Collector had collected samples of the seeds and sent them to a Nagpur-based laboratory. The laboratory informed on Monday that the samples tested positive for HTBt cotton, an agriculture department official said.  
The department has now asked officials of the Akot and Hiwarkhed police stations to initiate action

against the farmers, he said.  
Shetkari Sanghatna conducted a 'satyagraha' on June 10 against the Union government-imposed ban on HTBt cotton by sowing the banned varieties.  
The farmers were booked under the Environment Protection Act and the Seeds Act, apart from provisions of the Indian Penal Code for defying government orders.  
The Shetkari Sanghatna, founded by late Sharad Joshi, is rooting for HTBt cotton saying that it can resist weeds, thus saving on herbicide costs.  
"The governments, both at the Centre and the State, have not conducted a proper study about the impact of HTBt cotton.  
Therefore the ban continues," said a senior State government official.

# Saying it with crustaceans



**Unique protest:** Workers of the Nationalist Congress Party throw crabs outside the residence of Maharashtra minister Tanaji Sawant on Tuesday to protest over a statement by him holding the crabs responsible for last week's breach in the Tiware dam in coastal Ratnagiri in which over 20 people lost their lives. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Nimbalkar murder case: Hazare deposes before Mumbai court

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
MUMBAI  
Social activist Anna Hazare on Tuesday deposed before a special court in Mumbai as a prosecution witness in the 2006 murder case of Congress leader Pawanraje Nimbalkar. Former Lok Sabha MP Padamsinh Patil is the key accused in the case.  
Mr. Hazare, in his deposition before the court of Judge Anand Yawalkar, said he knew Mr. Patil as an elected representative.  
"There were allegations of corruption against him, for which I did an agitation and after that the government formed a commission under retired Supreme Court judge P.B. Sawant to inquire into the matter," Mr. Hazare told the court.  
"I learnt about the murder of Nimbalkar through media. I also came to know through a media report that a contract was given to the shooters to kill me, following which I registered a case in



Anna Hazare arrives at a Mumbai court on Tuesday. • EMMANUEL YOGINI

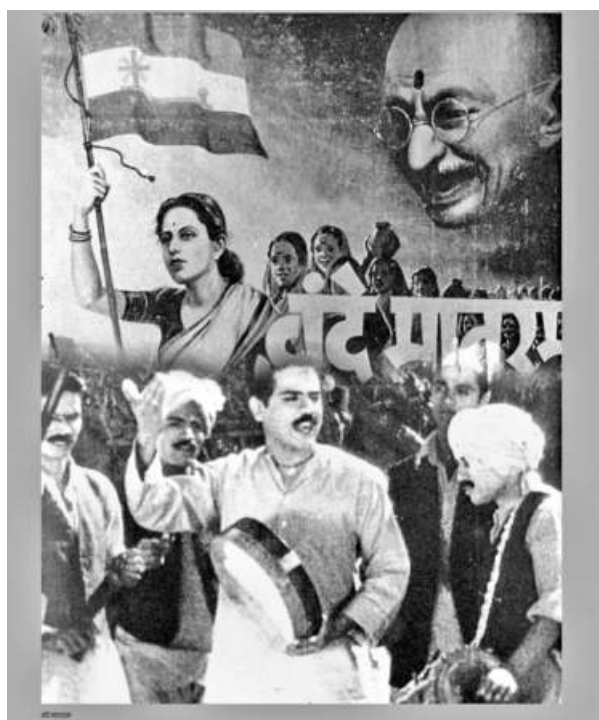
this connection at Parner police station (in Ahmednagar district)," the anti-corruption crusader said.  
Mr. Hazare said that before filing the complaint, he wrote a letter to the government, but no action was taken. His deposition came after the Supreme Court, setting aside a Bombay High Court order, recently directed the CBI to make Mr. Hazare a prosecution witness in the case.

# Footage from 'lost' Marathi film classic makes its way to NFAI vaults

## 35-minute footage rekindles hopes that the complete film Vande Mataram may be recovered

**SHOUMJOIT BANERJEE**  
PUNE  
Aficionados of Marathi cinema and fans of iconic Marathi litterateur P.L. Deshpande - affectionately known as 'Pu La' - have reason to cheer about as the city-based National Film Archive of India (NFAI) has acquired rare footage from a 'lost' Marathi film classic of the 1940s which starred Deshpande.  
The film *Vande Mataram* (1948) directed by Ram Gabale, is a much sought-after memorabilia item high on the lists of Marathi film collectors and devotees of Pu La's work.  
This was the first time that the multi-faceted Deshpande, who starred alongside his wife Sunita, played the lead role following minor appearances in earlier films, *Kuber* (1947) and *Bhagyashree* (1948).  
"The 35-minute footage that we have received has rekindled hopes that the complete film may yet be discovered. The footage, in form of a VHS tape, was given to us by Dinesh Thakur

(Sunita Deshpande's nephew) and film historian Satish Jakatdar along with U-matic tapes which contain previously unseen footage of Pu La playing the harmonium," said Prakash Magdum, Director, NFAI.  
While the sound quality was all right, he said there was dire need to enhance the picture quality of the footage.  
*Vande Mataram*, made immediately after Independence, but set during the freedom struggle, was a heady confluence of the most formidable talents to grace Marathi cinema during its heyday in the late 1940s.  
The film, shot in Kolhapur, was written by yet another legendary Marathi literary figure, the famed poet-writer Gajanan Digambar Madgulkar who also provided the lyrics, while the music was composed by renowned singer Sudhir Phadke.  
It was edited by Raja Thakur (who later became a director in his own right), helmed by the talented Gabale, a Prabhat Studios



Directed by Ram Gabale, *Vande Mataram* is a much sought-after memorabilia item. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT  
"Vande Mataram is indeed remarkable for the dazzling array of talent associated with it as Madgulkar, Pu La and Phadke constituted the veritable trinity of Marathi cinema during its golden age

in the late 1940s and 50s. Its 'lost film' status has lent it a certain aura. The film was very dear to its composer, Sudhir Phadke, who had in fact visited Mr. Thakur's residence in Mumbai following Pu La's death in 2000 to search if the latter had preserved it in his collection," Mr. Magdum told *The Hindu*.  
He said that the footage featured a couple of songs and has Pu La singing a *powada* (ballad).  
"In particular, one song from this film, *Ved Mantrahun Vandya*, became a huge hit and endures in its popularity even till this day," said Mr. Magdum.  
He further said that the acquisition was doubly delightful as by a happy coincidence this year happens to be the birth centenary of P.L. Deshpande, G.D. Madgulkar and Sudhir Phadke. Incidentally 2018 was the birth centenary of the film's producer, P.R. Bhide.  
"Bhide was an interesting character who dabbled in a number of things including the cinema. Besides *Vande*

*Mataram*, the other notable film he produced was *Lalat* (1947) where his auteurist tendencies were in full display in his highly innovative experiment of using 16 mm film to record sound instead of film," Mr. Magdum said, adding that that Bhide later exited cinema to become a spiritual godman, establishing the Manashakti Center in Lonavla and assuming the name of Swami Vijnananand.  
Of the other memorabilia acquired by NFAI, one of the two hour-long U-matic cassettes showcase the considerable harmonium skills of the versatile Deshpande and were recorded sometime in Mumbai in the 1980s.  
The other cassette has his inimitable recitation of some of his beloved characters from his literary oeuvre.  
In December 2015, the NFAI had received another rare Pu La memorabilia in the form of Deshpande's original handwritten script of the enduring 1953 Marathi classic *Gulacha Ganpati* which was later digitised..



















## IN BRIEF

**Dr. Reddy's launches drug for cold in the U.S.**

**HYDERABAD**  
Dr. Reddy's Laboratories has launched an over-the-counter store brand equivalent of Mucinex D extended release tablets in two strengths in the U.S. market. Announcing that the US Food and Drug Administration had approved the product, DRL said the Mucinex D brand and store brands had combined U.S. sales of around \$71 million MAT (moving annual total) for 12 months ended May.

**Ezyhaul raises funds to fuel south Asia growth**

**MUMBAI**  
Logistics tech start-up Ezyhaul has raised \$16 million in series B funding. The funds will be used to expand to new markets in south Asia and drive further innovation to offer a complete plug-and-play model for its clients through its online platform, a release said. Last year, the firm raised \$5 million in series A funding and had been expanding its operations in India and Thailand.

**Fresca brand of juices set for expansion**

**MUMBAI**  
Shri Bankey Behari Foods Pvt. Ltd., which makes and distributes Fresca brand fruit juices and other drinks, has announced plans to expand the production capacity of the Fresca range to tap markets beyond north of India. The company, which produces three lakh litres per day from its facility at Rai in Haryana, will expand capacity at this location and also put up a new facility in Varanasi.

# TVS Capital raises ₹1,000 cr. in third fund

Every year, the fund will roughly invest 20-25% of its corpus, says CMD Gopal Srinivasan

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI**

TVS Capital Funds has announced the second close of TVS Shriram Growth Fund 3 after reaching the target corpus of ₹1,000 crore.

"With the latest announcement, we have totally raised more than ₹2,200 crore through three funds," said Gopal Srinivasan, chairman and managing director, TVS Capital Funds.

"The fund (TVS Shriram Growth Fund 3) has already received commitments of ₹1,100 crore and it has a green-shoe option of another ₹500 crore of which ₹100 crore has been subscribed to. The first two investments from the fund were made in Suryoday Small Finance Bank and LEAP India," he said.



(From left) Gopal Srinivasan, R. Thyagarajan and Lakshmi Narayanan in Chennai on Tuesday. • BIJOY GHOSH

The fund also witnessed strong participation from existing lead and anchor clients, who had invested about twice their Fund 2 commitments. The fund would be deployed in three areas -- financial services, business services and niche areas. "Every year, roughly, the fund will be investing

20% to 25% of its corpus. In the last six months, the fund had already invested about 10% to 12% of its corpus and has been on track. The average investment per firm ranges from ₹50 crore to ₹150 crore," he said.

On previous funds, he said they were able to get back the capital of ₹600 crore in

the first fund and could return about two times the investment of ₹600 crore in the second fund. Asserting that TVS Capital Funds was a long-term player, he said: "We would like to remain with the entrepreneurs for 10 years, unlike seven years in the first two funds."

He also said they were the first fund to introduce the co-investor model, wherein investors in the fund deployed money alongside the fund in the same venture.

**Foray into new areas**

Stating that TVS Capital Funds had completed 10 years of operations, he said that the long-term goal was to become an institutionalised platform and make a foray into new areas to maintain business growth.

"It is important that funds are built and created to support the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country. If more jobs need to be created, there need to be more start-ups, and there need to be investment in these start-ups," said R. Thyagarajan, founder, Shriram Group and director of TVS Capital Funds. The company is leveraging advanced technologies for institutionalising its practices and thinking of diversifying its product base, said Lakshmi Narayanan, director, TVS Capital Funds.

With this, the company now manages cumulative assets of ₹1,664 crore and is among the largest managers of rupee-denominated, mid-market, private equity capital in India, Mr. Srinivasan said.

## After clarification, Bajaj Finance shares rebound

'April-June quarter growth strong'

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

Shares of Bajaj Finance, which tanked more than 8.2% on growth concerns, rebounded on Tuesday after a clarification from the lender that growth remained strong in the April-June quarter.

In a filing with the exchanges, the lender said the number of new loans booked during the first quarter of the current financial year were at 7.3 million, a 30.4% growth year-on-year. During the quarter, the company acquired 2.5 million new customers. Further, the lender said assets under management grew 41.3% year-on-year in the first quarter.

"Assets under management [AUM] stood at approximately ₹1,29,000 crore as of June 30, 2019 as compared to ₹91,287 crore as of June 30, 2018 and ₹1,15,888 crore as of March 31, 2019," Bajaj Finance said.

Shares closed 5.5% higher than the previous close, at ₹3,603.35 apiece.

"My comments on TV yesterday on the Budget and the general industry slowdown weren't related to Bajaj Finance Q1 financials. We [are] in a silent period. Bajaj Finance, out of abundant caution, has made an announcement to NSE/BSE today with some data points on its Q1 performance," Sanjiv Bajaj, vice-chairman, Bajaj Finance, tweeted.

## Hyundai rolls out fully electric SUV Kona

Company puts price tag at ₹25.3 lakh, claims 452 km drive range on single charge

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI**

Hyundai on Tuesday launched its full-electric SUV, Kona, in India with a price tag of ₹25.3 lakh, even as it has begun work on developing an India-specific mass market electric vehicle.

Touted as India's first fully electric SUV, the Kona promises a drive range of 452 km on a single charge.

"The launch of Kona electric will help change the perspective towards electric cars altogether. This will be the game changer in the Indian EV market. We are addressing range anxiety -- one of the biggest issues that consumers have in mind when buying an EV," Hyundai Motor India managing director and CEO S.S. Kim said.

Asked about the compa-



**Game changer:** Hyundai Motor India CEO and MD Y.S. Kim at the launch of Kona Electric at Greater Noida. • KAMAL NARANG

ny's EV roadmap, Puneet Anand, senior general manager and group head (marketing), Hyundai Motor India said, "Kona is a global model, but India is a different market. So, we are ready to make an India-specific EV

product. The work for this is already on."

The Kona electric, currently being assembled at the company's Chennai plant, will be initially launched in only in 11 cities due to charging constraints

## SAIL makes 'triple' offer on divestment of 3 units

Mine lease, 3,155 acres part of package

**INDRANI DUTTA  
KOLKATA**

The Steel Authority of India (SAIL) is offering lease of a limestone mine, forest clearance till 2030 and 3,155 acres as part of the strategic divestment programme for three of its special steel plants whose losses totalled ₹375 crore in 2018-19.

The plants on offer are Alloy Steel Plant (ASP) in Durgapur, Salem Steel Plant (SSP) in Tamil Nadu and Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP) in Karnataka. Global bids for expression of interest in these units were floated last week. Debts of these three units will remain with SAIL. According to the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), these units

would be transferred on a going concern basis.

VISP, based in Bhadravati, brings to a prospective investor 847.3 acres on perpetual lease and 636.8 acres of township land on a leave licence basis for five years at market rates.

Agreements for shared services may also be signed as part of the transaction, which includes transfer (with the State government's approval) of a limestone mine in Bhadigund.

An iron ore mining lease in Bellary would also be on offer if SAIL receives the lease before the divestment. Forest clearances till 2030 also come with the package. Many of VISP's steel-making units are shut down due to lack of orders.

## SBI slashes lending rates by 5 bps

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest lender, reduced its benchmark lending rate by 5 bps across all loan tenures. The lender's one-year marginal cost of funds based lending rate (MCLR) will be 8.4% compared with 8.45% from Wednesday.

"Interest rates on all loans linked to MCLR stand reduced by 5 bps with effect from 10th July 2019. This is the third rate cut in the current financial year. With today's MCLR cut, the reduction in the home loan rates since April 10, 2019 is 20 bps," SBI said.

The move comes after RBI decided to cut its repo rate by 25 bps last month.



## How flexible is your benefits package?

Some companies are letting their employees decide what they would want to have as privileges

LIFFY THOMAS

Purnoor Bains is learning to play the guitar, but doesn't have to pick up the tab for the classes. Her company is doing it for her, as part of 'MyBenefits@Philips', an employee benefit programme launched recently by Philips India.

The programme allows employees to decide on their benefits. Until the last financial year, when the benefits programme had not been launched, Purnoor did not feel greatly benefited by certain privileges offered to her by the company, as she did not need them badly.

Purnoor was not keen on having too many insurance-based benefits, and she is happy that this year she has the option of joining fitness, wellness, learning and development and lifestyle-oriented classes as part of her benefits package.

A 'one-size-fits-all' benefits strategy doesn't work anymore for organisations. Diversity being the cornerstone of modern organisations, employee benefits programmes should reflect



A well-crafted benefits programme will help employees develop a sense of belonging towards the company. FILE PHOTO USED FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSE

**Diversity being the cornerstone of modern organisations, employee benefits programmes should reflect that, by being flexible, innovative and imaginative**

that, by being flexible, innovative and imaginative. Flipkart rolled out its 'FlexiBen 2019' programme recently. Before it made the announcement, it had done its home work, which included a survey that sought to find out what benefits its employees would treasure the most. Twenty per cent of

the employees sought greater flexibility in benefits. The internal survey also revealed that around 50% of Flipkart employees viewed benefits, which included insurance policies, as a key retention driver.

Last year, SAP India also rolled out its flexi-benefit programme.

Sonica Aron, founder, Marching Sheep, an HR advisory firm, says today's workforce is multi-generational and assertive, and they would want to have as benefits those things that are more relevant to them at a given stage in life.

She says that when companies allow for flexibility in

their benefits package, employees get a sense of belonging about the company.

In the gig economy, which will become well-entrenched sooner than later, to have a core permanent team of highly-talented employees, companies have to be generous in their benefits packages, which includes flexibility.



PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

## Three giant steps towards a culture of innovation

RICHARD LOBO

The ability to innovate is what keeps companies relevant. Firms that don't innovate, eventually die. For any company to catalyse innovation, it's essential to foster an environment that allows ideas to germinate, early products to be nurtured and the freedom to fail. In addition, it's important to allow innovation to move out of walled spaces or specified departments. By creating a belief in every employee that he or she can innovate, the chances of an idea blossoming into a product increase exponentially.

To succeed at innovation, companies need to consider three key incubators as part of their workplace strategy:

- Creating an environment that is collaborative and inclusive.
- Being 'Zero-Distance' to your customer.
- Transforming creative output into commercially successful products.

A collaborative and inclusive environment means that every individual is respected for the value they bring to the creative process. No consideration is given to how they look, speak or where they fit in the hierarchy. The more diverse a workplace, more is the likelihood that it will have out-of-the-box thinking brought about by different experiences.

Imagination is the first step towards innovation and diversity increases the ability to imagine. Since innovation works best when ideas

snowball, you need superior communication – one that is clear, honest, respectful, and free-flowing. This allows ideas to spread and get improved. It also initiates new threads of thought. In addition to diversity, workplace design is equally important. Ideas come from people meeting in hallways or having a chat late nights on a common problem. The workspace should provide for resources that people can use, including a portion of work time reserved for experimentation without expectation of tangible outcomes.

Understanding future customer needs comes from being close to your customer and anticipating change. It's important to remember that the future is a continuum – not one big idea, but the next step, the next experience, the next customer need. Developing the ability to find the right problem is being halfway there.

Making money on the creative output is the last stage of the process. While you can be obsessive on creativity and innovation, close to 70% of innovations fail to make money for companies. Hence, it's impor-

**The workplace should provide for resources that people can use, including a portion of work time reserved for experimentation without expectation of tangible outcomes**

tant to co-create with your client no matter at what touch point you are called in to innovate, whether to fashion a new user experience or modernise the core or prototype a new digital offering, you can find allied problems worth solving and earn money out of this. The true measure of success of an innovation is in the long term, the revenue one makes.

The cycle of idea generation - idea conversion - idea monetisation can help companies leverage the power of design thinking for both incremental and transformative innovation. The products and business models for the future are often very different from the company's current portfolio and it takes an honest acceptance that the ideas for the future could be hidden in the workplace of the present. Many companies have missed this for an important reason – they were either too hierarchical, process-driven or plain lethargic to have a culture of innovation, the closeness to customers and the ability to monetise built into everyday work. By embracing trends and new technology while still staying connected to customers and the core foundation, companies can innovate and prepare for the future. And to do that you need the right people working in a creative environment. It is also about building an inclusive work environment where multicultural and diverse teams flourish.

(Richard Lobo is HR Head at Infosys)

## NRAI to mentor young restaurateurs

Its youth committee is expected to play a major role in this initiative

PTI

The National Restaurant Association of India (NRAI) has decided to mentor budding and emerging restaurateurs.

The national restaurant's body will take forward the idea with their just-launched NRAI Youth Committee. "The Youth Committee will be working on creating an eco-system to engage the young and budding crop of restaurant owners in value-driven activities by providing support and mentorship that will increase the sustainability of restaurants," said head of the NRAI Youth Committee Karan Tanna. The youth wing will be in Mumbai though its parent body – NHAI – is based in New Delhi.

"There is a lot of budding talent, across the country in

this sector. While many have the vision and the dream, the processes and the many legal and logistical loopholes can make owning and running a restaurant a daunting process," Tanna said.

Besides mentoring younger restaurateurs, they will try to create a platform to raise capital for these entrepreneurs.

"We will work towards an accreditation system for vendors, house-keeping agents among others. It will also work on the establishment and access of cloud kitchens and standardised database of vendors for access for all members," Tanna said.

In the near future, the committee proposes to tie up with a strong CSR partner to give back to society as well, he added.



Representational picture. FILE PHOTO: AFP

## 'Better workforce management can reduce cost by 5-15%'

A huge number of Indian professionals, close to 90%, feel accurate workforce management can enhance productivity and compliance, and reduce cost by 5 to 15%. The "Future of Work - Trends at Work and Workplace" study in India by Kronos Incorporated, in association with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), says companies need to further align employee experience with their strategic business planning for better outcomes.

The report focussed on workforce productivity, compliance and cost aspects. According to a press release, 37% of the respondents said accurate workforce management would help improve both productivity and reduce labour costs by 5-15%, while another 37% felt it would be impacted by 15-

25%. And 34% mentioned that a 5-15% increase in compliance would be achievable, along with another 38% who stated that this figure would go up to 15-25%.

The top trends impacting workforce management include flexible working hours, freelancing/contract/gig employment, remote working, evolving job roles, enabling technologies and automation, in that order. More than 70% of the respondents said greater flexibility would enhance productivity, while 67% felt it could improve compliance.

While employers in the auto-ancillary industry voted this trend as the strongest disruptor (78%), the general services and banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) sectors followed suit at 57% and 50% respectively.



An office at Kerala Startup Mission. FILE PHOTO

## Startup summit for women

PTI

A summit relating to startups by women, based on the theme 'Developing an Inclusive Entrepreneurship Ecosystem', will be held in Kochi on August 1.

Organised by the Kerala Startup Mission, in association with the Indian Women Network floated by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), the event is open for all women professionals, aspiring entrepreneurs, corporate leaders and startup founders.

has implemented multiple policies and schemes, which focus on supporting startups established by women. The state government schemes can be availed by women startups from across the country, said a press release.

The support facilities offered by the government will be shared at the summit, the release said.

KSUM is the nodal agency of the state government for entrepreneurship development and incubation activities in the state.

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Septuagenarian Kanhaiyya Lal has polished shoes for a living, working the brush over the past 56 years

# Shining SILVER

VIJAY LOKAPALLY

The world has 'progressed' over the past five decades, and 73-year-old Kanhaiyya Lal has watched them go by, from his spot opposite the Parliament Street Police Station. As a shoe-shine 'boy' he has used his brush and polish on the leather of strangers, who later became regular customers.

He has watched, as the city has grown into a menacing concrete jungle. "It was a serene place," says Kanhaiyya, as he recalls a pleasant past. "Very few vehicles, no pollution, friendly people, no dust. It was a good time."

## Back in the day

He began in 1963, polishing at 25 paise. "It is ₹20 now," he smiles. Earning five rupees a day used to be enough to feed the entire family (his wife, three daughters, a son). He lives in Regar Pura, near Karol Bagh, and at some point used to walk down to his 'workplace'.

The past few weeks have been hot and humid in Delhi, not the best weather for those who work on the streets. Sweating, but only a little, he reaches Parliament Street

in Lutyens' Delhi, home to Parliament House. He keeps sipping water from his bottle that he fills from a point on the street, and looking at the sky: There is rain in the air and there are no customers in sight.

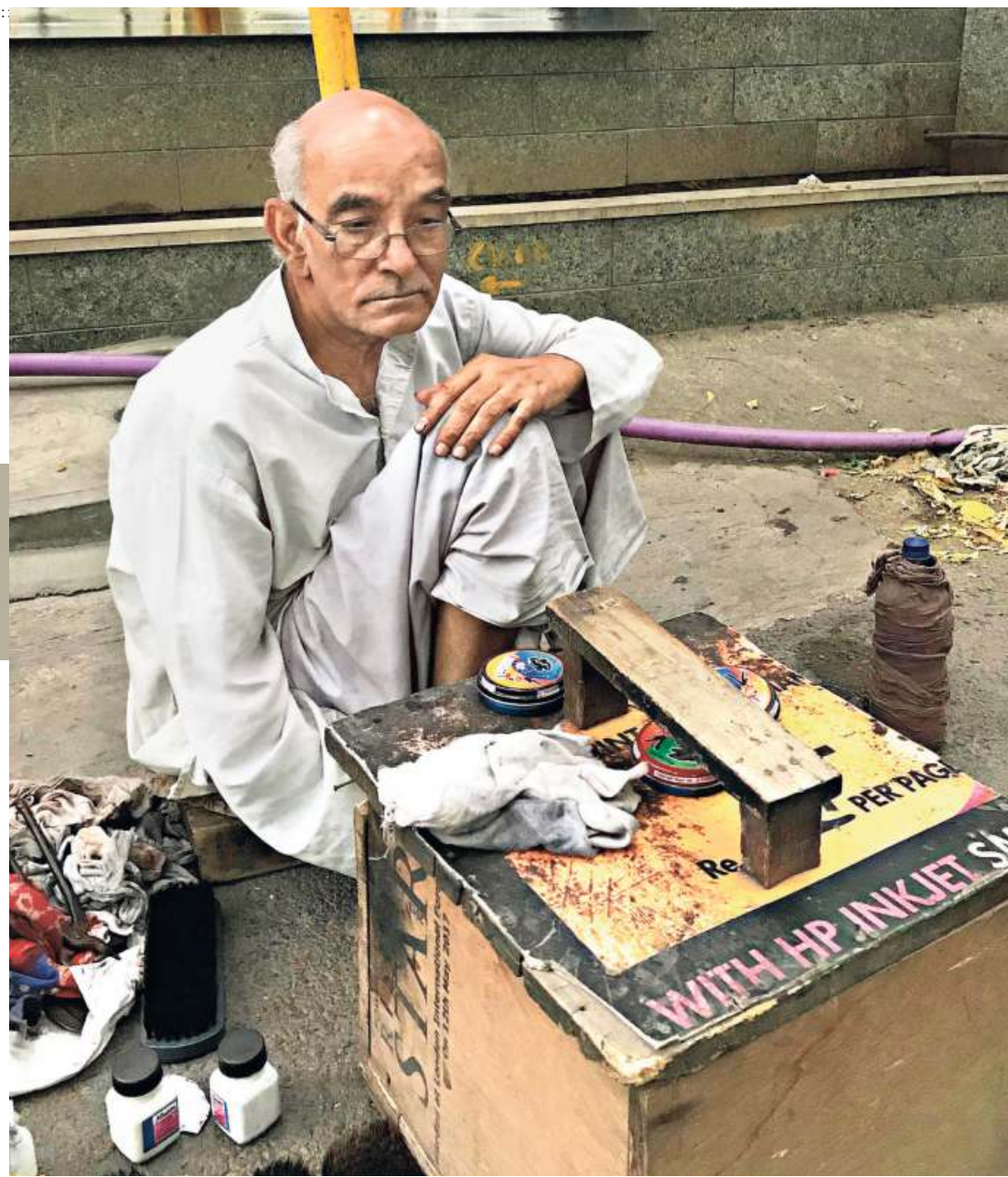
Born and brought up in Delhi, Kanhaiyya looks pale, sitting under the shadow of a tree. "My father did the same work, but none of my children do this." He mends and polishes shoes, and speaks about his life and his journey with absolutely no trace of bitterness.

## Shoes, then and now

Kanhaiyya saw the State Bank of India building come up, when he moved there briefly, from his current spot. He remembers his customers from those days, office-goers who mainly wore shoes made of *chamda* (leather). "They wanted their shoes to shine. Tip-top. Times have changed. People prefer sandals and sneakers now. Those who have leather shoes buy instant shoe-shine. But it is the shoe polish that we use that gives the leather longer life."

He had synchronised his work timings with theirs, 9.30 in the morning until government offices shut, by about 5.30 in the evening.

**Customers wanted their shoes to shine. Tip-top. Times have changed. People prefer sandals and sneakers now**



Perennial work Kanhaiyya Lal at his spot on Parliament Street • PHOTO CREDIT AKSHAY LOKAPALLY

Continuing to talk about his work, he says on some days he may cater to as many as 40 customers, but sometimes, there may not even be 20.

Compared to the days when he had just started, business is comparatively low, but he also had to face stiff competition then as about 30 cobblers would sit near the Regal and Rivoli theatres. "Now, I am the only cobbler on this entire road from one end to the other," he says. This does help his business.

## Come and go

He did try doing other things: His spot in front of SBI motivated him to appear in various entrance examinations. "I only passed the ex-

ams, but never got selected." He moved back to Parliament Street, where to his dismay, his spot was 'hijacked' for a park. Relocation wasn't a problem. "I had to just cross the road," he laughs.

He has seen all the Prime Ministers come and go: Pandit Nehru, who he first saw in a car with another visiting Prime Minister, whose name he cannot remember; Indira Gandhi, when she was summoned by a nearby district court (now shifted); Atal Bihari Vajpayee, V.P. Singh, and now Narendra Modi.

His fate, however, has remained unchanged. "I have been locked up by the police 11 times. I was fined many times, but never kept the

challans. I would have been allotted a shop on the basis of those challans. A judge once asked me to produce evidence that I had been working there for so many years, but I had none. I have no regrets." The judge still visits him. "I put my heart into shining his shoes."

He has other regulars too, some who have been coming since 1971. Retired officers from SBI sometimes visit, getting their shoes polished and asking about his well-being.

As a drizzle sends people scurrying for cover, Kanhaiyya packs up. Business has been low, but the coolness in the air is a good bargain. Anyway, he'll be back, tomorrow.

## FOOD SPOT

NAVAL SATARAWALA CHOPRA

The geniuses behind undoubtedly India's (and one of the world's) finest restaurants, are at it again – this time in whole new all day-dining format. I loved it so much that I went back for lunch the day after I reviewed the restaurant, to try everything I hadn't! The menu is split into small, large and XL plates and comprises Indian street food, dishes available only in speciality restaurants, and childhood favourites. The balance of spices that chef Dhiraj Dargan has created is unreal and his ability to deliver decadent dishes which sit light on the stomach, is what sets this restaurant apart. The home-made liqueurs and cocktails that Varun Sharma creates are alone worth visiting Comorin for.

**The vibe:** Contemporary chic. The restaurant has been designed by a London-based studio and fits well into DLF's Two Horizon Centre – a modern island in the concrete jungle of Gurugram, which looks and feels like nothing in the rest of the city.

**Do try:** Everything! My favourites from their small plates were the Haleem, velvety and melt-in-mouth. The Lemon Gunpowder Idli – the tanginess of the gunpowder is perfectly set off by the cashew. The real star was the sweet corn khichdi: creamy, perfectly spiced and topped with Sem Ka Beej (Hyacinth Beans) to give it an excellent crunch.

# FANCY AND old-fashioned?

Comorin is a celebration of palate-familiar spices, executed in a manner befitting of Indian Accent's sister restaurant

From the large plates, the Herb Paneer served with Raw Mango Launji: Scooping it up with the namak ajwain paratha will make you go weak in the knees. The Kashmiri Palak Rista in a marrow-flavoured sauce was decadent yet didn't overpower the meatballs. As for the desserts, there's the Doda Treacle Tart – an Indian accent favourite. The Cheeni Malai Toast, is exactly what it says on the tin. The simple dish is taken up a notch with the quality of the malai (cream), juxtaposed with the light crispness



India calling (Clockwise from left) Champaran Meat with Sattu Paratha, Cheeni Malai Toast, Lemon Gunpowder Idli • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

of the toast.

**Skip:** I am nitpicking here – the Bacon Bread Pakora is a well-fried pakora (almost oil-less) but the bacon failed to have the x-factor. The puri in the Dahi Batata Puri was a little too thick.

**Go with:** Your laptop and sit in one of the dedicated work-spaces sipping a coffee and eating a slice of cake; friends or family and sit at one of their community tables; clients and make use of their

private dining room which caters for two tables of 7 each; a date and sit at the bar sipping cocktails before seeing whether he/she likes it hot or not!

**Space bar:** 130 covers (including 24 in the open-air patio) spread over 5,308 sq feet.

**How much?** ₹3,000 for 2 (sans alcohol)

**Getting there:** There are both valet and self-parking options, however, a cocktail or three is definitely recommended, so do dial a driver service.

## BAR CODE

### Alliance allies

Get answers on tricky situations pertaining to relationships and socio-legal issues in Delhi/NCR



**My boyfriend and I were holding hands in the park, when a policeman threatened to call our parents. We are both 16. Do the police have the right to do so?**

In India, holding hands in a park is not an offence even for adolescent persons. The police has no right to disturb you or threaten to call your parents. However, if there is sexual intimacy in the park, i.e., kissing or any form of sexual activity, it may amount to the offence of obscenity and the police could consider legal action. Further, the Protection of Children against Sexual Offences Act, 2012 ('POCSO') prohibits all sexual acts between persons below 18, and between persons below 18 and adult persons. If the police suspects that any sexual activity, they may even invoke the offences under POCSO. Where the police takes action, they may call the parents of someone who is below 18.

**I am 22 and wish to get married to my girlfriend, who is 18. However, both of us are dependent on our parents. Can they stop the marriage?**

The law on marriage is governed by the religion of the parties. In case the parties are from different religions, then they can marry under the secular law, i.e., the Special Marriage Act, 1954. In all these laws, the minimum age of marriage is specified and mostly common, i.e., the groom should be 21 years and the bride should be minimum of 18 years of age. If you fulfil the age criteria and both parties have decided to marry each other with full consent, amongst other criteria, then no one can legally stop the marriage, especially the parents. The Courts have repeatedly held that the right to choice in marriage and sexual relations is an integral aspect of the fundamental right to privacy, dignity and autonomy guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution. However, since you are dependent on your parents, know that they may not support you in future.



Amritananda Chakravorty is a Delhi-based advocate, specialising in litigation on gender and sexuality. She was actively involved in the landmark cases of decriminalisation of sodomy (Section 377) and the recognition of transgender rights in India. Ask questions atdelhimetro@thehindu.co.in

## PRODUCT

### Statement pieces

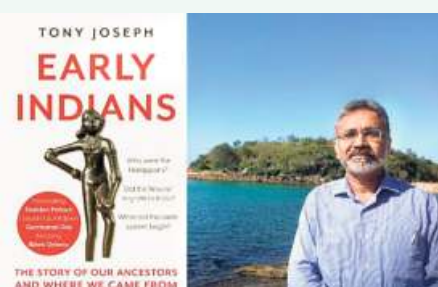


Momenti, an Italian company that tailor-make designs for living spaces, has launched a collection of side units. Brought to India by Ottimo, the units are pieces of art, with graphic geometric shapes and patterns. They are composed of modular elements, with some fully covered and some that have display spaces as well. The structures are wooden, with a matte lacquered interior and exterior.

Available at 354, Jagat Complex (1st Floor), 100 Feet Road, Ghitorni, ₹2.9 lakh upward

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

## 5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



### COLLOQUIUM

**Academic**  
Author Tony Joseph will deliver a presentation on "Indian Prehistory: How a multidisciplinary approach involving population genetics, archaeology and linguistics is solving some of the oldest problems and can be used to solve many more." The other participant is Prof. Kenneth Buetow, from Arizona State University.  
**VENUE:** Seminar Rooms, Kamaladevi Complex, IIC  
**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.



### CONFECTIONERY

**Special offer**  
Bakery chain, Honey & Dough has announced happy hours between 9 p.m. and 12 midnight. Guests will get a 1+1 offer on orders of savoury items. Valid till July 15, the offer is extended to dishes like Araabiata Maggi, Ham and Cheese Croissant. In addition, there's a 25% off on all their cakes.  
**VENUE:** All NCR outlets of Honey & Dough  
**TIME:** 9 p.m. - 12 midnight



### DANCE

**Kathak recital**  
Sharda Nritya Niketan presents Varsha Mangal, a Kathak dance recital that will feature solo performances by Pooja Mani and Devanand Parhar. Accompanying artists include vocals by Ashique Kumar, Suraj Nirwan on the tabla, Sumit Shridhar on the padhant and Muddasir Khan on the sarangi.  
**VENUE:** Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre  
**TIME:** 7 p.m.



### THEATRE

**Tribute**  
An ensemble of theatre artists from across Delhi will gather to pay a tribute to theatre personality, the late Girish Karnad. Repertories as well as individual performers will come together to perform short vignettes from several of Karnad's plays including *Nagamandala*, *Tughlaq* and *Boiled Beans on Toast*.  
**VENUE:** Odd Bird Theatre & Foundation  
**TIME:** 8 p.m.



### FILM

**Documentary**  
IHC, in collaboration with Bharatiya Jnanpith, will screen a 45-minute English documentary, *Geetanjali*, this evening. Directed by Arun Chadha, it is the story of the journey of a terminally-ill poet, who died at the age of 16. The screening will be followed by a discussion with the director.  
**VENUE:** Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre  
**TIME:** 7 p.m.

**Cruising ahead** There is little doubt, this is one of the best AMTs around • PAUL DEWARIS



What's new here is the automatic gear lever that is sturdy, nice to hold and easy to slot into different drive modes

# Mahindra XUV300 goes automatic

OMKAR SHENDGE

Since its launch earlier this year, it's been public knowledge that Mahindra was preparing an automatic version of the XUV300. Said version is now here in the form of the XUV300 AMT – or to be more specific, the diesel AMT.

Moving to the gearbox itself, it is a new Marelli (previously Magneti Marelli) sourced 6-speed unit and we got to sample it in the top-of-the-line W8(O) variant.

The XUV300's interior has the same pleasing design with its black-and-beige theme. The cabin feels spacious and airy, and you are sat in a commanding driving position with good overall visibility. What's new here is the automatic gear lever that is sturdy, nice to hold and easy to slot into different drive modes. The gates are laid out in a cross position, with Automatic (A) and Manual (M) on the left, Neutral on the right, Reverse on the right and bottom, and Tiptronic on the top (+) and bottom (-) from the centre. The lack of a clutch pedal has freed up some space in the footwell and there is a wide, comfortable dead pedal here – something sorely missed on the manual XUV.

Elsewhere, the XUV300 AMT is identical to the manual variants. There is enough space in the rear to seat three passengers.

The 257-litre boot, however, isn't very accommodating.

The XUV300 AMT uses the same 117hp/300Nm, 1.5-litre, four-cylinder diesel engine as the XUV diesel-ma-



nual. Slot the 6-speed AMT's lever into 'A' and the XUV300 engages Creep mode which is nice and progressive. This is a huge improvement over the previous Mahindra AMT on the NuvoSport, which leaps forward when you lift your foot off the brake pedal. However, as smooth as its AMT is, the XUV300 still isn't completely at ease in stop-go traffic. The grabby brakes that are hard to modulate at crawling speeds are to blame for this.

With a light foot on the throttle, the transmission shifts up through the initial gears effortlessly. Truth be told, it is comfortable to drive

### SPECIFICATIONS

**ENGINE:** 1497cc, 4 cyls, turbo-diesel

**MAX POWER (HP @ RPM):** 117hp at 3750rpm

**MAX TORQUE (NM @ RPM):** 300Nm at 1500-2500rpm

**GEARBOX:** 6-speed AMT

**FRONT SUSPENSION:** Independent, MacPherson strut

**REAR SUSPENSION:** Non-independent, Twist beam

**WHEELBASE (MM):** 2600mm

**GROUND CLEARANCE (MM):** 180mm

**BOOT CAPACITY (LTS):** 257 litres

doubt, this is one of the best AMTs around. The gearbox is quick to respond and drops down a single or couple of gears when you demand more power from it. However, when cruising on the highway, it doesn't quite drop down three gears, from sixth to third, where the real punch is. So, for overtakes on the highways, it is best you use the manual Tiptronic mode. Even though the shifts in manual mode aren't super quick, it gives you good control over the gearbox and helps keep the engine on the boil.

The AMT variant comes with hill-hold assist feature, preventing the car from rolling back when on a slope. Another good feature of the AMT is that while going downhill, the unit doesn't upshift to a higher gear immediately when the speed increases. It will hold on to a lower gear to give you more control. The auto start-stop feature from the manual variant has been given a miss on the AMT variant. It, however, gets cruise control, unlike the Maruti Brezza.

in bumper-to-bumper traffic, as a conventional automatic, but small jerks and some amount of head nod still remain. But there is little

### AUTO SNIPPETS



### Bajaj launches CT110 commuter bike

Bajaj has launched the new CT110 motorcycle priced at ₹37,997 for the kick-start and ₹44,352 for the electric-start variant (all prices, ex-showroom, Delhi). Being one of the most affordable commuters in India, the CT110 makes use of a larger, 115cc, single-cylinder DTS-i engine, developing 8.6hp and 9.81Nm of torque. The unit is paired with a 4-speed gearbox. The CT110 is slightly different from the CT100 when it comes to cosmetics. The bike now features a rubber tank-pad similar to the one on the TVS Radeon. The engine, gearbox, fork and wheels have also been blacked-out.

### Li-ions Elektrik Solutions launches Spock e-scooter

Gurugram-based Li-ions Elektrik Solutions has launched its first electric scooter, the Spock, with prices ranging between ₹65,000-99,000 (on-road). Designed for commercial use, the Spock features a large basket in front and a luggage box that occupies the pillion seat.

It has a ground clearance of 200mm and sports 90/90 -12 tyres at either end. The Spock features a 2.9kWh swappable battery that works alongside a 2.1kW motor. The scooter also gets two power modes – Economy and Power.



### BMW reveals third-gen X6

BMW has revealed the third generation of its SUV-coupé, the X6. Sharing its underpinnings with the new X5, the new X6 features an evolutionary design. It gets a more angular appearance replete with a new interpretation of the kidney grille, angular headlights and a broad-shouldered body. Its rear styling has much in common with the X4. The interior design is largely shared with the X5. At 4,935mm, the new model is 26mm longer than the previous X6, with the 2,975mm wheelbase stretched by 42mm. It's also 15mm wider. The new X6 offers a choice of petrol and diesel engines. At the top of the range are the M50i and M50d variants powered by a 530hp, 4.4-litre V8 turbo-petrol and a 400hp, 3.0-litre, in-line-six quad-turbo diesel engine, respectively.

### POOCH CAFE



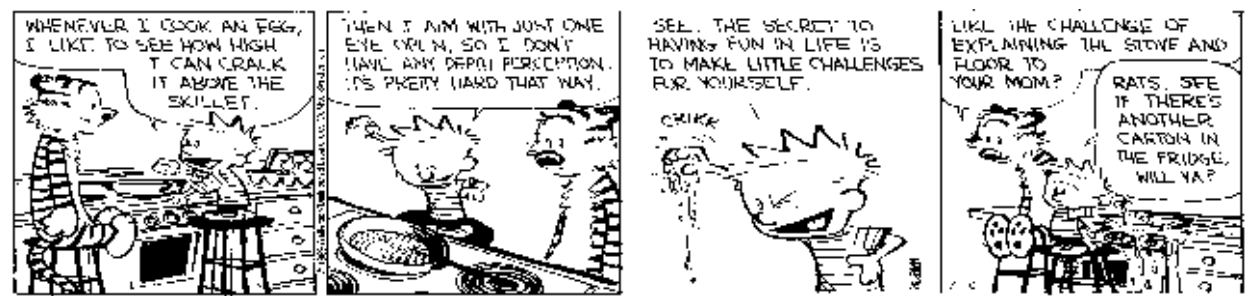
### PEANUTS



### HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



### CALVIN AND HOBBS



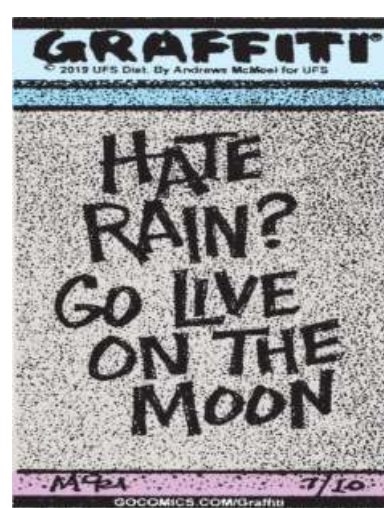
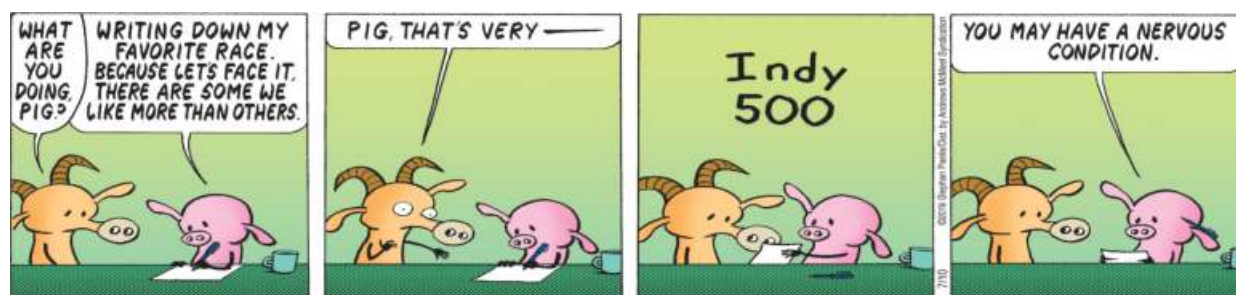
### TIGER



### WUMO



### PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



**HEALTH CAPSULES®**  
by Bron Smith

WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF SUGAR THAT I CAN EAT?

EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR HAS BEEN LINKED TO OBESITY, DIABETES, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, DEMENTIA AND TOOTH DECAY.

THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION GUIDELINES SUGGEST THAT MEN CONSUME NO MORE THAN 100 CALORIES OF ADDED SUGAR PER DAY, EQUAL TO 9 TEASPOONS. WOMEN: 100 CALORIES, OR 6 TEASPOONS.

Health capsules is not intended to be a medical device.

### THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13118

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- Across
- 1 Ignite again (7)
- 8 Route regularly used by commercial vessels (3,4)
- 9 Seed men (anag) – land attached to a property and retained for the owner's personal use (7)
- 10 Israeli city (3,4)
- 11 Feeling of dissatisfaction (5)
- 13 Where the king can't move (9)
- 15 Seville's region (9)
- 18 Anthropoid (5)
- 21 Paint-mixing board (7)
- 22 Moralist (7)
- 23 Material containing ferric metal (4,3)
- 24 How to cook chips (4-3)
- Down
- 1 Long raised strip (5)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated July 11, 2019.

Solution No. 13117

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# Rain takes over after Williamson and Taylor lead Kiwi fightback

The match will resume at the same stage on Wednesday, the reserve day, weather permitting



**Not a pleasant sight:** New Zealand had made 211 for five in 46.1 overs when rain stopped play and the covers had to be brought on. •AFP



**No clue:** Henry Nicholls is cleaned up by a beauty from Ravindra Jadeja. •REUTERS



K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR  
MANCHESTER

It was a Tuesday of slow runs, damp weather and the long wait. Under grim skies that made illuminated floodlights a mandatory accessory to the World Cup semifinal, India tightened the screws on New Zealand.

Old Trafford's dry pitch was on the slower side and the niggardly Men in Blue restricted the Black Caps to 211 for five in 46.1 overs when a steady drizzle gained strength and forced umpires Richard Illingworth and Richard Kettleborough to stop play at 2 p.m. local time.

The rains that wavered between the feathery drops and the insistent pitter-patter, continued unabated till 4.15 p.m. when the sun grudgingly peeped out.

While the match officials hoped for an extended dry phase so that India could commence an abridged chase with a revised target based on the Duckworth-Lewis Method, a fresh wet spell just as the umpires were inspecting the turf at 6.10 p.m., affected revival-plans and it was decided to resume the face-off on Wednesday, which is the reserve day.

Earlier in the morning despite a cloud cover and a nip in the air, boisterous Indian fans jostled on the roads, yelled patriotic slogans and belted out a rhyme in Rohit Sharma's honour while WhatsApp was flooded with one query: "will it rain?"

A cacophony of noise erupted from the stands as Kane Williamson won the toss, opted to bat and Martin

Guptill and Henry Nicholls strode towards the crease.

## First-ball drama

The first ball was all drama. Expectations and anguish tailed it as Bhuvneshwar Kumar, surprisingly preferred over Mohammed Shami, rapped Guptill's pad. The appeal was negated, the review went in vain and Twitterati blamed the seamer. Meanwhile, Jasprit Bumrah did his shock and choke routine and a wicket seemed imminent.

The premonition proved true when Bumrah got one to jag, rise a bit and Guptill, not

sure if he had to play or leave, edged to Virat Kohli's left at second slip and the Indian captain caught well. New Zealand was one for one in the fourth over and Williamson walked in, needing to validate his decision of taking first strike besides sealing the first crack.

Bumrah's delivery slid past the rival skipper's willow and the fielders let out an "oooooooooh". Having survived that maiden inquisition, Williamson (67) remained unfazed except when a fly tried to make a home out of his helmet. The batsman got the

pest out of his eye-line, nudged the singles, lent confidence to Nicholls and a steady 68-run second-wicket partnership took shape.

Amidst the ennui of dot balls, came the relief of two fours. Nicholls cover-drove Bumrah but the acme was Williamson's straight drive off Bhuvneshwar. Elegance shimmered in that shot and it was time to quote John Keats: "A thing of beauty is a joy forever."

## Joining forces

India's first-change bowlers Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja were in operation and the former was cut and pulled by Williamson while the latter appealed often. Still, the run-rate stayed below four and a noose hovered close. Just as New Zealand was turning stable, Nicholls missed one from Jadeja and the stumps were disturbed. New Zealand placed at 69 for two in the 19th over and Ross Taylor (67 batting) joined

forces with his captain.

Meanwhile, India suffered a scare as Pandya held his left leg and gingerly retreated to the dressing room. Thankfully for Kohli's men, the all-rounder returned while Yuzvendra Chahal struggled with a few wides. Taylor blocked while Williamson slog-swept the leg-spinner. Another inevitable 50 was Williamson's to savour and after that he topped a pull off Pandya for four and Taylor's snick off Bumrah dipped just before a diving M.S. Dhoni could get a glove to it.

## Sense of urgency

Williamson slog-swept Jadeja and just as he was trying to infuse urgency, the 65-run third-wicket partnership concluded. An attempted drive off Chahal ended up as a slice to Jadeja at backward point. Wobbling at 134 for three in the 36th over, New Zealand was still searching for its springboard.

Much hinged on Taylor

and all-rounder James Neesham but the latter struggled against bouncers. One such short-pitched projectile consumed the southpaw and Pandya found his reward. New Zealand needed a considerable push and Taylor complied, hammering a six

## SCOREBOARD

**NEW ZEALAND**  
Martin Guptill c Kohli b Bumrah 1 (14b), Henry Nicholls b Jadeja 28 (51b, 2x4), Kane Williamson c Jadeja b Chahal 67 (95b, 6x4), Ross Taylor (batting) 67 (85b, 3x4, 1x6), James Neesham c Karthik b Pandya 12 (18b, 1x4), Colin de Grandhomme c Dhoni b Bhuvneshwar 16 (10b, 2x4), Tom Latham (batting) 3 (4b); Extras (lb-4, w-13): 17; Total (for five wkts. in 46.1 overs): 211.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
1-1 (Guptill, 3.3 overs), 2-69 (Nicholls, 18.2), 3-134 (Williamson, 35.2), 4-162 (Neesham, 40.6), 5-200 (de Grandhomme, 44.4).

**INDIA BOWLING**  
Bhuvneshwar 8.1-1-30-1, Bumrah 8-1-25-1, Pandya 10-0-55-1, Jadeja 10-0-34-1, Chahal 10-0-63-1.

**Toss:** New Zealand.  
Play to resume on Wednesday.

upon the venue, extended the long delayed climax into Wednesday.

## England in a good place, says Root

IAN S  
BIRMINGHAM

England's Joe Root is feeling confident that both recent and distant history have the tournament host ready for revenge in the rematch against Australia in the second semifinal of the World Cup.

England was downed convincingly by its fiercest rivals at Lord's last month and looked in serious danger of missing the semifinals at its home tournament.

However, back-to-back wins over India and New Zealand turned the tables.

England has lost its last two clashes with Australia,

including a warm-up game ahead of the World Cup, but before that Root & Co. had the edge with a series win down under and a 5-0 white-wash on home soil.

"If you look at the past 11 games against them we have won nine," Root was quoted as saying by the ICC. "These guys and this group over the last four years, their experience against Australia have been very positive and they have got a lot of success in the bank. We will be drawing on the fact that over a long period of time now we have been successful against Australia and we should take that into Thursday."



**Match-ready:** Joe Root feels England is primed to exact revenge on Australia for the league stage defeat. •REUTERS

## Cricket — How the idea of 'India' developed



### BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

In 1911, the first 'All-India' team toured England for a series of matches, 14 of them First Class. It was led by a 19-year-old prince, and comprised six Parsis, five Hindus, three Muslims and two Dalits. At least two earlier attempts had failed because the communal balance was deemed unsatisfactory.

How the idea of 'India' developed on the cricket field, and what the Kohlis and Bumrahs owe that pioneering effort is described superbly by Prashant Kidambi in *Cricket Country: The Untold History of the First All India Team*. The nation on the cricket field, Kidambi clarifies, was originally constituted by, and not against, the forces of empire.

When scholars (Kidambi is associate professor of colonial urban history at Leicester University) write on sport, they expand our understanding of ourselves, and the place of sport. After all, what do they know of history who only history know? Kidambi has deliberately used the title of a book written during the world war. Edmund Blunden's *Cricket Country* is both a lament on the passing of an age and a celebration of the timelessness of the game. While Blunden's book is about Englishness, Kidambi's is a tribute to the game's Indianness. "By a curious historical twist," he says, "a sport that defined the identity of the former colonisers is now the ruling passion of the country that they conquered." If Blunden was saying that cricket was authentic only when it was English, Kidambi is saying, clearing his throat gently, that the 'country' in the title is actually India.

Blunden however anticipated Kidambi when he wrote: "The game is not terminated at the boundary, but is reflected beyond...and belongs to some wider field."

### Change of names

Kidambi's field is wide, wider than most. Politics and sport and their intersection might be a key, but the role of sport in establishing identity, the approach to it for both personal and 'nationalistic' purposes ring true today; only the names have changed. For the Maharajahs and Princes, read corporates and politicians. The Indian rush to England for the World Cup had its origins in a plan by some merchants to charter a steamer to take them to Britain to watch the Indians play there in 1911. The idea was to take a party of 400 high caste Hindus, with food "prepared by Brahmins" and "all arrangements on orthodox principles." That plan fell apart, but says Kidambi, "the summer of 1911 saw a spike in the number of travellers from the subcontinent to Britain."

India couldn't persuade Ranji, the greatest Indian cricketer of his time to lead the country. Ranji tried to undermine plans for All-India teams because that might have jeopardized his status as an English icon.

Kidambi's research is deep and extensive. There are wonderful stories of many like Shaikat Ali who, along with his brother started the Khilafat Movement. Shaikat was also the cricket captain of Aligarh Muslim University whose room was "the venue of a royal durbar where appeals of freshers and younger boys were heard, decisions given and enforced." Or Shafiq Hussain, who played with only one good eye.

### Misconceptions cleared

Kidambi clears some misconceptions that have attached themselves to that 1911 team. It was not "organised and financed" by the skipper, Maharajah of

Patiala Bhupinder Singh, a most colourful character who fathered 88 children (according to one estimate). The Parsi star Keki Mistry should have led, but Mistry worked for Bhupinder and would not have been granted permission to tour. Hence the ploy of getting a 19-year-old to lead so his employee could make the trip. Bhupinder "played in a manner that befitted his regal status: short, sharp bursts of flamboyant batting before boredom set in and induced a fatal error." A brilliant description of the cricket the princes played as well as the lifestyles they led.

The year 1911 was significant in many ways. In Kolkata, Mohun Bagan defeated East Yorkshire Regiment to become the first Indian team to win the Indian Football Association (IFA) Shield. In London, George V was crowned King-Emperor, and there was an Imperial Conference held there. Other Indian sportsmen were touring too. Jamsetji Marker, the world racquets champion, the great wrestler Gama and a team of Punjabi wrestlers earned both plaudits and publicity.

It was a blazing summer — one of the hottest since the mid-seventeenth century. Temperatures went beyond 36 degrees. And how did the pioneering Indian cricket team do? They won two of 14 First Class matches, and lost 10. Apart from psychological and geographical reasons, there were two sound cricketing ones too, Kidambi tells us. The weapons bowlers had developed recently — the outswinger and the googly — were a mystery to Indian batsmen. The great left arm spinner Palwankar Baloo picked up 75 wickets at just over 20, while his brother Shivram scored 631 runs, behind Rustomji Meherhomji's 684.

Watching India in England today with the crowd support suggesting they might be playing at home, it is useful to remember how it all began. *Cricket Country* tells that riveting story with passion and authority.

## BCB, Rhodes part ways

No extensions for Joshi, Walsh either

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
DHAKA

The Bangladesh Cricket Board on Monday announced it would let go of head coach Steve Rhodes after a disappointing campaign in the World Cup.

**Effective immediately** "We have decided to part ways with the head coach by mutual consent. The decision will be effective immediately," BCB CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury said.

The decision came a day after Bangladesh returned home after ending its campaign in the World Cup eighth in the league phase with only three wins in eight matches.

Head coach Rhodes joined Bangladesh in June last year and guided the team to its first-ever title in a multi-team tournament in Ireland just before the World Cup.

He was contracted with Bangladesh until the ICC World Twenty20 in Australia next year but his inability to give the team the expected results appear to have cost him his job.

BCB confirmed coach Rhodes would not travel with the team to Sri Lanka, where Bangladesh will play three One-Day International matches later this month.

The Sri Lankan cricket authorities on Monday announced that there will be three matches on July 26, 28 and 31 at Premadasa International Stadium in Colom-



Steve Rhodes. •AFP

bo. "We will shortly name an interim coach for the Sri Lanka tour," Jhalal Yumus, the chairman of the BCB media committee, told AFP.

Jalal confirmed that the BCB also planned a shake-up of other coaching staff and was unlikely to renew the contract of pace bowling coach Courtney Walsh and spin-bowling coach Sunil Joshi.

Both Walsh and Joshi had been under contract with the BCB until the end of the World Cup.

Walsh replaced former Zimbabwean pacer Heath Streak in September, 2016 on a three-year contract, while Joshi joined last year.

**McKenzie, Cook stay** BCB will offer a new contract to South African batting coach Neil McKenzie and fielding coach Ryan Cook. "We would like McKenzie and the fielding coach to stay with us. But it does not depend entirely on us," he said.



