

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

HOW SPORT ENHANCES LIFE  
BY SANDEEP DWIVEDI  
PAGE 12

WORLD



UK SEES WINDOW TO SAVE N-DEAL, IRAN ASKS EUROPE TO ACT

TRUMP DIGS IN AFTER RACIST TWEETS ABOUT LAWMAKERS  
PAGE 14

CHANDRAYAAN-2: INDIA'S ATTEMPT TO LAND ON MOON

## Technical glitch aborts moon mission, next launch date could be much later

ISRO says countdown stopped 56 minutes before liftoff; though window exists today, launch unlikely

**AMITABH SINHA**  
SRIHARIKOTA, JULY 15

JUST UNDER an hour before liftoff, India's first attempt at landing a spacecraft on the moon was aborted early Monday morning after a technical snag was detected in the GSLV-MkIII rocket.

Without giving any details, an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) statement said: "Revised launch date would

be announced later."

It was not clear immediately how soon that new launch date could be. ISRO officials indicated that it could take up to a few days to assess the seriousness of the problem. It could rule out another attempt at the launch in the current window of opportunity which is available only until Tuesday (July 16). The next launch date could be months later.

The countdown to the launch was stopped at 56 minutes ahead of the scheduled time



GSLV-MkIII on the Sriharikota launch pad

after scientists detected a problem in the rocket. While ISRO did not specify it, there were indications that the problem was detected in the upper stage of the rocket carrying the cryogenic engine where liquid hydrogen fuel had been filled less than half an hour earlier.

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GSLV: ROCKET'S SCIENCE  
EXPLAINED PAGE 11

**Tie-ghtest of wins!**

No supper's over without Amul

## Subansiri dam: Work on despite assurance to NGT that it won't



The hydel power project site in 2011 (left) and 2019

**JAY MAZOOMDAAR**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

INFORMED THAT work on the Lower Subansiri Hydroelectric Project on the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border had been "kept pending" since 2011 due to a local agitation, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) in December 2015 asked NHPC Ltd not to resume construction till safety issues were resolved. The Mini Ratna PSU has achieved over 30% progress in concretizing since.

When work was stopped in December 2011, show Central Electricity Authority (CEA) data, the Subansiri project had completed concretization of 5.75 lakh cubic metres (cum). By March 2019, concretization at Subansiri had increased by 1.85 lakh cums to a total of 7.6 lakh cums.

Some of the work — slope protection to arrest landslide on both banks of the river, for example — commenced in 2014 before the stay order and the NGT permitted such measures for safety and protection of the public and property. But the Tribunal also categorically told NHPC "not to undertake any work on the main project except those that were related to urgent repairs and maintenance".

Yet, records reviewed by *The Indian Express* show, massive concretization has been carried out to construct the project's extended spillway (see box), that has widened the dam base by over 100 metres. A spillway is a structure for controlled release of dam water into the riverbed downstream. Additionally, the developer has nearly completed the construction of two cut-off walls under the dam base. These components were suggested in 2013 by a Dam Design Review Panel (DDRP), the recommendations of which are still being reviewed under an NGT order.

"Since the dam is incomplete, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Dissenting voices in Govt: Surcharge on rich may well end up hurting investment

**SUNNY VERMA & ANIL SASI**  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

A SECTION within the Central government is of the view that the Budget proposal slapping a higher surcharge on the super rich will effectively discourage new investors and exacerbate the trend of migration of high net worth individuals from India. The imposition is seen as being in contradiction with the overall theme of the Budget — that of fostering private participation to catalyse a reversal in the sluggish investment sentiment in the country.

A top policy maker in the NDA government, who spoke to *The Indian Express* on the condition of anonymity, said the surcharge will have the "most deleterious" impact on investments in the country and push out unicorns (new age companies with valuation above \$1 billion) and discourage the inflow of high quality human capital that India

**EXPLAINED**

### Rs 12000 cr but at what cost?

AN ADDITIONAL revenue of Rs 12,000 crore is being factored via surcharge imposed on the super rich but experts warn that this is far outweighed by its adverse impact on investments. The new tax will hit investment trusts through which many foreign investors put money into India's stock markets.

was just beginning to attract.

"When we impose high surcharge on people earning over \$200,000-300,000 (roughly more than Rs 2 crore), they may not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



## Police cover for couple

Sakshi Mishra, daughter of BJP MLA Rajesh Mishra, and her husband Ajitesh, a Dalit, were roughed up Monday outside the Allahabad High Court. The couple, who received threats after their inter-caste marriage, were granted police cover. Ritesh Shukla REPORT, PAGE 9

## Deported from UAE in terror case, 14 men flown to Chennai by NIA

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHENNAI, NEW DELHI, JULY 15

FOURTEEN PERSONS, deported from the United Arab Emirates and apprehended by the National Investigation Agency for suspected association with men linked to an alleged terror outfit, were flown from New Delhi to Chennai on a special flight Monday.

It is learnt that the men were produced before a NIA court which granted their custody to the agency. Sources claimed that

IN PARLIAMENT

**LOK SABHA NOD TO NIA BILL, SHAH SAYS WON'T MISUSE**  
PAGE 7

the men — they were said to be from Chennai, Tirunelveli, Theni, Nagapattinam and Ramanathapuram — were members of Wahdat-e-Islami Hind, a religious organisation in Tamil Nadu.

They were deported after

intelligence agencies received credible inputs that they had been in touch with individuals in Tamil Nadu who have now been placed under arrest by the NIA for suspected links to alleged terror outfit Ansarulla.

On Saturday, the NIA searched premises linked to three individuals in connection with its probe into activities of Ansarulla. One among them was Chennai resident Syed Bukhari, president of the Wahdat-e-Islami Hind. On Sunday, the NIA arrested two of the three individuals — Hassan Ali

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Bracing for SC hearing & trust vote, Karnataka parties hide their MLAs

**JOHNSON TA**  
BENGALURU, JULY 15

ASHE made his way through the ruling members lounge in the Karnataka Assembly Monday, Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy spotted an MLA from his party Raja Venkatappa Nayak.

"Where were you yesterday? We thought you had joined the rebels when you went missing," he told the MLA, who rose from his seat to greet the CM. The JD(S) Raichur MLA quickly explained that it was only a rumour. "Keep your courage up. It will all work out," Kumaraswamy told Nayak, whose name has been among

**BUSINESS AS USUAL**

By UNNY

Morning! What's the latest from Sidhu-rangaiah?

those likely to join a group of 13 Congress-JD(S) rebels who have resigned and have been holed up

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CITY



**MANY DELAYS LATER, RTR FLYOVER OPENS TODAY**

**PURVANCHAL PUSH: DELHI GOVT BRINGS MAITHILI TO SCHOOL**  
PAGES 3, 5

## Is the Governor a puppet? Bihar bars person who set civil services exam question

**SANTOSH SINGH**  
PATNA, JULY 15

CRITICALLY EXAMINE the role of Governor in state politics in India, particularly in Bihar. Is he a mere puppet?

This question, in the General Studies Paper II of the Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) entrance examination (mains) Sunday, has led to an uproar, resulting in the barring

of the person who set the examination paper.

The analytical question, asked in English and Hindi, carried 38 marks.

In the past, two Bihar Governors found themselves at the centre of controversy. After the 2000 Assembly elections, Governor BC Pandey invited the Nitish Kumar-led NDA to form the government though the Rabri Devi-led RJD had emerged

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Animal underpasses on Maharashtra highway a life-saver, tigers turning out to be regular users

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

**VIVEK DESHPANDE**  
NAGPUR, JULY 15

LAST WEEK, travellers on the newly four-laned NH-44 in Maharashtra recorded a startling video. It showed T1, a tiger from the Pench reserve, crossing the highway in daylight. Pench officials said T1, a male of about 11 years, had already been hit once by a vehicle in February.

Two days after that video was shot, two people died on the highway after their car hit a truck while swerving to avoid a wild

boar.

Wildlife activists have cited these incidents to underscore the inadequacy of the nine underpasses built by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), on the directions of the Bombay High Court, for animals to avoid the highway.

However, a report by Wildlife Institute of India (WII) scientist Bilal Habib and his team shows that over March, April and May, 17 different species of animals started using these underpasses along the 16-km patch of forest on the Maharashtra side of the highway — including T1.

Tigers have been among the most frequent users of at least one of these underpasses, says



T1 spotted using an underpass at night. Courtesy WII

the report that is part of a study titled 'Ecological impact assessment of existing and proposed road infrastructure in important wildlife corridors in India'.

The study found animals

displaying "peculiar behavioural patterns" that could help in devising mitigation measures required to be undertaken in other similar projects.

For instance, between March and May, the study undertaken with the help of 74 trap cameras showed that T1 used Animal Under Pass (AUP) 9 at least twice. In another case, the study showed, a sloth bear took two months to decide that it would use the underpass.

The study found that while some animals passed through the underpasses, some used them for playing or resting. Most animals used the underpasses during night, it showed. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Mukesh Kumar R/O S/O Ram Avtar Gupta R/O-G-277, Preet-Vihar, Delhi-110092 Changed My Name To Mukesh Gupta. 040503273-10

I, Rajshekhar Revansidhappa Hanjagi R/O SMQ F-5, Camero Complex, Subroto Park, New Delhi-110010, have changed my minor son's name Veerbhadra to Veerbhadra Rajshekhar Hanjagi vide Affidavit dated 15/07/2019 before NCT Delhi. 040503231-2

I, Daljeet Singh S/O Harmohinder Singh R/O 129-130, 2nd Floor, Pkt-12, Sec-24, Rohini, Delhi-85, Changed My Name To Daljit Singh. 0404503273-4

I, Swati Prashad/Swati Rai D/o-Rajendra Prashad W/o-Nitin Kumar Rai R/O-Flat.No.173, Pocket-C/8, Sector-8, Rohini, New Delhi, have changed my name to Swati Rai. for all purposes. 0404503273-6

PUBLIC NOTICE: I, for and on behalf of my clients Shri Om Prakash S/o Late Shri Shashank Singh & Smt. Veena Devi W/o Shri Om Prakash both R/O Hous No. 52-2-355, 3rd Floor, East Okhla, Delhi, hereby inform to the General Public at large that my Clients have severed off/terminated all their relations with their son namely "VIJAY KUMAR ATTRE" and his wife "PRIYANKA" and their dependent liabilities including their minor son Mitti Atri, and some dependent disowned them from their all movable and immovable properties for all intents and purposes as they are out of their control for the last one year. If anybody deals with them herein that will be liable and responsible for the consequences. 0404503273-10

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NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE: Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work: 1. Name of Work with its location: Design, supply, erection, testing & commissioning of 25 KV AC OHE Modification work in connection with providing double line connectivity from DFCCIL Prithvi Vihar to J.R. Asafli Yard. 2. Approx. Cost of work: Rs. 1,26,50,896.85 3. Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 2,13,300/- 4. E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period: 25.07.2019 (00.00 Hrs.) to 08.08.2019 (15.00 Hrs.) 5. E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time : 08.08.2019 (15.00 hrs.) 6. Fund Allocation: 0084452/1 7. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen: www.irps.gov.in E-Tender No.: 05A-TRD-NDL5-2019-20 Dated : 15.07.2019 2278/19 Serving Customers With A Smile

LOST & FOUND

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying Certificate of Secondary Examination of year 1985 and Roll No.31528 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of the candidate Gurmit Singh, Address: NA-60, Street No. 5, Vishnu Garden, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018. Contact No. 9540584797. 0404503293-8

LOST & FOUND

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main Secondary Examination of year 2017 and Roll No. 8654809 issued by CBSE, has been actually lost. Name of the Candidate: Garima Khurana, full Address/Tel. 2566, Punjabi Basti, Subzi Mandi, Delhi-110007, 9999597808 (M). 0404503291-1

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It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate and Marksheet of main Secondary (Class 10th) Examination of Year 2016 with Roll No. 8214821 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of the candidate Anoop Pathak S/O Shubh Karan Pathak, Add:-WZ-47B, Phase 2A, Om Vihar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi -59, Mobile No 9868710859. 0404503210-1

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WESTERN RAILWAY AHMEDABAD DIVISION: VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS E-Tender Notice No. 12 of 2019-20 dated 11.07.2019 (1) e-Tender No. : DRM-ADI-67-2019-20 Name of work: Construction of Bridge, earthwork and laying linking of track in connection with provision of full length shunting rack at Chirai (Re-invited). Approximate NIT Cost: ₹ 1,35,08,112.28 EMD Cost : ₹ 2,17,800.00 (2) e-Tender No. : DRM-ADI-68-2019-20 Name of work: All ordinary and miscellaneous repairs up to 5.0 Lakhs for Bridge Zone no. 17B of 2019-2020 under ADEN-Gandhidham, Sr. Divisional Engineer (North West) Ahmedabad's jurisdiction (Re-invited-I). Approximate NIT Cost : ₹ 89,99,999.99 EMD Cost : ₹ 1,80,000.00 (3) e-Tender No. : DRM-ADI-69-2019-20 Name of work: Transportation of heavy P/W material & P/Way fittings to Sabarmati Depot & works site in Ahmedabad Division for year 2019-20. Approximate NIT Cost : ₹ 82,18,554.00 EMD Cost : ₹ 1,64,400.00 Closing date & time of e-tender: Closing date & time for tender is 15.00 Hrs. on date 13.08.2019. Office Address : Sr. Divisional Engineer (Co-ordination)- Ahmedabad, D.R.M Office, Nr. Chamunda Bridge, Opp. New Swadeshi Mill, Naroda Road, Amdapura, Ahmedabad-382345 Website Address for participating tender: www.irps.gov.in Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRly

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER BUILDING CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT BUILDING DIVISION NO.-1, RANCHI: VERY SHORT INVITING QUOTATION NOTICE: Sealed quotations from reputed firms/Experienced registered agencies are invited for Annual maintenance of 'Jharkhand Bhawan' New Delhi (Period August, 2019 to July, 2020) will scope of works and term and conditions as mentioned below to be sent under registered cover to the undersigned on or before 1.00 PM. from 24-07-2019 to 25-07-2019 at the office of Executive Engineer, B.C.D., Building Division No.-1, Ranchi positively which will be opened on the last day 25-07-2019 at the time 3.30 P.M. of receipt of quotations preferably in presence of authorized representatives of quotations if present at the fixed date and time. Conditional tender how so ever will not be entertained and will be summarily rejected. The rates so quoted must be both in figures and words preferably in English language. Quotations must be under two envelopes system i.e. financial bid and technical bid. The financial bid envelop will be comprised with separate rates for each system of work whereas the technical bid envelop will cover the certificate of registration of firms/appreciation if any/past performance certificates and certificate of technical know-how etc. The quotationers who will qualify technically, only their financial envelopes will be opened. The successful quotationer will be required to deposit 5% amount of quoted value as earnest money in shape of Bank Guarantee or in any approved shape of deposit duly pledged in the name of Executive Engineer, Building Construction Department, Building Division No.-1, Ranchi (Jharkhand). The successful quotationer will be required to execute an agreement comprising with details of scope of work/system of working with payment systems etc. Quotationers must have minimum two years Experience of day to day maintenance work of any Guest House of Govt./Govt. undertaking department in Delhi/N.C.R. Region. Only those quotationers will be authorized to purchase tender paper/bid, who qualify all the above mentioned terms & conditions. Cost of Bid Group "A" Rs. 5000/- & Group "B" Rs. 10,000/- of Demand draft on any State Bank Payable at SBI Main Branch, Ranchi in favour of The Executive Engineer, Building Construction Department, Building Division No.-1, Ranchi. Two years experience for same nature work in Jharkhand Bhawan, New Delhi and other office in Delhi. Scope of Work :- 1. Air Conditioning System. 2. D.G. Set. 3. Electrical Panels. 4. Electrical Wiring. 5. Plumbing. 6. Lift. 7. Fire Control System. 8. Security. Staff required for performance of works :-









SECTOR SCAN E-COMMERCE

Compliance of FDI norms: RBI to unveil report submission mechanism soon

Guidelines announced by Industry Department in December last year

PRANAV MUKUL NEW DELHI, JULY 15

AS THE deadline for e-commerce marketplaces to submit their reports proving compliance with the latest FDI guidelines approaches, the Reserve Bank of India is soon expected to come up with a mechanism for submission of such reports in line with the norms announced by the Industry Department in December last year, a senior government official said.

EXPLAINED Move key to ensure that firms comply with rules SUBMISSION OF compliance reports was pegged to be key in implementation of the new foreign direct investment (FDI) policy for e-commerce marketplaces.

The norms kicked into effect February 1 onwards, after a slew of representations by the industry for a delay in implementation. This would mean that by September 30 this year, the country's foreign funded e-commerce firms like Amazon India, Walmart-owned Flipkart, Snapdeal will need to submit reports showing compliance with the norms for two months of February and March 2019.

commerce marketplace entity or its group companies, will not be permitted to sell its products on the platform run by such marketplace entity. Currently, India allows 100 per cent foreign direct investment (FDI) in e-commerce but has disallowed inventory model for the same.

FIRM OWES AROUND ₹1 LAKH CRORE TO BANKS & INVESTORS

'Ability to raise funds substantially impaired', DHFL shares drop 29%

Expect to 'restart business in August 2019', company says in statement on Monday

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, JULY 15

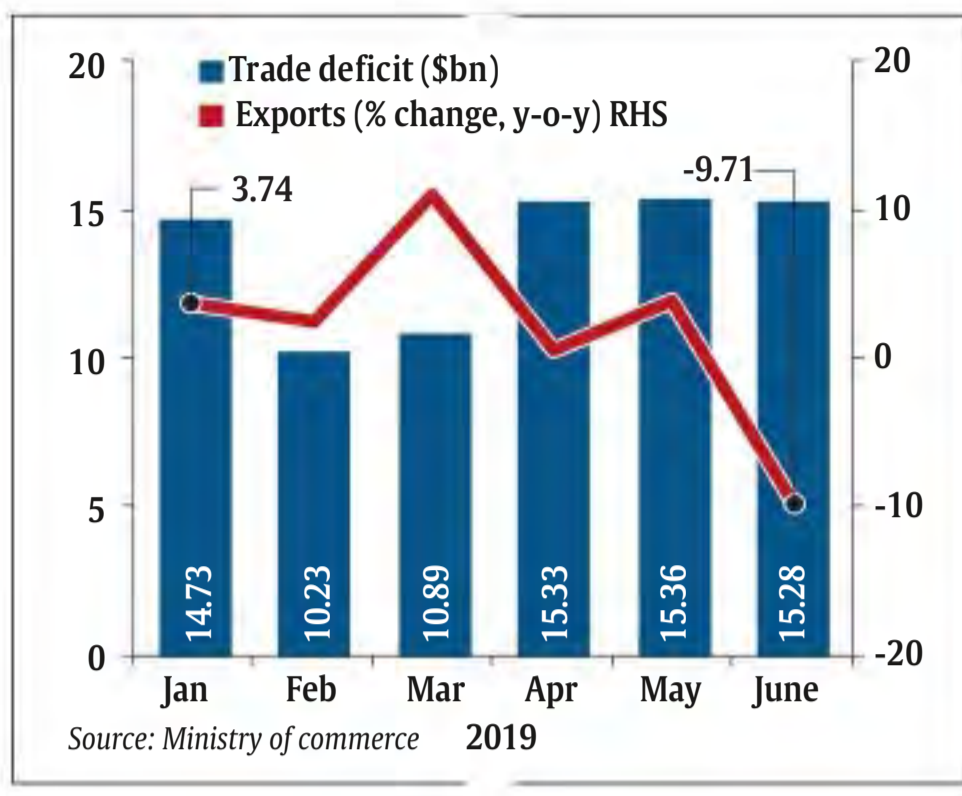
SHARES OF Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) on Monday plunged 29.15 per cent to Rs 48.50 on the BSE after the company on Saturday, in a stock exchange filing, said business has been "brought to a standstill" and raised "significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern".

'FINANCIALS ... HAVE BEEN QUITE STRAINED' With Monday's fall, DHFL stock had plummeted around 96 per cent from the 52-week level of Rs 690, leading to significant losses for the investors

pany to continue as a going concern," DHFL said. Kapil Wadhawan, chairman & managing director, DHFL, said on Monday, "The joint lender forum has also taken into account the need for commencement of business by DHFL and commence originating new home loans. Banks would enable the infusion of necessary liquidity into the system.

ounced, the inter-creditor agreement will examine and firm up the terms of the resolution process by July 25, 2019 and make it operational before September 25, 2019," he said. He said the process of identifying a strategic investor is also nearing completion which will bring in an equity investor into DHFL to bolster its capital base.

June exports slip 9.7% on fall in petroleum products, rice, gems & jewellery shipments



ENSECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JULY 15

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS slipped 9.71 per cent year-on-year in June to \$25.01 billion, owing to a drop in shipments of petroleum products, rice, engineering products and gems and jewellery. In June 2018, the country exported goods worth \$27.70 billion.

"The above decline in exports in June 2019 is due in large part to a base effect of an extraordinarily good month in June 2018 ..."

'Business sentiment in India at lowest level in 3 years'

As companies were worried over a slowing economy, government policies and water shortage, business sentiment in India fell to its lowest level since June 2016, according to IHS Markit India Business Outlook

SENTIMENT RESTRICTED BY: Water shortages, Public policies, Weak sales, Potential rupee depreciation, Lack of skilled labour, Likely tax hikes, Financial difficulties, Rising demand for discounts. FACTORS UNDERPINNING OPTIMISM TOWARDS OUTPUT: Pro-business government, Expected pick-up in demand, Better financial flow, Capacity expansion by companies.

'Off-duty officials barred from travelling in cockpit' Deploy 'aircraft recovery kits': DGCA to 6 airports

PRANAV MUKUL NEW DELHI, JULY 15

THE DIRECTORATE General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) barred off-duty airline officials, including pilots and aircraft maintenance engineers (AMEs), from travelling in the cockpit "even when they are on leave or have not been assigned any duty whatsoever".

DGCA move comes after an Air India pilot, scheduled to travel in cockpit, failed alcohol test on Saturday

The move comes in the wake of an Air India pilot testing BA positive ahead of a flight from Delhi to Bengaluru on Saturday in which he was scheduled to travel in the cockpit as an additional crew member. The said pilot had tested BA positive back in 2015, too, and in view of this, the regulator has told the national airline that it should "initiate appropriate administrative action against him including that of termination from service for violation of provisions of company operations

amended manuals to the regulator for its approval. Meanwhile, the DGCA has also suspended for six months the flying licence of another Air India pilot for being involved in a "heated argument" and "physical altercation" with a cabin crew member in the aircraft before it was about to take off.

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, JULY 15

IN THE wake of over three days of runway closure at Mumbai airport — one of India's busiest — due to an excursion incident earlier this month, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Monday directed six major airports of the country to procure and deploy the "disabled aircraft recovery kit" by March next year.

Earlier this month, a SpiceJet aircraft veered off the Mumbai airport's runway upon landing and got stuck in the grass area, forcing officials to keep the runway closed for three days

keep the runway closed for three days. The recovery kit is deployed to extract and remove any aircraft that is unable to move using its own power or through a tow tractor. "It is hereby directed to procure the disabled aircraft recovery kit and position it at Kolkata, Chennai, Guwahati, Mumbai, Delhi and Bengaluru airports by the airport opera-

runway. This led to cancellation and diversion of several flights, it said. At Mumbai, Air India had deployed its "disabled aircraft recovery kit" to extract and remove the stuck SpiceJet plane. "There is only one old recovery kit available with Air India" and it "is not adequate for the large number of airports and type of aircraft operating in India", the regulator said.

GDP COOLS TO 6.2% YOY, FROM Q4'S 6.4%

China Q2 growth slows to 27-year low as trade war bites, more stimulus likely

REUTERS BEIJING, JULY 15

CHINA'S ECONOMIC growth slowed to 6.2 per cent in the second quarter, its weakest pace in at least 27 years, as demand at home and abroad faltered in the face of mounting US trade pressure.

Sino-US trade war gets longer and costlier, fuelling worries of a global recession. Monday's growth data marked a loss of momentum for the economy from the first quarter's 6.4 per cent, adding to expectations that Beijing needs to do more to boost consumption and investment and restore business confidence. The April-June pace, in line with analysts' expectations, was the slowest since the first quarter of 1992, the earliest quarterly data on record.

A construction site in Huaian. Growth in China's new home prices cooled in June as sales shrank for a 2nd month. Average home prices in 70 cities grew 0.6% in June from a month earlier, easing from a 0.7% in May, according to Reuters calculations based on National Bureau of Statistics data. Reuters file photo

fied since Washington sharply raised tariffs on Chinese goods in May. While the two sides have since agreed to resume trade talks and hold off on further punitive action, they remain at odds over significant issues needed for an agreement.

and impact from the trade war, our exports will continue to fall and it's possible they may post zero growth for the year," said Zhu Baoliang, chief economist at the State Information Centre, a top government think-tank.

'Slowing China GDP pressuring it on trade' Washington: United States President Donald Trump on Monday seized on slowing economic growth in China as evidence that United States tariffs were having "a major effect".













@JIMMYNEESH

Kids, don't take up sport. Take up baking or something. Die at 60 really fat and happy.

# England basks in deflected glory

As England players take a lap of honour at The Oval a day after their dramatic World Cup win, there's fresh hope for the future of cricket in the country

**EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP**  
**SRIRAM VEERA**  
 LONDON, JULY 15

ISABELLA STUDIES at St Anne's Primary School, around the corner from The Oval where the England team arrived bleary eyed for public celebrations on the morning after the night of their lives. The Oval was thrown open to general public and around 3500 turned up to process what had transpired on Sunday. Isabella, 5, is peeping out of the grilled fence from her school, eager to run down to the stadium to see Jos Buttler. "I want to see him, I am waiting for my teacher to take me there."

Sam, 10, is inside the stadium with his parents. Most of the people out there are kids, accompanied by parents — a heart-warming sight in a land where cricket is an afterthought to football. It's not dying, but is ill and needs attention. So, what does this win mean to a 10-year-old? Sam pipes up: "Everything. It means everything." Even as his father laughs, Sam continues: "You know what, some of my friends who think cricket is boring and only want to play football can now shut up!" The father, Simon, a cricket lover and a Sunday-amateur player, is beginning to chuckle now. Sam shows his autographed bat — there is Moeen Ali's scribbles, and couple more. The father isn't sure about the names, the kid is.

Andrew, probably in his 60s, is looking for a pub near the stadium. He hangs the door at The Beehive, traditionally the place where fans land up after a game at The Oval, but that's shut. He walks around the block, around the streets and we meet again. "There is a pub there but just six boring folks mopping around and watching horse racing! England have won the World Cup, I need to celebrate, why can't the pubs be open? Why doesn't this country care about cricket? Do you think the pubs would be closed if we had won the football World Cup. No f\*\*\*\*\* way!" Andrew hobbles away, a slight limp in his legs, but his spirits up and about. Hope he found a pub to his liking.

Inside the stadium, a short while earlier, Eoin Morgan came down the stairs from the dressing room, followed by his team-mates, and The Oval exploded. A band of yellow-jacketed security personnel was trying to hold a rope to keep the World Cup-winning captain from getting mobbed. Morgan led the way, and the players high-fived with the kids, shook hands with the people and the security cordon gave in. Delirium was in the air, and even the prim and propah English were losing it a bit. Not really, but they were sort of relaxed. Keep calm and occasionally cheer. The kids were losing their heads, though.

Dr Thomas Fletcher is a senior lecturer with Carnegie Faculty in Leeds. He has also edited *Cricket, Migration and Diasporic Communities*, and been a consultant with the England Cricket board and Yorkshire Cricket. On Sunday, he finally saw an entire ODI game for the first time in 15 years. He is probably the best man to ask whether this epic win can stir up some cricket pas-



## AT THE OVAL, A ROUND OF APPLAUSE

Fans mob England pacer Jofra Archer during a public celebration of their World Cup win at The Oval on Monday. Reuters

**'I would be lying if I told you that this World Cup win, as great and dramatic as it was, would alter the sporting landscape. I hope it does, but it needs structural reforms.'**

sion in this land.

The answer is "maybe, maybe not". It all might come down to whether the ECB can tap into this once-in-a-lifetime deliriousness. But it would also come down to what the government-run schools do, he feels.

"Football is the go-to sport in government schools. It has a monopoly over kids, particularly white English kids. The perception is cricket is slow and boring. The T20s have helped and hopefully, this greatest game ever does its bit to that excitement. The majority of government schools don't have competitive cricket teams. That's the reality. There was a spike in interest after

England's 2005 Ashes win in the kids, and the ECB, to their credit, are doing what they can — from running programs to tap 5- to 8-year-olds. Trying to catch them young. But I would be lying if I told you that this World Cup win, as great and dramatic as it was, would alter the sporting landscape. I hope it does, but it needs structural reforms of sorts — from schools, from terrestrial TV broadcasts (how will kids love a game that they can't even see?) and an effort from the ECB to make it cool to the kids."

Fletcher's work has revolved around diversity and participation of British Asians in the sport. "According to an ECB research, 30% of kids who play cricket in the country are British Asians. But hardly any progress through the professional system." Yorkshire Cricket consulted with Fletcher to find exactly why that was happening.

"The key finding was that you can't treat everyone the same. In Yorkshire, the jobs of Brit Asian fathers are still largely stereotypical: taxi drivers and in restaurant business or small-time work. What that means is the weekends where white English can take

their kids to sports isn't possible for the Asians. That's the time when they are earning the most. Not everyone can be captured in the same way. We advocated to Yorkshire that they have to change their policies, approaches and tailor it to the kids and parents. Create cricket spaces and opportunities that suits the Brit Asians," Fletcher says.

He worked with the ECB on how to get more Asian elders to take up cricket coaching to tackle that problem. If the coaches are Asians, then perhaps more kids would come and also, at the time of their convenience. Fletcher went to work and found a cultural problem. "What the Asian coaches, the ones who could potentially coach kids that is, were telling us was that their way is different from the English way. They didn't fit into the English model of "proper cricket" coaching. That they weren't about batting straight or getting the arm over in the right way and running in measuredly. They just wanted their kids to hit the ball as hard as possible and run in and bowl as fast as they can. Flair was their priority. They felt the English system was against it. Controlling

their natural urges. They don't want to coach that way. Also, the coaching training and certification was too expensive and time consuming. The language was difficult," Fletcher says.

Fletcher also talks about how cricket is different from football in its popularity but also in its loyalities. "Look, it's easy for a Brit Asian to support England in football or rugby. England don't play Pakistan, India, or Bangladesh in those sports. They do in cricket. Friction comes in. Obviously, no one should tell which team people should support, but that friction throws up interesting hurdles when it comes to grassroots cricket. The administration and the culture of cricket in the country needs to step up and be more inclusive. They are trying, but they can do a lot more."

Perhaps, the entertaining and aggressive style that England have played in this World Cup and over the last four years — and the fact that this team is very inclusive and diverse in its cast — can make a difference. "Hopefully it does." But can it change things drastically? Fletcher remains sceptical.

"Evidence suggests hosting and success in sporting events doesn't always lead to more participation in the long-term. It needs structural and cultural changes: the way cricket is dying in government schools, the perception among white England that its boring, the fact that they can't even see it on terrestrial television, the way it's customised to the Brit Asians (parents and kids)." Hopefully the greatest cricket game that the world has ever seen does its bits it triggering those changes. Then Sam can have more of his school mates pestering the sports teacher at school for more cricket, Isabella can have more girls from her primary school to play cricket, and Andrew can find more pubs filled with cricket fans.

England's cricketers, meanwhile, headed to 10 Downing Street to meet Prime Minister Theresa May at 7pm. May is on her way out as a result of the Brexit mess. Sports is almost the only source of joy in the country that is going through chaotic times. In the end, ironically, it isn't football, the opium of the masses, which has provided the high, but the neglected sport of cricket.

### Ben's big note to self

In the eye of storm, in the middle of the greatest game of cricket where he was the protagonist, just before the last ball of the match, before it went to Super Over, Ben Stokes was thinking about Mushfiqur Rahim, the Bangladesh wicketkeeper. "Just before that last ball, all I was thinking of was Bangladesh in the T20 world cup game (against India in 2016)." Needing, few runs, Rahim had opted for a big shot and was caught at the deep midwicket, and India went through to the semi-final. Stokes says he remembered that before the last ball at Lord's.

"Don't try to be a hero and try hit it for six. Try get one run and take it to the Super Over. That was my process. Emotions were running high that time."

He would get run out, attempting the second run, though. What was he thinking then? "I was pretty annoyed with myself. I had to switch my head back on and had to get the job done for my team (in the Super Over), he said yesterday during the celebrations at The Oval.

"To be honest it has been an incredible feeling. It hasn't sunk in yet. The feelings, yesterday and today, we will hold on to forever. We managed to win what we wanted to. We deserved to be in the final for all that we have done for the last four years. Obviously, we would have been devastated if we had not managed to win that trophy," he said. "That's how professional sport is. You just have to flow with the emotions of winning games and losing games. We are going to enjoy these two days because we deserved it. When the time for The Ashes comes, we will put our head around and try and win that as well."

SRIRAM VEERA

## 1 WORLD CUP . 10 COUNTRIES . 1000 OPINIONS

# Before last ball, Stokes thinks of Mushfiqur

Being a hero means not kissing away the game, going for cricket's glory shot — the six. Ben Stokes remembered Bangladesh's folly from 2016 in the clutch moments and eschewed the big heave antics to steer England into the Super Over and later the World Cup title. *The Indian Express* looks at the two teams that stood tall till the end and moments that'll live forever in memories of every cricket watcher

### Roob of the green

A little sprinkle of magic separated England and New Zealand that both scored 256 (241+15) runs each in 51 overs. While the debate on the boundaries rule and The Throw will rage on for years, Eoin Morgan was asked if it was some of the luck of the Irish that the Dubliner brought to the England team. The captain — no brash bloke himself — who's been shaded only because the Black Caps are led by the endlessly charming Kane Williamson, brought more than the leprechaun's lime shamrock to the field. "We had Allah with us as well. I spoke to Adil Rashid, he said Allah was definitely with us. I said we had the rub of the green. That actually epitomises our team. We're from quite diverse backgrounds and cultures and guys grow up in different countries. To actually find humour in the situation we were in at times was pretty cool," he told the press later.

As adorable as the Kiwis have been, the England team made a massive point even as UK negotiates its Brexit ramifications. The multi-cultural team was hailed by many — Morgan had represented Ireland in international cricket before switching to England, Ben Stokes, who played the heroic knock in the final, was born in New Zealand; Jason Roy,



The English newspapers, as is their wont, were overflowing with superlatives, celebrating England's maiden World Cup triumph. Twitter

was born in South Africa and England's spinners Moeen Ali and Adil Rashid are third-generation Pakistanis.

"With a captain born in Ireland & players

with roots from Barbados to Pakistan, South Africa to New Zealand — fantastic & fitting to see our uniquely English cricket team win the World Cup here in our proudly diverse, global

sporting cap," said London mayor Sadiq Khan.

Jacob Rees-Mogg, a Conservative MP, got called a "twat" after writing on social media that "we clearly don't need Europe to win", a comment that brought a landslide of criticism, for both his ignorance and acute foolishness in hijacking an inspiring victory by the most diverse team to make a narrow point. He was first reminded of his captain being Irish, then schooled about how Jofra Archer was fast-tracked with a rule-relaxation by ECB, while Guardian quoted Rees-Mogg's fellow Conservative MP Ed Vaizey saying his colleague was guilty of "slightly misjudging the mood", before adding that "while you're on, the English captain is Irish". Writer Alastair Campbell suggested that "perhaps instead of making a silly Brexit point, offer congratulations to the Irish captain, the NZ-born man of the match, and the Barbadian bowler who got it over the line".

### Kiwi who's a World champ

The phone at the Stokes household in Christchurch has been buzzing ever since New Zealand were pipped by England by the slimmest margins in the World Cup final. Gerard Stokes was proud of his son Ben's

achievement at Lord's on Sunday evening, but the downside to it was that he has been at the receiving end of taunts about being 'the most hated father in New Zealand'. "People have been calling since morning to tell me that I'm probably the most hated father in New Zealand. That was pretty tongue-in-cheek, I hope it was anyway," he told 1 News. The Stokes had migrated to England in 2003 where Gerard took a rugby league coaching contract, while 12-year-old Ben began to chalk out his path in the game of cricket.

### Drama, but it wasn't the Saffers

The 'super over' was designed to find a winner in case a match ended with the scores level. Beyond that, the 'most boundaries' rule comes across as a vague decider. Kane Williamson was asked if it's fair for such a rule to decide a World Cup final. "I suppose you never thought you would have to ask that question and I never thought I would have to answer it," came his response. "The rules are there at the start. No one probably thought they would have to sort of resort to some of that stuff. But yeah, very tough to swallow."

Eoin Morgan affirmed that he needed to be reminded about the rule. "When we took to the field," was when England knew the rule. "I asked what would happen because we sat in a meeting pre-tournament and then when it got close to the chase we started refreshing our minds whether it was going to be a Super Over or not and then communication from [fourth umpire] Aleem Dar up to the changing room before we batted and then reaffirmed when we went out to field." So the most number of boundaries hit (England 26, NZ 17) eventually decided the champions. Who said it isn't a batsman's game? **ENS**



