

BRIEFLY

BJP leader murder: Two more held

Gurgaon: Days after BJP leader from Dasna, B S Tomar, was shot dead by bike-borne assailants outside his clinic, police Wednesday arrested two more persons.

Shopkeeper gunned down

New Delhi: A 36-year-old shopkeeper was shot dead, allegedly by two armed assailants in North East Delhi's Welcome Tuesday night, said police. According to police, Imran received eight bullet injuries.

Trouble brews in SDMC

New Delhi: SDMC standing committee chairperson Bhupendra Gupta has written to L-G Anil Bajjal requesting him to appoint a new commissioner as Varsha Joshi, who has been given charge of South body for the time being, "does not attend meetings."

2 constables suspended

New Delhi: Two police constables have been dismissed from their service after the inquiry into the Mukherjee Nagar, where a Sikh tempo driver clashed with police, has found them at fault.

HC for action on 'jugaads'

New Delhi: The HC has asked the police to take action against hybrid rickshaws, also known as 'jugaads', assembled using scrap parts of mainly decrepit scooters and pedal rickshaws. **ENS**

DCP SAYS RAIDS ON, MoS SAYS NOT AWARE

Man on the run is youth head of Athawale party

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

A 33-YEAR-OLD man from North East Delhi, who was booked under the stringent Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) by Delhi Police's Crime Branch last week for allegedly running an organised crime syndicate in Eastern Range, has joined MoS Ramdas Athawale's Republican Party of India (A) as its Delhi youth president.

Abdul Nasir, who police say is absconding, joined the party on July 18 in the presence of Athawale, the Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment. When contacted, Athawale acknowledged Nasir had joined the party but added: "We are not aware about his criminal background... Now we will check."

According to police, Nasir



Abdul Nasir (right) with Ramdas Athawale

faces several criminal cases and is allegedly involved in a gang war with Chhenu Pehalwan (34) for supremacy over the betting business in the capital since 2010. The gang war, police say, has claimed 17 lives, including that of a Delhi Police constable who was shot dead at Karkardooma court in 2015.

Both Pehalwan and Nasir were arrested and lodged in Tihar Jail, but the latter later came out on parole in April this year.

On July 9, MCOCA was slapped against Nasir by the special investigation unit (SIU) of the crime branch for allegedly running an organised gang and extorting money by threatening people. "Multiple teams of the Delhi Police are conducting raids to arrest him," said DCP (North East) Atul Kumar Thakur.

A senior officer said that Nasir is facing two murder cases, as well as cases of robbery and extortion at various police stations in North East Delhi. "He dropped out of school in seventh standard and started sewing jeans for a living. He has nine siblings," the officer said. "In 2007, Nasir allegedly began operating a TV cable network and a gambling business in North East Delhi."

Nasir and his gang members were booked under MCOCA on directives of Delhi Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik. ACP (crime branch) Sandeep Lamba is investigating the case.

Push for govt to sponsor sex reassignment surgeries

ASHNABUTANI
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

BEFORE SANJANA underwent the male-female sex reassignment surgery (SRS) 20 years ago, resistance from the family and society was not the only obstacle before her — arranging the money required for the surgery seemed like an equally insurmountable task.

Fast forward to now, and the 47-year-old is among the many transgenders whose voices were taken into account by the Delhi Commission for Women, which issued notices to the Centre, pressing for government-sponsored SRS. "Considering the stigma suffered by the commu-

nity, it is imperative the choice of sex reassignment is available to those who want to exercise it. It is the duty of the state to provide for such basic necessity of a large but marginalised community," said Maliwal.

Recalling her plight 20 years ago, Sanjana said, "No one in my family supported me, so I had to arrange all the money by myself. I took several loans. I have so many friends of different ages that want to undergo surgery but are unable to because it costs Rs 2-3 lakh in private hospitals in Delhi," said Sanjana. She has been regularly attending meetings of the newly formed Transgender Cell of the DCW.

Maliwal said the notice was issued after she, along with DCW

member Promila Gupta, interacted with hundreds of transgender people, in addition to members of the newly formed Transgender Cell of the DCW. Among the issues raised by the community are presence of just a handful of hospitals in Delhi to perform SRS. The officials were further told that the hospital that perform SRS are not efficient.

In the notice, the commission has also asked the government to clarify by July 31 whether the surgery is provided free of cost in Delhi hospitals and requested for details on the number of such surgeries undertaken. The government has also been asked to provide the steps taken to expand the provision of SRS in all government hospitals.

Rebel AAP MLAs fail to find respite in HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 24


THE DELHI High Court Wednesday dismissed the pleas of two AAP MLAs, Anil Bajpai and Col Devender Sehrawat, seeking recusal of the Legislative Assembly Speaker from disqualification proceedings against

them, saying it finds no reason to impose any "mathematical formula", and the Speaker in his "wisdom" can decide the issue. "The Speaker has all the power and jurisdiction to decide the disqualification petition. It is not obligatory for the Speaker to decide in piecemeal manner, that is, first the preliminary objection raised by the members of

the House on the disqualification petition and thereafter, the disqualification petition," a bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar said. The bench was also not in agreement with the contention of the two MLAs that the Speaker ought to have decided their recusal application first, instead of proceeding further with the dis-

qualification petition against them. The High Court's order came on an appeal by the MLAs against the single judge's July 8 order, by which it had turned down their seeking the "recusal" of Delhi Assembly speaker Ram Niwas Goel from adjudicating anti-defection proceedings against them.

राजस्ती सं० डी० एल०-33004/99 REGD. NO. D.L.-33004/99



भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY

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MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 16th July, 2019

S.O. 2572(E).—In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening/two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH709B in the stretch of land from Km. 137.9 to Km. 175 (Shamli to Saharanpur Section) in the district of SAHARANPUR in the State of UTTAR PRADESH, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, special land acquisition officer in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling NH709B in the stretch of land from NH709B (Shamli to Saharanpur Section) in the district of SAHARANPUR in the State of UTTAR PRADESH

State: UTTAR PRADESH District: SAHARANPUR					
Sl. No.	Survey / Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land Area	Area (in Local Unit)	Area (in Hectare)
Taluk: Rampur Maniharan					
Village: Rampur Maniharan Dehat					
1	1784	Private	Agriculture	90.0000000(Square Meter)	0.0090000
Total				90.0000	0.0090

[F. No. NHA/LANOTF/2018/PIU-Baghat/3A5]
RAJESH GUPTA, Dy. Secy.

mabodarth/0062/19-20

One Year of Happiness Class

in Delhi Government Schools

Transforming lives of 8 lakh children



Manish Sisodia
Dy. Chief Minister & Education Minister, Delhi



Bye-Bye fears. Say hello to a new confident me!

Happiness Class is conducted in my school every day. We practice mindfulness meditation there. In the last one year, I have noticed several changes in my behavior. I used to feel scared and lacked self-confidence. I was nervous and socially awkward. But now I can walk up to anyone and have a conversation. My fears are gone and I freely share my thoughts with my teachers and parents.

Ritika, Class VIII

Delhi government is celebrating Happiness Utsav from 16 to 30 July | Join us at a government school near you and be part of the Happiness Utsav

9 EXPRESS NETWORK



NORTH

Man shoots cousin, partner in Baghpat; arrested

Meerut: A 47-year-old woman and a man were shot dead by her uncle's son in Baghpat district on Tuesday, police said. According to officials, the accused had warned his cousin, Aasmin Parveen, over her relationship with the deceased man, Gaffar. Aasmin had got divorced last year and was living in Baghpat with her two children. "On Tuesday, Gaffar was at house of the deceased when Abid (the accused) reached there. He opened fire at Aasmin and when Gaffar tried to mediate, he was also shot," said Ramanand Kushwaha, the Deputy SP, Baghpat. Abid was arrested while trying to flee. **ENS**



Bihar CM Nitish Kumar examines a meteorite-like object, weighing around 15kg, in Madhubani district on Wednesday. The object, having magnetic properties, was found in a five-foot crater by farmers working nearby, earlier this week. **PTI**

EAST

4 feared dead, 10 injured in accident at coal mine in Odisha

Talcher: At least four people were feared dead and 10 people were injured after a coal mine caved in on Tuesday night in Odisha. The accident occurred at the Bharatpur coal mine at Talcher site owned by Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd, which is a subsidiary of Coal India. Rescue operations, led by NDRF, were ongoing at the time of going to press. "We heard a thunderous explosion. There was a crack (in the soil)," said one of the workers, who has been shifted into Talcher Nehru Centenary Hospital. A source in MCL stated that the accident may be referred to the Director General (Mines) for investigation. **ENS**

WEST

IED found on Gadchiroli road used by patrolling teams

Mumbai: Averting a major tragedy, police discovered and defused an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by Maoists under a bridge in Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district on Wednesday, a senior official said. The bomb was found under a bridge at Made Amgaon on Made Amgaon-Ghot road in Chamorshi tehsil during a road clearance operation, he said. "It weighed 25 kg and could have damaged police patrolling vehicles. Our teams often used this road," said Shailesh Balkawade, Gadchiroli Superintendent of Police. On May 1 this year, 15 commandos of C-60 team of Gadchiroli Police were killed along with the civilian driver when naxals blew up their vehicle at Jamburkheda. **PTI**

SOUTH

Seven held for robbing Rs 3.6 crore from gold trader

Hyderabad: Seven members of a highway robbery gang from Maharashtra were arrested for allegedly robbing Rs 3.6 crore cash from a gold trader at Shadnagar in June, police said Wednesday. On June 28, the accused intercepted the vehicle and forcibly sat in it after threatening the driver with a cigar lighter resembling a pistol. Later, they took off with the vehicle worth Rs 3,67,17,850 in cash, they said. After committing the offence they went to the residence of the prime accused, Vishwajith, in Karad town of Maharashtra and shared the stolen cash among themselves, Cyberabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar told reporters here. **PTI**

COMMITTEE ON CLAUSE 6 OF ASSAM ACCORD

Panel meets for first time, discusses changes

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE COMMITTEE formed to implement clause 6 of Assam Accord met for the first time on Wednesday. Minister of State for Home, G Kishan Reddy, also attended the meeting and said the Central government attaches the highest importance to the committee and will provide it full support.

The high-level committee, that will make recommendations on the quantum of seats to be reserved in the Assam Assembly and local bodies for Assamese people and on ways to preserve Assamese culture, discussed changes in the panel's terms of reference.

The key change, sources said, was to include the possibility of vesting land rights only to indigenous people. Members also suggested that issues of reservation for indigenous people in the state's Lok Sabha constituencies and in Central government jobs should also be brought in its ambit. Members also suggested that a time frame be fixed for implementing the committee's recommendations. It was also suggested that a member from the tribal community be included in the committee.

The panel will submit its report within six months, sources said. The committee, headed by former Gauhati High Court judge Biplab Kumar Sarma, was set up under Clause 6 of the 1985 Assam Accord.

Post-Doklam, China talks of roadmap on border tensions

SOWMIYA ASHOK & SHUBHAJIT ROY BEIJING, NEW DELHI, JULY 24

TWO YEARS after the Doklam stand-off, China on Wednesday outlined its roadmap to "promote stability" and resolve tensions along the border with India.

A white paper titled 'China's National Defence in the New Era', released by the State Council Information Office, said about China's armed forces: "They strive to promote stability and security along the border with India, and take effective measures to create favorable conditions for the peaceful resolution of the Donglang (Doklam) standoff."

Elaborating on the measures, it said: "To implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of China and India, the two militaries have exchanged high-level visits and pushed for a hotline for border defense cooperation and mechanisms for border management and border defense exchanges."

The Doklam stand-off started in June 2017 and was resolved in August-end that year, just days before the BRICS summit in Xiamen in September 2017. It cast a shadow on bilateral relations, which was reset with the informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in Wuhan in April 2018.

Since then, the relationship on the border has been relatively



A portion of the Doklam plateau where Indian and Chinese soldiers faced off in 2017. **File**

calm, as both leaders gave "strategic guidance" to their militaries to maintain peace and tranquility along the Line of Actual Control. The LAC has been largely peaceful, with some stray incidents in recent months.

According to Indian government sources, the new rules of engagement between the two sides have meant that face-offs between soldiers on both sides of the disputed boundary have reduced significantly.

They include changes in drills and procedures of patrolling by the two sides and control of aggressive behaviour, besides increased number of meetings between the local commanders, sources said.

The Chinese President is likely to visit India in October this year

for the second informal summit, with Varanasi being the likely venue.

Indian government sources, who analysed the white paper, said it also tries to play down heavy military expenditure, saying that China is spending less on defence budgets in terms of GDP in comparison to India, US and other countries.

In the white paper, China made the case that as a percentage of GDP, from 2012 to 2017, its average defence expenditure was about 1.3 per cent as compared to 3.5 per cent in the US, 4.4 per cent in Russia, 2.5 per cent in India, 2 per cent in the UK and 2.0 per cent among other countries.

"As the only major country yet to be completely reunified, and one of the countries with the most

complex peripheral security environment, China faces serious challenges in safeguarding national sovereignty, territorial integrity, and maritime rights and interests. China is moving closer to the center of the world stage, and the international community expects more international public security goods from the Chinese military," it stated.

The white paper also referred to a "crack down on proponents of separatist movements".

Among the fundamental goals of China's national defence in the new era, it states, are to "oppose and contain 'Taiwan independence'; 'crack down on proponents of separatist movements such as Tibet independence' and the creation of 'East Turkistan'; 'to safeguard national sovereignty, unity, territorial integrity and security' and 'safeguard China's overseas interests'."

It also said that major countries around the world are "readjusting their security and military strategies" and countries like UK, France, Germany, Japan and India are "rebalancing and optimizing the structure of their military forces".

Chinese news agency Xinhua said it was the 10th white paper on national defense the Chinese government has issued since 1998 and the first comprehensive one since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 2012.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

VVPAT mismatch: poll panel defends criminalisation of false complaint

RITIKA CHOPRA NEW DELHI, JULY 24

DEFENDING THE provision for prosecution of a voter for lodging a false complaint regarding malfunctioning of an EVM or VVPAT unit, the Election Commission (EC), in its submission to the Supreme Court, has argued that its removal could make "the entire (poll) process vulnerable to abuse".

The Commission's affidavit was submitted last week in response to a plea seeking setting aside of Rule 49MA of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961.

The above rule provides for a procedure to lodge a complaint in case a voter notices a mismatch between the vote cast on the EVM and the paper slip generated by the VVPAT unit.

Under Rule 49MA, the Presiding Officer permits the complainant to cast a test vote for verification. If the voter fails to prove the mismatch, the poll officials can initiate action under Section 177 of the Indian Penal Code, which deals with giving false submission. A person can be punished with a jail term up to six months, or fine to the tune of Rs 1,000 or both.

The provision was hotly debated during recently-concluded Lok Sabha elections

when retired Assam DGP Harekrishna Deka, who after finding the discrepancy in the VVPAT did not complain, as falsity of such complaint would have led to his imprisonment and heavy fine.

The plea by petitioner Sunil Ahya in the Supreme Court contends that Rule 49MA deters people from complaining and hence, the rule infringes upon a citizen's right to freedom of expression.

Defending the rule, the Commission has stated in its affidavit that the motive behind introduction of Rule 49MA was to ensure that "voting is not disrupted on false pretexts which could make the entire process vulnerable to abuse and creates hurdles in the smooth functioning of elections".

"It is the constitutional obligation of the Answering Respondent (the EC) to conduct free and fair elections in a manner that enables the exercise of franchise by each eligible citizen. The disruption of this process by making of false complaints under Rule 49MA is certain to compromise the purity of the entire process and cause hardship to other voters. Repeated disruption of the voting process strike at the root of free and fair elections," states EC's affidavit.

'Want to remember him as a responsible son, a soldier who did his job well'

ANKITA DWIVEDI JOHRI NEW DELHI, JULY 24

"WHEN I had a job, my work was my first priority. It was the same for Hanif. His death is a big loss, but I am proud that he died doing his duty," says Hema Aziz, her eyes welling up.

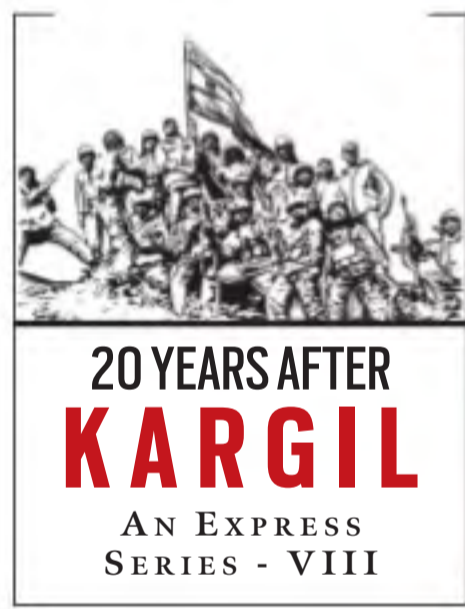
Twenty years ago, in the early days of the Kargil War, Captain Hanif Uddin was deployed at an altitude of 18,000 ft in the Turtuk region to capture a position which would help the Army monitor enemy troops better. On June 6, 1999, having made significant strides for two days, the 25-year-old Rajputana Rifles officer fell to a counter-attack. He had run out of ammunition.

"I was visiting my sister in Bengaluru when I got the news. My older son called me from Delhi... The press, family members, neighbours... the house was filled with people. But my son's body wasn't there," recalls Aziz, sitting in her spare apartment at the Veer Awas residential colony in Sector 18 of Delhi's Dwarka area.

Hanif's body could not be retrieved till the end of the war due to enemy firing. "We got his body 43 days after his death. It was the toughest time... Every few days we would get a call saying the firing has stopped, or the weather has cleared... But nobody would turn up. We just couldn't get closure," says the 70-year-old who worked with the Armed Forces Entertainment Wing and then with the Delhi Kathak Kendra as a singer for 18 years.

Aziz hails from Kerala and her husband, who passed away when Hanif was eight years old, was from Uttar Pradesh and worked in theatre.

"Our family was always more inclined towards culture and the



arts. When Hanif cleared the entrance exam for the Indian Military Academy, he was pursuing a BA from Delhi University's Shivaji College. He was also enrolled in a computer course. And, of course, he was into music and singing. When he came home before leaving for Kargil, he bought books to pursue MBA," says Aziz, sporting a rare smile.

During her stint in the Armed Forces Entertainment Wing, says Aziz, she had travelled for performance to several Forward Posts in Jammu and Kashmir, and was aware of the tough conditions the soldiers lived in. "When Hanif told me about clearing the IMA entrance, I thought it would be difficult, but why not? He was fit for the job," she says.

As she looks back at that time, Aziz says she isn't surprised her son gave up his life for his job, "but I didn't know that he was so brave". "When my children were growing up, I was always working. When Hanif was just 40 days old, I had to go on a tour. He grew up to be very independent. By the time he was 12, he would study, play football, then come back home and make toast, eggs, paranthas... He did every job well," says Aziz.

"I never took unscheduled



Hema Aziz, mother of Captain Hanif Uddin. Praveen Khanna

leave. I didn't want anyone to say that because I was a widow with three children. I was taking advantage of my situation. My children, including Hanif, understood this. He never missed a day of school even when I was not around." Even his hobbies, Aziz says, were very constructive. "He would buy comic books and magazines with his pocket money. Then, he made a library of those books, and loaned them to the neighbourhood children for 25 paise."

Coping with Hanif's loss, what made the family most un-

comfortable in the early years was "the money people gave for him". "The money was for my son, we didn't want to take it. Everywhere we went people handed us a polythene bag of notes. I understood their sentiment... I just kept it," she says. The family also "opted out" of the petrol pump offered to them after Hanif's death. "My sons had their careers... I didn't know how to run a petrol pump," Aziz explains.

But they wondered what to do with the money lying in the house. "My older son suggested

we open a school in Hanif's name. So we rented a small plot in Himachal Pradesh in 2000 and set up a school with two rooms. My older son stayed there for 12 years. We took minimal fee and hired a few local teachers... But we didn't add 'shahed' to the name of the school. For us, Hanif had never left..." says Aziz, whose older son now works as a professor in India and the younger one is a music composer in Mumbai.

It is music lessons that keep Aziz busy still. Apart from a framed photograph of Hanif in the living area, very few of his belongings lie about the house. In a cabinet, a scale with the message 'We change lives' is kept safely though. "While he was serving in Siachen, he had this with him at all times," says Aziz, pulling out the wooden scale. Behind it, wrapped in plastic, is another memento, Hanif's Vir Chakra. "I don't keep it outside, it gathers dust. It needs to be polished too," she says, running her finger over the medal, before keeping it back in the plastic bag and the cabinet. Also inside is an old alarm clock Hanif used. Aziz takes a look at it and then shuts the cabinet.

"You know, we are not that kind of family *jo seena peet ke rota hai* (We don't grieve publicly). We have to respect Hanif's sacrifice, we have to be dignified, we have to remember him with pride..." she says, but soon her eyes are filled with tears again.

Perhaps, that is why Hema Aziz did not see her son's body when it arrived from Kargil. "It came in a box, we paid our respects and then performed the last rites. I didn't want to see my son dead. I only wanted to remember him as a responsible son, a soldier who did his job well."

Citing low exam cut-off for EWS, Stalin & TTV say scrap 10% quota

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHENNAI, JULY 24

CITING WHAT they said were low cut-off marks for candidates from the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) in a preliminary entrance examination conducted by the State Bank of India (SBI), DMK chief Stalin and AIADMK rebel leader T T V Dhinakaran Wednesday demanded that the Centre cancel the 10 per cent EWS quota immediately.

Tweeting a picture of a mark-



(Top) Stalin; (Right) TTV Dhinakaran



sheet of a candidate, Stalin questioned the logic behind the difference in cut-off marks for different categories of students. In

"This is an attempt to make employment opportunities in the Central government and central PSUs beyond the reach of the already deprived and vulnerable candidates from backward, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities. The BJP government should cancel this 10% reservation for EWS immediately," Stalin said.

Questioning how the EWS segment alone could get the advantage of a lower cut-off, Dhinakaran said the "grave mistake that destroys the very foundation of social justice system

should be corrected immediately". The SBI had no immediate response to the claims on the cut-off marks.

Ever since the 10 per cent reservation for EWS was announced by the Centre, Opposition parties, including the DMK in Tamil Nadu, have been opposing it, arguing that reservation is not a "poverty alleviation programme".

Stating that reservation is all about "social justice programmes to uplift communities which have not had access to education or employment and con-

sequently do not have representation in the services of the state or in upper echelons of society," DMK had politically and legally challenged the 10% EWS quota.

Ahead of last Lok Sabha elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had attacked the Opposition for creating an "atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust" over the EWS quota.

Speaking at a rally in Madurai in January, Modi said the "10 per cent quota for EWS would not impact the existing reservation benefits for Dalits, tribals and OBCs."

39 killed in lightning strikes in Bihar, 12 in Jharkhand

ENS & PTI PATNA, JULY 24

THIRTY-NINE people have died in lightning strikes across Bihar since Tuesday night.

Jamui accounted for the highest number of eight deaths followed by Aurangabad (seven), Bhagalpur, Banka and East Champaran (four each), Rohtas (three), Nawada, Nalanda and Katihar (two each) and Munger, Arwal and Gaya (one each), the state disaster management department said.

Three persons have suffered injuries on being struck by lightning in Bhagalpur, while the number of wounded was one each in Banka and Jamui districts, the department said.

The state government has announced Rs 4 lakh ex-gratia relief to the next of kin of each victim.

Meanwhile, 12 others lost their lives in four districts of Jharkhand.

In Jharkhand, six persons died in Jamtara district while two each were killed in Ramgarh, Pakur and Dumka districts, the police said, adding that four others were injured.

TAMIL NADU Ex-mayor's murder: cops look for 3 seen near home

ARUN JANARDHANAN CHENNAI, JULY 24



Uma Maheshwari

A DAY after the murder of former Tirunelveli mayor Uma Maheshwari, her husband Murugasankaran and their doleful staff member Mari, a police investigation that ruled out any political motive in the case has now found a lead — three suspects, who were spotted by a CCTV camera near Maheshwari's residence around afternoon.

The murder was carried out at the Maheshwari residence in Tirunelveli on Tuesday. While forensic experts ascertain that the crime was carried out around noon, the bodies were discovered around 5pm, by Maheshwari's son-in-law.

Maheshwari was a former DMK leader and the first mayor of the Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation in the 1990s. She held the position of mayor between 1996 and 2001 and had also contested Assembly polls unsuccessfully in 2011.

Twenty-five gold sovereigns, Rs 30,000 and a wrist watch worth Rs 15,000 were among

were murdered between 12 noon and 1pm. They received a call at 11.52am in the morning. Murugasankaran attended the call and spoke for few minutes. The murder has happened possibly after that. The only suspected activities or movement spotted in the area during that time was the presence of three youngsters, including one carrying a backpack, said an officer, referring to CCTV footage from a shop, about 50 metres away from the Maheshwari residence.

Police said three teams have been formed to track down the three suspects. "We are yet to trace their whereabouts. We are looking at railway stations, private and government bus depots, lodges and other possible locations, besides speaking to routine visitors and people who were close to the family, since it was seemingly a murder for gain," the officer said.

A case has been registered under Sections 302 (punishment for murder) and 398 (attempt to commit robbery or dacoity when armed with deadly weapon) of the Indian Penal Code.

Maheshwari was a former DMK leader and the first mayor of the Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation in the 1990s.

the items that were missing from the residence after the murder. A medical examination of the bodies revealed that assailants used sharp weapons and possibly a blunt object.

According to police officers familiar with the investigation, initial inquiries show the victims

Fearing arrest, many flee UP village where Dalit was set afire

AVANEESH MISHRA BARABANKI, JULY 24



Sujeet's wife Poonam and mother Ramvati at their residence in Tindaula village of Barabanki district. Vishal Srivastav

RAGHAVPURVA VILLAGE in Barabanki district, where a 28-year-old Dalit man was beaten up and set afire on suspicion of being a thief five days ago, wore a deserted look on Wednesday as many have fled fearing arrest.

Five people have been arrested — main accused Shruvan Yadav (25), his parents, Deshraj Yadav (65) and Diljani Yadav (60) — for the murder of the Dalit youth, Sajeet Gautam, who succumbed to burn injuries on Monday.

While residents of Raghavpurva, a Yadav-dominated village of around 600 people, deny any kind of harassment by the police, they fear that more arrests are likely to be made since the FIR filed in connection with the incident has mentioned several "unidentified" persons.

According to the SHO of Dewa Police Station, Pramod Kumar Singh, police were informed by villagers around 6 am on July 18 that "a thief" was beaten up and set on fire. "Even though the incident took place around 2 am, we were given information about the incident only after 6 am. When we reached the spot, we found Sajeet lying seriously injured on the ground. No help was given to him... A police team took him to a nearby private hospital. From there, he was referred to Dewa hospital after primary treatment, and then to the Civil Hospital in

Lucknow," the SHO said. Sajeet had suffered 30 per cent burn injuries and had several internal injuries, mainly in his kidneys.

According to the FIR filed on the basis of a complaint by Poonam, Sajeet's wife, he was on his way to the residence of his in-laws from his home when he was chased by dogs. He tried to hide near the house of Shruvan Yadav and Umesh Yadav, and they caught hold of him, suspecting him of being a thief, and started beating him up, according to the FIR.

"On July 17, I had some argument with my husband. After which, around 6 pm, I left for my parents' house, which is situated

around 5 km from here (Tindaula). Later, my husband left his house the same night to visit me. He generally uses his motorcycle to travel, but since he didn't have it at home that day, he decided to walk to my parents' house," Poonam said.

"When he reached Raghavpurva, dogs chased him. When he tried to hide, he was beaten up by Shruvan and others. Even though he kept pleading that he is not a thief and even called my father for help, he was not let off. He was tortured and then set ablaze," Poonam said, adding that his husband worked as a painter in Lucknow. The couple has two sons — a three-year-old and a seven-month-old.

According to residents of Raghavpurva village, two days before Sajeet was set on fire, there was a burglary at Shruvan's house. Two gallons of peppermint oil, around Rs 70,000 in cash and jewellery worth Rs 2-3 lakh were stolen, they said.

"The family was preparing for the marriage of Shruvan's sister and there was jewellery at his house. On the night of July 15, there was a theft in the house. Police were informed, but no report was registered as such. On the night of July 17, Shruvan and others were sleeping in an adjoining room near the cattle shed when they saw someone trying to peep inside the house. He cried for help, and soon a crowd of 60-70 people gathered. They caught the man and started beating him up. However, Shruvan and his family members didn't even touch him. I do not know what happened after that," said Shruvan's cousin Sanjay Yadav, claiming that Sajeet had confessed to the theft.

Shrikishan, 85, a resident of the village who claimed to be a witness, said, "It is true that kerosene was poured on the victim in order to torture him and he was later set on fire. But no one knows who actually did that. There are always a few people in every mob who are always too excited. The same happened in this case too. Beating up someone and tying him up can be justified if the person is a thief. But setting someone on fire can never be justified."

Gujarat HC allows minor rape victim to terminate 24-week pregnancy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE AHMEDABAD, JULY 24

THE GUJARAT High Court Wednesday allowed a minor rape victim to terminate her 24-week pregnancy, taking note of the empanelled doctors' opinion that continuing with the pregnancy would pose a risk to the girl's mental and physical health.

Earlier, after the girl's parents moved a petition, the court asked empanelled doctors at the Civil Hospital to examine her and determine if an abortion was medically feasible for the 14-year-old.

According to the lawyer representing the girl, "The girl did not mention anything about the rape...When she missed her periods, her mother thought it was just her irregular menstrual cycle."

After the parents noticed physical changes such as a bloated stomach, she was taken to the hospital, where it emerged that she was 21 weeks pregnant. An FIR was lodged and the accused, who is the brother-in-law of the girl's sister, was arrested.

The court also directed that tissue samples of the foetus be handed over to the investigating officer for DNA sampling purposes.

UP: Teen found hanging, coach's wife arrested

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED. General public is hereby informed that a person (depicted in the photo), Name: Ram Kuber Chaudhary S/O Ram Khelawan R/o D-105, Tripathi Enclave, Prem Nagar-II, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 05.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Prem Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 79-A dated 07.07.2019 has been lodged at Police Station Prem Nagar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age : 55 Years, Height : 5'3", Complexion : Shallow, Face : Long, Wearing : Black colour pant & white - red colour check shirt and hawai chappal in feet.

Anyone is having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped person, may inform SHO, Prem Nagar, Delhi at E-mail id - cic@cbi.gov.in or Website: http://cbi.nic.in

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEE-TRS-GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. Name of work : DRM-Elect-33-2019-20. Name of work : Electrical work for provision of TTE Rest house at Ajmer station. Approximate cost of work : Rs. 1599570/- Earnest Money : Rs. 32000/- Tender No. : DRM-Elect-34-2019-20. Name of work : Modification to prevent entry of foreign material inside the fuse distribution board in GS & GSN coaches over Ajmer division. Approximate cost of work : Rs. 2549862/- Earnest Money : Rs. 51000/- Tender No. : DRM-Elect-35-2019-20. Name of work : Ajmer-Electrical work due to replacement of existing lift by new lift at casualty side on age cum condition basis and rewiring of Railway Hospital building, Ajmer on age cum condition basis and other electric work. Approximate cost of work : Rs. 4284063/- Earnest Money : Rs. 85700/- Date & Time of closing E-Tender: 16.08.2019 at 15.00 Hrs. Date & Time of opening E-Tender : 16.08.2019 at 15.30 Hrs. The details of above E-Tender are available on website www.irps.gov.in [7/24/2019] Please join us on

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, NCR Jhansi invites sealed/open tender under Single-Packet system for the period of 05 years for the following works:

Table with columns: Name of work, No. of Screen, Reserved Price for first year (Excl. GST), Estimated Cost for 05 Years (in ₹) (Excluding GST), Earnest Money (in ₹), Cost of Tender form (incl. GST)

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD. CORRIGENDUM-II TO E-TENDER NOTICE

TIRUPPUR SMART CITY LIMITED TIRUPPUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION TENDER NOTICE

C.G. RAJYA BEEJ EVAM KRISHI VIKAS NIGAM LTD., Telibandha, G.E. Road, Raipur (C.G.)

NORTHERN RAILWAY Corrigendum/Addendum-I

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority E-TENDER NOTICE

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-TENDER

HARYANA GOVERNMENT TENDER NOTICE

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROPAR

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD E-TENDER NOTICE

Supreme Court issues notice to Centre, five states over illegal sand mining

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE SUPREME COURT will examine if inaction by the Centre and states is promoting illegal sand mining in the country.

A Bench headed by Justice SA Bobde on Wednesday issued notice to the Centre, five states and the CBI on a plea which alleged that "inaction" on their part had resulted in sustainable mining practices not being implemented, lack of an effective mechanism to curb illegal and indiscriminate mining and rampant growth of such illegal operations.

This, said the petitioner M Alagarsamy, violated the citizen's right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution and Article 41 A, which entrusts the state with the

responsibility of protecting and improving the environment and safeguarding forests and wildlife. He also sought a direction to the CBI to register and investigate cases of illegal mining.

Sand is a 'minor mineral', as defined under section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and hence, states are responsible for cracking down on illegal mining practices, the petition pointed out. The states to which notices have been issued are Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab.

The petition, filed through Advocate Pranav Sachdeva, cited news reports and said a Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by a senior IAS officer had found "illegal mining of 1 crore metric

tonne of beach sand from Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi and Kanyakumari districts by 52 leases in the State of Tamil Nadu."

In Andhra Pradesh, which has nine rivers flowing through it, sand reaches are allotted in all the river basins, it said, adding that indiscriminate mining was rampant in all the districts.

According to the petition, Maharashtra recorded 1,39,706 illegal mining cases between 2013 and 2017 which was the highest number of cases in the country. The plea cited news reports of data submitted by the Union Environment Ministry in the Rajya Sabha. The state, however, had one of the lowest numbers of prosecutions in such cases, it adding pointing out that only 712 FIRs had been filed so far and only one case in in trial.

In Madhya Pradesh, a total of 42,152 cases of illegal mining for major and minor minerals were registered from 2009 to 2015, it added. Punjab reported 5,549 criminal cases of illegal mining between 2013-17, it said. However, the state police is yet to submit challans in 2,277 cases in various courts, the plea said.

The plea accused the respondents of violating the top court's earlier direction that mining leases and environmental clearances should only be given to those entities who have an approved mining plan from the competent authority, in accordance with regulations framed for sustainable mining. The respondent states had not yet made the mining plan a prerequisite for leases and environmental clearances, it said.

Come out of 'hum do, hamare barah' mentality: BJP MLA to minorities

PARIMAL DABHI GANDHNAGAR, JULY 24

PEOPLE FROM minority communities should adopt the slogan of "Hum do, hamare barah" and come out of "hum do, hamare barah; hum do, hamare baees" mentality, a BJP MLA said in the Gujarat Assembly on Wednesday.

Kuber Dindor, who represents Santrampur constituency, was referring to the slogan of the family planning programme.

He also said some people from the minority communities were involved in eloping with Hindu women in the name of "Love Jihad" and this should be discouraged.

Dindor said this while op-

posing a Private Member's Bill – The Gujarat Welfare and Protection of Minorities Bill, 2018 – moved by Imran Khedawala, Congress MLA from Jamalpur of Ahmedabad.

Speaking on the Bill, Dindor said the provisions proposed by Khedawala in the Bill are already covered under the PM's 15-point programme for the welfare of re-

ligious minorities.

Without naming any particular community, Dindor added, "I have a humble appeal to the minority community. Some people from the community are indulging in the activity of eloping with Hindu women in the name of love jihad and it should not be encouraged. The activity of love jihad should be stopped."

ALLAHABAD BANK ALLAHABAD BANK A tradition of trust. Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001. E-AUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. E-auction of land & building on 29.08.2019 on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHATEVER THERE IS" on the platform https://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net. Table with columns: Sl. No. & Branch, Name of the Account, Details of Immovable Properties, Name of the Mortgagor(s)/Guarantor(s), Amount of Secured Debt, Reserve Price (in Rs), Earnest Money Deposit.

GURUGRAM UNIVERSITY, GURUGRAM (State Govt. University Established under Haryana Act 17 of 2017) Sector-51, Gurugram (Haryana)-122018 Advertisement No. ENT-04/2019. Online applications are invited for various Non-Teaching posts. Details of posts, reservations of seats, prescribed qualifications and instructions et. are available at University Website- www.gurugramuniversity.ac.in.

HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION BAYS NO. 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR-4, PANCHKULA ANNOUNCEMENT. It is hereby announced for the general information of the Candidates who have applied in response to the 14 Posts of Assistant Environment Engineer (Class-II) in Haryana State Pollution Control Board in response to the Advt. No. 5 (iii)/2018 published on 29.12.2018 in various Newspapers.

IHCL ORIENTAL HOTELS LIMITED CIN : L55101TN1970PLC005897. Regd. Office : 'Taj Coromandel' No.37, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Chennai 600034. UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2019 (₹ in lakhs). Table with columns: Particulars, Standalone (Quarter ended, Year ended), Consolidated (Quarter ended, Year ended).

CANCELLATION/PARTIALLY CANCELLATION/SHORT TERMINATION / SHORT ORIGINATION/DIVERSION/REGULATION/ RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS DUE TO NON-INTERLOCKING WORK AT KURUKSHETRA STATION

In order to further strengthen the infrastructure, Northern Railway will undertake the Pre-Interlocking/Non-Interlocking work in connection with the provision of Electronic Interlocking at Kurukshetra station on Delhi-Ambala section of Delhi Division. To execute this work, Northern Railway will take 4 days traffic blocks from 25.07.2019 to 28.07.2019. Consequently, the following trains will temporarily be affected as under:-

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS. Table with columns: Train No. & Name, Dates (from the Originating Station).

PARTIALLY CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

Table with columns: Train No. & Name, Short Terminated /Originated at/ from, Partially Cancelled between stations, Dates (from the Originating Station).

DIVERSION OF TRAINS

Table with columns: Train No. & Name, Diverted via, Dates (from the Originating Station).

Table with columns: Train No. & Name, Regulated at, Dates (from the Originating Station). Includes REGULATION OF TRAINS and RESCHEDULING OF TRAINS.

NORTHERN RAILWAY Your Convenience... Our Concern. Security Helpline No. 182 and Passenger Complaint Helpline No. 138. Visit us at: www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in

HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION BAYS NO. 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR-4, PANCHKULA RESULT

On the basis of Recruitment test for the Posts of Assistant Environment Engineer (Group-B) in Haryana State Pollution Control Board conducted by the Haryana Public Service Commission on 12.06.2019, the candidates, three times the number of vacancies along with bracketed candidates, if any, bearing the following Roll Nos. have been declared qualified for Viva-voce provisionally, subject to the fulfillment of all eligibility conditions.

General Total Posts = 7x3 Times = 21 + 10 Bracketed (31). Table with columns: Roll No., Marks. SC of Haryana Total Posts = 4x3 Times =12+01 Bracketed (13). Table with columns: Roll No., Marks. BCA of Haryana Total Posts = 1 x 3 Times = 3. Table with columns: Roll No., Marks. CCB of Haryana Total Posts = 2 x 3 Times = 6. Table with columns: Roll No., Marks.

Note: While preparing the result, due care has been taken. However, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage. The aforesaid qualified candidates will have to appear in the Viva-Voce for which they will be informed separately through an announcement which will be displayed on the Commission's website and also published in various newspapers.

नीलामी सूचना

महाप्रबंधक हरियाणा राज्य परिवहन गुरुग्राम बस स्टैंड पर श्रेय बची दुकानों की नीलामी

Table with columns: क्र.सं., बस स्टैंड का नाम, तिथि व समय, स्थान

इसके अतिरिक्त बाकी शत मुख्यालय की हदियत अनुसर ही रहेगी। इच्छुक बोलीदाता अधिक जानकारी निम्न व शर्तों का विवरण हेतु 500 रु. का भुगतान कर किसी भी कार्य दिवस में महाप्रबंधक, हरियाणा राज्य परिवहन गुरुग्राम के कार्यालय में भवन लिपिक से प्राप्त कर सकता है।

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE Divi. Rly Manager, N.W.Rly, Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works up to 15.00 hours on 28.08.2019 as below:

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE Name of work: Modification work of AC units, Lights and provision of new 10 KVA Inverters in Non - AC Inspection Carriage.

THE ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED OMC House, Bhubaneswar - 751001, Odisha CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

E-Procurement Notice

Table with columns: S. No., Name of the work, Availability of bid document, Last date of online submission, Submission of EMD, Date of opening of Techno-commercial Bid

All other details can be seen from the tender document available at Govt. web site www.tendersodisha.gov.in and in OMC website www.omcltd.in

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala) CIN: U40109PB2010SC033813; Website: www.pspcl.in

TENDER ENQUIRY NO: QQ-217/PSPCL/PO-C

Table with columns: Short Description, Start date for down loading of documents, Last date for down loading of documents, Last date for Bid Submission, Bid Opening date

For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to https://www.pspcl.in/procurement/

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (OPERATIONS) 3rd Floor, Public Health Engineering Office Complex, Near Rajiv Bhawan, Unit-V, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha, India

Corrigendum Notice No.01 to the Bid Identification No. WATCO (O) — 01/2019-20 dt. 19.07.19.

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) FOR "PROCUREMENT OF ALLUMINA FERRIC GRADE -4, AS PER IS 299/2012 FOR RAW WATER TREATMENT IN DIFFERENT WTP SITUATED IN BMC, MUNDALI, KHURDA AND JATANI".

Table with columns: Sl. No., Description, Published as earlier, May be read as

All other terms and conditions remains same. Further details can be seen from the web site www.tendersodisha.gov.in

The Haryana State Co-operative Development Federation Ltd. Bays No. 49-52, Sector-2, Panchkula Office: 0172-2560340, E-mail: harcofed@ymail.com, Website: https://www.harcofed.org.in

Notice Election Rule 3(7)

All the Members of Haryana State Co-operative Development Federation Ltd., Panchkula are hereby duly informed that the Tentative List of Voters has been Approved in the Meeting held on 14.06.2019.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU - WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT LOWER CAUVERY BASIN CIRCLE, THANJAVUR. SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of work, Rate Quoted - Two cover system, Rate Quoted - Tender System

Bhopal Municipal Corporation 1st Floor, Above Passport office, Kushabhau Thakre Inter-State Bus Terminal (ISBT) Campus, Ambedkar Marg, Near Chetak Bridge, Bhopal (M.P)

Government of Jharkhand Urban Development And Housing Department Dhanbad Municipal Corporation, Dhanbad

e-Procurement Re-Tender Notice No. DMC/23/2019-20 Reference No. : DMC/23/2019-20 Date : 24.07.2019

Table with columns: S. No., Tender Reference Number, Name of Work, Estimated Cost of Construction Work, Construction Completion Period, Operation & Maintenance Period

Date of Publication of Tender on website :- 26.07.2019 At 03.00 PM Online Last Date / Time for receiving of bids :- 06.08.2019 (Online) till 05:00 PM

U.P. Projects Corporation Limited (ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified Company) Gorti Barrage, Left Bank, Gorti Nagar, Lucknow

Short Term e-Tender Notice

U.P. Projects Corporation Limited (A.U.P. Government undertaking) invites percentage rate Tenders (two envelope system) from eligible contractors/firms registered in U.P. Projects Corporation Ltd.

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of Work & location, Estimated cost Approx (in lacs), Bid Earnest Money (Rs. in Lacs), Tender Processing Fee, Time of Completion, Address of Unit, Address of tender Receiving Officer, Category of Registered Contractor

The tender documents can be downloaded from the website http://tender.up.nic.in during the period 25-07-2019 to 31.07.2019. The tender should be submitted up to 3.00 P.M. on 31.07.2019.

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ROAD PROJECT LOAN NO: 4860-IN & 8199-IN INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

The Government of India has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction & Development towards the cost of Himachal Pradesh State Roads Project and intends a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works as detailed below.

Performance Based Maintenance Contract (PBMC)

Table with columns: Package Number, Road, Division, District, Length (Kms), Estimated Cost, Bid Security (in Rs.), Period

Joint ventures will be permitted. Bids must be delivered to the Office of Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala on or before 11.00 hours (IST) on 4th September, 2019 and will be opened on the same day by Chief Engineer Kangra Zone at 1130 hours (IST) in the presence of Bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Directorate of Agriculture, Talab Tillo, Jammu www.diragriju.nic.in, Phone: 0191-2505201, 2552145

ABBREVIATED e-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, e-Tenders are invited from the Manufacturers/ Duly Authorized and Registered Dealers, Government Undertakings regarding Supply of Tarpaulin Jute Bags 40 Kg., 15 kg. and 12 Kg. Capacity for fixing the Rate Contract for the year 2019-20 as per specification laid down in the Tender Form.

Table with columns: Sr. No., Particulars, Earnest Money, Cost of Tender Document

The Tender Documents along with Terms and Conditions of the NIT and relevant documents can be downloaded from the State e-Procurement Portal: www.jktenders.gov.in

Detailed Notice of tender (NIT) & Tender Documents are available in the Government website (www.tenders.n.gov.in) at free of cost.



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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

TELLING NUMBERS

Statewise estimated incidence of cancer cases in India

UTTAR PRADESH and Maharashtra, the country's most and second-most populous states, also recorded the highest incidence of cancer by absolute numbers in the three years between 2016 and 2018, the government informed Lok Sabha last week, quoting figures estimated by an Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) report.

The estimated incidence of cancer cases (for both men and women) in Uttar Pradesh were 2,45,231; 2,57,353; and 2,70,053 for the years 2016, 2017, and 2018 respectively. The corresponding numbers for Maharashtra were 1,32,726; 1,38,271; and 1,44,032. Among the lowest estimated incidence was seen in Haryana and Assam, the smallest among the major states.

The projected cancer cases were computed using projected incidence rates and population (person-years), said a note to the table annexed by the government to its reply.

The absolute numbers suggested the fastest year-on-year increase in the incidence of cancer was estimated for Bihar (5.38% from 2016 to 2017, and 5.37% from 2017 to 2018), the country's third most populous state



as per the 2011 Census. The Health Ministry's reply said the central government was "implementing Strengthening of Tertiary Care Cancer facilities scheme to support setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country".

PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN ESTIMATED INCIDENCE OF CANCER (For selected major states, based on absolute estimates in ICMR report)

State	2016-2017	2017-18
Bihar	5.38	5.37
Madhya Pradesh	4.97	4.96
Maharashtra	4.18	4.17
Uttar Pradesh	4.94	4.93
West Bengal	4.23	4.23

THIS WORD MEANS

PANSEXUAL

How some celebrities describe themselves

IN AN interview to the ABC show *Good Morning America* this week, American actor Bella Thorne (right) described herself as "pansexual" — not bisexual, as she had said earlier. Thorne is among several celebrities who have declared that they do not conform to binary labels while defining sexual orientation.

"I'm actually a pansexual, and I didn't know that," Thorne was reported to have said. "Doesn't have to be a girl, or a guy, or a he, a she, a this, or that. It's literally, you like personality, like you just like a being."

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, pansexuality relates to, or is characterized by "sexual desire or attraction that is not limited to people of a particular gender identity or sexual orientation". The word has also come to mean an attraction that is uninhibited by gender.

Stonewall, the LGBT rights charity in the United Kingdom, defines pansexual as "a person whose romantic and/or sexual attraction towards others is not limited by sex or gender". In the spectrum of gender identities, there is only a small proportion of people who identify themselves as being pansexual.

The term itself is not new, however — having been coined in the early 1900s. It comes from the Greek prefix 'pan', meaning 'all'. The other word for pansexual is omnisexual — derived from the Latin



word 'omni', which means 'all'.

Interest in pansexuality — both the word and the idea — has surged every time a celebrity has come out being as one. In August 2015, Google searches spiked after actor-singer Miley Cyrus described herself as pansexual. More recently, in April 2018, singer-songwriter Janelle Mon e told *Rolling Stone* magazine that she was pansexual.

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AN EXPERT EXPLAINS

The limits of anti-defection

The prolonged political crisis in Karnataka has demonstrated the ways in which the nearly 35-year-old anti-defection law can be used and abused. Here's how the law was enacted, and how it has performed.



CHAKSHU ROY

THE POLITICAL crisis that began in Karnataka with the resignation of 15 MLAs on July 6, and ended on Tuesday with H D Kumaraswamy being defeated in a motion of confidence that took five days and multiple missed deadlines to be put to vote, underscored the tortuous working of India's anti-defection law — and threw up a range of associated legal and constitutional questions.

This is how the law — the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, inserted by the Constitution (52nd Amendment) Act, 1985, when Rajiv Gandhi's government was in power — came to be, and how it evolved over the three decades that followed.

The 1967 elections

The legislative journey of the anti-defection law is long and chequered. It involves the institution of Parliament that designed it, the office of the Speaker of Legislatures that implements it, and the judiciary that interprets the law. MPs, MLAs, and their political parties are the principal stakeholders who are impacted by the anti-defection law. It is a law whose unintended consequences outweigh its purpose — and its journey after its passage in 1985 mirrors the continuing political instability in the country.

The seeds of the anti-defection law were sown after the general elections in 1967. The results of those elections were a mixed bag for the Congress. It formed the government at the Centre, but its strength in Lok Sabha fell from 361 to 283. During the year it lost control of seven state governments as MLAs shifted their political allegiance.

In this backdrop, P Venkatasubbaiah, a Congress MP in Lok Sabha who served in the Cabinets of both Indira and Rajiv Gandhi, proposed the setting up of a high-level committee to make recommendations to tackle the "problem of legislators changing their allegiance from one party to another".

The proposal saw a spirited debate in Lok Sabha. Opposition members suggested renaming the proposal to "save Congress", while the ruling party accused the opposition of inducing MLAs to defect.

The Y B Chavan panel

Despite the acrimony, the Lok Sabha agreed to the setting up of a committee to examine the problem of political defections. The then Home Minister, Y B Chavan, headed the committee. The panel defined defection — and an exception for genuine defectors. According to the committee, defection was the voluntary giving up of allegiance of a political party on whose symbol a legislator was elected, except when such action was the result of the decision of the party.

In its report, the committee noted "that the lure of office played a dominant part in decisions of legislators to defect". It pointed out that out of 210 defecting legislators in seven states, 116 were given ministerial berths in governments which they helped form by their defections.

To combat this, the committee recommended a bar on defecting legislators from holding ministerial positions for a year — or until the time they got themselves re-elected. It also suggested a smaller Council of Ministers both at the levels of the Centre and the states.



Former Karnataka Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy in the Assembly on Tuesday. Kumaraswamy lost trust vote 99-105. PTI

The committee was in favour of political parties working together to help evolve a code of conduct to effectively tackle disruptions.

Early attempts at a law

Following the report of the Y B Chavan committee, two separate legislative attempts, both unsuccessful, were made to find a solution to defections. The first one was made by Indira's Home Minister Uma Shankar Dikshit in 1973; the second, in 1978, by Shanti Bhushan, Minister for Law and Justice in the Janata Party government of Morarji Desai. The third attempt — which was successful — was made in 1985, after the Congress won more than 400 seats in Lok Sabha in the aftermath of Indira's assassination.

The Tenth Schedule

The Bill to amend the Constitution was introduced by Rajiv Gandhi's Law Minister Ashoke Kumar Sen, the veteran barrister and politician who had also served in the Cabinet of Jawaharlal Nehru. The statement of objects and reasons of the Bill said: "The evil of political defections has been a matter of national concern. If it is not combated, it is likely to undermine the very foundations of our democracy and the principles which sustain it."

The amendment by which the Tenth Schedule was inserted in the Constitution, did three broad things.

■ One, it made legislators liable to be penalised for their conduct both inside (voting against the whip of the party) and outside (making speeches, etc.) the legislature — the penalty being the loss of their seats in Parliament or the state legislatures.

■ Two, it protected legislators from disqualification in cases where there was a split (with 1/3rd of members splitting) or merger (with 2/3rds of members merging) of a legislature party with another political party.

■ Three, it made the Presiding Officer of the concerned legislature the sole arbiter of defection proceedings.

Criticism and passage

worsen, sovereign bonds denominated in domestic currency are preferable.

So, why is India borrowing in external markets in external currency?

There are many reasons why. Possibly the biggest of these is that the Indian government's domestic borrowing is crowding out private investment and preventing the interest rates from falling even when inflation has cooled off and the RBI is cutting policy rates. If the government was to borrow some of its loans from outside India, there will be investable money left for private companies to borrow; not to mention that interest rates could start coming down. In fact, the significant decline in 10-year G-sec yields in the recent past is partially a result of this announcement.

Moreover, at less than 5%, India's sovereign external debt to GDP is among the lowest globally. In other words, there is scope for the Indian government to raise funds this way without worrying too much about the possible negative effects.

Thirdly, a sovereign bond issue will provide a yield curve — a benchmark — for Indian corporates who wish to raise loans in foreign markets. This will help Indian busi-

nesses that have increasingly looked towards foreign economies to borrow money. Lastly, the timing is great. Globally, and especially in the advanced economies where the government is likely to go to borrow, the interest rates are low and, thanks to the easy monetary policies of foreign central banks, there are a lot of surplus funds waiting for a product that pays more.

In an ideal scenario, it could be win-win for all: Indian government raises loans at interest rates much cheaper than domestic interest rates, while foreign investors get a much higher return than is available in their own markets.

The immediate challenges

No sooner was the law put in place than political parties started to stress-test its boundaries. The issue of what constitutes a split in a political party rocked both the V P Singh and the Chandra Shekhar governments. The role of the Presiding Officers also became increasingly politicised. Lok Sabha Speaker Shivraj Patil said in 1992: "The Speaker is not expected to dabble in keeping the political parties week or strong or discipline the Parliamentarians for their party purposes."

The 2003 Amendment

The last step in the legislative journey of the anti-defection law came in 2003. A Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in Parliament by the government of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to address some of the issues with the law. A committee headed by Pranab Mukherjee examined the Bill.

The committee observed: "The provision of split has been grossly misused to engineer multiple divisions in the party, as a result of which the evil of defection has not been checked in the right earnest. Further it is also observed that the lure of office of profit plays dominant part in the political horse-trading resulting in spate of defections and counter defections."

The one-third split provision which offered protection to defectors was deleted from the law on the committee's recommendation. The 2003 Amendment also incorporated the 1967 advice of the Y B Chavan committee in limiting the size of the Council of Ministers, and preventing defecting legislators from joining the Council of Ministers until their re-election. However, as events in the years and decades since have demonstrated, these amendments have had only limited impact.

The (ab)use of the law

The removal of the split provision prompted political parties to engineer wholesale defections (to merge) instead of smaller 'retail' ones. Legislators started resigning from the membership of the House in order to escape disqualification from ministerial berths.

The ceiling on the size of the Council of Ministers meant an increase in the number of positions of parliamentary secretaries in states. The Speakers started taking an active interest in political matters, helping build and break governments. The anti-defection law does not specify a timeframe for Speakers to decide on defection proceedings. When the politics demanded, Speakers were either quick to pass judgment on defection proceedings or delayed acting on them for years on end.

The long drawn-out events in the Karnataka Vidhan Sabha have shown that even after three decades, the anti-defection law has not been able to stop political defections.

(Chakshu Roy is Head of Outreach at PRS Legislative Research)

What are sovereign bonds, and what are their risks and rewards?

UDIT MISRA
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

IN HER maiden Budget speech earlier in the month, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced something that no previous FM had done. She said that the Indian "government would start raising a part of its gross borrowing programme in external markets in external currencies". According to most reports, this type of borrowing is likely to start by October with the initial amount of \$10 billion. However, this idea has not gone down well with several top economists, such as former RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan, who have underscored the reasons why past governments have stayed away from raising loans overseas in foreign-denominated currencies.

The latest economist to caution the government is Rathin Roy, who is not only the director of the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (a government think tank) but also a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council. "I would pay very careful attention to what several Governors of the Reserve Bank are saying...", Roy said during a public event Monday.

What exactly are sovereign bonds?

A bond is like an IOU. The issuer of a bond promises to pay back a fixed amount of money every year until the expiry of the term, at which point the issuer returns the principal amount to the buyer. When a government issues such a bond it is called a sovereign bond.

Typically, the more financially strong a country, the more well respected is its sovereign bond. Some of the best known sovereign bonds are the Treasuries (of the United States), the Gilts (of Britain), the OATS (of France), the Bundesanleihen or Bunds (of Germany) and the JGBs (of Japan).

And what is the controversial part?

The current controversy relates to India's sovereign bonds that will be floated in foreign countries and will be denominated in foreign currencies. In other words, both the initial loan amount and the final payment will be in either US dollars or some other comparable currency. This would differentiate these proposed bonds from either government securities (or G-secs, wherein the Indian government raises loans within India and in Indian rupee) or Masala bonds (wherein Indian entities — not the

government — raise money overseas in rupee terms).

The difference between issuing a bond denominated in rupees and issuing it in a foreign currency (say US dollar) is the incidence of exchange rate risk. If the loan is in terms of dollars, and the rupee weakens against the dollar during the bond's tenure, the government would have to return more rupees to pay back the same amount of dollars. If, however, the initial loan is denominated in rupee terms, then the negative fall-out would be on the foreign investor.

For example, imagine two 10-year sovereign bond issues by India: one for \$100 in the US, and the other for Rs 7,000 in India. For the sake of simplicity, suppose the exchange rate is Rs 70 to a dollar. As such, at the time of issue, both values are the same. Now suppose the exchange rate worsens for India and falls to Rs 80 a dollar at the end of the tenure. In the first case, the Indian government would have to pay Rs 8,000 (instead of Rs 7,000 that it got initially) to meet its dollar-denominated obligation. In the second case, it would pay Rs 7,000 and the lender would be short-changed as these Rs 7,000 will be equal to just \$87.5 at the end of tenure. That is why, if the exchange rate is expected to

would be borrowing at "cheaper" rates than domestically, the eventual rates (after incorporating the possible weakening of rupee against the dollar) might make the deal costlier.

Rajan has also questioned the assumption that borrowing outside would necessarily reduce the number of government bonds the domestic market will have to absorb. That's because if fresh foreign currency comes into the economy, the RBI would have to "neutralise" it by sucking the exact amount out of the money supply. This, in turn, will require selling more bonds. If the RBI doesn't do it then the excess money supply will create inflation and push up the interest rates, thus disincentivising private investments.

Lastly, based on the unpleasant experience of other emerging economies, many argue that a small initial borrowing is the thin end of the wedge. It is quite likely that the government will be tempted to dip into the foreign markets for more loans every time it runs out of money. At some point, especially if India does not take care of its fiscal health, the foreign investors will pull the plug on fresh investments, creating dire consequences for India.

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THE INDIAN EXPRESS, THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

WORDLY WISE
HISTORY SHOWS THAT WHERE ETHICS AND ECONOMICS COME INTO CONFLICT, THE VICTORY IS ALWAYS WITH ECONOMICS. — B R AMBEDKAR

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Much ado about something



MANI SHANKAR AIYAR

Absent any direct dealings with Pakistan, the US insidiously becomes our intermediary

WOULD DONALD TRUMP have really made it up? True, the man is a misguided missile but he has made it to president of the United States and you don't get there unless you have something out of the ordinary about you. He prides himself on being a "deal-maker". And he was making the defining deal of his presidency when Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan was visiting with him. The context was getting the US out of the Afghan imbroglio. That could only happen by inveigling the Taliban to the negotiating table. For that, Pakistan's whole-hearted cooperation is required.

By turning up in Washington DC with both his army chief and his intelligence chief, Imran was signaling Pakistan's readiness to render such whole-hearted cooperation, presaged by meeting a long-standing American demand — the release of the Pak-American doctor who had led the US to Osama bin Laden.

But what was Imran to get in return? Nothing more than what any Pak PM needs to cover his shame on returning home — something on Kashmir. Trump obliged. His bombshell had three bursts.

One, "I was with Prime Minister Modi two weeks ago, and we talked about the subject". Talked about Kashmir?

Second, "And he actually said, 'would you like to be a mediator or arbitrator, and I said, 'where?', and he said "Kashmir". What?!"

Third, Modi apparently gave his reason why — "because this has been going on for many, many years". It has.

There was not one meeting but several between Trump and Modi at Osaka. One, of course, was the 40-minute formal meeting between the two sides at which armies of officials from both sides were present — clearly not the opportunity for "pillow talk". Then, the two were seated side-by-side at dinner, but that conversation was monitored by a joint secretary who acts as a translator for Modi and keeps a summary record of what is said. Then, there were meetings in the lounge (but in other people's hearing). And,

finally while walking the corridors together — where no one was around.

So, was it then that the curious conversation took place that Trump has so vividly described? Remember the precedent: It was precisely such a brief chance encounter with Nawaz Sharif (set up accidentally on purpose) at the Paris Climate Change conference that led to the breakthrough in December 2015 which climaxed by Modi dropping in at the wedding of Sharif's grand-daughter.

Or were there attendant circumstances that created a misunderstanding on Trump's part of what Modi was attempting to convey? By refusing to engage with Pakistan, Modi has made the India-US relationship the pivot on which India's troubled relationship with Pakistan swivels: So, oust Pakistan from its traditional position as the principal ally in South Asia of the US by bolstering the India-US "strategic partnership"; ride pillion on the United States' global war on terrorism to get US support in battling Pakistan-sponsored cross-border terrorism; leverage the US to get the Pakistan authorities to take action against Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar; leave it to the US to get the world to swing around against Pakistan to get them moved from grey to black on the FATF listing; clandestinely seek US help to get back our wing commander, restrain Pakistan in its counter-action to our bombing of Balakot; and many other such actions. Absent any direct dealings with Pakistan, the US insidiously becomes our intermediary. Then fulsome praise follows for the US having pulled our irons out of the Pakistan fire. Trump takes this praise as acknowledgement of a beneficiary's gratitude and feels the way open to doing more "good".

When Modi met Trump in Osaka he knew Trump would be seeing Imran within the next few weeks in Washington. It was also clear that the top priority for Trump was pulling his troops out of Afghanistan both to end two decades of a fruitless war the US is incapable of winning, as also to fulfill a major campaign pledge before running for re-election. That required Washington to assiduously appease Islamabad.

election. That required Washington to assiduously appease Islamabad. And the price to be paid was two-fold: Giving a free hand to Pakistan to secure "strategic depth" in a Taliban-run Afghanistan that would keep India out; and giving Imran a Kashmir-related gift to bail himself out of any domestic troubles that might follow upon his US visit.

Imran has thus assured for his country a renewal of the alliance with the US that has been the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy since before Partition and Independence. If he and the army-intelligence team that accompanied him to Washington succeed in delivering the Taliban to the conference table, it is entirely likely that Imran would be beaming in the Rose Garden with Trump as the agreement delivering Afghanistan from US military operations to the Taliban and Pakistan is signed a few months down the road. Modi will not be there.

And that precisely is why Modi is travelling to Washington in September. To facilitate that last ditch attempt at salvaging something from the end-game in Afghanistan, Modi has been lauding to the skies the US involvement at every crucial turn in Indo-Pak relations resulting in Trump thinking Modi is leading him up to finding a solution to a problem that "has been going on for many, many years".

What Hindutva would gain from this is giving Amit Shah and his cronies an opening, with no US objection, to get on with their plans of forcibly "integrating" Kashmir with the Union of India by doing away with everything — Article 370 and 35A — that stands in the way of a demographic restructuring of the Kashmir Valley that will extinguish Kashmir's Kashmiriyat to bring in Hindutva. Trump's slip of the tongue has unveiled the nefarious Modi-Shah game-plan of doing to Kashmiris what Modi's favourite role-model, Israel, is doing to the Palestinians — gnawing away at their rights, piece by piece.

The writer is a senior Congress leader and former Union Minister

A DISMAL FRAME

Collapse of JD(S)-Congress government raises larger, uncomfortable questions about health of India's Opposition

WITH THE FALL of the HD Kumaraswamy government following a trust vote on Tuesday, the BJP, the single largest party in the assembly, is expected to form the government. There is still no clarity, however, on the strength of the House, since the Speaker is yet to rule on the resignations of 16 MLAs; their party leaderships have sought their disqualification. It is likely that the Speaker's action, whichever way he rules, may be challenged in court; the Supreme Court already has a bunch of pleas on the Karnataka crisis to decide. As political parties go through the motions in this bizarre tableau, citizens must endure the embarrassment of watching their representatives duck in and out of resorts and other hideaways.

Beyond the moral dimensions of the crisis and the questions it raises about a host of institutions, including the office of the Speaker and Governor, the events in Karnataka lay out a challenging political predicament, particularly for the Opposition. Karnataka has once again underlined that the BJP's hunger for political domination is insatiable. Since 2014, the party has been expanding across the country, winning state after state. Under the leadership of Narendra Modi and Amit Shah, the party has come to believe that the winner takes all and has sought to form governments even in the states it failed to win. The Opposition has been slow and clueless in facing up, much less matching or countering, the BJP. In fact, Karnataka was an exception, where the Opposition outwitted the BJP to form a government 14 months ago. The Congress and the JD(S), which fought against each other and finished behind the BJP, joined hands to form government; the Congress' decision to let the smaller party, the JD(S), occupy the chief minister's office was perceived to be an indication of the Opposition's readiness to set aside differences for a larger cause. In retrospect, neither party was willing to make this coalition of unnatural allies work. That it failed to deliver seats in the general election seems to have convinced the Congress that the limited investment it had made in the coalition was not worth it. The BJP's will to form a government, the contradictions within the coalition and the ambitions of the latter's legislators seem to have converged in this moment.

The failure of the JD(S)-Congress government to hold up raises larger questions about the Opposition's capability to put up a united front against an expanding BJP. The glue that held the Opposition together in Karnataka was the fear of the BJP. That no longer seems effective as various Opposition parties, devastated by the May 23 verdict, have moved apart and now seem to act listlessly. Even as the BJP relishes the absence of competition, the unchecked emasculation of the Opposition does not augur well for a robust democracy.

SHARE OF THE STATE

Centre needs to re-evaluate its spending priorities, encroach less on states' space

LAST WEEK, THE Union cabinet passed an amendment to widen the terms of reference of the 15th Finance Commission. The Commission has now been asked to examine the possibility of setting up a mechanism for funding defence and internal security. As capital spending on defence continues to fall well short of what is required, it is difficult to contest the premise that it needs to be bolstered. But, as the creation of "secure and non-lapsable funds for defence and internal security" may end up reducing the divisible tax pool further, the move could face resistance from states, especially when several of them are arguing for a greater share in tax revenues. While the commission is yet to spell out its views on the subject, this request raises fundamental questions over the spending priorities of different levels of government and the framework that governs Centre-state fiscal relations.

The Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution specifies the separate as well as concurrent responsibilities of the Centre and state governments, with defence falling in the Union list. The inability of the Centre to ramp up its spending on defence indicates the limited fiscal space available to it. In large part, this is due to an increase in spending on items in the state and concurrent list, and a corresponding decline in spending on items in the Union list. In 2015-16 alone, the Centre spent 16 per cent of its revenue expenditure on items in the state list, and another 16.4 per cent on items in the concurrent list. Now, some of this spending on items in the state and concurrent list is necessary. In a federal structure, the Centre must address regional imbalances in the delivery of public services. But the bulk of this spending is routed through sector-specific transfers or centrally sponsored schemes that curb the autonomy of the states in deciding their own expenditure priorities. The added fiscal pressures on the Centre have, in turn, contributed to reduced fiscal space for states. Over the years, the Centre has begun to rely increasingly on taxes collected through cesses and surcharges to meet its expenditure priorities. But revenue from these sources does not form part of the divisible tax pool, it is not shared with states — squeezing them from both ends.

While the compulsions of the political economy have ensured greater central government spending on items in the state and concurrent lists, the current juncture may well be an opportune moment to rethink the spending priorities of different levels of the government. There is a need, particularly, to address legitimate concerns of states about increasing encroachment by the Centre.

ANOTHER BLOND

The ascension of Boris, it is widely feared, signals the imminent end of the UK, and all that sort of thing

IN THE 20TH century, "Boris" signified the vodka-powered Yeltsin — "100 proof, 100 per cent in control", as a cartoon of the era defined the bad-tempered child of perestroika. Exactly two decades after Yeltsin bowed out of office with approval ratings much lower than lunar gravity, allowing Vladimir Putin to become Russian president and prime minister (alternately) for life, "Boris" means Johnson. Of the persistently blond Johnson family, Britain's answer to the clan Kardashians.

Tory and Whig, Unionist and Green, the gamut of the UK political leadership is secretly of one compact — that Boris grasping the sceptre of the Sceptred Isle at this juncture is simply dreadful. It is so bad that people are wistfully recalling Theresa May, who was being derided just weeks ago. So very bad that if Johnson persists in pushing through a painful no-deal Brexit when the deadline expires in October, his colleagues may pray QEII, to whom the sceptre actually belongs, requests Brussels for another extension. And in the melee, the Scots could finally make a successful bid for freedom.

Johnson's track record is fairly awful. He was sacked within months of being hired by the *London Times*, for misquoting and getting his history wrong. His stint as Brussels correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* was remarkable only for sparking off a wave of nastily jocular Euroscepticism. The European commissioners he left behind in Brussels hold him in low esteem. But in an age of dangerous comedians (like the other blond across the Big Water) this is not a disqualification. Even his adversaries admit he has an innate capacity for lightening the air. And even his hordes of supporters admit that he fibs a lot. Boris is a fib too. Boris is not his first name. It's Alexander.



AMITABHA BHATTACHARYA

A TIMELESS TALE

The enduring legacy and relevance of Satyajit Ray's 'Apur Sansar'

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU, AFTER watching Satyajit Ray's second film *Aparajito* (The Unvanquished, 1956), had famously turned to Ray to ask, "What happens to Apu now?" Watching *Apur Sansar* (The World of Apu, 1959), the third of the celebrated Apu trilogy, 60 years after its release, one does not fail to understand what made his work so deep, pervasive and sustained in its appeal.

While his first film, *Pather Panchali* (Song of the Road, 1955) appeared magically refreshing in style and content, the next, *Aparajito*, though more prosaic and terse, was, in fact, not a great popular success. And Ray decided to make two more films belonging to different genres, *Parash Pathar* (The Philosopher's Stone, 1958) and *Jalsaghar* (The Music Room, 1958), before embarking on *Apur Sansar*.

But the Apu trilogy, chronicling with great artistry the growth of Apu from childhood through adolescence to manhood — from a remote village of Bengal through Benaras to Calcutta in the early decades of the last century — struck a sympathetic chord with sensitive men and women across cultures. Discussing Ray's work in the context of icons of international cinema, *Time* magazine (September 20, 1963) wondered, "Will Ray redeem his prodigious promise and become the Shakespeare of the screen?" What explains such critical and popular acclaim of Ray's films?

Ray's biographers from Marie Seton to Andrew Robinson, experts like Chidananda Dasgupta, Satish Bahadur or Robin Wood, renowned film-makers such as Lindsay Anderson, Akira Kurosawa, Martin Scorsese,

Shyam Benegal and Adoor Gopalakrishnan, and the legion who were impacted by Ray's cinematic ideas in the Indian subcontinent and the West, have sought to explain the features that characterise the originality of this master story-teller, in elevating films to the level of art.

Two novels, by the renowned author Bibhutibhusan Bandyopadhyay, formed the basis of the Apu trilogy. The demands of the cinematic medium made Ray remould the material — selecting and arranging the characters and situations — while remaining truthful to the spirit of the literary text. Here lies a clue to his art creation.

One reason why *Apur Sansar* was both a critical and box-office success was not merely because Ray's craft had matured more by then, or that the film showed the flowering of tender love between Apu and his friend's sister whom he marries when the "arranged groom" is discovered to be insane. In the words of Ray, "I concentrated mainly on two aspects. One was the relationship between the struggling intellectual Apu and his unaffected, unlettered chance-wife Aparna brought up in affluence but inspired to adjust to poverty by her love for her husband. The second aspect was even more exciting. Aparna dies in childbirth. Bibhutibhusan, who often reached for the truth below the surface, makes Apu turn against the child — he reproaches him for having caused the mother's death. The first meeting of father and son takes place after a lapse of several years. A scenarist could scarcely want more in the way of an expressive situation."

[Should A Film-Maker Be Original?], *Filmfare*, August 28, 1959].

It required the genius of a Ray to visualise the film in terms of these concerns and see the dramatic potential in the story, and, invest his work with poetic sequences and psychological inflections. An intense humanism and empathy for the characters caught in the vortex of life, an uncanny eye for detail and an ability to see the deeper truth beneath the surface of reality, are all evident in the film. A passion for life, an undercurrent of eroticism and the irony of our daily existence, especially when death is juxtaposed on it, have been reflected in its execution.

Merely remembering Ray as India's great cultural icon after Rabindranath Tagore or as the world's most decorated film director, would not enrich our mind. Seeing his films may do. His birth centenary in 2020-21 should provide that opportunity: Would the government, that had earlier helped the emergence of new Indian cinema, take some initiative and make Ray's offerings accessible far and wide?

Finally, *Apur Sansar* may be full of human drama, but there is hardly any theatricality in the film. Ray tried to be "as expressive as possible through action, through objects, through details." (*Satyajit Ray: A Film by Shyam Benegal*, Seagull Books, Calcutta, 1988). It remains an example of pure cinema and is a wholesome one that has not lost its relevance in the India of today. It carries all the prominent markers of a classic. By world standards.

The writer is a retired IAS officer



JULY 25, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

JANATA RSS TIES
WHATEVER LINK THE Janata Party has with the RSS will be cut off. Members of Parliament and state legislatures and office-bearers of the Janata Party will not be allowed to take part in RSS activities. This was announced by the party President, Chandra Shekhar, at a news conference, paving the way for the return of those who had deserted the ruling party in protest against the erstwhile Jana Sangh members' continued connections with the RSS. This is also a bid to defuse the dual membership controversy which had led to the resignation of 100-odd members from the Janata Parliamentary Party and the fall of the Morarji Desai government.

PAKISTAN'S ATOM BOMB
WESTERN SOURCES BELIEVE that Pakistan is within three or four years of the capability of producing an atom bomb despite denials in Pakistan and Prime Minister Morarji Desai's public statements of doubt. Details are now coming in from London indicating a web of international intrigue which permitted a Pakistani physicist, Abdul Gadar Khan, who worked for one of the joint nuclear projects of the West European governments in Holland, to order machinery for the development of a reprocessing plant in Pakistan. Such a plant could be used to produce weapons-grade plutonium, using the same method that was used in India to produce

India's first nuclear device in 1974.

SHEIKH DECLINES OFFER.
THE JAMMU AND Kashmir chief minister, Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, said today that he had declined the offer to become the Vice-President of India as he wanted to devote his full attention to the economic development of the state. Addressing National Conference workers, he described as "unfortunate" the prevailing state of uncertainty at the Centre. He said, "what we want is stability at the Centre". He announced that "whichever party or group forms the government, it should be able to ensure a stable government to look after public welfare."



A formula for exclusion

The Citizenship Amendment Bill carries the danger of making discrimination a formal part of India's refugee policy



S IRUDAYA RAJAN,
ISWARYA SUBBIAH

THE PROCESS OF updating the National Register for Citizens in Assam is a momentous exercise with huge implications for India's constitutional scheme, especially on issues pertaining to the question of citizenship. Citizenship in India is governed by the Constitution and the Citizenship Act, 1955. While both prescribe the means of acquiring citizenship, they do not define it. A person may be a citizen by birth, by descent or by naturalisation. However, citizenship goes beyond just the act of being a citizen — it conflates complex ideas of nationality and ethnicity. Thus, it would be remiss to talk of citizenship without understanding that it is rooted in exclusion.

The Partition was India's first test of citizenship, leading to large-scale movement of people across the newly-drawn borders, primarily for reasons of religion. India's geographical location, however, ensures that the movement of people are not isolated incidents. There has been a near constant influx of people into India from neighbouring countries.

The recent Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016 seeks to make drastic changes to the existing immigration norms in India by making it easier for certain immigrants to seek citizenship. After the 2004 amendment, an undocumented migrant in India is defined as anyone entering the country without a valid passport, with forged documents, or one who overstays their visa term. The proposed amendment exempts "persons belonging to minority communities" — Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Parsis, Buddhists and Christians — from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh from being treated as undocumented immigrants. In addition, anyone who fulfills these requirements will now only need six years of ordinary residency — as opposed to 11 presently — to claim citizenship by naturalisation.

Interestingly, the Bill refers to persons belonging to minority communities as "illegal immigrants", as they would technically be refugees if they are fleeing from persecution. These definitions are important, as conflating these terms would only hamper India's refugee policy.

While the idea behind this amendment might be noble, the Bill is noteworthy in its exclusions — rather than inclusions. The religious undertone of this exercise is problematic. By explicitly naming the religions getting exemptions, the Bill flouts the fundamental right to equality enshrined in Article 14 of the Constitution.

All this is further complicated by the fact that India currently does not have a refugee law in place, it is not a signatory to the 1951 UN Refugee Convention or its 1967 Protocol. However, India's stance on refugees has been, largely, consistent — it has been one of hospitality. It has also been steady since Jawaharlal Nehru said of the Tibetan refugees that they must return to their homeland, once the conflict has been resolved. The proposed law, however, goes against this long-practiced tenet by making the process of availing citizenship much easier.

The exclusion of persecuted Tamils from Sri Lanka is also perplexing. Refugees fleeing the civil war in Sri Lanka did so under the most trying circumstances, where going back was not an option for many. A significant portion of the refugees are Indian Tamils, or Hill Country Tamils. They are descendants of labourers taken from India to work on Sri Lankan plantations. In spite of assurances,



Suvajit Dey

these labourers got neither Indian nor Sri Lankan citizenship after the departure of the British. Thus, an Indian origin worker born in colonial Sri Lanka would have lived through the Independence and the birth of two nations but remained stateless at the end of it.

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs justified this exclusion by claiming that Sri Lankan refugees in Tamil Nadu can avail long-term visas (LTVs). However, refugees do not often have the documents required to acquire a long-term visa. A long-term visa would enable an immigrant in the country to open a bank account, get an Aadhaar card, purchase property and move freely within the country. Sri Lankan refugees, however, lack the documentation required for them to be eligible to acquire an LTV.

Nowhere in India was this Bill more vehemently protested than in the Northeast. Assam, in particular, opposed the amendments introduced through this Bill. The Northeast is often seen as an easy point of entry for those wishing to settle in India. For Assam, the bill seems to be in direct contravention to the Assam Accord of 1985. The Accord specified that the names of foreigners who have entered Assam after January 1, 1966, and up to March 24, 1971, shall be struck off the electoral rolls and they would be required to register themselves under the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939. Any foreigner who has entered the country after March 24, 1971 shall be expelled.

The Bill also brings into question the process of updating of the National Register of Citizens (NRC). It will legitimise the citizenship of all those who would have been considered foreigners under the Assam Accord and the NRC.

Other Northeastern states have also registered their protest with respect to the Bill. Mizoram is apprehensive of the influx of Chakma refugees from Bangladesh. Most re-

India's stance on refugees has been, largely, consistent and hospitable. It has also been steady since Jawaharlal Nehru said of the Tibetan refugees that they must return to their homeland, once the conflict has been resolved. The proposed law, however, goes against this long-practiced tenet by making the process of availing citizenship much easier.

gional parties, including those from Tripura and Nagaland, have opposed the Bill. The general fear amongst these states is that regional identity will be diluted if this bill becomes an Act. The threat that they may end up being a minority in their own state combined with the anger that they will have to bear the brunt of an influx of refugees has led to protests all over the Northeast.

What is disregarded in this argument, however, is the exclusionary nature of citizenship determination processes like the NRC. Even if there are four million illegal immigrants presently residing in Assam, the State should ideally have formulated a framework for the inclusion of all those already in the country, while simultaneously preventing more refugee influx. The State's lack of transparency on its future plan of action is troubling. To even consider rendering this substantial populace stateless would go against every humanitarian principle India adheres to.

Though India is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention, the country is bound by the international principles of humanitarianism. India's commitment to core international human rights instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, combined with its own constitutional ethics, means that the country cannot be exempt of her duty in protecting asylum seekers. This protection must be extended to all those seeking refuge.

The Citizenship Amendment Bill carries the danger of making discrimination a formal part of India's refugee policy — that would be a dangerous precedent indeed.

Rajan is professor at the Centre for Development Studies, Kerala and Subbiah is an advocate at Bombay High Court

The BJP I knew

The party is veering away from the political philosophy and ethics it promised to uphold



JULIO RIBEIRO

BJP VETERAN leader Laxmi Kanta Chawla is a woman I greatly admire. I met her in Punjab during my stint of three-and-a-half years fighting Khalistani terrorism. She was always simply dressed in a sari and did not bother about her appearance; she was bothered much more about the country and Punjab.

My view of the RSS was tempered by my acquaintance with people like Chawla and also Hit Abhilashi, the BJP president of Punjab. Abhilashi was one of the finest human beings I have come across and I had the greatest respect for her, especially her ethical standards. When he was shot dead by terrorists, I was personally shattered.

The BJP always prided itself as a "party with a difference". With Chawla and my friend Abhilashi as models, I thought that a different type of politics would be presented to the Indian people. I admit that I never voted for the BJP because the general run of minority thinking is that the BJP is an exclusively Hindu party. My Hindu ancestors in Goa were converted by the Portuguese more than four centuries ago. Since then, we have become a minority in our own country and our vote goes to those who will protect our culture and identity.

But I have no quarrel with the party ideology as long as it confines itself to ethical and moral values — which the RSS, I always felt, represented. The Pune Brahmins, who I was familiar with during my years of service, were models of high thinking and simple living. They fashioned my kinder views of the party most of them supported.

I am now totally disenchanted with the "party with a difference". Its talk of inclusiveness, often spouted by our popular (with the masses) prime minister, is sadly, routinely, discarded when dealing with the single largest minority in the country.

In my own tiny state of Goa, I am disillusioned by the fact that the BJP has inducted 10 MLAs of the Congress party to crossover to their party in one fell swoop. If this is not unethical, I wonder what is. By inducing elected representatives to cross sides, the party has let itself down. The Christians in Goa got disillusioned with the BJP in the first term and they have been sadly let down by greedy MLAs.

I wonder what these turncoats will now do, or not do, in another party which their own voters have voted against. Take the case of Babush Monserrate, who has crossed sides many times in the past. It is hardly likely that the voters of Panaji would have voted for him if they knew that he was going to be won over by the lure of office! They wanted to vote out the BJP. If they knew that Monserrate, who lost his own home constituency in the

general election, was going to abandon their concerns, I doubt if they would have voted for him.

Moreover, people who crossover in the cavalier fashion are swashbucklers who have no ethical or moral values, and will not hesitate to change sides again if in future someone offers them something better. This was quite common during the time of Congress, and the people thought (wrongly, as now seen) that those days were behind us.

It is not only in Goa that the BJP, the "party with a difference", has joined the "mainstream" of Indian politics: They have succeeded halfway in West Bengal and are busy in Karnataka as well. How does it become a party with a difference? And will their new-found followers stop behaving like the followers of the parties which the BJP had sworn to erase from the political scene?

The new BJP lawmakers — poached from the Congress, the TMC and other regional parties, will bring with them their own cultural baggage. The former Congress MLAs from Goa were elected mainly from constituencies which had a majority or sizeable Christian vote. Those voters had a built-in prejudice against the BJP and they will not be amused with their elected representatives who have surrendered to the very party of which they were wary: The pattern of these crossovers will, therefore, be eventually defined by the unhappiness of the supporters of the selfish pursuits of such representatives.

Another development, which was to be expected, has been reported from Goa. Old, loyal BJP cadres are furious with their party leaders for admitting to the party fold a whole lot of politicians who had been the butt of their political attacks. The new entrants will hardly subscribe to the prescribed BJP ideology, and may prove to be a constant headache to those who single-mindedly pursue Hindutva.

This brand of politics which strives for a one-party, one-leader rule in the country is not much different from what we witnessed in Haryana during Mrs Gandhi's time. Over the years, a dimension has been added which is peculiar to India: It is the attempt by all the parties to protect their flock by ensuring for them a compulsory rest in five-star hotels in better climes.

I grieve for my country and its future if ethical and moral considerations are not brought to bear on political machinations. There may be machinations that are required in political life but they should have some connection to moral standards which will then be appreciated by people who think. Wholesale capitulation to Mammon is not what my friends Chawla and Abhilashi would have even dreamt of.

Incidentally, I still value my roots in Goa. My great-grandfather moved to Mumbai two hundred years ago but I still think of myself as a Goan, albeit a Mumbai Goan. And hence my anger with what has happened in my ancient land.

The writer, a retired IPS officer, was Mumbai police commissioner, DGP Gujarat and DGP Punjab

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CRICKET AND WAR

THIS REFERS TO 'Cricketers in Arms' (IE, July 24). The article lists cricketers killed in the Second World War but has not mentioned the fatalities in World War I (1914-1918). Twelve Test cricketers lost their lives in action, notably England left arm spinner Colin Blythe, Australian fast bowler Tibby Carter and South African spinners Gordon White and Reggie Schwarz. Hundreds of first-class cricketers, mainly from England, also died in combat. The late Major General Joginder Singh Rao (1938-94), played one season of first-class cricket for the Services in the Ranji Trophy in 1963-64 in which he claimed a hat-trick on debut and two in one innings in his next match, a unique record for a cricketer in his first season. He saw action in two wars against Pakistan and received the Vishist Seva Medal for "distinguished service of an exceptional order".
Gulu Ezekiel, Delhi

EFFETE MEDIATOR

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Sound and Fury' (IE, July 24). US president Donald Trump's claim that he can play the role of a mediator between India and Pakistan to solve the J&K dispute highlights his impulsiveness. The Middle East peace plan proposed in May 2019 fell flat with major US allies, Israel, Bahrain and the UAE, rejecting it. So much for the US ability to broker peace. The Kashmir dispute is more complex.
Pranay Kumar Shome, Kolkata

FORCED SECULARISM

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Secularism is no spectacle' (IE, July 11) and 'Living Well Together' (IE, July 23). Secularism means respecting each other's custom

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301. Letter writers should mention their postal address and phone number.

THE WINNER RECEIVES SELECT EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS

S ZA Hussain, New Delhi

WHY RTI MATTERS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The right to know' (IE, July 24). The amendment of the RTI Act 2005, is aimed at protecting either the bureaucracy or the political system. The move to create an RTI ministry must be thwarted in the Upper House.
SS Paul, Nadia

Clinging to patriarchy

'Kabir Singh' reminds us that public spaces harbour violence against women



MITHILA BAGAI

FINALLY COMES a popular Bollywood movie that captures the cries and pains of the falling patriarchal structure of society. As Confucius once said, "A seed grows with no sound but a tree falls with huge noise. Destruction has noise but creation is quiet."

With women now demanding, and making, their rightful place in mainstream social life and coming into their own in sports, education and politics, patriarchy has been feeling the jitters. The rise of women has mostly been slow, and quiet, but the diminishing of male dominance has led to some amount of wailing. And, *Kabir Singh* is a perfect example of that. The utter impatience, obduracy, drugs, alcohol, cigarette smoking — not one but two at one go — over-possessiveness, insecurity, violence and self-destruction of the film's central character typify the desperation of men who want to hold on to their patriarchal privileges. Since women have become more confident and assertive about their own rights and space, cinema is a place

where men can fantasise about the benefits they used to once draw from patriarchy.

Director Sandeep Vanga Reddy showcases a loud and violent man who is paired with a silent woman; the execution of unequal authority thus becomes easy. Just wildly wondering, what if the movie had Kabir Singh and Mary Kom as the leading pair? But that would not have earned Rs 200 crore. Alas. But then, Bollywood scripts hardly have the finesse that can make a female-driven narrative enter the Rs100-crore club.

Cinema's another significant function is to record, preserve and portray history. And, *Kabir Singh* did a good job in recording this story of male dominance in reel life. Perhaps later, the film can be used as a documentary to show our next generation, living in a much equal and fairer world, "hey, this is how stupid patriarchy was".

Vanga Reddy's choice of Shahid Kapoor as Kabir Singh was perfect. An actor who de-

livered stellar performances while essaying cynical characters in *Uda Punjab* and *Haider*, Kapoor was brilliant as the character who typifies male dominance and demands meekness from women. Yes, Kabir Singh is actually the villain of the movie. He is no hero. Combine high-octane music, loud mannerisms, high-action drama and the overdose of drugs and alcohol with a Bollywood star and a beautiful heroine, and voila, a villain becomes a hero in the eyes of the audience. Shahid Kapoor has himself admitted that this flawed character has become an adorable one for the audience.

Kabir Singh is unabashedly brute and rash. But dig a little deeper, the film actually shows that all is not well with women's empowerment — even within educational institutions that are considered safe for women. The increase in violence against women in the "modern and progressive" centres in a city, schools and colleges, is a telling reminder that the regressive forces in

society do not want women to build their own individuality and space.

Today, exploiters do not come in the form of village patriarchs who pass judgments about the lives of women. These neo-exploiters seem to be cultured, educated, English-speaking, with upmarket degrees — Kabir Singh is a surgeon — and drive luxurious cars and bikes. And a large number of women do forgive and forget. So, girls and parents, *Kabir Singh* is a warning — the film shines a spotlight on such neo-exploiters.

Cinema carries such an immense impact on the viewers that after the end of the movie someone from the audience remarked apprehensively, "Now everyone will be Kabir Singh". I smirked and retorted, "But not everybody will be Preeti Sikka".

The writer is assistant professor, Department of Political Science, Maitreyi College, University of Delhi

TOP OF THE WORLD



USA

Former lobbyist Esper sworn in as Pentagon chief

Washington: Army Secretary Mark Esper was sworn in as U.S. secretary of defence on Tuesday, hours after being confirmed by the Senate in a strong bipartisan vote that ended the longest period by far the Pentagon had been without a permanent top official. Esper was sworn in at the White House by U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito in a ceremony hosted by President Donald Trump and attended by a number of Republican lawmakers. He was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on a vote of 90-8 several hours earlier. "That's a vote that we're not accustomed to, Mark. I have to say that, so congratulations," Trump told Esper, a former professional staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

AUSTRALIA

3 Sunni Muslims jailed for 3-yr-old mosque attack

Melbourne: Three Sunni Muslim men were sentenced on Wednesday to prison terms of 16 and 22 years on convictions including engaging in a terrorist act by burning down a Shia mosque in Melbourne three years ago. A jury convicted Abdullah Chaarani, 28, Ahmed Mohamed, 26, and Hatim Moukhaiber, 31, in May over the firebombing of the Imam Ali Islamic Centre in December 2016. No one was injured. Mohamed and Moukhaiber had both denied any involvement. Chaarani admitted his role, but argued he had been part of an act of protest, not terrorism.

TURKEY

6,000 migrants held in crackdown

Istanbul: A crackdown on unregistered migrants in Istanbul has seen 6,000 arrests including Syrians in the past two weeks, the interior minister said. There has been concern in recent days over reports that hundreds of Syrian refugees have been sent back to Syria, after being forced to sign consent forms in Turkish that they do not understand. Interior Minister Suleyman Soyulu denied the claims. He said Syrians were part of the group, but did not give numbers.

CHANGE OF GUARD IN BRITAIN

Johnson appointed PM, vows Brexit without any ifs & but

Theresa May bows out after three years in office, her finance minister Philip Hammond also quits

WILLIAM JAMES & KYLLIE MACLELLAN
LONDON, JULY 24

BORIS JOHNSON took office as British Prime Minister on Wednesday, vowing to implement the result of the 2016 Brexit referendum and lead Britain out of the European Union on October 31 with "no ifs or buts". Johnson enters Downing Street at one of the most perilous junctures in post-World War Two British history — the United Kingdom is divided over its divorce from the EU and weakened by the three-year political crisis that has gripped it since that referendum.

One of Britain's most prominent Brexit campaigners, Johnson has repeatedly pledged to leave the EU by Oct 31 — "do or die" — and to inject a new optimism and energy into the divorce, which he argues will bring a host of opportunities.

But his strategy sets the United Kingdom up for a showdown with the EU and thrusts it towards a potential constitutional crisis, or an election, at home.

"The people who bet against Britain are going to lose their shirts because we are going to re-



At Buckingham Palace, Queen Elizabeth II invited Boris Johnson to form a new government as Prime Minister. AP

store trust in our democracy, and we are going to fulfil the repeated promises of Parliament to the people and come out of the EU on October 31, no ifs or buts," Johnson, 55, said after arriving at his new residence, No.10 Downing Street.

May leaves office

Theresa May left Downing Street after a three-year premiership that was marred by crises over Brexit. She formally tendered her resignation to Queen Elizabeth.

May appeared to be fighting back tears as she was applauded out of the House of Commons chamber. Her finance minister, Philip Hammond, resigned.

Johnson had a possible foretaste of turmoil ahead when, as he drove to his audience with the queen, Greenpeace protesters tried — but failed — to block the path of his car as his chauffeur drove around them. The queen requested he form an administration. His formal title is now "Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury". **REUTERS**

BORIS'S BREXIT TEAM

ALREADY APPOINTED

DOMINIC CUMMINGS

Cummings masterminded the official Vote Leave campaign in the run-up to the 2016 Brexit referendum. He will act as a senior adviser to Johnson.

ANDREW GRIFFITH

Griffith worked his way up through Sky under Rupert Murdoch's ownership, becoming chief financial officer in 2008 and helping create Europe's biggest pay-TV group. He will serve as the PM's business adviser.

MARK SPENCER

The little-known Conservative lawmaker will be Johnson's chief enforcer in Parliament as the new Chief Whip.

LIKELY TO COME IN

SAJID JAVID

The Pakistani-origin former banker, who served as Home Secretary under May, is reportedly set to become finance minister under Johnson.

DOMINIC RAAB

The former Brexit minister who resigned in protest at May's deal to leave the EU is reportedly being lined up to be the new foreign minister.

PRITI PATEL

The Indian-origin MP campaigned to leave the EU and has been an outspoken critic of outgoing May's Brexit approach. Johnson's team have said she is due to be given a senior ministerial job. *Source: Reuters*

China hints it could send troops to quell Hong Kong protests

STEVEN LEE MYERS
BEIJING, JULY 24

CHINA ON Wednesday warned that it would not tolerate protesters' efforts to threaten the central government's authority in Hong Kong and suggested that it could, if asked, mobilise troops in the People's Liberation Army garrison there to maintain order.

The warning came as the government released a new defence strategy that accused the United States of undermining global stability and identified separatism as China's most immediate security threat.

In the case of Hong Kong, the chief spokesman for the Ministry of National Defence, Senior Colonel Wu Qian, cited the protests Sunday outside the central government's liaison office in Hong Kong, which protesters painted with graffiti, suggesting that instances of destructive behavior were straining Beijing's patience.

"The behaviour of some radical protesters challenges the central government's authority, touching on the bottom line principle of 'one country, two systems,'" Wu said during a news conference in Beijing unveiling the new strategy. "That absolutely cannot be tolerated."

He pointedly cited the specific article in a law detailing relations between the city and Beijing that allows the People's Liberation Army to intervene, when requested by Hong Kong's leaders, to maintain order or as-



PLA troops at Stonecutters Island naval base in Hong Kong last month. Reuters

sist in cases of natural disasters.

The defence strategy, the first in six years, also refused to rule out the use of force against Taiwan, which China claims as its territory, in the event the self-governing democracy took any formal steps toward independence.

The document criticised "external forces" that support such moves, an oblique but clear reference to the United States, which has long provided support to Taiwan, including a new sale of more than 100 M1A2T Abrams tanks and other weaponry, worth \$2.2 billion.

The warnings about what are, to China, core matters of sovereignty underlined growing concern about threats to the central authority of the Communist Party government under President Xi Jinping, whose pledges never to cede any territory are central to his image as the country's most powerful leader in decades.

Hong Kong was not mentioned in the strategy, but Wu responded to a question about the protests there to warn that China was prepared to act. **NYT**

FB fined record \$5 bn over privacy violations, told to rejig approach

DAVID SHEPARDSON
WASHINGTON, JULY 24

FACEBOOK WILL pay a record-breaking \$5 billion fine to resolve a government probe into its privacy practices and the social media giant will restructure its approach to privacy, the US Federal Trade Commission said Wednesday.

The probe uncovered a wide range of privacy issues. It was triggered last year by allegations that Facebook violated a 2012 consent decree by inappropriately sharing information belonging to 87 million users with the now-de-

funct British political consulting firm Cambridge Analytica. The consultancy's clients included US President Donald Trump's 2016 election campaign.

The FTC voted 3-2 along party lines to adopt the settlement, which requires court approval. The Republican commissioners called the settlement "a complete home run" that exceeded any award the commission could have gotten in court. Democratic commissioners said it did not go far enough or require a large enough fine.

Republican FTC Chairman Joe Simons stressed the FTC's lim-

ited authority and desire to avoid a long uncertain court fight.

Democratic FTC Commissioner Rohit Chopra complained that the penalty provided "blanket immunity" for Facebook executives "and no real restraints on Facebook's business model" and does "not fix the core problems that led to these violations".

Under the FTC settlement, Facebook's board will create an independent privacy committee that removes "unfettered control by Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg over decisions affecting user privacy". **REUTERS**



MASS PROTESTS IN PUERTO RICO

Police block protesters from advancing to the governor's residence during a demonstration in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on Tuesday. Governor Ricardo Rossello could step down on Wednesday after almost two weeks of protests against his administration, sparked by the publication of offensive chat messages and a corruption scandal, local media reported. **AP**



Armstrong died in Aug 2012, two weeks after a heart surgery

wrote. "Rick and Mark have been solicited by several book writers and filmmakers for information about Neil that no one already knows." The lawyer suggested that unless the parties reached a quick settlement, the hospital would be publicly criticized for

giving lethally flawed care to one of America's most famous and revered public figures.

The medical dispute and secret settlement, never before reported, comes to light days after the 50th anniversary of Armstrong's moonwalk drew a flood of nostalgic coverage celebrating his feat. The New York Times received by mail from an unknown sender 93 pages of documents related to the astronaut's treatment and the legal case, including dueling reports by medical experts for the two sides. Some of the documents, although marked "filed under seal," are publicly available at the probate court's website, confirming that



Robert Mueller is sworn in before testifying at a House Judiciary Committee hearing on Wednesday. Reuters

Mueller testifies, says he did not exonerate Trump

DAVID MORGAN & JAN WOLFE
WASHINGTON, JULY 24

FORMER SPECIAL Counsel Robert Mueller on Wednesday told a US congressional hearing he had not exonerated President Donald Trump of obstruction of justice and indicated he would have sought his indictment were it not for a Justice Department policy against charging a sitting President.

The former FBI director, who spent 22 months investigating what he concluded was Russian interference in a "sweeping and systematic fashion" in the 2016 US election to help Trump and the President's conduct, appeared for more than 3-1/2 hours before the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee. Mueller then appeared before the House Intelligence Committee for more questioning.

Mueller's 448-page report, released in redacted form on April 18, did not reach a conclusion on whether Trump committed the crime of obstruction of justice in a series of actions aimed at impeding the inquiry, but did not exonerate him.

Democratic Representative Ted Lieu asked Mueller if the reason he did not bring a criminal indictment against Trump was the Justice Department's longstanding policy crafted by its Office of Legal Counsel against bringing criminal charges against a sitting President. "That is correct," Mueller said.

Trump has claimed the Mueller inquiry resulted in his

EXPLAINED

Cautious Mueller gives neither side much to cheer

APPEARING BEFORE the Congressional committees, Mueller responded to lawmakers' questions in short phrases, rarely straying from what was already written in his report. Democrats, who were hoping that he would provide sound bytes that put Trump on the back foot as focus on the Russia investigation wanes, were disappointed as Mueller said nothing new apart from what is already in the report or what he said during a press conference before stepping down as special counsel. Republicans, who tried to paint the Mueller report as an exoneration of Trump, were also disappointed as Mueller indicated he did not charge Trump because of a Justice Department policy against doing so to a sitting President.

"complete and total exoneration." "Did you actually totally exonerate the President?" Mueller was asked. "No," he replied. **REUTERS**

'Something happened to the brains', scans on US diplomats in Cuba show

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, JULY 24

BRAIN SCANS of about 40 US diplomats injured in mysterious circumstances in Cuba reveal visible differences compared to those in a control group, researchers who analysed them said Tuesday.

The study, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* and led by professors at the University of Pennsylvania, does not draw any conclusions about the cause of the symptoms suffered by the diplomats from late 2016 into May 2018.

But the MRIs of the patients confirm that "something happened to the brains of these peo-

ple," Ragini Verma, a professor of radiology at UPenn and co-author of the study, said.

"It's not imagined," she said. "All I can say is that there is a truth to be found." Verma added: "Whatever happened was not due to a pre-existing condition, because we test for that." From late 2016, diplomats posted in Havana and some of their family members suffered unexplained symptoms ranging from poor balance and vertigo to lack of coordination, unusual eye movements, anxiety and what victims called a "cognitive fog."

The United States recalled most of its diplomatic personnel from the Cuban capital in September 2017.

ALLEGATIONS OF INCOMPETENT MEDICAL CARE EMERGE

Neil Armstrong's death, and a stormy, secret \$6-million settlement

SCOTT SHANE & SARAH KLIFF
JULY 24

WHEN NEIL Armstrong died in a Cincinnati hospital two weeks after undergoing heart surgery in 2012, his family released a touching tribute addressing the astronaut's millions of admirers around the globe.

"Honour his example of service, accomplishment and modesty," they wrote, telling fans of the first man to walk on the moon that "the next time you walk outside on a clear night and see the moon smiling down at you, think of Neil Armstrong and give him a wink."

But in private, the family's reaction to his death at 82 was far stormier. His two sons contended that incompetent post-surgical care at Mercy Health - Fairfield Hospital had cost Armstrong his life, and even one expert retained by the hospital would find serious problems with his treatment.

The hospital defended the care but paid the family \$6 million to settle the matter privately and avoid devastating publicity, documents show. The hospital insisted on keeping the complaints and the settlement secret.

Armstrong had undergone bypass surgery in early August 2012, and his wife told *The Associated Press* afterward that he was

"amazingly resilient" and was walking in the corridor. But when nurses removed the wires for a temporary pacemaker, he began to bleed into the membrane surrounding the heart, leading to a cascade of problems that resulted in his death on Aug. 25.

In a scorching July 2014 email to the hospital's attorneys, Wendy R Armstrong, a lawyer and the wife of Armstrong's son Mark, noted that Mark and his brother, Rick, would soon be traveling to Florida to speak at a ceremony marking the 45th anniversary of the first moon landing.

"This event at Kennedy Space Center will receive national news coverage," Wendy Armstrong

wrote. "Rick and Mark have been solicited by several book writers and filmmakers for information about Neil that no one already

knows." The lawyer suggested that unless the parties reached a quick settlement, the hospital would be publicly criticized for

giving lethally flawed care to one of America's most famous and revered public figures.

The legal settlement adds a grim footnote to the inspiring story of Armstrong, who avoided the limelight and never cashed in on his fame. It also shows how the extraordinary renown of a figure like Armstrong can become a powerful hammer in negotiations.

On July 8, 2014, a hospital lawyer, Nancy A. Lawson, wrote to Wendy Armstrong with a blunt question: "Do Mark and Rick intend to discuss the wrongful death claim at the Kennedy Space Center if no settlement is reached by Friday, July 18?" The 45th anniversary gathering was to take place on Monday, July 21.

"Obviously, the information about this wrongful death claim would prove extremely useful to such projects, and the boys' involvement would net a monetary gain far in excess of the demand that has been made for settlement," she wrote. Wendy Armstrong's original demand on behalf of the family was \$7 million.

Records from the Hamilton County probate court show that the bulk of the settlement, nearly \$5.2 million, was split equally between Armstrong's sons, Mark and Rick. **NYT**

17 ECONOMY

GOLD	RUPEE	OIL	SILVER
₹35,870	₹68.98	\$62.53*	₹42,300

SENSEX: 37,847.65 ▼ 135.09 NIFTY: 11,271.30 ▼ 59.75 NIKKEI: 21,709.57 ▲ 88.69 HANG SENG: 28,524.04 ▲ 57.56 FTSE: 7,492.68 ▼ 64.18 DAX: 12,547.56 ▲ 56.82

International market data till 1900 IST

ICIJ-THE INDIAN EXPRESS INVESTIGATION

In Mauritius papers, a real estate fund that never took off

RITU SARIN
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

ONE SIGNIFICANT India-linked infrastructure proposal for which Mauritius firm Conyers Dill & Pearman played key legal adviser was between Pune-based builder Kolte Patil Developers Limited (KPDL) and Portman Holdings LLC, a US-based real estate investment and development company which has been active in India since 1996.



"We were in talks during 2010 and might have prepared a conceptual document but no definitive agreement has been signed and proposed fund never took off and lapsed on a time-bound basis..."

GOPAL SARDA, GROUP CEO, KPDL companies were to collectively invest \$20 million in the Fund with the aim of a partnership in nine to 12 real estate projects in urban locations including Pune, Mumbai, Bangalore and New Delhi NCR. The focus of the Fund was primarily to make investments in the mid-segment residential development across six metro cities, beginning with Pune.

Significantly, the presentation outlines how at least 75 per cent of the Fund was to be invested in "residential developments" with the balance being "opportunistic." The cost for each real estate project in which the Fund would invest was pegged to be in the range of \$40-\$100 million.

Kolte Patil Developers has referred to its partnership with Portman Holdings time to time but not the Fund or its association with Conyers. Records show a bill for \$15,271 raised in the name of KPDL on December 16, 2010, on the subject of "advice in connection with the setting up of a Mauritius CLOs (collateralized loan obligations)/professional Mauritius services." Interestingly, Conyers also prepared a 16-page note for the two companies listing all the "risk factors" for the proposed fund including a possible amendment in the Indo-Mauritius DTTA (Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement, which eventually did take place in May 2016).

It was in 2009, that KPDL announced its first joint venture with the Houston-based developer which they stated was for Rs 275 crore. Their website announces their partnership with Portman Holdings for Tuscan Real Estate Limited and described it as an SPV in which they held 51 per cent equity and Portman Holdings held the rest 49 per cent. Tuscan Estate is a 900,000 sq feet residential colony located in Pune. The next project for the two companies was Margosa Heights, also in Pune, and in September 2016, KPDL announced it had completed the project generating an internal rate of return of 36 per cent and a money multiple of 3.1 times for Portman Holdings and themselves.

Records show that Conyers put on record that "because the Indian sponsor (KPDL) is unable to invest at the Mauritius level, they will enter into a co-investment agreement..." According to this, KPDL will set up an Investment Vehicle in India wholly owned by them. The 2010 agreement notes that the Fund Company and the Investment Vehicle will, in turn, enter into a Co-Investment Agreement which "will be established in a manner that will be tax efficient with respect to Indian and Mauritius tax laws..."

The data contains a 2010 presentation on the India Real Estate Fund with a pitch for raising \$200 million. The two

DISAGREEMENTS OVER DEALING OF RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

IndiGo feud: Amid truce claims, boardroom differences fester

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

AMID CLAIMS of a truce between the two co-promoters of InterGlobe Aviation, the parent company of India's largest airline IndiGo, sources close to one of the promoter groups asserted that the feud was far from over and that disagreements still lingered over the dealing of related party transactions at IndiGo.

Differences between co-founders of the airline — Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal — came into the open after the latter sought intervention of markets regulator Sebi to address alleged corporate governance lapses on July 8. While the allegations have been refuted by Bhatia's group — InterGlobe Enterprises, Sebi and Corporate Affairs Ministry are looking into the issue. Against this backdrop, the board of InterGlobe Aviation met on July 19 and 20.

On the reports of a truce between the founders, shares of InterGlobe Aviation surged as much as 6 per cent. On Wednesday, the scrip ended trading 4.69 per cent higher than its previous close at Rs 1,594.45 on the BSE.

During the two-day long meeting, it was decided that the

'INDIGO BOARD HAS ADDRESSED SOME CONCERNS'

■ Differences between co-founders of the airline — Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal — came into the open after the latter sought intervention of markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India to address alleged corporate governance lapses on July 8

■ While some measures undertaken by IndiGo's board have addressed some of the concerns raised by Gangwal, the issues pertaining to related party transactions are still undecided, a source said on condition of anonymity

company will seek shareholders' approval to amend the articles of association to expand the size of the board up to a maximum of 10 directors, including four independent directors. Regulations stipulated by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) require at least one woman independent director in the top 500 listed entities by market capitalisation by April 1, 2019 and in the top 1,000 listed entities by April 1, 2020.

While some of these measures undertaken by IndiGo's board have addressed some of the concerns raised by Gangwal, the issues pertaining to related party transactions are still undecided, a source said on condition of anonymity.

Earlier this month, Gangwal

wrote to the Sebi alleging serious governance lapses by co-founder Rahul Bhatia who had earlier termed his demands as unreasonable, and has sought regulatory intervention in the matter. Flagging concerns about certain questionable Related Party Transactions (RPTs), Gangwal said the shareholders' agreement provides his long-time friend Bhatia unusual controlling rights over IndiGo. "Beyond just questionable Related Party Transactions, various fundamental governance norms and laws are not being adhered to and this is inevitably going to lead to unfortunate outcomes, unless effective measures are taken today," the letter said. Gangwal and his affiliates have around 37 per cent stake in

InterGlobe Aviation while Bhatia and his affiliates (IGE Group) have about 38 per cent.

After Gangwal wrote to the board seeking an extraordinary general meeting, Bhatia, on June 12, opposed the proposal. Bhatia wrote to the board alleging that the genesis of Gangwal's angst was his "hurt ego" and refusal of IGE Group to entertain his "unreasonable demands". In the June 12 letter, Bhatia alleged that Gangwal had a hidden agenda and had made a package proposal and was not willing to discuss the RPT issue in isolation.

Gangwal had also said he entered into a shareholders' agreement that provides Bhatia unusual controlling rights over IndiGo. The rights of InterGlobe Enterprises — which is Bhatia's group — include those to appoint three out of six directors, nominate and appoint Chairman, CEO, President as well as a voting arrangement that requires Gangwal and his affiliates to vote alongside the Group on appointment of directors.

The company is chaired by former Sebi chief M Damodaran. Apart from Gangwal, Bhatia and his wife Rohini Bhatia, former World Bank executive Anupam Khanna and chartered accountant Anil Parashar are board members.

Atanu Chakraborty is new DEA Secy; S C Garg moved to Power Ministry

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

IN A major bureaucratic reshuffle on Wednesday, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) appointed Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg as the new Power Secretary, while Atanu Chakraborty, currently Secretary in the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), has been appointed as Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, in place of Garg.

The government appointed existing Power Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla as Officer on Special Duty in Ministry of Home Affairs with immediate effect. Anil Kumar Khachi, a 1986 batch Himachal Pradesh cadre officer, has been appointed as Secretary, DIPAM.

Garg, a Rajasthan cadre officer of 1983 batch, has been the key officer in managing the fiscal consolidation roadmap of the Central government and was designated as the Finance Secretary. He also pushed the need for reviewing the Economic Capital Framework of the Reserve Bank of India, with the finance ministry arguing that the RBI share excess capital with the government. This issue generated considerable debate and created frictions in relations between the Finance Ministry and RBI last year, which many saw as the key reason behind resignation of former RBI Governor Urjit Patel.

Chakraborty, a Gujarat cadre officer of 1985 batch, moves to the Finance Ministry amid slackening economic growth and a new proposal by the government to raise around \$10 billion through issuance of sovereign bonds in the overseas markets. With Garg moving out, Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey and Department of Financial Services Secretary Rajiv Kumar — both officers of 1984 batch — are the senior most in the Finance Ministry. In the past, the government has appointed the senior most Finance Ministry official as the Finance Secretary.

Appointment of Khachi, presently serving in the cadre, as Secretary DIPAM comes at a crucial juncture as the government is banking heavily on dis-

Atanu Chakraborty is currently Secretary in DIPAM. Garg has been the key officer in managing the fiscal consolidation roadmap of the Centre and was designated as the Finance Secretary

OTHER MAJOR APPOINTMENTS

THE ACC has cleared appointment of Anshu Prakash as the new secretary in the Department of Telecommunications

GURUPRASAD Mohapatra appointed Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade. Mohapatra is the Chairman, Airports Authority of India in the Civil Aviation Ministry

PD VAGHELA to be the Secretary in Department of Pharmaceuticals

RAVICAPOOR appointed Secretary, Textiles

investment and asset sales to boost its fiscal health. The Union Budget 2019 has set a high target of Rs 1.05 lakh crore from disinvestment for the current fiscal year, compared with Rs 90,000 crore in the Interim Budget.

Apart from residual stake sales, buybacks and strategic sales, land monetisation is a key component of the Centre's push to raise resources. Chakraborty has been instrumental in pushing the disinvestment programme and using exchange traded fund (ETF) route as a key means of raising resources.

Apart from these key Finance Ministry bureaucrats, Girish Chandra Murmu, a Gujarat cadre officer of 1985 batch, is currently serving as Secretary, Department of Expenditure.

'Target R&D expenditure of 2% of GDP by 2022'

The growth in R&D expenditure should be commensurate with the economy's growth and must be targeted to reach at least 2% of GDP by 2022, as per a report by the Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister

ALLOCATE FROM BUDGET: The line ministries at the Centre could be mandated to allocate certain percentage of their budget for research and innovation for developing and deploying technologies as per the priorities of the respective ministries

STAGNANT GROWTH: India's public investment in R&D as a fraction of GDP has remained stagnant over last two decades, the report said

UPTO 0.7%: Investment in R&D has remained constant at around 0.6% to 0.7% of GDP and this is well below the major countries such as the US (2.8%), China (2.1%), Israel (4.3%) and Korea (4.2%)



FOR LEADERSHIP ROLE: Need to ensure a leap into a leadership role in innovation by stimulating private sector's investment in R&D from current 0.35% of GDP

₹5K cr corpus
The report also pitched for creating 30 dedicated R&D Exports Hub and a corpus of Rs 5,000 crore for funding mega projects

percentage of turn-over of the company may be invested in R&D by medium and large enterprises registered in India, the report said

TO KEEP ENTHUSED: To help and keep the industry enthused to invest in R&D, there is case for not enforcing the complete withdrawal of weighted deduction provisions on R&D investment by April 1, 2020

STATE-CENTRE: It will be appropriate that states partner with the Centre to jointly fund research and innovation programmes through socially designed Central Sponsored Schemes (CSS)

Tax targets achievable, don't 'be on an overdrive': FM to taxmen

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

GIVING OUT the message to income tax officers to be facilitators, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Wednesday said the direct tax revenue targets are "imminently achievable" but warned that the taxmen should "not be on an overdrive". In this process of revenue collection, tax officers should use technological instruments such as data mining, Big Data and take only information-based actions against the assesses, she said.

"We should be seen as facilitators, we want the income, but we should be clearly not on an overdrive," Sitharaman said while speaking at an event marked to celebrate the Income Tax Day. The Finance Minister, how-

ever, told the tax officers that she will stand by them in their actions against those who are "gaming the system". "...those gaming the system are to be kept a watch on. You shouldn't be suspecting everybody...data mining, Big Data are all instruments in your hand, being seated where you are, to understand where the wrongdoing is happening and I am with you if you are firm on those people. I am fully with you if you are really firm on those who are gaming the system," she added.

Better coordination of information sharing between the three wings of Revenue Department — Enforcement Directorate, Income Tax and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence — will help in tax authorities to take informed action and in turn become facilitators. "These three were to work together in sharing rightly the infor-



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey at the 'Income Tax Day' event. Praveen Khanna

a facilitator... whole business is about building trust with the taxpayer who is helping build the nation," she said.

In an indirect mention to the recent hike in surcharge for 'super rich', she said that the underlying principle for higher taxes is the purpose of better redistribution of wealth. "Tax is not collected as a punishment. Tax is collected because those who earn a lot more because of efforts which is justifiable, which we have to appreciate, which this country should give place for, but the nation takes that tax more because we want to redistribute it for people who have not been able to make that kind of earnings for themselves...we are not here to bring in something which is going to be too much on your shoulder but yes we need that money because you are very capable, you are very able, tal-

ented and therefore, you earn rightly a lot of money but would you help us redistribute some for those who are less fortunate. If that broader spirit is understood, tax collectors will not be looked at as 'I would not want anybody from the department coming to visit me', she said.

Sitharaman also pointed towards the need to look into potential tax assesses. "Just about 8 crore people being assesses of direct tax in this large country, which the Prime Minister repeatedly says, is this the number of people who can pay taxes, can there not be more people brought into the net? What stops people from coming in?", she said.

She further told the tax officers that a "very easy target" has been given for this year, adding that a higher target would be set for next year.

EXPLAINED E. Building taxpayer trust is the key

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman delivered a key message to the tax officers that actions should be taken against those gaming the system, but not every taxpayer should be seen with suspicion. The tax department should rely on big data to nab the evaders while building trust with honest taxpayers, she stressed.

ON 737 MAX GROUNDING

Boeing sinks to nearly \$3 billion loss

REUTERS
BENGALURU, JULY 24

BOEING CO reported a nearly \$3 billion quarterly loss on Wednesday, its largest in a decade, as the world's largest planemaker struggles with the prolonged grounding of its best-selling 737 MAX jet, sending its shares down slightly in premarket trading.

Chicago-based Boeing has been unable to deliver any 737 MAX aircraft since the single-aisle plane was grounded worldwide in March after two fatal crashes in Ethiopia and Indonesia killed 346 people in a span of five months.



A 737 MAX 8 during a test flight in Seattle, US. AP file photo

The total cost so far of the 737 MAX crisis now exceeds \$8 billion. The second-quarter loss was Boeing's biggest quarterly loss in 10 years. "This is a defining moment for Boeing and we remain

focused on our enduring values of safety, quality, and integrity in all that we do, as we work to safely return the 737 MAX to service," Boeing chief executive Dennis Muilenburg said on Wednesday.

Deutsche Bank suffers \$3.5 bn loss on road to reinvention

TOMSIMS
FRANKFURT, JULY 24

DEUTSCHE BANK reported a bigger than forecast quarterly loss of 3.15 billion euros (\$3.5 billion), underlining the challenges faced by chief executive Christian Sewing as he attempts to turn around the struggling business.

Germany's largest bank had already flagged it would lose around 2.8 billion euros in the quarter when it announced a restructuring plan that will see 18,000 jobs go and cost 7.4 billion euros overall. The size of the loss, compared with a profit of 401 million euros a year ago, prompted the bank's

shares to slide as much as 5.8 per cent in Frankfurt before regaining some ground. The bigger loss stemmed from higher goodwill impairment charges than foreseen when the bank announced its restructuring on July 7.

As it reshapes, the bank expects to post a loss in 2019, meaning that it will have been in the red for four out of the past five years. But it is aiming for profit in 2020.

Founded in 1870, the bank is considered one of the most important for global financial system, along with US heavyweights JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America and Citigroup. But Deutsche has been plagued by losses and scandal, prompting it to embark on

one of the biggest overhauls to an investment bank since the aftermath of the financial crisis. CEO Sewing said on Wednesday that the bank had already taken significant steps in implementing the strategy. More than 900 employees had given notice or been told they would be made redundant from a bank that had around 91,500 employees.

In a note to staff, Sewing said

that the lender's underperforming investment bank faced "strong headwinds" in the quarter, including questions about the bank's future that spooked clients.

"Now we can look ahead with more optimism," he wrote. Deutsche's troubles peaked with a \$7.2 billion US fine in 2017 for its role in the mortgage market crisis, in a major blow that caused clients to flee. A new lead-

ership, with Sewing at the helm since last year, has tried to revive Deutsche's fortunes, but problems have persisted. In April, the bank called off nearly six weeks of talks to merge with Commerzbank.

It then embarked on a plan for "tough cutbacks" to its investment bank, representing a major retreat from investment banking for Deutsche Bank, which for years had tried to compete as a major force on Wall Street. Net revenue in the quarter fell 6 per cent to 6.2 billion euros. Revenue at Deutsche's cash-cow bond-trading division dropped 4 per cent in the quarter, while equities sales and trading revenue dived 32 per cent. REUTERS

MNRE amends bidding guidelines to improve wind energy projects

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE MINISTRY of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has amended the standard bidding guidelines for wind projects in a move to incentivise projects in this sector. This includes measures to overcome hurdles like delays in acquisition of land by wind power project developers.

"The amendments (are) intended not only to reduce the investment risks related to the land acquisition and CUF (capital utilisation factor), but also to provide incentives for early part commissioning of project. The subjectivity in penalty provisions has been removed and the penalty rate has been fixed," stated the ministry in a release about the amendments.

"The risk of wind power developers in case of delay in signing of PSA has been mitigated by starting timeline of execution of project from date of signing of PPA or PSA, whichever is later," it added.

The guidelines for tariff-based competitive bidding process for

The timeline for land acquisition for wind power projects has been extended to 18 months from seven months

procurement of power from grid connected wind power projects was notified on December 8, 2017, but consultations with stakeholders and experiences of delays in the bidding process have called for the amendments, according to the ministry.

In the latest amendments, the timeline for land acquisition for wind power projects has been extended to 18 months from seven months. "This will help wind power project developers in states where land acquisition takes longer time," stated the ministry.

The commissioning schedule of wind power projects have been defined as 18 months from the date of execution of the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) or Power Selling Agreement (PSA), "whichever is later".

Slump in auto sector may cause 10L job cuts: Acma

NEW DELHI: Auto Industry body Acma on Wednesday said around 10 lakh jobs could be on the line if the prolonged slowdown in the automobile industry continues, while seeking immediate government intervention.

Acma president Ram Venkataramani said "Considering the fact that the auto component industry grows on the back of the vehicle industry, a current 15-20 per cent cut in vehicle production has led to a crisis-like situation."

"If the trend continues, the layoffs are inevitable and an estimated 10 lakh people could be laid off," he added. FE

A DAY AHEAD OF GST COUNCIL MEETING West Bengal FM raises concerns with Centre over proposed tax cut for EVs

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

A DAY before the 36th Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council meeting, West Bengal's Finance Minister Amit Mitra wrote to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman raising concerns about the single agenda item—tax rate cut for electric vehicles from 12 per cent to 5 per cent.

Calling for a calibrated manner to shift towards electric vehicles while supporting the traditional industry with higher emission standards, Mitra in his letter said that GST rate reduction should be considered for BS VI compliant vehicles and hybrid vehicles. "I am surprised to see the notice for the

TRAI PROPOSAL APPROVED DCC nod to ₹3,050 cr fine on Airtel & Vodafone Idea

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE DIGITAL Communications Commission (DCC), the apex decision-making body of the Department of Telecommunications, on Wednesday approved Telecom Regulatory Authority of India's (Trai) proposal to impose a cumulative penalty of Rs 3,050 crore on Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea for not providing points of interconnection (PoIs) to Reliance Jio in 2016 when it commenced operations.

The matter will now be referred to Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad for ratification. "DCC has accepted Trai recommendation on penalty on Airtel and Vodafone Idea. It will send the recommendation to competent authority in the government for their decision," Telecom Secretary Aruna Sundararajan said.

The move, which is set to be challenged by the operators in the

Spectrum to be allotted now without auction for non-commercial use

NEW DELHI: DCC, an inter-ministerial panel under Telecom Ministry, approved proposal to develop a framework to allocate spectrum to entities without auction for non-commercial and captive usage.

The move will ease spectrum allocation to government agencies like railways, defence, department of space, public utility entities, DCC Chairperson and Telecom Secretary Aruna Sundararajan said spectrum for mobile service access will continue to be given through auction route only. PTI

Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT), comes after DCC on June 17 had sent the matter back to Trai for reviewing the amount as the sector was under financial stress. However, the telecom regulator stuck to its guns.

It had suo motu issued the recommendation to the DoT based on a complaint by Reliance Jio. As a licensor, the power to levy fines and/or cancel licences lies with DCC, which may seek recommendations from Trai, but in this

IBBI tightens norms for insolvency RP's

NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE INSOLVENCY and Bankruptcy Board of India has tightened norms governing resolution professionals (RPs) wherein restrictions will also be in place for their relatives from taking up employment after completion of resolution process.

Insolvency RPs would be barred from having employment when they are in possession of authorisation to take up work under the insolvency law. Besides, an RP professional and his or her relatives cannot accept any employment from successful resolution applicant concerned for one year, as per amended norms.

India jumps 5 places to 52nd in global innovation index

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

INDIA HAS improved its standing among the world's most innovative economies on the back of factors like strong exports of services in the information and communication technology sector, the quality of its scientific publications and the total investment by its top three companies in research and development.

The country's rank on the UN World Intellectual Property Organisation's (WIPO) Global Innovation Index has increased five places to 52 this year from 57 in 2018. It is now the most innovative economy in the Central and South Asian region, according to the index.

However, India fell "a couple of ranks" short of its aim to break into the top 50 most innovative economies, according to commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal, who launched the index in New Delhi Wednesday.

Moving forward, Goyal said

India would aim to be among the top 25 countries in the index, while its "ultimate aim" was to climb to the top 10.

According to the index, Switzerland topped the list of most innovative economies, followed by Sweden, the US, Netherlands and the UK.

Israel managed to secure the 10th rank, marking the first time an economy from the Northern Africa and Western Asia region broke into the top 10 position.

China, which has invested heavily in research and development, moved up to the 14th position from 17 earlier.

India also managed to propel its position from 88 in 2015 due to the quality of some of its educational institutions, including some of its Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and Indian Institute of Management (IIM), according to WIPO Director General Francis Gurry.

The proportion of science and engineering graduates it has offered globally has further acted as a strength, according to him.

BRIEFLY

'State-owned gencos out of payment security'

NEW DELHI: State-owned power generating plants would not be covered under the new payment security mechanism which mandates offering a letter of credit by distribution companies to electricity generators, Power Ministry said.

Netflix rolls out ₹199 mobile only plan

NEW DELHI: Netflix has announced a Rs 199 mobile-only plan in India as it looks to woo viewers amid intense competition from Amazon Prime Videos and other local players.

DHFL defaults on ₹8.07-cr repayments

NEW DELHI: DHFL again defaulted on bond repayments to the tune of Rs 8.07 crore on July 23, according to an exchange filing. PTI

BoB cuts savings rate to 3.25%

MUMBAI: Bank of Baroda, has cut its savings deposit interest rates by 25 basis points to 3.25 per cent per annum, which is the lowest among its peers. FE

Nissan warns of profit dip; may cut 10K jobs

YOKOHAMA: Nissan Motor Co has warned that Q1 profit tumbled around 90 per cent, a day before it is expected to announce over 10,000 job cuts. REUTERS

BJYM to FM: Review 18% GST on coaching centres

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

BJYM, THE youth wing of the BJP on Wednesday urged Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to review the issue of 18 per cent GST on competitive exam coaching centres, private tuition centres and other self-styled educational institutions, an industry sector estimated to be nearly Rs 4000 crore.

Sitharaman told the delegation led by BJYM president and Lok Sabha MP Poonam Mahajan that she would look into the matter positively, said BJYM Secretary Anoop Antony Joseph. "The estimated number of students getting education in such institutes (which train stu-

IBBI tightens norms for insolvency RP's

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE LOK Sabha Wednesday passed the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019 that provides "for a comprehensive mechanism to ban unregulated deposit schemes and to protect the interests of depositors".

The Bill was earlier this year passed in the 16th Lok Sabha but lapsed as it could not be taken up in the Rajya Sabha. The Act passed on Wednesday replaces the Ordinance that the government promulgated as an interim measure. The ordinance also amended three legislations namely the

dents for competitive exams and other private tuitions) is around 12 crore, which is a considerably large figure with the industry sector estimated to be nearly Rs 4,000 crore," Joseph pointed out.

Mahajan said, while the Government has exempted GST for formal educational institutions, these private tuition and coaching institutions are taxed at 18 per cent with students studying in such institutions forced to bear the burden of this tax.

She pointed out that as the BJP-led government aims to provide better education and skills to occupy suitable places in different vocations to strengthen the Indian economy, such a decision could have adverse impact on it.

LS passes Bill to tackle IL&FS says on course to clear ₹20K cr debt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE LOK Sabha Wednesday passed the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019 that provides "for a comprehensive mechanism to ban unregulated deposit schemes and to protect the interests of depositors".

The Bill was earlier this year passed in the 16th Lok Sabha but lapsed as it could not be taken up in the Rajya Sabha. The Act passed on Wednesday replaces the Ordinance that the government promulgated as an interim measure. The ordinance also amended three legislations namely the

Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 and the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002. The Act terms a deposit-taking scheme as unregulated if it is taken for the sake of business and is not registered with the regulators listed in the Ordinance.

Responding to concerns raised by several MPs on the government taking the ordinance route often, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur said that this was done only so that crores of people don't suffer due to the ponzi scheme. Thakur said the former Finance Minister Arun Jaitley had brought in the legislation in view of the many chit funds scams.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI, JULY 24

INFRASTRUCTURE LEASING & Financial Services (IL&FS), which has an outstanding debt of Rs 94,216 crore, said Wednesday the board has taken various steps to address over Rs 20,000 crore of its debt pile over the past nine months.

The government had appointed new board headed by veteran banker Uday Kotak last October. "A critical focus of the board has been to maintain a 'going concern' status for companies under the group. Towards this, as many as 55 companies were clas-

sified as 'green' which are serving all their obligations," the company said in a statement.

The group has 348 subsidiaries and associates. It also said measures have been taken for resolution of debt of three 'amber' companies, which are in final stages of implementation and will result in these companies being re-classified as 'green'.

The 55 group businesses that are under asset monetisation process include securities business, renewable energy, domestic road vertical, alternate investment fund management, education and thermal, it said. Its fund-based outstanding debt was Rs 94,216 crore as of October 8, 2018.

US announces antitrust review of Big Tech firms

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON, JULY 24

THE UNITED States on Tuesday announced it would begin an antitrust review of major online platforms to determine if they have "stifled" innovation or reduced competition.

The announcement by the Justice Department did not name specific companies but appeared to signal the department was targeting Google, Facebook and Amazon, which dominate key sectors of the digital economy. When contacted for comment, Google referred AFP to testimony director of economic policy Adam Cohen gave US legislators during a recent hearing.

"In the face of intense competition, we are proud of our record of continued innovation," Cohen said. "We have consistently shown how our business is designed and operated to benefit our customers."

Top US, Chinese negotiators to meet next week

WASHINGTON: Top US and Chinese negotiators will meet face-to-face next week for the first time since the countries' leaders agreed in June to revive talks aimed at ending a yearlong trade war. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer will lead a team of American officials in discussions in Shanghai on Tuesday. REUTERS

Jodhpur Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Limited
(Material Management & Contract Wing)
New Power House, Industrial Area, Jodhpur-342003
Ph.: 0291-2742223, Fax: 0291-2746539

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Procurement Tender is invited for supply of EHV Grade Type II Transformer of under TN, 1568 (UBN JV 1929/GB00070).

Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for e-tenders are available on our website at www.jdvvn.com and also at <http://www.rajasthan.gov.in>

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India and Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
Admin Building, CMRL Depot, Poonamallee High Road, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600107, Tamil Nadu, India.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Contract Name	Tender for Selection of Operator/End user For licensing of Commercial Spaces proposed at Nehru Park, Ekkattuthangal Commercial Building.
Tender ID	CMRL/BD/PD-01-Nehru Park/2019/ CMRL/BD/PD-02-Ekkattuthangal/2019/
Publishing of tender in e-procurement portal	05/08/2019 @ 17.00 hrs
Pre-Bid Meeting Date	20.08.2019 @ 11:00 hrs at CMRL Office-Admin Building, Koyambedu.
Date and Time of Submission of Bid in e-portal	05/09/2019 up to 15.00 hours (IST)
Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bids online	06/09/2019 at 15.05 hours (IST)

CMRL invites e-tender on single stage two packet systems (Technical and Financial) only through e-procurement bids on National Competitive Bidding for Selection of Operator/End user For licensing of Commercial Spaces proposed at Nehru Park, Ekkattuthangal Commercial Building.

For complete details, please visit e-procurement (CPP Portal) website: <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>

Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on above mentioned website and will not be published in newspapers.

Tender Authority:
Chief General Manager (P&BD), Chennai Metro Rail Limited,
Admin Building, CMRL Depot, Poonamallee High Road, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600 107 Phone: 044-2379 2000 1 www.chennaiMetroRail.org

DIPR/2556/TENDER/2019 Chief General Manager (P&BD)

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office.: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Office of: Dy. Chief Engineer/DSM, B-3, Shakti Vihar, Patiala-147001
Phone No. 0175-2301538 Mob.096461-18111,
E-mail: se-dsm@pspcl.in

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

Short Description	Tender Enquiry No. 003/DSM-2019-20 to appointment of BEE Empanelled Accredited Energy Auditor firm (EnAEA) in PSPCL under PAT Cycle to conduct Monitoring and Verification (M&V) Audit of Energy performance of PSPCL for assessment year 2018-19 with baseline year 2014-15 taking into consideration Normalization factor and other relevant condition along with all reports i.e. final verification report, verified annual Form 1, Discom Specific performa. Form-B, Form-C, Form-D etc. with authentic supporting documents in accordance with BEE M&V Guidelines for Discom Sector, Energy Conservation Rules-2012 and its subsequent amendments.
Starting date of issue of Tender	30.07.2019
Last date of issue of tender	13.08.2019
Last date of bid submission	14.08.2019 (11.00)
Bid Opening date.	14.08.2019 (11.30 AM)
Tender Document cost.	500+90=590/- Non Refundable)
EMD	10,000/-
Payment mode	By Demand Draft
Payment in favour of	Account officer/Cash, PSPCL, Patiala

Note: Detail Tender Enquiry can be seen at PSPCL website www.pspcl.in. It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspaper. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on official PSPCL website www.pspcl.in

Sd/-
Addl. SE/DSM
PSPCL, Patiala

C-294/19
C-6374/PB

TAMIL NADU TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (E-TENDERING PROCESS)

Sl. No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE/Transmission-II	T.2124, T.2125, T.2126	3

For details of works/Procurement/Due date of submission/opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites:
www.tantransco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in,
www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app

DIPR/2501/TENDER/2019

COCHIN SHIPYARD LTD- MUMBAI SHIP REPAIR DIVISION
(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENTERPRISE)

EOI Ref No: SR4/CMSRU/Caisson Gate/EOI/2019 Dt: 24 July 2019

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Cochin Shipyard Ltd Invites Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Procurement of Material, Fabrication, Installation & Testing of Caisson Gate at Hughes Dry Dock, Mumbai Port Trust. Firms who have experience in the above field may visit our website at www.cochinshipyard.com/ Tenders for downloading the EOI details. Last date for submission of EOI: **20th August 2019, 15.30 Hrs (IST)**

"Hindi version of this advertisement is published in the website (www.cochinshipyard.com) of CSL." Sd/-
Deputy General Manager (SRM)

Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd.
Shankarsheth Road, PMT Building Swargate, Pune - 411037, Ph. No: 020-24440417

GLOBAL TENDER

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF BUS OPERATOR(S) FOR PROCUREMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ELECTRIC BUSES AND ALLIED ELECTRICAL & CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE ON GROSS COST CONTRACT BASIS FOR PUNE METROPOLITAN REGION

Date of Sale: 25/07/2019 TO 13/08/2019 till 02.30 pm
Date of Submission: 26/07/2019 TO 14/08/2019 till 02.30 pm
Technical tender opening date: 14/08/2019 at 03.00 pm

Tender No	Department	Work	Tender Est Price	Estimated Amount	Earnest Money	Work Period
7-CE-2019	PMPM- Chief Engineer Department	Request for proposal (RFP) for selection of Bus operator for procurement, operation and maintenance of 350 Nos. of AC Fully Built, 12m, 300 (~10) mm floor Height, 801 (~Compliant) pure electric Buses and allied electrical & Civil Infrastructure on gross cost contract basis.	Rs. 59,179-82 Tender	₹. 7,00,00,000/-	₹. 240 Thousand	One Hundred and Seventy and Ninety (179) Days

All relevant details of the procurement are available in the Request for Proposal (RFP) document. The RFP document available and can be purchased online from www.puneprocurement.org and www.pmcenders.abprocure.com.

The Pre-bid meeting will be held on 31/07/2019 at 3.00 pm at Chairman and Managing Director Office, Swargate, Pune-411 037.

All subsequent notification, announcement, changes, extension and amendments would be posted on websites.

Sd/-
Chairman & Managing Director
Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd.

Advt No : CE/06
Date : 24/07/2019

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, NARMADA CANAL PROJECT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, FIELD WORKSHOP DIVISION, SANCHORE

269-289/18.07.2019

TENDER CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

TENDER NOTICE NO. 01/2019-20 of this office is amendment due to indispensable reasons as below:

1 Date of online downloading of tender document	From dated 14.06.2019 at 9.30 am to dated 05.08.2019 till 9.30 am
2 Date of online uploading of tender documents	From 14.06.2019 at 6 pm to dated 05.08.2019 till 6.00 pm
3 Date of online Opening of technical bid	Dated 06.08.2019 at 3.00 pm
4 Date of the deposit Demand Draft of tender cost, Earnest money & replacement Fees in office	Till dated 06.08.2019 at 3.00 pm

Other terms and conditions are same as earlier.

NIB Code: NCP1920A0002
UBN Code: NCP1920WSOB00004, NCP1920WSOB00005,
NCP1920WSOB00006

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Field Workshop Division
N.C. P. Sanchore

DIPR/C/5902/2019

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
NABARD AND RURAL ROADS CIRCLE,
SALEM-1

TENDER NOTICE
Tender Notice No. 4/2019-20/SDO/Dated: 23.07.2019

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamilnadu, sealed Scheduled tender for **Construction of High Level Bridge at Km.4/6 of Navalai - Peramandapatti road in Dharmapuri NABARD and Rural Roads, Salem Circle under NABARD Scheme - RIDF XXIV - Bridge Works - 2018-19 (79 Bridges)** in respect of Dharmapuri (H) NABARD & Rural Roads Division at this office up to 3.00 p.m. (as per office clock) on 29.08.2019.

Details of Name of work, approximate value of work, EMD, Price of tender document, Place and availability of tender document, receipt of tender, opening of tender and all other details are available in the web site <http://tnhighways.org> and <http://tenders.tn.gov.in> if any changes / Corrections etc to the tender, it will be published on the above website(s) only.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (H)
NABARD AND RURAL ROADS CIRCLE, SALEM-1.

DIPR/2533/TENDER/2019

DELHI JAL BOARD GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (NORTH WEST)-I
H-BLOCK UDYOG NAGAR INDL. AREA, PEERA GARHI CHOWK, NEW DELHI-41
NIT No. 11/ EE (NW)/(2019-20)
Press Notice Tender

S. N.	Name of Work	Amount Put to tender (Rs.)	E/M (Rs.) & Fee's	Dt. of release of tender processing solution/I.D. No.	Last dt./ time of receipt of tender through E-procurement solution
1.	Replacement of old/damaged 250mm dia. Sewer line to 300mm dia. sewer line between D-2 and D-7 Block road Sultanpuri (AC-10) under ZE-IV/EE(NW)-I.	36,29,235/-	72,600/- 500/-	22/07/2019/ 2019_DJB_176806_1	05-08-2019 at 3:00 P.M.

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

ISSUED BY PRO (WATER)
Advt. No. J.S.V. 204 /19-20

Sd/-
EXEC. ENGINEER (NW)-I



RURAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

When a hundred flowers bloom

An adivasi school principal shows what it takes to be a commercial anthurium grower

KAMAAL SAIYED
THE DANGS (GUJARAT), JULY 24

THE SHADED net house over a one-acre area stands out in Bhadarpada, against the lush green vegetation and densely forested background surrounding this village of Dang district's Waghai taluka. Inside the greenhouse are bright red, heart-shaped anthuriums with their white and yellow tipped spadices.

The grower of these flowers is Kishor Patel, principal of the Gurukul Madhyamik Shala school in Bhadarpada, a village with over 96 per cent Scheduled Tribes (ST) population. Patel is himself from the Dhodia adivasi community that is mostly concentrated in southern Gujarat. He is also Gujarat's only anthurium farmer, according to Dinesh Padaliya, deputy director of the state's horticulture department in Surat.

The 42-year-old, a Bachelor of Arts and Education from Surat's Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, turned to anthurium cultivation on the advice of Darshan Patel, a college mate and fellow adivasi belonging to Malwada village in Chikhali taluka of Navsari district.

"He was already into orchid farming. It was he who suggested that I try out anthurium and even gave me the name of a Bangalore-based tissue culture plants supplier. I surfed the net to find out more about the firm (Florance Flora) and got in touch with the people there. They, in turn, sent their agent here and he explained to me the details of how to go about with farming this flower. In the meantime, I did my own market research on anthurium through the Internet and also used social media to connect with growers in other states, especially in Andhra Pradesh and Kerala," he tells *The Indian Express*.

Patel — the government-aided school he heads offers education up to Class 12 and is run by the Shri Dang Yuvak Seva Samiti, an



Schoolteacher-entrepreneur Kishor Patel at his anthurium net house in Gujarat's Dang district. Javed Raja

NGO in the district headquarters of Ahwa — previously grew paddy on his one-acre farm. In early-2016, he sowed 40,000 young plants on the same field after investing about Rs 60 lakh. This amount included the costs of installing a greenhouse with a shade net (to protect against direct sunlight, birds and insects), overhead water sprinklers (to maintain an optimal relative humidity of 70-80% and temperature range of 15-30 degrees Celsius) and seedlings. These were first planted on coconut husks that he procured from Mumbai.

The above heavy investments could be incurred only because of the subsidy Patel availed from the National Horticulture Board. "This subsidy is 50%, covering the cost of the greenhouse infrastructure as well as planting material. There is an additional 25% subsidy from the Gujarat government for ST category applicants," informs Padaliya. Each sapling bears 5-6 flowering plants of below

two-foot height. They start yielding flowers around two years after planting and continue producing them for 10 years.

Patel sells an average 5,000 anthuriums every month, mainly to merchants in Mumbai and Ahmedabad. Each cut flower fetches Rs 20 or so and they come in different shades. "I supply not only red, but even shades of pink, peach and violet. The flowers (they are actually spathe or curved leaves surrounding the real flowers, which are little bumps on the fleshy spadix) are mostly showpieces used in bouquets. The best thing is that they remain alive for three weeks when kept in vases filled with water," notes this most unlikely hi-tech floriculturist from the most backward and predominantly adivasi district of Gujarat.

Last year, Patel sold some 48,000 flowers to parties in Mumbai and Ahmedabad. Dang district, incidentally, has no rail connectivity.

Patel's well-packed parcels of flowers from Bhadarpada are dispatched by road to the Bilimora Junction station that is nearly 85 km away in neighbouring Navsari district. The parcels are loaded there by his men in trains going to Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

"I have had the satisfaction of doing something different and much of it self-taught. I learnt about anthurium farming from the Internet and by establishing contacts with other growers and plant suppliers. Even the flower agents I met and worked out deals with was through my own initiative. All that I possessed before venturing into this business was my one-acre agricultural land," he adds.

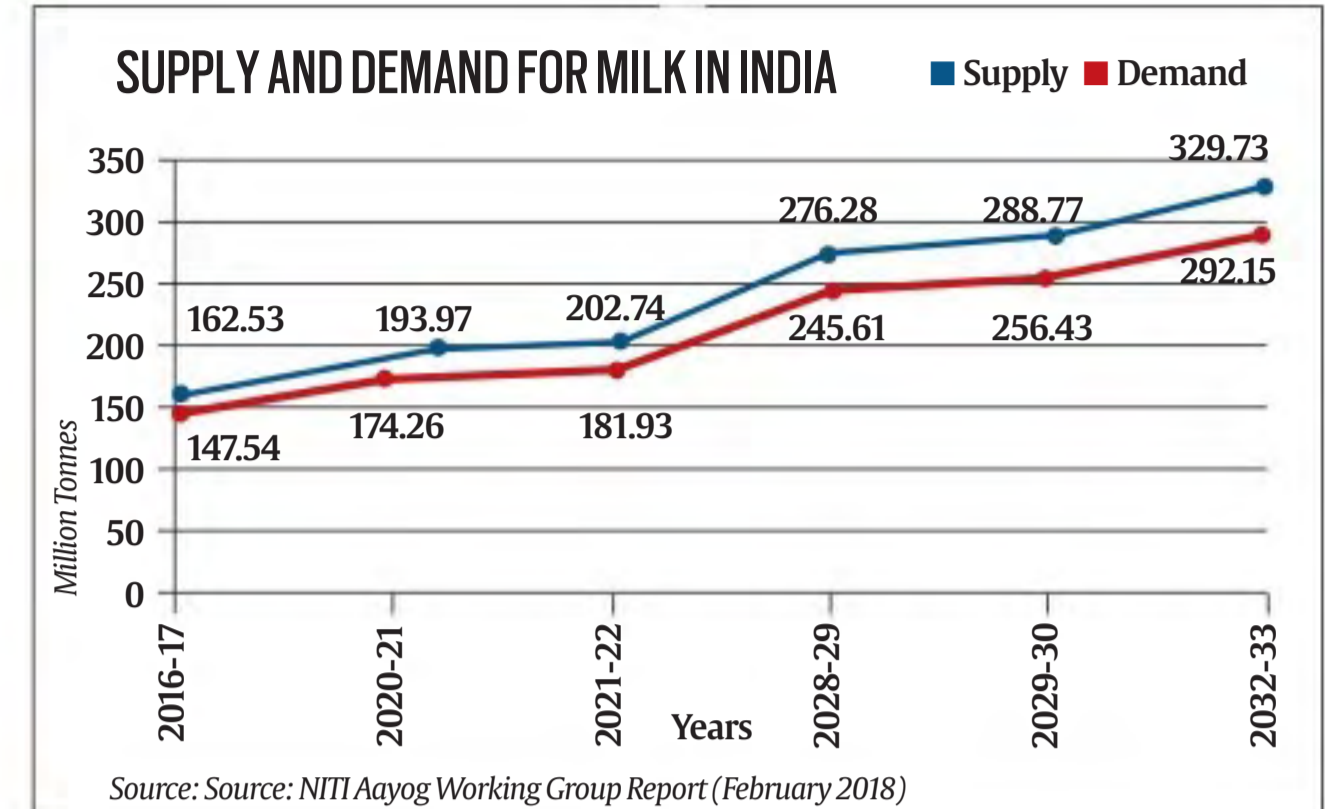
Patel hasn't, however, given up his job as school principal.

"I go there in the morning and visit my greenhouse in the after-school hours, and also before going to bed. It's not difficult when both are in the same village. Anthurium requires careful tending. During the summer, when temperatures shoot up, you have to ensure timely watering from the showers fixed at different points of the net house. One should also check the saplings and flowers regularly for any damage or disease infestation. Harvesting, too, must be done at the right time (when the spathe completely unfurls and the spadix is well developed)," he points out.

Patel, whose annual revenue from anthurium cultivation is roughly Rs 9 lakh, has currently engaged five labourers to take care of his entire floriculture operations. They have been personally trained by him and are being given daily wages of Rs 150, in addition to food and accommodation. His farm is also attracting visitors, from within Gujarat as well as Maharashtra. Whether the hundreds of anthurium blooms in the net house will inspire more such rural entrepreneurs, including from his community, remains to be seen.

Dairy industry opposes RCEP

FTA involving New Zealand will "halve" milk producers' income



HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

THE DOMESTIC dairy industry is up in arms against the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) — a proposed free trade agreement or FTA involving the 10 ASEAN countries (Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar) and six Indo-Pacific states (India, China, South Korea, Japan, Australia and New Zealand).

Unlike other industries that fear "dumping" from China (steel), South Korea (chemicals) or Indonesia and Malaysia (palm oil) in the event of an RCEP deal, the concerns of Indian dairies largely pertain to New Zealand and Australia. These two countries accounted for just 6.2% of the world's cow milk production in 2018, but had a combined 72.1%, 21.5%, 58.3% and 24.8% share of the global trade in whole milk powder (WMP), skimmed milk powder (SMP), butter and cheese, respectively.

"Why should we open our market for imports, when a NITI Aayog Working Group report of February 2018 has shown that India's milk production in 2016-17, at 162.5 million tonnes (mt), exceeded the demand of 147.5 mt, with this gap projected to widen by 2032-33 (see chart)?," asked R.S. Sodhi, managing director of the Rs 33,150-crore Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, better known as Amul.

Liquid milk, being perishable, isn't traded much in international markets. The bulk of the global dairy trade is in SMP, WMP, butter and cheese. The accompanying table shows that the total quantity of these milk solids exported by New Zealand is over five times their organised sector market size in India. In 2018, New Zealand exported 95.1% of its WMP production, with the corresponding ratios at 87.3% for SMP, 94.5% for butter and 83.6% for cheese.

Given such high export dependence — India, by contrast, shipped out SMP and butter/ghae equivalent to only 0.5 mt of milk in 2018, out of its estimated annual production of 176 mt — New Zealand's dairy industry would benefit from an FTA giving it access to new markets. India, being the world's largest producer as well as consumer of milk, may fit all the more into its calculations. The country currently imports hardly 10,000 tonnes of dairy products, mostly comprising whey products and specialty cheeses. Butter and cheese imports attract 30% basic customs duty, while a tariff rate quota regime for milk powder (allowing only up to 10,000 tonnes to come in at 15% and anything beyond that at 60%) has

MILK SOLIDS: INDIA VS NEW ZEALAND		
	INDIAN MARKET SIZE	NEW ZEALAND'S EXPORT
SMP	3,00,000	3,58,000
WMP	12,000	13,69,000
Butter*	1,20,000	5,01,000
Cheese	40,000	3,22,000
TOTAL	4,72,000	25,50,000

Figures in tonnes
*Includes anhydrous milk fat/ghae.
Source: USDA and Industry Estimates.

practically shut the market for the likes of New Zealand, Australia, European Union and the US.

"Dairy products should be kept out of RCEP negotiations. We mustn't agree to any import concessions under Chapter 4 of the Indian Trade Classification (Harmonized System codes 0401 to 0406) dealing with dairying," said Sodhi.

His views were seconded by R.G. Chandramogan, managing director of the Rs 4,760-crore net sales Hatsun Agro Product Ltd, India's largest private sector dairy company. "Milk provides liquidity and generates regular income for most farmers, who sell other crops only once or twice a year. Moreover, prices aren't all that volatile and the farmer gets 70-80% of what the consumer pays. While the milk production cost in India is higher than that of New Zealand, the consumer price is still less here, due to the efficient procurement and distribution systems built by our dairies. All these gains will stand eroded once you open the floodgates for imports. And one must remember that we have 10 crore dairy farmers producing 176 mt of milk, whereas New Zealand's 22 mt comes from a mere 10,000 or so," he pointed out.

Commerce ministers of the 16 RCEP participating countries are scheduled to hold a crucial meeting on August 2-3 in Beijing to push the ongoing negotiations forward. The talks, aimed at putting in place an FTA, are supposed to conclude by the end of this year. The Indian dairy industry's claim is that China's signing an FTA with New Zealand had led to the compounded annual growth rate in its milk production falling from 25.5% during 2001-06 to 2.7% in 2006-11.

"The Prime Minister has outlined the vision of doubling farmers' income by 2022. We are sure our government will not do anything that would halve the incomes of milk producers. Milk is, after all, India's largest crop by value," added Sodhi.

LIVESTOCK SECTOR

A new ministry promises a new beginning

Animal husbandry was considered a subsidiary activity, which has changed with the Modi government now according it an independent status



TARUN SHRIDHAR

IN THE 2014 Hindi movie *Bewakoofiyaan*, an angry Rishi Kapoor, playing the role of a career bureaucrat, informs his daughter about his posting in the animal husbandry department. When she seeks clarification — "animal kya (animal what?) — he explains that it is something "under" the ministry of agriculture. He further expresses anguish, by asking whether it is ever in his "taqdeer" (destiny) to get a good posting.

Many in the government may empathise with Rishi Kapoor's character. An appointment in the animal husbandry department would, indeed, be the ultimate plummeting of an officer's professional fortunes. Many even outside the government may relate to his daughter's character, genuinely wondering what animal husbandry is all about. This, for a "subsector" contributing 4% to India's GDP and nearly 30% of the gross value added

from agriculture. Having been officially categorised as a sub-sector within agriculture, animal husbandry was always assigned a secondary role, when it came to framing of policies, strategies and interventions for the sector as a whole. The department of animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries was, indeed, "under" the ministry of agriculture.

A couple of recent developments have, however, brought in refreshing change.

In February this year, the Centre created a separate department of fisheries, carving it out of the erstwhile department of animal husbandry, dairying & fisheries. A subsector contributing nearly 1% to the country's GDP, Rs 48,000 crore worth of exports and livelihoods to millions received the recognition and attention it deserved. This came as a sequel to the unveiling of an ambitious Blue Revolution scheme in 2014 for harnessing the potential of India's marine and inland water resources through fisheries and aquaculture. Nevertheless, both animal husbandry and dairying, and the new department of fisheries, remained "under" the ministry of agriculture.

But in May, with the return of the current government, a separate ministry of fisheries, animal husbandry & dairying got created. This status, of finally being accorded the status of an independent sector of the economy,

was reinforced by the Prime Minister himself. On June 10, in his first address to secretaries after the new government's formation, he specifically mentioned about this sector being given high priority. That commitment he reiterated at the meeting of the NITI Aayog's governing council.

How does one explain these developments that have lent some visibility to a previously low-profile sector?

The main reason is, of course, sheer size. At 125 crore-plus, India's livestock population is the highest in the world. The country has, for more than a decade now, been the global leader in milk production, with an estimated output of 188 million tonnes in 2018-19 worth Rs 6,54,000 crore — more than the combined value of wheat and paddy — and growing at an annual rate of about 6.5%. Egg production, too, has been growing at a staggering 9.4%, touching 104 billion (numbers) in the fiscal year gone by. Fish production has, likewise, consistently grown at roughly 7%; at 13.7 million tonnes, it is next only to China. Marine products are also India's single largest agricultural export commodity.

Size, however, is only one part. Given the much more daunting challenges ahead, the new ministry has its work cut out for it. While we can take reasonable pride in being the



Bhupendra Rama

biggest milk producer, one must equally be concerned over our cattle productivity, which, at 1,805 kg per animal per year, is below the global average of 2,310 kg; the corresponding figure for countries such as Israel is as high as 13,200 kg. The problem of low productivity extends also to fisheries and poultry.

No less important is animal diseases that significantly affect production and trade of livestock products. India is one of the few major countries still plagued by Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis and Peste des Petits Ruminants (sheep and goat plague). These diseases have resulted in denial of access for our

dairy and meat products to large overseas markets, as importing entities insist on disease free-status, especially for FMD. Exports apart, they cause financial losses to the tune of thousands of crores, while coming in the way of realising good returns from livestock rearing. Our approach to management of animal diseases hasn't been effective enough: FMD requires a robust vaccination campaign, ensuring coverage of the entire livestock population. The control programme in this highly contagious viral disease, until recently, was confined only to cattle and buffaloes, while excluding sheep, goat or swine. Even this coverage was only partial due to inadequate financial resources. Any vaccination programme is flawed if it covers less than 100% of the population at risk.

Recognising the above reality and learning from past experience, the Centre has now launched an ambitious FMD and Brucellosis control programme, targeting complete control and eradication of these diseases. A hitherto centrally-sponsored scheme has been converted into a central scheme, obviating any reliance on financial contribution by the states. The entire estimated cost of Rs 13,343 crore for the programme will be borne by the Centre. This single intervention is going to have far-reaching implications, in terms of boosting productivity and profitability from livestock rearing as well as opening up global markets for our products. It is an illustration of how a simple decision of creating a separate ministry has mainstreamed a critical agenda, which might otherwise have re-

mained a routine and ineffective government programme.

Another strategy that can significantly impact productivity is the expansion of artificial insemination. The coverage here, too, is woefully low at 30% of the breedable livestock population. This should increase to a minimum of 50%, along with sourcing of quality semen from good genetic stock. Harnessing technologies such as sex sorted semen and embryo transfer must also receive focused attention. These are only a few illustrative examples of what a new ministry can do, both through central and state schemes, to ensure sizeable contribution of livestock and fisheries for doubling of farmers' income.

A Food and Agriculture Organisation study has shown that one rupee of investment in the livestock sector can generate a return of four rupees. The new ministry's vision ought to, then, extend beyond doubling of incomes. Moreover, the sector shouldn't be just a vehicle for poverty alleviation or securing livelihoods. Rather, it must emerge as a platform for creating an army of rural entrepreneurs. Tending to cattle, pigs or poultry may not be seen as glamorous, but earning good money is certainly an attractive proposition. The sector should be pitched as such — livestock for prosperity.

The writer is Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Hemant Kumar Labh S/O Sh. Shiv Kumar Labh R/O H.No. C-702, Dew Drops Apartments, Plot No. GH-5, Sector-47, Gurugram-122018, (Haryana), have changed my name Hemant Kumar Labh to Hemant Kumar Labh for all future purposes. 0040504400-1

I, Pramod Kumar S/O Narayan Aggarwal R/O 2027-B, 156, TriNagar, Ganeshpura, Delhi-110035. Have Changed My Name To Pramod Aggarwal. 0040504581-1

I, Shivani Thakur D/o Sheeshpal Thakur H.No-172 Ward.No-4 Khatri Wada Old-Faridabad-121002 Have Change My Name To Shivani. 0040504608-6

ADMISSIONS TRINITY INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES (Affiliated to GGSIP University & Approved by WCA) SECTOR - 9, DWARKA, NEW DELHI - 110075

RENTAL Office space 300 sq ft furnished Amar Gian Khatop Thane West for rent contact 9820401225 0050151963-1

PUBLIC NOTICE My clients Jagdish Chander S/o Babul, his wife Krishna Devi, R/O 17b, Block-A, Gali No. 9, Gopal Vihar, Vijay Vihar, Phase 2, Sector-5, Rohini, Delhi-85, have debar their son Bharat Bhushan, his wife Bhawna and their son Jayas from their all moveable-immovable properties and severed all their relation due to their bad behaviour. For their any activity/relations, my clients will not be responsible in future. Komal Sharma, Advocate Ch. No. 18, Civil Wng, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE BE IT KNOWN TO ALL THAT my clients (1) Sh. Mahendra Singh Bhandari son of Late Shri Shri Singh Bhandari, and his wife (2) Smt. Vrnla Bhandari, both R/O RK-100, RK Block, Gali No. 21, Jain Road, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, hereby sever all their relations, disown and disinherit their son Sh. Manendra Singh Bhandari and his wife Mrs. Anu Bhandari, both R/O First Floor, RK-100, RK Block, Gali No. 21, Jain Road, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 from all their properties, both moveable and immovable due to their disrespectful, tortious, rude behaviour and attitude towards my clients. Any person dealing with them shall do so at his own risk and responsibility. Sd/- (JAGDISH KUMAR SOLANKI) ADVOCATE Ch. No. 48, Civil Wng, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

PUBLIC NOTICE I, Dr. Vipin Sood S/o Lt. Sh. Dr. Sood S/o Sood Hospital, Muradabad Road I, Kashipur, Uttarakhand Owner of Property CGE214 DLF CAPITAL GREENS -1, SHIVAJI MARG, NEW DELHI informs that I have lost the following Property Receipts:- CLG/CRB/00225/0512, CLG/CRB/00275/1012, CLG/CRB/00749/0313, CLG/CRB/00342/1113 Finder Pls Contact :9719775695

PUBLIC NOTICE Be it known to all concerns that my client, Smt. Raj Rani Jindal W/O Late Shiv Dev Raj Jindal R/O C-46, Kail Nagar, New Delhi-110015, do hereby declare that she has disowned and severed all relations with her son named Anil Kumar Jindal and his wife Annu Jindal and their family, from all her moveable and immovable properties as they have become disobedient, offensive, abusive and violative towards my client. Any person dealing with them in any manner shall do so at his/her own risk and responsibility and my client shall not be liable for the same. Sd/- (SACHIN WADHWAN) ADVOCATE (M) 9810326222

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY Tender Notice The Divisional Railway Manager (Mech.)/E.C. Railway/Samastipur for and on behalf of the president of India invites Open a tender under two packet system from experienced and financially capable tenderers for the following works in E-tendering mode of IREPS web portal of Indian Railways: S.N. 1, Tender notice No. M/T/42 of 2019 (Open a tender), Name of work: Mechanized coach cleaning activity with OBHS in trains of C/W depot, Jaynagar. Tender value (In rupees): 11,96,66,338.00/- Earnest Money (In rupees): 7,48,300.00/- Cost of tender document (In rupees): 10000.00/- Completion period of the work: Four years. 1. Pre bid meeting: 26.07.2019 from 11.00 hrs to 14.00 hrs. 2. Receiving date and time for e-tender mode on IREPS web portal: 13.08.2019 upto 12.00 hrs. 3. Opening date and time for e-tender: 13.08.2019 at 12.30 hrs. 4. Web site particulars where complete details of tender and tender document can be seen on web site: www.ireps.gov.in. Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (C&W) East Central Railway, Samastipur PR/838/SPJ/MECH/T/19-20/44

FORM NO. 5 DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL 600/1, University Road, Near Hanuman Setu Mandir, Lucknow-226007 (Ares Of Jurisdiction- Part of Uttar Pradesh) Summons For Filing & Appearance By Publication O.A. No. 225/2019 Dated: 23/07/2019 (Summons to defendant under section 19(3), of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 read with Rules 12 and 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure) Rules, 1993 Original Application No. 225 of 2019 ICICI Bank Ltd., ...Applicant Versus Rajiv Juneja & Others ...Defendant To MR. RAJIV Juneja H. No. 949, Sector-31-32A, Gurgaon-122001. Also At:- D/3-D/14, 14th Floor, Tower D-3, Shubhkamma Tech- Homes, Plot No GH05/B, Sector-137, Noida-201301. 2. Mrs. Shashi Juneja D/3-D/14, 14th Floor, Tower D-3, Shubhkamma Tech- Homes, Plot No GH05/B, Sector-137, Noida-201301. Also At:- H. No. 949, Sector-31-32A, Gurgaon-122001. 3. Juneja Coal D/3-D/14, 14th Floor, Tower D-3, Shubhkamma Tech- Homes, Plot No GH05/B, Sector-137, Noida-201301. Also At:- M/s Juneja Coal 48, Gopal Nagar Gurgaon-122001. 4. M/s Shubhkamma Buildtech Pvt Ltd Corporate Office:- A-102, Star House Sector-4, Noida. In the above noted application, you are required to file in Paper Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any), personally or through your duly authorised agent or legal Practitioner in this Tribunal, after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his Counsel/ duly authorised agent after Publication of the summons, and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal on 21/10/2019 at 10:30 A.M. Failing which the application shall be heard and decided in your absence. Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal Lucknow

EDUCATIONAL MAHATMA GANDHI MISSION'S INSTITUTE OF STUDIES & RESEARCH (Approved by AICTE & DTE, Maharashtra State Government, Affiliated to University of Mumbai) MGM Educational Campus, Sector - 1, Kamothe, Navi Mumbai - 410209. Tel : 022 - 2743 3002, 2743 3005 email : mgm_imrs@yahoo.com I website : www.mgmimrs.org

INSTITUTE CODE : MB3105 ADMISSION FOR 2 YEARS FULL TIME COURSE 2019-20 MASTER OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES (MMS) INTAKE 60 SEATS Eligibility As per clause 7.7 mentioned in Information Brochure for PG Technical courses, Government of Maharashtra State Common Entrance Test Cell for academic year 2019-20 Candidates who have verified and confirmed documents at Facilitation centers and having CAP merit number shall be eligible for admission for all type seats / quota. Application forms for "Institute Level Seats / Against Vacant Seats" are available. Last date of submission of application forms is 09.08.2019 till 5.00 p.m. Cost of Admission Brochure along with Admission form : Rs. 1,000/- Note : All admissions are subject to the approval of the Directorate of Technical Education, Maharashtra & University of Mumbai. Sd/ Director

LEXINGTON

Back to where he came from

Trump's 2020 campaign will be more racially divisive than 2016 was

DONALD TRUMP'S bigotry is such an established part of American public discourse that, in retrospect, one of the most feeble debates of 2016 looks naive. Back and forth it went, in the months before the election, as the Republican candidate issued a slur against a Mexican-American judge and for a while refused to disavow the endorsement of a former Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard. Was Mr Trump mainly appealing to his supporters' economic concerns—in spite of his chauvinism? Or was his race-baiting really the main draw?

The answer was in long before the president sent an especially offensive tweet this week, inviting four unnamed, but by inference non-white, Democratic congresswomen to "go back" to where they came from. It was settled before he refused to condemn the white supremacists of Charlottesville two years ago. The data from his 2016 election have been scrutinised, and the resulting analyses, detailed in books and papers, are in agreement. Political scientists find no clear economic rationale for Mr Trump's victory.

Many states, such as Georgia and Maryland, which had moved away from the Democrats in the tough times of 2012, drifted back towards their candidate in the better ones of 2016. The millions of working-class whites whom Mr Trump recruited in rust-belt states did not buck that trend because of economic anxiety. They were no likelier to attribute their vote to it than they had been in 2012.

Rather, they were unified by nothing so much as antipathy to America's growing diversity, and an attendant feeling that whites were losing ground. Both were expressed in hostility to immigration, immigrants and welfare spending (which many wrongly believed was being slurped up by migrants). No doubt these feelings were exacerbated by economic as well as cultural and sometimes personal fears: people are complicated and America is changing. These sentiments also predated Mr Trump. Yet they had not been such a big factor in voting decision-making until he made them so, by drawing out his audience's inner grievances, like a magnet tugging at a metal splinter.

In their book "Identity Crisis", John Sides, Michael Tesler and Lynn Vavreck describe the rationalisation such Trump supporters made as "racialised economics". Only a small minority of voters hold old-style racist views on questions like black-white marriage, but a very large number believe that "undeserving groups are getting ahead while [my] group is left behind." An earlier study by the Voter Study Group found hostility to immigrants to be the best predictor of a Trump voter. One by the Public Religion Research Institute found much the same. There has been no serious counter-argument. Mr Trump's race card was the winning one.

Hence his inflammatory comment this week. For while the strength of the economy might appear to have given him a better electoral option, Mr Trump is intent on a repeat performance. There is no prospect of him toning down his rhetoric and pocketing the grateful majority of Americans who consider their personal finances to be "good" or "excellent". The fact is, his behaviour and policies have already repelled a majority of voters.



While the strength of the economy might appear to have given him a better electoral option, Mr Trump is intent on a repeat performance. He wants the applause of his adoring base too much to change style. AP

He wants the applause of his adoring base too much to change style. And his view that America is essentially a white country messed up by escapees from non-white ones appears to be irrepressible. Amid the continuing outrage his racist tweet stirred this week, there are three important things to say about this.

First, Mr Trump's campaign will be more racially divisive than it was in 2016, when he won white voters by 20 percentage points. He was still feeling his way then, looking for praise from the New York Times and MSNBC's "Morning Joe". And when he did ramp up the rhetoric he was criticised by Republican leaders. Even as late as Charlottesville, his inflammatory language was repudiated by elected Republicans, business leaders and senior aides including his daughter Ivanka and Gary Cohn. He has received nothing like such criticism this week. Moreover, his slur against the four congresswomen, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib and Ayanna Pressley—of whom only Ms Omar was born overseas and Ms Pressley is not even of recent migrant stock, merely black—came not from an eccentric candidate, but the president. If Mr Trump only repeated his divisive 2016 lines next year, they would carry more weight. And he will probably say worse, because he wants vindication, for himself and his reviled method. In the event of any setback, he is liable to double down.

It might work again, too, which is the

Set aside the state-level polling, which is less positive for him, and he is only a few points short of the 46% he won in 2016. He need not be loved to make up the difference. He needs only to make his opponent more hated, which was his other ploy in 2016.

second point. Mr Trump's approval ratings are low, but resilient and competitive. Set aside the state-level polling, which is less positive for him, and he is only a few points short of the 46% he won in 2016. He need not be loved to make up the difference. He needs only to make his opponent more hated, which was his other ploy in 2016. This makes Democratic voters, whose early support for Joe Biden suggests a demand for a plain-vanilla moderate whom Mr Trump might find hard to demonise, more sensible than the party's left-wing activists. They see in his vulnerability an opportunity to bring about a leftward shift that most Americans do not want. One plausible, though possibly too ingenious, theory for his attack on Ms Pressley and the rest, all of whom are left-wingers, is that he wanted to boost their prestige within the party. That may in any event be the result.



(From right) Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ayanna Pressley, Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib—of whom only Ms Omar was born overseas and Ms Pressley is not even of recent migrant stock, merely black. AP

The Gipper took a different view

Democrats must resist Mr Trump setting their agenda in any way. They do not need revered anti-Trump warriors. They need to be able to rebuke his divisiveness smartly,

keeping in mind their own reputation for hyperventilating. The bill introduced by Nancy Pelosi to censure his tweet passed that test. Its citation of a line from Ronald Reagan's last presidential address, "If we ever closed the door to new Americans, our leadership in the

world would soon be lost," also spoke to the third point, which is the fundamental one. Mr Trump's exclusionary vision of America is a travesty.

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CHARLEMAGNE

Knuckle-dusters and pearls

Does Ursula von der Leyen have the right skills for the EU Commission?

IT IS HARD to imagine a biography less suited to the mood of today's Europe than that of Ursula von der Leyen, the German incoming president of the European Commission. Insurgent parties are sweeping the continent, cracks are forming between and within the EU's member states and new threats are looming in the wider world. Mrs von der Leyen is the posh daughter of a Christian Democrat (CDU) minister-president of Lower Saxony. She rose through various government roles as an ally of Angela Merkel, glides multilingually through the world's foreign-policy salons and can seem rather prim. Many consider her spell as German defence minister a debacle. Just what the old continent needs, one might groan: a slick, over-promoted scion of Europe's unloved political establishment.

The manner of Mrs von der Leyen's election supports that gloomy gloss. She was never a favourite to run the EU's executive but rather a last-ditch candidate stumbled upon by sleep-deprived leaders at the conclusion of a three-day summit two weeks ago. In a speech before the European Parliament ahead of a binding approval vote on July 16th she issued a screed of mostly familiar albeit sensible policy proposals designed to secure a centrist majority, including faster progress towards carbon-emissions targets, enabling the EU to take some foreign-policy decisions without reaching unanimity, more capital-markets integration and a 50% female commission. She had hoped to win over socialists,

Mrs von der Leyen's narrow majority said less about her authority than about the strategic feints, procedural grumbles and face-saving measures of MEPs from across the spectrum. Such is today's fragmented and febrile European politics.

liberals and greens as well as members of her own centre-right bloc—together the four hold 518 of the 751 seats in the parliament. But she failed to persuade parts of the centre-left and won her tiny nine-seat majority with the support of some opportunistic MEPs from populist groups.

Appearances can be deceptive, however. Where Mrs Merkel is more straightforward than she sometimes seems, her erstwhile protégée is more enigmatic. And that is grounds for open-mindedness about her prospects as the first woman to be commission president goes about building her team of commissioners with national governments, who formally propose its members.

For one thing, her background is not as smooth as it sounds. Her father was once an outsider in his own party. He took on the right-wingers who dominated his state branch and transformed it into one of the party's most liberal outposts. "There was the

Lower Saxon CDU before Ernst Albrecht and there was the Lower Saxon CDU after Ernst Albrecht," notes Alexander Clarkson of King's College London. Far from being a teacher's pet, Mrs von der Leyen drifted for periods of her youth and spent a liberating spell as a student in London that, she says, gave her an "inner freedom". She was never truly a creature of the CDU and was plucked from relative obscurity by Mrs Merkel, who admired her non-nonsense style, to become families minister in 2005. In that job Mrs von der Leyen appalled traditionalists by bringing in a swathe of social reforms, such as extending paternity leave and expanding child-care provision. As labour minister she tried but failed to bring in quotas for women in boardrooms.

Her toughest assignment came when in 2013 she moved into the Bendlerblock, the grand complex housing Germany's defence ministry and long considered the ejector seat of German ministerial careers. Her record there is at best mixed—Germany's armed forces remain woefully under-equipped—better than it looks. Mrs von der Leyen inherited a department scarred by decades of hierarchical conservatism, strategic sluggishness and underfunding and has led it during a period when pacifist, cautious Germany has undertaken recently unimaginable foreign military commitments in places like Mali, Iraq and Lithuania. She has championed a networked, active German role in the world ("leadership from the centre" she calls it) and has fought dogtightly for budget increases. Her attempt to take on the brass and the bu-



Then US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis with then German Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen at the Pentagon in June, 2018. Reuters

reaucrats by using outside experts, most notably appointing a management consultant to a senior job, ruffled feathers and prompted a still-ongoing parliamentary inquiry into the allocation of lucrative contracts to consultants. Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Mrs Merkel's favoured successor as chancellor, takes over from Mrs von der Leyen in the ejector seat.

Judgment reserved

Peter Dausend and Elisabeth Niejahr, Mrs von der Leyen's biographers, compare her to a school pupil who takes on the strongest child in the playground. It seems reckless, but has advantages. Failure is assumed; victory carries big rewards. A certain gutsiness also

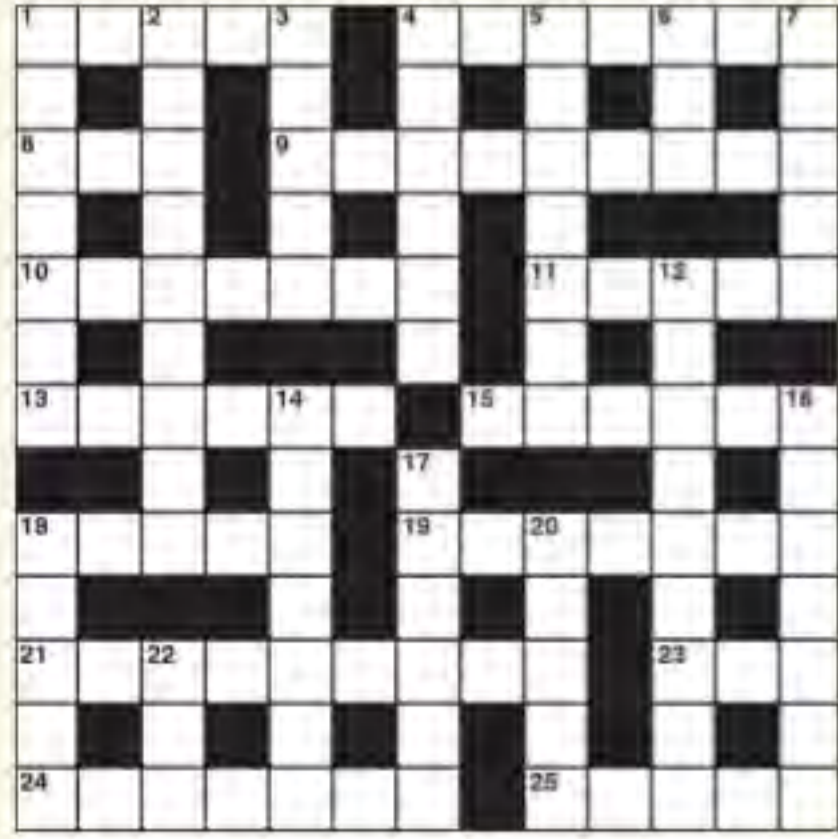
marks her manner of working. She prefers to hold meetings not sitting down but on foot, and works next to trusted aides with laptops adjacent "like duetting pianists at one piano". One military official says she often sleeps in the ministry. Frenetic, driven and a natural troublemaker, the real Mrs von der Leyen belies her smooth public image: less twinset and pearls than knuckle-duster and caffeine pills.

All of which could mean that choosing her for a five-year spell at the Commission's helm is a gamble. The vote on July 16th was deceptive. Mrs von der Leyen's narrow majority said less about her authority than about the strategic feints, procedural grumbles and face-saving measures of MEPs from across the spectrum. Such is today's frag-

mented and febrile European politics. The question is less what MEPs make of her now than whether she can bridge those gaps with broadly acceptable proposals that respond to Europe's many challenges. That will take an ability to confront people but also to broker deals, so Mrs von der Leyen should appoint experienced commission hands like Margrethe Vestager, the Danish competition supremo, to powerful roles. Smooth and abrasive, established and insurgent, the incoming president may turn out to be the worst of all worlds. But with a strong team around her it is also possible that her contradictions will prove a blessing.

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CROSSWORD 3867



- ACROSS
1 Tree level (5)
4 He has a taste for a bit of embroidery (7)
8 Use part of the dining area to advantage (3)
9 Analysis of a total failure (9)
10 Fastened by a thread (7)
11 Type of swede not cultivated by gardeners (5)
13 Oedema needs operations in dehydrated surroundings (6)
15 Circumvent with the aid of a permit (6)
18 It caters for the rest of the drivers and passengers (5)
19 Record suppressed by force (3-4)
21 Over and over it goes (5,4)
23 Current term for a politician (3)
24 Is in the way of progress (7)
25 Set up before going to Connecticut (5)
DOWN
1 Forced into service when one was short of time (7)
2 Right at the back, yet wanting the lion's share (9)
3 The Spanish weapon involved in the movement of arms (5)
4 Stable companion? (6)
5 Give ground for road construction (4,3)
6 A man the French love (3)
7 Splits payments for accommodation (5)
12 In a way we are able to give further details (9)
14 Hurried to include a song that's turned out (7)
16 A blemish on the most radiant of faces (7)
17 They usually lead to the quarry (6)
18 Plain clothes expert in Moslem law (5)
20 The name is right (5)
22 Knock taken by another (3)

Solutions Crossword 3866: Across: 8 Built, 9 Maestro, 10 Nations, 11 Allot, 12 French Revolution, 14 Edison, 17 Chase, 19 Bacilli, 21 Octavia, 22 Rodin, 23 Rod and line, Down: 2 Epistle, 3 Outdo, 4 Utmost, 5 Ireland, 6 Natal, 7 Contention, 8 Benefactor, 13 Cleaved, 15 Saladin, 16 Obtain, 18 Actor, 20 Coral.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

How success changes the... - Maria Edgewort (7,2,3)

NSEOO

AITNNN

DTIIO

RUYFMP

SOLUTION: NOTION, NOOSE, IDIOT, TANNIN, RUMUPY

SUDOKU 3918

Difficulty Level 5s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.



Difficulty Level
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3917



DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

You're looking for more respect - naturally enough. You may have been pinning your hopes on developments in your career...

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You may make a clean sweep if family and domestic improvements are on the agenda, and be sure that relatives are in no doubt as to your true intentions.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It's definitely time to get out and about and not worry too much about what other people are doing.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

Some of you are much more affected by current tensions than others, but all of you should stay alive to possibilities that you'd normally ignore or rule out of order.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

You seem to be more concerned with public life than with private affairs. Career developments you thought were finished with long ago may require just a little more attention over coming weeks.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

The current planetary pattern is excellent for plans for the future, although it may be a wrench when it comes to saying goodbye to people, places and opinions from the past.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

At every moment you are taking decisions which affect your future. Whether this is an enjoyable time or not will depend entirely on how confident you are in your ability to cope with sudden changes of plan...

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Over the next few days, the seeds will be sown that will lead to dramatically changed circumstances over the coming months.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

First-rate business plans are causing some excitement, no matter how small the financial output.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

One major issue that is confusing matters in your relationships, concerns your need for independence and your reluctance to give in to people who are trying to tie you down.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You should let your ambitions loose. Everyone should have their chance to sit at the top table, and now is your turn to grab a little of the limelight.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

So much that's important is taking place behind the scenes. The air is thick with conspiracies, but you'll be unable to keep anything secret for long.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one person namely Paramlal S/o Budha Lal R/o H.N 124, Gali no.-4, Near- Bada Shiv Mandir, Village-Alipur, Delhi has been missing/kidnaped from the area of P.S. Alipur, Delhi since 25.06.2019.



PARAMLAL

Age: 50 Years, Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5', Face: Long, Wearing: Red colour T-shirt and checkdar Lungi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far.

DP/417/ON/19

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Rohit Verma S/o Sh. Rajesh Verma R/o H.No. 230, Vill. Kanjhawala also at Uday Vihar Colony, Village Kanjhawala, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence FIR No. 1294/16 u/s 420 IPC P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Rohit Verma cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Rohit Verma absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant), Proclamation is hereby made that the said Rohit Verma accused of FIR No. 1294/16 u/s 420 IPC P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 16.09.2019.

By Order: Sh. Gopal Krishan Metropolitan Magistrate, Room No. 109, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/3060/RD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one person namely Naresh Kumar S/o Dayanand R/o H.No. 441, Gali No. 08, Block-A, Part-1st, Mukundpur, Delhi Age-34 years, Height-5'6", Complexion-Fair, Face-Round, Built-Strong, Wearing-Black & White Colour Checkdar Shirt & Black Colour Pant and Chappal in his feet has been missing/kidnaped since dated 03.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.



Naresh Kumar

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this person but please inform undersigned. E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax : 011-24368639 SHO P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi Ph.: 011-27811933, 27811934 7065036328 DP/437/ON/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one boy namely Mohit S/o Hari Narayan R/o D-2, Gali No.01, Rajiv Nagar, Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi Age-20 years, Height-5'6", Complexion-Wheatish, Face-Round, Built-Strong, Wearing-Red Colour T-Shirt & Blue Colour Jeans and Chappal in his feet has been missing/kidnaped since dated 23.06.2019 from the area of P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi.



Mohit

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this boy but please inform undersigned. E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Fax : 011-24368639 SHO P.S. Bhalswa Dairy, Delhi Ph.: 011-27811933, 27811934 7065036328 DP/419/ON/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General Public is hereby informed that one female namely: Hasina, W/o: Sagir, R/o: A-55, Bhem Nagar Jhuggi, Delhi, Age: 46 Years, Height: 5'2", Face: Round, Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Unknown has been missing/kidnaped from the area of P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi since 19.05.2019.



HASINA

In this regard DD No. 52-A dated 20.05.2019 has been lodged at PS, Paschim Vihar West, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnaped female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnaped female please inform the undersigned. E-Mail ID: cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO Ph.: 011-29551597 PS, Paschim Vihar West, Delhi DP/2462/OD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL

General public is hereby informed that this girl namely Nandini D/o Sh. Shiv Narayan Gupta R/o Devi Ram Ka Makan, Near Chaupal, Chilla Village, Mayur Vihar-I, Delhi Age : 16 years, Height : 5' Complexion : Wheatish, Face : Round, Build : Thin, wearing red colour suit and salwar, has been missing/kidnaped since 10.07.19 from the area of P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi.



Nandini

In this regard FIR No. 226/19 dated 13.07.2019 u/s 363 IPC has been registered at P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnaped girl may kindly inform to the following: E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO : P.S. Shakarpur, Delhi Website: http://cbi.nic.in Tel. No. : 011-22542992, 22542441 Ph.: 24368638, 24368641 DP/6937/ED/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely Poonam, D/O Sh. Dharmender, R/O B-14, Asola Farm House, New Delhi. The girl has been missing from the P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi, since 14.12.2013 at 5.00 am. In this regard FIR No. 474/13 u/s 363 IPC, dated 16.12.2013 has been lodged at P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi.



Poonam

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing girl is as under: Name: Poonam, Age: 16 Years (at the time of missing), Height: 5', Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Normal, Hair: Black, Wearing: Pink Colour Suit-Salwar, Black Colour Sweater and Pink Colour Footwear. If anyone has any information regarding this missing girl, kindly inform SHO/P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi. Email: cbc@cbi.gov.in, Website: http://cbi.nic.in Ph.: 011-23015229, 23015218 SHO P.S. Fatehpur Beri, Delhi Ph.No. 011-26659611, 08750870826 DP/5579/SD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a female namely Mitali W/o Vikas, R/o RZ-216, Nihal Vihar, Nangloi, Delhi, Age : 21 yrs., Height : 5'4", Complexion : Fair, Face : Round, Wearing : Pink Colour Frock, White Colour T-shirt and Hawai Chappal in Feet, has been missing / kidnaped since 22.05.2019 from the area of PS. Nihal Vihar. In this regard a case DD No. 56-A dated 22.05.2019 has been lodged at PS. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.



Mitali

Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the missing / kidnaped female but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing / kidnaped female please inform undersigned Website: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cbc@cbi.gov.in, Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO PS. Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25946700, 25946710 DP/2431/OD/19.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely Tanu Kumari D/o Bhusan Prasad, R/o C-114, Gauri Shankar Enclave, Prem Nagar-III, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Delhi has been missing/kidnaped since 05.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Prem Nagar. In this regard a FIR No. 339/19 Dated 05.07.2019 has been lodged at PS, Prem Nagar, Delhi. The description of Missing/ kidnaped girl is as under:

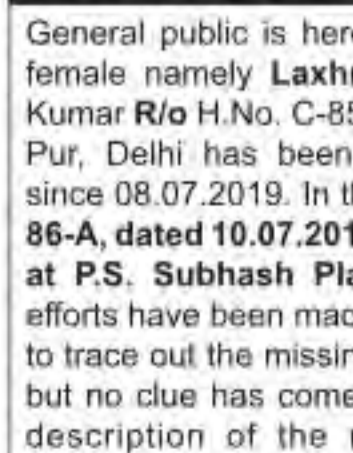


Tanu Kumari

Name: Tanu Kumari, Father's Name : Bhusan Prasad, Age : 16 years, Height : 5'1", Face : Round, Complexion : Wheatish, Wearing : Yellow Suit and Brown Colour Chappal in feet. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned. Website : http://cbi.nic.in e-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO Ph.: 011-24368639 P.S., Prem Nagar, Delhi Ph.: 011-25489080 DP/3062/RD/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a female namely Laxhmi, W/o Sh. Manoj Kumar R/o H.No. C-85, JJ Colony, Shakur Pur, Delhi has been missing/kidnaped since 08.07.2019. In this regard a DD No. 86-A, dated 10.07.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnaped female but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnaped female is as under:



Laxhmi

Name: Laxhmi, Gender: Female, Age: 30 years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Wearing: Pink & Black colour Saree and Slippers in Feet. If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnaped female, kindly inform SHO/ Subhash Place, Delhi. E-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 P.S. Subhash Place, Delhi Ph. No.: 011-27356336, 27353014 DP/9159/NW/19

SEARCH OF MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo), Name: Shabnam, D/o: Asgar Ali, R/o: H.No. 92, Lekhram Park, Tikari Border, Delhi, Aged: 19 years, has been missing/ kidnaped from the area of P.S. Mundka, Delhi since 13.05.2019 at vide DD No. 22-A, Dated 14.05.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Mundka, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:



Shabnam

Complexion: Fair, Height: 5', Face: Round, Clothing: White Frock wala Suit and Fancy Jutti in Feet. Any person is having any information/clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Mundka, Delhi at E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.nic.in or website : http://cbi.nic.in Tele No. : 11-24368638 or 24368641 SHO P.S. Mundka, Delhi Ph. No. 8586932309 DP/2397/OD/19.

SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that a boy namely Denu @ Aman S/o Mohan Lal R/o H.No. B-29, Gali No.16, Pratap Nagar, Delhi has been missing since 05.06.2019 from his house. In this regard a DD No. 25-A dated 03.07.2019 has been lodged at PS, Harsh Vihar, Delhi. The description of kidnaped boy is as under:



Denu @ Aman

Name : Denu @ Aman, Father's Name : Mohan Lal, Age : 18 years, Height : 5'3", Face : Round, Complexion : Fair, Built : Thin, Wearing : Blue Colour T-Shirt-Jeans and Black Hawai Chappal in feet. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers. Website : http://cbi.nic.in e-mail : cbc@cbi.gov.in SHO Ph.: 011-24368639 P.S., Harsh Vihar, Delhi Ph. : 011-22342074 8750870734 DP/7200/NE/19



FOR THE KICKS

A pair of 1972 running shoes made by Nike sold for \$437,500 at the first-ever auction dedicated to sneakers conducted by Sotheby's in New York. It was designed by Nike co-founder and track coach Bill Bowerman for runners at the 1972 Olympics trials.

SNAP SHOTS



On the Big Screen

SHONALI BOSE'S *The Sky is Pink* will have its world premiere at the upcoming Toronto International Film Festival that will run from September 5 to 15. Starring Priyanka Chopra, Jonas and Farhan Akhtar, it is the only Asian film to be selected for a Gala premiere in 2019. The film is a love story of motivational speaker Aisha Chaudhary's parents, essayed by Chopra and Akhtar. Aisha, played by Zaira Wasim, is diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis. The film will release in India on October 11.



Life of an Artist

BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH (*pictured*) and Claire Foy will team up for the biopic of English artist Louis Wain in the eponymous film. It will follow the story of the Victorian artist known for his paintings and drawings of anthropomorphised big-eyed cats. It is believed he had schizophrenia, the effects of which, according to some psychiatrists, are visible in his works. He died in 1939. Cumberbatch will be seen as Wain. Foy will play the role of his wife. Filmmaker Will Sharpe will direct from a script he has co-written with Simon Stephenson.



Speaking of a Beautiful Mind

Akarsh Khurana tackles ADD in a play for young adults, titled *What Planet Are You On?*

DIPANITA NATH

NINE-YEAR-OLD Homi does not pay attention in class. When his teacher speaks, he focuses on the ceiling fan. Homi isn't great at conversations either as he is tuned to the sound of a bird on a distant tree when people are talking to him. What's with Homi is the subject of a play written and directed by Mumbai-based Akarsh Khurana, titled *What Planet Are You On?* The story of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) told from a child's perspective is one of the rare instances of theatre dealing with mental health in India. The play, by Khurana's group, Akvarious Productions, is being staged in cities across India. Excerpts from an interview with Khurana:

What is the significance of the title, *What Planet Are You On?*

The title does not talk about any planet but what teachers say when a child is not concentrating in class: 'Hey kid, what planet are you on?'. It means, why are you spacing out.

How do you tackle a neurological disorder as a story for young audiences?

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Where do you stand on the global demand for sustainable fashion?

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FOR THE KICKS

A pair of 1972 running shoes made by Nike sold for \$437,500 at the first-ever auction dedicated to sneakers conducted by Sotheby's in New York. It was designed by Nike co-founder and track coach Bill Bowerman for runners at the 1972 Olympics trials.

SNAP SHOTS



On the Big Screen

SHONALI BOSE'S *The Sky is Pink* will have its world premiere at the upcoming Toronto International Film Festival that will run from September 5 to 15. Starring Priyanka Chopra, Jonas and Farhan Akhtar, it is the only Asian film to be selected for a Gala premiere in 2019. The film is a love story of motivational speaker Aisha Chaudhary's parents, essayed by Chopra and Akhtar. Aisha, played by Zaira Wasim, is diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis. The film will release in India on October 11.



Life of an Artist

BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH (pictured) and Claire Foy will team up for the biopic of English artist Louis Wain in the eponymous film. It will follow the story of the Victorian artist known for his paintings and drawings of anthropomorphised big-eyed cats. It is believed he had schizophrenia, the effects of which, according to some psychiatrists, are visible in his works. He died in 1939. Cumberbatch will be seen as Wain. Foy will play the role of his wife. Filmmaker Will Sharpe will direct from a script he has co-written with Simon Stephenson.



Speaking of a Beautiful Mind

Akarsh Khurana tackles ADD in a play for young adults, titled *What Planet Are You On?*

DIPANITA NATH

NINE-YEAR-OLD Homi does not pay attention in class. When his teacher speaks, he focuses on the ceiling fan. Homi isn't great at conversations either as he is tuned to the sound of a bird on a distant tree when people are talking to him. What's with Homi is the subject of a play written and directed by Mumbai-based Akarsh Khurana, titled *What Planet Are You On?* The story of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) told from a child's perspective is one of the rare instances of theatre dealing with mental health in India. The play, by Khurana's group, Akvarious Productions, is being staged in cities across India. Excerpts from an interview with Khurana:

What is the significance of the title, *What Planet Are You On?*

The title does not talk about any planet but what teachers say when a child is not concentrating in class: 'Hey kid, what planet are you on?'. It means, why are you spacing out.

How do you tackle a neurological disorder as a story for young audiences?

When the play begins, Homi is nine and by the time the play ends, he is 13. The play is about his realisation that he has an issue with concentration which, through a counsellor, he finds out to be ADD. The story deals with how a child reacts to that information and how everybody around him needs to be supportive. Eventually, he learns to live with ADD and be happy. He is surrounded by teachers, counsellors, parents, friends and, towards the end, a girl he is interested in. The play is for children of ages nine and above. It also plays well to adults and we have met people who feel that the play should be seen by parents and teachers. It is not preachy but the message is that people need to be sensitive and aware. These are the two main steps towards having a better life.



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24 SPORT

KULASEKARA RETIRES

Sri Lanka seamer Nuwan Kulasekara, 37, has decided to call time on his international career, finishing as the third highest wicket-taker for his country. For Indian fans, Kulasekara will be remembered as the bowler MS Dhoni hit for the World Cup-winning six in 2011.

Picture tells *the* story

Ten days after their World Cup win at Lord's, England dismissed for 85 at the same venue in the one-off Test against unfancied Ireland

REUTERS
LONDON, JULY 24

ENGLAND CRASHED back to earth after their World Cup triumph as they were skittled for 85 on a humiliating opening morning of their four-day Test against Ireland at Lord's on Wednesday. Though England's bowlers fought back after Ireland had raced away to 132/2, eventually bowling them out for 207, the 122-run lead could make turn out to be vital. Ireland, however, would rue their implosion after the departure of Andy Balbirnie for 55, after which they lost three more wickets for the addition for 11 runs.

This was after Joe Root won the toss and elected to bat under blue skies but the morning belonged to Ireland, and in particular Tim Murtagh who ripped through the England order to claim an astonishing five for 13 in nine overs. It is the first time England have been bowled out before lunch at Lord's on the opening morning and their lowest test innings at home since 1997 against Australia.

Murtagh, who plays his cricket for Middlesex, took lethal advantage of a green-tinged wicket and some bog-standard England batting to give Ireland a dream start to what is only their third test and first at Lord's. When Stuart Broad walked out with the hosts teetering on 43 for seven England had lost six wickets for seven runs with test debutant Mark Adair also helping himself to two wickets.

With the Ashes series starting against Australia next week, England handed a test debut to Jason Roy as they continue to seek the solution to their fragile top order.

There was a buzz around the ground for the start even if it was a calmer atmosphere than the frenzied one of 10 days ago when England won an unforgettable World Cup final nail-biter against New Zealand at Lord's.

White-ball specialist Roy, sensational throughout the World Cup, looked like a fish out of water against Ireland's impressive opening bowlers and had already had one let-off when Adair had him plumb lbw off a no ball. His reprieve was short-lived and in Murtagh's second over Roy (5) edged to Paul Stirling to take a low catch at slip.

Joe Denly looked reasonably assured on his way to 23, but in the 10th over Adair shaped a ball back into his pads to claim his first test wicket. Cue an astonishing collapse. In the next over opener Rory Burns, who had scratched around for six, played loosely at a full off-stump delivery by Murtagh and edged to Gary Wilson.

With Root and Jonny Bairstow at the wicket an England fightback was expected, but never materialised. Root (2) played across a straight one from Adair and was struck on both pads and not even a review could spare him. Murtagh then bowled Jonny Bairstow for a duck and two balls later removed Chris Woakes, who also departed without scoring, lbw with a ball that nipped back off the seam. The 37-year-old Murtagh then completed his five-wicket haul as Moeen Ali (0) nicked through to Wilson — putting his name on the Lord's honours board.

Scorecard (Day 1)

ENGLAND FIRST INNINGS: R Burns c Wilson b Murtagh 6, J Roy c Stirling b Murtagh 5, J Denly lbw b Adair 23, J Root (c) lbw b Adair 2, JM Bairstow b Murtagh 0, M Ali c Wilson b Murtagh 0, C Woakes lbw b Murtagh 0, S Curran 18, S Broad c Wilson b Rankin 3, O Stone b Adair 19, M Leach not out 1, Extras 8, Total **85** all out in 23.4 overs. Fall of wickets: 1-8 (Jason Roy, 2.4 ov), 2-36 (Joe Denly, 9.5 ov), 3-36 (Rory Burns, 10.4 ov), 4-42 (Joe Root, 11.6 ov), 5-42 (Jonny Bairstow, 12.4 ov), 6-42 (Chris Woakes, 12.6 ov), 7-43 (Moeen Ali, 14.2 ov), 8-58 (Stuart Broad, 18.4 ov), 9-67 (Sam Curran, 20.1 ov), 10-85 (Ollie Stone, 23.4 ov); **Bowling:** T Murtagh 9-2-13-5 M Adair 7-4-1-32-3, S Thompson 4-1-30-0, B Rankin 3-1-5-2
IRELAND FIRST INNINGS: W Porterfield (c) c Leach b Curran 14, J McCollum b Curran 19, A Balbirnie b Stone 55, P Stirling lbw b Broad 36, KJO'Brien not out 28, GC Wilson c Root b Stone 0, S Thompson b Broad 0, M Adair b Curran 3, A McBriane b Broad 11, T Murtagh c Burns b Stone 16, W Rankin b Ali 7, Extras 18, Total **207** all out in 58.2 overs. Fall of wickets: 1-32 (William Porterfield, 12.1 ov), 2-45 (James McCollum, 18.4 ov), 3-132 (Paul Stirling, 33.3 ov), 4-138 (Andy Balbirnie, 36.1 ov), 5-138 (Gary Wilson, 36.5 ov), 6-141 (Stuart Thompson, 39.1 ov), 7-149 (Mark Adair, 43.1 ov), 8-174 (Andy McBriane, 52.4 ov), 9-195 (Tim Murtagh, 55.3 ov), 10-207 (Boyd Rankin, 58.2 ov); **Bowling:** S Broad 19-5-60-3, C Woakes 10-2-34-0, O Stone 12-3-29-3, S Curran 10-3-28-3, M Leach 3-0-26-0, M Ali 4-2-1-14-1
ENGLAND 2ND INNINGS: M Leach 0*, R Burns 0*, Total 0/0 in 1 over.



The scoreboard at Lord's on Wednesday perfectly captured England's ignominious batting display on Day 1. Reuters

Murtagh bullies England in their backyard

SANDIP G
JULY 24

A DAY before that thrilling Lord's evening of July 14, former Irish cricketer Kenny Carroll red-lettered the date July 24 in his diary. He had buzzed an old friend at the ECB for match tickets, called another for staying over at his house, and put a couple of his old Ireland jerseys for laundry.

"I could miss the World Cup final, but not Ireland's maiden Test at Lord's. For us, it doesn't get better than this, playing England at the Home of Cricket. After all, they're the big brothers," he told *The Indian Express*, chuckling. And an Irishman had guided England to their brightest evening in limited-over cricket.

On the sunny morning of 24th, sporting his old Ireland jersey, he was at the Lord's entrance, cheerfully waiting for the Irish team bus. "Just to wish them luck and give them a pat on the back." Among the current group of players, Ireland's Test-match generation, he played with only Kevin O'Brien, though the small world that Irish cricket is, he knew most of them, and most of them knew him as well.

Tim Murtagh wasn't one of them. The 37-year-old swing bowler — who sliced through England's batting line-up like a hot knife through butter, bowling them out for 85 — plies his trade in England and had only joined Ireland in 2012, five years after Carroll's last game for Ireland. But he had heard enough of him — Murth, Middlesex legend, can swing the ball in as many directions as he wants to. And on a sunny day, on a green wicket, he saw what Murtagh could do.

"Jeez, unbelievable stuff. James Anderson stuff, shaping the ball one way, swinging it the other way. Serious stuff. The batsmen's edges seemed to have magnets when he was bowling."

Before Carroll could gather which way he was swinging the ball, Murtagh had already two wickets to his name.

What played out in the next hour was "supernatural stuff", Carroll exclaims. A blur. A flurry of wickets. A whirl of limbs in celebration. Murtagh waving the Duke at the audience after his first five-for. Carroll wondered: "Seriously, did this all happen actually? It's historic stuff."

Disappointed, says Shubman

He was expecting an India recall after a stellar show in the A series and even though Shubman Gill is disappointed by the snub for the West Indies tour, the youngster is not



Ireland's Tim Murtagh (third from right) took five wickets for 13 runs. Reuters

threat Murtagh possesses a day before the match in his column in *London Evening Standard*. "With Murtagh, you start seeing things that aren't there, watching it swing away before it nips back in. You get out to him and think it's moved four ways. You've played five different shots and, before you know it, you're on your way back," he observes.

It clutters the batsman's mind, lulling them into committing fatal mistakes. Murtagh has made a living out of it — 800 wickets at 25.33. And a chunk of them have been coerced this way, as was the case on Wednesday. And a chunk of his wickets have come from the Nursery End. Most seamers like bowling from the Pavilion End, as the slope from right to left, and the wind blowing across, exaggerates natural inward movement.

Former colleague Andrew Strauss once remarked that "he's as pleasant as they come from South London, he carries with him the warmth of the countryside. Maybe, it's his

Almost prophetically, he wrote of the

ready to "spend time thinking over it." Gill, along with Manish Pandey and Shreyas Iyer, was tipped to make it to the limited overs squad but was the one to miss out.

"I was waiting for the Indian senior team to be announced on Sunday and I expected to be selected for at least one of the squads. It was disappointing not to get picked but I am not going to spend time thinking over it. I'll keep scoring runs and performing to the best of my ability to impress the selectors," Gill said.

The Punjab youngster is pretty satisfied with his performance in the just-concluded A series, which India won 4-1.

"It was a fantastic series for me and team as well. Personally, I would have liked to carry on and score at least a couple of hundreds.

Irish genes." Strauss and Murtagh are close friends. So are their families. Once Strauss had repented letting him join Ireland, and he would have again on Wednesday.

It all began inside an old old pub across the St John's Wood road, near Lord's, sometime in September 2012. Middlesex teammates Ed Joyce and Murtagh were having a quiet drink after a game, and the former began digging deep into his colleague's Irish surname. At that time, Murtagh had almost given up on his ambition to play for England, whom he had represented in the 2000 U-19 World Cup, though he had never thought of representing Ireland either. Murtagh told him about his grandparents who had migrated from Ireland to Lambeth. His uncle and father, though, had been joking about it for a while.

Then inadvertently, Joyce asked him whether he was keen on turning up for Ireland. Just like most pub talks, he thought it was a joke. "But Joyce told me he was serious. Anyway, I am playing mostly with Irishmen (at that point Middlesex had six) and suddenly I thought why not? Anyway, my hopes of playing for England were as good as over. I said a firm yes," he once wrote in a column for *Irish Times*.

From the pub table, Joyce called coach Phil Simmons and director Mark Garaway for approval. Two weeks later, Middlesex director of cricket Angus Fraser drove him to meet Simmons. In a month's time, the postman delivered an envelope with a letter congratulating the addressee on his new status as an Irish citizen. "I had to chase down lot of original birth, marriage and death certificates before I applied. I have to thank my wife for that."

Despite the fast-tracking, he couldn't make the squad for the 2012 ICC World T20. "I was disappointed, was suddenly filled with doubts, but Joyce told me that I would retire one day as an Ireland legend." On Wednesday, at the grandest of stages, he took one firm step towards legend-hood. And his good friends Joyce and Strauss were raising a toast for him in the Lord's long room.

Shivam Dube saw the back of rival skipper Shamarh Brooks (12). Brooks was caught by wicketkeeper Wriddhiman Saha, who is playing his first competitive match after a long injury lay-off. Saha is also part of the senior Indian Test squad, which will play a two-match series next month.

Left-arm spinner Nadeem then swung into action to further tilt the balance in India's favour as he rattled the middle order. He first dismissed Roston Chase (25), who was caught by Saha, and then clean bowled Jahmar Hamilton (16).

BRIEF SCORES (AT LUNCH): West Indies A: 126 for five in 40 overs (J Blackwood 29 batting, Roston Chase 25; M Siraj 2/43, S Nadeem 2/37) vs India A.

BRIEFLY

Ethics officer to review Raman's appointment

THE COMMITTEE of Administrators (CoA) has asked the BCCI ethics officer DK Jain to review the appointment of national women's team head coach WV Raman. In principle, the CoA had decided to review Raman's appointment in April, but sent the matter to the former Supreme Court judge Jain only a couple of days ago. Former India opener Raman was appointed in December last year in rather controversial circumstances by an ad-hoc panel comprising former cricketers Kapil Dev, Anshuman Gaekwad and Shantha Rangaswamy. The CoA was a two-member panel then and its chairman Vinod Rai and Diana Edulji were strongly divided on the coach selection process. With the addition of Lt General Ravi Thodde, it has now become a three-member committee. Edulji had called the entire coach selection process a sham and "unconstitutional", saying it was the Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) — comprising Sachin Tendulkar, VVS Laxman and Sourav Ganguly — which was entrusted with the responsibility of picking the coach.

Rhodes eyes India fielding coach job

FORMER SOUTH African batsman Jonty Rhodes has thrown his hat in the ring for the India team's fielding coach's position, making him one of the most high profile candidates to have applied for the post. "Yes, I have applied for the position of India's new fielding coach. My wife and I love the country, and it has already given us so much — we have 2 children born in India," Rhodes told "CricketNext" website. The 49-year-old South African was the fielding coach of Indian Premier League side Mumbai Indians for a long time before parting ways with the franchise. The BCCI has invited applications for various coaches positions, including head coach, batting coach, bowling coach and fielding coach.

SL coach asked to step down

SRI LANKA'S head cricket coach Chandika Hathurusinghe has been asked to step down after the ongoing ODI series against Bangladesh. Sources in Sri Lanka Cricket said SLC Secretary Mohan de Silva has written to Hathurusinghe asking him to resign. Hathurusinghe was under pressure to quit after Sri Lanka's dismal showing in the recent World Cup.

AITA sets wheels in motion as ITF clears Davis Cup tie in Pakistan

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, JULY 24

IT'S BEEN a month since the sports ministry declared that the onus of India sending a team to Pakistan for their Davis Cup tie in September lies entirely on the All India Tennis Association (AITA). The governing body of the sport in the country is yet to officially announce its decision in this regard. However, AITA has begun the process of checking player availability and sorting visa applications.

"So far, AITA hasn't made any official statement on whether we will be going or not," says Davis Cup coach Zeeshan Ali. "But I understand they have already started checking with the players if they are avail-

able. They've also asked us for our passport copies. I guess, it's in relation to starting the visa process which can be lengthy."

The International Tennis Federation has granted the hosts, Pakistan Tennis Federation, permission to host the two-day Asia-Oceania Group 1 tie on September 14-15 (Saturday and Sunday) and has also conducted the customary inspection of the venue in Islamabad – The Pakistan Sports Complex – where the tie will be held on grass courts.

Ban lifted

Pakistan couldn't host Davis Cup ties for 12 years due to security concerns. The ITF eventually lifted the ban in 2017. Since then, only Hong Kong has refused to play an away tie in Pakistan, and were subsequently relegated to a lower division and slapped with a fine.

On Wednesday, the two-member ITF team inspecting the venue and security measures cleared the arrangements for the tie. "We have visited all the places where the Indian team is to spend time. Since Pakistan has hosted a good number of ties in Islamabad, I believe the plan of the team's stay has been well prepared," Giles Robbins from ITF told Pakistani newspaper 'The News'. His fellow official Richard Gallagher added: "Islamabad has been a secure city where the PTF (Pakistan Tennis Federation) has hosted no less than five Davis Cup ties in recent times. These are beautiful grass courts. Usually, we find these types of courts back in England."

As things stand, both the Indian sports ministry and the ITF have cleared the Indian team's participation for the tie, which will be

the first time since 2006 that the two countries will meet in the Davis Cup. The last time an Indian team travelled across the border for a tie was back in 1964 – incidentally, Ali's father Akhtar Ali was part of the team.

"My father has been very excited about this tie and told me many stories about his own experiences there," Ali adds. "So far, the process seems to have started. I guess, the wheel has started turning."

The final selection meeting is expected to take place next month.

India's current top three singles players are Prajnesh Gunneswaran (ranked 88), Ramkumar Ramanathan (185) and Sumit Nagal (207) and are most likely to be picked for the tie, along with top two doubles specialists Rohan Bopanna (45) and Divij Sharan (46).



Doubles specialist Rohan Bopanna is likely to be picked for the Pakistan tie. File

JAPAN OPEN

Sindhu & Prannoy progress while Srikanth bows out

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
TOKYO, JULY 24

ACE INDIAN shuttlers P V Sindhu and HS Prannoy moved into the second round of the Japan Open with contrasting wins over their respective rivals in the women's and men's singles events here on Wednesday.

Fifth seed Sindhu, who came out second best in last week's Indonesia Open, took 37 minutes to get the better of unseeded Chinese Han Yue 21-9 21-17 and set up a clash against Aya Ohori of Japan.

Sindhu came agonisingly close to winning her first title of the year before losing to another Japanese Akane Yamaguchi at the Indonesia Open last week.

But it was curtains for eighth seed K Srikanth, whose poor run of form continued as he crashed out after suffering defeat at the hands of compatriot Prannoy earlier in the day.

Prannoy stunned the higher-ranked Srikanth 13-21 21-11 22-20 in a match that lasted 59 minutes at the BWF World Tour Super 750 tournament.

It was disappointment for Sameer Verma as well as he lost to Denmark's Anders Antonsen in straight games in another men's singles match.

The unseeded Indian lost 17-21 12-21 in the contest that lasted 46 minutes.

The eighth seed Srikanth, who holds a superior head-to-head record against Prannoy, started off well clinching the first game 21-13.

Down to the wire

However, the unseeded Prannoy came back strongly taking the second game 21-11. The decider went down to the wire with Prannoy having the last laugh. He will face Rasmus Gemke of Denmark in the second round.

Srikanth, the former world No. 1, has been struggling for consistency this season. He made a second-round exit from the Indonesia Open last week.

It was good news for India in the men's doubles competition as Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty defeated the English pair of Marcus Ellis and Chris Langridge 21-16 21-17 to enter the second round.

They will next be up against the winner of another first-round match between Korean pair of Solgyu Choi and Seung Jae Seo and China's Kai Xiang Huang and Cheng Liu.

But the women's doubles combination of Ashwini Ponappa and N Sikki Reddy crashed out after losing 16-21 14-21 against Korea's So Yeong Kim Korea and Hee Yong Kong. The Indian mixed doubles pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and Sikki Reddy also bowed out of the tournament, losing 11-21 14-21 to top seeded Chinese duo of Zhend Si Wei and Huang Ya Qiaong in just 26 minutes.

A retriever on the attack

At 15, Chennai's Muthusamy is touted to rise high after adding new weapons in his game

SHIVANI NAIK
JULY 24

A VICTORY margin of 21-1, 21-10 seems quite ruthless. S Sankar Muthusamy, all of 15, made quick work of Bangladesh's Abdul Lukman in 17 minutes at the Asian Junior Badminton Championships. A prodigy the Chennai lad undoubtedly is – he beat Tukum Laa, Daniel Fareid and Shreyansh Jaiswal, three older players at the Vijayawada Senior All India ranking meet last month. Every step of progress the teenager takes will be watched with interest given his rapidly maturing game-sense even as he stands apart from the crowd despite measuring only 5-feet-3.

There's no lack of grit – Sankar is considered India's finest retriever at that age (and two batches beyond even), so he's not so smitten with his own strokes to give up on the bread-and-butter job of keeping the shuttle in play. And while not immediately noticed like Kidambi Srikanth, Sai Praneeth or HS Prannoy, he's a left-hander with all of their attendant grace, angles and resultant skill.

Far too early to talk about Olympics – because many a junior career falls apart along the way, and Sankar is content on learning, leaving medal ambition for a later day. Ahead of the Asian meet, he was busy gleaming out aspects of three of the world's finest left-handers – Lin Dan, Carolina Marin and Kento Momota. "Lin Dan because of what he did to opponents," Sankar laughed on the day he was interviewed. No, not thumping opponents and outplaying them to global titles, but something more germane. "You know, how he lands very good pressure on opponents?" he said, of not merely the kill shot, but the lead-up to the winner. From Momota, he hopes to learn deception at the net. And from Marin, not just the aggression, but the quick-thinking brain.

What Sankar boasts fundamentally – though he's not one to brag – is a focus not often found in teenagers, speed in his retrievers (naturally strong footwork) and a new-found creativity in constructing points so one sees a brain at work on the court, in sync with the naturally elegant left-handed game. "Let's start with what he's bad at, because he's only 15, not an age to hype up anyone," begins coach Aravindan Samiappan. "Till 13, he was so defensive, he realised he's not winning anything even if he has the best stamina in the country," he says. Retrieving endlessly got him the claps and an exit sign on Day 1. "He realised he has to attack and was very honest about his weakness. Net was not his strength." This was midway through 2017.

"We taught him to get fed up of the rally," Aravindan recalls of his own comic impatience with his ward playing tirelessly (and aimlessly). "He added smashes and drives to his existing quick speed. He started playing very good drops at the net,



Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian was relentless in his 21-1, 21-10 demolition of Bangladesh's Md. Abdul Hamid Lukman.

Meiraba, Bansod begin with wins

New Delhi: Malvika Bansod punched above her weight while Mainsam Meiraba had to work hard for a win as the individual events began at the Badminton Asia Junior Championships at Suzhou, China on Wednesday. Junior world no. 14 Meiraba, who was India's best performer in the team event, needed 59 minutes to beat Korea's Sang Yong Park 21-18 17-21 23-21.

The in-form Meiraba, who had won the Russian Junior White Nights tournament before coming to the continental event, faces top seed and world junior

champion Kunlavut Vitidsam in the boys' singles second round.

Bansod, ranked 83rd, scored a resilient 21-11, 19-21, 21-19 upset over world number 40 Thi Anh Thu Vu of Vietnam in 54 minutes. She too faces the top seed Phittayaporn Chaiwan in a tough second-round clash. Unnati Bisht and Ashi Rawat posted breezy wins to make their way into the second round. Bisht sailed past Malaysia's Isabel Liau Bei Yi in just 24 minutes. Rawat needed one minute more to take care of Taipei girl Yeo Ying Chee 21-13, 21-10. **PTI**

and creating opportunities by putting opponents under a lot of pressure," he recalls. Sankar has a decent lunge at the net – which is one of the most underrated skills in badminton. It also ends in some pretty crafty lifts and impressive court coverage. More than anything, he's a rare player comfortable on slow courts, negotiating the strolling shuttle.

While his Vijayawada outing finished with his first seniors medal – he lost in the semis – Sankar has come a long way since

dropping tennis for badminton. "When I started in sport, it rained a lot outdoors, so I just wanted something indoors to play all the time. I've been very particular about my stamina from the start. But there was so much to learn – net game, attack, power-play and deception," he says.

At Vijayawada, Sankar always had enough in his tank to reverse first-game deficits. He could read a game mid-match and make up huge leads as well as show composure on the big points. All of it will

come handy when the unseeded Indian plays seventh seed Yonathan Ramlie of Indonesia, who's 18.

Training at the Fireball Academy in Chennai's Annanagar, Sankar made a serious coach out of him, laughs Aravindan. "His dad is my friend, so I started coaching him and his sister Laxmi Priyanka, 18. Then he became an instant local hit, so now I have confidence to coach two more batches at six courts in Annanagar," he says. The facility also has a pool and a gym.

"His father was a Port Trust employee, but from the beginning, the family was sure the kids will make a career in sports. He was always very focused, which surprised me. And then the left-handed strokes," he says as if not needing to explain the grace that comes as a corollary. That Sankar ate well, always keeping badminton in mind, also impressed the coach. "I took voluntary retirement from Port Trust but though I played tennis primarily, I'll play a bit of badminton at the government courts. Now my job is to ferry him from school to courts to tournaments."

The youngest among India's contenders at the Asian meet, Sankar Muthusamy has time on his hands. Only, he feels compelled to attack now, and start winning big.

[SPORTS BAR]



Matt Miazga lent back to Reading by Chelsea

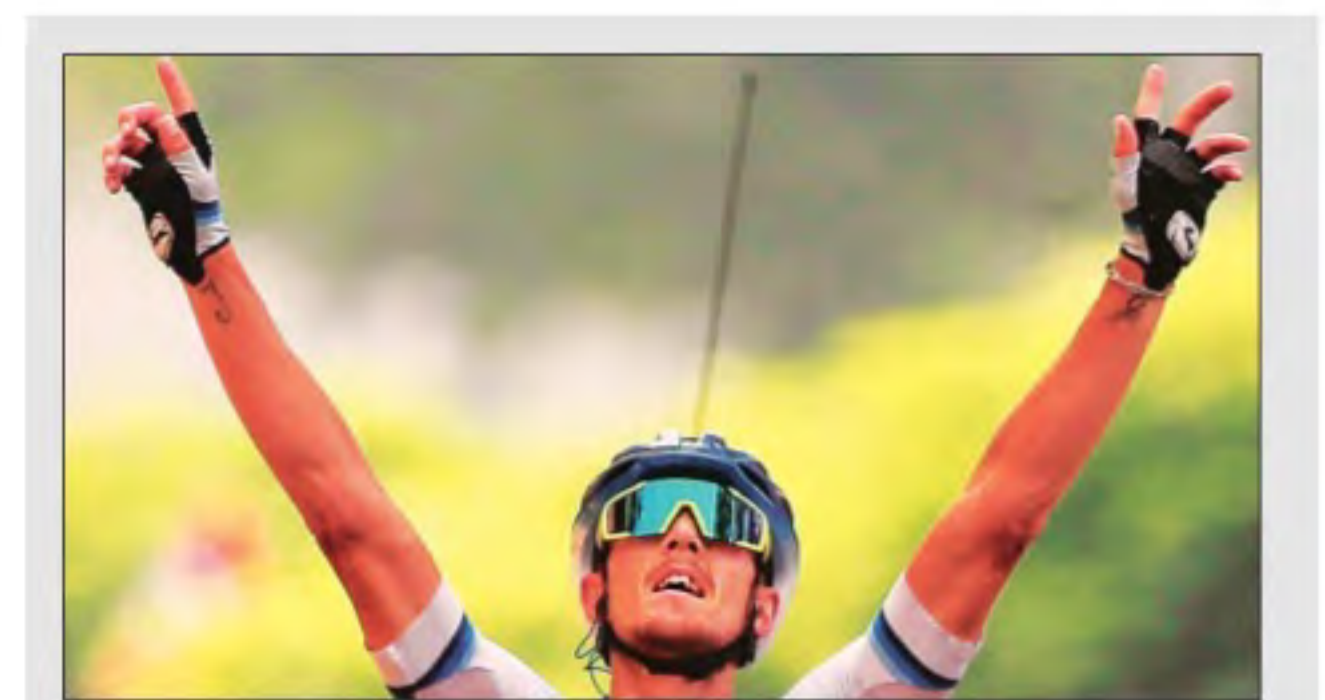
American defender Matt Miazga has been lent back to second-tier Reading by Chelsea for the 2019-20 season. The 6-foot-4 center-back from Clifton, New Jersey, was sent to Nantes last summer on what was supposed to be a season-long loan. He started six Ligue 1 matches under coach Miguel Cardoso, who was replaced by Vahid Halilhodzic. Miazga played only one more match under Halilhodzic. He was sent back to Chelsea, then lent to Reading in late January and made 18 appearances for the Royals. Reading climbed from 22nd to 20th and finished seven points above the relegation zone. The club announced the loan Wednesday.

Thiem beats Fucsovics, enters Hamburg QF

Top-seeded Dominic Thiem eased past Marton Fucsovics of Hungary in straight sets on Wednesday to reach the quarterfinals of the Hamburg European Open. Fucsovics managed to save nine of 12 break points, but Thiem stepped up a gear in the second set and won 7-5, 6-1. The Austrian won eight of the nine last games, serving out the match at love. Thiem next faces Andrey Rublev after the Russian recovered from a set down to beat Norway's Casper Ruud 3-6, 7-5, 6-3. Jeremy Chardy beat Richard Gasquet 7-6 (5), 7-5 in an all-French second-round match to set up a quarterfinal against either Juan Ignacio Londero or fourth-seeded Nikoloz Basilashvili.

FIFA bans African official for 10 years

FIFA banned a senior African football official for 10 years on Wednesday for financial wrongdoing, including taking funds from a campaign tackling Ebola. FIFA said its ethics judges banned Musa Bility, a member of the Confederation of African Football (CAF) executive committee, for 10 years and fined him 500,000 Swiss francs (\$507,200). In December 2015, Bility was blocked as a FIFA presidential candidate after the Court of Arbitration for Sport upheld a ruling that he failed an integrity check. That election was won two months later by current president Gianni Infantino.



This was Trentin's third career stage win at the Tour. Reuters

Trentin wins Stage 17 of Tour de France

Italian rider Matteo Trentin used a solo attack to win Stage 17 of the Tour de France on Wednesday after pulling clear of a group of breakaway riders. It was Trentin's third career stage win at the Tour, but first since 2014. Trentin rode at the front for most of the stage after taking part in a breakaway that formed just after the start of the 200-kilometer hilly ride from Pont du Gard to Gap. The European champion moved clear of the leading group about 14 kilometers from the finish at the bottom of the Col de la Sentinelle. He was first at the summit and went all out in the downhill leading to Gap. Kasper Asgreen was second, 37 seconds behind, with Olympic champion Greg Van Avermaet completing the podium. "I was scared of Asgreen and I was right because he finished second after getting a free ride in the break," Trentin said. "His tactic was to wait and wait, and so I went for it because he's also strong on the climbs and fast in a sprint." The overall contenders crossed more than 20 minutes behind but there was not any significant change in the overall standings as Trentin and his breakaway companions were not a threat.

Racism on rise in English football: Report

English football's anti-racism monitors say cases of discrimination have risen for the seventh straight year. The Kick It Out group says it tracked 581 cases of discrimination in the 2018-19 season, compared to 520 the year before. The figures include games from the top professional leagues to grassroots youth level, as well as some incidents on social media. Racist incidents made up 65 percent of total reports. The sharpest rise was in cases of discrimination based on religion – including anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim incidents – with 63 cases noted compared to 36 the season before. Kick It Out's chief executive Roisin Wood says "football reflects the society it is played and watched in and these figures are sadly not surprising."



Asensio suffers anterior cruciate ligament injury

Real Madrid forward Marco Asensio is facing several months out of action after suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee during a pre-season friendly against Arsenal in the United States. The Spanish winger scored the equaliser for Real in the second half before his foot seemed to get caught in the turf as he tussled for possession with Arsenal's Pierre Emerick-Aubameyang at the 60-minute mark in Maryland on Tuesday. Asensio was taken off on a stretcher with an injury that coach Zinedine Zidane described as "worrisome", and his fears were confirmed when doctors revealed the extent of the damage to player's knee. "After test carried out on our player Marco Asensio by the Real Madrid medical services he has been diagnosed with a rupture of the anterior cruciate ligament and the external meniscus of his left knee," he said.

Brazilian Haddad Maia fails doping test

The International Tennis Federation says Brazilian tennis player Beatriz Haddad Maia has been provisionally suspended for failing a doping test. The ITF says the 99th-ranked Haddad Maia had traces of two banned anabolic agents known as SARMS in a doping sample provided on June 4 at the Croatia Open. SARMS, or selective androgen receptor modulators, are synthetic drugs with similar effects to those of anabolic steroids and have become increasingly popular with weightlifters and other athletes.

INTERVIEW

'Qualifying for Worlds difficult'

Star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra tells *The Indian Express* he does not want to rush his comeback after elbow surgery and is focusing on his rehab



ANDREW AMSAN
NEW DELHI, JULY 24

INDIA'S STAR javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra hasn't competed this year due to a right elbow injury and the subsequent surgery in May. He's also remained low-key and away from public glare, working on his rehab in Mumbai. Just a couple of weeks back, he moved to JSW's Inspire Institute of Sport campus in Bellary, about 300km from Bangalore, to continue his recovery. The 21-year-old athlete from Haryana opens up about the tough phase of recovery, catching up with family and also acing PUBG.

How is your recovery shaping up?

I have started proper training just a couple of days back and feel really good. The doctors had asked me to take complete rest for a couple of months after the surgery and I followed that. I still haven't started throwing but everything is moving on as planned. But at the moment, I can't assure you that I'll be back in a competition on a certain date.

Do you think you'll be ready in time for the World Championships?

I will be very frank. If I had already qualified for it, I would push for it. But right now, it's very difficult and I don't want to strain my elbow again and risk a career-threatening injury. And the time is really short. But we should remain positive and if God performs a miracle, who knows, I might still be able to compete at the Worlds. For now, the focus is getting back in shape.

The injury kept you away from action for a long time. What went on in your mind during this phase?

We athletes have a life that revolves around training. It's our job and imagine, if you are asked not to come to office tomorrow. You know how it would feel, right? It was a tough period and doubts did creep into my mind. We're humans. Months of rigorous training and suddenly an injury undoes all the effort. But not for a moment did I break down. I believe that my hard work will bear fruit someday.

What I've learnt with experience is that no athlete is spared from the pain of going through an injury. You have to accept it. Staying positive is key. When I was told that I had to go under the knife, I was like, let's get done with it. I had no fear.

How did you spend your time? Did you visit your family?

After the surgery in May, I stayed back in Mumbai for the recovery. I had to visit the hospital almost every second day. To keep myself occupied, I listened to a lot of music. Punjabi songs and Babu Mann tops my playlist. I also listen to a lot of



Neeraj Chopra takes a break during his rehab.

It was a tough period and doubts did creep into my mind. We're humans. Months of rigorous training and suddenly an injury undoes all the effort. But not for a moment did I break down."

NEERAJ CHOPRA
JAVELIN THROWER

English music although I don't understand a single word. If the music is good, I am fine. I like Thunder by Imagine Dragons a lot. I love blasting good music on the Bluetooth speakers through my phone.

I also played a lot of PUBG on my phone. It's fun because you can talk to your friends while playing with them online. I have a few national campers and some old friends who join me in the game. I am very fond of sports apparel so I used to visit the mall often and get some good shirts or shoes and even have a nice meal with my physiotherapist.

Did you have cheat meals?

No. I maintained my diet and that's why I am still fit. I kept working on my lower body during the break. I've eaten so much European food during my training abroad that my standards have dropped very low. Wahan ya toh meat varna ghasphus (You either get meat or green salad). I can eat anything as long as it's not beef. I miss home food a lot. Churma (a sweet ghee-soaked dish) is an all-time favourite. Ye cake-shake I've had abroad are nothing in front of it. You have one and you're done for the day. I also miss paranthas with the saag my mother prepares.

How was the interaction with

your family like during your recovery period?

They kept asking how my arm was. I never really told them how it hurt or if there was any bleeding or swelling. All I told them was that I am doing well and will recover soon. This break also gave me an opportunity to stay in touch with my family. Because in training, you completely forget about everything, even calling your parents at the time. I have a huge family so the phone calls were long.

Are you following what's happening on the athletics circuit?

Of course. I see that most top throwers haven't had a good season so far. Not sure why. I see that there are so many competitions our athletes are taking part in and honestly, it feels bad to sit at home and just read about it. I want to be out there. I am also really happy to see Hima and that Indian athletics is getting a lot of attention. But I know she is a very wise girl and wouldn't get carried away by this recent gold surge. Winning these events are good, but she shouldn't be satisfied because the ultimate goal is to do well at the Worlds and Olympics. I also want to tell all the people who are praising her now to stand by her if, God forbid, she has a poor outing.

Your close friend Tejaswini Shankar (India's high jump national record holder) is in India. Are you planning to catch up with him?

He's visiting me in a week's time. We stay in touch over phone and there's a lot to catch up. I hope he's getting me something from the US.

What does coach Uwe Hohn tell you?

He's in Poland with the national team. He keeps telling me to relax and focus on rehab. I'll join the team once I feel better.

Ahead of Worlds, US track c'ships set for fastest show on earth

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
LOS ANGELES, JULY 24

The United States Athletics Championships are set to be the fastest show on earth this week as a new generation of sprinting stars take centre stage in the battle for places at the World Championships in Doha.

With Usain Bolt's near-decade of dominance now over, a crop of hungry young Americans are vying to fill the void left by the Jamaican's retirement in what promises to be a new golden era for US sprinting. American sprinters have clocked the quickest times in the world this year over 100m, 200m and 400m, and have also set the pace in the 110m hurdles.

With only the top three finishers in each event guaranteed a place on the team for Doha, the stage is set for four days of ferocious competition when the championships begin at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa on Thursday. Leading the pack are sprinters Christian Coleman and Noah Lyles, who are developing a burgeoning rivalry over the 100m and 200m.

Coleman has the fastest 100m time in the world this year, a tidy 9.81sec set at the Prefontaine Classic Diamond League meeting in Stanford three weeks ago. Lyles, meanwhile, whose 9.86sec in Shanghai is the second fastest time this season, has also been the man to beat over 200m, clocking a world-leading 19.50sec in Lausanne on July 5.



Chris Coleman has the fastest 100m time in the world this year — 9.81sec. File

Lyles has decided against running in the 100m this week, meaning his duel with Coleman will most likely come in his strongest event, the 200m on Sunday.

'Target on my back'

The rapidly maturing Coleman, a double silver medalist in the meanwhile says he is growing accustomed to being the sprinter everyone else wants to beat. "At one time I was one of those guys looking at the guys on the top saying 'I want to be like that,'" he told AFP. "Now that I'm one of the guys with a target on my back I have to keep working hard to make sure it doesn't happen."

Coleman, a superb starter, believes his success this season can be traced back to brutal training sessions designed to help him sustain top speed once he explodes out of the blocks. "They're pretty hard," Coleman said of his training sessions.

"Other guys will be tired, but I'll be throwing up." Lyles meanwhile will be relieved that he does not have to worry about the additional challenge of Michael Norman in the 200m. Norman, who beat Lyles over the 200m at the Rome Diamond League meeting in early June, will concentrate on the 400m, where he has been in electrifying form since turning professional in May.

The 22-year-old from California clocked an astonishing world-leading 43.45sec in his first race since turning professional this year, the joint fourth-fastest time over the distance in history. While the prospect of emulating Michael Johnson's 1996 Olympic double of 400m and 200m will loom large for Norman at next year's Tokyo Olympics, for now he is sticking on the single-lap event.

Elsewhere this week, the men's and women's 400m hurdles will showcase two more of the brightest talents in US track and field. The women's race will see the teenage Sydney McLaughlin look to seal her place on the team in a high-quality field that also includes 2016 Olympic champion Dalilah Muhammad and Shamier Little. McLaughlin, who signalled her promise by qualifying for the US Olympic team as a 16-year-old four years ago, set a world leading time of 53.32sec in Monaco on July 12. In the men's 400m hurdles, the 21-year-old Rai Benjamin is the man to beat.

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Junior Fellow, NMML
It will be chaired by
Prof. Deepak K. Mishra, JNU
Date: 26th July 2019 at 3.00 pm
Venue: Seminar Room, Library Building
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All are welcome

Swimming: Pellegrini wins 8th world medal

ASSOCIATED PRESS
GWANGJU, JULY 24

FEDERICA PELLEGRINI began the countdown to the end of her stellar career in style.

The Italian defeated a field of younger competitors, minus ailing Katie Ledecky, to win the 200-metre freestyle at the world swimming championships on Wednesday night. Pellegrini, who turns 31 next month, is competing at her final worlds. She's aiming to make a fifth Olympics in Tokyo next year before retiring.

She overtook 18-year-old Australian Ariarne Titmus down the stretch to earn her fourth career gold - and record eighth consecutive medal - in her signature event. The Italian touched in 1 minute, 54.22 seconds.

"I'm not sad, I'm so happy," Pellegrini said. "I'm so happy because it's an amazing world championships, an amazing 200 and I hope next year, my last Olympic championship, and after that a new life." Sun Yang was back in the pool but with none of the rancour from the previous night when he was booed and shunned on the medals podium. The Chinese star with a history of doping failed to medal in the 800 free.

Pellegrini joined Katinka Hosszu of Hungary and Sarah Sjöström of Sweden as the

only women to win an event at least four times at the worlds. "It's amazing," she said.

Pellegrini's dominant run began in 2005 in Montreal, where she took silver.

She earned bronze in 2007 and then won in 2009, setting a world record that still stands from the high-tech suit era, and again in 2011. She was runner-up in 2013 in Barcelona and in 2015 in Kazan, where Ledecky won, before winning two years ago in Budapest.

Pellegrini worked her way from seventh on the opening lap to fourth and then second before overcoming Titmus with a last time split of 28.90 seconds to the Aussie's 29.51. "I am too old for this," Pellegrini joked.

Titmus, who stunned Ledecky in winning the 400 free, took silver in 1:54.66. "She's a true champion, world record holder," Titmus said of Pellegrini. "For her to beat me, I'm OK." Sjöström earned bronze in 1:54.78. She received oxygen on the pool deck after the race and later said she had a headache.

Ledecky hasn't been at the pool since Monday. She withdrew from the 200 free heats and the 1,500 free final on Tuesday with an illness. The American star is being monitored by doctors, but no diagnosis has been disclosed.

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