

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

INDIA & U.S.: TERMS OF ESTRANGEMENT
BY CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT
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UP order to grant caste certificate not constitutional, says Centre

MANOJ CGG
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE CENTRE Tuesday disapproved the UP government's move to issue caste certificates to 17 Other Backward Classes (OBCs), saying it is "not appropriate" nor "constitutional".

Rekindling the debate over moves to include 17 OBCs in the Scheduled Castes (SCs) list, the UP government, citing a 2017 observation of the Allahabad High Court, had directed officials to issue caste certificates to these 17 castes "after examination and based on documents in accordance with the rules". The High Court, while hearing a PIL, had said that "in the event, any caste certificates are issued pursuant to the order impugned, those certificates shall be subject to the outcome of the writ petition".

The state government's June 24 direction to district magistrates and commissioners to issue caste certificates to the 17 OBCs — Kashyap, Rajbhar, Dhivar, Bind, Kumhar, Kahar, Kewat, Nishad, Bhar, Mallah, Prajapati, Dhimar, Batham, Turha, Godia, Manjhi and Machua — had drawn an angry response Monday from BSP chief Mayawati who called it "unconstitutional", saying these

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UK HIGH COURT ALLOWS MALLYA APPEAL AGAINST EXTRADITION

KARTARPUR: PAK PROPOSES JULY 14 FOR SECOND MEET
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SENDS TOUGH MESSAGE TO PARTY

PM on Vijayvargiya Junior: No matter whose son, behaviour unacceptable

Calls for removal of those who felicitated Akash after arrest

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

SENDING A stern message to the rank and file of the BJP days after party general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya's son Akash was arrested for assaulting a public official with a cricket bat in Indore, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Tuesday said that arrogance and misbehaviour will not be tolerated irrespective of "whoever it may be, whoever's son he may be".

The Prime Minister made the remarks at the first meeting of the parliamentary party after the BJP returned to power with a landslide. Earlier, at the first



Modi with his ministers at the meeting of the BJP parliamentary party in New Delhi, Tuesday. Renuka Puri

meeting of the Council of Ministers, Modi had disapproved of a minister's tweet on iftar gatherings.

At least three MPs who attended Tuesday's meeting held at the Parliament Library Building, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Indore BJP in a huddle, HC orders razing of building at centre of row

DIPANKAR GHOSE
INDORE, JULY 2

CLEARING THE way for the demolition of the building at the centre of the Akash Vijayvargiya controversy, the Indore bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court Tuesday allowed the Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) to continue with the process.

The High Court direction came on the day the Prime Minister disapproved of Akash

Vijayvargiya's conduct and called for the removal from the party of those who had felicitated him as he stepped out of prison on bail. The strong message from Delhi sent the Indore BJP into a huddle with most leaders declining comment on whether action would be taken against the party workers.

The High Court, in its direction, asked the IMC to make temporary arrangements for the only family still living in the

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India defeated Bangladesh by 28 runs in Birmingham Tuesday to enter the semi-finals of the World Cup. AP

Riding fourth Rohit century, India in semis



EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP

SRIRAM VEERA
BIRMINGHAM, JULY 2

ROHIT SHARMA is not only having a dream World Cup but has, with more than a little bit of help from the bowlers, taken India to

their third semifinal in a row. Consider some of his achievements: four hundreds in the World Cup (two more than David Warner), second Indian to tally more than 500 runs in a World Cup (Tendulkar did it twice), most ODI hundreds since 2017 (16 to Kohli's 15), most number of sixes by an Indian in ODIs (238, two more than Dhoni). All this with an almost ridiculous nonchalance to his batting.

Sharma put on the highest opening partnership of any team in this World Cup, adding 180

runs in a little over 29 overs with K L Rahul, to set up the match-winning total of 314. India did slip up after Sharma's fall, adding only 136 runs and losing eight more wickets in the remaining overs but that only accentuates India's dependence on Sharma in this tournament.

Bangladesh will rue the way they bowled in the first half of the innings — erratic in line and length, bowling either short or slipped down leg and Sharma capitalised in some style. Even Rahul, who has had an average tournament so far, especially as

an opener, cashed in though he didn't look as secure as Sharma. Sharma hit five sixes but the best one was the lofted straight hit off the left-handed seamer Mustafizur Rehman in the 23rd over. And he clearly enjoyed it the most, holding his pose for a while as he watched the white ball sail away over the sightscreen.

Bangladesh will also rue the reprieve they offered Sharma

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TMC men's rate list: Rs 200 for last rites, Rs 25,000 for house



Harekrishna Roy, wife Aloka say they paid Rs 7,000 in cut money for a housing scheme in Berela, Hooghly. Partha Paul

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA & SANTANU CHOWDHURY
BIRBHUM, HOOGHLY, PURBA BARDHAMAN, JULY 2

LAST DECEMBER, Mamoni Sardar paid Rs 550 to a local TMC leader in Hooghly to get an LPG connection under the central government's Ujjwala scheme. "I thought that was the cost of the connection. I came to know later that I need not have paid any money... I was so angry. Now, I want my money back," says the 23-year-old.

Today, Mamoni, the wife of a tailor, is among a group of women that has gathered at a mango orchard in Nuniadanga village to vent their anger at two local TMC leaders who, they claim, took Rs 500-600 from each of them to "arrange" their cooking gas connections. The two leaders, Subhas Biswas and Sikha Majumdar, have "gone missing".

These women and their angry faces represent the backlash in rural Bengal, especially in the districts of Purba Bardhaman,

UNKIND CUT PART-2
CUT MONEY: MICRO KICKBACKS STORM IN WEST BENGAL
AN EXPRESS SERIES

Birbhum, Hooghly, Malda, Murshidabad, Coochbehar and Uttar Dinajpur, against the practice of "cut money", or illegal commissions, allegedly taken by TMC leaders at the grassroots to "facilitate" the grant of central and state government schemes.

On Tuesday, *The Indian Express* reported on how the

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CUT MONEY RAISED IN PARLIAMENT

PAGE 6

On Budget table: Likely tax breaks for companies that invest, generate jobs

SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

LOOKING TO push private sector investment and job creation in the economy, the government is expected to announce incentives including tax sops for companies that make capital investments in a time-bound manner and generate jobs.

RUN-UP TO BUDGET 2019-20

A source told *The Indian Express* that the government recognises the need for private sector investment and job creation, and there is a likelihood that it may announce tax sops for capital investments.

"While the government is expected to announce a series of measures to push private investment in the forthcoming Budget, it can announce tax breaks for companies that make capital investment of a certain amount and are able to implement and

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EXPLAINED

Route to spur growth, boost pvt investment

THE TWIN challenges for Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as she presents her maiden Budget two days from now are to spur growth and create more jobs. The government may be fiscally constrained to spend more, but can entice companies to invest more by offering tax incentives. Private investment has remained depressed for over five years now, and a strategy linking tax incentives to investment and jobs may work.

Monsoon fury has Mumbai reeling: 25 of 31 dead perished as walls collapsed, Pune toll stands at 6

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, PUNE, JULY 2

HEAVY RAIN continued to lash parts of Maharashtra Tuesday, leading to at least 31 deaths in Mumbai and surrounding areas, including 25 in two separate incidents of walls collapsing in Kurla and Kalyan. In Pune, six people were killed in a wall collapse — the second such incident in the city in four days.

Officials said at least 22 people were killed in Kurla's Pimpripada area, on the fringes of the Sanjay Gandhi National

BUSINESS AS USUAL
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Road, rail, air traffic in Mumbai have been severely hit following overnight rain in Mumbai. Prashant Nadkar

Park, when a wall collapsed on huts early in the morning. Many others are feared trapped in the debris. In Kalyan, three people died after a wall collapsed.

According to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), a 45-year-old man died after a compound wall fell on him around overnight at the Falguni Co-operative Housing Society in Mulund.

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FULL COVERAGE
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WORLD



CHINA SAYS HONG KONG PROTESTS ARE A CHALLENGE

TRUMP: IRAN PLAYING WITH FIRE BY BREACHING STOCKPILE CAP

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RSS media arm honours group that branded citizens anti-national

Clean The Nation claims it got people arrested, fired and suspended for post-Pulwama social media comments

KARISHMA MEHROTRA
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

A GROUP of men who went after those they called "anti-national" and claim they got them arrested, suspended and, in one case, fired from a job won an RSS affiliate's badge of honour — for social media journalism.

Indeed, the proof of the achievement they flaunt is telling. These include a letter from a Guwahati college sus-

pending an assistant professor; a letter from a Rajasthan university suspending four Kashmiri students, all girls; a Twitter post that led to an arrest in Jaipur; a letter from a Greater Noida engineering college suspending a Kashmiri student; and a Facebook post that led to the arrest of an undergraduate student in Katihar, Bihar.

When *The Indian Express* contacted authorities and officials, some said they had withdrawn their action since no

criminal case was made out.

These men and women were singled out for social media comments in the wake of the Pulwama terror attack and the air duel between Indian and Pakistani warjets after the Kashmiri student; and a Facebook post that led to the arrest of an undergraduate student in several colleges were targeted by angry mobs and many had to leave campuses fearing a backlash.

Last Saturday, Clean The Nation (CTN), the group which



Clean The Nation members with the award on June 29. IVSK

went after them, was honoured with the Social Media Patrakarita Narad Samman, instituted by RSS-affiliate Indraprastha Vishwa Samvad Kendra (IVSK).

The Narad Samman ceremony for journalism awards was held at the India International Centre in New Delhi where the winners were felicitated in the presence of RSS joint general secretary Manmohan Vaidya and Union Minister Smriti Irani.

On the social media journalism award to CTN, Vagish Issar, secretary of IVSK, said: "We gave the award to them because we saw how much this group loves the nation. Many people love the

nation, but some people love it actively."

The CTN started as a Facebook group, formed by nine men on February 15, a day after the terror attack on a CRPF convoy in Pulwama. Most of its activity was over the next two days, in which they claim to have drawn over 4,500 members. Facebook and Twitter later repeatedly took down CTN handles, but the initial Facebook page was run by a loose network of about 40 administrators with a lead group of nine men, mostly in their 20s who work as IT professionals in Delhi and Noida. Today, its Twitter handle

@CleanTheNation1 has over 7,750 followers.

In the first video that mobilised the group across platforms in February, CTN core member Madhur Singh says: "This is not a time to change your DPs and take out candle marches." Sporting a shirt with Indian Army written across it, he says: "Find out who is laughing at our soldiers today... Contact their employers. Contact the universities they are studying in... Screw them up this way. Get them terminated from their jobs. Get them suspended from their universities."

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EXPRESS TECHNOLOGY

Apple iPadOS Public Beta: Why you should go ahead and update



WEB EXCLUSIVE

NO, MUNROE ISLAND IS NOT SINKING; BUT THAT DOES NOT STOP THE SINKING FEELING

The island, located at the joining of the Kallada river and the expansive Ashtamudi backwaters which opens out to the sea at Neendakara, has been flagged over the years by environmentalists and locals as the unambiguous casualty of global warming

VIDEO OF THE DAY



BUDGET 2019: YOU CAN SAVE UP TO RS 2.5 LAKH

Tax saving tips by Nitin Bajaj, Director, Deloitte India — Personal Tax

FULL COVERAGE



MAXIMUM CITY CRIPPLED: 25 DEAD

Maharashtra govt announces public holiday in Mumbai

EXPRESS AUDIO

How people are making TMC leaders return 'cut money'

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In today's episode of the 3 Things podcast, we look at the practice of "cut money" in Bengal, how people started going after TMC leaders and what BJP is doing amidst this blowback

FROM PAGE ONE

TMC rate list

practice, prevalent since the Left rule in the state, has surged after the TMC came to power in 2011. And how people have started demanding refunds from local leaders who were asked last month by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to return the money in a bid to bolster the image of her party, which is facing a stiff challenge from the BJP.

The Indian Express spoke to residents in 12 villages across Hooghly, Bardhaman and Birbhum, to find a deep sense of anger and despair at the "system", which is so well entrenched that there are "fixed rates" for specific schemes, ranging from Rs 200 to Rs 25,000.

Residents say even families mourning the dead are not spared — for the state government's Samabyathi scheme, which provides financial assistance of up to Rs 2,000 for the last rites and related expenses, Rs 200 is taken as "cut money".

And that's not all. Across these villages, residents and even some Trinamool leaders point to a detailed break-up of "rates" for various schemes. Consider this:

■ Ujjwala scheme for LPG connections: Rs 500-600 per beneficiary.

■ Banglar Bari (Prime Minister Awas Yojana): Rs 10,000-25,000 per beneficiary for Rs 1.20-1.35 lakh in assistance to build houses.

■ Nirmal Bangla (Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin): Rs 900-2,000 per beneficiary for Rs 12,000 to construct a toilet.

■ MGNREGS: Rs 20-40 per day from a job card holder under the rural employment guarantee scheme. The money is totalled and collected by the supervisor once it is received in the beneficiary's account.

The TMC has maintained that only "0.1 per cent of total public representatives" have "indulged in such activities, and action has been taken against them". The party has also started a special cell to hear the grievances of people.

At the state-level, its leaders blame the BJP for fuelling the anger. "The BJP is trying to create unrest in West Bengal by staging protests outside the houses of our honest party leaders and public representatives. We will fight this politically," says Swapan Debnath, senior TMC leader from Bardhaman and MoS Micro Small and Medium Enterprises.

On the ground, however, these words carry little resonance. "Each scheme has a rate, and a network of local political leaders and panchayat members linked to the system. The system, which existed during the Left Front regime, has now become a full-fledged one," says a local official in Hooghly.

For instance, residents and Trinamool leaders in Hooghly, Bardhaman and Birbhum un-

derline the "system" in place for MGNREGS.

"It works two ways. For those who have job cards and do the actual work, the amount to be paid to the supervisor ranges from Rs 20-40 per day of the Rs 190 that reaches the beneficiary's bank account," says a Trinamool leader, who is also a work supervisor.

"For those who have job cards but are engaged in other professions, or are migrant workers, their names are included in the master roll. On paper, it is shown that they work every day. When they receive the payments, the supervisor takes 60 per cent. I am sure you know there is a chain system, and the party and the panchayat get their cuts, too," says the supervisor, speaking on condition of anonymity.

According to residents in the three districts, the "system is the same everywhere, only the method of collection varies". "In some places, the panchayat members directly take the money, but in most places, local TMC leaders and supervisors do the collection," says the Trinamool leader.

Meanwhile, the complaints continue to pile up.

In Birbhum's Chhatra village, Kolu Mal is waiting for his toilet to be completed. "I had paid Rs 900 as commission to a local gram panchayat member under the Nirmal Bangla scheme. But it's still not complete...it doesn't even have a door and I am using a curtain to save my family from embarrassment," says the 55-year-old farmer.

In Hooghly's Berela village, Harekrishna Roy, a farmer, claims to have paid Rs 7,000 to local TMC leader Dhananjay Bala to construct a house under the Banglar Bari scheme. "The leader helped me do all the paperwork. But I had to pay him Rs 5,000 and Rs 2,000 from my first and third installments. I want my money back," says Roy. Bala could not be reached for comment.

Explaining the "usual method", Tapas Mal, a farmer from Chhatra, says TMC leaders actively persuade residents to sign up for various schemes. "For the housing scheme, they help people open bank accounts. Once the accounts are functional, they take four cheques with no amount mentioned from each beneficiary. When the beneficiaries receive their instalments, the leaders deposit the cheques, one after the other. Any amount between Rs 10,000 and Rs 25,000 is taken from each beneficiary. In my case, after the first installment of Rs 45,000 arrived, Rs 5,000 was taken. If we don't agree, we are told that the next installment won't come," says Mal.

(TOMORROW: THE POLITICAL WAR OVER CUT MONEY)

Caste certificate

castes would neither get bene-

PM on Vijayvargiya Jr: conduct unacceptable

told *The Indian Express* that Modi said that those who had welcomed Akash after he was released from prison on bail should also be taken to task.

"The PM said those who welcomed him for what he had done should not be allowed to continue in the party. He said 'Manmaani nahin chalegi' (one cannot get away with doing whatever he or she wishes)," said one MP.

Akash, who was elected to the Madhya Pradesh assembly for the first time in the state elections last year, was arrested for assaulting an Indore Municipal Corporation official — an act

that was caught on camera.

The 34-year-old was released on bail Sunday and garlanded by BJP workers in Indore when he walked out. In a video that surfaced on social media, Akash is seen chasing the IMC official and assaulting him with a cricket bat. The MLA has defended his action and refused to apologise.

"PM Modi today conveyed a clear message to all the party members that such behaviour is totally unacceptable, be it anyone," BJP MP and spokesperson Rajiv Pratap Rudy told reporters.

Asked if the Prime Minister also suggested disciplinary ac-

tion, he said: "The PM said if somebody behaves in such a way, then action should be taken against them. He made his feelings clear."

A BJP leader pointed out that Modi also expressed his displeasure over the brazen defence by the MLA. "He (Modi) said if somebody has committed a mistake, there should have been a sense of regret as well," he said. Kailash Vijayvargiya, general secretary in charge of West Bengal, was present at the meeting.

Modi reminded the MPs that several BJP leaders have worked hard for generations to

bring success and glory to the party and acts of arrogance and misbehaviour could damage the party.

At the meeting, BJP chief Amit Shah and its working president J P Nadda were also felicitated. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi told reporters. Joshi said Modi will launch the BJP's membership drive from Varanasi on July 6 during which at least five trees should be planted by party workers in every booth across the country.

July 6 is the birth anniversary of BJP ideologue Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

HC says raze building at centre of row

building, within two days for a period of three days to "tide over the rain" — the family had moved court against the demolition. On June 26, Akash Vijayvargiya, BJP MLA and son of powerful party general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya, was sent to jail after assaulting an IMC official with a bat who was in the Ganji compound area to demolish the building that had been declared a public safety hazard.

Referring to the incident, the HC said: "This court is of the firm view that nobody is above rule of law. Nobody can be permitted to take law into their hands."

While the demolition of building number 52 and 53,

Nagar Nigam road in the Ganji compound area was initially set for Tuesday, Bherulal, a member of the family still living in the dilapidated building, approached the court Monday, challenging the IMC notice issued to vacate the house.

His advocate, former Deputy Advocate General Pushyamitra Bhargava, argued that the IMC had not fulfilled conditions such as an on record opinion of the Commissioner, and said inadequate time was given to the tenant to reply or move, while challenging the reports which had declared the building a public safety hazard.

Advocate for the IMC, Rishi Tiwari, argued that the law al-

lowed for the Commissioner to delegate authority, that several notices had been sent, and that the building in question was a public safety hazard.

In his order, Justice Rohit Arya said the activities of the IMC that are in "public interest" could not be faulted for an "individual's inconvenience." He said the case at hand was about the demolition of a building "for public good to avoid casualties and untoward catastrophic situations due to the collapse of dilapidated buildings during rainy seasons" and that the court "appreciates the steps taken by the corporation."

Meanwhile, the Indore BJP

refused to comment on the Prime Minister's remarks about the incident involving Akash. Indore BJP spokesperson Devkinandan Tiwari said, "I am not aware of what the Indore BJP stand is. You will have to speak to senior leaders."

Former MLA Jitu Jirati, who earlier spoke in favour of Akash, said: "Akash is young, and far from praising him, I think it was a condemnable event."

"It is true that something like this shouldn't happen in society, in a democracy, and if the Prime Minister has said then it is not just for the BJP and its leaders to think, but for the entire country. We will have to walk a disciplined line."

fits meant for OBCs nor SCs since a state government had no power to make any alteration to the SC list.

On Tuesday, Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, told Rajya Sabha that only Parliament has the right to remove any SC, ST or OBC group from one caste list and include it in another. Gehlot's reply came after the issue of caste certificates in UP was raised by BSP's Satish Chandra Mishra.

"This is not at all appropriate. It is the Parliament's right to remove an SC, ST or OBC caste from one group and include in another. This issue has come up in Parliament two-three times in the past, but there was no agreement. If the Uttar Pradesh government wants to remove these castes from the OBC list and include them in the SC list, then it should follow due procedure," Gehlot said.

He said if the Uttar Pradesh government follows the procedure and sends a proposal to the Centre, it will consider it. "But the direction that they (UP government) have issued now, it is not appropriate and not constitutional. I would request them (the state government) not to issue caste certificates on the basis of such an order. Otherwise the matter will end up in courts and it will be rejected and there will be no benefit."

Rajya Sabha chairman M Venkaiah Naidu directed the Minister to advise the UP government to follow the procedure.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour, Mishra said the state government does not have the power to make any alteration to the SC list. He said Article 341(1) of the Constitution prescribes the procedure for regarding castes as "Scheduled Castes". He said Article 341(2) prohibits making additions or deletions to the Presidential Order.

Lokpal function

preliminary inquiry. Also, if there is a prima facie case, the Lokpal can refer for an investigation by a probe agency like the CBI. Currently, the Lokpal is only

examining complaints. And those which are not under the ambit of Lokpal Act are being disposed. Only once the format of the complaint is notified, other processes can begin as per law," sources said.

Sources said that the "majority" cases received by the Lokpal are related to "public grievance redress, pension and service related matters" which do not fall under the ambit of the Lokpal Act. "As many as 480 cases, which don't fall under the ambit of the Act, have been disposed by the Lokpal," sources said.

The Lokpal, temporarily operating from The Ashok hotel in New Delhi, has jurisdiction to inquire into allegations of corruption against anyone who is or has been Prime Minister, or a Minister in the Union government, or a Member of Parliament, as well as officials of the Union Government under Groups A, B, C and D; it can also investigate corruption complaints against chairpersons, members, officers and directors of any board, corporation, society, trust or autonomous body either established by an Act of Parliament or wholly or partly funded by the Union or State government; it also covers any society or trust or body that receives foreign contribution above Rs 10 lakh.

On Budget table

commission it," the source said. This will incentivise the industry and with capex coming in, that in itself will kick in demand, the source said.

Reserve Bank of India data show that while the outstanding credit of scheduled commercial banks to the industry grew at a compounded annual growth rate of 2.8 per cent over the last five years from Rs 25.1 lakh crore in April 2014 to Rs 28.3 lakh crore in April 2019, the gross bank credit of scheduled commercial banks in the same period expanded by 8.5 per cent.

A closer look at the bank credit outstanding to the industry shows that the outstanding credit for micro and small and medium enterprises over the five-year period has expanded

marginally from Rs 3.56 lakh crore in April 2014 to Rs 3.66 lakh crore in April 2019, that for medium scale industries fell from Rs 1.25 lakh crore to Rs 1.06 lakh crore over the same period. So, the growth in overall industry credit outstanding is largely on account of additional credit flows to large scale industries.

Fund managers and bankers feel that while incentives on investments made may work, the government also needs to restore the trust with corporates. A senior official with a leading financial services firm said that confidence within the industry and positive conversation are key at this point of time.

"While the required confidence to kickstart investments is missing, it needs to come in now," the official said. "As an industrialist when you make investment, you take the risk of debt and invest your own equity too. I am not sure how many corporates want to do it as of now. Positive conversation has to come in to boost the confidence and build trust," the official said.

Market experts say such a move is much needed as the country is missing out on capitalising its demographic dividend that was much talked about five to ten years ago. A market expert said that a young Indian population and demographic dividend was one of the key ingredients that overseas investors looked at when they pumped in money, but that opportunity is being lost. "While a young population provides a large consuming market, 8-10 years down the line, all that population is now looking at the job market and not getting it," the expert said.

RSS honours

Known as "Placard Guy" in the network, Singh told *The Indian Express* that his team focused on collecting information through Facebook because it has the most personal location details. CTN core members claimed that the group's online mobilisation efforts led to "roughly 45 actions" against "anti-Indians".

The majority of complaints

from the expansive yet loosely-connected network were tweets tagging CTN leaders and local police handles, but CTN claims several members also filed FIRs and company and university complaints outside of social media.

In one case, an MBA student was suspended from IIMT College of Engineering in Greater Noida for a Facebook post. Sanjay Pachauri, chief proctor at the college who signed the suspension order, told *The Indian Express* that he had emailed and sent a WhatsApp message to the student after an internal complaint alerted him to the post on February 16. The student was in Kashmir for a break, and told administration that the account was not his because it had a different spelling from his name.

The college issued a suspension order, and directed the student to lodge an FIR at the police station concerned regarding the "hacked" social media ID. The student sent a copy of the FIR over WhatsApp to Pachauri and, on February 19, the police station sent a letter saying that the student was "not involved in any kind of supervised criminal activity". The student, Pachauri said, has not returned to college since and has missed his examination.

Another document from the CTN network was a suspension letter from the ICON Commerce College in Guwahati against an assistant professor. An anonymous Twitter handle connected to the CTN network tagged Assam Police's Twitter handle with a screenshot of the professor's comment, to which the official handle responded that the case was being looked into. On February 16, police lodged a case against the professor under sections of the IPC and IT Act.

The assistant professor told *The Indian Express* that she had fled her home that day because of "media hounding" and returned at the end of the month when reporters had dropped the story. She said that college management had told her to wait for a final decision on her suspension, but she was yet to hear

from them on the status of her position.

In Jaipur, a 32-year-old man was arrested on February 28 for a Facebook post regarding Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman, the IAF pilot who was captured by Pakistan security forces after he had to eject from his aircraft. The man, who was arrested and charged under sections of the IPC and IT Act, is currently out on bail, police said. "I spent three days in police custody and seven days in judicial custody. Right now I am out on bail and have appeared in court a few times. The police are yet to conclude their investigation," he told *The Indian Express*.

Four Kashmiri students, all girls, studying at NIMS university in Jaipur, were suspended on February 16 for a WhatsApp status update following the Pulwama terror attack. The post was interpreted as celebratory and after protests from fellow students and local residents, they were suspended from college and hostel with the university observing that they had posted an "anti-national message," and termed their actions "grave" and "serious in nature."

All four were booked under sections 124A (sedition) and 153B (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national integration) of the IPC as well as sections of the IT Act. SHO Vikrant Sharma said the FIR was lodged on a complaint by NIMS Deputy Registrar Sushila Chahar, but none of the four was arrested at any point.

"We investigated the case and concluded that no offence is made out against them. We then submitted our report in the court," Sharma said.

Chahar told *The Indian Express*: "Police investigated the case and filed their final report, where no offence was made out against them. Hence, we revoked their suspension order. Since then, the girls have also appeared in their annual examination."

In Katihar in Bihar, an undergraduate student was arrested from his village on February 17 for a Facebook post.

In Srinagar, a car dealership's HR department disputed the authenticity of a termination letter shared by the CTN network. The letter circulated on social media said the company fired an employee for posting "unlawful and discriminational comments". The man in question, who is still employed at the car dealership, told *The Indian Express*: "Because of this drama, I had lots of problems at home. I don't want to talk about this anymore. This photo became very viral over here. Whatever happened, happened. Why it happened, I don't know."

CTN core member Ashutosh Vashishtha said: "These documents came from our shared Google Docs. How can it be fake? Many organisations said that these people don't work here, and then when we went to check, we saw that they were hiding their employees to protect their reputation. This document is definitely verified."

— WITH INPUTS FROM HAMZA KHAN (JAIPUR), SANTOSH SINGH (PATNA)

Monsoon fury

In another incident, two men, Irfan Khan (38) and Gulshad Shaikh (37), died after drowning in their locked car in the flooded Malad Subway. Officials said a 22-year-old man was electrocuted in Vile Parle West. In Palghar, two men drowned in a surge of river water.

According to figures logged by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Mumbai's suburbs received the third-highest rainfall recorded in a single day. The IMD's Santacruz station logged average rainfall in the suburbs for a 24-hour period

ending 8.30 am Tuesday at 375.2 mm. The highest ever 24-hour rainfall for the suburbs was recorded on July 26, 2005 (944 mm), and on June 10, 1991 (399 mm).

In Kurla, the BMC requested the Navy to help in assisting stranded residents. "The team from INS Tanaji encountered extreme waterlogging and abandoned vehicles, preventing their own vehicles from reaching the site. The team moved on foot, carrying safety gear including lifebuoys and lifejackets, and was able to help elderly women and children to safer areas," said a statement from the Ministry of Defence.

Officials said about 1,000 people were shifted to safety with the help of the National Disaster Response Force, the Mumbai Fire Brigade, Naval teams and local volunteers, said officials.

The rains also disrupted air, rail and road transport services. In all, 55 flights, including 26 international flights, to Mumbai were diverted overnight. Twenty-four domestic and four international departures were cancelled. Eighteen domestic flights and four international incoming flights were cancelled, too.

In Pune, six people were killed and three injured after a retaining-cum-compound wall of an educational institute in Ambegaon Budruk collapsed late Monday night, burying the makeshift huts of construction workers on the adjacent plot. Officials said most of the deceased were migrant workers from Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

India in semis

who miscued a leg-side swing when he was on nine, but Tamim Iqbal dropped a fairly straightforward chance at deep midwicket. Considering the way the rest of India batted, who knows what would have happened had that catch been taken.

It wasn't the first time Sharma has had some luck in this tournament. In all, he has been dropped in four games, all came fairly early in his knocks and he has always made the opposition pay for it.

In India's first match, South Africa dropped him on 1 (he made 122). Australia dropped him on 2 and he added 55 more runs, England fluffed a chance in the second over and he rattled up 102 — and now Bangladesh has seen him whistle through another hundred.

Perhaps it's the pressure of getting his wicket that has created the errors in the first place. Every team knows that if they take Sharma out early, half the job is done.

Despite the win, India have lots to ponder about their batting but the bowling has been above reproach.

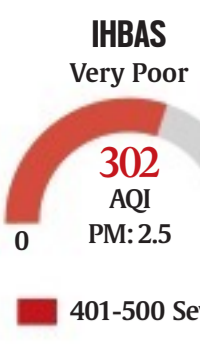
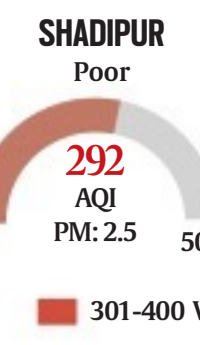
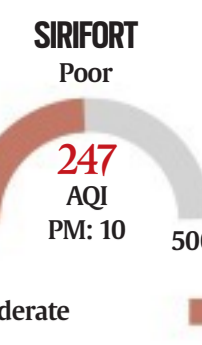
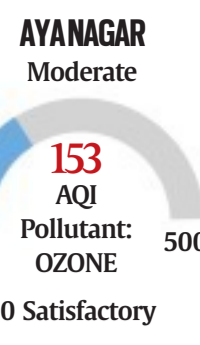
Every time Bangladesh offered some resistance, Indian bowlers pegged them back. Tamim Iqbal looked comfortable in the 39-run opening stand but Mohammad Shami bowled him off the inside edge. Then, when Liton Das gave support to the rampaging Shakib Al Hasan, pushing the score to 162, Hardik Pandya took him out.

Soon, Pandya delivered the sucker punch when he took out Shakib with a slower one to leave Bangladesh struggling at 179 for 6. They recovered with a 66-run partnership between Mohammad Saifuddin and Sabbir Rehman but Jasprit Bumrah pegged back Rehman's stumps to push Bangladesh further back in the chase. And though Mohammad Saifuddin remained unbeaten on 51, he ran out of partners as India won by 28 runs and pushed Bangladesh out of the World Cup.

FULL REPORTS ON www.indianexpress.com

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3 THE CITY



Driver-son assault: Police told to finish enquiry soon

PRITAMPAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE DELHI High Court Tuesday asked Delhi Police to conclude in four weeks its enquiry into the alleged assault on a tempo driver and his minor son in North Delhi last month. In its enquiry, police found the police personnel involved in the incident should have "exhibited greater patience and professionalism".

A bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar was further informed by Additional Standing Counsel Satyakam, representing Delhi Police, that a joint departmental enquiry has been initiated against the 10 erring personnel.

The counsel also told the court that all 10 personnel are placed at the Delhi Police 1st Battalion, so a joint enquiry can be conducted at one place only.

However, advocate Seema Singhal, who moved the court seeking to secure and protect fundamental human rights of innocent citizens, sought an independent probe by the CBI or a similar agency into the "brutal attack" be ordered. Satyakam opposed the same and said the case has been handed over to the Crime Branch.

He said "unnecessary use of force and unprofessional conduct of the police personnel" have been pointed out in the enquiry and further action will be taken. The bench then asked if proceedings against the personnel have been initiated or not and as to who is the officer conducting the same. The counsel for police replied that criminal culpability on both sides is being investigated by the Crime Branch.

The report filed by the police said "police personnel should have exhibited greater patience and professionalism," even if the tempo driver and his son were "extremely aggressive".

MEDICAL STORE, MAN IN PANDAV NAGAR ROBBED

Police suspect Model Town thieves hit other targets too

JIGNASA SINHA
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THREE UNIDENTIFIED armed assailants barged into a 24x7 medical store in South East Delhi's New Friends Colony in the early hours of Tuesday and robbed the cashier of Rs 1.2 lakh at gunpoint, police said.

After scanning CCTV footage of the incident, police suspect the assailants are the same ones who had robbed a family in Model Town as well as a wedding decorator in East Delhi's Pandav Nagar early Sunday morning.

Police have found CCTV footage in all three incidents, which shows three masked men brandishing weapons to threaten the victims and then robbing them. The most recent robbery took place on Tuesday morning when the men barged into a medical store in Sarai Jullena, New Friends Colony.

"We were working the night shift when, at around 3.40 am, three men barged into our shop. One of them was wearing a helmet, while the other two had covered their faces with handkerchiefs. They brandished pis-



tols and threatened my colleague and me... They then took all the cash from the counter and two phones. Before leaving, they pointed the pistol at us again. I thought they were going to kill me but luckily they left on a bike," said Kuldeep Kumar, the cashier at the medical store.

"We received a PCR around 5 am about a robbery at the Sanjivani chemist store. They took away Rs 1 lakh and two phones," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (South East) Chinmoy Biswal.

The first incident took place early Sunday morning when a businessman and his wife were

robbed by three armed men in Model Town, right after they pulled their Mercedes into their home's private parking. The accused, who followed the family into the parking area, also exchanged fire with police later but managed to escape.

Police believe that before they committed the Model Town theft, they allegedly robbed a wedding decorator in Pandav Nagar.

The complainant, Hukum Chand said, "I had borrowed my sister-in-law's car to go to work. Around 2.45 am, I was on my way to their house to return the car. Right after I parked the vehicle, three men rushed towards



CCTV grab from the medical store, (above) and the Model Town house

me. One of them caught me by my neck and the other held my hands. The third man started shouting at me, telling me to give him all my money. Before I could say anything, he started searching the pockets of my pants."

He alleged that they held him at gunpoint and stole his wallet, car keys, phone, a gold chain and Rs 23,000. "They were going through the car when my sister-in-law came out of the house and spotted the robbers. She shouted to alert the neighbours, and the robbers panicked and fled on their bike," said Chand.

An FIR has been registered and a probe is on, said police.

AAP, BJP spar over cost of building classrooms in schools

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

A DAY after Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari alleged corruption by the AAP government in the construction of new classrooms, Education Minister Manish Sisodia pointed to estimates of over Rs 10 crore by the South Corporation for the construction of 43 rooms in one of their schools and accused the MCD of corruption.

On Monday, Tiwari alleged the Delhi government had spent Rs 2,892 crore for the construction of 12,782 classrooms — Rs 24.86 lakh for each classroom — and said the expenses should not have been over Rs 800 crore.

On Tuesday, Sisodia said the figures used by Tiwari were estimates of the cost of setting up the classrooms, which includes sewage treatment plants, rain-water harvesting systems, class-



Sisodia shows facilities at a school in East Delhi

room furniture, laboratory equipment and other requirements.

"The number was an estimate. The actual expenditure will be half of it," said Sisodia, and took mediapersons to two schools in East Delhi to show them their facilities and justify expenses. He pointed to a sound-proof music room, two equipped hobby rooms, air-conditioned ICT labs, smart classrooms and an open auditorium at Rajkiya Sarvodaya Vidyalaya in West Vinod Nagar, and said such facil-

ities were considered while drawing up estimates.

Sisodia referred to a purported resolution of the MCD's Standing Committee, which stated an estimate of Rs 10.738 crore for the construction of 43 rooms in a certain school.

"If they estimate Rs 24.86 lakh for constructing each room, all of which are worse than ours and without the facilities we provide, it's a matter of integrity and if we do it, it's a scam?," said Sisodia.

Delhi BJP's media co-in-charge Neelkant Bakshi alleged the MCD data shown by Sisodia "to hide their corruption is false".

"MCD constructed classrooms at Rs 2,784/sq ft, including toilets and staircases. The Delhi government constructed classrooms at Rs 8,800/sq ft—three times higher than the MCD rate. It is clear CM Arvind Kejriwal and Sisodia have committed a big scam," he said.

Water supply to be hit in Gurgaon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

WATER SUPPLY in several parts of Gurgaon will be affected between 7 am and 7 pm Thursday, with the Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority planning to undertake "special repair" work of a pipeline near IFFCO Chowk.

"This is to inform that special repair of a pipeline near IFFCO Chowk from Boosting Station, Sector 16, has been scheduled for 04.07.2019, due to which

there will be full shutdown for 12 hours, and water supply will be affected from 7 am to 7 pm," states the public notice, signed by Rajesh Bansal, Superintending Engineer-III at GMDA.

Officials said the shutdown implies there will be no water supply from the Boosting Station to the Master Water Supply Zone-II. Areas impacted include Sectors 17, 29, 42, 43, Sushant Lok-I, MG Road, DLF Phase -I, II, III. "All residents are advised to use water judiciously on 04.07.2019 to avoid complete dry condition," states the notice.

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BRIEFLY

Doctors at Hindu Rao hospital call off strike

New Delhi: Doctors at North Delhi's Hindu Rao Hospital ended their agitation Tuesday, after the administration assured them of adequate security deployment inside the campus, said Resident Doctors' Association (RDA) president Rahul Chaudhary. Doctors went on strike Sunday after two of their colleagues were allegedly beaten up Saturday night by relatives of a patient who died at the facility.

Man held for killing 2 wives

New Delhi: Days after two women were found dead in Jaitpur, police have arrested their husband, Jamshed Alam (35), for the crime. During questioning, the accused confessed to his crime and told police that he first killed one of his wives because of regular fights that happened between them. When his second wife raised an alarm, he strangled her as well, claimed police.

Sanitation workers threaten strike

New Delhi: Demanding that the deputy commissioner of Karol Bagh zone be terminated from service for allegedly slapping a worker, sanitation workers in North Delhi have threatened to go on strike from Wednesday. North DMC commissioner Varsha Joshi said the official has been repatriated to his parent cadre and that an enquiry is being conducted.

Man who fled police custody held

Gurgaon: Fifteen days after a 55-year-old man, who was arrested in a cheating and forgery case in 2017, escaped police custody, he was nabbed by Gurgaon Police along with his wife from Mumbai last week, and brought back to the city Monday.

HC pulls up Delhi govt on manual scavenging

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court Tuesday sought to know from the Delhi government the reason for non-implementation of a law prohibiting manual scavenging in the capital, in view of the recent death of workers during construction work at an underground sewer line of the DJB in West Delhi's Khyala. The court directed the authorities to place their stand by July 12.

Now, app to locate drains

New Delhi: An internal application called "Tracks" has helped Public Works Department (PWD) engineers locate and cover around 2,200 drains across the city. "Over the last few months, engineers of the Road and Building Department made use of this feature and clicked photos of pot-holes," said a senior PWD official.

Five injured in firing

New Delhi: Five men were injured in alleged incident of firing at Baba Haridas Nagar Monday, police said. Members of two families got into a scuffle, following which one of them opened fire, said police. ENS



ADMISSION RACE

During sports trial for admission into Delhi University, Tuesday. Praveen Khanna

DU FIRST LIST CLOSES

Admission extension benefits some, others lose their seats

After Andhra govt had asked Delhi University to accept newly released marks

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

ONLY A trickle of students from the Andhra Pradesh education board took admission in Delhi University Tuesday, after confusion over the admission procedure drew their state government into action and resulted in an extension of the admission process under the first cut-off list by a day.

The *Indian Express* had Monday reported how the formula for conversion used by Delhi University for grade points given by the AP and Telangana state board meant that no student from the board could have scored over 95.

After the state government's intervention, late Monday night, DU admission committee chairman Rajeev Gupta wrote to the colleges, asking them to finalise admissions only against their statements of marks which were released by the state govern-



No information was put up by the university on its online portal. Gajendra Yadav

ment after the confusion erupted. It also extended the time to complete admissions till Tuesday evening. However, no information was put up by the university via a notification on its online admission portal.

On Tuesday, even officials in colleges seemed to be unaware of these directions from the admissions committee. At popular off-campus colleges like Gargi

and Kamala Nehru, no students arrived for admission. An administrative officer told *The Indian Express* that they had received no circular regarding the matter.

After the release of marks by the state board, many students lost their chance at admission as their actual marks as compared to those derived using GPA were lower than the cut-off.

An admission official at Shri Ram College of Commerce said only one student from the board was admitted after admissions were taken on the basis of marks, while the admissions of around nine students were cancelled. These students had been admitted on the first day, when their GPA was converted to 100% as per the state government's formula.

Sethu, one of the aspirants, said, "We had secured admission and even paid fees but we no longer meet the cut-off. Not only have we been asked to withdraw admission, we also have to pay the cancellation fee of Rs 1,000."

His brother, Srinivas, a third-year student at the college, said they hold the state board responsible for the situation. "All this could have been avoided had the state board not been experimental with grading. They should have considered the possible repercussions of their decision," he said.

On the other hand, there are also students like Yam Poojitha, who was admitted to Lady Shri Ram College's BA Programme.

Given that the conditions of the university for grade conversion meant that no student from the board could get more than 95%, she had not qualified for the course. But after the marks were released, she found that her best four percentage increased to 97%. "Only around six of us took admission in the college today. A number of girls whose percentages were not enough for the cut-offs have gone back home to Andhra Pradesh," she said.

(Inputs from Megha Biswas, Sarah Khan and Prapti Bhatia, interns with *The Indian Express*)

Ministry panel recommends transfer of Delhi Zoo control to central body

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE MINISTRY of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) has "decided" to shift administrative control of the National Zoological Park (NZP) in Delhi to the Central Zoo Authority (CZA). *The Indian Express* has learnt.

The move was recommended by a 'high-level committee' formed by the ministry to look into various issues reported at the NZP, including allegations of mismanagement in recording deaths of wild animals and their illegal procurement.

"In pursuance of recommendations of the... committee... and with approval of the competent authority, the MOEF&CC has decided to shift administrative control of NZP," said Joint Director (Wildlife) Dr R Gopinath in a letter dated June 18 to the CZA member secretary.

It added, "This would enable establishment of a single line of control amongst the NZP, CZA



Panel had inquired into charges of mismanagement in recording animal deaths

and MOEF&CC."

In the letter, Dr Gopinath also said the CZA is directed to set up a governing body by forming a society under its control.

Dr Gopinath could not be reached for a comment despite numerous attempts by *The Indian Express* Tuesday.

Delhi zoo director Renu Singh said a recommendation has been made to shift adminis-

trative control of the zoo by the high-level committee in its report. "I have not received a letter from MOEF&CC. However, a recommendation has been made in the report... It would have to be seen how this is implemented, considering our finances and the large number of animals we have," she said, adding that the allegations investigated by the committee were from the tenure of previous zoo directors.

At present, the zoo director is the overall administrative head and reports to the inspector general and additional director general of wildlife at MOEF&CC.

The CZA was formed as a statutory body in 1992 under the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. Every zoo in the country is required to obtain recognition from the authority. Its objectives include specifying minimum standards for the upkeep and veterinary care of animals in zoos, and recognising or derecognising zoos.

However, Dr D N Singh, former CZA member secretary, said the MOEF&CC does not

have authority to assign control of a zoo to the CZA, which is a regulatory body. "Only the Parliament is allowed to do that after amending the (1972) Act," he said, adding that he would write to the PM against the MOEF&CC's decision.

Panel to look into drug procurement

The MOEF&CC has also "decided" to set up a committee to look into the procurement of tranquilising drugs at the zoo. It would comprise the joint director of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, veterinary doctor of Wildlife Institute of India Dehradun, and a CZA representative.

The move comes after allegations were made that a vial of Ketamine, a schedule 'X' drug, went missing from the zoo inventory.

The committee will examine irregularities in procuring tranquilising drugs and the role of two zoo officials in the same. It will submit a report to the ministry within 30 days of its formation.

At top DU colleges, many Arts courses may not see 2nd list

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

WITH ADMISSIONS against Delhi University's first cut-off list closing, top colleges have seen a large number of admissions against their Arts programmes, with admissions likely to close for a number of programmes for exceeding their capacity.

On the other hand, these colleges have seen a relatively low number of admissions in the BCom (Honours) programme, which had seen cut-offs crossing 98% in a large number of colleges.

This trend is starkly clear in Kirori Mal College, which has seen oversaturation in its BA (Honours) Political Science and BA (Honours) History programmes. In the former, 290 students have been admitted against 63 seats, while in the latter, 170 students have been admitted against 63 seats.

However, not a single admission has taken place in the BCom (Honours) programme, for which the college had set a cut-off of 98.5% for the unreserved category. It has also seen no admissions in the unreserved and EWS categories in the BA (Honours) Economics programme, for which it had set a cut-off of 98.25%.

In SRCC, too, about 50% of seats in the BCom (Honours) programme are vacant. According to an admission official at the college, of 253 unreserved seats in the programme, 150 are vacant.

Kamala Nehru College is not likely to take out a second cut-off list in the unreserved category in Geography, History and Sociology Honours, while Ramjas College has seen a glut in admissions in BA (Honours) Political Science, BA Programme

Christian Scheduled Tribes get some relief at St Stephen's

New Delhi: St Stephen's College has reduced the interview cut-offs across all its courses for the Christian Scheduled Tribes category, after student organisations objected to the glaring difference between cut-offs for the category and the Christian Others category.

The college issued a notification stating that it has been done "to ensure better representation."

THE SCHEDULE

Second list	July 4
Closes on	July 6
Third list	July 9
Closes on	July 11
Fourth list	July 15
Closes on	July 17
Fifth list	July 20
Closes on	July 23

and BCom Programme. Hindu College, which had set the highest cut-off this time with 99% in BA (Honours) Political Science, has seen 90 students being admitted against 43 seats.

"The number of admissions taking place in humanities courses is an unusual trend. Earlier, Philosophy would never get filled in the first-cut off list. This year, we have seen over-admission. Last year, we struggled to fill seats for English (Honours) even in the second cut-off list, but this year, we have already admitted 25 students against 18 unreserved seats," said Hindu College principal Dr Anju Srivastava.

Ramjas College principal Dr Manoj Khanna said low number of admissions across top colleges in BCom (Honours) might be because of limited subjects permitted in the 'best of four' subjects percentage calculation, as a result of which high-scoring subject combinations are not raising percentage of applicants to the soaring cut-offs. The best four subjects must include English/ Hindi and any three among Maths, Accountancy, Economics and Business Studies/Commerce. Applicants are also required to have passed in Mathematics or Business Mathematics.

Noida: Body of 19-yr-old found stuck between two buildings

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, JULY 2

THE BODY of a 19-year-old domestic help was found stuck between two towers of a building in Noida's Sector 76 Tuesday, said police.

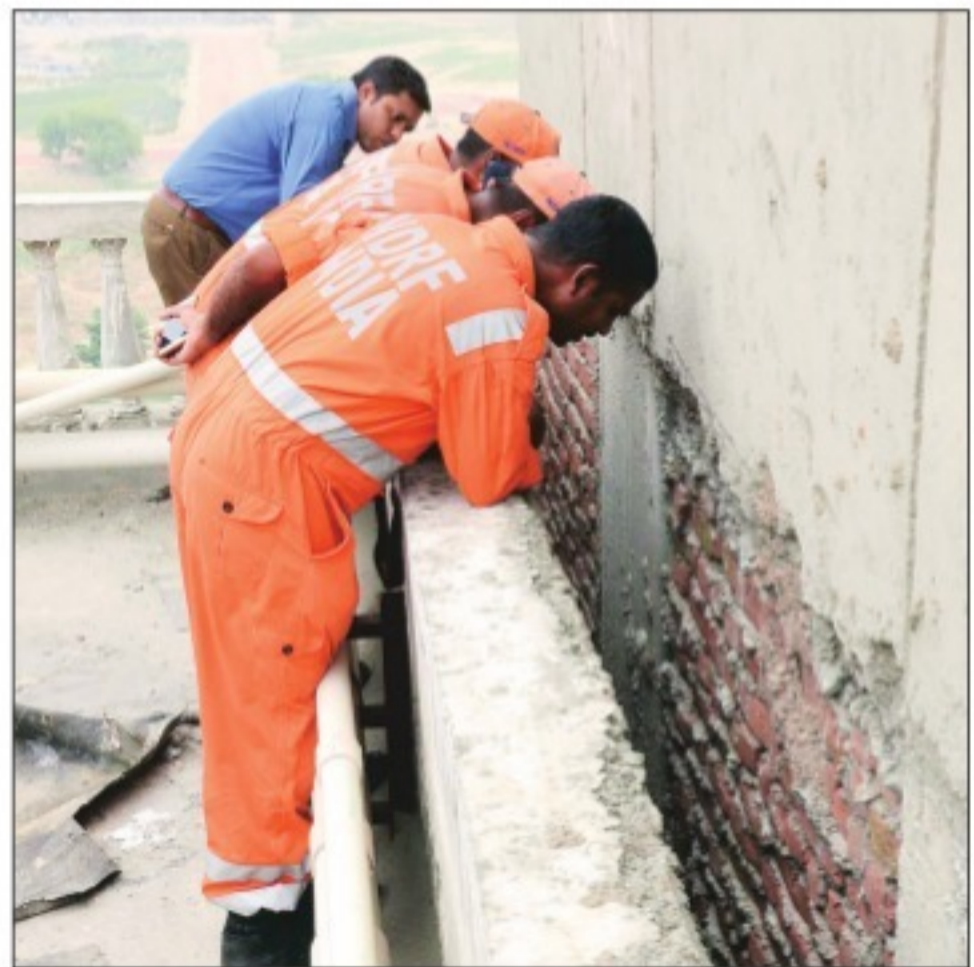
The woman, identified as Sonamuni, was found on the 12th floor of Amrapali Silicon City in a narrow passage between two buildings.

"The victim hailed from Bihar and had been working as domestic help with a family. The National Disaster Response Force had to be called in to retrieve the body. At this point, we cannot confirm whether it was a murder or suicide. We will confirm once the post-mortem report is out. Investigation is underway," said Ajay Aggarwal, SHO Sector 49.

According to NDRF officials, the teams had to use ropes and cutters to pull the body out. A hole had to be made in the wall, added officials.

According to police, the woman had allegedly gone missing a few days ago.

Police said that her employ-



The NDRF had to be called in to retrieve the body. Gajendra Yadav

ers claimed they visited the woman's parents and asked them to file a missing person complaint, but they allegedly refused and asked them to wait for two days.

Police said the woman's em-

HC seeks Delhi govt response on its health scheme

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE DELHI High Court Tuesday sought the Delhi government's stand on a PIL alleging that its health scheme, Delhi Arogya Kosh (DAK), was "discriminatory" as it requires citizens to be residents of the capital in order to access it.

DAK is a registered society which provides financial assistance to the extent of Rs 5 lakh to the needy and eligible patients for treatment of any illness/disease in a government hospital.

A bench comprising Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar issued a notice to the Delhi government and sought its stand on the petition, which also contended the DAK does not have the Lieutenant Governor's approval to implement the health scheme.

"The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi's health scheme-DAK health scheme has an unconstitutional and highly discriminatory eligibility criteria — the requirement of being the resident of Delhi — in order to access the health services in the National Capital Territory of Delhi," claimed the petition.

It has been listed for hearing next on September 16.

Abhijit Mishra, a financial economist, moved the High Court claiming the Delhi government "has not earmarked any funds in any of its budget, nor has designated and authorised DAK in the Legislative Assembly" to implement and fund the health scheme.

As per the petition, filed through advocates Payal Bahl and Ameet Singh, the scheme provides financial assistance of up to Rs 5,00,000 for treatment to those who have been residents of Delhi for the last three years, and have an annual family income of up to Rs 3 lakh.

It said the petitioner has already sent representations to ministers and top officials of the Delhi government, "against the unconstitutional and highly discriminating health scheme".

It had also claimed it had received no response from any of them.

Govt plan to raise water table: Rent land on Yamuna floodplains for ponds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE DELHI government will rent land from farmers to create ponds in the Yamuna floodplains to store water in temporary ponds and help raise the water table.

The decision was approved by the Cabinet as part of a mega conservation project.

The Cabinet also made rain-water harvesting mandatory in all government buildings.

As part of the pilot project to create small ponds, a 20-km water reservoir will be constructed from Palla to Wazirabad. A five-

member committee has been set up to execute the project and negotiate with farmers, and will submit its report on Monday. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 50 crore. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the move will increase the water table and authorities will pump out water in the ponds.

"For the time being, we are starting the project on a small scale...we will run it on a bigger level next year after studying it properly. Water will be retrieved from the bordering areas from Palla to Wazirabad. No cement structures will be used, the project will be implemented in an eco-friendly man-



ner. We will create small ponds to store water overflowing from the Yamuna during monsoon. The stored water will percolate, following which we will identify the rate of percolation and use the information for next year," said Kejriwal.

The Yamuna enters Delhi near Palla village after traversing about 224 km. Palla Well Field is a perennial source of supply of water to North Delhi.

Several studies conducted by National Institute of Hydrology and IIT-Delhi have stated that

the Yamuna floodplains in the capital has a high recharge potential.

According to studies conducted by the Delhi Jal Board, the Yamuna floodplain is spread over 1,000 acres and has the capacity to store 2,100 million gallons of water in each flooding cycle. The DJB expects 15 cycles of flooding during monsoons.

For the time being, ponds will be created between Palla and Wazirabad, where the quality of water is also the best.

As part of a pilot project, a 20-km-long water reservoir will be constructed from Palla to Wazirabad

At BJP working committee meeting, leaders flag issues

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

A MEETING of the Delhi BJP's working committee saw differences between senior leaders and concerns over the state unit's operations come to the fore. The meeting was held Saturday, and BJP working president JPN Nadda was also present along with over a hundred members. According to senior leaders at the meeting, Delhi state unit president Manoj Tiwari expressed reservations regarding party leaders not keeping the state unit in the loop while holding programmes and events. "Tiwari said senior leaders organise programmes in parks without informing the state unit. He told the gathering that districts presidents then call him, wondering what to do,"

said a senior leader present at the meeting. Tiwari also said that while holding programmes and meeting people was a good thing, the state president and general secretary ought to be kept informed. Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel shared concerns over party workers not being able to reach out to several sections of society. "Goel ji said he visited 21 parks during the day and Tiwari ji visited 21 slums at night as part of his slum stay programme, but wondered what the other leaders were doing," said a senior leader. "We might have touched those living in housing societies, villages and unauthorised colonies during elections, but we need to go to these places and tell voters about our plans if we come to power," the senior

leader said, quoting Goel. Long-time party members said two factions appear to be forming within the party, with older members questioning Tiwari's role. The singer and actor-turned-politician joined the BJP in 2013 and was made Delhi unit president in 2016. Several leaders also credited the victory of several Delhi MPs to the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. According to sources, when someone sought to question the role and participation of North West Delhi MP Hans Raj Hans, he offered a response. "After a leader said that people like Hans, who came to the party two days before the elections won because of Modi ji, he recounted his contribution during UP Assembly elections and Delhi MCD polls," a party leader said.

BOTH SIDES HAVE REACHED COMPROMISE, SAY POLICE

Police make arrests in 'temple vandalism', keep tight vigil

MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THREE MEN were arrested and a juvenile apprehended for allegedly vandalising a temple in Central Delhi's Hauz Qazi area Tuesday. One of the arrested men, police said, was earlier arrested in snatching and Arms Act cases. Investigation has revealed that the persons apprehended were protesting along with locals on Sunday. Police apprehended them from their homes Tuesday. "We have arrested three men and apprehended a minor after we identified them using CCTV footage," said DCP (Central) Mandep Singh Randhawa. The area has been tense since Sunday night, when an argument over a parking spot spiralled into a communal flare-up. Around 10.55 pm Sunday, a man identified as Aas



Police personnel deployed at Lal Kuan, Tuesday. Tashi Tobgyal

Mohammed was parking his two-wheeler outside one Sanjeev Gupta's home. "Gupta asked him not to park the scooter, saying he parked his cart there. An argument ensued... According to eyewitnesses, Aas Mohammed was beaten up by some locals, but he ran away and returned with his associates. They then assaulted Gupta," a senior

officer said. Police had registered three FIRs — including two cross FIRs against Gupta and Mohammed. The third FIR was registered in connection with alleged rioting and vandalism at the temple against unidentified persons. During questioning, police said, the arrested men said they accompanied other locals to

Gupta's home after a rumour spread that a man had been beaten to death. "They allegedly pelted stones at Gupta's home and went looking for his associate, who had allegedly assaulted Mohammed. He lives in a street where the temple is situated. Failing to trace him, they allegedly vandalised the temple," an officer said, adding that they also assaulted a police officer. In an effort to defuse the tension, members of the local Aman Committee, Jamshed Ali Siddiqui and Tarachand Saxena, held a press conference Tuesday. "It is unfortunate that such an incident happened. People from both communities have been living together peacefully for decades. Those who vandalised the temple should be punished," Siddiqui said. Saxena appreciated the role of police in maintaining peace and said the market will remain open on Wednesday.

No end to ambulance workers' protest, govt seeks action

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE DELHI government has written to Delhi Police, requesting that it issue directions under the Haryana Essential Services Maintenance Act (HESMA) to take appropriate action against office bearers of CATS ambulances who have refused to resume work, thereby affecting healthcare services in the capital. Officials said 103 ambulances of the total fleet of 265 could be made operational on Monday, after hundreds of employees from the ambulance service went on strike against the privatisation of CATS and alleged non-payment of salaries for the past three months.

"Most workers are willing to work under the new outsourcing agency. However, some CATS office bearers are provoking other workers to continue the strike. Several patients are getting affected due to this," wrote Delhi Health Secretary Sanjeev Khirwar. On Monday, a driver with CATS tried to set himself on fire outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's residence. The government had outsourced the operation and maintenance of the ambulance services to a private company in 2006 for better management of services. There are 265 ambulances in the fleet, and they attend to 1,100-1,200 calls on a daily basis.

Workers alleged they have not been paid for three months. Praveen Khanna



Workers alleged they have not been paid for three months. Praveen Khanna

Tihar officials took bribes to give inmates basic amenities: Report

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

AN INQUIRY report by a judicial officer, who was asked to probe allegations of inhuman behaviour towards inmates at Tihar Jail, has found that jail officials took bribes to provide basic amenities to inmates like one hour release per day from the ward or to avoid torture.



The High Court has initiated a PIL in the matter

It stated that the "modus operandi" used by jail officials to collect bribes was during visits by families of inmates. If the families did not bring cash, they were asked to deposit it at a bakery opposite Tihar Jail Gate No 4, said the report. The inquiry was conducted by Inspecting Judge Vikas Dhull, who was tasked by the Delhi High Court PIL committee to submit a report into the allegations after it received a letter from a convict, Bhupender, in December last year. The convict had alleged that

The report states that the convict's allegations of extortion by jail officials were "also prima facie established from statements of inmates... which were duly corroborated by an independent witness, who had himself given an amount of Rs 15,000 to a jail official...". It also ruled out the claim by Tihar authorities that Bhupender — serving a life term in Jail No 3 — has levelled false allegations and that there are 22 instances of his misbehaviour with jail staff for which he was punished appropriately as per jail rules. The report, however, did not find any evidence with regard to the convict's allegation that inmates of Jail No 3 are tortured. The committee had also asked Dhull to look into allegations of jail officials being involved in illegal activities. The report found that there is rampant use of mobile phones, tobacco and other prohibited items inside the prison.

Locals and traders speak in one voice, say disharmony bad for the area

AMIL BHATNAGAR
& SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

AT LEAST 800 Delhi Police and CRPF personnel were spread across the 800-metre Hauz Qazi stretch in Old Delhi Tuesday, after an argument over a parking spot spiralled into a communal flare-up Sunday night. Barricades at two points, ropes and a slew of officers were deployed to keep both communities under check as various groups gathered outside a temple that was allegedly vandalised the night of the argument. While broken window panes had been replaced at the temple by police, locals and members of

right-wing groups, such as Vishva Hindu Parishad's international working president Alok Kumar, visited the spot. "We've given police four days to arrest all the accused. If that doesn't happen, the Hindu Samaj will take a decision," said Kumar. He later met Police Commissioner Amulya Patnaik. For two days in a row, shops remained shut in Hauz Qazi's Lal Kuan area where the temple is located. Around 4 pm, when Manjeet Singh (45) opened his shop, located next to the temple, protesters forced him to lower the shutter. Singh said, "This disharmony is bad for business and we'll suffer for days. We have suffered losses in lakhs." DCP (Central) Mandep Singh Randhawa said, "We've told

everyone in the area to keep shops open Wednesday onwards." The DCP said he requested both communities not to react to sloganeering, and told security forces "not to be aggressive and keep the two communities apart". The temple is located in an alley and shares a wall with Zeenat Mahal, which was built by the wife of the last Mughal ruler Bahadur Shah Zafar in 1846. Resident Rakesh Gupta said, "The temple was vandalised and the accused have been arrested, but a lot of outsiders have come here to create havoc. Locals don't want this to escalate... outsiders won't let us open shops." Another resident showed messages from nearby coaching classes asking parents not to send

their children for the next two days. Many recalled that while the area has seen minor skirmishes, matters have not gone out of hand in over two decades. Apart from the heavy police and CRPF deployment, a few RWA presidents held meetings and sent messages appealing for peace and to not believe "fake or old videos" doing the rounds on social media. A group of young men from both communities held posters that read "dhodo ab yeh ladai, Hindu-Muslim bhai-bhai". The temple priest and the imam of Jama Masjid also appealed for peace. Earlier in the day, Chandni Chowk MP Harsh Vardhan visited the area and appealed for peace. Other leaders from BJP and AAP also appealed for peace.

Ex-BJP MLA acquitted for 'stopping' train in 2010

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

A DELHI Court Tuesday acquitted former BJP MLA Anil Jha and seven others for allegedly stopping Awadh Assam Express train during a 'Bharat bandh' in 2010. Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal, in his order, said "even though it appeared that there is evidence against Jha, which points towards his guilt, there are factors which diluted these evidences and weakened the case of prosecution".

न्यायालय प्रधान न्यायाधीश पारिवारिक न्यायालय बोले।
वार्ड नं. 1173
1. श्रीमती करिश्मा रत्नोनी उम 29 वर्ष पानी तनन रत्नोनी पुत्री मुक्ति रत्नोनी निवासी 624 बर्डी कमन्सरी फ्लैट मन्सूर चौकी बाना कोलकाता निवा बोले।
2. कु. मीनका रत्नोनी उम 34 वर्ष पुत्री तनन रत्नोनी संरक्षिका सती माता श्रीमती करिश्मा रत्नोनी।
तनन रत्नोनी उम 34 वर्ष पुत्र श्रीमती कुमार् रत्नोनी निवासी म.नं. 1061 सेक्टर 21 इन्दौर लखनऊ-226016 हाल पास 28/1/9 रूबर मेमोरल शाहदा दिल्ली-10032 अविवाह पत्र हिन्दो मेहन (इंफिन्स) इन्टर. पास नं. 92 एण्ड 95 सेक्टर 8 अर्ब.एम.टी. मीनरस मुकुन्दास हरिपास-122050
पुत्रिक मुदामो श्रीमती करिश्मा रत्नोनी ने अर्पण: जब एक नॉटिस जारी करे पारस पारस पास 125 सी.अर.सी.सी. के अर्पण: दास को है निहाय आरको मुक्त दिना ज्ञात है कि अना कर्तव्य 13.09.19 को म्यां व मारुन किमो कलिन के नो मुकदमा हाज से बन्दगी बर्किंग हो और मुकदमा हाज को न्यायवेदी कर को। पर कायका के इतिहास को बाना अर्पणो है इतिहास में मुकदमा हाज पर विचार होत। आज नॉटिस 29.06.19 को भेरे चलखन व मुदत अर्पणन से जारी किमो पास।
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NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, 10th July, 2019 at New Delhi, to consider and approve, inter-alia, the un-audited Financial Results of the Company for the 1st quarter ended on June 30, 2019 of the financial year 2019-20, both on Standalone & Consolidated basis. In compliance of the provisions of the SEBI (Prohibition of Insider Trading) Regulations, 2015 and the Company's "Code of Internal Procedures and Conduct for Regulating, Monitoring and Reporting of Trading in Securities by Designated Persons", the Trading Window for dealing in the securities of the Company for all the Designated Persons including Insiders, had already been closed w.e.f. July 01, 2019, and the same shall re-open on July 15, 2019. The said Notice is also available on the website of the Company at http://www.hfcl.com as well as on the websites of Stock Exchanges - The BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and The National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nseindia.com
for Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. Sd/- (Manoj Baid) Vice-President (Corporate) & Company Secretary
Place : New Delhi Date : 02.07.2019

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A notice is hereby issued to all the customers of Punjab National Bank that all the cheques deposited in the Cheque Deposit Machine of our Nehru Place, New Delhi Branch between Saturday, 29.06.2019 at 3 pm and Monday, 01.07.2019 at 9 am have been stolen and no list of the said cheques is available with the Bank. Therefore, all the customers are requested to get the payment of all such cheques stopped from their respective issuing Banks. For any further information, you may contact the Branch Head on his mobile number - 8130694821.
Date: 01-07-2019, Place: Delhi Chief Manager

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FROM THE GALLERY

FROM THE CHAIR

RAJYA SABHA
 "At 11 o'clock, the House starts. I suggest to all the Members...need to be there in their seat before the Chairman arrives. We have to follow that practice, and then anybody, who has got some urgent work with the Minister, they are supposed to talk to the Minister after the House is over..."

M VENKAIAH NAIDU, Chairman addressing the House.

LOK SABHA

"Mr Barq, I have to warn you. Newspapers are not allowed here."

MEENAKSHI LEKHI, Chairing the session in absence of Om Birla, to SP's Shafiqur Rahman Barq, who was seen reading a newspaper sitting in the last bench in the middle of a debate on a Bill.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Doctors are nearly gods and accepted mortality rate is there in the statistics of medical science. But in India today, when a patient expires the family of the patient has the gall to beat up and hurt the healer..."

KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR, TMC member.

ROLL CALL

PRIME MINISTER: Not Present
SONIA GANDHI: Present
RAHUL GANDHI: Present

5 QUESTIONS



DEAN KURIAKOSE, CONGRESS MEMBER FROM IDUKKI, KERALA, RAISED THE ISSUE OF CUSTODIAL DEATHS IN HIS STATE. HE SPOKE TO LIZ MATHEW.

You raised an issue of custodial deaths in Kerala today
 Yes. There have been repeated incidents of custodial deaths in Kerala. The last one — the death of 49-year old Rajkumar — took place on June 21. All evidences including the post mortem report clearly suggested that it was a custodial death and it happened because of continuous police torture for four days. Its the 7th such incident in last three years.

Has the state government not taken any action?
 The state government has been saying that there would be stringent action, but it was only lip service. Nothing concrete has happened yet.

You alleged that it was because of the criminal nexus between the supporters of CPI(M) and the police officers who are taking part in criminal activities. Why did you say so?
 The government has been protecting such police officers. In this case also, this particular officer, against whom the fingers are pointed, had helped the CPI(M) leaders a lot. So they are protecting the police officers.

But is it not a state issue?
 Yes, I agree, law and order is a state issue. But my demand was different. In 2014, the National Law Commission had recommended for enactment of a law for the prevention of custodial torture...It is high time for us to have such a law having uniform application across all States. This was my demand.

But there was no response from the government. Do you plans to take it up with the home ministry?
 Yes. I am collecting more details on the case. I will approach the home ministry with it.

From birth to death, cut money everywhere in Bengal: BJP MP

TMC members oppose, urge Speaker to not let Zero Hour turn into a session on Bengal

LIZ MATHEW
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE ISSUE of "cut money", which has become a flashpoint in politically volatile West Bengal, created pandemonium in Lok Sabha on Tuesday, with BJP members accusing Trinamool Congress leaders of demanding commission from people of the state for every piece of work.

The Trinamool MPs took strong exception and said that Parliament of India is "increasingly being converted into a forum to discuss the law and order issues of West Bengal".

The tension and political rivalry between the two parties played out during the Zero Hour, as Trinamool MPs protested each time the Treasury benches raised issues of law and order in West Bengal.

Raising the cut money issue, BJP MP from the state Locket Chatterjee alleged that the "menace of cut money" is "everywhere... from birth to death" in West Bengal.

Chatterjee, who won from Hooghly constituency, said: "When a child is in the mother's womb, when the mother is taken to hospital for delivery, the menace of cut money begins, as the hospital charges for the bed and treatment. And when someone expires, one is carried to the cremation ground — commission or cut money is demanded there as well. That means cut money is everywhere — from birth to death."

Chatterjee alleged that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has "accepted" the fact that cut money is being extorted. "So she has asked her men to return the cut money," the BJP MP said. "Starting from grassroots-level workers to higher-level party leaders, even ministers are involved in this racket. After eight or 10 years, you suddenly remembered that that money collected should be returned?"

Alleging that those who collected cut



BJP MP Locket Chatterjee in New Delhi on Tuesday. PPT

money are today seeking justice, Chatterjee said. "The thieves are crying for justice today."

Chatterjee alleged that the Bengal Chief Minister had said that her party workers can keep 25 per cent of the cut money purportedly collected and the remaining 75 per cent can be transferred to her. "That means the Chief Minister has 75 per cent money with her — 13 flats at Kalighat (in Kolkata), many hotels in Puri and Goa, all built using cut money," she said.

She also said, "Gold is being brought illegally from Thailand. Where is the money stashed? Ordinary people of the state are at loggerheads with the TMC government."

Amid loud protests from Trinamool MPs, Chatterjee said Banerjee should reply to the people.

Fellow BJP MP from Bengal Dilip Ghosh later raised the issue of political violence in the state.

TMC leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay requested Speaker Om Birla to ensure that Zero Hour does not turn into a time slot during which state law and order issues are raised.

Later, his party colleague Mahua Moitra also raised the law and order issue. Maintaining that the spate of "uncontrolled violence" in states such as Uttar Pradesh is ignored, she asked why is West Bengal being "singled out unfairly" for discussion.

Moitra said: "We also note with concern the over-generalisation and communal nature of these discourses. Our discourse in Parliament should be more nuanced, sensitive and truthful. To summarise, Parliament and the Government of India should avoid politicised discussions in Parliament with focus on only one state and should desist from fallacious communal biases inherent in these sweeping generalisations. This is not good for anyone."

Sonia opposes Railways proposal to corporatise production units

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

CONGRESS PARLIAMENTARY Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday attacked the Centre over the Railway Ministry's proposal to corporatise its production units, including the Modern Coach Factory (MCF) in her constituency of Rae Bareilly, and accused the government of selling the country's assets to private players at a throwaway price.

Raising the matter in the Lok Sabha during zero hour, Sonia alleged that corporatising the production unit was the "first step" towards privatising state-owned firms. "Those who don't understand the real meaning of corporatisation... it is actually the first step towards privatisation. They are selling the country's assets to a handful of private players at a throwaway price. This will leave thousands unemployed," she said as Opposition MPs thumped their desks.

Sonia said MCF is the most modern factory of the Indian Railways and manufactures best coaches at the cheapest rates.

"The factory (MCF) is producing more than its capacity. The governments had invested heavily in it. But now why the future of the workers is in limbo? It is difficult to understand why the government wants to resort to corporatisation," she said.

Sonia, who pointed out that the primary duty of the PSU is welfare of the people, said the future of 2,000 workers remains uncertain due to the government's move. She said neither the trade unions nor the workers were taken into confidence before initiating such a move.

She also took a dig at the BJP-led government for stopping the practise of having a separate railway Budget.

The Congress leader also highlighted the poor condition of other PSUs like Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. "Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had termed Public



Sonia Gandhi speaks in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. ISTV/PPT

Sector Undertakings as temples of modern India. Today, it is sad to see that these temples are under threat," she said.

Later, the Railways responded to Sonia's statement in the House, clarifying that corporatisation is not the same as privatisation.

A top official said that the Railways proposes to make a PSU called Indian Railway Rolling Stock Company, and shift the production units — including MCF, Rae Bareilly — to that.

"This means they will remain under government control but will be better managed as these production units will become fully functional PSUs. This will help drive technology partnership and modernisation. PSUs are government controlled units but function in a more autonomous and efficient manner. They give better output and their employees have better facilities than in Government," the official said. "Railways will consult with unions and ensure no harm comes to employees. Railways will also ensure best utilisation of taxpayer funds."



IN SPOTLIGHT

BJP general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya after the BJP Parliamentary Party meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. Renuka Puri

Harsh Vardhan: Bill for reforms in medical education to come soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE GOVERNMENT will soon come up with a National Medical Commission (NMC) Bill for "comprehensive reforms in the medical education sector", Health Minister Harsh Vardhan told the Lok Sabha Tuesday.

"We will soon take the NMC bill to the Cabinet and then in Parliament," Vardhan said. He said that Bill, which was introduced in December 2017, lapsed with the dissolution of the 16th Lok Sabha.

The minister was replying to the debate on the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2019, which was later passed by the House by voice vote. This Bill provides for the supersession of the Medical Council of India (MCI) for a period of two years with effect from September 26, 2018. It will replace an ordinance promulgated on February 21.

Vardhan said that the board of governors which had replaced the MCI has worked well and taken a series of steps to improve medical education in the country. He said the board has granted accreditation to more medical colleges, has increased the number of seats, has reduced procedural hurdles, and is manned by doctors of great repute.

"This is just the beginning of our work, and you will see radical reforms in the medical education of the country," he said.

Introducing the Bill, Vardhan said in the last two decades, a perception was built that



Harsh Vardhan said there will soon be "radical reforms" in medical education.

MCI has been unsuccessful in discharging its duties and that corrupt practices are prevalent in the regulatory body. "Although the National Medical Commission Bill could be introduced in the near future but to have legal continuity, every ordinance has to be converted into a law," he stressed.

Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury opposed the ordinance route taken by the government to supersede the MCI, saying it was "unhealthy" for democracy. He said the ordinance was promulgated twice by the government despite elections being around the corner. "MCI had become a scam-tainted authority," he said.

BJP's Sanjay Jaiswal said the government should look for good and whole-time professors for medical colleges.

Opposing the Bill, Gautham Sigamani Pon of the DMK said the intention of the government was to undermine the powers of the state.

TMC's Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar suggested the government do away with the entrance test for studying medicine. "We should depend upon Class 12 qualifying examination marks to get entrance into medical (colleges)...," she said.

SP's Barq mentions violence against Muslims, causes uproar in House

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

A SAMAJWADI Party member's bid to raise the issue of problems faced by Muslims in the country sparked angry exchanges between the BJP and Opposition MPs in the Lok Sabha.

Raising the issue during the Zero Hour, SP's Shafiqur Rahman Barq said that Muslims in the country are facing problems, adding that several incidents of lynching have been reported in states like Jharkhand. "We have to decide how Muslims would live in this country," he said, referring to incidents of lynching and violence against Muslims.

However, Barq's remark appeared to have annoyed BJP MPs, who rose from their seat to protest. Barq tried to complete his submission, but was impeded by the loud protests. Opposition MPs led by the Congress also stood up, demanding that Barq be allowed to complete his statement. Even Home Minister Amit Shah was seen asking his MPs to calm down. However, the uproar prompted Speaker Om Birla to call another member to speak.

Karti Chidambaram, the Congress member from Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu, raised the issue of the Keezhadi archeological site, saying that ASI must acquire the 110 acres that need to be excavated and adequate compensation must be given to residents.

"Select artifacts must be sent to carbon testing and the discovery be opened up internationally," he said.

Govt introduces teachers' reservation Bill in Rajya Sabha

ABANTIKA GHOSH
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE GOVERNMENT on Tuesday introduced the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Bill, 2019 in the Rajya Sabha, despite protests by opposition parties.

The Bill will replace the ordinance passed before the Lok Sabha polls, which provides for reservation of teaching positions in Central educational institutions for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and economically weaker sections of society.

Opposition parties protested that the Bill was tabled after a supplementary list of business was distributed in the afternoon, and thus members did not get adequate time to put in amendments. As per Rajya Sabha rules, amendments have to be submitted a day in advance. Their protests did not have any effect as Deputy Chairman Harivansh maintained that the Chairman has the authority to allow a Bill. In protest, Left MPs KK Ragesh, Binoy Viswam and Elamaram Kareem staged a walkout.

Opening the discussion on the Bill, Congress member P L Punia raised several concerns about the implementation of the reservation roster and also asked the government what the urgency was to bring an ordinance just before the Lok Sabha elections.

Earlier, the House passed the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2019, that replaced the related ordinance for the constitution of a seven-member board

of governors to replace the Homoeopathy Council that both the government and the treasury benches said had been highly corrupt.

AYUSH Minister Shripad Yesso Naik, while replying to the debate, assured the House that the council will be formed within the year, and said that it could not be constituted earlier because of a delay in compiling the state registers of homoeopathy practitioners.

The current board of governors, Naik told the House, had "successfully dealt with the matters relating to Homeopathy College permissions for the Academic year 2018-19 in a time bound manner and also made provisions in the regulations relating to implementation of National Eligibility cum Entrance Test for undergraduate and All India Postgraduate Entrance Test for postgraduate admissions. Further, they are in the process of completing the matter of permissions of colleges for the Academic Year 2019-20."

Members highlighted the need for effective regulation, but also criticised the propensity of the government to pass ordinances. RJD's Manoj Jha described the government as an "ordinance factory".

Moving a statutory resolution in opposition to the Bill, CPI member Binoy Viswam said, "The Bill says that the government has the power to do anything. They can choose the people; they can sack the people, and they can extend everything, like a Brahma..."

TMC member Santanu Sen mentioned the large numbers of vacancies in government positions in homeopathy institutes.

Digvijaya for law to check 'indecent content' online

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

ARGUING THAT fake news and the use of indecent language on social media are creating communal tension, senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh on Tuesday asked the government to bring in a comprehensive law to force social media sites to remove indecent content.

Raising the issue through a Zero Hour mention, the Rajya Sabha member, without talking names, said many people who use indecent language on Twitter and other social media sites are "followed by big people". He then asked the government to bring in a comprehensive law to force social media sites to take down such indecent content so that attempts to spread communal poison can be checked.

Observing that the issue is very important, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said, "But at the same time, you need to evolve a consensus. Otherwise, the moment you say something like that, then the others will start saying freedom of expression has been curbed..."

AAP MP: Israeli brewery using photos of Gandhi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
 NEW DELHI, JULY 2

AAM AADMI Party MP Sanjay Singh on Tuesday alleged in the Rajya Sabha that an Israeli brewery has put a picture of Mahatma Gandhi on its liquor bottles.

Raising the issue during Zero Hour, Singh said the Israeli company has "insulted the Father of the Nation" by printing his picture on liquor bottles. He demanded a ban on the company and removal of the bottles carrying the pictures.

As several members supported Singh's demand, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said the matter was serious. Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad asked Naidu to direct the government to take steps to prevent the company from entering the Indian market.

Naidu then told External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who was present in the House, to "take note" of the issue and "try to take appropriate immediate action".

7 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



READY WITH REPORTS

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi, who did not mince words in expressing his displeasure over the conduct of some party MPs and leaders on Tuesday, shared the "secret" formula behind selection of ministers in his Cabinet. Modi, who along with party chief Amit Shah had handpicked members of his council of ministers, explained to the MPs that he had made the decision on the basis of report he had prepared on them. Modi is learnt to have told them that he had records on their performance in Parliament, their attendance in the House and in Parliamentary committees, issues they raise in the House, and work in their respective constituencies. So, he told them, there is no short-cut, and only hard work will get them higher posts and opportunities.

MANGO MEN

MANGOES BECAME the centre of a debate at the Rajya Sabha leaders' meeting on Tuesday morning, with each leader trying to make a case for superiority of the fruit native to their respective home state. While Samajwadi Party MP Ramgopal Yadav was vocal in his praise for the "chausa", NCP's Majeed Memon battled for the "alphonso" from his home state - Maharashtra - and Trinamool's Derek O'Brien replied that they would not have made these claims had they had the good fortune of tasting the famed Malda mangoes.

CANCER QUERY

CONGRESS MP Ravneet Singh Bittu's question on the link between use of fertiliser and cancer in Malwa region of Punjab prompted four ministers to react in Lok Sabha. It was replied first by Minister of State for Agriculture and Family Welfare Kailash Choudhary. His colleague Parshottam Rupala then pointed out that Punjab has not yet joined the Ayushman Bharat scheme to help cancer patients. Then came their Cabinet minister Narendra Singh Tomar, who explained that there is no scientific basis to link the use of fertiliser or pesticides to cancer. But Union Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, who comes from Punjab, could not resist intervening. Badal stood up to back Tomar and added that the current Congress government in Punjab has stopped funds to a multi-specialty hospitals in the state, triggering a spirited spat between the Treasury and Opposition benches.

14 oppn parties to take on govt with poll reform debate in RS

Parties decide to seek regular discussions to get their points across, says an MP

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

IN THE first such concerted Opposition effort to pin the government down since the BJP-led NDA's massive win in the General Election, the Rajya Sabha will, on Wednesday, take up discussion on a notice on electoral reforms. The notice has been submitted by Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien and will see 14 opposition parties participate.

On Thursday, the Upper House is likely to take up a calling attention notice on drug abuse among children — an issue that was raised in the House on Monday by Congress MP Motilal Vora.

The parties that have so far signed the notice include the

Congress, Trinamool Congress, RJD, SP, BSP, Aam Aadmi Party, CPI, PDP, CPI(M), DMK, Kerala Congress (Mani), IUML and NCP.

Sources said this is the first of many joint notices to come, as the parties, even while cooperating with the government in legislative business, try to get their points of view across in a House where the numbers are increasingly getting skewed in favour of the Treasury benches.

The Rajya Sabha has worked without any disruptions so far — not even when the government decided to push through a Bill on teachers' quota in educational institutions without adequate notice.

On Tuesday, the House managed to take up all 15 starred questions listed for oral answers during Question Hour. Thirty-six

members from 13 political parties and one nominated member — K.T.S.Tulsi — raised the main questions and supplementary questions.

Besides O'Brien, leaders expected to speak during the electoral reforms debate on Wednesday are Kapil Sibal (Congress), Satish Mishra (BSP), Majeed Memon (NCP), and D Raja (CPI). Although the notice does not specifically mention electronic voting machines, the Opposition's misgivings about the machines will be voiced by speakers during the discussion, it is learnt.

Several parties participating in the discussion have been pressing for a return to ballot papers.

An MP from an opposition party who is one of the signato-

ries in the notice said, "A decision has been taken that every week the opposition parties will jointly move for one short duration discussion and one calling attention motion in Rajya Sabha. The consensus today was on electoral reforms. Although the notice only says electoral reforms, given the present state, it goes without saying that EVMs are not conducive to free and fair elections and it is time we returned to ballot papers. So naturally it will come up."

Many of these opposition parties had stayed away from the meeting called by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month to discuss his vision of "One Nation, One Election". The discussion will provide them a platform to air their views on the matter.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the inaugural session of Assistant Secretaries (IAS Officers of 2017 batch), in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

10 ways to solve things, want the 11th from you: PM to young IAS officers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Tuesday asked young IAS officers to have a "citizen-centric perspective" in their service and try to come up with holistic solutions to problems assigned to them.

He was addressing a batch of about 160 young IAS officers of the 2017 batch, recently appointed Assistant Secretaries in the Government of India.

Those present at the meeting said young officials had expected Modi to address them in a more top-down approach, but to their surprise, the Prime Minister wanted to know more from the officers than to merely speak to them.

To everyone's surprise, Modi recognised the batch as the same one he had met on his visit to the Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy in

Mussoorie for officers in 2017. "Is this not the same group that (I) met in Mussoorie?" he asked.

An official present at the meeting said that when Modi asked the officers how many of them still practised yoga like he had asked them to, the majority did not raise their hands. "Good, I like the honesty," Modi was quoted saying. This interaction lightened the atmosphere in the room, sources said.

Appointing new IAS officers in departments at the Centre as Assistant Secretaries before they go out to work in their respective cadres in states is a policy started by the Modi government in its first term.

"We are a big nation and we face big challenges. To solve these challenges, we need approaches which you can provide. You have come here to teach something and give something. I am sure there are ten ways to solve things, but from you, I expect the 11th way of doing so," a source present at the meeting quoted Modi as saying.

"The Prime Minister described the upcoming three-month attachment of the officers, in the Government of India, as extremely important, and part of a well-thought out process. He said that each and every officer has a chance to influence policy formulation, over this period," read a PMO statement.

Modi encouraged them to bring new vision, new ideas and new approaches to governance, the statement said.

During the interaction, the officers shared their experiences of field training. They sought to relate these experiences with their classroom training sessions in Mussoorie.

Officers who had worked in the Aspirational Districts related how the recent initiatives in these districts are performing on the ground.

After DMK, AIADMK set to gain as another big leader exits Dhinakaran camp

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, JULY 2

A WEEK after former AIADMK MLA and Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam (AMMK) chief TTV Dhinakaran's close aide Thanga Tamilselvan joined the DMK, Issaki Subbaiah, another leader from the Dhinakaran camp, is set to make his way out of the year-old party - to join the AIADMK.

Subbaiah, who was a former minister in AIADMK government and is an influential leader, was organising secretary in Dhinakaran's party. According to Subbaiah, he will join AIADMK in the presence of Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami and Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam on Saturday. "I wanted to make it happen with 10,000 people," he said, "but now I realise that the crowd will be bigger."

Arrangements are being made at his native town near Tirumelveli for a massive public rally on

Saturday for the formal switchover.

ERathinasabapathy, one of the three dissident AIADMK MLAs, is also likely to desert AMMK and join the ruling party the same day.

Rathinasabapathy announced

the decision on Tuesday evening and thanked state Health Minister C Vijayabaskar for facilitating his "homecoming".

Reacting to Subbaiah's exit, Dhinakaran on Tuesday said: "Leaders leaving the party for self-

ish reasons actually make the party stronger. Let them go; I will continue to run the party with true leaders."

A senior AMMK leader said, "Subbaiah joining the AIADMK was not a big deal - it will not affect Dhinakaran. But he never expected Tamilselvan will go to the DMK."

Tamilselvan was seen as Dhinakaran's strong support in Theni. With the party seemingly weaker with the exit of some key faces, and many more are feared to be considering taking the same path, sources close to Dhinakaran said he will soon launch a padayatra to gather mass support.

Challenges began for AMMK after the recent Lok Sabha polls, in which the party had put up candidates in all Lok Sabha seats in Tamil Nadu as well as the 22 Assembly constituencies that went to the bypolls, expecting a decent show even if not many seats. The party failed to win a single seat - worse, its vote-share was much lower than expectations.

Plea in SC calls for ban on promise of govt schemes, sops ahead of polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

DO DIRECT Cash Transfer schemes announced by governments in power, and the promise of freebies ahead of elections, amount to bribes and consequently, a corrupt practice under the election law?

This question came before a Supreme Court bench of Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose in the form of a petition seeking a ban on the same. The apex court has subsequently issued notices to the Centre, the Election Commission, and five state governments.

Petitioner Pentapati Pulla Rao, who contested the Lok Sabha elections from Andhra Pradesh's Eluru constituency on a Janasena Party ticket, in his plea referred to the Centre's PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme and others schemes by the Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana, Odisha and Jharkhand governments.

Rao said that though Articles 112 and 202 of the Constitution permit defraying of funds from the Consolidated Fund for public purpose, the Centre and state governments named in the petition "have spent the public money for their political purpose to get electoral advantage over the opponents".

His petition said that "parties in power have been taking advantage of treasury and knowing about the schedule of the

elections implemented Direct Cash Transfer schemes with a motive to get votes/influence the free and fair elections. Though this does not technically come under Model Code of Conduct as per the present Code of Conduct, the intention of implementing the Direct Cash Transfer one or two months before the announcement of election schedule and transferring the cash to the accounts of voters is clear case of bribery..."

It said, "To counter the parties in power, political parties such as Indian National Congress have promised Freebies/Rs 72,000 cash transfer in their manifestos during the General elections-2019", adding that "political parties have incorporated various Direct Cash Transfer schemes, loan waivers etc in the manifestos without considering the financial burden on the government and without considering the possibility of implementation".

Rao's petition pointed out that the apex court in July 2013 had asked the Election Commission to frame guidelines with regard to distribution of various schemes before elections by political parties to stop corrupt practices and electoral bribes, also directing the Union of India to frame appropriate legislation.

But "no effort was made by the Union of India and Election Commission of India for the implementation of the directions passed by this Hon'ble Court", the petition said.

KARTARPUR CORRIDOR

Pak proposes July 14 for second meeting with India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, JULY 2

PAKISTAN PROPOSED July 14 for the second meeting with India to discuss the draft agreement for finalising the modalities of the Kartarpur corridor and related technical issues, the country's Foreign Office said on Tuesday.

The corridor will connect Darbar Sahib in Pakistan's Kartarpur with Dera Baba Nanak shrine in Gurdaspur district and facilitate visa-free movement of Indian Sikh pilgrims, who will have to just obtain a permit to visit Kartarpur Sahib, which was established in 1522 by Sikh faith founder Guru Nanak Dev.

"Pakistan, today, conveyed to India that the second meeting to discuss the draft agreement for finalising the modalities of Kartarpur Corridor and related technical issues will be held on 14th July 2019 at Wagah," the Foreign Office said.

"The Indian side has been requested to convey the composition of its delegation," it said in a brief statement.

It said Pakistan was committed to expedite progress on the matter to ensure that the corridor is operationalised in time for the 550th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev in November 2019.

The first meeting of officials of Pakistan and India to finalise the modalities of the landmark corridor was held in Attari in the shadow of escalating bilateral tensions in March following the Pulwama terror attack by a suicide bomber of Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed on February 14.

The meeting was "constructive" and the discussions were held in a "cordial environment", the Foreign Office had said. India had conveyed its concerns over the presence of several Khalistani separatists in a committee appointed by Pakistan on the Kartarpur corridor.

Case against TRS MLA, son for obstructing forest officials

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD, JULY 2

TELANGANA RASHTRA Samiti (TRS) legislator V Venkateshwara Rao and his son Raghav Rao have been booked by police for obstructing forest officials during an afforestation drive.

A case against the Kothagudem MLA and his son was registered on Tuesday at Lakshmedevipally Police Station for stopping forest officials led by Deputy Forest Officer M R Rao from doing their duty at Lothuvag village in Telangana's Bhadrachali Kothagudem district on Monday.

"Forest officials were digging to plant saplings and constructing a wall to prevent encroachment of forest land when several people arrived there and confronted the forest officials. MLA Venkateshwara Rao and his son arrived and asked us to leave. When we were leaving they started filling up the

trenches," M R Rao said.

In another incident in the same district, two forest officials were beaten up by villagers late Monday night. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) P K Jha said that the two officers had gone to Gundalpadu village after receiving information that some people had started cultivating on forest land in Mulakalappalli forest division.

"The forest officers asked them to stop as it amounts to encroaching forest land but they got into an argument and a few persons assaulted the two officials," Jha said.

Based on the officials' complaint, a case has been registered at Mulakalappalli Police Station against six persons, SP Sunil Dutt said. "We will take strict action against anyone involved in attacking or preventing government officers from doing their duty. We have told forest officials to inform us before going to disputed sites so that we can provide police protection," Dutt said.

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE HIGH drama that had played outside 10, Janpath and the adjoining All-India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters in 2004, when then party chief Sonia Gandhi refused to take over as Prime Minister, is a stuff of Congress folklore. While Rahul Gandhi's decision to step down as Congress president was bereft of such drama so far, party workers managed to inject some drama on Tuesday.

Approximately 200 Congress functionaries assembled at 24, Akbar Road - the AICC headquarters - in the morning for an indefinite sit-in, urging Rahul to change his mind. While the sit-in was called off by sundown, there was a sham suicide attempt, evoking memories of former MP Ganga Charan Rajput getting atop a car outside 10, Janpath and pointing a pistol at his head, threatening to kill himself if Sonia did not agree to become the Prime Minister in 2004.

Rahul is said to be unhappy with the orchestrated events. The party's elders allege that the sit-in and mass resignations are being organised by those working in Rahul's office.

While the drama surrounding Rahul's decision has been dragging on for over a month now, sources in the party said a resolution is not in sight for at least a week now. Party leaders said Rahul and Sonia will travel abroad later this week to visit Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's husband Robert Vadra, who is said to have either undergone or is slated to undergo a surgery at an undisclosed location.

Priyanka is already said to be abroad. One party leader said Rahul and Sonia could leave by Saturday,



Rahul Gandhi at Parliament on Tuesday. Renuka Puri

and any decision to end the stalemate can be expected only by July 10 or afterward.

At the AICC, hours after some party functionaries began an indefinite protest, Congress veteran Motilal Vora addressed them in the evening, telling them that their sentiments would be conveyed to Rahul Gandhi. Those on dharna then watched the acclaimed film 'Gandhi' and dispersed.

While the sit-in was on, a Delhi Congress worker, who some leaders identified as one Aneez, tried to climb on a tree with a rope in an apparent suicide attempt. He was stopped by the security personnel and taken away.

Organisers of the sit-in said the man had nothing to do with them. One of them said the man was an acolyte of Jagdish Sharma, a regular outside the AICC headquarters along with a handful of his supporters to celebrate birthdays of Nehru-Gandhi family members.

Explained

Stuck in a lean patch

TTV DHINAKARAN had begun his post-AIADMK political career with a flourish, defeating the ruling party's candidate by a huge margin to win the bypolls from RK Nagar, late AIADMK chief and Tamil Nadu CM J Jayalalithaa's seat. After launching AMMK in March 2018, he had promised to weaken his former party. But the party's rout in the Lok Sabha polls and by-elections to 22 Assembly seats has meant that many leaders in his camp are searching for greener pastures. They know that Dhinakaran's immediate political future will be tough, and given that AIADMK's good show in the bypolls has meant that the Palaniswami government is safe for its term until 2021, there's hardly any chance of coming even close to power. At least in near future.

the decision on Tuesday evening and thanked state Health Minister C Vijayabaskar for facilitating his "homecoming".

Reacting to Subbaiah's exit, Dhinakaran on Tuesday said: "Leaders leaving the party for self-

Mamata gov't gives nod to 10% EWS quota

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, JULY 2

THE TRINAMOOL Congress government in West Bengal on Tuesday approved 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) in government jobs and educational institutions.

The state government's decision comes six months after the BJP government at the Centre brought in a law to provide 10 per cent EWS quota by amending the Constitution.

"It's a historic decision. There are many factors to define someone who belongs to the economically weaker section. These de-

tails will be mentioned in the government order that will be issued soon," Parliamentary Affairs Minister Partha Chatterjee told reporters.

"The existing reservation for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs will stay as they were. This new quota is for those outside these categories," Backward Classes Welfare Minister Rajib Banerjee said.

At present, West Bengal provides 45 per cent reservation — Scheduled Castes (22%), Scheduled Tribes (6%) and Other Backward Classes (17%).

Congress government in Madhya Pradesh also gave nod to it.

Meanwhile, Opposition parties welcomed the state government's move, but expressed concerns over its implementation.

"We are happy with the decision, but we have concerns over the process of the identification of the beneficiaries. We want a foolproof system to ensure that only deserving people are identified as beneficiaries," senior Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Abdul Mannan, said.

Left Front Legislature Party leader Sujan Chakraborty said, "So far, this was not imple-

mented here, while it was adopted across the country. The state government must immediately start identifying people who will fall under this category. There should not be any discrepancies in the identification process."

BJP leader Manoj Tigga said, "While it is good to see that the state is following the Centre's footsteps, we have concerns whether corruption will take over the process of identifying the beneficiaries."

The state government's decision comes a day after the Supreme Court agreed to hear petitions challenging the constitutional amendment of providing 10 per cent EWS quota.

RAJASTHAN HC stays order directing govt to cancel driving licences of illiterate persons

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAIPUR, JULY 2

THE JAIPUR Bench of Rajasthan High Court, which in May directed the state government to recall driving licences granted to illiterate persons while observing that it was "virtually a menace" since they would not be able to read traffic signs, has stayed its earlier order.

A bench of Justices Mohammad Rafiq and Narendra Singh Dhadha on Monday stayed Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma's order issued on May 24.

Currently, there is no minimum educational requirement for obtaining a "non-transport licence" in the state, while a transport vehicle driver needs to have cleared class VIII for a "transport licence" under Rule 8 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.

The High Court was hearing a petition filed by Deepak Singh. As per his counsel, Deepak is unlettered and has a Light Motor Vehicle licence since 2006 as there is no minimum education criterion for an LMV. However, he approached the court as he also wanted a licence to drive transport vehicles.

"A driver should know how to drive, and it is easy to understand the traffic signs... we had argued that it is mostly those with low literacy levels who choose driving as a source of livelihood," said advocate Satish Khandelwal, appearing for Deepak.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has decided to remove the minimum educational qualification for driving a transport vehicle. On June 18, the ministry said that the move was aimed at ensuring benefit to skilled persons from economically underprivileged sections.

Hearing case on row between church factions, SC asks: Is Kerala above the law?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE SUPREME COURT on Tuesday lashed out at the Kerala Chief Secretary over a dispute between two church factions and asked whether the state was "above the law".

"Enough is enough... Is Kerala above the law? We can't tolerate this any more. Tell your client that he is already in contempt... We will call your Chief Secretary and send him to jail directly from here," Justice Arun Mishra, heading a bench with Justice M R Shah, told senior advocate Jaideep Gupta, representing the state.

The issue relates to the more than a century-old row between the Orthodox and Jacobite factions of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church over administration of various churches in its fold and its properties.

A Supreme Court bench headed by Justice Mishra had, in July 2017, delivered a judgment upholding the rights of the Orthodox faction.

Following the ver-

The issue relates to the row between the Orthodox and Jacobite factions of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

dict, the Orthodox faction approached the Kerala High Court seeking police protection to enter and conduct worship rituals in a few churches. The HC disposed of the plea with a direction to provide security if the circumstances demanded it.

The Orthodox faction approached the apex court against the HC order.

The Orthodox church has alleged that the state has failed to provide security to conduct worship in the churches, which angered the apex court.

Hearing the plea on Tuesday, the bench led by Justice Mishra said, "There are two judgments — one by (a) three-judge bench and (the) second we pronounced. It is crystal clear. You are trying to prolong the implementation of that. After the judgment, 10 writ petitions came to this court."

In its order, the bench directed that its order should be implemented.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Following E-tenders are invited by DRM (WA) NWR/Ajmer at 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. 1. Tender No. : 108/2019, Name of work : ADEN-Abu Road Sub Division : Zone No. 21 (2019-20) - Hiring of Utility, Tractor with Trolley, JCB, Hydra in jurisdiction of ADEN-Abu Road. Approximate Cost : Rs. 24,27,908.30, Earnest Money: Rs. 48,600.00, Tender Closing Date : 24.07.2019. 2. Tender No. : 109/2019, Name of work : Marwar Jn. - Providing Permanent Connectivity from DFCCIL IR Track for Goods train operation at. Approximate Cost : Rs. 12,27,176.87 Earnest Money : Rs. 24,600.00, Tender Closing Date : 24.07.2019. 3. Tender No. : 112/2019, Name of work : Ajmer Division-Hiring of Five Nos. Utility Vehicles (Double Cab) (1.0MT Capacity) for SSE (PWay) USFD, for the period of 24 months. Approximate Cost : Rs. 44,35,348.80. Earnest Money: Rs. 88,700.00. Tender Closing Date : 24.07.2019. The detailed information of the above tender is available on website www.ireps.gov.in and Tender Notice Board of DRM Office, NWR/Ajmer. 621-AD/19 Please join us on www.facebook.com/NWRRailways

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

सं. ईसीआर/सीएओ/कॉन-उत्तर-ई/निविदा/उत्तर/33/19-20 दिनांक 27.06.2019 E-Tender Notice No.- ECR-CAO-C-N-ETN-33-19-20. E-Tender is invited on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work. 1. Name of work with its location : Rehabilitation/Rebuilding of Sub structure of Existing Bridge No 5 (1x30.50M OVG) in (1x61.00M OVG) and Existing Bridge No 7 (1x30.50M OVG) in (1x61.00M OVG) on well foundation, construction of Temporary Diversion to Bridge No 5&7 and erection of Open Web Girder (2x61.00M) on Br. No 5&7 between Nirmali-Saraighat in Samastipur Division, 2. Approx. cost of the work of : ₹27,97,25,839.81, 3. Earnest money to be deposited : ₹15,48,600/-. 4. Date and time for closing of tender : 19.07.2019 at 14.30 hrs. 5. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc. : The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. Note : In case of any discrepancies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> at least 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender. CAO/Con/North/ECR/ Mahendruhat, Patna PR/0623/CON/ENGG/T/19-20/40

SALEM SMART CITY LIMITED INVITATIONS FOR BIDS

Rec. No. : SSCL / 4975 / 2017 Date : 02.07.2019
I Redevelopment of Periyar Perangadi Rs. 1810.00 Lakhs
Bid document and other information available at www.tntenders.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.salemcorporation.gov.in Tender document can be downloaded from the above website.
Date, Time and Venue for Tender Procedures.
Submission of bids - 06.08.2019 up to 3.00 P.M
Opening of bids - 06.08.2019 at 3.30 P.M
Commissioner, Salem Corporation and Managing Director, Salem Smart City Limited
DIPR/ 2233 /TENDER/2019

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

ई सी आर - सी ए ओ - कॉन - उत्तर - ई - निविदा - 47-19-20 दिनांक 27.06.2019 E-Tender Notice No.- ECR-CAO-CON-NORTH-ETN-47-19-20. E-Tender is invited on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work. 1. Name of work : Linking of BG track including dismantling BG track, transportation of P-way material, carting & stacking released materials, Unloading and spreading of ballast, unloading 60 kg rails, spreading of PSC sleepers, linking & packing of BG points and crossing etc. between SGL (Incl) Approx Km. 186.00 to NKE (Excl.) Approx Km 246.00 in connection with doubling of Sagauli - Narkatiaganj section under DY.CE/Con/BTH. 2. Approx cost of the work : ₹15,76,84,668.33, 3. Earnest money : ₹9,38,400/-. 4. Date and time for closing of tender : 22.07.2019 at 14.30 hrs. 5. Website particular, Notice board location where complete details of tender can be seen and addressed of the office from where the tender form be purchased etc. : The above E-Tender, E-Tendering document alongwith full information is available on website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in> and also can see in the office of CAO/Con/ECR/MHX, Patna. Note : Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> at least 15 days before last date of closing for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in response to this E-tender. CAO/Con/North/ECR/ Mahendruhat, Patna PR/0624/CON/ENGG/T/19-20/44

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

On this momentous occasion of BATALIK DAY we salute and remember CAPT MANOJ KUMAR PANDEY, Param Vir Chakra (POSTHUMOUS) who laid down his life while evicting Pakistani intruders during the Kargil War in 1999.

Capt Manoj Kumar Pandey, an alumnus of Sainik School, Lucknow, NDA and IMA, was commissioned in 1/11 Gorkha Rifles in Jun 1997. On 03 Jul 1999 on the rocky slopes of Khalubar (Batalik Sector), this brave officer fought the enemy courageously and destroyed bunker after bunker inspite of being grievously injured. While breathing his last he roared to his men 'Don't leave them', to which the brave Kirant's responded befittingly. To this brave martyr we pledge that we shall always be guided by his immortal spirit and do his name proud.

The Nation would also remain indebted to the supreme sacrifice of the following brave soldiers who alongwith Capt Manoj Kumar Pandey, Param Vir Chakra (POSTHUMOUS) made the supreme sacrifice during 'OP VIJAY' on this day in 1999:-

HAV BHIM BAHADUR DEWAN, VRC	HAV GANGA RAM RAI	RFN KALU RAM RAI	RFN KARNA BAHADUR

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

POLICE HEADQUARTERS JAMMU AND KASHMIR, SRINAGAR NOTICE

1. Whereas this Hqrs. issued a Supply Order No. Elect-118/10-11/2511-13 dated 08.03.2011 with M/s. Insat Techno Services, SCO-53, Sector 20-C, Tribune Road, Chandigarh - 160020 for Supply of Wireless Conferencing System Make Bosch;

2. Whereas your concern delivered and installed the said equipment at Conference Hall PHQ, Srinagar;

3. Whereas, Vide this Hqrs. Letter No. Prov-II/Elec/02/2018-19/44561-63 Dated: 25.06.2018, your concern was intimated that the system has developed a Technical Glitch due to which the Delegates (Mics) keep going out of range frequently;

4. Whereas, the proforma invoice raised by your concern for visiting charges and rectification of minor issues was approved by PHQ J&K and accordingly was conveyed vide Letter No. Prov-II/Elec/02/2018-19/67940-44 Dated: 11.10.2018;

5. Whereas, despite repeated reminders there has been no response for resolution of the said issue;

6. Whereas, the matter stands taken up with OEM, Bosch Limited, Bangalore for early disposition of matter;

7. Whereas, your concern being the supplier of the above mentioned equipment, it is the responsibility of your concern to address the issue;

Now therefore, by virtue of this Notice, you are directed once again to depute Service Engineer within a week's time to examine the supplied equipment, failing which or in event of non-satisfactory remedial action within stipulated time, this Hqrs. will invoke action against your Firm to bar business of your concern through GeM besides Blacklisting of your concern by publishing Notice in all National Dailies.

M/S. Insat Techno Services, SCO-53, Sector 20-C, Tribune Road, Chandigarh - 160020. Sd/- Mubassir Latifi (JKPS), AIG (Provision & Transport), For Director General of Police, J&K-Srinagar. E-mail: insat.techno@gmail.com/mittal.sunny@in.bosch.com Dated: 29.06.2019
DIPK-NB:- 1519/19

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank Symbolic Possession Notice

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Punjab National Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued demand notice/s on the dates mentioned against each calling upon the respective borrower/s to repay the amount as mentioned against each account within 60 days from the date of notice(s) date of receipt of the said notice(s). The borrower/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned against each account. The borrower/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties/ies and any dealing with the properties/ies will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank for the amounts and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Branch & Name of the Borrower/Guarantor	Description of Mortgaged Immovable Properties	Date of Demand Notice	Date of possession notified	Amount outstanding + interest and other Charges w.e.f.
BRANCH-TILAK ROAD Borrower/Mortgagor: M/s Bhupesh Kumar Shikshan Evam Vikas Sansthan President, Shikshan Kumar S/o Sh Shiba Nath, Address: 1-Lucent International School, Manduwalla (Kothari), Sudhawali, VIA Prem Nagar, Dehradun- 248007. Address: 2- Gurukul Tutorial & Hostels, Sewa Kalan, Majra Chowk, West Canal Road Dehradun 248001, Address 3- Road No. 13(B), Rajender Nagar, Patna 800116. Address: 4- Agyaspur P.O Tehwara, P.S. Singhwara District Darbhanga (Bihar).	Description of Immovable Property Land and Property at Khasra No. 1053 Measuring 0.0401 hec 1056 Measuring 0.445 hec 1057 Measuring 0.308 hec, 1967 Measuring 0.531 hec & 1968 Measuring 0.426 hec (New Khasra No. 628,629,718 ka 630, 631,719 & 720) consisting of school building hostel campus guard room etc at Mauza Kanswali Kothri Pargana Pachwa Doon Tehsil Vikas Nagar District Dehradun at book No. 1 vol 633, page 129, ADF Book No. 1 Volume 1376, pages 257 to 272 at serial No. 2917 dated 04.05.2010 Butted & Bounded as Under: North: Property of Others, East: Road, South: Property of others, West: Property of others	25.03.2019	29.06.2019	Rs. 6,89,27,699.73/- + interest and other Charges w.e.f. 01.02.2019

Date: 02.07.2019 Place: Dehradun Authorised Officer, Punjab National Bank

Coal India Limited
A Maharatna Company
Notice for Open Global e-Tender cum Reverse Auction
1. Tender No. CIL/C2D/OTR TYRE/2019-20/342 Date: 28.06.2019. 2. Item Description: Procurement of OTR Tyres of Size 30.00 x 51 - 46 PR. 3. Estimated Tender Value : Rs. 13,35,29,600.00. 4. Tender Document: There will be no physical sale of tender document. The complete tender documents can only be downloaded from Coal India Limited website (www.coalindia.in), Central Public Procurement Portal (www.eprocure.gov.in) and CIL's e-Procurement Portal (www.coalindiatenders.nic.in). All necessary details may be seen from the tender document available in the above websites. General Manager (MM)

परिचमंचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि.
ई-निविदा रिटेंडर सूचना: इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा संख्या 12/2019-20, 13/2019-20 एवं 14/2019-20 को रिटेंडर किया जाता है जो दिनांक 08.07.2019 को खोली जायेगी। कृपया वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर विस्तार में सभी जानकारी विवरण/ डाउनलोड तथा अन्य किसी भी प्रकार के संशोधन/ विस्तार के लिए ई-निविदा खोलने को दिनांक से पहले तक लॉग ऑन करें। अधीक्षण अभियंता, विद्युत नगरीय वितरण मण्डल, मुजफ्फरनगर। राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाव व बिजली चोरी को सूचना हेतु पता नं. - 9412207451 एवं 0522-2287747 पर ई-पत्रांक सं. 1614/ वि.न.वि.म./ मु. नगर/ कार्य दिनांक: 02.07.2019

परिचमंचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि.
विक्टोरिया पार्क, मेरठ तिथि विस्तार सूचना
इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रित की गयी अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं.-02/वि.कार्यशाला खं./मेरठ/आपूर्ति/2019-20 एवं अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सं.-03/वि.कार्यशाला खं./मेरठ/कार्य/2019-20 जो विस्तारित दिनांक 02.07.2019 को खोली जानी प्रस्तावित थी, को तिथि को किन्हीं अपरिहार्य कारणों से दिनांक 09.07.2019 तक विस्तारित किया जाता है। अन्य नियम एवं शर्तें अपरिवर्तनीय रहेगी। अधीक्षारी अभियंता, विद्युत कार्यशाला खण्ड, प.वि.वि.नि.लि., मेरठ पत्रांक: 602 दिनांक 02.07.2019

बिहार सरकार
जल संसाधन विभाग
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, बिहारशरीफ
निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-03 वर्ष 2019-20
(केवल ई-टेंडर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in पर)
पत्रांक- 985 अणु/बिहारशरीफ. दिनांक-28.06.2019

क्र.सं.	कार्य का नाम	प्रारंभिक राशि (लाख रु में)	अग्रचन की राशि (लाख रु में)	परिमाणु वित्त का मूल्य (अप्रारंभिक) (रु.)	बैटिंग को देय "बीड प्रोसेसिंग फी" (अप्रारंभिक) (रु.)	कार्य समाप्ति की राशि (लाख रु में)
1	शेखपुरा जिला अन्तर्गत घाटकुशुम्बा प्रखण्ड के ग्राम गंगौर मोड़ से ओरेया माफो एवं बेलोनी खेता तक जीर्ण-शीर्ष जमींदारी बांध का उच्चोत्करण एवं सुदृढीकरण कार्य।	842.65	42.15	10,000/-	17,700/-	31.05.2020

1. कार्य का विवरण :-
2. विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता : कार्यपालक अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, बिहारशरीफ।
3. निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना निर्गत करने की तिथि : दिनांक 28.06.2019
4. निविदा कागजात डाउनलोड करने की अक्की : दिनांक 18.07.2019 से 23.07.2019 के 3:00 बजे अपराह्न तक। (केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in पर)
5. प्री-बीड मीटिंग का तिथि, समय एवं स्थान : दिनांक 16.07.2019 को 3:00 बजे अपराह्न में मुख्य अभियंता, बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण, जल संसाधन विभाग, पटना के कार्यालय में।
6. निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 25.07.2019 समय 3:00 बजे अपराह्न। (केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in पर।)
7. तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : दिनांक 29.07.2019 समय 3:30 बजे अपराह्न (केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in पर।)
8. वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय : साक्षम पदाधिकारी द्वारा बाद में वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in पर घोषित की जायेगी। (केवल वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in पर।)
9. निविदा खोलने का स्थान : 120 दिन।
10. निविदा वेबसाइट का पता : www.eproc.bihar.gov.in & www.prdbihar.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
11. विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने हेतु वेबसाइट www.eproc.bihar.gov.in & www.prdbihar.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
(ई० जयदेव प्रसाद) कार्यपालक अभियंता
PR. No. 03578 (WRD) 2019-20 बाढ़ नियंत्रण एवं जल निस्सरण प्रमंडल, बिहारशरीफ
विटिया मेरी अभी पढ़ेगी, शादी की सूली नहीं चढ़ेगी।

NOTICE BOARD CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY EVENTS, HONOURS



CELEBRATION-WAPCOS
WAPCOS celebrated its Golden Jubilee on 26th June. In commemoration of this occasion, the Company organized Golden Jubilee Celebrations with the theme "Transcending Boundaries - Touching Lives" at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi. GS Shekhawat, Union Minister, Ministry of Jal Shakti was the Chief Guest of the event. Rattan Lal Kataria, MoS, Ministry of Jal Shakti and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was the Guest of Honour, in the august presence of U.P. Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Dignitaries from several countries was present during the function.



PATROL- DELHI POLICE
Delhi Police conducted "General Gasht" across the city in the intervening night of June 28 & 29. Maximum staff was mobilized during the exercise. All senior officers, including the Commissioner of Police, Delhi, inspected the deployment and alertness of the staff. The Commissioner of Police along with Spl. Commissioner (Law & Order) inspected the vulnerable stretches, including those which had recently reported crime; and assessed the possibility of enhancing police visibility to prevent recurrence of crime. The officers also identified the stretches which required rearrangement of deployment to plug the gaps.



MASS AWARENESS EVENT -DEPT. OF WCD
Dept. of WCD, Govt. of Delhi celebrated International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking by participating in the run organized at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium. All the stake holders put their best efforts to involve the masses.



MEET -NHPC
NHPC Ltd conducted a one-day O&M Meet at New Delhi on June 26. The meet was chaired by Balraj Joshi, CMD, NHPC, in presence of R Kumar, Dir (Projects), M.K. Mittal, Dir (Finance), J Choudhary, Dir (Technical) and Ved Prakash, CVO.



ACHIEVEMENT -NTPC
NTPC has been adjudged 14th in the 2019 'Great Place to Work' rankings for India. The organisation has also been named the 'Best PSU' & 'Best organisation' in the 'Organisations with more than 10,000 employees' category for 2019.



FINANCIAL RESULTS -PDIL
PDIL adopted its Audited Accounts for FY 2018-19 in the Board Meeting held on June 22. During FY 18-19, PDIL achieved highest ever turnover of Rs. 131.50 cr, highest ever Revenue from Operations of Rs. 116.50 cr.



ANNUAL DAY- CEL
CEL celebrated its 45th Annual Day. On this occasion Dr Shekhar C Mande, Secretary, DSIR & DG CSIR graced the occasion and inaugurated the Solar Technology Park developed by CEL.



INT'L YOGA DAY- RVNL
RVNL, like every year, observed International Yoga Day this year on June 21. Senior officials and employees of RVNL celebrated the day by practicing yoga under the supervision of a trained yoga teacher.

9 EXPRESS NETWORK



NORTH

Ban on plastic in Mount Abu from August 15

Mount Abu: The Sirohi administration and the Forest Department have decided to ban the use of plastic in Mount Abu from August 15. The move is aimed at protecting the environment and wildlife. The decision to ban plastic was taken at a meeting of officials from the district administration and the

Forest Department on Tuesday. "We have decided to free Mount Abu from plastic in the interest of flora and fauna. Plastic harms the ecology due to which it will be completely banned from August 15," Mount Abu Sub Divisional Officer (SDO) Dr Ravindra Goswami said. **PTI**



A man sits on a fishing boat stranded on the bed of dried-up lake in Thiruninravur, Tamil Nadu. Reuters

EAST

Six dead as car collides with fuel tanker in Chhattisgarh

Dhamtari: Six people died when their car collided with a fuel tanker coming from the opposite direction in Kurud area of Chhattisgarh's Dhamtari district on Tuesday, police said. The accident happened at 11.30am on Dhamtari-Raipur road. The victims were returning after

visiting Gangrel Dam here, said Station House Officer (SHO) Kurud Vipin Lakra. "Five people died on the spot. A sixth occupant died in hospital. They are residents of Baikunthpur in Koriya district," he said. Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel expressed grief at the loss of lives. **PTI**

WEST

Nine arrested for robbery attempt at jewellery shop

Thane: Nine persons were arrested for allegedly carrying out a robbery attempt at a jewellery shop here on June 27, police said. A jewellery shop in Anand Vihar area of Kalwa township was raided by the accused. They also fired in the air to scare the staff, but were unable to loot anything due to the alertness of people there, police said.

Additional Commissioner of Police Anil Kumbhare said five firearms and eight live bullets have been seized from the accused. "Our probe led us to accused Akash Chaudhari who during questioning revealed the name of his accomplices, including gang leader Moolchand Vishwakarma, all of whom were arrested," he said. **PTI**

SOUTH

IIT-Hyderabad student hangs self in hostel room

Sangareddy (Telangana): A student of the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad, allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself from the ceiling fan in his hostel room, police said on Tuesday. This is the second suicide this year at the institution. Sangareddy Deputy Superintendent of Police P Sridhar Reddy said

the student Mark Andrew Charles, 20, had gone to his hostel room at about 11 pm Monday. As he did not come out till Tuesday afternoon, his friends broke open the door of his room and found him hanging, the DSP said. The student hailed from Naria Lanka locality in Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh. **PTI**

UK High Court allows Mallya to appeal against extradition

ADITIKHANNA
LONDON, JULY 2

IN A reprieve to embattled liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya, the UK High Court on Tuesday allowed him to appeal against his extradition order signed off by UK Home Secretary Sajid Javid to face alleged fraud and money laundering charges amounting to Rs 9,000 crore in India.

A two-member bench of the Royal Courts of Justice comprising Justices George Leggatt and Andrew Popplewell made the conclusion after hearing the arguments.

The bench said that the arguments can be reasonably made on some of Westminster Magistrates' Court Chief Magistrate Judge Emma Arbuthnot's conclusions in her prima facie case ruling.

The High Court judges ruled that the 63-year-old former Kingfisher Airlines boss was permitted to appeal on only one limited ground to be able to address the admissibility of some of evidence and interpretations made by the lower court.

They have given directions to submit a draft for the appeal to proceed and ascertain the time frame for the hearing.

Ahead of the hearing, Mallya told reporters outside the court



Vijay Mallya with his son Sidharth at the Royal Courts of Justice in London on Tuesday. PTI

that he was feeling "positive".

Representatives from the Indian High Commission in London were present in court to observe the proceedings.

Mallya, accompanied by his son Sidharth and partner Pinky Lalwani, watched from the bench as his barrister Clare Montgomery began by reiterating many of her arguments laid out during the extradition trial at Westminster Magistrates' Court last year and characterised aspects of Chief Magistrate's ruling as "plain wrong".

She claimed to have "chased down" and countered many of the

claims in the case put forward by the Indian authorities and dismissed the conclusion that there was a "clear and unequivocal false statement" made by Mallya about profits being made by a struggling Kingfisher Airlines at the time the loans were being sought.

"The conclusions are in effect a false dichotomy. (Arbuthnot) failed to recognise that there was a straightforward business failure," said Montgomery, as she claimed the case presented by the Indian authorities had moved on in essence from that ruled upon by the lower court.

She also questioned the ad-

missibility of many witness statements and once again highlighted the badly paginated documents submitted by the government of India in the extradition case.

The judges made a few interventions to indicate that the offence for which Mallya is wanted by the Indian justice system is not materially different between English and Indian law.

"Your starting point is that the judge (Arbuthnot) has made findings of a prima facie case on allegations that you haven't had a chance to answer," noted Judge Leggatt, in an early observation on the grounds for the appeal.

The ruling was a reprieve for Mallya, who has lost a UK High Court "leave to appeal" on paper, leading to an oral hearing of his renewal application this week.

The case will now proceed to a full hearing stage at the UK High Court.

Meanwhile, Mallya has continued to make a series of interventions on social media to offer "100 per cent payback" to state-owned Indian banks to cover his now-defunct Kingfisher Airlines' debt. He remains on bail on an extradition warrant executed by Scotland Yard in April 2017, involving a bail bond worth 650,000 pounds and other restrictions on his travel. **PTI**

Jaipur tense after rape of 7-yr-old triggers protest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAIPUR, JULY 2

PARTS OF Jaipur remained tense on Tuesday after the rape of a seven-year-old on Monday night led to protests by local residents, who torched several vehicles and pelted stones at homes and police.

According to police, the seven-year-old was picked up from near her home by an unidentified youth on his motorcycle Monday night. Jaipur Police Commissioner Anand Shrivastava said, "The incident happened between 7.30 and 8 pm (Monday) when a motorcycle-borne criminal took the girl away and dropped her near her home around two hours later. In between, he raped the girl. The girl recounted the ordeal to her parents, who then told the police and we lodged a case."

The incident soon took a communal colour after the news spread through social media, and local residents protested outside the hospital where the child was being treated. Some people then allegedly torched vehicles, and pelted stones at the homes of another community as well as police.

On Tuesday morning, angry residents — accompanied by BJP's Jaipur district president Mohan Lal Gupta — whose vehicles had

been damaged or torched and their homes pelted with stones, gheraoed the police station and demanded action against the vandals.

As per Shrivastava, 30 vehicles were torched or damaged, though residents claimed the actual figure is more than twice that. Jaipur police lodged another FIR on the vandalism and took 16 persons into "preventive arrest." On reports of the case being given a communal angle, Shrivastava said that there were some "anti-social elements who were fanning the rumours".

In Delhi, state Health Minister Raghu Sharma enquired about the health of the child — who has since been transferred to another government hospital — and issued instructions to doctors to provide her the best possible treatment, and announced she will be treated free of cost.

Jaipur police has constituted as many as 12 teams to trace the accused. Moreover, six police companies, including the Rajasthan Armed Constabulary, have been deployed in the tense localities of Jaipur.

On Tuesday, Jaipur Divisional Commissioner Kailash Chand Verma issued instructions to suspend internet services in parts of Jaipur between 2 pm Tuesday and 10 am Wednesday.

Have taken all possible steps to prevent spread of AES: Bihar to SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE BIHAR government Tuesday told the Supreme Court that it "had already taken all possible steps to prevent the spread" of the Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) disease which led to the death of over 100 children in the state and that the "Chief Minister himself is personally involved and actively engaged in finding ways and means" to control and treat the "dreaded disease".

In an affidavit filed in response to the court's direction on a PIL, the state Health Department said that it was tackling the problem by providing additional medical facilities in the affected region, initiating public awareness campaign at the village level, and involving various agencies to assist the government.

The document also exposed the plight of the state's healthcare system which the department admitted had only 5,205

doctors in government-run health centres against the sanctioned strength of 12,206 and only 5,634 nurses against a sanctioned strength of 19,155.

The affidavit said the health department has taken steps to recruit medical officers, paramedical and other technical support staff.

The state said that "in cooperation with the Central Government, AIIMS and other agencies", it "has simultaneously provided all the medical facilities to treat the affected children" and that "the steps taken by the State have prevented spread of the disease and reduced the fatality rate arising out of the AES".

The affidavit filed by Dr Nageshwar Prasad, Additional Director of the Health Department, said the state had formulated a Special Operating Procedure (SOP) for treating AES in 2012. As per the SOP, the state has "ensured availability of essential equipment and drugs at

222 primary health centres of 12 endemic for AES districts for immediate treatment and management of the AES cases," it stated.

The state said that "sustained efforts in the recent past to control the incidence of AES disease has shown some positive result with reduction of number of patients and casualties, but the problem of AES disease still persists and for this, SOP has been revised for treatment of AES cases on the basis of feedback provided by the physicians involved in treatment."

It gave a break up of the cases and deaths due to AES. As on June 30, a total of 824 cases and 157 deaths were reported.

Besides, "Regular Gap Assessment Monitoring is being done for the control of AES/JE".

Two meetings were held between April 8 and May 28 and "during the course of the meeting, it was found that all gaps have been fulfilled", it said.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Bengal school asks boys, girls to come on alternate days after harassment complaints

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MALDA, JULY 2

IN A bid to check harassment of female students, a government-run school in West Bengal's Malda district has come up with a directive to allow boys and girls to be present only on alternate days in a week.

The decision by the Girija Sundari Vidya Mandir in

Habibpur area drew flak from the administration.

Headmaster Rabindranath Pande claimed that the school was forced to take such a step following several complaints of harassment. "It was, hence, decided that the girl students will attend school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, while the boys will come on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays," Pande said. "Since its implementation, oper-

ations have been smooth."

State Education Minister Partha Chatterjee has ordered an inquiry. "Such a decision can never be supported. We have asked the officials to inquire into the matter and it should be immediately withdrawn," he said.

West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education president Mahua Das called the directive "bizarre" and said the department was not consulted.

PMLA AMENDMENTS

SC notice to Centre on Jairam Ramesh's plea

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday issued a notice to the Centre on Congress MP Jairam Ramesh's plea against the amendments brought to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) through money Bills.

A bench headed by Justice S A Bobde issued a notice to the Centre on Ramesh's appeal against the Delhi High Court's judgment rejecting his plea.

The court initially questioned the Congress "interest" in the petition. "We can understand that there is public interest. But what is your interest?" Justice Bobde asked senior advocate P Chidambaram, who replied that Ramesh was one of the petitioners in the Aadhaar case and had challenged the introduction of the Aadhaar Bill as a money Bill. **ENS**

From orphanage to collector's office, Kerala man's journey against odds

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
JULY 2

WHEN HE assumed office as the Kollam district collector on Monday, it was a dream come true for B Abdul Nasar who was raised in an orphanage till the age of 17 after losing his father as a five-year-old.

A visit by Thalassery's sub-collector to the orphanage in 1983 was what had inspired a young Nasar studying at an orphanage-run school to dream of becoming a collector. "I was the youngest of six children. When my father died, mother Manjumma struggled to raise us. So, I was sent to an orphanage at the age of five. When I was an

upper primary school student at the orphanage-run school at Thalassery in 1982, then sub-collector Amitabh Kant had visited my school. Seeing the young IAS officer, I started to dream about becoming a collector," recalls the 49-year-old.

A Kerala-cadre officer, Kant is now the CEO of Niti Aayog.

After finishing studies at school, Nasar pursued his graduation and post-graduation in English literature, but as his family's burden weighed him down, he left his desire for higher studies to join a short-term course to become a health inspector. But, "after becoming a health inspector, I did not abandon my dream. I was not ready to settle with a job. I continued to apply for various com-



Nasar was inspired by a visit by then-sub-collector Amitabh Kant to his school.

petitive exams," he said.

In 1994, when the Kerala Public Services Commission notified vacancies for the post of deputy collector, Nasar decided

to give it a shot. "Even as a health inspector, I found the time to prepare for the exam for (recruitment of) the deputy collector. I knew that once directly recruited as the deputy collector, one day I would get promoted as an IAS officer and my dream to become a collector would come true," he said.

After several efforts, he was finally recruited as a deputy collector in 2006. And in October, 2017, he was elevated as an IAS officer.

"I kept my dream alive even though I could settle with a normal job. I always kept in mind the thought that I have a social responsibility towards society... I found support and strength from my family and my colleagues," he said.

SCHOOL OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE, VIJAYAWADA
(An institution of National Importance under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)
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Applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the full-time regular faculty positions of **02 Professors (Level-14), 06 Associate Professors (Level 13-A1) & 03 Assistant Professors (Level-10)** at SPAV. For details regarding qualifications, etc. please refer SPA, Vijayawada website www.spav.ac.in Last Date for submission of Application is **02nd August 2019.**
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ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2019 (OJEE - 2019)
No: 305/OJEE19 **Date: 02.07.2019**
NOTICE REGARDING WEB COUNSELLING FOR MBA/MCA/LE-MCA/MTECH/MPHARM/MARCH/MPLAN.
OJEE web-based Counselling process for MBA/MCA/LE-MCA/MTECH/MARCH/MPLAN and MPHARM is going on from 1st July 2019. For detail schedule, seat position and counselling brochure please go through OJEE website www.ojee.nic.in/ www.odishajee.com. Schedules for other courses will be published soon.
Sd/- CHAIRMAN, OJEE

AT 375.2 MM, MUMBAI SUBURBS RECORD THIRD-HIGHEST RAINFALL IN A SINGLE DAY

Stuck in waterlogged subway, 2 drown in SUV

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JULY 2

TWO FRIENDS drowned inside their SUV when the vehicle got stuck inside the waterlogged Malad subway. Officials said there was a sudden rise in water levels when a nullah near the spot started overflowing. They added that the water pressure made it impossible for the duo to break out of the vehicle.

The deceased were identified as Gulshad Shaikh (40) and Irfan Khan (38), residents of Kokanipada and Pathanwadi areas in Malad (East). According to police, Shaikh was a small-time businessman while Khan worked as a driver.

Shaikh is survived by his wife and three children, two girls aged 10 and one, and a boy aged eight. Khan, who earlier worked in Saudi Arabia as a driver, had returned to Mumbai eight months ago to be with his family. He was working as a driver for Abid Baig, a businessman from the western suburbs.

"The two are childhood friends and on Monday night, they stepped out to eat. The car they were driving belongs to Khan's employer. So while they were returning home at around 11.30 pm, they wanted to cross the subway but they did not make a proper judgement and drove into the water," said an officer from Malad police station.

Police said the duo got stuck and as they tried opening the doors, the locks got jammed. "Khan informed his employer about the incident, who forwarded the message to his family. They even tried breaking the windows but they couldn't and as a result the water went inside the car and the two drowned," said a family friend, who did not wish to be named.

Police said the family members reached the spot, along with relatives, while the police and the



A woman grieves the death of family members due to a wall collapse, outside a hospital in Mumbai. *Nirmal Harindran*

fire brigade got there too and had to wait for the water to recede.

Later, at around 4 am, with the help of local residents, the authorities managed to get the bodies out of the vehicle, police added.

Senior Inspector George Fernandes of Malad police station said, "Initially, we could only see the upper half of the car. We tried to get the car out, but were unable to. Later, when the fire brigade reached the spot, the vehicle was submerged. They waited for some time for the water to recede, and then with the help of local residents, tied a rope around the vehicle and pulled it out."

Police registered an accidental death report.

8 minors among 21 dead as wall collapses in Malad

Woman carries dead grandson to hospital on foot

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA
MUMBAI, JULY 2

TWO LITTLE sisters with their arms wrapped around each other, a four-year-old boy clinging to his father, a 17-month-old girl and a one-year-old baby — these were some of the bodies fished out by local residents from the debris and water-filled pits as at least eight children were among the 21 who died when a wall collapsed in Kurar village in Malad around Monday midnight.

For sexagenarian Satyabama Pawar, who lost two and kept searching for three others in her family, it was a long Monday night. At 2 am she carried a dead grandson, Parshuram (3), in her arms to hospital in an auto-rickshaw and then on foot when the rickshaw broke down due to flooding, taking two hours. "His body had turned cold. Doctors said he died long ago," she cried.

Parshuram was found by local residents at 2 am, his father Laxman Nanaware by his side. Satyabama's daughter Rani, a



A man wades through a waterlogged street at Kurla in Mumbai on Tuesday. *Ganesh Shirsekar*

domestic help, and two granddaughters Sanchita (15) and Deepa (12) remained trapped in debris after her hut, one of the closest to the wall that separates the huts from the forest in Malad, was swept away.

Local residents said darkness and flooded terrain made rescue difficult. Some lost their entire families. "It was like a flood, we could not do anything," said mechanic Rajbahadur Patel (30), who lost 12-month-old daughter Salvi and wife Munnidevi (28). Most victims succumbed to

drowning, pushed under water by heavy debris while they were asleep, and few succumbed to traumatic asphyxiation.

Eleven km away, in Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Kandivali Shatabdi hospital, lay Shanta Pethare. Her five-year-old daughter Seema had died, while husband Rahul and daughter Pari (2) were admitted in another hospital in serious condition. "The plastic sheet came crashing down on us, then water came forcefully and swept away everything," she said.

2005 vs 2019: Mumbai's response to disasters has come a long way

KAVITHA IYER
MUMBAI, JULY 2

ACCORDING to data from the India Meteorological Department, Mumbai's highest ever 24-hour rainfall was recorded on July 5, 1974 in Colaba, at 575.6 mm. At the IMD's Santacruz station, representing the city's suburban area, the biggest extreme rainfall day was July 26, 2005, when a cloud-burst belted down 944 mm rain in a single day. The second highest ever rainfall received in the suburbs, where much of Mumbai lives, was recorded on June 10, 1991, at 399 mm.

The downpour in the early hours of Tuesday averaged 375.2 mm in the suburbs, but the Met department and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation both now adopt a decentralised system of measuring precipitation, and multiple suburban localities received well over that average.

For large parts of suburban Mumbai, Monday night's rainfall is the second highest ever recorded, almost half the quantum of average rain received on the day of the 2005 deluge. But while Tuesday's flood waters may have triggered memories of the July 26, 2005 tragedy, nobody disputes that Mumbai's response to disasters has come a long way.

DISASTER RESPONSE

The state and civic agencies undertook a series of projects in the aftermath of the 944-mm deluge, key among them being the decision to finally implement the Brihanmumbai Storm Water Drainage project, whose cost had grown manifold since being proposed in the 1990s. According to officials, the BMC has spent at least Rs 650 crore on the widening and deepening of the Mithi river, Mumbai's 'mother drain', with 95 per cent of proposed works for the Mithi completed.

All Mumbai agencies from the police to the municipality have clearly drafted standard operation protocol for disaster management, better-equipped disaster cells and control rooms, etc. Mumbai's Doppler radar-based weather forecasting system, recommended and installed after the

2005 deluge, made accurate rain pattern predictions for the week starting July 1 — "very heavy, localised rainfall".

An extensive CCTV camera network, proposed after the 2008 Mumbai terror attack and installed in 2017 at a cost of Rs 949 crore, now monitors traffic congestion as well as rising flood waters, helping along the conversation on hotlines between the BMC, other infrastructure building agencies, Fire Brigade, police and IMD.

EARLY WARNING

The depth and reach of social media have made Twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp critical tools for dissemination of advisories and real-time situation updates. In a first, advisories to stay indoors came in respectable time. Commissioner of Mumbai Police, Sanjay Barve, tweeted at 6.30 pm: "Heavy to Very Heavy rains expected in Mumbai & MMR in the next 3 days as per intimation received from IMD. I request Mumbaiers to check weather updates & plan the day accordingly." This was after the IMD and private weather forecasters had both put out clear statements on what to expect over the next two-three days, information updated through a 'nowcast' by the IMD and further tweets and Facebook posts from private forecasters.

The crisis messaging systems that were conspicuously absent were the Railways' and the airlines'.

URBAN PLANNING DEFICIT

River floods are different from floods caused by undue, sudden pressure on local drainage networks. The 18-km Mithi, the 12-km Dahisar river, the 7-km Poyisar river and the 7-km Oshiwara rivers have been turned into suburban nullahs, with encroachments along their banks reducing their width, choking them entirely at places. Among the major recommendations of an extensive report by a fact-finding committee after the July 26, 2005 deluge was the restoration of the degraded rivers and river-banks. While a grand plan for the rejuvenation of the Mithi was initiated, no long-term revival of these rivers has been undertaken. **WITH INPUTS FROM LAXMAN SINGH**



The water pressure made it impossible for the duo to break out of the Scorpio car in Mumbai's Malad, said officials. *Express*

At Mumbai airport: Miscommunication, frustrated travellers and absent ground staff

MIHIR VASAVDA
MUMBAI, JULY 2

MISLEADING INFORMATION on display screens, absent ground staff and frustrated travellers — the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport (CSIA) was a scene of utter chaos on Tuesday morning after more than 100 flights were affected following unprecedented overnight rains that left the city crippled.

According to Mumbai International Airport Limited, 52 flights were cancelled on Tuesday, 54 flights were diverted to nearby destinations while several more were delayed, leaving the passengers stranded for hours.



The SpiceJet flight which overshoot the runway at Mumbai airport on Monday night. *Pradip Das*

The cancellation and delays started after a SpiceJet flight skidded off the main runway on Monday night. Airport authorities said in a tweet that the secondary runway was being used

on Tuesday and it may take up to 48 hours to make the main runway completely operational. There was a near breakdown of the information system inside the terminal. Passengers huddled

around television screens to get weather updates as well as status of the runway.

Abid Sait, a 62-year-old Bangaluru resident, said he was forced to spend the entire night at the airport with his family after his Air Asia flight to the southern city got delayed.

Several passengers complained about inaccurate updates on rescheduled flights, no audible intimation about last-minute gate changes and the absence of ground staff for assistance. They gathered around unmanned information kiosks and stopped anyone in a uniform to get flight updates. A few even got into heated arguments with the airline staff, forcing the CISF officers to intervene. **FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com**

Fadnavis orders inquiry, removal of encroachments

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, JULY 2

CHIEF MINISTER Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday announced a high-level inquiry into the wall collapse tragedy at Malad's Pimpripada, which has so far claimed 22 lives.

Fadnavis made the announcement after allegations in the Maharashtra Assembly about irregularities in an ongoing slum redevelopment project being a cause of the tragedy.

With heavy overnight rains paralysing normal life in Mumbai, Deputy Speaker Vijay Auti on Tuesday allowed the Opposition to move an adjournment motion. Fadnavis, while replying to the motion, said he was



Devendra Fadnavis

deeply anguished by the loss of lives in the Malad tragedy.

Contending that the encroachment along river beds and nullahs was a major impediment in rain relief, Fadnavis said that he had directed the municipal commissioner to immediately remove structures blocking the course of water.

Countering the Opposition's charge that the downpour had exposed the lack of preparedness of

civic agencies, the CM said, "When you look at the historical data, this is the second highest 24-hour rainfall (in suburbs) in 40 years. The current carrying (holding) capacity of Mumbai's storm water drains is to handle about 150 mm water in 24 hours. But on days when it rains more than that, the system is burdened."

But Fadnavis admitted to the delays in implementation of the Brihanmumbai Storm Water Drainage project, which was taken up after the 2005 deluge to enhance the holding capacity of storm water drains.

While announcing a financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to the families of the deceased, he said that he had directed the BMC to extend additional assistance of another Rs 5 lakh to the families.

Singapore court freezes over Rs 44 cr in bank accounts of Nirav Modi kin

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

DAYS AFTER Swiss authorities froze over Rs 280 crore in bank deposits belonging to Nirav Modi and his family members, a Singapore court has frozen over Rs 44 crore in bank accounts of the fugitive jeweller's sister and brother-in-law.

Modi, key accused in the Rs 13,500 crore Punjab National Bank (PNB) loan fraud case, is currently facing extradition proceedings in a UK court.

"Singapore High Court has ordered freezing of balance of USD 6.122 million (Rs. 44.41 crore) in the bank account maintained in Singapore by M/s Pavilion Point Corporation, British Virgin Island, a company beneficially owned by Mr. Maiank Mehta and Ms. Purvi Modi (Modi's brother-in-law and sister) on the request of the Enforcement Directorate (ED)," the ED said in a statement.

Assets worth Rs 110 cr attached in fraud case

Meanwhile, the agency on Tuesday attached assets worth Rs 109.8 crore belonging to Simbhaoli Sugars Limited, one of India's largest sugar mills, in connection with a money laundering probe against the firm in connection with the Oriental Bank of Commerce loan fraud case.

The agency said a provisional order was issued under the PMLA for attachment of properties like land, buildings, plant and machinery of a distillery unit in Simbhaoli in UP's Hapur district.

DMK protests against Kiran Bedi for calling Tamils 'selfish and cowardly'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHENNAI, JULY 2

CADRES OF DMK protested in Pudukchery on Tuesday against Lieutenant Governor Kiran Bedi's remarks on Tamil people. In her tweets and messages on social media on Sunday, Bedi had blamed people of Tamil Nadu and politicians for the on-going water crisis in Chennai.

"India's 6th largest city Chennai has become the first city in the country to run dry. The same city was in floods due to copious rains just four years back. Where lies the problem? Ans: Poor governance, corrupt policies, indifferent bureaucracy with a highly selfish and cowardly attitude of the people," she posted along with a Hindi translation on Twitter.

Her statement triggered protests by AIADMK and DMK members in the state Assembly on Monday. After Speaker D Dhanapal denied permission to Opposition leader M K Stalin to raise the issue, the DMK leader walked out. "Tamil people had been helping other States whenever they faced trouble. We have donated assets during wars and ran anywhere in the country to give a helping hand. Would it be possible for Bedi to continue in her position if she had made these remarks about people of Bihar or UP or Gujarat?" Stalin asked.

Bedi said that what she shared was "people's perception" and not her personal view. "Perhaps those who did connect with me did not get to know what people are saying. It helps to know what people are saying. I have shared people's perception," she said.

VIRAL VIDEO

In football-mad Goa, a cow is new star 'holding midfielder' in Mardol village

SMITANAIIR
PANAJI, JULY 2

AFTER THE video of a cow playing "holding midfielder" went viral on Monday morning, players of the United Sports Club at Mardol in north Goa, on whose football grounds the animal played, are wondering whether she should be felicitated.

But the game was not her first run — "and definitely not her last" — with players insisting that she is a "natural", a "very pushy player". Sahil Naik, 18, the club's "original midfielder", who can be seen

in the video trying hard against the cow, says it may look exciting to watch on a video but getting her to "leave the ball and the ground" is a task.

It all started last year, when the cow started to "practice" with the boys. The Mardol ground, the only one for several villages in Ponda taluka, hosts two tournaments each year, with practice drills set around sunset, as most of the players are in school or employed in jobs during the day.

On Sunday, their first practice in days, the players decided to reach the ground at 6.30 pm. "She was (already) standing there,

waiting for the game — waiting for us, waiting for the ball. We saw her and instantly knew how the game would progress," says Naik.

Naik says he is the only one to have managed to "estimate the cow's moves" over the last six months.

According to club members, the cow was donated by local patrons to Mahalasa Narayani Temple, which also happens to be the family deity of Vijay Mallya.

Traffic constable Vijay Mardolkar, who was on ground on Sunday when the video was shot, says the cow is the most visible animal for the village due to



Screengrab of the video

her "mood swings". He says: "She goes crazy when she sees the ball. She will be at a distance but when

she hears the sounds of a game, or even hears the thud of the ball touching the ground, we know she is going to reach us any minute."

Her other favourite, Mardolkar adds, is the gas cylinder: "She is unstoppable then. She will go near the cylinder and make sure no one touches it. We have never understood the connection."

While she is the most mischievous cow for the villagers, for the boys, she has been a "difficult player". Rohit Gavde, 21, who works as a clerk in the village bank and is playing at forward in the video, says, "I was very nervous

watching her run towards me. I have had this experience with her in the past and I know better not to be in her way. She will not stand losing the ball."

Defender Pankaj Gavde, who eventually manages to kick the ball, as the video shows, is "not always happy with her".

"I am always scared of her. She is a cow and I don't see why she should play football," says Pankaj, a schoolboy who hopes to do well in the monsoon tournament. Sahil, who is now learning the skills to be an electrician, says the video got Mardol noticed, which otherwise has very few op-

portunities for the youth, or never enough fess to pay towards school education. "When we see her on the ground with our ball, we cannot react harshly. After all, she is our mother. At least we see her so. Besides, it's tough to get her to give up," he says.

Rohit says most practice drills are now kept for an hour-and-a-half — "an hour for actual play, and half accounting for her disrupting the match." The players — all Cristiano Ronaldo fans — though are happy that they have been watched by millions. Club president Kishore Dattaram Naik says they are wondering

whether the cow should be felicitated with a few kilograms of grass. "I see this as a sign," Kishore says. "Maybe she is trying to tell the boys to stop being engaged with their phones and come to the ground and play. She is telling them what the club has been trying to tell them: come out and play!"

The boys have decided to give her a name. "We will call her Ball-Gayi," says Rohit, punning on the word 'gai', Hindi for cow which also means gone — ball gone.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com



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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

How suicide count varies among the states, across age groups

STATES WITH HIGHEST SUICIDE COUNTS, 2015

Maharashtra	16,970
Tamil Nadu	15,777
West Bengal	14,602
Karnataka	10,786
MP	10,293
Telangana	10,140
Kerala	7,692
Gujarat	7,246
Chhattisgarh	7,118
Andhra	6,226

OTHER LARGE STATES

UP	3,902	Bihar	516	Rajasthan	3,457
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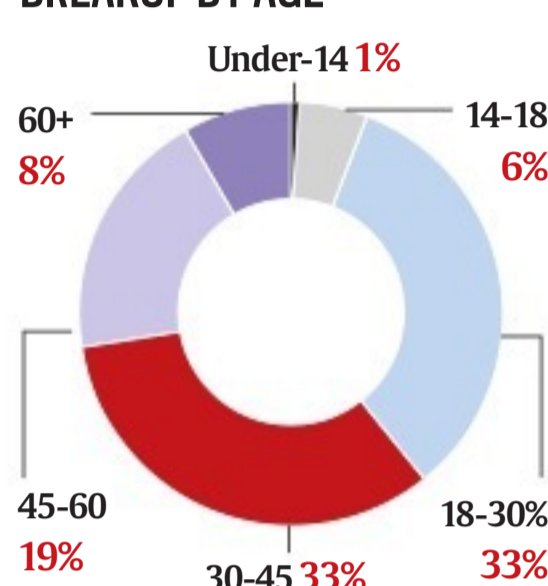
Source for all data: 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (NCRB) via Home Ministry

AMONG ALL states, Maharashtra had the highest number of suicides in 2015, according to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data tabled by the government in Parliament on Tuesday. The NCRB's 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' report for 2015 is the latest such report, and lists 1,336,623 suicides across the country that year.

Most of the larger states had higher suicide counts than smaller states, but there were exceptions. Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state, had the 11th highest suicide count. UP had 3,902 suicides in 2015 while Tamil Nadu had four times as many at 15,777, second only to Maharashtra's 16,970. Bihar, one of the country's most populous states, was another exception, with its count of 516 suicides lower than that of many smaller states.

Minister of State (Home) Nityanand Rai tabled the NCRB data in Lok Sabha in reply to a question by Poonam Mahajan. Among various aspects, she had sought to know whether young adults account for 33%

BREAKUP BY AGE



of the suicide cases in India. The NCRB data show that one-third of the suicides in the country in 2015 were committed by young adults under age 30, and another one-third by people in the age group 30-45. Of the 1,336,623 suicides, 43,852 involved people who were aged over 18 and under 30, while another 44,593 were of people who were aged over 30 and under 45.

THIS WORD MEANS

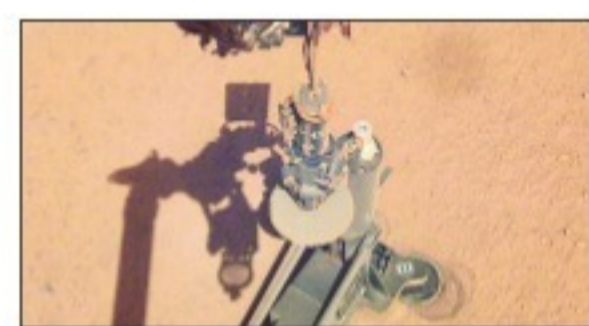
THE 'MOLE' ON MARS

A digging device that got stuck on Mars, now back in view. What is its job, and how was it salvaged?

"BEHOLD THE 'mole'," NASA said in a statement after the 'mole' after it became visible on Mars last week, following an operation that removed its support structure. The mole, the informal name for a digging device on Mars, is part of the Heat Flow and Physical Properties Package (HP3), an instrument designed to take the temperature below the surface of Mars.

Built by the German Aerospace Centre (DLR), HP3 measures the temperature of the interior to study the quantity of heat flowing out of Mars, and determine its source. This will help scientists find similarities if any between the makeup of Earth and Mars, and look for clues on the Red Planet's evolution.

The mole, a self-hammering device, can dig up to 5 m below the surface, but was unable to dig deeper than 30 cm. This



Robotic arm moves the support structure for the mole. NASA

could be either because the soil failed to provide the kind of friction the mole was designed for, or because it encountered a large rock. On June 28, NASA's InSight lander used a robotic arm to move the mole's support structure.

Source: NASA

AMITABH SINHA

PUNE, JULY 2

ON MONDAY, Iran told the world that it had accumulated more low-enriched uranium than it was allowed to have under a landmark 2015 nuclear deal it had signed with the United States and five other countries. The deliberate violation of the provisions of that agreement, Iran has said, was in response to the reimposition of economic and other sanctions by the US after it unilaterally pulled out of the deal last year.

Iran's latest move has put further strains on an already precarious agreement that seeks to prevent it from acquiring nuclear weapons in exchange for the easing of economic sanctions. But Iran has kept the room open for negotiations, saying its move was "reversible".

What is enriched uranium, and how much has Iran accumulated?

Uranium is the most common fuel used in nuclear reactors, and is required for nuclear electricity generation as well as to make nuclear weapons. On the other hand, naturally occurring uranium, which is predominantly composed of a stable isotope, uranium-238, is not fissionable, meaning its nucleus cannot be split in a way that can sustain a chain reaction. To be used in nuclear reactors, natural uranium has to be 'enriched' with uranium-235 that can sustain fission chain reactions. Naturally occurring uranium has less than 1% of the uranium-235 isotope.

Even a small amount of enrichment, in the range of 3% to 5%, called "low enrichment", is sufficient to run nuclear power reactors which allow only controlled fission reactions. For making nuclear weapons, however, "highly enriched" uranium — with more than 90% uranium-235 — is needed. More enrichment means more uranium-235 nuclei are available to be split, which in turn means greater heat and energy can be generated.



Iran President Hassan Rouhani at a ceremony to mark "National Nuclear Day" in Tehran on April 9, 2018. Iranian Presidency Office via AP

Under the 2015 nuclear deal, Iran is required to ensure that, for the next 15 years, its stockpile of uranium is not enriched beyond 3.67%. Further, this stockpile of 3.67% enriched uranium itself is not supposed to exceed 300 kg.

It is this 300-kg limit that Iran has now said it has exceeded. However, it has not specified how much more low-enriched uranium it has created. Iran has also said that its next step would be to enrich uranium beyond the 3.67% limit.

Under what circumstances was the deal with Iran signed?

The deal signed in July 2015 was an attempt by the US and other major world powers to ensure that Iran did not acquire nuclear weapons, which it has been suspected of trying to do for several years now. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which is a sort of an international regulatory

body on nuclear energy, had in 2003 reported the possibility of Iran secretly trying to develop nuclear weapons at one of its nuclear facilities. That had invited economic sanctions from the US and other countries.

After protracted negotiations that lasted over a decade, Iran and the US reached an agreement to restrict Tehran's nuclear programme to only civilian uses in exchange for lifting of the sanctions. Apart from the US, the other parties to the deal are Russia, the UK, France, China and Germany, together called the P5+1.

The complex agreement specifies a large number of steps that Iran needs to take and requirements that it needs to meet to keep the economically crippling sanctions away. Most of the provisions of this agreement are supposed to run for the next 15 years, but some, like international monitoring of Iran's uranium mines and mills, or of its nuclear power production facilities, are meant to be

in force for the next 25 years.

In return, the US agreed to cease its sanctions against Iran's oil and banking sector, allowing their re-entry into the international systems. It also allowed the sale of commercial passenger aircraft to Iran, which had been put on hold. The UN and European Union also eased their own sanctions on Iran.

So, why did the US withdraw from the deal and reimpose sanctions?

The agreement was negotiated when the Barack Obama administration was in power in the US. Current President Donald Trump has never shied away from expressing his discomfort with the deal, which he claims, was detrimental to the American interests. The Trump administration has advocated tougher provisions in the agreement, particularly with regard to the expiry dates on restrictions related to uranium enrichment. It does not want these restrictions to have any end-date.

After its offer to renegotiate the deal did not find acceptance from Iran, the US withdrew from the deal last year. It also slapped fresh sanctions on Iran. The five other countries, however, continued to be parties to the deal, thereby weakening the impact of US sanctions. However, these sanctions were still damaging enough for Iran to finally respond after a year.

What happens to the deal now?

Iran's defiance of the provisions of the agreement is being seen as largely a bargaining ploy in its ongoing confrontation with the US, especially since it has explicitly said that it was open to reversing its decision if the sanctions against it were lifted. It is being seen as an attempt to put pressure on the other parties to convince the US of the need to keep the agreement, however fragile, in place. The Trump administration, however, has maintained a hardened stance towards Iran, and, in the absence of a diplomatic breakthrough, this could result in the unravelling of the deal.

How global warming could impact jobs in India

By 2030, heat stress will cause loss of 5.8% of working hours in India, equivalent to 34 mn jobs: global study

ESHA ROY

NEW DELHI, JULY 2

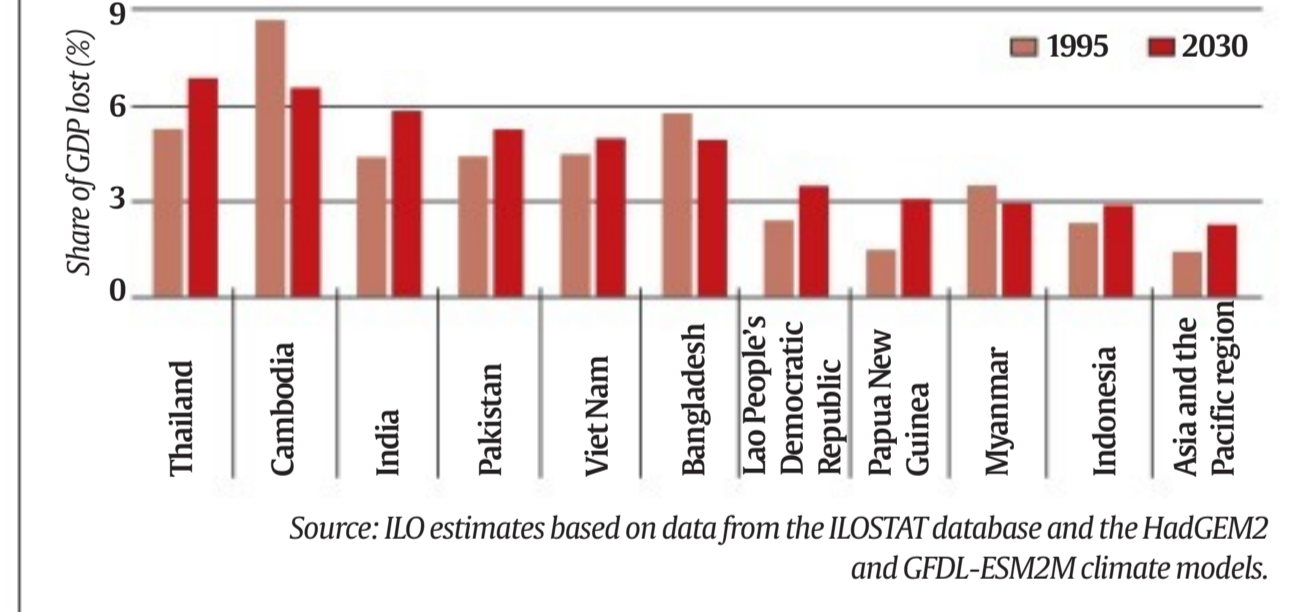
BY 2030, India is expected to lose an equivalent of 34 million jobs as a result of global warming, says a report released by the International Labour Organisation. The report, 'Working on a warmer planet: The impact of heat stress on labour productivity and decent work' anticipates an increase in "heat stress" resulting from global warming. It projects global productivity losses equivalent to 80 million full-time jobs in 2030, and the projection of 34 million jobs would make India the worst affected.

How it was worked out

The report defines heat stress as heat in excess of what the body can tolerate without suffering physiological impairment. It generally occurs at temperatures above 35°C, in high humidity. Excess heat during work is an occupational health risk and restricts workers' physical functions and capabilities, work capacity and thus, productivity.

The report makes its projections based on a global temperature rise of 1.5°C by the end of the century, and also on labour force trends. These projections "suggest that in 2030, 2.2 per cent of total working hours worldwide will be lost because of higher temperatures, a loss equivalent to 80 million full-time jobs. This is equivalent to global economic losses of US\$2,400 billion," says the report.

Percentage of GDP lost to heat stress under a 1.5°C global warming scenario, ten most affected countries in Asia and the Pacific, 1995 and 2030 (projections)



Source: ILO estimates based on data from the ILOSTAT database and the HadGEM2 and GFDL-ESM2M climate models.

The ILO says this is a conservative estimate, assuming that the global mean temperature does not rise more than 1.5°C.

The India projection

The region projected to lose the most working hours is southern Asia, at 5% in 2030, corresponding to around 43 million jobs, respectively. A third of the southern Asian countries have already incurred losses greater than 4%, it said.

India, which lost 4.3% of working hours in 1995 because of heat stress, is projected to lose 5.8% of its working hours in 2030, which corresponds to 34 million jobs.

The report projects losses in working hours as 9.04% in agriculture (in shade), 5.29% in manufacturing, 9.04% in construction, and 1.48% in services. "Although most of the impact in India will be felt in the agricultural sector, more and more working hours are expected to be lost in the construction sector, where heat stress affects both male and female workers," the report says.

Director, Centre for Sustainable Employment at the Azim Premji University, Amit Basole said while there is little data in the country to corroborate trends of climate change and employment, the effects can already be seen. "There are two aspects which

have affected and is transforming the agriculture sector in particular, over the past few years. First is that of heat. But the more noticeable one is that of water depletion. Most areas have drought like conditions so what we have found is migration of agricultural workers to urban areas — usually to work in the construction sector," he said.

He added, however, that there has been no direct job loss at present, with distressed workers switching from one vulnerable sector to another.

The big picture

Globally, the two sectors projected to be hit worst are agriculture and construction, with agriculture worse affected. The ILO says 940 million people around the world work in the agricultural sector, which is projected to account for 60% of working hours lost due to heat stress by 2030. In construction, an estimated 19% of global working hours is likely to be lost.

Catherine Saget, Chief of Unit in the ILO's research department and one of the main authors of the report, wrote: "In addition to the massive economic costs of heat stress, we can expect to see more inequality between low and high income countries and worsening working conditions for the most vulnerable, as well as displacement of people. To adapt to this new reality appropriate measures by governments, employers and workers, focusing on protecting the most vulnerable, are urgently needed."

Another scare at Mangaluru airport: why tabletop runways are tricky

JOHNSON TA
BENGALURU, JULY 2

ON SUNDAY evening, Air India Express flight IX 384 from Dubai veered off the runway at Mangaluru International Airport and halted in soft ground, causing a scare for the 181 passengers on board.

The incident on runway number 24 — a tabletop runway — brought back memories of the May 22, 2010 crash of Air India Express flight IX 812. Both aircraft were Boeing 737-800s and flying the Dubai-Mangaluru route. In 2010, following landing errors by the pilots, the aircraft fell off the cliff at the end of the runway and burst into flames killing 158 of the 166 people on board.

The recent scare

While landing on Sunday, the aircraft veered off runway 24 and came to a halt near the end of the runway. The passengers disembarked at the site where the aircraft was

stuck. The aircraft suffered minor damage. "An Express aircraft VT-AYA, operating IX 384, Dubai to Mangaluru on June 30, after landing on runway 24 while vacating the runway to the right side, has gone off the taxiway into soft ground," Air India Express said in a statement. A wet runway, a tailwind and inadequate braking caused the minor mishap, it said.

Tabletops demand skill

According to a court of inquiry report on the 2010 crash, prepared by former IAF vice chief of air staff Air Marshal B N Gokhale and a team of experts, "these airfields require extra skill and caution while carrying out flight operations" due to "the undulating terrain and constraints of space". "The hazard of undershooting and overshooting, in particular, can lead to grave situations," the report said.

Apart from Mangaluru, Kozhikode airport in Kerala and Lengpui airport in Mizoram are tabletop ones. Runways at



Passengers alight from the aircraft that veered off the Mangaluru runway on Sunday. Express

these airports, which are located on hilltops, create the optical illusion of being at the same level as the plains below when a pilot comes in for landing.

Until 2006, the Mangaluru airport was using only the 1,625-m runway number 27/06, which restricted usability to smaller aircraft.

Runway 24/06, created later, is 2,450m.

"While the length of the runway 24/06 is adequate for operations by aircraft such as Airbus A320 and Boeing 737-800, the downward slope at end of R/W 24 leading into hill slope is not recommended if one is to consider the hazards of overshooting the paved surface during takeoff or landing," states the court of inquiry report on the crash, dated October 31, 2010.

Why it crashed

The inquiry report cited pilot errors and flaws in the landing process that caused the aircraft overshooting the tabletop runway. "The final touchdown of the aircraft was at about 5,200 ft from the beginning of R/W 24, leaving only about 2,800 ft to the end of paved surface, to stop the aircraft. It is evident from the investigation that the flight crew had failed to plan the descent profile properly, due to which the aircraft was high and did not intercept the ILS (Instrument Landing System) Glide Slope from below,

which is the standard procedure. This led to the aircraft being at almost twice the altitude on finals, as compared to a standard ILS approach," the report said.

Air India Express also specified that "only the Pilot in Command (PIC) should carry out takeoff and landing procedures at Mangaluru airport. But the captain of flight IX 812 was asleep for most of the flight and his faculties may have been dulled by sleep when it was time to land, the inquiry report stated. "The Court of Inquiry determines that cause of this accident was the Captain's failure to discontinue the 'unstable approach' and his persistence in continuing with the landing, despite three calls from the First Officer to 'go around' and a number of warnings from EGPWS (Enhanced Ground Proximity Warning System)," the report said.

As per the digital flight data recorder, the aircraft crossed the landing threshold "at about 200 ft altitude with indicated speed in excess of 160 kt [knots], as compared to 50 ft with tar-

get speed of 144 kt for the landing weight".

What happened after

The inquiry report recommended installing of Engineering Material Arresting System in the overshoot area of tabletop airports. "In case it is not cost effective, then at least a Soft Ground Arrestor (SGA) should be available as part of RESA (Runway End Safety Area)," the report said.

"Considering the large momentum of these aircraft, a downward slope in the overrun area can worsen the outcome. It is therefore recommended that such downward slopes as in Mangaluru, be brought to the same level of the runway surface. This also needs to be ensured at all tabletop airports in the country," the report said.

In 2011, the Airports Authority of India raised the sloping terrain at the end of the runway to the same level as the runway. This was done at a cost of Rs 3.5 crore. Markers have been placed on the runway to indicate remaining distance for landing and takeoff.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Terms of estrangement

India-US tensions are fuelled by rise of national-populism in both, Delhi's policy of multi-alignment



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT

COMING UP SHORT

Two years on, GST collections continue to underwhelm. Simplified returns, e-invoicing, could improve compliance

THE SHIFT TO the goods and services tax regime marked a significant change in India's indirect tax architecture. It was also an important step towards the creation of a common national market. But the transition has been marked by chaotic implementation. It was hoped that, over time, as the glitches got resolved, compliance levels would improve drastically. But, two years later, there continues to be a chasm between expectations and reality, with revenue collections falling well short of expectations.

Take the case of the central GST (CGST) collections. As against an initial target of Rs 6.03 lakh crore for 2018-19, collections stood at a mere Rs 4.57 lakh crore. The initial trends for the current financial year aren't encouraging. CGST collections, after settlement from integrated GST (IGST), stand at Rs 1.17 lakh crore in the first three months of 2019-20. This works out to an average of Rs 39,313 crore per month. In comparison, the target of Rs 6.1 lakh crore for 2019-20, presented in the interim budget, implies a required run rate of Rs 50,833 crore per month. The difference between the two implies a shortfall in revenues for the Centre in the current financial year as well, severely restricting its fiscal space. It is also intriguing that two years on, CGST collections continue to run well below state GST collections. Part of the difference between the two can be traced to the transitional credit of the earlier indirect tax regime. But, after two years, it should have been taken care of. The other reason, which centres around the hierarchy of set-offs, has been addressed and its impact should be visible in the coming months. But clearly, even as the Centre continues to struggle to meet its GST targets, states appear to be faring better. The average shortfall in state GST revenues, measured against their protected revenue, has declined from around 16 per cent in FY18 to 13 per cent in FY19. This is a healthy trend. In fact, states like Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, were not paid any compensation in the first nine months of FY19, implying that they had met their tax targets.

To improve compliance and shore up collections, a new simplified return filing mechanism will be implemented in the coming months. This is a welcome development. As small firms account for a minuscule portion of tax payable (firms with revenues less than Rs 1 crore account for less than 10 per cent of tax payable, those between Rs 1 crore and Rs 5 cr account for another 10 per cent) their compliance burden could be eased further. E-invoicing could also help check tax evasion. The refund process for exporters should be streamlined. The council should also aim to rationalise the tax structure by moving towards two to three categories.

IDENTITY TRAP

NRC in Assam triggers similar exercises in other states. Spread of nativist politics is troubling

EVER AS ASSAM grapples with the infirmities and uncertainties of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) process, Nagaland has initiated its own equivalent. The Register of Indigenous Inhabitants (RIN) of Nagaland is meant to be a master list of all indigenous inhabitants of the state and, according to the government, is aimed at preventing people from acquiring fake indigenous inhabitant certificates. While the preparation of Assam's NRC is a Supreme Court-mandated process, the RIN in Nagaland is an initiative of the state government. The RIN takes a cue from the NRC in Assam and will be overhung by the attendant identity concerns. Mizoram and Meghalaya, too, have proposed their own NRCs and a similar sentiment to erect barriers against people perceived as outsiders/foreigners is on the upswing across the region. The proposed amendment to the Citizenship Act aimed at making acquisition of Indian citizenship easier for non-Muslims from select countries in India's neighbourhood, has further polarised the identity debate. These developments do not augur well for the region, or for the country.

The NRC in Assam is an updating of the 1951 census document and draws justification from the exceptional demographic upheavals in the state. Over 40 lakh people have been left out of the draft NRC. There is no clarity about the fate of these non-citizens, who face the prospect of living as stateless people in special camps. However, BJP leaders, particularly the party chief and now Union home minister, Amit Shah, have said that the NRC may be extended to the rest of India. The NRC is an especially polarising spectre in states like West Bengal, which is home to a large number of migrants, Hindus and Muslims, from across the border. Politicians wield the NRC as a threat to disenfranchise inconvenient populations and the conversation, clearly, has triggered anxieties across communities. In the Northeast, which has a long history of identity politics, the NRC and the citizenship law have triggered new insecurities about social, cultural, political and economic capital. Most of the Northeast is already covered by protectionist laws and rules — for example, the inner-line permit — to prevent any potential demographic overrun. But that has not stopped politicians from exploring new ways to make their societies even more exclusive and insular.

Modern economies gain from the seamless movement of labour and capital. Building a discourse against open borders may bring gains for politicians in the short run, but nativist politics will only hurt the economic prospects of the region in the long run. Worse, it can trigger reactions elsewhere and hurt the idea of an inclusive India.

AFTER THE HAND-PUMP

MP Sunny Deol seems to have confused his new role with being a movie star. In politics, there are no 'stand-ins'

IN CINEMA, UNLIKE in real life, actors — big stars in particular — are spared the more boring parts of the job. As the crew runs around, putting up the lights, figuring out camera angles, setting the stage for his/her majesty to come and deliver the lines, a "stand-in" — usually a junior production assistant — takes the actor's place. Sunny Deol, second-generation strongman and movie star, (on-screen) hand-pump enthusiast, and now BJP MP from Gurdaspur, has upset many people by applying this cinematic principle to his political responsibilities. Perhaps they are being a little unfair. After all, it seems it was Deol's characters, rather than any political and administrative achievements, that formed the core of his campaign.

In an official letter, Deol has designated Gurpreet Singh — screenwriter of *Yamla Pagla Deewana* and a line producer — to "deal with all matters pertaining to my Parliamentary Constituency". The Congress has taken issue with Deol appointing a stand-in, calling it a betrayal of Gurdaspur's mandate. But Candidate Sunny, during the campaign, hardly presented himself as either an astute politician. He was unaware, for example, about the Balakot air strikes, BJP's prime poll plank. Instead, Deol's campaign featured a hand-pump, recalling his character in *Gadar: Ek Prem Katha*, and when he joined the BJP, then Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman made a reference to Border.

The problem, of course, is that being an MP carries with it an expectation of accountability, one that demands slightly more than a sunny disposition, dhai kilo ka haath and an enthusiastic line producer to do the actual work. Perhaps MP Deol ought to re-watch *Ghatak*, a film in which he is forced to fight the system (in a singlet, shouting loudly while flexing his muscles) because the government and politicians are simply absent. The actor needs to realise that politics and administration require more than a proxy. Patriotic nostalgia for a hand-pump will only take him so far.

INDIA-US TENSIONS — THAT the Narendra Modi-Donald Trump conversations on the occasion of the Osaka G-20 meeting have hardly attenuated — are the logical outcome, not only of the rise of national-populism in both countries, but also of New Delhi's quest for multi-alignment.

While India and the US claim to be strategic partners, the bones of contention are now more numerous and more substantial than they've been in the last two decades — after Bill Clinton's visit in 2000.

The US criticism regarding the freedom of religion issue is probably the less important one — it will have no serious consequences. But this irritant is not going away: For more than half a decade, the annual report of the State Department on Freedom of Religion accuses India of not treating its minorities in the right manner. In April, the 2019 report not only mentioned the role of vigilante groups involved in "mob lynchings" but cited organisations: "A multifaceted campaign by Hindu nationalist groups like Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Sangh Parivar, and Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) to alienate non-Hindus or lower-caste Hindus is a significant contributor to the rise of religious violence and persecution. Some members of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have affiliations with Hindu extremist groups and have used discriminatory language about religious minorities".

The American Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, while releasing the report, emphasised that freedom of religion was a personal priority. During his visit to New Delhi, ahead of the Osaka meeting, Pompeo declared in the course of a policy speech at the India International Centre: "Let's stand up together for defence of religious freedom for all. Let's speak up strongly together in favour of those rights. For, whenever we do compromise those rights, the world is worse off. India-US relationship is based on solid foundation, rule of law and the importance of civil society. These ideals — they allow people to flourish. The Indian people believe in them and Americans believe in them as well."

More importantly, Pompeo focused on the trade dispute that has escalated between India and the US over the last few months. Almost

one year ago, Trump denounced the failure of India to assure the US of what he called "equitable and reasonable access to its markets". In February, India introduced new e-commerce rules that affected foreign online retailers, including Amazon and Walmart, which could no longer negotiate exclusives on products and sell items via vendors they hold an equity stake in, like Flipkart (that Walmart bought for \$16 bn last year). Amazon India and Flipkart represent 70 per cent of e-commerce in India today and these new rules were intended to help domestic sellers to resist the American giants. They were strongly resented by the latter, which lobbied intensely with the Trump administration. Trump waited for the Indian elections to be over, but on May 31 he terminated India's designation as a beneficiary developing country of the Generalised System of Preferences. The withdrawal of duty-free access to Indian exporters is bound to damage the Indian economy. The Modi government retaliated in June by imposing tariffs on 29 American goods.

These moves were expected, given the political agendas and images of Modi and Trump. National-populist leaders canvass on nationalistic issues — not only in terms of security vis-à-vis Islamism or the Chinese threat — but also in economic terms. When Trump claimed that he wanted to make "America great again", he delineated a programme that was bound to unfold at the expense of others — including India. This is not true only regarding trade, but immigration too. Indians are not as welcome in the US as they used to be. Not only have thousands of techies seen their demand for an H1B visa extension rejected, but the Trump administration is contemplating imposition of a 10-15 per cent quota of all the H1B visas on migrants from countries forcing foreign companies to store data locally. India is one of them and is, therefore, criticised by companies like Mastercard and Visa, which have effectively lobbied the Trump administration. Such a cap on the Indian H1B visas would be an additional blow as Indians get about 70 per cent of the 85,000 H1B visas granted every year by the US. One may argue that such practices are unfair, but India's attempts at regulating migration in the North-east reflect the same

agenda — the kind of agenda on which national-populists are elected.

The fact that the strongmen at the helm in the US and India are cast in the same mould is not the only reason for the recent tensions. The Indian policy of multi-alignment or strategic autonomy is another. This approach is hardly sustainable when the world scene gets so polarised that memories of the Cold War come to mind. India thought it could be a strategic partner of the US and still buy S-400 from Russia. It went ahead with the deal at a cost of Rs 40,000 crore (without any tender) in spite of US warnings — and now it has to negotiate in order to get a sanctions waiver.

Similarly, to be a friend of Iran and the US at the same time is getting more and more difficult. New Delhi has had to bow to Washington when the Trump administration ended on May 2 waivers that allowed India (among others, including China) to continue their oil imports for six months after American sanctions over Iran were re-imposed. But what side will India take if US-Iran relations further deteriorate and if Trump returns to the Bush motto "with us or against us"? After all, India needs Iran because of Chabahar and Afghanistan — where the American withdrawal is another bone of contention.

An important question is arising in DC too: How far can the US rely on India to contain China? In the last Shanghai Cooperation Organisation meeting at Bishkek, Modi did not rule out India joining hands with Russia and China in the emerging trade war with the US. The decision India will make regarding 5G will send a significant signal: Will it boycott Huawei, like the US, or will it say "no" to the US and deal with Huawei?

At Osaka, Modi thanked Trump for his "love towards India" and the latter said that both countries "have never been closer". But these words may not reflect the full picture of the US-India relationship at a time of resurgent nationalisms and national-populism.

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DON'T BLAME THE LITCHI

Deaths in Muzaffarpur are due to chronic malnutrition



T JACOB JOHN

MUZAFFARPUR in Bihar is famous for litchis and infamous for children dying due to annual seasonal brain disease outbreaks. The common brain diseases in children with high mortality are meningitis, encephalitis and encephalopathy. These three have clear-cut differences and very different treatments. Trained paediatricians know how to distinguish the three. If diagnostic criteria are not applied for various reasons, then the three are not distinguished by doctors. That is when an easy diagnostic term covering all three — "acute encephalitis syndrome" (AES) — becomes handy.

Meningitis is most unlikely in large annual seasonal outbreaks. Encephalitis outbreaks in various parts of India are caused by the Japanese Encephalitis (JE) virus, transmitted by Culex mosquitoes. The pre-monsoon months of April-May-June have low mosquito density so JE can also be readily excluded. JE occurs in other districts in Bihar, but not in Muzaffarpur, as the ecology is not conducive for Culex breeding.

The disease description that one, only under-nourished children are affected; two, only children between two and 10 years are affected and three, the onset of convulsions and unconsciousness is always between 4 am and 7 am are clear pointers against any virus infection causing the disease. Viruses, including JE, do not respect nutritional status, age and diurnal rhythm.

This inevitably leads us to conclude that the outbreak disease is encephalopathy. The early morning onset and frequent finding of low blood glucose level (hypoglycaemia)

point to a biochemical disease related to glucose metabolism. Several hours after food intake (early morning) is when the body tends to develop hypoglycaemia.

If the fasting interval is longer than 6-7 hours, because some children were not given a night meal, the situation becomes more severe. That was a common story when I investigated the problem. Malnourished children do not have glucose reserves in the liver, which makes matters worse. In 2016 and 2017, a simple intervention — all grass root health workers consistently teaching rural families not to allow children sleep without a cooked meal — had brought down the case numbers drastically. I suspect this was not sustained in 2018 and 2019.

The disease is not simple hypoglycaemia. In addition, there is brain swelling caused by toxic damage to brain cells — encephalopathy, specifically, "hypoglycaemic encephalopathy". The toxic substance for brain cells are amino-acids made within the body while attempting to synthesise glucose from fatty acids, but blocked halfway by an external stimulus. When fatty acid oxidation is blocked, amino-acids accumulate and cause encephalopathy.

If doctors had treated the sick and unconscious children with a 10 per cent glucose infusion within four hours of onset, all the children would have recovered. In 2013, all 32 primary health centre doctors in the area were taught this life-saving remedy. Before giving glucose they had to collect a blood sample to measure blood glucose level just to confirm that the child had hypoglycaemia.

Doctors were used to 5 per cent glucose to correct hypoglycaemia. The high blood glucose level created with 10 per cent glucose actually turns off the fatty acid oxidation cycle immediately, so no more amino acids accumulate to further damage brain cells.

This year, apparently, many doctors were new and were not taught about the urgency to give 10 per cent glucose. Many children were referred to Muzaffarpur medical college, and the long delay in reaching there resulted in many deaths. Prevention is simple, as is treatment.

Where do litchi fit in? The external stimulus that blocks the fatty acid oxidation cycle for glucose synthesis is methylene cyclopropyl glycine, present in the edible pulp of litchies. Normally-nourished children or adults suffer no adverse effects from litchi. Only when malnutrition and skipping the night meal come together does the litchi eaten the previous day become the last straw.

The socio-behavioural risk factors are the real cause of the outbreak. Where litchi orchards and gross malnutrition are not superimposed, like in Punjab and Haryana, hypoglycaemic encephalopathy is not a problem. Blame the overload on the camel more than the last straw. Blame chronic malnutrition and prolonged fasting for the disease more than the litchi.

The writer, a paediatrician-cum-virologist, has been president of Indian Academy of Pediatrics and retired from the Christian Medical College, Vellore. He investigated the Muzaffarpur disease in 2012, 2013 and 2014

JULY 3, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

MIZORAM VIOLENCE TROOPS HAVE BEEN alerted all over the disturbed Union Territory of Mizoram and massive combing operations launched to pick up rebel Mizos who carried out a daring three-pronged attack on the CRP guard posted at a new AIR transmitting station on the outskirts of Aizawl and a police picket in an area close to Raj Niwas and the Secretariat complex. The rebels raided the resident sub-divisional officer at Kolashib, about 100 km from Aizawl. Mizo National Front activists exchanged fire with CRP men near the AIR complex, and heavy casualties have been reported. An indefinite curfew has been imposed on Aizawl and Kolashib townships and

dusk-to-dawn curfew on the Aizawl-Kolashib sector of the highway.

DOWRY BILL DOWRY-SEEKING IS BEING made a cognisable offence punishable under the Dowry Prohibition (Amendment) Bill being introduced by the government during the monsoon session beginning from July 9. This is one of the 20 new bills coming up before the Lok Sabha. The dowry bill amendment follows public uproar in Delhi in the wake of several recent cases of bride-burning.

TAJ ENTRY THE TAJ MAHAL probably needs a Shah

Commission. More than two years have passed since the Emergency ended. But the Taj is still squirming under one of its "excesses": Even now, people have to pay the Rs 2 Emergency entry fee when they enter the Taj, when the actual entry fee is only 50 paise per head. Not only at the Taj, but at three other major Agra monuments — Akbar's tomb at Sikandra, Itimad-ud-Daula's tomb and the Agra Fort. The entry fee for all these monuments was unilaterally, arbitrarily and illegally raised from 50 paise to Rs 2 by the UP government during the Emergency. And the state government is still collecting the increased fee, despite repeated protests from the Archaeological Survey of India.



The budget's dilemma

Fiscal tightening will accentuate growth slowdown, fiscal stimulus will hurt monetary transmission. There is a third way



SAJJID Z CHINOY

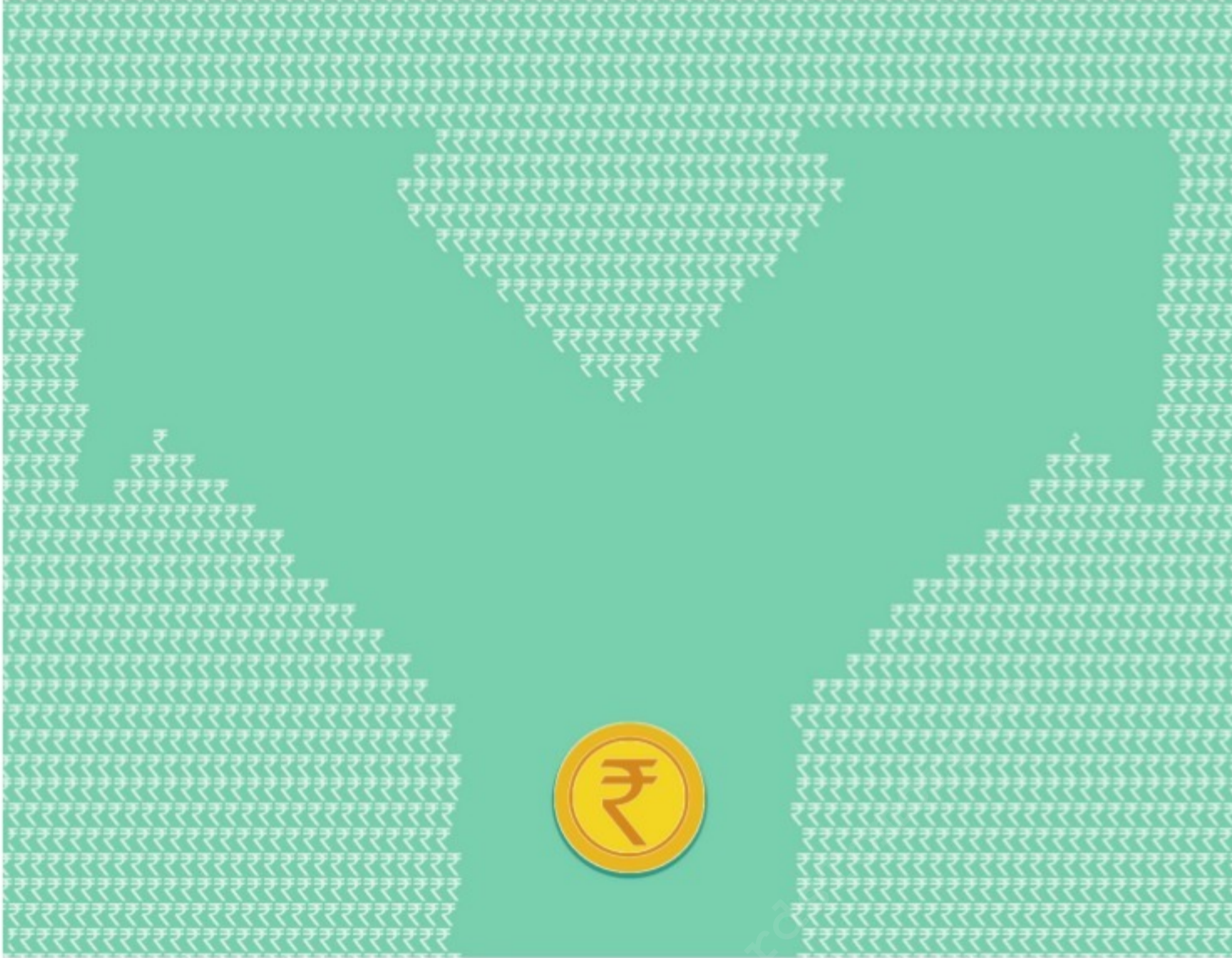
THIS WEEK'S BUDGET is likely to pose the first dilemma for the new administration. To understand why, however, one must fully appreciate the current macroeconomic context. Activity has been losing momentum for the last three quarters. To be sure, some transient pressures (pre-election uncertainty, one-off regulatory changes in the auto sector) will fade. But even controlling for this, underlying growth momentum is confronting several headwinds.

First, the NBFC slowdown is acute and likely to endure. Policymakers are correct in not rushing towards a special liquidity-window for NBFCs and stoking moral hazard. Instead, the root of the problem is on the asset side. Asymmetric information about asset quality, the inability to separate the good and bad apples, and the resultant "trust deficit" has meant NBFCs are being starved of funding. Market discipline is important and there should be no bailout, but absent some sort of asset quality review (AQR), the logjam will linger and constitute a funding supply-shock to housing, SMEs, and consumption. Aren't banks picking up the slack? Only partially, given the imperfect substitutability of these lending models, capital constraints and their own misgivings about NBFC asset quality.

Importantly, when credit gets re-routed back to banks from the less-regulated NBFCs, monetary conditions tighten because of the greater regulatory pre-emption (SLR, CRR) that commercial banks are subject to. As demand for bank credit has picked up — partially on account of this substitution away from NBFCs — banks are understandably reluctant to cut rates, because the funding substitution away from NBFCs to banks is subject to higher regulatory pre-emption. This will impede monetary transmission in an easing cycle.

NBFC stress apart, rural consumption has slowed as the agrarian distress — manifested in a continuously declining terms of trade — hurts rural purchasing power and consumption. The monsoon is off to a poor start and this could further raise rural anxiety and induce precautionary savings. Finally, the global environment provides little comfort. While the US and China may have reached a temporary détente, the two sides seem very far apart on reaching a sustainable deal. The upshot: Expect episodic global shocks, sustained business anxiety and depressed global capex. Unsurprisingly, output gaps are opening up around the world, and India is no exception, manifested most starkly in the annualised momentum of core inflation slowing to 2.5 per cent in 2019 from almost 6 per cent in 2018.

The counter-cyclical dharma of policy would suggest policy must ease to close output gaps, and monetary policy has started in earnest with 75 bps of rate cuts. Markets are expecting more easing, but the real question is how effective will monetary policy be in the current environment? Given the aforementioned substitution of credit from NBFCs to banks, and the significant premium that the government's small-savings schemes command over bank deposits, banks are understandably reluctant to cut deposit — and



Suvajit Dey

therefore lending — rates. Similarly, financial conditions in the NBFC sector remain tight, because credit risk premia have risen and many NBFCs are being quantitatively rationed out of the market. Finally, even as bond yields have softened over the last six months, the yield curve remains uncomfortably steep, and credit risk premia have risen for lower-rated firms in the corporate bond space.

What, then, should the budget do? Slowing growth and limited transmission of monetary policy would argue for a fiscal stimulus. After all, economic theory would argue for fiscal policy to be counter-cyclical, right?

But the reality is quite different. Part of the reason monetary policy is not transmitting more fully is because of a fiscal overhang. With total public sector borrowing almost 9 per cent of GDP, the public sector is eating up virtually all household financial savings. This has contributed to the steepening of the yield curve (with the 10-year yield stubbornly remaining 120 bps over the policy rate despite a slowing economy and rate cutting cycle), pushed up corporate bond spreads given the growing size of quasi-sovereign-issuance, and kept small savings rates high to attract sufficient flows to finance off-balance sheet borrowing. Against this backdrop, if the fiscal deficit meaningfully expands, yields will inevitably harden and further undermine monetary transmission, thereby making any fiscal expansion, at least partially, counter-productive. What, then, should the budget do? Is there a way to impart a fiscal stimulus without widening the deficit?

There is. Last year, the government achieved about 0.5 per cent of GDP in asset sales. What if the government stuck to its deficit target of 3.4 per cent of GDP, but aggressively targeted asset sales of 1 per cent of GDP, both through a combination of strate-

gic disinvestment and re-cycling existing infrastructure assets? This would ensure that even as the deficit is the same as last year, fiscal policy effective becomes expansionary. How so? This is because revenues raised through asset sales are not contractionary like taxes and duties. Instead, they are an exchange of assets between the public and private sector. Therefore, if the deficit is the same as last year (3.4 per cent of GDP), but asset sales are 0.5 per cent of GDP higher, the effective fiscal impulse is a positive 0.5 per cent of GDP. This would be tantamount to a fiscal expansion (for the purposes of growth), while keeping the headline deficit exactly the same (for the purposes of bond markets).

It's important, however, that these asset sales are used for higher public investment — thereby making this a de-facto "asset swap" on the public sector's balance sheet. What we shouldn't be doing is selling assets to finance current expenditure or make up for shortfalls in tax revenues. This would be tantamount to selling the family silver to pay the monthly credit card bill.

All told, aggressive asset sales will allow a growth stimulus (thereby making fiscal policy effectively counter-cyclical) without widening the deficit. The latter will calm bond markets and allow better transmission of monetary policy to further help growth. Both fiscal and monetary policy will be working in tandem.

Difficult circumstances require bold and imaginative responses. The government's historic mandate allows it to think big and out of the box. All told, aggressive asset sales will allow a growth stimulus (thereby making fiscal policy effectively counter-cyclical) without widening the deficit. The latter will calm bond markets and allow better transmission of monetary policy to further help growth. Both fiscal and monetary policy will be working in tandem.

The writer is chief India economist at J.P. Morgan

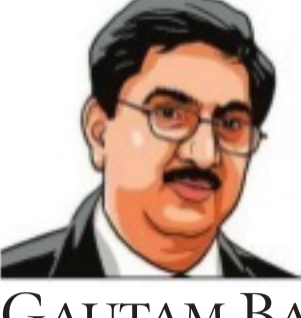
WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

Mr Trump boasted after Singapore that North Korea was no longer a nuclear threat. On Sunday he insisted Pyongyang's missile tests in May were not missile tests. Meanwhile, Mr Kim is enjoying a good month.

—THE GUARDIAN

Ocean's eleven

India and ASEAN agree on their outlook to the Indo-Pacific. They must act in concert



GAUTAM BAMBAWALE

AT THE 34th ASEAN summit in Bangkok, the leaders of the 10-nation grouping finally came out with their positions on the Indo-Pacific region in a document titled 'ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific'. While ASEAN has not spelt out what it considers to geographically constitute the region, there appear to be several similarities between the Indian and ASEAN approaches to this critical subject.

Acknowledging that this is a very important part of the globe from both a geopolitical as well as geo-economic perspective, the group clearly wants developments here to be ASEAN-centric and even ASEAN-led. The Outlook "envisages ASEAN Centrality as the underlying principle for promoting cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, with ASEAN-led mechanisms... as platforms for dialogue and implementation of the Indo-Pacific cooperation". This approach of ASEAN heaves closely to the Indian position, which was best articulated by PM Narendra Modi in his Shangri-la dialogue address on June 1, 2018, where, in reference to the Indo-Pacific region he had stated, "Southeast Asia is at its centre. And, ASEAN has been and will be central to its future. That is the vision that will always guide India...". This similarity of approach works well for both sides, since we already have sizeable areas of cooperation within the "ASEAN Plus India" and the East Asia Summit frameworks, and we already work together in many of the ASEAN-led platforms and vehicles of cooperation.

A second objective of the ASEAN group, as far as the Indo-Pacific is concerned, is to promote an enabling environment for peace, stability and prosperity by upholding a "rules-based regional architecture". India, too, seeks such an order which must equally apply to all individually as well as to the global commons. The new ASEAN Outlook specifically refers to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) while talking of peaceful resolution of disputes, which can be interpreted as being squarely aimed at China and its aggressive actions in the South China Sea. India too believes that when "nations make international commitments, they must uphold them" including in freedom of navigation, unimpeded commerce and settlement of disputes. Once again, there is a close harmony of views between India and ASEAN.

The ASEAN Outlook clearly has an inclusive approach to the region as it visualises "avoiding the deepening of mistrust, miscalculation and patterns of behavior based on a zero-sum game". India has also stated that the Indo-Pacific region is not an exclusive club aimed at any country but must be inclusive, aiming at security and prosperity for all in the region. This is none

other than PM Modi's idea of SAGAR, which he has elaborated extensively in his many visits within the region, including recently at the Majlis of the Maldives. Once again, we see the similarities between India and ASEAN which are starkly different from the idea of a waning power taking on an emerging one in its backyard.

Finally, the Outlook makes it amply clear that the objective of security and stability is the continued growth and development of all countries in the region through greater connectivity, more trade and higher investment. Here too, free, fair and balanced trade by sticking to the rules of the game will be very important, so that extreme imbalances can be cut out and prosperity shared by all — not confined to the few. Whether ASEAN and others in the region can ensure such fair behaviour is something which we will have to work towards. ASEAN pressure on India to ensure completion of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) by the end of 2019 is a case in point. Obviously, India will sign on only when it believes it has got as much in return for what it gives.

Strikingly, no countries have been named in the ASEAN Outlook. It is not being positioned as a new strategy of ASEAN, but a continuation of what have been ASEAN goals and objectives for decades. It is clearly mentioned that no new structures will be created, but that existing ones will be optimally utilised for achieving some of the goals stated in the Outlook. The East Asia Summit (EAS) will be one such platform where not only are China and Japan present, but also Russia and the United States. The ADMM (ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting) Plus framework will also come in handy on defence and security matters.

There is great similarity and parallel in both thought and approach between the Indian and ASEAN positions on the Indo-Pacific Region. As middle or balancing powers that do not want to be in a position to have to choose sides between the big players, there is common ground between the two. This, in turn, dictates our positions on this very topical issue. As we all know and realise, it is becoming increasingly difficult to navigate on a trapeze string without falling off. Individual countries or groups of nations are now being called upon to back one side against the other. This is difficult for both ASEAN as well as India.

A concert between the balancing powers is, therefore, the requirement of the day. India should quickly seize the moment of the announcement of the 'ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific Region', and institute a new dialogue with the 10-member grouping so that we can both further calibrate our approaches in this very important matter. Together, we shall have more say on this subject than we have individually, and that will stand us in good stead. A Track-1 India-ASEAN Indo-Pacific dialogue should be instituted at the earliest.

The writer is a former Indian Ambassador to China. Currently he is distinguished fellow, Pune International Centre and distinguished professor, Symbiosis International University



SONAL VARMA AND AURODEEP NANDI

The Bank's reserves

Discourse on RBI's capital shows it is becoming sensitive to growth concerns

MARKETS HAVE turned a tad Shakespearean about the eventual outcome of the Bimal Jalan-led committee on the RBI's excess reserves — to be, or not to be, that is the question. Is it to be that the committee will award a fiscal bonanza to the government? Or will the committee advocate no actual transfer to government coffers, and instead ask for the excess funds to retire public debt on the RBI's balance sheet? Or will it radically declare that there are no excess reserves to discuss whatsoever?

Inextricably linked to this has been inevitable alarm over whether central bank autonomy is at stake. According to those in favour of defending the RBI's reserves, the government's excessive reliance on them for bridging short-term fiscal slippage may prove to be myopic. After all, the reserves provide insurance for the RBI against shocks such as rupee appreciation, a drop in the value of bonds or the need to undertake sterilisation. Given India's overall fiscal fragility, it may be a tall task for the government to replenish the RBI's capital base under an economic emergency. Others believe the RBI is being overly cautious and holds excess capital that can be put to better use.

But how much is too much excess capital reserve for the RBI? The answer isn't simple — with little consensus on how to define either "excess" or "capital". The size of the RBI's balance sheet is Rs 36 trillion, of which 27 per cent (Rs 9.7 trn) can be broadly classified

as capital reserves. The controversial bit is that over 70 per cent, Rs 7 trn, comprises revaluation reserves, which track changes in the RBI's foreign currency and domestic assets. Some opine that these are temporary and an accounting phenomenon, and excluding them would bring down the available "core" capital available to as low as 7 per cent of the balance sheet (Rs 2.3 trn).

What qualifies as "excess" depends crucially not just on the chosen definition of capital, but also the choice of stress-testing methodology. Typically, the extent of excess is judged on the ability of the central bank's balance sheet to withstand shocks to its portfolio (estimating value-at-risk). Here again, there are differences in opinion, with estimates of the RBI's excess capital ranging from it being under-capitalised to the RBI holding excesses as high as Rs 4.5 trn. To place this in context, the latter would be enough to nearly wipe clean the central government's annual revenue deficit.

The Jalan-committee ruling will have inevitable macro implications. If excess reserves are indeed identified — which some sources place as high as Rs 3 trn — then a direct transfer to the government will amount to a fiscal windfall, which will eventually lead to the creation of reserve money in the system. This will be positive for growth, and over time could exert inflationary pressures if not offset by pruning the RBI's domestic assets. With liquidity in the banking system increas-

ing, this would alleviate, to some extent, the impetus on the RBI to inject liquidity through open market operation buybacks. The level of government debt stock would remain unchanged.

The delay in arriving at the committee's consensus makes it increasingly unlikely that the final budget for FY20 on July 5 will include some fiscal support from the RBI. As a result, the government may struggle to hold the fort at a fiscal deficit of 3.4 per cent of GDP, as it faces strong headwinds from poor actualisation of tax revenues in FY19 and the incremental pressures from tackling a cyclical domestic slowdown and rural deflation.

If the committee rules that these reserves are meant to retire government debt off the RBI balance sheet, then it will not lead to reserve money creation, or any near-term impact on the fiscal deficit, growth and inflation. However, as India's medium-term fiscal consolidation target is to bring the public debt ratio down to 60 per cent of GDP, a hypothetical transfer of Rs 3 trn could reduce it by 1.4 per cent of GDP. The government may choose to use this space to accelerate its fiscal consolidation in coming years, or alternatively use it to increase the fiscal deficit without adding significantly to overall debt. The committee may also suggest ploughing the excess capital into public sector banks to recapitalise them and bolster their lending capacities.

These conversations are part of a broader

discourse in which the RBI is becoming increasingly more sensitive to growth concerns. Part of it is algebraic — a flexible inflation targeting framework applied to a poor growth and low inflation paradigm is a recipe for policy easing. We've seen 75 bps of rate cuts this year, and we believe there's appetite for more. More implicitly, it has led to a conversation about RBI's broader responsibility towards growth. The traditional model of the government fiscally resuscitating growth and the RBI standing by to prevent an overheating of the economy has been turned on its head. Instead, questions are being raised on higher real rates, the RBI's regulatory responsibilities, pros and cons of pro-cyclical bank rehabilitation, and if the RBI's capital reserves can be deployed elsewhere more productively.

These are not unwelcome conversations. They suggest the RBI's subtle shift from being the aloof gatekeeper to an active participant in the growth story. However, in this subtle realignment of priorities, it is of paramount importance that the RBI's autonomy is preserved so that it can do its core job of controlling inflation and maintaining financial stability. After all, it's not worth distracting the gatekeeper to the extent that the gate is left unguarded.

Varma and Nandi are chief economist (India and Asia ex-Japan) and India economist, respectively, for Nomura

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

KASHMIR CAULDRON

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Deepening the unease' (IE, July 2). Home Minister Amit Shah calling Jammu & Kashmir's special status under Article 370 as a temporary measure has triggered a controversy. If the provision is abrogated, it may bring the many diverse outfits in Kashmir together to safeguard their state's special status. The Narendra Modi-led NDA government, with its mammoth mandate, must keep in mind that none of its actions should further alienate the people of Kashmir. Every effort must be made to bring and keep them in the mainstream.

Lal Singh, Amritsar

DON'T BLAME DHONI

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Brickbats and tin-foil hats' (IE, July 2). It is disturbing that some people are castigating MS Dhoni for Team India's first loss in the World Cup to England. Dhoni batted at an average strike rate of 135.48, which was the second-highest strike rate of the match. Dhoni's role in the Indian team is currently that of a finisher and one must remember that a finisher's job is to win matches with some explosive batting towards the end — approximately in the last four to five overs of the game. Dhoni has been consistent in doing this. However, to expect scoring a handsome total from a finisher constantly is an injustice to him.

Tushar Anand, Patna

WADE IN

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Be soft, smart and quiet' (IE, July 1). The ongo-

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

ing confrontation between the US and Iran has a serious bearing on India's strategic interests. India of the 21st century cannot afford to be a fence-sitter while an evolving situation which has a bearing on its interests plays out. The India of today has a significant stature on the international stage and it is widely acknowledged as a responsible emerging geopolitical force to reckon with. New Delhi should consider sending emissaries to all the signatories of the JCPOA. As a major power in the Indo-Pacific region, India can offer to host an informal talk at the official level between the P5+1 group and Iran.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

14 THE WORLD

TOP OF THE WORLD



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez in Clint, Texas. NYT

USA

Border officials slammed over abusive posts

Clint: Controversy broadened the embattled US Border Patrol agency Monday, as a US lawmaker touring detention facilities called conditions "horrifying" and as current and former agency staffers were alleged to have posted offensive comments about the lawmaker and migrants on a Facebook page. Migrants held at a border station in Texas were subjected to psychological abuse and told to drink out of toilets, Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said after a visit to the main border patrol facility in El Paso. Posts on the border officials' page included jokes about the deaths of migrants and sexually explicit comments on Ocasio-Cortez, a *ProPublica* report said. "This isn't about a few bad eggs," Ocasio-Cortez tweeted in response to the report. "This is a violent culture."

USA

FB mail site evacuated after sarin scare

Menlo Park: A Facebook mail facility near company headquarters was evacuated Monday after a routine check found mail that was initially thought to have possibly contained the nerve agent sarin. Authorities put the site under quarantine as they conducted additional testing. Four buildings were evacuated and three have been cleared for people to come back in, said Facebook spokesman Anthony Harrison in a statement. The substance in the suspicious package was later found to be not harmful.

GERMANY

Fire rips through forest littered with explosives

Schwerin: German firefighters were Tuesday battling a huge forest blaze ripping through a former military training area littered with unexploded munitions dating back to the Nazi era. Hundreds of emergency personnel — backed by helicopters, army vehicles and police water canon — have been fighting the flames and evacuated four nearby villages with a total of over 1,000 residents in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania state. The acrid smell from the blaze, the largest recorded in the ex-communist northeastern state, has drifted as far as Berlin, 200 kilometres away, as much of Europe swelters in blistering summer temperatures.

BANGLADESH

Ex-president Ershad on life support: minister

Dhaka: Ailing former Bangladesh president HM Ershad's has been put on life support system after his condition deteriorated, according to the Health Minister Zahid Malik. The 89-year-old former military strongman has been ill for quite some time, suffering from low haemoglobin count and liver complications. He was admitted to the Combined Military Hospital in Dhaka on June 22, *bdnews24* reported.

AFTER PROTESTERS STORM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

China condemns Hong Kong protests over its rule: Undisguised challenge

ANNE MARIE ROANTREE
BEIJING, HONG KONG, JULY 2

CHINA ON Tuesday condemned violent protests in Hong Kong as an "undisguised challenge" to the formula under which the city is ruled, hours after police fired tear gas to disperse hundreds of protesters who stormed and trashed the legislature.

A representative of China's Hong Kong affairs office denounced the demonstrators, who are furious about proposed legislation allowing extraditions to China, and said Beijing supports holding criminals responsible, state media said.

The former British colony of Hong Kong returned to China in 1997 under a "one country, two systems" formula that allows freedoms not enjoyed in mainland China, including freedom to protest and an independent judiciary. Monday was the 22nd anniversary of the handover.

Beijing denies any interference, but for many Hong Kong residents, the extradition bill is the latest step in a relentless



Andrew Leung, president of the Legislative Council, looks at damaged glass panels, a day after protesters broke into the council building in Hong Kong. Reuters

march towards mainland control. "Seriously violating the law, the act tramples the rule of law in Hong Kong, undermines social order and the fundamental interests of Hong Kong, and is an undisguised challenge to the bottom line of 'one country, two

systems'." Xinhua news agency quoted a Hong Kong affairs office spokesman as saying. "We strongly condemn this act."

Debris including umbrellas, hard hats and water bottles was among the few signs left of the mayhem that had engulfed parts

of the city on Monday and overnight after protesters stormed and ransacked the Legislative Council, or mini-parliament.

Police cleared roads near the heart of the financial centre, paving the way for business to return to normal. REUTERS

EXPLAINED
E.
Monday's protests raise fears of China tightening control

WITH BEIJING expressing outrage over a section of protesters breaking into the Legislative Council, experts and other protesters have raised concerns that China may use this to justify more aggressive police action and tighter integration of Hong Kong with the mainland. A day after the incident, the state-run *China Daily* has called for greater economic integrations of the city. Hong Kong academicians, quoted by Reuters, say that with protesters already divided, Beijing could let the movement peter out, but they also have the option of using police force.

'FAILURE TO PREVENT EASTER BOMBINGS'

Sri Lanka arrests ex-police chief and former defence secy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO, JULY 2

SRI LANKA'S ex-defence secretary Hemasiri Fernando and suspended police chief Pujith Jayasundera were arrested on Tuesday, a day after the Attorney General instructed the authorities to charge them for their failure to prevent the Easter terror attacks that claimed 258 lives.

Jayasundera and Fernando were suspended by President Maithripala Sirisena for their alleged inaction on the intelligence shared by India, which warned of an impending attack by Islamic militants, and thereby, failing to prevent the blasts on April 21.

Police spokesperson Ruwan Gunasekara said both men were at different hospitals, undergoing treatment, when police arrested them.

Jayasundera was arrested from the Police Hospital while Fernando was taken into custody at the Colombo National Hospital.

The duo were scheduled to appear before the CID.

Attorney General Dappula de Livera has said the duo should be tried for 'grave crimes against humanity' for their failure to prevent the Easter bombings.

In a letter to acting police chief Chandana Wickremaratne, Attorney General Dappula de Livera on Monday said the duo should be tried for "grave crimes against humanity" for their failure to prevent the Easter Sunday bombings.

De Livera also slammed Wickremaratne for not taking any action against the two as directed earlier on June 27. Wickremaratne's inaction was of a serious nature, he said.

Sirisena had appointed a three-member panel to probe the negligence by the top officials despite the availability of intelligence inputs on the impending attacks.



TURNING THEIR BACKS ON EUROPE

Members of UK's Brexit Party turn their backs to the assembly as the European anthem is played during the first session of the newly elected European Parliament in Strasbourg Tuesday. Reuters

Russia: 14 submariners killed in fire

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MOSCOW, JULY 2

FOURTEEN RUSSIAN seamen have died in a fire on a deep-water research submersible, Russia's defence ministry said Tuesday, the latest in a string of disasters and accidents to hit the country's navy.

The tragedy in the far north has echoes of the sinking of the Kursk submarine in 2000 that claimed the lives of 118 personnel and shook the first year of Vladimir Putin's presidency.

"On July 1, a fire broke out during bathymetric measurements on a scientific research deep-sea submersible," a defence ministry spokeswoman said.

Fourteen crew died as a result of poisoning from the fumes of the fire in Russia's territorial waters, the spokesperson said. The fire has been put out, the ministry said, adding that an investigation was under way.

The vessel was conducting research on areas near the seabed in Russian waters, the ministry said.

Pak channel stopped from airing Zardari interview

SAJJAD HUSSAIN
ISLAMABAD, JULY 2

A LEADING Pakistani news channel was abruptly stopped from airing an interview of jailed former president Asif Ali Zardari, triggering widespread condemnation by journalists who accused the Imran Khan government of suppressing the press freedom.

Zardari, 63, who is in the custody of the anti-corruption body, National Accountability Bureau (NAB), for corruption cases, gave the interview to senior journalist Hamid Mir of Geo News while



The former Pakistan president was recently arrested in a corruption case

being allowed to attend Parliament session by the National Assembly Secretariat. On Monday night, Mir was

hosting his daily eight o'clock Capital Talk show and the channel started airing Zardari's interview.

However, the interview was abruptly pulled off air within five minutes and the channel started showing other news. Later, the channel announced that the interview was not being shown.

Mir expressed anguish and outrage on Twitter where the opinion was divided on the issue.

"I can only say sorry to my viewers that an interview was started and stopped on Geo News[s] I will share the details soon but it's easy to understand who stopped it? We are not liv-

ing in a free country," he wrote. However, Mir was also criticised for resorting to interview Zardari.

"No offences please but nowhere a top accused of money laundering, frauds and fake accounts is allowed one hour air time to justify his crimes. It only happens in Pakistan where an accused in custody of the NAB on physical remand, appears on tv to give us lecture on democracy and transparency," journalist Rauf Klasra tweeted.

Others supported Mir and termed the stopping of interview mid-air as censorship. PTI

Indian among 9 injured in Yemeni rebels' attack on Saudi airport

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
RIYADH, JULY 2

AN INDIAN national was among nine people injured in an attack by Yemeni rebels on Abha international airport in southern Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, a spokesperson of the Saudi-led military coalition said.

"A terrorist attack at Abha International Airport... led to the injury of 9 civilians — eight Saudis and one Indian national,"

Coalition for the Support of Legitimacy in Yemen spokesperson Colonel Turki al-Maliki said in a statement.

All injured are stable and under treatment at hospitals, Colonel al-Maliki was quoted as saying by the state-owned Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

He blamed the Houthi militia for the attack, which took place shortly after midnight on Tuesday.

"In the face of these acts of terrorism and the immoral viola-

tions by the Houthi terrorist militia, the command of the coalition forces continues to carry out strict measures to deter these terrorist militias in order to protect the civilian and civilian assets," Colonel al-Maliki said.

Air traffic at the airport was not affected by the incident, tweeted the airport authorities.

Earlier, the Houthi-run Al-Masirah TV said the rebels "launched a wide operation targeting warplanes at Abha international airport" with drones.

SETTLEMENT LIKELY TO HAPPEN THIS WEEK, MAKING HER WORLD'S 4TH RICHEST WOMAN

MacKenzie Bezos to get \$38 bn in world's biggest divorce settlement

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, JULY 2

MACKENZIE BEZOS, who was married to the world's richest man Jeff Bezos for 26 years, is set to receive \$38 billion in the world's biggest divorce settlement with Amazon's founder and CEO.

MacKenzie, 49, an author, will become the world's fourth-richest woman, and has already promised to give away at least half of her fortune, the CNN business reported.

MacKenzie, who married Jeff in 1993, a year before he started Amazon from his garage in Seattle, has said she had "a disproportionate amount of money to share" and promised to work hard at giving it away "until the safe is empty".

She announced her intention to make a massive donation in a blog on a website set up by The Giving Pledge, an organisation founded by Warren Buffett and Bill Gates, which encourages the super-rich to devote more than half their wealth to social causes.



Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos in 2018. MacKenzie has promised to donate at least half of her fortune. Reuters

The couple, who have four children, finalised their divorce in April in what was reported as the biggest divorce settlement in history, entitling MacKenzie to 25 per cent of couple's joint Amazon stocks, the report said.

Even with the settlement, Jeff will be the richest individual in the world with an estimated net worth of \$118 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

The settlement is expected to come this week based on a 90-day timeline given in a financial disclosure filed in April.

The Amazon CEO will not lose control of the e-commerce giant despite now owning fewer shares.

"This is because despite his soon-to-be-ex-wife walking away with a four per cent stake in Amazon, she has voluntarily ceded her voting rights to Jeff Bezos," said the report on Tuesday.

Applauding his ex-wife on her donation decision, 55-year-old Jeff said: "MacKenzie is going to be amazing and thoughtful and effective at philanthropy, and I'm proud of her. Her letter

is so beautiful. Go get 'em MacKenzie," on Twitter.

MacKenzie has also given him her stocks in other companies: "Happy to be giving him all of my interests in the Washington Post, Blue Origin (private space company) and 75 per cent of our Amazon stock plus voting control of my shares," she tweeted recently.

The pair first announced plans to separate in January, following reports of Jeff cheating on his wife, claims that he denied later.

MEANWHILE

LAST MONTH HOTTEST JUNE ON RECORD

Last month was the hottest June ever recorded with soaring temperatures worldwide capped off by a record-breaking heatwave across Western Europe, satellite data showed Tuesday. Global readings taken by the EU-ran Copernicus Climate Change Service showed that the Earth was 0.1°Celsius hotter than the previous June record.

Trump: Iran playing with fire by breaching uranium stockpile cap

Europe urges Tehran to keep deal alive

PARISA HAFEZI & FRANCOIS MURPHY
DUBAI, VIENNA, JULY 2

IRAN ANNOUNCED on Monday it had amassed more low-enriched uranium than permitted under its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, drawing a warning from US President Donald Trump that Tehran was "playing with fire."

Tehran's announcement marked its first major step beyond the terms of the pact since the US pulled out of it more than a year ago. However, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said the move was not a violation of the accord, arguing that Iran was exercising its right to respond to the US walkout.

The step, however, could have far-reaching consequences for diplomacy at a time when European countries are trying to pull the US and Iran back from confrontation. It comes two weeks after Trump said he ordered airstrikes on Iran, only to cancel them minutes before impact.

Iran's semi-official Fars news agency reported that the country's enriched uranium stockpile has now passed the 300-kg limit allowed under the deal.

Trump, asked if he had a message for Iran, said: "No message to Iran. They know what they're doing. They know what they're playing with, and I think they're playing with fire. So, no message to Iran whatsoever."



No message to Iran. They know what they're doing... I think they're playing with fire. So, no message to Iran whatsoever.

— DONALD TRUMP, WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD A MESSAGE FOR IRAN

The White House said earlier it would continue to apply "maximum pressure" on Iran "until its leaders alter their course of action."

European powers, who remain party to the accord, urged Iran not to take further steps that would violate it. But they held off on declaring the agreement void.

"We have NOT violated the #JCPOA," Zarif wrote on Twitter, referring to the deal by the acronym for its formal title, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. "As soon as E3 abide by their obligations, we'll reverse," he said, referring to European powers Britain, Germany and France. Iran has demanded they guarantee it the access to world trade envisioned under the deal. REUTERS

SHIPS EVADE IRAN SANCTIONS BY 'VANISHING'



A tugboat moves towards the Strait of Hormuz. Reuters

■ As the Trump administration's sanctions on Iranian oil have taken hold, some of the world's shipping fleets have defied the restrictions by "going dark" when they pick up cargo in Iranian ports, according to commercial analysts who track shipping data and intelligence from Israel, a country that backs the Trump crackdown.

■ A week ago, a small tanker ship approached the Persian Gulf after a 19-day voyage from China. The captain, as required by international rules, reported the ship's

position, course, speed and another key detail: It was riding high in the water, meaning it was nearly empty.

■ Then the Chinese-owned ship, the *Sino Energy 1*, went silent and essentially vanished from the grid. It reported in again Sunday, near the spot where it had vanished, only now it was heading east, away from the Strait of Hormuz near Iran.

■ If past patterns hold, the captain will soon report that it is riding low in the water, meaning its tanks are likely full. NYT

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Deeptri Arora Gupta D/O
Rajinder Kumar Arora R/O 48-A,
Mig-Flats, Century Apartment,
Sector-100, Noida, Uttar
Pradesh-201301. Changed my
Name to Deeptri Arora.
0040501484-3

It is for general information that
I, Parmender Kumar S/O Kamal
Singh R/O-A-208 Gali No.3, Part-1
Circular Road, Sonia Vihar
Delhi-110094, inform that name
of mine & my minor son's
Navneet (17 Years) has been
wrongly written as Parmendra
Singh Chaudhary & Navneet
Chaudhary in his
Edu.Documents. The actual
name of mine & my minor son's
are Parmender Kumar &
Navneet which may be
amended accordingly.
0040501624-10

It is for general information that
I, Sunaina, W/o Ex
Kamaldeep Grover, D/o Nand
Lal Chawla, R/O 37A, 2nd Floor,
Nil Block, Malviya Nagar,
Opposite Laxminarayana
Temple, delhi-110017, declare
that I got divorce from my
husband vide court decree no.
HMA CASE NO. 687 dated
17/09/2012. Further I remarried
with HARDEEP RAWAT with
Marriage Certificate No.
9073000072581 on dated
10/02/2019 henceforth name of
my minor son LAKSHAY
GROVER aged about 14 years
may be known as LAKSHAY
RAWAT and also name of father
of my minor son may be known
as HARDEEP RAWAT in future
for all purposes. 0070663080-1

I, Supriya Soni W/O Pawan Gupta
R/O GF 730, Shakti Khand-II,
Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, have
changed my name to Supriya
Gupta forever. 0040501600-1

I, Sunita Babba W/O Ajay
Kumar Babbar R/O B-703,
Citizen-Welfare Society, Gh-1,
Sector-51, Wazirabad-(75),
Gurgaon, Haryana-
122003. Have Changed My
Name To Sunita Babbar.
0040501636-11

I, Sheetal Pal Udayan D/O Veer
Singh Pal R/O-Jagshanti
Udayan Care, N-14, Gamm-
1, Greater-Noida, U.P., have
changed my name from
Sheetal Pal to Sheetal Pal
Udayan for all future purposes.
0040501586-2

I, Savita Verma D/O Ajay Kumar
Verma, R/O-18/35 Shakti-
Nagar, Delhi-110078. Has
Changed My Son's Name From
Kunal Verma To Kunal Rajput
For All Future Purposes.
0040501609-6

I, Lokender Partap Singh s/o-
Nahar-2 Sec-23 Dwarka Delhi-75
inform that I, have changed my
name as Lokender Pratap
Singh Lohan. 0040501603-3

I, Laxmi Devi W/O Vijay Pratap
R/O H.No.194, Gali No.3, G-
Block, Prem Nagar, Najafgarh,
N.Delhi-43, have changed my
name from Laxmi Devi to Saroj
Bala for all future purposes.
0040501617-1

I, Kartik Shah S/o-Sh. Sharad
Chandra Shah R/o-1st Floor,
H.No.386A, Sector-9, Gurugram,
Haryana-122001, inform that
Kartik Shah and Kartik Kumar
Shah both are same person.
0040501586-4

I, Disha Shah S/o-Sh.
Hitendrabhai Vasantlal Shah
R/O Kartik Shah, 1st Floor,
H.No.386A, Sector-9, Gurugram,
Haryana-122001, inform that
Disha Shah and Disha Kartik
Kumar Shah both are same
person. 0040501586-5

I, Balwant Singh Kalra S/o-
Chanchal Singh R/o-2/32
Kalkaji Extn. New Delhi, has
changed my name to
Bhagwant Singh Kalra. In
future I should be known by
this name only. 0040501601-1

I, Ashok Kumar Jha, S/o-
Rameshwar Jha R/O-1-146,
PremNagar-2, Kharisuleman
Nagar, Delhi-110086, inform that
my name incompletely-written
in my secondary certificate
issued by Bihar school
examination-board Patna, as
Ashok Kumar instead of Ashok
Kumar Jha. 0040501624-11

I, Rajender Garg S/O-Ram
Kishan Mundka, R/O-117, Gali
No.-5, Rajendra Park, Nangloi,
Delhi-41, changed my name to
Rajender Kumar.
0040501589-10

I, Rajbir Singh S/O Shri Moh
Chand R/O RZ-89, Mahendra
Park, Pankha Road, Uttam
Nagar, New Delhi-110059, do
herebysolemnly affirm and
inform that my son Anuj's date
of birth has been written
wrongly as 31.10.1997 in my
service records where as his
true and correct date of birth is
16.10.1999. 0040501584-1

I, Rajender Garg S/O-Ram
Kishan Mundka, R/O-117, Gali
No.-5, Rajendra Park, Nangloi,
Delhi-41, changed my name to
Rajender Kumar.
0040501589-10

I, Rajesh Kumar Garg S/O Amar
Chand Jain R/O P-244, Jy Colony,
Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi-
110077, have changed my name
to Rajesh Kumar Jain for all
purposes. 0040501540-1

I, Rajesh Kumar Garg S/O Mr. Dev
Kishan Meena R/O-74,
GoudBasist-AmritKua, Teh-
Sangod, Distt. Kota, Rajasthan-
325601, have changed my name
to RAJESHWARI MEENA, for
all purposes. 0040501624-7

I, Omprakash S/O Ram Singh
R/O-A-83 Amar Colony Nangloi
Delhi-110041, have changed
name my name to Om Prakash.
0040501589-1

I, Puja Bhardwaj, W/o Sriharsh
Bhardwaj R/O SMQ 171/11,
Subroto Park, New Delhi-
110010 have changed my name
from Puja Bhardwaj to Puja
Kumari, vide Affidavit dated
02/07/2019, before NCT, Delhi.
0040501550-1

I, Vikram S/O Raj Kumar Gola,
Hno-88/15a, Gali No-1,
ShakarPur Khas, Delhi-110092.
Have Changed My Name To
Vikram Gola. 0040501589-9

I, Vijay Kumar S/O Late Chhater
Pal R/O H.No.16/753-H, Street
No.9, Military-Road, Bapa-
Nagar, KarolBagh, Delhi-
110005, inform that name of
mine has been wrongly-written
as Vijay Kr. Santholia in the
school record of my minor son
Harsh Santholia, aged about
10-years. The actual name of
mine is Vijay Kumar, which may
be amended accordingly.
0040501624-9

I, Venkatesh Sharma (Age 01-01-
1976) S/o Shri Jagat Singh R/o
4/5036, Netaji Subhash Marg,
Daryaganj, New Delhi-2 have
changed my name to
Binkateshwar Sharma for all
future purposes. 0040501614-1

I, Uttam Kumar Misra, R/O B-25,
Durga Vihar, Deoli Extn.,
Khanpur, N.D.-62, have
changed my name to Uttam
Mishra. 0070663070-1

I, Uma Shanker Yadava S/O Ram
Akbal Yadava R/OA-1/133,
ShivMandir-Marg, Mandawali,
Delhi. Have changed my name
to Uma Shankar Yadav.
0040501589-6

I, Tushar s/o Vinod Puri R/O Flat
No. D-1809 Charms Castle, Raj
Nagar Extension, Ghaziabad,
have changed my name to
Tushar Puri for all purposes.
0040501541-1

I, Tara K.C. D/o Vikram Kumar
R/O T-617, First-Floor, Baljeet
Nagar, N.Delhi-110008. Have
changed my name to Tara
Ramtel. 0040501616-3

I, Sudesh Kumar S/O Parma
Nand H.No.476, Sector-16-A,
Faridabad. Have changed my
name to Sudesh Kumar Nayyar.
0040501589-3

I, Sima W/O Ajay Kumar Verma
D/o Ram Nath Verma,
Employed with LIC of India,
Panipat R/O 38-A, Agarsain
Colony, Assandh Road,
Panipat-132103, have changed
my name to Seema Verma.
0040501557-2

I, Shrajan Parasar S/O Ashok
Parasar., H.No.87-C, Chawla-
Colony, Ballabgarh, Faridabad,
Haryana-121004. Changed My
Name To Srajan Parashar.
0040501624-4

I, Shefali W/O Montu Halder R/O
B-526, Bhoomihaven Camp,
Govindpur, Kalkaji, New Delhi-
110019. Changed My Name To
Shefali Halder. 0040501624-6

I, Shashi W/o Fateh Singh Bharti
R/O 111, Third Floor, Old Gupta
Colony, Near Meerabai Park,
Vijay Nagar, Delhi-110009 have
changed my name to Shashi
Bharti for all future purposes.
0040501596-3

I, Manjeet Singh, S/O Shri Raj
Singh R/O B-6/163, Sector-
11, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have
changed my minor daughter
name from Vanshika Dahiya to
Vanshika. 0040501586-3

I, Mahesh Kumar Daiya o-
Mahesh Dahiya R/O G-407-408,
Gali No.2 G Block, Swaroop
Nagar, Delhi-110042 have
changed my name to Mahesh
kumar for all future purposes.
0040501605-2

I, Mahavir / Mahavir Singh
Tanwar S/O Chandr Singh,
H.No.1903, Marutikunj,
Bhondsi, Sohna-Road,
Gurgaon, Haryana-122102,
Changed My Name To Mahavir
Singh. 0040501616-1

I, Lalit Kumar/Lalit Kumar
Sanwariya S/O Rampal Singh
R/O-Flat No.5, ACP-Complex,
Shivaji-Park, Punjabi-Bagh,
New Delhi-26, both names
belong to same person
i.e. myself. 0040501616-8

I, S.S. Kanwal / Kamla Arora /
Surinder Kanwal W/O Surender
Singh R/O 248, Kohat Enclave,
Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have
changed my name to Surinder
Singh Kanwal for all purposes.
0040501572-1

I, Rekha Krishna Kumar R/O 1/3
Ratan Sethi Chawl GayDevi
Mumbai in my LIC Policy No.
330565380 my name wrongly
mentioned as Km.Rekha Singh
but my correct name is Rekha
Krishna Kumar for all
purposes. 0040501597-1

I, Rekha Gupta W/o-Prince
Sharma R/O-Plotno.81,
New.No.B-324, G/F, Galino 29,
Mahabir Enclave, Dwarka,
Sector-6, New Delhi-75, have
changed my name to Rekha
Sharma. 0040501589-2

I, Sikander Abbas S/O-Jahoor
Abbas, H.No. E-49/A-93, Janta
Mazdoor Colony, Garhi-
Mendu, Delhi-110053. Changed
my name to Sikander Abbas
Jaidi. 0040501616-6

I, Rasukh Kapoor D/O Tarvinder
Singh Kapoor R/O 6105 B8
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi 110070,
have changed my name to
Rasukh Kaur Kapoor for all
purposes. 0040501607-1

I, Ramesh Sehgal S/O Sunder
Singh R/O-92 Sudipuda Kunj
Zone H-4/5 Pitampura N.Delhi-
110034, changed my name to
Ramesh Chand Sehgal.
0040501609-8

I, Rajesh Kumar Garg S/O Amar
Chand Jain R/O P-244, Jy Colony,
Raghubir Nagar, New Delhi-
110077, have changed my name
to Rajesh Kumar Jain for all
purposes. 0040501540-1

I, Jaitni Kumari W/O Rakesh
Pandey, R/O A-5, 2nd-Floor Flat
No. 4, M.B.Road, Khandpur, New
Delhi-110062, have changed my
name my name Jayanti Pandey,
for all purposes. 0040501589-8

I, Charnjit Kaur W/o Kamaljeet
Singh R/O-T-A-24, Gali.No.1,
Tughlakabad-Extn., Delhi. Have
changed my name to
Charanjeet Kaur. 0040501616-9

I, Aashu Chauhan S/O Ramesh
Chauhan Resident-E-7b, 597,
Sangam-Vihar, New-Delhi-
110080. Have Changed My
Name To Aashu Kumar
Chauhan. For All Future
Purpose. 0040501636-3

I, Hitherto known as VIBHISHAN,
S/O Subhash, R/O H.No. 147,
Kheri Road, Maa Saraswati
School, Hanuman Nagar Sec-
16A, Kheri Kalan, Faridabad,
Haryana 121002, have changed
my name and shall hereafter
be known as VISHANU KUMAR.
0070663087-1

I, Jagresh S/O Devi Ram R/O
H.No.125.VIII- Chhaprauli
Bangar, G.B.Nagar U.P. have
Changed my name to Jagresh
Lohia for all purposes.
0040501586-1

I, Hitherto known as
Dharmendra S/O Ram Gopal
Residing at-25-B Near-
L.S.R.College, Zamrudpur
Greater-Kailash Part-1, Greater
Kailash S.O., Greater-Kailash
South-Delhi-110048 have
changed my name and shall
hereafter be known as
Dharmendra Kohli
0040501636-4

I, Bhavana Sharma W/O
Tribhuvan H.No Rzp-242, Gali
No-4, Raj Nagar Part-2, Palam-
Colony, Delhi. Have Changed
My Name To Bhawna Sharma.
0040501609-3

I, Ashok Singh Chauhan S/O
S.S.Chauhan R/O, M-113, First-
Floor, Blossoms-2, near-
Artemis Hospital, sector-51,
Gurgaon-122001,
Haryana. Have changed name
my Name To Ashok Chauhan.
0040501609-7

I, Sashi Bala Spouse of No.
5769966 LNK Mukesh
Kumar, Resident of-Village
Bhurj Sahid,P.O
Shahzadpur, Tehsil Narain
Garh, Distt.-Ambala, Haryana-
134202, have Changed my name
from Sashi Bala to Shashi
Bala, vide affidavit dated
02.07.2019 before Delhi High
Court. 0040501603-1

I, Dhanmaya W/O Late Shri Bhim
Singh R/O-107 2nd floor, Surya
Niketan, Vikas Marg Delhi-
110092, hereby inform that
Dhanmaya and Maya Devi is
one and the same person and
in future will be known by the
name Dhanmaya for all future
purposes. 0040501587-1

I, Dhananjaya Kumar
Vishvakarma S/O Ram Suchit
Vishvakarma R/O-2873, Gali
No.69, Molar-Band Extension,
New Delhi. Have changed my
name to Dhananjay Kumar
Vishwakarma. 0040501589-5

I, Devinder Kaur W/O-Harjinder
Singh R/O-A-167, Vijay-Laxmi
Park, Nilotihi-Extention, New-
Delhi-110041, have changed my
name to Dewinder Kaur.
0040501616-11

I, Devika D/O Sunita, R/O-4,
Nagin Lake Apartment
Paschim Vihar Delhi-110087.
Have changed my name my name
to Devika Shokeen.
0040501589-7

I, Devendra Kumar Singh S/O
Shri Kalyan Singh, residing at
H.No.10-A, Gali No.21-A,
Molarband Extn. Badarpur New
Delhi-110044 have changed the
name of my minor son Yash
Verma, aged 14 year and he
shall hereafter be known as
Yash Kumar Singh.
0040501585-1

I, Deepika Goel D/O Vijay Kumar
Goyal, R/O-1/1597,
Mansarovar-Park, Shahdara,
Delhi-110032. Changed My
Name To Deepika Goyal.
0040501616-10

I, Deepa or Deepa Daiya R/O G-
407-408, Gali No.2 G Block,
Swaroop Nagar, Delhi-110042
have changed my name to
Mamta for all future purposes.
0040501605-1

I, Davinder Kumar S/O C-104,
Sadbhawna Apt., Sec-22,
Dwarka, Delhi-77, have
changed my name to Devinder
Kumar Mahajan. 0070663090-1

I, Bhupender Kumar S/O Late
Amolak Ram R/O 93, Block-6,
Geeta Colony, Delhi-110051
have changed my name to
Bhupender Singh.
0040501570-1

I, Bansri Madaan/Bansri Lal
Madaan S/O Lt. Sri Sunder Dass
R/O 40-Vaishali, Pitampura,
Delhi-110034, have changed my
name to Bansri Lal for all
future purposes. 0040501542-1

I, Baljeet Singh Dhingra S/O
Late S.Raghubir Singh Dhingra
R/O-D-11, New-Govindpura
Gali.No.9, Delhi-110051-have
changed minor son's
name, from Rajbeer Singh to
Rajveer Singh Dhingra.
0040501616-4

I, Ashish S/O Mahavir Singh
H.No.1903, Marutikunj,
Bhondsi, Sohna-Road,
Gurgaon, Haryana-
122102, Changed My Name To
Ashish Tanwar. 0040501616-2

I, Aditya Basista S/O Balraj
Basista, Resident of 6, Sarai
Kale Khan, Hazrat Nizamuddin,
South Delhi-110013, have
changed my name to Aditya
Balraj Basista. 0040501557-1

I, Abhishek Joshi, S/O Umesh
Chandra Joshi R/O-B1-616,
Tower-14, Silver-City, Noida
Gb.Nagar, Up-201304, Changed
The Name Of My Minor Son
Akshit Joshi To Akshat Joshi
Aged 10-Years. 0040501636-12

I, Baburam Shettri S/O Tank Lal
R/O-7AND-8, Rajasthan-Guest
House, Green-Park, Delhi-
110016. Have Changed my
Name to Baburam Chetri.
0040501616-4

I, Ashish S/O Mahavir Singh
H.No.1903, Marutikunj,
Bhondsi, Sohna-Road,
Gurgaon, Haryana-
122102, Changed My Name To
Ashish Tanwar. 0040501616-2

I, Aditya Basista S/O Balraj
Basista, Resident of 6, Sarai
Kale Khan, Hazrat Nizamuddin,
South Delhi-110013, have
changed my name to Aditya
Balraj Basista. 0040501557-1

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all concern that my client
namey Smt. Babita W/o Late Shri
Khanra R/o 16385, E-Block, Bapa
Nagar, Karol Bagh, New Delhi- 110005
has severed her all relations and
connections from her son Sh. Pawan
and daughter-in-law Smt. Pinki
Priyanka W/o Sh. Pawan due to their
disobedience, misconduct, quarrelsome
nature and threat by daughter-in-law to
implicate my client and her family
members in false and frivolous cases.
Both of them shall have no right, title
and interest in any manner with the movable
and immovable properties of my client.
My client is not responsible for any act
done by any of them and both of them
have been disowned by my client.
Sd/-
DHARINI WINDLASS (ADVOCATE)
Ch. No. 447-448, Western Wing
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender notice no. CRW-HRT-M-Bio-Toilet-
Tank Date : 28.06.2019. For and on behalf of
President of India, Dy. Chief Mechanical
Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop,
Harnaut invites open e-tender for the
following works as detailed.
1. Name of work with its location :
Maintenance of 8640 nos. Bio-toilet Tanks
i.e. Dismantling, Cleaning, Repair and
Re-firmment through outside agencies i.e. with
the contractor's labour and Materials (except Ball
Valve & its operating mechanism, safety Wire
rope and bacterial inoculums) at Carriage
Repair Workshop Harnaut for a period of
three years. 2. Approx. cost of the work :
₹2.85.36.192/- (Rupees two crore eighty five
lakh thirty six thousand on hundred ninety
two only). 3. Earnest Money to be deposited :
₹2.92.700/- (Rupees two lakh ninety two
thousand seven hundred only). 4. Date
Time for submission of tender and opening
of Tender : The tender have to be submitted
online on www.ireps.gov.in. up to 12.00 hrs.
on 27.07.2019 and will be opened on the
same day at 12.30 hrs. 5. Website
particulars, Notice board location where
complete details of tender can be seen :
Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria &
tender documents can be seen from the
CRIS website : http://www.ireps.gov.in & full
details of notice can be seen on notice board
in the office of Chief Workshop Manager,
Administrative Building, Carriage Repair
Workshop, Harnaut, Nalanda, Bihar-
803110. All corrigendum will be uploaded on
website if required.
Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/CRW/ECR/Harnaut
PR/0628/HRT/MECH/T/19-20/48

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता,
निर्माण खण्ड, उ०प्र० जल निगम,
4/4 संजय प्लेस, आगरा
पत्रांक : 1472 / निविदा / 46,
दिनांक : 27.06.2019
अति अल्पाकालीन निविदा सूचना
उ०प्र० जल निगम की ओर से जयपुर आगरा
के नगर पालिका परिवर्धन हेतु प्रथम
के निर्माण कार्य हेतु निविदाये की किंकी निर्माण
कार्य 06.07.2019 तक कार्यालय अधिशासी
अभियन्ता, निर्माण खण्ड, उ०प्र० जल
निगम, 4/4 संजय प्लेस, आगरा में की
जायेगी। पेजल निर्माण कार्य हेतु 'डी'
श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से सीलबन्द
निविदाये दिनांक 06.07.2019 को
आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदाये प्रपत्र का
मूल्य ₹01000/- + बट है। निविदा के
साथ धरोहर बनारशि रु० क्रमशः 10000/-
की अधिशासी अभियन्ता के नाम से बचक
होगी। निविदा कार्यालय अधिशासी
अभियन्ता, निर्माण खण्ड, उ०प्र० जल
निगम, आगरा में दिनांक 08.07.2019 के
अपराह्न 12.00 बजे खोली जायेगी।
निविदा के कार्य का विस्तृत विवरण जल
निगम के वेबसाइट www.upjn.org से
या सम्बन्धित कार्यालय से प्राप्त करें।

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tendering Tender Notice
No. DYCE-I-BPL-03-2019,
Dated 28.06.2019
E-Tender is invited on behalf of the
President of India acting through
Deputy Chief Engineer
(Construction)-I, West Central
Railway, Bhopal, for the following
work (Single packet system)-
S.No.: 1. Tender No.: Dy. CE(I)-
BPL/03/2019. Brief Description:
Track maintenance work of SQL-
BGTA section in connection with
Sontalai-Bagratawa patch doubling
project. Approx. Tender Value: ₹
14.95 Lakhs. Earnest Money: ₹
29,900/-. Due date of Closing of
tender: 23.07.2019 at 15.00 hrs.
Completion Period: 6 (Six) Months
including harvest & monsoon period.
The complete information of above
E-Tender is available on
<http://www.ireps.gov.in> and also
placed on the Notice Board of office of
the Dy. CE(I)-W/ West Central
Railway/Bhopal. Tenders other than in
the form of a-bids shall not be accepted
against above tenders. Corrigendum,
if any issued in connection with tender,
will be available on above mentioned
website only.

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत
वितरण निगम लि
ऊर्जा बचत, 220 के.वी. विद्युत उपसंचालन,
बाई-पार रोड, सिकन्दरा, आगरा -282007
(ई-मेल : semddvvnagra2@gmail.com)
(CIN No. U31200UP2003SGC027460)
(निविदा सूचना) • ई-निविदा संकेत
DyVNL-MM/2414-2019: दक्षिणांचल
विद्युत के कार्यक्षेत्र में पूर्ण उम्र योजना, 15% व
5% सुरक्षाविवेक का बचत, विद्युत प्लान एवं
अन्य योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के.वी.ओ.
उपकेन्द्रों तथा 33 के.वी.ओ./11 के.वी.ओ./
एच.टी.ओ. ओवरहेड लाईनों एवं अण्डरग्राउण्ड
कॉन्डिगिंग तथा अन्य कार्य का जी.पी.ए.ए.ए.
कार्टिडिज के आधार पर सर्वे कर एस्टीमेट तैयार
कर सम्बन्धित खण्ड/मंडल को उपलब्ध
करके का कार्य, धरोहर राशि: रु०
2,00,000/-, निविदा शुल्क: रु० 5,900/-
(जी.एस.टी. सहित), निविदा सूचने की
दिनांक: 25.07.2019. निविदा शुल्क निगम
की वेबसाइट www.dvvn.org के माध्यम
से ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा। निविदा प्रपत्र
₹3000 यात्रण के ई-प्रोक्विअरमेंट पोर्टल
<http://tenders.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध
की जायेगी, जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड
किया जा सकता है। उपरोक्त निविदा निर्माण
लिखि को 13.00 बजे तक केवल ऑनलाइन
माध्यम से जमा की जायेगी तथा उसी दिन
दोपहर 16.00 बजे ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम
खोली जायेगी। हस्ता./- अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
(साओप)-1, दक्षिणांचल विद्युत निगम
सी.एन.ए.ए. (CIN No. U31200UP2003SGC027460)
पत्रांक: 9917/अधी.अधि.ओ(साओप)-1
/आगरा/विद्युत/दिनांक: 02.07.2019

SEARCH FOR MISSING
General public is hereby informed that
one boy namely **Rahul Chhabra, S/o**
Shri Pawan Chhabra, R/o H.No. 705B/6,
Ward No. 6, Mehrauli, New Delhi has
been missing from his house since
10.04.2019 at about 05:00 am. In this
regard a case F.I.R. No. 362/19, Dated
14.06.2019 U/s 365 I.P.C. has been
registered at Police Station - Mehrauli,
New Delhi. His physical description is as under:-
Age: 21 years, Complexion: Fair, Height: 5'11", Face:
Round, Build: Strong, Clothing: White colour checkdar
shirt, black colour pant and white colour Nike shoes in feet.
Any person is having any information/Clue
regarding this missing boy, may inform undersigned.
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cbi@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24386839
Ph.No: 011-24386838, 24386841
DP/552/SD/23/19
S/O
P.S. Mehrauli, New Delhi
Ph.: 011-26643200, 26645050

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 had applied against the following posts & Advt.:

Sr. No.	Name of Post & Department	No. of Posts	Advt. No.	Date of Publication	Closing Date
1.	Senior Manager (Legal) in Industries & Commerce Department, Haryana (HSIICD).	Gen-02	1(2) of 2018	21.07.2018	20.08.2018
2.	Senior Manager (IA) in Industries & Commerce Department, Haryana (HSIICD).	Gen-02 SC-01	1(4) of 2018	--do--	--do--
3.	Senior Manager (Accounts) in Industries & Commerce Department, Haryana (HSIICD).	Gen-01 SC-01	1(5) of 2018	--do--	--do--
4.	Senior Manager (Finance) in Industries & Commerce Department, Haryana (HSIICD).	BCA-01	1(11) of 2018	--do--	--do--
5.	Assistant General Manager (IA) in Industries & Commerce Department, Haryana (HSIICD).	Gen-01	1(12) of 2018	--do--	--do--
6.	Assistant General Manager (Finance) in Industries & Commerce Department, Haryana (HSIICD).	SC-01	1(14) of 2018	--do--	--do--

Now the Commission has decided to seek the hard copy of online applications. Therefore, all candidates who had applied against the above Advt. & Posts are hereby directed to submit the Hard Copies of their online application forms alongwith self attested copies of their certificates/supporting documents as claimed in the online application form and also according to the terms of advertisement, to the Commission's office addressed to the Secretary, HPSC, Bay No. 1-10, Block-B, Sector-4, Panchkula, (Haryana) through registered post or by personal delivery a reception by 15.07.2019 upto 5.00 P.M. failing which their candidature will not be considered to this recruitment.

This notice is also available on Commission's Website <http://hpsc.gov.in>.
Date: 01.07.2019
77278/HRV

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE FOR DIFFERENT ELECTRICAL WORKS

DRM (Electrical)/TRD/ECR/Dhanbad for and behalf of the President of India invites e-tender for execution of the work indicated as under. E-Tender No.: TRD/OT/TR/06/2019-20. 1. Name of work with location and Completion of work : Track Renewal Section for Dhanbad division : 1) Gomoh-Patratu (2) Scattered location of GC Section in both UP & DN line under AEN(1)GMO-0.850 Km (3) Patratu = Garhwa (4) Garhwa Road-Mahadiya-Shaktinagar (5) Garhwa Road-Chopan-Mahadiya-Shaktinagar (6) Obra-Mahadiya Km 172.2-172.6 & 175.3-175.9 (7) Casual renewal bet. Dhanbad-Chandrapura Km. 14.3-14.8 & 19.9-20.4 (8) Patratu-Garhwa Road (10) Patratu-Garhwa Road (11) Gomoh-Patratu (12) GMO-PTRU (13) Garhwa Road-Chopan-Mahadiya-Shaktinagar (14) Casual Renewal GHD-CPU section (15) Casual renewal SLBN-SMHDA section (16) Garhwa road Stn. limit (17) Doltanganj Stn. Limit (18) Casual renewal in KDS Stabling line No.3 (19) PTRU-GHD (20) PTRU-GHD TRR(P) (21) Gomoh-Patratu (22) Garhwa Road-Mahadiya & (23) Casual renewal Diamond Crossing in PKA-MPO. (Completion period 06(Six) months). 2. Approx. cost of the work : ₹32,28,240.90. (Cost of e-tender form ₹3,000/-). 3. Earnest money to be deposited : ₹64,000/-. 4. Date & Time for submission of closing and opening of E-Tender : Closing of E-Tender - On 16.07.2019 at 11.00 hrs. Opening of E-Tender - On 16.07.2019 at 11.30 hrs. 5. Website particulars : Website : www.ireps.gov.in. Manual tender offer note accepted under e-tender.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

GM(C), RITES Ltd., Bengaluru invites on behalf of the Dept. of Collegiate Education, Bengaluru online percentage rate bids in Two Packet. System for the following works:
(1) NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/28/2019 Date 02.07.2019. Construction of Classrooms for Govt First Grade College at Hoskote, Devanahalli, Doddaballapur, Nelamangala and Thymagundlu in Bengaluru Rural District for DCE 2018-19. Est. Cost is Rs.734.53 Lakhs (Approx.). EMD Rs. 7.35 Lakhs. Period of completion 18 months. Last date and time of submission of bid 18.07.2019 upto 11.00 hrs.
(2) NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/29/2019 Date 02.07.2019. Construction of Additional Classrooms, Library, Laboratory and Toilet Block for Govt First Grade College at various locations in Mysuru and Chamarajanagar District for DCE 2018-19. Est. Cost is Rs.2425.40 Lakhs (Approx.). EMD Rs. 24.25 Lakhs. Period of completion 18 months. Last date and time of submission of bid 24.07.2019 upto 11.00 hrs.

Directorate of Industries, Amravati Region Amravati.

e-Tender

Notice No. 01 for 2019-20
Joint Director of Industries, Amravati Region, Amravati invites e-Tender for purchase of Plant & Machinery for GreenFab Solar Khadi Processing Cluster Plot No. A-25, MIDC Amravati, Tq. Dist. Amravati (MS) The e-Tender details are available on website www.mahatenders.gov.in for detailed information all relevant dates will be as per the tender published in web portal www.mahatenders.gov.in
Date. 02.07.2019
Sd/-
Joint Director of Industries, Directorate of Industries, Amravati Region Amravati.

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED

Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur District, Tamil Nadu. Phone No.04324-277001 (10 lines), Extn. 4206/4295 E-mail: pmd.civil@tnpl.co.in, web: www.tnpl.com

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

"Formation of Black Topped (BT) road for Thathampatti, Chithanatham, Karichampatti villages under Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) at TNPL Unit II, Mondipatti"
Due Date: 22.07.2019

Interested bidders may purchase a complete set of Bid Document, against submission of a written application to TNPL and upon payment of applicable non-refundable fee of Rs.1,000/-, by way of Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque in favour of Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited, payable at Trichy. Alternatively, details of the bid may be viewed at <https://www.tnpl.com/TenderListing.aspx> and a soft copy of the Bid Document can be obtained against request by e-mail to the above mail id.
DIPR/2210/Tender/2019

TAMIL NADU ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

(A Government of Tamil Nadu Enterprise) TEDA

No.1248/Solar Technician Training Dated : 03.07.2019

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of Interest is invited from firms / organizations / Training Providers affiliated with Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and Sector Council for Green jobs for conducting Solar PV Installer training under Solar Technician Training programme in the districts of Chennai, Coimbatore and Salem.

The details of the programme along with formats for submitting EoI and can be downloaded from www.teda.in. The interested firms / organizations / Training Providers may submit their EoI through post or in person to the General Manager to E.V.K. Sampath Maaligal, 5th Floor, No.68, College Road, Chennai - 600 006 in sealed envelope on or before 02.08.2019 @ 5.00 PM.

General Manager
TamilNadu Energy Development Agency

verka

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.

SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022, EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-13 www.verka.coop

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items -

Sr No	Name of the Item	Qty/ Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/Downloading of e-tenders online	Last Date & Time of Submission of on-line e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tenders
1.	Labour Contractor for providing of unskilled/semi skilled /highly skilled/ skilled manpower etc against different Jobs.	Annual Rate Contract	General Manager Verka Gurdaspur Dairy (Ph. No. 01874-220156,222725)	200/-	1,00,000/-	04.07.2019	18.07.2019 Upto 4:00 PM	19.07.2019 At 12:00 Noon
2.	Labour Contract for different jobs in prodn, Engg. Mkt, Milk Chilling Centre Cleaning & Housekeeping of Factory	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	200/-	1,00,000/-	04.07.2019	18.07.2019 Upto 4:00 PM	19.07.2019 At 12:00 Noon
3.	Hiring of Insulated Road Milk Tankers for transportation of Milk from BMCs/MCCs to Milk Union, Gurdaspur Capacity 3 MT, 6 MT, 10 MT, 15 MT	06	-do-	200/-	1,00,000/- (Per Tanker)	02.07.2019 After 5:00 PM	16.07.2019 Upto 3:30 PM	17.07.2019 At 11:30 AM
4.	Hiring of Insulated Road Milk Tankers for transportation of Milk from Milk Union Gurdaspur to other Milk Unions, Radhaswami Beas, Jammu etc. Capacity 10 MT, 15 MT, 20 MT	03	-do-	200/-	1,00,000/- (Per Tanker)	02.07.2019 After 5:00 PM	16.07.2019 Upto 3:30 PM	17.07.2019 At 11:30 AM
5.	Supply Installation and commissioning of SS Crate Conveyor	65 ft (Approx.)	-do-	200/-	20,000/-	03.07.2019 After 5:00 PM	18.07.2019 Upto 3:30 PM	19.07.2019 At 11:30 AM
6.	Annual Repair & Maintenance Contract for Bulk Milk Coolers, Pump and DG set at different villages	39	-do-	200/-	30,000/-	03.07.2019 After 5:00 PM	18.07.2019 Upto 3:30 PM	19.07.2019 At 11:30 AM
7.	Operation and Maintenance of Prepack Machines (Along with coding in packets) & Trays Washer	30,000 Ltr to 50,000 Ltr.	-do-	200/-	40,000/-	04.07.2019 After 5:00 PM	23.07.2019 Upto 4:00 PM	24.07.2019 At 2:00 PM
8.	Hiring of Vehicle for Transportation of Milk from MPSC/ Farms to MCC to Milk Plant, Tata 207, 409, Mahindra Max, Mahindra Pick Bolero Pick, Tata Ace.	24 Route	-do-	200/-	15,000/-	07.07.2019 After 5:00 PM	22.07.2019 Upto 3:30 PM	23.07.2019 At 11:00 AM

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website eproc.punjab.gov.in
Note:- Tender processing Fee is Non-Refundable.

General Manager (QA&E)

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग DEPARTMENT OF SPACE

इसरो नोदन कॉम्प्लेक्स ISRO PROPULSION COMPLEX
महेंद्रगिरि पी ओ MAHENDRAGIRI PO
तिरुनेलवेली जिला TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT- 627 133, तमिलनाडु TAMILNADU

क्रय व भंडार प्रभाग/PURCHASE & STORES DIVISION दिनांक /DATE: 28.06.2019
नविदा संख्या सं. आईपीआरसी/प्र.क्र.व.पं/पीडी/ए-प्राण/08/2019-20/TENDER NOTICE NO.IPRC/HPS/PT/e-PROC/08/2019-20

भारत के राष्ट्रपति के लिए और उनकी ओर से प्रमाण, क्रय व भंडार, इसरो नोदन कॉम्प्लेक्स (आईपीआरसी), महेंद्रगिरि निम्नलिखित की आपूर्ति हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित करते हैं। For and on behalf of the President of India, Head, Purchase & Stores, ISRO Propulsion Complex (IPRC), Mahendragiri invites online tenders for supply of the following:

क्र. सं. No.	निविदा संदर्भ सं. Tender Ref. No.	संक्षिप्त विवरण Brief Description	निविदा प्रस्तुतीकरण की अंतिम तिथि व समय/ Last Date & Time for Tender Submission
1.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190318101 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0318101 (Two-Part)	उच्च गति वाला डी.ए.एस. सहित संकेत अनुकूलक High Speed DAS with signal conditioner	Upto 02.08.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
2.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190295901 (एक-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0295901 (Single-Part)	बृहत् फॉर्मट प्रदर्शक Large format displays	Upto 16.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
3.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190314901 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0314901 (Two-Part)	वालों की आपूर्ति Supply of Valves	Upto 19.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
4.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190334301 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0334301 (Two-Part)	450kV द्वि-ध्रुव फोकस सी.एम.टी. सिस्टम 450kV Dual Mini Focus CMT System	Upto 31.07.2019 12:00 बजे/hrs. तक
5.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190327401 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0327401 (Two-Part)	ग्लोब प्रकार के ग्लोब-टाइप एप ग्लैंड सील वाल्व Procurement of Globe Type EP Gland seal Valves	Upto 17.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
6.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190323601 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0323601 (Two-Part)	मैन्युअल, ई.पी. व नियंत्रण वाल्वों की आपूर्ति Supply of Manual, EP & Control Valves	Upto 15.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
7.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190323401 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0323401 (Two-Part)	पाइप फिटिंग्स व फ्लेंजों की आपूर्ति Supply of Pipe Fittings & Flanges	Upto 18.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
8.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190332401 (एक-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0332401 (Single-Part)	क्रैन स्केल वेयर Crane Scale Weigher	Upto 11.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
9.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190334601 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0334601 (Two-Part)	स्पेक्ट्रोफ्लोरो फोटोमीटर Spectrofluoro photometer	Upto 12.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक
10.	आईपीआरसी/क्रय/20190326601 (दो-भाग) IPRC/PUR/2019E0326601 (Two-Part)	कैंची उद्घाटन की आपूर्ति, अचिह्नक व कमीशन करना Supply, Installation & commission of Scissor Lift	Upto 15.07.2019 10:00 बजे/hrs. तक

इच्छुक निविदा देने वाले इसरो नोदन कॉम्प्लेक्स लिंक <https://eprocure.isro.gov.in> पर जाएं और केवल ऑनलाइन द्वारा अपने कोटेशन अपलोड करें। इस निविदा सूचना के प्रकाशन के पश्चात जारी कोई भी सुदृष्टि केवल इसरो वेबसाइट में ही देखा जा सकेगा। आवक कृत्या वेबसाइट निम्नलिखित रूप से देखा करें।/The interested vendors may visit our ISRO PROPULSION COMPLEX Link in URL <https://eprocure.isro.gov.in> and upload your quotations through online only. Corrigendum if any, issued after publication of this Tender Notice, will be hosted in our web site only. You may please visit the site regularly.

प्रधान, क्रय व भंडार/Head, Purchase & Stores, नोदन सं./Ph. No: 04637-281599/281550/1552/1553/1554

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड Container Corporation of India Ltd.

(भारत सरकार का उद्योग) (A Govt. of India Undertaking)
ICD, Tughlakabad, New Delhi - 110 020

TENDER NOTICE (E-Tendering Mode Only)

CONCOR invites Online Open E-Tender in Single bid system from established, experienced & reliable Bidders for "AMC for Operation & Comprehensive Maintenance of fire fighting and fire alarm system at ICD DDL (Ludhiana), Punjab" only through e-tendering mode. The bid document can only be downloaded after paying Rs.1000.00 through online from the website (www.tenderwizard.com/CCLL).

Tender No.	CONNR/CD/DDL/TECH&M OF FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM/ 2018
Estimated Cost	Rs. 45,00,000/-
Period of the contract	03 Years (24 Months + 12 Months)
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 90,000/-through e-payment mode only
Cost of Document	Rs. 1000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment
Tender Processing Fee	Rs. 2055/-inclusive of all taxes and duties (Non-refundable) through e-payment.
Date of Sale (On Line)	From 03.07.2019 :11:00 hrs. to 24.07.2019 upto 14:00 hrs.
Last Date & Time of submission	24.07.2019 upto 17:00 hrs.
Date & Time of Opening of E-Tender	On 25.07.2019 at 15:00 hrs.

For eligibility criteria and other details please log onto www.concorindia.com or eprocure.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/CCLL. Bidders are requested to visit the websites regularly. CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons thereof.

Executive Director/Northern Region

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE

WORKS DEPARTMENT

E-mail : ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-04/2019-20

- The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE form eligible contractors for Road/ Bridge works as mentioned below :
- Nature of work : Road work
- No. of work : 01 No.
- Tender Paper cost : Rs.10,000.00
- Class of Contractor : Super Class as noted against each work
- Available of bid document : From 10.00 A.M. of 10.07.2019 to 5.00 PM of 30.07.2019
- Date of opening of Bid : Dt.31.07.2019 at 11.30 AM
- The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tenderodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha
d8_75hRly(15)

General Manager (QA&E)

Press Council of India

Soochna Bhawan, 8-CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003
☎ 24366745-46-47-49 ; Fax 24368723/726;
Email : secy-pci@nic.in; pcbppeditorial@gmail.com
Website: www.presscouncil.nic.in

Notice Inviting Entries for National Awards for Excellence in Journalism

Last date: 30th August, 2019

The Press Council of India, mandated by an Act of Parliament to improve standards of journalism and maintain Press freedom has instituted "National Awards" to honor the journalists on the occasion of National Press Day, November 16 for excelling in the fields of print journalism in the categories mentioned below. Award contains a citation and cash money. Entries are invited by 30th August, 2019 from all journalists/freelancers/ photojournalists of Indian Nationality for National Awards in the following categories in print journalism. The Awards carry:

SN	Category	Cash Prize
1.	Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award for Excellence in Journalism.*	Rs. 1,00,000/-
2.	Rural Journalism	Rs. 50,000/-
3.	Developmental Reporting	Rs. 50,000/-
4.	Photo Journalism: (i) Single News Picture (ii) Photo Feature	Rs. 50,000/- Rs. 50,000/-
5.	Best Newspapers Art :Covering cartoons, caricatures and illustrations	Rs. 50,000/-
6.	Sports Reporting/Sports Photo Feature	Rs. 50,000/-
7.	Financial Reporting	Rs. 50,000/-
8.	Gender Issue Reporting	Rs. 50,000/-

Note: *In this category, the nomination/entries are not invited. The Jury Committee itself will decide the nomination for this category.

Other details of Procedure, Eligibility, Criteria, Entry form, Declaration Form and Rules can be seen and downloaded from the Press Council of India's website www.presscouncil.nic.in.

All entries addressed to the Secretary, Press Council of India, Soochna Bhawan, 8-C.G.O. complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003 in sealed envelope marked "CONFIDENTIAL" should reach on or before 5 p.m. on 30th August, 2019. Advance soft copies can be e-mailed at secy-pci@nic.in

Sd/-
(Anupama Bhatnagar)
Secretary

HARYANA GOVERNMENT

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	KURUKSHETRA DEVELOPMENT BOARD	REPAIR AND SERVICE OF PLANT AC, CENTER AC, SPLIT AC'S WATER COOLER	CLOSING 08.07.2019	NIT PUBLISHED ONLINE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01744259505 kbdkkr@gmail.com
2.	THE HISAR JIND COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCER UNION	PROTEIN ANALYSER + 2 OTHER WORKS	06.07.2019 25.07.2019	10.70 LACS	etenders.hry.nic.in	9996368441 vitajind@gmail.com
3.	THE SIRSA DISTT. COOP. MILK PROD. UNION LTD.	PURCHASE OF RAW MATERIAL FOR KAJU PINNI, BESAN LADOO, NAMKEEN LASSI & PANEER	29.06.2019 19.07.2019	90000	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01666-2245059 vitars@gmail.com
4.	HARYANA FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.	CARRYING OUT THE CONSTRUCTION (LABOUR COMPONENT ONLY) OF AVIARY AT VULTURE CONSERVATION AND BREEDING CENTRE, PINJORE, PANCHKULA	02.07.2019 15.07.2019	7500	www.hfdc.gov.in	0171-2551567 gm.ambala@hfdc.gov.in
5.	HARYANA FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.	SUPPLY OF SAWN TIMBER FOR FURNITURE IN WORK-SHOP UNDER HFDC KARNAL OR PREMISES PROVIDED BY HFDC KARNAL + 4 OTHER WORKS	01.07.2019 15.07.2019	2.50 CRORE	hfdc.gov.in	0184-2241545 gm.karnal@hfdc.gov.in
6.	HARYANA SCHOOL SHIKSHA PARIYOJANA PARISHAD	EARLY LANGUAGE AND LITERACY PROJECT IN 7 DISTRICTS OF HARYANA (2019-2020) FOR THE PHASE-1, 2 & 3 + 1 OTHER WORK	04.07.2019 18.07.2019	1.50 LACS	www.hsspp.in	0172-2590500 tbssahsspp@gmail.com
7.	HARYANA SCHOOL SHIKSHA PARIYOJANA PARISHAD	ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT STUDYING IN CLASSES 3RD TO 8TH FOR ENGLISH, HINDI, MATH, EVS, SCIENCE & SOCIAL SCIENCE SUBJECTS IN BLOCKS SAKSHAM & SAKHSAM + BLOCK IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN HARYANA FOR ACADEMIC SESSION 2019-20	04.07.2019 18.07.2019	50000	www.hsspp.in	0172-2590500 tbssahsspp@gmail.com
8.	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BHIWANI	CONST. AND LAYING OF IPB STREET FROM SHIV MANDIR WALI GALI, BANK COLONY W.NO 10 + 15 WORKS	CLOSING 07.07.2019	202.3	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9466654040 me.mcbhiwani@gmail.com
9.	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL SOHNA	PREPARATION OF GIS BASED BASE MAP COMPOSITE SAJRA MAP MOSAIC AND EXISTING LANDUSE MAP OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, SOHNA + 1 OTHER WORK	02.07.2019 11.07.2019	EMD-60000	http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in	8750551500
10.	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNA NAGAR JAGADHRI	CONST. OF STREET AND COVERED DRAIN IN H/O VICKY TO RAJA TO RAJA TO NAIB SINGH AND H/O SUKDEV TO NAIB SINGH IN FARAKPUR IN WARD NO. 18 + 21 OTHER WORKS	01.07.2019 06.07.2019	4.29 CRORE	http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in	9818656867 xen.mcynr@gmail.com
11.	URBAN LOCAL BODIES	CONSTRUCTION WORK AT DUMPING SITE FOR SEGREGATION & MANURE PROCESS + 5 OTHER WORKS	25.06.2019 05.07.2019	167.99 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	9996878131 municipalcouncilfatehabad@gmail.com
12.	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE BAWAL	P/F 26 NOS. DUSTBIN FOR W.NO. 1 TO 13 IN MC BAWAL	27-06-2019 04-07-2019	3.98 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	9468356418 secy.mc.bawal@gmail.com
13.	DHBVN	LOW TENSION (LT) MEASURING CURRENT TRANSFORMERS (CT) OF VARIOUS RATIO (NIT NO 634/DH/MM DT.27.6.19)	27.06.2019 16.07.2019	159.71 LACS	www.dhbvn.org.in	8813999434 semndhbvn@gmail.com
14.	DHBVN	SUPPLY OF MATERIAL, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING FOR SHIFTING OF SHIFTING OF HT/LT DANGEROUS ELECTRICITY LINES PASSING OVER THE RESIDENTIAL AREA/HOUSES	28.06.2019 12.07.2019	1.78 CRORE	www.dhbvn.org.in	01662-232639 seophdbvnhsar@gmail.com
15.	DHBVN	SUPPLY OF MATERIAL, ERECTION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING FOR SHIFTING OF SHIFTING OF HT/LT DANGEROUS ELECTRICITY LINES PASSING OVER THE RESIDENTIAL AREA/HOUSES	28.06.2019 12.07.2019	35 LACS	www.dhbvn.org.in	01662-232639 seophdbvnhsar@gmail.com
16.	DHBVN	OUTSOURCING OF SERVICES UNDER HARYANA GOVERNMENT OUTSOURCING POLICY (PART-I) UNDER OPERATION CIRCLE-II DHBVN, GURUGRAM	21.06.2019 12.07.2019	DC RATE GURUGRAM	www	

SECTOR SCAN AVIATION

Focus on stabilised approach: DGCA tells airlines for monsoon operations

Move comes after four runway excursion incidents in three days

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

FOLLOWING A spate of runway excursion incidents at Indian airports — four in the last three days — the aviation regulator DGCA has issued an air safety circular asking airlines to take precautionary measures while planning operations during monsoon conditions.

On Tuesday, a SpiceJet aircraft veered off towards the right from the runway center during landing roll at Kolkata airport damaging four runway edge lights. This was preceded by an incident at Mumbai late Monday, where another SpiceJet plane shot off the runway during heavy rains.

According to a senior government official, top level meetings were held on Tuesday including by civil aviation secretary and the Director General of Civil Aviation to discuss the situation and a decision was taken to issue the safety circular.

"Aircraft operations during monsoon season poses challenges, which of late have resulted in a number of occurrences... keeping the above in view, operators are advised to adhere to the following precautions while planning operations during the monsoon conditions," the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) noted, pointing out eight measures for airlines.

The aviation safety watchdog said that emphasis should be laid on conducting a stabilised approach and that crew should be encouraged to go around when approach becomes unestablished or in case of any condition which reduces visual references to enable a safe landing. It also said that the airline should factor in the crew's fatigue element associated with the operations while rostering during the adverse weather conditions, adding that the crew should be well aware of the aircraft limitations and of take-off/landing performance calculations when operating in adverse weather.

CREW MUST KNOW PLANE LIMITATIONS

■ The crew should be well aware of the aircraft limitations and of take-off/landing performance calculations when operating in adverse weather

■ Air India Express had said tailwinds and wet runway at Mangaluru along with inadequate braking action was reported

Prior to the two SpiceJet incidents on Monday and Tuesday, another aircraft operated by the low-cost carrier veered off the runway at Surat on Sunday. This was after an Air India Express plane veered off the taxiway after landing and got stuck in soft ground at the Mangaluru airport earlier that day.

While the probable causes and the contributory factors of the four recent incidents have not been found out yet, Air India Express, in a statement had said tailwinds and wet runway at Mangalore along with inadequate braking action was reported following the excursion incident.

In its safety circular, the DGCA also said that airlines should ensure that experienced crew are sufficiently available to operate when weather conditions are poor and also that the crew are made aware of the lighting system available at the airport.

'NEED SHORT-TERM & LONG-TERM STEPS FROM GOVT, RBI'

Fund-starved NBFCs seek dedicated liquidity window

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JULY 2

HIT BY liquidity crunch and high cost of borrowings, non-banking finance companies on Tuesday sought short-term and long-term measures from the government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), including a dedicated liquidity window for NBFCs through banking channels, a permanent refinance window for NBFCs on the lines of National Housing Bank and access for small and medium sized NBFCs to avail refinancing from MUDRA.

"The crying need of the hour is to create a dedicated liquidity window for NBFCs through the banking channels. The same may be provided for a period of one year. Precedence may be drawn from a special repo window created by the RBI in 2008 for banks under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) for on-lending to NBFCs," said Raman Aggarwal, chairman, FIDC, a representative body of NBFCs. Banks are showing reluctance to renew existing credit lines, FIDC officials said in a press conference here ahead of the Budget.

The issue of a dedicated liquidity window cropped up soon after the IL&FS crisis surfaced last year. However, the RBI, when Urjit Patel was the Governor, was not

EXPLAINED Sorting out issues to infuse confidence and push demand

AS SEVERAL NBFCs and HFCs are starved for funds and unable to disburse loans in the market, the industry players have been calling for government and regulatory support on infusion of liquidity. A liquidity window for them will not only help the sector come out of its woes to an extent, it will also infuse confidence among lenders and borrowers thereby pushing consumption demand in the economy.

very keen to open any such window, fearing that the window will be misused by shady and weak NBFCs. Since 1999, the RBI had allowed all banks lending to NBFCs for on-lending to the priority sector to be treated as priority sector lending by banks. This gave a huge incentive to banks to lend to NBFCs. While it ensured sufficient bank funding to NBFCs at a reasonable cost, it also facilitated banks to meet their PSL targets. "However, this was abruptly withdrawn in 2011. The same arrangement may be restored urgently," Aggarwal said.

FIDC officials also proposed a dedicated 'refinance window for NBFCs' on the lines of National

Housing Bank which provides refinance to housing finance companies. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance in their 45th report dated June 2003 (relating to the Financial Companies Regulation Bill, 2000) had recommended setting up of a new refinance institution for NBFCs.

George Alexander Muthoot, managing director, Muthoot Group, said banks have been reluctant to extend funds to NBFCs and they have also increased their lending rate. "The RBI has reduced the repo rate but banks are still lending at about 9.5 per cent to 10 per cent," he said. "Banks have withdrawn unutilised credit lines to NBFCs and shown reluctance

and hesitation to renew existing credit lines. The cost of borrowing from banks has gone up — even AAA rated NBFCs are faced with increase in rates by up to 100 bps. Portfolio buyout is a 'band aid' solution which does not result in growth," FIDC said.

For small & medium sized NBFCs, eligibility norms for availing refinance from MUDRA should be made favourable by allowing all RBI registered NBFCs to avail refinance. "Systemically important NBFCs should be allowed to act as aggregators by availing refinance from MUDRA for on lending to small and medium sized NBFCs," FIDC said. According to the NBFCs, asset-liability mismatch is predominantly an issue only for long term lenders such as HFCs and infra financing NBFCs and not for general NBFCs, since 25-30 per cent assets mature within a year. "Some NBFCs resorted to short term commercial paper borrowing to take benefit of the interest rate arbitrage keeping unutilised banks credit line as a cushion. This has been significantly corrected by March 2019," it said. "Nine months have passed since IL&FS defaulted, without any NBFC defaulting. NBFCs have fully met their liabilities, though restricted their lending," said an NBFC official. Total disbursement by NBFCs during Q4 of FY19 dropped by 31 per cent.

'APAC M&As in H1' 19 slows down to lowest level since 2013'

Merger and acquisition activity in the Asia Pacific region, excluding Japan, moderated significantly during the first-half of 2019, amid an escalating US-China trade and technology war, as per a report by Mergermarket

INDIA'S PERFORMANCE
The second-largest merger and acquisition market after China, also performed badly as it registered 52.8 per cent year-on-year decline despite not being directly involved in the US-China trade war

1,525 DEALS
were generated in Asia Pacific region, valued at \$241 billion in the first half of this year — lowest first-half value since 2013

13.4%
global market share of Asia Pacific region, down from 18.6 per cent during the same period last year

44.7%
China's deal value plunged in the first half of this year compared to the year-ago period

gross domestic product growth and domestic consumption

3RD-LARGEST DEAL
India was home to third-largest deal in APAC, excluding Japan, in first half of 2019 — the takeover of Essar Steel India by ArcelorMittal and Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal for \$6 billion

\$1.80 TRILLION
worth of deals were announced globally across 8,201 transactions in H1 of this year, down 11 per cent

REASONS BEHIND
The first quarter M&A activity was hampered by cautious approach ahead of general elections, while deal-making failed to gain momentum in the second quarter as well owing to a slowdown in



Non-members back OPEC's extension of cuts in production

ASSOCIATED PRESS
VIENNA, JULY 2

OPEC MEMBERS won the support Tuesday of other major oil producing nations to extend a production cut for another nine months in a bid to shore up prices at a time of waning demand.

Member nations of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries on Monday agreed to the extension. With strong backing from Russia, the biggest member of the non-OPEC group meeting Tuesday, the others unanimously approved the proposal.

"In order to help maintain the current stable status of the market and avoid buildup of inventories, we have decided to keep the level and the magnitude of the cuts intact," Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak told the forum after the vote.

The 10 non-OPEC nations present at the meeting at OPEC's headquarters in Vienna also included Mexico, Bahrain, Oman and Kazakhstan. The United States, one of the world's major oil producers, is not involved in the discussions and won't be bound by any agreement.

Opening the Tuesday meeting, Novak urged approval of the extension.

"In the current unstable market and the huge uncertainty we are seeing, our coordinated action aimed at consecutive and stable supply to the market and ensuring its stability are key to give us longer visibility," Novak said.



Russia's Energy Minister Alexander Novak, Venezuela's Oil Minister Manuel Quevedo, OPEC Secretary General Mohammad Barkindo and Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Khalid Al-Falih are seen during the beginning of an OPEC and NON-OPEC meeting in Vienna on Tuesday. Reuters

Heading into the meeting, OPEC heavyweight Saudi Arabia said the nine-month extension was the right move to make given the current market conditions.

"I see demand picking up strongly in the second half of the year and I see compliance greatly improving," Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih told reporters. "And I see the length of this agreement as nine months sufficiently long to bring inventories down and to balance the market." The current deal to support prices reduced production by 1.2 million barrels per day starting from January 1 for six months, and will now run into next year with the extension.

Oil falls 3% on demand worries

London: Oil prices fell about 3 per cent on Tuesday, even after OPEC and allies including Russia agreed to extend supply cuts until next March, as weak manufacturing data had investors worried that a slowing global economy could dent oil demand.

"There seems to be some disappointment that OPEC didn't make a larger production cut. Or a sense that demand is really bad," said Phil Flynn, analyst at Price Futures

Group in Chicago. Signs of a global economic slowdown, which could hit oil demand growth, means OPEC and its allies could face an uphill battle to shore up prices by reining in supply.

Meanwhile, US crude oil stockpiles were seen falling for a third consecutive week, a preliminary Reuters poll showed. Industry data will be released at 4:30 pm, with government data to follow on Wednesday. REUTERS

USTR proposes \$4 billion in potential additional tariffs over EU 'aircraft subsidies'

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, JULY 2

JUST DAYS after reaching a truce in the US-China trade war, the US government on Monday ratcheted up pressure on Europe in a long-running dispute over aircraft subsidies, threatening tariffs on \$4 billion of additional EU goods.

The US Trade Representative's office released a list of additional products — including olives, Italian cheese and Scotch whiskey — that could be hit with tariffs, on top of products worth \$21 billion that were announced in April.

USTR said it was adding 89 tariff sub-categories to its initial list, including a variety of metals, in response to public comments, but gave no further explanation. Over 40 individuals testified about products included on initial list at a public hearing on May 15 and 16. The United States and the EU have threatened to impose billions of dollars of tit-for-tat tariffs on planes, tractors and food in a nearly 15-year-old dispute at the World Trade Organization over aircraft subsidies given to US planemaker Boeing Co and its European rival, Airbus SE.

Senior officials from Boeing and a US aerospace trade group urged the US government last month to narrowly tailor any tariffs imposed on the EU over illegal aircraft subsidies to avoid harming American manufacturers. No

Huawei remains blocked from US 5G: White House trade advisor

Washington: China's Huawei remains barred from the development of 5G wireless networks in the United States, a senior White House trade advisor said Tuesday. "US policy on Huawei with respect to 5g in this

country has not changed," Peter Navarro told CNBC. "All we've done, basically, is to allow sale of chips to Huawei. These are lower tech items which do not impact national security whatsoever." AFP

comment was immediately available from Boeing or Airbus.

The Distilled Spirits Council of the United States criticised the Trump administration's latest tariff threats and warned they would jeopardise US jobs and hurt consumers. "We strongly oppose the inclusion of distilled products in the proposed retaliation list," said spokeswoman Lisa Hawkins. "US companies — from farmers to suppliers to retailers — are already being negatively impacted by the imposition of retaliatory tariffs by key trading partners on certain US distilled spirits... and these additional tariffs will only inflict further harm," she said.

Monday's move followed news during the Paris Air Show that the United States could be open to negotiations on an "enforceable mechanism" that could allow Airbus to receive government funding on commercial terms, potentially paving the way for an end to the aircraft subsidy

fight. Such a deal would also include moves by the United States to address tax incentives provided by Washington state to Boeing and make them compliant with trade rulings, as part of a possible new framework for aircraft industry funding, two US sources said at the time. The WTO has found that the world's two largest planemakers received billions of dollars of harmful subsidies in a pair of cases marking the world's largest-ever corporate trade dispute.

It is expected to rule on the US sanctions request over the summer, although the date could slip to September. USTR said it would hold a hearing on the proposed additional products on Aug. 5.

It said it could immediately impose increased duties on the products included in the initial list, if the WTO arbitrator issued a decision before the public comment period ended on the supplemental list.

Ola Electric gets \$250-million push from SoftBank

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

OLA'S ELECTRIC vehicle arm — Ola Electric Mobility — has secured a funding of over Rs 1,725 crore (\$250 million) from SoftBank, according to documents sourced from business signals platform paper.vc.

With this latest round of funding, the company joins the unicorn list — the likes of Flipkart, Zomato, Paytm — as it is valued at an estimated \$950 million to \$1 billion, according to Vivek Durai, co-founder at paper.vc.

So far, the firm has raised about \$310 million, according to data from Crunchbase.

"Celebrating five years of strong partnership, looking forward to the years ahead. Very excited about our partnership to build mobility and electric mobility for India and the world," Bhavish Aggarwal, co-founder and CEO at Ola, tweeted regarding Ola's partnership with SoftBank. As per the filings, OEM issued "4,326 fully and compulsorily convertible series B preference shares of face value of Rs 10 each having the rights, privileges and preferences..." to SB Topaz (Cayman) Ltd. The total amount paid was about Rs 1,725.04 crore, it added.

The allotment was made on Tuesday following a special resolution passed by the board members on June 25, the filing showed. SoftBank is also the single largest investor in Ola. In May, Tata Sons chairman emeritus Ratan Tata — who is also an investor in Ola — and Gaurav Deepak reportedly jointly invested Rs 14.9 crore in OEM as part of Series A funding round. Also as part of the Series A, OEM had announced raising Rs 400 crore led by Tiger Global and Matrix India in March this year. Ola Electric is currently running several pilots involving charging solutions, battery swapping stations, and deploying vehicles across two, three and four-wheeler segments. In 2018, Ola announced 'Mission: Electric' to bring 1 million electric vehicles on Indian roads by 2021. FE

NOW A UNICORN

■ With this latest round of funding, the company joins the unicorn list — the likes of Flipkart, Zomato, Paytm — as it is valued at an estimated \$950 million to \$1 billion

■ So far, the firm has raised about \$310 million, according to data from Crunchbase

India ratifies convention to check tax evasion

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE CENTRAL Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on Tuesday said that India has ratified the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures (MLI) to prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS), which will pave way for amendments to double taxation avoidance agreements (DTAA) with the countries signatories to the convention to plug revenue leakages.

"On 25th June, 2019, India has deposited the instrument of ratification to OECD, Paris along with its final position in terms of Covered Tax Agreements (CTAs), reservations, options and notifications under the MLI, as a result of which MLI will enter into force for India on October 1, 2019 and its provisions will have effect on

India's DTAs from FY20-21 onwards," CBDT said in a statement. The board said that the MLI will modify India's tax treaties to curb revenue loss through treaty abuse and base erosion and profit shifting strategies by ensuring that profits are taxed where substantive economic activities generating the profits are carried out.

It added that MLI will be applied alongside existing tax treaties, modifying their application in order to implement the BEPS measures. "Out of 93 CTAs notified by India, 22 countries have already ratified MLI as on date and the DTAA with these countries will be modified by MLI," it said. After the MLI takes effect, India's DTAA will have a new Preamble and Principal Purposes Test. Changes would also lead to curbing of artificial avoidance of Permanent Establishment status through various arrangements. FE

US-China trade talks 'back on track', says White House

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
WASHINGTON, JULY 2

US-CHINA TRADE negotiations are now headed in a positive direction following this weekend's meeting between President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, a top White House aide said on Tuesday.

"We're reengaged. We're talking on the phone already. There will probably be visits. It's all good," Navarro told CNBC. "From an investor's point of view, here is all you have to know: Talks are back on track with the work that has been done to date." The US trade delegation has been led by Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. After talks nearly collapsed in May, Trump and Xi on Saturday agreed at a meeting in Japan to resume negotiations toward ending their year-long trade war.

Trump accused the Chinese side of renegeing on commitments made during the talks and jacked up duty rates on a \$200 billion tranche of Chinese imports.

And the tariffs put in place since last year by both Washington and Beijing — which currently cover more than \$360 billion in two-way trade — remain in place.

RCom spectrum usage charges: SC dismisses DoT plea against telecom dispute tribunal's order

INDU BHAN
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday dismissed an appeal by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) against a Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) order which held that liabilities of past dues related to spectrum usage charges (SUC) rested only with Reliance Communications (RCom) — the seller — and not the buyer of its 800 MHz spectrum, which then was Rjio.

A bench led by Justice R F Nariman upheld TDSAT's February 26 judgment which held that Reliance Jio Infocomm (Rjio) cannot be held liable for dues prior to the sale of spectrum. The tribunal had also asked the government to reconsider RCom's plea for grant of a no-objection certificate (NOC) to the spectrum sale.

Since insolvency proceedings against RCom have already been initiated, the significance of the order is not much barring that the issue cannot be raised by DoT in the NCLT. However, here also DoT's position is that the spectrum is given by the government to an operator on lease and if the company fails to pay its dues to the government, the spectrum should be surrendered before it rather than be sold through an insolvency proceeding.

Tuesday's development comes in the backdrop of a fiercely fought legal fight between the Anil Ambani firm, DoT and Rjio on the spectrum deal which fell through as the government refused to give an NOC to the spectrum sale, thus forcing RCom to go for insolvency proceedings. DoT wanted Rjio to give an undertaking that it would be responsible for past liabilities of RCom as well when it buys spectrum from RCom.

In December 2018, Rjio had written to DoT saying that it should not be held responsible for discharging spectrum-related dues that become payable

TDSAT'S FEB 26 ORDER UPHELD

■ An SC bench led by Justice R F Nariman upheld TDSAT's February 26 judgment which held that Reliance Jio Infocomm cannot be held liable for dues prior to the sale of spectrum

■ Since insolvency proceedings against RCom have already started, the significance of the order is not much barring that the issue cannot be raised by DoT in the NCLT

prior to the sale.

DoT in its appeal against the tribunal's order said that the Guidelines for Trading of Access Spectrum provides that all dues have to be cleared prior to concluding any agreement for spectrum trading and any dues recoverable up to the effective date of trade shall be the liability of the buyer.

"The government shall be at its discretion be entitled to recover the amount, if any, found recoverable subsequent to the date of trade," it stated. It further said that Clause 11 made "no distinction as to whether partial spectrum is being traded or otherwise. It gives liberty to DoT to recover all dues from the buyer or seller jointly or severally."

According to DoT, TDSAT while interpreting the guidelines ignored the apex court's judgment in the case, RCom vs SBI, where it observed that it was for Rjio to undertake the responsibilities for payment of the erstwhile debts of RCom and because the buyer refused to give an undertaking to pay the said NOC could not be given.

As part of its debt resolution plan, Anil Ambani's RCom in December 2017 had struck a Rs

25,000-crore deal with elder brother Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio for the sale of its towers, spectrum and fibre assets mortgaged with different banks to cut down its debt of around Rs 45,000 crore. The nod for the spectrum deal was crucial for the ADAG firm to pare off its Rs 46,000-crore debt. RCom's spectrum was then valued at over Rs 7,000 crore.

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal had on April 30 resumed insolvency proceedings against RCom in the Mumbai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) after vacating its stay on such proceedings it had granted in May last year.

The Mumbai bench of the NCLT had on May 16 last admitted an insolvency petition filed by Ericsson India against RCom and its two subsidiaries, Reliance Infratel and Reliance Telecom, for failing to pay its dues.

DoT had before TDSAT insisted that RCom furnish bank guarantees worth Rs 29,000 crore and had opposed its stand to pledge land to cover the SUC dues, saying either the debt-laden firm or Rjio should give an undertaking that they would clear any past liabilities that arose. The past liabilities may also include licence fee, penalties on violation of electromagnetic radiation norms, penalties on customer application/verification, etc, it said.

Earlier, Reliance Realty, a unit of RCom, had furnished redeemable preferential shares worth Rs 1,000 crore as corporate guarantee towards outstanding spectrum usage charges of Rs 2,940 crore, as per the directions of the Supreme Court. This was in addition to the land parcel that has been given as security, as directed by the TDSAT in its October 1, 2018 order. The tribunal while favouring RCom had directed it against alienating its Navi Mumbai property so as to secure the government at least for Rs 1,400 crore for the time being. FE

PREMISES OF SEVERAL FIRMS SEARCHED

Loan frauds in seven banks: CBI raids 300 offices in 61 places across country

Operation involved over 300 officers who fanned out across Delhi, Mumbai, Thane, Pune, Gaya etc

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

BASED ON complaints from seven different banks, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Tuesday launched a nationwide search operation, in which 61 locations across 18 cities were raided and 17 FIRs were registered.

In these FIRs, loan money of more than Rs 1,139 crore is alleged to have been swindled by various companies, including jeweller Jatin Mehta-owned Winsome Diamonds. According to the CBI, the operation involved over 300 officers who fanned out across Delhi, Mumbai, Ludhiana, Thane, Valsad, Pune, Palani, Gaya, Gurugram, Chandigarh, Bhopal, Surat and Kolar among others to conduct the raids.

"It was a massive operation

16 FIRs REGISTERED AGAINST JATIN MEHTA

■ Winsome Diamonds owner Jatin Mehta has been booked in a fresh FIR, taking the total number of FIRs registered against him to 16; the diamondaire has been accused of defaulting on a Rs 202 crore-loan from Exim Bank, and of swindling funds to the tune of Rs 6,500 crore overall

■ Three FIRs pertaining to alleged irregularities in disbursement of housing loans in a Union Bank of India branch in Bhubaneswar were also registered by CBI, in which senior bank officials have been named as accused; these loans resulted in the loss of Rs 24.17 crore to the bank

that involved wading through waterlogged streets of Mumbai, where offices of Winsome Diamonds among others were raided," a CBI official said.

Mehta has been booked in a fresh FIR, taking the total number of FIRs registered against him to 16. The diamondaire has been accused of defaulting on a Rs 202

crore-loan from Exim Bank. He is also accused of swindling funds to the tune of Rs 6,500 crore overall.

The searches in Mumbai also covered two other firms booked in separate FIRs on a complaint by Union Bank of India. Five places were searched in connection with the Rs 57 crore-loss caused to the bank by Supamad Trading Pvt Ltd

and one place was searched in connection with Asuti Trading Pvt Ltd for causing loss of Rs 50 crore to the bank.

Two places were searched in Delhi and Mumbai in connection with Asuti Trading. By Tuesday evening, the Bureau had already registered 17 FIRs across the country and the process of registering more FIRs is going on, sources said.

They added that other companies which have been booked by the agency in separate FIRs include Ludhiana-based Supreme Tex Mart for causing a loss of Rs 143.25 crore to State Bank of India (SBI), Bengaluru-based Aegan Batteries for loss of Rs 98.75 crore to SBI, Gaya-based Ramnannadi Hotels and Resorts Ltd for loss of Rs 131.79 crore to Central Bank of India and Noida-based Naftogaz India Pvt Ltd for causing loss of 93 crore to Corporation Bank.

Furthermore, Delhi-based SL

Consumer Products Ltd has been booked by the CBI for causing loss to Union Bank of India (UBI) to the tune of Rs 55 crore, Aligarh-based Samprash Foods Ltd for loss Rs 60 crore to UBI, Chandigarh-based International Mega Food Park Ltd for loss of Rs 40.17 crore to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), Bhopal-based Ranjeet Automobiles for loss of Rs 34.36 crore to Bank of Baroda, and Surat-based Jalpa Textiles Pvt Ltd for loss of Rs 28 crore to Bank of Baroda, sources alleged.

Three FIRs pertaining to alleged irregularities in disbursement of housing loans in a UBI branch in Bhubaneswar were also registered by the agency, in which senior bank officials have been named as accused. These loans resulted in the loss of Rs 24.17 crore to the bank, officials said, adding that searches were conducted at nine places in Odisha.

'Softening gas prices credit positive for urea sector'

With global natural gas prices declining significantly in the recent months, urea players are expected to witness a fall in their production cost following lower working capital funding requirements, according to an Icrta report

\$4 PER MMBTU

Asian spot liquefied natural gas (LNG) prices at present, compared to \$9-10 per million metric British thermal units (mmbtu) in December 2018, owing to a supply glut and milder winter demand

70% Share of natural gas in total cost of manufacturing of urea

Estimated decline in cost of production of urea for each \$1 per mmbtu fall in gas price



NUTRIENT BASED SUBSIDY (NBS) SCHEME:

- Discussions ongoing on implementation of NBS scheme for urea, similar to scheme for Phosphatic & Potassic (P&K) fertilisers
- NBS to aim for uniform subsidy for urea players
- Retail price to become free for players to set, but within range

FALL IN UREA PRODUCTION COST: Global natural gas price saw correction in recent months and with outlook same remaining benign, urea players will see their cost of production fall

BRIEFLY

'India, US officials likely to discuss trade'

New Delhi: Senior officials of India and the US are likely to meet next week here to discuss trade related issues, sources said Tuesday. A team of US Trade Representative (USTR) is expected to hold the meeting with senior officials of the commerce department, they said.

Nalin Shinghal appointed CMD of BHEL

New Delhi: State-owned engineering firm BHEL said Tuesday that Nalin Shinghal has been appointed its chairman and managing director for five years. "The competent authority has approved the appointment of Nalin Shinghal as chairman and managing director, BHEL, for a period of 5 years with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post on or after July 1, 2019, or till the date of his superannuation or until further orders, whichever is the earliest," a BSE filing said.

₹325 cr infused into Airtel Payments Bank

New Delhi: Bharti Airtel and Bharti Enterprises have injected about Rs 325 crore in Airtel Payments Bank, as per regulatory documents. The fund infusion from Bharti Airtel stood at Rs 260 crore, and that from Bharti Enterprises at Rs 65 crore in the form of preference shares, according to details of the filing shared by market intelligence firm Tofler.

OYO forays into Vietnam with over 90 hotels

New Delhi: OYO Tuesday said it has forayed into Vietnam with over 90 hotels across six cities as it expands presence in South East Asia. It will invest \$50 million over the next few years in Vietnam and create 1,500 direct and indirect jobs in the country, OYO said in a statement.

Tata Comm MD, Group CEO resigns

New Delhi: Tata Communications (Tata Comm) Managing Director and Group Chief Executive Officer Vinod Kumar has resigned from all positions in the company, the firm said Tuesday. "Vinod Kumar has submitted his resignation as the managing director and group CEO of the company, and as a director of the company and its associated companies for personal reasons," Tata Communications said in a BSE filing. PTI

RBI fines 3 PSBs ₹50 lakh each, another ₹25 lakh for violation of KYC norms

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, JULY 2

THE RESERVE Bank of India (RBI) said it has imposed a penalty of Rs 1.75 crore on four public sector banks (PSBs) for non-compliance with know-your-customer (KYC) requirement and norms for opening of current accounts. Punjab National Bank (PNB), Allahabad Bank and UCO Bank have been fined Rs 50 lakh each, while a penalty of Rs 25 lakh has been imposed on Corporation Bank, the banking regulator said.

The RBI said it found irregularities in current accounts opened by these banks after receiving a complaint.

"Based on the findings, Notices were issued to the banks advising them to show cause as to why penalty should not be imposed for non-compliance with the directions," it added.

According to the RBI, the action is based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the banks with their cus-

tomers.

In a stock exchange filing on Tuesday, UCO Bank said, "We inform that the RBI in exercise of powers conferred under Section 47 (A) (1) (c) read with Section section 51 and 46 (4) (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, has imposed a penalty of Rs 5 million on UCO Bank for non-compliance of RBI directives on 'KYC norms/AML standards/CFT/obligation of banks and financial institutions under PMLA 2002' and also on 'opening of current accounts by banks — need for discipline.'"

Payments made to Mindtree shareholders who tendered their stock in open offer: L&T

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

CONSTRUCTION MAJOR Larsen & Toubro (L&T), which holds over 60 per cent stake in Mindtree, said Tuesday it has made payments to shareholders who tendered their shares successfully in the recently-concluded open offer.

"...we wish to inform you that Larsen & Toubro has today made payment of consideration to the shareholders of the target com-

The infrastructure major's open offer - at Rs 980 a share - began on June 17 and concluded on June 28

pany (Mindtree) who have tendered their shares in the open offer, in respect of the equity shares which have been accepted in the open offer and returned the equity shares which have not been accepted in the open offer to the demat accounts of the respective shareholders," L&T said in a regulatory filing.

The infrastructure major's open offer - at Rs 980 a share - began on June 17 and concluded on June 28.

"Consequent to the completion of the open offer, the shareholding of the company (L&T) in the target company, including the shares acquired under the Share Purchase Agreement and

the Purchase Order, stands at 60.06 per cent of the total paid-up equity share capital of the target company," the filing added.

In a deal that had marked the country's first-ever 'hostile takeover' bid in the IT space, L&T had bought 20.32 per cent shares in Mindtree from V G Siddhartha and his coffee enterprise for over Rs 3,000 crore in March, and then shored up its holding with more shares from the open market, and a subsequent open offer for additional 31 per cent stake.

OPEN ACREAGE LICENSING POLICY ROUND II & III

OIL wins 12 oil blocks; Vedanta gets 10, ONGC 9

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JULY 2

OIL INDIA Ltd (OIL) Tuesday won 12 out of 32 oil and gas exploration blocks offered in latest auction while Vedanta Ltd walked away with 10 and Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) got eight blocks.

According to the list of winners of Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) Round II and III put out by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), Reliance Industries and its British partner BP Plc won a KG basin gas block. Indian Oil Corp (IOC) also got one block. Reliance-BP combine outbid ONGC in one Krishna Godavari basin block in the Bay of Bengal. This is an area that ONGC had previously relinquished and is said to hold natural gas prospects.

According to DGH, OIL won 6 out of the 14 blocks on offer in

OALP-II, while Vedanta walked away with five. ONGC, Reliance-BP and IOC won one block each.

In OALP-III, ONGC won 7 blocks while OIL got 6 and Vedanta the remaining five. Bidding for 14 blocks on offer in the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) round-II and another 18 oil and gas blocks and 5 coal-bed methane (CBM) blocks on offer in OALP-III closed on May 15.

No bid was received for any of the CBM blocks.

Reliance-BP had made their first bid in eight years when they sought an area that previously was held by ONGC, sources said.

When the government in July 2017 allowed companies to carve out blocks of their choice with a view to bring about 2.8 million sq km of unexplored area in the country under exploration, Reliance-BP sought the KG area containing the discoveries.

According to the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, OIL won 6 out of the 14 blocks on offer in OALP-II, while Vedanta walked away with five. ONGC, Reliance-BP and IOC won one block each

Under the new policy, areas sought by any company are put on auction with the initiator or the company that originally carved out the block, getting a 5 point advantage. Sources said Reliance-BP managed to get the coveted KG block in the latest auction by a small margin that possibly came from the originator marks and a commitment to do a shale core exploration.

Reliance-BP had last jointly bid for a KG deep water block in the 8th bid round under previous licensing policy in 2008. They, however, gave up the block after not finding any commercially ex-

ploitable oil and gas reserves.

In the following year, Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance on its own bid for six blocks in the ninth round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) but did not win any block.

Sources said at the close of bidding for the current round on May 15, ONGC had put in bids for 20 out of 32 blocks on offer, while OIL made bids for 16 blocks. Vedanta, which had walked away with 41 out of the 55 blocks offered in OALP-I last year, bid for 30 areas.

Indian Oil Corp (IOC), GAIL (India) and SunPetro bid for two blocks each, they said. BP had

more than a decade back entered the country buying 30 per cent stake in Reliance's 21 oil and gas exploration blocks for \$7.2 billion. All but a couple of blocks have since been relinquished.

NELP has since been replaced by Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) under which OALP bids round have been held. Under the new policy, called open acreage licensing policy, companies are allowed to put in an expression of interest or EoI for prospecting of oil and gas in any area that is presently not under any production or exploration licence. The EoIs can be put in at any time of the year but they are accumulated twice annually.

The blocks or areas that receive EoIs at the end of a cycle are put up for auction with the originator or the firm that originally selected the area getting a 5-mark advantage.

European Union leaders agree on IMF's Lagarde to lead ECB

RICHARD LOUGH
BRUSSELS, JULY 2

EUROPEAN UNION leaders agreed on Tuesday to name Frenchwoman Christine Lagarde as the new head of the European Central Bank and sealed a deal on filling the other four top jobs in the bloc after tortuous marathon talks exposed their deepening divisions.

"The European Council has agreed on the future leadership



International Monetary Fund MD Christine Lagarde. Reuters

of the EU institutions," said Donald Tusk, chairman of the EU

German Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen, an ally of Chancellor Angela Merkel, would become head of the European Commission, the EU executive

leaders' talks. German Defence Minister

Ursula von der Leyen, an ally of Chancellor Angela Merkel, would become head of the European Commission, the EU executive, under the deal reached in Brussels, which must still be endorsed by the European Parliament.

Belgium's liberal caretaker prime minister, Charles Michel, would replace Tusk as the next chairman of EU leaders' summits and be tasked with building compromises between the often fractious 28

member states. Spain's acting foreign minister, the socialist Josep Borrell, would be the EU's new top diplomat in Brussels, Tusk said.

These four people would help lead the EU's policies in the next five years on everything from climate to migration to trade. The fifth prominent EU role up for grabs is the president of the European Parliament. Lawmakers are due to choose that person in Strasbourg on Wednesday. REUTERS

'Honoured to be nominated'

Washington: IMF chief Christine Lagarde Tuesday announced she would step down "temporarily" from leadership of the global lender after being nominated to lead the European Central Bank. "I am honored to have been nominated for the Presidency of the European Central Bank. In light of this,

and in consultation with the Ethics Committee of the IMF Executive Board, I have decided to temporarily relinquish my responsibilities as Managing Director of the IMF during the nomination period," she said in a statement. This means Lagarde will step down two years before the end of her IMF term. AFP

PIRACY

Crime waves

The Gulf of Guinea is now the world's worst piracy hotspot

DOCKED IN the port of Lagos, Nigeria's commercial capital, floats a colossal oil tanker. Two layers of razor wire snake around its deck. Two life-sized human dummies in orange jumpsuits are perched on the ship's bridge, posing as crew members keeping watch. Serving as a reminder that such precautions are prudent in Africa are the mangled steel and concrete remains of a jetty. It was blown up a decade ago by militants with a sideline in piracy.

The Gulf of Guinea, on west Africa's southern coast, is the world's most pirate-infested sea. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) reports 72 attacks last year on vessels at sea between Ivory Coast and Cameroon—up from 28 in 2014. This year so far it has recorded 30. Although some of the rise may reflect more complete reporting, Max Williams of Africa Risk Compliance (ARC), a security consultancy, says piracy remains chronically under-reported. Ship-owners fear their vessels will be held up at port during an investigation. His firm estimates the real number of attacks last year was double the IMB's figure.

Elsewhere piracy is in decline. Between 2014 and 2018 the number of incidents each year in South-East Asia fell from 141 to 60, and to just three off Somalia, which in 2007-12 faced this century's worst piracy crisis. Under-reporting is also less of a problem in these regions. The authorities in South-East Asia are more trusted; incidents off Somalia are reported to the international navies deployed there since 2009.

Cyrus Mody of the IMB says that South-East Asian navies have curbed piracy by co-operating more effectively with each other. Mr Williams describes most of what remains as "marine mugging": a petty thief boards a ship to swipe some rope or a can of paint. At their peak, Somali pirates hijacked entire ships and their crew for seven-figure ransoms. But the foreign navies remain there, and many shipowners have hired private armed guards to protect their vessels. Shipping companies fear that pirates in the Gulf of Guinea are becoming more like Somalia's. Experts worry that neither of the solutions used in those two regions will work in west Africa.

For a while, Somali piracy attracted unprecedented public attention, displacing images of peglegs, eye patches and a dreadlocked Johnny Depp from the popular imagination. Whereas buccaneers in the Gulf of Guinea and South-East Asia stole cargo, the Somalis seized crews and often the ships themselves, hauling them back to the ungoverned coast of their lawless state. A fifth of the world's commercial shipping passes through the Gulf of Aden, a body of water flanked by failed states—Somalia and Yemen. In 2011 the IMB reported 236 attempted attacks. The pirates were raking in an average of almost \$5m in ransom per ship, according to One Earth Future (OEF), an NGO.

Captain mug watch

The scale of the problem forced shippers and foreign governments to take drastic action. Somalia's government barely controlled its capital and was unable to help, so international navies began patrolling its waters. Western navies began doing so in 2009. Other countries, including India, China, Russia and Iran, soon joined in. Some countries began prosecuting Somali pirates arrested by their navies. Firms, often run by ex-soldiers, sprang up to meet the demand for armed guards. Floating arsenals deliver weapons to ships by speedboat in international waters, to get around gun controls on the land. On the Somali coast itself, aid pays local power-brokers to run sketchy coastguards, such as Puntland's Maritime Police Force.

None of this came cheap. OBP estimates that in 2012 the foreign naval presence cost \$1bn and private armed guards and security equipment an additional \$2bn. But it worked. By 2013 the number of attacks had shrivelled to 15.



Unlike the Somalis, west African pirates never keep the vessels. Instead, armed with AK-47s and knives, they storm a ship, round up some of the crew and return to land, where they hide their hostages. AP

As the threat of Somali piracy receded, South-East Asia's waters briefly regained their former status as the world's most perilous. Attacks surged in 2014 and 2015, when pirates hijacked 28 ships, mostly oil-tankers, to steal their cargo. Like Somalia, the region sits on a busy shipping lane: a third of the world's shipping passes through the Malacca Strait and South China Sea. But the littoral countries are all richer and far better-run. Historically, piracy had thrived because of their reluctance to work together. Joint patrols first started in 2004; after the surge in 2014 Malaysia and Indonesia sent a joint rapid-response team to the Malacca Strait. The two countries also agreed to joint patrols with the Philippines in the Sulu Sea, where Philippine separatist groups had made a foray into piracy. In 2015 Indonesia caught a ringleader with Malaysian help. Two years later it detained 15 other pirates following a tip-off from Singapore. Calm returned.

It's a plunderful life

Now west Africa's pirates have the wind in their sails. The number of attacks has ebbed and flowed this century, reaching an earlier peak in 2014. But the current wave of violence seems deadlier. As in South-East Asia, pirates in west Africa used to confine themselves to raiding oil-tankers, to sell their cargo on the black market. When the oil price fell in 2015, they began copying their Somali counterparts and focused on kidnapping crews (though oil theft made a comeback last year).

Unlike the Somalis, west African pirates never keep the vessels, as they have nowhere to hide them. Instead, armed with AK-47s and knives, they storm a ship, round up some of the crew and return to land, where they hide their hostages. Last year, says Mr Williams, they kidnapped 193 people. The pirates have struck across the region, but are primarily a Nigerian problem. They mostly operate out of the labyrinthine waterways in the Niger delta, near which most of west Africa's attacks occur.

Piracy is intertwined with the oil-rich delta's myriad other problems. Unemployment is at least 20%, and banditry and oil theft on land are widespread. Cormac McGarry of Control Risks, a consultancy, says many pirates have gained experience fighting for separatist groups. These groups typically resent how much oil money is stolen by politicians in the far-off capital, and would like to steal it for their own ethnic group, or themselves. Cult-like gangs also abound in the delta, with names like the Icelanders and the Vikings. Members moonlight as pirates to make extra cash. Piracy also rises during election years, notes the IMB's Mr Mody. Local politicians are said to pay and arm the gangs to attack rivals.

West African governments struggle to stifle piracy. To their credit, they have been trying to co-ordinate better. Several now ex-

change information about piracy. A handful are discussing joint patrols. But, since west African piracy stems mainly from one country, which is also where most attacks happen, regional co-ordination is likely to make only a small dent in the problem.

Shipping firms complain that the Nigerian government is failing to keep its waters safe. Its navy often performs admirably when it intercepts pirate attacks. But it is ill-equipped and spread too thin to prevent them. Some speculate that the pirates are in cahoots with military officials, citing incidents in which pirates flee before the navy arrives or know exactly how many crew members are aboard a ship they attack. Nigeria has yet to make piracy a specific criminal offence. Pirates captured by the navy are often quietly released. Around 300 people have been prosecuted in Somalia for

piracy. By contrast, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) says it does not know of a single prosecution in Nigeria.

Some favour a Somali-style approach. BIMCO, the largest international association representing shipowners, issued a statement in January calling for the EU, America and China to deploy forces to the Gulf of Guinea. Shipowners also want to be able to deploy private armed guards in Nigerian waters. For now, Nigeria only lets them hire escort vessels staffed by naval officers. "They have turned security into a business," grumbles one executive.

Others see such demands as a non-starter. Nigeria, a democracy whose government—for all its flaws—is far less impotent than Somalia's, is bound to resent foreign navies or mercenaries off its coast. Also, foreign governments would be reluctant to foot the bill. The Gulf of Guinea, unlike the Malacca Strait or the Gulf of Aden, is not a choke point for international trade. Mr Williams points to other constraints on the Nigerian government. Its armed forces have their hands full with a jihadist insurgency in the north-east, banditry in the north-west and clashes between farmers and herders in the "middle belt"—all of which are far deadlier than piracy.

Instead, he argues, firms themselves should do more to protect their crews. International shipping organisations have drawn up recommendations, based on what worked in Somalia. They include wrapping the deck in razor wire and building a "citadel" on board where the crew can barricade themselves and call for help. Among the ships docked in Lagos many display obviously shoddy security—large gaps in the razor wire, for example, rendering it useless. Mr Williams often finds citadels with doors that do not close; or crews with no training on what to do if attacked.

Pay rates of penance

These lapses hint at the awkward fact

that many firms lack a financial incentive to take security more seriously in west Africa. Insurance companies offer lower premiums for ships that protect themselves. But the combined cost of insuring the ship, the cargo and the crew (for kidnapping and ransom) for a voyage to Nigeria is typically no more than the cost of half a day's fuel. It can be cheaper not to bother with armed guards. Premiums are so low in part because Nigerian pirates, unlike those in Somalia, have priced their ransoms just right: for many companies they can be written off as a cost of doing business.

That means the heaviest toll is borne by crews, most of whom are from poor countries like India and the Philippines. Afusat Eke, a social worker for the Nigerian Seafarers' Welfare Board, says sailors often suffer from anxiety, depression or post-traumatic stress disorder after being released from captivity. Companies say their growing criticism of the Nigerian government is proof that they care about their crews' welfare (although complaining costs them nothing). Thanks to the internet, more seamen are aware of the risks in west Africa and loth to go there.

Even if shipping firms did do more, it would not end piracy. The stark truth, says Mr Mody, is that it can only be stopped by fixing its underlying causes on land. In west Africa this means alleviating the Niger delta's chronic lawlessness. In Somalia pirates still scour the oceans, looking for unprotected ships, so the frigates and private guards will be needed as long as chaos reigns on land. Analysts are nervously watching Venezuela, whose economic collapse is believed to have caused an upsurge of offshore mugging. All this suggests it will be difficult to eradicate piracy for many years to come. But for the sake of the world's 1.6m seafarers, governments and shippers should not stop trying.

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While EU member states recover an average of 60 per cent of their waste, Russia recycles just 4 per cent. Reuters

THE HISTORY OF TRASH HEAPS

A recycling revolution?

Rubbish is becoming a political problem in Russia

HEAPS OF plastic bottles and containers fill bins reaching towards the ceiling in a warehouse on Moscow's southern outskirts. At weekends hundreds of people line up to offload carefully sorted rubbish at Sobirator, a non-profit centre, one of a handful of recycling sites in the Russian capital. "For more than 20 years, trash didn't worry anyone," says Valeria Korosteleva, Sobirator's head. "We have a lot of territory, so everything went straight to the dump."

That may be about to change. Last week Moscow city authorities announced a plan to introduce recycling bins in courtyards across the city by the end of the year. For Russia this would amount to a minor revolution: while EU member states recover an average of 60% of their waste, Russia recycles just 4%, a World Bank study found in 2012. That means that landfill has taken up the slack. Such dumps cover some 4m hectares in Russia, an area roughly the size of Switzerland.

Moscow's leaders have hardly undergone a green awakening. Instead, rubbish has become a political hot potato. Landfill sites around the capital are full; Moscow plans to ship its rubbish to the provinces. Residents of those regions have, unsurprisingly, balked at being treated as Moscow's bin

Yet Moscow's leaders have hardly undergone a green awakening. Instead, rubbish has become a political hot potato. Landfill sites around the capital are full; Moscow plans to ship its rubbish to the provinces. Residents of those regions have, unsurprisingly, balked

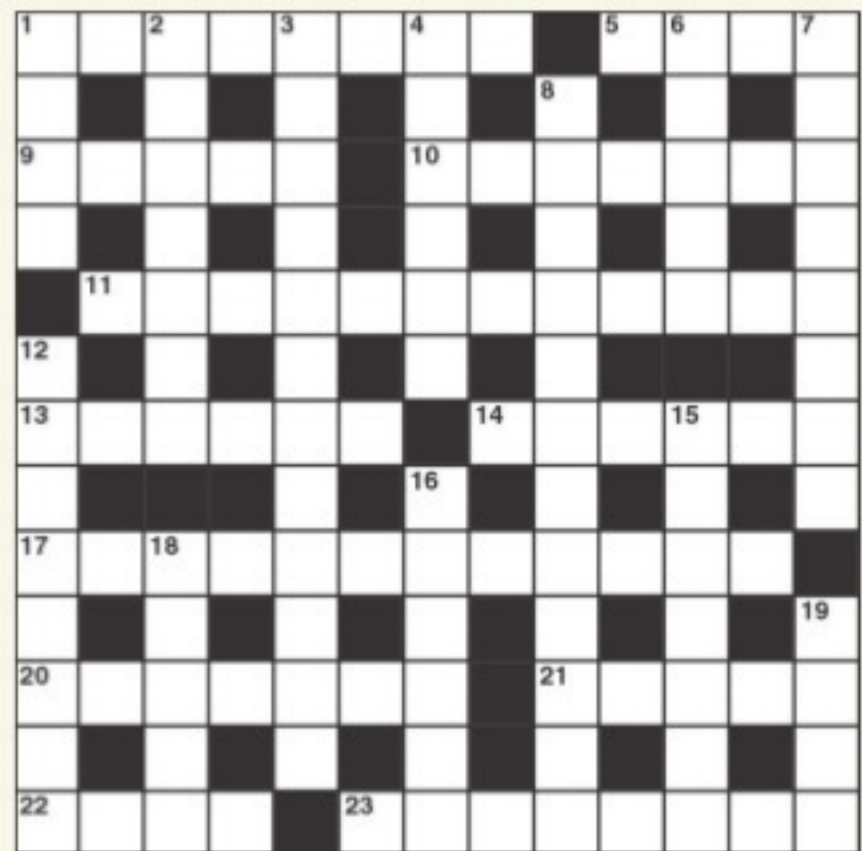
at being treated as Moscow's bin. "It's about dignity," says Elena Kalinina, an activist.

The fiercest resistance has come from Ms Kalinina's home region of Arkhangelsk. Protests have been bubbling there since late last year, drawing thousands. Activists have built a tent camp at the planned landfill site in Shiyes. "The Russian North is Not a Dump," they chant. Local authorities have detained dozens of them. Activists now demand not only an end to landfill construction but also the resignation of the local governor. On June 25th Russia's Supreme Court blocked activists' attempt to force a referendum on the issue.

If there is a silver lining to the garbage, this is it. Just as ecology became an outlet for civic activism in the late Soviet era, so too have today's rubbish problems. Moscow's junk, in short, may be civil society's treasure.

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CROSSWORD 3848



- ACROSS**
- Riding school discipline is a habit that comes with time (8)
 - Encourage a wager (4)
 - Turner writes bi-lingual articles (5)
 - Odd way to keep moving (7)
 - Medically speaking, not a place for a second helping (5-3,4)
 - Use fan wrongly and it becomes dangerous (6)
 - He has the skills to make a suit (6)
 - Gloomy record playing far into the night (12)
 - I belong to base order (7)
 - For bread as yet to be mixed (5)
 - Pole gets to feel sick in voyage (4)
 - Fish in turn goes bad (8)
- DOWN**
- He could be told, but probably wouldn't understand (4)
 - Competitors making records (7)
 - They're not sown in the minds of certain people (5,2,5)
 - Yet his talk is far from uplifting (6)
 - Mr Crosby wins nothing in a game of chance (5)
 - It's a tree used in a composition (8)
 - He may make several calls before getting the contract (6,6)
 - Source of heat dehydrates various items (8)
 - Go back round the terrace (7)
 - It's way up as money (6)
 - Deserted area is in a bad way (5)
 - Things cracked up to stupefy (4)

Solutions Crossword 3847: Across: 1 Hereafter, 8 Ether, 9 Portion, 10 Tin-pot, 11 Perils, 12 Tactless, 15 Terrapin, 18 Varied, 20 Insult, 21 Brooded, 22 Green, 23 Gatecrash. Down: 2 Elope, 3 Entail, 4 Footstep, 5 Resist, 6 Chopper, 7 Protested, 11 Partridge, 13 Converse, 14 Crossed, 16 Ailing, 17 Armour, 19 Ewers.

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 clue.

Honour wears different... to different... - Barbara W. Tuchman (5...4)

PYAE **AERZST**

DNOOS **RSUVCY**

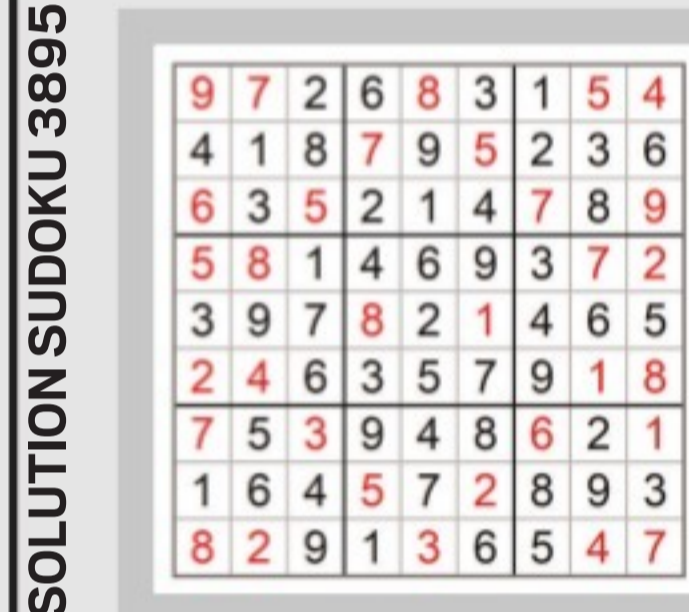
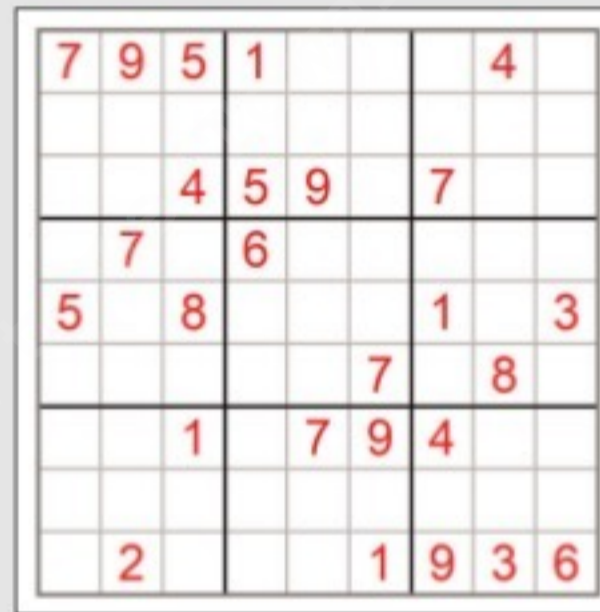
SOLUTION: PYAE, SNOOD, ERSATZ, SCURRY
ANSWER: Honour wears different coats to different eyes - Barbara W. Tuchman

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 3s

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



OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL & CONTROLLER, DR. S.N. MEDICAL COLLEGE & ASSOCIATED GROUP OF HOSPITALS, JODHPUR

Shastri Nagar, Residency Road, Jodhpur (Raj). 342001
E-mail: medicalcollegejodhpur@yahoo.com, prmcdelg-jod-rj@nic.in

No. F. 6 () Store/SNMC/JU/2019-20/973 Dated: 17.06.2019
BID NOTICE No. 04/2019-20 (e-tender)

Online bids are invited from the manufacturers/ authorized distributors/ Dealers/ Indian agents for the supply of **Single Plane Pediatric Cardiac Cath- Lab with rotational angiography along with Accessories including: Power-Supply, Civil Work & Site Modification**, for use in Dr. S.N. Medical College and attached hospitals, Jodhpur. Brief particulars of the bid are as under:-

1 Bid document download start & submission date:	24.06.2019 from 05.00 P.M.
2 Pre bid date:	03.07.2019 at 02.00 P.M.
3 Bid document download & submission end date:	24.07.2019 at 5.00 P.M.
4 Technical Bid Opening date:	25.07.2018 at 11.00 A.M.
5 Authorization Certificate as per Annexure-I must be submitted in Original with EMD, Tender, Processing Fee in this office upto 11.00 AM on 10.07.2019	
6 UBN Number	SMC1920GLOB00035

Details regarding terms and conditions can be downloaded from the website <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> and also be seen at <http://sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in> & <http://medicaleducation.rajjasthan.gov.in/jodhpur/index.asp>

Sd/-
Principal & Controller
DIPR/C/4948/2019

HARYANA INSTITUTE OF CIVIL AVIATION

30 Bays Building, 3rd Floor, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh-160017 (Above of Kashmir Emporium & Krishna Carpet)

Telephone: 0172-4024544, E-mail ID: hicachd@gmail.com
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Interested persons are invited for the walk-in-interview for the following posts on Contractual Basis with complete bio-data and required documents. The applicant should fulfill the following qualification and experience:

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Post	Age	Place of Posting
1.	Ground Instructor-cum-R.T. Operator-cum-Simulator Instructor	03	21-60 Years	Any Branch of Haryana institute of Civil Aviation
2.	R.T. Operator	01	21-60 Years	Any Airfield of Haryana

i) Ground Instructor-cum-R.T. Operator-cum simulator Instructor - Consolidated Salary of Rs. 37,000-00 per Month

NOTE: Additional Incentive for imparting Simulator Flying.

QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE

- Candidate should fulfill all requirement for any/all of following aviation subjects as Aviation Meteorology or Air Regulations or Air Navigation or Technical General as per Civil Aviation Requirements Section 7 Series D Part I Sub Point 13.9 (As per latest revision of Civil Aviation Requirements issued by DGCA)
- Ex-Airlines Pilot, Ex-Indian Air Force Pilot or equivalent will be given preference.
- Preference will be given to experienced and more qualified candidates.

ii) R.T. Operator - Consolidated Salary of Rs. 37,000-00 per month

QUALIFICATION & EXPERIENCE

- Candidate should fulfill all requirements as per latest revision of Civil Aviation Requirements issued by Director General of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India, New Delhi (DGCA) for handling of R.T. Operations. (Valid R.T.R. (A) issued by the Ministry of Telecommunication or should have a FRTOL)
- Qualified Air Traffic Controller with at least five years of ATC experience or a Pilot/ Navigator from Defence/ paramilitary forces will be given preference.
- Preference will be given to experienced and more qualified candidates.

Applications of those candidates will only be considered who have all the above mentioned requirements valid on the date of Walk-in-Interview. Interested candidates may report of the walk-in-interview at O/o Civil Aviation Department Haryana, 30 Bays Building, 3rd Floor, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh on 19th July (Friday) at 1000 Hrs with all relevant licenses/certificates/ documents in original. No TA / DA will be paid for the said interview. Advance copy of the application to be furnished through email :- hicachd@gmail.com

Chief Executive Director,
Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation.
77274/HRV

Appeal for Identification



General public is hereby informed that one male Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: Approx 35 Years, Height: 5'3", Sex: Male, Complexion: Shallow, ID Mark: A tattoo mark "OM" on his right wrist & Black and White Skin on his Right Thigh, Wearing: Pink Shirt-Grey Jeans Pant was found at Ganda Nala, Sultan Puri, Delhi on 06.09.2018 & admitted in Hospital on 06.09.2018 vide MLC No. 14099/18. He was died on 19.09.2018 during the treatment. In this regard FIR/DD No. 626/19 u/s 304 IPC, dated 22.06.2019 has been lodged at PS Sultanpuri, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign. SHO

PS. Sultanpuri, Delhi
Ph.: 011-25472166, 25472410
DP/2372/OD/19

PUNJAB STATE TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001, Punjab, India
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SC033814 (www.pstcl.org)
O/o Chief Accounts Officer (F&A) ARR Section,
3th Floor, Shakti Sadan, Patiala,
Opp. Kaili mata Mandir, The Mall, Patiala.
Fax/Ph. No. 0175-2970183 Email: fa@pstcl.org

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Enquiry No.	16/CAO(F&A)/MYT-II/2019
Description	Engagement of Consultants for preparation and submission of MYT (ARR & Tariff determination) petition for Control Period FY 2020-21 to FY 2022-23 & APR & True up of respective years before Punjab State electricity Regulatory Commission.
Bid submission start date	02.07.2019 at 9.00 AM
Bid submission closing date	22.07.2019 upto 5.00 PM
Bid opening date	24.07.2019 at 11.30 AM

Detailed NIT/specification may be downloaded from PSTCL e-tendering website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> Corrigendum, if any will not be published in newspaper, As such the website may be visited regularly for updates.

CAO(F&A), PSTCL, Patiala
C-6054/Pb

हरियाणा कर्मचारी चयन आयोग

बेज नं.-67-70, सैक्टर-2, पंचकूला।

क्रमांक: एच.एस.एस.-2ई.-2015/ दिनांक:

खुली निविदा सूचना

हरियाणा कर्मचारी चयन आयोग, पंचकूला ने कार्यलय की कैंटीन को ग्यारह मास के लिए किराए पर देने का निर्णय लिया है। दिनांक 16.07.2019 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे कार्यालय में खुली बोली द्वारा इसे किराए पर दिया जाएगा। जो भी इच्छुक आवेदक ज्यादा बोली देगा उसे आयोग की कैंटीन ग्यारह मास के लिए शर्तानुसार दे दी जाएगी।

नोट:-

- निविदा की नियम व शर्तें कार्यालय की वेब साईट www.hssc.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है।
- निविदा के समय आवेदक सचिव, हरियाणा कर्मचारी चयन आयोग के हक में 25,000/- रु. की निर्धारित प्रतिभूति राशि का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट साथ में लेकर आएगा।
- निविदा के समय आवेदक अपने पहचान पत्र तथा उसकी एक फोटो कापी साथ में लेकर आएगा।

हस्ता/-
अवर सचिव, स्था. एवं लेखा
कृते: सचिव, हरियाणा कर्मचारी चयन आयोग
पंचकूला।

77272/HRV

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD

E-Tendering Tender Notice

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of the President of India invites, sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work :

E-Tender No.	Name of work	App.Cost of work ₹	Earnest Money ₹
JHS-Engg-L-2019-80	Jhansi-Kanpur section:- Through replacement of existing Switch & Crossing (Part of T/O) with new Switch & Crossing under ADEN/Kanpur Sub-division	4341459.22	86800.00

Cost of Tender form: ₹ 3150/- Date of Completion/period from issue acceptance letter: 06 months. Date of Closing tender: 29.07.2019 at 15:00 hrs Tender on line can be submitted upto 15:00 hrs on 29.07.2019 For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in 888/19(I)

North central railways @CPRONCR

HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BAYS NO. 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR-4, PANCHKULA

Advt. No. 5/2019 Date of Publication: 05.07.2019
Closing Date: 05.08.2019

The Commission invites Online Application Forms from the Eligible Candidates for the following Posts:-

Sr. No.	Name of Posts	Bi-furcation of Posts	Total No. of Posts
1.	Assistant Engineer (Agr.) (Class-II)	Gen. - 01 SC - 03 BC-A - 03 BC-B - 01 ESM - 01	01
2.	Assistant Town Planner (Group-A)	Gen. - 06 SC - 03 BC-A - 03 BC-B - 01 ESM - 01	14
3.	Manager (Legal)	Gen. - 01	01

1. (a) Closing Date for the : 05.08.2019 upto 05.00 P.M. Submission of Online Application

(b) Application Fees can be submitted through Online mode only using Net Banking or Debit Card/ Credit Card mid-night of Closing Date using only the Link provided by the Commission

(c) The Online Application can be filled upto 05.08.2019 by using Commission's website after which the Link will be disabled. The Candidates are strictly advised to apply Online well in time without waiting for Last Date of Submission of Online Application. No Offline Application Form will be accepted by the Office. Eligibility with regards Qualification, Experience, any Certificate and other conditions of Eligibility etc. will be determined as on Last Date of Submission of Online application Forms i.e. 05.08.2019 (Closing Date).

Note:1. Candidates are advised not to send the Hard Copy of the Application Form. If any Candidates sent the Hard Copy of the Application Form, the same will not be entertained.

2. It will be the sole responsibility of the Candidates to retain a Hard Copy of the Printed Online Application Form with them and produce the same before the Commission as and when sought by it. The Commission will not be responsible for any deficiency in this aspect and it will not provide any other opportunity after the Closing Date of applying Online Application for downloading the Hard Copies of the Application Forms.

3. No. of Posts along with reservation of Posts are subject to any variation. If there is any variation, the Candidates will be informed through Announcement Displayed on Commission's website.

4. Detailed instructions for filling the Online Application form and Deposit of Fees are available on the website: <http://hpsc.gov.in> or www.hpscsonline.in. For any Guidance/Information/Clarification regarding the filling of the Online Application Form the Applicant can call at Helpline No. 0172-2560754 on all working days from 09.00 A.M. to 05.00 P.M.

5. Candidates can apply Online w.e.f. 05.07.2019.

Sd/-
Dy. Secretary,
Haryana Public Service Commission,
Panchkula.

Date: 02.07.2019
77278/HRV

DAY TODAY BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Mars, planet of energy, is now lifting you out of a rather stale period and recharging your batteries. It's your mind which is about to benefit from all that celestial activation, and very soon ideas will be flowing thick and fast. Try them out on friends to see how realistic they are.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Today's dynamic alignments will not go unnoticed. The point, though, is that any emotional hurricanes are likely to completely pass you by, hitting friends, colleagues and acquaintances instead. One word of caution, and that is to be very careful in your dealings with authority.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You appear to be even more perceptive at the moment, partly because of intense alignments emanating from emotional regions of your chart. Just see to it that any professional contacts are not knocked off balance by impetuous or impulsive people - or by your own impatience.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

So much depends on your ability to handle facts. You see, if you resort to the normal emotional stereotype, you can set out to charm the opposite sex, but you won't win respect. If you challenge other people's image of you and surprise them, you may acquire their undying admiration.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

The best planetary aspects now relate to financial interests, but you must stifle any tendency to leap ahead without considering the consequences. Generous gestures are fine if you expect nothing in return, otherwise direct your efforts where they are going to be appreciated.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

In so many ways you set up difficulties for yourself. It's in your nature to seek the rocky road and to refuse offers of assistance. If I were you, though, I'd look around for sources of support, mainly from anyone who can help you understand your conflicting emotions.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

You do tend to be a little over-concerned with appearances, but during the next week or so you will begin to be surprisingly disinterested in others' attitudes and opinions. You will discover that life can be so much more relaxing when you do what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Over the past few weeks you appear to have veered between self-doubt on the one hand and a deep belief in your own destiny on the other. Now you'll have the chance to find stability in the company of sensible people, but that might mean considering options you'd always turned down.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

A lot of troubled waters have passed under the bridge in the past. However, as far as your worldly ambitions are concerned, the position is looking bright. Imminent events at work follow on from good fortune as far back as ten years ago, perhaps events which affected people very close to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

After a lot of trials and tribulations, the next six months could be a relatively pleasant time for most of you. As from now, you should start to consolidate all your gains, however small and apparently insignificant. You should also see to it that all outstanding emotional business is dealt with.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Stick up for yourself and don't allow others' lack of faith or imagination to dim your vision of the future. You have no reason to feel that just because partners don't understand you, you have to rein yourself in. It's time to plough your own furrow, to do your own thing.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

A major upheaval or alteration in the working pattern of your life is likely to take place now that Mars is sweeping through such an important area of your chart. But in this, as in all things, the cause is likely to come from where you least expect it.

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one person namely **Kadir S/o Shakil Ahmed R/o H.No E-11/72 A**, first floor Hauzrani, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi has been missing from his house. In this regard, a case **DD No. 28-A, dated 23.05.2019 has been registered at P.S. Malviya Nagar, Delhi.** The description of the missing person is as under.



Age: 30 Years, Complexion: Shallow, Height: 5'1", Face: Round, Build: Medium, Wearing: White colour shirt black colour pant black colour shoes in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing boy then please inform P.S. Malviya Nagar, New Delhi at following Tel No. / e-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>

Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/5531/SD/19

Sd/- S.H.O.
P.S. Malviya Nagar, New Delhi
Ph. 011-26691861-62

कार्यालय, पुलिस अधीक्षक, जिला राजनांदगांव (छ.ग.)

दूरभाष क्र.-07744-226399 (ऑफिस) फैक्स- 07744-286631
क्र.-पुअराज/एम/5963-B/2019 दिनांक-01/07/2019

निविदा

रक्षित निरीक्षक कार्यालय राजनांदगांव के स्टर शाखा एवं इस इकाई के अन्य शाखाओं हेतु वित्तीय वर्ष 2019-20 के लिए एसआई एवं अन्य आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति हेतु सामग्रियों की आवश्यकता है। इच्छुक फर्म 0055 पुलिस मिसलैनिक्स हेड में 750/- रु. का चालान जमाकर निविदा की शर्तें एवं फार्म कार्यालय रक्षित निरीक्षक जिला राजनांदगांव से निविदा जारी से दिनांक 22/07/2019 तक प्राप्त किया जा सकता है तथा अपनी सीलबंद निविदाएं दिनांक 30/07/2019 दिन मंगलवार के 15:00 बजे तक पुलिस अधीक्षक कार्यालय राजनांदगांव में निर्धारित पेटी में जमा करें, जिन्हे दिनांक 30/07/2019 को 16:00 बजे क्रय समिती के समक्ष खोला जावेगा।

हस्ता/-
पुलिस अधीक्षक
जिला राजनांदगांव (छ.ग.)

G-71298

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI

4th FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

OA No.115/2018 CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA Applicant

Versus
MANOJ KUMAR SINGH & ORS. Respondents

To, 1. MANOJ KUMAR SINGH, Prop. M.K.S. Enterprises, 154/28, 2nd Floor, Naiwala, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005.

Also at: B-14/10/20, Gali No.20, 1 Pusta, Sonia Vihar, Delhi-110094.
2. Mrs. Raj Rani Sachdeva, House No.26, Block V, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027.

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs.3,80,76,716/- (Rupees Three Crore Eighty Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixteen One) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Ld. Registrar on 05.07.2019 at 10:30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 03rd Day of May, 2019.

By Order of this Tribunal
For Registrar

SEAL OF COURT

21 TALK ART, MUSIC, STYLE, FOOD



LIFE IN A SONG

A Broadway musical on the life of Grammy award-winning musician, Neil Diamond, is in works. To be written by Anthony McCarten, of *Bohemian Rhapsody* fame, it will show the singer-songwriter's rags to riches tale after living a tough life in New York's Brooklyn.

SNAP SHOTS



Making Space

DIRECTORS ZOYA AKHTAR (pictured), Anurag Kashyap and veteran actor Anupam Kher are among the 842 new members invited by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in its push to become more inclusive. Kashyap has been invited in the Short Films and Feature Animation category, while *Lunchbox* writer-director Ritesh Batra has also been invited, so are Indian-origin actor Archie Punjabi and *Late Night* director Nisha Ganatra. In the Visual Effects department, there's Sherry Bharda of *Hichki* fame and Srinivas Mohan, known for *2.0* and *Baahubali: The Beginning*. Incidentally, the membership of people of colour has doubled since 2015.

Artists Unite

BANKSY, THE anonymous English street artist, revealed that he is the one who designed the stab-proof vest worn by the British rapper Stormzy (pictured) during his performance at the just-concluded Glastonbury festival. He had a spray-painted Union Jack on the front, and during the performance the Grime artist highlighted the issues of knife crime and racial inequalities in Britain. It is not the first time the Union Jack has been used as a pop-art icon by musicians. English rock band The Who's jackets and pop group Spice Girls' dresses had used the flag. The performance has also made Stormzy the first black British solo artist to headline Glastonbury since it started 49 years ago.

Rest in Peace

ONE OF the most important artists to come out of apartheid-era South Africa, artist David Koloane died in his Johannesburg home at the age of 81. His work, comprising art-making, curating, activism, and writing, dealt with colonialism and continued oppression of black South Africans. In 2013, he had represented South Africa at the Venice Biennale, and his work is currently the subject of a survey at the Iziko South African Museum in Cape Town. The artist is known for opening the first-ever art space in Johannesburg dedicated specifically for black artists. He was also one of many to help establish the Federated Union of Black Artists Arts Centre, a place to educate non-white creators in the country.



ically for black artists. He was also one of many to help establish the Federated Union of Black Artists Arts Centre, a place to educate non-white creators in the country.



The menu at Qualia is all about sweet-and-sour, as seen in Heirloom Beets (above left) and Yellow Gazpacho; Qualia interiors; chef Rahul Akerkar



'The food scene is more evolved today'

Chef Rahul Akerkar returns to Mumbai's culinary scene, after a four-year hiatus, with Qualia



When I thought of opening my own restaurant, it made me wonder what I really enjoy about food — I realised I love the Margarita chaat profile — khatta-meetha, ambat-gaad, as my aiji would say

RAHUL AKERKAR

DIPTI NAGPAUL

HIGH CEILINGS, a long bar and chainmaille curtains form an integral part of Qualia's decor. But the most defining aspect of chef Rahul Akerkar's latest offering are the many jars of pickled vegetables, fruits and spices that line the wooden shelves above the bar. There is almost everything, and more, that one can think of in those jars — mangoes, berries, onions, ladyfingers, turmeric roots, mustard seeds, and walnuts. The Lower Parel restaurant, which opened its doors end April, is all about sweet-and-sour, or, as Akerkar likes to say in Marathi, "ambat-gaad". The menu thus features dishes such as White and Green Asparagus that is served with fennel, pickled onions and preserved lemon; Duck Neck Sausage with caramelised onion polenta and pickled plums; and Tarte Tatin that comes with pickled celery, walnuts and crème fraiche ice cream.

Akerkar redefined the culinary scape of the city when he opened Indigo in Colaba in 1999. It set the benchmark for stand-alone, fine-dining restaurants, a rarity at that time. Indigo Deli introduced the concept of deli, which has since evolved into a bustling cafe culture today. However, after building these restaurants into brands, in 2015, Akerkar parted ways with his investors at deGustibus and took a sabbatical, while patrons wondered about his comeback. In this interview, the chef talks about leaving deGustibus, his new offering and what drives the food at Qualia. Excerpts:

You were synonymous with Indigo and deGustibus. How tough was it to let go?
It took me a couple of years to reconcile with the idea. My exit was pretty acrimo-

nious; the investors I had partnered with, almost took things away from me. When we were opening Indigo in Delhi, I learnt rather awkwardly that the menu created there had been altered without my knowledge. I went to Delhi to work with the team on some dishes and was told that those dishes were not even on the menu. That was a wake-up call. It's ironic that neither has Indigo in Delhi nor have the other restaurants they started without my consent, have since survived. But my only regret today is that I didn't take that step two years earlier. It was tough at the time but once you go through the process and move ahead in time, you wonder what was so daunting about it.

I remember when we were planning the first Indigo Deli, in Colaba, it felt like a big hurdle. But once we launched, it was easy.

Was it daunting that neither Indigo nor Indigo Deli had any precedents?

I didn't think about it at the time; I only wanted to do a particular kind of cuisine and restaurant. Back in late 1990s, we only had China Garden, which was the leader in the Oriental food space and Khyber led in Indian cuisine. That was it. There were a handful others like Kamling and Gaylord too. Hotels were complacent where the same menu was served year after year. For instance, Shamiana did the simple tomato soup with three croutons floating atop. There would be a Spaghetti Bolognese and the ubiquitous club sandwich. I never wanted to shake it up but just do a food-focused restaurant. I remember the battles we got into with Shamiana even when I opened Under the Over at Kemp's Corner, my industry debut. Hemant Oberoi at the Taj woke up and changed the menu after many years. As soon as their team settled into it, we changed ours again. It rattled them, so they had to start working instead of going with the flow. With Indigo, we again changed things. I remember at the soft opening, Camellia Panjabi said, "Gutsy move Rahul, but will it work?" We had just spent Rs 5.5 crore setting up Indigo and the remark gave me a pause. But Indigo worked, from the first day, and I still don't know what did it.

From 1999 to 2019, how, in your opinion, has the city's F&B space changed?

Soon after Indigo, a series of finer cuisine restaurants mushroomed in the city but that was followed by tremendous mediocrity. Then the scene developed to cater to a mass

base with cheap and cheerful places. The menus everywhere would be similar, safe, and feature the same Edamame dumplings, tuna carpaccio, and truffle fries. No one was really cooking, except a handful of chefs. But that was also a time when people were travelling and experimenting with cuisines, the exposure was growing. The scene is more evolved today and restaurants are more food- and cuisine-focused.

What places did you appreciate along the way?

We are all creatures of habit. We go to the same places to satisfy particular cravings on particular days.

How much has that shaped your current space?

When I thought of opening my own restaurant, it made me wonder what I really enjoy about food — something I had never thought of before. I realised I love the Margarita chaat profile — khatta-meetha, ambat-gaad, as my aiji (grandmother) would say. I decided to develop that concept because acidity adds a certain element of freshness to the food. So I started pickling about a year ago, even before I had started to plan a menu, and it's all up on the walls now.

Why did you choose Lower Parel, which is already an overcrowded space?

I was originally planning a simpler place. But when Malini (wife) and I saw this space, we felt it has a certain gravitas. We visualised the whole place immediately. The menu here is maybe a tad more refined than what I would have done but what we serve is home-y, it's good looking comfort food. We intend to begin lunch soon too, albeit with a different profile — serve breakfast all-day and quick light meals.

Singing the India Story

New York-based Falguni Shah is the first South Asian to become governor of the Recording Academy

SUANSHU KHURANA

THE RECORDING Academy, the organisation that celebrates artistic excellence through the Grammy Awards, has announced the appointment of Indian-origin musician Falguni Shah, aka Falu, as the governor of their New York chapter. Earlier this year, the musician had walked the red carpet at the Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles as India's only Grammy nominee for 2018, in the Best Children's Music category for her album *Falu's Bazaar*. A 12-song album in Hindi, English, and Gujarati, it was born out of her son Nishad's curiosity about her culture.

The role of governors in the Recording Academy can range from management to political to law. But Falu is interested in social justice and how music plays a significant role. "My vision is to do with social justice impact. At Carnegie Hall, I



Falguni Shah

have been running a social justice programme for 15 years. We do 'Lullaby Projects', take music to maximum security prisons, senior centres, and women's shelters. I plan to advocate the role of music not just in entertainment but also in healing for under-served communities in America," says 39-year-old Falu, who has plans to do similar work in India as well. "Since I speak many South Asian languages, I think I can represent India at the Academy and internationally," says Falu.

Growing up in Mumbai, Falu would listen to her mother humming ragas. She was charmed by RD Burman and The Beatles. She trained first under Kaumudi Munshi and Uday Mazumdar, who taught her Gujarati

folk music and ghazal, and later under sarangi maestro Sultan Khan and the temperamental Jaipur-Atrauli doyenne Kishori Amonkar. She moved to the US in 2000. Her struggles as an immigrant and as a musician of colour in the US were one of the reasons behind *Falu's Bazaar*. "I felt I was struggling in both the countries. I faced rejection and acceptance in both countries. Making it in music is hard in any continent because music is so subjective," she says.

In 2007, she debuted with *Falu*. She soon followed it with *Foras Road* (2013), named after the red-light district in Mumbai. The album, comprising indie-Hindi tunes, was shortlisted for the Grammys but didn't make it to the main nominations. Falu, however, was noticed. Grammy award-winning Danny Blume, who produced the album and also worked on *Falu's Bazaar*, has called her "a revelation". Over the last few years, there have been opportunities to work with high-profile musicians such as American composer Philip Glass and AR Rahman. In legendary cellist Yo Yo Ma's famed *Silk Road Project*, she was the sole classical voice.

As of now Falu is working on a new album, "this time for adults". The album, which will be in Hindi and English, will draw from Indian music and American pop and rock. "Just being nominated for the Grammys has opened so many doors for me. I don't know what would have happened if I had won it. So many things have come my way. The community I have now started to know is so very welcoming and that's beautiful," says Falu.

Search for Truth

The Triologue Company's play *Tansen* echoes the trials of the famed musician in Akbar's court

PALLAVI CHATTOPADHYAY

Ishq kya hai, ibadat kya hai? Kya kisi ki talash ishq hai? Ya kisi ki talash mein fana kardena ishq hai? Ya darasal ibadat ishq hai? Ya fir ishq ibadat hai?

THE TINY pitch black room of The Attic in Connaught Place, lit with diyas and lamps, envelops the audience seated on the floor in a sea of blue light, welcoming them with questions on what is love and worship. The mood transports them to the times when the musical prowess of famous musician Tansen reigned in Mughal emperor Akbar's court. An exponent of Hindustani classical music, Tansen was one of his *navaratnas* (nine gems).

Mughal style overcoats, theatre actors Sudheer Rikhari and Mohammad Faheem took up numerous roles and staged incidents from Tansen's life in their play *Tansen*, trying to seek answers to an artiste's dilemma. Whether love for art is enough to be successful or is it important to lose oneself in the worship of art, are the questions that the play posed on Monday evening in Delhi.

A melange of dance, drama and live music comprising dhrupad, qawwali and khayal gayaki, the play chronicles Tansen's birth to Parvati and Makarand after many prayers, near Gwalior. Tanna (Tansen) goes on to become a court singer for Raja Man Singh Tomar of Gwalior, and later Raja Ramchandra Singh. The time in between is interspersed with his love for Tanni (Ridhima Bagga), which blooms when he accidentally meets her near a temple. As fate



The play unveils the mysteries around the musician, who is supposed to have lit lamps with his music



would have it, he is forced to leave her and make her wait until his return, when the 16th-century Sufi saint and his teacher Mohammad Ghaus commands him to visit Swami Haridas in Vrindavan to hone his skills. Tanna gives up all worldly pursuits and personal wishes to excel in music. Speaking about the play — a mix of fact and fiction — Rikhari, 34, who essays

Tansen's role and is also the director and co-writer of the play, says, "A few years ago, my friend suggested we do a play on Tansen. Tansen is not a new name but he has always been a mystery. Legend has it that he could light up diyas with his singing. Inspired by Girish Chaturvedi's novel *Tansen*, the play aims to answer if that's true and unravels the mystery surrounding him."

With an MA in Hindustani Classical Vocal from Khairagarh University, Rikhari sought the help of books on music written by Tansen, along with *Akbarnama* and *Ain-i-Akbari*. "I was always intrigued by what we are searching for in life. As a musician, when we do *riyaz*, we are looking for the *sur* (tune). My guruji used to say when you actually jump into a *sur* or go in its search,

your ego drops. *Jis din 'main' khatam ho-jayegi, uss din tasir ajayegi*," says Rikhari, who has served as the lead vocalist for Indian Ocean in the past. The music played during the course of the play include renditions of Gundecha Brothers' *Sur mein rame tu hi* and *Moorat mann bhaye*, brought to life by accompanying musicians Sudip Chowdhury on the pakhawaj and tabla and Daksh Raj Sharma on the harmonium.

Professionally trained in kathak, Delhi-based Bagga, the third actor in the play, convincingly weaves in Tanni's narrative with her impressive hand and foot movements. In Tanna's old age, Tanni's ghost haunts him, asking him why his art has gathered dust and now lacks magic. Bagga says, "Tanni is his conscience and an inspiration."

The highlight of the play is the various combinations of the notes of a *sargam* that Rikhari urges the audience to sing with him. The resulting chorus is surprisingly in sync. He says, "Our idea was to make the performance an experiential one and not simply intellectual. A lot of people stay away from Indian classical music. We want people to know what *sargam* is, and what *sa ni dha pa* is. Is it fun or is it a task?"



#ardikPandya

All-rounder's crucial strikes derail Bangladesh chase, earn respect of fans and put India in semifinals



EXPRESS AT WORLD CUP

SRIRAM VEERA
BIRMINGHAM, JULY 2

HARDIK PANDYA likes to be cool. In touch with zeitgeist. What's the coolest thing that a bowler can do these days? The West Indians have patented funny celebrations after taking wicket - from Darren Bravo's jigs to Sheldon Cottrell's salutes. Most other pacers snarl, roar or do the usual send-offs to batsmen.

So, Pandya has decided he won't react at all. How do you beat that in coolness scale? Take a wicket, stand there, stare at the batsman, turn around and walk off. He did that three times on a day Pandya, the bowler, and his captain would be really happy with his efforts. Though Rohit Sharma would get the raves for his wonderful hundred, it was Pandya who helped India hide their poor batting effort post Sharma's exit with a triple strike that stubbed out Bangladesh's resistance. Every time it seemed they had something going in the chase, their crowd would get into the game, but Pandya would silence them.

India made 314 after threatening 375 at one stage. Despite a record opening partnership of 180, the highest by any team in this competition, India added only 136 runs after Sharma's dismissal. The chase wasn't going to be easy on a pitch that had slowed up and every time Bangladesh tried to stir something, Pandya felled them and they were finally bowled out for 286.

What would have really cheered up the Indian management was Pandya's cricketing smarts that was evident in his bowling. It came through in the way he took two of his three wickets. But first a bit of luck. Bangladesh were 73 for 1 when Pandya was introduced in the 16th over. As always, he banged one in short which sailed over Soumya Sarkar's head for a wide. Then came the lucky turn, not entirely as he did slow up the pace on it but it still wasn't a good one. Short and wide, asking to be hit as they say, and Sarkar obliged. But instead of someone in the crowd throwing it back, it was Kohli at short cover who intervened. Bangladesh slipped to 74 for 2. One could understand why Pandya didn't want to celebrate this wicket as it was a gift from the batsman.

Liton Das was looking good on 22, and had added 41 runs with Shakib Al Hasan, when Pandya began the second over of his

second spell, and the 30th of the chase. Das had just smoked a length delivery from Pandya for a six over long-on but Pandya surprised him with a sharp, well-directed bouncer at 138kmph. It reared up at the head and Das couldn't wriggle out of it. He tried a pull but looked hurried and harried as he went into that shot. It popped up to mid-wicket and Pandya had that silent celebration - a look at Das as he walked.

His next wicket was the most important of the day. Shakib had looked completely in control, punching on the up and generally doing what he pleased with the bowling. He would drive and if the mood seized him, steer it late to third man or suddenly, stand tall and punch past the bowlers. That punch shot that he repeatedly doled out in the stunning chase he led against West Indies was yet again the most impressive shot of his arsenal but he was outdone by Pandya.

In the 33rd over, his fourth in the second spell, Pandya decided to throw all his slower variations at Shakib. First came the slow bouncer and Shakib leaped and tried to drag-pull it, but was thrown off by the slowness and the height. Next ball, Shakib shuffled to the on side, checking if Pandya falls for the pressure. Instead, a slower one arrived, full and following Shakib who was getting into a drive which was chipped into short cover's hands. Yet again, Pandya just had a look and started to walk.

That was that, really. Even though Mohammad Saifuddin and Sabbir Rahman took them from 169 for 6 (Shakib's fall) to 245 before Rahman fell, and kept Bangladesh's hopes alive, it has to be said that Pandya had broken their back with his triple strike.

Pandya's bowling has been reliable in this tournament. He doesn't have that one delivery that can make a batsman sweat. What comes to mind when you think of his bowling? No special signature delivery but what he has done is work the angles really well, mix up the pace smartly, have the smarts to work out what to bowl at different batsmen, when to bowl short and when to slow up the pace. India, though, still have a lot to mull over about this 28-run win that has put them in the semifinals. The batting meandered again after the top four fell. In fact, it was for the first time that their specialist No. 4 made some runs. Pandya had done so in that position before but this time Rishabh Pant made 48.

However, they slipped after that. No one really took control and India fell short of what they seemed capable of. But along with the other bowlers, Pandya ensured it wouldn't hurt them. For now, the Indian house looks safe but the windows are broken. Their ardent fans would say it doesn't matter how you win as long as you win. True, of course, but don't be surprised if you are robbed one day.



Hardik Pandya (3/60) dismissed the dangerous Shakib Al-Hasan. AP

SCORECARD >>

IND vs BAN

Edgbaston | Toss: India

INDIA **314/9 IN 50 OV**
KL Rahul c Rahim b Rubel **77** (92b, 6x4, 1x6)
R Sharma c Das b Sarkar **104** (92b, 7x4, 5x6)

V Kohli c Rubel b Mustafizur **26** (27b, 3x4)
R Pant c Mosaddek b Shakib **48** (41b, 6x4, 1x6)

H Pandya c Sarkar b Mustafizur **0** (2b)
MS Dhoni c Shakib b Mustafizur **35** (33b, 4x4)

D Karthik c Mosaddek b Mustafizur **8** (9b, 1x4)

B Kumar run out **2** (3b)
M Shami b Mustafizur **1** (2b)
J Bumrah not out **0** (0b)

■ **Extras:** (lb 6, nb 1, w 6) **13**
 ■ **Fall of wickets:** 1-180 (Sharma, 29.2 ov), 2-195 (Rahul, 32.4 ov), 3-237 (Kohli, 38.2 ov), 4-237 (Pandya, 38.4 ov), 5-277 (Pant, 44.1 ov), 6-298 (Karthik, 47.2 ov), 7-311 (Dhoni, 49.3 ov), 8-314 (Kumar, 49.5 ov), 9-314 (Shami, 49.6 ov)

■ **Bowling:**
M Mortaza 5-0-36-0
M Saifuddin 7-0-59-0
M Rahman 10-1-59-5
S Al Hasan 10-0-41-1
M Hossain 4-0-32-0
R Hossain 8-0-48-1
S Sarkar 6-0-33-1

BANGLADESH **286 IN 48 OV**

T Iqbal b Shami **22** (31b, 3x4)
S Sarkar c Kohli b Pandya **33** (38b, 4x4)
S Al Hasan c Karthik b Pandya **66** (74b, 6x4)

M Rahim c Shami b Chahal **24** (23b, 3x4)
L Das c Karthik b Pandya **22** (24b, 1x6)
M Hossain b Bumrah **3** (7b)

S Rahman b Bumrah **36** (36b, 5x4)
M Saifuddin not out **51** (38b, 9x4)
M Mortaza c Dhoni b Kumar **8** (5b, 1x6)

R Hossain b Bumrah **9** (11b, 1x4)
M Rahman b Bumrah **0** (1b)

■ **Extras:** (b 1, lb 1, w 10) **12**
 ■ **Fall of wickets:** 1-39 (Tamim, 9.3 ov), 2-74 (Sarkar, 15.1 ov), 3-121 (Rahim, 22.6 ov), 4-162 (Das, 29.4 ov), 5-173 (M Hossain, 32.2 ov), 6-179 (Shakib, 33.5 ov), 7-245 (S Rahman, 43.1 ov), 8-257 (Mortaza, 44.2 ov), 9-286 (R Hossain, 47.5 ov), 10-286 (M Rahman, 47.6 ov)

■ **Bowling:**
B Kumar 9-0-51-1
J Bumrah 10-1-55-4
M Shami 9-0-68-1
Y Chahal 10-0-50-1
H Pandya 10-0-60-3

■ **India won by 28 runs**

All-round Shakib enters the record books

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BIRMINGHAM, JULY 2

BANGLADESH ALL-ROUNDER Shakib Al Hasan Tuesday became the first cricketer in the history of the ICC World Cup to score 500 plus runs and also claim more than 10 wickets in a single edition of the showpiece event.

After his innings of 66 against India Tuesday, Shakib was placed second in the leading run scorers chart in this World Cup with 542 runs from seven innings, just behind Rohit Sharma, who has 544 runs in his kitty from seven innings as well.

Shakib, who has scored two centuries and four fifties so far, also has 11 wickets in his kitty from seven games at a strike rate of 34.9.

On Tuesday, the star all-rounder scored 66 runs and also claimed the wicket of



Rishabh Pant to achieve the rare landmark.

New Zealand's Scott Styris is the closest to Shakib in the achievement, scoring 499 runs and picking up nine wickets in the 10 matches he played in the 2007 edition of the tournament. Shakib had blasted an unbeaten 124 against the West Indies during their seven wicket win in Taunton.

He had also claimed five for 29 to single-

handedly bowled Bangladesh to victory over Afghanistan in another match. During the course of the World Cup, Shakib also became the fourth Bangladeshi batsman to amass over 6000 runs in ODIs.

However, Bangladesh went down fighting by 28 runs and got knocked out of the World Cup.

Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Mortaza said that Shakib was in great form but the team needed a bigger partnership.

"This was a good effort, but we had to win this match. If one of them (Shakib or Musfiqu) could have been 80-90, it could have been a different match, but 47-50 is asking a bit much. We could have had a bit more luck, but Shakib Al Hasan has been in superb form, and Mushfiq has batted beautifully. Rohit's catch was obviously disappointing, but those things happen in the field."

POINTS TABLE

Team	M	W	L	T	N/R	PT	NRR
Q Aus	8	7	1	0	0	14	+1
Q Ind	8	6	1	0	1	13	+0.811
NZ	8	5	2	0	1	11	+0.572
Eng	8	5	3	0	0	10	+1
Pak	8	4	3	0	1	9	-0.792
SL	8	3	3	0	2	8	-0.934
BAN	8	3	4	0	1	7	-0.195
SA	8	2	5	0	1	5	-0.08
WI	8	1	6	0	1	3	-0.335
Afg	8	0	8	0	0	0	-1.418

Top 4 teams after the ninth round will qualify for the semis.

A THING OF BEAUTY...

Rohit's lofted straight drive — Gentle, graceful, delightful

SRIRAM VEERA
BIRMINGHAM, JULY 2

IT'S THE strangest thing to say about an opening batsman with a quiver full of gorgeous shots but Rohit Sharma has the most beautiful lofted-straight drive in the world. That shot is usually the preserve of big hitters who come down the order. Size up and swing. Your garden-variety hitter would ping long-on, some like Darren Bravo would unfurl lofted hits over mid-off, but no one does it as straight and pretty as Sharma.

The shot of the match came in the 23rd over. Mustafizur Rehman sent it down with the best of intent. Even holding it back a bit. It squirted off a length and moved towards its undesired fate. Sharma was waiting. He always is.

Especially, the Sharma of the last couple of years. The knees bend a touch, but apart from that, not much moves. Then seldom has a batsman uncoiled with such grace: the way the bat moves up and down, the way the hands glide, and the ball soared up and over even as Sharma held his pose.

The way his hands moved through the shot and ended up in the frozen pose was as if he picked his little daughter and threw her up in the air as dads do. Gentle, grace-

ful, delightful. More often than not, like with his pull shots, he gives the impression that he was actually waiting for the ball, ready with his shot (most of the sixes he hits against the seamers). It's an illusion of course created by the stillness and the balance at the crease.

Now, a bit about that waiting in the crease. More often than not, like with his pull shots, he gives the impression that he was actually waiting for the ball, ready with his shot (most of the sixes he hits against the seamers). It's an illusion, of course, created by the stillness and the balance at the crease. As if he had been expecting the ball to be where he wanted it to be. Usually, it's a short ball. Usually, it's that pull.

But at times, his responses to length deliveries, like it did against Mustafizur, gives that illusion.

Sometimes contrasting with another batsman helps in making the point better.



The shot of the match came in the 23rd over while facing Mustafizur Rehman.

Sharma doesn't do cheap thrills. His is a higher art. And even as it enchants you, it leaves you with bewilderment about modern-day cricket: how they are hitting a lot more than ever, but have somehow extinguished the fire associated with it. Sharma is the best exponent of that art form.

And so, let's take KL Rahul. Not an entirely unfair comparison as he is an eminently watchable batsman, but the point here is about the balance at the crease while waiting. Rahul plays from the crease while Sharma makes precise movements but at the crease, while waiting, just as the ball is about to be released, Rahul makes some unnecessary little movements that upset his balance.

Why does he do it then? Perhaps, because it's almost unnatural and extremely difficult to stay still. Picture this: a fast bowler steaming in and you are waiting. The crowd screaming, adrenalin pumping in you, and despite you telling yourself to stay calm, it isn't easy to be so.

Martin Crowe would say how he would keep muttering, 'watch the ball, watch the ball' as the bowler runs in - self-doubts or an aggressive intent, or a pre-determined thought.

A batsman wants to have a blank mind. But it isn't easy. They aren't Maharishis or meditative monks out there. How can you be relaxed? At least look relaxed? Sharma does it.

Watch him next time as the bowler is running in. Thud, thud thud - and he is still. Sometimes, as the bowler gets close to the umpire, Sharma might flex his knees, like a golfer. That's about it. Occasionally, his hands jar - scratch that, wrong adjective for him, sort of rock the baby, his bat. That's it, really. Then whoosh comes down the bat, meets the ball.

And that's why the bowlers most successful are the ones who upset that balance. Make him move at the crease.

Not the short-ball tripe that Pakistan served first game and also Bangladesh. He will set up a stall and keep slamming out pull shots and lofted hits all day. Usually, it's the left-arm swing bowler who gets the ball to swing back in that can trouble him.

Then he has to shed that balance, he opens his stance, is worried whether he is

going too much across if he plays it to the on-side. For the last few months, he has even that covered - he pats the left-arm curlers to mid-on. No, thank you very much, I am not going to try flicking but it would be interesting to see if India and Australia square off and Mitchell Starc creates that doubt.

Back to that waiting now. What's the thing you notice the most when Sharma is reeling out the big shots. It's the absence of something.

The absence of the adrenalin rush you associate with someone who is hitting fast bowlers for sixes over their heads. The modern-day batsmen have honed and practised big hitting so thoroughly that they retain their "shape". There is nothing visceral about the hitting. You gasp but no sound escapes. For all we know, he could have driven that ball for a single or two.

The way his hands moved would have been almost the same. Sharma doesn't do cheap thrills.

His is a higher art. And even as it enchants you, it leaves you with bewilderment about modern-day cricket: how they are hitting a lot more than ever, but have somehow extinguished the fire associated with it. Sharma is the best exponent of that art form. Calm, collected, graceful - but something almost unnaturally quiet about his violence.

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Babarnama

The Pakistan youngster idolises Kohli and is progressing in the right direction, especially in shorter formats



England captain Eoin Morgan says the defeat to New Zealand in the last World Cup left him "as close to rock-bottom as I've been."

2015 loss to NZ spurred Morgan

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
CHESTER-LE-STREET, JULY 2

EINO MORGAN has revealed England's humiliating defeat by New Zealand in their last World Cup clash left him "as close to rock-bottom as I've been". But the England captain said it had also been behind his side's white-ball revival that now sees them on the verge of securing a place in the semi-finals of the World Cup. The winners of Wednesday's match between England and New Zealand at Chester-le-Street are guaranteed a place in the last four, although an England defeat would leave them facing the prospect of elimination were Pakistan to beat Bangladesh on Friday.

A World Cup semi-final seemed a long way off when England were skittled out for just 123 by New Zealand in a group match at Wellington four years ago. The Black Caps overhauled that woeful total in a mere 12.2 overs, winning with a colossal 226 balls to spare en route to an eventual defeat by co-hosts Australia in the final.

But the way New Zealand played in that 2015 tournament made a lasting impression on Morgan, then as now England's skipper in 50-over cricket. "It was as close to rock-bottom as I've been," Morgan said at Chester-le-Street on Tuesday.

"Certainly as a captain and as a player, being beaten off the park like that was humiliating. New Zealand proved a point that you can actually be really good humans and grow the game and play cricket in your own way and win at the same time, which is incredibly eye-opening for a lot of countries around the world. I thought that rubbed off on everybody in the World Cup."

England subsequently climbed to the top of the one-day international rankings on the back of an attacking brand of cricket. Back-to-back defeats at this World Cup by Sri Lanka and reigning champions Australia saw England lose that number one position but a 31-run win on Sunday over India, the team that replaced them in top spot, saw the tournament hosts get their campaign back on track.

Jason Roy, making his return after three games out with a torn hamstring, helped set the tone from the start with a typically brisk 66 as he shared an opening stand of 160 with Jonny Bairstow, who went to make 111 off his own bat. Morgan admitted beforehand that England were taking a calculated risk in recalling Roy but the skipper was far more confident about the Surrey batsman's fitness ahead of Wednesday's clash. "He's good, he's going to be fit for tomorrow's game," said Morgan. "He's in fantastic form, him and Jonny Bairstow at the top of the order. In the India game it really did set the tone for our innings on a wicket we feel wasn't that good to bat on.

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY
KOLKATA, JULY 2

MOHAMMAD ASIF was ruffled. A 13-year-old Babar Azam had hit a bouncer through midwicket. Asif was Pakistan's frontline fast bowler back then. He, along with Shoaib Akhtar, used to turn up at the country's National Cricket Academy (NCA). Mudassar Nazar, then Pakistan NCA director, fondly recounts the story.

"Asif started to bowl with the old ball and said, 'I would bowl him (Azam) a bouncer'. I told him, 'if you bowl him a bouncer, he will hit you through midwicket. He said, 'he is just a little lad, what are you talking about?' I said, 'try it then'. So, Asif actually bowled him a bouncer and got hit through midwicket.

"Asif stood for a second and said, 'give me the new ball'. I gave him the new ball but I played a trick on him. I told Babar he was going to bowl an off-stump line, so as soon as you see the ball, leave it. Then, he will try to trick you by bowling an outswinger from wide of the crease. After three balls, Asif went wide of the crease and bowled an outswinger, and Babar left it again. Asif berated me for playing a trick on him. But more importantly, Babar was very young but was still able to digest what I was telling him - the tricks of the trade," Nazar told *The Indian Express*.

Azam is Pakistan's standout performer in the World Cup, topping the scoring chart for his team, with 378 runs at 63.00. He has scored a century and two half-centuries. His 101 not out on a difficult pitch against New Zealand oozed class. Azam, though, doesn't convert his starts too often. But this World Cup has enhanced the reputation of the 24-year-old from Lahore. He is steadily graduating to the elite club.

An interview with Ramiz Raja, 'RamizSpeaks', somewhat captures Babar's childhood. "Ramiz bhai hamein shuru se shaikh tha. Bachpan mein galiyon me khelna... Bahut maare bhi khaai hain (I loved batting from my childhood. Cut my teeth in gully cricket and had to face some serious thrashing from the family elders)," Azam sheepishly told the former Pakistan skipper in the video that can be found on YouTube.

Nazar, of course, didn't mind Azam's love for batting, as he nurtured him at the NCA. "The connection that I have with him dates back to my second tenure at the National Cricket Academy, when he was 13 or 14 years of age. I took him under my wings. We saw he was very talented and advanced for his years. And he would often get to bat against Shoaib Akhtar and Mohammad Asif. Of course, Shoaib didn't go full tilt but Asif, after being hit through midwicket, bowled top pace. I saw no fear whatsoever in Babar," Nazar recollected.

A teenaged Azam also bowled a bit, with a "kink" in his arm. "We tried to rectify that. But he didn't show much interest. For him, it was only about batting. He was inquisitive, although it was more a case of me approaching him rather than the other way round. He was always very quiet, an introvert," Nazar said.

Azam hails from a cricket family. His three cousins - the Akmal brothers; Kamran, Adnan and Umar - have all played for Pakistan. Kamran was an established player in the national team when Azam was coming up through the ranks.



Babar Azam is Pakistan's standout performer in the World Cup, topping the scoring chart for his team, with 378 runs at 63.00. He has scored a century and two half-centuries. Reuters

"He (Azam) did a lot of hard work. His father was a hard taskmaster. He always wanted to play cricket full-time. He made his mark at club level and at all age-group levels. When he started playing U-16 cricket, we saw the spark. There was a big enough hint that he would be a success," Kamran told this paper.

On 'RamizSpeaks', Raja asked Azam about his batting; the co-relation between hard work and talent. "Eighty per cent is hard work. Talent takes you to a certain level. Then, hard work takes over and also fitness," the batsman replied.

A road bump
Age-group cricket was relatively plain sailing. But Azam's career hit a road bump as he was trying to break into the senior team.

"There was a period when he wasn't being picked (for the senior team) and he felt left out. But through consistent performance in domestic cricket, he broke through. And he has now become the premier batsman in the Pakistan team. He looks the best batsman the Pakistan team has by far," Nazar said, adding: "I met him in Dubai, when he was out in the cold. He sought my advice and I told him to hang in there, his time would come. He sought me out, even though I wasn't living in Pakistan. He came to see me with his father. But my advice to him was to play cricket and keep scoring runs. Sometimes you have to go through the grind."

Very early in his career, Azam's club coach, Mama Juna, had an advice for his ward. "Play the first and the last ball of a match," Azam revealed during his interview with Raja. A lot of times, though, he gets out after getting starts. This is where Azam plays serious catch-up with his idol Virat Kohli. The

India captain averages 98 in successful run-chases. The Pakistani batsman's conversion rate, on the other hand, leaves a lot to be desired. In 71 ODIs so far, Azam has scored 14 half-centuries and 10 centuries. In 21 Tests, he has scored only one hundred. The Afghanistan match a few days back was a case in point. He was having a walk in the park. Then suddenly, he was bowled round his legs for 45. His dismissal triggered a collapse and took Pakistan to the cusp of defeat. They survived by the skin of their teeth.

"He (Azam) is such a class player. He has such a fantastic range. He picks length early. He likes to stay at the wicket. But his conversion rate is not good and this is an area he needs to seriously work on. I think it's the mindset. But the 'computer' (brain) is working fine and I hope he will soon sort it out," former Pakistan captain Zaheer Abbas told *The Indian Express*.

Another ex-Pakistan skipper Asif Iqbal went to the extent of calling Azam the "finest limited-overs batsman" Pakistan has ever produced. "That's my opinion. With regards to his conversion rate, I think it could be that momentary lapse in concentration. The team

KOHLI VS BABAR

IT'S TOO early to draw a comparison between Pakistan's brightest batting talent Babar Azam and India captain Virat Kohli. But Azam, 24, has some serious numbers in the shorter formats. Last week, he became the second-fastest to reach 3,000 runs in ODIs, in 70 matches and 68 innings. South Africa's Hashim Amla took 59 matches and 57 innings to get there. Kohli took 78 games and 75 innings to reach the landmark.

IN 71 ODIs and 69 innings so far, Azam has 3,117 runs. At the same stage, Kohli had accrued 2,757 ODI runs. The India captain is now in a league of his own, with 11,225 runs in 233 ODIs with 41 centuries. He is also the fastest to 11,000 runs in 50-over cricket. His first 81 innings, however, had eight hundreds and he scored at an average of 46-plus. Azam already has 10 ODI centuries and his average is north of 52. Kohli's next 144 innings yielded 33 hundreds and he scored at an average of 68-plus. This was where Kohli made the transformation from very good to great. So, the next phase is going to be crucial for Azam if he wants to join the elite club.

AS FAR as T20 Internationals are concerned, Kohli's average after 67 matches is 50.28. In 30 T20Is so far, Azam averages 54.21.

IN TESTS though, Azam has a long way to go to match the Indian great. In 77 Tests, Kohli has 6,613 runs, 25 centuries and an average of 53.76. Azam has only one century in 21 Tests. His average is a modest 35.28. According to Mudassar Nazar, he should bat at No. 3 in Tests as well. **ENS**

management has a role to play here. They can help him rectify it," Iqbal said.

Pakistan's World Cup hopes hang in the balance. But in Azam, they have a positive takeaway from the tournament, and probably a future captain as well.

"He has been groomed as a captain. He started captaining at the age of 16; U-16 national team, U-19, his city team... It's only a matter of time before he becomes the captain of the Pakistan team. I hope it doesn't come too early for him. Because he still needs to establish himself as a frontline batsman," Nazar felt. "We all like him. We all like his pretty 30s and 40s. He has a tremendous record in limited-overs cricket. But that's not the case in Test cricket. Having said that, we do know he bats low down the order at No. 6 in Tests. Once he starts batting at No. 3, I think centuries will follow," he added.

The former Pakistan opener agrees that it's difficult for an introvert to lead the Pakistan team. "Yes, difficult thing to do for an introvert. But sometimes you need somebody from the other side, an introvert, to come in as well; someone who can lead by example."

1 WORLD CUP • 10 COUNTRIES • 1000 OPINIONS Accio butterbeer, Hogwarts comes to Durham

Potterheads are surely missing the uncrowned Harry Potter of the cricketing world - Daniel Vettori - this World Cup. Dubbed the boy wizard after his floppy haired, bespectacled face and young debut, Vettori was much adored, though Potter-world awaits the next Harry's anointing. Mitch Santner won't do - just like Ganguly never fit the bill.

The World Cup did give English pacer Mark Wood a chance to visit London's Harry Potter World, before their Bangladesh game - and throw in his hat. While crisscrossing the country and with a longish break between Nottingham and Cardiff, Wood had opted to stay on in London rather than head home to Ashington in Northumberland. So he decided to check out if his 150kph went faster than the broomstick at the themed fantasy centre.

"I pulled on the Gryffindor robes and had a go on the broomstick. I must have fitted right in, because I didn't hear anyone say 'that looks like Mark Wood flying that broomstick'," he told BBC, adding, "I'm a pretty big fan - Half-Blood Prince is my favourite film, possibly because I quite like the dark side of Severus Snape. He might be my favourite character, alongside Jonny Bairstow/Ron Weasley."

English cricket keeps mingling with Pottersphere, with Matt Lewis, better known as (b.k.a.) Neville Longbottom making a rather tepid appearance on Test Match Special mid-Cup. Both Dan Radcliffe and Tom Felton b.k.a. Draco Malfoy had better outings earlier given they can play the sport decently. Radcliffe who fell for the sport when he found himself out-yelled by the boorish Aussie crowd as England lost the 2006-7 Ashes 5-0, had told Jonathan Agnew he was stirred into patriotism after the constant Australian gloating and let out a cry when Paul Collingwood scored a double and let out a guttural cry of his own.

He'd stood in queue for autographs of Andrew Strauss and Sachin Tendulkar thereafter. Like the books that get darker 1 through 7, cricket found a dark mention in Daniel's nightmares too. "Andrew Strauss was chasing me with a cricket bat. It was during the West Indies series when Andrew wasn't doing too well and an Australian who was listening in piped up and said 'I wouldn't worry about Strauss, if he had a swing at you at the moment he'd probably miss!'" he'd recall. Given this background and as Jonny Bairstow lends himself well to any of the Weasleys, the England - NZ game would

be the best place to go scouting for new Potterpeople. **Eng-NZ's Potter XXII:** Mitch 'Hermione' Santner; Jos 'Harry' Butler; Mark 'Sirius' Wood; Eoin 'Fred-George' Morgan; Jonny 'Ron' Bairstow; Joe 'Luna Lovegood' Root; Ben 'Mad Eye Moody' Stokes; Remus 'Moenen Ali' Lupin; Joffra 'Tonks' Archer; Kane 'Albus Wulfric Percival Brian Dumbledore' Williamson; Colin 'Creevey' de Grandhomme; Martin 'Snake' Guptill; Chris 'Hagrid' Woakes; Jimmy 'Tom Riddle' Neesham; Tom 'Cho Chang' Latham; Ross 'Aberforth' Taylor; Tim 'McGonagall' Southee; Lachlan 'Gilderoy Lockhart' Ferguson; Adil 'Ginny' Rashid; Liam 'Dobby' Plunkett; Matt 'Moaning Myrtle' Henry; Jason 'Molly Weasley' Roy.

Partnership advice

Jason Roy's 160-run opening partnership with Jonny Bairstow was crucial to set up a solid total for England against India on Sunday. Roy, returning from a hamstring injury, did not appear rusty and seemed to enjoy the company of his partner Bairstow. But on field company, unlike life, doesn't probably require you to like your partner. That's what Roy believes. In BBC's Test

Match Special podcast, Roy shared his thoughts on the art of batting. "You don't have to like each other, though it does help, but you have to work well together." Even if you don't like your partner, indifference towards their likes and dislikes can't be afforded, according to him. You also have to know your partner well, know their likes and dislikes. "Then when you're in the middle you feed off each other, give feedback and make sure you looking after each other (does sound like relationship advice)," the batsman explained. Roy also gave fascinating insights into his pre-match rituals and how he and Bairstow avoid padding up for a game in front of each other primarily because his partner prefers to "take himself away a little bit more." We then chat just before we go over the rope and go to work."

Blundell over blundering Tom

Former New Zealand captain Jeremy Coney was scathing in his assessment of wicket-keeper Tom Latham's performances with the bat in the ongoing World Cup. During a chat with Phil Tufnell and Michael Vaughan in BBC's podcast: "TMS at the World Cup," Coney said Latham did not inspire confidence at the crucial No.5

position. "0.13, 1.12, 1 and 14...for God's sake give us a 20. He is not that great at No.5," he explained. With the semifinal qualification on the line, Coney reckoned that the time was right to blood in young wicket-keeper batsman Tom Blundell in the mix. "Blundell should be replacing Latham on current form. I mean the young kid has scored a 70 against the Aussies and a century against West Indies in the two warm-up matches. Add his wicket-keeping skills and you've got a very decent proposition," he added. Blundell was the surprise pick in New Zealand's 15-man squad for the World Cup, despite never having played in ODIs at international level. The 28-year-old has featured in two Tests and three Twenty20 internationals for New Zealand.

Baz bats for New Zealand

During his playing days, Brendon McCullum was never afraid to stand up for his country, even against the big brothers from Australia and England, and to garner respect for his small island nation. McCullum hasn't changed much since hanging up his Black Cap. And when Mark Waugh and Michael Vaughan all

but ignored New Zealand's credentials as the tournament entered its decisive phase, the former wicketkeeper-batsmen politely intervened in their Twitter conversation to remind them that the Kiwis were very much in the reckoning.

Vaughan was in an upbeat mood after watching England end India's unbeaten run, and predicted on Twitter: "It looks like the Semis could be... Australia v NZ @ OT & England v India @ Edgbaston !!!!!" to which the younger Waugh took a mild dig. "Geeze you change your mind every day of the week. 3 clear standout teams in Eng, India and Aust. The best thing is for the purists/spectators is they can all beat each other on any given day."

McCullum couldn't help but intervene. "I think NZ also. But it's imperative they rediscover a bit of swagger, include Southee for his leadership & also be prepared to take risks and force the game. Take on the short ball & be more proactive against spin. If they get on top, then roll the dice with big guns & ATTACK!"

The Black Caps can seal a semi-final spot with a win over the hosts in Durham, though it would take an unlikely turn of events for them to miss out even if they lose, as their net run rate is superior to Pakistan. **ENS**

TRAMLINES

KATE GOES FOR CHEAP SEATS

Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, left the plush confines of the Royal Box at Wimbledon on Tuesday to watch a British wild card competing on the lowly outside courts. In a rare move for a member of the royal family visiting the All England Club, Kate took her place in among the 318 regular seats on Court 14 to watch Harriet Dart take on Christina McHale.

STEAM-TREATED COURT

Wimbledon's famous Centre Court has been steam cleaned to kill off any nasty pests lurking beneath the surface, head groundsman Neil Stubley said Tuesday. The All England Club first trialed steam sterilising in 2017 and is now rolling it out around the courts. The technique involves covering the grass with polytunnels, drilling holes into the soil and blasting in steam, as the club adapts its practices in response to climate change and environmental concerns.

AGENCIES

KEY RESULTS

MEN'S SINGLES

Sam Querrey, United States, def. Dominic Thiem (5), Austria, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (1), 6-3, 6-0. Gilles Simon (20), France, def. Salvatore Caruso, Italy, 7-6 (7), 6-3, 6-2. Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Jordan Thompson, Australia, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 7-6 (10), 0-6, 6-1. Kei Nishikori (8), Japan, def. Thiago Moura Monteiro, Brazil, 6-4, 7-6 (3), 6-4. Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Lloyd Harris, South Africa, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Ashleigh Barty (1), Australia, def. Saisai Zheng, China, 6-4, 6-2. Belinda Bencic (13), Switzerland, def. Anastasia, Russia, 6-2, 6-3. Serena Williams (11), United States, def. Giulia Gatto-Monticone, Italy, 6-2, 7-5. Angelique Kerber (5), Germany, def. Tatjana Maria, Germany, 6-4, 6-3. Sloane Stephens (9), United States, def. Bacsinszky, Switzerland, 6-2, 6-4. Petra Kvitova (6), Czech Republic, def. Ons Jabeur, Tunisia, 6-4, 6-2.

Superstar in the making

Coming from a family of sportspersons, 15-year-old Cori Gauff is all set to conquer the court

CHRISTOPHER CLAREY
WIMBLEDON, JULY 2

ALTHOUGH CORI Gauff is only 15, tennis people in the know have been speaking in hushed tones about her talent for years. With her precocious blend of power, athleticism, court savvy and competitive drive, Gauff was the youngest U.S. Open junior girls finalist in history at age 13 and the second youngest French Open junior girls champion at age 14.

But even if potential is abundantly clear, it is never clear how a teenager will handle the moment when she takes the court at the highest level against an established champion. On Monday, tennis got an emphatic answer as Gauff, displaying remarkable poise, upset Venus Williams, 6-4, 6-4, in the first round of Wimbledon.

It was the first Grand Slam singles match of Gauff's career, and it made quite an impression on those who watched from near and far, including Williams, a five-time Wimbledon singles champion. Two of those titles came before Gauff was born on March 13, 2004, in Delray Beach, Florida.

"I think the sky's the limit, it really is," said Williams, unseeded at age 39 but still resistant to hyperbole. In a sense, it was her own family's fault that an exceptional young American talent like Gauff was in position to defeat her Monday. Gauff's father, Corey, was a point guard at Georgia State and her mother, Candi, was a heptathlete and hurdler at Florida State. She might well have gravitated to a different sport, a more widely popular sport in the United States, if Serena and Venus Williams had not been winning big titles when she was a little girl setting her priorities.

Gauff chose tennis (she also liked the skirts, her father said), and it was hard not to agree with the decision Monday as she slammed bold first and second serves under pressure, leaned into groundstrokes and covered the court with the same sort of gap-closing speed displayed by Venus Williams in her youth.

Until Monday, Gauff's most extended contact with Williams was as a hitting partner with the U.S. Fed Cup team in February 2018. While Williams played, Gauff attended team dinners and cheered.

Much has changed in just 16 months. "On the court, I was not thinking about Venus," Gauff said. "I was just playing my game. No matter who I play against, I want to



Cori Gauff displayed remarkable poise to upset Venus Williams 6-4 6-4. Reuters

Until Monday, Gauff's most extended contact with Williams was as a hitting partner with the U.S. Fed Cup team in February 2018.

win. So that's what I was just thinking about the whole time. I wasn't really thinking about who I was facing on the other side of the net."

But with victory secured, she was definitely thinking about whom she was facing across the net. As they shook hands, Gauff maintained her grip a bit longer than is customary as she sought Williams gaze and told her what she has meant to her. "I was just telling her thank you for everything she's done for the sport," Gauff said. "She's been an inspiration for many people. I was just really telling her thank you. I met her before,

but I didn't really have the guts to say anything. "I mean, now or never."

It is a fine mantra, and Gauff then waved to the crowd in No. 1 Court that had offered her plenty of support, went to her chair, squatted down, put her head against the butt of her racket and cried as she said a prayer.

"Before every match since I was 8, my dad and I say a prayer together," Gauff said. "We don't really pray about victory, just that me and my opponent stay safe. After the match, I was just thanking God for this opportunity."

Gauff was unruffled from the start Monday, repeatedly trumping the inconsistent Williams in both quick exchanges and longer baseline rallies. Above all, she maintained a tight grip on her own service games, routinely hitting first serves more than 110 mph and sometimes hitting second serves more than 100 mph as well. Williams managed to break Gauff's serve only once in the 1-hour-19-minute match. That break made

Muguruza and Sharapova exit

FORMER champions Maria Sharapova and Garbine Muguruza crashed out of Wimbledon in quick succession on Tuesday as big-name casualties continued to pile up, but twice winner Petra Kvitova made sure she did not join them.

Russian Sharapova, who ignited her money-spinning career by winning the title in 2004, was trailing 4-6 7-6 (4) 5-0 to Pauline Parmentier of France when she retired injured.

Roger Federer set pulses racing for around 40 minutes on Tuesday as Wimbledon debutant Lloyd Harris threatened to overthrow the established order before eventually succumbing to a 3-6 6-1 6-2 6-2 first round defeat.

Contesting his 108th match at the All England Club, the eight-times champion had been expected to ease to his 96th win at the grasscourt major considering he was facing an opponent who had yet to win a match on the green stuff. REUTERS

it 4-4 in the second set, but Gauff responded by breaking Williams straight back.

It was then time to serve for the victory, a situation she had discussed with her father as they walked toward No. 1 Court before the match. "I told her you are going to have to go for it," Corey Gauff said. "I said, 'Go after your serve.' You've got to win the match. She's not going to give it to you. She's a champion. She's been there too many times. It's better to double fault and make sure she knows you are going to hit the ball, then to dink it in and let her hit winners."

So it played out. After Williams saved the first three match points she faced with clean winners, Gauff faced a break point and produced a 108-mph serve that Williams could not return. She won the next two points to close out the upset. She will face a player with a very different skill set in the second round: Magdalena Rybarikova, a semifinalist at Wimbledon in 2017. NYT

Khaitan Memorial badminton from August 13-18

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANCHKULA, JULY 2

THE 28TH Yonex Sunrise Smt. Krishna Khaitan Memorial All India Junior Selection Badminton Tournament will be held from August 13-18 in Panchkula. This year, the tournament will serve as one of the two selection competition for the World Junior Championships to be held in Kazan, Russia, from September 30-October 13. The event is being organised by the Express Shuttle Club Trust under the aegis of Haryana Badminton Association and is part of the Badminton Association of India annual calendar. "Apart from the All India Selection tournament to be held at the Prakash Padukone Academy, Bengaluru, this tournament will act as the selection criteria for the Indian team for the World Junior Badminton Championships to be played in Russia later this year. All the top U-19 players of India will be playing in the tournament, which will be held on 11 courts at the Tau Devi Lal Sports Complex at Panchkula," informed organising secretary Sanjiv Sachdeva.

The event will feature boys' U-19 (singles and doubles), girls U-19 (singles and doubles) and U-19 mixed doubles categories with a cash prize of Rs 4 lakh.

The tournament, which started in 1991, has seen the likes of 2012 Olympic bronze medalist Saina Nehwal winning the girls' title in 2005 and 2016 Olympic silver medalist PV Sindhu doing so in 2010. Current world number nine Kidambi Srikanth claimed the boys' title in 2009.

The qualifying rounds will be played on August 13 and 14 with the main draw starting on Independence Day. Last year, Priyanshu Rajawat of Madhya Pradesh won the boys' singles U-19 title while Malvika Bansod of Maharashtra won the girls' title.

"The tournament got more than 900 entries last year and we are expecting a similar response this year. More than 20 BAI-certified umpires will be officiating in the championship," added Sachdeva, who is a former India chief junior coach and now a member of BAI's junior selection committee and adviser to the association.

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