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NEARBY



**Peace meet held in Hauz Qazi; three nabbed**

NEW DELHI  
A peace meeting was held in central Delhi's Hauz Qazi on Tuesday wherein residents agreed to "live cordially", an officer said. DCP (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa said three persons, including a minor, have been nabbed for allegedly vandalising a temple in the area on Sunday after an argument broke out between two men over parking.

CITY PAGE 3

**FUTURE IAS**  
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OPPORTUNITIES PAGE 17

# Won't tolerate bad behaviour, PM Modi warns BJP members

His reference was to Akash Vijayvargiya, arrested for assaulting govt. official

NISTULA HEBBAR  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday sternly told BJP members that arrogance and misbehaviour would not be tolerated by him, "whoever they may be".

He was speaking at the BJP's parliamentary party meeting (the first in this session). While he did not name anyone, the reference was said to be to Indore MLA Akash Vijayvargiya, son of national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya, who was arrested and released on bail last week after he assaulted a government official with a cricket bat. The senior Vijayvargiya was present at the meeting.

According to sources, Mr. Modi said, "Whoever it may be, whoever's son he may be... such arrogance, misbe-



Well done! PM Narendra Modi being felicitated at the BJP parliamentary party meeting on Tuesday. \*SANDEEP SAXENA

haviour cannot be tolerated" and action should be taken against them. "Manmaani nahi chalegi [wilful behaviour will not be tolerated]." Speaking to reporters, BJP

MP and spokesperson Rajiv Pratap Rudy quoted Mr. Modi as saying such conduct was "totally unacceptable". Asked whether Mr. Modi also suggested disciplinary ac-

tion, he answered in the affirmative. "He said if somebody behaves in such a way, then action should be taken against him," Mr. Rudy said.

Other sources said the Prime Minister pointed out that BJP leaders had toiled hard for generations to bring success to the party, and such arrogance brought it a bad name.

The sources said Mr. Modi also made a reference to Mr. Akash Vijayvargiya's brazen defiance of his action with the boast "Pahle nivedan, phir aavedan, phir dana-dan" [first request, then application, then attack], saying such a conduct was unacceptable. "If somebody commits a mistake, there should be a sense of regret as well," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

# Union Minister opposes U.P. move to shift 17 OBCs to SC list

Thawar Chand Gehlot says only Parliament can do it

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Uttar Pradesh government's move to shift 17 Other Backward Classes (OBCs) to the Schedule Caste list is unconstitutional, and it is a transgression of Parliament's jurisdiction, Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thawar Chand Gehlot said in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday.

"This is not proper and not constitutional," he said in reply to Satish Chandra Misra of the BSP, who raised the issue during Zero Hour. Agreeing with Mr. Misra, Mr. Gehlot said that only Parliament had the right to alter the notified list.

"This issue came to Parliament a couple of times, but no consensus could be formed," he said, adding that if the government followed due process, it could be considered.

**Landing in trouble**  
Uttar Pradesh's proposal to merge 17 OBC communities into the SC list has run into trouble

- As per Census 2011, Scheduled Castes constitute 21.1% of U.P.'s population
- OBCs constitute 40% of the State's population
- On June 24, the Yogi Adityanath government included 17 OBC communities in the SC list
- The additions to the SC list are - Nishad, Bind, Mallah, Kewat, Kashyap, Bhar, Dhivar, Batham, Machua, Prajapati, Rajohar, Kahar, Pottar, Dhimar, Manjhi, Tuhaha and Gaur
- Under Article 341 (2) of the Constitution, the power to make changes in the SC list lies only with Parliament

"I would request the State not to make caste certificates on the basis of such orders because they will be dismissed by courts and it will be of no help to anyone," he added. On June 24, the State go-

vernment directed District Magistrates and Commissioners to issue caste certificates to the 17 OBCs.

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MAYAWATI JUSTIFIES CALL FOR RAISING QUOTAS PAGE 13

# 22 dead as wall collapses in Mumbai

375.2 mm rainfall in 24 hours paralyses city, leaves many parts waterlogged

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Incessant rain paralysed Mumbai on Tuesday, leaving many parts of the financial capital waterlogged and 22 dead and 94 injured in a wall collapse. In all, 35 lives were lost in rain-related incidents across Maharashtra overnight.

In the other rain-related incidents in the last 24 hours, 6 persons died in a Pune wall collapse, two were drowned after their car was submerged in the Malad subway, three persons died as a school compound wall collapsed in Kalyan, one died of electrocution in Vile Parle and one in a wall collapse at Mulund.

The 375.2 mm deluge in 24 hours till 8 a.m. on Tuesday threw flight operations out of gear. Local train services were badly hit. After the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast heavy rain for July 2, the author-



Caved in: Rescue workers recovering the bodies at the site of a wall collapse at Pimpripada. \*ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

ities declared a holiday in the city and adjoining regions.

Twenty-two persons died and over 94 were injured as a wall collapsed in Malad. The northern suburb received 183 mm of rain between 10 p.m. on Monday and 1 a.m. on Tuesday.

**Train stations inundated**  
The Central Railway was operating trains only up to Thane on the Central Line

and Mankhurd on the Harbour Line, and all local services to the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CST), Dadar and Kurla remained suspended in the morning. They resumed only at 4.30 p.m.

Thane, Mulund, Kurla and Sion stations became waterlogged from late on Monday owing to the heavy rain.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12  
SIX KILLED IN PUNE PAGE 7

# 54 flights diverted

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Heavy rain caused a large-scale disruption to flight services at the Mumbai airport. Since Tuesday morning, many incoming international flights were diverted.

Due to inclement weather, 54 flights were diverted and 52 cancelled. The diversions were on account of the closure of the main runway after a Spicejet aircraft skidded and got stuck at the edge of the runway. This forced the airport authorities to move flight operations to the secondary runway.

Poor visibility and excessive flooding of the runway forced the authorities to close the airport for over an hour.

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR  
BIRMINGHAM

India qualified for the World Cup semifinal after a thrilling 28-run victory over Bangladesh in a league clash at Edgbaston here on Tuesday. The Men in Blue scored 314 for nine and bowled out Bangladesh for 286 in 48 overs. With 13 points in their kitty, Virat Kohli's men moved closer to table-topper Australia (14), while Bangladesh crashed out.

At a venue abuzz with Indian fans thumping their drums and Bangladeshi followers holding onto their oversized tiger dolls, the final roar belonged to Kohli's men. The much-needed win found its initial base when the Indian skipper opted to take first strike and found his rewards as Rohit Sharma scored his fourth hundred (104) in this World Cup.

The opener and his partner K.L. Rahul (77) added 180 for the first wicket and that,



Hitman at it again: Rohit Sharma celebrates his century with K.L. Rahul. \*REUTERS

along with Rishabh Pant's fluent 48, helped India go past 300 despite a stutter in the closing stages.

Rohit's was a knock to savour, rich in shots that lesser mortals can never play, and as always it was dished out in

his laconic style.

Bangladesh struggled all through, constantly losing wickets and was always well behind the required run-rate. Its hopes rested on Shakib Al Hasan but the south-

paw's 66 and Mohd. Saifud-

din's unbeaten 51 proved to be pockets of futile resistance. For India, Jasprit Bumrah bagged four wickets and Hardik Pandya three.

ROHIT-RAHUL PARTNERSHIP GIVES INDIA 300-PLUS PAGE 20

# Sri Lanka's suspended police chief, ex-Defence Secretary arrested

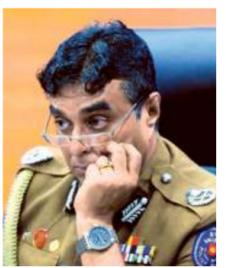
Charged with failure to prevent the Easter Sunday attacks

MEERA SRINIVASAN  
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's suspended police chief and former Defence Secretary were on Tuesday arrested by the Criminal Investigation Department for their alleged failure to prevent the Easter Sunday bombings that claimed nearly 260 lives.

The arrest of Inspector-General Pujith Jayasundara and former Defence Secretary Fernando comes a day after the Attorney-General termed their alleged failure to act on security warnings a "crime against humanity".

"The two officials should be brought before a magistrate for their criminal negligence to prevent the April 21 attacks," Attorney-General Dappula de Livera told the acting police chief in a letter. Earlier, the state prosecutor named nine police offic-



Pujith Jayasundara

Fernando were undergoing treatment at two different hospitals, when the police arrested them, according to police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekera.

**Serious gaps**  
In June, Mr. Jayasundara and Mr. Fernando testified before a parliamentary panel probing the blasts and pointed to the serious gaps in acting on intelligence.

Confirming that intelligence on a possible attack was available since April 9, they said it was shared among top police and defence officials, on the eve and morning of the bombings.

Meanwhile, addressing an event to mark the National Drug Prevention Week, Mr. Sirisena said: "The hand of international drug dealers is behind the Easter Sunday attacks."

Mr. Jayasundara and Mr.

# Police on toes after bomb threat to BJP MLA in M.P.

Security stepped up in Vidisha

SIDHARTH YADAV  
BHOPLAL

The Vidisha district police have stepped up security at the railway station, government hospital and bus stand in Ganj Basoda, whose MLA Leena Jain received an anonymous letter on Monday threatening to blow up her and the Union Home Minister.

"As a preventive measure, a bomb disposal squad reached Vidisha from Bhopal on Monday. Four to six officials with hand-held metal detectors are randomly screening people entering the public facilities. We have also deployed a tracker dog," said Vidisha SP Vinayak Verma.

The hand-written letter was received by the BJP MLA at her office at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, she confirmed. Besides the leaders, it threatened to blow up public places.



BJP MLA Leena Jain

"I had filed a complaint with the police after receiving the letter. I don't suspect anyone for the threat as I don't have any adversaries," Ms. Jain told *The Hindu*.

"Prima facie, the letter appears to have been written from within Ganj Basoda. Its ostensibly non-serious language indicates the writer is clueless about what he wrote. For instance, it has been underlined by 'Bomb banany wala', which doesn't indicate anything. Yet, it could be a threat to public security," added Mr. Verma.

# SC pulls up Kerala on Malankara church row

State has not implemented 2017 ruling

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday lashed out at the State of Kerala, asking whether it was "above the rule of law" and admonished the Chief Secretary for not implementing its 2017 judgment resolving a prolonged dispute between the Orthodox-Jacobite factions over the management of the Malankara's numerous parish churches.

The Supreme Court had upheld the 1934 constitution of the church and dismissed a dozen review petitions filed by the Jacobite faction in a decision which impacted over 2,000 parish churches and 30 million followers of the Malankara church across the world.

The observations were made by Justice Arun Mishra, who was leading a Bench comprising Justice M.R. Shah, on a plea filed

by the Orthodox faction for police protection to worship in the Kattachira and Varikkoli churches.

**Police protection**  
The appeal was made before the apex court after the Kerala High Court decided that police protection was necessary only in case of a law and order problem.

However, Justice Mishra considered the situation and said it suggested that the State was "making a mockery of the justice delivery system".

Justice Mishra said there have been two judgments from the Supreme Court itself resolving the issue, and the court would not intervene again.

The judge asked why the State still finds it difficult to implement court orders.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

# U.K. High Court allows Mallya to appeal



Vijay Mallya

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
LONDON

The U.K. High Court on Tuesday allowed embattled liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya to appeal at least on one of the five grounds against his extradition order signed off by the U.K. Home Secretary to face alleged fraud and money laundering charges amounting to ₹9,000 crore in India.

A Bench of the Royal Courts of Justice comprising Justices George Leggatt and Andrew Poplewell made the conclusion after hearing the arguments.

DETAILS ON PAGE 13

**DELHI Timings**  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 03  
RISE 05:28 SET 19:23  
RISE 05:46 SET 20:02  
THURSDAY, JULY 04  
RISE 05:28 SET 19:23  
RISE 06:50 SET 20:58  
FRIDAY, JULY 05  
RISE 05:29 SET 19:23  
RISE 07:57 SET 21:49

| Delhi Weather | max | min |
|---------------|-----|-----|
| Delhi City    | 39  | 30  |
| Safdarjang    | 39  | 30  |
| Palam         | 41  | 30  |

**Delhi Palam Today**  
38°C Dusty and uneasy warm morning with cloudy sky. There are chances of duststorm and light thunder-shower.

**Delhi Palam Tomorrow**  
37°C Cloudy and very warm weather to continue. Short spell of light rain/thundershower is possible.

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## More Mayapuri units to get closure notice

NIKHIL M BABU  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) will issue 'closure notices' this week to more industrial units in west Delhi's Mayapuri that have not applied for a 'consent to operate' or paid the Environmental Damages Compensation (EDC), a senior official said on Tuesday.

Closure notice essentially means that the DPCC will ask authorities to disconnect water and power supply to the units and then direct the sub-divisional magistrate to seal them. In April, sealing of scrap units in the area had led to violence.

Following the incident, four teams from the DPCC conducted a survey.

Based on the study, fines were imposed on 122 units, out of which 102 did not have a 'consent to operate' and 20 were violating pollution norms. Of the 102 units, 41 fall under the 'red' and 'orange' category, considered highly polluting; 15 were sealed last week.

The other 61 units, which fall in the 'green' category and are considered less polluting, were fined and given 15 days to comply.

"Only 36 have paid the fine and 41 have applied for 'consent to operate' till Tuesday. We will issue closure notices to all the units that do not apply for the consent and pay the fine this week," a senior DPCC official told *The Hindu*.

## Water conservation project gets nod

Small ponds to be created alongside Yamuna to catch overflow during monsoon

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi Cabinet on Tuesday approved a project for conservation of water by creating small ponds in the Yamuna floodplains from Palla to Wazirabad, a move aimed at addressing the "water problem" of the city.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who chaired the meeting, also announced that rainwater harvesting has been made mandatory for all government buildings.

"The water conservation project is intended to be totally eco-friendly, and will not only solve the present water crisis, but will also make Delhi future-ready," said Mr. Kejriwal. "We regularly keep read-



Arvind Kejriwal during a press conference on Tuesday.  
SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ing and seeing that the world is heading towards a serious water crisis... About Delhi we keep reading that the water table is depleting fast. Keeping all this in mind, the Delhi government has cleared a project for water conservation in the Yamuna floodplains. We want to end

water shortage in Delhi," Mr. Kejriwal said during a press conference.

### Pilot project

The CM said that the Delhi government also intends to initiate groundwater recharging this monsoon. He, however, said that due to time constraint this year, work will be on experimental basis. He added that the advantage of a pilot project is that the government would have a "firm basis" to proceed next year.

"The result of the pilot project will help us form a clear idea about the success of this initiative... the report of the project consultant and IIT-Delhi indicates that this project will be a big success

since the Yamuna has a vast floodplain and has big potential for water conservation," the CM said.

Water will be conserved in stretches from Palla till Wazirabad. No construction or use of cement will be involved and regular flow of Yamuna will not be touched, said Mr. Kejriwal. "Small ponds will be made and when the Yamuna overflows during monsoon, the water will fill these ponds... This water will then percolate into the earth and help restore the water table," he added.

Meanwhile, the heads of all government departments have been directed to ensure that all government buildings be equipped with rainwater harvesting systems.

## Power demand hits 7,409 MW

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Peak power demand in Delhi broke all previous records for the second consecutive day, touching 7,409 MW on Tuesday.

The State Load Dispatchers website recorded the peak at 3.35 p.m., around the same time that peak power was recorded at 7,241 MW on Monday.

### New peaks

Sanjay Banga, CEO of power discom TPDDL, said that power demand could touch 7,500 MW in the coming days.

According to discom BSES, "cooling load" is the main reason behind the increase as people are using ACs, coolers and fans to beat the heat.

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER**  
7th Circle Public Works Department Gopeshwar  
S.No. 2829/06 Yata-7/19 Dated 29-06-2019  
National Competitive Short Notice Bidding (e-Tendering)  
Superintending Engineer, 7th Circle, Public Works Department, Gopeshwar on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhnad" invites through e-tendering (single bid system) for the construction of following works. All detailed information relating to tender shall be available on <https://www.uctenders.gov.in> from dated 05.07.2019.

| S. No. | Name of work  | Amount Bid Security (Rs. Lakhs) | Validity of tender (in Days) | Cost of Tender Document | Completion period (in months) | Contractor's Category of Registration  |
|--------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 1      | Under State Sector Hill side cutting, Scupper Construction and muck disposal work from KM. 0/0 to 1/40 in Chamoli Dist., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi for Gopeshwar mandir Marg to Vaitarni-Sirokhoma-saituna-Bairagana M.R. | 2.00                            | 120                          | 4000 + G.S.T.           | 9                             | Registration in Category C or above for Road. Work Under State Govt./ Gov of India |
| 2      | Under State Sector Hill Side cutting Scupper Construction and muck disposal work from KM. 2/0 to 3/40 in Chamoli Dist., Legislative constituency Badrinath, Block Dasholi for Gopeshwar mandir Marg to Vaitarni-Sirokhoma-saituna-Bairagana M.R.  | 2.10                            | 120                          | 4000 + G.S.T.           | 9                             | Registration in Category B or above for Road. Work Under State Govt./ Gov of India |

DIPR-UK-8401

**Bharat Nirman through Rural Roads**  
Chief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency, First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun.  
Ref.No.791/11-02(xiv)/ITCO/URRDA/19 Dated- 29-06-2019  
BHARAT NIRMAN UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-ProcurementNotice-05(Regular PMGSY, World Bank & Relaying)/2019-20  
The Government of India has received a loan/credit number "LN 8864 IN" from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works as detailed in NIT. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.  
The Chief Engineer, UKKDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Almora, Bageshwar, Chamoli, Dehradun, Nainital, Pauri, Pithoragarh, Tehri & Uttarkashi for 65 number of Package with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 266.70 Crore including their maintenance for two years from the eligible contractors registered with PWD/CPWD or equivalent".  
Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement: 05-07-2019.  
Availability of bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in [www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities. The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security in approved form and (c) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 44B (ii) of ITB with the CONCERNED/Respective CIRCLE OFFICES only up to or before the time and date of the submission of the Bids, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.  
Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 03-08-2019 01:00 PM.  
For further details please log on to [www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in](http://www.pmgstendersuk.gov.in)  
Chief Engineer, URRDA, Dehradun  
\*Non Registered bidders may submit bids however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.  
Note: For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.  
DIPR/UK/8394

## 'Need scheme for victims of foisted cases'

NIRNIMESH KUMAR  
NEW DELHI

While acquitting two accused persons in a murder case foisted on them by three Delhi Police officers, a city court has suggested framing of a compensation scheme for victims of motivated prosecution.

Kaushal and his brother Manoj were charged with the Aman Vihar police in North-West Delhi for kidnapping and murdering a person in 2013.

"The time has come for the State to have a scheme for compensation to such accused persons who are found to have been lodged in custody on the basis of

fabricated/forged evidence," Additional Sessions Judge Harish Kumar said, emphasising the need for giving an adequate monetary compensation.

"The power to grant compensation to the accused is not provided in the CrPC except under Sections 250 and 237... that too is limited to only ₹1,000. Victim Compensation Scheme under Section 357A of the CrPC is in place but that does not cover the instant case," the judge said.

"The State should on its own compensate both accused persons at least at the rate of minimum wages paid to unskilled labour," said the Judge.

The Judge also ordered prosecution of the three police officers: investigating officer of the case Inspector Mahender Singh (Retd.), Sub-Inspector Vasant Kumar and Head Constable Raj Singh, and authorised the Reader to file a complaint on behalf of the court for offences punishable under Sections 193 (giving or fabricating false evidence in judicial proceeding), 194 (giving or fabricating false evidence with intent to cause any person to be convicted of a capital offence) and 196 (using in a judicial proceeding, evidence known to be false and fabricated) read with 34 (common intention) of the IPC.

**कार्यालय आवकारी आयुक्त, मध्यप्रदेश, मोतीमहल, ग्वालियर (म.प्र.)**  
e-mail: [ec.ecogwi@mp.gov.in](mailto:ec.ecogwi@mp.gov.in), Ph. 0751-2452810  
वर्ष 2019 की फसल की साफ की गई भांग की थोक आपूर्ति हेतु टेण्डर सूचना  
वर्ष 2019 की फसल की साफ की गई 1,70,000 (एक लाख सत्तर हजार) किलो ग्राम भांग की वर्ष 2019-20 में थोक आपूर्ति हेतु, सीलबंद टेण्डर आमंत्रित किये जाने हेतु यह टेण्डर सूचना प्रकाशित कराई जा रही है। भांग की उक्त उल्लेखित मात्रा में आवश्यकतानुसार कमी या वृद्धि की जा सकती है। आवश्यकता की स्थिति में सफल टेण्डरदाता के लिये चपरोक्त घोषित मात्रा से 25 प्रतिशत तक अधिक अर्थात् 42,500 (ब्यालीस हजार पाँच सौ) किलोग्राम भांग की अतिरिक्त आपूर्ति भी टेण्डर में अंकित एवं इस कार्यालय द्वारा अनुमोदित की गई प्रदाय दर पर ही किया जाना बाध्यकारी होगा। भांग की थोक आपूर्ति संबंधी टेण्डर प्रपत्र, टेण्डर की विस्तृत शर्तें, निर्बन्धन, भांग के नमूने को प्रस्तुत करने की प्रक्रिया व उसके परिवहन हेतु अनापत्ति प्रमाण-पत्र किसी भी कार्य दिवस को कार्यालयीन समय में तथा दिनांक 10/07/2019 दिन बुधवार को दोपहर 13:30 बजे तक टेण्डरदाता अथवा उसके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि द्वारा आवकारी आयुक्त, मध्यप्रदेश, के मोतीमहल ग्वालियर स्थित कोषालय में "मुख्य शीर्ष 8443, रेवेन्यू डिपार्जिट, लघु शीर्ष 101, सिविल डिपार्जिट" में ई-चालान द्वारा रुपये 1000/- जमा कराकर चालान की एक प्रति इस कार्यालय में प्रस्तुत करने पर, प्राप्त किए जा सकते हैं। उपरोक्तानुसार भांग की थोक आपूर्ति के इच्छुक व्यक्ति/टेण्डरदाता अथवा उसके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि, अपना सीलबंद टेण्डर प्रदाय की जाने वाली भांग के नमूने सहित, तथा दिनांक 10/07/2019 दिन बुधवार को अपराह्न 15:00 बजे तक, अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं। प्राप्त टेण्डर उसी दिन तथा दिनांक 10/07/2019 दिन बुधवार को ही, अपराह्न 16:00 बजे खोले जायेंगे। टेण्डरदाताओं अथवा उनके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधियों की अनुपस्थिति, अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के लिये टेण्डर खोले जाने में बाधक नहीं होगी।  
(मुकेश नेमा)  
अपर आवकारी आयुक्त, मध्यप्रदेश  
G-13284/2019

**Air quality of Delhi-NCR**  
Delhi 218 Gurugram 215  
Ghaziabad 242 Faridabad 162  
Noida 243 Greater Noida 242  
Good Satisfactory Moderate  
0-50 51-100 101-200  
Poor Very poor Severe  
201-300 301-400 >401  
AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY  
(AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) | SOURCE: CPCB

**IN BRIEF**  
**Hindu Rao Hospital doctors call off strike**  
NEW DELHI  
The strike by Hindu Rao Hospital doctors was called off on Tuesday after the Resident Doctors' Association met North Delhi Municipal Corporation officials. The doctors said that they were assured of better security, including installation of CCTV cameras, a police chowki and bouncers within three days.

**DELHI TODAY**  
Talk: A dialogue on "Folk cultures and Intersermonic Translations" as part of Revisiting Classics with Translation Artists - VII. Speakers: Dr. Vinita Sinha, Associate Professor of English and Malini Awasthi, Folk Musician. Dr. Anamika will chair and the event is curated by Prof. Anand Khatri, at Amaltas Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.  
Dance: Odissi dance recital by Dr. Chandana Raul at Triveni Auditorium, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 6.40 p.m.  
Exhibition: "Vriksha", an exhibition featuring the work of 30 artists celebrating the eternal power of trees - painting, photographs, drawings, sculptures and ceramics, curated by Uma Nair at Main Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex, India International Centre (IIC), 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Exhibition: "Seventy Five by Thirty Two", a solo show of paintings of Indira Govil at Convention Centre Foyer, IHC, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Exhibition: "Art convergence", a group paintings and sculptures exhibition at Visual Arts Gallery, IHC, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Screening: Malayalam Film Festival. Today's schedule are: Sleepless Yours, directed and Produced by Goutham Soorya, Sudeep Elamon; and Fear (Bhayanakam), directed by Jayaraj at C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC, 4.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. (Mail your listings for this column at [cityeditor@delhi@thehindu.co.in](mailto:cityeditor@delhi@thehindu.co.in))

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|---------|--------------------|---|---|--|---|
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| 2       | HSIDC              | LETTER NO.2144 DATED 04.06.2019/HRC_79544_3 | THE TENDER HAS BEEN PREPARED FROM 25.07.2019 TO 09.07.2019; BID CLOSING DATE/TIME 09.07.2019 12.00 NOON TECHNICAL BID OPENING DATE/TIME 09.07.2019 03.00 PM FINANCIAL BID OPENING DATE/TIME TO BE INTIFIED LATER. | <a href="http://www.hsdc.co.in">www.hsdc.co.in</a>   | 989624272<br><a href="mailto:hsdc@hsdc.co.in">hsdc@hsdc.co.in</a> |

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Prdh-77240

# Peace meet held in Hauz Qazi; three nabbed for vandalism

Chawri Bazar remains under heavy security; paramilitary force also deployed

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

A peace meeting was held in central Delhi's Hauz Qazi on Tuesday evening when the residents agreed to "live cordially", said an officer.

On Sunday, a mob had vandalised a temple in the area after an argument broke out between two men over a parking issue.

## A street divided

The street from Chawri Bazar metro station gate number 2 towards the police station still stands divided by barricades.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa confirmed that three men, including a minor, have been nabbed in connection with the case.

An officer said the accused have been identified as Zuber and Anas while the minor is 15 years old.

Throughout the day, hundreds of policemen and paramilitary force maintained vigil in the area and asked people to disperse whenever they gathered in huge numbers.

The fracas began when 47-year-old Sanjeev Gupta,



CRPF personnel at Chawri Bazar in Old Delhi on Tuesday. •SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

a caterer, asked Aas Mohd, who runs a food cart in the street below his house, to not park his bike at the entrance. They got into an argument and physical fight.

A few minutes later, nearly 300 people reached Mr. Gupta's house and vandalised a nearby temple.

On Tuesday, Sahil Khan (29), a resident, claimed that at 11.30 a.m., around 15-20 persons crossed the street and chanted "Jai Shri Ram" and "Bharat Mata Ki Jai". "We have no issues when someone says 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai'. Even we would

say that because we live in India but their intention was to instigate us. Otherwise, why would they cross the street?" he said.

A 25-year-old accountant, Johnny Prajapati, who had come with a group from Bhajanpura, admitted that a few people had chanted religious slogans.

## Supporting hand

"We have come here in support of our brothers because they are less in number in this area. We want all those who vandalised the temple to be arrested. We

will leave only after that," he said.

Late in the evening, Mr. Gupta said the situation was under control and "people have left... only police officers are there".

The residents of Durga Mandir street said they want the groups to be here because they "feel safer".

In the surcharged space, a group that identified itself as People's Own Foundation held placards for communal peace and shouted "Hindu Muslim Sikh Isai... sab hain bhai bhai [all are brothers]".

# Daily wage labourers bear the brunt

Police ask shopkeepers to open units but roads remain blocked for safety reasons

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

Hundreds of daily wage labourers are being hit as the situation remained tense in central Delhi's Hauz Qazi till Tuesday evening.

## 'Not a penny earned'

Some of the shops in the area remained shut for the third day in a row. Dev Kumar (43) from Bihar, who resides near the railway line in central Delhi, said he

has not earned a penny in the last three days.

"We transport goods from the market to places like Kamla Market, Naya Bazar, Khanna Market, Mori Gate and nearby areas. But the police have blocked the road and we are not allowed to ply our carts or rickshaws for work," he said.

Monu Kumar (19) said the labourers get ₹10 for bringing the goods from the

first floor to ground floor and ₹20 for transporting from the shop to the end of the street.

For longer distances, they get money depending on the number of articles to be transported, he added.

The police on Tuesday asked shopkeepers to open their units and resume business but kept the road blocked for safety reasons.

"We are asking people to open their shops so nor-

malcy can be restored. Some have opened. We have barricaded the entrance to make sure no anti-social elements enter," said an officer on duty.

The labourers said their work does not divide but instead unite them. "We are labourers and members of both the communities have been working together for decades. We don't care about what is happening," said Adnan.

# Politicians across party lines call for calm

Congress terms violence 'condemnable'; Harsh Vardhan visits vandalised temple

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

As the situation at Chawri Bazar inched towards normalcy on Tuesday, politicians across party lines broke their silence on Monday's violence.

The Congress termed the vandalism of a temple and violence in the area "condemnable" while underlining that the Capital's law and order was the responsibility of the Narendra Modi-led government.

AAP Minister Imran Hussain, meanwhile, took to Twitter to claim that he had taken effective steps to calm tempers down, even as the



BJP leader Vijay Goel in Chawri Bazar on Tuesday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

BJP pointed fingers at him.

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan visited the area, followed by BJP Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel. Chawri Bazar falls under Mr. Vardhan's Parliamentary

constituency of Chandni Chowk

## 'Guilty will not be spared'

"Visited the temple this morning and offered prayers. Was saddened by the vandalism that the idols of deities were subjected to. Have gathered information from local residents about the issue and assured them that the guilty will not be spared," tweeted Mr. Vardhan.

In addition to appealing to both communities to maintain peace in the area and "not to fall for rumours", Mr. Hussain said that peace was restored in

the area in the evening. "Met with the police as well as representatives from both communities seeking to establish peace in the area. All of us proceeded to ensure that shops were reopened. Now there is peace in the area," he tweeted.

Mr. Goel also claimed that both the communities had assured him that "they would live in harmony with each other".

The Rajya Sabha MP, however, demanded an investigation into Mr. Hussain's "role" after the incident, even as he questioned Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's "silence" on the matter.

# Five of family injured in fight over land with neighbours; one arrested

They thrashed us with sticks, stones, also fired at us: victims

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Five of a family sustained injuries after they allegedly got into a fight with their neighbours in Dwarka's Baba Haridas Nagar on Monday night, the police said.

One Bijender Singh person has been arrested in connection with the case, they said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Dwarka) Anto Alphonse said the injured - Sudershan Singh, Samar Singh, Amarjeet, Naveen and Satish -, residents of Mitraon village, had a fight with their neighbours over a land of 400 square meter.

The police have identified the other two accused - Bhoop Singh and Jai Bhagwan.

A senior officer said Bhoop and Sudershan had bought a 1,000 sqm land a few years ago out of which, 400 sqm belonged to the latter's mother. About three years ago, when Sudershan asked Bhoop for the share, he objected to it and an argument broke out between the two parties began.

A few months ago, Sudershan started to construct a wall on the land, which allegedly belonged to his mother when Bhoop started a fight.

On Monday night, when Sudershan was sitting outside his house with his family members, Bhoop and his associates came to the spot and an argument over land ensued.

The injured persons allegedly told police that they were thrashed with sticks and stones before the accused pulled out a pistol and started firing. The injured persons alleged that at least 12 rounds were fired after which the accused fled the spot.

Mr. Alphonse said a case on charges of attempt to murder and under Arms Act has been registered.

# Mukherjee Nagar assault: 10 policemen transferred

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court was informed by the police on Tuesday that 10 of its personnel, who were allegedly involved in the incident of assault on a tempo driver and his minor son in Mukherjee Nagar last month, have been transferred.

In its interim report submitted before the court, the police said that even if it is taken that the tempo driver and his son were aggressive, the personnel should have "exhibited greater patience and professionalism, instead of indulging in impulsive unprofessional conduct of dragging them".

On June 16, several video clips of a brawl between tempo driver Sarabjeet Singh and police personnel went viral on social media.

In one of the clips, Singh is seen chasing policemen with a sword and in another, the personnel are seen thrashing the driver and his son with batons. An High Court Bench was told that the cops who have been transferred to the non-sensitive unit of the 1st battalion of the Delhi Police will join their new posting in the next 24 hours. Additional Standing counsel Satyakam, representing the Delhi Police, said the criminal case has been transferred to the Crime Branch and a joint departmental inquiry will be conducted against the police personnel concerned. The matter is listed for hearing on September 2.

# Civic official relieved of duty for 'assault'

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Deputy Commissioner of North Delhi Municipal Corporation's Karol Bagh Zone Kapil Rastogi was relieved from duty after allegations of assaulting sanitation inspectors were made against him on Tuesday.

North Delhi Mayor Avtar Singh said an enquiry would be launched into the allegation.

The sanitation workers also held demonstrations calling for action against the official, who has now been repatriated to his parent organisation.

# Domestic help's body found stuck between two buildings

Body had injury marks; murder suspected

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NOIDA

In a suspected case of murder, the body of a 19-year-old woman was found stuck 120 feet above the ground in a 1.5-foot space between two high-rise residential buildings here on Tuesday, the police said.

The incident was reported in the morning from Amrapali Silicon society in Sector 76. A team of the NDRF was deployed to recover the body, they said.

The victim from Bihar worked as a domestic help in a married couple's house in the same society. She had

gone missing since June 28, an officer said.

"The couple had gone to Gurugram for work where they came to know about the incident," an officer said. The body had injury marks.

NDRF official Jeetendra Kumar Yadav said the operation began at 12.35 p.m. and ended at 2.55 p.m.

Officers from Sector 49 police station said, so far, it could not be ascertained how the body ended up being there and a probe is on.

"The body has been sent for post-mortem after which investigation would be conducted," an officer said.

# Cryptocurrency racket: bank manager arrested

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

A private bank manager has been arrested for allegedly duping people on the pretext of high returns on cryptocurrency, the police said Tuesday. The accused has been identified as Sandeep Singh Dua, they said.

Earlier, seven people - Narender, Asif Malkani, Baljeet Singh Saini, Pradeep Arora, Sunil Kumar, Puneet Mahindru and Ashok Goel - were arrested in the case.

Mahindru disclosed that Dua was the main accused. "The police held him on a tip-off on

Monday," said Additional Commissioner of Police (Crime), A.K. Singla.

## Bollywood stars

In order to lure the investors, the accused held lavish promotional seminars at a farmhouse in Chattaraur here and various prominent hotels in Nepal, Mumbai, Gujarat, Chandigarh and Nagpur. Many eminent Bollywood celebrities were invited in these seminars so that more persons can be lured to invest in their cryptocurrency.

The accused used to collect money from public through several bank accounts.

# Court acquits former MLA for stopping train in 2010

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

A court here on Tuesday acquitted an ex-BJP MLA and seven others for allegedly stopping Avadh Assam Express train during a 'Bharat bandh' in 2010.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal said the case of the prosecution has "dents", including late registration of FIR and confusion over the name of the train that was stopped. The court also held that the identity of the other seven accused has not been established beyond reasonable doubt.

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| <p><b>Engineering</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSE - Data Science</li> <li>• CSE - IoT and Application</li> <li>• CSE - Block Chain</li> <li>• CSE - Cyber Security &amp; Forensics</li> <li>• CSE - A.I. &amp; Machine Learning</li> <li>• CSE - Cloud Computing &amp; Virtualization Technology</li> <li>• Information Technology</li> <li>• Electrical Engineering</li> <li>• Electrical &amp; Electronics Engg.</li> <li>• Electronics &amp; Communication Engineering</li> <li>• Civil Engineering</li> <li>• Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>• Biotechnology</li> <li>• Genetic Engineering</li> <li>• Bioinformatics</li> <li>• Stem Cell &amp; Tissue Engineering</li> <li>• Computer Application</li> </ul> | <p><b>Agriculture</b></p> <p><b>Horticulture</b></p> <p><b>Bakery Science</b></p> <p><b>Food Science &amp; Technology</b></p> <p><b>Microbiology</b></p> <p><b>Biochemistry</b></p> <p><b>Botany</b></p> <p><b>Zoology</b></p> <p><b>Chemistry/Physics/Mathematics</b></p> <p><b>Management</b></p> <p><b>Logistics &amp; Supply Chain Management</b></p> <p><b>Commerce</b></p> <p><b>Economics</b></p> <p><b>Health Care &amp; Hospital Administration</b></p> <p><b>Public Policy &amp; Administration</b></p> <p><b>Architecture</b></p> <p><b>Law</b></p> <p><b>Multimedia &amp; Animation</b></p> <p><b>Film &amp; Television Production</b></p> <p><b>Journalism &amp; Mass Communication</b></p> | <p><b>Advertising &amp; PR</b></p> <p><b>Product &amp; Industrial Design</b></p> <p><b>Visual Arts</b></p> <p><b>Interior Design</b></p> <p><b>Fashion Design</b></p> <p><b>Medical/Dental</b></p> <p><b>Pharmacy</b></p> <p><b>Physiotherapy</b></p> <p><b>Medical Lab Technology</b></p> <p><b>Clinical Research</b></p> <p><b>Nutrition &amp; Dietetics</b></p> <p><b>Forensic Science</b></p> <p><b>Optometry</b></p> <p><b>Cardiovascular Tech.</b></p> <p><b>Nursing</b></p> <p><b>Education</b></p> <p><b>Political Science/History</b></p> <p><b>Psychology/Sociology</b></p> <p><b>English</b></p> <p><b>Yoga</b></p> |
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## IN BRIEF



## Ghaziabad extends summer break till July 5

GHAZIABAD  
Summer vacation of students till Class 8 of both private and government-run schools in Ghaziabad has been extended by two days due to prevailing hot weather conditions, officials said on Tuesday. The schools will now open on Friday, said District Magistrate Ritu Maheshwari. PTI

## DU to recruit 263 assistant professors

NEW DELHI  
A total of 263 posts for assistant professors have been opened at Delhi University on Tuesday. In a statement, DU said that the openings span various departments and direct recruitment will be undertaken. Details have been made available on the website, it said.

## Wanted robber arrested in Nand Nagri

NEW DELHI  
A 41-year-old criminal, identified as Basant Kumar, has been arrested from Nand Nagri after city police chased him down. He was trying to jump over a wall to escape, they claimed. The police said that he had a bounty of ₹25,000 on his head and was involved in over a dozen cases of robbery in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh.

## JNUSU wants one-point centres for registrations

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Stating that the online payment mode introduced by the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is not student-friendly, the varsity's students' union has demanded the setting up of one-point centres that can assist students with queries over the registration process.

"With the online registration process being alien to students, there is a dire requirement of a one-point centre for enquiries and clarifications regarding the process instead of students being made to run from pillar to post," the students' union said.

## 'Revoke clause'

The JNUSU further added, "The union demands that the clause to complete registration on the same day as payment of fees be revoked as the online payment itself is time consuming. Additionally, we demand that special intervention is made with respect to the registration of differently abled students."

## DU admissions: close to 40% seats filled under first cut-off

Many colleges will not be releasing second cut-off list for various programmes

SIDHARTH RAVI  
NEW DELHI

Nearly 40% of the seats for undergraduate courses at Delhi University were filled up on Tuesday, the last date for admissions under the first cut-off list.

Of about 63,000 seats up for grabs, 23,780 seats have been paid for.

Despite some of the highest cut-offs being declared for B.A. political science courses, various colleges, including Miranda House, Ramjas and Kirori Mal reported that seats for the programme had been filled up and a second cut-off list would not be released.

## Oversubscribed seats

At Hindu College, which saw the highest cut-off for any course at 99% for B.A. political science, an official said that the total number of seats had been oversubscribed. While the college has 827 seats, about 1,000 students have been admitted, the official said.

Lady Shri Ram College, which released the highest cut-off in the university for its B.A. English programme, also saw a similar situation with about 1,000 admissions for only 861 seats, an admissions official said.

The oversubscribing of seats is due to the fact that colleges are required to admit all students who meet the cut-off requirement.

At Shri Ram College of



Aspirants during the admission process at a DU college in the Capital. • FILE PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

Commerce, the admissions in-charge said that a second list will be announced for its B.Com and B.Com (Hons.) courses, but did not confirm whether B.A. economics (Hons.) would see a second list. At Hans Raj College, about 800 seats of the 1,260 available seats were filled up, with second cut-offs for B.A. history, B.A. Hindi and physical sciences unlikely to be released. Ramjas College filled up half its seats.

DU had extended the last date for admissions by one day in order to accommodate changes in the marking system of students from the Andhra Pradesh Board, for payment and other grievances. While colleges were informed late on Monday, no notification to the effect was released on the website.

This year, the Andhra Board had issued grade point averages to graduating students but due to differences over conversion of

the CGPA into marks at some colleges, the Andhra Board later agreed to issue "marks-based" marksheets, Dean of Students' Welfare Rajeev Gupta said. Colleges in the North Campus, however, reported that very few students from the Andhra Board approached them for admissions on Tuesday.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a college principal said that students were hesitant to undertake readmissions having already secured a seat in the college of their choice. DU also instructed that if admissions were granted on the basis of grades, they were to be cancelled and fresh admissions given on the basis of marks. The principal, however, said the process of reviewing completed admissions would be tedious as it involved identifying the students. "It is not like students will come back to cancel their admissions," he said.

## St. Stephen's revised list for Christian tribals

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

St. Stephen's College on Tuesday revised the cut-off marks required by Scheduled Tribe Christian students following petitions by the Naga Students' Union.

The union, in a letter to the principal, had accused the college of discrimination for having issued cut-offs for the Christian Scheduled Tribes (CST) that were, for all courses, either higher or the same as the cut-off for applicants under the Christian Other (COTH) category.

For instance, for B.A. programme, while the cut-off for COTH was 88%, it was 96% for the CST.

In a corrigendum issued on the college's website on Tuesday, the cut-off for B.A. programme for CST has been revised to 87.55% for students from commerce backgrounds. Similarly, the college has revised the cut-off for B.A. (Hons.) economics for CSTs from 93.75% to 90.75%. Changes have also been made to the cut-offs for students from the Church of North India in the economics course. No changes have been issued for B.A. (Hons.) English as the list of students selected is already out.

## Alumna returns to DU campus, but in a new role this time

SI Pragati is ensuring security during the ongoing admissions

PALLAVI KESWANI  
NEW DELHI

"I want to break the notion that police officers are unapproachable. This is a preconceived notion that even I had as a college student," says Sub-Inspector Pragati currently deployed at Delhi University's North Campus to ensure security during the ongoing admission process.

The 28-year-old, who graduated from Miranda House eight years ago, has returned to the campus donning a new role this time.

With the responsibility of ensuring women's safety on the campus, one of Ms. Pragati's primary aims is to make the police force more accessible to the students, especially the female ones.

"We have deployed police officers inside PCR vans [which also has a women team] and in the form of bike riders, who carry out continuous patrolling in the area. Besides this, we also carry out preventive actions, counselling programmes and self-defence training within colleges to improve awareness among the students," says Ms. Pragati.

## Deployment increases

Speaking about the heightened deployment of officers for the ongoing admission season to assist aspirants and their parents, Ms. Pragati adds, "Deployment of these officers is increased during admissions when there is a larger fall on



I want all girls who aspire to become police officers to know that everything within the system is changing. There are many more educated women who are entering the police force at various levels

PRAGATI  
Sub-Inspector

campus. Apart from parents approaching us with queries regarding the general safety on campus, a number of out-station students enquire about things like PG arrangements around the campus as safety for them is crucial."

Ms. Pragati's decision to enter the police force was an outcome of a conversation with her father, she recalls.

"I complained to my father about the state of the police force during my college time and how I felt that there were not enough women cops around and he advised me that if I want to see a change in the system, I must be a part of it," says Ms. Pragati, who is currently a part of the District Investigation Unit (North District).

## Catalyst effect

Having studied English (Hons.) from the university, the education she received in the three years at Delhi University also acted as a ca-

talyst for her and she eventually returned to serve the same institution that inspired her, she adds.

## Building confidence

Hailing from Rohtak in Haryana, she attributes her success to her parents and grandmother who "always emphasised on obtaining an education and becoming self-sufficient" which ultimately led her to pursue a line of work not usually considered to be women-friendly.

"I want all girls who aspire to become police officers to know that everything within the system is changing. There are many more educated women who are entering the police force at various levels. Being a woman in Delhi and joining the police force gives you immense amount of confidence. I want every woman student to have that confidence," she says.

## Sisodia accuses BJP of corruption

Parties blame each other over facilities provided in schools

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

Delhi Deputy CM and Education Minister Manish Sisodia on Tuesday alleged that the BJP-ruled South Delhi Municipal Corporation had prepared an estimate to construct classrooms at ₹24.95 lakh each, but without facilities such as furniture, fire safety equipment, electrical appliances, desks, which the Delhi government provides at almost the same rate.

The BJP, meanwhile, said they constructed the classrooms at ₹12.86 lakh each.

"BJP's fear is that the Delhi government is delivering much more for the cost estimate at which the civic bodies are delivering pathetic quality classrooms. Manoj Tiwari should answer why his own party's SDMC has estimated the same figure as Delhi government for lower quality of infrastructure. The fact is that the actual costs are working out much lower than the estimates... the BJP's municipal corpora-



Manish Sisodia

tion is the one that is corrupt," Mr. Sisodia said while addressing a press conference.

## States resolution

On Monday, the BJP had accused the AAP government, CM Arvind Kejriwal and Mr. Sisodia of partaking in financial "bungling" to the tune of ₹2,000 crore. Based on a reply to an RTI query, filed by BJP Delhi spokesperson Harish Khurana, the BJP alleged that a single classroom constructed by the Delhi government had cost around ₹24.85 lakh.

On Tuesday, Mr. Sisodia said, "We are in possession of a resolution of the SDMC's Standing Committee that states that last year, the SDMC had prepared an estimate for building 43 rooms at a cost of ₹10.7 crore which comes to ₹24.95 lakh per classroom. But unlike the Delhi government's project for construction, the civic body's estimate did not include rainwater harvesting systems, furniture, ceiling, fans, lights."

AAP MLA Saurabh Bhadravji challenged Mr. Tiwari to visit a Delhi government school and a corporation school and check the quality of the institutions.

## BJP hits back

Vijender Gupta, BJP MLA and Leader of the Opposition in the Delhi Assembly, said, "The municipal corporation has given contract only for ₹5.2 crore that is ₹12 lakh per room. This is half of the Delhi government's cost."

## Classroom row: BJP seeks FIR against those involved in scam

Demands resignation of Deputy CM Manish Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Tuesday filed a formal complaint with the city police seeking registration of an FIR against officials and contractors involved in the construction of classrooms of Delhi government schools at rates "five times" higher than the usual cost.

The Delhi BJP had, on Monday, claimed that there was a ₹2,000-crore "scam" in the construction of classrooms by the ruling AAP government.

## RTI reply

The complaint, filed by Delhi BJP media relations head Neelkant Bakshi and spokesperson Harish Khurana, asked the New Delhi district police to book persons responsible for it whether they were Ministers, government officials or contractors.

Citing the RTI reply to Mr.



BJP leaders file a formal complaint with the city police on Tuesday. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Khurana's query, raised with the Public Works Department (PWD) to the effect that the Delhi government spent as much as ₹24.86 lakh for the construction of one single classroom, Mr. Tiwari had claimed that the AAP government constructed 12,782 classrooms at a cost of ₹2,892 crore which could have been achieved by spending just ₹800 crore.

He had also demanded the resignation of Deputy

CM Manish Sisodia, who also holds the education portfolio.

Later, in reaction to an allegation to the effect that the situation was worse at BJP-ruled schools, Mr. Bakshi added, "Delhi government has got the classrooms constructed at the cost of ₹8,800/sq ft which is three times higher than the civic body's rate. It is quite clear that Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia have themselves committed such a big scam."

## Court to frame charges against CM on July 5

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Tuesday said it will pronounce on July 5 order on framing of charges against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, his deputy Manish Sisodia and four other AAP leaders, accused of violating prohibitory orders in the national capital and obstructing public servants during an agitation in 2014.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Samar Vishal reserved the order after the concluding arguments in the case.

"Arguments heard on the point of framing of charge against the accused persons. Put up for orders on the point of framing of charge on July 5," the judge said.

During the hearing, the court also allowed exemption application filed by Mr. Kejriwal and Mr. Sisodia from personal appearance for Tuesday.

## Man arrested for killing two wives

Says he was tired of the regular quarrels over petty issues

STAFF REPORTER  
NEW DELHI

A 35-year-old man was arrested for killing his two wives in south-east Delhi's Jaitpur area on June 26, the police said on Tuesday. He was tired of the regular quarrels, he allegedly told the police.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-East) Chinmoy Biswal said that the accused has been identified as Jamshed Alam, hailing from

Bihar, who allegedly killed his wives Ismat Parveen (34) and Jabeena (45) by strangulating them.

He was arrested from Bara Hindu Rao area on a tip-off, the police said.

During interrogation, he allegedly revealed that he had married Ismat about 20 years ago and had also been living with Jabeena for the last 10 years.

The three had come to Delhi from the village about

three years ago and he started working as a labourer.

The accused allegedly told the police that the three used to have regular quarrels over petty issues and he was tired of them. "On the day of the incident, a similar fight ensued after which he first killed Ismat and when Jabeena started shouting, he killed her too and fled the house with his minor son after locking the house," Mr. Biswal said.

## 'Relatives were in touch with Gurugram victims before murder'

Cops examine call details; phones to be sent for forensic test

ASHOK KUMAR  
GURUGRAM

A day after a former scientist killed his wife and two children before ending his life in Sector 49 here, the police on Tuesday said there seemed no trigger for the brutal murders. They said the man probably carried out the attacks as he was upset.

ACP (Sadar) Aman Yadav, said the police spoke to the neighbours and relatives about any possible argument between the couple, but there was no such instance.

## 'Nothing unusual'

Mr. Yadav said the neighbours did not notice anything unusual nor heard any loud noises on Sunday night pointing towards the possibility of any argument between the family members.

"The relatives told us that they were in touch with the family over WhatsApp till around midnight on the night the murders took



Police outside the Gurugram house in Sector 49.

• FILE PHOTO: MANOJ KUMAR

place. It seems the man attacked his family while they were asleep," said Mr. Yadav.

He added that the police were examining the call details of the victims and the phones would be sent for forensic examination.

The 55-year-old scientist had allegedly murdered his wife, daughter and teenage son hitting them with a hammer and a sharp-edged weapon in the early hours of Monday. The murders came to light when the domestic help came around 6 a.m., but there was no response to

her repeated ringing of the door bell.

Mr. Yadav said the murders did not seem premeditated since the weapons and the rope used in the commission of crime were available at home.

The scientist had lost his job with a pharmaceutical firm a month ago and was slated to join another firm in Hyderabad later this month.

(Suicide prevention helpline: Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health, 011-4076 9002, Monday-Saturday (10 a.m.-7.30 p.m.))

## Bulandshahr gang-rape case: fifth accused held

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NOIDA

Over two years after the gang-rape of four women and murder of a man from the same family on Jewar-Bulandshahr highway, the Uttar Pradesh police on Tuesday arrested a youth for his alleged involvement in the case.

Accused Monu alias Kanhaiya Singh, a member of the gang which allegedly committed the crime was arrested by U.P. Police's Spe-

cial Task Force sleuths from Jewar town at around 12.30 a.m. on Tuesday, said officials. Monu had been on run for the last two years, they said.

On May 24, 2017 night, the gang had waylaid a car after deflating its tyres with a spiked wooden stick on the highway to rob its passengers. But after finding four women in the car, they raped them and shot dead the husband of one of them who resisted their attempts.

## Two arrested for killing gangster and his neighbour

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Two people were arrested for allegedly killing a 40-year-old gangster and his neighbour last month in north-east Delhi's Nand Nagri area, the police said on Tuesday.

The accused have been

identified as Lokesh (39), and Ankur Malik (25), they said.

Two pistols and 14 live cartridges were recovered from their possession.

On June 14, Khurvish - named in 41 cases and his neighbour Kanchi were shot dead by the two accused.

**GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND  
OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONERz  
JHARKHAND BHAWAN  
KUSUMPUR PAHAARI, VASANT VIHAR NEW DELHI-57**

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**The sealed tenders shall be received till 23/07/2019(Tuesday) 05:00pm. All the received sealed tenders shall be opened for Technical evaluation on the 24/07/2019 (Wednesday), at 11:00am in the office of the Resident Commissioner, Jharkhand Bhawan, New Delhi. The financial bids will be opened on same day i.e 24/07/2019.**

Resident Commissioner reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders received either in full or in part, any time without notice.

**PR210461 (Cabinet)19-20'D**

Sd/-  
Chief Administrative officer

# Opposition targets Naveen govt. over minor girls' pregnancies

Attempt to hush up the matter: Cong.; CM should give a statement: BJP

STAFF REPORTER  
BHUBANESWAR

The Congress and the BJP on Tuesday demanded a statement from the Naveen Patnaik government over the reported pregnancies among minor schoolgirls, describing the incident as "grave".

Raising the issue of inmates of a Bhubaneswar-based State-run hostel testing positive for pregnancy during Zero Hour, Congress leader Narasingha Mishra said four girls were found to be pregnant according to initial tests, but later three of them tested negative. He demanded a probe alleging



Naveen Patnaik. • FILE PHOTO

that there were attempts to hush up the matter.

Mr. Mishra slammed the State government saying that though an average of seven women were raped every day in the State, only six accused get convicted in a

year. Expressing concern over the issue, BJP's deputy legislature party leader Bishnu Charan Sethi said the Chief Minister, who is also the Home Minister, should give a statement.

## Sloganeering

At this, Speaker S.N. Patro directed the government to take note of the incident. Expressing displeasure that the Speaker did not rule in favour of a statement, Congress members rushed to well of the House and started shouting slogans. The House was adjourned for 10

minutes.

Later, the Speaker ordered the department concerned to make a statement in the House.

A mobile unit of the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram had done the health screening of 101 inmates of a girls hostel in the presence of the hostel superintendent in June. As many as 29 girls were found to have different health problems. During the tests, the teenage pregnancies came to light.

The city police had arrested one person on charges of having physical relationship with one of the minor girls.

# Sunny defends stand-in appointment

Gurdaspur MP says representative will prevent work delay in his absence

VIKAS VASUDEVA  
CHANDIGARH

Gurdaspur MP Sunny Deol's decision to appoint a "representative" to stand in for him on constituency matters has stoked a controversy, with leaders of both Congress and Aam Aadmi Party accusing him of "insulting" voters and making a "mockery of democracy".



BJP MP Sunny Deol.

• FILE PHOTO

voters knew they had it coming. They perhaps never expected anything more than a selfie with him," he said.

"What more can be expected of him? He himself admitted during canvassing that he didn't know anything about politics. His voters

probably never expected him to shift base to Gurdaspur. You reap what you sow," he told *The Hindu*.

## 'An insult to democracy'

AAP's Harpal Singh Cheema, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, said it was absurd for a "public representative" to appoint a "representative".

"It's an insult to democracy. Mr. Deol's decision shows his lack of seriousness towards the people of his constituency. Why did he contest election if he cannot serve his constituency?" wondered Mr. Cheema. "People have elected Sunny Deol and not someone he would like to appoint," he added.

Mr. Deol had, in a letter dated June 26, appointed his close aide Gurpreet Singh Palheri as his representative. On Tuesday, he explained that he appointed him "to ensure smooth flow of work" whenever he is out of Gurdaspur on work or to attend Parliament sessions. "The intention is to merely ensure that no work is disrupted or delayed due to any reason whatsoever and to keep myself updated on daily basis (sic)," he tweeted from his official handle.

The BJP MP said there is an entire party machinery in place in the constituency to look into matters. He added that as an MP, he was genuinely committed to the cause of Gurdaspur.

# SAD accuses Pakistan govt. of 'doublespeak' on Kartarpur issue

'Entry fee, permit costs too high; conditions unreasonable'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHANDIGARH

Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Tuesday accused Pakistan of indulging in "doublespeak" on the issue of the Kartarpur Corridor — the proposed corridor on the India-Pakistan border.

"It is unfortunate that the Pakistani government has been indulging in doublespeak. Pakistan is mouthing platitudes about the work it will take up to make the Kartarpur Corridor a reality, but the fact is that it is constructing a mere causeway on its side instead of a bridge," claimed Mr. Badal.

The SAD leader said that Pakistan has put a cap on the number of devotees at 700 per day and that too for

a restricted number of days per year.

"The entry fee and the permit costs proposed by Pakistan for the pilgrims are also very high at ₹1,600 per person on normal days and ₹8,000 per person on special days. Pakistan has further proposed to restrict this facility to Indian nationals only and Persons of Indian Origin would not have access to it," he said, adding that all these conditions were unreasonable.

## Community issues

Mr. Badal said the Pakistan government should waive the permit and entry fee for devotees and allow the entry of 5,000 devotees on normal days and 15,000 on special days.

He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for resolving long-pending issues of the Sikh community.

"The Union government accepted the Akali Dal's request and scrapped the local blacklist of Sikhs maintained by Indian missions in countries like Canada, USA, UK and Germany."

He said thousands of NRIs had been suffering because of the local lists prepared by the Embassies.

"The Union government is also actively pursuing the Akali Dal's request for the release of all Sikh prisoners languishing in jail after the completion of their jail terms. This matter is under process and progress is expected shortly," he said.

# Tension in Jaipur after rape bid

Accused allegedly abducted 7-yr-old girl, later dumped her

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
JAIPUR

Tension gripped some parts of Jaipur on Tuesday after residents of a locality surrounded a police station and vandalised several vehicles to protest against the attempt by an unidentified person to rape a seven-year-old girl.

The accused allegedly abducted the girl and later dumped her near her house on Monday night.

## Internet suspended

The district administration suspended mobile Internet services in 13 police station areas of the city to check the spread of rumours, while the police stepped up security measures and deployed additional force in the Shastri Nagar area, where the alleged crime took place, to prevent any flare-up.



Policemen taking action against protesters during an agitation over the rape of a minor in Jaipur on Tuesday. • PTI

The girl has been admitted to a hospital, where her condition was stated to be stable.

The police said efforts were being made to arrest the accused, who allegedly took the girl on a motorcycle to a deserted place and tried to rape her.

The police have registered a case under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, in connection with the incident.

Medical & Health Minister Raghu Sharma has ordered free medical treatment for the girl.

# 11-digit identity for Berhampur cattle

Civic body starts tagging cows, bulls, bullocks, buffaloes to keep them off city roads

SIB KUMAR DAS  
BERHAMPUR

To end the menace of stray cattle on the roads of Berhampur, Odisha, the local civic body has started tagging all cows, bulls, bullocks and buffaloes with special 11-digit identity numbers from this week.

The project, a joint initiative of the Berhampur Municipal Corporation and the State Animal Husbandry Department, was officially inaugurated by Ganjam District Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange at Haridakhandi in Ward I of the BeMC on July 1.

The process of tagging the cattle in the city will continue till August 10. A total of 10 veterinary teams are involved in the project. The BeMC has also started an awareness drive about the project.

## Traffic woes

"Stray cattle are a major cause for traffic woes and accidents in the city. Added to that, they also hamper ur-



Stray cattle being tagged to monitor their movement in Berhampur on Monday. • LINGARAJ PANDA

ban sanitation. This tagging process is aimed at restricting the free movement of cattle within the city limits," said the Collector.

This will also help in protecting the animals and assessing the number of deaths during natural calamities, said veterinary officials.

According to Chief District Veterinary Officer Trinath Nayak, each and every cow, bull, bullock and buffalo

within Berhampur city limits will have a plastic tag attached to its ear. A digital database of the owners, the permanent location and the breed of the bovine will be created for each 11-digit number.

## Awareness drive

Through the awareness drive, the BeMC is persuading cattle owners to keep their animals in cowsheds and not let them out to roam

in the open.

After the process of tagging ends, no stray cattle will be allowed on the roads of Berhampur. The BeMC will seize the animals and make their owners — identified from the tags — pay a fine to get them back.

If no one pays the fine and reclaims the cattle, the administration will hand over the seized animals to poor dairy farmers living on the outskirts of Berhampur, the Collector said.

The tagging process will be repeated every six months to include new animals. The last domestic animal census in Berhampur was held in 2012.

Although it is to be conducted every five years, the next census will be held this year.

As per the 2012 census, there were 6,359 cows and 793 buffaloes in the city. These numbers are expected to have increased manifold, along with the rise in human population.

# 'Donate a Life' fund helps 85 cancer patients in Rajasthan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
JAIPUR

A unique "Donate a Life" fund, established by a cancer speciality hospital here, has helped in the treatment of 85 children suffering from blood cancer, enabling them to lead a normal life. The free treatment to children diagnosed with three curable cancers is provided as an "entitlement" without any inquiry into financial status of their parents.

The fund is the brainchild of Bhagwan Mahaveer Cancer Hospital, which was grappling with a large number of patients unable to bear the expenses of treatment. As the estimated cost of the complete treatment is ₹5 lakh, several young children were being deprived of treatment even for curable cancers.

The "Donate a Life" fund, launched in August 2014, has so far registered 142

children for their multi-stage and prolonged treatment lasting one to two years. Among the 93 children who received full treatment, 85 are now cancer-free, while eight could not be saved.

Hospital Director (Clinical Services) S.G. Kabra told *The Hindu* that three cancers among children below 14 years selected for the programme were acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, acute promyelocytic leukaemia and Hodgkin's lymphoma.

The dedicated fund is maintained with the contributions of philanthropists, trusts, donors and some private companies. The fund managers have also approached big industrial and business houses. Sachin, 3, Ramavtar, 10, and Shaurya, 4, are among the 85 children who have been fully cured with the fund's utilisation.

## EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

**E-Tender Notice No. COM/Deluxe/Pay & Use/PNBE/19**  
Notice for calling of single packet open e-tender for award of Deluxe Pay & Use toilet contract for construction, operation and maintenance on BOT basis at circulating area Patna Jn. (North side near Booking Office) for a period of five (05) years from the date of commencement of the contract.

1. Name of the work with its location: Open e-tender for award of Deluxe Pay & Use toilet contract for construction, operation and maintenance on BOT basis at circulating area Patna Jn. (North side near Booking Office) for a period of five (05) years. 2. Approx. cost of the work for five years: Rs. 60,00,532/- 3. Earnest Money: Rs. 1,20,100/- 4. Date & Time fixed for bidding of e-tender and opening of e-tender: Date and time for bidding of e-tender - Before 12:00 hrs on 22/07/2019, Date and time for opening of e-tender - After 12:00 hrs on 22/07/2019. 5. Website particulars & Notice Board Location where complete details (Notice and tender documents) for tender can be seen: Website particulars - www.ireps.gov.in Notice Board Locations - Office of the Sr. Divnl. Comml. Manager, East Central Railway, Danapur. Divisional Railway Manager (Comml.), Danapur PR/634/DNR/Com./T/19-20/40

**TO ADVERTISE PLEASE CONTACT**  
Mr. N SELVA KUMAR  
PH: 98203 50726  
selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in  
Mr. GAURAV SEHGAL  
PH: 98110 06590  
gaurav.sehgal@thehindu.co.in  
THE HINDU

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE**  
OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO. C/13/ATM/Tender/SEE/2019 Date: 01.07.2019  
The Sr.DCM/SEE for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open Tender for the following work. The last date of dropping of tender is 06.08.2019 upto 16:00 hrs. All information and tender documents related to tender is available on Website:- www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in  
SI.No. 1, Name of Work with item no.: Open tender for provision of ATMs at Various stations, Railway Colony of Sonpur Division for five (05) years. Approx. Cost (In Rs.): Nil, Earnest Money (In Rs.): Nil, Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.): (Non Refundable): 1000.00  
The above tender notice is available on website: www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in  
RIGHT OF RAILWAY TO DEAL WITH TENDER: Railway administration reserves the right to postpone/modify or to cancel the above tender without assigning any reasons. Divisional Railway Manager/Commercial, Sonpur PR/632/SEE/Com./T/19-20/32

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No. Com/ATM/DGBH-COL/19**  
Notice for calling of open e-tender for award of contract for Installation of one Automated Teller machine (ATM) of Digha Ghat Bridge Railway Colony area on period of five (05) years from the date of commencement of the contract.  
1. Name of the work with its location: Open e-tender for award of contract for one Installation of Automated Teller machine (ATM) of Digha Ghat Bridge Railway Colony area for period of five (05) years from the date of commencement of the contract.  
2. Cost of the work for One years: \*Rs. 1/- \* The bid amount is treated as license fee for the first year. Though the tender floated without reserve price, due to technical constraint it was shown as Rs. 1/- License fee for subsequent years, there is an escalation of 10% on previous year's license fee.  
3. Earnest Money: Rs. Zero.  
4. Date & Time fixed for bidding of e-tender and opening of e-tender: Date and time for bidding of e-tender - Before 12:00 hrs. on 23/07/2019. Date and time for opening of e-tender - After 12:00 hrs on 23/07/2019.  
5. Website particulars & Notice Board Location where complete details (Notice and tender documents) of tender can be seen: Website particulars - www.ireps.gov.in Notice Board Locations - Office of the Sr. Divnl. Comml. Manager, East Central Railway, Danapur. Divisional Railway Manager (Comml.), Danapur PR/638/DNR/Com./T/19-20/44

**Haryana Staff Selection Commission**  
Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula-134151  
(www.hssc.gov.in)  
**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
Notice to candidates for Physical Measurement Test for the posts of Fire Station Officer and Sub-Fire Officer of Urban Local Bodies-cum-Fire Services, Haryana  
Against Advt. No. 11/2017, Cat. No. 01 and 02  
On the basis of Written Examination held on 12.01.2019 and scrutiny of documents on 19.06.2019 and 28.06.2019 for the posts of Fire Station Officer and Sub-Fire Officer of Urban Local Bodies-cum-Fire Services, Haryana against Advt. No. 07/2015, Category No. 01 and 02 respectively, the candidates bearing following Roll Nos. have been called for Physical Measurement Test on 13.07.2019 provisionally to ascertain eligible candidates and further subject to the fulfillment of their eligibility conditions as per advertisement and service rules.  
Advt. No. 11/2017, Fire Station Officer, CAT No. 01 (10 Posts)  
1171000020 1171000023 1171000025 1171000052 1171000054 1171000059 1171000065 1171000068 1171000080 1171000082 1171000088  
Advt. No. 11/2017, Sub-Fire Officer, CAT No. 02 (26 Posts)  
1172000001 1172000002 1172000004 1172000005 1172000009 1172000012 1172000013 1172000017 1172000018 1172000020 1172000024 1172000025 1172000026 1172000027 1172000028 1172000029 1172000030 1172000031 1172000032 1172000034 1172000037 1172000039 1172000044 1172000047 1172000048 1172000049 1172000050 1172000053 1172000059 1172000063 1172000064 1172000065 1172000068 1172000069 1172000070 1172000071 1172000074 1172000075 1172000078 1172000080 1172000081 1172000085 1172000086 1172000087 1172000090 1172000091 1172000094 1172000095 1172000097 1172000098 1172000099 1172000102 1172000103 1172000109 1172000112 1172000113 1172000115 1172000120  
1. The Physical Measurement Test of the candidates will be held on 13.07.2019. The candidates are advised to download the Admit Card for PMT from the website of the Commission on/after 08.07.2019 and report at 09.00 A.M. in the Commission office Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula on 13.07.2019.  
2. Roll No. 1172000120 has been called provisionally for Physical Measurement Test.  
3. In case a candidate does not appear for Physical Measurement Test no further opportunity will be given thereafter.  
4. While every care has been taken in preparing and uploading the notice, possibility of inadvertent/ technical errors can not be ruled out. The Commission reserves the right to rectify the same later on.  
5. The result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. www.hssc.gov.in  
Sd- (Secretary)  
Haryana Staff Selection Commission  
Dated:- 28.06.2019  
PRDH 77258

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM**  
TENDER NOTICE NO. PCMM/EP/2018-19/18 dt. 01.07.2019  
SUPPLIERS ARE REQUESTED TO VISIT WEBSITE www.ireps.gov.in ON WHICH TENDERS ISSUED BY PCMM OFFICE, STORES DEPOT, Sr. DMMS OF NER DIVISION AND DY.CMM/CON/BG OFFICE ARE PUBLISHED AND TENDER DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. THE SITE ALSO PERMITS FOR SUBMITTING THE OFFER ONLINE!  
CPR/S-15 PRINCIPAL CHIEF MATERIAL MANAGER, GORAKHPUR  
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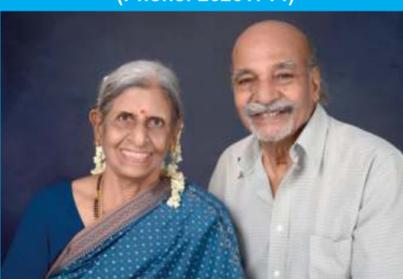
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With deepest love and appreciation  
Capt. M.Balan & Mrs. Thulasi Balan  
(Phone: 26261714)  
  
**Beloved Daddy and Mummy,**  
Without your incalculable gifts to us of a happy home, a carefree childhood, tender attention to our physical and emotional needs and a steadfast determination to educate us all well, we would not be who we are today.  
You may be old in chronological years but are ever young in spirit, energy and independence.  
You have given but never asked, dreamed but not expected, achieved but remained self-effacing, been denied much but never complained.  
This world is enriched by your presence. We pray for many more years of good health, joy and peace for you. In your honour, we hope that all who read this will pause to think of and pay tribute to their own parents, be it in person or in their hearts and memories. Just because.  
Thank you, Daddy. Thank you, Mummy.  
You have given us everything; you ARE everything.  
Love always: Bhuvana Chandra, B.Velan & B.Karthikeyan

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PMGSY DIVISION, KISHTWAR**  
M/S ECI Engineering & Construction Company Ltd., No.- PMGSY/K/919-23  
Plot No. 70 Anshu colours, 3rd Floor, Road No. 01 Dated:- 02/07/2019  
Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, A.P  
J&K Office: 1-A Hill View Near HSS Bahu Fort, Jammu  
Mob. No. / Fax No. 94191-92450, 0191-2432275  
E-mail: mehatheguru@gmail.com.  
Sub.-: Construction of 63 mtrs. Span motorable bridge on Kandni Ohli road Package No.-JK04-84 A Phase-VII.  
Ref.-: Allotment No.-: CE/PMGSY/J/7834-41 Dated:-18-10-2010.  
In continuation to letter No.- PMGSY/K/496-500 dated - 28-05-2019, PMGSY/K/4337-39 Dated:- 4-6-2019 & PMGSY/K/704-8 Dated:- 15-06-2019 through which you were directed to resume the held up work of above noted bridge. But till date nothing has been done in this connection on ground. By ignoring the direction from this office as well as from Chief Engineer office you have deliberately delayed the construction of this prestigious project. By not completing the construction of bridge you have unnecessarily delayed the completion of whole scheme i.e construction of road from Kandni to Ohli Part-I which too is allotted under the same allotment to you and EOT has been given to August 2019 for completion of the said scheme.  
Now finally through the medium of this notice you are here by directed to resume the work of bridge and complete the construction of road also as per the EOT provided for the completion of same.  
If the work of the bridge not started by you within five days from the publishing of this notice in the news paper, your contract shall be closed after forfeiting the CDR & the other action shall be initiated under terms & condition in the contract also the tenders for balance work shall be invited at your risk & cost.  
Executive Engineer  
PMGSY Division,  
Kishtwar  
DIP/J-1464-P

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**General Studies** 15 July 2019, 12:30 PM  
**Zoology** 15 July 2019, 9 AM  
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**Geology** 15 July 2019, 4 PM  
**Agriculture** 10 August 2019, 1:30 PM  
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**Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Department**  
Office of the Executive Engineer, EM&RE  
Div-II, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu PHONE NO:  
0191-2458521, e-mail: gemred2@gmail.com  
**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
e-NIT No.: 25 of 2019 Dated: 01/07/2019  
For and on behalf of the Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, short term e-Tenders (In Two Cover System) Erection, Testing & Commissioning of double Ckt 11 KV Line for Bifurcation of 11 KV feeders at Bishnah & Adjoining Areas under Langushing projects sanctioned by JKIDFC are hereby invited from Self Help Groups/ A Class Electrical Contractors of J&K having Valid Registration Certificate for the year 2019-20 and meeting eligibility criteria as per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document.  
S. No: 1. Name of Work: Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Double Ckt 11 KV Line for Bifurcation of 11 KV feeders at Bishnah & Adjoining Areas in the jurisdiction of EM&RE Div-II Gandhi Nagar Jammu. Cost of document (in Rs): 500/-, Earnest Money/ Security Deposit (in Rs): 60000/- Date & Time of Downloading of Bidding Documents: 02-07-2019, Last Date of e-Bid Submission: 12/07/2019 (upto 02:00PM), Time and Date of Opening of tender: 12/07/2019 at 04:30PM  
1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.  
2. The tender document is available at website http://jktenders.gov.in. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bids online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:  
Executive Engineer  
EM & RE Division-II  
Gandhi Nagar, Jammu  
DIP/J-1458-P

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**COURT NOTICE**  
In the Court of Ms. Sukhvinder Kaur, Ld. Judge Family Courts, North-east District, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi  
Proclamation Requiring Attendance of Respondent  
(Order 5 Rule 20 The Code Of Civil Procedure)  
Suit No. 718/2018  
Naresh Kumar Tyagi ...Petitioner  
Versus  
Smt. Annu @ Secma ...Respondent  
To: Smt. Annu Tyagi @ Secma W/o Sh. Naresh Kumar Tyagi D/o Sh. Rajesh Tyagi C/o Sh. Yogesh Tyagi (Gas Cylinder Waley) R/o Jaisalpur Road, Diamond Public School Wali Gali, 30 Futa Road, Murad Nagar, Ghaziabad, U.P. Phone No. 9897582314, 9897603814.  
THE RESPONDENT ABOVE NAMED, WHEREAS, you are initially evading service of summons. It is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on 12.07.2019 the day of fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte.  
Give under my hand and seal of the Court, this 14.06.2019.  
(Seal)  
Judge Family Courts,  
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**TENDERS**  
**Clean Kerala Company Ltd**  
Regd. Office: TC-29/1732, IInd Floor, State Municipal House, Vazhuthacaud, Trivandrum-695 010, Kerala  
Email: cleankeralacompany@gmail.com  
CIN - U90000KL2013SGC035624  
Notification No: A/95/CKCL/2019  
Dated: 02.07.2019  
**National Competitive Bidding for sale of E-waste**  
Collection, Transportation & Processing of E waste from the Godowns/ Resource Recovery Facility (RRFs)/ Government/Private Sector Offices/ Institutions etc established across the state of Kerala. Date of Publishing Tender: 03/07/2019, 12.00 Hrs. Pre Bid Meeting: 10/07/2019, 11.00 Hrs., Last Date and time of uploading of Bids: 24/07/2019, 12.00 Hrs. Date and time of opening of Technical Bids: 24/07/2019, 15.00 Hrs.  
For more details: Ph: 0471-2724600, www.cleankeralacompany.com  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
In the Court of the District Munsif, Kovilpatti, O.S.No. 139 / 2018  
Petchiammal & 3 Others -Plaintiffs / Vs /  
Devraj, S/o, Ram Rathan D-276, Ganga Vigar, Delhi  
--3rd Defendant  
Whereas, The Plaintiffs has instituted the above suit against you for declaration you are hereby summoned to appear in this Court in person or by a pleader on 18.07.2019 at 10.30 A.M. To answer the same failing which the suit will be disposed of ex-parte against you.  
J.Esakimthua, B.A., B.L., MS.658/2008, Advocate for Plaintiffs, 17, Pannai Thotam Street, Kovilpatti-628 501.  
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## Don't blame EVMs for your defeat: CM tells Opposition

ALOK DESHPANDE  
MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday asked the opposition leaders to accept their defeat in Lok Sabha elections instead of blaming the EVMs.

He was replying to the resolution raised by the opposition last week and a challenge thrown by the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MLA Jayant Patil to pass a resolution to conduct Assembly polls through ballot papers instead of electronic voting machines (EVM).

In a reply to opposition leaders' claim during the proceedings, Mr Fadnavis also rejected all the allegations of irregularities and graft against his colleagues.

On the last day of Assembly session of the present government, and in his last speech, Mr. Fadnavis expressed confidence that he would be back after the elections in the same position.

Mr. Patil reminded him that it is the people of the State who hold ultimate power to elect the government and said that he hopes they will vote for a better Chief Minister next time.

"The opposition leaders must accept that they are defeated in the Lok Sabha elections due to their own deeds. The people of this country have rejected them and it is a bitter but important truth," said Mr. Fadnavis.

# Another wall collapse in Pune leaves six labourers dead

Compound wall of Sinhgad group of institutes in Ambegaon collapses on tin hutments

SHOUMJOIT BANERJEE  
PUNE

At least six construction workers, including two women, were killed and four more injured when the compound wall of the Sinhgad group of institutes in Ambegaon, Pune, collapsed on the tin hutments of the labourers in the early hours of Tuesday as relentless showers continued to batter the city.

According to reports, the labourers hailed from Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh. They were identified as Jethilal Patel (50), Radhelal Patel (25), his wife Mamta Patel (22), Pardeshini Patel (45), Jeetu Rawate (24) and Prahlad Rawate (30).

The incident is a near replay of the Kondhwa wall collapse that occurred in the early hours of Saturday, killing 15 labourers and their kin, including four children and two women.

"The accident occurred sometime between the midnight on Monday and the early hours of Tuesday. A number of trees were clumped around the section of the compound wall of the institute, estimated at a height of 8-9 feet. The downpour caused the trees and the part of the wall to crash on the labourers' tin sheds. The main issue here is the hazardous position of their quarters. It appears that this threat [of a wall collapse] was not assessed by the builders when they set up camps for workers near the compound wall," said Pune District Collector Naval Kishore Ram, who rushed to the spot early



Crashed: Rescue operations in Ambegaon, Pune, where a wall collapse due to continuous rain left six labourers dead on Tuesday. \* MANDAR TANNU

on Tuesday morning.

### 'Extremely unfortunate'

Speaking to *The Hindu*, he said that around 30 labourers were living in the hutments and working on a residential block being developed by a city-based builder. He said the incident was "extremely unfortunate", especially as it happened close on the heels of the Kondhwa tragedy.

"Immediately after the Kondhwa incident, Pune civic officials had completed a survey of 297 construction sites and marked out at least six labourer camps as potentially dangerous areas prone to rain-related accidents. But as the Ambegaon area was included in Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) limits on

recently, this site escaped scrutiny," he said, adding that an enquiry would be made to check whether the labourers working on the site were registered or not.

PMC authorities said they would also verify the legality of the ongoing construction and take action against the developer if necessary.

### NDRF support

Personnel from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) rushed to the spot on receiving a call about several persons being trapped in the debris after the wall caved in a little after 1 a.m.

According to sources, it was a group of students in the Sinhgad institute hostel who first alerted rescue personnel, leading to the rescue

of four workers. The injured are undergoing treatment at the Sassoon General Hospital, said officials.

Jayant Shinde of the Bandhkaam Kamgar Sena, a city-based outfit working for the betterment of labourers, accused the builder of sheer negligence in constructing quarters for his labourers at such a perilous spot.

"The workers were constructing a six-storey apartment complex by one Dangat Developers. The builder and the engineers should at least have ensured the workers were housed at a less dangerous spot than the one right next to the Sinhgad campus compound wall. How many more labourers will die because of such criminal negligence?" asked Mr. Shinde.

# Kondhwa effect: PMC checks 287 under-construction sites

Five found unsafe, labourers evacuated to safer places

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
PUNE

At least five under-construction sites out of total 287 inspected by the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) following the Kondhwa wall collapse incident are found to be unsafe and labourers staying there have been evacuated to safer areas, officials said Tuesday.

The inspection was conducted on June 30 and July 1 after 15 people, mostly construction labourers, were crushed to death in the wall collapse on June 29 following incessant rains.

In another incident that occurred on July 1 night, six labourers died and at least two were injured after the wall of an educational institute collapsed on their makeshift shelters in Ambegaon area.

The PMC's Building Permission department has issued a notice to the Sinhgad Institute seeking details about the compound wall.



Unsafe: NDRF team at the site of the wall collapse in Pune last week in which 15 people were killed. \* FILE PHOTO

"We inspected 287 construction sites in jurisdiction of the PMC. We found that at four to five places, the labour camps or the temporary shelters were not safe for living and evacuated the labourers to safer places," a civic official said.

In the Kondhwa mishap, a portion of the compound wall of a housing society had collapsed on shanties adjacent to it.

The official further said inspection of such vulnera-

ble labour colonies will continue in view of heavy rains. He said as many as 6,800 labourers were scrutinised during the inspection of the 287 properties.

"The PMC is appealing to builders to follow the safety norms on accommodations for labourers and ensure their safety," he said.

Meanwhile, a civic officer said they have started taking necessary stock of some dilapidated structures in the city.

## Court extends police custody of builders

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
PUNE

A court here on Tuesday extended till July 6 the police custody of two builders arrested in connection with the wall collapse incident in Kondhwa area in which 15 labourers died.

Vipul Agarwal and Vivek Agarwal were arrested on Saturday after a portion of 22-foot-high compound wall of a housing society

collapsed on adjoining shanties of construction workers following heavy rains. Judicial Magistrate (First Class) A.S. Deshpande extended their custody till July 6.

Both are partners in Alcon Landmarks that had built the housing complex.

Seeking further police custody of the two on Tuesday, the prosecution argued that on April 15, the

chief engineer of the Pune Municipal Corporation had instructed all the builders in the city to shift settlements of construction workers to safer places, away from walls, trees and nullahs.

They also know the whereabouts of the other accused, therefore they needed to be quizzed further, the prosecution added.

# Shiv Sena must apologise to citizens for 'submerging' Mumbai: Congress

Oppn. seeks structural audits of roads, bridges, buildings

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI

Opposition parties on Tuesday lashed out at the ruling Shiv Sena and BJP for the loss of lives due to wall collapse incidents in Mumbai and Pune and attributed them to "corruption".

Maharashtra Congress chief Ashok Chavan alleged that Bandra's Kala Nagar, where Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray resides, also faced waterlogging. He demanded that Sena, which heads the BMC, apologise to citizens for "submerging" the city.

Taking a dig at Thackeray, Mr. Chavan said Mumbai would not have been flooded had the Shiv Sena chief overseen pre-monsoon drainage cleaning works instead of "taking out party MPs" to temples post-Lok Sabha elections.

NCP leader Dhananjay Munde criticised the ruling Shiv Sena-BJP over the waterlogging in Mumbai and demanded structural audits of roads, bridges and buildings in Mumbai following the wall collapse incidents.



Real time check: Staff at the disaster management centre of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation monitoring the city's floods in Mumbai on Tuesday. \* VIVEK BENDRE

Mr. Chavan tweeted, "25 lives were lost in wall collapse incidents in Malad, Kalyan, Pune. Roads got washed away in Mumbai. Isn't corruption equally responsible for this as rains? The government might give 'clean chit' to all responsible in this corruption. But will that bring back the lives lost? But is there any assurance that such incidents will not repeat?"

Targeting the Shiv Sena and BJP, Mr. Munde said the two parties had previously claimed that there would be no waterlogging in Mumbai. "But parts of the city are now submerged," Munde said.

Referring to the latest wall collapse incidents, the NCP leader pitched for audits of various structures in the city.

Former Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan told reporters at Vidhan Bhavan premises here that different governing agencies working in Mumbai should stop blaming each other for waterlogging and potholes.

"It is the failure of the government... People are least bothered on whose roads (whether of BMC or MMRDA) there are potholes? Issues of co-ordination (among agencies) should be solved at the Chief Minister's level," Mr. Chavan added.

"We have been demand-

ing such audits in the House. But it will be possible only if the ruling parties find some time from elections," Mr. Munde quipped.

Mumbai Congress president Milind Deora said the Malad wall collapse incident was "very saddening".

Attacking the BMC over the loss of lives, Maharashtra NCP president Jayant Patil tweeted, "Such incidents really raise doubts whether the administration had really inspected such dilapidated structures before monsoon."

Former Maharashtra Chief Minister Prithviraj Chavan told reporters at Vidhan Bhavan premises here that different governing agencies working in Mumbai should stop blaming each other for waterlogging and potholes.

"It is the failure of the government... People are least bothered on whose roads (whether of BMC or MMRDA) there are potholes? Issues of co-ordination (among agencies) should be solved at the Chief Minister's level," Mr. Chavan added.

"We have been demand-

## 'Capacity of jails stagnant, number of inmates rises'

ALOK DESHPANDE  
MUMBAI

While the authorised capacity of prisons in Maharashtra remained stagnant from 2013-14 to 2017-18, the inmate population of prisons registered 18% growth from 27,883 to 32,810. The total number of prisoners as on March 2018 was 37% more than the authorised capacity of the prisons, revealed the CAG report on Home Department which was presented in the Assembly on Tuesday.

In nine Central Prison and Correctional Centres (CP&CC), the overcrowding of prisoners had been consistently increasing from 125% in 2013-14 to 155% of capacity in 2017-18. In District Prison and Correctional Centres Class-I, the inmates

### Less space, more prisoners

| CATEGORY        | NO OF PRISONS (2013-18) | CAPACITY | NO OF PRISONERS AS ON MARCH 31 |         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|---------|
|                 |                         |          | 2013-14                        | 2017-18 |
| Central Prison  | 9                       | 14,841   | 18,577                         | 23,023  |
| DP Class-I      | 9                       | 3,386    | 4,097                          | 4,381   |
| DP Class-II     | 16                      | 3,347    | 3,338                          | 3,804   |
| DP Class-III    | 2                       | 185      | 219                            | 218     |
| Open Prison     | 13                      | 1,522    | 1,011                          | 943     |
| Female Prison   | 1                       | 262      | 340                            | 309     |
| Borstal School  | 1                       | 105      | 27                             | 7       |
| Special Prison  | 1                       | 246      | 97                             | 117     |
| Open colony     | 1                       | 28       | 21                             | 3       |
| Hospital Prison | 1                       | 20       | 4                              | 5       |

population ranged between 112% to 129% in the above

mentioned period. "Similarly, in case of Dis-

trict Prison and Correctional Centres Class-II, no new prisons were constructed nor any efforts were made by the department to accommodate the excess inmates which ranged between 100 to 113% of capacity," the report said.

The report has revealed that female prisons too have seen an increase of 18% in 2017-18.

In case of District Prison and Correctional Centres Class-III the occupancy ranged between 75% and 118% during the corresponding period.

The report also observed that of the 102 sub-jails in tehsils across the State with a capacity to accommodate 1,670 prisoners, only 54 sub-jails were functioning.

## 4 die in water tank collapse

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NASHIK

Four labourers were killed on Tuesday and two others were injured when a water tank collapsed at an under-construction building in Nashik, according to the police.

The incident happened at 8.30 a.m. in Someshwar Colony on Gangapur Road

here, an official said. "Three people were brought out dead from the debris. One person who was hospitalised succumbed to his injuries later," he said. An official identified the deceased as Mohammed Bariq (32) and Baby Sanabi Khatun (28), from Bihar, Sudam Gohir (30) of Odisha and Anami Chandan (50) from New Delhi.

THE HINDU

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### SOUTHERN RAILWAY

#### MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

##### E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINE

Principal Chief Medical Director, Headquarters, Southern Railway, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites ONLINE tenders for the following supply contract as per Tender Notice given in IREPS website. Firms are requested to log on to <http://www.ireps.gov.in> - E-Tender->Goods & Services (New) and quote against these tenders. No Manual quotations will be entertained. Closing time for the tenders is 11.00 hours on the date noted against each below.

| Sl. No. | Tender No.      | Description   | Due Date   |
|---------|-----------------|---|------------|
| 1       | SR1906521710374 | Regorafenib 40 mg Tab   | 30.07.2019 |
| 2       | SR1901204910375 | Rivaroxaban 10 mg Tab   | 30.07.2019 |
| 3       | SR1903851010376 | Aflibercept Inj 40 mg Vial  | 30.07.2019 |
| 4       | SR1906528210377 | Sunitinib 25 mg Cap   | 30.07.2019 |
| 5       | SR1906604310378 | Framycetin Skin Cream 1% 30 g Tube  | 30.07.2019 |
| 6       | SR1901305410379 | Clonidine 0.1 mg Tab  | 30.07.2019 |
| 7       | SR1903209510380 | Canagliflozin 100 mg Tab  | 30.07.2019 |
| 8       | SR1907606410381 | L-Theanine 100 mg Tab   | 30.07.2019 |
| 9       | SR1908401510382 | Intensive Moisturizing Cream 150 g Pack   | 30.07.2019 |
| 10      | SR1906513610383 | Cladribine Inj 10 mg Vial   | 30.07.2019 |
| 11      | SR1907607010384 | Vitamin E (Tocopherol) 400 mg Cap   | 30.07.2019 |
| 12      | SR1900200710385 | Streptococcus Faecalis - JPC 30 Million + Clostridium Butyricum 2 Million + Bacillus Mesentericus 1 Million + Lactic Acid bacillus 50 Million per 5 ml Syrup, 50 ml Bot | 30.07.2019 |
| 13      | SR1900301110386 | Bedomethasone Dipropionate with Phenylephrine HCL and Lignocaine HCL Oint for Piles   | 30.07.2019 |
| 14      | SR1900460210387 | Ademetionine 1, 4-Butane Disulfonate (SD4) Equivalent to Ademetionine Ion 400 mg Tab  | 30.07.2019 |
| 15      | SR1901003510388 | Prostaglandin Inj 500 mcg/Amp   | 30.07.2019 |
| 16      | SR1901503510389 | Micronised Perfined Flavonoid Fraction of Rutaceae 500 mg - Tab   | 30.07.2019 |
| 17      | SR1902600710390 | Piracetam 800 mg + Alpha Glycerolphosphorylcholine 250 mg Tab   | 30.07.2019 |
| 18      | SR1902802010391 | Chlordiazepoxide 25 mg Tab  | 30.07.2019 |
| 19      | SR1906401910392 | Mycophenolate Sodium 360 mg Enteric Coated (Gastro Resistant) (Original) Tab  | 30.07.2019 |
| 20      | SR1906604110393 | Desferrioxamine Inj 500 mg Vial   | 30.07.2019 |
| 21      | SR1907403110394 | Ferrous Fumarate 200 mg + Folic Acid 1.5 mg + B12 15 mcg timed Release  | 30.07.2019 |
| 22      | SR1906431010395 | Panobinostat 20 mg Cap  | 30.07.2019 |

Principal Chief Medical Director

### OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

#### DEATH

#### SAD DEMISE

**Prof. Venkateswarlu Kankanala**  
Passed away on 24-06-19  
"Peddakarma" (11th day) Thursday, 4th July, 2019  
at Mahaprasantham Trust, Whisper Valley,  
Shaikpet, Hyderabad, Telengana

Our beloved Professor Venkateswarlu Kankanala passed away peacefully on June 24th, 2019, at his home in Hyderabad, India.

He was 81 and was preceded in death by his wife of nearly 50 years, Mrs. Kankanala Rama Venkateswarlu. He is survived by his sons, daughter-in-law, grandchildren, nephews, a niece and their families.

He was a deeply loved Father, Husband, Uncle, Grandfather, Father-in-Law, Professor, Dean, Mentor, Coach to world class athletes, Prolific Author of 100s of peer-reviewed journal publications and dozens of text books, and a phenomenal multi-sport athlete (national level middle distance runner, state volleyball star and proficient badminton, tennis and table tennis player). One of the original true scholar-athletes of his time, and the first to be awarded a doctorate in exercise physiology in India (Punjabi University, 1972), he was an icon, a teacher, a pathfinder and an academic father of many (as an advisor to over 100 doctoral students and hundreds of Masters students) and the mentor of professors. A father of Physical and Health Education, he started his teaching career at Government College of Physical Education, Patiala (Punjab), then moved to the YMCA College of Physical Education, Madras before spending over three decades at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (Nigeria).

He Lived a Vibrant, Abundant and Inspired Life with an infectious generosity, right to the very end and has served as an inspiration to 1000s worldwide. His sons are supremely Grateful to have had him as a father, for the sacrifices he and their late mother made for them to get the best education, to reach higher, to never think about what people say, to love unconditionally, to keep moving forward and most importantly, to never give up.

Dad, Uncle, Grandpa, Professor and Teacher—We Love You and we will really miss you. You truly are an Amazing Inspiration to us, and we have gleaned so many valuable lessons from your wonderful Life, your actions and your benevolent wisdom.

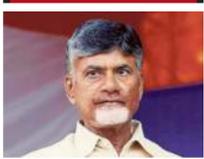
We Trust that the Great Spirit of this magnificent Universe will be with you, joyfully guiding you with Grace, as you deserve.

You are deeply loved and will be greatly missed. Thank You so very much for your presence here and everything you have done for us.

May you rest in Eternal Peace.

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## IN BRIEF



## No reduction in Naidu's security, A-G tells HC

**VIJAYAWADA**  
The High Court on Tuesday adjourned the hearing on the petition filed by former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu seeking restoration of full security to July 9, and directed the State government to file a detailed affidavit. Advocate-General Subrahmanyam Sriram said the security for Mr. Naidu was not curtailed. He said while 58 was the prescribed number of security personnel for the plaintiff, the government provided him a security cover comprising 74 policemen.

## Energy bills of Kerala consumers set to soar

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**  
Energy bills of all consumers in Kerala, mainly consumers in the domestic sector, are likely to go up by 8% to 10% soon. The Cabinet is likely to take a call soon on the revised tariff submitted for its approval by the Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission. The tariff is learnt to have left commercial consumers largely untouched. About 85 lakh domestic consumers will have to bear a major burden of the hike.

## 250 priests vow to defy Cardinal Alencherry

**KOCHI**  
Nearly 250 priests of the Syro-Malabar Church met here on Tuesday to express their resentment against the reinstatement of Cardinal George Alencherry as head of the Ernakulam-Angamaly Archdiocese. They also protested against the removal of the two Auxiliary Bishops Sebastian Adayanthrath and Jose Puthenveetil. They were asked to move out of the Archbishop's House after George Alencherry assumed office following his reinstatement.

## Fall in line or face action: Cong.

Venugopal meets Kharge to discuss political developments in Karnataka

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BENGALURU**

A day after the resignation of two Karnataka Congress MLAs to the membership of Legislative Assembly, the party high command swung into action on Tuesday and warned disgruntled MLAs of action if they violated party discipline and hatched a plot to topple the coalition government.

"If any Congress MLA expresses unhappiness publicly, the party will take action against them without any hesitation," said AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka K.C. Venugopal. He was speaking in the national capital after a meeting with veteran Congress leader M. Mallikarjun Kharge.

Meanwhile, Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah is said to have spoken to Chief Minister H.D.



M. Mallikarjun Kharge

Kumaraswamy, who is away in the U.S., over the developments.

## Earlier suspensions

Already, the Congress has suspended Roshan Baig, MLA, and issued show-cause notice to Bheema Naik, MLA, for allegedly criticising the party leaders and Minister P.T. Parameshwar Naik, respectively.



K.C. Venugopal

Mr. Venugopal, who called on Mr. Kharge to discuss the political developments in the State, insisted there was no threat to the stability of the Kumaraswamy government and that it would complete its full five year term.

"If one or two people quit, we will deal with it legally," he said. He added that the BJP was threatening to destabilise the government every

day, but it would not work.

Meanwhile in Bagalkot, Sugar Minister R.B. Thimmapur of the Congress said that five BJP MLAs were ready to switch sides and he was in touch with two. However, he declined to divulge their names.

In Bengaluru, Mr. Siddaramaiah said that the government was "100% safe" and no other MLA would quit. He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah had hatched a plan to topple the coalition government.

The former Chief Minister admitted that he was not able to contact Ramesh Jarkiholi (MLA for Gokak) and Anand Singh (MLA for Vijayanagar) who have tendered their resignation.

Mr. Siddaramaiah also ruled out convening a meeting of the legislators.

## Name Kerala hospitals in illegal organ trade case: SC

**LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked petitioner-in-person and Kollam resident Dr. S. Ganapathy to implead hospitals in Kerala, which he claims engage in illegal organ harvesting from brain-dead patients.

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, asked Dr. Ganapathy to file the details by August of what he alleged as gross malpractice in the certification of brain death in Kerala.

The doctor had filed his special leave petition against a Kerala High Court order which "meekly" stated that it was satisfied with the steps taken to prevent such malpractices.

## Pernicious ript

He had stated that the trouble began on February 4, 2012 when the State government issued an order giving a hospital, which certifies a patient as brain dead, a "first right" to three organs of the patient – the liver, heart, and one kidney. "The petitioner apprehends that often, the patient is certified as brain dead by a committee of three doctors from that same hospital and one doctor from another private hospital, without performing the required tests," the petition said.

The Kerala government submitted that a comprehensive set of rules and tests have already been put in place to prevent such illegal harvesting of organs for transplants.

Dr. Ganapathy further apprehended that the organs are transplanted into incompatible recipients, thus resulting in a high failure rate.



**Cause for concern:** Of the 52.5240 sq km needed for the Mokedatu project, 31.81 sq km comes within the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. • FILE PHOTO

## Mokedatu to claim 52.5 sq km of forest

Cost of project shoots up by ₹3,000 cr.

**MOHIT M. RAO  
BENGALURU**

Nearly 52.5 sq km will be submerged or built over for the contentious Mokedatu balancing reservoir and drinking water project.

While the pre-feasibility report for the project, prepared in June as part of environmental clearances, puts definite numbers to the large-scale submergence in the core area of the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary – 31.81 sq km – it also shows that costs have shot up by over 50% in just two years.

In March 2017, a GO accorded the project administrative approval to be executed at a cost of ₹5,912 crore. However, in the pre-feasibility report and in the Cauvery Neeravari Nigam Ltd.'s (CNL) submission to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the estimated cost has been pegged at ₹9,000 crore.

The cost includes a 99 m-high Concrete Gravity Dam, spillways of 318 m length and three underground power units for which more than 2,000 tonnes of explosives will be used to exca-

vate rock and sand in the middle of the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, shows the pre-feasibility report.

## Elephant corridor

The sanctuary is home to several endemic or endangered species and is a key elephant and wildlife corridor. The CNL officials, who claim in the report that the project can be completed in four months, refused to comment on the project as it was still being heard by the Supreme Court.

The report, a copy of which is with *The Hindu*, states that the project will utilise an additional 4.75 TMC of drinking water for the Bengaluru Metropolitan Region, store flood water to prevent it from "escaping to the sea", and to generate 400 MW of energy.

The project has come under controversy with Tamil Nadu vehemently opposing construction on fears that it will result in lower releases of water to the State, while, environmentalists fear irreversible damage to the ecosystem at the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary.

## Irate villagers attack forest staff in Telangana

Five officials suffer injuries as they try to prevent 'encroachment' of forest land

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BHADRADRI-KOTHAGUDEM**

Five Telangana Forest Department staff, including a woman forest beat officer, were allegedly attacked by a group of angry villagers comprising members of Gutti Koya tribal community when they tried to prevent an alleged bid to encroach upon a piece of land in the reserve forest area near Gundalpadu village in Mulkalapally mandal early on Tuesday.

## Second incident

This is the second incident in which Forest Department staff found themselves at the receiving end of intimidation while discharging their duty to protect forests. The incident comes close on the



Forest officials submitting a memorandum seeking protection from villagers to the police in Khammam. • G.N. RAO

heels of a group of irate villagers forcibly stalling construction of a protection wall around the reserve forest area near Kothagudem on Saturday.

Kothagudem MLA Vanama Venkateswara Rao of the

TRS and four others were booked in connection with the incident.

Acting on a tip-off, the five-member team of forest staff rushed to the forest land in 344 compartment near Gundalpadu at 2 a.m.

The staff seized three tractors which were being allegedly used to till the forest land by some local inhabitants, claiming rights over the land for "podu cultivation," sources said.

The staff were attacked by angry locals with bamboo sticks when they foiled their bid to plough the land in the reserve forest area. The forest staff managed to reach Mulkalapally with the help of villagers of Timmampeta around 5 a.m. Later, they lodged a complaint at the local police station against the persons who attacked them.

"We have requested the forest officials to inform police before venturing into interior forest areas," said Sunil Dutt, Superintendent of Police.

## TDB alleges bid to sabotage Sabarimala pilgrimage

Forest Department termed pilgrim traffic a major hazard

**RADHAKRISHNAN KUTTOOR  
PATHANAMTHITTA**

The Travancore Devaswom Board has locked horns with the Forest Department over the latter's description of the pilgrim traffic to Sabarimala as a "major hazard" in an ecotourism development project report submitted to the Centre.

Talking to *The Hindu*, TDB president A. Padmakumar alleged Forest Department bid to sabotage the Sabarimala pilgrimage, instead of cooperating with the board to provide the maximum possible pilgrim amenities at the pilgrim centre in the Periyar Tiger Reserve without causing much harm to the forest environs.

In its report on ecotourism development submitted to the Centre, the Forest department stated that "the

ecological sanctity of the area was totally affected by the high density pilgrimage and the Forest Department seldom controls the pilgrim activities."

"The major hazards caused by the movement of pilgrims include collection of firewood from the forest, cutting poles for constructing sheds, littering of biodegradable plastic waste, noise pollution by chanting religious slogans, creating trekking tracks through trampling resulting in soil erosion, lighting at night during trekking to the temple, temporary camps, and halting places."

## 'Derogatory, misleading'

Mr. Padmakumar said such statements in the report were derogatory and misleading. "Treating pilgrims'

chants of *Swamiyei Saranam Ayyappa* as noise pollution amounted to mockery of the pilgrimage itself.

Mr. Padmakumar said forest officials should better realise that the Sabarimala pilgrimage existed even before the formation of the Forest Department and the Periyar Tiger Reserve.

## 'Misleading information'

He alleged an attempt to provide misleading information about Sabarimala to the Central Empowered Committee, Union Ministry, and even the court.

"Like the Forest Department, the TDB too is a State-sponsored body and the former should have extended cooperation to the latter, instead of creating avoidable hurdles," Mr. Padmakumar said.

## Fatal trap



A leopard died after it was caught in a snare near Biruru in Chikkamagaluru, Karnataka, on Tuesday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## IIT-Madras team to visit Maradu today

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOCHI**

A five-member team from the Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, will reach here on Wednesday to assess the impact of demolition of the flats at Maradu. It is on a request from the Kerala government that the team is visiting Kochi.

The team is expected to visit the building complexes around 10 a.m. The Environment Department and the Maradu Municipality have deputed officials to provide assistance to the visiting team.

Kerala had sought to know the environmental impact of the demolition of the apartment complexes, as ordered by the Supreme Court. The court had ordered the demolition of the complexes for violating the Coastal Regulation Zone guidelines.

## Kondapochamma work nearing completion

Telangana officials focus on digging connecting canals to supply water to fields

**R. AVADHANI  
SIDDIPET**

As the construction of the Kondapochamma reservoir is nearing completion, officials are focussing on digging connecting canals to supply water to the fields.

Water would be supplied in three phases – main canals in the first phase, by distributaries in the second and sub-minors/ field channels in the third.

Land acquisition for the main canals – Jagadevpur, Ramayampet, Gajwel, Sangareddy, Turkapally, Kishatapur and Upparapally – is complete and work is progressing at a fast pace.

The canals would be constructed for about 600 km, of which 450 km would be distributary canals.

On each distributary



The Kondapochamma reservoir work is progressing at a fast pace in Telangana's Medak district. • FILE PHOTO

there will be 10 or 20 channels to supply water to the fields in the last leg. The canal digging work would be taken up in about 170 villag-

es. However, as the width of the distributary canals will be narrow, officials are hoping that there would not be much opposition from farm-

ers. More so, as the canal would flow close to their fields.

## Land acquisition

Officials estimate that about 2,000 acres are required for the distributaries and minors, for which survey and land acquisition will commence shortly. Collector P. Venkataram Reddy held a meeting with officials last week in this regard.

"These canals would benefit each and every farmer in this area and they can cultivate two crops every year with assured irrigation. We want to complete the land acquisition for distributaries within 45 days. I request every farmer to cooperate with the government in land acquisition and digging of canals," he appealed.

## A grassroots movement against drugs

Excise Department to form army of volunteers to fight menace in Kerala

**M.P. PRAVEEN  
KOCHI**

The Excise Department is set to take its fight against the drugs menace to the grassroots by forming a Vimukthi Sena of young volunteers at the ward-level.

The project is being implemented under the department's initiative 'Vimukthi', Kerala State Mission for De-addiction. It will conduct awareness campaigns against alcoholism and drug abuse. The process of enlisting willing and young volunteers aged between 18 and 40 years who are not into any kind of intoxicants is now under way at the ward-level.

"Ward councillors with their local know-how will identify eligible volunteers from among youth outfits,

**Ward councillors will identify volunteers from among youth outfits**

**T.A. ASHOK KUMAR  
Assistant Excise Commissioner**

clubs and other volunteer groups. The idea is to have a band of five volunteers each in every ward, which would easily take the number of volunteers under the Vimukthi Sena to over 2,000 in Ernakulam district," T.A. Ashok Kumar, Assistant Excise Commissioner (Enforcement) and Vimukthi manager for the district, told *The Hindu*.

The Vimukthi Sena is likely to be formed across the district by July 15 and a function will be held to mark its formal launch. The pro-

posed force will be a vital cog in the awareness campaigns of the Excise Department. "They can either organise campaigns on their own or conduct them in association with the department, for which funds will be allotted from the Vimukthi fund," said Mr. Kumar.

The launch of Vimukthi Sena will coincide with the department's intensified awareness campaigns to be held in the coming days. The anti-addiction clubs in schools and colleges have been asked to design new awareness programmes.

"The Excise Department will involve itself in the school protection groups being set up jointly by the education and police departments and the district administration. Our role is to

keep students insulated from the influence of drugs," said Mr. Kumar. It also plans to organise sporting events as a ploy to turn the youth away from drugs. To begin with, a football match is planned in the coastal regions of the district around mid-July and the winners will contest at the State-level.

## Three-tier campaign

The department has formulated a three-tier mode of awareness campaign in the fight against drugs. "Apart from general awareness campaigns, we also aim to treat and rehabilitate addicts. But the emphasis of our campaigns will now be to ensure that those who have not fallen into the drug trap will stay that way in future as well," said Mr. Kumar.

IN BRIEF



**Narayanasamy calls Bedi the 'bane of Puducherry'**  
UDHAGAMANDALAM  
Chief Minister V. Narayanasamy, while talking to reporters in Udhagamandalam on Tuesday, spoke out against Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory, Kiran Bedi, terming her as the "bane of Puducherry," for trying to interfere with the running of the government.

**Rajeev Kumar's interim bail extended till July 22**

KOLKATA  
The Calcutta High Court on Tuesday extended till July 22 the interim bail of IPS officer Rajeev Kumar in the multicore Saradha chit fund scam. Mr. Kumar, presently posted as Additional Director General (Criminal Investigation Department) of West Bengal police, was earlier granted interim bail till July 10. The matter would be heard on July 15.

**Aid to farmers to shun slash-burn cultivation**

AGARTALA  
The Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAACD) will financially support poor tribal farmers to gradually give up slash and burn cultivation. A senior official said they would provide financial help to the farmers, known as Jhumias, to avoid deforestation. About 5,834 Jhumia families have been listed for the assistance.

**Work on 13 Arunachal oil wells to resume**

GUWAHATI  
Work on 13 oil wells in Arunachal Pradesh would be resumed 16 years after they were shut down due to lack of forest clearance. The State government expects an annual revenue of ₹15 crore from mining of crude at these wells in Changlang district. The Pema Khandu-led BJP government is also eyeing a substantial revenue from the Namchik-Namphuk coalfield in the same district.

# Tamil Nadu CM rules out 10% EWS quota without consensus

Says 69% limit of reservation will not be disturbed under any circumstance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Tuesday ruled out implementing the 10% quota for economically weaker sections (EWS) among the open competition category in medical admissions sans political consensus.

A meeting of "recognised" political parties would be conducted to elicit views on the Medical Council of India's proposal offering to increase the sanctioned strength of students in medical colleges by 25% if the State implemented the 10% quota in admissions, brought in earlier this year by the Central government.

"Under any circumstances, the government will continue to implement the 69%



Edappadi K. Palaniswami

reservation," Mr. Palaniswami assured the Assembly after Leader of the Opposition and DMK president M.K. Stalin questioned the MCI's proposal.

Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam referred to the case before a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court regarding 69% reser-

vation, and said the Advocate General and senior counsel in Delhi would be consulted on the MCI letter as well as the pending case. "We will discuss and decide in such a way that even 0.1% is not affected in the 69% reservation policy under any circumstance," he said.

He said any decision on implementing 10% quota for the EWS would be taken if a consensus emerged among leaders of all "recognised" political parties at the proposed meeting.

Explaining the MCI's proposal, he said that Tamil Nadu would get 1,000 medical seats additionally (if it implemented the 10% quota), of which 150 would be filled up under the all-India quota. Of the remaining seats, 264 would be earmarked for the

open competition quota and 586 seats could be filled up through the existing 69% quota.

Assailing the 10% quota for EWS, Mr. Stalin said it was not only against the Constitution but also detrimental to social justice. Pointing out that only 1% of the top teaching posts in Central universities were occupied by OBCs, he said while the AIADMK harped on former Chief Minister Jayalithaa's efforts in implementing the 69% reservation, the 10% quota would make her achievements go in vain. The present system of leaving 31% seats for open competition candidates was functioning well and there was no need for implementing 10% reservation for EWS, Mr. Stalin argued.

# Vaiko named Rajya Sabha poll candidate after over 2 decades

His last stint in the Upper House was between 1990-1996

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

MDMK general secretary Vaiko will be the party's candidate for the Rajya Sabha polls from Tamil Nadu. The decision was taken by the party's high-level district secretaries' committee on Tuesday.

Mr. Vaiko, when elected with the support of DMK MLAs, would be entering the Upper House after a gap of 23 years. His previous tenure in the Rajya Sabha was between 1990 and 1996 as a representative of the DMK [He was expelled from the party in 1993].

**First tryst**

"When I expressed my desire to be in Parliament, DMK leader Kalaingar (Karunanidhi) nominated me to



Vaiko

the Rajya Sabha in 1978," he told *The Hindu*, recalling his first election to the Upper House.

In 1977, when the AIADMK, headed by M.G. Ramachandran, came to power, the DMK faced a heavy reversal of electoral fortune in the south, but managed to win Sankarankoil,

Mr. Vaiko's home constituency. At the time, he was the deputy organiser of the party's student wing. Earlier, he was arrested and jailed during the Emergency declared by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

"Kalaingar liked my speeches and I worked very hard in the election in Sankarankoil constituency. It was the only constituency that was retained by the DMK in the south," he recalled.

Mr. Vaiko's second tenure in the Rajya Sabha began in 1984 and the third tenure in 1990. Before the end of his term, his relationship with the DMK leadership strained, and he was expelled from the party. He subsequently launched the MDMK.

## T.N. opposes 3-language formula

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu government has opposed the three-language formula proposed by the Centre in the draft National Education Policy.

The government was determined to continue implementing the two-language formula comprising Tamil and English, School Education Minister K.A. Sengottaiyan informed the Assembly on Tuesday.

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue, Mr. Sengottaiyan said while replying to DMK legislator N. Suresh Rajan (Nagercoil), who raised the issue during the debate on the demands for grants for the Education Department.

# Monsoon deficit not yet a concern: Agriculture Minister

Says Government is prepared and keeping a close watch

PRISCILLA JEBARAJ  
NEW DELHI

With monsoon rains making tardy progress, which has led to delayed kharif crop sowing and left large parts of southern and western India in the grip of extreme water scarcity, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar said the government was keeping a close watch on the situation.

"I agree that drought is a cause for concern. It is not new for India," he told reporters on Tuesday. "Right now, the current estimates do not indicate reasons for concern... the government is prepared and the Ministry is keeping a close watch. We are concerned. By God's grace, such a situation will not arise."

One month after the scheduled onset of the monsoon,



Narendra Singh Tomar

there is a 32% rainfall deficit and kharif sowing of foodgrains has barely reached two-thirds of the normal acreage covered by this time. As of June 28, farmers had sown rice, pulses, coarse cereals and oilseeds on 63 lakh hectares of land; the average coverage for the corresponding period over the last five years was almost 97 lakh hectares.

## 'AES deaths lower than global rates'

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

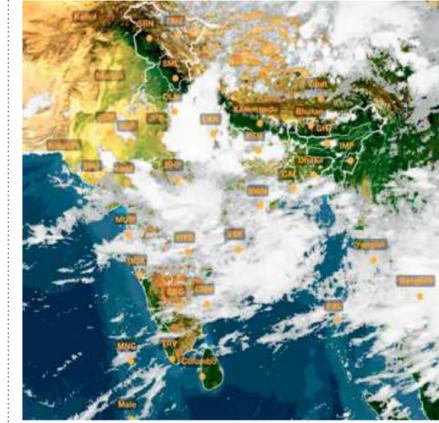
The Bihar government on Tuesday defended its public health system in the Supreme Court, days after mass child deaths due to acute encephalitis syndrome (AES), saying steps taken by the State's public health authorities had in fact lowered the AES fatality rate to 19%, far lower than the global fatality rate pegged at 30%.

A 23-page affidavit filed by the State said as of June 30, the total number of reported AES cases in the State are 824 and there have been 157 deaths recorded.

The affidavit claims a "substantial reduction" in reported AES cases. The credit for this goes to the "constant and consistent efforts" taken by the government and, a "change in weather" it said.

**WEATHER WATCH**

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Wednesday:** Heavy to very heavy rainfall likely at a few places over west and east Madhya Pradesh, Goa, central Maharashtra, Marathawada, east Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, south Gujarat, coastal Karnataka, Kerala, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya and Telangana

| CITY        | RAIN | MAX  | MIN  | CITY            | RAIN  | MAX  | MIN  |
|-------------|------|------|------|-----------------|-------|------|------|
| Agartala    | 2.3  | 34.0 | 27.2 | Kozhikode       | 3.0   | 33.0 | 27.2 |
| Ahmedabad   | 38.4 | 28.1 | 25.2 | Kurnool         | 3.0   | 33.4 | 25.2 |
| Aizwal      | 6.0  | 26.3 | 21.2 | Lucknow         | 12.4  | 37.3 | 26.3 |
| Allahabad   | 38.7 | 30.5 | 27.0 | Madurai         | 4.0   | 40.6 | 27.0 |
| Bengaluru   | 30.8 | 21.5 | 23.4 | Mangaluru       | 2.8   | 31.6 | 23.4 |
| Bhopal      | 7.7  | 33.8 | 24.0 | Mumbai          | 378.2 | 28.2 | 23.4 |
| Bhubaneswar | 70.8 | 26.8 | 24.2 | Mysuru          | 31.1  | 31.1 | 21.2 |
| Chandigarh  | 40.5 | 29.4 | 25.0 | New Delhi       | 39.4  | 30.0 | 25.0 |
| Chennai     | 37.4 | 30.6 | 25.0 | Patna           | 2.2   | 34.0 | 29.4 |
| Coimbatore  | 32.4 | 25.0 | 19.6 | Port Blair      | 0.2   | 30.0 | 26.7 |
| Dehradun    | 53.2 | 35.9 | 19.6 | Puducherry      | 37.4  | 28.4 | 25.0 |
| Gangtok     | 16.0 | 23.2 | 19.0 | Pune            | 24.7  | 27.9 | 21.8 |
| Goa         | 0.3  | 32.0 | 26.9 | Raipur          | 17.6  | 25.7 | 24.0 |
| Guwahati    | 29.7 | 34.9 | 24.4 | Ranchi          | 15.6  | 26.0 | 22.8 |
| Hubballi    | 00.0 | 27.0 | 22.0 | Shillong        | 0.3   | 25.9 | 18.1 |
| Hyderabad   | 1.7  | 29.3 | 23.1 | Shimla          | 27.5  | 17.9 | 12.6 |
| Imphal      | 2.5  | 30.0 | 23.1 | Srinagar        | 29.6  | 12.6 | 12.6 |
| Jaipur      | 41.0 | 28.0 | 21.8 | Trivandrum      | 32.1  | 26.9 | 21.8 |
| Kochi       | 2.0  | 31.4 | 27.0 | Tiruchirappalli | 39.3  | 27.8 | 21.8 |
| Kohima      | 11.2 | 32.7 | 18.0 | Visakhapatnam   | 12.8  | 32.5 | 24.6 |
| Kolkata     | 22.3 | 32.1 | 27.1 | Visakhapatnam   | 30.6  | 27.4 | 21.8 |

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

| CITIES        | SO <sub>2</sub> | NO <sub>2</sub> | CO  | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|-------|------|------|
| Ahmedabad     | 60              | 138             | 72  | 79    | 79   | 79   |
| Bengaluru     | 15              | 39              | 76  | 116   | 116  | 116  |
| Chennai       | 5               | 24              | 38  | 63    | 63   | 63   |
| Delhi         | 17              | 26              | 24  | 299   | 299  | 299  |
| Hyderabad     | 9               | 27              | 29  | 45    | 45   | 45   |
| Kolkata       | 3               | 25              | 57  | 23    | 23   | 23   |
| Lucknow       | 10              | 26              | 95  | 282   | 282  | 282  |
| Mumbai        | 31              | 34              | 108 | 22    | 35   | 35   |
| Pune          | 64              | 8               | 30  | 21    | 21   | 21   |
| Visakhapatnam | 11              | 65              | 39  | 52    | 87   | 87   |

**Air Quality Code:** Poor (Red), Moderate (Yellow), Good (Green) (Readings indicate average AQI)  
**SO<sub>2</sub>:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.  
**NO<sub>2</sub>:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.  
**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.  
**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

## DGCA calls meeting of airlines

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

A spate of runway mishaps due to rains forced aviation safety regulator DGCA, or Directorate General of Civil Aviation, to call a meeting with airlines on Tuesday and issue an advisory for the monsoon season.

"The DGCA called a meeting with the heads of operations of all airlines on safety. I had a separate meeting with the CEOs of the airlines where safety was among the issues that was discussed," Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, P.S. Kharola said.

The safety instructions emphasised on encouraging pilots to avert landing and conduct a go-around in case of an unstabilised approach and insisted that airlines pay consideration to crew fatigue while rostering them for flights.

In an eight-point advisory, the DGCA also asked airlines to "carry out their own risk-assessment before conducting operations during adverse weather conditions and make available sufficiently experienced crew in the cockpit" apart from adhering to the minimum cockpit experience laid down by it.

Over the past few days several airlines have been involved in runway-related mishaps, most of which were due to rains. SpiceJet has seen three incidents for three days in a row during rains, the latest was on Tuesday when a SpiceJet aircraft veered off the Kolkata runway and damaged some of the runway lights.

A GoAir aircraft also suffered a tail strike in Ranchi on Sunday.

**International Institute of Information Technology**  
Sealed tenders are invited for English to Indian Languages Translation. Last date for submission: 11 July 2019. For more details visit [www.iiit.ac.in/Tender-Notice1/Registrar](http://www.iiit.ac.in/Tender-Notice1/Registrar)

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For details & online registration visit [www.nirdpr.org.in](http://www.nirdpr.org.in) (CPGS/SP/SHG BEHAVIOUR CHANGE/PATHWAYS/PROJECT)  
Last Date: 18.07.2019  
Advt. No.15/2019  
Assistant Registrar (E)

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  - Information System Security – Level I
  - PLC/SCADA/DCS Engineer
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  - Computer Aided Design using CREO
  - Embedded C and ARM Cortex Microcontrollers

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**NOTIFICATION FOR MQ ADMISSIONS**

Application forms online are invited from NEET-UG-2019 qualified candidates for admission into MBBS/BDS Courses for Management Quota in Private Medical & Dental colleges in the State of Telangana under KNRUHS from 03-07-2019 to 10-07-2019.  
For detailed notification refer to [www.knrhuhs.in](http://www.knrhuhs.in), [www.knrhuhs.telangana.gov.in](http://www.knrhuhs.telangana.gov.in)  
Dated: 02-07-2019  
REGISTRAR

**Government of India Department of Space Indian Space Research Organisation LIQUID PROPELLION SYSTEMS CENTRE**  
Valiamala P.O., Thiruvananthapuram - 695 547

**CORRIGENDUM** Dated 02.07.2019

Reference Advertisement Nos. LPSC/01/2019 and LPSC/02/2019 dated 15.06.2019 inviting applications through online for various posts in LPSC with closing date as 02.07.2019.

It has now been decided to extend the closing date of the above advertisements upto 08.07.2019 and interested candidates may visit LPSC website [www.lpsc.gov.in](http://www.lpsc.gov.in) for filling-up of online application form. For this purpose, the online recruitment portal will be available upto 1400 hrs on 08.07.2019. Payment window will be opened upto 1400 hrs on 09.07.2019. Declaration forms should reach LPSC by post on or before 16.07.2019.

All other terms and conditions of the Advertisements shall remain the same.  
Sd/-  
Administrative Officer, Recruitment Section

**Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Govt of India DR. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology Port Blair**

**VACANCY NOTICE-Last Date of Application Extended**

**Name of the Post: Professors and Associate Professors**  
Nature of appointment: on contract basis under TEQIP-III Project  
Period of appointment: Initially for 01 year and extendable to 03 years  
It is for the information of all interested candidates that for the vacancy notice published on 12th June 2019 in all Hindu Editions, the last date of online application for recruitment of Professors and Associate Professors on contract basis under TEQIP-III Project for the establishment of Dr. B.R Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Port Blair is extended till 15th July 2019. The details may be seen online in the url: <https://erecruitment.andaman.gov.in> for the following posts.

| Sl No | Department                              | Professor | Associate Professor |
|-------|---|-----------|---------------------|
| 1.    | Civil Engineering                       | 01        | 01                  |
| 2.    | Computer Science & Engineering          | 01        | 01                  |
| 3.    | Electronics & Communication Engineering | 01        | 01                  |

**Dean (Academic)**



## Teachers and quotas

Bill on reservation in central academic cadre provides relief to disadvantaged sections

Legislation to overcome the effects of court verdicts is not always a good idea. However, sometimes an exception ought to be made in the larger public interest. One such law is the Centre's Bill to ensure that reservation for scheduled castes, tribes and other backward classes in appointments to central educational institutions is preserved. The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Bill, 2019, passed by the Lok Sabha, replaces an ordinance promulgated in March. Its main object is to restore the system of treating an institution or a university as a single unit to apply the reservation roster, and thus help fill 7,000 teaching vacancies. It seeks to get around a 2017 judgment of the Allahabad High Court striking down University Grants Commission regulations that treated the institution as the unit for determining the roster, and directing that each department be the relevant unit. In short, reservation should be department-wise, and not institution-wise, the court ruled. The Supreme Court rejected the Centre's appeal against the order. But the narrower basis for applying quotas would mean fewer aspirants from OBC and SC/ST sections would be recruited as assistant professors. In the interest of social justice, it had to restore the system of having a wider pool of posts in which the quotas of 27% for OBC, 15% for SC and 7.5% ST could be effectively applied. From this perspective, the Bill provides welcome relief for aspirants from the disadvantaged sections of society.

It is not that the court was manifestly wrong in applying the roster based on a smaller unit, that is, a department in a university or institution. The High Court noted that having the whole institution as a unit would result in some departments having only reservation beneficiaries and others only those from the open category. But the counterpoint is equally valid. Having the department as the unit would mean smaller faculties would not have any reservation. In the roster system, it needs 14 posts to accommodate SC and ST candidates, as their turn would come only at the seventh and 14th vacancy. There may be no vacancies in many departments for many years, with none from the reserved categories for decades. On the other hand, taking the institution as the unit would give more opportunities for these sections. According to the UGC's annual report for 2017-18, nearly two-thirds of assistant professors in Central universities are from the general category. Their representation would go up further, as the present Bill also applies the 10% quota for the economically weak among those outside the reservation loop. Applying the court's department-wise roster norm would have deepened the sense of deprivation of the backward classes and SC/ST communities. To that extent, the new enactment will serve a vital social purpose.

## Trump in North Korea

The U.S. President appears committed to diplomacy in dealing with North Korea

U.S. President Donald Trump made history on Sunday when he stepped on to North Korean soil from the demilitarised zone (DMZ) that separates the two Koreas. He is the only American President to have visited North Korea, the isolated, nuclear-armed dictatorship that is historically seen as an enemy in Washington's policy establishment. The President's surprise announcement, via Twitter, that he was ready to visit the DMZ to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un was typical of Mr. Trump, who enjoys conducting off-the-cuff personal diplomacy. North Korea seized the opportunity, and both leaders met at the DMZ, held talks for nearly an hour and decided to resume parleys that have stalled since the two leaders' failed summit in Hanoi. Mr. Trump deserves credit for infusing fresh life into the nuclear negotiations. His intervention came at a time when North Koreans were growing impatient over lack of progress in the matter of ties. In recent weeks, they had personally attacked U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and targeted the South Korean leadership over the sanctions and the logjam in talks. Now that both Mr. Trump and Mr. Kim have met and decided to set up teams on both sides to hold negotiations, the impasse is broken. But key challenges remain.

Mr. Trump appears to be committed to diplomacy in addressing the North Korean issue. Pyongyang, though often cryptic in its responses, has also shown interest in staying engaged with the U.S. Mr. Kim has, in principle, agreed to denuclearise the peninsula, which is the goal of the U.S. as well. But the critical question is when and how it should be done. The Hanoi summit collapsed chiefly as the U.S. considered the compromise that North Korea offered insufficient to warrant reciprocity with sanctions relief. North Korea had agreed to close down the Yongbyon facility, its main nuclear fuel production site, but the U.S. rejected the offer, saying the North's nuclear capability is now much more diversified and goes beyond that one plant. When they resume talks, the question of how much the North should compromise to get at least a partial reprieve from sanctions will be back. If the U.S. sticks to its maximalist demands such as complete denuclearisation, the talks are likely to run into trouble again. For Pyongyang, nuclear weapons are its insurance against potential external aggression, and it would accede to total denuclearisation only if its security concerns are ensured and sanctions are fully withdrawn. Both sides should learn from their failure in Hanoi. They can take small steps towards the final goal. The U.S. could demand a total freeze on North Korea's nuclear activities, besides shutting down Yongbyon, which the North has already agreed to, in return for providing partial reprieve from sanctions. Constructive and reciprocal confidence-building measures would mean that Mr. Trump's personal diplomatic outreach and the momentum it created won't be in vain.

# Reclaiming the space of non-violence

Civil society must reinvent Gandhi as a political philosopher in the struggle against violence that has crushed solidarities



NEERA CHANDHOKE

The Bharatiya Janata Party government took over barely a month ago, and already a spate of attacks on the minority community, particularly the horrific incident in Jharkhand, have further scarred the body politic. Citizens who have some notion of what we owe other people merely because they are human, have protested in words, verse, and deed. I am not positing a causal relationship between this government and rising incidents of crime against minorities: merely pointing out a striking coincidence.

A handful of criminals hold the minorities to ransom. They hold our society to ransom. The poet Gulzar had written: 'Pahir giri garden, sar katne lage/Log bat te hi, khuda batne lagey/Naam jo poochey koi... dar lagta hai/Ab kise pooje koi... dar lagta hai/Kitni baar sooli par mujhe tangaa hai chand logon ne'. Once again necks have fallen/once again heads are hacked off/People have been divided/now Gods are also divided/If someone asks my name I am petrified/Who shall I now worship? I am frightened/How many times will a handful of people string me up on a stake?

There was a time when beef politics was used as an excuse to target and murder. The ban on beef was satirised by the poet Saghar Khayyami thus; 'Nafraaton ki jung mein dekho to kya-kya hogaya/Sabziyan Hindu hain, bakra musalman ho gaya'. Just see what has hap-

pened in this war of hate, vegetables have become Hindu and the goat is now Muslim. Today these vicious hoodlums do not need an excuse. They lynch, injure and murder at will.

### Time for contemplation

It is time to reflect on what these everyday incidents of violence do to us. It is time to reclaim the space of non-violence that has been under relentless attack by murderers who take the name of lord Ram to kill, photograph and celebrate killings. It is time to ask this: What exactly does violence do to a society? Why is violence bad politics?

When the 'finger of violence' writes the alphabet of power in blood on peoples' bodies, the script is ineffaceable; the imprint it leaves on the body politic is indelible. Violence leaves stigmata much like the murder of Duncan left blood on Lady Macbeth's hands: 'Will these hands ne'er be clean?' The power of violence over human beings cannot be underrated. It is not a weapon that we pick up and discard at will. It is a 'quagmire that relentlessly sucks people into its murky depths. From here there is no escape. When violence holds individuals and groups in thrall, moral disintegration follows'. We, the people of India become helpless spectators of violent acts committed on our fellow citizens.

We are not the cowards that surround a vulnerable human being, bully and lynch him to death. Violence is the spectacle, we are the consumers of these nauseating acts even if we do not want to. These acts belong to the world of Marquis de Sade; the sexual impulse is indisputably connected to violence. Today these acts have become our world. And we have



become as defenceless as the victim.

### Recreating Satyagraha

Some of us protest, write petitions, assemble, record our disgust, abhorrence, and pain. Does the government listen? It is time that we in civil society stand up and recreate Gandhi's notion of Satyagraha. Satyagraha differs from methods of violent action, because it emphasises self-suffering. The eyes of our people might be opened, as Gandhi suggested, by the suffering of the satyagrahi. Gandhi opts for self-suffering rather than make another person suffer, for many reasons. This mode of politics impacts the collective consciousness.

As people begin to reflect on and analyse the injustice to which they and their fellow citizens have been subjected to, an injustice that needs to be battled, they also come to think about the methods that should be used to battle these injustices. In the process, they are politicised and motivated to act. And this Gandhi felt was revolutionary because public opinion becomes a vital force, challenges injustice, and challenges the government for its acts of omission.

This course of action demands courage. Distinguishing satyagra-

ha from passive resistance and other forms of civil disobedience, Gandhi suggested that the philosophy is not a weapon of the weak. It demands tremendous moral strength and fortitude because it commands that we relentlessly battle with injustice with steadfastness, commitment, fearlessness, and willingness to accept punishment.

The philosophy of satyagraha enlightens the mind, but, more importantly, it gives us a theory of action. In the process, the agent becomes aware of the distinction between what is right and what is wrong, gets sensitised to injustice and the need to fight for justice against the abuse of power. She becomes aware of the virtues of non-violence. She makes the transition from an audience that consumes violence to an agent of change. It is only then that the Indian people will come into their own, and we will recreate the freedom struggle as a second freedom struggle.

For this we must realise that if we wish to lead a good life, we can only do so in a good society, a society that understands the value of the human being irrespective of her religion. But violence diminishes us in many ways; it reduces our humanity. Violence befuddles and reduces us to inaction. Non-violence illumines our minds. It is only then that we the people of India can transit from being spectators to participants in the second freedom struggle.

Gandhi rejects violence for two reasons. Violence stems from the conviction that the perpetrators of violence are right, or that they know the truth. Their truth – whether this truth is what the world is about, or what the position of different individuals in this world should be, or how the world

should be organised, or how relationships in this world should be patterned, or how the world should be perceived – has to be imposed on others. The logical corollary of this premise is that the other appears before them as a lesser human being, or as not fully human.

### Search for truth

But we can never know what the truth is. We have to search for the truth, because truth or in Hindi, *sat*, is not an object, it is a state of being. Since none of us know the truth, we have to search together. None of us has the competence to punish other people through violent words, deeds, or even thoughts.

There is a stronger argument that Gandhi makes for negating violence. In the western tradition, we ought to treat others in the same way as we would like to be treated. According to the Hindu doctrine of Advaita or non-dualism, Gandhi argued that those who hurt others assault their own integrity. Others are ourselves in a different form. Let us reflect on this.

Gandhi negated violence, because he saw it as reducing citizens to consumers, because it presupposes a flawed conception of the truth, and because it ultimately harms the perpetrator. Civil society has to reinvent Gandhi, we have to make him relevant not as the Mahatma but as a political philosopher who guides us in our struggle against the senseless violence that has crushed our sentiments and our solidarities. This is the objective of the second freedom struggle.

Neera Chandhoke is a former Professor of Political Science at Delhi University

## Not by wishful thinking

A \$5 trillion Indian economy may be attainable if domestic saving and investment are stepped up



R. NAGARAJ

In early June, at a NITI Aayog meeting, Prime Minister Narendra Modi set a clear and bold economic target – to grow India into a \$5 trillion economy by 2024. It is now for 'Team India', as the meeting was bannered, to translate this target into a plan and policies and programmes. Historically, such goals by popularly elected leaders have voiced the aspiration of voters and energised nations to realise their potential.

### How realistic?

What does the targeted \$5 trillion economy mean in familiar economic terms? It is ₹350,00,000 crore of gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices, at ₹70 to a U.S. dollar exchange rate. India's (provisional) GDP in 2018-19 at current prices is ₹190,10,164 crore (or \$2.7 trillion), which means the annual per capita income is ₹1,42,719, or about ₹11,900 per month.

The target implies an output expansion by 84% in five years, or at 13% compound annual growth

rate. Assuming an annual price rise of 4%, in line with the Reserve Bank of India's inflation target, the required growth rate in real, or inflation-adjusted, terms is 9% per year. To get a perspective, India officially grew at 7.1% per year over the last five years, but the annual growth rate never touched 9%. Hence, the target seems ambitious. Is it doable?

### How Asia fared

How does the target compare with the Asian experience? China, with a historically unprecedented growth record in its best five years, during 2003-07, grew at 11.7%; South Korea, between 1983 and 1987, grew at 11%. So, Mr. Modi's target is smaller than the best historical records and may seem realistic.

What would it take to grow at 9%? No country grew at such a pace without mobilising domestic saving and raising fixed investment rates.

In the last five years, on average, the domestic saving rate was 30.8% of gross national domestic income (GNDI), and the investment rate (gross capital formation to GDP ratio) was 32.5%. Assuming the underlying technical coefficients remain constant, a 9% annual growth rate calls for 39% of domestic saving rate and 41.2% of investment rate. Correspondingly,



shares of private consumption need to shrink to about 50% of GDP from the current level of 59% of GDP at current prices, assuming foreign capital inflow remains at 1.7% of GDP.

In other words, India will have to turn into an investment-led economy as it happened during the boom last decade (2003-08) before the financial crisis, or like China since the 1980s. Granting that rapid technical progress or changes in output composition could reduce the required incremental capital-output ratio (ICOR), it nevertheless will call for a nearly 8-9 percentage point boost to saving and investment rates.

If, however, the economy has grown at a much slower pace than the officially claimed rate – as the on-going GDP debate suggests and at 4.5% as the former Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian has pegged it – then Mr. Mo-

di's growth target would become even more daunting.

### Low domestic saving rate

These stark facts call for a re-thinking in the ruling dispensation that seems to hail India as a consumption-led growth story. There is a belief that greater foreign capital (FDI) inflow would fill in the investment gap, as evident from the NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman's various pronouncements. History shows that no country has succeeded in accelerating its growth rate without raising the domestic saving rate to close to 40% of GDP. Foreign capital can fill in some vital gaps but is not a substitute for domestic resources. Even in China, FDI inflows as a proportion of GDP never exceeded 5-6%, most of which was in fact round-tripped capital through Hong Kong for securing better property rights at home.

Gross FDI inflow into India peaked in 2008-09 at 2.7% of GDP, decelerating thereafter. As it increasingly consists of private equity (PE) with a three- to five-year tenure, mostly acquiring capital assets (contrary to the textbook FDI definition as fixed capital formation for the long term) net FDI rate is lower than the gross inflows, standing at 1.5% of GDP in 2017-18. Hence, there is a need for caution against the exuberance (or

opportunistic bias) that FDI will help to get to the \$5 trillion GDP target.

What is serious is that the economy has slowed down for a while now. The domestic saving rate has declined from 31.4% in 2013-14 to 29.6% in 2016-17; and gross capital formation rate from 33.8% to 30.6% during the same period. The banking sector's ability to boost credit growth is limited by non-performing assets (NPAs) and the governance crisis in the financial sector. Export to GDP ratio has declined rapidly, with a looming global trade war on the horizon, as has been indicated by the Baltic Dry Index. The highly regarded leading indicator of global trade, currently trading at 1354 is forecasted to decline to less than 1,000 index points by the year-end (a decline from its historic high of 11,793 points in May 2008, just before the financial crisis set in).

Given the foregoing, the \$5 trillion target appears daunting. It may yet be doable, provided policymakers begin with a realistic assessment, by willing to step up domestic saving and investment, and not by the wishful thinking of FDI-led growth accelerations in uncertain economic times.

R. Nagaraj is with the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### By a thread

Karnataka is in for a political crisis. The manner in which the Indian National Congress is crumbling in Karnataka also sends an ominous signal to the dwindling strength of the JD(S) coalition in the Legislative Assembly. It appears as if the Congress is obsessed in convincing its president to withdraw his resignation threat rather than being concerned about the political crisis that is slowly enveloping the State, a political development that the Bharatiya Janata Party is sure to take full advantage of (Page 1, "Coalition govt. shaken as two Cong. MLAs quit in Karnataka", July 2).  
N. VISVESWARAN,  
Chennai

### Free Metro rides

Why should women alone reap the benefits of what seems to be an appeasement tactic by the Delhi government? What about students, senior

citizens and the differently abled? Don't they deserve a free ride too? Government subsidies and discounts on tickets to women might be a better way to go about it (OpEd page, July 2).  
KSHITIJ MANI TRIPATHI,  
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

### Path to progress

The plight of Muslims has no relation with the issues projected in the article, "Taking firm steps to emancipation" (Editorial page, June 27). The issues that Muslims face are the same as that of any marginalised community in India. On the hijab, wearing it cannot be called a negative freedom as it harms none. As far as the All India Muslim Personal Law Board is concerned, not even 1% of the Muslim community is aware of its existence. The needs of Muslims pertain to security, education, employment and health care.  
NADIRA KHAN,  
Koraput, Odisha

I am in complete agreement with the point that the cause of backwardness is the lack of education and opportunities. No one is forced to wear the hijab; it does not cause any harm to others, nor does it influence others towards any evil action. On the inheritance law, Islam is the only religion which allows a double share for women. It is not Sharia laws that come in the way of progress of Muslims but their lack of academic opportunities.  
Dr. TAHIRA IQBAL,  
Chennai

The article rightly argues about Muslims being victims of 'vote bank politics', but offers no solution for the present condition of the community. Abandoning the Sharia law or banning the burqa may not provide substantial changes in underlying concerns such as a lack of representation in legislative-executive bodies, rising numbers in incarceration and the high

level of poverty. These are issues that need to be addressed through education and community level programmes. Muslims in southern India are in a better position than those in the north. It is to be noted that in South India, though labelled as being conservative, there is much better progress than the rest of India in terms of literacy, community efforts and political awareness. The community faces many challenges, but banning the burqa is not a solution.  
AHMAD HUSSAIN,  
Mangaluru

The writer's appeal to the Muslim community to stop conflating regressive practices as an essential component of its faith cannot be brushed aside as unsolicited advice or unwarranted interference in its internal matters. What he leaves unstated, however, holds the key to the Muslim community's emancipation from its sense of victimhood which appears to be more

self-inflicted than the result of state oppression. Muslims don't need opportunistic political patrons who have a vested interest in keeping them backward. The community badly needs responsible interlocutors from within its fold who can responsibly articulate the community's aspirations and empower it to tap into the opportunities provided by a democratic secular society without falling into the entitlement trap. The 'Kerala model' with its focus on the educational advancement of the community, especially of women, is the gateway to the community's socio-economic progress.  
V.N. MUKUNDRAJAN,  
Thiruvananthapuram

### No thought

There is water scarcity and there is scant common sense too as far as city planning is concerned. This is evident following the short bursts of rain that Chennai has had since June-end. Exponential

amounts of money are being spent on storm water drains, pavement makeovers, concrete road medians and flyovers with absolutely no attention being paid to the possibility of using these facilities to channelise rainwater run-off. The newly laid storm water drains seem to have been executed in great haste. The pits are now filled with tar and bitumen after the roads have been relaid, preventing percolation. Pavements and concrete medians have been laid on all arterial roads without ensuring the harvesting of rainwater. No facility seems to exist to harvest the large volume of rainwater that runs off these ugly concrete structures. Spirited public opinion must be mobilised before the government embarks on projects with blinkered vision.  
ANAND ARAVAMUDHAN,  
Chennai

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# No home even a decade after the war

The Indian and Sri Lankan governments need to speed up voluntary repatriation of Tamil refugees



T. RAMAKRISHNAN

A recent order of the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, directing 65 refugees from Sri Lanka to apply for Indian citizenship, has again brought into sharp focus the need for the two countries to resolve a long-pending problem.

The problem concerns the future of about 95,000 refugees in Tamil Nadu who fled Sri Lanka between 1983 and 2012. Of them, around 60,000 are housed in 107 State government-run camps with substantial financial assistance from the Centre. The rest are called non-camp refugees. They live on their own and are required to report to the local officials at periodical intervals. Tamil Nadu provides accommodation to the largest number of refugees among States.

## Sixty-five 'stateless persons'

The case before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court concerned 65 "stateless persons" who arrived in Tamil Nadu in 1983-85 following the anti-Tamil pogrom of July 1983 and were mostly put up at a refugee camp in Tiruchi. Their ancestors were indentured labourers who were taken to Sri Lanka during the British Raj to work in tea plantations. Their main demand was that they should be regarded on a par with repatriates covered under the bilateral agreements of 1964 and 1974. They did not want to be mixed up with the Tamil refugees from the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka.

However, the Union and State governments labelled them as "illegal migrants" as they had entered India without valid documents. The Centre said that the petitioners could not demand citizenship as a right even if they fulfilled the eligibility criteria. The authorities, however, assured the refugees in the early 1990s that they would not be forcibly deported.

While conceding that granting citizenship was within the "exclusive executive domain" of the Centre, the High Court asked the petitioners to apply for Indian citizenship. This



"Not every refugee living in Tamil Nadu is keen on acquiring Indian citizenship". Sri Lankan refugees return to Sri Lanka from India in 2015. •AFP

should be considered a moral victory for the petitioners as the judiciary has agreed, in principle, with their contention.

The court ruling has created an opportunity for the Centre to resolve the problem once and for all. And the problem is not just about granting or refusing citizenship; it is also about the absence of a comprehensive migration or refugee policy in India. There are over 2.25 lakh refugees in the country, including around 1.08 lakh Tibetans and 18,000 Rohingyas. The absence of a policy along with other factors has contributed to the slow pace at which voluntary repatriation of refugees from Sri Lanka is taking place, though 10 years have lapsed since the end of the civil war in the island nation.

## Issues faced by refugees

According to one estimate, 60% of the people in the camp, including 90% of the minors, were born in Tamil Nadu. Even though there are a number of opportunities for young refugees to pursue higher studies, barring medicine, qualified persons have not been able to get regular employment as major companies are reluctant to hire refugees. To seek employment in other countries, these refugees require Sri Lankan pas-

ports, which they can secure only in that country. In view of the perception of this process being laborious, some refugees have attempted to leave Tamil Nadu illegally. Such attempts have invariably failed.

Apart from this, there are some other issues that haunt the young refugees. To which country do they belong: India or Sri Lanka? If the country where they were born, raised, educated and married is not theirs, then where is home? Should a country about which they have only heard from their parents be considered their country of origin even though it may appear to be alien?

The case of the refugees from Sri Lanka is unique vis-a-vis other South Asian countries as they are excluded from the ambit of a Bill tabled in Parliament early this year to amend the Citizenship Act of 1955. Only non-Muslims from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan were covered in the Bill. The Citizenship Amendment Bill lapsed, but the government is firm that it will enact it.

## Going back to Sri Lanka

Not every refugee living in Tamil Nadu is keen on acquiring Indian citizenship, however. Many want to go back. Some have decided to go back, even though the Sri Lankan econo-

my, the lack of livelihood opportunities there, and access to quality education are genuine concerns for them. The Easter Sunday blasts this year temporarily halted the incremental repatriation, which resumed last month. The silver lining for the refugees is that the North, especially Jaffna, and hill country areas dominated by the Tamils are relatively safe, which encourages them to go back. As many as 7,818 refugees went back to Sri Lanka in 2011-18, according to a document of the Sri Lankan government. According to an official of the Tamil Nadu government, 367 returned this year.

A study by the Chennai-based Organisation for Eelam Refugees Rehabilitation reveals that approximately 28,500 refugees, all living in camps, are "stateless persons" and entitled to get Sri Lankan citizenship in the light of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2003, and the Citizenship Amendment Rules of 2009.

There are also political compulsions for the refugees to return. The prolonged civil war and its adverse demographic impact on Tamils had a direct bearing on the numerical strength of elected representatives of Tamils in Sri Lanka's Parliament (Sri Lanka follows a system of proportional representation). The Tamil National Alliance and Indian government should discuss the refugee problem.

Sri Lanka has said that it favours the return of the refugees. But mere statement of intent is not sufficient. It has to be followed up with action — the authorities in the Northern and Eastern Provinces should ensure that there are no illegal occupants of lands belonging to the refugees.

The governments of the two countries, aided by officials in Tamil Nadu and the Northern and Eastern Provinces, should plan ways of speeding up voluntary repatriation. This should include a package of assistance.

India and Sri Lanka should begin the spadework now so that the stage is set for the repatriation of willing refugees in a big way when Sri Lanka elects its President later this year. The two countries should keep in mind that the refugee issue has to be handled in a humane manner. There should not be any scope for the use of force.

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# Healthcare's primary problem

It is imperative to promote community-based care rather than relying only on hospital services



SOHAM D. BHADURI

The deaths of 154 children in Bihar due to acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) has laid bare the precarious capacity of the State's healthcare apparatus to handle outbreaks. AES has been linked to two factors: litchi consumption by starving children and a long, ongoing heat wave. As promises of bolstering the health infrastructure are being made, it is important to analyse what could have formed the ideal line of action.

AES is largely preventable both before and just after the onset of the disease, and treatable with high chances of success on availability of medical intervention within 2-4 hours of symptoms. Therefore, the first signs of an outbreak must prompt strong prevention measures. These include, apart from a robust health education drive and replenishing primary health centres (PHCs) with essential supplies, extensive deployment of peripheral health workers (ASHA workers) and ambulance services to facilitate rapid identification and management of suspected cases. Vacant doctor positions in PHCs must be urgently filled through deputation. Furthermore, short-term scaling-up of the Poshan Abhiyaan and the supplementary nutrition programme — which makes available hot, cooked meals for pre-school children at Anganwadis along with take home ration for mothers and distribution of glucose/ORS packets in risk households — are imperative. Nearly every one of these elements lies undermined in Bihar.

## Crumbling healthcare in Bihar

In Bihar, one PHC caters to about 1 lakh people rather than the norm of 1 PHC per 30,000 people. Furthermore, it is critical for such a PHC, catering to more than three times the standard population size, to have at least two doctors. However, three-fourths of the nearly 1,900 PHCs in Bihar have just one doctor each. Muzaffarpur has 103 PHCs (about 70 short of the ideal number) with 98 of them falling short of basic requirements outlined by the Health Management Information System. Bihar, one of the most populous States, had a doctor-population ratio of 1:17,685 in 2018, 60% higher than the national average, and with only 2% of the total MBBS seats in the country. There is also a one-fifth shortage of ASHA personnel, and nearly one-third of the sub-health centres have no health workers at all. While the State

reels under the highest load of malnutrition in India, a study found that around 71% and 38% of funds meant for hot, cooked meals and take home ration, respectively, under the supplementary nutrition programme, were pilfered. Meals were served for just more than half the number of prescribed days, and only about half the number of beneficiaries on average actually got them.

This is not all. Even those PHCs with adequate supplies remain underutilised. Perennial subscription to selective healthcare services by PHCs, like family planning and immunisation, have cultivated the perception that PHCs are inept as centres of general healthcare. This leads patients either directly to apex government hospitals situated far away or to unqualified private providers. This results in a patient losing precious time in transit and landing up in a hospital in a critical and often irreversible stage of illness.

Merely strengthening the tertiary care sector will be inefficient and ineffective. Most attention was focused on the poor state of the Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital in Muzaffarpur, with 600 beds, already functioning beyond its full capacity. Hospitals in Muzaffarpur have a bed occupancy of over 300%, three times the full occupancy. In such a case, even a significant addition of hospital beds and ICUs won't solve the problem. ICUs can only deal with the most advanced cases. A narrow focus on the hospital sector will wastefully increase costs, ignore the majority of cases, increase the number of cases that are in advanced stages, while continuing to overstretch public hospitals.

## Revamp primary health infrastructure

The solution lies in building more functional PHCs and sub-health centers; scaling-up the cadres of ASHA workers; strict monitoring of nutrition programmes; and addressing the maldistribution of doctors and medical colleges. The resultant robust primary care system can then be geared towards being more responsive to future outbreaks. We should also bolster our technical capacity to better investigate the causes of such outbreaks and operationalise a concrete long-term strategy.

Policy documents, while emphasising on financial and managerial aspects of public health, fail to address the aberrant developmental paradigm of our health services. Decades of hospital-centric growth of health services have eroded faith in community-based healthcare. In these circumstances, even easily manageable illnesses increase demand for hospital services rather than PHCs. There is need to work on inculcating confidence in community-based care.

Soham D. Bhaduri is a Mumbai-based doctor and Editor, The Indian Practitioner

# Why policemen kill themselves

Long hours of work, no holidays and large vacancies in the force cause stress and depression

M.P. NATHANAEL

On May 11, 2018, senior Maharashtra IPS officer Himanshu Roy committed suicide in Mumbai. He was suffering from cancer and resultant depression. Another IPS officer, Surendra Kumar Das, committed suicide in Kanpur in September 2018 due to "family issues". Ajay Kumar of the Delhi Police, who was suffering from depression, chose to end his life in New Delhi on April 4 this year.

## Reasons for suicide

These are just a few instances of suicide in the police. Over 940 police personnel committed suicide in the five years till December 2018. This includes personnel of the Central Armed Police Forces. As many as 54 Delhi Police personnel chose to end their lives in the last four years. In Tamil Nadu, 166 policemen took their lives between 2010 and 2014, while in Maharashtra and Kerala, the figure was 161 and 61, respectively. In the last three years, 105 personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force, entrusted with the onerous responsibility of looking after the internal security of the whole country, committed suicide.

The reasons for suicide among the police are manifold. Police personnel have no fixed hours of duty. They are considered to be on duty all the time. This deprives them of the luxury of spending time with their families. They are frequently made to work for anywhere up to 16 hours a day. Families are ignored and this leads to familial conflicts. Festivals are given a go-by as they have to be on duty to ensure peace in their areas. K. Annamalai, a 2011 batch IPS officer of the Karnataka cadre, who resigned from service recently, said that though he enjoyed the challenges of being a police officer, he missed many important functions and "the small things in life".

Denial of leave is another sore point that affects the efficiency of the police and leads to frustration. Though no superior generally likes to deny leave to his or her subordinates, operational requirements most often warrant a full-strength force to deal with varied law and order problems.

While it is easy to apportion blame on the officers for suicide or fratricide, it is the system that stands to be incriminated. Due to large vacancies in the police forces, a huge responsibility rests on the available personnel to maintain law and order.

The health of police personnel has taken a toll because of erratic working hours and lack of physical exercise. Many of them are known to suffer from stress-related diseases such as depression and obesity. Unable to cope, they end their lives.

## Filling up vacancies

To arrest the growing incidence of suicides, the government needs to take multi-pronged steps with urgency. An acute shortage of personnel in the police has to be of immediate concern. In 2014, there was a short-



age of over 5.6 lakh personnel against the sanctioned strength of 22.8 lakh. An in-depth study of the requirement of police personnel over the next decade would be conducive to plan recruitment and training in a phased manner.

Senior officers need to identify personnel with deviant behaviour. The Delhi Police has taken a step forward in this direction to identify personnel with psychological disorders to put them through counselling sessions. Frequent interactions between officers and subordinates will help subordinates air their grievances freely. Solutions can be jointly worked out. Even if the grievances are not immediately redressed, it will be soothing for an officer to share his or her problems with a senior officer. It might even forestall a suicide attempt.

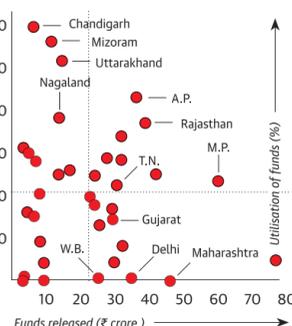
The writer is a retired Inspector General of Police with the CRPF



## DATA POINT

### Safety last?

Delhi has used less than 1% of its Nirbhaya Fund despite registering 160 incidents of crime against women per 1 lakh female population in 2016, the highest in the country. A look at how States and UTs have utilised the amount released to them under the Nirbhaya Fund, which was announced in 2013 to support initiatives for the safety of women across the country. By Sravya C. and Sumant Sen



### Scheme-wise expenditure

The table lists States from section A of the second graph and the % utilisation under different schemes\*. Even the small amount that Delhi and W.B. have spent has been on victim compensation

| State       | Emergency response system | Universalisation of women's helpline | Central victim compensation fund |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Delhi       | 0                         | 0                                    | 3.41                             |
| Assam       | 0                         | 22.59                                | 35.47                            |
| Odisha      | 0                         | 73.32                                | 0                                |
| Telangana   | 2.61                      | 0                                    | 0                                |
| West Bengal | 0                         | 0                                    | 1.58                             |
| Kerala      | 45.96                     | 41.56                                | 0                                |
| Maharashtra | 0                         | 0                                    | 0                                |
| Tripura     | 0                         | 0                                    | 0                                |
| Sikkim      | 0                         | 40.81                                | 0                                |

**A:** High crime rate, low fund utilisation  
**B:** Low crime rate, low fund utilisation  
**C:** Low crime rate, high fund utilisation  
**D:** High crime rate, high fund utilisation  
\*Under the Nirbhaya Fund there are six major schemes

Source: Lok Sabha, NCRB 2016; Fund utilisation data till March 2019

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 3, 1969

### Big Four warning to Israel

The Big Four powers warned Israel yesterday (July 1) to refrain from taking measures that might change the status of Jerusalem. The warning came from the delegates of the four countries in the Security Council on the second day of a debate on a Jordanian charge that Israel was planning the total annexation of the Holy City. The U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Charles Yost, said the Israelis had "no right to make changes in laws or in administration other than those which are temporarily necessitated by their security interest." Britain's Lord Caradon said that to prejudice the future of Jerusalem would bar the door to peace and make another conflict inevitable. Mr. Alexei Zakarof of the Soviet Union backed Jordan's proposal that a world-wide arms embargo be applied against Israel while France's M. Armand Bernard said any measures or legislative decisions taken by Israel to modify Jerusalem's status were invalid. The 15-nation Council session came as the Big Four powers broke off their top-level talks on West Asia pending the outcome of bilateral discussions between Moscow and Washington. The four-way talks are expected to resume next month.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 3, 1919.

### Indians in South Africa.

(From an Editorial)

The South African papers received by the mail bring further particulars of the debate in the Union Parliament on the Asiatics (Land and Trading) Bill. It would appear that two most reactionary amendments to an already very unjust and obnoxious Bill have been adopted in Committee by the House. One of these, we note, was passed in spite of the opposition of the South African Government. This amendment was passed by 45 votes to 31, whereby the authorities in the Transvaal, who had the issuing or authorising of trading licences, might, without reason assigned, refuse the application of any Asiatic who was not engaged in trade on the 1st instant. Speaking on the amendment, the Minister of Justice uttered a warning against panic legislation such as the amendment would be. The amendment, he said, would throw on the Government the responsibility for issuing further general dealers' licences. Moreover, it would work a great hardship on Indians born in that country.

FROM PAGE ONE

## Will not tolerate bad behaviour, says PM

Party sources said Mr. Modi also disapproved of the fanfare with which BJP leaders received the Vijayvargiya junior after he was released from jail and suggested that the party take action.

In his address, Mr. Modi asked party MPs to ensure their presence in Parliament during the ongoing session.

Mr. Modi expressed un-

happiness over the poor attendance of party MPs when the triple talaq Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha.

When Mr. Modi launches the membership drive in Varanasi, Mr. Shah will be kicking it off in Telangana.

Other party leaders would do so in different parts of the country.

## U.P. govt. move to relist 17 OBCs opposed

Those reclassified were Kashyap, Rajbhar, Dhivar, Bind, Kumhar, Kahar, Kewat, Nishad, Bhar, Mallah, Prajapati, Dhimar, Batham, Turha, Godia, Manjhi and Machua.

Mr. Misra said that under Article 341 sub-clause (2) of the Constitution, the power to make changes in the SC list rested with Parliament. "Even the President does not have the power to make changes [in the list]," he said. These 17 castes would

not get the benefits meant for either the OBCs or the SCs since the State had no power to make any alteration to the SC list, he said.

He said when the BSP was in power, it tried to include the 17 castes in the SC list but could not manage to do so in Parliament. Mr. Misra said the Union government should issue an advisory that the State's order was "unconstitutional" and it should be withdrawn with immediate effect.

## 22 dead, 94 injured in wall collapse in Mumbai

While there were no trains between Thane and the CST, trains between Kalyan and Thane were operated with delays.

On the western line, Nalalopara station suffered heavy water-logging, as a result Western Railway (WR) imposed speed restrictions, operating only one local service between Vasai Road and Virar every 20 minutes. Services returned to normal at 11.55 a.m. after water receded at Nalalopara.

Twenty-seven trains arriving in the city from within and outside Maharashtra were short terminated.

The cancellation of long-distance and local trains left hundreds of passengers stranded at the CSMT.

A total of 55 flights were diverted and 52 cancelled at

Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport due to the weather.

### CM announces relief

Following the rain havoc, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis cancelled his appointments and rushed to the BMC headquarters.

"400 mm rainfall in 3 hours in Mumbai is three to four times the city's drainage capacity. We are monitoring all the unfortunate accidents in Mumbai, Kalyan and Pune. Directions to evacuate if necessary have been given," he said.

He also announced a compensation of ₹5 lakh to the kin of those killed.

The IMD said the intensity of the rainfall is likely to decrease during the next 24 hours.

## SC pulls up Kerala on Malankara church row

"Tell your chief secretary that if he intends to go against the Supreme Court's order, we will call everyone here. Is Kerala above rule of law? You are making a mockery of the justice delivery system," Justice Mishra addressed senior advocate Jai-deep Gupta, for Kerala.

"What is happening in the country? If they feel that they can do things like this, we will call everyone here. This is not the way the Supreme Court can be treated," Justice Mishra orally observed.

In 2017, a Bench of Justices Arun Mishra and (now retired) Amitava Roy had upheld their July 3 judgment which had reiterated a 1995 verdict of the Supreme Court that the 1934 Constitution of the Malankara church governs the parish churches under it.

The Bench had, with its July 3 judgment, brought a finality to the over 100-year-old dispute between the faction with allegiance to the Patriarch of Antioch in Syria (Jacobites) and the Catholics of the East.

## Manmohan to get seat from Rajasthan?

ASIAN NEWS  
INTERNATIONAL  
NEW DELHI

The Congress is all set to send former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to the Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan, sources in the party said on Tuesday.

The seat has been vacant after the death of BJP State president Madan Lal Saini. A Minister in the Rajasthan government also confirmed that a discussion about sending Manmohan Singh from the State was on.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot met the former Prime Minister at his residence on Monday.

Asked about the development, Dr. Singh's office said that no information in this regard had been shared by the party.

## Bengal introduces 10% quota in jobs, education

Congress, Left parties welcome move

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA

The West Bengal government on Tuesday announced a 10% reservation in government jobs and educational institutions to people belonging to the economically weaker sections (EWS). The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

"There will be a 10% reservation for them [EWS] in government service. However, those who are already covered under the SC, ST and OBC category will not be eligible. Details will be shared once the order is released, but in principle Mamata Banerjee's Cabinet has agreed to the proposal," Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Partha Chatterjee said.

## Congress seeks Lok Sabha post

Says party is technically eligible for the role and Modi must respect his word

SOBHANA K. NAIR  
NEW DELHI

Renewing the Congress's call for the post of the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, the party's chief whip in the House, Kodikunnil Suresh, said on Tuesday that it was technically eligible for the post, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi should accord it the position if he was sincere about his comments on the Opposition.

Mr. Modi had said on the first day of the 17th Lok Sabha on June 18 that a vibrant Opposition, notwithstanding its numbers, was important in a parliamentary democracy.

Mr. Suresh told *The Hindu* that the Congress had so far

**➤ If the PM is indeed sincere about what he said on the importance of the Opposition, he should give the leader of the Opposition post to the Congress and the Deputy Speaker's post to another Opposition party**

KODIKUNNIL SURESH  
Congress chief whip in the Lok Sabha



not demanded the post, though technically it was eligible, both as the second largest party in the Lok Sabha and as leader of the United Progressive Alliance which had 92 seats.

If the Prime Minister was indeed sincere about what he said on the importance of the Opposition, he should give the Leader of the Opposition post to the Congress

and the Deputy Speaker's post to another Opposition party, he said.

### Norms and figures

By norms, the Leader of the Opposition is the leader of the largest party that has not less than a tenth of the total strength of the House.

The total strength of the Lok Sabha is 545, so any party that has 55 members can

get the post. The Congress, which is the second largest party in the House after the BJP, has only 52 members, which is three short of the figure.

The Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977 only says that the largest Opposition party should get the post.

"Leader of the Opposition" is the "Leader in that House of the party in opposition to the Government having the greatest numerical strength and recognised as such by the Chairman of the Council of States or the Speaker of the House of the People, as the case may be," says the Act.

## Sonia speaks up for rail factory

Questions move to let private players manage unit based in Rae Bareilly

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday opposed the Union government's move to corporatise the Modern Coach Factory (MCF) of the Railways in Rae Bareilly.

Making a rare intervention during Zero Hour of the Lok Sabha, Ms. Gandhi said corporatisation was the first step towards privatisation, and accused the government of selling the country's assets to private players at throwaway prices.

She said the Railways were corporatising six of their producing units and the MCF was one of them.

She described the factory as one of the most efficient public sector undertakings (PSUs) that made coaches at very competitive rates. She said the government move had made the future of the unit's 2,000 workers uncertain.

"Those who don't understand the real meaning of corporatisation... It is actual-



Rare intervention: Sonia Gandhi making a point in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. ▶ PTI

ly 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.

Ms. Gandhi, who represents Rae Bareilly, was the first to speak during Zero Hour — when MPs are allowed to raise any issue pertaining to their constituencies — and the entire Opposition was seen thumping the desk.

She said that privatisation of the MCF would be against the objectives for which the plant had been set up and

may render thousands unemployed and priceless assets were given away for the profit of a few. "The real concern is that they have chosen Modern Coach Factory for the experiment," she said. "I urge the government to protect the Modern Coach Factory and other PSUs".

### Troubled times

She also highlighted how some PSUs, including Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), BSNL and MTNL, were facing troubled times. "Their condition is not hidden from anyone," she not-

ed. Ms. Gandhi also expressed her unhappiness over the government's decision to merge the Railway Budget with the Union Budget.

"Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had termed public sector undertakings temples of modern India. Today, it is sad to see that these temples are under threat," she said.

Sources in the Railways, however, claimed that the MCF would continue to be under government control but may be part of a separate PSU for better functioning and supervision.

## CBI cracks down on loan defaulters, books 17 cases

Over 300 officers conduct searches at 61 locations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

The CBI on Tuesday launched a massive crackdown on alleged bank loan defaulters by carrying out searches at over 61 locations in 18 cities after registering 17 cases of swindling of funds to the tune of ₹1,139 crore, officials said.

Over 300 officers drawn from various units of the agency swooped down on 61 locations and knocked the doors of alleged defaulters on the basis of complaints received from various nationalised banks and inputs

received by the agency. Braving the waterlogged streets of Mumbai due to incessant rains, the agency officials carried out searches at the locations of the promoters and directors of Winsome Diamonds founded by absconding diamondaire Jatinder Mehta who was booked in a fresh FIR registered under this operation.

This is the 16th FIR against Mehta accusing him of allegedly defaulting on ₹202 crore drawn from Exim Bank. He is accused of allegedly swindling funds to the tune of ₹6,500 crore.

The searches in Mumbai also covered two other firms booked in separate FIRs on a complaint by the Union Bank of India. Five places were searched in connection with ₹57 crore loss caused to the bank by Suparnad Trading Pvt Ltd.

Two places were searched in Delhi and Mumbai in connection with Asuti Trading.

The searches were being conducted in Delhi, Mumbai, Ludhiana, Thane, Valsad, Pune, Palani, Gaya, Gurugram, Chandigarh, Bhopal, Surat and Kolar, among others, officials said.

## Trinamool says Centre is flouting Parliament rules

Derek O'Brien accuses Centre of taking the ordinance route

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Trinamool on Tuesday accused the BJP government of bypassing the rules of Parliament to try to push its agenda.

Party leader in the Rajya Sabha Derek O'Brien said the government had listed the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Teachers' Cadre) Bill, 2019 without giving adequate time for the Opposition members to study it.

"This is a trainee government, they don't know how to run the Parliament. At 3

## Punjab MPs worried over cancer cases

Tomar says no link with fertilizer use

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Tuesday told the Lok Sabha that there was no scientific evidence to link the use of fertilizers and pesticides with cancer.

The Minister's reply came after two Punjab MPs, Ravneet Singh Bittu (Congress) and Bhagwant Mann (Aam Admi Party), spoke of an alarming rise in cases of cancer in the State's Malwa region because of the excessive use of fertilizers.

The Congress MP said so many patients from Punjab were travelling to Bikaner by train to get themselves treated for cancer that the train had come to be known as the "cancer train".

### Almost equal

The Minister said the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) put the incidence of cancer in Punjab to 100-110 for every 1,00,000 individuals, which was almost equal to the national average.

"The Punjab government has also reported that the consumption of fertilizer has no link with prevalence of cancer in Punjab," he said.

Mr. Tomar asked the Punjab government to join the Ayushman Bharat central health insurance scheme under which free cancer treatment up to ₹5 lakh could be availed.

Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, who represents the Bhatinda Lok Sabha constituency, alleged that the Punjab government had stopped funding support to a multi-specialty hospital in the State.

### Bengal issues

The Lok Sabha proceedings witnessed sharp exchanges between the Trinamool and BJP members from West Bengal once again.

During Zero Hour, BJP MP Locket Chatterjee accused



I request the Punjab government to join the Ayushman Bharat programme

NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR  
Union Agriculture Minister

Trinamool leaders in Bengal of taking "cut money" from the people to get their work done.

This immediately triggered a protest by the Trinamool members, with Sudip Bandyopadhyay telling Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla that the purpose of Zero Hour would become "zero" if State government issues were repeatedly raised in Parliament.

The Trinamool's Mahua Moitra observed that Parliament was being turned into a forum to discuss the law and order situation in West Bengal when violence happened in other States as well.

### Lynchings in spotlight

Raising the issue of incidents of lynching that had been reported from States like Jharkhand, Samajwadi Party (SP) member Shafiqur Rahman Barq said, "We have to decide how Muslims would live in this country".

The remark sparked an angry response from BJP members who started countering Mr. Barq, in turn prompting all Opposition MPs to stand in solidarity with the SP MP.

At this point, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla intervened and suggested that members give a separate notice for a discussion on the subject.



Derek O'Brien

p.m., they gave a supplementary list of business with the educational institutions Bill. What about my right as a member to bring an amendment," Mr. O'Brien asked presspersons.

The Bill seeks to provide for reservation in direct recruitment of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Educationally Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections for the teaching cadre in Central educational institutions. The Bill will replace the ordinance promulgated in this regard. It was cleared by the Lok Sabha on Monday.

Mr. O'Brien also accused the government of using the ordinance route far more frequently than their predecessors.

## Lok Sabha clears fresh Medical Council Bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2019, was passed by a voice vote in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday which provides for supersession of the Medical Council of India for a period of two years with effect from September 26, 2018.

The Bill was introduced by Health Minister Harsh Vardhan to replace an ordinance promulgated on February 21. The government will soon come out with a National Medical Commission (NMC) Bill to usher in comprehensive reforms in the medical education sector, the Minister said.

## SC seeks Centre's view on Jairam Ramesh's petition

MP had challenged amendments to anti-money laundering Act

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought the response of the government on a special leave petition filed by Rajya Sabha MP Jairam Ramesh against a February 28 decision of the Delhi High Court, rejecting his challenge to amendments enacted to the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) from 2015 onwards, through Finance Acts as 'Money Bills'.

A Bench led by Justice S.A. Bobde issued notice to the government on the petition, represented by senior advocate P. Chidambaram.

Mr. Chidambaram submitted that before 2015, the PMLA was amended on various occasions through Ordinary Bills as



Jairam Ramesh

defined under Article 109 of the Constitution. However, post 2015, the Act has been amended through Money Bills.

A Money Bill is deemed to contain only provisions dealing with all or any of the matters under clauses (a) to (g) of Article 110(i), largely including

the appropriation of money from the Consolidated Fund of India and taxation. In other words, a Money Bill is restricted only to the specified matters and cannot include within its ambit any other matter.

In the High Court, Mr. Chidambaram had pointed out that amendments were made in the years 2015, 2016 and 2018, which were "per se unconstitutional and liable to be set aside".

Justice Bobde prima facie agreed, during the short hearing, that as per the Constitution Bench decision in the Justice K.S. Puttuswamy case — dealing with the Aadhaar Act — the court had held that the decision of the Speaker on whether a Bill was a Money Bill or not, was justiciable.

**APPEAL**

2 years old Harish Siddharth needs your support in bringing a lasting change and a new life. He suffers from Relapsed B Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia and requires Rs. 6,00,000/- towards Chemotherapy at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged. The donations sent through Ch/D.D./NEFT Transfer (Syndicate Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C No.60182010063310, IFSC No. SYNB0000181) favouring WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE is exempted under 80G IT. Please give us your e-mail ID.

All correspondence is done through WWS, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. GF 1, Cordell Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006, Ph: 044-42137401 / 28235324 E Mail: womenswelfarewomenswelfare@gmail.com Website: www.womenswelfarewomenswelfare.org

WWS

# Assam deportations to be data-driven

E-Foreigners Tribunals to store biometrics to help speed up detection of undocumented migrants

VIJAITA SINGH  
RAHUL KARMAKAR  
NEW DELHI/ GUWAHATI

The Union government is enabling a platform to digitise records of all persons who will be declared foreigners by the Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) in Assam after the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) is published later this month.

The E-Foreigners Tribunals (e-FTs) will store biometrics such as fingerprints and iris scans of such persons, and help the External Affairs Ministry expedite deportation in appropriate cases by reducing paperwork.

**Including 1985 records**  
A senior government official said the platform would not only include data on fresh cases that will come up for hearing after the final NRC is published but also digitise records dating back to 1985.



**State of flux:** NRC officials checking documents of residents during a hearing in Dhubri, Assam, in this file photo. • AFP

“The FTs first came up in 1985. The details of persons declared foreigners all these years will also be available on e-FT. The centralised details would [for example] help the Ministry take up the deportation process of a foreigner staying here illegally, to the country concerned without getting embroiled in unnecessary paperwork

through multiple agencies,” the official said.

Till February 28, 63,959 persons were declared foreigners through *ex parte* proceedings by the FTs in Assam, Union Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

“The implementation of e-FT approved by the Centre is

in progress. The basic aim is to integrate all nodes in the ecosystem, including FTs, NRC and border police,” Assam Home Commissioner and Secretary Ashutosh Agnihotri told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Agnihotri handles the Department of Implementation of Assam Accord, which was signed in August 1985. This accord prescribed midnight of March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for detection, detention and deportation of illegal migrants.

The border police, or the Assam Police Border Organisation, was formed in 1962 under the Prevention of Infiltration of Pakistanis scheme. The scheme was renamed Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners after the birth of Bangladesh in 1971.

The proposed integrated e-FT system will be implemented across Assam for effective monitoring and reso-

lution of cases registered with the FTs. The Centre has approved increasing the number of FTs from the current 100 to 1,000. Of these, 400 are to be in operation by July 31, the last date for publishing the final NRC list in Assam.

**To assist judiciary**  
The expected benefits of e-FT, officials said, include strengthening the judiciary in the disposal of cases and help the police in more accurate and faster detection, prosecution and detention.

Even after the final NRC is published, those excluded will have legal options to challenge the decision first in FTs and also in the High Courts.

“We are recording the biometrics of those who have filed claims and the UIDAI is storing it in its server,” the official said.

# Mayawati justifies call for raising OBC, SC quotas

Says this should be done in accordance with the population

OMAR RASHID  
LUCKNOW

Amid a political row in Uttar Pradesh over the inclusion of 17 Most Backward Castes in the Scheduled Castes category, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati on Tuesday suggested that the quota for Other Backward Castes and Dalits be increased in accordance with their population.

Though she did not directly make the demand, Ms. Mayawati justified the logic behind such calls. She said given the way the reservation cap was being raised to over 50% in various States, it was “justified and natural” for demands to come up for an increase in the quota for OBCs and SCs as per their population.



Mayawati

and Dalits on the issue of reservation while contrasting it with the “tremendous interest” the party showed in providing reservation for Marathas under the OBC category and for the economically weaker section among the forward castes.

The BJP’s lack of interest in filling vacant posts for OBCs and Dalits showed its “casteist policy” and “narrow-minded thinking”, she said.

The true *haqdars* (entitled) of reservations, the weak and the oppressed castes, were still victims of apathy, the BSP chief said. On Monday, she accused the U.P. government of trying to hoodwink 17 MBC communities by issuing orders to provide SC certificates to them.

Ms. Mayawati made the comments during a review meeting with party functionaries from western Uttar Pradesh and Bundelkhand in preparation for the upcoming byelection to 11 Assembly seats.

She accused the BJP of apathy towards the OBCs

## IN BRIEF



### Culture Minister flags off Kailash yatri

**NEW DELHI**  
Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Culture and Tourism Prahlad Singh Patel flagged off a group of pilgrims leaving for the Kailash Mansarovar yatra. Speaking at the event, he said the government was open to feedback, even if negative, from the pilgrims to make the yatra better for them. The government had moved an application to include the yatra in the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites earlier this year.

### Next round of Kartarpur corridor talks on July 14

**NEW DELHI**  
India and Pakistan will hold the next meeting on the Kartarpur corridor project on July 14. A statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan said the schedule for the meeting was conveyed to India. “Pakistan remains committed to expedite progress to ensure that the corridor is operationalised for the 550<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak in November 2019,” said a press release.

### Classical status for Marathi being considered

**NEW DELHI**  
A proposal for granting Marathi the status of a classical language was under “active consideration,” Union Minister of State (independent charge) Culture and Tourism Prahlad Singh Patel told Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. The Minister was responding to a question by Maharashtra MP Narayan Rane. The Minister said a proposal had been received and placed before a committee of linguistic experts for consideration.

# SC seeks EC response on cash transfer schemes

Plea to prohibit schemes during polls

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought a response from the Election Commission of India (ECI) on a plea to declare the implementation of direct cash transfer schemes such as the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, by “parties in power” in the Centre and six States immediately before or during polls as “illegal and unconstitutional” and contrary to the “right of equal participation of each citizen in polity.”

The Court issued the notice on a writ petition filed by Pentapati Pulla Rao, represented by senior advocate Santosh Pal and advocate Sravan Kumar. Mr. Rao was a contestant from the Eluru Parliamentary constituency in Andhra Pradesh on a JanaSena Party ticket.

Mr. Rao has arraigned, besides the ECI, the Centre

# Senate Bill grants India NATO ally-like status

House to take it up later in July

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON

The U.S. Senate has passed a legislative provision that brings India at par with America’s NATO allies and countries such as Israel and South Korea for increasing defence cooperation.

The National Defense Authorisation Act, or NDAA, for the fiscal year 2020, which contained such a proposal, was passed by the U.S. Senate last week.

Introduced by Senate India Caucus co-chair Senator John Cornyn with the support of Senate India Caucus co-chair Senator Mark Warner, the amendment provides for increased U.S.-India defence cooperation in the Indian Ocean in the areas of humanitarian assistance, counter-terrorism, counter-piracy and maritime security.

Last week, House India

Caucus Co-Chair Brad Sherman, along with Congressmen Joe Wilson, Ami Bera, Ted Yoho, George Holding, Ed Case and Raja Krishnamoorthi, introduced a similar legislative proposal to the House FY2020 NDAA that would greatly enhance relationship between the two countries.

The Bill would be signed into law after both the chambers of the U.S. Congress – the House of Representatives and the Senate – passes it.

The House is expected to take up its version of the NDAA sometime in July before legislators adjourn for the month-long August recess on July 29.

In a statement, the Hindu American Foundation commended Senators Cornyn and Warner for their efforts in advancing the U.S.-India strategic partnership.

# U.K. High Court allows Mallya to appeal

He can appeal at least on one of the five grounds against his extradition order

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
LONDON

The U.K. High Court on Tuesday allowed embattled liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya to appeal at least on one of the five grounds against his extradition order signed off by the U.K. Home Secretary to face alleged fraud and money laundering charges amounting to ₹9,000 crore in India.

A Bench of the Royal Courts of Justice comprising Justices George Leggatt and Andrew Poplewell made the conclusion after hearing the arguments.

### ‘Reasonably made’

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.

Earlier, the 63-year-old former Kingfisher Airlines



Vijay Mallya and his son Sidharth, right, at the Royal Courts of Justice in London on Tuesday. • AP

head said he was feeling “positive”.

Representatives from the Indian High Commission in London were present in

court to observe the proceedings.

Mr. Mallya, accompanied by his son Sidharth and partner Pinky Lalwani,

watched as his barrister, Clare Montgomery, began by reiterating many of her arguments laid out during the extradition trial at Westminster

Magistrates’ Court last year. Ms. Montgomery characterised aspects of the Chief Magistrate’s ruling as “plain wrong”.

# Bangladesh seeks to synergise ties with India

Urges dignified return of Rohingya refugees from camps in Chittagong to Myanmar

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE  
NEW DELHI

Bangladesh on Tuesday said the government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina wishes to continue cooperation with the re-elected Modi government and urged for dignified return of the Rohingya refugees from camps in Chittagong to Myanmar. The statement from High Commissioner of Bangladesh Syed Muazzem Ali came a day after Ms. Hasina began her outreach to China seeking Beijing’s support to re-

solve the Rohingya issue.

Delivering a keynote speech at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM)-Rohtak, Syed Muazzem Ali called for bilateral synergy and closer cooperation between Dhaka and New Delhi.

He reiterated Dhaka’s demand for bringing international pressure on Myanmar to end the Rohingya crisis and said, “What we are working on is the early, safe and dignified repatriation of the Rohingyas to their home in Myanmar.”



Syed Muazzem Ali

The comments are the first since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge in May. Bangladesh President

Abdul Hamid participated in the swearing-in of the Modi government.

Ms. Hasina, who did not participate, congratulated Mr. Modi on phone and both the leaders had agreed to identify dates for a meeting at the earliest.

Mr. Modi is soon expected to travel to various South Asian capitals. He visited Maldives and Sri Lanka in June and reports suggest that he will travel to Bhutan in the coming weeks, though the exact date is yet to be an-

nounced. Diplomatic sources pointed out that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met the Bangladeshi envoy.

### Outreach to China

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s five-day visit to China that began on Monday is aimed at seeking Beijing’s assurances to resolve the Rohingya crisis.

Dhaka and Beijing are expected to sign energy deals that are connected to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

# SC seeks EC response on cash transfer schemes

Plea to prohibit schemes during polls

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

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Mr. Rao has arraigned, besides the ECI, the Centre

# NIA to question Geelani’s grandson on terror funding

Anees-ul-Islam’s father was arrested in case last year

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has summoned the grandson of separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani for questioning in the 2017 terror financing case, a senior official said.

The NIA sent a notice to Anees-ul-Islam, son of Mr. Geelani’s daughter, on Tuesday, asking him to appear at its Delhi office on July 9. Mr. Islam, who holds a Master’s in Business Administration, is working as a researcher with the Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention in Srinagar.

His appointment in 2016 during the tenure of chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti raised eyebrows, with National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah questioning the decision. Mr.

# Account of Nirav’s sister to be frozen

connection with the case.

The journalist was being questioned on reports in his paper during the 2016 agitation that followed the death of Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani in an encounter. He was also being quizzed about his visit to Dubai.

Earlier, Mr. Geelani’s sons and Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq were also summoned by the NIA.

The NIA case, registered on May 30, 2017 against the separatist and secessionist leaders, mentions raising, receiving and collecting funds through various illegal means, including hawala, for funding separatist and terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir and for causing disruption in the Kashmir valley.

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# Army nod to tax pension for disability: Sitharaman

System being exploited, says note

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Responding to growing criticism over a Finance Ministry decision to tax the disability pension of military personnel, Minister Nirmala Sitharaman put the onus for the initiative on the Army.

In a message on Twitter, Ms. Sitharaman’s office put out an unsigned note calling it the “response of the Armed Forces on the issue of taxability of disability pension”, which states that “unscrupulous personnel” have found leverage in the existing system for seeking

financial gains through their disabilities.

Disability is granted to personnel who are disabled in combat or during peace and their disability is attributable to service conditions, the note states.

“There should be no segregation amongst genuinely disabled personnel. At the same time, those who have found the leverages in the existing system for seeking financial gains through their disabilities, need to be scrutinised and taken to task, wherever necessitated,” the note added.

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## Government of Andhra Pradesh Dept. of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Society for Employment Generation and Enterprise Development in AP, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, NTR Admin Block, Pt Nehru Bus Station, Vijayawada, AP

**Expression of Interest (Eoi)**  
No.03/Eoi/AYS/SEEDAP/2019 Date: 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019  
Sealed proposals are invited by the Society for Employment Generation and Enterprise Development in AP (SEEDAP), Government of Andhra Pradesh for Empanelment of suitable Firms, Companies and NGOs involved in promotion of crafts based livelihoods to conduct Skill Development Training Programmes in Handicraft & Handloom sectors under Andhra Yuva Shakti (AYS) in Andhra Pradesh. Detailed document and terms & conditions may be downloaded at <https://seedap.ap.gov.in>. The Interested Industries/Agencies/ Firms/ Organisations seeking empanelment as Training Providers are hereby requested to submit the proposal at the office of the undersigned on or before **19<sup>th</sup> of July, 2019 by 15:00 Hours.**  
**Firms, Companies and NGOs involved in promotion of crafts based livelihoods are encouraged to apply.**  
Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, SEEDAP, SDE & I Dept, DIPP 49PP/CL, Dt.02/07/2019 Govt. of AP, Vijayawada

# Hong Kong protests undermine rule of law, social order: China

Beijing calls violence an 'undisguised challenge' to 'one country two system' model

REUTERS  
BEIJING/HONG KONG

China on Tuesday condemned violent protests in Hong Kong as an "undisguised challenge" to the formula under which the city is ruled, hours after the 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 a 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 interfering, but for many Hong Kong residents, the extradition Bill is the latest step in a relentless 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



**Smoked out:** Protesters taking cover from the tear gas fired by the police in Hong Kong early on Tuesday. ■ AFP

protesters stormed and ransacked the Legislative Council, or mini-Parliament.

The police cleared roads near the heart of the financial centre, paving the way for business to return to normal.

## Offices closed

However, government offices, where protesters smashed computers and spray-painted "anti-extradition" and slurs against the police and the government on chamber walls, were closed. The government's executive council meeting was due to be held in the Government House, officials said, while the legislature would remain closed for the next two weeks.

Millions of people have taken to the streets in the past few weeks to protest against the now-suspended extradition Bill that would allow people to be sent to mainland China to face trial in courts controlled by the Communist Party.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam has suspended the bill

and said it would lapse next year, but protesters want it scrapped altogether and have pressed her to step down.

Regina Ip, chairwoman of Hong Kong's pro-China New Peoples Party, said the protests had brought shame on Hong Kong. "In the long term, (this) will impact Hong Kong's business environment. I believe various negative consequences of damages in our economy and prosperity will soon emerge."

Starry Lee, chairwoman of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong, also condemned the violence. "This is an insult to LegCo (Legislative Council), an insult to Hong Kong rule of law," she said.

Chinese censors have worked hard to erase or block news of the Hong Kong protests, wary that any large public rallies could inspire protests on the mainland.

Screens went black on BBC and CNN when they showed related reports in

## Abide by treaty, warns U.K.

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
BELFAST

British Foreign Secretary Jeremy Hunt warned China on Tuesday of "serious consequences" if it breaches a bilateral agreement to preserve Hong Kong's freedoms. "Hong Kong is part of China and we have to accept that. But the freedoms are enshrined in a joint declaration" signed with former colonial ruler Britain, he said.

mainland China, as has happened during previous Hong Kong protests. Foreign news channels are only available in luxury hotels and a handful of high-end apartment complexes in China.

**'Love of the motherland'** State news agency Xinhua wrote an upbeat Chinese-language report about a government-arranged concert in Hong Kong to celebrate the handover anniversary, complete with descriptions of the audience singing the national anthem and how the performers showed their "ardent love of the motherland".

A state newspaper in China called for "zero tolerance" after the violence in Hong Kong.

"Out of blind arrogance and rage, protesters showed a complete disregard for law and order," the Global Times, published by the Communist Party's *People's Daily*, said in an editorial.

The U.N. human rights office in Geneva called on all sides to avoid violence.

## Lawsuit filed for Trump's tax returns

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
WASHINGTON

A House committee sued the Trump administration in Federal Court on Tuesday for access to U.S. President Donald Trump's tax returns, setting up a legal showdown over the records.

The House Ways and Means Committee said it needs the documents for a probe into tax law compliance by the President, among other things. It asked the court to order the administration to turn over the documents.

The committee originally demanded six years of Mr. Trump's tax records in April under a law that says the Internal Revenue Service "shall furnish" the returns of any taxpayer to a handful of top lawmakers.

But Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told the committee in May that he wouldn't be turning over the returns to the Democratic-controlled House.

He concluded that the Treasury Department is "not authorised to disclose the requested returns and return information." The Justice Department in a legal opinion backed Mr. Mnuchin, saying the request lacked a legitimate legislative purpose and was an "unprecedented" use of congressional authority.

## Zardari interview taken off air, sparks censorship fears in Pak.

Ex-President is facing probe over corruption cases

MEHMAL SARFRAZ  
ISLAMABAD

On Saturday, journalist Hamid Mir interviewed former President and co-chairman of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), Asif Ali Zardari, in Parliament House in Islamabad. The interview was to be aired at 8 p.m. on Geo News on Monday.

The interview went on air but after a few minutes, it was taken off air without any explanation. Mr. Mir tweeted: "Interview of Asif Zardari stopped on Geo News within few minutes.. those who stopped it have no courage to accept publicly that they stopped it."

The incident started a debate on Twitter about media censorship in Pakistan and whether someone who is under arrest should be interviewed in the first place. Mr. Zardari is under arrest and being investigated for corruption, including a fake bank accounts case, by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB).

Mr. Mir told *The Hindu* that Mr. Zardari came to Parliament on a production order (with permission to attend a Parliament session), so there was nothing illegal about the interview. "Asif



Asif Ali Zardari

Zardari spoke to other journalists also but he gave me exclusive time separately. We broke the story the same day (Saturday). We ran the promo for the next two days, but finally when the interview started, it was stopped by Geo."

Mr. Mir added that he was told by Geo that they were under pressure but they only announced 'this interview cannot be broadcast today'. "I announced on Twitter that it was stopped from outside," he said.

## Probe against Khan

Mr. Mir said Mr. Zardari mentioned about some investigation against Prime Minister Imran Khan in the U.K. "Maybe that's what bothered the government."

Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Ali Haider Zaidi of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) believes this interview should have never been done in the first place. "How can we interview criminals arrested for money launder-

ing? Will we interview someone arrested on drug possession charges? We have to draw the line somewhere," Mr. Zaidi told *The Hindu*.

Senator Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar, a spokesperson of PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, told *The Hindu* that this government believed in censorship like no other political party in Pakistan's history.

"When they can even ban harmless, innocent words in Parliament, they can ban anything and everything. Under what law they asked Geo News to take off an important interview? He hasn't been convicted of anything. This government is scared of the truth coming out and their lies being exposed. This is a shameless government."

Former Prime Minister and senior leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi told *The Hindu* that "suppression of alternative viewpoints and dissent never works, not even in martial law regimes. We supposedly have democratic rule in Pakistan."

Some analysts say journalists always keep pushing the limits. "Lawfare is a tool for implementing political manipulations and achieving political goals," said one journalist on condition of anonymity.

## U.S. brands Balochistan Liberation Army terrorist group

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
WASHINGTON

The U.S. on Tuesday designated militants fighting Pakistani rule in Balochistan as terrorists after it carried out deadly attacks targeting Chinese interests.

The State Department said it was classifying the Balochistan Liberation Army as

a global terrorist group, making it a crime for anyone in the United States to assist the militants and freezing any U.S. assets they may have.

The Balochistan Liberation Army "is an armed separatist group that targets security forces and civilians, mainly in ethnic Baloch areas of Pakistan," the State

Department said.

Pakistan has been fighting insurgents in the southwestern region since 2004, with the militants recently finding a new focus in rallying against China's investment that is part of its major Belt and Road initiative.

The Balochistan Liberation Army has targeted Chi-

na in Pakistan multiple times, including a brazen attack on the Chinese consulate in Karachi that killed four people in November.

In May, five people were killed after gunmen stormed the only five-star hotel in Gwadar, the port city which Pakistan is hoping to develop into a commercial hub.

## U.S. lawmakers slam detention centres

It's a betrayal of America's values, say Democrats

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN  
WASHINGTON

"Unconscionable", a "betrayal of our values" were some of the words Democratic lawmakers used on Monday to describe the detention centres for migrants along the U.S.'s southern border. Lawmakers said detained women had not been allowed to shower for 15 days, were told to drink out of a toilet bowl, and that the Customs and Border Police's (CBP) behaviour was "toxic".

The reactions came after more than a dozen members of the U.S. Congress, including high-profile freshman lawmaker from New York City, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and presidential candidate from Texas, Joaquin Castro, toured two border facilities in El Paso and Clint, Texas, as part of a trip organised by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

On the same day (Mon-



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

day), ProPublica, a news outlet, carried a report on a Facebook group whose members - current and former border agents - made light of migrant deaths, posted racist messages and sexist memes.

The Facebook group formed in 2016 has around 9,500 members, according to ProPublica. One post about Monday's congressional visit urged border agents to throw a "burrito at these \*\*\*\*\*", referring to Ms. Ocasio-Cortez and her colleague, Congresswoman Vernonia Escobar.

One group member spec-

ulated that the graphic photograph of Oscar and Valeria Martinez, the father and daughter pair who drowned at the end of June in the Rio Grande, was fake, suggesting that the Democrats and liberal parties were behind it.

"Just left the 1st CBP facility. I see why CBP officers were being so physically & sexually threatening towards me. Officers were keeping women in cells w/ no water & had told them to drink out of the toilets. This was them on their GOOD behavior in front of members of Congress," Ms. Ocasio-Cortez wrote on Twitter.

## 'Toxic behaviour'

She said the women were held in tents and moved indoors just prior to the Congressional visit and that they were not allowed to shower for 15 days and "were allowed to start bathing four days ago (when visit was announced)."

"While mgmt was telling us it was a 'secure facility' where members of Congress had to check their phones,

we caught officers trying to sneak photos, laughing." Ms. Ocasio-Cortez tweeted on Monday, adding: "CBP's 'good' behavior was toxic. Imagine how they treat the women trapped inside."

"There was a toilet, but there was no running water, for people to drink. In fact one of the women said that she was told by an agent to drink water out of the toilet. "These are the conditions that have been created by the Trump administration," Mr. Castro said after the visit. He was heckled as he spoke.

Congresswoman Rashida Talib was also heckled as she spoke about her visit. "We don't care about sharia law. We care about Jesus Christ," one heckler said.

"The entire system is broken, rotten, and rife with abuse," Joseph Kennedy III, a Massachusetts lawmaker and part of the group that toured detention facilities, wrote on Twitter, describing the over-crowding and adding that the CBP was very resistant to Congressional oversight.

## IN BRIEF



### Christine Lagarde to head European Central Bank

BRUSSELS  
EU leaders have nominated International Monetary Fund chief Christine Lagarde to be the new president of the European Central Bank. Ms. Lagarde announced she would step down from the global lender. ■ AP

### Indian among 9 injured in Yemeni rebels attack

RIYADH  
An Indian national was among nine people injured in an attack by Yemeni rebels on Abha international airport in Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, a spokesperson of the Saudi-led military coalition said. ■ PTI

## Bezos pays out \$38 billion in divorce settlement

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
WASHINGTON

MacKenzie Bezos, wife of the world's richest man Jeff Bezos for 26 years, is set to walk away with a whopping \$38 billion in the world's biggest divorce settlement with the Amazon founder and CEO.

Ms. 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, CNN Business reported.

Ms. MacKenzie 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".

The couple finalised their



Jeff and MacKenzie Bezos

divorce in April, entitling Ms. MacKenzie to 25% of the couple's joint Amazon stocks worth around \$38 billion, the report said.

Even with the settlement, Mr. Bezos will be the richest individual in the world with an estimated net worth of \$118 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

## 14 sailors killed in Russian submarine fire

REUTERS  
MOSCOW

Fourteen Russian sailors on board a deep water research submarine were killed in a fire on Monday while carrying out a survey of the sea floor, the Russian Defence Ministry was quoted as saying by Russian news agencies.

A Russian news outlet, RBC, cited an unnamed military source as saying the vessel was a nuclear-powered AS-12 deep sea submarine, but there was no official confirmation of that.

President Vladimir Putin ordered an inquiry into the accident, which took place in Russian waters.

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MARKET WATCH

|           | 02-07-2019 | % CHANGE |
|-----------|------------|----------|
| Sensex    | 39,816     | -0.33    |
| US Dollar | 68.95      | -0.01    |
| Gold      | 34,120     | 0.00     |
| Brent oil | 62.98      | -3.16    |

NIFTY 50

|                   | PRICE    | CHANGE |
|-------------------|----------|--------|
| Adani Ports       | 414.05   | 0.80   |
| Asian Paints      | 1345.75  | -8.10  |
| Axis Bank         | 802.60   | -7.85  |
| Bajaj Auto        | 2883.55  | -28.40 |
| Bajaj Finserv     | 8474.85  | -46.20 |
| Bajaj Finance     | 3711.10  | 12.10  |
| Bharti Airtel     | 353.60   | 5.10   |
| BPL               | 378.50   | 2.30   |
| Britannia Ind     | 2769.25  | 31.70  |
| Cipla             | 555.35   | -0.45  |
| Coal India        | 252.70   | 3.45   |
| Dr Reddys Lab     | 2627.65  | -27.20 |
| Eicher Motors     | 20137.45 | 512.15 |
| GAIL (India)      | 311.35   | -1.35  |
| Grasim Ind        | 919.80   | -0.20  |
| HCL Tech          | 1060.00  | 10.90  |
| HDFC              | 2281.25  | 35.35  |
| HDFC Bank         | 2495.00  | 9.45   |
| Hero MotoCorp     | 2597.05  | -19.45 |
| Hindalco          | 209.35   | 0.40   |
| Hind Unilever     | 1789.20  | 9.00   |
| Indiabulls HFL    | 642.40   | 20.45  |
| ICI Bank          | 436.75   | -2.25  |
| IndusInd Bank     | 1416.55  | -17.05 |
| Bharti Infratel   | 265.90   | 0.25   |
| Infinity          | 740.00   | 8.70   |
| Indian Oil Corp   | 154.70   | 3.05   |
| ITC               | 273.85   | -1.10  |
| JSW Steel         | 276.15   | 0.40   |
| Kotak Bank        | 1471.50  | -9.70  |
| L&T               | 1563.85  | 7.20   |
| M&M               | 666.25   | 6.25   |
| Maruti Suzuki     | 6560.00  | 52.15  |
| NTPC              | 142.95   | 0.40   |
| ONGC              | 165.65   | 4.65   |
| PowerGrid Corp    | 207.35   | 0.30   |
| Reliance Ind      | 1278.50  | 9.65   |
| State Bank        | 364.50   | 2.95   |
| Sun Pharma        | 395.55   | -9.80  |
| Tata Motors       | 163.75   | -4.25  |
| Tata Steel        | 508.80   | 1.85   |
| TCS               | 2252.10  | 12.55  |
| Tech Mahindra     | 711.65   | 7.00   |
| Titan             | 1324.00  | 0.80   |
| UltraTech Cement  | 454.10   | 17.45  |
| UPL               | 656.15   | 24.02  |
| Vedanta           | 174.65   | 0.60   |
| Wipro             | 284.25   | 2.25   |
| YES Bank          | 100.80   | -8.35  |
| Zee Entertainment | 356.40   | -1.95  |

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 02

| CURRENCY           | TT BUY | TT SELL |
|--------------------|--------|---------|
| US Dollar          | 68.73  | 69.05   |
| Euro               | 77.66  | 78.02   |
| British Pound      | 86.81  | 87.25   |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 63.52  | 63.82   |
| Chinese Yuan       | 10.00  | 10.05   |
| Swiss Franc        | 69.52  | 69.86   |
| Singapore Dollar   | 50.70  | 50.94   |
| Canadian Dollar    | 52.36  | 52.61   |
| Malaysian Ringgit  | 16.59  | 16.69   |

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

July 02 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

|                    |      |        |
|--------------------|------|--------|
| Retail Silver (1g) | 40.4 | (40.7) |
| 22 ct gold (1g)    | 3216 | (3216) |

# Lithium-ion giga units mooted

NITI Aayog's proposal aims to give thrust to adoption of electric vehicles

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA  
NEW DELHI

To push the adoption of electric mobility in the country, government think-tank NITI Aayog has proposed the establishment of giga factories in India for the manufacture of lithium-ion batteries in the next couple of years.

The recommendation is part of the Aayog's much debated proposal that only electric (lithium-ion or other advanced battery chemistry only) three-wheelers would be sold in the country after March 31, 2023, and all new sales of two-wheelers below 150cc would be electric post March 31, 2025.

"We have also proposed in this mission that giga factories be established for making lithium-ion batteries in India. We want at least three-



India must start building capabilities to become a competitive player in lithium-ion, says Rajiv Kumar. \*EMMANUEL YOGINI

four factories to come up in the next two-three years," Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, told *The Hindu*. "So, when the policy [moving to electric two and three-wheelers] comes into effect, you will have domestically produced lithium-ion batteries or other advanced

technology batteries," he added. He added that this was a sunrise industry and India needed to start building capabilities to become a globally competitive player in this area. "The lack of domestic capability will result in massive imports as is the case in

electronics," Mr. Kumar said. He added that India was also working towards finding lithium-ion and with the advancement of technology, it was likely that it may be replaced with other advanced batteries.

Industry opposition

The two-wheeler industry had strongly opposed the Aayog's proposal to stop selling ICE (internal combustion engine) 150cc two-wheelers, cautioning that the move would disrupt the industry that was already reeling under stress.

Terming the proposal impractical, the industry had also pointed out that batteries, which were a crucial part of electric vehicles, were expensive and not made in India.

## Yes Bank stock tanks 7.6% on 'default' report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Yes Bank's shares fell 7.6% on Wednesday after media reports emerged saying Mumbai-based real estate developer Radius group had defaulted on loan repayment to the lender. However, Radius clarified that full interest payment was made on June 29.

"The full interest payment has been made last Saturday, so the question of us defaulting does not arise," a Radius spokesperson said in a statement.

"The industry at large is undergoing a restructuring and our plans of fundraising from an international firm are underway," the statement added. Yes Bank's shares fell 7.6% to ₹100.85 on the BSE.

## High trading costs impact liquidity of Indian equities: study

"Turnover ratio fell by 60% in 10 years"

ASHISH RUKHAIYAR  
MUMBAI

With the Union Budget just a couple of days away, a recent study has shown that the turnover ratio of the Indian stock market has fallen significantly in the last 10 years.

More importantly, the fall has been higher in India compared with some of the other leading markets of the world.

As per the latest analysis by the World Bank, the turnover ratio of the Indian stock market had fallen from 143 in 2008 to 53 in 2018. To be sure, while the ratio had managed to move up in the last five years, it is still quite low compared with the earlier highs.

The turnover ratio, which is a universally accepted parameter to gauge trading volumes, is the total value of the shares traded in a specific period divided by the average market capitalisation of that period.

This assumes significance as market participants have been lobbying hard with the government to bring down the overall cost of trading in equities in India, which, they feel, is adversely affecting investors' interest in the stock market.

Incidentally, the World Bank study comes close on the heels of a recent analysis by the Association of National Exchanges Members of India (ANEMI) that highlighted the fact that India had very high trading costs due to huge margin requirements, especially in the derivatives segment.

Separately, as part of their pre-budget recom-



mendations to the government, capital market participants had sought rationalisation of the securities transaction tax (STT) apart from bringing back certain exemption benefits that were available earlier.

In 2007-08, government stopped treating STT as tax paid and treated it as an expense that led to double taxation for the gains assessed under business income. Further, while long-term capital gains (LTCG) tax was made nil while introducing STT in 2004, the transaction tax was not done away with when LTCG was reintroduced in 2018.

India leads decline  
Meanwhile, while India's turnover ratio fell by nearly 60% between 2008 and 2018, as per the World Bank report, the fall had been the highest among most leading markets of the world, barring the U.S. and the European Union.

The turnover ratio of China dipped less than 6% in the last 10 years, while Brazil and Korea registered a dip of 12.85% and 31.12%, respectively. Japan and Hong Kong saw the ratio dip between 40-50% between 2008 and 2018, as per the World Bank study.

## Oil wins 12 oil blocks in auction, Vedanta gets 10

Reliance-BP outbids ONGC in KG block

PREST TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil India Ltd. (OIL) on Tuesday won 12 out of 32 oil and gas exploration blocks offered in the latest auction while Vedanta Ltd. walked away with 10 and Oil and Natural Gas Corp. (ONGC) eight.

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. The 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.

Bidding for 14 blocks on offer in the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) round-II and another 18 oil and gas blocks and five coal-bed methane (CBM) blocks on offer in OALP-III closed on May 15.

## Mortgage lenders want higher NHB refinance limit in Budget

Business growth of the entities is hit due to liquidity crisis

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

Housing finance companies are expecting higher refinance limits from the National Housing Bank, in the Budget, to tide over the current liquidity crisis they are facing.

Some of the mortgage lenders have written to the Finance Ministry requesting that their proposal be considered, the chief executive officer of a housing finance company told *The Hindu*.

After the IL&FS crisis broke out in September, NHB had increased the refinance limit to ₹30,000 crore from ₹24,000 crore. Now, the HFCs want the limit to be enhanced to ₹40,000 crore.

Bank lending for most housing finance companies has dried up and as a result, cost of funds for these lenders have gone up substantially.

Some of the home loan companies have either defaulted on repayment or have deferred payment due to the liquidity crisis. The business growth of these entities has also suffered due to the liquidity crisis.

According to a study by rating agency Crisil, growth of asset under management of housing finance companies halved in the second half of the 2018-19.

"With funding access being affected, non-banks, including HFCs, were forced to

curtail disbursements and instead focus on conserving liquidity," the rating agency said.

The housing finance firms are also gearing up for stricter capital norms as NHB has proposed to increase capital adequacy ratio (CAR) to 15% in a phased manner, from 12% now.

As per the roadmap, HFCs have to increase minimum CAR to 13% by March 31 2020, 14% by March 31, 2021 and 15% by March 2022.

NHB has also proposed to bring down the public deposits mobilised by HFCs to 12 times by March 2022 in a gradual manner from existing 16 times of the Net Owned Fund (NOF).

## RBI Deputy Governor gets extension

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI

The government has extended the tenure of N.S. Vishwanathan, one of the four Deputy Governors of the Reserve Bank of India, (RBI) by one year.

"The central government has re-appointed N.S. Vishwanathan as Deputy Governor, RBI, for a further period of one year beyond his currently notified period of appointment of three years that expires on July 3, 2019, i.e., till July 3, 2020, or until further orders, whichever is earlier," the central bank said in a statement.

Mr. Vishwanathan is in charge of banking and non-banking regulation, Financial Stability Unit, inspection department and risk monitoring department, among others.

## Centre ratifies convention to curb company profit shifting

Bid to prevent firms from moving profit out of country

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The government announced on Tuesday that it had ratified the international agreement to curb base erosion and profits shifting (BEPS), a bid to stop companies from moving their profits out of the country and depriving the government of tax revenue.

"India has ratified the Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (multilateral instruments (MLI)), which was signed by the Finance Minister in Paris on June 7, 2017 on behalf of India, along with representatives of more than 65 countries," the Finance Ministry said in a release. Base ero-

sion and profit shifting refers to the phenomenon where companies shift their profits to other tax jurisdictions, which usually have lower rates, thereby eroding the tax base in India.

The MLI is a result of concerted work by the G20 countries to tackle the issue of base erosion and profit shifting, something that affects them all. India was part of the Ad Hoc Group of more than 100 countries and jurisdictions from the G20, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), and other interested countries, which worked on the finalising the text of the Multilateral Convention.

"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," the government said. "The MLI will be applied alongside existing tax treaties, modifying their application in order to implement the BEPS measures." Out of 93 tax treaties notified by India, 22 countries have already ratified the MLI so far and the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with these countries will be modified by MLI. For the remaining countries with tax treaties with India, the MLI will come into force when they ratify it. The MLI will come into force for India from October 1, 2019.

## Growers deny Coffee Board output figures

Actual figures well below 3 lakh tonnes, says Coffee Exporters Association

MINI TEJASWI  
BENGALURU

India's coffee production in the current crop year is lower than 3,00,000 tonnes - which is than the Coffee Board's own estimate of 3,19,000 tonnes - according to the United Planters' Association of Southern India (UPASI) and the Karnataka Planters' Association (KPA)

Coffee Board chairman Boje Gowda, a grower himself, said the production figures given out by the board seem a little exaggerated and unrealistic. "We will have better clarity of the ground level situation by the end of September. If need be, we will do a review."

Coffee Board CEO Srivatsa Krishna could not be reached for comments.

The Coffee Board's production figures for 2018-19 (September-October) crop year were not realistic and



Losing flavour: Growers got ₹1.54 lakh per tonne of coffee against ₹1.66 lakh in the year-earlier quarter. \*K. R. DEEPAK

the actual figures were much below 3,00,000 tonnes, said Ramesh Rajah, president, Coffee Exporters Association. Echoing similar sentiments, M.B. Ganapathy, chairman, Karnataka Planters' Association said, "The coffee community is not in agreement with the production numbers released by the Coffee Board." The sec-

tor had witnessed severe drought for two consecutive years and then, floods last year destroyed or washed away many plantations in Coorg, Wayanad and other areas. UPASI vice president A.L.R.M. Nagappan said, "There has been a drastic decline in production this year. Reasons are diverse and they include floods, inadequate

rainfall, poor labour situation, rising cost of production and falling coffee prices in the international market." "The exports so far have been bad in terms of quantity and in value terms, there has been a clear decline of 15%. Internationally, coffee consumption is growing only at 1.5% CAGR and therefore, the demand for the commodity is weak. All these indicate a bleak outlook for our coffee exports," added Mr. Rajah.

Export value of coffee, too, had dropped, both in rupee and U.S. dollar terms by 12% and 16% respectively. During April-June quarter, India exported coffee worth ₹1,579 crore against ₹1,806 crore. Also, growers received only ₹1.54 lakh per tonne of coffee against ₹1.66 lakh in the first quarter of previous crop year, as per Coffee Board.

**BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED**  
A Mini Ratna Company  
(A subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

**ABRIDGED NIT**

Open Tenders are invited on-line on the e-tendering portal of CIL <http://coalindiatenders.nic.in> for the work of "Hiring of HEMM for removal of OB, extraction and transportation of Coal with fire - fighting from IX/X, X, IX, VIII, VII/VIII & V/VI seams of Patch-C of New Godhur-Kusunda Colliery, Kusunda Area" vide NIT No. BCCL/CMC/e-Tender/F-HEMM-OS/2019/251 Date : 01.07.2019. Document download start date 08.07.2019. Document download end date/Bid submission end date 25.07.2019. All prospective bidders are advised to visit <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in> for online participation in the tender. Details of tender will be mirrored on <http://www.bcclweb.in> and <https://eprocure.gov.in>

Sd/-  
General Manager (CMC) Koyla Bhawan, BCCL

**Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited**  
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)  
# 39, "Shanthigruha", Bharath Scouts & Guides Building, Opp.The Chief Post Master General Office, Palace Road, Bengaluru-560 001. Tel:080-22208109/22207851 Fax:080-22257399. E-mail:kredlmd@gmail.com Website:<http://www.kredlinfo.in>

No.:KRED/08/Sogi-O&M/F-197/2019 Date:02.07.2019

**SHORT-TERM e-TENDER NOTIFICATION**  
(Through e-procurement platform)

**Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL)** has invited tender through e-Procurement for Operation & Maintenance of 2 Nos of WTG's (2x1.25 MW) wind power project at Sogi wind farm, Huvinahadagali taluk, Ballari district under two cover system from the manufacturers of wind turbine generators approved by NIWE, Chennai. The bidder can view the tender details on or after **04.07.2019**, from the websites: <http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> and <http://kredlinfo.in>

The amount put to tender is **Rs.90.00 lakhs (for 36 months)**. For further information please contact helpdesk phone number: 080-23010900/23010901 of e-procurement department.

Sd/- Asst. General Manager (Wind Section), KREDL

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**  
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT  
NOTICE No. 07/2019

e-Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous scrap, Non-Ferrous scrap, other Misc Scrap, Condemned Wagon, Coaches & Locos, Scrap Rails and other Permanent Way scrap material.

| Sl. No. | e-auction conducted by | Date of auction for the month of August 2019 | Materials for Auction |
|---------|------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1.      | Dy.CMM/GSD/PER         | 05.08.2019 14.08.2019                        | 22.08.2019            |
| 2.      | Dy.CMM/SSD/GOC         | 07.08.2019 16.08.2019                        | 26.08.2019            |
| 3.      | Dy.CMM/SSD/PTJ         | 02.08.2019                                   | 27.08.2019            |
| 4.      | Sr.DMM/MAS             | 01.08.2019 13.08.2019                        | 28.08.2019            |
| 5.      | Sr.DMM/TVG             | 08.08.2019 19.08.2019                        | 29.08.2019            |
| 6.      | Sr.DMM/TPJ             | 09.08.2019 20.08.2019                        | 30.08.2019            |
| 7.      | Sr.DMM/SA              | 06.08.2019 21.08.2019                        | 30.08.2019            |

For detailed terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue, please visit our website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> - E-Auction - Sale - Live Auctions. SMM/Sales/PER For PCMM

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CIN: L13100AP1958C0001674

**e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders are invited through e-procurement mode for the following item(s) from reputed manufacturers directly or through their accredited agents in India required for our Steel Plant at Nagaram, Bastar Dist. Chhattisgarh State, India. The requirement includes Supply of Equipment along with installation as per the details furnished in the tender documents.

| Sl. No.  | Description                         | Qty (No.) | Display & Sale of Tender Documents | Last date & Time for submission of offer | Tender fee in ₹ / US \$ | Earnest Money Deposit in ₹ / US \$ |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Tender Ref : HQMM/0043-16/28B-03/NISP/027 Date: 02/07/2019 (OPEN TENDER)   |                                     |           |                                    |  |                         |                                    |
| 1  | Conventional Lathe Machines for CWS | 04 Items  | 03.07.2019 TO 02.08.2019           | 02.08.2019 By 02.30 PM (IST)             | ₹ 5900/-                | ₹ 2,00,000/- or US \$ 7500         |
| Tender Ref : HQMM/0059-16/28B-12/NISP/028 Date: 02/07/2019 (GLOBAL TENDER) |                                     |           |                                    |  |                         |                                    |
| 2  | Fabrication Machines for CWS        | 07 Items  | 03.07.2019 TO 02.08.2019           | 02.08.2019 By 02.30 PM (IST)             | ₹ 5900/- or US \$ 100   | ₹ 5,00,000/- or US \$ 7500         |

The detailed information of the tenders can be obtained from our websites [www.nmcdc.co.in](http://www.nmcdc.co.in) under e-procurement section; [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in) and website [www.msctccommerce.com/eprocurement/nmcdc](http://www.msctccommerce.com/eprocurement/nmcdc) of MSTC Ltd. Any Corrigendum to the above Tender Notices and final tender document will be uploaded only on our website [www.nmcdc.co.in](http://www.nmcdc.co.in) and will not be published. Prospective bidders should visit the above NMDC website from time to time to note the corrigendum, if any.

Jt. General Manager (Materials)

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**LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF TENDER: 05-08-2019 TILL 12 NOON**

Note: Corrigendum to this tender if any will be published in the Institute Website only.

Date:03-07-2019

Sd/- DIRECTOR

**DELHI JAL BOARD: GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI**  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C) DR. XIV  
SEWAGE PUMPING STATION: NAJAFGARH

## IN BRIEF

**SoftBank pumps in \$250 mn in Ola Electric**

**NEW DELHI**  
Ola's electric vehicle arm, Ola Electric Mobility (OEM) has secured a funding of over ₹1,725 crore (\$250 million) from SoftBank, according to regulatory documents. With this latest infusion, OEM has joined the list of unicorns in India that includes Flipkart, Zomato, Paytm as well as its parent, Ola. In May, Tata Sons chairman emeritus Ratan Tata invested an undisclosed amount in OEM. PTI

**'Number of bank frauds falls to 6,735 in FY19'**

**NEW DELHI**  
The bank fraud incidence involving over ₹1 lakh had declined to 6,735 in 2018-19 as compared to 9,866 in the previous fiscal, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. In 2018-19, as many as 6,735 incidences of fraud occurred with financial implication of ₹2,836 crore as compared to 9,866 such activities involving over ₹4,228 crore a year ago, the Finance Minister said. PTI

**Airtel invests ₹260 crore in payments bank arm**

**NEW DELHI**  
Bharti Airtel and Bharti Enterprises have injected about ₹325 crore in Airtel Payments Bank, as per regulatory documents. The fund infusion from Bharti Airtel stood at ₹260 crore, and that from Bharti Enterprises at ₹65 crore in the form of preference shares, according to the details of a filing. Airtel Payments Bank MD and CEO Anubrata Biswas said the firm will continue to invest in ramping up operations. PTI

# Apex court's decision to reject DoT plea may help RCom's buyer

SC upheld TDSAT order that liabilities of past dues rested with telco, not buyer

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

The Supreme Court's decision to reject the Department of Telecommunications' (DoT) plea, which sought that Reliance Communications' (RCom's) outstanding liabilities be borne by the buyer, is likely to help the bankrupt telco find a buyer under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) process.

The apex court on Tuesday upheld the Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal's (TDSAT) order that liabilities of past dues related to spectrum usage charges (SUC) rested only with RCom and not the



**Clear skies:** With the SC decision, the buyer would get clarity about the NCLT-driven sale of RCom. • V.V. KRISHNAN

buyer. DoT had refused to give a no-objection certificate (NoC) to the ₹25,000-crore deal between the Ambani brothers as it wanted

Reliance Jio to take up responsibility for past liabilities of RCom when it buys spectrum from the telco. Reliance Jio refused to ac-

cept DoT's terms and the deal fell through, forcing RCom to move into insolvency. RCom, with an outstanding debt of ₹47,000 crore, filed for insolvency at the Mumbai bench of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and the tribunal appointed Deloitte's Anish Navavati as the interim resolution professional (IRP).

"With the SC decision, the buyer would get clarity about the NCLT-driven sale of RCom," a person in the know of the development told *The Hindu*.

RCom shares on the BSE rose 4.51% to close at ₹1.39 in a firm Mumbai market on Tuesday.

## Jewellers seek reduction in import duty on gold

Seek exemption from capital gains too

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

The All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) has sought a reduction in import duty on gold, in its pre-Union Budget recommendations submitted to the Union Finance Minister.

**Case for reduction**

Anantha Padmanaban, chairman, GJC, said, "The 10% import duty on gold was levied to curb current account deficit (CAD). However, India's trade deficit has narrowed to 2.5% of GDP in 2019, making it case for reduction. Duty cut will directly reduce other social and economic menace in the country."

"We suggest making the

Gold Monetary Scheme more effective, which will benefit the government and citizens at large. We have proposed key customer-friendly initiatives such as exemption from capital gains, enhancement of cash limits and PAN card limits, extension of EMI facility and availability of NEFT/RTGS on weekends," he said at a press conference. To unlock family gold reserves of up to 24,000 tonnes and help reduce CAD, GJC urged the government to provide exemptions to households for minimum 500 grams of gold deposited under Gold Monetary Scheme (GMS), being of ancestral nature, from being questioned by any tax department.

## Perfetti arm to focus on new category creation, innovation

Company to expand portfolio under power brands

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOLKATA**

New category creation and innovative offerings to create iconic brands will form the cornerstones of the strategy of Perfetti Van Melle India (PVMI), a subsidiary of Perfetti Van Melle, which is marking its 25 year of existence in India this year.

PVMI owns brands like Alpenliebe, Center Fresh, Chlor-mint, Mentos and Just Jelly among others and has a strong presence in the confectionery market in India, according to Rajesh Ramakrishnan its MD.

The ₹12,000-crore confectionery market, in which PVMI has a ₹2,000 crore



Rajesh Ramakrishnan

share, is among its parent's top five markets. Its competitors include Parle, ITC and local players besides other global outfits. "Competition is intense," remarked Mr. Ramakrishnan.

He said that the company

## 'No Nano output since January'

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI**

Tata Motors has not produced its small car Nano since January this year, and has not sold a single unit since February this year, according to regulatory filings by the company.

The company, however, said it had not taken a formal decision on stopping production of the entry-level car, which was once dubbed as the 'people's car,' saying it continues to sell the vehicle as per demand.

As per the filings, the last time the company produced Nano was in December 2018 when it rolled out 82 units from Sanand plant. Since then, from January to June, there was no production of Nano.



**Show me the money:** Care has downgraded Cox & Kings' bank facilities of ₹1,760 crore to BB stable. • BIJOY GHOSH

## Cox & Kings shares tank after default, rating downgrade

Firm defaulted on ₹50-crore CP

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
MUMBAI**

Shares of travel and tour operator Cox & Kings tanked 4.9% on Tuesday to touch its 52-week low of ₹32.95 on the BSE after the company defaulted on yet another tranche of commercial paper on Monday, after last week's default, leading to a downgrade by rating agencies.

The company had defaulted on the payment of ₹50 crore out of the ₹65-crore worth commercial paper maturing on Monday. This led Care Ratings to downgrade various instruments of the company.

Care has downgraded Cox & Kings' bank facilities of ₹1,760 crore to BB stable from AA stable, non-convertible debentures (NCDs) worth ₹525 crore to BB stable from AA stable and commercial papers worth ₹375 crore and ₹1,685 crore to Care D and Care A4 respectively from Care A1+, said Care Ratings in a statement.

"The working capital situation at Cox & Kings got stretched in the last few months and was further impacted due to its inability to

**The company said it was focused on freeing up working capital and cash flow generation**

replace the short-term loans with long term loans/regular working capital lines," Cox and Kings said in statement, adding that the company was taking all required measures to resolve the temporary cash flow mismatch.

"It is evaluating each business and identifying ways to improve operational performance."

"The company is focusing on cash flow generation from each business and working at the highest priority to free working capital. The company will be approaching its lenders to work out some time-bound programme to meet this emergency," it said.

Last week, Cox & Kings had failed to meet a debt repayment obligation towards maturity of unsecured commercial papers on June 26.

Out of an aggregate amount of ₹200 crore, the company managed to pay ₹50 crore while the balance ₹150 crore remained unpaid.

### A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP



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## FREEDOM THROUGH AUTOMATION

Here are three examples of how technology can take over certain 'sub-tasks' and enable employees to focus entirely on the critical areas of their work

LIFFY THOMAS

### App reduces time spent on recruitments

At Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance, technology has increased the speed with which insurance agents are hired and onboarded

Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance, on an average, hires 2,000 insurance consultants every month. Until last year, the recruitment and onboarding process was cumbersome, easily consuming a minimum of 30 days.

To address the question of time, it went in for a mo-

bile app, i-RECRUIT, last year.

The agents' applications are processed in 14 days where they had earlier been processed in 30 days.

Messages on the status of their applications are "auto-sent to the agents. The tool



is also enabling the company's sales managers to onboard agents anywhere and anytime.

"We have been able to reduce the overall onboarding time by half, and this has translated into increased productivity for our insurance consultants and sales managers. It has also helped us save operational expenses and hire better quality agents," says Goutam Dutta, chief informa-

tion and digital officer, Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance.

The entire recruitment process is paperless. From filling the application to KYC validation, regulatory training and providing mock-test papers to scheduling the examination of the new hires and finally to licensing - many tasks are carried out on the app.

"The mobile app has enabled us to onboard more than 15,700 consultants digitally, over the last one year," says Dutta, adding that they have almost eliminated the traditional hiring process.

### Virtual reality in 'driving classes'

Schwing Stetter deploys this technology to teach employees how to operate a truck-mounted concrete boom pump

Operating a truck-mounted concrete boom pump is one of the most challenging jobs at Schwing Stetter India (SSI), a concrete construction equipment manufacturer that has its corporate office in Chennai.

Driving this mammoth machine requires specialised skills. Carelessness can result in huge losses, involving the operator and the equipment. By introducing Virtual Reality (VR) as part of the training for new hires who will be operating this vehicle, Schwing Stetter has been able to reduce the onboarding time considerably.

"Now, our man hour savings is around 75%," says V.G. Sakthikumar, managing director, Schwing Stetter India.

"VR in training helps to equip more people with the skills in a short period of time and meet the industry demands," says Sakthikumar. The technology has increased the productivity and given the company two major savings - cost and man hours.



A trainee uses the VR tool to understand machine operations. PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

VR in training helps to equip more people with the skills in a short period of time and meet the industry demands

Sakthikumar says that with their costs, construction equipment are a long-term investment. Even a minimal damage can translate into huge costs in repair and service. With intensive VR training

preceding driving the real vehicle, safe handling of the machine is ensured. They are next planning to extend this feature to other machineries at their factory in Kancheepuram.

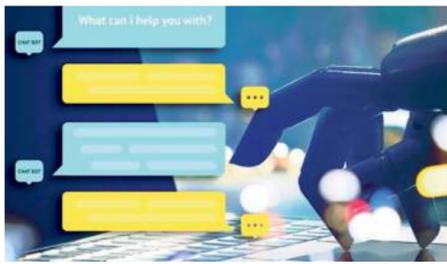
### A 'listener' makes all the difference

Marico has now added a chatbot to the onboarding experience of its new hires

In 2017, Marico organised an ideation event where employees were invited to present ideas that they thought could make the workplace more vibrant. One of the ideas was using technology to create "a listening organisation", and that led to the company going in for the services of Amber, a chatbot. Amber is positioned as the MD and CEO's digital assistant. Through this digital assis-

tant, new employees will get to share their views and concerns directly with the top management. The chatbot also tracks the settling-in period of a new employee.

"Before we started using Amber, this work was done by several business-unit HR teams at an informal level. Leveraging technology with Amber has enabled us to create a structured and automated process of listen-



Representational image

ing to employees," says Amit Prakash, chief human resources officer, Marico Limited. Over the last one year, Amber has interacted with around 130 new joi-

nees. "So, in more than 90% of the cases, it helped resolve the issues they encountered and averted early attrition situations," says Prakash.

## Rising heat stress could cost 80 million jobs by 2030: U.N.

REUTERS

Rising heat due to climate change could lead to the loss of 80 million jobs by 2030, with poor countries worst-hit, the United Nations said recently, as Europe sweltered in record temperatures.

The U.N. International Labour Organisation (ILO) said people would be unable to work due to the health risks posed by higher temperatures.

"The impact of heat stress on labour productivity is a serious consequence of climate change, which adds to other adverse impacts such as changing rain patterns, rising sea levels and loss of biodiversity," said ILO's Catherine Saget.

The World Health Organisation has said heat stress linked to climate change is likely to cause 38,000 extra deaths a year worldwide between 2030 and 2050.

Heat stress occurs when the body absorbs more heat than is tolerable. Extreme heat can cause heat-related illnesses, such as heat stroke and exhaustion, increase mortality, and exacerbate existing health conditions.

Agricultural workers, especially women, who make up the bulk of the 940 million labourers in the sector, will be most affected, the ILO said, accounting for about 60% of all working hours lost due to heat stress by 2030.

If global temperatures rise as predicted, the construction industry will account for about 19% of lost working hours, with the poorest countries in Southeast Asia and West Africa worst hit, the ILO added.

Transport, tourism, sport and industrial sectors are among those that will also be affected by rising heat, the ILO said.

The World Meteorological Organisation recently said that 2019 was on track to be among the world's hottest years on record, which would make 2015-2019 the hottest five-year period.



A protester holds a placard at a climate change demonstration in London. PHOTO: REUTERS

The impact of heat stress on labour productivity is a serious consequence of climate change

Europe has been in the grip of record-breaking heatwaves, with wildfires burning tracts of land in France and Spain at the weekend, and scorching temperatures across the continent killing at least seven people.

### GENERAL

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY PUDUCHERRY**  
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Advt. No. NITPY/01/2019/T-NT/03072019 Date: 03.07.2019

**NOTIFICATION FOR RECRUITMENT**

National Institute of Technology Puducherry invites applications from Indian Nationals for various **Teaching and Non-Teaching Positions**. The details required for the **Teaching and Non-Teaching posts** can be downloaded from the Institute website <http://www.nitpy.ac.in>.

Sd/- Registrar

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For details please visit : [www.dredge-india.com](http://www.dredge-india.com)

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Ref: NUSRL/RNC/2019/9339 Date: 26/06/2019

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**Corrigendum to Advt. No. 76/2019**  
**Recruitment of Executive (HR) in 'A' grade through UGC NET 2018 score**

It is hereby informed to all that UGC NET July 2018 score will also be considered along with UGC NET December 2018 score for Recruitment of Executive (HR) in 'A' grade.

Also UGC NET Subject of Management (Subject Code-17) will be considered along with UGC NET Subject of Labour Welfare/Personnel Management/Industrial Relations/Labour and Social Welfare/Human Resource Management (Subject Code-55) for Recruitment of Executive (HR) in 'A' grade.

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Getting a job can be a harrowing experience for those in the queer community. Pride Circle offers help with the LGBTI Job Fair in Bengaluru, billed as the first of its kind in India



# Finding that right fit

APARNA NARRAIN

"Livelihood is such an essential part of one's life. We found that many from the queer community are underemployed or unemployed. A transgender person with a degree does not get the same pay as a cisgender person," says Ramkrishna Sinha, co-founder of Pride Circle, that works towards the inclusion of queer persons at the workplace.

Started in 2017 by Ramkrishna and Srinu Ramaswamy, Pride Circle is organising a job fair in Bengaluru, exclusively for people from the community as part of RISE (Reimagining Inclusion for Social Equity).

Working in the same space of Diversity and Inclusion (D&I),

Ramkrishna and Srinu kept bumping into each other at conferences, panel discussions and talks, and soon turned towards doing something actionable.

Ramkrishna, who works in an IT firm, says, "I am from the community. When we talked about LGBTI inclusion in the workplace, people did not understand what that meant. Those outside the community don't know about the challenges, such as discrimination, the community faces."

Prior to the landmark judgement on Section 377 of the IPC, there was immense ignorance around the law, feels Ramkrishna. "People did not know it only criminalises acts, not identities. You could still have support groups at workplaces and so on. We also

realised that those who worked in D&I had no access to LGBTI people. That is when we thought of starting a forum and have monthly meet-ups where people working in different companies could come together and share their coming-out stories, challenges and more. It started with empowering LGBTI people with data points, knowledge of what was happening in companies, their practices and implementations."

Srinu, who has worked in HR for 20 years, says: "I have led D&I initiatives for various companies. In 2010-2012, it was difficult to have these conversations in my company because there was no access then. No precedent either because where would you go to understand what was happening in other companies or in the country? The only option was to call people and ask what they had implemented. It took us two to

## WHAT TO EXPECT

The LGBTI Job Fair will see the participation of companies such as The LaLiT, Accenture, HSBC, GE, Citrix and NestAway. RISE will

also include a daylong conference with speakers Selisse Berry, founder and former CEO of Out & Equal Workplace Advocates, Prof MV Lee Badgett, professor at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Dr J Harrison who has been bringing queer theory into the tech space. Other speakers include activist Akkai Padmashali and Jayanagar MLA Sowmya Reddy. There will also be a paid leadership breakfast or lunch, where one can spend time with a changemaker, and LGBT Marketplace, a platform to spotlight LGBTI-owned businesses.



I was rejected in an interview just because I came across as feminine. This job fair will create an inclusive and diverse space in companies and actually bring about a change.

MAYA THE DRAG QUEEN  
Emcee for RISE



MARCHING AHEAD (Clockwise from above) Srinu Ramaswamy, Ramkrishna Sinha and a scene from the 2018 pride march in Bengaluru. K MURALI KUMAR AND SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

three years to build on that. Ramkrishna struggled to set up the network in his company. I was setting up a strategy at an India and Asia Pacific level and the challenges were similar. Fast forward to four years later and the challenges remain the same."

Since it was only a monthly meet-up at first, they also created a WhatsApp group. And, it became like a community where people could share their stories, pose questions and get answers, says Ramkrishna, who adds, "That is how we realised there is so more to be done."

Subsequently, they started what was billed as India's first mentoring programme targeted at the queer community.

"Many feel they can either have a sexuality or a career. If I am an engineer and come out at work, people may just dismiss me as a 'gay guy' instead of focussing

on the work I have done. All mentors were from the community and had done well in their fields. So, the idea was that you can have both," adds Ramkrishna.

They also organised a reverse mentoring programme which was targeted at business leaders so they could understand challenges, perspectives, dreams and aspirations. When Pride Circle was started, it was attended by four members. Today, says Srinu, it has grown to 600 members in 90 companies across India.

Companies too started getting back to them for help with their policies, infrastructure and training. They also conducted sensitisation workshops. After which, companies invited people from the community to give talks, some of whom got paid.

Srinu says, "That led to a demand for more jobs from the community. Companies too felt the next logical step was to hire people and sought talent."

Coming to the job fair, it targets the entire spectrum, claims Ramkrishna. "We are looking at school dropouts to people with PhDs. The jobs include those in administration, security, and kitchen and front desk, to IT, banking and finance."

They claim to have received resumes from freshers to people with over 20 years of experience.

"In the resume database, the questions are built in such a way that it makes it clear that it is an LGBTI job fair. There is also a specific question on whether you are comfortable about being out at work. You have a choice of selecting that option. The candidate will be matched with an organisation based on that requirement."

He also claims that the data is secure. Moreover, the fields regarding gender identity and expression are optional.

Ramkrishna says, "We wanted to add these fields as from the outside, the LGBTI community looks like one community but there are so many hues. An intersex person can only find representation under biological sex because gender identity or expression may not capture that data. We have made sure that no matter how you identify yourself, there is an option."

On July 12 at The LaLiT Ashok, Kumarakrupa Road, Bengaluru. Register on thepridecircle.com/risefor or email rise@thepridecircle.com; call 974116929



It is very heartening to see so many companies come on board. I am very glad this is happening; it is the need of the hour.

SONAL GIANI  
LGBTQIA activist

## FOOD REVIEW

# Summer stories

Viet:Nom is the place to eat, drink, and be merry – because sometimes, clichés work

SUNALINI MATHEW

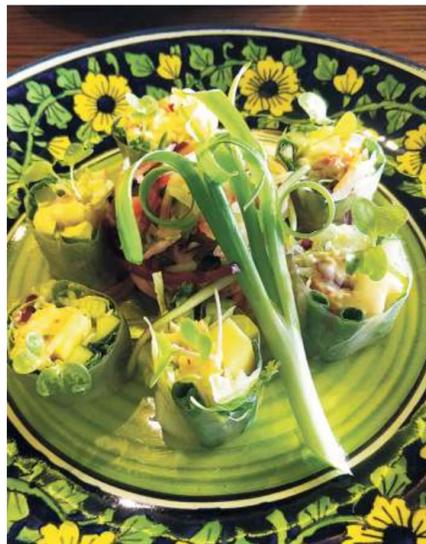
Viet:Nom is typical of the place it inhabits – Cyber Hub – where the food is good, the drinks better, and you go to while away a Sunday afternoon.

**The vibe:** Comfortable, so you'll end up helping yourself out of the serving bowl. Polite and interested staff, green-cane interiors that don't get in your way, great cocktails and sweet-spicy-tangy food that Indians love. The restaurant realised quickly that a menu straight from the streets of Vietnam may not work in Gurugram. They punched up the condiments and the spices, to give us hard-hitting flavour. The music plays in the background, and you'll hear strains of Elvis and The Beatles.

**Do try:** The Summer Rolls, salads (especially the Seafood Salad – prawn, squid, fish with veggies, herbs, and a lemon-chilli dressing); White Rose Dimsums (the tapioca flour gives it a squishy consistency);

Prawn and Shishi Dimsums (slightly suspicious with their purple hue – the suspicion disappears when they melt in your mouth, and you learn that the colour is from purple cabbage and beetroot). La Lot, which the son called 'beef pan' literally is beef mince rolled in la lot leaf (similar to betel leaves) and steamed. It's a hit of spice and red meat, and sure to go well with beer. Proceed through the menu from light to the more hard-hitting, also going from fruity cocktails to beer. For mains, we only did the chicken mango curry with jasmine rice: familiar and just right to end.

**Skip:** The dessert. There's nothing Vietnamese here, except the Pearl Jewels with Mango (sago pearls soaked in coconut water, basil seeds, coconut cream and condensed milk), but we didn't get to try this (reviews on Zomato are promising though). The panna cotta did not jiggle and is avoidable. Other than that, I cannot imagine a time or day you shouldn't go, or a



particular dish you mustn't try. Viet:Nom aims to please, so it's unlikely you'll find anything unpalatable here. They're not stuck up with 'authentic' and like most Asian home and street food, whether you add a little bit of this and minus a little bit of that, no one's going to look down their nose at you.

**Go with:** A bunch of friends –

the more the merrier (we saw of a table of about 15 people), though because it is Gurugram you will not get stared at if you go alone. A glass of wine and a fresh julienned salad is great for an early dinner as well.

**Space bar:** 80 covers indoors (across 2,800 sq ft), 30 covers outdoors (1,200 sq ft)

**Reach:** 17-18 DLF Cyber Hub,



**Light and easy** (clockwise from far left) Summer rolls, Queen and Tonic (a gin-based drink with kiwi and dragon fruit), Shrimp mousse on sugarcane skewers



## PRODUCT

### Bear necessities



Miniso, the Japanese store that opened in India almost two years ago, tells us of what their most popular products today are. There's the Mini Pony Collection lipstick, the Lavender Essential Oil, and storage boxes, amongst other things. Standing out though, are the We Bare Bear products, the most in-demand series in the store. They are based on the Cartoon Network show by the same name. Grizzly, Panda and Ice Bear are three adopted bear brothers struggling to fit into the human world. They appear on bags, speakers, coffee mugs, USB cables, hand creams and more, and you can pick a character that most resonates with you. Delhi has 28 Miniso stores, the highest number in the country.

Available in stores, Snapdeal.com, Paytmall.com; ₹190 upward

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

## 5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE



### FASHION

**Lifestyle**  
Well-known designer Ramola Bachchan is organising, *Runway Rising 2019*, a one-day lifestyle exhibition. This 23rd edition will feature collections from more than 125 premium lifestyle brands, including pret and couture fashion, precious jewellery, accessories, gifting, home decor, beauty and wellness, and much more.  
**VENUE:** The Ashok Hotel, Chanakyapuri  
**TIME:** 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.



### FILM

**Film festival**  
Watch award-winning Swedish crime movie *Drifters*, this Thursday, in town, as part of the European Union Film Festival. Directed by Peter Grönlund, the socio-political drama shows street pusher Minna cheating young criminals on a drug deal. She hides in an illegal residence outside town, where things come to a head.  
**VENUE:** Gulmohar, India Habitat Centre  
**TIME:** 7 p.m.



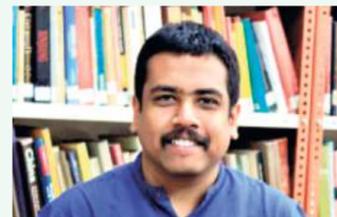
### FOOD

**Summer special**  
All-day café, Smoke House Deli, has introduced a new handcrafted menu for this summer. Apart from the restaurant's signature Keto-friendly pastas and lasagnas, guests can now choose from an array of salads, like the zesty grapefruit and stewed orange salad, or the keri, safeda and crispy quinoa salad.  
**VENUE:** Smoke House Deli, Khan Market  
**TIME:** 8 a.m. - 12 midnight



### MUSIC

**Sufi live**  
South Delhi's Circle Cafe & Bar is hosting a Sufi live music show by Aviral Malay, tonight. The professionally-trained singer will perform numbers, both contemporary and timeless classics. His music skill includes a variety of genres ranging from Western rock, retro, pop to Western classics.  
**VENUE:** Circle Cafe & Bar, F-1, First Floor, Kalkaji  
**TIME:** 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.



### TALK

**Seminar**  
The Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) is conducting a seminar titled, *Doing Fieldwork in China: Experiences on the Ground* by Dr. P. K. Anand, Research Associate, ICS. The presentation emerges from the fieldwork conducted by the speaker in China in May-June 2019, as part of the China-India Scholar Leaders Fellowship.  
**VENUE:** Seminar Room, ICS, Civil Lines  
**TIME:** 3 p.m.

FREEWHEELING

# A Himalayan tale

No roads lead to the forbidden Kingdom of Lo. And that's the charm of it, especially on this Enfield beast



On an adventure Riders on the Royal Enfield Himalayan and scenes from the journey • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



MERAJ SHAH

Once upon a time, North of the Annapurna and Dhaulagiri ranges of the upper Himalayas in Nepal, abutting the Tibetan plateau, lay a kingdom. So remote was its location – requiring an arduous trek over some of the highest mountain passes in the world – and so fearsome the reputation of some of its inhabitants – the Tibetan Khampha warriors – that it acquired the moniker of the 'Forbidden Kingdom of Lo.' A place no foreigner dared to visit, and the very existence of which was shrouded in mystery.

In a valley at the kingdom's northernmost edge, and surrounded by citadels on hillocks in all four corners, lay the capital city of Lo Manthang. In 1964, a brave Frenchman – Michel Peissel – found one porter willing to take him to this city: a journey that took a fortnight on foot from the city of Pokhara. Peissel's journey, and subsequently, the six months he spent in Lo Manthang, were chronicled by the amateur anthropologist in a book that re-



mains to this day the most detailed reference volume on the kingdom.

In 2019, 25 riders from India, astride Royal Enfield's first honest attempt at an adventure motorcycle, the Himalayan, rode for five days over mountain trails plastered with loose gravel, river beds scarred by gashes of gushing streams, through shin-deep sand, and over the same treacherous passes that people have navigated on foot for centuries to reach Lo Manthang. On the way, they lolled about in the hot water springs of Tatopani, marvelled at the intimacy of the peaks in Kalopani, and wandered the ancient streets of Kagbeni – where salt traders on the Silk Route would break their journey before making their annual odyssey to the Indian plains.

Kagbeni, known as the gateway to upper Mustang, nestled in a crevice in the Kali Gandaki river corridor, seemed like a tiny quaint hamlet to the riders. Three days later, when they finally reached Lo Manthang after camping in the villages of Ghami and Sammar, Kagbeni seemed in retrospect nothing short of a metropolis.

**Close to time travel**

Still largely removed from the wash of modern life and access limited to a few hundred visitors every year, Lo Manthang presented a spectacle that came as close to time travel as any of the riders imagined. In the Old City, they attended the annual Tenchi festival in which monks prayed and exhorted demons to leave the city in a



ceremony that has remained virtually unchanged over the past five centuries. On their final day, the riders took the high road to the Tibetan plateau and rode till the Nepal-Ti-

**The Himalayan is a tough motorcycle, but it's not sadistic, and your love for it doesn't go unrequited**

betan border, on the other side of which China is busy building a six-lane superhighway. Their steeds for the ride – the RE Himalayan, the recently-released BS IV version of which comes with ABS, has an over 400 cc heart the small size of which belies its gusto and tenacity –

proved to be the riders' best friend on this ride. Notwithstanding extreme weather, an all-pervasive lack of anything resembling a road and sustained abuse, the Himalayan reduced one of the hardest amateur rides in the world to a walk (albeit a strenuous one) in the park.

Making a long hard road trip on an Enfield can no longer be worn as a badge of honour, or, for that matter, inexorable proof of your machismo. The Himalayan is a tough motorcycle, but it's not sadistic, and your love for it doesn't go unrequited.

*Meraj Shah makes a living chronicling his experiences on the road, shooting video and writing on auto, travel and golf. When not roving the globe, he lives in Delhi with a motorcycle named Blue*

Q AND A WITH HORMAZD



**For the long haul**

**Shephy, Thrissur:** I have been driving a 2016 Nissan Micra CVT for a few years in the city. However, my new job requires me to travel an extra 150km weekly, apart from the daily 30km. So, I want to change to a new automatic car within a budget of ₹8-12 lakh.

■ Since you are used to a CVT, we suggest you upgrade to the Honda City automatic, which has the best CVT in its class. It's a reliable, spacious and easy-to-drive sedan that will make the extra 150km you drive quite effortless.

**Pick the i20**

**Dipak Ravag S, Chennai:** I want an automatic car under ₹10 lakh. Which is the best between the Maruti Suzuki Baleno, Tata Nexon, Hyundai i20 and the Honda Jazz?

■ We would rule out the Nexon, as its AMT is not as sophisticated or as nice to drive as the CVT seen in the other three cars. We would pick the i20 as it offers a good blend of refinement and space, and feels a touch more premium and better-built than the Jazz and Baleno.

**An updated TVS Ntorq**

**Nilanjan, Mumbai:** Does the TVS Ntorq 125 disc brake variant also come with a combined-braking system? I know that it is available in the drum variant, but I need confirmation regarding the disc brake version, so that I can finalise my purchase decision.

■ Yes, the Ntorq gets combined brakes, or SBS as TVS calls it, on both variants. The Ntorq is one of TVS' most popular offerings and

the company quickly updated it to meet the regulations soon after they came into effect, although there was never any formal announcement. Unlike most rivals, the Ntorq's price remained unchanged with the introduction of this safety feature.

**Try the Gixxer**

**Jayakar, Vijaywada:** I have a budget of ₹2 lakh and I'm looking for reliability, adequate performance, highway touring ability and yet enough sportiness to enjoy the Ghats, which I frequently ride to. I've narrowed it down to the CBR250R. What are the pros and cons, and reliability issues regarding the bike? Are there alternatives?

■ The CBR250R remains an adept motorcycle after all these years, but the downside is that this is a very dated product. There are no major reliability issues, but some spare parts are more expensive than rival brands. The first option we can think of is the newly-launched Suzuki Gixxer SF 250, which offers very similar levels of performance at a lower price. We've only ridden the Gixxer at the racetrack so far, but it has all the trappings of being an adept sport rider. If you don't mind sacrificing the fairing, the new Bajaj Dominar 400 is really worth considering as well. It's much more powerful than the CBR, has more features, and also costs nearly ₹20,000 less. The Dominar makes for a very good tourer and is a confident handler as well, but it isn't as light on its feet as the Honda and the Suzuki.

*Hormazd Sorabjee is the Editor of Autocar India. Mail your feedback and queries to roadshow@thehindu.co.in*

POOCH CAFE



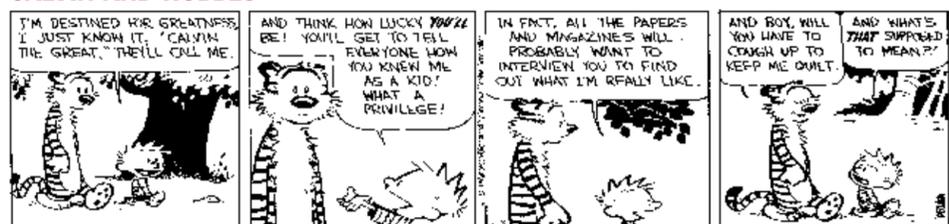
PEANUTS



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



TIGER



**GRAFFITI**  
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**Municipal Officials are the best money can buy**

**HEALTH CAPSULES**  
by Brian Smith

CAN DRINKING HIBISCUS TEA LOWER MY BLOOD PRESSURE?

HIBISCUS TEA IS AN INFUSION OF SEEDS OF THE ROSE HIP FLOWER. IT HAS A TART CRANBERRY TASTE.

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■ **Across**  
1 Stealthy (13)  
8 Lattice (anag) (7)  
9 River of forgetfulness (5)  
10 Inflamed swelling (4)  
11 Precious metal (8)  
13 Havoc (6)  
14 Shut (6)  
17 Strong drive for success (8)  
19 Short extract from a film (4)

■ **Down**  
21 Poisonous (5)  
22 Broadcasts – exposures (7)  
24 Overdo (something) (5,2,6)

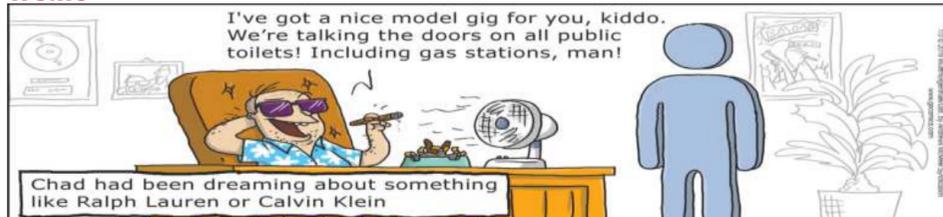
■ **Down**  
1 Solidified (3)  
2 Put right (7)  
3 Surpassing the ordinary (4)  
4 Threefold – singing voice (6)

5 Sneak (8)  
6 Choose to participate (3,2)  
7 Indignant (7,2)  
10 Pompos – inflated (9)  
12 US state, capital Frankfurt (8)  
15 Absence of sound (7)  
16 Independent principality on the French Riviera (6)  
18 Pugilist (5)  
20 Most important point (4)  
23 Little sibling (3)

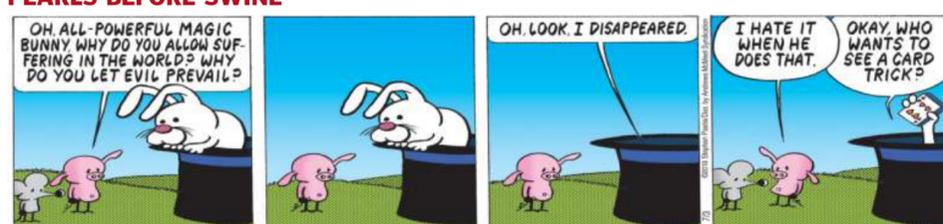
Solution will appear in The Hindu dated July 4, 2019.  
Solution No. 13111

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WUMO



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



# Kohli's men tame the Tigers, storm into the semifinals

Rohit's merry run continues while Rahul and Pant make useful contributions; Shakib's knock and the Saifuddin-Sabbir stand not enough for Bangladesh



K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR  
BIRMINGHAM

The Men in Blue secured their tryst with the World Cup semifinal. At Edgbaston, on a Tuesday oscillating between clear skies and a canopy of clouds, Virat Kohli's men defeated Bangladesh by 28 runs to register their sixth triumph in the global tournament's latest edition.

The victory propelled India to 13 points, just behind current topper Australia (14). Bangladesh (7), meanwhile, bid farewell to its last-four hopes. India posted 314 for nine, a score that revolved around Rohit Sharma's fourth hundred (104, 92b, 7x4, 5x6) in this World Cup and there were handy contributions from K.L. Rahul (77) and Rishabh Pant (48). Mashrafe Mortaza's men replied with 286 in 48 overs.

## Shami strikes

Pursuing a 300-plus target, Bangladesh needed its top-order to fire. Tamim Iqbal struck a few fours and Soumya Sarkar remained watchful against the trio of Bhuvneshwar Kumar, who replaced Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami. But India found a breach in the 10th over as Tamim chopped Shami onto his stumps.

Sarkar then survived an LBW review and an angry Kohli exchanged words with umpires Marais Erasmus and Ruchira Palliyaguruge. The Indian captain need not have expended energy as after a

few overs Sarkar drilled Hardik Pandya into Kohli's palms at short extra-cover.

Bangladesh was 74 for two and its seniors Shakib Al Hasan and Mushfiqur Rahim had an arduous task. Shakib nudged around while Mushfiqur got a grip on Yuzvendra Chahal but the leg-spinner proved equal to the challenge as the batsman upshishly swept to a waiting Shami.

## Shakib battles hard

The contest's fate rested on Shakib's lone-ranger act. The southpaw battled hard and found joy in a cover driven four off Pandya. But he missed doughty colleagues. Liton Das essayed a cameo but both he and Shakib (66) failed to get past an ecstatic



Dinesh Karthik in the inner-circle against Pandya (three for 60). Incidentally, Karthik had stepped in for Kedar Jadhav in the playing eleven.

Among the rest, Sabbir Rahman and Mohammad Saifuddin (51 n.o.) fought with gusto but their 66-run seventh-wicket partnership only delayed the inevitable loss as Bumrah (four for 55) unleashed his yorkers.

Earlier, the morning lyrically stirred to two national anthems written by one man — Rabindranath Tagore, and then openers Rohit and Rahul displayed urgency. Once Rohit hoisted Mortaza for six in the first over, the template was set. Rohit enjoyed a re-

prieve too on nine as his mis-cued pull off Mustafizur Rahman (five for 59) eluded Tamim.

Rohit immediately launched a glorious six off Saifuddin as the seamers were put to the sword. Rahul joined the act, dabbing and driving splendidly. There was a brief lull when Shakib came on from the 11th over. The left-arm spinner's accuracy paused Rohit but the opener broke free as he pulled a six.

Rahul then clattered Mortaza's half-volley over long-on and off-spinner Mosaddek Hossain gaped as Rohit launched one into the skies and it took a while before gravity reclaimed the ball. The centurion's appetite got bigger with every second and when he lofted Mustafizur for a six that blended timing and panache, the shot's beauty was jaw-dropping.

Mortaza swapped his seven bowlers but nothing worked. Rubel Hossain was punished though his steep bounce surprised Rahul. India's other scare happened when Rohit on 98, nearly edged Shakib onto his stumps. But the batsman reached his ton without fuss and allowed himself a flourish. He threw his bat with a twirl, caught it and acknowledged the applause.

## Big partnership

Rohit, however, couldn't last long and holed out with a tame loft off Sarkar. The openers by then had shared a 180-run partnership and as it usually happens after the conclusion of a massive alliance, another wicket fell with Rahul edging Rubel. Meanwhile, Kohli drove with aplomb but fell to Mustafizur. Two deliveries later, Pandya edged the left-arm seamer and India was placed at 237 for four in the 39th over.

| INNINGS SCAN |            |          | PROGRESSION |          |       |
|--------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------|
| IND          | BAN        |          | IND         | BAN      |       |
| 1            | Maidens    | 1        | 69/0        | 10 overs | 40/1  |
| 27           | Fours      | 31       | 122/0       | 20 overs | 104/2 |
| 7            | Sixes      | 2        | 181/1       | 30 overs | 163/4 |
| 180 (1st)    | Best stand | 66 (7th) | 251/4       | 40 overs | 225/6 |
| 6.28         | RR         | 5.95     | 314/9       | 50 overs | --    |

| TOP SHOWS  |                           |                      |
|------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| For        | Batting                   | Bowling              |
| India      | Rohit 104 (92b, 7x4, 5x6) | Bumrah 4/55 (10)     |
| Bangladesh | Shakib 66 (74b, 6x4)      | Mustafizur 5/59 (10) |

## SCOREBOARD INDIA VS BANGLADESH

**INDIA**  
K.L. Rahul c Mushfiqur b Rubel 77 (92b, 6x4, 1x6), Rohit Sharma c Liton b Sarkar 104 (92b, 7x4, 5x6), Virat Kohli c Rubel b Mustafizur 26 (27b, 3x4), Rishabh Pant c Mosaddek b Shakib 48 (41b, 6x4, 1x6), Hardik Pandya c Sarkar b Mustafizur 0 (2b), M.S. Dhoni c Shakib b Mustafizur 35 (33b, 4x4), Dinesh Karthik c Mosaddek b Mustafizur 8 (9b, 1x4), Bhuvneshwar Kumar run out 2 (3b), Mohammed Shami b Mustafizur 1 (2b), Jasprit Bumrah (not out) 0 (0b), Extras (lb-6, w-6, nb-1): 13; Total (for nine wickets in 50 overs): 314.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
1-180 (Rohit, 29.2 overs), 2-195 (Rahul, 32.4), 3-237 (Kohli, 38.2), 4-237 (Pandya, 38.4), 5-277 (Pant, 44.1), 6-298 (Karthik, 47.2), 7-311 (Dhoni, 49.3), 8-314 (Bhuvneshwar, 49.5), 9-314 (Shami, 49.6).

**BANGLADESH BOWLING**  
Mortaza 5-0-36-0, Saifuddin 7-0-59-0, Mustafizur 10-1-59-5, Shakib 10-0-41-1, Mosaddek 4-0-32-0, Rubel 8-0-48-1, Sarkar 6-0-33-1.

**BANGLADESH**  
Pant, though, kept the scoreboard ticking as he swept and whipped. However, he succumbed to Shakib and Karthik also retreated. M.S. Dhoni chipped in some runs until the last over melt-

down against Mustafizur during which the former Indian captain, Bhuvneshwar and Shami perished while a mere three was added. Still, India had just about enough in its kitty.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
1-39 (Tamim, 9.3), 2-74 (Sarkar, 15.1), 3-121 (Mushfiqur, 22.6), 4-162 (Liton, 29.4), 5-173 (Mosaddek, 32.2), 6-179 (Shakib, 33.5), 7-245 (Sabbir, 43.1), 8-257 (Mortaza, 44.2), 9-286 (Rubel, 47.5).

**INDIA BOWLING**  
Bhuvneshwar 9-0-51-1, Bumrah 10-1-55-4, Shami 9-0-68-1, Chahal 10-0-50-1, Pandya 10-0-60-3.

**Toss:** India.  
**MoM:** Rohit Sharma.  
**India won by 28 runs.**



**Class act:** Rohit Sharma batted with elan to score a second successive century, his fourth in this World Cup. ■ REUTERS

## 'Rohit, what a wonderful batsman!'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
BIRMINGHAM

Bangladesh coach Steve Rhodes said that "there were a lot of disappointed faces in the change room" following the defeat against India which pushed his wards towards the World Cup's exit door.

But he took heart from the fight that the team dishied out. Rhodes spoke to the media at Edgbaston here on Tuesday night. *Excerpts*

**The futile fight:** We were up against the number one team, we pushed them but we made some mistakes and ultimately it was a lot of hard work in the end.

We did fantastically well after that blitz from Rohit (Sharma) and they could have even scored 370 or 380. We were delighted that we came back but we had to start well... you need that against India.

**Tamim dropping Rohit:**

Any drop can be costly and I was praying that he would hit another up in the air. Rohit (Sharma), what a wonderful batsman he is! Another thing is Tamim (Iqbal) has a safe pair of hands but he is human and he dropped. I too have dropped many catches during my career.

**The last clash:** I am looking forward to the Pakistan game. They have run into form but we want to leave these shores with a victory.

## An endearing fan



**Warm wishes:** The 87-year-old Charulatha Patel, who cheered enthusiastically for the Men in Blue on Tuesday, shares a special moment with Virat Kohli. ■ COURTESY TWITTER

AGENCIES  
BIRMINGHAM

An octogenarian fan stole the limelight with her sheer enthusiasm during India's World Cup match against Bangladesh here on Tuesday. Skipper Virat Kohli personally thanked her after the win.

Charulatha Patel, 87, at-

tracted all the cameras as she enthusiastically blew her trumpet, cheering for Kohli and his men from the stands.

Not only Kohli, his deputy and player-of-the-match Rohit Sharma also personally thanked the aged lady and showed his gratitude after India's win.

Charulatha said she was there in the stadium when India lifted its first World Cup, back in 1983, under captain Kapil Dev.

"I had been there when they won the World Cup," she said. "When I pray, it comes true and I am saying India is going to win the Cup, definitely."

## Yorker is everything about preparation: Bumrah

I tell my captain that I am planning to do this and that I believe I can do it, says India's spearhead

K.C. VIJAYA KUMAR  
BIRMINGHAM

When the batsmen start hammering either while setting a score or mounting a frenetic chase, Jasprit Bumrah steps in. A few winnowing steps, a sudden little sprint and then the thunderbolts are fired much to the dismay of the traumatised willow-wielder.

India's spearhead was at it again in the key World Cup clash against Bangladesh at Edgbaston here on Tuesday. His yorkers were precise, threatening toes and the base of the stumps and Bumrah's four for 55 shut Mashrafe Mortaza's men out of the game and India relished a win.

Ever-smiling and always watchful with his words, Bumrah spoke to correspondents. *Excerpts.*

**Yorkers:** As for the yorker, everything is about preparation, you just have to bowl more and more at the nets and try and replicate it in the match. If I tick all the boxes at practice then I think I can execute my plans.

**Pitching it right:** We thought the wicket would get slower as the innings progressed, we thought they would come hard at the new ball and our plan was to make the ball old as fast as we can. As soon as the ball got older, it got slower. And this could be the nature of the pitches going forward. Summer has come in and the wickets will get drier.

**Bowling at the death:** It is



**Practice makes perfect:** Bumrah rarely misses his yorkers in matches, thanks to the drill he puts in during training. ■ AP

about keeping a clear head. When I am bowling I like to make my own decisions. I tell my captain that I am planning to do this and that I believe that I can do it. The IPL is of 20 overs but high pressure games there also helps your preparation. I just focus on the team goals and try to deliver.

**Rest?** This is my first World Cup and I want to play more games (laughs). I am not such an experienced player that I can afford to take breaks.

**Next assignment**  
**BANGLADESH:** July 5 vs Pakistan, Lord's, 3 p.m.  
**INDIA:** July 6 vs Sri Lanka, Headingley, 3 p.m.

## Where they stand

| Team             | Mat | Won | Lost | NR | PTS | NRR    |
|------------------|-----|-----|------|----|-----|--------|
| Australia (Q)    | 8   | 7   | 1    | 0  | 14  | 1.000  |
| India (Q)        | 8   | 6   | 1    | 1  | 13  | 0.811  |
| New Zealand      | 8   | 5   | 2    | 1  | 11  | 0.572  |
| England          | 8   | 5   | 3    | 0  | 10  | 1.000  |
| Pakistan         | 8   | 4   | 3    | 1  | 9   | -0.792 |
| Sri Lanka (E)    | 8   | 3   | 3    | 2  | 8   | -0.934 |
| Bangladesh (E)   | 8   | 3   | 4    | 1  | 7   | -0.195 |
| South Africa (E) | 8   | 2   | 5    | 1  | 5   | -0.080 |
| West Indies (E)  | 8   | 1   | 6    | 1  | 3   | -0.335 |
| Afghanistan (E)  | 8   | 0   | 8    | 0  | 0   | -1.418 |

\* till the India-Bangladesh match on July 2

## STAT SPHERE

**1** Rohit (230) tops the list of six-hitters among Indian players, pipping Dhoni (228). He is fourth overall, behind Afridi (351), Gayle (326) and Jayasuriya (270).

**1** Shakib (542 runs & 11 wickets) is the first player to record 500 runs and 10 wickets in an edition. He has six 50-plus scores so far, drawing level with Tendulkar who achieved the feat in 2003. Interestingly, New Zealand's Styris scored 499 runs and claimed nine wickets in 2007.

**3** Rohit (544) is the current top scorer of this WC, followed by Shakib (542), Warner (516) and Finch (504), the only players who have aggregated more than 500 runs. Tendulkar has done it twice (673 in 2003 and 523 in 1996).

**3** With his 104 against Bangladesh, Rohit has scored hundreds in the last three innings in

Birmingham. His earlier efforts were worth 123\* vs Bangladesh (2017) and 102 vs England (WC 2019).

**4** Rohit's centuries in this World Cup, the same as Sangakkara in 2015, a record for a single WC. This is Rohit's fifth century (15 inns) in the quadrennial event, equalling Pointing (42 inns) and Sangakkara (35). Tendulkar (6 in 44 inns) tops the list.

**7** India has reached the semifinals of the WC for the seventh time - 1983, 1987, 1996, 2003, 2011, 2015 and 2019. Only Australia has done better (8).

**16** Number of ODI centuries notched up by Rohit since Jan. 1, 2017, the most by a batsman.

**MOST ODI 100S SINCE JAN. 1, 2017**  
**16** Rohit (60 inns)  
**15** Kohli (57)

**8** Finch (40), Bairstow (47), Dhawan (56) and Root (59)

**99** With his match-winning 4/55 against Bangladesh, Bumrah has taken his ODI tally to 99 (56 inns)

**MOST ODI 100S IN ENGLAND**  
**8** Trescott (60 inns) and Root (67)  
**6** Roy (44) and Rohit (22)

Shakib Al Hasan

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# A virtual quarterfinal

After bright starts, NZ and England find themselves in a pickle

## WORLD CUP

**SHAYAN ACHARYA**  
CHESTER-LE-STREET

Wednesday's crucial World Cup fixture between England and New Zealand is virtually a quarterfinal clash. The two come into the game following contrasting results. While England defeated India in its last fixture, New Zealand suffered back-to-back losses to Pakistan and Australia.

### Boost in confidence

After a bright start, England found itself in a fix as it lost to Sri Lanka and Australia. But the win against India has again boosted the host's confidence. Both still have a mathematical chance of making it to the last-four even if they lose on Wednesday.

On paper, the host looks a sorted unit, bolstered by the



**Attacking Kiwi:** Trent Boult will be expected to snap up crucial England wickets. \*STU FORSTER/GETTY IMAGES

return of Jason Roy.

Against a tough New Zealand side, England needs to play with intensity. While the focus will be on the openers,

the middle-order needs to be steady at a time when it matters the most.

For New Zealand, it will be important to fix the opening woes. So far, the seasoned Martin Guptill has looked off-colour, adding pressure on captain Kane Williamson and the middle-order.

As far as the bowling units are concerned, both teams look well-balanced.

While it could be partially cloudy, there is no prediction of rain on match day.

# When the past, present and future exist through an innings

India need to figure out the emphasis they ought to place on each segment



## BETWEEN WICKETS

SURESH MENON

Around this time in a World Cup – with the top four slots almost filled – teams have to make decisions that will affect their final placing in the tournament. In India's case, they have to choose between the known knowns and the known unknowns, to borrow a phrase from a US politician.

After eight matches, should they stick with the teams and plans that have worked so far – the safe, even conservative option – or should they take calculated risks?

Sometimes sticking with what has worked might itself be a risk. Great managers know when to drop a strategy just before it lets them down. Champions love to look back on a tournament and point to a situation that could have gone either way but went theirs because fortune favoured the courageous.

It doesn't take much for the brave choice to appear foolhardy and vice-versa. A dropped catch here, a mis-ed run out there, lack of DRS options, a brilliant catch – any number of things can ruin the best-laid plan.

If all that sounds too abstract, let's break it down to specifics. The question India will have to ask themselves is – assuming they qualify for the semifinals, which they should – do they look to make changes for the knockout?

Behrendorffs having come good. Australia began slowly and picked up pace, both figuratively and literally.

**Flexibility in approach**  
The change in approach in the Bangladesh game suggested a flexibility in India's approach that wasn't apparent before. For too long in the tournament India played the game of the 1980s and 90s, keeping wickets in hand, and then discovering they didn't quite have the big hitters lower down the order that they thought they had.

If Dhoni was to have carried the latter half of the batting on his shoulders, that hasn't quite worked out, but two youngsters might make it easier as India progresses through the tournament.

Watching Rishabh Pant or Hardik Pandya bat, it is difficult not to shake off the feeling that what they bring to batsmanship is something that some of the seniors can't quite figure out. The difference is not in degree, but in kind.

Perhaps it is a generational thing. We saw it earlier when Dhoni came into the team and played white ball cricket in a manner that even the Tendulkars and Ganguly found difficult to assimilate. It seemed ahead of its time.

Now Dhoni watches with the same wonder as the IPL generation shakes the 50-over game of some of its accumulated detritus and strikes

the ball with power and confidence. The freedom with which they can find gaps in the field and the relaxed way they have of hitting into the crowd is indication that the future has caught up with the older of the white ball formats.

### Pant belongs here

Pant, in particular, is a natural and after that hesitant start against England (he still made 32, though) has shown how wrong the selectors were to drop him from the original squad. He belongs here.

Pant's approach is best summed up by his advice to his partner in a run chase at an IPL game. "Don't think too much, just keep hitting," he said. Perhaps this is the new way, not easily understood by anyone over the age of 25! "It takes some time to understand Rishabh Pant," said Sanjay Manjrekar on television.

This is an element in India's known unknowns. Perhaps you don't need to understand it, but you can certainly appreciate it. In any case, it is the team that benefits.

The ideal team is a mix of the traditional, the contemporary and the future. That is a good way of looking at the batting approach itself, with traditional opening and futuristic finish.

India seem to be aware of this, and only need to figure out the emphasis they ought to place on each segment.

| THE FACE-OFF           |     |     |    |      |    |
|------------------------|-----|-----|----|------|----|
| England vs New Zealand |     |     |    |      |    |
| CHESTER-LE-STREET      |     |     |    |      |    |
| HEAD-TO-HEAD           |     |     |    |      |    |
|                        | Mat | Eng | NZ | Tied | NR |
| Overall                | 89  | 40  | 43 | 2    | 4  |
| World Cup              | 8   | 3   | 5  | 0    | 0  |

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1, 2 (SD & HD), 3 P.M.

## PASSING SHOTS



### Duchess watches from regular seats

Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, left the plush confines of the Royal Box at Wimbledon on Tuesday to watch British wildcard compete on an outside court. In a rare move for a member of the royal family, Kate took her place among the 318 regular seats on Court 14 to watch Harriet Dart take on Christina McHale. Wearing sunglasses and a white dress, Kate sat alongside Britain's Fed Cup captain Anne Keothavong and British No. 3 Katie Boulter. PTI



### Life begins again at 40 for tennis stars: Karlovic

Ivo Karlovic believes he will be less of an oddity in the years to come in terms of still playing top level tennis at the age of 40. The Croat became the oldest player to play in men's singles since Australian Ken Rosewall in 1975 when he was also 40, says players' routines and lifestyles will allow them to carry on into middle age. "Everyone is doing a lot of track and gym work to prolong their careers and are still winning at ages of 38-39. They are never going to stop!" AFP

# Federer shakes off slow start to advance; Thiem out

Nadal sets up grudge match with Kyrgios; former women's champions Sharapova and Muguruza exit



AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE LONDON

Eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer overcame a first set scare to reach the second round on Tuesday beating South African debutant Lloyd Harris 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

Federer's great rival Rafael Nadal also went through in easier fashion beating Japanese qualifier Yuichi Sugita 6-3, 6-1, 6-3 to set up a fascinating tussle with fiery Australian Nick Kyrgios.

Kyrgios – who stunned Nadal as a 144-ranked wild-card on his tournament debut in 2014 – put in a typically raucous and charismatic display to claim a 7-6(4), 3-6, 7-6(10), 0-6, 6-1 win over countryman Jordan Thompson.

Federer admitted it had taken time to get going against a far form over-awed opponent, who was hampered later on with a calf injury.

"I struggled early on, my legs were frozen and the ball was not going where I wanted it to," said Federer. "He was hitting big and things were going quickly. I was nervous for a set and a half. So it took a good effort from me. Lloyd played a good match."



**Big scalp:** Sam Querrey bounced back to knock out fifth seed Dominic Thiem. \*AP

However, while he progressed, another of the top 10 seeds fell by the wayside – two-time French Open champion Dominic Thiem's lack of ease on grass being

exposed by veteran American serve and volleyer Sam Querrey. Querrey, a Wimbledon semifinalist in 2017, prevailed 6-7(4), 7-6(1), 6-3, 6-0.

Women's World No.1 Ashleigh Barty and second round champion Angelique Kerber came through their first round clashes safely.

Barty beat China's Zheng Saisai 6-4, 6-2 while Kerber, the fourth seed, beat fellow German Tatjana Maria 6-4, 6-3.

Seven-time champion Serena Williams put in a laboured performance before beating Italian qualifier Giulia Gatto-Monticone 6-2, 7-5.

Maria Sharapova, the 2004 champion, had to retire from her match with Frenchwoman Pauline Parmentier due to an arm injury. Sharapova was trailing 4-6, 7-6(4), 5-0 when she called it quits.

The 2017 champion Garbine Muguruza was knocked out by World No.121 Beatriz Haddad Maia 6-4, 6-4.

## IMPORTANT RESULTS

**Men:** 2-Roger Federer (Sui) bt Lloyd Harris (RSA) 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2; Sam Querrey (USA) bt 5-Dominic Thiem (Aus) 6-7(4), 7-6(1), 6-3, 6-0; 18-Nikoloz Basilashvili (Geo) bt James Ward (GBR) 2-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 8-6; Nick Kyrgios (Aus) bt Jordan Thompson (Aus) 7-6(4), 3-6, 7-6(10), 0-6, 6-1.

8-Kei Nishikori (Jpn) bt Thiago Monteiro (Bra) 6-4, 7-6(3), 6-4; Marcos Baghdatis (Cyp) bt Brayden Schnur (Can) 6-2, 6-4, 6-4; 20-Gilles Simon (Fra) bt Salvatore Caruso (ITA) 7-6(7), 6-3, 6-2.

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (Fra) bt Bernard Tomic (Aus) 6-2, 6-1, 6-4; 25-Alex De Minaur (Aus) bt Marco Cecchinato (Ita) 6-0, 6-4, 7-6(5); 17-Matteo Berrettini (Ita) bt Aljaz Bedene (Slo) 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(3).

3-Rafael Nadal (Esp) bt Yuichi Sugita (Jpn) 6-3, 6-1, 6-3; Ricardas Berankis (Ltu) bt 29-Denis Shapovalov (Rus) 7-6(0), 6-4, 6-3; 24-Diego Schwartzman (Arg) bt Matthew Ebden (Aus) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; 33-Jan-Lennard Struff (Ger) bt Radu Albot (Mda) 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; 27-Lucas Pouille (Fra) bt Richard Gasquet (Fra) 6-1, 6-4, 7-6(4).

**Women:** 1-Ashleigh Barty (Aus) bt Saisai Zheng (Chn) 6-4, 6-2; Alison Van Uytvanck (Bel) bt Svetlana Kuznetsova (Rus) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2; 13-Belinda Bencic (Sui) bt Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (Rus) 6-2, 6-3; 5-Angelique Kerber (Ger) bt Tatjana Maria (Ger) 6-4, 6-3; Barbora Zahlavova (Cze) bt 32-Lesya Tsurenko (Ukr) 6-3, 6-2.

21-Elise Mertens (Bel) bt Fiona Ferro (Fra) 6-2, 6-0; 15-Wang Qiang (Chn) bt Vera Lako (Blr) 6-2, 6-2; 9-Sloane Stephens (USA) bt Tímea Babos (Hun) 6-4, 6-2; 19-Johanna Konta (GBR) bt Ana Bogdan (Rou) 7-5, 6-2; Beatriz Haddad Maia (Bra) bt 26-Garbine Muguruza (Esp) 6-4, 6-4.

# FAITH

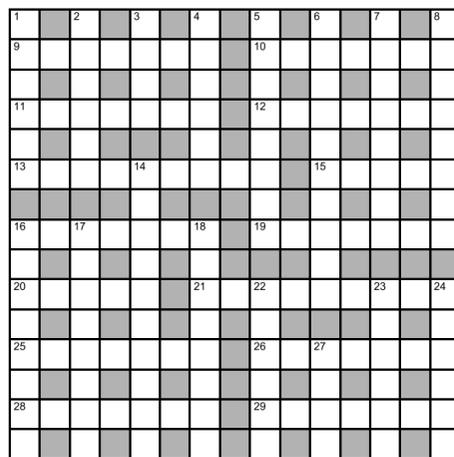
## We are His tools

Sentiments expressed in the first chapter of the Bhagavad Gita continue for some verses in the second chapter. What follows thereafter is called sankhya yoga. The intellectual ability to analyse and understand something is indicated by sankhya. The second chapter gives you that ability, and hence it is said to speak of sankhya yoga. Krishna wanted to tell everyone about the ways to reach moksha. Arjuna's confusion provides Him with an excuse to do this, said V.S. Karunakarachariar in a discourse.

Krishna tells Arjuna that he must do his duty. But karma has effects. Will Arjuna not be affected by the effects of his actions? When we peel a jackfruit to get the arils, our fingers get covered with the sticky sap. In order to keep this from happening, we oil our fingers before we start peeling the fruit. So, here we have solved the problem of doing something and yet we ensure that we avoid the effects of it. Likewise, we need to do our karma and yet not be affected by our actions. The only way for this to happen is for us to think that we are not doing the karma. We should also never think that the fruits of the action belong to us. We should see ourselves as tools, who do God's will. This thought is akin to the oil that keeps the jackfruit sap from sticking to our palms. This thought will protect us from the effects of karma.

If we perform actions with the proper attitude, then our actions fall under the category of karma yoga. Otherwise, they remain mere karma, bringing with them consequences that we cannot escape from. Even if you attend a discourse, you must think that He has made you attend it. The person giving the discourse must think that the Lord has arranged for him to give the discourse. This detachment towards action is the first step towards moksha.

## THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12668



- ACROSS**
- 9 I care about following a victor, is it a sin? (7)
  - 10 He did transform a city station (7)
  - 11 Short list left out, get the bill (7)
  - 12 Characters are sent a deposit, perhaps (7)

- (set by Arden)
- 13 Summons by regal order, it's very obvious (4,5)
  - 15 Change in level initially – afterwards he doesn't like (5)
  - 16 The cane is said to be straight (7)
  - 19 Frank Sinatra, the craftsman (7)
  - 20 He has arrived, showing a lot of promise (5)
  - 21 Setter returns inventor his used deck (9)
  - 25 Free medicine, not one which is local (7)
  - 26 Snack at a topless bistro in season (7)
  - 28 Cut 50% extra on wrong side (7)
  - 29 Enlargements are made by great shooters (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Unused part of Cricket score card has everything (6)
  - 2 Something to eat? I'm sadly throwing up (6)
  - 3 Question on gulf stream (4)
  - 4 Way to stop payment by year end – it will rattle (6)
  - 5 A time to be in love, perhaps with a plant (4,4)
  - 6 Establishment with self-catering units (10)
  - 7 Model set up underneath – see notices (8)
  - 8 It's made to endure bombardment (8)
  - 14 Tearful Charley forced to accept a junior rank in the cabinet (10)
  - 16 Make clear – discard a rotten fish (8)
  - 17 Spooner's lady has good fortune, but ineffective in office (4,4)
  - 18 A key prefix to a telephone number (4,4)
  - 22 Throw plate? (6)
  - 23 Shame to include male and change family name (6)
  - 24 Man with elan, goes round state capital (6)
  - 27 Stone to force out cotton fibre (4)

## SUDOKU



**Solution to puzzle 12667**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | I | C | A | D | A | G | U | T | S | I | E | S | T |
| U | O | E | L | P | T | M | E |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| P | A | N | I | C | S | L | O | N | I | C | E | R | A |
| O | C | O | B | N | N | T | S |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| F | U | R | U | N | C | L | E | I | G | N | I | T | E |
| T | E | T | I | O | I | C | L |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| E | S | T | R | A | N | G | E | M | E | N | T |   |   |
| A | E | M | H | T | G | T | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| C | Z | N | Y | R | E | T | I | A |   |   |   |   |   |
| A | V | A | T | A | R | C | O | N | T | E | M | P |   |
| N | G | A | T | Y | N | T | A | M | E |   |   |   |   |
| D | E | R | A | I | L | E | D | F | L | O | R | A | L |
| J | E | O | T | E | A | E |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| D | E | B | O | N | A | I | R | U | S | E | N | E | T |

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 9 |
| 3 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 2 |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 5 |
| 7 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| 1 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| 5 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 4 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 7 |

## TV PICKS

**ICC Cricket World Cup:** Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD & HD), 3 p.m.  
**Wimbledon:** Star Sports Select 2 (SD & HD), 4 p.m.  
**FIFA Women's World Cup:** Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 12.30 a.m. (Thursday)

## IN BRIEF



## Injury scare for James Anderson

**LONDON**  
England great James Anderson was forced to leave the field with a calf injury while bowling for Lancashire in its County Championship match against Durham on Tuesday. With just a month until the Ashes start, any fitness concern surrounding the 36-year-old, the spearhead of England's Test attack, is sure to be a concern to the selectors. **AFP**

## DSA inter-club transfer from Aug. 16

**NEW DELHI:**  
The Delhi Soccer Association's inter-club transfer of players will be held from August 16 to 30. The decision was taken at the Executive Committee meeting of DSA here. The DSA will be conducting shortly a workshop in the first week of August to train club officials on how to use the new online players transfer and registration system.

## Missing golf bag dogs Kapur again



Shiv Kapur. **AFP**

## PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

For the second time in three weeks, Shiv Kapur's golf bag did not arrive with him on his flight, forcing the Indian golfer to rely on hired clubs for practice ahead of the final qualifiers for the 148th Open at Royal Portrush here.

Three weeks ago, when he got a spot to play at the BMW International in Munich, Lufthansa failed to get his bags with him and they arrived just the day before the first round.

This time, Kapur reached Edinburgh after his outing in Valderrama to play the 36-hole qualifier to try and secure a spot at the 148th Open Championship, the final Major of the year.

Kapur, accompanied by wife Maya Gupta and two-year-old daughter Veda, arrived sans the golf bag and five other pieces of luggage containing essential items for a small child.

## Logistical issue

It seems there were some logistical issues at Amsterdam airport and thousands of bags did not travel with their owners.

Kapur did manage to get essentials for the family from the market, but the clubs, most important for him, had to be hired. It is never easy to play with clubs other than your own, especially for professionals.

Still, Kapur is giving it a go at Fairmont St Andrews with a mix of clubs – Callaway irons, but Regular shafts, instead of the Stiff ones that pros prefer.

The mishmash bag will also feature a PING three-wood and Titleist wedges. As for the putter, he will have to see if the Pro Shop has a model he uses and then he will have to buy it.

The Open is Kapur's favourite golf tournament and he has qualified three times before.

## Special to play Davis Cup in Pakistan, says Prajnesh

Insists Wimbledon clash with Raonic was decided by small margins

## TENNIS

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
LONDON

India's Prajnesh Gunneswaran admits that being his country's top tennis star places him under an obligation to play the Davis Cup tie against Pakistan.

India has been drawn to face its neighbour at Islamabad in September with a prize of being able to contest the World Group qualifiers at stake.

It will be the first time India will be playing a Davis Cup tie in Pakistan in 55 years. "I think I will play although it is still to be discussed as we have the option to go now," said the 29-year-old at Wimbledon on Monday.

"If I want to stay in the top-100 then those two weeks make an impact but playing for my country is very special and I want to do everything to do that."

"If I had been No. 4 or 5 in India, I would be jumping at

**6** If I want to stay in the top-100 then those two weeks make an impact but playing for my country is very special and I want to do everything to do that

the chance. Nothing should change being No. 1."

When India last played in Pakistan in Lahore in 1964 it won 4-0. India won in Mumbai in 2006 while the third meeting in the tournament in 1973 was played on neutral territory.

On Monday, Prajnesh made his Wimbledon debut but lost 7-6(1), 6-4, 6-2 to 2016 runner-up Milos Raonic of Canada.

His progress to the All England Club has come late in his career following a battle with stress fractures in both knees which left him without a ranking in 2015.

Those physical problems are a thing of the past as is his bizarre decision to once in-

It will be the first time India will be playing a Davis Cup tie in Pakistan in 55 years

corporate the name of two-time Major winner Pat Rafter into his personal email address.

## Rafter fan

"I was a big fan of his when I was younger so I created an email ID with his name," said the world No. 94. "I never used it for official purposes but some people in my school still have it."

## 'A few lapses'

On Monday, Prajnesh insisted that his clash with the big-serving Raonic, the 15th seed, had been decided by small margins.

"There were a few lapses in concentration and they determined the match. I had chances but didn't convert. I gave him early leads in the second and third sets and they were the killers."



**Learning experience:** Prajnesh Gunneswaran said he gave early leads in the second and third sets to Milos Raonic and they were the killers. **ALEX PANTLING/GETTY IMAGES**

## Dravid averts potential conflict of interest for NCA role

Has taken a leave of absence from India Cements

AMOL KARHADKAR  
MUMBAI

Decks have been cleared for Rahul Dravid, the India Under-19 and India A coach, to take over as Head of Cricket at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru. The former India captain is understood to have amicably resolved a potential conflict of interest that may have arisen due to his employment.

The *Hindu* understands that the legendary batsman was set to take over the wider role on July 1.

However, days before assuming charge, he informally sought a clarification pertaining to his prolonged association with India Cements, which owns, among other cricket clubs, IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings.



Rahul Dravid.

FILE PHOTO: N. SUDARSHAN

The Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA) of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), during its meeting with BCCI ombudsman Justice (Retd.) D.K. Jain last

week, discussed the issue and advised Dravid to stay away from India Cements before formally taking charge. As a result, Dravid has taken a leave of absence from India Cements until such time he serves as the head of NCA.

Dravid – who has been frequenting the NCA premises in Bengaluru recently – is now expected to formally start into a new role later this week.

Dravid is expected to work closely with head coaches and selectors of the men's and women's teams.

He will also continue to be involved in the developmental teams, including India-A, India U-10 and India U-23.

## Immediate task

Once Dravid takes charge,

he, along with BCCI general manager (operations) Saba Karim and NCA chief operating officer Tufan Ghosh, will kick-start the interview process of shortlisted candidates for some of the vacant coaching and support staff positions at NCA.

After inviting applications for the posts of batting coach, pace bowling coach along with trainers and physiotherapists, the BCCI has shortlisted candidates for each of these positions.

It is understood that the impending interviews for coaching positions are likely to be scheduled next week, since some of the candidates are also in touch with a few Ranji Trophy teams for the forthcoming domestic season.

## Smriti returns to Western Storm

## KIA SUPER LEAGUE

ANI  
TAUNTON

Smriti Mandhana, the No. 1 ODI batswoman, will return to Western Storm for the Kia Super League (KSL) 2019 season. "Everyone involved with Western Storm made me feel so welcome and, if given the opportunity, I was always going to come back."

"The culture around the team, from top to bottom, was very good and I know that everyone will be looking for success once again," Smriti said in an official statement released by Western Storm.

"The squad has a good mix of experienced players plus young players who have a point to prove. I hope that I can score the runs that will help to contribute to a successful year for Western Storm," she added.

The 22-year-old has scored over 1900 runs in 50

ODI matches at 42.41. She has appeared in 58 T20Is for India, scoring 1,298 runs at a strike-rate of 119.08.

Smriti finished the 2018 edition of the tournament as the leading run-scorer with 421 runs at an average of 60.14 and she even went on to score a century.

"Everyone knows what Smriti is capable of and she was absolutely sensational

for us last year," Western Storm head coach, Trevor Griffin, said.

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"Everyone knows what Smriti is capable of and she was absolutely sensational for us last year," Western Storm head coach, Trevor Griffin, said.

Earlier in June, Western Storm had announced that Smriti was capable of and she was absolutely sensational for us last year," Western Storm head coach, Trevor Griffin, said.

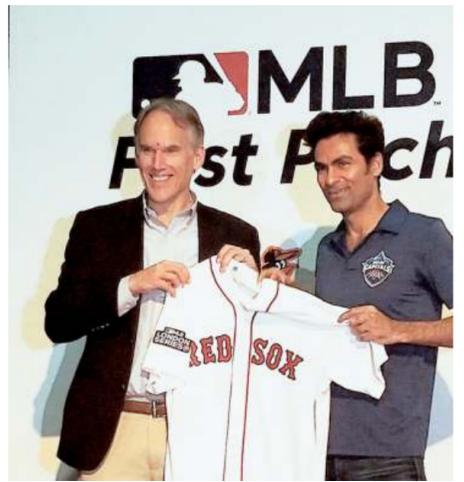
This year's KSL edition will start on August 6 and will see six teams – Lancashire Thunder, Loughborough Lightning, Western Storm, Surrey Stars, Yorkshire Diamonds, Southern Vipers – playing each other twice in a league format.

The top three teams qualify for finals day on September 1, with the second and third-placed sides competing for the chance to face the first-placed league winners in the final.



Smriti. **V.V. KRISHNAN**

## MLB comes to India



Jim Small and Mohd. Kaif at the launch. **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

BHRIGU BAGGA  
NEW DELHI

Major League Baseball, the only leading entity in baseball across the globe, aims at popularising the game in India through fan engagement and game development.

Baseball is a sport hugely popular in the United States and now it eyes a place in the Indian hearts.

"We think everybody in India is a baseball fan, they just don't know it yet. We are trying to show that it's a fun game and is similar to cricket. We think baseball can exist very nicely with cricket and all the other sports here," said Jim Small, MLB Senior Vice-President, International.

The organisation has its task cut out and they've planned to start it with programs like Million Dollar Arm and MLB First Pitch.

The former will run later this year from September to December with thousands of participants competing to earn a tryout with a Major

## League team.

The MLB First Pitch is a grassroots program wherein primary school children, in 300 schools across New Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai, will get an opportunity to learn the sport through workshops conducted by MLB International coaches.

Delhi Capital's assistant coach Mohammad Kaif was also present at the launch.

In a fun activity with Jim Small, he exchanged his franchise jersey with MLB's and stated "I am very happy to be associated with Major League Baseball on behalf of Delhi Capitals."

"Cricket and Baseball have quite a few things in common. Growing up playing cricket, we always knew there was a similar sport played in the United States, but never imagined it would come to India one day. Delhi Capitals is delighted to help support the MLB brand and introduce India to a new sport."

## Anand draws with Giri; three share lead

SPORTS BUREAU  
ZAGREB

Viswanathan Anand's sequence of draw stretched to five rounds after he split the point with Anish Giri in the sixth round of Croatia Grand Chess Tour here on Monday.

The other five games proved decisive. Among these, Ding Liren upstaged overnight leader Ian Nepomniachtchi. Magnus Carlsen and Wesley So joined Nepomniachtchi at four points after victories.

**The results: Sixth round:** Anish Giri (Ned, 2) drew with Viswanathan Anand (2.5); Ding Liren (Chn, 3.5) bt Ian Nepomniachtchi (Rus, 4); Magnus Carlsen (Nor, 4) bt Hikaru Nakamura (USA, 2); Wesley So (USA, 4) bt Shakhriyar Mamedyarov (Aze, 2); Levon Aronian (Arm, 3.5) bt Sergey Karjakin (Rus, 2.5); Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra, 2.5) lost to Fabiano Caruana (USA, 3.5).

## Tottenham signs up Clarke

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
LONDON

Tottenham Hotspur ended its transfer drought with the capture of 18-year-old winger Jack Clarke from Leeds for an undisclosed sum on a four-year deal.

However, Clarke will spend the 2019-20 season back at Leeds on loan to aid its bid to finally win promotion back to English football's top flight. Clarke becomes the first signing made by Mauricio Pochettino's Champions League finalists since Lucas Moura joined from PSG in January 2018.

## Neelash, Jyothsna in sole lead

Srimozhi upsets second-seeded Shanya Mishra

## CHESS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
KOCHI

Neelash Saha, the second seed from West Bengal, defeated Maharashtra's dangerous Avishkar Wankhede and emerged as the lone leader with five points after the fifth round of the 30th National under-17 open chess championship at the Oberon Mall here on Tuesday evening.

Wankhede, the 20th seed, had surprised sixth-seeded Sibi Visal in the morning.

Meanwhile, in the girls section, Tamil Nadu's third-seeded L. Jyothsna grabbed the sole lead after beating giant-killer S. Srimozhi in the fifth round. Jyothsna is now a point ahead of her nearest rivals.

Tamil Nadu's Srimozhi, the 19th seed, had upset Del-



**Fully focused:** West Bengal's Neelash Saha, left, in action against Avishkar Wankhede. **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**

hi's second-seeded Shanya Mishra earlier in the day.

**Important results: Fifth round: Open:** Neelash Saha (WB, 5) bt Avishkar Wankhede (Mah, 4); Utsab Chatterjee (WB, 4.5) drew with Aranyak Ghosh (WB, 4); Jayachandra Srinivas (TN, 4) drew with Vatsal Singhania (Jha, 4); R. Sibi Visal (TN, 4) bt Sharsha Backer (Ker, 3.5); Rakshit Srinivasan (Kar, 4) bt M. Mohammed Anees (TN, 3).

**Girls:** S. Srimozhi (TN, 4) lost to L. Jyothsna (TN, 5), Garima Gaurav (Bih, 3.5) drew with Saina Salonika (Odi, 4), Yuti Mayur Patel (Mah, 3) lost to B. Kalyani (AP, 4), V. Nanditha (Tel, 3.5) drew with M. Benasir (TN, 3.5), Sneha Bharathakoti (Tel) drew with Divyabharathi Masanam (TN, 3).

**Round four: Open:** Avishkar Wankhede bt Sibi Visal. **Girls:** S. Srimozhi bt Shanya Mishra.

## Abhijeet stops Aravindh, takes lead

Saravana Krishna upstages defending champ Karthikeyan

## C'WEALTH CHESS

RAKESH RAO  
NEW DELHI

Maintaining his unbeaten run, Abhijeet Gupta cleared a major hurdle by getting past third seed and National champion Aravindh Chithambaram and emerged as the leader after four rounds of the Commonwealth chess championship on Tuesday.

Once Abhijeet won this battle of overnight leaders in rook-and-pawn ending lasting 60 moves, Debashis Das stopped M.S. Thej Kumar, the other joint leader, in 50

top seed Divya Deshmukh tamed Kiran Manisha Mohanty.

Laxman got the better of R. Vaishali and Krishna upstaged defending champion P. Karthikeyan.

Second seed S. L. Narayanan (3) continued his recovery following an early loss by beating L.R. Srihari.

**Tania holds Swapnil**  
Tania Sachdev, the women defending champion, punched over her weight to hold Grandmaster Swapnil Dhopade, while women's

**The results (fourth round):** Abhijeet Gupta (4) bt Aravindh Chithambaram (3); M.S. Thej Kumar (3) lost to Debashis Das (2.5); Arjun Erigaisi (3) drew with P. Shyaamnikhil (3); Tania Sachdev (3) drew with Swapnil Dhopade (3); C. R. G. Krishan (3) drew with Ajay Karthikeyan (3); K. Ratnakaran (3) drew with Abhijit Kunte (3); P. Saravana Krishna (3.5) bt P. Karthikeyan (2.5); R. R. Laxman (3.5) bt R. Vaishali (2.5); L. R. Srihari (2.5) lost to S. L. Narayanan (3); Nisha Mohota (2) lost to M.R. Lalit Babu (3); J. Deepan Chakkaravarthy (3) bt V. Varshini (2).

## Pakistan dethrones India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
DOHA

India failed to defend the men's team title at the IBSF Snooker World Cup, losing 3-1 to Pakistan in the summit clash here on Tuesday.

Pakistan won the first two frames and looked on course for a sweep before Pankaj Advani and Laxman Rawat made a comeback to win the third frame and stay in the contest. But, Pakistan won the fourth to deny India back-to-back crowns.

## Sowjanya stuns Aunchisa, meets Zeel

## INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU  
HUA HIN

Sowjanya Bavisetti knocked out third seed Aunchisa Chanta of Thailand 6-1, 6-3 in the first round of the \$15,000 ITF women's tournament on Tuesday.

In the pre-quarterfinals, Sowjanya will play compatriot Zeel Desai who beat Alana Parnaby of Australia 4-6, 7-5, 6-0.

**The results: \$15,000 ITF women, Hua Hin, Thailand: First round:** Sowjanya Bavisetti bt Aunchisa Chanta (Tha) 6-1, 6-3; Zeel Desai bt Alana Parnaby (Aus) 4-6, 7-5, 6-0; Punin Kovapitukted (Tha) bt Snehal Mane 6-1, 6-1.

**Doubles (pre-quarterfinals):** Bunyawi Thamchaiwat (Tha) & Zeel Desai bt Sunam Jeong & Da Hye Kim (Kor) 7-5, 6-3; Mana Kawamura & Hemeno Sakatsume (Jpn) bt Sowjanya Bavisetti & Sravya Shivani Chilakalapudi 6-2, 6-1.