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NEARBY



IMD forecasts normal rain next month

HYDERABAD
 Summer like sultry conditions in twin cities and elsewhere across Telangana are likely to relent this weekend with some rain forecast in 50-60% of area. However, the dry spell will again continue after that. August is giving a glimmer of hope with "normal" monsoon rain, said India Meteorological Department, Hyderabad, Director Y.K. Reddy.
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Kaleshwaram brings back water in Godavari

HYDERABAD
 The river course of Godavari between Yellampally and Kaleshwaram in Peddapalli and Jayashankar-Bhupalapally districts, which is most often seen dry even during the monsoon season when there is no flood, has become rejuvenated now with the storage of water in Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram project.
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Three rebel Congress MLAs disqualified

Barred from participating during term of current Assembly

Acting tough

Two days after the JD(S)-Congress coalition government in Karnataka lost the vote of confidence, Assembly Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar disqualified three MLAs

DISQUALIFIED CONGRESS MLAS



R. Shankar (Ranebennur) **Ramesh Jarkiholi (Gokak)** **Mahesh Kumathalli (Athani)**

The three disqualified MLAs will not be able to contest bypolls to re-enter the House in its present term

If MLAs change their mind according to their whims and fancies, shouldn't the voter who has elected them have a say? I am setting a precedent here

K.R. RAMESH KUMAR, SPEAKER

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 BENGALURU

Two days after the Janata Dal (Secular)-Congress government lost the trust vote, Karnataka Assembly Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar disqualified three rebel legislators with immediate effect till the end of the 15th Vidhana Sabha.

Speaking at a press conference late on Thursday, Mr. Ramesh Kumar promised to take a decision on the resignation of the 13 other rebel legislators "in the next couple of days". He added, "I know this matter will go to court."

The Speaker disqualified Congress legislators Ramesh L. Jarkiholi and Mahesh Kumathalli, representing the Gokak and Athani constituencies in Belagavi district, and KPJP legislator R. Shankar, representing Ranebennur in Haveri district, under the Tenth Schedule of the

Constitution. Mr. Shankar had merged his party with the Congress just last month.

The disqualification of the three MLAs, which is open to judicial review, brings down the strength of the Assembly to 222, including the nominated member.

The Speaker's decision adds a new dimension to the already fluid situation. While the Congress-JD(S) coalition has already been voted out, the BJP is yet to stake claim to form the next government.

"They have been disqualified with immediate effect and till the expiry of the legislative Assembly (2023 or otherwise, if dissolved early). They cannot enter the 15th legislative Assembly again," the Speaker said.

The disqualification was initiated against them under paragraphs of 2 (1) (a) of the Tenth Schedule, read with

Article 191(2), he added.

On party's complaint

While the disqualification proceedings against Mr. Jarkiholi and Mr. Kumathalli have been initiated based on the Congress's petition against them on February 11, the proceedings against Mr. Shankar are based on the party's complaint on July 7. Over the last two days, after the collapse of the 14-month-old H.D. Kumaraswamy-led government, all eyes were on the Speaker's decision on the resignation of the rebel legislators and the disqualification proceedings initiated against them.

Mr. Ramesh Kumar said: "I will be taking a decision on the resignations of [the 13 other] rebel MLAs in a couple of days."

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'REBELS ON THEIR TOES TO BECOME MINISTERS' ▶ PAGE 6

RTI Amendment Bill passed in Rajya Sabha amid protests

BJD, TRS back it; Opposition loses bid for select panel scrutiny

SOBHANA K. NAIR
 NEW DELHI

The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019, was passed in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday amid high drama. The Opposition staged a walk-out during the vote on its motion to send the legislation for scrutiny by a Select Committee, accusing the government of trying to sabotage the vote.

The Bill, cleared by the Lok Sabha on Monday, seeks to bring in changes involving the salaries and tenures of Information Commissioners in the States and at the Centre.

The Opposition motion was defeated 75 to 117 in favour of the government. This is a rare occasion in the Rajya Sabha that an Opposition motion was defeated. The

What happened is the ultimate insult to the dignity of the Rajya Sabha. The government has acted with blatant disregard of the traditions... They may have managed the number, but it is a moral defeat

ANAND SHARMA, Deputy Leader of Opposition

The amendment was brought without any motivation, and in good faith. It will lead to institutionalisation of the Information Commission and will strengthen the provision of RTI Act

JITENDER SINGH, Minister for Department of Personnel

BJP-led NDA is slowly inching towards a majority in the Upper House.

Procedure violated
 The ruckus began when CPI (M) member Elamaram Kareem accused BJP MP C.M. Ramesh of collecting the ballot papers from other mem-

bers, instead of allowing the marshals to do so. Mr. Ramesh had recently switched to the BJP from the TDP.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Kareem said he first heard Mr. Ramesh instructing TDP MP Thota Seetarama Lakshmi, who sits next to him, on how to vote.

"Once the ballot papers were distributed, Mr. Ramesh came down to collect her ballot. He also had other ballot papers with him. It is not a member's job to collect the ballot papers – it is for the marshals to do so. That is when I protested and drew the attention of the House to what was blatantly wrong," Mr. Kareem said.

The other Opposition members informed Deputy Chairman Harivansh, who was in the chair, of the wrongdoing and demanded a re-poll. The Chair, however, did not respond to the allegations. At this, Opposition members stormed into the well, raising slogans.

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Nalini released on parole for daughter's wedding

STAFF REPORTER
 VELLORE

S. Nalini, 52, one of the seven life convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, was released on a month's parole on Thursday to make arrangements for her London-based daughter's wedding. Amid tight security, Nalini stepped out of the women's prison at Thorapadi in Vellore at 10 a.m., and was escorted to a police vehicle. She reached Pulavar Na-

gar at Rangapuram, Vellore, where she will stay for the period of her leave in a house belonging to a functionary of the Dravida Iyakkam Tamizhar Peravai. The arrangements for her stay were finalised a fortnight ago.

Escorted by women police personnel, Nalini reached the house in Pulavar Nagar and was welcomed by her mother Padma with a traditional *arati*.

The Madras High Court on July 5 granted her 30 days parole after she argued her case in person. Since her arrest in May 1991, Nalini has come out on parole only twice – both confined to under a day's visit – once to attend her brother's wedding and subsequently after her father died.

Prison authorities have imposed 12 conditions during her parole period. Her advocate P. Pugal-

en said the conditions included, "No meetings with political leaders, no interviews to the media, no participation in public functions, signing of the register at the Sathuvachari police station and maintaining good conduct throughout the period."

He added that the arrangements for her daughter's wedding were being expedited. The daughter is expected to fly from London after the arrangements are finalised.

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Gaming diplomacy for social change

It can be a powerful diplomatic tool given its reach and user base, says Katherine Hadda

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

U.S. Consul-General Katherine Hadda on Thursday said given the vast reach of games, gaming can be a powerful diplomatic tool.

Ms. Hadda was speaking at the four-day 'Games for Good: Designing Games with Social Impact Programme' which seeks to improve communities through technology and gaming, educate youth in game design and in the process, strengthen ties between countries. "But given its reach and user base, gaming is potentially a powerful diplomatic tool. It brings in hundreds of billions of dollars in revenue around the world every year. And the past decade has seen the rise of mobile gaming through smart phones. It means that the sector now includes people of all ages and demographics," Ms. Hadda said.

Touching upon the social impact of the initiative, Ms. Hadda said game creators have been trying to make a difference. "Their games can put you in the shoes of refugees, games that can directly address issues such as mental health issues and domestic abuse. Other games can show you how easily communicable diseases can spread, and teach you how to avoid such diseases. Or, how climate change can affect the world," she said. Ms. Hadda pointed out that the reason to organise the workshop in the city was on account of 'bright, young people', top class educational institutions and 'a visionary local gov-



U.S. Consul-General Katherine Hadda and IT Secretary Jayesh Ranjan with technologists at a workshop at T-Hub in the city on Thursday. ■K.V.S. GIRI

IT Secretary pitches for credit system

To encourage students' entrepreneurial spirit

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

IT Secretary and In-charge Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Jayesh Ranjan, would volunteer to 'try out' a credit-based system of education at the varsity which would boost the entrepreneurial spirit of the students without compromising on academics. Mr. Ranjan was speaking on the sidelines of the four-day workshop on Thursday.

He observed that in other countries, students can drop a course or two if they were working in a start-up or were entrepreneurs. These courses can be

vernment'. IT Secretary Jayesh Ranjan offered the State government's support to 'five best ideas' which germinate from the workshop. He also encouraged participants to develop

'replaced' by means of credits. Citing the examples of Bill Gates, Mark Zuckerberg and Steve Jobs, who dropped out of universities to pursue their respective ideas, the credit system would ensure that students with entrepreneurial spirit do not drop out.

"We want to create a situation in which they don't drop out. If you have an idea, pursue that as you will get some relief, and balance your studies and get marks," he said.

Mr. Ranjan said he has been pursuing the matter with the Telangana State Council for Higher Education for around

two years. He said now, in the capacity of In-charge Vice-Chancellor of JNTU, he can 'push' for it.

Speaking on the construction of T-Hub phase-II, Mr. Ranjan said initially, the government plans to construct a space which is equal to that of T-Hub on IIIT campus. He also said around 60% of the work has been done as part of the T-Fibre project. Half of the remaining work would be completed by the year-end. The State government has a meeting scheduled with the Department of Telecommunications later this week to discuss project approvals.

use cases which can be implemented. Mr. Ranjan said there were over 150 VFX and gaming companies in the State and the digital entertainment sphere employs about 20,000 profes-

sionals. The four-day workshop would touch upon issues connected to water crisis, disinformation, inter-faith dialogue, human trafficking and countering violent extremism.

It takes only a summer vacation to try your hand at VFX

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Children in Telangana can now look forward to learning game development, VFX and animation during summer vacation. This was announced by IT Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan.

"We have been pursuing this for the past 11 months, and finally Peter Vesterbacka has agreed to our proposal. Students can try their hand at these emerging technologies and learn from the master," said Mr. Ranjan. The Finnish game developer and innovator Mr. Vesterbacka, known for the wildly successful Angry Birds game, is in town for setting up an AI University in the city. Mr. Vesterbacka has also agreed to play an advisory role for the Telangana VFX Animation Gaming Association (Tvaga).

"This is important for Telangana and also for the whole country. Hyderabad is sandwiched between Bengaluru and Mumbai in this fast-growing market. We can emerge as a leader as the year-on-year growth is higher than other cities. As a country, we have moved up from 57 to 52 in the World Innovation Index. But we have to catch up fast," said Mr. Ranjan at an event where Hyderabad-based Malaxmi Group signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for setting up the AI University in collaboration with Mr. Vesterbacka.

"India is six-hour journey from Finland, so we have geographic proximity. We have five million people and have created success stories like Linux, Nokia and Angry Birds. Finland has been able to do this as it focussed on education. We educate young people as best as possible. In India, we will be involved in AI and students will get an entrepreneurial AI degree and they will be in a position to become the leaders of change," said Mr. Vesterbacka. "We want this to be operational as quickly as possible. We have a huge shortage of talent in Finland, and I hope we can work together," said Mr. Vesterbacka.

B. Deepa of Malaxmi Group gave a brief about the MoU to set up the AI University.

"This collaboration aims at producing high-quality graduates, who will work in emerging technologies like game development and AI. We are going to foster a start-up ecosystem for robotics and gaming technology," said Ms. Deepa.

UoH scholar ranked among Indian authors

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

A research scholar at School of Economics, University of Hyderabad (UoH), Malleth Ummalla, has been ranked 126 among the 211 Indian authors who have published research articles in journals, according to a statement from the UoH.

The ranking has been given by the IDEAS REPEC-Germany (2019). Mr. Malleth has published eight research papers in international journals, of which five publications

are categorised under the Australian Business Deans Council (ABDC) journal quality list. He has published two papers - one each in A-grade and B-grade journals like Energy Economics, and Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, respectively.

He is currently working on his doctoral thesis titled 'Essays in Energy Economics: A Study on BRICS Countries' under the supervision of professor Phanindra Goyari, the press release added on Thursday.

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3. Data Analyst: Qualification: M.Sc. Statistics / M.Sc. Biostatistics with 1 year experience.
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Malaysia out to attract more tourists this year

'VisitMalaysia2020' campaign launched in city

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

If golf courses with resorts, theme parks, serene sea coasts and indoor entertainment parks are your idea of a holiday, Malaysia is the country to visit. It has just launched 'VisitMalaysia2020' campaign seeking to attract more tourists from India to the country for tourism as well as film shoots, conferences and destination weddings.

"Last year, we had received more than six lakh tourists from India and this year, we expect to surpass seven-lakh mark. Tourist arrivals from here has been growing at a healthy rate of

15.5%. This is a good sign for us and Hyderabad is an important market for us," said Malaysian Tourism Minister Sulaiman Suib here on Thursday.

Addressing the media after launching a special logo for the campaign during a road show organised here after similar programmes in Amritsar and Mumbai, Mr. Suib said obtaining an online visa is hassle-free and the rupee exchange rate is another attraction for people to visit Malaysia, he said.

Malaysian tourism department has roped in about 37 travel agents, tour operators and others to

propagate the campaign throughout the region. Hyderabad is also well-connected with Malaysia with as many as 14 flights a week offering 3,000 seats.

Kuala Lumpur has also been ranked as the top five destinations in the world for shopping, pointed out the Minister.

Malaysia is targeting 30 million international tourists. Mr. Suib said his country has about 200 golf courses as holiday destinations and there were many scuba diving spots offering a glimpse of the varied underwater world, including corals and a wide variety of aquatic life.

World meet to discuss irrigation work in TS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) has accepted three technical papers on best irrigation practices in Telangana for their presentation at the 3rd World Irrigation Forum (WIF3) meet to be held at Bali, Indonesia, in September this year.

According to officials of the Irrigation Department, of the four technical papers sent to the event, the scrutiny committee has accepted three. In a communication sent to the department, WIF3 executive Vijay K. Labhsetwar informed that three papers from Telangana were approved for presentation.

The papers would be presented by OSD in CMO Sridhar Rao Deshpande and K. Shyamsunder, Chief Engineer of Minor Irrigation; S. Suneel, retired Chief Engineer and V. Narsimha, Chief Engineer of Nagarjunasagar Project; B. Shanker, Chief Engineer and Nagabhushan Rao, Executive Engineer of Sriramsagar Project.

FIEO leaders for robust rail and road connectivity to increase exports

'Telangana, a land-locked State, has to address this issue soon'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Telangana stands to accelerate the pace of exports, particularly merchandise, if the issue of logistics from the land-locked State that pushed up the cost for the exporters is addressed.

This was the message the leaders of Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) sought to highlight at a seminar on 'Exports from Telangana - Issues and Prospects' here on Thursday. They were not the only ones as the need for a robust rail and road connectivity to move goods fast to the ports on east and west coast was also echoed by a few participants.

Behind their emphasis was the scope for Telangana to achieve more by tapping the opportunities in many sectors other than the organic and pharmaceuticals that now account for nearly 60% of the over \$7-billion merchandise exports from the State.

"We believe lot more sectors should be given more importance as they have a huge [ex-



FIEO Director-General and CEO Ajay Sahai and FIEO Southern Regional Chairman Israr Ahmed at a seminar on exports in the city on Thursday. ■G. RAMAKRISHNA

port] potential," FIEO Southern Regional Chairman Israr Ahmed said, counting agriculture, natural stones, jewellery, engineering and handicrafts in the list.

Leather, he added, was another area of growth possibility. Teams of the Council of Leather Exports from Chennai and Kanpur were likely to visit

Warangal where the State government has planned a leather park. The peculiar problem that Telangana faces, however, as a land-locked State has to be addressed. "The cost of transportation [to the ports] is quite high," Mr. Ahmed said.

There could not be a better time to strengthen the infrastructure. FIEO Director-General

and CEO Ajay Sahai said the tariff war between the U.S. and China has opened new avenues of growth for India. The need is for facilitating creation of new production capacities, if those existing were inadequate, by addressing land and regulatory issues. Companies having facilities in both China and the U.S. are looking to move to other locations, something India should capitalise on.

Describing Telangana as a State with huge promise, potential and possibilities, he underscored the need to improve the quality of roads, to have more ICDs, pack house, refrigerated vans, temperature-controlled warehouses for agriculture products and a food lab in Nizamabad and Zaheerabad.

Telangana Industries and IT Secretary Jayesh Ranjan said the State was targeting doubling of the exports in the next five years. It had engaged FIEO to formulate exports strategy. Principal GST Commissioner M.R.R. Reddy and Additional DGFT S.B.S. Reddy also spoke.

ELECTION NOTICE

The Election of three Board of Directors of the NHMACHS Ltd will be held on August 11, 2019. The date for filing of nomination is August 4, 2019. For further details please see the Election Notification affixed on the Notice Board of Society's Office at Nandi Hills.
ELECTION OFFICER

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(1) H.No.2-2720 Eastern Part measuring 102.5 Sq.Yds., on land bearing No.12, along with built up area of 113 Sq.Yds., in Sy.No.87 of Gachibowli Village, Serilingampally Mandal and Municipality, Ranga Reddy District and bounded by North: Neighbors Land; South: 40' Wide Road; East: Plot Nos. 13 and 14; West: H.No.2-2719 (on Plot No.12, Western Part); executed by Gadda Sukkaiah in favor of M/s. Sri Sai Consultants through Sale Deed Doc. No. 830/2006 dated 12.01.2006 registered before District Registrar of Ranga Reddy. (Link document of (2) above).
(2) H.No.2-2719 Western Part measuring 205 Sq.Yds., on land bearing No.12, along with built up area of 113 Sq.Yds., in Sy.No.87 of Gachibowli Village, Serilingampally Mandal and Municipality, Ranga Reddy District and bounded by North: Neighbors Land; South: 40' Wide Road; East: H.No.2-2720 on Plot No.12 (Eastern Part); West: Sy.No.86; executed by Gadda Laxamma in favor of M/s. Sri Sai Consultants through Sale Deed Doc. No. 2425/2006 dated 30.11.2006 and registered before District Registrar of Ranga Reddy. (Link document of (1) above).
(3) Sale Deed Doc. No. 4398/1988 dated 06.05.1988 executed by Gadda Misaiah in favor of Gadda Sukkaiah registered before District Registrar of Ranga Reddy. (Link document of (1) above).
(4) Sale Deed Doc. No. 4443/1988 dated 07.06.1988 executed by Gadda Misaiah in favor of Gadda Sukkaiah registered before District Registrar of Ranga Reddy. (Link document of (1) above).
(5) Approved Plan dated 21.11.2011 sanctioned by GHMC.
For the aforesaid reasons, the Public in general, having their interest in the said properties are requested to lodge their claims and objections if any in writing with the undersigned, within 15 (FIFTEEN) days from the date of this Notice/publication, failing which, my client shall proceed with the securities provided hereinabove for mortgage to secure the loan of M/s. Triangle Farms Private Limited and all claims shall be entertained thereafter.
Sd/- C.S. CHAKRAVARTHY
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Office: 40' Wide Road, East: H.No.2-2720
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West Prashanth Nagar,
Moosarabagh, Hyderabad-500 036.
PHONES: 9391046708.

HYDERABAD Timings

FRIDAY, JULY 26

RISE 05:53 SET 18:52
RISE 00:31 SET 13:24

SATURDAY, JULY 27

RISE 05:54 SET 18:51
RISE 01:12 SET 14:18

SUNDAY, JULY 28

RISE 05:54 SET 18:51
RISE 01:58 SET 15:15

Hyderabad Weather max min

Sangareddy 33 25
Warangal 34 26
Hyderabad City 33 25

Hyderabad City Today
31°C There are chances of moderate rains in pockets. A cloudy sky is expected to persist.

Hyderabad City Tomorrow
29°C A few spells of moderate rain and thundershower are likely. The morning will be pleasant.

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BSNL announcement

BSNL announced on Thursday that for new landline or broadband connections, call 040-23354141 or send details by SMS to 9400054141.

Opposition's Chalo Secretariat protest foiled

'Demolition of Secretariat, Assembly should not be allowed'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Police took into custody about 50 leaders and activists of various Opposition parties near Indira Park on Thursday when they tried to proceed towards the Secretariat in support of their demand to stop demolition of the Secretariat and Assembly for construction of new complexes.

Heated arguments

Among those arrested were Telangana Jana Samithi president M. Kodandaram, former Minister and BJP leader D.K. Aruna, former MP G. Vivekanand and TDP Telangana president L. Ramana. Heated exchange of words took place between them and the police when they were arrested. Earlier, the leaders said



Opposition leaders protesting against the move to demolish the Secretariat, in the city on Thursday. *G. RAMAKRISHNA

that the government was splurging money on unnecessary expenditure when its debts were high. The government was yet to clear fee reimbursement dues and unemployment allowance, release funds for Aarogyasri and crop loan waiver. The buildings of both Secretariat and Assembly were in good condition. Yet, the government proposed to demolish them, they alleged.

Harassed for dowry, woman ends life

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

In a suspected case of dowry harassment, a 23-year-old woman committed suicide by hanging herself from a ceiling fan at Quthbullapur on Wednesday evening.

Rushika, a homemaker, got married to Amarchand Solanki, three years ago and the couple had a two-year-old son. The victim's mother Suman Sankla told Jeedimetla police that they gave 250 grams of gold, 350 grams of silver articles and ₹50,000, a bike and other

household articles as dowry to the groom's family at the time of the wedding.

According to her, post two months of her marriage, Rushika's husband and in-laws started harassing her for additional dowry of ₹25 lakh and manhandled her on several occasions.

In another case, a 26-year-old woman was found dead inside her room at Meerpet on Thursday. Police said that Vaishnavi, a resident of Nandanavanam Colony, consumed poison. (Roshni - Suicide prevention helpline: +914066202000.)

NALSAR courses

HYDERABAD
The Centre for Aerospace and Defence Laws of NALSAR University is offering some courses on aviation and defence laws. The last date for applying is August 10. Details can be had on www.dde.nalsar.ac.in.

THE HINDU

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'Depressed' school watchman found dead

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

A 35-year-old watchman was found dead at a private school in Asifnagar on Thursday.

Srinivas (35), a resident of Sitarambagh in Mallepally, was allegedly depressed over not getting married. He committed suicide by hanging himself from a ceiling fan on Wednesday night.

"He locked himself up in the watchman room of the school and resorted to the extreme step. The incident came to light only at 7 a.m. on Thursday when a school employee forcefully went inside the room and found Srinivas hanging," police said.

B.Tech student ends life

In another case, a B.Tech third year student ended his life by hanging himself at his house in Ganesh Nagar of Alwal. Sai Charan (21) was soon rushed to a private hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead.

"The exact reason is yet to be ascertained," Alwal police said. (Roshni - Suicide prevention helpline: +914066202000.)

RBVRR WOMEN'S COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
Barkatpura, Hyderabad-500 027. Website: www.rbvrrwcp.org. Affiliated to O.U. Approved by AICTE & PCI Ph: 040-27563065.

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Hon. Secretary

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IN BRIEF



BJP complains against MIM leader's comments

KARIMNAGAR
The BJP Karimnagar district unit leaders urged Commissioner of Police VB Kamalasa Reddy to take criminal action against MIM legislator Akbaruddin Owaisi for making derogatory and insulting remarks against the BJP and RSS activists during the MIM party meeting in Karimnagar town on Tuesday. A BJP delegation led by its president Basa Satyanarayana Rao, town president Bethi Mahender Reddy met the Commissioner of Police and submitted a memorandum in his chambers on Thursday.

PDS rice seized from train

ADILABAD
The Civil Supplies Task Force, Enforcement Team 3 from Hyderabad and the Railway Protection Force jointly conducted surprise raids on various trains at Sirpur-Kagaznagar railway station and seized rice meant for supply through the public distribution system in Telangana.

Fear grips Bhadrachalam border villages

Maoists to observe Martyrs' week from July 28 to August 3

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BHADRACHALAM**

Far-flung villages in the Bhadrachalam Agency on the porous inter-State border with Chhattisgarh continue to grapple with the spectre of violence with Maoists gearing up to observe Martyrs' week from July 28 to August 3 and the police ramping up "anti-Maoist" operations in forest fringe areas.

Tension heightened in the interior villages of Charla and Dummugudem mandals, which have been reeling under palpable fear ever since the rebels killed former MPTC member N. Srinivas Rao after branding him a "police informer" two weeks ago.

Notwithstanding the increased vigil by the police in the remote corners of Bhadrachalam Agency, the rebels, as a prelude to the Martyrs' week, launched a poster campaign in several remote habitations in Charla



Police intensify vigil in Bhadrachalam district in view of Maoist Martyrs' Week. Armed personnel in a combing operation in Bhadrachalam district. ■ FILE PHOTO

mandal.

Posters in the name of CPI (Maoist) Charla-Sabari committee surfaced at R Kothagudem, Satyanarayanaapuram, Lenin Colony and a few other interior areas in Charla mandal in the early hours of Thursday.

Posters

The posters bearing the name of CPI (Maoist) Charla-

Sabari Area Committee contained slogans eulogising the Naxalbari movement ideologue Charu Majumdar and a host of other slain Maoist leaders and cadre.

Through the posters, the rebels condemned the Centre's "Operation SAMADHAN" and vowed to work for a "new democratic revolution".

Meanwhile, late on Wed-

nesday evening, the Charla police, in coordination with CRPF personnel, nabbed eight "Maoist militia members" along with explosive materials during a joint search operation at the Kaliveru crossroads in Charla mandal.

Militia members held

The police identified the arrested militia members as residents of Yerrampadu, Korakatpadi, Chennapuram and Bathinapally villages in the Agency mandal.

The joint squad claimed to have seized 30 gelatin sticks, eight detonators and two plastic bags from the arrested persons.

Precaution

As a precaution, the police advised political functionaries, including ruling party cadre, of the interior villages in Bhadrachalam Agency to refrain from venturing into volatile areas in the next couple of days, sources said.

Non-tribals on notice for land-holding in Agency area

SDC for Land Transfer Rights cases took suo motu note of 'encroachments'

**S. HARPAL SINGH
ADILABAD**

Even as the tribal belt in former composite Adilabad district experiences the heat generated by podu land (forest land under cultivation by tribals) issue, the non-tribal people in the Agency areas have their anxiety levels raised thanks to a prospect of losing their property. The Special Deputy Collector (SDC) for cases under Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Areas Land Transfer Regulation Act 1959 (Amendment 1/1970), (LTR 1/70) has slapped notices on some of the non-tribals with regard to ownership of their property.

The LTR 1/70 bans all land transactions between tribals and non-tribals and non-tribals and non-tribals and was legislated with the intent of preventing exploitation of the gullible tribal people by non-tribals. The only exceptions are transfers which



A housing layout in violation of the LTR Act in the Agency area in Adilabad district. ■ S. HARPAL SINGH

took place between tribals and non-tribals before December 1, 1963 and between non-tribals and non-tribals before February 3, 1970.

"We have issued some 35 notices to non-tribals relating to ownership of agriculture lands and immovable properties in the past few weeks, the latest of these being the notices serviced on 8

individuals of Indervelli mandal headquarters," revealed SDC Rai Sidam Chitru. "Some of these notices were based on complaints while some others were issued taking note of the alleged 'encroachments' suo moto," he added.

Liable to be resumed

It is assumed by law that all

lands in the Agency areas belong to tribals with the only exception for non-tribals being those that they owned before these cut off dates under the LTR 1/70. "Any construction by non-tribals in the Agency areas would amount to violation of the LTR 1/70 if the concerned individual or family do so without valid documents and the property is liable to be resumed by the government," Mr. Chitru explained as he went into the nitty gritty of the notices and related regulation.

"There are thousands of violations of the law that are going unnoticed and there is need for detecting all cases. We, however, support the action being initiated by the SDC," observed Thodasam Ganesh, an Adivasi of Ichoda mandal headquarters.

The Amendment to the LTR was passed in February 1970 and the office of the

SDC came into being in 1982 at Adilabad district headquarters. It was shifted to Utnoor two years later.

Tribal mandals

The SDC has jurisdiction over the nine purely tribal mandals located in Adilabad and Kumram Bheem Asifabad districts.

It looks after cases originating in 646 Scheduled villages and others where the Integrated Tribal Development Agency has its jurisdiction.

Since inception of the office of the SDC a total of 8,524 cases of violation of LTR 1/70 were detected involving an extent of 56,756 acre while 4,356 of these were decided in favour of tribals covering an extent of 28,619 acres. Nearly 24,000 acres of land has been restored to tribals while 597 cases related to 3,479 acres are pending.

LIC wants government to review Rythu Bima premium

Renewal premium due on August 13

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD**

The officials of the Life Insurance Corporation of India have urged the State government to review the premium being paid for Rythu Bima, farmers' insurance scheme, in line with the actual costs incurred by the insurer in maintaining the scheme.

The LIC officials who at-

tended a meeting convened by Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi on Thursday told him that the LIC paid ₹ 735.25 crore to the families of 14,705 farmers who died and claims relating to some cases were under process. The LIC had taken up the insurance scheme without profit motive and the government should consider reviewing the premium. The Chief Secretary assured them that he would take the matter to the notice of Chief Minister K.

Chandrasekhar Rao and renew the premium after obtaining his consent.

Officials informed the CS that the term of the Rythu Bima under which 30.92 lakh farmers were enrolled would end on August 13. The Government had paid premium of ₹ 704.16 crore to the insurer at the rate of ₹ 2,271.5 per farmer, and efforts had been made to ensure that the families of farmers who died received the amount at the earliest.

Warehouses for poll material to be built

States asked to set up such facilities

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD**

The State Government has decided to expedite construction of godowns for storing election-related equipment in all the 33 districts.

The EC, in its directives, had asked the States to set up warehouses for election material before the onset of monsoon next year and, accordingly, efforts had been initiated in this direction.

During a review meeting at the Secretariat on Thursday, Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi informed ECI senior consultant Bhanwarlal and Chief Electoral Officer Rajat Kumar of progress in the works. The R&B department took up construction of warehouses in eight districts and tenders were finalised in respect of five more districts. Tenders in respect of three districts were under process.

August could bring rains, but with 20% monsoon deficit

Southwest monsoon has been weak, says IMD Director

**V. GEETANATH
HYDERABAD**

Summer like sultry conditions in twin cities and elsewhere across Telangana are likely to relent this weekend with some rains forecast in 50-60% of area. However, the dry spell will again continue after that. August is giving a glimmer of hope with "normal" monsoon rains, said India Meteorological Department, Hyderabad, Director Y.K. Reddy.

"Southwest monsoon has been weak. We had already forecast a deficit rainfall of 97% but delay in onset of monsoon in June by more than 15 days has affected its progress. We are now projecting a deficit of 38% from earlier 48%," he explained.

"June was deficit and 10% rainfall was made up this month. Southwest monsoon is the only hope for Telangana as most of its rainfall is received during this season but we are expecting a 20% deficit overall," said Mr. Reddy.

Lack of rains is also causing dry and sultry conditions to prevail across the State with air-conditioners becoming operational once again in households and business establishments. A single factor cannot be pinpointed for the continuing dry spell, he said, pointing out that the El Nino has been showing a gradual decline over the last two months and could become neutral next month.

'No drought yet'

"We cannot say El Nino is the only factor which is causing the dry spell. We have had such situations before and although we have not yet reached drought kind of condition, this dry spell is also prevalent in neighbouring regions of Karnataka, Marathwada and others leading to low inflows into the river basins," he said. The IMD Director said depressions and low pressures in the Bay of Bengal are another means of getting widespread rainfall in TS yet for that to happen these should be formed across the coasts of Andhra Pradesh or Odisha. "During the mon-



A view of Baswapuram pond that has dried up due to rain scarcity in Khammam district. ■ G.N.RAO

Govt hopeful of normal farm activity

Normal rainfall in 5 of the 33 districts

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD**

The State government is hopeful that the agricultural activity, which is currently slow due to delayed monsoon, will pick up from next month.

Crops are sown in an estimated 27.64 lakh hectares in different parts of the State during the current season. But the activity has slowed down due to deficit rainfall, down from the normal 317.2 mm to 200.2 mm. However, the situation is expected to improve in the coming days as the India Meteorological Department has predicted normal rainfall during August. Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi reviewed the present crop situation and progress of Rythu Bima scheme with senior officials on Thursday. He was informed by the offi-

cial concerned that rainfall was normal in five districts while it was deficit in the remaining districts.

In all, crops were sown in 64 % of the total cropping area till date and cultivation of all crops except for paddy was satisfactory. Paddy cultivation would also pick up and reach normal level as good rains were forecast in August. Officials informed the Chief Secretary that there were no inflows into the Srisailem and Nagarjunasagar reservoirs and farmers were waiting for the water levels to increase. According to an official release, Mr. Joshi told the officials that he would review the situation again on August 13 and wanted month-wise information on agriculture activities from the past few years.

soon we usually have four to five depressions or low pressures every month. Last week's low pressure went off towards north and Bihar so we could not benefit. Another one is currently forming near West Bengal," he revealed.

Northeast monsoon

Telangana and Hyderabad cannot expect to benefit from the North-east monsoon expected from October onwards because the benefi-

ciary regions are Tamil Nadu, Rayalaseema and south coastal AP. "TS and Hyderabad will be receiving only 15% of the rainfall during that period," he explained.

The ongoing heavy rains in certain States like Kerala is explained as "pulse propagation of monsoon" where such heavy rain bursts occur in certain places during this period. Heavy downpours within a limited time in certain areas is attributed to vagaries of climate change.

Officials told complete land acquisition for railway projects

SCR General Manager seeks cooperation of government

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD**

Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi has asked the South Central Railway (SCR) to speed up the ongoing railway projects in the State so that they are completed in time.

He also asked the District Collectors of Narayanpet,

Peddapally and Mancherial to complete acquisition of the land required for railway projects at the earliest.

He held a meeting here on Thursday to review the progress of railway projects with SCR General Manager Gajanan Mallya, Special Chief Secretary (Revenue) Rajeshwar Tiwari, Principal Secretary (Finance) K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chairman and Managing Director of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) N. Sridhar, CMD of Southern Power Dis-

tribution Company of Telangana Ltd (TSSPDCL) G. Raghuma Reddy, Additional Principal Conservator of Forests R. Shobha and officials of Roads and Buildings, TS-Transco and others.

Mr. Joshi told the officials to take steps to close the level crossings wherever the RoBs or RuBs were completed.

The SCR General Manager sought cooperation of the State government in completing the railway projects in Telangana fast.

Kaleshwaram brings back water in Godavari

Water spreads to 76 km of Godavari course with storage in three barrages

**B. CHANDRASHEKHAR
HYDERABAD**

The river course of Godavari between Yellampally and Kaleshwaram in Peddapalli and Jayashankar-Bhupalapalli districts, which is most often seen dry even during the monsoon season when there is no flood, has become rejuvenated now with the storage of water in Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project.

Water being pumped back from Medigadda to Sundilla through Kannepally and Kasipeta pump houses has already spread over 76 km of the river course upstream. "The stretch of the river course wearing dry look has become a regular phenomenon during the last couple of decades, particularly after the construction of a series



Six motors pumping water at Kannepally pumphouse in Jayashankar-Bhupalapalli district on Thursday. ■ ARRANGEMENT

of barrages across the river and its tributaries by Maharashtra," a senior irrigation engineer explained.

The flood generated in the local catchment areas is also held in Singur, Nizamsagar, Kaddam and Sriramsagar projects and Yellampally bar-

rage not allowing it to reach the river course between Yellampally and Kaleshwaram, the engineer said adding that Godavari would have flows either only after Pranahitha confluences with it at Kaleshwaram or when there is heavy flood from the local catch-

ment areas or from the upstream Maharashtra. "The water is spread along 27 km of the river course due to storage in Medigadda and it is spread for another 28 km and 21 km with the help of storage in Annaram and Sundilla barrages, respectively, till Thursday evening," Engineer-in-Chief of Kaleshwaram N. Venkateshwarlu stated.

Full reservoir level

The water spread area due to storage in the three barrages at full reservoir level would be more than 108 km in the river course and clubbed with the water spread area of Yellampally at FRL would be over 150 km in Godavari, he explained.

Meanwhile, pumping of water from Meddigadda barrage to Annaram through

Kannepally pump house and from Annaram barrage to Sundilla through Kasipeta barrage is continuing with six and three motors, respectively. The quantity of water being pumped is about 13,200 cusecs and 9,000 cusecs from Kannepally and Kasipeta pump houses, respectively.

Rising water

According to the project engineers, the water storage in Medigadda stood at 5.65 tmc ft (95.7 meters) followed by 7.68 tmc ft (117.55 m) in Annaram and 1.68 tmc ft (122.9 m) in Sundilla barrages on Thursday evening. Pumping from Sundilla to Yellampally barrage is likely to be taken up when the water level reaches about 127 meters or the storage reaches about 5.5 tmc ft in Sundilla.

MLA grilled for protocol violation

TRS cadre occupy dais

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
ADILABAD**

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) cadres and leaders of Indervelli mandal on Thursday grilled Khanapur ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) party legislator A. Rekha Naik and officials concerned for alleged protocol violation during a programme related with distribution of cheques of Kalyana Laxmi.

Lolla zilka parishad territorial constituency (ZPTC) member Pushpalatha and mandal parishad territorial constituency (MPTC) members Madavi Bheem Rao and Padwal Gopal, who is vice mandal parishad president (MPP), were neither invited to the cheque distribution programme and nor were

allowed to get on to the dais when they reached the venue.

Once the MLA arrived at the venue, the office of the Mandal Parishad Development Officer, the dais was occupied by the TRS cadres. Both the ZPTC and MPTC members who reached the venue to attend the distribution programme were ignored by both the officials and also the elected representative and they were left to stand while the proceedings began. The angry members of the Mandal Parishad and the ZPTC trooped out of the venue in a huff. On seeing them BJP cadres accosted Ms. Naik demanding to know why the public representatives were not invited to the programme.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

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IN BRIEF



Governor lauds welfare schemes

VIJAYAWADA
Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan has lauded the State government's welfare schemes and programmes. Secretary, Planning Department, Sanjay Gupta, along with other officials, met Mr. Harichandan at the Raj Bhavan here on Thursday and apprised him of the schemes, particularly Navaratna, a release said. Mr. Gupta told the Governor that nine districts were affected by drought and cyclones, and there was 35% deficiency in rainfall this year. He further explained the schemes such as Jagananna Ammavodi, Aarogyasri, and fee reimbursement. Mr. Harichandan enquired about the implementation of Spandana, Ammavodi and others, and said they were the country's unique public welfare schemes. Secretary to the Governor Mukesh Kumar Meena was present.

Financial assistance extended

SIDDIPET
Moved over the plight of a mentally challenged youth, Collector P. Venkatarama Reddy and MLA T. Harish Rao extended a financial assistance of ₹2.5 lakh to his family. On Thursday, when both of them were returning from Erravalli after a meeting, a woman met them with her son Sai Kumar and explained his plight. A visibly moved Collector immediately sanctioned ₹2.5 lakh to the family for his treatment. The cheque was handed over to the family by Mr. Rao.

Two men on the run after killing their wives

STAFF REPORTER HYDERABAD

In separate cases, two men allegedly killed their wives and were absconding.

In the first case, 28-year-old Konday Shanti was stabbed to death by her husband K Vijay (30), who later handed over their six-year-old son to the grandfather in Kur-nool district, before fleeing on Thursday.

According to police, the couple, staying in Jawaharnagar, were having frequent altercations. On Wednesday night too, they had an argument, which turned violent. "Around midnight, Vijay stabbed her in the neck with scissors," said Jawaharnagar inspector R Saidulu.

After killing his wife, he took their younger son to Nandyal and handed him over to Shanti's father Subba Rayudu, who was surprised by Vijay's sudden visit without his daughter and grew suspicious. The boy told his grandfather that his parents had a fight, following which his father stabbed his mother, said the inspector. "By the time the boy narrated the offence to his grandfather, Vijay had fled," he said.

In the second case, a 50-year-old man battered his wife with an iron rod at ALEAP Industries near Pragathi Nagar on Thursday afternoon. Dundigal police said Bangaru Rama Devi (43) was living in her defunct stitched leaf plates unit after separating from her husband Bangaru Prabhakar from Bachupally. "Around 1 p.m. Prabhakar entered the premises and murdered her by hitting her with an iron rod on the head after they argued for a while," said inspector A Venkatesham.

He said family disputes were suspected to be the reason for Rama Devi's murder. About six months ago, a case of domestic violence was registered against Prabhakar, who was absconding.

'R&B did not state existing Assembly building unsafe'

The money spent on repairing it must have, apparently, strengthened it, says court

MARRI RAMU HYDERABAD

Observing that a report of the Roads and Buildings department of 2017 had not stated that the existing Assembly building was unsafe, the Telangana High Court on Thursday summoned Chief Executive Engineer of the department to appear before it on Friday.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Raghavendra Singh Chauhan and Justice Shameem Akhtar directed the government to place before the court the repairs and renovation report of the R&B department per-

taining to the existing Assembly building.

Hearing the arguments in a batch of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petitions challenging the State government's proposal to demolish the Errum Manzil palace, the bench sought to know why the government decided to go for construction of a new Assembly building when no such suggestion was made by the R&B department in a report dated September 4, 2017. After perusing the report, the bench observed that the report had not suggested vacating the existing TS Assembly building. It also

asked Additional Advocate General J Ramchander Rao about the exact extent of land the government required to construct a new building for the Assembly.

Referring to the R&B department report, the bench noted that huge public money has been spent for repairs and renovations of the existing Assembly building, and the building must have, apparently, got strengthened. Then where was the need to demolish it and propose to erect a new one, the court asked. The Chief Justice asked the AAG whether R&B department's report re-

lating to repairs and renovations of the existing Assembly building was placed before the State Cabinet before taking the decision to demolish the Errum Manzil palace.

The CJ asked the government how the additional spaces and buildings made available to Telangana government after the AP government vacated them.

Presenting his arguments, the AAG said some blocks in the existing Assembly building were not fit for use. That was why the government decided that it was better to go for new building instead of spending more money on its

repairs and renovation.

The existing Assembly building was built 130 years ago and is spread over nine acres of land. The Legislative Council building has two acres of land. He said three architect firms from Hyderabad, Mumbai and Bengaluru were working on the proposed new building plans.

The bench observed how the State government had decided to demolish Errum Manzil without a precise plan of the new Assembly building and requirements of rooms for legislators and officers. The petitions were posted for Friday.

Two killed in Nalgonda road accident

STAFF REPORTER ANNEPARTHY, NALGONDA

A man and his son were killed on the spot when an unidentified truck mowed them down on Narketpally-Addanki State Highway here on Thursday afternoon.

The victims were identified as Sirigiri Kondal Reddy, 60, and his son S. Lingareddy, 35, farmers, of Anthayyagudem village in Thipparthi mandal.

According to Nalgonda rural police, the incident took place near Annaparthi village at around 1.15 p.m., when a speeding truck, at-

tempting to avoid a stranded DCM vehicle on the highway, rammed the moped and sped away. The tyre of DCM vehicle, loaded with cases of liquor, got flat, and was parked without any indication on the right lane. Before the truck hit the moped, it also crashed the side rear of the stranded vehicle. Both Kondal Reddy and Lingareddy, who were on their way to a relatives place at Wattimarthi village, were thrown off the vehicle.

Meanwhile, according to the latest reports, the police seized a truck in the evening.

Attacks on secularism by fascist forces: CPI

Centenary celebrations of Raj Bahadur Gaur conclude

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

The Communist Party of India has expressed concern over the attacks on secularism and democracy by "fascist" forces ever since the BJP government took over the reins at the Centre.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government was diluting the legislations enacted for the welfare of working classes and workers were being denied their legitimate rights in the present dispensation.

CPI former general secretary Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy, party's trade union wing AITUC general secretary Amarjeet Kaur and others exhorted the working class to launch sustained struggles as this was the only way to secure their rights.

Speaking at a meeting organised in connection with the conclusion of the centenary celebrations of legendary Communist leader Raj Bahadur Gaur here on Thursday, Ms. Amarjeet Kaur lamented that there



Former general secretary of CPI Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy (right) and others attending the Raj Bahadur Gaur's centenary celebrations conclusion at Indira Priyadarshini auditorium in Hyderabad on Thursday. *G. RAMAKRISHNA

were frequent attacks on the Constitution and people were denied their right to freedom of speech and expression in the BJP-led Central government.

Autonomous bodies

The "fascist tendencies" of the current dispensation could be seen from the fact

that autonomous bodies like the Reserve Bank of India, Enforcement Directorate, Election Commission of India and others were forced to follow the government's diktat. The Government was waiving huge debts of corporates and rich and influential and the poor were burdened with new taxes. Steps like

demonetisation helped the rich to convert their black money into white, but poor did not benefit from such moves.

'Harmful' policies

Mr. Sudhakar Reddy expressed concern over the "harmful" policies of the BJP government and lamented that person who was facing charges had been made the Home Minister.

Harassment of intellectuals, Dalits and other sections continued unabated and the ruling party was trying to brand those opposing their view point as "traitors".

All sections including women, students, Dalits, intellectuals should join hands in the fight against the government and for protecting the democratic fabric of the country. The meeting recalled the services of Raj Bahadur Gaur who was in the forefront of the Telangana Armed Struggle and later championed the cause of the working classes.

Buggana justifies handing over A.P. buildings to Telangana

'Instead of staying put in Hyderabad and settling bifurcation issues, Naidu shifted to Amaravati in haste'

STAFF REPORTER AMARAVATI

Finance Minister Buggana Rajendranath Reddy on Thursday asserted that the State government handed over its buildings in Hyderabad to Telangana as they were unused and huge sums were being paid towards municipal taxes and electricity and water bills, and because there was no chance of going back and reusing them. He pointed out that the buildings had to be given up after 10 years anyway when Hyderabad ceases to be the common capital.

TDP charge

Charging the YSRCP government with unilaterally handing over A.P. assets in lieu of help extended to it by the TRS in the elections, the Opposition TDP MLAs staged a walkout.

Replying to a question on

the unresolved issues between A.P. and Telangana, in the Assembly on Thursday, Mr. Rajendranath Reddy said Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao had invited his A.P. counterpart Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy last month for detailed discussions on the issues arising out of bifurcation.

Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy, his Cabinet colleagues and senior officers, including those appointed by the previous government, had attended the deliberations, and interactions were continuing, the Minister said.

He alleged that former Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had "run away" from Hyderabad after being caught "red-handed in the cash-for-vote scandal."

Mr. Naidu should have dealt with the matters arising out of bifurcation (division of assets and Schedule

IX and X institutions) by staying there, but he shifted to Amaravati in haste.

Replying on behalf of the Chief Minister to the question posed by TDP MLAs A. Satya Prasad, D. Bala Veeranjanya Swamy, M. Giridhar Rao, Nimmala Ramanaidu and K. Atchannaidu, Deputy Chief Minister Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose said the Chief Secretaries of the two governments met for two days in June, and they continue to interact to resolve all the the pending issues. Mr. Satya Prasad wondered whether the "bilateral agreements" that Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy spoke about in relation to settling the inter-State disputes were "bilateral commitments," and questioned why were the assets belonging to A.P. given away to Telangana before the State's dues were recovered.

Lyricist Indraganti dead

VIJAYAWADA
Noted lyricist Indraganti Srikanth Sharma passed away in Hyderabad on Thursday. He was 75 and is survived by wife Janakibala, son Mohan Krishna, and a daughter. Mohan Krishna is a well-known director in the Telugu film industry. Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy condoled the lyricist.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA : DEPARTMENT OF POSTS
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No.MMS/HR/Rect/Drivers/2019 dated at Hyderabad - 95 the 25.07.2019
CORRIGENDUM TO NOTIFICATION No.MSE/Rect/HR/LV/Drivers/2018-19
Dated 20.07.2019
The closing date of age in the application format vide at SI.No.8 may please be read as 14.08.2019 for determining the age limit. Details are available in the Departmental website www.indiapost.gov.in.
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NOTICE
The Govt. of India, MOEF&CC, Chennai, vide letter F.No.4-TSC115/2018-CHN/0126, Dt: 25-01-2019 conveyed the Central Government's in-Principle approval (Stage-II) under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 10,704 Ha. of forest land in Tadicherla R.F. Jayashankar(Bhupalpally) District, for Belt Conveyor Corridor Project from Kakatiya Thermal Power Project to Tadicherla Coal Block in favour of TSGENCO, subject to the following conditions:-
1. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters by the State Forest Department from the amount which has already realized from User Agency i.e., TSGENCO;
3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad shall carry out Compensatory afforestation (CA) over identified non forest area in Sy.No. 34/1 of Pandipampula village of Bhupalpally mandal of Jayashankar Bhupalpally District from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency i.e., TSGENCO. State Forest Department shall ensure minimum of 10704 number of trees to be planted in the identified CA lands;
4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad State Government shall carry out Compensatory Afforestation(CA) over identified 4 ha of degraded forest area in Compt.No. 414, Beat Subhashnagar of Koyyuru Range from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency i.e., TSGENCO;
5. Non-forest land which is transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section -4 or Protected Forest under Section -29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section (s) of the local forest Act. The Nodal Officer must report compliance within a period of 6 months from the date of grant of final approval and send a copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant section of the local Forest Act as the case may be to this office for information and record;
6. The non forest land and the degraded forest land identified for CA and the approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
7. At the time submission of the proposal, an extent of 12.0189 Ha of non-forest has been proposed for Compensatory afforestation, however only an area of 10,704 Ha has been transferred and mutated in favour of Forest Department. Hence Clarification on the above cited matter may be furnished to this office within the period of three months from the date of issuing of this letter and map with DGPS co-ordinates of the non-forest area may be furnished;
8. Additional amount of Net Present Value(NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency i.e., TSGENCO;
9. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred/sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
10. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
11. The User Agency i.e., TSGENCO shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage /tree felling;
12. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and will be the responsibility of the User Agency i.e., TSGENCO to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
13. The User Agency i.e., TSGENCO shall construct retain walls and check walls wherever required by consulting the DFO concerned at the project cost;
14. The User Agency i.e., TSGENCO shall submit a technical map/drawing showing the height of the conveyor belt to be constructed at various locations throughout the entire length of the conveyor belt;
15. The conveyor belts height shall be increased as proposed wherever it crosses canals and roads;
16. The height of the conveyor belt shall be increased to at least 2.75 mtrs and the width shall be kept as 4 mtrs at Chainage locations reported vide the PCCF, Telangana letter No. 5792/2014/FCA-3/PS Dated 02-04-2018 i.e., Chainage 500(C1), 1000(C2), 1553(C3), 2000(C4), 2474(C5), 2910(C6), 3345(C7), 4054(C8), 4600(C9), 5000(C10), 5500(C11), 5880(C12), 6437(C13) to facilitate crossing of Ungulates. In view of the proposed height of the conveyor belt, tree felling shall be restricted to wherever necessary;
17. The Conveyor belt structure shall be operated during day time only as far as possible;
18. The Material to be transported through the conveyor belt & related debris shall in no way be thrown down the belt and the forest area shall be kept free of debris;
19. All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees from the proposed forest area for diversion and the State Forest Department/US shall try to translocate the trees instead of resorting to felling at the project cost;
20. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 10,704 ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. User Agency i.e., TSGENCO shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
21. The progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFO, Bhupalpally Division in SI.No. 12(v)(a) & (b) of part II i.e., 489.035 ha of forest land and 26.91 ha of non forest land shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office;
22. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Addl. PCCF(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the User Agency i.e., TSGENCO;
23. The User Agency i.e., TSGENCO shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Govt. and to the Regional Office, regularly;
24. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions, the User Agency i.e., TSGENCO is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF(Central), Regional Office, Chennai.
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IN BRIEF



A.P. Speaker suspends four TDP MLAs for a day

VIJAYAWADA
Andhra Pradesh Speaker Tammineni Sitaram on Thursday suspended four TDP MLAs — Bendalam Ashok, Vasupalli Ganesh, Velagapudi Ramakrishna, and Dola Bala Veeranjanya Swamy — for a day for “obstructing the proceedings” in the House. “With pain, I have suspended the MLAs. I need to conduct business in the House. Very important Bills are being tabled. The Chair cannot allow disruptions,” he said.

Plea not to shift hospital

HYDERABAD

The BJP on Thursday appealed to the government not to shift the Ayurveda hospital from its present premises within Nizamia Tibbi College at Charminar to Erragadda. In a memorandum submitted to Medical and Health Minister E. Rajendra, senior BJP leader Bandaru Dattatreya and other leaders said the Ayurveda hospital had been functioning there for the last 50 years. The Minister was urged to strengthen the hospital by providing more beds and increasing medical staff.

'Polavaram estimates hiked by ₹2,346.85 crore'

VIJAYAWADA

Estimates of various works of the Polavaram hydro-electric project and head works have been hiked by ₹2,346.85 crore against norms, according to the P. Subbaraya Sarma committee appointed by the Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy government to go into several allegations on the implementation of the project. Recommending that the agreement with the main JV partner Transstroy be cancelled, the panel suggested to the government to go for a fresh bid.

Rebels will tear Yeddyurappa apart if he fails: Shivakumar

They are standing on their toes to become Ministers, says Congress leader

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

With the BJP central leadership yet to give its nod for the Karnataka unit to form the government in the State, senior Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar took a jibe at chief ministerial aspirant B.S. Yeddyurappa, saying that Congress and JD(S) rebel MLAs would tear him apart if he failed to form the government.

Mr. Shivakumar said 17 rebel legislators who were responsible for the collapse of the coalition government were standing on their toes to become Ministers. Mr. Yeddyurappa would survive only if he is sworn in along with other ministerial aspirants. “Otherwise, the collapse of the government is imminent. *Govinda, Govinda,*” Mr. Shivakumar said, in a taunt.

“We had put in a lot of effort to help our leaders win the Assembly elections. Do you think they will save Mr. Yeddyurappa if the BJP denies Ministerial berths to them,” Mr. Shivakumar asked.

Meanwhile, the Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah on Thursday lashed out at critics who have pointed fingers at him alleging that he had a role in a group of MLAs resigning and destabilising the coalition government headed by H.D. Kumaraswamy.

On Twitter, Mr. Siddaramaiah said, “Some media houses are reporting that a few rebel MLAs have claimed that I instigated them to resign and destabilise our govt. This is nothing but a false allegation with a mala fide intention. I will give a befitting reply if they repeat the same in front of me.”



All India Congress Committee general secretary K.C. Venugopal, CLP leader Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister G. Parameshwara in Bengaluru. ♦ PTI

CJI criticises senior lawyers, allows withdrawal of MLAs' plea

'We heard you at midnight, you don't appear when we want'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Ranjan Gogoi on Thursday sharply criticised senior advocates in the Karnataka political crisis case, saying they did not think twice before waking up the Supreme Court at midnight for an urgent hearing, but chose not to appear when the court, in turn, sought their presence in the long-drawn, roller-coaster dispute that finally saw the fall of the Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) Karnataka coalition government led by Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy.

The CJI's caustic remarks about the conduct of the senior advocates was triggered by what happened in

the court on July 24. A day after the holding of the long-awaited trust vote in the Assembly on July 23, a plea was made by an advocate for permission to withdraw the case.

The case pertained to an application made by two independent MLAs last week for conduct of the trust vote without delay.

Counsel for the legislators submitted before the CJI Bench that their application had become infructuous as the vote has already been held.

However, the CJI asked why none of the senior advocates such as Mukul Rohatgi or A.M. Singhvi, who had been leading the arguments in the case all along,

chose not to come and seek the court's permission to withdraw.

After all, the Bench said, the court had patiently heard them and passed interim orders over the past several weeks in the case. The court then refused to pass orders on July 24.

“When you want an urgent listing, you come before us — night, day or midnight. But when the court wants a counsel, you all choose not to appear,” Chief Justice Gogoi said.

The “midnight” hearing referred to by the CJI was one which was held in 2018. That hearing led to a floor test that propelled the Kumaraswamy government into power.

Go to moon if you can't bear 'Jai Shri Ram', BJP leader tells Adoor

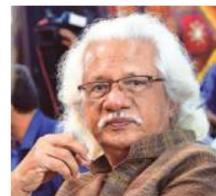
Filmmaker's comment on lynching irks party spokesperson

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A Facebook post of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) spokesperson B. Gopalakrishnan exhorting filmmaker Adoor Gopalakrishnan to migrate to some other planet if he could not bear to hear chants of 'Jai Shri Ram' has sparked a row.

While the BJP leader struck by his stance on Thursday, Mr. Adoor too retorted strongly. Film personalities and political leaders declared their solidarity with the latter.

The BJP leader's immediate provocation was Mr. Adoor joining a section of eminent citizens who had written a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi against the lynching of Dalits and Muslims. Mr. Gopalakrishnan said that Rama and



Adoor Gopalakrishnan

Krishna were synonyms, that “this is Ramayana month and 'Jai Shri Ram' chants will be there in India as well as neighbouring countries” and that if Mr. Adoor could not bear it, “he may register his name at Sriharikota and go to the moon”.

“The people of India voted for chanting 'Jai Shri Ram' in the country. It will be raised again and if needed, will be attempted even

before the residence of Adoor. That is a democratic right. Had Gandhiji been alive now, he would have gone on a fast in front of Adoor's residence. Sir, you are filmmaker who should be revered, but do not decry the culture of the nation,” the post said.

He alleged that Mr. Adoor was upset that he had not received anything from the Centre since the new government had assumed office.

Mr. Adoor clarified that his protest was against chanting 'Jai Shri Ram' during a lynching, and if someone raised the chant before his [Mr. Adoor's] residence, he, too, would join them [in the chanting]. He said he had received all coveted honours and was not keen on getting any more.

Kidnapped A.P. boy returns home, criminals still at large

STAFF REPORTER VIJAYAWADA

Four-year-old Nuka Jashith, who was abducted by unidentified persons, has been reunited with his family in Mandapeta of Andhra Pradesh by the police on Thursday.

He was abandoned at a brick kiln which is about 10 km from his home, the police said. Workers at the brick kiln recognised the boy whose photos were shown in the media during the past two days, and informed the police.

The police team led by Superintendent of Police Adnan Nayeem Asmi rushed to the spot and took the boy in



Jaswith with his mother Nagavalli. ♦ S. RAMBABU

to their care. Later, they handed him over to parents Nagavalli and Venkata Ramana Rao.

The parents and family members heaved a sigh of relief as Jashith was in good health and showed no fear from being with his kidnappers. He even spoke to reporters and said the name of

one of the persons who took him away was Raju.

Thank police, media
Jashith's family members appreciated police for swift action and also thanked the media for supporting them. They said the boy was abandoned by the kidnappers because the issue turned into a sensation and drew everyone's attention.

Meanwhile, the police continue to look out for the kidnappers who are still at large. “Jashith has given us some clues and names. In addition, we are probing every piece of information we had gathered,” Mr. Asmi told reporters.

Will consider people's views on Godavari water: Jagan

STAFF REPORTER VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has asserted that the State government will not take any decision that is detrimental to the interests of Andhra Pradesh.

The government will take suggestions and apprehensions of the Opposition and people into consideration before making a move on the proposal to lift the Godavari waters to Srisailem and Nagarjunasagar with Telangana.

Intervening during a

short discussion on ‘To stabilize Ayacut of Krishna Delta and Sagar Delta and also to provide drinking water to Rayalaseema, Nellore and Prakasam districts by lifting Godavari water to Srisailem and Nagarjunasagar along with Telangana’ in the Assembly on Thursday, Mr. Jagan Mohan Reddy said friendly relations with the neighbouring State were required if the State were to develop.

“Godavari waters can be shared by both AP and Telangana if the proposal to lift

water is fruitful. Water requirement in nine districts of AP and four districts of Telangana can be met,” he said. Stating that water from three sub-basins of the Godavari were flowing in Telangana, he said only the Sabari sub-basin was in the geographical boundaries of AP. As a result, A.P. would be left with a mere 500 to 600 tmcft available in the Sabari if Telangana State constructed barrages and lift irrigation schemes on the drain from Nasik, Pranahita and Indravati.

EAST COAST RAILWAY ENGINEERING WORKS

(1) Tender Notice No. eT-WAT-South-17-2019 Dt.: 22.07.2019

Name of the Work: “ULTRASONIC TESTING OF WELDS FOR RAILS ON VARIOUS IDENTIFIED ROUTES OF WALTAIR DIVISION WITH DIGITAL RAIL TESTER ULTRASONIC FLAW DETECTOR AND REPORTING THE SAME AS PER INDIAN RAILWAY STANDARD SPECIFICATION OF ULTRASONIC TESTING OF RAILS AND WELD (ENCLOSED IN ‘CHAPTER-III’) OF TECHNICAL BID PART-I) WITH CONTRACTOR'S MEN AND MACHINERY AS PER THE DIRECTIVES OF ENGINEERING-IN-CHARGE IN WALTAIR DIVISION (FOR 12 MONTHS)”.

Approx cost of the work: ₹ 3,67,92,198/-
EMD: ₹ 3,33,960/-, Cost of Tender document: ₹ 11,800/-, Completion period of the work: 12 months

Tender closing date & time: 1330 hrs. of 20.08.2019.

(2) Notice No. eT-East-WAT-26-2019, Dt.: 22.07.2019

Name of the Work: EXECUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKS IN CONNECTION WITH ‘PROVISION OF 3 NOS. OF LIFTS AT VIZIANAGARAM STATION UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/VIZIANAGARAM.

Approx cost of the work: ₹ 35,51,806.95/-
EMD: ₹ 71,000/-, Cost of Tender document: ₹ 3,540/-, Completion period of the work: 04 months

Tender closing date & time: 1330 hrs. of 20.08.2019.

No manual offers sent by Post/Courier/Fax or in person shall be accepted against such e-tenders even if these are submitted on firm's letter head and received in time. All such manual offers shall be rejected summarily without any consideration.

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website: <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

Note: The prospective tenders are advised to visit the website 15 (fifteen) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/corrigenda issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.) PR-249/K/19-20 Waltair

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E-Tender No.93.19.5141A Due on: 30.08.2019
Divisional Railway Manager (Stores) Southern Railway, Thiruvananthapuram Division invites E-tenders for the supply of under mentioned stores for and on behalf of the President of India.

Sl. No.	Description of Stores	Qty.	Due Date
1.	TOOL KIT BAG - LENGTH 14.5", WIDTH 6.5", HEIGHT 4.5" MATERIAL MATTE NYLON 1680 BLACK, RED & ORANGE COLOUR CANVAS FOR LINING FIBRE USED WHERE AS REQUIRED FOR STIFFNESS, RUBBER BOLTS AT BOTTOM, CUSHION FOR BACK SIDE FOR COMFORT SAKING BELTS (WITH CUSHION) SHOULDER BELTS, WEST BELTS SIMILAR TO MASTER LEATHER WORKS MAKE. IMAGES AND DETAILS ON KEYMAN'S BAG ARE ATTACHED.	2876 Nos.	30.08.2019

Tender closing and opening date and time: - 30.08.2019 at 14.30 Hrs. For further details, please refer to web portal www.ireps.gov.in. -> E-Tender-> Stores-> View tenders. Please note that only online tenders are accepted and tenders are to be digitally signed.

Divisional Railway Manager/Stores Thiruvananthapuram - 695 014

EAST DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

VETERINARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Office of the In-charge, Dy. Director (VS), Ghazipur Slaughter house, B-Pocket IFC, Ghazipur

NIT No. 002/AD(VS)/GSH/2019 Dated 25.07.2019

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sub:- Leasing out of Ghazipur Slaughter House and Carcass Utilization Cum Rendering Plant at Ghazipur, Delhi -110096 (India).

Issue of RFP to applicants: 26.07.2019

Pre-Bid Conference: 06.08.2019

Last Date of Download of Tender/Sale of Tender: 11.09.2019

Last Date of Submission of Tender Documents: 12.09.2019 15:00 Hours

Date of opening of Technical bids: 12.09.2019 15:30 Hours

The interested firms can purchase the tender document on working days as per prescribed schedule (in case of public holiday next date will be considered) from the office of In-charge, Dy. Director (VS), Ghazipur Slaughter House, B-Pocket IFC, Ghazipur or download from the website www.mcdonline.gov.in in on the payment of Rs. 20,000/- (non refundable) in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Commissioner, EDMC payable at Delhi.

Changes if any would be uploaded on the website www.mcdonline.gov.in only. All concerned are requested to stay in touch.

Sd/- In-charge, Dy. Director (VS), GSH

Ro No. 24/DPI/East/2019-20 9717786993

EDMC's Citizens Helpline No. 155303

Union Bank of India ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH

6-1-67/14, Second Floor, Public Garden Road, Saifabad, Oppo AP DGP Office, P.B.No.25, Hyderabad, Telanganaga-500004. Tel: 040-23420625, Mail: arbyhyderabad@unionbankofindia.com

PUBLIC NOTICE ON WILFUL DEFAULTERS

Name & Address of Borrower/ Director/ Partner/ Proprietor/ Guarantor/ Co-Obligant/ Mortgagor	Photograph
1) M/s Leo Meridian Infrastructure Projects & Hotels Ltd., H.No.6-3-886, Besides Van Heusen Show Room, Somajiguda Circle, Raj Bhavan Road, Hyderabad-500082. 2) Mr. Gokaraju Srinivasa Chakravarthi Raju, Managing Director, M/s Leo Meridian Infrastructure Projects & Hotels Ltd., H.No.6-3-886, Besides Van Heusen Show Room, Somajiguda Circle Raj Bhavan Road, Hyderabad-500082. 3) Mr. Chitta Samba Siva Venkata Sunil, Additional Director M/s Leo Meridian Infrastructure Projects & Hotels Ltd., H.No.6-3-886, Besides Van Heusen Show Room, Somajiguda Circle Raj Bhavan Road, Hyderabad-500082. 4) Mr. Muthyalas Srinu, Director, M/s Leo Meridian Infrastructure Projects & Hotels Ltd., H.No.6-3-886, Besides Van Heusen Show Room, Somajiguda Circle, Raj Bhavan Road, Hyderabad-500082. 5) Mr. Dandunasa Venkata Bhaaskara Raju, Additional Director, M/s Leo Meridian Infrastructure Projects & Hotels Ltd., H.No.6-3-886, Besides Van Heusen Show Room, Somajiguda Circle, Raj Bhavan Road, Hyderabad-500082	Mr. G.S. Chakravarthi Raju

Name of the Branch: Union Bank of India, Asset Recovery Branch, Hyderabad

Date of NPA: 16.11.2012, Balance outstanding as on 30.06.2019: Rs.277,57,10,169.25

It is hereby notified to the public at large that above mentioned Borrowers have availed loan from the Bank and due to default in repayment the account has been classified as NPA. The said Borrowers have been declared as Wilful Defaulter by the Bank as per RBI guidelines.

The bank has initiated recovery proceedings against them. Hence, the public is hereby cautioned not to deal with any of the properties of the said Borrower/Guarantor/Co-obligant/Mortgagor.

Date: 25.07.2019, Place: Hyderabad Sd/- Authorized Officer, UNION BANK OF INDIA

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. Y/E.29/2019-20/14 Dated: 23-07-2019

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following work.

Description of work	Approx. Value
BhadraVati Station building improvements - Electrical Arrangements.	Rs. 35,84,285/-

Last date of submission of bids: 08-08-2019 up to 11:00 hrs.

For details log on to website: www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical) South Western Railway, Mysuru

PUB/173/AAAK/PRB/SWR/2019-20

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You may call us at toll free 1800 3000 1878 or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure, East Division, 2nd Floor, New Building, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002

No.: EE/RI-East/TEND/03/2019-20 Date: 25-07-2019

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

(Through GoK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure (East Division) on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP invites tenders from eligible contractors for the below mentioned works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in lakhs)
1	Improvement and asphaltting to Nandhidurga road from Jayamahall main road to millar road.	177.00	2.70

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-Procurement portal <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in> from 26.07.2019, (2) Last date for submission of Tender through e-procurement: on or before 26.08.2019 upto 4.00 PM, (3) Date of Pre-bid meeting: 06.08.2019 at 4.00 PM in the office of the Chief Engineer, RI, 4th Floor, Annex Building-3, BBMP Offices, Bengaluru-02. (4) Date of opening of Technical Bids: 28.08.2019 after 11.00 AM. Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website <https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RI-East Division

“Pay development charges, help to develop Bengaluru”

AMDAVAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION DRAINAGE PROJECT E-Tender Notice

Name of Work: Engineering, Procuring, Constructing, Commissioning (EPC) of 7 MLD capacity sewage treatment plant at Saijpur, Ahmedabad along with operation and maintenance of the entire proposed sewage treatment plant facilities for Ten (10) years.

Prebid Meeting	Date:- 06/08/2019 up to 16:00 Hrs.
Online Tender Submission upto	Date:- 21/08/2019 up to 16:00 Hrs.
Physical Tender Submission up to	Date:- 23/08/2019 18:00 Hrs.
Technical Bid Opening	Date:- 23/08/2019 18:05 Hrs.

Detail and Tender available on www.nprocure.com

“DIAL: 155303 FOR COMPLAINTS REGARDING MUNICIPAL SERVICES”

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Electrical Branch, Bengaluru Division

OPEN TENDER NOTICE No. B/E.29/2019-20/OT/11.12 (through E-Tendering)

Tenders are invited only through E-tendering via www.ireps.gov.in by Divisional Railway Manager/ Electrical/ South Western Railway/ Bangalore - 560 023 on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned works.

Sl. No.	Description of Work	Approximate Value (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Cost of Tender form (Rs.)
1	Miscellaneous Works - Construction of Track Men Rest Room over Bengaluru Division - Electrical Arrangements.	1,37,27,829/-	2,18,700/-	6 Months	5,650/-
2	Miscellaneous Works - Construction of Foot Over Bridge, Extension & Raising of Platform over Bengaluru Division-Electrical Arrangements.	1,90,13,543/-	2,45,100/-	6 Months	5,850/-

Last Date for Submission of bid: 23-08-2019 upto 11:00 Hrs.

For full details of tender notice including eligibility criteria and downloading of the tender documents, tenderer may log on to the Website: www.ireps.gov.in

Sd/- Divisional Railway Manager (Electrical), No. PUB/090/AAAS/PRB/SBC/2019-20 South Western Railway, Bangalore - 560 023

Government of India Department of Atomic Energy Directorate of Purchase and Stores 4, Haddo Road, 6th floor, Shastri Bhavan Chennai 600 006, Ph. 044 28276099

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tenders are invited in sealed covers by the Regional Director, MRPU (P&S) for and on behalf of the President of India for the following tender:

Tender No.	: DPS/MRPU/IGCAR/FAB/2225/TPT-2657
Item	: Cell Port Ring Assembly.
Cost of Tender Fee	: Rs.700/-
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	: Rs.382320/-
Last Date for Sale of tender	: 30th August, 2019, on or before 13:00 hrs.
Date of Pre bid meeting	: 20th August, 2019 at 11:00 hrs. at the above address
Last Date for Receipt of Tenders	: 16th September, 2019 on or before 14:30 hrs.
Date of opening of Part I (Technical)	: 16th September, 2019 at 15:00 hrs.
Date of opening of Part II (Price)	: 31st October, 2019 at 15:00 hrs.

Detailed specifications, quantity and information on prebid meeting are available in the tender document. Tender Document can be purchased from the above office by submitting a letter along with tender fee in the form of a Demand Draft drawn in favour of Deputy Controller of Accounts, MRPU payable at Chennai. Tender Document can also be obtained by post by sending a letter along with tender fee in an envelop superscribed with “Request for Issue of Tender document against Tender No. DPS/MRPU/IGCAR/FAB/2225/TPT-2657



Court frames charges against Naveen Jindal
NEW DELHI
A court here on Thursday framed charges against industrialist Naveen Jindal, his company Jindal Steel and Power Limited and four others in a coal block allocation scam case. The case pertains to allocation of Urtan North coal block in Madhya Pradesh jointly to JSPL and Monet Ispat and Energy Limited. The CBI alleged that the accused had acquired the block by misrepresenting the facts to the Screening Committee regarding the end use of the coal.

Plight of home buyers raised in Parliament
NEW DELHI
BJP MP Vijay Goel on Thursday raised the plight of home buyers and demanded that action be also taken against celebrities who endorsed these failed projects. He mentioned the suffering of 48,000 home buyers of Amrapali housing project in Noida in Rajya Sabha. He added that in the Amrapali case, the Supreme Court had given relief to the 48,000 home buyers and said that the first right on the flats would be of the home buyers and not that of Noida Authority or the banks.

Flood duty keeps them away from affected kin

Assam's rescue workers hope for good news from home

RAHUL KARMAKAR
KAZIRANGA/GUWAHATI
On July 23, Panjit Basumatary received a message as he waited at Kaziranga National Park's Bagori Range for the arrival of a rescued rhino calf by boat through the flooded wildlife preserve.



Call of duty: Dr. Panjit Basumatary, a veterinarian at CWRC, last went home in January. ■ SUBHAMOY BHATTACHARJEE

The message was from his home at village Taktara, about 500 km west in Kokrajhar district bordering Bhutan and West Bengal. "We are back in the relief camp," the message from one of his elder siblings said. Mr. Basumatary is the veterinarian in charge of the Centre for Wildlife Rehabilitation and Conservation (CWRC), about 25 km. east of the Bagori Range office. "The last time I visited home was in January. I wish I could be with my 16-member family, including my parents, who have had to endure two waves of the flood. But tending to the animals is important, too," he said. Mr. Basumatary and his team have so far rescued and treated 69 animals, mostly hog deer, injured or under stress while fleeing the flooded national park. The calf his team waited for is among three rhinos under

treatment at the CWRC. The veterinarian's family members had in the first week of July moved out of their submerged home to the village lower primary school about 200 metres away. The school, on higher ground, was the designated relief camp for most of the villagers. In relief camps About a week ago they returned home after the water subsided. "They were hardly through with cleaning the house when another wave of flood struck the district, reportedly due to excess water released from the Kurichu Dam in Bhutan. They are back in the relief camp again," Mr. Basumatary said. Pradip Barua, a forest guard posted in Bagori Range, has a similar story. But unlike the veterinarian's, his flooded house at Kuthari is about 2 km from his place of posting. "We were instructed, and rightly so, not to take leave when Kaziranga began flooding a fortnight ago. We have been constantly patrolling on boat and following the animals to the hills to ensure their safety. None of us have had the time to visit home," he said. Mr. Barua's brothers helped his wife and son construct a temporary shed beside the highway to spend a few days. "They are back home now, but the sheds remain, just in case the park and its vicinity are flooded again," he said.

Arunachal tiger park facing a wage crisis

Does away with 53 casual employees

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI
Conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger has taken a hit in India's easternmost tiger reserve.

Tiger census data soon
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The authorities of the Namdapha Tiger Reserve in Arunachal Pradesh have discontinued the services of 53 frontline staff, all casual employees. The 1,895 sq km tiger reserve is now left with 113 casual employees, who were inducted under Project Tiger of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA). In an order on July 14, Namdapha's Field Director T. Riba said the 53 were shortlisted after an assessment of the performing and non-performing workers. This was in view of non-payment of wages of the casual employees by the NTCA. Officials said the NTCA, roped in 166 people for Namdapha a few years ago. But the NTCA did not provide any fund for wages of these casual employees during the 2018-2019 fiscal.

The much-awaited tiger census is likely to be released on July 29, Global Tiger Day, two officials independently confirmed to *The Hindu*. The results of the census, conducted once in four years, has been delayed for over 7 months because of the intervening Lok Sabha elections, data collection anomalies from the States as well as a first-ever initiative to coordinate the counting exercise with neighbouring countries.

number of non-performing casual employees adding to the burden of this establishment," the order said, adding that non-performing employees were evaluated and told to go. "Almost 80% of Namdapha is inaccessible, and it is difficult for the staff to monitor the remaining area of the tiger reserve. The reduced staff strength will make it harder for us, but one cannot help if there are no funds," Mr. Riba told *The Hindu*. "There are a large num-

ber of non-performing casual employees adding to the burden of this establishment," the order said, adding that non-performing employees were evaluated and told to go. "Almost 80% of Namdapha is inaccessible, and it is difficult for the staff to monitor the remaining area of the tiger reserve. The reduced staff strength will make it harder for us, but one cannot help if there are no funds," Mr. Riba told *The Hindu*.

GSLV Mk-III helps reduce orbit-raising manoeuvres

Rocket placed Chandrayaan-2 at a 6,000 km higher apogee

R. PRASAD
CHENNAI
In its maiden operational flight, the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle - Mark III/M1 (GSLV Mk-III/M1) used for launching Chandrayaan-2 successfully placed the moon-bound spacecraft in a temporary orbit called the Earth Parking Orbit (EPO) with perigee (closest distance from the earth) of 170 km and an apogee (farthest distance from the earth) of 45,475 km.



The GSLV Mark III carrying Chandrayaan 2 lifting off from Sriharikota on Monday. ■ S. R. RAGHUNATHAN

The apogee of the EPO was about 6,000 km more than originally envisaged. As a result, the number of earth-bound phase steps or manoeuvres needed to take the satellite to the highest orbit of almost 1,44,000 km apogee has been reduced from six to five. The sixth would be a trans-lunar injection, said K. Sivan, Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The reduced number of manoeuvres would translate into fuel savings, he explained. After the satellite is placed in the Earth Parking Orbit, the apogee is increased in steps to take it to the final earth-bound phase orbit of about 1,44,000 km. The satellite goes around the earth

in elliptical orbits and to increase the apogee, the satellite fires thrusters when it comes closest to the earth (perigee). **Avoiding heat stress** In the first of the orbit-raising exercises that was carried out on July 24, the perigee was increased from 170 km to 230 km, while the apogee was reduced from 45,475 km to 45,162 km. Explaining the rationale behind mainly focusing, initially, on increasing the orbiter's perigee and not the apogee, Mr. Sivan told *The Hindu*: "At 169.7 km at perigee, the satellite is still in the earth's atmosphere and so is exposed to heat stress while traveling at very high velocity.

So we had to raise the perigee." **Second move** The second orbit raising manoeuvre would be undertaken early morning on July 26, when the focus would be on raising the apogee to 54,689 km, while the perigee distance would only increase by 20 km to 250 km. "Totally, there will be five earth-bound, orbit-raising manoeuvres, including the one on July 24, before the trans-lunar insertion. If the satellite had not gained nearly 6,000 km while being placed in the earth parking orbit, then there would have been totally six earth-bound phase orbit-raising manoeuvres," Mr. Sivan said.

U.P. policeman berates complainant

Thursday, a head constable at the Nazirabad police station could be seen questioning the woman's dress sense and linking it to her alleged molestation.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
LUCKNOW
A head constable was suspended after he was caught on camera humiliating a young woman and her family with objectionable remarks when they had gone to a police station in Kanpur to report a case of molestation. As per a video clip of the incident, which was widely shared on social media on

Thursday, a head constable at the Nazirabad police station could be seen questioning the woman's dress sense and linking it to her alleged molestation. **Complainant questioned** While the victim had gone to the police station with her mother and brother to lodge the complaint, the policeman could be seen repeatedly questioning her about the

ornaments like rings and bangles that she was wearing. The viral video of the incident caused much outrage on social media. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra took to Twitter to slam the State government led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath for the insensitivity shown by the Uttar Pradesh police.

Dhoni to train with Army unit

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI
Cricketer M.S. Dhoni, who is an honorary Lieutenant Colonel in the Army, will spend a fortnight with his unit in Kashmir, the Army said on Thursday. "Lt. Col. (Honorary) M.S. Dhoni is proceeding to 106 TA Battalion (Para) for being with the Battalion from July 31 to August 15, 2019," Army sources said on Thursday. The unit is currently in the Kashmir Valley as part of Victor Force. As requested by Mr. Dhoni and approved by the Army headquarters, "he will be taking on the duties of patrolling, guard and, post duty, would be staying with troops," the sources said. Last week, Mr. Dhoni had opted out of the Indian team's West Indies tour.

FORM NO.63
{SEE RULE 148(1)}
IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, AT BENGALURU
(ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
IN THE MATTER OF COMPANIES ACT, 1956
AND
IN THE MATTER OF M/S. KINGFISHER AIRLINES LIMITED (In liquidation)
IN
COMPANY PETITION NO.214/2012
ADVERTISEMENT OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND WORKMEN TO PROVE THEIR CLAIM

Notice is hereby given to the creditors and workmen of the above named company that they are required to submit proofs of their respective debts or claims against the above named company by delivering at the Office address mentioned below on or before the 06.09.2019 by hand or sending by post to the Official Liquidator so as to reach him not later than the said date, an Affidavit proving the debt or claim in the prescribed form duly drawn on a non judicial stamp paper of Rs. 20/- with their respective names, addresses and particulars of debt or claim and any title to priority U/s 529A/530 of the Companies Act, 1956 in Form No.66 or 67 (as the case may be). Any creditor who fails to submit his affidavit or proof within the time limited as aforesaid will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution of dividend before his debt is proved, or, as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.

Any creditor who has sent in his proof, if so required by notice in writing from the Official Liquidator, shall either in person or by his Advocate, attend the investigation of such debt or claim at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice and shall produce such further evidence of his debt or claim as may be required.

Sd/- (M JAYAKUMAR)
OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR
HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA,
"Corporate Bhavan", 12th Floor, Raheja Towers,
26-27, M.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 001
TEL. NO: 080 25598672 / 25598673

Dated : 25.07.2019
Place : Bengaluru

Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
(A group company of IndianOil)
Regd. Office: 536, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai 600 018.
Website: www.cpcl.co.in; Email id: shankarp@cpcl.co.in/ sld@cpcl.co.in,
Tel: 044-24349833 / 24346807
CIN: L40101TN1965GOI005389

NOTICE OF 53rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that 53rd Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Company will be held at **3.00 pm on Wednesday, the 21st August 2019** at Kamaraj Arangam, 498, Anna Salai, Chennai- 600006.

The Notice setting out the business to be transacted at the meeting together with the Abridged Annual Report of the company for the financial year 2018-19 has been dispatched to all members at their registered address. Abridged and Full Annual Report is also available on our website www.cpcl.co.in.

The notice of AGM and the Full Annual Report has also been sent electronically to those members who have registered their email address. Any such member who wishes to have a physical copy of the Full Annual Report may write to the Company and the same would be provided free of cost. Any member, who has not received the Annual Report or any investor who has become a member of the Company after the dispatch of Annual Report, may send a request to the Company Secretary at the registered office address for a copy of the Annual Report and can also attend the AGM in person or appoint a proxy.

Proxy: A member entitled to attend and vote at the AGM is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on behalf of member. Such a proxy need not be a member of the company. Proxies, in order to be valid and effective, must be delivered at the registered office of the company duly filled, stamped & signed not later than 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting.

Book closure for the purpose of AGM: Notice is also hereby given that pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act 2013, Rule 10 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules 2014 and Regulation 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the company will remain closed from **Wednesday, the 14th August 2019 to Wednesday, the 21st August 2019 (both days inclusive)** for the purpose of 53rd Annual General Meeting of the company.

E-Voting: Pursuant to Regulation 44 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015 and Section 108 of the Companies Act 2013, read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules 2014 as amended, the company is offering e-voting facility to its members. The company has engaged the services of Karvy Fintech Pvt. Ltd. ("Karvy") to provide e-voting facility to the members. The details are as under:

- The company has fixed **Tuesday, the 13th August 2019** as the 'Cut Off' date to ascertain the eligibility of members for e-voting.
- The members, whose names appear in the Register of the Members / list of Beneficial Owners as on the cut-off date i.e. 13th August 2019 are entitled to avail facility of remote e-voting as well as voting in the AGM. Any person, who acquires shares and becomes member of the company after dispatch of the notice and holds shares as on the cut-off date, may obtain the User ID and password by sending a request at mohsin.mohd@karvy.com/evoting@karvy.com by mentioning Folio no. / DP ID and Client ID no. If the member is already registered with Karvy for e-voting then existing User ID and password can be used for casting the vote.
- The e-voting would commence on **Saturday, the 17th August 2019 (9.30 a.m.) and end on Tuesday, the 20th August 2019 (5.00 p.m.)**, during which period the members may cast their vote electronically. Thereafter, the e-voting module shall be disabled by Karvy.
- Voting through ballot paper shall also be made available to those members who attend the AGM and have not already cast their vote by e-voting.
- Members who cast their votes electronically shall not be allowed to vote again at the AGM. However, in case a member, who has cast his vote electronically as well as through ballot paper, the vote cast through ballot paper will be ignored.

Scrutiniser: The Company has appointed M/s.LB & Co., Company Secretaries, as Scrutinizer to scrutinize the e-voting and poll process in a fair and transparent manner.

Results: The Results on resolutions shall be declared within 48 hours of the conclusion of the AGM of the Company. The results declared along with the scrutinizer's report shall be placed on the company's website (www.cpcl.co.in) and on the website of Karvy (https://evoting.karvy.com) for information of the members and would also be communicated to the Stock Exchanges.

SEBI notification related to physical share transfer - SEBI vide circular dated 05.12.2018 has directed that no transfer of shares in physical form would be permitted w.e.f 01.04.2019. Accordingly members holding shares in physical form are requested to dematerialize their share certificates.

Contact Details: In case of any queries / grievances relating to e-voting, members may contact at the following address: Shri Mohd Mohsin Uddin, Senior Manager, Karvy Fintech Pvt. Ltd., Unit: Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Karvy Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli Financial District, Hyderabad - 500 032.Tel. Nos.: (040) 67161562; Fax No.: (040) 23001153; E-mail Address : mohsin.mohd@karvy.com/evoting@karvy.com

This public notice is also available on the Company's website (www.cpcl.co.in).

Place: Chennai
Date : 24.07.2019

For Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited
(P. SHANKAR)
Company Secretary



Forecast for Friday: Heavy to extremely heavy falls likely over Rajasthan, Goa, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, central Maharashtra, Odisha, coastal Karnataka, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Assam, Meghalaya, Gujarat and Jharkhand

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.8	35.0	26.0	Kozhikode	17.6	30.0	24.0
Ahmedabad	36.0	27.0	23.0	Kurnool	35.0	26.0	23.0
Aizawl	28.0	22.0	20.0	Lucknow	36.6	29.0	25.0
Allahabad	21.4	30.0	25.0	Madurai	39.0	27.0	23.0
Bengaluru	29.0	21.0	21.0	Mangaluru	0.9	27.0	23.0
Bhopal	36.0	27.0	25.0	Mumbai	38.3	29.0	25.0
Bhubaneswar	22.2	29.0	25.0	Mysuru	29.0	20.0	20.0
Chandigarh	1.0	30.0	27.0	New Delhi	21.6	31.0	25.0
Chennai	23.2	34.0	25.0	Patna	4.8	32.0	27.0
Coimbatore	32.0	23.0	23.0	Port Blair	14.7	32.0	25.0
Dehradun	11.4	28.0	24.0	Puducherry	7.8	35.0	25.0
Gangtok	31.2	22.0	18.0	Pune	2.5	27.0	23.0
Goa	30.0	24.0	24.0	Raipur	33.0	25.0	23.0
Guwahati	33.0	27.0	27.0	Ranchi	12.6	29.0	23.0
Hubballi	27.0	22.0	22.0	Shillong	3.0	26.0	17.0
Hyderabad	33.0	25.0	25.0	Shimla	2.6	22.0	18.0
Imphal	1.8	31.0	23.0	Srinagar	36.7	28.0	21.0
Jaipur	70.5	28.0	22.0	Thiruvananthapuram	32.0	24.0	24.0
Kochi	3.8	30.0	24.0	Tiruchi	39.0	28.0	28.0
Kohima	27.0	18.0	18.0	Vijayawada	34.0	27.0	27.0
Kolkata	34.0	27.0	27.0	Visakhapatnam	31.0	28.0	28.0

Pollutants in the air you are breathing Yesterday

CITIES	SO ₂	NO ₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	67	172	44	86	87	■
Bengaluru	4	23	18	72	72	■
Chennai	15	27	66	72	72	■
Delhi	21	31	63	33	174	■
Hyderabad	34	19	19	33	69	■
Kolkata	11	65	22	94	91	■
Lucknow	3	25	50	21	21	■
Mumbai	15	8	23	40	70	■
Pune	69	8	67	22	22	■
Visakhapatnam	8	45	68	50	80	■

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: 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.

NO₂: 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.

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Satna, Madhya Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 306 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Eloor, Kerala recorded a healthy AQI score of 29.

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The MedTech & Geriatric Healthcare Technology Business Incubator at CPDM (TBI@CPDM), IISC calls for Applications from interested entities for Incubation in the area of MedTech and Geriatric Healthcare.
A rigorous incubation opportunity for those who have a startup company, a novel idea, design, prototype or product in the area of MedTech & Geriatric Healthcare and are seeking support through our incubation offering for early commercialisation of the same. TBI@CPDM will support in refining the unmet need, development of proof of concept and plan for upscaling and commercialization. The incubation support includes:
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● Training and consultation sessions for Entrepreneurship development, Regulatory and Compliance, Technical support, Quality support etc
● Access to professional network groups, investor network etc. for user group connect, identifying financial support opportunities and growth opportunities
Period: 12 Months (extendable up to two years)
Charges: Office Space Free; Other facilities may be availed at nominal charges
Timelines:
Last Date of Application : 16th August 2019
Free Workshop for Applicants : 17th August 2019
Short List Announcement : 24th August 2019
Interviews : Mid- Sept. 2019
Incubation Orientation : Sept. 2019
Incubates will be required to register in State of Karnataka or register with Startup Karnataka.
More details and application please visit <https://incubator.cpdm.iisc.ac.in>



The terrorist tag

India needs tough laws to combat terror, but the proposed amendments could be misused

The idea of designating an individual as a terrorist, as the latest amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act propose to do, may appear innocuous. However, designating an individual as a terrorist raises serious constitutional questions and has the potential for misuse. The practice of designating individuals under anti-terrorism laws, prevalent in several countries, is seen as being necessary because banned groups tend to change their names and continue to operate. However, there is no set procedure for designating an individual a terrorist. Parliament must consider whether an individual can be called a 'terrorist' prior to conviction in a court of law. The absence of a judicial determination may render the provision vulnerable to invalidation. There ought to be a distinction between an individual and an organisation, as the former enjoys the right to life and liberty. The likely adverse consequences of a terrorist tag may be worse for individuals than for organisations. Further, individuals may be subjected to arrest and detention; even after obtaining bail from the courts, they may have their travel and movements restricted, besides carrying the taint. This makes it vital that individuals have a faster means of redress than groups. Unfortunately, there is no change in the process of getting an entity removed from the list. Just as any organisation getting the tag, individuals, too, will have to apply to the Centre to get their names removed.

A wrongful designation will cause irreparable damage to a person's reputation, career and livelihood. Union Home Minister Amit Shah's warning that his government would not spare terrorists or their sympathisers, and his reference to 'urban Maoists', are portentous about the possibility of misuse. It has been argued by some members in Parliament that the Bill contains anti-federal features. The provision to empower the head of the National Investigation Agency to approve the forfeiture of property of those involved in terrorism cases obviously overrides a function of the State government. At present, the approval has to be given by the State police head. Also, there will be a section allowing NIA Inspectors to investigate terrorism cases, as against a Deputy Superintendent of Police or an Assistant Commissioner. This significantly enhances the scope for misuse. The 2004 amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, made it a comprehensive anti-terror law that provided for punishing acts of terrorism, as well as for designating groups as 'terrorist organisations'. Parliament further amended it in 2008 and 2013 to strengthen the legal framework to combat terror. While none will question the need for stringent laws that show 'zero tolerance' towards terrorism, the government should be mindful of its obligations to preserve fundamental rights while enacting legislation on the subject.

Boris days

Britain's new PM should abjure his dangerous brinkmanship in seeing Brexit through

Boris Johnson, Britain's new Prime Minister, has achieved one of his life's ambitions. His defiant speech at Downing Street on Wednesday, pledging a "no ifs, no buts" exit from the European Union before October 31, is clear indication that he will pursue a hard Brexit. "Doubters, doomsters and gloomsters," would be defeated, he declared in characteristic style. Several ministers from the previous government, who have either resigned or have been dropped, are all presumably among them. Conversely, the induction of several eurosceptics, most notably Jacob Rees-Mogg from the European Research Group, leaves no doubt that the Johnson team is nothing if not a Brexit cabinet. The other is Dominic Raab who, during the Conservative leadership race, advocated proroguing Parliament to ensure MPs did not stop a no-deal exit. Mr. Johnson's rhetoric is reminiscent of Theresa May's uncompromising early stance that no deal was better than a bad deal. While she was forced to back down from several unrealistic positions, Mr. Johnson's place in Downing Street is far more precarious than her's. His majority in the House of Commons could drop to just two seats if, as the polls forecast, the Tories lose the by-election in August. This arithmetic is crucial in what is a sharply polarised Parliament now. Party hardliners have threatened to vote out the government if the exit deadline was breached for a third time. With Brussels ruling out a renegotiation of the withdrawal agreement, the chances of leaving on October 31 seem remote.

Mr. Johnson has for too long painted the other 27 nations in the bloc as hostile adversaries that have undermined Britain's sovereignty. He has paid scant regard to mounting evidence, most recently from the International Monetary Fund, of the crippling economic impact of Britain leaving the union. Mr. Johnson has even dismissed the risks to the integrity of the Good Friday agreement between the U.K. and Ireland, in the absence of the prevailing soft borders connecting Dublin and Belfast. But as Prime Minister he can ill-afford to indulge the populist instincts of the narrow nationalists among the Conservatives. Instead, he must reckon with the real and grave consequences for the nation and even his party, of abruptly walking out on London's closest partners. The contradictions of that approach were laid bare this week in London's bid to coordinate with Brussels to protect European commercial shipping in West Asia. Clearly, London's interests lie in redoubling efforts to resurrect the multilateral order that U.S. President Donald Trump seems so keen to undo. The special relationship between the principal trans-Atlantic partners is nothing if it did not encompass a more universal vision. Mr. Johnson must abjure his dangerous brinkmanship. That would be in Britain's interest.

In white nation talk, the voice of the Squad

How the Democratic Party positions itself in the poll run-up cuts to the very heart of its identity and America's future



SANKARAN KRISHNA

For the first time in over 100 years, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a non-binding resolution on July 16 condemning the President of the United States, Donald Trump. Just days earlier he had tweeted that if four Democratic Congresswomen did not like the state of affairs in the U.S., they could "go back" to the countries they came from, countries whose governments were "a complete and total catastrophe, the worst, most corrupt and inept anywhere in the world." He went on to tweet, "Why don't they go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from where they came. Then come back and show us how it is done."

Vote and politics

All four Congresswomen [they have given themselves the nickname, the "Squad"] are persons of colour; three of them (Rashida Tlaib, D-Michigan; Ayanna Pressley, D-Massachusetts; Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York) were born in the U.S., and the fourth (Ihan Omar, D-Minnesota) was a refugee from Somalia and a naturalised U.S. citizen. The resolution "strongly condemns President Donald Trump's racist comments that have legitimized and increased fear and hatred of new Americans and people of color by saying that our fellow Americans who are immigrants ... should 'go back' to other countries, by referring to immigrants and asylum seekers as 'invaders,' and by saying that Members of Congress who

are immigrants ... do not belong in Congress or in the United States of America."

The vote condemning the President (240 Democrats for, 187 Republicans against) was overwhelmingly along party lines. The Democrats were a united bloc and only four Republicans (one black Congressman from Texas, two others possibly either retiring or not seeking re-election, and the fourth a naturalised citizen of Polish origin) and the sole independent in the House (a Michigan Congressman forced out of the Grand Old Party, or GOP, for his opposition to Mr. Trump) joined them.

Leader, party and vision

In publicly telling these Congresswomen to "go back", Mr. Trump was explicitly saying the U.S. was a white nation in which coloured people and racial minorities irrespective of their citizenship status, place of birth, or length of residence, did not belong. And in refusing to join the Democrats in supporting the resolution, the GOP was clearly on board with his vision of a white nation. In the 1990s, faced with the demographic reality that the U.S. would in course of time become a white-minority nation, sections of the GOP had sought to broaden its appeal to Hispanics, Asian-Americans, middle-class Blacks, and other minorities. With the rise of a nativist and white supremacist fringe (epitomised by the Tea Party) the GOP has decided it can dispense with minorities.

Between gerrymandering constituencies, preventing minorities from voting through myriad restrictions, and legalising all this through increasing control over both the judiciary and various state legislatures, the GOP has anchored itself firmly in a white nation. Mr. Trump is both a symptom of this process and its great accel-



AFP

erator. Far from being an aberration or outlier in the U.S. political landscape, he epitomises a considerable section of it only too well. Mr. Trump was reportedly delighted at the display of Democratic unity on the resolution condemning him for his comments on the Congresswomen. It played fully into his hands for next year's Presidential elections wherein he would position himself as the candidate of a white nation under threat from a rising tide of minorities, immigrants, and various other un-American 'outsiders' living off government handouts and crime. The sight of House majority leader, Nancy Pelosi, standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the four coloured Congresswomen was precisely the sort of photo-opportunity that was dynamite as far as Mr. Trump was concerned. (The weeks prior to this show of unity had been marked by bitter differences between the centrist Pelosi and the more progressive Congresswomen on issues such as socialised health care, immigration reform, border control, and Israel-Palestine, to mention the most prominent).

Poll-centric theme

It is obvious that Mr. Trump intends to make the upcoming Presidential elections a contest about race, and paint the Democratic party as beholden to unpatriotic,

radical socialist, non-white minorities.

How the Democratic party positions itself vis-à-vis Mr. Trump's idea of a white nation cuts to the very heart of its own identity and the nation's future. There is the temptation to seek an increasingly evanescent middle ground through the candidacy of someone such as Joe Biden. With a track record that includes opposition to busing early in his career; shepherding draconian anti-minority laws through Congress (by securing the bipartisan support of southern racists, no less) on the pretext of getting "tough on crime"; serving as Vice President to Barack Obama as the latter consolidated an unprecedented carceral state (with 5% of the world's population, the U.S. is home to around 25% of the world's prison population); and as a white male, Mr. Biden might cut into Mr. Trump's core constituency of angry whites threatened by a loss of privilege. Yet, for those same reasons he is unlikely to make any headway with the young, with minorities, and those who have stayed away from the polls in the post-Obama period. There is the added danger that the "Trump Democrats" in the rust-belt may prefer unity that was dynamite of their man to the triangulated message of a Biden.

With their more progressive and articulate economic agenda, the likes of Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders or Kamala Harris are likely to offer a much better prospect for the Democrats. If a hide-bound party leadership does not stymie their chances (as it did with Mr. Sanders for the nomination the last time around), a ticket comprising two such leaders might offer the best bet. Yet, the obstacles are likely formidable. Precisely because of their accomplishments, intellect and articulateness, Ms.

Warren and Ms. Harris are likely to evoke the sort of misogyny that clearly contributed to Hillary Clinton's defeat, while Mr. Sanders' avowal of social democracy often bafflingly alienates many underclass people who need it most. That his socialism is seen as a problem while Mr. Trump's practically treasonous and utterly pusillanimous relations with Russia's President Vladimir Putin does not deflect his followers simply beggars belief.

A thread of hatred

More importantly, as with a host of other countries (India, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the Philippines, Brazil – to mention only a few) right-wing strongmen and their supporters riding on a cocktail of racist, casteist, majoritarian and misogynistic ideologies seem to be winning everywhere. A visceral politics of hatred for racial minorities and other putative outsiders, energised by social media resonance machines we still poorly understand, has returned incumbent regimes that would have been swept out of power in times past. It may not matter what the Democrats do and Mr. Trump may yet be re-elected. But in confronting his racism and misogyny, in making a forceful case for progressive taxation, for reforming a dysfunctional health-care system, in bringing the U.S. back into conformity with international law on asylum seekers, and in derailing the endless war machine that it has become, whoever wins the Democratic nomination would be well advised to listen to the four minority Congresswomen: they represent the future, however cloudy that may seem at this moment in time. And it would be the right thing to do.

Sankaran Krishna teaches politics at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in Honolulu, U.S.

The minutiae of Trump's mediation claim

Governments pursue their national interests single-mindedly without allowing sentiment to influence their judgment



CHINMAYA R. GHAREKHAN

U.S. President Donald Trump's claim on Monday, during a press conference with Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan in Washington, that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had told him at the G-20 summit in Japan in June, in so many words, that he wanted the American President's help, either through mediation or arbitration, in resolving the Kashmir dispute is a claim that has understandably raised hackles in India and jubilation in Pakistan. The Indian External Affairs Minister has denied that Mr. Modi had made any such request to Mr. Trump.

The Opposition is not satisfied with the Minister's denial and wants Mr. Modi personally to clarify the situation, which he seems reluctant to do; it is very difficult for the Prime Minister to call Mr. Trump a liar because that in effect is what he would be saying if he contested the latter's claim.

It hardly needs stating that Mr. Modi did not make any such request to Mr. Trump. The President's love for truthfulness in his own country is suspect. It is entirely possible that he thought of making such a statement, which he must have known was not true, to

please his guest; perhaps he was confident that he would be able to placate the Indian leader on some subsequent occasion, by for example, extending the deadline for reducing import of Iranian oil to zero.

The bottom line

The main lesson for us in India in all this is not that we cannot trust the American President – we should not trust any foreign leader in such matters. It is an object lesson how other governments pursue their national interests single-mindedly without allowing sentiment to influence their judgment. At this point in time, the U.S. is desperate for Pakistan's help in 'extricating' the American military from Afghanistan.

The use of the word 'extricate' was most suggestive; it indicates that the U.S. feels itself in a quagmire in that unfortunate country and is eager to pull out with some face-saving formula. Mr. Trump is thinking only of his country's interest; he is not bothered about India's reaction. If India feels offended, so be it. He knows that Pakistan is the only country with clout with the Taliban that can help him in reaching this objective. If Pakistan does manage to persuade the Taliban to engage in direct talks with the Afghan government, it can expect substantial dividends from Mr. Trump – beyond the \$1.3 billion that was mentioned at the presser.

Imran Khan too has played his cards well. He did not allow him-



AFP

self to act hurt or annoyed at Mr. Trump's pungent criticism of Pakistan's 'lying and cheating' just days before his visit. On the other hand, he took some steps, including lifting the ban on overflights through Pakistan's airspace to create an impression of reasonableness in time for his Washington visit.

We Indians do not take kindly to such strong words from foreign leaders. We feel hurt and show our hurt publicly. In the old days, what Mr. Trump said would have led to demonstrations in front of the American embassy. We also get carried away by flattery. As they say, even god loves flattery, but governments cannot afford to take praise at face value. Thus, our ego gets inflated when we are told that India has a major role to play in the Indo-Pacific.

The concept of the Indo-Pacific is nothing but containment of China by another name. The Japanese Prime Minister takes credit for coining the phrase, suggesting that the name implies the importance of India in this region. He has his own problems with China, and Japan is a close ally of America. The two no doubt work closely with

each other and coordinate their actions in this area. But India has its own interests and concerns about China which are not shared by others. All 'strategic' experts are of one view, namely, in the event of a major crisis with China, we shall have to depend solely on ourselves; no other country will come to our help in any meaningful way. This calls for a certain amount of distancing ourselves from the game that other powers are playing. Surely, the experts in the government are conscious of these factors, especially now that we have a seasoned diplomat at the helm of Foreign Office.

The 'K' word

To come back to Kashmir, we are justified in our position that there can be no talks with Pakistan unless and until Islamabad effectively stops cross-border terrorism emanating from its territory. The question is: does either country really want to resolve the issue? It is not enough for either country to say that it wants to solve the problem.

When Pakistan says this, it means withdrawal of all Indian forces from the whole of Jammu and Kashmir, followed by a referendum. When India says it wants to resolve the problem, it means the vacation by Pakistan of its presence from the whole of Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan's interpretation of the UN resolution is patently wrong; the resolution calls for withdrawal of all forces under Pakistan's control first. But it has managed to create a narrative of

self-determination for the Kashmiri people which is largely swallowed by other countries.

It makes sense for the Pakistan military not being keen on resolving the conflict, because it will lose its relevance and pre-eminent position in society once the Kashmir problem is out of the way. Surely that is not the case with the Indian military. India's military is highly disciplined and apolitical and will follow whatever the civilian government decides.

If each country wants to solve the problem only on its terms, it will never be solved. In any negotiation, both sides have to compromise, which means neither side will get all it demands. The only realistic and practical way out is the conversion of the Line of Control into an international boundary, with suitable, minor adjustments.

We did make this offer during the Bhutto-Swaran Singh talks in 1962-63. We even offered an extra 1,500 sq.km to Pakistan, but the latter wanted the whole State, except for the district of Kathua. It is obvious that neither country has the political courage or the mandate to officially put forward this proposal now or ever. Thus, the issue will not be solved bilaterally and will remain with us for a long, long time. And some might say 'so be it'.

Chinmaya R. Gharekhan, a former Indian Ambassador to the United Nations, was Special Envoy for West Asia in the Manmohan Singh government

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.

Panel scrutiny

The demand by Opposition leaders that the government must refer seven key Bills, which include the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 2019, the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019, and the DNA Technology (Use and Application) Regulation Bill 2019, for further scrutiny by a Select Committee of Parliament is reasonable and justified (Page 1, July 25). The government should not bulldoze things merely because it has a political majority. The essence of democracy is debate and discussion. The system of select committees is fully utilised in the Westminster system of parliamentary democracies. Since the

committee comprises both ruling and Opposition members there can be discussions at leisure. The services of experts can also be used. In the past, several useful suggestions have been offered by Opposition members, incorporated before the Bill was tabled. This way, precious time in Parliament can be saved.

S.V. VENKATKRISHNAN,
Bengaluru

Population curbs

India is a democracy and cannot afford to pursue an authoritarian policy on population control (Editorial page, "Having the last word on 'population control'", July 25). However, I feel India's demographic dividend can be utilised only if the population growth does not outpace

the growth of infrastructure. On the contrary, such growth will only add to the burden as far as public health and education are concerned and result in greater unemployment. Economic growth will be unequal too.

DIVYA SHARMA,
Dehradun, Uttarakhand

■ A prominent feature of population control in India is that it has been achieved without coercive measures, examples of these measures being the Emergency phase or the rigorous norm of one-child per couple in China in the past. Voluntary efforts have been engendered by the spread of education as shown by the best total fertility rate (TFR) results in Kerala. Besides, greater awakening about the

importance of small family among the poor seems to be growing. However, we do need to bring down the total fertility rate (TFR) even further, from 2.2. For this, education, health care and infrastructure have to be in tandem. There needs to be better awareness, quality education and more incentives for adhering to a small family.

Y.G. CHOURSEY,
Pune

■ Pockets of Indians across all religious denominations and economic brackets have been deriving direct and palpable benefits by adopting 'small family norms', as seen in terms of overall prosperity, quality of life and better rankings in the social indices of these nuclear units. But population

as an asset is not a theory that India can afford to buy. It may not be an exaggeration that all the progress achieved in the 70 years of Independence has been overshadowed by an unbridled population explosion. We do not need a rocket scientist to tell us that excess population is India's bane. Let us not fight shy of the truth.

SIVAMANI VASUDEVAN,
Chennai

Other sources of power

Amidst the acute water crisis India is facing in many parts,

it is inevitable that all of us should be vigilant about the judicious use of water (OpEd, "Making the water-guzzling thermal plants accountable", July 24). Thermal power has its place but the focus must be towards non-conventional sources of energy production. Tidal energy is one such source that has not been tapped in full. Solar energy too needs huge funding in technological research.

DANISH UMAR,
New Delhi

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CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS:

In the Sports page story titled "Melissa Tapper – making the most of her disadvantage" (July 22, 2019) both the photo caption and the text erroneously said: "Born with brachial plexus – which means the nerves between her right neck and shoulder were torn apart..." This should be corrected to read brachial plexus injury.

The Reader's Editor's office can be contacted by Telephone: +91-44-28418297/28576300; E-mail: readerseditor@thehindu.co.in

How to make the Surrogacy Bill more inclusive?

PARLEY

The government need not restrict the surrogacy option to married couples only

The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha earlier this month with the intent of facilitating altruistic surrogacy in the country. The Bill stipulates that a surrogate mother has to be a 'close relative' of the intending couple. The government claims that regulating surrogacy will put an end to rampant commercialisation of the practice. But in the process, it has left a lot of women from underprivileged backgrounds who lend their wombs worse off. In a conversation moderated by Romya Kannan, gynaecologist Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar (KGD) and author Gita Aravamudan (GA) look at the Bill's shortcomings.



Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar is a gynaecologist and Trinamool Congress MP

How will the Bill impact surrogacy in the country? Will it increase or decrease the chances for people to choose from the many reproduction options?

KGD: I would like to mention that I have spoken to Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan. I have also, in fact, written to him that it looks like we are putting the cart before the horse. For surrogacy to happen, we need embryos, and embryos are cultured in various In-Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) laboratories. So, before speaking of surrogacy, we should have brought in the Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Bill, which has been lying in cold storage for years now. We should have formulated rules and regulations for ART because there is a mention of 'donor eggs' in the Surrogacy Bill; and it is the donor eggs that are used for the IVF procedures. Second, the Bill specifies that the intending couples should be married Indian couples. There is no mention of Non-Resident Indians working or studying abroad who may want to come back home to have a baby. As far as the other provisions go, they are mostly okay, but we need to be able to debate the Bill at length.

Are there any problems with the Bill?

GA: There are a lot of problems. First, as Dr. Kakoli said, we are put-



Gita Aravamudan is a journalist with a special interest in gender issues



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ting the cart before the horse because there is a whole process involved, and surrogacy is only the ultimate end of it. There are many other points in the Bill that are very problematic. First, it leaves out a lot of people in case they want to have a baby through IVF, including unmarried couples who want to have a baby through surrogacy, gay couples and single men and women.

Also, the Bill allows only altruistic surrogacy; this provision is very problematic as far as I'm concerned. I spent two years with surrogate mothers, clinics and intending couples; what I found is that the people who are lending their wombs in order to bear children for somebody else – they are doing a job which is very creditable because they want to help somebody, but it doesn't mean that they should put their life on hold for it, or that they should not be paid for it.

Altruistic surrogacy has, in fact, failed in other countries, and has resulted in various other forms of assistance being given, though money may not be paid. If we are going to rely on relatives alone, many may not come forward. Surrogacy should be declared as a kind of profession – the person providing a womb must have a contract, must be paid properly and get insurance and proper medical checks.

Both of you sound quite agitated at the exclusion of certain groups of people.

KGD: I would like to mention here that our group, led by my husband, Dr. Sudarshan Ghosh Dastidar, was the first in the country, possibly globally too, to help a single-male parent have a baby through IVF surrogacy in 2005.

We have been working on IVF since 1986-87, so we have had so many experiences of dealing with people who seek surrogacy. Thus, I strongly speak in favour of transgenders and same-sex couples. I think they should have been included in this Bill.

But as far as the experience of surrogate mothers is concerned, some women had been exploited so much that the government was



A foreigner couple with their child, which was born through surrogacy, in Hyderabad in 2013. • P.V. SIVAKUMAR

forced to bring this proposal. The mothers were not being given good food or medical treatment and post-partum care was non-existent.

While in my own experience, I have always dealt with close relatives who came forward as surrogates, I am all for including other groups of people too in the Bill, if couples are unable to, or cannot bear children due to medical reasons. However, I'm strictly against 'fashion surrogacy', where women who feel their figure would be disturbed if they carry a baby opt for surrogacy.

GA: In the case of LGBTQI couples and single parents, when medical facilities are available, surrogacy should be allowed, because otherwise how will they have a baby? They will need the womb of a surrogate. Living in has become acceptable now, and live-in couples should also be allowed to have surrogate babies. All these archaic rules, I think, should be shed from the Bill.

Surrogate mothers have indeed been exploited, because there is no process to monitor the clinics or any law to ensure that the mothers are not defrauded by the clinics or the intending couples. The question is, will this Bill manage to ensure a fair and just process?

Before speaking of surrogacy, we should have brought in the Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill, which has been lying in cold storage for years

GA: So, I agree with Dr. Kakoli that there are certain places where surrogates were thoroughly exploited and it was the agents, the middlemen, who did that. However, instead of removing the means of livelihood from them, you should have a contract that all surrogates and the commissioning parents have to sign.

The contract should include details of the payment to be made, specify insurance coverage, and give an assurance that the mothers will be treated properly even in the post-partum stage. I have come across a couple of surrogate homes in Gujarat, in Bengaluru and Hyderabad, where the surrogates are actually treated very well.

Surrogates are actually not very attached to the babies they are carrying in their wombs, because it is a means for them to get a livelihood. If the government can only ensure that everything is done legally, we don't need this kind of a Bill that is so non-inclusive and superficial, in the sense it doesn't delve deep into the problems.

So, it seems logical that ART is the key to surrogacy. Is it possible that the ART Bill will be fast-tracked now?

KGD: We are trying to solve the problems by talking, and we are going to discuss this next week. Only at the end of the discussion will we be able to see how many amendments the government has accepted.

If you have a surrogate pregnancy, it should be preceded by an IVF. That is why IVF should be discussed first. IVF clinics have mushroomed all across the country, and malpractices are happening, for instance, in dichotomy or seed-splitting. There are also advertisements where celebrities falsely claim to provide a 100% success rate, whereas the internationally acceptable rate for women is about 35%, and it can never be more than 40%.

We do have, in certain age groups, a 70% success rate; but it might be just 30% for the next age group, so the cumulative rate comes to 35%-40%. But these IVF units are claiming a 100% success, so more patients are going to them. Costs are also going up. While an IVF procedure earlier used to cost less than ₹1 lakh, it now costs ₹4 lakh-₹5 lakh. So, the ART Bill should be tabled before the Surrogacy Bill.

GA: The ART Bill has been in cold storage. But the Surrogacy Bill, which deals with the end of the process, is being touted as very important. It is not. What is important is to take note of the fact that malpractices are taking place in these IVF laboratories, to the extent that somebody else's embryo can be put into you saying that it is yours. These fly-by-night operators have to be regulated. ART Bill has to be taken up again, and discussed first, after being tabled in Parliament, and passed. Otherwise, are going to have a very messy situation.

Have all points of view been represented in the Bill? Did a consultative process precede the introduction of the Surrogacy Bill?

KGD: When the ART Bill was drafted in the late 1990s, an expert committee was constituted by the Indian Council for Medical Research. It held public debates in all four

parts of the country and we involved the public. We put out advertisements in newspapers and asked the public to speak out. Only after this, did the ART Bill come about. Even for surrogacy, the public should have its say, because this is a democracy.

Couples with infertility problems, transgender people, single women, divorced women, and widows should be involved in the public debate and only then should the Bill be brought in.

GA: Exactly! I agree with you on that. The Constitution gives a woman the right to reproduce, or not to reproduce, as she wishes, and she has the right to privacy when she makes her reproductive choices. So, this has to be incorporated into the Bill – If I have a right to reproduce, that means I can hire a surrogate, I can go in for IVF whether I'm a transgender, a lesbian or a divorcee, I have this right as I wish.

A woman who has lent her womb also has these rights.

Any closing remarks?

GA: We need a law, but passing the Surrogacy Bill without looking at the whole process – I think this means we are heading for disaster.

The whole Bill has been drafted without taking into consideration the many physical and emotional factors at stake. Meanwhile, there are many people who don't know whether or not they can hire a surrogate. There are people who have already hired surrogates. What will happen to their baby? There is a lot of doubt in these areas now.

When the government banned surrogacy for foreigners, some foreigners who were here earlier had already put some embryos in deep freeze thinking that they would come back and have another baby through the viable embryos. Following the ban, they asked for the embryos to be returned. They had gone through a lot to produce a life form, but the government said there can be no export and import of embryos any more. So what will happen to those embryos? You cannot put everything in jeopardy at the last moment, and then say 'let me think about it and get back to you after a year'. This is a very complicated issue.

Making national legislatures more gender-balanced

Quotas can ensure more number of women MPs

ARCHANA DATTA
The Global Gender Gap report for 2018 said that the widest gender disparity is in the field of political empowerment. To cite the Inter-Parliamentary Union 2018 report, women legislators account for barely 24% of all MPs across the world.

However, the experience of the top-ranked countries in the IPU list does give an indication of how women's presence in political spaces took an upward turn in those nations.

Rwanda, a landlocked nation with a population of 11.2 million, tops the list, with 61.3% seats in the Lower House and 38.5% in the Upper House occupied by women. Since 2003, the country has implemented a legislated quota of 30% in all elected positions, which has enabled a steady inflow of women parliamentarians after successive elections. Its Constitution has also set a quota of 30% in all elected offices. However, some believe that the higher representation of women in the country cannot be attributed solely to quotas – women were thrust into the political limelight due to the huge vacuum that emerged in the aftermath of the 1994 genocide, which resulted in a large chunk of the country's male population getting killed.

Leader in the Caribbean

Cuba, the largest Caribbean island nation with a population of about 11.1 million, holds the second rank, with 53.2% seats of its 605-member single House being occupied by women representatives. The Communist dispensation in Cuba did not opt for legislated gender quotas, but does follow a practice akin to voluntary quota systems. However, Cuban women are less represented at the local level, where candidates are selected by the local communities that often overlook women candidates.

Sweden, the fifth-rank holder in the IPU, has a professedly feminist government and has maintained a women's parliamentary representation of at least 40% since 90s. The

349-member single House, Swedish Parliament, now has 161 women with 46.1% representation. Sweden does not have any constitutional clause or electoral law earmarking representation for women in elected bodies. The issue of compulsory gender quota didn't find favour in Sweden as it was believed that such a quota will create reverse discrimination and violate the principles of equal opportunities. Almost all political parties there have adopted measures to ensure a fair representation for women at all levels. In 1993, the Social Democratic Party adopted the 'zipper system', described as "a gender quota system whereby women and men are placed alternately on all party lists." This further boosted women's seat share.

Nepal's example

Closer home, Nepal occupies the 36th position in the IPU and its 275-member Lower House has 90 women, about 32.7% of the total strength. The Nepal Constitution stole a march over many others in the South Asia by earmarking 33% seats for women in all state institutions, including the legislature.

India, at 149 among the 192 countries in the IPU list, had barely 11.8% women's representation in the 16th Lok Sabha, which improved to 14.5% in the current Lower House. At least seven out of the 29 States have not sent a single woman MP. The 108th Constitutional Amendment Bill stipulating 33% quota for women in the Parliament and in State Assemblies remains in political cold storage. The system of voluntary party quotas, which has worked well in many countries, is not likely to cut much ice in India's deeply embedded patriarchal society. As has happened in the case of panchayats and municipalities, only a legally mandated quota could perhaps ensure a large-scale entry of Indian women into the higher echelons of political power.

The writer is a former Indian Information Service Officer and media educationist



NOTEBOOK

The dramatic ambulance ride that wasn't

How an idea for a 'perfect Mumbai feature story' failed to materialise

JAYANT SRIRAM
I try to plan my life around traffic but there was one instance when I was actually counting on it being busy. This was for what I imagined would be the 'perfect feature story'.

A couple of years ago, while working in Mumbai, I was commissioned to do a story about traffic jams. Classic big city reporting cliché yes, but this story had a twist. I would aim to do it while travelling in an ambulance as it navigated its way through traffic.

What I hoped to achieve was a kind of forensic analysis of how disorganised the Mumbai traffic might be, or if there was a sense of order behind the apparent chaos. I wanted to see if vehicles had the space to manoeuvre themselves out of the way when an ambulance needed to cut through and if there were systems in place, like traffic police stepping in, that could help ease the situa-

tion. I also wanted to observe what kind of skills an ambulance driver needed to display.

Armed with this 'perfect image' of what my story should be, I managed to get the help of a government hospital located in the centre of the city and began hanging out with the ambulance dispatch unit from early morning.

What followed, however, was a sobering contrast between the dramatic image in my mind and the reality. Between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m., the unit was dispatched about nine times to different places, and each time, I eagerly geared myself up to report.

It turned out however, that an ambulance is not dispatched only in times of emergency. There are numerous trips it takes just to cater to the basic logistics of running a hospital. For instance, a patient may have to be transferred from one building to another, or

equipment or food may have to be moved between facilities. Members of the ambulance unit were initially sceptical of my idea but, as the day wore on, were totally into the story.

Waiting for emergency

By mid afternoon, we were all in the amusing position of hopping for an emergency call. "It can happen any time," they said, though I suspect now that they just felt sorry for me as I sat quietly in a corner of the dispatch room, looking 'hopeful' every time the phone rang.

More trips between hospital facilities followed and, towards the evening, there was even a trip to transfer a patient to another hospital a few kilometres away, one that proved to be largely uneventful.

I didn't get my 'perfect feature story' but was left with this lingering sense of 'what if'. Traffic jams are so common in Mumbai that

anyone there can recall several instances when he may have heard an ambulance, sirens blaring, trying to cut through. I was so convinced that this would be a great story that I went back thrice to hang out with the same unit.

Members of the unit thought I was a bit crazy and assumed that I must have been particularly jobless to spend hours with them, just waiting. However, they never discouraged me though, predictably, I never got the perfect scenario of that dramatic ambulance ride through busy traffic I assumed was commonplace in Mumbai.

The experience gave me a vague guiding principle, especially when it comes to writing features or other long form stories – never have the perfect scene in mind beforehand and be prepared to write, with a clean slate, on what you see. And, of course, never count on the traffic.

The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 26, 1969

Apollo men in good shape

Back from the moon, but isolated from the world the Apollo 11 astronauts to-day [July 25] underwent their first physical examinations since their historic moon trip and showed no signs of having picked up germs on the lunar surface. Dr. William Carpentier of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin and Michael Collins were in "very good shape", despite a minor inflammation in one of Armstrong's ears. The doctor said the men of Apollo 11 were in a better condition than the previous Apollo astronauts. After 11 hours of examination of the spacemen, Dr. Carpentier said Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins showed less deterioration in the condition of heart and blood vessels than other Apollo men have had. He was not sure why it was so. But he was sure that the inflammation in one of Armstrong's ears was not important. He said there may have been a build-up of fluid in the ear due to the pressures of re-entry and that the fluid was draining. The men will be under painstaking medical scrutiny for 21 days. Dr. Carpentier, has also been quarantined with the astronauts in the trailer-like facility aboard this recovery ship.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 26, 1919

Birth of a Prince in Mysore.

A Mysore Government order says: The Government of His Highness the Maharaja desire that the auspicious event of the birth of a son to His Highness the Yuvaraja should be suitably celebrated and observed as a day of rejoicing throughout the State on the 29th, public holiday, in honour of the event, and flags should be flown and special thanksgiving services should be arranged to be held in principal temples and mosques. For this purpose a sum of Rs. 100 for the districts of Bangalore and Mysore including the two cities, and Rs. 50 each for other districts, will be placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioner through muzr department. All prisoners under sentence of one month and less will be released and all other prisoners will be given a month's remission for every year or fraction of a year of sentence they have yet to undergo provided their conduct in jail has been satisfactory. Prisoners sentenced to transportation for life who have only one year or less out of their sentences to serve in jail and whose conduct in jail has been uniformly good and civil prisoners who have been confined in jails and look up for a debt not exceeding Rs. 100 and who are through poverty unable to pay the same will also be released.

FROM PAGE ONE

Karnataka Speaker disqualifies 3 rebel MLAs

Though he acknowledged that the anti-defection law could not be used by parties to throttle internal democracy, Mr. Ramesh Kumar, however, cited the judgement of Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu in the case of former minister and JD(U) leader Sharad Yadav's disqualification from the Rajya Sabha, and the disqualification of 18 AIADMK legislators in Tamil Nadu after they approached the Governor.

"Whatever Karnataka rebel legislators told the Supreme Court, they could have told the same thing to the government," he said, referring to the charges that the rebels made against the government in their affidavits filed in apex court.

"The party's decision is collective. If individuals have a problem, they have to raise the issue within the party. It is a settled law and there is clarity (on this issue)," Mr Ramesh Kumar said.

However, when his attention was drawn to several of the disqualified AIADMK MLAs contesting in bye-elections to the State Assembly, he said that he was not aware of the circumstances in which this happened.

When asked if he would resign before taking a decision on resignations, he said: "Only after I complete my responsibility and not going against my conscience that I will decide on my future."

On his suggestion that voters should be heard before a decision is taken on the MLAs' resignations, he said: "I am setting a new precedent. Let the country and State discuss it."

"Let the lawmakers take a decision on public hearing before the resignations are accepted."

Mr Ramesh Kumar added that the opinion of the voters can be considered depending on the prevailing situation.

RS passes RTI Bill amid Opposition protests

Angry Opposition leaders then staged a walk out. In absence of the Opposition, Mr. Harivansh announced the result of the ballot. The Bill was then passed by a voice vote.

"What happened today is the ultimate insult to the dignity of the Rajya Sabha. The government has acted with blatant disregard of the traditions and through this undermined the very sanctity of the vote. They may have managed the number but it's a moral defeat," Congress MP and Deputy Leader of Opposition Anand Sharma told *The Hindu*.

He also accused the Union ministers of openly intimidating regional parties to vote for the government.

The debate on the bill started on a sore note with Deputy Chairman Harivansh refusing to put the opposition motion to refer the legislation to a Select Committee to vote. Instead he initiated the debate on the Bill.

Opposition members stormed into the Well of the House and raised slogans in protest. Amidst slogans, the

BJP members initiated the debate.

Though the motion to refer the Bill to a select committee was signed by Biju Janata Dal and Telangana Rashtra Samiti members, the two parties spoke in support of the Bill during the debate. When the Opposition sensed this change of stance, it decided to call off the protest and join the debate.

Congress MP Jairam Ramesh alleged that legislation is an effort to kill the RTI Act as an act of revenge by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who has been put in an embarrassing position by queries often, including the case seeking information in the educational qualifications of Mr Modi.

Speaking at the conclusion of the debate Minister for Department of Personnel and Training Jitender Singh said the amendment was brought without any motivation and was in good faith.

This, he said, will lead to institutionalisation of the CIC and strengthen the provision of RTI Act.

Subhash Garg seeks voluntary retirement

He was shunted out as Finance Secy.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A day after he was shunted out as Finance Secretary, senior IAS officer Subhash Chandra Garg on Thursday announced that he had sought voluntary retirement.

The government on Wednesday announced that Mr. Garg was being transferred from his position as Finance Secretary and Economic Affairs Secretary to take over as Power Secretary.

"Handed over charge of Economic Affairs today. Learnt so much in the Finance Ministry and Economic Affairs Dept. Will take charge in Power Ministry tomorrow. Have also applied for Voluntary Retirement with effect from 31st October..." Mr. Garg tweeted. Sources close to the development said Mr. Garg had become the "fall guy" after the government faced flak from RSS-affiliated groups over the proposed issue of overseas sovereign bonds. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced the scheme in the budget earlier this month. An official said Mr. Garg is likely to apply for a position with the World Bank where he has worked earlier.

"Not everyone works for a bungalow and car. He has



Subhash Chandra Garg

less than a year of service left so he decided it's better to leave gracefully than try his hand in a new sector. He had a sound knowledge of the finance sector," the official said. In her budget speech, Ms. Sitharaman had announced that the government would be implementing a plan to wherein it would issue bonds overseas in a bid to increase domestic credit that would be available to the private sector. The move evoked strong criticism from various quarters, including prominent economists and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Swadeshi Jagran Manch. "Makes me to believe that he has been awarded for his 'wonderful idea' of sovereign borrowing," Swadeshi Jagran Manch co-convenor Ashwani Mahajan tweeted, quoting a news story on Mr Garg's transfer to the Power Ministry.

LS passes Triple Talaq Bill after JD(U) walks out

Opposition leaders call for scrutiny of Bill

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Thursday passed the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019, which criminalises divorce by instant triple talaq by Muslim men and attracts a jail term of three years for the husband.

A majority of 303 members voted for the Bill following a fractious debate, which saw a walkout by a constituent of the ruling National Democratic Alliance, the Janata Dal (United). The legislation was earlier introduced for the first time in the 17th Lok Sabha.

Tabling the Bill, Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said: "Law is not about religion or garnering votes, it is for women's empowerment."

Questioning the rationale for a law that creates a "lack



Protest move: A television grab of Congress MPs leaving the Lok Sabha after the Triple Talaq Bill was passed by a voice vote on Thursday. ■PTI

of trust in society," JD(U) members staged a walkout. Two Opposition parties – the Congress and the Trinamool Congress – also walked out after the voice vote.

The Bill now needs to be approved by the Rajya Sabha.

Opposing the legislation, AIMIM MP Asaduddin Owaisi termed it as "anti-Islam".

"Introducing a law will not eradicate a social evil on wo-

men; in fact you have done more harm than good," Mr. Owaisi asserted.

Mr. Owaisi said a woman should have the right to leave the marriage. "Will the husband give maintenance from jail? Why should the woman remain married to the husband who is in imprisonment," he asked.

The Bill seeks to replace the Ordinance passed by the previous government in Fe-

bruary. Justifying the introduction of the legislation, Mr. Prasad said: "Twenty Muslim countries in the world, including Pakistan and Malaysia, have banned the triple talaq. Why can't a secular India do it?"

Opposition parties, on their part, demanded that the Bill be referred to a select parliamentary committee for discussion and debate.

Questioning the govern-

Session extended till Aug. 7

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi on Thursday informed the Lok Sabha that the government had decided to extend the first session of the 17th Lok Sabha till August 7.

The session, which began on June 17, was scheduled to end on July 26, but the government

decided to extend it by another 12 days.

As soon as the Lok Sabha passed the Triple Talaq Bill in the Lower House, Mr. Joshi got up to inform Speaker Om Birla about the government's decision.

The government's move is linked to ensure the passage of crucial pending Bills like the Triple Talaq and the Motor Amendment Act in the Rajya Sabha next week.

Azam Khan's 'objectionable' remark sparks furore in LS

Akhilesh Yadav defends party MP, amid calls for apology

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha on Thursday witnessed high drama when BJP MP Rama Devi, in the Chair, took objection to a comment made by Samajwadi Party leader Mohammad Azam Khan who was speaking during the debate on the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019.

The House erupted with demands for Azam Khan's apology even as Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav defended him with Ms. Devi stating: "This is not the way to speak to a woman. Expunge your remarks."

Attempting to clarify, Azam Khan said: "You are my sister. I have had a long political career, it is not pos-



Azam Khan

sible for me to say anything bad. If there is a single unparliamentary word in what I said, then I declare my resignation from Parliament."

Akhilesh Yadav, who stood up to defend Azam Khan, faced cries of "shame" from the ruling party. However, Mr. Yadav continued and said: "I don't

think Azam Khan ji meant any disrespect to the Chair (Rama Devi). They (BJP MPs) are *badtameez* (insolent)....these people are so ill-behaved and they point fingers at us?"

Speaker Om Birla, who resumed Chair, demanded an apology from Akhilesh Yadav.

Earlier, Mr. Khan speaking on the triple talaq bill and referring to the intervention of Minority Affairs Minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, read out a couplet "...tu idhar-udhar ki baat na kar (do not divert from the topic)..."

At this, Ms. Devi asked Mr. Khan and address the Chair. It was in response to this that the SP member made the "objectionable" remark.

Companies Bill introduced in LS amid opposition hue and cry

Parties say that the law is being enacted in a hurry

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday introduced a Bill to replace the Companies (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 in the Lok Sabha, a move strongly opposed by the Opposition, which claimed that the government had been trying to enact the law in haste.

There was no mention of the Bill in the list of business for the day, a point that was repeatedly made by Trinamool Congress member Saugata Roy and Congress leader in the House Adhir Chowdhary. Both urged Speaker Om Birla to reintroduce the bill on Friday.

"You are the supreme authority. You should not al-



Nirmala Sitharaman

low this to happen," Mr. Roy told Mr. Birla.

Ms Sitharaman said the Bill had been a necessity as the government had promulgated an ordinance on the subject twice - in November 2018 and February 2019.

"A Bill to replace the first ordinance was passed in the Lok Sabha in January 2019 but could not get through in

the Rajya Sabha. Hence the second ordinance was promulgated in February. This Bill has been brought to replace the second ordinance. We are not bringing the Bill in haste," she said. The government was following the best practice by adopting the legislative route to enact the law, she added.

Mr. Chowdhury said the government on several occasions had brought Bills to the House without prior notice. "If such trends continue, the dignity of the House will be hurt," he said. Mr. Birla said he had given a ruling that at least two days prior notice should be given to the MPs before the introduction of any bill from the next session and allowed Ms. Sitharaman to introduce the Bill.

100 pending cases? Set up a POCSSO court, says SC

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the setting up of special courts in districts that have over 100 cases of child abuse and sexual assault pending trial under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

A Bench, led by the Chief Justice of India, ordered that the courts be set up within 60 days. They will be established under a Central government scheme. This means that the Centre will fund everything from the payment of the presiding officers, staff and support persons to the court's child-friendly infrastructure.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta was asked to file a progress report in four weeks. The court said it would take up the matter again on September 26.

The order came on a *suo motu* PIL petition registered by the court after being concerned with the "alarming rise" in child abuse cases, and their long pendency. The CJ said there was no excuse for a long delay in justice for the victims. The court, though it deferred any orders for the establishment of exclusive forensic laboratories for POCSSO cases, ordered the directors of the existing ones to deal with POCSSO case evidence promptly to cause no delay in the probe or trial of such cases.

The court had registered the PIL plea under the title 'In-re Alarming Rise in The Number of Reported Child Rape Incidents'.

EC sets up teams to probe VVPAT mismatch in Lok Sabha election

Of 1.25 crore votes counted, 51 did not match: panel

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI

After reports of mismatches between the Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) slips and the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) count in eight cases during the Lok Sabha election, the Election Commission has set up teams to probe seven of the cases.

Of the 1.25 crore VVPAT slips counted, 51 or 0.0004% of the total saw a mismatch, according to facts shared by the EC on July 21.

The EC on Wednesday ordered the Chief Electoral Officers to analyse the mismatches. For one of the cases pertaining to Manipur, the enquiry team was not set up as an election petition has been filed, an EC official



The teams have been given 10 days to analyse the mismatches.

said on Thursday. Another EC source said the teams were given 10 days to analyse the mismatch.

The orders cited a May 21 letter by the EC that said thorough probes would be conducted in case of a mismatch between VVPAT slips and EVM count to ascertain the technological, procedural,

systemic and human errors or lapses in compliance. These could include the possibility of returning officers not clearing the mock votes and manual errors while tallying the VVPAT slips.

The mismatches mark the first time there were any, since VVPAT recounts were implemented in the 2017 As-

sembly elections. Under the electoral rules, if there is any discrepancy in the match, the VVPAT count prevails, as was the case with the mismatches during the Lok Sabha election.

According to the orders, the teams have been asked to probe the cases of one less VVPAT slip being found in the Sri Renukaji Assembly Constituency (AC) of the Shimla Parliamentary Constituency (PC) in Himachal Pradesh; one slip extra found in the Kshetrigao AC of the Inner Manipur PC in Manipur; one slip extra each found in the Begun AC of the Rajampet PC in Andhra Pradesh; and four less slips and 34 less slips respectively found in the Pynursla AC and Nongkrem AC of the Shillong PC in Meghalaya.

INS meets Goyal on 10% newsprint duty

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

A delegation of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS) on Thursday met Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal regarding the 10% customs duty imposed on newsprint in the Union Budget, an official said.

The delegation was led by Society president Jayant Mammen Mathew, executive editor of the *Malayala Manorama* Group.

Mahendra Mohan Gupta of *Dainik Jagran* and Mohit Jain of Bennett Coleman Ltd. were also present.

Earlier, the INS had sought a rollback of the 10% duty saying the move would put unbearable burden on the industry.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the 10% duty was to provide a level playing field to domestic manufacturers.

U.P. govt. issues orders to withdraw 22 more cases of Muzaffarnagar riots

Govt. counsel says they are not keen to go on appeal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GHAZIABAD

The Uttar Pradesh government has issued orders to withdraw 22 more cases linked to the 2013 Muzaffarnagar riots, taking the total number to 70. Additional district magistrate Kumar confirmed to *The Hindu* that he has received the orders. "Out of 90 cases in which report was sought, the government has decided to withdraw proceedings in 70 cases. These are cases re-

lated to arson and loot," he said.

District government counsel Dushyant Tyagi said he would move the application at relevant courts. "I can't say much as the cases are still sub-judice. It is for the court to accept or reject the government's position."

The riots which swept Muzaffarnagar in 2013 claimed at least 65 lives and thousands were displaced. Since 2017, Muzaffarnagar courts have delivered ver-

dicts in 41 cases and have acquitted the accused in 40 cases where Muslims were attacked.

Mr. Tyagi said the government was not keen to go on appeal in acquitted cases. The prime reason, he said, was witnesses in most cases turned hostile.

Welcoming the move, senior BJP leader from Muzaffarnagar Sohanver Singh said these were "fake cases" foisted by the then Samajwadi Party government.

IN BRIEF



India tells Pak. to grant full access to Jadhav
NEW DELHI
India on Thursday asked Pakistan to grant full consular access to Kulbhushan Jadhav at the earliest in "full compliance and conformity" with last week's verdict in his case by the International Court of Justice. External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said India is in touch with the Pakistani authorities on the issue. PTI

Bombay HC issues notices to Gadkari, ECI
NAGPUR
The Nagpur bench of the Bombay High Court on Thursday issued notices to Union Minister Nitin Gadkari and the Election Commission of India, seeking their stands on a bunch of petitions challenging the minister's election in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. Justice A. S. Chandurkar heard three petitions filed by Congress leader Nana Patole, Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi candidate Manohar Dabrase and one Nafis Khan, alleging electoral malpractices and defective EVMs used in the polls. PTI

30 Bangladeshi immigrants deported
GUWAHATI
Bangladesh on Thursday took back 30 people, including three women, who had entered India illegally over the past five years. Officials in Karimganj district of Assam deported them through the Kalibari Ghat checkpoint. Karimganj Superintendent of Police Manabendra Debroy said the immigrants had infiltrated since 2015 and were arrested in 10 districts. The camps have 60 more Bangladeshi nationals awaiting their return home.

'Move on from Trump controversy'

MEA says that there are plenty of things on the plate to take the India-U.S. relations forward

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Officials of India and the United States have adequately presented their respective points of view and therefore it is time to move beyond the phase created by President Donald Trump's comment on Kashmir, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday.

Speaking at the weekly press meeting, MEA spokesman Raveesh Kumar sought to put an end to the controversy that began after Mr. Trump, in a press conference with Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan, sought to mediate between India and Pakistan on Kashmir.

Important ties

"India's ties with the United States is extremely important. Our position on the matter has been explained in both houses of the Parliament by the External Affairs Minister. The State Department has issued a statement saying that their position remains the same and there has been no change," said Mr. Kumar recounting the clarifications that Indian and

Clearing the air

July 22

I was with him [PM Modi] two weeks ago and he asked if I would be a mediator or arbitrator on Kashmir

DONALD TRUMP, U.S. President



US officials made to contain the diplomatic incident.

The core of the controversy is in the fact that U.S. President had claimed that the request for American mediation had come from the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This version of the interaction on Kashmir goes

July 23

I assure the House [Lok Sabha] categorically that no such request has been made by the Prime Minister

S. JAISHANKAR, External Affairs Minister



against India's traditional policy of avoiding third-party interference on Kashmir issue.

In his speeches in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar said that PM Modi had not urged President Trump to intervene in the

July 25

It's time to move on from the issue; India's relationship with the U.S. remains multi-faceted and it stands on its own merit

RAVEESH KUMAR, MEA spokesperson



Kashmir issue and India continues to adhere to 'no third party intervention' on bilateral India-Pakistan issues.

The official insisted that there are "plenty of things on the table" for the India-U.S. ties and said, "It is an important relationship. We are very strong strategic

partners and we have deep convergence in a range of issues. We are now going for hi-tech defence tie-ups."

Mr. Trump's claim has put spotlight on Mr. Modi's upcoming visits to multilateral summits where he is likely to interact with President Trump. The Indian leader is scheduled to visit Biarritz in France in August to participate in the events associated with the G7 summit.

'Episodic issues'

Sources said that the controversy associated with President Trump's comments will not put a brake on the smooth flow of interaction between the leaders and officials of both sides. The spokesman referred to the relationship as "multifaceted" and "broad-based" that is not influenced by episodic issues.

Following Mr. Trump's comment on Kashmir, Larry Kudlow, Chief Economic Advisor in the Trump administration, said that the U.S. President "doesn't make things up", arguing that Mr. Trump was indeed asked to intervene by PM Modi.



Planning ahead: Admiral Karambir Singh, right and former Admiral Sunil Lamba at a seminar on Thursday. PTI

Will respond within our budget: Navy

'Long-term fiscal support needed'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A day after China released its defence white paper that laid emphasis on building a strong navy, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh on Thursday said "we have to watch and see how we can respond within our budget and constraints that we have."

"It is not just the Chinese white paper, it has been said in the past also. Lots of resources have been shifted from other arms to the PLA Navy obviously in line with their intention to become a global power. We have to watch that and see how we can respond within our budget and constraints that we have," Adm. Singh said in his first interaction with the media since he took over as Navy chief on May 31, on the sidelines of a seminar on 'Nation building through shipbuilding' on Thursday.

On the Navy's budgetary constraints, he said they re-

quired long-term fiscal support to build a Navy. "That is the only way we can plan," he noted.

On the proposed second Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC-II), which has been on the drawing board for some time but hasn't been approved by the government yet, Adm. Singh said he cannot give any timeline. "Our plan is to build a 65,000 tonne with possibly electric propulsion and a Catapult Assisted Take-Off But Arrested Recovery (CATOBAR) so that if we have three aircraft carriers, we can have two operational at any given time," he said, adding that the plan to build IAC-II was a part of the Maritime Capability Perspective Plan (MCP) 2012-27.

India's first Indigenous carrier Vikrant is under advanced stage of construction and expected to be delivered to the Navy by February 2021 and commissioned by early 2023 after aviation trials.

5G, data localisation to dominate BRICS meeting

Digital economy and U.S. opposition to telecom major Huawei likely to be prominent issues

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Calling for a united stand on issues surrounding 5G networks and data storage, diplomats from the five-nation grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa said the digital economy would dominate the meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers in Brasilia on Friday.

Making a special mention

of the U.S. opposition to Chinese telecom major Huawei, diplomats said the BRICS group of emerging economies would seek to "coordinate" positions on the contentious issue.

The BRICS countries may also search for common ground on data localisation, of particular interest to India, after the Reserve Bank passed guidelines ensuring

that financial data pertaining to Indians is stored only in Indian servers.

On Huawei

India is yet to clarify whether it will include Huawei in its trials of 5G equipment due to start in September. The issue had been raised on the sidelines of the Osaka G-20 summit in June, but no decision has been announced.

"Regarding the [policy] of the United States of America with regard to certain Chinese companies, we deem it an inappropriate way of dealing with competition," said Russian deputy Ambassador Roman Babushkin, indicating that Moscow believes the U.S. moves against Huawei are motivated by commercial considerations, not security risks, as

claimed. "We will be discussing 5G," said Brazil's deputy chief of mission in Delhi Brenna Herman, adding that countries "coordinate positions, but BRICS is not a mechanism against any particular country or grouping." India will be represented at the BRICS forum by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways V.K. Singh.

Civilians pen letter to Modi, Trump, Imran

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

A Kashmir-based civil society group on Thursday wrote an open letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistan and U.S. counterparts Imran Khan and Donald Trump, hailing "their urge to address the Kashmir

problem". The letter said. "The armies of the two nuclear-armed nations are standing face to face, and a trivial confrontation can ignite a nuclear war. Can the U.S. and, for that matter, the whole world afford such a risk?"

In the letter, members of

the Kashmir Centre for Social and Developmental Studies, comprising prominent academics, doctors and businessmen, expressed "gratitude to Mr. Modi, Mr. Khan and Mr. Trump for showing a keen interest in resolving the world's longest festering dispute through peaceful

means". The letter asked Mr. Trump to "initiate serious efforts in right earnest by addressing and reconciling, rather than managing temporarily or ignoring permanently, the differences the parties to the dispute have, in arriving at a fair and equitable solution".

'4 BJP MLAs ready to join Cong. in MP'

SIDHARTH YADAV
BHOPAL

A day after two BJP MLAs voted in favour of a Bill in the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha leaving the party in shock, Namdeo Das Tyagi, popularly known as 'Computer Baba', on Thursday claimed he had names of another four BJP MLAs who were ready to back the Congress.

"Four BJP MLAs are in touch with me and they want to support the Congress," said Mr. Tyagi, Chairman of the State government's Ma Narmada Ma Kshipra and Ma Mandakini River Trust. "All of them are politicians with heft. Whenever Chief Minister Kamal Nath gives me the go-ahead, I will present their names before you," he told *The Hindu*.

Before being appointed on March 10 as the Chairman of the body tasked with conserving the three rivers and checking illegal sand mining on their beds, Mr. Tyagi was given Minister of State status under the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government as a member of a panel to conserve Narmada river.

However, six months later, terming its government "irreligious", he accused Mr. Chouhan of not keeping his promise to conserve the river.

The MLAs didn't specify their demands to him. "They'll tell it themselves when the time comes," Mr. Tyagi said.



Department of Science and Technology
Government of India

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

MILLENNIUM ALLIANCE ROUND 6

INSPIRING INNOVATION. SHARING SOLUTIONS

The Millennium Alliance (MA) calls for applications from social entrepreneurs who have developed innovative solutions addressing development challenges that will benefit base of the pyramid populations across India and the world.

The Alliance is inviting applications under the following two stages:

STAGE 1: PILOTING OR TESTING AN INNOVATION

Stage 1 funding is intended to support product development and to test the real-world viability of an innovation. Projects may conduct a pilot or other validation of the innovation. They should depart from current practices, be cost effective and must have already established a proof-of-concept. Idea stage projects are not eligible for an MA award.

Stage 1 awardees will receive funding of up to Rs. 30 Lakh grant out of which Rs. 10 Lakh is strictly earmarked for capacity building. The funding will be provided as per program norms, project merit and project stage.

STAGE 2: SCALING OR REPLICATING AN INNOVATION WHICH HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY PILOTTED

Stage 2 funding supports large-scale implementation of solutions that have demonstrated success at a pilot or small-scale stage. Enterprises should be able to demonstrate the success of their innovation through credible and rigorous evidence. Stage 2 projects should amplify successful innovations from the current areas of intervention to a substantially broader scale. Stage 2 projects should leverage MA funding strategically to access funding/resources from other project partners, government programs and funders.

Stage 2 awardees will receive funding of up to Rs. 1 Crore grant out of which Rs. 10 Lakh is strictly earmarked for capacity building. The funding will be provided as per program norms, project merit and project stage.

FOCUS SECTORS



Basic Education
(specifically early grade reading)



Health
(specifically family planning & reproductive health and maternal & child health)



Agriculture



Clean Energy



Water & Sanitation

The Alliance provides innovators with services such as grants, accelerator services, networking opportunities, business support services, knowledge exchange and technical assistance and will facilitate access to equity, debt and other capital.

Know more and apply at: www.millenniumalliance.in

LAST DATE TO APPLY: AUGUST 30, 2019

For any queries, please contact
Email: info@millenniumalliance.in

Government of Kerala
TENDER

FOREST & WILD LIFE DEPARTMENT

Window No:pr019/e/159 • Tender No. FR-1696/2018(August 2019) • Divisional Forest Officer, Timber Sales Division, Kozhikode, Vanasree, Mathottam, Arakkinar (P.O)-673028, Phone No.0495-2414702 • Auction sale of timber at Challyam, Parappu, Kannoth, Kuppady and Bayal dumping depots coming under Kozhikode Forest Division on 14/8/19, 31/8/19, 7/8/19, 14/8/19, 7/8/19 & 20/8/19 and 20/8/19 & 31/8/19 respectively • PAC: 7 Crores •

Full details on tender Advertisement appeared above are exhibited before the office from which the tender originates. For Details on all Tenders above please visit www.kerala.gov.in/tenderindex.htm. Please put in search the Window No for getting the advertisement of your choice.

R.O.No.96/G1/2019/PRD

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
Roads and Buildings Department

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Project Management Consultancy Services (PMC) for AP Roads and Bridges Reconstruction Project (APRBRP) & AP Mandal Connectivity & Rural Connectivity Improvement Project (APMCRICP)
EOI No.CE(R&B)RR/2019-20 Dt:22.07.2019

The Andhra Pradesh Roads and Buildings Department invites Expression of Interest for Project Management Consultancy Services (PMC) for APRBRP & APMCRICP projects to be taken up with the loan assistance of New Development Bank (NDB).

The Consulting Services are primarily to assist the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) and Field Units of R&B Department in the State, in Project Management of the above two projects.

Expression of Interest shall be submitted/uploaded on the e-procurement portal website: www.eprocure.gov.in on or before 15.00 Hrs(IST) on 14.08.2019.

Full version of this Request for E.O.I is available at website <https://www.eprocure.gov.in>, www.aprdc.ap.gov.in and www.ndb.int from 30.07.2019, 15.00 Hrs(IST) onwards.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (R&B),
NABARD & LWE

DIPR 64PP/CL, Dt.25/07/2019

BHARATIYA RESERVE BANK NOTE
MUDRAN (P) LIMITED

(wholly owned subsidiary of Reserve Bank of India)
Note Mudran Nagar, Mysuru - 575 003

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BID (OPEN TENDER)

- CONSTRUCTION OF VEHICLE PARKING SHED BEHIND ADMINISTRATION BLOCK AT BRBNMPL, MYSURU - Tender No. 040/MYS/CIVIL/2019-20 - Estimated value: ₹ 40.00 Lakh - Last date of submission of this tender is 28.08.2019.**
- EXPRESS TENDER - SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF 2 * 60 KVA ONLINE UPS WITH BATTERY BANK AND RACK AT BRBNMPL, MYSURU - Tender No. 052/MYS/MMD/2019-20 - Estimated value: ₹ 45.00 Lakh - Last date of submission of this tender is 09.08.2019.**
- SUPPLY OF BLOCK BOARD PACKING BOXES AT BRBNMPL, MYSURU - Tender No. 053/MYS/MMD/2019-20 - Estimated value: ₹ 694.45 Lakh - Last date of submission of this tender is 28.08.2019.**
- OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF DG SETS AND AUXILIARY EQUIPMENTS AT BRBNMPL, MYSURU - Tender No. 054/MYS/MAINT(U)/2019-20-Estimated value: ₹ 44.10 Lakh - Last date of submission of this tender is 28.08.2019.**

For downloading tender documents and other details, kindly visit our website www.brbnmpl.co.in. Further extension or amendments, if any will be uploaded on our website only.

General Manager

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
STATE GOODS AND SERVICES TAX DEPARTMENT

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Work: Supply, installation and commissioning of intelligent ANPR System for Goods Vehicle Surveillance

e-tender Id	2019_CTD_286877_1
Published on	23/07/2019
Pre-bid meeting	01/08/2019 at 3:00 pm
Bid submission Start Date	05/08/2019
Bid submission end date	20/08/2019
Bid opening	22/08/2019

Please visit e-procurement portal for details. (etenders.kerala.gov.in).

Sd/- COMMISSIONER OF STATE TAX

Enquiries: Assistant Commissioner (ITMC), 5th Floor,
Tax Towers, Karamana, P.O, Thiruvananthapuram - 695002
Email - acitmc.ctd@kerala.gov.in Contact no - 9447786343
(3691612/D3/2019/PR)

FACT THE FERTILISERS AND CHEMICALS TRAVANCORE LIMITED.

PIONEERS IN PROGRESS (A Government of India Enterprise) Regd. Office: Floor MATERIALS, FACT-PD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, UDYOGAMANDAL, KOCHI- 683 501 (KERALA)

Tel. (0484) - 256 8625/8260, E-mail: julian@facttd.com, Website: <http://www.factco.in>

TRANSPORTATION OF BAGGED PRODUCTS BY ROAD

Enquiry No. MM/TSI/E20004 dtd. 25.07.2019
Tender ID in <https://eprocure.gov.in> portal: 2019_FACT_489447_1

FACT invites Online Bids (TWO COVER SYSTEM) for Road Transportation of bagged products from FACT production units at Udyogamandal and Ambalamedu to various destinations in Kerala, Tamil Nadu & Karnataka through <https://eprocure.gov.in>, for 2 years. Estimated quantity: 9, 76,050MT.

Any change / Extensions to this tender will be informed only through CPP e-procurement portal. Due date/time for submission of bids: 10.08.2019/03.00 PM.

Sd/-
Asst. Gen. Manager (Materials)-T&S

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (INDIA)

Assignment Title: Consultancy Services for carrying out Road Safety Audit of most vulnerable roads of HPPWD in the State of Himachal Pradesh

For implementation of the intended Road Safety Audit, the H.P Public Works Department invites Expression of Interest from the Road Safety Auditors empanelled by the NHAI on the terms and conditions set forth in the offer document.

A Consultant will be selected on the basis of Least Cost Basis of the financial proposal to be submitted along with the Request for Expression of Interest.

The detailed Request for Expression of Interest for the proposed assignment along with scope of work shall be made available on the HPRIDC website at the following link w.e.f. 30.07.2019
<http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/>

All future corrigendums / addendums will also be made available on the departmental website on the above link.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by post) by **September 02, 2019** at 1500 hours (IST).

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-cum-Project Director,
State Roads Project, HPRIDC,
Nirman Bhavan, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002 (H.P.),
Tel: +91-177-2627602,
Fax: +91-177-2620663,
E-mail: pdsp-hp@nic.in

HP/021/2019-2020

SOUTH EASTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED
"A MINI RATNA COMPANY"

E-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No: SECL/BSP/CMC/e-Tender/338, date 19.07.2019, Tender ID: 2019_SECL_145040_1, Location of work: Sohagpur Area, Tehsil: Burhar, District: Shahdol, State: M.P., Estimated Cost: **Rs. 16,93,84,870 (Excluding GST)** Description of Work: (1) Hiring of Surface miner and allied equipment of suitable capacity for mechanical excavation/cutting of coal/coal measure strata and deployment of dozer on hiring basis for removal of ridges, left out, while working coal seam in slices involving extraction/breaking of coal/cross measure/strata in slices/layers to lumps size(-)100 mm without resorting to drilling and blasting for a quantity of 38.71 Lakh Cum (60.00 LT) with minimum 3535Cum (5480Te) per day. The management depending upon the working condition at the site will decide the thickness, width & length of the slice/layers. For computation of the output, in-situ measurement of coal/coal measure strata will be done. (2) Hiring of Pay loader for mechanical transfer of surface miner cut coal (-)100 mm size into tipper at coal faces of Amlai OC Expansion Sector B for a quantity of 60.00 LT (TPD: 5480). Quantity: (1) 38.71 Lakh Cum (60.00 LT) (2) 60.00 LT, QPD/TPD: (1) 3535Cum (5480Te) per day (2) 5480, Period: 1095 days, Sohagpur Area, Tehsil: Burhar, District: Shahdol, State: M.P. Start date&time for submission of bid: 27.07.2019, at 10hrs, End date & time for submission of bid: 13.08.2019, at 17hrs, Date&time for opening of bid: 16.08.2019, at 11hrs.

GM- HOD (CMC) SECL,Bilaspur
Note : For details and submission of bid please visit website www.eprocure.gov.in and e-procurement portal of CIL <https://coalindiatenders.gov.in> and www.secl-cil.in. In case of any misprinting/ error/details as per website document will be considered as final. 21966/8

COAL : PRIME SOURCE OF ENERGY

Ukraine seizes Russian ship in Black Sea

Crew were freed after Moscow warned of consequences if any Russian citizens were 'taken hostage'

REUTERS
KIEV

Ukraine on Thursday seized a Russian tanker for its alleged involvement in the capture of three Ukrainian Navy vessels by Russia, prompting Moscow to warn of consequences if any Russian citizens were "taken hostage".

The crew members were later freed by Ukraine and were on their way home, but the tanker remained in Ukrainian custody in the Danube river port of IZMAIL, a spokesman for the Russian Embassy in Kiev said by telephone.



Maritime tension: The Russian tanker, called 'Nika Spirit', detained by the Ukrainian security service in the Black Sea port of IZMAIL on Thursday. ■ REUTERS

Delicate negotiations

The seizure threatens to upset delicate negotiations on a possible prisoner swap between the two countries and came weeks after Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Ukraine's new President, spoke with Russian President Vladimir Putin for the first time.

The incident is also certain to further sour relations

between Kiev and Moscow, which remain blighted by Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea from Ukraine and its backing for pro-Russian separatists in eastern Ukraine.

The Ukrainian prosecutor's office said 10 Russian crew were detained for questioning. Russian news agencies said around 15 Russians

had been on board at the time of the seizure.

Ukraine's security service alleged that the tanker, the 'Nika Spirit', used to be called 'NEYMA' and was placed beneath a bridge near Crimea in November in order to block three Ukrainian Navy ships from entering the Sea of Azov.

Russia seized the Ukrainian ships after opening fire on them and is still holding 24 Ukrainian sailors who were on board at the time, accusing them of illegally entering its territorial waters, a charge they deny.

"The Ukrainian security service and military prosecutors' office detained a Russian tanker, the Neyma, which blocked Ukrainian warships in the Kerch Strait," Ukraine's SBU security service said in a statement.

The SBU published footage of the tanker being searched. The same footage showed the name of the detained ship, the Nika Spirit, on the vessel's bow next to a darker patch of paint that apparently covered up its old name. Two men in camouflaged uniforms with Ukrainian insignia were shown walking through the Russian-flagged vessel.

Russia's Foreign Ministry warned Ukraine "there will soon be consequences" if any Russian crew members were "taken hostage", the RIA news agency reported.

The SBU said the Russian vessel had entered Ukraine under its new name, the Nika Spirit, "to cover its involvement in illegal actions", but that it had identified the ship from its unique International Maritime Organization number.

U.S. federal government to reinstate death penalty

Executions of five death row federal inmates scheduled

REUTERS
WASHINGTON

The U.S. Justice Department announced on Thursday it was reinstating a two-decades long dormant policy to resume the federal government's use of capital punishment and immediately scheduled the executions for five death row federal inmates.

"Congress has expressly authorised the death penalty through legislation adopted by the peoples representatives in both houses of Congress and signed by the President," Attorney General William Barr said in a statement.

"The Justice Department upholds the rule of law and we owe it to the victims and their families to carry forward the sentence imposed by our justice system."

U.S. President Donald Trump has called for increasing use of the death pe-



U.S. Attorney General William Barr. ■ AFP

nalty for drug traffickers and mass shooters. The Justice Department said it has scheduled executions for five federal inmates who have been convicted of horrific murders and sex crimes.

Those inmates include Daniel Lewis Lee, a white supremacist who was convicted in Arkansas for murdering a family of three, including an eight-year-old girl.

Another one is Lezmond

Mitchell, who was found guilty by a jury in Arizona of stabbing a 63-year-old grandmother and forcing her young granddaughter to sit next to her lifeless body on a car journey before slitting the girl's throat.

"Each of these inmates has exhausted their appellate and post-conviction remedies," the department said, adding that the executions will take place in Indiana.

Billionaire Epstein found injured in prison cell

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
NEW YORK

U.S. billionaire Jeffrey Epstein, who is accused of sexually assaulting underage girls, was found injured in his jail cell after a possible suicide attempt, according to sources cited in multiple media reports.

Epstein was found semi-conscious with marks on his neck, anonymous law enforcement sources told U.S. media.

The injuries are not believed to be serious, they added. Guards are also investigating whether he was the victim of a possible assault as they piece together what happened.

The financier was denied bail last week after appearing at a New York court charged with one count of sex trafficking of minors and one count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking of minors.

At least 11 killed as 3 blasts rock Kabul

The attacks come amid U.S. General's meeting with top U.S. and NATO officials

REUTERS
KABUL

Three bombs rocked the Afghan capital of Kabul on Thursday, killing at least 11 people and wounding 45, officials said, as the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff was meeting top U.S. and NATO officials in the city.

A suicide bomber blew himself near a minibus carrying employees of the mi-

nistry and mines and petroleum, killing five women and a child.

Video footage shared with reporters by security officials showed the bodies of the women and a child lying on the road in the eastern part of city as bystanders tried to help the wounded.

Health officials said at least 20 people were taken to hospital by civilians, some on wheelbarrows.

A second bomb exploded on a road parallel to the site of the bus attack, killing five people and injuring police who were trying to manage the traffic after the first blast.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the two attacks.

The third blast, about 3 km away, wounded at least 17 civilians, for which the Taliban claimed responsibility.

The Taliban, fighting to restore strict Islamic law after their 2001 ouster at the hands of U.S.-led troops, said their fighters had used a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device to kill nine foreign forces and destroy two vehicles.

On Wednesday, a Croatian soldier serving in Afghanistan was killed and two were seriously wounded in a suicide attack on their convoy outside Kabul,

U.K. Cabinet has three Ministers of Indian-origin

All of them are Brexit supporters



(From left) Alok Sharma, Priti Patel and Rishi Sunak. ■ AFP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has appointed three Indian-origin leaders in his top ministerial team in what has been dubbed as Britain's most diverse Cabinet.

Hours after Mr. Johnson was appointed by the Queen as Britain's new Prime Minister, he named Priti Patel Home Secretary, Alok Sharma as the International Development Secretary and Rishi Sunak as the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. They attended their first Cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street on Thursday morning.

The Prime Minister's fellow pro-Brexit campaigner Ms. Patel will now be in charge of the U.K.'s security, immigration and visa policies.

The 47-year-old has vowed to fight the scourge of crime and will be in the hot seat to fulfil some of her past promises of a fairer post-Brexit visa regime for everyone around the world, free of the freedom of move-

ment norms imposed by the European Union (EU).

Fellow Brexiteer Mr. Sunak had also issued similar open letters in favour of fairer visa norms for everyone in the world.

The 39-year-old Conservative Party MP, who is married to Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy's daughter Akshata, is an MBA graduate and investment expert who takes charge of one of the most important jobs in the U.K. Treasury, serving under the new Chancellor, Sajid Javid.

The U.K.-born son of a pharmacist mother and a National Health Service general practitioner father is an Oxford and Stanford graduate.

India-born Alok Sharma, 51, backed Mr. Johnson in the Conservative Party leadership contest as the leader best placed to launch a coherent unambiguous plan to deliver Brexit and take us out of the European Union.

The Conservative Party MP, who was serving as Employment Minister, has been promoted to a Cabinet post.

IN BRIEF



Tunisian President Beji Caied Essebsi is dead

Tunisian President Beji Caied Essebsi, the North African country's first democratically elected leader, died on Thursday at the age of 92, his office said. The veteran politician, the oldest head of state after Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, came to power in 2014. ■ AFP

N. Korea fires missiles in latest provocation

North Korea fired two short-range missiles into the sea on Thursday, complicating efforts to resume stalled nuclear talks with Washington and signalling its anger over planned U.S.-South Korea joint military exercises. One had a range of 430 km while the other travelled 690 km. ■ AFP

Afghan Taliban ready to visit Pakistan on invitation

They are willing to talk to end conflict

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD/DOHA

The Afghan Taliban on Thursday expressed willingness to travel to Pakistan and meet Prime Minister Imran Khan if he invites them for negotiations to end the 18-year conflict in Afghanistan, according to a media report.

The statement by the Taliban came hours after Mr. Khan returned to Islamabad after his maiden official visit to the U.S., where he discussed the Afghan peace process with President Donald Trump on Monday and agreed to work together to end the conflict.

During the meeting, Mr. Trump said that Pakistan would help the U.S. "extricate" itself from Afghanistan, adding that there was "tremendous potential" in the relationship between

Washington and Islamabad. Interestingly, Mr. Khan was accompanied by Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa, Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief Lt. Gen. Faiz Hameed during the talks at the White House.

Sohail Shaheen, a spokesman for the Taliban's political office in Qatar's capital Doha, told the BBC Urdu that if PM Khan extended a formal invitation, they will accept it.

"We frequently visit countries in the region and would surely go to Pakistan, too, which is our Muslim neighbour, if there is a formal invitation from Islamabad," he said.

Media reports say the U.S. is negotiating for a deal by September 1 that would see international forces pull out of Afghanistan in return for Taliban security guarantees.

Paris records its hottest day as heatwave sears Europe

Temperature is rising as hot, dry air comes in from N. Africa

ASSOCIATED PRESS
PARIS

A new record high temperature was recorded in Paris on Thursday, as Europe sweltered in what was its second heat wave this summer.

Climate scientists warn this could become the new normal in many parts of the world. But temperate Europe where air conditioning is rare isn't equipped for the temperatures frying the region this week.

On Thursday afternoon the Paris area hit 42.4 degrees Celsius, beating the previous record of 40.4 C set in 1947. Authorities said the temperature was still rising, as a result of hot, dry air coming from northern Africa that's trapped between cold stormy systems.



Beating the heat: People cool off next to the fountains at Louvre Museum in Paris on Wednesday. ■ AP

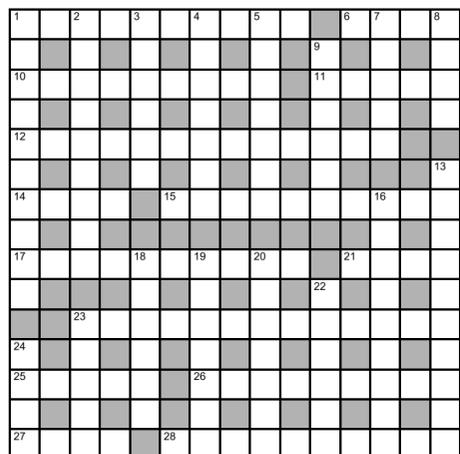
The Netherlands and Belgium also reported new record heats and Britain is expected to do so later.

The Netherlands' meteorological institute said 40.4 C was recorded on Thursday in the municipality of Gilze Rijen, near the border with Belgium. In Belgium the new all-time high rose to 40.6 C.

Britain also expects to breach the 39 C mark for the first time after London recording its hottest day on record for July, with the mercury climbing to 36.9 C at Heathrow Airport.

The previous July record was 36.7 C in 2015, while the all-time record is 38.5 C recorded in August 2003.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12688



- **ACROSS**
- Determined to transfer director to British capital; dejected and overwhelmed (6,4)
 - Soldiers coming back after end of fight capturing a plant (4)
 - Boy! Louis is mad to cross the middle of river. Evidently (9)
 - Counter opening earlier, runs out of stock of calling device (5)

- Drawback! Book despatched for capital of Canada takes time, internal mix up at Germany. Get a courier (7,6)
- Chilled daiquiri, cognac, absinthe at the end leads to dysentery primarily (4)
- Perhaps extra zone Congress eventually conceded to Left in the poll for vacant seat (2-8)

(set by Afterdark)

- Teacher is strict, our group got notified first (10)
- Man, say is skeletal essentially (4)
- Five missing; servant covers up mysterious clash necessitating a court order (6,7)
- Small bird found in the lot we let fly (5)
- Fluctuating returns, large discrepancy found in the centre, covered up (9)
- Worst owner to retain place (4)
- Decreased flow around Chennai in the middle, rose again (10)
- DOWN**
- Born in difficulty, child is bearing a trouble from the start, leading to a complaint (10)
- Teacher manages to control errant students at the beginning (9)
- Sweethearts's hugs and kisses and stroke is almost sensational (6)
- Elderly royal, tucked in and put to sleep (7)
- Receipt for wife's account features an unknown quantity (7)
- Gas in car gone (5)
- Vegetable is good, recipe's awesome primarily (4)
- A regular pint with ice flakes can be connected to breathlessness (6)
- Father to learner; be free and ignorant (10)
- Everything in street kept before often needs to be fixed (9)
- Property of earl at the outskirts of Tilbury right in the front (6)
- Company! Can it be endless and in the middle gain energy with drug? (7)
- Drawback to have son following and no turning back in the front and beyond (7)
- Shoe found in Britain, at Oxford's good, high class and cheap essentially (6)
- Attack is almost ending, to retreat against third front (5)
- Cast is primarily terrific, gets Oscar for keeping spectators on the edge repeatedly (4)

SUDOKU



- Solution to puzzle 12687**
- | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PROVINC | E | G | R | I | M | E | A | |
| E | N | O | B | E | I | S | | |
| D | I | S | A | I | O | R | A | C |
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- Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**
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| 7 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 |
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| 3 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 4 |
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| 5 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
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FAITH

The Lord's Sankalpa

The youngest of the Pandava brothers, Sahadeva is known for his wisdom and his exceptional devotion to Krishna though he maintains a low profile. Krishna is keen to elicit Sahadeva's opinion about His mission to Hastinapura that He has undertaken with the hope of averting a war if possible, pointed out Nagai Sri Mukundan in a discourse.

As a Pandava warrior, Sahadeva, smarting under the humiliations they have faced, is all out for war even if his brothers seek peace. He tells Krishna that He should talk in Dhritarashtra's court in such a way that war and only war should be the result. But the jnani in him surfaces when he says that regardless of what any of them may think or want, it is what He ordains that will come to pass.

Whether Krishna goes as a messenger, whether the kingdom may or may not be given to the Pandavas, or whether it is going to be war or compromise, no one can divine what is in store for all. The entire world is maintained by His Sankalpa. People may think that they are the ones who control their lives and also make an impact and influence on others. But the truth is that even the down-to-earth activity of breathing is not under one's control and is sustained by His will.

In the Ramayana, the auspicious time and date for Rama's coronation is decided by none other than the Kula Guru Vasishtha and with Dasaratha's blessings. But it did not happen then and took place only when Rama had planned it to happen. Sahadeva indicates that if Krishna has decided to carry out the war and fulfill the purpose of His avatar, namely to reduce the burden on earth, His own peace mission will not be able to stop it. The future of the Pandavas is in His hands and they are happy it is so.

MARKET WATCH

	25-07-2019	% CHANGE
Sensex	37,831	-0.04
US Dollar	69.04	-0.09
Gold	35,870	0.00
Brent oil	63.65	-0.76

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	380.35	-0.45
Asian Paints	1495.85	12.45
Axis Bank	723.15	10.85
Bajaj Auto	2547.00	24.40
Bajaj Finserv	6782.30	-283.00
Bajaj Finance	3046.50	-127.05
Bharti Airtel	339.00	0.10
BPCIL	340.30	-8.80
Britannia Ind	2671.55	30.10
Cipla	536.65	17.90
Coal India	209.05	-7.80
Dr Reddys Lab	2654.10	55.05
Eicher Motors	16436.85	55.80
GAIL (India)	134.75	-1.90
Grasim Ind	868.65	-9.80
HCL Tech	1011.30	-10.00
HDFC	2195.35	11.10
HDFC Bank	2286.05	5.15
Hero MotoCorp	2386.50	-16.90
Hindalco	196.75	-0.50
Hind Unilever	1736.65	8.00
Indiabulls FHL	612.00	0.30
ICICI Bank	409.00	0.50
IndusInd Bank	1391.65	29.65
Bharti Infratel	261.90	-2.25
Infosys	794.50	8.20
Indian Oil Corp	146.65	-1.30
ITC	267.85	-3.00
JSW Steel	248.65	-6.60
Kotak Bank	1485.05	-12.15
L&T	1372.40	-14.95
M&M	547.55	-2.45
Maruti Suzuki	5756.75	-11.25
NTPC	129.75	-2.10
ONGC	143.85	0.25
PowerGrid Corp	213.15	3.35
Reliance Ind	1231.50	-27.60
State Bank	341.30	1.70
Sun Pharma	437.15	11.60
Tata Motors	144.30	-6.95
Tata Steel	440.35	-5.65
TCS	2127.90	31.10
Tech Mahindra	652.50	-7.95
Titan	1090.45	3.05
UltraTech Cement	4460.10	17.25
UPL	604.35	-12.70
Vedanta	171.45	6.40
Wipro	262.25	-1.95
YES Bank	87.65	-1.50
Zee Entertainment	391.95	12.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on July 25

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	68.84	69.16
Euro	76.56	76.92
British Pound	85.97	86.37
Japanese Yen (100)	63.64	63.93
Chinese Yuan	10.02	10.07
Swiss Franc	69.57	69.90
Singapore Dollar	50.42	50.66
Canadian Dollar	52.45	52.70
Malaysian Ringgit	16.73	16.81

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

July 25 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	45	(45)
22 ct gold (1g)	3345	(3340)

Ruchi Soya in Patanjali's pushcart

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) on Thursday approved Patanjali's revised ₹4,350-crore bid to take over edible oil maker Ruchi Soya, which owed banks over ₹9,345 crore.

However, the tribunal said the approval was subject to the resolution professional bridging the information gap regarding the exact source of funds worth ₹600 crore (which is part of the bid amount) before the next date of hearing on August 1.

The tribunal also asked the resolution professional to furnish the actual cost of the entire resolution process before the next hearing.

"The resolution professional is directed to submit detailed break-up of the entire cost for the corporate insolvency resolution process before the next date of listing on August 1," the tribunal said.

NCLT gives Leela 2 months to comply with new SEBI norms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA MUMBAI

Hotel Leelaventure on Thursday got two months' time from the NCLT to comply with the latest SEBI directives asking the hospitality company to make additional disclosures to shareholders to proceed with its proposed sale to Brookfield for ₹3,950 crore.

Hotel Leelaventure's counsel, Ashish Pyasi of Dhir & Dhir Associates, tendered a copy of the new SEBI order and sought two months to comply with the same so that it can proceed with the transaction with Brookfield which has offered ₹3,950 crore for the four properties of the premium hotel chain.

He said eight weeks' time was required to comply with the new pos-

Tata Motors' loss doubles

Domestic and Jaguar Land Rover volumes drop during the quarter

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Tata Motors Ltd. has reported a consolidated net loss of ₹3,680 crore for the first quarter ended June 30 compared with a net loss of ₹1,863 crore in the year-earlier period owing to loss of sales volume both at Tata Motors and Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) during the quarter.

Consolidated revenue also dropped significantly to ₹60,830 crore compared with ₹65,957 crore in the same period last year.

'Challenging quarter'

Commenting on the company's performance, P. B. Balaji, group CFO, Tata Motors said, "It was a challenging quarter for the auto industry. During the quarter, we saw a 21% volume decline and revenue was down 7.7%. China and Indian operations had the biggest impact on overall revenue."

"The loss of volume during the quarter had signifi-



cant negative impact on the business. However, the good thing is that China has started showing stability for JLR," he added.

On a standalone basis, Tata Motors Ltd. reported a first quarter revenue of ₹13,352 crore, down 20% from the same quarter last year. It reported net loss of ₹97 crore compared with a net profit of ₹1,188 crore.

"The continued slowdown across the auto industry is due to weak consumer sentiments. "Liquidity stress and the



Liquidity stress and the effect of axle load norms in medium & heavy duty trucks impacted overall demand

GUENTER BUTSCHEK, CEO & MD, Tata Motors

Good balance

"Over the last few years we had struck a good balance between managing market dynamics and financial health."

"However, this time, despite continuous turnaround effect we could not prevent some impact on our Q1 performance," he said.

Bank of Baroda Q1 net profit rises to ₹710 crore

Lender saw ₹5,583 cr. fresh slippages

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

State-run lender Bank of Baroda reported a net profit of ₹710 crore for the quarter ended June 30, as compared to ₹528 crore reported in the same period of the previous year.

The numbers, however, are not comparable, since Bank of Baroda merged with two other State-run lenders - Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank - from April 1, 2019. The net profit for the latest quarter is of the amalgamated entity while that of the comparable period last year is of Bank of Baroda standalone.

On a comparable basis, the amalgamated bank made a loss of ₹49 crore in the same period last year. Net Interest Income (NII) increased to ₹6,496 crore compared with ₹6,331 crore last year, an increase of 2.6% on year. Net Interest Margin (NIM) declined to 2.62% in June 2019 from 2.69% in



June 2018.

Bank of Baroda said while year-on-year credit growth of the amalgamated entity moderated to 6.4%, on a standalone basis, the lender continued to grow in-line with its trend rate of growth.

"Lending to erstwhile customers of Dena Bank has resumed," it said.

Gross NPA was ₹69,714 crore as on June 30, 2019, which is 10.28%. Fresh slippages for the quarter was ₹5,583 crore, while provision for NPAs was at ₹3,168 crore for the quarter. Domestic current and savings account (CASA) deposits registered a growth of 6.94%.

Want to make sending money as easy as texting, says WhatsApp

It plans to roll out payment services in India later this year

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

U.S.-headquartered instant messaging platform WhatsApp on Thursday said it planned to roll out its payment services in India later this year. The platform, which has about 400 million users in the country, has been testing the service for about a year.

UPI standards

"We built payments based on the UPI standard, partnered with banks here in India... We believe that if we did this right, it will accelerate financial inclusion and bring more people in India's fast-growing digital economy. We can't wait to provide the service to more of our users all across India later this year," WhatsApp Global Head Will Cathcart said.

He added that the Facebook-owned firm wanted to make sending money as easy as sending messages on the



platform. The company, in October last year, had announced that it had built a system in India to store payments related data locally, to comply with RBI's data localisation norms. WhatsApp's entry in digital payments is likely to further intensify competition in the space which currently has platforms like Paytm, PhonePe, Google Pay and BHIM UPI.

Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said: "400 million Indians are using WhatsApp," and added that he expected

HC order could dilute Centre's GST anti-profiteering efforts

Order in Reckitt case may provide relief to industry

TCA SHARAD RAGHAVAN NEW DELHI

A decision taken by the Delhi High Court recently has the potential to undo the government's steps to provide the GST Anti-Profiteering Authority with greater powers to ensure no profiteering occurs.

The High Court has provided relief to Reckitt Benckiser India Private Limited by ordering an interim stay on the notice issued by the Director General of Anti-Profiteering (DGAP) seeking information on all products of the company, whereas the National Anti-Profiteering Authority (NAA) had ordered an inquiry for only one product.

Earlier this month, the government had provided the DGAP with precisely this power, to assess products that are currently not part of its investigation.

"It is pointed out by Mr. P.



Chidambaram, learned senior counsel for the petitioner, that the National Anti-Profiteering Authority has ordered an inquiry as regards one of the products of the petitioner i.e. Dettol HW Liquid Original 900 ml (complained product).

"The grievance of the petitioner is that the Director General of Anti-Profiteering (DGAP) has by the impugned notice dated 8th/9th April, 2019 sought information on all products of the petitioner," the order said.

"The court is of the view

that the petitioner has made out a prima facie case for grant of limited interim relief.

It is directed that, till the next date, it will not be required to furnish information to the DGAP pursuant to the impugned notice other than information pertaining to the complained product," the order added.

The court, however, clarified the NAA's inquiry as far as the complained product is concerned would proceed in accordance with the law. Pratik Jain, partner and leader indirect tax, PwC India said, "If this principle [of only looking into the complained product] is finally upheld by courts, it would provide the much needed relief to industry, which has been requesting the government for issuance of definitive guidelines with respect to anti-profiteering proceedings."

PMO asks FinMin to study overseas bond issue

Concerns raised over its implications

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has asked the Finance Ministry to conduct a detailed study on the issuance of overseas sovereign bonds in the light of concerns raised by several experts, sources said.

The PMO has asked the Finance Ministry to examine the concerns raised by former RBI governors and deputy governors on the issuance of such bonds and its implications.

After the detailed consultation, a considered view will be taken, the sources added.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in Budget 2019-20, announced that the government would start raising a part of its gross borrowing programme from external markets in foreign currencies. She added that India's sovereign external debt-to-GDP level is among the lowest globally at less

than 5%.

The idea, however, has been criticised by many, including economists and allies of the ruling BJP alike, as they argued that it could create long-term economic risks by exposing the government's liabilities to currency fluctuations.

Rathin Roy, a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, has called for a discussion on sovereign bonds instead of an 'imperial announcement' of the borrowing programme.

"I have grave concerns about this proposal on grounds of economic sovereignty, and about the macroeconomic consequences... the government should instead look at relaxing the rupee bond limits for foreign portfolio investors," he said. Even Swadeshi Jagran Manch, the economic wing of the RSS, has opposed the idea of issuance of these sovereign bonds.

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

CORRIGENDUM

In continuation to the e-Tender notice No. BRAIT/TEQIP-III/1-33(13)/1554 dated 6th July 2019 published in 'The Hindu' on 7th July 2019 and uploaded in the e-procurement portal vide tender ID BRAIT291 regarding Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Training of Electronics and Communication Lab Equipments, the procurement Package-III has been splitted into 02 Packages as Package-III A, and Package-III B. The Package III A and III B contain 08 items each. All Other terms and conditions of tender will remain unchanged. The interested eligible bidders may submit the bids through e-procurement portal using url: <https://eproc.andaman.gov.in> as per the amended schedule.

TEQIP Coordinator

Central Coalfields Limited
"A Miniratna Company"
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

Advertisement No. : 015/2019-20

PH. : (PBX) 0651-2230852/ Extn. 7031, Fax : (91) 0651-2360444, Tender invited through E-Procurement Portal <http://www.coalindiatenders.gov.in> by Sr. Manager (MM), Gandhi Nagar Hospital, CCL, Ranchi for conclusion of rate for a period 2 years supply of white sliced bread for Gandhi Nagar Hospital from eligible tenderers as mentioned in the tender document. **Advertisement No. : 015/2019-20, Tender Sl. No. : 015 - CCL/Sr. Manager (MM)/GNH/18-19/RC/White sliced bread in two bid system. Bid Submission end date : 20.08.2019 at 11:00 Hrs., Bid opening date : 21.08.2019 at 11:00 Hrs.** Tender documents can be downloaded and bids can be submitted online through website mentioned above on the due date mentioned above. The tender shall be opened electronically on the due date mentioned above. No other form of tender submission will be accepted. For further details interested bidders may refer to NIT document available in word format in websites of www.ccl.gov.in, www.eprocure.gov.in/ cpplp.gov.in

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
राष्ट्रीय सुदूर संवेदन केंद्र / NATIONAL REMOTE SENSING CENTRE
बालानगर, हैदराबाद - 500 037 / BALANAGAR, HYDERABAD - 500 037

ई-क्रय निविदा सूचना / E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
एनआरएससी/क्रय/ई-निविदा/2019/NRSC/PUR/e-TENDER/2019 दिनांक/Date:24/07/2019

इसरो के ई-क्रय पोर्टल पर निम्न ई-निविदाएं उपलब्ध हैं।
The following e-Tenders are released in e-procurement portal of ISRO :

क्र.सं./Sl. No.	निविदा संख्या/TENDER NUMBER	विवरण/DESCRIPTION	निविदा दिनांक एवं समय/DATE & TIME OF TENDER RELEASE	निविदा प्रस्तुतिकरण/ TENDER SUBMISSION	निविदा माध्यम/ MODE OF TENDERING
01.	NRSC/PUR/2019/E04800-01/PT-345	आरआरएससी कोलकाता में समर्पित इंटरनेट लीज्ड कनेक्टिविटी की आपूर्ति, स्थापना और कमीशनिंग Supply, Installation and commissioning of Dedicated Internet Leased Connectivity at RRSC Kolkata.	25.07.2019 16:30 बजे / Hrs	FROM 25.07.2019 16:31 बजे/Hrs से / TO 26.08.2019 16:30 बजे/Hrs तक	पी.टी.- एकल भाग PT-Single part
02.	NRSC/PUR/2019/E04730-01/PT-346	एनएलओए और एनएफ पैनेल के साथ 1 x 100 केवीए डीजी सेट 1 x 100 KVA DG set with enclosure and AMF Panel.	25.07.2019 14:30 बजे / Hrs	FROM 25.07.2019 14:31 बजे/Hrs से / TO 26.08.2019 14:30 बजे/Hrs तक	पी.टी.- दो भाग PT-Two part

संपूर्ण विवरण के लिए लॉग ऑन करें / For complete details log on to <http://eprocure.isro.gov.in> प्रधान, क्रय एवं भंडार/ HEAD, PURCHASE & STORES

सेमी-कंडक्टर लेबोरेटरी / Semi-Conductor Laboratory
अंतरिक्ष विभाग, भारत सरकार / Department of Space, Government of India, सेक्टर-72, सा.अ.नि.नगर(मोहली) -160071, चंडीगढ़ के समीप(पंजाब) भारत
Sector-72, S.A.S. Nagar-160 071, Near Chandigarh (Punjab) India
फोन / Phone : +91-172-2236188/16816169 फैक्स / Fax +91-172-2237410
ईमेल / Email: skumar@scl.gov.in, mlgour@scl.gov.in, abudhwar@scl.gov.in website: www.scl.gov.in

निविदा सूचना संख्या, एस्सीएल/पीटी/152, 153, 154 & 155 दिनांक / Dated: 22.07.2019
TENDER NOTICE No. SCL/PT/152, 153, 154 & 155

निदेशक, एस्सीएल के लिए एवं उनकी ओर से सेमी-कंडक्टर लेबोरेटरी के प्रमुख क्रय एवं भंडार, निम्न के लिए दो भागों में ऑन लाइन निविदा आमंत्रित करते हैं। / For and on behalf of The Director, Head-Purchase & Stores, Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL) invites Online TWO part Tender for the following:

क्र.सं./Sr.No.	निविदा संख्या/Tender Number	विवरण (विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए निविदा दस्तावेज देखें) / Description (For details please see Tender Documents)	संख्या/Quantity
1	एस्सीएल/पीएस4/2019ई0147001 SCL/PS4/2019E0147001	आई एस ए एच के लिए सीस्यूएफपी पैकेज का विकास एवं फैब्रिकेशन/ Development and Fabrication of CQFP package for ISA die	जैसा कि निविदा में
2	एस्सीएल/पीएस4/2019ई0148101 SCL/PS4/2019E0148101	3 प्रकार के पीजीए पैकेज की आपूर्ति हेतु/ Supply of PGA Package-3 Types	इंगित किया
3	एस्सीएल/पीएस4/2019ई0145001 SCL/PS4/2019E0145001	1. वीएलएसआई डिजिटल टेस्टर / VLSI DIGITAL TESTER 2. वीएलएसआई मिक्सड सिग्नल टेस्टर / VLSI MIXED SIGNAL TESTER	गया है / As indicated
4	एस्सीएल/पीएस5/2019ई0146901 SCL/PS5/2019E0146901	निविदा दस्तावेज में दी गई विस्तृत जानकारी के अनुसार लिक्विफाईड नाईट्रोजन की सप्लाई / Supply of Liquefied Nitrogen as per details given in Tender Document.	in the Tender

नोट/Note: निविदा दस्तावेज को e-tender portal <https://eprocure.isro.gov.in> से देख सकते हैं और एस्सीएल की वेबसाइट www.scl.gov.in / सेमीपी पोर्टल (<http://cppp.gov.in>) से डाउनलोड कर सकते हैं। / Tender Documents of above mentioned Tender can be accessed at e-tender portal <https://eprocure.isro.gov.in> and can be downloaded from SCL website (www.scl.gov.in/) / ISRO website (www.isro.gov.in/) / CPP Portal (<http://cppp.gov.in/>)

प्रमुख, क्रय एवं भंडार प्रभाग/Head, Purchase & Stores Division

Select the right medium

'Mind your Marketing' is a brand initiative by The Hindu BusinessLine to profile marketing professionals from across India.

How can delivering the right customer experiences make or break brands?

Today, if you create a good experience, the kind of benefits that you will accrue as a result of e-sharing across various mediums will be high. It is not that there was no word of mouth earlier or that good experiences did not spread but today the pace at which it happens and the rate at which you can grow your brand is phenomenal. It is, however, a double-edged sword; if you're not creating a great experience for your consumer it could backfire.

Mayank Shah
Category Head
Parle Products Pvt Ltd

You can read the full interview in The Hindu BusinessLine today or scan the QR Code.



Ashok Leyland unveils premium bus Oyster
MUMBAI
Ashok Leyland Ltd. has introduced Oyster, an air-conditioned mid-bus in the premium category in India. The multi-purpose premium bus, whose price has not been disclosed by the company, is designed and manufactured in-house. Anuj Kathuria, COO, Ashok Leyland, said, "With Oyster, which is already a huge success in the international market, we intend to further our leadership positioning."

Rane Brake Lining Q1 net profit rises 11.4%
CHENNAI
Rane Brake Lining Ltd. (RBL) has posted a 11.4% increase in its standalone net profit for the first quarter ended June 2019 to ₹7.3 crore aided by the aftermarket segment. During the quarter, RBL's net revenue dipped 3.5% to ₹118.9 crore. Sales to original equipment customers declined 9% on drop in volumes across segments. Revenue from two-wheeler segment grew 9%. Sales to aftermarket customers grew 1%, the company said.

TajGVK Hotels & Resorts Q1 net profit rises 24%
HYDERABAD
TajGVK Hotels & Resorts has posted a consolidated net profit of ₹5.60 crore for the quarter ended June 30, an increase of 24% from the year-earlier period. Revenue stood at ₹72.36 crore (₹72.79 crore). Chairman G.V.K. Reddy said the company was able to post a "healthy growth" in PAT (profit after tax) though revenue numbers were flat. The company repaid ₹6.98 crore debt and net debt as on June 30 was ₹191 crore.

Part of L&T projects in A.P. at stake

Some of the firm's ₹9,000-cr. works awarded in previous regime under review

PIYUSH PANDEY
MUMBAI
A part of Larsen and Toubro's ₹9,000 crore worth of projects in Andhra Pradesh is at stake as the new government headed by Jagannathan Reddy has decided to review all projects where less than 25% of the work has been completed.

Asked for comments, L&T MD & CEO S.N. Subrahmanyan said, "This initial wave of looking over the previous regime slows down the progress. Some of our contracts are facing problems. It's a general order which says those contracts [that have] not reached 25% of their execution are under review. About 3% of our ₹3 lakh crore order book is in Andhra Pradesh."

Some of the major projects L&T is implementing in



Looking over the previous regime's works slows down progress, says MD & CEO S.N. Subrahmanyan. ■ SHASHI ASHWAL

Andhra Pradesh include building bridges, roads, transmission lines, solar projects and cement plants among others.

Base infrastructure
The engineering and construction major is one of the key contractors to build the

base infrastructure for the new state capital, Amaravathi, which includes roads, bridges, stormwater drains, sewerage and utility ducts for power as well as information and communications technology. This massive project has been an integral part of former Andhra Pradesh

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's dream project of developing the capital city with global infrastructure. "We have not seen this in the past... where [when] one government goes and another government comes, they start reviewing everything the previous government did," Mr. Subrahmanyan said.

Early this year, the smart world and communication business secured a major order from the Andhra Pradesh State FiberNet Limited (APSFN) for Bharatnet Phase-II works to establish an IP/MPLS Infrastructure covering the 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh. L&T shares on the BSE declined 1% to close at ₹1,372.95 in a flat Mumbai market on Thursday, valuing the company at ₹192,637.42 crore.

Mahindra unveils Cruzio bus range

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Mahindra Truck and Bus Division of Mahindra & Mahindra has unveiled Cruzio, a new range of buses based on its Intermediate Commercial Vehicles platform, at an unspecified price. Aimed at the employee transport segment, the Cruzio marks the company's debut in the Lastwagen Pullman Overhang segment, which is gaining popularity due to its enhanced consumer experience.

Rajan Wadhera, president, automotive sector, M&M, said: "Being BS-VI ready, the Cruzio is set to be a game changer, and is one of the most ergonomic buses that will set new standards in the market."

Hyundai Motor India to make mass market EVs

Product will be rolled out in 3-4 years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Hyundai Motor India Ltd. (HMIL) is planning to develop an electric vehicle (EV) for mass market, following the good response it received for its electric sport utility vehicle (SUV) Kona, said a top official.

"In the last 15 days, we have already received 120 bookings for the Kona," said S.S. Kim, managing director and CEO, HMIL. "Hyundai Kona is for a niche segment and the market size is small. The initial response is quite positive," he added.

Asserting that the Kona was targeted at the high-end market segment, he said Hyundai would develop a mass market EV that would be rolled out in three to four

years time. "We are working on a platform for the mass market. We will be investing hundreds of millions of dollars. It is too early to talk about the price point," he said.

Mr. Kim also said it was too early to talk about the indigenisation level in Hyundai Kona as the vehicle was imported as a total package from Korea.

On the high cost of the EV, he said the price was determined by the lithium-ion battery. "We are trying to find a partner to source it locally," he said.

To a query about the roll-out of hybrid EV, he said, "In the current situation, there is no incentive to introduce a hybrid model."

Srikalahasthi Pipes plans ₹400 crore capex

Firm will raise ductile iron pipe output

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

Srikalahasthi Pipes Ltd. (formerly Lanco Industries Ltd.) has drawn up a ₹400-crore plan to increase the production capacity of its ductile iron pipe plant by two lakh tonnes to meet the growing demand.

The board gave its approval for the plan to raise the capacity of the plant from the present three lakh tonnes to five lakh tonnes at a cost of ₹400 crore.

"The board, at its previous meeting had sanctioned a capex (capital expenditure) of ₹145 crore and the balance capex was approved recently. The investment costs will be met through internal accruals,"

said G.S. Rathi, whole-time director, Srikalahasthi Pipes Ltd.

According to him, the new blast furnace for the plant would be commissioned by the third quarter of 2020 and the increased capacity of ductile iron pipe plant by end March, 2021.

Mr. Rathi said that the ferro alloys project was under the final stages of execution. The first furnace would go on stream by September 2019 and the second furnace by December 2019.

The firm reported a 93% rise in its standalone net profit for the first quarter ended June 2019 to ₹33.37 crore. Production of ductile iron pipe rose to 65,518 tonnes from 59,555 tonnes.

Bengal Chemicals 'sale' plan leaves unions fuming

Ministers' panel to expedite 2016 decision for strategic sale; bid to sell a profit-making unit: INTTUC

INDRANI DUTTA
KOLKATA

Talks about a strategic sale of the Kolkata-based 118-year old heritage pharmaceutical company, Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., (BCPL) founded by the doyen of Indian chemistry, Prafulla Chandra Ray, has left trade unions fuming and its workforce demoralised.

Acharya P.C. Ray had founded BCPL in 1901 as India's first pharmaceutical venture. However, its fortunes started sliding with its founder's death in 1944. BCPL was taken over by the government in 1977 amid persistent losses. Its losses peaked in 2003, touching ₹40 crore.

Through sustained efforts thereafter, a proactive management team led by the pre-



P.M. Chandraiah

trade, and on e-commerce sites. It was also among the first Indian manufacturers of anti-snake venom.

As many as 185 employees, including 50 officers, have been discharging their duties on salaries that remained frozen for 22 years.

₹25.3-crore net profit

In 2018-19, BCPL reaped a ₹25.3-crore net profit on the back of a ₹199.7-crore turnover. Additionally, ₹28-crore bank loans have been repaid and the corporate office building in the central business district has been freed of a mortgage.

Just as they were expecting to be rewarded for putting in their best efforts, reports of the Centre renewing its efforts to divest their hold-

We plan to take this company to a ₹500-crore turnover by 2024

P.M. CHANDRAIAH
Director - Finance

ing through a strategic sale has dealt a body blow to the employees, although none was willing to go on record.

The Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTTUC) staged a protest outside BCPL's Manikata unit on Tuesday. Dola Sen, INTTUC president, told *The Hindu* that at a time when an earlier Cabinet decision to pare government stake in the company was before the courts, it was surprising that the government was trying to mount fresh efforts to sell a profit-making public enterprise.

Official sources said that in its meeting earlier this month, the Union Cabinet had decided to constitute a Committee of Ministers for taking a decision on strategic sale of a few undertakings, adding that the setting up of this committee was likely to 'expedite the process of implementation' of the December 2016 Cabinet decision for strategic sale of BCPL.

"We know that the government is chasing a ₹1.05 lakh crore divestment and strategic sale target," Ms. Sen said. While announcing the 2018-19 results, Mr. Chandraiah had mapped out his plans for the company. "We work in mission mode here and we plan to take this great company to a ₹500-crore turnover by 2024.. that is my mission BCPL," he said.

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TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

The Expression of interest called by CMWSSB for the following work stands cancelled.

Sl. No.	Name of work & Tender No	Due date
1	Conducting Pre-feasibility Studies, Design, Preparation of DPR, Construction, Commissioning of 10 MLD Capacity SWRO Desalination Plant including Erection of Intake and Outfall Arrangements and Integration with existing Water Supply Network, Operation and Maintenance for 5 Years at Triplicane, MRC Nagar and Kasimedu, Chennai. CNT/WSS/ICB/DESAL/017/2019-20	25.07.2019

DIPR/2578/Tender/2019 SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (CONTRACTS & MONITORING)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA-DEPARTMENT OF SPACE CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC - SHAR, SRIHARIKOTA-524124, NELLORE (Dt.), A.P.

CORRIGENDUM-C

E-Tender No: SHAR:CMG CIVIL:EMS:TECH: eTender-07(C)/19-20 Dt:25.07.2019
Kindly refer to the Public Tender Notice No. Ref.No. SHAR: CMG CIVIL: EMS: TECH: ePublic Tender - 07/19-20 dt 29.05.19

1. T/C-19-025-Str Rehab Spl Repair @ SLP - Rs. 9.88 Lakhs
The undersigned hereby notify the following changes for the above tender works

Sale period extended up to 02.08.19 & 14:00 Hrs
Opening date & time of receipt: 05.08.19 & 14:30 Hrs
All other terms and conditions remain unaltered.

Sd/- Group Director, CMG, SDSC SHAR

SECUNDERABAD CANTONMENT BOARD
Sardar Patel Road, Court Compound, Secunderabad-500 003
Tel. No. 040 - 27808600 / 040 - 27808607

INVITATION OF SEALED QUOTATIONS

Sub:- Providing the work of Manpower Establishment of Special School for Mentally Challenged Children, Rasoolpura, Secunderabad Cantonment for the year 2019-2020.

Sealed quotations are invited from reputed manpower supplying agencies registered under Labour act for managing of Special School for mentally challenged children at Rasoolpura area of Secunderabad Cantonment. The details of the requirement are as under:-

Sl. No.	Description	Required No. of persons	Min. Required Qualification	Honorarium Payable
1	Principal	1	MSW, MED, PGDEI, MBA, MCA, M.Sc Speech, MPT, MOT or any other equivalent qualifications.	Rs.1,280/- per working day inclusive of all.
2	Teachers	8	Graduation in any discipline plus Diploma or Graduation with B.Ed / BMR / BRS DSE or any other equivalent qualification	Rs.1,120/- per working day inclusive of all (Rs.280/- per session x 4 sessions)
3	Physio-therapist	1	Graduation in any discipline plus BPT / MPT with minimum three years experience in the relevant field	Rs.1,120/- per working day inclusive of all (Rs.280/- per session x 4 sessions)
4	Speech Therapist	1	MSC / BSC (Speech therapy) or equivalent	Rs.1,120/- per working day inclusive of all (Rs.280/- per session x 4 sessions)
5	Unskilled labour (Aayahs)	4	---	Rs. 553/- per day. (As per minimum Wages Act , O/o Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner (Central))
6	Unskilled supervisor (Attender)	1	---	Rs.612/- per day. (As per minimum Wages Act , O/o Dy. Chief Labour Commissioner (Central))

The agency is required to submit their percentage towards service charges for providing above manpower and the honorarium / pay is inclusive of ESI, PF, etc

The period of the above requirement shall be for ONE year and the same is extendable basing on further necessity. In case of awarding the task the agency should enter into an agreement accepting the terms and conditions laid down by the Secunderabad Cantonment Board.

Interested firms are requested to submit their quotations by enclosing a Demand Draft of **Rs. 50,000/- (Security Deposit)** in the Name of "Chief Executive Officer, Secunderabad Cantonment Board" along with Registration under Labour Act and previous experience if any in the relevant field and the details of available manpower.

The sealed quotations will be received by this office on **06-08-2019 from 10:30 Hrs to 15:00 Hrs.** The same will be opened at **15:30 Hrs on 06-08-2019.**

Note:- Quotations received without Demand Draft of Rs. 50,000/- towards Security Deposit in original will not be accepted.

Sd/-
S.V.R. CHANDRA SEKHAR
Chief Executive Officer,
Secunderabad Cantonment Board.
Dated: 25-07-2019.

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EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notice No. : SG/DSE /07/10/19
Sl.No. : 1, Name of work with its Location : Utility Shifting due to DFCCIL formation near avoiding cabin / MGS alongwith provision of UFSBI in MGS/RR1 and Block Hut 'B' section. Sl. No. : 2, Approx. Cost of the work : Rs. 47,39,226.86/- (Rs. Forty seven lakh thirty nine thousand two hundred twenty six and eighty six paise only). Sl. No. : 3, Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 94,800/- (Rs. Ninety four thousand eight hundred only). Sl. No. : 4, Closing date & time for submission of e-tendering : 14/08/2019 up to 12.30 Hrs. Sl.No. : 5, Website particulars where complete details of tender can be seen etc. : www.ireps.gov.in
ASTE / E.C. Rly., Mughalsarai PR/845/MGS/S&T/19-20/T/32

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

E-Tender Notice No. : SG/DSE /07/09/19
Sl.No. : 1, Name of work with its Location : Provision of Computer Based Large Format Display System in Control Office and setting of datalogger based signal status monitoring system to suit the existing data logger system in Mughalsarai Divn. Sl. No. : 2, Approx. Cost of the work : Rs. 67,18,644.64/- (Rs. Sixty seven lakh eighteen thousand six hundred forty four and sixty four paise only). Sl. No. : 3, Earnest Money to be deposited : Rs. 1,34,400/- (Rs. One lakh thirty four thousand four hundred only). Sl. No. : 4, Closing date & time for submission of e-tendering : 14/08/2019 up to 12.30 Hrs. Sl.No. : 5, Website particulars where complete details of tender can be seen etc. : www.ireps.gov.in
ASTE / E.C. Rly., Mughalsarai PR/844/MGS/S&T/19-20/T/32



England recovers, moves ahead by 181 runs

Leach at the forefront with a career-best 92; Ireland has a short period of ascendancy with some quick wickets

LORD'S TEST

IANS
AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

Nighthawtman Jack Leach scored a career-best 92 while Jason Roy notched up his maiden Test half century as England recovered from a poor start to erase a 122-run deficit and take a 181-run lead with one wicket in hand at stumps on a rain-affected day two of the only Test against Ireland at Lord's on Thursday.

Leach, sent in as a night-watchman the previous evening to negotiate one over of England's second innings, played brilliantly for his 92 off 162 balls with 16 fours.

Test debutant Roy raced to 72 from 78 balls (10x4, 1x6) as the host gained the upper hand but just before tea, Ireland pacers dented England's charge with quick wickets to leave it at 209 for 5 at tea.

Rain interruption

In the final session which was cut short due to rain, England skipper Joe Root scored 31 from 64 balls (3x4) and Sam Curran added a quickfire 37 off just 29 deliveries (4x4, 2x6) as England finished on 303 for nine in

77.4 overs. For Ireland, Mark Adair was the pick of the bowlers with figures of three for 66.

Leach and Roy shared a 145-run stand for the second wicket as they went into lunch on 122 for one. But after resumption, Roy lost his wicket to Stuart Thompson while Leach missed out on a maiden and memorable hundred as he nicked first innings hero Tim Murtagh to Mark Adair in the slip cordon.

Joe Denly could manage only 10 and Jonny Bairstow once again got out for a duck like in the first innings. At tea, Root (12) and all-rounder Moeen Ali (7) were at the crease.

Watchfully straight

Unexpected opener Leach played watchfully straight. And when fast bowler Boyd Rankin, the first cricketer since the Nawab of Pataudi in 1946 to both play for and against England in a Test match, dropped short, Leach cut him for four.

Left-hander Rory Burns fell for six when he pushed hard at Rankin away from his body and edged a simple catch behind to wicketkeeper Gary Wilson.

Roy, looking to make England's problem position of Test opener his own after



Fighting knock: Opener Jack Leach gave a good account of himself while giving England's second innings a robust start. ■ AFP

starring in its World Cup triumph, off-drove a four off paceman Mark Adair and hoisted off-spinner Andy McBrine for six.

It was a fine effort by

Leach, playing his fifth Test but first on home soil.

The bespectacled Leach should have been out for 72 when he edged Rankin, only for Wilson to drop the

chance despite getting both hands to the ball.

Leach had another reprieve on 92 when he edged Murtagh only for Adair, standing exceptionally close

at second slip, to drop the chance.

But two balls later a softer, defensive, edge went straight to Adair and this time he made no mistake.

SCOREBOARD

England — 1st innings: 85.

Ireland — 1st innings: W. Porterfield c Leach b Curran 14, J. McCollum b Curran 19, A. Balbirnie b Stone 55, P. Stirling lbw b Broad 36, K. O'Brien (not out) 28, G. Wilson c Root b Stone 0, S. Thompson b Broad 0, M. Adair b Curran 3, A. McBrine b Broad 11, T. Murtagh c Burns b Stone 16, B. Rankin b Moeen 7; Extras (b-10, lb-6, w-2): 18; Total (in 58.2 overs): 207.

Fall of wickets: 1-32, 2-45, 3-132, 4-138, 5-138, 6-141, 7-149, 8-174, 9-195.

England bowling: Broad 19-5-60-3, Woakes 10-2-34-0, Stone 12-3-29-3, Curran 10-3-28-3, Leach 3-0-26-0, Moeen 4.2-1-14-1.

England — 2nd innings: J. Leach c Adair b Murtagh 92, R. Burns c Wilson b Rankin 6, J. Roy b Thompson 72, J. Denly run out 10, J. Root c Wilson b Adair 31, J. Bairstow lbw b Adair 0, Moeen c Wilson b Rankin 9, C. Woakes c Balbirnie b Adair 13, S. Curran c McCollum b Thompson 37, S. Broad (batting) 21, O. Stone (batting) 0; Extras (b-1, lb-7, nb-4): 12; Total (for nine wkts. in 77.4 overs): 303.

Fall of wickets: 1-26, 2-171, 3-182, 4-194, 5-194, 6-219, 7-239, 8-248, 9-293.

Ireland bowling: Murtagh 18-3-52-1, Adair 20-7-66-3, Rankin 17-1-86-2, Thompson 12.4-0-44-2, McBrine 10-1-47-0.

Indian team set to have new jersey sponsor

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Indian cricketers will soon be wearing a new brand name on their official jerseys with Chinese mobile manufacturer Oppo handing over the sponsorship rights to Byju's, a Bengaluru-based educational technology and online tutorial firm.

The deal between the BCCI and Oppo, which was inked in 2017 for a five-year period, was reportedly worth ₹1,079 crore.

Virat Kohli and his men will be wearing the jersey with the new brand name from the upcoming home season, beginning with the assignments against South Africa from September 15.

A source said that the transfer is a "tripartite agreement" between Oppo, Byju's and the BCCI and will be signed on Thursday.

"Oppo and Byju's are negotiating among themselves on the possible handover of shirt sponsorship deal. The CoA has been intimated that they are discussing among themselves on the transfer of sponsorship" a senior BCCI official said on condition of anonymity.

Consecutive wins for India U-19

Beats Bangladesh; Priyam Garg scores an unbeaten ton

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WORCESTER

Skipper Priyam Garg slammed a 97-ball century before the bowlers took centre stage to guide India U-19 to a 35-run win over Bangladesh U-19, its second consecutive in the Under-19 Youth ODI tri-series here.

Garg remained unbeaten on exactly 100, a knock that was studded with seven boundaries and four hits over the fence, taking India U-19 to 265 for five after opting to bat on Wednesday night.

Besides Garg, left-handed opener Yashasvi Jaiswal made 63 off 90 balls up the order. Jaiswal struck six fours and one six during his knock.

Tilak Varma (23) and Pragmesh Kanpillewar (23) got starts but couldn't prolong their stay, while wicketkeeper Dhruv Jurel (34) also chipped in with useful runs towards the end.

Ablly supported by left-arm spinner Shubhang Hegde (three for 59) and right-arm medium-pacer Kartik Tyagi (four for 16)



Leading the way: Skipper Priyam Garg slammed a 97-ball century to guide his team to victory. ■ FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

then led India's bowling attack to bundle out Bangladesh U-19 for 229 in 47.1 overs.

Captain Akbar Ali (56), Shamim Hossain (46) and opener Tanzid Hasan (44) were the main run getters for Bangladesh U-19.

India U-19 had defeated host England U-19 by five wickets in the tri-series opener last Sunday.

India U-19 will again meet Bangladesh U-19 in its next match in Cheltenham on Saturday.

The scores:

India U-19 264 for five in 50 overs (Priyam Garg 100 n.o., Yashasvi Jaiswal 63 bt Bangladesh U-19: 229 in 47.1 overs (Akbar Ali 56, Shamim Hossain 46; Kartik Tyagi four for 16, Shubhang Hegde three for 59).

WORLD SWIMMING

ASSOCIATED PRESS
GWANGJU (KOREA)

The Americans got ailing Katie Ledecky back. They just couldn't overcome a World record by the Australians at the World Championships.

Ledecky returned after two days out of the pool while being sick to swim in the 4x200m freestyle relay. She rallied the U.S. to the lead on her second leg, but it wasn't enough to defend the title from 2017.

The Australian quartet of Ariarne Titmus, Madison Wilson, Brianna Throssell and Emma McKeon won in 7 minutes, 41.50 seconds to erase the old mark of 7:42.08 set by China at the 2009 Worlds.

It was still a big night for the U.S. team with Caeleb Dressel and Olivia Smoliga winning golds.

King disqualified

Watching from the stands was Lilly King, who was disqualified from the morning heats of the 200 breaststroke and lost an appeal to be reinstated. The American was



Fantastic four: Australians Brianna Throssell, Ariarne Titmus, Emma McKeon and Madison Wilson celebrate their record-breaking effort in 4x200m freestyle event. ■ AP

penalized for not touching the wall with both hands in a simultaneous motion in the first turn of the four-lap race.

Dressel won the glamour 100 freestyle for his third gold and fourth medal overall.

"It hurt really bad to be honest," he said.

"You don't always get that magical feeling every night but you've just got to shut the brain off and go."

Dressel touched in 46.96 seconds, the only man to dip

under 47 seconds in the final. He was only 0.05 seconds off the 10-year-old world record of 46.91 set by Brazil's Cesar Cielo.

Olympic champion Kyle Chalmers of Australia settled for silver in 47.08. Vladislav Grinev of Russia took bronze in 47.82.

Dressel tied for quickest off the starting block and held off a challenge from Chalmers in the closing meters to defend the title he won in 2017.

The men's 200 individual medley title went to Daiya Seto of Japan. He touched in 1:56.14.

Jeremy Desplanches of Switzerland took silver. Chase Kalisz, the 2017 champion, earned bronze, ending the Americans' streak of winning at eight consecutive Worlds.

In women's 200 butterfly, Boglarka Kapas of Hungary won in 2:06.78, while Smoliga won the women's 50 backstroke, a non-Olympic event.

In the semifinals of the men's 200 breaststroke, Matthew Wilson of Australia timed of 2:06.67 to match the World record set by Ipppei Watanabe of Japan in January 2017.

Srihari's new mark

Meanwhile, India's Srihari Nataraj broke his own 200m backstroke National record in the heats.

The 18-year-old clocked 2:02.08s, bettering his own 2:02.37s, while finishing fourth in the heats but the time was not enough to carry him to the semifinal.

The results:

Men: 100m freestyle: 1. Caeleb Dressel (USA) 46.96s, 2. Kyle Chalmers (AUS) 47.08, 3. Vladislav Grinev (Rus) 47.82.

200m IM: 1. Daiya Seto (Jpn) 1:56.14, 2. Jeremy Desplanches (Sui) 1:56.56, 3. Chase Kalisz (USA) 1:56.78.

Women: 200m butterfly: 1. Boglarka Kapas (Hun) 2:06.78, 2. Hali Flickinger (USA) 2:06.95, 3. Katie Drabot (USA) 2:07.04.

50m backstroke: 1. Olivia Smoliga (USA) 27.33, 2. Etienne Medeiros (Bra) 27.44, 3. Daria Vasikina (Rus) 27.51.

4x200m freestyle relay: 1. Australia 7:41.50 (WR), 2. USA 7:41.87, 3. Canada 7:44.35.

Gill, Panchal squander starts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NORTH SOUND (ANTIGUA)

Opener Priyank Panchal and number three Shubman Gill squandered their promising starts to leave India-A at 134 for three at lunch on day two of the first unofficial Test against West Indies-A here on Thursday.

India-A, resuming at 70 for one, struggled to score 64 runs in 26.4 overs in the morning session and trails West Indies-A by 94 runs.

Both Panchal (49 off 115) and Gill (40 off 87) played loose shots to be dismissed. While Panchal was trapped in front off left-arm spinner Jomel Warrican, Gill went for a big shot off spinner Rahkeem Cornwall only to top-edge it at the stroke of lunch.

On day one, India was comfortably placed after bowling out the host for 228. Left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem returned impressive figures of five for 62 in 22 overs.

The scores: West Indies-A 228 in 66.5 overs vs India-A 134 for three in 48.4 overs (Priyank Panchal 49, Shubman Gill 40).

Exciting debut for Puneri Paltan

Sabine Winter seals defending champion Dabang Delhi's fate

UTT

RAKESH RAO
NEW DELHI

It went down the wire and till late in the deciding game of the final rubber, it was tough to call the winner. Eventually, it was the experience of Sabine Winter that turned the tide in favour of debutant Puneri Paltan.

Importantly, Paltan's 8-7 triumph left defending champion Dabang Delhi to rue the missed opportunity in the inaugural clash of the Ultimate Table Tennis league here on Thursday.

Sathiyar's twin-wins in vain

For the home team, G. Sathiyar's twin-wins proved inadequate. He grabbed a consolation 2-1 victory over Harmeet Desai in a repeat clash of the recent Commonwealth championship final to keep his team in the hunt after Paltan's Ayhika Mukherjee played to her reputation of being the Commonwealth titlist by blanking a nervous Krittwika Singh Roy.

Sathiyar returned to join hands with Bernadette Szocs to collect three more points



Star performer: Sabine Winter helped Puneri Paltan start its campaign on a winning note. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

at the expense of Chaung Chih-Yuan and Ayika in the third rubber. At this stage, the score stood at 5-4 in Delhi's favour.

As it turned out, in the two singles featuring overseas recruits for the teams, Paltan proved stronger. Chaung Chih-Yuan made amends for the loss in the mixed doubles by stopping

Jon Persson 2-1.

With the match tied at 6-6, Sabine raced away with opening game against Szocs of the fifth rubber. Much to the credit of Szocs, she handled the mounting pressure well in the second game and restored parity. In the decider, Sabine broke away from 6-6 and held on to her slender lead.

The results: Puneri Paltan beat Dabang Delhi 8-7 (Ayhika Mukherjee bt Krittwika Sinha Roy 11-10, 11-6, 11-0; Harmeet Desai lost to G. Sathiyar 3-11, 11-9, 9-11; Chaung Chih-Yuan-Ayhika lost to Sathiyar-Bernadette Szocs 6-11, 7-11, 7-11; Chaung Chih-Yuan bt Jon Persson 11-7, 11-8, 9-11; Sabine Winter bt Szocs 11-5, 7-11, 11-9).

Friday's fixture: Chennai Lions v U Mumba, 7 p.m.

PKL

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

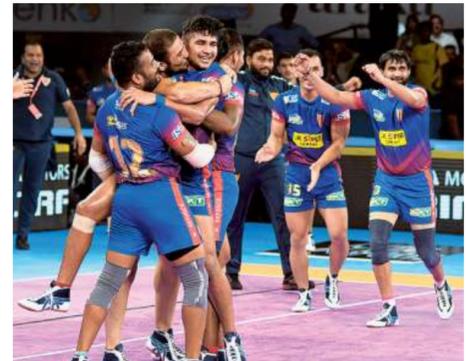
Dabang Delhi staged a remarkable fightback in the last five minutes to record an exciting 30-29 win over Tamil Thalaivas in the league phase of the Vivo ProKabaddi League Season-7 at Gachibowli Indoor Stadium here on Thursday.

Ironically, the defeat was the result of a costly error by one of Thalaivas' best defenders, Manjeet Chhillar, who slipped 'out of bounds' when Naveen Kumar was raiding.

After going out of bounds, he was involved in a tackle that pinned down Naveen, and Dabang was awarded the crucial point which proved decisive.

For a team which struggled in the first session, Dabang showed great spirit when it mattered to pick up points, thanks to the efficacy of defender Joginder Narwal and raider Naveen.

With the scores tied at 29, all eyes were on star raider Rahul Chaudhari. But, he returned after a blank visit and then Naveen's raid changed



Moment to savour: Dabang Delhi players celebrate an incredible win over Tamil Thalaivas. ■ K.V.S. GRI

the fortunes.

For the winner, Naveen with seven points from 17 raids and Narwal with four points were the key performers, while for Thalaivas, Rahul scored six points from 13 raids and Manjeet five from six tackles.

Earlier, it was a slow start to the contest before Thalaivas surged ahead to take a 5-1 lead. Then, there was some drama when captain Ajay Thakur's self-out not only denied an all-out but also conceded three points for a super tackle which saw Da-

bang reduce the lead to 3-5.

Immediately, star raider Rahul was pinned down by the Delhi defence to level the scores at five.

But, after that, it was a typical clinical performance from Thalaivas which saw them lead 18-11 at the break, Rahul scoring five points from eight raids and Ajay picking up three points.

The result: Dabang Delhi bt Tamil Thalaivas 30-29.

Friday's matches: Telugu Titans vs Patna Pirates (7.30 pm); UP Yodha vs Gujarat Fortnuegiants (8.30 pm).

'Will play as hard as possible'

Malinga's final ODI won't distract Bangladesh from trying to win: Tamim

CRICKET

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
COLOMBO

Stand-in Bangladesh captain Tamim Iqbal on Thursday paid tribute to retiring Sri Lankan star Lasith Malinga but said the fast bowler's farewell match would not distract his team from winning.

Malinga will play his final One-Day International here on Friday in the first of three matches against Bangladesh, although he hopes to continue playing in the shorter T20 format.

"I think he is a great ambassador of this game," Tamim told reporters on Thursday, adding Malinga's achievements were "extraordinary". "Tomorrow is a special game for him. But one thing is for sure - when we play against him we will not keep it in our head that it will be his last match and will try to play as hard as possible. We will try to win the game for Bangladesh."

Malinga said he was "very happy" to make way for younger players after calling time on his illustrious 15-year career in the 50-over format.



Time to move on: Lasith Malinga said it was an opportunity for the likes of Kusal Mendis, left, Avishka Fernando, Dhananjaya de Silva and Kusal Perera to prove their credentials. ■ AFP

"I am very happy to leave at this time. This is an opportunity for new players to prove themselves and prepare for the next World Cup.

"We may have had some setbacks, but we have the capability to win another World Cup," Malinga said, pointing to Sri Lanka's success at the 1996 World Cup and 2014 T20 World Cup.

Malinga - known for his trademark blond-highlight-

ed mop and piercings - called on cricket administrators to be patient with up-and-coming stars and let them develop ahead of the next ODI World Cup.

Have belief

"The young players need to believe that they can deliver. They need to be dedicated and develop to a level that they can decide for themselves when they go to the

middle," Malinga said.

The match also holds special meaning for Tamim, who will make his debut as 14th ODI captain for Bangladesh. He will lead a new-look team that will also miss the services of all-rounders Shakib Al Hasan and Mohammad Saifuddin, and wicket-keeper-batsman Liton Das.

The second and third matches will be held on July 28 and 31.

ICA membership: women cricketers looking for old records

G. VISWANATH
MUMBAI

India's women cricketers, who played in the domestic tournaments under the aegis of the Women's Cricket Association of India (WCAI) are in deep predicament.

In the absence of any record of the matches played from 1973 to 2005, women cricketers across the country have virtually given up trying to find evidence of having played the WCAI organised tournaments until 2005.

Over the last 12 months, many of them have been calling up teammates, scorers, statisticians and friends in the newspaper offices to collect score sheets and clippings of the matches in which they had played.

Only verified records of a certain number of matches they have played will allow women cricketers to apply for the membership of the Indian Cricketers Association (ICA) which is registered as a company with Kapil Dev, Shantha Rangaswamy and Ajit Agarkar as the initial directors of the Board. The CoA has recognised the ICA as the only body for men and



Shubhangi Kulkarni.
■ FILE PHOTO

women cricketers.

Three years ago, the Lodha panel recommendations that was validated by the Supreme court empowered women cricketers with meaningful roles and a place in the BCCI and State's Apex Council.

Eligibility criteria

The eligibility criteria for former men and women cricketers to apply for membership of the ICA are: (1) men and women ex-cricketers who have played at least one international cricket match in any format of the game at the senior level; (2)

male ex-cricketers, who have played at least ten First Class matches at the senior level; (3) female ex-cricketers who have played at least five First Class matches in any format of the game at the senior level; and (4) differently-abled ex-cricketers who have played either international cricket or First Class cricket, where such cricket is recognised by the ICC or the BCCI or a body recognised by the ICC or the BCCI, in any format of the game at the senior level.

The CoA has also said that every three senior one-day limited-over matches and every five senior T20 matches of the BCCI-organised inter-State or inter-zonal tournament shall count as a First Class match for men and women.

Time limit

The CoA has also said that within 20 days, former men and women cricketers should inform the associations of the State they hail from, expressing their interest to apply for membership of the ICA with relevant proof of meeting the eligibil-

ity criteria.

Nutan Natu (nee Gavasakar) told *The Hindu* that records were not maintained by the WCAI.

"Most of the matches played by the women were one-day matches and only the final of the national championship was a three-day match.

"I have played many matches over a period of four or five years, but all zonal and the inter-zonal were one-day matches."

Former India captain and secretary of the WCAI till 2006, Shubhangi Kulkarni believes that some of the States which promoted women's cricket could be having the records and they could become useful for the cricketers of the particular States. "On the basis of these records, the States can issue certificates to the former players who played in the WCAI domestic tournaments."

While the records of women's international cricket has been obtained from the IWCC, the BCCI has maintained all records after it began conducting tournaments for women.

I wouldn't trade this group of men for the world: Neesham

ANI
NEW DELHI

New Zealand's defeat in the cricket World Cup final was heart-wrenching. Batting all-rounder James Neesham said on Thursday that it is hard to dissect an experience like that but he would not trade his team for the world.

England won the World Cup, while New Zealand won the world. If a third category is added it would be Neesham won the hearts!

In an Instagram post, Neesham shared pictures with his teammates, including the one where he can be seen consoling Martin Gupthill after the loss in the final. He captioned it, indicating that he will prepare for the next edition.

"It's hard to really dissect an experience like that until you get a bit of distance. Sure some things didn't fall our way, but we went into the cup saying we were gonna fire some shots and scrap like hell and boy did we do both of those. Another day things might have been different but I wouldn't trade this group of men for the world," Neesham said.



Tough luck: James Neesham shared pictures with his teammates in an Instagram post, including the one where he can be seen consoling Martin Gupthill. ■ CLIVE MASON/GETTY IMAGES

Deepak loves to lead from the front

Enthusied by the respect gained from being part of PKL

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

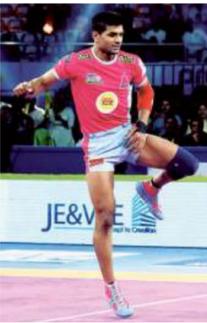
Deepak Niwas Hooda forms a feared combination with defender Amit Hooda for Jaipur Pink Panthers. U Mumba will vouch for this after its defeat in the ProKabaddi League Season-7 here the other night.

Not surprisingly, Deepak, who loves to lead from the front, did leave a huge impact on that game scoring 11 points from 15 raids and Amit notching up a high-five. "It's not about money alone. It's the kind of respect we get by playing in the PKL that is more important," emphasises Deepak in a chat with *The Hindu*.

"The growing fan following is a fair indicator of the popularity of not just the sport but also of the players," says the 25-year-old World Cup gold medalist.

Deepak, who is the biggest name for Pink Panthers, says: "I don't feel any pressure, but definitely lot more responsibility."

He is happy with the winning start and is obviously looking to sustain the mo-



Deepak Niwas Hooda.
■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

mentum. "We are a young side with an average age of 22 years, but immensely talented," he says.

"Also, we are fortunate to have an owner like Abhishek (Bachchan). I don't think any other franchisee owner is so deeply involved in the game. And, the best part is the way he keeps encouraging us despite setbacks," says the star raider.

And, his dream moment? "Waiting for that evening when our team clinches the trophy," he says.

'Home fans can expect something special'

Narwal is growing in reputation as a brilliant defender and useful attacker

NANDAKUMAR MARAR
MUMBAI

Allrounder Sandeep Narwal is U Mumba's key player in the ProKabaddi League Season-7.

Credited with 200 League points so far, the Sonapat sensation is growing in reputation as a brilliant defender and useful attacker.

The vice-captain, focused on bringing excitement to home fans during the Mumbai leg (U Mumba won one and lost one in the opening leg at Hyderabad and faces Purner Paltan here on Saturday), spoke to *The Hindu*. Excerpts:

What can Mumbai fans expect from Sandeep Narwal in the second leg?

U Mumba will demonstrate something different this season.

Fans can expect something special when I am on a raid or lending my hand in defence.

After raiders and defenders ruled the previous seasons, will allrounders call the shots in future?

The allrounder's role is be-

All teams have begun to realise the importance of allrounders

ing talked about.

All teams have begun to realise the importance of all-rounders.

Earlier, raiders called the shots, then teams with good defenders did well over the last two seasons.

Goals in mind for the season

ahead

Team result is more important than personal highs. Getting two tackle or raid points and ending up on the winning side is equal to 200 points.

Raiders usually end up contributing more points

Fans can expect something special when I am on a raid or lending my hand in defence.

than catchers, I will try to deliver expected from me in both halves.



A point to prove: Sandeep Narwal, centre, sees a bigger role for allrounders henceforth. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

BBL unveils five-team finals series

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SYDNEY

Australia's Twenty20 Big Bash League unveiled a new-look finals series and a shorter season on Thursday following fan feedback.

The ninth year of the domestic competition, starting on December 17, will again see the eight franchises playing 56 regular season games, but they will be condensed into 42 days with more double-headers.

Five teams will now be involved in the finals with a

new system that gives a double-chance for the regular season's top two teams.

The fourth and fifth-placed teams will play in the newly titled 'The Eliminator' with the winner facing the third-placed team in 'The Knock-Out'.

Teams finishing first and second play 'The Qualifier', with the loser taking on the winner of 'The Knock-Out' in 'The Challenger'. It will culminate with 'The Final' between the Challenger and Qualifier winners.

Warner scores fifty in Ashes warm-up match

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

David Warner made a timely fifty as Australia's bowlers continued to hold sway in an intra-squad Ashes warm-up match at Southampton.

A fixture scheduled for four days will barely make it into the third, with this match Australia's only red-ball warm-up game ahead of a five-Test series with England starting at Edgbaston

on August 1.

Warner hit eight fours in a 94-ball 58. It was the first fifty of the match between the Brad Haddin XII and the Graeme Hick XII.

Fast bowler Pat Cummins had earlier taken five for 24 to run through the tail of the Hick side, who led by 15 runs on first innings after being dismissed for 120.

By stumps on day two, Hick XII was 35 for two.

Going places



On a mission: Indian Divyang Cricket team poses for lensmen ahead of its departure to England where it will play the 6-Nation Physical Disability World Cricket Series in August. ■ SUPREET SAPKAL

India thumps Jamaica

KINGSTON: India blind cricket team registered a massive 238-run victory over Jamaica in the first T20 match to take a lead in a two-match T20 series here on Wednesday.

The scores: India 286 for three (Sunil 107 n.o., Venkateswara 53) bt Jamaica 48 (Graham 12, Miles 9, Ajay four for 12). ANI

FIFA asks AIFF for update on club structure

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

FIFA, world football's governing body, has sought an update from the All India Football Federation (AIFF) on the current status of the club structure in the country.

In response to the letter sent by six I-League clubs to FIFA president Gianni Infantino, FIFA's Chief Member Associations Officer Joyce Cook, has asked for an update from the national federation.

The clubs - East Bengal, Mohun Bagan, Minerva Punjab, Churchill Brothers, Aizawl FC and Gokulam Kerala - had sought Infantino's intervention in the dispute over the top tier status in Indian football between Indian Super League (ISL) and I-League.

It may be recalled that, earlier this month, the AIFF had announced that it would recommend to the AFC to consider the ISL champion for a spot in the qualifiers for the AFC Champions League.

"Further to previous exchanges concerning the sustainable development of top-level Indian club football and the current situation within Indian football, we have recently become aware of media reports concerning ongoing discussions with I-League clubs, the future of the top league's structure in India and a potentially unified 'Indian Football League'. Furthermore, we have also been contacted by several I-League clubs in this regard," Cook wrote in a mail addressed to AIFF general secretary Kushal Das.

"Many of the elements under discussion are related to suggestions made in a joint FIFA and AFC report following an extensive con-

sultation process in 2018. The report's objectives are among others, to provide the AIFF with external expertise and to support your federation and its stakeholders in establishing and implementing a widely-supported, robust medium to long-term strategy.

"As you know, the report is therefore a comprehensive review and professional proposal which also contains a series of clear and concrete recommendations for your further consideration. In view of the above, we would like to obtain an update on the current position of the AIFF as well as any additional information you may be able to provide on the present situation.

Same as Patel's thinking

Reacting to the letter, the AIFF in a statement said: "In the recent days, the AIFF President Mr. Praful Patel in his meeting with the Hero I-League clubs as well as in several recent interviews has broadly taken the same line as was suggested in the above-mentioned report.

"Needless to mention that this is precisely the reason that a two-three-year window is required to resolve all contentious issues amicably with all stakeholders."

It further added: "The question of Hero Indian Super League not remaining a closed league permanently has been clarified amply enough by the AIFF President, and promotion and relegation eventually would lead to the development of club football in India."

The AIFF said it is committed to engaging with AFC and FIFA as well as all other stakeholders for finding an early resolution to these issues.



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