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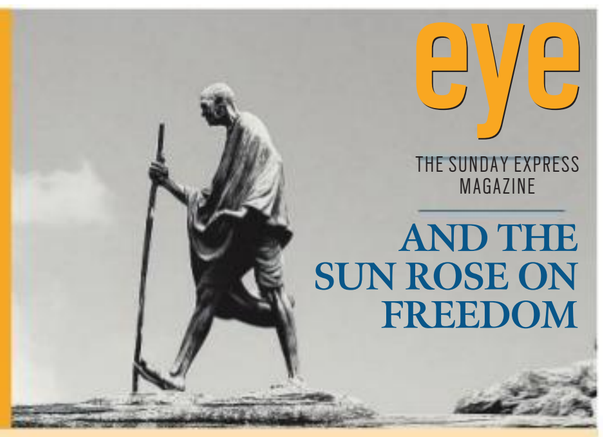

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THE SUNDAY EXPRESS MAGAZINE

And the Sun Rose on Freedom

Artists, writers and children respond to the idea of liberty. First, a memory of August 15, 1947

IDEA EXCHANGE PAGE 12

'DON'T SEE PRECAUTION LIKE ARRESTS AS OUR POLICY... WAIT 15 DAYS IN KASHMIR'

PRAKASH JAVADEKAR, Union minister

BIG PICTURE PAGES 14-15

Up in the air

In Centre's clean and sudden surgery on J&K, Ladakh was expected to be happiest. However, there is no one story here

REMOVAL OF SPECIAL STATUS

Centre's move in J&K, info blackout challenged in SC

NC MPs' petition questions use of Art 370 to undo Art 30; *Kashmir Times* editor seeks freedom for media to operate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

TWO LOK Sabha MPs of the National Conference moved the Supreme Court on Saturday, urging it to declare the Presidential orders revoking the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, and the law reorganising the state into two Union Territories, as unconstitutional.

The petition focussed its challenge on the Centre's use of Article 370 to undo Article 370, and on the manoeuvre of taking what amounted to its own consent, to change the federal character of the Union.

Also on Saturday, the Executive Editor of the *Kashmir Times* daily newspaper moved the Supreme Court against the "communication blackout" in Jammu and Kashmir, and sought directions to authorities to take steps to ensure free and safe movement of reporters, journalists, and other media personnel.

In their petition, Mohammad Akbar Lone, MP from Baramulla, and Hasnain Masoodi (Anantnag), said that "the impugned Presidential Orders and Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act unconstitutionally undermine the scheme of Article 370 (of the Constitution)".

One of the Presidential Orders, they said, "uses Article 370(1)(d) — which was meant to apply other provisions of the Constitution to the state of Jammu and Kashmir — to alter

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

EXPLAINED

State's consent, use of Art 370

THE MAIN arguments in the plea are against the Centre's use of Article 370 to alter Article 370, and substituting the concurrence of the state Assembly with concurrence of the Governor — which amounts to the Centre taking own consent to change the character of a federal unit.

In Srinagar on Saturday, two days ahead of Eid. *AP*

GLOOM IN KASHMIR BEFORE FESTIVAL; EDITORS GUILD EXPRESSES CONCERN, PAGE 10

NAMED INTERIM PRESIDENT

Sonia to Rahul to Sonia: Cong takes step back to move forward

MANOJ C G
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

THREE MONTHS after Rahul Gandhi quit as party chief and almost 20 months since she made way for him to lead the party, the Congress Saturday named Sonia Gandhi its new interim Congress president.

The decision, in what seemed to be a well-choreographed move, came after the Congress Working Committee, following a marathon discussion for close to 12 hours, failed to arrive at a consensus on picking a non-Gandhi successor to Rahul, who was adamant on quitting. He had resigned as chief in May after the party's disastrous performance in the Lok Sabha polls.

Sonia was appointed interim president until organisational elections are held to pick a new chief but the party did not announce a timeline to hold such internal elections. The CWC did not discuss the issue, sources said. Her first challenge will be Assembly elections in Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Haryana due in November. Sonia had made way for Rahul as Congress president in December 2017 after helming the party for nearly two decades.

In a way, the old guard in the party won the day as the decision to bring back Sonia has silenced those demanding a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Sonia Gandhi arrives at the AICC office Saturday. *Prem Nath Pandey*

Russia backs India on J&K; says within framework of Constitution

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

IN WHAT is being seen as a ringing endorsement of New Delhi's move to bury the special status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370, Russia Saturday became the first United Nations Security Council (UNSC) permanent member to underscore that the move was carried out "within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of India".

It also underlined the "bilateral" nature of the issue, as it spelt out the Simla Agreement of 1972 and Lahore Declaration of 1999 — a position maintained by New Delhi. Islamabad has been trying to internationalise the issue, and has decided to approach the United Nations, including the Security Council.

While the US and UK have made statements on the Centre's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Notes via TV, letters via strangers: cut-off Valley seeks news of families

ADIL AKHZER & BASHAARAT MASOOD
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 10

AMID A complete information blockade, people are trying everything from lining up at crowded government offices that have working telephones to approaching OB vans of satellite news channels, to get word out to their families.

After the blockade came into force Sunday night, Naazir Ahmad from Sopore, whose sister is studying at a university in Chandigarh, first went to the local BSNL exchange on Tuesday to try and contact her. Told their servers were down, he went to the Srinagar airport the next day to look for a person going to Chandigarh. "I gave my sister's number to a person, and requested him to call her as soon the aircraft arrived in Chandigarh," Ahmad said. He also visited the BSNL exchange in Srinagar and the local Deputy Commissioner's office in the city, and says was not allowed entry in either.

On Thursday afternoon finally, through a police officer's phone, he managed to call his sister. Ahmad said she told him she is leaving for home, and would arrive Sunday. "She said it was not safe to be in Chandigarh."

While the government claims to have set up 300 telephone booths to help people contact their family members outside the Valley, there is no information on where these booths are located. Said a Srinagar resident, "Even if we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

People crowd around an official to use a phone in Srinagar on Saturday. *Reuters*

SUNDAY STORY
PAGE 13

THE NEW GREAT GAME

Amid decision to change J&K status, the geopolitics driving the region

BJP wants some curbs to be put on 'outsiders' over land, govt jobs

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, AUGUST 10

LESS THAN a week after the abrogation of Article 370 by the Union government, and scrapping of Article 35A which extended special privileges to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the local BJP wants some restrictions placed in the state on the purchase of land by "outsiders", as well as on their appointment in government jobs.

Senior BJP leader Nirmal Singh told *The Sunday Express* that they want a safeguard like a "domicile" certificate, so as to "protect the interests of locals in respect to land and state jobs".

While the opposition parties have been talking of land becoming scarce and government appointments more difficult for locals after the August 5 central declaration, the BJP too seems to have sensed that this might gain traction in Jammu after the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

Rescue operations on at Malappuram on Saturday. *PTI*

MONSOON FURY IN THE WEST, SOUTH, PAGE 11

Two days after Kerala rain buried houses under hill, 46 missing

SHAJU PHILIP
KAVALAPPARA (MALAPPURAM), AUGUST 10

RESCUE WORKERS finally managed to reach Kavalappara village in Malappuram, Kerala, on Saturday noon, two days after a hill came down following incessant rain, burying more than a dozen houses and at least 46 people.

A full-fledged search operation had to wait as forces and rescue workers could not be mobilised to the spot due to heavy rain and landslides along the way. On Saturday, even as the men, aided by locals rummaging through the debris for their friends and relatives, were carrying out rescue, another portion of the hill came down in the area, which is spread over vast coconut and rubber plantations.

The victims had been taken by surprise by the landslide, which sent a blanket of slurry and rubble into their houses, on Thursday night.

Malappuram District Superintendent of Police U V Abdul Kareem said as per reports, 19 houses with 46 people

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

How UP Police is using WhatsApp to bust fake news

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 10

ON JUNE 21 this year, college student Souvik Das spotted an old woman, evidently lost, surrounded by people at the railway station in Durgapur in West Bengal. "They were trying to talk to her. But all she could say was the word 'Gorakhpur'," Das said.

He shared a picture of the woman on social media platforms, and sent a message to UP Police on Facebook. "I got a response from them a day later, saying the woman had been identified. They told me that her name is Jhinka Devi, and she belongs to Bansgaon village in Gorakhpur," Das said.

Rahul Srivastava, Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP), Technical Services, described how they identified the 63-year-old woman.

"Das had sent us a picture of Jhinka Devi. We circulated it on all WhatsApp groups of the 26 police stations in Gorakhpur with our digital volunteers. One of the volunteers, the pradhan of Bansgaon village, recognised the woman and informed the local police. She was brought back the next day," he said.

Srivastava is also the social media head for Uttar Pradesh Police, and the monitoring authority for the 'digital volunteers' initiative started on July 19, 2018. Police say some 3.5 lakh digital volunteers are associated with them today.

Twelve police officers are part of the social media team based at the DGP headquarters in Lucknow. "They oversee the digital volunteers initiative, too. Two of the 12 officers, a DSP and a Sub-Inspector, are women. The officers work in eight-hour shifts and ensure round-the-clock vigil on social media," Srivastava said.

"We have recently got approval for 15 more police officers on the social media team. They will be posted here soon."

Jhinka Devi's son Doodhnath Prajapati, who has a furniture business, told *The Sunday Express* that his mother is mentally challenged. "She leaves home on her own, and sits in any

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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UP DGP O P Singh holds a meeting with his social media team at the DGP HQs in Lucknow. *Express*

WORLD

JEFFREY EPSTEIN 'KILLS HIMSELF' IN PRISON IN THE US

TARGETED MEXICANS, SAYS EL PASO GUNMAN
PAGE 21

INSIDE

KAMAL NATH GOVT MULLS SETTING UP VEDIC CITY
PAGE 10

Athletics body asked for photos, got tattoos and six packs

ANDREW AMSAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

ONE ATHLETE posted a picture flashing a finger and another uploaded one like a convict, with a slate hanging in front of his chest. Some pictures were from weddings in bright *sherwanis* or in dimly-lit restaurants and grassy parks. And one athlete, with some nifty editing, even wove in the London Eye into the background.

These were among the photographs the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) received after the apex body that manages athletics made online registration mandatory for entry in competitions last month. They had expected the government-preferred passport or formal photographs, but what they got were chiselled torsos and tattooed bodies, spikes and fancy hairdos.

In the end, the AFI provisionally rejected around one-fourth of the 3,000 applications it received. The reason stated: "Pictures weren't appropriate for official purposes."

"We had to reject hundreds of applicants for inappropriate pictures. All we sought was a simple passport picture for our registration and we received all kinds of colourful and weird pictures," said AFI communications manager, Divesh Bhal.

"In some pictures, the athletes' faces were not visible even. How do they expect us to verify them? I want to humbly request all the athletes to send us proper passport pictures so that they get the ID numbers quickly."

Although most rejected applications were from younger athletes, a few seasoned ones faltered too. Shotputter Inderjeet Singh, an Asian Games medallist, and Sarita Gayakwad, an Asiad gold medallist, were among those whose applications were provisionally rejected. According to the process, they will have to resend their applications with a proper passport picture.

"We were told that a unique identification number is mandatory for the coming Inter-state meet in Lucknow. I got it in a couple of days. But there are many fellow athletes who were told they have to send proper passport pictures," said middle-distance national runner Beant Singh.

All athletes whose forms are temporarily rejected are sent automated intimation via email with the contact details of the officer in charge. Once the athlete gets in touch with the official, the exact reason for rejection is spelt out. Apart from poor pictures, incomplete address and age proof documents are other causes for which entries were rejected.

Last month, after re-launching its website, the AFI made it mandatory for all athletes to register on their portal and avail a unique identification number. The national body believes this will reduce duplicity and bring uniformity to the process.

"Earlier, the state federations would have to upload fresh forms before each competition. They had complained about the tedious process," said an official helming the project.

"We are the first national sports federation to develop such a system. Now, all they have to do is select players from our system. This will be the norm and no on-the-spot registrations will be entertained."

Among the photographs rejected by the AFI

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WEB EXCLUSIVE

IN 1947, US SAID: BEST INDIA, PAKISTAN 'SETTLE' KASHMIR BY 'DIRECT NEGOTIATION'
A United States State Department spokesperson on Friday said a flat "No" to a question on whether there had been a change in the American position that Jammu and Kashmir was a bilateral issue to be settled between India and Pakistan.

VIDEO OF THE DAY

HOW DEPENDENT ARE WE ON FOOD DELIVERY APPS?
Is our generation dependent on them?

FULL COVERAGE

CWC MEETING
Rahul's resignation under consideration, panel to decide tonight, says Surjewala

EXPRESS AUDIO
Busting myths about Yoga, with Devdutt Pattanaik
NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY
In this episode of The Sandip Roy Show, Sandip talk to Devdutt about the story of Yoga, how it has evolved over the years and what we get wrong about it.

Jaitley is responding to treatment: Venkaiah's office

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

FORMER UNION minister Arun Jaitley, who has been admitted to the AIIMS, Delhi after he complained of breathlessness and restlessness, is stable and responding to treatment, the Vice President's Office said on Saturday after Venkaiah Naidu visited the hospital.

"The doctors informed the Vice President that Shri Jaitley is responding to the treatment and his condition is stable. The Vice President also met Shri Jaitley's family members who were present," the Vice President's secretariat tweeted.

Jaitley was admitted to the AIIMS Intensive Care Unit on Friday morning after he complained of breathlessness and restlessness, but doctors on Friday said he is "haemodynamically stable". The hospital did not issue any fresh bulletin on Jaitley's health on Saturday.

Meanwhile, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal tweeted, "Very happy to know that @arunjaitley ji is improving. Wish him good health and speedy recovery."

FROM PAGE ONE

SC challenge

Article 370 itself, and thereby, the terms of the federal relationship between the state of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union of India".

Pointing out that the Order was passed when the state was under Presidents' Rule, the petition says that it "substitutes the concurrence of the Governor for that of the Government and effectively, therefore, amounts to the Central Government... taking its own consent... to change the very character of a federal unit".

"In other words, the Presidential Order takes cover of a temporary situation, meant to hold the field until the return of the elected government, to accomplish a fundamentally, permanently, and irreversibly alteration of the status of the State of Jammu and Kashmir without the concurrence, consultation or recommendation of the people of that State, acting through their elected representatives."

This, the MPs have argued, "amounts to an overnight abrogation of the democratic rights and freedoms guaranteed to the people of the State... upon its accession".

The petitioners have also objected to the amendments making the Constitution of India applicable to J&K. The Order, they have said, "undermines one of the basic purposes of Article 370, which was to facilitate the extension of constitutional provisions to the State in an incremental and orderly manner, based upon the needs and requirements at a particular time, without dismantling the state Constitution".

The question, the petition says, is whether the Centre can "unilaterally unravel" the country's federal scheme "under cover of President's Rule, while undermining crucial elements of due process and the rule of law". This, the MPs have said, "goes to the heart of Indian federalism, democratic processes and the role of this Hon'ble Court as the guardian of the federal structure".

On the rationale for Article 370, the petitioners have said that the framers of the Indian Constitution believed that national integration would be best served by a pluralistic federal model.

"Under this model, one size need not always fit all, and the requirements of different states — based on unique historical, cultural, social, and political factors — could be accommodated within the overall constitutional framework."

Lone and Masoodi have also argued that the Constitution does not allow the downgrading of the state to a Union Territory.

"...The Indian federal scheme — as exemplified by Article 1 and Article 3 of the Indian Constitution — does not permit Parliament to retrogressively downgrade statehood into a less representative form such as a Union Territory," the petition says, adding that the Supreme Court has "repeatedly held that federal republican democracy is a basic feature of the Indian Constitution".

According to the petitioners, "the right to autonomous self government and to one's identity within a federal framework are essential fundamental rights". These "valuable rights", they have said, "have been taken away without the procedure established by law", in a manner that "violates every canon of Constitutional morality".

In her plea, the Executive Editor of Kashmir Times, Anuradha Bhasin, said that the "strict and harsh curfew-like restrictions on movement imposed by the State through the heavy presence of police and military forces, using barricades, checkpoints, etc., are enforced in a manner so as to restrict and block the movement of reporters and journalists in the Kashmir valley, and the same is excessive, disproportionate and gross abuse of State power in violation of the rights and in derogation of the duty of the free press".

The petition said that the Srinagar edition of the Kashmir Times could not be circulated on August 5, and the newspaper has not been published since then. The paper's Jammu office has no means to communicate with its Srinagar office "due to the communication blackout enforced by the State".

Bhasin said she feared for the safety of the journalists, reporters, and other staff of Kashmir Times working in the Srinagar office, with whom she is unable to have any contact or communication.

Besides these two petitions, three other petitions related to the developments in Jammu and Kashmir are already pending before the top court.

One of these is by activist Tehseen Poonawala who has sought directions for lifting of the curfew, release of arrested political leaders, and restoration of Internet services. The plea has been listed for hearing before a Bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra on August 13.

Advocate M L Sharma has filed a petition challenging the notification amending Article 367.

Shakir Shabir, a lawyer from Kashmir, moved the court on Friday, also contending that the notification amending Article 367 was illegal, unconstitutional, void ab-initio and ultra vires the Constitution.

Russia on J&K

move to scrap Kashmir's special status and bifurcate the state into two Union Territories, none have backed Delhi's position like Moscow just has. Incidentally, China has been critical of India's move, which New Delhi has rejected.

Meanwhile, Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said Saturday that China fully supports Pakistan in approaching the UNSC. On returning from China where he met his counterpart Wang Yi, Qureshi according to PTI, said: "I shared with China that we intend on taking this matter to the United Nations Security Council. I want to tell the nation that they have assured us of their complete support."

"We are considering other options as well. we hope there's no bloodshed, but we see things moving towards further escalation in tension," he said. The MEA Friday had said it was time for Pakistan to see the new reality and stop interfering in the internal matters of India.

The Russian Foreign Ministry said Saturday, "Moscow expects that India and Pakistan will not allow aggravation of the situation in the region due to the change by Delhi in the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir."

"We proceed from the fact that the changes associated with the change in the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir and its division into two Union Territories are carried out within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of India...We hope that the parties involved will not allow a new aggravation of the situation in the region as a result of the decisions."

Emphasising that Russia is a consistent supporter of the normalisation of relations between India and Pakistan, the Russian Foreign Ministry said, "We hope that the differences between them will be resolved by political and diplomatic means on a bilateral basis in accordance with the provisions of the Simla Agreement of 1972 and the Lahore Declaration of 1999."

Sources said that Russia has always, in the past, wanted the issue to be discussed bilaterally, and has not been in favour of the matter being raised at the UNSC, where it has vetoed similar moves in the past.

Russian ambassador Nikolay Kudashev has been briefed at least twice by the Ministry of External Affairs, and Indian ambassador to Russia D B Venkatesh Verma has also briefed the Russian government in Moscow.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to travel to Vladivostok in Russia for a summit meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin from September 4 to 6. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is likely to travel to Russia this month.

J&K letters

know where they are set up, how do we reach them? They have barricaded the roads and ask for curfew passes. How do we even get those curfew passes?"

Ali Mohammed, 55, who lives in Old Srinagar with his wife, struggled for three days to reach their daughter, who works in Delhi. On Monday, he managed to send a message through a relative that they were fine and requested her to recharge their Dish TV, which had stopped working Saturday.

On Wednesday afternoon, they received a letter from the daughter, sent by her through a common friend arriving from Delhi. "Hello Mumma and Abu," it said, "I am okay. I will come home soon. Please turn on the television because I have recharged the Dish TV. You can watch the news."

Mohammed Idrees visited a news channel's office in New Delhi and requested them to send a message to his father through its reporter in the Valley. The reporter contacted Idrees's father to say he was safe and wanted to speak to him. "I visited the channel's office and they helped me talk to him through their satellite phone," the father said.

Relieved, he added, "We couldn't sleep all these days without any information on him."

Bilal Ahmad's brother spent all day Monday at the Srinagar airport waiting for him to arrive from Saudi Arabia, where he works as a doctor. He left only after the last flight had arrived without him, worried and without any information. The family members visited the local police station next to try contact Bilal on a satellite phone. It was only on Thursday morning that a relative, who had managed to contact Ahmad in Saudi Arabia through a friend who had travelled to Delhi, brought the message that the doctor had cancelled his tickets.

"There were some rumours that a doctor had been killed in Delhi. My mother kept crying all these days. Ahmad is now arriving on Sunday," said younger brother Imtiyaz Ahmad.

After waiting four days to reach family members in Baramulla, Ibtihaj Ahmad, 21, who studies interior design in Mohali, flew down from Chandigarh to meet them on Friday. "I kept watching television in the hope of hearing something about my place. They talked a little bit about Srinagar but nothing about any other place in the Valley."

However, having arrived in Srinagar, Ibtihaj had no idea how he would make his way to his home in Khawja Bagh in Baramulla, 55 km away.

With TV channels and newspaper reporters limited to a small perimeter in Srinagar, news from other parts of the Valley, both from north and south, and even peripheries of the city, is only trickling in through patients and their attendants travelling to Srinagar hospitals.

Like a group of youth from Tahab village in Pulwama, who travelled to Srinagar on Thursday afternoon with a friend who had fractured an arm. "We don't even know what is happening in our village," they said. "There is an eerie silence. People are very angry but there is an unprecedented deployment of forces."

Ali Mohammad took six hours to cover 110 km from Chowkibal in Kupwara to Srinagar's Bone and Joint (B&J) Hospital — a journey that normally takes less than half the time. Pointing to his six-year-old daughter, who lay on a thermocoal sheet on the hospital pavement, Ali said, "She fractured her elbow three weeks ago. The doctors had given an appointment for today to remove the pins from it. We were stopped at over a dozen places on the way."

He too described the situation along the route, including in Sopore and Pattan, as calm. "People are very angry but quiet."

Bashir Ahmad has been at the hospital with his mother for over a week. Ahmad's mother was discharged on Thursday afternoon, but he doesn't know how to go back home to Safapora. "We have no news from home for four days," he said. "We are anxious, but there is no vehicle to take us back. We are waiting for an ambulance to come from our side."

Sonia to Rahul to Sonia

younger leader as Congress president. Sources said Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, too, declined to take over as Congress chief at the CWC meeting saying "there is no question".

Sources said when the CWC passed a resolution appointing Sonia interim president, she did not immediately accept the decision. She only said "suddenly you all have come with this...I was not expecting this..I will have to think about it", according to a Congress leader.

"Happy to see Smt. Sonia Gandhi ji back in the saddle. It was the best decision in the current circumstances. Her experience and understanding will help guide @INCIndia. I wish her and the party all the best," Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh tweeted. Singh was the first senior Congress leader and Chief Minister to have demanded that a young leader be appointed as the Congress president.

"This is the best under the circumstances because of the challenges," CWC member Kumar Selja told The Indian Express. Sources said Selja, considered close to the Gandhi family, first proposed that Sonia take over the reins until a viable arrangement is put in place. "Given the circumstances, the appointment of Sonia as interim chief is the most appropriate decision," said former Union minister K V Thomas.

"The CWC considered the views of PCC presidents, CLP leaders, AICC secretaries and Members of Parliament. The CWC unanimously resolved that Rahul Gandhi should continue as Congress president... However, Rahul Gandhi declined to withdraw his resignation. Consequently, the CWC unanimously resolved to request Sonia Gandhi to take over as interim president pending the election of a regular president by the AICC," stated a resolution adopted by the CWC after the meeting.

The CWC also passed a resolution expressing appreciation and gratitude for the exceptional leadership provided by Rahul Gandhi as Congress chief. "Rahul Gandhi led the party with unbounded drive, fierce determination and dedication," it said.

Sources said that five groups of CWC members, tasked with listening to the views of state Congress presidents, CLP leaders, AICC secretaries and MPs reported to the CWC, when it met for the second time at 8.30 pm, that the overwhelming view was that Rahul should continue. The second option, the reports of the group said, was Priyanka Gandhi. But she flatly refused to take over, sources said.

Most leaders told the CWC sub groups warned that the party may disintegrate. In fact, Punjab Congress president Sunil Jhakar told the CWC members that he cannot accept any other leader and would rather sit at home if any other leader is appointed. "The kind of names which are floating around...I cannot accept any of them as my leader," he is learnt to have told the CWC.

His predecessor Partap Singh Bajwa, it is learnt, told the CWC that the party will face a major exodus if any other leader is appointed Congress president. He said Rahul is falling into a BJP trap by stepping down and most leaders would desert the party if a non-Gandhi is appointed.

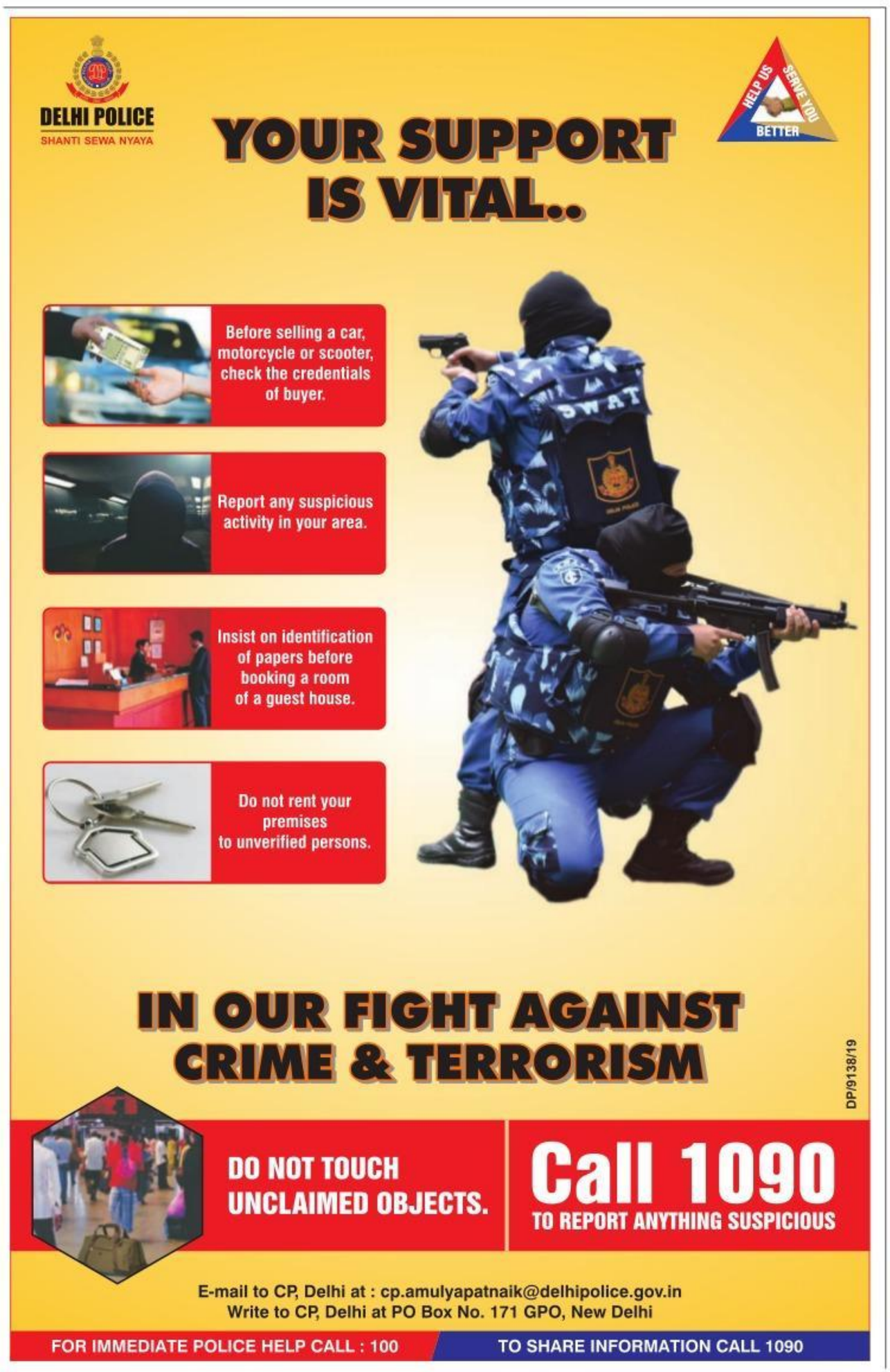
Earlier, Mukul Wasnik and Mallikarjun Kharge had emerged frontrunners to lead the party when deliberations began at 11 AM. The CWC agreed to Rahul's suggestion to listen to state Congress presidents, CLP leaders, AICC secretaries and MPs to pick the next party chief.

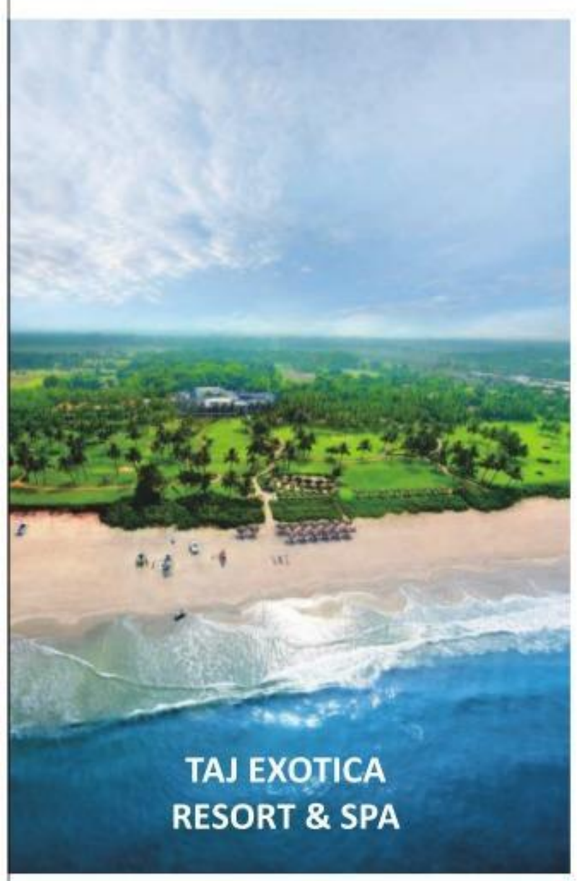
But the consultation process turned out be an exercise in futility - the CWC decided to "note down" and "record" the views of every single leader and most played safe. Sources said almost all suggested that Rahul should continue as Congress chief.

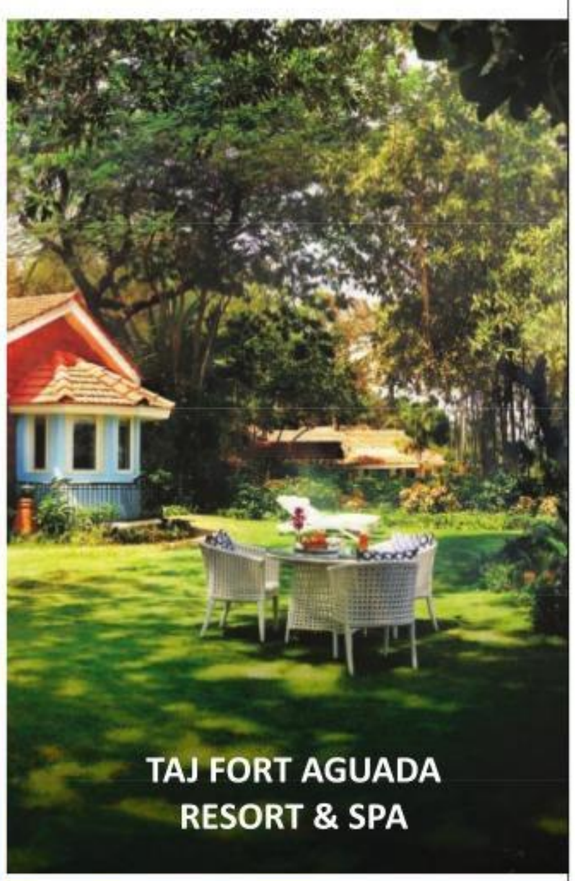
When the CWC reconvened again at 8.30 pm, Rahul arrived an hour late and while leaving told reporters that he had come to discuss the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

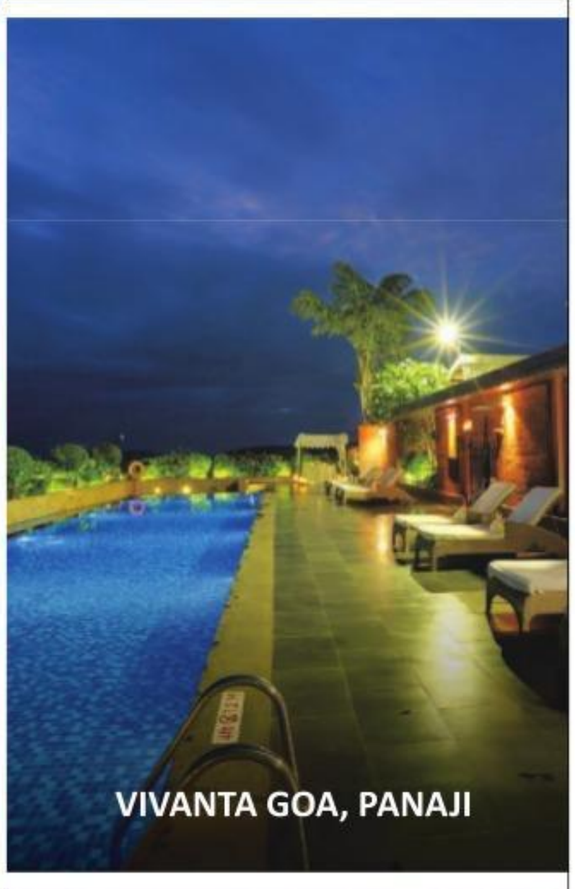
"I was called by the Working Committee just now because between the work they were doing to choose the next Congress president some reports have come that things in Jammu and Kashmir are going very wrong. There are reports of violence, there are reports of people dying in Jammu and Kashmir. So we stopped our deliberations on the Congress president issue and we had a presentation on what was going in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"It is very very important that the Government of India and the Prime Minister make it very clear and transparent exactly what is happening in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. We are extremely concerned about reports that are coming and the Government needs to assuage the country and tell the country exactly what is happening and be transparent."









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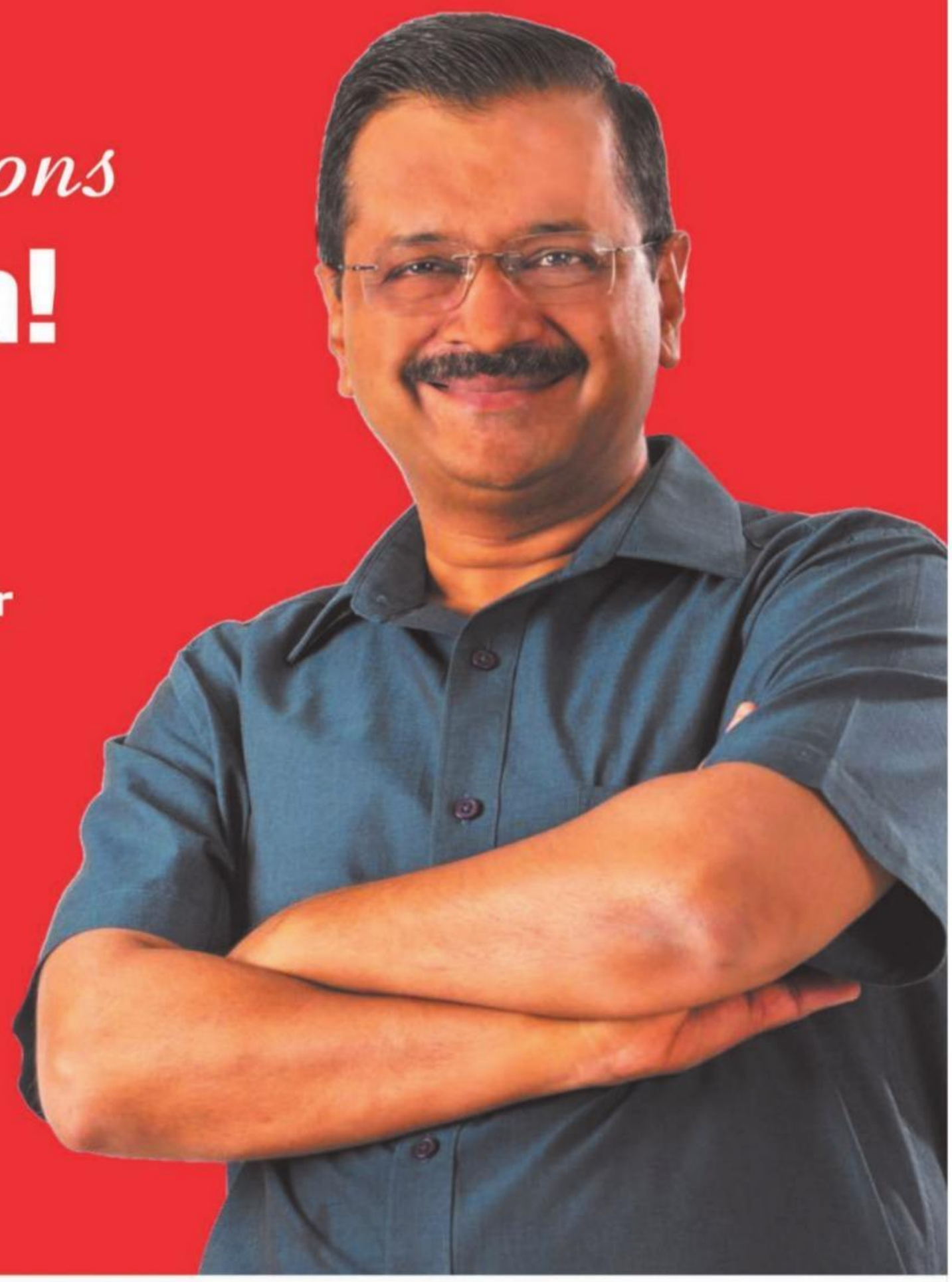

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- Arvind Kejriwal
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Urban Development Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

epaper.indianexpress.com

GOVT WILL EXTEND DEADLINE

Rent space for mohalla clinics: Over 650 apply

ASTHA SAXENA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

At a mohalla clinic in Peeragarhi. *Archive*

DELHI GOVERNMENT'S department of health has received over 650 applications from across the capital from people who are willing to give away their property to the state for setting up mohalla clinics.

The applications are part of an AAP government initiative wherein Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal requested the general public to provide rented accommodation for setting up mohalla clinics. The last date for submitting the application was August 6. "We're planning to extend the date for submitting applications for the general public as more people are approaching us for the initiative. The response we have received from the people of Delhi is overwhelming. The number of applications is expected to increase in the coming days," said a senior official from the health department. In Delhi, 195 mohalla clinics are functional at the moment.

Last month, the government invited applications from the public after witnessing a delay in getting sites from various civic agencies. During the survey, a total of 1,040 sites were identified by the government to set up the mohalla clinics, of which 740 were found unfeasible due to several reasons. The health department has identified 234 feasible sites to construct mohalla clinics. However, there has been no development on these sites.

"Once the application process is complete, we will inspect the sites and start construction work," added the official.

As per the requirement, the clinic will be set up in a minimum 50-60 square metre built-up area, in a plot of about 100-150 square metres. There should be a minimum of two rooms with two toilets. This year, the government has allocated Rs 375 crore for development of mohalla clinics and polyclinics.

In April, two under-construction mohalla clinics were demolished by the North civic body in Karol Bagh. However, the body said it had not demolished the clinic but the structure was rather dismantled by a contractor of the Delhi government's public works department.

The rent will be decided in accordance with the rules and regulations under the department of health. Similarly, the lease will be decided as per norms. In no case will the rent be more than Rs 20,000 per month.

Javadekar, Puri and Rai will oversee Delhi BJP's poll prep

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

(From left) Javadekar, Puri, Rai will be involved in strategising

THE BJP has appointed Union minister Prakash Javadekar as the in-charge for the upcoming Delhi Assembly elections, along with ministers Hardeep Singh Puri and Nityanand Rai. As in charge of the poll preparation, their role will include formulating a strategy by holding regular meetings with Delhi unit leaders, and figuring out a campaign style that would give the BJP an edge.

Senior leaders said Javadekar has been chosen to spearhead the polls because he has handled organisational affairs in different states during several elections, the most recent stint being in Rajasthan during the Lok Sabha polls.

Javadekar is also a relative outsider to Delhi's politics, and would therefore be free of biases and uninfluenced by several "camps" that exist, a senior leader said.

Party leaders said Puri was a "natural choice" because of his keen understanding of several issues in the capital, especially given that he is the Union Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs. Senior leaders believe he can tackle opponents in a nuanced way on issues of sealing, the master plan and AAP's promise of making Delhi Metro free for women.

"Regularisation of unauthorised colonies will be major topic of discussion in Delhi, and BJP would want to showcase its achievements. In such a case, the work done by Puri becomes important," a senior leader said.

Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai's role as co-in-charge would not be limited to strategising; senior leaders hope he will also use his influence to convince Purvanchali voters to gravitate towards the BJP. A senior leader said that his network in Bihar could be instrumental in influencing migrant voters in the capital.

"Being the party's Bihar president, Rai has a support base of a formidable chunk of influential Purvanchali leadership who are active in Bihar as well as Delhi," the leader said.

Rai started as student leader in ABVP before becoming an MLA from Hajipur constituency in Bihar assembly in 2000. He later became MP from Ujiarpur in the 2014 and 2019 general elections.

Purvanchalis, a term used in Delhi's political parlance for people from Eastern UP, Bihar and Jharkhand, dominate 20 Assembly constituencies or 80 municipal wards where they constitute 17-47 per cent of the vote share.

They also constitute over 30% of Delhi's population.

Purvanchali-dominated seats in Delhi include Karawal Nagar, Kirari, Badli, Burari, Seemapuri, Gokalpuri, Matiala, Vikaspuri, Dwarka, Nangloi, Rithala, Uttam Nagar, Sangam Vihar, Deoli and Badarpur.

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At the 'Naazuk' workshop in a JJ colony, Saturday

At JJ cluster, theatre to make children aware of bad touch

ASHNA BUTANI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

EVER SINCE the North West district of Delhi Police implemented the 'Naazuk' programme in February, 27 workshops have seen theatre being used as a tool to teach children about good touch and bad touch. "After a workshop in April, a child reported that her brother used to sexually assault her. We arrested him," said Vijayanta Arya, DCP, North West district.

On Saturday, children aged 5-12 walked out of the workshop held at a JJ colony with a resolve to report unwanted gestures by those around them. "I ensured both my grandsons attended the session, even though they had to miss tuition," said Manju Jain.

The DCP said: "We ensure children of both genders are present because even boys of this age are vulnerable. Theatre performances are based on two-three common themes — one about a young girl getting lured by a man, another about a boy, one on public spaces and one about home," said the DCP. The workshops are conducted in areas with high incidence of child assault cases.

After the performance, ACP Indira Wati explained the play to the children, while sub-inspector Sushila asked them how they thought such incidents should be reported. All 150 children participated.

A girl who studies in Class V said: "There was a boy who used to tease a girl, but she did not complain about it, so he continued doing it. That is why we should complain, so it stops once and for all."

After the workshop, children gathered around SI Sushila and presented their concerns. "What if someone pretending to be a parent calls us out of school to lure us?" asked a group of boys, to which she replied that parents and children could use code words.

"One of the positive impacts of these workshops is that children retain every detail. In May, a girl was assaulted in Jahangirpuri. Her friend, who had previously attended a workshop, described the accused and helped us identify him from CCTV footage," said the DCP.

Gurgaon Police SHO arrested in rape case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, AUGUST 10

THE STATION house officer of a Gurgaon police station was Saturday arrested by Jind Police after a woman alleged that he raped her on multiple occasions over the past two and a half months.

Police said an FIR was registered in the matter at the women's police station in Jind Friday. In her complaint, the woman alleged that she first met the accused in 2015 at the women's police station in Gurgaon and they exchanged numbers. She claimed that they started talking on phone.

The woman alleged that SHO sexually assaulted her for the first time in his vehicle on July 10. She alleged that he offered to drop her to Gurgaon and, after driving through the Pindara bypass, "set up five banners on the car's windows and a black film".

"The SHO has been remanded in police custody for three days. Gurgaon Police has been intimated," said Ashwin Shenvi, SP, Jind. Gurgaon Police PRO Subhash Boken, however, said, "We have not been intimated formally of an arrest yet."

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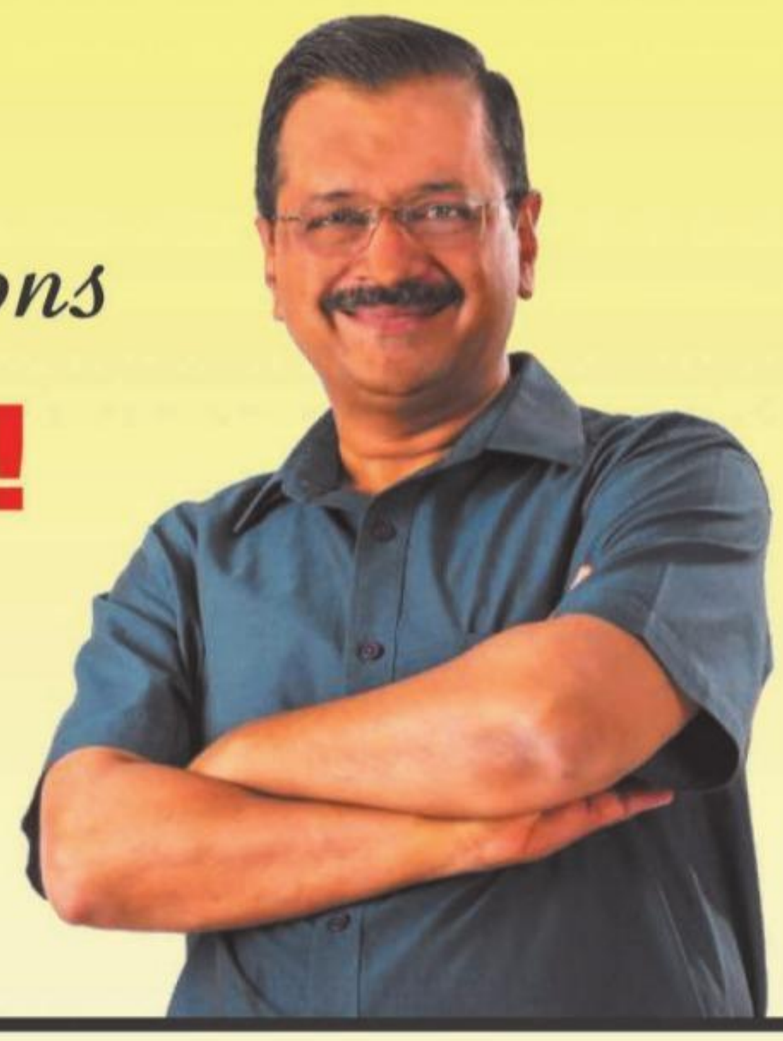

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Laying of Foundation Stone ceremony

On Sunday, 11 August, 2019 at 11:00 AM

Venue: At Dhoolsiras Bridge on Najafgarh Drain, Near Nirmal Dham, Matiala

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Minister, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Delhi

Guest of Honour
Gulab Singh
MLA, Matiala Constituency

"We will make Delhi the best city in the world"
- Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

दिल्ली सरकार
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Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

Dip/Shabdarth/D/0093/19-20

Four dead as auto rams truck on NH 8

Gurgaon: Four people died while one was critically injured after the autorickshaw they were travelling in crashed into a mini truck after being hit by a dumfer from behind, police said Saturday.

The accident took place on the Vatika flyover on the Jaipur-Delhi National Highway 8 around 10 pm on Friday night, police said.

"The victims worked in different companies at IMT Manesar," Sajjan Singh, sub-inspector of Kherki Dhaula police station, said. They had boarded a shared auto from IMT Manesar Chowk for Rajiv Chowk, he added.

"Due to light traffic at night, the auto and the mini truck plying ahead of it were going at a high speed. The driver of the mini truck suddenly applied brakes and the auto driver did the same to avoid an accident," Singh said.

"The auto driver managed to control his vehicle, but driver of the dumfer coming from behind could not apply brakes in time, leading to the crash," Singh said. Police said the injured man, who hails from Rajasthan, is stated to be critical. **PTI**

WOMAN SAYS MADE TO LEAVE HOME

First arrest over triple talaq in the capital

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

A 38-YEAR-OLD man was Friday arrested for allegedly giving triple talaq to his wife, in North Delhi's Azad Market area. Police said this is the first case in Delhi of a man being arrested over triple talaq.

The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights of Marriage) Bill, 2019, which makes the practice of instant triple talaq a penal offence, had received the approval of the Rajya Sabha on July 30.

The 30-year-old woman told police that her husband allegedly gave her triple talaq on June 23. In her complaint, the woman alleged she had to leave her husband's home with her six-year-old son the same day. A case has been registered under Section 4 of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019.

"The woman registered a complaint at Bara Hindu Rao police station Friday. She alleged that her husband pronounced 'talaq' three times and later issued a 'fatwa' against her over WhatsApp, mentioning that he had given her talaq. We arrested the man from his residence in Azad Market at night. The woman told us the couple married in 2011," said Nupur Prasad, DCP (North).

A Delhi court granted bail to the woman's husband after noting that there was no apprehension that he would flee from the law. "His custody does not appear necessary for the purpose of further investigation," read duty Metropolitan Magistrate Dinesh Kumar's order.

The counsel for the accused argued that there was a matrimonial dispute which led to the filing of a false complaint, while the assistant public prosecutor for the state argued that the woman was tortured by her husband's family following which a police complaint was filed on April 1, 2019. However, her husband's family asked her to withdraw the complaint, following which she did so.

"On June 23, the accused and his family members went to the woman's room and pronounced triple talaq... knowing that her parents were out of the country. The family members of the accused sent fatwas on WhatsApp to the victim's brother stating that the talaq was complete," the counsel for the state submitted.

The woman has, for the time being, shifted to her parents' house. "After he pronounced 'talaq' three times, I was told to leave the house with my son. I reached my parents' house but they weren't there. After two days, he sent my brother a fatwa on WhatsApp saying that I couldn't come back to the house and that the talaq was confirmed," alleged the woman in her complaint to the police.

She also demanded that her husband pay for the minor child's education and care.

According to neighbours, the man owns a shop and lives with his three siblings and parents in a three-storey house.

From market by the river to hub of publishing, long journey for Darya Ganj

SUKRITA BARUAH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

FROM A trading hub developed along a river to a market built by Shah Jahan's empress to a renowned second-hand book market, Darya Ganj, or the market by the river, has a long and varied story.

Shama Mitra Chenoy, associate professor of history at Delhi University, pointed out that areas around the river Yamuna have always been fertile ground for marketplaces to crop up. "Most of the vegetables and food for the city came from across the river. People would row down in boats and perhaps set up impromptu markets along there for their products," Chenoy pointed out.

However, historian Sohail Hashmi said it was not a river that the actual market in question was built along, but a canal, the construction of which spanned across dynasties.

"When Feroz Shah Tughlaq was building his capital at Feroz Shah Kotla, he also worked to create a canal to bring water from Hisar to Delhi for the capital. It was not completed because he died before that. Later, repair work on this was carried out by both Jahangir and Akbar, and it was completed by Shah Jahan's chief engineer to bring water to Chandni Chowk," he said.

The book market was removed recently. *Prem Nath Pandey*

According to him, the water body alluded to in Darya Ganj was a branch of this canal, and a market was built along it by Shah Jahan's queen Akbarabadi Begum.

"Shah Jahan had given out parcels of land to his relatives for them to build up. For instance, you have Jahanara building Chandni Chowk. This market was built by his queen and was first known as Akbarabadi Bazar after her. The Akbarabadi Masjid had also been built here. The market was later known as Faiz Bazar, and then Darya Ganj," he said.

STREET WISE
STORIES BEHIND OUR ROAD NAMES

Chenoy, however, distinguishes between Darya Ganj and Faiz Bazar and stated that while Faiz Bazar existed in the 17th century, Darya Ganj became visible in historical records of the 19th century with the East India Company setting up a cantonment with a church and hospital there.

"The cantonment was built here because it was not a heavily built area. It didn't have serpentine lanes and was open and green," she said.

Today, the market is best known for being a hub of publishing and books, two famous single screen cinemas Delite and Golcha — the latter shut down in 2016 — and for housing the first Moti Mahal restaurant.

However, now the curtains have closed on the famed Sunday book market as well, following a Delhi High Court order to the North Delhi Municipal Corporation to shut all markets on Netaji Subhash Marg.

Qamar Sayeed (58), president of the Sunday Book Bazaar Patri Welfare Association, said he has been selling second-hand books at the market since 1978.

"When we started, we were just around 30-40 people doing this. It expanded with their relatives and children carrying forward the trade and before it was closed down, there were 276 vendors," he said.

"My brothers and I started supplying paper bags to fruit and vegetable sellers of Old Delhi. One day, a book-seller followed us and asked for our old magazines because he wanted to sell them. That's when we realised a different field...," Sayeed said.

Staff shortage impacting fieldwork to regulate pollution, admits official

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

POLLUTION CONTROL boards in India, including Delhi, are "hugely understaffed" and are unable to deal with complexities in their current framework, the head of environment research group Chintan said Saturday.

Bharati Chaturvedi, founder and director of Chintan, said monitoring capacity should be increased in coal belts and other regions of the country to determine if they are as polluted as the capital. "Delhi has a crown of disgrace on its head, because we say we are one of the most polluted cities in the world. But we don't know that as we don't have enough monitoring in other parts," Chaturvedi said.

Sanjeev Khirwar, the Delhi environment secretary, confirmed the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has been facing staff shortage.

An air pollution monitoring station at Dhyan Chand Stadium

"These shortages have been there for years. We are trying to fill the vacancies. Having less staff affects the fieldwork being done to ensure the regulations are followed, and also impacts our studies," he said.

Chaturvedi said: "Our pollution control boards don't have the time or the capacity. The world is becoming more complex and our boards are unable to deal with it in the current framework."

Delhi was ranked the world's most polluted capital, as per a Greenpeace report this year. A World Health Organisation (WHO) report released in 2018 stated that 14 of the 20 most polluted cities in the world were in India.

Air quality data collected by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in Delhi at present is based on more than 30 monitoring stations on average, which is significantly higher than many other cities in the country.

Studies have linked air pollution to respiratory problems and shortened lifespan. A joint study by the Centre for Chest Surgery and the Lung Care Foundation between March 2012 and June 2018 found 50% of the 150 patients surveyed were non-smokers. "Nearly 1:1 ratio of non-smokers and smokers point towards environmental factors like air pollution as a major causative agent," the study said.

Dr Harshvardhan Puri of the Lung Care Foundation said: "Politicians must pay heed even if the studies are from countries like the US or China, as our air quality is much poorer than theirs."

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

Ranger-I Ram Chandra Singh 51 Special Action Group (SAG), National Security Guard
12.10.1958 - 11.08.1989

NSG Commandos salute and proudly remember today their brave comrade Ranger-I Ram Chandra Singh, 51 SAG, NSG, who sacrificed his life while fighting with terrorists in Taran Taran, Distt Amritsar (Punjab) in the service of motherland on 11 August,1989.

NATIONAL SECURITY GUARD
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3	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	24 (चौबीस) माह
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5	बेबसाईड पर निविदा प्राप्ति की अन्तिम तिथि/समय	31.08.2019 समय 12.00 बजे दोपहर तक
6	निविदा आमंत्रित करनेवाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता	श्री निर्मल कुमार सिंह, कार्यपालक अभियंता, पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमंडल, सरायकेला–खरसावाँ ।
7	ई–प्रोक्यूरमेंट पदाधिकारी का दूरभाष संख्या	9431793906
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NOTICE OF E-AUCTION

E-auction of property on 13.09.2019 on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHATEVER THERE IS" on the platform https://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net

E-auction sale notice for sale of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Allahabad Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is" basis as on **13.09.2019**. The details of bank's dues, Borrower & Guarantors, Reserve Price, Earnest money & Description of immovable properties is given below:

Sl No	Details of immovable properties	Name of the Borrower(S)	Amount of Secured Debt	Reserve Price (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Branch
01	All that part and parcel of the Land and Building along with present and future construction thereon: In the name of Smt. Rita Kumari w/o Sri Sunil Kumar area admeasuring 1.5 decimal, Sale Deed No.1463 dated 05.03.2012, bearing Book No.1, Zild No.18, Page No.563-569, Khata No.294, Plot No.4741/2895, Thana No.68, situated at Mauza-Dhekwaha Tola Bhargawa, Pargana-Besbak, PS- Islampur, Dist- Nalanda. Boundary as per deed: North-Road, South-Pain, East-No. Haza Sri Ganauri Mistri, West-No. Haza Sri Manoj Thakur.	**M/s S K Itt Udyog, Prop:** Shri Sunil Kumar, Vill-Jaitipur, PO-Bari Paithana, Islampur **Guarantor:** Smt. Rita Kumari w/o Sri Sunil Kumar, Vill-Jaitipur, PO-Bari Paithana, Islampur, Distt-Nalanda	₹23,59,755.10/- (Rupees Twenty three lakh fifty nine thousand seven hundred fifty five and paise ten only) with upto date interest as on 21.08.2018 Cost & Charges thereon till the date of realization	**₹8,76,000/-** (Rupees Eight lakh seventy six thousand only)	**₹87,600/-** (Rupees Eighty seven thousand six hundred only)	Islampur

Last Date & time for Submission of Process compliance Form with EMD amount: 11.09.2019 till 5.00 PM at Allahabad Bank, Islampur Branch Account No.50173127212

Date & Time of e-auction: 13.09.2019 from 12.30 PM to 2.30 PM at the platform of http://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net

For further details and Terms & Conditions, Contact: Shri Abhinandan Kumar (CM) Mob-7488364836, Shri M.K. Jha (CM) Mob-8004585000/9593653562

For downloading further details and Terms & Conditions, Please Visit: (i) https://www.allahabadbank.in (ii) http://www.tenders.gov.in (iii) https://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net

Date : 09.08.2019
Place : Islampur

Authorized Officer
Allahabad Bank

इलाहाबाद बैंक विश्वास की परंपरा — **ALLAHABAD BANK** A tradition of trust

Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001

E-AUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

E-auction of Residential property on 13th day of September, 2019 on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHATEVER THERE IS" on the platform https://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net

E-auction sale notice for sale of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Allahabad Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is" basis as on **13th day of September 2019**. The details of bank's dues, Borrower & Guarantors, Reserve Price, Earnest money & Description of immovable properties is given below:

Sl. No. & Branch	Name of the Account	Details of Immovable Properties	Name of the Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Amount of Secured Debt	Reserve Price (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit
1. Exhibition Road Branch Patna	**M/s Ezee Air Travel Proprietor- Sri Shivendra Kumar**	All that part and parcel of teh land along with present and future construction thereon; in the name of Sri Braj Bihari Singh S/o Sri bans Ropan Singh, area measuring 6.25 Decimal, Sale Deed No.5464 dated 28.08.1965, bearing Book No.1, Volume no.57, Page No.364-368, Khata No.136, Plot No.533, Tauzi No.8, Thana No.227, Situated at Mauza-Anaith, PO-Anaith, PS-Arrah, District-Bhojpur, SRO-Arrah, Bihar, Bounded as under (as per deed): North-Sri Suchit Mahto and Ramjapit Mahto, South-Sri Lal Behari Mahto, East-Sri Roop Lal Singh, West-Jai Govind Prasad Singh.	1. Sri Braj Bihari Singh, S/o Sri Bansh Ropan Singh, Ward No.43, Anaith-Sasaram Main Road, Arrah, Dist. Bhojpur, Pin 802301	**₹20,79,511/-** (Rupees Twenty lac seventy nine thousand five hundred eleven only) as on 11.09.2018 and interest, cost & charges thereon till date of realization.	**₹24,80,800/-** (Rupees Twenty four lac eighty thousand eight hundred only)	**₹2,48,080/-** (Rupees Two lac forty eight thousand eighty only)

Last Date & time for Submission of Process compliance Form with EMD amount: 11th Day of September, 2019 at Allahabad Bank, Exhibition Road Branch, at 1st Floor, Arunachal Bhawan, Exhibition Road, Patna-800001 Till 5.00 PM

Date & Time of e-auction: 13th day of September 2019 from 12.30 PM to 2.30 PM at the platform of http://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net

For further details and Terms & Conditions, Contact: Mr. Dhiraj Kumar (Mob-8828206020)

For downloading further details and Terms & Conditions, Please Visit: (i) https://www.allahabadbank.in (ii) http://www.tenders.gov.in (iii) https://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net, https://ibapi.in

Date : 09.08.2019
Place : Patna

Authorized Officer
Allahabad Bank

RAJASTHAN SAMWAD
Department of Information and Public Relation,
Secretariat, Jaipur (Raj.) – 302005

No. :- 247 **Date :- 09/08/2019**

Invitation for Expression of Interest

Rajasthan Samwad is an autonomous body working for Advertisements, Media and Publicity, under the aegis of INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, Rajasthan, invites Expression of Interest from highly reputed, skilled, professional and competent 'creative designing and communications agencies' for content development and creative design works related to various Media and Publicity campaigns in the State.

Information and Public Relations Department and its autonomous body Rajasthan Samwad require all promotional tools including high quality print material, exhibition designs, interactive CDs, website/web promotions, electronic promotions, presentations, films, etc. To achieve the desired impact on the public in the state through various media, the Department has to ensure that all promotional material have the appropriate content and design input and the creatives should help create awareness for the State initiatives and attain the desired goals. For this highly experienced and professional agencies, are required.

The estimated value of work will be rupees 50 Crores (approx) for a year, for content development and creative design works related to Campaigns of DIPR/Rajasthan Samwad and also of other Departments/Boards/Corporations of Rajasthan, if required.

Interested agencies can send their EXPRESSION OF INTEREST including Proposal with Profile of the agency in terms of turnover, experience, qualified team, infrastructure etc. A brief note consisting of background, scope of work, basic qualifications etc is enclosed as Annexure A. The document can be downloaded from IPR website **www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in**.

The Agencies meeting basic qualifying criteria of turnover, experience etc will be invited for presentation. Terms of reference for bid document may be formulated after due course of discussions with the agencies so invited for the presentation and, their suggestions may be incorporated in the bid document being issued.

The interested agencies can send their EXPRESSION OF INTEREST with required information mentioned in Annexure A, by 26-08-2019 at 5.00 PM at Rajasthan Samwad, Information and Public Relations Department, Secretariat Jaipur - 302005 in hard copy and at **rajasthansamwad2002@gmail.com** in soft copy.

Raj.Samwad/C/19/1983

Managing Director
Rajasthan Samwad

BRIEFLY

45-year-old man falls off roof, dies

New Delhi: A 45-year-old man died after he fell from a makeshift structure on the roof of his house in Central Delhi's Nabi Kareem on Tuesday. Police said the victim, Johan Lagra, was rushed to a nearby hospital, where he died during treatment.

4 injured in brawl at gym

New Delhi: Four persons were injured when a fight broke out among some people at a gym in North East Delhi's Jyoti Nagar Friday. Police said two cross cases have been filed against two of the men.

Man attacks cops with chilli powder, held

New Delhi: A 31-year-old man was arrested after he and his family allegedly attacked two police constables with red chilli powder in North East Delhi's Shahdara on Friday, police said.

4 wrestlers held for theft

New Delhi: Four wrestlers were arrested Saturday for allegedly robbing a shop owner of Rs 60,000 and firing at his help in Outer Delhi's Samaypur Badli. Police said one of the accused had bagged a gold medal in the Indo-Thai Wrestling Championships in 2017.

Woman jumps from mall, dies

Noida: A 48-year-old woman allegedly committed suicide by jumping from the third floor of a mall in Noida's Sector 38, police said Saturday. She was rushed to a nearby hospital where she was declared dead on arrival, said police, adding that no suicide note has been recovered. **ENS**

NAJAFGARH: WHY DRAIN WATER ENTERS THE RIVER

14 sewage plants stuck, green panel raps Jal Board

SHIVAM PATEL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

A COMMITTEE appointed by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) rapped the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) over its failure to create 14 decentralised sewage treatment plants (STPs) in Najafgarh for over four years.

Senior DJB officials told *The Sunday Express* the project has run into financial and land issues, resulting in little progress to control sewage entering drains leading into the Yamuna.

As per details shared with the Yamuna monitoring committee, the plan is to create low-capacity STPs in the area that will treat sewage upto 39 million gallons per day (MGD). A senior DJB official said the initial treatment capacity for all STPs was set at 40 MGD, based on predictions that Najafgarh would witness large-scale development over the years.

"These (development) plans never took off and the area's population did not increase in accordance with what was predicted, which resulted in the flow of sewage staying lower," the official said.

He added a follow-up study done by consultancy organisation WAPCOS found lower flow of sewage and put the total STP capacity at 32 MGD. Later, another study by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), which is also funding a part of the project, found the flow to be as low as around 10 MGD, the official said.

DJB Vice-Chairman Dinesh Mohaniya said, "When the NMCG reviewed that the capacity of proposed STPs was higher than what was required... it put a question mark on things."

The proposed area for 14 STPs was also not available at the time the project was awarded in 2017. Mohaniya said land for only four plants has been acquired so far, out of the seven funded by the NMCG. The remaining area is owned privately and by the Gram Sabha and is yet to be allotted for the project, as per submissions made by the board to the monitoring committee.

Meanwhile, the agency involved in the construction of STPs submitted a revised financial proposal to the DJB as there was "no escalation clause" in the contract and it was not willing to work with the old rates.

The DJB has not decided if it should issue a new contract or engage the same agency. The board is also pursuing NMCG to fund the entire project, as per minutes of the meeting held between officials and the monitoring committee in late July, which was made public recently.

The minutes added, "The (committee) noted with regret the completely unprofessional manner in which the whole issue has been handled by the DJB resulting in zero progress even after a lapse of almost four years after the NGT's judgement."

The judgement referred to is the January 13, 2015 order passed by the green tribunal for rejuvenation of the Yamuna by 2017.

At present, sewage from the area enters drains that lead into the river. Officials however claim the problem is "not as big as projected", and that sewage from the area contributes to only 2% of the pollution in the Yamuna.

"We need some experts to tell us what to do next. We have our in-house experts studying the project," the DJB official said, adding the plan would move forward after the study is finished.

A view of the polluted Yamuna. Senior DJB officials said the project has run into financial and land issues. *Abhinav Saha*

Man stole QRT vehicle for a joyride: Police

New Delhi: A day after a 20-year-old man was arrested for allegedly stealing a Quick Response Team (QRT) vehicle, the accused told police he was in an inebriated condition and stole the vehicle for a "joyride".

The vehicle was attached with the in-charge of the anti-auto theft squad (AATS) of the West district, and was stolen from Janakpuri, when the driver was having tea.

"The accused told police that he had a similar key to the car and stole it from a service lane near Janakpuri Metro station for a joyride," police said.

Police said the QRT vehicle was privately hired by Delhi Police and was driven by a private driver. The incident took place at 3.15 pm Friday when the driver was away.

"A few minutes later, he came out and found the vehicle missing," an officer said. **ENS**

Leopard rescued from Gurgaon village released into the Aravallis

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, AUGUST 10

SEVEN HOURS after a two-year-old male leopard was rescued from Gurgaon's Badshahpur area, the animal was released back into the wild by the forest department late Friday night.

"The leopard was released at midnight in the Aravalli habitat," said Vinod Kumar, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.

On Friday evening, the leopard was first spotted in the basement of a house by some construction labourers.

Before it could be rescued, the animal jumped the boundary wall of the home and entered the verandah of a neighbouring house. The house owner said it hid behind a bush, from where his wife, mistaking the leopard for a monkey, tried to chase it away. He, however, prevented any adverse incident by alerting her that it was a leopard, before she got too close.

"I asked everyone in my family to go into the house and lock the door. Many residents gathered outside our gate and tried have a look at it. I asked them to leave it alone and called the police, who in turn alerted the forest department," said Rajendra Yadav, the owner of the establishment.

While attempts were being made to rescue the leopard, Yadav said it jumped onto his house's boundary wall, and from there onto the terrace.

"My nephew was there at the time, and the animal attacked him. He got some scratches, but managed to defend himself with a stick," said Yadav.

Residents said the leopard then jumped back onto the road, and ran into a salon. The owner of the business and two of his clients who were inside at the time fled on seeing the animal, but closed the shutter behind them. It was from here that the leopard was finally rescued around 5.30 pm, over two hours after it was first spotted.

The leopard was released on late Friday night

Court convicts man for bursting non-green crackers

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

On November 8 last year, head constable Joginder Singh spotted the accused, Mukul, bursting crackers, and informed him about the Supreme Court's directions. Mukul was arrested when he allegedly ignored Singh and continued bursting crackers

A DELHI court has convicted a 27-year-old man for bursting crackers, which were not of the 'green' variety, in violation of Supreme Court's orders.

The accused, Mukul, was caught by a policeman for bursting crackers on the street on November 8 last year.

The complainant, head constable Joginder Singh, wrote in the FIR that he spotted Mukul bursting crackers outside a house and he orally informed him about the SC directions. However, the accused allegedly ignored him and kept bursting crackers.

Police then arrested him under section 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) of the IPC.

The SC had issued directions that only crackers with reduced emission and "green crackers" can be manufactured and sold, in an order that restricted use of fireworks.

The apex court had noted in its order that there have "been lots of efforts for production of firecrackers which do not contain harmful chemicals, which are termed 'green crackers', and the Union of India was asked to delve on the subject".

As per court records, the accused was summoned before the court and a notice was framed against him on August 3, to which the accused pleaded not guilty and claimed trial.

The prosecution had cited as many as three witnesses, one of whom was examined. The prosecution witness was the complainant in the case, HC Singh, who informed the court that he was on patrolling duty with HC Hari Narain.

"At about 12.55 am, he saw one person namely Mukul burning crackers near the Raman Book Depot, Rajouri Garden. Accused Mukul was burning crackers which were not green crackers, which is the violation of the order of Supreme Court of India. He caught the accused and explained the order to him... the accused replied that he had no knowledge regarding such orders," the court records read.

After Mukul's statement was recorded, he did not cross examine the police witness despite having the opportunity to do so.

"The registration of FIR and arrest of accused is mere veracity to the procedure adopted by the investigating agency. The prosecution has successfully proved the charges under section 188 IPC against the accused... In view of above observations, accused Mukul is convicted for the offence punished under section 188 of IPC in the present case FIR," wrote Metropolitan Magistrate Deepak Kumar.

कार्यालय :- असैनिक शल्य चिकित्सक सह मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

फोन नं0– 06582 259859 E-Mail–cswestsinghbhum@gmail.com

विज्ञापन सं0–02/2019

नियुक्ति हेतु विज्ञापन की सूचना

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन अन्तर्गत जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति, प0सिंहभूम, चाईबासा द्वारा विभिन्न चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी/विशेषज्ञ चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी के निम्नलिखित पदों पर नियुक्ति हेतु विहित प्रपत्र में निबंधित डाक/स्पीड पोस्ट द्वारा आवेदन पत्र मुहरबंद लिफाफे में आमंत्रित किया जाता है। साधारण डाक से प्राप्त आवेदन पत्रों पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। आवेदन पत्र असैनिक शल्य चिकित्सक सह मुख्य चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी, प0सिंहभूम, चाईबासा के कार्यालय में निबंधित डाक/स्पीड पोस्ट द्वारा दिनांक 20.08.2019 के संध्या 05:00 बजे तक प्राप्त किया जायेगा। निर्धारित तिथि के पश्चात् प्राप्त होने वाले आवेदनों पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। नियुक्ति हेतु चयन प्रक्रिया सरकार द्वारा निर्धारित मापदण्ड के आधार पर होगा।

क0सं0	पद का नाम	रिक्त पदों की संख्या			
		अनारक्षित	अ0ज0जा0	अ0जा0	कुल
1	ENT Surgeon	01	00	00	01
2	Ophthalmologist	01	00	00	01
3	Radiologist	01	00	00	01
4	Orthopaedics	01	00	00	01
5	Psychiatrist	01	00	00	01
6	Dermatologist	01	00	00	01
7	Medical Officer(Part Time)(NUHM)	01	01	00	02
8	Physician/Consultant Medicine(NCD Specialist)	01	01	00	02

इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी उपर्युक्त पद के लिए आवेदन का विहित प्रपत्र एवं विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए जिले के वेबसाईट– WWW.chaibasa.nic.in पर देख सकते है।

सिविल सर्जन सह सचिव,
जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

PR 214232 West Singhbhum(19-20)D

बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

उपायुक्त सह अध्यक्ष,
जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

इलाहाबाद बैंक ALLAHABAD BANK
विश्वास की परंपरा A tradition of trust

Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001
Branch Office: Exhibition Road Branch, Patna

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR (IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

Whereas:
The undersined being the authorised officer of the **Allahabad Bank** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice u/s 13(2) on the date noted against the Account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon the borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules.
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Allahabad Bank for an amount and interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured asset.

Sl. No.	Name of the Account & Branch	Name of the Borrower/ Guarantor (Owner of the property)	Description of the charged/mortgaged property (all the part & parcel of the property consisting of)	Date of Demand Notice / Date of Possession Notice	Amount outstanding as on the date of demand notice
1.	**M/s Sadhana Steel Branch:** Exhibition Road	Guarantor- Smt. Guriya Devi, W/o Sri Naresh Sharma, Near Koot Factory, Kurthaul Parsa Bazar, Patna 804453	All that piece and parcel of land along with building constructed on the said land admeasuring an area of 10 Dhur Tauzi No.-5185, Khata No.-085, Survey Plot No.-815, Thana No.110, Mauza-Kurthaul, Thana-Phulwarisharif, Dist.-Patna, registered in the name of Smt. Guriya Devi W/o Sri Naresh Sharma vide Deed No.-26060 dated 28.09.2012	29.05.2019 / 08.08.2019	₹15,79,437/- (Rs. Fifteen lac seventy nine thousand four hundred thirty seven only) + Interest

Date : 08.08.2019
Place : Patna

Authorised Officer (Allahabad Bank)

INDIAN NAVY
NAVAL DOCKYARD, VISAKHAPATNAM
(Telephone 0891 2816501/6335/6708 Fax: 0891 2578635)
Quoting No: SGS/4303/UNCLVEH

NOTICE

1. Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam is hereby publicizing a list of unclaimed/abandoned vehicles which have been parked unclaimed inside Naval Dockyard (Visakhapatnam) premises for a long period.
2. It is hereby informed that the lawful owners of the listed vehicle (s) are required to remove their vehicle (s) from the premises of Naval Dockyard (Visakhapatnam) within 21 days of publication of this notice. Lawful owners are required to produce valid vehicle documents in original for claiming the vehicle.
3. Failure to remove the vehicle (s) from Naval Dockyard premises by their lawful owners within the stipulated time would result in the vehicle (s) being auctioned as scrap and Naval Dockyard (Visakhapatnam) would not be liable for any claim thereafter.
4. The unclaimed/abandoned vehicles in the premises of Naval Dockyard (Viskahapatnam) are listed below.

LIST OF UNCLAIMED/ABANDONED VEHICLES AT NAVAL DOCKYARD (VISAKHAPATNAM)

Ser	REG NO.	MODEL	COLOUR
1	AP 35 C 7594	HONDA AMBITION	BLACK
2	AP 09 BH 8842	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
3	AP 31 AT 771	HERO HONDA ACHEIVER	BLACK
4	AP 31 AQ 9590	SCOOTY KRYSTAL	GREY
5	AP 32 B 1174	SCOOTER	BLACK
6	AP 37 AM 8738	BAJAJ PULSAR 180	BLACK
7	AP 31 AN 9010	BAJAJ DISCOVER	BLUE
8	AP 31 BT 9280	TVS SPORTS	RED
9	AP 31AY 1918	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	RED
10	AP 31 AS 9879	SUZUKI	RED
11	AP 31 AP 5352	YAMAHA LIBERO	BLACK
12	AP 32 7263	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
13	AP 31 AM 7925	BAJAJ CT 100	BLACK
14	AP 32 A 4372	HERO HONDA SPLENDOR	BLACK
15	AP 32 8234	HERO HONDA CENTRA	BLACK
16	AP 31 AU 9347	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
17	AP 31 AH 9491	HERO HONDA CBZ	BLACK
18	AP 31 S 8417	TVS VECTOR GEL	BLUE
19	AP 31 L 9118	KAWASAKI BOXER	RED
20	AP 31 C 30 40	HERO HONDA CD DAWN	BLACK
21	AP 32 A 2296	HERO HONDA CD DAWN	RED
22	AP 31 AW 6628	HERO HONDA KARIZMA	BLACK
23	AP 31 BB 8124	HERO HONDA CBZ	BLACK
24	AP 31 AQ 4976	YAMAHA LIBERO	RED
25	AP 31 BQ 678	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
26	AP 37 AB 9128	KAWASAKI CALIBER	BLUE
27	AP 30 B 54	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	RED
28	AP 31 BN 4309	TVS APACHE RTR 160	RED
29	AP 31 AR 9952	BAJAJ PULSAR	BLACK
30	AP 31 BM 4728	BAJAJ PULSAR 180	BLACK
31	AP 31 AM 4411	BAJAJ CT 100	RED
32	AP 31 AB 2700	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLUE
33	AP 31 DQ 4850	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
34	AP 31 AS 60	TVS APACHE 150	BLACK
35	AP 31 AQ 3622	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
36	AP 31 AL 4681	HERO HONDA SPLENDER	BLACK
37	AP 35 F 6931	HERO HONDA PASSION	BLACK
38	AP 32 A 2936	KAWASAKI CALIBER	BLACK
39	AP 30 1177	INITEC M/C	BLACK
40	AP 31 AY 5052	HONDA ACTIVA	BLACK
41	AP 30 F 8594	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
42	AP 32 A 2393	HEREO HONDA SPLENDER	BLACK
43	AP 31 AS 6971	HONDA UNICORN	BLACK
44	AP 31 AG 9203	HONDA UNICORN	BLACK
45.	AP 33 B 2091	BAJAJ PULSAR 180	ORANGE
46.	AP 31 AP 1254	BAJAJ DISCOVER	BLACK
47.	AP 31 AY 3113	YAMAHA FZS	RED
48.	AP 31 BJ 6901	BAJAJ PULSAR 180	BLACK
49.	AP 32 A 2296	HERO HONDA CD 100	RED
50.	AP 31 AP 5208	TVS SCOOTY	BLACK
51.	AP 33 6584	TVS	BLACK
52.	AP 37 AG 7059	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLACK
53.	AP 31 Q 2820	SCOOTER	BLUE
54.	AP 37 Q 6419	SUZUKI	BLACK
55.	AIV 1557	BAJAJ CHETAK	BLUE
56.	AP 9 AC 3399	KAWASAKI	BLACK
57.	AP 5 AP 5224	ACHIVER	BLACK
58.	AP 31 BE 1679	HERO HONDA PASSION PRO	RED
59.	AP 31 AC 92	TVS VICTOR	BLACK
60.	AP 32 C 2372	YAMAHA ENTICER	BLACK
61.	AP 31 AC 8343	BAJAJ PULSAR	BLACK
62.	AP 09 AC 343	YAMAHA	BLACK
63.	AP 31 BL 2457	YAMAHA	RED
64.	MH 01 KA 9857	TVS SPORTS	BLACK
65.	MH 20 X 3591	TVS SCOOTY	BLACK
66.	MH 01 KA 1943	KAWASAKI	BLACK
67.	MH 01 HA 5146	BAJAJ PULSAR	VIOLET
68.	MH 04 EI 4571	HONDA ACTIVA	RED
69.	MH 12 BN 8794	SCOOTY	RED
70.	MH 12 AE 5416	YAMAHA	BLACK
71.	MH 02 AM 3684	MARUTI SUZUKI 800	GREEN
72.	RJ 10 SA 2351	HERO HONDA GLAMOUR	ORANGE
73.	TN 02 L 3528	HERO HONDA SPLENDER	BLACK
74.	OR 21 B 0109	HERO HONDA HUNK	BLACK
75.	OR 02 X 0910	TVS	BLACK
76.	OR 14 B 6151	SUZUKI	BLACK
77.	KL 7 AC 2707	HERO HONDA SPLENDOR	BLACK
78.	KL 7 BA 572	TVS STAR CITY	BLACK
79.	KL 07 BG 9371	TVS RTR APACHE 160	YELLOW
80.	DL 8 S AA 5602	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	RED
81.	HRO1 F7729	SUZUKI	BLACK
82.	UP 78 BQ 1557	BAJAJ PULSAR 180	BLACK
83.	HP 20 A 9854	KAWASAKI	RED
84.	KA 04 FC 298	HERO HONDA SPLENDOR	BLACK
85.	PB 02 AC 8937	SUZUKI	BLACK
86.	CG 07 LT 4672	BAJAJ PULSAR 180	BLACK
87.	GA 01 YU 7613	HERO HONDA	BLACK
88.	GJ 10 B 7070	SCOOTER	BLACK
89.	GJ 10 AF 9413	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	RED
90.	UA 07 F 5944	BAJAJ PULSAR 150	BLUE
91.	UA 07 D 8983	HERO HONDA	BLACK
92.	AN 01 F 6013	HERO HONDA PASSION	BLACK
93.	AN 01 B 6438	KAWASAKI BOXER	RED
94.	AN 01 2560	TVS VECTOR GEL	BLUE
95.	AN 01 D 5130	TVS APACHE 150	BLACK
96.	AN 2783	KAWASAKI BOXER	BLACK
97.	JH 01 B 7623	KAWASAKI	BLACK
CHASSIS NO. NO NUMBER PLATE			
98.	98J19602882	HERO HONDA	BLACK
99.	41J09354-B	ROYAL ENFIELD	WHITE
100.	ME154803582022983	YAMAHA	BLACK
101.	056700248	KARIZMA	GREEN

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SHOPS AND SCHOOLS OPEN IN JAMMU, MOBILE INTERNET REMAINS SUSPENDED

Curbs relaxed but markets gloomy, few customers for Eid in Kashmir

ADIL AKHZER & ARUN SHARMA
SRINAGAR, JAMMU, AUG 10

A DAY after the Centre's decision to scrap the special status granted to J&K, Mohammed Ashraf (35) set out on a journey he was waiting for all the year — a 90-km trip from Verinag in south Kashmir to Srinagar to sell 50 sacrificial lambs for Eid.

Four days after his arrival in Srinagar, Ashraf has been anxiously waiting at a pavement in Barzulla neighbourhood for customers, but there have hardly been any buyers for his sheep, though Eid is just a day away.

"All the year, I was waiting for this day. But in the last three days, I have only sold six sheep. I don't know how to repay my debt to the dealer," said Ashraf. "No one is coming to buy goats and sheep this time."

With moist eyes, Ashraf said he regretted his decision to buy sheep this time. "Last year, I came to Srinagar with 80 sheep and goats. I sold all of them in a day," he said. "I didn't know the situation would worsen when I bought the sheep."

Even as authorities eased restrictions on civilian movement for the first time on Saturday, shops remained shut and the hustle and bustle of markets were missing a day before Eid ul-Adha celebrations in the Valley.

The Sunday Express visited five prominent markets in Srinagar and found most of them shut, with only a handful of customers in some places.

Goni Khan market, a one-stop shopping centre housing boutiques, beauty parlours and shops selling cosmetics, bangles and apparel, is a big attraction for women customers. But despite the eased restrictions, the shops remained shut.

Lalchowk market, which has the most prominent showrooms in Srinagar, was sealed with spools of concertina and metallic barricades. Business worth crores is usually transacted here at this time of the year. However, on Saturday, only security personnel could be seen manning the deserted streets of the business centre and civilians were not allowed to enter its perimeter.

The Jamia Masjid market, one of the oldest in Srinagar, used to be thronged by thousands of customers this time of the year. But the roads were sealed on Saturday, with heavy security presence at every corner. The biggest Eid congregation used to gather at Jamia Masjid mosque, but Eid prayers would not be allowed here this year, officials said.

At Shakti Sweets, the Valley's oldest sweet shop which used to witness long queues of customers, there was no traffic jam this year and very few customers after the shop rolled up shutters halfway on Saturday amid eased restrictions.

Meanwhile, life limped back to normal in most parts of Jammu province as prohibitory orders banning assembly of four or more people at public places were lifted and curfew was relaxed in Doda and Kishtwar districts.

Even as the administration said that all kinds of restrictions in Jammu, Kathua, Samba, Udhampur and Reasi districts had been withdrawn, mobile internet remained suspended.

Business establishments reopened following lifting of restrictions but there was no rush as is usually seen ahead of the festival. Educational institutions resumed classes but attendance was less at many places.

In Jammu, most people did not come out of their houses as they were not aware of the lifting of prohibitory orders, said local Muslim leader Zahoor Ahmed. There were less buyers at animal mandis set up on the outskirts of the city, he said.

Curfew restrictions remained in Poonch and parts of Rajouri and Ramban districts.

In Kishtwar, the administration announced a one-hour to one-and-a-half-hour relaxation in curfew in phases beginning 12.30 pm. Kishtwar Deputy Commissioner Angrez Singh Rana said the relaxation period was extended up to 7 pm as no untoward incident was reported.

However, many shops were closed and people were seen buying items of daily use instead of items for Eid, sources said.

Express

PTI

In Srinagar, Mohammed Ashraf is anxious about repaying his debt as he has just sold six sheep in three days; people buy vegetables at the wholesale market in Jammu after restrictions were lifted.

Army brass reviews security situation

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, AUGUST 10

TOP ARMY commanders on Saturday reviewed the situation in Jammu and Kashmir and along the borders with Pakistan.

Vice Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Devraj Anbu arrived in the Valley, visited formations and units in north Kashmir, and was briefed by commanders on ground on the operational preparedness and measures taken to meet security challenges.

Lt Gen Anbu interacted with troops and emphasised the need to maintain a high degree of vigil along the Line of Control (LoC) to eliminate any infiltration bid.

Northern Army commander Lt Gen Ranbir Singh, accompanied by White Knight Corps commander Lt Gen Paramjit Singh, visited forward posts along the LoC in the Bhimber Gali sector and hinterland posts in the Chandarkot sector to review operational preparedness of troops and the security situation.

He was briefed by the commanders on ground about the operational situation, security scenario and the preparedness of the formations in dealing with the emerging security situation, Defence Ministry spokesperson Lt Colonel Devender Anand said.

He was also briefed on measures being taken by Army formations to meet challenges of increased ceasefire violations by Pakistan since August 5, and the swift and effective retaliatory measures being undertaken, besides actions taken to thwart the designs of the neighbouring country through superior and aggressive domination of the LoC by the troops, as well as defensive measures put in place.

Lt Gen Ranbir Singh praised the synergy between the Army, J&K Police and civil administration in maintaining law and order. He also praised the public for showing restraint and faith in the government's policies by maintaining a peaceful environment.

Western Army commander Lt Gen R P Singh visited Yol Cantt and forward areas of Rising Star Corps on his maiden visit to review the situation and operational readiness. Lt Gen Paramjit Singh chaired a high-level 'Mission Reach Out' conference at Nagrota Military Station. The conference was attended by Divisional Commissioner, Jammu and including members of the civil administration, representatives from J&K Police, CRPF, BSF and intelligence agencies.

Valley suffers news drought as Net, phones blocked, curfew passes not given to journalists

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 10

WITH RESTRICTIONS in place for movement of journalists in Kashmir, and all forms of communication blocked, including, for the first time, fixed-line phone services, there is a severe lack of news reporting both in and from the Valley.

While local newspapers are forced to reduce the number of pages, given the lack of Internet access or other form of communication and also since even the local staff are unable to reach offices, Kashmir Press Club general secretary Ishfaq Tantray on Saturday appealed to the Press Council of India and international journalists' associations to take up with the government the issue of this "media gag".

"The authorities this time have blocked even land-line (phone) services. Worse, they are (not issuing) curfew passes to the media, and it appears the aim is to ensure that reports from Kashmir do not go out. I approached the District Magistrate, but he refused to meet (me) at his office," Tantray said.

He added, "In absence of curfew passes and the absence of means of communication, it is impossible for journalists working for local, national and international media."

A journalist working with *'Rising Kashmir'*, a Srinagar-based English daily, said: "From 20 pages, we have reduced our newspaper to only four pages. Even the staff from Srinagar are unable to reach office. There are no curfew passes issued to any journalist, and it has badly affected our work."

In the absence of ways to gather news, the journalist said they are listening to the news on television and writing them for the newspaper.

A Valley-based journalist working for a national daily said he has met several government officials to look for Internet connectivity, but "we are told there is no connectivity".

Several journalists are reported to have approached the Police Control Room looking for Internet connectivity, but most of them were not let in. Sources said only TV channels have been able to send feed to offices outside through outside broadcasting (OB) vans, which have satellite communication.

Signs of Eid in Kargil, Bakarwals arrive with sheep

ANKITA DWIVEDI JOHRI
KARGIL, AUGUST 10

TWO DAYS before Eid, three Bakarwal nomadic shepherds arrived in Kargil town with 125 sheep and goats each, bringing some relief to residents, many of whom had so far not purchased an animal for the festival due to the shutdown in the region.

"It took us two days to get here from Srinagar. We had taken a truck, but were stopped 25 km from Kargil town at a checkpost and had to walk from there with our herd," said Manzoor Ahmed Awan, 24, as a dozen men and a few women crowded around him to get their goat and sheep weighed near Kargil's main market area.

The animals were being sold for Rs 220 per kg — approximately Rs 6,000 for a goat or sheep.

Residents of Kargil town depend on the Bakarwals to purchase animals before the festival every year. *Tashi Tobgyal*

On August 8, Kargil had witnessed protests against the abrogation of Article 370, and there has been a shutdown in the town since. The protests have been called off for two days for Eid, and on Saturday morning, several residents of Kargil town stepped out to buy supplies for the festival. A few shops had opened, and many extended their one-hour time limit to help customers.

After walking around for a few minutes, Mohammad Israr, 49, a government employee who has six children, chose a goat from Awan, but promptly complained, "All your goats are so thin. You haven't fed them well."

"*Bohot chal ke aaye hain isliye duble ho gaye hain janaab* (They have walked a lot, hence they have lost some weight). You can pick another goat," says Awan, as he ties a rope around a sheep and lifts it on his shoulder to check its weight.

Unlike villages where most people have their own sheep and goats, residents of Kargil town depend on the Bakarwals to purchase animals before the festival every year.

"There is hardly any festivity at home, but we need to have a goat for Eid. I came here the moment I heard that the Bakarwals have arrived," says Israr. "We will continue the protests after Eid. I don't want my children to feel sad on the day."

Members of the Joint Action Committee that is leading the protests have said they will decide the future course of action after Eid on Monday.

Awan, who had sold about 30 animals by 10 am, said, "We have never faced such a situation before. At one point we thought of returning too, but fortunately we were allowed today."

Purchasing sugar and oil from a general store, Arifa, 36, who has three daughters, said, "The celebrations are not going to be big this time... But at least the shops have opened. After Eid, I hope all the other shops open too. Even schools should open... My daughter wanted to participate in the Independence Day function on August 15."

Editors Guild expresses concern about lockdown

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

THE EDITORS Guild of India on Saturday expressed concern about the lockdown in Kashmir and the "consequent curtailment of the media's freedom and ability to report", and asked the government to ensure safety of journalists there and their freedom of movement.

In a statement, the Guild underlined "the imprudence in creating an unfair distinction in the treatment: for access, curfew passes, communication between local journalists and those coming in to report from outside" and emphasised that "all journalists and all Indian citizens are entitled to equal freedoms".

While some visiting journalists may be able to file their reports once they are out of the Valley, the Guild said, "the lockdown is almost total and draconian for the vibrant local media that are the first eyes and ears on the ground". It reminded the government that it "knows very well that it is impossible to process and publish news now without the internet" and that the government "owes it to the people of India, including all in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, to allow the press, a vital institution of democracy, to function freely".

Given the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, it said, "the role of free media, unhindered by such restrictions, becomes critically important in helping dissemination of news and in its democratic duty of keeping a watch on institutions of government and security".

It also expressed deep concern "over the continued shutdown in communication links with the Kashmir Valley and the consequent curtailment of the media's freedom and ability to report fairly and accurately on current developments". Urging the government to "take immediate steps to restore normalcy for the media's communication links", the Guild said that "media transparency has and always should be India's strength, not fear".

India sends reminder to Pak on key meets on Kartarpur

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

INDIA ON Saturday said it has reiterated its request for technical-level meetings to finalise the proposed Kartarpur corridor.

"We have made the request, and hope Pakistan reviews its decision to review the bilateral arrangements," a source told *The Sunday Express*. The development comes on a day Pakistan announced suspension of the Lahore-Delhi friendship bus service from Monday, after it halted two cross-border trains, PTI reports from Islamabad.

New Delhi has asked Islamabad to review its decision to downgrade bilateral ties, after Pakistan took the decision in the wake of the Narendra Modi government's decision to revoke special status to Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcate the state into two Union Territories.

Sources said India had proposed that technical-level meetings be held in the first week of August. This would be the fourth meeting at the technical level, where differences need to be sorted out in order to roll out the pilgrimage corridor later this year.

Pakistan is yet to respond, prompting the Indian side to send a reminder.

A Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation bus, which will return to Lahore without passengers, in Amritsar. *Rana Simranjit Singh*

India had called for the meetings to be held to work out arrangements and finalise the alignment of the interim approach road for the Kartarpur corridor, develop mechanism to share information about pilgrims between nodal points, develop mechanism to deal with exigencies that arise from the use of the corridor. India had also shared a proposal to finalise the agreement to operationalise the Kartarpur corridor.

The Lahore-Delhi bus service was started in February 1999 and suspended after the 2001 Parliament attack. It was restarted in July 2003. The latest move to suspend the service is in line with decisions taken during a meeting of the National Security Committee (NSC) held on Wednesday, Pakistan Minister for Communications and Postal Services Murad Saeed said, PTI reported.

Thar Express from Pakistan reached India on Saturday afternoon, while the Karachi-bound train is on way there, PTI reported, quoting officials. The train from Pakistan started from station zero point at 5.20 pm and reached Munabao, India, at 5.40 pm with 165 passengers — 62 Indians and 103 Pakistanis, officials said. The clearance was received at 3.05 pm, PTI reported, quoting a North Western Railway spokesperson.

People see off their relatives boarding the India-bound Thar Express train at Karachi railway station on Friday. The Thar Express from Pakistan reached India on Saturday afternoon, while the Karachi-bound train is on its way, officials said. *AP*

DNA sampling in rape cases: MP showcauses 1,256 police officials

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, AUGUST 10

THE MADHYA Pradesh government has served showcause notices on 1,256 police officials who did not go for DNA sampling in 731 rape cases registered between July 1, 2018, and March 31, 2019, in violation of high court guidelines.

Advocate General Shashank Shekhar apprised the court on Friday that disciplinary action against erring officials was under consideration. The government will have to inform the high court in three months about the action taken against the officials after perusing their replies.

Justice J P Gupta had asked the government for details of rape cases and whether DNA tests had been done as mandated by the high court.

While adjourning the matter to November 18, the judge said that depending on the punishment the court will decide whether it is sufficient or appropriate or further action is required to ensure compliance of the order making DNA sampling compulsory.

The judge had on April 2 called for a report from the DGP along with an affidavit with regard to cases filed under Section 376 of IPC after June 30, 2018, when the guidelines mandating DNA sampling had been issued. The judge had asked the names of investigating officers and supervising officers authorised to file chargesheets in those cases.

Justice Gupta's order came in a 2016 rape case in which a man sentenced to life imprisonment had argued that he was convicted even though DNA sampling had not been done. While suspending his sentence and releasing him on bail, the bench had asked for details of rape cases after the guidelines had been issued.

On July 18, 2019, the government submitted a report giving details of rape cases registered between July 2018 and March 2019. Out of 4,359 registered in those nine months, DNA sampling had not been done in 731 cases.

MP plans Vedic city, temple management institute

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, AUGUST 10

THE CONGRESS government in Madhya Pradesh is considering setting up a Vedic city and an institute of temple management.

A project report for Vedic city, the more ambitious of the two projects, is being prepared while the proposal for the state institute of temple management is pending with the Finance Department, additional chief secretary (Adhyatma department) Manoj Shrivastav told *The Sunday Express*.

The bureaucrat said the government will make land available for different religious groups to set up museums that will provide detailed information about respective religions. For example, the museum planned for Jainism will have sections devoted to the history, literature, and symbols of Jainism, as well as its principle tenets, Jain cosmology, its pilgrim centres and Jain food.

Shrivastav said the government won't be in a position to manage or set up the museums, and will expect religious communities to run the show once the land is made available to them.

The institute of temple management has been planned keeping in mind the large number of temples in the state, but with most priests lacking skills to manage them. The proposed institute seeks to train the priests in management, finance and religious practices free of cost.

The institute will be set up in Bhopal at an approximate cost of Rs 50 crore. The institute will impart training in renovation of temples, especially the heritage structures, keeping the ancient temple architecture in mind. Currently, the public works department carries out renovation of many old temples, occasionally deforming the architecture.

The Congress has alleged that the previous BJP governments in the state took people for a ride as far as religious matters were concerned during their 15-year-rule. In its manifesto for the Assembly elections, the then Opposition party had made a slew of promises like building a Ram Path Gaman — the route taken by Ram on way to exile — to promote religious tourism, increase honorarium of priests, a legislation to declare as 'living entities' sacred rivers mentioned in the scriptures.

BJP spokesperson Rahul Kothari alleged that the Nath government is planning to collect background details of priests involved in management of temples. He said most priests are affiliated with organisations like the VHP and in the garb of training them, the Congress government will try to persuade them to shift allegiance. He alleged that false cases will be lodged against priests who won't toe the government line.

EXPLAINED

Bid to outdo previous govt

THE CONGRESS government's plan can be seen as part of its bid to outdo the previous BJP regime when it comes to initiatives aimed at the majority community. After releasing its manifesto for Assembly polls, the Congress had admitted it wanted to shed its pro-Muslim image thrust on it by BJP. Since it came to power in December 2018, the Kamal Nath government has named a department Spirituality (Adhyatma) Department and come up with Project Gaushala.

EXPRESS NETWORK

N.E. W.S.

NORTH

Man dies in Himachal paragliding crash

Shimla: A 25-year-old man from Hyderabad died and an Uttar Pradesh resident was injured in a paragliding crash in Kullu district on Saturday, police said. The incident occurred at Shanag area near Manali. Two persons were injured and taken to a hospital, where doctors declared one of them dead, SP Gaurav Singh said. The deceased has been identified as Chandra Shekhar Reddy from Hyderabad, while the injured, Joginder, 27, is from UP's Lakhanpur. The paragliding pilot and the owner have been booked, police said. **PTI**

A white tiger cools off in a pond following an increase in temperature, at Arignar Anna Zoological Park in Vandalur, near Chennai. *PTI*

WEST

School van driver gets 10-year RI for raping two girls

Thane: A special court in Thane, Maharashtra, has awarded 10 years of rigorous imprisonment to a 35-year-old van driver for raping two girls. Special POCSO court judge S P Gondhalekar convicted Tulshiram Manere and awarded the sentence to him on Friday. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 28,000 on the convict. According to the prosecution, the convict, who used to drive a van to ferry schoolchildren, had raped the two girls, both aged around eight then, on multiple occasions in 2016. Additional public prosecutor Ujjwala Moholkar said Manere used to ferry the students in his van daily. **PTI**

EAST

Man beaten to death on suspicion of child-lifting

Patna: A man was beaten to death by a mob on suspicion of being a child-lifter in Mahmadpur village of Naubatpur, on the outskirts of Patna, on Saturday. The incident took place when villagers caught hold of a middle-aged, allegedly moving suspiciously, and beat him with sticks. The man was declared dead on arrival at a local hospital. Patna SSP Garima Malik confirmed the incident and said the police identified 22 people and arrested them. "Rumour is rife on child lifting in the state capital. We are ensuring people do not take law in their hands." Malik said the police are yet to identify the victim. **ENS**

SOUTH

In AP, 98 cows, calves die of suspected food poisoning

Amaravati: At least 98 cows and calves died in a suspected case of food poisoning at a cow shelter on the outskirts of Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh. The dead bovines were shifted to veterinary hospital for postmortem to determine the cause of death, and some other cows that also fell sick were being treated, AP Animal Husbandry Department officials said. Krishna District Collector M Imtiaz and Vijayawada Sub Collector Misha Singh visited the privately run goushala, under the aegis of 'Gou Samrakshana Sangham', at Kotturu-Tadepalli village and spoke to the organisers. The police have started a probe. **PTI**

Rescue operations underway in Sangli district of Maharashtra on Saturday. *Arul Horizon*

Pune, 6 other Maharashtra dists limp back to normalcy, death toll at 30

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, MUMBAI, AUGUST 10

THE TOLL due to the floods in Maharashtra's Pune division has reached 30, Pune Divisional Commissioner Deepak Mhaisekar said on Saturday. The division includes the districts of Sangli, Pune, Kolhapur, Satara, and Solapur.

On Friday, the administration had said the toll was 29, but two of the names were listed by mistake — one had died of natural causes and the other was still missing, said Mhaisekar.

Meanwhile, the discharge of water from Almatti dam has increased to a record high of 5.30 lakh cusec, leading to water levels receding faster in flood-affected Sangli and Kolhapur districts. According to Mhaisekar, the inflow of water in Almatti dam has increased due to flooding of Ghatprabha river, a tributary of Krishna river, and reached 6 lakh cusec. This has prompted the Karnataka government to increase the discharge to a record high to prevent the flood situation from worsening, said officials.

Officials said due to the damage caused by rains and submerging of transformers in water, electricity supply to as many as 1.17 lakh customers in Kolhapur and 1.33 lakh customers in Sangli had been disrupted.

Mhaisekar also said that as on Saturday afternoon, 33 bridges in Sangli district and 41 in Kolhapur were closed either due to overflowing water or landslides. He also said that 91 roads, including state highways and main district roads in Kolhapur, and 66 in Sangli were also closed due to floods.

The Kolhapur airport handled 30 operations, including landing and take-off, on Saturday.

Residents return home, find little left

After an overflowing Pavana river submerged their chawl at Bharatnagar in Pune's Phugewadi area on Monday, local residents finally returned home on Friday, to find that most of their belongings in their one-room tenements were either damaged beyond repair or washed away in the gushing water.

When water had started gushing into their homes, over 140 members of the 36 families in the chawl had locked up their houses and taken refuge at a relief camp set up at a civic school in Phugewadi, set up by the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC).

When *The Sunday Express* visited the area on Saturday, some of the women broke down while narrating their plight. "Please come to our house," said Mahananada Gaikwad, who is in her 50s. "Nothing is left in the room...our TV, fridge, cupboards, beds, cushions, everything has been damaged. Some clothes are there...but they are stinking, we can't wear them."

The local residents are also worried about their next job, and their next meal. "Most of us are labourers who work at construction sites . Because of the continuous rain, we are out of jobs. With no money, we are worried about where our next meal will come from," said Dilip Shivsharan.

When contacted, District Collector Naval Kishore Ram said he will speak to Municipal Commissioner Shravan Hardikar about the issue. PCMC chief Hardikar said the compensation amount for flood-hit families would be decided after panchanamas are conducted.

EC should postpone polls: Raj Thackeray

MNS chief Raj Thackeray on Saturday said that the Election Commission (EC) should postpone the state Assembly polls till next year in view of the flood situation in Maharashtra.

"It will take time to compensate the losses and stabilise the affected people...The model code of conduct for Assembly polls might come to in force in September. The government will then shrug off its responsibility, claiming that it can't provide any assistance while the code of conduct is in place. So, the polls should postponed and can be held next year," Thackeray said.

Karnataka: 80 taluks flood-hit, toll rises to 26

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BENGALURU, AUGUST 10

THE KARNATAKA government on Saturday declared 80 taluks in 17 districts flood-affected, even as the death toll rose to 26, and thousands of people were rendered homeless.

The government passed the order declaring the 80 taluks flood-hit taking into account the damage to the crop, human lives, livestock and basic infrastructure. The taluks are in Belagavi, Bagalkote,

Raichur, Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Vijayapura, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad, Shivamogga, Chikkamagaluru, Kodagu, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada and Mysuru districts.

Officials said at least 26 people have died due to flood and rain-related incidents in the past past one week. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be visiting the worst affected Belagavi district on Sunday, state government officials said. He would also undertake an aerial survey of the other flood-hit areas in the state, they said.

Karnataka Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa said a disaster of this magnitude had never struck the state in the past 45 years. He appealed to the people to donate generously to rebuild the flood-hit areas.

"Our preliminary assessment suggests that the loss is to the tune of Rs 6,000 crore. We have sought Rs 3,000 crore from the Centre," Yediyurappa told reporters.

As many as 2.35 lakh people have been moved to safety, the chief minister said, adding that 222 head of livestock is dead and 44,013 head of cattle have been evacuated and provided shelter.

The government has assessed that 3,22,448 hectares of agricultural land have been damaged due to floods and landslides.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday conducted an aerial survey of Belagavi and Bagalkote districts. She told reporters that the Centre would instruct insurance companies to pay the compensation to the farmers.

"The insurance companies will be instructed to conduct their surveys and formalities later. They will be asked to conduct meetings with officers and elected representatives of the districts concerned and finalise the amount of compensation," Sitharaman said in Belagavi.

Former chief minister H D Kumaraswamy, who too visited Belagavi, said a big calamity has struck the state and the government has a big challenge ahead to provide relief to the people.

He advised Yediyurappa to take the officials into confidence and get the work done.

"A big challenge is staring him (Yediyurappa). The cabinet has not been formed yet. He is the only minister in the government on whose shoulders lies the responsibility of 30 districts. At least he can take officials into confidence and extract work from them," Kumaraswamy said.

Meanwhile, rescue and rehabilitation works intensified across the state, with the Army, National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Force, Civil Defence, Railways, police, home guards, scouts and guides chipping in to provide relief to the thousands of displaced people.

16 killed as rain batters Gujarat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, SURAT, AUGUST 10

SIXTEEN PEOPLE were killed in separate incidents across Gujarat on Saturday as rain continued to lash most parts of the state for the third consecutive day.

Most casualties were reported in Pachisvariya area of Saurashtra's Morbi district, where the compound wall of a private plot collapsed, killing eight people and injuring four.

The victims were labourers from Madhya Pradesh, between13 and 30 years old, Superintendent of Police Karansinh Vaghela said. The deceased were identified as Tejalben Kharadi, 13; Aklambhai Kharadi, 14; Lalitaben Kharadi, 16; Kasmaben Kharadi, 30; Videshabhai Tunda, 20; Ashaben Ambatiya, 15; Kalitaben Damor, 19; and Kaliben, 18.

In Ahmedabad, four of a family were killed as a wall of an under-construction building in Shela area collapsed in the early hours. The victims, all labourers, are Dineshbhai, 40; wife Ramdaben, 30; and their children aged 3 and 7.

Ahmedabad District Collector Vikrant Pandey said, "We have received some complaints of waterlogging at Dhanduka taluka in the district where an AMC team has been put on standby, along with a fire brigade."

Four people, including a one-year-old girl, were killed and five injured when a three-storey building of Gujarat Housing Board collapsed in Nadiad town of Kheda district on Friday night. A seven-hour rescue operation by fire brigade and NDRF teams ended at 6 am on Saturday.

Kheda District Collector Sudhir Patel said, "The five injured have been admitted to ND Desai Hospital where they are stable. The building collapsed completely in the rain. The four who died were Poonamben Sachdev (60), Kamran ansari (45), Alina Ansari (1) and Rajesh Darji (65). No other casualties have been recorded as of now."

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, who held a review meeting on Saturday, told the media: "Seventeen dams are overflowing. Last year, by the end of monsoon, dams had only 56 per cent water. This year there is 60 per cent water stock in dams already."

A waterlogged road in Ahmedabad on Saturday. *Javed Raja*

Defence mission

Thirty people were rescued in flood-affected parts of Jamnagar district in two rescue missions conducted by the Indian Air Force on Saturday.

Trains cancelled

Seventeen trains have been cancelled, six short-terminated and two diverted via North Gujarat, the Railways said in a statement.

Exams postponed

The Gujarat Subordinate Service Selection Board has postponed exams scheduled to held for the post for ITI instructors on Sunday. **WITH PTI INPUTS**

IN OTHER STATES

Mangled remains of vehicles that fell in a gorge near Shimla after a landslide triggered by rain. *Pradeep Kumar*

TELANGANA
Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Saturday decided to release water to farmers in both states from the Nagarjuna Sagar dam. The Nagarjuna Sagar dam and other dams in Telangana have been receiving copious inflows following heavy rains in catchment areas over the past few days.

MADHYA PRADESH
Madhya Pradesh saw a let-up in rainfall on Saturday after heavy rains threw normal life out of gear through the week. The monsoon appeared to have weakened in the state and was expected to revive after three days, said an official of the India Meteorological department (IMD) here.

ODISHA
Odisha is likely to receive a fresh bout of rainfall from Sunday, with another low pressure taking shape over Bay of Bengal. **PTI**

Charaka Rishi discovered atom, molecules; Sanskrit can help computers: HRD minister

ABHA GORADIA
MUMBAI, AUGUST 10

CHARAKA RISHI, hailed as one of the main contributors of the traditional system of ayurveda, discovered atoms and molecules, and walking computers, if they become a reality, would be primarily due to the help of Sanskrit, and that NASA has confirmed that, Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' said while addressing students at IIT Bombay on Saturday.

He also said that ancient physician Sushruta was the world's first surgeon.

Western researchers attribute the first theory of atom to Greek philosopher Democritus.

Addressing an event at the 57th convocation of IIT Bombay as the chief guest, Pokhriyal said, "NASA has confirmed that if walking computers were to become a reality, it will only be based on the foundation of Sanskrit. Sanskrit is a scientific language, incomparable to any other language. It is the only language where the words are written exactly the way they are spoken."

Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'

Maintaining that the world of medicine is incomplete without ayurveda, the minister said, "World over, no hospital can be started without establishing an AYUSH wing. This is because without ayurveda, medicine is incomplete," the minister said.

AYUSH stands for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy.

Recalling "what things the world used to say about Patanjali", the company and yoga institute founded by yoga guru Ramdev, Pokhriyal said, "Today our Prime Minister invites (people from other) countries to heal their mind and body through yoga. Yoga enables one to link the mind and the body. Today, 199 countries have said that nothing exists without yoga — if we want to keep ourselves safe, yoga is necessary."

Advocating the need to link culture with education, Pokhriyal told the students, "When nothing else existed, people across the world came to Nalanda and Taksashila (ancient universities) for knowledge. We should boost our country as a world university. If this is to be made possible within the next five years, it should be started through you."

The minister congratulated IIT Bombay for securing a rank among top 200 world universities and expressed a vision to bring the institute to number one position. "All things required by the world should be made in India, and it will begin with you," he said, exhorting students to save 1 litre water every day in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's recent emphasis on water conservation.

He also inaugurated hostel number 18, and earlier in the day interacted with all IITs across the country through video conferencing on "*Navbharat ka nirman, IITs ke saath*".

In all, 2,603 degrees and 385 PhDs were conferred on Saturday. This includes 23 joint PhD degrees, in association with Monash University, Australia.

Nandan Nilekani, co-founder and chairman of Infosys Technologies, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa).

Khattar remarks on Kashmiri women spark row, BJP says words 'twisted'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 10

HARYANA CHIEF Minister Manohar Lal Khattar's purported remarks about Kashmiri women at an event in the state on Friday sparked a controversy on Saturday with several leaders of opposition parties condemning the BJP leader, before the CM and the party hit back, accusing the media and political parties of "distorting" the comments.

In a tweet, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi termed Khattar's remarks "despicable".

While BSP chief Mayawati condemned the "mentality and indecency shown by the chief minister of Haryana towards Kashmiri sisters and daughters after abrogation of special status" to J&K, West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee said people holding high public office "must restrain" themselves from making "insensitive comments" that are "hurtful not only for J&K, but the entire nation".

Manohar Lal Khattar

The Delhi Commission for Women said an FIR should be registered against Khattar, as also BJP Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel, for alleged sexist and misogynistic remarks and acts.

Haryana BJP shared a 1.03-minute video of Khattar speaking at the public event in Fatehabad on Friday and stated, "The statement of Chief Minister is being twisted under an agenda".

Reacting to the criticism, Khattar accused the media of "running a misleading and factless campaign" against him and shared a full video of the event on his official Twitter handle.

On Friday, Khattar had said at an event in Haryana's Fatehabad, "*...Haryana ka naam badnaam thha ki yeh betiyon ko maarnewala pradesh hai. Lekin humne abhiyaan chalaya. Jo gender ratio ladkiyon ki sankhya 1,000 ladkon ke peeche 850 thhi, ab 10,00 ladkon ke peechhe ladkiyon ki sankhya 933 ho gayi hai. Yeh ek bahut bada kaam...* (Haryana was ill-famed for female foeticide. But we ran campaigns, and the ratio increased from 850 to 933)"

He also said, "*Hamaare Dhankar-ji [O P Dhankar, Haryana's agriculture minister] ne kaha ke Bihar se laani padengi, ab kuch log keh rahe hain ab toh Kashmir khul gaya, wahaan se le aayenge. Mazaak ki baatein alag hai. Lekin samaaj mein ratio theek hogi toh santulan theek baithega* (Dhankar-ji had said that they [brides] will have to be brought from Bihar. Now some people say Kashmir is open, they [brides] will be brought from there. But jokes apart, the question is if the [sex] ratio is right, then there will be a right balance in society)."

On Saturday, Khattar accused the media of "running a misleading and factless campaign" against him and shared a full video of the event.

Reacting to Rahul's tweet, Khattar stated in multiple tweets, "...Manufacturing statements & subsequently destroying their own party does not work in the long term...Dear @RahulGandhi ji, at least at your level you shouldn't react on distorted news..." **WITH ENS-KOLKATA, PTI**

"This (withdrawal of special status to J&K) has been BJP's stand for 50 years... The strategy has to be that we should not create unnecessary panic, manage the situation peacefully and it should benefit all"

WHY PRAKASH JAVADEKAR

Amidst an unprecedented lockdown and information crackdown in the Valley, as the minister in charge of disseminating information, Union I&B Minister Prakash Javadekar has the challenging task of explaining the government's position. As the BJP's spokesperson in Delhi for close to a decade, Javadekar is one of the most visible faces in the party and government. Having held the key portfolio of HRD in earlier Modi government, he was fielded to firefight the three-language controversy over draft education policy. He counts streamlining of clearances to projects by Environment Ministry, a portfolio he continues to hold, as one of his key achievements

"Doordarshan (in J&K) is working. Akashvani is being broadcast in all languages. Media is visiting different places in the Valley. This is not Emergency. Precaution is not Emergency. Don't misread

'Don't construe precaution like these arrests as our policy... Wait 15 days and see reaction of Kashmir'

Union minister Prakash Javadekar says Modi govt has been "more democratic" than its predecessor, insists all recent Bills have passed Parliament's scrutiny, talks about GM crops and tussle between growth and environment, and denies information blackout in Valley

Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, and Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar, with Chief of National Bureau Ravish Tiwari in *The Indian Express* newsroom. *Abhinav Saha*

RAVISH TIWARI: In the middle of the recently concluded Parliament session, you called a press conference to talk about the work done by the government in first 50 days. That is unusual.

Earlier, governments used to come out with annual reports. Then we started reporting every 100 days. But this time, the speed and scale were such that we thought it better to report earlier to the people of India, who have given us such a tremendous mandate. (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi*ji* had planned this in advance because we were told what we can do in 100 days. Since people were with us and had voted us in, we didn't want to lose a single moment... In 50 days, so many things were done.

RAVISH TIWARI: This was an eventful session for Parliament and a lot of key Bills were passed. But the Opposition is accusing the government of misusing its mandate to ram through legislation without scrutiny.

That's not true. A majority of the Bills passed in this session were carried forward from the previous session. The Rajya Sabha had played the role of a speedbreaker. These Bills were passed in the Lok Sabha and sent to standing committees, but were not passed in the Rajya Sabha. Therefore, they had lapsed, had to be introduced again, and then they cleared both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. This is the will of the people, not brute majority. We have actually been more democratic than the previous Congress government.

RAVISH TIWARI: But the allegation is that the BJP engineered defections in the Rajya Sabha to manage numbers and push crucial Bills such as triple talaq and Article 370. This creates suspicion in the minds of people.

What is the suspicion? The triple talaq Bill was twice sent to the select committee. All Bills have gone through Parliament scrutiny. And let us not demonise Parliament — as if parliamentary committees are much more important than Parliament. Let us not fall prey to that mischievous campaign... The real issue is people have sided with Modi*ji* and now those in other parties are feeling pressured.

Look at yesterday's (August 7) Congress meeting (that discussed J&K). There is a clear difference of opinion regarding Article 370. So when this happens, there will definitely be people who would like to come (and join us). And they have resigned their seats (and joined us). So what can be the objection?

RAVISH TIWARI: You held the Environment Ministry for the first two years (2014-16) of the last government. What change do you notice now after assuming charge of the ministry this year? From your experience, what do you think is yet to be achieved?

When I took charge of the Environment Ministry in 2014, it was seen as a road-block ministry with anti-progress policies. That has changed. The average time taken for proposals to get sanctions was 640 days. I brought it down to 180 days. Subsequently, in the last three years, it has come down to 108 days. And this is without compromising environmental considerations... Therefore, our theory is 'protect environment, ensure growth'. So both growth and environmental protection are possible.

Take for instance, the Metro in Delhi. There was hue and cry by NGOs when trees were cut to build Metro stations... Now we have 271 stations. Thousands of trees were felled but thousands were also replanted. Now we have five times more greenery compared to earlier times and a public transport system for three million people every day. This is how we are ensuring the best solution.

HARISH DAMODARAN: The seed industry's estimate is that 30-35 lakh packets of HTBT GM cotton are being sold. The government considers the seeds illegal, but these are being planted. Why doesn't the government take a stand on this matter?

As far as herbicide-tolerant BT (HTBt) crops are concerned, we had one application, which the applicant withdrew. There is no application pending before us.

HARISH DAMODARAN: But people are openly growing it and the government is looking the other way.

Law enforcement and land are with the states. These are not the subject matter of the Centre.

APURVA VISHWANATH: There are vacancies in the National Green Tribunal. Except for the principal bench in Delhi, no other bench is functioning. Everyone is approaching the principal bench, and it is taking about a month and a half to list a case. Is there a plan to revitalise the NGT?

The NGT is an important institution... NGT office-bearers had told me that they are conducting video conferences, so that is not an issue. As far as NGT orders are concerned, these are opinions of various stakeholders. But we follow the law. A judge is judge anywhere. If one judge is listening to the case, you can't say that somebody else must listen.

ESHA ROY: The time taken to grant environment clearances has come down. Is it being brought down any further?

I want to streamline processes without compromising environmental considerations. While protecting the environment, we must allow development to take place because that is how sustainable growth can be achieved. And we are committed to sustainable growth... After the Paris Agreement (2016), we have been achieving our targets and walking the talk. We have already achieved energy efficiency of nearly 20-25 per cent and we will be achieving 35 per cent by 2030.

When Modi*ji* declared a target of 175 gigawatts of renewable energy by 2022, people thought it was impossible. But we are progressing well... More than 15,000 sq km of forest cover was added. And this is very good news for the country. We have taken decisions regarding e-mobility, BS-VI norms, change of fuel, building highways etc... Unnecessary processes and time wastage should be removed.

KRISHN KAUSHIK: The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in the morning (August 5) and passed the same day. Do you think the Opposition has no constructive role to play at all?

The Opposition participated and discussed (the Bill). We first passed it in the Rajya Sabha and then in the Lok Sabha and all parties participated in the discussion. That is how democracy works....

I wonder why you people have objections if the government is working fast... and if we are taking pro-people decisions. People should rejoice.

RAVISH TIWARI: You went to jail during the Emergency, fighting for the freedom of the press. But now in the Valley, there is a complete information crackdown — newspapers are not being printed, messages are not being delivered.

This is not true. Doordarshan is working. Akashvani is being broadcast in all languages. Media is visiting different places in the Valley. This is not Emergency. Precaution is not Emergency. Don't misread. Emergency was an upfront attack and the only attack that happened in India after Independence. Niren De (Attorney General of India during the Emergency years) had said that the government had the right to take the life of any person. My father was then a sub-editor at *Daily Kesari*. On June 25 (1975), he was on night shift. He returned in the morning and said police officers, who knew nothing about news, came to his office and asked to be shown the news. They would then decide what was to be published, and how. That was a frontal attack on democracy. And very few in the journalistic fraternity protested.

RAVISH TIWARI: Two former chief ministers (Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah) are in jail....

Precaution should not be construed as a policy... You will very soon see normalcy returning to Jammu and Kashmir.

RAVISH TIWARI: You call it 'precaution' and Indira Gandhi called it 'maintenance of internal security'....

This is an absolute injustice to us because we are a democratic government... We are a successful democracy and people thought that Modi is delivering and therefore we must vote for him... People voted on their own and that is democracy. And therefore, we should not demean the action of precaution.

SARTHAK RAY: The Bombay High Court recently scrapped the Rs 14,000 crore coastal road project and said certain processes were improper.

If processes are not followed properly and if there are discrepancies, the court has a duty to point it out and the government will complete it. And the coastal road will be build.

SUNIL JAIN: The government is talking about Bharat Stage VI engines. But the NITI Aayog has said that by 2025, there will only be electric vehicles and no new production of internal combustion engines will be carried out. What is your view on the matter?

We must understand the size of our economy, population, the spread of the country which will be using the vehicles... Electrical mobility will be subsidised, patronised and promoted. But ultimately, it can't happen in one day. So till that time, you will require petrol and diesel engines also. One should welcome it. Producers and manufacturers who were not ready to adjust to BS-VI norms have come on board. And from April 1, 2020, every new car will have BS-VI engines... Let us wait and see what actually happens. Decisions are ultimately taken by the Cabinet.

"When I took charge of Environment Ministry in 2014, it was seen as a road-block ministry... I brought down the time taken for sanctions to 180 days... without compromising on the environment

RAVISH TIWARI: What was the kind of consultation that took place in the government as well as the party with regards to Jammu and Kashmir?

This has been the BJP's stand for 50 years. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, the founder of the BJP, laid down his life for this. So it's not new. The strategy and policy should not be confused. The strategy has to be that we should not create unnecessary panic, manage the situation peacefully and it should benefit all. And that is what is happening.

RAVISH TIWARI: The government is arresting and detaining leaders of mainstream political parties. Why is the government afraid of democratic leaders in the state?

The UPA government was in power for 10 years. In those 10 years, our parliamentary delegations were detained at many places which witnessed atrocities against Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. Memory should not be so short.

KRISHN KAUSHIK: A channel named NaMo TV was started during the Lok Sabha elections. There was a lot of confusion about its ownership and status. With such loopholes in the law, can there not be security threats?

(Law and Justice Minister) Ravi Shankar Prasad*ji* is taking steps in this regard.

RAVISH TIWARI: What are the challenges you are expecting to face in Jammu and Kashmir now?

The challenge is countering misinformation. Deliberate, mischievous campaigns are the only challenge... Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes get political reservation right from the gram panchayat to the Lok Sabha, but in Kashmir, this was not there... Under the Right to Education, 25 per cent seats in private schools are reserved for poor children throughout the country, but not in Kashmir. Don't poor children from J&K have the right to go to private schools? The 73rd and 74th Constitutional amendments (passed in 1992) gave panchayats real power. There were no elections in Kashmir but we conducted these successfully with 50-70 per cent voter turnout. People will be happy because they will get the powers they were denied.... So this is a way to empower common people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. The way the Ladakh MP spoke (in Parliament) shows the aspiration of the people of the region.

RAVISH TIWARI: Rajya Sabha member Vaiko said the government has put Kashmir in a Kosovo-like situation....

I don't subscribe to what Vaiko has said, but it is a democratic country and he has the right to speak his mind. (Home Minister) Amit Shah responded saying Kashmir will never be like Kosovo. That is an entirely different situation. We are a peaceful country. Wait for 15 days and see the reaction of the people of Kashmir.

PRABHUDATTA MISHRA: We have not seen any new GM crop being approved by the current government. What is the government's policy regarding GM crops?

Before the final approval is given, there is a process of getting it (a GM crop) examined more thoroughly and field trials were recommended. But no state government gave the permission and land has to be given by the state government. So what can we do?

RAVISH TIWARI: New technology has disrupted the media industry. There is a legal vacuum as far as digital news platforms are concerned. What will be the government's approach to tackle this issue?

Digital content is covered by the Information Technology Act. But now there are regular newspapers in digital format. There is Over-the-Top content in film format, which then goes to the CBFC (Central Board of Film Certification), but there is no Press Council for digital (media platforms). So there is a gap. We have not started the process of dealing with this.

THE NEW GREAT GAME

The US, eager to pull out of Afghanistan, is rushing a deal with the Taliban; Pak is basking in its place on the talks table; and India is wary of what is to follow. As the ripples of India's decision to strip J&K of its special status are felt, NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN on the geopolitics shaping the region and its policies

IT IS not often that Zalmay Khalilzad flies into Delhi. The sharp-suited, self-assured Afghan-American diplomat has been on a year-long overdrive to stitch up an agreement with the Taliban to ensure US President Donald Trump's promised withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan comes true. It is a process in which Pakistan has played a key role, by bringing the Taliban to the table. India, on the other hand, has no role at all. And with India's friends in Afghanistan all sceptical or downright dismissive of the process, Khalilzad has kept his distance.

When he arrived in the Capital on August 6, it was the day after the Narendra Modi-led government had executed a series of constitutional moves in Jammu & Kashmir in keeping with its ideological positions — revoking the state's special status, making redundant Article 370, plus bifurcating J&K into two Union Territories. The ripples from the move had been felt as far as Doha in Qatar, where Khalilzad was closeted with Taliban leaders for an all-important eighth round of talks, with both sides said to be on the cusp of a deal.

The last thing that the US Special Representative on Afghanistan Reconciliation, or his boss Trump, would want at this point, when a deal with the Taliban seems within reach, is for Pakistan, the main force behind the Taliban participation, to get distracted over Kashmir.

Khalilzad met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, and both put out boilerplate tweets acknowledging that they caught up with each other and with the developments on the Afghan process. But it is certain they discussed Kashmir, and Khalilzad was told it is an "internal" issue for India.

The special envoy had visited Islamabad the previous week, at the same time that India was signalling loudly on Kashmir by abruptly cancelling the Amarnath Yatra, evacuating pilgrims, asking all other visitors to leave the Valley at short notice — at the time citing a terrorist threat from Pakistan, but as it turned out, preparing for the big changes.

Pakistani media reported then that foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi had conveyed to Khalilzad that any "major development" in Kashmir could affect the Afghan process, and that India was trying to "undermine" it, a charge he repeated after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's announcements on Kashmir in Parliament.

It is not clear how Khalilzad assessed the developments in Kashmir. But he knows who he can put pressure on, and who not, because Pakistan pedalled back and quickly assured its continued cooperation for the Afghan process even as it continued efforts to internationalise what India had done. Neither the Pakistan army nor the Imran Khan government can afford to throw away the American gratitude that its role in the process has got it.

Days later, the Taliban too put out a statement that expressed "sadness" at the "hardships" caused to the Muslims in Kashmir and invited international attention to the matter by members of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and the UN, but unusually, seemed to rap Pakistan on the knuckles for linking Kashmir and Afghanistan.

Welcome to the latest edition of the Great Game.

■ ■ ■

For centuries, Afghanistan, located at the crossroads of south and central Asia, has been at the centre of struggles between big powers for strategic dominance. It has also been the graveyard of great powers. Thirty years after the Soviets withdrew, defeated by shoulder-missile-holding mujahideen trained by Pakistan, whose army made millions in finances from America, the country is about to witness another withdrawal, this time by the US, once again in a virtual admission of defeat, whatever window-dressing Khalilzad might want to give it to send out the impression that this is not surrender or a disorderly pullout like the Soviet one, but an agreement.

Khalilzad served as the US Ambassador to Kabul between 2003-2005, before going on to even more high-profile assignments in Iraq and at the UN. The 68-year-old US diplomat is once said to have nursed high political ambitions in the country of his birth, and Afghan leaders remain suspicious of his alleged personal agenda. His mission now — to close a deal with the Taliban — has to be choreographed to a tight deadline to coincide with President Trump's second-term bid in the 2020 US presidential elections. An India-based US diplomat India described Khalilzad as "a force of nature".

The endgame this time has drawn in Russia and China, each with big stakes in Afghanistan, in the potential fallout and in the strategic opportunities that the American withdrawal opens up. Iran's problematic relations with the US have driven its own discreet engagement with the process. While each country in the region views Afghanistan as a strategic piece of real estate, what of the Afghans who stood against the Taliban all these years, invested in democracy, elections and a Constitution?

The Obama administration was also desperate to engage with the Taliban when it became clear that the war could not be won, but it drew the line at negotiating with the Taliban without the Afghan government represented at the table. Trump, however, has no such compunctions.

Khalilzad has cut out the Ashraf Ghani government altogether in deference to Taliban wishes. The main deal, which many say has already been agreed upon, is a timetable for US troop withdrawal, in return for a commitment from the Taliban that it will not shelter al-Qaeda or ISIS in Afghanistan.

Khalilzad has held the details of his discussions close to his chest, communicating almost entirely through Twitter, his spare tweets providing fewer answers than the questions they raise. In one such tweet earlier this year, he said that without commitments from the Taliban to talk with the Afghan government and to a ceasefire, there would be no deal. This would give the American withdrawal even the aura of a peace agreement, instead of the stigma of a scramble to get out, as in Vietnam. But with the passage of months, it seems that the US will leave the details of the ceasefire and any power-sharing arrangement between the Taliban and the Afghan government and others to the "intra-Afghan talks".

Also up in the air is the September 28 Afghan presidential election. Will it be held at all, Afghans wonder. Speculation is rife that instead, there could be an "interim government" in which the Taliban will share power with other Afghan groups. Afghans who have built the process say elections must take place. But the stronger view is that with previous Afghan polls and their results proving to be deeply fractious and contested, holding them could end up complicating the intra-Afghan talks and may even hand the Taliban a moral victory.

■ ■ ■

Amrullah Saleh is among those weighing in on the side of elections. Saleh, the former head of the Afghan intelligence agency NDS, and fiercely outspoken against Pakistan and the Taliban, is contesting the September 28 polls as a vice-presidential candidate and President Ghani's running mate.

On July 28, Saleh had just returned to his fortified office after kicking off his campaign with Ghani, with a rally in Kabul, when a huge explosion went off outside, caused by a car bomb. Seconds later, four suicide bombers entered the building along with gunmen, looking for Saleh.

In a scene out of the movies, the 46-year-old, who knows he is a marked man, ran up a flight of stairs from his fourth-floor room, and barricaded himself on a terrace with a heavy door constructed for just such an eventuality. From there, he held off his Taliban attackers for a full 55 minutes before dramatically escaping to the next building with the help of a ladder his bodyguards had thrown across. The attack killed 30 people, among them relatives of Saleh, and wounded 50 others. Saleh was lucky to get away with minor injuries.

The deadly attack on Saleh was not the first episode of violence after the US opened talks with the Taliban late last year, nor was it the last. On August 7, in the midst of the eighth round of talks in Doha that Khalilzad has announced may yield the deal, a Taliban truck bomb went off in Kabul killing 14 people and leaving dozens with injuries.

The violence has left a sense of foreboding and *deja vu*. There may be an agreement, but no one believes that peace is round the corner.

■ ■ ■

Is Kashmir part of the new great game? Amid all this, Delhi's nightmare scenario is that once Trump gets his deal and withdraws troops from Afghanistan, the ISI will send its out-of-work jihadist proxies into the Valley as it did in the 1990s, after the first Afghan war ended in 1989 with the Soviet withdrawal.

While the Modi government explained its decisions on J&K as driven by a desire to deliver economic development to the state, some security officials describe the moves as an urgent necessity due to the imminent American withdrawal and a deal that will likely put Taliban, and thus Pakistan, in a pole position in Afghanistan, and open new opportunities for cross-border terrorism.

Moreover, the situation in the Valley could have just got more complicated by Delhi's newly made decisions, that may give the people's anger and alienation a fresh lease of life. Radicalism in the Valley is already entrenched, and is looking for new inspiration, and the ascendance of anti-India forces in the region, many fear, may give fresh impetus to those in Kashmir wanting to fight it out.

Former foreign secretary Shyam Saran is among those who believes that the government's move in Kashmir had no external dimensions and was purely a political decision, but warns it could have adverse consequences. "Whatever bridge there was between India and J&K has been broken, you've pushed all the J&K constituencies into an undifferentiated mass of anti-nationals. This change has provoked a predictable response from Pakistan. It should come as no surprise if there is an uptick in cross-border violence," Saran said.

If there is a Taliban revival, "whether it is a Taliban government or as an influential part of the dispensation in Kabul, there is every likelihood of Pakistan using a more congenial atmosphere to put a little more distance between itself and cross-border terrorism. We have seen this before, and it could well happen again", said Saran.

When President Trump thanked Pakistan PM Imran Khan for his help with the Afghan process, he was actually thanking the Pakistan army, which controls large sections of the Taliban. The ISI not only brought the Taliban to the table for talks with the US, it also released Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the Afghan Taliban and No. 2 to Mullah Omar, whom it had kept incarcerated since 2010 for trying to reach out to then president Hamid Karzai. Baradar is now the lead negotiator for his side, travelling across the globe, rubbing shoulders with heads of state as he briefs them about the Afghan process.

India, which leveraged the US presence in Afghanistan to rebuild its good relations after the hiatus during the Taliban regime, thus keeping the pressure on Pakistan, has felt entirely left out. In the words of a former diplomat familiar with the talks, India is "paralysed" by its own friendships in Afghanistan, across all non-Taliban groups, and has not reached out to the Taliban, at least not publicly or officially.

The memory of the 1999 IC 814 hijacking to Kandahar and the role the Taliban played in helping the hijackers push India to surrender to their demands, is still fresh among those who were involved in the negotiations then.

But security officials and diplomats who are familiar with Afghanistan are clear that it is not the Taliban who pose the real problem for India. Some say India should even explore an engagement with the Pashtun militants, without necessarily endorsing them. They believe it will be Pakistan and its actions in Afghanistan that will continue to represent the real danger

"The Taliban are very Afghan-centric. They have no interest in Kashmir," said one former diplomat. "It is unlikely that the Taliban will send fighters into Kashmir." Even in the 1990s, less than 2,000 Afghan fighters were involved in militancy in Kashmir, according to officials.

The threat is from the Pakistani groups, officials say, and the situation in the Valley could turn out to be a low-hanging fruit for them. At the moment, Indian security officials speak of "hundreds" of Lashkar-e-Toiba cadres fighting in Afghanistan, giving more teeth to the Taliban in its battle to take as much control of the territory before any deal with the US. Afghan officials too speak of the presence of Jaish-e-Mohammed cadres in Afghanistan.

"This is the real danger, that the Lashkar and the Jaish will be rerouted through Afghanistan to give Pakistan more deniability," said an official, not ruling out efforts to take the fight beyond Kashmir, to other parts of India.

In addition, said one former official who has served in Afghanistan, there is reason to believe that the Islamic State of Khorasan is part Tehreek-e-Taliban, part Lashkar-e-Toiba. The conclusion being drawn in Delhi is this: in an increasingly tight corner with the Financial Action Task Force on its failure to crack down on terrorism, Pakistan pushing Lashkar cadres into Afghanistan, and rebranding them as ISIS, as one way of putting daylight between itself and the group, and increasing deniability for any of its future acts of terrorism.

Afghans are deeply suspicious of Pakistan. They believe that these fighters will remain in Afghanistan as an insurance policy against the Taliban growing independent-minded. In addition, there are concerns that not all Taliban may agree with the agreement reached by the leadership and may plunge the country back into instability and chaos. And even those Taliban who accept the deal now may not abide by the rules of the game.

(Top) On July 28, Amrullah Saleh, standing for vice-president in the Sept 28 polls in Afghanistan, survived a Taliban attack on his office-residence that killed 30 people; Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar (third from left) along with other Taliban leaders arrives for talks in Moscow. *AP*

EXPLAINED

Adapting to the changing regional dynamics

THE NARENDRA Modi government's sweeping constitutional changes in Jammu and Kashmir have come against the backdrop of changing regional dynamics. The American withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan over the next year is expected to leave its impact, especially as it is likely to put the Taliban in the driving seat in Kabul, and its mentor Pakistan in a position of influence. This may resonate in the Valley in the same way as the 1989 Soviet pullout fuelled the 1990s militancy.

INTERVIEW: SAAD MOHSENI

'Taliban may want India in deal too, won't want a spoiler'

Afghan-Australian Mohseni is owner of MOBY, largest Afghan media group, which owns TOLO news agency, TV channels and radio stations

How do you see the Afghan process unfolding?

I think the Taliban believe this provides them path to power. For them, it is win-win — be a part of the process, and if that fails, continue to have their fighters, fully armed, to get back into fighting... Even the ceasefire that was mentioned as one of the key conditions, is being watered down. People are talking about 'reduction in violence' or a ceasefire in the cities. Or a ceasefire that would protect US compounds and bases, but not necessarily one that protects the nation.

What's the view on the street?

The lack of transparency is a major issue. The Americans are tightlipped about what they are discussing with the Taliban. No one in the Afghan government is privy to the timeline of the withdrawal, the specifics on the conditions, how they are going to police the peace deal, how will they verify the commitments the Taliban are making... women's rights, human rights, rights of media, freedom of expression.

Are the September presidential elections going to be held?

If there's an agreement on a roadmap, and a ceasefire, some people — both in Afghanistan and internationally — will feel compelled to postpone the elections. People have major concerns about the transparency of the elections, security, if the elections will fragment the country, as they did in 2014. But as Afghans, the process for president and parliament is one of our greatest achievements, so should we put things on hold just because promises have been made? The discussions (intra-Afghan meetings) we have had to date indicate that the Taliban are not in the mood to compromise on issues such as the 'Emirate of Afghanistan'. The fact that you will have an Emir means you will have no democracy.

There is talk of an interim government....

So the roadmap that will come after the two Afghan sides sit — even if all the Taliban talk to us, we have the ISIS, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Lashkar, Al-Qaeda — so many different organisations that will attempt to undermine the rule of law.

Will Pakistan not rein in these groups in its own interest?

The Pakistanis are very good at saying all the right things, doing all the wrong ... It's not in Pakistan's interests to have a strong, united government in Kabul, even if it's the Taliban.

India has no role in the process.

Where India can play a role is to work with other influencers — Saudi Arabia, the Gulf countries, US — to ensure it doesn't backfire on all of us. India, given its influence in the region, can still play the role of a wise participant, as a neighbour. But once genuine peace talks start, I don't think there can be a deal without regional consensus and the Indians will be engaged. Even the Taliban might want the Indians to be part of any peace deal because they would not want India to be a spoiler.

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN

(Extreme left) Residents, students, youth and journalists attend a panel discussion by eminent Ladakhi leaders to discuss Article 370 at an auditorium in Leh; (left) the current makeshift BJP district HQ in Leh. A new building is under construction

(Right) 74-year-old Tashi Lhamo lives with her family in Shey village on the outskirts of Leh. In 2010, she had taken part in a protest demanding UT status for Ladakh at the Jantar Mantar in New Delhi. She came to know that the government had cleared the same over the radio

Inside one of the largest madrasas in Kargil, the Anjuman Jamiatul Ulama Islamia School

Up in the air

In the J&K debate, Ladakh has always been an after thought. In the Centre's clean and sudden surgery of the state, it was expected to be the happiest party. However, there is no one narrative in one of the country's remotest regions either. ANKITA DWIVEDI JOHRI finds a happy Leh, a wary Kargil and a common uncertainty about jobs, future

PHOTOGRAPHS: TASHI TOBGYAL

The Namgyal Tsemo monastery in Leh. With 40% of Ladakh population Buddhist, the monasteries hold considerable sway

THE NUMBERS

Kargil District	14,086 sq km
Leh District	45,110 sq km

POPULATION

LEH: Over 1.33 lakh people (2011 Census), of which approximately 1.20 lakh are Buddhists

KARGIL: About 1.40 lakh, largely comprising Shia Muslims

AVERAGE LITERACY

Leh: 77.20% (M: 86.31%, F: 63.56%)

Kargil: 71.34% (M: 83.15%, F: 56.30%)

TOURISM FIGURES (2016)

Leh	2,50,000
Kargil	75,000

BUDGET

Rs 100 crore each for Leh and Kargil councils

ELECTIONS

- Parliamentary seat (1): Since 1967, 12 general elections have been held in Ladakh, all won by the Congress. In 2014, BJP won for the first time
- MLA seats (4): 3 won by Congress in 2014; 1 an Independent backed by NC
- Leh Council (26 members, plus 4 nominated): 17 seats won by BJP in 2015, breaking Cong hold
- Kargil Council (26 members): In 2018, BJP won its first ever seat in the council

LEH

NEARLY 10 years ago, Tashi Lamo was in Delhi for a religious trip when she was invited to participate in a protest. She remembers 50 of them gathering at Jantar Mantar shouting, "We want UT! We want UT!". Sitting at her home in Leh district's Shey village, dressed in traditional Ladakhi kuntop, her face creased by the harsh mountain sun, she laughs, "*Aaj meri awaaz se UT mil gaya* (My voice helped Ladakh become a Union Territory). But I don't know how that will help me, a 74-year-old who only looks after her grandchildren!"

On August 5, the Narendra Modi-led NDA government abrogated Article 370 that grants special status to Jammu and Kashmir, and bifurcated the state into the two Union Territories of Ladakh, and Jammu & Kashmir. While the latter will have a legislature, the two districts of Ladakh, Leh and Kargil, will be governed directly by the Centre.

The highest plateau in the erstwhile J&K state, and one of India's most sparsely populated regions — cut off from the rest of the country for over six months every winter — Ladakh has often complained of unfair treatment by the state government on funds and employment opportunities. Bound by the ragged Himalayas, its rough terrain also limits its development opportunities. The demand for UT, going back several decades, stems from these factors. In 1989, three youths had died in police firing during an agitation.

Like Lamo, most people in Shey village see the August 5 decision as a fruit of their protest; like her, they have little clarity on what the future holds.

"I am hoping the pay scale of government employees improves, since now we will get funds directly from the Centre. I also hope that there are more government jobs so that my older son who is studying in Delhi University can come back," says Lamo's 43-year-old daughter-in-law Tsering Yang Chan, who works as a clerk with the district's Education Department and earns Rs 45,000 per month. She has two children, aged 13 and 11. "Most children here go to Chandigarh, Jammu and Delhi for higher studies. I hope that changes too," she says.

With a population of over 2,000, 86% of them tribals, Shey is one of the most populated villages of Leh district. Like most villages, it suffers from drinking water shortage, poor roads and patchy phone connectivity. But, with a literacy rate of 79%, the overriding concern is the lack of jobs. Modi's promise of *vikas*, in his address to the nation after the J&K announcement, has hit the right notes.

"I don't know what will change, but there should be development. We have been under Srinagar for long, for the smallest of paperwork we had to go and bribe officials," says Sonam Dorjey, general secretary of the Shey panchayat.

Chan's husband Tsetan Larghil, 45, a dairy farmer who earns around Rs 20,000 a month, is still raving about Ladakh MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal's speech in Parliament, and sharing it over WhatsApp. "He was praised by the Speaker as well. Finally, Ladakh got a voice in Delhi."

The MP's 20-minute speech, detailing the "discrimination" faced by Ladakh and criticising the Congress's "wrongs", has gone viral. While Namgyal remained unavailable on phone, he has been tweeting and sharing pictures of "celebrations" back home.

Unlike the concern of many that outsiders would now purchase land in Ladakh, Larghil believes it will benefit residents. "I own 20 kanals, but it's hardly an asset. I can cultivate it for only six months. With more competition in the market, I can sell it for more," he says, sipping tea in his newly renovated eucalyptus-wood home.

Some of the questions Shey raises find echo in Leh town, where an event was organised by the local press club on August 7 to "understand UT without legislature for Ladakh". Most people asked the panelists, which included former MLAs and ministers, about "the threat to Leh's heritage and culture from outsiders" now. A group of Class 12 students from Lamdon School in Leh asked if the leaders will push to include the region's Bhoti language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution (making it one of the official languages). "With more outsiders coming in, won't we lose our language?" asked Thinles Norbu, 18.

Others wanted to know if the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh, would continue to hold its autonomous status, while others were sceptical about an increase in funds without a legislature. "Will we have to go to Delhi for everything now?" asked a local journalist.

"*Hum Ladakh ke log bhi doodh ke dhule nahin hain* (We are not saints either). There will be more transparency in land deals now... Yes, we need to maintain our cultural identity and this is our chance to do that," said former ambassador to Kyrgyzstan P Stobdan, one of the panelists.

While the lack of a legislature has many worried, Nawang Rigzin Jora, one of the four MLAs from Ladakh in the erstwhile J&K Assembly, says Ladakh will get its due "once the details are thrashed out". Elected on the ticket of the Congress, which is hedging its stand on Article 370 given divisions within and realities on the ground, Jora says, "I am not bothered about losing my seat because this decision is for the larger good. I would have to earlier force leaders to even visit Ladakh. They only visited Jammu and Srinagar."

However, he adds, "We have to see if the LAHDC stays, how much power the lieutenant governor has, how the funds are disbursed... How these issues converge and conflict will decide the fate of Ladakh... The view now is that Marwaris will come and build hotels. But things won't be that simplistic."

In the erstwhile Assembly, for which elections were held in 2014, the Congress held three seats from Ladakh, while an Independent won from the fourth.

But in a sign of the BJP's growing clout, it won 17 of the 26 seats in the Buddhist-dominated LAHDC, Leh, in 2015, ending the Congress reign, while in 2018, it won its first-ever seat in the LAHDC for Muslim-dominated Kargil district. In its previous term, the Modi-led NDA government had given more powers to the LAHDC, as well as created a separate division for Ladakh, at par with Kashmir and Jammu divisions.

A kilometre away, in the main Leh town, where dust clouds the air because of the renovation and construction works undertaken in the summer months, Stanzin Yangdol, 21, is one of the first to arrive at Eliezer Joldan Memorial College for second-semester exams. As she pores over her notes, her phone beeps constantly. "It's YouTube, Facebook and WhatsApp notifications. The updates on the UT status haven't stopped." But while her family is celebrating, Yangdol is not so sure. "With lack of proper coaching, we could barely compete for jobs in the state public service commission exams, and now we will have to appear for UPSC. I don't think I can get a government job," says the 21-year-old dressed in ripped jeans and T-shirt.

There is another confusion on Yangdol's mind. "Do I also need to change all my identity papers like Aadhaar, PAN Card, driving licence?"

With the UTs to take shape only by October 31, the details are not likely to be fleshed out anytime soon.

With approximately 90% of its population tribal, Ladakh has long demanded extension of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution to it. This legislation makes special provisions for the administration of tribal-dominated areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

An official of the LAHDC, who is not surprisingly unenthusiastic about a UT, says, "The council may just become a recommending body with the final powers going to the L-G. The J&K Reorganisation Bill, 2019, says the LAHDC Act stays. We have to see."

He adds, "In 1995, we had got the Hill Council in lieu of the UT. An entire generation had been a part of that struggle. But the new generation does not know about their sacrifice. It is also very confused about UT. All they now want is for Ladakh to come under the Sixth Schedule because that will safeguard their jobs, land and heritage."

Educationist Sonam Wangchuk, whose story is said to have inspired Aamir Khan's character in the 2009 film *3 Idiots*, is hopeful UT status will do that and more. He sees strengthening of the local education system, helping keep students at home, and infrastructure growth. "Ladakh is very different from J&K. We are a high-altitude cold desert and all our services should cater to that... In the past, all policy was focused on J&K."

Leh District Collector Sachin Kumar refused to comment, saying, "I have joined recently. Give me some days."

At the BJP office in Naushera Gali, party Leh district president Dorije Angchuk is tired after "dancing in the market for two days". "*Bohot naacha* (I danced a lot). You must have seen on TV," he beams.

Sitting on a couch, underneath framed photographs of PM Modi and Jan Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee — who was among the first to call for abrogation of Article 370 — Angchuk says, "I didn't know the UT decision would come so soon... Ladakh is very happy. We are located at a strategic position, and we must be made strong. We now want delimitation, and more MPs from the region."

Talking about the reported resentment in Kargil district, Angchuk says, "The Shias, who form about 65% of the district's 77% Muslim population, are happy. They are not accepted in Kashmir and they have backed the decision. Also, while Buddhists account for 20% of Kargil's population, they occupy 70% of its area. They all support the UT decision. Kargil will also get the benefits... And as for outsiders coming in, it's not like we didn't have them earlier. Eighty per cent of the fruits and vegetable shops in Leh are run by Kashmiris."

Apart from Leh town's Fort area, dominated by Kashmiri shopkeepers selling shawls, jewellery and artefacts, Choglamsar, on the town's outskirts, has approximately 250 aluminium ware and vegetable shops owned by residents of Kashmir. The decision to abrogate Article 370, along with no contact with families in Kashmir, has left vendors here worried. "I think we will have to go back. That is what people of Leh want. But then who will do all the work we do here; they don't have the skills," says Zohram, 25, who makes aluminium trunks and has been working in Leh since he was eight. He adds that while earlier he had no fear, recently there had been protests against them. "All our raw material also comes from Srinagar, there has been no delivery. A lot of people have already left. They took night taxis..." the father of two young daughters back home in Kashmir says.

A few metres away, Irshad Ahmad, 24, sits behind a pile of fruits and vegetables that have started to go bad. "This is the last supply I got from Srinagar. I cannot continue any longer, I will have to go back to Kupwara," he says. Since the extreme winter and ragged terrain make agriculture difficult in Ladakh, a large part of its food produce comes from Srinagar and Jammu.

"People here believe we are taking their jobs, but who in Leh wants to sell fruits? They are all well-educated and have government jobs. We are not taking away those," says Ahmad.

Back in Leh, another set of 'outsiders' are concerned. At the Golden Bakery, one of the many bread outlets popular among tourists and locals, nearly 95% workers hail from West Bengal and Bihar. "I came here 18 years ago from Malda. No one has ever created any trouble for us. Yet. All the daily wage jobs in Leh are done by people from Bengal and Bihar," says Ranjan Sarkar, 34, the manager at the bakery.

Walking around the factory, where several men are working amid a cloud of flour, Sarkar echoes Ahmad, "You don't see any unemployed people here. All Ladakhis have good jobs, they also go out to study. I don't think they mind us doing these menial jobs," says Sarkar, while wondering whether he should go home for Durga Puja like every year.

How the debate goes could well be decided by monastries, which hold considerable sway on the nearly 40% of Leh's population that is Buddhist. The monasteries, plus the Ladakh Buddhist Association, have backed the UT move for now.

Taking a stroll around the Lamayuru monastery, situated 11,500 ft above sea level, one of the oldest in the region, senior monk Konchok Tharchin, 45, says, "Will people from all over the country now squat here? I don't know... Any future endorsement will depend on the kind of benefits our people get. Let's wait and watch."

'We've always backed India... UT decision has confused us'

KARGIL

Forces patrol Kargil town, which has seen protests over Art 370; Hasan of Silkche village is worried about the blockade hitting his apricot sales

LEH-LADAKH. That is what you say in Delhi right? But what is Ladakh? It's Leh and Kargil. Everyone has forgotten that," says Yunus, 29, sitting with his two-year-old daughter at his home in Saliskote village in Kargil district.

A businessman who travels across J&K for work, Yunus is home for Eid, but has been "holed up inside the house". Since Article 370 was revoked, and Ladakh separated from J&K and made a UT, there have been protests in Kargil and large parts remain under heavy security. All schools, shops and banks are shut and Internet services curbed.

Venturing out into the barley fields in his village, Yunus says, "The UT status is being forced on us. Unlike Leh, Kargil has always demanded a Greater Ladakh region with Gilgit-Baltistan (now administered by Pakistan). Many of us have family there. It's a sentimental issue for us. What will we do with a UT?"

At 8,780 ft above sea level, Kargil is the second largest town in Ladakh. The ubiquitous paramilitary presence is a constant reminder of the region's sensitive position. Now, it is also a reminder of the growing divide between Ladakh's Muslim-dominated Kargil and Buddhist-majority Leh, a divide many fear will be exacerbated by the government's move.

Kargil has always felt closer to Kashmir due to the Muslim link. Leh, for it, is the privileged half, enjoying prestige as a "tourist destination".

"I went to Nubra Valley a few years ago. It is very beautiful. *Ghumne ke liye gaye the* (went for sight-seeing). But I go to Srinagar at least once a year for health check-ups, to sell my produce," says Mohammad Hasan, a 53-year-old farmer in Silkche village, 20 km from Kargil town, sifting through a large pile of dried apricot on the roof of his house.

Worried over the blockade hitting his apricot sales — nearly half of J&K's apricot production is in Kargil — Hasan adds, "We have always supported India. During the Kargil War, my family and I spent nights in shelters. But, we didn't leave. However, the UT decision has left us confused. We don't want to be divided."

Apart from market for its produce, Srinagar is also a preferred destination for youth of Kargil seeking higher studies. The lack of good government colleges and schools means that, like Leh, there are few options at home. Many go to Delhi and Chandigarh, but Srinagar is the first choice.

"There is just one satellite campus of Kashmir University in Kargil, and it only offers courses in Botany, Arabic and Information Technology. We have never faced in problems in Kashmir... They are trying to divide and rule us," says Ghulam Mohammad, 26, who is doing post-graduation from Kashmir University.

"I had to sneak out at night a few days ago to get here from Srinagar. At least 20 students from our village study there. Now we don't know if we can finish our course," he says. Three of his six siblings study in Kashmir as well.

Joining in, Yunus says the youth of Kargil are "education refugees". "In Delhi or Chandigarh, we are mocked as 'Ladakhi *Chinki*'... In the process we are losing our language, culture. Like my Purki (the local dialect) is not very good. I speak better Hindi and English. What will I teach my children?"

If that fear is common with Leh, so is the worry that the already scarce jobs will dry up once "outsiders" arrive. "There is so much unemployment in India, but in Kargil we always got government jobs. Now all the unemployed will come, take over government posts, positions in our LAHDC," says Mohammad.

> "They have concerns about employment, education, their land, culture. Slowly all these issues will be addressed and people will come around. You can see more people on the streets already," says Kargil DM Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary

A member of the LAHDC, Kargil, speaking on condition of anonymity, says, "So far all our members are from Kargil, even our staff... The Centre has assured us, but there is a lot of confusion." The LAHDC, Kargil, was set up in 2003, eight years after Leh got a similar body.

As per Kargil District Magistrate Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary, people of the region are not against the UT status but just "insecure" about their future. "They have concerns about employment, education, their land, culture. Slowly all these issues will be addressed and people will come around. You can see more people on the streets already," he says.

There are those who agree, like Ijaaz (he doesn't want to give his last name), a 35-year-old hotel owner in Kargil, who believes investment from outside will help business. The town currently has a couple of hotels and shops along the Suru river. "Groups such as Taj have hotels in Srinagar. Now they will have them here too. And hotels like ours can increase our tariff. Earlier tourists only visited Leh."

However, even among those willing to give the UT a chance, what rankles is that the Centre did not consult them before the drastic move. "We don't want any confrontation, but people of Kargil feel humiliated. No one asked us about the bifurcation, about the UT status, about taking away our legislature. All our four MLAs are gone. We are being told this decision is good for us... We are a cold desert shut for six months. If a J&K government couldn't help us, how will people in Delhi?" asks Sajjad Kargili, a youth politician who contested the Lok Sabha polls from Ladakh earlier this year.

Naseer Hussain, general secretary of the Joint Action Committee, a religious-political group that is leading the protests against the Centre's decision, concurs with Kargili. "We are all stakeholders, the decision cannot and should not have been taken from Delhi. It is about our freedom of expression and our rights," he says, while adding, "We are still open to discussion."

Hailed in Leh for his speech in Parliament, BJP MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal doesn't have many fans here. "The MP said Kargil is not just a small stretch of road in the middle of the market, and then went on to name Buddhist areas such as Zanskar to claim people of the region are happy with the bifurcation. But the fact is 70% of Kargil's population lives around that small stretch of road," says a 19-year-old student, who was a part of the protests.

For Hasan's wife Sakeena Bano, there are more immediate matters, like depleting food with Eid a couple of hours away. "The village has a big celebration, but we don't even have oil. Fortunately we have our own goat," she says.

Daughter Zahra, 17, wearing a headscarf and clutching her books, is more worried about when her school would reopen. "All my friends want to be with Kashmir. I just want to go back to school," she says, squishing open an apricot between her fingers. Momentarily distracted, she smiles, "You can eat the seeds too, they are like *baadam* (almond)."

As the sun sinks behind the imposing mountains, 26-year-old Mohammad fears the consequences of August 5 on "our entire generation". "Kashmir is used to curfews, *hartaals*, they know how to survive. In 2016, after (Hizbul commander) Burhan Wani's death, the region was shut for six months. Kargil is not prepared for this," he says.

That is the fear in the air at the Anjuman Jamiatul Ulama Islamia School too, a few metres from a protest site, where about 50 students have just offered their *namaaz*. "We have never had stone-pelting or big protests in Kargil ever... Kargil was peaceful even during the war. But the Centre's decision has driven a wedge between the Buddhists and Muslims, we can't support that," says a student, refusing to be identified.

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF HEMANT VADHVANA, 20, A 'CROCODILE RESCUER'

Crocodile in the city

If it's monsoon and reptiles have come floating in on a river into Vadodara again, it's Hemant Vadhavana and team on the city's speed dial

AISHWARYA MOHANTY

CROCODILES, SNAKES, peacocks, dogs, porcupines, horses... Hemant Vadhavana has lost count of the animals he has rescued over the past few days in Vadodara. The 20-year-old 'crocodile rescuer' is the man the Gujarat city mostly turns to when it rains and the reptiles start flooding the streets. But this year has been different, in both the amount of rain that caused offices, schools and colleges to shut down, and the number of crocodiles. In the days following the flash floods of July 31, 10 crocodiles have been spotted every day — including on viral social media videos — and at least 22 rescued so far.

The muggers come riding the waters of the Vishwamitri river, which intersects the city at more than six points.

It's 8 am three days after the flash floods, and Hemant's house is buzzing with phone calls. Nets, tongs, ropes, tapes, foldable beds, a desktop computer, a shelf full of trophies and photographs and a small tumbler kept underneath a leaking roof, share the 1BHK space along with Hemant, his mother and, these days, five co-rescuers. The latter, including college students and part-time workers, moved in on August 1, after the workload went up.

Apart from his own phone number, Hemant retains his father Rakesh Vadhavana's. "Since most people knew him, I still use that number," he says. Rakesh, a wildlife activist, used to be Vadodara's most-sought-after crocodile rescuer. After he died last year of a heart attack at the age of 43, Hemant stepped in, and now works with the Forest Department.

Guiding the first few callers to volunteers closer to their location, Hemant and his team have breakfast. Around 10.45 am, Paarth Vyas, a resident of Shri Harinagar Society in Akota area, calls up to say two crocodiles have been found swimming in their society. Hemant notes down the address, and calls up one of his volunteers who lives close to Akota to go and check. "We look out for things like depth of the water. If it is more than 4-5 ft deep, it is difficult to spot a crocodile and also dangerous for us. We also check if there is a possibility that the crocodile might swim back into the Vishwamitri by itself, if the society is close to the river," says Hemant.

In five minutes, the volunteer calls back to inform there is just one crocodile at the society, in around 3-ft-deep water, and can be rescued. Hemant and six volunteers leave for the site, around 8 km away, in a van functioning as a veterinary ambulance. Confident of the way, he says, "During Uttarayan (Gujarat's kite-flying festival), we visit almost every society in the city for bird rescue."

Since the flash floods, Hemant Vadhavana (wearing green T-shirt) and his team of volunteers have rescued crocodiles, snakes, dogs, and other animals; (below) at Hemant's house, his team prepares for the rescue work. *Javed Raja*

Reaching Shri Harinagar, the men spread out, carting a 22 ft-by-15 ft net and a tong custom-made by Hemant to catch crocodiles, a stick, a tape and a piece of wet cloth. They mostly wear gum boots during rain rescues, but when there is waterlogging like here, the boots get filled up with water and become heavy. So they wear sports shoes.

Six of them led by Hemant head out for the capture, while two are tasked with keeping the public at bay. People looking out from balconies and windows end up hooting and invoking gods and this, says Hemant, can alarm the reptile.

Hemant and his team get into the water that's now rising above their knees, and begin the search. The trick, Hemant says, is catching ripples indicating movement in the water, or spotting the crocodile sticking its head out to breathe.

Today, he is the first to see its snout, peeping out from between a chikoo tree and a motorcycle. It's an interminable one minute as they wade their way to it, and position themselves, three on either side, holding out the net. One of the men moves the stick in the water to make the crocodile swim towards the net. However, the crocodile escapes, gliding underneath.

It's another minute before the team spots the crocodile again, as anxious residents shout out own inputs, some telling the men to go left, others to head right. The appeals by Hemant's men, anxious of being attacked as the crocodile remains unseen, to maintain silence are ignored.

The six now decide to fix the net to their feet, and this time the crocodile gets caught. They drag the 6-ft reptile to dry land, and three of them sit on it to hold it still. Then, as two of them, Yash Patel and Sandip Gupta, hold its limbs, Harshad Soni ties a wet cloth around its eyes. This, Hemant says, will keep the crocodile calm. Its mouth is shut with tape, before it is removed from the net.

As people gather around taking photographs, videos, and selfies, some trying to touch the crocodile, the 20-year-old worries that this can disturb the animal and make it aggressive. "For us, it is as much a living being as a human." But few listen, and Hemant allows photographs, but no close contact.

Around noon, with the crocodile placed on the floor of the van, the team leaves for the Forest Department office 4 km away. The department usually provides vehicles for rescue, but these days, the demand is high and personal vehicles have been allowed. At the forest office, the authorities take charge of the reptile, make an entry and move it to a cage.

Hemant's phone already has several missed calls and messages, seeking his services to rescue not just crocodiles but also dogs and cattle. Forwarding these calls to other volunteers, he says his team will first have a quick lunch. "We try not to skip a meal. To handle an animal we have to be fit," he says.

Acknowledging their "bond with Hemant, going back to his father", Assistant Conservator of Forests, Vinod Damor, says, "Since the department is also addressing complaints of tree-felling after the rain, the volunteers have been a boon."

Hemant largely depends on the Rs 15,000-25,000 a month he earns making crocodile tongs and selling them, working as a part-time trekking guide, and tips from people grateful for their rescue operations.

However, from the time he started accompanying his father to such rescues at the age of seven, Hemant says, he never thought of doing anything else. "Initially my father refused to take me. But I was very curious, I would ask a lot of questions about animals. Finally he gave in... The first time I rescued a crocodile was at age 7."

Hemant's father then sat him down and explained it was not just about capturing the animal "but also about taking care of it till it reaches the rescue centre".

Hemant spends his spare time around animals too, either trekking in the forests or watching videos of animal rescues on YouTube.

Around 4.30 pm, there is a call about a dog stranded in a bush close to the Vishwamitri river. This is an easy one, but Hemant knows his day is not done.

Book 'thief'

9,000 rare books and antique cupboards went missing from a madrasa dating back to 1774. Three years later, less than a third were part of recovery in a case against SP leader Azam Khan

Rare books of Madrasa Aliya that were seized from SP MP Azam Khan's college; (below) the madrasa now runs out two rooms at Raza College. *Express*

ASAD REHMAN

THE THEN principal of Rampur's Madrasa Aliya or Rajkiya Inter College, Harish Kumar Saxena, remembers clearly how the college was shut down suddenly one day in 2016. "We had gone home on September 9 at 2.30 pm after locking the madrasa. Next day, we were told the minister's (Azam Khan's) men had come and changed the lock. We called the District Inspector for Schools (DIOS), Rampur, who told us that the madrasa had been shifted to Raza Inter College in Kunchaferganj area."

And just like that, an Inter College spread over 22 rooms and a massive hall, with 40 students in Classes 1 to 8 and another 65 pursuing 'Fazil-e-Hadees' (equivalent to a Bachelors' degree), was reduced to two rooms and a verandah at Raza College.

Also gone were 9,000 rare books collected over time at the 18th-century madrasa. Last week, some of these turned up among the 2,500 books and old manuscripts seized by Rampur police from Mohammad Ali Jauhar University, run by controversial Samajwadi Party MP Azam Khan. In 2016, Khan had been the state Cabinet Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Urban Development and Minority Welfare.

The state BJP government is simultaneously probing allegations that land had been forcibly usurped to build the university.

The current principal of Madrasa Aliya, Mohammad Zubaid, is the complainant in the case of the theft of the books, registered on June 15 this year at the Ganj Police Station. Confirms Rampur Superintendent of Police Ajay Pal, "Some books with stamps of Madrasa Aliya have been recovered. These are rare, old books on spirituality, religion and other subjects, which are extremely fragile. Some manuscripts have also been recovered. We will only be able to divulge the details once scholars study the books and manuscripts."

Zubaid says there were at least 100 pre-Independence manuscripts and a Quran handwritten by scholar Mullah Hasan Firangi Mahal among the books that went missing. "After the madrasa building was taken over, naturally everything in the building was also usurped by Jauhar Trust. This included at least 50 cupboards belonging to the Rampur nawabs containing these books and manuscripts."

Asked why the madrasa had not lodged a complaint earlier, Zubaid says, "We have been writing to the DIOS since 2016. We can only lodge a complaint after getting the DIOS's approval. Why the DIOS did not give approval is something everyone knows."

The then DIOS, Rajendra Pal Singh, incidentally happened to be the principal of Raza Inter College, where the madrasa was shifted. Singh, who retired this March, claims he forwarded the letters to then District Magistrate Amit Kishore. "I was informed that the decision to shift the madrasa had been taken by the state government and not at the district level. We then assigned two rooms to the madrasa at Raza Inter College."

Rampur Nawab Faiz Ullah Khan established the madrasa in 1774. In 1949, when Rampur merged into the Indian Union, as per point XV of the merger document, it was decided that Madrasa Aliya would continue to be maintained from the revenues of the State. Zubaid says the madrasa received Rs 1 crore grant in 2001, when BJP leader Rajnath was chief minister, and around the same time the process to make it a "university" started.

However, things changed when the Samajwadi Party came to power in 2002, he adds. "The Rs 1 crore grant was stopped and the teachers displaced. Between 2005-07 though, renovation work was started at the madrasa by the Mulayam Singh Yadav government."

After a five-year term of the BSP government, power passed back to the SP in 2012 and Akhilesh Yadav became CM.

In 2016, came the "raid". Rampur District Magistrate Aunjaneya Kumar Singh says, "The DIOS stated wrongfully that the PWD was the owner of the madrasa, whereas it was only given to the PWD to renovate and maintain... In October 2016, there was a government order that the madrasa building be given on lease to the Jauhar Trust for 90 years for free. We have submitted a report to the state police SIT now suggesting that the lease be cancelled."

Lamenting that Madrasa Aliya was once affiliated with the renowned Azhar University in Egypt, Aligarh Muslim University, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh Board, Zubaid says, "Now, there are just 35 students and one teacher."

In the wake of seizure of books from the university, Khan released a video claiming these had been donated by people. "Jauhar University has been built with people's money... Thousands of policemen and PAC personnel came by force... They entered the central library and went away with bundles of books. Then, the SP claimed that the books had been stolen from a madrasa shut 40 years ago."

SHO Narendra Tyagi says the books are now at the Ganj Police Station. "Some of them are in a bad state."

DM Aunjaneya Kumar Singh says the books will be donated to Raza Inter College library once the investigation is over, "where everyone can read them".

Inside a Durga Puja committee

As BJP seeks foot in and Trinamool fights back, and as a tax row brews, members, young and old, have been at work for a year on their pandal

SANTANU CHOWDHURY

IT IS around 8 pm and the ground on Kashi Bose Lane in Kolkata is bustling. A bulldozer has just left after digging huge pits, while carpenters are at work building a wooden floor for a bamboo structure, that stands over 30-ft high and is covered in tarpaulin.

They have two months to transform this space into one of Kolkata's oldest community Durga Pujas, going back to 1937, in time for the festival season.

At 73, Kali Prasanna Bhattacharjee holds the key to it. The working president of the Kashi Bose Lane Durga Puja Samity, Bhattacharjee says that while for the rest of West Bengal, Puja lasts a brief five days, their work is never done. "Once the Durga idol is immersed in the Hooghly river at the end of the Puja, our plan for next year's Puja starts. We begin meetings with committee members to finalise the theme for the next year. The pandal construction starts three months before Puja," he says. This year, Durga Puja is expected to begin on October 4.

In a city that comes to a standstill during Puja, every big-ticket pandal has a similar committee working round the year to put up a spectacle more eye-popping than the next. This year, the contest is even more fierce, with the BJP eyeing the Puja committees to make further inroads into Bengal. The Trinamool Congress, whose leaders have enjoyed virtual monopoly so far, has accused it of trying to "usurp" the Puja panels. It has also attacked the BJP government at the Centre for taxing the committees, with Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee seeking an exemption saying the Pujas perform a social and religious function.

The Kashi Bose Lane Durga Puja Samity received an income tax notice in January. Saying they gave "an apt reply", advocate Somen Dutta, the general secretary of the Samity, adds, "We have never been asked to file income tax returns. The I-T department is asking us to deduct TDS from pandal employees and show it in our balance sheet. How can we deduct TDS from drummers, artistes and electricians? The department must first make it mandatory for unorganised sector workers to have PAN cards. If there is a rule, we will follow it... Why are Ganesh Puja committees in Maharashtra not taxed?"

The BJP asks what is the problem with the I-T action. "If there is no discrepency, there is no harm in divulging finances," says state BJP president Dilip Ghosh.

Construction on at the Kashi Bose Lane Durga Puja Samity pandal. *Partha Paul*

The Samity has 347 members and a 49-member executive body, which meets at least once every month. Ruling Trinamool Congress MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay is its patron-in-chief while minister Shashi Panja is the president.

Bhattacharjee says he was just 14 when he first took part in Puja activities. "It was then like a social gathering of residents, not like what we see now. The senior-most person of the area would supervise the Puja and our parents would shoulder responsibilities."

Akashdip Sen, 21, and an MSc student at Kalyani University, spends five-six hours a day on Puja work. "I look after the graphics, printing and branding part of the Puja. We prepare the brochure, invitations and other material," says Sen.

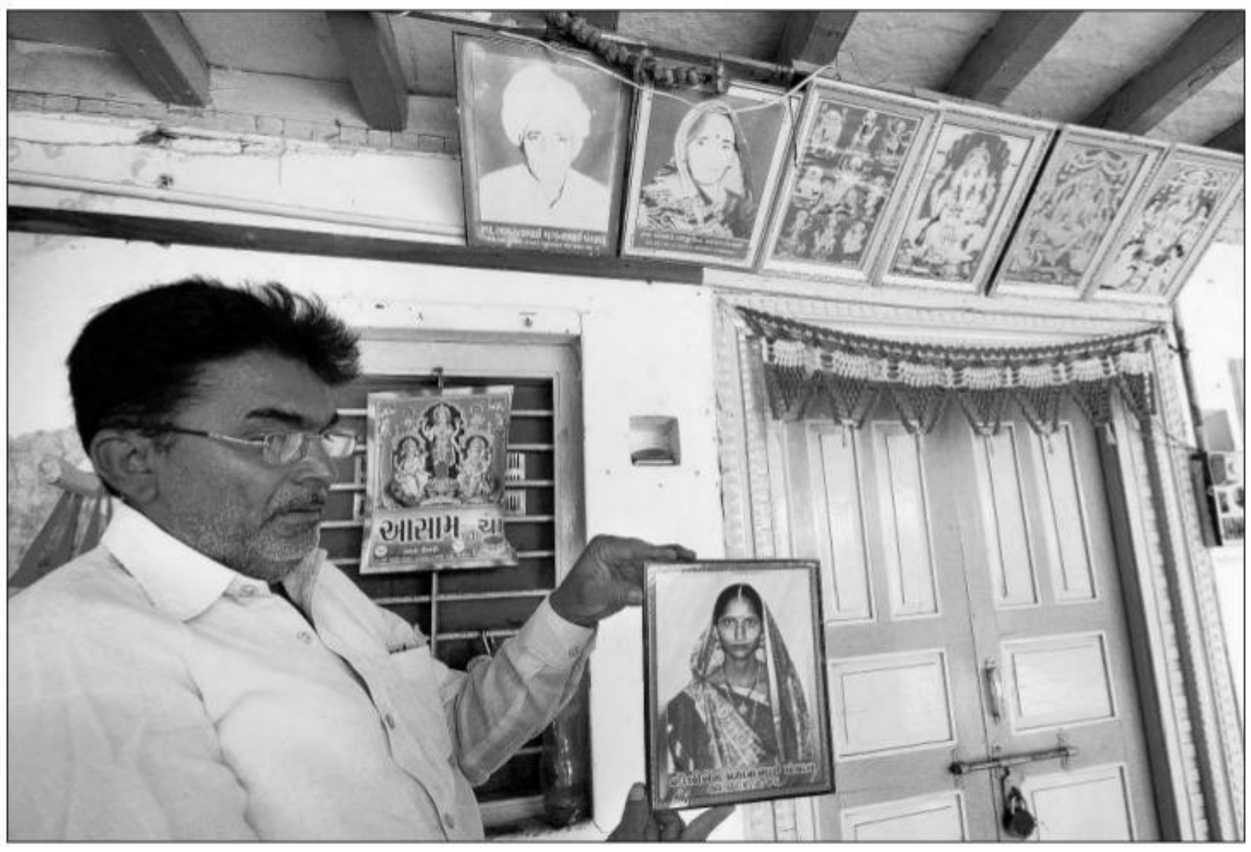
Fellow student Madhura Gayen, 26, who is doing MBA, says that this year, their Pandal will be themed on water conservation. "The theme was selected much before the recent water crisis in Chennai," says Gayen.

Puja committee members say their association with social activities helps them prepare for the event. The committee organises sports activities, blood donation camps, health camps and drawing competitions. Money is raised through donations and advertisements, with a big Durga Puja pandal in Kolkata costing upwards of Rs 30 lakh.

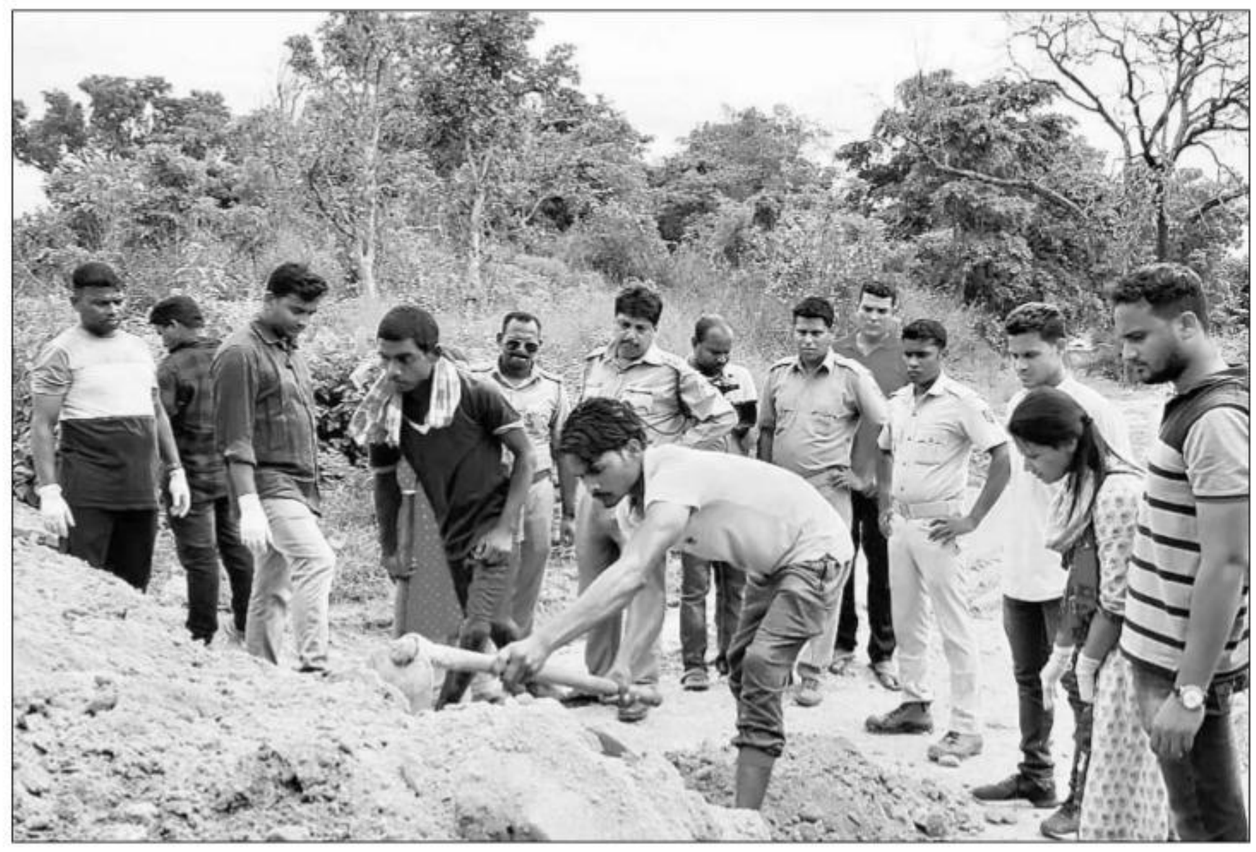
Saying the CM was right in seeking tax exemption, Gayen says, "Livelihoods are dependent on Durga Puja, of artistes, craftsmen, electricians."

Asserts Bhattacharjee, "Only the dimension of the Puja has changed over the years but the spirit is the same. At the end of the day, it is a social gathering where everyone has fun. We have maintained our tradition and taken everyone along. This will remain unchanged."

TWO 'MURDERS', TWO MYSTERIES



Bhikhi Panchal faked her own death on February 5, 2005, and eloped with Vijubha Rathore. *Vaibhav Jha*



Jayashree Mishra was allegedly killed by her cousin's husband, Basanta Panda, whom she had lent money. *Express*

Back from the 'dead'

A 24-yr-old who wanted to move to Mumbai went missing in 2005 in Patan. 14 yrs after her in-laws were held for 'murder', she turns up 50 km away

VAIBHAV JHA

ON THE night of February 5, 2005, Yash Panchal's grandparents, in Balva village of Patan, woke up to the wails of the four-year-old. Yash's mother Bhikhi Panchal, who had been sleeping next to him, was missing. After a frantic search of an hour, they found the body of a woman in an adjacent farm, wearing a maroon sari similar to Bhikhi's, her face burnt beyond recognition.

The body was suspected to be of 24-year-old Bhikhi, and her parents-in-law and sister-in-law were arrested on the charge of murdering her. Bhikhi's husband Prakash was away in Mumbai, where he worked as a welder at a factory.

It's 14 years later. Almost a month ago, Prakash received a call from the local Crime Branch of Palanpur in Banaskantha, telling him to WhatsApp a photograph of Bhikhi. Says Prakash, "Ironically, I was in my village, walking in the same farm post-dinner where Bhikhi's body had been found, when I received the police call. It was all very confusing, so I asked the officer to call my brother in the morning. I went back to the house, looked at a portrait of Bhikhi, and went to sleep."

Police had called to tell Prakash Bhikhi might be alive. As he listened dumbfounded, they added that she might have been living all these years as Bhavna Rathore, with a lover, just 50 km away, and may have killed the woman who was mistaken as her.

A couple of days later, along with his elder brother Prahlad, sister Kokila and cousins Dashrath and Dalpat, Prakash went to Palanpur to identify the woman. He says during the identification parade, it was Bhikhi who spotted him first and shouted, "He's my husband." "I was numb and couldn't speak a word. Bhikhi had lost weight and the glow on her face was gone... I just nodded," Prakash says.

Now 40, he was recently diagnosed with liver cancer and is bed-ridden and can't work. He and son Yash, now 18, live in Ahmedabad.

According to police, Bhikhi staged the 2005 murder with her lover Vijubha Rathore, killing a mentally unstable woman and burning her face with kerosene. Officials say the couple have been living in a rented flat in Mehsana since, and Bhikhi has confessed and claims no regrets. Police have also arrested two of Bhikhi and Vijubha's alleged accomplices, Zenaji Parmar and Vakhat Parmar. The woman who was murdered in 2005 has been identified as Sharda Rawal. Since she was a destitute, police say, no one filed a missing person's report. According to police, Bhikhi gave her food once in a while and hence gained her trust.

"Bhikhi and Vijubha faked her death so that they could start a new life. They lured Rawal to Balva in a van owned by Vijubha's accomplices and killed her. Bhikhi then put her own sari on her, and all four fled the village," says Ajit Rajan, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Palanpur.

The Panchals say Bhikhi's cover blew after Vijubha was held for another theft recently. "He and his gang had stolen Rs 20 lakh from Khimana. The Local Crime Branch kept him in remand for a week, where he revealed his past misdeeds. It was then that police checked the story with us," says Prahlad Panchal.

> **My father could not bear the shame of the charge. Suddenly, we were 'daughter-in-law killers'."**
>
> **PRAKASH PATAN**

However, ASP Rajan claims to have received a tip-off that Bhikhi was living in Mehsana. Police say she had covered her tracks well, and avoided going out much, including to shop or to socialise with neighbours.

Prakash says the case hastened the death of his parents, who spent a fortnight in jail for "murder" and faced a two-year-long trial before acquittal due to lack of evidence. While father Amrit Panchal died of a heart attack in 2006 while the trial was on, his mother Babuben died following prolonged illness in 2013.

Says Prakash's sister Kokila, who was also arrested, "Bhikhi ruined our lives. No one was willing to marry Prakash after the incident. We had to leave Balva due to the shame."

They are struggling to understand the justification given by Bhikhi, that she did it all for "love". A native of Khimana village in Palanpur of Banaskantha, Bhikhi was the youngest of four siblings who lost her father at a young age and dropped out of school after Class 7. She married Prakash when she was 18. He belonged to a family of ironsmiths and was unemployed at the time. Their wedding photos include one of her posing with her family's wedding gift to him: a wrist-watch and Rs 50.

Soon after their marriage, the two moved to Ahmedabad, where Prakash took up a welding job at a factory. Prakash recalls that Bhikhi never liked the city. "She urged me to move to Mumbai. Two of her brothers were in Mumbai at that time. After two years, I moved to Mumbai and Bhikhi went back to Patan." By that time, Yash had already been born.

He says he tried to keep in touch with her over phone, and Bhikhi would urge him to bring her to Mumbai. "After one year, I had some money and deposited Rs 40,000 to a landlord for a small flat. Bhikhi was supposed to move to Mumbai when I heard of her 'death'."

Police believe Bhikhi came in touch with Vijubha during her frequent visits to her maternal home in Khimana. A native of Mudetha village in Sabarkantha, Vijubha faces multiple cases of theft, including in Palanpur area.

After Bhikhi was suspectedly killed, her mother Chuniben lodged a complaint of murder against Amrit, Babuben and Kokila Panchal accusing them of dowry demands.

Holding up a vernacular newspaper report on their acquittal from 2007, which is now fading, Prakash says, "My father could not bear the shame of the charge. Suddenly, we were 'daughter-in-law killers'."

Balva sarpanch Govind Desai says the charge stunned them too. "We knew the Panchal family was not greedy. The murder did not make any sense. But who could deny the presence of a body in the village?"

In her own statement to the police, Bhikhi has said she was tired of living secretly and would not mind jail. She made no mention of her son. Yash just finished schooling and is enrolled in a certificate course at an Industrial Training Institute, the first in his family to pursue education beyond Class 12.

Asked about his mother, he says the only maternal figure in his life is his "*badi maa*" or aunt Prabha Panchal, Prahlad's wife.

Prakash is convinced "Bhikhi couldn't have hatched such an elaborate plan" and it was Vijubha's idea. "Still, I would like her to stay in prison for all her life for the manner in which she duped me."

The family has let Bhikhi's portrait stay where it hangs though, from one of the doors at their ancestral house in Balva. It says on February 5, 2005, she "went to heaven".

Bare bones

8 yrs after her mother disappeared, a 29-yr-old tracks down her alleged killer, her hopes resting on a skeleton. "It's not over," she says of the battle ahead

SAMPAD PATNAIK

THE 29-YEAR-OLD felt her patience tested as much in three hours on July 21 as over the last eight years. After dithering and misdirecting police officials, the alleged killer of her mother finally pointed to the spot where he had buried her in 2011.

It was a lonely spot in Sambalpur district's Badsinghari village, next to a canal and a few steps away from an electrical transformer. A policeman with the search party said the alleged killer probably knew that if he identified the spot right away, then it must follow that he was the one who buried the body.

Over the next few hours, the police team dug out a few bones from the spot and sent them for forensic analysis. They say that prima facie it seems that the killer had poured some corrosive substance on the body for its swift decomposition.

"My brother and I have always considered ourselves the most unfortunate children in the world. Our misfortune began 12 years ago, when our father died. And then, our mother disappeared. I thought I had been through it all. But it was painful to see that all that was left of my mother were a few bones — the acid that the killer poured on her body had eaten everything else away," says Bijayani Mishra.

Mishra's mother Jayashree Mishra was allegedly killed by Basanta Panda, Jayashree's cousin's husband. After being arrested on July 21, Panda is said to have confessed to his role in the murder, saying he killed her "in a fit of anger" over some money he owed her.

Mishra, a 29-year-old PhD candidate from JNU, recalls that in the days before she disappeared, her mother was busy with preparations for her eldest daughter's wedding.

"My father, Murari Prasad Mishra, a Postal Department employee, had died in 2007 of a heart condition, after which my mother, a homemaker, had to shoulder all responsibilities. So my elder sister's marriage had brought us some happiness," says Mishra.

Around that time, says Mishra, her mother asked Panda to return the Rs 1.5 lakh she had lent him. "She had been asking for the money for three months," says Mishra.

From conversations she overheard between the accused and her mother, Mishra claims, Panda promised to return half the money in cash and to pay off the rest by making furniture that Bijayani's elder sister could take to her new home after marriage.

On the morning of October 13, 2011, Jayashree had to go from Sambalpur to Raipur, 270 km away, to distribute cards to her relatives. The children tried to persuade her to courier the cards, but Jayashree had refused, insisting that it was after all the first wedding in the family and "everyone had to be invited personally". "She left on a bus to Raipur — that is the last time I saw her alive," says Bijayani.

Later that October day, Mishra and her younger brother Bhabani Shankar called their relatives in Raipur to check if their mother had reached safely. She hadn't. In hours, worry turned to panic.

> **I thought I had been through it all. But it was painful to see that all that was left of my mother were a few bones...."**
>
> **BIJAYANI MISHRA**

"The next morning, we went to our local police station. But they only made a station diary entry and left it at that," Mishra alleges, adding that they were convinced Panda was behind their mother's disappearance. "As time went by, we kept returning to the police and they asked us about a possible relationship between Panda and our mother. Then inspector in-charge, who has since retired, asked if they had run away together," says Mishra.

"Police were fed this story by some of our neighbours, who took this opportunity to cast aspersions on my mother," says Bhabani, 27, adding that he and his sister battled humiliation and apathy in their eight-year-long search for her mother.

Inspector Ramesh Chandra Dora, who is now investigating the case, said police are "probing all angles".

Mishra, who was then studying for her BA in Political Science at Sambalpur University, went on to enrol as an MPhil candidate in JNU in 2013. She is now a PhD candidate at JNU's Centre for the Study of Social Systems. Her brother Bhabani works with an IT firm in Sambalpur. The siblings had almost given up hope when the first breakthrough came last December. A few neighbours told Mishra that the accused had started visiting his house in Badasinghari again, especially during late hours, and leaving early in the morning. "There was a rumour he had fled to Haridwar after the murder," she says.

Mishra says she decided there was no point returning to the local police station. She approached a "senior police officer in Sambalpur" in January and conveyed her story. That officer referred the matter to his "superior officer", who invited her to Bhubaneswar, took notes on the case and "did not do a thing". January turned to February and then March. First the elections and then cyclone Fani in early May gave police "handy excuses to sit on the case", she says. Keeping up the pressure, Mishra says that on July 17, she wrote a letter to DGP R P Sharma. Within days, a mobile surveillance procedure was initiated and the phone of the accused's son was monitored. "Late every night, the son, who was at (Sambalpur's) Jujomura block, would speak to someone. When questioned by police, he stated that the caller was his girlfriend, but it soon became clear he was talking to his father," says Sambalpur Sub Divisional Police Officer B S Udgata.

"Accused Basanta Panda was arrested on July 22 from Jujomora and charged under sections of the IPC related to kidnapping, murder and criminal conspiracy, among others," said Udgata, adding that Panda confessed to borrowing money from Jayashree and killing her. "The bones have been sent to the Forensic Medicine and Toxicology department of Burla's Veer Surendra Sai of Medical Sciences and Research," he added.

Police say Panda's family has since moved out of their Jujomora home. "We have no evidence so far to indicate Panda's wife and son had a role in the crime," Udgata said.

Dora says that in addition to Panda's confession, they have "multiple witnesses" who have confirmed that the alleged killer had borrowed money and was the last person to be seen with the victim when she was alive.

"It's not over," says Mishra, who now faces a court case and may have to make several trips between Delhi and Sambalpur. "But now the path to justice is hopefully clear."

Ram ke naam on YouTube: Songs of blood, bullets, 'traitors'

On July 26, popular Bhojpuri singer Varun Bahar Upadhyay, as well as lyricist, co-writer and owner of a YouTube channel, were held by UP Police for a song

SUANSHU KHURANA

Ghar mein chhupe gaddaron ki khaal kheench li jaayegi/
Jo na kahe jai Ram lalla ki, jeebh kaat li jayegi/
Aasteeno ke saanp ko maro, koi paap toh nahin...
Kisi jihadi mulle ke aukat nahin...
Ayodhya Ram lalla ki bhumi hai, tere baap ki nahin.

(THE TRAITORS hiding at home will be skinned/One who doesn't hail Ram lalla/ the tongue will be slashed/ Killing a traitor is no sin/ No jihadi Muslim is worth anything/ Ayodhya is Ram lalla's land and not your ancestors.')

Heavily tuned vocals paired with tinny orchestration on synths and octopads open Mumbai-based singer Aakash Dubey's "*Ram bhajan*", as he calls it. Released last year, it has over a million views on YouTube, and the 27-year-old takes credit for the song's conceptualisation, lyrics, composition and vocals.

Dubey says he wrote the song as he found the situation in Ayodhya "troubling". "Ayodhya is Ram lalla's home and the temple was there first. Babar came and built a mosque over it. I can't approve the Lord's house going in any Muslim's interest. What was there earlier needs to return," he says.

In 2015, Dubey's song *Phoonk do Pakistan ko* had landed him in jail. "I have had many threats" he shrugs, rattling off a list of his new songs, including *Phoonk do Pakistan Ko 2*, *Jisko Hindustan mein rehna hoga*, *Vande Mataram kehna hoga*, and "*Ayodhya geet*". He also recorded two romantic songs with T-Series recently.

Dubey's song isn't the only composition floating around on YouTube amidst reports of attacks on people for not saying Jai Shri Ram. The Supreme Court hearing on the Ayodhya matter is also turning up temperature on the issue.

Lawyer and political analyst Tehseen Poonawala recently tweeted about Bhojpuri singer Varun Bahar Upadhyay's viral number, *Jo na bole Jai Shri Ram, bhejo usko qabristan* (Send those who do not chant Jai Shri Ram to the graveyard), urging the Delhi Police to file a complaint against it. The song, on Janata Channel's YouTube video, has crossed two lakh views. After Poonawala, others registered complaints.

On July 26, Upadhyay was arrested by the Uttar Pradesh police along with the lyricist of the song, Santosh Yadav, co-writer of the song Mukesh Pandey, and owner of the YouTube channel Janta Musical and Pictures Rajesh Kumar Verma.

Just before the arrest, Upadhyay, known for his innuendo-laden songs in Bhojpuri films, put out a video asking for help from "Bajrang Dal, Shiv Sena, and our Hindu Yuva Vahini", claiming he had been receiving threats. "We haven't said anything to any particular caste or community. It's the media and Ram-virodhi elements who want us incarcerated and hanged. If we are hanged, there is no problem; we will keep chanting Jai Shri Ram," said Santosh Yadav, in the second video.

Upadhyay in a still from his song, *'Jo na bole Jai Shri Ram, bhejo usko qabristan'*

Other songs on social media include Prabhakar Maurya's *Hindu chadhkar rakt piyega un kutton ki chhati par/ Mandir nirman karenge hum Ayodhya ki dharti par* (A Hindu will climb on those dogs and drink blood off their chests/ We will build the temple in the land of Ayodhya), and *Dur hato Allah walon, kyun janm bhumi ko ghere ho* (Get away Allah's people, why are you surrounding the birthplace?), as well as Sandeep Chaturvedi's 2016 number *Topiwala bhi sar jhuka ke Jai Shri Ram bolega.*

Alok Pandey, Chaturvedi's manager, says that "the fact that people are associating the word '*topiwala*' with Muslims (in the song), is their perspective". "Topiwala is anyone who wears a cap. We have not mentioned any community. The song's heat is still alive."

Ved Vyas, BJP district vice-president in Bikaner, has also come out with similar songs, written and sung by him. One goes, *Main Hindu jagaane aaya hoon*, including the lines, '*Jo taang adaaye Mandir mein, usko sabak sikhayenge*; *Pukarti Ma Bharti, khoon se tilak karo goliyon se aarti* (We will teach a lesson to those who obstruct the Mandir; Ma Bharti is calling, honour her with blood and bullets)".

Talking of his association with the Hindu Jagran Manch, Bajrang Dal, and the ABVP, Vyas says, "Babar was an outsider who attacked India. So the Mandir needs to be built. We aren't saying anything against Jama Masjid."

He claims to have also written songs as a tribute to *kar sevaks* who were part of the Babri Masjid demolition.

Calling these songs disturbing, Patna-based social and cultural activist Nirala Bidesia says the trend began a decade ago, and the lyrics have grown bolder and more menacing. "There is one song, *Saugandh hum Ram ki khaate hain, Mandir vahin banayenge* (We take a pledge in the name of Ram, we will build temple there). They play it regularly during festivals and rallies."

Bokaro-based singer Chandan Tiwari, a prominent folk and playback singer who won this year's Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar from the Sangeet Natak Akademi, and has sung pieces such as *Resul ka Ram* and *Moosa ka Ram* in the past, says no one person is responsible for these songs. "Singers, composers, writers, they are all responsible... These new hate songs aren't folk songs. They are trying to pass them off as *bhajans*. They aren't. These are songs of frenzy," she says.

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ACROSS THE AISLE

P CHIDAMBARAM

Not state, just real estate

I HAVE written often on Jammu and Kashmir but today is different. J&K is no longer the same J&K. It is no longer a state. It has been dismembered. There are now two Union Territories — Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir. Never before under the Constitution of India has a state been reduced to a Union Territory.

On August 5 and 6, 2019, the government succeeded in winning Parliament's approval for three things:

1. **Repeal and substitution of Article 370:** Article 370 was replaced by invoking clause (1) of Article 370 and amending clause (3) of Article 370. Whether it was a fatal legal error or a over-clever legal stratagem, only time and the courts can tell. Mortals like us can only describe it as a constitutional manoeuvre worthy of the well-known contortionist Sofie Dossi. The new Article 370 with just one clause is no longer a *special provision*, it simply applies the whole of the Constitution to J&K.

2. **Obtaining the views of Parliament on the proposal to dismember the state of Jammu and Kashmir and create two Union Territories:** The right to express views had been vested in the Constituent Assembly that had drafted the J&K Constitution. Miraculously, in one stroke, that Constituent Assembly became the Legislative Assembly of J&K and then became Parliament! So, Parliament was passing the Resolution after obtaining the views of Parliament. I suppose there is a metaphysical principle here that is beyond the comprehension of mortals.

3. **Reorganising the state of Jammu and Kashmir and creating two Union Territories:** The Jammu & Kashmir (Reorganisation) Bill, 2019, pretended to follow past precedents that had created two *states* out of one, except that the Bill created two *Union Territories* out of one state. Naturally, the Treasury Benches did not seem to mind; what came as a surprise was that regional parties that are ruling states — AIADMK, BJD, JD(U), TRS, AAP and YSRCP — did not find anything amiss, and voted in favour. The TMC walked out.

> If the precedent is followed, it is only a matter of time before Darjeeling will be carved out as a Union Territory out of West Bengal. The routine will be to ask the state Assembly to "express its views" or impose President's rule and dissolve the Assembly. Other targets that spring to mind are Bastar district, KBK districts of Odisha, hill districts of Manipur and Bodoland in Assam

A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT

If the precedent is followed, it is only a matter of time before Darjeeling will be carved out as a Union Territory out of West Bengal. The routine will be to ask the state Assembly to "express its views" or impose President's rule and dissolve the Assembly. Other targets that spring to mind are Bastar district, KBK (Kalahandi-Bolangir-Koraput) districts of Odisha, hill districts of Manipur and Bodoland in Assam.

The more important issues are not the legal questions but the political questions. Before or during the exercise that culminated on August 6, the government did not consult the Legislative Assembly of J&K before the Assembly was dissolved on November 22, 2018. The government did not consult the mainstream political parties or their leaders, four of whom were former chief ministers. The government did not consult the Hurriyat Conference because the Modi government has refused to recognise them or talk to them. Needless to say, the government did not seek the opinion of the people, not even through interlocutors.

The government justified its action as fulfilling the BJP's manifesto promise. That is only partly true. Repeal of Article 370 was indeed a promise of the BJP but, certainly, the BJP did not promise to dismember J&K and create two Union Territories. Even if Ladakh had to be carved out as a Union Territory, the residual state of Jammu & Kashmir could have remained a state. To a pointed question why this was not done, there was no answer.

PEOPLE IGNORED, BUT WILL PREVAIL

The success or failure of the government's extraordinary actions will be decided by the little over 7 million people of the Kashmir Valley — not by the thousands of troops deployed by the government. How will the people of the Valley react to the actions of the government?

■ The repeal of Article 370 will be regarded as a breach of a constitutional guarantee as well as a breach of promise made by Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (assisted by N Gopalaswami Ayyangar and V P Menon), Babasaheb Ambedkar and the other makers of the Constitution.

■ The people will also regard the actions as a repudiation of A B Vajpayee's famous statement that a solution to the Kashmir issue will be found within *insaniyat, jamhooriyat* and *Kashmiriyat*.

■ The carving out of Ladakh as a Union Territory (Leh wanted it, Kargil opposed it) will be regarded as an attempt to divide the people of J&K on religious lines.

■ The creation of a Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir will be regarded as an attempt to humiliate the people of the Valley and diminish their political, economic and legislative rights.

What is clear to me is that in the eyes of the BJP the Kashmir Valley is just a piece of real estate and not the seven million citizens. In the BJP's eyes, the history, language, culture, religion and struggle of the Kashmiris are irrelevant. There are thousands of Kashmiris who, while opposed to violence and secession, had resorted to dissidence or throwing stones. They stood in one column to demand more autonomy. On the next column were the militants and young recruits who took the gun. The most catastrophic consequence will be — god forbid — if the thousands in the first column move to the second. The BJP will realise that the price of real estate is not cheap.

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FIFTH COLUMN

TAVLEEN SINGH

Did Article 370 preserve Kashmiriyat?

OF THE arguments made against the abrogation of Article 370 all of last week by a plethora of Kashmir 'experts', the one that irritated me most was the one about Kashmir 'losing its identity'. Which one? The one in which Hindus and Muslims lived together in total harmony? The one in which Kashmiri Islam was so moderate that unveiled women prayed in mosques? Or the current 'identity' in which Hindus have been ethnically cleansed from the Valley and Islam prevails in its most fanatical form? Having witnessed the changes in Kashmir's identity first hand, let me remind you of them.

The Prime Minister in his speech last Thursday spoke of a time when Kashmir was so popular with Bollywood's filmmakers that almost not a single film was made without a romantic song being shot somewhere in the Valley. He urged filmmakers to return to Kashmir and spoke of how it had 'the potential to become the world's largest tourist destination'. That Kashmir existed once but no longer does. It was destroyed not by political problems and alienation but because of the advent of the new Islam that blew into the Valley in the Eighties, when money started pouring in from Saudi Arabia to groups like the Jamaat-e-Islami.

By 1989 came the armed insurgency and Pakistan got involved. Its Kashmiri agents ensured that the Hizbul Mujahideen stole the struggle for '*azadi*' from the secular JKLF so jihadist Islam began to infuse a political movement. Soon Kashmir's Pandits were ethnically cleansed from the Valley and in the streets of Srinagar appeared bearded young men who marched into liquor shops and forcibly closed them down by smashing bottles of liquor on the pavements. They walked into hotels and ordered bars shut. Cinemas were forcibly closed and women who did not veil their faces risked having acid thrown at them. A new 'identity' was imposed on Kashmir. Tourists continued to come but the magic of the old Kashmir was gone. Can it return? I am not sure. But, if anything can help bring it back, it is probably the abrogation of Article 370.

Personally, I did not like the manner of its abrogation. I think it is wrong and dangerous to impose political change by locking people up and denying them all means of communication. It should never happen. Not in Kashmir or anywhere else in India because it damages our democracy. But, I also believe that Article 370 was no more than a symbol of Kashmir's special status. In reality Kashmir enjoyed hardly more autonomy than any other Indian state, but because of its supposed special status has been a playground for secessionists and jihadists.

It is not at all surprising that Pakistan is so incensed that Imran Khan virtually warned of nuclear war becoming a real possibility. Pakistan's ambassador to the United Nations appeared on Christiane Amanpour's show to declare that it was the 'human rights' of the Kashmiri people that Pakistan was most concerned about. Ms Amanpour would have done well to ask her about the 'human rights' of the people of Balochistan, but did not. She would have done well to ask about the jihadist groups that have turned Kashmir into a killing field, but did not.

Kashmir's identity today is that of an Islamic state in the making. The young men who now lead the insurgency make this clear every time they make a new ISIS-type recruitment video. India cannot allow an Islamic state. Kashmir cannot either. Its economy is almost entirely based on tourism, and tourists do not flock to jihadist countries no matter how beautiful they are, for the simple reason that religious fanaticism can turn even paradise into a kind of hell.

As for the fear that with the abrogation of Article 370 Kashmiris will lose their identity, that really is a stupid fear. India has allowed diversity to flourish to a fault. It is hard to find Indians who do not first identify the state they come from, then their caste and religion before they identify themselves as Indians. Kashmiris can be found in every major tourist destination in India, from the beaches of Goa and Kerala to the high mountain resorts in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, and nowhere have they shown the smallest sign of losing their 'unique' identity.

The fact that so many have been forced to leave Kashmir for destinations where thousands more tourists go is because Kashmir lost its special magic when the jihadists took over. If they had not taken over and started laying the foundations of an Islamic republic, it is possible that Kashmir would already have become 'the world's largest tourism destination'. To use a sledgehammer to abrogate Article 370 was unwise and risky. But, if it can bring back the magic that Kashmir once had long, long ago, then the risk will be worthwhile.

Follow Tavleen Singh on Twitter
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Once upon a time there was home

SHALINI LANGER

CAN EVERY house become home? Or do places stop mattering beyond a certain age? As we moved place to place in childhood, staying two years at most in the small towns that father was posted to, home took shape for me mostly as a collage of memories. And memories knew no geographical boundaries, no language barriers, no son-of-the-soil whiff.

I remember a shiny long corridor at one place where my sister and I would play, where she the more intrepid one would catch butterflies and I jealously pretend I was only concerned about the poor winged things. I remember sun-dappled lunches in a huge lawn somewhere, where mother would let loose her long, long hair to dry. I remember dark, dark nights from another place, where we would catch fireflies and then wonder at the horrid smell in our palms. I remember the fascinating green-blue eyes of a girl at a school further south, a first for me (I would know her as a 'Chitpawan Brahmin' much later). I remember my first snow day up north, an impromptu picnic bunking school, and chortling later that morning as our wet socks left to dry on the coils of an electric heater by our unsuspecting mother got burnt. I remember a cold morning dragging my very young sister for a long walk to school through a hill town on missing the bus, making a halt at a tea stall. I remember scooter chases by father and his friends through the then largely empty streets of another town, with us children egging them on. I remember the sparkling black stone of the parapet of the poshest apartment complex we had stayed in, deep, deep south.

And yet, in all those years of moving about the country, there was one place that promised a solid certainty: Jammu. Again, in the curious way memory works, it seemed that way despite us spending only around 15 days a year during summer holidays there. The city felt ours to claim not just because of the many aunts, uncles, cousins it held, but also the 'special' place it indisputably occupied in the imagination of the rest of the country. Even if people mistakenly took you for a Kashmiri, and you corrected that error, a certain awareness of history tinged the conversation that followed. As resentments and violence stoked the gulf with Kashmir, one both strained against as well as more closely held on to that umbilical cord. And through it, to the other side of the border, guilty but also fascinated by the violence that bound us all. And what would our present mean without that history? How far can one shed one's roots without being left rootless?

Given the insubstantial time I spent in Jammu, I am perhaps an interloper to comment on the overnight change in its status, from 'special' to one half of a Union Territory. But given it is the city of my ancestors, I retain a right to mourn a sense of loss. Of never seeing Jammu the same way again. Of wondering whether it is the city's resentment towards Kashmir that empowers the government to shut millions of people out, or to stage the charade of passing off five persons eating a meal in a curfew-clamped town, served in incongruously large pots on a deathly quiet street, as "normalcy". Of having to ward away thoughts regarding what drives my RWA, in a Delhi colony miles and miles from J&K and L (the coupling of those three parts seems almost ordained by larger forces), to hold a "tea party" in "celebration" of the death of Article 370, and to recite a reworded *Hanuman Chalisa* where Narendra Modi is Bajrang Bali.

Around the time that "historical wrongs" were being corrected, a lot of other things happened. Another building caught fire in the national capital and another wall collapsed, claiming lives; the financial capital and its surroundings again went under following a burst of rain; an alleged rape victim fighting for her life was flown out on court orders from her state, so as to continue her battle for justice; on the other end of the country, four people died in a dash across 300 km to prove the same citizenship that is being enforced with an iron hand in Kashmir; a woman died in a fire without her parents in Kashmir getting to know till the day after; a 17-year-old drowned reportedly trying to escape security forces while NSA Ajit Doval assured his audience in the Valley that their children would have a future; and I put my son on the Delhi Metro telling him and myself not to think about a "high alert".

But, we couldn't care less. "We had Kashmir" — and all was well with the world.

Meanwhile, the RWA moved on, to more pressing matters, of "useless" guards, and a police that couldn't stop neighbourhood robberies.

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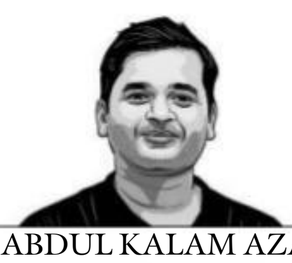
Write... I am a Miya

GAINED IN TRANSLATION



ABDUL KALAM AZAD
আব্দুল কালাম আজাদ

CR Sasikumar

OVER THE last few months, the controversy on and around Miya poetry has received an overwhelming response from readers, poets, critics, public intellectuals and online trolls. The controversy about this new genre of poetry led to the filing of four police complaints in different parts of Assam, which was followed by an outpouring in favour of the poets, poetry and the causes they spoke about. Most important is the support and curiosity from the mainstream Assamese community, whom the bullies wanted to incite against Miya poets. People from the mainstream Assamese communities organised Miya poetry reading and discussion sessions, invited Miya poets to recite and speak while they were hiding from police. However, those in the opposition responded with more virtuosity, sometimes with death and rape threats to the poets.

Miya poetry as a genre started in 2016. But much before that, one night, most probably in the late summer of 2015, I met Shalim M Hussain, one of the finest poets and translators from the region. We were discussing the issues faced by our community, ranging from floods and erosion to identity-based violence, discrimination, oppression and violation of human rights in the process of citizenship contestation and determination. Through the discussion, we resolved to use various art forms to create awareness among the communities.

That night on the terrace of Shalim's apartment in New Delhi's Zakir Nagar, we translated Bob Dylan's *Blowin' in the wind* to the Miya dialect, reflecting the suffering and agony of our community. Soon after, Shalim translated Gil Scott Heron's *The revolution will not be televised* and recited it. He also helped translate a Bengali song on water, sanitation and hygiene to Miya and we started using it in our campaign for development in *char* (river island) areas.

We call ourselves the first generation of progressive and professional social workers, civil rights activists, and writers who have pledged to use the Indian Constitution to defend our rights. We use a number of secular and democratic campaign tools to amplify our voice; poetry, especially performance poetry, is one of them.

In the meantime, the preparation of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) was underway. People from our community hoped the NRC would be a panacea to all our problems. Hundreds and thousands of educated youths volunteered to make the NRC project acceptable among the community and help the poorly lettered collect documents and file their application forms. The NRC authority had already made the legacy data (digitised government records of 1951 NRC and subsequent electoral rolls till 1971) available for the general people. A large number of people of our community, who have been constantly displaced because of annual floods and erosion, ethnic conflicts and forceful eviction by government over the last several decades, had hardly any access to these invaluable documents.

In the last week of April 2016, Dr Hafiz Ahmed, president of Char Chapori Sahitya Parishad and a strong propagator of Assamese language and literature among our community, wrote a poem in English and posted it on Facebook: "*Write/ Write Down/ I am a Miya/ My serial number in the NRC is 200543/ I have two children/ Another is coming/ Next summer/ Will you hate him/ As you hate me?...*"

This poem went viral and other young poets started responding to him through poems. The young poets also started reclaiming "Miya", a slur used against us, as our identity with pride. This chain of Facebook posts continued for days, reiterating the violence, suffering and humiliation expressed by our community.

As time passed, more poets wrote in various languages and dialects, including many Miya dialects. The nomenclature 'Miya Poetry' got generated organically but the poets and their associates have been inspired by the Negritude and Black Arts movements, and queer, feminist and Dalit literary movements, where the oppressed have reclaimed the identity which was used to dehumanise them.

The trend transcended our community. Poets from the mainstream Assamese community also wrote several poems in solidarity with the Miya poets while some regretted not being poets. Gradually, this became a full-fledged poetry movement and got recognised by other poets, critics and commentators. The quality and soul of these poems are so universal that they started finding prominence on reputed platforms.

For the first time in the history of our community, we had started telling our own stories and reclaiming the Miya identity to fight against our harassers who were dehumanising us with the same word. They accused us of portraying the whole Assamese society as xenophobic. The fact is we have just analysed our conditions. Forget generalising the Assamese society as 'xenophobic', no Miya poet has ever used the term 'xenophobic' nor any of its variants. The guilt complex of our accusers is so profound that they don't have the patience to examine why we wrote the poems.

Another accusation against us is of weakening the Assamese language when most of our poems are written in Assamese language and a few in Miya dialects. We fail to understand how writing Miya poetry in Assamese could weaken Assamese?

Anyway, the controversy is now dying down gradually, Miya poetry is getting much wider readership and the Miya poets and their associates (like me) have learnt new skills: how to remain calm while facing threats of all sorts, coordinated online bullying, and the anxiety of their loved ones, and to continue to write, promote poetry.

Azad is an Assam-based researcher. Translated from Assamese by him

OUT OF MY MIND

MEGHNAD DESAI

BJP as party of the 21st century

MODI 1.0 was all about economics. Toilets were built, rural areas electrified, houses provided. Bank accounts and digitisation introduced, roads and canals built, ports modernised. Modi 2.0 is all about politics. Narendra Modi wants to reconstruct a new India Post Nehru Gandhi Era. Hence, the removal of Article 370.

Some Gordian knots need to be cut, not unravelled. Jammu and Kashmir is such a knot, an anomaly in the Indian Constitution. Narendra Modi and Amit Shah have cut the Gordian knot of the Kashmir problem. They have removed Article 370 which was still in the chapter on transitory measures in the Constitution since its introduction way back.

It created an anomaly in the federal structure. Jammu and Kashmir (plus the unmentioned Ladakh) were not fully integrated into India. The accession ceded foreign affairs, defence and communications to the Centre but in all other subjects in the Central and the Concurrent list, the Legislative Assembly had to be consulted by Parliament. J&K could not benefit from Indian laws of non-discrimination against women or reservations. Citizens from the rest of India had no access to jobs, buying land or investing in business. J&K was and was not a part of India. The only way, internationally acceptable, was to have waited till a plebiscite could be held in both parts of J&K. Not only did Pakistan fail to withdraw its troops as required but it has conceded Gilgit, a part of the original J&K, to China. There is thus no prospect of J&K-wide plebiscite, as required by the UN.

Modi has changed the narrative. Modi 1.0 startled the country with demonetisation. It was (in my view) a great idea but the failure of new currency to be ready on time made its implementation more painful that it needed to be. Modi 2.0 has been much more careful and well-prepared in his super-shock move. Home Minister Amit Shah has emerged as the indispensable partner Modi needs. The entire operation was kept secret. Troops were moved and tourists removed under the camouflage of military risks. While the reorganisation Bill was listed, the stroke of removing Article 370 was done by the President. This is because whatever other differences, J&K was under President's rule, with the Legislative Assembly dissolved. Parliament had the right to legislate on behalf of J&K. It was a small window but it satisfied the constitutional requirements for removing Article 370.

The bifurcation is a crucial piece of legislation. Ladakh is a vast territory, totally different from the Kashmir Valley and Jammu. It is sparsely populated but a huge source for solar energy. It will be the first Buddhist-majority Union Territory (UT), a first for India. J&K becomes UT as well but only temporarily. The Ladakh people have welcomed the bifurcation. The Modi-Shah team obtained a two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha and a better than 5:1 majority in the Lok Sabha, which would suffice for a constitutional amendment.

The Indian democratic system has voted for a decisive change in the hegemonic party. The first victory of Narendra Modi was treated by the Old Guard as an anomaly. But the second victory has now established the BJP as the governing party of the 21st century. Be ready for Modi 3.0.

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Experts to briefs MPs on technical aspects of legislation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

SPEAKER OM Birla on Saturday said that the Lok Sabha Secretariat will provide experts who will brief the members of the House on technical aspects of a proposed legislation. The exercise is aimed at enhancing the members' understanding of Bills and improving the quality of debates in the process, he said.

Speaking to the media, Birla said an app would soon be developed to enable members to quickly access the landmark debates which had taken place in the House since 1952. The Secretariat would also reach out to Doordarshan to draw on its archives on this count.

Birla said a conference of Speakers of all state Assemblies will be convened soon to discuss how the productivity of state legislatures can be enhanced.

The Lok Sabha, if required, may henceforth sit beyond 12 midnight. The Speaker said in the previous session, he had to respect this 12 O'clock deadline because of a technicality, as the agenda stated that the Bill under consideration will be passed "today", and the next day begins at midnight.

Regarding the proposal for the construction of a new Parliament building, Birla said various suggestions were under consideration. Several groups had been formed for the purpose.

NRC IN ASSAM

39-yr-old in jail, family traces Bihar links, asks how 'Sah' a Bangladeshi

TORA AGARWALA & NAOMI KLINGE
BISWANATH CHARIALI (ASSAM), AUGUST 10

AMONG THE many things Bishal Sah carries on visits to his mother in Tezpur District Jail is sattu, or chana dal, tied securely in a polythene bag. "My mother loves it," says the 20-year-old student, whose forefathers migrated from Bihar in the '40s to work in the tea gardens of Assam.

Nearly two months after Amila Sah was taken to the jail, Bishal says he is still to understand how his 39-year-old mother, who has no inkling even of what Bangladesh is, could be kept in "a jail for Bangladeshis". Everyone in the family, except Amila, figures in the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

"When the notice from the Foreigners' Tribunal (FT) came in June 2018, our village headman told us it was nothing to worry about. We had documents, we had come from Bihar. He told us it would be solved in two days," says Bishal.

While figures are not public, maximum exclusions from the NRC are believed to be from the Bengali community (both Muslims and Hindus). Cases like Amila's have slipped unnoticed through the cracks, even as the deadline for the final NRC list, August 31, draws near.

Verification in progress to link Aadhaar with NRC, at a Seva Kendra in Barpeta on Saturday. *PTI*

In July 2018, when the NRC final draft was published, many Hindi-speakers from Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar found themselves left out. "We immediately met NRC state coordinator Prateek Hajela and Home Minister (at the time) Rajnath Singh, and our problems were solved to some extent. The Bihar government stepped in to verify our documents," says Kailash Gupta, of the All Assam Bhojpuri Parishad.

In May 2018, Dinesh Prajapati (41) and wife Tara Devi (38), whose ancestors had migrated from Uttar Pradesh to Assam, were put into detention camps. Released in September, they were directed to enrol at the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) at Tinsukia.

Amila is the fourth of eight children of Keshab Prasad Gupta and Chandrawati Gupta. While Keshab's family migrated in 1949 as garden workers to Pratapgur Tea Estate in Assam's Biswanath Chariali village in Sonitpur district, Chandrawati's family had been settled in Sonitpur before that. After marriage to Dulalram Sah, a chana-seller, in 1992, Amila moved to Dholaibeel village.

"We submitted my sister's voted ID, my father's 1951 NRC proof, hospital records, school certificates," says Amila's brother Ramesh Gupta, who runs a petrol pump in Biswanath Chariali. Two weeks ago, he went to Bihar to get a copy of their family tree authenticated by a village panchayat.

Ramesh adds that while it is true Amila's school certificate and voter ID card spelt her name wrong, they had documents to show this happened by mistake. "She is Urmila Kanu as per her school certificate and Amila Sahu in her voter ID card... Anyway, most voter ID cards in India have mistakes, and no one bothers to correct them," he points out.

Her lawyer D Bora, who says they have taken the matter to the Gauhati High Court, adds, "Apart from the inconsistencies in the name, during cross-examination at the FT hearing, Amila and her mother Chandrawati both made mistakes. Their statements did not match the documents they had provided."

The order declaring Amila a foreigner who "crossed illegally over to India from Bangladesh" notes that while Chandrawati said Amila was her daughter, she could not remember "when her daughter was born or when her own marriage took place".

Bishal points out that Amila studied only till Class 3. "We don't really celebrate birthdays. She probably got nervous and made a mistake at the hearing."

Tinsukia-based Prem Upadhyay of the Bhojpuri Sammelan, a body that looks after the rights of the Bhojpuri-speaking population in the state, says, "It's sad that in Assam, Hindi-speakers are treated like second-class citizens. I am a Bihari myself but we always introduce ourselves as Assamese... I agree there might be inconsistencies in their documents, but shouldn't the Border Police know better, that surnames like Sah, Prajapati, Gupta, Prasad cannot be Bangladeshi?"

Amila's case was heard at the Tezpur FT for a year. Bishal, the youngest of four siblings, says they had thought the June 15 hearing from where Amila was taken away to the district jail would be a routine one like the others. "But they just picked her up."

Now he tries to visit her every other day, and says she begs him to get her out each time. On days he cannot afford the Rs 240 bus ride from Biswanath Chariali to the jail, he barely talks to anyone.

Chandrawati has not visited her daughter in jail till now. "What kind of mother am I who could not protect own daughter?" she asks, breaking down.

Month after 'rape', UP teen hangs self, 4 cops suspended

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 10

A 16-YEAR-OLD girl who was allegedly raped on July 13 committed suicide on Friday by hanging herself at a village in Kanpur after she was allegedly taunted by three locals, including two women, over the sexual assault. The two women were arrested on Saturday.

Angry at the suicide, the victim's family protested alleged police inaction in the rape case and refused to hand over the body for autopsy. None of the five accused has been arrested in the case.

Taking cognizance of the allegations, Kanpur Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Anant Deo Saturday suspended four policemen for not arrested the rape accused. The suspended officers are the SHO of a police station where the rape case was registered, the police outpost in-charge, a head constable and a constable.

"According to an FIR in the suicide case, the rape victim was found hanging from a ceiling fan in her room. It was alleged that two women and a man had been frequently passing comments at the girl since the rape incident. Upset over the harassment, the girl took the step. The women have been arrested for abetment to suicide," said the suspended SHO.

"The gangrape case was earlier registered on July 27, while the incident occurred on July 13. In her statement recorded before the magistrate, her statements differed from what she had told police. The primary investigation has revealed that the accused and girl's family had clashed with each other over enmity," said SSP Anant Deo.

The suspended SHO said, "It was alleged that the girl was sleeping on the roof of her house on July 13 night when two men, both brothers, took her to a neighbouring roof at gunpoint. There, two more men were present and one of the brothers made her inhale a sedative, rendering her unconscious. When she woke up she felt she had been sexually assaulted. She narrated the whole incident to her family." He claimed that the medical test did not confirm sexual assault but mentioned that she is 16 and not 13 as mentioned by the family in the police complaint.

An FIR was registered under sections 366A (procuration of minor girl), 328 (causing hurt by means of poison, with intent to commit an offence), 376 (rape), 506 (criminal intimidation) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of IPC along with relevant section of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act.

Asked about the delay in registering a complaint, the victim's father told *The Sunday Express* that he did not immediately go to police because of social stigma and her marriage prospects.

"Later, we learnt that the accused were boasting about the sexual assault. After this, we decided to go to police. Her reputation was already tarnished, so we did not have much to lose," he said.

SSP Deo added that a proper investigation will be conducted in both the FIRs.

Centre signs peace pact with Tripura insurgent outfit

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

AN INSURGENT group from Tripura on Saturday signed an agreement with the government to "abjure violence" and "join the mainstream".

The agreement paves the way for surrender of all active cadres of the group.

The insurgent group - National Liberation Front of Twipra led by Sabir Kumar Debbarma (NLFT-SD) - signed a Memorandum of Settlement with the Central and state governments to "abide by the Constitution of India".

In a statement, the Ministry of Home Affairs said: "NLFT(SD) has agreed to abjure the path of violence, join the mainstream and abide by the Constitution. It has agreed to the surrender of its 88 cadres with their weapons. The surrendered cadres will be given benefits as per the Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation Scheme, 2018, of the Ministry of Home Affairs. The State Government will help surrendered cadres in housing, recruitment, education etc."

The Centre, it stated, will consider proposals of the Tripura government on economic development of tribal areas of the state.

The Memorandum of Settlement was signed by MHA Joint Secretary (Northeast) Satyendra Garg; Additional Chief Secretary (Home), Tripura, Kumar Alok; and Sabir Kumar Debbarma and Kajal Debbarma of NLFT(SD).

The NLFT representatives later called on Home Minister Amit Shah at his office in the North Block.

The MHA statement said: "NLFT is banned under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act since 1997 and has been involved in violence, operating from their camps across the international border. NLFT has been responsible for violent activities including 317 insurgency incidents in which 28 security forces and 62 civilians lost their lives during the period 2005-2015. Peace talks with NLFT were initiated in 2015 and there has been no violence by NLFT since 2016."

EXPLAINED

NLFT: Who, what, how?

NLFT EMERGED in 1989 with the backing of the Baptist Church of Tripura in the aftermath of ethnic riots in the state. It has since then advanced its cause through armed rebellion. The outfit claims to represent the indigenous population, which it maintains has been marginalised by "the subjugation policy of imperialist Hindustani (India)".

Its constitution makes no mention of any specific religion and claims to extend membership to "any person irrespective of caste, sex or creed". Over the years, due to internal conflict, the group has broken into several factions, NLFT(SD) being one of them.

Surendra Singh Nagar (centre) and Sanjay Seth (right), who recently quit the Samajwadi Party and Rajya Sabha, joined the BJP in the presence of its working president J P Nadda in New Delhi on Saturday. *Amit Mehra*

Congress Rajya Sabha MP from Assam, state leader quit party

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, AUGUST 10

RAJYA SABHA MP from the Congress, Santiuse Kujur, and another senior party leader from Assam, former state minister Gautam Roy, resigned from the party on Saturday amid speculation that they will join the BJP soon.

While Kujur tendered his resignation, Roy, who said he "quit" the party, was officially "expelled" from the Congress on Saturday.

The development comes a day after Rajya Sabha MP from Assam, Bhubaneshwar Kalita, a former Congress chief whip in the House, who resigned from the Congress earlier this week, joined the BJP.

Kujur stated in his resignation letter, "I have worked in this party for more than 13 years and I have been very pleased to be a part of a leading political party for which I am thankful."

Roy confirmed to *The Sunday Express* that he quit the party.

He told local news channel *Newslive*, "The condition of the Congress is not good. The situation is not like what it was earlier. The BJP is working for the people and we are able to see that work."

A Congress spokesperson said the state unit passed an order on Saturday expelling Roy for "anti-party activities".

Etawah teen ends life, blames maths teacher in suicide note

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 10

A 13-YEAR-OLD student of Class 8 allegedly committed suicide by consuming a poisonous substance soon after returning home from his school in Etawah district, police said. A suicide note found on his person alleged that he was beaten up by his mathematics teacher and the school manager as he was weak in the subject, they added.

An FIR for abetment to suicide was lodged Saturday evening against the maths teacher and the manager based on a complaint by the boy's father, who is a teacher at a school in adjoining Mainpuri district. No arrest has been made yet. The suicide note was sent for a forensic test, police said.

"On Thursday evening, the class 8 student consumed a poisonous substance soon after returning home from school. After his uncle found the boy unconscious, he was taken to a hospital from where he was referred to Saifai PGI. He died there on Friday morning. A note was found on his uniform. It says he was weak in maths because of which his teacher and manager used to beat him up and scold him," said the SHO of the local police station.

"The boy was living with his grandparents in Etawah. A probe is on," added the SHO.

2 criminals shot, 3 policemen hurt in 2 encounters, say UP police

AMIT SHARMA
MEERUT, AUGUST 10

TWO WANTED men were shot dead in two alleged separate police encounters in Baghpat and Saharanpur in the last two days. Two constables and a sub-inspector received bullet injuries.

The first encounter took place on Tikri-Asara Link Road in Baghpat on Saturday, said Deputy Superintendent of Police (Ramala) Anuj Chaudhary.

A resident of Kakripur village in Baghpat, Vikas was carrying Rs 1 lakh bounty on his head announced by the Baghpat Police and Rs 25,000 by Meerut Police. He was wanted in more than a dozen cases of murder, attempt to murder and loot, police said.

In the second encounter, a 30-year-old man was shot dead in a police encounter in Chilkana area of Saharanpur police late Friday night. Mohammad Hafiz was carrying a reward of Rs 50,000 and was facing around 20 cases against him in different police stations of Saharanpur.

"At Carthawal, police asked to stop two bike-borne men. Instead of stopping, they were fired at a police team...We retaliated and one of the duo, Muhammad Hafiz was shot dead, while his associate managed to flee. Sub inspector Amit Sharma and constable Vineet were also injured...," said Saharanpur SSP Dinesh Kumar.

GRSE launches its fifth fast patrol vessel for Indian Coast Guard

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, AUGUST 10

MINIRATNA (CATEGORY 1) Defence PSU and premier warship builder Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd launched its fifth fast patrol vessel (FPV) for the Indian Coast Guard at Raja Bagan Dockyard Unit of GRSE, Kolkata, on Saturday.

The vessel is 50m long and 7.5m wide, and has a displacement of around 308 tonne. These FPVs are designed for maximum speed of 34 knots with an endurance of over 1,500 nautical miles.

At the launch in Kolkata.

This ship, to be commissioned as ICGS Kanaklata Barua, is the last in the series of Five FPVs built by GRSE.

"These fuel-efficient and powerful platforms are well suited for patrolling, anti-smuggling, anti-poaching, and rescue operations," read a statement issued by the Indian Coast Guard.

UNNAO VICTIM'S COUNSEL TELLS COURT

'CBI deliberately did not name Sengar as accused in murder case'

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

THE COUNSEL for the Unnao rape victim told a court here on Saturday that the CBI "deliberately" did not name MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar and his brother as accused in the murder case of the woman's father.

Appearing for the CBI, Senior Public Prosecutor Ashok Bhartendu denied the allegation and said the investigation officer collected the evidence in the case in all "fairness" and there was no "mala fide" intention on his part. "We have not found any role of the accused (Sengar) in the case. If we do find something, then a supplementary chargesheet will be filed in the matter," he said.

The CBI also moved an application to examine Sengar in the gangrape case, which is still under investigation.

The counsel for the accused persons also moved an application in the court to not allow the victim's counsel to intervene during the trial and address arguments. The judge replied, "What is your problem if he speaks? This is in very bad taste."

During the proceedings, the court was also informed by the IO that "satisfactory" boarding and lodging arrangements were made for the victim's mother and other family members.

Meanwhile, Unnao police provided security to 18 prime witnesses of the two cases related to the rape case: the death of the rape victim's father and another implicating him under Arms Act.

2 GoAir staffers booked for abetting suicide

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NAGPUR, AUGUST 10

TWO STAFFERS of private carrier GoAir have been booked for allegedly abetting the suicide of a 19-year-old employee of the airline here, city police said.

Manthan Chavan, who worked as GoAir's trainee ramp officer at Nagpur airport, allegedly committed suicide at his home in Nagpur on May 30, police said.

In a statement issued on Friday, Ajni police said an offence was registered against Akshay Patil, manager of GoAir (Nagpur) and Nilay Janbandhu, senior officer of ramp operations, under IPC sections 306 (abetment of suicide) and 34 (common intention) on Thursday.

"During the investigation, it was found that the deceased, Manthan Chavan, was on sick leave (when the incident happened). However, he was under mental pressure as he was constantly getting calls and messages from Akshay Patil and Nilay Janbandhu, who asked him to resume duty, which drove him to commit suicide," the police said.

According to police, Chavan hanged himself from an iron rod at his home. His father, Mahendra Chavan, later lodged a complaint saying Manthan was not keeping well and suffering from jaundice. He had been on leave since 10 to 12 days before the incident, he had said. In the complaint, he also alleged that his son might have taken the extreme step due to work stress.

The Mumbai-headquartered budget airline said police "wrongly booked" two employees. It said its legal team was "ascertaining the facts" and will decide the "next course of action".

Odisha BJP raises questions on Patnaik health after change in format of I-Day celebrations

SAMPAD PATNAIK
BHUBANESWAR, AUGUST 10

THE BJP'S Odisha unit has raised questions about Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik's health after the government's decision to change the venue and format of the Independence Day celebrations.

"The (new) venue of Exhibition Ground will seat 5,000, while 10,000 people can stand and watch the ceremony. There will also be an exhibition on the 150th Gandhi Jayanti, which will be inaugurated by the CM," Twin City Police Commissioner and senior IPS officer Satyajit Mohanty told reporters.

Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik

A senior police officer said, "There will be no march past. Normally, every year there are 30-40 contingents from local schools, NCC, police, CAPF, and even civilians, St John's ambulance, scouts and guides conduct a march. This year there will be no marches... this decision is expected to reduce the timing of the ceremony by 30-40 minutes."

The BJP's Odisha unit said it was unfortunate if the mass parade has been cancelled because the Chief Minister will be unable to stand for too long. "We want to ask the state government why it has changed the precedent of 72 years. The venue has been changed. But more importantly the mass parade has been dropped. We are hearing that the CM will be unable to stand and take the salute for too long. If that is the case, then it is very unfortunate," said BJP leader Prithviraj Harichandan.

However, the ruling BJD said the decision to forgo marches this year was taken as per norms followed in many other states.

"Since 10 years, we are hearing (allegations) about the CM's ill health (from BJP). These things have no meaning," said Information and Public Relations Minister Raghunandan Das.

Patnaik's health has continued to be a topic of discussion in the state.

Man booked for FB post on BJP MLA who spoke about Kashmiri women

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUZAFFARNAGAR, AUGUST 10

A CASE was registered against a man on Saturday for an "objectionable" social media post against an Uttar Pradesh BJP legislator who had said that party workers could now marry "fair" Kashmiri women, police said.

Acting on a complaint by an aide of MLA Vikram Singh Saini, an FIR was registered against E R Rao Azher under Section 67 of the Information Technology Act at the Khatauli police station, Station House Officer Navratan Gautam said.

Azher hailed from Saharanpur, the SHO added.

The post comes days after Saini sparked a controversy by saying party workers could now go to Jammu and Kashmir and marry "fair" women there after the Centre revoked the special status of the state under Article 370.

Gujarat HC commutes life sentence of man to 10 yrs in jail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 10

THE GUJARAT High Court on Friday modified the conviction of a man by a trial court, which sentenced him to life imprisonment in 2012, and commuted his sentence to 10 years of imprisonment under charges of culpable homicide.

The man, Kamaruddin Abdulsamad Mansuri, was convicted on murder charges for setting his wife on fire who died of 90 per cent burns. The court noted that the husband's act was "without any premeditation, in sudden heat of passion".

The division bench of Justices RM Chhaya and BN Karia modified Mansuri's conviction by the trial court that found him guilty under IPC Section 302 and altered it under IPC Section 304 (II) (culpable homicide not amounting to murder), thereby commuting his sentence to 10 years of imprisonment.

As per the case, the deceased, Nasimbanu, married Mansuri in 2003. In 2011, she suffered burns and lodged an FIR stating that her husband had been torturing her mentally and physically for three years with frequent quarrels.

On the day of the incident, her husband picked up a quarrel as she prepared only dal and no vegetable, she stated. Enraged over this, Mansuri told her that he would burn her. He then poured kerosene over her and set her on fire, the FIR said. She shouted for help and when people gathered around, Mansuri sprinkled water on her, called 108 ambulance and admitted her to Shardaben Hospital.

Nasimbanu succumbed to the burns, before which a dying declaration was recorded. As she died during the course of the investigation, the provisions of IPC Section 302 (murder) was added. The trial court found Mansuri guilty under IPC Sections 302, 323 (voluntarily causing hurt) and 498A (Husband of a woman subjecting her to cruelty) and sentenced him to life imprisonment.

The HC bench noted, "Considering the evidence on record, it appears that the incident happened on account of sudden quarrel and there was no premeditation. Even in the FIR given by the deceased, the quarrel took place between the deceased and the appellant (Mansuri), who were wife and husband, over preparation of dal instead of vegetable. In the FIR, the version is that the appellant got provoked and picked up the kerosene can, which was lying in the kitchen and sprinkled kerosene and ignited her with matchstick. Therefore, in facts of this case, the act committed by appellant was without any premeditation, in sudden heat of passion..."

"The conduct also shows that the appellant tried to extinguish the fire and ultimately took her to the hospital... Evidence shows that everything happened on the spur of the moment...Thus, the case on hand falls under Exception 4 of Section 300 of IPC."

The advocate representing Mansuri, contended that except oral deposition of the father of the deceased, nothing was on record to show that Mansuri had shown cruelty to the deceased.

Additional public prosecutor Rakesh Patel argued Mansuri's appeal to consider the case under Exception 4 of Section 300 of the IPC on the ground that as per the evidence on record, there were two dying declarations proven by the prosecution.

FROM PAGE ONE

BJP wants curbs

waning of the initial euphoria.

Though there was some easing of restrictions in Jammu Saturday, official sources said several opposition politicians of the province too have been placed under house arrest. They include Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party chairman Harsh Dev Singh, Dogra Swabhiman Sanghthan founder Choudhary Lal Singh and Congress leader Raman Bhalla, all former ministers. Dev Singh told The Sunday Express he hadn't been allowed out for four days.

Sources said BJP leaders feel that apprehensions about land laws and jobs need to be addressed before the present restrictions in the state are lifted completely, and the opposition leaders released. It is due to these apprehensions that celebrations even in Jammu have not been as exuberant as were expected over the disbanding of Article 370.

"We have been discussing the matter in view of opposition parties starting a new debate that outsiders will take away our land and the state government jobs following scrapping of Article 370," Singh, who is the Speaker in the outgoing Legislative Assembly, said.

State BJP chief spokesperson Sunil Sethi claimed that "the government is already working on all issues, including these". "The mechanism will be in place shortly."

"Our neighbouring states of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab have certain laws protecting the interests of the local people, including agriculturists," Nirmal Singh said, adding that Punjab requires a person to have been a resident for at least six years to become eligible for a state government job, while in Himachal, an outsider cannot buy agricultural land. At some other places, there are conditions like one cannot purchase more than 50 per cent of the agricultural landholding of a farmer, he said.

Singh added that the domicile requirement was meant for exigencies like this. "While every Indian has the right to come and settle here (in J&K), at the same time, rights of the local people have to be protected too." With the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his address to the nation post-abrogation of Article 370, raising the issue of West Pakistani refugees who have been deprived of basic rights despite living in the state for 70 years, the BJP leader said the domicile clause would not exclude either them or the Balmiki settlers from Punjab.

State BJP president Ravinder Raina told The Sunday Express people need not "panic", assuring that while J&K may have become a Union Territory, its Assembly would enact own laws safeguarding the interest of locals. Party general secretary Narinder Singh pointed out that even in Pondicherry, which is also a UT with an Assembly, a non-resident cannot buy agricultural land.

UP Police

public vehicle. That day, she somehow reached Gorakhpur railway station and got on to a train to West Bengal. We searched for her in the village and nearby areas, and we had no idea she had gone that far. Three days after she went missing, we got a call from the office of the Gorakhpur superintendent of police, and got to know that she had been found in Durgapur. We went and got her back," Prajapati said.

Uttar Pradesh DGP O P Singh said: "The WhatsApp Digital Volunteer initiative is a one-of-its-kind outreach initiative. We have created a statewide network of 'digital samaritans' at the police station level. They act as our eyes and ears, and play a valuable role in checking fake news and rumours, and in the amplification of our voice. They bring to our knowledge crucial issues that merit attention, which then get resolved through timely intervention."

Srivastava said: "We have a WhatsApp group for each of the 1,469 police stations in Uttar Pradesh. Each group has 250 members from different sections of society, such as social workers, teachers, pradhans, student leaders, lawyers, etc. The SHO of the concerned police station, Deputy SPs and Additional SPs of the district are in the group. We choose people who are on the ground to be digital volunteers. They have to be law-abiding citizens with no criminal background. We give out a form to applicants. The information given by them is verified."

There is a separate group with police PROs and social media in-charges of all 75 districts in the state. "PROs and social media in-charges of all eight IGs, 18 DIGs and 8 ADGs are also part of the group, which has around 200 members. This functions like the central hub in the flow of information. Messages are circulated to all districts from this group, through the PROs and social media in-charges. Our social media team here (in Lucknow) also pushes content on this group," Srivastava said.

The digital volunteers not only inform police of rumours and crimes in their areas through the WhatsApp groups, they also help police during negotiations between religious groups in situations of conflict.

"All digital volunteers are expected to keep a watch on social media and on the ground for information on crime and rumours," Srivastava said.

To illustrate how the initiative works, Srivastava recounted a case: "Two girls, aged 9 and 22, had gone missing from Gorakhpur. From our digital volunteers, the information reached the central team here. We tweeted pictures of the two girls, and someone at Mumbai's Kurla railway station saw them sitting there. This person, Pradip Harivilas Vishwakarma, informed the team here, and the girls were brought back."

Vishwakarma, a 29-year-old Mumbai-based interior designer, said he is happy he could help. "I had gone to receive my mother who was returning from Varanasi (on July 1). The train was late, so I was browsing through social media on my phone when I saw a post from the UP Police on Twitter about two missing girls. And then, I saw two girls sitting on a bench who looked similar. I realised they were the girls whose picture I had just retweeted. I also realised the older of the girls was wearing the same pendant as in the picture. I then contacted UP Police," he said.

The groups are helping scotch rumours and the spread of fake news too, Srivastava said. "If there is a news that is false and can lead to a law and order situation, we immediately verify it and circulate a message."

Srivastava gave an example: "Last year, a post with two pictures was circulated in local groups in Gonda. One picture showed a woman tying a rakhi on a man wearing a skullcap; the other was of a badly injured woman. The post said the pictures were of the same woman, and she had been raped by the man. After investigation, we found that the second picture was that of a victim of a railway accident. We immediately sent a message that the post was fake to all police station groups with digital volunteers. The volunteers were asked to circulate our post busting the fake news in all their social groups. The post could have led to a communal flare-up."

Srivastava also recounted the case of a boy from Chandauli district. "It was being falsely claimed on WhatsApp and social media platforms that he was set on fire because he refused to say 'Jai Shri Ram'. We put out a post and circulated it on social media through our digital volunteers regarding his death."

However, for all the advantages, the police have to sometimes deal with irrelevant distractions too, in the groups. "People sending Good Morning and Good Night messages is a challenge," Srivastava said. "Though our volunteers have been instructed to not post irrelevant messages in the groups, once in a while they flood the groups with such forwards."

Kerala rains

were buried under at Kavalappara. "Some sources said around 60 people are trapped. We are verifying that. So far, nine bodies have been retrieved."

Vijayan, one of the survivors, said during last year's heavy rain, these families had been shifted to camps. However, many of them stayed put this time confident that the hill behind their houses would stand strong, like it had done in 2018, he said.

Others in the village, however, contested this, saying this time there was no warning from officials.

In neighbouring Wayanad, search continued for survivors at Puthumala, where a landslide wiped out a small settlement of plantation workers. "So far nine bodies have been recovered and search is on for the missing persons. We are also relocating people," said local legislator C K Saseendran.

Three days of heavy rain so far have seen 80-odd landslides and flooding in river basins across eight districts in Kerala, with the official death toll touching 57, most of them from Malappuram, Kozhikode and Wayanad. Till Saturday, 1.65 lakh people had been shifted to relief camps while more persons were being ferried to safe zones.

The Met Department has predicted another day of extremely heavy rain in North Kerala.

At Vaniyambalam in Malappuram, around 200 people, including tribals and forest officials, are trapped since a bridge leading to the tribal settlement collapsed. The government is rushing aid to them with the help of the Army and NDRF, and is planning to air-drop food packets.

Elsewhere in Kerala, particularly the central parts, a flood-like situation has crippled life with rail and road traffic coming to a halt in many stretches. Flight operations at Cochin International Airport, suspended since Thursday night, would resume on Sunday afternoon.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Notice Inviting E-Tenders

SENIOR DIVISIONAL COMMERCIAL MANAGER, NORTHERN RAILWAY, MORADABAD invites E-TENDERS From Registered Lease Holders of MORADABAD DIVISION Registered under CPLP-2014 for the contract of leasing of SLR/SLRD space in the following trains originating from various stations over MORADABAD DIVISION, As per policy & guidelines governed by CPLP-2014 read with its amendments issued by Railway Board time to time, for a period of five years. One packet open tenders are invited through E-Tendering i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in:-**

S N.	Train No.	Station From	Station To	Space (in Ton)	Comp-artment (SLR/SLRD)	Scale rate of Train	Frequency/ days of run in a week	Reserve price per Comptt. (in Rupees)	EMD (in Rupees)
1	12328	DDN	HWH	4	F-I	R	Only Wed, Sat	24258	100000/-
2	12328	DDN	HWH	4	F-II	R	Only Wed, Sat	24258	100000/-
3	12328	DDN	HWH	4	R-I	R	Only Wed, Sat	24258	100000/-
4	12370	HW	HWH	4	F-I	R	Only Mon, Tue, Thus, Fri, Sun	23778	100000/-
5	12370	HW	HWH	4	F-II	R	Only Mon, Tue, Thus, Fri, Sun	23778	100000/-
6	12370	HW	HWH	4	R-I	R	Only Mon, Tue, Thus, Fri, Sun	23778	100000/-
7	14236	BE	BSB	4	F-I	R	Daily	9844	100000/-
8	14236	BE	BSB	4	F-II	R	Daily	9844	100000/-
9	14236	BE	BSB	4	R-I	R	Daily	9844	100000/-
10	14266	DDN	BSB	4	F-I	R	Daily	14216	100000/-
11	14266	DDN	BSB	4	F-II	R	Daily	14216	100000/-
12	14266	DDN	BSB	4	R-I	R	Daily	14216	100000/-
13	14310	DDN	UJN	4	F-I	R	Only Tue, Wed	19946	100000/-
14	14310	DDN	UJN	4	F-II	R	Only Tue, Wed	19946	100000/-
15	14310	DDN	UJN	4	R-I	R	Only Tue, Wed	19946	100000/-
16	14311	BE	BHUJ	4	F-I	R	Only Tue, Thus, Sat	24024	100000/-
17	14311	BE	BHUJ	4	F-II	R	Only Tue, Thus, Sat	24024	100000/-
18	14311	BE	BHUJ	4	R-I	R	Only Tue, Thus, Sat	24024	100000/-
19	14314	BE	LTT	4	F-I	R	Only Sat	24528	100000/-
20	14314	BE	LTT	4	R-I	R	Only Sat	24528	100000/-
21	14315	BE	NDLS	4	F-I	S	Daily	1969	100000/-
22	14315	BE	NDLS	4	F-II	S	Daily	1969	100000/-
23	14315	BE	NDLS	4	R-I	S	Daily	1969	100000/-
24	14318	DDN	INDB	4	F-I	R	Only Fri, Sat	19231	100000/-
25	14318	DDN	INDB	4	F-II	R	Only Fri, Sat	19231	100000/-
26	14318	DDN	INDB	4	R-I	R	Only Fri, Sat	19231	100000/-
27	14320	BE	INDB	4	F-I	P	Only Wed	11422	100000/-
28	14320	BE	INDB	4	F-II	P	Only Wed	11422	100000/-
29	14320	BE	INDB	4	R-I	P	Only Wed	11422	100000/-
30	14321	BE	BHUJ	4	F-I	R	Only Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun	22325	100000/-
31	14321	BE	BHUJ	4	F-II	R	Only Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun	22325	100000/-
32	14321	BE	BHUJ	4	R-I	R	Only Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun	22325	100000/-
33	14631	DDN	ASR	4	F-I	P	Daily	5790	100000/-
34	14631	DDN	ASR	4	F-II	P	Daily	5790	100000/-
35	14631	DDN	ASR	4	R-I	P	Daily	5790	100000/-
36	14711	HW	SGNR	4	F-I	P	Daily	5954	100000/-
37	14711	HW	SGNR	4	F-II	P	Daily	5954	100000/-
38	14711	HW	SGNR	4	R-I	P	Daily	5954	100000/-
39	15002	DDN	MFP	4	F-II	P	Only Sat	12344	100000/-
40	15006	DDN	GKP	4	F-I	P	Only Tue, Thus	9235	100000/-
41	15006	DDN	GKP	4	F-II	P	Only Tue, Thus	9235	100000/-
42	15006	DDN	GKP	4	R-I	P	Only Tue, Thus	9235	100000/-
43	15033	HW	RMR	4	F-I	P	Only Thus, Sat, Sun	3938	100000/-
44	15033	HW	RMR	4	F-II	P	Only Thus, Sat, Sun	3938	100000/-
45	15033	HW	RMR	4	R-I	P	Only Thus, Sat, Sun	3938	100000/-
46	19020	DDN	BDTS	4	F-I	R	Daily	25255	100000/-
47	19020	DDN	BDTS	4	R-I	R	Daily	25255	100000/-
48	19032	HW	ADI	4	F-I	R	Daily	19548	100000/-
49	19032	HW	ADI	4	F-II	R	Daily	19548	100000/-
50	19032	HW	ADI	4	R-I	R	Only Sat, Sun, Mon	19548	100000/-
51	19566	DDN	OKHA	4	F-I	P	Only Sun	16837	100000/-
52	19566	DDN	OKHA	4	F-II	P	Only Sun	16837	100000/-
53	19566	DDN	OKHA	4	R-I	P	Only Sun	16837	100000/-
54	22918	HW	BDTS	4	F-I	R	Only Thus	24528	100000/-
55	22918	HW	BDTS	4	F-II	R	Only Thus	24528	100000/-
56	22918	HW	BDTS	4	R-I	R	Only Thus	24528	100000/-
57	12018	DDN	NDLS	4	F-I	P	Daily	4373	100000/-
58	12018	DDN	NDLS	4	F-II	P	Daily	4373	100000/-
59	12018	DDN	NDLS	4	R-I	P	Daily	4373	100000/-
60	19610	HW	UDZ	4	F-I	P	Only Tue, Fri, Sun	10728	100000/-
61	19610	HW	UDZ	4	F-II	P	Only Tue, Fri, Sun	10728	100000/-
62	19610	HW	UDZ	4	R-I	P	Only Tue, Fri, Sun	10728	100000/-
63	12912	HW	BL	4	F-I	R	Only Wed	22642	100000/-
64	12912	HW	BL	4	F-II	R	Only Wed	22642	100000/-
65	12912	HW	BL	4	R-I	R	Only Wed	22642	100000/-
66	22660	DDN	KCVL	4	F-I	R	Only Mon	40735	100000/-
67	22660	DDN	KCVL	4	F-II	R	Only Mon	40735	100000/-
68	22660	DDN	KCVL	4	R-I	R	Only Mon	40735	100000/-
69	13010	DDN	HWH	4	F-I	R	Daily	24024	100000/-
70	13010	DDN	HWH	4	F-II	R	Daily	24024	100000/-
71	13010	DDN	HWH	4	R-I	R	Daily	24024	100000/-
72	14120	DDN	KGM	4	F-I	P	Daily	4665	100000/-
73	14120	DDN	KGM	4	F-II	P	Daily	4665	100000/-
74	14120	DDN	KGM	4	R-I	P	Daily	4665	100000/-
75	54077	BE	DLI	4	F-I	P	Daily	4126	100000/-
76	54077	BE	DLI	4	F-II	P	Daily	4126	100000/-
77	54077	BE	DLI	4	R-I	P	Daily	4126	100000/-
78	54307	MB	DLI	4	F-I	P	Daily	3024	100000/-
79	54307	MB	DLI	4	F-II	P	Daily	3024	100000/-
80	54307	MB	DLI	4	R-I	P	Daily	3024	100000/-
81	54055	MB	DLI	4	F-I	P	Daily	3024	100000/-
82	54055	MB	DLI	4	F-II	P	Daily	3024	100000/-
83	54055	MB	DLI	4	R-I	P	Daily	3024	100000/-

Each SLR unit will be treated as individual tender.
Cost of tender document for each compartment is Rs. 1,180/-.
Tenders are invited up to 14:00 hrs of 12.09.2019, which will be opened on the same day. 2579/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL & FISHERY SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

FUTALA LAKE ROAD, NAGPUR- 440 001 (M.S.)

TENDER NOTICE

Online e-Tenders in 'B-1' Tender are invited by the University Engineer, Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Science University, Nagpur.
Construction of Compound Wall in front of main campus for Quarters at NVC, Nagpur. ID-2019_MAFSU_474919_1.

Note:- 1. Please note that further changes regarding this work will not be published through corrigendum by Press Notice. The Changes will be available only on electronic tendering system of Government of Maharashtra which is available Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University on the portal **https://mahatenders.gov.in** only.

sd/-
University Engineer
MAFSU, Nagpur.

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH

Tender Notice No. PI(EP)/19-20/04 Phone No. 0172-2756469

Sealed tenders are invited from the manufacturers or their sole authorized distributors/ agents on the prescribed form for purchase of various items against tender No. **1-49.** The manufacturers and their authorized dealers / distributors can offer their minimum rates as per terms & conditions contained in the Tender Form:-

Sr. N	Equipment/ Item Name	Quantity	EMD	Opening Date
	Non Pre Bid Cases			
1	Advanced Mechanical Ventilator for LICU	04No's	2,00,000/-	03.09.2019
2	Paediatric CPAP System	05No's	1,30,000/-	-do-
3	OT Table for Urological Use	02No's	1,20,000/-	-do-
4	Multiparameter Vital Sign Monitors	04No's	80,000/-	-do-
5	Flexible Video Laryngoscope with Chip on Tip Technology	01No's	60,000/-	04.09.2019
6	Immunoanalyzer	01No's	60,000/-	-do-
7	Multi Functional Therapeutic Apheresis system	02No's	1,00,000/-	-do-
8	Small Animal Anesthesia Workstation with Portals for BP Monitoring, Heart Rate, Resp.rate	01No's	40,000/-	-do-
9	Intra-Operative Doppler System (8mhz & other freq.) with Endo Nasal Probe	01No's	40,000/-	05.09.2019
10	Portable Colour Doppler Ultrasound Unit	01No's	40,000/-	-do-
11	Endoscopes for ATC OT	01No's	90,000/-	-do-
12	Fully Integrated Digital Podium	02No's	32,000/-	06.09.2019
13	Clinical Chemistry Based Drug Analyzer	01No's	40,000/-	-do-
14	Nasal Endoscopes for ENT OPD	20No's	60,000/-	-do-
15	Transport Ventilator	02No's	40,000/-	09.09.2019
16	EEG for small animals	01No's	30,000/-	-do-
17	Inverted Fluorescence Microscope with Digital Image Analysis System-01 unit	01No's	30,600/-	-do-
18	BRM Cum Body Analyzer	01No's	32,000/-	11.09.2019
19	Analytical Microbalance (Electronic)	01No's	24,000/-	-do-
20	Bone Cutting Machine (Bone Saw)	01No's	20,000/-	-do-
21	Slit Lamps	10No's	2,00,000/-	12.09.2019
22	O.T.Table	01No's	80,000/-	-do-
23	Open Care System	04No's	16,000/-	-do-
24	Franz Diffusion Cell Assembly	01No's	40,000/-	13.09.2019
25	Balance System	01No's	36,000/-	-do-
26	Data Base Management System	01No's	32,000/-	-do-
27	Lyophilizer	01No's	20,000/-	16.09.2019
28	Ionic & Non-Ionic Contrast Media for the year 2019-20 for CT, DSA, IVP,Br., Ultrasound, MRI Patient for the year 2019-20	As per technical specifications	33,760/-	-do-
29	Transport Ventilator	01No's	20,000/-	-do-
	Pre Bid Cases			
30	Blood Irradiator	01No's	5,00,000/-	17.09.2019
31	1.5 MRI for Gamma Knife Centre	01No's	20,00,000/-	-do-
32	800 mA Digital Radiography Unit including independent workstations(on buy back basis) for Room No. 7 of Main Radiology Department	01No's	5,00,000/-	-do-
33	High End Color Doppler Ultrasound Unit (One for Interventional Suite & one for Radiology Clinic)	02No's	4,00,000/-	-do-
34	Humaphrey Visulal Field Analyse with Networking and 4 forum Licences-02Nos	02No's	1,60,000/-	18.09.2019
35	Dedicated High End Ultrasound Unit for Musculoskeletal work	01No's	2,60,000/-	-do-
36	800 mA Digital Radiography Unit including independent workstation(on buy back basis) for Emergency X-Ray Section	01No's	5,00,000/-	-do-
37	Laparoscopy Equipment Set with Advanced Imaging System and Accessories	01No's	1,20,000/-	-do-
38	Biplane DSA System with Portable Vascular Ultrasound Unit	01No's	30,00,000/-	19.09.2019
39	Portable Colour Doppler Ultrasound Unit for ATC X-Ray Section (on buy back basis)	02No's	1,60,000/-	-do-
40	Accelerated Corneal Cross Linkage System with Eye	01No's	1,20,000/-	-do-
41	Ventilators	03No's	1,20,000/-	-do-
42	Digital Mobile X-Ray Units for APC X-Ray Section on buy back basis	02No's	3,60,000/-	20.09.2019
43	C-Arm Image Intensifier on Buy Back Basis (One Unit)	01No's	1,00,000/-	-do-
44	Ultra Cut Microtome for Electron Microscopy	01No's	1,60,000/-	-do-
45	High Frequency Ventilators	02No's	1,00,000/-	-do-
46	Ten Header Microscope with Camera Attachment	02No's	80,000/-	23.09.2019
47	26 Header Microscope with Camera Attachment	01No's	80,000/-	-do-
48	Operating Microscope	01No's	7,00,000/-	-do-
49	Video Endoscopy System and Gastroscope	01No's	1,80,000/-	-do-

Tender List can also be downloaded from website www.pgimer.edu.in and Item wise Tender Form with specifications can be downloaded from website **www.eprocure.gov.in**. Cost of Tender is Rs.200/- (non-refundable) which can deposited in the shape of Demand Draft in favour of Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) must be in the form of FDR /TDR valid for a period of one year from any scheduled bank in the name of the Director, PGIMER, Chandigarh. . EMD in any other form will not be accepted. Tender can be dropped in the tender box placed in the Procurement Branch (Import) manually by 2:30 PM on or before the date mentioned against respective item. The tenders shall be opened on the same date at 03:00 PM in the presence of the authorized intending tenders. Tenders not submitted on the prescribed form, not accompanied with valid Earnest Money and tender cost shall be summarily rejected straightway. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason thereof. **"PRE-BID CONFERENCE" WITH INTENDING BIDDERS FOR ITEM Sr. No. 30 to 49 shall be held on 23-08-2019 from 3:00 P.M. ONWARDS IN THE PI(EP), OFFICE, PGIMER, CHANDIGARH** For more details contact: 0172-2756469 at Procurement Branch (Import).

NOTE: If any of the tender opening dates happens to be a holiday in PGIMER, Chandigarh, then the same shall be opened on next full working day.

PROFESSOR IN-CHARGE (EP)

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि०

ऊर्जा भवन, 220 के.वी. विद्युत उपसंस्थान, बाई-पास रोड, सिकन्दरा, आगरा -282007
(CIN:U31200UP2003SGC027460)
(GSTIN No. 09AACCD0695D1ZS)

अल्प-कालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

● विशिष्टीकरण सं0 डीवीवीएनएल-एम एम/2423-2019: सामग्री:- Primary Injection Set 600/300/5A with Variac (0-250 Volt), मात्रा : 80 नग, Primary Injection Set 400/1A with Variac (0-250 Volt), मात्रा : 20 नग, निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 5,900/-, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 2,10,000/-, निविदा खुलने की दिनांक: 27.08.2019. ● विशिष्टीकरण सं0 डीवीवीएनएल-एम एम/2424-2019: सामग्री:- 40 KV Fully Automatic Cable Fault Locator Machine (Van mounted) मात्रा : 02 नग, निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 5,900/-, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 6,00,000/-, निविदा खुलने की दिनांक: 27.08.2019. ● विशिष्टीकरण सं0 डीवीवीएनएल-एमएम/2425-2019: सामग्री:- Safety Helmet with Ratchet & Induction Tester with DVVNL Logo, मात्रा: 1900 नग, Double Hook Full body harness, मात्रा: 950 नग, Electrical Hand Gloves suitable for 33 KV, मात्रा: 1900 नग, Discharge Road suitable for 33 KV, मात्रा: 950 नग, Fluorescent Jacket with DVVNL Logo, मात्रा: 1900 नग, निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 3,540/-, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 85,000/-, निविदा खुलने की दिनांक: 27.08.2019. ● विशिष्टीकरण सं0 डीवीवीएनएल-एम एम/2426-2019: सामग्री:-Tong Tester, मात्रा: 360 नग, Megger, मात्रा: 360 नग, Multimeter, मात्रा: 360 नग, Earth Tester, मात्रा: 100 नग, निविदा शुल्क: ₹ 5,900/-, धरोहर राशि: ₹ 1,50,000/-, निविदा खुलने की दिनांक: 27.08.2019. निविदा शुल्क केवल ऑनलाइन, **DVVNL, AGRA** की वेबसाइट **www.dvvnl.org** के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा। विवरण के लिए कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ लें। उपरोक्त निविदा निर्धारित दिनांक को समय 13.00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी एवं निर्धारित दिनांक को सांय 16.00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। निविदा प्रपत्र उ0प्र0 शासन के ई- प्रोक्योरमैंट पोर्टल **https://etender.up.nic.in** पर अपलोड की जायेंगी, जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। हस्ता./-अधीक्षण अभियन्ता (सा0प्र0)-I "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें" पत्रांक:11594/अधी0अभि0(सा0 प्र0)-I/आगरा/विज्ञापन/दिनांक:09.08.2019

BMS plans protest against Centre's policies on workers

VIVEK DESHPANDE
NAGPUR, AUGUST 10

RSS-affiliate Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS) is planning an agitation against various central policies concerning workers.

Speaking to the media here on Saturday, BMS all-India general secretary Virjesh Upadhyaya said, "The government is planning many changes that are not in the interest of workers and the country, like merger of banks and insurance companies, codification of labour laws, involvement of corporates in running sectors like railways and defence. We are opposed to many of these steps. We are already holding protests in individual sectors but we are planning to launch an inclusive agitation that will cover all issues in one effort."

"We will hold our national executive in New Delhi on August 16, 17 and 18, in which we will decide the course of agitation," he said.

"The government has grouped 42 different labour laws into four codes. Of them, the first code regarding the unorganised sector is good but there are many problems in the drafts of the other three codes. We have given our suggestions for amendments. We will have to see in what shape do these finally come out when the government brings them to Parliament," he added.

"Eighty-seven per cent people are employed on contract basis and have no job security. This needs to change. Why should the government employ people on contract for regular jobs? Then why can't all the benefits meant for regular jobs be applicable to the contract employees too."

Upadhyaya also criticised the move to merge banks and insurance companies. He said, "The world has seen what happens when a big bank collapses. It happened in America a few years ago. So, merging two-three banks into one is fraught with the kind of danger the world has seen from the American example."

Given triple talaq over phone, says Odisha woman

Bhubaneswar: A woman from Odisha's Kendrapara on Saturday alleged that her husband in Hyderabad gave her the triple talaq over the phone. Rubeena Bibi also alleged that her husband, Sufiya Khan, who works as a welder, has married another woman.

However, the Pattamundai police, with whom she lodged a complaint, said there is no mention of "triple talaq" in her FIR. **ENS**

epaper.indianexpress.com

TWITTERATI

@REALDONALDTRUMP, AFTER NORTH KOREA FIRED MISSILES SATURDAY

"In a letter to me sent by Kim Jong Un, he stated, very nicely, that he would like to meet and start negotiations as soon as the joint U.S./South Korea joint exercise are over. It was a long letter, much of it complaining about the ridiculous and expensive exercises..."

TOP OF THE WORLD

At the blast site. *AP*

TANZANIA

57 dead in fuel tanker blast

Morogoro: Fifty-seven people perished in Tanzania on Saturday when a fuel tanker exploded after overturning on a road west of the country's economic capital Dar es Salaam, police said. The disaster took place near the town of Morogoro, with police saying the blast may have been sparked by a cigarette as people rushed to collect leaking fuel from the stricken truck. "There was a huge blast which has so far killed at least 57 people," regional police chief Willbrod Mtafungwa said. Witnesses told AFP that they saw the charred remains of a number of motorcycle taxis and trees scorched by the power of the explosion.

RUSSIA

Five died in missile test explosion

Moscow: Russia said Saturday an explosion at an Arctic missile testing site killed five nuclear agency staff and involved radioactive isotopes after a nearby city reported a spike in radiation levels. In a statement, Russia's nuclear agency Rosatom said the accident on Thursday at a secret military facility also left three staff with burns and other injuries. The military had not previously described the accident as involving nuclear fuel and said radiation levels were normal afterwards. Officials in a nearby city reported radiation levels were raised after the accident.

NORWAY

Shooting at mosque, suspect in custody

Oslo: One person has been injured in a shooting inside a mosque in Norway, police said on Saturday, adding that one man had been apprehended. The suspected shooter at the al-Noor Islamic Centre near the country's capital was described as "a young white man" who appeared to have acted alone, the police added. The victim was a 75-year-old member of the congregation, mosque director Irfan Mushtaq told TV2. The shooter, who wore body armour and a helmet, was overpowered by members of the mosque before police arrived, Mushtaq added.

Targeted Mexicans: El Paso killer

In his manifesto, gunman said attack was response to the 'Hispanic invasion of Texas': Authorities

NICHOLAS BOGEL-BURROUGHS
AUGUST 10

THE SUSPECT in the El Paso, Texas, shooting stepped out of a vehicle with his hands up and declared "I'm the shooter" when he was arrested minutes after the massacre at a Walmart that killed 22 people, police said in an affidavit filed Friday.

The suspect, Patrick W. Crusius, 21, who is white, also divulged to police that he had targeted "Mexicans," according to the document, written by Detective Adrian Garcia of the El Paso Police Department.

While responding to reports of an active shooter Saturday morning, the document said, rangers with Texas Department of Public Safety saw a vehicle stop at an intersection near the Walmart. It said a man exited the vehicle and admitted opening fire on customers and employees in the store.

After waiving his Miranda rights, Crusius said he had used an AK-47-style rifle and brought multiple magazines with him from Allen, Texas, to carry out the killings, Garcia wrote.

At the burial of one of the victims of the mass shooting at a Walmart store in Texas. *Reuters*

Crusius' mother had called the Allen Police Department in the weeks before the shooting, asking whether her son was mature enough to handle the rifle he had recently ordered.

Authorities have said that the gunman wrote a four-page manifesto that said he was carrying out the attack in "response to the Hispanic invasion of Texas." Latinos around the United States have said they were deeply shaken by the shooting, the deadliest attack to target Latinos in modern U.S. history.

The suspect is facing a state capital murder charge and is being held without bond. The El Paso prosecutor has vowed to seek the death penalty, and federal prosecutors are considering charging the suspect under hate crime statutes, as well as firearm laws that can carry a death sentence.

In the affidavit, which was written hours after the massacre, Garcia wrote that the suspect had been taken to an interview room, where he agreed to speak with another detective about the shooting.

The El Paso police chief, Greg Allen, previously said that Crusius "basically didn't hold anything back" in interviews with investigators and had told them he drove for 10 to 11 hours from Allen to El Paso. He became lost in the border city and drove to the Walmart because he was hungry, Allen said.

The El Paso killings were one of three shootings in a week that are now being investigated by federal authorities. A gunman in Dayton, Ohio, killed his sibling and eight other people near a bar, rattling the nation less than 12 hours after the El Paso killings and drawing renewed calls for a federal ban on assault rifles.

The El Paso suspect's court-appointed lawyer, Mark Stevens, has previously declined to comment on the charges. He did not immediately respond to an email Friday about the reported confession. **NYT**

EXPLAINED E. Republicans weigh background checks

AFTER TWO recent mass shootings, President Trump has indicated a willingness to consider expanded background checks on gun purchasers, US media reported.

Trump must overcome opposition from the National Rifle Association and other such groups. However, this issue is one which Trump has frequently changed his stance on over the years. He was in favour of such a measure in 2013, against it when running for president in 2015 and back in support in 2018, after anothing mass shooting. Republican reactions to the recent killings suggest that they are, at least, feeling the pressure to take substantive action.

HELD FOR SEX TRAFFICKING

Jeffrey Epstein 'kills himself' in Manhattan jail

WILLIAM K RASHBAUM & BENJAMIN WEISER
NEW YORK, AUGUST 10

JEFFREY EPSTEIN, the financier who was long dogged by accusations of sexual abuse of girls and who was able to cultivate a stream of high-profile friends despite his lurid lifestyle, killed himself in his Manhattan jail cell, officials said on Saturday.

Epstein hanged himself, the officials said. He was found at roughly 6:30 am Saturday at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Manhattan and was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead, the federal Bureau of Prisons said in a statement.

Last month, a week after being denied bail on federal sex trafficking charges, Epstein was found unconscious in his cell at the jail with marks on his neck. Prison officials had been investigating that incident as a possible suicide attempt.

Epstein was housed in a special unit with extra security, but he was not under suicide watch, according to a prison official.

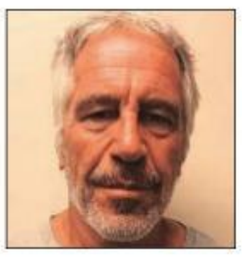
The authorities did not explain why he was not under additional safeguards, given the earlier incident. The FBI said it was investigating, and Attorney General William P. Barr said in a statement that a special inquiry would be opened into what happened.

"I was appalled to learn that Jeffrey Epstein was found dead early this morning from an apparent suicide while in federal custody," Barr said. "Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered. In addition to the FBI's investigation, I have consulted with the Inspector General who is opening an investigation into the circumstances of Epstein's death."

Manhattan federal prosecutors last month charged Epstein, 66, with sex trafficking of girls as young as 14. The indictment renewed attention toward how Epstein — who had opulent homes, a private jet and access to elite circles — had escaped severe punishment in an earlier investigation into his abuse of girls more than a decade ago in Florida.

He had avoided federal criminal charges in 2008 after prosecutors brokered a widely criticized deal that allowed him to plead guilty to state charges of solicitation of prostitution from a minor and serve 13 months in jail. Even while in custody, Epstein was allowed to leave the jail for 12 hours a day, six days a week, to work at his office in Florida.

The new federal indictment also focused scrutiny on an array of luminaries in government, politics, business, academia, science and fashion with whom Epstein had associated over the years, including Donald J. Trump, Bill Clinton, Prince Andrew of Britain and the retail billionaire Leslie Wexner. **NYT**



KEY EVENTS FROM 2019 PROCEEDINGS

July 7: Epstein arrested and taken into custody at Teterboro airport in New Jersey.

July 8: New York prosecutors alleged that from about 2002 to 2005, Epstein "sexually exploited and abused dozens of minor girls at his homes", some as young as 14-years-old.

July 18: Federal judge denied bail for Epstein

July 25: Epstein was found lying with injuries to his beck at a federal lockup in New York. He was then placed on suicide watch

Radioactive materials involved in blast: Russia

ANDREW E KRAMER
MOSCOW, AUGUST 10

A MYSTERY explosion at a Russian weapons testing range involved radioactive materials, the authorities admitted on Saturday, as the blast's admitted death toll rose and signs of a creeping radiation emergency, or at the least fear of one, grew harder to mask.

In a statement released at 1 am Saturday, Russia's nuclear energy company, Rosatom, said five employees had died, in addition to the two military personnel previously confirmed dead, as a result of a test on Thursday morning involving "isotopic sources of fuel on a liquid propulsion unit."

"A bright memory of our comrades will forever live in our hearts," the statement said.

The statement, though, shed little light on exactly what detonated on Thursday at the White Sea testing range. No use for the propulsion unit was mentioned, although President Vladimir V Putin previously boasted that Russia has developed a nuclear engine for long-range missiles. And there was no explanation why the authorities in a nearby city had reported rising radiation levels for a brief period several hours later.

While the government has provided no full explanation of what happened, Rosatom's statement suggested a mishap during a test of a new class of nuclear-engined weapons that Putin first spoke publicly about last year.

The statement offered no details on the materials used and potentially released into the environment

Reuters

TYPHOON KILLS 18 IN CHINA

- People walk in the rainstorm as typhoon Lekima hit in Shanghai, China, on Saturday.
- At least 18 were killed and 14 missing after a barrier lake burst in eastern China's Zhejiang province, official media here said.
- The storm triggered rainstorms and caused a landslide that blocked rivers, raising the water level and trapping 120 villages.
- More than one million people, including 253,000 in Shanghai, were evacuated before the storm struck, the *Xinhua* said. **PTI**

Hong Kong protesters defy Beijing warnings, as police fire tear gas

ANDREW HIGGINS, KATHERINE LI & EZRA CHEUNG
HONG KONG, AUGUST 10

DEFYING WARNINGS from China of a crackdown if they continued more than two months of protests, young demonstrators blocked a vital tunnel under Hong Kong's Victoria Harbor on Saturday, barricaded a traffic intersection and set fires outside a police station in a shopping district popular with tourists.

The Hong Kong police force said in a statement that the fires in the Tsim Sha Tsui district of the city posed "a serious threat to the safety of everyone at the scene."

Police officers fired tear gas in several locations as a day that began with a show of peaceful defiance outside the headquarters of China's military garrison descended into an evening of clashes, panic and widespread disruption.

Assailed for days by China's propaganda machine as violent thugs who must be stopped, Hong Kong's protest movement — a largely leaderless jumble of groups and causes — started the day with a display of what activists say was their peaceful intent. Several thousand people marched in an orderly procession past China's military headquarters in the former British colony. **NYT**

Road clear for Gotabaya to contest coming Sri Lankan president election

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, AUGUST 10

WITH MOST hurdles out of his way, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who was Sri Lanka's defence secretary during the successful war against the LTTE, is all set to contest the presidential elections to be held towards the end of November.

The Sunday Express has learnt that a consensus has been reached in the family and former president Mahinda Rajapaksa will announce the name of brother Gotabaya as the candidate of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) on August 11, at the party's national convention being held in Colombo.

Sources said Gotabaya will roll out his campaign the same day, and tour the country till August 18, meeting leaders and clergy of the Buddhist, Christian, Muslim and Hindu communities.

Gotabaya Rajapaksa

The Sri Lankan election commission had recently announced that the presidential polls would be held between November 15 and December 7.

While Mahinda cannot contest again because of the two-term limit for president in Sri Lanka, Gotabaya's candidature too had faced several uncertainties. One of the major problems was his dual citizenship, and in May, he resolved this by renouncing his US citizenship.

This also insulated Gotabaya from the threat of a civil lawsuit in US seeking damages from him for allegedly instigating and authorising torture and murder of Sri Lankan journalist Lasantha Wickrematunge.

Gotabaya also faced a corruption case in the high court. But, two weeks ago, the Supreme Court ordered that proceedings be suspended until a batch of petitions pending before it were heard and decided.

Credited by Sri Lanka's majority Buddhist Sinhalese with vanquishing the LTTE as the defence secretary, Gotabaya has long faced accusations of war crimes from the Tamil community and human rights groups internationally, but none has stuck.

Asked about his role in the killings during the war, Gotabaya had told *The Indian Express* in March 2018, "I know I haven't done anything wrong... When you ask about civilian killings, you must understand that war is not a rosy thing, whether it is in Sri Lanka or Afghanistan or India or Pakistan or Iraq. War is not a good thing, it is not a nice thing. But in Sri Lanka, I didn't create the war, I ended the war... Our country is a better place without the LTTE."

READ FULL STORY ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

BY THE EARLY 1980S, THE PENGUIN COLONY HAD BEEN FACING TOTAL EXTINCTION

To save tiny penguins, an Australian suburb was wiped off the map

BESHA RODELL
PHILLIP ISLAND, AUGUST 10

IT'S A magical sight: Just as the light begins to vanish, thousands of tiny penguins waddle out of the surf on an island in southeastern Australia, then head up the beach and along well-worn paths toward their burrows.

The "penguin parade" has been a major attraction since the 1920s, when tourists were led by torchlight to view the nightly arrival of birds — the world's smallest penguin breed, with adults averaging 13 inches tall — from a day of fishing and swimming.

For much of that time, the penguins lived among the residents of a housing development, mostly modest vacation homes, in tight proximity to cars and pets, as well as ravenous foxes. The penguins' numbers fell precipitously. But in 1985, the state government took an extraordinary step: It decided to buy every piece of property on the Summerland Peninsula and return the land to the penguins. The process was completed in 2010.

The birds are now thriving. There are about 31,000 breeding penguins on the peninsula, up from 12,000 in the 1980s. Phillip Island Nature Parks is the most popular wildlife tourist destination in the state of Victoria, drawing 740,000 visitors in 2018. And late last month, a gleaming symbol of that success opened to the public: a $58 million visitor center, a striking star-shaped building with glass walls that look onto penguin burrows.

"The case study at Phillip Island is proof that difficult short-term decisions can yield great long-term results," said Rachel Lowry, chief conservation officer of the World Wildlife Fund for Nature-Australia. "It is an incredible example of allowing scientific modeling to motivate and inform a decision that has gone on to benefit both people and nature in the long term."

Penguins on Phillip Island, Australia in July 2019. *NYT*

For many residents of Victoria, a visit to the penguin parade was — and still is — a childhood rite of passage, the destination for school trips and family outings.

But the peninsula has also been an attractive location for developers. On the penguins' breeding ground, 190 structures — mainly homes — were built as part of Summerland Estate, with plans for hundreds more. That, along with the predatory behavior of foxes (now eradicated) introduced by European settlers, led to a sharp decrease in the island's population of little penguins. At one time there were 10 colonies on Phillip Island; today there is only one.

By the early 1980s, scientists studying the colony were worried about the prospect of total local extinction. "The colony was being eroded at an alarmingly rapid rate," said Peter Dann, research manager at Phillip Island Nature Park. In the years leading up to 1985, measures had been taken by the government to halt development and buy undeveloped land on the peninsula. But the idea of eradicating Summerland Estate was a bombshell for residents.

Dann, who himself was a onetime renter on the peninsula, said he understood the anguish. But his main concern and loyalty lay with the penguins, he said.

This week, nine years after the last Summerland Estate home was purchased and removed by the state, a final demolition will begin: The old center and its surrounding facilities will be cleared, freeing up almost 15 acres of prime habitat — enough for around 1,400 tiny penguins. **NYT**

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Shrishti Yadav,D/O-Late Shri Anil Kumar Yadav, R/O H.NO-2917, Gali no-7, Libas Pur, Delhi-110042, inform that Khushboo and Shrishti Yadav both are name of one & the same person She will be known as Shrishti Yadav in future. Her Date Of Birth is 21.01.1998. 0040507333-9

We Natasha Narang,W/O Ravneet Bhola,S/O-Mahender Bhola, R/o-B-4/49, Ashok vihar,Phase-2, Delhi-110052,have changed name of our minor son Devansh to Devansh Bhola for future. 0040507435-4

I,No.5849172P Hav Bal Krishan Singh of-1/9,Gorkha Rifles R/o.Village-Khadka,Post-Tharpu,Tehsil-Gandaki, District-Tanahu (Nepal), have changed my Son name from Aldrin Singh to Aldrin Singh Thakuri due to Erroneously Entered in my Service Document.In future will be known as Aldrin Singh Thakuri for all purposes. 0040507333-1

I,JC-630205F SUB Nirmal Kumar Khadka of-1/9,Gorkha Rifles R/o.Village-Bhorle,Post-Pokhara,Tehsil-Gandaki, District-Kaski(Nepal), have changed my Son name from Nishchal Khadka to Nischal Khadka due to Erroneously Entered in my Service Document.In future will be known as Nischal Khadka for all purposes. 0040507333-2

I, Zakirhusain Shaikh S/o Abdulsattar Sulaiman Shaikh R/o D-401, Third floor, Block-D, Jamia Hamdard University Campus, Hamdard Nagar, Pushpa Bhawan, Delhi- 110062, hereby undertake that I, Zakirhusain Shaikh want to change my name to Aqsa Shaikh and gender as female. 0070669544-1

I, Yogesh S/o Ram Dhari R/o H.No.36 Old Anaj Mandi Sampla (36) Rohtak Haryana-124501 changed my name to Yogesh Singhal. 0040507376-1

I, Vineeta W/o Naveen Manocha R/o-2/11, GF, Judge-Colony, Sector-9, Vaishali, Ghaziabad-(U.P).,have changed my name Vineeta to Vinita Manocha.,for all future purposes. 0040507334-8

I, Vikas S/o Sh. Jagdamba Prasad Shukla R/o House no.-265/31B, Gali no.-11, West Rajiv Nagar, Gurugram (HR) have changed my name from Vikas to Vikas Shukla for all future purposes. 0040507330-1

I,Kumari Babita W/o Avdhesh Kumar Upadhyay R/o Village & PO-Chausa, District-Buxar(Bihar),have changed my name to Babita for all future purposes. 0040507333-8

I, Vandna Ahluwalia W/O Hemant Ahluwalia R/O-140, Defence Estate Phase-1, Gwalior Road, Agra, U.P.282001, Changed My Name To Vandana Ahluwalia. 0040507435-9

I, Tanya Jha D/O Shri. Ashutosh Mishra R/O-B-3/44, Third Floor, Sector-16, Rohini Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Tanya Kashyap. 0040507435-10

I, Swatantra Kumar R/o 378-379, 1st Floor, Daryaganj, Delhi Gate- 110002 Have Changed My Name To Sameer Ibrahim. 0070669553-1

I, Sumit Kumar S/o Dharmanand Kukreti R/o M-11 16, 2nd-Floor, BPTP-Park Elite-Floors, Sector-83, Faridabad have changed my name to Sumit Kukreti. 0040507334-4

I, Sisir Gupta S/O Late R.P.Gupta R/o A2/106 3rd Floor, Sector-16, Rohini Delhi-85, Changed my name to Shishir Gupta. 0040507376-2

I, Seema Motwani W/O Mukesh Kumar, R/O-39 M.M.I.G, Ekta-Park, Shaheed-Nagar, Agra, U.P. 282001, Changed My Name To Seema Khanchandani. 0040507435-8

I, Satya Pal S/O Baboo Ram R/O-Rz-10, Gali No-9, Madanpuri, West-Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046., Changed My Name To Satya Pal Sharma. 0040507435-3

I, Sanju Saroha D/o Naresh Kumar R/o House-45 Village Baiyanpur Sonipat Haryana have changed my name to Sanju permanently. 0040507310-1

I, Raj Kumar Arora S/o Late.Pratap Singh R/o-2292, 2nd-Floor, Raja-Park, RaniBagh, Shakur-Basti, Delhi-110034.inform that Raj Kumar and Raj Kumar Arora both are same and one person and in future I will be known as Raj Kumar Arora. 0040507376-4

I, Raj Kumar S/O Om Prakash Sharma. R/O-A-243, 3rd (TOP) FLOOR, Vikaspuri, New Delhi-110018.Changed My Name To Raj Kumar Sharma. 0040507376-9

I, Quveras Raza S/o S.A.Jawad R/o-D-52A, Sector-20,Noida U.P.,have Changed My Name Syed Qaiser Reza for all Purposes. 0040507333-4

I, Anuradha Bhatnagar D/o Vijay Kumar Bhatnagar R/o 803, Tower-3,Panchsheel Wellington, Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad, UP-201016 have changed myminor daughter's name from Tanya Gupta to Tanya Bhatnagar. 0040507351-2

I, Priyanka D/o Dinesh Saluja R/o B-9/437-438, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Priyanka Saluja. 0040507334-2

I, Pradeep Mahajan S/O Sushil Kumar Mahajan. R/O-B-1, Dayanagar, Shaheed-Nagar, Agra, U.P.282001, Changed My Name To Pradeep Kumar Mahajan. 0040507435-7

I, Pradeep Kumar Singh S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar R/o .Plot No.141, Kh. No.872, Village Tilla Shahabaj Pur, Ghaziabad, UP-201003, have changed my name from Pradeep Kumar to Pradeep Kumar Singh is for all official purposes. 0040507358-1

I, Parvez S/o Asgar Ali R/o-B-787 Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110062,have changed my name from Parvez to Parvez Ali for all future purposes 0040507311-1

I, Neetu Rani Sharma, W/O Chhatrapal Sharma R/O-A-72, 3rd-Floor, Dena-Apartment, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085,have changed my name to Nitu Rani Sharma. 0040507376-10

I, Mukesh Kumar S/O Late. Nihal Chand R/O-39, M.M.I.G, Ekta-Park, Shaheed-Nagar, Agra, U.P.282001, Changed My Name To Mukesh Kumar Khanchandani. 0040507435-6

I, Mohd Faizan S/o Saleem Ahmed R/o-M-66 (4th-Floor) Gali No-13/2 Brahampuri Shastri-Park Delhi-110053. Have Changed My Name To Faizan Ahmed. 0040507334-3

I, Mala Chetwani D/o Suresh Chetwani, R/o A-805, RG Residency, Sector- 120, Noida, Have Changed My Name To Riya Santani. 0070669557-1

I, Mahboob Ali S/O Maqbool Husain R/O-E-176, Om-Vihar Phase-5, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059., Changed My Name To Mehboob Ali. 0040507435-2

I, Jitender Kumar S/o Shri Bal Mukand Verma R/o D-54-B, First Floor Mansarover Garden Near Indian Overseas Bank, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Jitender Verma. 0040507307-1

I, Jasmit Singh S/o Surinder Singh residing 9/9, Ground Floor, Ashok Nagar, Tilak Nagar Delhi 110018 have changed my name to Jasmeet Singh Sahni for all purposes. 0040507315-1

I, Jagdish Ahuja S/o Dayal Chand R/o H. No. 2F/20, NIT, Faridabad HR declare that Jagdish Ahuja & Jagdish both are same person & my correct name is Jagdish Ahuja for all future purposes. 0040507406-1

I, Israt Raza W/o Syed Qaiser Reza R/o-D-52A, Sector-20,Noida U.P.,have Changed My Name Ishrat Raza for all Purposes. 0040507333-5

I, Harish Kumar Neem S/o Deep Chand R/o-56, Bharat-Nagar, New-Friends Colony, New Delhi have changed my name to Harish Kumar. 0040507334-5

I, Gurpreet Singh S/o Ishwar Singh Gulati R/o D-13A/30, D-13 Block, Model Town-2, Delhi-110009, have changed my minor daughter's name from Jassveen Kaur aged 1 years to Jazween Kaur forever. 0070669567-1

I, Dhruvlataben Kiranbhai Patel,W/o-Piyush Patel R/o-1103, Gali Samosan, Farash-Khana, New Delhi-110006,have changed my name from Dhruvlataben Kiranbhai Patel to Dhruvlata Patel. 0040507435-5

I, Bimla Devi W/O Bal Kishan Sharma, R/O-D2/186, Jeewan-Park, Uttam Nagar, Pankha-Road, New Delhi-110059. Changed My Name To Urmila Sharma. 0040507376-5

I, Bal Kishan S/O Duli Chand R/O D2/186, Jeewan-Park, Uttam Nagar, Pankha-Road, N.Delhi-110059, Changed My Name To Bal Kishan Sharma. 0040507376-6

I, Archana W/O Raj Kumar Sharma R/O A-243, 3rd (TOP) FLOOR, Vikaspuri, New Delhi-110018. Changed My Name To Archana Sharma. 0040507376-7

I, Anuradha Gupta D/o Vijay Kumar Bhatnagar R/o 803, Tower-3,Panchsheel Wellington, Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad, UP-201016 have changed my name to Anuradha Bhatnagar. 0040507351-1

I, Amit S/o Trilok Singh R/o E-95B,Kanchanjungha Apartments, Sector-53, Noida,Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301,have changed my name to AMIT RAWAT permanently. 0040507333-3

I, Ajay Kumar S/o Prakash Virmani, R/o B-419, Janta Flats, Avantika, Sector-1, Rohini, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Ajay Virmani 0040507343-1

I Suggi Devi W/o Daya Ram R/o-W-83/90 Garib Basti Rama Road, Zakhira, Delhi, have changed my name to Savitri Devi. 0040507334-1

I Sudesh D/o Sheeshpal R/o House No.-277, Main road, Mandawali, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092, have finally changed my name to Sapna for all purpose. 0070669549-1

I, Jasvinder Singh S/O Gurmukh Singh R/O 44-B, Navyug-Block, Vishnu Garden, New Delhi-110018. Changed My Name To Rajveer Singh. 0040507376-8

I Savita Agrawal DOB 17/03/1978 D/o Vishan Das Nagwani W/o Mohit Agrawal R/o Flat no.1605, Tower-18, Lotus Boulevard, Sector-100, Noida-201301, G.B. Nagar, UP, India. Certified that after my marriage dated 06/06/2001, I have changed my name from Savita Nagwani to Savita Agrawal for all future purposes. Savita Agrawal alias Savita Agarwal alias Savita Aggarwal and Savita Nagwani are the one and same person only. 0040507314-1

I Rajni Kant Bindra S/o Krishan Lal Bindra R/o flat no. 26, top floor, Shivjot Enclave, Extension Gate No.-02, Kharar, SAS Nagar, Mohali, Punjab-140301, have finally changed my name to Verdaan Bindra for all purpose. 0070669541-1

I Rais Imran S/o Wasiuddin R/o H.No.T-413, Chamelian Road, Ahata Kidara, Sadar Bazar, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohd. Raisuddin for all purposes. 0040507308-1

I Rahul Sharma S/o Sh.Devendra Sharma R/o 1/2869, Gali No.13, Ram Nagar, Loni Road, Shahdara, Delhi-110032 have changed the name of my minor daughter from Nishtha Sharma to Trisha Sharma for all purposes. 0040507308-2

I Poonam Kumari D/O Vishwanath Verma R/O-280 Prahal Adgarhi Vasundhra Ghaziabad-201012 Up Have Changed My Name From Pramila To Poonam Kumari For All Purposes. 0040507435-1

I Pankaj Sharma/Pankaj Kumar Sharma S/O Nawal Kishore Sharma R/O-RZ-18B, GaliNo-9, Madanpuri, West-Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046, Have Changed my Name to Pankaj Gautam. 0040507334-10

I Manisha W/O, Dharmender Mohan Dogra R/o Flat Number-73, Jdm Apartments, Sector-5, Plot No-11, Dwarka, ND-75 have changed my name to Manisha Dogra for all purposes. 0040507335-1

I Manisha Kapoor W/O Himanshu Hira R/O WZ-7/1, Near-Do Mindir Krishna-Park Extn. Tilak-Nagar Delhi-110018. changed my Name to Manisha Hira. 0040507376-3

I Arti Devi W/O, Govind Rahi R/o W-120, Gf, W Block, uppal Southend, Sector 49, Gurgaon-haryana have changed my name to Arti Rahi for all purposes. 0040507316-1

I Anil Kumar Yadav R/O H.No-731/5, Civil-Lines, Unnao, (U.P.)-209801.,Have Changed my Minor Child Name Sahitya yadad to Sahitya Yadav & Date-of-Birth-17/09/2005. 0040507334-7

I Anchal Yadav D/O Anil Kumar Yadav R/O H.No-731/5, Civil Lines, Unnao, (U.P.)-209801 Have Changed my Name to Aanchal Yadav & Date-of-Birth-12/09/2000. 0040507334-6

I Ajay Kumar S/O Lakhmi Chand Gupta R/O-Plot No-1C-81,82,83 And-80, Dalip-Vihar, Nilothi-Extn.,Nilothi, Delhi-110041. Have Chanegd my Name to Ajay Gupta. 0040507334-9

LOST & FOUND

Lost Property ownership papers-Agreement to Sell,GPA,SPA,etc.for Property.No.CC-2,Community Centre Lawrence-Road,New/Delhi-35.Use-of these for,any purpose by any person,shall be illegal and entail-consequences.If-found-contact.SANDEEP THUKRAL.9971265222 0040507333-6

Lost Property ownership papers-Agreement,to Sell,GPA,SPA,etc.for Property.No.Plot.No.2,Ahata Kedara,SFS-Scheme Use-of these for,any purpose by,any person shall,be illegal and entail consequences.If-found.Contact.SANDEEP THUKRAL.9971265222 0040507333-7

I, Mr.Sunil Kumar Gupta Director of SGA FINANCIAL RESOURCES PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY,Have missing original site possession letter and DDA NOC dated-11.10.2010 issued by DDA in favour of Smt.AMRIT VARSHA DATTA,have lost my above property bearing Flat No-45,Second Floor pocket-C Sector-19, Rohini Delhi-110085. Phone No-9811151787 0040507312-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform general public and all connected with my client Shri Santosh Kumar S/o Shri Lokman , R/o H.No.390, NDPL Colony, Shalimar Bagh, North West , New Delhi-110088., that due to misbehavior , ill-treatment and disrespect of his two sons , Mr. Karan Bhardwaj and Mr.Kapil Bhardwaj , my client has disowned and disinherited both his sons , from all his moveable and immoveable properties . My client shall not be liable to any person for any act done by his sons and any person dealing with them shall do it at his/her own responsibility . Delhi

IQBAL SINGH ADVOCATE
Resi. Off : I-161 Ashok Vihar, Phase I, Delhi-110052.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the general information of all concerned that our client Sh. Lella Dhar S/o Late Than Singh & his wife Smt. Kela Devi both R/o L-1st, 2650/141, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110062 have disown their son namely Yogender from movable & immovable property & also severed all relations with him, due to his anti-family activities. Our client Sh. Lella Dhar & his wife Smt. Kela Devi shall not be liable for any act, deed or thing done by their son namely Yogender, anybody dealing with him shall be doing so at his / her own risk & responsibility.

Anil Tomar (Advocate)
Ch. No. 536, Saket Court, New Delh-17

MATRIMONIAL

GENERAL

SM for 60+ healthy punjabi widow. From healthy, responsible person living with family. contact number-9925022814 0050152531-1

SINDHI

Sindhi 96 Born beautiful MBA wellsettled family girl seeks Sindhi educated decent wellsettled family businessman Phone 9822253653. 0090260691-1

Sindhi 89 Born wellqualified 5'4" wellemployed in USA seeks Sindhi professionally qualified wellsettled businessman Phone 7720929499. 0090260691-2

SITUATION VACANT

WALK IN INTERVIEW

Walk-in-interview for the Multi Tasking Staff (MTS) purely on temporary / contract basis on consolidated remuneration for a period of 89 days further renewable on the basis of requirement is scheduled on 17.08.2019 (Saturday) at 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM at Delhi Co-operative Housing Finance Corporation Ltd., 3/6, Siri Fort Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi – 110049. The person appointed will not have any right for permanent employment. No TA / DA will be paid. Candidates appearing for walk-in-interview should bring along with (a) Bio-Data (b) Original mark-sheets, pass certificates (c) a set of self attested photocopies of original mark-sheets, pass certificates (d) 2 recent passport size photographs.

(Vinay Mohan Pande)
Senior Manager
011-26491111
Email : support@dchfcdelhi.nic.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

To Be know to all that I Sumitra tyagi D/O Late Shri Bhagwan Dass, W/O Late Shri Khubchand tyagi R/O B-2/18, Ashok Vihar Phase-II,Delhi-110052, has applied for conversion of the aforesaid House from lease hold to free hold vide application in DDA. All Original documents issued by DDA ,of the above House (Lease Deed ,allotment letter,possession letter,site possession letter NOC of electricity and water connection etc.) including approved Drawings and NOC etc from MCD has been lost. File no.F11(2)67/LAB(Resdl)DDA An F.I.R–to this effect has been lodged in the Police station on Dated 8/8/2019,Any Person(s) claiming my rights, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above name person at above address with in 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right interest, objection with respect to this property can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (LAB) Housing or Director (Housing) I, D Block 3rd floor, INA, New Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Gianendra Sharma** S/o Raghunandan Lal and Smt. **Shakuntala Sharma** r/o Flat No. 5, Block No. 7, Pocket-B, Ashok Vihar - Ph. 3, Delhi-110052 has disinherited his son Gyandeep Sharma & his wife Shivani Sharma and their son Atharv Sharma aged approx. 1.5yr. & all their future children from inheritance of all his moveable & immoveable properties and has servered all relations with her henceforth. Whosoever deals with there shall be at their own risks and consequences thereof.

-Rajesh Aggarwal
Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Sanjeeta W/o Sh. Vijay Kumar Maheshwari residing at A-66, Third Floor, Behind DESU Colony, Sahipur, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Sanjeeta Maheshwari in my minor daughter Vrinda Maheshwari aged 17years School Records. The actual name of mine is Sanjeeta, which may be amended accordingly.

It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirement in this connection.

PUBLIC NOTICE

On behalf of my client Mr. Avnish Shukla Advocate, Ch. No. E-419, Karkardooma court, Shahdara, Delhi-110032, I hereby inform the General Public at large that the original sale deed dated 26/02/2019 registered with Sub-Registrar -IV, Ghaziabad, U.P. as Document no. 1415, Vol. No. 7543, on pages 121 to 266 in Book no.-1 pertaining to property bearing no. G-FI-018, area 125.81 Sq. Meters, Ansal Avantika Extension-II colony, Sector-G, Village-Harsaavn, Paragana Dasna, Tehsil & District-Ghaziabad, U.P. executed by Mr. Shiva Goyal and Mr. Saurav Goyal in the name of Mr. Himanshu and Mr. Dinesh Kumar has been lost/misappropriated/siphoned off by one of employee of my abovenamed client namely Sumit Kumar Rawat S/o Mr. Shiv Pyare Lal. In this regard an F.I.R. No. 0234/2019 under section 408 of I.P.C. has been duly registered at P.S. Farsh Bazar, (District-Shahdara) Delhi.

Notice is hereby given that the aforementioned property is mortgaged with Dewan Housing Finance Ltd. (DHFL), and no Person/or group of Persons /Entities/ HUF/Bank/ Company/NBFC,/Firms or Institution is authorized to do any acts, deeds, matter or things on the basis of the said original sale deed in favour of Mr. Himanshu & Mr. Dinesh Kumar.

Further, no person should deal with or enter into any agreement or transaction of whatsoever nature in respect of the aforementioned property and in case any person enter into any agreement, understanding or transaction in respect of subject property, the same shall not be binding upon my client, owners of the property or DHFL and would be entirely on his own risks, costs and consequences.

If any person found the aforementioned original Sale Deed he is requested to return the same either to my client or at the address given herein under.

Tapan Raghav (Advocate)
Ch. No. G-220, Karkardooma Court, Shahdara, Delhi 110032
Mob. 8800096522, 9871603366.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

मेरे मुवक्किलो राकेश शर्मा पुत्र स्वर्गीय लछमीनरायन व श्रीमती सुदेश शर्मा पत्नी राकेश शर्मा निवासी **RZ-54** संगम विहार धर्मपुरा एक्सटेंशन नजफगढ नई दिल्ली–43 ने अपने पुत्र मनीष शर्मा व पुत्रवधू दिव्या शर्मा को जो उनके कहने से बाहर हैं दोनो को अपनी समस्त चल–अचल सम्पति तथा सामाजिक रूप से काई बेदखल कर दिया है । जो कोई इन दोनो से लेन–देन तथा व्यावहार करेगा वह स्वयं जिम्मेदार होगा मेरे मुवक्किलो की कोई जिम्मेदारी नही होगी

ह० पुष्पेन्दर सिंह दहिया (एडवोकेट)
चेम्बर नं०–31, सुप्रीम कोर्ट, नई दिल्ली - 01
Enrl. No. D/480/13

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that, **SMT. KRISHNA WANTI W/O LATE SH RAGHUBIR SINGH, MS MONICA, MS MEHAK, MS NEELAM, MS USHA KIRAN, SH VINOD PASHRICHA, ARE THE JOINT OWNERS OF R/O AG-1/116-A, Vikas Puri, New Delhi.**

The the case of PARTATION OF PROPERTY AG-116, VIKAS PURI NEW DELHI is also pending TITLED AS KRISHNA WANTI & OTHERS V/S AMIT GANDHI is pending in the court of Sh BALWANT RAI BANSAL ADDITIONAL DISTRICT JUDGE, VIDE SUIT NO CSDJ ADJ/130/2019, if any one deal with Mr AMIT GANDHI, regarding the said property i.e. AG-1/116-A, VIKAS PURI NEW DELHI, shall deal with his/her own risk & consequence with him, and the abovesaid persons shall not be responsible for any type of deal with Mr Amit Gandhi, as Mr Amit Gandhi has fabricated a Will of the said property, i.e, AG-1/116-A, Vikas Puri, New Delhi New Delhi.

Sd/-
H. KAMAL BEDI (Advocate)
M-14, Divan House Complex, Ajay Enclave, New Delhi-18

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S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

e-Tendering Notice against open tender is invited by the DRM(Engg), S.E. Railway, Chakradharpur acting for and on behalf of the President of India. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **Sl. No., Tender Notice No. & Name of works are as follows: (1) CKP-SOUTH-19-20-22;** Repairs to door, window with provision of mosquito net of staff quarters at DPS railway colony under ADEN/DPS. **(2) CKP-SOUTH-19-20-24;** Guniting concrete over cracked arch bridge in intrados, piers, abutments, sealing of cracks and provision of weep holes inspection steps, bridge tablets and other miscellaneous repairing work in bridges in between section RKSN-PDPH under ADEN/CBSA (3rd call). **Tender Value:** Rs.1,28,42,278.19 (for Sl. No. 1) & Rs.1,25,40,489.59 (for Sl. No. 2). **EMD:** Rs.2,14,200/- (for Sl. No. 1) & Rs.2,12,700/- (for Sl. No. 2). **Cost of Tender form:** Rs. 5,000/-(for Sl.No.1 & 2). **Date of opening:** 02.09.2019 (for Sl. No. 1 & 2). The tender can be viewed at website: **http://www.ireps.gov.in** . The tenderer/ bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/bidder can participate on e-tendering. **(PR-606)**

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. CWM-BR-19-2019

Chief Workshop Manager (Bridge)/N.E. Railway/Gorakhpur acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the following works:– **CWM-BR-19-2019, Description of work:** Repairing/Painting & improvement of all Sheds and Yard in Bridge Workshop Gorakhpur Cantt. North Eastern Railway, **Approx. Tender value:** ₹ 26,66,506.21, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 53,300/-, **Cost of tender document:** ₹ 3,000/-, **Completion period from the date of issue of acceptance letter:** 06 (six) months. **1.** Date of E-Tender opening **11.00 Hrs.** on **30.08.2019**. **2.** Receipt of E-Tender upto **10.59 Hrs.** on **30.08.2019**. **3.** Detailed E-tender notice, Eligibility criteria, terms & conditions are available at website **www.ireps.gov.in**. **CWM (Bridge) CPRO/W-173 N.E.R., Gorakhpur**

About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 09794845955

"DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

कार्यालय नगर विकास प्रन्यास, उदयपुर (राज.)

No.:F-2(01)Acct/Contract/2019/150-152 **Date: 07-08-2019**

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या: 27/2019-20

न्यास, उदयपुर द्वारा निम्न कार्यों मय डिफेक्ट लाईबिलिटी अवधि जो कि निविदा प्रपत्र में अंकित है के लिये उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदको से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in से दिनांक: 10-08-2019 को प्रातः10.00 बजे से 29-08-2019 को सांयः 6.30 बजे तक Download /Upload कर सकते है। निर्धारित EMD, Tender Fee & Processing Fee दिनांक: 10-08-2019 को प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक: 29-08-2019 को सांयः 6.30 बजे न्यास वेब साईट urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitudaipur पर Online ही जमा करा सकेगें। प्राप्त ऑनलाईन निविदाएँ दिनांक: 30-08-2019 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे (तकनिकी बिड्) खोली जावेगी।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	लागत (लाखों में)	खण्ड
1.	Construction of Paver Road (200 Feet Wide Road) from RHB Junction to Govt. Polytechnic College, South Extension Scheme.	208.32	I

विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट urban.rajasthan.gov.in/uitudaipur, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in व www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

UBN : ITU1920WSOB00176

(संजीव शर्मा)
अधिक्षण अभियन्ता, नगर विकास प्रन्यास, उदयपुर

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CHHATTISGARH STATE MARKETING CORPORATION LIMITED

AABKARI BHAVAN, 4TH FLOOR CHHOKRANALA, LABHANDI RAIPUR, CHHATTISGARH, 492001

TENDER NOTICE

Date: 07.08.2019

Tenders have been issued for following works :

S.N	Tender No.	Description	Date of issue	Last date of submission
1	T.No.: CSMC/ Tender/20 19-20 /05	Tender for empanelment of Manpower Agency for supply of Security Guards to Chhattisgarh State Marketing Corporation	07.08.2019	28.08.2019 Time – 03:00 PM

2. Tender document can be downloaded from **www.excise.cg.nic.in/csmcl/tender**

sd/-
Managing Director
CSMCL

22247

Change in Terminal of Train No. 20505 / 20506 Dibrugarh Town - New Delhi - Dibrugarh Town Rajdhani Express

It is notified for the information of all concerned that the terminal of 20505/20506 Dibrugarh Town-New Delhi-Dibrugarh Town Rajdhani will be changed from 16.12.2019. This Rajdhani service will terminate at Dibrugarh Station instead of Dibrugarh Town. Consequently timings of 20505/20506 from and to the New Terminal i.e. Dibrugarh Station will be as under:-

Timings of Train No. 20505/20506 Dibrugarh - New Delhi - Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express (Bi-weekly) from and to the new terminal (Dibrugarh)

Train No. 020505		STATIONS	Train No. 20506	
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.
---	19:25	Dibrugarh	06:10	---
13:55	---	New Delhi	---	09:25

Always Buy Train Tickets from Railway Counters/ Authorised Railway Travel Agents only

Note:- For any kind of information passengers are requested to contact Railway Enquiry No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website www.enquiry.indianrail.gov.in

Security Helpline No. 182 and Passengers Complaint Helpline No. 138

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E-AUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

E-auction of Residential property on 13.09.2019 on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" & "WHATEVER THERE IS" on the platform https://allahabadbank.auctiontiger.net

E-auction sale notice for sale of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Allahabad Bank Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "whatever there is" basis as on **13.09.2019**. The details of bank's dues, Borrower & Guarantors, Reserve Price, Earnest money & Description of immovable properties is given below:

Sl. No. & Branch	Name of the Account	Details of Immovable Properties	Name of the Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Amount of Secured Debt	Reserve Price (in Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit
1. RPS Branch Patna	**M/s Tara Communications (Prop.: Mohd. Ekram)** Registered Office-Ashok Raj Path, Mahendru, Near Bharat Mata Mandir, Patna-800006	All that part and parcel of the land along with present and future construction thereon; in the name of Mohd. Aslam S/o Late Biku Miyan, Area measuring 4-Dhur, 11½ Dhurki, Sale Deed No.1680 dated 06.05.2004, bearing Book No.1, Volume No.63, Page No.275-292, Sheet No.116, M.Plot No.78, Thana No.11, Ward No.36, Holding No.191/144, Circle No.48, Situated at-Sahganj Lane, Mauza-Sandalpur, PO-Mahendru, PS-Sultanganj, District-Patna, Bihar, Pin-800006, bounded as under (as per deed): North-Deep Narayan Mahto, South-Md. Kadir Qurashi, East-Md. Nehal, West-Sahjhan Khatun & 3ft. Lane.	**Mortgagor/Guarantor** 1. Mohd. Ekram (Pro-Tara Communications), Ward No.14, Mahendru, Shivpur, Kamla Devi Asthan, Sultanganj, Patna 800006 2. Mohd. Aslam S/o Late Biku Miyan, Ward No.14, Mahendru, Shivpur, Kamla Devi Asthan, Sultanganj, Patna 800006	**₹23,94,569/-** (Rupees Twenty three lakhs ninety four thousand five hundred sixty nine only) + Interest, costs and charges w.e.f 22.10.2018 and interest, cost & charges thereon till date of realization.	**₹1497000/-** (Rupees Fourteen lakhs ninety seven thousand only)	**₹149700/-** (Rupees One lakh forty nine thousand seven hundred only)
2. RPS Branch Patna	**Smt. Janki Devi & Mr. Sanjeev Kumar,** Manoharpur, Kachhuara, Sampatchak, Ram Krishna Nagar, District- Patna, Bihar-800020 Also at- Village+ Post-Sonchari, P.S-Parwalpur, Dist-Nalanda, Bihar-803114

QUARTERLY RESULT

NIIT Q1 NET AT ₹1,090.4 CRORE

New Delhi: Skills and talent development company NIIT Ltd on Saturday posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 1,090.4 crore for the June quarter, and said its board has approved a buyback programme of up to Rs 335 crore. **PTI**

UNSOLICITED COMMERCIAL COMMUNICATIONS ON THE RISE OVER LAST 3 YRS

Telcos, Trai yet to rein in telemarketers; more complaints in 2018 than in 2016

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

NOTWITHSTANDING A slew of measures taken by the telecom regulator to deal with the menace of unsolicited commercial communications (UCC), or pesky calls and messages, the number of complaints received by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has been on a rise over the last three years.

In 2018, a total of 369 complaints were received – more than double of 161 in 2016. According to data provided by the Ministry of Communications in the Lok Sabha, during 2019, 155 complaints have been received till July 10.

"For addressing the menace of UCC effectively, Trai had reviewed the framework for controlling UCC and laid down a revised framework controlling UCC on July 19, 2018 through the Telecom Commercial Communication Customer Preference Regulation, 2018. These regulations are under implementation and have paved the way for effective control of UCC," Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Communications, said in a written reply in the Lok Sabha last month.

On August 6, the regulator asked telecom firms to submit status report over complaints regarding pesky calls on monthly basis starting September, setting in motion a monitoring system for the new framework that aims to check unwarranted telemarketing calls and messages.

"… the Authority … hereby directs all access service providers to submit ... compliance reports, with effect from month ending September 2019, on monthly basis, and within ten days from the end of each calendar month," the telecom regulator said in its latest directive.

In addition to the revised framework for controlling pesky communications, Trai had also launched a 'do not disturb' app for users to lodge complaints regarding such calls and messages that would be forwarded to the concerned telecom operator by the regulator.

"As per the regulations, a customer, who has registered his telephone number for not receiving UCC, may make a complaint about receipt of UCC to his service provider. The service provider from whose network the UCC had originated has to take action on the complaint as per the regulations.

"However, some of the consumers have also made complaints to Trai. Since as per the regulations the service providers have to take action on complaints, the same are forwarded to the service providers for necessary action," Prasad noted in his Lok Sabha response.

"Since September 2011, based on consumer complaints, the service providers have so far disconnected telecom resources of 18,19,470 Unregistered Telemarketers and blacklisted 5,89,589 such unregistered telemarketers. Also a penalty of Rs 4,16,45,000/- was deducted from the security deposit of registered telemarketers and deposited with Trai. Further, 16 registered telemarketers were blacklisted," he added.

As per the regulations, if UCCs originate from unregistered telemarketers, on first violation, a warning is issued and a temporary usage cap is imposed during investigation.

On the second instance of violation, the usage cap is imposed for a period of six months.

On third and subsequent instances of violations, all telecommunication resources of the sender are to be disconnected for a period up to two years and the originating access provider puts the sender under blacklist category, during which period no telecom resource is provided to the telemarketer by any other service provider.

EXPLAINED

Trai directive on pesky calls could act as deterrent

AIMING TO check telemarketing calls, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has asked telecom companies to submit monthly status reports from September about complaints they receive on pesky calls.

With this, the telecom regulator has initiated action on setting up a monitoring system for the new telecom framework, which aims to crack down on unwarranted telemarketing calls and messages. Given that the complaints on pesky calls in 2018 increased significantly from 2016, the Trai directive is a much needed step in the right direction.

NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY TRAI

TELECOM COMPANIES	2016	2017	2018	*2019
MTNL	0	0	1	0
BSNL	9	8	5	1
Aircel	0	2	1	0
Airtel	51	106	159	70
Idea	18	27	21	6
Reliance Communications	3	1	2	0
Reliance Jio	0	1	15	11
Tata Tele Services	0	4	3	0
Telenor	0	0	1	0
Vodafone	80	128	161	67
TOTAL	161	277	369	155

*Source: Ministry of Communications, Lok Sabha; *Up to July 10*

JET AIRWAYS RESOLUTION

'Three offers for grounded Jet; Etihad Airways skips bidding'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 10

THREE ENTITIES have submitted expression of interest for the grounded Jet Airways, but Etihad Airways has not expressed any interest, sources said, which could prove to be a setback for the airline's resolution process.

Saturday, August 10, was the last date for submission of EoIs for the resolution of the grounded carrier. Sources said that at least three expressions of interest (EoIs) have been received so far from interested applicants.

A Panama-based entity, Avantulo Group, is understood to be one of the parties that has submitted an EoI, sources said. Two private foreign equity companies have also expressed interest in taking over the grounded carrier.

Over the next few days, the resolution professional (RP) for Jet Airways will evaluate these bids and is expected to issue a provisional list of eligible applicants, if any, by August 13.

Etihad Airways refused to comment on the developments. It had been reported last week that the deadline for submission of EoIs had been extended to give Etihad more time to take a final call on Jet Airways.

Eligible resolution applicants have time till September 12 to submit their plans.

The final resolution plan for Jet Airways is expected to be submitted on September 27 before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for its approval.

On June 20, the tribunal initiated insolvency proceedings against the airline following an application moved by the State Bank of India (SBI). In its order, the NCLT sought a speedy resolution for Jet Airways as it was considered a matter of "national importance".

While passing the order, judge VP Singh urged that the resolution process should be completed within 90 days. Significantly, on the last date of the submission of EoIs, Jet Airways also informed the exchanges of its updated shareholding information for the quarter ended June 2019.

The shareholding pattern for the June quarter showed Naresh Goyal's stake in the airline to have come down to 24.99 per cent from 51 per cent in the quarter ended March. It also stated that as on June, Etihad's stake in Jet Airways remained unchanged at 24 per cent in the June quarter.

Jet Airways halted operations on April 17 after lenders refused to provide emergency funding. Since then, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has re-allocated the airline's slots to other airlines on a temporary basis till October. **FE**

PANAMA-BASED ENTITY AMONG 3

- **A Panama-based entity, Avantulo Group, is understood to be one of the parties that has submitted an EoI, sources said. Two private foreign equity companies have also expressed interest in taking over the grounded carrier**
- **Eligible resolution applicants have time till September 12 to submit their plans**

Programme to obtain biodiesel from used cooking oil launched in 100 cities

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

STATE-RUN OIL marketing companies (OMCs) IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum on Saturday launched a programme to procure biodiesel made from used cooking oil in 100 cities across the country.

The programme was formally launched by Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, under which the three OMCs would invite expression of interest from private entities for setting up plants to produce biodiesel from used cooking oil.

Initially, the biodiesel would be procured by the OMCs at an assured rate of Rs 51 per litre, which would be increased to Rs 52.7 in the second year and Rs 54.5 per litre in the third year.

The minister also launched Repurpose Used Cooking Oil (RUCO) sticker and a mobile phone application for collection of used cooking oil (UCO) to ensure that it does not come back to ecosystem.

The sticker would affixed by the food joints, hotels and restaurants in their premises to show that they supply UCO for producing biodiesel.

Union Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan with Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan and Petroleum Secretary MM Kutty, at the inauguration of 'World Biofuel Day' in New Delhi, Thusday. *PTI*

Addressing an event to mark 'World Biofuel Day' here, Pradhan said, "Biodiesel is available in many forms other than used cooking oil. It is waste to wealth. We will celebrate World Biofuel Day as alternative energy day."

"Like Amul, where milk is collected from households and then converted into a commercial product, there will be RUCO movement. The biggest issue (with biofuels like compressed bio gas) was offtake guarantee. More than 300 firms have got letter of intent for compressed bio gas. Its implementation is a challenge. But we are targetting 5,000 such units till 2024."

He also said, "China has a larger population but its (energy) distribution is not that organised as compared to our three oil marketing companies. That includes city gas distribution firms also.

"Under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Scheme, we would achieve the target of providing 8 crore LPG connections by September end. Already, there is 20 per cent reduction in chest congestion disease reported in India due to the clean fuel movement."

Regarding ethanol blending, he said,"We would also make ethanol from surplus food stock. At present we produce ethanol from sugarcane molasses. Non-subsidised bio mass would be converted into energy."

BRIEFLY

BSR quits as Reliance Power statutory auditor

Mumbai: BSR & Co tendered its resignation as one of the statutory auditors of Reliance Power with effect from August 9, the company said in an exchange note dated the same day. An annexure to the company's note stated, "On review of the annual continuance process, BSR has expressed its inability to continue as auditors of the company for the reasons included in 'Basis for Qualified Opinion' in their audit report dated June 08, 2019, for the financial year ended March 31, 2019." BSR served as statutory auditors of the company for the last two financial years and "have submitted clean audit reports up to the quarter ending December 31, 2018, ie for six consecutive quarters," it further said.

Anurag Adlakha appointed Yes Bank CFO

Mumbai: Private lender Yes Bank on Saturday announced appointment of Anurag Adlakha as the group's chief financial officer (CFO) following approval from the board of directors. The bank stated that re-designations have been made with a view to strengthen its overall financial management and strategy functions. Adlakha will take over from Raj Ahuja, who will now take over as group chief strategy officer, responsible for leading the strategy, planning and projects function of the bank. In a separate notification, the bank said Saturday it had allotted 2,11,600 equity shares of face value of Rs 2 under the Employee Stock Option Plan. **ENS**

Future Enterprises Q1 net loss narrows

New Delhi: Future Enterprises Ltd on Saturday reported narrowing of its consolidated net loss to Rs 8.59 crore for the quarter ended June 2019. The company had posted a consolidated net loss of Rs 16.80 crore in the year-ago period, Future Enterprises Ltd said in a BSE filing. **PTI**

Gems, jewellery exports dip 8.48% in Apr-July

Exports of gems and jewellery declined by 8.48 per cent to $9.7 billion during April-July this fiscal, mainly on account of slowdown in demand in major developed markets, according to data from the Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC)

DECLINE IN SHIPMENTS DUE TO NEGATIVE GROWTH IN EXPORT OF:

Cut and polished diamonds	17.5% y-o-y
Coloured gem stones	10% y-o-y
Gold jewellery	4.8% y-o-y

$10.6 bn: Exports of gems and jewellery during April-July period of financial year 2018-19

15%: Contribution of the labour-intensive gems and jewellery sector India's overall exports

$4 bn: Total value of exports of gold jewellery during April-July period of current fiscal, as per GJEPC data

$309 mn: Value of exports of gold medallions and coins during period under review

$30.96 bn: Value of gems and jewellery exports in fiscal 2018-19, having declined 5.32%

INDIA'S TOP FOUR EXPORT DESTINATIONS FOR GEMS AND JEWELLERY:

- United States: One-fourth of India's total exports
- Europe, Japan, China

I-T unearths '₹700 crore undisclosed income' in TN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

THE INCOME Tax Department has conducted a search and seizure operation in Tamil Nadu and detected an undisclosed income of Rs 700 crore, read an official statement.

The search was launched early on Tuesday at 55 premises in various places of the state, including Chennai, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, and also in Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Goa.

"The Income Tax Department conducted a search and seizure operation on August 6, 2019 in the case of one of the major producers of beer and IMFL (Indian-made foreign liquor) in Tamil Nadu," the Finance Ministry said in a statement. The premises included residences of the promoters, key employees and some of the suppliers of materials, it said.

The search teams gathered evidence of over-invoicing and return of cash by suppliers. Inflation by over-invoicing amounted to suppression of taxable income of almost Rs 400 crore over a period of six years, it said. The search also resulted in unearthing of evidence of similar tax evasion by another leading business group in the same liquor industry.

Consequently, the department began a search operation in the case of the second group Friday, the statement said. About seven premises of this group at Chennai and Karaikal were covered in the search operation's second phase.

The search is still in progress and the suppression of taxable income detected in this group has been estimated to be about Rs 300 crore, it said. The search has so far resulted in detection of undisclosed income of Rs 700 crore, it added.

Searches carried out on 'certain businessmen' in Meghalaya

New Delhi: The Investigation Wing of Income Tax Department of North East Region (NER) carried out searches on certain businessmen in Meghalaya found to be involved in running a web of petrol pumps managed and controlled as benami properties, the Centre said Saturday.

In the enforcement operation that commenced early Friday and went on till wee hours of Saturday, over Rs 2 crore of unaccounted cash and incriminating documents have been seized by officials of the department, it said. **PTI**

Huawei launches first product with its own OS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
DONGGUAN, AUGUST 10

CHINESE TELECOM giant Huawei, which has been caught in the crossfires of the Washington-Beijing trade war, on Saturday unveiled a new smart television, the first product to use its own operating system (OS).

The television will be available from Thursday in China and marks the first use of HarmonyOS, chief executive George Zhao said, adding that it will be marketed by its mid-range brand, Honor.

Huawei revealed its highly-anticipated HarmonyOS on Friday as an alternative operating system for phones and other smart devices in the event that looming US sanctions prevent the firm from using Android technology.

American companies are theoretically no longer allowed to sell technology products to Huawei, but a three-month exemption period — which ends next week — was granted by Washington before the measure came into force.

That ban could stop the tech giant from getting hold of key hardware and software, including smartphone chips and elements of the Google Android operating system, which runs the vast majority of smartphones in the world, including Huawei's.

Huawei has been blacklisted by US President Donald Trump amid suspicions it provides a backdoor for Chinese intelligence services, which the firm denies.

'IMF encouraging China to pursue more flexible rate'

DAVID LAWDER
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 10

THE INTERNATIONAL Monetary Fund (IMF) on Friday stood by its assessment that the value of China's yuan was largely in line with economic fundamentals, but an IMF official said the fund was encouraging China to pursue a more flexible exchange rate with less intervention.

James Daniel, director of the IMF's China department, said that an assessment of China's economic policies found the yuan exchange rate in 2018 to be "not significantly over-valued or under-valued."

The IMF's views on the yuan are at odds with those of its largest shareholder, the United States, which this week declared China a "currency manipulator" after it allowed the yuan to slip below 7 to the dollar to 11-year lows.

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin is seeking to engage the IMF to help "correct" an unfair trade advantage from Beijing's currency actions, but Daniel declined to say how the IMF was responding to the request.

"Our discussions with the US Treasury are ongoing on a range of issues," Daniel told reporters on a conference call, echoing an earlier statement from an IMF spokesperson. The IMF said in the report that a worsening of trade tensions with the US could put China's economic and financial stability at risk. **REUTERS**

Tata Steel to revamp business, slash capex to ₹8,000 cr in FY20

INDRONIL ROYCHOWDHURY
KOLKATA, AUGUST 10

TATA STEEL will embark on restructuring of its business globally while recalibrating its annual capex plan originally kept at Rs 12,000 crore for the current fiscal. Managing director and chief operating officer TV Narendran said on Saturday that Tata Steel would lower the number of European subsidiaries and also consolidate the Indian entities in a bid to simplify the structure of its business.

"In Europe we have 300 subsidiaries, which we plan to bring down by at least 100. At one point of time, Tata Steel Europe had more than 300 legal entities. We had brought down some and some more needs to be reduced. In India, instead of 30 subsidiaries we can have a subsidiary for long products, a subsidiary for infrastructure, a subsidiary for mining and some downstream subsidiaries. This will simplify the over all business structure," Narendran said.

Considering the low demand that the steel giant is currently facing, it is going to make a downward revision of its capex for the year, which would be brought down to Rs 8,000 crore from Rs 12,000 crore originally.

"Our capex plan was originally Rs 8,000 crore for India and Rs 4,000 crore for Europe," the MD and CEO said. Although he did not want to give any specific figure on how much of capex will be reduced for Europe and how much for India, Narendran said the reduction would be equally distributed.

The focus of capital expenditure in India is Kalinganagar. The company can de-prioritise some projects in Kalinganagar and push its expenditure plan two three months behind. This won't affect its business, but can commensurate with the market conditions, Narendran said after inaugurating a steel-junction store.

In Kalinganagar, the company's priority was putting up a pellet plant and a chunk of the capital expenditure would be utilised there.

However, it is continuing its attempt to off load its southeast Asian steel business, although China's state-run HBSIS Group couldn't get requisite clearance to acquire majority stake in NatSteel Holding and Tata Steel Thailand, for which it signed definitive agreements. **FE**

"In Europe we have 300 subsidiaries, which we plan to bring down by at least 100. At one point of time, Tata Steel Europe had more than 300 legal entities,"

TV NARENDRAN
TATA STEEL, MD AND CEO

NTPC Q1 net up 5.63% at ₹2,840 cr

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 10

STATE-OWNED POWER giant NTPC on Saturday posted a 5.63 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit to Rs 2,840.28 crore in the June 2019 quarter.

Its net profit was Rs 2,688.96 crore in the corresponding period a year ago, the company said in a BSE filing.

Total income on a consolidated basis rose to Rs 26,272.24 crore in the said quarter from Rs 24,148.50 crore a year ago.

Gross power generation of the NTPC Group for the April-June 2019 was 76.63 billion units (BUs) as against 76.92 BUs in the same period of 2018. The average power tariff of the firm was Rs 3.63 per unit in the quarter under review.

The company's plant load factor or capacity utilisation (PLF) of coal-based projects dropped to 73.91 per cent in the June 2019 quarter from 77.98 per cent a year earlier.

Its domestic coal supply dipped to 42.28 million tonne in the April-June period from 43.04 million tonne a year ago.

Coal imports by the company increased slightly to 0.89 million tonne in the quarter under review, from 0.09 million tonne a year ago.

NTPC Group's total installed capacity increased to 55,126 MW as on June 30, 2019, from 53,156 MW as on June 30 of the previous year.

BRIDGE

Although it isn't every day that you can discard an ace on an ace, unblocking plays are not all that uncommon so you have to be alert!
Dlr: West; Vul: Both

NORTH
♠ KQ54
♥ 543
♦ 432
♣ A87

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ AKJ10
♦ AKQJ10987
♣

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
5C	Pass	Pass	7D
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead: C K Plan the play

Either you see it or you don't. Win the C-A, discarding the S A, and discard two hearts on the S-KQ. If everything lives, draw trumps and you have a good story to tell. If you don't see it, you are reduced to the heart finesse. Sorry.

The West hand: S-10 H-Q87 D- C-KQJ9865432
The East hand: S-J987632 H-963 D-65 C-2

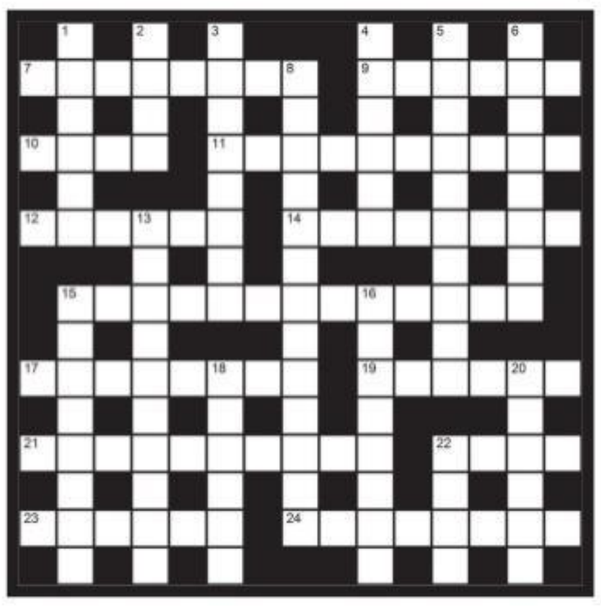
Dlr: North; Vul: None

NORTH	SOUTH
♠ 5432	♠ AKJ108
♥ None	♥ AK
♦ 7632	♦ AKQJ5
♣ J8643	♣ 9

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♣	Pass	1♠	2♦
Dbl	3♦	4 ♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: DK East continues with the DA (king from ace-king in supported suits). Plan the play. (Spades are 3-2)

SUNDAY CROSSWORD 2229



QUICK CLUES
ACROSS
7. Seaport in east China (8)
9. A pair; two (6)
10. Osseous - not fleshy? (4)
11. Encouraging wish (4,2,4)
12. Plaster wall (6)
14. "Hamlet" hamlet! (8)
15. A journeying about from place to place (13)
17. Music duo ___ Anandji (8)
19. Disunion (6)
21. Washing and ironing? (10)
22. The main body of a ship (4)
23. Endeavoured (6)
24. Giving up, succumbing or relenting (8)

DOWN
1. Lump in one's ___ : feeling of discomfort due to anxiety or emotion? (6)
2. Just the one (4)
3. Capital of Meghalaya (8)
4. From side to side (6)
5. Freakishly odd; bizarre (10)
6. Negative particle of atom (8)
8. Nearby or close at hand, perhaps (2,3,8)
13. Continuing with duties (8,2)
15. Simple rural workers (8)
16. Made over formally (8)
18. Relative girls (6)
20. Of or containing salt or salts (6)
22. Coal scuttles (4)

CRYPTIC CLUES
ACROSS
7. Refuse to go here - it was Ben that was forced (5,3)
9. One might take a bow for introducing a Roman Catholic to the girl (6)
10. Said differently when belonging to the girl ? (4)
11. Reacts badly in action when treated with no respect (10)
12. She can show you how to wring out an oil-rag (6)
14. Sort of beak who in France is involved in a row (8)
15. Matters brought up (7-6)
17. Returning at intervals to this chemical table (8)
19. I had, from port first, become sluggish (6)
21. Prized employee whose performance justifies halo with those in charge (10)
22. Marg comes back with a little weight (4)
23. British had long spell that's over in this sultanate (6)
24. Annual record of bakery turning over two eggs (8)

DOWN:
1. Five Romans and Al have reported this wilfully destructive person (6)
2. One responsible originally for our elevation? (4)
3. Arab emirate has an immature flower in a habit yet incomplete (3,5)
4. Chinese dynasty constituted a short chapter in human endeavour (6)
5. Does it make its mark in sea crossings? (5,5)
6. Detected first person to intrude over private lands (8)
8. Colin's tag lost; friend in wistful manner (13)
13. Dressing down, being high-spirited (10)
15. Jetsam might be said to go by it (3,5)
16. It's his vocation to ensure people look well (8)
18. Opening the mail had revealed a returned flower (6)
20. Quarrelling with one after another (2,1,3)
22. Pass the fish (4)

Solutions to 2228

QUICK CLUES Across: 5 Renoir, 7 Situated, 9 Specimen, 10 Edible, 11 Hairdressing, 13 Kimono, 15 Goblet, 18 Kleptomaniac, 21 Health, 22 Bohemian, 23 Insecure, 24 Meaner.
Down: 1 Concerto, 2 Tremor, 3 Steering, 4 Fading, 6 Emphasis, 7 Sanest, 8 Ella, 12 Separate, 14 Overhaul, 16 Binomial, 17 Stable, 18 Kilter, 19 Mahima, 20 Seen.
CRYPTIC CLUES Across: 5 A spade, 7 Hot water, 9 Tiramisu, 10 Allots, 11 Thick and fast, 13 Banded, 15 Extend, 18 Proclamation, 21 Cocoon, 22 Enduring, 23 Ski pants, 24 Finest. 5 A spade, 7 Hot water, 9 Tiramisu, 10 Allots, 11 Thick and fast, 13 Banded, 15 Extend, 18 Proclamation, 21 Cocoon, 22 Enduring, 23 Ski pants, 24 Finest. **Down:** 1 Balanced, 2 Selina, 3 Strabane, 4 Tablet, 6 Spithead, 7 Hounds, 8 Eats, 12 On points, 14 Drowning, 16 Tutoring, 17 Pliers, 18 Prompt, 19 Mid off, 20 Work.

If it's your Birthday

Sunday August 11
You're able to focus on the bigger picture, and that's good news. Today is filled with positive trends, and the coming year. You'll be seeking to expand your horizons and broaden your experience.

Monday August 12
There's no reason why you shouldn't dream, but fantasy is one thing. Keep an eye on practical circumstances, such as what you can afford, you will do yourself a favour.

Tuesday August 13
You're able to alternately charm people or threaten them. You may win friends by being nice, both strategies are central to your success. You should check professional offers.

Wednesday August 14
Give some thought to financial matters, especially if you're handling other people's funds. Your instinct is to spend, but stop and think it is worth it. Consult experts and you will safeguard your future.

Thursday August 15
You need to feel secure, in spite of appearances. Material security needs attention. Sort them out, and you can try new ideas and develop a romantic relationship.

Friday August 16
You may be determined to press ahead, but, if you're sensible, you'll put off until next week whatever doesn't happen today. If you like chaos, then you do whatever you like.

Saturday August 17
It's worth spending time chatting to people because, you will pick up interesting ideas, putting your top plans into perspective. The coming year bodes well for success.

YOUR WEEK AHEAD

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)
Your stars are moving on and the Sun adjusts its position before long, leaving you to stand on your own two feet once again. You're entering a tricky financial phase and will have to face up to a number of awkward choices. It may be time to abandon a commitment which has become rather burdensome, but don't let anyone down without giving them fair warning.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Mercury is sending a challenge to Pluto, and the heavens are lining up for a frank, though friendly, confrontation. You will have to speak the plain truth even at the risk of upsetting someone - although please be on hand afterwards with reassurance. It may be that only you can utter the words they need to hear. Hopefully your candour will be appreciated.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Something may happen behind the scenes to change your plans and ideas, perhaps an amazing and wonderful event. Whatever takes place will almost certainly involve your work or whatever other routine chores are preoccupying you at the moment. Romantic hopes are reinforced by Venus' positive passage through lively regions of your chart.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
A difference of opinion between lively Mercury and passionate Pluto is bound to awaken ideas of social adventure; you'll be on the look-out for new friends and anxious to put former associates in their place. By the way, additional attention is required to all travel, holiday and adventurous plans over the coming weeks.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)
It's a week of two halves. The Moon issues a challenge to your sign from Monday to Wednesday, so these will be the days to apply a little of your cheery Leonine medicine to a close partnership. Only you can do this, so why don't you organise a break from domestic routine and plan something special instead? You can put your feet up later in the week.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)
Legal matters seem to have some role to play in your life over the next three weeks. Is it possible that you have embroiled yourself in a bureaucratic muddle? One thing is certain - if you stick to your guns and do what you know to be right, you won't go far wrong. Keep a professional plan under review for a little while longer.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)
Money matters can only increase in importance as the week passes, but don't expect a quick and easy answer. You will come to realise that you have the chance to set your finances on an altogether more prosperous course, but how, and when, are questions that are still unclear. Take a little more time to work out what you really want.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)
It may be difficult for you to imagine that a close partner can possibly be right, so deep is your belief in your own infallibility. However, any astrologer, on seeing the current planetary picture, would advise you to compromise and bend to circumstances. What you want is not as important as what you need!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)
Your astrological personality is a complex and rich one. Many Sagittarians are now starting to resemble determined, obstinate and emotional Scorpios. In fact, friends may realise that your behaviour, especially a tendency to secrecy in important matters, is departing ever further from what they have seen in the past.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
The week opens with the Moon supporting your sign, so family affairs will probably keep you on your toes. As the days go by, you will see that money lies at the root of all disagreements. If you can increase your earnings, as you deserve to do, you will solve a good many of your problems. A fun outing should be scheduled for later in the week.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Recent developments in the sectors of your chart associated with relations, children and romance seem bound to work out for the best in the long run, even if you have been rather disconcerted by a number of statements or events. Sunday, when the Moon adjusts its position, should be a special day, so enjoy it to the full.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
This is a spectacular week for all of you pursuing inspirational ambitions, educational goals or working in the travel and communications industry. Show other people that you mean business - and get them on your side. Also, if romantic plans are afoot then please act soon: do not delay! A financial development is sure to please.

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.
As for our ____... one is enough. - Benjamin Disraeli (8)

MPTAR
NSYIO
AERUMT
EERSJY

SOLUTION: TRAMP, NOISY, MATURE, JERSEY
Answer: As for our majority... one is enough. - Benjamin Disraeli

SUDOKU 3935

Difficulty Level 2s
Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

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

			2		1	6		
		4		5		7		
	5		7					2
	6		4		9	1	2	
				7				
	8	9	6		5		3	
7					8		6	
		8		6		2		
		1	5		2			

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3934

1	2	6	3	9	5	8	4	7
9	7	5	2	4	8	3	6	1
3	4	8	1	6	7	2	9	5
7	1	2	6	3	9	4	5	8
8	9	4	5	1	2	6	7	3
6	5	3	8	7	4	9	1	2
4	8	7	9	2	1	5	3	6
2	6	1	4	5	3	7	8	9
5	3	9	7	8	6	1	2	4

RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY OF KNOWLEDGE TECHNOLOGIES
Basar (Village & Mandal), Nirmal District - 504107, Telangana. Phone: 9492301704
Tender Notice
Online tenders are hereby invited from interested and eligible bidders for providing of Catering Services to 7000 students approx. (3 separate tenders) at RGUKT - Basar.
Interested bidders can download and submit the bids online from **13.08.2019** to **28.08.2019 up to 05:00 PM** through **www.tender.telangan.gov.in.** For further details please visit our website: **www.rgukt.ac.in** Sd/-
Date : 11.08.2019 Vice-Chancellor

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
Regional Office: 4, Nehru Place, Tonk Road, Jaipur-15 (Rajasthan)
E-Tender Notice
An e-tender notice is invited, under two-bid system for appointment of Vendors for providing services of Vehicle Tracking System for the vehicles used by FCI Road Transport Contractors of transporation of foodgrain from various dispatching centers to various receiving centers of Rajasthan region.
Under e-tender notice ROJ/CONTRACT/VTS/01/2019, the bids shall be accepted **ONLINE** from 12.08.2019, 02:00 PM to 02.09.2019, 02:00 PM. All the Terms & Conditions and other details are available on Central public Procurement Portal's website *https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app* and Corporation's website *www.fci.gov.in.* General Manager (Region)

TIRUPPUR SMART CITY LIMITED
TIRUPPUR CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
TENDER NOTICE
Tenders are invited in Two Cover System for **2 works** (1. Flood Alleviation Measure in ward No. **8, 9, 12, 24, 25, 47 & 48** in ABD area of Tiruppur Smart City at an estimate cost of **Rs.15.61 Crore** & 2. Flood Alleviation Measure in ward No. **42, 45, 50 & 51** in ABD area of Tiruppur Smart City at an estimate cost of **Rs. 27.63 Crore**) under Smart City Mission by the Managing Director, Tiruppur Smart City Limited upto **3.00 P.M.** on **17.09.2019** and the same will be opened by the Managing Director, Tiruppur Smart City Limited or his authorized person on the same day at **3.30 P.M.** in the presence of the contractors or their representatives present at that time. The Tender documents can be downloaded from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in** upto **2.00 P.M. 16.09.2019.** Any further details will be heard from Tiruppur City Municipal Corporation office in any of the working day if required. Pre-bid meeting for the above **2 works** will be held on **27.08.2019** at **11.00AM & 12.00PM** respectively. The Managing Director, Tiruppur Smart City Limited reserves the rights to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof. The bidders shall not have the option of submitting their proposals electronically.
Roc. No. : E1 /6630 (IX-I) /2017
Place : Tiruppur
Date : 09.08.2019 DIPR/ 2738 /TENDER/2019
Managing Director, Tiruppur Smart City Limited

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
O/o. The Official Liquidator, High Court, Madras, "Corporate Bhavan"
II Floor, No. 29, Rajaji Salai, Chennai-600001.
Phone No. 044-25271149/25271151, Fax: 044-25271152,
Website: www.olchennai.in Email : olmadras@gmail.com
FORM No. 63 - RULE 148(1)
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS
ORIGINAL JURISDICTION
In the matter of Everonn Education Limited
(In Provisional Liquidation)
Company Petition No. 375/2014
ADVERTISEMENT OF NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO PROVE THEIR CLAIM
Pursuant to the orders of Hon'ble High Court, Madras dated **21.06.2019** in **C.A.No. 142/2019,** notice is hereby given to the creditors of the above named company (in provisional liquidation) that they are required to submit to the Official Liquidator of the court proofs of their respective debts or claims against the above named company by delivering at the Office of the Official Liquidator on or before **10.09.2019** 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 No. 66 (copy of the same can be downloaded at **www.olchennai@mca.gov.in**), duly stamped and notarised with their respective names, addresses and particulars of debt or claim, and any title to priority under section 529, 529A, and 530. Any creditor who fails to submit his affidavit of proof within the time limited as aforesaid will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution of dividend before his / her debt is proved, or as the case may be, from objecting to such distribution.
Any creditor who has sent in his / her proof, if so required by notice in writing from the Official Liquidator, shall either in person or by his / her 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 / her debt or claim as may be required.
DATED AT CHENNAI THIS THE 8th DAY OF AUGUST, 2019.
Sd/- (Dr. K. THIRUMALAI MUTHU)
OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR, HIGH COURT, MADRAS

STATION HEADQUARTERS BHOPAL
(MADHYA PRADEH) PIN 462001
PUBLIC NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Digitally signed and sealed (encrypted e-tenders are invited in two bid system from eligible Indian Bidders for **OUTSOURCING OF CONSERVANCY SERVICES FOR LIFTING AND DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE FROM MILITARY STATION BHOPAL FOR FY 2019-20**
Details of the contract are available on Defence eProcurement Portal (DePP) of NIC at **https://defproc.gov.in.** as per RFP No. 2312/26/Q/OSGV/2/2019 With Tender ID **2019_ARMY_273074_2.**
Online Bid submission from 09 Aug 2019 to 22 Aug 2019 at 12.30 PM (1230 Hours). Amendments/ Corrigendum if any will be published on Defence eProcurement Protal of NIC at **https://defproc.gov.in** only.
Administrative Commandant

Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Ltd., Victoria Park, Meerut.
TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE
E- tenders were invited for supply of:-
(1) 300 nos. 33 KV CT's (Different ratios) against tender specification no. PVVNL-MT/COM/10/19-20.
(2) 100 nos. 33 KV PT's against tender specification no. PVVNL-MT/COM/11/19-20.
The date of opening of Part-I & II of above tenders are hereby extended from 09.08.2019 to 20.08.2019
For detailed information please log on **www.pvvnl.org** & E-Tendering website **www.etender.up.nic.in** till the date of submission of bids. Superintending Engineer (Commercial) "Help line Number for Information of Theft of Electricity: "1800-180-3002 (Meerut) & 941220745"
Remark:- **www.etender.up.nic.in**
Superintending Engineer (Comm.)
For Managing Director
"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION"
पत्रांकः- 6714/पं.वि.वि.नि.लि./में./ज.स./2019-20 दिनांकः- 09.08.2019

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004
Bid No. IREPS-GT/2019-20/23 **Global Tender Notice** **Date: 07.08.19**
Sealed tender/E-tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items:-S.No.: 1, Tender No.: 08191037, Due Date: 09.09.19, **Description: Stud Slip Ring 3/8-16x7-1/4 inch. DRG. No. 8345701 Alt Ab, (PL. No. 19110546),** Qty.: 107 Nos., S.No.: 2, Tender No.: 08191023, Due Date: 12.09.19, **Description: Idler Assembly Fuel Pump include Bushing specification for cleaning, Marking and Packing conditions MISC. 460 DRG. No. 9520939, Alt N.A., (PL. No. 17455492),** Qty.: 110 Nos., S.No.: 3, Tender No.: 08191038, Due Date: 13.09.19, **Description: Gasket Head To Core Purchase Specification No. MISC-409, Rev Nil, DRG. No. 9570894 Alt b, P.L. No. 17270893,** Qty.: 78 Nos. **No. GT/T.NOTICE/IREPS/2019-20/24, Date: 07.08.19,** S.No.: 1, Tender No.: 09191042, Due Date: 04.09.2019, **Description: Traction Motor Speed Sensor for HHP Locomotives, Drg no. 18080145 Alt a. This is safety item. [PL No. 18080145],** Qty.: 544 Nos., S.No.: 2, Tender No.: 09191082, Due Date: 05.09.2019, **Description: (i) Voltage Sensor-10mA, Drg no. 40026571 Alt Ca. [PL No. 18160062],** Qty.: 12 Nos., **(ii) Current Sensor-300A Drg no. 40046384 Alt Da. [PL No. 18160013],** Qty.: 18 Nos., **(iii) Current Sensor-1000A Drg no. 40046385 Alt Da. [PL No. 18160025],** Qty.: 22 Nos., S.No.: 3, Tender No.: 09191041, Due Date: 16.09.2019, **Description: Auxiliary generator DLW Purchase Specification no. WDG4/EL/PS/04 Alt-Nil, Drawing no. 22089886 Alt-Ca. [PL No. 18040020],** Qty.: 42 Nos., S.No.: 4, Tender No.: 09191043, Due Date: 16.09.2019, **Description: Traction Motor Temperature Sensor for HHP Locomotives, Drawing no. 18080157 Alt-a. This is a safety item. [PL No. 18080157],** Qty.: 701 Nos. **Note:** For complete details of EMD and downloading of Tender Documents, please visit Website: **www.ireps.gov.in.**
PRO/DLW/S-50 **Controller of Stores**
/diesellocoworks "Website: www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in"

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINE
Principal Chief Medical Director, Headquarters, Southern Railway for and on behalf of the President of India, invites ONLINE Open Tenders for the following supply contract as per Tender Notice given in IREPS website. Firms are requested to logon to **http://www.ireps.gov.in->E-Tender->Goods & Services (New)** and quote against these Tenders. **No Manual quotations will be entertained.** Closing time for the Tenders is **11.00 Hours on the date noted against each below:**

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description	Due Date
1.	SR1908410510454	WHITE SOFT PARAFFIN + LIGHT LIQUID PARAFFIN MINIMUM OF 50 G TUBE OINT / CREAM	30-08-2019
2	SR1909204510456	CHLORHEXIDINE GLUCONATE 2.5% + ETHANOL 70% HANDRUB 500 ML BOT	30-08-2019
3	SR1903408010453	PAPAIN - UREA DEBRIDING OINT 15 G	30-08-2019
4	SR1909207510455	CHEMICALLY BOUND FORMALDEHYDE 11.2 G, GLUTRALDEHYDE 5 G, BENZALKONIUM CHLORIDE 5 G, ALKYL UREA DERIVATIVES 3 G/100 G	30-08-2019
5	SR1903209010452	SAROGLITAZAR 4 MG TAB	30-08-2019
6	SR1901203910482	TENECTEPLASE 40 MG INJ VIAL	05-09-2019
7	SR1903604810483	MOXIFLOXACIN 5 MG / ML 5 ML OPHTHALMIC SOLUTION WITH DROP - TAINER DISPENSING SYSTEM	05-09-2019
8	SR1903702610484	NEPAFENAC OPHTHALMIC SUSPENSION 0.1% W/V WITH DROP TAINER SYSTEM 5 ML	05-09-2019
9	SR1903704010485	DEXAMETHASONE 0.7 MG SOLID POLYMER DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEM INTRAVITREAL IMPLANT	05-09-2019
10	SR1903800710486	SODIUM CHONDROITIN SULFATE 40MG + SODIUM HYALURONATE 30MG / 1ML, 0.75ML OPHTHALMIC VISCOELASTIC SOLUTION	05-09-2019
11	SR1903806110487	HYDROXY PROPYL METHYL CELLULOSE INJ 2% W/V, MINIMUM 3 ML PFS / VIAL	05-09-2019
12	SR1903855510488	BALANCED SALT SOLUTION 500 ML (NON-PVC BAG)	05-09-2019
13	SR1904301810489	SILODOSIN 8 MG + DUTASTERIDE 0.5 MG CAP	05-09-2019
14	SR1904509110490	DYDROGESTERONE 10 MG TAB	05-09-2019
15	SR1904750110491	HUMAN PARATHYROID HORMONE RDNA ORIGIN 600 MCG / PREFILLED SYRINGE	05-09-2019
16	SR1905001010492	EUPHORBIA PROSTRATA EXTRACT 100 MG TAB	05-09-2019
17	SR1905102010493	DIETHYLCARBAMAZINE 100 MG TAB	05-09-2019
18	SR1905305010494	CEFAZOLIN INJ 1 G VIAL	05-09-2019
19	SR1905901110495	ANTI-D IMMUNOGLOBIN INJ (HUMAN) 300 MCG PFS / VIAL	05-09-2019
20	SR1905902110496	ANTIRABIES VACCINE-PURIFIED VERO CELL 2.5IU	05-09-2019
21	SR1905902710497	TETANUS + DIPHTHERIA + ACELLULAR PERTUSIS (TDAP) VACCINE AMP / VIAL	05-09-2019
22	SR1905902910498	H-INFLUENZA VACCINE, DIPHTHERIA, PERTUSSIS, TETANUS VIAL	05-09-2019
23	SR1906529010499	ATEZOLIZUMAB INJ 1200 MG VIAL	05-09-2019
24	SR1906530010500	LENVATINIB 4MG CAP	05-09-2019
25	SR1907051010501	HYLAN POLYMERS 48 MG INTRA ARTICULAR INJ PFS	05-09-2019
26	SR1908821110502	KOJIC ACID 2% WITH OR WITHOUT ADDITIVES LIKE LICORICE EXTRACT, GLYCOLIC ACID, ARBUTIN, OCTINOXATE, VITAMIN E ETC., CREAM/GEL MINIMUM 15 G TUBE	05-09-2019
27	SR1909013310503	CONTINUOUS AMBULATORY PERITONEAL DIALYSIS FLUID 1.5% IN FLEXIBLE BAG WITH MINICAPS CONTAINING DEXTROSE 15 G, SODIUM CHLORIDE 538 MG, SODIUM LACTATE 448 MG, CALCIUM CHLORIDE 25.7 MG & MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE 5.08 MG, 5000 ML	05-09-2019
28	SR1907612510505	METHYCOBALAM1NE 1000 MCG + INOSITOL 100 MCG + ALPHA LIPOIC ACID 100 MG + BENFOTHIAMINE 40 MG CAP	05-09-2019
29	SR1907904210506	FORMOTEROL 4.5 MCG + BUDESONIDE 160 MCG CFC FREE INHALER	05-09-2019
30	SR1905907610560	POLIOMYELITIS VACCINE INJ PFS	05-09-2019

PRINCIPAL CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED
See Section 82 / 83 Cr. P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Shadab Hasmi** S/o **Anwaruddin** R/o H. No. 297, 1st Floor, Kohinoor, Apartment, Katra Sujan Rai, Dara Ganj, Delhi and also at H. No. 1951, B- Gali Chunna Mal, Suiwalan, Chandni Mahal, Delhi has Committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 276/14 u/s 406 IPC** registered at **P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Shadab Hasmi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Shadab Hasmi** has absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Shadab Hasmi** of **FIR No. 276/14 u/s 406 IPC** has been registered at **P.S.Darya Ganj, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **16.09.2019.**
By order
Ms. Prigya Gupta
MM, Room No.21,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi
DP/6491/CD/19

कार्यालय मुख्य महाप्रबन्धक, निर्माण विंग
उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)
403/01, इन्दिरा नगर, देहरादून। दूरभाष/फैक्स-0135-2764075
e-mail : cgmnirmanwing@yahoo.com, gmnirmanwing@gmail.com
Bid Identification no: 2563/Nivida (Garhwal)/79 Date: 09.08.2019
Government of Uttarakhand "e" procurement Notice (National Competitive Bidding)

1.	**Name of the Works**	Construction of Uttarakhand Niwas at 03-Gopinath Bardolai Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
2.	Estimated Cost	Rs. 7000.00 Lakh
3.	Period of Completion	18 Months
4.	Date and Time of Availability of bid documents in the portal	17/08/2019 -17.00 Hrs.
5.	Last Date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal	09/09/2019 -17.00 Hrs.
6.	Name and Address of Officer inviting the Bid	General Manager, Construction Wing, Uttarakhand Pey Jal Nigam, 403/1, Indra Nagar, Dehradun
7.	Pre bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place	23/08/2019 - 15.00 Hrs.
8.	Details of subsequent addendum / corrigendum / cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website	

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://tendersuttarakhand.gov.in"
General Manager (Garh.)
जल श्रोतों को प्रदूषित होने से बचायें | वैधानिक चेतावनी – जल श्रोतों को प्रदूषित करना दण्डनीय अपराध है।

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL TEACHERS TRAINING AND RESEARCH, SECTOR-26, CHANDIGARH 160 019
(An Autonomous Institution under the MHRD, Government of India)
Website: www.nitttrchd.ac.in
Advertisement No.170/2019
Applications on prescribed form are invited for the following posts of Professors (Group-A) in the Level – 14 (144200 – 211800) as per 7th Pay Commission with minimum pay Rs.144200/- per month.

Sr. No.	Name of the Department	No. of Posts
1	Applied Science	One
2	Media Centre	One
3	Rural Development	One

Application form, general information, Qualifications and other criteria can be downloaded from the institute website: **www.nitttrchd.ac.in.**
Application in the prescribed format along with certified copies of all testimonials and an application fee (Non-refundable) of Rs.1000/- (for General/OBC category) through Indian Postal Order/Demand Draft in favour of Director NITTTR, Chandigarh may be sent through registered post to the Director, NITTTR, Sector 26, Chandigarh 160019 on or before **12th September, 2019**. The candidates belonging to SC/ST/Person with Disability/ Women Category are exempted from payment of application fee.
The institute reserves the right to fill-up or not to fill-up any post(s) without assigning any reason. Applications which are not in prescribed form or received after the last date or without fee or relevant supporting documents may be outrightly rejected. No correspondence shall be entertained in this regard. No interim enquiry of any kind is permissible. The institute web-site may please be seen from time to time for information.
Faculty Incharge
Administration

Cut, retake

Iyer's audition for the number four slot was cut short by rain in Providence; 2nd ODI in Port of Spain may give him another chance

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PORT OF SPAIN, AUGUST 10

SHREYAS IYER is likely to audition for the number four position in the Indian batting line-up as the visiting side take on the West Indies in the second match of the three-ODI series here on Sunday. Iyer, who didn't get any game during the T20 series, was in India's playing XI for the first One-dayer in Providence, Guayana, that was abandoned after 13 overs due to rain. There is little chance that India will tinker with their batting order.

Two matches can never be enough for anyone to cement their place in the team, but a couple of decent outings will surely reduce the pressure on the youngster. Iyer has had a good series with the A team in this part of the world, having hit two half centuries against the West Indies A. He has now got a measure of the tracks.

If Iyer is given a go at number four, KL Rahul would likely have to cool his heels till Shikhar Dhawan is persisted at the top of the order. The team combination for the first game is an indicator that after a good World Cup at the top of the order post Dhawan's injury, Rahul is being looked at as a back-up opener.

The series is also important for Kedar Jadhav, and his future will depend, to a considerable degree, on how he performs here. Post the World Cup, there's a question-mark over his place in the team. Certainly with the talented Shubman Gill waiting in the wings, time is running out for the pint-sized Maharashtra cricketer, whose batting slot has been a worry for skipper Kohli and coach Ravi Shastri.

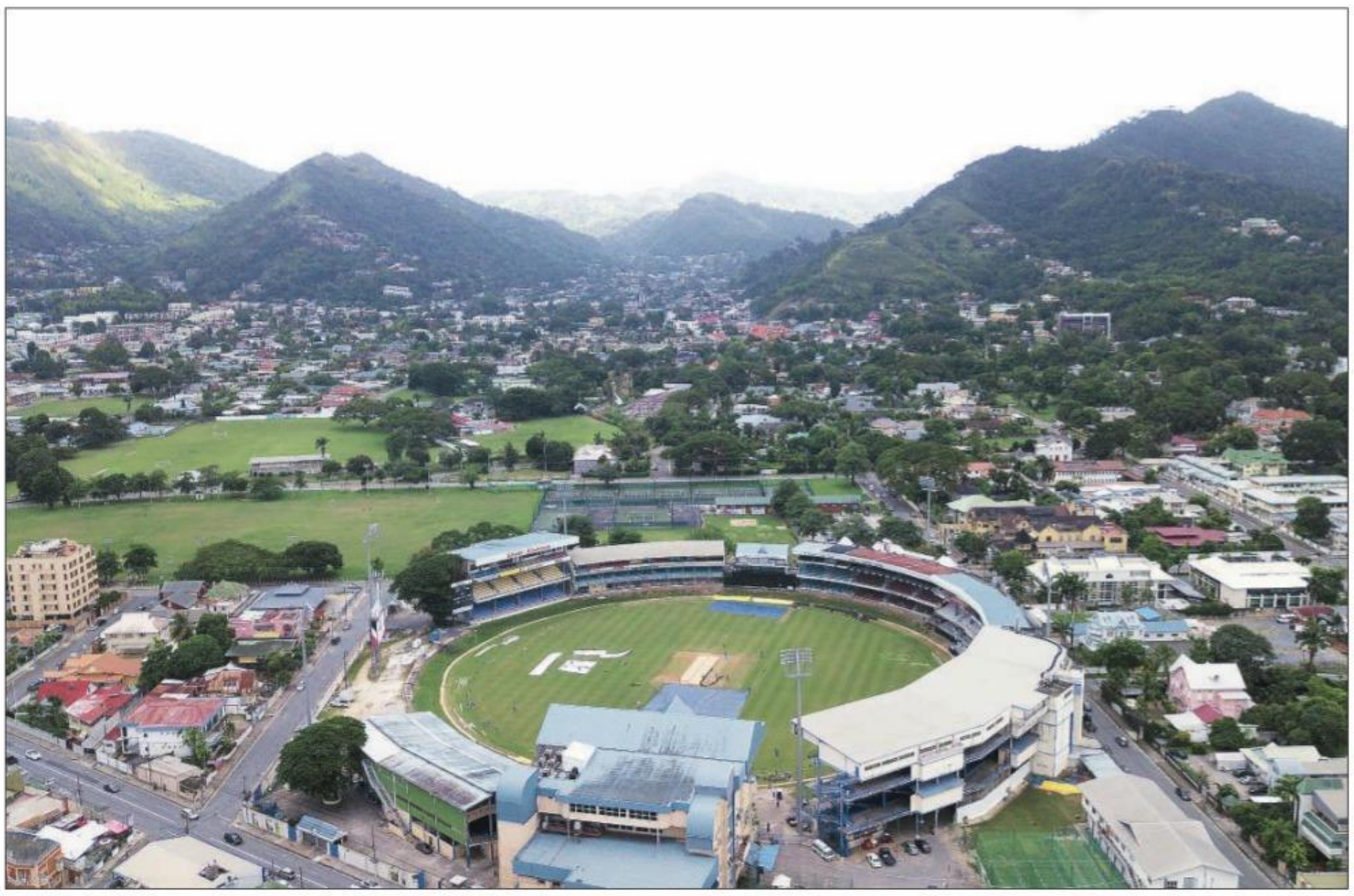
There are suggestions that Jadhav doesn't have the requisite technique to bat up the order, nor does he possess enough power to clear the ropes consistently towards the end. Unless the top order scores runs, Jadhav has often been underwhelming, not being able to force the pace unless there has been one of the bigger names batting at the other end. His side-arm off-spin is handy, but with Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja in the playing XI, how much of it will be utilised is question.

In case Bhuvneshwar Kumar wants some rest, the new pace sensation Navdeep Saini could come in, while a bit more turn on offer would mean Yuzvendra Chahal could be back in the mix as an additional spinner in place of the left-arm pacer, Khaleel Ahmed. Khaleel went for 27 in three overs and was guilty of bowling short to opener Evin Lewis, who was on 40 when the heavens opened up.

For the hosts, Lewis getting some form back augurs well, but the would also want Chris Gayle to fire. The Jamaican looked in wretched form during his 31-ball-knock that yielded only four runs in the first ODI.

2ND ODI: LIVE ON TEN SPORTS 1 & 3 — 7PM ONWARDS

Iyer was in India's playing XI for the first ODI but didn't get to play as the match was abandoned. *BCCI*



BEAUTY QUEEN

An aerial view of the Queen's Park Oval cricket stadium in Port of Spain, Trinidad, on Saturday. India and the West Indies will play their second One-Day International here on Sunday. *AP*

No farewell Test as WI ignore Gayle for India series

REUTERS & PTI
AUGUST 10

WEST INDIES have called up uncapped spin-bowling all-rounder Rahkeem Cornwall for the two Tests against India later this month, but paceman Alzarri Joseph will miss the series with injury. Cornwall's impressive record for Leeward Islands Hurricanes and the West Indies 'A' team earned him his maiden call-up with Robert Haynes, head of interim selection panel, saying they had high hopes from the 26-year-old.

The flamboyant Chris Gayle, however, was overlooked in the 13-man squad despite his wish to play a farewell Test at home in Kingston. Gayle, who is just six weeks shy of his 40th birthday, last played a Test match way back in 2014, against Bangladesh. Gayle looked completely out of sorts during the opening ODI against India where he managed only 4 off 31 balls before being bowled by Kuldeep Yadav. Prior to the World Cup match against India in Manchester in June, Gayle expressed his desire to play one final Test match, preferably at his home ground Sabina Park in Kingston. However, the West Indies selection committee decided otherwise.

In fact, former pace great Curtly Ambrose, in an earlier interview with the PTI, had said that selecting Gayle for Tests would be a step back. "If Chris Gayle wants to play an ODI series or a T20 series, well, that's not a problem. In terms of Test matches for me is a no, no," Ambrose had said.

"Gayle hasn't played Test matches for five years. Bringing him back for one Test, I think, is a backward step. What kind of message are you sending to the younger players? ODIs and T20s are not a problem as he still is a destructive player but Test matches, no, definitely not."

West Indies's Chris Gayle and Evin Lewis attend a practice session in Port of Spain on Saturday. With the WI selection committee not paying heed to Gayle's request for a farewell Test at his home ground, the next two ODIs could well be the last of a storied international career. *AP*

Cornwall, a consistent performer

Meanwhile, regarding Cornwall's selection, WI chief selector Haynes said: "Rahkeem has been performing consistently over a long period of time and has proven to be a match-winner, so we believe his elevation to the Test squad is merited at this time. We believe he can provide an attacking option to our bowling attack with his sharp turn and extra bounce."

The off-spinner has taken 260 wickets from 55 first-class matches.

"He can also lend a bit of depth to the batting, so we are looking forward to him coming into the squad and making a valuable contribution," Haynes added.

'Rahkeem has been performing consistently over a long period of time and has proven to be a match-winner, so we believe his elevation to the Test squad is merited at this time.'

Joseph was allowed to recover from an arm injury sustained during the Indian Premier League earlier this year.

"Alzarri is undergoing remedial work and we are monitoring his recovery, but we do not think he is ready yet to last five days of a gruelling test match," Haynes said.

"He represents a key part of West Indies future and we do not want to rush him back. We have two important series coming up later in the year in India and we want to be very careful how his recovery is managed."

Along with Cornwall, regular West Indies 'A' captain Shamarh Brooks is the only other uncapped player in the squad. The Sir Vivian Richards Cricket Ground in Cornwall's native Antigua hosts the first Test from August 22 while the second Test is scheduled at Jamaica's Sabina Park from August 30.

WEST INDIES SQUAD: Jason Holder (captain), Kraigg Brathwaite, Darren Bravo, Shamarh Brooks, John Campbell, Roston Chase, Rahkeem Cornwall, Shane Dowrich, Shannon Gabriel, Shimron Hetmyer, Shai Hope, Keemo Paul, Kemar Roach.

BRIEFLY

Shahzad's contract suspended for indefinite period

Kabul: The Afghanistan Cricket Board on Saturday suspended the contract of wicket-keeper batsman Mohammad Shahzad for an indefinite period for breaching its Code of Conduct. According to an ACB release, Shahzad did not adhere to a policy that requires players to seek the board's permission for travelling out of the country. "As per ACB's policies, any player travelling out of the country is required to seek the permission of ACB. Shahzad has not adhered to this, repetitively," the ACB said. The board said Shahzad has also breached its Code of Conduct previously and was recently called for questioning by the ACB Discipline Committee in relation to a disciplinary matter during the ICC Cricket World Cup. The ACB indicated that further sanctions may come against Shahzad later in the month. **PTI**

Starc enjoying pace jostle, team success

London: Australia's strength in pace makes Mitchell Starc believe that he and fellow quick Josh Hazlewood will have to work harder to break into the playing XI in the ongoing Ashes series against England. Left-arm quick Starc finished as the highest wicket-taker in the 50-overs World Cup last month but was overlooked, along with Hazlewood, for the Ashes opener in Edgbaston which Australia won by 251 runs. Starc naturally wants to play the second test at Lord's from Wednesday but is even keener on Australia bringing home the urn, even if it means spending more time on the sidelines. "We're here to win the Ashes," said Starc, who took 10 wickets in the last test he played, against Sri Lanka in February at Canberra. "We're not just here to make it on the park. We want to win this Ashes. "Whether that's a different bowling attack each game, or the same through five test matches, it's pretty exciting." **REUTERS**

India in U-19 tri-series final despite loss to Eng

Beckenham (UK): India U-19 team made it to the final despite losing to England U-19 by eight wickets via D/L method in a rain-hit youth one-day match of the Tri-Nation series. India U-19 team will face Bangladesh U-19 in the summit clash at Hove on Sunday. With three wins and three losses, India U-19 team finished at second place with eight points, behind Bangladesh U-19, who topped the table with 11 points. England secured 5 points. **BRIEF SCORES:** England Under-19 214/2 (41.3/42 ov, target 214) beat India Under-19s 278/8 (Divyaansh Saxena 102, Tilak Varma 52). **PTI**

BCCI under NADA a positive turn: Rijiju

New Delhi: Sports minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday welcomed BCCI's decision to come under the ambit of National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), terming it a major step towards clean and transparent governance in sports. Rijiju termed the development as a major positive turn of events. "I don't want any issues or matter to remain unresolved. All the differences must be resolved amicably because I believe in clean and transparent governance in Sports in the interest of the sports and sports persons," Rijiju told PTI. Having stalled the ministry's near decade long attempts to bring BCCI under the NADA fold, the Board finally relented on Friday, a move that could have far-reaching implications in the near future. **PTI**

[SPORTS BAR]

Nadeem takes five-for, India A win series 2-0

West Indies A top-order put up a gutsy show to force a draw despite another five-wicket haul by left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem as India A won the unofficial three-'Test' series 2-0. Chasing a stiff target of 373, West Indies A started the day at 37 for no loss needing another 336 runs on the fourth day but only reached as far as 314 for 6 in the end. Opener Jeremy Solozano's dogged 92 off 252 balls along with No 3 Brandon King's attacking 77 off 84 balls and senior international Sunil Ambris' 69 off 142 helped the home team earn a draw after losing the first two 'Tests'. For India, Nadeem turned out to be the best bowler once again with figures of 5 for 103 in 41 overs. The Jharkhand orthodox left-arm played two of the three games and had three 'five-for' in four innings, finishing with 15 wickets in the series.

Fraser-Pryce smashes 40-year-old record

Jamaican Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce broke the 40-year-old Pan Am Games 200 metres record when the twice Olympic 100 metres champion clocked 22.43 seconds to win gold on Friday. The 32-year-old clipped two-hundredths of a second off American Evelyn Ashford's Games record of 22.45 set at San Juan, Puerto Rico in 1979. Fraser-Pryce, who won Olympic titles in 2008 and 2012, beat Brazil's Vitoria Cristina Rose by almost two-tenths of a second with Bahamian Tynia Gaither third in 22.76.

Neymar to miss PSG season opener

Brazilian Neymar will not play in Sunday's season opener for Paris St Germain, the Ligue 1 club said, as speculation continues to swirl over whether or not the forward will remain at the French champions. "He has not completed a full week with the team and, for that reason, he will not play with us tomorrow," PSG coach Thomas Tuchel told reporters on Saturday, ahead of the league match against Nimes. Another source at the club said PSG was hoping to make a decision soon regarding Neymar's future in the French capital. "We are still in talks over moving things forward, to see if he will stay or not," said the source, who added it was important the team "stays focused on the championship".

Andy Murray's first match next week in Cincinnati will be his first competitive singles outing since the Australian Open in January.

Murray to return to singles in Cincinnati

Three-time Grand Slam champion Andy Murray said on Friday he will return to singles competition next week at the ATP Cincinnati Masters, seven months after having right hip surgery he feared might end his career. The British star posted a photo of himself on his Facebook page on court while yelling with a clenched right fist and the caption: "That feeling when you accept a wildcard for the singles in Cinci... #LetsDoThis #HereWeGo." The 32-year-old Scotsman has fallen to 325th in the world rankings after his January operation to ease nagging hip pain. His first match next week in Cincinnati in the final major tuneup for the US Open will be his first competitive singles outing since the Australian Open in January. "Good news for the sport," Spain's Rafael Nadal said of Murray's return to singles. "Especially great news for him. That means that he's healthy. "That's going to be a big, big moment for him," Nadal told reporters in Montreal. After all the retirement that he predicted in Australia ... six months later seems like he's back again, healthy, competing well." Murray will face Richard Gasquet in the first round in Cincy.

Draw puts Saina, Sindhu on collision course

Saina Nehwal and PV Sindhu are on a collision course at next week's World Championships in Basel, Switzerland, as they have been placed in the same half after the world governing body re-conducted the women's singles draw. "It was determined a player had mistakenly been included in the women's singles entry list and the BWF has subsequently adjusted the entry list and conducted a re-draw," the Badminton World Federation said on its website. Saina and Sindhu could face-off at the semifinals.

Johnson seizes lead with final hole birdie putt

Dustin Johnson sank an eight-foot birdie putt at the last to take a one-stroke lead over Jordan Spieth in the second round of the Northern Trust in New Jersey on Friday. Johnson shook off an opening bogey to make five birdies as the world number two shot a four-under par 67 in the afternoon at Liberty National to move to 12-under for the tournament. "I drove it really well," Johnson said, pleased to be playing against the backdrop of New York City across the Hudson River. "I've got a lot of control with the golf ball and hitting a lot of really nice shots and rolled in a couple putts today which is nice, but still feel like I left quite a few out there." Spieth dropped in eight birdies against a single bogey for sparking 64 in the morning.

Bajrang wins gold, Vinesh in final

India's top two wrestlers continued their impressive run this season with Bajrang Punia defending his title at Tbilisi Grand Prix and Vinesh Phogat reaching her fourth final at Medved event. Bajrang, who had won a gold at the same event last year as well, prevailed 2-0 over Iran's Peiman Bibyani in the 65kg final of the men's free style competition in the capital city of Georgia. It is fourth gold of the season for the Asian Games champion Bajrang after standing atop the podium at Dan Kolov, Asian Championship and Ali Aliev tournament. At the Medved event in Minsk, Belarus, Vinesh outclassed local wrestler Yafremenka 11-0 in the 53kg semifinals to be in line for her fourth consecutive gold. Next for Vinesh is Russia's N Malisheva, who blanked local girl Pichkouskay 6-0. The top Indian woman wrestler won at Grand Prix of Spain Yasar Dogu International and Poland Open recently.

epaper.indianexpress.com

Alisson injury mars Liverpool's strong start

REUTERS
LIVERPOOL, AUG 10

LIVERPOOL COULD be without inspirational goalkeeper Alisson Becker for a number of weeks after the Brazilian suffered a calf injury in Friday's 4-1 thrashing of Norwich to kick-off the Premier League season in style.

The European champions are aiming to end a 30-year wait to win the Premier League after missing out by only one point to Manchester City last season and laid down an early marker in the title race by racing into a 4-0 lead before half-time.

Norwich captain Grant Hanley's hapless own goal just seven minutes in set the tone for what could be a long season for the Canaries before Mohamed Salah, Virgil van Dijk and Divock Origi netted as Liverpool shot out of the blocks.

However, the Reds' joy was curtailed when Alisson pulled up after kicking the ball clear from a routine goal kick and needed support to limp off the field.

"Nothing bad to say about the game apart from Ali's injury," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, who confirmed his number one will miss Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup clash with Chelsea in Istanbul.

"We have to see how serious it is and deal with it." Alisson kept 20 clean sheets in his first Premier League season and was also instrumental in Liverpool's Champions League triumph.

Spanish goalkeeper Adrian only joined Liverpool this week on a free transfer after Simon Mignolet departed to join Club Brugge. But the former West Ham stopper could now have a huge role to play in the coming weeks to ensure Klopp's men cede no early ground in the title race to City with tricky matches against Southampton and Arsenal to come.

Friday's game was already won before Alisson departed as from Origi's low cross, Hanley's wild hack at a clearance flashed beyond Tim Krul in the Norwich goal. A Golden Boot winner in each of the past two seasons, Salah then opened his account for the season with a calm finish from Roberto Firmino's pass on 19 minutes.

A Sterling opener for Man City

Striker scores a hat-trick to help defending champs bag 5-0 win in VAR-affected match vs West Ham

REUTERS
LONDON, AUG 10

RAHEEM STERLING scored a hat-trick as champions Manchester City made a hugely convincing start to their title defence with a 5-0 win at West Ham United on Saturday, in a game which saw heavy use of video review.

Brazilian Gabriel Jesus, preferred by Pep Guardiola to Sergio Aguero in attack, opened the scoring in the 25th minute with a deft close-range finish after a scorching burst and low cross from Kyle Walker.

Sterling made it 2-0, six minutes after the interval, with a cool finish after Kevin De Bruyne had burst from midfield and fed the England forward.

Jesus then became the first player to have a goal disallowed by the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) in the Premier League when, in the 53rd minute, he finished off Sterling's pass following a fine move. However, the VAR adjudged that Sterling was marginally offside as he ran into the box. VAR, making its debut this season, was used again to review and eventually validate Sterling's second, when he collected a lofted ball into the box and lobbed West Ham keeper Lukasz Fabianski.

The video staff were busy again in the 84th minute when City were awarded a penalty for Issa Diop's foul on Riyad Mahrez. Substitute Aguero's penalty soft penalty was saved but VAR ruled that Declan Rice was encroaching into the box and referee Mike Dean ordered a re-take -- which the Argentine scored before Sterling completed his hat-trick in stoppage time.

After last season's runners-up Liverpool began their campaign with a 4-1 win over Norwich City at Anfield on Friday, City's emphatic victory was another sign that we could be in for a repeat neck-and-neck battle between the leading pair.

The result was City's eighth successive win in competitive matches against West Ham, in which time they have scored 28 goals and conceded four.

Guardiola was pleased with his team's second half display but had some critical words for their performance in the opening 45 minutes.

"It was difficult away from home, 1230 kick-off, hot. The first half was not good. We didn't control second balls and lost a lot of balls," said the Spaniard.

"It was important to get three points, a clean sheet. At 2-0, they have a chance. Overall for the first game it is an incredible result. "The second half was much better. More calm, but still we have many things to improve."

Guardiola said that the VAR decisions were a reminder of the need for a team to keep their cool in what are still unusual situations.

"You have to be mentally strong when VAR is not on your side. You think at 0-3 the game is almost over but at 0-2, the game is completely different. You have to be calm and be strong, it is going to change the dynamic not just for the team but for the spectators," he said.

Raheem Sterling scores Manchester City's third goal of the match against West Ham United on Saturday. *Reuters*

Barnes strikes twice

Ashley Barnes struck twice as Burnley beat Southampton 3-0 in a meeting of two of last season's Premier League strugglers at a wet and windswept Turf Moor on Saturday.

It was a typically robust display from Sean Dyche's Burnley but a worrying performance from a Southampton side who have had to fight against the drop in the past two seasons.

Three goals inside 12 minutes in the second half turned a game which had been even until Barnes opened the scoring in the 63rd minute

"We lost it completely," said Saints manager Ralph Hasenhuttl.

"We lost it for 12 minutes and now this game is gone. Three-nil down, no chance to come back. We knew it would be difficult here. We knew it is not easy here. We did it ok for 60 minutes and then it is not good enough," added the Austrian.

Hasenhuttl suffered a blow before the game with defender Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg restricted to the bench after suffering a pre-match illness but the Saints started well.

New signing Che Adams went close early, sliding in at the back post to meet a dangerous cross from Yan Valery but the 15 million-pound ($18 million) signing from Birmingham City couldn't find the target.

Burnley, who left their own close season signing Jay Rodriguez on the bench against his former club, had the ball in the net through Chris Wood in the 16th minute but provider Barnes was flagged offside and a Video Assistant Referee review backed the decision.

In driving rain and swirling winds, there were few moments of quality -- Burnley winger Johann Berg Gudmundsson drove just wide of Angus Gunn's post while Nick Pope, making his first league start in the Burnley goal for 15 months, made a fine save from a rasping Nathan Redmond drive.

The breakthrough came when Saints defender Jannik Vestergaard misjudged a hopeful long ball forward from Erik Pieters and Barnes latched on to it before firing home.

The pair combined again for the Clarets' second seven minutes later with Dutch debutant Pieters' cross from deep met superbly on the volley by Barnes.

Osaka cracks against on-song Serena

REUTERS
TORONTO, AUGUST 10

SERENA WILLIAMS moved into the Rogers Cup semi-finals on Friday with a maiden career victory over Naomi Osaka in their first meeting since the American's infamous row with an umpire overshadowed last year's U.S. Open final.

The 6-3 6-4 loss continued a run of poor form for Osaka but there was some good news later in the day when Karolina Pliskova lost to ensure the U.S and Australian Open champion would replace Ash Barty as world number one next week.

Williams will next face qualifier Marie Bouzkova, who advanced when Wimbledon champion and holder Simona Halep retired from their match with a left Achilles problem after dropping the first set 6-4.

There was no doubt about what was the big match of the day at the third oldest tournament in tennis. Unlike at Flushing Meadows last year, where Osaka won her first Grand Slam title, there were no fiery exchanges with the umpire, no smashed rackets, no point or game penalties -- just a rock-solid performance from Williams.

The 37-year-old is looking to shore up her hardcourt game for the Aug. 26-Sept.8 U.S. Open where she will chase a record-tying 24th career Grand Slam title. Williams had slow starts in her previous two outings this week but came out much stronger for this one and delivered a serving masterclass that denied Osaka any break point opportunities.

"We haven't played since New York which was a really good match for her and I just wanted to come out and try to win a set this time because she's beaten me twice so I just wanted to do the best I could today," Williams said in an on-court interview.

There was a scary moment in the second set when the American ran into the net post while trying to chase down an Osaka drop shot but, despite nursing her right arm, Williams confirmed that no serious damage had been done.

"Tennis players don't really get too dirty and ugly on the court. So that was one of a few moments where those kind of injuries can happen or whatever," said Williams. "But it was fine. It hurt, but it wasn't the end of the world."

Czech 21-year-old Bouzkova's breakout run in Toronto will carry into the weekend after Halep, who had been complaining about her Achilles all week, retired from their match.

"Achilles problems. I felt since the first match here. And today I felt it more, so that's why I decided to retire," said Halep. "Tomorrow it would have been Serena and is not easy."

In earlier quarter-final action, Canadian teenager Bianca Andreescu played through leg pain to keep her dream run alive with a 6-0 2-6 6-4 upset of Czech Pliskova. Andreescu looked to be in trouble when she gingerly returned to the court from a medical timeout late in the second set with her right thigh heavily taped and her movement hampered. But the 19-year-old, who shot to prominence with her Indian Wells triumph in March, went toe-to-toe with her more experienced opponent to win by serving out to love.

Serena Williams beat Naomi Osaka 6-3, 6-4 in the Rogers Cup quarterfinals on Saturday. *USA TODAY Sports*

Biles pulls out a magic move from her vault

DANIELLE ALLENTUCK
KANSAS CITY, AUGUST 10

AT A training session on Wednesday ahead of the United States Gymnastics Championships, Simone Biles wore a leotard with a bedazzled goat on the back.

It was a reminder, in case people somehow forgot, that she is the greatest American gymnast of all time. With a combined 25 world championship and Olympic medals, including 18 golds, Biles stands alone atop the medal standings.

She got to this point by fearlessly performing elements that no one else has dared go near, and as Biles began her quest on Friday for a record-tying sixth national title, she became the first woman to perform a triple double (two flips with three twists) in the floor exercise of a competition.

Though she had trouble on the landing and had to steady herself by putting both hands on the mat, the judges ruled that Biles had completed the element. They awarded her 14.35 points for the routine, the highest total for the floor exercise on Friday, and Biles promised to try the triple double again on Sunday, when the women's all-around title will be decided. She finished Friday night in the lead, 1.75 points ahead of Sunisa Lee.

Biles said she thought she had too much adrenaline flowing to control her power on the triple double. "It's such a hard skill that I shouldn't be mad," Biles said of her fall, "but I'm so mad about it because in training I've never done it before."

Nevertheless, it was the third time in her career that Biles had introduced a new element to the women's side of the sport.

Biles tried another novelty later on Friday night, a double-double dismount off the balance beam, and landed it with a slight hop. Though the dismount was not as big a breakthrough as the triple double, it was another first.

"I feel like you should never settle just because you are winning or you are at the top," Biles said after her Wednesday training session, where she successfully completed the triple double four times. "You should always push yourself."

The triple double is a skill that, until this point, had been done only on the men's side, where it is still rare. None of the men at the national championships are expected to try one, and most of Biles's competitors can't even do a double double.

"If you had told me 10 years ago that someone would be doing that, I'd be like: 'That seems a little hard and dangerous. I don't know,'" Nastia Liukin, the 2008 Olympic all-around champion who is now an analyst for NBC Sports, said earlier this week. "Of course, if anyone can do it, it's obviously her."

When Biles's coach, Laurent Landi, approached her about working on the triple double last year, she had her doubts. She played around with the skill a few years ago, but only in a foam pit, which protected her from getting hurt if she messed up.

"My first reaction is no," Biles said. "Then he has to push me towards it until I'm ready to do it myself, and I'm like, 'O.K., it's really not that bad.'

"He almost makes the impossible possible sometimes, and I don't know how he does it." Now Biles has such a command of the move that she often bounces out of the landing, a sign that she has more than enough power to complete it.

After taking nearly two years off from competition after the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, where she won the all-around title, Biles has been as dominant as ever, winning six medals, four of them gold, at last year's world championships.

Much has changed, though, within the United States national team. At 22, Biles is one of its oldest members, the designated leader of the team and an important example to the younger gymnasts.

She is also the only remaining member of the 2016 Olympic team and the only active elite gymnast who has publicly identified herself as a survivor of the sexual abuse perpetrated by Lawrence G. Nassar, the national team's former doctor.

While others in the sport, particularly her 2016 Olympic teammate Aly Raisman, spoke out about the failure of U.S.A. Gymnastics to protect its young athletes, Biles remained relatively quiet. Recently, though, her stance has shifted. Biles has used her Twitter account to express frustration with the sport's national governing body, and she became emotional while talking on Wednesday about the aftermath of the scandal.

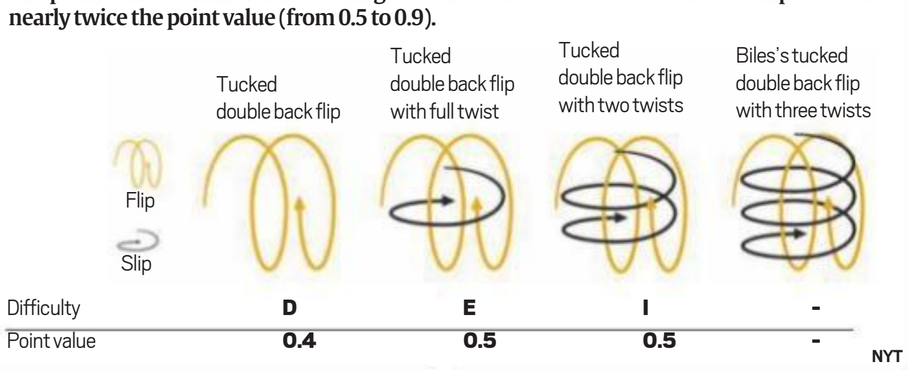
"I do want to be a voice," Biles said, "but it takes time."

Although she is still figuring out how and when to best use her voice, Biles has always led by example. All eyes were on her during the training session: Her fellow athletes and coaches stopped their workouts to watch her, even applauding after she completed a skill. NYT

Simone Biles performed a triple double in US Championship. *NYT*

HOW WILL JUDGES SCORE BILES'S NEW SKILL?

Simone Biles unveiled a new skill in her floor exercise routine on Friday: the triple double, a double back flip with three twists. This skill had never been tried before in a women's gymnastics competition, and it will not be assigned an official value for scoring until Biles tries the element at the world championships this fall. Here is a look at the level of difficulty and point value of similar skills. Adding a second twist to a tucked double back flip is worth nearly twice the point value (from 0.5 to 0.9).



NYT

Vol.XVIII No. 21 Regd.No. DL-21046/03-05

R.N.I. No. DELENG/2002/10884. Printed and Published by R.C. Malhotra on behalf of The Indian Express (P) Limited and Printed at The Indian Express (P) Limited Press, A-8, Sector-7, Noida - 201301 and Published at The Indian Express (P) Limited, Mezzanine Floor, Express Building, 9 & 10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002. Editorial office: The Indian Express (P) Limited, Mezzanine Floor, Express Building, 9 & 10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002. Phone: 0120-6651500. Advertising office: The Indian Express (P) Limited, B1/B, Sector - 10, Noida - 201301. Phone: 0120-6651291. Chairman of the Board: Viveck Goenka, Chief Editor: Raj Kamal Jha, Editor: Unni Rajen Shanker, Editor (Delhi): Rakesh Sinha ** **Responsible for selection of News under the PRB Act. Copyright: The Indian Express (P) Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited. The Indian Express®

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