

Abrogation of special status will open up new vistas for J&K: Venkaiah



P. Chidambaram for smaller families



U.S. lawmaker Rashida

Ravi Shastri retained



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endorses Modi's call



Tlaib rejects Israeli offer to visit West Bank

Page 14

as head coach of Indian cricket team Page 20



Kapil Mishra to join BJP today

Rebel Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator Kapil Mishra, who was recently disqualified from the Delhi Assembly under the anti-defection law, will formally join the Bharatiya Janata Party on Saturday.

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

Man on way to celebrate Rakhi killed by manjha

A 28-year-old man died after his throat was slit by a kite string on Thursday afternoon in Paschim Vihar. The police have registered a case and started a probe

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

JSW ▶ 4 PAGES (A SPACE MARKETING FEATURE) IN

End of special status an internal matter, says India

'Pakistan, China trying to impose their views on the world'

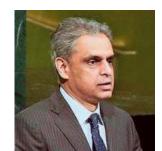
SRIRAM LAKSHMAN WASHINGTON DC

Reiterating that issues around Article 370, i.e., special status to Jammu & Kashmir, were an internal matter, India played down the significance of Friday's UN Security Council's "closed consultation" meeting on Kashmir.

Indian Ambassador to the UN Syed Akbaruddin accused Pakistan and China of attempting to impart greater significance to the meeting than was warranted.

"After the end of the Security Council's closed consultations, we noted that two states who made national statements tried to pass them off as the will of the international community," Mr. Akbaruddin said, as he took to the podium after the meeting.

"The Security Council is a very deliberative... institu-



Syed Akbaruddin

tion. It works in a very considered manner. Its outcomes are provided to all of us through the [UNSC] President. So if national statements try to masquerade as the will of the international community, I thought I will come across to you too and explain our national position," he said, adding that Article 370 is an entirely internal matter of India with no external ramifications.

Neither India nor Pakis-

tan were part of the UNSC closed consultations, which are informal meetings that do not have a formal outcome. Sometimes "press elements" can be agreed by consensus of the UNSC members, but no such statement emerged from Friday's meeting.

Mr. Akbaruddin told reporters that the abrogation of Article 370 was done to enhance good governance and socio-economic development in Jammu and Kashmir and that the UNSC consultations had taken note of this.

Mr. Akbaruddin, speaking after his Chinese and Pakistani counterparts and in sharp contrast to them, took questions from reporters, including from Pakistan.

UN HAPPY WITH PEACE EFFORTS SAYS AMBASSADOR ▶ PAGE 12

SC counsels patience over J&K

Give a little time for the situation to ease, Chief Justice of India tells petitioner

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

The Supreme Court on Friday called for patience over the situation in Jammu and Kashmir while hearing a petition filed by Anuradha Bhasin, executive editor of Kashmir Times, challenging the lockdown and media restrictions imposed by the Centre across the Valley.

Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi said he had read in the morning's newspapers that landlines would be restored in the Valley by evening. "We would like to give it a little time," the CJI said, addressing Ms. Bhasin's coun-

Justice S.A. Bobde cited a telephonic conversation he had had with the Jammu and Kashmir High Court's Chief Justice as proof that landlines were already working. "There is no problem with the landlines," Justice Bobde told senior lawyer Vrinda Grover, appearing for Ms.



No respite: Kashmiris offer Friday prayers amid the continuing restrictions in Srinagar. • AP

Bhasin, Ms. Grover said only the landlines of a few important persons may be working. The reality was different for ordinary people, she

Finally, the Bench chose to keep Ms. Bhasin's petition pending. The CJI said a date would be fixed on the administrative side for the next hearing. This is the second Bench of the Supreme Court that has decided to 'wait and watch' while the government handles the unfolding events in J&K

The lockdown in the Valley was imposed on August 4, preceding the issuance of a Presidential Order the next day, which read down Article 370 and scrapped the special rights and privileges accorded to the people of J&K since 1954.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Protesters clash with police in Srinagar

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Hundreds of protesters in Srinagar on Friday clashed with the police who responded with tear-gas shells and pellet-firing shotguns, an AFP reporter at the scene said.

The clashes broke out after several thousand people rallied in Srinagar, where a security lockdown entered its 12th straight day after the dilution of Article 370 and the reorganisation of J&K.

The protesters rallied inside the Srinagar locality of Soura that has witnessed regular protests since New Delhi announced its move on August 5.

DETAILS ON > PAGE 13 **CURBS WILL BE EASED ▶** PAGE 12

Chhattisgarh CM to double quota for OBCs

SIDHARTH YADAV

With an eye on the coming local body polls, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has announced that government would almost double the reservation for the OBCs, making up close to half the State's population, in government jobs and educational institu-

Delivering the Independence Day speech in Raipur, Mr. Baghel said: "In our State, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes have been raising their demands peacefully. It's our duty to protect their constitutional rights. Therefore, in a major step, I announce 32% reservation for



Bhupesh Baghel

STs, 13% for SCs and 27% for OBCs." It became imperative for the Congress - rattled after losing nine of the 11 Lok Sabha seats in this poll to the BJP – to secure the OBC flock.

In last year's Assembly election, the Congress had breached the seemingly impregnable BJP bastion, to win 60 of the 90 seats.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Monsoon special



Twin harvest: A farmer catching fish in his field during a break in rain on the outskirts of Guwahati on Friday. • RITU RAJ KONWAR

'No First Use' nuclear doctrine

is not rigid, says Rajnath Singh

Minister's tweet after his visit to Pokhran hints at a rethink

"Pokhran is the area

which witnessed Atal Ji's

firm resolve to make India a

nuclear power and yet re-

main firmly committed to

the doctrine of 'No First

Use'. India has strictly ad-

hered to this doctrine. What

happens in future depends

on the circumstances," he

clear tests in 1998.

Big gains for *The Hindu* in IRS

It records highest readership in South India and Chennai

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Hindu's total readership grew by 8.8% over Q1 2019, registering the highest growth rate among the top 3 national English dailies, as per the Indian Readership Survey's recent report released by the Media Research Users Council (MRUC) in the second quarter of the calendar year.

The Hindu added 5,47,000 readers over Q1 to register a total readership of 67,73,000 in Q2 nationally. In comparison, The Times of India grew by

The Hindu's average issue readership (AIR) grew by 4.1% over Q1 2019, registering the highest growth

rate among the top 3 national English dailies.

Growth in Bengaluru The Hindu's all-India per-

formance is attributed to its sustained leadership in Tamil Nadu and gains in markets like Bengaluru, rest of Karnataka, Telangana and Hvderabad. *The Hindu* registered the

highest total readership in South India and continues to be South India's largest read English daily. The Hindu also retained the No. 1 position in Tamil

Times of India and 1.09

Nadu and Chennai. readership of 5 lakhs in Tamil Nadu as compared to 3.57 lakh readers of *The*

lakh readers of The New Indian Express, The Hindu's readership is larger than the readership of *The Times* of India and The New Indian Express combined.

"It is the support from the many fraternities that keeps us wanting to raise the benchmark even further. The results not only encourage us but also reaffirm the trust and confidence placed by the readers on the brand. The Hindu thanks its readers and advertisers. We look forward to delivering both our readers and advertisers with unerage," says Navaneeth, Chief Executive Officer, The Hindu

Group.

Santhal penalty stalls cremation

Odisha police seize body of woman



Police personnel shifting the body of Parbati Soren for post-mortem in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district. Her husband Kandra Soren is third from left. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

Local police in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district on Friday recovered a woman's body which could not be cremated for three days because community members refused to participate in the

Villagers belonging to the Santhal tribe at Kuchei village under the Kuliana police station limits allegedly insisted that the husband, Kandra Soren, pay an old 'society penalty' before allowing anyone to assist him in the cremation. The penalty that included a goat, three chickens, 15 kg of rice and two pots of country liquor was imposed on the family of Kandra Soren because his father had married outside the clan decades ago.

Mr. Soren had himself

married Parbati allegedly defying the tribe's tradition under which the groom's family must gift a cow or bullock to the bride's family at the time of marriage. His was a love marriage and he had not given any gift. Mr. Soren, a daily wager,

laws. As a result, he received help from neither of them. Parbati Soren had died of unspecified illness on August 14. "Despite repeatedly assuring them that I will pay the fine later, the community members refused to

had expressed his inability

to pay the penalty to the

community and to his in-

budge," said Mr. Soren. "We have sent the body for post-mortem," said Kamalakanta Das, Inspectorin-Charge of Kuliana police station. "We are trying to find out if he is facing a social boycott."

NEW DELHI The Supreme Court asked

the Hindu parties on Friday to present proof of their claim that the Babri Masjid was built on the remains of an ancient temple or Hindu religious structure. A fivejudge Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi was hearing submissions on the seventh day.

lennia we have seen civilisations settle and resettle on river banks. They have built upon pre-existing structures. But prove that the alleged ruins or demolished building [on which Babri Masjid was built] was religious in nature," Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, on the Bench, asked senior advo-

Justice S.A. Bobde asked Mr. Vaidyanathan to corroborate his arguments that the structure was a temple, dedicated to Lord Ram. Vaidyanathan re-

ferred to the Archaeological Survey of India excavation report that the structure found underground dated back to the second century HINDU IMAGERY FOUND AT

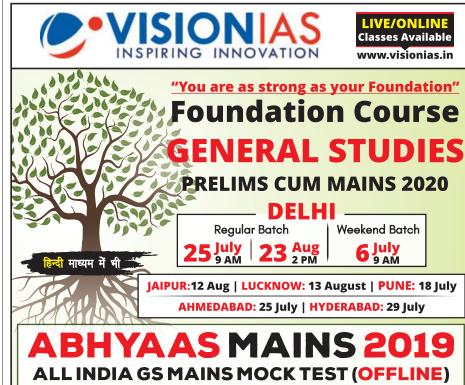
SITE, SAYS COUNSEL ▶ PAGE 12

Rajasthan appoints SIT in Pehlu Khan case

on Friday appointed an SIT to

probe the Pehlu Khan lynching case and examine the previous investigation to find the lapses, if any, which had led

to the acquittal of the six accused by a Sessions Court in Alwar earlier this week. **DETAILS ON ▶** PAGE 12



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25 AUGUST

ty, Ram Lalla Virajman.

said in a post on Twitter. 'Indebted to Vajpayee' Mr. Singh added that India attaining the status of a responsible nuclear nation became a "matter of national ness of Mr. Vajpayee". India put in place its nu-

pride" for every citizen and

for this the nation will "re-

main indebted to the great-

clear doctrine with 'No First Use' and massive retaliation forming its core tenets soon after it tested nuclear weapons in 1998. The concept of maintaining a minimum credible deterrence and a nuclear triad for delivery of weapons based on aircraft, missiles and nuclear submarines flow from that.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Prove that Masjid was built over temple, says Supreme Court

Counsel for Ayodhya deity refers to ASI excavation report LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The future of India's 'No

First Use' policy on nuclear

weapons depends on the

"circumstances", Defence

Minister Rajnath Singh

tweeted on Friday, after vis-

iting the nuclear test site in

The remark raised ques-

tions of a change in the nu-

clear doctrine. August 16,

2019 marks the first death

anniversary of former Prime

Minister Atal Bihari Vaj-

payee, under whose govern-

ment India conducted nu-

Pokhran.

cate C.S. Vaidyanathan, appearing for the Ayodhya dei-"Over the past two mil-

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PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Light rain was recorded in some parts of Delhi with the maximum temperature settling at 32.5 degrees Celsius, a notch below the season's average

The weatherman has forecast generally cloudy sky with the possibility of light to moderate rain and thundershower and strong surface winds on Saturday. The city's air quality has been oscillating between 'good' and

'satisfactory' categories for the past one week, making it one of the longest spells of clean air in the city this year, the authorities said. They have attributed increased rainfall with approaching western disturbance as the

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main reason behind the improvement in air quality. According to the Centre-run System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting (SA-FAR), the AQI of Delhi was 44 on Friday, which falls in 'good' category.

EDMC sets 10 p.m. deadline for revelry at weddings, functions

Laser lights banned, horse-drawn carriages, processions not allowed outside motels

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The East Delhi Municipal Corporation on Friday introduced a new policy for holding social functions at hotels and motels in its jurisdiction.

The policy stipulates various rules, including a ban on usage of laser lights as they "cause obstruction and affect

Under the new rules, loudspeakers and bands will not be allowed to play after 10 p.m.; processions and horsedrawn carriages will not be permitted on roads outside the motels; special provisions have to be taken to keep noise levels under the pollution control board's norms, including use of noiseless power back-ups; and CCTVs have to be set up at the entrance and exit gates, among other liabilities on the owner of the building.

To obtain permission to hold social functions, owners will be required to make a refundable security deposit of ₹10 lakh apart from an annual charge. Additionally, a rate of ₹2.60 per square feet per day of the area of the marquee will be charged for the func-

Permission will be granted only to those who have received no-objection certifi-



Under the new rules, bands and loudspeakers will not be allowed after 10 p.m.

cates from fire services and traffic policemen, the policy stipulates.

Applicants seeking permission to hold functions will also be required to inform local authorities at least 10 days in advance in case any celebrities or VVIPs are expected to attend and 15 days in advance in case any entertainment programme has been sche-

In case of violations

In case of violations of the policy's guidelines, the owner of the building will be given three chances, where they will be fined after which they will be barred from holding social functions for two years.

A similar policy was rolled out by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation in October

Councillors question official's repatriation

EDMC Commissioner stands by decision

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Standing Committee members of the East Delhi Municipal Corporation on Friday raised the issue of repatriation of the director of education following allegations that the official exceeded his jurisdiction.

However, EDMC Commissioner Dilraj Kaur said she stands by her decision.

Ashok Kumar who was on deputation with the EDMC as the director of education had issued certain orders regarding private schoolteachers, which were deemed to be outside his jurisdiction, an official said. He was sent a showcause notice by the Commissioner in this regard following which he was repatriated to his parent department.

Order challenged

The order was challenged in the Central Administrative Tribunal which issued a stay on his transfer. Later,

the CAT's order was taken back after the civic body moved an appeal, the official added.

EDMC councillors expressed surprise over the sudden transfer of an official who they said had faced no complaints and worked hard over the last one and a half years. Councillor Satpal Singh claimed that Ashok was locked out of his office and barred unceremoniously. Addressing the members, the Commissioner alleged that the official had tampered with documents in order to bolster his case but his petition had failed.

"I do not want someone like this working under me," she said, adding: "If there is strength in his case, he can challenge it in the High Court." Leader of House Nirmal Jain said it was important that in taking such decisions, the political wing of the corporation be taken into confidence for approval in a timely man-

HC allows visually impaired man to study in JNU

Court quashes university's decision to fail him as he did not appear in repeat courses

SOIBAM ROCKY SINGH

The Delhi High Court has cleared the path for a visually impaired student to pursue M.Phil programme in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) by quashing the institute's decision to fail him in the second semester of M.A. (Persian) for not appearing in the repeat course exam.

Justice C. Hari Shankar not only granted relief to Ghalib Zeyad but also praised him for his "perseverance and hard work"

'The accomplishments of the petitioner [Zeyad]... to which the respondents [JNU]

offer no denial, clearly indicate that the petitioner is academically gifted, and has, by dint of perseverance and hard work, overcome his physical limitations. The attitude that the JNU has chosen to adopt while dealing with the case of the petitioner can only be characterised as woefully anachronistic," Justice Shankar remarked.

Zeyad, who aspires to pursue the M.Phil. programme in JNU, is visually impaired, suffering from 100% blindness in his right eye and 50% in the left eye. While studying in the fourth semester of the M.A. (Persian) programme, he applied for repeating four courses of his second semester in order to improve his performance.

'Violation of Ordinance' Later, a colleague informed

him that his application for permission to repeat the four courses was in violation of Ordinance 15(A) governing JNU. After this, Zeyad decided not to appear for second-semester repeat course exams. The JNU said it cannot be faulted for having treated him as failed in the four courses of his second semester as he did

not appear for the same. The Ordinance says that a student was permitted only to carry an additional load, over and above the normal load prescribed for any particular semester, up to a maximum of 50% of the credits/courses to be undertaken for that particular semester.

The court, however, said: "The petitioner could not be treated as having failed in the said four courses of his second semester merely because he failed to appear for the courses, in addition to the four courses of his fourth semester." The judge said Zevad's failure to reappear cannot result in forfeiting credits earlier earned by him.

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		TENDER NOTICE				
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1	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, REWARI	CHHAJU PURAM COLONY:- ROUGH COST ESTIMATE FOR PROV. AND INSTT. 1 NO. T/WELL AT CHHAJU PURAM COLONY DISTT MOHINDERGARH. "DRILLING OF 01 NO. TUBE WELL AND PROVIDING AND FIXING OF 1 NO.	14.08.2019 20.08.2019	15.72 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO.2019_HRY_ 94239	01274-260344 eegwire- wari@phedharyana.gov.in
2	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, REWARI	DRILLING OF TUBEWELL IN LIEU OF 1 NO. ABANDONED T/WELL AT VILLAGE NARYANA DISTT.PANIPAT" AND DRILLING OF TUBEWELL IN LIEU OF 1 NO. ABANDONED T/WELL AT VILLAGE MAHAWATI DISTT.PANIPAT AND DRILLING OF TUBEWELL IN LIEU OF 1 NO. ABANDONED T/WELL AT VILLAGE PATTI KALYANA DISTT.PANIPAT.	14.08.2019 23.08.2019	42.50 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO 2019_ HRY_94242	01274-260344 eegwire- wari@phedharyana.gov.in
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4	PANCHAYATI RAJ, JIND	REPAIR OF GVD IN VILLAGE KARMGARH AND CONST. OF GRAM SACHIVA- LYA IN VILLLAGE KHAPAR AND DURJANPUR (TOTAL 3 NO. WORK)	10.08.2019 19.08.2019	56.32 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01681-245124/ prexeeng.jnd@hry.nic.in
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6	PANCHAYATI RAJ, N/CHAUD- HARY	CONST. OF PARK CUM VYAYASHALA	19.08.2019 27.08.2019 Redate 28.08.2019 02.09.2019	212.50 LACS	https://etender.nic.in	9416282235 bdponangal- chaudhary@gmail.com
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9	PANCHAYATI RAJ, KURUK- SHETRA	CONSTRUCTION OF 2 NO. GOVT. VETY. HOSPITALS & 6 NO. GOVT. VETY. DISPENSARY	15.08.2019 26.08.2019	165.08 LACS	https://etender.nic.in	9416127384 prexeeng.krk@ hry.nic.in
10	IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, BHIWANI	M.S. DELIVERY PIPE 10" DIA WITH THICKNESS OF SHEET 4MM BOTH END FLANGED 20' LENGTH + 5 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 19.08.2019	EMD 10000	https://etender.nic.in	01664-242515 xenmechbhiwani@gmail. com
11	IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, SIRSA	REMODELING OF WC OF OL RD 146850/L KALUANA DISTY+ 5 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 30.08.2019	113.2 LACS	hid.gov.in	xen.rorisrs @rediffmail.com
12	IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, BHIWANI	REPLACEMENT OF ACC SHEETS WITH CGI SHEETS IN SWITCH ROOM & PROVIDING GATES OF PUMP HOUSE NO. 4 SIWANI CANAL.	CLOSING DATE 23.08.2019	1.88 LACS	https://etender.nic.in	EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.
13	IRRIGATION AND WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, NARNAUL	CONSTRUCTION OF CANTEEN MAIN GATE & OTHER MISC. WORK AT SINCHAI BHAWAN IN CANAL COLONY, NARNAUL.	CLOSING DATE 22.08.2019	13.82 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	01282-251214
14	WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOP- MENT DEPTT., KARNAL	TENDER IS INVITED FOR THE PRIVATE CAR HIRE IN DISTRICT CHILD PROTECTION SOCIETY, KARNAL	CLOSING DATE 23.08.2019		https://karnal.gov.in	0184-2270175,0184- 2272020
15	HEALTH DEPARTMENT , FARIDABAD	DRUGS/INJECTION/CONSUMABLES/DENTAL ITEMS	19.08.2019 04.09.2019	50000/-	https://etender.nic.in	0129-2416169 civilhospitalfbd@gmail.com
16	PWD B&R AMBALA	CONSTRUCTION OF SIDE DRAIN ALONG UGARA BARA ROAD IN VILLAGE BARA HABITATION AREA WITH 80MM INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK IN BETWEEN ROAD EDGE TO DRAIN (KM. 4.070 TO KM. 4.650) (ROAD ID 4) IN AMBALA DISTRICT + 1 OTHER WORK	14.08.2019 23.08.2019	63.81 LACS	https://etender.nic.in	8221827829 Pwd-eepd1-ambala@hry. nic.in
17	PWD B&R, BHIWANI	CONSTRUCTIN OF APPROACHES TO ROB AT BHIWANIHANSI ROAD TO TOSHAMBYEPASS AT LEVEL CROSSING NO.54-A IN BHIWANI DISTRICT	14.08.2019 02.09.2019	24.54 CRORE	https://etender.nic.in	01664-242436 pwd-eepd-bhiwani@hry. nic.in
18	FOREST DEPARTMENT,HIS- AR	NEW PLANTATION + 6 OTHER WORKS	13.08.2019 23.08.2019	90.83 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in TENDER NO 2019_ HRY 93985 1 + 6 OTHER	01662-259232 dfohisar.t@gmail.com
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20	FOREST DEPART- MENT,PANCHKULA	MTC. WORK IN VAN COLONY AND VAN BHAWAN (4 MONTH) SEP 2019-DEC 2019 + 5 OTHER WORKS	16.08.2019 23.08.2019	<u> </u>	haryanaforest.gov.in	0172-2583762
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Air quality of Delhi-NCR Delhi 53 Gurugram 38 Ghaziabad 53 Faridabad 40 Noida 37 Greater Noida 58 ■ Satisfactory ■ Moderate ■ Good 51-100 Poor Very poor 201-300 301-400 IR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) | SOURCE: CPC

Fire in oil godown in

IN BRIEF

Ghitorni; no injuries NEW DELHI

A massive fire broke out in a godown in Ghitorni on Friday evening, said officials. No injuries were reported. Delhi Fire Service Chief Atul Garq said A call was made at 7.50 p.m. regarding a fire in a godown. A total of 18 fire tenders were pressed into service. "The fire was doused by 9.30 p.m.," they added.

DU's Executive Council to discuss semester system

The Delhi University has called an emergency meeting of its Executive Council on Saturday to discuss the decision to have a semester system in the university's School of Open Learning and Non-Collegiate Women

DELHI TODAY

Education Board.

Exhibition: "In Search of the Celestial", an exhibition of sculptures by Sandip Chakraborty at Triveni Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Exhibition: "Pursuit of Vibrancy", a painting exhibition of recent works by Sanjay Punekar and Sakshi Talwar at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Japa", a solo painting exhibition by Rahim Mirza at Visual Arts Gallery, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Screening: "A Midsummer's Okinawan Dream", a Japanese film screening with English subtitles at The Japan Foundation, 5A Ring Road, Lajpat Nagar IV, 2 p.m. (Mail your listings for this column at cityeditordelhi@thehindu.co.in)

JNUTA welcomes HC stay on chargesheet against teachers

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers' Association on Friday welcomed the Delhi High Court's order that "stayed the chargesheet" and inquiry proceedings invoking Central Civil Service (CCS) rules by the JNU administration against several teachers.

'No grounds' The JNUTA said the 48

charge-sheeted teachers through their counsels argued that there were absolutely no grounds for the university to claim that CCS Conduct Rules were applicable to them. "The application of CCS rules to teachers would be untenable as these would prevent them from carrying on basic functions like teaching," the JNUTA said.

The teachers had received support from over 2,000 academics in India

and abroad. "The vindictive attitude of the JNU administration had exposed 48 of our colleagues to great coercion and risk. Neither were those who participated in the INU-TA protest representing any individual interests nor are the 48 colleagues singled out are the only targets of an administration whose ultimate objective is to stamp out all resistance to its misgovernance," the JNUTA

said. It added that the JNU Executive Council's decision in October 2018 and the administration's own press statement on the same stated that no CCS Conduct Rules have been incorporated into the JNU Ordinances on service conditions of teachers.

The administration had charge-sheeted the teachers for participating in a protest in July 2018.

Last date for pre-registration for RFID tags extended: SDMC

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The last date for pre-registration and subsequent issuance of radio frequency identity (RFID) tags for commercial vehicles entering Delhi through any of the 13 toll plazas, has been extended by a week to August 23, the South Delhi Municipal

Corporation said on Friday. The deadline has been extended keeping in view difficulties being faced by owners of vehicles in the process, the SDMC said, ad-

ding that the move has been approved by the Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority.

RFID systems have been installed at the 13 border points in order to seamlessly collect toll tax and environment compensation charges. Apart from the automatic transfer of fees, the move will also help bar commercial vehicles over 10 years old from entering the city.

After the deadline, vehicles without RFID tags will face strict penalties.

Man held for stealing gun of policeman

STAFF REPORTER

A 35-year-old man has been arrested for his alleged involvement in the theft of a machine gun belonging to a Punjab Police officer.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (North East) Atul Kumar Thakur said that Sohan alias Bhanda was arrested from Loni. "A carbine machine gun, one magazine and six live cartridges were recovered from his possession. Sohan said he and his associate had stolen the weapon last week from Man Sarovar Park in Shahdara," Mr. Thakur said.

The weapon belonged to Constable Kamal Kishor, who is posted in Patiala with the 1st Indian Reserve Battalion

The police said that Mr. Kishor had kept the weapon in his father-in-law's house at Man Sarovar Park during his visit to the city.

Man on way to celebrate Rakhi killed by manjha

Victim was on a scooty; his sisters, riding pillion, were injured

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A 28-year-old man died after his throat was slit by a kite string on Thursday afternoon in Paschim Vihar. The police have registered a case and started a probe.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer) Rajendra Singh Sagar said that the victim, Manay Sharma, was a resident of Budh Vihar's Kishan Vihar.

The incident happened

around 12.30 p.m. when Manav and his two sisters were going to their maternal aunt's house in Hari Nagar to celebrate Raksha Bandhan, said the police. "When Manav crossed Peera Garhi and was on the elevated road towards the District Centre, a manjha [kite string] slit his throat," Mr. Sagar said.



sisters were going to their aunt's house in Hari Nagar. When they were crossing Peera Garhi, a kite string slit Manav's throat... he lost balance and they fell off the scooty

RAJENDRA SINGH SAGAR

Manav fell on the road and his sisters suffered minor injuries. They were taken to a private hospital nearby where Manav was declared brought dead. The hospital authorities then informed the police about the matter.

A case under Section 336 (Act endangering life or personal safety of others) and 304A (Causing death by ne-

gligence) of the Indian Penal Code has been registered.

"Teams have inspected the accident site and CCTV footage is being obtained to ascertain who the kite string belonged to," the officer said.

Warnings issued

Mr. Sagar said that as a precautionary measure, announcements were made in the district asking shopkeepers not to sell certain types of kite strings; and urging people not to fly kites near roads.

In a statement, the Delhi Police has said that 17 cases have been registered under Section 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) across the Capital in connection with people selling certain types of kite strings.

Policeman

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

found dead at

railway station

A Government Railway Pol-

ice officer was found dead

at Anand Vihar Railway

Station on Friday morning.

No note has been recovered, said the police.

Deputy Commissioner

of Police (Railways) Dinesh

Gupta said the deceased,

Head Constable Naresh Pal, had been posted to the

railways in 2016. "He re-

ported for duty at 1.50 a.m.

on Friday and was in his

The police said they re-

ceived a call around 8.30

a.m. from a Railway Police

Force officer, who in-

formed them that Naresh

the cement slab. His ser-

vice pistol was lying on the

ground and he had a gun-

shot injury on his right

ed to a government hospital for post-mortem. It was

handed over to his family

on Friday. A senior police

officer said that prima facie

no foul play has been found. "We are yet to ascer-

tain the motive behind the

pline: Sanjivini, Society for

Mental Health, Telephone:

011-4076 9002, Monday-

step," said an officer. Suicide prevention hel-

Naresh's body was shift-

temple," the officer said.

"He was found dead on

was lying unconscious.

booth," Mr Gupta said.

Kapil Mishra to join BJP today

I had decided to join party sometime ago, says ex-AAP MLA

JATIN ANAND NEW DELHI

Rebel Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator Kapil Mishra, who was recently disqualified from the Delhi Asunder anti-defection law, will formally join the BJP on Saturday.

When contacted to comment on rumours that he would be joining the BJP soon, Mr. Mishra told The Hindu: "I had decided to join the party sometime ago; the only remaining question was regarding the timing which, too, has an answer now. I will formally join the BJP tomorrow [Saturday]."

On social media

NIRNIMESH KUMAR

of 2012.

A Delhi court on Friday

framed charges against retired Lieutenant-General

Tejinder Singh in the Tatra

truck bribery attempt case

Special Judge Arvind Ku-

mar framed the charges un-

der the Prevention of Cor-

ruption Act and fixed

October 9-10 as the dates

for recording of evidence

eeted Tejinder Singh in 2014 for allegedly offering a

bribe of ₹14 crore to then

Army Chief V.K. Singh on

behalf of the supplier of the high-mobility trucks.

Minister of State for Road

Transport and Highways.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The body of a woman was found hanging from a tree

on the campus of a private

school where she worked as

a sanitation worker, the pol-

ice said on Friday. No note

left behind by the deceased

is awaited. Police and foren-

sic teams have scanned the

area where she was found

dead," he said. The woman's

husband and other family

members protested outside

the school on Friday, alleg-

Around three dozen peo-

ing that she was killed.

"The post-mortem report

has been recovered

Mr. Singh is currently the

The CBI had chargesh-

by prosecution witnesses.

He later took to Twitter to announce his decision: "I am joining BJP tomorrow at 11 a.m. Delhi let's go with Modi [sic.]." However, he later deleted the tweet.

Sources said Mr. Mishra

Court frames charges

against Tejinder Singh

He had tried to bribe Army Chief in 2010

the case.



"could have joined" the BJP last week but it was "somewhat delayed" due to the "health condition and circumstances surrounding a senior BJP leader" who is currently hospitalised – in a veiled reference to former Finance Minister Arun

On August 2, Mr. Goel had observed that Mr. Mishra's decision to campaign for the BIP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the recent Lok Sabha elections indicated that he had "given up the

Former Defence Minister

A.K. Antony is a witness in

The chargesheet said

that Mr. Antony has admit-

ted that V.K. Singh had in-

formed him of the offer of

bribe by Tejinder Singh for

clearing the file for pur-

The chargesheet adds

that the case is based on cir-

cumstantial evidence. The

investigating agency had

lodged an FIR in the matter

under Section 12 (abetting a

public servant to indulge in

corrupt practices) of the

In his complaint, the

then Army chief had al-

leged that on September

22, 2010, Tejinder Singh

had offered him a bribe of

ple stood outside the school

ficer, the woman's brother

had come to visit her for Raksha Bandhan on Thurs-

day but they argued over

some issue and she left the

residence. "It is still not

clear what the argument

was about, and whether

that prompted her to take

the extreme step. A probe is

under way," the officer said.

not yet received any formal

complaint from the wo-

contacted for comment.

man's family.

The police said they have

The school could not be

According to a police of-

to protest this evening.

Act in October 2012.

₹14 crore.

Woman found dead on

Noida school premises

Family members claim she was killed

chasing the trucks.

membership of his original political party".

As per an order issued by Mr. Goel, Mr. Mishra's disqualification had taken effect from January 27, 2019 when he shared the dais with Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari and the then Union Minister Vijay Goel.

Mr. Mishra has moved the High Court to challenge Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel's decision to disqualify him from the membership of the Assembly. He has termed the Speaker's order "illegal" and "undemocratic", and argued that sharing the dais with leaders from other political parties could not be construed as an anti-party activity.

The court has asked Mr. Mishra to show whether, and how, the findings of the Speaker's order against him were "palpably erroneous". The matter is scheduled to be heard again on Septem-

Man held for killing wite

juries on Friday.

The husband has been

A probe revealed that the accused, Sonu, suspected his wife Mohini of infidelity and fought with the victim over the issue frequently. "On Thursday, Sonu was drunk and again had an argument with his wife over the issue. The argument turned violent and he stabbed her with a

STAFF REPORTER

A 40-year-old woman who was allegedly stabbed by her husband in North West Delhi's Subhash Place on Thursday succumbed to in-

arrested, said the police.

knife," said an officer.

Saturday, 10 am -7.30 pm Geography



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IN BRIEF

School eco-clubs to be part of plantation drive

Union Minister Hardeep Puri on Friday launched a scheme involving school eco-clubs under the Delhi Development Authority's plantation drive. Lieutenant-Governor Anil Baijal, who is also the Chairman of the DDA, was also present at the event along with North-West Delhi MP Hans Raj Hans.

Indian Oil honours kin of slain soldiers

NEW DELH Indian Oil honoured the family of slain soldiers on the occasion of the 73rd Independance Day, IOC executive director (Delhi State Office) Shyam Bohra presented a shawl and a plaque to the families of the deceased soldiers at an event in Jangpura, Mr. Bohra urged the attendants to contribute to nation building

BJP wants CM to embark upon environment-friendly initiative

Party demands AAP government take effective steps to ensure plastic ban

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke about plastic pollution, the Bharativa Janata Party (BJP) demanded that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal embark upon the "environmentfriendly" initiatives.

Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta alleged that despite the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) blanket ban on non-biodegradable plastic bags for the last two years, the Delhi government had done precious little to implement it.

"There is a strong need



Arvind Kejriwal

today to take effective steps to ensure ban on prohibited plastic bags without any further delay. Delhi's citizens, especially the factory owners and shopkeepers, must have the need for contributing to this important impressed programme upon them. There is a need for creating awareness against use of plastic bags. Citizens should be encouraged to use cloth and jute bags, Mr. Gupta said.

NGT ban

"I would like to remind the Chief Minister that the NGT had banned the use of plastic bags below 50 microns two years ago. It had stipulated that environment compensation charge amount of ₹5.000 must be recovered from offenders. The tribunal

had directed to seize all such bags from Delhi within a week. But the government had failed to take strong and sustained action against violators," Mr. Gupta alleged.

Expressing concern over prohibited plastic bags being openly used in the Capital, he alleged that the Delhi government had launched "strong and effecaction" offenders.

"The factories manufacturing prohibited plastic bags are running without fear. The shopkeepers are still openly packing their goods in plastic bags," he ad-

'Kejriwal trying to mislead people through free ride announcement'

Tiwari claims AAP govt. has no intention to serve people

STAFF REPORTER

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Friday alleged that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal was trying to mislead the people through announcements related to free rides on Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses and Delhi Metro trains.

The BJP has said that it is confident of winning the Delhi Assembly elections due next year and announced its intent to increase the number of State-run buses "after the party forms government in Delhi"

Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari argued that considering the scarcity of buses being

operated by the public transporter, the announcement of free rides was a "fraud".

'Playing the gimmick'

He claimed that the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government was "playing the gimmick" of cooperating with the BIP-led Centre in view of the forthcoming Assembly

"Kejriwal is trying to cheat the people by speaking new lies every day. The Delhi government is trying to mislead the voters by making false promises to every citizen of Delhi. This government has no intentions to serve the people because it is making announcements about freebies

one after another," Mr. Tiwari alleged.

First, the Delhi government announced free rides to women in DTC buses and metro trains. After that it "suddenly" started a programme revolving around free pilgrimage to senior citizens of Delhi "after the lapse of 54 months of its tenure", Mr. Tiwari said.

"Not just this, it announced free electricity supply up to 200 units... similarly, in view of the forthcoming Assembly elections, it announced installation of CCTVs, free wi-fi service and coordination with the Central government," Mr. Tiwari said further

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Further details are available on Jharkhand Government e

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DIGIPR/2019/2020/1981

Executive Engineer

Four of gang held in two encounters

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Four alleged members of a gang were arrested after successive gunfights with police within 12 hours in Greater Noida, officials said on Friday.

The gang had barged into a showroom on August 11 and looted ₹14,000 at gunpoint. The entire episode was caught on CCTV cameras. The gang members were all masked at the time of the incident but two of them were identified after a detailed analysis of the CCTV footage, a senior officer said.

"An input about the movement of the accused in Dadri was received on Thursday night and soon police teams spread out to nab them," SP, Greater Noida, Ranvijay Singh said.

Opened fire at police

When intercepted near Shaiffali school, the four accused, two on a motorcycle and two on a scooter, opened indiscriminate firing on the policemen, Mr. Singh said.

"Two of them, Lokesh and Gauray, were held immediately after the exchange of fire, while two others managed to flee the spot. When questioned, they told the police about their partners and confirmed their involvement in the August 11 case," the SP said.

Based on the inputs, Mr. Singh said, a combing operation was launched for the absconding duo Rajeev Sharma and Rahul Kashyap. "They were arrested following a gunfight near Bisahda village in Dadri on Friday," he added.

Woman dies after jumping in front of metro train

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A 25-year-old married woman from Delhi allegedly killed herself by jumping in front of a metro train at a Yellow Line station on Friday, officials said.

The incident, which delayed the services on the busy corridor for some time, took place at Adarsh Nagar metro station in the morning, according to a senior DMRC official. The woman got hit by the

train that was going towards Vishwavidyalaya Station. "An SDM inquiry has

been ordered," a senior official said. Suicide prevention hel-

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

Ratul Puri

moves court

against NBW

Ratul Puri, nephew of Mad-

hya Pradesh Chief Minister

Kamal Nath, on Friday

moved a Delhi court seek-

ing cancellation of a non-

bailable warrant (NBW) is-

sued against him last week

in a money laundering case

crore VVIP chopper deal.

for hearing on Saturday.

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His plea will be taken up

NIRNIMESH KUMAR

NEW DELHI

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2. Mode of Bid Submission

Estimated Cost (Rs.)

Tender Fee and Bid

Publication of

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Last Date / Time of

Date of Bid Opening

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Public Works Division Beed

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approaches of Minor bridges /LHS/Ma bridges). Construction/Rebuilding of 37 Nos ninor bridges & 19 Nos. LHS in Mahrai (Excl)-Laukaha Bazar section and laying & spreading of Blanketing materials in Chandeshwar Asthan (Excl)-Laukaha Bazar ection in connection with gauge conversion f Jhanjharpur-Laukaha Bazar section

Approx cost of the work of : Rs 33,45,19,912.03, **3. Earnest money to be deposited:** Rs. 18,22,600/-, **4. Date and** time for closing of tender : 05.09.2019 at 14.30 hrs., 5. Website particular, Notice hoard location where complete details of office from where the tender form be purchased etc.: The above E-Tender, endering document alongwith full formation is available on website i.e

http://www.ireps.gov.in Note: In case of any descripencies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website http://www.ireps.gov.in atleast 15 days before last date of closing for latest n/corrections etc in respo this E-tender

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District Package Name of Work

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INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

The Chief Engineer (HZ), HPPWD., Hamirpur on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Estimated Cost Total Period of Starting

	No.		(R	s Lacs)		Completion		Security	for	Class of	
				Maintenance part (in lakh)	(Rs. Lakh)		downloading Bid	(Rs. Lakh)	submitted of Bid	contra- -ctors	Form (in Rs.)
spur	HP-01-	C/o link road from Kharkari	356.87	23.64	380.51	548	02.09.2019	7.61	23.09.2019	Α	5000
	159	to Bhater in Km.0/0 to 4/240 (SH:- F/C, CD,	GSB road sid	e drain	parapets and	d Km. Stone k	(m.0/0 to 4/	240 (L-123) i.	e. five yea	r
		maintenance (Package No. H	P-01-159) Und	der PMGSY-II	for the y	ear 2018-19)				
	HP-01-	C/o link road from Tikker to	183.36	14.08	197.44	548	02.09.2019	3.95	23.09.2019	Α	5000
	157	Dauladhar (L-164) in Km.0/0 t Five year maintenance under									25 i/c
	HP-01-	C/o link road from SNB Khal	483.62	37.97	521.59	548	02.09.2019	10.43	23.09.2019	Α	5000
	160	Tibba (L-171) in Km.0/0 to 6/8	310. (SH:-F/C,	CD, R/wall, G	SB, M/T	, Road side	drain , parape	ets and Km.	Stones Km 0	/0 to 6/810) i/c
		Five year maintenance) Unde	r PMGSY Bate	ch-II for the ye	ar 2018	-19 (Packag	e No.HP-01-1	60) Under f	Regular PMG	SY	
-	HP-01-	C/o link road from Bhater to	274.43	21.33	295.76	548	02.09.2019	5.92	23.09.2019	Α	5000
	158	Kanfara (L-122) in Km.0/0 to	3/825. (SH:-F/	C, C.D., R/wal	I, GSB,	BC, road sid	le drain Parap	ets and Km	Stone Km.0	/0 to 3/82	ī/c

Five year maintenance)(Under PMGSY Batch-II for the year 2018-19 (Package No.HP-01-158)(Under Regular PMGSY

16.08.2019

10.09.2019

16.08.2019

10.09.2019

CLOSING

68.61 LACS

secymcsisai@gmail.com

https://etenders.hry.nic.in

The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website: www.pmgsytenders.gov.in.

Superintending Engineer, 10th Circle HP.PWD Bilaspur Pin No.174001 Tel. No.01978-223466 e-mail:-hp-bil@pmgsy.nic.in

WEBSITE OF THE BOARD

CORP./AUTH

haryanatourism.gov.in

haryanatourism.gov.in

haryanatourism.gov.in

haryanatourism.gov.in

(For & on behalf of the Governor of Himachal Pradesl

EMD IN

65.09 LACS

7.70 LACS

50.40 LACS

70.70 LACS

Filing an application in the court of Special Judge Arvind Kumar, Mr. Puri sought cancellation of the warrant submitting that he had been cooperative in the probe and would be in the future.

NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT

DETAILS/EMAIL

9216400446

haryanatourism@gmail.com

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haryanatourism@gmail.com

9216400446

9216400446

7015836221

vatts.nitin.nitin@gmail.com



NAME OF

हरियाणा सरकार

HP/1439/19-20

RENOVATION OF 8 NOS ROOMS (113 TO 116 ON G.F & 224 TO 227 ON F.F) AND EXTERIOR

PAINT AT TOURIST COMPLEX BAHADURGARH

SUPPLY OF COMPOSTER AND OTHER ALLIED MATERIALS FOR VARIOUS COMPLEXES OF

HTC IN SURAJKUND AREA AND OTHER PLACES

MC SISAI INCLUDING DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE SEGARATION. SAN-

ITATION, SANITAION, SWEEPING, PROVIDING AND DRAIN CLEANING + 1 OTHER WORK

PURCHASE OF MOTOR BHARAT BIJLI MAKE + 19 OTHER WORKS

TENDER NOTICE NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER CLOSING DATE



REPAIR/MAINTENANCE OF HUTS AND OTHER ALLIED ITEMS FOR SURAJKUND INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS MELA-2020 (CLEANING OF MELA ,MUD PLASTER ,REPAIR &MTC. OF RCC सुचना 16.08.2019 3 HARYANA TOURISM CORP. LTD. 10.09.2019 कार्यालय शिविल सर्जन, ईएएस COLUMN, PAINTING WORK INSIDE AND OUTSIDE WORK & THATCH WORK) RENOVATION OF 2 NOS. BLOCKS, RAISING OF BRICK WALL ALONG THE ROAD, CON डा) समीर शागर, विकिस्सा अधिकारी, ई०एस०आई० हत्पताल सैक्टर-८ फरीदाबाद ज STRUCTION OF UGT & TUBEWELL AT HERMITAGE HUTS, SURAJKUND. (RENOVATION 2 NOS. BLOCKS (BLOCK NO- $5\ \&\ 6$) & PROPOSED RAILING FROM H. HUTS GATE TO TOWARDS LAKE VIEW HUTS SURAJKUND.) 14.08.2019 HARYANA TOURISM CORP. LTD go हस्पतास एन(एच)—3 फरीदाबाद के कार्यकाल के दौरान दिनांक— 28/8/2010 से अपनी 04.09.2019 स्वेच्छापूर्वक अपनी **डयूटी से अनुपरिचत चल रहे हैं, सरकार द्वारा** छनके विरूद्ध निवस-7 के अन्तर्गत आरोध-पत्र तारी किया गया है. जोर्डक उनके घर के पते पर कई बार पंजीकृत ढाक तथा दस्ती तौर पर संख्या प्रमारी व HARYANA TOURISM CORPO-CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL AROUND ACQUIRED LAND OF TOURISM AT 5 RATION JHAJJAR. ाध्यम से भेजा गया, जोकि घर में उपस्थित व्यक्ति हारा क्षेत्रे से मना कर दिया गया। CONVERSION OF BUDGET ACCOMODATION IN ROOMS & OTHER ALLIED WORKS (UGT HARYANA TOURISM CORPO-अतः सरकार द्वारा दिए गए निर्देश अनुसार डाठ समीर डागर, चिकित्सा अधिन WORKS ETC.) AT DABCHICK T/C HODAL सैक्टर-8 फरीदाबाद को अन्तिम मौका देते हुए चूचित किया जाता है कि वड कार्यांसय निकट HARYANA LIVESTOCK DEVEL-हाक, ईं0एस0आई0 हस्पताल सैक्टर-8 फरीदाबाद में एक सप्ताह के अन्दर-अन्दर अपनी ढवूटी पर उपस्थि PURCHASE OF A LERENCH MINI STRAW OPMENT BOARD PANCHKULA होंदे, जन्यथा आपके विरुद्ध हरियाणा सरकार द्वारा नियमनुसार एक तरका कार्यवाही करते हुए आपकी सेवार्वे FABRICATION/RENOVATION/PROVIDING AND LAYING/UP-GRADATION/CONSTRUCTION HARYANA POLICE HOUSING 8 CORPORATION PANCHKULA WORKS IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS OF HARYANA STATE. HARYANA FOREST DEVELOP-MENT CORPORATION LTD CARRYING OUT THE CONSTRUCTION (LABOUR COMPONENT ONLY) OF AVIARY AT VULTURE CONSERVATION AND BREEDING CENTRE, PINJORE, PANCHKULA SPECIAL REPAIR OFF LINK ROAD FROM VILLAGE AINCH TO BHENDOLI(ROAD ID-716) 10 HSAMB FARIDABAD WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION OF SOIL TESTING LABORATORY IN NGM BARWALA (ZIRI MANDI BARWA-11 HSAMB HISAR Signal & Telecommunication Department LA), DEPOSIT OF THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT TENDER NOTICE - Date: 13/08/2019 **HSAMB** RAISING OF 3 NOS. INDIVIDUAL PLATFORM IN NGM AT PUNHANA(RE-CALL) + 3 OTHER 12 Sr.DSTE/CO/Kota for and on behalf of President of Union of India invites

2018/45-B, Kota/S&T/Sig/2018/45-C, Kota/S&T/Sig/2018/45-E, Due date to open mentioned below. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. (1) Tender No.- KOTA/S&T/SIG/ 2018/45-A. Name of work- Hiring of Pick up van for day to day maintenance of Signalling gears in the section of SSE/SIG/SWM on Kota division. Approx. Cost of the work-₹ 18,47,703.60, **Earnest Money-** ₹ 37,000/-. **(2) Tender No.-** KOTA/ S&T/SIG/ 2018/45-B, Name of work- Hiring of Pick up van for day to day maintenance of Signalling gears in the section of JE/SIG/MEP on Kota division. Approx. Cost of the work- ₹ 18,47,703.60, Earnest Money- ₹ 37,000/-. (3) Tender No.- KOTA/S&T/SIG/ 2018/45-C, Name of work- Hiring of Pick up van for day to day maintenance of Signalling gears in the section of JE/SIG/BWM on Kota division. Approx. Cost of the work- ₹ 18,47,703.60, Earnest Money- ₹ 37,000/-. (4) Tender No.- KOTA/S&T/SIG/ 2018/45-E, Name of work- Hiring of Pick up van for day to day maintenance of Signalling gears in the section of JE/SIG/ MLZ on Kota division. Approx. Cost of the work- ₹ 18,47,703.60, Earnest Money- ₹ 37,000/-. Last Date & Time of submission and opening of tender- Tender No. 1 & 2- 15:00 Hrs. on Date 05/09/2019 & Tender No. 3 & 4- 15:00 Hrs. on Date 06/09/2019. The Tenders can be viewed at web site www.ireps.gov.in. The tenderer/ bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IREPS portal. Only registered tenderer / bidders can

e-tenders against Tender No. Kota/S&T/Sig/2018/45-A, Kota/S&T/Sig/

Sr. DSTE (Co.), Kota West Central Railway, Kota Division रेल यात्रा के दौरान शिकायत हेतु 138 पर एवं सुरक्षा हेतु 182 पर सम्पर्क करें

participate in e-tendering. Also should have valid GSTIN.

9216400446 14.08.2019 25.77 LACS haryanatourism.gov.in 04.09.2019 14.08.2019 9216400446 57.25 LACS haryanatourism.gov.in haryanatourism@gmail.com 14.08.2019 9416172558 EMD-2 LACS http://pasudhanharvana.gov.in 26.08.2019 16.08.2019 4513.32 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in dbpanchkula@yahoo.com 30.08.2019 0171-2551567 CLOSING www.hfdc.gov.in 28.08.2019 gm.ambala@hfdc.gov.in 9971730975 CLOSING xenfaridabad.hsamb2019@ **2.77 CRORE** http://etenders.hry.nic.in 22.08.2019 gmail.com 14.08.2019 01662-275612 39.17 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in 30.08.2019 xenhsamb.hisar@gmail.com CLOSING 9416631365 78.81 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in GURUGRAM 21.08.2019 kengurgaon.hsamb@gmail.com CLOSING 01681-255039/ etenders.hry. **HSAMB** 13 CONST.OF ROAD FROM LAKHMIRWALA TO BRAH KHURD 86.53 LACS http://etenders.hry.nic.in 26.08.2019 JIND gov.in WIDENING OF L/R FROM THANESAR CITY TO GHAMUR KHERI VIA BAHRI IN MC 01744-231420 xenkkr.hsamb@gmail.com HSAMB PIPLI 20 08 2019 14 3.04 CRORE http://etenders.hry.nic.ir THANESAR (ROAD ID-3579) + 9 OTHER WORKS OUTSOURCING OF GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, ARBORICULTURE/HORTICULTURE INCLUDING CLEANING ROADS & PATHS, SECURITY ARRANGEMENT IN COLONIES, OFFICES AND REST HOUSES LOCATED AT 132 HVPN 11.79 LACS 0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in www.hvpn.org.in 21.08.2019 KV HVPNL, COLONY BHIWANI FY-2019-20 (01.09.2019 TO 31.03.2020) PROVIDING AND FIXING OF NEW JERSEY BARRIER (NJB MONO BLOCK TYPE) USING MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 14.08.2019 CEMENT CONCRETE M-30 MIXED DESIGN AS PER MORTH SPECIFICATION AND THERMO-PLASTIC ROAD MARKING IN SECTOR-20, WARD NO. 18, PANCHKULA. 16 4.93 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in 0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in PANCHKULA 23.08.2019 CONSTRUCTION OF SPEED TABLE AT VARIOUS B-ROADS OF VARIOUS SECTORS IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 14.08.2019 17 40.48 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in 0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in PANCHKULA CITY, WARD NO. 8 TO 19, PANCHKULA 26.08.2019 MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, JIND DO HEREBY INVITES 9 NO. CONST. OF STREET WORKS ETC (RETENDER) + 1 OTHER WORK 14.08.2019 01681-246358 MUNICIPAL COUNCIL JIND 138.38 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in 22.08.2019 mcjind2013@gmail.com MC BASS INCLUDING DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION OF SOILD WASTE SEGARATION, CLOSING 7015836221 19 MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE BASS 68.61 LACS secymcbass@gmail.com SANITATION, SWEEPING, PROVIDING AND DRAIN CLEANING. + 1 OTHER WORK 26.08.2019 vatts.nitin.nitin@gmail.com 09.08.2019 19.08.2019 MUNICIPAL CORPORATION REPAIRING OF WATER SUPPLY LINE LEAKAGE/CONTAMINATED WATER PROBLEMS AND https://etenders.hry.nic.in ee8@mcg.gov.in GURUGRAM REPAIRING OF SLUICE VALVE AT WARD NO 33 MCG + 3 OTHER WORKS MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SPECIAL REPAIR OF ROAD IN OLD AUTO MARKET SCHEM III NEAR BARWALA CHUNGI CLOSING 21 1598.23 LACS eteders.hrv.nic.in xenmchissar@gmail.com HISAR HISAR + 65 OTHER WORKS 19.08.2019 SUPPLYING OF STATIONARY/CROCKERY ITEMS WHICH ARE REQUIRED IN THE OFFICE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 14 08 2019 22 www.etenders.hry.nic.in commissionermcr@gmail.com OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ROHTAK MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 17.08.2019 9896000527 BEAUTIFICATION OF JHANDA CHOWK. 12.17 LACS https://etenders.hry.nic.in YAMUNA NAGAR-JAGADHRI 23.08.2019

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in PRDH 71538

DELHI CTimings

SATURDAY, AUG. 17

RISE 05:51 SET 18:50 RISE 20:19 SET 07:10

SUNDAY, AUG. 18 RISE 05:52 SET 18:58

 □ RISE 20:51 SET 08:02 MONDAY, AUG. 19 RISE 05:53 SET 18:57

 □ RISE 21:22 SET 08:54 Delhi Weather max min Delhi City

Delhi Palam Today 31°C Few spells of moderate

with isolated heavy rain and thundershower with gusty wind is likely over Delhi and NCR.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow 32°C Rain will continue with decrease intensity. Cloudy sky and comfortable day likely.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2019

Heavy rain in Rajasthan, five killed

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Five people were killed in rain-related incidents in the past 24 hours in Rajasthan which was lashed by incessant rain, creating a flood-like situation in Hadauti region of the State, an official said on Friday.

A red alert was issued for Jodhpur, Nagaur and Pali for the next 24 hours, according to the Met office.

Army on alert

The Army was asked to be vigilant as Kota, Baran, Bhilwara, Jhalawar and Bundi districts recorded more than 160 mm of rain since Thursday, the official

Disaster Management, Support and Civil Protection Department Secretary Ashutosh Pedhenkar said that five people were killed in various rain-related incidents in three districts.

He said the district administration was in constant contact with the Madhya Pradesh government in connection with the continuous flow of water from

Bargari cases: CM rejects party MP's allegation

Case of ignorance or blatant mischief, says Amarinder

NDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh on Friday rejected his party MP Pratap Singh Bajwa's allegation that the Advocate General's office had misled the State and the Assembly on the issue of withdrawal of the Bargari sacrilege cases from the CBI.

In a statement issued here, Mr. Singh dubbed Mr. Bajwa's statement to a section of the media as a case of either ignorance or blatant mischief, and totally baseless.

'Decision by the House' The Chief Minister pointed out that the decision to withdraw the cases from the CBI was taken by the House on merit and was in line with the recommendations of the



Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh. • FILE РНОТО

Advocate General's office.

His government had sought the advice of the Advocate General before introducing a resolution in the House seeking withdrawal of the cases from the central agency in the interest of the

However, he pointed out that the Advocate General's

recommendation or report was at no stage presented before the House, which took an independent decision on merit and by consensus. Mr. Bajwa, therefore, had

no knowledge or information on what the Advocate General had recommended,

Father of Dalit man beaten to death ends life

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The father of a Dalit man who was allegedly beaten to death last month after his motorcycle hit a woman in Rajasthan's Alwar district has ended his life, police said on Friday.

They said Ratiram Jatav, 60, consumed a poisonous substance on Thursday, a month after his son died at a Delhi hospital.

Harish, 28, had sustained serious head injuries on July 16 after he was allegedly thrashed by a group of men when his motorcycle hit the woman.

No note has been found and Ratiram's body has been kept for post-mortem, police said. Suicide prevention hel-

Mental Health, Telephone: 9002, Monday-Saturday, 10 am -7.30 pm

pline: Sanjivini, Society for 011-4076

Roopa Ganguly's son rams car into wall of posh club, arrested

Akash Mukherjee remanded in police custody for a day

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Actor-turned-BJP Rajya Sab ha MP Roopa Ganguly's son Akash Mukherjee, 21, was sent to one-day police custody for allegedly ramming his car into the wall of Royal Calcutta Golf Club, a prestigious club in south Kolkata, on Thursday night.

No casualty was reported in the incident. Mr. Mukherjee was arrested on charges of rash driving and damaging property, and produced in court on Friday morning.

Eyewitnesses claimed that many people had a narrow escape as the four-wheeler was being driven at a "breakneck speed". A police officer said Mr. Mukherjee's blood sample has been collected and sent for testing to ascertain if it was a case of drunk driving.



Akash Mukherjee being produced in a court in Kolkata on Friday. • рті

Reacting to the incident, Ms. Ganguly tweeted: "My son has met with an accident near my residence. I called police to t[a]ke care of it with all legal implications. No favours/politics plz [please]... I love my son and will tk cr [take care] of him. But, law should take its own course."

The incident triggered a war of words between leaders of the Trinamool Congress and the BJP. TMC councillor of Golf Green, where the accident happened, Archana Dasgupta alleged that Mr. Mukherjee was drunk and could have hit children on the street. "There are kids who stay on the street. They play here. It could cause a major accident. He [Mr. Mukherjee] was drunk when he was rescued. He has a history of reckless driving," Ms.

Dasgupta said. BJP's State unit president Dilip Ghosh warned the TMC that if the issue is "politicised" and the police administration tries to implicate Mr. Mukherjee in a false case of drunk driving, "then we [BJP] too would get involved in the matter".

[With Agency Inputs]

Two policemen found dead in two separate incidents in U.P.

No note found on any deceased; investigation under way

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Two policemen were found dead with injuries from their service weapons in two separate incidents in western Uttar Pradesh on Friday.

Sub-inspector Madhup Singh, who was posted at Baleni police station in Baghpat, allegedly shot himself dead at his residence in Ghaziabad with his service revolver, the police said. Superintendent of Police

(City) Ghaziabad Shlok Kumar said prima facie it appeared that the sub-inspector killed himself. "Madhup hailed from Allahabad and preliminary investigation revealed that he was under mental stress because of a family dispute," the SP said.

Local sources said that Singh, who was in his mid-30s, was also stressed

cally submitted that the railway has erected 650m-long

wall whose heights have

been raised to 15m from

12m. Whereas, in the later

part of the same para it has

been deposed that a tender

has been uploaded on the

railway portal in respect of

raising of the height of the

It added that several other

statements made by the

Railways pertaining to the

work completed were "cate-

gorically denied" by the

State pollution control

had constituted a joint team

comprising representatives

from the Central Pollution

Control Board and the Ha-

ryana State Pollution Con-

trol Board to look into a plea

that alleged air pollution

caused due to loading un-

loading of cement and gyp-

sum at the railway station.

Earlier, the green panel

boundary wall."

PCB 'denial'

board.

about not being promoted for several years after he allegedly lost his service revolver when he was posted in Moradabad. "It could be one of the reasons but as we haven't recovered any suicide note yet, we can't be sure. After dropping his son to school, he was alone in the room at the time of the incident. His wife was in the house and she told us that she heard him having a heated argument with somebody over the phone. We are investigating all possible an-

gles," Mr. Kumar said. Accidental death?

In Bijnor, constable Ankur Rana (23), stationed at the Collectorate, allegedly shot himself with his service rifle. Local sources said that Rana, from Baghpat, was tense as his wife was suffering from a serious ailment. He got married this February. Additional SP Laxmi Ni-

was Mishra said the reason of Rana's death is still under probe. "As no suicide note has been recovered, it would not be prudent to arrive at a conclusion without proper probe. It could be a case of accidental death as the bullet entered the body through the chin. When constables clean their rifles, they often hold them in that position. He was alone in the room and a sentry was outside the door," Mr. Mishra said .

In the last one year, the U.P. police have lost at least a dozen staff to alleged self-inflicted injuries.

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

Monsoon clouds



Commuters ride past as monsoon clouds gather over the Yamuna bridge in Allahabad on Friday. • PTI

Railways told to furnish Green tribunal seeks performance guarantee

NGT direction to check pollution

STAFF REPORTER

The National Green Tribunal directed the Railways to furnish a performance guarantee of ₹50 lakh in order to curb air pollution at a station in Haryana's Rewari.

A Bench headed by NGT judicial member Justice Raghuvendra S. Rathore also asked the senior divisional commissioner manager of North West Railways to appear before the Tribunal on September 11 and provide an update on the work.

"It is made clear that the performance guarantee should be furnished within two weeks. A bare perusal of the affidavit filed on behalf of the Railways shows that though it has been filed by a senior rank officer...but it is full of contradictory averments," the Bench said.

Stating that there are contradictory statements, the Bench observed, "For instance, it has been categori-

report from PCB, GDA

Plea alleges pollution from generators

NEW DELHI

The National Green Tribunal has sought a report from the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB) and the Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA) over a plea alleging air and noise pollution caused due to diesel

A Bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel formed a committee comprising representatives from the UPPCB and

"With a view to examine the allegation, it will be appropriate to require a factual and actual taken report from the GDA and the Uttar Pradesh pollution board. The nodal agency will be the State pollution control board for compliance and coordination," the Bench said while directing the panel to submit the report within one month.

came



when the green panel was hearing a plea moved by Justice (retired) A.K. Roopanwal and others, who alleged that the Presidium School and Indirapuram Habitat Centre were using diesel generators that were causing air and noise pollution in the vicinity

Stating that the diesel generators were being used in violation of relevant environmental norms, the plea said the air pollution was affecting schoolchildren and other residents of the area.

Man gets life term for rape, murder

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A special court here trying POCSO cases on Friday sentenced a man to life imprisonment for raping and murdering a two-and-ahalf-year-old Dalit girl in

Judge Sanjive Tiwari also imposed a fine of ₹55,000 on the accused, Laxman, 22, after holding him guilty under Section 302 (murder) of the India Penal Code and under the POC-SO Act.

The court, however, acquitted another accused due to lack of evidence.

Pardeep Malik, the lawyer representing the victim in the case, said the child was lured by the accused to his house on the pretext of giving her icecream.

The body of the girl was found in an almirah in the accused's house on October 10, 2017, in Shamli district, he said.

fine amount, the case would

be automatically disposed

Rajasthan govt.'s bid to tackle child malnutrition

Pilot attends NNM programme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Congress government in Rajasthan is promoting the activities of the National Nutrition Mission (NNM) in a big way to tackle malnourishment among children and utilising the resources to ensure their health care and access to nutrition services.

Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot, who visited Bamor village in his Assembly constituency of Tonk earlier this week to attend an NNM programme, said the budgetary allocations would be spent in a transparent manner to achieve the targets of nutrition.

Resource utilisation

Mr. Pilot said the government authorities and the public at large should work together for children's nutrition through various activities, while an optimum



Deputy CM Sachin Pilot

utilisation of resources should be ensured to strengthen the institutions rendering child-centric services. He said about 40% of children below five years of age were malnourished in the country.

Over the 240 Anganwadi centres in Tonk district will be strengthened by a private trust as part of the NNM activity for improving their services and steps will be taken for capacity building of Anganwadi workers and accredited social health ac-

Man killed in firecracker explosion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA UNNAO (U.P.)

A 32-year-old man was killed in an explosion while making firecrackers in Uttar Pradesh's Unnao district on Friday, police said.

Firoz was working in a room on the outskirts of Sarosa village in Nawabganj area when the explosion happened, Ajgain police station in-charge Ajay Raj Verma said.

Firoz had the licence to manufacture and sell firecrackers, the officer said.

🌘 EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY 🚳 **TENDER NOTICE**

Department/ECR including Hq., all divisions Stores Depots are published on Indian Railway E-Procurement Systems (IREPS websites www.ireps.gov.in Notice of tende nvitation will not be published address on which the tenders are publishe and documents are available fo participating in the E-tender i ww.ireps.gov.in".

Principal Chief Material Manager ECR/Hajipu PR/1001/HQ/Store/N/19-20/20

Engine disengages from rake

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The engine of the Shantiniketan Express got disengaged from the rake while leaving the Bolpur station on Friday, a Railway official said. The express was departing for Howrah, when the coupling connecting the engine with the first coach of the train got disengaged, he said.

Virtual court to deal with traffic challans to be launched today

Project at Faridabad will be under the guidance of e-Committee of the Supreme Court

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Doing away with the need for the litigant to be present in the court and facilitate adjudication of the case online, the Punjab and Haryana High Court will launch its first virtual court on Saturday at Faridabad through videoconferencing. A Punjab and Haryana

High Court spokesperson

said the court would deal

with traffic challan cases from across the State. The project will be launched under the guidance of e-Committee of the Supreme Court

The process

Under this project, the cases received in the virtual court can be viewed by the judge along with automatic computation of fines on the screen. After the summon is

generated and the accused gets information on email or through a text message, the accused can visit the virtual court website and search the case by CNR Number, his/ her name or even with the driving license number. Once the accused pleads

will be displayed and ac-

cused might proceed to pay

the fine. On successful pay-

ment and realisation of the

The spokesperson said if the accused did not plead guilty, such cases would be remanded to the regular courts with the respective territorial jurisdiction. guilty online, fine amount

The Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court, Justice Krishna Murarihas shown keen interest in launching the project at the

earliest for the benefit of all the stakeholders in the justice delivery system.

To reduce burden

The virtual court will reduce the burden on regular

The entire process of disposal will happen online in a few hours. Footfalls in the courts will reduce as the accused need not visit the court to plead guilty.

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Notice No. CO/Advtt./SDMC/Tender-4/2019-20/NIT/D-781 dated 16.08.2019 for allotment of Advertisement rights through designated cluster/Individual Unipole sites and Notice No. CO/Advtt./SDMC Tender-5/2019-20/NIT/D-782 dated 16.08.2019 for allotment o Advertisement rights through Toilet Block sites under the jurisdiction of SDMC, for a period of three years, which is extendable for anothe period of two years subject to satisfactory performance of the contract and as decided by Commissioner SDMC, The Tender Document and other necessary details will be available on municipal

website i.e www.mcdonline.gov.in, on or before 17.08.2019. Date

of Pre-Bid Meeting is 22.08.2019, Last Date of Submission of Bid is

09.09.2019 till 15:00 Hours and Opening of Technical bid on

Bids are invited on behalf of Commissioner, SDMC through Tender

09.09.2019 at 15:30 Hours. RO No. 40/DPI/S/2019-20

Commercial Officer, SDMC

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APPEAL

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Odisha govt. nod to set up maritime board

It will administer, control and manage non-major ports, non-nationalised inland waterways

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A proposal for establishment

of the Odisha Maritime Board for administration, control and management of non-major ports and non-nationalised inland waterways was approved by the State Cabinet here on Friday.

The Cabinet meeting, presided over by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik, decided that the Board will function as a single window facilitator for the overall maritime development of the State.

Earlier a Bill was passed in 2011 for constitution of the

Board but was withdrawn because some more issues were to be added, according to official sources.

Odisha is endowed with a vast coastline of 480 km, having rich, unique and natural port locations and perennial rivers.

14 non-major ports

Out of the 14 sites identified for development of 14 nonmajor ports, two at Gopalpur and Dhamra are operational and two at Astarang and Subarnarekha are in the pipeline

According to the propo-

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik • FILE PHOTO

sal, the Board will provide policy, guidelines and directions for the integrated development of ports and inland water transport keeping in view of the country's security and defence related concerns.

The salient features of the Board will be to provide construction, maintenance and operation of all non-major

ports in the State directly or

through PPP mode. The Board will be constituted with 12 members, the Chief Secretary as the chairperson along with representatives of stakeholders departments as well as representatives of the Cen-

Among other proposals, the Cabinet also gave its approval for financial restructuring of the Odisha State Road Transport Corporation by which old dues of the Corporation and the State government will be settled

OSRTC's losses

As per the decision, OSRTC's accumulated losses ₹189.99 crore will be taken up against the share capital in a phased manner. Once the losses are adjusted, the OSRTC will have the option to approach the financial institutions for taking up commercially viable projects for better passenger amenities.

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tral government.

Notice is hereby given on behalf of Mr. Gagan Dua, Mr. Joginder Pal Singh and Mr. Harjinder Kaur, who intends to mortgage the Entire Ground Floor of Property No.M-415. Situated at Guru Harkishar Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi with our client Axis Bank Ltd against the financial assistance. Whereas, Mr. Parmod Kumar Mittal purchased the above said floor from Miss Bosky Gouri vide Sale Deed dt. 12.04.2018 and Miss Bosky Gouri acquired the rights of the said property by virtue o Relinquishment Deed dt. 09.04.2018 executed by the legal heirs of Late

said property is/are requested to intimate in writing to undersigned within 15 days from the date of issue of this notice at below address. In the even no information is received within 15 days from date hereof, our Client i.e Axis Bank Ltd. will proceed with the mortgage process.

A-13, LGF, South Extn-II, New Delhi-49 # 011-26262610, 11, 12

TRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE

class 09, And Since the day of execution of Assignment Deed Mr. Amit Aggarwal is no more proprietor / owner of Trade Mark ORBIT. The goods and services for which such registration have been obtained or application filed, cover Wire and Cables, LED Lights, Switches, as well as other electrical products.

The Trademark ORBIT is also going to be registered in several other countries.

Our client attached great importance to its trademark ORBIT, our client shall continue to take legal action against companies/firms who use our client's mark/name.

using or intending or use the expression ORBIT in respect of any goods or services that such would constitute invasion upon that such would constitute invasion upon the proprietary rights of our client vis-a-vis the Trade mark/ Corporate name **ORBIT** and our client would not hesitate to institute appropriate legal action against them, including criminal action.

The investing public, consumers, manufactures, dealers and stockist, merchant bankers and stock broking firms are hereby cautioned against such piracy and misrepresentation and are requested to bring to the notice of our client instances of such illeaal acts and

Ram Kishore Aggarwal, Advocate Chamber No.140, New Layal Chamber,

CHANGE OF NAME

Surinder Kaur without obtaining Surviving member certificate If any person(s) having objection regarding ownership and mortgage of the

KEWIN KUNJAPPY, ADVOCATE

IRADE MARK CAUTION NOTICE
Our Client ADL ORBIT CABLE (INDIA) a
partnership firm through its partners Sh.
Lokesh Tayal and Daulat Jain, Plot No. 4647-48, Sector IIDC, SIDCUL, Haridwar249403 UTTRAKHAND, India bring to the
notice of the investing/ General public
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use the service mark/trade mark/corporate
name ORBIT either alone or in conjunction name ORBIT either alone or in conjunction with another name, and that organization is ADL ORTBIT CABLE (INDIA)

ADL ORTBIT CABLE (INDIA)

Our client had coined and adopted the expression ORBIT and using it as its trade mark and service mark.

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accessories and services, but goods and services of all description and kind. Today ORBIT is recognized as one of the most reputed and well known brands n the country. It has become a nousehold name.

household name.
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executed by Sh. Amit Aggarwal,
Proprietor of M/s Seetu Electricals at 136,
Govinadnan Naiken Street Onn A K R Flopineto of Mis Seetu Electricais at 156, Govinadopa Naiken Street Opp A.K.R. parcel Services, Chennai-600001. And order dated 2.08.2019 passed by the Registered Trade Mark Chennai in respect of application No. 1065474 in class 09, And Since the day of execution

mark/name.
The investing public is alerted against putting its hard-earned money or trust in any such company who might include them to invest by wrongfully projecting its association with our client. ADL ORBIT CABLE (INDIA) by making unauthorized use of the registered trademark and corporate name of our client.

6. Our client also warns all those who are using or intending or use the expression

instances of such illegal acts and inducement. This would enable our client to institute appropriate steps against such irms/companies who are not only causing oss and damages to our client, but are Supreme Court of India, Delhi

clare that name of mine has been wrongly written as K.V. RAJAN in my son minor, age 14 year, V.MITESH, educational documents. The actual name of mine is K. VARADHARAJAN re-spectively which may be amended ac-

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Anil Kumar Thareja S/o Tilak Raj Thareja, inform that being the owner of property B-11,3rd Floor with terrace Greater Kailash Enclave-I, New Delhi and B-33, 3rd Floor, with terrace, Dayanand Colony, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi and B-34, 3rd Floor with terrace, Dayanand Colony, Lajpat errace, Dayanand Colony, Lajpat terrace, Dayantario Colony, Lappat Nagar-IV, New Delhi. I had absolute right to dispose of the same. Accordingly, I have gifted aforesaid properties in favor of SUNITA THAREJA, dated 30.08.2017 before Sub-Registrar V(1) Lajpat Nagar out of my Freewill, love, affection without any pressure force, coercion or unde influence. It is thus notified to the public at large that neither me nor anyone related to me shall have any laim in future with respect to the

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BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF XVII ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, AT BANGALORE

O.S. No.1139/2019 (CCH-16) BETWEEN: KUMARI NIDHI BAGRECHA o Sri Goutam Ial, aged about 15years Minor being represented by her natural guardian father, Sri Goutham S/o Mohan Lal, aged about 45 years, R/at No.25/1, 1st Floor, VV Puram, Bangalore South, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004.

AND : 1) THE CHIEF SECRETARY Department of Education, Govt of Karnataka, M.S. Building, Bangalore-01 2) THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTIONS, Nrupathunga Road,) BALDWIN'S GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

presented by its Head Master. No.90, chmond Road, Bangalore-560025. 4) COUNCIL OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL
CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS, 35-36, Sector VI Pushp Vihar, Saket, lew Delhi-11017. ...Defendant

Defendant No.4:) COUNCIL OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL ERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS, 35-36, Sector VI Pushp Vihar, Saket.

ew Delhi-11017 COURT NOTICE TO DEFENDANT NO.4 Whereas, the plaintiff has instituted the pove suit for declaration and other relief gainst you and you are hereby summone appear in this court in person or by bleader on the day of 03.09.2019 at 11.a.m to answer the same failing which the suit/application will be disposed of ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the cour s the 14/08/2019. BY ORDER OF THE COURT. Assistant Registrar, Hon'ble City Civil Judge, Bangalore PRAVEEN HEGDE Advocate

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It is for general information that I K.VARADHARAJAN S/o M.KALIYA-PERUMAL residing at 9/265, 2nd Floor, DDA Four Storey Flats, Garhi, East of Kailash, New Delhi-110065 delace that the second of the s

A GREETING TO REMEMBER

CLASSIFIEDS

Relief for Marathwada as Jayakwadi gates open

Water discharged as dam filled to 92% of live storage capacity



Almost full: Eight sluice gates of the Jayakwadi dam have been opened. • YOGESH LONDHE

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

Bringing some relief to the parched Marathwada region, eight sluice gates of the Jayakwadi dam have been opened to discharge water thanks to heavy rain in north Maharashtra.

The current discharge of around 4,500 cusecs from the reservoir has been prompted due to incessant showers in Nashik district and other parts of north Maharashtra, causing the Godavari river to swell and fill up the dams there.

The release of the water from these upstream dams has in turn led to the accumulation of more than 2 lakh

cusecs in the Nath Sagar reservoir of Jayakwadi.

Authorities said the discharge from Jayakwadi was prompted after the dam filled up to 92% of its live storage capacity. At the same time last year, the dam had filled up to barely 28% of its live storage capacity.

Nashik While Nandurbar in the north and Sangli, Satara, Kolhapur and Pune in western Maharashtra have been reeling under the onslaught of excess rain, the eight districts of Marathwada continue to remain arid despite two months of the monsoon season drawing to a close.

Jayakwadi dam is the chief

water source for industries in Marathwada, mainly in Aurangabad. The water discharge is expected to benefit areas in at least four districts in the region – Aurangabad, Beed, Jalna and Parbhani and help resolve the water

Godavari river bank. This is the first time in two years that the dam's storage capacity has exceeded 90%.

situation in talukas near the

Till Thursday, authorities were releasing 1,200 cusecs of water from the Paithan left bank canal, 900 cusecs from the right bank canal, and 1,589 cusecs off water rom the hydropower project towards the Apegaon and Hiradpuri barrages.

Rescued from Sangli, 2-month-old rushed to city

Baby has congenital heart defect, contracted pneumonia in the floods

BHUMIKA PRUTHI

A two-month-old baby girl born with a heart ailment, who was rescued from the floods in Sangli along with her parents, has been admitted to Parel's BJ Wadia Children's Hospital.

The condition of the baby, Shivanya Shinde, became critical after she contracted pneumonia. Doctors said she had developed severe respiratory distress by the time she reached Mumbai on Wednesday night.

Shivanya's father, Sandeep, a vegetable vendor, said the area where they live was completely flooded. "We stayed home as the water level rose and the road was blocked. The NDRF came to our rescue the next day," Mr. Shinde said.

They were taken to a relief camp set up inside a school in Kupwad village. While in the camp, Shivanya fell ill. "The woman who had set up the relief camp shifted our daughter to Aditya Rainbow Hospital for children in Sangli," he said.

While Shivanya's surgery was scheduled at a hospital in Kolhapur, her parents could not take her there due to the floods. "Doctors at Aditya Rainbow Hospital diagnosed her with pneumonia and advised us to take her to Mumbai for better treatment," Mr. Shinde said.



Shivanya Shinde is admitted to BJ Wadia Children's Hospital in Mumbai. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Medical director Dr. Shakuntala Prabhu from BJ Wadia Children's Hospital said the baby had become extremely critical after the journey of nearly nine hours. 'We stabilised her with antibiotics. She is getting better. We will wait till the end of this week to gauge her condition for surgery," she said. Shivanya is admitted to the Intensive Care Unit.

Dr. Prabhu said the surgery to correct her heart defect will be challenging. "The baby's heart would be as tiny as her fist. But it is advisable to carry out the surgery at a young age," she said.

Shivanya's parents have lost everything in the flood. "The asbestos sheet on our house gave way and all our belongings were destroyed in the rainwater," Mr. Shinde said. He said they will only go back after their daughter recovers from the surgery.

Flood-hit areas returning to normalcy, but toll rises to 54



Washed away: Damaged tomato crop lies in the receded floodwater at Ajinkya Patil's farm in Dattawad village, Shirol taluka in Kolhapur district on Friday. • ABHIJEET GURJAR

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The situation in the floodaffected Sangli and Kolhapur districts is returning to normal, the administration said on Friday.

However, the death toll due to the floods, which ravaged western Maharashtra between August 5 and 11, has reached 54 with the recovery of more bodies in Sangli.

The district-wise death

toll is now 26 in Sangli, 10 in Kolhapur, eight in Satara, nine in Pune and one in Solapur. Those who died in Sangli district were 17 victims of boat capsize incident at Brahmanal.

All missing persons in the Brahmanal tragedy are now accounted for, an official said. "One person who had gone missing managed to reach a relief camp," he said.

As per the statement is-

sued by the office of Deepak Mhaisekar, Pune divisional commissioner, life in Sangli and Kolhapur was returning to normalcy as the Krishna and Panchganga rivers were flowing be-

low the danger mark. "Rehabilitation work is going on ... ₹16.88 crore cash aid has been distributed among 33,000 flood-affected families in Pune region," the press release added.

Bring masterminds of Dabholkar's murder to book, says MANS

Organisation to launch 'Jawab Do' campaign on August 20

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

The threat to progressive thinkers in society loomed large as long as the masterminds of rationalist Dr. Narendra Dabholkar's murder were roaming free, said the Maharashtra Andh-Nirmulan Samiti shradha (MANS) on Friday.

The MANS, founded by the rationalist in 1989, will launch a campaign called 'Jawab Do' (give us the answers) on August 20 the sixth anniversary of Dabholkar's death – to demand the arrest of the masterminds.

"After the Bombay High Court rapped the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for dragging its feet over the probe, the agency finally arrested Sachin Andure and Sharad Kalaskar last year and named them as Dabholkar's assailants. At the time, we had hoped that the case would finally see a speedy conclusion with the masterminds being brought to book. Regrettably, nothing of the kind has happened so far," Dr. Hamid Dabholkar, MANS activist

and son of the rationalist, said. He said Dabholkar's killers had no personal quarrel with him, but were incited by certain people on the basis of differences with the rationalist's way of thinking and his ideas. "So, it is all the more urgent that the mas-

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Friday.

As many as 35 crocodiles have been rescued from various parts

of Vadodara since heavy rain

started battering the city and its surrounding areas over a fort-

night ago, a forest official said on

rainfall in a day till August 1

The city and its adjoining areas received nearly 500 mm of



Hamid Dabholkar.

terminds of this crime, who are responsible for this murder, be nabbed by the CBI," Dr. Hamid said, alleging a lack of political will on part of the State government in probing the case.

'Four murders linked'

He said that from the evidence gathered by investigating agencies and the charge sheet filed by the CBI, it was reasonably certain that the crime was linked to the murders of Communist leader Govind Pansare in Kolhapur, scholar M.M. Kalburgi in Dharwad and journalist Gauri Lankesh in Bengaluru and that all four killings were committed by members of an ideologically hard-line outfit.

"Despite this, it seems that the State government is not interesting in probing these radical or-

35 crocodiles rescued in Vadodara

est officer Nidhi Dave said.

through the middle of the city

and joins the Dhadhar river,

which passes through Vadodara

district. The Vishwamitri and

Dhadhar are believed to be

home to more than 250

Vishwamitri flows

Forest officials, NGOs, NDRF trace reptiles in flooded city

ganisations. The High Court has also repeatedly ticked off the CBI for its tardiness in retrieving the alleged murder weapons that are believed to have been dismantled and thrown by the assailants in a creek near Mumbai. We also demand the agencies take action in that regard," Dr. Hamid said.

He said that as the CBI delayed in filing a charge sheet against Amol Kale, Rajesh Bangera and Amit Degvekar in the Dabholkar case, the trio was able to secure bail. All three are prime accused in the Gauri Lankesh murder and are lodged in Bengaluru's Central Prison.

The MANS will also launch a social media campaign tagging Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to demand the arrest of the

mastermind. Dr. Hamid said the Dr. Narendra Dabholkar Memorial Lecture will be delivered by N. Ram, chairman, The Hindu Group, on August 20 at the Tilak Smarak Mandir in Pune. "Mr. Ram will be speaking on three challenges facing current Indian society: the assault on reason, the erosion of free speech and the reality of mass deprivation," he said.

Dabholkar was shot by assailants during his morning stroll at the Omkareshwar Bridge in Pune on August 20, 2013.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA Ministry of Mines REMOTE SENSING & AERIAL SURVEYS VASUDHA BHAVAN, KUMARASWAMY LAYOUT BANGALORE-560111 (INDIA)

Ph. 080-26662574 / 65, Fax - +91 80 26662574 / 65 (Website : www.gsi.gov.in E-Mail : rsasddggp@gmail.com NO. D-34/01/2019-20/45 DATED: 16.08.2019

Global Tender Notice

The Global Tender (E-tender ID No. 2019_GSI_494520_1) was floated on 13.08.2019 for Engaging Airborne Survey Providers to carry out aerogeophysical surveys (magnetic gradiometer and radiometric) for Obvious Geological Potential Block-5 and Block-7 in India. The last date for the submission of the bids and opening of the Technical bids are as per the details given below:

1. The Closing Date for uploading of the bids: on 23.09.2019, at 14:00 Hrs. 2. The Date of opening of the Technical bids:

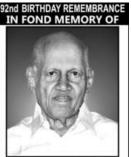
on 24.09.2019, at 15.00 Hrs. For participation and further details please visit

https://eprocure.gov.in and http://www.gsi.gov.in **Deputy Director General & HOD**

RSAS, Geological Survey of India, Bangalore

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

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MR. R SINGARAVELU (66), Retired Foreman (Non-Supervisory), Printing, The Hindu, Chennai, passed away on 16-08-2019. Address: Old No 70, Now No. 115. Nohrw Light Podd. New No : 115, Nehru High Road, Nanganallur, Chennai 600061.Contact:



"Two decades have passed within blink of eyes, since you left this world, but you remain with us in every walk of life guiding through'

REMEMBRANCE



SHANTHY DANIEL (Former Audit Officer - P&T Audit) in God we find our strength and reand know from heaven you share it

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

EE CD-23 (RP) re-invites Lump-sum Tender from registered & eligible Consultants on behalf of MD, DSIIDC, for the following work:-

NIT No: DSIIDC/E.E. CD-23 (RP)/2019-20/02

N/W: Request for Proposal ("RFP") for Selection of Transaction Advisor for Development of Industrial Township/Project at Kanjhawala Delhi.

(i) Date of Pre-bid Meeting: 28.08.2019 At 11:00 AM N-36, DSIIDC, Bombay Life Building. Connaught Circus, New Delhi-110001

(ii) Last Date & Time of submission of Bids 18.09.2019 At 3:00 PM

(iii) Tender ID: 2019_DSIDC_178068_1

Further detailed terms & condition can be seen at our website www.dsiidc.org or http://govtprocurement. delhi.gov.in

DIP/Shabdarth/0525/19-20

DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES JAMMU E-TENDER NOTICE NO: DHSJ / LARVICIDES & INSECETICIDES FOR STATE

MALARIOLOGIST, J&K STATE, JAMMU/02 OF 2019.

For and on behalf of the Governor of Jammu & Kashmir State, Online tenders are invited from the Original Manufacturers /Authorised dealer/Distributer for the supply of "LARVICIDES & INSECETICIDES FOR STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&r STATE, JAMMU' for the year 2019-20.

Femephos 50 EC:- The Temephos 50% EC should conform to ISI specification No: IS: 8498-1977 with amendments bearing ISI certification mark.

Use: Mosquito Larvicide, Target Species: Mosquito larva, Expiry Date: An expiry of minimum two years from the date of Manufacturing. Packing: Packing: An expiry Date: An expiry of minimum two years from the date of Manufacturing. Packing: Packing: An expiry Date: An exp tuality Assurance: Certificate/test report from Govt. Approved Laboratory.

Quality Assurance: Certificate/ test report from Govt. Approved Laboratory.

2. Cyphenothrin 5% Ec : The insecticide shall conform to the specification as per registration committee of Centra Insecticide Board and for standards to be published by the Bureau of Indian Standards. Cyphenothrin 5% EC should conform to the standard specified by IS vide No.15979:2012 and amended thereof. Registration-The product and the firm shall have to be registered by the Registration Committee, Central Insecticide Board, Directorate of Plant Protection & Quarantine Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture for Public Health use for adult mosquito control of disease vectors. Expiry Date: -An expiry of minimum two years from the date of Manufacturing. Packing: -Packing should indicate Batch No., Name of Manufacturer, Date of Manufacturing Date of Expiry, Govt. Supply not for Sale. Pack Size: -Shall be packed in a 1/5 Litres packing with properly sealed. Quality Assurance: -Certificate/ test report from Govt. Approved Laboratory.

S.No	Particulars of the tenders	Cost of Tender	Earnest Money
01	01"LARVICIDES & INSECETICIDES FOR STATE MALARIOLOGIST, J&k STATE, JAMMU" for the year 2019-20.	Rs.750/- General Rs.350/- SSI Unit	Rs. 50,000/- Gen Rs. 20000/- SSI Unit
01.	Publish date	14th of August, 2019 at 1	6:00 hours
02.	Document download start	17th of August, 2019 at 1	11:00 hours
03.	Bid submission start date	17th of August 2019 at 1	1:00 Hours
04	Bid submission end date	7th of September, 2019 u	upto 16:00 Hours
05	Technical bid opening date (online)	9th of September, 2019 a	t 11:00 hours
06	Financial bid opening date (online)	Shall be Communic evaluation of technical bi	ated later on after opening & id.
07	Financial & Technical Bid	Both the Bids Unloaded	senarately on line

The Terms & Conditions of e-NIT & other documents can be downloaded from this office official web site www.jkhealth.org. The Terms & Conditions of e-NIT & other documents can be downloaded from this office official web site www.jkhealth.org. & www.jkhealth.org. & www.jkhealth.org. & www.jkhealth.org. & www.jkhealth.org. & who the the deep shall have to upload scanned copy of below mentioned berind documents including CDR/FDR in the portal of jk-tenders. The below mentioned original tender documents shall be obtained only from the bidder who declared as L1 after opening of financial bid of "LARVICIDES & INSECETICIDES."

Cost of tender document (in shape of Demand Draft) and Earnest Money Deposit (In shape of CDR/FDR) in original favouring Member Secretary, Purchase Committee, Directorate of Health Services, Jammu superscribed as "Technica Bid "should reach in the office of Purchase Committee, Directorate of Health Services, Jammu preson or through speec post/Regd post/Courier before due date & time of submission of bid. The Purchase Committee shall not be responsible for any delay due to any reason.

Original copy of affidavit on Rs.100/-stamp paper duly attested by Judicial Magistrate Ist Class to the effect that:

a. The documents/certificates etc enclosed with the Technical bid are genuine and have not been tampered or fabricated.

b. The firm has not been blacklisted in the past by any Govt/Private Institution of the country and there is no ca

pending in Vigilance/Any other investigating agency.

If any thing is found adverse in respect of documentation or otherwise, legal action warranted under law shall be

initiated against the tenderer(s) submitting the tender.

Copy of Annual Turnover of Minimum of Rs.50.00 lacs for the last three years 2016-17,17-18 & 18-19 issued by th

Copy of Annual Turnover of Minimum of Rs.50.00 lacs for the last three years 2016-17,17-18 & 18-19 issued by the Chartered Accountant of the Original manufacturers.

A minimum of three years 2016-17, 17-18 & 18-19 Good manufacturing practice (Revised Schedule-M) certificate of Original manufacturer(s) in respect of "quoted Items". In case of imported drugs COPP is Mandatory.

PAN based Income Tax Clearance certificate and GST for previous year issued by the concerned Department.

Copy of Drug Manufacturing License valid at least upto 31-03-2020, of the original manufacturer and list of products being manufactured duly authenticated by the competent authority.

SSI units are exempted from the application of Criteria of annual turnover.

The tenderer should be a registered supplier of Health & Medical Education Department.

The tender shall carefully examine the conditions before signing the Contract and in case of doubts, if any, get the clarification from this office. The tenderer shall submit the "Technical Bid" & Financial Bid online as mentioned in NIT & JKTenders portal.

O. The tenderer shall submit the "Technical Bid" & Financial Bid online as mentioned in NIT & JKTenders portal.

I. The committee will not be held responsible for any kind of postal delay; if the tender is sent by post. Technical Bid not accompanied with the following latest documents along with other requisite documents at the time of its submission shall be rejected at the appropriate level by the competent authority.

The rate quoted must be F.O.R. Stores of Directorate of Health Services, Jammu
Only one rate against one item will be entertained and accepted for
Rates quoted should be inclusive all taxes.

The rates should be quoted both in words and figures without any cutting over-writing & tempering and transparent tape should eapplied on the quoted rates.

The rates are to be quoted on the Tender form each page of the tender must be signed and stamped by the authorized signatory, unsigned and untapped tender will not be considered.

Pre-Bid meeting shall be held in the office of the Convener (DHS) Jammu at Directorate of Health Services Jammu on 16.08.2019 at 13:00 Hours

(DIRECTOR HEALTH SERVICES, JAMM) DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, JAMMU.

DIP/J-2108-P

crocodiles," Vadodara range for-





morning, which created a floodlike situation. Water from the overflowing Vishwamitri river entered several areas, bringing with it many crocodiles. According to the official, till

from various parts of the city. "Apart from the forest department, volunteers of NGOs working in the field of wildlife and animal welfare, as well as teams of NDRF, are involved in the task of safely capturing and rescuing

August 8, around 22 crocodiles

had been rescued. After that, at

least 13 others were rescued

Out of place: Activists rescue a crocodile that floodwaters of the Vishwamitri river brought to a locality in Vadodara. • VIJAY SONEJI

crocodiles.

Some of the areas from where the crocodiles were rescued from include Kalali village on the outskirts of Vadodara, central jail compound premises, Fatehgunj, Sayajigunj, Rajmahal Road and Akota, officials said.



Busy schedule for A.P. Chief Minister in U.S.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy would be meeting a host of industrialists and representatives of commercial establishments

during his six-day tour of the U.S. that started on Friday. He is scheduled to be in Dallas on August 17, Washington D.C. on August 18 and 19 and Chicago on August 21 and 22.

ED attaches Heera group's properties

HYDERABAD **Enforcement Directorate** officials have attached assets worth ₹299.99 crore belonging to Nowhera Shaik, who owned Hyderabad-based Heera group of companies, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act-2002.

Triple talaq: first arrest in Kozhikode

Bill to ban practice was passed on Aug. 1

STAFF REPORTER

A 32-year-old man from Kozhikode's Mukkom village was arrested on Friday for allegedly divorcing his wife through triple talaq.

The suspect was arrested by the Mukkom police following a warrant issued by the Thamarassery judicial first class magistrate court. The victim had ap-

proached the court seeking justice under the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act. The police identified the suspect as E.K. Usam of Kumaranallur village. It was the first such arrest recorded in Kerala after Parliament passed a Bill banning the practice of triple talaq.

The suspect was charged

under Sections 3 (any pronouncement of talaq by a Muslim husband upon his wife, by words, either spoken or written or in electronic form or in any other

manner whatsoever, shall be void and illegal) and 4 (any Muslim husband who pronounces talaq referred to in Section 3 upon his wife shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, and shall also be liable to fine) of the Act.

Criminal offence

The first such case was registered in the country on August 10.

It was on August 1 that Parliament approved the Bill that made instant triple talaq a criminal offence.

Telangana PHC doctor helps carry tribal woman to hospital

BHADRADRI-KOTHAGUDEM

The swift intervention of a government doctor on Wednesday ensured timely medical help to a tribal woman suffering from postpartum haemorrhage and her newborn twin low-weight male babies in Ralla Cheluka, a remote village in Palvancha mandal of Telangana.

Dr. L. Rambabu, a medical officer at the Primary Health Centre in Ulvanoor, ensured that 22-year-old Sukki and her twin babies were carried in a 'doli' (makeshift stretcher) to the nearest road point almost 5 km away, from where the trio were shifted to the Government area hospital in Bhadrachalam town in a 108 ambulance.



Timely help: Dr. L. Rambabu carrying a tribal woman and her newborn twins in a 'doli' in Palvancha mandal of Telangana.

The young doctor not only provided immediate medical attention, he also carried the 'doli' on his shoulders along with the woman's family members up to a certain stretch of the nar-

The incident, which occurred a day prior to Inde-

pendence Day, brought into sharp focus the lack of road connectivity to several remote tribal habitations due to the difficult forest terrain and the imperative need for introduction of feeder ambulances to cater to the healthcare needs of people living in such places.

Flood waters enter habitations in A.P.

Fear grips residents; evacuation begins

T. APPALA NAIDU

Fear gripped residents of habitations along the Krishna river bund on the island of Diviseema in Krishna district on Friday after news trickled in that the discharge from Prakasam Barrage was likely to touch seven lakh cusecs by Saturday morning.

Many hamlets adjacent to the Campbell aqueduct, which connects Diviseema with the mainland, are likely to face the brunt of the discharge.

Avanigadda MLA Simhadri Ramesh told The Hindu that all measures have been taken to tackle the situation. "The level at the aqueduct is being constantly monitored by the police and irrigation officials," he said.

The inflow at the aqueduct had crossed 6 lakh cusecs, signalling that habita-



New home: Inmates of SKCV Trust were shifted to a home in Gandhinagar, Vijayawada, on Friday. • CH.VIJAYA BHASKAR

tions and agriculture fields in its vicinity would be inundated any time in the next few hours.

District Collector A. Md. Imtiaz said about 8,000 persons had been evacuated from 12 villages. "At least 35 special camps have been set up with special care for infants and pregnant women,"

he said. Heavy crop loss had

Road links cut off

The situation continued to be grim in Guntur district following heavy discharges from Nagarjuna Sagar, Pulichintala and Prakasam Barrage. Road links between Amaravathi (old town) and

Drone over Naidu's house sparks protest

VIJAYAWADA The hovering of a drone over former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's residence at Undavalli in Guntur district evoked protests by TDP leaders and workers on Friday. The police later took them into custody.

The opposition party leaders said they suspect a conspiracy behind it. However, Water Resources Minister P. Anil Kumar clarified that the drone was deployed by the WRD for taking visuals of the water flowing downstream.

Water from the Krishna reached up to the steps of Mr. Naidu's residence as the flood discharge from the Prakasam barrage continued to be heavy on Friday.

Vijayawada remained cut off for the second consecutive day. Collector I. Samuel Ananda Kumar rushed to Kolluru village where a bund

at Aravinda bridge breached inundating low-lying areas. As the discharge from Nagarjuna Sagar touched 8.12 lakh cusecs, the district administration intensified efforts to evacuate people.

About 100 children staying in the SKCV Trust NGO home on the river bund at Bhavanipuram were shifted to safer places.

National Child Labour Project Project president D. Anjaneya Reddy said the students were moved to a home at Gandhinagar.

Lone sentinel of Kavalappara rescued

The Hindu had carried a photograph of the dog at the site

ABDUL LATHEEF NAHA

The pet dog that had become a symbol of unstinting loyalty amid the loss of lives and heart-wrenching destruction at Kavalappara, near Nilambur, has been rescued by the Humane Society International (HIS)

The Hindu had carried a photograph showing the dog sitting at the site where the house of its master Shivan Pallath and his family stood at Kavalappara, which had been shared widely by other media. None in Shivan's family is believed to have survived the landslip.



The dog being taken away from Kavalappara.

Responding to the heartwarming picture, HIS India outreach coordinator Sally Varma and team came down to Kavalappara and rescued the dog on Thursday.

This Indie dog has been in deep depression. I could feel the pain and sadness it experiences. It must have been deeply attached to the family of Shivan, and it must have been wishfully waiting for their return," said Ms.

Arun Bhaskar, Palakkad District Fire Officer who was coordinating the search, said the dog had refused to leave the accident site in spite of their efforts to keep it away.

It had not eaten for a couple of days, he said.

Relief to Karnataka after Central team survey: PM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

The Union government is expected to announce relief fund to Karnataka for undertaking rehabilitation work in flood-affected areas only after a survey of the areas by a Central team. The team is expected to arrive in the next few days, according to sources.

Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa on Friday called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi and submitted a memorandum seeking immediate release of grants for undertaking rehabilitation works in the flood-hit areas. "The Prime Minister assured [us] that a Central study team will visit soon to assess the damage," Mr. Yediyurappa said.

"We had a long discussion and will be briefing Home Minister Amit Shah and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and a team of experts. We have asked for a long-term plan as well as an immediate sanction to tackle this situation," he said. Water release from reservoirs in Maharashtra, coupled with incessant rain, led to inundation of many areas in the

Dolled up



Huge display: Visitors at the inauguration of the biggest doll festival in Bengaluru on Friday. Artists across Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka have created these textile dolls to keep the rich tradition alive. • V. SREENIVASA MURTHY

Railways to run special trains to clear rush

Bookings open for Thiruvananthapuram Central-Hazrat Nizamuddin special

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Railways will run 06095 Thiruvananthapuram Central-Hazrat Nizamuddin airconditioned special via Konkan on August 17 to clear the rush.

Reservations are open for the train, according to a railway release. The train will leave Thiruvananthapuram Central at 7.15 p.m. on Saturday to reach Hazrat Nizamuddin at 4.55 p.m. on

It will have one first class A/C, five A/C 2-tier, nine AC 3-tier and two power carcum-brake van coaches. The train will stop at Kollam Junction, Alappuzha, Ernakulam Junction, Thrissur, Shoranur Junction, Kozhi-Kannur Kasaragod.

Velankanni festival The Railways have also an-

nounced special trains bet-

ween Velankanni and Thiru-

vananthapuram Central to clear the rush during the Velankanni festival.

Train 06085 will leave Thiruvananthapuram Central at 7.45 p.m. on August 28 and September 4. The train will reach Velankanni at 10.05 a.m. the next day.

In the return direction, train 06086 will leave Velankanni at 11.45 p.m. on August 29 and September 5 to reach Thiruvananthapuram central at 1.15 p.m. the next day, the release said.

To skip Erode

Train 16340 Nagercoil-Mumbai CSMT Express, scheduled to leave Nagercoil on August 19, 20 and 21, and 16339 Mumbai CSMT-Nagercoil Express, scheduled to leave Mumbai CSMT on August 16 and 18, will skip the Erode station.

These trains will run via Salem, Namakkal and Karur on these trips.

This is to facilitate engi-

neering works at the Erode

The Railways have extended, until further notice, the temporary stoppages provided for five pairs of express trains at various railway stations.

Stoppage for 16355/16356 Kochuveli-Mangaluru Junction-Kochuveli Antyodaya Expresses at Kayamkulam station and for 19423/19424 Tirunelveli-Gandhidham-Tirunelveli Humsafar Expresses at Thrissur and Kayamkulam stations have been extended.

Stoppage for 19577/19578 Tirunelveli-Jamnagar-Tirunelveli Expresses at Parassala station and 16723/16724 Chennai Egmore-Kollam-Chennai Egmore Ananthapuri Expresses at Paravur station will continue.

The stoppage for 19577/ 19578 Tirunelveli-Jamnagar-Tirunelveli Expresses at Valliyur station has also been extended.

Some trains have been cancelled or diverted for taking up engineering works on Wadsinge-Bhalwani stations in the Solapur-Wadi section of Western Railway.

Trains cancelled Trains 16340 Nagercoil-

Mumbai Central Express train on August 19 and 20, 6339 Mumbai CSMT-Nagercoil Express of August 21 and 22, 16352 Nagercoil-Mumbai CSMT Express of August 18, and 16351 Mumbai CSMT- Nagercoil Express of August 20 have been cancelled.

Train 16340 Nagercoil-Mumbai CSMT Express of August 16, 21 and 23 will run via Madurai, Dindigul, Pollachi, Palakkad, Shoranur, Thokur, Roha and Panvel.

Train 16339 Mumbai CSMT-Nagercoil Express of August 16, 18 and 23 will run via Panvel, Roha, Thokur, Shoranur, Palakkad, Pollachi, Dindigul and Madurai.

'16 captive elephants have died in Kerala in eight months'

Negligence, torture caused these deaths, claims activist MINI MURINGATHERI

There seems to be no end to the woes of captive elephants in Kerala.

Negligence, torture and unscientific training methods have claimed the lives of 16 captive elephants in the State in the past eight months, V.K. Venkitachalam, secretary of the Thrissurbased Heritage Animal Task Force, has alleged.

Looked skinny

The latest victim is 58-yearold Nandilath Arjun, found dead in its waterlogged tethering ground near Kundannur in Thrissur district on August 14. The elephant



Lack of care: The carcass of Mukkomban Ganapathy was found in its waterlogged tethering place in Thrissur district.

looked skinny due to starvation and lack of care, alleged Mr. Venkitachalam.

In a similar incident, elephant Mukkomban Ganapathy, 56, was found dead in its tethering place, also waterlogged, near the Neeleswaram church in the Kaladi-Malayattoor area of Thrissur

on August 12. The animal rights activist said this elephant too was very weak due to starvation.

Deprived of care

Mullathu Kailas, a 32-yearold elephant, died at Korattikkara in the district on August 2.

In a letter to the Director, Project Elephant, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Mr. Venkitachalam said all the 16 elephants were deprived of proper food and veterinary care. Many of them were tethered in waterlogged places, he said.

An elephant named Aaralam Siva, 22, captured by the Forest Department from Kannur district and kept at the Muthanga forest elephant camp, was found dead on July 28, inside its kraal with wounds all over body.

Akkavila Kannan, 17, was found dead at its tethering place near Kodaly in Thrissur on January 25 with severe injuries on body.

Thottekkattu Karthikeyan, aged 30, died on February 4 in Kottayam after its head hit the cabin of the lorry on which it was being transported, he said.

Mangalamkunnu Ganapathy, aged 69, was found dead at Sreekrishnapuram in Palakkad on May 24. Elephant Thirupuraikkal Rajendran, 52, died at Vadakkanthara in Palakkad town on May 19.

No proper shelter Mr. Venkitachalam said

Cherpulassery Parthan (aged 42, died at Cherpulassery on May 7); Balussery Indira (46, died at Balussery on May 2); Sreevijayam Murukan (41, died in Kollam on April 24); Veenadu Vinayakan (32, died in Kollam April 10); Balaraman of Cochin Devaswom Board (68, found dead with wounds all over the body at Oorakathamma Thiruvady Temple in Thrissur on April 2); Priya (35, died in a tourism resort near Munnar on March 30); Kozhanchery Sankarankutty (50, died in Kollam on February 26); and Dhakshayani (89 of Travancore Devaswam Board that died in Thiruvananthapuram on January 6) were all kept in open spaces without proper shelter.

"All these 16 elephants were kept at open spaces without having a shelter by persons having no statutory ownership certificates issued by the Kerala Chief Wildlife Warden," said Mr. Venkita-

According to the Kerala State Forest Department, there were 521 elephants in captivity as per a census conducted by it as per a Supreme Court order.

The Task Force urged the Director, Project Elephant, to constitute a high-level panel to conduct an enquiry into the deaths of elephants and initiate penal action against persons responsible.

Dalit couple who eloped beaten up in A.P.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A Dalit couple was allegedly beaten up in K.P. Hall village of Gummagatta mandal of Anantapur district last

The incident came to light on Friday after a video was posted on social media.

No complaint filed

District Superintendent of Police B. Satya Yesu Babu told *The Hindu* that the police had not received any complaint from the parents of either the girl or the

But based on the video evidence, they had filed a case suo motu against the village elder Boya Lingappa, who was reportedly seen mercilessly beating the girl and the youth with fists and a cane in front of a large

The youth, Sai Kiran, 20, and the girl, a minor, were closely related. Both fled the village some time ago. Their parents traced them and brought them home. When the girl allegedly tried to elope with the youth again, her parents were believed to have asked the village elder to discipline them.

Police have registered a case of physical violence against children and under Section 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means). But since the girl is a minor, Mr. Kiran could be booked under the POCSO Act after producing her before the Child Welfare Committee and ICDS officials, the police ad-

IN BRIEF



districts out of gear on Friday. Torrential rain started around Subir Pal died.

AK-47 recovered from

visited his ancestral home for the last 14 years.

luxury resort demolished

1,000 sq. m. IANS

Army wins Scout Masters contest

The Army has won the 5th International Army Scout Masters Competition held at the Jaisalmer Military Station in Rajasthan from August 6 to 14. Eight teams from Armenia, Belarus, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Sudan and Uzbekistan participated in the competition. India the first time. The organised by Russia.

ISRO arm begins search for PSLV makers

NSIL invites expression of interest from experienced companies to produce launchers

MADHUMATHI D.S. BENGALURU

NewSpace India Ltd, the new public sector space business launched a formal search for industry consortia which can regularly manufacture and deliver entire PSLV satellite launch vehicles for its parent, the Indian Space Research Organisation.

It will initially outsource five PSLVs - Indian rockets that can lift light payloads to 'low earth orbits' some 600 km in space. NSIL has called a pre-bid meeting of potential parties on August 26.

The four-stage PSLV is needed to place both Indian remote sensing satellites and small satellites of foreign customers to space.

Formed in March

NSIL was formed in March this year to promote Indian space commerce. In its first tender it invited expressions of interest or EoIs from one or more experienced companies or consortia to produce

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN

India has got its first National

Essential Diagnostics List

(NEDL) finalised by the In-

dian Council of Medical Re-

search (ICMR) which aims to

bridge the current regulato-

ry system's gap that do not

cover all the medical devices

and in-vitro diagnostic dev-

equipped to manage only

come the first country to

compile such a list that

would provide guidance to

the government for deciding

the kind of diagnostic tests

that different healthcare fa-

cilities in villages and remote

the few notified devices.

The current system is

With this, India has be-

ice (IVD).



Expanding horizon: ISRO successfully launched PSLV - C 46 / RISAT - 2 B from the Sathish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on May 22. • K.V SRINIVASAN

the launchers end to end: their job starts from component procuring, electronics, to large stages and finally the assembly, integration and testing (AIT) of the vehicles. Selected parties can use IS-RO facilities where required,

In the August 16 document titled 'EoI for PSLV production by Indian industry consortium', NSIL said,

India gets its first national

Current system can manage only a few notified devices

trict level, noted ICMR.

The list is meant for facili-

ties from village till the dis-

WHO released first edition of

essential diagnostics list

(EDL) in May 2018. Even

though WHO's EDL acts as a

reference point for develop-

ment of national EDL, In-

dia's diagnostics list has

been customised and pre-

pared as per landscape of In-

NEDL builds upon the

Free Diagnostics Service In-

itiative and other diagnostics

initiatives of the Health Mi-

nistry to provide an expand-

ed basket of tests at different

levels of the public health

system, explained a senior

dia's health care priorities.

essential diagnostics list

WHO list

"With a target of producing 12 PSLVs per annum through Indian industry, NSIL/ ISRO, as a first step, is looking forward to [realising] 5 PSLVs," through selected companies

Two a month

or consortia.

"Upon successful and satisfactory completion of realisation of 5 PSLVs, NSIL/ISRO will enhance the scope to 12

He said implementation

of NEDL would enable im-

proved health care services

delivery through evidence-

based care, improved pa-

tient outcomes and reduc-

tion in out-of-pocket expen-

diture; effective utilisation of

public health facilities; effec-

tive assessment of disease

burden, disease trends, sur-

veillance, and outbreak

identification; and address

antimicrobial resistance cri-

diagnostics is a prime con-

cern in countrieslike India,

low cost, inaccurate diag-

nostics have made their way

into the Indian market

which has no place in the

quality health care system,"

said a senior official at ICMR.

"While affordability of

PSLVs per annum under a separate contract.'

At the Bengaluru Space Expo held a year ago, ISRO Chairman K. Sivan had urged industries to relieve ISRO of the manufacturing burden, saying the space agency must do 59 launches by 2021 and needed a PSLV strike rate of two a month.

Of the over ₹6,000 crore sanctioned last year for the

cost of 30 PSLVs required during 2019-24, 85% of the money would go to industries, he had said.

ISRO currently sources separate rocket parts from around 500 big and small vendors and does the AIT itself at its facilities in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Core job

For almost a decade, it has been planning to hand the production over to public and private industries and itself focus on its core job of space R&D.

On the satellite side, groups of industries are already helping ISRO in AIT at the Bengaluru-based U.R. Rao Satellite Centre and have produced a couple of midsized satellites.

ISRO also has two increasingly more powerful launchers in that order – the GSLV and the GSLV-Mk III, used to lift 2,000 kg and 4,000 kg communication satellites to higher orbits.

Drug control inspector booked for asking bribe

CBI has registered a case against him

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

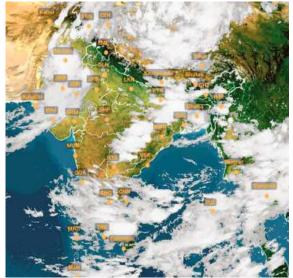
The CBI has booked a Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) inspector and others for allegedly demanding bribe to ignore the deficiency in samples of dobutamine injection produced by an Amritsar-based pharma company. The drug is used to treat acute heart failure.

Those accused in the FIR are inspector Ankur Bansal, Kwality Pharmaceutical Limited managing director Ramesh Arora, its director Ajay Kumar Arora and chief pharmacist Karunakar Tiwari, besides unknown public servants.

The CBI registered the case following a source information about alleged conspiracy between certain CDSCO officials, working under the Health & Family Welfare Ministry, and owners/representatives of companies manufacturing drugs to manage adverse test re-

The agency alleges that samples of the injection manufactured by the Kwality Pharmaceuticals Limited (Amritar) were collected by CDSCO for testing. They failed the test after which its managing director challenged the reports.

On July 18, it is alleged, Mr. Tiwari – in connivance with Mr. Arora, approached the drug inspector for a favourable decision. The inspector assured him of getting the matter settled and later informed Mr. Tiwari that injection samples had again failed the tests.



Forecast for Saturday: Heavy to very heavy rain likely at isolated places over Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Yanam, West Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, Konkan, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
5.5	33.2	25.5	Kozhikode	9.8	29.3	24.6
4.2	29.3	25.0	Kurnool	–	35.3	25.1
4.0	26.1	20.5	Lucknow		33.2	24.9
	31.9	26.0	Madurai		29.7	27.4
	28.9	20.8	Mangaluru	7.0	28.6	23.0
			Mumbai	5.7	30.8	25.2
			Mvsuru		28.9	20.8
8.9	33.0	25.8				
	32.0	21.0	Port Blair	88.7	30.7	23.9
. 00.0	00.0	00.0	Puducherry		35.8	26.8
3.8	24.2	18.5	,			
			Raipur		33.5	25.7
	27.0	22.0	Shillong	0.3	22.2	17.6
	33.4	24.3				
			Srinagar		29.6	18.8
			-			
		5.533.2422934026131.9			5.5. 33.2 25.5 Kozhikode 9.8. 4.2. 29.3 25.0 Kurnool — 4.0. 26.1 20.5 Lucknow — — 31.9 26.0 Madurai — — 28.9 20.8 Mangaluru 7.0 16.6 24.5 22.0 Mumbai 5.7 — 33.7 25.7 Mysuru — — 33.0 25.8 New Delhi — — 34.7 27.1 Patna 23.8 — 32.0 21.0 Port Blair 88.7 00.0 00.0 00.0 Puducherry — 3.8 24.2 18.5 Pune 1.0 38.7 30.0 24.1 Raipur — — 27.0 22.0 Shillong 0.3 . 27.0 22.0 Shillong 0.3 . 33.4 24.3 Shimla 1	.5.5. .33.2 .25.5 Kozhikode 9.8. .29.3 .4.2. .29.3 .25.0 Kurnool .35.3 .4.0. .26.1 .20.5 Lucknow .33.2 .31.9 .26.0 Madurai .29.7 .28.9 .20.8 Mangaluru .7.0 .28.6 .16.6 .24.5 .22.0 Mumbai .5.7 .30.8 .33.7 .25.7 Mysuru .28.9 .33.0 .25.8 New Delhi .34.8 .34.7 .27.1 Patna .23.8 .35.0 .32.0 .21.0 Port Blair .88.7 .30.7 .00.0 .00.0 .00.0 Puducherry .35.8 .38.7 .30.0 .24.1 Raipur .33.5 .13. .29.6 .26.7 Ranchi .30.2 <

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

10 .37 10659 ...64 .13 12 .16 103

Yesterday

SO2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statue NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by

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

reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters. CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes.

nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature

Navy rescues injured Japanese sailor

The Indian Navy on Friday rushed to the help of an injured sailor on board a Japanese warship in the Indian Ocean, an official said here. Responding to an SOS from the Japanese warship JMSDF Sazanami, the Indian Navy launched a Sea King helicopter from INS Shikra along with a medical team. Later, the Japanese consulate in Mumbai shifted him to a local hospital. IANS

'Conspiracy to defame me'

areas require.

Row over a deleted Facebook post raked up again, she says

GUWAHATI

A Gauhati University research scholar at the centre of a 'beef' controversy over a Facebook post she had deleted two years ago, has said she is being targeted to stop her from working on the ground to help people stressed out by the ongoing exercise to update the National Register of Citizens (NRC).

In a video and statement sent to The Hindu, Rehna Sultana said news stories about her by a section of the media were part of a "wellplanned conspiracy to defame me and the work I am currently engaged in."

The 28-year-old research scholar said she did not circulate any post on beef consumption or supporting the Pakistan cricket team on

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The police in western As-

sam's Bongaigaon district

on Friday registered a case

against a group of villagers

for alleged moral policing

that drove a 16-year-old boy

court in Bharalkundi village

had fined the boy, Uday Ma-

lo, ₹42,000 for allegedly be-

ing disrespectful to a wo-

There was no clarity on

what exactly happened, but

some villagers said the boy

had hit the woman while

man three days ago.

Reports said a kangaroo

Assam boy dies after

kangaroo court fines him

He was asked to pay ₹42,000 penalty



Rehna Sultana

forms more than two years

riding his bicycle.

The villagers said the boy

was going through depres-

sion since the kangaroo

court slapped the penalty.

"His family did not have the

money to pay," a villager

said, adding that the boy

The boy's family lodged a

complaint after his death

late on Thursday. "I have

asked the local police to in-

vestigate and find the cause

behind the boy's death and

see that the culprits are not

spared," said Subodh K. So-

nowal, the district's Supe-

rintendent of Police.

was run over by a train.

after she had deleted it. She was booked under Section 153A of the Indian Penal Code and Section 67 of the Information Technology

notice that I had written a post in 2017. The context of the post was a cricket match and the post was written in the form of a parody, primarily out of the frustration of India having lost to Pakistan because of bad fielding and batting. That was also the time when many lynchings had taken place over beef,"

"I had deleted the post barely two minutes after posting it, having realised it was done in an agitated state of mind and could convey a different meaning. I also gave a clarification regarding the same," she said.

ED attaches members

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has attached assets worth ₹570 crore held by members of the committee of IL&FS Financial Services and others in connection with a money laundering

findings in the case, the ED filed the first chargesheet in a Mumbai court. The attached properties include bank accounts and immovable properties in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Brussels in Belgium. "They belong to Ravi Parthasarathy, Ramesh Bawa, Hari Sankaram, Arun Saha and Ramchand Karunakaran. We also attached various immovable properties held indirectly by Sivasankaran," said an ED official.

On Friday, based on the





Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India Pudukkottai Road, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, Phone: +91-4362-228155 director@iifpt.edu.in www.iifpt.edu.ir

Spot Admission for B.Tech. (Food Technology) Programme Only for EWS and ST Category

The Institute level counseling for filling vacant seats of EWS & ST Category for B.Tech. (Food Technology) full time regular degree programme will be held at Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT) Thanjavur on 21st August, 2019 at 9.00 AM

- EWS & ST candidates who appeared for JEE (Main)-2019-Paper-I and passed XII Examination are eligible to attend the counseling.
- The candidate should have EWS or ST category rank in JEE
- (Main)-2019-Paper-I
- No. of Vacant Seats for EWS Category 5 seats
- No. of Vacant Seats for ST Category 4 seats Selection is based on All India category rank in JEE (Main)-2019-Paper-
- For further details, Please visit our website: www.iifpt.edu.in Director

PK Singh, IDSE CE (NF), Dir (Design) Station Road, Vishakapatnam (AP), PIN - 530 004 Tele Mil: 0891 - 2747498, E-Mail: pradeepks1162-cgo@nic.in

<u>Notice</u>

02 Aug 2019

ARB/DIR/ (DES)/TVL/04/PKS

M/s.BGD Engineering Enterprises No.15, Ettiammankoil Nagar Main Road, Thirumullaivoil, M/s.BGD Engineering Enterprises 10/4, 12th Street,

Nandanam Extension

ARBITRATION CASE IN R/O CA NO.CWE (NAVY)/TVL/10 OF 2011-2012 PROVISION OF MAIN ENTRANCE GATE OF 2.4 MTRS WITH ARRESTER BARRIER AND RECEPTION ALONG WITH 04 NOS SECURTIY WATCH TOWERS OF 7.5 MTRS HEIGHT AT COAST GUARD MD ACCN AT TUTICORIN M/S.BGD ENGINEERING ENTERPRISES.

Union of India represented by GE (I) (CG) Chennai

M/s.BGD Engineering Enterprises
No.15, Ettiammankoil Nagar Main Road, Thirumu**ll**aivoil

M/s.BGD Engineering Enterprises 10/4, 12th Street, Nandanam Extension

This Notice is for information of M/s.BGD Engineering Enterprises Under the provisions of Arbitration Clause of the above contract. I have been appointed as sole arbitrator by HQ Chief Engineer (Navy) Vishaka vide letter No 84170/CWE/ (N)/2309/E8 dt 19 Mar 2019. Under my letter No ARB/DIR (DES)/TVL/01/PKS dated 24 June 2019.

of the High Received M/s. BGD Engineering Enterprises to forward the Statement or Claims along with all supporting documents by 15 Jul 2019 and Pleading - in ence to the Statement of Claims submitted by UOI by 31 Jul 2019.

The above mentioned letter dated 24 Jun 2019 was received back from the postal authorities undelivered.

5. In View of the above and to finalize the case, M/s.BGD Engineering

Enterprises is hereby informed to submit their Statement of Claims by 01 Se 2019 and Pleading-in-Defence to the Statement of Claims submitted by UOI by 16 Sep 2019 and to attend the hearing of the case on 01 Oct 2019 at 1000 hrs at this HQ failing which I shall proceed ex-parte.

Sd/- x-x-x
PK Singh, IDSE CE (NF) Dir (Design)
Sole Arbitrator.



extant policy guidelines.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ORDNANCE CLOTHING FACTORY

AVADI, CHENNAI - 600054

(FOR THE KIND ATTENTION OF PENSIONERS) As per the directives of the Competent Authority, it has been decided to organize a Pensioner's Grievance Meeting on August 23rd, 2019 from 10-00 a.m. onwards in order to ensure quick redressal of Pensioners grievances within the framework of

Accordingly, OCF Avadi Pensioners are requested to send their pension related grievances to the General Manager, Ordnance Clothing Factory, Avadi on or before 19-08-2019. Pensioners should quote their name, designation, Personal No., details of Bank / Treasury from where the pension is drawn, Date of discharge, specific grievance and their addresses with Phone Number. If these grievances are found genuine and within the framework of extant policy guidelines governing pension, they will be invited to attend the pensioner's grievance meeting to be held at OCFA premises on August 23rd 2019.

Further, it may be noted that the cases involving purely legal points succession, policy matters, etc. cannot be taken up in the

Venue	OCF Inspection Bunglow Jauhari Nagar, OCF, Avadi, Chennai-54.	
Date	23-08-2019	
Time	10-00 A.M.	
Contact Person	Shri S.P. Gokhale, JWM Caretaker / OCF IB Telephone No. 044-2636 5270	
	GENERAL MANAGE	ΞR

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD

DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO THE UTTAR PRADESH HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE - 2018 (Part-III) ABRIDGED ADVERTISEMENT

Online applications for Direct Recruitment against 61 Vacancies (SC-12, ST-01, OBC-16 and Unreserved-32) of the Uttar Pradesh Higher Judicial Service in the Pay Scale of Rs. 51550-1230-58930-1380-63070 are invited from Advocates having not less than 07 years' continuous practice as on the last date fixed for the submission of application forms, who must have attained the age of 35 years and must not have attained the age of 45 years as or 01.01.2020, i.e. the candidate must have been born on or after 02.01.1975 and not later than 01.01.1985. Age limit shall be higher by 03 years in case of SC/ST/OBC category candidates belonging to the State of U.P. only. There shall be 20% horizontal reservation for women belonging to State of U.P. only. The application shall be filled online only (www. allahabadhighcourt.in) from 11.08.2019 to 25.08.2019 till 23:59 hours after which the link will be disabled. Applications received through any other mode would not be accepted. The recruitment will be based on a Preliminary Examination (objective type) to be held at Prayagraj (Allahabad) and only those candidates shall be called to appear in the Main Written Examination who secure 45% or more marks in the Preliminary examination, provided candidates not more than 20 times of number of vacancies category-wise i.e. separately for General, Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes shall be admitted to the Main Written Examination

The candidates are advised to visit website of Allahabad High Court (www.allahabadhighcourt.in) for information with regard to eligibility, application form, detailed instructions for the guidance of the candidates, syllabus, dates of examination and other details.

Sd/-Registrar General



heavy rain hits Kolkata

A heavy downpour, lasting about 90 minutes, threw Kolkata city and surrounding 3 p.m. in Kolkata and within an hour, several parts of the city were flooded, causing huge traffic snarls. About 17 people who took shelter under a tree were struck by lightning and one of them,

Bihar MLA's home

Police in Bihar recovered an AK-47 assault rifle, some cartridges from the ancestral house of the Independent MLA representing Mokama, Anant Singh, at Ladma in Barh of Patna district, Mr. Singh. known as "Chhote Sarkar (mini government)" in his area, said the recovered weapon had been planted by the police as he had not

Wall of Azam Khan's

The Rampur district administration on Friday demolished the boundary wall of Samajwadi Party MP Azam Khan'd luxury resort 'Humsafar', after serving him a notice for grabbing the land. Two JCBs were engaged in pulling down the wall constructed over a 'nullah' of the Uttar Pradesh Irrigation Department. The demolished portion extends to about

participated in the games for International army games are

Bakrid. Such news released a couple of days before Independence Day was a planned attempt to create disorder in society, she

The Assam police on August 14 registered an FIR against Ms. Sultana over the Facebook post that resurfaced on social media plat-

"This is to bring to your

Ms. Sultana said.

Major General dismissed from service by Army

He was accused of sexual harassment

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A serving Major General was on Friday dismissed from service for sexually harassing a woman officer while serving in Nagaland in 2016,

military sources said. The punishment awarded to Major General R.S. Jaswal by a general court martial in December last year was approved by Army chief General Bipin Rawat, they said.

The general court martial under the Western Army Command at Chandimandir recommended dismissal of Major General Jaswal after

Section 354A of the IPC (sexual harassment) and Section 45 (unacceptable conduct) of the Army Act. He was attached to an Army formation in Ambala under 2 Corps as part of the disciplinary proceedings, and he had been informed about his dismissal from service, the sources said. Major General Jaswal de-

finding him guilty under

nied the charges, and claimed that he was a victim of a factional feud, following Gen. Rawat's appointment as the Army chief in December 2016.

Justice for the mob

Acquittal in the emblematic case of Pehlu Khan's murder imperils the country's image

Tt is a sign of the times that vigilante mobs can get away with daylight murder. Even after visual evidence becomes available; and even when the victim names his assailants in a dying declaration. The acquittal of all those charged by the Rajasthan police with beating dairy farmer Pehlu Khan to death in April 2017 is a stark reminder that there is a humongous gap between capturing video footage of a man being beaten up and bringing the culprits to book. The Additional District Judge of Alwar has given the benefit of doubt to the six men charged with Khan's murder. A principal reason given is that the six persons named by Khan were not charge-sheeted by the police. It seems that the derailment of the prosecution case began early. Based on mobile phone call records and the statement of staff at a cow shelter, the police gave a clean sheet to the named suspects and booked a different set of people, including three minors. The police failed to conduct an identification parade, while there was an apparent contradiction between government doctors declaring that the victim died of injuries, and a private hospital's claim that the cause was cardiac arrest. It is not difficult to surmise that infirmities were built into the case in advance. The court also need not have held inadmissible the footage of the incident, as the Supreme Court had ruled last year that authentic and relevant electronic evidence can be accepted even in the absence of the required

in two cases of lynching, but the Pehlu Khan lynching case had emblematic significance. It was vital that it was properly investigated and the culprits convicted. Unfortunately, the wholesale acquittal is a setback to combatcident imperils India's image as a modern democracy. There is ample evidence to suggest that the institutional bias in favour of cow vigilantes is working against the inthose responsible for the murderous attack - may be needed to restore a sense of justice.

Making CSR work

Non-compliance by corporates should be decriminalised and made a civil offence

t was first encouraged as a voluntary contribution by business; six years ago it evolved into a co-option of the corporate sector to promote inclusiveness in society and now, corporate social responsibility or CSR has become an imposition on India Inc. Key amendments to the relevant sections of the Companies Act in the last session of Parliament have now made non-compliance with CSR norms a jailable offence for key officers of the company, apart from hefty fines up to ₹25 lakh on the company and ₹5 lakh on the officer in default. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is said to have assured representatives of India Inc. when they met her last week that this amendment will be reviewed. Yet, it is curious that the government rushed through with amendments on the CSR law even as a committee constituted by it was finalising its report on the same subject. As it happened, the committee, headed by the Corporate Affairs Secretary submitted its report on August 13, well after Parliament had passed the amendments. On the specific issue of penalties, the committee has proposed that non-compliance be decriminalised and made a civil offence. "CSR is a means to partner corporates for social development and such penal provisions are not in harmony with the spirit of CSR," the committee's report says and rightly so. CSR should not be treated as another tax on businesses.

Every company with a net worth of ₹500 crore or turnover of ₹1,000 crore or net profit of ₹5 crore should spend 2% of the average profits it made over the previous three years on social development. The experience since this provision was operationalised in 2013 has been mixed. Filings with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs show that in 2017-18, only a little over half of those liable to spend on CSR have filed reports on their activity to the government. The other half either did not comply or simply failed to file. The average CSR spend by private companies was just ₹95 lakh compared to ₹9.40 crore for public sector units. These are early days yet, and compliance will improve as corporates imbibe CSR culture fully. The committee's suggestion to offer a tax break for expenses on CSR makes sense as it may incentivise companies to spend. It has also recommended that unspent CSR funds be transferred to an escrow account within 30 days of the end of the financial year. It should be recognised that CSR is not the main business of a company and in these challenging times they would rightly be focusing their energies on the business rather than on social spending. The government should be careful to not micromanage and tie down businesses with rules and regulations that impose a heavy compliance burden. Else it might end up with the opposite of what it intends – to rope in corporates as citizens to promote social inclusion.

A considered step that opens up new vistas

The abrogation of Kashmir's special status is a major move towards ensuring an inclusive India



M. VENKAIAH NAIDU

The recent decision by the government to abrogate Article 370 has resulted in a countrywide debate on the subject. The general perception is that a vast majority of people in the country feel that the abrogation is a welcome step. They also feel that the abrogation should not be viewed through a narrow political prism as it centres around the unity and integrity of the nation. In fact, it is also seen as a major step towards ensuring an inclusive India.

Historical perspective

Before delving into the issue, one should understand the essence of Article 370; it was only a temporary, transitional arrangement and was never intended to be a permanent provision.

Under Part XXI of the Constitution of India, which deals with 'Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions', the special status was conferred upon Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) after Maharaja Hari Singh signed The Instrument of Accession on October 26-27, 1947.

However, an important nugget of history is that Article 370 was not incorporated at the time of accession. It was included in October 1949 at the instance of Sheikh Abdullah, who was a member of the Constituent Assembly that drafted the Constitution. It became operative only in 1952

Under Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir State was allowed to have a separate Constitution and a Flag. Its Constituent Assembly, initially, and the State legislature, subsequently, were empowered either to adopt or not to adopt any law passed by the Indian Parliament. Except for matters such as 'Defence', 'External Affairs', 'Commu-

nications' and matters mentioned in 'The Instrument of Accession', the Indian Parliament had no jurisdiction on extending its legislations to the border State without the concurrence of Jammu and

While considering the proposal to incorporate it in the Constitution, Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru advised Sheikh Abdullah to convince B.R. Ambedkar, who apparently was not in favour

In the book, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Framing of Indian Constitution, by Dr. S.N. Busi, Dr. Ambedkar was cited as saying: "Mr. Abdullah, you want that India should defend Kashmir. You wish India should protect your borders, she should build roads in your area, she should supply you food grains, and Kashmir should get equal status as India, but you don't want India and any citizen of India to have any rights in Kashmir and Government of India should have only limited powers. To give consent to this proposal would be a treacherous thing against the interests of India, and I, as the Law Minister of India, will never do. I cannot betray the interests of my country".

Even Pandit Nehru had pointed out in Parliament on November 27. 1963 that "Article 370 is part of certain transitional, provisional arrangements. It is not a permanent part of the Constitution. It is a part as long as it remains so."

Hardly unifying

History shows that instead of bringing people of Kashmir closer to the rest of India, Article 370 has only widened the chasm. This schism has been systematically widened by vested interests. While Article 370 has failed to benefit the people in a meaningful way, it was used by separatists to drive a wedge between those living in J&K and the rest of India. It was used by a neighbouring country to spread terrorism.

The demand for abrogation of Article 370 has been under consid-

eration for a long time. In fact, Parliament had discussed this way back in 1964. A discussion on a private member's bill seeking abrogation of Article 370 found near-unanimous support back

It would be pertinent to point out that the non-official resolution moved by Prakash Vir Shastri in the Lok Sabha was supported by leaders like Ram Manohar Lohia and K. Hanumanthaiya, a senior Congress leader.

Hanumanthaiya not only pointed out that the members, irrespective of party affilations, wanted the abrogation of Article 370 to be made into law but also went on to say: "To go against or to say anything against this unanimous opinion in this House is to disown constitutional responsibility in a convenient manner. Article 370... stands in the way of full integration."

Of the 12 members who favoured its abrogation, seven belonged to the Congress including Inder J. Malhotra, Sham Lal Saraf (from J&K), H.V. Kamath, Socialist, Sarjoo Pandey (CPI) and Bhagwat Jha Azad, former Chief Minister of

The country felt that this provision needed to go sooner or later. As Jawaharlal Nehru's colleague and then Home Affairs Minister Gulzarilal Nanda had told Parliament decades ago, "Article 370 is nothing more than a shell emptied of its contents. Nothing has been left in it; we can do it in one day, in 10 days, 10 months. That is entire-

Parliament and the Government have now come to the conclusion, finally, that such a dysfunctional provision has no relevance in the current context and that the time has come to integrate Jammu and Kashmir fully into the rest of India. Without having improved the lives of people in any way, Article 370 had become an impediment to the very development of the State.

A leveller

The people of the country also need to know, as pointed out by the present Home Minister, Amit Shah, in the Lok Sabha recently, that key Central laws made for the welfare of citizens of the country could not be implemented in J&K due to Article 370. With its abrogation, a total of 106 Central laws will now be extended to I&K. Some of the key pieces of legislation include the Prevention of Corruption Act, the Land Acquisition Act, the National Commission for Minorities Act, the Right to Education Act and those relating to empowering local bodies.

With Article 35A becoming void, the decades old discrimination against the women of J&K has been eliminated. They can now purchase and transfer property to their children, even if they get married to a non-resident.

In my view, the abrogation of Article 370 is indeed a step in the right direction to safeguard the unity and integrity of India.

The State of Jammu and Kashmir has been an integral part of our country. It will always remain so. So, the action to remove Article 370 is purely an internal matter. It goes without saying that India will not allow outsiders to meddle in its internal affairs. People should guard against false and mischievous propaganda by a section of the Indian and western media, which probably still believes in the colonial mindset of 'divide and

Parliament has carefully consi-

dered and taken a decision that this transitory provision needs to go and that J&K must be fully integrated with the rest of India. The naysayers who are alleging that constitutional impropriety has been committed must know that the Bill was passed by two-thirds in the Rajya Sabha and four-fifths in the Lok Sabha after an elaborate

fils a long-standing demand of manv sections of the people in J&K, including Ladakh. The speech of the Ladakh MP, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, in the Lok Sabha recently, was truly noteworthy, where he pointed out that Ladakh was not just a piece of land but a precious gem of Bharat. I am also confident that the status of a State would be accorded once things improve and total normalcy is restored in Jammu and Kashmir.

certification under the Evidence Act. Last year, Jharkhand managed to obtain convictions ing the rampant vigilantism of our times. Each such in-

terest of justice. The CID-Crime Branch took over the case two months after the incident, and filed a charge sheet. Those charge-sheeted were granted bail not long after. Even after the change of regime late last year, the police obtained permission to prosecute two sons of Pehlu Khan for transporting bovines in violation of a State law. This indicates the assiduity with which cattle protection laws are implemented, while lynch mobs in the garb of cow protectors are treated with kid gloves. The Rajasthan Chief Minister, who recently got a new expansive law enacted to punish lynching, has promised to take the matter on appeal. A mere appeal may not suffice; orders for a fresh investigation and trial – one that would lead to the formal indictment of all

Giving shape to an elusive strategic concept The post of Chief of Defence Staff will enable more efficiency in defence planning and help civil-military relations



P.S. RAGHAVAN

cement in his Independence Day address on Thursday, appointing a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), is one that could have a farreaching impact on the management of defence in India.

The issue of efficient management of the higher defence organisation came into sharp focus after the Kargil war in 1999, when the K. Subrahmanyam-headed task force was asked to examine questions about the anticipation and detection of Pakistani intrusions in Kargil and the military response. The strategic expert and his team highlighted the systemic issues bedevilling our national security structures, which included poor coordination and technological inadequacies.

On its recommendations, the Government tasked a Group of Ministers (GoM) in the early 2000s to undertake a review of national security management. Their recommendations covered intelligence, internal security, border management and defence. These resulted in an overhaul, which included the appointment of a National Security Adviser, a strengthening of intelligence coordination mechanisms, upgrading the technological capacity of security agencies, and sharpening institutional responses to traditional and emerging inter-

nal security challenges. Defence management was the one area in which the implementation of the GoM's recommendations was dis-

The issues are well-known. The first is a pervasive sentiment in the armed forces that they are not formally involved in decision-making This perception is reinforced by the fact that the Service Headquarters are not within the Ministry of Defence; they are treated more like attached offices. This structure has led to cumbersome, opaque and antiquated decisionmaking processes, from administrative requirements to weapons acquisitions.

Changing face of conflict

From an operational perspective, the concept of military conflict today extends beyond land, air and sea, into the domains of space. cyber, electronic and information. Effective defence preparedness requires a 'jointness' of the Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Indian Navy in incorporating these domains into their war-fighting strategies. It also requires a prioritisation of the weapons requirements of the forces and optimisation of their resource allocations based on a clearly defined national defence strategy.

The GoM had recommended better efficiency by integrating the armed forces headquarters into the Ministry of Defence (MoD). It had also pitched for the appointment of a CDS, who could promote an integrated approach to interservice prioritisation and resource allocation as well as a pooling of

common structures to avoid unnecessary redundancies. The CDS was to administer tri-service institutions such as the Andaman and Nicobar Command. In today's context, his charge would also presumably include the recently established tri-service space and cyber agencies. He would provide coordinated military advice to the Defence Minister, incorporating the perspectives of the individual services. He would develop the national defence strategy, which itself should flow from a national security strategy that factors in traditional and non-traditional threats as well as internal security requirements and external strategic objectives. This would be in collaboration with the civilian defence leadership of the MoD.

A thread of resistance

All recommendations were accepted barring the one on the CDS. Opposition from sections of the armed forces and the bureaucracy and from a political party resulted in this last-minute decision. There was apprehension that a CDS would undermine of the authority of the three service chiefs over their forces. The establishment in many countries of theatre commands under the CDS reinforced this fear. The other concern was that an all-powerful CDS would distort the civil-military balance in our democracy.

This opposition was based on misperceptions and "turf" considequivalent, with varying degrees of operational control over their armed forces. It has not diluted civilian control over their governance. Instead, it has meant greater participation of the military in defence decision-making alongside the civilian bureaucracy, enhancing the coherence and transparency of policies. In almost every case, the appointment of a CDS has been a top-down decision, to which the system has subsequently adjusted.

Need for indigenisation

The role envisaged for a CDS in India is that of developing multi-domain military strategies, strengthening tri-service synergies and enabling perspective planning. It is only after achieving jointness in training, exercises and infrastructure that the feasibility of regional commands can be explored in the specific context of India's geography and the nature of its internal and external threats. The CDS can contribute to rational defence acquisition decisions, preventing redundancy of capacities among the services and making best use of available financial resources.

While implementing this reform, we should also focus on the important objective of indigenisation. It is a shame that India is still

discussion. Game changer I am sure that this integration ful-

The Government's decision would facilitate greater investments by both individual entrepreneurs and major private companies in different sectors including hospitality, tourism, education and health. It would naturally generate much-needed employment for local youth. It would also enable greater scrutiny of the implementation of the schemes of the Government of In-

In conclusion, it should be noted that the abrogation of Article 370 is a national issue involving our country's safety, security, unity and equitable prosperity. It is a step in the right direction that the Indian Parliament has taken with an overwhelming majority. It is a step that opens up new vistas for the all-round development in a State that was relatively neglected. It is a stepping stone to enable an improved quality of life for the people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

M. Venkaiah Naidu is the Vice President of

This abject dependence on other countries, for weapons systems, components and even ammunitions, does not befit an aspiring great power. There must be procedures and practices to ensure that every acquisition is structured in a erations. Many democracies have way as to strengthen our indigeturn aiding defence self-reliance.

among the top arms importers.

A corollary of the appointment of a CDS is integration of his establishment into the MoD without which he cannot meaningfully fulfil the role assigned to him. Eventually, the three Service headquarters would also need to be suitably integrated into the Ministry. It would require changing their current functional structure as well as amending the existing rules of business of the government. This was envisaged by the GoM, but when a decision on the CDS was deferred, action on it lost steam.

In his announcement on the CDS, the Prime Minister mentioned past reports on defence reforms, the transforming nature of military conflict, the impact of technology and the need for modernisation, coordination and jointness. This leads to hope that the GoM recommendations of 2001 will be implemented. If carried out objectively, undistorted by turf considerations, this longawaited reform would soothe frictions in civil-military relations and bring greater efficiency, transparency and accountability into decision-making on defence matters.

P.S. Raghavan is Chairman, National Security Advisory Board. The views

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

UNSC meet on Kashmir

China, being a permanent member of the UN Security Council, seems to be pandering to the whims of its all-weather friend, Pakistan. The decision, at the goading of China, to hold a closed-door discussion on Kashmir is a matter of surprise as it is a subject that involves the internal affairs of India (Page 1, August 16). Much has changed since 1947. The move also shows the big brother attitude of China which has many problems of its own. China

should first concentrate on making peace with the Hong Kong protesters and also respecting Tibet and the Uighur Muslims. It has no right to be sermonising about Kashmir, which is being sorted out in a peaceful manner in democratic traditions. SRAVANA RAMACHANDRAN,

Population control

The most significant issue that the Prime Minister highlighted in his Independence Day speech on Thursday was of

puts population back on govt. agenda", August 16). While the two-child norm has been able to slow down the rate of population growth, there is a need to have smarter moves in the present situation. Apart from an incentivisation of smaller families, large families must lose state sponsored welfare benefits and privileges. An interventionist move or policy formulation must also balance sustainability without affecting the segment of a young and

population control ("PM

N. SADHASIVA REDDY,

working-age population.

Climate planning

The increasing frequency of heavy rainfall in many States is a reality, probably linked to climate change. The havoc being caused is a wake-up call. From people to wild animals being affected to disrupted agricultural operations, the list can go on. While the Assam floods threatened already endangered species, in Kerala, it was the washing up of tons of

plastic material that reflected our gross negligence of environmental issues. Thus, man could be responsible for the changed conditions. Widescale deforestation and the plundering of natural resources are cause for worry. The simple lesson is that we need to respect nature. JANGA BAHADUR SUNUWAR,

■ Kerala is pursuing

development projects at the expense of nature (Editorial

page, "Lessons after the great deluge", August 16). Taking over lakebeds and floodplains to allow construction is affecting percolation. Mangrove vegetation is also being mindlessly exploited. Rampant mining, now widespread, is leading to the loss of precious topsoil and landslides. Revisiting the Gadgil report is a must for regions falling under the Western Ghats. ABHISHEK M.R., Ajjarkad, Udupi, Karnataka

MORE LETTERS ONLINE:

Paddy, tube wells and depleting groundwater

Rice cultivation in Punjab, which thrived in the past due to the easy availability of water resources and free supply of electricity to farmers, is under considerable strain now. **Vikas Vasudeva** examines how overexploitation has made groundwater not only scarce but also increasingly alkaline

urmeet Singh, 60, a tall landowning farmer in Bhattiwal Khurd village, which is located in Punjab's Sangrur district, has yet again planted the water-guzzling paddy crop this summer (kharif) as he is sceptical of any other crop fetching him a remunerative price.

Standing on the edge of the Ghaggar branch canal, which flows barely a few metres away from his field, Gurmeet reveals that hardly anyone in the village irrigates his/her field with canal water. That is because motor-operated tube wells, with their powerful submersible pumps, have become an easy and preferred choice for most of the households to extract groundwater, he says.

Punjab's policy of providing free electricity to farmers, in place since 1997, along with the Central government's favourable attitude towards paddy cultivation, are the key factors that have motivated farmers like Gurmeet to persist with paddy, despite the grave groundwater crisis faced by the State.

"Most of us here in the village have tube wells installed, be it on our farm or inside our houses. We use groundwater for irrigation, drinking and other domestic purposes. In 1977, we got our first tube well drilled at a depth of 35 ft-40 ft. Water at that time was easily available at 15 ft-20 ft. Since then, we have drilled as many as four tube wells as the water levels have been consistently falling. I got the latest one installed two years ago at around 300 ft. It cost me around ₹1,00,000," he says, his head dropping in despair as he mentions the high cost of his latest tube well.

The green revolution impact

Gurmeet's father Magar Singh, 90, intervenes to point out that farmers like him shifted to cultivation of rice and wheat during the hara inquilab (green revolution); till then, he says, crops like pulses, maize, vegetables and cotton were mainly grown in the village.

"Paddy (rice) requires far more water than other crops and as farmers started cultivating paddy, the need for tube wells arose. The extraction of groundwater only increased as farmers shifted from the use of monoblock pumps in the 1980s to other types like submersible pumps," he says.

Ideally, groundwater should be available at a depth of 50 ft to 60 ft, but in Punjab, its level has significantly dropped to 150ft to 200 ft in most places. Many attribute this drastic fall to an indiscriminate extraction of groundwater in the last two decades.

Further, deepening of tube wells, and purchase of the powerful motors to carry out the deepening, is costing farmers ₹1,100 crore per year, according to government data. The State, which gives increased financial burden due to the rising use of electricity. This year, the total power subsidy to the farm sector is estimated at ₹9,674 crore.

To counter this, the Punjab State Farmers' Policy, drafted by the State's Farmers and Farm Workers' Commission in June last year, suggested rationalising of power subsidy and asked the government to restrict the subsidy to the non-income tax payee farmers. It also recommended that cultivation of paddy on common lands be disallowed. Common (shamlat) village lands, whose utilisation is regulated under Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act 1961, have been increasingly used for paddy cultivation over the years. Experts feel that a restriction on such usage can help arrest groundwater depletion. The government, however, is yet to take a final call on these policy proposals.

The Punjab government is well aware of the fast depleting groundwater reserves. Last month, Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh directed the State Planning Board to chalk out a comprehensive crop diversification model. The Board was also directed to undertake a detailed review of the various schemes of the agriculture department to bring in much-needed reforms in the sector.

The Chief Minister, who has been stressing the need to prioritise the cultivation of crops that consume less water like maize, cotton and sugar cane, asked the Board to come up with a strategy to persuade the farmers to shift to

However, while the State government has been advocating crop diversification to save groundwater, farmers don't seem to be keen on shifting to other crops unless they are given an assured market and a guaranteed price for their produce. "I am aware that paddy consumes more water than other crops but what is the alternative? Government agencies purchase rice and wheat (during rabi season) at the minimum support price (MSP), which assures me of a remunerative return. But in the case of other crops, there's hardly any such assurance. The government should purchase all major crops at MSP as is done in case of rice and wheat; until then, it's difficult to shift," says Randhir Singh, 51, who grows paddy at his three-acre farm in Bhattiwal Khurd village.



A farmer at his paddy field in Sangrur as a bore well extracts groundwater. Increased cultivation of the water-guzzling rice crop, augmented by free power supply, has caused depletion in water reserves. • АКНІLЕЯН КИМАК

This sentiment is echoed in other parts of the State as well. In Fatehpur village, located in the Chief Minister's pocket borough of Patiala, Karamjeet Singh says that after suffering financial loss owing to a price crash in the market, he stopped the cultivation of potato a few years ago. "Three years ago, I planted a potato crop in my field but prices in the market crashed badly. The potato was fetching as low as ₹2 per kilo in the market. I couldn't even recover the cost of my crop and suffered a loss of around ₹3,00,000. Since then, I have stopped its cultivation and have been sowing rice and wheat, for which I am assured of getting a remunerative price as government agencies will purchase my produce at the MSP," he says, as he takes a seat along with his fellow farmers at the public shed in the village.

'Wrong to blame farmers'

As the farmers beat the heat and humidity of an August afternoon under a fan mounted on the shed's ceiling, Ajaib Singh, 62, points out that it is wrong to blame farmers for groundwater depletion. "There are industries and factories that are extracting a huge amount of groundwater - legally and illegally. Not only this, the unsystematic disposal of waste from these industries is contaminating the water, making it increasingly alkaline," he says.

For Dilbag Singh, 43, usage of water from the Kherimala branch (canal), which flows barely three km from the village, is an affordable and doable way to reduce dependence on groundwater. "The government needs to upgrade and work on maintenance of canal irrigation system. It needs to ensure the supply of water at tail-ends [the last part of the water outlet]. If an underground pipeline system can be laid, it will help us optimise water use. Also, it will check the theft of canal water," he says.

"Farmers like me are using tube wells because it's an easy way of extracting water with powerful submersible pumps these days, but if the government develops a mechanism and lays a pipeline till my farm, why would I need to invest in a tube well? I remember we used to get water in canal outlets and also from wells for irrigation during the 1980s, but now almost every house in the village has a tube well," says Kesar Singh, 52, who has sown rice in his five-

Another rice-growing farmer, Nirmal Singh, who is a farmer leader as well, points out that the government needs to focus on establishing an assured market mechanism. "What farmers want is a market – where the purchase of their



The government should purchase all major crops at MSP as it does for rice and wheat; until then, it's difficult to shift to other crops

RANDHIR SINGH, Farmer at Bhattiwal Khurd village



products is guaranteed and they get an assured remunerative price," he says.

Punjab's economy is highly dependent on agriculture. The sector. however, is experiencing slower growth as the State's cropping intensity and irrigation potential have been fully exploited and the growth in productivity has also reached a saturation point.

The intensive groundwater extraction in the last five decades through installation of shallow tube wells is reflected in tube well numbers - which have increased by almost 200% in 35 years, from six lakh in the 1980s to 14.76 lakh in 2017-18. Also, the area under rice cultivation has increased from 11.83 lakh hectares in 1980 to 28.86 lakh hectares in 2017-18. On an average, there are 34 tube wells per sq. km of net sown area in Punjab (2015-16).

According to the Draft Dynamic Ground Water Estimation Report-2017, 109 blocks out of the 138 blocks taken for its study were "over-exploited", two blocks were "critical" and five blocks were "semi-critical" while 20 blocks are in "safe" category. The water table was declining in nearly 80% of the area of

The report also said that while the annual replenishable groundwater resource in Punjab was about 17.5 million acre-ft (MAF), the annual draft (extraction) was 29 MAF, implying that the extraction rate outstripped availability by quite a few notches.

"If this trend continues, it will adversely affect the agricultural economy of the State and it is apprehended that irrigated area may decrease by up to 15% in the year 2025. Further, in the coming 20 years, supply from about 60% of top quifers may be jeopardised. There will be an increase in the cost of raising crops, placing an increased financial burden on farmers and the government. A shortage in water supply could also act as a deterrent when it comes to investment in industries requiring water. Around 30 million residents of the Punjab region may face a collapse in agricultural output," says S.K. Saluja, Superintending Engineer, Directorate of Ground Water Management.

Salinity in water

The report also raised concerns about the deteriorating quality of groundwater due to pollution caused by urbanisation, industrialisation and an increased use of fertilisers and pesticides. It said that while nearly 50%-60% of groundwater was "fresh and fit", 20%-30% was "moderately saline and of marginal quality". Further, about 15%-25% of the groundwater was "saline, alkaline and not fit for irrigation".

Water in south and southwestern districts - like Sangrur, Muktsar, Bathinda and Mansa - came under the last category, containing "varying concentration of soluble salts" and its use for irrigation will adversely affect agricultural proIrrigated area in Punjab may decrease by up to 15% in the year 2025. Around 30 million residents could face a collapse in agricultural output

ngineer, Directorate of Ground Water Management

duction, said the report.

An increased awareness about the need for safe drinking water has caused many households in Bhattiwal Khurd village to install RO (reverse osmosis) water purification systems. "I felt the need for RO system at my home after due to water-borne diseases at regular intervals. We have been consuming groundwater directly from tube wells for a long time," says Randhir Singh.

Untreated industrial effluents

P.S. Rangi, a noted agriculture economist and a former adviser to Punjab State Farmers Commission, says that water quality is being impacted by untreated or inadequately treated industrial effluents and sewage that flows into rivulets and rivers in Puniab.

"Also, traditional water bodies such as ponds and wells in the villages are under threat. In most of the places, ponds have been filled and encroached upon while in other places, they have become a dumping ground for sewage. The problem is further compounded by the mixing of storm water and sewage in various municipal towns. The pollution and contamination of water resources due to industrial waste, sewage and excessive use of chemical pesticides in agriculture is a major cause of concern that needs immediate attention," says

Given the grim situation, Punjab's Department of Water Supply and Sani-

tation is planning to implement 10 surface water projects at a cost of ₹1,021 crore. These projects intend to provide potable piped water supply to 1,021 "quality-affected" villages, making them less reliant on groundwater and more + on canal water

A total of 130 such villages - including 85 uranium-affected villages in Moga and 45 iron-affected ones in Roopnagar - have so far been shifted from groundwater to canal water.

Lakhwinder Singh, professor of economics at Punjabi University, Patiala, who has been mapping rural Punjab for State thrived in the past due to easy availability of both groundwater and surface water but, over the past few years, the availability has reached a saturation point.

Increase in indebtedness

"Successive State governments invested on drainage systems that saved crops from damage in the case of heavy and untimely rains. Over the years, due to an incentivising of groundwater irrigation by the government and an irrational increase in the number of electric tube wells, water tables have receded. Experts have been time and again cautioning the State on the long-term consequences of excessive exploitation of groundwater. Now, farmers are forced to borrow from informal and formal sources to install tube wells, causing indebtedness and farmer suicides," says Lakhwinder, adding that that faulty public policy and irrational cropping system should be blamed for the scenario.

"Governments never visualised a scenario where agriculture would block the natural groundwater recharging process and create conditions for falling water tables," he says.

He proposes that the drainage system be used for artificial recharge of groundwater. "There is also a dire need to change the cropping pattern, especially in major parts of Malwa, which need to take up cotton cultivation again," he says, adding that "water recharging system, if put in place, can solve weatherrelated problems and economic incentives can be used to change farmers' mindsets, making them shift to multicropping system".

He feels that a "major policy shift with long term vision can solve both the agrarian crisis and the problem of water

Realising the magnitude of agrarian crises, the draft policy framed by Punjab's Farmers and Farm Workers' Commission points out that a decade of business as usual has left farmers in an unenviable position.

The policy strikes a cautious note in telling that the State is struggling to meet the aspirations of its farmers and the time has come to take a critical look at the deteriorating resources, the changing economic environment and the emerging market scenarios.



Farmers in Fatehpur, Patiala, looking at an abandoned well, which once used to be a major water source for irrigation but has now run dry due to over-extraction of groundwater. • AKHILESH KUMAR

FROM PAGE ONE

'No First Use' doctrine not rigid, says Rajnath

Mr. Singh's comments come amid tensions with Pakistan following the Government's removal of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 and bifurcation of the State into two Union Territories.

There have been periodic debates and calls from various quarters for a review of NFU status.

In November 2016, speaking at a book launch then Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar expressed his "personal opinion" that if a written down strategy exists on a nuclear aspect, "we are actually giving away our strength.

"Why do a lot of people say that India has NFU policy. Why should I bind my-

Responding to Mr. Singh's statement, the Congress wondered if it signalled a change in India's NFU nuclear doctrine. While saying that it will back the government in whatever its nuclear policy is, the Opposition party asked the government

"The country would be happy to know what the new policy is, not in ambiguous half phrases but in a full one paragraph declared policy," said Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi. "I can assure you that whatever is the policy, we will welcome it and stand behind it. But, at least, do not do word play on something as vital," he added.

to spell it out.

SC counsels patience over Jammu & Kashmir

Subsequently, Parliament reorganised the State of Jammu and Kashmir into two new Union Territories -Jammu and Kashmir and

Recently, a Bench led by Justice Arun Mishra, on a similar petition filed by activist Tehseen Poonawalla, opted to wait for a fortnight without passing any judicial orders. Mr. Poonawalla had asserted that the clampdown threw 'a cloak of isolation' over the Valley.

Ms. Bhasin contended that the information blackout was "fuelling anxiety, panic, alarm, insecurity and fear among the residents" of the Kashmir Valley.

Ms. Grover argued that the severe curbs placed on the movement of photojournalists and reporters should be immediately relaxed in order to ensure the freedom

of the press and media.

She said restrictions were curbing the rights of journalists under the provisions of Articles 14 and 19 of the Constitution and the right to know of residents of the Kashmir Valley

"Press cards should be respected... Information should come out. Media is the fourth pillar of democracy," Ms. Grover submitted on behalf of Ms. Bhasin.

Her petition said journalists should be allowed to "practise their profession and exercise their right to report freely on the situation prevailing in J&K after clampdown on the entire State on August 4, 2019."

Attorney General K.K. Venugopal said the state of affairs was constantly reviewed. The restrictions were being eased on a daily

Baghel to double reservation for OBCs

In the 2013 Assembly election, it had failed to see the until then had banked on electoral strength of the OBC block, which tilted towards the BJP fetching it 0.75% more votes.

But last year, the double whammy of demonetisation and the GST weaned away the Sahus, a major trader OBC community, around 16% of the State's population, from the BJP. And the agrarian crisis left the Kurmis, a farming OBC group to which Mr. Baghel belongs, looking for an alternative.

Pouncing on the oppor-

tunity, the Congress, which the Dalit and the tribal votes (42%), began wooing the OBCs aggressively.

Mr. Baghel and Tamradh waj Sahu became the face of the campaign. They rode the 'Mool Chhattisgarhi' (Native Chhattisgarhi) tide to feed the perception that the BJP was an 'outsider's party', for its dominant Marwari and Thakur leaders, and grabbed the OBC votes.

In the election, the Congress secured 10% more votes than the BIP.

J&K curbs to be eased in a phased manner

Detention of leaders being 'reviewed'

SRINAGAR

The J&K government on Friday said it will withdraw the 12-day security curbs, reopen schools and end the communication blockade in a phased manner in Kashmir, even as sporadic protests erupted after the noon prayers in the Valley.

"In view of the situation and peoples' cooperation, we are taking measures to ease the restrictions in the next few days," J&K Chief Secretary B.V.R. Subrahmanyam told the media here. He said schools, closed since August 5, will be re-opened from Monday in phases.

The government offices have been made fully functional from Friday. Telecom connectivity will be restored in a phased manner, keeping in mind the constant threat posed by terrorist organisations in using mobile connectivity to organise terror actions," he said.

Referring to detentions, he said these cases were continuously reviewed and appropriate decisions will

be made based on law and order assessments.

"Over the next few days, life in I&K will become completely normal. This is already visible on the roads, which has seen steady return of regular traffic," the Chief Secretary said.

He termed the abrogation of Article 370 and granting Union Territory status to J&K as "major decisions to promote the long-term welfare of the people of all the regions of the State.'

"The Government's approach was guided by the conviction that all-round development was the most credible solution to address separatist sentiments that were propagated by vested interests. Such sentiments were being utilised to legitimise a policy of cross-border terrorism that has cost the lives of thousands of inhabitants of the State and the country," said Subrahmanyam.

He said restrictions were required on August 14-15 because the terror threat perception was greater.

Cong. leader backs PM's ideas

Of the three exhortations, I hope the FM and her legion of

Chidambaram endorses call for smaller families, ban on use of single-use plastic

NEW DELHI

Former Union Minister P. Chidambaram on Friday endorsed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's call to have smaller families, respect wealth creators and ban the use of single-use plastic.

In his first Independence Day speech after being reelected for a second term, Mr. Modi had spelt out his social charter from the ramparts of the Red Fort.

"All of us must welcome three announcements made by the PM on I-Day. Small family is a patriotic duty; Respect wealth creators; Shun single-use plastic," tweeted Mr. Chidambaram.

The former Finance Minister said that while population control and ban on plastic usage should become a people's movement, he had an advice for the Finance Minister on respecting wealth creators.

President

at AIIMS

NEW DELHI

visits Jaitley

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

President Ram Nath Ko-

vind visited former Fi-

nance Minister Arun Jaitley

at the All India Institute of

Medical Sciences (AIIMS)

on Friday, along with Un-

ion Health Minister Harsh

Vardhan and senior offi-

cials of the Health Ministry.

dergoing treatment in the

intensive care unit (ICU) at

the AIIMS since August 9

after he was admitted there

with complaints of uneasi-

breathlessness.

his condition.

weakness

Dr. Vardhan said, "Doc-

Earlier Prime Minister

tors are doing the best they

Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, Lok Sab-

ha Speaker Om Birla and

other top Bharatiya Janata

Party leaders visited the

hospital to enquire about

Mr. Jaitley has been un-

Taxation in focus Mr. Chidambaram's com-

clear," he said.

and clear

P. CHIDAMBARAN

"Of the three exhorta-

tions, I hope the FM and her

legion of tax officials and in-

vestigators heard the PM's

second exhortation loud and

ments on tax officials vis-avis wealth creators is a notso-subtle reference to growing voices within India Inc. about harassment from tax authorities, triggered by the suicide of Cafe Coffee Day founder V.G. Siddhartha who had blamed tax officials in a note.

The Confederation of In-

tax officials and investigators heard the PM's second exhortation loud

> dian Industry (CII) too described the PM's comments as a :sentiment booster".

> > "In the last one year, the

Hon'ble PM has repeatedly mentioned that he stands firmly with the wealth creators of the country. At a time, when building trust has become so important for industry - with society and with government - the repeat endorsements from the Prime Minister of the country are huge sentiment boosters," Chandrajit Banerjee, director-general of the CII, said in a statement.

"At CII, we believe that industry plays a critical role in nation-building and that recognition helps. We shall continue to advocate for wealth creation through equal attention to the planet, people and profits, that is the triple bottom line approach," Mr. Banerjee added.

On Thursday, most Opposition leaders refrained from the common practice of commenting on the Prime Minister's speech

The official Twitter handle of the Congress, though, had taken a dig at the Prime Minister's speech. "Today Modiji can proudly call India a \$3trillion economy because of the sustained efforts of Indians, the prudent five year plans & the success of previous govts. Basically, the economy was handed over to Modi on a silver platter and he still managed to ruin it," said the Congress handle with the hashtag 'ModiLiesAtRedFort'.

UN happy with peace efforts, says India

Stop terror to start talks, Pak. told

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN WASHINGTON DO

Indian Ambassador to the UN Syed Akbaruddin on Friday said the UN Security Council had appreciated India's efforts to restore normalcy in Kashmir. "The Chief Secretary of

the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir announced a whole set of measures that the government is undertaking to move towards normalcy. We are gratified that the Security Council in its closed consultations appreciated these efforts, acknowledged them and indicated that this was the direction in which they would like the international community to move," he said.

The ambassador also said India was committed to all agreements it had signed on the issue and said India would sit down to talk with Pakistan when the latter's

support for terror ceased. "Stop terror to start talks," he said.

"India's commitment to address these issues on the bilateral track has very broad acceptance globally," Mr. Akbaruddin said, in response to a question on Russia's view that the issue be resolved bilaterally between India and Pakistan, contrary to what Pakistan was seeking at the UN on Friday.

On concerns about human rights abuses by India in Jammu and Kashmir, he said India had a commitment to democracy and its courts would resolve any

"There will be issues discussed and if there are issues these will be addressed by our courts. We don't need international busybodies to try and tell us how to run our lives. We are a billion-plus people," he said.

Remembering Atal



A year goes by: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is flanked by President Ram Nath Kovind and Home Minister Amit Shah during a ceremony to mark the death anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on Friday. • SANDEEP SAXENA

Sengar in ad with Modi, BJP top brass

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT LUCKNOW

Expelled from the BJP, tainted Bangermau MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar has found a prominent place alongside top party leaders including Prime Minister Narendra Modi in an advertisement published in a leading Hindi daily on August 15.

Jailed since last year, Mr. Sengar faces charges of rape and murdering the survivor's father.

The full-page ad on the front page of the Unnao edition of the newspaper was published with greetings for Independence Day and Raksha Bandhan.

Though the advertisement does not directly associate Mr. Sengar with the BJP – he is only mentioned as MLA Bangermau, district Unnao – his picture prominently

'Decision on Kureshi elevation soon' With no navigation charts,

Supreme Court will fix date for a hearing in the case next week

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Solicitor-General Mehta on Friday informed the Supreme Court that the government would take a call on the appointment of Justice Akil Kureshi as the Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court in a week and place its decision before Supreme Court

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi said a date would be fixed on the administrative side for a hearing in the case next

Earlier in August, the government had sought time till the end of the Parliament session to decide on the collegium recommendation of Justice Kureshi.

Justice Akil Kureshi

The hearing is based on a petition filed by the Gujarat Court Advocates Association.

The previous hearings had seen senior advocate Fali Nariman, who represented the association, criticise the unexplained delay from the government in taking a call

on Justice Kureshi.

Mr. Nariman had said the government should act as a "distinguished communicator" and could not resort to what seemed "deliberate inaction" in a recommendation made by the collegium as way back as May 10. Mr. Nariman had said the Centre should clarify whether it had even sought feedback from Madhya government.

The association alleged that Justice Kureshi's elevation was singled out for uncertainty while those of other judges, who were recommended along with him, had sailed through.

"The deliberate inaction of the respondent (the Centre) in not appointing Mr. Justice Akil Kureshi as the Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court impinges and diminishes the primacy of the judiciary in the matters of appointment and transfer of judges to High Court and Supreme Court," the petition filed by the association through its president and senior advocate Yatin Oza submitted.

It said the May 10 recommendation was made by the Collegium in accordance with the law laid down in the Second Judges Case and Memorandum of Procedure for judicial appointments and transfers. It said the "recommendation is rendered moot by the arbitrary inaction by the respondent in withholding the appointment of Mr. Justice Akil Kureshi".

GoAir flight returns to Delhi

Plane took off for Bangkok later

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A Bangkok-bound GoAir aircraft on Friday returned here after the crew found that they did not have the approach and navigation

The plane took off later with 146 passengers to Bangkok, according to an airline spokesperson.

Late realisation

"The return of Delhi-Bangkok GoAir flight G8-37 to base station Delhi was the result of the crew realising that the required approach and navigation charts for Bangkok had not been put on to the aircraft before departure," the carrier said in a statement.

It was an A320 Neo aircraft. Planes are usually equipped with these charts for navigational purposes at airports.

GoAir said the particular aircraft was recently delivered to it and normally dedicated to operating on domestic routes.

"It [aircraft] was swapped with the original aircraft to operate the Bangkok flight due to maintenance requirements and during that process the update of the navigation charts did not happen.

"Taking safety into account, the pilot elected to return to Delhi to ensure the required navigation charts were on board," the statement said.

Rajasthan appoints SIT in Pehlu Khan case

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Rajasthan government on Friday appointed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the Pehlu Khan lynching case and examine the previous investigation to find the lapses, if any, which had led to the acquittal of the six accused by a Sessions Court in Alwar earlier this week.

Nitin Deep Blaggan, DIG (Special Operations Group), will head the SIT which includes SP (CID-CB) Randheer Singh and Additional SP (CID-CB) Sunil Kumar.

The SIT will examine the lacunae in the investigation from all angles and fix responsibility for the prosecu-



tion's failure to produce clinching evidence in the court, while examining whether there were attempts at tampering with the evidence or weakening the case. Sources in the Chief Minister's Office said Ashok Gehlot had called a meeting with senior officers on Friday evening to discuss the re-investigation.

Pictures of artefacts shown to court

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

Senior advocate C.S. Vaidyanathan, who is appearing for the Ayodhya deity, Ram Lalla Virajman on Friday told the Supreme Court Bench that there was nothing to show that the underground structure over which the Babri Masjid was built was a temple dedicated to Lord Ram.

Mr. Vaidyanathan was responding to Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and S.A. Bobde of the Constitution Bench led by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi to prove their claim that the mosque had been built over a temple.



But the unstinting faith and belief of the people and the "preponderance of probabilities" show that it was indeed a temple for Lord Ram. Mr. Vaidyanathan submit-

ted photographs of sculptures and images, found in the Babri Masjid structure – before it was demolished on December 6, 1992 by kar sevaks - indicating that this was in actuality a place of divine sanctity for the Hindus.

The senior lawyer re-

ferred to images on the pillars showing a Garuda flanked by lions. "Such imagery was in

Hindu imagery found on site: counsel

complete contrast to Islamic practices. They [Muslims] have no images of any human or animal [in a mosque]... The imagery, sculptures within the structure [Babri Masjid] show it was not a mosque in the true sense. Such things are not usually seen in mosques," he

Merely because Muslims prayed in the Babri Masjid did not give them ownership over it, Mr. Vaidyanathan argued. When a street is used to offer worship, the street cannot be claimed to be a mosque, he said. Besides, no Muslim artefacts were found in the excavations.

But Justice Chandrachud asked how the excavated figurines of animals, human forms could be associated with the divine.

"These may be just any human or animal figurines and not necessarily represent anything divine..." Jus-

tice Chandrachud observed. The judge's remark came after Mr. Vaidyanathan took them through 100 photographs of objects excavated from the disputed area.

Mr. Vaidyanathan said, "They have been interpreted by archaeologists. The findings are based on the interpretation of excavated materials by archaeologists who are trained in the field. Such interpretation should normally be accepted [by the court]."

IN BRIEF



after 11 days in Kashmir

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Friday returned to Delhi after spending 11 days in Kashmir to ensure the plans after the withdrawal of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. Mr. Doval arrived here on August 6 and took charge of security and development matters with focus on ensuring no loss of life, they

Kashmir journalist released on bond

A Kashmir-based journalist who was detained by security forces recently was released after signing a bond on Friday, officials said. Irfan Malik, a correspondent with the Greater Kashmir newspaper was detained from his home at Tral in Pulwama district. He was questioned and was released after signing a bond, they said. It was not immediately known why he was detained. Officials, however, said a bond was taken from those who indulged in anti-social activities. PTI

Fresh case against J&K Bank and spice exporter

NEW DELHI The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Jammu and Kashmir registered a fresh case against J&K Bank officials and a Bengaluru-based spice exporter relating to a loan fraud of over ₹350 crore, a statement said. The ACB also conducted searches in different places in Bengaluru, including the residential and office premises of Anish Mohammed Rawther, the promoter-director of S.A. Rawther Spices Private Ltd. This is the third case registered by ACB against J&K Bank in the past 10 days.

Rahul condemns arrest of J&K party chief

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday condemned the arrest of the party chief in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Ghulam Ahmed Mir and another party leader and described the government action as 'madness.' "I strongly condemn the arrest of our J&K PCC Chief. Shri Ghulam Ahmed Mir & spokesperson, Shri Ravinder Sharma in Jammu todav. With this unprovoked action against a national political party, the govt. has delivered democracy another body blow. When will this madness end," he asked on Twitter.

Protesters clash with police in Srinagar

Thousands of people rally in Srinagar and try to march down main road; police fire tear gas shells

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE SRINAGAR

Hundreds of protesters in Srinagar on Friday clashed with the police who responded with tear-gas shells and pellet-firing shotguns, an AFP reporter at the scene

The clashes broke out after several thousand people rallied in Srinagar, where a security lockdown entered its 12th straight day after the dilution of Article 370 and the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir. No injuries were reported.

The protesters rallied inside the Srinagar locality of Soura that has witnessed regular protests since New Delhi announced its move on August 5.

Stones hurled

The police attempted to disperse hundreds of protesters who tried to march down the main road. Protesters hurled Rage on the streets: Kashmiris raise slogans in Srinagar on Friday. • NISSAR AHMAD stones and used shop hoardings and tin sheets as improvised shields, as police shot

A drone kept vigil over the area as thousands of men

dozens of rounds into the

and women gathered inside a popular shrine.

"We are trying to breach the siege and march to the city centre but the police are using force to stop us," one protester said, adding that

three persons were injured on Thursday in clashes with police officers and reservists.

Sporadic clashes were also reported in other parts of the Kashmir Valley, where communications have been

Major towns and cities in the Valley remained under curfew, with government forces allowing people to move only on special passes.

cut off for nearly two weeks.

Government forces erected steep barricades and used concertina wires to block roads.

Mosques shut

No big gatherings were allowed in the Valley and most mosques were shut for the second consecutive Friday.

"We want what is ours. We are not begging for anything but demand India should respect its promises," another protester told AFP.

"We will not sit back until we achieve complete independence from India," he

The protesters marched inside the lanes, carrying black fags and placards with slogans including "Go India, go back."

Mehbooba's daughter says she fears for her life

'I am being treated like a war criminal'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Iltija Javed, daughter of former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, on Friday, wrote an open letter to Home Minister Amit Shah asking why she was being "placed under house arrest" despite being law-abiding citizen".

"For the world's largest democracy, doesn't a citizen have a right to speak up in the face of unimaginable repression? I've been threatened with dire consequences if I speak up [to the media] again," she said in a letter passed on to the media after bypassing the security set up outside her

She asked Mr. Shah to explain the reason for her house detention despite being "a law-abiding citizen" and "turning away guests"

mother's official residence.



Iltija Javed

who desire to meet her. "Today, while the rest of the country celebrates India's Independence Day, Kashmiris have been caged like animals and deprived of basic human rights," Ms. Javed wrote in the letter. "It's a tragic irony that I am being treated like a war criminal for stating the inconvenient truth," she said.

"I am under constant surveillance. I fear for my life along with those who have spoken up," she added.

Kashmir issue internationalised: Cong.

Party says changing the law of one's own land is an internal matter of a nation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) and Ladakh cannot be discussed at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), the Congress on Friday said the internationalisation of the changes to Article 370 was a "diplomatic failure" of the Indian government.

Senior Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi said at a press conference that Prime Minister Narendra Modi should break the silence and immediately demand the cancellation of

In the last 55-60 years, it is for the first time that the issue of Kashmir is being internationalised at the UNSC... This is a grave strategic failure for India. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI, SENIOR CONGRESS SPOKESPERSON

The Congress leader said changing the law of one's own land was an internal matter for the country.

He said that though the Prime Minister had deputed External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to talk to China about the internal changes to J&K and Ladakh, the Chinese establishment "took the matter to the UN right under his nose".

"We are indeed shocked to note what is happening at the the United Nations and it is a matter of grave concern. Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are an integral part of

ble issue. In the past 55 to 60 years, it is for the first time that the issue of Kashmir is being internationalised at the UNSC," he said.

"This is a grave strategic failure for India. The External Affairs Minister was in China and explaining them about the decision while China approached the UNSC for the meeting. And the Chinese government gets the meeting organised on the request of Pakistan," he said.

"I implore and beseech the Prime Minister to get the meeting cancelled. It is a not a discussable issue," said the Congress spokesperson

We did in 70 days what Cong. failed to do in 70 years: Shah

He says withdrawing J&K's special status is a milestone

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said here on Friday that by withdrawing the special status granted to Kashmir, the BJP government did something which successive Congress governments had failed to do in 70 years.

At a public meeting in Jind of Haryana, Mr. Shah said Article 370 was a hurdle in the way of Sardar Patel's dream of Akhand Bharat [one India]. "...what the governments could not do in 70 years because of vote-bank politics, Modiji did it in 75 days [of his second term as Prime Minister] ... abrogation of Article 370 and 35A will prove to be a milestone for the integrity of India," he said. Mr. Shah said that with

the dilution of Articles 370

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(WORLD HERITAGE), CHANDIGARH -

(COMPOSITE WORK).

DIPR/Bengaluru/R.O.No.988/2019-20

CONSERVATION AND



Adding muscle: Union Home Minister Amit Shah with party membership files in Jind, Haryana, on Friday. • AKHILESH KUMAR

and 35A, all obstacles in the path of holistic development of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh had been removed. "Such a courageous step can be taken only by those who think in terms of national interest," he said.

He said the revoking of these sections was a true tribute to the brave soldiers of

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Haryana who attained "martyrdom" in Kashmir. "Kashmir will now be on the path of development as there are two Union Territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kash-

The new Chief of Defence Staff post would ensure greater synergy among defence forces, he added.

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In times of trouble, radio plays just music

FM stations in Kashmir have called off interactive shows because of clampdown

PEERZADA ASHIQ

For 12 days now, it's back-toback songs and no shows on all five major FM radio stations in Kashmir, in the wake of the complete communication blockade.

Viidan, a radio jockey (RI) with Radio Mirchi, is waiting for the restoration of the Internet to connect with his fan base again. "It's difficult to reach office due to security restrictions. With Internet



and phones down since August 5, it is impossible to produce shows. We are running back-to-back songs for now," he told The Hindu.

There are five popular FM

stations in the Kashmir Valley, which were started to provide entertainment to the young population, after day, but feel sad to see the the cinema halls were closed red light on since August 5," down in the 1990s.

RJ Nasir of FM Tadka ran a popular show "Srinagar Local 10 a.m. to 11 a.m." which would play songs on listeners' demand. "I would receive around 50 calls for my show, but these are difficult times to reach out to our audience. The absence of Internet has "derailed" my "Srinagar Local" too. I check the Internet connection every Mr. Nasir told The Hindu.

The government-run Doordarshan and Radio Kashmir too have had to discontinue popular debate shows, as the offices remain out of bounds for participants because of the extra security deployed around them.

IndianOi

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) TENDER ID : PC-M/Exp/Poly/EOI/19-20 Subject: Expression of Interest (EOI Empanelment of Buyers for Polymer Export from IndianOil's Refineries in India. 17.08.2019 to 31.08.2019 (IST)

Last Date of Submission EOI Submission: The buyers shall

send the duly filled EOI to the email ic ioclpoly@indianoil.in only. Contact Person: Manager (PCM) Phone No: +91-11-26518231 Email: saranyanr@indianoil.in

Download complete EOI document from https://www.iocl.com/Talktous upplierNotices.aspx. Addendums orrigenda, if any, shall be hosted o

Government of Kerala FOREST DEPARTMENT

Window Nozinrd 19/e 192 • Tender No. E-3038/19• Divisional Forest Of ficer, Marayoor Sandal Division, Marayoor P.O, Idukki-685620, Phone-04865-252988. E-Auction sale of sandal wood at Gov.sandal depot in Marayoor range of sandal division Marayoor on 04 & 05/09/2019 • EMD: 50000/-PAC: 50 Crore.



, 10-3-311/A, Castle Hills, Masab Tank, Hyderabad - 500 028. CIN: L13100TG1958GOI001674

Tender Enquiry No.: 1056-ENG-MHW1-GNAGEN-PJA-TEN-0001 Dated: 17-08-2019

e-Tender is invited through e-portal in three bid system on Lump Sum Turnkey (LSTK) Basis from experienced, reputed and competen Contractors / firms. The detailed NIT and tender document including eligibility requirements can be viewed and / or downloaded from NMDC's website https://www.nmdc.co.in; CPP Portal : www.eprocure.gov.in; and MSTC rebsite: https://mstcecommerce.com from 17-08-2019. Last date or tender submission is on **27-09-2019 upto 15:00 hrs IST**. Part-I & Part-II of enders will be opened on 27-09-2019 at 15:30 hrs IST. **General Manager (Projects)**

CENTRAL CIRCLE (R&B).

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, NIRMAN SOUDHA, PHASE-II, 2ND FLOOR, BHUBANESWAR. Mail i.d.: sepwdcc.owd@gov.in / seccbbsr@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

E-procurement Tender Call Notice No.02 of 2019-20

No.2236 (Estg.), Bhubaneswar the 14th August '2019

The Superintending Engineer, Central Circle (R&B) Bhubaneswar on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids for 1 No of Building work to be received in online bidding, double cover system as detailed in https://tendersorissa.gov.in. The details of bid documents will be available in the above website from 5.00 PM of 20.08.2019 to 5.00 PM of 30.08.2019. The bidders must possess compatible Digital Signature Certificate of Class II or III. Bids received online shall be opened at 11.00 AM of 31.08.2019 in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Central Circle (R&B) Bhubaneswar. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal www.tendersorissa.gov.in.

Addendum/Corrigendum, if required, will be available only in the Website.

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Superintending Engineer, Central Circle (R&B), Bhubaneswar

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192013003208 Non Ferric Alum (AL203 16.5%) 30.08.2019							
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OMFED invites Sealed Tender in two bid system from reputed Manufacturer for supply of 1000 MT Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP) of ISI marked to our different dairies located in the state of Odisha during September to November 2019. Tender is available in Omfed's website from 16.08.2019 (10 AM) to 31.08.2019 (2 PM) and will be opened on 31.08.2019 at 3.30 PM. All the informations relating to the Bid and Bid documents consisting of specifications, the schedule of quantities and the set of terms and conditions of contract and other

PURCHASE OF SKIMMED MILK POWDER

paper. Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed only in the OMFED website: https://www.omfed.com. OMFED reserves the right to cancel or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof **Managing Director** ANDHRA PRADESH AIRPORTS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (APADCL) A State Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking #7-104, A-Block, 1st Floor, Anjaneya Towers, Ibrahimpatnam-521 456, Krishna District, A.P., E-mail id: mdapadcl@gmail.com

necessary documents are available on OMFED website

https://www.omfed.com and will not be published again in news

NIT No.1/APADCL/2019-20 dated 16.08.2019 Bids are invited on the e-procurement platform for the work "Construction of Greenfield no frills Airport at Orvakal in Kurnool District (A.P.) (Package-II) Balance work" from the Contractors/ Contracting firms registered with Government of Andhra Pradesh. The details of Tender conditions and terms can be downloaded from the electronic procurement platform of Government of Andhra Pradesh i.e., www.eprocurement.gov.in from 16.08,2019 from 15.00 hrs.

Director, APADCL, Viiavawada, For any clarifications please send email to edapadcl@gmail.com gmenggapadcl.@gmail.com or contact on Telephone 040-29700263. Sd/- Managing Director & CEO DIPR 91PP/CL, Dt.16/08/2019

Last date of receipt of Bids: 30.08.2019 upto 3:00 pm at O/o the Managing

E-mail: xencp6@gmail.com COMMISSIONERATE OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT Kaushalya Bhavana, Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 029. Ph: 080-25189100 Fax: 080-25189102 E-mail: cet.bangalore@gmail.com / spiu.kar@gmail.com Website: www.emptrg.kar.nic.in No. DET/TRG/CoE-2/CR-03/2007-08(Vol-2) Date: 14-08-2019 **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

Skills Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancement (STRIVE)

Expression of interest along with completed Curriculum Vitae (CV) in the prescribed format are invited by the undersigned from interested and qualified candidates for assignment of following posts.

Post	Academic Qualification	No. of Posts	Experience							
Monitoring and Evaluation Consultant	BE (in any discipline)	1	Retired JD / DD of DGT, MSDE / IT&E will be given preference.							
Human Resource Consultant (Manufacturing / Service Sector)	BE (in any discipline)/ MBA (HR)	1	Minimum 05 years experience in handling HR / managing Apprenticeship program of Private or Public Sector Enterprises of which 2 years experience may be for projects assisted by World Bank or any multilateral funding agency.							
IT Consultant	BE (IT/ CS) / MBA	1	Minimum 05 years experience and Certification in IT management; knowledge of Computer programming in ASP.net, PHP, database management preferable.							
Data Entry Operator	Graduate with Computer Knowledge	1	Minimum 05 years experience.							
Office Assistant	Graduate with Computer Knowledge	1	willimum ob years expendence.							

Submission of CV have been posted on the Website: http://emptrg.kar.nic.in The Last Date for Submission of Expression of Interest along with CV is close of office hours on 31st Aug 2019. The interview will be held on 07th Sep 2019 at 11.00 am in Kaushalya Bhavan, Dairy Circle, Bannerughatta Road, Bengaluru - 560029.

The detailed terms of reference for the assignment and the prescribed format for

Sd/- Commissioner **Industrial Training and Employment**

ELSEWHERE



Naik's PR status can be revoked: Malaysian PM

Malaysia can revoke the Permanent Resident status of Islamic preacher Zakir Naik if it is proven that his actions have harmed the country's well-being, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said on Friday. Mr. Mahathir said the government will first wait for the probe into the alleged inflammatory remarks made by him against minorities in Malaysia to get over, reported Malay Mail.

N. Korea fires 2 missiles, rejects call for talks

North Korea launched at least two projectiles into the sea on Friday shortly after Pyongyang described South Korea's President as "impudent" and vowed that inter-Korean talks are over. The North has protested against joint drills between South Korea and U.S. REUTERS

'Iran must free women held for veil protest'

A group of UN human rights experts on Friday called for the release of three Iranian women given jail terms for protesting laws compelling women to wear veils. The trio were charged after a video showed them without veils and handing out flowers on

Putin honours pilot who landed plane in cornfield

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday awarded the nation's highest medal, the Hero of Russia, to Damir Yusupov,41, who landed his plane in a cornfield after bird strike knocked engines out. The plane's second pilot, Georgy Murzin, 23, also bagged the top award.AP

Rep. Rashida Tlaib rejects Israeli offer to visit West Bank

She was first barred & then allowed to enter Israel under 'oppressive conditions'

DAVID M. HALBFINGER JERUSALEM

A day after barring U.S. congresswoman Rashida Tlaib under pressure from President Donald Trump, Israel said on Friday that she could visit her 90-year-old grandmother, who lives in the occupied West Bank, but only after she agreed in writing not to "promote boycotts against Israel" during her trip.

But Ms. Tlaib said on Twitter on Friday that "visiting my grandmother under these oppressive conditions stands against everything I believe in."

"Silencing me & treating me like a criminal is not what she wants for me," Ms. Tlaib said of her grandmother. "It would kill a piece of me."

The announcement ap-

peared to be a second shift in position by the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The Israeli Interior Ministry initially approved a planned official visit by Ms. Representative of Michigan, and another Democratic lawmaker, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota. But after a public objection by Mr. Trump, it blocked them, citing their support for the anti-Israel Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

Ms. Tlaib had written to the Israeli Interior Minister, Aryeh Deri, appealing to be allowed to see her relatives, particularly her grandmother, who lives in Beit Ur al-Fouqa, a Palestinian village west of Ramallah.

"This could be my last opportunity to see her," Ms. Tlaib wrote on congressional letterhead. "I will respect



minence or high office.

On the Israeli left and

among some Palestinians,

Ms. Tlaib's quick acceptance

of Israel's conditions for a

personal visit raised con-

cerns that she had unwitting-

ly set back the cause of crit-

ics of the Israeli occupation.

that @RashidaTlaib fell in

this trap and accepted to de-

mean herself and grovel,"

Nour Odeh, a political ana-

lvst based in Ramallah and a

former Palestinian Authority

spokeswoman, wrote on

Beyond mere appearanc-

es, Ms. Tlaib's promise to re-

frain from promoting boy-

cotts could be a setback for

opponents of an Israeli law

that allows the country to

shut its doors to foreign sup-

porters of the boycott

to use that law to bar a U.S.

student, Lara Alqasem, from

studying in Jerusalem be-

cause she had belonged to a

group that supports BDS, Is-

raeli officials tried to get her

to renounce the campaign

and promise not to promote

She refused to buckle,

it while in the country.

When Israel tried last year

Twitter.

campaign.

"What is truly upsetting is

Ilhan Omar, left, and Rashida Tlaib. • AP

any restrictions and will not promote boycotts against Israel during my visit."

"In light of that," Mr. Deri's office said on Friday, the Minister decided to allow her into Israel and "expressed hope that she would keep her commitment and that the visit would truly be solely for humanitarian purposes."

Divisive campaign issue
The developments raised
new questions about how
Ms. Tlaib's much-anticipated
visit would ultimately affect
politics in both countries;
the relationship has become
a divisive campaign issue in
both the September 17 election in Israel and the 2020
U.S. presidential race.

In Israel, Mr. Netanyahu's acquiescence to Mr. Trump on Thursday provided instant fodder to rivals and critics who have long warned that the President's showering the Prime Minister with political gifts would eventually come at a price.

Mr. Netanyahu's allies on the right generally approved of his decision, saying Israel owed its adversaries nothing, regardless of their prodespite spending weeks in jail, and instead took the case to the Israeli Supreme Court. Ultimately, Ms. Alqasem was granted a visa that allows the country to eject her if she promotes BDS, but she made no promises not to do so, said her lawyer, Leora Bechor.

Ms. Bechor warned that

Ms. Bechor warned that Ms. Tlaib, by promising not to promote boycotts while she is in Israel, had very likely given Israel ammunition with which to demand similar commitments from ordinary Americans who support a boycott of Israel – even those who are married to Israelis or Palestinians and live in the country or on the West Bank.

Setting a precedent

"She's creating a situation where families who are not here for a one-week visit, but are living here permanently, are not going to be able to enter unless they renounce all of their activities," said Ms. Bechor. "Israel will take advantage of this and say, 'If you don't renounce, you can't live here anymore."

Ms. Tlaib and Ms. Omar, along with Stacey Plaskett, the non-voting congressional representative of the U.S. Virgin Islands, had planned a four-day fact-finding tour to examine the condition of Palestinians under Israel occupation. The three women, all Democrats, had intended to focus on the effects of a number of policy moves by the Trump administration, including aid cuts to East Jerusalem hospitals and Palestinian refugees and the move of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. NY TIMES

Cathay Pacific's torrid week ends with CEO's resignation

China targeted airline after some staff joined protests

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Cathay Pacific announced the resignation on Friday of its CEO Rupert Hogg, compounding a torrid week for the Hong Kong carrier after it was excoriated by Beijing because some staff supported pro-democracy protests.

The 72-year-old airline has been left reeling after it became ensnared in the hardening of rhetoric from the communist mainland over ten weeks of anti-government protests that have plunged Hong Kong into crisis.

Over the last two weeks the airline emerged as a target on the mainland after some of its 27,000-strong workforce took part in, or voiced support for, the protests.

During a general strike earlier in the month, some staff joined in, including the



Rupert Hogg

union representing Cathay Pacific's flight attendants.

China's reaction was swift. State media began writing a series of condemnations of Cathay, accusing it of not doing enough to rein it its workers. Then the country's aviation regulator demanded that the airline prevent such staff from working on flights to the mainland or those routed through Chinese airspace.

Cathay moved into damage control mode, firing four members of staff associated with the protests, including two pilots, agreeing to comply with the new regulations and releasing a series of statements supporting Hong Kong's embattled government.

But it appears those moves were not enough to save its chief Hogg, who has been credited with helping to turn the airline profitable after two years of losses.

In a statement posted on the Hong Kong stock exchange on Friday, Cathay said Mr. Hogg had resigned "to take responsibility as a leader of the Company in view of recent events".

"The Board of Directors believes that it is the right time for new leadership to take Cathay Pacific forward," the airline said in a statement.

White House approves sale of F-16 fighter jets to Taiwan

EDWARD WONG WASHINGTON

The Trump administration is moving forward with an \$8 billion sale of F-16 fighter jets to Taiwan, American officials said on Friday. The move is certain to further anger China at a time when a long-running trade war between Washington and Beijing has upended relations between the world's two largest economies and contributed to stock market

The State Department told Congress on Thursday night, right after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had signed a memo approving the sale, officials said. Congress is not expected to object to the move. For weeks, lawmakers from both parties had accused the administration of delaying the sale to avoid jeopardising trade negotiations or to use it as a bargaining chip.

But trade negotiations held in Shanghai at the end

of July led to nowhere.

Mr. Trump's National Security Adviser, John Bolton, has been a longtime advocate of arms sales to Taiwan. Some analysts say China could retaliate by punishing U.S. companies with sanctions, which it has done in the past.

The sale of 66 jets to Taiwan would be the largest single arms package transaction between the U.S. and the democratic, self-governing island in years. NY TIMES

Sri Lanka probes cruelty to elephant at Buddhist parade

70-year-old animal collapsed during a religious parade

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Sri Lanka on Friday ordered an investigation following the collapse of a 70-year-old elephant during a parade at a high-profile Buddhist pageant popular with local and foreign tourists.

Tourism and Wildlife Minister John Amaratunga said he has ordered wildlife authorities to investigate how the elephant, known as Tikiri, was forced to take part in a lengthy parade despite her failing health.

"I have ordered officials to initiate an inquiry and ascertain how and why an elephant in such poor health was used in the (pageant) and to take necessary action



Tedious walk: Elephants at the Esala pageant in Kandy. • AFP

against those responsible."
Animal-lovers slammed the authorities for deploying the aged animal at the annual Esala pageant watched by thousands.

After a howl of protests over social media, festival organisers withdrew the Tikiri from the grand finale on Wednesday.

Elephants are considered scared in Sri Lanka and protected as an endangered species, but there are reports of cruelty to many animals who have been domesticated

17 seamen abducted near Cameroon

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Nine Chinese and eight Ukrainian seamen were abducted on Thursday when two merchant vessels came under attack in Cameroonian waters, sources said on Friday.

"Seventeen Chinese and Ukrainians were kidnapped... (of whom) nine (are) Chinese," an official said.

The Navy source said the kidnappers "are probably Nigerian pirates," adding that Cameroon's security forces had launched a search for them.

The Gulf of Guinea, whose coastline stretches in a huge arc from Liberia to Gabon, is notorious for piracy as well as oil theft and drug trafficking.

Greenland tells Trump it's not for sale

U.S. President discussed the idea of buying the Danish region with his advisers

REUTERS COPENHAGEN

Greenland on Friday dismissed the notion that it might be up for sale after reports that U.S. President Donald Trump had privately discussed with his advisers the idea of buying the world's biggest island.

"We are open for business, but we're not for sale," Greenland's Foreign Minister Ane Lone Bagger told Reuters.

Mr. Trump is due to visit
Copenhagen in September
and the Arctic will be on the
agenda during meetings
with the Prime Ministers of
Denmark and Greenland, an
autonomous Danish
territory.

Talk of a Greenland purchase was first reported by the *Wall Street Journal*. Two



Danish politicians on Friday poured scorn on the idea. • AP

sources familiar with the situation told Reuters that the notion had been laughed off by some advisers as a joke but was taken more seriously by others in the White House.

Danish politicians on Friday poured scorn on the

idea. "It has to be an April Fool's joke. Totally out of season," former Prime Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen said on Twitter.

"If he is truly contemplating this, then this is final proof that he has gone mad," Foreign Affairs spokesman for the Danish People's Party, Soren Espersen, said.

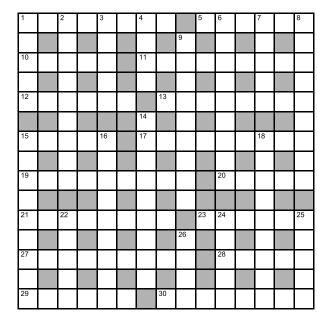
"The thought of Denmark selling 50,000 citizens to the U.S. is completely ridiculous," he added.

Greenland, a self-ruling part of Denmark located between the North Atlantic and Arctic oceans, is dependant on Danish economic support. It handles its own domestic affairs while Copenhagen looks after defence and foreign policy.

"My immediate thought is 'No, thank you'," Aaja Chemnitz Larsen, Danish MP from Greenland's second-largest party Inuit Ataqatigiit, said.

A defence treaty between Denmark and the United States dating back to 1951 gives the U.S. military rights over the Thule Air Base in northern Greenland.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12707



CM YK

ACROSS

- 1 Dogs' master is near dead bodies (8)
- **5** Wasn't a complicated Bantu language (6)
- 10 Online heckler has bread after some time (5)
- 11 Communist vehicle initially patrolled enemy territory showing welcome symbol (3,6)

12 6 feet... understand? (6) 13 Adonis runs near old city and

- old creature (8)

 15 Twinge felt at mineral springs
- with a hint of magnesium (5)

 17 Pram tyre is twisted around a supplicant's rug (6,3)
- **19** Or gong that's given to topper (4,5)
- 20 First and last letter Lawrence carried initially for Mexican Indian (5)
- 21 Books have imaginary number after the second half of 13 (8)
- 23 Secret alphabet that means nothing (6)27 Rescue returning Greek
- character after one time endless prank (9) 28 American poet has manuscript
- 29 Circular craters not starting to crack are most unusual (6)
- **30** Elimination table or popularity charts? (3,5)

DOWN

of verses (5)

- Misfit ombudsman returns concealing decorative pattern (5)
 Brief rain results in deficiency
- (9)

(set by Incognito)

- 3 Ice house has one grand toilet (5)
- 4 Cutlery piece for monarch (4)6 Clean entertainment on the TV? (4,5)

7 A record has no significance at

first for a Greek letter (5)

8 A book on north polar region leads to the south polar

region (9)

- 9 Praiseworthy to have naval officer capture a sailor with energy after loss of initial advantage (9)
- 14 Homo arachnid evolved from damp resin (9)
- 15 One engaged in holiday activity sees English engineers going back (9)
- 16 Anglo Indian females have50% memory more than their male counterparts (9)18 Lucifer's absence is
- incomparable (9)

 22 Get into some forbidden

territory (5)

pitcher (4)

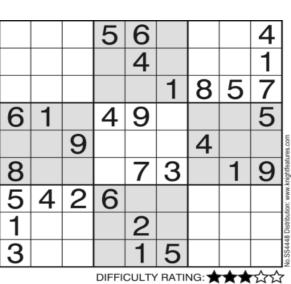
of some pus (5)

25 Tricks king employs (5)

26 French cap found in sake

24 Push around pimple after loss

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 12706 Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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FAITH

Lessons for us

The Ramayana gives us many lessons and does so in simple terms. While the Vedic texts also give us the same lessons, they are difficult to comprehend, said Akkarakkani Srinidhi in a lecture. Sage Bharadwaja spent centuries studying the Vedas and yet failed to grasp their meaning entirely. But the Ramayana can be understood, not only because it is simpler, but also because in this itihasa we see Rama living the kind of life we are asked to live. His obedience to his father, His lack of attachment to the throne, His affection for His siblings, His loyalty to His spouse – all these are examples for us. Bharata is another role model for us. Unable to persuade Rama to come back to Ayodhya, Bharata accepts his brother's words that he should go back and rule the country. Yet, Bharata does not want to rule. So, he places Rama's sandals on the throne and runs a Paduka Rajya.

During their exile, Rama, Sita and Lakshmana meet many sages. Most important among them is Atri. Atri's wife Anasuya is a great comfort to Sita. Anasuya – the name itself is significant. It means one without asuya - envy. While there are many bad qualities, envy tops the list, because it leads to many other evil qualities. In his Arthi Prabandha, Manavala Mamunigal lists the many boons which the Lord has given him. He says he is blessed to be in Srirangam, and to have studied Nammazhvar's Thiruvaimozhi. He is blessed to have had a connection with the Lord in the manner in which Madurakavi Azhvar was connected to Nammazhvar. He is blessed because he has studied many texts from his preceptors. But after having said all this, Manavala Mamnuigal says he is blessed because he is not envious of anyone. This shows the importance of not being jealous, and why Anasuya was venerated by everyone.

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 16							
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL					
US Dollar	70.95	71.27					
Euro	78.59	78.95					
British Pound	86.33	86.72					
Japanese Yen (100)	66.74	67.04					
Chinese Yuan	10.08	10.13					
Swiss Franc	72.39	72.75					
Singapore Dollar	51.17	51.41					
Canadian Dollar	53.35	53.60					
Malaysian Ringitt	16.97	17.07					

79.45.

+ Forex reserves at a new high of \$430.57 bn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India's foreign exchange reserves surged by \$1.620 billion to \$430.572 billion in the week to August 9, according to RBI data released on Friday.

In the previous reporting week ended August 2, the reserves had declined by \$697.2 million to \$428.952 billion.

In the reporting week, foreign currency assets, a major component of the overall reserves, increased by \$15.2 million to \$398.739 billion, the RBI said.

Gold reserves surged by \$1.591 billion to \$26.754 billion, according to the data. Special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund were up by \$6.7 million to \$1.441 billion.

Jet Airways Q1 results delayed

Jet Airways (India) Ltd., which has stopped flight operations since April 18, 2019, and is currently undergoing Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP), has expressed its inability to meet the regularity requirement of publishing the first quarter results on time due to 'complexities of issues' being faced by the company, Ashish Chhawchharia, the resolution professional for Jet Airways (India) Ltd., said in a filing with ex-

"I would like to mention that prior to commencement of the CIRP, the directors, CEO, CFO, company secretary [and] other top management personnel had resigned from the company," he said.

Automakers on 'holiday' mode

Hero MotoCorp, Tata Motors, opt for temporary closures as slowdown continues

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI/MUMBAI/CHENNAI

In what could be seen as a reflection of the current slowdown in the automobile sector, vehicle makers and auto component manufacturers have been announcing 'part' closures of their units over the week.

Hero MotoCorp on Friday said its manufacturing plants would be closed for four days in August. The company said while this was part of an annual holiday routine, it also reflected the current market demand scenario.

"Production planning is a matter of advance monitoring of the market dynamics and prudent demand forecasting. This helps us to plan our production well in advance, thereby enabling us to stay flexible both in terms of volumes and production schedules. In line with this trend, our manufacturing facilities will be closed from



Future tense: Hero MotoCorp said while the closure is part of its holiday calendar, it reflected the market scenario. • REUTERS

August 15 to 18," the company said in a regulatory filing.

"While this has been part of the annual holiday calendar on account of Independence Day, Raksha Bandhan and the weekend, it also partly reflects the prevailing market demand scenario," it

Tata Motors had announced 'block closure' of **Sundaram-Clayton** Sundaram-Clayton

spokesperson said.

(SCL), a TVS Group company, and a manufacturer and supplier of aluminium diecast products to automotive OEMs, has declared closure of its factory in Chennai for two days.

ed the number of shifts and

contractual manpower," a

SCL has declared August 16 and 17 as non-working days at its Padi factory, due to business slowdown across sectors, the company said in a regulatory filing on Friday.

Separately, Maruti Suzuki India said it had cut over 3,000 temporary jobs due to the slump in the automobile industry. Chairman R.C. Bhargava said contracts of the temporary workers were not renewed, while asserting that permanent workers have not been impacted.

(With PTI inputs)

Recession fears highest since 2011, says BofAML survey

'Corporates overleveraged, must improve balance sheets'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The quantum of global fund managers who think that there is a likelihood of a recession in the next 12 months, is the highest since 2011, as per the latest Global Fund Manager Survey by Bank of America Merrill Lynch (BofAML).

As per the findings of the survey, a record 50% of fund managers surveyed - as many as 171 fund managers with collective assets under management (AUM) of \$455 billion were polled - felt that corporates were overleveraged and should improve their balance sheets.

The survey added that 34% of the managers said that they think that a recession is likely in the next 12

This is the highest recession probability since Octob-



A third of fund managers say recession is likely in 12 months. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

er 2011.

Incidentally, the recession fears back in October 2011 came close on the heels of Standard & Poor's downgrading U.S.' credit rating from AAA to AA+ in August 2011 amidst a potential downgrade concern in the credit rating of France as

It was followed by huge

bally with the Indian benchmark Sensex shedding more than 8% in August 2011.

Interestingly, the latest BofAML survey also found that 33% of the respondents had taken protection against a sharp fall in the equity markets in the next three months.

This is the highest net score since the survey started including such a query in

In terms of the health of companies, 46% of the investors surveyed wanted corporates to spend cash on improving their balance sheets.

On the contrary, only 13% of the fund managers said that corporates should return cash to shareholders with 36% saying that companies should use cash for capital expenditure plans.

IT Minister to meet heads of electronics majors

Apple, Samsung among firms invited

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA

Aiming to boost investments in electronics manufacturing in the country, IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad will be meeting CEOs of nearly 50 firms on Monday to discuss industry concerns.

"Domestic hardware manufacturing is integral to government's two important programmes - Make in India and Digital India. Mr. Prasad will be holding a round-table meeting with various electronics industry majors to understand their concerns, listen to suggestions... to ensure a conducive policy environment," a senior official told The Hindu.

The meeting, for which invitations have been sent to companies such as Apple, Samsung, Xiaomi, Foxconn, Flextronics, HP, Cisco, Nokia and Ericsson, will also focus on ways to boost exports of electronics. Industry associations including Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association, Electronic Industries Association of India, and India Cellular and Electronics Association are also expected to participate.

"The companies have also been requested to share their investment plans as well... The National Electronics 2019, presents a huge opportunity for the companies in this sector to set up and expand their manufacturing base in India," the official said.

In February this year, the Union Cabinet had approved the National Electronics Policy 2019 aimed at achieving a turnover of \$400 billion for the electronics system design and manufacturing sector by the vear 2025.

DHFL says Q1 results to be delayed

its Jamshedpur plant on Au-

gust 16 and 17 to calibrate

production in line with de-

mand. Only some assembly

lines, and not the whole

plant, will be closed, compa-

"External environment

remains challenging, leading

to demand contraction. We

have aligned our production

to actual demand and adjust-

ny officials clarified.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd. (DHFL), which is facing liquidity crunch, has decided to delay earnings announcement for the second straight time.

DHFL told the exchanges that it could not announce the April-June quarter results within the stipulated time as the accounts and finance team was engaged in various non-routine audits and due diligence by various parties. DHFL had delayed its January-March earnings too. The firm said the financial statements for the first quarter would be finalised by September 14.

It had recently submitted a resolution plan to the banks to restructure debt and is in the process of selling a part of its promoter stake to an investor.

Aramco may pay ₹50,000 crore upfront for Reliance unit stake

Balance ₹50,000 cr. for O2C business may come in phases

PIYUSH PANDEY MUMBAI

Saudi Aramco may pay about ₹50,000 crore (\$7 billion) upfront for buying a 20% stake in Reliance Industries Ltd.'s (RIL's) oil-tochemicals (O2C) divisionduring closure of the deal, a source told The Hindu.

The balance ₹50,000 crore may come up as debt on the books of a newlycarved out entity or Saudi Aramco will pay in phases on completion of certain milestones, the source said.

Both the firms have signed a non-binding pactwherein Saudi Aramco will buy a 20% stake in RIL's O2C division, that will also include a 51% stake in RIL's petro-retail business.

"Due diligence will take about 3-4 months to complete. We [have till then to] decide on the structure of



Frenzy to abate: RIL's capital expenditure should moderate from FY20, says Fitch Ratings. • REUTERS

the deal, which is valued at \$15 billion for 20% stake. The structure may change depending upon the debt to be taken by the newly carved out division," said the source.

An e-mail sent to RIL seeking its response remained unanswered till the time of going to the press.

Fitch Ratings has revised the outlook on RIL's longterm local currency issuer default rating to 'positive' from 'stable' and has affirmed the rating at 'BBB.' RIL's financial profile is

likely to improve, supported by strong operating cash flow from its expanded petrochemical and refining business

Capital expenditure should moderate FY20, said Fitch.

NCLAT orders liquidation of **Amtek Auto**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Friday ordered the liquidation of debt-ridden Amtek Auto as it declined lenders' request for extension of insolvency resolution process deadline.

Amtek Auto was among the first list of 12 firms which were referred by the RBI in 2017 to respective banks for initiation of insolvency process for defaults.

The U.K.-based Liberty House was selected as the highest bidder by the committee of creditors of Amtek. However, it later backed out, following which the lenders requested 90 days more time to find a new buyer.

The NCLAT observed that there was no extraordinary situation in the resolution process of Amtek Auto to exclude 90 days.

Emami eyes ₹100-crore Jaquar to launch sales from light hair oil

Segment clocked 25% CAGR in 5 years

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

FMCG company Emami Ltd. is planning to clock a ₹100crore turnover from the light hair oil segment under which it sells 7 Oils-in-One an in-house brand that is now four years old. Addressing the media,

Priti Sureka, director, Emami Ltd., said, as per industry estimates, light hair oil is a fast-growing segment with a compounded annual growth rate of 25% in the last five years.

Emami's haircare portfolio now includes Navratna oil and Kesh King Oil and

Both Navratna and Kesh King are acquired brands

while 7 Oils-in-One is an inhouse product developed through blending of seven

At ₹1,220 crore, the haircare segment accounts for almost 30% of Emami's turnover. The turnover of 7 Oils-in-One stood at ₹80 crore in 2018-19 while that of Navratna was ₹800 crore and Kesh King ₹270 crore for oil and ₹70 crore for shampoo. Company officials said that a 15% year-on-year growth was being targeted for the haircare segment. The total hair oil market is estimated at ₹10,000 crore.

Emami has over 300 diverse products, including brands like Zandu, Fair & Handsome and BoroPlus.

global brand campaign

Firm to sharpen market presence

MINI TEJASWI

Jaquar Group, a leading manufacturer of faucets, showers, sanitary ware and lighting solutions, has decided to go all out to sharpen its presence in the domestic and international markets.

"We are doing a series of things that will help us achieve our fresh business/ revenue mandates and lead position in global markets. Annually, we will invest \$60 million towards modernisation of our manufacturing plants. This will also include adopting new technologies and processes at our production facilities," said Jaquar Group's promo-

ter and director Rajesh

Mehra. Jaquar Group currently commands a market share of over 60% in the organised bath fittings category with a turnover of ₹3,588 crore (FY 2018-19).

At present, Jaquar Group has presence in 50 markets across Europe, Middle East, Asia- Pacific and Africa.

"We are now rapidly expanding our businesses to newer geographies. Our aim is to become the lead global player in all categories we operate in. We are also launching a brand campaign with ATL (above the line), BTL (below the line), PR activities and roadshows across existing and prospective markets round the

भारत सरकार/Government of India अंतरिक्ष विभाग/Department of Space द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र/ LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE वलियमला पी ओ/Valiamala P.O.,

तिरुवनंतपूरम/Thiruvananthapuram - 695 547

अधिसूचना- पेंशन अदालत / NOTIFICATION - PENSION ADALAT

द्रव नोदन प्रणाली केंद्र के तिरुवनंतपुरम एवं बेंगलूरु यूनिट, दिनांक 23/08/2019 को $10.\overline{00}$ बजे, प्रशासन सम्मेलन कक्ष, क्रयो क्षेत्र एलपीएससी, विलयमला में तथा विडियो सम्मेलन हॉल -2, एलपीएससी, बेंगलूरू में 14.00 बजे क्रमश : पेंशन अदालत आयोजित कर रहा है। इस संबंध में, एलपीएससी, विलयमला एवं बेंगलूरू से सेवा निवृत्त पेंशनभोगी/ परिवार पेंशनभोगी, को यदि किसी भी प्रकार की शिकायत हो तो, इसके लिए कृपया अपना अभ्यावेदन, क्रमश : एलपीएससी, विलयमला के लिए विश्व प्रशासन अधिकारी, स्थापना/सामान्य प्रशासन तथा एलपीएससी बेंगलूरू के लिए विरे, प्रशासन अधिकारी को दि. 20/08/2019 को या उससे पहले प्रेषित करें तािक शिकायत की जांच की जा सकें I यह ध्यान रखा जाए कि उत्तराधिकार आदि तथा नीित संबंधी मामले, जैसे कि दो वेतन-वृद्धी की संगणना, 2016 से पूर्व शनभोगियों हेतु वैज्ञा /इंजी 'एच' आदि के संबंधी में विशेष वेतन ₹ 4000/- आदि से संबंधित मामले/ शिकायत, जो पूर्णतया कानूनी बात ्युक्त हो को अदालत में नहीं लिया जाएगा । शिकायतों को ई-मेल द्वारा में भी sao_est@lpsc.gov.in, sado@lpscb.gov.in

Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre, Thiruvananthapuram and Bengaluru Units are organizing Pension Adalat on 23/08/2019 at Prashasan Conference Hall, Cryo Area, LPSC, Valiamala at 10.00 hrs. and Video Conference Hall-2, LPSC, Bengaluru at 14.00 hours respectively. In this connection, Pensioners Family Pensioners of LPSC, Valiamala and Bengaluru having any grievance may send their representations to the Sr. Admin. Officer, EST/PGA, LPSC, Valiamala and Sr. Admin. Officer, LPSC Bengaluru respectively on or before 20/08/2019 enabling us to examine the grievance. It may please be noted that cases/ grievances involving purely legal points eg. succession etc. and policy matters such as reckoning of two increments, treating Special Pay ₹4000/- for pre-2016 pensioners i.r.o. Sci/Engr. 'H', etc. cannot be taken up in the Adalat. Grievance may also be sent by e-mail to sao_est@lpsc.gov.in, ado@lpscb.gov.in

Rupa & Co. eyes doubling revenue in 3 years

Knitwear maker is professionalising its team and focussing on export markets

LALATENDU MISHRA

Having completed 50 years in business, one of the leading knitwear brands in India Rupa & Company has embarked on a high growth path with an aim to double its revenue in three to four vears and become the industry leader through profitable For FY19, the company re-

crore on a sales revenue of ₹1,108.24 crore. As a first step, the company has started professiona-

ported a net profit of ₹93.37

lising the leadership team by hiring talent from outside. Six months ago, it inducted its first CEO Dinesh Lod-



sung. The mandate to Mr. Lodha was to drive growth through geographical expansion as well as getting into new segments and launching new products.

The company has hired a professional to head the ex-

Similarly, new heads for

cruited. The company is in the process of hiring a HR head and creating new positions besides hiring vertical

sales, and IT have been re-

'Huge potential' "Over the last 50 years, Ru-

pa has successfully become a household name. Currently, we see a huge growth po-

ternational and domestic presence and focussing on premium products are crucial," he added.

strengthen its presence in Central, North and South India markets. Focus has been accorded

to the export markets of Africa and West Asia. 'We have been exporting to Africa but now we are focussing more on that market

and West Asia where demand for our products is huge. Our target is to double our export revenue in two years," Mr. Lodha said.

focussing on women and kidswear segments. "Also, we are focussing on

inner wear and outer wear as well. More premium products will be launched in the future and this segment will drive the next phase of growth," Mr. Lodha added.



6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW.

Revised Schedule for the Mop-UP Round of UP NEET UG-2019

Revised Schedule for the Admission through Mop-Up Round in the State of Uttar pradesh for Government and Private Medical/Dental Colleges/Institutions/Universities for Graduate (MBBS/BDS) is as follows: Previous Schedule Revised Schedule Date of Online Registration for Mop-up round 13th August by 12:00 Noon to 13th August by 12:00 Noon to 16th August 2019 Expected date of Declaration of Merit List 17th August 2019 19th August 2019 Date of Allotment in Government Medical/ 19th August 2019 22rd August 2019 (From 11:00 AM) (From 11:00 AM) Date of Allotment in Private Medical Colleges 20th August 2019 (From 11:00 AM) 26th August 2019 (From 11:00 AM) Date of Allotment in Private Dental Colleges 27th/28th August 2019 (From 10:00 AM) 21st/22nd August 2019

Date of Admission On Spot Admission On Spot Admission Mop-up round would be conducted at Kalam center in King George,s Medical university Lucknow. Candidates should

Only those Candidates are eligible for Mop-up round who have not been allotted MBBS seat in first and Second round of JP NEET UG-2019 Counseling Candidates who have been allotted/Admitted/ not joined/resigned any MBBS seat in UP will not be eligible for the Mop-UP

Those candidates who have been already admitted in BDS course can participate in the mop-up round to upgrade their course BDS to MBBS after resign from their seats.

Candidates will have to produce certificates in original as well as one self attested photo copies of all documents at the time of document verification otherwise they will not be allowed to participate in mop-up round.

Candidates should register for mop-up round by depositing 1000/- (Rs. One thousand rupees) online by net banking/ debicard/ credit card on the NIC website https://upneet.gov.in Candidate should have the Bank DD of Rs. 30,000/- for Government (MBBS/BDS) Seats and Rs. 2,00,000/- for Private Medical colleges seats & Rs. 1,00,000/- for Private Dental Colleges Seats in favour of Director General Medical Education & Training U.P. payable at Lucknow as a security fee (Only CTS Bank DD will be accepted)

Candidates should complete their admission process by submitting their original documents on-spot after allotment. Candidate who wishes to opt the seats in private Medical Colleges/Dental Colleges can prepare the DD in advance for Tution fee. The minimum tution fee amount of DD for Private MBBS seats of Rs. 8.50 Lakh and for private BDS seats of Rs. 1.37 Lakh in favor of Director General Medical Education & Training U.P. payable at Lucknow. (Only CTS Bank DD will be

Candidates who have submitted their security fee DD in first & second round of counseling and not allotted any seat for those candidates security fee DD not required but security fee deposit slip required at time of Mop Up round process. For further important and detailed information kindly visit the website. https://upneet.gov.in & www.updgme.in

DIRECTOR GENERAL

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

changes.

ha, who had previously worked with GE and Sam-



tential in womenswear, kidswear and athleisure," said K.B. Agarwala, MD, Rupa & Company. "Professionalising the team, strengthening our in-

In the domestic market, the company has decided to

Besides, the company is

2019 marks 10 years in fashion for the New York-based designer. Now, taking the brand forward, Mohapatra is making plans for an exclusive India collection and collabs with Odisha weavers



A decade later,

HOMF.

JAGMEETA THIND JOY

Bibhu Mohapatra's designs are a juxtaposition of opposites (masculine vs feminine, tailored vs draped). So it is no surprise that this dichotomy also seeps into the New York-based designer's personal life. India is a special place despite spending half his life in the US. The Odisha boy enrolled in Utah State University to study economics before doing a U-turn to pursue fashion.

"I miss the smells, the food, the flavours... even things that are not tangible," says Mohapatra, 47, who was recently in Mumbai for an event with Preciosa, the producers of Bohemian crystals and jewellery stones. "It's a feeling of being home. Your senses respond to it but you can't articulate it in words." He is looking to build a winter home in his

ancestral village in Kalipur, in Odisha's coastal district of Bhadrak. "I love living in New York and it's very inspiring, but I miss my home and my people. Which is why I'm hoping to have a more permanent place here, too," says the designer, who will be back in the country in October.

Tapping into his roots

This year marks the 10th anniversary of his eponymous label. "The last 10 years have been a huge learning experience. While I've learned about target audience and changing consumer habits, I realise that the model we started with is no longer relevant," says Mohapatra, who has dressed an array of influential women, including former US First Lady Michele Obama and Black Panther actor, Lupita Nyong'o.

"The world has become a smaller place; people now have the means to reach the source [the designer label] through social media. I see the role of the retailer fast changing and we've to be ready for this," he says. Mohapatra's road map for the next 10 years includes taking a route that brings him closer to his roots. "For many years now, people have asked me why I don't sell my product in India? It's because of a practical problem. I make clothes in the US and by the time a \$1,500 top comes to India [with import duties] its

price becomes \$2,500. This just doesn't make sense," he says. "I'm now looking at a bigger audience here. I'll be designing a collection just for Indian women. This will

include sharper price points and direct-toconsumer sales," he explains.

Known for his sharp evening wear and luxe resort collections, the designer says the India collection will be in sync with his "craft and design aesthetic", and also involve weavers from Odisha. "India has changed in the last decade. The way my sister used to dress 10 years, or even five years, ago is very different. Whether



(Clockwise from left) Michelle Obama in one of his outfits at the 2014 CBCF Phoenix Awards, designs from his Resort 2020 line, Mohapatra at the 2019 New York Fashion Week



they live in metros or in smaller cities, the lifestyle of Indian women has changed and I can't design for them without taking note of this," says Mohapatra, hinting at a more priceconscious diffusion line. Currently scouting for partners for the India début, he is hoping to launch the first collection in under two years.

This won't be the first time he'll be working with Indian weavers. Some years ago, he collaborated with textile historian Rta Kapur Chishti on a craft revival project from Odisha. "I worked with weavers from three districts. They are still making those 30 designs I'd put together," he says. The designer was also part of the Make in Odisha Conclave in November last year, where he showcased his Fall 2018 collection alongside locally-

Stories and silhouettes

produced ikat textiles.

An avid cook (conversations often include reminiscences of sukhua, a dried hilsa preparation, or his mum's fermented rice, pakhla), he also admits to being a people watcher. He loves to see what women wear and wonder why they chose a particular

outfit. This, he often states, "fuels his designs". Who has inspired him in India? "I've been following the works of writers, activists and artistes who may not be in the limelight but are doing phenomenal work." Mohapatra says he also likes actor Alia Bhatt "who is very good at her craft and also Ananya Birla, a young musician with a unique style".

His Fall-Winter 2019 collection was an ode to women horticulturists who helped create the "fantastical gardens" of Mount Stewart in the UK. But it is his Resort 2020 range of clothes that has a truly interesting genesis. While renovating his 200year-old farmhouse in Stuyvesant in upstate New York – which he shares with his partner, artist Bobby Beard he discovered period newspapers, which had been used as insulation. It got him researching old periodicals, architecture maps and railways plans of the city. You can spot the references in the checks and abstract linear patterns, mimicking city streets, in his new line dedicated to the 'urban woman'. Now, we must wait to see what aspects of Indian life inspire his first local collection.

The Taj

Mohapatra was in Mumbai to launch Preciosa's new 'Alpha' stones. "I've been collaborating with them for over six years, using their crystals as embellishments in our clothes," he says. "This stone, however, needs to be set in metal. So I created a structural piece called 'The Taj', similar to the felt headpieces I made for my Fall-Winter 2019 collection," he

Accessory alert In 2016, Mohapatra designed

a fine jewellery line in association with Forevermark, called 'Artemis'. Later this year, he will be unveiling its second edition, 'Artemis 2'. Meanwhile, he also has a home collection in the pipeline. "For this, I'll be using textiles from Odisha. I want to reinforce my roots and rope in weavers from my state." he savs.

Star factor

He may still be friends with Michelle Obama Mohapatra even attended the White House farewell party for President Barack Obama — but Bollywood and its stars are his weakness He watches Hindi films at least once a week and, as he admitted to livemint.com last year, "I get star struck. If you put Rekha in front of me, I will melt."



NAMRATA JOSHI

There is something fascinating about personal films in which the maker becomes a participant or a role player. The most intensely realised recent example would be Sarah Polley's family memoir-like film, Stories We Tell, in which she goes about unravelling secrets about her family and her own identity. Closer home, there has been Pushpa Rawat's Nirnay, that probed into why her romance with a childhood friend couldn't culminate in marriage. Ajay Noronha's A Picture of *You* was an attempt to piece together a picture of his father, whom he lost in childhood.

Now, add Hindi filmmaker Tanuja Chandra's first documentary, Aunty

Sunshine girls

Tanuja Chandra's new documentary, which premièred in Madrid, sees her 86- and 93year-old aunts in the best phase of their lives

Sudha Aunty Radha, to this list. The film, which had its world première recently at the Madrid International Film Festival, is about her two aunts, aged 86 and 93, spending the sunset years of their lives together in Lahra village, in Uttar Pradesh.

Memories in Lahra

Chandra shot the film over a week last year, when she went visiting Lahra, where they'd moved over a decade ago. "Everyone came together just out of affection for the subject," she says of her producer Anupama Mandloi and the crew. The aunts allowed them unconditional access. "In old age, you become unencumbered; they have lived life to the fullest and don't care what the world thinks of

them," says Chandra. The charm lies in the personalities of the lively protagonists - Radha Rani Sharma and Sudha Garg – and their belief that they are living through the best phase of their lives.

The fly-on-the-wall camera captures the unhurried rhythm, the little details as they go through their day: the first cuppa, the strong opinions on the titillating news, the skirmishes over the flowers and fountain in the garden, the joy of increased amounts of pension thanks to the hike in dearness allowance or showing off their collection of saris.

Life lessons

They can't resist taking potshots at themselves and each other. "Bemulki nawab" (royalty without a kingdom) is the turn of phrase they use for themselves and their extravagant ways. Or *rath* (chariots) as they call the walkers they are saddled with.

It's a rare friendship of sisters that is as much about affection as it is about constant fights. Behind their infectious cheerfulness are the more profound lessons of life. While one is thankful for having been granted a largely happy and peaceful life, the other is stoic about the many ups and downs - the illness, early marriage and widowhood – in hers. The dignity remains, even in adversity.

The little helpers

Then there is the retinue of staff and helpers. In bonding with them, the old-world hierarchies are maintained as much as they are broken. The aunts may yell at them but they can be as insolent and cheeky.

Most heart-warming is the two admitting feeling happy to be living for themselves, being in the "oasis of warmth and freedom" as Chandra puts it. And they'd rather be where they are, eating lauki and turai, than live any place else in the world.

PRODUCT

Bag for a reason

In commemoration of the brand's 50th anniversary, Ralph Lauren has launched a series of totes titled RL50, echoing the American designer's mission to create "enduring style". Already spotted on the arms of Priyanka Chopra, Poppy Delevingne, and Taylor Hill (who is also the face of the campaign), it comes in four sizes: mini, medium, large, oversized. The bag is available in a range of supple materials, including alligator and python, across a colour palette of deep red, lime, purple and hot pink.

Available on ralphlauren.com; approximately $\ 2$ lakh



Contact us at delhimetro@thehindu.co.in

5 EVENTS WORTH YOUR WHILE

CONCERT FOR A CAUSE



CONCERT

ABBA tribute UK-based band, Name of the Game will be performing a special tribute to the legendary Swedish pop band ABBA as part of Concert For A Cause this evening. Created and directed by Michelle Cleave, the proceeds from this musical night will go towards the welfare of underprivileged thalassemia patients. **VENUE:** Weightlifting Auditorium, JNU Stadium



Parsi delights

TIME: 12 noon onwards

SodaBottleOpenerWala, a restaurant that specialises in Parsi food, is offering a Parsi Bhonu menu on the occasion of Parsi Navroz. The menu comprising traditional Parsi dishes, will have veg items such as Russian Pattice, Smoked Brinjal Patio and non-veg dishes like Fish Pattice, Chicken Pulao. On until August 24. **VENUE:** All outlets in Delhi/NCR.



Shadow puppet show

Pratyaksh Theatre in collaboration with Akshara Theare presents a shadow puppet show, Krishna`s Leela, this evening. Directed by Vandana Gupta, the show takes us through the life of Lord Krishna, his birth and many childhood adventures, including his face-off with Kalia Nag, to purify the Yamuna.

VENUE: Akshara Theatre, Baba Kharak Singh Marg



Sunday brunch

Ctrl Alt Dlt. (CAD), a tech-themed bar and restaurant serving modern Indian food, has introduced a Sunday brunch. The menu has veg and non-veg variants, including starters, soup, salads, and veg or chicken biryani, paneer tikka or mutton curry, steamed rice, assorted bread, and two desserts.

VENUE: CAD, Sector 15, Gurugram TIME: 12 noon - 4 p.m.

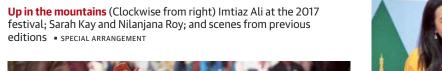


This two-day festival will feature screenings of a selection of films by award-winning filmmaker, Rajendra Talak. Today's films, O Maria!, is a story of a middle-aged woman who fights to save Goa from the ravages of developers; and Antarnad that explores the lives of millennials who expect instant fame at the click of a button.

VENUE: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium, IIC **TIME:** 4 p.m.



TIME: 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.





the country's cultural landscape How an arts festival influenced Bhutan VANGMAYI PARAKALA

"Bhutan is not an easy terrain to raise money for," says Mita Kapur over the phone. The faint rustle of papers is audible in the background, as are snatches of conversations. Siyahi, the Jaipur-based literary consultancy of which Kapur is the founder-CEO, is understandably busy. They are the force behind Bhutan's annual Mountain Echoes - Festival of Art, Literature and Culture – an initiative of the India Bhutan Foundation - and are gearing up for the festival's 10th year.

Mountain Echoes started off with a budget of ₹35 lakh, which went up to ₹1.5 crore last year, including barter-based transactions. Despite the logistical hurdles, the festival has grown in cultural consciousness. Last year saw a footfall of over 10,000 people, with at least a couple of thousand more expected this year. Bhutan's increasing appeal as a holiday destination has helped, despite its regulated visa policy. Has it succeeded in putting the Himalayan kingdom on the international map of art fests?

Working the advantage

"When Mountain Echoes first came to Bhutan, there were some sceptics who felt it may be an Indian soft

power bid to 'culturally influence' the country," recalls investigative journalist Tenzing Lamsang, founder-editor of The Bhutanese, a weekly newspaper that is among a dozen operating in the country today. "But the annual festival has, in fact, been a soft power advantage for Bhutan to influence and gain the appreciation of prominent writers, journalists, artists and activists from India and around the world," he says. The festival, in its previous editions, has hosted best-selling author Markus Zusak, TV host and author Padma Lakshmi, popular slam poetry figure Sarah Kay, and singer Usha Uthup.

This year, the list of 62 speakers includes the likes of Aamir Wani, an Instagram star and Kashmir-photographer; Swapna Liddle, a historian specialising in Delhi's past; Sanjeev Sanyal, currently India's principal economic adviser; and Neil MacGregor, director of London's National Gallery.

Jane Hancock, a local resident, feels it hasn't got enough exposure. The photographer and educator, who is on one of the festival's panels, says she hasn't encountered much discussion about it in her professional and personal circles. "But some accomplished people are going to be visiting and speaking [this time], and from that I'd say it has gained a reputation for being a quality festival," she says.

Meanwhile, Bhutanese participation is on the rise. Having the Royal Queen Mother Ashi Dorji Wangmo Wangchuck, an author herself, as the festival's official patron, helps. Kapur says that while they had an equal break-up of Bhutanese to Indian and international names in their initial years, this year more than 60% of the speakers are Bhutanese, with names like Tshering Denkar, the country's first solo travel vlogger and Pema Choden Tenzin, editorin-chief of Bhutan's only women's magazine.

A festive spirit

The festival's theme this year is 'Many Lives, Many Stories', the slight ambiguity affording them flexibility in the panels they'll stitch together. "I don't know how [given the shortage of funds], but we will do it... Everyone tells me it should be a cake walk now that it has been 10 years. But really, every year it's a new challenge, with new lessons," says Kapur.

Mountain Echoes also has a new capsule: a daylong film festival where writers will engage with audiences before every screening. Additionally, Kapur has planned a one-day pop-up on August 17 in Paro, an hour's drive from Thimpu. It will showcase Bhutanese lifestyle products, and will end with a night of performances by local artists. Kapur says "this pop-up is symbolic of the festive spirit of the 10-year celebrations of Mountain Echoes".

The festival takes place in Thimpu, from August 22 to 25

PEANUTS

On a killing spree

How Mahie Gill, Sayani Gupta and Ragini Khanna geared up for some extreme female toxicity in the psychological thriller, Posham Pa



Life in crime Stills from *Posham Pa* • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

KARISHMA UPADHYAY

While shooting for the film, Posham Pa, Mahie Gill couldn't stop thinking of her daughter who turns three later this month. On any other set, this wouldn't seem odd, but in this Zee5 original, Gill plays a serial killer who drives her two daughters into a life of crime and violence.

"There is a lot of pent up rage in her, which probably comes from something in her childhood. Her daughters grow up seeing violence as a daily occurrence. It made me think about the ideas of nurture and nature. This film has made me think that I need to be extra cautious around my daughter,"

Directed by National Award-winning filmmaker Suman Mukhopadhyay, *Posham Pa* is a psychological thriller inspired by true events. Actors Sayani Gupta and Ragini Khanna play the daughters of Gill's character. The film also stars Shivani Raghuvanshi and Imaad Shah as two documentarians chronicling their lives and crimes while the three women are on death row.

Keeping it real

What caught Mukhopadhyay's attention in Nimisha Misra's script (it is his first feature for a digital platform) "was its objective look at criminals on death row. I thought it would be an interesting challenge to honestly explore their complex minds. I was very conscious that I wanted to keep the story and the characters believable. Also, while there is violence in the content, I didn't want the film to be too graphic".

Meanwhile, Gupta, who was shooting for

the second season of two hit digital shows -Four More Shots Please! and Inside Edge was so keen on being a part of the film that she did some serious time management to fit it into her schedule. "There was one day when I shot for Four More... in the morning, Posham Pa in the afternoon, and then went back to Four More ...," she says. What made this film a must-do for her was her 'look', which required four hours of prosthetics.

Shooting a film about multiple serial killers can never be easy. Mukhopadhyay wanted the actors so immersed in their respective characters that they didn't question the women's sinister motives.

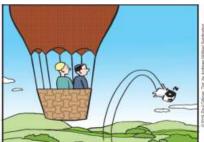
"Normally, directors and actors have conversations about what had driven a character to do something. In this case, there really isn't any logic," he says. Among the three, only Gill didn't find it difficult to disengage from the character the moment she heard 'cut'. A cold-blooded killing scene affected Gupta for a while. " I had to keep telling myself that the character has her reasons," she

Khanna, who was excited to explore 'extreme female toxicity" broke down multiple times during the shoot. I just couldn't understand what made my character, Shikha, commit 49 murders, or how she could not feel any remorse. In her head, she was 'releasing these people from hell on Earth'. It was really hard to completely let go of everything I know to become this cold-blooded killer,' she says, about her first negative character.

Posham Pa will be released on Zee 5 on August 21

POOCH CAFE

















HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

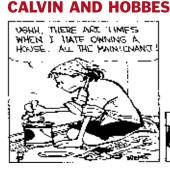
THERE ARE MANY BIG, HANDSOME MEN IN THIS TAVERN, YET THIS BEAUTY IS TALKING













Across

10 Cases (7)

11 Yanks (4)

18 Cures (8)

(2.3.3)

12 Intermittently

14 Extreme fear (6)

15 To an equal extent

1 Heart specialist (12) 9 Lifeless (5)





internet (6)

Boise (5) 7 Shakespeare play

(7,5)

(12)

5 Cathedral musician

6 Its state capital is

8 Totalitarian regime

13 State of inactivity or stagnation (8) **16** Dig up (7)

17 Playground item 19 Venomous African

snake (5) **21** Stimulus (4)

TIGER

WUMO

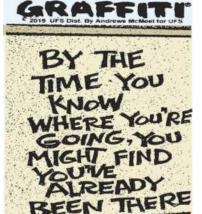


Daniel learned the hard way what happens

when you exceed the Five-Second Rule







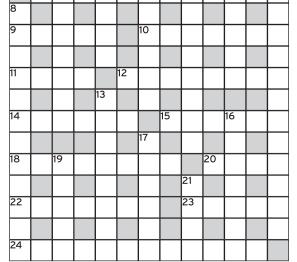


WHAT ARE THE MICROMINERALS2

40% a, american icenusers have Dental Fluorosis, A. E CONDITION AND WITH THE PROPERTY AND A STATE OF THE PROPE ၏物 MTCROMTNERALS, ALSO REFERRED TO AS TRACE MINURALS, ARE PRESENT IN LOW LEVELS IN THE

BODY, THÉRÉFORÉ SMALLÉR SUPPLEMENTAL AMOUNTS ARE REQUIRED, THEY INCLUDE: IRON, MANGANESE, COPPER, IODINE, ZINC, COBALT, AND SULFUR.

THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13151



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20 Star Wars warrior

22 Minty sweets (7)

Down

23 Roosting place (5)

24 Commendable (12)

2 One who retaliates -

engrave (anag) (7)

4 Accessible via the

3 Show excessive

affection (4)

Solution will appear in The Hindu dated August 19, 2019. Solution No. 13150

MISERY MALLET G M O O I S E M P E R O R B O S O M Y L A P E L I S W I F T E A R H A R T E E E S T I H R U D E S T S Y D N E Y

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE







Tealth Copsules is anti-intended in be of a diagnosis nature

IN STORE FOR INDIA'S SHUTTLERS

Women's singles



2019 win-loss: 19-9 (68%)

P.V. Sindhu

Open a couple of weeks ago, in an effort to focus on the World championships. The 24-year-old has endured a tough trophyless season, which started with a quarterfinal loss to nemesis Carolina Marin at the Indonesia Masters in January. Sindhu has since found it tough to overcome newly crowned World No. 1 Akane Yamaguchi, falling to the Japanese opponent twice in her last two tournaments. A possible quarterfinal outing against Taiwan's World No. 2 Tai Tzu Ying will test Sindhu, Tai holds a 10-4 head-tohead advantage over the Indian. though it was Sindhu who came out on top when the two last met (BWF World tour finals, December 2018).

ASHWIN ACHAL

lack of winning momentum plagues the Indian contingent which heads to the BWF World championships at Basel, Switzerland.

India's leading stars have faced a title drought, with Saina Nehwal standing out as only one among the six singles players to have won a tournament this year.

Saina's success came in January, at the Indonesia Masters, when Carolina Marin withdrew with an injury during the first game of their final. P.V. Sindhu, the other women's singles hope, has flattered to deceive - a silver medal at the Indonesia Open last month counting as her best finish.

The men's singles shuttlers -

K. Srikanth, Sameer Verma, H.S. Prannoy and Sai Praneeth - have yet to hit their straps. In this crucial Olympic qualification year, tournament results do not necessarily paint an accurate picture of form. This is because injury prevention is the top priority, leading players to pick and choose tournaments. In an ideal scenario, careful planning will allow players to snatch enough ranking points to seal an Olympic berth, while also allowing

But there is no picking and choosing when it comes to the World championships. This tournament offers the ultimate bragging rights for the calendar year; the Indians and the rest of the field will come out all guns blazing.

Men

Women

Manu Attri-Sumeeth Reddy, M.R. Arjun-Shlok Ramchandran,

and Arun George-Sanyam Shukla

K. Meghana-Poorvisha Ram, and

2019 win-loss:

D. Pooja-Sanjana Santosh

the body to reach peak fitness going

into the marquee event at Tokyo.



2019 win-loss: **7-12 (37%)**

Sameer Verma Since his return from a shoulder injury last month, Sameer has struggled to get into the groove. He has suffered three consecutive first-round defeats – at the Japan Open, Thailand Open and Hyderabad Open. The Hyderabad Open campaign was the most surprising, as Sameer entered the Super 100 event as the defending champion. A forgettable day at the office, however, saw Sameer succumb to a shock 18-21, 11-21 loss to lower-ranked South Korean Heo Kwang Hee. Like Srikanth, Sameer must deal with powerhouse Tien Chen in the World championship draw. Sameer will have to pull out all the stops if he hopes to get

past Chen in round 3.

The Worlds are here, but are the Indians ready? In the crucial Olympic qualification period, the BWF Championships will be the first indicator of their preparedness

Saina Nehwal

After missing the Indonesia Open and Japan Open due to injuries, Saina returned to action at the Thailand Open. The comeback trail ended in the round-of-16, after a 21-16, 11-21, 14-21 loss to World No. 15 Sayaka Takahashi, Saina struggled with injuries in the first half of the year and is still not close to full fitness. The draw poses a challenge as well, as Saina is poised to take on China's World No. 3 Chen Yu Fei in the quarterfinal. Chen is in terrific touch, having racked up four titles this year, including the prestigious All-England championship. If results do go their way, Saina and Sindhu could face each other in a tantalising semifinal

Men's singles

Two years ago, Srikanth was flying high, having claimed four Super Series titles. He then ascended to the World No. 1 spot in 2018. The stage was

set for the Guntur shuttler to dominate the field, but things have not

gone to plan. Injuries and a serious dip in form have seen Srikanth slide down the rankings, and the silverware has been hard to come by. A silver

in the Indian Open counts as his best performance of the year. If Srikanth

can get past the early rounds, he could face second-seed Chou Tien Chen

in the last-eight. This will be a mighty hurdle to cross, as Chen enters

the World championship in great form, having won the Thailand and

K. Srikanth

Indonesia Open.



Doubles

With a terrific title-run in the Thailand Open, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chiraj Shetty have raised the profile of men's doubles in the country. The duo was set to carry this momentum into the World championships, but injuries have robbed them of the chance to shine. While Satwiksairaj is out with a shoulder problem, Chirag is down with abdomen discomfort. The mixed doubles combination of Pranav Jerry Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy will also miss the action, as the former is injured. Ashwini Ponnappa, meanwhile, teams up with Sikki in women's doubles. The combination has loads of experience and quality though it remains to be seen if it can deliver on the big stage.

Sai Praneeth

When in full flow, Praneeth is a treat to watch. But the 27-year-old is oftentimes inconsistent, leading to periods of severe frustration. During the Premier Badminton League in January this year, chief National coach P. Gopichand explained that while Praneeth has great skills, he needs to develop his fitness so that he can "play the long matches with the same speed at which he does in the first and the second games". This problem came to the fore in a recent Japan Open semifinal outing against World No. 1 Kento Momota, where Praneeth kept Momota guessing in the opening game with some electric play. But when Momota began to find his range, Praneeth crumbled. He will have to iron out all flaws in quick time if he hopes to stay alive for the latter rounds of the World





AGE POINTS EVENTS

24 103,118 17

72,058

70,670 17

Rank 14

20

15

AGE POINTS EVENTS

16

17

23

21

28

24

23

20

32 12,325

33 7,945

25 4.925

29 4,040

20 3,455

23 3,230

23 2.890

32 2,555

22 4,005

7,460

29 86.698

23 83,301

H.S. Prannoy With only three quarterfinal finishes to show as his best returns for the year, Prannoy enters the World championship short on confidence. A round-of-32 loss to Malaysia's World No. 138 Jia Wei Tan in

the Hyderabad Open casts serious doubts about Prannoy's readiness for this big event. If he can get past Finland's Eetu Heino in round 1, Prannoy will take on Chinese legend and fivetime World champion Lin Dan in

WORD PLAY

Shark-biscuit

• What is it? Australian slang for an inexperienced surfer. This term safely belongs in the sporting lexicon now that surfing is in the Olympics. Surfing will make its Games debut at Tokyo, with the event to be held in the ocean, and not in a wave pool as some had speculated.

PTS RATE

32 3,631 113

36 3,778 105

27 2,640 98

37 3,462 94

27 2.263 84

22 1,438 65

140

McLaren

Haas

Renault

Racing Point

Racing Point

Alfa Romeo

Williams

82

24

22

18

17

29 2,381

2,917 108

23 2,547 111

What does it mean? On Australia's notoriously shark-infested beaches (the country sees the most shark attacks in the world annually after the US), a surfer who cannot stay on his board is deemed an easy (and possibly delicious) snack for a shark.



• Should surfers be worried next year in Tokyo? A study by the University of Florida found that 53% of all reported shark attacks in 2018 affected "surfers and those participating in board sports". But the same study pointed out that the odds of death by shark-attack in an American's lifetime were 1 in 3,748,067 (and the U.S. accounts for nearly half the world's shark attacks annually, with most of those occurring in Florida). At any rate, Japan reported zero shark attacks in 2018. So, there is no cause

STACKING UP ON THE BOX









P.M., Chelsea v Leicester, 8.40

P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 1 & HD. **■** Bundesliga: **SAT**: 6.40 P.M., 9.40 P.M.; STAR SPORTS SELECT 2 & HD. SUN: 6.40 P.M., 9.10 P.M.; STAR SPORTS

SELECT 2 & HD. ■ ProKabaddi League: SAT: Chennai v Bengaluru, 7.15 P.M., Bengal v Delhi, 8.30 P.M.; STAR SPORTS 1, 2 & HD. SUN: Haryana v Hyderabad 7.15 P.M., Chennai v Pune; 8.30 P.M.; STAR

■ Cincinnati Masters: SAT: 4.30 A.M., 10.30 P.M.; SONY ESPN & HD. SUN: 3.30 A.M.; SONY

SPORTS 1, 2 & HD.



8 West Indies 9 Bangladesh

F1 Standings DRIVER Mercedes 250 Lewis Hamilton 188 Valtteri Bottas Mercedes Max Verstappen 181 Red Bull Sebastian Vettel Ferrari 156 Charles Leclero 132 Pierre Gasly Red Bull 63 Carlos Sainz McLaren 58 Kimi Raikkoner Alfa Romeo 31 Daniil Kyvat Toro Rosso 27

ICC Test Rankings

2 New Zealand

TEAM

1 India

4 England

5 Australia

6 Sri Lanka

7 Pakistan

10 Lando Norris

12 Lance Stroll

Daniel Ricciardo

13 Kevin Magnussen

14 Nico Hulkenberg

15 Alexander Albon

17 Romain Grosjean 18 Antonio Giovinazzi

16 Sergio Perez

19 Robert Kubica

20 George Russell

ODI Rankings

3 New Zealand

5 South Africa

4 Australia

6 Pakistan

8 Sri Lanka

7 Bangladesh

9 West Indies

TEAM

2 India

82

PTS RATE

54 6.745 125

57 6,939 122

43 4,837 112

47 5,193 110

49 4,756 97

46 3,963 86

54 4,425

40 2,359

Men's Top Five

T20I Rankings

Pakistar

England

India

Australia

New Zealand

Afghanistan

West Indies

Sri Lanka

South Africa

TEAM

EVENTS POINTS AVG. PTS. PLAYER Brooks Koepka 561.75 12.76 46 432.09 9.39 Dustin Johnson Rory McIlroy 408.75 8.69 Justin Rose 48 390.9 8.14 Jon Rahm 343.23 6.86

PTS RATE

26 7.365 283

16 4,253 266

16 4,196 262

31 8,099 261

21 5,471 261

16 4,056 254

16 3.849 241

18 4,093 227

24 5,378 224

Shubhankar

Rank 210











Top Indians ▶







Men's Top Five

PLAYER

Shi Yuqi

Chen Long

Kento Momota

Chou Tien Chen

Jonatan Christie



Prajnesh Gunneswarar Rank 91



11 Roberto Bautista Agut 12 Juan Martin del Potro 13 Borna Corio

	14	Kevin Andersor
-	15	Gael Monfils
	16	John Isner
-	17	Nikoloz Basilas
	18	Marin Cilic
	19	David Goffin

20 Milos Raonic

ATP Rankings

PLAYER

Novak Djokovi

Rafael Nadal

Roger Federei

Dominic Thien

Alexander Zverev

Stefanos Tsitsipas

Daniil Medvedev

Karen Khachanov

10 Fabio Fognini

Kei Nishikori

30 2,230 14 22 2,195 22 33 2,140 16 32 2,130 21 2,040 27 2,020 26 30 1,940

31 2,395

WTA Rankings # PLAYER

Women's Top Five

Tai Tzu Ying

Chen Yufei

P.V. Sindhu

Akane Yamaquchi

Nozomi Okuhara

PLAYER

1	Naomi Osaka	21	6417	17
2	Ashleigh Barty	23	6256	16
3	Karolina Pliskova	27	6185	22
4	Simona Halep	27	5223	17
5	Kiki Bertens	27	5120	26
6	Petra Kvitova	29	4780	18
7	Elina Svitolina	24	4577	20
8	Serena Williams	37	3995	12
9	Aryna Sabalenka	21	3565	26
10	Sloane Stephens	26	3189	21
11	Anastasija Sevastova	29	3167	24
12	Belinda Bencic	22	3008	27
13	Angelique Kerber	31	2875	20
14	Bianca Andreescu	19	2837	16
15	Johanna Konta	28	2695	21
16	Marketa Vondrousova	20	2652	13
17	Qiang Wang	27	2647	20
18	Madison Keys	24	2557	15
19	Caroline Wozniacki	29	2537	18

POINTS EVENTS

91,845 14

17

AGE POINTS EVENTS

22 93,930 19

88,836

24 75,684 17

21 90,565

28 1,815 25 28 1,810 21 20 Anett Kontaveit 23 2380

A ND-NDE

23



Barcelona's Messi-dependencia

As the 32-year-old Argentine enters his post-prime phase, Valverde has to use him judiciously to maximise his impact

O18-2019 was a curious season for FC Barcelona. ■The club lost yet another knockout tie in the coveted UEFA Champions League, this time a soul-crushing 0-4 loss in the return leg to eventual champion Liverpool FC.

The psychologically deflated team then folded against Valencia FC in the Copa del Rey final, a crown that Barca had owned for years.

But the team thoroughly dominated La Liga, cruising to win its 10th title in 15 years, a daunting feat considering its rivalry with the other Spanish behemoth Real Madrid. It is not a coincidence that these 15 years have featured the services of inarguably the world's best footballer - Lionel Messi.

Messi is now 32, but he still lives up to what the writer Michael Cox once called him - a combination of three world-class players: the ace dribbler, the precise passer and the decisive poacher. In 2018-19, the pint-sized genius was his usual, efficient self scoring, creating, dribbling, passing and leading by example.

Statistics bear these out quite well. Messi scored the most goals (36) and had the highest ratio of goals and assists per 90 minutes in all four major leagues in Europe - 1.63, way ahead of the next best, Napoli's Dries Mertens (1.08).

Among players who featured in at least 30 games, only Soufiane Boufal of Celta Vigo had more dribbles per 90 minutes (6.2) than Messi (4.4). Including the Champions League and Copa del Rey, Messi scored an astounding 51 goals in 50 games overall.

New and old

Messi was forced to miss the opening game of the 2019-20 La Liga season against Athletic Bilbao owing to a calf injury, but coach Ernesto Valverde has new reinforcements in French forward Antoine Griezmann and Dutch midfielder Frenkie de Jong who add quality and depth to the squad. In the quest to win it all, though, he will have to rely on the magician to be at his best again.

As had been the case in the past, as Messi went, so did Barca in 2018-19. In fact, the season added a new dimension to Barcelona's 'Messi-dependencia'.

Under the stewardship of Valverde, the Argentine had a much freer role in taking up positions and possessions in attacking midfield, forward areas and even in the wing. But he also had bigger responsibilities: to create in those positions, link up with other players, set up goals and also score off set-pieces, where he excelled, in particular, in 2018-19.

One of the more emblematic set of sequences in a football game featuring Barca last season was the Messi-Jordi Alba link-up on the left wing.

Time and time again, Messi would draw defenders to the left-centre or the central part of the advanced midfield, dribble across them, dink up a weighted pass to an onrushing Alba in the vacant advanced third of the left wing and then dance around the defenders towards goal.

Alba, who was in his best form for the club last season, would invariably cross or pass to Messi in open space, beating the bevy of defenders who seemed to know what was coming but could hardly prevent it. More often than not, Messi converted those moments into goals or a pass leading to a strike.

Valverde also used Messi in deeper positions in order to retain possession, or set off a counter-attack by acting as a spigot after receiving the ball from the defence. Partly the reason why Val-

verde depended upon Messi so much was because Barcelona's days of having Xavi, Andres Iniesta and a younger Busquets helping with the creation and possession were long gone. It also made tactical sense.

Unlike the past, when ters the past-Barcelona would dominate possession and play a high risk and high defensive line to win back possession, the team under Valverde was far more conservative and allowed its opponent to attack.

With teams getting higher chances to attack in transition, Messi also got more space to operate in the front in order to play his high-intensity and high-impact role, and did it to a very high de-

Messi also gunned more for goal from outside the penalty area and via set pieces at a rate that was unprecedented for him. He scored six goals (out of 36 overall) off direct free kicks in 2018-19 and attempted more shots from the outside the box than ever before.

Clearly, this was an outcome of the new Barcelona squad which no longer featured the creative abilities of a Xavi or an Iniesta to set Messi further up near goal.

Less international duty

Valverde sought to conserve his talisman in Barca's eternal quest for the treble without getting on the ultra-competitive captain's wrong side by limiting his minutes.

Messi also had relatively lesser international duties for Argentina and was primed for success in the Champions League, as Barca won its first leg against Liverpool largely aided by his brilliance. But the collective superiority of the Reds' hard- pressing game at Anfield was enough to overcome the one-man threat of Messi, and put paid to the team's hopes of winning its sixth Champions League.

Hunger to improve

For years, Messi had to constantly prove his mettle as he had sturdy competition for the tag of the world's best in Cristiano Ronaldo, who offered a counterpoint as Real Madrid's key player and achiever.

Ronaldo's move to Serie A and Juventus has not quenched Messi's thirst to constantly improve and help his team attain glory as his performance last season showed. As he en-

tne-prime stage of his career, Barcelona's think-tank in coach Valverde and the front office will have to find ways to maximise the strengths of the team around him without over-working its best-ever player.

No longer a one-horse race

With Conte taking over at Inter and Ancelotti staying at Napoli, Sarri's Juventus could be pushed this season

N. SUDARSHAN

¬or years, Italy has d been exporting its best coaches. But the upcoming season will see two of its best minds, Antonio Conte and Maurizio Sarri, return to the Serie A.

Following a sabbatical year, Conte will helm Inter Milan while Sarri, fresh after a Europa League triumph with Chelsea, will lead Juventus. With the richly decorated Carlo Ancelotti set to start his second campaign at Napoli, it will be a triumvirate worth watching out for.

The expectation is now for a competitive title-race. Juventus is the eight-time defending champion and has been run close in recent years only by the Sarri-led Napoli, in the 2017-18 season, when the latter came within four points of winning the Scudetto. Last season, Cristiano Ronaldo arrived in Turin to much fanfare and Juventus duly won the championship by 11 points, despite going winless in its final five games.

Considerable churn

It does appear though, that things will be far tighter this season. There has been considerable churn in the

summer with four of the teams that finished in the top six last year appointing new managers. Paulo Fonseca, formerly of Shakhtar Donetsk, has taken over at AS Roma, while Marco Giampaolo has joined AC Milan doria. Only

Ancelotti at Napoli and the highly impressive Gian Piero Gasperini, who led Atalanta to third position, remain.

Champion Juventus hasn't had a mere coaching change, but will undergo a complete overhaul in its playing style under Sarri.

The astute Massimiliano Allegri had no doubt made his wards serial-winners, but the football was often functional and those running the club seem to want much

The big-money arrival of young Dutch defender Matthijis de Ligt, schooled in the tenets of Cruyffian football at Ajax, is a move in that direction. But it remains to be seen how early his fellow players will be able to imbibe Sarri's philosophy.

In Conte, Juventus will face a stiff challenge. One of the sport's great strategists, the 50-year-old has made a name by dismantling such hallowed structures; be it in bursting the Spanish bubble at the 2016 Euros with a comparatively ordinary Italian national team, or in winning the 2016-17 Premier League by finishing ahead of the likes of Pep Guardiola, Jurgen Klopp and Jose Mourinho.

Big catch

Conte has won a significant battle in the transfer market too, finally securing Belgian Romelu Lukaku, a striker who he wanted even while at Chelsea. At Manchester United, Lukaku was a mixed bag, but the 26-year-old has his best years ahead of him. Conte's relentlessness may well uncork his immense po-

Napoli and Atalanta have fairly well settled squads and have lost very little of their best players. Napoli has in +fact finished each of the last four years in the top-3, including three as runner-up. If there is one man who can take them higher, it is the pragmatic and fluid tactician

Ancelotti. Cristiano Ronaldo

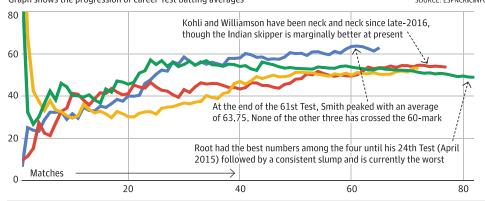
GAME THEORY

Smith races ahead

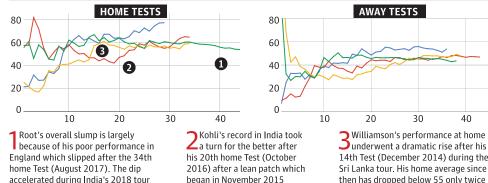
On his return to Test cricket after more than a year, Steve Smith notched up two centuries in the first Test of Ashes 2019, which were instrumental in Australia's victory. Ahead of the second Test which started on Wednesday, he averaged 62.96 in the format – currently the secondhighest in the all-time list. Among Smith, Virat Kohli, Kane Williamson and Joe Root — arguably the best Test batsmen currently active — the former Australian skipper has raced ahead of the pack. By Sumant Sen

CAREER GRAPH | Smith —— had a relatively sedate start compared to Kohli —— and Root —— but has been well ahead of Williamson —— throughout his career. Smith overtook Kohli after the first 24 matches when the latter's average dropped below 40. After his 40th Test in 2016, the Australian has widened his lead over the others

Graph shows the progression of career Test batting averages



HOME AND AWAY Smith turned on the beast mode in his last 10 home Tests with his average zooming from 64 to 77. The gulf between Smith and others at home was more pronounced while the gap was relatively narrow in away Tests. However, he is the only batsman to maintain an away average of above 50 consistently



PICTURE THIS



Push it to the limit

USA Gymnastics might still be limping back to normalcy following the storm former team doctor and abuser Larry Nasser caused. But the 56th National Championships held in Kansas City, Missouri, last week saw

some spectacular displays of

athleticism all around. Simone Biles, unsurprisingly, brought her A-game and swept most of the senior women's golds — the odd bronze came in the uneven bars event.

It was here, in the floor routine. that Biles successfully landed the now-famous triple-double. The never-seen-before move is now

being hailed historic, and for good reason.

The triple double involves bouncing off the ground seemingly defying gravity — to perform three mid-air twists over the course of two back flips. Even a gymnastics novice can understand the difficulty associated with performing a double twist on one

back flip and a single in the second before the feet hit the ground, perfectly.

Biles, who already has a vault skill and a floor exercise manoeuvre named after her, was just as excited to see the move as anyone! She watched replays of the routine between rotations, saying "I didn't want to be the last person to see it."

accelerated during India's 2018 tour

IN THE ONGOING 1ST TEST OF NEW ZEALAND'S TOUR OF SRI LANKA. KANE WILLIAMSON SCORED 0 AND 4 | ALL DATA UPTO THE CONCLUSION OF 1ST ASHES TEST 2019

Shastri's tryst with head coach post extends 'Consult us for support staff too'

He will be firmly in charge till the 2021 T20 World Cup to be hosted by India



Vote for continuity: Cricket Advisory Committee members Aunshuman Gaekwad, Kapil Dev and Shanta Rangaswamy address a press conference after selecting the India head coach. • VIVEK BENDRE

NANDAKUMAR MARAR

Ravi Shastri will continue to be the head coach of India men's team. Mike Hesson made a positive impression on the three-member Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) during his presentation in person, informed Kapil Dev, who announced that Shastri was chosen by him and two committee members, Aunshuman Gaekwad and Shanta Rangaswamy, based on five parameters. "We did our own marking, did not consult each other," said the 1983 World Cup-winning captain.

Three names

Shastri, now firmly in charge till the 2021 T20 World Cup to be hosted by India, appeared before the CAC via Skype from the West Indies. Kapil announced three names shortlisted based on parameters given - Tom Moody at number three, Hesson second and the Indian as first choice - for head coach position. The parameters for which marking was done were: coaching philosophy, coaching achievements, coaching experience, communication skill and knowledge of modern coaching

Gaekwad, former India national coach and selector, explained the reasons for Shastri getting picked over the two contenders. "Ravi Shastri knows the boys, is very well-versed with the system and communicates well."

Shanta Rangaswamy, former India women's captain and coach, also stressed on the communication skills as the critical point. Kapil praised Hesson for coming across as "very intelligent". The New Zealander guided his national team to the 2015 World Cup final, losing to Australia in the title clash.

Curtain of

confidentiality West Indies' Phil Simmons opted out from the original list of six. Robin Singh and Lalchand Rajput were the two others who made their presentation before the CAC. Asked to elaborate on the marks given (maximum 100), Kapil opted to hide behind the curtain of confidentiality, but said that there was little to separate the first three. Moody from Australia coached Sri Lanka in World

Cup and has been an applicant for India head coach

> Replying to a query about the process followed, Kapil said the time difference during Moody's presentation (from Australia) and Shastri's presentation (from West Indies where he is on a 45-day contract extension with the touring Indian team) led to

> delays. "The meeting lasted six hours, the process was simple, we did own marking based on parameters." The noted national women's coach said: "The five (contenders for head coach post)

We did our own marking based on five parameters, did not consult each

KAPIL DEV

other

■ The parameters for which marking was done were: coaching philosophy, achievements, experience communication skill and knowledge of modern coaching tools

gave their presentations, it was weighed against their coaching performance."

Shastri guided India to semifinals at three major ICC competitions (2015 World

Cup, 2016 T20 World Cup and 2019 World Cup). M.S. Dhoni was captain in 2015, Virat Kohli led Team India during the other two tourna-



Kapil Dev on Shastri's presentation

ccording to Kapil Dev, AShastri gave a presentation as to what the team did under him in the last two years and how the team can improve from here. He also elaborated where he needs more help from the selectors and from the BCCI to make this team stronger in the times to come.

Kapil and Shastri played together in the 1983 Prudential World Cup held in England

AMOL KARHADKAR

Less than 72 hours before the controversial selection process for India's support staff is set to begin, the Crick-Advisory Committee (CAC) chairman Kapil Dev has demanded that his three-member panel be involved in the selection pro-

When asked if the reappointed head coach Ravi Shastri should be involved in the interview process, Kapil shot back: "Even we should be consulted. We have given a recommendation to the Board in black and white in the minutes that we should also be involved in the support staff selection process. I think the Board will release that letter to you also, which I don't know. We have given a letter to the Board."

More than 20 candidates According to the Supreme Court-directed administrative overhaul of the BCCI. the head coach is to be decided by the CAC, while the national selection panel is tasked with identifying the support staff. Accordingly, the selection committee, headed by M.S.K. Prasad, is

scheduled to interview more than 20 candidates combined for the posts of batting coach, bowling coach and fielding coach from Monday (August 19) till Thursday (August 22).

When prodded further if he feels the selectors - who are supposed to be appointed annually by the BCCI's general body - should be appointing support staff, Kapil said: "No. Their strength and our strength should combine together. It should be a cohesive effort of all the stakeholders with an aim to improve the team."

While the BCCI is unlikely to make the letter by the CAC members public, a senior executive confirmed that the CAC's letter will be forwarded to the Committee of Administrators (CoA). Accord-

We have given a recommendation to the Board in black and white in the minutes that we should also be involved in the support staff selection process

ing to him, the "CoA will take the final call".

Shastri seeks involvement

The Hindu also understands that during his interaction with the CAC on Friday, Shastri stressed on having a say in choosing the support staff. Two years ago, when Shastri was roped in as the India head coach for the first time, the BCCI had announced Zaheer Khan and Rahul Dravid to be bowling and bowling consultants, respectively, on overseas tours. However, Shastri had the last laugh with his and captain Virat Kohli's favourite triumvirate of B. Arun, R. Sridhar and Sanjay Bangar being reappointed as bowling, fielding and batting coach, respectively.

The selection panel, led by former India wicketkeeper Prasad, has been on a sticky wicket, with the members' lack of international cricket experience being criticised by legendary cricketers, including former captains Sunil Gavaskar and Dilip Vengsarkar. It will be interesting to see if Prasad & Co. reach out to the captain, coach and CAC informally.

CoI: CoA invites former players

AMOL KARHADKAR

In an effort to address the contentious Conflict of Interest (CoI) issue pertaining to former cricketers, the Committee of Administrators (CoA) has invited a group of former India cricketers on Monday to discuss the way forward.

While a BCCI executive confirmed the meeting, he stressed it's an "informal gathering".

The Hindu understands that at least one of the three CoA members will interact with the former cricketers, with at least two former India captains having confirmed their presence, to discuss the options to tackle the CoI conundrum.

The CoA is understood to have sought the services of some of the recently-retired cricketers who are either involved in coaching, administrative or broadcasting roles at present.

The recommendations are likely to be forwarded to the court-appointed amicus curiae for his consideration.

Repeated allegations

The meeting has been convened in the aftermath of repeated CoI allegations on some of the legendary cricketers.

After Sanjeev Gupta, a life member of the Madhva Pra-

desh Cricket Association, complained about the possible Conflict of Interest of Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly and V.V.S Laxman, all three opted out of the CAC and the BCCI had to reconstitute the panel for the head coach appointment.

Seeking clarification Based on Gupta's complaint,

the BCCI ethics officer last week sought a clarification from Rahul Dravid, who has recently taken over as the Head of Cricket at the National Cricket Academy in Bengaluru.

It resulted in Ganguly and Harbhajan Singh blasting the CoI policy in public.

Australia in trouble on rain-hit day

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

England fast bowler Jofra Archer marked his Test debut with a wicket as Australia suffered a top-order collapse before rain cut short play at Lord's on Friday.

Australia lost three wickets for 11 runs and slumped to 80 for four when rain forced an early lunch on the third day of the second Test.

That left Australia 178 behind England's first innings total of 258.

The 24.1 overs that took place in the morning session represented the only action on Friday, with persistent rain leading the umpires to eventually abandon play for the day at 5:22 p.m. local

time in a match where the first day had already been washed out without a ball bowled.

13 overs. Stuart Broad led

SCOREBOARD ENGLAND VS AUSTRALIA, SECOND TEST

Australia bowling: Cummins

the way with two for 26 in 13

Archer took one for 18 off

England – 1st innings: R. Burns c Bancroft b Cummins 53, J. Roy c Paine b Hazlewood O, J. Root lbw b Hazlewood 14, J. Denly c Paine b Hazlewood 30, J. Buttler c Paine b Siddle 12, B. Stokes lbw b Lyon 13, J. Bairstow c Khawaja b Lyon 52, C. Woakes c Paine b Cummins 32, J. Archer c Khawaja b Cummins 12, S. Broad b Lyon 11, J. Leach (not out) 6; Extras (b-12, lb-5, w-6): 23; Total (in 77.1 overs):

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-26, 3-92, 4-116, 5-136, 6-138, 7-210, 821-8-61-3, Hazlewood 22-6-58-3, Siddle 13-2-48-1, Lyon 19.1-2-68-3, Smith 2-0-6-0. Australia - 1st innings: Cameron Bancroft lbw b Archer 13, David Warner b Broad 3, Usman Khawaja c Bairstow b Woakes 36, Steve Smith (batting) 13, Travis Head lbw b Broad 7, Mathew Wade (batting) 0; Extras (b-4, lb-4): 8; Total (for four wkts. in 37.1

Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-60, 3-England bowling: Broad 13-3-

overs): 80.

26-2. Archer 13-6-18-1. Woakes 9-3-27-1, Stokes 2.1-1-1-0.

Pujara, Rahane, Bumrah look for game time



Hey, that hurts! Virat Kohli, who hurt his thumb in the third ODI, may give it a rest. • AP

Kohli likely to sit out to nurse thumb

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Test specialists Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane and a well-rested Jasprit Bumrah will aim for some quality game time when India takes on West Indies Cricket Board XI in a three-day warm-up game starting on Saturday.

With skipper Virat Kohli sustaining a right thumb injury during the third ODI, the team management would like to exercise precaution and may be rest their best player before World Test championship

Rohit Sharma and Rish-Pant will desperately look for runs after a below-

par limited-overs leg. Pacers Umesh Yadav and Ishant Sharma too will look to impress the team management ahead of the two Tests. India's spin department is expected be led by R. Ash-The team (from): Virat Kohli

win and Ravindra Jadeja. (Capt.), Ajinkya Rahane, Mayank Agarwal, R. Ashwin, Jasprit Bumrah, Ravindra Jadeia. Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Shami, Rishabh Pant, Cheteshwar Pujara, K.L. Rahul, Wriddhiman Saha, Ishant Sharma, Rohit Sharma, Hanuma Vihari and Umesh Yadav.

Lara, Sarwan to work with WI batsmen

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The legendary Brian Lara and Ramnaresh Sarwan will work with West Indies batsmen ahead of the first of the two Tests against India.

Lara, one of the greatest batsmen of all-time, and Sarwan, one of the leading West Indies players of his generation, will be part of the pre-series camp, to be held in Antigua.

The two will share their immense knowledge, experience and expertise with the 13-member squad.

Baliyan does it for U Mumba

A last-minute 'Super Raid' dashes Patna Pirates' hopes

PKL

G. VISWANATH AHMEDABAD

Despite being outplayed after the break, U Mumba pulled off a thrilling 34-30 win against Patna Pirates in the ProKabaddi League Season-7 at the Eka Arena By

The lithe raider, faced with the prospect of being captured and giving all out points and a win to Pirates, virtually kept his cant going for the last 30 seconds and unleashed a Super raid to

clutches of Hadi Oshtorak, Jang Kun Lee and Neeraj Kumar to win the match that, with a bit of luck, could have gone Pirates' way.

Leading 22-9 at half-time U Mumba allowed Pirates to well scoring his 700th raid point and thereafter went past 1600 raid attempts in the league, kept Pirates in the hunt. But U Mumba, which ap-

the ice cool Baliyan completing a Super raid. Baliyan scored nine

match, Jaipur Pink Panthers beat Gujarat Fortunegiants 22-19. It was the home team's sixth consecutive defeat.

Pirates 34-30; Jaipur Pink Panthers bt Gujarat Fortunegiants 22-19.

Bajrang Punia gets the nod

KHEL RATNA

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

After being ignored for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna award last year, wrestler Bajrang Punia was the unanimous choice for the highest sporting honour this year with the 12-member selection committee recommending his name to the Sports

Ministry on Friday. Punia's name was the only one decided by the committee - headed by Justice (retd.) Mukundakam Sharma and including the likes of Bhaichung Bhutia and M.C. Mary Kom – on the opening day of the two-day meeting with the rest of the names for the other sporting awards to be discussed and decided on Saturday.

The sports ministry has formed a single committee for all the awards this year, unlike the past when the Arjuna/Khel Ratna and Dronacharya awards were decided separately.

The Asian and Commonwealth Games gold medal-



Bajrang Punia... biggest reward for his consistency. •PTI

list, the world's top-ranked wrestler in the 65kg category, has been on a roll over the last 18 months, adding a World Championships silver last year to go with his bronze in the 60kg in 2013.

Punia is among the brightest medal prospects for India in next month's World Championships at Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, and at the Tokyo Olympics next year.

Last year, he had threatened to move court after being snubbed for the award in favour of Virat Kohli and vear.

weightlifter Mirabai Chanu, claiming he had the achievements to merit the honour and seeking explanation from the ministry for his omission.

He joins Olympic medallists Sushil Kumar, Yogeshwar Dutt and Sakshi Malik as the fourth wrestler to get the award.

Sources said another name could be added during deliberations that would continue on Saturday, along with other awardees for this

'This will

motivate me'

Y.B. SARANGI KOLKATA

World championships silver medallist Bajrang Punia, who is also the reigning Asian Games, Asian championships and Commonwealth Games champion, said the Khel Ratna would motivate him.

"Definitely, the award will give me motivation to do well, but I do not link the award with my preparations for the Olympics," Punia told *The Hindu*. Punia said awards never

interfered with his focus on competitions. "The award has its own place and the competitions go on as usual. My preparations for the Olympics has been going on nicely and will continue as per the plan."

Punia, conferred the Padma Shri award this year, has continued with his fine form in 2019 by winning gold medals at top-level events like Dan Kolov-Nikola Petrov tournament, Asian championships, Ali Aliev tournament and Tibilis Grand Prix.

TransStadia here on Friday. U Mumba's hero was last man standing Rohit Baliyan.

pull off a remarkable win. Baliyan escaped from the

claw their way back with defender Ravinder contributpeared to be clueless having ing three vital points. Pardeep Narwal, who started off surrendered a big lead, had

Day's hero: U Mumba's Rohit Baliyan kept his cool to deny Patna Pirates. • VIJAY SONEJI

points, M.S. Athul eight and Sandeep Narwal six for the winner. It was U Mumba's fourth win in eight matches. In a low scoring second

The results: U Mumba bt Patna



Gearing up: India Blue speedsters Aniket Choudhary, Diwesh Pathania and Tushar Deshpande, along with batsman Ankeet Bawane (second from left) at a nets session on Friday. • N. SUDARSHAN

Duleep Trophy still has its sheen

Gill's India Blue takes on Fazal's India Green in the opener on Saturday

N. SUDARSHAN BENGALURU

The Duleep Trophy no longer boasts of a distinct identity, stripped as it was three years ago of its regional zone-wise format and replaced with a tournament which distributed the country's best players into three different sides. Even the experiment with the pink ball to give players a taste of 'daynight Tests' has now been

But a performance in the event still carries a certain heft. As former Delhi cricketer and coach Bhaskar Pillai said on the eve of this year's opener between his side India Blue and India Green at the Just Cricket Ground near here, "it is only one step away from a national call."

That the 2019-20 edition will be ushering in the domestic season gives it a diffe-

rent dimension. Season-openers can rarely be seen in isolation as big performances by players right at the start can potentially have far reaching

consequences.

It is against this backdrop that the Shubman Gill-led India Blue will take on Faiz Fazal's India Green in the first of three round-robin matches from Saturday. "We would love to win the tournament," said Fazal, who has the experience of playing Duleep Trophy in the previous avatar too.

Tough for players

"It's tough for players to come in a day prior and get together and play.

"There is the emotional aspect also... you do not win the competition for your State. But ultimately as professionals you need to adapt."

"This is a prestigious tournament, important for players if they want to play higher. But you need to think of the team as well. As a batsmen if you just want to get a hundred, it may not work so-

"Rather, if you think of the need to win the game for your side, it will definitely come. As a team we want to go in with that frame of mind." added 33-year-old.

For 19-year-old Gill, very much a cricketer of this generation, the format was no hindrance and he said that the very name of the tournament should be enough motivation. "This is the format of the day," he stated.

"I have played Deodhar [Trophy] etc.. So I know the red, blue and green format. I spoke to Jalaj Saxena, the senior-most person in our team, and his advice will be crucial. But it shouldn't be difficult to get the team going. Duleep Trophy is a big tournament. So everyone is

switched on."

Funnily, on match eve, a prominent player found it hard to recognise a fellow teammate during the nets. He wasn't even sure about Saturday's opponents.

The hope is now for such instances to remain mere aberrations.

The teams (from):

India Blue: Shubman Gill (Capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Rajat Patidar, Ricky Bhui, Anmolpreet Singh, Ankeet Bawane, Snell Patel, Shreyas Gopal, Saurabh Kumar, Jalaj Saxena, Tushar Deshpande, Basil Thampi, Aniket Choudhary, Diwesh Pathania and Ashutosh Amar.

India Green: Faiz Fazal (Capt.), Akshath Reddy, Dhruv Shorey, Siddhesh Lad, Priyam Garg, Akshdeep Nath, Rahul Chahar, Dharmendrasinh Jadeia, Javant Yadav, Ankit Raipoot, Ishan Porel, Tanveer-ul-Hag, Akshay Wadkar, Rajesh Mohanty, Milind

Match starts at 9.30 a.m.

Shubman Gill keen to live in the present

'When I go out to bat, I don't focus on where results will take me next'

N. SUDARSHAN BENGALURU

In the eyes of many, Shubman Gill should have been in the Caribbean currently, turning out for the Indian National team. A Man-of-the-Series performance in limited overs for India-A in West Indies last month should have helped the teenaged prodigy ease into the senior set-up at the start of a new World Cup cycle.

But Gill himself doesn't seem too perturbed by his non-selection.

He quickly tided over the disappointment by smashing an unbeaten double century (204 n.o.) in a four-day game against the Windies. At 19 years and 334 days, he became the youngest Indian to do so, breaking Gautam Gambhir's record (20 years 124 days).

"When I go out to bat, I don't focus on the results or where those results will take me next," he said on the eve



Shubman Gill • N. SUDARSHAN

of the Duleep Trophy opener

"I just focus on the series and I try and make use of the opportunity. Things like pressure and expectations never come to my head. The only things that matter are 'how to tackle these bowlers and how am I going to score runs on this wicket'."

This ability to stay in the present is what helped him, he revealed.

"In the one-dayers, I was getting runs but not big ones. I played four matches and got three fifties. So, ahead of the four-day match, I just shut out all thoughts [nonselection etc.]. I got out first ball in the first innings. So I told myself 'next chance I have to make it big'. It was the perfect opportunity [to come good] because we were 14 for three.

"I think overall it was a good experience to play in West Indies. The wickets were not as good as we expected. So the target was to see off tough periods.

"I was getting runs [in the second innings] and it was important to maintain the momentum and not get carried away. That's what I did." In matches such as these, Gill stressed that the presence of a bunch of India hopefuls doesn't lead to situations where the members lose sense of the collective and focus instead on individual efforts. "We are all pushing [for a

a competition, because when we are playing for India-A, we do not discuss our personal ambitions. We just discuss how to approach the matches on hand." This trait will come in

place] but I won't say it's like

handy in the Duleep Trophy, where teams are no longer divided zone-wise. He will also have the added responsibility of captaining a side.

"I don't see captaincy as a burden. I just want to enjoy it. It's really important for me to make sure that players are switched on so that not every time they think of personal goals. Let's see how it

Dutee Chand has it easy in a depleted field

INDIAN GP

SPORTS BUREAU

Dutee Chand was the only high-profile name in the field and expectedly won the 100m at the Fifth Indian Grand Prix at Patiala on Friday but for the rest of the events, it was a largely forgettable outing.

The event had been advanced by the Athletics Federation of India (earlier scheduled for September 1 in Chennai) to give participants a chance to improve their performances ahead of the Inter-state championships and also provide an additional chance to qualify for World Championships but with the entry standards set low and top names missing, there was little hope of doing

The women's 100m was a three-way race, the 200m had just two competitors and shot put had Paramjot Kaur as the lone competitor. The high point, though, was Archana Suseendran winning the 200m in 23.18 seconds, the 3rd fastest time and person in India since 2004, behind only Hima Das and Dutee. Suseendran also won silver (11.53s) in the 100m, behind Dutee's 11.42s win. The women's javelin throw was called off for lack of participants.

Among the men. Murali Sreeshankar was the big name in the fray and had little trouble winning the long jump with a distance of eight metres, behind his national record of 8.20m last year and only the second time he has managed to touch the 8m-mark. The results:

Men: 100m: 1. Nuzrat (10.81s), 2. Rajveersinh Vaghela (10.87), 3. Majgul Hanifbhai (10.91); 200m: 1. Akash Patel (22.05s), 2. Suraj (22.52), 3. Vikrant Bhardwaj (22.52); 400m hurdles: 1. Santhosh T (50.95s), 2. Vijay Malik (50,99), 3. Jithin Paul (51.37) 4 runners;

Pole vault: 1. Parshant Kanhaiya (4.90m), 2. Dhirendra Kumar (4.80m), 3. Manish Singh (4.60m);

Discus throw: 1. Gagandeep Singh (54.15m), 2. Mithravarun (52.72m), 3. Parveen Kumar (51m); Shot put: 1. Inderjeet Singh (19.51m), 2. Dhanvir (17.09), 3. Karanveer Singh (16.91); Long jump: 1. Sreeshankar M (8m), 2. Siddharth Naik (7.56m), 3. Sahil Mahabali (7.55m); 400m: 1. Alex A Antony (46.55s), 2. Harsh Baljeet Singh (47.03), 3. Jithu Baby (47.53); Javelin throw: 1. Rajender Singh (79m), 2. Davinder Singh Kang (76.28m), 3. Abhishek Singh (75.66m).

Women: 100m: 1. Dutee Chand (11.42s), 2. Archana Suseendran (11.53), 3. Manvir Kaur (12.28) only 3; 200m: 1. Archana Suseendran (23.18s), 2. Hina (25.11) only 2; Discus throw: 1. Navjeet Kaur Dhillon (52.44m), 2. Suravi Biswas (51.42); Long iump: 1. Navana James (6.11m). 2. Mareena George (5.95m), 3. Sowmiya Muruqan (5.67m); 400m: 1. Revathi V (54.44s), 2. Prachi (54.54), 3. Aishwarya Mishra (54.79); Shot put: Paramjot Kaur (14.36m).

TV PICKS

Sri Lanka v New Zealand: First Test, Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 9.30 a.m.

The Ashes: Second Test, Sony Six (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m. **PKL:** Star Sports 1 & 2 (SD &

HD), 7.30 p.m. **Cincinnati Open tennis:** Sony ESPN (SD & HD), 10.30 p.m.

+ Gritty Watling revives New Zealand

The visitors build up a lead after the top order collapses



Give that here! Trent Boult tries to evade Niroshan Dickwella, Dananjaya de Silva and Lahiru Thirimanne's grabbing hands.

REUTERS GALLE

B-J. Watling rescued New Zealand with a gutsy unbeaten 63 as the visitor overcame a batting collapse to reach 195 for seven in its second innings on day three of the opening Test against Sri Lanka on Friday.

The tourists, having conceded an 18-run first innings lead, were reeling at 25 for three but Tom Latham made 45 and Watling produced a fighting 50 to stretch New Zealand's lead to 177 runs with three wickets in hand at stumps.

Earlier, Sri Lanka added 40 runs to its overnight score of 227 for seven before being dismissd in the morning session. New Zealand, which made 249 in the first innings, was undone by the Sri Lankan spinners in its second

Off-spinner Dhanjaya de Silva drew first blood when Jeet Raval was caught in the cover after trying to check his drive shot.

Williamson fails again

spell as well.

Kane Williamson had fallen for a third ball duck in the first innings and he looked uncharacteristically ill at ease in the second as well.

The right-hander made four before charging out against Lasith Embuldeniya and Kusal Perera, positioned at mid-on, took a superb catch leaping backward to send back the New Zealand

Bolt when caught!

IANS

New Zealand pacer Trent Boult provided the fans with a moment that left them in splits during the first Test against Sri Lanka here on Friday.

In the 82nd over, Boult – while trying to play a paddle sweep to spinner Lasith Embuldeniya found a leading edge and the ball got stuck in his helmet grill.

Boult had no idea where the ball had gone.

The moment got funnier as he tried to run away from the Lankan fielders, who tried to circle him and catch the ball in case it fell off.

However, that didn't happen and the ball was eventually taken out and play resumed after Boult's condition was checked

SCOREBOARD SRI LANKA VS NEW ZEALAND, 1ST TEST

New Zealand —1st innings: Sri Lanka - 1st innings: Dim-

ruth Karunaratne Ibw b Aiaz (w-1, b-1, lb-1): 3; Total (in 93.2 Somerville 22.2-3-83-3, Ajaz 33-6-89-5, Santner 11-0-31-0. New Zealand - 2nd innings: Jeet Raval c Karunaratne b de Silva 4. Tom Latham c Thirim-

anne b Dananjaya 45, Kane Williamson c Perera b Embuldeniya 4, Ross Taylor c de Silva b Embuldeniya 3, Henry Nicholls c Mendis b de Silva 26, B-J. Watling (batting) 63, Mitchell Santner c Lakmal b Embuldeniya 12, Tim Southee st. Dickwella b Embuldeniya 23, William Somerville (batting) 5; Extras: (nb-2, b-4, lb-4): 10; Total (for seven wkts. in 76 overs): 195.

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-20, 3-25, 4-81, 5-98, 6-124, 7-178. Sri Lanka bowling: Lakmal 8-1-

39. Lahiru Thirimanne st. Watling b Ajaz 10. Kusal Mendis c Taylor b Ajaz 53, Angelo Mathews c Taylor b Ajaz 50, Kusal Perera c Santner b Boult 1, Dhananjaya de Silva c & b Ajaz 5, Niroshan Dickwella c Williamson b Somerville 61, Akila Dananjaya c Taylor b Somerville O, Suranga Lakmal b Boult 40, Lasith Embuldeniya lbw b Somerville 5, Lahiru Kumara (not out) O; Extras

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-66, 3-143, 4-144, 5-155, 6-158, 7-161, 8-242, 9-262,

overs): 267.

New Zealand bowling: Boult 20-4-45-2, Southee 7-3-17-0,

25-0, Dananjaya 24-3-56-1, de Silva 10-3-16-2, Embuldeniya 29-3-71-4, Kumara 5-0-19-0.

Hitesh strikes as ATK signs off with a win

Chennaiyin ahead in the suspended match against TRAU

DURAND CUP

AMITABHA DAS SHARMA

ATK downed Mohammedan Sporting 1-0 to end its Durand Cup campaign on a high on Friday. In the Group-B match played under lights at the Salt Lake Stadium, Hitesh Sharma found the target early to help ATK's second team secure the win. But the result failed to help the teams as both bowed out of the tournament clearing the way for Bagan, which reached the semifinals having won both its matches. Looking for its first win,

ATK went ahead in the second minute when Hitesh found the net to finish a nice build-up. Hitesh's attempt took a deflection off the Sporting defender Sujit Sadhu catching goalkeeper Mo-

niruzzaman Ansari off guard. Mohammedan Sporting had a chance to equalise in the eighth minute but the crosspiece came in the way of a fine effort from Vanlalbiaa Chhangte.

With a persistent drizzle making the underfoot conditions heavy, ATK held on to the early lead even as Sporting made a few more abortive attempts later in the match.

The Group-D match between Chennaiyin FC and TRAU FC at the Howrah Municipal Corporation Stadium was called off after only 14 minutes because of inclement weather. Chennaiyin was leading by Joysana Singh's eighth minute goal and the match will resume on Saturday morning at the same venue.

The result: Group-B: ATK 1 (Hitesh Sharma 2) bt Mohammedan Sporting 0.









Double for Chandni and Rushil

SPORTS BUREAU

Chandni Srinivasan and Rushil Khosla won a double crown in the girls and boys' under-14 sections in the Zee Lab AITA Super Series junior tennis tournament organised by the Chamunda Tennis Academy.

Top seed Chandni, who beat Mahi Deval Shah 6-3, 1-6, 6-3 in the final, had dropped only five games in the earlier four rounds. She won the doubles title with Jeetesh Kumari.

In the boys section, Rushil beat Adith Amarnath for the singles crown and partnered Adith for the doubles title.

Krish Ajay Tyagi and Asmi Adkar won the under-12 boys and girls titles respectively.

The results (finals): Bovs: Under-14: Rushil Khosla bt Adith Amarnath 7-5. 6-0. Doubles: Rushil & Adith Amarnath bt Krish Ajay Tyagi & Svarmanya Singh 6-0, 6-1. Under-12: Krish Ajay Tyagi bt Antariksh Tammuly 6-0, 6-2. Girls: Under-14: Chandni Srinivasan bt Mahi Deval Shah 6-3, 1-6, 6-3. **Doubles:** Chandni & Jeetesh Kumari bt Asmi Adkar & Nainika Reddy 6-0, 6-2. Under-12: Asmi Adkar bt Sohini Sanjay Mohanti

Anjali in final

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Anjali Rathi beat compatriot Veda Raju Prapurna in the girls semifinals of the Road to Wimbledon UK In the final, Anjali will face Talia Neilson-Gatenby of Leicestershire. In doubles quarterfinals, Anjali and Veda were beaten by Japan's Aoka Nagasawa and Kayo Nishimura. The Indian boys lost in the prequarterfinals of singles and quarterfinals of doubles. The results:

(pre-quarterfinals): Boys Pheonix Weir bt Bushan Haobam 6-1, 5-7, [10-3]; Kyran Magimay bt Ayushmaan Arjeria 6-2, 6-0. **Doubles (quar**terfinals): Jethro Dela Vega & Benjamin Johnson bt Ayushmaan Arjeria & Bushan Hao-

Girls (semifinals): Anjali Rathi bt Veda Raju Prapurna 6-2, 6-2. Doubles (semifinals): Aoka Nagasawa & Kayo Nishimura (Jpn) bt Veda Raju Prapurna & Anjali Rathi 5-3, 5-3; Quarterfinals: Veda & Anjali bt Francesca Davis & Justice Hall 2-4, 4-2, [10-8].

ATK signs Hernandez

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA

ATK has announced the appointment of midfielder Francisco Javier 'Javi' Hernandez Gonzalez.

The Spaniard, who came through Real Madrid's youth system, made international appearances for Spain's under-19 team. Later he played for Real's reserve team

Indian boys impress

SPORTS BUREAU

Indian boys wound up the league phase strongly with a 3-0 victory over Korea in the Asian under-12 tennis championship here on Friday.

The team topped the group ahead of host Kazakhstan, Korea, Indonesia and Hong Kong. In the knock-out phase, India will

play Chinese Taipei. The Indian girls, who had completed their league matches on Thursday, finished fourth in the group behind Korea, Thailand and Hong Kong, and ahead of Uzbekistan. In the knockout, the Indian girls

will play Chinese Taipei. The results: Boys (league): India bt Korea 3-0 (Ramalingam Senthil Kumar bt Moobeen Kim 6-1, 6-3: Manoi Dhamne bt Se Hvuk Cho 6-2. 6-2; Manas Dhamne & Ramalingam Senthil Kumar bt Donghyun Hwang & Moobeen Kim 6-0, 6-1).

Rublev springs a surprise on Federer

Halep bows out losing to Keys; Barty eyes return to No. 1

TENNIS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE CINCINNATI

Roger Federer crashed to a third-round defeat in a firsttime meeting with Andrey Rublev, who posted a 6-3, 6-4 upset on Thursday at the ATP Cincinnati Masters.

The seven-time Cincinnati champion, who turned 38 last week, was playing only his second match since losing the Wimbledon final to Novak Djokovic.

Meanwhile, on the women's side, US Open finalist Madison Keys sent Wimbledon champion Simona Halep out 6-1, 3-6, 7-5. Halep, last year's Cincinnati runner-up, will go to the US Open with just three post-Wimbledon competitive matches.

The Romanian, who struggled physically towards the end and saved a third-set match-point, had never lost a set to Keys in three previous hard-court matches.

Struggle

"I struggled on my serve early on. Got broken the first service games, and there you have it," Federer said. "That sort of set the tone for the match maybe a little bit."

Rublev, a 21-year-old Rus-



Red letter day: Andrey Rublev will never forget the day he overcame Roger Federer. • AP

sian qualifier, who missed several months last season with injury, was shellshocked at his win over the Grand champion.

"It's an amazing feeling when you play such a legend as Roger," he said. "At least 99 percent of the crowd was supporting him."

Third seed Federer went down to the World No. 70 in barely an hour, losing for on-

lv the 10th time here after winning 47 matches.

The Swiss will now head into the US Open later this month with just two matches on hard-courts under his belt. Rublev earned his second top-five win in a month after beating Dominic Thiem in Hamburg on his way to the final.

Frenchman Richard Gasquet ousted Diego Schwartzman 7-6(6), 6-3 while Japanese qualifier Yoshihito Nishioka reached his second quarterfinal of the season defeating Australia's Alex de Minaur 7-5, 6-4.

Scraping through

Women's top seed Ashleigh Barty held off Anett Kontaveit as the Estonian served for victory before the top seed scraped out a 4-6, 7-5,

The win keeps the Austra-

lian in the chase for a possible return to the WTA No. 1 ranking, which she lost to Naomi Osaka on Monday. Barty needs to reach Sunday's final in order to regain the ranking summit.

Barty will meet Maria Sakkari of Greece, a 6-7(4), 6-4, 6-4 winner over ninth seed Arvna Sabalenka. Japanese second seed Osaka advanced witha a 7-6(3), 5-7, 6-2 win over Hsieh Su-Wei.

The results (third round):

Men: Novak Djokovic bt Pablo Carreũo-Busta 6-3, 6-4; Lucas Pouille bt Karen Khachanov 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-2; Andrey Rublev bt Roger Federer 6-3, 6-4; Daniil Medvedev bt Jan-Lennard Struff 6-2, 6-1; Roberto Bautista Agut bt Miomir Kecmanovic 6-1, 6-2; Richard Gasquet bt Diego Schwartzman 7-6(6), 6-3; Yoshihito Nishioka bt Alex de Minaur 7-5, 6-4; David Goffin bt Adrian Mannarino 7-6(6),

Anett Kontaveit 4-6, 7-5, 7-5; Maria Sakkari bt Aryna Sabalenka 6-7(4), 6-4, 6-4; Karolina Pliskova ht Rehecca Peterson 7-5, 6-4; Svetlana Kuznetsova bt Sloane Stephens 6-1, 6-2; Venus Williams bt Donna Vekic 2-6, 6-3, 6-3; Naomi Osaka bt Hsieh Su-wei 7-6(3), 5-7, 6-2; Madison Keys bt Simona Halep 6-1, 3-6, 7-5; Sofia Kenin bt Elina Svitolina 6-3, 7-6(3).

Women: Ashleigh Barty bt

Balaji & Vishnu in final

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU MEERBUSCH (GERMANY)

Sriram Balaji and Vishnu Vardhan beat top seeds Roman Jebavy of the Czech Republic and Matwe Middelkoop of the Netherlands 7-6(2), 6-2 in the doubles semifinals of the € 46,600 Challenger tennis tournament here on Friday.

In the Challenger in Slovenia, Sasi Kumar Mukund was beaten 6-2, 6-2 by top seed Aijaz Bedene of Slovenia in the first round.

In the ITF men's Futures in Jakarta, Aryan Goveas beat Kasidit Samrej of Thailand to reach the semifinals. The results: €46.600 Challenger, Meerbusch, Germany: Semifinals: Sriram Balaji & Vishnu Vardhan bt Roman Jebavy (Cze) & Matwe Middelkoop (Ned) 7-6(2), 6-3.

€46,600 Challenger, Porto-

roz, Slovenia: Second round: Aijaz Bedene (Slo) bt Sasi Kumar Mukund 6-2, 6-2.

Doubles: First round: Nicolas Barrientos (Col) & Ariel Behar (Uru) bt Rameez Junaid (Aus)

& Purav Raja 5-7, 6-0, [10-7]. \$15,000 ITF men, Jakarta, Indonesia: Quarterfinals: Sho Shimabukuro (Jpn) bt Niki Poonacha 6-1, 6-3; Aryan Goveas bt Kasidit Samrej (Tha)

Doubles: Semifinals: Justin Barki (Ina) & Ruan Roelofse (RSA) bt Jonathan Gray (GBr) & Karunuday Singh 6-4, 6-2.

6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

\$15,000 ITF women, Nairobi, Kenya: Quarterfinals: Mahak Jain bt Celestine Avomo Ella (Gab) 6-4, 6-3; Sravya Shivani Chilakalapudi bt Lexie Stevens (Ned) 1-6, 6-4, 7-6(3).

Doubles: Semifinals: Mahak Jainn & Sathwika Sama bt Paulia Jastrzebbska (Pol) & Tiffany William (GBR) 6-4, 6-0; Sravya Shivani Chilakalapudi & Snehal Mane bt Tamara Barad Itzhaki (Isr) & Nevena Sokovic (Srb) 6-0, 7-6(4).

Murray to skip US Open

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Andy Murray is to skip the US Open later this month where he was scheduled to play doubles so as to get more singles matches under his belt, the former World No. 1 told BBC.

Murray lost to Richard

Gasquet in Cincinnati in his first competitive singles match since undergoing hip surgery in January.

"My goal is to get back playing at the level that I want to on the singles court, and I've decided that I need to focus all my energies on that right now," he said.

Rosario takes out Thakkar

Several seeds fall by the wayside on an eventful day

SOUTH ZONE TT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

It was a day of some great upsets as unheralded Wesley Do Rosario of Haryana put up a solid display to engineer the early exit of top-seeded Manav Thakkar from the men's singles of the UTT-South Zone National-ranking table tennis championships at the Jimmy George Indoor stadium here on Friday.

The Goa-born Rosario, after losing the first game, came back strongly and held on bravely to take the match the distance. He eventually came up trumps with a fine

Unsettled

The round-of-64 match had started well for the top seed, but he was unsettled by his left-handed rival's aggression in the second. Thakkar, however,

seemed to be getting back in-

3-11, 11-9, 7-11, 10-12, 11-9, 11-9,

to his own taking the lead, but Rosario bounced back to reel off the last three games. In the round of 32 match, later in the day, Rosario once again sparkled as he mowed down Mandar Hardikar

(Maharashtra) 7-11, 11-7, 11-7, The other upset in the same section was brought about by Soumyajit Ghosh. Ghosh, on a comeback trail, snuffed out seventh-seed Arjun Ghosh to book a place in the pre-quarterfinals.

Second seed Sudhanshu Grover, third seed Siddesh Pande, fourth seed Sanish Shett, No. 5, 6 and 8, Jeet Chandra, Harmeet Desai and Sushmit Sriram also made it to the pre-quarterfinals.

In the women's section, after a number of byes in the first round, the second round saw five seeded players biting the dust.

Third seed Sagarika Mukheriee (Railways) was hounded out by former National champion Shamini Kumaresan 11-5, 11-7, 7-11, 11-8, 11-13, 9-11, 11-5, while No. 4 Divya Deshpande was taken out by Takame Sarkar 11-4, 9-11, 11-8, 9-11, 11-9, 11-9.

Fifth seed Sreeja Akulla, No. 6 Pooja Sahasrabudhe and eighth seed Reeth Rishva also lost to Povmantee Baisya, Shruti Amurte and Senhora D'Souza respectively.

As a result only top seed Sutirtha Mukherjee, second seed Madhurika Patkar and seventh seed Ayhika Mukerjee remain to fight out the round of 16 to be played on Saturday.

Rajeshwari recovers well

SHOTGUN WC

SPORTS BUREAU

Rajeshwari Kumari recovered from a bad third round to put up the best score of 114, among all the women trap shooters in the Shotgun World Cup in Lahti, Finland, on Friday.

Even though she was shooting in the MQS section, Rajeshwari was better than everyone, including those who have won the Olympic quota place for Tokyo 2020. She had a series of 23, 24, 20, 24 and 23.

After missing four in-arow, including five of the first eight birds in the third round, Rajeshwari regrouped her focus, and missed only three of the next 67, including the last bird. "I was thinking too much

not to miss it", conceded Rajeshwari about losing the last bird. Her total was two points better than that of Daria Semianova of Russia and Lateisha Scnalan of Australia, who topped the regular event with 112.

This effort should not only consolidate Rajeshwari's chances of getting back into the national side, but also strengthen her resolve to win the Olympic quota in the Asian Championship in Doha in November.

Former national champion Shreyasi Singh had a tough time, and could muster a total of 94.

Shagun 38th

In the main team, Olympian Shagun Chowdhary shot 100 following rounds of 22, 22, 18, 18 and 20, and placed 38th. Manisha Keer (94) and Seema Tomar (93) placed 52nd and 59th respectively.

In men's trap, Prithviraj Tondaiman was on 69 after rounds of 22, 25 and 22. He was with the second best score of 47 overnight. Kynan Chenai was on 67, following rounds of 24, 21 and 22. There was no third member, as Manavjit Sandhu had withdrawn from the 157 strong field, after the first round with a broken stock.

Indian men take on Malaysia

The women's team will play host Japan

OLYMPIC TEST

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Indian men's hockey team will open its campaign against nemesis Malaysia while their female counterparts will take on hosts Japan in the Olympic Test event here on Saturday. Both the Indian teams

have secured their places in the FIH Olympic Qualifiers, to be held later this year, by winning their respective FIH Series Finals. Being World No. 5 and the

top-ranked side in the tournament among men, India starts favourite against World No. 12 Malaysia.

Chance for youngsters

The Indians have rested seniors like skipper Manpreet Singh and goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh, opting to test some young players.

In Manpreet's absence, dragflicker Harmanpreet Singh will lead the side while striker Mandeep Singh will



Right mix: The experience of S.V. Sunil will help Ashish Topno, who is making his debut. • K. MURALI KUMAR

be his deputy. Malaysia has time and again upset big teams like India at the continental level.

Formidable record But overall, India has a formidable record against Malaysia. In the last 10 meetings between the two Asian rivals, India has won six, while Malaysia only managed

"Historically, we have had some grand battles against Malaysia and I don't see tomorrow being any different," India's chief coach Graham Reid said.

Meanwhile, the 10thranked Indian women's team will have a relatively easy opener against Japan. Then, they will face their toughest test in World No. 2 Australia, before facing World No. 11

The Indian women can take heart from the fact that they beat Japan 3-1 in the final match of the FIH Series Finals in Hiroshima this year.

Maiden title for Gauri Karhade

GOLF SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD

Rookie Gauri Karhade, playing only her sixth event as a pro on the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour, surprised the fancied amateur Shreya Pal and the seasoned Gaurika Bishnoi, to pick her first title on the circuit.

The 17-year-old Gauri has never finished above sixth but stayed calm and held her nerve to shoot a final round of 73 for a total of two-under 214 and won the 12th leg by one shot over Gaurika (75) and Afshan Fatima (70).

Previous best

Gauri's previous best result came last week at the Hyderabad Golf Club, where she was sixth.

Before that, her only top-10 finish was a tied-10th

in the 10th leg in Bengaluru. Afshan Fatima, who made a great charge on the front nine with a two-under 34, held the lead midway through the back nine but dropped crucial back-to-



Swinging it her way: Gauri Karhade who won the Hyderabad leg of the Hero Women's Golf Tour. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

back bogeys on 15th and 16th to fall into a tie for second with Gaurika at one-under

Ananya Datar (72), with one birdie on front nine to go against the sole bogey on back nine, ended fourth at even-par 216.

Overnight leader Shreya was unable to emulate her Hyderabad colleague Sneha Singh. She had birdies on first and 18th, but in between she dropped four bogeys and two double bogeys for a

card of 78 and ended in a tie for fifth place with Amandeep Drall (71) at one-over 217.

The next event will be the

13th leg at the DLF Golf and

Country Club from August

28 to 30.

Manchester City will be gunning for Spurs revenge

PREMIER LEAGUE

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Manchester City will seek revenge against Tottenham Hotspurs on Saturday for its dramatic Champions League exit last season as Liverpool and Manchester United also look to build on impressive Premier League starts this weekend.

City completed the first ever domestic treble of trophies in England last season, but fell short once more in the

Champions League as Tottenham progressed from its quarterfinal tie on away

VAR disallowed Raheem Sterling's strike deep into stoppage time of a thrilling second leg 4-3 win for the English champion in April, robbing Sterling of his hat-trick on the night and City a place in the last four.

A Sterling start

Yet, Sterling has started the new campaign as he finished the last, scoring a hat-trick on

the opening weekend as City thrashed West Ham 5-0 to already move to the top of the Tottenham was also victo-

rious against Aston Villa, but needed to come from behind and two goals in the final five minutes from Harry Kane to secure a 3-1 win over promoted Aston Villa. Kane has warned that

Spurs cannot fall behind so early in the campaign if it wants to maintain a title

We have to make sure we

get off to a good start," said the England captain.

"It's important that we stav in touch as long as we can. We have full belief that we can go all the way but there's a long road ahead."

Liverpool will hope to have forged ahead by the time City and Spurs kick-off at the Etihad when it travels to a Southampton side reeling from a disappointing 3-0 defeat at Burnley to start the

Chelsea was the only member of the 'big six' to get

off to a losing start as the Blues were humbled 4-0 by Manchester United in Frank Lampard's first game in charge. The former England midfielder fairly argued that the scoreline was very harsh on his side after the team enjoyed the better of the opening hour. And there was further en-

couragement for Lampard in his side's performance despite losing the UEFA Super Cup to Liverpool on penalties after a 2-2 draw in Istanbul on Wednesday.



Game plan: Harry Kane, who scored two goals against Aston Villa, wants Spurs to make a good start if it has to beat Manchester City. • AP