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ARRESTED IN INX MEDIA CASE

CBI gets Chidambaram custody for 4 days, his plea in SC today

PRITAM PAL SINGH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

A DELHI special court Thursday remanded Congress leader and former Union Minister P Chidambaram in CBI custody till August 26, observing that the allegations against him in the INX Media case are "serious in nature" for which a "detailed and in-depth investigation is required".

Granting his custody to the CBI, special CBI judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar directed that Chidambaram be allowed to meet his family members and lawyers for half-an-hour every-



P Chidambaram outside a Delhi court on Thursday. *Tashi Tobgyal*

day, and that he be medically examined every 48 hours. Probing alleged charges of corruption in the case, the CBI arrested Chidambaram **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**



CHANDRAYAAN'S MOONSHOT

ISRO released the first picture of the Moon captured by Chandrayaan-2, on Thursday. *Twitter*

Modi and I have discussed Kashmir, will tell Imran to settle it bilaterally: Macron



EXPRESS AT G-7

SHUBHAJIT ROY
PARIS, AUGUST 22

ECHOING THE Indian line on Jammu and Kashmir, French President Emmanuel Macron



Modi with Macron on Thursday. *Reuters*

Thursday said that India and Pakistan should resolve the issue bilaterally, and that no outside interference was needed.

At a joint press conference with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who reached France Thursday, Macron said that he would also convey to Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan that the issue should be resolved bilaterally.

Macron said that he had discussed Kashmir with Modi, and called for stability while stressing **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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PAGE 8

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY

CBI COMES TO RECRUIT
NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DRAMA

MORE REPORTS
PAGE 8

ECONOMY

AMAZON BUYS 49% STAKE IN FUTURE RETAIL PROMOTER
RUPEE DROPS 4.25% IN THREE WEEKS
PAGE 17

Niti Aayog chief rings the alarm bell, calls for unprecedented steps

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

TAKING COGNIZANCE of the bad liquidity situation in the financial sector and weak private investment in the economy, Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, Niti Aayog said that since the government is faced with an "unprecedented issue", it needs to take steps that are "out of the ordinary".

"This is an unprecedented issue for the government of India. For the last 70 years, we have not faced this kind of a liquidity sit-



Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar

uation. (The) entire financial sector is up in a churn and nobody is trusting anybody else... You may have to take steps that are out of the ordinary... I think the government must do whatever it can to take away some of the apprehensions of the private sector;" **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

India Inc looks to Govt for stimulus, but fiscal space limited as revenue falters

AANCHAL MAGAZINE, PRANAV MUKUL & ANIL SASI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

INDIA INC'S clamour for a stimulus to restart the investment cycle points to a near unanimous view within the industry — that government has to do the heavy lifting first before it can expect the private sector to restart investments. But for the Centre to spend its way out of the downturn, 2019-20 is a particularly bad year given the already **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

EXPLAINED
E Consensus grows, but little room

THE EMERGING consensus within India Inc. on the need for a government-led stimulus notwithstanding, the Centre has limited fiscal space given the lower tax collections. The Budget was a missed opportunity in terms of signalling reforms.

Jammu: MoS's brother, Opp brass confined to their homes, cops outside



Clockwise from top left: Devender Rana, Harsh Dev Singh, Raman Bhalla, Choudhary Lal Singh

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, AUGUST 22

IT IS not official — and yet it is. Officials don't label it as "house arrest" or even "detention". But at least 10 senior Opposition politicians, including eight former ministers, have been confined to their homes in Jammu after the Centre removed J&K's special status and decided to bifurcate the state over a fortnight ago.

They include Devender Rana, younger brother of Union Minister of State (PMO) Dr Jitendra Singh. Rana is former political advisor to J&K ex-chief minister and National Conference (NC) leader Omar Abdullah. The others are key figures from the NC, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), Congress and Jammu Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP).

Contacted by *The Indian Express*, senior officials **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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EXPRESS TECHNOLOGY

Reliance JioFiber rollout on Sept 5: Free LED TV and speeds



RATUL PURI AGREES TO SURRENDER IN AGUSTAWESTLAND CHOPPER CASE

Puri was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate in a fresh case of money laundering linked to an alleged Rs 354-crore bank loan fraud related to his company Moser Baer. Puri is accused of receiving kickbacks in the AgustaWestland chopper deal

VIDEO OF THE DAY



CHIDAMBARAM IN TROUBLE

What is the INX Media case and who is involved?

FULL COVERAGE



CHIDAMBARAM IN CBI COURT

Agency has sought five days remand of former union minister

EXPRESS AUDIO

How unpredictable monsoons are affecting farmers

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

In this episode of 3 Things, Harish Damodaran explains the challenges that come with unpredictable monsoons and what the government needs to do

FROM PAGE ONE

Niti Aayog chief

Rajiv Kumar said during a discussion at the Hero Mindmine Summit.

Pointing to the lack of trust in the market, Kumar said it is not only about trust between the government and the private sector but "within the private sector, nobody wants to lend to anybody else... Everybody is sitting on cash but they will not move".

While blaming a large part of the problem on the high credit growth between 2004 and 2011, when it grew 27 per cent and resulted in a build-up of NPAs, he said it takes a lot for the government which has inherited all the "systems and inertia".

The steps taken by the government over the last four years, such as demonetisation, GST and IBC, have reduced the cash in the system, Kumar said. "In the earlier period, you had a 10-35 per cent of cash sloshing around, which used to help people. That has become much less," he said, adding all the issues put together have led to a "fairly complex situation". "There is no easy answer," he said.

Stating that private investments will drive India out of the middle income trap, Kumar also said some steps have already been announced in the Union Budget to address stress in the financial sector and give a push to economic growth, which hit a 5-year low of 6.8 per cent in 2018-19.

Further, a delay in payments by the government and its departments to the private sector in lieu of goods and services availed from them could be one of the reasons for the slowdown. The authorities are making all efforts to expedite the process, he said. "I have no hesitation in saying that there is no business of the government to hold back payments, which are due to the private sector. At the moment, there is huge effort going on to try and get this sorted out," he said.

Addressing the Summit, Chief Economic Advisor to the Finance Ministry Krishnamurthy Subramanian said government intervention to bail out the private sector every time it goes through a "sunset phase" creates a "moral hazard" and is "anathema" for the market economy.

India Inc

stretched fiscal situation and revenue numbers that seem to be faltering early into the year.

At least five of the top industry leaders who participated in a meeting called by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on August 8 on reviving growth pitched for a "stimulus package" of varying proportions, besides flagging specific problems relating to NBFC lending and sectors such as steel and automobiles.

At the meeting, the clamour for a "Rs 1 lakh crore stimulus" was led by Assocham president B K Goenka, supported by CII representatives and other members of the delegation, even as JSW Group chairman Sajjan Jindal said that it was conveyed that the government was going to take action "very soon".

SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar too indicated Sunday that credit demand remained subdued and that there was need for a stimulus in the economy. Infrastructure majors such as Tata Steel, L&T and KEC International have all pointed to the centrality of government spending and improved liquidity conditions in restarting the growth cycle.

The emerging consensus about the requirement of government stimulus to boost growth, however, will face the hurdle of slowing revenue collections and the limited fiscal space for the government to deviate from its fiscal consolidation roadmap.

The government has already started the year by spending less — in the first three months of the

2019-20, 61.4 per cent of the budgeted fiscal deficit has been utilised, 7.3 percentage points lower than the comparable target a year ago, as lower capital expenditure took place as revenues declined. The steady slide in investment activity has been progressively intensifying — evidenced by a nearly 30 per cent drop in capital expenditure by the government in the June 2019 quarter.

Tax revenue growth is progressively turning out to be far slower than the required run rate, reflective of the consumption slowdown in the economy. The demand for the fiscal stimulus by industry is more by way of higher spending on infrastructure sectors such as roads and railways that could have a multiplier effect on downstream industries and the economy as a whole, given that the opportunity for a stimulus of the other kind — a major sectoral reform push that catalyses private investments — has been missed in Budget 2019-20.

At a review meeting on the economy called by Prime Minister Narendra Modi immediately after his Independence Day address, discussions are learnt to have focused on low-hanging, high visibility measures that could impact a stimulus, such as a fund to wrap up housing projects that are in their final stages but are held up, and a warehousing push, which featured in the BJP manifesto.

It is learnt that Finance Ministry officials highlighted the lack of room for big spending, as is being sought by industry. Global headwinds compound matters further, given the inversion of a key part of the US yield curve for the first time in 12 years, alongside Germany and China reporting weak economic data last week, prompting recession fears. There is space for investments, given that India needs to spend 7-8 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP) on infrastructure every year, which translates into an annual infrastructure investment of around \$200 billion. The actual spending has only about half the amount so far. The problem is funding it.

This is more so given that the government had reduced its fiscal deficit target to 3.3 per cent of the GDP for 2019-20 from the initial estimate of 3.4 per cent of the GDP in the interim Budget presented in February, crimping the headroom further. The target is likely to be stiff to meet in wake of the slowing revenues, which is likely to prompt the government to tap non-tax revenue options.

That investment has to be a key driver to kick-start the virtuous cycle, which could lead to job-creation, wealth generation, uptick in demand, was highlighted by North Block policy mandarins in the Economic Survey for 2018-19. But even as the Survey has vociferously batted for investment from the private sector to drive growth in the country, bankers and corporate India are of the clear view that spending from government would be necessary to revive the economy, given that the liquidity crunch on account of crisis in the non-banking financial company (NBFC) sector that is acting as a hurdle for private investment.

Given that a windfall on the tax revenue side appears bleak, among the non-tax revenue options, dividends and surplus from the RBI, banks and financial institutions and public sector enterprises would be crucial to prevent a revenue slippage. The other option to raise funds through issuance of overseas sovereign bonds in foreign currency has already come in for criticism from former RBI Governors, economists and influential sections of the government and is unlikely to be implemented this year.

Especially since the government may have to resort to expenditure cuts to stick to its fiscal

CBI gets Chidambaram custody

Wednesday night amid high drama — its personnel scaled the boundary wall of his New Delhi home to reach him — after he addressed the press at the Congress headquarters and headed home.

Earlier Wednesday, Chidambaram failed to get immediate protection from arrest from the Supreme Court which decided to hear Friday his petition seeking stay of the Delhi High Court order that had dismissed his anticipatory bail plea.

The CBI had registered an FIR on May 15, 2017 alleging irregularities in FIPB clearance to INX Media in 2007 during Chidambaram's tenure as Finance Minister. Thereafter, the ED too opened a probe into alleged money laundering in the case.

In the court room Thursday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the CBI, said Chidambaram's custodial interrogation was required to confront him with documents and others accused in the case, and also to establish the money trail.

"Allegations are that Ms Indrani Mukerjea and Peter

Mukerjea, in connection with FIPB approval granted to their company M/s INX Media (P) Ltd and M/s INX News (P) Ltd, made payment to the tune of 5 million US dollar and 4,50,000 US dollar to the accused in the year 2007-2008 and 2008-09, for settling down the issues relating to violation of FEMA by their companies," Mehta told the court.

Chidambaram, who was allowed to depose despite objections from the Solicitor General, said he was only called on June 6, 2018 for questioning, and that none of the questions were related to the claim of payments of USD 5 million or USD 4,50,000. Rejecting the allegation that he had been evasive in his replies, he told the court to call for the transcript.

"They have only sought information about my back accounts and whether I have accounts in a foreign country. To which I have replied that I do not have any bank account in a foreign country and only have accounts in India. They also asked: Does your son have a foreign account? I have replied: Yes, my son has his account in a foreign bank. I was never eva-

sive in my replies," he said.

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal, Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Dayan Krishnan and Vivek Tankha, appearing for Chidambaram, opposed the CBI remand application and said co-accused Karti Chidambaram had been granted regular bail by Delhi High Court and there was no interference by the Supreme Court, and that (chartered accountant) S Bhaskaraman was on anticipatory bail which had also not been challenged before the higher court.

"Other accused, Peter and Indrani Mukerjea, are on default bail," Sibal said, adding that "also six Secretaries of the Government of India are also accused in the case, but none of them have been arrested till date. One of them later became the RBI Governor."

"This is a case of documentary evidence. The FIR in the case was filed after 10 years and he (Chidambaram) never skipped interrogation and has not been evasive," Sibal said. He also pointed out that Chidambaram, after his arrest Wednesday, was never questioned and "it was only at 11 am

math, which would be detrimental for the already slowing economic growth. The government's net revenue growth from direct taxes has decelerated sharply to 4.7 per cent for April 1-August 15 this year as against a required annual growth rate of 17.3 per cent, reflecting lower buoyancy in the wake of an overall slowdown in the economy. With the sharply slower revenue growth, the government's direct tax targets are looking out of reach for the second consecutive year.

The single-digit growth in tax revenue has, in fact, worsened over the last two months. For April-June, CGA data shows that the net revenue growth from direct taxes was 9.6 per cent which has now slowed further to 4.7 per cent. This is the second year when the government may miss its direct tax revenue targets. Already, as per the publicly available CGA data for the first quarter, the required run rate for the gross tax (direct and indirect) revenue collections was 22.3 per cent and 29.5 per cent run rate for net tax (direct and indirect) revenue collections in the remaining nine months of this financial year. The CGA has so far released data related to government accounts only till April-June.

"The tightening fiscal situation is also reflective in the utilisation of budgeted fiscal deficit during the first quarter of the ongoing financial year. The government's financial position for the first three months of the 2019-20 shows that 61.4 per cent of the budgeted fiscal deficit has been used, 7.3 per cent lower than the comparable target of year ago. This decline can be attributed to the lower capital expenditure incurred even as revenues declined," CARE Ratings said in a research note.

Infrastructure developers that rely on government spending are increasingly placing their bets on such projects for growth given that private investments are proving to be sluggish. However, the demand-led slowdown in the Indian economy was further accentuated on account of slower government spending in the first quarter of 2019-20 — as it typically is during general elections.

The industry is already counting on government orders amid flagging private sector investments. "Civil business revenue (and) order intake has slowed down a bit this quarter due to slowdown in industrial CAPEX, cautious approach in taking real

estate projects and shortage of manpower due to elections. We have now started focusing on government projects including commercial bidding, metro elevated corridors, airport extensions, etc. where we are gaining traction. With this focus we expect to build a robust executing order book enabling us to achieve the desired scalar plans for the business," said Vimal Kejriwal, managing director and CEO of engineering player KEC International, in the post-earnings analyst call for the June quarter.

Tata Steel, in its investor presentation for April-June results, pointed out that an increase in government spending and improvement in liquidity will be key factors for steel demand in India to improve during the second half of the ongoing financial year. Engineering major Larsen & Toubro pointed out that it was mainly sectors like roads, expressways, special bridges, flyover projects, etc that were showing strength in investor momentum.

While the current situation has also restarted the debate about the relative merits of tax cuts and government spending as fiscal stimulus measure is a continuing one, most economists argue that direct government spending programmes pack in much greater punch in catalysing aggregate demand than indirect ones like tax cuts.

In the theoretical sense, government spending does not push aggregate demand; it only transfers spending power from one party to another by borrowing from or taxing the public. The resultant government debt (or higher taxes) absorbs private and corporate savings, which translates into private investment going down by the same amount. Also, stimulus by lower taxes leads to lower government revenues, and hence increased government borrowing.

An IMF working paper by Emanuele Baldacci, Sanjeev Gupta, and Carlos Mulas-Granados that studied the effects of fiscal policy response in 118 episodes of systemic banking crisis in advanced and emerging market countries during 1980-2008, found that "timely countercyclical fiscal measures contributed to shortening the length of crisis episodes by stimulating aggregate demand".

The paper concluded that "stimulus packages that rely mostly on measures to support

government consumption are more effective in shortening the crisis duration than those based on public investment. A 10 percentage point increase in the share of public consumption in the budget reduces the crisis length by three to four months. Reducing the share of income taxes is less effective than consumption taxes in shortening the length of a banking crisis".

Jammu leaders

and police officers claimed that no orders were issued to place any of these leaders under "house arrest".

But *The Indian Express* visited the homes in Jammu of at least five of these leaders to find that they were confined inside with tight curbs in place: all visitors were questioned by police posted outside, and only friends, relatives and supporters were allowed in.

Many of the leaders told *The Indian Express* over phone or in person, under the condition of anonymity, that they were informed by senior police officers through "verbal communication" to remain in their homes — and visitors were being allowed on the condition that they will not engage in any political activity or issue any statement.

For instance, *The Indian Express* was allowed entry in the house of one former legislator only after the policeman posted outside was convinced that the detained leader was an old friend.

Some politicians were not even willing to admit that they are virtually under house arrest. "They (police) may be in a better position to tell you," a senior Congress leader and former minister told *The Indian Express* on phone. However, he admitted that he has not moved out of his house for over a week.

When contacted, Sanjeev Verma, Divisional Commissioner, denied that any politician has been placed under house arrest in Jammu. "We have not issued any such orders. They are moving freely," he said.

"They are moving out of the state, meeting supporters and attending social engagements," Tejinder Singh, SSP Jammu, said. But the picture on the ground tells a different story. Outside the house of a senior Congress leader and former minister, for instance, policemen barred all visitors. "We have orders from higher-ups not to allow anyone inside," said an

Assistant Sub Inspector posted outside although this newspaper had confirmed an appointment with the leader on phone.

Some of the detained politicians told *The Indian Express* that unlike in the Valley, the Opposition leaders in Jammu district are allowed to use their mobile phones, and leave the state for "personal, medical or religious reasons for a short period subject to permission from the administration".

The Indian Express was able to confirm that one of these leaders - Harsh Dev Singh, JKNPP chairman — was allowed to leave for Delhi by train to attend "some engagement" after being confined to his home for 11 days. However, sources close to Singh said, he has been asked to inform J&K Police as soon as he returns.

The other leaders who were allowed to leave on "medical and personal grounds" over the past week are former ministers and JKNPP leaders Yashpal Kundal and S S Slathia.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, a detained Opposition politician said: "There is pressure from the administration on us to not indulge any political activity in exchange for concessions like access to telephones, visitors and travel. There are warnings that in case of violations, we will be formally arrested and sent to jail."

Asked why no official order was sought before submitting to such curbs, another leader said: "It is better that we are at least with our families at home, and free to talk to anybody including friends, relatives and visitors."

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Muzaffar Iqbal Khan, a former sub-judge who took voluntary retirement this year to join the NC, said: "I was staying at my Manjakote house in Rajouri district when a police team knocked on my door on August 5 (when the J&K Reorganisation Bill 2019 was passed) and informed that I have been put under house arrest."

Khan said he was taken to the Rajouri Dak Bungalow and detained till the evening of August 10. "I was released after my wife and children reached Manjakote. I have moved to Jammu now but I have not been able to contact my father (Mohammad Aslam, a former Rajouri MLA)," Khan said.

Official sources said Khan was released after a few days, and that no former legislator or minister is being detained in Rajouri cur-

rently. Some of the key political figures who have been confined to their homes in Jammu:

DEVENDER RANA: Two-time legislator and former political advisor to ex-CM Omar Abdullah with rank of state minister, he is the younger brother of Union MoS Dr Jitendra Singh.

CHOUDHARY LAL SINGH: Two-time MP from Udhampur and three-time MLA from Basohli, he was Cabinet minister in the PDP-Congress government in 2002 and in the PDP-BJP government that fell last year. Although he had shifted from the Congress to the BJP, Singh contested the 2019 Lok Sabha elections as a candidate of Dogra Swabhiman Sanghathan, which he had launched, but lost his deposit.

RAMAN BHALLA: Senior Congress leader and two-time MLA, he was a minister in the PDP-Congress and NC-Congress governments from 2002 to 2014. In 2019, he unsuccessfully contested the Lok Sabha elections from Jammu-Poonch.

SAJJAD KITCHLOO: NC leader and former Kishtwar MLA, he was MoS (Home) in the NC-Congress government till 2013. Later, he served as Member of the State Legislative Council.

ABDUL MAJEED WANI: Congress leader, former minister and two-time MLA from Doda.

FIRDOUS TAK: PDP spokesperson and former MLC, he is a former lawyer and journalist.

JAVED RANA: Senior NC leader and former Mendhar MLA.

HARSH DEV SINGH: JKNPP chairman and former Education minister, he is a three-time MLA from Ramnagar constituency between 1996 and 2014.

SURJIT SINGH SLATHIA: Former minister and ex-MLA of JKNPP.

YASH PAL KUNDAL: JKNPP leader, former minister and ex-MLA of Samba, he was confined to his home for three days.

Congress and NC leaders claimed that more of their former MLAs and ex-ministers, including Khalid Najeib Suharwardy, G M Saroori, Viqar Rasool, Abdul Gani Malik, Shah Mohammad Tantry and Aijaz Khan, have been detained in Jammu. However, *The Indian Express* could not independently verify the claim.

India-France

that no one should incite violence over this issue. He also called for the rights of people to be maintained. Prime Minister Modi, however, did not refer to Kashmir in his statement to the media.

In a separate joint statement, issued days after France backed India at the UN Security Council's closed-door consultations on J&K in New York, Macron endorsed Modi's call for a global conference on terrorism.

Modi, who was received by French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, met Macron at the Château de Chantilly in the Hauts-de-France region of Oise, 60 km from the capital. Modi had first proposed a conference on terrorism during his visit to the Maldives three months ago.

Macron's endorsement was one of the major takeaways from a joint statement by the two sides that outlined a number of bilateral measures, including forward movement on delivery of the first Rafale combat aircraft from this year.

France also supported India's view of holding timely Presidential elections in Afghanistan, putting an end to terrorist safe havens and preservation of human rights, including women's rights.

The joint statement also included a "roadmap on cybersecurity and digital technology", techno-commercial offers for constructing six nuclear power reactors in Jaitapur, and a space surveillance for "joint maritime

domain awareness mission" in the Indo-Pacific. France will also train medical support personnel for astronauts who will be part of India's manned space mission by 2022.

The two sides also decided to address each other's concerns on trade and investment through "new ways and mechanisms", and decided to reactivate the high-level France-India economic and financial dialogue as quickly as possible, the statement said.

It said that the student exchange target of 10,000 set in 2018 will be fulfilled this year and that both sides have decided to enhance the number to 20,000 by 2025.

The joint statement said that their traditional relationship is "enduring, trustworthy, like-minded, and all-encompassing", and marked by mutual trust between two strategic partners who have "always stood by each other". India and France became strategic partners in 1998, and France was the only country from the West that did not impose sanctions after Pokhran-II.

Modi and Macron also discussed the delivery of the first Rafale aircraft, expected in the third week of September.

Stressing that defence industrial cooperation is one of the "mainstays" of the partnership, they "noted with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of agreements signed, particularly the delivery of the first Rafale combat aircraft from this year".

This marks a step forward from the inter-governmental agreement for the purchase of 36 Rafale jets by India in flyaway condition that was signed in New Delhi in September 2016.

Making common ground on terrorism, the two leaders strongly condemned terrorism in all forms, including "cross-border terrorism" and terror-related incidents in France and India.

As both sides continue to cooperate on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to greylist Pakistan and move towards blacklisting, the two leaders reaffirmed their resolve to eliminate terrorism and urged the international community to strengthen efforts to tackle terrorist-financing.

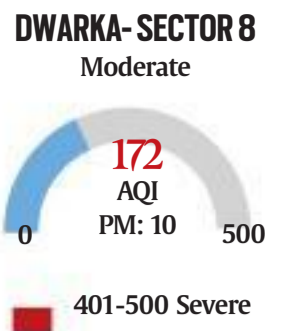
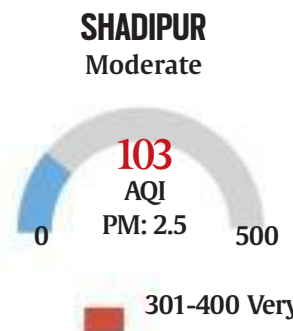
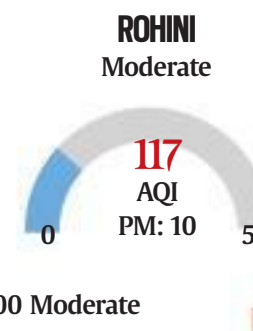
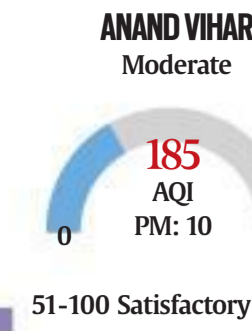
In a new initiative, they called upon all UN member countries to implement the UNSC Resolution 2462 on Fighting Terrorist Financing, which was adopted last March. They welcomed the new "No Money for Terror" International Conference on Fighting Terrorist Financing to be held in Melbourne on November 7-8.

"Both the leaders agreed to work for early convening of the Global Conference, proposed by India, to tackle the threat of terrorism around the world," the joint communique said.

It said that in the digital space, the two countries support economic and social development through an open, secure and peaceful cyberspace, in which international law applies. "The two leaders have adopted a cybersecurity and digital technology road map aimed at expanding Indo-French bilateral cooperation, particularly in the strategic sectors of high performance computing and Artificial Intelligence, with the target of bringing our start-up ecosystems closer to each other," it said.

On the nuclear front, the statement said that two leaders expressed satisfaction at progress in negotiations between NPCIL and EDF for the construction of six nuclear power reactors in Jaitapur, Maharashtra.

On trade, the two sides jointly agreed that the high-level France-India economic and financial dialogue should be reactivated as quickly as possible, the statement said.



CM to Centre: Bring in ordinance to allot Ravidas temple land, we will build

SOURAV ROY BARMAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

CHIEF MINISTER Arvind Kejriwal Thursday demanded that the Centre promulgate an ordinance allotting land for a "grand temple" of Sant Ravidas, and promised that construction cost will be borne by the Delhi government. Kejriwal made the remarks during a discussion in the Delhi Assembly on the controversy triggered by the demolition of a temple dedicated to the 16th Century spiritual leader, revered by lakhs of Dalits across the country.



Kejriwal made the remarks during a discussion on the temple demolition in the Delhi Assembly. Amit Mehra

A resolution to build a temple at the same time was passed by the Assembly. It also said that the demolition "crushes not just religious sentiments but the history of Dalit struggle". The issue dominated the entire proceedings on the first day of the four-day session. Speaker Ram Niwas Goel adjourned the House thrice as AAP and the BJP traded barbs over the demolition

and subsequent incidents, including Wednesday's violence. The Sant Ravidas temple in South Delhi's Tughlaqabad was demolished by the DDA on August 10 following a Supreme Court order, which held the structure as an encroachment on forest land. "The Centre and DDA deliberately did not keep all the relevant facts in front of the SC. They fired from the shoulder of the SC. After

country-wide protests, they realised the gravity of the issue," Kejriwal said, adding, "They can now either file a review petition or pass an ordinance, marking the land for the Ravidas community." The first adjournment came within 30 minutes of the proceedings. Leader of Opposition Vijender Gupta sought to put the ball in the AAP's court, claiming that the power to denotify forest

land lies with the Delhi government's environment department. Dismissing Gupta's contention, Kejriwal said that if the Centre provides even five-acre land to the Ravidas community for a new temple, the Delhi government would reciprocate by planting saplings in at least 100 acres. The temple was situated in the Jahanpanah city forest.

The Ravidas Jainti Samaroh Samiti, which had moved the SC seeking protection from demolition, failed to establish its claims over the land, according to the SC judgment. The Centre claimed that it could do little to prevent any demolition as the DDA had to follow the order of the apex court. Land falls under the Centre's jurisdiction in Delhi. Kejriwal, however, sought to corner the Centre, asking why DDA opposed the Samiti's claim in court. "The Delhi government is not even a party to the case. The L-G, DDA and the Samiti were the respondents," he said. At one point, AAP MLA Ajay

Dutt tore his shirt while making a speech, saying it was a symbolic move to highlight atrocities against Dalits.

Delhi government's Social Welfare Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam claimed documents establish that the land was under the control of the Dalit community since 1948. "Sant Ravidas had addressed his devotees here. Babu Jagjivan Ram had inaugurated the temple in 1959. The organisation was registered in 1948, even before DDA came into being," Gautam, a prominent Dalit face of the AAP, said. Gupta, who met Union Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar during the day, later told reporters: "This is against democratic traditions. They don't have any solid argument... We think the demolition is unfortunate. A unanimous decision should be taken to build a proper temple." Incidentally, even the BJP supported a resolution moved by AAP MLA Vishesh Ravi demanding an ordinance.

Just how old is the temple? Devotees and DDA differ

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

WHILE DALIT groups maintain that the Ravidas temple in Tughlaqabad was at least 500 years old, DDA vice-chairman Tarun Kapoor has said it was less than 70 years old. "The temple was built in the 1950s," he said. Ravidas was a mystic saint-poet of the Bhakti movement in the 15th-16th Century. At a protest on Wednesday against the demolition of the temple, Dalit groups said the temple was built in the 16th Century when Sikander Lodi, who ruled Delhi at the time, gifted the land to Sant Ravidas.

An official from the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) said that "there's a possibility that Lodi gifted this land to Ravidas, but that does not mean the temple is from that century". Historian Sohail Hashmi said that "if Lodi did gift the land, there would be a *farman* and that needs to be checked". He added, "There are several temples on



A notice has been put up by the Delhi Development Authority on the wall outside the temple site. Gajendra Yadav

government land, a whole village has encroached upon a protected monument, that is, Tughlaqabad Fort... why has no action been taken in those cases?" An Archaeological Survey of India official meanwhile said that the temple "was not an ASI-protected monument... the main clause of being an ASI-protected

monument is the age of the structure". Vikas Maloo, head of office, Department of Archaeology, said, "The temple was not listed as a heritage site and is not protected by this department." As per a member of INTACH, "the temple was not a part of the listing of heritage structures done by INTACH".

MAMATA, MAYAWATI REACT

We are shocked that Guru Ravidas temple in Delhi was demolished and understand his supporters' anguish... The shrine symbolises the Dalits' struggle for their rights and must be rebuilt"

MAMATABANERJEE
WEST BENGAL CM

BSP's tradition of not taking law into our hands is still intact, while it is a common practice among other parties and organisations. We do not want to hurt the innocent while showing respect for our saints and gurus."

MAYAWATI
BSP NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Before violence, police told shops in area to close

SOMYA LAKHANI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

BY 5.30 pm Wednesday, Kalpana (52) hurriedly closed her general store in Tughlaqabad's Jagdamba Road market after policemen showed up at her doorstep with a word of caution. From the window of her room upstairs, she claimed that she watched as young men, with faces covered with handkerchiefs, set a motorbike on fire.

Late Wednesday evening, violence broke out over the Supreme Court-mandated demolition of Ravidas temple inside Jahanpanah city forest on August 10. Hundreds of protesters marched from Ramlila Maidan to Tughlaqabad, where the temple site is located, and Bhim Army chief and Dalit leader Chandrashekhar Azad was arrested.



Gajendra Yadav

DCP (South East) Chinmoy Biswal said, "96 people were arrested Wednesday for taking part in violence; there was stone-pelting, loss of property and some officers were injured too. A police motorbike was set on fire and some vehicles, including a DTC bus, were damaged." He said the arrested protesters mostly hail from Punjab, Haryana and UP, with a few from Delhi.

Jagdamba Road is located across Guru Ravidas Marg, where the entry to the temple inside the Jahanpanah forest was. A day later, the market opened at the usual time and paramilitary forces, barricades, a fire tender and police guarded the demolished temple site on the main road.

On the wall outside the temple site is a message from the Delhi Development Authority: "As per directive of the Supreme Court, this land comes under the DDA. Any kind of illegal occupation of this land is a criminal offence." The two entrances to the temple inside the forest are not accessible to the public.

"There was stone-pelting and several car windows were broken. This started around 8 pm and went on till 10.30-11 pm," said Kalpana.

Sanjay, an iron-smith, who lives in a shanty on the Guru Ravidas Marg said, "The police asked us to go inside the house at 7 pm and we only got out at 7 am Thursday. They didn't let the protesters come this side."

Seven beat store owner, rob him of Rs 18 lakh

New Delhi: Seven men allegedly assaulted the owner of a departmental store and robbed him of Rs 18 lakh in Punjabi Bagh Wednesday night, said police. DCP (West) Monika Bhardwaj said, "We have arrested three men. An FIR under relevant IPC sections has been registered." Police said the vehicle of the accused hit that of the victim, Amit Bagga, after which the assault took place. **ENS**

दिव्य है कृष्ण की लीलाओं का संसार

श्रीकृष्णोत्सव में देखें उनकी झलक इस बार

श्रीकृष्णोत्सव 2019

23-25 अगस्त | मथुरा, उत्तर प्रदेश

'दही हांडी' का आयोजन

(मुम्बई से आई दही हांडी टोली द्वारा)

मुख्य अतिथि
योगी आदित्यनाथ
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तर प्रदेश

गरिमामयी उपस्थिति

<p style="color: white;">लक्ष्मी नारायण चौधरी मंत्री, संस्कृति एवं धर्मार्थ कार्य विभाग, उत्तर प्रदेश</p>	<p style="color: white;">पं. श्रीकांत शर्मा मंत्री, ऊर्जा विभाग उत्तर प्रदेश</p>	<p style="color: white;">हेमा मालिनी सांसद मथुरा</p>	<p style="color: white;">कारिंदा सिंह विधायक गोवर्धन</p>
<p style="color: white;">पूरन प्रकाश विधायक बलदेव</p>			

दिनांक: 24 अगस्त, 2019 | समय: अपराह्न 3:30 बजे | स्थान: रामलीला मैदान, मथुरा

मुख्य आकर्षण

23 अगस्त, 2019 : देश एवं प्रदेश के लगभग 1000 कलाकारों द्वारा **शोभा यात्रा** तथा विभिन्न आकर्षक सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम

24 अगस्त, 2019 : **कृष्णावतार** का प्रदर्शन | 25 अगस्त, 2019 : पद्मश्री **अनूप जलोटा** द्वारा भजन गायन

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS, TIRUPATI MARKETING DEPARTMENT
e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

e-Tender cum e-Reverse auction is invited for procurement of the following items by the Marketing Department, T.T.D, Tirupati.

S.No.	Name of the Item	E.M.D. Amount	Download starting and ending dates
01	1,71,000 Kgs of Cashew Splits "S" grade for a period of two months	Rs. 28,60,000/-	22-08-2019 05-09-2019
02	12,00,000 Kgs of Bengal Gram Dhall (Bold Variety) with Agmark for a period of two months	Rs. 18,22,000/-	22-08-2019 05-09-2019

For tender notice and tender details log on to the web site <http://www.tirumala.org> and <https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in/> & <https://konugolu.ap.gov.in/>. For further details contact phone numbers: 0877-2264079, 2264555. Fax No.0877-2264554.
Roc.No:PR4113909/ADV No:218/PRO/2019, Dt:22-08-2019 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MUMBAI
GVK

Mumbai International Airport Ltd.

Request for Qualification for the design, finance, development, construction, management, operation and maintenance of identified plot in Mumbai

Mumbai International Airport Limited ("MIAL") intends to sublease the identified plot of land for the design, finance, development, construction, management, operation and maintenance of Real Estate projects to a party/parties selected through a competitive bidding process.

MIAL hereby invites interested party/parties to participate in the competitive bidding process by submitting an application to MIAL which can be downloaded from CSIA website: <https://www.csia.in/business-opportunities/commercial-opportunities.aspx>

A detailed Request for Qualification ("RFQ") containing land details, eligibility criteria and terms of RFQ shall be provided to the applicant who submits the application in the stipulated time period. The last date for submission of application for qualification is August 28, 2019.

Contact details: MumbaiSkyCity@gvk.com

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD
E-Tender Notice

Dy. CE (TMC) Line JHS acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. JHS-TMC-05-2019 closing date 11.09.2019 at 15.00 hrs.

E-Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Estimated value (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Tender doc. Cost (₹)
JHS-TMC-05-2019	Repairing of 30 HP three phase 3550 RPM grinding motor of RGM-06	₹ 1868933.07	₹ 37400.00	₹ 2000.00

Tender closing date & time: 11.09.2019 at 15.00 hrs. Period of completion: 12 Months. Tender can be submitted online on 11.09.2019 upto 15.00 Hrs. For details description & submission of tender, please see website of Indian Railway www.ireps.gov.in. Details of Tender notice can be seen on Notice Board of Dy. CE (TMC) Line Office Jhansi. 1209/19 FA

North central railways @CPRONCR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD
Tender Notice No. DyCE-C-II-2019-06 dated 20.08.2019

Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction-II), North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender on prescribed form, for the following work up to 15.00 hrs. on the opening date of tender. The details of the tenders are as under:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description of work	Approx Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Dy-CE-C-II-2019-06 dated 20.08.2019	Hiring of non Non-AC multiutility 4 wheeler motor vehicle TATA safari, Xylo, Innova, Tavera or of similar make vehicle in good working condition for the use of XEN (C) III JHS to inspect the work site under the jurisdiction of Dy.CE/C/II/JHS.	395069.88	8000/-

6. Completion period: (Twelve Months) including harvest & monsoon period.
7. Cost of Tender form: 1,000/-; 8. Date of opening: 12.09.2019. 9. Validity: 45 days. Note: For complete details and submission of tender please see Indian Railway's website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. 1203/19 FA

North central railways @CPRONCR

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, JAIPUR
Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No. JDA/OSD(RM)/2019-20/D-1123 Date: 21.08.2019

GRAND E-AUCTION

of Residential Plot in Khasra No. 202 to 210 & 204/503, 210/504, Village Bhojpura, Lal Kothi Scheme, Jaipur

S.No.	Detail of Property	Area (Sq.Mt.)	Area of Construction	Registration Fee for participation in Auction (Non Refundable)(Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	BSP (Per Sq.Mt.)(Rs.)	Starting Date & Time for Depositing EMD	Last Date & Time for Depositing EMD	Bidding Start Date & Time	Bidding End Date & Time*
1	Residential Plot no. 12	667.46	As per Rule	5,000/-	30 Lacs	70,000/-	22/08/2019 00:00 Hrs	03/09/2019 23:00 Hrs.	22/08/2019 01:00 Hrs.	06/09/2019 15:00 Hrs.

Note : *Bid Extension : The bidding time will be extended for further 5 minutes (unlimited times till bids are receiving continuously). If no bid is received within the extended period the bidding will be closed automatically. For further Details Please Log on JDA Webiste : www.jda.urban.rajasthan.gov.in or e-Auction link or contact, OSD (RM) 0141-2570678, 2569696 Ex.-7021, 7226, 1128 Mob. No. 9414322559 & Deputy Commissioner Zone-3, Mob.No. 9414264604. For site visit and other information of plot, please contact to Shri Suresh Mathur, Executive Engineer Mob. No. 9414047222 and Shri Dharmendra Sharma, Executive Engineer Mob. No. 9887515154.

Samwad/C/2163/2019-2020 **OSD (RM)**

FINANCIAL EXPRESS
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on August 23rd 2019, 11:00 AM at Dheerpur Campus

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Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Guest of Honour
Manish Sisodia
Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

Directorate of Higher Education, Government of NCT of Delhi

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दिल्ली सरकार
आप की सरकार

HIGH AND DRY

'The first thing I grabbed as the Yamuna rose...'

23,000 people have been evacuated since the river crossed the danger mark. SHIVAM PATEL spoke to some of them about what they made sure to take from home



Photos: Abhinav Saha

RAJESH (25), LABOURER

"We do not keep any valuables in our house anyway, and my instinct was to protect my two infants first. Food, clothes and charpays can be bought again, but my family is irreplaceable."



BABLI MEENA (25), HOUSEWIFE
"I had packed all my belongings by Tuesday evening but I went back looking for three puppies that we had found here sometime ago. They were hiding behind some bushes. They looked scared and if I hadn't brought them with me, they might have drowned."



RAJKUMAR KEVAT (50), STREET VENDOR
"My immediate reaction was to get my family out to the tent and save my important documents, such as identity cards, from getting wet. I kept them in a case, put a lock on it and brought it with me before returning for the rest of the things."



KIRTI (22), HOMEMAKER
"We kept hens at home and after the police asked my family to move to the tents on Tuesday, I grabbed hold of the bird cage first. We can do whatever it takes to save ourselves from drowning, but what would these birds have done? They cannot even scream for help."



DHARMENDRA MEENA (24), GARDENER
"I asked my brothers to break the lock of my bicycle and bring it with them. Yeh meri roti hai, iske bina kuch kaam nahi ho payega (This is my bread and butter, I can't work without it)."



KAJAL MEENA (21) FARMER
grabbed hold of idols of Durga, Shiva and other deities her family kept at home: "I have a strong attachment to these and could not have seen them floating away."

CHATRAPAL (50), FARMER, a farmer, said, "I realised my cattle would have to be moved but I could not bring them up to the bridge. So I untied them and brought them to a patch where water hasn't reached."

GUDIYA (30) heard the news of flooding in the capital on a television she kept at home. "We had bought the television on loan and could not afford to lose it. I immediately wrapped it in a cloth and my son and his friends carried it up here," she said.

At Haryana village, farmers in a fix as river submerges fields

SHIVNARAYAN RAJPUROHIT
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

UNLIKE OTHER days, Inder Singh wakes up early on Thursday to check on his crops, submerged under Yamuna water the previous day, at Mirrakhpur village in Haryana's Sonapat district.

The 60-year-old farmer threw a studying glance at the field and felt reassured. "The water has receded by four feet. This is a good sign. Yesterday, this higher patch was covered with water," said Singh, standing in his cauliflower field 200 metres from the swollen river.

But his relief soon gave way to despair. Across the road in a low-lying area, a second patch of his land meant for paddy was

partially covered with sediment-heavy water.

"If the water does not withdraw in two days, the crop will be finished," he said. Singh has taken 50-bigha land on a two-year lease from the gram panchayat to grow vegetables, sugarcane and paddy.

Singh's apprehension is shared by many farmers in the village who claimed that at least 20-25 fields are flooded, in part or fully. Another farmer, Pradeep Singh (28), has sown paddy in his 60 bighas of land, which is now inundated.

"The water has receded by some feet but my field is still under water," he said, lugging a bale of cattle feed on his bike. If under water, grown paddy cannot survive more than three days, he said, adding that sugarcane can

withstand excess water for longer days.

Rohit Singh (30), a farmer, said: "We are lucky water remained in the field only for a few hours. But we never know when excess water will be released from Hathni Kund Barrage."

While there are no official figures yet on how many villages are affected, an official from the Sonapat revenue department said crop losses due to flooding will be estimated by Monday: "Our tehsildars and other officials are collecting data on crop losses."

In the neighbouring district of Baghpat in UP, some fields along the Yamuna are also inundated. District Magistrate Shakuntala Gautam told *The Indian Express* that crop damage will be assessed once the water recedes.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

ENVIRONMENTAL activists wrote to Delhi L-G Anil Bajjal and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Thursday demanding that the East Corporation's proposed site for a waste processing plant be scrapped as the area was inun-

More rain likely on Sunday

New Delhi: A few parts of the capital received rainfall Thursday, with officials saying that a fresh spell of rain is likely on Sunday. The Safdarjung Observatory, which provides official figures for the city, recorded a low of 24.5 degrees Celsius.

Humidity levels oscillated between 61 and 92 per cent. PTI

Proposed waste processing plant site in East Delhi flooded

dated after flooding. The project involves creating a waste processing plant on 42.5 acres in North East Delhi's Ghonda Gujran.

Land was allotted to the civic body by the DDA in March. The Central Pollution Control Board and National Environmental Engineering Institute have reportedly cleared the site as suitable for waste management use.

Manoj Misra, convenor of the Yamuna Jiye Abhiyaan, who wrote the letter, said, "An allotment by the DDA was made based on the CPCB's findings... that the site in question is not in the floodplains, which the river itself has disproved."

Misra added that the National Green Tribunal, in a January 2015 order, said construction cannot be

done in Zone O, or the river zone, in Delhi. A DDA official admitted that the site falls in Zone O but is not on the floodplains. He added that construction is allowed in certain areas of the zone and that an area of 150 metres from the river bank is left undisturbed.

Tarun Kapoor, DDA vice-chairman, added, "This land is okay for construction, but we

have asked EDMC to take further relevant permissions from appropriate authorities."

A senior EDMC official said, "The site is not on the floodplains. In any case, we would never do any construction on the plains. We will take precautionary measures, such as building bunds, to protect the processing plant in case the river floods in the future."

DU English syllabus not up yet, HoD cites 'confusion'

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

DELHI UNIVERSITY'S English department is yet to upload the syllabus of its undergraduate first semester course on the department website, after it was cleared by the university's Oversight Committee. The move has come under criticism from an Academic Council (AC) member. The Head of Department (HoD), however, said the delay was caused by "confusion" as fresh suggestions were still coming in.

Criticising the move, AC member Rasal Singh from the National Democratic Teachers' Front said despite the syllabi being cleared on August 12 and sent to departments concerned on August 14, the English department was yet to upload it. He said the remaining syllabi of five semesters had also has not been uploaded for feedback from stakeholders.

"Students and teachers are worried and asking for the syllabi but the 'helpless head', under pressure from selective few, is intentionally delaying this to create unrest in the university. The university must ensure the syllabi is immediately uploaded as per its instructions so that students do not suffer for no fault of theirs," Singh alleged.

HoD Raj Kumar, however, said he had received the letter from Deputy Registrar (Academic) regarding uploading the syllabus only on August 19, and that further instructions were still in coming in. "They have asked for inclusions and deletions, so we are having meeting after meeting to decide whether to honour the Oversight Committee's recommendations. We received another letter today as well, that we have to include two-three authors," he said.

Deputy Registrar (Academic) Rohan Rai did not respond to calls and texts seeking a comment.

Academic Council member Saikat Ghosh from the English department said, "The delay is harming us and our students. Rasal Singh's conspiracy theory only exists in his imagination... he is now pretending to sympathise with the plight of English teachers and students. We have nothing to do with the delay..."

Oversight Committee Head M K Pandit, however, said nothing new was added, and that the new letter was just an "extension" of the earlier recommendation. The syllabus change was met with controversy, with the NDTF objecting to the inclusion of certain texts. The Undergraduate Curriculum Revision Committee had then sent suggestions to the English department and asked it to consider the changes.

PARADIP PORT TRUST
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No.AD/RSC-I-21/2/2019(Pt.)/2725 Dated 19.08.2019
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Engagement of Advisor (Legal) at Paradip Port Trust on Contractual Basis
The details of qualification, age, experience, other conditions etc. are available at Paradip Port Trust website : www.paradipport.gov.in. Interested and willing persons may forward their Curriculum vitae, indicating their qualifications, experience, etc. at Office of the Chairman, Paradip Port Trust, Po-Paradip Port, Dist-Jagatsinghpur, Odisha-754142, on 31.08.2019 by 05:00 PM.
PPT/PR/290/19-20 Dt.23.08.2019 Sr. Dy. Secretary

EXPRESS Careers

BHAKTA KAVI NARSINH MEHTA UNIVERSITY JUNAGADH
Advertisement No.3/2019

Applications are invited in prescribed application form for the following teaching and administrative posts:

TEACHING POSTS						
Sr. No	Name of Post	Department	Subject	No. of Post	Category	Pay Scale
1	Associate Professor	Life Sciences	Botany	01	SEBC	37400-67000 (GP 9000)
2	Associate Professor	Languages	English	01	ST	37400-67000 (GP 9000)
3	Assistant Professor	Life Sciences	Botany	01	ST (3rd Attempt)	15600-39100 (GP 6000)
ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS						
Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Post	Category	Pay scale and Grade pay		
1	Registrar	01	UR	37400-67000 (GP 10000)		
2	Law Officer	01	UR	15600-39100 (GP 5400)		

Date of Commencement of Online Application Form 22/08/2019
Last date of Online Application Form 05/09/2019
Last date of receipt of hardcopy of online application form along with all enclosures 10/09/2019
Minimum Qualifications, Experience, Pay, General Terms & Conditions and other details are given on the University website www.bknmu.edu.in
Applications received after due date will not be considered.
Employment Notice No./Bknmu/Esta/21/2019
Date: 22/08/2019 I/c Registrar

JAMMU. KASHMIR. LADAKH. ARTICLES 370 & 35A. INFORM YOUR OPINION WITH THE FACTS.

EXPLAINED
by The Indian EXPRESS

with **Dr Aman Hingorani**
Lawyer and author of 'Unravelling the Kashmir Knot'

in conversation with **Apurva Vishwanath**
Assistant Editor, The Indian Express

Inform your opinion at this special session of Explained by The Indian Express, where Dr Aman Hingorani walks us through the political, socio-cultural and legal intricacies of the issue and the course ahead.

23 AUG 2019 06:00 PM **Viceroy, The Claridges Delhi**

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The busts were installed in North campus Tuesday

NSUI blackens bust of Savarkar, ABVP files police complaint

ARANYA SHANKAR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

LATE WEDNESDAY night, around 20 activists of the National Students' Union of India (NSUI) led by its state president Akshay Lakra allegedly blackened the bust of V D Savarkar and put a garland of shoes around it. The bust, along with those of Subhas Chandra Bose and Bhagat Singh, was installed outside the Arts Faculty by outgoing Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) president Shakti Singh from the ABVP.

On Thursday, Singh filed a complaint at Maurice Nagar police station asking for an FIR to be registered against Lakra. Meanwhile, Lakra filed a complaint with DCP (New Delhi), alleging he was receiving "life threatening calls" from people belonging to RSS and ABVP.

In a Facebook post, Singh also threatened to blacken other statues. "Kalikh lagegi to kayi moortiyay aayengi jadam, is desh me sirf Savarkar ki moorti thodi na hai. Agaz aapne kiya, anjaam tak hum pahunchayenge (If statues are blackened, others will also come under target. Savarkar's is not the only statue in the country. You have started it, we will take it to its logical end)," wrote Singh.

When asked to elaborate on the same, Singh refused to comment. In his FIR, Singh said Lakra was provoking students' sentiments and creating a potential law and order problem on the campus.

SUB-CONTRACTOR AMONG VICTIMS

5 dead while building Ghaziabad sewer

ANANYA TIWARI
GHAZIABAD, AUGUST 22

FOUR LABOURERS died while constructing a new sewage line in Ghaziabad's Nandgram Thursday. A sub-contractor who brought them in for the project also died trying to save them.

Police said the labourers — Damodar (40), Horil (35), Sandeep Kumar (21) and Shiv Kumar (32) — were engaged by the Ghaziabad Jal Nigam through a private company, and given the task of laying a new sewage line in Krishna Kunj colony in Nandgram to meet the main drainage system from Meerut Road.

Police said sub-contractor Vijay Kumar (40) was associated with EMS Infracon Pvt Ltd in Ghaziabad, which was supposed to construct the sewer line.

"We have filed a case under IPC Section 304 against EMS



At Krishna Kunj colony in Nandgram, where the incident took place Thursday. Amit Mehra

Infracon Pvt Ltd and three engineers for not providing safety equipment to the workers and under the Manual Scavenging Act. We are also exploring the possibility of adding sections of the SC/ST Act," said SP (City) Shlok

Kumar. No arrests have been made so far. The complaint was filed by the Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation.

According to eyewitnesses, the men were laying down the new line when, at around 1.30

pm, they entered the drain to line it with cement.

After a few minutes, those present at the spot said, one worker fainted and fell into the 10-12 feet deep drain. To help him out, another worker went in but

also fell unconscious. Two others tried to pull them up but also fainted. Vijay was the last one who tried to save the men but he too fainted. All five men were from Bihar's Samastipur.

Sandeep's brother, Lallan Kumar (17) told *The Indian Express* that three men were from his village in Samastipur while the other two were from another village nearby. "My brother was a construction worker, not a sanitation worker. He had come to Ghaziabad around 2 months ago in search of a job. The village head was contacted by authorities and he informed us. My father and the family members of the other men have gone to Ghaziabad," he said.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh each for the five victims and has directed the managing director of the Ghaziabad Jal Nigam to conduct an enquiry.

"The Uttar Pradesh CM has

taken cognizance of the incident and has directed that all possible help be extended to the victims' families. Action will be taken. A magisterial enquiry will take place and the report will be submitted in two weeks," said Ajay Shankar Pandey, Ghaziabad DM.

Rajveer Singh (62), a grocery store owner who was near the spot when the incident took place, was alerted by passersby. "I immediately opened the lids of two adjacent drains, 50 feet on either side, to let the fumes out. I also tried to disperse the fumes by placing a fan at the drain opening," he said.

Jitender Yadav (24), who works as a mechanic at EMS Infracon Pvt Ltd, and lives in Nandgram, was called by the bystanders. "Two of us tied ropes around our bodies and went into the drain. We pulled out the men and took them to a hospital on our motorcycles. They were declared dead on arrival."

Students sceptical of semester system, SOL says had no way out

MALLICA JOSHI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

OUTSIDE THE School of Open Learning at Delhi University Thursday, a handful of undergraduate students sit with placards protesting against the decision to introduce the Choice-Based Credit System (CBCS) for this year. So far, courses under the distance learning programme were being offered under the annual examination mode.

Inside the Centre, teachers and administrative staff deal with the mammoth challenge of implementing the change from the old annual mode to CBCS under the semester mode. Regular colleges and departments in the university made the change three years ago.

Earlier this year, DU approved the proposal to bring SOL on par with courses offered in regular



SOL students protest against the semester system

colleges. But when students started getting printed course material before the start of the session, they found it was the text taught in the annual mode. "New study material is yet to be prepared based on CBCS format and SOL is busy distributing the old study material. A cursory look at the two syllabi formats, i.e. annual and CBCS, would be enough

to see that the two curricula are starkly different," said Harish Gautam, member of the Krantikari Yuva Sangathan.

SOL officer on special duty Ramesh Bharadwaj said: "If we look at the syllabus in most courses, it is up to 70% similar. We have been working on providing students with updated material on their online dashboard by the

end of this month. The session and personal contact classes start on September 1. Challenges in shifting to the semester mode in a few months exist but we are working to overcome them."

Students have highlighted the frequency of exams in the annual mode. "Many people join the correspondence mode because they work while studying. For people like us, writing two sets of exam in one year is going to be problematic," said Shalini Sharma, who took admission in BA (Honours) English this year.

SOL, however, had no way out. According to the new central rules, one university cannot function in two separate modes. "If we had not made the change, the SOL degree would not have been recognised. We can't do that to our students," said Bharadwaj.

Justice Sunil Gaur, who handled key cases, retires

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AROUND 48 hours after he rejected former union minister P Chidambaram's anticipatory bail application in two cases of alleged corruption and money laundering linked to INX Media, Justice Sunil Gaur retired Thursday. He thanked the law community for its support and sought forgiveness "for any mistake he made during his tenure".

"Today, I am completing my tenure and I am happy that I have been able to do my work with satisfaction. I have had support of my friends, the bar, my family, the registry and everyone else... I hope all your future is good. God bless you," Justice Gaur said at the Full Court Reference organised at his farewell.

On Tuesday, Justice Gaur rejected the anticipatory bail plea of Ratul Puri, nephew of Madhya

Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath, in the AgustaWestland chopper deal case.

Born on August 23, 1957, in Bulandshahr, Justice Gaur started his career as an advocate in the Punjab and Haryana High Court in 1984. He practised for 10 years in the Punjab and Haryana High Court in civil, criminal and constitutional matters. During his tenure in Delhi Higher Judicial Service, he handled civil and criminal cases, including the murder case of *The Indian Express* journalist Shivani Bhatnagar.

Speaking at the Full Court, Delhi High Court Chief Justice Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel said that Justice Gaur was always willing to take responsibilities beyond the judicial work for the growth of this institution. "Justice Gaur has rendered all possible assistance an institution expects from a judge... he shall be remembered for his positive support..." Chief Justice Patel said.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD
E-Tendering Tender Notice
Divisional Railway Manager (Works) North Central Railway, Jhansi for and on behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work:

Tender No.	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)	Cost of Tender Form (₹)	Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter.
JHS-Engg-HQ-2019-115	Jhansi/East-Improvement to under ground drainage system at Jhansi station.	2770639.12	55400/-	3150/-	120 Days
JHS-Engg-HQ-2019-116	Jhansi/West-Repair to 300mm and 450mm dia pipe line leakage from filter house to Naughtat ghat and Gariya dam for two years.	1247413.10	25000/-	2100/-	24 Months
JHS-Engg-HQ-2019-117	Hiring of one no. non-AC multiutility 4 wheeler motor vehicle Tata Safari, Xylo, innova, Tavera or similar make vehicle for supervision of ADEN/HQ/II JHS for one year.	333447.48	6700/-	1050/-	365 Days

Date of closing Tender: 16.09.2019 at 15.00 hrs. for each tender. Tender on line can be submitted upto 15.00 hrs. on 16.09.2019. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.irgms.gov.in 1193/19(K)

North central railway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in @CPRONCR

AGRA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Name of Work	Selection of agency for conducting solid waste management IEC activities in 100 wards of Agra City to make "A Garbage Free Circle" in AMC.
Bid Processing Fee (Non-Refundable)	Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) in the form of DD drawn in favour
Bid Security (refundable)	Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees one Lakh only) in the form of DD drawn in favour of the Commissioner, AMC
Publishing Date	23 August, 2019, 12:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	23 August, 2019, 01:00 PM
Bid Submission Closing Date	29 August, 2019, 02:00 PM
Bid Submission Portal	http://etender.up.nic.in
Technical Bid Opening Date	30.08.2019, 12:00 PM
Consultancy Period	31 January 2020
Address:	Agra Nagar Nigam, Near Sur Sadan, MG Road, Agra
Bid Validity	120 Days from date of submission

The Bidders have to Contact below Details.
Additional Municipal Commissioner
Agra, Municipal Corporation Agra,
1st Floor, Nagar Nigam Agra, U.P.
Email address: amcagra1@gmail.com

Municipal Commissioner
Agra, Municipal Corporation Agra

UJVNL Limited
H. O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808 ; Fax: 0135- 2763508
CIN NO. U40101UR2001SGC025866
Website : www.ujvnl.com

e-Tender Notice
Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil), MB-II, Chinyalisaur (Uttarkashi) invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No	10/ EE(Civil) / MB-II / Chinyalisaur / 2019-20	11 / EE(Civil) / MB-II / Chinyalisaur / 2019-20
Name of work	Special Repair and Maintenance of civil works at Valve Chamber of Dharasu Power House, MB-II, Dharasu, Uttarkashi.	Painting and Distemping work of Power House Building and its associate structure at Dharasu Power House, MB-II, Dharasu, Uttarkashi.
Estimated Cost	Rs. 25,63,280.00 (excluding GST)	Rs. 26,74,648.00 (excluding GST)
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 65,000.00	Rs. 67,000.00
Tender Fee	Rs. 2360.00 (Inclusive GST)	Rs. 2360.00 (Inclusive GST)
Date & time of availability of bid document on website	5:00 PM of 22.08.2019	
Last date & time of submission of bids on website	05.00 PM of 18.09.2019	
Last date, time & Place of submission of hard copies of bids	19-09-2019 upto 11.00 AM, in Chinyalisaur.	
Date & time of opening of bids on website	19.09.2019 at 03:00 PM	
For fuller & further detail, kindly visit e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"		
पत्रांक: 455 दिनांक: 21.08.2019	E.E (Civil), MB-II, Chinyalisaur.	

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer (Project) Narela
Zonal Office Building, Narela, Delhi-40
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
N.I.T. No.: EE (Pr)/Narela/TC/2019-20/09 Dated : 19.08.2019
Start Date of Purchase/Download of : 21.08.2019 at 5:00 PM
Tender Document
Last Date of Tender Document : 02.09.2019 upto 2:00 PM
Online Submission
Opening of Financial Bid : 04.09.2019 upto 12:15 PM
The Executive Engineer (Project) Narela invites on behalf of the Commissioner, North DMC sealed percentage/Item rate tenders from the approved and eligible contractors. Rates hold goods for 5 Months.

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Tender Amount (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Tender Cost (Rs.)
1.	Imp. and Stg. of Road by pdg. Dense Carpeting from Nizampur Village to Garhi Village in ward No. 35N in Narela Zone. H/Ac: XL-VIII-S	80,53,600/-	74,48,096/-	1,48,962/-	1000/-
2.	Imp. and Dev. of Road by pdg. RMC from Pole No. HT521-98/11 A Block to Tempoo stand fish market in JJ Colony Bawana in ward No.-30N Narela Zone. H/Ac: XL-VIII-S (d)	39,64,000/-	36,03,862/-	72,077/-	500/-
3.	Imp. and Dev. of Road by pdg. RMC from F Block Pole No. HT521-94/40 to HT521-93/8 D Block in JJ Colony Bawana in ward No.-30N Narela Zone. H/Ac: XL-VIII-S (d)	55,14,100/-	50,13,062/-	1,00,261/-	1000/-
4.	Imp. and Dev. of Roads by pdg. RMC from Jhanda Chowk to F-Block Chowk in JJ Colony Bawana in Ward No.-30N in Narela Zone. H/Ac: XL-VIII-S (d)	99,93,100/-	90,85,195/-	1,81,703/-	1000/-

Time of Completion : 3 Months for S.No. 1, 4 Months each, for S.No. 2 to 4.
Detailed terms and conditions can be seen on the website <http://www.tenderwizard.com>. Tender documents are available on the website <http://www.tenderwizard.com> for bidding by approved/eligible contractors in M.C.D.
R.O. No. 62/DPI/North/2019-20 Ex. Engineer (Project) Narela

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Office of the Ex. Engineer (Elect)-I
Underground Car Parking, Asaf Ali Road
DUAL BID TENDER NOTICE
N.I.T. No.: 10/MWEE-I/2019-20/TC Dated : 20.08.2019
Issue of Tender Document From : 20.08.2019, 17:00 PM
Pre Bid Meeting Date (at Office of CE (Elect)) : 03.09.2019, 11:00 AM
19th Floor, Dr. SPM Civic Centre)
Issue of Tender Document upto : 09.09.2019, 10:01 AM
Tender Closing Date and Time : 09.09.2019, 11:00 AM
Technical Opening Date and Time : 09.09.2019, 11:01 AM
Opening of Financial Bid (Tentative) : 12.09.2019, 10:01 AM
or to be intimated later

FOR ONLINE TENDERING TIME TABLE PLEASE REFER <http://www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER>. The Executive Engineer, Elect. Division-I, Underground Car Parking, Asaf Ali Road, Delhi-110002 invites on-line item rate tender on behalf of the Commissioner, NDMC in dual bid format for the under mentioned work from the firm dealing in line and will be received as per time table. The Technical bid will be opened on 09.09.2019 at 11:01 AM at <http://www.tenderwizard.com> by EEE-I Office. The firms dealing in line are only eligible to purchase the tender subject to condition that they are neither black listed nor debarred at the time of purchase of tender.
The interested agencies/firms which are not registered in online tendering with North DMC shall have to register itself on www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER first and then only they can participate in the bids. The procedure for registration can be seen at www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER.

S. No.	Name of Work	Head of A/c	Estimate Cost Amt. (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	NIT
1.	Repair, Comprehensive maintenance of fire alarm system installed in Hindu Rao Hospital.	XL-IX-A-II	84,09,161/-	1,63,300/-	10.1
2.	Repair, Comprehensive maintenance of fire hydrant system installed in OPD, Emergency Nursing Home Ward and Adm. Block etc. at Hindu Rao Hospital.	XL-IX-A-II	99,97,437/-	1,98,000/-	10.2

Tender Cost : Rs. 1,000/- each for both the above works; Time of Comp. : 4 Months for repair + 1 year AMC each for both the above works; Rates hold good for : 6 Months each, for both the above works.
Detailed NIT can be seen alongwith PQ Criteria at www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER
R.O. No. 63/DPI/North/2019-20 Executive Engineer (Elect)/CSPZ

Man hears kids talking about new computers at school, steals them

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, AUGUST 22

A CONVERSATION between students outside the Government Senior Secondary School in Bhondsi regarding computers that the school had procured recently allegedly led to 10 such systems being stolen from the premises on August 19.

Two men, identified as Anuj Kumar (20), who worked as a delivery man with a food-based application and is currently unemployed, and Bhola Prasad (28), have been arrested for the crime, said police. Both of them hail from UP, said police.

"The robbery was discovered by the security guard of the school. He was cleaning the premises when he noticed that the lock of the computer laboratory had been broken and some of the computers had gone missing. One of the 24 stools was also missing," said Subhash Boken, PRO of Gurgaon Police. The computers and stools were donated to the school by Teracy India, an NGO, last month.

According to PRO Boken, an FIR was registered in the matter and the two accused arrested. Kumar revealed during ques-

tioning that he overheard some students talking about the new computers and decided to steal them with an accomplice, PRO Boken said.

"Kumar resides in Bhondsi and was passing by the area when he picked up on the conversation," said Inspector Savit Kumar, Station House Officer (SHO), Bhondsi police station.

Police said that Kumar then duo decided to steal the computers the same night. "They entered the school by scaling the wall at 3 am and broke the lock of the computer laboratory. They put the computers back in boxes, got them over the wall, and loaded them onto a cart they had brought along," said the SHO, adding that neither of the two accused have any previous criminal record.

While Kumar was arrested from Badshahpur bus stand on August 19 and produced in court the following day, Prasad was arrested from his home on August 21. "The accused were produced in court Thursday and have been remanded in judicial custody. Further investigations are being conducted," said the PRO, adding that the stolen computers have been recovered.

To control crowd, Metro staff 'threaten' to use batons

New Delhi: The Delhi Metro and CISF Thursday assured action against the DMRC staff who allegedly threatened to use batons on commuters to maintain order during evening rush hour. CISF sources said the alleged incident took place during evening peak hours Thursday at Noida Sector 62 station on the Blue Line.

"The crowd became unmanageable at a certain point. The DMRC sought the assistance of CISF to maintain order. A private guard under the DMRC was seen violating the laid down norms in crowd management. However, no baton charging actually took place," CISF sources said.

The matter came to light when a commuter uploaded a

purported video of the incident on Twitter, tagging the official handle of DMRC. DMRC later responded: "We've forwarded your concern to CISF/DMRC Unit for needful action. Further, you may also share your concern at Co2dmrc@gmail.com or contact @CISFHQs at 655155."

"The DMRC does not condone the use of such methods for controlling crowds at stations, as seen in this video. The DMRC will be taking up the issue with the CISF to avoid repetition of similar actions in the future. We also request the cooperation of the public in maintaining decorum in the Metro system," DMRC Executive Director Anuj Dayal said. ENS

BRIEFLY

Inmate hides 4 phones in stomach

New Delhi: A 25-year-old undertrial concealed four cell phones inside his abdominal cavity at Mandoli Jail, police said Thursday. Police said he vomited three phones, but had to be taken to a hospital for an operation to get the fourth one out. Five months ago, a 24-year-old undertrial had concealed three mobile phones, a charger cable, two SIM cards, a memory card and 10 packets of smack inside his abdominal cavity.

Wanted man arrested

Gurgaon: A wanted man allegedly involved in smuggling of arms in Delhi-NCR and Uttar Pradesh has been arrested by Gurgaon Police. According to police, the man has confessed to having smuggled 150 arms illegally in Delhi-NCR. ENS

Child safety week at North body schools

New Delhi: The North Delhi Municipal Corporation has directed its schools to observe "Child Safety Week" from September 9-14, during which children will be told about concepts such as "safe touch". The North body is undertaking the initiative with the Delhi Commission For Protection of Child Rights.

Fire in Pragati Maidan

New Delhi: A fire broke out at an under-construction building in Pragati Maidan Thursday morning, a DFS official said. Five fire tenders were rushed to the spot. PTI

7 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



BIGGER TEAM

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah chaired the 24th meeting of the Western Zonal Council in Goa on Thursday. These meetings are generally low-key affairs, with barely a couple of bureaucrats accompanying the minister. However, in Shah's first such meeting as Home Minister, as many as eight bureaucrats accompanied him. Among them were Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, the additional secretary of border management division and multiple joint secretaries. Chief Ministers of all key states in the western zone also attended.

VOICING SUPPORT

THAT CONGRESS president Sonia Gandhi was completely supportive of Rahul Gandhi stepping down as party chief, taking responsibility for the Lok Sabha election defeat, became clear on Thursday when she equated his act with her husband Rajiv Gandhi's decision not to stake claim for government formation in 1989. She said the Congress had emerged as the single largest party then, but Rajiv did not stake claim because his moral strength, magnanimity and honesty did not allow him to do so. "Nobody can do it today, the way Rajiv-ji did it. Rahul did it," she said.

NEW LOOK

IT IS not often that a fusion rock band like Kabir Cafe performs at a political party event. That, too, an event organised by India's grand old party — to mark the 75th birth anniversary of former PM Rajiv Gandhi. Well, the Congress, it seems, thought it would be appropriate to adapt to the changing times as it remembered Rajiv, who at 40 was India's youngest Prime Minister. Kabir Cafe was not the only attraction, actor Swara Bhaskar was the master of ceremonies. In attendance were Sonia Gandhi, Rahul and Priyanka, and the top leadership of the Congress, including CMs Ashok Gehlot, Kamal Nath and Bhupesh Baghel. While performing its last song for the evening, the band urged those who could stand to be on their feet. Among the first to stand up was former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. Soon the entire top leadership was on their feet, prompting Bhaskar to observe later that the Congress, which is often called the grand old party, now looks like the grand young party of India.



Congress president Sonia Gandhi at an event to mark the 75th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi on Thursday. Anil Sharma

Rajiv had majority but didn't use it to crush dissent: Sonia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

ADDRESSING CONGRESS leaders and workers for the first time since her appointment as Congress president again, Sonia Gandhi on Thursday said the party faces "formidable" challenges but it must continue its "ideological struggle against forces of divisiveness".

"Electoral ups and downs are inevitable. The challenges that our party confronts today are formidable but what we must continue is our ideological struggle against the forces of divisiveness, the forces that are out to change the very nature of our society, the very idea of India that is enshrined in our Constitution," she said at an event to mark the 75th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Recalling his contribution to nation-building, she said, "Rajiv took the first steps for the liberalisation and globalisation of the Indian economy, but he was also mindful that if India were to acquire a special place on the world stage then it should be self-reliant. And then you have to do it through your deeds and conduct and not by displaying your arrogance and sloganeering."

Oppn unites to seek release of J&K leaders, divided on Art 370

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

OVER A fortnight after the special status enjoyed by Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 was revoked, the state divided into two Union territories and an unprecedented clampdown imposed, Opposition parties on Thursday held their first joint protest demanding immediate release of political leaders under detention and restoration of normalcy. However, the divergence in views in the Opposition camp on the BJP government's Kashmir move was clearly visible once again at the protest attended by leaders of 10 parties.

While parties such as the BSP, NCP and AAP were not present, the Trinamool Congress and DMK were silent on Article 370 and bifurcation of the state and instead confined themselves to demanding the release of detained leaders. Leaders of the Congress, Left parties and RJD, on the other hand, slammed the BJP government for revoking the special status, arguing that its Kashmir gambit was an assault on the Constitution and democracy, and asked everyone to prepare for a "long fight".

The Congress as also the Opposition camp had been divided on abrogation of the special



Opposition leaders Ghulam Nabi Azad and Sitaram Yechury at the protest at Jantar Mantar on Thursday. Tashi Tobgyal

status. Hence, the DMK, which brought all the parties together, had consciously confined the protest to demanding the release of detained leaders. Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad said Article 370 was added to the Constitution of India after much deliberation and "any further change could have been brought only on the recommendation of the Constituent Assembly of J&K".

Arguing that 95 per cent of the people of India "do not know what the Kashmir issue is," he said, "the ruling party has played a great joke with the Constitution. Whatever

they have done with the state of J&K was totally unconstitutional." Claiming that the media is being pressured and controlled, he said "these are signs of dictatorship and autocracy", and argued "we are no more living in a democracy... if we fail to understand that, we are living in a fool's paradise".

Azad and other leaders, including CPM's Sitaram Yechury, CPI's D Raja, SP's Ram Gopal Yadav, Trinamool Congress's Dinesh Trivedi, Loktantrik Janata Dal's Sharad Yadav and RJD's Manoj Jha asked the government to remove the communications blackout and other restrictions immediately.

Trivedi said, "If the people of J&K are in trouble... it is our duty to stand in solidarity with them... our political leaders who have been taken behind bars... please tell us what is the crime they have done... today's meeting has only one agenda... please release the political detainees."

Raja, on the other hand, said, "Scrapping Article 370, downgrading the J&K state as Union territories is nothing but a sinister design... Modi government is a government controlled by RSS and RSS wants to push through its agenda of Hindu Rashtra and is demolishing everything we have built in the country after Independence."

In a resolution passed during the protest, the Opposition parties said that as a consequence of abrogation of the provisions of Article 370 without holding consultations with the people of Jammu and Kashmir or their representatives, an undeclared state of Emergency had come into force in the Valley. "Such actions go against the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of India and need to be immediately reversed. We demand immediate release of all public representatives of mainstream political parties and innocent citizens," the resolution stated. **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

In Valley, govt staff go to work looking over the shoulder, attendance thin

ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 22

AIJAZ AHMAD, a resident of South Kashmir's Pulwama district, travels more than 30 km to reach his office in Srinagar. But the journey is not easy these days. He hitchhikes and walks, past paramilitary personnel and angry youths.

"I am wearing slippers instead of shoes. I don't want to be recognised as a government employee," says Aijaz, sitting in his office here on Thursday. "The boys on the roads are angry. If they know I am going to office, I don't know what will happen to me."

In the last two days, Aijaz was stopped by youths twice. He told them he was going to a hospital. While the attendance in gov-

ernment offices here is well below normal, the employees say that going to work is a daily struggle that entails risk.

Aijaz's colleague, a resident of Baramulla in north Kashmir, sports a shalwar kameez instead of shirt and pants. "If my neighbours find out I am going to office, there will be a reprisal," he says.

"I have kept my departmental card at home. Instead, I am carrying an Aadhaar card. Someone threw a stone at my car when I was going home," he adds.

After the morning prayers on Monday, local residents reportedly made an announcement from a mosque in Srinagar's Alamgari Bazar asking government employees to stay home.

The Indian Express visited six

government offices here on Thursday, where officials said that attendance was more than 50 per cent. At the office of Chief Engineer of Irrigation and Flood Control Department in Rajbagh neighbourhood, 17 of 35 employees were present at 10.30 am. "Nearly 50-60 per cent employees are attending offices," said an official. "Some employees come from faraway places, but in the present circumstances it is difficult to reach."

Attendance was nearly 60 per cent at the Public Works Department office, located near the Flood Control Department. "Some of the staff is able to reach office. But we deal with the public, and hardly anyone visits us these days. We are sitting idle all day," said an employee.

According to the govern-

ment, there has been a gradual increase in employee attendance. However, the employees said it is difficult to commute, especially with no public transport in the city.

"We know we are risking our lives to reach office. Is there any option? There are strict instructions from higher-ups to come to work. Even though there is no public transport," said Mohammed Younis, an employee.

The staff said that the communications blackout added to the difficulty. "After we leave home, our family members are anxious through the day. A similar situation is faced by our colleagues when we leave office. There is no way to communicate, to know if everyone reached home safely," said an employee.

Imran: No point in talking to them (India)... anything can happen

SHUBHAJIT ROY
PARIS, AUGUST 22

PAKISTAN'S PRIME Minister Imran Khan has said that he does not want to pursue dialogue with India, and with the face-off between two "nuclear-armed countries", "anything can happen" — indicating conflict between the two countries.

The Indian government did not respond to Khan's comments, but Delhi has maintained that dialogue can happen only after Pakistan creates an atmosphere free from terrorism and violence. In an interview to *The New York Times* published on Thursday, Khan said, "There is no point in talking to them. I mean, I have done all the talking. Unfortunately, now when I look back, all the overtures that I was making for peace and dialogue, I think they took it for appeasement. There is nothing more that we can do."



'All the overtures that I was making for peace and dialogue, I think they took it for appeasement'

While ruling out any more efforts for Pakistan, Khan — who has spoken to US President Donald Trump at least twice since India scrapped the special status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 — again raised the spectre of a looming conflict between the two countries. "And then you are looking at two nuclear-armed countries eyeball to eyeball, and anything can happen," he said.

"My worry is that this can escalate and for two nuclear-armed countries, it should be alarming for the world what we are facing now."

Khan continued with the allegations he made on Twitter earlier, and was asked by Trump to tone down, after PM Modi told Trump that "extreme rhetoric and incitement to anti-India violence" by certain leaders in the region was "not conducive to peace".

Khan said, "The most important thing is that eight million people's lives are at risk. We are all worried that there is ethnic cleansing and genocide about to happen." He also expressed concern that India might undertake a deceptive "false-flag operation" in Kashmir to try to justify military action against Pakistan. And Pakistan, he said, would be forced to respond.

Besides Trump, leaders from UK, France and European Union have spoken to leaders from both countries in the past two weeks.

'India, others will have to fight Afghan terrorists'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22

COUNTRIES LIKE India, Iran, Russia and Turkey would have to fight against terrorists in Afghanistan at some point of time, US President Donald Trump has said, ruling that the job against the extremists is being done only by the US some 7,000 miles away.

"At a certain point, Russia, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Turkey, they are going to have to fight their battles too. We wiped out the caliphate 100 per cent. I did it in record time, but at a certain point, all of these other countries where ISIS is around — they have been decimated by the way, badly decimated," Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday while responding to a question on the re-emergence of ISIS in Afghanistan.

"All of these countries are going to have to fight them because do we want to stay there for an-

Govt's hope: no escalation in J&K until PM's speech at UNGA

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AWARE OF the international spotlight on Jammu and Kashmir after it removed its special status, split it and downgraded the state into a Union Territory, the NDA government is keen to avoid any escalation that can draw further global attention to the issue ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to United Nations General Assembly on September 27, sources told *The Indian Express*.

Sources said the government's aim to avoid giving more ammunition to Pakistan over Kashmir could also influence its decisions on further steps on the ground. "The government is keen to see that the situation on the ground is seen as easing without any major incidents before the Prime Minister attends the UNGA meeting," said a source.

The source added that this could also mean easing of curbs on political leaders "but it's still early days".

Since the J&K move, several Opposition leaders have been detained across the state, including former chief ministers Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah. Sources said the government is aware that their prolonged detention could seriously undermine its case that the move is meant to strengthen governance.

A number of moves by the government over the last few days indicate this mood, sources said. On August 16, hours before the UNSC's closed-door consultation on Kashmir on China's request, J&K Chief Secretary B V R Subrahmanyam announced easing of restrictions in the Valley. He said that communication would be restored in a phased manner.

According to sources, Prime Minister Modi's visit to UAE Friday ahead of the G-7 summit in Biarritz, would be used as an opportunity to clarify India's position on the issue, just like Foreign Minister S Jaishankar's meetings in Beijing during his August 11-13 visit and August



Blunting Pak moves

PAKISTANI ATTEMPTS to ratchet up the tension over India's move on J&K and rattle up support on global platforms have made little headway, barring an informal consultation within the UNSC at China's behest. Most countries, including some OIC members, have made it clear that Kashmir is a bilateral issue.

19-21 visit to Dhaka.

"All these meetings will prepare the ground for Prime Minister Modi's visit to UNGA where Pakistan is expected to go hammer and tongs over our move on Kashmir," said sources. Modi is expected to address the UN General Assembly on September 27 while Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan is expected to raise the Kashmir issue during his speech.

Sources said the government and the BJP are "optimistic" that the "situation in Kashmir" would "improve" by the middle of September.

What that improvement means no one is hazarding a guess. The view in the BJP is that the situation isn't "as bad as had been anticipated". But there is also the realisation that cell phones are off, lockdown is prolonged and this has ensured that protests are sporadic and smaller in scale, more neighbourhood oriented. "Once phones are back, that may quickly change," said a source.

"But the party had done a lot of preparation which included taking small communities and different groups in the Valley into confidence," a senior BJP leader said. "Both the BJP leadership and the Prime Minister himself met a number of people from the Valley."

Intel alert: Pak trying to push Afghan militants into India

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

INTELLIGENCE INPUTS have indicated that Pakistan is trying to push an estimated 100 Afghan militants into India. These militants have been brought to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and are ready to cross into Kashmir, according to the inputs.

Top sources in the security establishment also said that close to 15 such militants were identified at a launchpad in PoK's Lipa Valley about three days ago. Lipa Valley is opposite the Uri and Tangdhar sectors in Jammu and Kashmir.

After Article 370 was abrogated, these intelligence inputs warn of militants targeting security forces in the Valley. Beyond Kashmir, sources stated that major Indian cities could also be their intended targets, with Delhi, Maharashtra and Gujarat already put on alert.

The sources said that there was a Jaish-e-Mohammed meeting in Bahawalpur on August 19-20, which was attended by launch commanders and was chaired by Abdul Rauf Asghar, the brother of JeM-founder Masood Azhar.

The rationale behind sending battle-hardened Afghans, top sources said, is that very few locals from the Valley have managed to get trained across the border in the recent past, and most are ill-trained. Most local militants have a "very short shelf life", the sources said.

There is an "overall recruitment drive" being conducted in PoK, the security establishment sources mentioned.

PM to unveil memorial today for victims of AI crashes



EXPRESS AT G-7
SHUBHAJIT ROY
PARIS, AUGUST 22

ON THE morning of November 3, 1950, Air India flight AI 245, Malabar Princess, from Bombay to London, crashed at the Mont Blanc Massif, killing all 48 people on board. Sixteen years later, on

January 24, 1966, another Air India flight 101, Kanchenjunga, from Bombay to London, crashed near the same spot, killing all 117 people on board including renowned nuclear physicist Dr Homi Jehangir Bhabha.

Decades later, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unveil a memorial for the victims of the two plane crashes in Saint Gervais, near the French Alps, about five hours from Paris, via video conference on Friday.

Built in the form of a cairn — a stack of stones — the monument is symbolic of "perfectly aligned thoughts" and ties of the two countries, officials here said.

"The younger generation does not know anything about those two crashes. With the Prime Minister talking about it tomorrow, it will once again be brought to the consciousness of the people. It is, after all, part of our aviation history," said Chandan R Barooah (54), an Air India flight purser whose father Ramesh Chandra Barooah, an Air India flight engineer, died in the 1966 crash.

It was by pure chance that an Indian diplomatic bag that went down with the Air India aircraft that crashed in January 1966 was discovered in the French Alps in August 2012. The diplomatic bag, with markings saying

"diplomatic mail" and "Ministry of External Affairs", was recovered from Mont Blanc by a mountain rescue worker and his neighbour, after some tourists spotted it on a glacier.

And, in a remarkable coincidence, the bag returned home in Barooah's custody. Barooah said it was out of curiosity that he had inquired about the bag handed over to him in September 2012 by an Indian Embassy official in Paris, with the instruction that it was of "historic value". The official told him that the bag was a remnant of the Air India crash in which Homi J Bhabha had died. Barooah said his eyes welled

up. "It was all a matter of destiny... the remnants of that crash on my flight, that too in my custody," he told *The Indian Express*.

Classified as "Type C", the 9-kg bag had no official or secret diplomatic communication. It had newspapers with feature stories on the Vietnam War, a photograph of then prime minister Indira Gandhi, and the planned exchange of a captured air crew between India and Pakistan. "Till today, the cause of the two accidents at the same place near Mont Blanc with the same airline, Air India, remains a mystery. I hope that with the PM talking about the crash, there is some closure on the investigations," he said.

KARTIKEYA MISRA, EAST GODAVARI DM

AWARD CATEGORY: SKILL DEVELOPMENT

From TV technicians to priests in US — how a skilling programme brought jobless youths, companies together

SREENIVAS JANYALA
EAST GODAVARI, AUGUST 22

THREE YEARS ago, when Kartikeya Misra took charge as the District Magistrate of East Godavari in Andhra Pradesh, he was flooded with applications from youths seeking jobs. "I knew there were a number of jobs available in the market but somehow the companies were unable to find these youths and these youngsters didn't find the jobs they wanted," says the 38-year-old, who joined the civil service in 2009.

"The resumes of these youths were sketchy, they did not have clarity on the skills required for a particular job. Some of them wanted to be self-employed, but didn't know where to start. I wanted to do something to bridge the gap, to connect these jobless youths to employment opportunities," the officer says.



So in May 2017, Misra started 'Kaushal Godavari', a skill development initiative "to harness the potential of youth of East Godavari and make them self-reliant by helping them earn their livelihood and become responsible citizens".



On August 21, Misra was among 15 district magistrates to be honoured with the The Indian Express Excellence in Governance Awards that celebrated the finest work done by DMs across the country. "The crux really lies in making demand and supply match. There are many jobs available in the Rs 10,000-

20,000 per month bracket, and for that companies have to look here and there. What we did is that we brought it together in one place," Misra said after receiving the award. As part of the project, 25,000



Kartikeya Misra receives the award from Minister of State in the PMO Jitendra Singh; (right) two youths who, after pursuing a skilling course, are set to work as priests at a temple in the US.



people in the 18-35 age group were offered training through short-term skill development courses and provided placements. So far, nearly 18,000 of

these youths have found jobs in around 200 companies in the country and abroad. "If 10 or more people request for training for a particular skill,

we arrange for it. Drone operation, fruit and vegetable carving, earth-moving machine operation, filing GST returns... We are imparting all kinds of training,"

says V N Rao, project director of Kaushal Godavari. At Foxconn, the mobile and electronics manufacturing giant at Sri City in Andhra Pradesh's

Nellore district, young women from Chinturu, a remote tribal area in East Godavari district, trained under the Kaushal Godavari programme work on the assembly lines. Most women here come from extremely poor households and say the training changed their lives or else "we would have been married off".

Nearly 1,000 people, including 700 women, from tribal communities such as Kondareddy and Koyas in Chinturu have got jobs after being trained under Kaushal Godavari. Speaking of how the programme "changed our lives", Chinturu tehsildar P Tejeshwara Rao says, "The people here are very conservative and do not usually send their daughters out to work to distant places. But the officials convinced the youths here, especially those who had passed Class 10 and 12, to attend the training camp. Many girls from our area now work in mobile companies and earn up to Rs 10,000 a month. They also send money back home, which is very helpful since most families here are very poor."

Initially, training is provided to youths to become air-conditioner and television technicians, desktop publishers and welders, says Chandra Reddy, the skill development in-charge at the DM's office. "We would request an experienced AC technician or

welder to train the youths. We also provided motivational talks. Most of the courses are short-term — one week to 15 days. So far, we have helped about 2,600 people to become self-employed," he says.

At the Kaushal Godavari building inside the District Collectorate in East Godavari, a batch of 60 young men and women are waiting to receive their certificates in networking analysis from HCL — the company trained them free of cost and will now employ at least 20 candidates. In another room, two youths who pursued a refresher course to become priests are being guided about their trip to Dallas, US, where they will be working at a temple. "My training included computer skills, basic English and grammar, driving... All skills required in the US," says B Shrikant, one of the two men.

Kakinada Rural MLA P Anantha Lakshmi believes the initiative has given youths a "successful job platform". "The programme is helping youths figure out skills they need to get a job. People can also register online by giving their education qualifications, type of training they would like to do, and their job preference. They have stopped coming to me with job applications; they directly go to Kaushal Godavari now," she says.

'Will continue alliance with Sena... but we work as if our fight is in all seats'

THE BJP has started preparations for the Maharashtra Assembly elections, but there is uncertainty over its alliance with the Shiv Sena. In an interview with LIZ MATHEW, SAROJ PANDE, BJP general secretary in charge of Maharashtra, said that although BJP wants to continue the alliance, it is also prepared to contest all 288 seats. Excerpts:



There is lot of talk on the stability of the BJP-Sena alliance. Is the BJP sure that it is continuing the partnership in the upcoming elections?

We have been in alliance and we are in 95 per cent agreement that we will continue to be in alliance. Our efforts are towards that. But we work in 288 constituencies as if our fight is in all 288 seats. In fact, our efforts in Sena's seats are such that we will fight and win elections there too. That's how our preparations are.

Does it mean that the BJP is still open to going solo?

In politics, anything can happen anytime. But we want to remain together. That's how we are going ahead.

The Sena has talked about the chief minister's post

In BJP, it is always the elected legislators who choose the Chief Minister. Once the election is over, party MLAs sit together and elect a Chief Minister. But in Maharashtra, we are moving ahead with the position that the Chief Minister will be from the BJP. It has already been talked about and decided that there will be a BJP Chief Minister.

You have travelled extensively in Maharashtra



before preparing for elections. The state has witnessed several crises, including agrarian issues. What do you see as the biggest challenge for the BJP in the elections?

Actually, the state government has done a lot of work. The Chief Minister's (Devendra Fadnavis) image is also really good. People are in favour of the current chief minister. Whatever be the issue, the Chief Minister has worked honestly to find a solution. In fact, Maharashtra has had such good governance after a long time... Along with that, we have an advantage that our Prime Minister is also a very popular face. Earlier, governments spoke of poverty alleviation. But it was Modi-ji who brought in effective remedies for changing lives of the poor. So, Prime Minister's image

also will be an election issue.

Kashmir was an emotional topic for Indians. With the scrapping of the special status for Jammu and Kashmir, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has proved that only decisive leaders can take action that would change history. People had issues with Article 370 and Section 35 A and people wanted a leader who would make bold moves. Now people feel this is a strong and decisive government. We will definitely get advantage...

What relief did the Fadnavis government bring for the drought-hit farmers?

The state government took several measures. The Chief Minister engaged one minister to tackle this issue and he even delayed the Mahajanadesh Yatra for completion of projects in the drought-hit region.

There are some leaders in Maharashtra BJP who have differences with the Chief Minister. Some of them even nurse the ambition of occupying the top seat. Did you make any effort to bring everyone together?

The party will fight the election united. I do not think we have any issue.

Have you started talks with Sena on seat allocation?

Not yet. But we will soon begin the talks.

Has the crumbling of the Opposition and the weakening of the Congress created any complacency among the BJP leaders?

We are trying to get out of it. I know that feeling should not be there.

Oppn: Manner of Chidambaram arrest depressing, objectionable

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE OPPOSITION on Thursday came out in support of former Union minister P Chidambaram, who was arrested by the CBI on Wednesday, saying that the manner in which he was arrested was "depressing" and "objectionable". The Congress hit out at the BJP-led government, accusing it of using the CBI and the Enforcement Directorate as "revenge-seeking departments".

Responding to Chidambaram's arrest in the INX media case, West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee told reporters, "I have only one thing to say. I believe that sometimes the process is incorrect. I am not talking about the legality of the matter, but he (Chidambaram) is a senior politician, ex-finance and home minister of this country. The way his matter is being handled is very depressing, very sad and bad."

"We should not forget that the Indian democracy rests on the four pillars of the legislature, the executive, the judiciary, and the press... We are missing democracy in our country... I will not make any comment on the judiciary... but the media has turned into BJP's spokesperson. Whatever they (the BJP) are saying, the channels are telecasting," she said.

CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury told the media, "The law will take its own course, but the manner in which it was done, the drama that ensued was completely objectionable."

In Chennai, DMK chief M K Stalin termed Chidambaram's



Karti Chidambaram at the protest at Jantar Mantar on Thursday. Tashi Tobgyal

arrest as "political vendetta". "I saw on TV, the CBI officers scaling the walls (at Chidambaram's Delhi residence). I consider it an insult to India. It is condemnable," he told reporters.

The NCP's chief spokesperson Nawab Malik alleged that it is the Narendra Modi government's "model" of "misusing" probe agencies to harass Opposition leaders who speak up against it.

Targeting the government, Congress communication department in-charge Randeep Surjewala said, "The vindictive, selective and malicious manner

in which former finance and home minister Chidambaram has been persecuted and prosecuted is nothing short of a brazen personal and political vendetta... Over the last two days, India witnessed the broad daylight murder of democracy and the rule of law by a government hell-bent upon using CBI and ED as personal revenge-seeking departments for the party in power."

The BJP hit back, with Union Minister Prakash Javadekar saying the INX media case was a "case of massive corruption". Attacking the Congress for supporting Chidambaram, he said

the party has "united to protect corruption" and that a court's decision to send him to CBI custody for four days shows a "prima facie case of corruption".

"The Congress is synonymous with corruption. During the Congress rule, we have seen one scam a day — coal scam, 2G scam, CWG scam, Jeejaji scam, this INX scam, A to Z scams because looting the country was their only mission and the law is now catching up," he said.

Arguing that the government will not interfere in the work of CBI or any other investigating agency, he said the law will take its own course.

UK council order to shut Ambedkar memorial an insult to India, says Athawale

SHALINI NAIR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

MINISTER OF State for Social Justice and Empowerment and RPI (A) leader Ramdas Athawale has termed the move by a United Kingdom council to close down a memorial dedicated to B R Ambedkar as "an insult to India".

The Camden council in London recently turned down an application filed by Indian authorities to turn the four-storey property into an official memorial for Ambedkar and ruled that it should be maintained as a residential complex in view of complaints from local residents regarding the number of visitors in recent years.

The 2050-sqft property at 10 King Henry's Road at London's Primrose Hill is where Ambedkar lived between 1921-22 while studying at the London School of Economics. The Maharashtra government purchased the property in a 3.1 million pound deal in 2015, a few months after which it was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It was converted into a memorial and thrown open to the public two years later. The Maharashtra government through the law firm Singhania & Co is reportedly appealing against the council's move on September 24.

Athawale told *The Indian Express*, "They ruled over India for over 150 years and many of the statues they installed back then are still all over the country. How then can they object to us having a memorial for the architect of the Indian Constitution in London? This is a serious issue and I will take it up with the Minister for External Affairs and the Prime Minister who inaugurated the memorial. If need be, the issue will be raised in UK Parliament."

In reply to the application made by Indian authorities, the Camden council noted, "The four-storey property does not have permission to be used as a museum and must be returned to residential use." The report suggested that an alternative site could be found for the purpose since "Dr Ambedkar lived there for a comparatively short time".

Earlier this week, Dalit and human rights organisations held protests at London's Parliament Square against the move.

Maharashtra elections: Scindia named chairman of Cong screening committee

SANDEEP ASHAR
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

WITH THE Congress campaign for the Maharashtra polls yet to pick up, the party high command on Thursday constituted a six-member screening committee for the state, signalling intent to finalise the party's candidates at the earliest. Former Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia will head the committee.

Sources said that Congress president Sonia Gandhi has expressed her displeasure over the slow pace of preparations. Following her intervention, the party's poll managers held an ur-



gent meeting in New Delhi, where the campaign strategy and ongoing negotiations with the allies were reviewed on Thursday. The other members of the committee are Rajasthan Revenue Minister Harish Chaudhary, Tamil Nadu MP Manickam Tagore, AICC in charge of Maharashtra Mallikarjun Kharge, state party president Balasaheb Thorat and state legislative party leader K C Padavi.

With Assembly polls due in October, the model code of conduct is expected to kick in mid-September. "There isn't much time left. The party leadership wants the state unit to finalise seat-sharing talks with the allies and the party's own candidates at the earliest," a senior leader said. Last week saw Sonia firefighting dissidence. At a time when the state party unit is rattled by desertions, the Congress president reportedly reached out to a couple of disgruntled leaders, said a senior leader.

Having failed to project a single face ahead of the polls, the Congress on Thursday decided to launch regionwise poll campaigns.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

A GROUP of Supreme Court advocates have protested against the Supreme Court's denial of urgent hearing on Wednesday for former Union home minister P Chidambaram's petition for interim bail in the INX Media case.

At least 140 lawyers practising in the Supreme Court, including senior advocates C U Singh, Meenakshi Arora and Harin P Raval, signed the statement and urged the Supreme Court Bar Association to pass a resolution against the court's ac-

"The denial of urgent listing in a matter of anticipatory bail of a senior member of the Bar leads us to conclude that the rule of law and democracy are in peril."

LAWYERS' STATEMENT

The lawyers also demanded that the Bar take up the issue with the Chief Justice of India urgently.

"The founders of the Constitution could never have imagined that the Supreme Court could deny urgent and im-

mediate listing upon mentioning of a matter related to a senior member of the Bar," the advocates said in the statement. "The denial of urgent listing in a matter of anticipatory bail of a senior member of the Bar leads us to conclude that the rule of law and democracy are in peril."

The statement said that the Bar was disappointed that even a hearing was denied to Chidambaram, former minister and senior advocate, despite the court's proactive stance in cases related to protection of personal liberty.

On Wednesday, a team of lawyers, including senior advo-



NORTH

Girl set ablaze by neighbour, condition critical: Police

Lucknow: A 19-year-old man was arrested on Thursday for allegedly setting a 17-year-old girl on fire in Sitapur district on Wednesday. The victim has suffered around 60 per cent burn injuries and is undergoing treatment in Lucknow where her condition is stated to be critical. Khairabad circle officer

Yogendra Singh said the incident occurred around 5 pm on Wednesday. "The girl and the boy are neighbours and had been in a relationship. The girl informed us that the accused was putting pressure on her to marry him. When she denied, he got agitated and committed the crime," he added. **ENS**



Children dressed as Lord Krishna ahead of Janmashtami, in Lucknow on Thursday. Vishal Srivastav

EAST

Calcutta HC stays warrant against Shashi Tharoor

Kolkata: The Calcutta High Court on Thursday stayed a bailable arrest warrant issued against Congress MP Shashi Tharoor for his "Hindu Pakistan" remark. During the hearing, a bench of Justice Rajasekhara Mantha directed Tharoor's lawyer to serve notice on Sumit Chowdhury, who had filed the case against

the Congress MP, and fixed the matter for hearing on September 20. Tharoor's counsel, Ritzu Ghoshal, who is also a Congress leader, moved the petition ex-parte, challenging the warrant against Tharoor, claiming that the summons issued by the chief metropolitan magistrate was faulty. **ENS**

WEST

Man arrested for sexually assaulting dog: Police

Navi Mumbai: A 22-year-old man was arrested by the Kharghar police on charges of bestiality after he allegedly sexually assaulted a stray dog on August 14. He was arrested on Wednesday night and remanded in custody for five days, police said. According to Kharghar police, the accused has been identified as Munna Singh (22), a resident

of Bihar. According to PETA activist Meet Ashar, "The accused had been caught on camera by a group of friends while he was forcing himself on the animal. The group went to police on August 16, but their complaint was registered only on August 21." The officer added, "the accused seems to be a repeat-offender." **ENS**

SOUTH

HC grants three weeks parole extension to Nalini

Chennai: The Madras High Court on Thursday granted a three-week extension to the ongoing parole of Nalini, one of the convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. Last month, the court had granted her ordinary leave for 30 days for making arrangements for her daughter's wedding. Her pa-

role was extended after she approached a division bench seeking an extension of one month. During the hearing, the public prosecutor submitted that the Tamil Nadu Suspension of Sentence Rules, 1982, provides for a maximum 30-day period as ordinary leave for a convict at a point of time. **ENS**

Affidavits of Muslim residents spoke of temple demolition, apex court told

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AFFIDAVITS FILED by several Muslim residents of Ayodhya before the Faizabad magistrate after idols were placed inside the Babri Masjid spoke about a temple being demolished to make way for the mosque and a willingness to return the land to Hindus, the counsel for the temple side told the Supreme Court on Thursday.

Senior advocate Ranjit Kumar, who appeared for Rajendra Singh — one of the plaintiffs in the original civil suit in the Ayodhya land matter — told a Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi that these affidavits had not been accepted as evidence by the Allahabad High Court as the authors of these documents were not examined. Kumar told the bench, also

comprising Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer, that these affidavits, 14 in all, were filed in response to a notice issued by the Additional City Magistrate, Faizabad-cum-Ayodhya, Markendeya Singh while attaching the building after idols were placed inside it on December 23, 1949.

The notice, published in three newspapers, asked Hindu and Muslim residents of Ayodhya to appear before the City Magistrate on January 17, 1950, "and put in written statements of their respective claims with regard to the fact of actual possession of the subject of the dispute".

An affidavit by one Abdul Ghani also said that only Friday prayers were allowed as per the orders of the king and later, the British.

Justice Bhushan sought to know if he could establish the



veracity of the statements.

Kumar said the magistrate had verified their sanctity and identity of those who filed them. "These affidavits speak of some facts. They (authors) were not cross examined. If they had said anything wrong, others would have objected," he submitted.

"The notice was by publication. What is the inference to be drawn? They were all residents of Ayodhya... If you give notice, publish in three papers, these statements are verified, their identity is verified..." Kumar continued.



MNS chief Raj Thackeray at the ED office in Mumbai on Thursday. Ganesh Shirshakar

Raj Thackeray questioned by ED, security tightened in Mumbai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

MAHARASHTRA NAVNIRMAN Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray on Thursday was questioned for over eight hours by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) at its Mumbai office, in a money laundering case pertaining to the IL&FS group's loan equity investment of over Rs 850 crore in a company called Kohinoor CTNL. Thackeray's family and senior MNS leaders accompanied him to the ED office at 11:30 am, leaving only around 8:00 pm.

The Mumbai Police had heightened security in the city and detained several MNS leaders early in the morning to ensure no protests broke out. MNS activists had earlier planned to hold statewide protests and gather outside the ED office. The move, however, was called off after the party chief himself made an appeal to his supporters to maintain calm.

The Mumbai Police, on its part, heightened security in parts of Mumbai and had also imposed Section 144 of CrPC (banning unlawful assembly) outside the ED office.

The police also rounded up MNS leaders, including former MNS corporator Sandeep Deshpande. MNS activists,

ENTIRE FAMILY BEHIND MNS CHIEF: RAUT

Mumbai: Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut on Thursday said the entire Thackeray family is behind MNS chief Raj Thackeray, who appeared before the ED on Thursday. "Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray already said nothing will come out of the ED inquiry. As Sena chief has already extended his support, the entire Thackeray family is behind the MNS chief. Though we are opponents in politics, we are together during tough times. This is the teaching of Shiv Sena patriarch Balasaheb Thackeray," he said to reporters. **ENS**

meanwhile, protested against the summons to their party chief by wearing T shirts which equated the ED to "Hitler".

The case pertains to a loan investment made by IL&FS in 2009. Thackeray, his business partner in Matoshree Infrastructure Rajan Shirodkar, and Unmesh Joshi — the son of former Maharashtra CM Manohar Joshi and owner of the Kohinoor Group — had purchased a 4.8 acre piece of land auctioned by the National Textile

Corporation for a sum of Rs 421 crore in 2005. IL&FS, through its subsidiary Consolidated Toll Network India (CTNL), had acted as a syndication agency for the deal, worth Rs 421 crore. The consortium, called Kohinoor-CTNL, was planning to build a commercial skyscraper called Kohinoor Central.

However, after a real estate slump, Thackeray reportedly exited the consortium by selling shares at a profit of Rs 62 crore in 2009. IL&FS too exited the consortium but subsequently advanced loans of up to Rs 860 crore to Kohinoor-CTNL, which the company could not repay. The precarious financial condition of the company had also led to Unmesh Joshi, who was the only remaining partner invested in the deal, to lose control of Kohinoor-CTNL, which was then taken over by another company.

The ED is presently investigating the role of IL&FS officials for sanctioning loans without ensuring adequate collateral security, which has caused losses to the company.

According to sources familiar with the matter, Thackeray was questioned on the status of his investments in Matoshree Infrastructure, why he exited the consortium, and the financial benefits he received after selling his stake.

"That's all. But court can't say these statements are correct," the bench intervened.

The senior counsel said "to discard them completely because they were not cross examined won't be proper".

"If they (those who filed it) had been produced before the High Court, it would have been different," pointed out Justice Bobde.

Kumar said, "My statements were before the magistrate. There would have been other Muslim parties and they would have objected. I'm not asking to take it as gospel truth, but an inference can be drawn."

"What I want to show is that the puja, darshan, worship was always going on and my right of worship continues as it was before... My right to worship is an unfettered right and it flows from centuries. It should be protected," the senior advocate added.

Kolkata car crash: Arsalan gets bail, elder scion in 12-day custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, AUGUST 22

ARSALAN PARVEZ (22), the scion of Kolkata's renowned Arsalan chain of restaurants, was on Thursday granted conditional bail here, five days after two Bangladeshi nationals were killed in a crash triggered by a speeding Jaguar allegedly driven by his elder brother Raghib Parvez.

Raghib, who was arrested on Wednesday, has been remanded in police custody for 12 days while Arsalan's maternal uncle Mohammad Hamza, who allegedly helped Raghib escape to Dubai after the accident, was released on conditional bail.

"Arsalan Parvez, who had taken the blame on himself, and his maternal uncle Mohammad Hamza, who allegedly helped Raghib escape to Dubai, were released on conditional bail by the court. None of them can leave Kolkata," an official said. Raghib has been remanded in police custody till September 3.

Police have claimed that on the night of the accident, Raghib was returning from the birthday party of the son of a prominent Kolkata school's principal. "Just before the incident, he had gone to a birthday party from where he decided to drop his friend. The car was being driven at breakneck speed," a police officer said.

Raghib is said to have returned to the city on Monday.

Late Friday night, the SUV, allegedly being driven at 150 km per hour, rammed into a Mercedes, which then crashed into a police kiosk on a pavement near Park Street, where three Bangladeshi nationals had taken shelter from the rain. Two of them died on the spot; the third is injured. Hamza and Raghib were arrested on Wednesday after the latter returned to Kolkata. Police have charged Raghib with rash driving, culpable homicide not amounting to murder and attempt to commit culpable homicide.

MAHARASHTRA CO-OP BANK SCAM

Ajit Pawar, state NCP chief may face charges as HC orders FIR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

THE BOMBAY High Court on Thursday directed the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Mumbai Police to file an FIR in the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank (MSCB) scam, in which former deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar and 76 others have been accused of causing financial losses to the tune of Rs 1,000 crore to the MSCB between 2007 and 2011.

The respondents in the case included 37 directors of the bank, including NCP leader Pawar and state party chief Jayant Patil.

In their 84-page order, Justice S C Dharmadhikari and Justice Sandeep Shinde observed that despite an inspection report of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) for 2009-10 and chargesheet filed by a quasi-judicial inquiry commission under the Maharashtra Cooperative Societies (MCS) Act showing "glaring irregularities", the police had not filed an FIR in the matter.

Directing the EOW to file an FIR within five days, the judges said that the "report of inquiries/inspection constitutes credible information and/or material which, prima facie, discloses the commission of cognizable offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code and other penal laws".

Andheri resident Surinder Arora had filed a complaint with the EOW in the matter in 2015. He later filed a criminal public interest litigation in the HC, urging it to direct the police to file an FIR.

Addressing the "moot question" of whether the investigating officer was right in opining that the material does not disclose a cognizable offence, the court said, "The state in this case has neither produced a station diary, nor filed a counter-reply, for satisfying our judicial conscience that a preliminary inquiry was held before reaching a conclusion that the complaint of the peti-



Former deputy CM Ajit Pawar (left) and NCP state chief Jayant Patil may face charges along with 75 others

tioner and report of NABARD has not disclosed commission of cognizable offence. Thus, apart from the oral assertion of Shri (Shrikant) Paropkari (deputy commissioner of police, EOW) there is nothing on record to justify the conclusion."

In view of deficiencies pointed out in the inspection report of NABARD, the RBI had in May 2011 directed to supersede the MSCB board of directors and appoint an administrator to look after the affairs of the bank.

"At the relevant point of time, the bank was managed by the board of directors consisting of 48 members, most of whom were MLAs and MPs of the ruling party. The petitioner alleges that due to the irregularities of the members of the board of directors, the bank had showed both, negative growth and development," the court noted.

Relying on the NABARD report and the chargesheet filed under the MCS Act by the authorised officer of the International Banking Division, Co-operative Societies, the court observed: "The inspection report, therefore, not only points out the discrepancies or irregularities committed by the respondent bank and its directors but also point out that the trust reposed in the bank and its officers has been brazenly breached. The report, prima facie discloses that the bank records were forged and the profits were wrongly shown by abusing the Income Recognition and Asset Clarification norms."

Kerala court finds 10 guilty in case of honour killing

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
AUGUST 22

A KERALA court on Thursday found 10 people guilty in a case of honour killing, in which a Dalit Christian youth was abducted and murdered by his fiancée's upper caste Christian family in Kottayam last year.

Of the 14 people arraigned as accused, four were acquitted by the court. The other 10 have been charged under IPC Section 302 (murder) and Section 364A (kidnapping for ransom), among other charges.

Observing that the murder of Kevin P Joseph, 24, was an incident of honour killing, Kottayam Principal Sessions judge C Jayachandran put on hold serving the quantum of punishment to the 10 found guilty.

Since the murder, Kevin's fiancée Neenu Chacko, 21, has been staying with Kevin's family. The court is expected to deliver the punishment on Saturday.

Special Prosecutor CS Ajayan said the court's observation of honour killing can reflect upon the quantum of sentence — the Supreme Court had earlier stated that honour killing is a circumstance to consider it as a "rarest of rare" case.

During the trial, Neenu, a student, had told the court that her father Chacko, an upper caste Christian hailing from Kollam, had threatened her and Kevin over their relationship.

Chacko, who has married a Muslim woman, Rehna, had told his daughter that marrying a "low caste youth would bring dishonour" to his family. Neenu's cousin Niyas also had warned that the

family would not allow her to live with Kevin.

According to the prosecution, Neenu left her house in Kollam on May 24, intending to marry Kevin and disregarding the objections from her family.

Two days later, they jointly moved an application at a register office in Kottayam, for registering their marriage.

When Neenu's family moved a missing person's complaint with the local police, Neenu and Kevin turned up at the police station, where Chacko was present, the prosecution said.

Neenu told the court that the station house officer wanted her to go with her family, and had even tried to manhandle Kevin.

Neenu then moved to a hostel in Kottayam and Kevin to the house of a relative, Aneesh.

As per the prosecution, a gang, led by Neenu's brother Shynu Chacko, abducted Kevin and Aneesh on May 27, 2018, after vandalising Aneesh's house. Aneesh was later abandoned by the gang after he was tortured.

However, the gang took Kevin to a village in Kollam and forced him to run into a stream.

His body was found in the stream the next day, apparently indicating a case of drowning. But, the prosecution said, forensic examination had revealed that Kevin was murdered by keeping him forcibly under water.

According to the prosecution, Kevin's father, Joseph, approached the police about his son's abduction, but police initially did not take a serious note of the issue. Neenu too had pleaded for help from the police, which was turned down by officials on the grounds that they were on VIP escort duty and could not spare personnel.

Chit fund scam: FIRs against Raman Singh son

Rajnandgaon: Five FIRs have been registered in Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh against former chief minister Raman Singh's son Abhishek Singh, a former MP, and 19 others in connection with an alleged chit fund scam, police said on Thursday.

Former BJP MP Madhusudan Yadav and Congress leader Naresh Dakaliya have also been named as accused besides 17 directors and core committee members of Anmol India Company.

The FIRs were registered at four police stations on the directive of a local court, Rajnandgaon Additional Superintendent of Police UBS Chouhan said. Nobody has been arrested so far, he said.

Five investors from Rajnandgaon filed petitions before a local court, alleging that the company cheated them of lakhs of rupees by promising high returns. **PTI**

2.66 lakh beneficiaries of farmer assistance scheme found ineligible: Odisha minister

SAMPAD PATNAIK
BHUBANESWAR, AUGUST 22

THE ODISHA government has found that 2.66 lakh recipients of assistance under its Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) scheme are not eligible for the benefit, Agriculture Minister Arun Sahoo said on Thursday.

The government will take a call on the process to retrieve the money from the ineligible beneficiaries after August 31, when the scrutiny is complete.

Speaking to the media, Sahoo said, "This (KALIA) is a large scheme. It was seen that there are some beneficiaries who have been found to be ineligible. Exclusion criteria were created. On that basis, nodal officers were

placed at the GP, block and district level. After scrutiny of more than 72 per cent recipients of KALIA assistance, which is around 36.88 lakh (beneficiaries), 2.66 lakh have been found ineligible," he said.

"The scrutiny process will continue till August 31. When the list is completed, we will let you know the final number," he added. "At the GP level, the nodal officers undertaking this scrutiny have been advised not to let a single eligible beneficiary be left behind."

According to the KALIA website, beneficiaries include small and marginal farmers who can get support for cultivation. Landless agricultural households are eligible for livelihood support, and vulnerable agricultural household covering vul-

EXPLAINED Exclusion criteria often overlooked

INELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES crept in through various sources, agriculture department officials said, requesting anonymity. In some cases, multiple members of the same household have applied for KALIA. Others have claimed the benefit without checking exclusion criteria on the KALIA website.

nerable cultivators/ landless agricultural labourers are eligible for financial assistance. Vulnerable cultivators/landless agricultural labourers include those affected by old age, disability, disease.

Small and marginal farmers are provided Rs 10,000 per family per year as assistance for cul-

tivation. KALIA targets 10 lakh landless households, specifically SC and ST families. They are supported with a unit cost of Rs 12,500 for activities like goat rearing, mushroom cultivation, beekeeping, poultry farming and fishery.

The website also mentions categories that are ineligible, such

MP: 3 held for 'role in Pak-based terror funding syndicate'

MILIND GHATWAI
BHOPAL, AUGUST 22

THE ANTI-TERROR squad (ATS) of Madhya Pradesh Police on Thursday secured the custody of three persons, who were detained by the Satna police on Wednesday, for being part of an alleged terror funding syndicate being operated from Pakistan.

One of three accused, Balam Singh, had been arrested in February 2017 in a similar case but was released on bail a few months ago. After lying low for some time, Singh revived the racket again by training some other youths, the police claimed.

Five suspects, including Balam, Sunil Singh and Shubham Mishra, were on Wednesday picked up by Satna Police, who also seized their mobile phones after receiving a specific tip-off that they were in regular touch with people based in Pakistan. While three have been arrested by the ATS, the other two are still being questioned.

Satna SP Riaz Iqbal told *The Indian Express* that prima facie it is a case of terror funding. He said Balam had allegedly introduced new people to his handlers in Pakistan and they were regularly in touch through WhatsApp calls and messages.

Balam, Sunil and Shubham had sent details of their bank accounts and ATM cards as also of their accomplices, police said. They were allegedly transferring money to certain accounts on the directions of their Pakistani handlers. They usually took care to ensure that transactions were under Rs 50,000, police said.

The police have collected details of more than 25 bank ac-

counts where transactions related to the racket were allegedly taking place. The police believe the accused got amounts between Rs 10,000 and Rs 15,000 everyday as commission.

Money to these accounts was being transferred from parts of India, police said. Those part of the racket get commission for allegedly parking and transferring money from their accounts and the ATS will question the suspects to establish the money trail.

Balam, who used to attend Bajrang Dal events in Satna, Shubham and Sunil have criminal antecedents. The police claimed they had kept Balam under watch after he was released on bail, and he chose not to operate directly but involved new persons who were not on the police radar before.

The ATS has booked the trio under Section 123 of IPC (Concealing with intent to facilitate design to wage war).

The police said those detained were probably not involved in espionage or terror activities but were used by their Pakistani handlers to transfer money to people involved in illegal activities.

In 2017, the ATS had picked up 11 suspects, including Balam Singh, from Satna, Gwalior, Bhopal and Jabalpur in connection with a racket that involved running parallel exchanges to route international calls through the Internet to make them appear as local calls. The action had followed some arrests in Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh a few months before.

The police said telephone numbers of some Pakistani handlers are the same as those in the 2017 case.

As Maharashtra records excess rain, some villages await first heavy shower

KAVITHA IYER
BEED, AUGUST 22

AMID THE ongoing monsoon in Maharashtra, a clutch of villages is still awaiting its first heavy spell of rainfall. Having recorded less than 150 mm of rain since June, the mood in these 50-70 villages scattered around Beed district's Georai and Kaij talukas is dark, clouded by the fear that they may be moving from one drought to the next.

Their wells and borewells are offering only muddy water, they are still queuing up with plastic drums for the water tanker's daily rounds, some of their animals are still at government-aided cattle camps, and the possibility of a severely stunted crop swells with every passing day.

"The water tankers never stopped coming, we've needed them since the winter months of January-February," says Krishna Khedkar, a farmer and resident of Chaklamba. Located barely 40 km from Marathwada's biggest dam, Jayakwadi, which is now overflowing, the Chaklamba circle comprising about 15 villages recorded 146.6 mm of rain until August 21, as per state government data. Meanwhile, the statewide average rainfall has already crossed 930 mm — 24 per cent higher than the norm for this time of the year.

Satish Patil, who owns 16 acres of land and did not sow in the 2018 rain season owing to acute water scarcity, says this year's rains arrived in Chaklamba "only to cruelly draw farmers to sow".

"There was one small spell of rain and the saplings grew a bit, and after that, they're only man-



A dry orchard in Chaklamba village, Beed. Nirmal Harindran

aging to remain green from the occasional drizzle," he says.

Khedkar has invested Rs 60,000 in his 7-acre plot this season, and if there isn't a heavy shower within the next week, he expects to incur deep losses on top of last year's losses.

Hirabai Shitole, a woman in her sixties who lost her eldest son last year to a sudden heart attack, has spent Rs 2.5 lakh since the failed 2018 monsoon on tanker-supplied water to keep her 450 sweet lime trees alive. "Things were never so bad even in the 1972 drought. We have a well and four borewells dug to the depth of 200-300 feet. They're all dry," she says.

The Shitoles own 12 acres and their moong and urad crop are almost entirely lost, while the cotton crop is in danger of being severely stunted. "My dead son's three children are in school and college and we have

no income," says Hirabai.

As per government data, Beed district has received an average of 212.5 mm rain since June, about 54.8 per cent of its average for this time of the year. Scores of villages have received less than 200 mm, with the talukas of Ashti, Georai, Kaij, Ambajogai and Wadavani all recording average rain of less than 200 mm. In Kaij, where the overall taluka average is currently 174.6 mm, the Kaij, Hanumant Pimpri, Hol and Bansarola circles of villages have recorded between 138 mm and 142 mm until August 22. In Georai, where the overall taluka average is 192.5 mm, the Chaklamba circle received 146.6 mm (35.4 pc of the average for this time of the year), Sirasdevi circle received 138.8 mm (33.5 pc of the average) and Talwada circle has 143.6 mm (34.6 pc of the average).

According to Talwada's

sarpanch Radhakrishna Shingane, the release of water from Jayakwadi through its right bank canal, which is barely a couple of kilometres outside the village, has led to some groundwater percolation and healthy crops across some stretches. "But that canal water is not meant for us, we're not allowed to pump it to our fields," he says.

The water is headed to Majalgaon dam in the district, which is still at dead storage. Shingane says some residents of nearby villages chose not to sow their fields at all, preferring to look for work as labourers.

In Chaklamba, villagers say the complete neglect of decentralised irrigation solutions is to blame. A 130-acre water tank, built by erecting an embankment wall to dam the water gushing down northward from the surrounding hill-slopes near the Sindphana river, is now derelict,

its walls having collapsed a year after it was built in 2001. "I lost 15 acres that would be submerged due to the construction and I received just Rs 16,000," says Shahdev Ashruba. "And now I have neither land nor irrigation."

Chaklamba's villagers have repeatedly undertaken relay hunger strikes to press for a sub-canal from Jayakwadi to their villages, where the average rainfall in the 2018 monsoon was just about 300 mm. With their largest local water structure collapsed for nearly two decades, and groundwater severely depleted, a few healthy showers would suffice for an average crop this season. But the area's water crisis looks set to deepen in the long run. In the state Groundwater Survey and Development Agency's summer survey, more than half the villages where it found depletion by over 3 metres from the five-year average are in Marathwada (1,467 villages).

At the cattle camp in Chaklamba, water is still purchased from 20 km away while fodder is imported from outside the region. The number of animals has reduced to 307 — villagers are depending on state aid for fodder and water are the worst off.

Kishanlal Lahoti, a senior citizen whose family lost land when the irrigation tank was built (in 2001), says a court order to authorities to consider the villagers' grievance is being ignored. He says, "It's a pattern now that until something terrible happens, the local government doesn't act. How many more suicides must occur in our village for the state to reconstruct a simple structure?"

Woman kills husband over birth of second daughter

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PALGHAR, AUGUST 22

A 33-YEAR-OLD woman from Nalaspada in Maharashtra's Palghar district allegedly stabbed her husband to death as she was unhappy over the birth of their second girl child, police said on Thursday.

The incident took place at their residence in Gala Nagar early on Wednesday, police said.

The accused, Pranali Sunil Kadam, was arrested late on Wednesday night for killing her 36-year-old husband, Palghar police spokesperson Hemant Katkar said. "The accused was unhappy ever since she had given birth to a girl child for the second time. She blamed her husband for it. She also doubted the character of her husband and they frequently quarrelled over the issue," he said.

"Around 5 am on Wednesday, Pranali stabbed Sunil multiple times with a knife. He was rushed to a private hospital by his parents, where he succumbed to his injuries hours later," Katkar added.

After killing him, the woman changed her own dress and also removed the blood stains from the room in order to hide the crime. She tried to pass it off as a suicide, but the police probe confirmed her role in the murder, the official said.

She has been booked under IPC section 302 (murder) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence, or giving false information to screen offender).

SETBACK FOR JAGAN REDDY GOVT

HC stays re-tendering process for Polavaram dam project works

SREENIVAS JANYALA
HYDERABAD, AUGUST 22

IN A setback for the Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy government, the Andhra Pradesh High Court in an interim order Thursday stayed the re-tendering process for works related to the Polavaram hydel project. The High Court was hearing a plea filed by Navayuga Engineering Company Ltd (NECL), which was given the contract during the Telugu Desam Party regime.

The court directed the Andhra Pradesh government not to proceed with any new tenders related to works at Polavaram. The YSR Congress Party government had cancelled NECL's contract on July 29 and called for fresh tenders on August 17, saying the firm can also bid for it. The decision had come after Jagan in June ordered a review of contracts awarded during the TDP regime to find out any irregularities.

Polavaram multi-purpose irrigation project is centrally-funded and the Centre and Polavaram Project Authority (PPA) advised Jagan not to cancel the contract given to NECL. The Centre had warned that it would lead to cost escalation and further delay the project.

Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and PPA CEO R K Jain had written letters to Reddy not to cancel the tender. "Such a step will result in unforeseen consequences and will plunge the project into uncer-

tainity," Shekhawat wrote.

Following the government's decision on July 29, the Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation served a pre-closure notice on NECL on August 14. NECL challenged the order in the High Court.

Appearing for NECL, former Advocate General Dammalapati Srinivas argued that the state government did not give any valid reason though the project was on schedule and meeting all deadlines. Advocate General Sriiram Subramanyam stated that the government took the decision to invite fresh tenders so that more companies can bid and this may bring down costs.

The Polavaram dam project was originally awarded to Transtroy India Ltd, owned by former TDP MP Rayapati Sambasiva Rao. However, former CM Chandrababu Naidu was unhappy with the slow pace of work and sought the Centre's permission to replace the firm.

When new bids were invited, bidders quoted an estimate of Rs 1,483 crore, about Rs 500 crore more than the contract with Transtroy. However, NECL offered to take up the works at the earlier price. On January 30 last year, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari agreed to handover the project to NECL, which was executing it for Rs 3,400 crore as per schedule.

Work at the Polavaram site has been halted due to seasonal flood in Godavari river and may begin in the first week of November.

Man scales Mumbai airport wall, walks up to plane on main runway

PARTH KHATAU & SRINATH RAO
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

IN A major security breach, a man appeared dangerously close to a SpiceJet aircraft holding short of Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport's primary runway, as he trespassed on to the airport premises after scaling a wall from an adjoining slum on Thursday.

Around 1 pm, when SpiceJet flight SG 634 departing for Bengaluru was holding short of runway 27 on taxiway N1, the pilots reported the man's presence to the air traffic control. Following this, the man was intercepted by CISF authorities and handed over to the local police.

"The pilots had the presence of mind to immediately turn off the engines of the aircraft (Boeing 737-800) to prevent the man from being sucked in as he came right next to the aircraft.



A video grab of the man walking up to SpiceJet flight SG 634.

The flight departed at 1.15 pm once everything was clear," said a source. A video of the man went viral on social media platforms on Thursday evening.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, a CISF spokesperson said, "The man was of unsound mind and had managed to jump over the wall. He lives in a slum near the airport. There was no injury... the flight went on to de-

part and operations were not affected." Sources, however, said that there was one delayed departure and two go-arounds following the incident.

Dyaneshwar Khollam, senior Inspector, Airport police station, said, "The height of the new toilets built at the slum is at the level of the airport boundary wall. The man climbed up the roof of the toilet and jumped across the wall."

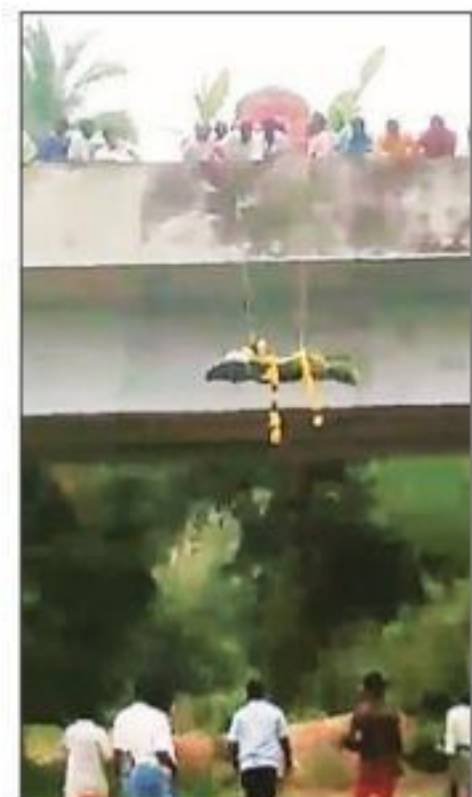
VIDEO OF BODY LOWERED FROM BRIDGE GOES VIRAL

Vellore officials promise new burial ground for Dalits nearby

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, AUGUST 22

A DAY after a video clip that showed relatives of a Dalit man lowering his body from atop a bridge using ropes because they had no access to the burial ground below went viral, police and Vellore administration officials on Thursday visited the area and made arrangements for a new burial ground nearby.

Fifty-six-year old Kuppam died in an accident on Friday night while he was walking home. Police are yet to trace the car that hit him. On Saturday, his son K Kannadasan (26) and relatives decided to take the body to the nearby riverbank of Palar for burial as they did not have enough space to bury or cremate it in their small land surrounded by several houses. "We didn't face trouble from upper caste people. There were no clashes, no one stopped us. But when we last buried a body on this river bank about six years ago, there was a small path leading to the river bank. But now, the entire area has been fenced as the landowner has developed the property for agriculture. We were some 50 people in the funeral procession. They wouldn't have allowed us to enter their property to reach the river bank.



A video grab of Kuppam's body being lowered from a bridge in Vellore.

This forced us to lower the body on a cradle from the bridge," Kannadasan said.

On Thursday, Kannadasan said, several government teams visited their village and promised a space for burial about 4 km away. The promise has relieved the local residents, but given a new cause for anxiety. "We will have to cross several villages of upper caste people (politically and socially powerful OBC-Vanniyar community dominates

this area) to reach there. We fear they may stop our funeral processions as in the past. But police and the tehsildar promised that they will help us if someone stops us," he said.

According to Kannadasan, Dalits in his colony in Narayanapuram cremated their bodies in their neighbourhood in the past. "Upper caste people have their own burial ground. But we don't have any space as we have built houses on our small plots of land. Where do we go to bury our dead? Some of the families in which deaths recently took place managed to bury the bodies in their backyard. We didn't have space. As there were other houses nearby, cremation too was not an option," he said.

Kuppam was a daily wage labourer. He is survived by his wife Kasthuri, 49, and their children — Kavitha, 31, Dinesh, 28, and Kannadasan. Dinesh and Kannadasan work at a nearby stone quarry and also operate some vehicles.

The office of the Vellore collector said revenue, block and police officials visited the spot on Thursday. "Block development officer too visited the colony and promised help. We will make sure they do not face this problem for a burial ground in the future," said a senior officer.

HARASSMENT CHARGE AGAINST IISC PROF

HC quashes prof's dismissal, asks Centre to conduct training for harassment probe

JOHNSON TA
BENGALURU, AUGUST 22

WHILE QUASHING dismissal of a senior professor at Indian Institute of Science over sexual harassment charges due to lapses in legal procedures followed, the Karnataka High Court has asked the Union government to conduct training courses for the institution on modalities for sexual harassment investigations and punitive action.

A single-judge bench of Justice PB Bhanthri issued the directions while setting aside the October 17, 2018 dismissal of the decorated scientist and professor Giridhar Madras. The IISc management had asked the senior professor to retire compulsorily after an internal committee found credence in a sexual harassment complaint brought by a doctoral student.

The judge in an order passed on August 6 ruled that "due to lapses on the part of Inquiry Committee and Disciplinary Authority, whole proceedings are vitiated till imposition of penalty". An inquiry conducted by an internal committee against sexual harassment at IISc and the "voluntary retirement" imposed on the professor are "liable to be set aside" due to the lapses, the court ruled.

The high court set aside the dismissal of Madras on the technicality that the IISc internal committee did not refer the sexual harassment complaint to the IISc council (the Disciplinary

Authority) before launching its inquiry leading to the serious punishment as mandated by the Central Civil Service Classification (Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965 which governs employees at IISc, a centrally-funded institute.

The court also found lapses in procedure in the inquiry on the grounds that a copy of the complaint filed in November 2016 was not furnished within seven days to the accused and that an inquiry report was not given to the disciplinary authority within 90 days as laid out by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Rules, 2014.

The court has said the IISc council could have imposed "the major penalty" of compulsory retirement only if procedure laid down under rule 14 of the Central Civil Service Rules of 1965 had been followed.

The court also observed that an apology given by the professor when the harassment complaint was initially filed was not an admission of the alleged crime.

"It is necessary to have refresher training programme to such of those Committee Members as well as Disciplinary Authority. In this regard, Government of India/Disciplinary Authority/Experts like a trained persons should conduct programme to apprise how to conduct inquiry in a sexual harassment case," the high court has stated.

Tejashwi back in action with late night dharna

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, AUGUST 22

AFTER STAYING away from the political scene for nearly three months following the RJD's rout in Lok Sabha polls, Leader of Opposition in Bihar Assembly Tejashwi Yadav was back in action late on Wednesday night when he sat on a dharna near Patna station to protest against Patna Municipal Corporation demolishing a milk market.

The milk market had been inaugurated by Lalu Prasad during his tenure as Chief Minister to help marginal and mid-level milk farmers sell their products. "How can the government

Muslim religious body challenges triple talaq law in Supreme Court

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE JAMIAT-ULAMA-I-HIND has approached the Supreme Court against the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act, 2019, which criminalises instant triple talaq, by calling the law "manifestly erroneous" and "arbitrary", and calling the punishment prescribed by it "disproportionate and excessive".

President Ram Nath Kovind had given his assent to the Bill on August 1.

The plea by the Muslim religious body, filed by advocate Ejaz Maqbool, said as the Supreme Court had already held instant triple talaq void and illegal, "no circumstance, whatsoever, existed...requiring the enactment of the Impugned Act". It said though the top court had not expressed any opinion on criminalising instant triple talaqs, the Act criminalises the same and makes it a cognizable offence "without appreciating that such pronouncement had already been declared unconstitutional and amounted to nullity in the eyes of law".

Section 4 of the Act prescribes imprisonment of up to 3 years and fine for the offence, it pointed out, adding this was "excessive and disproportionate" given "the fact that lesser punishment is prescribed for many offences which are far graver".

The petition also said that "desertion of a wife by the husband is not even an offence", and that "this clearly shows that the provisions qua criminality of the pronouncement of instantaneous talaq are disproportionate and excessive".

Held in UAE in cheque bounce case, BDJS chief out on bail

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
AUGUST 22

BJP ALLY Bharat Dharma Jana Sena (BDJS) chief Thushar Vellapally was released on bail on Thursday evening, two days after he was arrested in Ajman, UAE, in a case of bounced cheque filed by a Kerala-born businessman. In the Lok Sabha polls, Thushar had unsuccessfully contested as the NDA candidate against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi from Wayanad. On Thursday morning, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan wrote to External Affairs Minister

Dr S Jaishankar, asking him to extend all possible help to Thushar. Reports also suggested that UAE-based businessman and chairman of Lulu Group MA Yusuf Ali intervened to ensure the release of the BDJS leader, who is son of the general secretary of Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (Yogam) Vellapally Natesan. After being released on bail, Thushar told the media that the case against him was fabricated and that he would take legal steps. He was arrested following a complaint by Nazeel Abdulla, who hails from Thrissur in Kerala. Abdulla alleged that Thushar owed him Rs 20 crore in connection with a business deal.

3 elephants killed in mishap

Keonjhar: Three elephants were killed after being hit by a truck on a national highway in Odisha's Keonjhar district on Thursday, a forest official said. The elephants were crossing NH-20 near Balijodi area in Ghatagaon forest range when the iron ore-

laden truck hit them around 3 am, he said. "A female elephant, aged around 16, and a one-year-old calf died on the spot, while another fe-

male died during treatment," said Ashok Kumar Nayak, Ghatagaon Forest Range Officer. The truck has been seized, the

forest range officer said, adding that the driver managed to flee the scene, but his helper has been detained. **PTI**

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायबरेली
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raebareilly
(An Autonomous Institute under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India)
Munshiganj, Raebareilly - 229405, Uttar Pradesh, India
www.aiimsraebareilly.edu.in

No. AIIMS/RBL/ADMIN/RC/2019/451 Dated: 22.08.2019
NOTICE FOR WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR AIIMS, RAE BAREILY (UP)
The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh intends to fill up 12 (Twelve) posts of **Senior Residents** in different specialities purely on ad-hoc basis in **All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Rae Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh** through walk-in interview.

The candidates willing to appear in the above said walk-in-interview must submit their brief bio-data (in triplicate) in the proforma attached (Annexure 'A') along with certificate of age, qualification, experience and caste complete in all respects till **30/08/2019 upto 11:00 AM** positively in office of the **Senior Administrative Officer, OPD complex, Munshiganj AIIMS, Rae Bareilly (UP)**. The interview for these posts will be conducted on **31/08/2019 at 11:00 AM** onwards. For further details like total number of posts along with break-up, age, qualification, experience, caste and remuneration etc., the candidates may visit website **www.aiimsraebareilly.edu.in**.

DIRECTOR

EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS) EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

1. ECHS invites applications to engage following staff on contractual basis in ECHS Polyclinics noted against each for a period of 11 Months, renewal for additional period.

Place of Polyclinic	Medical Spl	Gynecologist	Medical Offr	Dental Offr	Radiographer	Lab Tech	Lab Asst	Nursing Asst	Pharmacist	Dental T/H/A	Dental Hyg	Driver	Safaiwala	Attendant Female	Operator Data Entry
Alwar	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
Rewari	1	1	3	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Narnaul	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Hindaun City	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Behror	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mahendergarh	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dharuhera	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bansur	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Kosli	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Total	3	3	18	7	1	7	2	2	9	2	1	1	4	4	3

- Med Spl & Gyna desirous to be employed part time for 2/3 hrs may also apply.
- There may be increase or decrease of vacancies.

2. For terms & conditions, Qualitative Requirements, application forms & remunerations kindly see the web site **www.echs.gov.in**. For details please contact/approach Station HQ (ECHS Cell) Military Station, Alwar Itarana (Raj)-301023 at tele No **0144-2980316 (1100h to 1300h)**. Last date of receipt of application alongwith photographs, contact tele/mob number/e-mail and photocopy of testimonials/experience is 05 Sep 2019. Date of Interview of eligible applicants/verification of documents will be intimated later. Candidate will bring original certificate/degree, PAN & Adhar Card, photocopy of education/experience as applicable at the time of interview.

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL NEW DELHI BENCH AT NEW DELHI COMPANY PETITION NO. (CAA) 95 (ND)/2019 CONNECTED WITH COMPANY APPLICATION NO. 46 (ND)/2019 IN THE MATTER OF: SECTION 230- 232 OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013 READ ALONG WITH RULE 16 (2) OF THE COMPANIES (COMPROMISES, ARRANGEMENTS AND AMALGAMATIONS) RULES, 2016.

AND IN THE MATTER OF: CROSS BORDER IMPORTS PRIVATE LIMITED HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT DB-101-F, DDA FLATS, HARI NAGAR, NEW DELHI -110064.
(TRANSFEROR COMPANY/ PETITIONER COMPANY 1)

WITH NISCHAY HOUSING PRIVATE LIMITED HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT FLAT No. 1004, 10th FLOOR, MERCANTILE HOUSE, 15, K.G. MARG, NEW DELHI-110001.
(TRANSFEEEE COMPANY/ PETITIONER COMPANY 2)

NOTICE OF PETITION
A Joint Petition under Sections 230-232 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 for obtaining sanction of a Scheme of Arrangement for Amalgamation was presented by Cross Border Imports Private Limited (Transferor Company/Petitioner Company 1) with Nischay Housing Private Limited (Transferee Company/Petitioner Company 2) and upon presentation came up for hearing on 11th July, 2019 and the petition is fixed for hearing before Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi Bench on 3rd September, 2019. Any Person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition shall send to the Petitioners Advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his Advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the Petitioners Advocate atleast 02 (Two) Days before the date fixed for hearing of the Petition, where he seeks to oppose the Petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of the affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the Petition shall be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of prescribed charges for the same.

Sd/-
Suman Kumar Jha/Afnaan Siddiqui
Counsel for Petitioner Companies
Corporate Professionals
Advisors & Advocates
D-28, South Extension-I
New Delhi - 110049

Date: 22.08.2019
Place: New Delhi

Before the National Company Law Tribunal, Chandigarh Bench
Corporate Bhawan, Plot No.4B, Sector 27-B, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh.

No.: NCLT/Chd/Reg/2576 Date: 23-08-19
CP (IB) No. 81/Chd/Hy/2019
U/s 9 of the IBC, 2016.

In the matter of:
Living Media India Ltd. ...Petitioner-Operational Creditor.
Vs
SCS Agribusiness Consultants Pvt. Ltd. ...Respondent-Corporate Debtor.
To,
SCS Agribusiness Consultants Pvt. Ltd
651, Pace City II, Sector-37, Gurgaon HR 122004, India
Through its Director.

Please take notice that the aforesaid Company Petition came up for hearing before the Tribunal on 04/07/2019 and has now been fixed for hearing on 23rd day of September 2019 at 10.30 AM.

You are directed to attend the sitting members of the Tribunal on the date fixed personally or through any authorised agent or pleader to show cause as to why this petition be not admitted.

For and on behalf of: Living Media India Limited
DR. PUNEET JAIN
Group Chief Corporate Affairs Officer
Group Chief Law & Compliance Officer
23rd August 2019

Living Media India Limited
CIN NO: U92132DL1962PLC003714
Regd. Office: 9K-Block, Connaught Circus, New Delhi -110001
Telephone : 0120-4807100
Website: www.indiatoday.in email: puneet.jain@ajitak.com

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE

RE-ENGAGEMENT OF RETIRED CATERING STAFF IN EXIGENCIES OF SERVICES IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE CANTEEN, NEW DELHI

1. Application in the prescribed proforma only with requisite enclosure are invited from Retired Catering Staff of Northern Railway to work in Parliament House Canteen on re-engagement basis for filling up the vacancies as detailed below:

Department	Category	No of Vacancies to be filled up thereof for re-engagement
Parliament house Canteen	Catering Supervisor	04
Parliament house Canteen	Waiter/Khalasi	10

2. Application proforma is available online on <https://nr.indianrailways.gov.in>.

3. The prescribed proforma as per Annexure 'A' should be submitted duly filled in with requisite enclosure at:
(B) Single Window Cell/Commercial Branch Northern Railway 41 (G), Baroda House, New Delhi.

4. The last date for obtaining/submitted the application is 12.09.2019.

5. Only Retired Railway employee of Northern Railway catering are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to employees retired from Parliament House canteen.

6. Essential eligibility criteria for submitting application-
a) Maximum Age as on 31.08.2019 should be 64 years 6 months.
b) Should be willing to work in overall jurisdiction of Parliament House, New Delhi.
c) Should be: Medically fit in the category for which applying for.
d) Such retired employee i.e. Applicant should not have undergone any major punishment (as per SF-5) in last 5 years.
e) Should not have been terminated/removed/compulsory retired from Railway service.

7. Monthly remuneration of re-engaged retired employee will be equal to his last pay drawn +DA minus Pension.

8. The re-engagement of Retired Railway employee shall be purely on temporary arrangement basis and will be terminated as and when regular employees are available.

9. The re-engagement can be terminated without any notice or by giving 15 days' notice without any explanation.

NO.86-AC/OC/PH/Re-engagement/Staff/2019 Date : 27/15/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

STATE BANK OF INDIA EMPLOYEES' (M.S. PATEL) CO-OP. CREDIT SOCIETY LTD., MUMBAI
(Regd. No.6527/29)
Regd. Office : State Bank of India, Mumbai Main Branch Bldg., 3rd Floor, Mumbai Samachar Marg, Fort, Mumbai - 400 023.

NOTICE
Election of Board of Directors for the Five Year Term (2019-2024)

In terms of the power conferred on me by the Board of Directors of State Bank of India Employees' (M.S. Patel) Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., Mumbai and the provisions of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002, Rules made thereunder and Bye-law No.35 of the Society, it has been decided to hold the Elections for 21 Directors for the five year term 2019-2024.

a) Twelve seats on the Board of Directors shall be reserved for members of the Society working in the districts of Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane, Palghar & Raigad.
b) Eight seats on the Board of Directors shall be reserved from amongst the members of the Society with one each from members working within each Group of Districts as follows (i) Nashik, Ahmednagar, Dhule & Nandurbar (ii) Pune (iii) Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara & Solapur (iv) Aurangabad, Jalgaon & Jalna (v) Beed, Latur, Parbhani, Hingoli, Nanded & Osmanabad (vi) Nagpur, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Bhandara, Gondia & Wardha (vii) Akola, Washim, Amravati, Buldhana & Yavatmal (viii) Ratnagiri & Sindhudurg.
c) One seat on the Board of Directors shall be reserved for members of the Society working out of the State of Maharashtra.

Nominations are invited from members of the society who wish to contest the election. Members desiring to file nomination should be regular member of the society as on 06/10/2018 & he/she should not be disqualified as per the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 (Rules made thereunder) and Bye-law No.37 are entitled to approach the undersigned for obtaining the nomination forms and accordingly Election programme will run as under :

Sr. No.	Particulars	Date & Period	Time	Place
1.	Publish Final List of Voters as on 05/09/2019	06/09/2019	11.00 a.m.	The Notice Board of Society's Registered Office.
2.	Nomination Forms can be obtained from the Returning Officer's Office.	07/09/2019 to 13/09/2019 (Except Sunday & Bank Holidays)	11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Returning Officer's Office - C/o. State Bank of India Employees' (M.S. Patel) Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., Mumbai, State Bank of India, Mumbai Main Branch Building, 3 rd Floor, Mumbai Samachar Marg, Fort, Mumbai-400023.
3.	Acceptance of Nomination Forms at the Returning Officer's Office.	07/09/2019 to 16/09/2019 (Except 2 nd Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays)	11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Returning Officer's Office as mentioned above
4.	Displaying list of the candidates who have filed nominations.	17/09/2019	05.00 p.m.	The Notice Board of Society's Registered Office.
5.	Scrutiny of nominations at the Returning Officer's Office (Candidate or his representative may remain present)	18/09/2019	11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Returning Officer's Office as mentioned above.
6.	Displaying List of the Candidate whose Nomination Forms are found valid.	19/09/2019	After Scrutiny	The Notice Board of Society's Registered Office.
7.	Period for Withdrawal of Nomination.	20/09/2019 to 21/09/2019	11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.	Returning Officer's Office as mentioned above.
8.	Displaying Final List of Candidates contesting the ensuing election	23/09/2019	05.00 p.m.	The Notice Board of Society's Registered Office.
9.	The days, dates & time for Voting.	06/10/2019 to 11/10/2019	Time will be notified later	Places will be notified later.
10.	The day, date & time when counting of votes will taken place. The day, date & time of General Body Meeting in which result will be declared.	13/10/2019	09.00 a.m. onwards	Vitthal Chavan Sabhagraha, Sahyog, 13/14 A, Sector No.5, Near D. Y. Patil Hospital and Medical Research Centre, Nerul, Navi Mumbai - 400706

The undersigned will preside the General Body Meeting to be held on 13/10/2019.

Shivaji P. Deshpande
Returning Officer
For State Bank of India Employees'

Place : Mumbai
Date :22nd August 2019 (M.S. Patel) Co-operative Credit Society Ltd., Mumbai

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)
CIN:L74899DL1974GOI007417
Regd Off.: Scope Complex, Core 3, 7 Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003
Website : www.nationalfertilizers.com, Email ID: investor@nfl.co.in
Telephone: 011-24360066, 24361252, Fax: 011-24361553

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS
TRANSFER OF EQUITY SHARES TO INVESTOR EDUCATION AND PROTECTION FUND
NOTICE is hereby given to the shareholders of the Company pursuant to Rule 6 of the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("IEPF Rules"), as amended from time to time.
Pursuant to Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 (Act) read with Rule 6 of IEPF Rules, all shares in respect of which dividend has remained unpaid or unclaimed for seven consecutive years, are required to be transferred by the Company to the DEMAT Account of IEPF Authority ("IEPF DEMAT Account").
Accordingly, shares of those shareholders who have not claimed or encashed their dividend for seven consecutive years from 2011-12 shall be transferred to IEPF DEMAT Account. Individual communication has also been sent to those shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF DEMAT Account at their latest available address. Company has also uploaded details of such shareholders on its website at www.nationalfertilizers.com.
In case the Company and its Registrar & Share Transfer Agent (RTA) does not receive any communication from the concerned shareholders, on or before 30th September, 2019, Company with a view to adhering with the requirements of the IEPF Rules, shall transfer the shares to the IEPF DEMAT Account on due date as per the procedure stipulated in the IEPF Rules, which inter-alia provide that:
i) **In case of shares held in physical form:** by issuance of new share certificate(s) and thereafter by informing the depository by way of corporate action to convert these share certificate into DEMAT form and transfer in favour of the IEPF Authority.
ii) **In case shares are held in DEMAT mode:** by informing the depository by way of corporate action, where the shareholders have their account for transfer of the shares in favour of the IEPF Authority.
Shareholders are requested to note that both the unclaimed dividend and the shares transferred to the IEPF Authority, including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, can be claimed back by them from IEPF Authority after following the procedure prescribed under the IEPF Rules.
For any queries on the above matter, shareholders may please contact the Company's Registrar & Share Transfer Agent, M/s. MAS Services Limited at T-34, 11nd Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase II, New Delhi-110020, Tel: 011-26387281/82/83, Email ID: info@masserv.com

For National Fertilizers Limited,
Sd/-
(Raj Kumar)
Company Secretary
A-11914

Place: New Delhi.
Date: 31.07.2019

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India
ERNAKULAM MAIN BRANCH, Union Bank Bhavan, M.G. Road, Ernakulam-682035, Ph: 0484-2385209, 2385210, 2385211
E-mail: ernakulam@unionbankofindia.com

APPENDIX-IV - A (See Proviso to Rule 8(6))
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES (LOTS I TO V)
E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the Public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s), Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor(s) that the physical possession of the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor-Union Bank of India Consortium consisting of Member Banks/FIs/ARCs has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India Consortium, and they will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is", and "whatever there is" basis through "Online E- Auction on the website <https://unionbank.auctiontiger.net>" on 24-09-2019; 25-09-2019 & 26-09-2019, the brief details of which are as under:

DATE OF AUCTION	LOT Nos.
24-09-2019 (Tuesday)	LOT No. I & II (Thiruvananthapuram)
25-09-2019 (Wednesday)	LOT No. III & IV (Thiruvananthapuram)
26-09-2019 (Thursday)	LOT No. V (Plot No.C5-Ernakulam)

Time: between 11.00 AM to 1.00 PM with unlimited extension of "10" minutes i.e the end time of e-auction will be extended by 10 Minutes each time if bid is made within the last 10 minutes before closure of auction.

for the recovery of Rs.616,25,53,240.44 (Rupees Six hundred and sixteen crore twenty five lakh fifty three thousand two hundred forty and paise forty four only) as on 31-07-2019 plus interest from 01-08-2019 and legal expenses and other charges and costs till full realization of debts due to Union Bank of India Consortium consisting of Member Banks/FIs/ARCs from borrower(s)/ mortgagors/guarantor(s) viz:

1. Name of borrowers, guarantors & mortgagors with their addresses:
(1) M/s. Dewa Projects Pvt. Ltd, Regd. Office at TC No: 25/1497, S.S. Kovil Road, Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram-695001, (2) M/s. Ansu Enterprises Private Ltd., (formerly M/s. Ansu Enterprises), No.14, Sreenagar, Manacaud (P.O.), Thiruvananthapuram-695 009 (3) M/s. Hotel Venus International, Rep. by the Proprietor K. Venugopalan Nair, TC No: 25/1497, S.S. Kovil Road, Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram-695001 (4) Mr. K.Venugopalan Nair, TC 6/369, Chithiram, Thenguvilakom, Vattiyoorakavu (P.O), Thiruvananthapuram- 695013. (5) Mr. K.Venugopalan Nair, Chairman and Managing Director, M/s Dewa Projects Pvt Ltd, TC No:25/1497, S.S. Kovil Road, Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram-695001, (6) Mrs.Shobha Venugopalan Nair, Director, M/s Dewa Projects Pvt Ltd, TC No: 25/1497, S.S. Kovil Road, Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram-695001, (7) Ms. Anu Venugopalan Nair, Director, M/s.Dewa Projects Pvt Ltd, TC No: 25/1497, S.S. Kovil Road, Thampanoor, Thiruvananthapuram - 695001, (8) Mrs. Vijayakumari Amma @ Vijaya Vikraman Nair, Viniha Bhavan, TC 10/1250, Mannarkonam, Vattiyoorakavu, Thiruvananthapuram-695 013 (9) Mr. Vinod Kumar, Viniha Bhavan, TC 10/1250, Mannarkonam, Vattiyoorakavu, Thiruvananthapuram-695 013 (10) Mr.Vinil Kumar, Viniha Bhavan, TC 10/1250, Mannarkonam, Vattiyoorakavu, Thiruvananthapuram-695 013. (11) Mrs. Vineetha, Viniha Bhavan, TC 10/1250, Mannarkonam, Vattiyoorakavu, Thiruvananthapuram-695 013 (12) Mrs. Sukamari Amma, TC 6/369, Chithiram, Thenguvilakom, Vattiyoorakavu (P.O), Thiruvananthapuram - 695013 (13) Mrs. Vasanthakumari Amma @ Vasantha.R.Nair, TC 6/369, Chithiram, Thenguvilakom, Vattiyoorakavu (P.O), Thiruvananthapuram- 695013 (14) Mr. K. Raveendran Nair, TC 6/369, Chithiram, Thenguvilakom, Vattiyoorakavu (P.O), Thiruvananthapuram- 695013 (15) Mr.N.Gopalakrishnan Nair, No.14 , Sreenagar, Manacaud (P.O.), Thiruvananthapuram -695 009

Details of the Reserve price, Earnest Money Deposit and Bid increment are detailed as under:
RESERVE PRICE: LOT No. I : Rs.6,75,00,000/- (Rupees Six Crores seventy five lakhs only)
LOTNo.II: Rs.22,50,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty two crores fifty lakhs only)
LOT No. III: Rs.67,50,00,000/- (Rupees Sixty seven lakhs fifty thousand only)
LOT No. IV: Rs.2,40,00,000/- (Rupees Two crores forty lakhs only)
LOTNo. V (Plot No.C-5): Rs.206,10,00,000/- (Rupees Two hundred six crores and ten lakhs only)

EARNEST MONEY DEPOSIT (EMD): LOT No. I : Rs.67,50,000/- (Rupees Sixty seven lakhs fifty thousand only)
LOTNo.II: Rs.2,25,00,000/- (Rupees Two crores twenty five lakhs only)
LOT No. III: Rs.6,75,00,000/- (Rupees Six lakhs seventy five thousand only)
LOT No. IV: Rs.24,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty four lakhs only)
LOTNo. V (Plot No.C-5): Rs.20,61,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty crores sixty one lakhs only)

BID INCREMENT: LOT No. I : Rs.3,00,000/- (Rupees Three lakhs only)
LOTNo.II: Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees Five lakhs only)
LOT No. III: Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand only)
LOT No. IV: Rs.2,00,000/- (Rupees Two lakhs only)
LOTNo. V (Plot No.C-5): Rs.20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty lakhs only)

The refundable EMD (10% of reserve price) shall be payable by interested bidders through NEFT/RTGS/Fund Transfer on or before 21-09-2019 (Saturday) before 3.00 P.M in Account No:425901010740932-E- AUCTION SALE A/C- Union Bank of India Consortium (IFSC Code:-UBIN0542598) or by DD/Pay order favouring Union Bank of India, Ernakulam Main Branch payable at Ernakulam.

SCHEDULED PROPERTIES: LOT No. I: 40.50 Acres of land in Re-Survey No.10 in Block No. 10 in Thirumala Village, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District and building bearing door Nos. TC 8/1060 & 1061 covered by 'C' Schedule of Partition Deed No.2391/1988 of Chalai SRO in the name of Sobha Venugopalan Nair.(As per title deed the property comprised in old Survey Nos.96/1; 96/1-23; 96/2; 96/9; 104/3, 104/1 and 104/5 in Aramada Village). **Boundaries as per title deed: North:** Road; **South:** Property in Survey No. 96; **West:** Property in Survey No. 104; **East:** Pond and property of other share.
LOT No. II: 84.18 Acres of land and improvements thereon in Re-Sy.No.2/6-1 in Block No. 22 in Peroorkada Village, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District covered by Sale Deed No. 2993/2007 of Sasthamangalam SRO in the name of Venugopalan Nair, Sobha Venugopalan Nair, Raveendran Nair & Vasantha Raveendran Nair, with right over the Road on its southern boundary from the Golflinks Road (As per title deed the property comprised in old Survey No. 2/5-6 and Re-Survey No. 2). **Boundaries as per title deed: North :** Property of Marthanda Varma; **South:** Property of Lakshmi Bai & Private road; **West:** Palace Compound; **East:** Property of Marthanda Varma and Pond.
LOT No. III: 11.40 Acres of land in Re-Survey No.52/8 in Block No. 41 in Aruvikkara Village, Nedumangadu Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District and building thereon bearing Door No. AP IV/479 covered by Sale Deed No.1706/1991 of Karakulam SRO in the name of Raveendran Nair & Vasantha Kumari Amma. (As per title deed the extent was 10.12 Acres in old Survey No. 762/2-7; 2-10-1; 2-8; 2-9; 2-10). **Boundaries as per title deed: North:** Property of Appu Panicker; **South:** Property of Gurukkal; **West:** Purayidom; **East:** Thadam.
LOT No. IV: 4.73 Acres of land in Re-Survey No. 13 in Block No.135 in Thirumala village, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district and building bearing door No. TC. 19/1979-1 and 2 covered by Sale Deed No.3558/2005 of Chalai SRO in the name of Venugopalan Nair & Sobha Venugopalan Nair. (As per title deed, the extent was 4.86 Acres in old Survey No.1627/6-1 & 6-2). **Boundaries as per title deed: North :** Properties of Sosamma, Oommen and Raghur; **South:** Road; **West:** Property of Radhakrishnan; **East:** Property of Somanathan Pillai
LOT No. V: 2 Hectares 55.78 Acres (6 Acres 32.020 Cents) of land (PLOT C5) in Survey No.843 in Ernakulam Village, Kanayannur Taluk, Ernakulam District covered by Sale Deed No.1834/2006 of Ernakulam SRO in the name of M/s. Ansu Enterprises. (Now Ansu Enterprises Pvt. Ltd) and incomplete structure
Boundaries as per title deed: North: Canal; **South:** Plot No.C4; **West:** Road formed by GIDA; **East:** Canal

To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer, the following Encumbrances are marked in Encumbrance Certificates of the respective properties:
For LOT Nos. I: Attachment ordered by Principal Munsiff Court, Trivandrum on 17-10-2017 in respect of 9 Cents in Sy. No. 96/1. This attachment will not affect the property since mortgage was created on 12-07-2005, prior to the said attachment. For LOT Nos. II, III & IV: No Encumbrance
For LOT No. V (Plot C5): (1) Attachment order dated 22-03-2016 from the Tax Recovery Officer, Income Tax, Cochin. Attachment is subsequent to the mortgage dated 30-03-2006 and has no priority over the bank's claim.
2. There is a direction in the judgment dated 03-01-2019 in Writ Appeal Nos. 999 & 1041/2018 of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala that the banks shall specify in the auction notice, the claims made by home buyers to the tune of about Rs.33.50 Crores (though they are not established) hence this notification. Final bid amount shall be excluding such claim.

However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries with the tax and revenue authorities regarding the encumbrances from the concerned departments, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/ rights/ dues/ affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Union Bank of India website i.e: www.unionbankofindia.co.in, <https://unionbank.auctiontiger.net> of Service Provider M/s. e-Procurement Technologies Ltd. (Auction Tiger) , B-704, Wall Street - II, Opp. Orient Club, Nr. Gujarat College, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad-380006, Gujarat (India). Land Line No.079-61200517 / 079- 61200552 ; Mobile: +91 9868995978 .
For e-Auction Support -Mr. Madhusudan Nair- Mob.No.+91 9868995978/Mr. Kamal Nair Mob.No.+91-6351896646 E-Mail IDs: kerala@auctiontiger.net or may contact **Asst. General Manager & Authorised Officer for Union Bank of India, Ernakulam Main Branch, Ground Floor, Union Bank Bhavan, M.G. Road, Ernakulam- 682035.** For ascertaining the details of auction and inspection of property: Contact Nos. +91 9446001602 (M) Tel:-0484-2385209; 0484-2385210; 0484-2385211, E-mail ID:-ernakulam@unionbankofindia.com

Place : Ernakulam Sd/- Asst. General Manager & Authorised Officer
Date : 12-08-2019 For Union Bank of India Consortium / Member Banks/FIs/ARCs

कार्यालय उत्तराखण्ड आवास एवं नगर विकास प्राधिकरण
 Email- uhdauk@gmail.com Phone-0135-2719500
 चतुर्थ तल, राजीव गांधी बहुउद्देशीय कॉम्प्लेक्स डिपेंडेंसरी रोड, देहरादून
 दिनांक- 22.08.2019

ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट नोटिस

1. कार्य का नाम: Selection of System Integrator for Design, Development, Implementation and Maintenance of GSM (General Services Management) Solution for Uttarakhand Housing & Urban Development Authority (UHUDA)
 2. निविदा मूल्य: 5000.00 + GST Extra
 3. वेबसाइट पर निविदा की उपलब्धता की तिथि: 22.08.2019 अपराह्न 12:00 बजे।
 4. Pre-Bid Queries जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि: 26.08.2019 अपराह्न 04:00 बजे।
 5. Pre-Bid Meeting की तिथि: 27.08.2019 पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे।
 6. वेबसाइट पर निविदा जमा करने की प्रारंभिक तिथि व समय: 30.08.2019 अपराह्न 02:00 बजे।
 7. निविदा की हार्ड कॉपी जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि व समय: 06.09.2019 अपराह्न 02:00 बजे।
 8. निविदा खोलने की तिथि व समय: 06.09.2019 अपराह्न 04:00 बजे।
 निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत जानकारी / आरओएफओई ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल www.uktenders.gov.in से डाउनलोड कर प्राप्त की जा सकती है।
 मुख्य प्रशासक

OFFICE OF THE RANCHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, RANCHI (ENGINEERING SECTION)
 KUTCHERY ROAD, RANCHI, PIN – 834001
 e-mail :- support@ranchimunicipal.com

LETTER NO :- 52/Eng/RMC e-Procurement Notice (2nd Call) DATED:- 22-08-2019

1. Name of Tender Inviting Officer :- Chief Engineer, RMC, Ranchi
 2. Date of Publication of Tender on Website :- 03-09-2019
 3. Last date/Time for receipt of online bids :- 03-09-2019 to 16-09-2019 5:00 PM
 4. Last date/Time for receipt of EMD (Hard Copy) :- 17-09-2019 Up to 4:00 PM
 5. Date/Time of Opening bid :- 18-09-2019 Up to 12:30 PM
 6. Helpline number :- 7739568478

Sl. No.	Ward No.	Name of the Work	Approximate value of work (Rs)	Earnest Money (Rs)	Cost of Tender Document (Rs.)	Period of completion
1	01	Improvement of PCC and Bituminous Road from Kanke Road to Choudi Basti with Drain under Ward No-01	1,20,79,700/-	2,42,000/-	10000/-	270 Days

Further details can be seen on website <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>
 P.R. 215127 Ranchi Municipal Corporation (19-20)_D
 Chief Engineer
 Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Ranchi

झारखंड सरकार
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रामाकाशम) मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय
102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, रांची

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
 ई-निविदा संख्या:- 104/2019-20/RDD(RWA)/GUMLA दिनांक :- 22.08.2019
 मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामाकाशम), झारखंड, रांची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र. सं.	आईडीएन फिकेशन संख्या / प्लेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्रारंभिक राशि (रुपये में)	कार्य की तिथि
1.	RDD(RWA)/GUMLA/07/2019-20	पोखरा से देवगंज तक पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य (लंबाई - 5.045 कि.मी)	1,32,15,200.00	एक करोड़ बीस लाख पन्द्रह हजार दो सौ रु. मात्र 09 माह

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:- 04.09.2019
 3. ई-निविदा प्राप्त की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय:- 13.09.2019 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे।
 4. जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, रांची में निविदा शुल्क, अर्पण की राशि, शपथ पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि:- 16.09.2019 पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे से अपराह्न 3:30 बजे तक।
 5. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:- 18.09.2019 पूर्वाह्न 11:30 बजे।
 6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामा काशम), झारखंड, रांची, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, रांची।
 7. ई-निविदा प्रोक्वोरमेंट का दूरभाष सं.- 0651-2207818
 8. निविदा शुल्क भारतीय रूबेटे बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रामा काशम), रांची, कचहरी रोड, गुमला के पक्ष में भुगतान होना जो लॉटायी नहीं जायेगी।
 विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।
 नोडल पदाधिकारी ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट सेल
 PR 215131 (Rural Work Department)19-20#D

Rail Land Development Authority
 (A Statutory Authority under Ministry of Railways Government of India)
 Near Safdarjung Railway Station, Moti Bagh-1, New Delhi-110021
 Phone : 011-24122834, 24122835 Fax : 011-24104793

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
 (RFP Notice No. RLDA/RFP/CD/11 of 2019 Dated 21.08.2019)
 Rail Land Development Authority invites proposals through e-tendering single stage two cover bidding system from interested eligible bidders as per the conditions of Bid Document for "Grant of Lease for Commercial Development (Commercial/Residential/Mixed Use) of approx 35127 sqm of Railway Land, Off Jalna Road Aurangabad, Maharashtra for 99 years period."

Site description	Approximate area of site	Built Up Area (BUA) as per basic FSI of 1.10	Reserve Price (Rs.)
Off Jalna Road Aurangabad, Maharashtra	35127 sqm	36707.71Sqm	101.0 Crore.

The schedule of dates and contact person (s) are as under:

1	2	3
Registration Charges: Rs. 2,500/- (Non-refundable) for E-procurement portal of RLDA. Tender processing fee Rs. 2,000/- exclusive of all taxes (Non-refundable). Bid Document Fee: Rs. 25,000/- + 12% GST=Rs. 28,000/- (Non-refundable). Bid Security: 1.0 Crore (Rupees One Crore only) in the manner as prescribed in Bid Document.	1. Commencement of downloading of e-bid document: 22.08.2019 from 18:00 hrs. 2. Pre-Bid meeting Date & Venue: 04.09.2019 at 11:30 Hrs at Aurangabad. 3. Last date of downloading of e-bid Document for participation/submission: 04.10.2019 upto 14:00 Hrs. 4. Last date of submission of e-bids online: 04.10.2019 upto 15:00 Hrs. 5. Period during which Bid Document Fee, Bid Security payment instrument in original (if not paid online) along with Bid Forms (As applicable) in original to be submitted after last date & time of submission of e-bid: 11.10.2019 upto 15:00 Hrs. 6. Opening of e-bids: 11.10.2019 at 15:30 Hrs.	1. Shri. M. L. Meena, Chief Project Manager/JP, (e-mail: mmeena68@gmail.com) Mob: 9414041060 2. Shri. J.S. Mishra, Jr. General Manager/Plg-II (e-mail: jgmreup2@rlda.railnet.gov.in) Tel: (011)24103223, Mob: 9968075459 3. For e-bid queries: Shri. SurajSingh ITI Ltd., Mob : 8130017639 e-mail: twhelpdesk800@gmail.com

For complete details, visit website www.rlda.indianrailways.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/RLDA.
 Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would be hosted on above mentioned websites only and will not be published in newspapers.
 DGM/Tender

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER CUM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT UNIT, RANCHI

2nd CALL
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE SERVICE CONTRACT FOR TESTING EQUIPMENTS/ INSTRUMENTS IN STATE LEVEL WATER TESTING LABORATORY, RANCHI, JHARKHAND, WITH 23 NOS OF DISTRICT AND 5 NOS OF SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL LABORATORIES OF JHARKHAND

Drinking Water & Sanitation Department, Jharkhand, Ranchi invites Request for Proposal from firms (Maintenance agency / Service Agency/ Authorized Service provider) having experience and reputation in this field through Online bidding system such as Technical Bid & Rate Bid. Technical Bid will contain Scanned copy of documents related to eligibility criteria and Financial Bid will contain duly filled Schedule "A" ; Group-1, Group-2, Group-3 & Group-4 (Price Schedules) (To be uploaded/attached/ filled online by bidders).
Scope of the Work:
 The maintenance services will consist of:
 a) On-site preventive & breakdown maintenance of TESTING EQUIPMENTS/ INSTRUMENTS in respective STATE/ DISTRICT/ SUB DIVISIONAL LEVEL WATER TESTING LABORATORIES spread over different districts of Jharkhand, Under DW&SD, JHARKHAND, where all the Instruments/ equipments are installed. No. of total Equipments/ Instruments are in Schedule "A" ; Group-1, Group-2, Group-3 & Group-4 (Price Schedules). Detailed list of Equipments/ Instruments are available in Schedule "B"; Appendix-1, Appendix-2, Appendix-3 & Appendix-4.
 b) AMC also includes up-gradation of software, photometric adjustment/ Line alignment, Filter Checking and IQ, OQ & PQ Checking and internal calibration of the required Instruments including labour charges etc.

Sl No.	Group No.	Name of Work	RFP Fee	Earnest Money	Time of Completion
1	Group No. 1	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Annual Maintenance Service Contract for testing Instruments/ Equipments in one no. of State level water testing laboratory, Ranchi, 23 nos. of districts level water testing laboratories and 5 nos. of sub divisional level water testing laboratories in Jharkhand state.	Rs. 750/- (Rs. Seven Hundred Fifty) Only (Non-refundable)	Rs. 6500/- (Rs. Six Thousand Five Hundred) only	1 Year
2	Group No. 2	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Annual Maintenance Service Contract for "UVVisible Spectrophotometer" in one no. of State level water testing laboratory, Ranchi, 23 nos. of districts level water testing laboratories and 5 nos. of sub divisional level water testing laboratories in Jharkhand state.	Rs. 1250/- (Rs. One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty) Only (Non-refundable)	Rs. 12,000/- (Rs. Twelve Thousand) only	1 Year
3	Group No. 3	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Annual Maintenance Service Contract for "ICP/OES (Inductively coupled plasma/ Optical Emission Spectrophotometer)" in one no. of State level water testing laboratory, Ranchi, Jharkhand.	Rs. 500/- (Rs. Five Hundred) Only (Non-refundable)	Rs. 3000/- (Rs. Three Thousand) only	1 Year
4	Group No. 4	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Annual Maintenance Service Contract for " Ion Meter" in one no. of State level water testing laboratory, Ranchi, 23 nos. of districts level water testing laboratories and 5 nos. of sub divisional level water testing laboratories in Jharkhand state.	Rs. 750/- (Rs. Seven Hundred Fifty) Only (Non-refundable)	Rs. 9000/- (Rs. Nine Thousand) only	1 Year

RFP SCHEDULE

Date of publication of RFP on website: http://dwsd.jharkhand.gov.in	23.08.2019
Date of uploading of Bid Documents on http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in	23.08.2019
Starting Date of submission of RFP (online only)	26.08.2019
Last date & time of submission of RFP (online only)	04.09.2019 Upto 6:00 p.m.
Last date, time & Place for submission of Hard Copy	Date & Time: 05.09.2019 Upto 5:00 p.m.
Place	Office of the Chief Engineer-cum-Executive Director, Programme Management Unit (Water tower Campus), DW&SD, Jharkhand, Doranda, Ranchi - 834002.
Opening Date & Time of Technical Bid	06.09.2019 at 4:30 p.m.

For any Clarification please visit : Office of the Chief Engineer-cum-Executive Director, Programme Management Unit, DW&SD, Jharkhand, Doranda, Ranchi.
 Email : swsm.jharkhand@gmail.com
 Contact No.: 0651-2481593

NB:- INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDER, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, TERMS AND CONDITIONS, GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL, BIDDER'S INFORMATION, COMMERCIAL BID (Schedule "A" : Group-1, Group-2, Group-3 & Group-4 (Price Schedules) etc. can be downloaded either from the web site <https://dwsd.jharkhand.gov.in> or <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in>. Please visit the website.
 दिखे अब तक ना समझे, वो कलमी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।
 (Ramadhin Prasad)
 PR 215146 (Drinking Water and Sanitation) 19-20 (D)
 Deputy Director-1, PMU

MECHANIZED CLEANING CONTRACT OF DIBRUGARH RAILWAY STATION
 E-Tender No. C-TSK-01-2019. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for Mechanized cleaning Contract of Dibrugarh railway station and Circulating Area for a period of 02 years (731 days) from the day of awarding of the Contract. Approximate Cost of work : ₹3,20,70,621.21; Earnest Money: ₹3,10,400/-. Tender submission: 05-09-2019 upto 10:00 hrs. Opening date & Time: 20-09-2019 after 15:00 Hrs. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available from 26-08-2019 to 19-09-2019 upto 15:00 hrs in website www.ireps.gov.in
 Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/ Tinsukia
 NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
 "Serving Customers with a smile"

IT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ITDA)
 Department of Information Technology
 Government of Uttarakhand
 IT Bhawan, Plot No. 17/07, IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun
 Telefax: 0135-2608330, Email: diritda-uk@nic.in

Tender Notice No. 04/ITDA-565(A)/2019 dated 22/08/2019
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Service Provider for providing Project Management Cell (PMC) for Uttarakhand Aerostat technology (Balloon) & DRONE
 Request for Proposal (RFP) is being issued by ITDA, Department of IT, Uttarakhand to the reputed companies meeting the qualification criteria for Selection of Service Provider for providing Project Management Cell (PMC) for Uttarakhand Aerostat technology (Balloon) & DRONE. The RFP document can be downloaded from www.uktenders.gov.in from 22/08/2019 from 10 AM onwards. The tender document fee of Rs-5000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) non refundable, through demand draft favouring "Director ITDA" Payable at Dehradun should be submitted along with the bid. The parties willing to participate in the RFP will have to apply through the Electronic Tendering Procedure (E-Tendering) as per the guidelines issued by Government of Uttarakhand available on the above mentioned web site under the link "Bidders Manual Kit". Director ITDA reserves the right to cancel the RFP at any point of time, without assigning any reason therefor.
 DIRECTOR

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING & TOURISM CORPORATION LTD
 (A Govt. of India Enterprise-Mini Ratna)
 CIN NO: U74899DL1999G0101700

NOTICE INVITING OPEN E-TENDER
 IRCTC-WEST ZONE invites Open E-Tender cum auction (through Two Packet system) for Operation, Maintenance and Provision of Catering Services in / through Refreshment Rooms and Jan Aahaar (Kitchen Units) at various Railway Stations.

E-Tender No.	Stations	Availability of E-Tender Document	Last Date of Submission
IRCTC/WZ/E-Tendering/JA/2019-1 (Jan Aahaar)	CSMT, PUNE, SOLAPUR, BHUSAVAL & NAGPUR	23.08.2019	24.09.2019 at 15.00 Hrs.
IRCTC/WZ/E-Tendering/RR/2019-11 (Refreshment Room)	BHOPAL, SAWAI MADHOPUR, BHARUCH, PALANPUR, KOTA, INDORE, BINA, VIRAMGAM & KALABURAGI	30.08.2019	01.10.2019 at 15.00 Hrs.
IRCTC/WZ/E-Tendering/RR/2019-111 (Refreshment Room)	VIRAMGAM-II, MANMAD, DAUND & ANAND	05.09.2019	04.10.2019 at 15.00 Hrs.

Tender document downloading & participation can be done on website: www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC
 In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on website www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC
 Office Address: IRCTC Ltd., Zonal office (West Zone), 2nd Floor, New Administrative Bldg, D.N. Road, Central Railway, CSMT, Mumbai - 400001. Tel. 022-22618062/63/64.
 "To book your meal online, please log on to www.ecatering.irctc.co.in or Call Toll free number 1323"

कार्यालय मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी, उपग्रह पशुधन विकास परिषद
 गोरननाथ रोड, निकट पशु चिकित्सालय, बादशाहबाग, लखनऊ-226007
 पत्रांक: 704(2) / यूपीएलडीबी / आरसीएम / वृद्धरस / 2019-20 दिनांक: अगस्त, 22, 2019

चौक इन इण्डरव्यू
 उपग्रह पशुधन विकास परिषद द्वारा क्रियान्वित भारत सरकार की राष्ट्रीय गोकुल मिशन तथा अन्य विविध योजनाओं के प्रदेश में क्रियान्वयन, अनुश्रवण तथा "Technical backstoping" हेतु सविदा के आधार पर एक "Senior Technical Consultant" की आवश्यकता है। पद पूर्ण रूप से अस्थाई है, जिसे कभी भी एक माह के नोटिस के आधार पर समाप्त किया जा सकता है।
 मान्यद रु 50000 /- प्रतिमाह (नियत)। आयु- साक्षात्कार के दिन 65 वर्ष से अधिक नहीं।
शैक्षिक योग्यता— न्यूनतम B.V.Sc. & A.H. एवं भारतीय पशु चिकित्सा परिषद में किसी राज्य या केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश में पंजीकृत होना चाहिए।
कार्य अनुभव— पशुचिकित्सा एवं पशुपालन क्षेत्र में कम से कम 10 वर्षों का अनुभव हो। अवकाश प्राप्त अस्थियों की दशा में, उनके द्वारा सेवानिवृत्ति के समय कम से कम संयुक्त निदेशक का पद धारित किया हो।
वरीयता— अस्थियों को उपग्रह पशुधन विकास परिषद के प्रमुख उद्देश्यों, कार्य-कलापों, परिषद द्वारा भारत सरकार एवं राज्य सरकार से वित्त पोषित विभिन्न योजनाओं की सम्यक् जानकारी होनी चाहिए। उपग्रह पशुधन विकास परिषद में कार्य अनुभव रखने वाले अस्थियों को वरीयता प्रदान की जायेगी।
अवधि— प्रथमतः दो वर्षों हेतु, जिसे आवश्यकतानुसार आगे बढ़ाये जाने पर विचार किया जा सकता है।
 इच्छुक अस्थियों अपने प्रार्थना-पत्र एवं मूल शैक्षिक प्रमाण-पत्रों तथा उसकी स्वप्रमाणित छायाप्रति तथा पासपोर्ट साईज दो फोटोग्राफ सहित दिनांक 06.09.2019 के पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में साक्षात्कार हेतु उपस्थित हो सकते हैं।
 प्रो शिव प्रसाद
 मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
 Executive Engineer, Integrated Unit (P.W.) Division, Fort, Mumbai-400001

Email : integratedmumbai.ee@mahapwd.com 22016974/ Fax : 22016976
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 20 OF 2019-2020

ONLINE E-Tenders in "B-1" Form for the following work are invited by Executive Engineer, Integrated Unit (P.W.) Division, 2nd Floor, Bandhkan Bhavan, 25th Marzhan Road, Fort, Mumbai- 400001
 Tele phone No. 22016974 / 22016976 from contractors registered in class of the public works department of Maharashtra.

- Name of Work :-
1. Annual Maintenance of G.T. Hospital Complex Building at G.T.Hospital, Mumbai.
Estimated Cost Rs. 52,18,773/-
 2. Repairs to internal plaster on 1st to 7th floor and Renovation of Toilet, Bathroom form ground to 3rd floor of I.N.E. Hostel Building and New Nurses Staff Building at Sir J. J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai.
Estimated Cost Rs. 52,82,903/-
 3. Repairs and Renovation to internal and external plaster toilet and bathroom on ground to 3rd floor or R.M. Bhatt Hostel Building at Sir J. J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai.
Estimated Cost Rs. 74,80,156/-
 4. Renovation of Toilet, Bathroom, Drainage Line and ward at Ellappa Balamam Building at Sir J.J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai.
Estimated Cost Rs. 48,34,611/-
 5. Renovation of Toilet, Bathroom, Drainage Line and ward at David Sasson Building at Sir J.J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai.
Estimated Cost Rs. 48,68,264/-
 6. Structural strengthening and Replastering externally and Renovation of Terrace Water proofing replumbing etc. at Library Building at Hospital Compound, Mumbai.
Estimated Cost Rs. 61,86,659/-
- Tender Available Date :- Date 21.08.2019 at 1030 hrs. to 30.08.2019 at 1400 hrs.

Opening Date (If possible) :- Date 03.09.2019 at 1505 hrs.
(Total 06 Work included in this Notice)
 All detail information is available on following websites.
 Visit Web Site for details : 1. <http://mahapwd.com>
 2. <http://mahatenders.gov.in>
 No. E.E./IU/TC/4115 Sd/-
 Office of the Executive Engineer, Executive Engineer, Integrated Unit (P.W.) Division, Integrated Unit (P.W.) Division, Fort Mumbai-400001 Fort Mumbai-400001
 Date : 19.08.2019
 DGIPR-2019-202135

12 EXPRESS NETWORK
 THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2019

Chhattisgarh: Five Maoists surrender

Bastar: Five Maoists, three of whom had cash bounty on their heads, surrendered in Chhattisgarh's Bastar division on Thursday, police said. Sannu Kunjam (28) and Budhram Mandavi (20) turned themselves in in Dantewada district, while Mehattar Korram (35) surrendered in Narayanpur district, a senior police officer said. Sonaru Poyam and his wife Manju

Mandavi surrendered before IGP (Bastar range) Vivekanand Sinha in Jagdalpur, he said. Kunjam, a Maoist Jan-milita commander, and Budhram Mandavi, a member of a Maoist front were carrying a reward of Rs 1 lakh each on their heads, he said. Korram was carrying a reward of Rs 5 lakh on his head.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah

At western zonal council meet, Shah sets deadline to ensure bank branch every 5 km

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE PANAJI, AUGUST 22

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah has set a three-month deadline to ensure all states in the western zone have at least one bank branch every 5 km and a mobile phone in every rural home. At a meeting of the Western Zonal Council chaired here, Shah discussed issues involving security and concerns of various departments, including ministries of agriculture and industry. Goa being the host state, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant was the vice-chairman at the meeting, which was also attended by Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and representatives of Union Territories of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

Under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, five zonal councils have been set up since 1957 to discuss issues between the Centre and states, bring uniformity to solutions and resolve inter-state issues related to infrastructure and other state assets. This year the big focus for Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa was the rain and flood-related losses.

Shah expressed concern for the flood victims and requested the western states to quickly assess the damage caused by the floods and send their requirements to the Centre.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Rupani said, "Many issues were discussed in amity. Issues related to security, schemes for the poor and state government issues were discussed under the chairmanship of Shah."

Officials who attended the meeting said the directive with the deadline was required for government and private banking and telecom companies in villages to tackle the issue of connectivity. In Goa, experts said, this was tricky because many villages still do not have access to basic amenities.

The meeting comes at a time when Goa's capital city took six days to resolve a water crisis after rain triggered a wall collapse and a break in pipeline.

दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि., कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हमीरपुर पत्रांक सं.- 394/ वि.वि.म.ह./ पी-1 (प्रकाशन) / निविदा/ 2019-20 दिनांक:- 21.08.2019 अति अल्पकालीन (ई-निविदा) निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य सभी विवरण ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल <https://etender.up.nic.in> एवं निगम की वेबसाइट <http://dvvnl.org> पर उपलब्ध है। 1. ई-निविदा संख्या- 69/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण: जनपद हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत नवनिर्मित 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकेन्द्रों में लाइनों के अनुरक्षण कार्य हेतु गैंग उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। 2. ई-निविदा संख्या- 70/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड हमीरपुर के अंतर्गत 25, 63, 100, 160 एवं 250 के.वी.ए. परिवर्तकों की फेंसिंग का कार्य। 3. ई-निविदा संख्या- 71/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड मौढहा के अंतर्गत 25, 63, 100, 160 एवं 250 के.वी.ए. परिवर्तकों की फेंसिंग का कार्य। 4. ई-निविदा संख्या- 72/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड हमीरपुर के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। 5. ई-निविदा संख्या- 73/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड मौढहा के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। 6. ई-निविदा संख्या- 74/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड राठ की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड राठ के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। 7. ई-निविदा संख्या- 75/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड राठ की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड सरीला के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। "राष्ट्रीय हित में बिजली बचायें" अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

कार्य का विवरण: जनपद हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत नवनिर्मित 33/11 के.वी. विद्युत उपकेन्द्रों में लाइनों के अनुरक्षण कार्य हेतु गैंग उपलब्ध कराने का कार्य। 2. ई-निविदा संख्या- 70/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड हमीरपुर के अंतर्गत 25, 63, 100, 160 एवं 250 के.वी.ए. परिवर्तकों की फेंसिंग का कार्य। 3. ई-निविदा संख्या- 71/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड मौढहा के अंतर्गत 25, 63, 100, 160 एवं 250 के.वी.ए. परिवर्तकों की फेंसिंग का कार्य। 4. ई-निविदा संख्या- 72/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड हमीरपुर के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। 5. ई-निविदा संख्या- 73/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड हमीरपुर की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड मौढहा के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। 6. ई-निविदा संख्या- 74/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड राठ की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड राठ के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। 7. ई-निविदा संख्या- 75/ SE/ EDCH/ 2019-20: कार्य का विवरण:- विद्युत वितरण खण्ड राठ की सीमान्तगत विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड सरीला के अंतर्गत 11 के.वी. पैनेलों की रिपेयरिंग/मैटिनेन्स का कार्य। "राष्ट्रीय हित में बिजली बचायें" अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

पटिहम क्षेत्र सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र
 बगार की हवेली, गणगौर घाट, अय्यर (राज.)-313001
 दूरभाष : 02094-2523858, 2422567
 एफ- 10/प्रलेख/2019-20 दिनांक: 22 अगस्त 2019

FACT CHECK, GROUND REALITY

HOW THE HENLEY INDEX RANKS PASSPORTS, WHAT THE SCORE MEANS

THE LATEST Henley Passport Index ranks India at 86, down five places from 81 in 2018. The index ranks passports based on their power and mobility. Prepared by Henley and Partners, a London-based advisory firm, the index gathers data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and covers 227 destinations and 199 passports. It also accounts for real-time changes in visa policies to prepare a list of destinations that a passport can access visa-free, through a visa on arrival, through e-visa, or with a traditional visa.

Each passport is attributed with a score and a rank. For every territory/country that a passport holder is able to access through various visa types (permit, visa on arrival or electronic travel authority) without pre-departure government approval, a value of 1 is attributed to the passport holder's country. When a passport holder has to seek pre-departure approval for these visa types, a score of 0 is attributed. The score is the sum of these. In 2019, India's score is 58, which means an Indian passport holder has visa-free access to 58 countries. Japan and Singapore, which are ranked 1 in 2019, have a score of 189.

Afghanistan holds the weakest passport, with a score of 25 and a rank of 109,

INDIAN PASSPORTS OVER THE YEARS

Year	Rank	Score
2006	71	25
2007	73	-
2008	75	37
2009	75	-
2010	77	50
2011	78	53
2012	82	51
2013	74	52
2014	76	52
2015	88	51
2016	85	52
2017	87	49
2018	81	60
2019	86	58

Source: Henley Passport Index

while Pakistan has a score of 30 and a rank of 106.

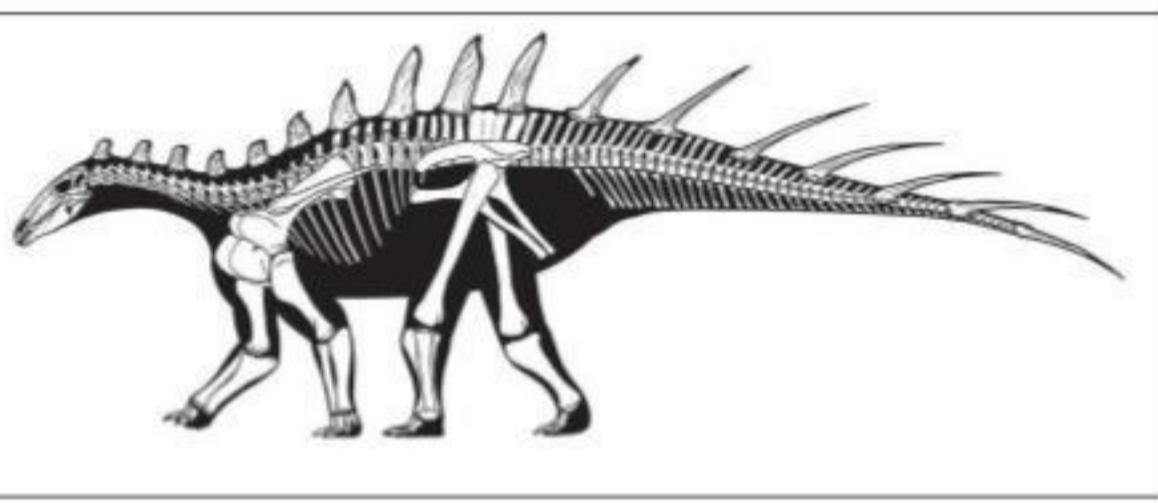
Passport rankings point towards the strength of diplomatic relations between countries.

MEHR GILL

THIS WORD MEANS

ADRATIKLIT BOULAHFA

The oldest stegosaurus species ever, newly discovered and the first in North Africa



Dacentrurus, believed to be closest relative of Adratiklit. Wikipedia

SCIENTISTS HAVE described a new species of stegosaurus and dated it to 168 million years ago, which makes it the oldest known member of that group of dinosaurs ever known. Named *Adratiklit Boulahfa*, it is also the first stegosaurus to be found in North Africa. Its remains were discovered in the Middle Atlas mountains of Morocco, and the study describing it was led by Dr Susannah Maidment of the London's Natural History Museum (NHM).

The scientists believe it is not only a new species but also belongs to a new genus. The name is derived from the words used by the Berber (an ethnic group indigenous to North Africa) for mountains (*Adras*), lizard (*tiklit*) and the area where the specimen was found. (*Boulahfa*).

Paleontologists studied a handful of vertebrae and an upper arm bone, all that was left of it when it was found. *Adratiklit's* closest relatives is the European stegosaurus *Dacentrurus*, NHM said in a statement. The *Adratiklit* was armoured and herbivorous, and lived on the ancient supercontinent of Gondwana, which later split into Africa, South America, Australia and Antarctica. Most stegosaurus remains so far have been found in the northern hemisphere. "However, this may not mean that stegosaurs were uncommon in Gondwana. It may be due to the fact that Gondwana rock formations have been subject to far fewer excavations and detailed studies," Maidment said in the NHM statement.

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SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

Why Amazon fires are worrying

Man-made fires in the world's largest rainforest have sent smoke to populated cities and the Atlantic coast. Why does it bring focus on President Bolsonaro's policies? What impact can it have on the environment?

NEHA BANKA
 KOLKATA, AUGUST 22

OVER THE last several days, the Amazon rainforest has been burning at a rate that has alarmed environmentalists and governments worldwide. Mostly caused by farmers clearing land, the fires have thrown the spotlight on Brazil President Jair Bolsonaro's policies and anti-environment stance.

Where are the fires happening?

Started in the Amazonian rainforests, the fires have impacted populated areas in the north, such as the states of Rondônia and Acre, blocking sunlight and enveloping the region in smoke. The smoke has wafted thousands of miles to the Atlantic coast and São Paulo, according to the World Meteorological Organization.

Brazil's National Institute for Space Research (INPE) has reported that forest fires in the region have doubled since 2013, and increased by 84% compared to the same period last year. This year alone there have been 72,843 fires, it said, and more than 9,500 of those have happened over the past few days.

How did the fires start?

The weekly *Brasil de fato* reported that Bolsonaro's anti-environment rhetoric has emboldened farmers, who organised a "fire day" along BR-163, a highway that runs through the heart of the rainforest. The weekly quoted a report by local newspaper *Folha do Progresso*, that local farmers had set fire to sections of the rainforest a few days ago to get the government's attention. "We need to show the President that we want to work and the only way is to knock it down. And to form and clear our pastures, it is with fire," *Folha do Progresso* quoted one farmer as saying.

Alberto Setzer, a researcher at INPE, told Reuters that this year, the region did not experience extreme dry weather. "The dry season creates the favourable conditions for the use and spread of fire, but starting a fire is the work of humans, either deliberately or by accident."

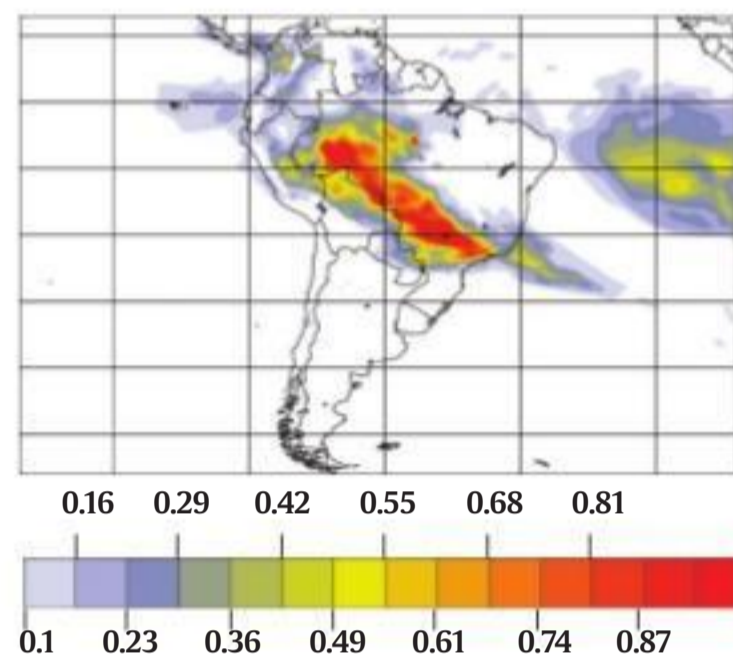
The Amazon fires are so large that they are visible from space. NASA released images on August 11 showing the spread of fires and reported that its satellites had detected heightened fire activity in July and August.

Why is it a cause for concern?

The Amazon rainforest is a repository of rich biodiversity and produces approxi-



AEROSOL OPTICAL DEPTH VALUES
 (A measure of the extinction of the solar beam by dust and haze; the lower the value, the cleaner the atmosphere)



(Above) An August 15 satellite image of a scorched patch of the Amazon rainforest and rising smoke in Brazil's Rondônia state, provided by Maxar Technologies via Reuters; (left) A snapshot of biomass-burning aerosol concentrations above South America on August 20, taken from an animated forecast map by Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service (CAMS). The red patches show the highest aerosol concentrations, resulting from the forest fires raging for several days now.

mately 20 per cent of oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere. It is also home to indigenous communities whose lives and homelands are under threat due to encroachment by the Brazil government, foreign corporations and governments with economic interests in the resource-rich region, and local farmers.

In a 2017 study, the University of Leeds found that carbon intake by the Amazon basin matches the emissions released by nations in the basin. The burning of forests, therefore, implies additional carbon emissions. Research by scientists Carlos Nobre and Thomas E Lovejoy suggests that further deforestation could lead to the Amazon's transformation from the world's largest rainforest to a savanna, which

would reverse the region's ecology.

A *National Geographic* report said the Amazon rainforest influences the water cycle not only on a regional scale, but also on a global scale. The rain produced by the Amazon travels through the region and even reaches the Andes mountain range. Moisture from the Atlantic falls on the rainforest, and eventually evaporates back into the atmosphere. The report said the Amazon rainforest has the ability to produce at least half of the rain it receives. This cycle is a delicate balance.

What environmental protections do Brazil's laws provide, and what has changed in recent times?

Bolsonaro has dismissed the INPE findings and said it was the time of the year when farmers burn the land for farming. In July, he fired INPE scientist Ricardo Galvao for publishing agency data that showed the accelerated rate of deforestation, calling the figures a lie and the images manipulated. *Al Jazeera English* quoted Bolsonaro as saying that "a report like this one that does not match the truth can cause a great damage to the image of Brazil". INPE has defended its data.

How has the international community reacted?

Germany and Norway have suspended funding for programmes that aim to stop deforestation in the Amazon and have accused Brazil of doing little to protect the forests. Indigenous groups and environment activists have led protests and criticised Bolsonaro for his comments and policies.

Why ordinance factory workers are on strike

SUSHANT KULKARNI
 PUNE, AUGUST 22

SINCE TUESDAY, more than 80,000 workers of the 41 ordinance factories across the country are on strike, protesting against the proposed restructuring of the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB). These factories manufacture weapons, ammunition, explosives and other equipment like armoured vehicles for the defence forces as well as foreign clients. Production at all these has come to a halt.

Why restructure

The 200-year-old OFB is currently a department under the Defence Ministry. The government plans to convert it into one or more corporate entities fully owned by the government, like the other public sector units.

At least three expert committees — T K S Nair Committee (2000), Vijay Kelkar Committee on Defence Reforms (2005), and the Raman Puri Committee (2015) — had sug-

gested such a move. A fourth committee, headed by Lt Gen D B Shekatkar, did not go as far to suggest corporatisation but recommended regular performance audits of all ordinance units. The argument is that corporatisation would improve efficiency, make products cost-competitive and enhance quality.

"The present set-up and methods of OFB are inconsistent with requirements of the modern age which call for flexibility at top managerial levels. Being an arm of the government, the OFB and its factories cannot retain profits, and do not have any incentive to make any. So, OFB in its present structure of a departmental organisation may not be appropriate for carrying out production activities and competing with rivals in the private sector who have all the managerial and technical flexibility," a Defence Ministry official said.

Restructuring has been discussed many times with employee bodies, inconclusively.

How the plan progressed

Corporatisation of ordinance factories was

listed as one of the 167 "transformative ideas" to be implemented in the first 100 days of the Narendra Modi government's second term. These ideas were proposed in early July based on the recommendations of the Sectoral Group of Secretaries in consultation with the relevant Groups of Ministers.

OFB's top officials were called for a meeting with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and ministry officials on July 18, during which a decision to finalise the plan was taken. Officials say a Cabinet note to give effect to corporatisation had been prepared, and circulated to stakeholder ministries for consultation.

In a statement, the Defence Ministry said: "Corporatisation of OFB will bring OFB at par with other defence Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) of the Ministry of Defence. This is in the interest of OFB as it will provide operational freedom and flexibility to the OFB which it presently lacks. Besides, the interests of the workers will be adequately safeguarded in any decision taken on the subject."

Employees' unease

One of the fears of employees is that corporatisation is a step towards privatisation. They fear job losses. They also argue a corporate entity would not be able to survive the unique market environment of defence products.

"Converting the Ordnance Factories into a corporation is not commercially viable because of fluctuations in orders, long gaps between orders, uneconomical order quantity, and life cycle support required for 30-40 years after introduction of equipment. The experience of the past two decades is that corporatisation is a route to privatisation. Therefore, ordinance factories should continue as a departmental organisation," says a letter sent to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh by the general secretaries of the three main employee federations that are leading the strike, affiliated respectively to the RSS, the CPM's CITU, and the Congress party's INTUC. The federations have also refuted the government's claims that the OFB units lacked innovation and were unproductive.

Polygraph, narco: what are the tests that PNB accused has refused?

SADAF MODAK
 MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

CBI WANTS to conduct polygraph and narcoanalysis tests on a former staffer of Punjab National Bank (PNB), who is in custody in the alleged Rs 7,000-crore fraud involving the absconding jewellers Nirav Modi and Mehul Choksi.

On Wednesday, the 63-year old retired PNB deputy manager, Gokulnath Shetty, refused to consent to the test, stating among other reasons, that it could have an adverse effect on his health. He also cited a Supreme Court judgment that makes it mandatory to obtain the consent of the accused for such tests.

What are polygraph, narcoanalysis tests?

A polygraph test is based on the assumption that physiological responses that are triggered when a person is lying are different from what they would be otherwise. Instruments like cardio-cuffs or sensitive electrodes are attached to the person, and variables such as blood pressure, pulse, res-

piration, change in sweat gland activity, blood flow, etc., are measured as questions are put to them. A numerical value is assigned to each response to conclude whether the person is telling the truth, is deceiving, or is uncertain.

A test such as this is said to have been first done in the 19th century by the Italian criminologist Cesare Lombroso, who used a machine to measure changes in the blood pressure of criminal suspects during interrogation. Similar devices were subsequently created by the American psychologist William Marston in 1914, and by the California police officer John Larson in 1921.

Narcoanalysis, by contrast, involves the injection of a drug, sodium pentothal, which induces a hypnotic or sedated state in which the subject's imagination is neutralised, and they are expected to divulge true information. The drug, referred to as "truth serum" in this context, was used in larger doses as anaesthesia during surgery, and is said to have been used during World War II for intelligence operations.

More recently, investigating agencies



A 2008 file photo of the narcoanalysis lab at the state forensic laboratory in Kalina, Mumbai. Express Archive

have sought to employ these tests in investigation, and are sometimes seen as being a "softer alternative" to torture or "third degree" to extract the truth from suspects.

However, neither method has been proven scientifically to have a 100% success rate, and remain contentious in the medical field as well.

Are Indian investigators allowed to put suspects through these tests?

In *Selvi & Ors vs State of Karnataka & Anr* (2010), a Supreme Court Bench comprising Chief Justice of India K G Balakrishnan and Justices R V Raveendran and J M Panchal ruled that no lie detector tests should be administered "except on the basis of consent of the accused". Those who volunteer must have access to a lawyer, and have the physical, emotional, and legal implications of the test explained to them by police and the lawyer, the Bench said. It said that the "Guidelines for the Administration of Polygraph Test on an Accused" published by the National Human Rights Commission in 2000, must be strictly followed.

The subject's consent should be recorded before a judicial magistrate, the court said. The results of the tests cannot be considered to be "confessions", because those in a drugged-induced state cannot exercise a choice in answering questions that are put to them.

However, any information or material subsequently discovered with the help of such a voluntarily-taken test can be admit-

ted as evidence, the court said. Thus, if an accused reveals the location of a murder weapon in the course of the test, and police later find the weapon at that location, the statement of the accused will not be evidence, but the weapon will be.

The Bench took into consideration international norms on human rights, the right to a fair trial, and the right against self-incrimination under Article 20(3) of the Constitution.

"We must recognise that a forcible intrusion into a person's mental processes is also an affront to human dignity and liberty, often with grave and long-lasting consequences," the court said, observing that the state's plea that the use of such scientific techniques would reduce "third degree" methods "is a circular line of reasoning since one form of improper behaviour is sought to be replaced by another".

In which recent criminal investigations have these tests been used?

The CBI has sought to give these tests to the driver and helper of the truck that hit the vehicle carrying the Unnao rape victim

in Uttar Pradesh in July.

In May 2017, Indrani Mukerjea, who is facing trial for allegedly murdering her daughter Sheena Bora in 2012, had offered to undergo the lie detector test. The CBI refused, saying they already had sufficient evidence against her.

Dr Rajesh Talwar and Dr Nupur Talwar, who were accused of killing their daughter Aarushi and help Hemraj in Noida in 2008, were given polygraph tests. A video of the narco test on their compounder, Krishna, was leaked to the media.

Why has the CBI sought to use these tests in the PNB case?

The CBI has said that it has been unable to ascertain Shetty's "other motives and details of undue pecuniary advantage obtained by him". Shetty is alleged to have issued fraudulent Letters of Understanding in favour of Nirav Modi, Mehul Choksi, and their firms in violation of bank rules. Shetty has been in custody since March 2018. CBI has already filed the chargesheet in the case. The court will decide on Shetty's refusal of consent next week.



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Ravidas, faith, power

The question, all too often, is: Whose faith will be privileged in the public sphere?



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

STATELESS IN ASSAM

State government needs to frame a plan to address the fears of those excluded from the NRC

ASSAM CHIEF MINISTER Sarbananda Sonowal's announcement earlier this week that his government plans to explore the legislative route to address the complaints of those left out of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) is a tacit acknowledgment that its publication on August 31 could be a chaotic affair. A political consensus on the approach to address the NRC exclusions is desirable since the issue has the potential to further deepen ethnic and communal fault lines. The government must ensure that the solution — the proposed law, for instance — does not add to the perceptions and fears of discrimination and exclusion.

As per the draft NRC published in July last year, nearly 40 lakh people stand to be deprived of Indian citizenship. Thirty-six lakh people have since contested the draft and appealed for inclusion in the register. The BJP government in Assam, a staunch backer of the NRC, belatedly realised that the register, instead of settling old disputes, may create new headaches. The Centre and the Assam governments pleaded before the Supreme Court to extend the schedule of NRC publication and the court obliged by extending the deadline by a month — from July 31 to August 31. However, the appeal for a re-verification of a 20 per cent sample of the names included in the draft NRC in districts bordering Bangladesh and 10 per cent in other districts, on the ground that the draft had discrepancies, was rejected by the apex court. Thereafter, the state government, ignoring the Court's directive, revealed the district-wise break-up of the NRC exclusions to press its case that the data needed to be re-verified. The contention that the NRC is flawed because the exclusions are more in districts that have a large presence of indigenous communities and not in border areas stems from the notion that illegal migration is likely to be more in border districts. It reveals a poor understanding of migration and rampant communal prejudice against migrants. If the Assam Movement of the 1980s was secular in its anti-migrant politics, the BJP has preferred to see the Hindus among the migrants as refugees who deserve to be absorbed as citizens. The amendment proposed to the Citizenship Act was a clear attempt to underline a communal division within the migrant population and privilege non-Muslim migrants. This move triggered mobilisations around Assamese ethnicity.

In this background, the state government needs to desist from a legislative course that may divide people on communal lines. The home ministry has clarified that people excluded from the NRC will have the option to present their case before the Foreigners' Tribunals, which have since been expanded, and has promised that the time frame for filing appeals will be increased from 60 to 120 days. These procedural tweaks offer an opening for those left out of the NRC, but they are unlikely to address the fears of a staggering number of people who confront an uncertain future.

THE MASSIVE AND significant protests over the demolition of a temple dedicated to Saint Ravidas in Delhi is a window to India's knotted social and political fissures. But the protest is also, despite being occasioned by the demolition of a temple, a testament to the impossibility of a genuine religious sensibility in modern India. Even religions promising liberation are sequestered in bondage by dominant groups; even religions abolishing caste are a daily reminder of caste. It is a condition that Ravidas, with his wry sensibility, would have understood perfectly well.

The formal story is simple. The government in the early Nineties decides to initiate a process to demolish the temple since it falls in a Green Zone. The Supreme Court finally puts its imprimatur on the legality of the demolition, and it is demolished on August 10. Delhi witnesses an unprecedented protest, largely by Dalit groups, who according to some reports, do a clever appropriation of the chant, "Mandir yahin banayenge (the temple shall be built here)".

But the formal legal story does not capture the subtexts of this movement. There is an immediate political context. After the political decimation of Mayawati, many Dalit groups are looking for a new form of political articulation and leadership. The demolition of the Ravidas temple provides the perfect focal point for a new mobilisation for leaders like Chandrashekhar Azad. But to attribute the movement merely to a jostling for space in Dalit politics would be a mistake. The depth and reach of the Ravidas movement across large swathes of north India has always been impressive and deeply felt.

The identification with Ravidas is not just about the Dalits challenging Brahminical hegemony. One of the lesser known aspects of Dalit politics is this. While the identification as Dalit, or by other caste signifiers, is important for social justice, most Dalits also deeply identify with appellations that are self-chosen. Identifying as a Ravidasi is important to many Dalits, because in doing so they exercise the deepest levels of agency: Self-naming and self-identification. It is a mode of creating an identity that is not compulsory.

Second, contrary to simplistic projections, the alternatives for Dalits are not just Westernisation or Sanskritisation. There is

Contrary to simplistic projections, the alternatives for Dalits are not just Westernisation or Sanskritisation. There is a long intellectual movement creating, if you like, an alternative tradition, in which Valmiki, Kabir and Ravidas figure prominently. Mayawati was hugely criticised for her memorials, but they were attempts, in some senses, to claim the public space for this tradition as an alternative to a "Brahminised" space. The chain of events leading to the demolition of this temple does not start with the BJP. But in some ways, the BJP has intensified the war over public space in UP, in some cases directly appropriating or muting the radicalness of this alternative tradition by simply adding upper caste or OBC idols to the space, as if they all had the same signification.

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The irony is further compounded in this case. The reason the temple was demolished was that it fell in the "Green Zone." Just ask yourself the question: How many times have we licensed all kinds of relaxations and exemptions to Green Zone rules, coastal regulation rules, etc. in the name of development, often with catastrophic consequences? In that context, the alacrity with which the Green Zone regulations were applied after the Supreme Court nod to a long-standing harmless structure, is bound to raise questions about whether our environmental pieties are also applied unequally. The rule of law becomes such a signifier of partisanship and inequality.

Ravidas was enormously influential in medieval India. Forty of his sakhis found their way into the Guru Granth Sahib; queens at Chittor followed him, even as he became a potent force for tearing down orthodoxy and oppression. He often gets over-

shadowed by Kabir. He is classed with the "nirguni" poets, but his precise theological vocabulary, as was common at the time, is quite complicated. Yet the underlying sensibility, the sense of spontaneity, detachment and plenitude and incandescent liberation, is overpowering. (Winand Callewaert and Peter Friedlander, *The Life and Works of Ravidas*, is an authoritative modern collection of Ravidas's texts).

But there are two ironies in the contemporary debates over Ravidas. His social message was a relentless critique of caste, the abolition of all social distinction to recognise a human oneness. His songs are the mode through which we can imagine an alternative, egalitarian universality. But to avoid confronting his radicalism, dominant groups will sequester him as a sectarian leader. Second, he is a relentless critic of all orthodoxy and conventional religious practice: "A plague on all your houses," without exception. But the underlying sensibility is that the attainment of liberation and unity with the whole of creation is possible; religion gets in the way of that. What gets in the way of "God" is when we convert our tribes into gods. He wanted to tell religions that they are after the same thing. But the intelligibility of that claim was premised on some sense that experience of that Reality, over and above our falsifying distinctions, was possible. Now all that remains are the distinctions and the tribes — the sense of divinity, and the self possession that comes with it, has gone.

In many biographies, it is said of Ravidas that the Brahmins of Benares wanted to deny him the right to worship a salagrama, since he was an untouchable. Upon being questioned by the king, Ravidas suggested that everyone float their salagrama on the Ganges. The salagrama that would float would be allowed to be worshipped. The salagrama floated by the Brahmins sank; but when Ravidas floated his salagrama, it floated like a "duck on water."

It is a measure of our times that the only test of which salagrama you will be allowed to worship will be how much political power you have. Brace yourself for more conflict on faith.

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CONTAIN THE CRISIS

Government must create the framework for a quick and orderly resolution of financial firms

THE LIQUIDITY AND solvency issues plaguing the non-banking financial sector continue unabated. Earlier this week, Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Ltd (DHFL) defaulted on its repayment obligations to the tune of Rs 1,571 crore. Clearly, NBFCs/HFCs continue to struggle to repay their loan obligations and raise low cost funds. As credit flow through this channel has slowed down, the ripple effects are being felt in the broader economy. One way, perhaps, to have contained the crisis, and prevent it from spreading throughout the financial sector, engulfing mutual funds as well, would have been through quick and orderly resolution/liquidation of firms in trouble. But the resolution framework, as it exists, makes it difficult to close down financial firms such as banks and NBFCs. The Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance (FRDI) bill had envisaged a framework for this. The bill, which was introduced by the NDA government in its first term, however, was withdrawn due to protests over some clauses. The current situation warrants a fresh look at the legislation.

The resolution/liquidation of financial firms is a challenging process, as, unlike in the case of non-financial firms, there are depositors to deal with. The interlinkages between financial firms and the broader economy complicate matters. The FRDI bill had envisaged the creation of a resolution corporation, endowed with powers to monitor/assess the risk of financial firms, to enable speedy resolution of firms — either through a merger or by selling off or winding up or through other avenues. As the events of the past few months show, there is a need for regulators to step in quickly. Delays in recognition and failure to act in time lead to higher losses. A long drawn out insolvency process for financial firms, as in the case of IL&FS, can have far-reaching ramifications for the economy. In comparison, an early resolution can lessen the impact of firm failure on the economy, and lead to more efficient allocation of capital.

The FRDI bill was withdrawn due to protests over the contentious "bail-in" clause and concerns about the extent of deposit insurance. But, as the complications in the IL&FS resolution process and the ongoing problems in the NBFC sector show, the government would do well to bring it back, albeit with modifications to address the issues that have been raised.

THE BISCUIT CRUMBLES

Food for thought: Never before have Marie and Parle G served as markers of an economic slowdown

IN 1789, THE price of bread was one of numerous factors which urged the French people to storm the Bastille. In 1998, Madan Lal Khurana of the BJP lost Delhi to Sheila Dikshit because of skyrocketing onion prices, and it became a national issue in 2014. Onions have also influenced election outcomes in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. Attitudes to essentials may well signal political change, because they relate to the home and the hearth. But never before have biscuits, a completely discretionary purchase, flagged an economic downturn.

Last week Varun Berry, managing director of Britannia Industries, walked out of an annual general meeting where he reported slowing growth in sales, and mused that things have come to a pretty pass if people are thinking thrice before buying a Rs 5 pack of biscuits. And now Parle, Britannia's competitor, threatens to lay off upto 10,000 workers. The only biscuits that are doing well are made of gold. Demand for precious metals has increased in response to a global recession signalled by the bond market, which produced the much-discussed inverted yield curve last week. One can almost hear the spirit of Marie Antoinette prescribing: "If they can't buy Marie, let them eat gold."

In 1986, the *Economist* launched its Big Mac Index, which tracks purchasing power parity across currencies via prices of a Big Mac hamburger in different countries. Now, perhaps the world is ready for a Marie index, a tracker of discretionary purchase which can detect the tightening of fists in real time, leaving bond yield curves to predict recessions which are still far away. In addition, since political turmoil is often associated with economic uncertainty, there is room for an onion index, tentatively named Vidalia, which would alert rulers to the rising frustration of people fed up with their economic policies.



SOFI AHSAN

EMPATHY STANDS REVOKED

What do peace and development mean in and outside Kashmir? The gap widens

WHEN SHE TRAVELLED outside Kashmir for the first time last year, to visit me in Chandigarh, I was taken aback by an unexpected but stark observation from my apolitical mother. "There are no forces here on the roads," she said. Today, and for the past many days, the promised dawn of a new Kashmir, to my mother and everyone there, means a siege: More gun-wielding men and suspension of all that is law and order.

An out-of-the-blue phone call lasting 30 seconds on the morning of August 19 has been my only contact with the family since I returned to Chandigarh after living under curfew for a week. The television here roars, though, that Kashmir is peaceful and normal. But the memories of my time in Kashmir make me want to use the endangered right to dissent. Having travelled on empty roads and beyond concertina wires, I think we may need a law to abrogate the existing definitions of peace, paradise and normalcy.

I have been living outside Kashmir for exactly two years and five months. I have an Islamic name but the last time I attended a mosque must have been during my school days. However, as the debates about religion and region get shriller, I am reminded of my identity — a Muslim from Kashmir — at each

moment when I think of using Article 19 of the Constitution of India, or merely when telling someone my name. The fear of the unknown, and the known, restricts my expression. The distrust on the streets of those not conforming to the ideas of a brute majoritarianism has made me feel more "Muslim" than a preacher in my neighbourhood would have.

When Article 370 was brought down in broad daylight, it was not merely the promise of letting a people decide their own destiny which was buried, again. It was perhaps also the burial of the façade of the so-called 'mainstream' in Kashmir which would previously tell us — the apparent fence-sitters in this conflict — that India has a special place in its heart for us, citing Article 370. Today, that "mainstream", too, has been arrested in Kashmir. I am sure a free court witnessing a democracy snatch the constitution of a region without consulting its people would term it as the undermining of the principles of natural justice.

"Dissent is the safety valve of democracy. If dissent is not allowed, then the pressure cooker may burst," said Supreme Court Justice DY Chandrachud in August last year. On August 10, this year, I landed at Srinagar airport and witnessed a sea of anxious faces

waiting for their loved ones, to take them home, away from the streets filled with guns, teargas canisters and chilli grenades. This is my memory of the promised new constitutional privileges in Kashmir. As for the statements being made by demagogues claiming that we will soon be "developed", Kashmir will remain a place of unrest even if it has those beautiful mountains where you wish to have your own plot already. The claimed calm and normalcy only make the headlines look good. My mother has not heard my voice since last Saturday — she will tell you what peace means.

What happens after this so-called historic development? I have only known twisted meanings of peace and normalcy all my life; so excuse me if I cannot even hope for it because the academic definitions are too deceptive.

Think about those under lockdown and pray that this — absence of any information about your loved ones — never impacts your homes and hearts. I am not invoking your conscience, though. That has been an obsolete term for a long time. Empathy already stands revoked.

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AUGUST 23, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

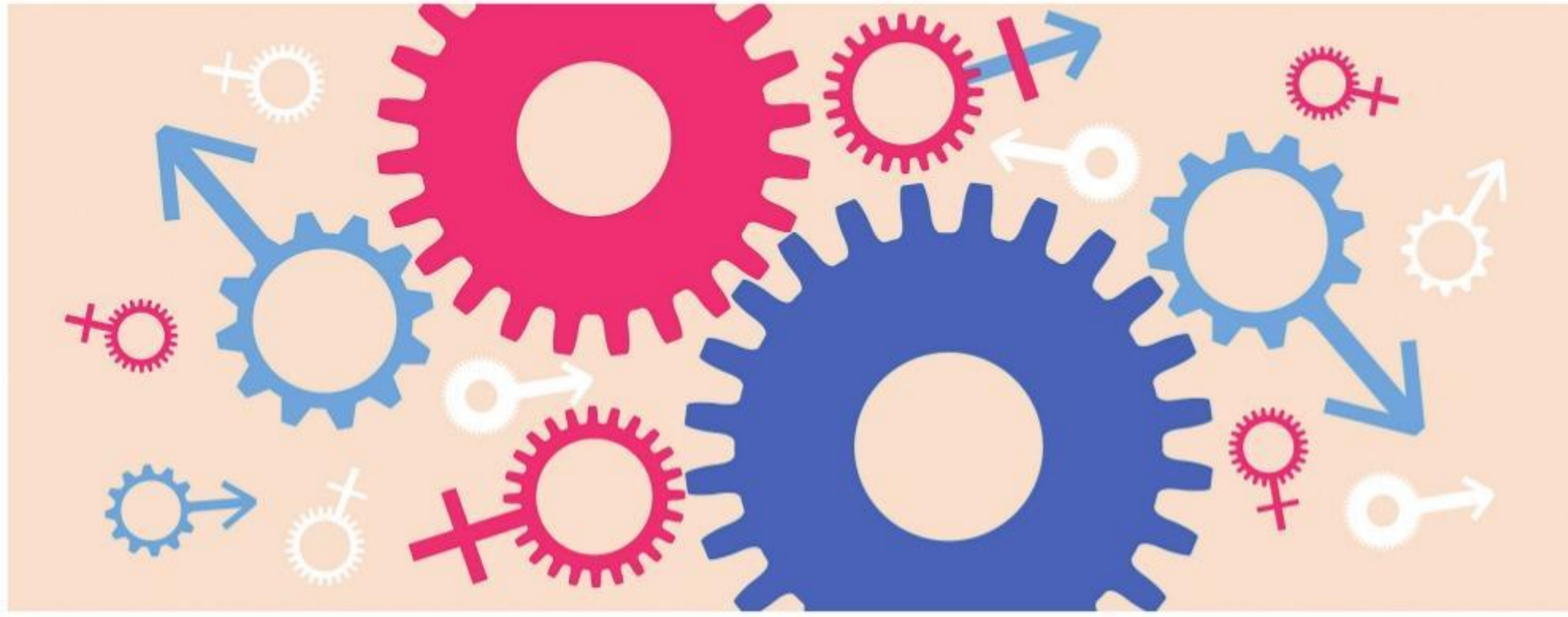
LOK SABHA DISSOLVED BY A STROKE of the pen, President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy dissolved the Lok Sabha and ordered fresh elections in November-December. The Charan Singh government will continue in a caretaker capacity till the elections are over. The President signed the order that cut short the life of the Lok Sabha by half a little before 1 pm. It was hailed as a just decision by Singh, but the Janata Party described the President's action as a part of the conspiracy to stop Jagjivan Ram from becoming prime minister.

IMPEACHMENT MOVE JANATA PARTY MEMBERS in the Rajya Sabha

will give notice of a resolution for impeachment of the President for his decision to dissolve the Lok Sabha, allegedly in violation of the Constitution. Immediately after hearing about the sudden announcement of the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the party president, Chandra Shekhar declared that his party members would give the impeachment notice. The Janata Party will need the support of at least 10 more members from other groups before it can refer the charge against the President. Under Article 61, the notice containing such a charge is required to be signed by not less than one-fourth of the total number of members of the House in which the move is initiated. The Janata has a

strength of just 51 members in the 244-member Rajya Sabha.

Dictatorship Fears JANATA PARTY LEADERS, Jagjivan Ram and Chandra Shekhar, fear that the way has been opened for a "Presidential dictatorship" with the "arbitrary" dissolution of the Lok Sabha. In a strongly-worded joint statement, they feared the danger of a President taking arbitrary decisions by "blackmail or by other inducements". In Sanjiva Reddy's decision, the Janata leaders found a "deep conspiracy". The aim, they felt, was to ensure that elections are held "with the state apparatus in the hands of a person chosen by the President himself".



CR Sasikumar

For a safer world of work

ILO convention on the human right to freedom from sexual harassment expands and deepens the rights of working people. The issue needs Parliament's attention



UPENDRA BAXI

ALTHOUGH INDIA IS among the very few erstwhile colonies to have signed the treaty that established the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the country's Parliament, mass media, and human rights and social movement activists remain too preoccupied with other issues to pay attention to some of the landmark events associated with the agency's centenary celebrations. Although in a welcome move last year, the Union home minister issued directions to states to ensure that Internal Complaints Committees to examine the issue of sexual harassment at the workplace are constituted, only benign neglect has so far greeted the ILO's Convention and Recommendation on the human right to freedom from sexual harassment and violence in the "world of work". Issues like national security are important but sexual violence and harassment at workplaces is so widespread that one hopes the issue will receive due, effective and expeditious attention in Parliament's next session.

The ILO adopted the Convention and the Recommendation at the 108th meeting of the International Labour Conference. Held in Geneva from June 10 to 21, it was attended by more than 5,700 delegates, representing governments, workers and employers from the agency's 187 member states. These were the first set of instruments to be enunciated by the International Labour Conference since 2011, when the Domestic Workers Convention was adopted. Conventions cast legally binding obligations whereas Recommendations offer valuable advisory pathways. And the history of ILO archives the importance of both.

Of the 476 delegates, 439 voted for the treaty, seven voted against it, and 30 abstained. Interesting was the policy reversal by the US, which chose to vote in favour of the Convention though it did not vote for the Recommendation. Widely reported, too, is the fact that the governments that stood up

for stronger protections included those of Uganda and Namibia (which led the African group of states), the European Union group led by France, as well as Canada, New Zealand, the Philippines, and many Latin American and Caribbean states. India probably played a leading role, too, but remained off the media radar.

The treaty's scope is undoubtedly wide. It covers not just workers, trainees, those whose employment has been terminated, job seekers, and interns, but also applies to both the formal and informal sectors. It also extends to third parties, such as clients, customers, or service providers. The treaty is unique, for no domestic law has gone this far. Indeed, the World Bank's 2018 report, unsurprisingly, found that as many as 59 out of the 189 countries had no specific legal provisions covering sexual harassment in employment.

The "world of work" is a concept invented by the ILO and includes all employees "as defined by national law and practice, as well as persons working irrespective of their contractual status, persons in training, including interns and apprentices, workers whose employment has been terminated, volunteers, job-seekers and job applicants, and individuals exercising the authority, duties or responsibilities of an employer". The Convention's Article 2 further "applies to all sectors, whether private or public, both in the formal and informal economy, and whether in urban or rural areas". This is a wide sweep, but note that it was accepted by a tripartite body, representing workers, employers, and the states.

The terms "violence and harassment" in the world of work refer to the same phenomenon. Not only is discrimination violence but it is also harassment—"a range of unacceptable behaviours and practices, or threats thereof", whether singly or repeated, that "aim at, result in, or are likely to result in physical, psychological, sexual or economic harm, and includes gender-based violence and harassment". And Article 1 further renders impermissible violence/harassment directed against LGBT and inter-sex communities. This marks a great normative advancement. The Convention also recognises the prevalence of same sex violence.

The Convention also significantly advances the state's obligations to "respect, promote and realise the fundamental principles and rights at work". These include: One, "the freedom of association and the effective

recognition of the right to collective bargaining"; two, "the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour"; three, "the effective abolition of child labour"; and four, "the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, as well as promote decent work" (Article 5).

The importance of the Convention in reinforcing the rights of the working people in the world of work cannot be overemphasised, given the global conversations about making the planet safe for investors. Any law reform agenda that only promotes the rights of capital overlooks the simple fact that labour contributes as much, if not more, to profit-making.

Articles 7-12 of the Convention impose obligations upon member states to frame laws, regulations, and policies to effectively arrest sexual harassment and violence at work. These obligations are not effete. The public authorities have a specific role in the case of workers in the "informal economy". They have to now identify the "sectors or occupations and work arrangements" in which "workers and other persons concerned are more exposed to violence and harassment" and "take measures to effectively protect such persons" (Article 8). The obligation here is not just to denounce unfair labour practices. Rather, it specifically defines a proactive administration, which has duties of care and concern to the systemically disorganised labour. Such identification must occur "in consultation with the employers' and workers' organisations concerned and through other means". In other words, the identification in order to be effective has to be participatory and reflexive, not just routinely bureaucratic.

One hopes that the centennial ILO Convention and Recommendation will have resonance with the UN's Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises With Respect to Human Rights. In the interim, one also expects the civil society and the state in India to engage more imaginatively and vigorously with the ILO Convention and Recommendation, which already stand implicit in the Directive Principles of State Policy of the Constitution.

The writer is professor of law, University of Warwick, and former vice chancellor of Universities of South Gujarat and Delhi

The importance of the Convention in reinforcing the rights of the working peoples in the world of work cannot be overemphasised, given the global conversations about making the planet safe for investors. Any law reform agenda that only promotes the rights of capital overlooks the simple fact that labour contributes as much, if not more, to profit-making.



PARTHA SARTHI SEN SHARMA

Crucible for the steel frame

For 60 years, Mussoorie Academy has been a place of memory and continuity

IT WAS 60 years ago, in the first week of September, 1959, that the Mussoorie Academy, later named after our late prime minister as the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration or LBSNAA, was established in the erstwhile premises of the Hotel Charleville and the Happy Valley Club, on the far end of the British hill station. So, it was only in the fitness of things that the academy invited some of its past faculty and staff on this occasion to mark the milestone. It was nice to see generations of directors and staff coming together to share their memories of the place, on the green lawns of the academy, with the Himalayas as a majestic backdrop.

Since the time the academy was established in the salubrious climes of Mussoorie, by merging together the IAS training school, Metcalf house, Delhi and the IAS staff college, Simla, hundreds and thousands of civil servants, not only those belonging to the IAS, but also of the other All India and Central services, have started their careers from these very portals. Many of them have contributed significantly in the public service and policy space.

For example, even today, a few members of the council of ministers, a few members of both Houses of Parliament, the principal secretary and additional principal secretary to the prime minister, the NSA, cabinet secretary and almost all secretaries to govern-

ment of India, ambassadors and heads of police forces, almost all district magistrates and district police chiefs are alumni of Mussoorie academy. A few of them, including my own batch mate, Dashrath Prasad, made the supreme sacrifice in their line of duty. Some branched out and became famous authors — Vikas Swarup (*Q & A* and *Slum dog Millionaire* fame) and Upamanyu Chatterjee (*English, August*) come readily to mind. Others went on to head successful private sector organisations. All of them, in their time, have lived in the very same hostels — Ganga, Kaveri, Narmada and Mahanadi — rode horses on the same riding grounds and perhaps had even the same oily parathas in the Ganga dhaba on formal mess dinner nights. If the civil services are the steel frame of governance then the Mussoorie academy has been the crucible.

In the years immediately after Independence, the IAS officer trainees used to be trained in the historic building of Metcalf house in Delhi, where the DRDO stands today. But there was always talk of moving the academy to larger premises, away from Delhi, ostensibly to "prevent the distractions of the capital". Finally, I think, a combination of factors came together that helped to make the decision in one swift move — the Union Home Minister Govind Ballabh Pant being from the UP hills, the need to revive the mori-

bund economy of the hill station and perhaps, above all, the availability of the entire premises of the British-era Hotel Charleville, whose occupancy had fallen dramatically since independence, along with its furniture, furnishings and even linen at a sum of Rs 8 lakh.

Incidentally, 1959 was also the first time when a combined course was organised for all the services, rather than only for the IAS, a tradition that continued over the years and is now being called the "foundation course".

Since then, there has been both continuity and change in the life of Mussoorie Academy. Some of the old beautiful deep green, wood facade buildings are gone, the director's office and the Happy Valley blocks being the proud and much cherished exceptions. The director's lawn remains and the magnolia tree still stands at its corner. The practice of regular horse riding continues, as does the tradition of formal multiple course dinners on special occasions. In place of the old G B Pant block and A N Jha block (named after the first director of the Mussoorie academy), huge, well-equipped, modern buildings — Kammashila, Dhruvshila and Gyanshila — have come up and so has the Kalindi Guest house on the land where the ladies' hostel stood. There have been significant milestones in the past 60 years too: The academy mess building getting burnt down to ashes only to rise again like a phoenix and the director of

the academy resigning on a matter of principle, for example. In fact, a few of them were lovingly recounted in the form of a novel, *Those who Had Known Love* by Anita Agnihotri, an IAS officer and prolific writer. There have been presidential and prime ministerial visits too — the present PM, despite his busy schedule, not only visited but stayed in the academy in 2017.

Undoubtedly, the Mussoorie Academy has moved with the times and is now far more technically equipped and modernised from our days in early Nineties. And yet, there are still nooks and corners that remind one of the cultural and historic legacy of the place, a place whose memories would remain forever etched in the minds and hearts of all of us who had the good fortune to spend part of their youth in the Mussoorie Academy.

Even today, every time one gets to visit the academy, despite all the heat and dust of the plains and the monotony and banality of corridors of power, the place never fails to instil some of that old idealism, the dream-like quality that permeates those mountains, the tall Deodar trees and the layers of collective memory that have inspired so many over the years.

The writer is an IAS officer (UP cadre), currently posted as joint secretary in department of fertilisers

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"What will be the fate of the four million people who are excluded (from the NRC)? Will they be pushed into Bangladesh? We raise the question because statements from Indian leaders, including the home minister, all but indirectly hinted so." — THE DAILY STAR, BANGLADESH

The casualty of a diktat

How the Humpty Dumpty we call Kashmir be put together back again is a question we have to answer



SHIV VISHVANATHAN

IN AUGUST, JAMMU-KASHMIR and Ladakh were declared Union Territories and the history of Kashmir was rewritten. So the newspaper proclaimed, as the media went out of its way to create an epidemic of acclamation in the wake of the Narendra Modi-Amit Shah declaration.

My first sense of concern and panic was not about the larger political dimensions but about the fate and welfare of my students. Many Kashmiri students attend my university and add a sense of diversity and cosmopolitanism to it. Quite a few have returned to work in Kashmir, men and women deeply committed and knowledgeable about the state. When the news came, I tried desperately to contact them but all phone lines and the internet were down. The silence was painful and worrying. Waiting for messages, I found I was having imaginary conversations with some of them. As a small tribute and as a hello to them, I decided to pen my thoughts down, talking to my students in an imaginary classroom.

One of my students is an intense philosopher, a feminist with a deep sense of the Sufi imagination of Kashmir, convinced that philosophy can be a way to peace. She has a tremendous sense of the everydayness of violence and what it particularly means to women, tired of the machismo of men playing security games. I can hear her arguing: "The sadness of the BJP government is that it thinks Kashmir is empty space and its people mere Lego sets to be rearranged again and again. Space is empty of memory. For the regime that rules us, history is a march of time, a parade of power. For us history is memory, the memory of waiting, waiting for peace, waiting for men to come home, waiting."

The Modi government, she would complain, has no sense of the language of time and waiting. I can hear her say that it is your illiteracy about time that makes you do what you are doing to us.

I can imagine one of her friends helping her clarify her argument. Each does it with a story, each story embodying a concept of time. The group virtually claims that a thesaurus of time is one answer, a bouquet of peace to Amit Shah's arid governmentality. "Think of everydayness, think of routine, our timetables declared by curfew, our seasons of fear punctured by protest. The crisis moments come when troops shoot down our loved ones, moments of protest punctured by periods of silence, the muteness of boredom. Our patience needs a million synonyms. There must be a history, a poetics of Kashmir time." I can see her adding, maybe wait-

ing is a woman's word which Delhi does not understand.

A friend of hers, a student of governmentality and a poet, adds: "The language of governance has no sense of people. You confuse words, so integration to you means occupation to us. You confuse space with time, creating history out of fictions you call Union Territories... This is why you never understood Farooq Abdullah crying. It was not just personal grief. It was a lament for a people and his father's dream, a death of a promise. While we mourn today, you celebrate a breakdown of contract and promise. You keep rewriting Kashmir as if they have no memory, no archives, no stories of their own. Your legislative feats are full of amnesia."

Another student who has been dawdling between studying politics and philosophy added, "it is not Kashmir you are trying to rectify. It is your unconscious. Your regime keeps rectifying history, enacting historical figures in an attempt to purge your unconscious. You have Modi and Shah playing second-hand Sardars again. But I guess chowkidars cannot be Sardars and you confuse petty diktats with statesmanship."

My philosopher student added, "I listened to a version of Modi's speech later. You openly treat Kashmir as a space to be invaded by real estate operators and corporations. Kashmir is not just a colony, that would be too impolite. It is actually more instrumental. It is a property, a forgotten piece of real estate on which you have declared open season. You are creating a homelessness of our people even at home."

Two of them turned sadly and ferociously at me. "Remember what you taught us about democracy, that democracy is a synonym for hospitality, for the dialogic, for representation, for participation, for difference. Today we list these words on the mourning wall of democracy. Each synonym of democracy a casualty of your governments diktats."

The political scientist added, Indian democracy was always haunted by the nightmare of the nation-state. "India became a nation-state haunted by two genocides — the Bengal Famine and Partition. Today, your democracy is haunted by two enclosure movements gulagising a people in Assam and Kashmir. Your government pretends to be a democracy but prefers to play nation state."

The women who began the conversation said abruptly: "Forget Kashmir. Think of what majoritarianism has done to India. You are transforming states into gulags and calling it progress."

I realised she was right. When India reworks its democracy, Kashmir could become a part of us. The Humpty Dumpty we call Kashmir cannot be put together again till we re-invent our democracy. August 15, 2019, might be the beginning or the end of it. That is the question India has to answer.

The writer, a social scientist, teaches at O P Jindal Global University

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TRUST MATTERS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Only due process' (IE, August 22). High-profile cases such as the one pertaining to Congress leader and former Union minister, P Chidambaram, must not be scrutinised through the lens of being politically malafide or symptomatic of judicial enthusiasm. The outcome of such cases send out a strong message. They can either strengthen the confidence of the people in the government and judiciary or can make people doubt them. So, it becomes imperative that due process is followed lest people should become cynical.

Ketan Kishan, Gurugram

CONCERNS OF STATES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Spending limits' (IE, August 21). India is a federal country with a unitary bias and this is reflected in every pillar of our democracy, whether the legislature, judiciary or executive. In so far as the economy is concerned, the Constitution has provisions such as the Finance Commission for deciding the division of revenue between states and the Union. But over the time, this body has become less effective. Laws should be framed to give more powers to the commission and a charter for orderly meetings of inter-state councils should be drafted so that the concerns of the states are addressed.

Vivek Kumar, Patiala

GLOBAL CLOUT

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Where

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301. Letter writers should mention their postal address and phone number.

THE WINNER RECEIVES SELECT EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS

there is no free will' (IE, Aug 19). The significance of removing Article 370 can be gauged from Pakistan's response. It has tried to internationalise the issue. The conversion of J&K into two union territories will make people in Ladakh happy. In fact, a large section of J&K has also welcomed the Reorganisation of J&K Bill. This piece of legislation has given us international advantages. Countries like the US, China and Russia have started believing that India can take steps to defend itself.

Chandravir Singh, Agra

16 THE WORLD



MEANWHILE GIRAFFES TO BE PROTECTED AS NUMBERS FALL

An international conference on endangered species has agreed to protect giraffes for the first time. Thursday's vote by a key committee at the World Wildlife Conference known as CITES paves the way for likely approval by its plenary next week. Giraffe numbers in Africa have fallen by 40% in the past 30 years, in what is being called a "silent extinction".

TOP OF THE WORLD



New Zealand Speaker Trevor Mallard feeding an MP's baby during a session. Reuters

NEW ZEALAND Speaker makes Parliament more parent-friendly

Wellington: As New Zealand MPs vigorously debated fuel prices in Parliament, Speaker Trevor Mallard called for order while feeding baby Tutanekei his bottle. The six-week-old son of MP Tamati Coffey and his husband, born via a surrogate mother last month, was being cuddled by his father in the debating chamber on Wednesday when the Speaker offered to hold him. "There are times when I can be vaguely useful," Mallard said. The newborn joins many other babies in the legislature after Mallard relaxed rules in 2017 to make Parliament more child-friendly.

USA MIT professor quits over lab links to Epstein

New York: The head of a research centre at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has said he will quit in protest after the revelation of financial ties between the institution and disgraced hedge fund manager Jeffrey Epstein. Ethan Zuckerman, director of the Center for Civic Media at the MIT Media Lab, said he would leave at the end of the 2019-2020 academic year after finding out that lab director Joi Ito took money from Epstein, who committed suicide in prison on August 10 as he awaited trial on sex trafficking charges.

W.H.O. REPORT 'Plastic particles in drinking water present low risk'

Geneva: Microplastics contained in drinking water pose a "low" risk to human health at current levels, but more research is needed to reassure consumers, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Thursday. Studies over the past year on plastic particles detected in tap and bottled water have sparked public concerns but the limited data appears reassuring, the UN agency said in its first report on potential health risks associated with ingestion.



A tract of Amazon jungle burnt by loggers and farmers in Iranduba, Amazonas state, Brazil. Reuters

Amazon rainforest burning fast, Brazil's President blames NGOs

Brazilian space research centre says 77% jump in number of fires this year

MANUELA ANDREONI & CHRISTINE HAUSER
RIO DE JANEIRO, AUGUST 22

FIRES ARE burning in the Amazon rainforest at one of the fastest paces in years, Brazil's space research centre said this week. The centre, the National Institute for Space Research, which monitors fires using satellite images, reported Wednesday that it had detected 39,194 fires this year in the world's largest rainforest, a 77 per cent increase from the same period in 2018. The fires, most of which have been set by farmers clearing their land, are raging in uninhabited areas of rainforest and intruding on populated areas in the country's north, including

EXPLAINED Slowing pace of climate change: Why the Amazon matters

THE AMAZON is the biggest rainforest in the world and helps to slow down climate change. According to NASA, the increase in carbon dioxide (CO2) levels caused by human activity since the Industrial Revolution is the most important long-term issue "forcing" climate change. The trees in the Amazon absorb an amount of CO2 that is equivalent to the fossil fuel emissions of nine countries in the region between 1980-2010, a BBC report said. Without the Amazon, all of this CO2 would have been released into the atmosphere, hastening global warming. The forest also houses the richest biodiversity in the world. It is also home to a large indigenous population, who rely on the forest to maintain their way of life.

The blazes are so large and widespread that smoke has wafted thousands of miles away

to the Atlantic coast and São Paulo, the country's most populous city, according to the World Meteorological Organisation. On Wednesday, Brazil's far-right President, Jair Bolsonaro, accused non-governmental organisations of setting the fires in the rainforest after the government pulled their funding, although he presented no evidence. "It could be; it could; I'm not saying it is, a criminal action by these NGO people to call attention against me, against the Brazilian government," he said. "This is the war we face." Deforestation of the Amazon has increased rapidly since Bolsonaro took office last year, and his government cut back on efforts to confront illegal activity in the rainforest. **NYT**

UN report: Myanmar troops' sexual violence against Rohingya shows genocidal intent

MICHELLE NICHOLS
UNITED NATIONS, AUGUST 22

SEXUAL VIOLENCE committed by Myanmar troops against Rohingya women and girls in 2017 was an indication of the military's genocidal intent to destroy the mainly Muslim ethnic minority, United Nations investigators concluded in a report released on Thursday. The panel of independent investigators, set up by the UN Human Rights Council in 2017, accused Myanmar's government of failing to hold anyone accountable and said it was responsible "under the Genocide Convention for its failure to investigate and punish acts of genocide". A military crackdown in Myanmar's Rakhine state that began in August 2017 drove more than 730,000 Rohingya to flee to Bangladesh. Myanmar denies widespread wrongdoing and says the military campaign across hundreds of villages in northern Rakhine was in response to attacks by Rohingya insurgents. "Hundreds of Rohingya women and girls were raped,

NO ROHINGYA TURN UP FOR REPATRIATION FROM BANGLADESH

Teknaf: A fresh push to repatriate Rohingya refugees to Myanmar fall flat on Thursday, with no one turning up to hop on five buses and 10 trucks laid out by Bangladesh. Members of the Muslim minority, 740,000 of whom fled a military offensive in 2017, are refusing to return without guarantees for their safety and a promise that they will at last be given citizenship by Myanmar. "The Myanmar government raped us, and killed us. So we need security. Without security we will never go back," Rohingya leader Nosima said. **PTI**

with 80 per cent of the rapes corroborated by the Mission being gang rapes. The Tatmadaw (Myanmar military) was responsible for 82 per cent of these gang rapes," the report said. **REUTERS**

South Korea-Japan history feud escalates, agreement to share intelligence scrapped

HYONHEE SHIN & JOSH SMITH
SEOUL, AUGUST 22

SOUTH KOREA said on Thursday it will scrap an intelligence-sharing pact with Japan, a decision that could escalate a dispute over history and trade and undercut security cooperation on North Korea. With the decision not to extend the pact, the political and trade disputes between South Korea and Japan now extend into some of the most sensitive national security issues in the region.



South Korean protesters in front of the Japanese embassy in Seoul. AP

The arrangement was designed to share information on the threat posed by North Korea's

missile and nuclear activities. The decision to end it comes after North Korea launched a series of short-range ballistic missiles in protest against what it sees as military build-ups in South Korea and Japan. The General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) was due to be automatically renewed on Saturday, unless either side decided to cancel it. The decision was announced after an hour-long discussion within the presidential National Security Council (NSC). South Korean President Moon Jae-in

approved it. Japan created a "grave change" in the environment for bilateral security cooperation by removing South Korea's fast-track export status, said Kim You-geun, a deputy director of the NSC. A large section of the public in South Korea remain bitter over Japan's actions during its colonial rule of Korea from 1910 until the end of World War Two. A 2012 attempt to seal the deal fell apart in the face of opposition in South Korea toward military cooperation with Japan. **REUTERS**

SENT TO THE ISS, FEDOR TO BE USED IN OPERATIONS THAT ARE DANGEROUS FOR HUMANS Russia launches humanoid robot into space

REUTERS
MOSCOW, AUGUST 22

A RUSSIAN humanoid robot was making its way on Thursday to the International Space Station after blasting off on a two-week mission to support the crew and test his skills.

Known as FEDOR, which stands for Final Experimental Demonstration Object Research, the Skybot F-850 is the first humanoid robot to be sent to space by Russia. NASA sent humanoid



robot Robonaut 2 to space in 2011 to work in hazardous environments. "The robot's main purpose it to be used in operations that are

especially dangerous for humans onboard spacecraft and in outer space," Russian space agency Roscosmos said on Thursday after the launch from

the Baikonur Cosmodrome. The ISS is a joint project of the space agencies of the US, Russia, Europe, Japan and Canada. Travelling in an unmanned Soyuz MS-14 spacecraft, FEDOR is expected to dock at the ISS on Saturday with 660 kg of cargo including medical supplies and food rations for the crew waiting at the station, NASA said. FEDOR, who is the size an adult and can emulate movements of the human body, described himself as "an assistant to the ISS crew" on his Twitter page.

RECENT MOVES TO CURB IMMIGRATION

- The Trump administration recently announced a proposal to detain undocumented families indefinitely, scrapping a 20-day limit for holding children.
- Trump had enacted and later reversed a "zero tolerance" policy that led to the separation of many migrant children from their parents.
- The White House last week unveiled a rule that would make it more difficult for poor immigrants to obtain green cards.



Trump in in Louisville, Kentucky, on Wednesday. AP

LALIT K JHA
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump has threatened to end what he called the "ridiculous" policy of birthright citizenship, which gives citizenship automatically to those born in America, as he sought ways to check illegal immigration. "We're looking at that very seriously, birthright citizenship. It's frankly ridiculous," Trump said Wednesday outside the White House while responding to a question on the birthright citizenship, which grants automatic citizenship to those born in the US. His comments echoes his administration's previous promise to unilaterally end the practice. "Birthright citizenship where you have a baby on our land, you walk over the border, have a baby, congratulations, the baby is now a US citizen. We're looking at it very, very seriously," Trump said. During his 2016 campaign, Trump had said that he would end birthright citizenship. The 14th Amendment of the US Constitution guarantees birthright citizenship, and states: "All persons born or naturalised in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the

United States and of the State wherein they reside." Indian-origin Presidential candidate Kamala Harris, a Democratic senator from California, mocked Trump's comments on Twitter Wednesday, stating the President "should seriously consider reading the Constitution." **PTI**

UK's Hong Kong mission worker held in China over prostitution: State media

REUTERS
BEIJING, AUGUST 22

AN EMPLOYEE of the British consulate in Hong Kong has been detained in China for involvement in prostitution, the state-backed *Global Times* newspaper said on Thursday, as Britain said it continued to urgently seek information. China's foreign ministry confirmed on Wednesday that the employee, Simon Cheng, had been detained in the border city of Shenzhen neighbouring Hong Kong. In a report on its English-language website, the paper, published by the ruling Communist Party's official *People's Daily*, cited Shenzhen police as saying Cheng had been detained for 15 days for "solicitation of prostitution". Police in Shenzhen's district of Luohu said Cheng had violated article 66 of the law on administrative penalties for public security, it added. The law provides for those who engage in prostitution, or who visit prostitutes, to be detained for up to 15 days, and they may also be fined 5,000 yuan (\$705.15). Shenzhen police referred *Reuters* to the *Global Times* report, saying it contained all the relevant details.

OFFICIALS MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO PAY RANSOMS TO GET THEIR COMPUTERS BACK WORKING AS 40 MUNICIPALITIES HIT THIS YEAR

Ransomware attacks cripple cities across America, testing their resolve

MANNY FERNANDEZ, DAVIDE SANGER & MARINA TRAHAN MARTINEZ
HOUSTON, AUGUST 22

AT THE public library in Wilmer, Texas, books were checked out not with the beeps of bar code readers but with the scratches of pen on notebook paper. Out on the street, police officers were literally writing tickets — by hand. When the entire computer network that keeps the small town's bureaucracy afloat was recently hacked, Wilmer was thrown into the digital Dark Ages. "It's weird," said Jennifer Dominguez, a library assistant. "We've gone old school."

This has been the summer of crippling ransomware attacks. Wilmer — a town of almost 5,000 people just south of Dallas — is one of 22 cities across Texas that are simultaneously being held hostage for millions of dollars after a sophisticated hacker, perhaps a group of them, infiltrated their computer systems and encrypted their data. The attack instigated a statewide disaster-style response that includes the National Guard and a widening FBI inquiry. More than 40 municipalities have been the victims of cyberattacks this year, from major cities such as Baltimore, Albany and Laredo, Texas, to smaller towns including Lake City, Florida. Lake

City is one of the few cities to have paid a ransom demand — about \$460,000 in Bitcoin, a cryptocurrency — because it thought reconstructing its systems would be even more costly. In most ransomware cases, the identities and whereabouts of culprits are cloaked by clever digital diversions. Intelligence officials, using data collected by the National Security Agency and others in an effort to identify the sources of the hacking, say many have come from Eastern Europe, Iran and, in some cases, the United States. The majority have targeted small-town America, figuring that sleepy, cash-strapped local governments are the least likely to have updated their cyberdefences



A handwritten sign posted near City Hall in Baltimore. Reuters

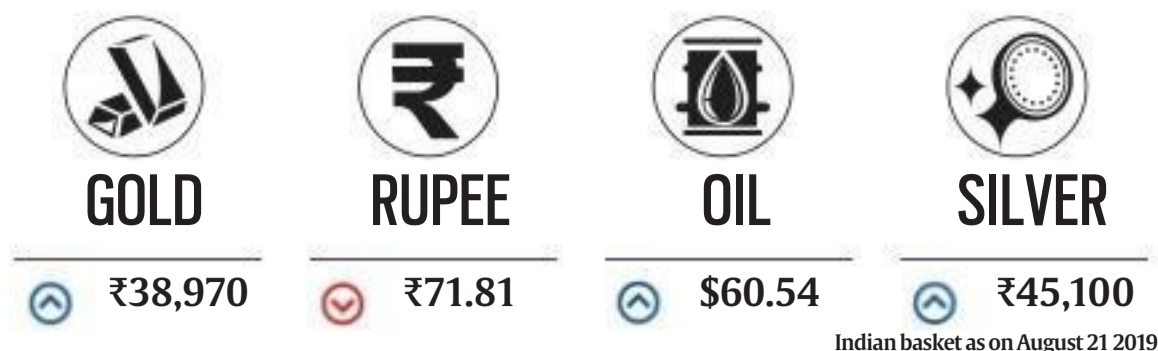
or backed up their data. Beyond the disruptions at local city halls and public libraries, the attacks have serious consequences, with recovery costing millions of dollars. And even when the information is again accessible and the networks re-

stored, there is a loss of confidence in the integrity of systems that handle basic services like water, power, emergency communications and vote counting. "The business model for the ransomware operators for the past several years has proved to be successful," said Chris Krebs, the director of the Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, which has the primary responsibility for aiding American victims of cyberattacks. "Years of fine-tuning these attacks have emboldened the actors, and you have seen people pay out — and they are going to continue to pay out," he said, despite warnings from the FBI that

meeting ransom demands only encourages more attacks. In Georgia alone in recent months, the tally of victims has been stunning: the city of Atlanta. The state's Department of Public Safety, State and local court systems. A major hospital. A county government. A police department for a city of 30,000 people. The Department of Public Safety was hit particularly hard and continues to feel the effects of an attack discovered on July 26. The computer network remains down. Every device, including laptops and tablets, is being examined and reconfigured. Much of the email system cannot be entered. State troopers are unable to use computer systems in their pa-

rol cars; like their colleagues in Wilmer, they're writing tickets. An FBI warning sent to key players in the American cyberindustry on Monday left unclear who was responsible for the malware afflicting Texas, a strain first seen in April and named Sodinokibi. On Wednesday, the Department of Homeland Security issued a warning about a "Ransomware Outbreak", cautioning cities and towns to "back up your data, system images and configurations" and keep them offline. It urged them to update their software — something Baltimore had failed to do. Ransomware is hardly new, but attacks have become more frequent in recent times. **NYT**

17 ECONOMY



SENSEX: 36,472.93 ▼ 58744 NIFTY: 10,741.35 ▼ 177.35 NIKKEI: 20,628.01 ▲ 9.44 HANG SENG: 26,048.72 ▼ 221.32 FTSE: 7,176.29 ▼ 27.68 DAX: 11,817.31 ▲ 14.46

International market data till 1900 IST

POLICY WATCH
ARTICLE IV CONSULTATION

IMF takes note of slowdown, 'asks FinMin about revenue targets'

AANCHAL MAGAZINE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

WITH THE Indian economy in a slowdown phase, concerns over revenue shortfall and the resultant impact on country's overall fiscal situation are now being flagged by external agencies. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), as part of its annual Article IV consultations with India, has raised questions regarding the NDA government's revenue targets in the light of the below-trend revenue collections amid the worsening slowdown in the broader economy.

The IMF is learnt to have posed questions to the Finance Ministry on whether the government's revenue targets for both direct and indirect taxes, including Goods and Services Tax (GST) estimates in the Union Budget, appear to be achievable. "The IMF has asked questions whether the revenue targets can be met given that revenue buoyancy will be affected due to the economic slowdown and the corresponding impact on the fiscal math of the government," a senior official said. In its questionnaire sent to the Finance Ministry, the IMF is also learnt to have flagged the roadblocks in the implementation of GST and highlighted the need to further simplify the indirect tax regime.

The questions by the IMF were sent ahead of its meeting with key Finance Ministry officials this week. The questions by the multilateral agency gain significance as they come amid slowing government tax revenues reflecting the weakening of the economic growth rate of the country.

During an Article IV consultation, an IMF team of economists visits a member country to assess economic and financial developments and discuss the country's economic and financial policies with government and central bank officials. The team then reports its findings to IMF

The IMF is learnt to have posed questions to the Finance Ministry on whether revenue targets for direct, indirect taxes, including GST estimates in Budget, appear achievable

management and then presents them for discussion to the Executive Board, which represents all of the IMF's member countries. A summary of the Board's views is then subsequently transmitted to the country's government and then summaries of discussions are released in public.

There is progressively a widening gap between the tax revenues and the targets, especially for direct taxes. Net direct tax revenue growth has sharply decelerated to 4.7 per cent for April 1-August 15 this year as against 9.6 per cent growth in April-June and the required annual growth rate of 17.3 per cent. *The Indian Express* had reported Thursday. With the sharply slower revenue growth, the government's direct tax targets are looking out of reach for the second consecutive year.

While the overall gross GST collections seem to be moving closer to the target, the actual figures released by CGA for the April-June quarter do not paint an optimistic picture for Centre's GST revenue. GST revenue collections of the Centre for April-June contracted 5.9 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1.53 lakh crore.

In July-March, the remaining nine months of this financial year, the gross tax revenue collections are required to grow at a run rate of 22.3 per cent and net tax revenue collections are required to grow at a run rate of 29.5 per cent, as per the April-June revenue collections data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).

DEAL TO HELP US FIRM TAP INTO INDIA'S GROCERY RETAIL SEGMENT

Amazon picks up 49% in Future Retail promoter

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

GLOBAL ONLINE retailer Amazon has entered into an agreement to purchase 49 per cent stake in Future Coupons — the promoter entity of Kishore Biyani-led Future Retail, which operates Big Bazaar supermarkets. This could help the US-based firm to tap into India's household and grocery retail segment.

"Amazon has agreed to make an equity investment in Future Coupons Limited for acquiring a 49 per cent stake comprising both, voting and non-voting shares," Future Retail said in a release to the exchange. The company did not disclose the financial details of the deal. Further, as part of the agreement, Amazon has been granted a call option, which allows Amazon to acquire all or part of

the promoters' shareholding in Future Retail and is exercisable between the third and tenth years, in certain circumstances, subject to applicable law, the company said. In March this year, Future Retail had approved the issuance and allotment of 3.96 million warrants to Future Coupons, and the conversion of warrants can be exercised at any time during the period up to 18 months from the date of allotment.

The deal comes barely over a year after another US retail giant Walmart picked up controlling stake in an Indian retailer — Bengaluru-based e-commerce firm Flipkart. Walmart purchased majority stake in Flipkart for \$16 billion. The deal between Amazon and Future Group is part of the former's strategy to leverage India's offline grocery and household segment. Last year, Amazon, along with private equity firm Samara

FINANCIAL DETAILS NOT DISCLOSED

■ Amazon has agreed to make an equity investment in Future Coupons Limited for acquiring a 49% stake comprising both, voting and non-voting shares, Future Retail said in a release to the exchange

■ The deal comes barely over a year after Walmart US retail giant Walmart picked up controlling stake in Flipkart. Walmart purchased majority stake in Flipkart for \$16 billion

Capital, picked up stake in Aditya Birla group's food and grocery retail chain, More.

In 2017, Amazon had purchased 5 per cent stake in departmental store chain Shoppers Stop.

Currently, the Indian retail market is dominated by the unorganised retail accounting for about 88 per cent of the total retail market while organised market is valued at about \$95 billion, only about 12 per cent of the sec-

tor. E-commerce stands at about \$24 billion, accounting for about 25 per cent of the organised market or 3 per cent of the total retail market in India. India's organised retail penetration is much lower compared with other countries, such as the US which has organised retail sector penetration of 85 per cent.

According to a report by CARE Ratings, food & grocery segment accounts for over 88 per cent of

sales in the unorganised sector but only 2-3 per cent in the e-commerce sector, thus having a huge potential for e-retailers to expand further into the segment.

In 2017, the erstwhile Department of Industrial Policy and promotion (DIPP) had approved Amazon's proposal to invest about \$500 million to build out a food retail business.

Thursday, Amazon India announced launch of Amazon Fresh store — which will allow customers get daily essentials delivered in two hours — in Bengaluru. The development comes amid intensifying competition between Amazon and Walmart-owned Flipkart. Both the players are betting aggressively on the online grocery space.

The Amazon Fresh store will serve a complete grocery experience across fruits and vegetables, dairy, meat, ice-creams, and dry

grocery with 2-hour delivery slots powered by Prime Now from 6 AM to midnight on Amazon.in, the company said in a statement. The deliveries are powered by Amazon's Prime Now service which was earlier available only on the separate Prime Now app, it added. The Prime Now app will continue to serve customers in Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad, it said.

"With Amazon Fresh, customers can experience the convenience and speed of ordering daily essentials on Amazon.in. Now, customers can order the freshest fruits and vegetables as well as everyday grocery and get it within 2 hours. We are starting this service in Bengaluru and will soon roll this out to customers in other cities," Amazon India director - category management Siddharth Nambari said.

FPI NET OUTFLOW IN AUG: ₹4,253 CR; FOREX RESERVES AT RECORD \$430.57 BN

Rupee drops 4.25% in three weeks, Reserve Bank keeps off

Rupee among worst hit globally since US Fed rate cut; South African, Brazilian units top

SANDEEP SINGH
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

AFTER IT fell 26 paise to close at 71.81 on Thursday, the Indian Rupee has now lost Rs 2.93, or 4.25 per cent, against the dollar in August. With this, the domestic unit figures among the biggest losers in the global currency market since the US Federal Reserve — while announcing its first rate cut in a decade on July 31 — stated that it was just a "mid-cycle adjustment". The announcement took emerging markets by surprise as they earlier expected that a dovish stance would result in fund inflow in their respective countries.

While the Rupee lost 4.25 per cent against the dollar over the last three weeks, only two major emerging economies saw their currencies decline more than that. The Brazilian Real and South African Rand have fallen 5.56 per cent and 6.4 per cent respectively in the same period.

Another factor that led to a decline of emerging market currencies was a sharp decline of Chinese Yuan Renminbi on August 5, when it breached the 7 to a dollar mark as trade war fears grew further between the United States and China. The development hit the global market sentiments and led to decline in currencies. Yuan Renminbi

CHANGES IN VARIOUS UNITS SINCE JULY 31

	Jul 31, '19	Aug 22, '19	Change in Aug
INR	68.88	71.81	4.25
Chinese Yuan	6.884	7.0839	2.9
*Brazilian Real	3.813	4.0251	5.56
Euro	0.903	0.9029	-0.01
Indonesian Rupiah	14017	14220	1.45
*Mexican Peso	19.13	19.7124	3.04
Phillipine Peso	50.99	52.35	2.67
Russian Ruble	63.66	65.646	3.12
*South African Rand	14.25	15.16	6.39
Malaysian Ringgit	4.127	4.188	1.48
British Pound	0.822	0.8191	-0.35

*Data available for these currencies as of August 21

has fallen 2.9 per cent in August and the Russian Ruble and Mexican Peso has lost 3.12 per cent and 3.04 per cent. By comparison, the developed market currencies have remained stable. While Euro gained 0.01 per cent in August, British Pound was up 0.35 per cent against the dollar in the same period.

In India, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs), who turned negative in July 2019 — following the government's budgetary announcement of imposing a surcharge — continued to remain net

sellers in the market. While they invested a net of Rs 6,488 crore in the debt market in August, they pulled out investments worth Rs 10,815 crore from domestic equities, thereby resulting in a net outflow of Rs 4,253 crore in August.

A Care ratings report said that depreciation of 3 to 4 per cent could be expected for the year as global factors would continue to weigh heavily on the currency as well as FPI flows.

Alongside the global pressure, the ratings agency said, "Uncertainty on the growth path

of the Indian economy has also weakened sentiment that has affected the Rupee. The Reserve Bank of India has revised its growth forecast for FY20 downward from 7 per cent in the June 2019 meeting to 6.9 per cent in August 2019 meeting," said Care Ratings. It added that as the future of exports remains uncertain this year, it has only added to the declining sentiment.

Experts say that stable Brent crude oil prices have offered great relief to the Indian currency as a spike in crude oil prices would have led to a sharper depreciation of rupee and fund outflow by FPIs.

It is, however, important to note that the RBI has not been seen intervening in a bid to arrest the decline of rupee despite a 4.25 per cent fall in rupee in a matter of three weeks. The forex reserves that stood at \$429.6 billion at the end of week ended July 26, rose to \$430.57 at the end of week ended August 9, 2019.

A market expert said that since all emerging economy currencies are losing against dollar, there is not much need to intervene as of now. By comparison, last year in September-October when the rupee fell to a low of over \$74 against the dollar in line with rising crude oil prices and fund outflow by FPIs, the RBI was seen to be intervening to arrest the volatility.

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

BULLS FACED a major setback Thursday amid indications that the government may not come out with a stimulus package for sectors hit by the slowdown. The weakening rupee, which hit its lowest level in eight months, and lacklustre global cues further weighed on investor sentiment.

The 30-share BSE SENSEX plunged 587.44 points, or 1.59 per cent, to finish at 36,472.93, while the broader NSE Nifty slumped 177.35 points, or 1.62 per cent, to 10,741.35. The rupee, meanwhile, fell to an eight-month low of 71.81, losing 26 paise against the US dollar as plunging equities and sustained foreign fund outflows weighed on sentiment.

The market took note of the statement of Chief Economic Advisor KV Subramanian that the Indian economy does not need a fiscal stimulus to tackle the ongoing economic slowdown. "Policymakers need to be careful while deciding on any fiscal stimulus as a way to boost economic growth," he said, adding, "we can't expect the government to intervene every time some sectors go through sunset. Not all sectors are doing bad, some are doing well."

Subramanian said using taxpayers' money to bail out companies going through a 'sunset' phase will create moral hazards and such a step is an anathema to the market economy.

Power Secretary Subhash Chandra Garg, who was the Finance Secretary till July, also said low interest rates and availability of credit to private sector are better tools than a fiscal stimulus. Garg's assessment that India's GDP growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal could be in the range of 5.5-5.6 per cent further affected the market morale. The GDP growth in the fourth quarter of the last fiscal came in at 5.8 per cent, caused by slowdown in key sectors like agriculture, manufacturing and industry.

These comments dashed hopes of some sort of a stimulus package from the Centre to boost growth and revive flagging consumer sentiment, analysts said. Vinod Nair, head of research,

EXPLAINED
Market movement hinges on govt steps

WITH MANY sectors facing slowdown and growth declining, stock markets were expecting a package from the government to stimulate demand and revive the economy.

Investors are now nervous as senior officials are opposing a stimulus package. The big worry is: will the slowdown deepen further? How will the government tackle the slowdown? The movement of the market will hinge on government measures.

Geojit Financial Services, said, "Despite Sebi relaxing FPI norms and likely stimulus from the government to push the economy, the market continued its descent. The outlook for auto, consumption and realty are still cloudy." Ajit Mishra, vice president-research, Religare Broking, said, "The recent fall is a result of growing uneasiness among the participants as they're keenly awaiting some action from the government to boost the market sentiment."

According to the minutes of monetary policy committee released on Wednesday, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das had said economic activity has shown signs of further weakening since the last MPC meeting in June 2019.

Globally, markets were jittery ahead of comments from Federal Reserve chairman Jerome Powell at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, US. Shanghai Composite Index and Nikkei ended on a positive note, while Hang Seng and Kospi settled in the red. Equities in Europe were trading lower in their respective early sessions.

India's fiscal scene never better in 300 yrs: Murthy

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
GORAKHPUR, AUGUST 22

INFOSYS co-founder N R Narayana Murthy on Thursday said India has for the first time in 300 years an economic environment that breeds confidence and optimism that its poverty can be eliminated.

"For the first time in 300 years, we have an economic environment that engenders confidence that we can indeed overcome our poverty and create a better future for every Indian," said Murthy, addressing the fourth convocation function of the Madan Mohan Malaviya University of

Technology (MMMUT) here at Gorakhpur. Describing the present state of economy, Narayana Murthy said, "Our economy is growing at 6 to 7 per cent this year. India has become the software development centre of the world. Our foreign exchange reserve has crossed 400 billion dollar. Investor confidence is at a historic high."

Murthy also spoke of a "parallel India", "stepped into poverty, illiteracy, ill health and malnutrition" and co-existing with a developed one and emphasised upon the government's obligation to create an entrepreneur-friendly business environment to tackle the malady.

'Even a stimulus package can't help economy much'

Financial conditions have deteriorated despite the four repo cuts and there is a need for a fiscal stimulus, which may not yield much results due to fiscal constraints, a Bank of America Merrill Lynch report warns



5.8%: India's GDP expansion in the March quarter, which was at a five-year low; number for June quarter will be announced next week

>10%: Percentage of decline in equities markets since June, attributed by BofA-ML to the "lack of any fiscal stimulus in the budget has been one of the big reasons for this sell off"

1.10% points: Cumulative reduction by RBI in its key rates in four successive rate cuts since

SIGNS OF TIGHTENING FINANCIAL CONDITIONS:
■ Falling stocks
■ Overvalued rupee
■ Higher volumes in the US dollar-rupee market

February, in addition to changing direction of policy to be more 'accommodative'

\$10 bn: Funds that government plans to raise in October from sovereign bond sale in overseas market, as per media reports

Tax holiday only for startups with turnover up to ₹25 crore: CBDT

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

ONLY STARTUPS with turnover of up to Rs 25 crore will continue to benefit from tax holiday provisions specified under the country's income tax regulations, clarified the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on Thursday.

As specified in Section 80-IAC of the Income Tax Act, 1961, these startups will receive deduction for "100 per cent of income" for three out of seven years from the year of its incorporation, the Board said in a statement. The clarification comes following confusion over a Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)

Clarification on Section 80-IAC of I-T Act

notification in February stating entities with turnovers of up to Rs 100 crore would be considered to be startups. All startups recognised by DPIIT do not automatically become eligible for the deduction under this section, said CBDT.

"A startup has to fulfill the conditions specified in Section 80-IAC for claiming this deduction. Therefore, the turnover limit for small startups claiming deduction is to be determined by the provisions of Section 80-IAC of the I.T. Act and not from the DPIIT notification," stated the re-

lease. CBDT said there is no contradiction in DPIIT's February 19 notification and Section 80-IAC because the notification "clearly" mentions that a startup shall be eligible to claim deductions under this section "only if" it fulfills certain conditions.

"Therefore, the turnover limit for eligibility for deduction under section 80-IAC of the I-T Act, as per the DPIIT's notification is also Rs 25 crore," it stated.

Section 80-IAC defines eligible start-ups as those incorporated on or after April 1, 2016 with a turnover not exceeding Rs 25 crore in the year of deduction. These startups are also required to have a certificate from the Inter-Ministerial Board of Certification.

REUTERS
JACKSON HOLE, AUGUST 22

US FEDERAL Reserve Chair Jerome Powell comes to this year's meeting of central bankers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, caught between discord within the US central bank over appropriate monetary policy and mounting outside pressure for more interest rate cuts.

In navigating that divide, Powell is unlikely to use his keynote speech on Friday at the Kansas City Fed's annual economic symposium to veer much from the message he sent last month after the Fed cut rates for the first time in a decade: That the move was a "mid-cycle adjustment" and not the start of a rate-cutting cycle.

He will likely nod to the possi-

2 Fed officials see no case for cut

Jackson Hole: Two Federal Reserve officials have said they see no need for an interest rate cut widely expected next month by markets. Kansas City Fed President Esther George and Philadelphia Fed President Patrick Harker said the US central bank currently does not need to deliver more stimulus to the economy. **REUTERS**

bility that trade tensions, which have escalated since July 30-31 policy meeting, may worsen a global economic slowdown and

Powell, under pressure, likely to stick to 'mid-cycle' message

ultimately make more US rate cuts necessary. But he is expected also to try to ensure he is not seen as bowing before repeated attacks from President Donald Trump for not easing policy further, or caving to a bond market where investors appear to be heavily betting the Federal Open Market Committee will end up doing so.

"We cannot rule out this year's Jackson Hole being another fundamental shift in policy as it has been in years past," UBS economists wrote in a note earlier this week. Since last August's annual central bank gathering in Grand Teton National Park, Powell has faced an increasingly difficult terrain both politically and economically. Last week, Trump called Powell "clueless" and urged the Fed to reduce borrowing costs.

Factories show signs of trouble

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22

ACTIVITY IS contracting in the US manufacturing sector but the number of Americans filing applications for unemployment benefits fell last week, signs that factories are suffering from a global slowdown even as the broader labour market remains healthy.

IHS Markit on Thursday said its Flash Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for manufacturing fell to 49.9 earlier this month from 50.4 in July, pointing to a contraction in the sector for the first time since September 2009. Readings below 50 point

to reductions in activity. Meanwhile, initial claims for state unemployment benefits dropped 12,000 to a seasonally adjusted 209,000 for the week ended August 17, the US Labor Department said in a separate report.

The decline was sharper than expected. Treasury yields, which climbed after better-than-expected manufacturing data in Europe boosted risk sentiment, pared gains following dismal US manufacturing data.

Benchmark 10-year notes were down 5/32 in price to yield 1.5927 per cent, up from 1.577 per cent late on Wednesday.

Non-payment of dues: Air India's fuel supply stopped at six airports

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

FOLLOWING NON-PAYMENT of dues and repeated reminders for the same by oil-marketing companies (OMCs) to flag-carrier Air India, the fuel retailers have stopped supply of jet-fuel to the airline at six airports.

The airports where the fuel supply was stopped by state-owned OMCs at around 4 pm are Cochin, Visakhapatnam, Mohali, Ranchi, Pune and Patna, an official of the national carrier said.

An Air India spokesperson said, "In the absence of equity support, Air India cannot handle the huge debt service liabilities. Our financial performance, however, this fiscal is very good and we are moving towards a healthy operating profit. The airline, despite its legacy issues, is performing very well."

According to an official at Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the airline's credit had run up to 200 days, as against the 90-day credit that is usually allowed. Upon repeated reminders by the oil companies, Air India said it would repay Rs 60 crore, which "was a drop in the ocean" for the

Domestic air traffic grows by 3.01% in July

New Delhi: With the tourist season coming to an end, the domestic air passenger traffic in July increased by just 3.01 per cent compared to the data released by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation on Thursday.

The domestic air traffic in July this year consisted of 11.90 million passengers as compared to 11.55 million passengers in the same month last year, a jump of 3.01 per cent, as per the data. In June 2019, the domestic passenger growth was 6.19 per cent compared to the same month last year. **PTI**

OMCs, the official added.

"Last week, we had warned the airline that fuel supply would be restricted if payments were not made and today upon non-receipt of dues, we stopped fuel supply at six airports," the IOC official stated.

Can't attach 63 moons' assets under MPID Act: HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

THE BOMBAY High Court has held that National Spot Exchange Ltd (NSEL) is not a financial establishment and hence the notifications passed under the Maharashtra Protection of Interest of Depositors (MPID) Act to attach the assets of 63 moons Technologies Ltd stand quashed.

63 moons had approached the HC against the state government's notification to attach its assets under the Act, saying that NSEL was a commodities exchange for trading between buyers and sellers and not a deposit-taking entity.

As part of the NSEL case, the state government had attached properties of 63 moons — previously known as Financial Technologies (India) Ltd — after a complaint was filed by Mumbai Police's Economic Offences Wing, over allegations of defrauding around 13,000 investors to the tune of Rs 5,600 crore by inducing on the NSEL platform.

Renewable energy status to ocean energy gets MNRE nod

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

IN A decision expected to boost to ocean energy in India, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) on Thursday clarified that ocean energy shall be considered "renewable energy". Various forms of ocean energy like tidal, wave and ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC) shall now be eligible as an option for states to meet their non-solar renewable purchase obligations (RPO), according to the Ministry.

"This step has been taken by the Ministry after some renewable energy developers sought clarification in this regard," MNRE said in a release, which followed Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy RK Singh's approval of a proposal to this effect.

"A variety of different technologies are currently under development throughout the world to harness this energy in all its forms," read the Ministry's release, adding that deployment is currently limited but

41-PAGE ORDER BY TWO-JUDGE BENCH RAISES 'SUBSTANTIAL QUESTIONS'

Oxytocin ban: Supreme Court raises more questions, refers matter to larger bench

Health Ministry in April 2018 notified a ban on private firms from manufacturing and selling oxytocin

PRABHA RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE FINAL decision on whether the government can block private pharmaceutical companies from manufacturing and selling vital pregnancy drug oxytocin in India has been deferred, with the Supreme Court deciding the issue needs further deliberation.

A bench of the apex court hearing the government's appeal on the issue on Thursday raised more questions it feels need to be answered before any decision is taken on the proposed ban.

The matter is now expected to be argued in front of a larger bench, as the judges who heard the case so far have asked that it be placed before the Chief Justice of India.

Oxytocin is administered to women during childbirth and is seen as crucial to prevent them from bleeding excessively — a common cause of maternal deaths. According to an India sample registration scheme survey

QUESTIONS OVER OBJECTIVE OF BAN

■ The Supreme Court order raises questions on whether the object of curbing the "clandestine manufacture and unregulated use" of oxytocin can be achieved by imposing a ban on the manufacture of licensed drugs by private sector companies

■ Following a case by drug makers like Mylan and Neon Laboratories and patient activist group All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN), the Delhi High Court had in December quashed the ban on various grounds, including that it lacked scientific basis

conducted in 2001-2003, post-partum hemorrhage accounted for 38 per cent of maternal deaths in the country.

In their 41-page order, justices Abhay Manohar Sapre and Indu Malhotra raised seven "substantial" questions of law, adding that this is "a fit case to refer the matter to a larger bench of three judges".

"After having heard the Senior Counsel appearing for parties on both sides, we are of the view that the present group of appeals raise serious issues having far reaching implications. The twin issues

which arise for consideration are on the one hand, the unregulated and clandestine manufacture of the drug Oxytocin, which is reportedly misused in milch animals; and on the other hand, the continued supply of an essential life-saving drug, which is used as the first line drug for prevention and treatment of post-partum haemorrhage at the time of childbirth," stated the order drafted by Justice Malhotra.

Among the questions the judges raised was "whether it would be in public interest to re-

strict the manufacture of a life-saving drug for domestic use, to a single public sector undertaking, to the complete exclusion of the private sector companies, particularly in view of the high maternal mortality rates in the country?"

They also wanted to know whether there was "relevant and objective" material before the central government to exercise the power to prohibit the manufacture of the drug by the private sector companies for domestic use.

The order further raises questions on whether the object of curbing the "clandestine manufacture and unregulated use" of oxytocin can be achieved by imposing a ban on the manufacture of licensed drugs by private sector companies.

It also asked whether the classification made by the government's ban notification between licensed public sector and private sector companies in the manufacture of oxytocin for domestic use "would achieve the object and purpose of preventing the unreg-

ulated and illegal use of the drug".

The Health Ministry in April 2018 notified a ban on private firms from manufacturing and selling oxytocin to avoid its misuse in the veterinary field, stating it wanted to restrict the responsibility of supplying the drug to a Karnataka-based public sector manufacturer.

The move was seen as controversial, with some stakeholders arguing it could lead to a shortage of the crucial drug.

Following a case by drug makers like Mylan and Neon Laboratories and patient activist group All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN), the Delhi High Court in December quashed the ban on various grounds, including that it lacked scientific basis.

The government has appealed the decision at the Supreme Court, arguing that the Karnataka PSU, Karnataka Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd (KAPL), has built up the capacity to manufacture and supply the required quantity of the drug here.

BRIEFLY

IRCTC files papers with Sebi for IPO

New Delhi: Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has filed draft papers with markets regulator Sebi for its initial public offer. As many as 2 crore equity shares of face value of Rs 10 each would be offered through an offer for sale by the government.

Kia Motors launches Seltos SUV

Mumbai: Korean auto major Kia Motors on Thursday made its debut in India with the launch of an SUV, Seltos, at an introductory price of Rs 9.69 lakh. Seltos, a mid-sized SUV, is manufactured at the carmaker's Ananthpur plant in Andhra Pradesh.

Lupin to divest its Japanese injectables biz

New Delhi: Drug major Lupin on Thursday said it will divest its Japanese injectables business to neo ALA Co Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Abu Dhabi-headquartered Neopharma group. Lupin has entered into a definitive agreement through its Japanese subsidiary Kyowa for the said deal.

Dabur acquires management control of FZE

New Delhi: Homegrown FMCG major Dabur on Thursday said it has acquired the management control of Sharjah, UAE-based Excel Investments (FZE) and made it the firm's wholly-owned subsidiary. Dabur International Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dabur India, has acquired the management control of FZE, the company stated.

'HSBC lays off employees from back offices'

Mumbai: British lender HSBC has laid off 150 employees supporting global operations from back offices in India as part of a global move of "realigning" operations, sources said on Thursday. The move comes weeks after German lender Deutsche Bank also started laying off employees supporting global operations as part of the exit from the equities business. **PTI**

Tata JV block: Thyssenkrupp files complaint

Frankfurt: Thyssenkrupp on Thursday said it was filing a complaint with a European court to dispute an antitrust decision that blocks a planned joint venture with Tata Steel. The complaint to the General Court of the European Union — seen as a symbolic move — comes after the Commission in June vetoed plans to create Europe's second-biggest steelmaker, fearing it would overyurt competition. The Commission was most concerned about the two companies' combined position in the area of automotive and packaging steel, resulting in a remedy proposal. Thyssenkrupp said would have been sufficient. Brussels, however, disagreed. **REUTERS**

Changes to Employees' Pension Scheme get EPFO nod

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

PROVIDING RELIEF to 6.3 lakh pensioners, retirement fund body EPFO has approved a proposal to restore commutation, or advance part-withdrawal, under the Employees' Pension Scheme.

The move would benefit the pensioners who had opted for commutation and got a lump-sum amount at the time of retirement before 2009. The provision for commutation of pension was withdrawn by the EPFO in 2009.

Under the commutation, monthly pension used to be cut by one-third for the next 15 years and the reduced amount would be given in lump sum. After the 15 years, the pensioners were entitled to get the full pension.

Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh General Secretary Virjesh Upadhyay told *PTI* that there was a demand for restoration of commutation of pension.

Settle ₹195-cr dues with HUDCO in four weeks: NCLAT tells Bakshi

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE NATIONAL Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) Thursday gave an ultimatum to erstwhile joint-venture partner of fast food restaurant chain McDonald's Vikram Bakshi to settle his Rs 195-crore dues with HUDCO in four weeks.

Two-member bench headed by Justice SJ Mukhopadhyaya said if both parties are unable to break the deadlock, the appellate tribunal will direct the settlement amount to be paid by Bakshi.

While Bakshi has paid around Rs 72 crore out of his total dues, HUDCO counsel Rohit Sharma said the state-owned entity is seeking Rs 141 crore more from the former McDonald's promoter.

"Every time you (Bakshi) say 'I am offering a particular amount', but there is no settlement. We are giving you the last chance to settle the dispute failing which we will direct the settlement," NCLAT said.

The next hearing at NCLAT is

scheduled for September 18.

Bakshi, who was running a 50:50 JV — Connaught Plaza Restaurants (CPRL) — with McDonald's India since 1995, said he made a total offer of Rs 148 crore, which has been rejected by Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO).

The JV managed around 169 McDonald's outlets in north and east India.

The NCLAT, on May 28, had given Bakshi the final opportunity to settle HUDCO's claims in relation to a loan granted to an entity controlled by him.

The unpaid dues have delayed the NCLAT nod for out-of-court settlement to the six-year-old dispute between CPRL and McDonald's. Both parties had on May 7 informed NCLAT that they were working for a resolution. The tribunal had then allowed them to go ahead with settlement talks.

According to the terms of the settlement, McDonald's India has bought over the 50 per cent of the stake held by Bakshi and his wife in CPRL for an undisclosed amount. **FE**

OTEC TO BE AN OPTION IN RPOs

■ Various forms of ocean energy like tidal, wave and ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC) shall now be eligible as an option for states to meet their non-solar renewable purchase obligations (RPO)

■ Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy RK Singh approved the proposal according to the status of renewable energy to ocean energy

the sector has the potential to grow.

"As the government steps up its efforts to reach the objectives to contemplate its renewable energy and climate change objectives post 2022, it is opportune to explore all possible avenues to stimulate innovation,

create economic growth and new jobs as well as to reduce our carbon footprint," it further said.

As on date, India does not have any installed ocean energy capacity, according to a government official.

The total identified potential of tidal energy is about 12,455 mega watt, with potential locations identified at the Khambat and Kutch regions of Gujarat and large backwaters where barrage technology could be used, according to the Ministry.

Preliminary estimates peg the total potential of wave energy in India along the country's coast to be about 40,000 MW.

OTEC has a theoretical potential of 180,000 MW here, "subject to suitable technological evolution", it added.

The Gulf of Cambay and the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat on the west coast show potential for tidal energy production, according to MNRE.

However, the capital cost for tidal energy is "very high" due to high civil construction and high power purchase tariffs, the Ministry clarified.

Gold continues rising streak, nears ₹39K mark

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

CONTINUING THE record-setting trend, gold price on Thursday hit a new high of Rs 38,970 per 10 gram by gaining Rs 150 in the national capital, according to the All India Sarafa Association, mainly on account of a weaker rupee and safe-haven buying from investors due

to weak equity market. Silver advanced by Rs 60 to Rs 45,100 per kg on increased offtake by industrial units and coin makers.

Despite sluggish overseas trend, gold prices rose due to sustained buying from local jewellers, traders said. In the capital, gold of 99.9 per cent purity rose Rs 150 to Rs 38,970 per 10 gram, while that of 99.5 per cent rose Rs 170 to Rs 38,820 per 10 gram.

SOLAR CASE AGAINST UNITED STATES

India appeals against certain parts of rulings by WTO panel

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

INDIA IS challenging certain parts of rulings given by the WTO's dispute settlement panel on a solar case against the US, according to a communication by the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

Though India has won this case against the US as most of the ruling is in favour of India, New Delhi has challenged certain issues of law and legal interpreta-

tion covered in the panel's report or ruling.

"India hereby notifies the dispute settlement body (DSB) of its decision to appeal to the appellate body certain issues of law and legal interpretation covered in the panel report entitled US — Certain Measures Relating to the Renewable Energy Sector which was circulated on 27 June 2019," the communication by India to WTO said.

India has stated that it appeals and requests the appellate body

Amnesty scheme for legacy service tax, excise duty cases to open on Sep 1

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

THE FINANCE Ministry on Thursday said the dispute resolution and amnesty scheme to reduce legacy service tax and central excise cases will become operational for four months beginning September 1.

The most attractive aspect of

the scheme — Sabka Vishwas — Legacy Dispute Resolution Scheme, 2019 — is that it provides substantial relief in tax dues for all categories of cases as well as full waiver of interest, fine and penalty, the Ministry said.

In all these cases, there would be no other liability of interest, fine or penalty, and there is also a complete amnesty from prosecution, it added. The scheme will be opera-

tion from September 1 and continue till December 31, 2019. Over Rs 3.75 lakh crore is blocked in service tax and excise litigations.

The scheme, announced by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech, is especially tailored to free the large number of small taxpayers of their pending disputes with the tax administration, the ministry added in its statement.

Goyal: Time for all members to start looking at pending reforms

New Delhi: Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday made a case for holistic and comprehensive reforms of the WTO without ignoring the ground realities, especially the stark inequality among developed and developing nations.

He said the members

should take on board issues of all countries of the WTO. "It is the time when all members of the WTO start looking at some of those reforms that have been pending for long. When we look at reforming the WTO, (it should be done) holistically and comprehensively," Goyal said. **PTI**

'Healthy PSUs must hand-hold those on ventilator'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 22

UNION HEAVY Industries and Public Enterprises Minister Arvind Sawant on Thursday exhorted healthy public sector undertakings (PSUs) to hand-hold those state-run firms which are "on ventilator" or facing hard times in order to salvage them. Citing the example of the salt-to-steel conglomerate Tata Group which also sells gold jewellery under the brand name Tanishq, Sawant said state-run firms never thought of

"When we talk to electric vehicles running on batteries, the import of petrol will reduce. Companies' turnover will also get reduced. Think of something right now"

ARVIND SAWANT
UNION HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES MINISTER

diversification and urged them to make efforts in this regard.

He also raised the issue of employment of automotive ancillary unit workers once the country migrates to electric vehicles, as manufacturing of internal combustion engine vehicles requires more manpower, and called for brain-

ing a PSU awards event organised by Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) here.

Observing that the perception towards PSUs today was not good, Sawant urged them to establish a forum and accord preference to other state-run firms for availing various services whenever required. Manish Sinha, MD, D&B India, said: "To achieve the target of making India a \$5 trillion economy, the government would like the GOEs (government-owned enterprises) to play a bigger role by increasing their contribution to 10 per cent of GDP from the current level of 5 per cent."

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

You first

Should America rule out first use of nuclear weapons?



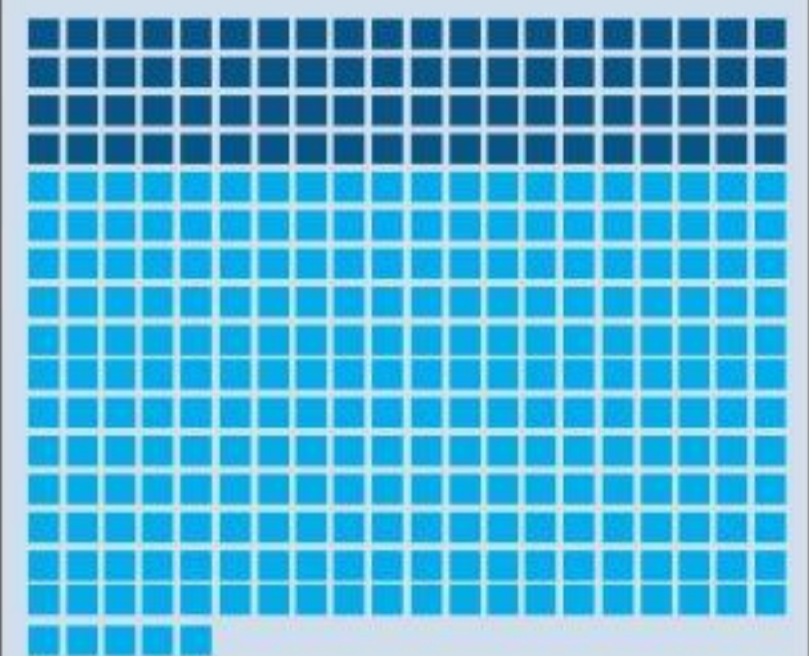
Every president since Harry Truman has reserved the right to use nuclear weapons in a conflict even if an enemy has not unleashed them first. Reuters

Battle of the bomb

Estimated global nuclear warheads, 2019

■ Deployed ■ Stockpiled* ■ = 20 warheads

Russia total 6,500



United States 6,185



France 300

China 290

Britain 200

Pakistan 150-160

India 130-140

Israel 80-90

North Korea 20-30

Source: SIPRI

*Stored or reserve warheads and retired warheads awaiting dismantlement

PRESIDENT BARACK Obama promised that he would reduce the role that nuclear weapons played in America's national security strategy. His successor has done the opposite. In a review of nuclear policy published in February 2018, Donald Trump seemed to expand the circumstances in which America might use nuclear weapons first, to include cyber-attacks on the networks that transmit presidential orders to silos, submarines and bombers. He also ordered the manufacture of new low-yield warheads (these are equivalent to about half a Hiroshima), which critics fear are more likely to be used. And he has issued hair-raising threats against North Korea, alarming those who worry about his impulsiveness. All this is fuelling a debate about nuclear risks.

Elizabeth Warren, a Democratic presidential contender, wants to start with American nuclear doctrine. Every president since Harry Truman has reserved the right to use nuclear weapons in a conflict even if an enemy has not unleashed them first. In January Ms Warren introduced a Senate bill that would mandate a policy of what wonks call No First Use (NFU). Such pledges are common: China and India committed themselves to versions

of NFU decades ago, as did the Soviet Union. But in America it would reverse over seven decades of nuclear thinking.

Proponents of NFU argue that launching nuclear weapons first in a conflict is neither necessary nor wise. It is not necessary because America's regular armed forces are strong enough to defeat enemies without recourse to weapons of mass destruction. It is not wise because an adversary that fears an American bolt from the blue is more likely to put its own arsenal on hair-trigger alert, increasing the risk of unauthorised or accidental launch. An adversary might also be tempted to pre-empt America by going even faster, a dangerous dynamic that Thomas Schelling, an economist and nuclear theorist, called the "reciprocal fear of surprise attack".

That is all well and good, say critics of NFU. But America is in a different position from China and India. It not only defends itself, but also extends a protective nuclear umbrella over allies around the world. If North Korea were to invade South Korea with its ample army, it must reckon with the possibility of a nuclear response from America. The South Korean government would like to keep it that way.

Estonia and Taiwan would like Russia and China, respectively, to face similar uncertainty. Thus when Mr Obama toyed with the idea of pledging NFU during his administration, Britain, Japan, France and South Korea—all American allies facing more populous foes—lobbied successfully against such a move.

NFU-sceptics also point to the increasing potency of non-nuclear weapons. Like America, China and Russia are both developing hypersonic missiles capable of crossing oceans at over five times the speed of sound. Some might destroy targets with nothing more than their kinetic energy—no need for nuclear tips. Chemical and biological weapons could also wreak havoc without splitting atoms.

That would put an NFU-bound America in an invidious position. If such non-nuclear missiles were falling on Washington, should a

nuclear response be off the table? And even if it was declared to be so, would adversaries believe it? After all, Pakistan is scornful of India's own NFU pledge, just as America is sceptical of China's. Talk is cheap, trust is in short supply and the stakes could not be higher.

Whereas Ms Warren's proposal would outlaw first use under any circumstances, others merely wish to place checks on this untrammelled presidential launch authority. America's nuclear chain of command was designed to concentrate decision-making in the White House and to keep it away from generals. James Mattis, Mr Trump's defence secretary until last year, reassured outsiders that he would serve as a check, telling Strategic Command "not to put on a pot of coffee without letting him know", according to the Washington Post. But he had no fool-proof means to guarantee he could do this.

"The weight of the open evidence" sug-

gests that "the Secretary of Defence is not just unnecessary, but not even in the nuclear chain of command," says Alex Wellerstein, an expert on nuclear history at the Stevens Institute of Technology. William Perry, a former defence secretary, agrees. The president is free to instruct the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, the top military officer, as he wishes. "We built a system that depends on having a rational actor in the White House," says Alexandra Bell, a former State Department official now at the Centre for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation. "We now know the system is flawed."

America first

In January Congressman Ted Lieu and Senator Ed Markey, both Democrats, reintroduced a bill, originally proposed in 2016, that would force the president to seek a congressional declaration of war (last done in 1942) with express approval for nuclear first use. Nancy Pelosi, the Democratic leader of the House of Representatives, endorsed the idea in 2017.

There are also wider efforts to prune the arsenal. Adam Smith, the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and co-

sponsor of Ms Warren's NFU bill, has sought to cut funding for Mr Trump's mini-nuke and to limit its deployment on submarines. To the Pentagon's horror, he has also suggested scrapping America's silo-based missiles, leaving the job to submarines and bombers.

Politicians should not expect clear guidance from voters. A survey in 2010 found that 57% agreed with Ms Warren that "the US should only use nuclear weapons in response to a nuclear attack by another nation." Yet it turns out that Americans also quite like fire and fury. A paper by Scott Sagan of Stanford University and Benjamin Valentino of Dartmouth College, published in 2017, found that a clear majority approved of using nuclear weapons first if doing so would save the lives of 20,000 American soldiers—even if it killed 2m Iranian civilians. "The conventional wisdom around nuclear weapons remains strongly embedded," says Jon Wolfsthal, director of the Nuclear Crisis Group and a former official in Mr Obama's administration. "I am not sure there will be changes, but big changes are being discussed more openly now than in a long time."

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America's nuclear chain of command was designed to concentrate decision-making in the White House and to keep it away from generals

FOOTBALL AND FEUDS

Of goons and Gooners

Attacks on Arsenal players shed light on Britain's diverse underworld

YOU DON'T mess with Sead Kolasinac. Fans of Arsenal Football Club call their beefy left-back "the tank". Last month he proved that he is also a formidable opponent off the pitch. When he and his teammate Mesut Ozil were set upon by knife-wielding robbers a few miles west of their north London stadium, he leapt out of Mr Ozil's car and fought back. After dusting himself off, he posted a triumphant Instagram picture of the two grinning players, looking distinctly unruffled. "Think we're fine," he wrote.

That was before the replay. Both players skipped the opening match of the season on August 11th following what a club spokesperson euphemistically termed "further security incidents". Two men were charged with public-order offences after a row with bodyguards at Mr Ozil's home. Tabloids speculated that the footballers had unwittingly become embroiled in a feud between two rival gangs. The thinking goes that an east European gang warned against any further attacks on the players, which only encouraged the other mob.

The theory is not as outlandish as it sounds. Threatening the players could be interpreted by a north London gang as a high-

Crooks of the same nationality often stick together. A shared language and culture can be important in forging trust when setting up a criminal network. They also benefit from a ready-made international network through connections in their home country and diaspora

profile incursion on their patch. Others reckon ethnicity is in play. Both players are Germans with roots elsewhere: Mr Ozil has Turkish heritage, Mr Kolasinac plays for the Bosnia and Herzegovina team. Tony Saggars, a former anti-drugs wallah at the National Crime Agency (NCA), an impoverished answer to America's FBI, says foreign crooks can see footballers as ambassadors for their country and thus untouchable.

Either way, the episode has shone a light on the diversity of Britain's underworld. In

2017 the NCA calculated that citizens of at least 134 different countries were involved in organised crime. Britons made up the majority, but there were several hundred Romanian, Pakistani, Polish and Albanian gangsters on its books, too. About 900 Albanians are behind bars, topping the league table of imprisoned foreigners.

Crooks of the same nationality often stick together. A shared language and culture can be important in forging trust when setting up a criminal network, says Anna Sergi of Essex University. They also benefit from a ready-made international network through connections in their home country and diaspora.

Geography often plays a big part in the types of crime such groups specialise in, says Mr Saggars. For instance, Turkish and Pakistani gangsters are overrepresented in Britain's heroin trade, thanks to the countries' proximity to Afghanistan, where most opium is grown. People-traffickers are most often Albanian, Romanian, Vietnamese and Chinese as well as British, since they have ready access to people keen for work. Their victims are forced to pick pockets, steal from shops or farm cannabis in Britain.



Mesut Ozil and Sead Kolasinac were set upon by knife-wielding robbers. Reuters

Yet gangs united by ethnicity tend to specialise in low-level crime, points out Ms Sergi. The more lucrative or sophisticated the crime, the more necessary it is to recruit locals who can readily launder money through legiti-

mate businesses or corrupt officials. In fact, she says, acquisitive crime such as the attempted robbery of the Arsenal players tends to be the domain of the most recently arrived crooks, who need cash to start up their net-

work. Messrs Ozil and Kolasinac ought to take some comfort, then. They are probably not up against crime's premier league.

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भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI
 IISER Mohali, Knowledge City, P.O. Manauli, S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali-140306, Punjab
 PAN No. - AAAAI1781K, GST No. - 03AAAI1781K223 Ph. : +91-172-2240086, 2240121
 + Fax : +91-172-2240124, 2240206 + http://www.iiser Mohali.ac.in + Email: stores@iiser Mohali.ac.in

IISER Mohali
Tender Notice Dt: 22.08.2019
 Online tender(s) are invited on behalf of the Director, IISER Mohali at E-procurement portal. i.e. <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> for the following items.

Tender Ref. No.	Description	Last date & time for upload the tender
IISERM(1247) 19/20Pur	Supply and installation of 60MHz Benchtop NMR	19.09.2019 up to 11am

For detail and apply online, please visit the website <http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>. "http://www.iiser Mohali.ac.in". Bid(s) shall be accepted only through online mode and no manual submission of the same shall be entertained except tender fee and EMD. Late tenders will not be accepted.

-sd- Assistant Registrar (S&P)

CORRIGENDUM-1
 Following rectification is made in E-Tender Notice No.11 of 2019-20 of Executive Engineer Ukai Division No.1, Ukai PIN CODE NO.394680 Phone No. 02624-233221 Dist: Tapi.

Event	Old Date	New Date
1. Downloading and Uploading of tender Document	Dt.20-08-2019 to Dt.09-09-2019 up to 18.00 Hrs.	Dt.23-08-2019 to Dt.12-09-2019 18.00 Hrs.
2. Pre-bid Conference Date	Dt.26-08-2019 at 12.00 Hrs.	Dt.31-08-2019 at 12.00 Hrs.
3. Last date & Physical Submission	Dt.17-09-2019 up to 18.00 Hrs.	Dt.19-09-2019 up to 18.00 Hrs.
4. P.Q. Bid Opening Date & Time	On Dt.18-09-2019 12.00 Hrs.	On Dt.20-09-2019 12.00 Hrs.

Further details please visit us at above stated office during office hours. details are also available on website www.nprocare.com other conditions remains unchanged.
 No.: INF-Sura/612/2019

Government of Maharashtra PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION HINGOLI
E-TENDER NOTICE NO 36 सन 2019-20

E-Tenders for 04 (Four) works in B- 1 form is invited by the Executive Engineer Public Works Division Hingoli. Phone No 02456 220612 from the registered contractors in appropriate class of Public Works Department of Govt of Maharashtra for the improvement roads/two yearly maintenance of roads /repairs of building/construction of new buildings in Dist Hingoli. The details can be viewed and downloaded from following website www.mahapwd.com
<https://maharashtra.etenders.in/> Executive Engineer 'Public Works Division Hingoli
 dgjpr 2019-20/2073

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Imran @ Dagda S/o Mohd. Yusuf R/o H.No. 4029, Gali Khan Khana, Urdu Bazar, Jama Masjid, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence FIR No. 261/07 u/s 279/304-A IPC P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Imran @ Dagda** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Imran @ Dagda** absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Imran @ Dagda** accused of FIR No. 261/07 u/s 279/304-A IPC are required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **24.09.2019**.

By Order: **Sh. Sunil Gupta Metropolitan Magistrate (Central-10) Room No. 345, 3rd Floor, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi**

DP/6512/CD/19

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE
 E-auction notice No. 08 date 20.08.2019

PCMM (Principal Chief Material Manager)/ECR invites all the interested bidders to participate in the on-line public auctions (e-auctions) being conducted for sale of scrap material, the Program of which for the month of September-2019 is as under:

Dates of auction	Auction-conducting officer	Phone No.	Mobile
12,14,26	Sr. DMM/Danapur	06115-232226	9771449770
05,12	Sr. DMM/Dhanbad	0326-2220278	9771426770
12,20,26	Sr. DMM/Samastipur	06274-226260	9771428770
05,18,26	Sr. DMM/Mughalsarai	05412-255590	9794848770
20,30	Sr. DMM/Sonpur,	06158-221664	9771429770

Type of material Scrap Rail, Track fittings, Ferrous and Non-Ferrous material, Cast Iron/Melting/Re-rollable, Rolling Stock (Coaches, Wagons and Locomotives), Turning & Boring, E-waste, Batteries etc.

Website for e-auction : www.ireps.gov.in

Note : (a) Bidders are advised to inspect the scrap lot before submission of bid. They are allowed to inspect the lot, on an authority from the concerned officer of Railway Administration, at the site of lot mentioned in the auction catalogue on any working day (except Saturday)

Principal Chief Material Manager
 PR/01049/HQ/STORE/N/19-20/72 E.C.Railway, Hajipur

INVITATION TO AUTHORIZED OPERATORS FOR AERO SPORTS ACTIVITIES

1. Applications are invited by the Civil Aviation Department (CAD), Haryana from authorized and competent entities to conduct for the following Aero Sports Activities, at Bachhod (Narnaul) aerodrome situated off Delhi-Jaipur highway (NH-8), about 153 km from Delhi, initially for a period of 6 months (1st October, 2019 to 31st March, 2020) on the following charges, on non-exclusive basis as stated below:

Sr. No.	Activity	Charges in Rs.
1.	Sky Diving	50,000 per month + 1,000 per sortie
2.	Micro Light Flying	50,000 per month + 1,000 per sortie
3.	Hot Air Ballooning	50,000 per month + 1,000 per sortie
4.	Para Sailing	50,000 per month + 1,000 per sortie
5.	Power Para Gliding	50,000 per month + 500 per sortie/drop/pax

2. Slots will be allotted on 'first come first served' basis w.e.f 01.10.2019.

3. The Operator will be required to apply for minimum two months period.

4. The above rates are exclusive of GST and the operator shall have to pay Rs. 10,000 per month in lieu of electricity and water charges.

5. The Operators will be required to deposit an amount of Rs. 5 Lakhs, favouring, Adviser, Civil Aviation Department Haryana, Chandigarh, within 7 days of award of the contract.

6. The operator shall have to pay the monthly charges in advance.

7. The operators may submit their applications in the Office of Adviser Civil Aviation, Haryana, 30-Bays Building, Sector-17, Chandigarh on any working day.

8. The operator must follow rules and regulations of MoCA/ DGCA/State for operations (Aero Sports/Adventure activities) and submit affidavit before operations.

9. Last date of submission of bids is 02.09.2019 upto 3.00 P.M.

10. Detailed advertisement with terms and conditions may be downloaded from <http://haraviation.gov.in>.

Sd/- Adviser Civil Aviation, Haryana, 30-Bays Building, Sector-17, Chandigarh
 Email : cavation@hry.nic.in
 Phone: 2709174, 2709386

NAGPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
 (FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICE DEPT.)
CORRIGENDUM TO ADVT. NO. 219A/PR/Dt. 01/08/2019

Following changes in the e-Tender Notice Published vide aforesaid advertisement 219 A/PR/ dt. 01/08/2019 are to be incorporated (For tender Id No. 2019_NMNCN_470210_1)

- E-tender Sale date - Please read 05/08/2019 to 30/08/2019 upto 4:00 p.m
- Last date of Submission - Please read 30/08/2019 upto 4:00 p.m
- Date of e-tender Opening - 03/09/2019 upto 4:00 p.m.

Tenderer who have already submitted tender need not submit it again, other contents of the tender Advertisement shall remain unchanged.

Chief Fire Officer,
 Fire & Emergency Services
 Nagpur Municipal Corporation, Nagpur.

TAMILNADU MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.
 No.417, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai-600008. Phone:28191890/28190259; Fax: 044-28190636

S. N	Tender / Rate Contract (RC) No./ Item with qty.	Sale Period	Pre bid	Submission	Opening
1	Tender No:522/DVM/NHM/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:22.08.19, Automated Drug Vending Machine (33)	29.08.19 to 17.09.19	05.09.19 to 11.00 AM	18.09.19 to 11.00 AM	18.09.19 to 12.00 PM
2	Tender No: 523/STEMI/NHM/TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:22.08.19, Hiring of Service Agency to Network the Hub Spoke to Hospital in the Myocardial Infarction Management Clusters	29.08.19 to 17.09.19	05.09.19 to 12.00 PM	18.09.19 to 03.00 PM	18.09.19 to 04.00 PM
3	Tender No: 524 / CT / NHM / TNMSC/ENG/19, dt:22.08.19, Portable 32 Slice CT Scanner on Rails (1)	30.08.19 to 30.09.19	06.09.19 to 12.00 PM	01.10.19 to 03.00 PM	01.10.19 to 04.00 PM

For details visit www.tenders.tn.gov.in and TNMSC website www.tnmsc.com
 DP/PR/2864/Tender/2019 General Manager (Equipment)

Sub:- Last Date for Submission of Application for Grid Connectivity of MW Scale Grid Ground Mounted Solar Power Projects/ Parks

All the **Solar Power Developers** are hereby informed that the Applications for Grid Connectivity of MW Scale Ground Mounted Solar Power Projects/ Parks in the State of Haryana for the Financial Year 2019-2020 will be considered only up to 31.08.2019. Accordingly, all the Applicants desirous of setting up of MW Scale Grid Ground Mounted Solar Power Projects are hereby informed that they may apply for Grid Connectivity along with Connectivity Fees to CE/SO & Commercial, HVPNL, Panchkula latest by 31.08.2019. The applications received after 31.08.2019 will not be considered for Grid connectivity for the Financial Year 2019-20.

Sd/- Chief Engineer/SO & Commercial, HVPNL, Panchkula

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
 Resident Commission
 5 Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi - 110011
 Tel: 24611108, 24611210, Fax: 24601277, 24627047

No: KRC/Misc/483/18/4319/2019 Dated: 21.08.2019

INSTALLATION OF COFFEE VENDING MACHINES AND SUPPLY OF MATERIAL/CONSUMABLES

The Resident Commission Office, Jammu & Kashmir Government, New Delhi under the administrative control of Hospitality & Protocol Department, J&K Government invites sealed quotations for installation of (3) Coffee Vending Machines (Bean to Coffee) for supply of tetra branded milk coffee, and supply of Materials/ Consumables like coffee, sugar sachets, branded milk, wooden stirrers, etc at J&K House, 5 Prithvi Raj Road and J&K House, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi as per the details given in the tender documents.

The tender documents may be collected from Chief Pay & Accounts Officer, Resident Commission, J&K Government, New Delhi on payment of tender cost of Rs. 200/- (non-refundable) through Bank Draft in favour of Principal Resident Commissioner, New Delhi on any working day (Monday to Friday) between 10.30 AM to 05.00. The last date and time for bid submission (Technical & Financial) shall be 28-08-2019. The Bid Box shall be placed at reception of J&K House, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi.

No: KBI/Adv/1836-37/2019 Chief Pay & Accounts Officer,
 Dated: 22-08-2019 Resident Commission

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR (AYUSH) / H.O.D (GOVERNMENT OF N. C. T. OF DELHI)
A&U TIBBIA COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL
 KAROL BAGH: NEW DELHI - 110005

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-Tenders are invited under two-bid system for providing registration services for OPD, IPD of A&U Tibbia College & Hospital and Unani & Ayurveda Dispensary (Multispecialty Center), Ballimaran (Unit of this College), Delhi-110006 for a period of 01 year and provision of extension for another 01 year (At least 02 times in a year with a maximum extension of 06 months in a single spell). The Bid documents along with terms and conditions etc. are available on the website <https://www.govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> and can be downloaded there from.

SCHEDULE OF TENDER

Tender ID No.	2019_AUTC_177459_1
Tender Enquiry No.	F.2 (26)/16-17/TC
Date and Time of uploading of Tender	31.07.2019
Last Date and Time of submission of Tender online	03.09.2019 up to 3:00 P.M.
Last Date of submission of EMD in original	03.09.2019 up to 3:00 P.M.
Date and Time of opening of Pre-qualification cum Technical Bid.	04.09.2019 up to 11.00 A.M.
Date and Time of opening of Financial Bids	To be notified later on website

The above dates may be changed and any notification for the changed dates will be available on the above website and the bidders are strongly advised to regularly visit the website regarding revision in schedule if any, and other information.

DIRECTOR (AYUSH) / H.O.D.-(TC)
 A&U TIBBIA COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL
 GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI
 KAROL BAGH: NEW DELHI-110005
 DIP/Shabdarth/0557/19-20

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
 Resident Commission
 5, Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi - 11
 Tel: 24611108, 24611210, Fax: 24601277, 24627047

No: KRC/Estt./239/2019/4317 Dated: 21.08.2019

Open tender for the supply of material of Tea, coffee and other items at Resident Commission, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi

The Resident Commission, Govt of J&K, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi invite sealed quotation for supply of material of tea, coffee and other items at Resident Commission, J&K Govt., 5-Prithvi Raj Road and Chanakyapuri, New Delhi and its sub-offices located at Amritsar, Chandigarh and Mumbai for 01 year from the date of awarding of the contract. The contract shall be valid for 01 (One) year from the date of its awarding. The indicative requirement of tea, coffee and other items is as per "Annexure-II"

The sealed cover containing the bids superscripted "open tender for supply of material for tea, coffee and other items" should be addressed to Chief Pay & Accounts Officer, Resident Commission, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi along with all the particulars of the agency as per Annexure - I and dropped in tender box at ground floor near reception, J&K House, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi-110011 by 3:00 PM on or before 28th of August 2019. The bids received after stipulated date and time will not be considered. The bid opening date shall be notified separately. Vender or his representative can be present at the time of opening of the sealed bids.

The tender documents can be had from this office on any working day upto 5:00 PM against a cash payment of Rs. 50/- (Rupees fifty only).

No: KBI/Adv/1838-39/2019 Chief Pay & Accounts Officer,
 Dated: 22-08-2019 Resident Commission

UJVN Limited
 H.O.: "Ujjawal" Maharani, Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun - 248006
 (Telephones: 0135-2763506, 2736808 Fax 0135-2763507)
 CIN No. U40101UR20019SC025066

TENDER NOTICE

The office of Executive Engineer, (Generation), Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi invites sealed tender from interested firms/contractors for following works/supply:
 Tender Specification No: 04/EE (G)/TPH/19-20.

Name of Work : "Annual General Cleaning of Tiloth Power House, Uttarkashi".
Approximate value of tender (Rs.) : 710922.00 (Taxes extra)
Tender Document Fee (Rs.) : 590.00
Earnest Money (Rs.) : 21350.00

Date of start for downloading of tender documents: 23/08/2019
Closing date for downloading of tender documents : 13/09/2019
Last date for submitting the tender documents: 16/09/2019 at 16:00 Hrs
Due date for opening the tender documents: 19/09/2019 at 11:00 Hrs

For eligibility, criteria and fuller & further details kindly visit our website. The Tenders can be had only by downloading from our website "www.ujvn.com" Cost of tender document has to be paid at the time of submission of the tender.
 Ro. No. 463 dated 21/08/2019
 "Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one male **Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 55 Years, Height: 5'7", Sex: Male, Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: Black Pant only & Bare Footed. ID Mark: written "Jagdish" on Right Hand Arm, Place of Recovery: Found dead on 16.08.2019 at shop no. D-3, Balwant Rai Marg near Banke Bihari Mandir, Pratap Nagar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 32-A, dated 16.08.2019 has been lodged at PS Gulabi Bagh, Delhi. Any clue come to notice please inform undersign.**

SHO
 PS. Gulabi Bagh, Delhi
 DP/355/N/19 Ph.: 011-23651692, 23645100

DETAIL NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR RATE CONTRACT

Sr. No.	Description of Work/ Items	EMD to be Deposited by Bidder	Tender Document Fee	Start Date & Time of Bid Preparation & Submission	Expiry Date & Time of Bid of EMD Submission	Opening Date & Time
1.	Providing and Fixing Indoor Fitness Item	50000	5000	22.08.2019 10.00 Hrs.	03.09.2019 13.00 Hrs.	03.09.2019 15.00 Hrs.

*Tender is invited for Expression of Interest/Rate Contract for Purchase of Indoor Fitness Equipment in Two Cover System i.e. request for Pre-Qualification/ Technical Bid and Request for Financial Bid.

- Tender should be Submitted before dated 29.08.2019 (13.00 Hrs.) and after this time, tender will not be considered.
- Tender Document Fees has to be paid in Cash or in shape of Demand Draft in favour of **Add. Deputy Commissioner, Narnaul** & payable at Narnaul before the Expiry Date & Time of Bid Submission.
- Earnest Money has to be paid in shape of Demand Draft in favour of **Add. Deputy Commissioner, Narnaul** Officer Narnaul & payable at Narnaul in Technical Bid Envelop only and without Earnest Money Tender will not be consider.
- Rate should be quoted in words and figures.
- Tender will be submitted in Two Envelop 1. Technical Bid 2. Financial Bid.
 - There will be Three Bid (1) Technical Bid (2) Sample Bid (3) Financial Bid.
 - Financial Bid will be Opened only of those Firms & Companies which will be qualify both previous Bid.
- Descriptions, Specifications and Details can be seen at the O/o ADC during working hours on any working day.

FEROZEPUR CANTONMENT BOARD(PUNJAB)
e- TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of Cantonment Board, Ferozepur, e-tenders on double bid system are invited from the reputed firms/ contractors/ registered firms of appropriate category regd. with any govt. department for following repairing/maintenance works to be executed in Ferozepur Cantonment Area for the year 2019-20.

Sl. No.	Particular of work	Estimated cost	EMD
1.	Repairs to Cantt Fund Buildings	Rs.1.00 Crore	Rs.2.00 Lac
2.	Repairs to Cantt Fund Streets with CC Flooring.	Rs.50.00 Lac	Rs.1.00 Lac
3.	Improvement / re-carpeting of Cantt Fund Road	Rs.50.00 Lac	Rs.1.00 Lac
4.	Replacement of water lines	Rs.50.00 Lac	Rs.1.00 Lac
5.	Repairs to Cantt Fund Drains	Rs.50.00 Lac	Rs.1.00 Lac
6.	Public Improvement & Misc. Works	Rs.50.00 Lac	Rs.1.00 Lac
7.	Repairs to Roads/Lanes with interlocking tiles in Cantt Area	Rs.50.00 Lac	Rs.1.00 Lac

Date of e-publishing of e-Tenders on or after 23.08.2019, Bid Closing date 13.09.2019 upto 1800 hours, Opening date of technical bid 16.09.2019 at 1000 hours. For further details contact Cantt Board office, Ferozepur and also visit us at www.cbfrz.org or www.eprocure.gov.in.

No.FCB/78/1/946
 Office of the Cantonment Board, Ferozepur, (Pin-152 001), Punjab.
 Dated, the 22nd August, 2019

(Daman Singh, IDES)
 Chief Executive Officer
 Ferozepur Cantonment

Bharat Nirman through Rural Roads
Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala H.P., 176215
BHARAT NIRMAN
UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
e-Procurement Notice

The Government of India has received a loan/credit number "P124639" under PMGSY (Rural Roads Project) Rural Roads Additional Financing towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.

The Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala-176215 on behalf of Governor Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the district of Kangra as detailed in the Table below from the eligible contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T, Railways/other state govts/Central Govt agencies. Non-registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

Division	Package No.	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)		Total Cost (In Lacs)	Period of Completion (Months)	Bid Security (Rs. Lacs)
			Construction	Maintenance			
Dehra	HP-04-260	Construction of Maharana to Dhakkar Road Km 0/0 to 1/500.	77.64	9.03	86.67	9	1.75
Dehra	HP-04-249	Upgradation of Balaru to Adhwani Road Km 0/0 to 3/800.	136.42	22.88	159.30	12	3.20
Dehra	HP-04-263	Upgradation of Dhatehar to Doderu Road Km 0/0 to 2/700.	178.14	16.26	194.40	12	3.90
Dehra	HP-04-240	Upgradation of Surani to Baggi Road Km 0/0 to 6/400.	242.42	38.54	280.96	12	5.62

Other details can be seen in the bidding document. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

Submission of all physical documents will be accepted only up to or before the time and date of submission of bids. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/Time and place for receipt of bids through e-procurement:-
 Bids can be submitted online from Date 27 Month 08 Year 2019 to Date 16 Month 09 Year 2019 upto 1700 Hours and will be opened on Date 17 Month 09 Year 2019 at 1130 Hours in the office of **Superintending Engineer, 9th Circle, HPPWD, Nurpur.**
 For further details please log on to <https://pmgsytendershp.gov.in>
 The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons there-of.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
 Kangra Zone, H.P.P.W.D, Dharamshala-176215.
 Fax:011892-223100, Tel: 011892-224948.

BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD
 (IRRIGATION WING)

CORRIGENDUM

The tender notice against NIT No. e-49/BSL/P&S/PR-1-1064 for the procurement of Dry Epoxy was due on 14-08-2019 is hereby extended up to 11-09-2019 (3:00 PM). All other terms & conditions will remain the same. The detail of corrigendum may be seen/download from BMBB website www.bmbb.gov.in & <https://bmbbeproc.abprocure.com>
 Superintendent/Sr. Xen Proc. Store & Disposal Division., BMBB, Sudnagar (HP) Ph: 01907-262360, Fax: 01907-262360, 262354
 email: bmbbsuptsnr@gmail.com
 791-PR-BSL-4 For your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DME acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. MC-5-OT-LD-DDN-2019-20 Closing Date/Time 16.09.2019, 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Information regarding this tender is available on web site www.ireps.gov.in on internet & can be seen/download. The tenderers/bidders will have to make payment towards Tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment modes like Net Banking, debit/ Credit cards etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual / offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Cash Deposit receipts etc. are not permitted.

Name of Work	Open	Bidding System	Two Packet System
Linen Distribution in AC coaches of Primary Based trains of C&W Depot Dehradun for Moradabad Division for Two years.			
Tender Type	Open	Bidding System	Two Packet System
Tender Closing Date & Time	16.09.2019 15:00 hrs.	Date & Time of Uploading Tender	Upto 23.08.2019
Pre-Bid Required	No	Pre-Bid Query Date Time	Not Applicable
Advertised Value	Rs. 92,19,245.06/-	Tendering Section	C AND W
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Each Schedule	Bidding Unit	% age Above/Below/ At par
Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Rs. 1,84,400/-	Validity of Offer (Days)	60 Days
Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.)	5000.00	Period of Completion	24 Months
Bidding Start Date	02.09.2019	Are Joint Venture (JV) firms allowed to bid	No

No.: MC-5-OT-LD-DDN-2019-20 Dated: 21.08.2019. 2706/19
 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH
CORRIGENDUM
 Ref.: Open Tender Notice No. P(IEP)/19-20/04

Following changes is made:-

- The Pre-Bid Conference for Sr. No. 30 to 49 will be held on 24.08.2019 at 11.00 A.M. instead of 23.08.2019 at 03.00 PM.
- The Quantity for Sr. No. 21 (Silt Lamps) due on 12.09.2019 may be read as 11 No's. Instead of 10 No's.

All other details will remain the same.
 Professor In-Charge (EP)
 570/PGI

PARADIP PORT TRUST
e-TENDER CALL NOTICE

Name of the work : "Dry Docking/ Repairs of Pilot Launch ML Biju Pattnaik, Survey Launch ML Laxmi, Pollution Control Vessel ML Kaili, Mooring Launches ML Chandri & ML Charchika and Repairs to slipway Cradle of Paradip Port Trust". Estimated cost put to tender : Rs.1,01,67,430/- Last date & time of submission of tender through online bidding is 1500 hours on 02.09.2019. For details, please log on to the Website : <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>

Dy.Conservator
 PPT/PR/288/19-20 Dt.23.08.2019

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE
 No. TRS-DNR-OT-26-19-20

The Divisional Railway Manager, E.C. Railway Danapur invites online (E-Tendering) open tender from the reputed firms/contractors on behalf of the President of India for the following work:

1. Name of its work with its location : Outsourcing of manpower for attention of RDSO issued night inspection schedule maintenance activities of MEMU rakes stabled during night at different stations in E.C. Railway for a period of one year.

Classifieds

PERSONAL

Munesh Kumar Chouhan S/O Yashpal Singh R/o. Arnia Khurd Bulandshahr UP203131, have changed my name as Munesh Kumar Chauhan. 0130012269-1

I,VINAY KAPOOR S/O KEWAL KRISHAN KAPOOR, Residing at BP-49, Shalimar-Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed the name of my minor daughter PENSSY KAPOOR aged 13-years and shall hereafter be known as SHIVANKI KAPOOR. 0040509052-2

I, certify that I, William D'souza has changed my name to William John, R/o 88-B, Ward No. 2, Mehrauli, New Delhi-110030, for all future purpose. 0040509011-1

I, Zahra Sarwat Bano D/o Syed Shahenshah Hussain Zaidi R/o A-2, Sarita Vihar, Delhi-110076 have changed my name to Zahra Ali for all purposes. 0040509034-1

I, Yash Juneja S/O, Hemwant Singh Juneja R/o Dk-136, Kendriya Vihar Sector-56, Gurgaon, have changed my name to Yash Singh Juneja for all purposes. 0040509061-1

I, Yam Prashad Sharma S/O Sh.Bhem Lal R/o B-1/87, Sector-17, Rohini, Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Yam Prasad. 0040509052-1

I, Vivekanand Charan S/O Late Sita Sharan Chaurasia R/O Flat No.-1, Building-3, Aster Tower, Vatika City, Sohna Road, Sector-49, Gurugram, Haryana have changed my son name from Chaitanya to Chaitanya Chaurasia for all purpose. 0040509016-1

I, Vinod Bhatia, S/O Murari Lal Bhatia, R/O-C-304, Fakhruddin Apartment, Plot no-18, Sector-10, Dwarka, N.Delhi-110075, Changed My Minor Daughter Name Sheeba Bhatia To Sheeba. 0040509091-3

I, Vijay Kumar R/o R Z E -8 New Roshan Pura , Near Hanuman Mandir Road , Najafgarh, New Delhi -110043 have changed my name to Vijay Bondwal. 0070671264-1

I, Udit S/o Sunil Kumar R/o-755, Jawahar Colony, Sector-22, Faridabad-121005 have changed my name to Udit Sharma. 0040509023-3

I, Teena Talwar W/o Pankaj Talwar R/O E-26/4 Rajouri Garden, ND-27. Have changed my name to Tina Talwar for all purposes. 0040509046-1

I, Suresh Kumar Agarwal S/O Late Prahlad Rai R/O B-365 Ground-Floor Avantika, Sector-1 Rohini Delhi-110085 changed my name to Suresh Kumar Goel. 0040509022-4

I, Sunita yadav w/o Jagdish Singh Yadav R/o H.No-81P Kunj-Vihar Sainik Chauraha Yashoda Nagar Kanpur, have changed my name from Sunita Devi to Sunita Yadav, for all purposes. 0040509052-5

I, Sunita W/o, Mahesh Singh R/o H.No. B-19, Acharya Niketan, Mayur Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110091, have changed my name to Sunita Singh for all purposes. 0040509059-1

I, Sunil Kumar Sharma S/O Devki Nandan Sharma R/O Vpo-Bond Kalan Baund Dandi, Bhiwani Hr:-127025 Changed My Name Sunil Sharma. 0040509056-2

Be It Known To All That I, Pankaj Rana S/o Sh. Ram Kishan Rana , aged 35 Years R/o 373, Mukhmail Pur, Delhi-36 have changed my name from Pankaj Rana to "Punkaj Ranna", henceforth I shall be known by my new name "Punkaj Ranna" for all the Purposes in Future. 0040509086-2

I, No.16019273A/L Nk Durga Dass, Serving at RRR, Delhi Cantt-110010, informs that in my service records my Wife's name is wrongly mentioned as DEEPA DEVI. Her correct name is DEEPA KUMARI which may be amended accordingly. 0040509057-1

I, Neha D/O Shri.Gurudev Singh Bedi R/O B-3/22, Ground Floor, Sector-6, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Neha Bedi. 0040509091-2

I, Naresh Yadav S/O Deven Yadav R/o H.No-A-67, Karan-Vihar, Part-5, Kirari, Delhi-110086 have changed my son's name Gandhi Kumar to Mannu Kumar, for all purposes. 0040509052-9

I, Naemuddin S/O Zaheeruddin R/O H.No.3910, 2nd Floor, Gali Jagat Wali, Urdu Bazar, Jama Masjid, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Naemuddin 0040509003-1

I, Muskan D/o Jasvinder Singh R/o J-6/143, Ground Floor, Rajouri Garden, New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Muskan Massau. 0040509073-8

I, Munni Khan S/O Kalu Khan R/O P-4/331-332, Block-P, Sultanpuri, Delhi-86 Changed My Name To Muni Khan. 0040509073-5

I, Diwan Chand Arya S/o Shri Bachhi Ram R/o H.No.196, Gali No-1, Opposite Suresh Park, Krishna Nagar, Modinagar, Ghaziabad, UP-201204, have changed my name to Diwan Chand. 0040509096-1

I, Mukesh Kumar S/O Madan Mohan Sharma R/O A-492, Near Khalsa School , Shastri Nagar Delhi-110052. Have Changed My Name to Mukesh Kumar Sharma. 0070671245-1

I, Monika, D/o Agya Ram Yadav R/O A-102 Krishan Vihar, New Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Monika Yadav for all purposes. 0040508998-1

I, Meenu, W/o Jasvinder Singh R/o J-6/143, Ground Floor, Rajouri-Garden, New Delhi-110027, have changed my minor daughter's name Noor To Noor Massau. 0040509073-9

I, Meenu, W/o Jasvinder Singh R/o J-6/143, Ground Floor, Rajouri-143, Ground Floor, New Delhi-110027, have changed my minor son's name Yuvraj Singh to Yuvraaj Singh Massau. 0040509073-10

I, Meena Kumari W/o Sh. Rakesh Kumar R/o 3014/1, Street No.15A, Ranjeet Nagar, New Delhi-110008, have changed my name to Neena Basra for all purposes 0040509043-1

I, Manoj S/O Devender Kumar R/O S-46-C, Rishi Nagar, Rani Bagh Delhi-110034 Changed My Name Manoj Kumar. 0040509056-3

I, Manju Gosain W/O Sunil Kumar Gosain R/O F-105 Ground-Floor Suncity-Sector-54 Gurgaon Haryana-122001 Gurgaon., inform that Manju Gosain and Sakshi Gosain both names are one and same person. 0040509092-5

I, Sanjiv Chharia S/o-Basant Kumar Chharia R/O-12-C, Citizen Enclave, Sector-14, Extn. Rohini, New Delhi-110085, have changed the name of my minor son from Dharam Devv Chharia to Dharam Dev Chharia for all purposes. 0040509076-1

I, Sanjeev Garg S/O Hardwar Lal Aggarwal, H.No.12 block-DU 3rd-flr pitampura delhi-34, have to changed my name Sanjeev Aggarwal, for all future purposes. 0040509056-8

I, Sanjeeta W/o Sh.Surinder R/O-618-A/4-A, Shankar-Gali Pandav Road, Vishwas Nagar Shahdara Delhi-110032 have changed my name from Sangeeta to Sanjeeta, for all future purposes. 0040509091-8

I, Sanjay Kumar Gupta S/o Sushil Chand Gupta R/o H.No.-86, Upper Ground-Floor Pocket-27, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Sanjay Gupta. 0040509052-3

I, Sajid S/O Sadiq Hussain R/o:R2-52/350, Gali No-14, Jagdamba Vihar, West Sagarpur, New Delhi-46 Have Changed My Name to Sajid Hussain. 0040509052-8

I, S.K Awana S/O Ramesh Awana R/O B-447, Sector-19, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to Satish Awana for all purposes. 0040509023-2

I, Rita/Kumari Rita W/O, Pankaj Kumar R/O A-704 Antriksh Greens Ahinsa Khand-II, Indirapuram, have changed my name to Rita Kumari for all purposes. 0040509046-2

I, Ramesh Chand S/O Shri Krishana Lal R/O House No. 113, Gali No. 10, Govind Vihar, Karawal Nagar, New Delhi-110094, have corrected my name from Ramesh Chand Dhiman to Ramesh Chand from My Son's Documents vide affidavit dated 22.08.2019. 0040509090-1

I, Rakesh Jindal R/O KU-8, Pitampura Delhi-34, have changed my minor daughter's name from Riya Jindal to Riyaav Jindal, permanently. 0040509091-9

I, Rahul Chaudhary S/O Jagbir Singh R/O H.No-T-150 Gali.No-2 Tukmirpur, Karawal Nagar, Delhi-110094, have Changed my name to Rahul Kumar 0040508993-1

I, Puneet Arora R/O G-105, Ground Floor, Kalkaji Delhi-110019 Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name From Pavani Arora to Pavni Arora. 0070671239-1

I, Pinto Bai W/o Samay Singh Meena R/O Flat-No. 96, Baghban Apartment, Sector-28, Rohini, Delhi-110042, informs that name of mine has been wrongly written as Sunita Meena in my Son's Manan Kantya School-Record while the actual name of mine is Pinto Bai which may be amended accordingly. 0040509009-1

I, Pardeep Popli S/O Prem Popli R/O WZ-1231, Badiyal Mohalla, Palam Village Delhi-110045 Have Changed My Name to Pradeep Popli. 0070671248-1

I, Pankaj s/o Ompal r/o 4, Hazipur Mazra Khera Chaugava Antwara, Muzaffarnagar, UP-251201 have changed my name to PANKAJ KUMAR. 0040509021-1

I, Nourattan Kashyap S/O Radhey Shyam Kashyap R/O A-2/30, Gali-04, Chanakya Place-I, Uttamnagar, N.Delhi-110059, inform that Nourattan Kashyap and Nawrattan both are one and the same person. 0040509099-6

I, No.2890748N Hav Kundan Singh, Serving at RRR, Delhi Cantt-110010, informs that in my service records my Wife's name is wrongly mentioned as BHAWANA DEVI. Her correct name is BHAWANA DEVI which may be amended accordingly. 0040509054-1

I, Nirmal Kumar W/O Sanjay R/O 274, Rukmal Wali Gali, Gujar Chowk, Rampura, Delhi-110035. Have Changed My Name To Nirmal. 0040509091-4

I, Km Suman Devi W/O Narendra Singh R/O Da-419, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-88. Changed My Name To Suman Tomar. 0040509073-4

I, Dalbir Singh S/O Bhim Singh R/o-266, Sultapur Dabas, Delhi-110039, inform that my name Balbir Singh is wrongly written in fard Khawat-No.24, Khatauni-No.23, Sultapur Dabas, my correct name is Dalbir Singh. 0040509022-6

I, DIPAYSH BHANN S/O Late Laxmi Prakash Bhan R/O C-319, Gali No.14, Bhajanpura, Delhi-110053, inform that me and my wife's name wrongly mentioned in my son (namely Dhruv Bhardwaj) school record as Dipesh Bhardwaj and Savita Bhardwaj. But correct name is DIPAYSH BHANN and SAVITA BHAN Respectively. 0040509008-1

I, Champa D/o Sh. Bhairav Dutt Bhatt R/O 2010, Rani Bagh, Delhi, have Changed Name to Chander Verma. 0040509073-6

I, Balikshan S/O Khajjan Singh R/O-D3/1B, VinodPuri, Vijay-Enclave, New Delhi have changed my minor child's name from Pratibha to Panya for future 0040509056-6

I, Chandar Pal Verma S/O Dev Pal Verma R/O 2010, Rani Bagh, Delhi, have Changed Name to Chander Verma. 0040509073-6

I, Balikshan S/O Khajjan Singh R/O-D3/1B, VinodPuri, Vijay-Enclave, New Delhi have changed my minor child's name from Pratibha to Panya for future 0040509056-6

I, Baljit Singh S/O Dharam Vir Choudhary R/O-WZ-130, Dasghara, Delhi-110012 have changed my name to Baljeet Singh. 0040509073-7

I, Atul S/o Ved Prakash R/O H.No-188, Village Khawaspur, Jamalpur Gurgaon-122503 Have Changed My Name to Atul Dhika. 0070671234-1

I, Astha Madhotra, d/o Sh. Ranjan Madhotra, resident of D-111 Street Number-5, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name from Aastha Madhotra to Astha Madhotra for all purposes in future. 0050153869-1

I, Ashok Kumar S/O Ram Suphal Yadav R/O F-1/36, Block-F, Gali No.1, House No-36, Ganga-Vihar, Delhi-110094. Changed My Name To Ashok Kumar Yadav. 0040509091-5

I, Anita W/O Devinder Takiar R/O Ward No.27, GaliNo.4, Jhajjar Road, Shakti Nagar, Bahadurgarh, Haryana-124507. Changed My Name To Anita Takiar. 0040509073-1

I, Anil Kumar Goel S/O Tek Chand Goel R/O 371 Picket-I New Delhi-Vihar Phase-II Delhi-110091 changed my name to Anil Goel. 0040509056-4

I, Anand Kumar S/O Kalyan Singh R/O G-16, Gali No. 16, Som Bazar Road, Rajia Puri, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, have changed my name to Anand Verma. 0040509001-1

I, Amit Singh S/o. Sh Vidya Sagar Singh R/O 4/112, 3rd Floor, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-15, have change my name from Amit to Amit Singh for all future purposes. 0040509064-1

I, Afak Ahmed S/o Mr. Ayaz Ahmed R/O H-8, 11rd Floor, Abul Fazal Enclave, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 have changed my minor daughter name from Areesha Bano to SYED ARESHA AFK for all future purposes. 0040509014-1

I, Abhilasha W/O Anil Bhadana R/O-WP-80, Wazirpur-Village, Ashok-Vihar Phase-1 Delhi-110052. Have Changed my name from Abhilasha Devi to Abhilasha for all purposes. 0040509052-4

I, Devendra Kumar S/O Late Chandraketu Narayan Singh R/O E-94, Third Floor, Samaspur Road, Pandav Nagar, Delhi have changed my name to Devendra Parashar for all future Purposes 0040509108-1

I, Vinay S/o Kanhiya Lal R/O-G-10/6, Sector-15, Rohini, Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Vinay Giridhar, for all future purposes. 0040509099-5

I, Vikram Jit Pruthi S/O Late Sh.Hans Raj R/O-83A Ayodhya Enclave Sector-13 Rohini Delhi-85 have changed my name to Vikram Jeet, for all purposes. 0040509052-7

I, Sukhwindr Kaur W/O Avtar Singh R/O T-572/B, Vijay Chowk, Baljeet Nagar Delhi-8 have changed my name to Sukhwinder Kaur 0040509118-1

I, Shyam Wati D/o Sh.Rampal W/O Sh.Ganesh Singh R/O H.No.55, Sector-5, Radhey Shyam Park, Rajender Nagar, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201005 have changed my name after marriage to Rani Singh for all purposes. 0040509004-3

I, Nitin Saraswat S/O Sh.Suresh Chandra Saraswat R/O House No.F-3, Bahubali Apartments, 59/17, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Central Delhi, Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Nitin Chandra Saraswat for all purposes. 0040509004-1

I, Monu S/o Sh.Hayaat Singh R/O H.No.171, Purana Bazar, Burari, North Delhi, Delhi-110084 have changed my name to Arjun Singh for all purposes. 0040509004-2

SITUATION VACANT
OTHERS
Radiologist/Ultrasonologist for morning hours at INDRAPRASTHA IMAGING SERVICES in Dilshad Garden, Opp. G.T.B. Hospital, East Delhi-110093, Mob: 9891183541, 9210574568 0040509105-1

Public Notice
My client Sh. BABU LAL R/O-539, CHANDRAVALI KOHLAPUR ROAD, SAKBI MANDI 110007. He wrongly disown and disowned his son Mr. RAJESH SHYAM AND HIS wife Mrs. MONIKA D/O RAJESH SHYALYA AND W/O. SHRI RAJ KUMAR BOTH R/O 539, CHANDRAVALI KOHLAPUR ROAD SAKBI MANDI 110007. From inheriting an movable and/or immovable property whatsoever, belonging to my client situated at Delhi or any other state. My client will not be responsible for any of their acts whether in past, present or in future, anyone dealing with them will be doing solely at his/her/their own risk and consequences. Sd/- A.S. ASSOCIATES Advocates & Consultants Chamber No.28, Sector-14, Tis Hazari Court, New Delhi-110054

Public Notice
I am known to all persons that my client Mr. Lal Gupta S/O Late Sh. Ram Chari and Rampati Devi who Mr. Mohi Lal Gupta both R/O B-1817 Shakti Nagar, Delhi-110052 hereby declare that my minor daughter Shalini Shalini daughter in law Beena who Sh. Gija Shashank prasad, grand married daughter Meena and grand married daughter Anjali all of Raghav Nagar, near Dabri Moh, New Delhi from all movable and immovable properties and severed all relations with them and my client shall not be responsible for civil and criminal liabilities, for his/their/their own risk and consequences. If any person make any dealing with him, he himself will be responsible. Sd/- MADAN LAL GUPTA (Advocate) Ch. No. B-36, B.G.S. Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-54

Public Notice
PUBLIC AT LARGE IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENT SH. PAVAN KUMAR LOOHI S/O LATE SH. AMAR SINGH R/O LOOHI SO 183, SECTOR-8, K.P. PURAM, NEW DELHI-110022. HAS SEVERED ALL HIS RELATIONS WITH HIS SON NAMEDLY ROHIT AND HIS SONS WIFE NAMEDLY PUSPAM RAJPUT AND HIS DAUGHTER DISHANTERED/DISOWNED THEM FROM ALL OF HIS MOVEABLE AND IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES AND/OR DEALING WITH THEM SHALL BE DOING AT HIS/HERS/THEIRS OWN RISK, PERIL, RISK AND CONSEQUENCES AND WILL BE HELD SOLELY LIABLE FOR THE SAME. Sd/- YUDHVR SINGH CHAUHAN (ADVOCATE) Ch. No. 276, B.G.S. Block, Delhi High Court, New Delhi

Public Notice
To be known to all that my client Mr. Inder Chhabra S/O Late Krishan Lal Chhabra, Alotia/GPAPurchaser of Industrial Plot No.4-76, Mangrota, Indir Nagar, Delhi-110021, Delhi has applied for conversion of the aforesaid flat from lease hold to free hold vide No.F-22/95/1987/58/1 in DDA, Delhi. The original documents in DEMAND/ALLOTMENT LETTER, POSSESSION LETTER, SITE POSSESSION LETTER, PERPETUAL LEASE DEED of the said plot has been lost. An FIR/CR/ILR No. 14/0834/2019 dated 15.08.2019 in this office is pending. In P.S. Sector-13, Connaught Branch, Delhi. Any person(s) claiming any rights, interest having any objections or claims in possession of the aforesaid flat, documents, may write/contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No. 7862402990 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If the person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director LAB (Industrial) or Director (Industrial), DDA, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi. **Naveen Aggarwal, Advocate** Ch.No.7, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi-54

Public Notice
I am informed to the public at large that my client Mrs. Basanti Devi W/o Late Sh. Suresh Chandra House No. 5011, Gali no. 16, New Basti, Anand Parvat, Karol Bagh, Delhi-11005, hereby declare that my minor daughter Mrs. Anshika Devi S/o Late Sh. Ashok Kumar, her husband and movable and immovable properties and severed all relations with her and her family shall not be responsible / liable for any civil or criminal consequences done by her/their/their person since today, any body dealing with her shall be doing at his/her own risk, cost and responsibility. **VIKAS KUMAR (Advocate)** Ch. No. 497, Patisla House Court, New Delhi-110001, H. 9656510004

Public Notice
My client Madhu Kapoor W/o Anril Lal Kapoor R/o H.No.WZ-33/121, Mukherji Park Extn., Tilak Nagar, Delhi-110018, have disowned and disbarred his son Gagan Kapoor along with his wife Samakshi Kapoor (Mamta), from all her movable and immovable properties with immediate effect. My client have ceased all relations with them, anybody dealing with them hereinafter shall do at his own risk, cost and responsibility. My client shall not be liable and responsible for the same in any manner whatsoever. **KAMAL SINGH (ADVOCATE)** Ch.No.512, Dist. Court, Rohini, Delhi-85

PARKHATI
Publicly informed that my client Smt. Ravinder Kaur W/o Late Smt. Harinder Singh R/O 347, Bhabra Enclave, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi, decided to give PARKHATI to her son Mr. EKJOYT SINGH and she hereby declare that said Mr. Ekjoyt Singh shall not inherit any sort of movable & immovable properties of my client after demise of my client and further any person doing or making any sort of monetary transaction with Ekjoyt Singh than my client shall have no connection, liability and responsibility for any dispute. **DILIP KUMAR (Advocate)** Off: C-1/121, Sector-11, Rohini, Delhi

सर्वजनिक सूचना
सर्व सभ्यता को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरे मुद्रितकर किए गए पुत्र सूत्र श्री गण किरान, निवासी- 23, कोली कैम्प, विनयनगर, दिल्ली- 110025 ने अपने पुत्र पुत्र देवक उर्फ निन्दु को निर्वसन से बाहर होने के कारण अपनी संपत्ति-उत्तर-अवली सम्पत्ति से देवदत्त कर भी समाविष्ट, अधिक, परिवारिक संबंध निरवहे कर दिखे हैं। उसके किसी भी तने तने अथवा कार्य के लिये मेरे मुद्रितकर व उसके परिवार के अन्य सदस्य निरवहे नहीं होंगे। **(हस्ताक्षर)-** विवेकानंद चौधरी (Advocate) चैम्बर नं. 256, साकेत कोर्ट, दिल्ली

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC at large with the fact that Ramesh Chander Gulati S/O Sh. Suresh Chander Gulati are the jointly owners in possession of the property bearing No. B-256, Yojna Vihar, Delhi-92 (Property). That the(1) original Perpetual Sub Lease Deed duly registered with the office of Sub Registrar IV Delhi bearing Reg. no.2458 Book-I, Vol. no. 1471 page no. 154 to 162 dated 26.08.1981 executed by DDA and Planning Commission Co-Operative Housing Building Society Ltd. in favour of Sh. Krishan Kumar, and (2) original Occupancy Certificate dated 31.08.1994 of the aforesaid property have been misplaced somewhere. An FIR NCR to that effect has been already lodged to Crime Branch, Delhi Police vide LR No:147234/2019 on 21/08/2019. Any person(s) dealing in any way with the said property shall do so at their own peril as the same shall be considered legally null and void. Anybody aware of any such persons claiming any right, interest, title based on the said Perpetual Sub Lease Deed and Occupancy Certificate, or being found in possession of the same, may please write to/contact Mr. Harish Kumar, Advocate, at his office- Chamber No. F-712, Karolbagh Court, Delhi and on his Mobile No. +919873765272, within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

It is for general information that I Rakesh Kumar son of Late Kashi Ram and Sunita Devi wife of Rakesh Kumar both residing at 3258/236, Chander Nagar, Tri Nagar, Delhi-110035 declares that name of mine and my wife name has been wrongly written as RAKESH and SUNITA in my minor daughter ARTI aged 14years School Records. The actual name of mine is RAKESH KUMAR and my wife name SUNITA DEVI, which may be amended accordingly.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE (E-TENDER)
For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Freight, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers: (1) Tender No. 197-S/187/CAMC of O.H. Crane/TKD/18/MC-IV. 2. Name of work : Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Over Head Cranes at Wagon Care Centre, Tughlakabad for Two years. 3. Advertised Tender Value : Rs.69,80,870.56/- (including GST) 4. Earnest money in favour of Sr.DF/MNR, New Delhi: Rs. 1,39,600/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS) 5. Date & time of submission of tender bid: Up to 20.09.2019 at 12.00 hrs. 6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen : www.ireps.gov.in No. 197-S/187/CAMC of O.H.Crane/TKD/18/MC-IV Date: 21.08.2019 2712/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work:- (1) Name of work: Mechanized cleaning and Housekeeping work of Group G stations (Panipat, Sonapat, Rohtak, Bahadurgarh, Gurgaon, Kurukshetra, Faridabad, Faridabad New Town, Ballabgarh, Palwal, Gannar, Pataudi Road & Modinagar) of Delhi Division for a period of four years. (2) E-tender Notice Number on IREPS: Sanitation 10-2019. (3) Date of Tender Opening: 16.09.2019 upto 11:00 hrs. (4) Approximate cost of work: As per NIT on ireps.gov.in. (5) Cost of Tender document including 18% GST: As per NIT on ireps.gov.in. (6) Earnest Money Deposit: As per NIT on ireps.gov.in. (7) Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen: www.ireps.gov.in. No.: C-12/Sanitation/Vetting/Group G/2019 Dated: 21.08.2019. 2707/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Bank of India BOI
Head Office, C-4, G Block, Information Technology Department, Star House-II, 8th floor, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai-400051. E-mail: Headoffice.a@bankofindia.co.in

TENDER NOTICE
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR PROCUREMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CASH MANAGEMENT, CHANNEL FINANCING and TRADE FINANCE SOLUTION
Details available on the Bank's Corporate Website www.bankofindia.co.in under "Tender" section from 21.08.2019. Last Date of Submission - 11.09.2019 (till 3.00 pm)

GUJARAT STATE FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
"Vanganga" 78, Alkapuri, Vadodara - 390 007
(0265) 2312820, 2355292, Website : gsfddct.co.in
CIN : U02005GJ1976SGC002927

Expression of Interest (EOI)/RFP-FSC Chain of Custody Certificate
EOI/RFP for FSC Chain of Custody Certificate is invited physically or online in two Bid system (Tech. & Financial Bid) from agency having experience of Certification of more than 75 such Projects. Tender may be obtained or downloaded on Payment of Rs.2500/- from <https://nprocure.com> & www.gsfddct.co.in. Last date for submission is 12-09-19 by 18.00 hours at above address. For more information visit our Website. 36/BCR/19 MANAGING DIRECTOR

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Expression of Interest (EOI)
No.: 23AC/EOI/Non Plastic/NZM/2019 Date: .08.2019
Delhi Division, Northern Railway invites "Expression of Interest" from Entrepreneurs/Sole proprietorships/Partnerships/Limited Liability Partnerships/Companies/ Cooperative societies/NGOs for free supply of biodegradable/Oxo-biodegradable/eco-friendly Sustainable alternatives for single-use plastics and other plastic-based food packaging materials used at Catering units/stalls of Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station for a period of 1 year. The detailed information regarding EOI is available on the website of Northern Railway www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in. Last date of submission of EOI is upto 15.00 hrs. on 05.09.2019. 2705/2019

Serving Customers with a Smile

UTTARAKHAND POWER CORPORATION LTD
(A Govt of Uttarakhand Undertaking) Corporate Identity: No. U404109UP2001SGC025867/2358
Victoria Cross Vijeta Gabar Singh, Urja Bhawan, Kanwal Road, Dehradun-248001, Telephone. (0135) 2763672-76 Fax-(0135) 2760289

CORRIDGUMENTO TO E-TENDER NOTICE
This office e-tender specification no. CCP-11/4/2019-2020 invited previously, for supply of 33KV Post Insulator is hereby extended due to unavoidable reasons. The e-tender can be purchased and submitted upto 17:00 hrs of 03.09.2019 Part-I of the e-tender shall be opened on 04.09.2019 at 15:30 hrs. For further details, please visit our website www.uktenders.gov.in Superintending Engineer Corporate (C&P-I)

No.- 431/EE/(CM)/VCL/A-2 Date:- 21/08/19

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" Use L.E.D. Bulb to Save Electricity
(Toll Free No. 1800-419-4405) Pay Electricity bill online 24x7 from www.upcl.org
(For information on Electricity Theft, Informer may report to Toll Free No. 1800 180 4185 / Fax No. 0135-2760911)

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location	30-Elect-39-T-2019-20-E3 Comprehensive AMC of Schindler make lifts installed at Tilak Bridge Railway Officers Colony.
Approx. cost of the works in	Rs. 6.24 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Earnest Money	Rs. 12500.00
Date & time of submission of tender	19.09.2019, 15.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	19.09.2019, 15.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

2711/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

AUCTION NOTICE MILITARY FARM MEERUT: LEASING OF LAND FOR CROPPING RIGHTS
सैन्य फार्म मेरठ केन्द्र की भूमि फसल बोनो के अधिकार हेतु नीलामी सूचना
सैन्य फार्म मेरठ केन्द्र के विभिन्न खेतों को एक वर्ष तक खेती हेतु सिट्टी फार्म मेरठ के प्रोग्राम में दिनांक 28 अगस्त 2019 को दिन के 1100 बजे सर्वजनिक रूप से नीलामी की जायेगी। यदि किसी कारणवश किसी प्लॉट की नीलामी दिनांक 28 अगस्त 2019 को संभव नहीं हो पाती है तो क्रमशः दिनांक 04 सितम्बर 2019 व 11 सितम्बर 2019 को फिर होगी। जिन लीजर्स ने पहली लीज की बकाया राशि जमा नहीं की है अगर वे दिनांक 26 अगस्त 2019 तक राशि जमा नहीं करते हैं तो उनको व उनके किसी भी करीबी (रिश्तेदार) को बोली में बैठने नहीं दिया जायेगा और उनके प्लॉटों की नीलामी भी दिनांक 28 अगस्त 2019 को फिर से की जायेगी एवं तयकथित लीजर्स द्वारा जो भी सुरक्षित धराशि व लीज की धराराशि जमा की गई होगी उसे तत्काल प्रभाव से जल कर लिया जायेगा। उपरोक्त से संबंधित अधिक जानकारी हेतु सैन्य फार्म के कार्यालय में सम्पर्क करें। दूरभाष-0121-2652728 प्रभारी अधिकारी

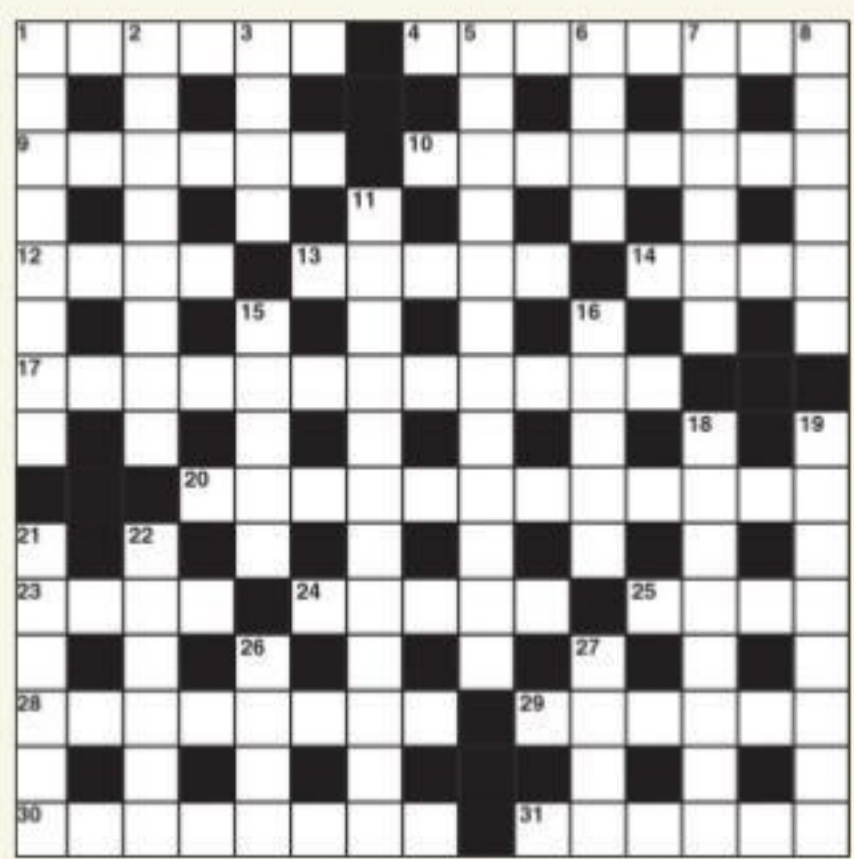
NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
No. C-12/Sanitation/Vetting/Group E/2019 Dated : 21 August 2019
The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work :-

1. Name of work	Mechanized Cleaning and housekeeping work of Group E stations (Delhi Cantt, Palam, Delhi Kishan Gari, Delhi Sadar Bazar Delhi Safderjung, Delhi Shahdara, Noli, Nangloji, Shikariji Bridge, Tilak Bridge, Tughlakabad, Shakurbasti & Naraula) of Delhi Division for a period of four years.
2. E-tender notice number on IREPS	Sanitation 9-2019
3. Date of Tender Opening	16.09.2019 upto 11:00 hrs.
4. Approximate cost of work	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
5. Cost of Tender document including 18% GST	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
6. Earnest Money Deposit	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
7. Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

2709/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CROSSWORD 3891



- ACROSS**
- 1 Changing planes in Italy (6)
 - 4 Entitled to directions on how to turn blonde (8)
 - 9 Bill changes direction to sail round French port (6)
 - 10 Bills put out - it's about time for party members (8)
 - 12 Safe place to let out the clutch? (4)
 - 13 Rejoice in unusual feats (5)
 - 14 Point the sailor steers by (4)
 - 17 As found in the doll's hospital? (5,7)
 - 20 An incoming charge (9,3)
 - 23 They look and sound agreeable (4)
 - 24 A drug may be modified as a safety precaution (5)
 - 25 Baked beans need this lid for protection (4)
 - 28 Put on too much weight (8)
 - 29 There's some point in this system (6)
 - 30 Not a hard opponent to beat and knock to the floor (8)
 - 31 As a decoration it's not so hot, we hear (6)
- DOWN**
- 1 Common title for Satan? (8)
 - 2 A friend has new ideas for making a defence work (8)
 - 3 Prepare to put out with the rising tide (4)
 - 5 Small cutters one may find extremely useful (4,8)
 - 6 Nothing we'd failed to settle (4)
 - 7 Penthouse let on a new arrangement (4-2)
 - 8 Leave behind waste (6)
 - 11 Go over - to the enemy once more? (12)
 - 15 Bonnie's companion is a Scottish runner (5)
 - 16 Enter the lists? (5)
 - 18 It's to do with the pursuit of game, naturally (2,6)
 - 19 I'd come upset about something commonplace (8)
 - 21 About to take a successful action to recover (6)
 - 22 They are revolting (6)
 - 26 A voice raised in triumphal tones (4)
 - 27 When it falls, it has the cheek to go on (4)

Solutions Crossword 3890: Across: 1 Pupil, 4 Content, 8 Coc, 9 Threshold, 10 Foresee, 11 Rates, 13 Comedy, 15 Impugn, 18 Cheap, 19 Earshot, 21 Take stock, 23 Orb, 24 Senator, 25 Dense. Down: 1 Pacific, 2 Programme, 3 Lotus, 4 Curbed, 5 Nostrum, 6 Ego, 7 Tides, 12 Touch down, 14 Deposit, 16 Notable, 17 Memoir, 18 Cites, 20 Raked, 22 Kin.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

No nation was ever _____ - Benjamin Franklin (6,2,5)

DAEER BENDNU
DYIRT ILOBDY

SOLUTION: FARED, DIRTY, UNBEND, BODILY. Answer: No nation was ever ruled by trade - Benjamin Franklin

Difficulty Level 5s

INSTRUCTIONS
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SUDOKU 3947

		8	4		3			
6			3	5	4			
3				8		7		
8	1				4			
	2							
1	2			6		1		
	9	6	5				4	
7	4		9					

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3946

8	7	6	5	9	1	2	4	3
1	4	5	8	3	2	6	9	7
9	2	3	4	7	6	8	5	1
3	8	9	6	4	5	1	7	2
5	1	2	9	8	7	4	3	6
7	6	4	1	2	3	9	8	5
2	9	1	7	5	8	3	6	4
6	5	8	3	1	4	7	2	9
4	3	7	2	6	9	5	1	8

NOTICE BOARD

CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS, HONOURS



AWARD-RITES
Rajeev Mehrotra, CMD (RITES) received the National Project Excellence Award of PMA for the Project Bogibeel Rail cum Road Bridge in the Project Managers Global Summit 2019 on "Sustainability Through Competent Project Leadership".



VISIT-ITPO
The Minister of Commerce & Industry and Minister of Railways, GOI, Piyush Goyal visited Pragati Maidan, New Delhi recently. He took a review of ITPO's ambitious project of redevelopment of the exhibition complex.



SWACHHTA PAKWADA-NHPC
NHPC is organizing 'Swachhta Paktwada 2019' from 16th August 2019 to 31st August 2019. The 'Swachhta Pledge' for 'Swachhta Paktwada 2019' was administered to the employees by Balraj Joshi, CMD, NHPC on 20th August 2019.



MEET-NTPC
NTPC organized its 15th Analysts & Investors Meet in Mumbai recently. The Meet was addressed by G Singh, CMD, NTPC, in the presence of S Roy, Dir (HR), AK Gupta, Dir (Comm), SK Roy, Dir (Proj), P Tiwari, Dir (Ops) & AK Gautam, CFO, NTPC.



SWACHHTA PAKWADA-BHEL
Inaugurated the Swachhta Paktwada in BHEL, Dr N Shinghal, CMD, administered the 'Swachhta Pledge' to the company's employees. The CMD exhorted employees to participate enthusiastically in the National Mission of creating 'Swachh Bharat'.



TREE PLANTATION-AKGECC
AKGEC recently organized tree plantation drive for its students under the one student one tree initiative of the AICTE in presence of Dr RK Agarwal, Director & SL Kapoor, Proctor. Students regularly plant a tree & is a continuous process in the college.



SWACHHATA PAKWADA-MMTC
Swachhata Paktwada being observed from 16.08.2019 to 31.08.2019, a mass pledge was taken by the employees of MMTCC Corporate Office on Tuesday, administered by CMD V Prakash and Dir (P&A) R Ranjan Sinha.



WORKSHOP-ALLAHABAD BANK
Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in India have always responded enthusiastically in aligning their business to national priorities. Allahabad Bank successfully conducted two days' "Branch Level Consultation and Ideation".



REVIEW-BOB
Bank of Baroda had initiated a unique consultation where all 62 branches in (Dehradun) region reviewed their performances for previous 5 years deliberated on issues before the banking sector and ideated on future strategy.



CONSULTATION-CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA
Central Bank of India, Dehradun undertook two days consultation as a part of Bottom up consultation and ideation process. The consultative process emerged as a very lively and enthusiastic session.



REVIEW-IOB
The first stage of the bottom up consultative process designed to generate ideas and review performance of the Branches and their alignment with the national priorities, was conducted at the Regional level by IOB, DEHRADUN Region.



CONSULTATION-UCO BANK
UCO Bank organized a campaign for generation of ideas and consultation till branch level at Hotel AKETA, Rajpur road, Dehradun recently as per the directions issued by Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India.



AGM-GAIL
GAIL Chairman & Managing Director Dr Ashutosh Kamnath (centre) and GAIL Directors at the 35th Annual General Meeting of the Company on 20th August, 2019



REVIEW-OBC
The first stage of the bottom-up consultative process designed to generate ideas and review performance of branches and their alignment with national priorities, was conducted at the Circle Office, Bareilly of OBC.



WORKSHOP-SYNDICATE BANK
Syndicate Bank today kick-started the consultative workshops for idea generation at grass root level. The objective of the workshops is to provide bottom-up approach to stimulate the ideation process at the Bank.



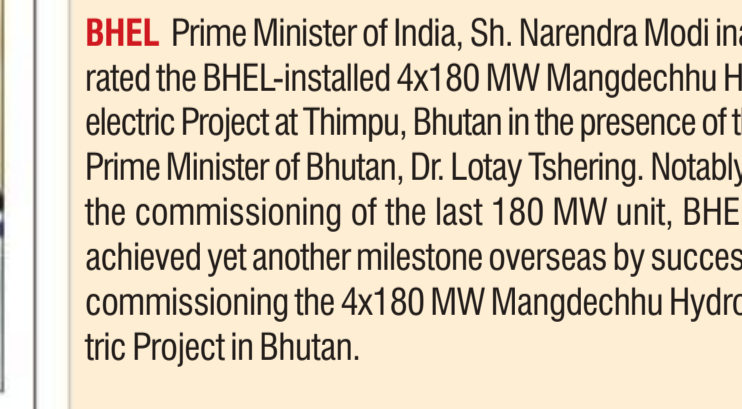
REVIEW-OBC
The first stage of the bottom-up consultative process designed to generate ideas and review performance of branches and their alignment with national priorities, was conducted at the Circle Office, Dehradun of OBC.



APPOINTMENT
CEL Pankaj Malhotra joined CEL as ED (Finance) on 16-9-2016. Prior to joining CEL, he has a diverse experience of working in SAIL and IRCTC at Corporate and branch level. During his stint in SAIL and IRCTC, he has handled funds management, project appraisals, taxation, costing and budget, tender evaluation, MOU finalization etc. His rich experience and judicious financial management, implementation of best practices and procedures has enabled CEL to turnaround from a loss-making PSU to a profit-making PSU.



REVIEW-PSB
The first stage of the bottom up consultative process designed to generate ideas and review performance and ranking of the Branches of P&SB, Bareilly Zone and "Campaign for Generation of Ideas" was conducted recently.



BHEL Prime Minister of India, Sh. Narendra Modi inaugurated the BHEL-installed 4x180 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project at Thimpu, Bhutan in the presence of the ble Prime Minister of Bhutan, Dr. Lotay Tshering. Notably, with the commissioning of the last 180 MW unit, BHEL has achieved yet another milestone overseas by successfully commissioning the 4x180 MW Mangdechhu Hydroelectric Project in Bhutan.

INDIAN BANK is celebrating its 113th Foundation Day and organized a Health Care and Blood Donation Camp at its Nehru Place branch on 14/08/2019. M. Karthikeyan, Field General Manger declared open the Health check up and Blood donation camp. Deputy Zonal Manager Narendra Kumar, P. Vasundhara, AGM Nehru Place and other executives and staff members from Indian bank, President Shri Mahinder Agarwal and General Secretary Swaran Singh from All Delhi Computer Traders Association also actively participated in the celebration. Total 60 customers were treated under the Health Check up camp and 30 customers donated blood. Please give us a confirmation after reviewing the matter.

NR 20th August is observed as Sadbhavana Diwas throughout the country. Northern Railway organized a function on "Sadbhavana Diwas" at Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi today. On this occasion, Additional General Manager, Northern Railway, Ms. Archana Joshi administered the 'Sadbhavana Pledge' to the railway officers and employees.

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

If you're handling complex emotional situations, please be practical, flexible and prepared to alter long-standing arrangements where necessary. Partners will eventually come to appreciate your wisdom and maturity, with welcome results all round.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You are reluctant to break the habits of a lifetime, but a charming relationship between Venus and Jupiter suggests that pleasing and harmonious conditions will greet those who have done what must be done. Strangely, freedom sometimes comes when you do what you have to.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Ambitious Gemini's are now well into a phase which emphasises the role of personal contacts. This means, as the old cliché runs, that who you know is at least as important as what you know, if not more so. Still, if there are people who are prepared to help you, you're fortunate indeed.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

You have every right to be hopeful. Wise and intelligent person that you are, you should be the one to offer an olive branch and hold out the hand of friendship. Your financial questions should now have been answered, so if you still don't have the relevant information, get on with it.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Financial matters are about to grab the headlines, not in any dramatic sense, just in the form of routine affairs that must be dealt with now before they get any worse. Keep up to date with all bills and loans, before you suddenly find that you've let someone down.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

Venus' motion today may not have immediate personal consequences. However, within the week, you should become aware of new feelings, especially of a romantic nature. You will learn to appreciate qualities in loved ones that once annoyed you.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Please avoid all forms of intrigue and unconventional behaviour. This is a moment to keep your head below the parapet and stay away from risky situations. Peace and quiet are of the essence, for you need to recharge your batteries and restore your morale.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

At the moment, you must be prepared to involve colleagues and associates in your plans. Within an overall context of goodwill and co-operation you should now be able to make the most of your emotional intensity, determination and unparalleled leadership qualities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

As the days pass you may begin to plan your financial future. Clean up your act - this doesn't mean spending less, but better - and paying more attention to the facts. It's all a question of finding a lifestyle which suits you. Ultimately, though, it is your emotional welfare which counts.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

There's a lot on your mind, there's no doubt about that. It looks as if someone is trying hard to pressurise you into making an early decision. However, you may smile and ignore their protestations. You will be on top in all discussions, negotiations and meetings.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

An unexpected turn of events may prompt you to alter plans or even change the whole direction of your life. The important consideration from your point of view is to take the initiative rather than wake up and discover that fate has taken your decisions for you.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You are now coming under Venus' glorious rays, surely a sign that your social life and emotional morale are about to improve. You may allow more time for pleasure, gratification and self-indulgence, for all those activities which make life worth living.

AROUND TOWN



India on a Platter

DASTKAR'S MONSOON Mela is bringing nearly 80 crafts under one roof, from the handloom weaving of Kenjakura and kantha embroidery of Nanor to the exquisite mirror embroidery from Gujarat (pictured) and Patachitra scroll paintings of Pingla. Till September 2, at Nature Bazaar, Kisan Haat, Andheria Modh.



Past and Present

THE EXHIBITION "Divine Intervention" at Art Spice Gallery is ringing in the festival of Janmashtami by offering contemporary and playful renditions of Lord Krishna through the works of artists G Subramanian and P Gnana. At Art Spice Gallery, The Metropolitan Hotel & Spa, Bangla Sahib Rd, Sector 4, Cole Market, till September 21, from 9 am to 6 pm.



A God's Life

SHRIRAM BHARATIYA Kala Kendra returns with its annual dance drama, *Krishna*, by bringing on stage the various legends associated with Krishna — from his childhood to his mischiefs during his youth — in its 43rd edition. At 1, Copernicus Marg, Mandi House, on August 23 and 24, at 3 pm and 6.30 pm. Tickets priced Rs 300 onwards, at bookmyshow.com.



The City's Roads

AN URBAN walk workshop 'Sense of a Place' enables children to explore the city through observations and experiences of a place. Organised by Institute of Urban Designers Delhi, the walk will be led by urban development practitioner Nidhi Batra in Mehrauli. The meeting point is at Adam Khan Tomb, on August 25, 8 am onwards. Contact iudincrbnwalks@gmail.com for registration.

Birthday Joys

GITA GOVINDA, a two-day dance and music festival on the occasion of Krishnashtami, will feature performances by Carnatic vocalist Sudha Raghuraman, Kathak recital by Shovana Narayan and Asavari Repertory, and Odissi rendition by Ranjana Gauhar and Ranjana Dance Academy. Part of it is the 45-minute Mohiniyattam performance, *Deva-Gita*, derived from the musical traditions of the temples in Kerala. At IGNCA, Auditorium, CV mess, Janpath, on August 23 and 25, 6 pm. For details, visit ignca.gov.in.

Delicate Threads

BRIGHT COLOURS. Grey Skies', is an exhibition offering tie-and-dye saris, stoles, dupattas and kaftans created by craftsman Khatri Mahamad Hamja Hasan, whose family in Kutch specialises in Bandhani work. The Dastkari Haat Studio is hosting the exhibition at 32, Meherchand Market, Lodhi Road, till August 28.



(From top) *Radhey* is about the last days of Karna's life during the Mahabharata battle; Zeeshan Ayyub; Rasika Agashe

'Writers reflect what is happening in society'

With their roots firmly in theatre, actors Rasika Agashe and Zeeshan Ayyub have been seeking original Indian plays and staging the best of them

ALAKA SAHANI

FOR ACTORS Rasika Agashe and Zeeshan Ayyub, theatre has always been a priority. "Theatre is our root. So, it's very important to stay connected with it. We feel more creatively satisfied in theatre. It always feels great to perform on stage. Or, be in the background, and see a play flourishing," says Ayyub, who recently received much praise for his performance as a lower-caste rebel in *Article 15*.

Agashe and Ayyub, both graduates of National School of Drama (NSD), have set up a theatre group called Being Association and are the brains behind the initiative that encourages original writing for theatre. For the third edition of their group's festival, Sanhita Manch, they sought original plays in Hindi and Marathi. Four plays handpicked from this year's entries will be staged during the three-day-long festival that will open at Dadar's PL Deshpande Auditorium on Friday evening with Being Association's latest production *Radhey*, written by Bengaluru-based Amit Sharma and directed by Agashe. It is inspired by Ramdhari Singh Dinkar's poem *Rashmirathi* and is about the last two days of Karna's life during the Mahabharata battle.

The actor couple thought of inviting new writing as they "like to do new plays every year". Agashe says, "The idea is to provide a platform for new writers from across India. We wish to recognise, promote and circulate new Indian plays by organising a writing competition for our festival Sanhita Manch. Writers will get full freedom to explore any style." The festival allows the writers to choose any theme or genre. "Our only aim is to give freedom to new writers to write their own point of views," says Ayyub. Many of these plays address socio-political subjects. "Writers reflect what is happening in society," says Ayyub, the actor of *Tanu Weds Manu Returns* (2015) and *Zero* (2018).



Plays are our heritage like all other literary works. We plan to digitise the scripts so that anyone can visit our website and access the plays they want to read

ZEESHAN AYYUB

In the last three years, Being Association has received nearly 300 plays. "Initially, we faced many problems but with each year we improved," says Ayyub. Describing the experience of theatre as "therapeutic", he believes that the festival is "an opportunity to meet friends, explore new content, read

new plays and hold discussions". The festival also gives an opportunity to young actors to perform new plays.

The festival will also stage Pune-based Maharashtra Culture Centre's *Adhyat Mi, Sadhyat Tu, Madhyat Ma Kuni Nahi*, written by Swapnil Chavhan and directed by Apurv Sathe on Saturday at 4 pm. Later in the evening at 8.30 pm, Delhi's Flying Fathers Art Association will present *Kabab*, written by Rahul Rai and directed by Rajesh Singh. The festival ends with Bhopal-based Vihaan Drama Works' *Romeo Juliet in Smart Cities of Contemporary India*. Written by Swapnil Jain from Jaipur, it is directed by Saurabh Anant and will be staged on Sunday at 7.30 pm.

Ahead of Sanhita Manch, Agashe has been engrossed with the rehearsals of *Radhey* — the play with the biggest cast in the festival. She says, "We gave the scripts to other directors and they selected the ones they wanted to work on. I picked the script which was not picked. A play with a big cast generally gets left behind." Even though there is no clear division of work between them, Agashe and Ayyub are there for each other. "If one is stuck at something, the other pitches in. While directing *Radhey*, if I get stuck somewhere, Zeeshan, who is producing the play, offers his suggestions. He likes to be an actor's trainer. He also handles the financial matters," says Agashe.

The group has the ambitious plan of launching an e-library which will have a number of old and new plays. "Reprinting of old plays has almost stopped. Plays are our heritage like all other literary works. We plan to digitise the scripts so that anyone can visit our website and access the plays they want to read," says Ayyub, and adds that it will be their "surprise for theatre-lovers". The group has also been publishing compilations of the best plays they receive.

The festival will be held at PL Deshpande Auditorium, Dadar, Mumbai, from August 23 to 25



LOST AND FOUND

Author Stephen King's 1999 novel *The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon* is now getting a film adaptation. The tale of nine-year-old Trisha, who gets lost in the woods when hiking, is being produced by the production company of late horror legend George A Romero and his wife Chris.

What Humans Do

Artists Balaji Ponna and Anni Kumari signal humanity's impending doom in their exhibition 'Mirrored Questions'



PALLAVI CHATTOPADHYAY

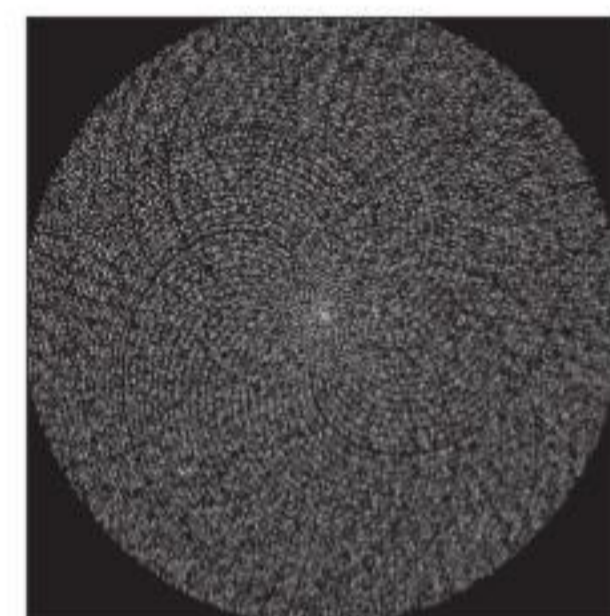
FIVE YEARS ago, Baroda-based artist Balaji Ponna found inspiration for a canvas in the most unlikely of places — an ATM near his house in Bhimavaram, Andhra Pradesh. The watchman would often tell him about his experiences, of how residents would ask him if he saw robbers and how the sounds of knocking doors and barking dogs are a constant in his life. It made Ponna rethink the lives of people whose nights are in contrast to ours. Like the border security forces stationed at night, the watchman observes the world in a completely different manner. Both leave their families behind at home and sacrifice their personal life for the sake of the country. This backdrop becomes the story for his canvas, *The night watchman wife is virgin*. Alert men in uniform, armed with torch lights, are seen searching for a possible threat at the border, even as the Indian flag flies high in a distance and a watchman sleeps on his chair.

The exhibition "Mirrored Questions" is showing Ponna's 16 canvases that are riddled with metaphors and suggestions of human-inflicted calamities. His painting *Most suitable pole to tie* shows a man tied to a pole, with an Asiatic lion on top, like the pillars of Ashoka. It echoes the horrors of the Pehlu Khan lynching case and the 2015 Dadri mob lynching of Mohammed Akhlaq. He says, "Mob lynching and public humiliation have become a part of our society."

Having studied graphics from Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, 39-year-old Ponna says, "My works speak of existing problems in our world and are a comment on the society at large." The exhibition catalogue aptly sums up Ponna's canvases, which bear a dark gloomy character: "Like the shadow that follows even an optically impaired person however oblivious he is of that fact, the effects of our inhuman and unconcerned deeds would follow us everywhere to remind us of our impending doom."

For Kumari, migration and displacement are predominant themes. She reels her experiences of living in different states of India, from being born in Patna, raised in Jamshedpur, to migrating to Delhi for higher studies at College of Art and then setting up a studio in Rishikesh. In her acrylic on canvas *At some point NOTHING matters*, she has painted an entire blank canvas in black, leaving behind innumerable dots on the canvas made from white space, which she says refers to the space left out in our lives. "When I migrate, I leave behind a lot many things since I can't carry them all. I often feel that vacuum within me after moving to a new space," she says.

Kumari renders a way of looking at landscapes through her series *Peep I, II and III*, by providing aerial views of Jamshedpur



(From top) Ponna's *Most suitable pole to tie*; Kumari's *Checked-In after Class* and *At some point NOTHING matters*

through its industries, Delhi through the night light of its grid-like buildings and Rishikesh through its cloudy atmosphere. As an art educator at College of Art and Ashoka University, Kumari gets her students to sit around her in a circle. Whenever new students come, space is made to accommodate them. *Checked-In after Class*, a watercolour on graphite paper, has classroom chairs and tables to convey this idea. "It was like an intrusion, one that you are not prepared for and which comes as a surprise," she says, as she comments on the complexity of a city and how changes in cityscapes keep happening.

Migration is vital to that change as people move cities. Kumari says, "Humans are forcing others to leave due to a heightened sense of violence and insecurity. Even the Partition could have been avoided and shouldn't have happened. Earlier migration was due to natural forces, but now they are because of political and social reasons."

The exhibition is at F-213C, Old MB Road, Lado Sarai, Delhi, till August 30

Shifting Gears

Day One of the Lakme Fashion Week winter/festive 2019 stressed on the need for constant reinvention

EKTA MALIK

AND FOR a change, rain didn't play spoilsport, the traffic was bearable and the weather held up as the winter/festive 2019 edition of the Lakme Fashion Week (LFW) charged ahead full steam on its first day at Mumbai's St Regis. It saw some old names and new, but all driven by innovation and reinvention. The highlights:

Charge of the Light Brigade

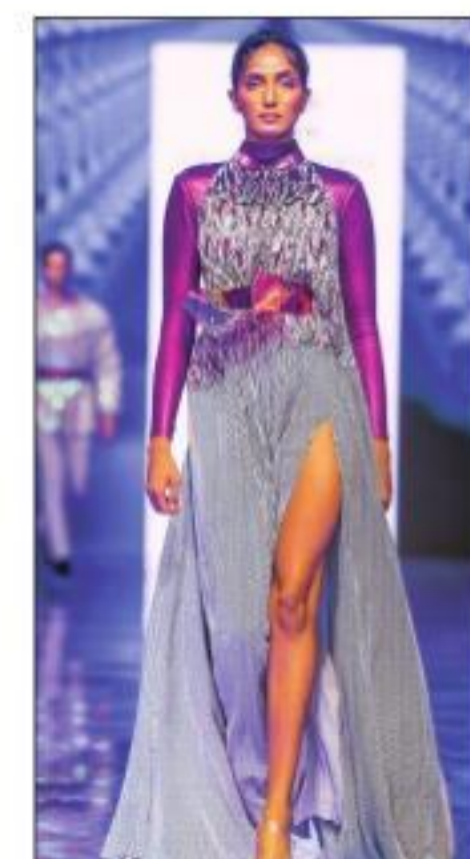
This year, there were six contenders that stemmed out of the Gen Next Programme, which was mentored by Sabina Chopra. One of the strongest batches that have emerged from the Gen Next programme — last year apparently they were struggling to find even five — they invoked the weaves of Assam, the artwork of Henri Matisse and the structure of a banana leaf on the ramp. Manjushree Saikia used Assam's tea-dyed Eri and Muga mulberry silk for her label 'Ura Maku' to fashion out three-piece suits, blazers and belted trench coats. Gaurav Singh

presented the 'Kadali Patram' collection — inspired by the vein-like structure of a banana leaf — for his label Anatomy. The outfits in shades of ink blue, beige and grey were highly structured and geometric. The other included Sahib Bhatia, Ankita Srivastava, Akanksha Aggarwal and Stanzing Palmo.

20 and Counting

To commemorate her two decades in the Indian fashion industry, Payal Singhal chose to be inspired by the roving spirits of bohemians and gypsies. Singhal presented #PS20, a show that also showcased her first-ever menswear collection.

Bold colours and prints dominated the free-flowing collection that featured dresses, separates, cord sets, concept saris for the women, and kurtas and pants for the men. Cutwork jaalis, leather embroidery, frayed tassels, appliqué and patchwork were used to create 3D textures. The newest Bollywood couple Farhan Akhtar and Shibani Dandekar were the showstoppers for Mumbai-based Singhal. "Since I celebrate 20 years of my brand, I decided to



(From above left) Designs by Gaurav Singh; Payal Singhal; Amit Aggarwal

forgo all the formulas and take risks," shared Singhal.

Keeping it Real

Rare Avis in French means a rare bird, and the clothes created by Sonal Verma under this label are just that — rare. Verma took inspiration from the 17th century French artist Jacques Linard's work, who was famous for painting still-life. The collection called 'A Still Life' had trench coats

with leather tassels, dresses, long blazers, vests, cropped pants and tunics. The collection was heavy on colours such as tan, black and dark brown, and used fringes and tassels to add flair and drama to the clothes in addition to sown-on extra-large pockets. One saw bold checks, sequined prints and textured fabrics in the collection that was edgy and high on the utility quotient. It is a must-have for the coming winter season.

Fit and Flare

Amit Aggarwal's trademark is extreme structure and sharp silhouettes fashioned out of industrial material. But in the latest collection, 'Flux', we saw fluidity, flowing drapes and pleats juxtaposed with body con suits and dresses. There were wraps, exaggerated sleeves, and billowing skirts made from polymer. Cricketer Hardik Pandya and Bollywood actor Lisa Haydon were the showstoppers for Delhi-based Aggarwal.

ON TV TODAY

7PM: WI VS INDIA — 1ST TEST

Live on Sony Ten 1 & Ten 3

3:30PM: ENG VS AUS — 3RD TEST

Live on Sony Six

Has Jadeja replaced Ashwin as India's No.1 Test spinner?

SANDIP G

ANTIGUA, AUGUST 22

FIVE MINUTES before for the start of the Test, Ravindra Jadeja was spotted bowling near the boundary rope close to the dressing room. With an eye on the clock, a support staff member shouted: "Andar aaja, umpire bhi ground mein aa gaye!" Jadeja replied: "Ek aur over, baarish ne (practice) kharab kar diya."

Nearly half an hour before that, the news was confirmed that he would be India's lone spinner for the Test, and not Ravichandran Ashwin. The message was clear: Jadeja had pipped Ashwin as the chief spinner of the side.

However, the West Indies batsmen, though, might have been mighty delighted to not see their serial nemesis in India's bowling line-up. It was an intriguing selection for Ashwin has a terrific record against the West Indies—against whom he had knocked out 60 wickets at 21 in 11 games.

The decision to leave the offie out couldn't have been based on the batting skills either. Admitted that Jadeja has been in fine fettle with the bat—his last seven innings have seen two 80s and a maiden ton—while Ashwin's batting performances have comparatively diminished.

But if stability to the batting order was a yardstick, Ashwin could have been a better choice. Anyway, the batting potential of a No 8 shouldn't be a decisive factor. It's understandable if India were playing in England or Australia, where it's useful to have a resourceful lower order. But not so much, perhaps, in the West Indies.

It couldn't have been the composition of West Indies's batting line-up either—there are three right-handers and as many south-paws in the top-six. Of late, India have picked their spinners based on their left-hand or right-hand heaviness of their opponents. In a side with too many lefties, Ashwin would be the obvious choice. The West Indies line-up, in this regard, was split.

The only reason that went in Jadeja's favour was probably continuity. The left-arm had played the last two of India's Tests, in Melbourne and Sydney, chiefly because Ashwin was injured. He didn't run through the opposition, expectedly so for a spinner in Australia. He was primarily tasked to choke the run-rate and he did it admirably. In Melbourne, he conceded only 45 runs in 25 overs, besides nabbing two wickets. In the second innings, he picked three before ending the series with another manful effort of 32-11-73-2. So there were no compelling reasons to pick Ashwin ahead of him.

Hanuma Vihari's inclusion, too, might have played a minor role. Vihari, though not guileful as Ashwin, isn't guileless either. He might not have too many variations as Ashwin, but he can dry up the runs with his flat off-break, and should the surface deteriorate and offer turn, he can spin the ball as well. On match eve, Kohli had reflected on his bowling prowess: "In Australia, he bowled well whenever he had asked to. He's someone who gives more than 100 per cent when he's entrusted with a job."

The captain might have been referring to his shifts in Perth, where India had ended four seamers and no spinner. So Vihari closed up bowling 14 overs each in both innings, and in the first took the wickets of Marcus Harris and Shaun Marsh, both left-handers. Thus his utility might have forced Jadeja's case. So he could be something of an auxiliary spinner. To ally a proper, left-arm spinner, a decent off-spinner will suffice, the selectors might have thought.

From dismissing Kohli twice to saving lives, former leggie Martin channels the fire within

SANDIP G

NORTH SOUND, AUGUST 22

FOUR YEARS ago, Antigua witnessed its worst fire accident, in the most congested colony of lower St John's. It consumed a dozen lives and changed that of Anthony Martin, a former leg-spinner and a fireman, who was part of the rescue operation.

There was a time when everyday he used to wake up with images of the inferno playing out in his mind, burned limbs, wails for help and yellow flares consuming everything around him. "It kept recurring, sometimes in front of my eyes and sometimes in nightmares. I used to wake up in the middle of the night and see if everything was alright in my house and neighbourhood. I used to take midnight strolls in my neighbourhood to see everything was alright. I would check if the gas was turned off. I would stub every cigarette butt even if it was already stubbed," Martin says.

It was not even his shift either. "One of my colleagues was on leave and I got a call from my boss. Then at around two in the morning we got this call and jumped in. I actually drive those fire-engine trucks and wouldn't generally be part of the operation. But it was so bad that I had to help my colleagues out. Being in the service for almost 10-15 years, I knew how to do it. But man, that was bad. I was happy that we could save a few lives but I saw people dying in front of my eyes, fire all over their bodies," recalls Martin, who joined the fire depart-



West Indies players celebrate the dismissal of India captain Virat Kohli on Day One of the first Test at North Sound in Antigua on Thursday. BCCI



EXPRESS IN WEST INDIES

SANDIP G

NORTH SOUND (ANTIGUA), AUGUST 22

AFTER REPEATEDLY beating KL Rahul's outside edge in the third over, Kumar Roach stood still in his follow-through, staring at the strip, perhaps wondering how a wicket had eluded him. Even in such a short span, he had pulled enough tricks out of his bag to deserve a scalp or two. Sensing his best bowler could waver—the new Roach is patient, but captains are always a worried lot—Jason Holder shrieked from the slips, "Sniffin' it (wicket) champ. I'm waiting."

It was prophetic. In the next over came the nicks and the wickets. Mayank Agarwal and Cheteshwar Pujara edged behind, both succumbing to the new-ball mastery of Roach. Agarwal could have perhaps left the ball, but the threat of the one that comes in sharply induced the split-second indecision, resulting in a stationary back-foot and

hard hands feeling for the ball.

The ball that got Pujara was more difficult to negotiate. Closer as it was to the stumps, it drew him into the forward defensive and moved away marginally. Pujara could not but edge it. The wicket didn't come without a set-up, though. Roach had ruffled him straightaway, with a back of a length delivery that leapt off into his body, before resuming with the away-going service.

Roach doesn't quite swing the ball outwards, he rather seams it—or makes it straighten—off the pitch. If he wants to add a dramatic effect to the movement, he goes wider off the crease, looking to fool the batsman with the angle.

Crease utilisation is an aspect of Roach's bowling that he has worked on diligently in his attempts to restore his career. Since his comeback in 2016, Roach has been a changed bowler. He is not the stormy petrel of his youthful days, when he looked to hurt as much as harass the batsmen. He once famously struck Ricky Ponting on the helmet when the latter was trying to execute his pet pull shot on a lightning fast surface in Perth. A lot of Australians believe Ponting was never again a merciless puller of the cricket ball after that incident in 2009.

But these days, a reformed and refined bowler in his own estimation, Roach no

longer paints a target on batsmen's heads and helmets. Rather he rejoices killing them softly, keener to test their patience, torment their technique and gnaw away at their confidence. He relentlessly pounds the corridor, subtly alters his lengths and lines. He seldom bowls too short or full, and rarely does he veer towards the batsmen's legs or even the middle stump.

He also masterfully detects batsmen's vulnerabilities. To Agarwal, who is disciplined outside the off-stump, he bowled closer to the off-stump, making him play more strokes. To Rahul, who's keener to play more strokes, he bowled a feet further, a clever ploy as Rahul also tends to play away from the body.

These methods have made him an elite but unsung bowler in contemporary cricket. In his last 17 games, he has picked up his 64 wickets at 20.73. At home, he has been an even more potent force, taking 31 scalps at 15.3. Since the start of the year, he has picked up 20 wickets in just four matches, fashioning a terrific series win against England and furnishing the hosts with a dream start against India.

Hunting in a pair

In Shannon Gabriel, he has the perfect new-ball ally—strapping like the heyday

bowling giants from the Caribbean and blasting the back-of-length with a cold-eyed, unsmiling strut. Though not consistent, he gets unnerving bounce from awkward lengths. It was the bounce that accounted for Virat Kohli, leaving India languishing at 25 for three. Kohli thought he could ride the bounce and pierce the gap between slip and gully. But it was Gabriel's heavy ball, and it rose more than the Indian skipper had anticipated. It was a testament to Gabriel's skills, for Kohli doesn't often misjudge the bounce.

Together, with three wickets in the first hour, including the prized ones of Pujara and Kohli, Roach and Gabriel justified Holder's decision to bowl first, though the home team's captain would have been happier with a wicket or two more, as the blazing sun seems to have sucked out of the early moisture and the pitch eased up. But Rahul's dismissal, an hour after lunch, stalled India's resurrection bid.

Complementing their bowlers, the fielders sustained the intensity, flinging their bodies around, cutting out the release shots, encouraging the bowlers and illustrating a sense of urgency that has often eluded them in the past. In opening session of the first Test, Windies hardly put a foot wrong.

SCORECARD >>

WI vs Ind

1st Test, Day 1 | Antigua | Toss: WI

INDIA (LUNCH) 68/3 IN 24 OVS

KL Rahul batting	37
M Agarwal c Hope b Roach	5
C Pujara c Hope b Roach	2
V Kohli c Brooks b Gabriel	9
A Rahane batting	10
■ Extras: (lb 4, nb 1)	5
■ Fall of wickets: 1-5 (Mayank Agarwal, 4.2 ov), 2-7 (Cheteshwar Pujara, 4.6 ov), 3-25 (Virat Kohli, 7.5 ov)	
■ Bowling:	
Kemar Roach	6-1-12-2
Shannon Gabriel	7-1-26-
Jason Holder	6-4-8-0
Miguel Cummins	5-0-18-0

Rathour pips Bangar, set to be appointed batting coach

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY

KOLKATA, AUGUST 22

VIKRAM RATHOUR is set to become the new batting coaching of the Indian team after he pipped the incumbent, Sanjay Bangar. Following the support staff selection interviews conducted by the MSK Prasad-led selection committee, Rathour topped the grade for the position of the batting coach ahead of Bangar and former England batsman Mark Ramprakash. Bharat Arun and R Sridhar have been retained as the bowling and fielding coaches respectively, while Girish Dongre is going to be the team's new administrative manager replacing Sunil Subramaniam. Nitiin Patel is set to be back as the team physio, as he edged past Andrew Leipus.

India's overseas Test batting issues and a shaky middle-order for the World Cup had put a question mark over Bangar's role. He had been appointed batting coach in 2014.

On Thursday, at the press conference in Mumbai, Prasad was asked if Bangar had been made the scapegoat for the World Cup loss. "Let anybody say anything. In the most honest and fair manner we have conducted the interviews and we felt that Vikram Rathour was (the) first preference for us," the chief selector replied.

He, however, didn't deny the batting uncertainties. "It's a mixed one and looking at the two T20 World Cups and the Test Championship, we thought that there should be some freshness to the batting mindset of

the unit and that is the reason why we have taken this call."

Rathour, a former India opener who played six Tests and seven ODIs, doesn't have any international coaching experience.

Conflict quagmire

Earlier this year, Rathour's appointment as the India U-19 team batting coach had been put on hold after his potential conflict-of-interest was brought to the notice of the Committee of Administrators. The 50-year-old is the brother-in-law of current India U-19 national selector Ashish Kapoor. The BCCI chief executive Rahul Johri, however, defended the selection. "So this was discussed at the CoA meeting also. Now, his brother-in-law is the chief selector of the junior team, this is batting coach of the men's senior team. So we don't think there's any conflict," Johri said. Every selected candidate will have to submit a 'no-conflict' declaration before taking up the job.

Rhodes snubbed

The selection committee's gradation list for the position of the fielding coach had Sridhar as the first preference followed by Abhay Sharma and T Dilip. The greatest outfielder in the modern era, Jonny Rhodes, was an applicant, but he didn't even make the gradation shortlist. Five national selectors, with 13 Tests and 31 ODIs between them, didn't consider Rhodes good enough. "R Sridhar is one of the best fielding coaches in the world today. He has transformed this (team) into a wonderful fielding unit," said Prasad.



Anthony Martin is now a fire fighter

ment when he 19, fresh out of college.

Nonetheless, it gave a new spin to his life. "I used to take everything casually, both my life and cricketing career. I was irregular to work, very relaxed, often found silly excuses to go out with my friends. I was a grown-up man trapped in my teens, until this incident happened. Such incidents are rare in Antigua. Mostly, it's natural disasters like hurricanes, not a man-made one like this. Maybe, it was fate that I happened to be there at that night," he says, his eyes blood-shot red, as if mentally he's revisiting the entire night.

The lackadaisical attitude, he says, had wrecked his cricketing career. He was a promising leg-spinner who took truckloads of wickets in the domestic circuit, naturally blessed because he barely "practised."

"I was always lazy. I don't remember bowl-

ing more than five overs at a stretch in the nets. I didn't develop any variations like the flipper or googly because I didn't have the patience to practise. I would just drop in 10 minutes before the game, crack a few jokes and get going. I seldom used to do warm-ups either," he says, laughing.

He could get away with those traits in domestic cricket, but not at a higher level. Rules, regimens, curfews, his was an unbridled spirit not used to such restrictions. Then were his quirky manners—he wore the cap in upturned Yankee style, once he wore cargoes to a practice session, played a lot of soca music in the dressing room, and pranks with his teammates. Life, in the prime of his youth, was a celebration. "Some people didn't like it. Some thought I was taking life too simply. One coach bluntly told me that I didn't quite have the drive to be an international cricketer."

But unnerved, Martin went about his business in his usual merry way on and off the ground. On a hot afternoon in his home ground in North Sound (2011), he had Virat Kohli, then a young tyro stumped, luring him into an expansive drive, before taking out Rohit Sharma, Suresh Raina, fresh from his World Cup exploits, and Ishant Sharma. "I clearly remember setting up Virat Kohli, giving him full balls to drive and then pulling the length back a bit and bowling wider. Now I can tell my grandchildren that I got the wicket of India's greatest batsman." West Indies went on to inflict a 103-run defeat and Martin was adjudged man of the match, the cheque received from his hero

Viv Richards.

But those happy days were shortlived, as he added four more games to his ledger, the last against India in December that year, when he dismissed Kohli again, inducing a mishit to long-on. But that was to be his last in the maroon stripes of West Indies. Despite 11 wickets from nine games at an average of 26 and an economy rate of four, he was dumped for reasons he hasn't yet figured out.

"I don't know, and now I don't care to know. There were times when I searched for answers, but not any longer. It was maybe because I didn't practise. I should have shown more fire maybe," he says, laughing.

Martin continued playing domestic cricket for four more years, but soon after the fire accident, retired. "Not because of any trauma, but because I thought I should focus more on saving people's lives. That I should be more serious about my life and family. That I should be the first person to reach the site of a fire emergency," he says.

Since the accident, he says, he's the first man to put his hand up in emergencies, especially when there's a hurricane warning. One of them swept through Barbuda, the twin island, and Martin was at the forefront of operations. "Now it thrills me to save lives more than it used to when getting wickets. I get more satisfaction from it," he says, matter-of-factly. It's also a retort to those that have accused him of not showing enough fire in his playing days. "No one should accuse me of showing no fire in my job."

India's Davis Cup tie against Pakistan postponed to November

SHAHID JUDGE
MUMBAI, AUGUST 22

WITH JUST over three weeks to go for India's Davis Cup tie in Pakistan, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) has taken a decision to postpone the tie by two months. On Wednesday, the ITF's Davis Cup Committee met in London to find a solution for the match-up, scheduled to be held in Islamabad, at a time when political relations between the two countries have been downgraded over the Jammu and Kashmir issue. Eventually the committee decided to delay the tie till November.

"Following an in-depth security review of the current situation in Pakistan by independent expert security advisors, the Davis Cup Committee has taken the decision to postpone the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Group I tie between Pakistan and India in Islamabad, due to be played on 14-15 September," the ITF said in a statement. "The Committee concluded that this is an exceptional circumstance while the first priority of the ITF is the safety and security of athletes, officials and spectators. The tie has been rescheduled for November, with the exact dates to be confirmed by the Committee no later than 9 September. The ITF will continue to monitor

the situation in Pakistan and the Davis Cup Committee will re-convene to re-examine the security situation in advance of the tie." The decision comes just a week after the ITF rejected the All India Tennis Associations' (AITA) proposal for the tie to either be shifted to a neutral venue or played at a later date. "We are happy good sense prevailed and that this decision was made," AITA secretary general Hironmoy Chatterjee said. "We will continue to watch the situation between the two countries and hopefully it will be fine in November. At the moment, it's not conducive to play the tie." The Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) meanwhile has asserted its disappointment,

but has accepted the ITF's decision. "We still feel that we should have played. While things are bad, no doubt, at the line of control, Islamabad is still a safe city," PTF President Salim Saifullah Khan said to *The Indian Express*. "I think the Davis Cup committee, they are all very seasoned officials. They asked me, and the AITA also agreed to postponement, so we agreed to that. Hopefully things will improve and we can play in November." In the past few weeks, the AITA had been lobbying hard for a shift in venue or postponement of the tie. The team's Davis Cup captain Mahesh Bhupathi too, on behalf of the players, had penned a letter to the AITA

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HIRONMOY CHATTERJEE,
AITA SECRETARY GENERAL

making clear the team's reservations about travelling to Pakistan at a time when tensions are high between the two countries.

"We are happy and we are hopeful the situation will normalise by (November)," Bhupathi said about the ITF's decision. This isn't the first time the Indian team has been involved in a Davis Cup tie that has been postponed. Back in September 2011, the Indian team was set to compete in the United States, but following the September 11 Attacks, the ITF decided to delay the tie by a month. In the current situation, the ITF has continued to maintain that the security arrangements provided by the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) fulfil the international body's checks. However, the tensions between the countries prompted the change in schedule.

Praneeth pulls rabbit out of hat

Wristy Indian uses deceptive shots at crucial junctures to beat Indonesia's Anthony Ginting and enter World Championship quarters

SHIVANI NAIK
AUGUST 22

THE TIGHTEST of spinning net shots was as fine as a thinly bending steel paper-clip, holding together loose sheets of what was essentially Sai Praneeth's career story. Leading 14-12 in the second in the pre-quarters of the World Championships, after having snatched the first set against Indonesian higher seed Anthony Ginting, Sai Praneeth felt confident enough to take one of his edge of the seat risks.

It had been a medium length rally already with two outrageous shots sent to the Indonesian's back court. You know Sai Praneeth is about to step onto the tightrope when he transplants training session net tricks into real-time. That he would attempt it at a World Championship was faintly ridiculous, but it's in the gymnastics of the wrist at the net that lies the beauty of a Sai Praneeth magic trick.

So about 20 back and forths into the rally, Sai tried to stump Ginting - he with one of the quickest reactions on the circuit - with a net tap which he retrieved. Two exchanges later with Sai still lurking at the net harrying his opponent and draining him mentally, he actually let a shuttle dip a second extra, an inch deeper towards the floor. Everything about his reaction pointed to a high lift and that would have wrong-footed Ginting too.

But using his favoured sorcery, Sai played the most controlled of dribbles, the thinnest of pencil strokes in a sketch, sending the shuttle like a lightly blown feather along the net's trajectory. It was a reverse U-bend shuttle, tossed up like a show-pony chef would flip an omelette. Within centimetres of the net without touching it, the shuttle plopped over to the other side, and Ginting who would've seen the whole thing in slow motion and closely could do nothing about it.

Dumped into the net, it gave Sai the 15-12 lead, got the commentators gushing after compelling them to switch their affection. And it utterly broke Ginting's spirit.

Sai Praneeth can get into moody reveries in training sessions where he loves trying a thousand nudges and pushes, angles and slices at the net. As long as there's someone across the net to feed the shuttle back to him. This one time during the badminton league for 30 whole minutes, it was Carolina Marin. These are technically not shots he plans to use in a match, just some juggler's meditative jugglery. On his biggest day on the international circuit - when he reached his first ever quarterfinal of a World Championship - the net fiddler, actually applied that muscle memory to win an audacious point.

Another Indonesian - Jonathan Christie - awaits him in the Last 8.

It could've gone awfully wrong really. And it was completely against the gritty grain of the match which he won 21-19, 21-13. Nine of his 21 points in the opening set



World No. 19 Praneeth, who had reached the finals at Swiss Open this year, took just 42 minutes to defeat his Indonesian counterpart 21-19, 21-13. PTF

came from pushing the 5'7" Ginting to the backhand backcourt. Three drifted wide as well. But the intent was to get the busy Indonesian 23-year-old, rated very highly after a stellar Asian Games last year, to commit errors on the backhand far side. So, Sai would crowd that flank with returns of all manners of length and height.

Crunching smashes

There were three crunching down the line smashes to Ginting's backhand, and a gorgeous crosscourt smash at 8-5. But for large part, Ginting was being cramped across his body - hitting straight into the net, or sailing one cross wildly.

Some other Sai strokes stood out. At 11-8, he flicked a crosscourt at the net with assurance to take the lead at the interval. He also pounced on a net kill to go to 18-19, and attacked Ginting's serve rattling him.

Ginting, usually very vivacious on court and speedy, was running into several speed breakers simply because Sai was mixing things. More crucially, and a departure from all his previous outings, his errors were only when going for the high quality

strokes - a net chord here, a good set-up not pulled off there. But unlike all times before, Sai Praneeth was gritty.

"He was pretty gritty to keep attacking all the way through. And keep pushing," coach Gopichand said mighty pleased with his charge whom he has seen fade away in the past when pressure builds. "The stadium is physically draining. Shuttles are very slow, they play true, so lots of long rallies. He picked up a lot of good shuttles, kept attacking and the pressure made Ginting crack in the end," he would add.

As such, Sai would wrap up the opener with a backhand lift that Ginting dumped into the net, and then get into the second with the momentum giving him a bounce in his feet as he led 4-0.

The second set would see two other delectables - at 6-2, he sent down an overhead return which looked cross but went ripping straight. He would lose a long rally after Ginting launched a comeback and went up 10-8. But a clutch of half smashes as well as stringing the shorter Ginting on the end of a forehand backhand pendulum along the breadth of the court meant the

Indian wasn't about to crumble like he usually did. Post 15-2, Sai was a different beast. Upeat, he would race to the next 6 points, letting in only 1 from his pulped opponent.

Sai would talk about how he blunted the quickfooted Indonesians speed. "It was going according to plan.

In the first game it was going toe and toe and I was leading before I gave away a couple of or 2-3 straight points. But rallies were going good and he was playing fast as I always knew he would," he told the BWF. "But this time I was actually prepared for the pace."

He trailed after the early lead in the second. "I was down, but when I covered the lead at 11-8 and then I was 14-11 I just thought this is the best chance ever," he recalled. "I knew he was also making mistakes and I could see he was under pressure and hitting out, so I just thought of playing my game and building pressure on him."

Sai had entered the Worlds with the best performance for an Indian in the Tokyo qualifying race. "Before Worlds I had played good matches in Japan and Thailand so I was a bit confident. And the draw was not too tough nor too easy so I knew I had to be

100 per cent and I have a good chance."

Christie, the Asian Games champ, is a little more steadier and cleverer than Ginting and a tough nut to crack. "I need to somehow win, for this match is very important for me." India's not won a men's medal at the Worlds for 36 years with both Kashyap and Srikanth coming close. Sai Praneeth needs a plan, and his bit of wristy magic.

Prannoy goes down to Momota

Prannoy showed glimpsed of brilliance, especially in the opening game, but couldn't stop World No. 1 Kento Momota from registering a 21-19 21-12 win, his fifth victory over the Indian in as many encounters. Momota dominated the proceedings initially against Prannoy as he moved from a 8-4 lead to grab a 11-7 advantage at the break.

Prannoy started putting pressure on his rival after the breather with an attacking game to claw back at 12-12 and kept snapping at Momota's heels. At one stage, after the end of the 57-shot rally, an exhausted Prannoy was left prostrated on the floor following a perfect net return from Momota. PTF

BRIEFLY

Ankita crashes out of US Open qualifying event

New York: India's top women's singles player Ankita Raina crashed out of the women's singles US Open qualifying event after a hard fought three-set loss to Czech Republic's Denisa Allertova. The world No 194 went down 7-6(5), 4-6, 2-6 to her Czech rival in a match that lasted two hours and 17 minutes, on Wednesday night. Ankita won the first set in a tie-breaker but failed to keep her momentum as Allertova broke the Indian to take the second set comfortably. In the decider, Ankita was broken again as she conceded the match. Sumit Nagal is the only Indian left in the qualifiers. He is scheduled to play Peter Polansky of Canada in the second round of the qualifiers.

US athletes warned over Pan Am podium protests

Los Angeles: Two US athletes who staged podium protests at the recent Pan American Games have been reprimanded but will not face further punishment by United States Olympic chiefs, *USA Today* reported on Wednesday. Fencer Race Imboden and hammer thrower Gwen Berry both came under fire after protesting the policies of President Donald Trump as they collected medals in Lima. Imboden took a knee during the playing of the US national anthem while Berry raised a clenched fist before later calling out social injustice "and a president who's making it worse." The US Olympic and Paralympic Committee later issued a statement expressing "disappointment" at the athlete protests, warning it was reviewing what action to take.

Coleman risks ban over missed drug tests

Los Angeles: United States sprint star Christian Coleman could face suspension after failing to make himself available for three drugs tests, multiple reports said Thursday. Coleman, 23, the fastest man in the world over 100 meters this year and the favourite for next month's World Championships in Qatar, has missed three separate tests in the past 12 months. Britain's *Daily Mail* and *The Times* newspaper reported that Coleman, a late withdrawal from last Sunday's Diamond League meeting in Birmingham, is challenging one of the alleged "whereabouts" failures. Under internationally recognised anti-doping rules, athletes are required to make their exact whereabouts known to drug-testers up to 90 days in advance in order to facilitate testing. REUTERS/PTI

Karunaratne soothes Lanka's nerves on rain-hit first day

ASSOCIATED PRESS
COLOMBO, AUGUST 22

SRI LANKA captain Dimuth Karunaratne helped Sri Lanka to 85 for two at stumps on a rain-hit day one of the second Test against New Zealand in Colombo on Thursday.

Only 36.3 overs were possible after rain washed out the first session and bad light ended play for the day with Karunaratne unbeaten on 49. Karunaratne, fresh from a match-winning century in the first Test in Galle last week, hit six boundaries during his 100-ball stay in overcast conditions.

Former captain Angelo Mathews was giving Karunaratne company in the middle to remain unbeaten on night after facing 14 deliveries. New Zealand all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme, who made the XI in place of Mitchell Santner, said the match was "evenly poised". "There's a bit of more bounce on this track than what we encountered in Galle and that's nice," he said after play ended.

"If we can get a couple of early wickets tomorrow morning that will be nice." Karunaratne batted with positive intent despite losing opening partner Lahiru Thirimanne and Kusal Mendis either side of tea. Thirimanne never looked comfortable and his 59-minute stay at the wicket produced just two runs. His misery ended when he pushed a William Somerville delivery and was caught at extra cover by skipper Kane Williamson. He had been earlier dropped by wicketkeeper BJ Watling off Somerville.

Karunaratne batted with positive intent despite losing opening partner Lahiru Thirimanne and Kusal Mendis either side of tea.

Mendis looked good as he reached 32 with four fours and put on 50 runs with Karunaratne to steady the batting. De Grandhomme got Mendis caught behind on a seaming delivery outside the off stump and Watling gloved the catch.

"I was just trying to be patient and stay for a longer period operating in the same line until he made a mistake and he did that, and we were glad to claim that wicket just before close of play," de Grandhomme said. The hosts only need a draw to clinch the two-match series. Both teams made one change from the first match. Sri Lanka included veteran spinner Dilruwan Perera in place of Akila Dananjaya, who was reported for a suspect bowling action after the first Test. The entire opening session and another hour was lost due to persistent rain and the toss took place at 1:10 pm (0740 GMT). The afternoon session went uninterrupted but play was again delayed by 28 minutes after tea due to rain.

After 7.3 overs in the evening session, play was called off due to bad light. **BRIEF SCORES:** Sri Lanka 85/2 (Karunaratne 49*, de Grandhomme 1-14) vs New Zealand.

Under murky skies, Archer precipitates horror collapse

AP/AFP
LEEDS, AUGUST 22

JOFRA ARCHER continued the brilliant start to his Test career by taking 6 for 45 and sparking Australia's collapse from 136 for 2 to 179 all out on a stop-start opening day of the crucial third match of the Ashes series on Thursday. Archer, English cricket's newest superstar, didn't produce the express pace he had on his Test debut at Lord's in the drawn second Test last week but took advantage of benign conditions for seam and swing bowling to run through Australia's creaky batting lineup.

Fill-in batsman Marnus Labuschagne delivered a fine impersonation of the absent Steve Smith, who was missed because of delayed-onset concussion, by scoring 74 and David Warner struck 61 to finally get among the runs in this Ashes after four single-figure returns. The pair put on 111 for the third wicket, a stand that saved Australia from slumping to a humiliating score at cloudy Headingley.

Only one other player - captain Tim Paine (11) - reached double figures as Smith's absence proved telling. With 378 runs from three innings, Smith has been a thorn in England's side but he missed out because of the effects of being struck on the neck by a delivery from Archer on Saturday. Archer caused a different kind of damage five days on, wrapping up the innings by trapping Nathan Lyon lbw for 1 off what proved to be the last ball of the day. That completed Australia's implosion, the tourists losing their last eight wickets for 43 runs.



Archer prised out six wickets as Australia folded up for 179 on Day 1 at Leeds. Reuters

About three hours of play was lost to rain, while the teams also went off for bad light midway through the afternoon - prompting boos from spectators because the floodlights were on - on a changeable day of weather in northern England.

Marcus Harris and Usman Khawaja both fell cheaply before Australia reached 54 for 2 at tea on Thursday's rain-marred opening day of the third Ashes Test against England at Headingley. Only 18 overs in an original day's allocation of 90 had been bowled when bad light forced an early tea, with David

Warner 26 not out - his first double-figure score in five innings this series - and Marnus Labuschagne seven not out.

Rain had previously stopped play at 2.45 pm (1345 GMT) after delaying the scheduled start by more than an hour. And there was further frustration for both England and a crowd who had waited patiently to watch cricket when, after play resumed, only 3.1 more overs were possible before the umpires suspended play for bad light even though the floodlights were on full blast.

After a grinning Warner and Labuschagne

sprinted off the field, umpires Chris Gaffaney and Joel Wilson were booed as they returned to the pavilion. Wilson was later seen having an animated conversation on the dressing room balcony with several England players and backroom staff.

England, looking to level the five-match series at 1-1, had seen captain Joe Root win the toss in the hope of making the most of overcast, bowler-friendly conditions. Australia had dropped opener Cameron Bancroft, who had made just 44 runs in four innings, and brought in Harris to partner Warner at the top of the order after England had enjoyed the better of a rain-affected draw in the second Test at Lord's. Both left-handed batsmen struggled against England's new-ball attack of Stuart Broad and Jofra Archer.

The experienced Warner was repeatedly beaten by Broad jugging the ball off a length, while the express Archer, in his second Test, went past Harris's outside edge. Archer, bowling from around the wicket, squared him up with an 87.3 mph delivery that saw Harris get a thin edge through to wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow - like Root after England on his home ground.

Moments after Harris had fallen for eight, with Australia 12-1 off four overs, the umpires took the players off the field because of rain. It took Warner 14 balls to get off the mark as he continued to struggle, although Broad may have bowled a fraction too short with several deliveries beating the outside edge without really challenging the batsmen.

BRIEF SCORES: Australia 179 (David Warner 61, Marnus Labuschagne 74, Jofra Archer 6/45, Stuart Broad 2/32) vs England.

Gauff eyes next act at US Open

REUTERS
NEW YORK, AUGUST 22

FROM THE throngs of young fans who idolise her, to the tennis experts desperately seeking the sport's "next big thing", there is no shortage of expectations on the shoulders of 15-year-old Cori "Coco" Gauff.

After seeing off five-times Wimbledon champion Venus Williams on the way to reaching the last 16 at the All England Club this year, Gauff enters the final Grand Slam of 2019 with the kind of megawatt attention usually reserved only for the sport's highest echelon. "I think the challenge for her at this event is the expectation, the size of the event, all the attention she's going to be getting," said Mark Kovacs, the executive director of the International Tennis Performance Association.

"She moves phenomenally well, she has a lot of power, so she's playing years ahead of her age." The Floridian harnessed that power throughout a remarkable junior career in which she won the French Open junior title in 2018.

She claimed the women's doubles title at last month's Washington Open with fellow American teen Catherine McNally, her first WTA crown, but lost in the first round of the singles at the tournament.

Andy Roddick, U.S. Open champion in 2003, has been impressed by Gauff's performances. "The talent is there," he told Reuters, adding that there were elements of her game that would improve over the next few years. "Speed, the way you move -- she's probably

The 15-year-old arrives at Flushing Meadows as a wildcard, along with four other teens.

already among the best in the world. And serving power -- she's already there, 115, 118 on the radar gun. Those things will only get better." Gauff arrives at Flushing Meadows as a wildcard, along with four other teens, part of a raft of youngsters hoping to become the next big stars of the sport.

"She is the goods. She is the real deal. She seems to have a great head on her shoulders and I hope that we're not in a rush to make her a star -- she'll get there," said Roddick.

Gauff is, of course, far from the first young tennis talent to capture the public imagination. American Jennifer Capriati became the youngest Wimbledon semi-finalist in 1991 at age 15, while Russian Maria Sharapova won the tournament in 2004 when she was 17. Gauff's status as a premier tennis prodigy, however, has matched her popularity as a burgeoning cultural icon, landing a spot as this month's cover girl for "Teen Vogue", racking up roughly 400,000 Instagram followers and claiming an audience with former first lady Michelle Obama.

"Thrilled to visit with @CocoGauff today," Obama (@MichelleObama) tweeted this month. "A wonderful young woman who's showing us that we don't have to wait to see what the next generation can do."

Price for the best seats at Tokyo Olympics: \$60,000

ASSOCIATED PRESS
TOKYO, AUGUST 22

Want Tokyo Olympic tickets? No problem if you have \$60,000

Tokyo, Aug 22 (AP) Having trouble getting tickets for next year's Tokyo Olympics? That's no problem if you have \$60,000 to spare. Tokyo Olympic organizers are offering high-end hospitality packages to Japan residents with

prices soaring to 6.35 million yen -- about \$60,000. This is good for the opening and closing ceremony, nine days of track and field with luxury seating and sumptuous dining. Low-end packages dip down to about \$1,500 for one session at a less popular event.

Tokyo is shaping up as a very pricey Olympics. Ticket demand is unprecedented, so unofficial reselling likely will flourish. Hotel rates are soaring. And getting here

will be costly, particularly for people traveling from the Americas and Europe.

"I don't know if I can afford to go to the Olympics," Brant Feldman, a Los Angeles-based sports agent, told The Associated Press. He's attended seven straight Olympics and represents American and Canadian athletes for AGM Sports.

"For the average family right now to head to the Olympics, it's

going to be the most expensive in history." Organizers of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics say the luxurious hospitality packages are an "opportunity for family, friends and business contacts" to enjoy the games. In the words of organizers, here's what's included with the tickets: -- specially selected Champagne, sake and beers -- gourmet dining menu prepared by top international chefs -- fine wines chosen by our sommelier -- elegant commemorative

souvenir VIP access pass -- first-class personal service capable of dealing with any request -- event host and celebrity guests appearances. Hospitality packages, of course, are aimed at the wealthy, targeting executives who treat the Olympics as a venue for doing business and schmoozing with sports as an alluring sideshow.

There's also an old-fashioned way for residents of Japan to get scarce tickets: a so-called "second-

chance" lottery that closed Monday. Results will be announced next month, and another lottery for Japan residents will be held in the fall. For now, those living outside Japan must go through Authorized Ticket Resellers, which are deluged with unprecedented demand. They also offer high-end packages and are allowed to tack on a 20% service charge to each ticket. And many of the best tickets are tied to expensive hotels.

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