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## BOARD CITES JALAN PANEL'S RECOMMENDATION

# Turning new page, RBI dips into its reserves to transfer record Rs 1.76 lakh crore to Govt

GEORGE MATHEW  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

THE CENTRAL Board of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Monday decided to transfer a surplus of Rs 1.76 lakh crore to the exchequer, nearly double the estimated Rs 90,000 crore in the Budget for 2019-20. The move could enable the government kick-start a much needed public spending push, alongside possibly paring of the fiscal deficit, estimated at 3.3 per cent of the GDP. The transfer includes Rs 1.23 lakh crore of surplus for 2018-19 and Rs 52,637 crore of excess provisions identified under a revised Economic Capital Framework (ECF) adopted by the RBI board.

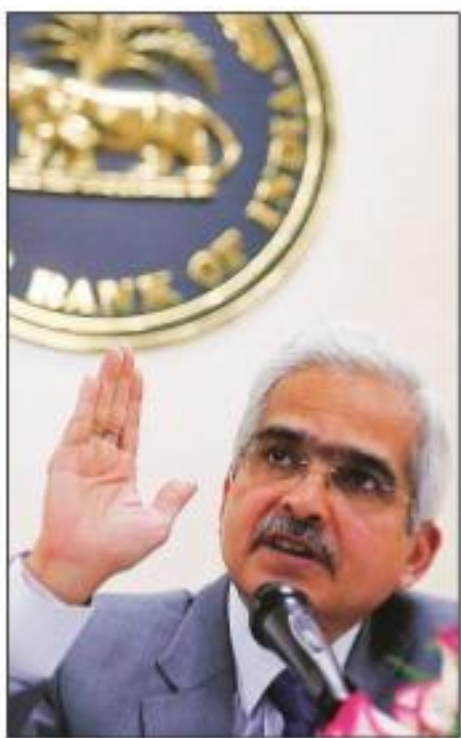
The transferred amount is over three times the five-year average of Rs 53,000 crore.

One of the many issues of friction between the government and the central bank was the transfer of higher surplus during the tenure of Urjit Patel as RBI Governor. In fact, he quit RBI on December 10 last year, three weeks after the RBI board agreed to set up a committee to thrash out a new framework under his governorship.

But even before this, Patel's relations with the government had soured following the latter's

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**RELATED REPORTS**  
PAGE 17



His predecessor opposed; Das disposed via Jalan panel

**EXPLAINED**  
**E.**  
**Green light after red flags**

Raghuram Rajan and Urjit Patel had cautioned against transfer of excess reserves saying this would hit the RBI's ratings and increase its borrowing cost. The RBI, under Shaktikanta Das, believes its reserves are sufficient, the amount isn't big — and this is the push the economy needs.

## Govt could use this for big capex push in time of slowdown: Top official

SUNNY VERMA & SANDEEP SINGH  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE GOVERNMENT has lined up a "big" capital expenditure programme to utilise the excess funds received from the Reserve Bank of India, a top Finance Ministry official told *The Indian Express*.

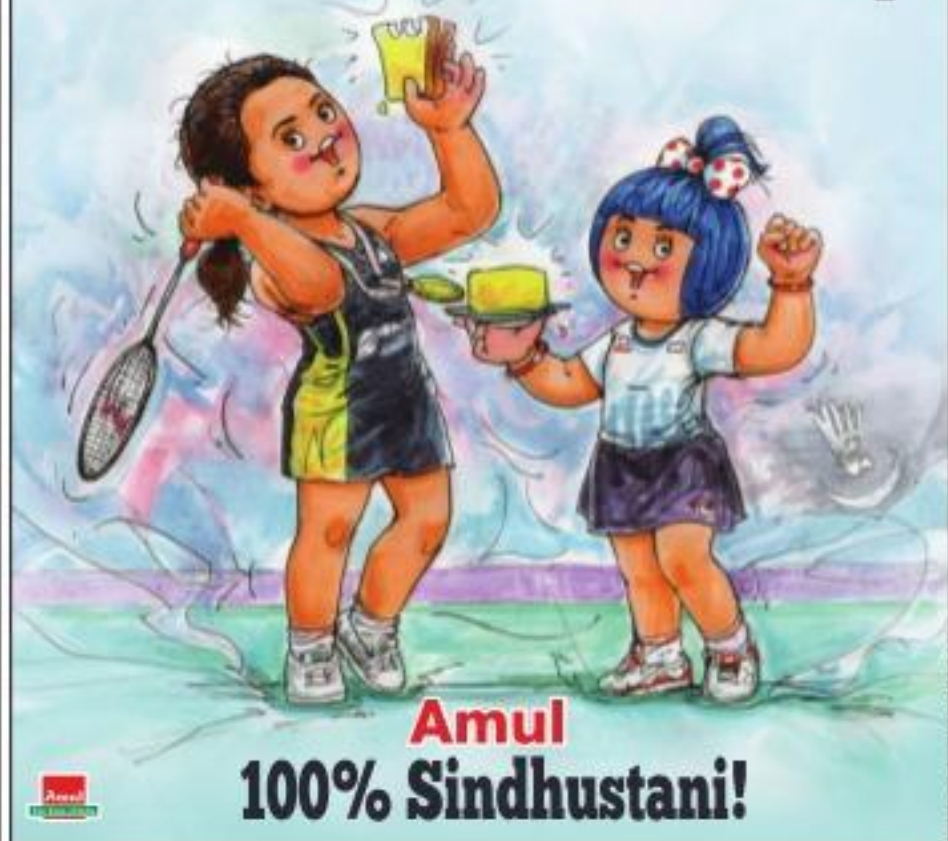
Surplus funds received from RBI will not be used on the rev-

enue account but rather to push up capital investment in the economy, the official indicated. Apart from Rs 70,000 crore up-front capital infusion into public sector banks announced last week, a renewed spending push from the Centre could be the stimulus to counter the economic slowdown.

"We have a big expenditure programme lined up over the next few months and the money

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

## World Butterminton Champ!



## CBI gets ex-Niti CEO to confront P Chidambaram



P Chidambaram outside a CBI court on Monday. Tashi Tobgyal

## In CBI custody till Aug 30, he tells SC my reputation being destroyed daily

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE CBI Monday called former Niti Aayog CEO Sindhushree Khullar to confront her with Congress leader and former Union Minister P Chidambaram in the INX Media case even as a Delhi special court extended his remand in the agency's custody till August 30 for further investigation. Khullar has been called again Tuesday.

A retired IAS officer, Khullar was Additional Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs when Chidambaram was Finance Minister. According to the CBI, it was during this period that there were alleged irregularities in the grant of FIPB clearance to INX Media.

Flouting the conditional FIPB approval, INX Media, the CBI claimed, brought in over Rs 305 crore FDI against the approved inflow of Rs 4.62 crore.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

## ED files charges against Hooda, Vora and AJL in Panchkula land case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PANCHKULA, AUGUST 26

THE ENFORCEMENT Directorate Monday filed a prosecution complaint before a special court in Panchkula against former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, senior Congress leader Motilal Vora and the Associate Journals Limited (AJL) under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Publisher of the National Herald newspaper, AJL is run by Young Indian which is controlled by the Gandhis.



Hooda and Vora are directly involved, claims ED

The PMLA special judge checked and registered the complaint, and adjourned the matter to September 16 for further consideration.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

## COMMON TEMPLATE ORDERS

# In 'interest of justice', justice postponed in J&K High Court

Of 288 cases since Aug 5, no-shows in 220; 70% cases deferred to Oct-Nov

APURVA VISHWANATH & KAUNAIN SHERIFF  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

"WE WOULD like to give it some time," the Supreme Court bench comprising Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, Justices SA Bobde and Abdul Nazeer had said on August 16 while hearing petitions challenging the dilution of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and the communication blockade in the Valley.

However, three weeks into the lockdown, the refrain in the Srinagar bench of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court is:

justice postponed.

The *Indian Express* scrutinised orders in all cases heard between August 5 and August 26. These orders, available on the E-court platform, reveal a telling pattern:

- Of the total of 288 cases heard in this period where orders were passed, petitioners were not present in 256 cases.
- Respondents were not present in 235 cases.
- In at least 38 cases, the

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**MAYA ENDORSES J&K MOVE**  
PAGE 9

## Amid J&K lockdown, administration cranks up machinery for UTs

Three panels set up to work out staff, funding for Union Territories

NIRUPAMA SUBRAMANIAN  
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 26

UNDER A communications lockdown that entered its fourth week Monday amid signs of a "civil curfew" in parts of the Valley, Kashmiris are still trying to make sense of the August 5 announcement that took away the special status of the state of Jammu & Kashmir, split it into

two and downgraded it to a Union Territory.

But the government's pre-occupation with maintaining law and order and conveying an impression of normalcy has not stopped its machinery from preparing for the reorganisation of the state set to come into effect October 31.

Last week, the J&K government issued orders setting up three committees, one for

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Donald Trump in Biarritz, France, Monday. Reuters

# Trump listening, Modi says Kashmir is a bilateral issue

They (Modi and Imran) can do it themselves: US President



SHUBHAJIT ROY  
BIARRITZ, AUGUST 26

A MONTH after Donald Trump stunned Delhi by claiming that Narendra Modi had asked him to mediate on Kashmir, the US President looked on as the Prime Minister made it clear that all issues with Pakistan are bilateral, and India doesn't bother any other country about them.

On Monday, before his 40-minute meeting with Trump on

BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNY



the sidelines of the G-7 summit, Modi said: "All issues between India and Pakistan are bilateral in nature, that is why we don't bother any other country regarding them. India and Pakistan

were together before 1947 and I'm confident that we can discuss our problems and solve them, together."

Trump said: "We spoke last night about Kashmir, the Prime Minister really feels he has it under control. They speak with Pakistan and I'm sure that they will be able to do something that will be very good... I have a very good relationship with both the gentlemen (Modi and Khan) and I'm here. I think they can do it (resolve the issue) themselves."

Asked if his offer to mediate was still on the table, Trump said: "I'm here". But he was quick to add that he thinks India and

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**MORE REPORTS**  
PAGE 8

## To fly Amit Shah, Kargil hero fakes mail, BSF opens probe

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

A KARGIL War hero from the Indian Air Force is under investigation by the Border Security Force (BSF) and the Delhi Police for alleged impersonation and misrepresentation of facts in a bid to fly the aircraft of Union Home Minister Amit Shah.

The probe was ordered when the BSF Air Wing, which flies the Union Home Minister, found that Wing Commander (ret'd) J S Sangwan, a BSF pilot, had allegedly impersonated his superior and sent emails to manufacturing giant Larsen and Toubro (L&T). In the emails, Sangwan allegedly recommended himself and even mentioned his own phone number for verification calls.

The emails to L&T requested that Sangwan be given a chance to fly L&T aircraft and recommended him too, saying he was

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

Rural initiative lifts Sikkim schools

NxtGen Infinite Datacenter presents



PAGE 8

## THE EDITORIAL PAGE

### THE WEST IS BACK IN ASIA

BY SANJAYA BARU  
PAGE 12

### WORLD

US-TALIBAN DEAL WON'T STOP ATTACKS, SAY MILITANTS  
PAGE 15

## PAGE 1 ANCHOR



SANDIP G  
ANTIGUA, AUGUST 26

WITH AN outswinger of laser-tipped precision, Jasprit Bumrah nails West Indies opener Kraigg Brathwaite to inflict the first blow, the ball moving away a

# Watching Bumrah with Roberts: 'Wish we had him'

shade and brushing the outside of the defensive bat. There are four more to come, more eye-catching dismissals, stumps flying, as his furious opening spell of 8-4-7-5 triggers a collapse and helps India register a 318-run win in the first Test of their Caribbean series.

On Sunday, not many notice it. But Bumrah is whipping up this storm from the Andy Roberts End. And looking on, is the legendary West Indian fast bowler himself. The Brathwaite dismissal has his nod of

approval: "Perfect length. You can't get better than his. The chap is very good. He is hitting the right areas straightaway. Not too many do that..." Now 68, Roberts is usually reserved in his judgement of people, and not someone prone to flattery.

In the next over, Bumrah's inswinger rips through the forward defence of left-handed John Campbell. And Roberts, the quiet mean-machine, is excited, his muscular hands repeatedly retracing the trajectory of the delivery, curling away from



Bumrah took 5 for 7. AP

Campbell and bending into him. "That's a brute. You can't do anything against. Just bad luck. Was the kind of ball Michael (Holding) used to bowl back in our days. And later Malcolm Marshall. This is a serious ball and can get the best batsmen out," he says.

As much as the deviation off the surface — in North Sound, it was as benign as they would come — Roberts is impressed by the pace of Bumrah's delivery. "It's the pace that catches my eyes first. I wouldn't say pace is the biggest asset of a fast bowler

but I would say it's the most valuable one. If you have pace, batsmen fear you, because, at the back of the mind, they are thinking of safety, how to avoid being hit. You can mix the pace and fool them. And if you can swing the ball at his pace, nothing like it. Such bowlers thrill you," he says.

And Bumrah "does this brilliantly", says Roberts. "They say batsmen have become soft. I would say the bowlers have, too. They don't attack the batsmen, they wait for them to make a mistake. They keep bowling out-

side the off-stump, tempting them to make mistakes. It's not the way we did it. We made them play at each ball. Bumrah doesn't waste a single delivery. Fast bowling takes a lot of energy and if you waste a ball, you lose a lot of energy," he says.

Now, Roberts is inquisitive about how the Indian developed his action. "It's the strangest action that I have seen on a cricket field. I need to study that for a longer time to understand the mechanics of his action. But if he

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**



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Google Nest Hub: The Google Assistant now has a display



EXPLAINED: THE CHINESE CONNECTION TO THE FALLING RUPEE

On Monday the rupee reeled under global pressure as markets remained concerned over an escalation of the trade tariff war between the United States and China. Normally, the rupee moves in line with the movement of the stock market, as a positive development impacts both the currency and the bourses in a similar manner

VIDEO OF THE DAY



MOTHER TERESA 109TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

Mother Teresa was also Known as Saint Teresa of Calcutta

FULL COVERAGE



G-7: 'ISSUES BETWEEN INDIA, PAK BILATERAL'

PM Modi had arrived at Biarritz Sunday evening from Bahrain

EXPRESS AUDIO

The significance of the Trump-Modi meeting at G7 Summit

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

On this episode of 3 Things, we analyse diplomatic wins for India when it comes to US-India trade relations and keeping the Kashmir issue bilateral

FROM PAGE ONE

Chidambaram

Chidambaram's son Karti is also an accused in the case. In his defence, Chidambaram had earlier said that FIPB decisions had been taken by the board and Ministry officials.

In the special court Monday, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the CBI, told special CBI judge Ajay Kumar Kumar that the agency needed to confront Chidambaram with another co-accused — the identity of the co-accused was not made public — and documents and emails related to the case.

The CBI sought his custody for another five days — he had been arrested on August 21 — but judge Kumar granted four days, saying "further police custody remand of the accused P Chidambaram is justified and accordingly he is remanded to further police custody till August 30, 2019".

Earlier in the day, the Supreme Court refused to entertain Chidambaram's plea challenging the Delhi High Court order which had dismissed his anticipatory bail plea in the corruption case lodged by the CBI.

Observing that his plea had become infructuous, the bench of Justices R Banumathi and A S Bopanna said he could apply for regular bail in the court concerned which would decide the matter without being influenced in any manner by the observations of any other court.

Chidambaram's plea against the order remanding him to CBI custody was not listed for hearing Monday with the Supreme Court saying the Registry was yet to get instructions from the Chief Justice of India.

The bench also extended till Tuesday the interim protection from arrest granted to him in the money laundering case registered by the Enforcement Directorate. It said it will continue to hear arguments on his petition seeking pre-arrest bail in the matter.

In the special court, senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Dayan Krishnan and advocate PK Dubey, appearing for Chidambaram, opposed the remand extension request, saying the CBI at the last hearing had mentioned about payments, but in over 26 hours of interrogation it had "not put to me (Chidambaram) any question related to the allegation of payment to the tune of five million US dollar and 4,50,000 US dollar".

Sibal said the amount was

mentioned only to sensationalise the case and the CBI "only asked me (Chidambaram), did co-accused Peter Mukerjee give you this money, to which the answer is 'no'." He said the CBI had no evidence and its investigation was "clouded".

Opposing this, Mehta said "there is prima facie evidence to confront the accused on the allegations of payment made to accused, Letters of Rogatory have been sent to five countries".

In the Supreme Court, Sibal, speaking for Chidambaram, said "my reputation is being destroyed on a daily basis... you destroy a man. Many people don't distinguish between arrest pre-conviction and post-conviction".

He also raised "strong objection" to the ED asking the bench to look at certain documents it had submitted to the court in a sealed cover. He said it was intended "only to prejudice you (court)".

Initially, the bench said it would look at the papers during the lunch break. But Sibal objected and questioned the procedure under which the agency could submit documents to the court in sealed cover. "I don't know what's in them. It has not been put to me during examination. This is a violation of Article 21 rights".

On the agency's contention that it was submitting its case diary to the court, Sibal said the ED does not maintain a case diary. Solicitor General Mehta said what he meant was the case file which contain investigation records.

The ED, while arguing its case before the Supreme Court on August 23 and in an affidavit filed Monday, accused Chidambaram and "his co-conspirators" of floating a "web of shell companies" in India and abroad to launder money.

Panchkula

"AJL, Moti Lal Vora and Bhupinder Singh Hooda were directly involved in the process/activity connected with acquisition, possession or projection of Proceeds of Crime i.e. Plot No. C-17, Sector 6, Panchkula to the tune of Rs 64.9 crores. Accordingly, ED had attached property i.e. Plot No. C-17, Sector 6, Panchkula. The Adjudicating Authority PMA, has also ordered confirmation of the provisional attachments order," an ED spokesperson said in a statement.

Hooda told *The Indian Express*:

"It is a follow-up of what ED has already done. They have already ordered the attachment"

According to the ED, the property had been allotted to AJL in 1982, but it returned to the HUDA in 1992 since the AJL did not comply with conditions of the allotment letter.

"The Resumption Order attained finality after dismissal of the Revision Petition in 1996. However, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, the then CM, Haryana/Chairman HUDA, blatantly misused his official position and dishonestly allotted the said plot afresh in the guise of re-allotment to the AJL at original rates plus interest in violation of necessary conditions/ policy of HUDA vide order dated 28.08.2005," the ED said in its statement.

In its prosecution complaint, the ED has said Hooda also did not adhere to the legal opinion of Legal Remembrance, Haryana and recommendations of HUDA officers and Financial Commissioner, Town and Country Planning (FCTCP).

"Thus, the CM caused wrongful loss to HUDA and wrongful gain to AJL," it said, adding, "Bhupinder Singh Hooda further favoured the AJL by granting them three undue extensions for construction in the said plot from 01.05.2008 to 10.05.2012 until the AJL completed the construction in the year 2014."

Trump

Pakistan can do it on their own.

Modi struck a measured and conciliatory tone about dialogue with Pakistan. He said that after Imran Khan became Pakistan's Prime Minister, he had called him up and said that both countries have to fight "poverty, illiteracy and disease" and they should work together.

Trump later reaffirmed the "need for dialogue between India and Pakistan to reduce tensions" and acknowledged India's role as a critical partner in Afghanistan, according to an official statement by the US about the bilateral meeting.

The meeting, which started shortly after 12:30 pm, saw Trump saying, "It's great to be here with Prime Minister Modi", and that they would discuss trade and the military. He said he "learned a lot about India" from Modi at dinner last night. "Fascinating place. It's a beautiful place," he said.

Modi called Trump a "friend" and said it was a "very important meeting for me". He thanked the US President for congratulating him after his recent election win and said the two countries "shared democratic values".

Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said there was no discussion on J&K at the meeting between Modi and Trump — their second in 2019, two months after they last met in Osaka on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Japan.

The discussions on Kashmir appear to have taken place at a dinner Sunday attended by the two leaders and hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron at the Hotel du Palais.

Gokhale, meanwhile, said the issue of J&K was also discussed with the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, who met Modi Monday regarding a climate change summit in September. Modi is due to travel to New York to attend the UN General Assembly and participate in the climate summit.

In the meeting with Guterres, Gokhale said, the Prime Minister laid out India's basic position on J&K, that it is an "internal matter" and that Article 370 is under the Indian Constitution. On the international front, Modi told Guterres that "no step has been taken by India in any way or form to threaten the regional peace and stability".

Modi also told Guterres that "normalcy is returning" in Kashmir, and that in many areas,

RBI transfers record Rs 1.76 lakh crore

unprecedented decision to invoke Section 7 of the RBI Act allowing the Centre to issue directions to the RBI board.

To arrive at the surplus amount, the Central Board decided to maintain the realized equity level at 5.5 per cent of the balance sheet as against the existing 6.8 per cent (as on June 30, 2019).

This helped the RBI to write back excess risk provisions of Rs 52,637 crore. The committee, under former RBI Governor Bimal Jalan, recommended the realized equity level to be kept within a band of 6.5-5.5 per cent. At the upper band of 6.5 per cent, excess of risk provisioning would have been Rs 11,608 crore.

The Central Board accepted all the recommendations of the Committee and finalised the RBI's accounts for 2018-19 using the revised framework to determine risk provisioning and surplus transfer, the RBI said in a

statement Monday. "As on June 30, 2019, the RBI stands as a central bank with one of the highest levels of financial resilience globally," the statement said.

Jalan was named chairman of the six-member committee on ECF on December 27, 2018, two weeks after Shaktikanta Das assumed charge as the new Governor in place of Patel.

Former RBI Deputy Governor Rakesh Mohan, who was against transferring a higher surplus to the government, is the Vice Chairman of the committee. One of the contentious issues in the conflict between the government and the RBI under Patel was the size of the central bank's reserves, which at Rs 9.6 lakh crore was then perceived as being excessive by the government.

According to the RBI, while the revised framework technically would allow the RBI's economic capital levels as on June 30, 2019 to lie within the range

of 24.5 per cent to 20 per cent of balance sheet (depending on the level of realized equity maintained and availability of revaluation balances), the economic capital as on June 30, 2019 stood at 23.3 per cent of balance sheet.

As financial resilience was within the desired range, the entire net income of Rs 1,23,414 crore for 2018-19, of which an amount of Rs 28,000 crore has already been paid as interim dividend, will be transferred to the government. "This is in addition to the Rs 52,637 crore of excess risk provisions which has been written back and consequently will be transferred to the Government," the RBI said.

Former Finance Secretary S C Garg, who was a member of the Jalan panel before he was shifted as Power Secretary, had submitted dissenting views on its recommendations after it was clear that the review of the ECF would result in lower-than-expected transfer of surplus to

the government. He reportedly had reservations on the methodology endorsed by other members to arrive at the size of the surplus, and also wanted the entire transfer in one go. New finance secretary Rajiv Kumar, who replaced Garg on the Jalan panel, took part in the deliberations before the panel arrived at a final decision. "There was no dissent in the final report," said Rakesh Mohan to CNBC.

The Central Board meeting which cleared the Jalan panel report was chaired by Governor Das. Apart from Deputy Governors and independent directors, Rajiv Kumar and Economic Affairs Secretary Atanu Chakraborty were also present.

The board also reviewed the current economic situation, global and domestic challenges and various areas of RBI's operations. It also approved the Annual Report of the Reserve Bank for the year 2018-19.

Govt could use this for big capex push

received from RBI will be used to fund that and in turn provide a fillip to the economy," the official said.

The additional spending leeway is important in the wake of investment remaining tepid and private consumption growth tapering off. The increased government spending will boost economic activity as other engines of growth - investment, consumption and exports - have slowed.

But there are also concerns about the Centre's ability to direct these funds for optimal utilisation given the experience in the past with the use of disinvestment proceeds and the cess raised on various counts.

The government will get an additional Rs 58,000 crore as compared to Rs 90,000 crore accounted for as surplus transfer from the RBI in the Union Budget 2019-20, for spending in the current financial year. Since the RBI

had already paid Rs 28,000 crore as interim dividend to the government last year, the Centre will be left with Rs 1.48 lakh crore out of Rs 1.76 lakh crore for the current financial year.

This stimulus will be effective if the government is able to meet its revenue targets from taxes and non-tax receipts. Any shortfall in the Centre's earnings could negate the effect of additional spending, assuming the government adheres to the fiscal deficit roadmap outlined in the budget.

Amid growing concerns over the weak direct tax revenue collections of the government — subdued in the first five months of the year — there are questions over the government's ability to push expenditure. Even as the move takes away a part of RBI's war chest, experts say, it provides the government with a much-needed resource that if utilised properly may provide a

stimulus to the economy.

This could also arrest the slowdown in government spending. The Centre 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, 73 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 also turning out to be far slower than the required run rate, reflective of the consumption slowdown in the economy. 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 additional funds from the government will provide a fiscal cushion to the government to boost spending. Rashesh Shah, Chairman and CEO of Edelweiss Group, said that other than fast forwarding capitalisation of banks and expediting capital expenditure, the government should also look to provide tax break in GST etc. to build a consumption demand in the economy.

He cautioned that the money should not be utilised to meet government's revenue expenditure or to fund unproductive loans.

"restrictions have been substantially eased or entirely removed", according to Gokhale.

The Prime Minister also underlined that the people of Kashmir have faced terrorism for over 30 years, and described it as "the primary threat". "This is our concern. And in keeping with that, certain restrictions will remain in place to ensure that law and order is maintained, and will be progressively lifted," Gokhale said, in his briefing about Modi's discussions with Guterres.

The White House, in its statement Monday, said: "President Trump reaffirmed the need for dialogue between India and Pakistan to reduce tensions and acknowledged India's role as a critical partner in Afghanistan."

Bumrah

were born here back in our days, we would have had him. A freak was the only element missing in our bowling line-up. In fact, Bumrah is the only variety of bowler we had never produced. Then I don't think even India would produce one like him again," he says.

He's even a touch bemused as to how India could produce such an outrageously talented fast bowler. "In my time, it was all spin. Good ones, but they wouldn't twin with match overseas. India had Kapil Dev and some others, but we never thought they could produce someone as lethal as Bumrah. He's the best Indian fast bowler I have seen," says Roberts.

The admiration for Bumrah runs throughout the Caribbean, which was for four decades the

fast-bowling factory of the world. Their global dominance from the late 70s to the early 90s was built on their ceaseless production line of world-class bowlers, capable of intimidation as much as nuance — from Roberts and Michael Holding to Malcolm Marshall and Joel Garner, and later Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh.

"At times, he rekindles memories of our prime. The pace, aggression, the hostility, the craft. The way he outclasses the batsmen, the way he out-thinks them. He could have been one of us, he's so complete a bowler that he could have played in any era," says Ambrose.

Kargil hero

a trained Embraer pilot with Pilot-in-Command (PIC) grading with over 4,000 flying hours. L&T agreed to let him pilot its flight from Chennai to Delhi to Mumbai in July.

But the plan unravelled a day before he was to leave for Chennai. Then, L&T called the BSF Air Wing office for some clarifications only to be told that the BSF had made no such recommendation. The BSF also stated that Sangwan was not rated even as a co-pilot, let alone as PIC.

A preliminary enquiry by the BSF has now found that the officer was allegedly trying to clock in enough flying hours on an Embraer so that he could quickly begin to fly the Home Minister. For any VIP flying, a pilot needs a minimum of 500 hours of flying under his belt. And to fly the Home Minister, the requirement is in excess of 1,000 hours.

A complaint has also been filed with the Domestic Airport police station in Delhi. "We have sent a notice to the BSF to provide us all relevant documents and the CCTV footage of the computer room from where the mail was sent," investigating officer Sub Inspector Anuj Sharma told *The Indian Express*.

BSF ADG S S Chahar said, "It is a very serious matter. We are exploring all angles in this case. A thorough investigation will be carried out and anyone found guilty will be handed the strictest of punishments. All cooperation is being extended to the police as well."

Sangwan, who won a medal during the 1999 Kargil War flying a MiG 21, and was also part of the medium multi-role aircraft evaluation programme, told *The Indian Express* that he did write the emails on behalf of Agarwal but contended that the entire episode was a result of "misunderstanding" and that he had done it in "good faith".

"I am a military PIC. All I am trying to do is convert this to a civil PIC. And then I have given my mobile number in only one of the mails. In the mail written on behalf of Agarwal, I have given his mobile number. I had nothing to hide," he said.

Sangwan asserted he had not violated any rules. "...I have flown as a captain in the military. I cannot fly VIPs as PIC. I have been here for the last two years and I have still not been rated. I want to fly VIPs as PIC and that's why I am trying to fly outside of BSF as I need certain hours. In the Air

Force, I would have got it in one year. But here, I haven't clocked it in two years. Somebody doesn't want it to happen," he said.

J&K lockdown

"devising the modalities for functioning of proposed Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir"; another to decide on financial matters in the proposed two Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh and the third to deal with allocation of staff in the two UTs.

The terms of reference of the first committee relate to steps to be taken for the transition from the state of J&K to the proposed UT by various departments. The second will take decisions relating to "realisation and distribution of funds and other related issues" for the two UTs; the third will suggest "measures to be taken for providing staff to the proposed Union Territory of Ladakh and any other issues relation to staff of proposed Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir".

A senior official said government departments at the Centre were "buzzing" with plans for the two new UTs. Several visits by senior functionaries from Union ministries have already taken place or are in the pipeline. Among the early visitors was the Petroleum Secretary but no details were available. Secretary and Joint Secretary-level visits from other departments are also scheduled.

Parallel to this, an official said, was a "huge push on development" and "empowering" of village panchayats. Saturday's announcement of elections to Block

Development Councils is part of this push. Members of BDCs are elected from among the sarpanches in a tehsil. But these had not been constituted since 2011 when panchayat elections were first held nor had the third tier of panchayat governance, District Planning and Development Boards.

Instead, all decisions were being taken by District Development Boards, headed by a minister from the area with representation by area MLAs and member/s of Parliament, in which the panchayat commanded little or no influence.

The decision to set up BDCs was taken on August 2, just three days before the announcement on revoking J&K's special status. The same government order also dissolved District Development Boards and ordered the setting up of DPDBs.

Also in the last week, the Governor announced a grant of Rs 5 crore to each district in the state to speed up development works. There are 20 districts in J&K and two in Ladakh. "That's straightaway a Rs 100-crore push at the grassroots level," said an official.

Now, after the high-profile Back to Village programme under which every gazetted official spent two days and one night in one gram panchayat each, covering all 4,483 panchayats in the state, feedback from the villages-officers filled out questionnaires after speaking to the people in each panchayat - is being collated by District Deputy Commissioners who are also the District Development Commissioners. Efforts are being made to prioritise projects so that work on them can begin, said officials.

J&K High Court

judges, Chief Justice Gita Mittal or Justice Rashid Ali Dar or both couldn't receive even the case files.

■ Almost all the orders follow two templates. One reads: "On account of restrictions on the movement of traffic in the State, counsel for the parties are not available. Record of the case has not been received. Interim orders, if any, to continue till further orders. List again on (date specified)." This exact wording is repeated in several cases.

■ The second format: "No one has appeared on behalf of the parties when the matter is called out today. In the interest of justice, list again on (date specified). Interim orders to continue till further orders."

■ Of the 288 cases, 39 have been postponed to a date in August; 29 to a date in September; 114 in October and 90 in November. In short, over 70 per cent of the cases have been deferred to dates in either October or November.

■ The government was represented in at least 21 cases as petitioners. Those who represented the government include senior additional advocate general (5), additional solicitor general (3), advocate general (2), government advocate (1) and additional public prosecutor (10).

■ In only three cases, the appellant appeared before the court — and in only one case the petitioner appeared.

■ The government was represented in at least 44 cases as respondents. Those who represented the government include senior additional advocate general (12), additional solicitor general (9), additional advocate general (4), government advocate (4) and additional public prosecutor (15).

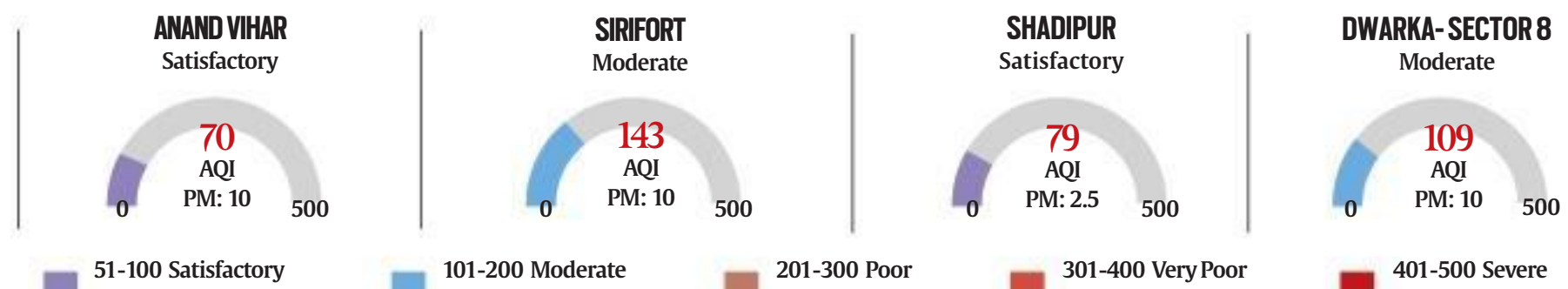
■ In three cases where it was a respondent, even the State Human Rights Commission failed to appear.

Except in two cases, no advocate appeared for private persons who were respondents.

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## POLICE CITE ALTERCATION BETWEEN TWO FAMILIES

# Student at DU's school of open learning stabbed to death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

AN 18-YEAR-OLD student of Delhi University was stabbed to death, allegedly by three persons, including a 27-year-old woman, following an altercation between two families in West Delhi's Vikaspuri Sunday night. The family of the victim, Riyaz Ansari, has alleged a member of the accused family harassed the victim's cousin, and he was stabbed because he intervened. However, police denied the charges and claimed they had

not received any complaint regarding a woman being harassed.

According to police, the victim had come to visit his maternal uncle in Vikaspuri when the incident took place. In a video, the victim's cousin alleged she was harassed by a minor boy from another family. "I was standing outside my house when the boy approached me and asked to be friends. I told him to back off but he misbehaved with me. Later, one of our neighbours informed my father about the incident and he slapped the boy. The boy then

called his elder brothers, who started fighting with my father," the woman alleged.

She claimed she then called her cousin, Ansari, who rushed to the spot and tried to stop the attackers. "But they did not stop, and started beating him. One of them whipped out a knife and stabbed him before escaping the spot," she claimed. Ansari was taken to a hospital where he succumbed to his injuries during treatment.

Police were informed about the incident and a case was registered against the accused and his family members under IPC

sections 302 (murder), 452 (trespass) and 34 (involvement of more than one accused) at Vikaspuri police station. Police identified the three arrested accused as Shiv Kumar (22), Rekha (27) and Sarvesh (50). A fourth accused, Rahul (25), who allegedly stabbed Ansari, is absconding, police said.

The Delhi Police has claimed an altercation took place between both families over a petty issue, but did not divulge the exact reason. "We received a call about the incident from the hospital on Monday. The victim was stabbed in the neck after he tried

to stop a fight between his uncle and the accused. Both families live in the same building in Vikaspuri. We have recorded the statement of the victim's family and are probing the matter," said DCP (West) Monika Bharadwaj. The victim's cousin alleged, "More than five men attacked my father and my cousin, who had come home for dinner. I took him to the nearby hospital but he died during treatment."

Police said the accused and his family work as ragpickers. Ansari was studying in Delhi University's School of Open Learning, said police.

# Gurgaon gangster is arrested after landing in capital

SAKSHI DAYAL  
GURGAON, AUGUST 26

KAUSHAL, AN alleged gangster involved in several crimes in various Haryana districts, including murder and extortion, was arrested in a joint operation by the Haryana Special Task Force and Faridabad Police from the Delhi airport early Monday morning.

According to police, they received a phone call from airport authorities around 3.30 am Monday, alerting that he had landed in the country.

"A team was immediately formed to go to the airport and take him into custody. This was done around 4.30 am. He was produced in court this morning and taken into police remand for further questioning until September 2," said K K Rao, Commissioner of Police, Faridabad.

It was in April 2015 that Kaushal, serving a life imprisonment sentence in relation to a murder case, had jumped parole. He is counted among Haryana's most wanted criminals, with officers saying he had around 150 cases registered against him earlier, and around 50 "fresh ones" filed in recent years.

"Since his escape, he has been involved in several crimes and, in June-July 2019, he came on our radar again when he started trying to extort money from several people. The DCP (Crime) in Gurgaon at the time was specially sent to Jaipur because we had information that he had made a false passport," said the Commissioner.

Once the details of the document were ascertained, police said a lookout notice was issued in June 2018 followed by a red corner notice on February 21. It was this, police said, that led to



Kaushal was arrested from IGI Airport Monday

Kaushal's arrest Monday.

Dismissing previous reports which stated that the gangster had been arrested by Faridabad Police in Dubai, Rao said his whereabouts were pinpointed only on Monday. "The FIR we registered regarding the fake passport was kept confidential so he would not be alerted about how much we know. There is no truth to rumours that he was tracked down in Dubai. It is a matter of chance that he came here, and his passport was red flagged because of the notices we issued," said Rao.

Police said Kaushal arrived in the city on the fake passport, which is registered in the name of "Naresh". A second "Spanish passport", registered in the name of "Harish", was also found in his bag, along with 12 mobile phones and Dirhams amounting to Rs 14 lakh. "He was caught alone, and it is still unclear where he was coming from. He will have to be questioned to determine that. Since we knew his passport details, we had been tracking his whereabouts, including trips to and from Bangkok, for the last year..." he said.

The most recent crime in which Kaushal is believed to be involved is the murder of Haryana Congress spokesperson Vikas Chaudhary, from whom he was allegedly extorting money.



Has written to L-G

# Gambhir wants sports complex to be renamed after Arun Jaitley

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

EAST DELHI BJP MP and former Indian cricketer Gautam Gambhir has requested Lt-Governor Anil Bajjal to rename the Yamuna Sports Complex in East Delhi after former finance minister Arun Jaitley.

Gambhir wrote a letter to Bajjal on August 24, the day Jaitley died, proposing to rename the complex in his constituency after the former finance minister in recognition of his contribution towards nation-building and his love for cricket. "I am writing this letter to propose to your good self to rename Yamuna Sports Complex... in the name of eminent lawyer, our great leader and former finance minister, late Arun Jaitley ji," Gambhir's letter reads.

A senior DDA official said the agency regularly holds meetings where it discusses recommendations for renaming its properties. "After getting clearances of all wings that have jurisdiction over the property... the DDA recommends the proposal to the Delhi government and the CM takes the final decision," he said.

He said the person should be eminent and ought to have done social work. "Since Jaitley is a big name, there shouldn't be any problem."

# Blame lack of streetlights on unpaid bills, says firm

ANANYA TIWARI  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

TATA POWER Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) has accused the North MCD and Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC) of non-payment of Rs 10 crore in dues and claimed it has resulted in over 60,000 streetlights remaining non-operational in North Delhi. The discom said the dues were accrued over the last 15 months. It had raised similar allegations in June as well. "We are unable to maintain these lights, leading to darkness in certain areas, and making them unsafe for the citizens. We have also written several letters to all authorities concerned and the Chief Secretary of Delhi Government," said Sanjay Banga, CEO of TPDDL.

According to officials, the discom requires around Rs 68 lakh each month to maintain streetlights. However, TPDDL alleged that a tussle between North MCD and DSIIDC over the ownership of the streetlights has resulted in accumulation of arrears.

Varsha Joshi, Commissioner of North civic body, said, "We pay the electricity bill even though DSIIDC should take care of it. However, maintenance should be handled by DSIIDC, as per a decision of the Minister of Urban Development. We keep pursuing it with them." Meanwhile, a senior DSIIDC official called it a pressure tactic. "The figure cited by TPDDL is highly inflated. By issuing such statements every few months, Tata is trying to put pressure on these agencies."

# Capital to get 'working plan' for upkeep of its forests

SHIVAMPATEL  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

FOR THE first time in over two decades, Delhi will get a 'working management plan' for its forests, which will act as a reference for all agencies involved in upkeep of the capital's green cover, a senior forest official said Monday.

The Forest Research Institute (FRI), Uttarakhand, has accepted the Delhi forest department's request to create the plan, and will send a team to conduct the study soon.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ishwar Singh told *The Indian Express* that other states already have such a plan in place, but the capital has not had one since at least 1996. "Delhi's forest cover is increasing and we have been planting many saplings. This plan would help us determine the quantity and quality of their growth, in addition to quantifying several other factors such as the soil we have conserved," he said.

The FRI will factor in the density of green cover, the type of



The capital had got its last plan in 1996

flora and fauna that exists in forests, their present level of degradation, retention of water in soil and its conservation.

Officials estimate it would take around one year for the plan to be drafted. After preliminary data is collected, the institute will hold discussions with the forest department and other agencies to determine measures for improvement and management.

These measures would be factored into the plan, which would be adhered to for at least a decade, officials said. They added that this could include measures such as building check dams to conserve soil in forests. The plan will then have to be approved by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MOEF&CC), following which it would act as a "prescription" for management of forests in the capital.

The FRI team supposed to carry out the study would include soil scientists, botanists, zoologists and IFS officers. "Since Delhi has not had a management study of this kind in the past, the team would have to start from scratch... The forest department also comes out with an annual plan, but the (FRI) plan would put everything in one place," Singh said.

# On student leaders, HC invokes Jaitley

New Delhi: Noting that student elections give birth to national leaders like the late Arun Jaitley, the Delhi HC, however, called for proper checks and balances to curb defacement of properties during polls. "Don't be too harsh on them... From student leaders, we sometimes get great leaders for the country. You know the examples..." a bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice C Hari Shankar said, in reference to Jaitley who passed away Saturday.

Jaitley became the president of DUSU in 1974. Hearing a PIL against defacement of public and private properties by student outfits, the bench said that students should be warned about court orders and thereafter, civil and criminal action should be initiated against those involved in damaging public or private properties.

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PLAN COULD SEE LIGHT OF DAY IN 18 MONTHS NDMC wants to run all areas on green energy

ANANYA TIWARI NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26 LUTYENS' DELHI, home to areas such as Sarojini Nagar and Kasturba Nagar, could soon witness a significant drop in its carbon footprint. As per a new plan put into motion by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), in approximately 18 months, 100% energy of all NDMC areas will be from solar, hydro and wind power.

mean a significant shift to green energy in the capital. Rashmi Singh, Secretary of Power, NDMC, said, "In a meeting in which Secretary of Power of Delhi government, SECI (Solar Energy Corporation of India), Chief Secretary of Power NDMC, and MNRE were present, it was discussed to make NDMC areas in Delhi fully powered by renewable energy. Discussions have been going on for more than a year, and the SECI has been given a proposal which is being reviewed by them."

ices which consume power in the day time, for which solar would work. For residential areas, wind power, which is available at night, would work. Plan is to have 70% energy from solar and 30% from RTC," said A.K.Jha, advisor, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Management Centre.



The mall was closed for close to an hour. Abhinav Saha

Chaos at Spice Mall after minor fire, no injuries

New Delhi: Panic gripped mall-goers Monday as a fire broke out at Spice World Mall in Noida. "The fire broke out in an exhaust fan on the top floor of Spice Mall. While it was extinguished, the smoke entered other floors through the Air Handling Unit (AHU) and it seemed like the fire had spread to other areas as well. People were evacuated," said Vaibhav Krishna, SSP, Gautam Budh Nagar.

fire tenders were rushed to the spot to douse the flames. Kunal Shekhar (28) was watching a movie at the time of the incident. "We were in the movie hall when smoke started filling the auditorium. Mall authorities evacuated everyone immediately and smoothly. No one was injured but it was a scary experience," said Shekhar. Shop owners as well as visitors were asked to leave the mall premises for close to an hour. ENS

CYBER CELL HANDLING CASE, NO ARREST YET Sitting at police HQ, JCP loses Rs 28,000 to credit card fraud

MAHENDER SINGH MANNAR NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

SEVERAL TEAMS of the Delhi Police's cyber crime cell (CCC) are working round-the-clock after a joint commissioner of police lodged a complaint that some unidentified miscreants had fraudulently made transactions and siphoned Rs 28,000 from his credit card. No arrest has been made yet, but investigation has so far revealed the miscreants tried to make another transaction of Rs 20,000 even after the complainant had blocked his card.

Delhi Police headquarters. He received two transaction messages on his phone. The first was for Rs 10,000, made at PhonePe, an Indian e-commerce payment system, and second payment was for Rs 18,150, made at Instamojo. Both the transactions were made within four minutes," a senior officer said. After receiving the messages, he approached CCC officials, who asked him to file a complaint. "The complainant blocked his card, but hours later, he got to know that the miscreants had tried to make another transaction of Rs 20,000 through Amazon Pay, which was declined," an officer said.

August 8, which claimed that rewards points from his credit card were expiring and he had to click on a link and fill some information to redeem them. "The complainant asked his subordinate to fill the details and gave his card to him. Investigation has revealed the miscreants had sent the fake message to cheat him," the officer added. The next day, Rs 28,150 was gone. Last week, five men had been arrested by the North District police for duping Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal's private secretary Anoop Thakur of Rs 1 lakh. Thakur was also cheated by men who sent a link from the website, kotekardedeem.com. Police found that he was asked to fill information such as name, email ID, mobile number, card number, CVV, expiry date and date of birth. Later, the accused used these details to make the transactions.

Andhra Pradesh Medical Services & Infrastructure Development Corporation, APMSIDC, Plot No. 9, Survey No. 45, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District- 522503. Tenders are invited through e-procurement platform (online). Tender Notice No: 42(19-20)/APMSIDC/Medicine Wing/2019-21, Dt: 26.08.2019

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CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY Imphal, Manipur - 795 004 Phone No.: 0385 - 2415196, Fax No.: 0385 - 2412644 Advertisement No. 09/2019 Imphal, the 23rd August, 2019 No. VC/CAU/54/95(A)/Vol-VI/3935: Applications are invited in the prescribed form for filling up the different posts of Registrar and Comptroller of Central Agricultural University, Imphal.

SOUTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (PR)-I CENTRAL ZONE Shiv Mandir Marg, Jai Vihar, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-110024 PRESS NOTICE FOR NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR ONLINE TENDERING TIME TABLE PLEASE REFER www.tenderwiz.com/SOUTHDMCETENDER. NIT No. EE (Pr)-I/CNZ/TC/2019-20/03 dt. 23.08.19

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E - TENDERING PRESS NOTICE The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No.V, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. Near Paryavaran Complex, Saidulajab New Delhi 110030 invites on behalf of President of India, on line percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractors registered with Irrigation and Flood Control Department up to 3:00 P.M. on dates mentioned as below.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C)-S&P DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI JAL SADAN, LAJPAT NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110024. N.I.T. No. 12/S&P/(2019-20) Press Tender

उपग्रह जल विद्युत निगम लिमिटेड रूद्रिपत्र (प्रथम) :- इन्हें इ-निविदा सूचना :- एतद्वारा निगम हित में इस कार्यालय द्वारा प्रकाशित इ-निविदा सूचना सं० टी-०३/EGD/MZN/2019-20 खण्ड के प्रयोगार्थ एक अर्द्ध कम्प्यूटर ऑनप्रेड सहित एक वर्ष के लिए किराये पर लेने का कार्य, टी-०४/EGD/MZN/2019-20 खण्ड के अन्तर्गत, जल विद्युत उत्पादन खण्ड, मुजफ्फरनगर के लिए एक इडियो या समकक्ष डीजल चालित कार, निरगमनी, जितौड़ा, सलावा एवं मोला विद्युत गृहों, कार्यालय ब्यूटी टी आवरकतानुसार अन्य स्थानों पर आवगमन हेतु एक वर्ष के लिए आवश्यकता है।

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C)-S&P DELHI JAL BOARD : GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CENTRAL)-I NEAR UGR & BPS RAMLILA GROUND JLN MARG, NEW DELHI-110002.

इलाहाबाद बैंक ALLAHABAD BANK (A Govt. of India Undertaking) Head Office: 2, Netaji Subhash Road, Kolkata-700001 POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.



'WILL MAKE PERPETRATORS FEAR LAW'

# Tender floated for CCTV phase 2, will surpass London, says govt

SOURAV ROY BARMAN  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE DELHI government Monday launched the second phase of its CCTV project with the floating of a tender for 70,000 cameras, whose footage will be accessible through a mobile app in real time, according to documents.

Another tender for 70,000 more cameras will be floated within the next four-five days, PWD officials said. A total of 1.4 lakh cameras will be installed in the second phase.

Under the first phase, 1.4 lakh CCTVs are already being installed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL). The government has set November as the deadline for completion of the first phase, worth Rs 571 crore.

"Live video on mobile app from anywhere through internet," the tender document says. The cost of 70,000 cameras and their annual maintenance for five years has been pegged at Rs 190 crore.

PWD Minister Satyendar Jain told the Delhi Assembly that the WiFi-enabled cameras will make Delhi the top city in terms of surveillance coverage: "Even in London, government-installed CCTVs are far lesser in number. We are installing 3 lakh CCTVs in a year. Delhi will become the number one city in terms of CCTV surveillance."

Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the project will bolster women's safety and improve overall law and order situation. "Only laws will not help prevent crime. It will happen only when perpetrators fear the law will catch up with them, that they won't be spared," he said.

Sisodia said people in Delhi were celebrating the installation of CCTVs like it used to happen with the installation of landlines a few decades ago. "It's not just about big crimes. In slums, we are getting reports that petty crimes like theft of bicycles have come down... at schools, children tell me that their pencils are not being stolen," Sisodia said.

The government is also installing 1.4 lakh CCTVs in schools.



At the Delhi Vidhan Sabha Monday. Prem Nath Pandey

## First few months of DTC 'Will regulate e-rickshaws to avoid traffic chaos' free rides to cost Rs 140 cr

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

IMPLEMENTING THE free rides scheme for women in public buses between October 29 and March next year will cost the Delhi government Rs 140 crore. The Delhi Assembly Monday cleared the supplementary demands for grants in this regard.

Another Rs 150 crore has been set aside for implementing the scheme in the Delhi Metro. Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said the allocation for Metro has been done so that the scheme can be rolled out in the event of it getting cleared by the authorities concerned.

The DMRC said the proposal needs the clearance of a fare fixation committee, which has not yet been notified by the Union government which is authorised to do so. "Metro said it will take a little time. But we have kept aside the amount so that non-allocation of funds does not become an issue if it is approved," Sisodia told reporters.

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has already announced that women will be able to avail free rides in buses from October 29.

The government has also allotted Rs 142 crore for deployment of marshals in buses and Rs 42 crore for the RRTS project. Of the 5,558 buses operational on city roads, marshals are present in 3,041 DTC buses.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

TRANSPORT MINISTER Kailash Gahlot Monday said that the Delhi government will chalk out ways to regulate the movement of e-rickshaws.

According to data shared by the government, there are 71,092 registered e-rickshaws in the capital, but there is no estimate of the unregistered ones.

The registered vehicles come under the e-rickshaw sewa scheme, which was framed along the principles set by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in 2014.

However, several AAP MLAs, including Jarnail Singh and

Saurabh Bhardwaj, demanded that the rules be suitably amended and directions be given to traffic police to regulate these vehicles better so that they do not create bottlenecks.

Delhi Cantonment MLA Surinder Singh also sought to know the fate of unregistered e-rickshaws that have been impounded and the number of drivers who have applied for a subsidy of Rs 30,000 available under the existing policy.

According to official data shared in the Assembly, the government has released Rs 104 crore as subsidy to over 50,000 drivers so far.

There are around 12,653 pending applicants for subsidy.

## Since 2014, Delhi govt added 394 beds to hospitals

ASTHA SAXENA  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

AS MANY as 394 beds were added to various Delhi government hospitals since the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government came to power in 2014. In response to a question asked in the Delhi Assembly on Monday, the Department of Health informed that there were 10,959 beds in 2014-2015 and the number rose to 11,353 in 2017-2018.

As per the information provided by the department, a total of 11,423 beds will be added in 22 government hospitals.

In 2015, while addressing a gathering on completing 100 days of the Delhi government, Health Minister Satyendar Jain had announced that bed capacity of state government hospitals would be increased from the existing 10,000 to 20,000 in the next two-and-a-half years.

In the 2019-20 budget, the Delhi government has allocated Rs 7,485 crore or 14% of the total budget to medical and public health. This includes revenue budget of Rs 6,462 crore and capital budget of Rs 1,023 crore.

An amount of Rs 3,737 crore has also been earmarked for implementation of various schemes, programmes, and projects under the health sector.

According to sources, to renovate a ward, the respective hospital will have to make arrangements to adjust patients.

"Most work to expand infrastructure is done by the Public Works Department. Adding a bed requires more space and people to take care of patients



Lok Nayak Hospital will have the highest number of beds at 1,800, as per govt data

lying on that bed. All these arrangements have to be taken care of before inaugurating new infrastructure," said a senior official from the health department.

To enhance total bed strength from 10,000 to 20,000, work on construction of a 600-bed hospital in Ambedkar Nagar and an 800-bed hospital in Burari is to be finished by 2019. Another multi-specialty hospital with 1,241 beds in Dwarka is expected to be completed by March 2020.

The data also stated that Lok Nayak Hospital will have the highest number of beds at 1,800, followed by 1,009 beds at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital.

Dr Kishore Singh, medical director of Lok Nayak Hospital, told *The Indian Express*: "A new block with 1,500 beds for departments like gynaecology, paediatrics and medicine will soon come up in the hospital campus. Another 300 beds will be added to the emergency department. Administrative work has been completed and the construction of the new block is expected to start by October."

BRIEFLY

### DoE launches anti-kite flying campaign

New Delhi: Launching an "Anti-Kite Flying Campaign", the Delhi government's Directorate of Education in a circular has issued instructions to all schools to discourage children from flying kites. Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel also recommended that Chief Secretary Vijay Kumar Dev order a probe into the sale of "Chinese Manjha" in the city despite a ban.

### Man, juveniles nabbed

New Delhi: Police arrested a 19-year-old man and apprehended two juveniles for allegedly demanding Rs 50 lakh protection money from a restaurant owner in Outer Delhi's Bawana area, using the name of a wanted criminal.

### Additional CP wins essay competition

New Delhi: Suvashis Choudhary, Additional CP (EOW), has been felicitated with the Silver Cup for winning an essay writing competition held in 2018. The cup was awarded to Choudhary by Home Minister Amit Shah at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy in Hyderabad Saturday. The subject for the essay was 'a case for evidence-based policing'. **ENS**

## 'Amrapali's forensic audit report must be given to ED, police'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

CONTINUING ITS action against the Amrapali real estate group, the Supreme Court Monday ordered that the report of the forensic audit of its accounts be given to the Enforcement Directorate, Delhi Police and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in India to enable them to proceed against its management.

A bench of Justice Arun Mishra and Justice U U Lalit also directed that Rs 716 crore out of the amount deposited by the Amrapali group in its Registry be given to the National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC), which has been entrusted with completing the group's unfinished projects. It also asked the Noida and Greater Noida authorities to set up a nodal cell for issuing completion certificates to homebuyers who had invested in Amrapali properties.

Underlining the "serious kind of fraud played upon the buyers in active connivance with officials of the Noida and Greater Noida authorities and that of the banks", the Supreme Court had on July 23



SC is hearing a plea filed by homebuyers who invested in 42,000 flats of the group

cancelled the group's registration under The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, and asked the state-run NBCC to complete all pending projects and hand them over to homebuyers.

Deciding a petition filed by homebuyers who had invested in 42,000 flats of the group and were duped, the court also ordered a probe by the ED into diversion of funds and money laundering by Amrapali. The bench concluded that Rs 5,619.47 crore of homebuyers' money had been diverted by the group, and that a forensic audit had prima facie found violation of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, money laundering by "Amrapali Group/ Directors" and other fraudulent activities.

## Hotel owner arrested in Rs 2-crore cheating case

New Delhi: Delhi Police arrested Sant Lal Aggarwal (60), director of Jagat Agro Commodities Pvt Ltd and one of the owners of Radisson Blu Hotel in Dwarka, for allegedly duping two women of Rs 2 crore. Aggarwal was arrested from his hotel Sunday evening and produced before a Delhi court, which sent him to two-day police custody.

Confirming the arrest, DCP (Outer North district) Gaurav Sharma said they have arrested Aggarwal, one of the owners of Radisson Blu, on charges of cheating. The arrest was made

after two women lodged an FIR against him in the first week of August.

Police said the incident dates back to 2013-2015. "The women, who are commission agents at the Narela Anaj Mandi, alleged Aggarwal bought rice worth Rs 2 crore from them. He allegedly gave them a cheque of Rs 40 lakh as deposit money, and promised to pay the rest. However, he allegedly started avoiding them... Realising they were cheated by him, the complainants lodged an FIR," said a senior police officer. **ENS**

No. Z-28016/114/2018-PMSSY-III/PMSSY-IV  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Department of Health and Family Welfare  
Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) Building, New Delhi-110001

ADVERTISEMENT FOR FILLING UP THE POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (ED) ON SHORT TERM CONTRACT BASIS IN AIIMS AT MADURAI (TAMIL NADU):-

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Basic Pay (as per 7th CPC)	No. of Post	AIIMS for which the post is to be filled up
1.	Executive Director	Level 15; Rs. 1,82,200-224100/-	01	Madurai (Tamil Nadu)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (PMSSY Division) invites applications from eligible candidates for filling up the above mentioned post at AIIMS Madurai (Tamil Nadu) on Short Term Contract basis. For further details, please visit Ministry's and Division's website at <https://www.mohfw.nic.in> and <https://pmssy-mohfw.nic.in>. Detailed advertisement will be published in Employment News. The last date of receipt of application will be the 45th day from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News.

Sd/-  
(Shambhu Kumar)  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India (PMSSY)  
Tel. 011-23736977

davp 17101/11/0015/1920

**The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library**  
 Cordially invites you to a Panel Discussion on the book  
*K File The Conspiracy of Silence*  
 by  
 Bassir Assad  
 Discussants:  
 Lt.Gen. D S Hooda, Defence Expert  
 Prof. Kulbhushan Warikoo, Sr. Fellow, NMML  
 Prof. Dipankar Sengupta, University of Jammu  
 Shri Rahul Pandita, Author and Journalist  
  
 Date: 28 August 2019 at 4.00 pm  
 Venue: Seminar Room, Library Building  
 Nehru Memorial Museum & Library,  
 Teen Murti House, New Delhi  
  
 For More info, please visit: Website: <http://nehruememorial.nic.in> or  
 Contact us on: [ccs2nmml@gmail.com](mailto:ccs2nmml@gmail.com)  
 For live webcast, please visit: [www.facebook.com/NehruMemorialLibrary/](http://www.facebook.com/NehruMemorialLibrary/);  
[www.youtube.com/user/nehruememoriallibrary](http://www.youtube.com/user/nehruememoriallibrary)  
  
**All are Welcome**

**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](http://www.nationalfertilizers.com), Email ID: [investor@nfl.co.in](mailto:investor@nfl.co.in)  
Telephone: 011-24360066, 24361252

**Notice of 45th Annual General Meeting, Book Closure and Remote e-Voting Information**

1. Notice is hereby given that the 45th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Members of National Fertilizers Limited ("Company") will be held on Wednesday, the 18th day of September, 2019 at 2.30 P.M. at Joseph Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003, to transact the business as set out in the Notice thereof. Notice of 45th AGM together with Annual Report including Standalone & Consolidated Financial Statements, Auditors' Report and Board's Report for the financial year ended 31st March, 2019 have been sent to the Members of the Company in the permitted mode. The dispatch of the Notice of AGM has been completed on 24th August, 2019. Notice and Annual Report is also available on the Company's website viz. [www.nationalfertilizers.com](http://www.nationalfertilizers.com) as well as on the website of National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) viz. [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com)

2. Book Closure  
Notice is also hereby given under Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 10 of Companies (Management & Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 42 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2018 that the Register of the Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from 12.09.2019 to 18.09.2019 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of AGM and payment of dividend.

3. Voting through electronic mode  
(a) In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management & Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended from time to time, and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Company is pleased to provide Remote e-voting facility to its Members enabling them to cast their vote electronically for all the resolutions as set in the AGM Notice dated 02.08.2019 through the e-voting services provided by NSDL. The cut-off date for determining the eligibility to vote by electronic means or by means of ballot paper at the AGM venue is 11.09.2019.

(b) The remote e-voting period will commence on Sunday, September 15, 2019 at 9.00 A.M. (IST) and end on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 5.00 P.M. (IST). The e-voting module shall be disabled by NSDL for voting thereafter. Once the vote on a resolution is cast by the Member, the Member shall not be allowed to change it subsequently. The detailed procedure/instructions for remote e-voting are contained in the Notice of AGM.

(c) A person whose name is recorded in the Register of the Members or in the Register of Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories as on the cut-off date i.e. September 11, 2019 only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting or voting at the AGM through ballot paper.

(d) Any person becoming the Member of the Company after the dispatch of Notice of AGM, but on or before the cut-off date, may obtain login ID & password by sending a request at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) or [info@masserv.com](mailto:info@masserv.com). However, if a person is already registered with NSDL for e-voting then existing user ID and password can be used for casting vote through Remote e-voting.

(e) A Member may participate at the AGM even after exercising his/her right to vote through remote e-voting but shall not be entitled to cast his/her vote again. Members may note that the facility for voting through ballot paper shall be made available at the AGM.

4. Scrutinizer  
The Board of Directors has appointed Shri Sachin Agarwal of M/s. Agarwal S. & Associates, Practising Company Secretary (CP No. 5910) as Scrutinizer for conducting the voting/polling and remote e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.

5. Proxy  
A Member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote on a poll instead of himself and the Proxy need not be a member of the Company. The instrument appointing Proxy to be valid should be deposited at the Registered Office of the Company not less than 48 hours before the commencement of the meeting i.e. by 2.30 P.M. Monday, September 16, 2019.

6. Contact details  
(a) Members are requested to read the instructions pertaining to Remote e-voting as printed in the AGM notice carefully. In case of any queries/concern/grievance, you may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Members and Remote e-voting user manual for Members available at the Download Section of [www.evoting.nsdl.com](http://www.evoting.nsdl.com) or contact Mr. Amit Vishal, Sr. Manager, NSDL through e-mail at [evoting@nsdl.co.in](mailto:evoting@nsdl.co.in) or on Toll Free No: 1800-222-990 / Telephone No.: 022-24994360 or Mr. Sharwan Mangla, General Manager, M/s. MAS Service Limited (Registrar & Transfer Agent) through email at [sm@masserv.com](mailto:sm@masserv.com) or on Telephone No. 011-26387281/82/83.

(b) The documents pertaining to the items of business to be transacted in the AGM are open for inspection at the Registered Office of the Company on all working days (barring Saturday & Sunday) between 10.30 A.M. to 3.30 P.M. prior to the Annual General Meeting.

7. Unclaimed Dividend  
As per applicable statutory provisions, the Company will be transferring the unpaid/unclaimed amount relating to Dividend for the financial year 2011-12 to Investor Education & Protection Fund (IEPF) in October, 2019. Members who have not encashed their dividend for the financial year 2011-12 and thereafter, are advised to write to M/s. MAS Services Limited, T-34, 2nd Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-II, New Delhi - 110 020 to claim the same.

8. Transfer of shares to IEPF  
The Members may kindly note that pursuant to the provisions of Section 124 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016, as amended ("IEPF Rules"), all shares in respect of which dividend has remained unclaimed/unpaid for seven consecutive years or more shall be transferred by the Company in favour of IEPF Authority.

In pursuance of the IEPF Rules, the Company has communicated individually to the concerned shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF. The Company has also uploaded the details of such shareholders whose shares are due for transfer to IEPF on its website at [www.nationalfertilizers.com](http://www.nationalfertilizers.com) under "Investors Desk".

9. Go Green initiative  
To support green initiative, Members who have not registered their email address so far or who want to update their e-mail address are requested to approach their respective DP (for electronic holding) or with M/s. MAS Services Limited/Company (for physical holding), for receiving all communications electronically.

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

Place: New Delhi.  
Date: 26.08.2019



# 8 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



## AT ARM'S LENGTH

AN EXCHANGE between lawyers on who has the "longer arm" had the courtroom in splits during the hearing on P Chidambaram's bail plea in the Supreme Court on Monday. Denying the ED's charge that Chidambaram was trying to tamper with evidence in the money laundering case against him, senior advocate Kapil Sibal wondered how he could tamper with bank accounts and added, "I must have really long arms". Breaking into a laugh after a few seconds of studied silence, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta countered, "You have. I will show that." Sibal replied with a smile, "But your arms are longer than mine. That's why you are there and I'm here arguing."

## ON TECH TRACK

HOW CAN the might of big technology help Indian Railways better its services? The answer to this will be explored as Railways is working jointly with Google and a working group has been formed. Technological solutions to processes relating to real-time customer queries and meeting Indian Railways' vast data with the best that IT can offer are the latest areas of collaboration.

## TREADING CAREFULLY

WHEN A group of leaders, mainly from PDP's Kargil unit, came to join the BJP at its headquarters, the party had to take extra precautions to prevent any moment of embarrassment. After Anil Baluni, head of BJP's National Media Cell, welcomed the leaders, Haji Anayat Ali, the J&K Legislative Council chairman, was called to speak to the media. Ali, who praised the BJP government's efforts to bring development in Ladakh, said he would help the ruling party bring more people into its fold. He added, "They will have to come, because there is no other option." Baluni tried to intervene but Ali went on. The party ensured that Ali did not speak to television channels.

## MSCB scam: FIR registered against former office-bearers

Mumbai: Five days after the Bombay High Court directed that an FIR be registered in the Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank (MSCB) scam, the Economic Offences Wing of Mumbai Police registered an FIR. The accused are alleged to have caused losses to the MSCB worth around Rs 1,000 crore between 2007 and 2011. In the past, NCP leader Ajit Pawar along with over 70 others have faced accusations for their alleged role in the scam. While Pawar was the director, there were several officials holding various designations at the MSCB when the scam took place. ENS

# India wants to up import, PM to hold roundtable meeting with CEOs in US



EXPRESS AT G-7

SHUBHAJIT ROY BIARRITZ, AUGUST 26

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi will hold a roundtable meeting with the CEOs of top energy companies in Houston when he visits the US next month. And, before his visit, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is likely to visit the US to resolve trade-related issues.

In his 40-minute meeting with US President Donald Trump, Modi conveyed his intention to meet the top executives. Trump told him he would send top US officials to Houston to smoothen India's efforts to deepen energy trade with the US. Modi informed Trump that India was importing energy from the US worth about \$4 billion, and wanted to step it up.

Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said the idea of a roundtable meeting was to explore how India can import more energy from the US and how Indian companies can invest more in the US. The two leaders also discussed trade issues; India and the US will now work towards scheduling a meeting between Goyal and his American counterpart, US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer.

"We are talking about trade, we're talking about military and many different things. We had some great discussions, we were together last night for dinner and I learned a lot about India," Trump said before the meeting. "We welcome suggestions from the US on trade," Modi said, ahead of the meeting.

A White House statement said: "The two leaders discussed ways to broaden their strategic partnership and greatly increase trade between the US and India."

After the Osaka meeting, the two sides had agreed to get officials and ministers to meet and resolve issues related to trade.

Gokhale said India was approaching in a "forward-looking position". He said "both sides can look ahead and afresh". He said the Modi-Trump meeting was "very warm and very positive".



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with (from left) British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Emmanuel Macron, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, European Council President Donald Tusk, Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at a working lunch with world leaders during the G7 summit in Biarritz, France. Reuters

## India's NSG bid: UN Secy Gen to help, says Gokhale

SHUBHAJIT ROY BIARRITZ, AUGUST 26

UNITED NATIONS Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Monday told Prime Minister Narendra Modi that he would "help out" Delhi in its quest for membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

Modi and Guterres met in Biarritz on the sidelines of the G-7 summit.

In 2016, India had tried to push through its membership bid to the NSG, the most elite export control regime in the world, but China had blocked entry, saying that it is not a signatory to the NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty).

Delhi has lobbied hard with other members, and has got approval from all major countries barring China. It has established a mechanism to consult with Beijing's negotiators on nuclear issues, but, though they meet once every year, there has been no headway in the past three years.

Guterres's efforts may open a new window for India. It may be recalled that External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar played a key role in pushing for the NSG

membership when he was Foreign Secretary. With him at the helm now, the issue is likely to get a fresh boost.

Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said that when the UN Secretary General talked about thermal power plants in India, Modi drew his attention to India's focus on renewable energy, and, in this context, referred to "nuclear power". He told Guterres that NSG membership is "crucial for investors' confidence" — this has been one of India's main arguments.

"He (Guterres) understood India's position" and said he would "help out in the matter", said Gokhale.

Modi, he said, had a brief meeting with the UN Secretary General, in which the main agenda was Modi's participation in the climate summit in New York next month. He said Guterres was "very enthusiastic" about Modi's leadership on climate change issues.

Modi spoke of the campaign against "single-use plastic", and his new initiative — Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure — to be launched next month. In this regard, Modi talked about the need to have a pool of trained volunteers.

## India, UK to set up team to monitor economic agenda

SHUBHAJIT ROY BIARRITZ, AUGUST 26

INDIA AND the UK have decided to set up a special team to carry forward the economic agenda, as British Prime Minister Boris Johnson conveyed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that UK had decided to leave the European Union on October 31.

Soon after Modi landed in Biarritz on Sunday, he met Johnson at the Sofitel Hotel here. Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said there was no discussion on J&K during the bilateral meeting. Describing the meeting as "very good", Gokhale said it focussed on bilateral relations.

The British PM, according to Gokhale, understood that it is "important for access to be given to Indians" to the UK, and understood the value that talented Indians bring to the economy and society. This is a key takeaway in the wake of stringent immigration policies followed by the UK government in recent years.

Modi, who congratulated Johnson on his re-election as well as England's win in the Third Test of the Ashes, conveyed that he would stand by him and was ready to work with him post-Brexit. "A

small team will be set up to track the progress on the economic agenda. The principal discussion was about how we can develop the partnership..." Gokhale said.

The two leaders held discussions on G-7, working together in Africa, and climate change. In this context, Modi informed Johnson about the government's campaign against "marine plastic" and "single-use plastic".

They discussed issues relevant to the Gulf, and the need to find a new pathway if the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) collapses. This is important since the UK is one of the signatories, and Iran's Foreign Minister Javad Zarif made a sudden appearance at the G-7 Summit on France's invitation.

According to UK government's statement: "The leaders agreed to further strengthen our bilateral partnership after Brexit — including by working more closely together to overcome barriers to trade and build on our economic ties."

"They discussed the environment and agreed on the importance of tackling plastic pollution. The Prime Minister thanked Prime Minister Modi for his leadership on the critical issue of climate change," the British PM's office said.



## Nirmohi Akhara unnecessarily opposing deity's plea: Apex court

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

NIRMOHI AKHARA is "unnecessarily" opposing the plea of the deity, Ramlalla, for the title of the disputed Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land as both parties will "stand" or "fall" together, the Supreme Court said on Monday.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by CJI Ranjan Gogoi was critical of the Akhara's submission — that being the 'shebait' (devotee), only its lawsuit was maintainable and that the case filed Ramlalla Virajman through next friend Deoki Nandan Agrawal should not be allowed.

"There is no conflict between your (Akhara's) suit and the suit filed by plaintiff number 1 (Ramlalla)... Even if the suit of plaintiff (deity and others) is allowed, your right as 'shebait' stands," the bench said on the 12th day of the hearing. "You (Akhara) can claim your 'shebait' right independently. Unnecessarily, you are entering into the conflicting territory you need not go to. It is for Sunni Waqf Board to do that," said the bench, comprising Justices SA Bobde, DY Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and SA Nazeer.

The bench asked senior advocate Sushil Jain, appearing for the Akhara, if the lawsuit of the deity was disallowed who will the Akhara be 'shebait' of. "You (Akhara) stand together and you will fall together. Your argument is that Deoki Nandan Agrawal (who filed the lawsuit on behalf of the deity as the next friend) had no right to file the suit," the coput said. "You (Akhara) cannot be 'shebait' of the mosque."

Jain said the Akhara was not saying anything against the deity and, moreover, the law is now well settled that the deity need not be a party in all the lawsuits and can be represented through 'shebait'. He said, "A shebait can maintain the suit on behalf of the deity in its own name and need not implead the deity as a party." The bench asked Jain to apprise it of the Akhara's view Tuesday.

## RAJ KUMAR YADAV, SOUTH SIKKIM DM

AWARD CATEGORY: NORTHEAST DISTRICTS

# How a rural development programme transformed schools, lives in remote Sikkim villages

SANTANU CHOWDHURY RONG-BUL GRAM PANCHAYAT UNIT (GPU), SOUTH SIKKIM, AUGUST 26

THE 13-KM road from Namchi block to Rong village, located at an altitude of 4,400 ft, is riddled with craters, with certain stretches of it washed away. Despite such hardships, the Rong-Bul Gram Panchayat Unit (GPU) in remote South Sikkim is home to one of the most innovative schooling programmes in the country.

In 2015, then district collector of South Sikkim, Raj Kumar Yadav, began a six-month pilot project called the District Administration's Adopted Village (DAAV) in Rong-Bul Gram Panchayat Unit (GPU), which has six wards (villages) and a population of 1,351 (as of March 2016).

While DAAV is a rural development programme that broadly focuses on the social and cultural development of village, improvement of the school system is a key aspect of it.

Under the DAAV scheme, six schools and one primary health centre in Rong-Bul were overhauled. Infrastructure was enhanced and residents were trained to undertake maintenance of the establishments. The quality of mid-day meals was improved and smart classes were introduced to attract children to schools. The students were also roped in for the beautification of the school premises and classroom walls doubled up as learning spaces.



Adopted



Besides, career counselling programmes were held and experts from various fields and departments were called in to conduct programmes. Since the launch of the programme, school teachers say the dropout rate has dropped from 36 per cent in 2014 to zero, with a marked improvement in the



Neeraj Priyadarshi

Raj Kumar Yadav receives the award from Minister of State in the PMO Jitendra Singh; (right) At Rong Secondary School, one of the six schools that are part of the DAAV programme.



Santanu Chowdhury



daily attendance.

On August 21, Yadav was among 15 district magistrates who were honoured with The Indian Express Excellence in Governance Awards that celebrated the finest work done by DMs across the country.

"Our endeavour began with

conducting a gram sabha with all the stakeholders, where we worked on identifying problems. We decided to focus on a number of issues such as education, roads, electricity, 100 per cent Aadhaar enrollment and ensuring that everybody has bank accounts. In the case of schools, our

first challenge was to make government schools attractive so that students enjoy attending them. Once that was addressed, we turned to quality of teaching and introduced smart classes and educational cartoons for them. We also promoted extra-curricular activities by promoting many

competitive activities between the schools in the area," Yadav said after receiving the award. Yadav has since been posted to East Sikkim as District Collector.

"My daughter was never interested in her studies and preferred watching television at

home and helping her mother with household chores. After smart classes were introduced in her school, she is among students who have registered almost 100 per cent attendance," says farmer Ajit Rai, a resident of Rong village.

Noel Rai, assistant headmaster of Rong Secondary School, one of the six schools that are part of the DAAV programme, says, "Our first task was to make sure that the students attend classes. There were instances of children staying home and spending all their time in front of the TV. The collector sir noticed this and installed smart TVs in schools so that the students could watch educational cartoon shows for an hour after class. We made sure that we didn't show them the entire episode — that forced students to return to school the next day to watch the rest of it."

About 30 students are enrolled in the Rong primary school and about 200 in the secondary school. Extra-curricular activities and remedial classes were also introduced.

Apart from the schooling programme, under the DAAV programme, toilets were built in every household, facilities in the only primary health sub-centre in the gram panchayat were improved, reservoirs were created and rain-water harvesting systems were installed.

"Rong-Bul has always been drought-prone. But villagers

now no longer complain of water scarcity. We have also opened a district control-room for disaster management. Equipment such as helmets, ropes, blankets, tarpaulin and shovels have been stored in that room to tackle emergency situations," says Rong-Bul GPU president Raju Gurung.

According to Namchi Block Development Officer Bimal Rai, the district administration ensured that the gram panchayat continued with the development programmes even after the completion of the six-month pilot programme.

Enthusied by the success of the DAAV programme in Rong-Bul, in 2016, the South Sikkim district administration started the programme in another gram panchayat, Mamley Kamrang, 8 km from Namchi block. This gram panchayat has five schools and an ITI centre. The measures taken in Rong-Bul were replicated in Mamley Kamrang as well.

"The DAAV scheme has been extremely beneficial for this village. Earlier, we lacked pucca roads to reach the village and we were worried for the safety of our children. Concrete roads were constructed under DAAV and we have been encouraged to utilise the slopes of the village to carry out farming. We now use the land in and around the primary health centre and our village to grow vegetables," says Rani Gurung, a resident of Mamley Kamrang.



**Militants kill Gujjar, abduct another in Pulwama: Police**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 26

IN THE first such incident after the special status of Jammu and Kashmir was revoked, suspected militants on Monday abducted two members of the nomadic Gujjar community from a forest area in Pulwama and later killed one of them, police said.

Abdul Qadeer Kohli of Rajouri district and Manzoor Ahmed of Srinagar were abducted by unidentified gunmen from a "Dhok", a temporary shelter in a forest area in Tral, Pulwama district around 7.30 pm, a police spokesperson said. He said Kohli's body was later recovered by a search and rescue party, and a search operation to trace Ahmed was underway.

This is the first militant attack after the BJP-led NDA government abrogated provisions of Article 370 and announced bifurcation of the state into Union territories on August 5.

**Rawalkot-Poonch bus service begins again, 46 go home**

Jammu: A week after it was suspended, the Poonch-Rawalakot cross-LoC bus service resumed on Monday, with 46 stranded passengers including 40 from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) returning home, an official said.

The weekly service was suspended on August 19 after authorities in PoK did not respond to a call from their Indian counterparts to permit a bus across the Line of Control (LoC), officials said. "The bus service resumed with 40 PoK residents and six Indian citizens returning to their homes," District Development Commissioner, Poonch, Rahul Yadav told PTI.

**Will raise Kashmir issue at every forum: Imran**

Islamabad: With Pakistan failing to get traction for its stand on Kashmir, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday said that he will raise the issue at every international forum, including at the UN General Assembly.

Khan's address to the nation came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his meeting with US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in France on Monday, rejected any scope for third party mediation between India and Pakistan on Kashmir.

"I will tell the world about this, I have shared this with the heads of state that I have been in contact with. I will raise this issue at the UN as well," he said, referring to his scheduled address to the UN General Assembly next month.

**Kerala Congress leaders target Tharoor for remark on Modi**

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
AUGUST 26

THE CONGRESS leadership in Kerala on Monday targeted party MP Shashi Tharoor for saying Prime Minister Narendra Modi should be praised "whenever he says or does the right thing".

Tharoor had backed Congress Rajya Sabha member Jairam Ramesh's statement that "demonising Modi all the time" was not an effective strategy. Congress MPK Muraleedharan said, "Those who want to praise Modi should join the BJP. No Congress leader should think that he can become a minister in the BJP regime very soon by praising Modi..."

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Ramesh Chennithala said, "There is no need to glorify Modi over one good act after his government committed thousands of wrongdoings. The Congress would continue its fight against the Modi government's wrong policies," he said.

Another Congress MP, T N Prathapan, on Monday wrote to party president Sonia Gandhi. "Congress need not want to praise Modi to overcome the crisis as such steps would ruin the party's hold... We need to toil to expose the demonic side of fascism..."

**Maya invokes Ambedkar to endorse J&K move, hits out at Oppn over Srinagar visit**

MAULSHREE SETH  
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 26

WEEKS AFTER supporting in Parliament the Centre's decision to scrap special status to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution, BSP chief Mayawati on Monday defended her party's stance and also criticised leaders of opposition parties over their recent visit to Srinagar to take stock of the communication blockade in the Valley.

Mayawati asked whether the move by the opposition leaders, which she alleged was made "without permission", had given the Centre a chance to turn it into a political issue. She also advised the opposition leaders to "think a bit before taking such steps."

Maintaining that B R Ambedkar was never in favour of Article 370, the BSP chief said that was why the BSP supported abrogation of special status to J&K. She said that since this was done after 69 years, it would ob-



BSP chief Mayawati

viously take time for the situation to become normal, and people should wait for some time.

In multiple tweets in Hindi on Monday, Mayawati stated: "Babasaheb Ambedkar was always a supporter of uniformity and unity of the country and that is why he was never in favour of Article 370 for Jammu and Kashmir. It was for this reason that the BSP also supported its abrogation in Parliament. But since [special status to J&K under] Article 370 has been scrapped 69 years after implementation of the Constitution,

**EXPLAINED Maya's move to seize nationalism issue**

EVER SINCE BSP supported in Parliament the Centre's move to scrap special status for J&K, there has been murmurs that party chief Mayawati was forced to support the government's decision. Further, she also distanced BSP from pro-Dalit outfit Bhim's Army protest over the Ravidas temple issue in Delhi and said such violation of Section 144 of CrPC gives the government a chance to work maliciously. This perceived pro-government tilt is being seen as the reason that before condemning the Opposition leaders' visit to Srinagar, Mayawati chose to clarify her party's stand: that it was just sticking to the view of B R Ambedkar, who, she said, was against Article 370 for India's unity and uniformity. This is seen as an attempt by Mayawati to make her agenda bigger by co-opting national interest.

the situation will take time to become normal. It would be better to wait for this, as the [Supreme] Court has also accepted."

In this scenario, she asked, "would the recent visit by leaders of the Congress and other parties to Kashmir without permission not be considered as a

step to give chance to the Centre and Governor to do politics? It would be better if some thought is given before such visits."

State minister and senior BJP leader Srikanth Sharma later welcomed Mayawati's statement on Article 370 and asked other leaders, including Samajwadi Party

chief Akhilesh Yadav, to take lessons from her and support the Centre's move in the interest of national unity.

Later in the day, the BSP chief alleged that barring her party, the approach of all governments previous in Uttar Pradesh, including the present one, has been similar on the law and order situation. She claimed that while earlier there was "jungleraj" or "halla bol", today it is "mob lynching".

While SP chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged that investigating agencies are being "misused" by the Yogi Adityanath government, Mayawati, without naming anyone, said agencies had been misused by most governments — be it at the state or the Centre.

A few days ago, Mayawati had distanced herself and her party from the Bhim Army's protest in Delhi over the demolition of Ravidas temple and had maintained that CrPC Section 144 should be respected.

**'We don't foresee this (restrictions) going on too long'**

Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, SHAHID IQBAL CHOUDHARY, has been in the thick of things since the Centre scrapped special status for Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370. He spoke to DEEPTIMAN TIWARY on the situation in the Valley, political detentions, and the road ahead. Excerpts:



**What is the current situation of restrictions and public unrest in the Valley?**

Though I represent Srinagar district only as part of the administration, if we talk overall about Kashmir, the idea behind any kind of restriction is to safeguard life and maintain public peace. It's not good to count in numbers the kind of damages we have suffered, but you have seen over so many years when there were issues of violence. This time, there has not been a single death or serious case of injury, and I think that was the prime motive.

**As our reporters in Srinagar found, either some schools have not opened or attendance is very low. How do you plan to instill confidence?**

We have 930-odd schools in Srinagar district, and we started (by re-opening) with 196 schools. Of these, teachers could reach only 160-170 schools. On the first day, we had attendance of 4-6, or maximum 10 students (per school). There were hardly 65 students across the district. There has been a slight improvement but I must say it's our responsibility to ensure safety and security of students to keep our schools open.

**When do you think you will be able to completely lift restrictions?**

It's very difficult to give a particular time-line — it could be tomorrow, (or) it could be a week's time. Everything depends on the ground situation... (But) we don't foresee this going on for too long.

**There are reports of local journalists either not getting access, or their movement being severely restricted.**

You wrongly say that before August 5 we kept the public in dark. We cannot decide what's coming up in Parliament or the Assembly, or for that matter any Constitutional authority. My domain is that we have sufficient fuel supply, foodgrain, essential services and medicines available. So there is no need to panic... We were prepared from that point of view.

We have nothing to do with that... As far as providing access to local journalists is concerned, we have database statistics available. We have put it in public also. Up to August 14, nearly 455 movement passes were issued, of which only 65 (mediapersons) were from Delhi; the others were local. We have a media cell where access is free for all journalists...

**When tension was building up before announcement of the restrictions, you asked people on Twitter to not panic and not hoard essentials. Do you think the Centre should have taken the local administration into confidence?**

You wrongly say that before August 5 we kept the public in dark. We cannot decide what's coming up in Parliament or the Assembly, or for that matter any Constitutional authority. My domain is that we have sufficient fuel supply, foodgrain, essential services and medicines available. So there is no need to panic... We were prepared from that point of view.

**There is a mismatch between reactions. The government first tried to deny the protests in Soura (in Srinagar), and then said there were 1,000-1,500 people.**

You mention a particular incident. There is a specific reporting system in the government. We don't go by hearsay. We have to communicate things in writing and get it signed and stamped. There could have been some communication gap in understanding and getting the points from the ground. We are holding press conferences twice a day. That's the most authentic information.

FULL INTERVIEW ON [www.indianexpress.com](http://www.indianexpress.com)

**BJP to launch campaign on J&K decisions**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

BUOYED BY the support it got over its moves on Jammu and Kashmir, the ruling BJP is set to launch a massive campaign to highlight the significance of the Union Government's decisions.

The party announced on Monday that it would embark on the month-long nationwide campaign from September 1. The BJP has formed two groups led by Union ministers Dharmendra Pradhan and Gajendra Singh Shekhawat to coordinate the campaign, which will be rolled out with 35 public rallies in big cities and 370 people-contact programmes in smaller cities across the country.

Pradhan said that party leaders including Union ministers, MPs, MLAs and office-bearers will hold public meetings to "spread the messages given by Home Minister Amit Shah in his speeches in Parliament during the debate on Article 370 and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to the nation". Seven places—including Srinagar, Anantnag, Baramulla and Sopore



Dharmendra Pradhan, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Jamyang Tsering Namgyal with newly inducted leaders at the BJP headquarters in New Delhi on Monday. Praveen Khanna

in Kashmir — have been chosen in J&K for the exercise.

Maintaining that the party and the government received "immense support from all walks of lives" for its "historic move" on August 5, Pradhan said the campaign will create awareness about its significance.

Asked if the restrictions in the

Valley would be eased by September, Shekhawat said: "I am pretty sure it will be eased." Pradhan claimed normalcy had already been restored in many parts, "except for those who want to create trouble".

Pradhan said it was not merely a sentimental decision for the party but based on reason.

More than 85 developmental schemes of the central government will now be extended to the entire region, he added.

On the occasion, the ministers welcomed a number of leaders from Kargil, including Haji Anayat Ali, the J&K Legislative Council chairman, who joined the BJP. Besides Ali, Ladakh Autonomous

Hill Development Council, Kargil, Executive Councilor Mohammad Ali Hasan and six other leaders met BJP working president J P Nadda and joined the party. Most of these leaders, including Anayat Ali, are from PDP.

Welcoming them, Ladakh MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal said the entire region, which includes Leh and Kargil districts, is happy about the decision to make it a Union territory.

Speaking to reporters, Anayat Ali said the people of Kargil, a Muslim-majority district, may not have demanded UT status for Ladakh but they are happy following the announcement as it will lead to the Centre controlling its affairs, including development projects. A certain section of people associated with NC were protesting because they thought the party would come to power whenever elections are held, he said.

Other who joined the party are Mohsin Ali, Zahir Hussain Babar, Kacho Gulzar Hussain, Asadullah Munshi, Mohammad Ibrahim and Tashi Tsering, the BJP said. Three from Leh, T Gyaploo, C D Keray and N T Chumathang, also joined the party.

**Centre withdraws SPG cover for Manmohan**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE CENTRE on Monday formally withdrew Special Protection Group (SPG) security given to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

An order to this effect was issued by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), which stated that the Congress leader would henceforth be protected by the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) under the Z-plus category.

MHA sources said Singh's security has been downgraded based on report from intelligence agencies, which do not perceive threat of an attack on him grave enough to warrant SPG cover.

"The current security cover review is a periodical and professional exercise based on threat perception that is purely based on professional assessment by security agencies. Dr Manmohan Singh continues to have Z-plus security cover," an MHA spokesperson said.

Sources said this was not the first time that a former Prime



Manmohan Singh

Minister was losing SPG cover, and that SPG cover of former PMs such as H D Deve Gowda, I K Gujral and PV Narasimha Rao had been withdrawn during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government.

The government gave SPG cover to Vajpayee until his death last year; he was confined to his home for the last several years.

Sources said Manmohan Singh and his security detail had been informed on Sunday that his SPG protection was being withdrawn, and a formal order was released on Monday. "He will get Z-plus security of CRPF," an MHA official said. CRPF sources, however, said they are yet to receive formal orders for takeover of Singh's security.

**Shah asks states to strengthen local forces to fight against Maoist terror**

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Monday asked states affected by Maoist violence to strengthen their forces, as local forces alone could win the battle against Left-Wing Extremism (LWE). Extending Centre's full support to eliminate the extremism, Shah asked states to use Central funds to modernise and train the state forces.

Holding a meeting with chief ministers of LWE-affected states, Shah conducted a review of the security situation in the areas affected by Maoist violence and the development work carried out by various governments.

Chief Ministers Nitish Kumar (Bihar), Naveen Patnaik (Odisha), Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh), Kamal Nath (Madhya Pradesh), Raghubar Das (Jharkhand) and Bhupesh Baghel (Chhattisgarh) attended the meeting, apart from several Union Cabinet ministers such as Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Road



Home Minister Amit Shah with Chief Ministers Kamal Nath and Nitish Kumar at a review meet on Left Wing Extremism, at Vigyan Bhavan on Monday. Anil Sharma

Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari and Rural Development Minister Narendra Tomar. Top civil officials of 10 LWE-affected states also attended the meeting.

After the meeting, Shah tweeted, "Had a very fruitful meeting with the CM's of the LWE affected states. Discussed several issues related to the security & development of these states. Left Wing Extremism is against the idea of democracy and under the leadership of PM @narendramodi we are committed to uproot it."

According to the Ministry of

Home Affairs (MHA), Shah emphasised on the capacity building of local forces, as only strong local forces can effectively neutralise LWE organisations from their areas. "In this regard, Shri Shah said that LWE cannot be eradicated without the vigilance and efficiency of the local police in the militancy affected states. He asked the states to use Central schemes and their own budget for police modernisation," an MHA statement said.

Shah also focused on the need to check the flow of funds to LWE organisations, and

praised the states for the steps taken by them in this regard.

"Shri Shah said innovative measures need to be employed to prevent IED (Improvised Explosive Device) incidents that have caused significant number of casualties in recent years," an MHA statement said.

Expressing their concerns at the meet, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar said that fighting Maoism was a concern of both Centre and states, and therefore Centre should not put the financial burden of security force deployment on states. Jharkhand CM Raghubar Das urged that although violence had gone down, presence of CAPFs in the Valley should not be scaled down in view of upcoming elections. MP CM Kamal Nath asked the Centre to provide 4G mobile connectivity in two LWE-affected districts in the state while Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel requested Shah to increase the Centre's contribution under the Road Requirement Plan-Phase II to 100 per cent. (WITH INPUTS FROM ENS BHOPAL, RAIPUR)

**Fund crunch in MP, beneficiaries of wedding scheme wait for cash**

MILIND GHATWAI  
BHOPAL, AUGUST 26

MONTHS AFTER they married under the Mukhya Mantri Vivah Evam Nikah Yojana, at least 42,000 beneficiaries in Madhya Pradesh are still waiting for the cash benefit because the government has been unable to allocate funds for the populist scheme.

Under the scheme, run by the Directorate of Social Justice and Welfare for the disabled, Rs 48,000 is transferred to the woman's account, and Rs 3,000 is given to the local bodies that organise the mass marriage function in their respective areas. Immediately after coming to

power in December last year, the Congress government kept its pre-poll promise and increased the amount under the scheme from Rs 25,000 to Rs 51,000. Nearly 42,000 marriages have taken place after the change of guard in the state, and the number is much more than the corresponding last year under the BJP government.

This, when no marriages took place under the scheme on the occasion of Akshaya Tritiya this year because the poll Model Code of Conduct was in force for the Lok Sabha elections. Beneficiaries of the marriages that took place before March 31, 2019, have got the cash benefits but not those held since



At a recent mass marriage in Jhabua. Express

April. The beneficiaries who trek to the directorate offices in Bhopal and respective offices in districts are often told that the money will soon be transferred

to their accounts.

Minister for Social Justice and Welfare of the Disabled Lakhman Ghanghoriya told The Indian Express that he is not sure where

the money is stuck because it had been allocated to the department after the state Budget.

"Sometimes money from one scheme is diverted to another scheme. If funds for the scheme have been blocked, I will request the Chief Minister to divert funds from somewhere else because the scheme is very successful," he said.

He said the scheme is very popular and cited examples of Seoni and Rewa where 2,700 and 1,800 marriages took place respectively under one pandal. He said the department had sought Rs 1,200 crore (including for other schemes) and it got Rs 750 crore. He said he would try to streamline the payment

adding "the officials and the government can't block funds for the scheme at any cost".

Another Congress leader admitted that the government was running on a shoestring budget but it will manage the required funds by "jugaad".

BJP spokesman Rajneesh Agrawal claimed that the Congress government had closed down certain schemes in the name of review and in some other schemes it was finding it difficult to meet its obligations. He said, on one hand, the beneficiaries have not got money and on the other irregularities were abound, like in Datia where even already married couples with children married again.



Symbol blow for JD(U) in Jharkhand

New Delhi, Godda: Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United) will not be allowed to contest Assembly elections in Jharkhand on its party symbol, the Election Commission has ruled.

The decision is in response to a plea filed by the JMM, which urged the EC to disallow JD(U) from using its arrow symbol in Jharkhand polls as it is similar to JMM's.

"The allotment of the 'arrow' symbol to JD(U) candidates in Jharkhand will create confusion among the voters in the state," it had stated in a representation to the Commission.

Meanwhile, the Congress on Monday appointed Rameshwar Oraon as its state president and announced five working presidents for the state.

The appointments come ahead of the Assembly elections in Jharkhand, scheduled later this year. **ENS**

Yediyurappa gets three deputy CMs

Karnataka Chief Minister had opposed move, but BJP high command prevailed

JOHNSONTA BENGALURU, AUGUST 26

KARNATAKA CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa has been given three deputy chief ministers to assist him in running the state, in an unprecedented move that was opposed by Yediyurappa but finally effected by the BJP on the insistence of the party high command.

Three ministers chosen for Yediyurappa's cabinet last week — Laxman Savadi, 57, Dr C H Ashwathnarayan, 51, and Govind Karjol, 68 — were designated deputy CMs by Governor Vajubhai Vala through a notification issued on Monday evening.

Both Savadi and Ashwathnarayan are first-time ministers while Karjol is a former minister. Savadi, who is not an elected member of the state legislature, is a member of Yediyurappa's Lingayat community; Ashwathnarayan, who played a key role in poaching 15 MLAs from the Congress and JDS to help the BJP get a majority, is a member of the dominant Vokkaliga community; Karjol a veteran considered to be close to Yediyurappa is a member of the Dalit community.

Savadi was among two BJP MLAs suspended by the party in 2012 for wai-



B S Yediyurappa

ching pornography in the Assembly. The second MLA, C C Patil, has been appointed the minister for mines and geology.

Yediyurappa, 76, who took oath on July 26 as CM — after toppling a Congress-JDS coalition — was instructed by the BJP high command to appoint three deputies to streamline functioning of the government, but the veteran BJP leader was resisting the move. In a sign of the tussle within the BJP over appointment of the three deputies, the Governor had to correct an initial notification which showed the cabinet as comprising only the chief minister and 17 ministers with no mention of deputy chiefs.

A second notification issued by the

Governor "in partial modification of the earlier notification" revealed the appointment of Savadi, Ashwathnarayan and Karjol as deputy CMs apart from being allocated portfolios in the cabinet.

Among the deputy CMs, Karjol, who is the seniormost, will handle the public works and social welfare department. Ashwathnarayan, a doctor by profession, will be in charge of higher education, IT and BT, science and technology, while Savadi will handle the transport department.

BJP sources said the caste balanced appointment of deputy CMs was forced by the party high command to prevent centralisation of power in the hands of Yediyurappa, who has in the past faced rebellion from party MLAs for centralising power.

The appointment of Savadi as a deputy CM is also seen as an effort to ensure the BJP wins bypolls in the Belagavi region, from where several Congress rebels have defected to the BJP, creating uncertainty for influential leaders like Savadi who lost the 2018 Assembly polls.

The appointment of Ashwathnarayan is seen as an attempt to reach out to the Vokkaliga community in south Karnataka, which is not known to support the BJP, while the ap-

pointment of Karjol is seen as an outreach by the BJP to a sizeable section of the most backward Dalits in the state.

A fourth deputy CM is likely to be appointed as well if the Scheduled Tribe leader Ramesh Jharkiholi — whose defection from the Congress with 11 others helped the BJP assume power — gets elected and appointed to the cabinet in the near future, BJP sources said.

When the BJP was in power between 2008 and 2013, it had appointed two deputy CMs between 2012 and 2013 in the form of KS Eshwarappa, an OBC Kuruba leader, and R Ashoka, a Vokkaliga, at the instance of the party high command after Yediyurappa was ousted as CM in 2011 following corruption charges. Both Eshwarappa and Ashoka are among several veterans in Yediyurappa's current cabinet who have been overlooked for the post of the deputy CM.

"He will have to appoint the three deputies. There is no way out," a senior BJP leader said on Monday before the notifications were issued amid reports that the Karnataka CM was trying to wriggle out of a situation where he creates parallel power centres in the government. All the deputy CMs are, however, known to be close associates of Yediyurappa.

Prepared to thwart JeM's underwater plans: Navy chief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE PUNE, AUGUST 26

AN "UNDERWATER wing" of Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) is training people to carry out attacks but the Indian Navy is fully prepared to thwart any such attempt, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh said on Monday. "We have received an intelligence that an underwater wing of Jaish-e-Mohammed is training people to carry out attacks from water, but we are fully prepared and are keeping close vigil. We would like to assure people that we will thwart any such attempt," he said in reply to a question on the changing tactics of terrorist outfits and the Navy's response.

Asked how India was countering the increased presence of China in Indian Ocean Region, he said, "I will not use the word counter. We are watching the progress. The Chinese want to become a global power, so they will come into Indian Ocean Region. But we are

watching them. There should be nothing against our national interest, otherwise we will have to act."

The Navy chief was in Pune to speak on 'Indian Ocean — Changing Dynamic — Maritime Security Imperatives for India' as part of a lecture series organised in the memory of former Army chief, late General BC Joshi.

Speaking about challenges faced by the Navy, Admiral Singh said, "One of the challenges is long-term budgetary support required to build Naval capability. For example, building a ship may take years to complete. So long-term budgetary projections and understanding of resource envelope are important to plan comprehensive capability development. Specifically in case of Indian Navy, we were 18 per cent of Defence budget in 2012-13, now we are down to 13 per cent. This way we find it very difficult to move with the nation which wants to become a USD 5 trillion economy by 2024 and give it impetus on the maritime front."

**PANKI THERMAL POWER STATION, PANKI, KANPUR UTTAR PRADESH RAJYAVIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. TENDER NOTICE** Sealed and Separate Tenders are hereby invited containing requisite Tender Cost, Earnest Money through NEFT/RTGS (Re-fundable) in the CBI Account no 1 4 3 9 5 0 1 7 9 5 ( I F S C - CBIN0280983, MICR-208016020) in Name of Dy. CAO, CFA & BO, PTPS, Panki, Kanpur and Tendered will have to provide the signed copy of UTR Number, Name of Account and photo copy of Pay in Slip along with relevant required Tender documents as per Pre-qualifying Condition and other commercial terms & conditions. Details of Tender Notice as well as Tender Specifications, Corrigendum may be seen on our Web Site: [www.uprvnl.org](http://www.uprvnl.org) e-tender portal [www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in) 1. **E-Tender - 10/PTPS/SE(Civil)/ECMD/2019-20** M&R Civil Work, Woodwork, Water Supply & Sanitation Fitting work of CISF Barrack in New Staff Colony, PTPS, Panki, Kanpur. Estimated Cost: 19,54,000.00 Tender Fee: 1,180.00 Earnest Money: 39,000.00 OPENING DATE OF E-TENDER: 06.09.2019 2. **E-Tender - 07/PTPS/O&MC-II/EDD/2019-20** Annual Rate contract for maintenance of 33/11KV & 0.4 KV overhead electric line, underground cable and other miscellaneous work inside plant and its various colonies, maintenance of street light in various colonies of PTPS Trimming of trees adjacent to 0.4 KV & 11 KV overhead lines and other related works in PTPS & its premises. Estimated Cost: 7,48,347.00 Tender Fee: 1,180.00 Earnest Money: 15,000.00/ OPENING DATE OF E-TENDER: 25.09.2019 3. **E-Tender - 08/PTPS/O&MC-II/EDD/2019-20** Annual Rate Contract for the work of servicing/complete overhauling and other related work of departmental AC, Water Coolers, Automatic Voltage Stabilizers, Geysers of PTPS Hospital, Guest House, Schools, GM Camp Office etc. and inside plant of PTPS, Panki, Kanpur for year 2019-20. Estimated Cost: 4,03,059.00 Tender Fee: 354.00 Earnest Money: 8,100.00/ OPENING DATE OF E-TENDER: 16.09.2019 4. **E-Tender - 09/PTPS/O&MC-II/EDD/2019-20** Annual rate contract for the work of Routine/Breakdown maintenance of electrical distribution system & lighting system in officer colony and New staff colony of PTPS, Panki. Estimated Cost: 16,57,294.00 Tender Fee: 1,180.00 Earnest Money 34,000.00/ OPENING DATE OF E-TENDER: 18.09.2019 5. **E-Tender - 10/PTPS/O&MC-II/EDD/2019-20** Annual maintenance contract for the work of Preventive /Break Down maintenance of distribution transformer, switch gear and other related work at inside plant and its various colonies of PTPS, Panki Kanpur Estimated Cost: 5,09,851.00 Tender Fee: Nil Earnest Money: 10,200.00 OPENING DATE OF E-TENDER: 04.09.2019 Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER Web Site [www.uprvnl.org](http://www.uprvnl.org) "SAVE ELECTRICITY FOR THE NATION" सं. 10/पीटीपीएस/अ.सू./सी.पी.डी./विज्ञापन दिनांक: 26.08.19

Assam govt designates tribunals for appeals by those left out of NRC

ABHISHEK SAHA GUWAHATI, AUGUST 26

THE ASSAM government on Monday designated Foreigners Tribunals in all 33 districts for receipt of appeals by those left out of the final NRC, which is to be published on August 31. The state government also reiterated that those left out of NRC will not be put into detention camps till the Foreigners Tribunals decides on their Indian citizenship.

"For the benefit and convenience of those persons whose names do not appear in the Final NRC to be published on 31st August, 2019, the State Government is pleased to designate the following Foreigners Tribunals for receipt of appeals from persons excluded from the Final NRC, Sub-Division wise," stated the notice signed by Kumar Sanjay Krishna, Additional Chief Secretary to Assam government's Home and Political Department. "Foreigners Tribunals have been designated sub-division wise for receipt of appeals," said Assam's Commissioner and Secretary (Home and Political) department, Ashutosh Agnihotri.

Another seven-point public notice — also signed by Krishna — stated, "Under the provisions of Foreigners Act, 1946 and Foreigners Tribunal Order, 1964, only Foreigners Tribunals are empowered to declare a person as a foreigner. Thus, non-inclusion of a person's name in NRC does not by itself amount to him / her being declared as a foreigner."

The seventh point of the notice stated, "Persons left out of the final NRC will not be detained under any circumstances till Foreigners Tribunals declare their decisions."

What next is key question as Assam awaits final list

ABHISHEK SAHA NELLIE, AUGUST 26

GULBAHAR Begum, 29, a homemaker residing in Borkhal village in Nellie of Morigaon district, around 70 km east of Guwahati, will not be in the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) published on August 31 because her father is an 'illegal foreigner' declared so by a Foreigners Tribunal (FT). She belongs to an indigenous Assamese-speaking Muslim family of Nellie.

On the other side of the National Highway from Gulbahar's village, in a refugee settlement colony, Mantosh Trivedi, 45, a Hindu Bengali, is equally anxious over his mother and wife's inclusion in the list. And like Gulbahar, Trivedi — who runs a small store selling items used in religious rituals — is uncertain whether he can meet expenses for FT lawyers if he has to go with the two women.

Despite assurances by the Home Ministry that those excluded will not become a "foreigner" immediately, many are unaware what to do on September 1. The ministry has clarified such people would get "full opportunity" to appeal before an FT for inclusion into the NRC.

On August 19, Home Minister Amit Shah chaired a review meeting, attended by Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and top state bureaucrats, to deliberate upon issues regarding the publication of the final NRC. A government press statement said only FTs are empowered to declare persons as "foreigners". Sonowal also hinted his government could later enact a legislation if questions are raised over NRC updation — although he had not specified exactly what the law would contain to deal with the NRC aftermath.

Gulbahar's 69-year-old father Gul Mohammad, earlier a daily-wage earner — who has his name as a one-year-old child in the NRC of 1951 — was declared a foreigner by an FT in 2009 and has been in a detention camp for "illegal foreigners" for the last 18 months. As per NRC updation rules, "declared foreigners" and their descendants will not be included in the NRC.

Gulbahar's husband is a driver in the village. Her mother, Junaki Begum, sells paan at a small stall by the highway. Begum's elder sister is married to a mechanic. Such is the financial crunch in the family that they have not been able to hire a lawyer to appeal against Gul



Gulbahar Begum's father has been declared 'illegal foreigner'. Abhishek Saha

**NRC COUNTDOWN**  
FOUR DAYS TO AUGUST 31

Mohammad's detention at the High Court.

"I do not know why the system is so complicated. My father is himself in NRC 1951. The order by FT No. 1 of Morigaon district goes by the state's allegations that he was born in Bangladesh in 1956 and migrated illegally into Assam after 1971," Gulbahar said. "We are very worried. My sister's and my name won't

come. We do not know what to do next. Will we be sent to detention like our father? We are too poor to engage lawyers and attend court hearings," she added.

The 'refugee registration' certificate of 1955 of Trivedi's mother Anjali, 72, was "not accepted" by NRC officials while his wife Santoshi has a faint chance of inclusion because officials had "doubted" her father's matriculation certificate from 1971. Both the women were out of the draft NRC.

"It is most likely both of them will not be in the final NRC. I hope there are clear guidelines as to what we have to do post the publication of the NRC. What will the government do with those excluded? We are Indians who had migrated due to religious persecution from now Bangladesh. There is no clarity what's going to happen," says Trivedi.

Ajit Talukdar, 48, another Bengali Hindu and Trivedi's friend, says his name did not appear in the draft NRC while his three children — aged 15, 13 and five years — were omitted in the additional exclusion list published on June 26. "In my father's documents, there is a mismatch between Bhushan Talukdar and 'Das' — hence the problem. My and my children's name will not

come probably. Do I have to queue up at a Foreigners Tribunal with my children? Will they disenfranchise me?" Talukdar asks.

Abdul Hamid, 70, witnessed his father's killing and mother and sister getting wounded in 1983 when over 2,000 persons — mostly Bengali Muslims — were slaughtered in Nellie. Then there were cases registered against him and his wife at FT No. 1 in Morigaon which they won. But his name did not appear in the draft NRC.

"I work at a brick kiln. I have spent thousands of rupees fighting these cases at the FT by taking loans from the owner and then working to repay it. On August 31, if my family members' names do not come, I do not know what next," said Hamid.

The FTs — 100 across the state and 200 more to be functional by September 1 — are quasi-judicial bodies meant to "furnish opinion on the question whether a person is or is not a foreigner within the meaning of Foreigner's Act, 1946".

According to state government data presented in an affidavit to the Supreme Court and in the Assembly this year, FTs declared 1,03,764 persons foreigners between 1985 and August 2018.

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF SIGNALING MATERIALS, NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. - DRM-Snt-ADI-Sig 16 of 2019-20 DRMS and T acting for and behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. DRM-Snt-ADI-Sig 16 of 2019-20 closing date 18.09.2019. 15:00 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. 1. Name of work: Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of signaling materials in connection with provision of Fuse monitoring and Automatic change over system at various Station and interlocked LC Gates of Ahmedabad Division. 2. Estimated Cost of work : ₹ 61,82,749.00/- (₹ Sixty One Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Nine only) 3. Earnest Money Deposit : ₹ 1,23,700/- (₹ One Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Only) 4. Date and Time of closing: Not later than 15:00 Hrs of 18.09.2019 5. Date and Time of Opening of tender : 18.09.2019 at 15:30 Hrs. 6. Website of E-Tendering: [www.iirps.gov.in](http://www.iirps.gov.in) 203  
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

JU screens Ram Ke Naam after no-show at Presidency

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, AUGUST 26

THE 1992 documentary film based on Babri Masjid demolition, *Ram Ke Naam*, was screened at Jadavpur University on Monday after students of Presidency University failed to obtain permission to screen it on campus.

The documentary film by Anand Patwardhan was screened at World View, an open screening facility on the JU campus by students of Film Studies.

Somashree Choudhury, chairperson of Arts Faculty of Students' Union (AFSU) at JU, said university authorities gave them permission to screen the

documentary film. "The registrar gave us permission to screen the film," Choudhury told *The Indian Express*.

Students of Presidency University alleged that the authorities had initially given them "verbal permission" to screen a film but backed out once they came to know that the students planned to screened *Ram Ke Naam*.

Kalpaka Guha, a second-year student of Presidency University, said, "On Saturday, the university's Dean of Students' Affairs informed organisers that the screening of the film would not be possible."

The Dean of Students' Affairs Arun Kumar Maity confirmed that they had denied permission to screen the film.

Man tries to immolate self at Khattar yatra: 'Son jobless'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 26

UPSET OVER his son not getting a job despite an assurance from Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, a man attempted self immolation on Monday when the BJP leader's Jan Ashirwad Yatra was passing through Rathdhana village of Sonapat district.

"As the CM's yatra was nearing a halt in Sonapat, a man poured an inflammable substance on himself and set himself on fire. A few others too sustained injuries," said SP Pratiksha Godhara. Police

identified the man as Rajesh Kumar.

Seven people sustained injuries while trying to save Rajesh. They were admitted to Sonapat's civil hospital. Rajesh was referred to Rohtak's Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences where doctors said his condition is stable.

In the hospital, Rajesh told reporters that he took the step as his son was jobless despite the CM assuring him of employment. "I had met the CM in Delhi and told him about my son's unemployment. He had assured me that he will recruit my son in a Group-D post when the government advertises for jobs. But my son was not employed," Rajesh said.

Court extends Nath nephew's custody

ANAND MOHAN J NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

A DELHI court on Monday granted the Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody of Ratul Puri, nephew of Madhya Pradesh CM Kamal Nath, for four more days in connection with a bank fraud case.

Already booked in the AgustaWestland case, the fresh case against Puri stems from a CBI FIR in which he, his father Deepak Puri, mother Nita (Nath's sister) and others have been booked in

connection with a bank fraud complaint filed by Central Bank of India.

The court order said, "In order to enable the investigating agency to unearth the entire conspiracy, establish the identity of other unknown co-accused persons...confront the accused with various other persons, whose role has come to the knowledge of the investigating agency, as well as with the voluminous record of documents collected by the ED, the custody remand of the accused Ratul Puri is extended for 4 days." Puri will now be produced in court on August 30.

Tamil Nadu launches TV channel for school students

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE CHENNAI, AUGUST 26

THE TAMIL Nadu government on Monday launched a Tamil TV channel exclusively for school children in the state.

Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami launched Kalvi Tholaikkatchi (Education TV) in Chennai. Education Minister K A Sengottaiyan said the idea behind the channel was to ensure that students have a bright future.

A project of the state's school education department — first discussed during the tenure of late chief minister J Jayalalithaa — the channel will have shows made for schoolgoers, besides imparting lessons in discipline.

According to officials, 50 per cent of programmes on Kalvi Tholaikkatchi will be based on the state curriculum. Another 10 per cent are to help students prepare for competitive exams and the remaining slots are dedicated to shows that offer life coaching, discipline and motivation.

I&B to hold community radio meet after 3-year gap

New Delhi: After a gap of three years, the Union Ministry for Information and Broadcasting will hold the Community Radio Sammelan in Delhi between August 27 and 29. Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Prakash Javadekar will present National Community Radio Awards at the event.

The sammelan will be centred on the theme of Community Radio for Sustainable Development Goals. Community Radio Stations from across the country will participate in it and their representatives will discuss their experiences and the possibilities of programmes based on SDGs to raise awareness about the subject. The event will also include discussions on several flagship schemes of the Union Government like the Jal Shakti Abhiyaan.

The awards given away will be for development programmes on several topics, including promotion of local culture, creative and innovative content. **ENS**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE**  
Dy. Chief Engineer (Bridge Line), Northern Railway, Tilak Bridge, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites open e-Tenders for the following works.  
1. Name of the Work: Metallizing, assembling, linking by riveting/HSG Bolting and launching of steel girders on abutments and piers of Bridge No. 9(1x30.5m) and Bridge No. 30 (4x18.3m + 1x61 m) in connection with doubling of Roja-Sitapur section of MB Division.  
Critical Dates  
Code Activity Date  
D0 Date of availability of tender document on [www.iirps.gov.in](http://www.iirps.gov.in) 26.08.2019  
D1 = D0 + 11 days Start of submission of offer on [www.iirps.gov.in](http://www.iirps.gov.in) 05.09.2019  
D2 = D0 + 25 days End of Availability of Tender Documents at [www.iirps.gov.in](http://www.iirps.gov.in) 19.09.2019 @ 15.00 hours  
• Opening of tender/offer.  
The reference time for all the above activities is 15.00 hours.  
NOTE: In case the intended date for opening of tenders is declared a holiday, the tender will be opened on the next working day at the same time  
Tender No. 32-W-BR-9-30-ROZA-STP Date 26.08.2019 2747/19  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

**ODISHA COMPUTER APPLICATION CENTRE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**  
Enq. No. : OCAC-IF&ITP-188/14(PL)-19034  
Odisha Computer Application Centre (OCAC) invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of a reputed Agency to setup a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) at OCAC for implementation of ICT Policy of Govt. of Odisha. For details please visit websites [www.ocac.in](http://www.ocac.in) & [www.odisha.gov.in](http://www.odisha.gov.in). The last date for receipt of proposal is 17.09.2019, 03:00 P.M.  
OCAC reserves the right to accept / reject any / all bids without assigning any reason thereof.  
General Manager (Admin), OCAC, Plot No.-N-117-D, Acharya Vihar, P.O. -RRL, Bhubaneswar-751013, Ph.: 0674-2567280/2567064/2567295

कानपुर विद्युत आपूर्ति कम्पनी लिमिटेड  
14/71, सिविल लाइन्स, केसा हाउस,  
कानपुर अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा विस्तारण  
सूचना अपरिहार्य कारणों से ई-निविदा सं.  
11/19-20 दिनांक 12.09.2019 तक  
विस्तारित की जाती है, जो कि वेबसाइट  
<https://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचाएँ हस्ता./-  
अधिशासी अभियन्ता (भण्डार क्रय)  
संख्या: STP/A-11/552/19-20  
दिनांक: 26.08.2019

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**  
Social Justice & Special Assistance Department  
**NOTICE FOR TENDER**  
RFP for Selection of Agency for Procurement of Video Conferencing Device, Installation, Commissioning, Managed Services and Internet Leased Line  
SOCIAL Justice & Special Assistance Department, Government of Maharashtra, invites proposals from reputed and experienced Companies to participate in the competitive bidding process for "RFP for Selection of Agency for Procurement of Video Conferencing Device, Installation, Commissioning, Managed Services and Internet Leased Line."  
For the detailed tender document, interested bidders should visit <https://mahatenders.gov.in>  
The Tender document is available for download from 24.08.2019, 1400 Hrs onwards. Refer tender Notice for detailed schedule.  
Sd/-  
(Dinesh Dingle)  
Joint Secretary,  
Social Justice & Special Assistance Department  
Government of Maharashtra  
No. COM 2017/C.R.22/Computer Cell  
Social Justice & Special Assistance Department, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk,  
Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya Annex, 1st Floor, Mumbai-400032.  
Dated:- 23rd August, 2019  
DGIPR/2019-2020/2269





**NORTH**

**NHRC notice to UP over mid-day meal of salt and rotis**

Lucknow: The National Human Rights Commission on Monday issued a notice to the Uttar Pradesh chief secretary after taking cognizance of an incident where children at a government-run primary school were served salt and rotis served for their mid-day meal, according to a statement. The

commission has sought a detailed report in the matter within four weeks, the statement said. A video of the incident, which took place in Siyur primary school, surfaced on social media on Thursday. Authorities suspended two teachers and served showcause notices to several others. **PTI**



School students protest against Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro in Kolkata on Monday over allegations of his connection with fires raging through the Amazon rainforest in Brazil. Partha Paul

**EAST**

**Jamaat-e-Mujahideen operative held in Bihar**

Kolkata, Patna: A suspected top operative of the Jamaat-e-Mujahideen was arrested by the Special Task Force of Kolkata Police from Buniyadar in Gaya, Bihar on Monday. The accused has been identified as Ejaz Ahmad. "Today, a team of STF Kolkata arrested Ejaz Ahmad

from Gaya in Bihar," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (STF) Subhankar Sinha Sarkar. "He is top most Indian functionary and main recruiter in India," added Sarkar. "Police is considering it a good catch since Ahmad has been a ruler for JMB in India," he said. **ENS**

**WEST**

**Surat police gets custody of Kobad Ghandy**

Surat: The Surat police on Monday took custody of Maoist leader Kobad Ghandy from the Jharkhand police. He is wanted in Surat in a case of unlawful assembly, a complaint for which, was registered in March 2010. After completing court procedures, Surat police submitted a production warrant to the Hazaribagh Central jail in

Jharkhand and took custody of Ghandy. Surat Deputy Superintendent of police, CM Jadeja, said, "We have arrested Kobad Ghandy in an unlawful assembly case. We have completed the court procedures and took his custody from Jharkhand police. In this case, a total of 24 persons were arrested and he is the 25th accused." **ENS**

**SOUTH**

**Explosion of 'old rocket launcher shells' kills 2 in TN**

Chennai: Two youths were killed in an explosion in a temple near Kancheepuram on Sunday, police said. While a 22-year-old man died in the explosion and another youth succumbed to injuries on Monday. "The explosion happened when a group of youth, who gathered at the temple for a birthday cele-

bration, tried to open a container which was spotted next to the temple tank," a senior police officer said. According to him, they may have retrieved a bomb shell used in rocket launchers from the spot. "Possibly it exploded when the youth tried to open the suspicious container..." he said. **ENS**

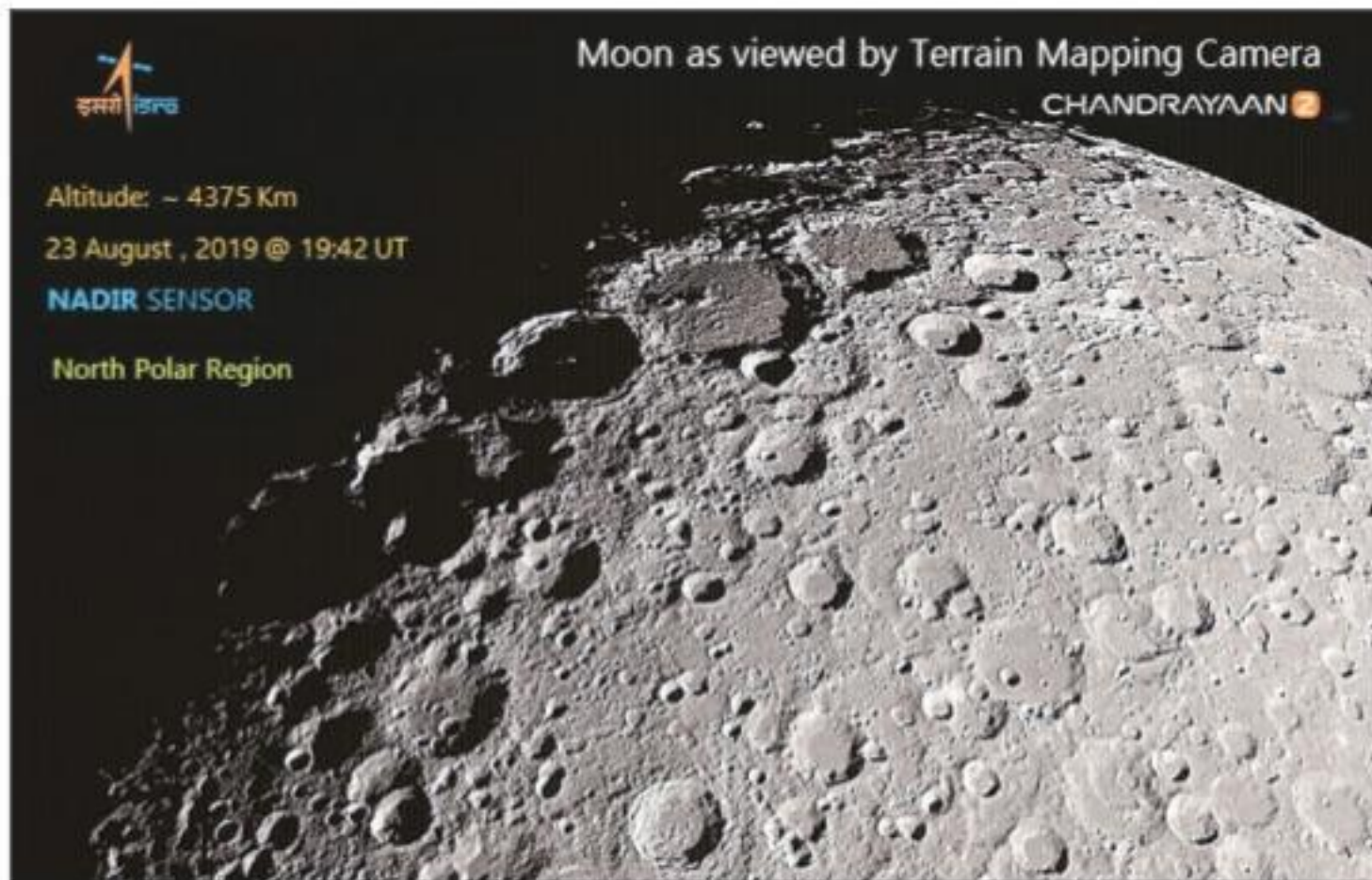
**4 booked for tonsuring 'rape victim'**

Patna: Four members of a panchayat were booked on Monday for tonsuring an alleged rape victim. The panchayat, instead of handing over the accused to the police, ordered tonsuring of head of the 15-year-old girl and parading her in public, according to her complaint. The girl was allegedly gangraped. A medical examination had not been conducted yet. According to her complaint,

when the local police station did not file her case, she went to the panchayat, she said. The panchayat, said the complaint, "accused her of going with boys, tonsured her head and paraded her in the village." "We have lodged two FIRs — one against the rape accused and another against panchayat members," said a senior official of the station where the case was booked. **ENS**

**2 booked for custodial death in UP**

Lucknow: A station officer (SO) and a police outpost in-charge were suspended and a murder case was registered against them on Monday after a 35-year-old man allegedly died in custody on Sunday. The man, Ram Avatar, was taken into custody in connection with two theft cases in Amethi. **ENS**



**ON TOP OF THE MOON**

The lunar north polar region captured by a terrain mapping camera aboard the Chandrayaan-2 on Friday. The image was taken from an altitude of roughly 4,375 km and captures impact craters such as Plaskett (109km), Rozhdstvenskiy (177km) and Hermite (104 km; one of the coldest spots in the solar system). There will be three more orbit manoeuvres before the lander's separation from the Orbiter on September 2 and eventual soft landing in the south polar region of the Moon, planned on September 7. **ISRO**

**BULANDSHAHR**

**As accused get back to life, slain cop's wife fears retaliation**

AMIL BHATNAGAR  
BULANDSHAHR, AUGUST 26

TWO DAYS after the seven men accused of sedition, attempt to murder and rioting during the Bulandshahr violence of December 2018 were given a hero's welcome by supporters upon their release on bail, the seven have quietly begun rehabilitation, even as the wife of Subodh Kumar Singh, the inspector killed in the violence, on Monday said she fears retaliation. Singh's wife Rajini said, "What is the point of assurances (by government) if those cannot be fulfilled? There needs to be a more thorough investigation. I am shocked that they (accused) are out (on bail) and were welcomed with garlands. Since they are out, they can very well target us (now)."



Rajkumar, on whose farm the carcasses were found, is among those released on Saturday. Amit Mehra

called an accused and we have suffered as a result. Like any other young man, he was politically active and felt that taking up the issue would give him visibility. But he only wanted to highlight the issue of cow slaughter; he had nothing to do with the murder." According to the chargesheet, Agarwal, along with main accused Yogesh Raj, who is still in jail, played a key role in gathering a crowd for a protest against alleged cow slaughter, which later led to the violence.

Two others released — Jeetendra Malik, alias Jeetu Fauji, and Rajkumar — come from nearby Mahav. Malik, an Army man arrested for alleged involve-

ment in the rioting, is learnt to have returned to Meerut in his official capacity and is awaiting posting. Claiming their innocence, a neighbour said, "The whole village is happy they have been let out. He (Malik) is a quiet person and rarely visited home given his duty. He was on leave when the incident occurred." Calling Agarwal a "crusader", Balraj Dungan, regional coordinator of Bajrang Dal, said, "This is a victory for us, as people like Shikhar and Yogesh were carrying out the noble work of protecting cows."

In main accused Yogesh Raj's village, residents are awaiting his release on bail and said his contributions to religious causes are "invaluable". Vipin, a villager, said, "Posters with his picture are put up on festivals. They were put up on Holi, Janmashtami and we will do it again on Diwali. For us, he is a social worker and was doing social work on the day of violence."

Meanwhile, Chingrawati police booth, where the violence occurred, has received a fresh coat of paint and sparkling clean tiles. The half-glass door has been repaired and a new table has been placed outside.

**Woman assaulted in UP on child-lifting suspicion, four held**

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 26

FOUR PEOPLE, including two women, were arrested in Etah district on Monday for allegedly thrashing a 50-year-old woman on Sunday.

They suspected her to be a child lifter, police said. According to police officials, the accused were identified through a video of the incident that surfaced on social media. Police are looking for two other women, identified as Sunita and Sheela, who were also a part of the mob that attacked Beena Devi, a native of Sirmaur in Himachal Pradesh.

Station House Officer of City Kotwali Police Station, Ashok Kumar Singh, said, "The woman told us that she had gone to Rishikesh in Uttarakhand to meet her younger sister, Suman Devi, a week ago. Two days ago, she had gone to a temple in Rishikesh alone and met a priest. Beena Devi said that the priest gave her something

to eat after which she fell unconscious. On Sunday morning, when she gained consciousness, she found herself elsewhere. While she was trying to gather her whereabouts, some people and started beating her," the SHO said.

Police have lodged an FIR against 10 unidentified people under IPC sections 147 (rioting), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 328 (causing hurt by means of poison, etc., with intent to commit an offence) and 505 (public mischief).

"During interrogation, the arrested people claimed that they suspected the woman to be a child lifter on the basis of her 'odd behaviour,'" said SHO. All the arrested accused have been sent to judicial custody.

Meanwhile, Beena Devi has been handed over to her sister who reached Etah after she was informed by police.

**India pivotal to global fightback against AIDS, says chief of vaccine initiative**

ABANTIKA GHOSH  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

WITH 2 million new HIV infections reported every year across the world and Indian companies supplying 66 per cent of antiretroviral drugs, the country is key to the global fightback against AIDS, Dr Mark Feinberg, president and CEO of the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), said on Monday.

Feinberg, currently on a visit to India, did not hazard a deadline for an AIDS vaccine but said work on it has improved understanding of the immune system and spawned many technologies that can help fight other diseases, including emerging threats such as Ebola and Zika.

A nonprofit scientific research organisation seeking to address urgent, unmet global health challenges — including HIV and tuber-

**Govt internet ad spend up; TV, print take a hit**

Internet ads remain minuscule part of total spend on ads

KRISHNA KAUSHIK  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

ASTHE Centre's ad spend on television and print in 2018-2019 came down to the same level as it was in its first term in 2014-2015, the Government's spending on Internet ads saw a four-fold jump in the same period. Advertisements on the Internet, however, continue to remain a minuscule part of the total money spent on ads.

This is according to data accessed by *The Indian Express* under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, which also show that in its first tenure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government spent a total of Rs 5,726 crore between May 2014 and March 10, 2019, on publicity.

According to the data, in the last 100 days before the Lok Sabha elections were announced and the Model Code of Conduct kicked in, the Centre spent Rs 367 crore between December 1, 2018, and March 10, 2019.

A lion's share of the money spent on advertising in the last five years was still taken up by print and TV ads though, show that data. While TV ads cost the government Rs 2,604 crore between May 2014 and March 10, 2019, print ads cost Rs 2,379. In comparison, the total money spent on advertising on the Internet during the same period was just Rs 59 crore.

The ad spend on the Internet, however, grew from Rs 6.64 crore in 2014-2015 to Rs 26.95 crore in 2018-2019. The money spent on internet ads for 2015-2016, 2016-

**SPIKE IN INTERNET, OUTDOOR ADS**

Media	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
TV	247.84	245.41	280.76	154.5	156.52
Internet	6.64	14.13	6.97	5.04	26.95
Print	390.89	510.63	463.38	631.84	382.89
Outdoor Publicity	81.27	118.51	186.37	208.54	147.50

\* Data accessed under RTI Act \*\* Figures in Rs crore

2017 and 2017-2018 was Rs 14.12 crore, Rs 6.97 crore and Rs 5 crore respectively.

The data also show that the government paid Rs 383 crore for print ads in 2018-2019, which is similar to Rs 391 crore it spent in its first year in 2014-2015. However, the money spent on print ads jumped to Rs 632 crore in 2017-2018, increasing from Rs 463 crore in 2016-2017.

Though the total ad spend on electronic ads is comparable for 2014-2015 and 2018-2019, the money spent on TV ads has decreased. In 2018-2019, the government spent Rs 156 crore, which was significantly lower than the Rs 247 crore spent in 2014-2015.

In 2015-2016, the ad spend on TV was Rs 245 crore and rose to Rs 280 crore in 2017-2018. It dropped by 45 per cent the next year, when the government spent Rs 154 crore on TV ads in 2017-2018. Apart from TV, spending on electronic ads also included publicity on All India Radio, Doordarshan, community radio, private radio, digital cinema, production, SMS, the Internet and other miscellaneous ads.

Within electronic ads, however, apart from the Internet, only

private radio saw a surge in the ad spend. The money spent on ads on private radio channels rose sharply from Rs 69 crore in 2014-2015 to Rs 194 crore in 2018-2019.

The government spent a total of Rs 129 crore on ads on Doordarshan and Rs 131 crore for ads on All India Radio. However, though the money spent on ads on DD rose from Rs 20 crore in 2014-2015 to Rs 36 crore and Rs 34 crore over the next two years, it fell to Rs 26 crore in 2017-2018 and to just Rs 12 crore in 2018-2019.

Similarly, for AIR too, the money spent on ads by the government has decreased. In 2014-2015, the government spent Rs 29 crore on ads on AIR, it spent just Rs 17 crore the next year. The ad spend jumped to Rs 37 crore and Rs 34 crore in the next two years, until March 10, 2019, the money spent for ads on AIR in 2018-2019 was just Rs 14.8 crore.

On outdoor publicity, the government spent Rs 742 crore in five years. This jumped from Rs 81 crore in 2014-2015 to Rs 147.5 crore in 2018-2019. The costliest year for outdoor publicity was 2017-2018 when the government spent Rs 208.5 crore.

**Accident leads to caste clashes in TN**

Chennai: Tension prevailed in Vedaranyam, Nagapattinam district, after a clash between two communities on Sunday over a road accident. The vehicle involved in the mishap was owned by a man from the OBC Thevar community while the victim is a Dalit.

Following the accident, the vehicle was torched by a mob and the owner had to take shelter in a nearby police station. Subsequently, the mob threw

stones at the the police station. A statue of BR Ambedkar was also damaged, allegedly by members of the Thevar community. The district administration has installed a new statue at the same spot. Several government buses in Coimbatore were pelted with stones on Monday in protest against the vandalism.

Most shops and commercial establishments remained closed in Vedaranyam on Monday. In protest against the attack on the

Ambedkar statue, Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi (VCK), a Dalit outfit led by Thol Thirumavalavan MP staged protests in several parts of the state.

"Over 60 people have been arrested so far for involvement in violence. A couple of people have been picked up for questioning in connection with the attack on Ambedkar statue," said an official. A statement from the DMK alleged that "fascist forces" were behind the attack. **ENS**

**Why India is crucial in battle against the virus**

THERE ARE 2 million new AIDS infections every year, and about 66 per cent of the world population currently on antiretroviral therapy consumes drugs manufactured in India. Globally, the ART market is valued at \$24.48 billion (in 2018) and is expected to reach \$33.83 billion by 2025. Indian pharmaceutical companies, with their ability to manufacture high-quality, affordable medicines are very important in this global battle, according to the chief of International AIDS Vaccine Initiative.

colusis — IAVI has several technology and innovation partnerships with the Department of Biotechnology.

"Making low-cost, high-quality antiretroviral drugs available is key to the global AIDS fightback. That is why Indian pharmaceutical companies, with their ability to manufacture high-quality, af-

fordable medicines are key," Feinberg told *The Indian Express*.

With neither a vaccine nor any cure in sight, antiretroviral therapy (ART) is the only option available for people living with HIV-AIDS. According to the World Health Organization, standard ART consists of a combination of at least three antiretroviral drugs

to suppress the HIV virus and stop the progression of the disease.

Significant reductions have been seen in rates of death and suffering by the use of a potent ART regimen, particularly in the early stages of the disease.

There are two trials currently under way for a possible AIDS vaccine but neither has yet reached a stage when a date can be put to the availability of the vaccine, Feinberg said.

However, among technologies that have developed as a byproduct of the quest for the vaccine, IAVI, Feinberg said, is excited about monoclonal antibodies — antibodies raised artificially to target one specific type of pathogen — and can be the key to countering emerging infections.

"Monoclonal antibodies are critically important and could be the future of tackling diseases such as cancer, or even something like snakebite," Feinberg said.

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA  
REVENUE AND FORESTS DEPARTMENT**

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MANGROVE & MARINE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION OF MAHARASHTRA (ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS)

MANGROVE and Marine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation of Maharashtra is registered under Societies Registration Act 1860, for conservation of mangroves and marine biodiversity of Maharashtra Coast. To achieve the objective of the Foundation, applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment for the following positions on contract basis:

Title of the Position	Number of Posts
1. Deputy Director, Livelihood Development	1
2. Finance Officer	1
3. Civil Engineer	1
4. Surveyor	1

For the detailed Terms of References and Application Form please refer to the web site <https://tinyurl.com/ybh5dm12>

**Method of Selection:** Candidates shall be shortlisted on the basis of information provided in the application form. The Executive Director reserves the right to raise the criteria for shortlisting candidates. The selection process may involve a written test. The final selection will be based on performance in personal interview (and written test, if conducted).

Interested candidates will have to fill the Application Form and submit their application by e-mail to [hr.mangrove@maharashtra.gov.in](mailto:hr.mangrove@maharashtra.gov.in), or by post or hand delivery to The Executive Director, Mangrove Foundation & APCFC, Mangrove Cell, 302 Wakefield House, 3rd Floor, Ballard Estate, Above Britania & Co. Restaurant, Mumbai-400 001.

**Note:** Please indicate the name of the post applied for, on the 'Application Form' and in the subject of the e-mail, failing which your application will not be considered. Deadline for submission: 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The General Public is hereby informed that M/s Elan Limited, having its Corporate office at 3rd Floor, Tower A, Golf View Corporate Towers, Golf Course Road, Sec 42, Gurugram has been transferred/ granted vide License No. 148 of 2008 dated 02.08.2008 by the Town and Country Planning, Haryana, to set up a Commercial Colony on land measuring 3.525 Acres in the Revenue Estate of Village Badshahpur, Sector-70, Distt. Gurugram (Haryana). Consequently, Environment Clearance has been granted by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Haryana, Bays No.55-58, Paryatan Bhawan, Sec-2, Panchkula, Haryana vide their letter no. SEIAA/HRI/2019/238 dated 22.08.2019. General Public is further informed that copy of said Environment Clearance Letter is available in the office of State Pollution Control Board, Panchkula and State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Panchkula, Haryana.

M/s Elan Limited  
3rd Floor Tower A, Golf View Corporate Towers, Golf Course Road, Sector-42 Gurugram

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II**  
(Ministry of Finance, Government of India)  
3rd Floor, Bhikhubhai Chamber 18, Gandhi Kunj Society, Opp. Deepka Petrol Pump, Ellisbridge, AHMEDABAD-380006. Exh.No.07  
O.A.356/2019

**BETWEEN**  
Stressed Assets Stabilization Fund  
VERSUS  
M/s L.C. Textiles Ltd. & Others

**APPLICANT**  
DEFENDANTS

To  
Def. No. 5:- Mr. Ayush Jain (Pledgor)  
B-43, Soami Nagar South, 2nd floor, New Delhi-110017.

Def.No.6:- Mr.A.K.Jain (Pledgor)  
B-43, Soami Nagar South, 2nd floor, New Delhi-110017.

WHEREAS the above named applicant has filed the above referred application in this Tribunal.  
1. WHEREAS the service of Summons/ Notice could not be effected in the ordinary manner and whereas the application for substituted service has been allowed by this Tribunal.  
2. Defendant are hereby directed to show cause as to why interim relief under Para 7 (c) and para 6 of the Original Application should not be granted in favour of the applicant Bank against defendants.  
3. You are directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate and file Written Statement/ Say on 11.09.2019 at 10.30 a.m. and show cause as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.  
4. The defendant are directed to disclose their personal movable and immovable assets on oath on the next date of hearing.  
5. Take notice that in case of default, the Application shall be heard and decided in your absence.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF THE TRIBUNAL ON THIS 6th AUGUST, 2019.  
PREPARED BY CHECKED BY ASST. REGISTRAR

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**Government Medical College**  
Rampur Road, Haldwani, Nainital, Uttarakhand

**Walk-In-Interview**

Walk In interview for vacant "SUPER SPECIALTY FACULTY (Cardiology, Neuro Surgery, Nephrology, Plastic Surgery & Urology)" post(s) on contractual basis will be held on 05th September 2019 (Thursday) at 10.00 AM onwards in the "Office of the Vice Chancellor HNB Uttarakhand Medical Education University Campus, Govt. Doon Medical College Campus, Dehradun, Dehradun, Uttarakhand". For Further details please visit our website:- [www.gmchid.org](http://www.gmchid.org), [www.gmchid.com](http://www.gmchid.com) & [www.medicaleducation.uk.gov.in](http://www.medicaleducation.uk.gov.in)

Advt. No.- 129/GMC/Apptt./Dated 26.08.2019

Sd/-  
Principal  
Government Medical College, Haldwani





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## The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY  
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

# Asian cats, Western monkeys

Across Asia, focus is turning to multiple geopolitical quarrels. Western powers are back in play, arbitrating



SANJAYA BARU

ONE STORY from the *Panchatantra* which holds a lesson for students of geopolitics and international relations is that of the clever monkey and the quarrelling cats. Seeking to arbitrate between two cats fighting over some leftovers, the monkey brings in a weighing scale to ensure equal division. Finding one part of the cake bigger than the other, the monkey takes a bite of the bigger slice to make them equal. Finding it has bitten off too much, it takes a bite of the other side to ensure balance. And so it goes on, till the entire cake is devoured.

Divide and rule has been around for ages as a tactic of control and domination. With Japan and the Koreans quarrelling, China and India quarrelling, Pakistan and India quarrelling, the Arabs and the Iranians quarrelling, there are so many Asian cats chasing each other's tail that western monkeys are back in play, arbitrating across Asia.

The story over the past quarter century was the much heralded "geo-economic" rise, or resurgence, of Asia. The focus this year seems to be turning to multiple geopolitical quarrels among Asians. That a rapidly retreating Britain would allow its capital city to become a stage for an old South Asian quarrel it facilitated over a century is as much a comment on the monkey's delusions of past grandeur as on the cats' lack of wisdom.

Equally, if not more, China's questioning of India on matters pertaining to territory on one side of its borders sounds fanciful given its quarrels with many neighbours all around. Not long back, a Chinese premier said to his Indian counterpart that when India and China shake hands the whole world looks at them. What was not stated was that some would look with hope and others with concern. Today, when China and India quarrel on the status of Jammu and Kashmir, it could be said again that the whole world looks at them, some with hope and others with concern. The hope this time is that quarrelling Asians will bring to a halt the narrative of a "Rising Asia".

In 2007, the late Lee Kuan Yew, founder-

mentor of Singapore, famously said that China and India were the twin engines of the Asian aircraft and that together the two engines would lift the continent as a whole onto a new trajectory of growth. Have we, within the decade, come to a point when "differences turning into disputes", not just between the two Asian giants but between so many Asian neighbours, could ground the Asian aircraft and delay the dawn of the so-called "Asian century"? Does China imagine its future is secure without Asian stability?

It is no secret that the US is now engaged in a "geo-economic containment" of China, as originally theorised by the Harvard scholar Edward Luttwak in his wonderfully crafted book, *The Rise of China and the Logic of Conflict* (2012). Of course, the Chinese understand this. Must they, then, pick a quarrel with so many of their neighbours, making many of them turn West, seeking balance? Would a burnt-out power like Britain have the courage to voice concern about human rights in Hong Kong but for the courage it derives from concerns around Asia? Would it allow anti-India demonstrators to disrupt traffic in the heart of London but for the fact that it sees new opportunities to regain lost influence?

Major Asian powers have a responsibility towards the continent as a whole. No power, however big and powerful, can hope to dominate the continent. Asia will never become China's backyard the way the US converted western Europe into its backyard after the Second World War. If the US succeeds in the "geo-economic containment" of China it will be because of China's inability to reassure its neighbours rather than because Asians will once again wish to be dominated by the West. The real and present challenge for all of Asia is the slowing down of its growth engines. Sure, the global growth engine is itself slowing down, but for most Asian countries the slowdown threatens livelihoods, not merely lifestyles.

For India, the slowdown is even more

challenging since it is now clear that it is not merely a cyclical downturn that can be addressed with fiscal and monetary policy intervention but has deep-rooted structural foundations that need urgent fixing. Analysts have pointed to inadequate improvement in labour productivity, reduced rates of saving and investment, inadequate demand constrained by inequalities in wealth and income as structural factors that are holding the Indian economy back.

Many other Asian economies, including China, are facing structural constraints to growth. Given global demographics and income distribution, any hope of restoring momentum to global growth depends vitally on the Asian growth process rebounding. But, for growth to return to Asia, the continent needs geopolitical stability. Asia cannot look to the West for a return to such stability for a variety of reasons. Europe is constrained by a lack of vision and capability while the US is actively engaged in disrupting global growth to ensure its own continued dominance.

Luttwak's advice for the US leadership was to seek the geo-economic containment of China. However, President Donald Trump has acted as if he is seeking the geo-economic containment of Asia as a whole. Indeed, many in Europe see him as disrupting the prospects for growth in Europe too. As for Latin America and Africa, all hopes of their growth articulated so convincingly a decade ago seem less plausible now.

Against this background, Asian leaderships across the continent have a responsibility to the future. A decade ago, it was hoped across Asia that China and India can offer that kind of leadership to the continent. Today, that hope has receded. If Asians will not shape Asia's future, who would want to? This question ought to be the agenda for the next meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's President Xi Jinping.

The writer is Distinguished Fellow, Institute of Defence Studies & Analysis, New Delhi

## THE WRONG COUNSEL

The Press Council is primarily the autonomous guardian of press freedom — on J&K it has gone against its own mandate

THE FIRST PRESS Commission recommended the establishment of a Press Council of India (PCI) in the 1950s. It was in response to a survey of yellow journalism, but the first element of the commission's mandate for the proposed statutory body was to secure the freedom of the press. The problematics of media bias were secondary, since only a free press could be called upon to be responsible. The PCI has been on the side of the angels in some of the most disturbing periods in contemporary history, like the insurgency in Punjab and the violent polarisation triggered by the Ram Jannabhoomi movement. It produced a good report on the media in Kashmir in 2017. But now, it has actually gone against the mandate set for it well before its inception in 1966. The PCI has sought to intervene in the matter of a petition filed by *Kashmir Times* in the Supreme Court, seeking removal of press curbs which have crippled reporting from Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of the Centre's decision to abrogate Article 370. The PCI's mandate would place it on the side of the petitioner, but it has sought to balance the priority of press freedom against the "national interest of integrity and sovereignty". Chairman Justice CK Prasad appears to have overridden the dissent of members representing the press on the ground that freedom is contingent upon responsibility.

Responsibility to whom? The PCI's move appeals to the imperative of national interest, and extraordinary circumstances may indeed demand emergency interventions. But national interest, at all the times, is served by the truth. And especially in times when it is contested, by reporting, fairly and accurately, without fear or favour. The job of the press in a democracy is to keep the public accurately informed as the situation unfolds in Jammu and Kashmir. The PCI does not need to remind the Indian press about its responsibilities in this matter — from the time when lethal insurgency broke out in Kashmir in 1990, the mainstream press has reported from the region very responsibly, serving the interests of both security and human rights.

There is room for a meaningful intervention in Kashmir, where local media has not been allowed to function at all, while national and international media have found it hard to get their stories out. And there has been a rash of sunny stories, especially on television, depicting a Kashmir that is surreally normal. By calling for curbs that effectively suppress the freedom of expression of a local publication, the PCI undermines itself as the institution charged with the responsibility of safeguarding one of the pillars of Indian democracy.

## AGENDA FOR THE BANK

Measures unveiled for financial sector may be short-term balm. India's banking industry needs a design change

LAST WEEK, FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a raft of measures aimed at reviving the economy and boosting investor sentiment. As part of this package, the government announced that it would frontload the release of Rs 70,000 crore to state-owned banks for recapitalisation, and the linking of the interest rate on loans to the RBI's key policy rate, the repo rate, besides promising bankers that they would be protected in cases where bonafide decisions are taken by them while lending. The upfront release of what is growth capital for banks should help lenders to plan their asset growth better instead of scrambling for funds and ensure that the pipeline of loans is healthy. But where the government, central bank and banks may be on sticky ground is on linking the interest rate on loans to the repo rate.

The rationale for pricing loans based on what is essentially an overnight borrowing rate is not clear, especially in the context of funding costs for banks. Ideally, such a benchmarking should be to liquid bonds or securities and across different average maturities or tenures such as three-months, six-months and one-year, like the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate or Libor. It's a challenge that the RBI and the Indian banking industry have faced over the last few decades following the freeing up of interest rates after having tried out the base rate system and then a marginal cost of funds based lending rate. Similarly, it may be too optimistic to expect bankers to push loan growth in the absence of more credible assurances of protection from over zealous investigative agencies.

Essentially, some of the measures unveiled last week for the financial sector may prove only to be short-term balm. India's banking industry, dominated by PSU lenders, will be competitive, more efficient and profitable only if there is a structural design change which features operational independence, empowered bank boards, better governance standards and quality of lending besides a government shareholder which acts like a sovereign wealth fund. That will have to be accompanied by stable government and regulatory policies. During its first term, the Narendra Modi-led government may have been late in addressing the problem of bad loans which forced the government to infuse over Rs 2 lakh crore for recapitalisation. A government with a powerful political mandate and facing the rising threat of a deepening domestic slowdown and global downturn, cannot be seen to be kicking the can down the road now.

## THE CHAMPION

PV Sindhu shows it is possible to come back after defeat, and win over the world

PV SINDHU TOOK just 38 minutes to win the World Badminton Championship final and become the first Indian to reach that dizzy height. This giant leap for Indian badminton was as much about her ruthless triumph on D-Day as it was about the way she has repeatedly bounced back after confidence-shattering defeats. It was a result of waking up the morning after and resetting her targets, no matter how hurtful the loss was, that had seen Sindhu collect a bunch of medals — at the Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, now five at the World Championships and an Olympics silver.

Indian shuttlers have had little history of excellence at the world championships. Prakash Padukone had a bronze, Pullela Gopichand had none, Saina Nehwal had faltered in six quarterfinals before eventually medaling, and the men's singles shuttlers couldn't find the breakthrough till a minor toe-hold this year. Arguably the world's most talented player, Tai Tzu-Ying, whom Sindhu beat in the quarters, has struggled to medal at the Worlds and even the legendary Lee Chong Wei had to retire with a big bunch of silvers, but no gold. Being crowned World Champion is no fortuitous happenstance, for even a bronze is hard-earned. To be the only constant in the podium pictures for three straight years is an achievement that guarantees an entry into badminton's Hall of Fame.

It is no secret that India struggles for medals at Olympics, the frustration reaching tipping point three years back in Rio. But Sindhu was in a stratosphere of her own — revealing in ousting shuttlers with big reputations, including the mighty Chinese Wang Yihan, before losing a classic final. She never settled for it, and it was to be the start of an assault on every peak — India had never medaled in women's singles at the Asian Games before her silver. No Indian, male or female, had made the World Championship finals. No Indian had won the year-ending circuit finale. A solitary global medal — not necessarily gold — makes grand news in India. But Sindhu's is an unapologetic ambition to win over the world, and she will do everything within her prowess to keep winning.



JOYASHREE ROY

THE 2018 IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C delivered a clear message: Human activities have caused an approximately 0.87°C rise in global average temperature over pre-industrial times. The latest IPCC report on 'Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse gas fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems' takes the warning further and states that the land surface air temperature has risen by nearly twice the global average temperature, at about 1.3°C.

Given the direct impact the world's land systems have on human well-being, livelihood, food security and water security, the report cannot be overlooked, and especially not by acutely vulnerable India.

Desertification of land under agricultural use will exacerbate the already worsening dangers of declining crop yields and crop failures. Combating it requires the urgent implementation of measures from the set of several remedial options proposed in the report, including reduced tillage, planting cover crops, improvements in grazing management and greater use of agroforestry.

However, another key component is maintaining and extending forest cover, as forests act as enormous natural carbon sinks. In this context recent news that suggests the dilution of environmental impact assessments (EIAs) in India seems regressive. Industrial development and environmental protection can be planned prudently to be compatible. Land sparing industrialisation, appropriate zoning and environmental safeguards are possible without being in conflict with replacement

## THE LAST WINDOW

Like other countries, India too must act quickly and decisively on the IPCC report

of the ecological services provided by the natural growth-forest ecosystem.

Every developing nation needs industrial growth, but given the severity of the threat we face in climate change, not factoring in the importance of preserving prudently chosen and managed forest cover would be ill-advised. Global assessment reports have also shown that consulting indigenous people is an important way of integrating local knowledge with scientific knowledge.

Water management is also critical. Agriculture in India accounts for more an estimated 86 per cent of the country's freshwater use. The water intensity of Indian paddy is also below global best practices. The 2019 HIMAP report by ICIMOD has shown that with receding glaciers, there is need to manage water better both in the short and in the long run — especially in India — to address the challenge of food security.

The Union government has commendably taken up the goal of "irrigation water productivity". Yet, promoting compatible irrigation practices like drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, shifting away from water-intensive cash crops, alternate wetting and drying (AWR) practices in paddy cultivation, extension services for providing access and sensitising farmers to the efficient water use technologies and practices and the use of water efficient agricultural practices needs to be taken up on a war footing. The largely forgotten traditional rainwater harvesting practices like building tanks and artificial ponds in low-lying catchment areas need to be scaled up across the nation.

Consumption and waste management in

the food sector is considered to have climate implications as well. A shift towards a more plant-based based diet is considered a healthy sustainable dietary option in the IPCC report. The UN estimates that the world's population could breach 9.7 billion by 2050, so the need to augment food supplies per unit availability of land and water is a necessary target. The shift is even more pertinent for India as its yet largely poor population will be one of the first to be affected by constrained food supplies. Diversification of the food system, balanced diets, low meat diets are all identified with health benefits, adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development benefits. Livestock sector management with crop management is necessary for multiple benefits.

Unlike many countries which have crossed the health safety limits of meat consumption with rising incomes, India need not follow the same path. Here, education can play an important role in managing meat consumption. Market incentives too need to be aligned with human health benefits.

Like for many other countries, there is a very small window left for India's policymakers to respond to the severity of the threat. However, there are some cultural advantages for India and multiple options for adopting sustainable practices to avoid a carbon-intensive development path. It is hoped that the well-being of the masses will take precedence over short-term economic gains for a few.

The writer is currently Bangabandhu Chair Professor, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand



## AUGUST 27, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

### LEFT UNITY

THE CPM WILL have seats adjustments with the Janata(S)-Congress combine but no electoral alliance. This may well be the attitude of other Left parties also. At the same time, the five Left parties — CPM, CPI, RSP, PWP and Forward Bloc — will go for a common manifesto and joint electoral programme and are unwilling to be an integral part of the Janata(S)-Congress alliance. This strategy has almost been finalised during the CPM politburo meeting. CPI leader Rajeshwara Rao's appeal to Left parties to chalk out a programme to contain the "communal and authoritarian forces" has been welcomed by Marxist leaders. Rao's statement, it is pointed

out, indicates that there is no love lost in the CPI for the Congress-I. Much significance is attached to the CPI national council's censure of the Kerala unit of the CPI for making adjustments with the Congress-I in the state.

### NANAJI ON ALLIANCE

JANATA PARTY GENERAL Secretary Nanaji Deshmukh ruled out any electoral adjustment with the Congress-I anywhere in the country for the Lok Sabha mid-term poll. He was commenting on West Bengal Janata Leader P C Sen's statement indicating such a partnership. Deshmukh said all the sitting members of his party would be given tickets, unless they chose not to contest. He

added that Janata would contest nearly all the 543 Lok Sabha seats. However, some seats could be left for parties like the RPI (Khobragade group).

### HAVANA FOR NAM

CUBAN LEADERS ARE confident that the sixth non-aligned summit, which opens in Havana on August 28, will be a success despite the highly-charged atmosphere in which the conference was meeting. Cuban Vice-President Rafael Rodriguez and other top political and government functionaries said that as the host nation, Cuba will leave no stones unturned to preserve the unity of the non-aligned movement.



# 13 THE IDEAS PAGE

## In Atal ji's mould

Like Vajpayee, Arun Jaitley was a quintessential democrat. Atal ji used poetry to express himself, Jaitley used prose



RAM MADHAV

WHAT A CRUEL destiny it is to be forced into writing obituaries every few months. In the past five years, we in the BJP have lost six young and dedicated leaders to untimely deaths. First, it was Gopinath Munde, followed by Anil Madhav Dave, Ananth Kumar, Manohar Parrikar, Sushma Swaraj, and now Arun Jaitley. We lost our beloved Atal ji too. No single political party in Indian history has faced such tragedy.

"Jaatasya hi dhruvo mrityuham". Those who are born shall die, said Lord Krishna in the Bhagwad Gita. Yet, when promising leaders pass on in their prime, we long for better answers. The void that these leaders have left behind is hard to fill.

Arun Jaitley was a gentleman politician — suave, sophisticated, humane and witty. He was not just a leader; in over three decades of political life, Jaitley had become an institution. He was our one-stop reference for everything — whether it was the challenges faced by the government or the party or questions about the nation's future or political issues. From leaders in the states to ministers in the cabinet, from the BJP's alliance partners to parties on the other side, everyone would turn to him for solutions and guidance. For the media, he was the source of information and the "line-giver". He was simply indispensable.

Jaitley rose through the party ranks. A find of the Atal-Advani era, he came into prominence through hard work, dedication and talent. An activist of the ABVP, he was incarcerated during the Emergency. When a lucrative offer to contest polls was in sight during the Janata Party regime, Jaitley chose to establish himself as a successful professional before taking the political plunge. A decade in the rugged terrain of the Indian legal system had probably helped him become an expert in matters of law and justice and constitutional intricacies. By the time he became an integral part of the BJP in the late 1980s, Jaitley had made a reputation as a legal and constitutional luminary. This expertise, coupled with his raw sense of grass roots politics, made Jaitley a great asset for the BJP.

Jaitley's used to be the last word on many legal and constitutional questions that the party would face in the states or at the national level. Law and matters related to the Constitution were at his fingertips. But the solutions he would provide were not just those of a lawyer or a constitutional expert, but also of a shrewd politician, who had his nose to the ground. He had an amazing understanding of the country's grass roots political reality.

Jaitley was a versatile genius. He handled the finance and defence ministries with equal aplomb. Under two prime ministers, he held portfolios as diverse as law, information and broadcasting, disinvestment, finance, and defence. As the Leader of Opposition or Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha, he led or participated in several committees and commissions, always



CR Sasikumar

adding great value to their functioning.

Jaitley was a quintessential democrat. If we were to name one leader as a successor of Atal Bihari Vajpayee's legacy in politics, it was him. He never believed in political untouchability. He had as many friends in the Opposition as in his party. Like Vajpayee, he too endured criticism with dignity. Like Vajpayee, Jaitley was a man of ideas, feelings, and words. Atal ji used poetry to express himself while Jaitley used prose. Both were superb orators. Jaitley inherited Atal ji's sense of humour as well. Satire used to be a cherished ingredient in politics in the past. But of late, it has become a rarity. The exception was Arun Jaitley. A player with words, he would use puns frequently in his political discourse to score points without offending the other side. An ability to lighten a heavy debate through his ready wit was Jaitley's forte. He also had the unique ability to lift a discourse intellectually. He was one of the few leaders in Indian politics with whom one could have an intelligent and profound conversation.

Jaitley's fondness for cricket is well-known. He was an office-bearer at the BCCI and led the Delhi and District Cricket Association from the front. During his tenure, he promoted many young talents who later became star players in the Indian cricket team. In politics, he was like an all-rounder in cricket. He knew how to hit sixes for the ruling side, how to bowl out the

In over three decades of political life, Jaitley had moulded himself into an institution. He was our one-stop reference for everything — whether it was the challenges faced by the government or the party or questions about the nation's future or political issues. From leaders in the states to ministers in the cabinet, from the BJP's alliance partners to parties on the other side, everyone would turn to him for solutions and guidance. For the media, he was the source of information and the 'line-giver'. He was simply indispensable.

Opposition through tough arguments and how to field the interests of his party in challenging times.

Jaitley owed his rise in politics to the Atal-Advani leadership, when young leaders were spotted and promoted by the party. During the past three decades, Jaitley too spotted, supported and promoted several young talents in Indian politics. Several leaders in today's BJP, including several in the government, owe their political rise to Jaitley.

With Jaitley, one had the freedom to disagree yet continue to have dialogue and a cordial relationship. He never saw disagreements on issues to be matters of personal prestige. He was a Kashmir specialist. He diligently guided me and Haseeb Drabu in drafting the Agenda of Alliance between the BJP and the PDP. I vividly remember how after 40 days of intense deliberations, we were stuck over a couple of points. At Prime Minister Narendra Modi's advice, we approached Jaitley who was busy giving final touches to the Union Budget. He joined us outside the North Block at 1 am, standing on the road between South and North Block, nudging us towards closing the matter to mutual satisfaction.

Jaitley is no more. As songwriter Irving Berlin wrote: "The song is ended; but the melody lingers on."

The writer is a national general secretary, BJP, and director, India Foundation

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"India, riding a wave of triumphalism stoked by hyper nationalist rhetoric, needs to know the world is not indifferent to the consequences of two nuclear-armed countries inching closer to a tipping point." — DAWN

## Beyond Kashmir

World powers are focused on other issues. India must prepare for global disruptions



RAJA MANDALA

BY C RAJA MOHAN

AS PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi wraps up his participation in the G-7 Summit in France, the immediate focus might well be about what US President Donald Trump said or did not say about "mediating" between India and Pakistan on Kashmir.

But the longer term question in Delhi ought to be about India's problems and possibilities in a turbulent world that is marked not only by deepening economic conflict among the major powers but also sharpening political divisions within the West.

India's challenge today is less about keeping the world at bay in Kashmir, but responding purposefully to the breakdown of the current global order and contribute to the shaping a new one.

To be sure, India has a problem in Kashmir — of reworking the political compact with the people of the Valley and generating sustainable support for the new constitutional arrangement. That task is certainly complicated by Pakistan's furious bid to internationalise the issue.

But, Kashmir is not making world leaders lose sleep. Barring China, few major powers want to take advantage of India's problems in Kashmir. Pakistan might whip itself into a frenzy about every word on Kashmir dripping out from the world's chancelleries. But, there is little reason for Delhi to be too excited. After all, the world has other problems at hand.

Take a look at the just concluded G-7 summit. One surprising visitor to the summit venue was the Iranian foreign minister Jawad Zarif. The French President Emmanuel Macron, observers believe, was trying his hand at "mediating" between Trump and the Islamic Republic. Quite clearly, the world has more mediations to work with than Kashmir.

Besides Iran, G-7 is worrying about a lot of other issues — from the Amazon forest fires to Brexit and the escalating tariff war between the US and China, to the French threat to impose new taxes on American technology companies.

Kashmir might certainly be there if the situation in the Valley gets out of hand and the military tension between India and Pakistan escalates. Indian diplomacy has handled these situations again and again over the last three decades. While India needs to watch out, there is no reason to be overanxious.

If Delhi is smart, it will recognise that Trump values a trade deal with India a lot more than winning the Nobel Prize for solving the Kashmir problem.

In any case, India should worry less about what Trump might say about Kashmir, and pay more attention to his breath-taking disruption of the current global economic and political order. For more than seven decades, the idea of a coherent political West, championing global capitalism, security alliances, and multilateral institutions has been

an unshakeable assumption.

In the seven decades following the Second World War, "Western primacy" was seen as immutable. Communists, socialist nationalists and nationalists in the East and the South seemed to agree; they demonised the West and railed against its hegemony.

Few would have expected that the "leader of the Free World" — the US President — would be the one taking the political axe to the West and its core institutions.

Consider what Trump has done to the G-7 forum that was founded in the 1970s as some kind of "Politburo" to orchestrate political and economic coordination between the Western powers. At the first G-7 Summit that Trump attended in the summer of 2017, he announced the withdrawal from the 2015 Paris accord on the mitigation of climate change.

Last year, Trump left the meeting in Canada before it came to a close and dissociated himself from the final communique and damned his host Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as "dishonest". This year, President Macron was smart enough to dispense with the joint communique.

Trump has been ever harsher with the World Trade Organisation that was designed by the West to advance globalising capitalism. Trump believes the WTO has not worked for the American labour. He is ready to bring the global trading architecture down in favour of bilateral deals.

Trump appears to be set on undermining US military alliances in Europe and Asia — a prospect that Russia's Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping could only have dreamt of. He is also eager to end America's "endless wars" in the greater Middle East, including Afghanistan.

We do not know whether Trump will be recalled as a short-term aberration or the accidental catalyst for big structural changes in the world. What we do know is that the post-War economic and political institutions are under extraordinary stress. Few of them are likely to survive the next few years intact.

The Trump disruption demands that India take a fresh look at its economic and security policies and adapt to structural changes in the global order, far more sweeping than the ones India confronted at the turn of the 1990s — the collapse of the Soviet Union, the end of the Cold War and the new wave of economic globalisation.

India's strategy of incremental reform is increasingly incapable of coping with the disruptions unfolding in the world. The longer India takes to rework its internal and external economic strategies, the harder it will be to cope with the emerging global political challenges.

But an India that quickly adapts to the new dynamic can easily elevate its place in the new global pecking order that is bound to emerge when the dust settles from the current world turmoil. If India gets its economic house in order and returns to a high growth path, Delhi might discover that there was no better time than now to change the rules of the game on Kashmir as well as on the two state parties to the problem — Pakistan and China.

The writer is Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express



HARSH MANDER

## Chronicle of an acquittal foretold

Pehlu Khan verdict underlines subversion of justice by police and bureaucracy

ON THE eve of India's 73rd Independence Day, slogans — "Bharat Mata ki jai", "Jai Shri Ram" and "Modi hai toh mumkin hai" — were raised in the corridors of the additional district judge court in Alwar. Two groups of men had waited in sweltering heat the whole day for the court to announce its verdict in the case involving the lynching of dairy farmer Pehlu Khan on April 1, 2017. One was of the men accused of the killing and their associates. The other comprised supporters of the dead man, elders from the village and human rights workers who had helped them fight for justice.

Close to sundown, word emerged from the courtroom that the judge, Sarita Swami, had acquitted all the adult men accused of killing Pehlu Khan. The burst of triumphalist sloganeering of the accused men and their supporters was matched only by the despair of the family and neighbours of Pehlu Khan. Jaibuna Begum, Khan's widow, said she was "heart-broken". Irshad Khan, his older son, reportedly said: "We have lost faith in the law. For two-and-a-half years, we have been waiting. We thought that justice would be delivered and it would give peace to my father's soul. Our hopes were shattered."

Independence Day was a sombre one across Nuh. The news of the acquittal had travelled across the district. For Meo Muslim dairy farmers, terrorised by the lynching of Pehlu Khan and other dairy farmers after him, the judgment signalled not only the wanton denial of justice for the family of Pehlu Khan. It was about them, gesturing whether they could hope to live as equal citizens, and work

their ancestral livelihood of dairying without fear. People everywhere in the district were shrouded in a sense of profound betrayal, of loss, of uncertainty about their futures, and of a kind of settled hopelessness.

Yet this was an acquittal foretold. From the day of the attack, the police did everything they could to subvert the possibility of any punishment of the men, who planned or executed before video cameras, the public lynching of Pehlu Khan.

Gulab Chand Kataria, the then home minister of Rajasthan, indicated very early where his government stood. Defending the cow vigilantes, he said, "The problem is from both sides. People know cow-trafficking is illegal but they do it. Gau Bhakts [sic] try to stop those who indulge in such crimes." Alwar SP, Rahul Prakash, declared that was "100 per cent" certain that the lynched man and his associates were "cow smugglers".

Pehlu Khan had listed six men in his statement in hospital before he died. The police did not follow the legal requirement of obtaining a certificate from a doctor that he was fit to give the statement, enabling the court to discount it. Under the law, a dying declaration is sufficient to convict a person even if there is no corroborative evidence. In this case, five months later, police removed the names of all these six men from the list of the accused, claiming that they were not even present at the site of the lynching. Instead, nine more people, including two minors, were charged with the crime, based partly on two videos that had been taken of the crime. But

the police did not send the video for forensic verification of its authenticity, nor did they locate the mobile phone from which it was recorded. So, once again the court rejected this crucial evidence.

Months after the lynching, NDTV reporters captured on secret camera the main accused, Vipin Yadav, bragging, "We kept beating him (Pehlu Khan) up for one and a half hours," he told the undercover reporters. "First there were 10 people, then the crowd swelled." But this video was neither authenticated, nor presented before the court. The victims were not even made to identify the accused.

It is undisputed that many men were already present at the crime scene when Khan and his companions reached the spot, suggesting prior knowledge and planning; and that the mob attack was clearly a hate-crime targeting the dairy farmers on account of their religion. Still, the police did not include sections on criminal conspiracy and promoting enmity between groups on the grounds of religion in its charges, thereby eliminating any chance of evidence that this was an organised crime by Hindutva outfits. Additionally, because the victims claimed that the mob tore up their permit, they should have been charged under Section 204 for destruction of evidence.

The case, therefore, fell apart so comprehensively because it was designed to do so. What made the sting of this acquittal even more agonising was that less than a month before this, and that too under a Congress government, Pehlu Khan's sons and nephews

were charge-sheeted under the Rajasthan Bovine Animal Act 1995 for transporting milch animals across state borders without required documents. The fact is they had not crossed any state border when they were attacked. That they were transporting dairy cows and calves makes it evident that they could not possibly have been taking them for slaughter. You don't pay Rs 50,000 for a milking cow, and then sell her for slaughter, which would at best get you one-tenth of the price. Third, they claimed to have the required documents. Even if not, at most they were guilty of a technical transgression, not of any intent to harm any cow.

But none of this matters. It is evident that the rules of crime and punishment are rewritten in an India rapidly being remoulded as a Hindu nation. By these new rules, if anyone is lynched for causing harm to the cow, the persons who have been lynched are considered the original sinners. After all, they sought to injure or kill the cow sacred to Hindus. The lynch mob is the true victim in all cases of cow lynching: They are understandably provoked by the malfeasance of cow-killers; therefore, their violence is righteous and heroic. The cow-killing communities are the enemies, whereas the lynch mob are the soldiers of the Hindu nation.

In this new India, the desolation of the Meo Muslim people of Nuh on Independence Day is not hard to understand. Do we have any solace to offer to them?

Mander is a human rights worker and writer

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A GENTLEMAN

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Mr Jaitley' (IE, August 26). It is rightly believed that politics is for the thick skinned, but the stories about Arun Jaitley tell us how different he was from his ilk. He was sensitive and empathetic. His affable demeanour across the political spectrum made him the "go-to" man for his party.

Vijai Pant Hempur.

### OLD FRIENDS

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'A two-way street', (IE, August 26). India and France see each other as reliable partners in ensuring a multipolar world order. There was a quest for such a world during the heydays of the Cold War as well, when the two countries defied the idea of taking shelter in one of the two camps. The French supported India after its first nuclear test. The engagement between the two countries has moved beyond the traditional realm of strategic and economic partnership to areas such as clean energy and environment.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

### WELL DONE SINDHU

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'She's world champion' (IE, August 26). Sophisticated wrist work was in full display during the PV Sindhu-Nozomi Okuhara match. A gold medal at the World Championship was long due for Sindhu considering that she has started her journey in 2013 with a World

### 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](mailto: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

Championship Bronze at 18. Since then she has won Olympic, Asiad and Commonwealth Games medals. But a gold medal at a major event has been elusive. Now, she has become first Indian to win the World Championship medal and joint first in the number of medals at World Championships along with Chinese Zhang Ning. With the Olympics less than a year away, she must chose her tournaments judiciously and reserve her best for Tokyo.

Bal Govind, Noida

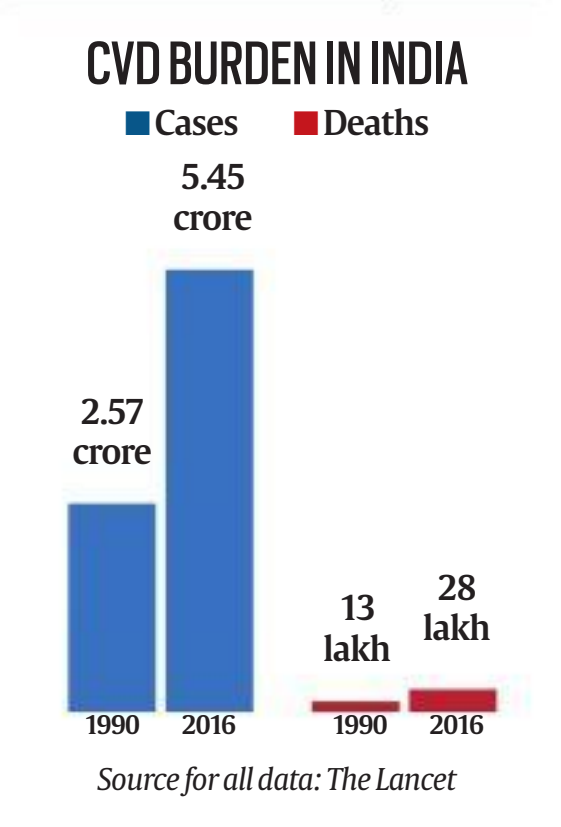


TELLING NUMBERS

Cardiovascular disease burden in India, and state highs & lows

Table with 2 columns: State, DALYs Lost per Lakh Population. Highest Burden: West Bengal (2,821), Odisha (2,259), Tripura (2,259), Assam (2,229), Chhattisgarh (2,142). Lowest Burden: Mizoram (455), Sikkim (488), Delhi (561), Himachal Pradesh (656), Arunachal Pradesh (739).

LAST WEEK, The Lancet published the results of a clinical trial with PolyPill tablets (a combination of aspirin and atorvastatin) conducted on older patients of cardiovascular disease (CVD) in Iranian adults. It concluded that a fixed dose of the tablets along with therapy may help reduce the CVD burden, particularly in low and middle income countries.



Among CVDs, heart attacks and strokes are the most common cause of death and disability in India. In India, too, the leading CVD diseases are ischaemic heart disease and stroke, contributing 61.4 per cent and 24.9 per cent of total DALYs (Daily Adjusted Life Years) lost from CVDs, according to an earlier Lancet study (2018).

Repo cut: reasons, implications

The minutes of the Monetary Policy Committee reveal how its six members read the state of the economy. But is a repo rate cut enough, and how will linking repo rate to lending and deposits rates impact people?

UDIT MISRA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

ON AUGUST 7, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a cut of 35 basis points in the repo rate, which is the rate at which the RBI lends to the banking system.

The MPC is made up of six members — three nominated by the Union government (Chetan Ghate, professor at the Indian Statistical Institute, Pami Dua, Director of Delhi School of Economics, and Ravindra Dholakia, former professor at IIM-Ahmedabad), and three representing the RBI (Governor Shaktikanta Das, B P Kanungo, and Michael Patra). The MPC meets every two months to review the monetary policy stance of the RBI.

Benign inflation trajectory The MPC is mandated by law to ensure that retail inflation stays within a band of two percentage points of the target inflation rate of 4%. Since inflation has been well below the 4% mark, the MPC members have found it logical to repeatedly vote for rate cuts since February.

Decelerating growth With inflation worries out of the way for the time being, all members focussed on economic growth concerns. They quoted extensively from a whole bunch of RBI surveys that suggest that growth is under pressure. As chart 1 shows, professional forecasters project GDP growth to be less than 7% this financial year.

Investment vs Consumption Overall GDP can be boosted by one of four drivers: private consumption, private business investment, government expenditure, and exports. With government finances at

STATE OF THE ECONOMY. Includes charts: PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION OF GDP GROWTH FORECAST FOR 2019-20 AND 2020-21; BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS DIP; CONSUMER CONFIDENCE WORSENS; INVENTORIES-TO-SALES RATIOS RISE.

their limit and exports lagging because of low global demand and trade tensions, the toss-up was between encouraging businesses to invest more, and incentivising individuals to consume more. A rate cut does both but the minutes reveal MPC members differed on why they wanted a rate cut.

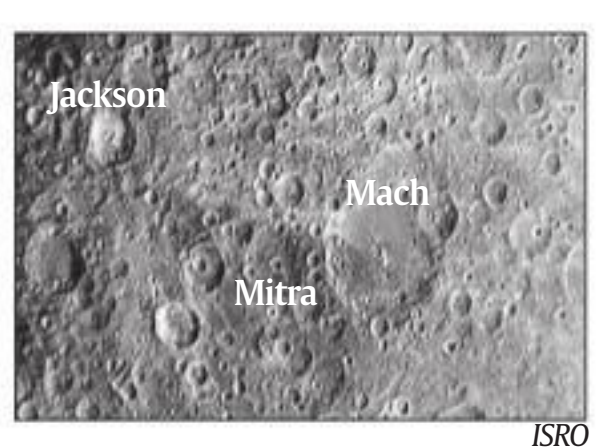
some though is that other components of aggregate demand could be joining investment in the loss of speed. Private consumption, the bedrock of domestic demand (57 per cent of GDP), is losing momentum in both urban and rural areas... The overarching goal is to reinvigorate domestic demand and the time to do it is now," stated Patra.

quantum of past rate cuts... By a large cut (35 bps) I feel we will be burning through monetary policy space without much to show for it. While the real economy needs some support, we should wait for more transmission to happen," stated Ghate.

FACT CHECK, GROUND REALITY

IMAGES FROM CHANDRAYAAN-2: HOW DID CRATERS GET NAMES LIKE 'MITRA'?

ON MONDAY, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) released images of the lunar surface captured from the Chandrayaan-2 spacecraft orbiting the Moon. Taken on August 23 by the Terrain Mapping Camera-2 of Chandrayaan-2 from an altitude of about 4,375 km, the images show impact craters named after various scientists — (Arnold) Sommerfeld (Germany), (Daniel) Kirkwood (US), (John) Jackson (Scotland), (Ernst) Mach (Austria), (Sergei) Korolev (former USSR), (Sisir) Mitra (India), (John) Plaskett (Canada), (Dmitry) Rozhdzestvenskiy (former USSR) and (Charles) Hermite (France).



lunar features after comparable features on Earth. The system of nomenclature evolved over the years and is now standardised. In a resolution by the International Astronomical Union in 1973, crater and crater-like formations are given the names of astronomers or eminent scientists, posthumously.

Earth and Mars will pause chatter, here is why

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

FOR MORE than a week, the daily chatter between Earth and Mars will go silent. On the surface of Mars are NASA's Curiosity rover and InSight lander. Above Mars are several orbiters, including India's Mars Orbiter Spacecraft (Mangalyaan), which has completed its official mission life but remains in orbit.



During Mars solar conjunction (August 28-September 7), Mars will be on the opposite side of the Sun from Earth. Radio transmissions can be interrupted. NASA

radio signals when engineers try to communicate with spacecraft at Mars, corrupting commands and resulting in unexpected behaviour from those space explorers, NASA said in a statement. When Mars disappears far enough behind the Sun's corona that there is increased risk of radio interference, engineers hold off on sending commands. Solar conjunction occurs every two years.

This time, the hold on issuing commands — called a "command moratorium" — will run from August 28 to September 7, NASA said. In 2015, the conjunction period for Mangalyaan had lasted for more than a month — from May 27 to July 1.

The pause Besides Curiosity and Insight on the Mars

surface, NASA has the Odyssey orbiter, the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter and the MAVEN orbiter. Some instruments aboard spacecraft will be inactive, especially cameras that generate large amounts of data. However, NASA said, all of its Mars spacecraft "will continue their science; they'll just have much simpler 'to-do' lists than they normally would carry out."

GS SCORE An Institute for Civil Services www.iasscore.in

International protection for 'cute' otters: what is CITES, what does it do?

SANJANA BHALERAO MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

OVER A hundred nations, acting within the framework of an inter-governmental agreement, approved a proposal by India, Nepal, and Bangladesh Sunday to prohibit commercial international trade in a species of otter native to the subcontinent and some other parts of Asia.

The Conference also accepted a separate proposal by India, moved together with the EU, the US and the Philippines, for inclusion of a species of gecko lizard found widely in South and Southeast Asia, the US, and Madagascar for protection as a "species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilisation incompatible with their survival".

Animals and appendices Members at the Conference have voted to move the smooth-coated otter (Lutrogale perspicillata) from CITES Appendix II to CITES Appendix I "because it is considered to be facing a high risk of extinction and is detrimentally affected by international trade, as well as habitat loss and degradation and persecution associated with con-

flict with people (and fisheries)". The other proposal that was passed was to include the Tokay gecko (Gekko gecko) in CITES Appendix II. Appendix I includes species "threatened with extinction"; according to the CITES website, "trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances". Appendix II provides a lower level of protection. There is also an Appendix III, which "contains species that are protected in at least one country, which has asked other CITES Parties for assistance in controlling the trade".



Smooth-coated otter in Kabini river; Tokay gecko. Wikipedia \$10,000 (almost Rs 7.2 lakh) each. The proposal moved at CITES CoP18 flagged threats to all subspecies of otters from "man-made changes to aquatic habitats", poaching, illegal trade for use as pets, and for the animals' fur and for use in traditional medicine. Between 1980 and 2017, 5,881 otter pelts were seized across 15 coun-

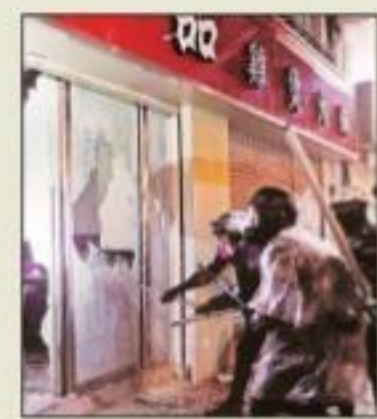
tries in Asia, with about half of the seizures being made in India, the proposal said. The proposal on protecting the Tokay gecko mentioned threats from hunting and collection for use in traditional medicine. Apart from the smooth-coated otter, India had proposed Appendix I status for the small-clawed otter, mako shark (Isurus oxyrinchus), the Indian star tortoise (Geochelone elegans) and the Tokay gecko.

The International Convention The CITES website describes it as an international agreement aimed at ensuring "that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival". CITES was drafted after a resolution was adopted at a meeting of the members of the

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 1963. The text of the Convention was agreed at a meeting of the representatives of 80 countries in Washington, DC, on March 3, 1973; the Convention is, therefore, sometimes referred to as the Washington Convention. CITES entered into force on July 1, 1975, and now has 183 parties. States and regional economic integration organisations adhere voluntarily to CITES. The Convention is legally binding on the Parties in the sense that they are committed to implementing it; however, it does not take the place of national laws. In effect, CITES provides a framework for Parties to make domestic legislation to ensure that the Convention is implemented effectively in their national jurisdictions.



TOP OF THE WORLD



Protesters damage a restaurant in Hong Kong on Sunday. AP

**HONG KONG**  
Govt warns of great danger after violence

Hong Kong: Violence is pushing Hong Kong to the brink of great danger, the city government said on Monday, after a weekend of clashes that included the first gun-shot and the arrest of 86 people, the youngest just 12. Police fired water cannon and volleys of teargas in running battles with protesters who threw bricks and petrol bombs on Sunday, the second day of weekend clashes in the Chinese-ruled city. Six officers drew their pistols and one officer fired a warning shot into the air, police said in a statement, adding that 215 rounds of teargas and 74 rubber bullets were fired over the two days.

**RUSSIA**  
'Radioactive isotopes released at missile test site'

Moscow: Russia on Monday said radioactive isotopes were released in a recent accident at an Arctic missile test site that caused widespread alarm as authorities kept details under wraps. The August 8 blast killed five scientists and caused a spike in radiation levels but Russia did not admit nuclear materials were involved for several days. The accident released swiftly decaying radioactive isotopes of strontium, barium and lanthanum, news agencies reported, citing tests by the Rosgidromet national weather and environmental monitoring agency. Alexander Uvarov, editor of the independent AtomInfo.ru news site, said the isotopes did not pose a threat to the population.

**ISRAEL**  
Court bars 'racist' candidates from September poll

Jerusalem: Israel's Supreme Court has barred two members of an extreme-right party many view as racist from running in a September 17 general election. The court ruled that candidates Benzi Gopstein and Baruch Marzel, of the Jewish Power party could not stand, quoting a law barring "incitement to racism" by candidates, according to a court statement late Sunday. Jewish Power members are followers of late racist rabbi Meir Kahane, whose Kach movement wanted to chase Arabs from Israel.

**ITALY**  
Scientists fertilise 7 northern white rhino eggs

Cremona: Eggs removed from the last two female northern white rhinos have been fertilised with sperm from the now-dead last male, but it will be about 10 days before it's known if the eggs have become embryos, an Italian assisted-breeding company said Monday. "We expect some of them will develop into an embryo," Cesare Galli, a founder of Avantea and an expert in animal cloning, said. Avantea said only seven of 10 eggs extracted last week from Kenya could be used in the fertilisation attempts.

## Trump moves to ease tensions over China, Iran as G-7 summit wraps up

Says he is ready to meet Rouhani

REUTERS  
BIARRITZ, AUGUST 26

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Monday offered an olive branch to China after days of intense feuding over trade that has spooked financial markets and he opened the door to diplomacy with Iran, easing tensions on the last day of a strained G-7 summit. The leaders of the world's major industrialised nations, meeting in the French coastal resort of Biarritz, were not expected to leave with a more comprehensive set of agreements or even a joint communique. But Trump and his Western allies appeared to have at least agreed cordially to disagree on issues dividing them.

These ranged from Washington's escalating trade war with China, which many fear could tip the slowing world economy into recession; how to deal with the nuclear ambitions of both Iran and North Korea; and the question of whether Russian President Vladimir Putin should be readmitted to the group. Trump, a turbulent presence at last year's G-7 gathering, insisted during the Biarritz meeting that he was getting along well with other leaders of a group that also comprises Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

The trade war between the US and China, the world's two largest economies, escalated last Friday as both sides levelled more tariffs on each other's exports. On Sunday, a White House spokeswoman said that when Trump told journalists that he had had second thoughts about last week's tariff blow against China, they were regret for not raising them more.

**TRUMP DENIES REPORT THAT HE WANTED TO NUKE HURRICANES**

Washington: Trump on Monday denied an Axios report that he wanted to drop nuclear bombs on hurricanes before they made landfall in the US, calling it "ridiculous". During a briefing, Trump asked if it would be possible to disrupt hurricanes forming off the coast of Africa by dropping a nuclear bomb in the eye of the storm, a report on the Axios website said on Sunday. But Trump slammed the story, calling it "fake news," in his latest swipe at the media. PTI

However, speaking on the sidelines of the G-7 summit on Monday, Trump said he believed China wanted to make a trade deal after it contacted US trade officials overnight to say it wanted to return to the negotiating table.

Trump hailed Chinese President Xi Jinping as a great leader and said the prospect of talks was a positive development. Trump also backed away from confrontation over Iran on Monday, a day after French President Emmanuel Macron stunned other leaders by inviting Iran's foreign minister to Biarritz.

Trump told reporters it was realistic to envisage a meeting between him and President Hassan Rouhani in coming weeks, describing Iran as a country of "tremendous potential". "I have a good feeling. I think he (Rouhani) is going to want to meet and get their situation straightened out. They are hurting badly," Trump said.



(From left) Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, US First Lady Melania Trump, US President Donald Trump, French First Lady Brigitte Macron and French President Emmanuel Macron at the G-7 summit in Biarritz, France, on Monday. Reuters

FROM THE MARGINS OF BIARRITZ

**FUNDING FIRE-FIGHTING AIRCRAFT FOR AMAZON**  
The G-7 countries have agreed to release \$22 million for the Amazon, most of which will be used to send fire-fighting aircraft, a source in the French presidency said. They also agreed to support a medium-term reforestation plan.



The fires in the Amazon have been one of the major talking points at the G-7. AP

**MACRON SLAMS BOLSONARO AFTER INSULTS ABOUT WIFE**  
Macron condemned "extraordinarily rude" comments about his wife Brigitte by his Brazilian counterpart Jair Bolsonaro. On Sunday, a Bolsonaro supporter posted a message on Facebook mocking the appearance of Brigitte Macron and comparing her unfavourably with Brazil's first lady Michelle. Bolsonaro replied to the post on Facebook: "Do not humiliate the guy, ha ha."

**NEXT SUMMIT LIKELY AT MY GOLF COURSE: TRUMP**  
Trump, who is to host next year's G-7 summit, already has a venue in mind - one of his very own Florida golf courses. Referring to the Doral resort near Miami, he said, "It's a great place. It's got tremendous acreage, many hundreds of acres, so we can handle whatever happens."

## US-Taliban deal won't stop attacks on Afghan forces, say militants

ABDUL QADIR SEDIQI & JIBRAN AHMED  
KABUL, PESHAWAR, AUGUST 26

AS US and Taliban negotiators push to wrap up talks aimed at securing the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan, disagreement remains about whether a pact will mean an end to the insurgents' fight with the US-backed Afghan government.

US and Taliban officials have been negotiating in Qatar since last year on an agreement centred on the withdrawal of US forces, and an end to their longest-ever war, in exchange for a Taliban guarantee that international militant groups will not plot from Afghanistan.

US negotiators have been pressing the Taliban to agree to peace talks with the Kabul government and to a ceasefire, but a senior Taliban official said that would not happen. "We will continue our fight against the Afghan government and seize power by force," said the Taliban commander on condition of anonymity.

US President Donald Trump is impatient to get US forces out of Afghanistan. But there are fears among Afghan officials and US national security aides that a US troop withdrawal could see Afghanistan plunged into a new round of civil war that could herald a return of Taliban rule and international militants, including Islamic State, finding a refuge.

Another Taliban commander, who also declined to be identified, said a deal was expected to be signed this week under which US forces, which provide all-important air support to Afghan troops, will stop attacking the Taliban and the militants would end their fight against the US troops.

Under the pact, the US would also cease supporting the Afghan

EXPLAINED

### Rift in Taliban underscores govt's fears

EVEN AS the US-Taliban talks progress, the Afghan government has expressed the fear that the future of the country was being decided without its involvement.

The deal is broadly about US troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in exchange for Taliban assurances that Afghan soil won't be used to launch terror strikes against the US and its allies. But the Taliban have refused to talk to the Afghan government. This has led to fears that once US troops leave, the Taliban — which holds large parts of Afghanistan — may try to take back control of the whole country. The disagreement within the Taliban, evident from some senior commanders saying they will keep targeting Afghan troops, exacerbates that fear. This is because even if the US convinces Taliban negotiators to agree to a ceasefire, powerful leaders on the ground may not want to give up a fight in which they have made significant headway recently.

government, the Taliban officials said. "The Americans will not come to the assistance of the Afghan government and its forces in their fight against us," the first Taliban official said. REUTERS

## JAKARTA SLOWLY SINKING INTO THE SEA

### Indonesia unveils site of its new capital on Borneo island

AGUSTINUS BEO DA COSTA  
JAKARTA, AUGUST 26

INDONESIA ON Monday revealed the long-awaited site for its new \$33-billion capital on the forested island of Borneo to replace the crowded, polluted megacity of Jakarta, which is slowly sinking into the sea.

The capital of the world's fourth most populous country, on the island of Java, is now home to 10 million people and is prone to floods, traffic gridlock and faces the risk of earthquakes.

The as-yet unnamed new capital will straddle the regions of North Penajam Paser and Kutai Kartanegara in Indonesia's province of East Kalimantan on Borneo

"It is a strategic location at the centre of Indonesia, close to growing urban areas," Widodo said at the presidential palace in Jakarta, adding that planning must start immediately if relocation is to begin in 2024.

The site of the new capital is



■ The as-yet unnamed new capital will straddle the regions of North Penajam Paser and Kutai Kartanegara in Indonesia's province of East Kalimantan on Borneo

one of the regions least prone to the natural disasters that regularly hit the country.

There are also economic and political reasons for moving the capital from Java, which Widodo said was home to 54 per cent of Indonesia's 260 million people and generated 58 per cent of its gross domestic product.

But environmentalists fear the move will hasten the de-

struction of forests that are home to orangutans, sun bears and long-nosed monkeys, as well as increasing pollution already on the rise from coal mining and palm oil industries.

"The move will have an environmental impact," said Greenpeace senior forest campaigner Jasmine Puteri. "Jakarta has suffered so many failures from pollution, water crisis, and flooding. We don't want these problems in the new capital."

Officials say they want the new capital to be "a smart city in the forest" and have set aside 180,000 hectares of government land.

Widodo said moving the administrative centre would cost just under \$33 billion, of which the state would fund 19 per cent, with the rest coming from public-private partnerships and private investment. The price tag includes new government offices and homes for 15 million civil servants.

Kutai Kartanegara and North Penajam Paser have a population of about 900,000 people, out of the total population of 3.5 million in East Kalimantan. REUTERS

## Lebanon: Israel drone hit a declaration of war

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BEIRUT, AUGUST 26

LEBANON'S PRESIDENT on Monday said an Israeli drone attack on Beirut at the weekend was a "declaration of war" that justified a military response.

"What happened is a declaration of war," Michel Aoun told Jan Kubis, the UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon, in a meeting.

"This allows us to resort to our right to defend our sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity," he added, in a statement released by his office.



Lebanon's President Michel Aoun said an Israeli drone attack on Beirut at the weekend was a "declaration of war" that justified a military response. The Army said two Israeli

I have repeatedly said before that Lebanon will not fire a single shot from its border unless it is in self-defence. What happened (on Sunday) allows us to exercise this right."

— MICHEL AOUN  
LEBANON PRESIDENT

drones had violated Lebanese airspace over Beirut before dawn on Sunday, with one ex-

ploding in the air. Hezbollah movement chief Hasan Nasrallah said an armed drone had hit a target in the party's Beirut stronghold, without specifying. It was the first such "hostile action" since a 2006 war between Hezbollah and Israel, added the head of the Iran-backed party, also vowing to retaliate.

"I have repeatedly said before that Lebanon will not fire a single shot from its border unless it is in self-defence," said Aoun. "What happened yesterday allows us to exercise this right," he added.

## Iran says oil from ship freed by Gibraltar sold

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
TEHRAN, AUGUST 26

IRAN SAID on Monday it had sold the oil aboard a tanker that was released this month after being detained for six weeks by the British overseas territory of Gibraltar.

The *Adrian Darya 1*, formerly named the *Grace 1*, was seized by Gibraltar police and British special forces on July 4 on suspicion of shipping oil to Syria in breach of European Union sanctions.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran



has sold the oil of this ship and right now the owner and buyer of the oil decides... what the destination of the consignment will be,"

The final port of call for the *Adrian Darya 1* remains unknown. Reuters

Iranian government spokesman Ali Rabieei said.

He did not identify the buyer or say whether the oil had been

sold before or after the tanker's detention in the Strait of Gibraltar, on Spain's southern tip.

A court in the British territory ordered the tanker's release on August 15 despite a last-minute bid by the US to have it detained.

The *Adrian Darya 1* set sail three days later for the eastern Mediterranean, carrying 2.1 million barrels of oil worth more than \$140 million. The tanker's final port of call is unknown. It had initially listed its destination as Kalamata, Greece before switching it to Mersin, Turkey.

## THOUSANDS OF GUNS SOLD IN US VANISH DUE TO LOOSE GUN LAWS, MANY REAPPEAR IN JAMAICA

# 1 handgun, 9 murders: How US firearms cause carnage abroad

AZAM AHMED  
CLARENDON, AUGUST 26

SHE CAME to Jamaica from the United States about four years ago, sneaking in illegally. Within a few short years, she became one of the nation's most-wanted assassins.

She preyed on the parish of Clarendon, carrying out nine confirmed kills, including a double homicide outside a bar. Her violence was indiscriminate: She shot and nearly killed a 14-year-old girl getting ready for church.

With few clues to identify her, police named her Briana. They knew only her country of origin — the United States — where she had been virtually untraceable since 1991. She was a phantom, the eighth-most-wanted killer on an island with

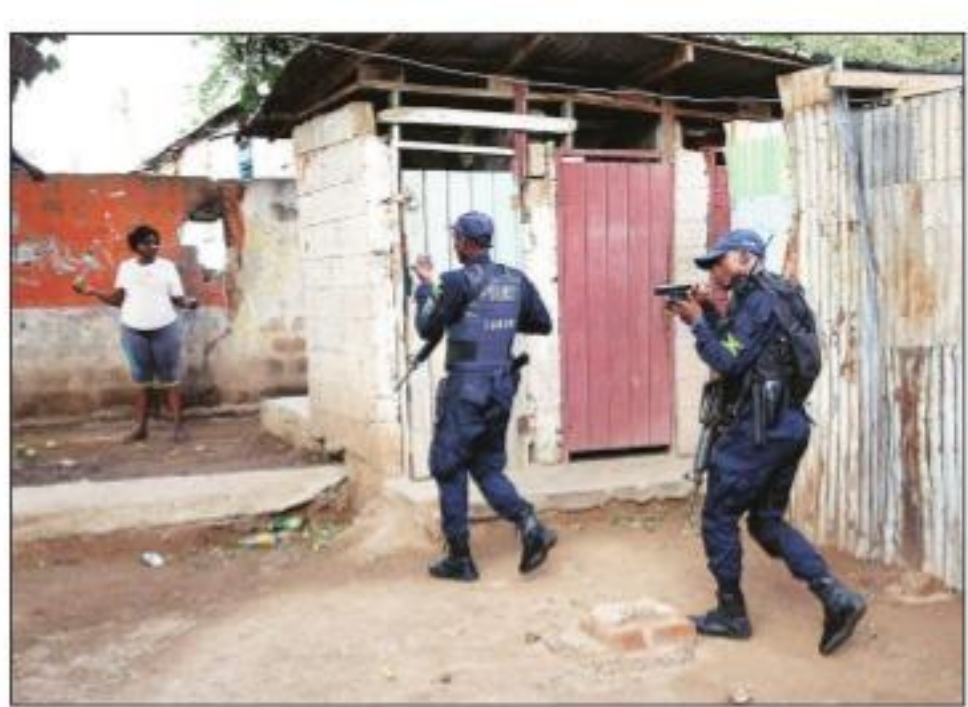
no shortage of murder, suffering one of the highest homicide rates in the world. And she was only one of thousands.

Briana, serial number 245PN70462, was a 9-mm Browning handgun.

An outbreak of violence is afflicting Jamaica. This year, the government called a state of emergency to stop the bloodshed in national hot spots, sending the military into the streets.

Guns like Briana reside at the epicentre of the crisis. Worldwide, 32 per cent of homicides are committed with firearms, according to the Igarapé Institute, a research group. In Jamaica, the figure is higher than 80 per cent. And most of those guns come from the US.

US firearms are pouring into neighbouring countries and ig-



Police at a neighbourhood in Kingston, Jamaica. NYT

ning record violence, in part because of federal and state restrictions that make it difficult to

track the weapons and interrupt smuggling networks.

In the United States, the dis-

pute over guns focuses almost exclusively on the policies, consequences and constitutional rights of US citizens.

But here in Jamaica, there is no such debate. Law enforcement officials, politicians and even gangsters on the street agree: It's the abundance of guns, typically from the United States, that makes the country so deadly.

Firearms play such a central role in Jamaican murders that authorities keep a list of the nation's 30 deadliest guns, based on ballistic matches. To keep track of them, they are given names, like Ghost or Ambrogio.

Some, like Briana, are so poorly documented that the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has nothing more than a piece of paper with the name and de-

tails of the original buyer, according to confidential documents reviewed by *The New York Times*.

Purchased in 1991, the Browning vanished from the public record for nearly 24 years — until it suddenly started wreaking havoc in Jamaica. For three years, its ballistic fingerprint connected it to shootings, mystifying law enforcement. Finally, after a firefight with police, it was recovered last year and its bloody run came to an end.

Authorities traced the serial number back to the handgun's original owner. But that did not explain how the weapon wound up in Jamaica decades later. Or how authorities could prevent the next Briana from arriving.

Drawing on court documents, case files, dozens of interviews

and confidential data from law enforcement officials in both countries, *The Times* traced a single gun — Briana — to nine different homicides in Clarendon, a largely rural area of Jamaica where violence has spiked in recent years.

Jamaica's own gun laws are relatively strict, with fewer than 45,000 legal firearms in a country of almost 3 million.

But it is awash in illegal weapons.

In Jamaica, the killings are rarely driven by enormous profits. The drug trade has fallen from its heyday, organised crime has been fractured and most of the historic kingpins have been killed or imprisoned.

Instead, the guns in Jamaica are often used in petty feuds, neighbourhood beefs and turf wars. NYT



# 16 CLASSIFIEDS & TENDERS

## Classifieds

### PERSONAL

**It is for general information that I, Narendar Sharma S/o Govind Sharma R/o-4/2747 St. No.4 Bihari-Colony, Shahdara Delhi-110032, inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as Sunita in my matriculation certificate, my correct name is Suniti Mittal, Suniti Mittal and Sunita is Same and one Person**  
0040509405-1

**It is for general information that I, Mamta Devi W/o Rajen Kumar Tiwari R/o-1X/4314-C St. No.8, Ajeet Nagar, Gandhi Nagar Delhi-110031, inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as Mamta Tiwari in my minor son Priyanshu Tiwari (14-Years) School Record, But mine actual name is Mamta Devi which may be amended accordingly.**  
0040509452-3

**It is for general information that I, Bhagwat Prasad S/o Chhote Lal Prasad R/o-9/5432 Gali No.5, Raghubar-pura No.2, Gandhi Nagar Delhi-110031, inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as Bhagvat Kumar in my minor son Shrikant (15-Years) School Record. The actual name of mine is Bhagwat Prasad which may be amended accordingly.**  
0040509452-2

**I, Simrat Paul Kaur S/o Vimal Kumar Chopra Residence-G-5 1st floor, near Noida Stadium, Sector-12, Noida Gautambudhnagar, have changed my name Udipti to Udipti Chopra for all purposes in future.**  
0040509475-1

**I, Shivani W/o Himanshu Joshi R/o-10053 ATS One Hamlet Sector-104 Noida Gautam Budh Nagar U.P.201304, have changed my name to Shivani Joshi.**  
0040509452-8

**I, Shankar S/o Shyam Lal R/o-343 S/F Jagriti Enclave Delhi-92, have changed my name to Shankar Shorya.**  
0040509452-6

**I, Rajesh Rani W/o Rejender Sehrawat R/o-10 Goodwill-Apparment Sector-13, Rohini Delhi-110085, changed my name to Rajesh Sehrawat permanently.**  
0040509448-3

**I, Poonam Yadav W/o Hav/Mt. Kaptan Singh (No.14814499W) R/o Village-Nanu Khurd, P.O.-Nanu Kalan Tehsil-Pataudi, Distt.-Gurugram, (HR) Intimate That My Correct Date-Of-Birth is 03.03.1981 instead of-28.12.1980.**  
0040509452-9

**I, Kekiegumle D/o Kuplei Hega R/o-149, Second Floor, Kailash Hills, near C-Block Market, New Delhi-110065, have changed my name to Kekiegumle Hega.**  
0040509451-2

**I, Daljeet Kaur W/o Gurminder Singh R/o-G-14, Gali.No.5-G-Block, Hari Nagar, Delhi-110058 have changed my minor son name from Harjas Singh to Harjas Singh Sabharwal.**  
0040509451-3

**I, Ayesha Begum W/o Mohd Zarif R/o-1154, Gali-Sayyed Wali, Kucha Faisal Khan, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002, Have Changed My Name To Aisha Begum For All, Future Purposes.**  
0040509475-3

**I, Ankit Kumar S/o-Lalan Mishra R/o-A-723, Sector-2, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Ankit Kumar Mishra.**  
0040509448-1

**I, Yoginder Singh Rawat S/o Anand Singh Rawat R/o C-91/B, New Multan Nagar Delhi-110056, have changed my minor son's name from Yash Rawat to Yashraj Singh Rawat.**  
0070671712-1

**I, Vishal Son Of Goutam Biswas R/o-H.No-562, Gali No-22, Shaheed-Bhagat Singh Colony, Delhi-110094, Have Changed My Name To Vishal Biswas.**  
0040509453-7

**I, Vishal S/o Late Sh. Jai Chand R/o-G-7/9, Sector-16, Rohini, Delhi-110089, have changed my name to Vishal Chhabra for all purposes.**  
0040509417-1

**I, Vineet Bhatia S/o Chandher Prakash Bhatia R/o 1262, Shora Kothi, Gali Ganesh, Subzi Mandi Delhi-110007 have changed my name to Vineet.**  
0070671708-1

**I, Vijethvardhan Singh S/o Sh.Shalendra singh Rawat R/o-A-19 Mangalam Apartment Sector-21D, Faridabad (Haryana) Pin-121001, inform that my name is wrongly mentioned as Vijeth Vardhan in my 10th marksheet and some other Educational Documents whereas my correct name is Vijethvardhan Singh**  
0040509482-9

**I, Vijaypal Yashpal Singg S/O Yashpal Shribhag Singh R/O-23/1A, F.F. Tilak Nagar, Delhi-18. Changed My Name To Vijaypal Singh.**  
0040509465-2

**I, Vandana Bansal W/O Madhur Bansal R/O 192-B, Main Bazar, Pana Udyan, Narela, Delhi-110040, Changed My Name To Vandana.**  
0040509497-7

**I, Upadhyaya Vvss Manyam S/O Venkata Ramana Upadhyaya, H.No-1/11161, Street-No.11, Subhash-Park, Naveen Shahdara, Delhi-110032, Have Changed My Name to Subrahmanyam Upadhyaya.**  
0040509446-9

**I, Tara @Tara K C D/o Vikram Kumar R/O-7617, 1st Floor, Baljeet-Nagar, N.Delhi-110008, have changed my name to Tara Ramtel.**  
0040509453-9

**I, Surender Singh S/o Khajan Singh R/o H.No-282, Rao Ramdas Marg, Kapashera New Delhi-110037 have changed my name to Surender Yadav.**  
0070671715-1

**I, Suniti Mittal W/o Rohit Mittal D/O-Om Prakash Goyal R/O-D-17, Kamla Nagar, Delhi-07, my name has been wrongly written as Sunita in my matriculation certificate, my correct name is Suniti Mittal, Suniti Mittal and Sunita is Same and one Person**  
0040509405-1

**I, Sunita Kumari R/o H.No.84, D-Block, Gali No.4, Gopal Nagar, South West Delhi, Delhi-110043 have changed my name to Sunita Yadav**  
0070671711-1

**I, Sunil Kumar, S/O Rajkumar R/O-Rz-246, Karan Vihar, Part-1 Kirari Suleman Nagar, Delhi-86 Changed My Name To Sunil Bansal.**  
0040509465-3

**I, Sudesh Kumar Sharma, S/o Sh.Chander bhan Sharma, R/O E-103, Gali no.5, West Jyoti Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-94, Have changed my name Sudesh Kumar Sharma to Sudesh Sharma for all future purposes.**  
0040509414-1

**I, Sudesh Kumar S/o Jagarnath Prasad, R/O-B-233, Gali.No.7, Inder-Enclave, Phase-I, Kirari-Suleman-Nagar, Delhi-110086, inform that my father's name has been wrongly-written as Jagnat Ram, in my Passport No.(K-3334262) instead of Jagarnath Prasad.**  
0040509482-8

**I, Simrat Paul Kaur S/o Harnam Singh, R/O A15/14, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057, do hereby solemnly informs that henceforth, I, have changed my DOB 27/09/1945 and father's name Harbhajan Singh which were erroneously recorded in my Pan Card and in place thereof, I do hereby correct the name to Simrat Pal Kaur, DOB 31/05/1943 and father's name Harnam Singh, for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 21/08/2018.**  
0040509483-1

**I, Shreenath Mishra, S/o Sh.Rajnath Mishra R/O-238-A, Grand-Floor Pocket-F-Dilshad, Delhi-110095, have changed my name, from Shrinath Mishra to Shreerath Mishra, for all future purposes.**  
0040509453-2

**I, Shanam Soni W/o Nikhil Sehgal R/O-B-3/23 First Floor Sector-17 Rohini Delhi-110085, changed my name to Manika Sehgal permanently.**  
0040509482-1

**I, Shally Chandna W/O Krishan Kumar Marwah, R/O-U-130/1, Street No-2, Upadhyay-Block, Shakarpur, Delhi-110092, Changed My Name To Shelly Marwah.**  
0040509497-6

**I, Seema Rani W/o Suresh Kumar Goel R/O B-365 Avantiika Sector-1 Rohini Delhi-110085 changed my name to Seema Goel.**  
0040509482-5

**I, Saurabh S/o Cuckoo R/o-F-13/9 Krishna Nagar Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Saurabh Kanodia for all purposes.**  
0040509452-5

**I, Sarvesh Kumar S/o Sohan Lal Saxena R/o-Plot.No.107-108 Pocket-B7 Sector-5, Rohini Delhi-110085, Have Changed My Name To Sarvesh Saxena.**  
0040509448-10

**I, Saroj Singh W/O Ashok Kumar Singhal R/O-SE-21, Singhal-Pur Extension, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088 have changed my name to Saroj Gupta.**  
0040509453-1

**I, Sarabjit Singh F/O-Pashmeen Suri, R/O-J-151A, Near Chawla-Nursing-Home, Rajouri-Garden, Delhi have changed my name to Pashmeen Kaur.**  
0040509482-7

**I, Rohit Gadodia S/O Vijay Kumar R/O-221, Dayanand-Vihar, Vikas-Marg, New Delhi-110092, have changed the name of my minor daughter from Jiaa Gadodia alias Aadya Gadodia to Aadya Gadodia.**  
0040509497-2

**I, Rita W/o Ravindar Kumar R/O RZF-765/16, Gali-6, Raj-Nagar-II, Palam Colony, New Delhi have changed my name to Reeta for future.**  
0040509448-7

**I, Rekha Kumari, W/O Parveen Goel R/O-74, Ugf Pocket-5, Sector-22, Rohini, Delhi-86 Changed My Name To Rekha.**  
0040509465-4

**I, Ravindra Kumar S/O Babu Lal R/O-RZF-765/16, Gali-6, Raj-Nagar-II, Palam Colony, New Delhi, have changed my name to Ravindar Kumar for future.**  
0040509448-6

**I, Rashid Ali S/O Mr. Asgar Ali R/O E-246/3, IInd Floor Front, Shaheen Bagh, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 have changed my minor daughter's name from Areeba Sayyad to AISHA ZAIDI for all future purposes.**  
0040509429-1

**I, Rama Shanker Mishra S/O Bhagawati Prasad Mishra H.No-177, near-Shivam hospital, sector-30, Gurgaon, Have changed my name to Rama Shankar Mishra.**  
0040509448-9

**I, Rakesh Singh R/o Gurudwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha, B-Block, New Moti Nagar, New Delhi-110015, have changed my minor daughter's name from Jasneet Kaur to Jasmeet Kaur.**  
0040509415-1

**I, Rajesh Kumar, S/o Shri. Jagat Ram Sharma R/O-H.No.603, Block-C, Gali No.7, SGM-Nagar, NIT-Faridabad, Haryana have changed my name from Rajesh Kumar Sharma to Rajesh Kumar, for all purposes.**  
0040509482-10

**I, Rajesh Kumar S/o Late.Om Prakash R/o H-2/4, Shiksha-Apartment, Plot.No.-GH-11, Sector-6, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad(U.P) have changed my name to Rajesh Tewatia., for all future purposes.**  
0040509446-4

**I, Surender Singh S/o Jug Lal R/O WZ-66, Third-Floor, Hari Singh-Park, New Multan-Nagar, New-Delhi-56, changed my name to Surinder Singh.**  
0040509448-2

**I, Raja Ram Bharti S/o Late Shri D.P. Bharti R/O C-93, Sector-20, Noida, Distt.-G.B. Nagar 201301 (U.P.) have changed to Rajesh Rai Bhartia for future all purpose.**  
0040509462-1

**I, Purnanand S/O Ghalu Ram Kothari R/O D-931, 5th Avenue, Gaur City -1 Sector-4 Greater Noida West -201009 have changed my name to Purnanand Kothari.**  
0070671703-1

**I, Preeti D/o Subhash Chand Sharma R/O E-19/23, Shradhanand Colony Bhalaswa Dairy, Delhi-42, have changed my name to Preeti Sharma.**  
0040509448-4

**I, Parkash S/O Jatt Ram R/O V-6, 2nd Floor, West Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008 have changed my name to Prakash Chand, for all purposes.**  
0040509402-2

**I, Nitin Kumar Tonk S/O Nand Kishor R/O-Flat No.-203, First Floor, Ganga-Apartment, House No-RZG-799/B, Raj-Nagar Part-2, Palam-Colony-Bagdola, N.Delhi-110077, Changed my name to Nitin Tonk permanently.**  
0040509482-2

**I, Nirmala Bansal W/O Suresh Kumar R/O M-441, Block-M, Gurgaon Harkishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087, Changed my Name To Nirmala Devi.**  
0040509497-8

**I, Himanshu S/o Jagdish Prasad Joshi R/o-10053 ATS One Hamlet Sector-104 Noida Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.201304, have changed my name to Himanshu Joshi.**  
0040509452-7

**I, Harsh S/o Arun Kumar R/O B-111, West Shalimar-Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Harsh Gupta.**  
0040509453-5

**I, Gurraj Gurdinder Singh Davinder Sing S/o Davinder Singh Gurraj R/O-J-5/148, 3rd-Floor, Rajouri-Garden, N.Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Gurdinder Singh Gurraj.**  
0040509453-8

**I, Govind Prasad, S/O Sh.Puranam Limited, R/O-E-76, Surya-Roshni Swami, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Haryana-124507, have changed my name to Govind Prasad Swami for all future purposes.**  
0040509446-3

**I, Gaurav Kumar S/O Rajesh Sharma R/O-B-1832, GF, RaniBagh, Delhi, have Changed my Name to Gaurav Sharma.**  
0040509448-5

**I, Dhan Singh S/O Lt. Ganga Singh R/O 110A, Zamrudpur, New Delhi-110048, have changed my minor daughter's name from Amita Davi to Anita Davi for all future purposes.**  
0040509488-1

**I, Deepa Dabral W/O Dinesh Dabral R/O B-176, Rajeev Nagar Begumpur Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Devishwari.**  
0040509453-4

**I, Darshan Rani W/O, Mukesh Kumar Gupta R/O WZ-258, Nangal Raya, New Delhi-110046, have changed my name to Darshan for all purposes.**  
0040509471-1

**I, Basgari W/o Nasiruddin R/O H.No.A-24 Gali No.15/16 Mandawali-Unchepar Delhi-92 have changed my name to Baskari Begum. Actual date-of-birth 04/8/1945.**  
0040509465-7

**I, Ashish Bansal S/O Govind Bansal R/O-B-234 Prashant Vihar Delhi-85 changed my minor daughter's name Aaliya Bansal to Aarna Bansal.**  
0040509482-4

**I, Aparna Gupta W/o Ali Mohammad Saleem R/O G-122, Ashok Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110052, changed my name to Sarah Ali.**  
0040509411-1

**I, Anjali Tiwari D/o Ajai Kumar Mishra R/O 59, Sriniketan Apartments, Vasundhara Enclave, Delhi-110096 have changed my name to Anjali Rao for all future purposes.**  
0040509454-1

**I, Amit Kumar, R/O-Flat No.604, Tower-56, Eldeco-Aamantran, Sector-119, Noida, Gautambudh-Nagar, U.P.201301, Changed My Minor Daughter Name Navya To Navya Tandial.**  
0040509453-3

**I, Aman Chaudhary S/O-Sunil Kumar R/O-A-106, Omex-City, Sector-14, Jhajjar-Road, Bahadurgarh, Haryana, have changed my name to Aman Chaudhary.**  
0040509448-8

**I, Juba Jahan W/O Mohd Naushad Mirza R/O A-2/97-98, J.Colony, Nangloi, Delhi-41 Changed My Name To Zeba.**  
0040509446-1

**I, Afroz Khan W/O Percy Peter James Addres-3/25 Nehru Nagar Srinivaspur Delhi-110065, Have Changed My Name To Afroz James.**  
0040509465-1

**I, Abhay Chaurasia S/O Girraj Prasad Chaurasia R/O-1864, Allahabad-Bank, TiakDwar, Seth-Bada, Mathura Chhata, Mathura have changed my name to Abhay Kumar Chaurasia.**  
0040509453-6

**I, Hitherto known as Prithvi Singh S/O Sh.Narendra Singh R/O-12 Mangla Apartment Block-G kaljaji NewDelhi-110019 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Prithvi Raaj Singh.**  
0040509497-4

**I, Shaifali D/o Anuj Agarwal R/O 614 Sector-29 Faridabad Haryana have Changed My Name to Shefali Agarwal**  
0040509405-2

**I, Pawan Kumar Upadhyay S/O Devinder Kumar Upadhyay R/O H. No. 638/47, Sanjay Colony, Sector-23, Faridabad, inform that Pawan Kumar Upadhyay & Pawan Kumar both are same person & my correct name is Pawan Kumar Upadhyay for all purposes.**  
0040509497-9

**I, Muaphia Begam D/o Gurjeet Khan R/O H.No.28, Street No.2 Hira Mahal Nabha Distt. Patiala, Punjab 147201, have changed my name to Mahipreet Kaur.**  
0040509442-1

**I, Manish Saini R/O-D032 The Nest Assotek Crossing Republik, Ghaziabad 201307 have changed my son name from CHETAN SAINI to CHETTAN SAINE., for all purposes.**  
0040509446-8

**I, Mahak D/o Hitesh Kakkar R/O-314-D First Floor Block-M Sector-51 Orchid Island Gurgaon have changed my name to Mahak Kakkar.**  
0040509465-6

**I, Kamal Bhatia W/O. Rajeev Bhatia R/O,DD2/4, Jeevan Jyoti Apartments, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034.,inform that Kamal Bhatia & Neel Kamal Bhatia are one and same person.**  
0040509446-6

**I, Inder pal Singh Ratra S/O Hari pal Singh Ratra R/O.S-1/102, Old-Mahavir Nagar, New Delhi-110018.,inform that my minor daughter Karman Kaur Ratra & Karman Ratra both are one & same person.**  
0040509446-5

**I, Jasleen Kaur Anand, R/O A-50/3, Gf, Ganesh Nagar, Tilak Nagar New Delhi 110018 have changed my minor child's name from Agamjyot Singh to Agamjyot Singh Anand**  
0070671709-1

**I, Himanshu S/o Jagdish Prasad Joshi R/o-10053 ATS One Hamlet Sector-104 Noida Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P.201304, have changed my name to Himanshu Joshi.**  
0040509452-7

**I, Harsh S/o Arun Kumar R/O B-111, West Shalimar-Bagh, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Harsh Gupta.**  
0040509453-5

**I, Gurraj Gurdinder Singh Davinder Sing S/o Davinder Singh Gurraj R/O-J-5/148, 3rd-Floor, Rajouri-Garden, N.Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Gurdinder Singh Gurraj.**  
0040509453-8

**I, Govind Prasad, S/O Sh.Puranam Limited, R/O-E-76, Surya-Roshni Swami, Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, Haryana-124507, have changed my name to Govind Prasad Swami for all future purposes.**  
0040509446-3

**I, Gaurav Kumar S/O Rajesh Sharma R/O-B-1832, GF, RaniBagh, Delhi, have Changed my Name to Gaurav Sharma.**  
0040509448-5

**I, Dhan Singh S/O Lt. Ganga Singh R/O 110A, Zamrudpur, New Delhi-110048, have changed my minor daughter's name from Amita Davi to Anita Davi for all future purposes.**  
0040509488-1

**I, Deepa Dabral W/O Dinesh Dabral R/O B-176, Rajeev Nagar Begumpur Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Devishwari.**  
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**I, Darshan Rani W/O, Mukesh Kumar Gupta R/O WZ-258, Nangal Raya, New Delhi-110046, have changed my name to Darshan for all purposes.**  
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**I, Muaphia Begam D/o Gurjeet Khan R/O H.No.28, Street No.2 Hira Mahal Nabha Distt. Patiala, Punjab 147201, have changed my name to Mahipreet Kaur.**  
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**I, Jasleen Kaur Anand, R/O A-50/3, Gf, Ganesh Nagar, Tilak Nagar New Delhi 110018 have changed my minor child's name from Agamjyot Singh to Agamjyot Singh Anand**  
0070671709-1

**I, Hitherto Known As Prem Masih Alias Prem Wife/Of Late.Sri Faisal Masih,Residing At-524, Gali No.16, West Gurgaungand-Nagar, Laxmi-Nagar, Delhi-110092, Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Prem.**  
0040509465-9

**I,Chander Kanta D/o Late.Bh. Ganga Ram R/O WZ 216 B/3 Varinder Nagar, New Delhi-110058, Do hereby inform that Ganga Ram & Ganga Ram Rajpal is one person.**  
0040509442-2

**T, Ashish Kumar S/O Randhri Singh R/O E-124, Babar Road, Railway Colony, Connaught Place, New Delhi-01 Have Changed My Name To Ashish Sehrawat For All Purposes.**  
0040509446-3

**T, Ankur Sharma S/O Vishwanath Sharma R/O-B-4/136, Paschim-Vihar Delhi-110063.Changed My Minor Son Name Navya Ratan Sharma To Navay Ratan Sharma.**  
0040509446-10

**T, Bharti D/o Jitender Kumar R/O-1/6095 Gali.No.1 East Rohtas Nagar Shahdara Delhi-110032, have changed my name to Bharti Sharma for all purposes.**  
0040509452-4

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# 17 ECONOMY

<b>GOLD</b>	<b>RUPEE</b>	<b>OIL</b>	<b>SILVER</b>
₹39,670	₹72.02	\$59.54	₹46,550

Indian basket as on August 23 2019

SENSEX: 37,494.12 ▲ 792.96 NIFTY: 11,057.85 ▲ 228.50 NIKKEI: 20,261.04 ▼ 449.87 HANG SENG: 25,680.33 ▼ 499.00 FTSE: 7,094.98 ▼ 33.20 DAX: 11,664.60 ▲ 53.09

International market data till 19:00 IST

## SECTOR WATCH TELECOMMUNICATIONS

### Bids invited to select agency for spectrum auction; 5G airwave on the block for first time

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

**KICK-STARTING** THE formal process of 2019 spectrum auctions — in which more than 8,000 MHz of airwaves will be put up for sale — the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) invited bids for selection of an agency that will conduct the auctions.

The guidelines for spectrum auction across eight bands will be announced separately, the DoT notice stated, adding that 8,093 MHz of spectrum was available for sale. During this year's auction, spectrum optimal for deployment of 5G technology will go under the hammer for the first time in India.

The notice, which was issued on Friday, said that the bid evaluation will be in three parts — pre-qualification, technical and financial. The last day for submission of bids has been set at September 25.

According to the bid document, a pre-bid conference with prospective bidders will be held on September 2.

The government, which did not auction any spectrum in 2017-18 and 2018-19, wants to hold the nation's biggest auction of about 8,093 MHz of airwaves this year, at a reserve price of over Rs 5.7 lakh crore.

Telecom service providers — which are battling financial difficulties — have, however, pegged the rates as exorbitant and urged the Centre to review the price of radiowaves to set the stage for an aggressive 5G play. The last spectrum auction in October 2016 saw only 40 per cent of the spectrum offered being sold. In that auction, the government had garnered Rs 65,789 crore from sale of just 965 MHz.

The government has reduced the price for certain

bands that saw dismal response, based on recommendations by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai). The last two spectrum e-auctions were conducted by Kolkata-based agency junction services.

The bid document stated that the bidder should not have any equity directly or indirectly in any telecom service provider in India, and vice versa, and will have to declare its Indian and foreign equity holdings. The selected agency will be tasked with designing, structuring and implementing the overall process of e-auction and also advise on setting the rules for the bidding process. The agency will help prepare bid documents for the auction and also advise on the safeguards in the e-auction system to ensure the security of the entire process, it further stated.

The auctioneer will be paid an amount on completion of a particular auction, and this amount will be arrived at after multiplying the rate per service area with number of total license service areas — counted separately for all bands — in which auction is successful.

A lumpsum drop dead fee of Rs 2.5 lakhs per license service area (for each band) will be paid to the auctioneer in case the government abandons the auction after receipt of bids in one or more of all of the service areas; the winning bid received is equal to or above the reserve price but not acceptable to the government; the winning bidder in the auction of spectrum, after acceptance of the offer by the government, fails to pay the minimum upfront bid amount and/or fails to submit the bank guarantee for the installment arising from the auction process. The drop dead fee has been capped at Rs 10 lakh.

## BIMAL JALAN COMMITTEE REPORT ON ECONOMIC CAPITAL FRAMEWORK

### 'Surplus transfer only from realised gains above RBI need'

Revaluation balances are risk buffers, not distributable: Jalan Committee report

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

THE BIMAL Jalan Committee report on Economic Capital Framework (ECF) which looked into the manner in which the central bank's surplus can be shared with the government, has said revaluation balance of the central bank should not be distributed.

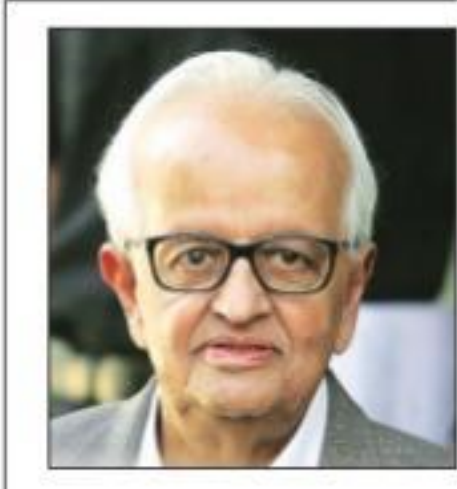
While giving a clearer distinction between the two components of economic capital — realised equity and revaluation balances — the committee recommended that realised equity could be used for meeting all risks/losses as they were primarily built up from retained earnings, while revaluation balances could be reckoned only as risk buffers against market risks as they represented unrealised valuation gains and hence were not distributable.

As proposed by the panel and approved by the RBI, the entire net income can be transferable to the government only if realised equity is above its requirement. If it is below the lower bound of requirement, risk provisioning will be made to the extent necessary and only the residual net income (if any) transferred to the Government, the RBI said.

The RBI Board, which met here decided to accept the Jalan Committee report and decided to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh crore to the government.

On the issue of the RBI's economic capital, the committee reviewed the status, need and justification of the various reserves, risk provisions and risk buffers maintained by the RBI and recommended their continuance.

The committee's recommendations were based on the consideration of the role of central banks' financial resilience, cross-country practices, statutory provisions and the impact of the RBI's public policy mandate and operating environment on its balance sheet and the risks involved. According to the report, there was only a one-way fungibility between them (realised equity and revaluation balances) which implies that while a shortfall, if any, in revaluation balances vis-à-vis market risk provisioning requirements could be met through increased risk provisioning from net income, the reverse vis-à-vis the use of surplus in revaluation balances over market risk provisioning requirements for covering shortfall in provisions for other risks is not permitted.



#### RBI BOARD ACCEPTS PANEL REPORT

**THE RESERVE** Bank of India's Board, which met in Mumbai, decided to accept the Jalan Committee report and decided to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh crore to the government

Regarding the size of realised equity, the committee said the RBI's provisioning for monetary, financial and external stability risks is the country's savings for a 'rainy day' (a monetary/ financial stability crisis) which has been consciously maintained with the RBI in view of its role as the Monetary Authority and the Lender of Last Resort, it said.

The report says realised equity is also required to cover credit risk and operational risk. This risk provisioning made primarily from retained earnings is cumulatively referred to as the Contingent Risk Buffer (CRB) and has been recommended to be maintained within a range of 6.5 per cent to 5.5 per cent of the RBI's balance sheet, comprising 5.5 to 4.5 per cent for monetary and financial stability risks and 1.0 per cent for credit and operational risks, the RBI said.

"Further, any shortfall in revaluation balances vis-à-vis the market risk RTL would add to the requirement for realised equity," it said. The committee also recommended the development of methodologies for assessing the concentration risk of the forex portfolio as well as jointly assessing the RBI's market-credit risk. The Jalan committee has recommended a "surplus distribution policy which targets the level of realised equity to be maintained by the RBI, within the overall level of its economic capital vis-à-vis the earlier policy which targeted total economic capital level alone".

While central banks are seen to be adopting ES at 99 per cent confidence level (CL), the committee has recommended the adoption of a target of ES 99.5 per cent CL keeping in view the macroeconomic stability requirements.

In view of the cyclical volatility of the RBI's revaluation balances, a downward risk tolerance limit (RTL) of 97.5 per cent CL has also been articulated. "Both levels were stress-tested for their adequacy by the committee," the RBI

### Excess sharing of RBI reserves with govt: Reddy, Subbarao and Acharya had cautioned

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

MONDAY'S DECISION of Reserve Bank of India's central board to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh crore to the government is in sharp contradiction to views of several top central bankers, who had advised against transfer of excess reserves from the RBI to the Central Government.

The debate was also at the heart of a tussle between the finance ministry and the central bank. Those who had publicly opposed transfer of excess funds to the government included former Governors D Subbarao and YV Reddy, in addition to former Deputy Governor Viral Acharya, who asserted that a transfer of excess reserves from a central bank to government can be "catastrophic", as had been proven in the case of Argentina.

The transfer of \$6.6 billion of the Argentine central bank's reserves to the national treasury, sparked off "the worst constitutional crisis in Argentina and led to a grave reassessment of its sovereign risk", Acharya had said in his speech October 26 last year, which brought into open the scuffle between the finance ministry and the central bank. The board of central bank on Monday decided to transfer a sum of Rs 1,76,051 crore to the Government of India comprising Rs 1,23,414 crore of surplus for the year 2018-19 and Rs 52,637 crore of excess provisions identified as per the revised Economic Capital Framework (ECF). The surplus includes an interim dividend of Rs 28,000 crore that was paid to the government in February.

In February, Reddy had said that by taking recourse to unprecedented practice of interim dividend, the government had compromised on the established mechanism of "ways and means", which is a temporary loan facility extended to the government by the central bank. He pointed out that the reserves act as insurance for the future, and needed to be

#### FORMER CEA SUPPORTED

**HOWEVER**, former CEA Arvind Subramanian said in Economic Survey 2016-17 that the RBI "is already exceptionally highly capitalised" and nearly Rs 4 lakh crore of its capital transfer to the government can be used for recapitalising banks

fortified, instead of taken away.

"The immediate fiscal needs seem to take precedence over a renewed assessment of the capital needs of RBI," Reddy had said, adding that there was merit in keeping the central bank's balance sheet strong when the government's fiscal balance sheet was weak. Earlier this month, Subbarao asserted that a government "trying to raid" the balance sheet of a central bank was "not a good thing". "It shows that the government is desperate," he had said.

As per Section 47 of the RBI Act, profits of RBI are to be transferred to government, after making various contingency provisions, public policy mandate of the RBI, including financial stability considerations. For the year ending June 2018, RBI had total reserves of Rs 9,59 lakh crore, comprising mainly currency and gold revaluation account (Rs 6.91 lakh crore) and contingency fund (Rs 2.32 lakh crore). Many economists and expert panels have in the past argued that RBI is holding much higher capital that required to cover its risks and contingencies.

Former Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian said in Economic Survey 2016-17 that RBI "is already exceptionally highly capitalised" and nearly Rs 4 lakh crore of its capital transfer can be used for recapitalising banks and / or recapitalising a Public Sector Asset Rehabilitation Agency. This was opposed by then RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan.

#### SURPLUS PAID BY RBI TO GOVERNMENT OVER THE YEARS

Year of receipt	Amount (Rs crore)	Date of credit in govt account	Surplus for the financial year of RBI
2014-15	52,679	Aug 10, 2014	2013-14
2015-16	65,896	Aug 13, 2015	2014-15
2016-17	65,876	Aug 11, 2016	2015-16
2017-18	30,659	Aug 10, 2017	2016-17
	10,000*	Mar 27, 2018	2017-18
2018-19	40,000	Aug 8, 2018	
	28,000**	Feb 19, 2019	2018-19
2019-20	95,414	Aug 26, 2019	

Source: Ministry of Finance, RBI \* The amount of Rs 10,000 crore was received by the Government on March 3, 2018 as interim surplus, out of the total surplus of Rs 50,000 crore for the year 2017-18.

\*\* The amount of Rs 28,000 crore was received by the Government on February 19, 2019 as interim surplus, out of the total surplus of Rs 1,23,414 crore for the year 2018-19; Note: An excess provision of Rs 52,637 crore identified as per the revised Economic Capital Framework was also transferred by RBI to the Central Government in 2019-20. The financial year of RBI is reckoned for the period July-June, while that for the Central Government is April-March



The surplus approved by RBI's central board on Monday is more than double of the average surplus transferred by the central bank to government for the last five years

### SENSEX JUMPS 792.93 POINTS, NIFTY UP 228.50

## Stimulus package revives market sentiment; RBI call to transfer ₹1.76 lakh cr to govt may help extend gains

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

THE CENTRE'S move to withdraw additional surcharge on foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) and initiate measures to revive the economy provided a boost to investor sentiment on Monday, with the benchmark SENSEX zooming by 2.16 per cent or 792.96 points to 37,494.12.

The bullish sentiment also got a big push from reports that the US and China will soon resume trade talks despite many failed negotiations in recent months.

Investor wealth, or the market capitalisation of listed companies, jumped Rs 2.42 lakh crore to Rs 140.34 lakh crore in the euphoric rally. Meanwhile the RBI's decision to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh crore dividend and surplus reserves to the government is likely to extend the gains for the markets going forward as it is expected to boost

#### EXPLAINED Despite recent steps, macro picture remains volatile

EVEN AS the SENSEX at the BSE rose by 793 points or 2.16 per cent on Monday following the Finance Minister's announcement on Friday to rollback the surcharge on FPIs along with other measures aimed to improve liquidity in the market and lift sentiments, the Indian rupee fell sharply and closed lower by 37 paise against the dollar to hit 72.02 against US dollar. Despite the recent steps, the macroeconomic picture remains volatile given the domestic slowdown and global uncertainty.

both the investment and consumption arms of the economy.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday announced a series of relief measures, including the rollback of super-rich tax on foreign and domestic equity investors, to revive the ailing economy.

The NSE Nifty ended 211 per cent or 228.50 points higher.

Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services, said, "The strongest message to the market was that government is concerned about the slowing economy and intends to support

the situation with corrective measures. The initial set of actions, though small, has enhanced market's sentiment and confidence to grab further sops for industries like housing and others. Market will trade in a positive bias awaiting further development regarding additional trade measures and US-China trade talk."

The 30-share SENSEX opened over 663 points higher, but global volatility wiped out its gains as the session progressed. It swung 1,052 points during the day before settling at 37,494.12. The index, however, made a comeback in the later half tracking news about US-China trade talks resumption. Broader NSE Nifty reclaimed the 11,000-level. During the day, it climbed a peak of 11,070.30 and touched a low of 10,756.55. It finally closed at 11,057.85. Both benchmarks have logged their best single-day gains in over three months, since the return of the Modi government for the second term.

#### Rupee falls below 72 against dollar

Mumbai: Even as the stock market saw a strong recovery, the rupee on Monday declined by 36 paise to close below the 72 level against the US currency for the first time in nine months. Hit by a 'flash crash' in global currencies due to uncertainty over the trade front, the rupee settled down by 36 paise at 72.02 against the US dollar, the lowest closing level since November 14, 2018.

The Indian currency had fallen to a low of 72.25 in intra-day trade following a flash crash in currencies such as Turkish lira, Chinese yuan and Australian dollar against the US dollar. ENS

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

**JUSTIFYING** THE Jalan committee's recommendation to transfer Rs 1.76 lakh crore to the government, Rakesh Mohan, vice chairman of the panel, said that the report has looked into the principles on which the Reserve Bank's capital needs to be looked at and also how the surplus has to be distributed.

In an interview to CNBC TV18, Mohan said that RBI's mandate is to keep adequate stock of foreign exchange reserves, use OMO for monetary policy purposes and for liquidity purposes which is what it has been doing. "What we have emphasised in the committee report are the principles on which the RBI's capital needs to be looked at and also for the surplus which is to be distributed".

He added that as long as the



Rakesh Mohan, Vice Chairman, Expert Committee on Economic Capital Framework

RBI and the government put together follow the principle of keeping the percentage of economic capital at 5.5-6.5 per cent, that will determine the surplus distribution, keeping in mind of course that the balance sheet has to expand by about 10 per cent a year. This means the economic capital will have to expand by something of similar order, 10 per cent a year. As long as those principles are satisfied, we will be in very good shape.

Several market participants hailed the RBI's move though with

a caveat that the fund needs to be used for stimulating the economy. Rakesh Shah, chairman, Edelweiss Group said that it provides the government with room to spend on three things — capitalising the banks, expediting capital expenditure cycle and providing tax breaks including GST, so as to boost the consumption cycle.

"As inflation remains tepid, oil prices are relatively soft and interest rates in the economy are low, we may see private investment pick up a year down the line if the consumption cycle is restarted. While RBI has the tools of monetary policy, this move by RBI would provide the government with tools on the fiscal side," said Shah.

There are some who raise concerns over the discipline in utilising the fund given the past track record on utilising disinvestment proceeds and cess collected on various accounts.

## Trade war fallout: Yuan slides to 11-year low

REUTERS  
LONDON, AUGUST 26

CHINA'S YUAN fell to an 11-year low in the onshore market and a record low offshore on Monday after the latest escalation in the US-China trade war rattled investor confidence.

US President Donald Trump announced an additional 5 per cent duty on \$550 billion in targeted Chinese goods on Friday, hours after Beijing unveiled retaliatory tariffs on \$75 billion worth of US products, sending stocks into a tailspin and investors rushing for the safety of bond markets. Trump on Monday sought to

#### US President Donald Trump, meanwhile, on Monday sought to smooth the tensions, helping the yuan come off its lows

limit the fallout and smooth tensions, helping the yuan come off its lows and the dollar recover against the Japanese yen.

The US president said China had contacted US trade officials to say they wanted to return to the negotiating table. Beijing called for calm.

In China's onshore market, the yuan fell to 7.1500 per dollar, the lowest since February 2008. In the offshore market, the

yuan slid to as low as 7.187 yuan, the weakest since international trading in the currency began in 2010, before recovering to 7.1524 yuan — down 0.2 per cent on the day — after Trump's upbeat comments.

In a sign that some calm had returned to markets, the Japanese yen — which investors regard as a safe haven — fell 0.5 per cent to 105.86, having earlier hit a new seven-month high of 104.46.

Commerzbank analysts said "market sentiment has been undoubtedly hit hard as there is an even lower chance of a trade truce in the foreseeable future."

They said China could let the yuan "depreciate further to ease the tariff pains, and somehow weaponize the currency to anger Trump." Although they added that China would be reluctant to allow any uncontrollable currency depreciation given it would spur capital outflows and a massive hit to investors confidence.

Elsewhere, the dollar rebounded and was last up 0.3 per cent against a basket of currencies. Versus the euro it rose 0.2 per cent to \$1.1117.

## Aviation regulator asks passengers not to carry certain MacBook Pro models in flights

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

AVIATION REGULATOR DGCA on Monday said passengers should not carry models of 15-inch MacBook Pro laptops that Apple deemed a safety risk due to overheating batteries. Apple had on June 20 issued a notice on its website regarding risk posed by models of the MacBook Pro laptops.

"Apple has determined that, in a limited number of older generation 15-inch MacBook Pro units, the battery may overheat and pose

#### DGCA ADVISORY TO AIRLINES

■ The DGCA has advised airline crew to remind passengers of the need to immediately inform the crew when a device is damaged, produces smoke, etc.

■ Regulator has asked airlines to make information available to crew, passengers and staff about restrictions on carrying on board defective lithium batteries or devices

a fire safety risk. Affected units were sold primarily between September 2015 and February 2017 and product eligibility is de-

termined by the product serial number," the tech company added. It said it has voluntarily decided to replace affected batteries,

free of charge.

Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) chief Arun Kumar tweeted, "Consequent upon the recall of a limited number of older generation 15-inch MacBook Pro laptops by Apple Inc (sold primarily between September 2015 and February 2017) due to fears that their batteries may overheat and pose a safety risk, DGCA requests all air passengers not to fly with the affected models either as hand-baggage or checked-in baggage until the battery has been verified/certified as safe or replaced by the manufacturer."



# Weak rupee, strong global trend push gold to fresh all-time high

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

RISING FOR the fifth consecutive day, gold prices on Monday again crossed its previous high by rising Rs 675 to Rs 39,670 per 10 gram in the national capital, according to the All India Sarafa Association, mainly due to a weaker rupee and strong global trend. Gold prices have been hitting a fresh high every day since August 20. Silver also soared Rs 1,450 to Rs 46,550 per kg on fresh offtake by industrial units and coin makers, according to a PTI report.

As per analysts, apart from persistent buying from jewellers, a weaker rupee and positive trend overseas were among the factors that aided the rally in gold prices. "Globally, gold rallied to a fresh six-year high of \$1,554.56 an ounce in the international market (during the day). Retaliatory tariffs by the United States and China in the previous week diminished hopes of an immediate trade deal that lifted gold's safe-haven appeal," Hareesh V, head of commodity research) at Geojit Financial Services, said.

"Feeble global equities and signs of escalating fragile global economic sentiments prompted investors to find shelter in safe assets like the yellow metal." He added that in the domestic market, prices surged to all-time highs supported by a strong international market and a feeble rupee. The domestic currency plummeted 42 paise to 72.08 against the US dollar in early trade, due to strong dollar demand from banks and importers amid unabated foreign fund outflows. In the national capital, gold of 99.9 per cent and 99.5 per cent purity rose Rs 675 each to Rs 39,670 and Rs 39,500 per 10 gram, respectively. Sovereign gold surged by Rs 700 to 29,500 per eight grams. Meanwhile, in the US, gold prices rose over 1 per cent to surpass the \$1,550 per ounce mark for the first time in more than six years as investors flocked to safe haven assets driven by the heightened US-China trade dispute, according to a Reuters report. **PTI & REUTERS**

# 'CoC extends deadline to submit bid for Jet resolution to Aug 31'

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

THE COMMITTEE of creditors (CoC) for Jet Airways on Monday decided to extend the timeline for submission of expression of interest (EoI) for the resolution of the airline till August 31, sources said.

The additional time, they said, has been given for South America's Synergy Group, owner of Avianca Airlines. The resolution professional (RP) has also sought additional interim funding from lenders to recover some assets, including engines, of the airline stuck in Singapore, sources added. Lenders to Jet Airways met on August 26 to discuss the expression of interest submitted by the Synergy Group. The group had evinced interest in Jet Airways last week, after the deadline for submitting EoIs had already passed. Apart from the South American group, three entities had showed interest in the grounded airline — a Russian fund Treasury RA creator, Volcan

**Sources said that the additional time by the committee of creditors has been given for South America's Synergy Group, owner of Avianca Airlines**

Investments and Panama-based Aviantulo Group. Volcan Investments is the family-owned trust of Anil Agarwal, the founder and executive chairman of Vedanta Resources. Of the three, Volcan Investments withdrew its EoI. Etihad Airways, a strategic partner of Jet Airways, also backed out of the resolution process earlier this month stating there remained very significant issues relating to Jet's liabilities. The RP sought additional funding to release certain assets stuck in Singapore and other countries. The CoC will vote and decide on the matter by Friday, sources said. **FE**

## ACTION TAKEN UNDER FUNDAMENTAL RULE 56 (J) OF CCS (PENSION) RULES

# CBIC compulsorily retires 22 tax officials over charges of corruption and bribery

Nine officers facilitated 'excess unrecorded clandestine production of cigarettes and their clearances'

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE GOVERNMENT has compulsorily retired 22 senior tax officers under the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) under Fundamental Rule 56 (J) on charges of corruption and bribery.

Of the 22 officers retired by the CBIC, nine were sector officers in an Indore-based tobacco company at different time intervals beginning from 2008 and are alleged to have facilitated "excess unrecorded clandestine production of cigarettes and their clearances", sources in the Finance Ministry said.

They said that the officials retired include 11 from Nagpur and Bhopal zones; one official each from Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Meerut and Chandigarh zones; and two officials each from Mumbai, Jaipur and Bengaluru zones

### '11 OFFICIALS FROM NAGPUR, BHOPAL ZONES'

■ Sources in the Finance Ministry said that the officials retired include 11 from Nagpur and Bhopal zones; one official each from Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Meerut and Chandigarh zones; and two officials each from Mumbai, Jaipur and Bengaluru zones

■ In June, the government had compulsorily retired 15 senior customs and central

excise officials, including one of the rank of Principal ADG, while in another round it had sacked 12 income tax officers, including one of the rank of the joint commissioner on charges of graft

■ With Monday's step, the total number of tax officers compulsorily retired from service now stands at 49 in this year

Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence, Delhi, detected clandestine production and clearances and issued two show cause notices demanding a total duty of Rs 1.03 crore and another demanding a total duty of

Rs 28.39 crore from the firm. In another case of the official posted in Bhopal, two show cause notices were issued alleging proxy import of goods under dummy import export codes by resorting to misdeclaration of description and value leading to evasion of customs duty of around Rs 64.44 crore, according to sources.

Earlier in June, the government had compulsorily retired 15 senior customs and central excise officials, including one of the rank of Principal Additional Director General (ADG), while in another round it had sacked 12 income tax officers, including one of the rank of the joint commissioner on the charges of graft. With Monday's step, the total number of tax officers compulsorily retired from service now stands at 49 in this year. A similar action under Rule

56 (j) was taken by the government in May 2016, when 33 officials of the Revenue Services, including seven Group 'A' officers, were prematurely retired for non-performance under Rule 56 (j) of CCS (Pension) Rules.

The Rule 56(j) of Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 provides for periodical review of the performance of government servants with a view to ascertain whether they should be retained in service or retired from service in public interest.

As per these instructions, the cases of government servants covered by FR 56(j), 56(1) or Rule 48(1) (b) of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 should be reviewed six months before they attain the age of 50-55 years, in cases covered by FR 56(j) and on completion of 30 years of qualifying service under FR 56(1) or Rule 48 of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972.

A similar action under Rule

# US-China trade war: No impact on India, says CEA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
HYDERABAD, AUGUST 26

THE ONGOING trade war between United States of America and China will not have any impact on Indian export which is just below 2 per cent of the global trade, Chief Economic Advisor Krishnamurthy Subramanian said on Monday.

Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a programme here, he said the slew of measures announced by the Centre for the revival of muted growth in the economy was in the right direction, though it was necessary to focus on the 'structural reforms.' "Our exports share is still very small. Our share of global export trade itself is about 2 per cent. Therefore, we still have enormous opportunity to grow," Subramanian said. "Even if there is actually some shrinkage in the pie of the global trade, still we can grow our pie. Exports cannot grow unless actually we emphasize on productivity, he said when asked about the impact of the tariff war between US and China on India. "I would also add that news that the United States and China are actually sitting together and there may be a breakthrough that is coming possibly in which case will be good," the CEA further said.

# Last date to file GST annual returns extended till Nov 30

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

THE FINANCE Ministry on Monday said the last date for filing annual GST returns has been extended by three months to November 30 as taxpayers were facing technical problems in furnishing returns.

Earlier, GST taxpayers were to file required returns by August 31.

"It is hereby informed that the last date for furnishing of annual return in the Form GSTR-9/Form GSTR-9A and reconciliation statement in the Form GSTR-9C for the financial year

2017-18 is extended from August 31, 2019 to November 30, 2019," the Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) said in a statement.

GSTR 9 is an annual return to be filed yearly by taxpayers registered under the Goods and Services Tax (GST). It consists of details regarding the outward and inward supplies made or received under different tax heads.

While extending the date, the CBIC said "certain technical problems are being faced" by the taxpayers as a result annual return for the period July 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 could not be furnished by persons registered under GST.

# Kanungo calls for 'policy nudges' for masala bonds

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

INDIAN RUPEE-DENOMINATED assets have witnessed a healthy interest from global institutions and investors and need to be given further 'policy nudges', Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor BP Kanungo said. Rupee-denominated bonds, popularly known as Masala bonds, protect Indian companies issuing them from the exchange-rate risk since they raise debt from overseas markets in Indian rupees.

Speaking at a Forex Association of India conference in Singapore on August 10, Kanungo

also spoke of onshore markets needing further strengthening.

"The policy regime is also oriented to providing adequate instruments of hedging to all resident economic agents who have exposure to a foreign currency as well as all non-residents who have a rupee exposure. The onshore markets are fairly deep and liquid, but needs further strengthening. There is a wide menu of hedging instruments available and further expansion would be in keeping with understanding of their risk implication."

Kanungo also said the country's forex reserves are borrowed reserves and not built from export surplus. **FE**

# OALP-IV: Seven oil, gas blocks up for bidding

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

INDIA ON Monday offered for bidding seven new areas for prospecting of oil and natural gas on revamped exploration terms that look to expedite cut in import dependence by raising domestic output. Five blocks offered are in little-explored Vindhyan sedimentary basin, while one block is in Bengal Purnea basin. The remaining block is the proven basin of Rajasthan, according to a press statement by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). In all, 18,509.69 square kilometre of area for exploration of oil and gas has been offered in the fourth bid round of Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). The government has under

# '₹1.2 lakh cr investment planned for city gas network expansion'

New Delhi: India will see an investment of about Rs 1.2 lakh crore in the roll out of city gas network in almost 300 districts by 2030 as a massive expansion is planned for CNG dispensing stations and pipelines supplying cooking gas to household kitchens, Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Monday. Pradhan was speaking at an event organised to mark

the commencement of work on 50 GAs awarded in the 10th bid round to firms such as Indian Oil Corp, Adani Gas and Bharat Gas earlier this year. "Five years ago, city gas distribution (CGD) network spanned 34 GAs and now it has expanded to 228 GAs covering 406 districts," he said. "The investment proposed is about Rs 1.2 lakh crore," the minister added. **PTI**

the previous three OALP rounds awarded 87 blocks covering an area of 1.18 lakh sq km. OALP-IV is the first round being held on revamped terms ap-

proved in February 2019. DGH said, unlike previous rounds where blocks were awarded to companies offering a maximum share of oil and gas to

the government, blocks in little or unexplored Category-II and III basins will be awarded to companies offering to do maximum exploration programme.

While Vindhyan is Category-II basin block, Bengal Purnea is Category-III area where no exploration has happened so far.

The revamped policy also provides for "shorter exploration period, concessional royalty rates to expedite oil and gas production and introduction of alternate dispute resolution mechanism," the statement said. Under OALP, companies are allowed to carve out areas they want to explore oil and gas in. Companies can put in an expression of interest (EoI) for any area throughout the year but such interests are accumulated thrice in a year. The areas sought are then put on auction.

# BoB to co-lend ₹1K cr with NBFCs this quarter

ENSE ECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, AUGUST 26

THE COUNTRY'S second largest state-owned lender, Bank of Baroda (BoB), on Monday announced that it had plans to lend up to Rs 1,000 crore in tandem with 16 non-banking financial

companies (NBFCs) and microfinance institutions (MFIs) in the current quarter.

With this step, the bank will get new accounts, to whom they will be cross-selling other products as well. At the same time, NBFCs will get an opportunity to grow their business — asset under management — without facing

any capital constraints or funding related challenges.

The bank will fund 80-90 per cent of the total loan amount depending upon the seasoning.

Papia Sengupta, executive director, BoB, said, "Economic slowdown can only be aided with the growth in rural consumption. NBFCs and housing finance com-

## BRIEFLY

### DGTR for 50% duty on palm oil from Malaysia

New Delhi: The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), the Commerce Ministry's investigation arm, Monday recommended a 5 per cent increase in customs duty on the imports of refined palm oil from Malaysia to 50 per cent for 180 days.

### SECI extends deadline to bid till Sept 11

New Delhi: State-owned Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) on Monday said it has extended deadline to submit bids for 6GW solar projects till September 11.

### BSE launches trading of rate options

New Delhi: BSE on Monday started the trading of government bonds-based interest rate options, according to the exchange.

### Subsidy on KCC loans: RBI sets modalities

Mumbai: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday announced modalities for providing 2 per cent interest subsidy on short-term loans of up to Rs 2 lakh for farmers engaged in fisheries and animal husbandry through Kisan Credit Card (KCC).

### DHFL picks KK Mankeshwar & Co as auditor

New Delhi: Cash-strapped housing financier DHFL on Monday said it has appointed KK Mankeshwar & Co as its statutory auditor.

### BharatPe raises \$50 million from investors

New Delhi: Fintech firm BharatPe Monday said it has raised \$50 million (about Rs 350 crore) in its latest round of equity financing.

### NCLT initiates insolvency plea against Raheja

New Delhi: The NCLT has initiated insolvency proceedings against real estate firm Raheja Developers after admitting a plea filed by one of its flat buyers. **PTI**

**GUJARAT STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED.**  
Sector-10/A, 'CH' Road, Near New Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382043 Gujarat, India. Phone : +91-79-23221037, 23221038  
Fax : +91-79-23221030 | Email : managemerps319@gmail.com  
Website: https://gscscl.gujarat.gov.in | CIN: U65910GJ1980SGC003957

The Gujarat State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited intends to Procure 100 KG Capacity New B. Twill Gunny Bag (Jute Bag) for packing Ground Nuts. Interested sellers / bidders should register on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) Portal [https://mko.gem.gov.in/registration/signup#/seller] and participate in the tender by uploading their product as per required technical specifications. GeM Portal Helpline : Mail : helpdesk-gem@gov.in Toll Free Numbers: 1800-419-3436; 1800-102-3436 Delivery of the Gunny Bags is expected in one month. Seller(s)/Bidder(s) shall deliver the Gunny Bags as per delivery schedule and location provided by GSCSCL at Purchase/ Godown Centres (District Locations) in Gujarat State.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Publishing of Tender From 26/08/2019 https://gem.gov.in

**B. Twill Gunny Bag (Jute Bag) for packing Ground Nuts of 100 KG Capacity**  
Quantity: 33,000 Bale (300 Bags per Bale)  
Total Quantity: 99 Lakh Bags

Last Date of Bid submission 05/09/2019 till 17:00 Hrs  
Reverse Auction Start Date & Time 06/09/2019 till 15:00 Hrs  
Reverse Auction End Date & Time 10/09/2019 till 15:00 Hrs  
General Manager (MSP)

**TATA POWER DELHI DISTRIBUTION LIMITED**  
A Tata Power and Delhi Government Joint Venture  
Regd. Office: NDPL House, Hudson Lines, Kingsway Camp, Delhi - 110 009  
Tel : 66112222, Fax : 27488042, Email : TPDDL@tatapower-dli.com  
CIN No. : U40109DL2001PLC111526, Website : www.tatapower-dli.com

**CORRIGENDUM / TENDER DATE EXTENSION** Aug 27, 2019

Tender Enquiry No. / Work Description	Previously Published Date	Revised Due Date & Time of Bid Submission/ Date & time of opening of bids
TPDDL/ENGG/ENQ/200001108/19-20 Rfx No. 5000001379 RC for Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 11kv capacitor banks	27.05.2019	03.09.2019 at 1600 Hrs/ 03.09.2019 at 1700 Hrs

Complete tender and corrigendum document is available on our website [www.tatapower-dli.com](http://www.tatapower-dli.com) → Vendors Zone → Tender / Corrigendum Documents  
Contracts - 011-66112222

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE  
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION  
(CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP)  
ISRO TELEMETRY TRACKING AND COMMAND NETWORK (ISTRAC)  
Plot No. 12 & 13, 3rd Main, 2nd Phase,  
PEENYA INDUSTRIAL AREA, Bengaluru-560 058  
Ph: 080-28094182, 4541 Fax: 080-28094180

**BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE, CORRIGENDUM-II Dtd: 26.08.2019**  
1. On behalf of President of India, item rate E-Tenders is invited from Contractors of appropriate class for following work:  
NIT No.: ISTRAC/CMG/E/MAINT/E-TENDER-23/2019-20 Dated: 08.07.2019  
Name of Work: Annual maintenance contract for DG sets Cummins make installed in different location at IDSN, Bialyu Village, ISTRAC, Bangalore  
Estimate Cost put to Tender - Rs. 67.72 Lakhs; Tender Document details-E-Tender

Period of Completion	03 Years
Period during which tender document can be downloaded	From 10.07.2019 to 30.07.2019 till 14.00 hrs. Extended upto 14.00 hrs. on 19.08.2019 Extended upto 14.00 hrs. on 30.08.2019
Bid Clarifications	From 11.07.2019 to 31.07.2019 till 16.00 hrs. Extended upto till 16.00 hrs. on 20.08.2019 Extended upto till 16.00 hrs. on 31.08.2019
Last date of reply to Bid Clarification	01.08.2019 upto 16.00 hrs. Extended upto 16.00 hrs. on 21.08.2019 Extended upto 16.00 hrs. on 03.09.2019
Last date & time for receipt of tenders	02.08.2019 upto 14.30 hrs. Extended upto 14.30 hrs. on 22.08.2019 Extended upto 14.30 hrs. on 05.09.2019
Due date and time of opening of tenders	09.08.2019 after 11.00 hrs. Extended to 27.08.2019 after 11.00 hrs. Extended to 11.09.2019 after 11.00 hrs.
Earnest money deposit (EMD)	Rs.1,35,440/-

2. Interested Tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: [www.isro.gov.in](http://www.isro.gov.in) and download the tender documents from [www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO](http://www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO) GROUP HEAD-CMG, ISTRAC

**Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited**  
Khurshid Lal Bhawan, Janpath, New Delhi-110050

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
On behalf of MTNL, New Delhi vide Tender enquiry:  
1. No. EE(E)/RH/MTNL/NIT/2019-20/18 Online item rate tenders are invited for Annual Comprehensive Maintenance of 6 Nos. ECE make passenger lift installed at MTNL Staff Qtr PKT-4, Sec-3, Rohini, Delhi (Estimated Cost : Rs. 16,37,496/-).  
2. No. EE(E)-S/BCP/NIT/2019-20/32 Online item rate tenders are invited for Replacement of battery for 40 KVA UPS system at Data Centre, T.E. Bldg., Nehru Place, New Delhi (Estimated Cost : Rs. 13,88,400/-).  
3. No. EE(E)-KBN/CE(Electrical)/MTNL/2019-20/10 Online tenders are invited for Refurbishment of Fire Fighting system at T.E. Building, Idgah, MTNL, New Delhi (Estimated Cost : Rs. 11,10,500/-).  
4. No. EE(E)TY/MTNL/2019-20/09 Online item rate tenders are invited for Comprehensive maintenance of (100, 62.5, 45, 25) KVA DG sets at various T.E., RSU Bldg. under EE(E) TY, MTNL, Delhi (Estimated Cost : Rs. 29,66,400/-).  
5. No. AGM(IT-TP)/CAMC-EPABX/2019-20 Online tenders are invited for CAMC of 3 EPABX installed at Hari Nagar, Rohini & Kidwai Bhawan of MTNL Delhi (Estimated Cost : Rs. 6,70,830/- approximately).  
6. No. GN(C)/Tender/Canteen/CGO Bldg./2019-20 Sealed tenders are invited for "Running of Canteen" at Mahanagar Doorsanchar Sadan (MDS), CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 (Estimated Cost : Rs.15,00,000/-).  
For detail information, please log on to website: <http://www.eprocure.gov.in>, <http://tenders.gov.in> and <http://tender.mtnl.net.in>.  
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**NOTIFICATIONS / TENDERS**  
Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Pune is an autonomous institute set up by MHRD, Govt. of India. Applications / Tenders are invited for the following post(s) / category.

S.No.	Ref No	Category	Subject / Post(s)
1	IIITP/Tender/Vehicle Hiring/ 2019-20/697	Tender	Tender for Hiring of Transport Vehicle Services
2	IIITP/Tender/Partition/ 2019-20/698	Tender	Tender for Partitioned Works
3	IIITP/Notification/ 2019-20/699	Walk-in Interview	Professor (Maths), Assistant Professor (ECE)
4	IIITP/Notification/ 2019-20/700	Walk-in Interview	Medical Consultant, Teaching Assistant (CSE / ECE), Training & Placement Officer
5	IIITP/Notification/ 2019-20/701	Walk-in Interview	Internal Auditor, Accountant, Network Assistant, Lab Assistant, Warden (Male), Junior Assistant, Care-taker

For known to detail, please visit the Institute website [www.iitp.ac.in](http://www.iitp.ac.in). Any update or corrigendum will be published in Institute's website. Director

# Crude falls as optimism over US-Iran faces hopes of US-China trade deal

STEPHANIE KELLY  
NEW YORK, AUGUST 26

OIL PRICES edged lower on Monday on the outlook for increased supply of Iranian crude after France's president lifted hopes for a deal between Washington and Tehran, but losses were limited by growing hopes that the United States and China could make a deal to end their trade war.

Brent crude lost 33 cents to \$59.01 a barrel by 1:07 p.m. EDT (1707 GMT), after hitting a session high of \$60.17. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures fell 23 cents to \$53.94 a barrel, after reaching \$55.26 a barrel.

Prices fell after French President Emmanuel Macron said preparations were underway for a meeting between Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and U.S. President Donald Trump in the coming weeks to find a solu-

tion to a nuclear standoff. Trump last year abandoned Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, arguing that he wanted a bigger deal that not only limited Iran's atomic work, but also reined in its support for proxies in Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Lebanon, and curbed its ballistic missile program. Trump also tightened sanctions on Iran in May to try to choke off its oil exports.

"Now the market is pondering the possibility that we'll see a flood of Iranian oil come onto the market if there's progress made," said Phil Flynn, an analyst at Price Futures Group in Chicago. "We have to be admittedly cautious because we've heard of deals one minute only to be tweeted down the next minute." Buoying prices, Trump said after a G7 summit of world leaders that he believed China was sincere about wanting to reach a deal. **REUTERS**



POWER GENERATION

# Down and dirty

Asia digs up and burns three-quarters of the world's coal



A coal barge passes along the Musi river in Palembang, Indonesia, in August 2018. Reuters

A LARGE sign in the city hall of San Carlos, on the island of Negros in the Philippines, lays out the local government's ambitions. It wants San Carlos to be "a model green city", "a renewable energy hub for Asia" and "a sustainable tourism destination". But the local officials sitting directly beneath the sign are keen to talk about something else: why a plan to build a coal-fired power plant nearby is an excellent idea.

Coal drives Asia. Between 2006 and 2016 the continent's consumption of it grew by 3.1% a year. Asia now accounts for fully 75% of global demand for the stuff. China is the world's largest producer and consumer of coal. Largely as a result, it also emits more carbon dioxide than any other country. India is the second-biggest consumer. Japan and South Korea are also big consumers, while Australia and Indonesia are big producers. South-East Asia was the only region in the world in which coal's share of power generation grew last year, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA), a research body. And four of the five countries that shell out the most in subsidies for the fuel are Asian.

Asia's passion for coal, in turn, threatens the health of the planet. The Paris agreement on climate change (which every country in Asia, from Afghanistan to New Zealand, has signed) aims to limit the increase in global temperatures above pre-industrial averages to "well below" 2°C. To avoid 1.5°C of global warming, virtually all of the planet's coal-fired plants need to close by 2050, climatologists say, given the vast quantity of greenhouse gases produced by mining, transporting and burning coal. No new coal-fired plants should be built from next year on, the secretary-general of the UN says. But UBS, a Swiss bank, reckons that Indonesia and Vietnam may still be building coal-fired power stations in 2035. Asia's last coal plant, it projects, will close only in 2079. Curbing global warming depends on convincing Asian governments to take a different path.

China accounts for about half the coal the world consumes each year—far more than any other country. Happily, its appetite seems to be waning. Although it burned through almost 4bn tonnes last year, a slight increase on the year before, that is still below the peak of 4.24bn tonnes in 2013. Coal's share of China's energy mix has fallen by about ten percentage points over the past decade, to 59%.

This is the result of a sustained and multifaceted official campaign to clean up China's energy generation. There has been huge investment in renewables, leaving China with a third of the world's wind turbines and a quarter of its solar panels, according to the IEA. In 2013 a national plan on air pollution gave Beijing, the capital, five years to reduce its coal consumption by half, among other measures. And in 2017 the government introduced a national carbon-trading scheme. In the Paris agreement it pledged that its carbon-dioxide emissions would stop growing by 2030.

China's efforts to clean up have left India as the world's most enthusiastic builder of coal-fired plants. In its submissions for the Paris accord, India predicted that its demand for electricity would triple between 2012 and 2030. About 48 gigawatts of coal-fired capacity are under construction in the country. Coal consumption increased by 9% last year, according to BP, a big oil firm.

That is partly because India lacks obvious

alternatives, at least for back-up generation when the wind is not blowing and the sun is not shining. It cannot afford to import cleaner but more expensive liquefied natural gas, as Japan, South Korea and, increasingly, China do. Partly, however, India's addiction to coal stems from government bias. The government owns more than 70% of Coal India, the giant mining firm that produces most of the country's coal. India's state-owned railways depend on the cash generated by transporting coal to subsidise passenger tickets (coal provides 44% of freight revenues). Coal generates hundreds of thousands of jobs, many in the poorest states. The government has an enormous vested interest in seeing the industry prosper.

Grime-stoppers

Nevertheless, even in India, the outlook for coal is becoming hazier. For one thing, growth in energy demand has slowed thanks to improved energy efficiency and the growing importance of services to the economy. Demand has also been curbed by a failure to invest in transmission capacity and by the inefficiencies of unprofitable power-distribution companies. This means that the increase in coal-fired generation has outstripped the increase in demand for energy in recent years. Coal plants are already operating far below their potential capacity. At the same time, levies and transport costs have risen more quickly than Coal India's prices, according to research by Rahul Tongia

and Samantha Gross for the Brookings Institution, an American think-tank.

These difficulties are mounting just as greener power sources are beginning to spread. Shortly after Narendra Modi became prime minister five years ago, his government announced a plan to quadruple India's renewable-energy capacity to 175 gigawatts by 2022. The scheme supports one of India's promises under the Paris accord. If it is successful, the share of renewables in the generation mix could rise from 7.8% to 19%. Steep cost falls help. Indian renewables now cost less than three rupees (\$0.04) per kilowatt-hour, well below domestic coal at four rupees per kilowatt-hour, according to Tim Buckley of the Institute for Energy Economics and

Financial Analysis, a green think-tank.

South-East Asia has seen a similar shift in prices. The government of Vietnam projects that demand for coal will more than double by 2030. But Matt Gray of Carbon Tracker, a British think-tank, argues that, if the cost of building solar- and wind-farms keeps falling (reductions of 50% and 30% respectively have been seen in Vietnam in recent years), they should be cheaper than new coal plants as soon as next year. "The economics are there and this is what I think Asia is going to wake up to," says an investor in Vietnamese wind farms.

Renewables offer other advantages over coal as well. Given the difficulty of getting power to South-East Asia's most remote areas—Indonesia has more than 13,000 islands and the Philippines another 7,000 or

so—solar and wind installations can offer electrification without costly extensions of the grid. The region also has manufacturers who would benefit from a stronger push for renewables. Malaysia, for example, is the third-largest manufacturer of solar cells in the world.

Coal is coming in for more public criticism. A recent documentary in Indonesia portrayed the harm caused by the fuel to farmers, fishermen and the natural resources upon which they depend. In the Philippines the Catholic church is wading in. Gerardo Alminaza, a bishop, is a leading figure in a campaign against the proposed coal plant in San Carlos, for example. He has given talks at banks on the need to divest from coal. Rodrigo Duterte, the president of the Philippines, recently instructed his government to hasten the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

Some investors are growing leery of coal. A new report from the Centre for Financial Accountability, an Indian think-tank, reveals that private lending to coal-fired power plants in India declined by 90% last year. One of the largest banks in South-East Asia, DBS of Singapore, announced in April that it will stop funding new coal plants after its existing slate of projects is completed. Last year Marubeni, a huge Japanese trading house, said it will no longer invest in coal plants; it intends to halve its own coal-fired capacity by 2030. And the energy arm of Ayala Corporation, a Filipino conglomerate, announced plans last year to sell up to half its

coal assets and to invest more in renewables.

Coal comfort

The shifting sentiment is reflected in the recent sharp decline in investment approvals for new coal-fired plants. But even if the private sector were to wash its hands of coal altogether, that would not guarantee its demise. In both China and India, the biggest banks are state-owned, and their lending decisions are as much a function of government policy as of expected returns. The Chinese government, in turn, although pursuing cleaner energy at home, does not seem particularly keen to encourage it abroad. The Belt and Road Initiative, a big Chinese infrastructure-development scheme, will see billions spent to build coal-fired plants in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Pakistan and Vietnam, among other countries. Chinese financial institutions are helping to fund more than a quarter of coal-fired power stations under development around the world.

Finance for the coal business in India, meanwhile, comes mainly from the state. Between 2005 and 2015 state-owned banks provided 82% of the funding for coal-fired power plants, according to the Centre for Financial Accountability. If the governments of China and India continue to pump money into coal via state-owned banks, the fate of the climate will be sealed, whatever encouragement they give to other forms of generation.

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CHAGUAN

# When patriotism is in fashion

China's thin-skinned online nationalists want to be both loved and feared by the West

ON AUGUST 10th a Chinese fashion blogger, "Stylist Zoe", invited her 7.4m followers to take an online poll, asking whether they would wear freshly cooked shrimp as earrings. A mere 1,300 voted. Two days later, however, Zoe hit the jackpot. Over a million netizens responded to her poll, posted on Weibo, the country's largest microblog platform, asking what followers think of foreign brands that "insult China". Her timing was impeccable. Her survey surfed waves of patriotic indignation crashing over the Chinese internet, heightened by puffs of windy outrage in the state media.

This tempest involves a charge new to the annals of great power competition: that Western brands have been subverting China's sovereignty by means of overpriced T-shirts. Specifically, Versace, Coach and Givenchy were denounced for selling T-shirts that variously bore the place-names Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan, without adding wording making it clear the first two cities are not in fact sovereign states, but Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China, and without specifying that—at least in the view of the Communist mainland—the democratic, self-governing island of Taiwan is a province of China.

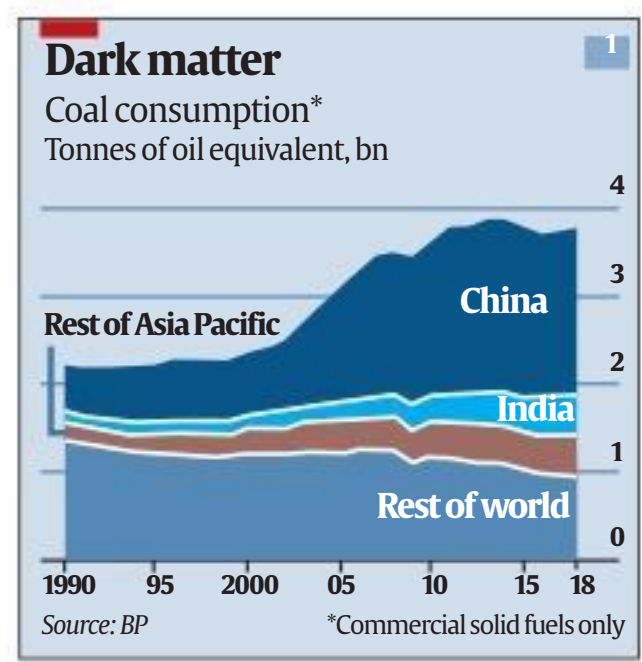
Not content with going after designer-shirt peddlers, state-run news outlets have denounced Amazon for selling "Free Hong Kong" T-shirts, though the online giant does not op-

erate inside China. Other well-known brands have been taken to task for drop-down location menus on company websites that could be interpreted as suggesting that Hong Kong and Taiwan are countries.

To outsiders, these alleged offences may seem footling. But luxury brands—offered grovelling apologies. Expressions of contrition from foreign designers and CEOs were paraded across social-media sites, joined by resignation letters from Chinese celebrities, noisily quitting as envoys for errant brands and stressing their love for the motherland. One possible take on this dispiriting saga is that China's hair-trigger patriots are themselves victims. In this telling, if young Chinese netizens are easily offended, it is because they have spent their formative years cut off from the world behind a Great Firewall of digital censorship, and pounded by a drumbeat of nationalism.

A closer look at those online nationalists is more troubling. It is true that government propagandists have worked hard to whip up this latest storm. Communist Party social-media accounts have gleefully asserted that foreign firms must work harder to uphold China's sacred territorial unity, or feel the "cold, cold" wrath of 1.4bn patriotic consumers.

But a sad truth about nationalist anger is that it can be manipulated and sincere at the same time. No party commissar told Stylist



Even if the private sector were to wash its hands of coal altogether, that would not guarantee its demise. In both China and India, the biggest banks are state-owned, and their lending decisions are as much a function of government policy as of expected returns

leaders also clearly have access to the internet beyond the Great Firewall. Brands have been attacked, in recent days, over the precise wording of English-language apologies posted on platforms that are banned in China, such as Twitter, Facebook or Instagram. That means either overseas Chinese are involved, or netizens with access to online tools that allow them to vault the firewall.

Some unhappy patriots hold plum jobs at the foreign companies under attack. Chaguan spoke this week to a Chinese staffer employed by one of the firms accused of insulting China. The staffer described Chinese colleagues debating their firm's actions on WeChat, a social media app ubiquitous in China, adding that Western colleagues "either didn't dare or didn't want to talk about it with Chinese staff". The firm did not set out to offend China, the employee believes. But China's market power deserves more deference: "If you make a profit from us, you also need to respect us."

If recent mistakes by luxury brands seem small to foreigners, they are missing the larger causes of Chinese anger, says "FashionModels", a blogger with 9m followers on Weibo, speaking via social media while on a trip to Japan. America and Europe remain "culturally more powerful" than China and have yet to change "their very condescending attitude", he says.

When more than T-shirts were at stake

History offers insights into today's online Chinese nationalism, with its complicated blend of assertiveness and insecurity. Arguably China's first modern consumer boycott began in 1905, targeting American goods. It was launched by Shanghai merchants in protest at the (very real) mistreatment of Chinese immigrants in America. The first law against Chinese immigration was passed in 1882. But as Wong Sin Kiong

Those advocating boycotts know their Versace from their Valentino. Their ringleaders also clearly have access to the internet beyond the Great Firewall. Brands have been attacked over the precise wording of English-language apologies posted on platforms that are banned in China

of the National University of Singapore has documented, the boycott took off only after American immigration officers began humiliating educated Chinese as well as labourers. America, in effect, provoked a test of national dignity involving many social classes. Newfangled technology also helped. The telegraph, the WeChat of its day, allowed far-flung Chinese to share tales of outrage and to organise.

One more parallel is important. Patriotic pride back in 1905 was mingled with shame, and soul-searching questions about why the Chinese were too dazzled by foreign goods to resist them for very long. Jump to 2019 and not much has changed. A popular comment on Stylist Zoe's poll laments that Chinese fashion-lovers are too quick to forgive brands that insult the country.

A big difference is that the boycott in 1905 had a moral argument at its core, and hurt Chinese merchants as much as American ones. Today's campaigns often turn on trivialities and are painless or even profitable for their promoters. Propagandists have done their work well. They have made indignation an industry.

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Magazines with front covers featuring Chinese President Xi Jinping and President Trump at a roadside stand in Hong Kong. AP

Zoe's followers to choose the most extreme response in her poll, vowing that they would rather go naked than wear clothes from an anti-China brand, yet 770,000 of them did so. More sobering still, by definition those attack-

ing foreign brands are unusually worldly, whether they hail from the aspiring middle classes or are members of China's globe-trotting elites. Those advocating boycotts know their Versace from their Valentino. Their ring-







**SCREEN TIME**  
A film based on the TV series *Breaking Bad*, centring on Pinkman, the meth cook played by Aaron Paul, will be released by Netflix, nearly six years after the show's finale in 2013. Titled *El Camino: A Breaking Bad Movie*, it is written and directed by the show's creator Vince Gilligan.



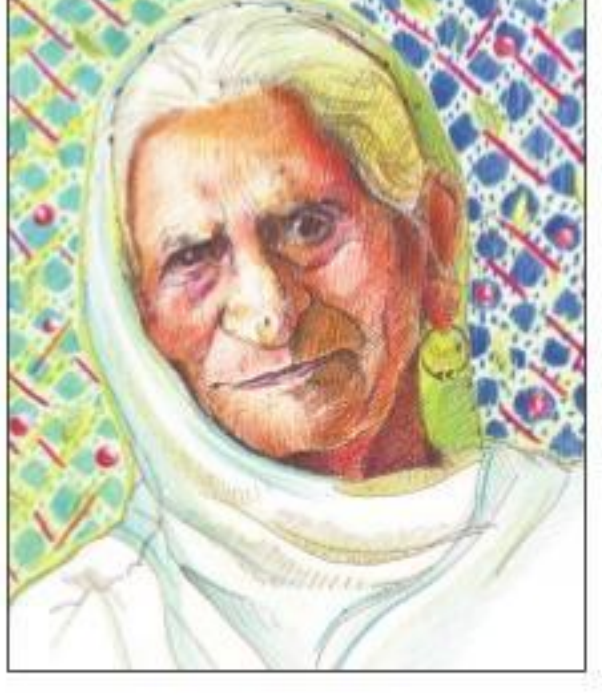
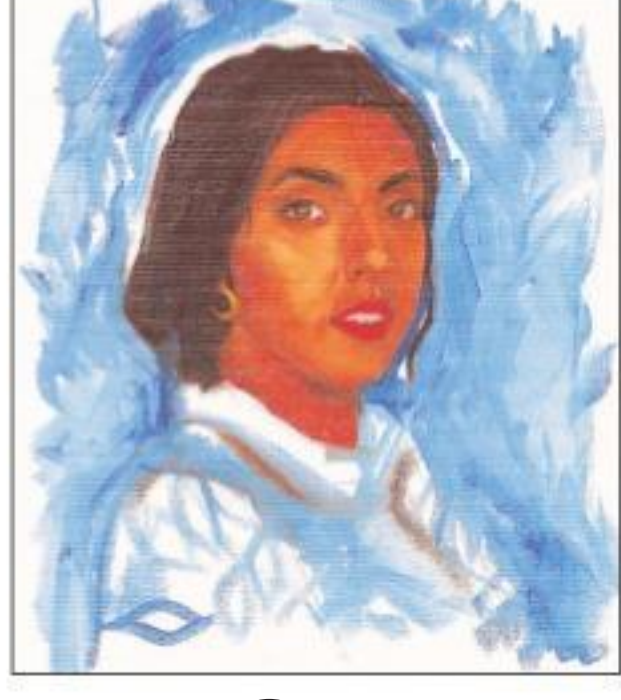
**SNAP SHOTS**



**Moving On**  
SIXTY YEARS after legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray made *Apur Sansar*, director Madhur Bhandarkar is co-producing a Bengali film, *Abhijatrik* (*The Wanderlust of Apu*), retracing Apu's journey with his son. The black-and-white movie will be directed by filmmaker Subhrajit Mitra and presented by Bhandarkar. The story, based on the concluding part of Bibhuti Bhushan Bandyopadhyay's 1932 novel *Aparajito*, will retrace the journey of Apu and his son. In the film, Apu will relive his childhood through the eyes of son, visit Varanasi and his village Nischindipur.



**Grow Some Legs**  
CONSIDERED ONE of the most unusual art restoration projects in the UK, the National Trust has decided to reinstate the petticoated lower legs to two paintings by Michael Dahl. The third Earl of Egremont, in the 1820s, had decided to make more wall space in his house in West Sussex, for new works. Six portraits became three-quarter length because the legs were cut off. But in 1995, National Trust curators discovered that the legs had been folded and tucked behind the paintings. Next year, these restored works will be exhibited at Tate Britain.



## Once Upon A Time

Authors are revisiting stories of women achievers to present a new set of role models for children and young adults

**SURBHIGUPTA**

NOT MANY have grown up listening to the story of Seema Rao, India's Wonder Woman, the first to train soldiers in close-combat warfare. Or of dancer Rukmini Devi Arundale, who was rebuked when she first performed the dance form Sadir on stage and coupled it with classical music, but later became a pioneer in reviving Bharatanatyam. Or of Homai Vyarawalla, the first woman photojournalist in India, who captured many iconic moments of India's freedom struggle. Stories of many such women are now being revisited by writers through books for children.

A recent book is *The Dot That Went For a Walk...* (Rs 649, Caterpillar Wings) that presents 51 women achievers in India. "We want the young generation, especially girls, to look up to Indian women as role models. From our experience during the many talks at schools, boys are equally inspired by the stories — a good story is gender neutral. So, we chose to tell stories of nation builders who have been forgotten and must be celebrated," says Sarada Akkineni, who has worked on the book with Reema Gupta and Lakshmi Nambiar. They have been vary of fairy tales where women are portrayed as damsels in distress waiting for a prince rescue them. "When we asked our kids and their friends who their female role models were, they struggled to come up with any names besides those in entertainment or sports," says Akkineni. Soon their research led them to artists, musicians, and scientists. In their book, we meet crafts revivalist Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, lawyer-activist Ela Bhatt, botanist Janaki Ammal, actor Deepika Padukone, chef Tarla Dalal, and economist Devaki Jain, among others. The authors have collaborated with 51 women artists and illustrators for portraits in the book.

Dubai-based writer Gayathri Ponvannan also felt that there were just a handful of books about Indian women achievers, "especially about those from the past." "I felt that while we might know about remarkable Indian women, we don't always realise the magnitude of their achievements. Our current lifestyles are so very different that it is not always possible to imagine how different — and difficult — circumstances have been in the past." In her book, *Unstoppable* (Rs 350, Hachette), apart from stories of modern women, we also meet lesser-known personalities. There is Prabhavati, of the Gupta empire, one of the first women to rule a kingdom in India, and Rudrama Devi, a warrior princess from the Kakatiya dynasty, who



(Clockwise from top left) Illustrations of Rupri Kaur; Pritam Kaur Hayre; Nannamal; Jameela Jamil; Aditi Mittal

*Girl* (Context, 2018), and now the format has caught on. Even in the past, there were books on Indian women such as Rani Laxmi Bai, but the personalities were limited and repeated. In these new books, we're seeing women from different professions. Previously, in books that listed 20 leaders in history, only two would be women, so these books are filling that gap," says Sayoni Basu, co-founder of Duckbill in Chennai.

In *She Can You Can* (Rs 299, Harper Collins), San Francisco-based Garima Kushwaha and Rajat Mittal have catalogued stories of 26 Indian women as an alphabet book. A is for Arunima Sinha, who is the first female amputee to scale the Mount Everest, B is for Bhanu Athaiya, who became India's first female Oscar award winner for Costume Design for Richard Attenborough's *Gandhi* (1982), and C is for Chitra Ramakrishna, the first woman Managing Director and CEO of the National Stock Exchange. "I grew up hearing the term '*bada aadmi*' — a successful man. The implicit belief that men are meant to do great things while women are there to support them is so flawed," says Kushwaha.

Science writers Aashima Freidog and Nandita Jayaraj's book *31 Fantastic Adventures in Science: Women Scientists in India* (Rs 399, Puffin) released on Sunday revisits stories of women who "are not seen on TV, in textbooks or in newspapers". They present women who work in diverse fields from environmental biotechnology to particle physics, palaeobiology to astrophysics. They tell us about Sharada Srinivasan, an archaeometallurgist, who was the first to find out more about Aranmula *kannadi* of Kerala,

the metal mirror which reflects better than glass. Also featured are stories of biotechnologist Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, astrophysicist Prajval Shastri, cancer biologist Bushra Ateeq, computational biologist Lipi Thukral, and condensed matter physicist Archana Lakhani.

Meanwhile, London-based Raj Kaur Khaira broadens the scope and presents stories of 50 women from Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. In the book, *Stories for South Asian Supergirls* (Rs 599, Kashi House), we read about chef Ravinder Bhogal, born in Nairobi and now in London, who specialises in fusion cuisine. There is Mindy Kaling, an actor and comedian in the US, who has Tamil and Bengali roots. She also talks about Pakistani filmmaker-activist Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy and Indian author Aanchal Malhotra, among others. Part of the *The Pink*

Ladoo Project that aims to eradicate gender-biased customs and traditions, the book was to make South Asian women realise their power. "We are so much more than Western media wants us to think we are. We are clever, strong, gentle, kind, pioneering and all the rest. We don't need saving," she says, adding that people are always trying to erase, play down or edit the history and legacy of brown women. Each biography is paired with a portrait drawn by one of the 10 South Asian female artists.

**These are the new-age fairy tales of heroines who definitely don't need rescuing. These stories will make children innovative and resilient to failure**

SARADA AKKINENI

## Raising the Pitch

In his solo, artist Sayanthan Samanta draws attention to shrinking farmlands at the cost of urbanisation



*Concrete Dinner* presents the stark reality of everything made of cement

**SHINY VARGHESE**

ARTIST SAYANTHAN SAMANTA has been seeing farmers from his hometown in Dankuni, West Bengal, turn away from agriculture and take up jobs in cities. He has seen corporates surreptitiously turn fertile farms into fallow scrubs to purchase land at rock-bottom rates. He has gone searching for farming tools, only to know they are being sold as junk. He turns to these findings at his solo exhibition at the Korean Cultural Centre in New Delhi — titled "Blue Print: A study into changing agrarian landscape" — that compels one to stop and consider the dangers of making 'concrete' choices.

chayat in maintaining a nursery and peri-urban agriculture." On cement boards, he has miniature paintings of farmers engaged in various activities, from ploughing to harvesting. Using local mud, he presents a semblance of the earth in each of the 33 panels. "Today, it's difficult to find farmers because most of them have opted for other professions. I've attempted to show that idea through the miniatures, where you need to come really close to see what the farmer is doing," says Samanta, 25. In a previous show last year in Hyderabad, Samanta used cement boards, brass, fibreglass and clay to bring home the idea of a construction site in progress. In this exhibition too, he has used cement to cast the boards that become a canvas for his installations. In his work *Concrete Dinner*, the artist presents an entire feast of fruits and meat laid out on a life-size table for six. Everything from the plates to the chairs and the bread is in concrete. "Making this installation gave me great pleasure. If everything is concrete, what will we eat?" he says. Here he worked with alginate powder, used in tooth moulds, to cast the actual fruits and meat in the installation. "The powder is very fine and takes on impressions of even a thumb print," says Samanta. "Ultimately, as an artist, I have a responsibility to call out injustice." The exhibition is at the Korean Cultural Centre, Delhi, till September 27

## Drama and Drapes

The 20th edition of the Lakme Fashion Week Winter Festive 2019 came to a close with a few interesting themes, big Bollywood names, and a bigger finale

**EKTAA MALIK**

WHEN IN doubt use a big Bollywood name' was the memo that almost all designers seemed to subscribe to during the closing weekend of the Lakme Fashion Week (LFW). Apart from that, there were a few themes on the LED-lit ramps that caught our eye.

**Taking the Last Train**

The Delhi-based designer duo of Kanika Sachdev and Neelanjana Ghosh delved into their childhood memories and invoked the train station of Mughalsarai for their collection "Chai at Mughalsarai Jn", which they presented for their label Jajaaboo. The stop, which is now named as the Deen Dayal Upadhyaya station, was the central inspiration behind the duo's collection, which was heavy on layering, folk ethos, and prints. Deconstructed saris, capes, dresses and stand-alone ensembles were presented in



(Clockwise from above) Kanika Sachdev and Neelanjana Ghosh's inspired train station set; Kareena Kapoor Khan walked for sisters Gauri and Nainika; Ayushmann Khurrana closed the show for designers Rohit Gandhi and Rahul Khanna

shades of yellow, mustard, jade and fuchsia. Printed motifs of tigers, trains, horses and station names, written in Devanagari and English, were used as embellishments.

**Go Big or Go Home**

The vast premises of the now-defunct fabrication mill Richardson and Cruddas in



Byculla, Mumbai, was converted into a starry avenue to host the Lakme Absolute Grand Finale of LFW, which was presented by sisters Gauri and Nainika. Usually an off-site show, the finale presentation has had a history of being held at unconventional venues, including Sophia's and Bandra Fort. Richardson and Cruddas, which had an ele-

vated ramp, seemed apt for a collection that was heavy on drama and volume. Actor Kareena Kapoor Khan was the show stopper. Wearing a pure-black, strapless, off-shoulder dress — the standout creation from the collection — Kapoor Khan walked to *I will follow you* from The Police.

**B Town Invasion**

Everyone who is anyone in Bollywood was seen walking the ramp. Starting from Ayushmann Khurrana who closed the stellar showcase "Interstellar" by Rohit Gandhi and Rahul Khanna. The actor, who is currently the toast of tinseltown, wore an expertly stitched knee-length black jacket and matching trousers. Actor Kangana Ranaut, stayed away from controversies as she walked for designer Disha Patil in a steel-gray creation. Actor Vijay Varma, who was last seen in *Gully Boy* walked for Tisa, a menswear label. Shabana Azmi, Soha Ali Khan, Shilpa Shetty and Malaika Arora too walked for various designers.

## From Glamour to Glory



Nisha Yadav wears a Bloni design

FOR MODEL Nisha Yadav it was just another day at the Lakme Fashion Week (LFW). She had walked the ramp for labels, Anatomy and Bloni when on Saturday, her popularity amped up by over 1.5 lakh views. All this because of an Instagram video by Union Minister Smriti Irani, who introduced Yadav to her followers. At LFW to launch the 'Su.Re' project by the Textile Ministry, Irani said in the video, "There is something special about Nisha. She is not just a model, she has also completed her second year of law from Rajasthan University, and is now in her third year. She is currently practicing in Delhi and also walking the ramp at Lakme Fashion Week." She also mentioned that Yadav had to walk six kilometres every day to reach school. In the video, Yadav, who is from Kotputli village in Jaipur, shared that her father wanted his five daughters married, but they stood their ground and continued studying, and are now in various professions. "He has given us freedom and that is now inspiring others to give their daughters freedom in our village," said Yadav. "There is a story behind many faces at the Lakme Fashion Week. You see the glamour, you see the glory, but they also hide a lot of tears," said Irani, on Instagram. Yadav was runner-up for *India's Next Top Model* on MTV India last year.



# Roberts b Bumrah; Ambrose b Bumrah

West Indian fast-bowling gods nod approvingly as Jasprit takes five wickets for seven runs; India win by 318 runs to take 1-0 lead in the series



EXPRESS IN WEST INDIES

SANDIP G  
NORTH SOUND, ANTIGUA, AUGUST 26

**Bumrah doesn't have rhythm. It unsettles batsmen.**

—ANDY ROBERTS

FROM THE plush suite at the end named after him, Andy Roberts is focusing on Jasprit Bumrah, his sharp eyes X-raying the minutest details, comprehending the different elements that make him a deadly bowler. "Let me watch him. I missed the first innings, and unless I don't watch someone with the naked eyes, I can't form an opinion of him," says Roberts and drifts into a reverie. The image couldn't be more striking — a legendary fast bowler meditating on someone who is on his way to inhabit the rarefied space.

Out in the middle, Bumrah is unhurriedly marking his run-up with measured steps. When the jog begins, Roberts fingers involuntarily tap the table, in tune with Bumrah's strides. "Tip, tap, tip, tap..." And then Bumrah fleetingly pauses. So does Roberts' tapping. The bowler explodes. Roberts shakes his head, squints in admiration, and mumbles: "I think the coaching manual should be torn apart. Maybe, you can write a new one for him. They say you have to be this, that, side-on, you have to move your body this way, that way. All of those seem rubbish when I see him bowl."

Like most of the audience, batsmen and former players, or for that matter anyone that has cast his eyes on Bumrah, it was his unusual action that stokes the Antiguan's curiosity — just how untamed the delivery stride is. "Look, he has no rhythm. He just takes a few steps — how many? Eight, or is it nine? — and then he just explodes at the crease. There is no rhythm," he observes.

By saying he has no rhythm, he doesn't mean Bumrah is unrhythmic. But just that his rhythm is different, something batsmen are unused to.

"When a bowler is running in, you should look at the batsmen. They are settling into a mental rhythm of their own in their mind. They are visualising the bowler, his action, the leap, the load-up, the release and things like that. Their thought processes are conditioned in such a way that if he's a side-on bowler, the ball will come like that, if it's high-arm it would come in a different way. Or the longer the run-up, the quicker the ball will be. With Bumrah, the batsmen have little time to get into their mental rhythm," he explains.

Naturally, everything else falls apart. The batsman's judgment, technique and plans. And Bumrah, Roberts reckons, operates at a straighter line than most other bowlers. "There's no bend. He's coming straight, bowling straight. He doesn't bend his body in the run-up or during the release. And then he bends the ball. Like I said before it puts off the batsmen, mainly because his action is unique, they've never probably played someone like him. But, at the same time, you can't imagine Ishant reacting like Bumrah. You almost can picture him muttering something under his breath on his way back to the marker."

Quite like Bumrah's unorthodox action, his orthodox methods, too, have the West Indian great in the young Indian's awe. "Look at everything else he does, he's classical. He



Jasprit Bumrah dismisses West Indies' Shai Hope during day four of the first Test at the Sir Vivian Richards cricket ground in North Sound on Sunday. AP



Andy Roberts

moves two balls into the batsmen, and the other one goes away. Then two away from him, and then one into him. This is how we did, this is how fast bowlers have operated over the years. But the best one knows how, where and when to bowl. And Bumrah seems to have this awareness, which usually takes a lot of time to develop, a lot of experience. But how old is he? How many Tests has he played? He's a quick learner, isn't he?"

For Roberts, it took him several years and injuries to transform from a tearaway into a cerebral bowler. He compromised on pace but sharpened the craft. But Bumrah, he feels, has that maturity at such a young stage of his career.

"To me, it has been the most striking feature of him. Some call it maturity. I call it game sense. There seems to be clarity in his thinking, and that automatically shows in his bowling. Some bowlers, very skilful ones,

don't develop it even 10 years after they had played the game. That's the biggest thing for a fast bowler, to learn how to use your head."

His bewilderment only grows as he sees Bumrah smiling at a batsman after beating him all ends up: "How can you smile at him? I mean you needn't be nasty, but to smile at him! I could never imagine it."

Roberts smiles wistfully and mutters, almost like an aside. "He's a freak," before he elaborates: "They use the word freak carelessly. Anything you haven't seen or experienced is a freak. But Bumrah is the closest cricketer to the exact meaning of the word," says Roberts, as he resumes his Bumrah reverie, his fingers tapping on the table in accordance to Bumrah's strides. Tip, tap, tip tap... And then Bumrah explodes.

**Fast bowling to me was all about expressing my aggression. I think it's the same with Bumrah.**

—CURTLY AMBROSE

Curtly Ambrose was as aggressive as fast bowlers came, pounding his beanpole frame into the ground and launching projectiles from the skies — so it seemed to batsmen. The golden chain around his neck would dance and glitter in the sun, the round eyes would generate as much dread as his rip-snorters, and the high-octane celebrations would cause the batsman as much hurt as the delivery that had crashed into his stumps.

Bumrah is just the opposite, genial and

relaxed, calm and smiling, exuding nothing of the theatrics fast bowlers are prone to. He doesn't look to maim batsmen. Nonetheless, Ambrose feels he's the most aggressive bowler around. He explains: "I'm not talking about body language here. I'm not talking about being hostile. Aggression is not always about what you show outwards. Some show, some don't. It depends on the individual's nature. To me, it's about how you bowl, the aggression of the delivery. And Bumrah shows a lot of it."

In other words, he's communicating his aggression through his deliveries and not necessarily through his actions. The spell on Sunday evening, which triggered a dramatic if not unprecedented West Indies collapse, was enchantingly aggressive. And like Ambrose in Perth in 1993, when he extracted terrifying bounce from a supersonic strip on his way to the memorable seven-wickets-one-run spell, Bumrah, who took five wickets for seven runs, was in an inspirational mood, his remorselessly precise line snuffing out their scoring shots and the spectre of his outswingers and inswingers kindling their insecurity. And like when Ambrose was on a roll, he skittled out the West Indies batsmen in a plundering spell, where he seemed as much unplayable as indecipherable. That's what the best ones do. "They waste no time," as Ambrose puts it.

But the North Sound strip was no Perth, it was placid, if not slow. It was, in West Indies skipper Jason Holder's words, "not a wicket where bowlers can blast batsmen". But blast Bumrah did, and Ambrose was hardly surprised. Days before the Test match, during

India's warm-up game at the Coolidge Ground, he had sensed it. Bumrah had an indifferent outing — his first spell bleeding 30 runs in 7 overs — but Ambrose didn't read too much into it.

"The West Indies pitches have become slower. But if you have pace and the ability to get seam movement, you could still be a handful. A pitch is sometimes what a bowler makes it look like. But one bowler who could run through batsmen is Bumrah. Give him any pitch, if he's at his best, he can make batsmen out there very uncomfortable," he says. It's Bumrah's mastery of different lengths that has impressed him the most. "He's good at varying his lengths, depending on the surfaces and batsmen. I saw that in the World Cup, how he adjusted (and altered) his lengths according to the conditions and batsmen. That makes life difficult for batsmen."

In the first innings here, he bowled more back-of-length, as the surface had bounce. But by the time West Indies' second innings had rolled out, the surface had eased out. So he sought a fuller length, at hurtling pace, moving the ball both ways.

"(In this regard), he reminds me a bit of Courtney (Walsh) a bit. He was wonderful in sizing up the length and bowling accordingly."

He might not be as wince-inducing as Ambrose was, but Bumrah certainly could be as devastating and, in his own way, aggressive. Aggression curled beneath his beaming smile.

There could be no bigger appraisal for a young fast bowler from a legendary one than this: "He's someone who I admire."

## SCORECARD >>

WI vs Ind

Antigua | Toss: West Indies

INDIA 1ST INNS 297

WEST INDIES 1ST INNS 222

INDIA 2ND INNS 343/7 DECL

OVERNIGHT 185/3

V Kohli c Campbell b Chase 51 (113b, 2x4)

A Rahane c Holder b Gabriel 102 (242b, 5x4)

H Vihari c Hope b Holder 93

(128b, 10x4, 1x6)

R Pant c sub b Chase 7 (10b)

J Jadeja not out 1 (1b)

■ Extras: (b 6, lb 4) 10

■ Fall of wickets: 1-30 (Agarwal, 13.2 ov), 2-73

(Rahul, 29.2 ov), 3-81 (Pujara, 30.5 ov), 4-187

(Kohli, 73.4 ov), 5-322 (Rahane, 107.6 ov), 6-336

(Pant, 111.4 ov), 7-343 (Vihari, 112.3 ov)

■ Bowling:

K Roach 20-8-29-1

S Gabriel 16-3-63-1

R Chase 38-5-132-4

J Holder 18.3-4-45-1

M Cummins 7-1-20-0

J Campbell 6-0-20-0

K Brathwaite 7-0-24-0

WEST INDIES 2ND INNS 100

K Brathwaite c Pant b Bumrah 1 (4b)

J Campbell b Bumrah 7 (15b, 1x4)

S Brooks lbw b Sharma 2 (5b)

D Bravo b Bumrah 2 (10b)

S Hetmyer c Rahane b Sharma 1 (12b)

R Chase b Shami 12 (29b, 1x4)

S Hope b Bumrah 2 (11b)

J Holder b Bumrah 8 (19b, 1x4)

K Roach c Pant b Sharma 38

(31b, 1x4, 5x6)

S Gabriel c Pant b Shami 0 (4b)

M Cummins not out 19 (22b, 2x4, 1x6)

■ Extras: (lb 7, nb 1) 8

■ Fall of wickets: 1-7 (Brathwaite, 1.4 ov), 2-10

(Campbell, 3.5 ov), 3-10 (Brooks, 4.1 ov), 4-13

(Hetmyer, 6.6 ov), 5-15 (Bravo, 7.3 ov), 6-27 (Hope, 11.1 ov), 7-37 (Holder, 15.2 ov), 8-50 (Chase, 19.2 ov), 9-50 (Gabriel, 19.6 ov), 10-100 (Roach, 26.5 ov)

■ Bowling:

I Sharma 9.5-1-31-3

J Bumrah 8-4-7-5

R Jadeja 4-0-42-0

M Shami 5-3-13-2

■ India won by 318 runs

## Ishant, the banker: Steady on off days, great on good ones

SANDIP G  
NORTH SOUND, ANTIGUA, AUGUST 26

IT'S INTERESTING — and instructive of their contrasting personalities — to watch how Ishant Sharma and Jasprit Bumrah respond to fluffed catches. On Sunday, Virat Kohli spilled a Shimron Hetmyer sitter at second slip off Bumrah. Later, Hanuma Vihari could not cling on to a relatively tougher one at backward square-leg off Jason Holder. Ishant cringed and admonished Vihari. Bumrah, on the other hand, broke into a smile and waved at Kohli.

It's unlikely Ishant would have reacted the way he did if it were Kohli who had dropped that catch off his bowling. Because, after all, it's Kohli. No one shouts at him. But, at the same time, you can't imagine Ishant reacting like Bumrah. You almost can picture him muttering something under his breath on his way back to the marker.

Bumrah is someone who goes to the extent of consoling the erring fielder. In the IPL final this year, he did that to wicket-keeper Quinton de Kock after the latter had dropped a crucial catch in the dying stages of the match.

It's not to suggest that Bumrah is more composed and Ishant is a gnarling veteran. It's just the way they are — two bowlers from different parts of the country, from

different cultures, and at different stages of their careers. Bumrah is in his second year; Ishant in his 12th. The former is one shy of completing a dozen Tests; Ishant is a battle-hardened veteran, nine short of his 100th. Their bowling styles are as contrasting as their personalities, but it's the antithesis that makes them compelling to watch together. Bumrah is the ice to Ishant's fire. And though the scorecard will tell you the former nabbed five and the latter three, it was as fiery as Ishant had bowled in recent times. In fact, he bowled better in the second outing than the first, sharper and nippier. If the first innings was all sweat and hard work, this was an exhibition of supreme craftsmanship.

'Luckless Ishant'. It's a word that has morphed into an epithet of sorts. Maybe, that's the reason he gets easily agitated when fielders grass catches off his bowling. No bowler likes that, just that some take it in their stride. On Sunday, he was really unlucky to not have added more wickets to the analysis. For, he was as destructive as Bumrah, viciously bending the ball into the right-handed batsmen, making it hold off the seam, squaring them up, cutting them into halves, harnessing every bit of assistance from the surface, and dismantling the batsmen's technique as much as their minds. He was raw hostility crunched into a six-foot-four frame, and



Ishant Sharma took eight wickets in the match. AP

**As he has been for a while, Ishant was relentless and accurate, landing the ball on a handkerchief.**

when he's relentlessly hostile, he becomes a scary proposition to face.

If in the first innings, he was bowling with the breeze flowing across him, helping him procure the outswing, here he was bowling with it, which exaggerated the angle of the inswingers. The massive inswing accounted for the debutant Shamrah Brook, who was beaten for both pace and movement. Later, a similar delivery had Shai Hope in strife, though the height and angle saved him on that occasion. If the inswing was difficult to negotiate for the right-handers, to the left-handers he was diabolical. He made the talented Shimron Hetmyer look like a novice, forcing him to stab repeatedly in vain outside the off-stump before eventually dismissing him.

As he has been for a while, Ishant was relentless and accurate, landing the ball on a handkerchief. Whereas in the past he would have easily given up if a few deliveries missed the edge or the fielder dropped a catch, the improved Ishant is unflagging in his spirit, like a true leader of



# Strokes of genius

Sindhu's ascent to the top of the world game has required constant upgrade in skills, conditioning and mindset

SHIVANI NAIK  
AUGUST 26

PV SINDHU'S long march to the top of the World Championship podium has taken time. Immune to the impatient inquisitions of those who declared her weak in finals, the 24-year-old had gone about chiselling her game - fixing tiny bits of it, sharpening the rough edges and putting the puzzle together.

Beyond her coaches, Sindhu's owes it to her opponents Carolina Marin, Nozomi Okuhara, Akane Yamaguchi, Tai Tzu-Ying as well as Saina Nehwal, losses to whom magnified her deficiencies and pushed her to go back to the drawing board and work that much harder. The helping hands from abroad have played too. A bit of Mulyo Handoyo here, a lot of Miss Kim Hyun there, along with an over-riding guiding direction from Pullela Gopichand, and solid physical strengthening under trainer Srikanth Verma has crystallised a game that can negotiate any conditions.

Sure the smashes rained down on Okuhara and flooded her in a pool of errors - 21-7, 21-7 - but Sindhu's game has acquired dimensions that weren't prominent two years ago. Okuhara and Chen Yufei might have fallen to an all-out assault but Tai Tzu-Ying and the earlier rounds demanded varied skills, including the receding fraction smash.

She's far from complete still, and Tokyo will be the ultimate test. But Sindhu has come a long way since the time her critics frowned at the missing pieces - the wrist, the defence, the variations. Here's a few things that have been milestones in the evolution of Sindhu's game, which cannot be measured in titles:

## The half-smash

It's been the hallmark of every top Indian singles name - Prakash Padukone, Syed Modi, Pullela Gopichand, Saina at the 2012 Olympics, the current crop of talented men's singles players and Sindhu increasingly in the last two years. It's a safe shot, where the release angle of the smash, that might seem deep, comes quicker and falls shorter. It is especially effective for Sindhu who has a full-blooded power smash in the 350 kph range. While defending upwards, it dips classically.

It might not account for winners in her analysis, but Sindhu has used it conventionally as a set-up shot. It's unhurried and medium pace, goes like a nice loopy return and the kill is on the subsequent shot - the soft net shot from the dribble. Don't be surprised if after a chucking half-smash, Sindhu isn't ramping up for the big boomer, and instead takes a step towards the net for the follow-up.

## Body type

What's common to Zhang Ning, whose number of World Championship medal count Sindhu equalled, as well as the Danish champ with gorgeous curls and an equally mysterious game, Tine Baun, is their tall stature. Sindhu's parents - both accomplished volleyball players - passed on the tall genes. But it was more than just the textbook physiological tall - the good genes were also about the tremendous load the body could take in training for the demanding physical conditioning she would be put through - not unlike Saina. It was about joints not too thin that could injure and a healthy stock of muscles. Good sports lineage helped and a sense of sport was drilled in. But this height also posed challenges in flexibility and agility at the front lunges and body defence. Sindhu hasn't grown taller in the last two years. What's changed is that her legs are sturdier and she's not rocking on the court like a big boat on choppy seas. The assured footwork is significant. Once the hands start moving quicker



Sure the smashes rained down on Okuhara and flooded her in a pool of errors but Sindhu's game has acquired dimensions that weren't prominent two years ago. Reuters

## She's far from complete still, and Tokyo will be the ultimate test. But Sindhu has come a long way since the time her critics frowned at the missing pieces - the wrist, the defence, the variations.

still, and the feet stay light, Sindhu will have achieved the ideal Tall. God-gifted reach has a flip side - the body's agility. It's been a long, slow process for her trainers to fashion the bends and the lunges and landings.

## The wrist

The turning return on the smash - one that switches the shuttle across when her body is being peppered with smashes homing around the left hip mostly - used to be a straight heat-trace for the incoming missiles. For the entire swing of east Asian tournaments, including Indonesia where she made the finals, and carrying forward into the Worlds, Sindhu has turned the shuttle expertly for a point-picking defensive return. It's an inside-out backhand flick played from the mid-court to the opponent's forehand short corner. All wrist.

The trouble with Sindhu even when she won the Rio silver was how her wrist would be locked at least 70 per cent - not out of choice - which meant the grip restricted her options and made her variations - or lack thereof - predictable. Stroke-making in badminton is all about the grip and the position at point of contact. And loosening that lock-like a click on a suitcase strapper - has freed her up to provide variety. Even the aforementioned half-smash needed clipping the shuttle downwards with an action like flicking a switch. With a sudden crack. It's helping her conserve energy - while being deceptive - a loose wrist before the thwack! - and it's adding a surprise element at the net or to change pace. The high-art of Van Goghian wrist-work, the Starry Night of it all, though is something visible in its developmental stages in Sindhu. This is a slice from the over-

head side, down the line. It is the quickest attacking stroke from that position and terribly tough to pull off. To be used after 2-3 cross shots in the rally, needing immaculate control on the wrist, it's what will bring her on par with the rest and give her physical game an edge at 19-all.

## The brain

The toughest muscle to mould, Sindhu's needed an edge of ruthlessness that wasn't naturally present. But it wasn't her strokes that got compromised. A fighter she always was, but Sindhu used to be prone to frowning her brow when her opponents picked a bunch of points. A worried face turned to the coaching corner and a muddled mind that could cloud her response to the next point. Not this time.

She purses her lips now at worst, never losing the steely glint from her eye. It used to be something Saina had aced - giving away nothing of the storm within. Sindhu, with her stature, is doing it even better. This was most noticeable after she went a game down to Tai Tzu. She was within two points of going out of the World Championship. But it wasn't just how she held on, at 20-all in the second. It was the entirety of the second game where she focused on clinically demystifying the magic, showing scant respect to a talent that relies on the bamboozle. Apart from that, Sindhu admitted she has learnt to deal with finals, tutoring herself that it was any other round. She barely bumbled when conceding leads, sure that she'd tug them back. And finally, she gifted herself clarity - telling herself she couldn't possibly feel pressured by wanting to win this for everyone else. It was best to try and do this, first and foremost, for herself.

# Before Sindhu, Manasi brought home another gold

AVINASH NAIR  
AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 26

MANASI JOSHI was just nine when she got interested in badminton. This was in Mumbai where her father Girish Joshi worked at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) as a scientist. Growing up, she tasted success in school and district level tournaments. But Manasi's life took a tragic turn in 2011 when she met with an accident on her way to work and had to be hospitalised for close to 50 days.

Eight years later, the 30-year-old electronics engineer won gold at the Para World Badminton championship in Basel, Switzerland, just hours before PV Sindhu clinched the world title beating Nozomi Okuhara. Manasi defeated statemate and defending champion Parul Parmar in the women's singles SL3 final, a category that includes players who could have an impairment in one or both lower limbs and have poor walking or running balance.

"I worked really hard for this one and I am super happy that all the sweat and hard work has paid off. This is my first gold at the World Championships," wrote Manasi on her Facebook page.

Father Girish gave details about the adversity Manasi had to overcome in the wake of the accident in which her two-wheeler was hit by a truck. "Her left leg had to be amputated. She wore a prosthetic limb and began playing again."

Manasi never gave up her dream and enrolled herself at the Pullela Gopichand Academy in Hyderabad. "She had won a bronze medal at the same



Manasi Joshi with her Para Worlds gold.

championships in the singles category (at Ulsan, South Korea in 2017)," her father informed.

The family hails from Rajkot. The Joshis have two girls and a son. The children have idolised their father who was himself a tennis player.

"Her first big medal was a silver in mixed doubles at the Para World Championships in England in 2015. The focus was to win a gold from the beginning of the year. So a plan was chalked out accordingly. Next year, we are targeting the Paralympics," says younger sister Nupur.

# Bowlers help New Zealand level series against Lanka

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
COLOMBO, AUGUST 26

NEW ZEALAND held their nerve to clinch a hard-fought and comprehensive victory against Sri Lanka in fading light in the second Test Monday and level the two-match series 1-1.

Victory was achieved with an hour left on day five when Lasith Embuldeniya edged a short delivery from Trent Boult to Kane Williamson at gully.

Sri Lanka were bowled out for 122 runs after New Zealand declared their second innings on 431 for six with a first-innings lead of 185. The game went to the last hour of day five at Colombo's P. Sara Oval, and although 19.4 overs remained when tail-ender Embuldeniya was the last man dismissed, umpires could have called off play at any time with the light fast-deteriorating.

New Zealand's bowlers were hurrying through their deliveries knowing too well that they were racing against time.

The first four days' play had been severely affected by rain, wet ground conditions and bad light, but surprisingly the final day stayed clear despite a 30-minute delayed start.

Sri Lanka had given away the initiative to New Zealand after losing five wickets for 32 runs before lunch, but a terrific fightback by wicketkeeper Niroshan Dickwell kept their hopes of salvaging a draw.

Dickwell, who wasn't able to keep wicket having sustained a cut on his left little finger, showed plenty of character during a 51-run knock that lasted for three-and-a-half hours.

cricket. There was little support from rest of Sri Lanka's batsmen, with skipper Dimuth Karunaratne's 21 being the second-highest score. Suranga Lakmal and Dickwell had batted for over an hour, but the stand was broken when Lakmal gloved one to close-in fielder Tom Latham after tea.

Sri Lanka were still counting on Dickwell when he fell for his famous sweep shot. The 26-year-old relies heavily on the shot to score his runs, but on this occasion he had stayed away from taking undue risks.

## Brilliant Latham

Ajaz Patel switched ends and came on from the Air Force Flats side, and as Dickwell shaped to play the sweep shot, Latham at short leg moved to his left and positioned himself in the perfect place to snap up the chance. Dickwell could hardly believe his luck before walking off dejected.

Latham's close in fielding was brilliant and so was his batting, particularly his battles with Sri Lankan spinners. The opening batsman was named Man of the Match for his 154, a seven-hour vigil in which he faced 251 deliveries and was involved in two hundred plus run stands.

Tim Southee, Boult, Patel and William Somerville claimed two wickets each while Colin de Grandhomme claimed the big wicket of Angelo Mathews.

**BREIF SCORES:** Sri Lanka 244 (De Silva 109, Karunaratne 65; Southee 4-63, Boult, 3-75) and 122 (Dickwell 51; Southee 2-15, Boult 2-17) lost to New Zealand 431 for 6 declared (Latham 154, Watling 105\*, de Grandhomme 83; Dilruwan 3-114) by an innings and 65 runs.

# After Stokes's heroics, celebration and five stages of grief

While the English media went typically overboard in their adulation for Ben Stokes and his Ashes-saving performance at Headingley, their Aussie counterparts tried to come to terms with the four blunders that cost the visitors the third Test.

**123.1 OVERS:** Stokes sliced Pat Cummins to third man, where a diving Marcus Harris got a hand to the ball but couldn't hold on.

"It was a moment scarily reminiscent of Edgbaston 2005, when Simon Jones dropped Michael Kasprovicz in nearly identical fashion with Australia requiring 15 runs to win with one wicket in hand - England needed 17 at this point. The chance was tough, but still a chance. Jones said he felt 'the worst I've ever felt in my life' after his Edgbaston drop, so spare a thought for Harris now."

**123.6 OVERS:** Cummins hit left Jack Leach on the pads bowling full from over the wicket. It pitched outside leg, struck outside leg and, as the subsequent review showed, was missing the stumps.

"The one time where the review was there to be taken for the right reason and to win the Test match, we've run out of reviews because of stupidity earlier on."

**124.5 OVERS:** After two misses, Stokes connected with a reverse-sweep to Nathan Lyon and Leach charged down the wicket. It looked a certain run-out, but Lyon fumbled the ball and Leach scampered home.

"If you're trying to understand the effect pressure can have on even the most basic of skills, this was class 101."

**124.6 OVERS:** Eventually, nothing else should have mattered. Stokes went for a slog-sweep and Lyon trapped him plumb in front of the wickets. Umpire Joel Wilson turned down the appeal and Aussies could only rue the wasted review the over before.

"There was, for instance, (Tim Paine's) decision to bring back Lyon with eight needed. Stokes himself thought it brilliant; Lyon was the last bowler he wanted to face then. It so nearly worked. It did work, but for umpire Joel Wilson's blurry eye, and, ahem, DRS."

**124.7 OVERS:** "Ben Stokes was out, so third Test heroics should not have counted," wrote Wally Mason for *The Australian*. "...the biggest blunder of the Headingley Test belongs to umpire Joel Wilson, who could do with a visit to SpecSavers."

**ANGER**  
Broadcaster *Fox Sports Australia* hit out at the captain, saying in a headline: "Tim Paine's woeful Ashes series hits new low", while *Sydney Daily Telegraph* bemoaned "dropped catches, errors in the field, un-



The English newspapers hailed Ben Stokes on their front pages.

pire howlers and poor use of the DRS system".

**BARGAINING**  
In his column for the *Sydney Herald*, Ian Chappell remained convinced that Australia were still the favourites for the next two Tests.

"Australia will face a challenging task buoyed by the knowledge that, even though they suffered a deflating defeat at Headingley, they have far less flaws than their Stokes-boosted opponents."

**DEPRESSION**  
"Disasters are often said to have the feeling of being in slow motion. The outcome is known well before it happens, but there is

# Rijiju certain BCCI will come under RTI soon

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 26

SPORTS MINISTER Kiren Rijiju on Monday said bringing the BCCI under the ambit of National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) is one of his biggest achievements since assuming his new office three months ago.

The BCCI was earlier this month forced to come under NADA's ambit, a landmark development that has opened up the possibility of the cricket board becoming a National Sports Federation (NSF) as per government norms. Asked whether it was one of the biggest achievements of his tenure as sports minister, he responded in the positive.

"Definitely," he said. "BCCI is the governing body of cricket and cricket is also a sport. So, all the sports law and sports provisions prevalent in the country is applicable to it. So failing to implement the law cannot be taken forward in a logical way," he told PTI in an exclusive interview.

"But I am very particular that every sport, every game and every player in this country is equal. "It was a natural course of action and it's good that it happened, otherwise it would sound little vague that only one game is outside the ambit of the sports rules," he added. The implication of BCCI coming under NADA is huge as the country's richest sporting body is now under tremendous pressure to fall under the government's Right to Information (RTI) Act.

The BCCI has been refusing to come under RTI, claiming that it is not a NSF as it doesn't take any grant from the government.

But the sports minister said it is just a matter of time before the BCCI comes under the RTI. "Government's money is people's money. So that statement doesn't matter. How is the money coming to BCCI? he questioned. "BCCI's argument itself is without any basis. Money belongs to the country. How does money come to a sport? From people only, people watch TV, people pay for tickets or through advertisements, it is people's money. "From people only the money is available to the body. People's money whether is from the government or directly collected from the government, the value remains the same." "It is very important for every organisation to function in a transparent and accountable manner. It's not a question of cricket or any federation," he added.

Rijiju also said that the National Sports Code is key to good governance in sports and the government is soon going to come up with a robust code.

"The National Sports Code is very important law which will govern the sports administration in this country. We must have a system. If you want to have a robust sports culture in the country then you must have a robust system also. A robust sports code or rule or guideline has to be there," he said.

"I think very soon we should be able to come out with a very clear cut sports code which would be an improved version of the earlier code."

## The implication of BCCI coming under NADA is huge as the country's richest sporting body is now under tremendous pressure to fall under the government's Right to Information (RTI) Act.



# A homecoming to savour

Griezmann marks Camp Nou debut with a brace in Barca's 5-2 win over Betis

ASSOCIATED PRESS/REUTERS  
MADRID, AUGUST 26

ANTOINE GRIEZMANN copied Lionel Messi to score a goal and then imitated NBA star LeBron James to celebrate it. Griezmann thrived on his Camp Nou debut with Barcelona on Sunday, scoring twice to lead the Catalan club to its first Spanish league win of the season with a 5-2 rout of Real Betis. The newly-signed France forward scored his first goal with Barcelona in the first half after Betis had taken an early lead, then took inspiration from Messi to curl in a left-footed shot shortly after half time.

"I see Messi doing that in practice and I tried to copy him," Griezmann said.

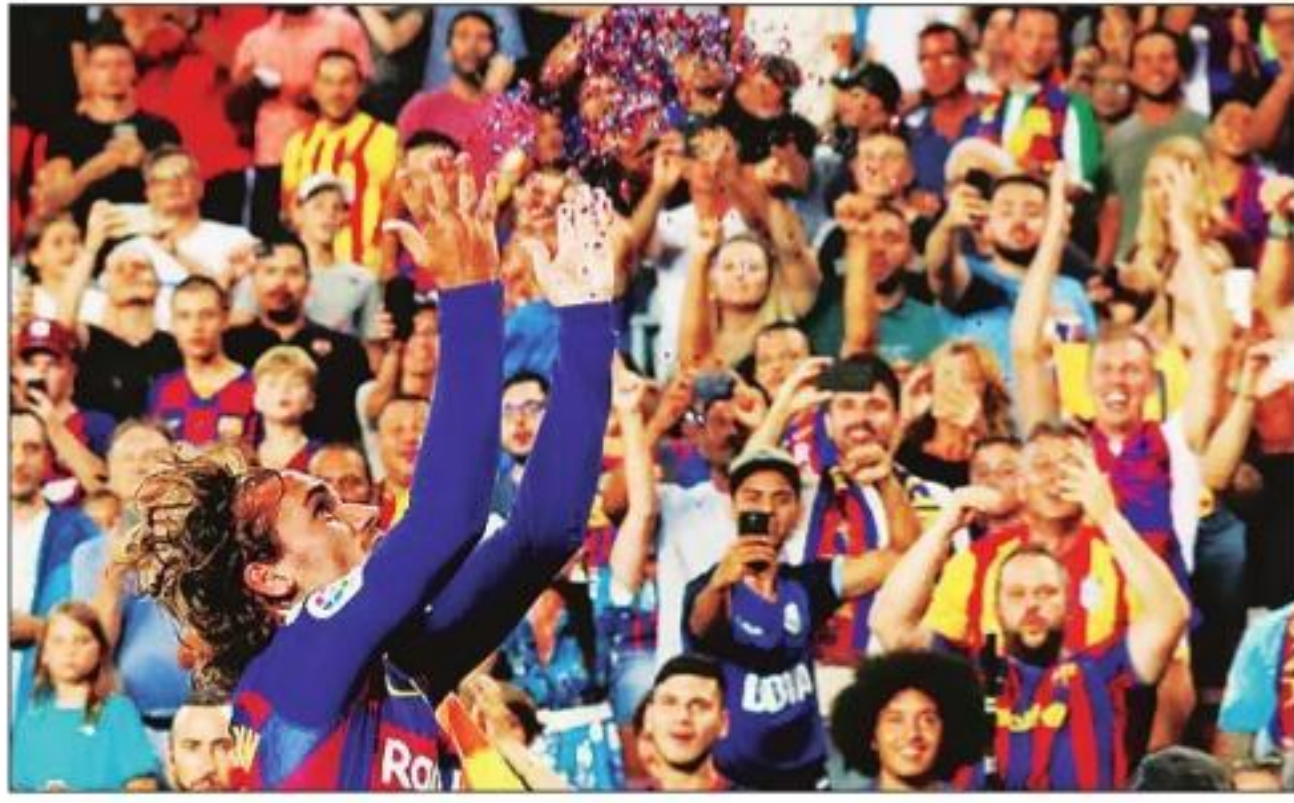
To celebrate his second goal, Griezmann went near the Barcelona fans behind the goal, picked up glitter from someone who appeared to be a staff member and threw it up in the air with his arms spread in the style of James' chalk toss routine over the years.

"I like LeBron's ritual and I tried to imitate him," Griezmann said. He came through for Barcelona as Messi and Luis Suarez watched from the stands because of injuries. Carles Perez, Jordi Alba and Arturo Vidal also scored for Barcelona. Nabil Fekir and Loren Moron scored for Betis. Barcelona had lost 1-0 at Athletic Bilbao last weekend for its first opening league defeat in a decade. Messi had already missed that game because of a calf injury, while Suarez got hurt before half time in Bilbao. Forward Ousmane Dembele also was out injured on Sunday. Griezmann, who joined from Atletico Madrid for €120 million (\$133 million) in the off-season, had started at Barcelona with a lacklustre performance in the opener. But he took charge on Sunday, scoring his first goal after sliding to a cross from Sergi Roberto in the 41st minute.

Griezmann's second came in the 50th with his well-placed shot that was just out of reach of Betis goalkeeper Dani Martin. "It was an important match for him," Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde said of Griezmann. "He was fully focused from the start, like all the other players." Sergio Busquets was superb for Barcelona in midfield but had to be substituted in the 72nd with an apparent injury.

Forward Ansu Fati, 16, made his senior-team debut with Barcelona as a second-half substitute, becoming the second youngest to play with the club in the Spanish league.

Atletico Madrid earlier won 1-0 at Leganes



Antoine Griezmann celebrates Barcelona's second goal against Real Betis with a container of confetti on Sunday. Reuters

## WHO IS ANSU FATI?

Madrid: Ansu Fati made history for Barcelona during their 5-2 victory over Real Betis as he became the second-youngest player to represent the Catalan giants in La Liga aged 16 years and 298 days. Ansu, full name Anssumane Fati, was born in the small west African nation of Guinea-Bissau in October 2002 and moved to Spain, where his father Bori had settled. "He came over here aged six or seven, I'd come over before and didn't know that he played football," Bori told COPE. Despite being the latest gem to emerge from Barca's academy, the forward grew up in the small town of Herrera, 120 km away from Seville and he started his career with Seville.

It did not take long for Spain's big clubs to start circling, with Real Madrid and Barca taking interest in the nine-year-old.

to join Sevilla as the only two teams with straight victories to start the league.

## Atletico keep rolling

Portuguese teenager Joao Felix set up Victor "Vitolo" Machin's second-half goal to keep Atletico with a perfect record.

"Real Madrid offered better money than Barca," his father said. "But they were the ones who came to my house with the contract and convinced me. When Sevilla found out, they were angry and they didn't play him for a year." Fati joined Barca aged 10 in 2012. It is not just Ansu who is a talented footballer, with both his brothers also on Barca's books.

Such is the club's faith in him, the forward signed a deal that will keep him there until 2022 which contains a €100 million release clause. He was called up by coach Ernesto Valverde following injuries to Messi, Luis Suarez and Ousmane Dembele after impressing for the U-19 team in pre-season despite being three years younger than most of his team mates. REUTERS

Felix sent a through pass for Vitolo in the 71st minute and the striker found the net from inside the area at Butarque Stadium.

"It was a complicated match, but we leave with the victory," Vitolo said. "We are at the top and we need to keep working to keep our momentum."

# Athletes in last-mile dash for Doha

NIHAL KOSHIE  
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 26

WITH JUST days to go for the qualification deadline for the Rio Olympics, triple jumper Renjith Maheshwary suddenly set a national record of 17.30 metres at the Indian Grand Prix in Bangalore. At that point in time, his jump was the third best in the world in 2016. In Rio, Maheshwary finished 30th. Yet, his sudden return to form had triggered talk of a top-six finish at the Games. Some even went to the extent of naively uttering 'medal'.

Recalling one of the many false dawns in Indian track and field is a timely reminder of how Indian athletes have often peaked at home but flopped when it mattered. The qualification period for the World Championships in Doha ends in less than a fortnight and athletes are scrambling to get their names into the Indian squad list.

There are two competitions lined up for athletes to make a final dash for Doha with the deadline looming, the first being the 59th National Inter-State championships in Lucknow from Tuesday, followed by the sixth leg of the Indian Grand Prix in New Delhi, pencilled back into the calendar last week to provide a lifeline. Going by past trends, if there is a sudden surge in performance by some of the country's leading athletes, it should be seen as par for the course.

In all, 17 individual athletes have met qualifying standards or won gold at the continental event - Asian Athletics Championships - to guarantee an entry at the World Championships. Some of them have been laid low with injury in the intervening period, such as Asian Games 400 metre hurdles silver medalist Dharun Ayyasamy (shin injury), while India's brightest star, javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra underwent an elbow surgery.

Others who had promised much have gone off the boil, like Anjali Devi (400m).

So sudden was Anjali's implosion, after posting an impressive 51.79 seconds at the Open Nationals in Bhubaneswar last September that she was dropped from the national camp. She is not the only one who has struggled to maintain form ahead of the prestigious event in Doha. A sport swooning in a heady mix of medals at the 2018 Asian Games and the Asian Athletics Championships earlier this year is set for a sobering knock in a little over a month.

The elite 400m runners have been whisked away to lengthy foreign camps in Portugal and Czech Republic.



Muhammed Anas will race against teams from Maldives, Sri Lanka and Iran. Sojan Philip

## TUESDAY'S FINALS

- Men: 5,000 metres, pole vault.
- Women: 200m, 5000m, discus throw, hammer throw, high jump, 20 km race walk.
- Mixed relay 4x400 metres.

They have been competing on the European circuit but erratic performances make it difficult to gauge their current form. Hima Das, the world junior champion and an Asian Games silver medalist in the 400m, hasn't been able to qualify yet, despite picking up half a dozen gold medals in low-key events abroad in 200m, 300m and 400m. The 45-day break she took in February-March to study for her Class 12 examinations is touted as the reason for her slower timings.

Hima will be part of the women's 4x400m relay team, in the 14th spot in the World Championship qualification race, but alarm bells have been ringing in Athletics Federation of India (AFI) circles about the men's squad precariously placed at the 16th and last available cut-off slot.

## Men's relay predicament

To guard against another team surging ahead, like Colombia did earlier this month,

those part of the men's 4x400m relay team have had to travel 6,000 kilometres from the cooler climes of their training base in Jablonec in Czech Republic to sultry Lucknow to try and improve their timings.

A group of India's best, including Muhammed Anas Yahya, the Asian Games 400m silver medalist, will race against teams from Maldives, Sri Lanka and Iran - participation of foreign teams is a criteria for official IAAF recognition - at the Inter-State championships.

To provide the men's relay team an additional event before the September 6 deadline, the AFI has also included the 4x400m event in the sixth edition of the Indian GP.

Medallists at Asian meets over the past year are also in a race against time to qualify. Dutee Chand, a two-time medallist at the Asian Games and a third-place finisher in the 200m at the Asian Championships is yet to meet qualifying standards. She won a historic gold at the World University Games in the 100m last month, but will have to better her national record to join the Indian squad heading to Doha.

Triple jumper Arpinder Singh, the Asian Games gold medalist, will be one of the stars hoping to excel at the Inter-state championships. The qualification standard for the World Championships is set at 16.95m. For inspiration, he needs to only look back at Maheshwary's form-defying jump two years ago.

# Rory ends season with a \$15m bang

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
ATLANTA, AUGUST 26

RORY MCILROY marched to the 18th green on Sunday at East Lake with victory in hand and \$15 million in the bank. Even better was what he saw - and heard - behind him.

The scene was all too familiar. The gallery ducked under the ropes and rushed to encircle the green to watch the finish of a class performance in the Tour Championship. Before long, the chants began to ring out: "Rory! Rory! Rory!" This time, McIlroy had the stage to himself. A mere bystander last year amid the chaotic celebration of Tiger Woods' return to victory, McIlroy soaked up the perfect ending to a solid year when he surged past Brooks Koepka, held off Xander Schauffele and captured the FedEx Cup and the richest payoff in golf. Turning to Harry Diamond, his caddie and best friend, McIlroy told him, "This walk is a little more pleasant than last year."

He closed with a 4-under 66 to finish four shots ahead of Schauffele, joining Woods as the only players to win the FedEx Cup twice.

"Any time you can do something that only Tiger has done, you're doing something right," McIlroy said. There was so much more than \$15 million - \$14 million in cash, \$1 million deferred - to this victory.

Regardless of the new format that gave some players a headstart to par depending on their FedEx Cup ranking - McIlroy began five shots behind before the tournament started - he wanted to post the lowest score of anyone in the 30-man field.

He shot 13-under 267, the best by three shots. And when he was paired with Koepka



Rory McIlroy plays a shot from a bunker on the 18th hole during the final round of the Tour Championship at East Lake Golf Club. USA Today

in the final group on Sunday, it was a chance for atonement. A month ago, McIlroy laid an egg in the final group at a World Golf Championship, just like he did with Woods the year before at East Lake.

"I thought a lot about that," McIlroy said. "I thought about the final group with Tiger last year, the final group with Brooks in Memphis a few weeks ago, and I really wanted to go out there and play well and really take it to him, and I did that."

The final round turned on the seventh hole with a three-shot swing - McIlroy made a 25-foot birdie, while Koepka lost his tee shot in the trees and made double bogey.

There were consecutive two-shot swings on the back nine, and then it was a matter of holding off Schauffele.

McIlroy was four shots ahead until back-to-back bogeys, and he was on the verge of watching his lead shrink to one when he holed an 8-foot par putt on the 16th. Schauffele had to settle for pars, and McIlroy finished with a flourish. He was the only player to break par all four days. Schauffele closed with a 70 to finish alone in second, which paid out \$5 million.

"There was plenty of excitement today," Schauffele said. "The heart rate was up for most of the round. I thought the course was set up really fair, and if you were in the fairway, it was gettable. And if you weren't, it was exactly what you thought it was. It was just a lot of fun."

Justin Thomas, the No. 1 seed in the FedEx Cup who started with a two-shot lead, lost his way on Sunday morning in the conclusion of the third round when he took triple bogey on the 16th hole with a 9-iron from the fairway. He fell four behind and never caught up. Thomas finished with two birdies for a 68 and tied for third with Koepka, who ended another big year with a pedestrian closing round of 72. They each earned \$3.5 million. As usual with Koepka, there were no complaints, no excuses.

"He just played better," said Koepka, who hit only five fairways in the last round. "He was impressive to watch. He put it in the fairway a lot, hit a lot of greens. And even his short game, the up-and-down he made on 11, that was pretty tasty right there. And then the way he finished it off was very impressive. Hats off to him."

# Lahiri regains PGA Tour card with tied 5th finish

Boise (USA): Anirban Lahiri reclaimed his PGA Tour card after finishing tied 5th with a bogey-free five-under 66 in the final round of the Albertson Boise Open here. With a tied 7th finish achieved in the previous week's Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, Lahiri has now secured enough points to earn one of the 25 PGA Tour cards at stake in the Korn Ferry Tour (KFT) Finals. The 32-year-old former Asian No.1 sent down three closing birdies, to finish three shots behind winner Matthew NeSmith of the United States.

"I haven't experienced any kind of a high. Right now, I'm more focused on my golf and what I want to do in the time to come. I had a lot of belief in myself that I could get my card back and play well," Lahiri said. "I'm more relieved with the fact that I'm putting some scores together which was satisfying," added the Indian, who posted rounds of 68, 65, 69 and 66. After finishing a lowly 174th on the PGA Tours FedExCup points list, he needed to play in the KFT Finals to regain his playing rights on the world's premier circuit.

And with his card safely in his back pocket now, he plans to challenge for a victory in the final tournament, the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing and Finance, this week to try and top the ranking. "I'm playing well enough with a lot of confidence and I'm no longer trying to secure my card. Hopefully it frees me up and I can focus on getting into contention again and maybe get third time lucky and win," he said. PTI

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**DRAW OF FLATS**

This is to inform that the draw of flats under Haryana Affordable Housing Policy 2013 in **The Millennia II, Sector-37D, District Gurugram**, being developed by **M/S Sarvriya Securities Pvt. Ltd.** will be held on Friday, 30th of August 2019, 11:00 am onwards at **CORUS BANQUET**, 339/1/2, Mehrauli Gurugram Road, Near Kalyani Hospital, Opp. SBI Bank, Sec. 14, Gurugram-122001 in the presence of govt. officials. All the applicants are cordially invited to attend the draw of flats.

**LOCATION MAP OF CORUS BANQUET**

Kindly Note: Please carry your acknowledgement slip, Voter ID Card and PAN Card. Only one person is allowed per acknowledgement slip.

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