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on Sunday



IAS officer arrested for scribe's death in accident



U.S. bars Air India from self-handling at five airports



Hong Kong protesters seize roads, ignoring China's warnings page 12

Saini proves too hot for WI batsmen, India wins first T20I page 17



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NEARBY



work or face action

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Safdarjung Hospital and others on Saturday directed their doctors on strike to resume work immediately or face disciplinary action. The doctors have been agitating for the past three days against the National Medical Commission Bill, 2019. NEWS ▶ PAGE 11

MAGAZINE > 32 PAGES (TABLOID) **CLASSIFIEDS** ▶ PAGES 4 & 6

Adeeb returns home, held with India's help

SUHASINI HAIDAR RADHAKRISHNAN NEW DELHI/ THOOTHUKUDI

The dramatic escape of former Maldivian Vice President Ahmed Adeeb in a tugboat to seek asylum in India came to an end on Saturday with him being taken back to Male by the Maldivian police after his arrest on international waters. Sources in the Government of India made it clear that Mr. Adeeb had not been deported by India but merely refused entry.

COAST GUARD'S ROLE > PAGE 11

Despite the outrage, Unnao bats for rape-accused Kuldeep Sengar

Villagers speak of once close ties having gone sour between families

OMAR RASHID

A posse of CRPF troops and Uttar Pradesh policemen are spread out outside the abandoned family home of the Unnao rape survivor.

An advertisement on the door speaks of the wiring business run by the uncle of the young woman who remains on life support at the King George's Medical University in Lucknow.

It is an eerily quiet afternoon, and only a few people are outside their homes.

Across the road stands a large white house with a

sizeable temple area and a private school adjoining the compound. This belongs to the expelled BJP MLA and rape accused Kuldeep Singh Sengar.

SPECIAL

The sprawling compound is a testament to Sengar's dominant position in the village, located 75 km west of Lucknow.

The MLA, now at Sitapur jail, is charged with raping the young woman, the custodial death of her father and allegedly plotting the



At work: Officials of the CBI arriving to interrogate expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar at Sitapur jail on Saturday in connection with the accident. •PTI

car collision in Rae Bareli, which resulted in serious injuries to the survivor and her lawyer and the death of her two aunts.

While the outside world outrages at the alleged crimes, which are being investigated by the CBI, and the delay in action against

the accused MLA by the BJP, in his maternal village he still garners sympathy.

Many residents feel he is being falsely implicated due

CBI questions MLA in jail

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday questioned expelled BJP MLA and rape accused Kuldeep Singh Sengar in Sitapur jail in connection with the accident in which the rape survivor and her lawyer were critically injured

and her two aunts killed. The 19-year-old survivor, who is on ventilator support, remains critical as she has

has been taken off the ventilator, but is still not out of danger. The CBI has deputed several teams to speed up the investigation following the Supreme Court's order that

developed pneumonia,

Medical University in

doctors at the King George's

Lucknow said. Her lawyer

the probe be completed in a fortnight. ▶ PAGE 10

to political reasons. Those verdict in the case. Those who expressed sympathy for who spoke up did so in dethe victim did so in hushed fence of the jailed MLA. tones and avoided blaming the MLA or pronouncing a

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

Home Ministry's nod for terror prosecutions peaked in June

VIJAITA SINGH

The Union Home Ministry sanctioned prosecution of over 400 terror suspects in the past three years, with the maximum number granted in June this year.

An analysis of the sanction of prosecutions under UAPA between June 2016 and June 2019 shows an average of 11 sanctions every month.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

On the fast track

The Home Ministry cleared action against 400 terror suspects in 3 years. The maximum clearances were given in June 2019 Month/year and the number of prosecutions sancti

une 2019: 44	August 2018: 16	April 2017: 27	
/lay 2019: <mark>12</mark>	April 2018: 7	March 2017: 9	
pril 2019: <mark>19</mark>	March 2018: 23	December 2016: 10	
March 2019: 21	February 2018: 9	November 2016: 7	
ebruary 2019: 31	December 2017: 2	September 2016: 2	
anuary 2019: 19	November 2017: 6	August 2016: 6	
lovember 2018: 17	August 2017: 22	July 2016: 38	
eptember 2018: 23	June 2017: 7	June 2016: 28	

Uncertainty grips Kashmir Valley

Rahul's IAS Coaching Institute for Judicial Services Exams.

Troop deployment purely a security issue, Governor Malik tells NC delegation

PEERZADA ASHIQ SRINAGAR

Even as Governor Satya Pal Malik on Saturday said he had "no knowledge of any constitutional changes being made in Jammu and Kashmir", there was no letup in the implementation of fresh security orders, adding to the uncertainty.

'The State has no knowledge of any changes to constitutional provisions,' Mr. Malik told a National Conference (NC) delegation, led by its vice-president Omar Abdullah, in Srinagar.

"A pure security measure is being mixed up with issues with which it has no connection," he asserted.

On the evacuation of pilgrims and tourists, Mr. Malik said they were vulnerable in case of any terrorist

or fidayeen attack. **CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 10



Amarnath pilgrims leaving following the government advisory in Srinagar on Saturday • ANI

Cong. seeks PM's statement

The Congress on Saturday demanded a statement from Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Parliament on the Central and Jammu and Kashmir governments' advisory to curtail the Amarnath Yatra and on the deployment of additional troops in the State. ▶ PAGE 10

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of our earlier overall (Judicial, APO, Law officers, etc.) selections over the last almost two decades. In 2019, Jan. - July results alone, we have 27 final selections in Delhi Judiciary (Jan.), 22 final selections in M.P. Judiciary, one final selection (2nd Rank) in Assam Judiciary & 6 final selections (including 1st Rank) in Gujarat Judiciary, 2 final selections in Jharkhand HJS (including 1st Rank), One final selection (668th Rank) in UPSC-IAS, 95 final selections in Delhi Judiciary (May), 2 final selections in H.P. Judiciary & 2 final selections (including 1st Rank) in Tripura Judiciary, 227 final selections (including 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 10th Ranks from Foundation Course) (more than 1/3rd of total selections) in Uttar Pradesh Judiciary, 1 final selection in UP HJS & 1 final selection in Bihar HJS.



We have a record success in Delhi & UP Judiciary, 2019: 27 Final Selections from Rahul's IAS, out of 32 Total selections (85% approx.) in Jan., 2019 Delhi results and 95 out of total 126 selections (75% approx.) in May, 2019 Delhi results and 227 final selections (more than 1/3rd) in UP Judiciary, 2019.

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TUESDAY, AUG. 06 RISE 05:45 SET 19:09 □ RISE 11:11 SET 23:09

Delhi Weather max min Delhi City 27 Safdarjang 27

Delhi Palam Today 34°C A warm and humid

weather with cloudy sky to prevail. Spell of rain would occur over parts of the city

Delhi Palam Tomorrow 30°C Fall in temperature. Moderate spells of rain or thundershower will affect the

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80	Greater Noida 100
Sati 51-	sfactory Moderate 100 101-200
	y poor ■ Severe -400 >401
	89 78 80 Sati 51-

IN BRIEF

Meeting held on security measures ahead of Aug. 15 NEW DELHI

Special Commissioner of Police (Law and Order) Sanjay Singh interacted with officers and other 450 members enrolled under various schemes of Delhi Police in view of security arrangements for Independence Day.

DELHI TODAY

Talk: Panel discussion on the book "Mahatma Gandhi: Tryst with Satyagraha", authored by Mandira Ghosh. Panellists: Dr. Amarendra Khatua, Retd. Secretary MEA, K. Jayakumar, Retd. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala, Ranjan Chatterjee Expert Member, National Green Tribunal Chair: Dipanker Shri Gyan Director, Gandhi Smiriti, at Gulmoha Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7

Music: Kolkota-based singer Sudip Basu presents an evening of late Hemant Kumar's acclaimed composi-tions, opening the year-long celebrations marking his birth centenary Narration by Dibyayan Banerjee at Amaltas Hall, IHC, 7 p.m.

Exhibition: Image-In-Side-Out, an exhibition of paintings and drawings by Sayam Bharat and Yamini Mohan at Triveni Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m. -

Exhibition: A solo show of paint ings, drawings and graphics by Suraj Ghai at All India Fine Arts & Crafts Society, 1 Rafi Marg, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m

Hindi film directed by Rakeysh Om-prakash Mehra will be screened. This biopic explores the journey of Milkha of India at The Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m. (Mail your listings for this column at

Screening: Bhaag Milkha Bhaag, a

AAP begins process of vetting candidates for Assembly polls

Disqualification of rebel MLAs expected to be announced next week

IATIN ANAND NIKHIL M. BABU

The Aam Aadmi Party has begun the process of zeroing-in on potential candidates for the Delhi Assembly elections due next year, said sources.

With the disqualification of its Karawal Nagar MLA Kapil Mishra on Friday and the likely disqualification of two more rebel legislators -Gandhi Nagar's Anil Kumar Bajpai and Bijwasan's Devender Sehrawat - expected to be announced next week, the process of selecting candidates is currently at the stage of choosing replacements, claimed insiders.

Monsoon session

AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal is likely to begin the process of vetting candidates to be fielded across the Capital after the Monsoon session of the Del-



hi Assembly which will commence on August 22 and conclude on August 26, they said.

An AAP leader said the party has decided that longtime Arvind Kejriwal aide Durgesh Pathak, who was in-charge of the party's affairs on half of the total 70 Assembly segments in the Capital during the 2015 Delhi Assembly elections, will contest from the seat.

party's Chandni Chowk Lok AAP Chief Spokesperson Sabha candidate Pankaj Gupta and its 2013 candidate for the Assembly elections from the Chandni Chowk Assembly Constituency Vikram Badhwar were both in the reckoning to replace Ms. Lamba.

The leader further added that the party has not decided on who they will field from Bijwasan. "But the party is open to the Lok Sabha candidates [also for the Assembly election], but the details have not been finalised," the leader added.

Sources. however. claimed that Kishan Kumar Sehrawat who joined AAP in late-April this year could replace the sitting MLA Devender Sehrawat, after his likelv disqualification which is expected to be announced next week.

The party's East Delhi Lok Sabha candidate, Atishi, sources claimed, could be fielded either from Gandhi Nagar or Vishwas Nagar.

MLA assaulted during inspection in Timarpur

He alleged irregularities in ration shops

STAFF REPORTER

Aam Aadmi Party MLA Pankaj Pushkar was allegedly assaulted in Timarpur on Saturmorning inspecting irregularities in ration shops in the area.

He was there along with AAP Food and Civil Supplies Minister Imran Hussain.

In a video of the incident. the MLA can be seen being pushed multiple times by a woman following heated arguments. He was also seen surrounded by a crowd.

Earlier attack

"I was attacked around 30 days before this incident when I was trying to expose the ration shop mafia in the area that cheats the government. Then also I had filed a police complaint but nothing has happened," Mr. Pushkar said, adding that he has filed a complaint regarding Saturday's incident.

DCP (North) Nupur Prasad said based on the complaint, a non-cognizable report has been registered under SecThere is a mafia operating in the area which controls the ration shops. Around 50% of grains meant for the public are

PANKAJ PUSHKAR Aam Aadmi Party MLA

tions 323 (causing hurt), 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) and 34 (common intention) of the Indian Penal Code. She added that further probe is under way.

being siphoned off

The MLA said there is a mafia operating in the area which controls the ration shops. "About 50% of grains meant for the public are being siphoned off," he said.

He added that though these shops are supposed to sell wheat at ₹2 per kg but they sell it at ₹10, which is against the rules.

"I don't think the police will take any action against them," he said. The MLA added that the government will take action against these ration shops.

BJP enrols over 9 lakh new members

STAFF REPORTER

The State unit of the BJP has enrolled over nine lakh new members even before the party's official monthlong membership campaign concludes on August 11, said leaders on Saturday.

The drive has received "great success", they said. The Delhi BIP is a frontrunner, said State BJP general secretary in-charge of the campaign here Kuljeet Chahal. "We have enlisted over nine lakh new members and will easily achieve the target of 10 lakh," Mr. Chahal said.

The membership campaign was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Varanasi on the birth anniversary of party ideologue Shyama Prasad Mookerjee on June 6. The party will hold special drives next week by setting up desks at malls, educational institutions and temples, said co in-charge of the campaign in Delhi Harsh Malhotra.

BJP accuses govt. of putting ₹68 crore burden on Metro

said.

Saurabh Bharadwaj said,

"Durgesh has been tasked

to coordinate the develop-

mental works in the area

[Karawal Nagar] with Minis-

meone for Alka Lamba's As-

sembly constituency also to

do the groundwork in the

area for the party," a leader

Sources claimed that the

"Soon we will appoint so-

ters and departments."

Vijender Gupta says it is due to the hike in power tariff, which has gone up by 50 paise per unit

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday criticised the Delhi government for allegedly financially burdening the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) by ₹68 crore per annum due to a hike in power tariff.

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly Vijender Gupta said on the one hand Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had been "chanting for free travel" for women on the Delhi Metro and

public buses while on the other, they are hiking the power tariff which puts an additional financial burden of ₹68 crore per annum on the Delhi Metro.

"What a contradiction in the Kejriwal government's policy. This additional financial burden on the Delhi Metro will have to be borne by Delhiites-...with effect from August 1, 2019. The power tariffs have been raised from ₹8 to ₹8.50 per unit for the Delhi Metro and from ₹5.75 to ₹6.25 per unit for the Delhi Jal Board," Mr. Gupta alleged, adding that a hike by 50 paise per unit for other public utilities will impact Delhiites directly.

'Raised fixed charges'

Instead of reducing power tariff for agriculture and mushroom cultivation, the Kejriwal government had created a new category for mushroom cultivation and raised fixed charges for this category from ₹125/ KW/month to ₹200/KW/month

power consumption and charges by almost five times from ₹1.50 to ₹6.50 per unit thereby "discouraging" cultivation, the LoP said.

"Similarly, the power tariff for those consuming more than 1,200 units per month has also been hiked from ₹7.75 to ₹8.00 per unit. We demand that the Kejriwal government withdraw the hike in power tariff for public utilities as directly, or indirectly, it will burden Delhiites," he added.



(EMPLOYMENT NOTICE)

In continuation to the University's earlier Employment Notice uploaded on University website www.ipu.ac.in on 18.07.2018, the University proposes/invites further applications, on the prescribed format, to fill up the following Teaching Posts purely on Contract basis for UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING for a period of one year for the Academic Session 2019-2020 or till vacant posts are utilized for direct recruitment whichever is earlier:

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The last date of submission of application is 16.08.2019 (Friday). The application form, eligibility criteria and other details are available on the University website, i.e. www.ipu.ac.in.

YOUR SUPPORT

Man held for kidnapping 4-yr-old boy

STAFF REPORTER

A four-year-old boy was rescued on Saturday after being kidnapped allegedly by a 40year-old man in south Delhi's Neb Sarai on Friday, the police said.

The man has been arrested, they said. Additional DCP (South) Parvinder Singh said Mannu from Sangam Vihar was kidnapped by Kamal Kishore as he was alone and

childless. On Friday, Mankidnapping case was then registered.

"At 4 a.m. on Saturday, a CCTV footage from Sangam Vihar was found which suggested that the boy was taken by an unknown person near Devli village," Mr. Singh said. "The footages led the

fied the suspect as his maternal uncle. Kishore had taken took the child to his other sister's house in Tigri, the family told the police after which a raid was conducted and the child was rescued

nu's father Rajesh Kumar apteam to a dead-end in Durga proached the police stating Park where photographs of that his son was playing outthe suspect were shown to side the house at 4.30 p.m. people," the officer said. when he went missing. A One Deep Chand identi-

from the house.

Constable on duty to check bootlegging 'heckled' by locals

He fired in the air and ran away

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A police officer, who was patrolling in south-east Delhi's Madanpur Khadar to check for bootlegging, fired in the air and ran to save his life after he was allegedly heckled by residents who surrounded him, the police said on Saturday.

A video of the incident which went viral on Saturday shows the officer firing in the air and walking backward before he flees the spot. The residents could be seen following him.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-East) Gyanesh Kumar said at 12.30 a.m. on Saturday, constable Ramkishan reached Madanpur Khadar's JJ Colony to check bootlegging activities when the incident happened. "Two women identified as Guddi and Kusum – started arguing with the constable when he was checking. The women and Guddi's son started manhandling and assaulting the officer and damaged his motorcycle," Mr. Kumar said.

Following this, the residents gathered around the officer who then fired in the air to disperse the crowd. He then fled off, the police said, adding that Mr. Ramkishan left his bike on Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by S. Ramanujam at HT Media Ltd. Plot No. 8, Udyog Vihar, Greater Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. 201306, on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).

started arguing with the constable when he was checking for bootlegging in the area. They started assaulting him and also damaged his motorcycle

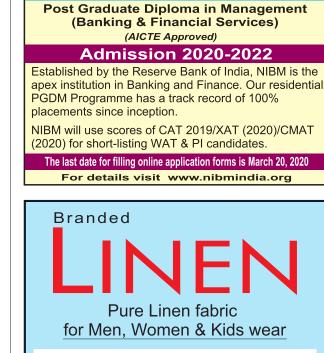
GYANESH KUMAR Additional DCP (South-East) the spot.

"He informed senior officers about the incident after which other a team reached the spot and found the bike to be damaged. A crime team was called to the spot for inspection. The constable's medical examination was also done," Mr. Kumar

Two arrested

Based on Mr, Ramkishan's complaint, a case under relevant sections was registered at Kalindi Kunj police station and two persons including a minor were nabbed.

"Raids are being conducted to arrest those who were part of the unlawful assembly. Most of them have locked their houses and fled off. Meanwhile, anti-bootlegging patrolling is also being conducted in the area," the Additional DCP added.



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SOZHIA VELLALAR NV 33/153 Aswi-Star Aswathy working in a leading hospital in North Malabar (1.3L pm), seeks ni BE, MBA SW Sr. Manager Chennai 30 LPA seeks BE/ME/MS up to 36 Sbsect No bar Contact : 96295 77698, 80560 44796

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ALLIANCE INVITED for Minurie Grass ChennaiSettled Nair Girl, Pooyam 33 Years, 160 cm, Asst. Prof, Shortly and legally divorced & no Issues. Please Contact UDAYAR UTRATATHI 25/168, MBBS Working in UK, seeks Same Caste any Professional groom. Ct: 94864 77377 YADAVA PILLAI, 27/157, Ashwini, BE

employed girl, seeks suitable, prof. qlfd groom (b/w 28-31 yrs) from educated & well settled family. Ct: +919632244118. HINDU NADAR T.N.Govt. Job M.A.M.B.A., 30-6-1984 Punarpoosar K.K.DIST.8122899793 / 7200728108.

29/175cm married at very young age-and got divorced within short period HINDU 28/162CM Fair, M.E(IT) employed in TATTI. Seeks Groom 29–32yrs employed in Govt./PSU/Bank. Ct: 9444229142 (or) geethanlc2501@ well educated employed broad minded groom below 35years. Email ld: emessrubbers@yahoo.com, Conta-

SEEKING Alliance from Chennai ba- SC MAGAM 25/150, BE (ECE), Cud sed PG bridegrooms for Masters in dalore, Govt. Job in Chennai 25000/

> VISHWAKARMA 30/170 BE ECE SW Di vorcee cbe. seeks educated well settled suitable person. preferred other equivalent caste also. dwasfm@gmail.com 8668084945.

HINDU ARUNDHATHIYAR (SC) 24 BSc (Computer Science), Star Moolam, Rasi Dhanushu, seeks suitable groom. Ct: 9994284675 / 9944374996. SEEK GOOD matching professional for RC 31 MS good looking engineer Singapore employed with USA post-ing Ct 9080169622

SEEKING BRIDEGROOM for 40 Yrs Di Hindu Doctor. Abroad. Caste no 9841256341 bar.

PILLAI 23 MBBS Chennai seeks PG Doctor in Pillai / Mudaliar Chennai Geetham 9884858014

 ✓ WELL-SETTLED, EDUCATED, smart
 Yellow
 Asst. Prof.
 ME, 27/
 28,MBBS MD Dermatology, Cosmetology, 8248257396

VANNIYA KULA KSHATRIYAR see-king alliance for a slim and fair girl 27 yrs/150cm, B.Tech (Civil), Thiru-Contact: 9566900736, 9442269337

IYER 27 CA Athreya Pooram seeks on ly Chennai based professionally qlfd earning above 18L/pa. 9841167072

HINDU - DKV PALLAR

Divorcee, M.E., 30 years with 4 years girl child. Officer in a Nationalised Bank from well educated upper middle class family seeks suitable educated groom with good job from same Caste.

HINDU AD 38 Yrs Ph.D Central Govt job 12 Lakhs pa seeks suitable Groom. CT: 8270946508.

9487687140

Hindu Adidravidar (Kongu Parayar) 28, B.E, M.Tech, Ph.D, seek Groom educated, profnl Ct:7598988370

From BharatMatrimony

ELITE BRIDES WANTED

BRAHMIN, 25, 183 cms, Director, CA. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a likeminded and well educated match from the same community. Contact:

BRAHMIN, 34, 168 cms, Businessman, MBA. Lives in Bangalore. Father is a retired Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from the same community. Contact

MUDALIYAR, 30, 188 cms, CEO, Masters from a reputed Institute. Lives in Bangalore. Father is a Businessman. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from the same community. Contact: **DEVAR**, 30, 185 cms, Doctor, pursuing DM in Cardiology, Lives in Chennia. Father is a Doctor. Family is financially well off with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from any

community, Contact: 9380054837 KSHATRIYA RAJU, 28, 170 cms, Entrepreneur,

match from any community.

off, Looking for a likeminded and well educated match from the same community, Contact: 9360225494

IUDALIYAR, 22, 160 cms, Doctor, MBBS. Lives Theni. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a likeminded and well educated

VANNIA KULA KSHATRIYAR, 25, 168 cms, Entrepreneur, MBA from a reputed Institute. Lives in Bangalore. Father is an Industrialist. Family is ncially well off. Looking for a compatible match

MUSLIM, 34, 163 cms, Divorced, Consultant Physician, PGD in Endocrinology and Diabetes. Lives in London. Family is financially well off. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from the same community Contact: 9380019628

www.elitematrimony.com

Exclusive matchmaking service for the elite Call us: 1800 200 4433

HINDU NADAR, Uthiram, 35/169, BE,

Good Looking Working as Team Manager in MNC – Chennai, Rich/Affluent Family Seeks Qualified, Intelligent, Good Personality and Family

Oriented Groom. Caste No Bar

SC-AD DHANUSU Moolam 35/165, BE,

AVP(HSBC) divorcee, Seeks affectionate & understanding match

Caste No Bar Ct: 9840272370

HINDU DEVAR parents - CNB - invite

alliance for daughter born 1986

psivaprasad@hotmail.com

9710903052

CSI-NADAR/ 23YRS/ 164CM/ BDS/ Den- US employed 35 yrs SC/AD, S/W Entist/ Upper Middle Class/ Seeks giner seeks alliance preferably US Vi-Groom/ Age 24–32/ Only Medical sa holder. Ct 9994681634 Abroad/ CT

TAMIL MUSLIM Girl B.Sc, B.Ed. Ku-Dist.Religious. 9840114786, 9444955793. CSI CHRISTIAN Nadar Girl Fair.

Looking, 03–04–1986 born / n / M.Sc M.Phil , working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Women's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private) , Suitable Alliance, Employed Settled in Chennai / With Clear from Same Community. Contact: 9841182514

GOOD LOOKING, Dy.Manager, SBI Chennai, Mylapore. Tamil, BE/ 28yrs, Roman Catholic Seeks Govt/ Bank/ Groom Ct: 94439 52465, 87789 97608

CSI Christian Vellalar 38 / 165 M.E., Asst. Professor Engg. College. Seeks groom. Any B.C. Ct: 96005 41251 CSI CHRISTIAN AD 34/160 working

as Military Nursing Officer, Divorcee, lived only 2 weeks, seeks educated well employed grooms. 9667667264, 9176500777

cm, B.Tech working in IT private firm Rs.25000 PM seeks educated employ-ed groom. 9176500777/9003066999

RC F-AD, M-Manglorian MDS 30/165 AsstProfessor CollegChen seek PGDr/ r/Civil Service Groom.9444157888 CHRISTIAN A.G. Adi Dravida girl 27/

165 B.E., M.Tech doing Ph.D fair slim working in MNC at Bangalore seeks suitable groom from AG/CSI ct: 9940766280.

Family@ Bangalore.Ct: 9845134644 HINDU NADAR Poosam Kadagam 22

PILLAI GIRL, 27/168, CA, MNC B'lore seeks prof. qlfd boy Ct: 7502005558, v.kavitha2008kk@gmail.com 9489935653

165cm seeks suitable Chennai based Prof, Seeks Suitable Groom with Ph.D Groom with Clean Habits. Caste No or Mbbs, Ph: 9600855627

HINDU SAIVA Pillai 26/165 Swathi Smith girl 12-9-1995, Aswathy/167 cm, employed IT, Bangalore seeks alliance rector, SAI— GOI seeks well set- javur saiva pillai working and set- from parents of employed well settled groom. Caste no bar. Ph: tled in Chennai. 9443529959/ boys of same caste. 9495849754.

BRAHMIN, 28, 169 cms, Airport Designer, M.Arch from a premier Institute. Lives in USA. Father is a Management Professional. Family is financially well

match from the same community. Contact: 9380054837

27/165, Vanniyar M.Tech, Ph.D. Research Associate at Anna University, Chennai, fair, cultured Girl Seeks Alliance from same

Doctor & Engineer. drselvi08@gmail.com

KAMMA DOB 1980 Fair Height 5.5

led USA - 6300816810 / 9848444371. GAVARA NAIDU Bharani - 32 fai

alliance for daughter born 1986 5'5/59kg BE/SWE working in USA prefers boy working in USA age be-low 36 years Ctc: 7845259152, Email Id: sabharimatri2016@ HINDU 32 / 152 B.E. M.S, Upper

n@gmail.com

Cast Hindu Community only. Horoscope matching. Ph: 9346831228 165cm, M.Sc, Divorcee, 50K monthly income from fixed assets seeks suita-9390455676 ble Groom from same caste. Contact

Smart girl 30/160 working in French bank Chennai. Father Kallar Mother seeking alliance Ph

SMU 34/170 Unmarried Wheatish Graduate Working USA (Citizen) highly Qualified Family seeks Preferbly to settle in USA groom.Ci::+12/155350491

Islamic values for their daughter, MA (English) 23 ,5.8" wheatish. Contact – 9840144065 kadir_nawab@ yahoo.com

BRIDES WANTED

BUSINESS BROAD MINDED Bride Unmarried/ Di- HINDU NADAR 34/170 Thiruvathirai vorced/ Widow From Affluent Business/ Industrialist Family For Unmarried 37 UK Educated Return Religion/ Caste No Bar Well Mannered And Cultured, Care Taking Lovable, Clam, Willing To Relocate Interest-

ed Call 09047740647

LOOKING BRIDE for our Son Aged 29 years, Ballija Naidu, MBA, Own Family Business Chennai Based. Contact: 9444901724

PHD(MECH) FAIR 40, Professor, 15Lac pa, Chennai, issueless divorcee, needs bride. Caste no bar Astham fair seeks suitable girl from 9003844675

FINCLY STBLE 56 yr. M. Divorcee, RC. Eng Spkng. From Trichy. Looking for a Gd fmly Oriented F. No Strings Attached. Btwn 35 to 45 for Marriage. 8825899789

DOCTOR DOCTOR MD, Felship Radiology, 30/

mudaliar pretty girl 1056357632 **KANNADA** HINDU/MADHWA BRAHMIN / 05.11.1983/ Swati/BCS.SAP Professional/MNC Swati/BCS.SAP Professional/MNC CHRISTIAN PARENTS seek a suitable B'lore/seeking Kannada/ Tamil working Bride from any Hindu Community with Vegetarian Diet/Lang known-Tamil, Kannada, English. Contact-

70. punarpoosam, mithunam, seeks

9444249447

CHRISTIAN PARENTS seek a suitable VISWAKARMA (TELGU/ Tamil) Eair 39 oride (29 37) for son 43, BE, MBA, iving in London, working for a global firm, God fearing, success- CNB
ful and governing growing businesses in Europe and India. Primary
language is English, mother tongue
is Tamil, also speaks Malayalam.
For more details, contact us at
selina@vineyarchilsis on

selina@vineyardhills.in.

Christian Orthodox boy 31/182 Event Management, Digital Marketing, MBA Working Advertising Co. in Dubai (born & Broughtup at Dubai) seeks Educated Christian Bride. Contact:7418835351 (Whatsup), Dubai No: +971544566500

HINDU PULAYA boy 31 MCA Kannur Dt. residing at Coimbatore, seeks pro-posals. 8129784705, 9600222477

PROPOSALS INVITED for NAIR BOY (FA-THER NORTH INDIAN HINDU / MOTHER NAIR) 36/175 clean habits/chennai well settled. LANGUAGE NO BAR. BHP must.Mail to ssa.sewtech@gmail.com HINDU MALAYALI Viswakarma Boy, WELL CULTURED & Mannered caring UK 29/180, Bangalore based, BE MBA (Singapore), Employed outside Karnat-

pbpbmon@gmail.com

Gotra,175 CM, seeks educated and employed bride Ph:9962581127

Madhwa Marathi Desistha 28/170, V SCADHINDU CBE Kongu-PR OCT89 bride. Ct: 8012888018, 9994365798

5'9", working in Bangalore, is looking for a bride. Caste/ Religion No Bar.

CHRISTIAN NADAR, 31/173 cm, B.E., M.B.A.(IIM), MNC Bangalore, 27 Lacs

TAMIL RC Christian, working as a software consultant based in Lon don, 172 cms, 68 kgs, BE–ECE, 36 yrs, Vishwakarma Kammalar, Father: ms Thulam, Swathi Chennai seeking Rtd BHEL, Mother: House wife. Well same caste, 8925127127 settled and seeks bride from good Catholic Tamil family. 9840041207/

9962987455 PROTESTANT CHRISTIAN Asst. Prof. M.Sc.,Ph.D. 31/175, working in Chennai, Parent invite proposals from equally Qualified Christian Job) Only Son well settled hand-bride. Send Bio – Data with photo some Need:Dr,BE,Any PG. CT:

CHRISTIAN PROTESTANT Pillai INTERCASTE VELLALAR (RC) MBA/31/ Kamma karthigai 31/ 180 fair BE CS 19.12.1990, 6.1, Very. fair , B.C.A, 175 Manager MNC seeks Hindu/Chris- Singapore Seeks TN Engr/ Doc Ct: M.B.A, Asst.Mgr - Reliance CBT, tian bride working in Chennai 9496020027 19.12.1990, 6.1, Very. fair , B.C.A, M.B.A, Asst.Mgr - Reliance CBT, 40,000 - month seeks suitable Tall , air, PG Bride. Contact: 7604858587

Project Manager MNC Chennai 20L/ pawell settled, Chennai Ph:9445556810 Chennai

MUSLIM BOY 28/178 BE(ECE),MBA(IIM)

INTER Caste parents only son ME. Ph.d, 33yrs Asst Prof Pvt College Van-niar prfd. ct: 9894465319, 9842210607 KONGU Vellala Gounder 33 Anus

ham, 2-Chevvai, works as Civil Engineer Ausralian Govt, Seeks educated

VELLALAR PILLAI Hindu 31/175 Avit-

Mudaliar Divorcee 34/165 Poorattathi
Kumbam MDDDVL Doctor seek Educated Bride.SubsectNoBar.8122110793

Mudaliar Divorcee 34/165 Poorattathi
Ct: 9344138241/8220327956

TAMIL BRAHMIN Divorce :: TAMI

batore.

Tamilnadu.

Hindu Adidravidar 27 Kongu Parayar BE, M.Tech, Ph.D., seeks bride educated profl. Ct:8760883559, 8637663072

HINDU NADAR Age-53 M.Com Divorce Govt.Job. Looking for Bride age be-low 43 Unmarried/Divorce or Widowissues preferred.

WANTED BRIDE for Divorcee April 79, Iyengar 5'7" Srivatsa Gothram, Mrigaseersa 2nd Padam. Short lived marriage, no encumberances. Working in MNC, salary 42 lakh p.a. B.Tech from IIT-Madras, Ph,D from USA. Father alive, Mother expired recently, one elder brother married with a child, hailing from

email:skrishnan1940@gmail.com **TELUGU BRAHMIN**,38, MCA, Project Lead HCL Technologies Madurai, seeks any brahmin girl, 9487851429

IYER OCT.1980 Uthradam Bharadwajam, MS in Env Engg 14Lacs PA Chen-nai. Clean habits. Need suitable bride. Subsect no bar. Contact: 8144896074

BRIDE WANTED 26 yrs. 6ft. fair Christian Chettiyar, doing business & well settled in Chennai networth about 40 crore seeks suitable bride from any BC community 93608 94447

BRIDES WANTED

35 / 180 cms Hindu / Saiva Pillai B.Sc (IT) Software Professiona

Only Son, Mauritius citizen

Parents settled & Work permit in Singapore **Clean Habits** Caste No Bar

Uttaratathi (Uttarabhadrapada)

Can converse in 7 languages

Active cricketer in Singapore league

Contact: satyam000@gmail.com SC/AD SWATHI June-86/164cm, MCA, Sr.SWE, 10L pa and Business in Chennai, Seeks Educated bride. Ct:7358578127

Girl 38 Yrs for Tamil lyer Boy 1978 born 177cm never married BE/MS (US) working in Bay Area, CA, USA. àmxpwd@gmail.com SEEKING Brahmin Girl for Tamil Iver

Boy 1976 born 180cm never married B.Sc, MFT Own Business in Coimbatore, CT: 9994661857.

KAMMA, SADHAYAM, 45 / 186 / MCA, Divorcee(no issues), Chennai based, Sr Mgr in MNC , 20 Lakhs, Clean Habits seeks good looking girl. Ph-8939859950

NAIDU 37YRS/173 sadaiyam,kumbam, BCA/MBA working in MNC,chennai own

suitable bride

NAIDU MARINE Engineer 38Y Anusham ing suitable bride send horoscope

house seeks 9080988316

TIRUPUR NAIDU Boy 31/178 B.Tech (Auto) Rich family, Own Business Seek Bride from Naidu (any subsect).Ct: 9444038472 / FOREIGN WELL settled bride wanted

NAIDU BE MS. USA settled 29 Afflu-

ent, seeks MS USA Engineer / Doctor Bride language no bar Ct 9344057702 REDDY 37/5'6" Divorced Sr.Software Engineer US citizen, Family Financially well off, looking for like Minded Educa-

ted from same Community. Contact Phone: 7337462349

cms Thulam, Swathi Chennai seeking same caste. 8925127127 MNC 40K Chen,OwnHouse seek Bride belw30, SubCaste NoBar.9840934216 REDDY DOCTOR Md: RD (FRCS) 2LPM Chennai, 32Y/182 fair well sett-led. Wanted slim & beautiful Doctor

BALIJA NAIDU 26/177 B.E, M.S,Logis tics,Sydney.Ayilyam-4 seeks BE,S/WE SubsectNoBar(photo,Star)9840959861 Email: lathabaskar@hotmail.com

BRIDES WANTED BALIJA NAIDU Uthiram, Kanni Rasi 30/175, MBA,

seeks fair & educated good family bride. 98400-22276 / 98459-99633

M.Phil, Pvt.college professor Rs45000/pm own house. Cont evening 4pm 9787158805 MUSLIM BOY 28/178 BE(ECE), MBA(IIM)

✓ URDU MUSLIM 30/170 M.Com

MARRIAGE BUREAU HURRY 100TH year offer all india naidu sangam register & take any nos alliances freely for 1yr

h:9445556810

7845089089 THEMOHINDU

THE HINDU

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ELITE GROOMS WANTED

PILLAI, 32, 168 cms, Entrepreneur, B.E. Lives in

Chennai - 9443259314

MBA Manager in SBI. Seeks suitable groom. 9344695896, 9486729471

SWE MNC Bangalore 12 Lacs PA Fair Seeks Bangalore/Us Groom. 9442994594, thirumoorthybalakrishna HINDU TELUGU fair & good looking

MUSLIM URDU, 37, 154cm 2nd Mar-

SMU PARENTS Chennai seek a tall well settled, educated groom with

BE IIM (B) MNC Mngr 15 LPA 9486224977, 9488045885

Mithunam BE. MBA Dy Manager HR MNC Chennai seeks qualified employed affluent family 9443472053. CASTE NO bar. Thevar 38 bachelor

BE SW Engr MNC 14L/pa seeks well educated good family bride. educated good 9080471654 ISAI VELLALAR/ Sengunthar, 30, Sadhayam, Ph.D, Asst.Professor, 90K pm, seeks suitable bride.

per month. Father-Reddy, Mother-Nair. Astham fair seeks suitable girl from Reddy community. Ct+ 919787463508

COIMBATORE BC 36/155 MBA HR employed in MNC, CBE, 7Lakh/Annum, legally divorced (no issue) exdivorced (no issue) exqualified slim & short girl. pects qualified slim & snon ym. 27 to 32 years, no interest in horoscope, CNB. Call: 94430 60030,

IYER ATHREYA (Ph.D), M.E, 32, Hastham Asst-Professor Pvt 6-L pa. own House. any Brahmin Emp.Girl 9943069711

34, DIVORCE, M. TECH,5'10",16 Lacs p.a,No issues, seeks suitable bride CNB CNB Ct:7200866346/8778514465

living in London, working for a global firm, God fearing, successful and governing growing businesses in Europe and India. For more details. contact us at selina@ vineyardhills.in. 178 BE Pvt 60K Chennai Seeks Fair Educated Good Family Ct:8939781747

TAMIL YADAVA Boy, 29, Magam, 5' 9" clean habits, SWE 85 Lacs P.A, settled in USA with own house seeks suitable bride. Please ct:

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYA 38/162 Pooram-2 Padam, B.Tech, ME (MIT), Fellowship in Ph.D, IIT Kanpur, Whea-tish, Sooke Equally Qualified bridge tish, Seeks Equally Qualified bride. Cont:6385920041

MBA return 37 Unmarried -Religion / caste no bar needs Industrialist/ Affluent Business Broad mind Bride intercaste parentage. Seeks Malayali with Any martial status –9047740647
Bride: 9600190880/ SINGAPORE CITIZEN Native Tamilnadu, Engineer, Tamil , Hindu, Chet-tiar, Unmarried, EngineerB.E, M.S Age 54/170cms Seeks Girl Aged Be-low 45 Unmarried or Divorcee Caste NoBar Contact 8940946003 / MARATHI BRAHMIN, 32, MBA, Gautama

Fair, Harithsa, Revathi, Software Amazon 5.11Ft B. Tech (NIT), MS (Germ). Good 61 PA Seeks Marathi, only Working Salary, John at Bildre, Only Son 9443709427(W.App)/0422 4347427 6380741371/balajun47@gmail.com Sks26&below.

Our Son, USA educated, MBA 35/ for Hindu Tamil Vellalar group boy fair / 29 / 170 / M.E / No bar. VANNIYAKULAKSHATRIYA BBA 35/178 own business 1L/pm well settled seeks pretty girl from good family

> INTERCASTE PARENT 1985 MBA, ACS thiruvadhirai well placed seeks Chennai working girl 9790895631

back ground (Caste no bar). 8883668666

PILLAI 25 BE Chennai seeks Professional Bride in Pillai/Mudaliar.

sional Bride in Geetham 9884858014

9884600667

VISWAKHARMA BC 30 / 180 cm H.Some VISWAKHARIMA BC 30 / 180 cm H.Some Born india (chennai) Tamil. Canadian citizen; finished software Engg., and working in canada as a Web developer. Residing with parents Seeks any hindu tamil, decent, educated and working family girl (Non-Veg) or finished degree. Contact venkat2011@live.ca Canada cell 6477091791.Chennai cell 8610261433 cell 8610261433

IYER BHARADHWAJAM Uthiram, 37yrs/180cms, BE, MNC Chennai 15 Lakhs per annum, Own House at Chennai seeks any Brahmin Girl. Ct: 09445222214 **TAMIL IYER** Boy, 35 , Koundinya , Moolam , BE- IT Analyst, Bangalore, Mob num -9686123030, LL- 080-

BRAHMIN IYER 34/180cm, PHD Asst.

BPCL Dealer, Chennai-58 Income 7 Lakhs/Month

Chennai, Father is an IAS officer. Family is financially well off. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from any community. Contact: 7871502020

Email Id: vivah1100@gmail.com

KAMMA GIRL 23/158 Moolam (4) SWE/ MNC Seeks groom same community below 28 years. Contact: 99439 29489. BALIJA/GAVARA 25/168 Arudhra BE

girl studied MS & working as SWE in USA 27/175 seeks suitable Groom in USA fair & Handsome 29/183cm. Any

riage No Issues Asst. Professor Govt. Job Suitable Groom Wanted. 9025067019

Sunni Muslim 25/ F 5.5" slim fair b'ful

per annum seeks Educated, Employed and Fair Bride. Contact: 99942 47184. Caste Central/State Govt Officer.

to Email:yovan36@gmail.com

Naidu Pooratadhi 40/173 Unmarried BE MNC 10Lpa seek BrideCasteNobar 7868998710 / srirairam5@gmail.com

derabad, seeking well educated girl (preferably vegetarian) from respectable family. Father is a retired Colonel from Army. Contact 9490393807

HINDU NADAR Widower 53 ACA 2Lakh pm., Finance Manager at Coim-

boy aged 10yrs, Australia Citizen 37/ 185, Srivatsa Gotram Employed in a reputed Insurance Firm in Australia,

Project Manager MNC Chennai 20L/ pawell settled, Chennai 26695729. Subset no bar tam BE MS, MNC seeks educated bride. Caste no bar. Ct: 9500010275 32-36yr CSI CHRISTIAN Tall & Fair 33yrs MBA (UK) Well Educated & Affluent VADAMAL/HARITHA/THIRUVONAM/NOV1978/ Email: iqbalsyed2003@yahoo.com MCA/PROJMGR TCS Chennai/27L PA/ Fair teetotaler seeks never mar-Thuluva Vellala Mudaliar Bharani 25/ HINDU 39 Divorce No issue clean SMU 24/160 Chennai, B.Tech, Fair 175 BE, MBA Placed in Management Cader in Leading Bank, Propertied habit CNB manager MNC chennai own house 9444804953,7397358267 ried Brahmin girl min 2yrsdiff/ 9444385411/9600096079. Bride Seeks Well Qualified & Well Settled, Good Looking Groom 9176343757 seeks from Well Placed Engineers, Doctors, Chennai Based Industrialist 153, Fair, B.Tech-IT, Only Daughter Chennai seeks Well Educated Employ SENGUNTHA MUDALIYAR Boy 28/173 cm IYER VADAMAL Athreya Mirugasiris-Groom. Contact: 98400 61162 lastham, ME, working in Google Hyed / Business Groom.Ct: 9840942228 SMU PARENTS invite alliance for ham Midunam 24/165 M.Com, (Ph.d) Asst Prof,17K seeks UG/PG Employed Bride. Subsect No Bar.Ct: 9994260743 AFFLUENT, 24/155, M.S. working in US Very Fair seeks well settled handsome boy. Caste no bar. daughter 25/157 Engineer from India/ Abroad. Mail: rdna.chennai@

batore, seeks life partner CT: Seeks Brahmin bride from good family. 8870004199 / skajey@gmail.com Cont:9840249131

Middle Class, Divorcee, Seeks suitable groom India / Abroad. Caste No Bar. Contact: 9489695984 HINDU NADAR M.Phil., 30/165 Fair, Anusham, Chennai, divorcee(short lived) Ass. Prof. in College, seeks well educated groom from good family. 9972925602/gvino223@ gmail.com SAIVA PILLAI (Kaar Kaarthar), 28/

96598 08418

MUDALIAR ISSUELESS divorcee 32/153 Kettai fair good looking BE, Manag-er,SBI Chennai seeks issueless di-

CHENNAI BASED Hindu Bride 25yrs Hindu Sc Ad 28, Ph.D Physics, Asst.

Illegal scrap plastic market on defence land cleared

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi Pollution Control Committee on Saturday cleared an illegal plastic scrap market on a 10-acre defence land in Jahangirpu-

"The Defence authority had left the land unprotected with any boundary walls and about 400 people were working in segregation and selling of scrap plastic in the land," a DPCC official said.

"Through a drive during which 50 persons and 200 officers were deployed and about 225 tonnes of plastic waste dumped in the open ground has been sent to waste to energy plant at Bawana," a statement read.

NIRNIMESH KUMAR

NEW DELHI

Family of accident

victim gets ₹11.81 lakh

A Motor Accident Claims Tribunal has

awarded a compensation of ₹11.81 lakh to the

family of a Nepali citizen who was killed in a

when the truck hit him from behind. The

man on the wheels was also injured in the

The driver and the owner of the truck in

"The total compensation payable to the

mishap. Since the victim was from Delhi, his

reply to the petition said that their vehicle

claimants would be ₹11,81,567," said presid-

Senior citizen killed in road

accident; driver on the run

A 61-year-old man was killed when his twowheeler was hit by an unknown vehicle in Dwarka on Saturday morning, the police

A senior officer said Virender Singh from

west Delhi's Hari Nagar who worked as a

manager in a private firm was on his scooty

when he was hit by a vehicle at 11.30 a.m.

The accused driver fled the spot, the police said, adding that Singh was declared brought dead at Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital.

A case charges of rash driving and causing

death by negligence has been registered and

teams are examining CCTV footage from the area to identify the vehicle and the accused.

ing officer of the Tribunal Hardeep Kaur.

The victim was pillion-riding a motorcycle

road accident in Uttrakhand in 2017.

wife filed the claim petition here.

did not cause the accident.

STAFF REPORTER

children.

DU teachers condemn 'attack' on syllabus

Syllabi of four subjects referred back to respective depts.

AARUSHI AGGARWAL NEW DELHI

Over 80 English teachers across Delhi University colleges issued a statement on Saturday over what they termed a "politically motivated attack on a democratically drafted syllabus".

Draft policy

Stating that the draft policy involved faculty participation from over 40 colleges. the statement read, "More than 3,000 working hours have been spent on it. It is a matter of sorrow and deep academic concern that the syllabus is now being ma-

ligned and is sought to be scuttled by certain political groups at the University."

The syllabi of four subjects, including English, were referred back to the respective departments by the Executive Council of DU following protests from a section of teachers who alleged that they were "pro-Left".

The teachers, in the statement issued, said that their syllabus introduces new areas of study and was "consciously decolonised to introduce students to a wide variety of writings in English", an effort for which they "received positive feedback from both national and international experts".

'Fair exchange of ideas'

"At every point, discussions were minuted and circulated to ensure a continuing of the democratic spirit in which the entire exercise was undertaken. We are thus deeply dismayed that deliberations which have been marked by an open, free and fair exchange of ideas, are being described as "Leftist" and "partisan". Nothing can be further from the truth," the statement

Man found dead with head injury

STAFF REPORTER

A man was found murdered with a head injury in east Delhi's Ghazipur on Saturday morning, the police

DCP (East) Jasmeet Singh said the man is

क्र. 🛭 ई-निविदा

(2019-20)

yet to be identified yet but there are a few clues. "There is a tattoo reading 'Sunny S' on his forearm and another tattoo on his right hand, which reads 'Suroor'," Mr. Singh

The body was found

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड

कार्यालय विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, बिजली भवन, बाजपुर रोड काशीपुर

दूरभाषः 05947-276520 कारपोरेट आई.डी. संख्या U40109UR2001SG025867

Email: se_ksp@rediffmail.com, Website: www.upcl.org

राशि (रु.)

2,22,000

2,25,000/

2,23,000/

2,27,000/-

अनुमानित लागत

जी.एस.टी

नेविदा प्रपत्र

का मूल्य जी.एस.टी.

11,800/

said.

विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, काशीपुर के अंतर्गत अधोलिखित कार्यो हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

सामग्री/कार्य का नाम

विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के अंतर्गत 33/11 के.बी. फौजी कालोनी उपसंस्थान से उदित 11 के.बी. गोयरा पोषक से पोषित विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के लिए एल.टी.ए.बी. केबल एवं संबंधित सामग्री की आपूर्ति एवं उसकी स्थापना का कार्य।

जाहुँग एस उसका स्वास्ता का कामा विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के अंतर्गत 33/11 के.बी. दोराहा उपसंस्थान से उदित 11 के.बी. बदरीपुर पोषक से पोषित विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के लिए एल.टी.ए.बी. केबल एवं संबंधित सामग्री की आपूर्ति एवं उसकी स्थापना का कार्य।

विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के अंतर्गत 33/11 के.बी. केलाखेड़ा उपसंस्थान से उदित 11 के.बी. चंदनपुरा पोषक से पोषित विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के लिए एल.टी.ए.बी. केबल एवं संबंधित सामग्री की

विद्युत वितरण खण्ड बाजपुर के अंतर्गत 33/11 के.वी. मण्डी उपसंस्थान से उदित 11 के.वी.

बरहैनी पोषक से पोषित विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के लि

भापूर्ति एवं उसकी स्थापना का कार्य।

by patrolling staff at 8 a.m. on a deserted road near Ghazipur Mandi. It appears that he was hit with a sharp object, the police said.

Mr. Singh said a murder case has been registered and a probe is under way.

ई-निविदा प्रपत्र

आनलाईन एवं

ऑफलाईन

आवेदन एवं जमा करने की

अन्तिम तिथि

26.08.2019

(15.00 बजे)

26.08.2019 (15.00 बजे)

(15.00 बजे)

27.08.2019

(15.00 बजे)

र्ड-निविदा

एवं ऑफ

तिथि एवं समय

7.08.2019

12.00 बजे)

?7.08.2019 12.30 बजे)

28.08.2019

12.00 बजे)

28.08.2019

One dead, two injured as truck falls off flyover

STAFF REPORTER

A 45-year-old man died while two others were injured when the truck they were travelling in fell off a flyover in central Delhi's IP Estate on Saturday.

"During investigation, it came to light that the driver was speeding when he lost control of the vehicle near the Ring Road and the truck fell off the flyover," said the police.

The deceased has been identified as Jallaluddin from Mewat and the injured as Sarukh and Wazid.

The victims were on their way to Azadpur Mandi when the incident happened. The police said that a PCR call was received at 2 a.m. on Saturday and on reaching the spot, the officers saw that a truck with Rajasthan registration number plates had fallen off the Salimgarh bypass flyover.

"We had to use gas cutters to rescue the victims," said an officer.

A case has been lodged under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code.

Class VI boy found dead in pond

His father lodged complaint after he did not return from school

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

A 12-year-old boy was found dead in a pond in south Delhi's Fatehpur Beri on Saturday morning, the police said.

No injury marks were found on his body, they said. Additional DCP (South) Parvinder Singh said Shub-

ham Kumar Arya Nagar was a

Class VI student of a government school. His father approached the police on Friday night stating that his son did not return from school. "A case under Section 363 of the IPC was registered and an intensive search

launched," Mr. Singh said. During the search, the body of a boy was found in the

pond in a jungle behind Air Force Station in Arya Nagar. "The boy was identified as Shubham. His school bag and uniform were found outside the pond," the officer said. The body has been preserved for post-mortem which will be conducted on Sunday. "Inquest proceedings have been initiated," the officer said.

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, (Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minorities and OBC Welfare Department)

Phone No. 0651-2551824, E-mail-tri.directorate@gmail.com/dir-triran@gov.in Ref. no. 865 Ranchi, Dated 02.08.2019

Expression of Interest

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Ranchi invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested Universities (all colleges)/Department of Universities /Govt. Organization for undertaking a Research Project of TRI, Ranchi during the year 2018-2020:

**TOPIC: TAMAR REVOLT /FROM YEAR 1767 to SARDARI MOVEMENT: ARCHIVAL, NON ARCHIVALAND ORAL SOURCES BASED COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS*

Interested agencies are hereby requested to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) duly forwarded by registrar of universities (applicable Universities (all colleges)/Department of Universities only} along with technical bid giving relevant details of the organization necessary for evaluating the competencies on or before 19/08/2019 by 4.30 P.M. The price should be all inclusive of (all requisite statutory taxes, if applicable) and not open ended.

applicable) and not open ended.

The intending agencies may submit their bid in sealed envelope on or before the due date. Technical proposal should be sealed in a separate envelope clearly marked in BOLD "ATECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR TOPIC: TAMAR REVOLT/FROM YEAR 1767 to SARDARI MOVEMENT: ARCHIVAL, NON ARCHIVAL AND ORAL SOURCES BASED COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS (Please specify name of the concerned work)" written on the top of the envelope. These envelopes are to be addressed to the of the concerned work)" written on the top of the envelope. These envelopes are to be addressed to the Director, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Morabadi, Ranchi-834008. TRI will not be responsible for delay in transits or damages or loss of tender document sent by post. Technical Bid will be opened on 21/08/2019 at 2.00 P.M in the office of the Director, TRI, Ranchi. Only those agencies which fulfill technical criteria will be considered for presentation of project.

Terms of Reference (ToR) and other details can be obtained from the office of the TRI on any working day during office hour to meet concerned Nodal person and the same can also be downloaded from the website www.prdjharkhand.in or through E-mail tri.directorate@gmail.com by specifying the topic & details of Institution / Organization Interested. TRI, Ranchi reserves all rights to accept or reject all or any of the EOI's at any stage without assigning any reasons.TRI, Ranchi also reserves the right to engage/empanel one or more firm

depending on requirements. जिसे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं। बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

PR 213507 (Welfare) 19-20 (D)

Director

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited

.... a joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi

M/s. BSES Rajdhani Power Limited ("Petitioner") filed Petition for True-up of FY 2017-18& ARR for FY 2019-20 for Distribution (Wheeling & Retail Supply) Business which was admitted by Hon'ble Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission vide Order dated 21.02.2019. Highlights of the Petition were widely circulated through advertisements in daily newspapers. In pursuance of the advertisement, some of the consumers / consumer groups / stakeholders furnished comments and suggestions which were replied to by the Petitioner. The comments and suggestions of the public and/or their representatives and the arguments advanced by the Petitioner have been taken note of by the Hon'ble Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission

After having considered the above, the Hon'ble Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission, vide its Press Release dated 31.07.2019, in exercise of the power vested in it by the Electricity Act, 2003 and the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions for Determination of Wheeling Tariff and Retail Supply Tariff) Regulations have approved a new Tariff Schedule to be applicable from 01.08.2019.

TARIFF SCHEDULE

The Tariff Schedule shall remain in force till new Tariff Order comes in place and/or amended, reviewed or modified in accordance with the provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 and

S. No.	Category	Fixed Charges	l	Energy Ch	arges		
1	DOMESTIC						
1.1	INDIVIDUAL CONNECTIONS		0-200	201-400	401-800	801-1200	>1200
			Units	Units	Units	Units	Units
а	Upto 2 kW	20 ₹/kW/month					
b	> 2 kW & < 5 kW	50 ₹/kW/month	0.00	4.50	0.50	7.00	0.00
C	> 5 kW & ≤ 15 kW	100 ₹/kW/month	3.00 ₹/kWh	4.50 ₹/kWh	6.50 ₹/kWh	7.00 ₹/kWh	8.00 ₹/kWh
d	> 15 kW & < 25 kW	200 ₹/kW/month	***************************************	C / ICC VIII	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		· ///////
e	> 25 kW	250 ₹/kW/month					
1.2	Single Point Delivery Supply at 11kV for GHS	150 ₹/kW/month			4.50 ₹/ kWh		
2	NON-DOMESTIC						
2.1	Upto 3kVA	250 ₹/kVA/month			6.00 ₹/ kVA	h	
2.2	Above 3kVA	250 ₹/kVA/month			8.50 ₹/ kVA	h	
3	INDUSTRIAL	250 ₹/kVA/month			7.75 ₹/ kVA	h	
4	AGRICULTURE	125 ₹/kW/month			1.50 ₹/ kWh		
5	MUSHROOM CULTIVATION	200 ₹/kW/month			6.50 ₹ / kWh	า	
6	PUBLIC UTILITIES	250 ₹/kVA/month			6.25 ₹/ kVA	h	
7	DELHI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD. (DIAL)	250 ₹/kVA/month			7.75 ₹/ kVA	h	
8	ADVERTISEMENTS AND HOARDINGS	250 ₹/kVA/month			8.50 ₹/ kVA	h	
9	TEMPORARY SUPPLY						
9.1	Domestic Connections including Group Housing Societies	Same rate as that of relevant category	Sam		of relevant mporary su	category wi rcharge	thout
9.2	For threshers during the threshing season	Electricity Tax of MCD : ₹ 270 per connection per month		Flat rate	of ₹5,400	per month	
9.3	All other connections including construction projects	Same rate as that of relevant category	1.3	0 times of th	ne relevant	category of	Tariff
10	CHARGING STATIONS FOR E-RICKSHAW/ E-VEHICLE C	N SINGLE POINT DE	ELIVERY				
10.1	Supply at LT				4.50 ₹/ kWh	1	
10.2	Supply at HT	_			4.00 ₹/ kVA	h	

For domestic category of consumers, fixed charges shall be levied on sanctioned load or the contract demand as the case may be

 For all categories other than Domestic, Fixed Charges are to belevied based on billing demand per kW/kVA or part there of. Where the Maximum Demand (MD), as defined in DERC (Supply Code and Performance Standards) Regulations, 2017, reading exceeds sanctioned load/contract demand, surcharge of30% shall belevied on the fixed charges corresponding to excess loading kW/kVA for such billing cycle only. Wherever, sanctioned load/contract demand is in kW/HP,thekVA shall be calculated on basis of actual power factor of the consumer, for there Event billing cycle and in case on non-availability of actual Power Factor, the Power Factor shall be considered as unity for sanctioned load/contract demand upto 10kW/11kVA.

Time of Day (ToD) Tariff

a. ToD tariff shall be applicable on all consumers (other than Domestic) whose sanctioned load/MDI (whichever is higher) is 10 kW / 11kVA and above.

b. Optional for all three phase (3ø) connections including Domestic connections. If the consumer who has opted for ToD, the charges for up-gradation of meters, if any, shall be borne by respective consumers. shall be borne by respective consumers

The Commission has decided to retain the Rebate during the Off Peak hours and Peak hours Surcharge at 20%. Optional ToD Consumers will have the option to move back to non-ToD regime only once within one Financial Year. For other than Peak and Off-Peak hours normal Energy Charges shall be applicable

d. For other than Peak and Off-Peak hours normal Energy Charges shall be applicable. e. The Commission has retained the time slots for Peak and Off-Peak hours as follows:

Peak Hours Surcharge on Energy Charges Off-Peak Hours Rebate on Energy Charges

		3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3		
May - September	1400 - 1700 Hrs. & 2200 - 0100 Hrs.	20%	0400-1000 Hrs.	20%
Rebate of 3%, 4% & 5% on to	he Energy Charges for supp	olv at11kV. 33/66kV and 11 Individual Dom	estic Consumers availing	the supply at single point delivery through

220kV shall be applicable. 5. Maintenance Charges on street lights, wherever maintained by DISCOMs, shall be

payable @Rs.84/light point/month and material cost at the rate of Rs. 19/light point/month as per the Commission's Order dated 22ndSeptember 2009 in addition to the specified tariff. These charges are exclusive of applicable taxes and The valid Factory Licence shall be mandatory for applicability of Tariff unde

Industrial category: Provided that in case where the Factory Licence has expired and its renewal

application is pending with the concerned authority, the DISCOMs shall bill such consumers as per Tariff applicable under Non Domestic category; Provided further that on renewal of the Factory Licence, the DISCOMs shall adjust

the bills of such consumers as per applicable Tariff under Industrial category from the effective date of renewal of such Licence. {Explanation - The Factory License for the purpose of applicability of industrial tariff shall mean the license or permission or authorisation or any other document issued or granted by Directorate of Industries or Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises or MCD or any other Central or State Government Agency, as

applicable, for running an Industry or Factory in respective field of operation.) The above tariff rates shall be subject to following additional surchargesto be applied only on the basic Fixed Charges and Energy Charges excluding all other charges e.g., LPSC, Arrears., Electricity Tax/Duty, PPAC, load violation surcharge

etc. for the consumers of BRPL, BYPL & TPDDL: (a) 8% towards recovery of past accumulated deficit, and,

(b) 3.80% towards recovery of Pension Trust Charges of erstwhile DVB Employees /Pensioners as recommended by GoNCTD.

The Distribution Licensee shall levy PPAC after considering relevant ToD Rebate /Surcharge on energy charges applicable to the consumers.

For consumers availing supply through prepayment meters, the additional rebate of 1% shall be applicable on the basic Energy Charges, Fixed Charges and all other charges on the applicable tariff.

10. The Single Point Delivery Supplier (Group Housing Societies) shall charge the Domestic tariff as per slab rate of 1.1 to its Individual Members availing supply for Domestic purpose and Non Domestic Tariff for other than domestic purpose. Any Deficit/Surplus due to sum total of the billing to the Individual Members as per slab rate of tariff schedule 1.1 and the billing as per the tariff schedule 1.2 including the operational expenses of the Single Point Delivery Supplier shall be passed on to the members of the Group Housing Societies on pro rata basis of consumption.

Group Housing Society, shall claim the benefit of subsidy, applicable if any, as per the Order of Go NCTD. Group Housing Society shall submit the details of eligible consumers with consumption details and lodge claim of subsidy on behalf or individual members from DISCOMs.

12. The Single Point Delivery Supplier availing supply at HT & above shall charge the tariff to its LT consumers and in addition shall be entitled to charge an extra upto 5% of the bill amount to cover losses and all it's expenses.

13. The Commercial Consumers of DMRC and DIAL who have sanctioned load above 215 kVA but served at LT (415 Volts) shall be charged the tariff applicable to Non-domestic LT (NDLT) category greater than 140kW/150kVA (415 Volts).

14. The rates stipulated in the Schedule are exclusive of electricity duty and other taxes and charges, as levied from time to time by the Government or any other competent

authority, which are payable extra. 15. In the event of the electricity bill rendered by the Distribution licensee, not being paid

in full within the due date specified on the bill, a Late Payment Surcharge (LPSC) @ 18% per annum shall be levied. The LPSC shall be charged for the number of days of delay in receiving payment from the consumer by the Distribution Licensee, until the payment is made in full without prejudice to the right of the licensee to disconnect the supply after due date, in the event of non-payment in accordance with Section 56 of Electricity Act, 2003. This will also apply to temporary connections and enforcement cases, where payment of final bill amount after adjustment of amount as per directions of the Court and deposit, is not made by due

16. No payment shall be accepted by the Distribution Licensees from its consumers at its own collection centres/mobile vans in cash towards electricity bill exceeding Rs. 4,000/- except from blind consumers, for court settlement cases & payment deposited by the consumers at designated scheduled commercial bank branches upto Rs. 50,000/-. Violation of this provision shall attract penalty to the level of 10% of total Cash collection exceeding the limit.

Wherever the Fixed or Energy Charges are specified in Rs. per kVAh, for the purpose of billing, the kVAh as read from the meter in the relevant billing cycle shall

Sh. Rajeev Chowdhury

Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PLC111527 Telephone No.: +91 11 39999707 | Fax No.: +91 11 39999890 | Website: www.bsesdelhi.com

NORTH DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

ZONAL BUILDING, NARELA, DELHI-110040

Opening of Financial Bid For online tendering time table please refer www.tenderwizard.com/

Sector-24 Rohini handed over by DDA to MCD vide code No. RZ-09-10-45. SH:- Improvement of left out lanes/roads in Sector-24 Rohini by providing RMC from H.No. 61 to 72 and 73 to 77 in Pocket-5, H. No. 148 to . 149 and parking area near Gurudwara H.No. 18 and 149 in Pocket-7 H.No. 35 to 44 and parking area near H.No. 36 and 149 in pocket-8, H.No 177 to 178 and parking area near H.No. 85 in pocket-9 Sector-24 ward No. 32N Rohini C in Narela Zone HA:-91/1257 Tender amount: 73,55,641/- E.M.D.in.Rs.: 147115/- Time of completion: 4 Months

Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website

Narela Zone

(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)

E-TENDER

NOTICE NO. 26-CECNMS-19-20-A-SUR-116 DATED 02-08-2019 For and on behalf of The President of India, The Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008 invites e-tender for the following work(s) as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal www.ireps.gov.in.
The tenderers/Contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal www.ireps.gov.in and only online tenders will be accepted. The cost of the tender form and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) should be made through online payment gateway available in the website by the way of multiple bank's netbanking, debit card and credit card.

NAME OF THE WORK: MSB-KOK SECTION - Proposed Laying of 3rd and 4th lines Provision of storm water drainage arrangements. Boundary wall and connected works scrap to GSD/PER. Provision of Trolley path at Royapuram and boundary wall at

Reconnaissance Engineering survey for a New BG line between Musiri and Chennai (350 Kms.)

CORRIGENDUM TO NOTICE NO. 24-CECNMS-19-20-TBMCGL-13 DT: 16-07-2019 CLOSING DATE AS 8/08/19 PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER

For further details, please refer to website portal **www.ireps.gov.in or** contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

Chief Engineer, (Construction), Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.

The victim is survived by his wife and three

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER/(M-II)

NIT No. E.E.(M-II)/NDMC/2019-20/3.14 Dated:-01.08.2019 Start Date of Sale Download of Tender Document :01.08.2019 upto 17.30 Hrs. Last Date of Tender Document online submission :22.08.2019 upto 12.00 Hrs. : 23.08.2019 12.15 Hrs. upto

NORTHDMCETENDER sealed percentage Rate tenders are invited for execution of the following works by the North DMC from eligible registered contractor having experience in the similar filed and will be received as per time table and will be opened at 12:15 Hrs. on 23.08.2019 on website www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER by MCD-E-Tendering in the office of EE(M-II)/Narela Zonal, Building Narela Zone Delhi-110040, The eligible contractor has to quote their rates subject to the conditions that they are neither black listed not debarred at the time of submission of their tenders through e-tendering process.

S.No. 1Name of work: Making good the deficiency in plotted pockets of Validity of rates: 5 Months Tender cost: 1000/- H/A: 91/1257

www.tenderwizard.com/NORTHDMCETENDER

R.O No. 52/DIP/North DMC/19-20

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

NOTICE NO. 25-CECNMS-19-20-MSB-KOK-4 DATED 02-08-2019

between MSB-KOK Stations: Miscellaneous works like improvements to Circulating Area at Royapuram station, construction of passengers toilet at Royapuram platform. for exchange of land with Chennai Port Trust. Retaining wall for protection of building structures and slope protection, shelter for passenger platform at Royapuram, leading of Washermanpet, steel structural walkway between El cabin & FOB at RPM and wind tie arrangements for platform shelter at RPM, FOB at RPM and FOB at MSB yard.

Approximate Earnest Money Period of Cash Value In Deposit Form Completion in @ 15.30 hrs (₹) Months 60806073.50 454000.00 10000 SIX 27-08-19 1012200.00 20300.00 2000 27-08-19

MAY BE READ AS 09/08/19

निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण दिनांक 05.08.2019 से वैब साईट www.uktenders.gov.in पर अवलोकित किया जा सकता है। राष्ट्रहित में विद्युत बचायें, विद्युत बिलों के 24×7 ऑनलाईन भुगतान हेतु www.upcl.org पर जायें। Customer Toll Free No. 18004190405 अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, काशीपुर **Bharat Nirman through Rural Roads**

Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala H.P., 176215

BHARAT NIRMAN UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)

e-Procurement Notice

The Government of India has received a loan/credit number "P124639" under PMGSY (Rural Road Project) Rural Roads Financing towards the cost of Rural Roads Project (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the bidding document.

The Chief Engineer (Kangra Zone) HPPWD Dharamshala 176215 on behalf of Governor Himachal Pradesh invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantr Gram Sadak Yojana in the district of Chamba as detailed in the Table below from the eligible contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD/P&T, Railways/other state govts/Central Govt agencies. Non-registered bidders may submit bids. however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authorities before signing the contract.

ision Package Name of the Work Estimated Cost Total Cost Period Rid

DIVISION	No Package			(Rs Lacs)		of com	Security (Rs	
			Constr- Mainte- -uction -nance			pletion (Months)		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Chamba	HP-02- 289	Upgradation Chamba Saru Road Km 0/0 to 4/0	177.35	32.19	209.54	12	4.19	
Chamba	HP-02- 288	Upgradation of Chaned Bhanota Road Km 0/0 to 4/0.	148.55	24.09	172.64	12	3.45	
Bharmour	HP-02- 299	Construction of Dunali to Sadoon Road (up to GP Brehi) Km 0/0 to 8/0	319.46	36.13	355.60	12	7.13	
Bharmour	HP-02- 318	Upgradation of Luna to Chatrari Road Km 0/0 to 8/0	429.33	48.18	477.51	12	9.55	
Bharmour	HP-02- 319	Upgradation of Bharmour Hadsar Road Km 0/0 to 13/0	680.11	78.29	758.40	12	15.16	

Other details can be seen in the bidding document. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

Submission of all physical documents will be accepted only up to or before the time and date of submission of bids. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date/Time and place for receipt of bids through e-procurement:-Bids can be submitted online from Date 08 Month 08 Year 2019 to Date 28 Month 08 Year 2019 upto 1700 Hours and will be opened on Date 30 Month

08 Year 2019 at 1130 Hours in the office of Superintending Engineer, 7

Circle, HPPWD, Dalhousie.

HP/1321/19-20

For further details please log on to https://pmgsytendershp.gov.in The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without declaring any reasons there-of.

> Sd/ Chief Engineer, Kangra Zone, H.P.P.W.D. Dharamshala-176215. Fax:011892-223100. Tel: 011892-224948.

Delhi University Teachers' Association demands independent probe into complaint filed against Aryabhatta College principal by whistle-blower

Apart from this, the com-

plainant has also highlighted

the publishing of the same

material in two places and

attempts to take credit for it

twice. This is seen in two

papers in the application to

Hindu College where Mr.

Sinha has claimed points for

"Ecological Aspects of Social

and Environmental Changes

in India and Canada" and

"Globalization and Consu-

merism: A study of its im-

pact", first published in

books by Mittal Publications

in 2003 and 2004, and later

in the journal Research Re-

former in 2014. Additionally,

two other papers listed in

the application were not

found in the online table of

contents of the particular is-

sue they were claimed to

Taking cognisance of the

complaint, the Delhi Univer-

sity Teachers' Association,

which also received a 243-

page dossier detailing the al-

legations, wrote on June 25

to the Vice-Chancellor call-

ing for an independent and

speedy inquiry into the mat-

ter. "For a reputed university

such as ours, probity and in-

have been published in.

Independent inquiry

During the six months before applying in 2014 for the post that he currently holds, Arvabhatta College principal Manoj Sinha published five books and 11 journal papers.

A complaint filed by a whistle-blower with the Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University claims at least eight of these and four other works are heavily plagiarised, casting doubts over the eligibility of his appointment. At least six of these claims have been verified.

Minimum API

The appointment to the post of principal of colleges is based significantly on the "Academic Performance Indicator" or API of a candidate. These are points allocated to an individual based on multiple factors such as the amount of teaching hours put in, extracurricular activities engaged in and the number of books and research papers published, among others. The system is meant to help incorporate a "transparent, objective and credible methodology of analysis of the merits and credentials of the applicant..." read the UGC's guidelines from 2013. To be eligible for the post of principal, a candidate requires a minimum API of 400 points.

In an application for the post of principal of Hindu College that Mr. Sinha submitted in 2017, out of a total API score of 660, he claimed 170 points from a total of 12 publications against which plagiarism (including selfplagiarism) charges have been raised.

Turnitin plagarism check Verified "originality reports" of the six publications generated by "Turnitin" plagiarism check software show that they have a "similarity index" (the percentage similar to another publication published earlier) ranging

The software is currently used by several central universities to check Ph.D dissertations before their final submission.

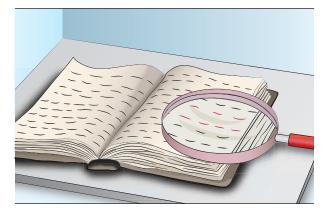
from 60% to 90%.

The plagiarised works include three books published in 2014 by Bonfring Publishers based in Coimbatore, two papers also published in 2014 in Global Journal for Multidisciplinary Studies and a book published by JTS Publications in 2017. The report also details sources of the matching text. For instance, according to

the report, Indian Govern-

ment and Politics, published by Bonfring, which has a similarity index of 89.5%, is nearly 50% similar to sources from Wikipedia.com apart from other sources including 45.5% from student papers. The New Dimension of Public Administration, also a Bonfring publication, has a similarity index of 80% with 74% of it coming from Internet sources. Apart from this "Public Policy and Democracy by Bonfring has a similarity index of 79%, with extensive citations also copied from a paper published in 2001 and Citizenship and Governance, published in 2017, has a similarity index of 62.4%. Turnitin reports generated by The Hindu in July confirm these results

and in fact showed a slightly



higher similarity index.

Word for word

A comparison of the plagiarised research papers with the sources also showed that several sections in different papers were lifted verbatim and not quoted or cited as reference. For instance, "An analysis the political economy of government responsiveness" published in 2014 in GJMS by Mr. Sinha, which has a similarity index of 98%, was lifted, word for word, in large parts from a paper titled "The political economy of government responsiveness: theory and evidence from India" published in 2002 and available on aca-

demic digital library JSTOR. Similarly, in "Regional Disparities in India: Structural Inequality of Public Policy", also published in GJMS in 2013, at least four consecutive paragraphs are lifted from "Public Policy Making In India" (as well as other sources) also available on JSTOR. Manual analysis of two other papers by the whistle-blower also reportedly shows that they were similarly copied word for

tegrity are principles not open to compromise," it said. Sources in the governing body of Aryabhatta College said that a committee would be looking into the complaints.

Principal's defence

Defending his case, Mr. Sinha, who has been teaching for 29 years and is up for reappointment for another five-year term as principal of the college on November 22, told The Hindu that the plagiarism may have taken place inadvertently given the immense pressure during years of syllabus revisions to churn out textbooks in time for students to have study material - which was the case when the three books published by Bonfring Pu-

blishers were written. He said he had issues with what was finally published. including poor copy editing, and had even written to the publishers to make sure more books didn't get printed. Mr. Sinha also said that at the time, the pressure to build up one's API score was a factor; however, he maintained that his score would have been above the 400 points required to be eligible for the post of principal. Regarding the charge of selfplagiarism, he said the paper was published in a book without his knowledge by the organisers of a conference he presented the paper at in Allahabad.

Asked about the paper published in GJMS which had a Turnitin score of 98%, he said he couldn't remember under what circumstances it

Indian universities get free access to Urkund software

Swedish software was chosen through a global tender process

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

All universities in India, public and private, have been given trial access to anti-plagiarism software Urkund Au-

Final subscription to access the Swedish software will begin from September 1, 2019, according to a notice from the University Grants Commission (UGC).

"We have a two-pronged approach. As part of the exercise to prevent plagiarism in the coming years, we are providing free of cost antiplagiarism software to all 900 universities, including private players. It will be available to teachers, students, researchers, everyone," said Human Resource Development Secretary K. Subrahmanyam. The Urkund software was chosen through a global tender process. While Turnitin is more commonly used by global academics, it was found to be 10 times more expensive without a proportionate increase in features or reliability.

The second step was put in place last July, when the Centre notified the University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018. It called for deWe are providing free of cost antiplagiarism software to all 900 universities, including private

players K. SUBRAHMANYAM Human Resource Development

partmental institutional-level panels be set up to deal with plagiarism complaints, and set up four severity levels of offences with appropriate penalties for students - only from Masters level and above – as well as faculty. All theses, dissertations and academic papers meant for publication must be checked using plagiarism software.

Similarities and offence

There are no penalties for minor similarities, up to 10% of the document. If a thesis or dissertation has similarities up to 40%, it is considered a level 1 offence and students will be asked to submit a revised version within six months.

In a level 2 offence, the similarities are between 40% and 60%, and the student will be debarred from submitting a revised script for one year. Similarities above 60% are considered a level 3 offence and will lead to expulsion, with student registration for that programme being cancelled.

In case of plagiarism in academic and research publications, a level 1 offence will result in being asked to withdraw the manuscript. In case of level 2, the offender will also be denied the right to one annual increment, and will not be allowed to supervise any Masters, M.Phil or Ph.D student for a two year period. A level 3 offence will result in denial of two annual increments and debarment from research supervision for three years.

Repeated offences will result in higher level penalties, including suspension and termination. If plagiarism is detected after a degree or credit has been awarded, that will be suspended for a set period.

A UGC panel on improving research culture, headed by former Indian Institute of Science director P. Balaram. warned that such central regulations could not replace the need for institutional vigilance.

"Institutions must take the responsibility for ensuring academic standards and for emphasising, to both students and faculty, the importance of maintaining the highest standards of integrity in academic research," said the report submitted by the panel last month.

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OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE BIRTHDAY



Mrs. RUKMANI AMMAL 19.01.1926 - 01.08.2019 W/o Shri.A.Subrahmanya Iyer, Advocat left us for heavenly Abode solemnly A caring, loving compassionate strong willed and persistent mother who led us by her examples is survived by four

generations of family. Rasamma as she was affectionately addressed by he siblings and relatives. she was sought for guidance assistance, support, motivation management and coordination of all events in the lyer household Our lives were enhanced by her simple, altruistic lifestyle and our future was shaped by her vision

never ending improvement for everyone who came in contact with her. She was the embodiment of perseverance and passion. Not one day will go by ithout remembering her thirs for knowledge, actions and what she stood for.

Her mission was constant and

Krishna, Pippi Former Vice Principal Lakshmanan, Anu Shankar Iyer, Preeti XL AUTO Lekshmy Ammal, **XL ENERGY** Srinivasa Raghavan and Grand children XL TYRE POINT Last rites on August 5th 2019 at 9.00 a.m. RSVP 044-28250327 S MARUTI SUZUKI

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Support for 48 JNU teachers pours in

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Several teachers' unions from various central universities across the country came forth on Saturday in solidarity with the Jawaharlal Nehru University Teachers' Association (JNUTA) and raised concerns over the notices issued to 48 JNU teachers for participating in a daylong strike last year.

Addressing the media, teachers and activists said that the JNU administration's decision to issue notices to the teachers was reflective of the "systematic attack" on higher education in the country. JNUTA president Atul Sood said, "All norms

and conventions are being flouted by the administration which is destroying the university and the outcome is devastating. The singlemost purpose of the chargesheet is to intimidate the average teacher even beyond the JNU campus.' Delhi University Teachers'

Union (DUTA) president Rajib Ray said, "These incidents are not simply restricted to DU or JNU but across the country and higher education is what is actually under attack. If what we are going to teach and how we teach is to be directed by the government then it'll be the saddest day for us."

Several teachers' unions,

including Jamia Millia Islamia, Visva Bharati University Faculty Association, West Bengal College and University Teachers' Association, Aligarh Muslim University Teachers' Association. among others issued statements in solidarity with the INUTA.

Activist Harsh Mander added, "There is an enormous battle of ideas currently taking place in India and the country is hurtling towards a direction which is frightening. The optimism that some of us had is also ebbing. Through these attacks, you [government] are killing the idea of an university with an independent thinking.

STAFF REPORTER

The National Consumer

Disputes Redressal Commission directed BSES Rajdhani to reimburse a former employee's medical claim of over ₹2.65 lakh.

The medical claim raised by the complainant had earlier been rejected as he received treatment from a hospital that was not empanelled with the CGHS.

Citing the order as an exception, the NCDRC said, "We find force in the contention of the complainant that taking into consideration his age and that he was suffering from prostate cancer and also keeping in view of previous judgments, we find it a fit case to direct the respondents to reimburse the amount under the CGHS scheme. We also hold that this decision is confined to this case

NDMC, DJB plant 1.35 lakh saplings

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) on Saturday planted one lakh saplings and shrubs in different locations across the city, said officials. The saplings include, jamun, ficus panda, crotton, gardenia, murria, bougainvillea, and hibiscus.

DJB Chairman Nikhil Kumar started the drive in which around 8,000 DJB officials took part. The plantation was done mainly on the premises of the Water Treatment Plants and Sewage Treatment Plants of the board. He said, "Protection, conservation and restoration of our natural environment is the need of the hour. The DJB is striving to set forth an example in creating heightened environmental consciousness and much needed behavioural change towards green and eco-friendly existence."

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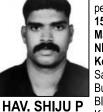
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Mr. GAURAV SEHGAL

PH: 98110 06590

gaurav.sehgal@thehindu.co.in

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person namely Hav. Shiju P No. 15776171Y Unit 140AD Regt (SP) S/o Sh. Madhavan C P R/O Polppanathil House, NIT Via Vellalassery, P.O. Pollacode, Kozhikode, Kerla. Age: 36 yrs., Height: 6' Sallow Complextion, Oval Face & Normal Build Wearing multi colour brown T-Shirt Blue Jeans pant, has been missing Near Karan Palace Lodge, Opposite New Delhi

General public is hereby informed that one

Railway Station since 29.05.2018 at about 06.00 am. In this regard a case FIR No. 208/19 dated: 19.07.2019 U/s 365 IPC has been registered at PS Paharganj, New Delhi. The person Shiju P above came at New Delhi Rly. Station on the

SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSON

evening of 28.05.2018 for his treatment at Army Base Hospital of Mental Illness alongwith the escorting, but missing in dubious condition. Any person having any information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the following. E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in

Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-24368638 011-24368641 DP/6479/CD/19

S.H.O. P.S., Paharganj, New Delhi Ph.: 011-23520787, 23524746 Mobile: 8750870427

Phone/Fax 01334-221407

Office of The Superintending Engineer Civil Circle PWD, Devpura, Haridwar

E-Mail-sepwdharidwar@gmail.com

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Engineering Consultancy Service **INVITATION NOTICE**

Letter No.: 1630/111(1)Camp/P.H./19 Dated: - 26/07/2019 Expression in Interest(EOI) for Engineering Consultancy work for Construction of Approximate 400M. span. two lane, heavy motor vehicle bridge of class AA loading over River Kali to connect Khaldhunga(India) and Sirsa(Nepal) at Indo-Nepal border in District Champawat of State Uttarakhand, India:

Description of work is as below

Preliminary and detailed survey work site selection proposal, Geo Technical Investigation, Hydrological nvestigation, Detailed Structural Design, Vetting from anyone of these Institute IIT Delhi, Mumbai, Kanpur, BHUIT Varanasi. Design of Launching Scheme, Preparation of Detailed Drawing with Proof Checking, Preparation of DPR, Preparation of Forest Land Diversion Prpposal, Obtaining NOC from any other department if necessary and also other necessary work for Engineering Consultancy Service for Construction of Approx mate 400Mtr. Span 2 lane, Class AA Loading Bridge Over River Kali to Connect Khaldhunga(India) and Sirsa(Nepal) at Indo-Nepal border in Disctrict Chanpawat of state Uttarakhand, India.

Expression of Interest(EOI) for Engineering Consultancy Service work, Design work, invited from Reputed International firms and National Firms/Organization/Joint Venture The Expression of Interest(EOI) Document/details shall be available online on PWD website https://pwd.

uk.gov.in and https://uktenders.gov.in from date 16.08.2019 at 17:00hours.

Interest(EOI) as address below or E-mail on or before 16.09.2019, 15:00hrs. and the received EOI will be opened on date 16.09.2019, 15:30hrs.

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A mob thrashed a man in Chhattarpur, Madhya Pradesh, on Saturday on suspicion of being a child-lifter.

This is the third such mob attack in the district in the past three days, an official said.

"Rakesh Khatik, 37, was going by train from Bandha to Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh. He deboarded the train for a break but was assaulted by people who thought he was a child-lifter," said Harpalpur police station official B. Sharma.

Mr. Sharma said Rakesh suffered minor injuries.

A case has been registered and efforts are on to nab those who attacked the man, said the policeman.

On Friday, a mob had beaten up a differentlyabled person in Garroli on suspicion of being a childlifter, said Inspector Rakesh Sahu. On Thursday, a differently-abled woman was assaulted in Naugaon over the same suspicion,

Odisha attempts to improve work participation under MGNREGS

State govt. to form Shramik Sanghs to ensure 65 days of employment annually

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

In light of drought-like conditions in many districts of western Odisha and distress migration of labourers appearing imminent, the government is trying to improve the average number of days of employment under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) - from 38 to 65 days.

The government has decided to mobilise all active job-card holders to form informal groups, which will be called 'Shramik Sangh'. There will be one such group for every 50 beneficiaries in each revenue village.

The move is aimed at ensuring job for each active card holder through close coordination with government officials at the block level. One member in each group will be assigned as a 'mate' and will be responsible for providing jobs to others in the sangh.

"With a mandate to arrest



Odisha is currently struggling to provide 38 days of employment annually under the scheme. • FILE РНОТО

migration and ensure effective convergence for sustainlivelihood development... we must relook at strategy for implementation [of MGNREGS]. We need to focus on active job-card holders and provide them at minimum average 70 days of wage employment," wrote Panchayati Raj secretary D.K. Singh in a letter to all collectors.

Mr. Singh said that work participation needs to be raised from 33% to 65%, and average number of days of employment from 38 days to 65 days. All collectors have been asked to ensure formation of Shramik Sangh, selection of mates, their training and meeting with government officials between August 20 and 25.

Welfare schemes

The government has also announced that it will include card holders in welfare schemes and skill upgradation schemes; and extend insurance coverage and other economic benefits to them.

In the past few years, the government has floated several strategies to arrest distress migration from Odisha's poverty-stricken districts.

A few years ago, entitlement of employment was increased from 100 days to 150 in migration-prone blocks.

"While the entitlement of employment is 100-150 days, the government is now focusing only on 70 days. The scheme says whoever demands unskilled work will be provided. There cannot be a selective target. There is also no strategy to end late payment of wages. Delay in payment is one of the key factors in people distancing themselves from MGNREGS," said Umi Daniel, an expert on migration issues.

"To arrest seasonal migration, there should be seasonal targets for providing employment during lean period such as drought, which is looming over Odisha," he said, adding that even 10 years after MGNREGS, Odisha was struggling to provide average 38 days of em-

Activists in Assam slam NGT for 'nod' to 2,000 MW dam

Work on Subansiri lower dam was stopped following protests

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT GUWAHATI

Anti-dam organisations in Assam have slammed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) for virtually paving the way for a mega dam that was left incomplete in 2011.

The NGT had earlier this week dismissed petitions seeking reconstitution of a six-member expert committee that they claimed was biased towards environment-threatening big dams.

Former All Assam Students' Union (AASU) leader Tularam Gogoi, and president of NGO Assam Public Works Aabhijit Sarma had filed the petitions.

Anti-dam groups said that the dismissal of the pleas was a move by the Centre to resume work on the 2000 MW Lower Subansiri Hydropower Project (LSHP) at Gerukamukh on the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border.

The National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) had started work on the project in 2009 but had to stop after a series of protests by local



The Lower Subansiri Hydropower Project is being built on the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border. • FILE РНОТО

The NHPC officials said they have been losing ₹10 crore daily since 2011 because of non-completion of the project that was more than 65% through.

work remained The stalled as protests have not allowed transportation of turbines and other construction materials to the site in north-eastern Assam.

Legality of committee

"The Centre had formed a six-member panel to study the project and give a report. Three of the members, who are from Assam, dissuaded construction in an earthquake-prone area. The three other members endorsed

the project. Following this, the Centre formed another panel with members from the government. This committee's legality was thus challenged," said Akhil Gogoi, leader of Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti that has been opposed to the dam.

"The people of Assam will not accept the NGT order. How can a committee with questionable legality submit a report, based on which an expert appraisal panel approve environment clearance," he asked.

The AASU said the Centre should first ensure the safety and security of the people living downstream of the dam before giving its nod.

Locals build cell phone tower for connectivity

SATYASUNDAR BARIK

BHUBANESWAR Tired of climbing trees and trekking hills for better mobile connectivity, locals in Odisha's Kandhamal district have erected a tower for cash-strapped BSNL, the State-run telecom service provider, to instal its signal

system. The residents of 20 villages under Dadaki panchayat of Phulbani block now look forward to uninterrupted connectivity in their homes

for the first time. Cell phone connectivity has been missing in Dadaki panchayat, located barely 10 km from the district headquarter town of Phulbani, even two decades after introduction of cell phone servic-

es in the State. Protests demanding connectivity were often rebuffed by State government officials on the grounds that the issue fell under the jurisdiction of telecom service providers.

During one such agitation earlier this year, Phulbani BDO Subrat Kumar Jena held informal discussions with BSNL officials and asked them to spell out their basic requirement to operational-



The tower has been built with unused pipes.

■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

ise a mobile tower. Although BSNL had Micro BTS, which can transmit signals, it did not have enough funds to erect a tower.

"I asked BSNL officials whether a tower could be built from unused and rusted tubewell pipes. Upon getting the green signal, I told the residents," said Mr. Jena.

People readily offered their labour to construct the tower. "We provided uninterrupted power supply from the panchayat office to the tower by purchasing inverters," said Mr. Jena.

"We found the tower handy for installation of a lowpower signal station," said **BSNL Sub-Divisional Officer** R.K. Behera. The tower could last for

the next three to four years.

Move to name varsity after

Akalis want govt. to revoke decision

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

CHANDIGARH The decision to name a proposed sports university in Punjab as 'Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Sports and Science University', after Chief Minister Amarinder Singh's

sharp criticism. The Shiromani Akali Dal

A senator of Panjab University, professor Čhaman Lal, has also criticised the move, saying that prefixing "Maharaja" to the name of the university was against the spirit of Constitution.

Urging the government to revoke the decision, SAD leader Prem Singh Chandumajra demanded that the upcoming sports university in Patiala district be named 'Chotte Sahibzade Baba Zoravar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh Punjab Sports Univer-

The decision to name the ongoing monsoon session.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

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West Central Railway, Kota

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ई—प्रोक्युर्मन्ट सेल

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Ranchi Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minorities, and OBC Welfare Department

Expression of Interest

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Ranchi invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested Universities (all colleges)/ Department of Universities/ Govt. Organization/ Educational Institute/ Research Institute/NGOs for undertaking a Research Project of TRI, Ranchi during the year 2019-20

TOPIC: Study of History of Singhbhum from Ancient to British Period. Interested agencies are hereby requested to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) duly forwarded by registrar of universities {applicable Universities (all colleges)/ Department of Universities only} along with technical bid giving relevant details of the organization necessary for evaluating the competencies on or before 19 /08 2019 till 4.00 P.M. The price should be all-inclusive of (all requisite statutory taxes, if applicable) and not

The intending agencies may submit their bid in a sealed envelope clearly written in BOLD "A TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR TOPIC: Study of History of Singhbhum from Ancient to British Period. on or before the due date. (Please specify the name of the concerned work)" written on the top of the envelope. These envelopes are to be addressed to the Director, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Morabadi,

Ranchi-834008. TRI will not be responsible for delay in transits or damages or loss of tender docu Technical Bid will be opened on 21/08/2019 at 2.00PM in the office of the Director, TRI, Ranchi.

Only those agencies which fulfill technical criteria will be considered for the presentation of the project. Terms of Reference (ToR) and other details can be obtained from the office of the TRI on any working day during ffice hour to meet concerned Nodal person and the same can also be downloaded from the website www.prdjharkhand.in or through E-mail tri.directorate@gmail.com by specifying the topic & details of Institution / Organization Interested.

TRI, Ranchi reserves all rights to accept or reject all or any of the EOI's at any stage without assigning any reasons.TRI, Ranchi also reserves the right to engage/impanel one or more firm depending or

PR 213518 Welfare (19-20)_D

जिसे अब तक ना समझे, वो कहानी हूँ मैं, मुझे बर्बाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।

Director

A ND-NDE

Government of Jharkhand Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Ranchi and OBC Welfare Department

Ref no. 869 Expression of Interest Ranchi, Dated 02.08.2019 Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Ranchi invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested Universities (all colleges)/ Department of Universities/ Govt. Organization/ Educational Institute/Research Institute/NGOs for undertaking a Research Project of TRI, Ranchi

during the year 2019-20:

TOPIC: Study on the Tribal Dynasties in India Special reference of Madhya Pradesh, North East,

*Jharkhand, Bihar, Maharashtra etc.*Interested agencies are hereby requested to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) duly forwarded by registrar of universities {applicable Universities (all colleges)/ Department of Universities only} along with technical bid giving relevant details of the organization necessary for evaluating the competencies on or before 19 /08/2019 till 4.00 P.M. The price should be all inclusive of (all

requisite statutory taxes, if applicable) and not open-ended. e intending agencies may submit their bid in a sealed envelope clearly written in BOLD "A TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR TOPIC: Study on the Tribal Dynasties in India Special reference of Madhya Pradesh, North East, Jharkhand, Bihar, Maharashtra etc. on or before the due date. (Please specify the name of the concerned work)" written on the top of the envelope. These envelopes are to be addressed to the Director, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Morabadi, Ranchi-834008. TRI will not be responsible for delay in

transits or damages or loss of tender document sent by post.
Technical Bid will be opened on 21/08/2019 at 2.00 PM in the office of the Director, TRI, Ranchi. Only those agencies which fulfill technical criteria will be considered for the presentation of the

project. Terms of Reference (ToR) and other details can be obtained from the office of the TRI on any working day during office hour to meet concerned Nodal person and the same can also be downloaded from the website www.prdiharkhand.in or through E-mail tri.directorate@gmail.com by specifying the topic & details of Institution / Organization Interested.

TRI, Ranchi reserves all rights to accept or reject all or any of the EOI's at any stage without assigning any reasons. TRI, Ranchi also reserves the right to engage/empanel one or more firm depending on requirements. Sd/-

बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे PR213522 (Welfare)19-20*D

Government of Jharkhand

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, Ranchi Schedule Tribe, Schedule Caste, Minorities, and OBC Welfare Department

Expression of Interest Ranchi, Dated 02.08.2019

Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Ranchi invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested *Universities (all colleges)/ Department of Universities/ Govt. Organization/ Educational Institute/ Research Institute/ NGOs* for undertaking a Research Project of TRI, Ranchi during the year 2019-20

TOPIC: A Study on the Tribal History of Rajmahal (Sahebganj District) as a gateway of Bengal and other aspects from the ancient period to the British period.

Interested agencies are hereby requested to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) duly forwarded by registrar of universities {applicable Universities (all colleges)/ Department of Universities only} along with technical bid giving relevant details of the organization necessary for evaluating the competencies on or before 19/08/2019 till 4.00 P.M. The price should be all-inclusive of (all requisite statutory taxes, if applicable) and not open-ended.

The intending agencies may submit their bid in a sealed envelope clearly written in BOLD "A TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR <u>TOPIC</u>: <u>A Study on the Tribal History of Rajmahal (Sahebganj</u> District) as a gateway of Bengal and other aspects from the ancient period to the British period.
on or before the due date. (Please specify the name of the concerned work)" written on the top of the envelope. These envelopes are to be addressed to the Director, Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute (TRI), Morabadi, Ranchi-834008. TRI will not be responsible for

delay in transits or damages or loss of tender document sent by post. Technical Bid will be opened on 21/08/2019 at 2.00 PM in the office of the Director, TRI, Ranchi. Only those agencies which fulfill technical criteria will be considered for the presentation of the project.

Terms of Reference (ToR) and other details can be obtained from the office of the TRI on any working

day during office hour to meet concerned Nodal person and the same can also be downloaded from

the website www.prdjharkhand.in or through E-mail tri.directorate@gmail.com by specifying the tonic & details of Institution / Organization Interested. TRI, Ranchi reserves all rights to accept or reject all or any of the EOI's at any stage without assigning any reasons.TRI, Ranchi also reserves the right to engage/impanel one or more firm

depending on requirements. बूंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे PR 213523 (Welfare)19-20*D Director

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT WATER WAYS DIVISION, KHUNTI Corrigendum

e-procurement Notice

The following correction has been done in the above eprocurement notice published by water ways division, khunti with e-procurement Reference no. EEWWD NIT No. 1 khunti and PR No.-212305 (Water Resource) 19-20

5. Date of opening Tender: 17.08.2019 at 12:30 PM Other terms and condition will remain unchanged.

Khunti

के रूप में अघोहस्ताक्षरी के नाम से मोहरबंद निविदाएं पुनः आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। मैस कार्यकर्ताओं के वेतन सहित बेक फास्ट, लंच, सांयकालीन चाय तथा डिनर की दरों को अंकित करते हुए समाचार पत्रों में विज्ञापन प्रकाशित होने कि तिथि से सात दिन के अंदर दोपहर 4 बजे तक अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय में पंहुच जानी चाहिए। निविदा जमा करवाने से पहले निविदा के नियम एवं शर्ते अघोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती हैं। निविदा कॉलेज के विशेष फार्म पर ही स्वीकृत की

मोहरबंद निविदाएं प्रिंसिपल के कार्यालय में ठेकेदारों की उपस्थिति में 13.08. 2019 मंगलवार प्रातः 11 बजे खोली जाएगी।

प्रावार्थ

e-procurement Reference no. EEWWDNIT No. 1 khunti 1. Name of Work: P.C.C. Lining and Renovation of earthen canal of Tajna Barrage and Irrigation scheme.

ब्दंद – बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे Water Ways Division, **Executive Engineer**

PR 213497 (Water Resource)19-20*D

निविदा सूचना

सत्र 2019-20 हेतु अनुमवी ठेकेदारों से निविदा फॉर 'होस्टल मैस कांटेक्ट' जाएगी।

राजकीय कन्या महाविद्यालय रोक्टर-18, रेवाड़ी

CM's grandfather stirs row

grandfather has evoked

on Saturday accused the Congress Ministers in the Punjab Cabinet of sycophancy for suggesting that the university be named after the grandfather of Capt. Singh.

sity', after the younger sons of the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh.

university after the Capt. Singh's grandfather was taken by the majority of Ministers, overruling the Chief Minister's objections, during the Cabinet meeting held earlier this week. The Cabinet also gave its nod to the tabling of the Punjab Sports University legislation in the

मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, १०२, ब्रितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी शेंड, शंची ई- निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई-- निविदा संख्या:- 77/2019-20/RDD(RWA)/JAMSHEDPUR दिनांक :- 02.08.2019 मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रा०का०मा०), झारखंड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार eprocurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ब्रामीण विकास विभाग (ब्रा0का0मामले)

आईडेन्टी फिकेशन संख्या/पैकेज कार्य समाप्ति अंक में 1,55,54,300.00 हजार तीन सौ रू0 मात्र 12 माह JAMSHEDPUR/06/ 2019-20 कार्य (लं- 2.300 कि0मी0)

2. वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि

:- 14.08.2019

3. ई—निविदा प्राप्ति की अतिम तिथि एव समय :— 26.08.2019 अपराहन 5.00 बजे । 4 जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, रांची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, शपथ पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि :- 27.08.2019 पूर्वाहन 10.00 बजे से अपराहन 3.30 बजे तक I

. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- 28.08.2019 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे I 6. निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:— मुख्य अभियता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रा०का०मामले), झारखंड, राची, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, राची।

ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0 :- 0651-2207818 8. निविदा शुल्क भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रा०का०मामले), कार्य प्रमंडल, जमशेदपुर के पक्ष में भुगतेय होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा। नोडल पदाधिकारी

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है | P.R.213511 Rural Work Department(19-20):D बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंग

झारखंड सरकार ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रा०का०मामले) मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, कचहरी रोड, रांची

ई- निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ई-- निविदा संख्या:- 76/2019-20/RDD(RWA)/DUMKA दिनांक: 02.08.2019 मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग(ग्रा०का०मा०), झारखंड, राँची द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement

पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। आईडेन्टी फिकेशन कार्य का नाम प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में) सं0 संख्या / पैकेज समाप्ति दो करोड़ अठाईस लाख RDD(RWA) चिगलपहाडी से उपरबहाल 2,28,54,800.00 तक पथ का सुदृढ़ीकरण कार्य चौवन हजार 12 माह 2019-20

(ल- 7.100 कि0मी0) वेबसाईट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि:— 14.08.2019

निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय:— 28.08.2019 पूर्वाह्न 11.30 बजे ।

PR 213513 (Rural Work Department)19-20#D

ई—निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समयः— 26.08.2019 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे । जिला नियंत्रण कक्ष, रांची में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रधन की राशि, शपथ पत्र के मूल प्रति एवं अपलोड किये गये तकनीकी योग्यता दस्तावेज की एक प्रति जमा करने की तिथि:— 27.08.2019 पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से अपराह्न 3.30 बजे तक **।**

निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पताः— मुख्य अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रा०का०मामले), झारखंड, रांची, 102, द्वितीय तल्ला, अभियंत्रण भवन, रांची ।

ई—निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0— 0651—2207818 निविदा शुल्क भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा निर्गत बैंक ड्राफ्ट के रूप में कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विभाग (ग्रा०का०मामले), कार्य प्रमंडल, दुमका के पक्ष में भुगतेय होगा जो लौटाया नहीं जायेगा। विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

बूंद - बूंद नहीं बरतेंगे तो बूंद को तरसेंगे

हरियाणा सरकार **CORRIGENDUM NOTICE** OLD REFERENCE/NI NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL MEMO. No. & DATE NAME OF DEPARTMENT PUBLIC HEALTH 5261 DATED14-0 6989-96 dated e1gohana@phedharyana.gov.ir & ee1gohana@amail.com TIME EXTENDED DUE TO NON PARTICIPTATION OF ANY BIDDER: IN 5TH CALLHORTICULTURE 2019_HRY_78706_ CANCELLATION OF E-TENDER dt.30/07/201 CONSTRUCTION OF SINGLE SPAN STEEL BRIDGE AT RD 18820 NARWANA BRANCH AND RD 8.315 KM OF SYL CANAL AND RCC BRIDGE AT RD 4431 OF SYL PARALLEL DRAIN THE DATE AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF ONLINE TENDER IN EXTENDED UPTO 16.02 2010 AT 41310 PUISS INSTEAD DE COLO 2010 AT 41300 IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AMBALA TENDER NOT UPLOADED DUE TO TECHNICAL REASONS. PWD B&R NARAINGARH https://etenders.hry.nic.in FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/lable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

CM YK



THE HINDU

DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of

PRDH-77985

Motorcycle ride to mourn CCD founder's death

More than 50 riders, including members of Riders Republic Motorcycle Club on Sunday, will be paying a tribute to Cafe Coffee Day founder V.G. Siddhartha by undertaking a 400 km ride from Bengaluru to Penukonda, Andhra Pradesh. They plan to stop at important CCD outlets to remember and honour the late coffee baron.

Salary of BSNL staff in Kerala delayed

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM For the first time ever, the salary of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. employees in Kerala has been delayed. Though leaders of employees unions have reached out to top officials, no convincing explanation or an expected date of payment of the salary for July has come forth.

IAS officer held for scribe's death in accident I want to step back,

Inebriated Kerala officer rammed victim's motorbike; at least three eyewitnesses identified him

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANTHAPURAM

The Kerala police on Saturday arrested high-profile IAS officer Sriram Venkitaraman on the charge of alcohol-impaired, reckless driving resulting in the death of K.M. Basheer, a journalist.

The car allegedly driven by 33-year-old Mr. Venkitaraman slammed Basheer's motorbike in front of the Public Office Complex around 1 a.m. The victim, bureau chief at the Malayalam newspaper Siraj, was flung off his bike and killed almost instantly.

Returning from party

Mr. Venkitaraman was reportedly returning from a party and was accompanied by a woman friend. He was arrested from a private hospital, where the police had admitted him after the accident, and charged under Section 279 (rash driving)





Crash and controversy: IAS officer Sriram Venkitaraman, and right, the motorbike of Muhammed Basheer at the accident site. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

and 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of

An officer said an attempt by the IAS officer to blame the accident on his co-passenger had perhaps compelled the woman to depose against him.

In her statement to a local magistrate, the woman said she had picked up Mr. Venkitaraman after a party at a private club in Kowdiar and

export the systems and

hoped that by 2025 it will see

appreciable growth. Indian

defence architecture and

principles were based on

"restraint, balance and then

get offensive". This was also

he had insisted on taking the wheel though she had cautioned him that he was

At least three eyewitnesses identified him as the driver. An examination indicated a blood alcohol concentration above the legal limit, officers said.

Mr. Venkitaraman, a medical doctor and Fulbright scholar, was feted by the media as an anti-encroachment crusader when he was subcollector, Devikulam. However, his actions pitted him against the political leadership and he was transferred. He took a sabbatical from government service for higher studies and went on to earn a master's in Public Health from Harvard.

He was due to take charge as Director, Surveys and Land Records, on Monday. (With PTI inputs)

Outcry over police 'inaction'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala police have come in for criticism for not investigating the driver of the car that killed journalist K.M. Basheer, immediately after the accident.

Some eyewitnesses said

the officers who showed up at the spot failed to photograph or videograph the accident scene or collect evidence. The officers are reported to have taken the driver away in a police van to the General Hospital without questioning him at the spot. They did not immediately identify him or record his statement, and also did not promptly record the accounts of at least three persons who had witnessed the accident.

says Kumaraswamy

'Politics today is not for good people'

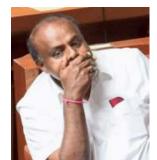
PRESS TRUST OF INDIA BENGALURU

Over a week after his coalition government collapsed, former Karnataka Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy said on Saturday that he wants to "step back" from politics.

Expressing unhappiness at the current state of politics, the JD(S) leader said it was dominated by hatred and caste. "Today's politics is not for good people," he

"The way certain feelings are instigated in people by a section, the way youth today are deviating from their path... Can I correct all these? Only God knows," Mr. Kumaraswamy said.

Speaking to reporters at Hassan, he said "Don't bring my family into this repeatedly. I don't intend to cling to politics... looking at to-



H.D. Kumaraswamy

day's politics, I would like to to step back from it.... I came into politics accidentally, I became Chief Minister accidentally...."

Mr. Kumaraswamy rejected reports that his son Nikhil Kumaraswamy was likely to be the JD(S) candidate from K.R. Pet, where byelection is necessitated following the disqualification of rebel party Narayanagowda.

'Govt. for modernisation of armed forces'

Rajnath says focus will be on indigenously developed weapons systems

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The government is committed to modernisation of armed forces and most of it will be done through indigenously developed weapons systems. Only when there is dire need will import be resorted to, said Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday.

Participating in the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) at Kanchanbagh, Mr. Singh lauded the public sector unit for producing close to one lakh missiles for the armed forces in the last few decades. "The government is committed to indigenous development of weapons



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh handing over the MRSAM missile model to Air Force's Vice-Chief Air Marshal R.K.S. Bhadauria in Hyderabad on Saturday. • NAGARA GOPAL

systems for self-reliance and also to tackle unemployment and promote entrepreneurship. So there will be more orders coming to BDL," he

The government is keen to

reflected in missile names of Prithvi, Agni, Nag, he said. He contrasted it with Pakistan missiles such as Ghauri, Ghani and so on, named after invaders which indicated aggressive' intent.

'The challenge for defence scientists is now to make hypersonic missiles and comprehensive air defence systems," he added.

BDL Chairman and Managing Director Commodore Siddharth Mishra, disclosed that the firm was working on 'Amogh' missile with own R&D on a small scale.

It also makes Prithvi and Akash as part of Missile Development Programme in partnership with 1,500 ven-

Telugu students shifted out of NIT Srinagar

They has sent messages to TRS working president seeking help to get back home

R. RAVIKANTH REDDY

Around 135 Telugu students, including 30 girls, pursuing B.Tech course at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, were shifted from the city on Saturday and are likely to reach New Delhi by bus late in the night.

The students had sought help from the authorities in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Earlier in the day, several students from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh sent messages to Telangana Rashtra Samiti working president K.T. Rama Rao seeking help to leave the campus in view of rumours that the Central government may take a



Mounting tension: NIT students leaving the campus in Srinagar on Saturday. • NISSAR AHMAD

'huge' decision on Kashmir, leading to possible violence in the Valley. The rumours were further fuelled by a reported advisory from the government to NIT to suspend classes. Telangana Chief Secretary S.K. Joshi also spoke to the Telangana officials in New Delhi and asked them to

dents. Meanwhile, the Telangana BJP leaders said the students were in touch with them and the Union Minister of State for Home, G. Kishan Reddy, personally directed the officials to help the students after they sought assistance. Nizamabad MP Arvind

coordinate with the stu-

Dharmapuri and Karimnagar MP Bandi Sanjay were coordinating the safe return of students, a message from the BJP said.

Three NIT students Shriya, Jayanth and Ratna Sagar, who were in touch with the officials, said the classwork was suspended and they were asked to leave in view of the "volatile situation".

+ Birthday fete photos in prison go viral

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Dharwad Central Prison is in the news for the wrong reason after photographs that reportedly showed the birthday celebrations of a history-sheeter in the prison went viral on social media recently.

In the photographs, Ganesh Jadhav, a historysheeter, is seen cutting a cake in jail along with other undertrials. What is surprising is that the undertrials had photographed the celebrations and posted them on social media.

On an earlier occasion, during a raid at the prison, narcotics, arms and cellphones were seized. Subsequently, mobile jammers and CCTV cameras were fixed at the prison. However, the latest incident has exposed the state of surveillance and security at the prison.

Classic touch



Old and beautiful: A bullet nose Studebaker displayed at the vintage car show in Udhagamandalam, Tamil Nadu. Eighty cars were displayed in the show organised by the Nilgiri Vintage Car and Classic Cars Association on Saturday. • M. SATHYAMOORTHY

Sudden increase in water level hampers relief in Godavari districts

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A sudden increase in the water levels hampered relief and rescue operations in about 70 villages in East and West Godavari districts that have been marooned by waters of the Godavari on Saturday.

Inflow into the river increased by over 4 lakh cusecs in 24 hours. From 7,04,439 cusecs at 6 p.m. on Friday it rose to 11,10,953 cusecs at 7 p.m. on Saturday and the level is continuing to

Irrigation authorities had declared the first warning level after the flood at the Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowleswaram crossed the 10 lakh cusecs mark.

Officials found it a daunting task to distribute drinking water and other essential commodities to over 33 habitations in Devipatnam mandal that have been marooned for the past four

Passion for farming made her a YouTube sensation



Taking stock: Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pilli Subash Chandra Bose visiting flood-affected villages in East Godavari district on Saturday. • s. RAMBABU

days. Officials who went, or attempted to go, from one marooned village to another against the current said that the slightest miscalculation would have resulted in their boats capsizing in the rushing flood waters.

A flood of 8 lakh cusecs was recorded at Polavaram with water flowing two metres over the Crest Level of the half finished spillway at 7 p.m. on Saturday. As many as 34 habitations in Polavaram Mandal of West Godavari district have been marooned for the past four

The first warning was declared at Bhadrachalam after the flood level crossed 43 feet late on Friday night. The flood level in the river at the temple town was 46.40 feet at 7 p.m.

Kurukshetra to hit screens in five languages on August 9

The film, based on Mahabharata, tells the story of 18-day war

"People who have seen

K.V. ADITYA BHARADWAJ

BENGALURU The much awaited Kurukshetra, Kannada film based on the Mahabharata, with a multilingual ensemble cast led by Darshan will hit the screens in five languages (all south Indian languages and Hindi) on August 9. This will be the second Kannada film to have a national release after KGF Chapter 1 in 2018.

While there have been many lavishly mounted period films, such as Padmaavat, Bajirao Mastani or the Bahubali franchise in the past few years, a mythological is a rarity. Kurukshetra, in the making for over two years now, seems inspired by the Bahubali franchise.

the film are saying it's like Bahubali, the scale and making of it," producer Munirathna said. "To add to the scale, it is in 3D. Seeing a mythological in 3D is a different experience," he said. The film was shot twice once in 2D and later in 3D dragging the shoot for over 230 days, said director Naganna.

Scripted by G.K. Bharavi of hit Telugu period films like Annamayya and Kannada lyricist V. Nagendra Prasad, the film tells the story of the 18-day war from the perspective of the eldest Kaurava, Suyodhana, a role essayed by Mr. Darshan.

"I played the role of San-

golli Rayanna earlier. Playing a mythological role was challenging. My training at Ninasam came to my aid," Mr. Darshan said. The film also happens to be the last of actor Ambareesh, who plays Bhishma. A surprise casting has been V. Ravichandran as Krishna. The film also stars Arjun Sarja as Karna, Sonu Sood as Arjuna, Sneha as Draupadi, Danish Akthar Saifi of Jai Hanuman fame as Bhima. Actor Nikhil K. plays the role of Abhimanyu.

delivery," said Mr. Naganna.

"We gave the actors a bound script months before we began shooting and did a workshop, where they were given an orientation of the body language and dialogue

Annie Yujin was felicitated as one of the most prolific Malayalam content creators on farming M.P. PRAVEEN

It was in 2012 that Annie Yujin uploaded all her amateur pictures and photographs on plants and farming on YouTube.

A simple piece of advice from her elder brother Yujin Bobby, who runs a web-designing and hosting firm, to protect her farming photos and videos from a hard disk breakdown was what brought her aboard the video-streaming website. An encouraging comment

under one of those videos motivated Ms. Yujin to take her hobby more seriously. Seven years down the line, Ms. Yujin, who lives with her husband Stephen and son Stefin at Vytilla, is now a celebrity. Her YouTube channel on farming, 'Krishi Lo-



YouTube channel 'Krishi Lokam'

kam' has a subscription base of more than three lakhs. And YouTube recently felicitated her in the city as one of the most prolific Malayalam content creators on farming.

"It was a huge surprise and my first impulse was to turn down the invitation

from YouTube as it also featured an interaction with the media," said Ms. Yujin. "I

was always in love with plants and farming but never in my wildest of dreams did I imagine that it would one day bring me such recognition." From posting short videos shot in an amateurish way in the past, she has now moved on to lengthier videos, shot and edited in a much more professional way, with the help of editing software and a better camera.

Subscribers' suggestions Ms. Yujin now posts once in

two days and the topic is often dictated by the suggestions made by her legion of subscribers in the comments section of her channel. "The posts are mostly about farming and visits to farms and interactions with farmers. Till now, such visits were restricted to the immediate neighbourhood of my husband's home at Angamaly, where we stay during weekends. Now I want to expand the scope of such visits and help farmers earn better income through my channel," said Ms. Yujin. That her husband is also passionate about farming helped her.

She would have dedicated more time to her passion had she not been entrusted with running her brother's office in Kochi since he suffers from muscular dystrophy.

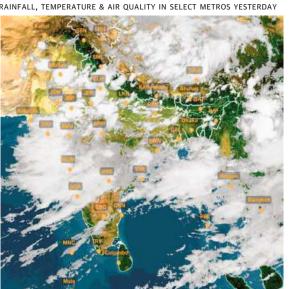
But that has not stopped her from running another YouTube channel - Tips for Happy Life - which commands over six lakh subscribers.

scribers than Krishi Lokam, YouTube finds the former as more unique since popular Malayalam content on farming is rare. Ms. Yujin now earns a

Though it has more sub-

sizeable income as YouTube shares 55% of the ad revenue with the content creator.

WEATHER WATCH



Forecast for Sunday: Heavy to very heavy rain likely at isolated places over Goa, central Maharashtra, Guiarat, east Raiasthan, Odisha, Kerala, coastal Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MI
Agartala		32.2	26.2	Kozhikode	7.7	33.5	26.
Ahmedabad	1.4	31.1	26.2	Kurnool	12	27.1	23.
\izawl	30	28.7	20.7	Lucknow	2.2	35.6	27.
Allahabad		35.9	28.1	Madurai		40.0	26.
Bengaluru		28.8	20.8	Mangaluru		31.2	26.
Bhopal	2	28.4	24.0	Mumbai	133.9	26.7	24.
Bhubaneswar	6.6	30.2	25.4	Mysuru		28.3	20.
Chandigarh	7.1	32.9	26.0	New Delhi		32.9	27.
Chennai		33.0	27.9	Patna	0.2	36.2	28.
Coimbatore		33.0	24.5	Port Blair	10.8	29.0	22.
Dehradun	6.3	31.4	23.7	Puducherry		34.0	25.
Gangtok	27.2	21.2	18.0	Pune	20.4	26.8	21.
30a	22.8	29.1	24.2	Raipur	9.4	26.7	23.
Guwahati	2.2	36.0	26.2	Ranchi	6.4	30.7	23.
Hubballi		22.0	21.0	Shillong	18.4	26.6	17.
Hyderabad	48	25.7	22.1	Shimla	0.4	22.4	16.
mphal		30.1	22.4	Srinagar		29.4	19.
laipur	0.4	33.2	25.1	Thiruvananthapurar	n 1	32.0	25.
(ochi		30.0	26.4	Tiruchi		37.0	27.
Kohima	60.2	25.2	15.5	Vijayawada	10.1	31.6	24.
Kolkata	4.3	33.2	26.9	Visakhapatnam		29.0	26.
Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)							

Pollutants in the air you are breathing							
CITIES	SO ₂	NO_2	co	PM2.5	PM10	CODE	
Ahmedabad	50	.34	.70	77	.115		
Bengaluru	8	.49	.46	28	65		
Chennai	6	.64	.58	95			
Delhi	19	.56	.30	70	.193		
Hyderabad	3	.33	.29	10	14		
Kolkata	3	.28	.56	28	29		
Lucknow	4	.23	.50	101			
Mumbai	16	.17	102	54	28		
Pune	74	8	.67	10	10		

4.00 p.m., Jodhpur, Rajasthan recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 218 Visakhapatnam 16 .51 .5933 ...46

Air Quality Code: 📕 Poor 📕 Moderate 📕 Good (Readings indicate average AQI) 502: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system

Yesterday

making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues NO2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by

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

nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Seven Maoists killed in Chhattisgarh

Rifles, other weapons recovered

STAFF REPORTER

Seven Maoists were gunned by the police on Saturday in Rajnandgaon district of Chhattisgarh.

Based on intelligence inputs, District Reserve Guard (DRG) personnel, part of a special operations team of the Rajnandgaon police, around 7 a.m. attacked 40 Maoists in Sailpar forest in Sitagota village, close to the Maharashtra border, said Deputy Inspector General (Anti-Maoist Operations)

Sundarraj P. "One AK-47, a .303 rifle, a 315 bore rifle and quite a lot of muzzleloading weapons have been recovered," he said.

Two personnel suffered minor injuries and were out of danger. Bodies of the slain Maoists were yet to be identified.

On July 28, seven Maoists were killed at Tiriya in Bastar district by a DRG and special task force team. A day later, two Maoists were killed at Kanneguda in Suk-

Heavy rain brings Mumbai to its knees, again

Commuters were the worst-hit as rail, road and air travel came to a halt

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Incessant rain that lashed the city since Friday night threw life out of gear again. Commuters on the central railway line were the worst affected, while other forms of commute, too, witnessed

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recorded 52.2 mm rainfall at the Colaba observatory and 83.8 mm at the Santacruz observatory till 8.30 p.m. on Saturday. The city witnessed 35.67 mm rainfall, while the eastern and western suburbs recorded 64.88 mm and 68.20 mm rainfall respectively. The Corporation declared a holiday for all public and private schools in light of the rain.

The Mithi swelled in size, crossing the "danger mark" of 3 m and going up to 3.3 m on Saturday afternoon. The authorities evacuated hundreds of people from the Kranti Nagar area in Kurla as a precautionary measure.

The rains had a direct effect on commuters with rail, road and air travel being affected. A spokesperson for the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport said delays of up to 38 minutes in arriving flights and up to 49 minutes for departures were observed on Saturday, but no flights were cancelled.

Civic officials said the Mithi crossing the danger mark, combined with the high tide of 4.9 m, resulted in severe waterlogging on the tracks between the Kurla and Sion stations.

Trains suspended

Train services were completely suspended from 1.55 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., after which trains were run up to Kurla and from Dadar to the Chhatrapati Shivaii Maharai Terminus, before services could limp back to normal. Several trains stopped midway and commuters, after waiting for over two hours, started jumping off the trains and walking on the tracks till they reached the nearest railway station.

The Western line did not witness much delays. However, on the Harbour line, a part of the footover bridge between Chembur and Govandi stations collapsed on the overhead wires, resulting in services being suspended till 6.32 p.m.

Water logging was recorded in Sion, Wadala, Chembur, Vidyavihar and Ghatkopar in the central and eastern suburbs, and in the Andheri subway, Milan subway, Meghwadi, National College, Bandra, Akriti Mall, Andheri, and Reliance Junction in Borivali in the western suburbs.

Traffic at King's Circle, Antop Hill, Hindmata junction, Samajmandir Hall, Pratiksha Nagar, Vihar lake, Sheetal Cinema, Kurla, Oberoi junction, Malad and several oth-



In line: Aircraft waiting in queue for taking off at the Mumbai airport on Saturday. Heavy rain lashed Mumbai, Thane and Palghar districts on Saturday. • VIJAY BATE

Four students drown in Pandavkada

STAFF REPORTER NAVI MUMBAI

Four students, including three from SIES, Nerul, drowned in the Pandavkada waterfalls near Kharghar on Saturday. Three bodies were recovered by rescue workers before search operations were called off for the day.

For seven students, a last-minute plan to bunk college and go on a picnic turned into a tragedy when three girls drowned. Workers recovered the bodies of Aarti Nair, 18, and Shweta Nand, 18, while a search is on for Neha Dama.

South Gujarat battered by heavy rain

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT AHMEDABAD

After Vadodara, it's now the turn of Surat and other southern Gujarat districts to be battered, prompting the State administration to deploy an NDRF team in Bharuch and shift people from vulnerable locations as extremely heavy rain is predicted.

Due to water-logging, the administration has shifted 2,649 people from Valsad, Surat, Anand, Bharuch and Vadodara districts till Saturday evening.

In less than six hours on Saturday, Olpad taluka in Surat received 298 mm of rain while Umerpada got 204 mm, and Dharampur in Valsad district received 125 mm rainfall.

Mangrol in Surat received 269 mm rainfall in the 24 hours till 8 a.m. on Saturday, as per the State Emergency Operation Centre data. The downpour resulted in several areas getting water-logged and the Kim and Auranga rivers flowing near the danger mark, officials said.



Unlikely visitor: A crocodile being rescued by an NDRF team from Vadodara, Gujarat on Saturday. • ANI

'Martyrs week' passes off peacefully this year

Security personnel continued strikes on their hideouts

SIDHARTH YADAV

Maoists organised a 'martyrs week', an annual drive to entice tribal youths into joining their ranks, but there were no incidents of violence, said the police.

In Chhattisgarh, despite the monsoon, the security forces continued striking at their hideouts and deploy ing personnel along highways in Bastar, Dantewada, Bijapur, Sukma, Kondagaon, Narayanpur, Kanker and Rajnandgaon districts between July 28 and August 3.

"The week went off peacefully," said Deputy Inspector General (Anti-Naxal operations), Chhattisgarh, Sundarraj P. "For the past three years, we've made it a



Annual call: A banner commemorating Maoists killed in encounters put up during the Martyrs Week in Balaghat.

point to operate in sensitive areas despite the monsoon or the week. Around 15 Maoists were killed during the week. However, there is no correlation between the killings and the week."

In Balaghat district, Maoists distributed pamphlets glorying Leelabai Markam, alias Jamuna, killed in an encounter on March 19

Abhishek Tiwari, Balaghat SP, said, "In the past few years, no recruitments happened in Balaghat, which has only four-five members. They highlight 'wrongdoings' against tribal people to entice youth to join them."

M.P. peon hits students, gets suspension

ASIAN NEWS INTERNATIONAL

A peon posted at a government school in Katni was suspended on Friday after a video showing him mercilessly thrashing students inside the classroom in the presence of a teacher went viral on social media.

"A video of this incident was brought to our notice. The peon has been suspended with immediate effect," said R.S. Patel, assistant education officer.

The peon, identified as Jai Prakash Mishra, is seen in the video sitting on a bench and the students huddled on the floor in

Assam man gets death penalty for killing friend

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A local court on Saturday awarded the death penalty to a man convicted of murdering his girlfriend, who was a Class 12 topper, 20

The court also sentenced the man's mother, Kamla Devi, and sister Bhawani to

life imprisonment for abetting him in the murder of Shweta Agarwal on December 4, 2017. The trio was convicted on July 30.

Shweta was found dead at the house of Govind Singhal, her boyfriend.

After investigation, the police concluded that Sing-

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOOD PROCESSING TECHNOLOG Ministry of Food Processing Industries Government of India Pudukkottai Road, Thanjavur - 613 005. Tel. 04362-228155 Email: director@iifpt.edu.in The Walk-in-Interview for the Post of <mark>Adjunct Faculty/SRF/JRF</mark> which is scheduled or

Odisha delta site is 3,600 years old

Remains reveal rural settlement with proto-sun worship, domesticated cattle

SATYASUNDAR BARIK BHUBANESWAR

The Archaeological Survey of India, which had discovered ancient artefacts and grain during excavations at Bharati Huda in Jallarpur village in Odisha's Cuttack district last year, said a rural settlement had thrived at the site about 3600 years ago.

The age of the settlement was arrived at after radiocarbon dating of charcoal samples found at the site by the Inter University Accelerator Centre (IUAC) in New Delhi using Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS).

Separate group

"This excavation confirmed that a separate ethnic group that was using non-blackand-red ware might have existed during the early chalcolithic cultural horizon and a new class of ethnic group might have come into contact with the rural settlers at Bharati Huda during mature phase of chalcolithic culture," Superintending Archaeologist of ASI's excavation branch in Bhubaneswar D. Garnayak said on Saturday.

The IUAC report says the charcoal samples found in Layer three of the excavation



History unravels: A mud wall structure is seen during the excavation at Jallarpur village in Cuttack. • BISWARANJAN ROUT

dated backed to 1072 BCE, Laver 4 to 1099 BCE, Layer 5 to 1269 BCE and Layer 7 to 1404 BCE. Radiocarbon ages were calibrated using Oxcal software and median ages are utilized in this report. Scientific study of two more layers could push the age back by another 100 years.

Pieces of pottery

According to Mr. Garnayak, a new religious belief emerged in the form of nature worship as evident from a single specimen of the Sun motif found arrayed in chocolate-

slipped pottery. "On the basis of this evidence, we believe the antiquity of Sun worship dated back to 1099 BCE in the Pra-

chi valley. Devotees from different parts of Odisha as well as the neighbouring States congregated at Chandrabhaga on the shore of the Bay of Bengal on the occasion of Magha Saptami to pay homage to Sun God," he claimed. The world famous Sun

temple of Konark, located some 30 kilometres from the excavation, was built in the 13th century CE. The tradition of Sun worship seems to have evolved with human settlements in the region, Mr. Garnayak suggested.

"The excavated remains indicate existence of Chalcolithic culture in the valley as attested by the presence of mud structural remains, large quantity of potsherds, ground and polished stone tools, bone tools, beads of semi-precious stones, terracotta objects, huge quantity of faunal remains and carbonized grains. It was confirmed by the scientific dating done by IUAC, New Delhi," he said.

Continuous settlement

"The material culture of the site gradually developed without major changes having continuation of earlier cultural features till it was abandoned."

" It's like a flow of culture from incipient agro based settlement to full-fledged agricultural society. The site has cultural similarity with Golabai Sasan, Suabarei and other excavated and explored sites in the Mahanadi delta and partial similarity with the chalcolithic sites of middle Mahanadi valley and sites of central and eastern India," he said.

ogist, the inhabitants practised agriculture and animal husbandry as attested by the findings of domesticated variety of rice and jute and evidence of domesticated cattle among the faunal remains as well as terracotta bull figu-

According to the archaeol-

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL JUDGE O.A.No. 12 of 2018

The Competent Authority

istrict Revenue Officer hennai District.

R1. M/s.Parivar Dairies and Allied Limite

R2. M/s.PDA Foundation. (R1 and R2 having same Address) KRJ Building, No.7, Welder Street Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002. --- Financial Establish Represented by R3 to R9

R3. Basant Lai Sharma S/o. Sri Mangal Sharma, No.508, HBCS Lay out, Srigandhada Kavalu, Bangaluru- 560 091

No.302, Ganesh plaza, Gola Ka Mandir Gwalior, Mathya Pradesh- 474 005. R5. Madurai R. Deivam S/o. Rama Thevar, P.Ooonampatti,

R4.Rakesh Sing Narwaria

Perungamanallur, Periyur Taluk, Madurai- 625010. R6.C.Ramamurthy S/o. R.Chinnaiyan, No.98, 3rd Cross Street, Vallalar Naga Pattabiram. Chennai- 600 072. R7.C.Sundari W/o.M.Chandrasekar. No. 3/22, R.R.Nagar, 2nd Street

Ayyappanthangal, Chennai- 600 056 R8. S. Suganthi W/o. A. Sundaram. No 55, Kumaran Nagar, 2nd Street Devar Street Extn, Thandurai Pattabiram, Chennai- 600 072. R9.M.Mohanram S/o. Munusamy,

113. K H.Road. Ayanavaram

Chennai- 600 023. The petitioner has filed O.A. No 12 of 2018 efore the Hon'ble Special Court TNPID nennai under Section 4(3), 4(4) and 7(6) o FNPID Act 1997, The Hon'ble Special Judg dered notice to R1 to R9 returnable b 4.08.2019.

Hence you are instructed to be present of at date i.e. 14.08.2019 at 10.30 A.M. befor

he Special Court under TNPID Act. 1997 hennai, Tamil Nadu, failing which the matte A.C. Jayalakshmi

Special Public Prosecutor(Civi Counsel for Applicant IPR/ 847 /DISPLAY /2019

09.08.2019 is postponed to 13.08.2019 due to Administrative reasons. The no. of JRF may be read as 02 instead of 01. Other terms and conditions said in our Advertisemen dated. 24.07.2019 remains the same

TENDER CUM AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES IN I.P.NO.25/2014 - INSOLVENCY OF ARJUNLAL SUNDERDAS (EXEMPTED FROM STAMP DUTY)

Description of Properties Item-I: Land and building situated at Door No. 23, Item-II: Sale of Land & Building measuring 11888 Anderson Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34, comprised in O.S. No. 423 and R.S.No.85 and part grounds and 625 sq.ft. or 7825 sq.ft. land area with total built-up area 4400 sq.ft., - in ground

floor-2350 sq.ft. and in first floor-2050 sq.ft.

Sixty Six Lakhs only)

sg.ft., proportionate share in the common area in of O.S. No. 424 and R.S.No.86, measuring 3 all measuring 12720 sq.ft., in the building "Janpriya Crest" constructed on the land measuring 13 grounds and 1133 sq.ft., in R.S.No.1623/1 and 1624/4 bearing Old No.101, New.No.96, Pantheon Road, Egmore, Chennai-8

Rs.21,66,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty One Crores and Rs.12,08,00,000/- (Rupees Twelve Crores and Eight Lakhs only)

Invites Sealed Tenders with Earnest Money Deposit Amount **E.M.D. amount**: Rs.2,16,60,000/- (Rupees Two | **E.M.D. amount**: Rs.1,20,80,000/- (Rupees One

Tender Form should be submitted from 05/08/2019 - 28/08/2019 from 10.30 a.m. to 5.45 p.m., and on 29.08.2019 till 1.00 p.m., (except Saturday & Sunday and other Government Holidays) at the Office of the Official Assignee, (On the 1st floor of Family Court Building) Chennai-104. along with E.M.D. amount as mentioned above for each property, by way of D.D./Pay Order/NEFT in favour of "The Official Assignee, High Court, Madras "payable at Chennai

Opening Date of Tender cum Auction Sale Form: On 29.08.2019 (Thursday) at 4.00 p.m., in the presence and supervision of the Hon'ble Division Bench of Madras High Court, in Court Hall No.10, High Inspection of Property: 19/08/2019 & 20/08/2019 (Monday & Tuesday) From 11.00 a.m., to 2.00 p.m.

Inspection of Document: 21/08/2019 & 22/08/2019 (Wednesday & Thursday) from 11.00 a.m. to 3.00

p.m. at the Office of the Official Assignee, High Court, Madras For other details, intending bidders may contact: The Section Officer (Property Section), O/o the

Official Assignee, High Court, Madras-104 Phone No.044-25301275. Email Id: <u>oahctms@gmail.com</u> High Court, Madras.



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The Governor

assured us no such

move is under way

whether it's Article

35A, delimitation

promises made to J&K when

it acceded to India should

He asked people to "show patience". "There are ele-

ments who want people to

take law and order in their

hands so that they go ahead

with their designs. We need

to ensure it does not hap-

Mr. Abdullah's meeting

with the Governor comes a

day after Peoples Democrat-

ic Party president Mehboo-

ba Mufti led a delegation of

several political parties, in-

cluding the Peoples Confe-

rence and the J&K Peoples

Movement, to the Governor

on Friday night.

or trifurcation

OMAR ABDULLAH Former J&K Chief Ministe

be respected."

pen," he said.

Governor has

PEERZADA ASHIQ

Former Jammu and Kashmir

Chief Minister and National

Conference (NC) vice-presi-

dent Omar Abdullah on Sa-

turday said Governor Satya

Pal Malik "assured him

there is no initiative in pro-

gress to dilute Article 35A of

the Constitution, start de-

limitation or trifurcate [the

asking tourists and pilgrims

to leave has panicked peo-

ple in J&K. Locals are queu-

ing up outside petrol

pumps. I met the Governor

to seek answers as it's hard

finding truth on what is go-

ing to happen. However, the

Governor assured us no

such move is under way

whether it's Article 35A, de-

limitation or trifurcation,"

to issue a statement on the

The Governor promised

Mr. Abdullah asked the

Centre to come up with a

statement in Parliament.

"The leadership in the

Centre should come up with

a statement and assure the

people of J&K. The Gover-

nor does not have a final

word on the issue but the

Central leadership has. And

it should speak up," he said.

"The NC believes that the

Mr. Abdullah said.

issue, he said.

"The government order

State]."

allayed fears: Omar

Show patience, NC leader tells people

FROM PAGE ONE

Uncertainty grips Kashmir Valley

Mr. Abdullah said Mr. Malik "assured him that there was no initiative to remove Article 35A, start delimitation or trifurcate J&K".

"However, the Centre needs to assure the people of the State on the floor of Parliament. Kashmir is in a grip of panic. No one has a clue why such security measures are being taken," he said. "Kashmir is in a grip of panic. No one has a clue why such security measures are being taken," said Mr. Abdullah.

The 43-day Machail yatra in Chenab Valley's Kishtwar was also suspended due to security reasons, Deputy Commissioner Angrez Singh Rana said. The yatra to the goddess Durga shrine in Kishtwar district had commenced on July 25.

Following the security alert, hundreds of pilgrims, tourists and even students of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) decided to flee the Valley. Hundreds of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)

personnel are stationed in areas like government hostels, colleges and government buildings in the Valley. The local police stations were augmented with fresh troops from outside, said a top police official.

Police sources said satellite phones and closed group mobile phone sets were distributed among the security officials to deal with the law and order situation in the event of the downing of the communication network in the State.

One of Kashmir's main hospitals, the Bones and Joint Hospital, directed staff not to leave station "in view of prevailing situation".

Owners of petrol pumps in Srinagar asked the government to provide security as locals swarmed the outlets. "Petrol pumps, ATMs and shops are running dry due to panic," said a spokesman for the Valley's top traders' body, the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Nod for terror cases peaked in June

The sanction is given to file a charge sheet against suspects in terror offences. Under the UAPA, the investigating agency can take up to 180 days after the arrest to file the chargesheet and seek a further extension from the court.

The maximum number of sanctions in a month, 44, was in June, followed by 38 in July 2016. Amit Shah took charge as Home Minister on June 1. Mr. Shah informed the Rajya Sabha on Friday that the nodal counterterrorism agency, the National Investigation Agency (NIA), registered 278 terror cases since its inception in 2008, of which charge sheets were filed in 204 cases. He said 221 persons were convicted and 92 acquitted by the courts in these cases. Of the 204, as many as 131 charge sheets have been filed since Iune 1, 2014.

Parliament cleared the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill, 2019, may on Friday, allowing indivi-

terrorists. The UAPA, enacted in 1967, was first amended in 2004 and subsequently in 2008, 2013 and now in 2019. The 2004 amendment was to enable the imposition of a ban on organisations for terrorist activities, a provision under which 34 outfits were banned. The proposal for designating an individual as a terrorist would come from intelligence agencies and the entire process would be non-judicial. The designations would be decided by officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and the "burden of proof" would be on the government to prove the charges, an official claimed.

duals to be designated as

Opposition parties have raised concerns about the new law saying it could also be used against political opponents and that civil society activists, who speak against the government, be branded as

Despite the outrage, Unnao bats for Sengar

The Sengar family's writ runs large here despite the criminal charges against him. Sengar allegedly raped the victim in June 2017 after she was taken to his house by a woman identified as Sashi Singh on the pretext of helping her get a job. She was also allegedly abducted and gangraped later by the MLA's aides, including Sashi Singh's son.

Amid allegations and counter-allegations, residents spoke of the long association of the Sengar family with that of the survivor both are from the same caste and her uncle, who has many criminal cases against him, was once a right-hand man of the Thakur leader.

The association which turned to acrimony seems the stuff of cinematic plots and is narrated by the villagers in graphic detail.

The fallout happened around 2000, after political disagreement over the post of gram pradhan (village head). Soon thereafter, Atul Sengar, the MLA's brother,

accused the uncle of shooting at him. The uncle then shifted to Delhi and returned only in 2015.

Fresh tension surfaced after the survivor's family decided to contest the pradhan polls again, challenging the writ of the Sengar family, locals said. Atul Sengar's wife eventually won but the episode created a rift between the two sides, which worsened just before the 2017 Assembly polls when the uncle, villagers say, distributed pamphlets deriding the MLA as a rapist.

Incidentally, the uncle of the survivor is serving prison time, since February in Rae Bareli jail, for allegedly shooting at the Atul Sengar, who has a notorious reputation in the village. tHe is also in jail for the assault on the survivor's father which led to his death last year. Both sides have lodged criminal cases against each other.

However, those sympathetic to the survivor's uncle were reluctant to speak on

Another man held in M.P. under NSA for adulteration

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A 38-old-year trader was arrested in Madhya Pradesh on Saturday under the National Security Act for alleged milk adulteration. The trader, Ummed Singh Ra-

wat, was arrested and sent to jail on Saturday morning, District Collector Anurag Choudhary said. He is the second trader to be arrested under the NSA in the last three days. An Ujjain trader was held on Thursday.

6,000 yatris fly out of Srinagar

Over 5,800 leave by scheduled flights; others moved by IAF after security alert

NEW DELHI

Nearly 6,000 pilgrims were flown out of Srinagar on Saturday by commercial airlines and the Indian Air Force after the Centre called off the Amarnath yatra and asked devotees to return home, citing security concerns.

As many as 6,216 people turned up at the Srinagar International Airport, out of which 5,829 pilgrims travelled by 32 scheduled flights. The remaining 387 persons were flown on four IAF aircraft to destinations such as Jammu, Pathankot and Hindon, according to a statement from the Airports Authority of India.

Airfares shoot up

The Civil Aviation Ministry has asked airlines to rein in the surge in airfares to help the pilgrims return. Travel portal yatra.com showed airfares in the range of ₹11,000-₹18,000 for a Srinagar-Delhi flight on Sunday.

Yatris will get special flights and controlled fares but what will happen to pa-



Valley of fear: People queuing up to stock up on petrol in Srinagar on Saturday. • AFP

tients, students and other people who have to travel," National Conference leader Omar Abdullah posted on Twitter, urging Minister of State for Civil Aviation Hardeep Singh Puri to take re-

medial steps.

Earlier various airlines, including Air India, IndiGo and Vistara, announced a full waiver on cancellation and rescheduling of flights from and to Srinagar following an advisory from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

Militant killed

Meanwhile, a militant was killed in a gunfight with security forces in Sopore on Saturday morning. One soldier was injured. The gunfight began at Malmanpora after a team of the Army, the police and the CRPF launched a search.

Peerzada Ashiq)

U.K. issues

The U.K. government on Saturday updated the travel advisory for its citizens travelling to J&K, already warned against

(With inputs from

alert message

PRES TRUST OF INDIA

warning them to "remain vigilant". Its Foreign and Commonwealth Office had travel to J&K.

India thwarts attack on LoC, 7 Pakistanis killed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Pakistan made fresh bids to attack forward posts in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday and around seven members of its Border Action Team were killed in retalia-

tory fire, the Army said. "An attack of the Pakistan's Border Action Team on a forward post along the Line of Control (LoC) was foiled in Kupwara's Keran Sector on Saturday, which left five to seven Pakistan Army regulars or terrorists dead. The Army will continue to foil Pakistan's nefarious designs," said the Army spokesman.

The Army said a number of attempts were made by the Pakistan Army to attack forward posts and disturb peace in J&K in the past 36 hours.

Meanwhile, the Army also killed four Jaish-e-Mohammad militants in encounters in Shopian and Sopore.

The Pakistan Army had earlier accused the Indian troops of using "cluster am-

Cong. seeks PM's statement on J&K

Union Home Ministry is up to some misadventure, says Chidambaram

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Congress on Saturday demanded a statement from Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Parliament on the Centre and the State administration's advisory to curtail the Amarnath Yatra and deployment of additional troops in Kashmir.

"Since Parliament is in session, we will definitely demand that no less than the Prime Minister should make a statement in both the Houses of Parliament. The Government of India and the Prime Miniter are duty bound to take the people into confidence through Parliament," said Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad at a press conference.

Mr. Azad, who has been a former Chief Minister of the State, claimed that never be-



Anand Sharma, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Ambika Soni and P. Chidambaram in New Delhi on Saturday. • R.V. MOORTHY

fore had the Amarnath Yatra been curtailed by 15 days in the past 30 years.

'Why more troops?'

Barring the Pulwama attack, the State had not seen too many terror attacks and that was why the government should clarify about the need to deploy additional troops. "This reminds us of what the V.P. Singh government in 1990, supported by the BJP, did to our Kashmiri Pandit brothers by taking them out overnight," said Mr. Azad. Amidst rumours of a pos-

sible move to end Article 370, Mr. Azad said the constitutional provision served as a bridge between Kashmir and the rest of the India and "if it is broken, there would be many other problems".

Karan Singh, who is from the former royal family of Kashmir, was also at the press conference where he

colleagues such as P. Chi-

spreading panic and fear.

charged the Centre with

Mr. Azad and his party

dambaram, Ambika Soni, Dr. Singh and Anand Sharma are part of the former PM Manmohan Singh-headed Congress Strategic Group on Kashmir that discussed the situation on Friday. Mr. Chidambaram, who

had been a Home Minister, said the "Union Home Ministry is up to some misadventure." Asked to comment on rumours of a possible trifurcation of the State, he said, "I won't anticipate what misadventure they are up to, but the Home Ministry is preparing for a misadventure."

Mr. Anand Sharma, who is the Congress Deputy Leader in the Rajya Sabha, told *The Hindu* that the Opposition would seek the Prime Minister's statement on Monday.

munition" to target civilians across the LoC, resulting in the death of two persons. The Indian Army rejected the charge as "pure propaganda"

(With PTI inputs)

CBI officials question Sengar in U.P. jail

Rape survivor is in a critical condition

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The CBI on Saturday questioned expelled BIP MLA and rape accused Kuldeep Singh Sengar in Sitapur jail in Uttar Pradesh in connection with the accident in which the survivor and her lawyer were critically injured and her two aunts

The agency has deputed several teams to speed up the probe following the Supreme Court's orders on Thursday that the probe be completed in a fortnight.

Develops pneumonia

The 19-year-old rape survivor, who is on ventilator support, remains critical as she has developed pneumonia, doctors at the King George's Medical University here said. The University's Trauma Centre in-charge Dr. Sandeep Tiwari said due to pneumonia, the rape survivor has also developed fever. Her lawyer has been taken off the ventilator, but is still not out of danger.

While officials said a three-member CBI team grilled Sengar for several hours in Sitapur district jail, a CBI team visited the rape survivor's uncle, lodged in a Rae Bareli prison, on Friday. Later in the night, the Rae Bareli administration, in compliance with a Supreme Court directive, shifted the uncle to Tihar jail in Delhi.

Another four-member CBI team spent four hours in the native village of the rape survivor in Unnao on



Kuldeep Singh Sengar

Saturday. No member of her family was present in the village during the visit, officials said. In Rae Bareli, a CBI team probing the accident, recreated the sequence of events and also questioned the driver and the cleaner of the truck that had rammed into the car in which the survivor, her aunts and her lawyer were travelling.

Support for Sengar Meanwhile, the BJP's Hardoi MLA Ashish Singh 'Ashu' voiced his sympathies for Sengar in his "difficult

times".

Speaking at a panchayat meeting in Unnao, Mr. Singh said, "Our brother Kuldeep Singh could not be here among us today as he is going through difficult times. Our best wishes are with him. We hope that he will overcome the bad times... and be with all of you to lead you." A video clip, in which Ashu also wished that Sengar walks out of jail soon,

has gone viral on Saturday. The BJP, however, distanced itself from Ashu's remarks.

Be a worker at heart, Modi tells MPs

'BJP is growing because of its ideology, not due to the legacy of a family'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Prime Minister Narendra Modi told BJP MPs on Saturday that the party was an "organic entity", not an "assembled" one, and asked them to keep the karyakarta, or worker spirit, alive after becoming MPs or Minis-

Mr. Modi was speaking on day one of a two-day workshop for the MPs organised by the party here.

Speaking to presspersons after Mr. Modi's address, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the Prime Minister told the MPs that the party was growing because of its ideology and not the "legacy of a family". Mr. Modi, he said, told the MPs to keep the "worker spi-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Home Minister Amit Shah at the inauguration of a training programme for BJP parliamentarians in New Delhi on Saturday. • SANDEEP SAXENA

rit alive in their hearts" even after becoming MLAs, MPs and Ministers. The Prime Minister said the BJP was "an organic entity, not an assembled entity", Mr. Joshi said. He said Mr. Modi spoke of

the BJP's recent victory in

the seats, saying if the organisation was strengthened, it could win such elections First-hand experience

the panchayat elections in Tripura where it won 98% of

Mr. Modi referred to a similar workshop conducted after the 2014 election, when he was elected to the Lok Sabha for the first time, and said it had been very beneficial for him, particularly the training on the House procedures, Mr. Joshi said.

The party was starting another initiative for MPs' training by sending them in groups of 20-25 to meet Ministers over dinner to learn about government functioning, he said, adding that this would become a monthly

Centre destroying economy: Rahul

He cited comments by business leaders of an economic slowdown

The BJP government can't

destroy what was built over

build anything. It can only

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

Responding to comments by business leaders of an economic slowdown, outgoing Congress chief Rahul Gandhi on Saturday alleged that the Centre can "only destroy" what had been built over decades.

"The BJP government can't build anything. It can only destroy what was built over decades with passion and hard work," Mr. Gandhi tweeted and tagged a clip of various media reports talking of slowdown. employees, several business

decades with passion and hard work From a comment by Lar-

sen and Toubro chairman A.M. Naik warning of a slowdown to government telecom companies such as the BSNL and the MTNL failing to pay July salaries and the Railways planning to hive off



Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala, in a similar tweet, mentioned

news reports of the auto and steel sector slowing down. "Car sales down from 15% to 48%! 30 steel companies

down shutters! Ind. leaders Rahul Bajaj, Adi Godrej, Narayana Murthy warn of societal fissures, hate crimes & slowdown. Yet Modi 2.0 remains concentrated on 'jibes not jobs', 'division not development'. New India!" Mr. Surjewala said. Former Mumbai Congress

chief Milind Deora quoted an interview of HDFC chief Deepak Parekh who said banks were reluctant to lend. "India's most respected banker validates what I've been saying since 2017 – economy is slowing down," he said.



MEA working for early release of 18 Indian crew

NEW DELH External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Saturday said the Indian government was working for the early release and repatriation of all the 18 Indian crew members on board the British-flagged tanker which has been detained by the Revolutionary Guards of Iran (IRGC) in the Strait of Hormuz, ANI

Adhir shares stage with CPI(M), calls for unity

The Leader of the Congress in the Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, and Communist Party of India (Marxist) Polit Bureau member Mohammed Salim on Saturday shared the stage at an event where the Congress leader gave a call of unity with the Left parties. Speaking at a seminar on "Is there an end to brutal intolerance," Mr. Chowdhury gave a call of unity with Left parties to save the "secular character of the nation".

U.S. bans ground handling by Air India

National carrier says order will not affect operations in the five airports it flies to now

SUHASINI HAIDAR NEW DELHI

The United States has banned Air India from carrying out ground handling operations on its own at all five airports in the country connected by the airline. The decision is not expected to affect the national carrier's operations.

On July 30, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DoT) served an order amending Air India's foreign air carrier permit, which now reads, "[T]he holder may not perform its own ground-handling functions (self-handle) in the United States."

Ministry for talks

The DoT on April 19 issued a show-cause notice warning that it may impose a ban on self-handling by Indian carriers because of India's failure to allow U.S. carriers to "exercise their bilateral right to perform their own ground handling (to "self-handle") at Indian airports".

Though India did not in-

Trouble in the air

Air India's foreign air carrier permit in the U.S. does not allow it to perform its own ground-handling functions in that country



This will not affect any of our flights because we outsource ground handling services at most international stations through a transparent bidding **Process.** Air India official

form the U.S. on how it would address these concerns, the Civil Aviation Ministry sought discussions on and catering. the matter in a letter dated

May 9, the order notes. Air India flies to San Fran-Washington, New York, Newark, and Chicago.

"This will not affect any of our flights because we outsource ground handling services at most international stations through a transparent bidding process," an airline official said. Ground handling includes boarding, baggage handling, refuelling

The problem between the two countries over the issue of ground-handling surfaced after India amended its ground handling regulation in 2017, barring all foreign airlines from conducting self handling at defence airports. The rules also prevent international carriers from carrying out these functions

beyond the security hold area at airports where passengers undergo frisking.

2005 agreement

Affected airports: San Francisco,

What's ground handling: Boarding, baggage handling, fuelling and catering

Root of the problem: India

amended its ground handling

regulation in 2017, barring all

foreign airlines from conducting

self-handling at defence airports

and preventing them from carry-

the security hold area at airports,

ing out these functions beyond

where passengers undergo

and Chicago

These regulations however, disregarded the Air Service Agreement signed between the two countries in 2005. As per the agreement, "each designated airline shall have the right to perform its own ground-handling in the territory of the other Party (selfhandling), or, at its option, select among competing agents for such services in whole or in part. The right shall be subject only to physical constraints resulting from considerations of airport safety."

A senior official of the Civil Aviation Ministry had earlier said it was working with the External Affairs Ministry to address these "aberrations". The official, however, did not comment on the latest U.S. order.

All U.S. carriers flying into India have outsourced their ground handling as well.

While the order will not affect Air India's operation, which uses local ground handlers in the U.S., it puts a further strain on Indo-U.S. trade ties, that have reached an impasse in the past few months.

Officials have been working on resolving a series of issues, including tariffs and counter-measures, Washington's concerns over India's data protection laws, and other issues that led to trade talks collapsing last Novem-

India protests over UN chief's report

New Delhi says it politicises agenda

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India has strongly expressed its disappointment over UN chief Antonio Guterres for including in a recent reportsituations in India that are neither armed conflicts nor a threat to international security, and said such attempts to expand mandate in a selective manner to certain situations only politicises the agenda.

In the "Annual Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict", released on Tuesday, Mr. Guterres said children continued to be affected by incidents of violence between armed groups and the government "particularly in Jammu and Kashmir and in the context of the Naxalite insurgency".

India was mentioned under a section of the report titled "Situations not on the agenda of the Security Council or other situations".

Paulomi Tripathi, India's first Secretary at the UN



Antonio Guterres

General Assembly, speaking at a Security Council open debate on children and armed conflict on Friday, pointed to the importance of credible, impartial and transparent implementation of the mandate given to the UN system.

"In spite of the clear mandate by the Council, we are disappointed that the Report of the Secretary-General includes situations which are not armed conflicts or of threat to maintenance of international peace and security," she said.

Knew Ayodhya mediation was futile: U.P. CM

Adityanath confident people's sentiments will be respected by SC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Visiting Ayodhya a day after the Supreme Court noted that a mediation panel had not offered a solution to the Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said he knew the effort would fail

"We knew all along that nothing is going to come out

Live-stream hearings: plea

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A plea was filed on Saturday for live streaming of the Ayodhya title dispute hearings that will begin on August 6 before a Constitution Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan

The petition, filed by

of mediation," he said at a gathering of seers. "But it is good. If there is an effort, it is a good thing. There had

September 2018 judgment that ordered the livestreaming of hearings in the cases of national importance. The order is yet to be implemented. The petitioner said the

activist K.N. Govindacharya,

reminded the court of its

case has created large-scale interest across India.

been mediation before the Mahabharata as well. But the effort failed," he said.

The Chief Minister was at-

tending an event to mark the 16th death anniversary of Paramhans Ramchandra Das, a prominent advocate of Ram Temple at the disputed site in Ayodhya.

The Supreme Court on Friday said it will hold dayto-day hearings from August 6 to decide the temple-mosque land dispute as efforts to arrive at a settlement through mediation had failed.

The apex court had appointed a three-member mediation committee headed by a former Supreme Court judge F.M.I Kalifulla in

Reacting to the apex court's decision to begin day-to-day hearings, Mr. Adityanath said he was confident that the sentiments of the people will be respected.

'People's movement' The Chief Minister said the campaign to build the Ram temple in Ayodhya was a people's movement, and lavished praise on Paramhans Ramchandra Das.

"We are developing Ayodhya in this Kalyug as Ayodhya was in Treta Yug," he said, referring to mythical times. He inspected projects worth ₹130 crore in the city.

Tribal body against Assam Accord clause

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A tribal body has opposed the implementation of Clause 6 of the Assam Accord, saying it will threaten the very existence of the "real indigenous" people.

Clause 6 is meant to guarantee the constitutional safeguards for the Assamese.

"The Assamese want to guarantee their political rights and facilities and impose their language, culture and religion on the tribal communities through the implementation of Clause 6," the Bodoland Janajati Suraksha Mancha said in a statement.

Doctors told to return to work or face action

IMA to meet today to decide on the next course of action

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). Safdarjung Hospital and others on Saturday directed their doctors on strike to resume work immediately or face disciplinary action.

Doctors from several hospitals across the capital and various parts of the country have been on strike, including emergency services in some hospitals, for the past three days now protesting against the National Medical Commission (NMC) Bill,

On Friday evening, Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan met the doctors and asked them to end the strike in the interest of patients. He maintained that the legisla-

ZŽ.

90-B

3. No. of work



rallying against the NMC Bill. SANDEEP SAXENA

doctors, patients, medical students and society and added that the Bill was one of the biggest reforms in medical education in India.

The Rajya Sabha passed the Bill on Thursday.

In a statement, the Indian Medical Association, which

course of action, said: "The Bill is 'anti-poor', 'anti-student' and 'undemocratic' promotes quackery. Section 32 of the NMC Bill provides for licensing of 3.5 lakh non-medical persons or Community Health Providers to practise modern medicine. This is unacceptable." Speaking about the provi-

Sunday to decide on the next

sion, the Minister noted: "There is no question of quackery. The Commission may grant limited license to practice medicine for Community Health Providers (CHP). This concept is recognized worldwide and this concept has also been highlighted by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Lancet Journal. Many countries follow a similar

⁺ NPR data to be collected in a year

Exercise is different from the decennial Census and is not linked to the NRC

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The next round of recording biometric and family-tree details of Indian citizens under the National Population Register (NPR) will be conducted in September 2020, a government notification said. The exercise is different from the decennial Census and is not linked to the National Register of Citizens

The objective of the NPR is to create a comprehensive identity database of every usual resident in the country. The database would contain demographic as well as biometric particulars.

The exercise was conduct-

Modi govt.

says Gogoi

2010 and 2015, a senior government official said.

For the purpose of the NPR, a usual resident is defined as a person who has resided in a local area for six months or more or a person who intends to reside in that

SUHASINI HAIDAR

NEW DELHI/THOOTHUKUDI

HARIPRASAD RADHAKRISHNAN

Former Maldivian Vice Presi-

dent Ahmed Adeeb, who es-

caped in a tugboat to seek

asylum in India and was sub-

sequently sent back after his

arrest in international wa-

ters, was freed by courts in

Male last month after his

conviction on charges of ter-

rorism and corruption was

overturned. But he was un-

der a travel ban after the

state prosecutor appealed

the order in a corruption

and money laundering case.

Indian Coast Guard escorted

Mr. Adeeb's tugboat to the

Boundary Line (IMBL) over-

night on Friday and he was

then "transferred" to a Mal-

divian Coast Guard ship,

where officials took him into

on

Maritime

Saturday

International

custody

afternoon.

It is understood that the

or more.

zens and Issue of National

Coast Guard escorts Adeeb's

boat to international waters

New Delhi sought to assist the Ibu Solih government

Ahmed Adeeb

sought to assist the Ibu Solih

government, which it has

strengthened ties with,

while not taking a stand in

the internal politics of the

country. The government al-

so wants to avoid being ac-

cused of violating the princi-

ple of "non-refoulement" or

returning a person seeking

asylum back to their country

where they face any threat

In a statement issued by Mr.

Adeeb's "international legal

to life or freedom.

Legal team's plea

reby decides to prepare and update the Population Regis ter..... And the field work for house-to-house enumeration throughout the country except Assam for collection of information relating to all persons who are usually residing within the jurisdiction of local registrar shall be undertaken between the 1st day of April 2020 to 30th September 2020," said a notification issued by Vivek Joshi, Registrar General of Citizen Registration and Census

Identity Cards) Rules, 2003,

the Central government he-

It is mandatory for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR.

2, his lawyers urged India to

"consider the application for

[asylum] and offer him pro-

tection while his claim is un-

der review." His lawyers al-

leged that the 37-year-old,

originally accused of con-

spiring to assassinate then

President Abdulla Yameen,

was being coerced by the

Maldivian police to "impli-

cate members of the [Ya-

meen] administration in cri-

rightly be proud of its histo-

ry in protecting those fleeing

to safety and it would be un-

conscionable to tarnish that

reputation now," said the

statement issued by the

"Guernica 37 International

Justice Chambers", adding

that India's actions would

set a "dangerous precedent."

dia, news about his deten-

tion/arrest in India are

false," the government

source repeated.

"Because he is not in In-

"India as a nation can

minal conduct".



PURABI DAIRY

Ref. No-MD/PC/APART/2019-20/01

E- PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

(GOA) through the Government of India has received financing from the World Bank for Implementation of the Assam Agribusiness & Rural Transformation (APART) Project. The West Assam Milk Producer's Cooperative Union Limited (WAMUL), as an end implementing agency now intends to apply part of the

Categories-Frozen Semen

published at the e-procurement platform www.assamtenders.gov.in as

mentioned above.

Managing Director

दिनाक / Dt .: 03.08.2019

proceeds for procurement of item as mentioned below: SI.No -1

Date of publishing Tender on www.assamtenders.gov .in - 05.08.2019 Last date of submission of

will be available and

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE WORKS DEPARTMENT E-mail: ceroads.bbsr@gmail.com Bid Identification No. CE-DPI & R-05 / 2019-20

1. The Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Road / Bridge works as mentioned below

Rs 10 000 00 4. Tender Paper Cost 5. Class of Contractor : 'A' Class / Special Class / Super Class as noted against each

: 2 Nos

6. Available of bid document : From 10.00 A.M. of 06.08.2019 to 5.00 P.M of 20.08.2019 in the website

7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt.21.08.2019 at 11.30 AM 8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: https://tenderodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation

Chief Engineer (DPI & Roads), Odisha. OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (CIVIL), ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR

भारत सरकारः : अंतरिक्ष विभाग, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE, सतीश धवन अंतरिक्ष केंद्र शार, SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE SHAR श्रीहरिकोटा – 524 124 श्री पोट्टी श्रीरामलू नेल्लूर जिला, (आंध्र प्रदेश) Sriharikota 524 124, Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore Dist., (A.P)

किये जाएंगे।

शुद्धि पत्र-1/CORRIGENDUM-1

सार्वजनिक निविदा सूचना सं. शार/वरि.एचपीएस/पीटी/10/2019-20 दिनाक 06.07.2019 का शुद्धिपत्र Corrigendum to Public Tender Notice No. SHAR/Sr.HPS/PT/10/2019-20 Date: 06.07.2019 फाइल सं. ∕ File No.: शार आरओ/SHAR RO 2019 0 11425 ई-प्रापण (दो भाग के आधार पर) ∕ e-procurement [Two part basis]

वर्तमान विषय—वस्तु **Existing content**

में उपस्थित होने के लिए चयनित आपके पांच सर्विस इंजीनियरों को प्रवेश पास जारी In RFP, Under Terms & Conditions of the contract, point no:21 in

आरएफपी में, पेज नं. 14 में अनुबंध के नियम व शर्ते, प्वाइंट नं. 21 के

issued to **six** of your service engineers identified to attend the maintenance/breakdown calls at SDSC page no:14 21. For the successful bidder, entry passes will be issued to five of your service engineers identified to attend the maintenance / breakdown calls at SDSC-SHAR.

साथ दो वर्षों की अवधि के लिए नेटवर्क प्रोडक्ट्स, सर्वर, वर्क स्टेशन, लैपटॉप एवं अन्य प्तहायक उपकरणों हेतु व्यापक रखरखाव अनुबंध की आवश्यकता है।

आरएफपी में, पेज नं. 21 में एसडीएससी—शार निविदा आवश्यकताएं

In RFP, Under SDSC-SHAR quote requirements, Point no:1 in page To carry out the attached scope of works, SDSC-SHAR is looking for

comprehensive maintenance contract for network products, servers, work station, laptops and other accessories for the period of two years निविदा नियत तिथि।

Tender due date: 06.08.2019 Tender due date: 13.08.2019 भावी निविदादाता इसरो वेबसाइट <u>www.isro.gov.in</u> एवं <u>www.shar.gov.in</u> में उपलब्ध विनिर्देशनों में किये गये विस्तृत संशोधनों को देख सकते हैं। "The prospective bidders may observe the Amendment in specification in detail in our ISRO websites: www.isro.gov.in & www.shar.gov.in

-वरि. प्रधान, क्रय एवं भंडार /Sr. HEAD, PURCHASE & STORES

निम्नानसार पढा जाए

To be read as

21 सफल निविदादाता के लिए एसडीएससी–एसएचएआर में

रखरखाव / ब्रेकडाउन की रिथति में उपस्थित होने के लिए

चयनित आपके **छह** सर्विस इजीनियरों को प्रवेश पास जारी

21. For the successful bidder, entry passes will be

सम्बद्ध कार्यों के निष्पादन के लिए, एसडीएससी–शार को **छह**

इंजीनियरों की तैनाती के साथ दो वर्षों की अवधि के लिए

नेटवर्क प्रोडक्टस. सर्वर. वर्क स्टेशन. लैपटॉप एवं अन्य सहायव

To carry out the attached scope of works, SDSC-

SHAR is looking for comprehensive maintenance

contract for network products, servers, work

station, laptops and other accessories for the

period of two years with deployment of six

निविदा नियत तिथि।

उपकरणों हेतु व्यापक रखरखाव अनुबंध की आवश्यकता है।



SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT Former Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi on Saturday said the Narendra Modi government was trying

to derail the exercise to up-

date the National Register

derailing NRC,

of Citizens (NRC) by disclosing data and attacking NRC State Coordinator Prateek Hajela. Mr. Gogoi, who had been the Chief Minister for three terms, said this was an indication that the BJP

was not interested in re-

solving the foreigners'

issue. "The BJP government has focussed on certain districts to claim that the names of Bangladeshi-origin people have been registered in the NRC. If Hajela, conducting the exercise, is doing this, why is he not being removed? After all, he is not a constitutional authority but a government servant and is directly answerable to the administration," Mr. Gogoi said.

In doing so, New Delhi team" in London on August



Earlier, the roll out of NPR had slowed down due to overlapping with that of Aadhaar. "In pursuance of subrule(4) of rule 3 of the Citizenship (Registration of Citi-

Commissioner.

Milk Producer's Cooperative Union Limited

Dated 04th August, 2019

The Government of Assam

Quotations-03.09.2019 The details of the E-Tender

ELSEWHERE



Erdoğan lays foundation stone for new church

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan on Saturday laid the foundation stone for the first new church in Turkey since it became a modern republic in 1923. The church in the Istanbul suburb of Yesilkoy will serve the 17,000-strong Syriac Christian community, which is also paying for the new building. AFF

685 detained in Russia crackdown on Opposition

Russian police detained 685 people attending a protest in Moscow on Saturday to demand free elections, including prominent activist Lyubov Sobol. Police removed Ms. Sobol from a taxi and bundled her into a van minutes before the start of a march. REUTERS

Namibia inaugurates China-built port terminal

Namibia has inaugurated a new China-built port terminal, which doubles its container capacity and is also to give tourism a boost. The 40-hectare platform reclaimed from the sea at Walvis Bay, some 400 km west of Windhoek, is to become a strategic gateway to emerging markets of southern and west Africa. AFP

Blast kills 12 regime fighters at Syria airbase

A blast of unclear origin killed 12 regime forces at a military airport in central Syria on Saturday, a war monitor said. State news agency SANA reported that a "technical fault during the transport of expired ammunition" had killed an unspecified number of victims. AFP

Hong Kong hit by fresh protests

Tens of thousands of anti-govt. demonstrators march through the city's Mong Kok district

Stores in the heart of Hong Kong's Kowloon shopping area shut their doors on Saturday and black-clad activists blocked thoroughfares as the Chinese-controlled city was again rocked by antigovernment protests.

Tens of thousands marched through the crowded Mong Kok district in the afternoon, with many then dispersing to different parts of the Kowloon peninsula, where they defaced police station signs and set up barriers across busy streets.

Targeting police station Police said a large group of protesters had marked the Tsim Sha Tsui police station. in one of Kowloon's shopping districts, with paint and damaged a vehicle inside the station. The police said in a statement that officers had warned them "to stop their

illegal act at once and dis-



Unrest spreads: A demonstration by civil servants in Hong Kong on Friday. •AP

Riot police could be seen outside the police stations in Tsim Sha Tsui and Mong Kok. Protests against a proposed Bill allowing people to be extradited to stand trial in mainland China have grown increasingly violent since June, with police accused of

excessive force and failing to protect protesters from suspected gang attacks.

Protesters, their faces covered with masks or bandanas and wearing helmets and goggles, have adopted increasingly sophisticated tactics. On Saturday, many carried hiking sticks and some held home-made shields. "We don't stay in the same place. We are using hit-andrun tactics," said a construction worker who was among protesters in the Mong Kok area of Kowloon and called himself "Water". "If the police are too strong, we will leave. They are a rock, so we must be like water," he added, echoing a refrain of Hong Kong martial arts legend Bruce Lee that has been taken up by activists. Organisers put the size of the crowd for the rally at 1,20,000. Police had yet to release their estimate.

Officials join protest

On Friday evening, in central Hong Kong, thousands of civil servants had defied a warning from authorities to remain politically neutral and joined anti-government protests for the first time since they started two months ago.

In Washington on Friday, a bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers called on the Donald Trump administration to halt future sales of munitions and crowd-control equipment to Hong Kong's police force, which has been force against protesters.

Kim supervised test-firing of rockets, claims N. Korea

perse peacefully".

North Korea said on Saturday that its leader Kim Jongun supervised another testfiring of a new multiple rocket launcher system that could potentially enhance the country's ability to strike targets in South Korea and U.S. military bases there.

The report by Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) came a day after South Korea's military said it detected North Korea firing projectiles twice into the sea off its eastern coast in its third round of weapons tests in just over a week.

Experts say the North's in-



Military vision: North Korean leader Kim Jong-un supervising the test-launch of a rocket on Thursday. • AP

creased testing activity is aimed at ramping up pressure on Washington and Seoul over stalled nuclear negotiations with the U.S. and planned U.S.-South Korea military exercises, and that its weapons displays could intensify in the coming

months if progress in talks isn't made.

North Korea said that Mr. Kim supervised the first test of the same rocket artillery system on Wednesday. KCNA said Mr. Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over Friday's tests, which it said confirmed the system's "altitude control level flight performance, track-changing capability, accuracy of hitting a target and warhead explosion power of the guided ordnance rocket."

The report didn't include any direct mention of the U.S. or South Korea.

Short-range missiles

South Korea's presidential office had said the U.S. and South Korean militaries shared an assessment that Friday's launches were likely of short-range ballistic missiles. South Korea's military had also concluded that the weapons North Korea tested on Wednesday are ballistic

missiles and maintained its assessment even after the North described them as a newly developed "large-calibre multiple launch guided rocket system."

On July 25, North Korea fired two short-range ballistic missiles that Seoul officials said flew 600 km before landing in the sea.

North Korea said those tests were designed to deliver a "solemn warning" to South Korea over its purchase of high-tech, U.S.made fighter jets and the planned military drills, which Pyongyang calls an invasion rehearsal. The North also tested short-range missiles on May 4 and 9.

China braces for a long trade war

Accuses U.S. of violating 'consensus'

ATUL ANEJA

China is bracing for a long trade war with the U.S. which could last at least 15 years, in tune with Beijing's push to emerge as the world's leading economy by

On Friday, China made it explicit that it was prepared for the long haul, after U.S. President Donald Trump indicated a 10% tariff hike on Chinese goods worth \$300 billion from September 1.

Taking a hard line

At a Foreign Ministry press briefing on Friday, spokesperson Hua Chunying slammed Washington for backtracking from the "consensus" reached in Osaka on not raising further duties, between Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the G20 summit.

"It is a serious violation of the consensus reached by the Chinese and U.S. Presidents in Osaka and runs counter to the right direction. It will not be helpful for resolving the issues. China deplores and firmly opposes that," the spokesperson warned

Ms. Hua further asserted that in case the U.S. enforced additional tariffs. "China will have to take necessary countermeasures to uphold its core interests and the fundamental interests of the Chinese people. The U.S. will be responsible for all related consequences."

The Chinese side also made it plain that the latest decision had cast doubts on whether the next round of trade talks will take place at all in September, as earlier scheduled. "China does not accept any maximum presChina does not accept any maximum pressure, threat or

blackmail Foreign Ministry spokespersor

sure, threat or blackmail," Ms. Hua stressed.

China's hard line on trade negotiations, with little prospects of an early resolution, signals Beijing's intent to play the long game with the U.S., which is likely to last long after Mr. Trump's exit from the presidency.

China's intent to dig in for a lengthy back-and-forth has been glaring in the past few

NEWS ANALYSIS months. On May 22, State

Council Information Office fielded Zhang Yansheng, chief researcher at the China Center for International Economic Exchanges, During a media conference, he predicted that China and the U.S. will simultaneously "negotiate" and "fight" till 2035. That year is significant, because it aligns with a goal, spelt out during the 19th Party Congress in 2017, of China achieving "socialist modernisation". Analysts say that the term implies China's intent to emerge superior to the U.S., both economically and technologically, by 2035. With no limits set on longevity of Mr. Xi's term in office, it is likely that he will have a much longer time to achieve his goals than Mr. Trump.

Since early May, the message from China has been clear – rather than compromise with a flawed deal, Beijing would prefer a long campaign to win the trade war with Washington.

Trump invited Zarif to U.S.: report

Iran Foreign Minister turned down offer, says magazine

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump invited Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif to the White House last month ween the two countries, a magazine has reported. The invitation, extended by Senator Rand Paul with permission from the President, was turned down, The New *Yorker* reported on Friday.

The report quoted U.S. and Iranian sources and what the magazine called a well-placed diplomat. Mr. Zarif told the magazine he would not want a White House meeting that yielded just a photo opportunity and a two-page statement afterwards, The New Yorker said.

Mr. Trump has said publicly several times that he is



Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif. • AP

willing to hold talks with the Iranians even as he lambasted the Iranian state as a corrupt, incompetent and dangerous regime that is a threat to regional security and U.S. interests.

Mr. Paul had been working for weeks on setting up a meeting with Mr. Zarif and on July 15, conferred with him in New York, passing on an invitation from Mr. Trump for him to come to the White House, the magazine said. At the one hour meeting, Mr. Zarif suggested ways to end the nuclear impasse, said the magazine.

Also, Mr. Zarif said on turday that Iran will take another step to reduce its compliance with the landmark 2015 nuclear deal, according to parliamentary news agency ICANA.

"The third step in reducing commitments to (the nuclear deal) will be implemented in the current situation," he said. "We have said that if (the deal) is not completely implemented by others then we will also implement it in the same incomplete manner. And of course all of our actions have been within the framework of (the deal)."

U.S., Taliban begin fresh round of talks in Qatar

Peace deal could be reached by Aug. 13

REUTERS

A fresh round of U.S.-Taliban peace talks began in Qatar's capital Doha on Satur officials said, describing it to be the "most crucial" phase of negotiations to end the 18-year war in Afghanistan.

Senior officials privy to the talks said a peace agreement could be expected at the end of the eighth round of talks, possibly before August 13, and would enable foreign forces to be with-

drawn from the country. Zalmay Khalilzad, the U.S. peace envoy for Afghanistan, reached Doha on Friday night. "Just got to Doha to resume talks with the Taliban. We are pursuing a

peace agreement not a withdrawal agreement," he tweeted. "A peace agreement that enables withdrawal. Our (U.S.) presence in Afghanistan is conditionsbased, and any withdrawal will be conditions-based," he said, adding the Taliban are signalling they would conclude an agreement.

Two Taliban spokesmen Suhail Shaheen and Zabihullah Mujahid said a 19member Taliban negotiation team will represent them in the Doha peace talks. "The issue of forces withdrawal has prolonged the peace talks and delayed the deal," said a senior Taliban commander based in Afghanistan on condition of

U.S. wants to deploy missiles in Asia

Defence official says such a move should not surprise China

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE SYDNEY

Washington wants to quickly deploy new intermediaterange missiles in Asia, U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper said on Saturday in a move likely to anger China.

The new Pentagon chief

said the U.S. was now free to deploy the weapons following its withdrawal on Friday from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty with Russia. "Yes I would like to," Mr. Esper said, when asked if the U.S. was considering deploying new medium-range conventional weapons in Asia.

"We would like to deploy a capability sooner rather than later," Mr. Esper told reporters on a plane to Sydney at the start of a week-long tour of Asia. "I would prefer



Defense Secretary Mark Esper. ■NYT

REUTERS

KHARTOUM

al-Bashir.

months... But these things tend to take longer than you

The plan to deploy new missiles in Asia is likely to anger China which is vying with Washington for influence in the region, but Mr. Esper said Beijing should not be surprised. "That should be no surprise because we have been talking

Sudan's military rulers and

the main Opposition coali-

tion reached an agreement,

paving the way for a new

transitional government on

Saturday, the African Union

(AU) said, after lengthy ne-

gotiations following the fall

of veteran leader Omar

outlines the shape of the

transitional government,

was brokered by the AU and

neighbouring Ethiopia in

talks that were sometimes

suspended because of street

violence in Khartoum and

other cities. The main Op-

position coalition, the Forc-

es of Freedom and Change

(FFC), welcomed the agree-

ment as a "first step with

more to follow" and

pledged to complete the

iourney to "freedom, peace

The agreement, which

Sudan factions agree to

form transitional govt.

now," he said. "And I want to say that 80% of their inventory is INF range systems. So that should not surprise that we would want to have a like capability," he said. The INF treaty was consi-

about that for some time

dered a cornerstone of the global arms control architecture but the U.S. said the bilateral pact had given other countries - namely China free rein to develop their own long-range missiles.

Mr. Esper said he chose Asia for his first trip since taking office on July 23 "to affirm our commitment to the region, to reassure our allies and our partners." The Pentagon chief and U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo are due to meet with their Australian counter-

SUDOKU

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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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Pak. Opposition fails to oust Senate head

Sanjirani, an independent accused of backing the government, survives motion

MAHMAL SARFRAZ

Pakistan's Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjrani surprisingly survived the Opposition's no-confidence vote on August 1 by three votes.

The Opposition has 64 members in the Senate and it needed 53 votes for the motion to pass in the 104-member House, but when the votes were counted, the Opposition managed to get only 50 votes. How did this happen? Analysts see the government's invisible hands in defeating the Opposition motion.

'Democracy weakened'

The government has embarrassed itself and weakened democracy by illegitimately interfering with the Senate elections, said Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Senator Musadik Malik. "Such high-handed interventions weaken the spirit of democracy, and the essence of our Constitution," he told The Hindu.



Sadiq Sanjrani. • AP

The PML-N and the Pakis-

tan Peoples Party (PPP) had submitted a joint resolution in the Senate in July against Chairman Sanjrani, an independent Senator from the Balochistan province, saying he was supporting the government and had lost the confidence of the House. Later the Opposition moved the no-confidence motion. Senator Hasil Bizenjo,

leader of the National Party of Pakistan, was the Opposition's candidate. After the failure of the mo-

tion, Mr. Sanjrani is now

poised to continue his threeyear term until March 2021. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf

(PTI) Senator Shibli Faraz, who is also Leader of the House in the Senate, told The Hindu before the noconfidence move that he had warned the Opposition parties against the move. "I told them that they must refrain from causing instability at the institutional level but they had very short-term objectives in their mind so they sacrificed the long-term objectives like stability and

democracy." However, PML-N's Mr. Malik thinks otherwise. "What has happened in the Senate elections is not surprising. Albeit, it is profoundly sorrowful. The administration is now trying to create a breach in the unity of political parties by churning rumour mills and circulating fake news."

PPP Senator Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar agrees. What happened in the Senate on Thursday was "surprising for many of us". Sen. Khokhar was the first person from the PPP to submit his resignation to party chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari - all other Senators from the PPP followed suit. "I don't want to go back to the House as it is about my dignity and principles." Mr. Faraz of the PTI says this defeat in the Senate will

not only demoralise the Opposition but it should make them think that what they have started is not going to end here. "They have discredited themselves. They have exposed their weaknesses. they have exposed their incoherence, and they have also allowed themselves to be humiliated at such a juncture where they were about to start a movement against the government and that has terribly destroyed their planning. The first step that they took, first initiative that they took, was badly defeated. This also shows how brittle they are when it comes to a

united stand."

The FFC said both sides were expected to sign it on

and justice" in Sudan.

Opposition to appoint Prime Minister Sunday. The declaration states that the FFC will appoint a Prime Minister as soon as the document is signed. The Prime Minister will be tasked to form the

government in consultation

with the FFC. The declara-

tion also envisages the ap-

pointment of a 300-mem-

ber legislative assembly. The FFC would have 67% of its seats and other political groups not associated with Mr. Bashir would have the rest. Once the transitional government - or sovereign council - starts work, Sudan embarks on a three-year transition period expected lead to elections.

The negotiators agreed last month that the sovereign council would have 11 members - five officers selected by the military council, five civilians chosen by the FFC and another civilian to be agreed upon by both sides. Its first leader will be from the military.

RCEP must fix trade deficit, China told

At Ministerial meet, India flags need to address trade imbalance; it has a deficit with 11 member nations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

India has told China that the proposed mega free trade agreement RCEP should address the causes of high trade imbalances among the member countries, the Commerce Ministry said on Saturday.

The matter was among the issues raised by Commerce Secretary Anup Wadhawan in his meeting with Wang Shouwen, the Vice Minister of China's Commerce Ministry, on the sidelines of RCEP inter-sessional ministerial meeting in Beijing on Friday.

The Secretary "emphasised on the importance of an RCEP agreement that would duly address the causes of existing trade imbalances," the Ministry said in a statement. Mr. Wadhawan is in Beijing for the eighth RCEP inter-sessional ministerial meeting.



India has sought greater market access from China for its products to narrow the high trade deficit. • GETTYIMAGES/ISTOCK

A joint statement, issued after the two-day RCEP ministerial meeting, said that the Ministers noted that over two-thirds of market access negotiations have reached mutually satisfactory outcomes, and that work on the remaining areas were being intensified through constructive engagements.

Determined to keep the

momentum towards achieving the Leaders' mandate to conclude the RCEP negotiations by the end of the year, the Ministers "called on all members to find pragmatic and solution-oriented approaches to narrow divergence on the various remaining issues", it added.

Covering 47.4% of the global population, 32.2% of the

global economy, 29.1% of global trade, and 32.5% of global investment flows in 2018, the Ministers emphasised that RCEP is the most important trade agenda in the region, supportive of an open, inclusive, and rules-based trading system, and an enabling trade and investment environment.

The RCEP bloc comprises 10 ASEAN group members (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Laos and Vietnam), and their trade partners India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. India registered a trade deficit in 2018-19 with 11 RCEP member countries of the 16 nations that have been negotiating a mega trade pact since November 2012.

In 2018-19, India's trade deficit with China stood at \$50.2 billion.

"India's concerns regarding market access and other issues leading to imbalanced trade between some of the partner countries was specifically flagged during the meetings," the Ministry said.

The Secretary also raised bilateral trade issues with the Chinese Minister. India has sought greater market access from China for its products like sugar, rice and pharmaceuticals to narrow the high trade deficit.

He also pushed for greater

market access to other items such as milk and milk products, pomegranate, soybean meal, and okra. Besides, he asked for easing of the business visa regime by China for Indians. In his meeting with Boonyarit Kalayanamit, Permanent Secretary of Thailand, the Secretary requested Thailand to improve its offer in goods and services under RCEP.

SEBI voices concern over related-party transactions

'There has been a decline of trust in corporate governance'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Saturday expressed concern over related-party transactions, a method "frequently" employed by corporates for diversion of funds.

The capital markets regulator also said another means of such diversion was extension of loans.

"Related-party transactions are being frequently used for diversion of funds by corporates. Another instance is extension of loans of companies to related parties. The list is endless. This really bothers the regulator," SEBI's Executive Director Amarjeet Singh said.

Speaking at the Financial Market Conclave organised by CII here, he said these practices should be discontinued in the interest of listed companies, promoters and related parties. Mr. Singh said fraudulent related-party

transactions were being

used for "siphoning of

funds." Mr. Singh added that

regarding corporate gover-

nance, there had been a de-

cline of trust for which the

SEBI had already initiated

steps.

"Serious corporate governance issues witnessed a linear rise causing a number

of company failures. Corporate governance is aimed at keeping the trust of various stakeholders. Learning from the global financial crisis, this was far from satisfactory," Mr. Singh said.

Non-disclosure concerns There had also been instances of non-disclosure of valuation reports, he said, adding that the companies resorted to complex structures to hide the risk from siphoning funds. In this context, he said the SEBI was enhancing monitoring of compliance, along with the stock exchanges. "SEBI had prescribed standard operating procedures for dealing non-compliances, which can lead to freezing of shareholding of promoters and suspension of trading in

Lenders extend Jet sale deadline by a week to Aug. 10

'Extension is to ensure objectives of IBC are achieved'

 $\underline{\mathtt{PRES}}\mathtt{S} \ \mathtt{TRUST} \ \mathtt{OF} \ \mathtt{INDIA}$

The lenders to the defunct Jet Airways on Saturday decided to extend the deadline for submitting expression of interest (EoI) by a week to August 10.

Late last month, the resolution professional (RP) Ashish Chhawchharia had floated EoIs for selling stake in the airline that had stopped flying since mid-April.

Today [Saturday] was the deadline to put in the EoIs and so far, preliminary interest has been received from four parties.

"On the basis of requests received from credible, interested resolution applicants for some additional time, the deadline for submission of EoI is being provi-



sionally extended by a week to August 10," the lenders said in a regulatory filing. The extension is to ensure the objectives of the IBC are achieved and also to maximise the value of assets of the debtor, it said.

Earlier this week, the lead banker to the airline State Bank of India had approved ₹10 crore in interim funding and other banks are also in the process of approving the same. This was after the NCLT had, on July 23, asked the RP to discuss salary concerns with the lenders.

The tribunal said even if 100% could not be paid to employees, a portion of the salary has to be paid, keeping the human interest in mind.

The lenders, who have 51% stake in the airline, had, on June 17, sent the carrier – which stopped flying on April 17 – to the NCLT as they could not get a buyer.

As of July 4, the RP had received claims worth over ₹25,500 crore, including over ₹200 crore from founder Naresh Goyal, submitted by the holding company of the airline JetAir.

KFA fraud: PNB fined for delay in reporting

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Punjab National Bank (PNB) said the RBI had imposed a penalty of ₹50 lakh on it for delay in reporting of fraud in the account of Kingfisher Airlines.

"RBI observed from the fraud monitoring report-1 submitted by PNB on July, 10 2018, that the bank had delayed the reporting of fraud in the account of Kingfisher Airlines Limited," the bank said in a regulatory filing.

In a separate filing, Bank of Baroda said the RBI had imposed a fine of ₹50 lakh on it for delay in reporting fraud in an account.

Meanwhile, State Bank of India said the central bank had fined the lender ₹50 lakh for non-compliance relating to reporting of frauds.

Coffee Day wants more time to finalise first quarter results

Firm attributes delay to 'unexpected developments'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

V.G. Siddhartha-promoted Coffee Day Enterprises said due to 'certain unavoidable circumstances', the board of directors shall not consider the financial results of the company and its subsidiaries for the quarter ended June 30 at the meeting scheduled for August 8.

In a stock exchange filing,

the company said it had taken adequate steps to complete the quarterly review before the stipulated time line. However due to recent developments which were disclosed to the exchanges from time to time, the review and subsequent preparation of the quarterly financial results for the quarter (Q1) was not expected to be



completed by the stipulated time.

In this regard, the company intends to further extend the date of submission of the quarterly financial results for the quarter ended June 30 to the stock exchanges.

The revised date of the meeting to consider the said quarterly financial results

The firm also informed bourses about resignation of independent director
shall be communicated ex-

peditiously, said company secretary and compliance officer Sadananda Poojary, in a filing. The company had also informed the stock exchanges

that Sulakshana Raghavan, an independent director on the board of Coffee Day Enterprises, had resigned with effect from August 1. "We wish to clarify that Ms. Raghavan has resigned

"We wish to clarify that Ms. Raghavan has resigned for personal reasons and has confirmed that there are no further reasons for her resignation," said the company in another filing.

Tender No.LDCL/SHIP/P&I/2019

Trade finance firm Drip raises \$25 mn

stocks", he said.

M. SOUNDARIYA PREETHA
COIMBATORE

Drip Capital, which extends finance to small and medium-scale exporting industries, has raised \$25 million, taking the total amount raised by it so far to \$100 million.

Drip Capital said the total funding includes \$45 million in equity and \$55 million in debt.

Pushkar Mukewar, cofounder and co-CEO of the
company, told *The Hindu*that Drip Capital started
operations in India in 2016
and had ventured into
Mexico six months ago. It
recently entered the UAE
market. "The funds will be
used to launch services in
emerging countries in
southeast Asia and to
strengthen presence in
countries where the company is present," he said.

RITES Ltd.

Union Bank Q1 net up 73%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Union Bank of India reported a 73% increase in net profit to ₹225 crore for the quarter ended June 30, 2019 due to lower provisioning for bad loans.

Provision for bad loans fell to ₹1,431 crore during April-June 2019, from ₹1,803 crore in the yearago quarter.

Asset quality improved as gross non-performing assets (NPAs) fell to 15.18% of gross advances as on June 30, 2019, from 16% a year earlier. While net interest income declined to ₹2,519 crore from ₹2,626 crore, treasury income grew 29.7% to ₹345 crore.

Slippages to bad loans were ₹3,090 crore as compared to ₹4,652 crore in the same period of the previous year.

MRPL reports Q1 net loss of ₹450.53 crore

Refiner's revenue falls 33.66%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MUMBAI

Managalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) reported a net loss of ₹450.53 crore for the first quarter compared to a net profit of ₹237.47 crore a year earlier.

The state-owned refiner

posted the loss on a 33.66% fall in revenues to ₹11,175.6 crore. MRPL operates a 3-lakh barrels per day (bpd) coastal refinery in Karnataka.

The company reported negative earnings per share (EPS) of ₹2.57 compared to EPS of ₹1.35 in the year-earlier period.

MRPL is gearing up to upgrade the fuel quality to BS VI standard as mandated by the Union Government, to



become effective on April 1, 2020.

MRPL is likely to be merged with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) after ONGC bought 51.11% in HPCL for ₹36,915 crore in January 2018.

While HPCL has 16.96% stake in MRPL at present, ONGC holds 71.63%, stake.

Fairfax raises stake in Quess to 32.35%

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited (Fairfax) has acquired an additional 2,56,200 shares of Quess Corp Limited (Quess) to enhance its holding in the business service provider to 32.35%.

"Upon completion of the acquisition of these additional Quess shares and the previously announced spin out of Quess shares by Thomas Cook (India) Limited, the parent of Quess and a subsidiary of Fairfax, to its shareholders, Fairfax will own 32.35% of Quess," it said. "We expect to increase our shareholding as we believe Quess will be a great long-term investment," said Prem Watsa, chairman & CEO, Fairfax.

Sun shuts two units in Vadodara

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Drug major Sun Pharma on Saturday said it was discontinuing operations at two clinical pharmacology units in Vadodara, Gujarat to bring in efficiencies in cost and processes. To ensure optimal utilisation of clinical pharmacology units (CPUs) that conduct bio-equivalence studies, the company is discontinuing operations at two centres at Tandalja and Akota in Vadodara, a Sun Pharmaceutical spokesperson said.



COCHIN SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY (CSEZA)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
KAKKANAD, COCHIN – 37

WAPCOS Limited invites the following e-tender on behalf of CSEZA

1. Extra Civil works for SDF Building.

SITC of Substation & DG Set for SDF Building.
 Preparation of Masterplan for CSEZ.
 For details visit: https://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprochome/wapcosTel No.0484-2413544, E-Mail: cochincsez@wapcos.co.in

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Lakes), 3rd Floor, New Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002

New Building, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002

No.: DCF(Lakes)/TEND/01/2019-20

Date: 01.08.2019

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

(Short Term Tender Notification) (Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The Deputy Conservator of Forests (Lakes) BBMP, invites tenders on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Name of the Work

Package XXII: (1) Improvements works at Rachenahalli lake. (2) Improvements works at Kattigenahalli lake. (3) Improvements works at Venkateshpura lake. (4) Improvements works at Narasipura lake (Sy. No. 20). (5) Improvements works at Narasipura lake (Sy. No. 26). (6) Improvements works at Doddabommasandra lake. (7) Pumping water from Doddabommasandra lake to Narasipura lake and Singapura lake. (8) Comprehensive development of Singapura lake.

Approximate Value of Work: Rs. 1,900.00 Lakh

EMD : Rs. 19,00,000/-

(1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from 08.08.2019. (2) Pre bid meeting will be held on 20.08.2019 at 12:00 Noon in the office of the Chief Engineer Lakes, BBMP. (3) Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before 4:00 p.m. on 29.08.2019 and the opening of tenders will be as per the e-procurement portal guidelines. (4) Technical Bids will be opened on the website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in in the office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Lakes) on 31.08.2019 at 11:30 a.m. Further details may be obtained from the above office, during office hours or website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Deputy Conservator of Forests (Lakes), BBMP "Pay Development Charges, Help to Develop Bengaluru"

e-tender or sealed quotation method (should not be opt both the options)
Help Desk (e-tendering): 08040482000/+919686115318 for clarification
contact O(A): 04842323448/09446073122.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Name of Work: "Earthwork in Formation, construction of RUB with approaches, Retaining wall & Drains, Supply of PSC sleepers, Turnouts sleepers, Supply of Ballast, P.Way fittings & Track linking works, construction of building and allied works for proposed Rail connectivity of Spur no. 3&4, Jagannath washery under Jagannath Area, Talcher". Estimated cost: Rs. 37,90,67,904.00,

EMD: Rs. 25 Lakhs, Completion period: 11 (Eleven) months, Last time and date of submission of bid 15.00 Hrs (IST) of 27.08.2019. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP

LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD

Ph: 04842323448/458, Web: www.lakshadweep.gov.in

E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com

LDCL invites E-Tender/Sealed tender for Protection and Indemnity Insurance from IG and Non-IG Insurance Companies approved by the DG

Shipping (Government of India) for our 28 vessels for a period or (20.08.2019 to 20.08.2020) in two bid systems. For details on e-tender

please visit website: www.tenderwizard.com/UTL and sealed tender visit

our website: www.lakshadweep.gov.in. Due date for e-tender and sealed tender is extended to 07.08.2019 at 11 am. Bidders may opt either

(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)

(PROJECT ORGANISATION)
Tender Notice
SIGNALLING WORK

For and on behalf of The President of India, The Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Project, Southern Railway, Chetpet, Chennai - 31 invites **ONLINE** E-tenders for the following works as per Tender Notice given in our E-Tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in**. The Tenderer(s)/ Contractor(s) intending to apply for e-tender for work, need to get enrolled in the e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in** and only online Tender will be accepted. All the Tenderer(s) / Contractor(s) have to deposit full Earnest Money (EMD) and Tender Document Cost (TDC) as stipulated for the Tender, through online modes as permitted in IREPS applicable through Net banking, Debit / Credit Cards or Payment Gateway only. It is responsibility of Tenderer(s) / Contractor(s) to obtain Digital Signature Certificates for participating e-tendering.

SI. No.	E-Tender Notice No.	Name of the work and its location
1.	SG / PROJ / MS / PTJ S&T Training Center / 2019 / EOT (13) dt.01.08.2019	Provision of Training Equipment's - Provision of Electronic Interlocking System (Model - WESTRACE - MARK-II) and other Training Equipment's at S&T Training School, Podanur in Salem Division of Southern Railway.
SI. No.	Description of Work	Details
1.	Approximate cost of the work	₹4,70,97,505.84
2.	Cost of Tender Form (Rupees)	₹11,200/-
3.	Earnest Money to be Deposited (Rupees)	₹3,85,500.00
4.	Completion Period of work	4 Months
5.	Eligibility Criteria to participation for this Tender	Refer Para 2.5 of Tender Document
6.	Participation of JV	Not Allowed for this tender
7.	Tender Type & Bidding System	Open E-Tender & Single Packet System
8.	Tender closing date and time in IREPS online web portal	upto 14.00 Hrs of 24.08.2019
9.	Tender opening date and time in IREPS online web portal	After 14.00 Hrs of 24.08.2019
10.	Website particulars	www.ireps.gov.in
11.	Notice board particulars where details can be obtained	Office of the Dy. Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Project, Southern Railway, No. 10 Mc. Nichols Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031.
		ditions and other details have already been

Note: The detailed terms and conditions and other details have already beer uploaded on the website (www.ireps.gov.in). The online bids for tenders floated through the above portal are required to be digitally signed.

Deputy Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer / Project

Deputy Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer / Proje No. 10 Mc. Nichols Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031.

Godrej Security unveils robotic locker 'Autovault'

Lockers go high-tech, need less space

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

Godrej Security Solutions (GSS) has introduced a robotic locker 'Autovault.'

"The robotic locker is modern and sophisticated. It easy to instal and requires less space," said Pushkar Gokhale, vice-presidenthead, B2B, Godrej Security Solutions. "Currently, the technology is being imported from Japan," he said.

'One above the other' "It does away with the need

"It does away with the need for an aisle as lockers are stacked one above the other like the storage system. In a span of 800 sq. ft., at least 1,000 lockers can be stacked. One can access the cabin. Instead of a user going in search of the locker, the latter will surface in front of him, after the user swipes the card once at the entrance and upon punching the PIN at the desk," he said.

Autovault offers 'easy ac-

locker from the comfort of a

cessibility and high security' as its installation mandates six walls of strong room. It can also have built-in sensors to activate the alarm in case of tremors or attacks, he said. "We have orders for 4-5 units from Tamil Nadu and Kerala. In the next two to three years, we plan to instal about 10-15 units and earn revenue of ₹25-

30 crore," he said.

Numeric sets sights on Bangladesh for exports

Firm aiming at ₹70 crore in shipments

N. ANAND CHENNAI

Numeric, a group company of Legrand, has set its sights on Bangladesh market to boost export volumes, according to a top official. "Currently, our export re-

venue is very small and we want to double it by end 2020," said Palash Nandy, chief executive officer, Numeric. The city-based firm, a ma-

nufacturer of uninterruptible power supply (UPS) systems and a power solutions provider, has been exporting products in small quantities to Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Nigeria.

"Now is the time to focus on the Bangladesh market.

months ago. It is growing and will continue to do well. There is demand for good quality products there, especially for 3-phase UPS systems," he said.

By end-2020, Numeric ex-

We entered the country six

pects to clock export revenue of ₹60 crore to ₹70 crore from Bangladesh and ₹50 crore from Nigeria. Currently, the Bangladesh market is served from Kolkata and Numeric plans to have its own office there.

On the Nigerian market,

he said it was largely driven

by single-phase UPS systems meant for micro data centres. It was also witnessing an uptick in demand for 3-phase UPS systems.



Lower rates the growth key?

What does the government need to do to stimulate the economy? Is cutting interest rates enough?

K. BHARAT KUMAR

The story so far: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lowered the repo rate to 5.75% in the Monetary Policy Review in June. This was a level last seen nine years ago. Despite three rate cuts aggregating to 75 basis points in this cycle beginning February, economic growth has failed to pick up and, in fact, has been slowing down even more, There is clamour for another big cut from the RBI in the upcoming monetary policy announcement this week. This is because the transmission of the earlier cuts by banks to borrowers has been poor. By the RBI's own assessment, only 21 basis points have been passed on to borrowers by banks in this cycle.

What are the repo and reverse repo rates?

The RBI uses the repo rate to influence the interest rate structure in the economy and to manage inflation. Technically, the reporate is the rate at which commercial banks would borrow from the RBI, and the reverse repo is the rate of interest they would earn when they deposit funds with the central bank.

What is the stand worldwide as far as governments are concerned on cutting rates?

The traditional argument is that the lower the interest rate, the better for businesses as it brings down the cost of capital, making investments more attractive. Any government would love this as the country would then draw higher investments leading to higher growth and more job creation. Governments abhor higher interest rates as, theoretically, these push up project costs and keep investors away.

A case in point is U.S. President George H.W. Bush's election loss in 1992 to Bill Clinton. The former President actually pointed fingers at Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan as the reason for the defeat. The argument was that had Mr. Greenspan lowered rates, it would have made the economic recovery that the U.S. was going through more visible and hence (purportedly) leading to a re-election of Mr.

One view on this tug-of-war is that the government of the day typically has a relatively short-term view when it comes to growth but that as an institution, a central bank has the long-term view where low inflation would eventually lead to high growth scenarios.

In this context, nothing comes more quickly to mind than the tussle between P. Chidambaram as Finance Minister and Duvvuri Subbarao

Any revival of economic activity will be contingent on joint efforts by the government on the fiscal front to stimulate demand, and the RBI, to keep interest rates low

as RBI Governor. Despite the best attempts of the government to get the RBI to cut rates, and thus stoke growth, Mr. Subbarao insisted on higher rates in order to keep money supply and inflation low. In his book, Who Moved My Interest Rate?: Leading the Reserve Bank of India Through Five Turbulent *Years*, the former KBI Governor makes this very point: that to experience sustained high growth, a low-inflation scenario is a pre-requisite.

This view is supported by a paper, 'Reconsidering Monetary Policy: An

Empirical Examination of the Relationship Between Interest Rates and Nominal GDP Growth in the U.S., U.K., Germany and Japan', published in 2018 in the journal Ecological Economics. The authors, Kang-Soek Lee and Richard A. Werner, found that nominal interest rates are consistently positively correlated with growth.

A central bank also keeps an eye on the fiscal deficit maintained by the government. A high fiscal deficit usually makes it difficult for the central bank to rein in inflation, hence causing it to be hawkish and raising interest rates. The late economist and former RBI Deputy Governor Subir Gokarn's was a voice that was constantly egging the government of the day to keep the deficit under control.

Why aren't Indian commercial banks passing on the RBI's rate cuts to consumers quicker?

Deposits from the public form a chunk of funds that commercial banks use to lend to borrowers. Deposit rates have remained high; only last week, the State Bank of India lowered its rates citing improved liquidity. If deposit rates remain high, then the cost of funds for a bank remains high no matter where the RBI pegs its repo rate. Deposit rates have remained high for two reasons. One, competing interest rates in the government's small savings schemes have remained high – even after a cut in late June, the Public Provident Fund and the National Savings Certificate yield 7.9%. Compare this with the 6.8% or so that one would get at SBI, the nation's largest bank.

The other reason that deposit rates have remained high is the liquidity crunch triggered by the sudden inability of the non-banking finance company IL&FS to pay back loans since last September. The RBI intervened to infuse liquidity soon after but these interventions were not enough.

However, the liquidity position has improved in the last two months following consistent market operations by the RBI under its new Governor Shaktikanta Das. This is reflected in the falling yields on government securities. The environment is, thus, conducive for banks to pass on the benefit of lower interest rates to borrowers.

Will lower rates spur economic growth?

Capital is one of the three main factors of production, which are critical to the growth of a commercial entity, the other two being land and labour. But capital is only a necessary, not sufficient, condition. Land, unless allocated by the local government, is too costly for investors seeking to set up shop. On labour, even if adequate hands are available for a job, the skill quotient is still low. Training graduates to be job-ready is a form of tax that companies pay. Also to be taken into account is the market environment and demand. If end users are seeing lesser money in hand than earlier, demand will certainly be impacted.

Therefore, in an environment where the other factors of production are not favourable for an investor, low interest rates by themselves may not prove attractive enough. Any revival of economic activity will be contingent on joint efforts by the government on the fiscal front to stimulate demand, and the RBI, to keep interest rates low.

A rate cut in the upcoming monetary policy announcement this week has to be backed with some positive measures from the government. To hope that a rate cut will suffice to re-ignite economic activity would be naive.

What are the guidelines on migrant camps?

Why is the government keen that States set up detention centres for illegal immigrants? Where should they come up?

VIJAITA SINGH

The story so far: On Wednesday, the Delhi Police told the Supreme Court that nearly 500 illegal Bangladeshi migrants have been deported from the capital in the past 28 months. Last month, the Minister of State for Home, Nityanand Rai, informed the Lok Sabha that State governments have been instructed from time to time to set up detention centres. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has also drawn up a manual for States and Union Territories. At present, there are six detention centres in Assam, the highest among the States. At least 10 more are set to come up before the final publication of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) on August 31.

What are detention centres?

Detention centres are set up to house illegal immigrants or foreigners who have completed their jail sentence but their deportation process to the country concerned has not been initiated or completed. It is also set up to accommodate foreign convicts in criminal cases who have completed their jail terms and await deportation. According to the MHA, these holding camps are also "to restrict the movement of foreigners staying back illegally and thereby ensure that they are physically available at all times for expeditious repatriation or deportation".

What does the Home Ministry manual say?

The MHA framed a 'Model Detention Centre/Holding Centre/Camp Manual', which was circulated to all States and Union Territories on January 9. Mr. Nityanand Rai informed the Lok Sabha on July 2 that State governments have been instructed from time to time (2009, 2012, 2014 and 2018), to set up detention centres. Under Section 3(2)(c) of The Foreigners Act, 1946, the Central Government has the powers to deport foreign nationals staying illegally in the country. These powers have also been entrusted to State governments under Article 258(1) of the Constitution and under Article 239(1) for administrators of Union Territories.

Some centres already exist in some States and Union Territories. The intention is to standardise the camps, and the States and Union Territories have been asked to implement the orders.

What triggered the move?

On September 20, 2018 activist Harsh Mander filed a petition in the Supreme Court to highlight the plight of families languishing in six detention centres in Assam; members of the families who were declared foreigners were put in camps separated from each

The top court sent a notice to the Centre and Assam government seeking their response. In the petition, Mr. Mander compared the situation of these families with the family separation policy imposed on illegal immigrants in the U.S. by the Trump administration. The petition itself was based on a report submitted by Mr. Mander when he, as Minorities Monitor for the National Human Rights



Commission, had visited detention centres in Assam from January 22-24 in 2018.

The first major finding of the mission led by Mr. Mander was that the "State does not make any distinction, for all practical purposes, between detention centres and jails; and thus between detainees and ordinary inmates". It found there was no clear legal regime governing the rights and entitlements of detainees. The report said, "Consequently, the jail authorities appear to apply the Assam Jail Manual to them, but deny them even the benefits, like parole, waged work etc., that the

inmates get under the

jail rules." It was in this The manual says context that the Home Ministry framed the States require 'no guidelines for detention specific approval' centres across the from the Home country; a manual for Ministry to set up jail inmates was drafted 'detention centres'. in 2016. The State It lays down that the government officials centres should be had also informed the set up outside mission that they were jail premises

not aware of any "specific guidelines or instructions from the Central or State government to guide the treatment and rights of the detainees." The detention centres are therefore de facto, if not de jure, administered under the Assam Jail Manual, and the detainees are treated in some ways as convicted prisoners, and in

convicted prisoners, it was found. It was in the context of this petition that on November 5, 2018, the Centre informed the Supreme Court that it was framing new guidelines for keeping foreign nationals in detention centres across the

other ways are deprived even of the rights of

What are some of the guidelines?

There are 39 points in the manual. The manual says that States require "no specific approval" from the Home Ministry to set up "detention centres /holding centres/ camps". It lays down that centres should be set up outside the jail premises and their numbers and size should be decided by the States keeping in view the actual number of foreigners to be housed as well as the progress in deportation proceedings.

The manual says: "On completion of the sentence of the foreigner, the jail authorities concerned may hand over the foreign national to the authority in charge of the detention centre." There should also be a provision to facilitate the stay of such foreigners in "metro" cities during the waiting period between their interview with the embassy concerned and issuance of travel documents.

The MHA has said the detention centres should be designed for inmates to maintain standards of living in consonance with "human dignity". Well-lit, airy rooms adhering to basic hygiene standards and equipped with electricity, water and communication facilities are to be provided at the centre. Other than CCTVs and round-the-clock security personnel, the manual adds, the centre's boundary wall should be at least 10 feet high and ringed with barbed wires with strict access control measures. There should also be a periodic security audit by the appropriate authorities. The order says that detention centres should also have open spaces for detainees to move around and segregated accommodation for men and women. "It should be ensured that members of the same family are not separated and all family members are housed in same detention centre." Mr. Mander's report had highlighted how men, women and boys above six years lodged in detention centres in Assam were separated from members of their families. It says: "Many had not met their spouse for several years, several never once since their detention, since women and men were housed in different jails, and they were never given parole or permission to meet." The MHA manual has addressed these concerns saying no restrictions shall be imposed to meet family members. It also asks States to pay special attention to the needs of women, nursing mothers, transgenders and open a crèche in the camp. The manual says, "Children lodged in [a] detention centre may be provided educational facilities by admitting them in local schools."

How many detention centres are there?

Assam has six detention centres, the highest among the States. At least 10 more are to come up in the wake of the final publication of the NRC by August 31. The NRC is being updated as per directions of the Supreme Court to segregate Indian citizens living in Assam from those who had illegally entered the State after March 25, 1971. Nearly 41 lakh people were excluded from the final draft. Of these, 36 lakh have filed claims against the exclusion.

Since 1985, when Foreigners Tribunals (FTs) were first set up in Assam, till February 28 this year, as many as 63,959 persons were declared foreigners through ex-parte proceedings. The Assam government informed the State Assembly last week that 1,145 people declared foreigners by 100 FTs across the State were lodged in detention centres till July 9 this year. Of them, 335 people who have spent more than three years in these centres were to be released following a Supreme Court order. The Central government had informed the Supreme Court in February that of thousands of persons declared foreigners by the FTs in Assam, only 162 could be deported to Bangladesh. In 2016 and 2017, 39 Bangladeshi nationals were deported from detention camps in Assam, according to what the MHA informed Parliament in January 2018.

Why is India pulled to deep-sea mining?

What is the country's Deep Ocean Mission all about? What are the metals that can be extracted?

ASWATHI PACHA

The story so far: India's ambitious 'Deep Ocean Mission' is all set to be launched this year. Dr. Madhavan Rajeevan, Secretary, Union Ministry of Earth Sciences, announced on July 27 that the ₹8,000-crore plan to explore deep ocean minerals will start from October. He said, "We finally have the in-principle approval to go ahead with the mission. Now expenditure plans will be drawn up and circulated [to various institutions affiliated to the Ministry] for executing programmes and we hope to launch by October 31."

What will be mined from the deep ocean?

One of the main aims of the mission is to explore and extract polymetallic nodules. These are small potatolike rounded accretions composed of minerals such as manganese, nickel, cobalt, copper and iron hydroxide. They lie scattered on the Indian Ocean floor at depths of about 6,000 m and the size can vary from a few millimetres to centimetres. These metals can be extracted and used in electronic devices, smartphones, batteries and even for solar

Where will the team mine?

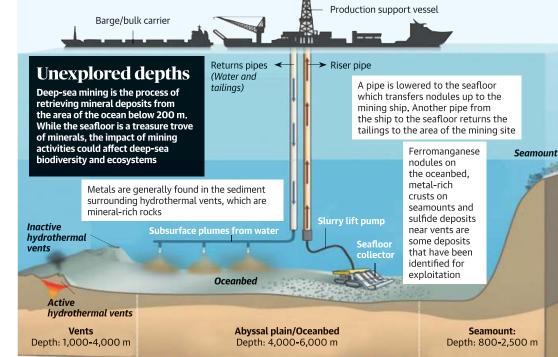
The International Seabed Authority (ISA), an autonomous international organisation established under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, allots the 'area' for deep-sea mining. India was the first country to receive the status of a 'Pioneer Investor ' in 1987 and was given an area of about 1.5 lakh sq km in the Central Indian Ocean Basin (CIOB) for nodule exploration. In 2002, India signed a contract with the ISA and after complete resource analysis of the seabed 50% was surrendered and the country retained an area of 75,000 sq km.

According to a release from the Ministry of Earth Sciences, the estimated polymetallic nodule resource potential in this area is 380 million tonnes (MT), containing 4.7 MT of nickel, 4.29 MT of copper, 0.55 MT of cobalt and 92.59 MT of manganese. Further studies have helped narrow the mining area to 18,000 sq km which will be the 'First Generation Mine-site'.

Which are the other countries that are in the race to mine the deep sea?

Apart from the CIOB, polymetallic nodules have been identified from the central Pacific Ocean. It is known as the Clarion-Clipperton Zone.

According to the ISA's website, it has entered into 15-year contracts for exploration for polymetallic nodules, polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the deep seabed with 29 contractors. Later it was extended for five more years till 2022. China, France, Germany, Japan, South Korea, Russia and also some small islands such as the Cook Islands, Kiribati have joined the race for deep



Source: International Union for Conservation of Nature, Nature Journal

sea mining. Most of the countries have tested their technologies in shallow waters and are yet to start deep-sea extraction.

When will India start mining?

India's mining site is at about a depth of 5,500 metres, where there is a high pressure and extremely low temperature. Explains Dr. G.A. Ramadass, head of the Deep Sea Technologies Group, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, "We have developed and demonstrated the mining technology

The deep sea's biodiversity and ecology remain poorly understood, making it difficult to assess the environmental impact and frame adequate guidelines

with artificial nodules at 500 metres depth. We have also deployed Remotely Operated Vehicle and In-situ Soil Tester in the depth of 6,000 metres and have a thorough understanding of the mining area at the Central Indian Ocean Basin." He adds, "The mining machine newly developed for 6000 metres depth was able to

move about 900 metres and will be deployed soon at 5,500 metres. We hope to test it in October this year. Weather conditions and availability of ships also play a role. More tests are being conducted to understand how to bring the nodules up to the surface. A riser system comprising an umbilical cable or

electromechanical cable and a hose is being developed."

What will be the environmental impact?

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), these deep remote locations can be home to unique species that have adapted themselves to conditions such as poor oxygen and sunlight, high pressure and extremely low temperatures. Such mining expeditions can make them go extinct even before they are known to science. The deep sea's biodiversity and ecology remain poorly understood, making it difficult to assess the environmental impact and frame adequate

Dr. Ramadass adds that though strict guidelines have been framed, they are only exploration guidelines. A new set of exploitation guidelines are being worked out and discussions are on with the ISA. Environmentalists are also worried about the sediment plumes harming the filter feeders in the upper ocean layers. Additional concerns have been raised about the noise and light pollution and oil

Is deep sea mining economically viable? The latest estimate from the ISA says it will be

commercially viable only if about three million tonnes are mined per year. More studies are being carried out to understand how the technology can be scaled up and used efficiently.

Elephants and carbon

If forest elephants go extinct, it can seriously increase carbon dioxide levels, a study published in Nature Geoscience claims. Elephant populations in African forests encouraged the growth of slow-growing trees which had a high wood density and sequestered more carbon, it found. This is because they preferentially eat fast-growing varieties leaving slow-growing ones.



TESS, NASA's mission to search for exoplanets, may have found the first potentially habitable world. The super-Earth exoplanet is named Gi 357 d, which is only 31 light years away, was discovered earlier this year. The exoplanet orbits a diminutive dwarf star and is 22% larger than the Earth. There are two other exoplanets in the system. The super-Earth has a thick atmosphere and may possess

Tigers in India face lurking threat from virus

There is heightened risk of disease transfer from dogs to tigers, leopards in Ranthambhore National Park

ASWATHI PACHA

The Prime Minister's announcement that tiger numbers have increased in the country may be good news. But the loss of habitat, a decline of prey and poaching continues to be a threat to tigers' survival. Along with these, a potential virus – Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) – that can be transmitted from CDV-infected dogs living in and around wildlife sanctuaries has started to raise concern among wildlife biologists.

Canine distemper is a contagious and serious disease caused by a virus that attacks the respiratory, gastrointestinal and nervous systems of puppies and dogs.

Risk of disease transfer

A recent study published in *Threatened* Taxa notes that 86% of the tested dogs around Ranthambhore National Park in Rajasthan carried CDV antibodies in their bloodstream. This means that the dogs are either currently infected or have been infected sometime in their life and have overcome the disease. This finding points out that there is an increased risk of disease transfer from the dogs to tigers and leopards that live in the park.

Last year, over 20 lions from the Gir forest succumbed to the viral infection and now a guideline has been prepared by the National Tiger Conservation Authority to prevent the spillover of the disease to wild animals.

"The main aim should be to vaccinate the free-ranging and domestic



Loss prevention: Last year, over 20 lions from the Gir forest succumbed to the canine distemper virus infection, and now a guideline has been prepared by the National Tiger Conservation Authority . • RAJEEV BHATT

dogs in the area around national parks. A lot of NGOs have started started animal birth control programmes. They need more support from the government," says Dr. Jimmy Borah, Consultant, Species Conservation and Law Enforcement, Panthera, and the corresponding author of the paper. "The disease needs to be recognised and more targeted studies need to be initiated to collect baseline data on CDV from wherever they are reported from in wild carnivores. Understanding the

role of domestic animals as contribu-

tors to a local CDV reservoir is imperative precursor in considering control measures."

Blood samples

The study was done from July to August 2015 when the team visited villages (in a 4 km radius) around the Ranthambhore National Park and collected blood samples from over 100 dogs. The results showed that 86% of the studied dogs had CDV antibodies in their blood. These dogs wander into the forest along with the humans, and there have been cases where leopard have hunted these dogs. "Studies from Russia and Africa have shown that small, isolated wildlife populations are more susceptible and when the virus transmits from one species to another the disease manifestation is worse," adds Dr. Borah.

Easier route

"The easy way out is prevention. Managing any disease in a wildlife population is extremely difficult. Most dogs are free ranging and not owned by any particular person in the village. The government should take the initiative to vaccinate the dogs around wildlife sanctuaries in the country. This would be a good time to vaccinate against rabies as well. It is an investment that requires time and effort but increasing herd immunity will reduce chances of disease spillover to wildlife," says Nadisha Sidhu, first author of the work. She was a researcher with the World Wide Fund for Nature-India when the work was done and is now a consultant for Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, Bengaluru.

Ms. Sidhu says there were only a few CDV suspected cases in India when she started her work in 2015, and so was considered not important. But with the CDV confirmed deaths of lions in Gir, more attention has been drawn to the disease. She hopes more studies are conducted to get countywide data on the disease prevalence so that necessary prevention guidelines can be laid

> Mrunalini K. Gaydhane from IIT Hyderabad and one of the

The researchers found that

each day 10% of the drug was released from the polymer

through diffusion. The drug

was completely released from

the polymer matrix at the end

"We had used mice fibroblast

cells for testing toxicity of the

drug. There was negligible tox-

icity to cells even at the end of

five days. In fact, the cells con-

tinued to multiply," says

Only 20 mg of the drug in

500 mg of polymer was used

for making the table used for

testing. "Our next target is to

of the 10th day.

Negligible toxicity

first authors of the paper.



Bonding: Eye contact has an important role in dog-human relationships. • S. RAMESH KURUP

Eyes of the beholder and the beheld

It is not how the dog looks, but how he 'puppy looks' at his owner



D. BALASUBRAMANIAN

A recent report described the remarkable prowess of a female dog in the Kaziranga National Park in Assam. She could sniff the presence of poachers of the rhinoceros and tigers and warned the forest officials about it. The officials named it Quarmy since she was equal to a quarter of an army. Likewise two dogs named Nirman and Myna sniffed the presence of tigers and their poachers in the Madhya Pradesh forests.

Keen senses

Dogs belong to the wolf family and have inherited a keen sense of smell and vision from them. Wolves have over 300 million smell receptors compared to just 6 million in humans and can smell the presence of someone 3 kilometres away. And they have sharper vision and hearing - they can hear their prey 10 km away. Dogs have inherited these senses of smell, sight and hearing. We know of how dogs sniff malaria and even cancer in humans (see earlier article on 9-12-2018). Happily enough, dogs are tamer than wolves and can be domesticated. A recent report by a team of researchers from UK and USA describes yet another feature of dogs, namely how a dog's facial muscles have evolved over the years as they were domesticated and that their ability to raise their eyebrows resembles ours. This ability, argue the researchers, have triggered their nurturing by humans, making dogs our "best friends" (Kaminski et al., Evolution of facial muscle anatomy in dogs, PNAS,116: 14677-81, July 16, 2019).

Dogs were domesticated about 33,000 years + ago. As they were domesticated by us, we started selecting and preferring those that better matched our relationships. Such selections have involved the ability of dogs that are able to read and use our communications better than other animals are not able to. As the authors point out: "dogs are more skilful in using humans communicative cues like pointing gestures or gaze direction even than human's closest living relative chimpanzees."

Eve contact has turned out to be an important contribution to the dog-human relationship. A Japanese group points out that mutual gaze between dogs and human leads to biochemical changes both in the owner and the pet dog, and an attachment akin to that between a mother and her infant! To quote the researchers again: "The most likely evolutionary scenario is that dog's ancestor must have, to some extent, expressed characteristics that elicited care-giving response from humans. Humans then consciously or unconsciously favoured and therefore selected for those characteristic leading to the analogous adaptations in

Mutual gaze

And of these, mutual eye contact and gazing has been an important contribution. Dog owners know only too well how moving the gaze of their pet is - sometimes so sad that they need to be hugged, and some other time so upsetting that you want punish them. The UK-USA group has done particular research on how the facial muscles and the anatomy of dogs have been selectively evolved to contribute to this mutual eye contact and the "language" expressed in such gazes. We humans favour dogs that show "paedomorphic" (infantlike) features like large forehead, large eyes and so on. The team has also shown that a particular set of facial muscles make the eyebrows raise and lower, which is appealing to us humans.

In order to determine whether domestication has shaped facial muscles to facilitate dog-human communications, the researchers compared in detail the facial anatomical features of domestic dogs on the one hand and grey wolves on the other. Compared to dogs, wolves are unable to raise the inner part of their eyebrows. Also, while dogs have a muscle that pulls the eyelid towards the ear, wolves are not able to. Dogs are also able to produce eyebrow movements that are more frequent and expressive. These are what people call the "Puppy Dog" eye movements - sad, happy, don't care, and other expressions remarkably similar to human infants. There is no such "Puppy Wolf" movement of the eyebrow. And this puppy dog movement of the facial muscle anatomy has come about thanks to selection pressure in breeding based on human preferences.

The best dog need not be the cutest or the most beautiful. It is the one that looks at you and you return. The look is mutual affection. In the California annual contest called the World's Ugliest Dog, the winner in 2019 is "Scamp the Tramp", one with beady eyes, no teeth, short stubby legs, and his owner Ms Yvonne Morones is justly proud of him. It is not how the dog looks, but how he 'Puppy Looks' at his owner and she at him. Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder and the beheld.

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Extreme weather and humans

+ Study finds European heat wave was made more likely, intense by human-induced climate change

ASIAN NEWS INTERNATIONAL

The extreme heat waves that enveloped parts of Western Europe last month were made much more likely and intense by human-induced climate change, a study has found.

A recent report from the World Weather Attribution group has suggested that the continuous days of extreme heat that hit countries like France and Netherlands would have been a once-in-a-millennium occurrence without climate change but were made up to 100 times more probable as a result of it.

In the U.K. and Germany, the event is less rare (with estimated return periods of around 10-30 years in the current climate) and the likelihood is about ten times higher (at least 3 times) due to climate change, the study added.

Though in all these countries, the temperature would have been 1.5 to 3 degrees Celsius lower without climate change.

The said group has analysed all seven heat waves in the 21st century in Europe (2003, 2010, 2015, 2017, 2018 and June 2019), and found that each one was made more likely and more intense due to human-induced climate change.

"The July 2019 heatwave was so extreme over continental Western Europe that the observed magnitudes would have been extremely unlikely without climate change," the report concluded.

A step closer to oral administration of kala-azar drug

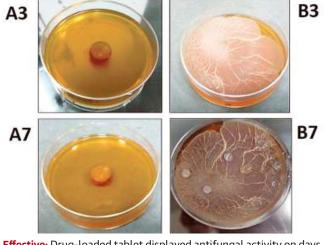
IIT Hyderabad achieved controlled, sustained drug release for 10 days

By encapsulating an antifungal drug in polymer nanofibres, researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Hyderabad have been able to achieve controlled and sustained release of the drug for up to 10 days. As a result, no fungal growth was seen up to seven days when the drug (Amphotericin B) was encapsulated in the polymer. The encapsulated drug can also be used for treating kala-azar.

Oral administration

gal activity against *Candida al*bicans was observed when the encapsulated drug was compressed to form oral tablets. This would mean that oral administration of the drug might become possible if initial results achieved in the lab can be replicated in animal and human clinical trials. Currently, oral administration of the drug has major challenges - high toxicity, reduced bioavailability in the body due to poor solubility in water and high cost.

Researchers from IIT Hyderabad led by Chandra S. Sharma and Saptarshi Majumdar from the Department of Chemical Engineering produced nanofibres containing the drug by electrospinning the druggelatine polymer solution. The gelatine polymer is extremely



Most importantly, the antifun- **Effective:** Drug-loaded tablet displayed antifungal activity on days 3 and 7 (left column) compared with control (right column)

water-loving (hydrophilic) and so is not stable. To increase the stability and allow the drug to be released in a controlled and sustained manner, the researchers used a commercially available crosslinker.

'The drug is found on the surface of the gelatine nanofibres but remains encapsulated when compressed into ta-

blets," says Prof. Majumdar. "The cross-linked polymer matrix allows the drug to diffuse slowly when the polymer degrades. We have controlled the diffusion rate so it is released over a period of 10 days," says Prof. Sharma. Only in vitro studies have been carried to test the stability of the tablet and controlled release. published in the journal Nano-Structures & Nano-Objects.

Stability of tablet

Since the main goal was to study if the drug can be adminishours at low pH. The polymer

The results of the study were

tered orally, the researchers tested the stability of the tablet for eight hours at extremely acidic condition (1.5 pH). The stomach has acidic pH and the polymer should be stable for up to four hours. After eight hours at low pH, the tablets were kept for 10 days in an alkaline medium of 7.4 pH. "The tablets were stable for eight matrix showed signatures of degradation after the sixth day but was stable for 10 days," says

achieve the same drug release profile with dosages used for therapeutic purposes," Prof. Sharma says.

Gaydhane.

ic. In order to reduce toxicity,

The chemical crosslinker

used in the study is highly tox-

the researchers exposed the gelatine polymer to saturated vapour of the crosslinker for just six-eight minutes. In the conventional process, crosslinking takes 24 hours to complete. "Reducing the time taken to cross-link reduces toxicity. But we are now looking at increasing the stability of the polymer matrix without using any crosslinker," Prof. Majumdar says.

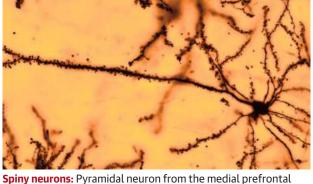
NCBS study shows how stress can affect fear memory

It may be possible to reverse fear memories that have been abnormally strengthened by severe stress

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

Fear memories formed before and after experiencing chronic stress can have very different behavioural effects. They also affect the brain morphology differently, finds a study. The researchers, based in National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) Bengaluru came to this conclusion by studying male Wistar rats.

The researchers find that it may be possible to reverse fear memories that have been abnormally strengthened by severe stress. This is because. they find, the process of fear memory reversal itself is not impaired by stress. "This is the good news emerging from our study. Of course, these ideas need to be tested in human subjects in great detail before therapeutic relevance can be fully assessed," says Sumantra Chattarji of NCBS in



cortex of a rat, showing the dendritic spines.

whose lab the study was conducted. The results are published in the journal Psychopharmacology.

In a pair of experiments that studied the behavioural aspects, the rats were taught to fear a 20-second-long tone of approximately 70 decibels. Later, they were subjected to a training where they were made to realise and learn that

they need not fear the tone, which the scientists call as fear extinction exercise. In the first experiment, the

experimental rats were subjected to chronic immobilisation stress for 10 days after which fear memories were formed. Another group was subjected to same stress for 10 days but here the fear memories were formed on the

first day. The control groups in both cases were not subjected to the stress treatment and were only given the fear treatments.

The results showed that when fear memories were formed after stress treatment, both acquisition and overfear coming the impaired.

In a separate experiment, the morphological effects of stress were studied by studying eight rats. Four of these were controls and four were subjected to stress. After 10 days, the rats were sacrificed and thin slices of their brains were examined

The researchers studied and counted the dendritic spines on specific neurons in the two sets of animals. Dendritic spines are contact points where a neuron communicates with other neurons. "We found that due to stress, the number of dendritic spines increases in the amygdale [where fear memory is formed], but decreases in the infralimbic area [where memory reversal happens] of the medial prefrontal cortex," explains Prabahan Chakraborty from NCBS and the first author of the paper.

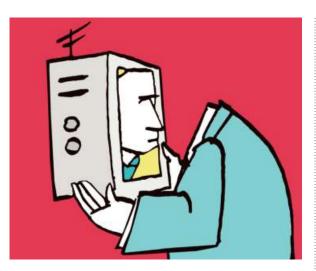
Effect on neurons An increase in the number of

dendritic spines is seen as an increase in the capacity of the neuron to communicate with other neurons. This strengthens the functioning of that neuron. So the above morphology experiment shows that stress acts in two ways. It not only increases the capacity of neurons involved in fear memory formation but also decreases the capacity of the neurons involved in memory reversal, thereby making it

doubly difficult to erase the fear memory.

"While these results are pretty novel and add an entirely new dimension to earlier research, we feel that our findings are quite robust for several reasons," says Dr Chattarji. According to him, an important reason is that the analysis of cells in different brain regions involved in these behaviours also undergo structural changes that are consistent with the results of the behavioural experiments.

One of the main challenges was to train the animals and execute the experiments flawlessly over a long time. "Experiments in animal behaviour are often susceptible to the finest fluctuations in something as trivial as handling the animals. Extreme care was needed to avoid unnecessary experimental confounds," says Mr Chakraborty.



Unreal spectacle on the screen

Reality TV projects false values

DIVYA GRACE

rama, jealousy, tears, overrated comedy and underrated values - reality TV has it all. Nothing seems to bring viewers greater joy than to watch fellow human beings being humiliated and reduced to tears in front of millions. Does reality TV have a negative impact on the younger generation? Should it be banned?

First, reality TV shows are usually far from reality. People take advantage of the word "real" and use it as a green flag to say and do whatever they want on TV. It may seem like a peek into real human nature, but all the drama shown on screen is simply a result of clever editing. One cannot be natural when being filmed. Modern technology has distorted the lines between what is real and what is not, and reality TV is the finest example of it.

Reality TV projects false values and standards. The people, especially teenagers, who watch such shows may be influenced into rethinking their own values and strive to change their lifestyles, aiming for an unattainable and fake benchmark. This may, in turn, cause them to starve themselves to become thinner or try to squeeze their legs into a pair of jeans that is at least three sizes too small. These efforts not only harm them physically but also mentally and emotionally, when they realise that they can't meet the standards on TV and resign themselves into thinking that they are not "good enough".

Inappropriate ideas

A "no boundaries" reality TV show can illustrate some inappropriate and uncomfortable ideas. Most of these shows start and end with bad language, and the "behind the scenes" gossip, which is supposed to give you an insight into a character, is just an excuse for gossip. This type of behaviour can influence the younger generation who are always anxious to seek out role models. These shows manipulate them into thinking that such behaviour is acceptable, leading to many social problems among their

As instant noodles, "instant stars" are all the rage now. The standards of acting and clean, fun television have dropped drastically. The people who appear on reality TV are usually unprofessional and though this may seem to make the whole thing more real, it couldn't be further from the truth. Since these people are not used to the spotlight, they don't know how to handle stressful situations and how to cope with

Reality TV has taken away the real purpose of watching television breaking away from the harsh reality

criticism. There are many reported cases of how criticism from TV judges has caused people to give up on their dreams, develop social disabilities and become a shadow of their past selves. Reality TV may be entertaining, but it is in truth just a façade put up to hide the cruelty and horrors of hu-

The popularity of such shows is fed by people's rising thirst for fame. Reality TV has increased the temptation of money and popularity. Many of the populace don't even care for what reason they come on TV, as long as they can have the spotlight on themselves for five minutes. Priorities, values and ethics have changed and this is the kind of culture we are exposing the future generation to.

TV is one of the most amazing man-made inventions and gives us access to hundreds of stories that change and inspire our lives every day. Quality television is wholesome entertainment and is capable of bringing people together, connecting them. But reality TV has taken away the real purpose of watching television breaking away from the harsh reality.

When one considers it,

In conclusion, reality TV shows encourage people to chase after false hopes and dreams, all in bad taste. Without such shows, society will be happier and healthier with a broader outlook towards life.

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Confessions of a **TECHNOPHOBE**

A Luddite he is, but he wants software to help reply to the birthday greetings flooding his phone

TAJENDER SINGH LUTHRA

am a self-confessed Luddite. However, I like using social media Lin moderation for its convenience, speed and reach.

Generally, I refuse to join social media groups. But since I don't want to be called rude or reclusive, I break that rule. Missing out on interesting chats in a few chosen groups, particularly one formed by my Civil Service batch mates, is not the done thing. But rarely do we have stimulating discussions on what ails public policy and administration or remedies for poverty and backwardness. Serious discussions may ruffle egos. So primarily, we use this group to exchange birthday wishes and stay connected.

The group makes my birthday extra special. I am elated to receive over 40 messages when I check my phone in the morning, and by night, the figure touches 100. But my happiness is short-lived as I am confronted with a difficult question: how do I thank everyone? My heart wants to acknowledge all who wished me, but I am lazv.

A friend suggested that we need software to help us write everyone's name with ease, élan, speed and dexterity. Just click a button and all the names pop up. But can software really help us do this?

Birthday wishes start pouring in from early morning. I feel lazy and convince myself that I will write my thank-you note in the evening.

By then, everyone who wanted to wish me, would have done so. But a little later, I feel under pressure. If I write so late, wouldn't my early-morning friends think that I am lazy, uncivilised or ungrate-

In such a large and diverse group, I have forgotten some names. I haven't met many of them since our training got over 29 years ago.

Several Sanjays and Viveks are there in the group. How do I address each of them individually? Use the first name for one Sanjay and the last name for another? But I feel offended when an acquaintance addresses me by my last name.

Then, there is a chatterbox in the group, but I don't know her name. I wish to call another batch mate to ask her name. But I know his frivolous suspicions. He may post openly on the group – hey, what's the

academy's hostel hasn't wished me. Last year, I was the first to wish him. Two months ago, when an article of his was published in a na-

tional daily, I didn't wish him. I

wonder if he is upset. But I decided

And my dear room mate in the to err on the side of caution and included his name on the list. But again, I thought – acknowledging an article is different from wishing on a birthday. You would write 10 articles a year and expect me to wish you 10 times a year. However,

you would wish me only once a year on my birthday.

ILLUSTRATION: J.A. PREMKUMAR

And that beautiful girl, she is a silent spectator. She won't wish me ever. But she never wished anyone; I am no ex-

> ception. That is my solace. But there are many other known-anonymous fellows. They love to be in the game but don't want to

And that one. He was the first one who I met at the academy. I was shy but he was full of warmth. I was hesitant but he shared all his personal details at the very first meeting. But he just wrote HBD. What does this abbreviation mean - Hyderabad? Thank God, he wrote my full name after HBD. Maybe, he would have abbreviated my name too. He has changed. But let him change. I would include his name too on the

And this lazy bum. He was nowhere till I laboured to make the list. But just after I posted it, he writes his best wishes on the group. He rather needs to be ignored for being lazy in wishing me. But, I am confused. Software won't really solve my birthday problems.

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Sunshine thoughts on a better world, to win over hate with love

The nascent rays touch off a stream of musings on where the world is headed to

POOVITHA MUTHURAMAN

s the morning sun's rays find their way through the thick curtains of my bedroom window, I wake up right away. I have always been a light sleeper - the slightest disturbance, and sleep deserts me. Just like my mind which at the slightest provocation leads to a cascade thoughts that engulfs my whole being.

I check the time on my phone and habitually, my messages and Facebook feed. As I scroll through the horrible stuff (rapes, honour killings, shootings and suicides) that we call news today, the spark in my mind had already begun. I close my eyes and feel myself being sucked into my messy thoughts, the primary one being – "Where and when did we begin to fail as humans?"

Was it when we were taught never to give up on goals, ideologies, dreams and desires at all

Was it when we made our children feel like a failure when they scored less in a



ILLUSTRATION: SATWIK GADE

Somewhere along the way, we forgot to love without expectations, to care without demands and to give without getting

test and seeded the thought that life was a competition? Was it when we taught our boys that it was shameful to be human and cry their feel-

Was it when we gave our pride and ego more priority over a relationship with a loved one?

Was it when we portrayed that to succeed in life meant to hoard loads of money and give up on every other as-

pect of life? Was it when the real learnings and experiences in life didn't matter anymore unless you had a degree from one of the top universities?

Was it when we started believing that everyone else's lives was better by looking at the social media stories and statuses?

Was it when we were taught too much science and logic, that we forgot we are emotional beings?

As we are in the age where we are told to "live our lives to the fullest" or "to follow our passion" or "to be happy and positive no matter

Somewhere along the way, we forgot to love without expectations, to care without demands and to give without getting. We have lost touch with our basic human nature.

Blurring lines

As the lines between right and wrong and black and white blur and merge into grey, the grey matter of my mind pushes me further into the whirlwind of thoughts and I end up asking the most dreaded, unanswerable question: "What is the purpose of this life?"

Before I reach my breaking point, the ringtone of my phone brings me back to reality. As I pick up and hear his sleepy voice at the other end, all my worries on existential crisis vanish. I realise, at the end or beginning of the day, all we need to survive is a little more love than the previous day until it begins to overturn all the hate in the world.

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Space-hopping on a rocketing mind

V. SHREE SAUPARNIKA

Thy do couples decide to separate after 25 years of marriage? Why do so many teenagers run away from home every year? What do modern, advanced nations compete for? What holds all matter together, gives it shape, size and feel?

One of the definitions of space is "an unoccupied expanse or area". In another use, the word is found in "I think I need some space", have no space at all" and other such declarations. But can vou imagine a world without space, in any of its connotations? And what about a world without personal space? I am sure most teenagers might just lose their minds if asked just to think about it.

Personal space is important. Never breach this barrier when man is in "commune" with nature lest you regret it for the rest of your life. It could even change the course of life. For instance, in Hindu mythology, if Sita had not crossed the Lakshman Rekha (the boundary of her personal space drawn by her brother-in-law, which may lead to controversy if done today), we would have had a different story alto-



gether without the war and other legendary exploits.

That is not to say that personal space can never be breached. There is the mat ter of consent. You cannot invade a person's space without permission. People often fail to understand the significance behind personal space. Often, the violators do not know that they are violating. Even worse is when the person whose personal space is being breached, does not know it. This often happens to children. So they need to be taught how to identify the breaches. The same goes for cyberspace.

The invasion of a person's privacy is caused by ignothoughtlessness, spite or stupidity. The earlier people know this, the better the virtual world will become.

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Toothsome *kachoris* with a stuffing of serendipity

When the mind plays games with you, it can sometimes be for a little side trip to fortune

SUDHIR VOMBATKERE

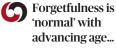
make a "to-do" list whenever I go out so that I don't miss out any chores, which may, otherwise, necessitate additional trips. You know, "bank", "vegetables" and such.

We love Gujarati snacks such as papri, ganthia and khakra, and stock these purchased from Mansukhlal's shop not far from home. Asha had asked me to buy papri, four 100-gram packets, and I dutifully wrote

"Mansukhlal" on my list. There were other tasks, each involving searching for a parking space and walking to the place of business. In the day's planned "circuit", I parked some distance from Mansukhlal's and ambled

tomers at the counter, and it took a little time to meet the proprietor and exchange pleasantries with him. He asked what I would like to buy. I could not for the life of

across. There were some cus-



me recall what it was I had come for, and noticing my confusion, he gently said, "Don't worry, take your time. This happens to all of I took the "to-do" list from

my pocket, but all it said was 'Mansukhlal". There were others waiting, so after a minute or two I told him I would do some

other chores and come back

when I recall what it was I needed. And off I went to the bank where I got my passbook updated after waiting in the longish queue at the updating machine. After that I went, passbook in hand, to meet the manager to remind her I needed Form 16 to file my return.

When I eventually got back to Mansukhlal's, I discovered that I had left my passbook on the bank manager's table. Damn! I'll pick it up the next time I go there, if it doesn't get misplaced or lost, I thought. I entered Mansukhlal's and without hesitation ordered four *kachoris*. These packed and paid for, I drove

As I was parking, I received a jolt as papri suddenly came to mind. Gosh, now



Asha is going to give me a lecture!

I went up to our flat, let myself in with my key, and quietly placed the purchases on the kitchen counter before announcing my return.



ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR Asha's response was, "You

didn't take my call! What were you doing?" I apologised, "I put my phone on 'silent' yesterday at the music performance, I forgot to restore the ring. Sorry I didn't take your call."

She said, "I was calling to tell you we already had papri in the cupboard. Now I don't know what we'll do with so much papri." I smiled to myself. Asha loves *kachoris*!

Forgetfulness is "normal" with advancing age, but thankfully, kachoris are every bit as tasty as papri. Pushing 80, I once told my visiting son that I must remember to get some things urgently done, because I did not know how much longer I had to live.

Prompt came his reply: "No hurry, daddy, you'll live to be a hundred. Only the good die young."

And we laughed together for a long time.

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Why the apathy towards cleanliness? A culture of cleanliness and tidiness must be incul-

cated from an early age D.B.N. MURTHY When diet eats the mind

The big debate at homes these days is what to eat.

A thought for talent

An education policy should identify, nurture and capitalise on the nation's talent AJAY CHANDRA ARKALGUD RAMAPRASAD

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Saini sizzles on debut as India draws first blood in T20I series

After restricting the Caribbean side to 95, the Men in Blue make heavy weather of the small target before scampering home in the 18th over

INDIA IN WI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Debutant pacer Navdeep Saini claimed three wickets in an impressive spell as India restricted the West Indies to a paltry 95 for nine and in reply, kept losing wickets at regular intervals before crossing the finish line in the 18th over, in the first T20I here on Saturday.

After losing Shikhar Dhawan cheaply, Rohit Sharma and skipper Virat Kohli added 28 before the vice-captain fell to Sunil Narine. Rishabh Pant was out off the next delivery, going for a big hit.

However, Kohli (19), Manish Pandey (19) and Krunal Pandey (12) chipped in before Ravindra Jadeja (10 not out) Washington Sundar (eight not out) took the team home. Washington finished the match in style with a six

Bowlers to the fore

Opting to field, all the six Indian bowlers got at least a wicket, with Saini returning figures of three for 17 on his debut. India was also helped by the reckless approach of the West Indies batsmen.

There was no substantial partnership in the West Indies innings, the highest being 34 between captain Carlos Brathwaite (nine) and top-scorer Kieron Pollard (49) for the sixth wicket. Nicholas Pooran (20) was the only other West Indian to touch double digits.

Miserable start

India opened the bowling with off-spinner Washington (one for 18) and got a wicket off the second ball when John Campbell slapped straight to Krunal Pandya at deep midwicket.

The other opener, Evin Lewis, fell in the second over as Bhuvneshwar Kumar (two for 19) beat him with a knuckle ball and rattled his timber. Both the openers failed to open their account as the West Indies was reduced to eight for two.

Aggressive approach

Despite this, West Indies continued to be aggressive in its approach and Saini exploited the situation by claiming two wickets off two balls in the fifth over.

Pooran, who was looking dangerous after hitting two sixes, went for another big shot but the ball ballooned

up for wicketkeeper Rishab Pant to take an easy catch. Shimron Hetmyer (zero) then dragged the next ball onto the stump for Saini's se-

Falling apart

The West Indies procession continued with Rovman Powell (four) falling to Khaleel Ahmed (one for eight) in the next over and it was reduced to 33 for five at the end of Powerplay.

Pollard and Brathwaite curbed their attacking instincts for a while and played some sensible cricket, adding 34 runs.

Brathwaite and Sunil Narine were dismissed in the 15th and 16th overs as West Indies could not even reach 100 despite Pollard's 49.

SCOREBOARD WEST INDIES VS INDIA, 1ST T201

WEST INDIES

John Campbell c Krunal b Washington O (2b), Evin Lewis b Bhuvneshwar O (4b), Nicholas Pooran c Pant b Saini 20 (16b, 1x4, 2x6), Kieron Pollard lbw b Saini 49 (49b, 2x4, 4x6), Shimron Hetmyer b Saini O (1b), Rovman Powell c Pant b Khaleel 4 (5b, 1x4), Carlos Brathwaite c & b Krunal 9 (24b), Sunil Narine c Khaleel b Jadeja 2 (4b), Keemo Paul c Kohli b Bhuvneshwar 3 (11b), Sheldon Cottrell (not out) O (1b), Oshane Thomas (not out) 0 (3b); Extras (w-8): 8; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 95.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Campbell, 0.2 overs), 2-8 (Lewis, 1.6), 3-28 (Pooran, 4.4), 4-28 (Hetmyer, 4.5), 5-33 (Powell, 5.6), 6-67 (Brathwaite, 14.2), 7-70 (Narine, 15.1), 8-88 (Paul, 18.1), 9-95 (Pollard, 19.3). **INDIA BOWLING**

Washington

Bhuvneshwar 4-0-19-2, Saini 4-1-17-3, Khaleel 2-0-8-1, Krunal 4-1-20-1, Jadeja 4-1-13-1.

INDIA

Rohit Sharma c Pollard b Narine 24 (25b, 2x4, 2x6), Shikhar Dhawan lbw b Cottrell 1 (7b), Virat Kohli c Pollard b Cottrell 19 (29b, 1x4), Rishabh Pant c Cottrell O (1b), Manish Pandey b Paul 19 (14b, 2x4), Krunal Pandya b Paul 12 (14b, 1x4), Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 10 (9b), Washington Sundar (not out) 8 (5b, 1x6); Extras (w-5): 5; Total (for six wkts. in 17.2 overs):

FALL OF WICKETS

1-4 (Dhawan, 1.6), 2-32 (Rohit, 6.3), 3-32 (Pant, 6.4), 4-64 (Pandey, 11.4), 5-69 (Kohli, 13.5), 6-88 (Krunal, 15.6).

WEST INDIES BOWLING

Thomas 4-0-29-0, Cottrell 4-0-20-2, Narine 4-0-14-2, Paul 3.2-0-23-2, Brathwaite 2-Toss: India.

Man-of-the-Match: Saini.

India won by four wickets with 16 balls to spare and leads



Jump of joy: Navdeep Saini is on cloud nine after breaching the defence of Shimron Hetmyer.

STAT SPHERE

Indian bowler. and fourth 20th over maiden in a T201. Jeetan Patel (NZ), Mohd. Amir (Pak) and Janak Prakash (Singapore) are

did it on his debut The first time India got both the opposition openers for a duck

the others to have

achieved the feat

in T20Is Saini is the second Indian wickets in his first over in T20Is after Pragvan Oiha (vs Ban, Trent Bridge,

Number of times the West Indian openers have been dismissed instance involved Gayle and Walton (vs NZ, Mount Maunganui, 2018)

This is the third successive sub-100 total posted by West Indies 45/10 (11.5) vs England, Basseterre, St. Kitts

71/10 (13) vs England, Basseterre, St.

95/9 (20) vs India, Lauderhill

Number of occasions India has dismissed/restricted an opponent to a sub-100 total in T20Is Pollard (49) missed a chance to score

his first T20I half-century since 2012



KOHLI SAYS...

Saini is a has raw pace. He is one of them who can bowl 150 clicks. He is someone who can build a name for himself and he is hungry as well. Hopefully he builds on from here

Our bowling and fielding were right up there but the pitch wasn't great. With the rain around, you could not do much. They did well to start the game on time

We would have liked to chase it four down, but we wanted to take risks and [keep] the scoreboard moving. As the ball got older, strike rotation became key

Australia on the backfoot at Edgbaston

Looks to Smith to bail it out again; Woakes-Broad stand frustrates the visitors

THE ASHES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Australia was left hoping for another major innings from Steve Smith as England took charge of the first Ashes Test at Edgbaston on Saturday.

When bad light cut short the third day's play, Australia was 124 for three in its second innings – a lead of just

Former captain Smith, who had made a superb 144 in the first innings, was batting on 46 along with Travis Head (21), their stand worth

Australia, looking to win its first series away to England in 18 years, was struggling at 27 for two after openers David Warner and Cameron Bancroft both fell cheaply.

Smith, on 41, was struck on the side of the head after missing a pull off a Stokes bouncer, but was passed fit to bat on by the Australia team doctor.

The slump

Earlier, England opener Rory Burns batted for nearly eight hours for 133 -- his maiden Test hundred -- in an innings of 374 featuring halfcenturies from captain Joe Root (57) and vice-captain Stokes (50).

England lost three wickets



for four runs to slump to 300 for eight – a lead of just 16. But a ninth-wicket part-

nership of 65 between Chris Woakes, who made 37 not out on his Warwickshire home ground, and Broad (29) boosted England's total.

Woakes hoisted Lyon for six and the pair accumulated runs steadily before Broad, who batted for nearly two hours, turned fast bowler Cummins straight to long

Cummins took three for 84 in 33 overs on a placid but wearing pitch and off-spinner Nathan Lyon three for 112 in 43.5 overs.

SCOREBOARD AUSTRALIA VS ENGLAND

Australia – 1st innings: 284.

England - 1st innings: Rory 135.5 overs) 374.

Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-154, 3-300, 8-300, 9-365.

Burns c Paine b Lyon 133, Jason Roy c Smith b Pattinson 10, Joe Root c & b Siddle 57, Joe Denly lbw b Pattinson 18, Jos Buttler c Bancroft b Cummins 5, Ben Stokes c Paine b Cummins 50, Jonny Bairstow c Warner b Siddle 8, Moeen Ali b Lyon 0, Chris Woakes (not out) 37, Stuart Broad c Pattinson b Cummins 29, James Anderson c Cummins b Lyon 3, Extras (b-10, lb-11, nb-1, w-2): 24; Total (in

189, 4-194, 5-282, 6-296, 7-

Australia bowling: Cummins 33-9-84-3, Pattinson 27-3-82-2, Siddle 27-8-52-2, Lyon 43.5-8-112-3, Wade 1-0-7-0, Head 2-1-7-0, Smith 2-0-9-0.

Australia - 2nd innings: C. Bancroft c Buttler b Moeen 7, D. Warner c Bairstow b Broad 8, U. Khawaja c Bairstow b Stokes 40, S. Smith (batting) 46, T. Head (batting) 21; Extras (b-1, nb-1): 2; Total (for three wkts. in 31 overs): 124.

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-27, 3-75. England bowling: Broad 6-0-26-1; Woakes 6-1-20-0; Moeen 9-0-47-1; Root 3-0-12-0;

Mayank, Panchal, Abhimanyu and Anmolpreet come up with good knocks liveries to set up the victory

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA PORT OF SPAIN

Openers Mayank Agarwal and Priyank Panchal struck fine half-centuries as India-A registered a comfortable seven-wicket win over West Indies-A in the second 'Test' here on Saturday.

Chasing 278, Mayank made 81 off 134 balls while Panchal scored 68 off 121 de-

on the final day of the fourday match.

Opening stand

Mayank and Panchal shared 150 runs for the opening wicket to set the platform for India-A's chase.

Abhimanyu Easwaran also chipped in with an unbea-

Singh contributed an undefeated 51 as India-A reached 281 for three in 79.1 overs to win the match and take a 2-0 lead in the series

India-A makes it 2-0 with seven-wkt. win

India-A didn't lose any wicket in the first session at lunch.

nappa Gowtham took five wickets as West Indies-A was bowled out for 149. The scores:

West Indies-A 318 & 149 in 39.5 overs (S. Ambris 71, Sandeep Warrier three for 43, Krishnappa Gowtham five for 17) lost to India-A 190 & 281 for three in 50 overs (Mayank

and was just 33 shy of victory India-A resumed the final Agarwal 81, Priyank Panchal day at 185 for three. 68. Abhimanyu Faswaran 62 ten 62 while Anmolpreet Earlier, off-spinner Krishn.o., Anmolpreet Singh 51 n.o.).

Tyagi, Jaiswal star for colts

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The India under-19 team edged out England under-19 by one wicket in their tri-series match here on Saturday.

Put in to bat, England was all out for 204 in 49.5 overs with pacer Purnank Tyagi producing a fine spell (five for 33).

India chased down the target with 13.3 overs to spare as opener Yashasvi Jaiswal top-scored with 78 off 82 deliveries. Hamidullah Qadri took five for 61 for England.

The scores: England under-19 204 in 49.5 overs (George Hill 46, Purnank Tyagi five for 33) lost to India under-19 205 for nine in 36.3 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal 78, Hamidullah Qadri five for 61).

No way out



Overwhelmed: Jang Kun Lee of Patna Pirates is swamped by Jaipur Pink Panthers defenders. Panthers posted a 34-21 win in the first match of the Patna leg of ProKabaddi League Season-7. In the second match, Bengaluru Bulls pipped Bengal Warriors 43-42. • RANJEET KUMAR

U Mumba books semifinal berth, pushes Paltan to the brink



The propeller: Kirill Gerassimenko caused a flutter when he stunned Chuang Chih-Yuan. ■ COURTESY UTT

Stokes 7-2-18-1.

RAKESH RAO NEW DELHI

U Mumba became the first team to ensure a place in the semifinals with a 9-6 defeat of a struggling Puneri Paltan in the Ultimate Table Tennis league here on Saturday.

After four matches, Mumba tops the table with 33 points, while Paltan, which upstaged defending champion Dabang Delhi in the opener, has 23 and is almost certain to be confined to the

For a change, the overseas

players made the decisive difference.

In the last two singles, the 39th-ranked Kirill Gerassinmenko surprised the 36thranked Chuang Chih-Yuan 2-1 and the 11th-ranked Doo Hoi Kem expectedly proved superior to Sabine Winter, ranked 58th, by a similar scoreline to make Mumba's victory look convincing.

Even in the first two singles, Mumba proved stronger and Paltan was left to rue the successive defeats of the recently crowned Commonwealth singles champions Harmeet Desai and Ayhika Mukherjee. Mumba won all

four singles 2-1 and lost the mixed doubles by an identical margin.

From the outset, it was evident that the pressure of scoring a big win to stay in contention for a place in the semifinals was pulling Paltan down. And this suited

Too much pressure

Sutirtha Mukherjee started well and came out stronger against Ayhika. But a bigger blow awaited Paltan when Harmeet found the pressure of a must-win situation too much to handle against an upbeat Manav Thakkar and lost the first two games.

In mixed doubles, Chuang showed his class and played the key role in Paltan's win. If Paltan expected Chuang to recreate the magic against Gerassimenko, it was not to

The Kazakh proved a shade better, coming up with some splendid responses and winning the big

"I had lost to him in the last Asia Cup, so I was keen to beat him today. It was a tough match and I must say I got a bit lucky in the final game. But it was a close match," said Gerassimenko.

Doo, despite a minor hiccup on 'golden point' in the second game, was always in control against Sabine and provided a fitting finale to her team. The results:

U Mumba bt Puneri Paltan 9-6

(Surtitha Mukherjee bt Ayhika Mukherjee 11-7, 6-11, 11-5; Manav Thakkar bt Harmeet Desai 11-6, 11-8, 8-11; Thakkar & Doo Hoi Kem lost to Chuang Chih-Yuan & Ayhika 5-11, 6-11, 11-6; Kirill Gerassimenko bt Chuang Chih-Yuan 11-7, 6-11, 11-8; Doo Hoi Kem bt Sabine Winter 11-5,

Sunday's fixture: Dabang Delhi v RP-SG Mavericks (Kolkata), 7

Satwiksairj and Chirag create history

First Indian duo in final of Super 500

THAILAND OPEN

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty on Saturday became the first Indian team to enter the summit clash of a BWF Super 500 tournament with a 22-20, 22-24, 21-9 win over Ko Sung Hyun and Shin Baek Cheolin in the Thailand Open semifinals here on Saturday.

The World No. 16 Indian team prevailed over the 19th-ranked Koreans after battling for 63 minutes.

It is the first final of the 2019 season for Satwiksairaj and Chirag, men's doubles silver medallists at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The unseeded Indian combination will face third seeds Li Jun Hui and Liu Yu Chen of China in the summit clash on Sunday.

Slow start

Satwiksairaj and Chirag were slow off the blocks, but kept pace at 11-10 at the break. After the break, the Indians lifted their game and drew parity at 13 apiece before surging ahead 20-18.

But Hyun and Cheol pocketed two consecutive points to draw level at 20-20.

The Indians kept their composure and earned two crucial points to take the first game.

It was the other way round in the second game as the Indians took a 3-0 lead.

Smart play

The Koreans, however, fought back with some smart play at the net and overhead smashes to lead 11-9 at the break, which they later extended to 19-12.

But the Indians looked in no mood to surrender as they clawed back to make it

The pairs fought tooth and nail before the Koreans eventually pocketed the second game 24-22.

In the final game, it was a cakewalk for the Indians as their Korean rivals failed to sustain the tempo



Keeping the flag flying: Chirag Shetty, left, and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy will hope to become the first Indian combination to win a Super 500 title. • FILE РНОТО

Verstappen clinches maiden career pole

Bottas second and Hamilton third; Leclerc hits barriers but will still start fourth



Raging bull: Verstappen's success sparked celebrations among his large following of Dutch fans in the grandstands. • AFP

HUNGARIAN GP

REUTERS

Red Bull's Max Verstappen celebrated a long-overdue first Formula One pole position at the Hungarian Grand Prix on Saturday, with championship leader Lewis Hamilton qualifying third for Mercedes.

Instead of Hamilton taking a record-equalling seventh pole in Hungary, and 88th of his career, the Dutch 21-yearold wrote his name in the record books as the sport's 100th driver to secure a pole.

This feels good, this feels really good," he shouted over the team radio after a roar had gone up from his massed supporters.

Finland's Valtteri Bottas. 41 points behind Hamilton after 11 of the races, qualified alongside Verstappen on the front row of the grid.

After stepping out of the car, Verstappen said: "It's incredible. This one was still missing. For me, today was an important one, a very nice

Max's day out

 Verstappen's maiden career pole, in his 93rd attempt. Becomes the first Dutchman

Red Bull's pole position is its fourth in almost six years, and the first time this season

Verstappen is the 100th driver to take pole in F1 history. It comes 11 years to the day since Heikki Kovalainen became the 100th man to win a Formula One race, and at the same track!

It is the first pole for a Honda-powered engine since

one and a great one for the

The youngster has already savoured seven career victories, including two in the last three races, and the pole came on his 93rd attempt.

Already the only Dutch driver ever to win a championship Grand Prix, he became the first to take a pole – Honda-powered car since Australia 2006 with Britain's now-retired Jenson Button.

"It's an incredible feeling to get your first pole so I'm really happy for him," said Hamilton, who won in Hungary last year from pole.

Damages

Charles Leclerc was the quicker of the two Ferrari drivers in fourth place, despite smashing backwards into the tyre wall during the first phase and damaging his car's rear wing, forcing a quick change.

Teammate Sebastian Vettel will line up fifth, with Red Bull's Pierre Gasly sixth and McLaren's Lando Norris the best of the rest in seventh.

STARTING GRID

Front row: Max Verstappen and Valtteri Bottas; Second: Lewis Hamilton and Charles Leclerc; Third: Sebastian Vettel and Pierre Gasly; Fourth: Lando Norris and Carlos Sainz; Fifth: Romain Grosjean and Kimi

Sixth: Nico Hulkenberg and Alexander Albon: Seventh: Daniil Kvyat and Antonio Giovinazzi Eighth: Kevin Magnussen and George Russell.

Ninth: Sergio Perez and Daniel Ricciardo; 10th: Lance Stroll and Robert Kubica

Equestrian Federation fails to meet compliance deadline

The body has sought an exemption but could be de-recognised by the Sports Ministry

EQUESTRIAN

RAKESH RAO

With the passing of the August 3 deadline, the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI) could join the Indian Golf Union (IGU) as the second army-dominated sports body, in five weeks, to be derecognised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

In February, the Ministry made it clear that "renewal of recognition to Equestrian Federation of India is subject to their compliance of Sports Code within the time frame allotted to them i.e. latest by 03.08.2019, failing which their recognition status will be reviewed and action taken as per extant guidelines."

Peculiar nature

The EFI had written to the Ministry on June 24 and sought an exemption from complying with the Sports Code, citing the "peculiar" nature of the sport.

Explaining the EFI's stand to The Hindu, its secretarygeneral Col. R. K. Swain said, "Equestrian cannot be equated with other sports, and hence the parameters applied to other National Sports Federations cannot be applied to EFI."

Swain elaborated, "Since the sport includes an equine athlete [horse] and a human [rider], it is not possible to find them in every district or

"In view of the non-availability of horses and riders, the EFI has not been able to form the minimum of 24

state associations with 50% of district associations affiliated to them [as stipulated in the Sports Code].

Club-based sport

"Unlike other disciplines, equestrian is a club-based sport. We have 15 state associations most of them inactive besides over 300 clubs and army units as affiliates of EFI, with two votes each.

"Without the army's support and structure, the sport will die. Private stakeholders can hold dressage and showjumping. But eventing is something only the army is capable of hosting," declared Swain.

Difficult guidelines

Reinforcing its stand, in the letter to the Ministry, the EFI has mentioned that disciplines like rowing, yachting and winter sports could find it difficult to follow the guidelines of the Sports Code.

"How can you have winter sports in Rajasthan or Madhya Pradesh? Is it possible?" asked Swain and continued, "The Ministry guidelines seek facilities for yachting and rowing in all states. That's not possible. Therefore, till the Sports Code is appropriately revised, the EFI's recognition should continue."

However, given the EFI constitution that allows individual members to vote in contravention of the International Olympic Committee charter, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has already downgraded it to associate member status.

In what is being seen in the sport's circles as continued defiance, the EFI considered membership applications of six new clubs and 26 individuals during its recent executive committee meeting in New Delhi. It is learnt that the EFI has over 1,250 individual members in addition to more than 325 clubs significantly, all part of the EFI's electoral college.

Questioning the EFI's functioning, former National champion Lt. Col. Sandeep Diwan (retd) said, "The federation, completely dominated and run by the army, follows completely undemocratic system for the election of its officials. To retain majority votes, the army has made a large number of its own units members who have nothing to do with the sport such as Mechanised Transport Battalions, Supply Companies, FOL Depots, Dog units, to name a few."

In the past, the EFI had convinced the Ministry of its efforts to fall in line and managed two extensions of six months each, ending 2017. As things stand, the EFI could go the IGU way. The IOA could set up an ad hoc Equestrian Governance Committee, much like the five-member Golf Governance Committee until fresh elections, under revised

"We have presented our case and now it is up to the Ministry," said Swain.

"If the Ministry thinks otherwise, it could prove to be a death knell for equestrian in the country."

Three in a row for Rajiv Sethu

Rahil holds nerve to win the Pro-Stock 301-400cc category

MOTORSPORTS

SPORTS REPORTER CHENNAI

International rider Rajiv Sethu (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) notched up his third win in a row in the Pro-Stock 165cc class, while Hyderabad's Rahil Shetty (Sparks Racing) held his victory in the premier Pro-Stock 301-400cc category in the third round of the MRF MMSC FMSCI Indian National motorcycle racing championship at the MMRT here on Saturday.

Impressive wins

Also scoring impressive wins were Bengaluru-based Anish Shetty, who led a podium sweep for Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing in the Pro-Stock 201-300cc, and Venkatesan, who topped the Novice (Stock 165cc) race.

Sethu, who missed the first round due to international commitments, is playing catch up as his hat-trick of wins has now taken him to the third position (75 points) on the leaderboard, behind TVS Racing's Jagan Kumar (94) and teammate Sarath Kumar (78).

The results (provisional): National c'ship: Pro-Stock 301-

400cc: Race-1: 1. Rahil Shetty (Sparks Racing) 11:41.443s; 2.



to third spot in the leaderboard. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Deepak Ravikumar (TVS Racing) 11:41.990; 3. K.Y. Ahamed (TVS Racing) 11:42.201.

Pro-Stock 201-300cc: Race-1: 1. Anish Shetty (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 12:11.667; 2. Abhishek Vasudev (Idemitsu Ten10 Racing) Honda 12:20.100; 3. Aravind Balakrishnan (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 12:20.245.

Pro-Stock 165cc: Race-1: 1. Rajiv Sethu (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 12:01.973; 2. Jagan Kumar (TVS Racing) 12:02.073; 3. Sarath Kumar (Idemitsu Honda Ten10 Racing) 12:02.833. Novice (Stock 165cc): Race-1: 1.

Venkatesan (Motomaniacz Racing) 13:06.397; 2. P. Mohan (Rockers Racing) 13:06.447; 3. Abhimanyu Gautam (Sparks Racing) 13:06.628. One-Make c'ship: Idemitsu Honda India Talent Cup-NSF **250R: Race-1:** 1. Md. Mikail

(Chennai) 11:04.391; 2. Varoon Sadasivam (Chennai) 11:12.581; 3. Kritik Vasant Habib (Gadag) CBR 150 (Novice): Race-1: 1. Lal

Nunsanga (Aizawl) 13:16.118; 2.

Samuel Martin (Bengaluru) 13:16.240; 3. S. Deepak Kumar (Chennai) 13:16.528. TVS Open (RR 310): Race-1: 1. S. Kannan (Chennai) 11:54.079;

2. P.M. Soorya (Chennai) 12:02.607; 3. R. Aravind Ganesh (Chennai) 12:02.680. Novice (RTR 200): Race-1: 1. I. Venkatesan

13:24.694; 2. Lakshmipathy Balaji (Vellore) 13:25.047; 3. Ullas Santrupt Nanda (Bengaluru) 13:25.380

Girls (RTR 200, 5 laps): 1. Nivetha Jessica (Chennai) 11:30.986; 2. Lani Zena Fernandez (Puducherry) 11:31.075; 3. Lakiva Lee Charles (Chennai)

Durango (10) Suraj Narredu 59, 3. Sea Castle (3) Aneel 58.5, 4. Me-HYDERABAD: Exclusivenorthwind and That's My Class may fight out the finish in the Air Command ka's (6) Afroz Khan 57, 5, News O' (5) R.N.Darshan 57, AIR COMMAND CUP (1,400m). Navadeep (1) Ashhad Ashar 55.5.

It's Exclusivenorthwind vs That's My Class

Cup (1,400m), the main event of the races to be held here on Sunday (August 4).

VIKARABAD PLATE (1,600m), 4-y-o & over, rated upto 25 (Cat. III), 1-10 p.m.: 1. N R I Flame (6) Kuldeep Singh 60, 2. Brave Warrior (5) Rohit Kumar 59.5, 3. Limousine (1) Afroz Khan 59.5, 4. Shivalik Sand (3) Deepak Singh 59.5, 5. Mossad (2) Ajeeth Kumar 59, 6, Adamant And Rising (4) G. Naresh 52 and 7. Turf Emperor (7) Umesh 51.5.

1. N R I FLAME, 2. BRAVE WAR-RIOR, 3. MOSSAD.

2 (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only (Cat. II), (Terms), 1-40: 1. Explosive (7) R. Ajinkya 56, 2. My Journey (9) Ashhad Asbar 56, 3. Premier Action (6) Umesh 56, 4. Secret Command (4) N. Rawal 56,

5. Stepper (3) S.G. Prasad 56, 6. Unstoppable (5) Kiran Naidu 56, 7. Carmella (1) Kuldeep Singh 54.5, 8. Lesley (2) Ajeeth Kumar 54.5, 9. Light Music (8) Nakhat Singh 54.5 and 10. Shooter (10) A A Vikrant 54.5 A.A. Vikrant 54.5. 1. UNSTOPPABLE, 2. PREMIER AC-TION, 3. EXPLOSIVE.

TANASHA PLATE (1,600m), 3-J y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), (No whips), 2-10: 1. Gusty Look (7) Suraj Narredu 61, 2. Cincia Azzurra (4) Akshay Kumar 60, 3. Et Voici (1) Ajeeth Kumar 60, 4. Buttonwood (2) Abhay Singh 59.5. 5. Soul Empress (3) R.S. Jodha 57, 6. Moka (6) Jitendra Singh 53.5

1. SOUL EMPRESS, 2. GUSTY LOOK, 3. CINCIA AZZURRA.

nd 7. Honourable Guest (5) Afroz

4 WANAPARTHY CUP (Div. II), (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 2-45:1. Southern Crown (4) Surya Prakash 62, 2.

Santos, Bidyashagar net for East Bengal

noos, who rushed out of the

54. 8. Lockhart (8) Aigeth Kumar Bopanna 52.5 and 10. Satin Symphony (2) Santosh Raj 50.

1. DURANGO, 2. NAYADEEP, 3.

SILVERADO PLATE (Div. I), (Cat. II), (Terms), 3-15: 1. Born Greek (8) R.N. Darshan 56, 2. Linewiler (1) Umesh 56, 3. No Compromise (9) Deep Shanker 56, 4. O'Brien (11) Kuldeep Singh 56, 5. Sheldon (2) P. Sai Kumar 56, 6. Turbulence (6) S.G. Prasad 56, 7. Big League (5) B.R. Kumar 54.5, 8. Green Turf (7) Akshay Kumar 54.5, 9. Moskova (3) Suraj Narredu 54.5, 10. Safra (10) N. Rawal 54.5 and 11. Shivalik Valley

(4) Rohit Kumar 54.5. LINEWILER, 2. SHIVALIK VAL-

3-y-o & over, rated 75 & above (Cat. I), 3-45: 1. Highly Acclaimed (4) Surya Prakash 60, 2. Exclusive Wind (1) Santosh Raj 58, 3. Exclusivenorthwind (2) Koushik 57.5, 4 That's My Class (5) Akshay Kumai 57, 5. Moondancer (6) Rohit Kumar 56 and 6. Chase Your Dreams (3) Gopal Singh 54.

1. EXCLUSIVENORTHWIND, 2.

WANAPARTHY CUP (Div. I) / (1,400m), 4-y-o & over, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II), 4-15: 1. Ashwa Raftar (6) Kunal Bunde 62, 2. Super Dart (9) Suraj Narredu 61.5, 3. Shaquille (7) Kiran Naidu 59, 4. Star Gazer (5) C.P. Bopanna 58.5 5. King Maker (4) Surya Prakash 57, 6. Platinum (1) G. Naresh 56.5 Desert Moon (8) Rohit Kumar 54.5, 8. The Special One (10) Ak

shay Kumar 54, 9. Dunkirk (3) Afroz Khan 53.5 and 10. Exclusive Striker (2) Abhay Singh 53.5. 1. SUPER DART, 2. THE SPECIAL

NIZAM SAGAR PLATE

(2,000m), 3-y-o & over, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III), 4-45: 1. Wings Of Eagles (5) B.R. Kumar 60.5, 2. Ashwa Ariun (9) Gauray Singh 58 3. Alta Vita (7) Afroz Khan 56.5, 4 Lancashire (3) P. Sai Kumar 55.5. Royal Style (4) R.N. Darshan 55.5, 6, Mr. Shanghai (8) Kuldeer Singh 55, 7. Call Of The Blue (2) Akshav Kumar 53.5, 7. Aimal Biriu (6) Gopal Singh 53 and 9. Royal Avenger (1) Aiit Singh 52.5. 1. WINGS OF EAGLE, 2. CALL OF THE BLUE, 3. AJMAL BIRJU.

Double: DURANGO - SUPER DART. Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8; Mini Jkt: 5, 6, 7 & 8; Tr (i): 1, 2 & 3; (ii): 3, 4 & 5; (iii): 6, 7 & 8; Tla: all races

Day's best: UNSTOPPABLE.

Lovlina and Neeraj clinch gold in Russia

Solanki gets silver; Indians fetch six medals

box to commit the foul. Sha-AMITABHA DAS SHARMA noos received marching or-

DURAND CUP

KOLKATA

Taking the field as a late second-half substitute, Khangembam Bidyashagar Singh created one and finished one to help East Bengal down a 10-man Army Red 2-0 in a group A league match of the 129th Durand Cup, here at its

home ground on Saturday. The quicksilver forward, introduced in the 78th minute, made the difference as East Bengal tried desperately to break the deadlock with a draw appearing imminent.

The goal route opened in the 85th minute after Bidyashagar was unfairly brought down by the Army goalkeeper Muhammed Shaders as East Bengal's Spanish striker Jaime Santos stepped up to score from the resultant free-kick. Bidvashagar put his name on the scoresheet in the first minute of injury time when he tapped home a cross from right-

back Samad Ali Mallick. Making its first outing of the season, East Bengal looked rusty at the start and struggled to find cohesion against the tough-playing Army side. The initial quarter the home side, which got saw Army Red calling the two goals in the final six mishots, but it failed to convert the chances in absence of a

good finisher. East Bengal

began to find rhythm the in

the second quarter of the ac-

tion but the woodwork came in the way twice to deny Santos and Boithang, who made the attempts in the 23rd and 29th minutes respectively. The change of ends did

not improve the situation for East Bengal, which found the armymen too good in defence. Santos had another chance in the 71st minute but he failed to keep his header on target. East Bengal coach Alejandro Menendez brought in Bidyashagar as his final replacement and the decision worked well for

The result: East Bengal 2 (Jaime Santos 85, Khangembam Bidyashagar Singh 90+1) bt Army Red O.

BOXING

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Lovlina Borgohain and Neeraj clinched gold medals while Gaurav Solanki bagged a silver as Indian boxers ended their campaign with a rich haul at the Magomed Salam Umakhanov Memorial International boxing tournament in Kaspiysk, Russia.

The Indian boxers fetched six medals at the tournament, including two golds, one silver and three bronze.

Reigning Asian Championships gold medallist Pooja Rani suffered a narrow Jony (60Kg) also grabbed 3-2 defeat against home fabronze medals after their



away from raining a flurry of punches. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

in the middleweight (75kg) semifinals. Govind Sahani (49Kg) and

vourite Anna Anfinogenova

semifinal losses. While Govind lost to Russia's Kurban Bayranbekov 1-4, Jony went down to Russia's Natalya Shadrina by a similar scoreline.



Neeraj - SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Lovlina (69kg) was on guard throughout the bout and never shied away from raining down Assunta Canfora's flurry of punches to grab a narrow 3-2 win.

had caused a big upset in the semifinals by stunning former world champion Alessia Mesiano 3-2, continued her impeccable form in the summit clash against Russia's Malika Shakhidova. With two of the judges' points being drawn at 28-28, the Strandja Cup bronze me-

India Open gold medallist

champion Neeraj (57kg), who

gister a commanding 3-0 victory over the Russian. Gauray Solanki

dallist Neeraj went on to re-

cumbed to a 0-5 defeat to Uzbekistan's Abdulkhay Sharakhmatov. He was unable to judge his opponent's pace and power and could never recover from early blows.

TV PICKS

Badminton: Thailand Open: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD), 11.30

a.m. **The Ashes**: 1st Test, Sony Six (SD & HD), 3.30 p.m.

Formula One: Hungarian GP: Star Sports Select 2 (SD & HD), 6.30 p.m. TNPL: Star Sports 3, 7.15 p.m UTT: Star Sports 1 & Star

Sports Select 1 (SD & HD), PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD),

7.30 p.m. **FA Community Shield**: Sony Ten 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m. West Indies vs India: 2nd

Global T20: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 10 p.m.

T20I, Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 8

IN BRIEF



Diksha misses cut at **British Open**

Young Indian golfer Diksha Dagar missed the cut at the AIG Women's British Open after carding a disappointing seven-over 79 in the second round, here on Saturday. While she was dejected at missing out on weekend action. Diskha said she was richer in experience after playing two Majors in three weeks. She will tee up at the Scottish Open next. Interestingly, also missing the cut at 12-over was former World No. 1 Lydia Ko. Ashleigh Buhai of South Africa was on top at 12-under



Learn to deal with scrutiny: Klopp

Jurgen Klopp says Liverpool must learn to deal with its standing as European champion as it kicks off its campaign against Premier League winner Manchester City in Sunday's Community Shield at Wembley. "I want to be completely focused on a new season. It's very important and we will learn it. But no one gives you a book 'How To Deal With a Champions League win'. You have to do it by yourself and we will do that," he said. AFP



Newcastle signs Maximin and Willems

Newcastle swooped for promising Nice forward Allan Saint-Maximin (in pic) and also signed Eintracht Frankfurt defender Jetro Willems on loan on Friday. Saint-Maximin, a French Under-21 international, moved to the Premier League club on a six-year contract for a fee reported to be £20 million. Newcastle has the option of signing Willems on a permanent basis at the end of the upcoming season. AFP



Yorkshire squad

England spinner Adil Rashid on Friday withdrew his name from Yorkshire's Vitality Blast due to a shoulder injury. Rashid trained at Emerald Headingley on Thursday and declared himself unfit for a game against Worcestershire on Friday, due to the worsening of the condition of his shoulder. AN

Brathwaite to lead St. Kitts & Nevis Patriots

BASSETERRE (SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS) West Indies T20 skipper Carlos Brathwaite will lead St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots in the upcoming season of the Caribbean Premier League. Brathwaite will captain the team after former skipper Chris Gayle moved to Jamaica Tallawahs. "I'm very excited! This year is about trying to continue that same thought process," Brathwaite said. ANI

Looking forward to World Test Championship: Rahane

CAB's Lifetime Achievement Award presented to Arun Lal

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOLKATA

India Test team vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane made the most of a short gap between his stint for Hampshire and the country's two-match Test series in the West Indies by training at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru.

Rahane, who played his last county match for Hampshire between July 13 and 16, moved to Bengaluru to train under the guidance of his idol Rahul Dravid and prepare for the West Indies Test series, starting on August 22.

"I was doing my fitness. The reason for going to Bengaluru was because it was raining heavily in Mumbai. I trained under Rahul Dravid, he has been one of my role models," said Rahane, who was the chief guest at the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) annual awards function here on Saturday.

Rahane said India could not take the Caribbeans lightly. "We all know they are an unpredictable team. It is important to respect them and play our game. I am looking forward to giving my best."



Reward: Ajinkya Rahane presenting a ceremonial jacket of the Lifetime Achievement Award to former Bengal captain Arun Lal as Sourav Ganguly and CAB joint secretary Abhishek Dalmia look on. • RAJEEV BHATT

The middle-order batsman was excited about the World Test championship.

looking forward to. Every Test match and every series

"This is something we all are is special and the best thing about Test cricket is you have to follow your routine day in and day out," he said. International Arun Lal,

who was presented the Kar-

tick Bose Lifetime Achievement Award, said it was an emotional moment for him.

"The only thing that comes to mind is gratitude. As an outsider, I was embraced immediately. I have got more than I bargained for and more than I deserved," CAB president Sourav

Ganguly said Arun Lal, who played for the Bengal Ranji Trophy-winning side in 1989-90, was an inspiration for every cricketer.

"Under you (as coach), I hope Bengal can win the Ran-Trophy again," said Ganguly.

The State women's team and women's under-23 and under-19 sides – which won National championships were also felicitated.

Other award winners: Cricketer-of-the-Year: Abhimanvu Easwaran

Fast bowler: Mukesh Kumar: Under-23 cricketer: Ritwik Roy Chowdhury.

Under-19 cricketer: Karan Lal; Best woman cricketer: Deepti Sharma; Best women's under-23 cricketers: Deepti Sharma and Tanushree Sarkar, Best women's under-19 cricketer:

Messi handed three-month ban

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Argentina star Lionel Messi was banned from playing for his national team for three months and fined \$50,000 on Friday by CON-MEBOL after he heavily criticised the South American football governing body during the Copa America. The 32-year-old Barcelona forward had accused CON-MEBOL of "corruption" after he was sent off against Chile during the third-place play-off during the tournament in Brazil, which ended last month.

Messi was angered by two incidents during the June-July Copa hosted by bitter rivals Brazil.

Argentina was denied two penalty claims in its 2-0 semifinal defeat to the host, after which Messi claimed Brazil was "managing a lot in CONMEBOL these days." And when he was dismissed in the next game, which Argentina went on to win 2-1, he couldn't contain his anger. "Corruption and the referees are preventing people from enjoying the foot-

Semenya's human rights should come before science

It is not an accident that the IAAF refers [only] to unlawful discrimination: Schwab

N. SUDARSHAN BENGALURU

For two-time Olympic champion Caster Semenya, the European Court of Human Rights may well be the last court of appeal to overturn the restrictions placed on her by the IAAF to compete as a woman.

The case may come to rest on whether the IAAF's stricture that the South African should medically reduce her testosterone levels to continue competing in select races is a human rights violation.

Starting point

But what's gaining ground is the view that athletes' human rights should be the starting point and not the last resort. It found support at the GoSports Foundation Sports Law & Policy Symposium on Saturday through Brendan Schwab, Executive Director of World Players Association and a leading human rights lawyer, and Craig Foster, a former Australian footballer, whose stellar role helped free Hakeem al-Araibi, an Australian citizen of Bahraini descent who was on the verge of being extradited to Bahrain by Thailand on the basis of dodgy criminal charges.

"There should be a policy commitment to internationally recognised human rights," said Schwab.

Unethical

"The rights against cruel and inhumane treatment are absolute. If you apply that test, I don't possibly see how the regulations that were pro-



Call for unity: Craig Foster and Brendan Schwab feel that fellow athletes should come forward to support Semenya's

posed to Semenya would be upheld. The World Medical Association said afterwards that it was unethical to prescribe that treatment. That should have been picked up before the regulations were passed."

The fact that the IAAF said it was not subject to any universal declaration of human rights as it was a "private body" hasn't gone down

"The CAS can just decide cases with reference to the rules that are there before them. But rules are deliberately narrow," said Schwab.

"It is not an accident that the IAAF refers [only] to unlawful discrimination, because discrimination is not an absolute right. That's their level of commitment. The term human right does not appear in their constitution and that is not a

"We need constitutional commitments that respect human rights. FIFA has done that, Commonwealth Federation will soon do. If this case had been heard in foot-

ball, I am sure there would have been a very different outcome, irrespective of the science. Because the inquiry will be broad enough that even if some athletes were to be excluded, we could be confident that it would be human rights compatible."

According to Foster it is that legal human rights framework embedded in a small number of sports, including football, that helped secure Hakeem's release.

"Hakeem had the entire international system of law on his side," explained Fos-

"In the IAAF case with Semenya, the notion that a sport can say that it feels no obligation to respect the human right of an individual is staggering."

"We were successful with Hakeem because we united fans and players and they forced the authorities to act. In Semenya's case where are her fellow athletes, the brethren, male or female? If they say 'if you breach her rights, you breach ours,' it would be very different."

Divij & Erlich crash out; Kadhe-Myneni win title

SPORTS BUREAU LOS CABOX (MEXICO)

Divij Sharan and Jonathan Erlich of Israel lost 6-2, 3-6, [10-3] to Dominic Inglot and Austin Krajicek in the doubles semifinals of the \$858,565 ATP tennis tournament here.

Arjun Kadhe and Saketh Myneni won the doubles title in the \$135,400 Challenger in Chengdu, China, with a 6-2, 3-6, [10-3] win over Koreans Nam Ji Sungha and Song Min-Kvu.

The results: \$858,565 ATP, Los Cabos, Mexico: Semifinals: Dominic Inglot (GBr) & Austin Krajicek (USA) bt Jonathan Erlich (Isr) & Divij Sharan 6-2, 3-6, [10-3].

\$135,400 Challenger, Chengdu, China: Final: Arjun Kadhe & Saketh Myneni bt Nam Ji Sung & Song Min-Kyu (Kor) 6-3, 0-6, [10-6]. \$25,000 ITF women, Chinese Taipei: Final: Ramu Ueda (Jpn) & Riya Bhatia bt I-Hsuan Cho & Yi Tsen Cho (Tpe) 7-5, 6-2. \$25,000 ITF women, Woking,

England: Final: Sarah Beth Grey & Eden Silva (GBr) bt Naiktha Bains (GBr) & Ankita Raina 6-2, 7-5. Semifinals: Naiktha Bains & Ankita Raina bt Vivian Heisen (Ger) & Diana Marcinkevica (Lat) 7-5, 4-6, [10-8].

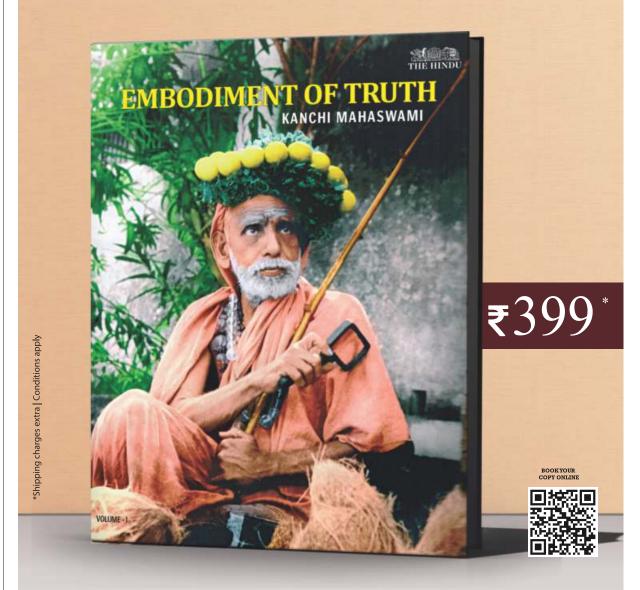
\$15,000 ITF women, Tabarka Tunisia: Semifinals: Sowjanya & Sravya bt Adelina Baravi & Victoria Mikhaylova (Rus) 7-5, 3-6, [10-6].



Winners: Arjun Kadhe and Saketh Myneni were champions in the \$135,400 Challenger in Chengdu. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

TRANSCENDING TIME

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A SPECIAL PUBLICATION FROM THE HINDU GROUP

A gold medal is not everything: Bindra

You need to find the right balance, says the ace shooter

ASHWIN ACHAL

Winning the men's 10-metre air rifle gold medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics was the crowning glory of Abhinav Bindra's illustrious career, but it came at a cost. The shooter believes that he sacrificed his mental peace to achieve this success, and that "a gold medal is not eve-

rything in life". Bindra spoke at a discussion titled 'Athletes and mental health', at the 'The Sports Law & Policy Symposium', organised by LawNK and GoSports Foundation here on Saturday.

Bindra was joined on the panel by Sanjeev Jain, NIM-HANS professor, and Anisha Padukone, golfer and Direc-

Foundation. The session was moderated by sports journalist Sharda Ugra.

tor, The Live Love Laugh

Mental toll

On the mental toll it took to achieve the gold medal dream, Bindra said, "I definitely would not do it over again, and I would not recommend my way to anybody else. I was very passionate about my sport, but I abused my passion. I had a singleminded focus, and while this approach got me success, it is not the right way to do it. A gold medal is not everything in life. I tell athletes that you can abuse talent and passion by not giving it anything, and you can also abuse it by giv-

ing too much. If you can find

the right balance, you can deliver to the best of your Anisha, daughter of bad-

minton legend Prakash Padukone, spoke about handling failure in the face of high expectations. "I grew up in a sporting family. Even though it was not explicitly stated, being exceptional was an inbuilt, underlying emotion right from performing menial tasks all the way to our professional careers. One of the challenges for me was to accept that it was okay to fail," Anisha said.

Anisha explained that the The Live Love Laugh Foundation, founded by her sister and actor Deepika Padukone, aims to help de-stigmatise mental illness.



in October 2021

Warner Bros will release the yet-untitled film on legendary singer Elvis Presley on October 1, 2021. Directed by Australian filmmaker Baz Luhrmann, the biographical film will feature Austin Butler in the role of Presley and Tom Hanks as his iconic manager Colonel Tom Parker. The project will be shot at Queensland in



Original Lion King animator flays remake

David Stephan, one of the original animators of The Lion King (1994), has blasted the remake of the classic Disney film, calling it "cheap". "Disney's now taken the cover off, and it's now in your face: 'Yeah, we just want to make money'. That's disappointing. the animator said. PTI



Facebook to add name to WhatsApp, Instagram SAN FRANCISCO

In a step towards merging all its platforms into one unified experience for users, Facebook is adding its name to Instagram and WhatsApp. Instagram will soon become "Instagram from Facebook" and WhatsApp will turn into "WhatsApp from Facebook" and the new titles will be displayed in app stores. IANS

Canadian iceberg hunter follows 'white gold' in the Atlantic

Chunks of ice are melted and the water sold to local traders who make products for wealthy clients in Europe, Singapore and Dubai

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

It's midday and Edward Kean, a Canadian fisherman who now scours the North Atlantic for icebergs that have broken off from Greenland's glaciers, is positively beaming.

Using his trusty binoculars, the rotund, 60-year-old captain of the fishing boat Green Waters has spotted his next prize - it's several dozen metres tall and floating just off the coast of Newfoundland.

"It's a very fine piece of ice," Mr. Kean proclaims.

Every morning at dawn, Mr. Kean sails out with three other crew members to hunt what has become his own white personal icebergs.

For more than 20 years, he has hauled in the mighty ice giants and then sold the water for a handsome profit to local companies, which



Sea story: (Clockwise from left) Edward Kean's fishing boat passing an iceberg in Bonavista Bay; a hook is sharpened to 'catch' chunks of ice; bits of ice being axed for melting and the water finally getting bottled for a premium range. • AFP

then bottle it, mix it into alcoholic products or use it to make cosmetics.

Business has soared in tandem with the warming of the planet, especially quick

in the Arctic, meaning that more and more icebergs find their way south.

But it's a tough gig. The days are long and the "har-

Arriving at the foot of the massive wall of floating ice in Bonavista Bay, which opens into the Atlantic, he shoulders a rifle and blasts away in the hopes that some of it will

It has the potential to

break off. But the ice does not split. "Sometimes it works. sometimes doesn't," said Mr. Kean.

As summer gets under way, time is of the essence in harvesting the icebergs. "They come here and they melt so fast," noted the captain, adding that once they are floating off the coast of Newfoundland, it is a real race against the clock.

"In Newfoundland, it's like a fallen leaf. They're going to die in a couple of weeks and be gone back to nature anyway," he said.

"So we're not here hurting the environment, we're not taking nothing away – we're just utilising the purest water we can get."

Two members of his crew set out on a motorboat, circling the iceberg, even brushing against it, to find blocks of ice that may be bobbing next to it.

Armed with a pole and net, they laboriously wrap up the precious fragments, each one weighing a tonne or two, and fasten them to a hook at the end of a crane on the fishing boat's deck,

which winches them aboard. Mr. Kean then hacks the blocks up with an axe and puts the pieces into containers to melt over the coming days. In the high season, from May to July, the crew can gather 8,00,000 litres of water, which they then sell to local merchants for a dollar a litre. Those businesses in turn market the iceberg products as made from some of the purest water money can

Dyna Pro, one of Mr. Kean's clients, sells the water in glass bottles for \$12 each. They are targeting a wealthy clientele and have hopes to expand their business abroad. "We're probably a lot bigger today than we ever were with iceberg water shipping overseas - Europe, Singapore, Dubai," said the company's manager, Kerry Chaulk. "We just picked up clients from the Middle East with our glass bottles.'

Wearable device to link man and machine

It can collect and relay information

ASIAN NEWS INTERNATIONAL

Researchers have developed a multifunctional ultra-thin wearable electronic device that is imperceptible to the

These human-machine interface devices that can collect and store important health information about the wearer have benefited from advances in electronics, materials and mechanical de-

But current models still can be bulky and uncomfortable, and they can't always handle multiple functions at the same time time.

Researchers reported in



At the cutting-edge: (Clockwise from left) A smart patch worn on the back of the hand; a close-up of the patch and a robotic hand covered with prosthetic skin. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

the study published in the journal Science Advances the development of a ultra-thin

The device allows the



wearer to move naturally

and is less noticeable than

wearing a Band-Aid, said

Cunjiang Yu, the lead author

for the paper. "Everything is



"What if when you shook hands with a robotic hand, it was able to instantly deduce physical condition?" Mr. Yu asked. While current devices are gaining in popularity, the researchers said they can be bulky to wear, offer slow response times and suffer a drop in performance over time. More flexible versions are unable to provide multiple functions - at once sensing, switching, stimulation and data storage, for example - and are generally expensive and complicated to manufacture.

The patch, which is worn on human skin to capture multiple physical data and also on a robot to offer intelligent feedback, forms a closed-loop interface. The multifunctional soft stretchy device is based on a one-step formed, gel-on-polymer processed indium zinc oxide semiconductor nanomembrane electronics, the re-

searchers wrote.

Infant milk substitute: clinical trial under probe

ICMR asked to get the issue examined

AFSHAN YASMEEN

A prominent manufacturer of infant milk substitute is now under the Union Health Ministry's scanner for sponsoring a research titled "Multicentric Observational Study to Observe Growth in Pre-term hospitalised infants" in alleged violation of rules in five hospitals across the country.

The manufacturer, Nestle India Ltd., conducted clinical trials on 75 premature babies in five hospitals on substitutes for breast milk in complete contravention of the The Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation Of Production, Supply And Distribution) Act 1992 and Amendment Act 2003 (IMS

The alleged violation was found by the Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) on screening the trial registry of the Indian Council of Medical Research

(ICMR). The BPNI complained to Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan on July 17 alleging that the company had violated Section 9(2) of the IMS Act.

This Section states that no producer, supplier or distributor shall offer or give any contribution or pecuniary benefit to a health worker or any association of health workers, including funding of seminars, meetings, conferences, educational courses, fellowships or research work.

Following the complaint, Union Health Secretary Preeti Sudan on Friday directed ICMR Director Balram Bhargava to "get the trial examined and take necessary action to comply with the provisions of the IMS Act".

She has also directed

that all such clinical trials are first screened for infringement of the IMS Act in Dr. Monjori Mitra of Med-

Prof. Bhargava to ensure

clin Research Pvt Ltd. is the trial co-ordinator and research director of the clinical trial number CTRI/2018/12/016715 - registered under the Clinical Trial Registry of the ICMR. The five hospitals which participated in the research - Cloudnine Hospital (Bengaluru), Institute of Child Health (Kolkata), Manipal Hospital (Bengaluru), Sir Ganga Ram Hospital (New Delhi) and Calcutta Medical Research Institute (Kolkata) - are private institutions.

Amulya Nidhi, co-convenor of the Swasthya Adhikar Manch, alleged this clinical trial was "only to put our children's health at risk for the benefit of corporates like Nestle".

Nestle's response

Responding to the allegations, a spokesperson for Nestle India emphasised that the company always complied with all laws and regulations including the IMS Act.

In a statement, the spokesperson said the objective of the clinical study was to encourage science-based research and all Institutional **Ethics Committee approvals** had been obtained from the participating sites.

"The letter from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has requested the Indian Council of Medical Research to examine the matter. Nestlé India will provide all its support on this issue to ICMR and we are confident of our position," the statement said, noting that the IMS Act does not discourage dissemination of scientific information.

⁺ U.S. rapper A\$AP Rocky released pending verdict

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

A Swedish court released U.S. rapper A\$AP Rocky on Friday pending the verdict of an assault trial that has outraged his fans. The court's decision was quickly welcomed by U.S. President Donald Trump.

The 30-year-old rapper, whose real name is Rakim Mayers, hugged his mother in the courtroom after the Stockholm district court's presiding judge Per Lennerbrant announced he would be released pending the verdict, which would be delivered on August 14.

Mr. Mayers has been held in Sweden since July 3 when he was arrested following a brawl in Stockholm on June 30, which saw him and his crew embroiled in a fight with a 19-year-old plaintiff.

He and two others had been held in custody ahead of their trial because the court deemed him a "flight



risk". His detention has sparked a campaign for his release by his fans and fellow artists, with an online petition called #JusticeFor-Rocky garnering more than 6,40,000 signatures. Social media campaigns have even urged fans to boycott Swedish brands such as Ikea.

The New York-born rapper thanked his fans in an Instagram post after his release.

Mr. Trump tweeted, "It was a Rocky Week, get home ASAP A\$AP!"

Ghostly tale



Traditional rites: A giant paper statue of Chinese deity 'Da Shi Ye' or 'Guardian God of Ghosts' during the Chinese Hungry Ghost Festival in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The deceased are believed to visit the living during the festivities. • REUTERS

Fan Bingbing talks of comeback after scandal

In a rare interview, the actor opens up about her fall from grace and her determination to keep going

STEVEN LEE MYERS

For more than half her life, Fan Bingbing was an icon of China's booming film and television industry, who evolved from girl-next-door roles into an international star and fashion celebrity.

Then last year, her career was convulsed by a tax scandal that precipitated her spectacular fall from public grace and tarnished an entire industry - one that the Chinese government is eager to put under even tighter creative control.

"No one can have smooth sailing throughout the journey," Ms. Fan said, during a rare interview, the first to touch on the scandal since it erupted. For four months last year, Ms. Fan disap-



peared, and the unexplained absence of China's most famous movie star distressed millions of her fans and spread fear among her filmmaking colleagues.

No one knew it then, but she was being held under a

type of house arrest while tax authorities scoured the

records of her long and lucrative career as an actor, a luminary of the red carpet, a face of luxury brands and a successful businesswoman. Now Ms. Fan, who turns

her toe back into the waters of a society that once revered her. "It may be a trough I encountered in my life or in my work, but this trough is actually a good thing," she said. "It has made me calm down and think seriously about what I want to do in my future life."

38 next month, is dipping

She recently posted her first updates to her 62 million followers on Weibo, China's version of Twitter, promoting charity events and announcing her breakup with her fiance, Li Chen, an actor and director.

She also appeared last month in a teaser on Instagram for 355, a film shepherded by actor and producer Jessica Chastain. Ms. Fan's role in the film – an action thriller featuring women playing foreign agents from around the world - had been in limbo since the scan-

In October, China revealed that Ms. Fan had been fined nearly \$70 million in unpaid taxes and penalties, while her eponymous studio was hit with a tax bill exceeding \$60 million. That same month, in her first public statement since June, Ms. Fan expressed her remorse.

She was spared criminal charges, but her manager at the time, among others, was arrested. Ms. Fan said she was ready for the next scene, no what matter it brought.

"There are regrets, pain and fragility," she said. "But I still feel that I need to keep on living." NY TIMES

Racoon rescue goes viral

The animal had got stuck in a sewer grate in a U.S. town

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

He may lack the poise of Guardians of the Galaxy superhero Rocket Raccoon but this little adventurer is becoming an Internet star in his own right.

The mischievous mammal became popular on the Internet after he was photographed by U.S. firefighters during a bungled escape from a sewer on Thursday.

"He had been stuck for a while but we are happy to report he is free!!!" the local fire department tweeted after freeing the trapped trash panda in Massachussets.

Firefighters were dispatched when a passing cyclist saw the raccoon clinging desperately to the grill,



The raccoon before it was rescued. • NEWTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

head and tiny paws visible through the metal struts.

"We sent a fire truck and we tried to remove his head from the sewer grate with soap and water," said Newton Fire Lieutenant Michael

Bianchi. When that failed, the firefighters called in local government animal control experts, who sedated the raccoon, calming it enough to pull its head out of the grate.





2 LAST WEEK

Sunday, August 4, 2019



CCD founder dead Café Coffee Day founder V.G. Siddhartha's body was found on the banks of the Netravathi river in Mangaluru, a day after he went missing. In a letter he purportedly wrote, he said harassment from income tax authorities, among other reasons, had led him to succumb "to the situation".



Princess pause Princess Haya of Jordan, the sixth and now estranged wife of Dubai's millionaire ruler Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, applied to a UK court for an order to prevent her child from being forced into marriage. The princess also asked for both her children to be made wards of court.

Pak crash A Pakistani military plane crashed in a residential area of Rawalpindi, killing at least 18 people, — five military personnel and 13 civilians. The Pakistan Army's media wing said the plane crashed during a "routine training flight" and set several houses on fire.



Maori anger With disproportionate numbers of their children taken into state care, hundreds of Maoris in New Zealand marched to Parliament House to demand an overhaul of the child welfare agency. Another group occupied the settlement of Ilhumatao, considered sacred to the Maori, which has been sold off for housing development.



Triple talaq Both houses of Parliament passed the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, which criminalises the practice of instant divorce through triple talaq with a three-year jail term. Triple talaq had already been declared void and unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in August 2017.



Tipu toppled The first thing the new BJP government in Karnataka did after winning the trust vote was to cancel Tipu Jayanti, an annual event that takes place each November. The new government called the celebration — introduced by a Congress government in 2015 — "controversial and communal".





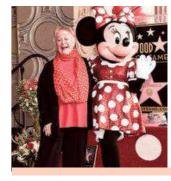




Undoing Unnao After a huge public uproar, the SC transferred the Unnao case to Delhi, setting a 45-day trial deadline. It also gave the CBI one week to investigate the accident that severely injured the survivor and killed her two aunts last week.



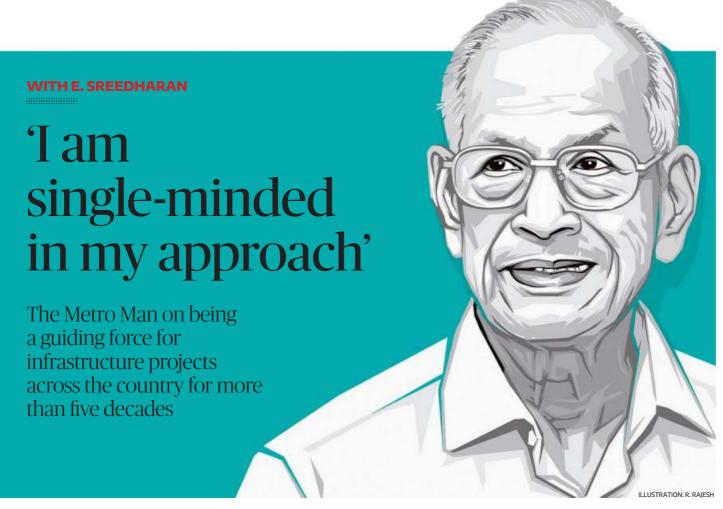
Just desserts Odisha got itself a GI tag for the 'Odisha Rasagola', recognised as being distinct from West Bengal's 'Banglar Rasogolla', which got a GI tag two years ago. This might finally settle the battle between both States about who gets credit for the famous confection.



Minnie's silence Actress Russi Taylor, who was the voice of Disney's Minnie Mouse for more than three decades, died at the age of 75. She also voiced Martin Prince on *The Simpsons*. In 1991, Taylor married Wayne Allwine, the voice of Mickey.

Online jackpot At the first ever major competition held by online video game Fortnite, at Arthur Ashe tennis stadium in New York, 16-year-old Kyle Giersdorf won \$3 million — the largest prize yet awarded to any single player in an e-sports competition.

60 MINUTES



JOHN L. PAUL

■ Recipient of the Padma Shri and

Vibhushan, and

the Chevalier de

(2005) awarded

Asia's heroes by

Time magazine in 2003

by the French government

Named one of

Appointed by former UN

Secretary

General Ban

Ki-moon to

serve on the

UN's High Level

Advisory Group on Sustainable

Transport for

sobriquet of Metro Man for

completing the

Delhi Metro on

time and within

three years in 2015

■ Earned the

budget

la Légion

d'honneur

he zeal that Elattuvalapil Sreedharan has for excellence in engineering feats is unparalleled, even at the age of 88 when most people might want to be tending their roses. Fondly called Metro Man, he loves engaging with policy makers, urban planners, civic administrators and students, sharing with them experiences gathered over 56 years of professional life. He travels across India and sometimes abroad, and is considered a treasure trove of information on the Metro, overbridges, railways and other infrastructure projects. In a freewheeling chat, he spoke about his life and times with grace and positivity. Excerpts:

You are India's best-known technocrat, having taken up many challenging projects. What ignites the fire in you even today?

Somehow there is a great demand for my time and expertise. When the assignment is for the good of society, I don't pull back. It is the job satisfaction which excites me. My guru Poojya Swami Bhoomananda Tirthaji has told me that as long as I have reasonably good health, I should continue to serve society with the attitude that it is an offering to God.

What are the things that have helped keep you on the move?

■ I have always led a disciplined life, getting up very early in the day (4 a.m. formerly, now 5 a.m.) and going to bed by 9 p.m. I usually take a short nap after lunch. I am fastidious about exercise, be it in the open air, or regular yoga. I was a sportsman in my young days, was captain of the college football team. This addiction for regular exercise has remained with me. I was very religious in my early years – shaped by my parents that

way. And I moved to spirituality, particularly after the association with my guru. I like austerity and simplicity.

Were you considered for the President's post in 2017?

■ I was never considered for the President's post by any political party. This was mere kite-flying by the media. Even if I had been considered, I would have declined due to the age factor.

Which metro rail projects are you presently associated with?

I am directly in charge of the 24-km Kochi Metro. I am a consultant to the U.P. government for the Lucknow, Kanpur and Meerut Metros. Likewise, I am consultant to the J&K government for the light metros in Jammu and Srinagar. Last month, I resigned from the U.P. assignment due to time constraints, but the resignation has not been accepted. In addition, officials of Mumbai Metro Line No. 3 and Delhi's Rapid Rail Transit often consult me for technical guidance. I monitor their progress with regular visits.

Metro is a social service and should not be guided by business considerations alone. Its fares must be affordable, to attract commuters who rely on public transport

Passenger patronage of Delhi Metro is high, but that's not the case with many others. What might be the solution?

■ Most Metros make the mistake of fixing high fares — they adopt the Delhi Metro fare or even higher, in hopes of increasing revenue. Metro is a social service and should not be guided by business considerations

alone. Its fares must be affordable, to attract commuters who rely on the road. Also, the other Metros are in the infant stage. Their network must cover most city areas. Ridership will increase only if Metro stations are within half a kilometre of commuter destinations. Link bus services and a common ticketing system must be introduced to provide door-to-door connectivity.

Tell us a little bit about some of your most important projects.

The restoration of Pamban Bridge was a work thrust on me when I was an executive engineer at Southern Railway at the age of 32. I was able to complete the task in 46 days, as against the six-month deadline. This was a record and made possible by adopting innovative engineering methods. The 760-km Konkan Railway, which goes along the most difficult terrains ever encountered in the history of railway construction in India, was completed in seven years. This was possible mainly due to financial engineering and adoption of superior technology.

Delhi Metro, again, was thrust on me but I was able to make it an astounding success due to teamwork and a unique work culture. In all these projects, I was single-minded in my approach and did not succumb to political and bureaucratic pressures. My philosophy was "performance is the best publicity". I was able to get my way in these projects because of the unparalleled success of my previous projects.

What could be a sustainable solution to the maddening traffic snarls and chaos in urban India, which impose a heavy toll in the form of pollution, accidents and wastage of time?

■ Many people would switch from private vehicles to public transport if

they were convenient, safe, reliable and affordable. The government must introduce disincentives in the form of increase in road tax, surcharge on fuel, high parking fees, and so on, to increase the patronage of public transport.

You have always advocated the appointment of technocrats in crucial government posts held by civil servants. The Centre has now begun direct recruitment to such posts, overlooking IAS officers.

The Indian bureaucracy as it exists today is a sad legacy of the British days. To believe that a civil service officer will fit all roles is wrong. Specialisation is a must, especially in these days of fast-changing technology. Proven technocrats must be posted in such fields. Sadly, politicians prefer generalists and they sideline technocrats.

As President of the Foundation for Restoration of National Values (FRNV), what is being done to ensure value-based development in the country?

■ FRNV has not been able to achieve much in the last 11 years of its existence. Our flagship programme is value-based education so that individually and collectively, people have a persuasion to be honest, patriotic and show concern for society. Education being a State subject, we have not been able to achieve much in this area. Fortunately, the new draft education policy contained in the Kasthurirangan report lays great emphasis on value-based education at all levels.

Is spending billions on bullet trains worth it? Or are semi-highspeed corridors a way out?

High-speed trains are necessary in a vast country like ours. But they are expensive. The country committed a mistake by going in for dedicated railway freight corridors at huge expense instead of going for dedicated high-speed passenger corridors, which would have released sufficient capacity in the existing rail system for freight traffic. It is still not too late to convert freight corridors to passenger corridors. The cost difference between bullet train corridors and semi-high-speed corridors is not much. Adopting semi-high-speed corridors will again be a mistake, which cannot be corrected later.

Metro Rail is considered very expensive. Does it have any costeffective alternative?

Metro Rail is no doubt very expensive; it costs ₹250 crore per km for elevated corridor and ₹450 crore for underground rail. But its capacity is anything from 45,000 to 90,000 persons per direction per hour. An alternative to such a high capacity transport is the suburban railway system, but it cannot substitute for an urban mass rapid transport system Cheaper options like Bus Rapid Transit, Light Rapid Transit, and tramways have lower passenger capacities. Roads would have to be widened for them and this is equally expensive.

KABUL

Amrullah Saleh, the enemy of the Taliban



The political campaign for the September 28 presidential election in

Afghanistan got a bloody start on July 28 when the office of vice-presidential candidate Amrullah Saleh came under attack. Mr. Saleh, a former intelligence chief and President Ashraf Ghani's running mate, survived the attack, which killed at least 30 people. He was rescued from the building when security personnel fought the gunmen for hours

At first, a car bomb went off outside the office of the Afghan Green Trend (AGT), Mr. Saleh's political party, and then gunmen entered the building. One eyewitness, who spoke to this reporter, described the carnage that followed the explosion. "The area has a number of buildings with glasses and the explosion caused a rain of shards. I saw several hundred people injured, including children who had glass cuts on their faces," said 24-yearold Fazal Ahmad, who was close to the site at the time of explosion. "If you ask me, I would guess hundreds are injured and killed," he added, while waiting outside the Emergency Ward and Trauma Hospital in Kabul to hear news about his cousin, who was among those injured.

While no one has claimed responsibility for the attack, members of the Afghan Green Trend are certain that the perpetrators were from the Taliban, which had made several attempts at Mr. Saleh's life in the past. In November last year, an attack on his house in Kabul was averted by the security forces. "There were always standing threats against the Green Trend, but we were made aware by the NDS [National Directorate of Security] of a specific threat against our offices in the run-up to the election campaign," an AGT member said on condition of anonymity. "No one has claimed responsibility yet, but we are certain it is the Taliban.'

A challenge

Mr. Saleh, best known for his tenure as the NDS chief, as well as for his most recent, short-lived, profile as the reformist Interior Minister, has been extremely critical of the Taliban. Despite the threats to his life, Mr. Saleh has also persistently rejected the claims of the Taliban's growing control and influence in the country.

In February, he tweeted: "A challenge: Those who claim that terror groups controls nearly half of Afg are invited to visit my office in Kabul & join us for a tour of the country by road, by plane, by bike, on horse and by foot. This falsehood & fake news is

mostly spread by stooges, agents & idiots." He followed up his statement by taking a ride around Kabul on a cycle and



While no group has claimed Sunday's attack, Amrullah Saleh's party is certain that it's an act of the Taliban, which had tried to kill him in the past

meeting the locals.

A staunch critic of the Afghan President, Mr. Saleh's decision to join President Ghani's re-election campaign as his running mate has raised many eyebrows. In a campaign event on July 28 just hours before the attack, Mr. Saleh explained his decision. He said he wants to "turn Afghanistan into a regional hub for trade and a centre of civilisation".

That the attack happened on the day President Ghani launched his campaign for the much-delayed election suggests that the election season could be violent. Already, the civilian casualties figures of the first six months of 2019, released by the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan on Tuesday, paints a grim picture with over 3,800 casualties. While the overall figures for the first half are lower than those for the first half of last year, there was a 27% increase in civilian deaths since the first quarter report. The UN has documented a total of 1,366 deaths this year.

The report also points to a worrying trend of deliberate targeting of civilians, aid workers, religious leaders, places of worship and public places such as schools and government offices. This has led to serious concerns among international humanitarian groups and stakeholders over the protection of civilians as the country gets down to the election process.

"We urge all parties to heed this imperative, to answer the call of Afghans for immediate steps to be taken to reduce the terrible harm being inflicted," Tadamichi Yamamoto, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan, said during the Intra-Afghan peace dialogue held earlier this month between some Afghan leaders and the Taliban in Doha.

"Everyone heard the message loud and clear from Afghan delegates in the Doha talks – 'reduce civilian casualties to zero!'" he said.

BERLIN

40 years of Berlin Pride: party, parade & politics



After a week of soaring temperatures, on the sunny last Saturday of

July, the rainbow dominated Berlin. In Kurfürstendamm, a popular shopping avenue in the city, one could barely see the road and shops through the scores of people, flags, placards and parade buses. An hour before the biggest LGBTQAI+ event of the year, Christopher Street Day (CSD) parade, flagged off, over 100,000 people, soaked in glitter and confetti, had already congregated in an assortment of costumes, ranging from over-thetop drag to bare skin.

Forty years ago, when the first Pride took place in West Berlin, it gathered only over 450 people. The 41st CSD on July 27 witnessed an estimated 1 million visitors from around the world, according to the organisers. The parade culminated at Brandenburg Gate, where Berlin's Mayor Michael Müller welcomed visitors to the "best and biggest CSD" the city has ever had. "Each and every one of us must act against discrimination together," he declared.

This year's march, themed "Stonewall 50 – every riot begins with your voice", was dedicated to the clashes that took place between the queer community, led by drag queen Marsha P. Johnson, and the police in New York City in 1969. "The fight that started with Stonewall is not over yet," announced one of the organisers on the leading bus, as the engines turned on. The U.S. Embassy float, with a poster informing that over 70 countries still decriminalise homosexuality, urged for global solidarity against homophobia.

Onboard the float of Berliner Aids-Hilfe e.V., a non-profit association which supports people with HIV, senior citizens hurled condom packets in the crowd marching along the open-top bus. On one side, a teenage girl, donning rainbow wings, held onto a fluttering queer flag, along with her grandmother. Some marchers broke into impromptu voguing as Todrick Hall's Nails, Hair, Hips, Heels played on popular request. Every hour, the DJ lowered the music, to announce the six demands for this year's CSD. Among the international appeals were to "stop stigmatisation and exclusion of HIV-positive people" and "to hell with patriarchy". National demands included the right for all threatened LGBTQAI+ people with migratory history to stay in Germany and action against the far-right wing. For Berliners, the demands were to have the first inclusive living and cultural centre for lesbians in the city

and professional diversity management for the employees of the Berlin administration and in the municipal companies.



The 41st Christopher Street Day parade, in which a million people took part, was dedicated to the 1969 riots between the queer community and New York police

Reaffirming the status of Berlin as the "rainbow capital of Germany", Senator for Justice, Consumer Protection and Anti-Discrimination, Dirk Behrendt released a 92-pointer action plan, four days before the CSD, advocating self-determination and acceptance of gender and sexual diversity for 2020-21 and beyond.

Right to determine

The plan supports a person's right to determine their own sexuality and gender identity, which especially affects the transgender community and queer refugees.

Germany has had a tumultuous past with queer rights. After the golden 1920s, when Berlin housed sexologist Magnus Hirschfeld's Institute for Sexology, a centre for study and medical research on sexual and gender diversity, the Nazis prosecuted homosexuals and sent them to concentration camps, where thousands died of starvation and diseases. The prosecution of queer people in Germany did not end with the Nazi regime. Paragraph 175 of the German Penal Code, which criminalised homosexuality, was only abolished 25 years ago in 1994.

Keeping up with its political messaging, the Berlin Pride was also accompanied by 'alternative' protests. A day before the CSD, the Dyke March, organised by and for lesbians, protested against gentrification, displacement of open spaces and climate change.

The Radical Queer March, which took place on the same evening, sought to be independent of and demonstrate against corporate, State and police intervention. Within the same march, the 'Queers for Palestine' block advocated against pinkwashing in Israel. But as the day turned into night, the sloganeering and advocacy gave way to concerts and after-parties, where drag performances, pop and techno music, turned a massive protest into a celebration.

Kennith Rosario works with *The Hindu*.

DALIAN

At the heart of China's Arctic dreams

As the polar ice in the Arctic begins to melt, opening new shipping channels to Europe and North America, Dalian port – China's eighth

America, Dalian port – China's eightl largest and a rising trade and transit hub of northeast Asia – is gearing up for business.

"We are exploring the Arctic trade route in detail and Dalian Port Group is doing substantial groundwork," says Zhang Hongguang, Deputy Director of the Dalian Free Trade Zone Management Committee, in a conversation with *The Hindu*.

Dalian, which has witnessed ebbs and flows of history, including the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05 when a rising Asian power had humbled a European thoroughbred, is not unfamiliar in exploring the Arctic's freezing waters.

Six years ago, China Ocean Shipping Company (COSCO) sent a ship from Dalian to Rotterdam, the Netherlands, with a plan to arrive at its destination in 30 days. The ship accomplished its mission after crossing the Bering Strait and Russia's northern coastline. The voyage of the *Yong Sheng*, in turn, trickled vital first-hand data for tackling practical problems that Chinese shippers would encounter in the future. Over the past five years, COSCO has logged 22 jawdropping voyages, emerging as a global leader in transiting shipments through the Russian Arctic.

"Our development strategy is to serve the Polar Silk Road and international trade between the North Atlantic region and the Far East," said Chen Feng, the head of COSCO's marketing and sales division, earlier this year, at the Arctic Circle China Forum in Shanghai.

The Arctic is the gateway to three routes. The Northeast Passage or the Northern Sea Route is the most commercially viable of the three, which connect to the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans. The Northwest Passage, the second promising route, goes along the northern Canadian and Alaskan coasts. The third, the Transpolar Sea Route, is the shortest, but the most unviable, as it passes through the thick ice sheets of the North Pole, which are not navigable.

Distinct advantages

Despite the natural hardships and shortfalls in infrastructure along the way, the Arctic routes offer China some distinct advantages. Shippers heading from Shanghai to Hamburg in Germany are able to shave off a cost-saving distance of 5,200 km, if they

choose the Northern Sea
Route over the traditional
sea passage via the Suez
Canal.

Then there is geopolitics that is



Dalian port, China's eighth largest and a rising trade and transit hub of northeast Asia, could be a crucial transit point in the Arctic sea route

drawing the Arctic zone into the rivalry between a multipolar Eurasia, which includes Russia, China and India, with the U.S. The U.S. resents China's forays into the Arctic passage, as this will lower Beijing's strategic dependence on the Washington-dominated Strait of Malacca that links the Indian and the Pacific oceans.

In tune with the growing trade and technology war with the U.S., China is bonding with Moscow to develop the Arctic passage. The two have also emerged as major stakeholders in developing the Russian Far East – President Vladimir Putin's pet project.

Encouraged by Mr. Putin, the Russian Far East, rich in oil, gas and timber, is also drawing India into the Arctic's equation. The Russians have invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to head the table at the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok in September. New Delhi and Moscow have already hailed the Arctic region's oil and gas as a "new area of focus".

Positioned on the frontline of the Arctic zone, Dalian is playing a key role in the economic consolidation of western and eastern flanks of Eurasia. At the port, officials acknowledge that Russia is their biggest supplier of crude, which is channelled through a pipeline to a Petrochina refinery on the premises. "Not only is this crude used for China, but from Dalian, it can be further exported across the sea to other demand centres such as South Korea and Japan," says Xia Ting, Business Manager, Dalian Port Container Company.

From the top of a tower at the sprawling port, a maze of intersecting rail lines also come into view, some heading in the direction of Central Europe and Russia. The rail connection allows Dalian port to lubricate Japan and South Korea's trade with Central Asia, Russia and Central Europe. On arrival in Dalian, seaborne containers from South Korea and Japan can be transshipped by rail to destinations to the West.

LAHORE

A year of promises, crackdown & censorship



It's been a year since the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) formed its

government in Islamabad. Opposition parties, including the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), had alleged that the 2018 general elections had been rigged in favour of Imran Khan's PTI. But nothing stopped Mr. Khan becoming the Prime Minister.

A year later, many issues still remain the same, if not worse, according to political analysts. "What do they have to show? All they have done is to repeat the mantra of 'chor, daaku, luteray' [thieves, dacoits and looters] for the Opposition, while not doing much for the people of Pakistan, said Iftikhar Ahmad, a senior journalist. "The PTI is on a mission to eliminate the Opposition. That's all this government is interested in."

The PTI used to accuse other parties of nepotism. "Look at all the key positions in the government organisations today – all have been given to PTI cronies. Where is the *tabdeeli* [change]. It's all talk but things on the ground remain the same; in fact, they have got worse under this regime," said Mr. Ahmad. He added six years of the PTI's provincial government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa shows that they have no plan for improvement anywhere.

A senior political analyst, who did not want to be named, said people are now questioning if it is now Imran Khan vs Prime Minister Imran Khan as his popular rhetoric has caught up with the hard reality of governance. "Imran Khan stands in the category of 'great popular' leaders like [Donald] Trump, [Narendra] Modi, [Vladimir] Putin, [Recep Tayyip] Erdogan and some others who think the press is the enemy rather than questioning their own failures and shortcomings."

'Middle ages'

Media is going through one of its worst phases of censorship. A journalist working for a leading TV channel said: "If I could tell you the stories of censorship, you would think Pakistan is living in the middle ages. Journalists are tired, they have given up. I fear, real journalism is dead in Pakistan."

Recently, two interviews of opposition leaders were taken off air. Several TV channels are reportedly under pressure over content.

Foreign policy analyst Hassan Akbar believes Mr. Khan has performed better on foreign policy than other areas. His deft, yet resolute, handling of the Pulwama crisis earned him praise at home and

abroad, he said. "The decision to retaliate after Balakot and subsequently release Wing Commander



A year after Imran Khan became the PM, most of Pakistan's problems, from economic crises to developmental issues, remain the same, say analysts

Abhinandan [Varthaman] as a gesture of de-escalation demonstrated an appreciation of the horrors of conflict. Despite heightened tensions with India, Imran Khan has consistently offered dialogue to New Delhi."

Perhaps Mr. Khan's greatest success this year has been his ability to open new avenues of engagement in Washington, Mr. Akbar added. "Pakistan's help in reconciliation efforts in Afghanistan has played a major role in rejuvenating the bilateral relationship. But pressure from the U.S. on FATF [Financial Action Task Force], delivering a withdrawal agreement (from Afghanistan) and cracking down on non-state actors will likely continue."

Economic expert Hasaan Khawar believes the government did better in managing the economy, especially after Hafeez Sheikh replaced Asad Umar as Finance Minister, than the initial months. "I don't think they have done badly in the last few months but in terms of managing people's expectations, they have not done a good job."

In May, the International Monetary Fund agreed to lend Pakistan \$6 billion to bail it out of a balance-of-payments crisis. In return, the government has promised to initiate economic reforms. Economic growth is expected to fall to less than 4% in the current fiscal, from 5.8% last year.

Mr. Khawar said a lot of people thought that the PTI would be able to deal with the structural economic issues. "Much is still to be seen. They have set up a very ambitious revenue target, devalued the currency, and increased gas and electricity tariffs, but more important is how they deal with some of the deep-rooted issues like privatisation and export growth, and how the government manages the IMF programme."

According to senior editor and journalist Rashed Rahman, a crisis is brewing. "The economy, Parliament and policy are all in disarray."

Mehmal Sarfraz is a journalist based in Lahore.



THE HINDU Magazine DELHI Sunday, August 4, 2019



AJEET MAHALE

ursting at the seams" has been the most popular phrase to describe Mumbai for more than 20 years now. As the population of the city has grown exponentially, there have been few corresponding infrastructure projects to meet the demands of its 20 million residents.

Now, all of a sudden, there is a surfeit of projects competing for attention. 'Mumbai is upgrading,' proclaim slogans on barricades. There's Mumbai Metro 3 plus five other Metro corridors. There's a new airport coming up – the Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA). There's the Mumbai Trans-Harbour Link (MTHL), the Coastal Road, the Versova-Bandra Sea Link (VBSL), and the Eastern Waterfront Project. Put together, the slew of projects costs ₹1.22 lakh crore, with each one in various stages of execution. If you add to these the Centre's ambitious High Speed Rail Corridor between Ahmedabad and Mumbai or the bullet train (route), then the expenditure crosses ₹2 lakh crore.

Costly time lag

Many of these projects have been on paper for several decades, but they have been given the go-ahead only in the last few years. A classic example is NMIA, the bhoomi pooja of which was done in 1997. The Metro is another example of the time it has taken for plans to get off the ground, with the original concept dating back at least 20 years and having seen several iterations. The idea for MTHL goes as far back as 2004; the contracts were signed in 2017, after several changes in executing agency and funding model.

R.A. Rajeev, in his 50s, with a salt-and-pepper moustache, has been in the administrative service for over 30 years now. He heads the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA). He says the current government is displaying a

political will to execute infrastructure projects that wasn't seen earlier. "Once you get political backing, you must be ready to execute the project swiftly, as you don't normally get such opportunities," he says.

It is not all smooth sailing though. There has been stiff opposition to several of the projects from environmentalists. A few weeks ago, the Bombay High Court quashed the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) approval for the Coastal Road, and the Supreme Court has upheld the order. The Bombay High Court order said that the project needed environmental impact assessment (EIA) and noted not only that there were "serious lacunae" in the decision-making process but also a lack of proper scientific study.

Not just the Coastal Road, the Bombay High Court has also quashed the CRZ clearance for a casting yard at Juhu set up for VBSL. And the Supreme Court is presently hearing a petition on whether a car shed for Metro Line 3 can come up in Aarey Milk Colony. With its thick vegetation, Aarey Colony in Goregaon is considered a green oasis. Sewri, where MTHL is coming up, is famous for the flamingos that migrate here every winter. There is a forest reserve north of the city and mudflats along the Thane Creek, and the bullet train will pass underground through this area.

Overnight changes

Stalin Dayanand, director of the nonprofit Vanashakti, has a different opinion on the way the infrastructure projects have been fast-tracked. He was among the petitioners challenging the Coastal Road project in Bombay High Court and says the key difference between the present government and its predecessors is that this government changes rules and laws overnight to fit the needs of the project. "Aarey was declared a nodevelopment zone (NDZ) under the previous government. This government removed the NDZ. If the project is stalled today, it is only because of vigorous opposition by

The 33.5 km Metro Line 3 will be the city's only underground Metro

line. Last month, when the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) was reviewing a proposal to cut some 2,000 trees for a car depot for Line 3, it received over 82,000 objections from Mumbaikars.

Rajeev objects to this.
Environmental activists should understand the problems of project authorities, he says. "Considerable time is spent planning these projects and a lot of time goes in obtaining the clearances. If anyone has an issue with the project, they should go to court before the tenders are awarded. After the tender is awarded, it only delays the project and there is a loss of public money."

Rajeev chafes at the petitions and court cases. "The Metro lines should

BMC is saying we are going to give Mumbai more open spaces. You don't have to reclaim from the sea to give the city more open spaces, says Dayanand of NGO Vanashakti

have been operational by now, but the projects didn't take off. The first Metro line took nearly 10 years to complete. If we implement one line at a time, completing the entire network will take considerable time, which the city does not have. We are essentially making up for lost time," he says. MMRDA plans to build 14 corridors in all, of which three got the State government nod earlier this month while six are under construction.

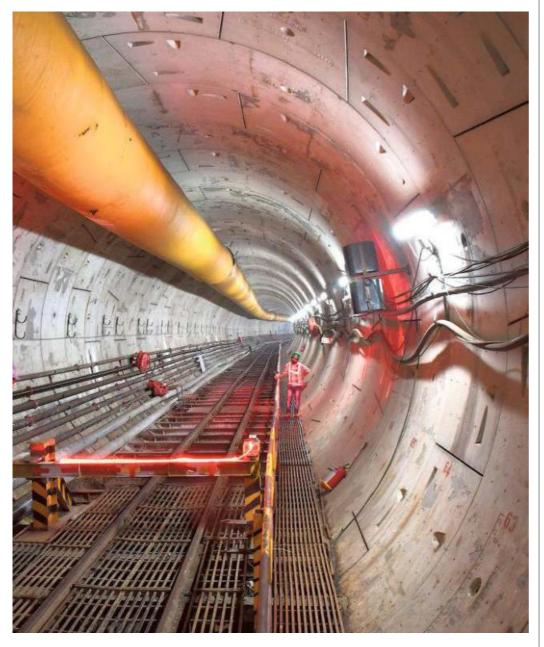
There is no denying the crying need for infrastructure upgradation in booming Mumbai. Its population is mushrooming and its suburban train service is stretched to the limit. The locals, as they are popularly known, ferry over 80 lakh people a day. And it is this statistic the administration uses to justify the environmental damage caused by projects.

Urban planners, however, say that the projects are being executed



By the bay The Mumbai 'locals' ferry over 80 lakh people a day. (Top) Sewri, where work on the Trans-Harbour Link is ongoing, is famous for the flocks of flamingos that migrate there every winter. REUTERS & EMMANUAL YOGINI

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



Maximum Mumbai

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

without understanding the present needs of the city.

For instance, nearly all the Metro lines are being built within the city and its suburbs, whereas the real demand for new infrastructure is in the satellite towns that are part of the larger Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), which has exploded in population but is served only by the suburban trains.

According to the 2011 census, Mumbai City district saw its population shrink by 7.6% from the previous decade with people crowding to areas around it. Thus, in the same period, the population of Mumbai Suburban district grew 8.3% while that of Panvel and Alibaug in Raigad district grew by over 100%. Thane district increased by 36%, while Vasai in Palghar district also nearly doubled.

As city planner and architect P.K. Das says, "Around 30-40 years ago, South Mumbai was the magnet. It was the centre and nearly all major offices across sectors and industries were located there. Today, that's no longer the case. There has been a visible decentralisation of business districts and travel patterns have therefore

changed." There has, however, been no corresponding change in planning. Das pointed to the absence of a single comprehensive transport plan. "Each agency seems to be executing projects individually without considering other projects and, more importantly, without understanding the needs of the city today."

Metro vs. roads

In fact, experts are also divided on whether Mumbai should focus on the Metro or on more roads. Rajeev defends the decision to build the Metros first; there's a more urgent need for it, he says, pointing to the 11.4 km Metro Line 1, which ferries 4.5 lakh people daily. It's a classic example, he says, of how starved the city is for new infrastructure.

Engineers like the famous E. Sreedharan have always maintained that Metros are cheaper than roads and can carry more people. Hussain Indorewala, planner and activist, points to the high cost of the Coastal Road, a 10 km road costing nearly ₹12,000 crore, compared to Mumbai Metro 3, which has a project cost of around ₹23,000 crore but is nearly three times as long. But focussing on roads could have got the city a better

Snaking through Deep inside the belly of South Mumbai rumbles this massive tunnel boring machine working on the upcoming Metro 3 line. WYEKBENDRE

bus rapid system for a fraction of the

As Indorewala says, "It would have been cheaper and more flexible in terms of planning routes to meet the changing patterns in the city in the future." If, however, the idea is to reduce private cars on the road, then too many roads achieve the opposite. As Uwe Brandes, urban design expert and associate professor at Georgetown University, points out, building more roads and highways seems to create a demand for vehicles even where there were was none before.

The administration itself seems a bit muddled, using contradictory arguments to justify its Metro and road projects. Says Indorewala, "Coastal Road is justified by the assumptions of increasing car ownerships in the city.

On the other hand, Metro Line 3, which runs nearly parallel to Coastal Road, is also justified saying it will reduce road congestion. Similarly, VBSL will run parallel to Metro Line 2B." On its website, the Mumbai Metro 3 project says it will reduce 4,56,000 vehicle trips, even as the Coastal Road project says it will cater to 1.2 lakh cars every day.

Tackling congestion

Rajeev, however, says the Metro and road projects complement each other. "The city's congestion is around 70% at present. Once you implement the Metro, the congestion will reduce by 25% at least. But with the road projects implemented, the average speed on the road will increase, and we can expect another 10% reduction, thus reducing overall congestion to around 35%," he says.

This is not entirely convincing. Experts point to the Bandra-Worli Sea Link (BWSL). Built in 2009, the 6 km long BWSL was expected to carry nearly 1 lakh vehicles daily. The figure is not even close to half of that even after 10 years. The proposed VBSL, 17.17 km long, projects that it will carry 39,334 vehicles over the entire length every day; it projects a toll fee for 2023 that's nearly 3.5 times the current toll for BWSL.

Both the sea links and the Coastal Road are planned as part of a single coastal road on the city's western waterfront, and once complete, these numbers might be achieved, but the damage to the coastline ecosystem seems to have been left out of consideration. Instead of the Coastal Road, says Das, the government could have used the money to build all the Metro lines underground. Except Mumbai Metro Line 3, all other lines under construction are elevated.

According to the 2011 census, Mumbai City saw its population shrink by 7.6% from the previous decade, while that of Panvel and Alibaug grew by over 100% "Elevated lines leave little scope for road expansion," says Das, and Indorewala points out that after completion, the elevated Metros will permanently eat up road space on arterial roads.

Into this heady mixture, a new ingredient has been thrown in: water transport. Can this be the magic mantra with the potential to change the way people commute in Mumbai? Despite being an island city with a natural harbour, Mumbai has a very poor water transport network, with only a few slow jetties in some parts. Now, that could change, with Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) developing a 1 km waterfront on the city's eastern front.

Water transport too

This, says Sanjay Bhatia, chairman of MbPT, will become the hub. "We are bringing in cruise tourism and water transport." MbPT is acquiring fast boats that can navigate shallow waters. And it is planning routes from the hub at Ferry Wharf to parts of Navi Mumbai such as Belapur, Nerul, and even to the new airport, as well as Ro-Ro ferries to Alibaug and Nerul that will allow people to take their cars on the boats. "Things will be different," says Bhatia. "We are even testing to see if it's possible to have boats travelling up the creek to Thane, Airoli and even Vasai."

Are these plans relevant or sustainable?

"If all cities build infrastructure to meet peak demand then, by definition, there's too much infrastructure," says Brandes. Instead, technological interventions such as congestion pricing and dynamic toll rates must be used to manage demand and regulate congestion. The integration of multiple transport systems is important for sustainable infrastructure, he says.

Das points out that the two key questions of 'relevance' and 'sustainability' seem to be missing. The projects under way are seen by the government as 'contracts' rather than part of a comprehensive plan for the city, he says. Such ad hoc measures cannot be considered 'infrastructure', he says, as the term represents a holistic view of planned development, and that must include a strong housing policy.

Dayanand agrees. "For the Coastal

Dayanand agrees. "For the Coastal Road, 90 hectares is being reclaimed, of which less than 20 hectares will be used for the road. BMC is saying we are going to give Mumbai more open spaces. You don't have to reclaim from the sea to give the city more open spaces. You need a robust housing policy to successfully rehabilitate the slums that occupy nearly 40% of Mumbai's area."

The administration, it would seem, has kept the focus firmly on mobility, putting that at the centre of its infrastructure strategy. But, as Brandes points out, mobility itself is going through a disruption and it's impossible to anticipate all the dynamics associated with it. This is why a holistic vision for the city is required, one that integrates mobility with a long-sighted understanding of housing and sustainability issues. Is Mumbai listening?



YOUNG MINDS

Children of a science god

e-slippers, gliding platforms, walking sticks with sensors: a school in Maddur produces student innovators

GAYATRI RAMDAS

t is morning in Maddur, a little village nestled in the valley of the lush Tiruttani hills in Tamil Nadu. I make my way past the railway crossing that looks straight out of an R.K. Narayan story and climb into a rickshaw. It takes me past houses with decorative pillars and *thinnais* (porches) of old-fashioned houses. As the auto sputters down, I hear the rattle of power looms – the main occupation in Maddur is weaving.

Maddur, of late, has earned a new distinction. The students of Buchireddy Palli Government School have been winning accolades for their clever innovations aimed at saving lives and improving the lives of people with disability. Madur has few streetlights, and many pedestrians fall prey to road accidents. So Class X students S. Parthiban and V.M. Akashwaran came up with 'e-slippers'.

The footwear operates on the principle of piezo-electricity and has LED strips that light up when the user walks. Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, which charge devices like mobile phones, are connected to the slippers.

The duo has also come up with a multi-purpose walking stick with sensors that can detect hazards such as fires or floods.

The Buchireddy Palli Government School is an austere, three-storied building that houses both English and Tamil departments from classes VI to XII. When I get there just before lunch break, I spot some bright-eyed children sneaking out of their classrooms. Science teacher R. Dharmalingam, has nothing but appreciation for his students. "They are self-driven, curious and never afraid to ask questions," he says.

"Most of their projects are selffunded, but the headmaster has also helped. I have sat with them after school hours to encourage them." The school's encouragement is obvious. Dharmalingam accompanied Akashwaran and Parthiban when they showcased their work at the Southern India Science and Technology Fair in Bengaluru.

Out of the box

At Akashwaran's house, we are greeted with effusive hospitality. Akashwaran and his friend Gunasekaran, still in their uniforms, are poring over a cardboard model. I ask them what they are working on. "This is a gliding platform meant for people with disability or the elderly so that they can cross railway platforms without having to use the overbridge," Akashwaran tells me. The two then demonstrate the working model.

"Akash thought of this when I complained about the climb at the station. Since then he's been trying to figure out a workable solution," beams his mother Vatsala.

"It used to be based on hydraulic motion but I changed it to a motor-based system. The platform will move forward when the switch is pressed. IR sensors will detect approaching trains and the platform will then retreat," Gunasekaran explains. They have even thought about warning systems —

a buzzer sound to alert the blind and a flashing red light for the deaf.

M.N. Haripratap is in Class IX in the same school. He has designed a bridge model where the structure opens up during high tide to allow ships to pass and then folds back again. It won him a district-level prize from the Chief Education Officer of Thiruvallur district.

The students' love for science and innovation is apparent. "Akash took part in a science exhibition at Sri Krishna Polytechnic and was fascinated by what he saw," says Vatsala. Interested in electronics, programming and robotics, he recently received a special prize for excellence in science from Anna University, Chennai, during its tech fest, 'Kurukshetra' He was also awarded a token of appreciation by former ISRO director Mylswamy Annadurai.

They are self-driven, curious and never afraid to ask questions. Most of their projects are self-funded, but the headmaster has also helped.

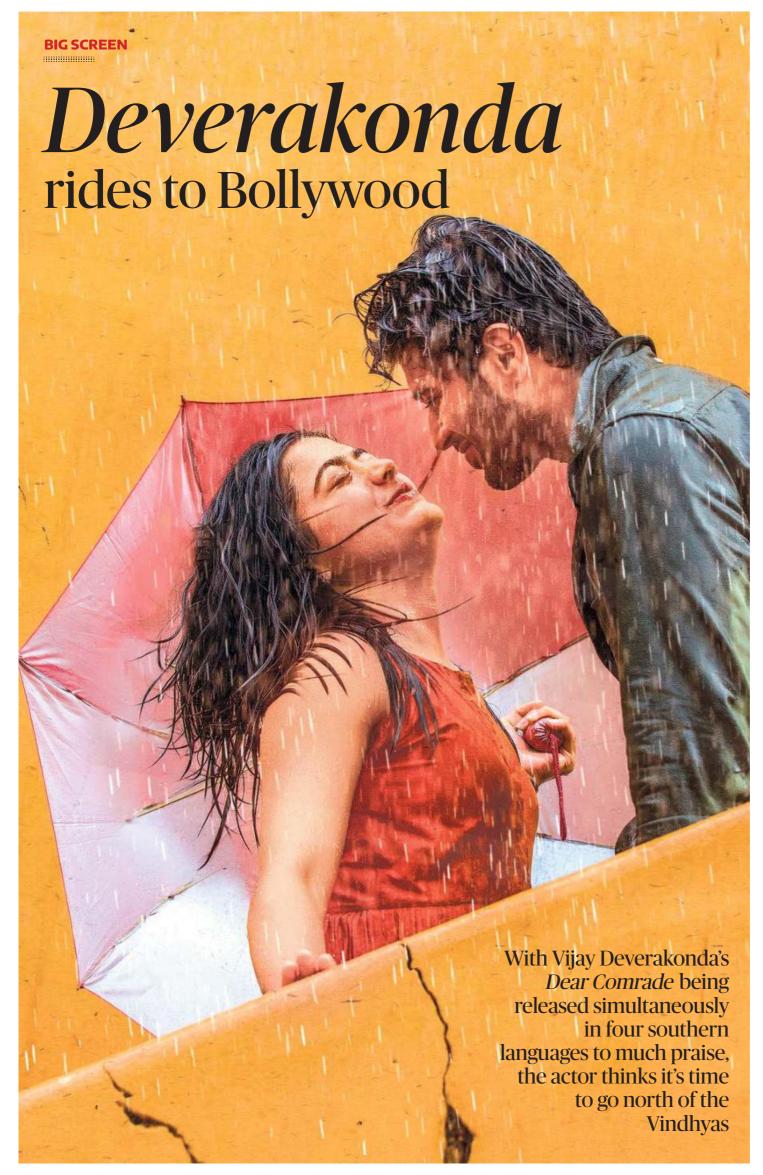
"I want to be a scientist," says Akash. Abdul Kalam has always been a role model for me." I ask him what's next on the agenda. His small, serious face lights up as he talks of solarpowered cycles, ambulance-sensitive speed-breakers, and earthquakesensing fences.

Whatever the students of this special school do next, I know they will put Maddur on the map with their thoughtful, people-focused innovations.

The writer is a civil engineer and dog lover with a nose for music and art.



Future-ready Students of Buchireddy Palli Government School with their inventions — a model of a gliding railway platform meant for the elderly and disabled, and (top) a walking stick with sensors. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM



SANGEETHA DEVI DUNDOO

ollywood is all abuzz. The excitement is reminiscent of the frenzy over Nagarjuna after *Shiva*. From the bungalows of Hyderabad's Banjara Hills, Telugu actor Vijay Deverakonda has taken a metaphorical leap into the production houses of Mumbai's Aram Nagar, where he is being spoken of as a talent to watch out for.

I meet him a day after the release of *Dear Comrade*. This is Deverakonda's first film to release simultaneously in all four southern languages: the Telugu film was dubbed into Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada. And Karan Johar's Dharma Productions will be remaking the film in Hindi.

Deverakonda will not be acting in the Hindi remake, he says; he has two other projects in Telugu and doesn't fancy going through the emotions of Dear Comrade all over again. However, he is keen to do a Telugu-Hindi bilingual film. "It's just a matter of time before I lock in on the right project." This, he thinks, will expand his reach; but he also sees it as necessary in the larger context of Indian cinema. "Shah Rukh Khan broke barriers and widened the market for Hindi films overseas. Now, we have to blur the boundaries between cinema in different languages in India. Or else we will end up watching Avengers in every theatre. We cannot compete with Hollywood. But we can collaborate within the country and tell stories in different languages."

Shah Rukh Khan broke barriers and widened the market for Hindi films overseas. Now, we have to blur the boundaries between cinema in different languages in India

For decades, Hindi film producers have been remaking Tamil and Telugu hits, but after *Baahubali*, there has been renewed interest in Telugu cinema. In contrast, actors from the South have so far only bagged occasional Hindi projects – whether Rajinikanth, Kamal Haasan, Chiranjeevi and Nagarjuna, or the current crop of Dhanush, Rana Daggubati and Dulquer Salmaan.

Deverakonda isn't keen on giving up his reign in Telugu cinema, but he likes how Daggubati does a few films that transcend language barriers (in *The Ghazi Attack* and his forthcoming *Haathi Mere Saathi*). Deverakonda commends Daggubati for going that extra mile to introduce *Baahubali* to Karan Johar and get things rolling. "It's because of him, and director S.S. Rajamouli and producer Shobu Yarlagadda that Telugu cinema is in the reckoning again," he says.

On Twitter, director Vasan Bala (*Mard ko Dard Nahin Hota*) and Deverakonda have expressed interest in working together. Says Bala: "Deverakonda is comfortable being himself, speaking his mind, and has a distinct personality."



TrendsetterStills from *Dear Comrade*.

Bala also admires how Deverakonda encourages new talent: "He has worked with a few directors he knew from 10 years ago, when they were making short films. He's creating a fresh ecosystem and empowering them to tell stories," he says.

Small but pivotal

Deverakonda first got noticed for his supporting role in Nag Ashwin's *Yevade Subramanyam* (2015). Then debut director Tharun Bhascker's rom-com *Pelli Choopulu* (2016) put him in the spotlight. The massive fan following he has today began with his role in *Arjun Reddy* (2017), after which he starred in *Geetha Govindam*, *NOTA* (Tamil) and *Taxiwala*.

He also played a supporting role as a photojournalist in *Mahanati* (2018), a biopic on the late actress Savitri, where Keerthy Suresh and Dulquer Salmaan played Savitri and Gemini Ganesan respectively. In this, Deverakonda came across as an actor who knew when to step back and be a small but pivotal part of an interesting project.

If there is an emotion that Deverakonda owns as an actor, it's anger. But this rage comes with a vulnerability and honesty that made even the worst critics of *Arjun Reddy* appreciate his performance.

Is there a method to his choice of work? "When I heard the story of Taxiwala, I was laughing away and thought it would be a fun film to do. I sometimes pick up stories that I feel the world needs to know. The films that stay with you longer are those that move you personally and emotionally," he says.

There's a bit in *Dear Comrade* that brings up
the #MeToo discussions.
An incident of sexual
harassment is investigated
three years after it
occurred, and the survivor,
who has gone from chirpy
to depressed, finally finds
the strength to fight for
justice. As #MeToo
stories came tumbling
out in India.

Deverakonda found that eight out of 10 women he knows had faced some incident. "There were men who had been abused in their childhood. A few years ago, a woman I was close to was molested by an auto driver. She was shaken. I was enraged and rode around the city (Hyderabad) on my bike trying to trace this guy," he says, then pauses. "Women are vulnerable on the road, in public transport, at the workplace... so we wanted to urge them to be vocal."

From the heart

When Deverakonda speaks, it comes from the heart – a quality that's endeared him to young audiences.

He's among the very few in
Telugu cinema who hails
from a non-filmi
background and enjoys
immense popularity.
"People like me for who I
am, with all my flaws, and I
am thankful. I can speak
without pretence," he

This has also helped him in his acting. He has worked with new directors -Ashwin, Bhascker and Kamma brought fresh perspective to Telugu cinema with their hunger to narrate stories without formulas or frills.

This matched
Deverakonda's
performances that come
from a real place. The
young actor has also
started a production
company called King of
the Hill, a literal
translation of
Deverakonda, which is
also a town in Telangana.

Deverakonda recalls his years of struggle. "It was extremely tough to break in. It still takes every ounce of energy I have to keep the passion alive and to do what I want to do. The only excitement is to make an impact through the stories we tell."

BUFFER ZONE

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Netflix, the new norm(al)

Now, streaming mobile subscription plans for the Indian viewer

he much hyped – and much panned – fourth season of cult American sitcom Arrested Development was released in 2013, brought back to life after years in the wilderness thanks to Netflix (and the show's rabid fans). It was around this time that I first got to know of Netflix's global impact as a streaming giant. It was still threeor-so years away from launching in India, so I found an 'extralegal' way to watch the show. A few months after Arrested Development came Orange Is The New Black (OITNB), again developed as a Netflix original, about life inside a women's prison. The first season was unanimously lauded, and served to put Netflix on the map. Suddenly, 'bingeing' on shows became a worldwide concept.

Late last month, poetically at around the same time that *OITNB* finished its seven-year run, the company announced a new Indiaonly mobile subscription plan, for which users can sign up at ₹199 a month.

In return, users get to 'Netflix and chill' on their mobile phones or tablets. It only provides the rather fuzzy 480p streaming – Standard Definition (SD) – but that's more than enough for a phone screen.

Business mumbo-jumbo

This is a departure from their previous pricing models, which were prohibitive for a large chunk of our population. Netflix's ultra superduper 4K HD premium plan is priced at ₹799 a month – close to ₹10,000 annually – which is arguably more than what most people pay for general cable TV access. For scale, an Amazon Prime membership sets you back by approximately ₹1,000 a year, for which you get access to Prime Video, as well as their music library and priority delivery. So, finally some sense.

There's plenty of business mumbo-jumbo to parse here, about how economical this plan really is for the users (it's still more than double what they'd pay for Prime Video). Or what Netflix's cost of acquiring a new customer is and whether a low subscription price offsets that. Or how this move makes sense because they have a higher number of users viewing Netflix on mobile phones in India compared to anywhere else, and how a lot of

people here wouldn't own or be able to afford TVs and laptops. Or how quickly they can convert mobile plan users into basic plan users, into standard users, into, ultimately, premium

It's a sign, perhaps, that Netflix has embraced the peculiarities of Indian audiences. From complaints about explicit content – remember the fuss around *Sacred Games* – to roping in Bollywood stars to, most recently, accusations of airing 'Hinduphobic' material. But what struck me most was how we view content now.

Personally, outside of TikTok or the occasional meme video that pops up on Facebook or Twitter, I don't watch anything on my phone. I much prefer a laptop screen. But I can understand why it's such a big thing. As Indians, we're cursed with being forever in transit. Rushing to get to school or college or work. In a crowded train or Metro. Standing in line at some government office or the other. There's always something. And watching something is a way out of the limbo.

We're a nation reared on cinema halls and Bollywood excess. We've gone from iconic single-screen halls

In a crowded train or Metro. Standing in line at some government office. There's always something. And always something to watch.

to multiplexes to huge dome-shaped theatres. We have spent hours in front of TVs.

Those things remain, but there's a new addition to our viewing habits, first with YouTube and now video streaming platforms (in addition to Prime and Netflix, there's Hotstar and a bunch of smaller ones), so it's natural that viewing habits will adapt accordingly. And while it's easy to bemoan the smaller screens as an inferior experience, these are exciting times.

Netflix has a position in pop culture that's arguably unparalleled, in part because of its attempts to redefine how TV shows and movies are viewed.

With a new tech challenge ahead, where a significant chunk of people will be viewing content in crowded places on six-inch phone screens and middling earphones, it'll be interesting to see how they acclimatise and adapt (if at all).

Akhil Sood is an author and freelance culture writer from New Delhi who wishes he'd studied engineering instead.

SPOTLIGHT

The rhythms of rain

A Kolkata-based percussion ensemble that blends Carnatic beats with Hindustani



Success story Layavinyas' concerts are a lively rendezvous of Carnatic and Hindustani idioms. E. PADMAKUMAR

SREEVALSAN THIYYADI

idsummer in Kerala meant advanced mridangam classes for N. Shankar. Barely out of his teens, the Kolkata-based Shankar made it a point to take lessons from maestro Mavelikkara Velukutty Nair (1926-2012) whenever he went home to Kerala for the holidays. This continued over four summers from 1979. Nair had been a disciple of the iconic drummer Palakkad Mani Iyer (1912-81), as had Shankar's first guru, L.V. Vaidyanathan in Kolkata. For the young man, it was very important to continue his training in the style of Palakkad Iyer.

Bengalis are no strangers to Carnatic music; you can even hear it in a couple of Satyajit Ray's films where he composed the background score himself. Decades before that, Rabindra Sangeet had incorporated Dravidian ragas, while pre-Independence Kolkata was already home to a thriving population of Tamils, the community to which Shankar basically belongs. All the same, Shankar sensed that Carnatic music – and its sophisticated rhythms in particular – had the scope and need for greater exposure beyond its cradle south of the Vindhyas.

Mission possible

In 1990, thus, he launched Layavinyas, an ensemble that has since charted a steadily successful profile. Its concerts soon turned out to be a lively rendezvous of Carnatic and Hindustani idioms. Did that not dilute the original mission to popularise Carnatic? "Not at all," says Shankar, 59. "Such a collaborative effort ensures that we draw people who are more familiar with Hindustani or have some constraints in appreciating Carnatic."

Today, the group, with its emphasis on the rich rhythms of both classical idioms, tours widely across the country. "Initially, we were just three percussionists, playing the mridangam, tabla and ghatam. Plus a violin that would work as a filler of sorts," recalls Shankar. "The programmes were also much shorter." 'Laya Tarang' today spans more than two hours.

Layavinyas chose to celebrate its first anniversary by ushering in a major Hindustani instrument into the ensemble. This was the sitar, which marked the beginning of the northmeets-south spirit in the collective; they also picked up a vocalist later on. But none of this has detracted from the group's focus on talas and their myriad patterns.

"That will always be the case, notwithstanding certain additions and subtractions," smiles Shankar. "Much like ragas are largely common to both Carnatic and Hindustani, the two idioms also share rhythms that are the same, though known by different names. Within the talas we have different gaits (nada in Carnatic) that magically alter each one's swing," he notes. "That's why a piece may have a curious change of mood midway through its course, courtesy of a change of nada. It can sound more pronounced than even a change of raga. Also, there's a strong difference in percussion playing styles between the south and the north. That's how a Kalavati or Hamsadhwani may sound much the same when our Carnatic violin takes its cue from the Hindustani bansuri (flute), but it's never so when the tabla and ghatam play the same tala." Aesthete Vipin Chandran K.P.

agrees, and adds a valid point: despite the lineup totalling no less than a dozen artists, not for a moment does Layavinyas stray into cacophony. "The

SCANNER

Hamsadhwani

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Award for Pattnaik

Indian sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik won the People's Choice Award at the Boston International Sand Art Championship with a sculpture titled 'Stop Plastic Pollution, Save Our Ocean'. Pattnaik called it a 'special award' for his 'public awareness sculpture'.



Natalia Goncharova

A retrospective of the legendary 20th-century Russian avant-garde artist is on at the Tate Modern until September 8. Goncharova left behind a massive and varied oeuvre — ranging from religious paintings to fashion design to futurist body art.

THE HINDU Magazine DELHI Sunday, August 4, 2019

combo of two string and one wind instrument alongside three types of drums works joyfully to achieve a tuneful deployment of both ragas and talas," says Chandran, who is associated with an arts movement in Ernakulam.

Dance and drums

During the late 1990s, Layavinyas almost regularly featured Western instruments such as the drums, bass guitar and keyboard in its works. And for eight years from 2002, it showcased Indian classical dances as

"Be it Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Manipuri, Mohiniyattam or Kathakali, their varied footwork added to the vibrancy of our tala systems," says Shankar, whose mother Lakshmi Narayanaswamy used to sing for

During the late 1990s, Layavinyas almost regularly featured Western instruments such as the drums, bass guitar and keyboard in its works

dance. "It's another matter that our music also accorded vitality to the facial *abhinaya* and body language of these forms. We even had the *navarasas* (nine emotions) portrayed through them."

If the induction of the sitar in the early 1990s gave Hindustani a place on the team, the mandola too has joined in today. Joy Guha, who plays the Western-origin fretted string instrument, points out, "See, its bass sound lends our concerts the gravitas of the veena." Adds Shankar: "Its music has the joviality of the sitar, minus the shrillness at the top registers."

Renowned masters

Shankar's counterpart on the tabla is Arindam Chakravarty, a disciple of the late Shankar Ghosh of the illustrious Farukhabad gharana. Indeed, all the troupe's artists are students of renowned masters; flautist Rupak Mukherjee's guru, for instance, is Hariprasad Chaurasia.

As the monsoon crisscrosses India, sometimes briskly and sometimes reluctantly, the rain raga Brindavani has become a regular at Layavinyas shows. "But then, it's not just the tune," says Shankar. "We bring out the splendour of the rains. The rhythms with their pulsating momentum effectively symbolise thunder amid lightning."

The writer is a keen follower of Kerala's traditional performing arts.

UNPLUGGED

Thuggery and magnanimity

Two new books offer rare insights into the workings of the Hindustani music scene



Like melodies Aneesh Pradhan and Shubha Mudgal at a performance. s. siva saravanan

It is a strange 'concatenation of circumstances', to quote P.G. Wodehouse at his straight-faced best. It's a neat and lively coincidence, and a felicitous one: the second half of July has given readers and music lovers two new English language books examining the world (or 'ecosystem', as everyone likes to call everything) of Indian music, both popular and classical. One is written by singer, teacher and columnist Shubha Mudgal, and the other by tabla player, teacher and writer Aneesh Pradhan. Husband

Revelations and ruminations

And no, this was no grand orchestration on the part of their two different publishers. (Delhi publishers are hardly capable of such hand-eye co-ordination.) It just so happens that the two books came out within days of each other. I have been reading them almost simultaneously, and both have supplied a series of revelations and ruminations.

Interestingly, on the face of it, they're very different, these two publications, right from their covers.

Mudgal's bright green one with playful fonts, titled *Looking for Miss*

Sargam – Stories of Music and Misadventure, is a set of fiction stories that take the reader on a fasten-your-seatbelts wild ride through bumpy and bewildering terrain. Pradhan's book, with its sepia, almost elegiac cover and sober title font, is non-fiction. Chasing the Raag Dream - A Look into the World of Hindustani Classical Music is a quiet and scholarly examination of the contemporary Indian classical music scene.

And yet, both books reference the same world, echo the same concerns, underscore the same lessons that need to be learnt. Both

Both look at the people, institutions, patrons, awards, audience, policies, corporates and other entities that musicians must learn to carefully negotiate

walk you through "the incredible maze of contradictions that lie behind the music..." as Pradhan puts it. Both look at the people, the institutions, the patrons, the awards, the audience, the policies, the corporates and other changing and changeable entities that musicians

must learn to carefully negotiate in the search for their own *pehechaan* or identity. Both books talk about a search, a chase, in which the music itself becomes an elusive, almost amorphous entity (in the form of the fleeting Miss Sargam in one book, the Raag in the other).

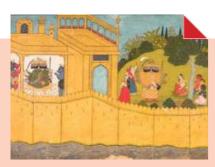
Exploring the space

Both books tell us, in their very different ways, that the core is weighed down, mired, in all the hoopla surrounding the actual performance space that a musician can hope for. The see-saw between the world of music holding on to its dignity and accepting various hidden indignities to survive are well-etched in both books. The badmaashi (thuggery) and the badappan (magnanimity) that co-exist uneasily in this world are also in evidence in both books, with Mudgal's stories leaving you laughing helplessly and yet muttering darkly to yourself and Pradhan's explorations giving you much food for thought about where it is all headed.

Both books provide us examples, explanations and echoes of what some of us learners and listeners have often wondered about. For instance, why and how various music foundations and 'dot orgs' work in surprisingly non cooperative modes for what is originally the same cause. Or why we get to listen to less-known greats only after they are well past their prime, and why the well-known fixtures remain on high-rotation on the concert circuit. Pradhan tells you about the politics behind concert organising and state awards. Mudgal shows you the same thing, but the hidden jockeying and jostling is presented in all its lurid-florid hues. The sharp eye for detail and for the ridiculous that was evident in her non-fiction columns burgeons unabated in these stories.

Reading these two works has been for me like watching the plumes of smoke rising from two lit agarbattis: together and intertwining in their themes and yet most distinct in their treatment.

Gouri Dange is a novelist, counsellor and music lover who takes readers on a ramble through the Aladdin's cave of Indian music.



Ramayana paintings

A collection of *Ramayana* paintings from Rajput and Pahari courts, created between the 17th and 19th centuries, will be on show for a year from August 10 at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. It will include "paintings from the early Punjab Hills Shangri/ Mankot *Ramayana* series".

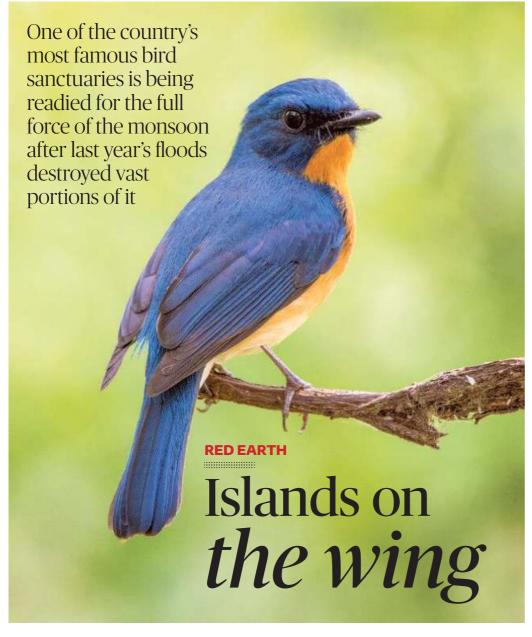


Pirates of the Queen

After Britain's Royal Marines took part in the seizure of an Iranian oil tanker — and Iran retaliated by seizing a British-flagged tanker — an exhibition of cartoons depicting Queen Elizabeth II as a pirate, complete with parrot and eyepatch, has opened at the Osveh Art and Cultural Centre in Tehran.

FIELD NOTES

DELHI THE HINDU Magazine
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SIBI ARASU

Sanctuary

authorities

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floods had

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of little

1,135 nests -

cormorants.

egrets, black-

headed ibis,

and night

heron

y row boat drifts down the Cauvery, skirting around giant rocks and little islets. Occasionally a cloud of plumes erupts from the treetops – they are painted storks, spot-billed pelicans, spoonbills. On every other rock surface is a basking marsh crocodile. And when I look hard enough along the riverbank, I can spot a smooth-coated otter or two.

I am in Karnataka's Ranganathittu bird sanctuary, one of the country's most famous ones, home to over 200 species of birds. Many of them – white storks, northern shovellers, wagtails and warblers – are migrants from as far as Central Asia, Siberia and the

The sanctuary, which typically sees nearly four lakh visitors every year, is

now bolstering itself for the full force of the monsoon: this time last year, the floods that inundated vast parts of Kerala and Karnataka destroyed hundreds of nests in Ranganathittu and eroded its islands. After the rains of last July, the gates of Krishna Raja Sagara dam were opened to release the excess water and this submerged several islands in the sanctuary where birds roost and nest.



"After more than two decades, the sanctuary had to be shut down for a few months, both for safety and also to assess the damage," says Sidramappa Chalkapure, then the deputy conservator of forests, Mysuru (wildlife division). The sanctuary was closed last July and August and again in October because of the high water levels in the river. The sanctuary's authorities found that the floods had destroyed 1,135 nests - of little cormorants, egrets, black-headed ibis, and night heron. The black-headed ibis, which builds its nests on lower branches, was the worst affected: more than 85% of their nests were destroyed.

Kingly declaration

The floods damaged the islands too. Ranganathittu's islets were formed during the construction of a weir between 1645 and 1648 by Mysore king Kantirava Narasaraja Wodeyar. The weir created 25 islets in the region, which soon began to attract birds. When the celebrated ornithologist Salim Ali visited in 1940s, he was so impressed by the bird diversity here that he requested the Mysore king to declare it a protected area. It was, and has remained one ever since. Two decades ago, Ranganathittu was renotified as a sanctuary.

Six major islands

Last year, two of the six major islands

- 'purple heron' island and the 'wildtamarind' island – underwent
enormous soil erosion and lost most of
their vegetation; boating platforms
were damaged; water even entered
the sanctuary's offices. The bamboo
clumps that dotted the sanctuary were
uprooted. "This was the worst damage



Down to 19

There could be no more than 19 vaquita porpoises left in the world, according to a new study. The critically endangered species, found in the Gulf of California in Mexico, are often caught as bycatch and drowned in gillnets.



Hottest years

The U.K.'s 10 hottest years, since records began in 1884, have all occurred since 2002, according to the met office there. While 1892 was the coldest year, 2014 was the warmest, with average temperature at nearly 10 degree Celsius.

FIELD NOTES

15

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the sanctuary has seen in recent times," says Chalkapure.

"Many islands here are buffered by sandbags along the circumference, which were destroyed too. So we're reinstalling over 15,000 of them," says M. Puttemadegowda, Deputy Range Forest Officer at Ranganathittu. The Karnataka Forest Department is spending an estimated ₹30 lakh to bring the sanctuary back on its feet. "Fortunately, though our census shows that the floods took a toll on the birds, we also found that they began rebuilding their nests as soon as the water receded. We're confident that this winter we will see as many migratory birds as we did in the previous years," says Chalkapure.

Eco-sensitive zone

Ranganathittu is just 67 hectares in size, but 28 sq.km. around the sanctuary was declared as an ecosensitive zone in 2014. This means that certain commercial activities cannot take place without the government's permission.

Ananya Kumar, range forest officer at Ranganathittu, hopes that the sanctuary will get a Ramsar Site tag. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty that looks to conserve wetlands of importance around the world. "Getting a Ramsar tag would bring the sanctuary international recognition. It would also bring in more government funds for the sanctuary's upkeep and maybe even increase tourist numbers." Kumar also hopes to conduct scientific research through GPS tagging of birds - and this would be aided by a Ramsar Site tag.

The sanctuary now braces for heavy rain again. "Last year, the KRS dam reached a record capacity and began overflowing. This had happened only once before in 1991. So, barring an extraordinary event again, the sanctuary should be safe. And, even in case of such an event, our island stabilisation work will hopefully ensure that the damage won't be as bad as last time."

The writer is an independent journalist based in Bengaluru. Twitter: (a)sibi123



BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE

Live like a lioness

It's all about the Lion Queen. The pride increases because of her



Aggressive A courting pair mates 50 to 60 times a day for an average of three days.

totra Chakrabarti's heart was in his mouth when a wild lion plonked companionably next to him. The dusty ground between his kneeling profile and the cat spanned a mere two metres, close enough to smell the beast's rank breath. A moment earlier, it had been lying somewhere else while the researcher watched another lion tucking into a nilgai kill some distance away.

"I became a statue," Chakrabarti recalls. "I didn't even bat an eyelid." Every time he moved a muscle in a slow motion effort to get away, the cat opened its eyes. It didn't help to know the predator was famished and waiting its turn at the carcass. "That was the longest half hour of my life."

No to water and food

Asian lions are easy-going since they have a long history of living alongside people. But they are not always so tolerant. Males amorously consorting with females become irritable. A courting pair mates 50 to 60 times a day for an average of

three days. They seldom drink or eat. They may not live on love and fresh air, but get by on their surcharged hormones. High on testosterone, lions see even a moving bush as a rival, says Chakrabarti.

Survival strategies

He watched 134 mating events, and the males rushed at him every time. Although his basic instincts of selfpreservation urged him to run, he held his ground instead, shouting

Lions kill young they didn't sire to force the mothers to bear their offspring. To avoid this tragedy, lionesses outwit the males

and thrashing his bamboo staff to thwart the attacks. "If you show your back to a lion, your chances of surviving go to zero," he says.

The researcher survived without a mark, but those under real threat from the lusty males are the cubs. Lions kill young they didn't sire to force the mothers to bear their offspring. To avoid this tragedy, lionesses outwit the males.

A pride's territory may overlap with three or four male coalitions of

two to four lions each. Lionesses mate with each one and confuse them all. Different males tolerate the same litter, thinking they are the fathers

"The females control the whole show," says Chakrabarti. "It's not the Lion King here, rather the Lion Queen that reigns." This strategy of promiscuity works on familiar males but not with newcomers.

The two lionesses

Chakrabarti and his assistants perched on their vehicle, watching two lionesses with three-month-old cubs feasting on a buffalo kill in a drying swamp.

There wasn't a tree or bush in sight. When he spied two unfamiliar males approaching, he feared for the cubs.

The quick-thinking older lioness, which he had named Jodha, dashed towards the humans with the cubs on her heels. The suddenness of the situation caught the researcher, who was sitting on the bonnet of the vehicle, off-guard. Jodha braked beside the 4WD and sprinted back to join the other lioness, alone. A bewildered Chakrabarti swivelled around. Where had the cubs gone? They had crawled to safety under the vehicle.

As the two lionesses chased after the strangers, the researcher wanted to follow. But how was he to move with the cubs ensconced between the wheels? Besides, his assistants refused to cooperate. "She has given us a responsibility," one argued. "We can't let her down."

Chakrabarti had no choice but to wait until the lionesses returned two hours later. The mother hummed, a signal for the cubs to come out of cover. As the family walked away, Jodha glanced back at the men as if to say 'Thank you', the researcher recalls.

If the lionesses' devotion to their families melted Chakrabarti's heart, he's still coming to terms with the lions' disdain.

"A dhole's or wolf's gaze pierces you," he says. "A tiger's glance sends chills down your spine. But lions destroy your ego with one look. We were just persistent nagging flies that followed them everywhere."

It's impossible to tell if the hungry lion that's sprawled next to Chakrabarti thought it was keeping a fly company.

Janaki Lenin is not a conservationista but many creatures share her home for reasons she is yet to discover.



Hopping everywhere

Swarms of grasshoppers descended on Las Vegas, which, entomologists believe, are migrating in larger numbers because of the heavy rain. A Vegas pizzeria meanwhile offered customers pizza topped with garlic roasted grasshoppers.



Dead deer

Researchers found that some 200 wild reindeer had starved to death in Svalbard, an Arctic archipelago. The animals were found during an annual census. Scientists pointed to climate change and its impact on grazing ground as the possible cause.



Player's kit A farmer enters the arena of the ploughing competition in Gawlipada in Mucheri village.



Right as rain The downpour does not dampen the enthusiasm of the young participants.



Testing the slush The farmers warm up before the real race begins.



Man and beast A long line of oxen stand in line with their owners, ready to enter the field.



TILL TALE

RACING HOOVES, **POURING RAIN**

A tiny hamlet in Maharashtra encourages farming with a ploughing contest

TEXT & IMAGES BY PRASHANT NAKWE

n the thick of a monsoon downpour, 40 farmers, reins in hand, raced with their oxen through slushy fields in the tiny hamlet of Gawlipada in Mucheri village in Maharashtra's Ratnagiri district.

The unique ploughing competition had

been organised to promote farming in this picturesque region nestled in the foothills of the Western Ghats. Young farmers, aged 18 to 25, used social media to invite participants to the first event of its kind in this village.

Players had to plough a 200-metre circular track without touching the fluttering flags set along its edges, and the first to finish won ₹5,100 and a trophy. The sound of thundering hooves, loud cheers and folk songs brought alive a village that has no more than 120 families.

Dubbed a 'festival for the farmer, by the farmer', the competition was organised by Sunil Bhalekar, Pratik Bhojane, Sanket Bhalekar and Sanjay Kamble. It was supported by Mucheri villagers now settled in Mumbai. Bhalekar, overwhelmed by the response, said: "We are always looking for a reason for villagers to return and take up farming again."





Large crowds gathered



Farmers return their painted oxen to the trucks after

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THE LEAD

The lament of Arokkyam

Imayam's Tamil novel *Koveru Kazhuthaigal*, written 25 years ago, still speaks to us with poignant immediacy, pointing to the persistence of the issues it first raised

A. MANGAI

overu Kazhuthaigal turned Imayam into a Tamil literary icon. First published in Tamil in 1994, the novel celebrates its silver jubilee this year. Publishing house Cre-A has marked the occasion with a table-top copy of the novel that includes plates of paintings and

sculptures by seven Tamil artists. The seven insets reveal how evocative the text is. To commemorate the jubilee, the book's English translation by the renowned Lakshmi Holmström, called *Beasts of Burden*, has been reprinted by Niyogi Books this year. It was first published by Manas Publications in 2001. The celebration of the novel's 25th year is as much a celebration of

the book as of the storyteller as witness.

Women of agency

The novel, considered a classic of modern Tamil literature, is a landmark in Dalit writing. It tells the story of a family of washerfolk who clean the clothes of other untouchables. They are paid not in cash but in kind, with

rice, grains, vegetables and so on.

I have always been a fan of Imayam's writings, even though my responses to his views have very often been quite contradictory. He claims that as a creative writer he can observe his world impartially. But his writing speaks of a heart that melts, bleeds and howls at injustice. In fact, it's the nightly chant of the



It's easy to visualise the story of Fernando Aramburu's **Homeland** being played out in any conflict-divided land p22



Journalist Katherine Eban raises troubling questions in **Bottle of Lies: Ranbaxy and the Dark Side of Indian Pharma** p24 DELHI THE HINDU Magazine Sunday, August 4, 2019

washerwoman begging for grains at the top of his street that made Imayam write *Koveru Kazhuthaigal*, which literally translates as pack mules, the animals on which laundry used to be carried. In the book, of course, the writer is visualising the washerfolk themselves as the mules.

What moves me the most in Imayam's works are his women. Though most of them come from the margins, they are never presented as victims. However small their role, they exercise agency, and one admires them for that. The grit with which his women face life is amazing — captured in Tamil for the first time with an everydayness that goes almost unnoticed.

Absent presence

In *Koveru Kazhuthaigal*, for example, Arokkyam the washerwoman wonders:

"Is there a single person in this town whose pollution I have not cleaned?

Is there a woman who has not had trouble suckling her child?

Is there a woman whose umbilical cord I have not cut and buried?"

The scene where she helps an under-aged mother suckle her child churns your stomach.

Imayam has resisted being labelled as a Dalit writer and with good reason. His affinity to the DMK, one of Tamil Nadu's leading political parties, supersedes the question of his identity. Tamil Nadu has a long and continuing tradition, inherited from

Periyar, that has focussed on building the self-respect and dignity of subaltern classes. 'Identity' politics, therefore, is problematised in the State in more ways than one. Poomani, a senior Tamil writer, also opposes the labelling and slotting of writers on the basis of their caste. While I understand this position, I also think that it remains the luxury of a privileged few to actually 'transcend' identity questions.

Azhagarasan's introduction to the English reprint draws attention to a key feature of Imayam's work – the seemingly minor and absent characters. One of them is Savuri, Arokkyam's husband. This absent character, "who is in collusion with the witnessing narrator", functions as the "central principle of Imayam's fictional universe," says Azhagarasan, adding that this gives the narrative "the impact of a narrative painting".

Azhagarasan surmises that this absent character is as helpless and invested a witness as the storyteller, and this probably points to Imayam's preference of anonymity over identity. The impact of a text, however, depends on the way it speaks to each reader's individual consciousness.

Imayam's work emphasises the stark reality of caste in all its ugly forms. By exposing its dark underbelly, the writer builds an implicit argument for its eradication. As a writer with keen powers of observation, he also complicates his fictional universe with questions of religion, with education as social agent, and the onset of modernity. Arokkyam's family being the only Christian family in the village, she fears that her son might become a priest. Her fears, the setting up of a barber shop and ironing shop in the village, and the failing monsoon are all interconnected.

Everyday language

Imayam critiques the continued existence of dehumanising caste practices while wishing desperately that things will change. His brilliant

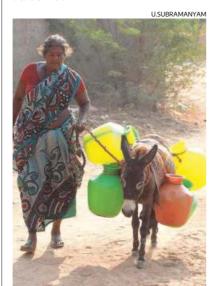
novella *Pethavan* (translated into English as *The Begetter*), which almost uncannily predicted the honour killing in Dharmapuri that would happen in 2012, captures the tension and helplessness of castebound lives in tragic detail.

Imayam's writing has remained firmly rooted in the real. Not swayed by fashionable isms, he tells his story in a disarmingly everyday language, replete with rich folklore, folk music, proverbs and with the musicality of sheer repetition. What keeps ringing in my head is the voice of Arokkyam asking for food each night as she walks from doorstep to doorstep. "'Don't forget the vannati woman, saami'/ 'It's your paraya-vannatti,

saami'/ 'Yes, yes, saami'/ 'It's your paraya-vannatti Arokkyam'/... 'Where else can I go and stand except at your feet?'"

In the new Cre-A edition, artist Narendran has evocatively visualised this section as a deaf ear. And don't forget, it is in Arokkyam the washerwoman's household that millets and grains would have been stored for winter once upon a time.

The writer is a theatreperson and academician.



Imayam
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But his
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THOUGHT FOR FOOD

Tea, tattle and toast

Tiffin can mean anything from MP's khasta kachori to TN's vazhaipoo vadai

RAHUL VERMA

rowing up in a village in western Uttar Pradesh, I missed out on some of the pleasures of the urban schoolboy's life. For instance, the concept of tiffin and tiffin box was alien to me. Our morning meal resembled a lunch, and since school was near home, I would nibble on something like a laddu when I returned after school hours.

In college, again, I never had a tiffin box. Instead, we had what was known as a 'Diet' – an arrangement in one of the neighbourhood eateries, where we were given, for a certain sum of money, a fixed meal. Our tins of ghee (which came from the village, old Hindi film style!) were kept in lockers inside the eatery.

It's never too late. These days, when I go out to meet friends for lunch, I carry an insulated three-layered tiffin box. It actually carries my lunch, but I have come to the conclusion that tiffin in India means different things to different people – and in some quarters, it is just another word for a meal.

A light meal

I have been going through an interesting book called *Tiffin: 500 Authentic Recipes Celebrating India's Regional Cuisine* by Sonal Ved. The book has recipes from across the country, and spans the entire gamut from soups and snacks to entrées and desserts. I have been in particular salivating over the snacks, from Banarasi tamatar chaat and Indori poha to Kanchipuram idli and kori gassi.

"When we have friends over for tea we often daydream of matching a Jabalpuri chicken samosa with khasta kachori from Madhya Pradesh, along with vazhaipoo vadais from Tamil Nadu and Kutchi kadak toast," Ved writes. "And on Sundays, with brunch on our minds, we want our tables laden with Bhojpuri dum aloo, Bengali luchis, Rajasthani gattey ki sabzi, chingri cutlet, Assamese chicken-and-banana-flower stir-fried, and adhirasams from Tamil Nadu," she says.

How did tiffin originate in India? The word comes from the Old

One of these days I plan to take some chicken samosas for lunch. Ved's description of the Jabalpuri samosa is mouth-watering



GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK

English 'tiffing,' which means having a little drink or a sip. It is believed that it entered the Indian lexicon sometime in the beginning of the 19th century. The colonial sahib used to have a light midday meal because of the heat and the fact that he'd had a heavy dinner the night before. Tiffin was his light meal.

...tiffin is a play on the time of the day and the nature of food served in many homes in India – an informal snack or light meal served at breakfast or with late afternoon. tea," Rukmini Srinivas writes in Tiffin: Memories and Recipes of Indian Vegetarian Food, a delightful book that alternates between descriptions of dishes such as masala vadai and vegetables cutlets to the author's memories as she moves from city to city with her social anthropologist husband M.N. Srinivas. "Significantly, as dinner time changed and was pushed to later in the evening..., 'tiffin,' the transition food, became important and continues to be so."

It may have come late into my life, but it certainly continues to play an important role in it. A major part of the morning is devoted to discussions on what the day's tiffin should be. One of these days I plan to take some chicken samosas for lunch; Ved's description of the Jabalpuri samosa is mouth-watering. Boil some chicken, she says, then pull the meat out into thin shreds. Fry onion, green chillies and gingergarlic paste. Add the chicken, turmeric, red chilli powder and coriander leaves. Top with lemon juice and chat masala. Stuff the meat into samosa casings and fry. Sounds

For me, the word 'tiffin' itself is magical. It's all about thinking out of the box for what goes into the box.

The writer likes reading and writing about food as much as he does cooking and eating it. Well, almost.

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IN CONVERSATION

Gay, Muslim, Afghan, immigrant

The writer of The Carpet Weaver, Nemat Sadat, is the first Afghan national to come out as gay, for which he has been declared persona non grata in his country

I saw a number of gay men openly holding hands at a party in New York. I had never seen such affection between two men before

SHARIF D. RANGNEKAR

ejection followed by triumph not once but several times this defines the life of author and LGBTQIA+ activist Nemat Sadat. Faced with racism and homophobia, and barred from returning to his home country. Afghanistan, Sadat has overcome all these obstacles to emerge as a major voice of the rainbow movement.

"Even the manuscript of my recently released book, The Carpet Weaver, was rejected by agents and publishers from across the U.S. and Europe," says Sadat, smiling. It was declined over 400 times before Penguin Random House India took it up. The novel was published in early June this year.

Based in Washington DC now, Sadat spent less than a year in Afghanistan before being "kidnapped" by his mother to the U.S. "My father was a diplomat and while we lived briefly in Germany, my mother decided we needed to move. The politics of conflict of that time was the main reason," he explains, referring to the rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Juggling identities

Growing up in south Carolina, he slowly got accustomed to the American way. "But it wasn't that I had lost touch with our Afghan roots. Our family didn't want to cut away

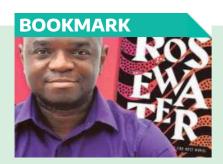
from tradition," he says. His parents maintained a steady relationship with their extended family and with other Afghans in the neighbourhood, pretty much replicating the rituals and beliefs of their home country in America. This also meant that it was never easy for Sadat to be accepted as gay by his family.

"I was 32 when I came out to my family – that is eight years ago," he recalls. His family did not accept him. "My sister was more welcoming but she didn't want me to talk about it.' She secretly hoped he'd marry and lead a parallel life. Sadat, however, didn't wish to hide his sexual identity, a reality he had come to terms with at the age of 23.

"This was when I was in New York City," he says. He had moved there looking for financial independence, and a chance invite led him to a party hosted by someone from the fashion world. "I saw a number of gay men openly holding hands. I had never seen such affection between two men before," he says. This is when he saw himself among them and them within him. "It wasn't the easiest period in life though, as I was depressed and overweight."

Yet, this was also a liberating

Sadat went on to become a noted journalist and academic, acquiring degrees from institutions such as Oxford and Harvard. This gave him



Arthur C. Clarke award

The Arthur C. Clarke award for sci-fi novels has gone to British Yoruba author Tade Thompson for Rosewater, a story of alien invasion set in a futuristic Africa. In the novel, Rosewater is a new town in rural Nigeria where people acquire telepathic powers because of an alien presence.



Amish in the Top 10

Six novels by Amish — Raavan-Fnemy of Aryavrata, Sita-Warrior of Mithila, Ram-Scion of Ikshvaku, The Immortals of Meluha, The Secret of the Nagas, The Oath of the Vayuputras — have made it to the top 10 of the HT-Nielsen Bookscan national bestseller list for the July 27 week.

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social recognition, and more importantly, confidence.

He says, "I had to prove myself not only as a gay man but also as a Muslim, an Afghan and an immigrant." The politics was such that his multiple identities "cut" in different ways. He was responding as a Muslim – even though he had broken away from religion – to 9/11 and terror at one end, and as a gay Muslim man at the other

Unfazed by hostility

While he took these realities in his stride, his deep desire was to return to his country, a nation he only knew from his parents. So he grabbed the first opportunity, while working as an Assistant Professor of political science at the American University of Afghanistan. "It was a thrill to return and contribute," he says. However, Sadat, who had learnt to stand for who he was and express himself freely, immediately felt the contrast: "I could see the repression first-hand be it in relation to women or to the LGBTQIA+ community," he says.

Using social media, Sadat secretly started mobilising the community in Afghanistan. As the word got around, his position at the university became shaky. "I had gone for a course at Oxford as soon as the semester ended. Around this time, I posted some crossdressed photos of myself." This led to an avalanche of hostility. Sadat was dubbed a "national threat" to Afghanistan, and told not to return.

"I was very upset and this is when I came out on social media. It led to a lot of hate from Islamic groups," he recalls. There were videos posted on how to kill him.

Sadat has the distinction of being the first Afghan to come out publicly. "But it was not until the Orlando massacre in 2016 that the American press spoke to me," he says. America woke up to the problems of queer people in Afghanistan, a country it had occupied, only after this incident where 49 people were gunned down in a gay nightclub by an Afghan security guard.

"At times life was terrifying," Sadat admits. But his novel, detailing the 40 years of his brave journey, should inspire many. Meanwhile, Sadat has moved on. "I am doing a course in creative writing, taking on a few projects and negotiating life on my terms," he says, a touch of pride evident in his voice.

The writer, a communications consultant, is the author of *Straight to Normal* and Director, Rainbow Lit Fest.



Vak devi's gift

Our literatures and the English language are two of the hinges of India's unity

ike the many Hindus who respectfully visit churches, gurudwaras and mosques saying, "When we have a thousand gods why not one or two more places of worship?" Indians should be able to say, "When we have 22 major languages, some of them very old and highly developed, why not one or two more languages, particularly if they provide a voice to those who have not been heard?"

Isn't Vak devi sacred? Isn't the word god?

Yet, somehow, the grip of English as a metaphysical empire long after India ceased to be Britain's colony is a source of disturbance to some of us who have developed a neurotic antipathy for not just English as a language, but also for the different world cultures that came with and through it. We fantasise about a golden era when we were untouched by European influences.

Exchange to enrich

But why? Our best writers pre- and post-1947 are bilingual, at ease both in their mother tongues and in English. Manoj Das, Girish Karnad, Nabaneeta Dev Sen, Mridula Garg, Paul Zacharia, Kiran Nagarkar, U.R. Ananthamurthy and K. Satchidanandan.

Let's pause before proceeding! Did the Vikings cling to their outdated agricultural implements when they saw more efficient ones upon invading

England? No. How long did Anglo-Saxons resist Norman culture



Joy Students enact poems. GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK

which reached them in the 11th century and integrated itself into the land they conquered? The Norman conquerors brought England into an enriched new millennium with their poetry, architecture and masonry, laws and sophisticated weaponry.

In the years between 1880 and 1914, when Britain was at the height of her imperial power, large sections of her population were in a shocking state of decline: sickly, undernourished and illiterate. Alfred Marshall denounced the educational poverty of the English working class mind as the world's biggest wasted product, and Samuel Smith warned that "unless we teach these classes the same virtues which have elevated other classes," the proletariat would strangle the whole country. Many reports were prepared in Britain, and finally the formidable English Association stated that the teaching of the English language and literature was the only way the country's disparate populations could be unified. An almost evangelical mission was undertaken to spread a standard form of English in the British Isles. Ironically, at a time when English was about to become a universal language, its native speakers were hardly acquainted with its riches.

No word of all this reached the larger public in India. At that time we were in a state of cultural retreat: our languages starved for funds, our religions and arts ridiculed. A century later, despite our incalculable linguistic wealth and 72 years of independence, India is at a point where even our college-educated populations are in a dangerous state of language illiteracy. Two generations of Indians have been deprived of sustained language immersion and merely grilled to pass exams.

Barring rare exceptions, the joys of reciting poetry or reading a play aloud or staging one are unknown to the schoolchild today. Hardly any school curriculum seriously introduces mindexpanding poetry and fiction from either a regional language or in English translation.

The neglect of literature and languages at all levels has gradually diminished us without our being aware of it. This is nothing short of a tragedy because secularism, our various literatures, and the English language are the hinges of India's unity. The potential for appreciating and gaining from bilingualism is truly vast and a huge storehouse of material is readily at hand. For instance, an exchange of literatures between languages could be a memorable and emotional way to teach history and politics. The Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation has taken the lead and introduced a brilliant Tamil translation of W.H. Auden's famous poem 'Partition' on the Radcliffe Line. The translation, by T.S. Saravanan, is part of the Class XII History textbook.

Unbiased at least he was when he arrived on his mission,
Having never set eyes on the land he was called to partition
Between two peoples fanatically at odds,

With their different diets and incompatible gods.

"Time," they had briefed him in London, "is short. It's too late For mutual reconciliation or rational debate:

The only solution now lies in separation.

S. Ramakrishnan has prepared a transliterated excerpt for this column. viTutalait tiTTattaic ceyalpaTutta vantapootu avar naTunilaitaan naaTTunilai aRiyaamal parinturaitta pirivinai peru vilaitaan veRikoNTa iru inattiRkumiTaiyee vilakiyatu oRRumai ivarkaLin iraiyilum, iRaiyilum evvaLavoo veeRRumai viTutalai vazhanga ilaNTan vitittirunta neeramoo konjcam camaraca muyaRcikkum, vivaata

camaraca muyaRcikkum, vivaata payiRccikkum atil neeram engee enjcum pirivinaitaan oree tiirvenRu

vaisraay varaintaar kaTitam

As Raja Rao said in an essay called 'The Caste of English': "Truth can use any language."

Mini Krishnan edits translations for Oxford University Press.



Malory Towers

Using social

media, Sadat

mobilising the

community in

Afghanistan.

As word got

around, his

position at

the university

became shaky

secretly

started

queer

Malory Towers, a play based on the novels by Enid Blyton, is running at different theatres in England. Adapted and directed by Emma Rice, the novels are made into the "original Girl Power" story, touching upon themes of friendship, bullying and postwar trauma.



Dean Koontz with Amazon

Bestselling horror and thriller author Dean Koontz has signed a five-book deal with the Amazon Publishing imprint Thomas & Mercer. He will also release a collection of six short thrillers titled *Nameless*, under the imprint, Amazon Original Stories, this autumn.

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BROWSE FICTION

I Am Sovereign

Nicola Barker William Heinemann \$11.49

• In this hilarious novel about the tussle between an eccentric 40-year-old teddybear maker trying to sell his house and his much-harassed real-estate agent, the personal expands into meditations on culture and history. The boundaries between fiction and real life blur as the characters sabotage and break through the fictional world they inhabit.



Someone We Know

Shari Lapena Penguin Random House ₹599

• In a leafy suburb, where everyone is polite and friendly, an anonymous note has been left at some houses. "I'm so sorry. My son has been getting into people's houses. He's broken into yours." Who is this boy, what has he uncovered? Then a missing local woman is found murdered and the peace is shattered forever.

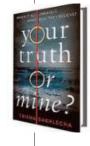


Your Truth or Mine?

Trisha Saklecha

Pan Macmillan India

• This psycholgical thriller is about the dark secrets couples keep from one another and how a marriage unravels. The perfect marriage of Mia and Roy Kapoor crumbles when Roy is questioned over the disappearance of a woman. They must question everything they know about each other if their marriage is to survive.



Sweet Sorrow

David Nicholls

Hodder & Stoughton

₹599

· Charlie Lewis has a crappy family life. Then he finds a friend in Fran Fisher and begins to hope that his life will improve. This is a tragicomedy about the rocky path to adulthood, coming to terms with a dysfunctional family, as well as a celebration of the reviving power of friendship and love.



Flyaway Boy

Iane De Suza . Puffin

₹250

• Kabir doesn't fit in. Not in the hill town he lives in, not in his school, where only strait-laced and rule-abiding kids are encouraged. Unable to bear it all any longer, Kabir decides to vanish. Finding Kabir will mean understanding who he really is. This is a story about embracing everything that makes you uniquely you.





Looking for answers The old town area of San Sebastian. GETTY IMAGES/IST

POLITICAL REALISM

The heart of terror

By tracing the relational contours of two families, Aramburu explores the nativist political ideology that spawned terrorism in Spain

VENKY VEMBU

owards the tail end of Fernando Aramburu's expansive, 592-page metanarrative about a Spanish community that finds its soul cleaved by the terrorist impulse of Basque's ETA separatists, there's a selfreferential scene in which the "writer' makes a cameo appearance.

It is framed as an event to memorialise the victims of terrorism in the cause of establishing a Basque 'homeland', and the 'writer' presumably Aramburu himself provides the backstory to why and how the book came to be.

The story cuts close to the bone for Aramburu, who was himself born in San Sebastian, where the novel is set: as a Basque teenager, he too had in some ways been exposed to - but not

indoctrinated by – the nativist political ideology that spawned terrorism. "I've thought it all over many times and I think I've found the answer," the writer says.

Oh, would that answers to such existential civilisational questions were so easy to find! After all, one man's 'terrorist' is another man's 'freedom fighter'. In Homeland, the frontiers that separate the two opposing ideologies are very proximate: the novel traces the relational contours of two families one on either side of that divide whose matriarchs, Bittori and Miren, were once good friends.

Promised land

Their husbands hang out together, as do their children. But when Bittori's businessman-husband Txato receives extortionist demands from Basque

separatists, the idyllic neighbourly spirit is torn asunder – because Miren's son Joxe Mari is now with ETA, and the mother's loyalties are conflicted. Txato's murder by Basque terrorists accentuates the rift.

It is easy to visualise the story at the heart of Homeland being played out in many other conflict-divided geographies, from Kashmir to Sri Lanka to Palestine. Wherever the quest for a "homeland" has embraced violence as a vehicle to get to the promised land, it has driven families and friends apart. In many ways, those individual stories are just as tragic and no less consequential than the larger political narrative about nationhood and competing ideologies.

Aramburu is at his best when he focusses up-close on the personal tribulations of the two families. As the "writer" at the memorial event says: "I

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tried to answer concrete questions. How does a person live intimately the disaster of having lost a father, a husband, a brother in an attack? How does a widow, an orphan, a person who's been mutilated face life after a crime?"

All Bittori wants, in order to bring a closure to the tragedy that has overrun her life, is an acknowledgement of her plight, a simple act of contrition on the part of Joxe Mari. In this enterprise, she has the moral and material support of Miren's own paralytic daughter Arantxa, a sterling character who rises above the limitations of her bodily frame. Soldiering on, with quiet dignity, Bittori finally secures the balm that can heal her family's bruised soul.

And what of Joxe Mari? After 17 years in prison - during which period he nursed hate as an antidote to the poison of nostalgia - he abandons ETA, broken down by the loneliness of jail life and doubts, "which are like mosquitoes in summer". And when ETA decides to end its armed struggle, the announcement leaves him cold, as if it was "a matter that didn't concern him". So, when Arantxa writes to him, to persuade him to make peace with Bittori, he reasons that seeking forgiveness takes more courage than firing a weapon or setting off a bomb. It is a confirmation of the futility of the 'cause' that overwhelmed his life.

Strong women

All through Homeland, it is the two matrons and the other female characters who bear the story along, typifying the strong women who are characteristic of the Basque region. In contrast, the men are less stirring, and fall into stereotypical portrayals, frequently as philanderers. And Aramburu deploys a curious literary technique to propel the story: the characters often intervene, sotto voce, in the narrator's rendition of events. sometimes even mid-sentence. It serves as a way of fleshing out the narrative, adding layers and facts to the storyline, and occasionally questioning it. It takes a while to get used to, but when the reader gets into the stride, it makes for a refreshing style.

On the other hand, Aramburu's narrative style, at least in the English translation of his work, is somewhat antiseptic – perhaps deliberately so, given the author's conscious effort, despite a manifest empathy for victims of terrorism, to avoid "making a judgement about who is good and who is bad".

In interviews, he has noted that since he is "not a historian, not a politician, and not a journalist," he has "placed his bet on literature". Also, he has self-admittedly steered clear of "sentimentality" (or pathos) and "sanctimony" – or what he calls "the subordination of facts to a thesis".

Which is actually something of a pity. An exploration of the morality of the whole 'homeland' enterprise, and of the methods adopted therein, may have arguably led Aramburu to more engaging geographies of the mind. As it is, for all its expansiveness of scope, and its fleeting flirtation with, and gentle tugs at, readers' heartstrings, *Homeland* leaves us a little less than sated.



Homeland
Fernando
Aramburu,
trs Alfred
MacAdam
Picador
₹799

How does a person live intimately the disaster of having lost a father, a husband, a brother in an attack? How does a widow, an orphan, a person who's been mutilated face life after a crime?

PSYCHOLOGICAL REALISM

Blue and beyond

The account of Amy's trauma and recovery is heartfelt. But will a woman in Amy's position in a less liberal society be able to bounce back as easily?

RASMI BINOY

planned it. I invited it. I was an equal partner. And nothing ever happened till I was seventeen," broods Amy Blue in *Blue Tide*Rising. Amy, all of 24, washes up in a grungy neighbourhood of

Manchester where "people fetch up like flotsam". Amy gets through life with a heavy supply of Diazepam that keeps her from breaking out into a scream any moment.

The novel opens on a dismal Balmoral Street and proceeds to sketch out Amy's past and her journey towards redemption. Orphanhood, abandonment, grooming, abuse, rape, depression... Amy goes through it all, but *Blue Tide Rising* is no pity party. It even has a crime thriller thread woven into it later on which makes up the larger part of the book.

Finding closure

When Jay – beautiful, pale, tall – visits Amy in her dingy 'studio', she doesn't know who he is. Assuming he is a random guy sent by social services to help her, and with her brain still muddled by drugs and traumatic memories, Amy recounts her life to Jay. She listens to him when he advises her to get out and talk to new people and explore new places, and eventually escapes to a Welsh farm near the sea, Môr Tawel, to find herself.

Once in Môr Tawel, she not only gets a grip on herself but also 'discovers' Jay, along with a host of new faces. Amy sees people from her strife-ridden life walk back to her at Môr Tawel, if not physically, at least as a renewed memory, helping her find closure.

The nuances of Western lifestyle are by now familiar to readers of English fiction. These days, our cities too sport gleaming cafés and themed pubs. We are aware of depression

and anxiety as conditions requiring medical help and do our best not to stigmatise these illnesses.

But stepping into Amy Blue's shoes and walking her path did entail some struggle for me as an Indian reader. For one, an average Indian woman would not have it this easy.

Blue Tide Rising is all about second chances. Amy's gutwrenching experiences, most of which have their roots in her gender, do not yet make her a 'gone case' even though she gets judged by friends and family for falling in love with an older man.

They are not ready to see it as 'grooming', where an abuser draws in a victim little by little, over the years, until she is completely trapped, vulnerable and clueless. But even under such circumstances, Amy manages to find a way out of



Blue Tide Rising Clare Stevens Inspired Quill £9.99

her small town, that too without even a college degree.

After each of the debacles, Amy is able to pull herself together at the earliest – something a majority of girls in India in Amy's situation would not be able to do. She finds employment. She finds rooms to stay. She gets treatment. She gets social support. Yes, she ends up on Balmoral Street, but even there, she has her sessions with her psychiatrist. There is some kind of social accountability.

Out there

When Amy eventually finds people whom she can call her own at Môr Tawel, she is welcomed warmly irrespective of her past. They do not look at her with disdain for having had her body violated by scheming older men.

In a culture where staying 'pure' is still regarded as a woman's ultimate virtue, in a system that prefers silence and secrecy to truth and justice; amidst a mindset that does not mind crushing a woman's dreams if it feeds male entitlement, it feels novel to imagine that lives like Amy's are getting redeemed somewhere out there. That voices like hers are being heard. That experiences like hers are being counted. Even if it is set in another land. Even if it is all fiction.

One is reminded that *Blue Tide Rising* is a work of fiction more strongly towards the end, which is too saccharine to be realistic. That remains a disappointment, but this journey with Amy Blue is worthwhile.

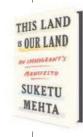
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BROWSE NON-FICTION

This Land is Our Land: An **Immigrant's Manifesto** Suketu Mehta

Penguin Random House ₹599

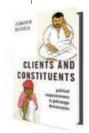
• Drawing on his family's experience emigrating from India to Britain and America, and years of reporting, Mehta subjects the anti-immigrant backlash to scrutiny. The West, he argues, is being destroyed not by immigrants but by the fear of immigrants.



Clients and Constituents: Political Responsiveness in Patronage Democracies

Jennifer Bussell Oxford University Press

 As Bussell demonstrates, legislators in 'patronage democracies' provide substantial constituency service: noncontingent, direct assistance to individual citizens. She highlights the potential for a form of democratic accountability, one that is rooted in the character of patronage-based politics.



One Heart, Two Worlds - The Story of the Jews of Kochi

Stark World Publishing ₹2.500

• This 177-page coffee table book is a visual odyssey, with 200 vintage images, of the Jewish community that made Kerala its home. The riveting real life account of the Jews in Kochi, their hearts caught between their adopted motherland India and the 'Promised Land' Israel, is a trip down memory lane.



Trust in Transactions

Prasanta Ray, Rukmini Sen Orient BlackSwan

₹975

• The chapters analyse a range of transaction spaces and stakeholders engaged in making, sustaining and reconfiguring trust. The spaces include factories, financial institutions and homes; and the players include organised labour. migrant workers, domestic workers and street children.



Operation X: The Untold Story of India's Covert Naval War in East Pakistan 1971

Captain M.N.R. Samant, Sandeep Unnithan HarperCollins India ₹499

• In 1971, Naval Commando Operation (X) was formed, comprising Indian navy officers, divers, and others in then East Pakistan, to destabilise the West Pakistani efforts to bring East Pakistan to its knees. This is an account of the covert querrilla operation that facilitated the birth of Bangladesh.





Picture for representation purpose only. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

HEALTH

Lessons from Ranbaxy

The troubles of Indian pharma companies abroad raise questions about the domestic drug regulator

PRIYANKA PULLA

ottle of Lies, a book about the quality problems plaguing generic drugs, should make Indian readers furious. While it focuses on medicines intended for American consumers, the real and continuing victims of the failings described in the book are consumers in developing countries, including

In May 2013, soon after the erstwhile Ranbaxy Laboratories admitted in an American court to selling adulterated drugs, journalist Katherine Eban published a gripping 10,000-word account of the saga in Fortune magazine. But the story left Eban wondering if Ranbaxy was an isolated case. Could there be more rotten eggs, she asked, given the United States Food & Drugs Administration's (FDA) lax policing of overseas manufacturers? Bottle of Lies is the result of the multi-year investigation that followed.

Web of chicanery

It begins with Dinesh Thakur, the whistle-blower who exposed Ranbaxy's misdeeds. In 2003, Thakur left his job at Bristol Myers Squibb's New Jersey office to join the Gurgaon office of Ranbaxy – then a rising star of the Indian generics industry. There, he encountered a shocking web of chicanery. An early warning sign came when Thakur's boss told him that the World Health Organization (WHO) had uncovered fraud at Vimta Labs - the company that tested Ranbaxy's AIDS drugs. Vimta, it emerged, had never carried out these tests.

The finding led to Thakur unravelling an elaborate tapestry of fraud that enveloped all of Ranbaxy. When he dug for quality data supporting the company's drugs in

other countries, he found falsification everywhere, with weakly regulated markets like India being the worst hit. In a dramatic scene in Eban's book. Thakur asks a colleague how much of the data supporting the company's Indian drugs was fraudulent. The executive tells him the number is 100%. Thakur eventually shared his findings with the FDA, leading to Ranbaxy's conviction.

Indian readers will note a disturbing fact here: despite the substantial evidence against Ranbaxy, FDA's Indian counterpart, the Central Drugs Standard **Control Organisation** (CDSCO), never found problems with the company's drugs in India. The glaring discrepancy between the FDA's and CDSCO's responses **Bottle of Lies** to quality problems is a Katherine Eban recurring theme in the book. Juggernaut While Eban's investigations paint both agencies as illequipped and under-funded, the FDA does redeem itself at times. Ranbaxy Laboratories did end up paying a record \$500 million fine, thanks in part to the FDA's efforts. Other companies with quality issues have also been under the American agency's scanner: three of Wockhardt's manufacturing plants are blocked from exporting drugs to the U.S., for instance. Further, in 2018-19, over 15 Indian companies received FDA import alerts, according to the

Turning a blind eye

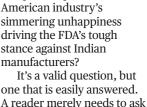
regulator's website.

The CDSCO, on the other hand, never acted even against the biggest offenders, such as Ranbaxy and Hyderabad's GVK Biosciences. In the latter's case, the European Medicines Agency (EMA) found the company to

be manipulating drug-quality data in 2015. Still, former CDSCO chief G.N. Singh tried to explain away the findings by alluding to conspiracies against the Indian industry.

For those inclined towards conspiracy theories, there's plenty of grist for the mill. Earlier this year, several U.S. states sued 20 generic drug-makers, including Indian firms, for price collusion. American trade

bodies, such as the medicaldevice association AdvaMed, have often expressed their displeasure with India's intellectual-property regime and price-caps. Is the American industry's simmering unhappiness driving the FDA's tough stance against Indian



A reader merely needs to ask whether Eban presents evidence for the claimed

malpractices. The answer is yes. Ranbaxy's misdeeds are a matter of public record today. Details of other companies that subsequently came under the FDA's or EMA's scanner, such as Wockhardt and GVK, are also

Eban convincingly answers the question she set out to ask: was Ranbaxy an isolated case? The answer is no. While not every company flagged by foreign regulators is indulging in systematic fraud, it is obvious that quality slip-ups happen frequently enough to endanger patient safety. The only defence that consumers have is a strong drug regulator. Eban's powerful book may force the USFDA to pull up its socks. But who will force the CDSCO to do its iob? Indian consumers must start asking tough questions.

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POLITICS

The principle of justice

Why the state must ensure freedom from discrimination for all citizens in pluralistic India

UMA MAHADEVAN-DASGUPTA

ow can people with different beliefs and customs live together in a pluralistic society with civility and mutual respect? One can think of few more important questions, not just for the world's largest democracy but for the world itself, in the 21st century. Political scientist Neera Chandhoke takes on this fraught question in a thoughtful analysis that reinterprets and powerfully reworks the concepts of pluralism, secularism, tolerance and coexistence in the context of India today.

Secularism in India, says
Chandhoke, is not the same as
western secularism: for in India, it has
acquired a distinctive meaning ever
since, in the context of the bitter
communal riots, the leaders of the
freedom struggle adopted secularism
as a basic principle of democratic
polity precisely as a response to the
atmosphere of strife.

Chandhoke begins by drawing from the text of the Santi Parva, the book of the Mahabharata in which, after the Great War, the dying patriarch Bhishma, lying on a bed of arrows, teaches the new king



Idea of India Our society is diverse, marked by various beliefs and customs. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

Yudhishthira about the responsibilities of a ruler. It is kingly 'dharma', says Bhishma, to protect the people. A just and dutiful king should nurture and hold his people together, protecting them from violence, and ruling without hiss

Chandhoke situates the concept of secularism in this conception of justice. Indian society is plural: marked not just by heterogeneity but by deep differences in beliefs and customs, from ways of eating and ways of living, to ways of religious worship. In order to treat all its citizens justly despite their

differences, the State must adopt the principle of treating them equally, providing equal protection to all, and ensuring freedom from discrimination to all citizens. These commitments require the presence of an environment of civility and mutual respect, implying fraternity; and in building such an environment, pluralism becomes valuable in itself.

Chandhoke suggests that a transition from empirical plurality to normative pluralism is necessary not just because individuals could be harmed if their constitutive community is harmed, or to enable

individuals to achieve their aspirations and full potential while protecting secure access to their constitutive community; but also, and perhaps most importantly, because respecting pluralism for itself adds to the conception of what it means to be human.

The right to freedom of association allows citizens to come together across boundaries of class and ethnicity to strengthen civil society. On the one hand, the realisation of political equality in India and the existence of a vibrant civil society, are laudable successes; on the other hand, deep and troubling inequalities continue to exist in the economic and social spheres.

Against this background,
Chandhoke shows that it is the norm
of secularism, embedded in the vision
of a just society that can enable the
transition from an empirically plural
society to one that recognises
pluralism as valuable in itself.
Secularism, or non-discrimination
between different religious groups, is
thus an integral part of the vision of
democracy. As Chandhoke remarks,
"To infringe the basics of secularism is
to infringe the fundamentals of
democracy."



Rethinking

Secularism and

Neera Chandhoke

Pluralism,

Tolerance:

Anxieties of

Coexistence

Into the dark unknown

A collection of essays documents the price people pay to earn a living outside their South Asian countries

R. KRITHIKA

hen we talk about migration, it's the success stories that come to mind first: the prosperous entrepreneur, the award-winning doctor, tech wizards. Have we ever spared a thought to those who return battered and bruised but alive, or in coffins and body bags if their luck ran out?

It is this dark side of human migration that Uncertain Journeys: Labour Migration from South Asia examines. What the book does - and very well at that – is to put "a human face", as A.S. Panneerselvan who has edited the slim volume calls it, to the data and statistics of labour and migration. In his Introduction, Panneerselvan gives the reader the context for the stories that follow: "These essays document the price people pay to earn a dignified livelihood, as well as the joy and pain of distance employment... (and) help us understand the labour migrant from South Asia as a human being and not as a mere remittance machine for



Nothingness In Sri Lanka, war and climate change have escalated the problem. AFP

the family or a precious foreignexchange earner for the home country."

The essays by Nila Kumar and Rejimon Kuttappan examine the racist underpinnings of West Asian economies. The glitz and glamour fades as one climbs down the ladder, just like the fig leaf placed strategically to cover a male nude at the Louvre, Abu Dhabi. From Nepal, Upasna Khadka, Janak Raj Sapkota and Kesang Tseten offer insights into how the

desperation of migrants has played into the hands of human traffickers and how lack of governmental cooperation has led to an increase in illegal migration. Khadka's essay is titled 'The Lottery of Migration' and she writes that individuals take risky decisions, "not always because of lack of information, but despite it... it is the possibility of being lucky that encourages so many to take risks." Pakistan is covered by Haniya Javed and Sabrina Toppa, while Porimol

Pulma takes on Bangladesh. In Sri Lanka, war and climate change have added another dimension to the problem, say Amantha Perera and Thulasi Muttulingam. But Muttulingam also offers a tiny sliver of hope in documenting how some of the women also discovered their own rights.

This is not an easy book to read; despite the authors sticking to a bare bones narrative, the testimonies and the statistics present a gut-wrenching and distressing picture. The saddest image of all comes from R.K. Radhakrishnan's 'Return to Nothingness'. Despite all the hardships they have faced and the deaths they have seen, migrants prefer to take the risk of getting away from their country. The piper's song they hear is the chance of making good; of something that will take them out of their current condition.

What will it take for our governments to look inwards and ensure a decent standard of living for their citizens? The other question I am left with is: Will there be a similar book on migration within India?



Uncertain
Journeys: Labour
Migration from
South Asia
Edited by A.S.
Panneerselvan
Speaking Tiger
₹399

DELHI THE HINDU Magazine Sunday, August 4, 2019

GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK



NOSHTALGIA

My chole is

standard —

flavourful

concoction

spiced just

right and

flavoured by

the swirling

dust of New

Rajendra

Nagar

my gold

a dark

nowhere near

Aromas of the bazaar

Is there a word for the *mehak* of freshly-fried 'salty with a hint of sweet' bhatura?

SUBHA J. RAO

ow after row of shops selling everything from garish toys, curtains and cushions to those that mixed and matched fabric in a jiffy or sold carpets and dhurries by the kilo. Veer Bazaar (Thursday market) at New Rajendra Nagar in Delhi offered, and possibly continues to offer, a smörgåsbord of goodies for every possible buyer.

The real stars of the bazaar, vegetable vendors from the hinterland, sat deep inside the heart of this shanty that would crop up once a week. And this is where we headed every week for the freshest of produce – bright green palak and methi, pearly-white mooli and cauliflower, red carrots for halwa, water chestnuts during the season, pods bursting with green peas, plump parwal and purple eggplant...the list was endless.

But we had a stop before that. Cutting through all the noise and clutter and people's voices was the aroma of just-cooked food. Is there a word for the *mehak* (fragrance) of freshly-fried 'salty with a hint of sweet' bhatura? Or for the puff of steam that rises when the finger makes a dent in the oblong bhatura? I'll get to the chole, a dark-brownish black thanks to the sachets of tea powder dropped into the bubbling cauldron, in a bit.

Market antics

It's been 17 years since I left Delhi, but fond memories drop by to say hello every now and then. In the five-odd years I lived there, some routines never changed – Thursday's dinner for my husband and me, and Sunday brunch for the former. Thursday was my weekly off at the news agency where I worked, and it coincided with Veer Bazaar.

Sheela Aunty, who is possibly smiling now from heaven reading this, and I would wash our casseroles and dabbas, and carry these along with the bags for vegetables.

The dabbas would be dropped off at *cholewale bhaiyya*. It was a rite, almost to convince ourselves that

some good would emerge out of this Thursday evening expedition. Our dabbas would join the long line of containers already sitting patiently on a counter while a 'chhotu' would bag the onions and pickled mango and carrot that accompanied every parcel. Half an hour of shopping later, we would have just enough money left to pick up the chole-bhature and hire a ride back home.

The *cholewale* corner was a beehive of activity. Some men would be patiently pulling out small bits of dough and rolling them into small roundels before semi-stretching them. As soon as we identified our dabbas, the *bhaiyya* would stretch the bhatura further and slip the hand-shaped dough into the dark hot oil.

He'd fish them out as soon as they resembled puffy off-white rugby balls and pack them in the casseroles. The chole would be put into another dabba, ready to be heated before being served at home. Even after all these years, though people tell me I make good chole, it's nowhere near

my gold standard – that dark flavourful concoction spiced just right and flavoured by the swirling dust of New Rajendra Nagar. Its texture was neither thick nor runny, but just perfect to scoop out with a piece of bhatura. No spice overpowered the masala; it was like they'd become best friends during the hours of simmering, helping each infuse the other's special secret, but also remove any sharp edges from the flavour profile.

Bhatura drama

Some days, overwhelmed by the aroma, I'd order a single bhatura to eat right there at the shop, and convince the utterly dignified Sheela Aunty to take a bite too. All charged up, we would head home to our banker-husbands. They would have missed all the drama associated with the chole-bhature, but the sheer taste made up for it, I guess.

Sundays usually meant the early morning shift at United News of India, and I would head out by 7.45 a.m. And

almost to convince ourselves that make good chole, it's nowled by the make good chole, it's nowledge by the

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27



my husband would wait patiently for the street vendor who brought cholekulche just in time for Sunday brunch. This bhaiyya, always in a spotless white kurta-pyjama, rode royally into Old Rajendra Nagar on his bicycle. He had a peculiar singsong voice. His call was usually 'OoooooOoooooo,' and as if he were the Pied Piper, children and adults would make a beeline for his cycle, plates in tow. He sold pre-made kulcha, which he would quickly heat on a kerosene-fuelled stove attached to his cycle carrier. The chole would emerge from a huge dabba hanging from one handle. This was quite the poor cousin of the Veer Bazaar version, but had its dedicated army of followers. Was it the way he called out his wares, or was it the joy of seeing him create culinary magic from a bicycle?

In those narrow bylanes of both the Rajendra Nagars, I discovered and embraced a food routine that also served as a socialising tool. Now I live thousands of kilometres away in a coastal city, and that particular chole-bhature thrives only in my memory.

PEACE IN A POD

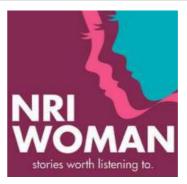
Women of the world

NRI Woman podcast features stories of women who've done something different, overcome a challenge, or just have something inspirational to share

USHA RAMAN

wo friends, a series of interesting conversations, a seemingly unending supply of fascinating real-life stories from women in the Indian diaspora: a great recipe for a podcast. Dubai-based Bettina Tauro and Ninorah Brookshire have been friends forever - "Sisters from different mothers," quips Ninorah in their introductory episode of the NRI Woman podcast. Their own intense exchanges about the challenges and joys of settling into foreign cultures led them to wonder about the million other stories that might be out there, that were bound to speak to millions of women struggling and succeeding in their own ways.

"Everyone has a different story about moving away from home, and we wanted to create a platform where NRI women could share their experiences," Tauro tells me over telephone from Goa, where she was visiting family. She quickly adds, "We were clear we didn't want it to be another agony aunt column."



Social media seemed to be the easiest way to go, and they set up a Facebook page in 2016. "We quickly realised the limitations of this medium," she explains. "We found we were fairly decent at having conversations, but writing was not our strength." So, in March 2018, the first season of the *NRI Woman* podcast was launched, each a 15- to 20-minute episode featuring the story of a woman who has done something a little bit different, overcome a struggle or challenge of a certain kind, or who simply has an inspirational account to share.

The narratives range from discussions around raising "third culture kids" (episode #45) to overcoming addiction (episode #43) and human trafficking (episode #37) to professional growth stories from women who made unconventional choices, and a good measure of old-fashioned love-inthe-face-of-all-odds. In case you're thinking all this sounds much like a podcast version of chick lit, the pleasant voices and soft music disguise the deadserious nature of some of the discussions. Tauro and Brookshire have not shied away from featuring guests who have been through some pretty tough situations, including chronic

Tauro and Brookshire have not shied away from featuring guests who have been through tough situations, including mental illness, abuse and abandonment mental illness, abuse and abandonment. While they do not take on an overtly feminist tone or use "woke" vocabulary, Tauro notes that the focus is on empowerment, with women "talking about making choices they want, without judgement".

Limited diversity

What makes the show different is the fact that neither are the hosts your seasoned interviewers nor the guests experienced speakers. Using a narrative format, the two hosts deliberately restrict their voices to framing the episode and providing background information, allowing the guest to emerge as the main storyteller. The 49 episodes spanning four seasons reveal a fair level of diversity along certain axes women from a variety of geographies, ages and to some extent, varied social and professional situations. Tauro admits that they have had to restrict themselves to guests who are able to speak in English, even if not fluently, given their own level of comfort with the language. This leaves out the large swathe of women in the diaspora who most certainly have rich stories that contain layers of social, cultural and political complexity.

The show has found an audience not only across the globe but in India as well, where, Tauro notes, the largest number of downloads come from after the U.S. and West Asia. "We also have a fair number of non-Indians who listen to it – perhaps to gain cultural insights.

For now, *NRI Woman* is an independently produced podcast that is "a labour of love" for Tauro and Brookshire and their young editor, Deepthy Shibish. The show is about to go into its fifth season – and fiftieth episode – on September 1, with new episodes released weekly through the end of December.

(A fortnightly series on podcasts.)

The Hyderabad-based writer and academic is a neatnik fighting a losing battle with the clutter in her head

SUNDAY RECIPE

Roadside chole

Dear friend, chef and restaurateur Rangeeta Murada, a fellow Rajendra Nagar resident, says the secret to perfect roadside chole is generous quantities of dalda and baking soda, something no one will admit to

GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCH

INGREDIENTS

adding.

1 cup Kabuli chana 1/4 cup Chana dal Ghee Ginger Salt

METHOD

1. Soak overnight and pressure cook till soft, adding some tea leaves in a potli for colour.

Heat some ghee in a pan, add
 chopped ginger to taste, tip in the
 chole masala (Rangeeta's

recommendation is Morning
Glory store's special chana
masala or Roopak's Pindi
chole masala), add salt to
taste and the boiled chole.
3. Mash some for a gravylike consistency. Simmer
and serve with a drizzle of
fresh julienned ginger.
4. Serve with store-bought
kulcha, homemade bhaturas
and a side of carrot pickle or
onion steeped in vinegar.



BOOKEND

DELHI THE HINDU Magazine Sunday, August 4, 2019

OFF-CENTRE

.....

A colonel fields at silly point

Social media is gushing about Dhoni's decision to skip the West Indies tour and serve in an Army unit instead



NISSIM MANNATHUKKAREN

In response to a news photograph of Mahendra Singh Dhoni in his Army uniform, a reader commented: "A soldier is never off duty... Representing his country on and off the field." This perfectly sums up the increasingly visible trend in India: the blurring lines between the soldier and the sportsperson.

This is not just a reaction to the fact that Dhoni is formally enrolled in the Indian Territorial Army as a lieutenant colonel, but is also a reflection of the larger societal expectation that every citizen should be a soldier, so to speak.

How else do you explain Dhoni's decision to skip the West Indies tour and instead serve the Army at that time? Dhoni has not retired from international cricket; so isn't it natural to assume that his primary commitment would be to play for the nation? Yet, instead of asking probing questions about the country's seniormost player picking and choosing

Historic step M.S. Dhoni with Army officers in Kashmir; and (below) Benito Mussolini with the Italian football team in 1938. NISSAR AHMAD & AFP



which tours he will play, or examining his performance in the recent World Cup, we get a gushing media that raves about Dhoni's "brave" decision to serve in an Army unit in Kashmir.

Gautam Gambhir, who has been a virulent nationalist whether it comes to making the national anthem mandatory in cinema halls or to forfeiting India's match with Pakistan in the World Cup, and has ridden his jingoistic fame to a parliamentary election victory, called Dhoni's decision "a historic step," while Kapil Dev says it will "motivate the youth of the country" to "spend some time with the Army". The Army chief said that Dhoni "will be protecting a lot of people" while businessman Anand Mahindra tweeted that Dhoni looked good in the military uniform.

Symbolic struggles

The enveloping of sport by military symbolism was most prominently seen after the Pulwama terror attack, when the Indian cricket team wore military caps on the cricket ground. Then there was the balidan badge controversy during the World Cup, when there was a nationalist outpouring of support for Dhoni's right to wear gloves with military insignia. There were even calls for a boycott of the World Cup, while Union Minister Smriti Irani posted the balidan badge on social media in solidarity. No cricket team of any other nation has done what the Indian team was trying to claim as a right in both the instances.

This whole development is ironical, considering that hundreds of Army personnel have represented India in various sports, and not one of them has felt the need to display their patriotism through Army symbols.

The veneration of the army, of masculinity, violence and nationalism is an integral part of authoritarian societies, especially fascist ones. As the *Oxford Dictionary of Sports Studies* puts it: "Fascism in the first half of the 20th century proposed a doctrinaire ethos of physical culture in which the body as the armoury of the individual was little more than the tool of the state." The Italian fascist state under Benito Mussolini exemplified this total alliance between the state and sport. Italy winning two football World Cups

Downloaded from: https://t.me/upsctyari

Italy winning two football World Cups in 1934 and 1938 aided the regime's pursuit of national glory and, in turn, its attempt to enforce discipline and order in society

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BOOKEND

in 1934 and 1938 aided the regime's pursuit of national glory and, in turn, its attempt to enforce discipline and order in society.

The danger of creeping militaristic values in democracies cannot be understated. It has the power to destroy democracies. The entire public discourse in India is governed now by issues of national security, as tellingly seen in the 2019 general election. In this mood, any doubting or critical voice on the issue of national security is shot down as anti-national.

Authoritarian values

Sport does not exist in a vacuum, but is constantly interacting with other social spheres. Fascistic and authoritarian values are not isolated to the political sphere alone, but gain traction through their resonance in popular culture. And sport has always been an arena where national identity and feelings of nationalism were constructed and celebrated. What has changed under the present right-wing regime is that the nationalism has acquired a distinctly religious character. A tweet from $Harbhajan \ Singh-a \ cricketer \ of \ such$ stature and himself from a community that has undergone the worst communal massacre – after the Chandrayaan 2 launch, mocking not just Pakistan but other Muslim nations, is an indicator of this new character of nationalism. American sports writer John Tunis wrote in 1936, "An Italian triumph in football, cycling, tennis, or any other sport... is seized upon, written up and paraded as proof positive of the superiority of the race and its governing principles."

Such forms of masculine, warmongering nationalism are particularly attractive to a nation like India, marked by the angst of being a developing country and one with few international sporting laurels. The angst is channelled by right-wing ideologies into finding internal and external enemies Conveniently, sports stars' political views are confined to showering laurels on the present regime's hypernationalist achievements. (Yet, ironically, the Pakistan-obsessed cricket nationalism of India has no trouble with its team being sponsored by a Chinese company - after all, China is the main strategic ally of Pakistan).

Indian sporting stars are lauded for their courage in serving a basically ceremonial role in the Army, but are they capable of displaying the courage of a Kumar Sangakkara to speak out against lynching and the spread of hate and bigotry?

Let the Army do its job, and let sportspeople do theirs. Let us not confuse the two. A nation becomes great when its citizens perform conscientiously the thousands of occupations they are engaged in. Let them respect the Army without unnecessarily valorising militarism. If militaristic dominance of society is the greatest hallmark of success, then Pakistan, ruled by the military for half of its existence, should be India's role model. Does that give our new nationalists some food for thought?

The writer is Chair, International Development Studies, Dalhousie University, Canada.

ALLEGEDLY

Congratulations, you are a terrorist!

Every non-violent dissenter is a terrorist in spirit if not in act



If you publicly accept your guilt, do penance by feeding 10,000 cows and beg **Chota Voldemort** for mercy, you may get a prison cell with Wi-Fi that actually works

've spent the last few weeks reading about life in prison. I must say it's time well spent. Advance preparation always helps. Tomorrow I could be carted off to jail. So could you. In case you've been too busy stealing hotel towels in Bali to get what I'm talking about, let me bring you up to speed. According to a proposed new amendment to the UAPA, the government can unilaterally declare you a terrorist. The onus will then be on you to prove that you aren't one. The best part is you don't even have to do any actual terrorism - such as shooting, exploding bombs etc. All that's needed is for the government to think

It's like how God created the universe: let there be light, and there was light. One fine morning, Chota Voldemort wakes up and says, "Let Sharma-ji be a terrorist", and lo and behold, from that day on, Sharma-ji is Kasab-ji. The logical next step is to pick up Sharma-ji and throw him in jail, which is what's in store for you and me and every other non-cow in India - no matter how garishly patriotic you are or how loudly you proclaim on Twitter that you're privileged to be followed by our beloved leader.

So what's your plan? I have a Plan A and a Plan B. My Plan A is simple: to be the one person in India who will NEVER EVER be designated a terrorist. Come what may. Even if it means in the entire country I'm the only non-terrorist left standing, my

sexy Aadhaar and handsome PAN linked majestically in glorious digital matrimony.

Even if it means I have to vote again and again for rapists, serial murderers, street thugs and certified fraudsters. Even if it means turning a blind eye to the fact that at this precise historical moment, Rwanda is superior to India as a democracy.

But there's a good chance that Plan A may fail, on account of factors beyond my control. Hence Plan B, whose first part involves acknowledging the inevitable: if you are an ordinary citizen of India and not an MP from Bhopal, it's just a matter of time before you're declared a terrorist. Why? Because you really are a terrorist, you fool! Think about it: if tomorrow you are deemed a terrorist, and you respond by telling the government, "No, I'm not," you are finished. First, you will be speaking as a terrorist, which means vour words mean nothing. Second. by trying to prove the government wrong, you are, ipso facto, questioning the government's wisdom – in other words, you are dissenting, and voila, you are a terrorist!

It's a truth universally acknowledged that any form of nonviolent dissent is a potential act of terrorism because it could, in the future, inspire disaffection against the government, leading to an actual act of terrorist violence. Every nonviolent dissenter is, therefore, a terrorist in spirit if not in act. The government is right in holding that the traditional method of declaring a person a terrorist – through a conviction in a court of law after a

trial – is outdated. In this day and age, anyone the government considers a threat to its interests is a terrorist. So why shouldn't it have the right to declare you or me a terrorist?

Pure desi penance

This brings me to the second part of Plan B. I encourage you to memorise this section as it's certain to come in handy. As soon as you are declared a terrorist, don't make the mistake of proclaiming your innocence. Acknowledge right away that the government is right.

If you publicly accept your guilt, do penance by feeding 10,000 cows (pure desi ones, not foreign or mixed breeds) and beg Chota Voldemort for mercy, you may (there is no guarantee) get a prison cell with Wi-Fi that actually works.

Speaking for myself, my only prayer is that I should be permitted to take lumbar cushions and allowed to go for physiotherapy thrice a week. Ideally I would've liked to start a campaign for better living conditions in Indian jails – but I don't want to end up in jail earlier than I have to. Anyway, you don't have to be influenced by my personal aversion to imprisonment.

If you think about it, you'll realise it may actually be a blessing in prison uniform. Haven't you always complained about not getting the time to write your novel? As you probably know, some of the greatest works of literature were written in prison. Write yours in Tihar Jail and a Booker is guaranteed. When you collect the prize, don't forget to thank me in your acceptance speech.

G. Sampath is Social Affairs Editor, *The Hindu*.

BOOKEND

DELHI THE HINDU Magazine Sunday, August 4, 2019

BROWN PAPERBAG BY SAILESH GOPALAN SLANGDERING







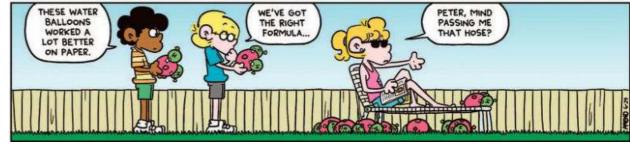


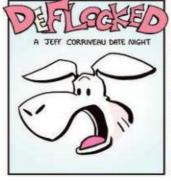
FOXTROT BY BILL AMEND

















F MINUS BY TONY CARRILLO



THE ROMANTICS BY VASINI VARADAN



BOOKEND

THE HINDU Magazine DELHI Sunday, August 4, 2019

GOREN BRIDGE

The safe play

Both vulnerable, North deals

BOBJONES



NORTI ♠ J 4 ♡ K J 9 ◇ K J 7 ♣ K 8 5

WEST ♠ K Q 10 9 2 ♡ Q 7 ♦ 10 6 4 3 ♣ J 9

♦ A Q ♣ Q 6

♦ A 8 6 ♥ A 5 4 2 ♦ 8 2 ♣ A 10 7

The bidding:

 NORTH
 EAST
 SOUTH
 WEST

 1♣
 Pass
 1♥
 1♠

 2♥*
 Pass
 4♥
 All pass

 *Four-card support

Opening lead: King of A

odern players happily open the bidding on balanced 12-points hands and force to game as responder with a balanced 12-point hand of their own.

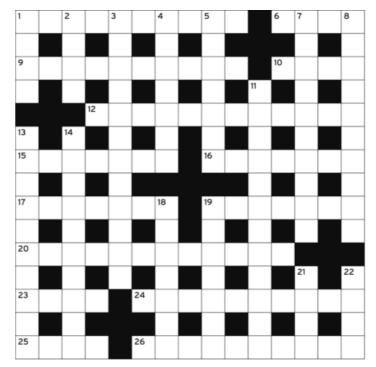
The defenders frequently have a good chance to defeat them, but the way to do it is sometimes not obvious. The overbidders often rule the day, so they keep on bidding. Who can blame them?

Consider today's deal. North-South bashed to game with 12 opposite 12, with neither a five-card suit nor a singleton between them. West's opening king of spades lead held the trick and he had to consider his next move. A diamond shift would have defeated the contract, but that shift looked risky to West. He chose the "safe" continuation of the queen of spades. South grabbed this with his ace, cashed the ace of hearts, and led a low heart to the queen and king. The jack of hearts drew the last enemy trump.

Declarer led a club to his ace and ruffed his last spade in dummy. The king of clubs and another club put East on play with nothing left in his hand but diamonds.

East was forced to give dummy the king of diamonds for declarer's tenth trick. Nicely played, but the defence missed their chance. Would you have found it?

THE SUNDAY CROSSWORD NO. 3059



Across

1 Flames from bonfires you'd vacantly started (10) 6 First of Carlings imbibed by drunk Caledonian (4) 9 Oh dear: in Asia, soy pod undergoing 'modification' (4-1-5) 10 Pro bono lawyer's rate: that's about right (4) 12 Football pundit's behind Yorkshire side: 'I don't like that, giving ground' (12) 15 Terrible dragon overcomes island, becoming object of worship (4,3) 16 Nobody, after embracing Chinese philosophy, remains nobody (3,1,3) 17 Caught fish between banks of Tweed (7) 19 Less substantial (when describing noise, primarily)? (7)

20 Sticky secreting structures revealed as mud unclogs sloppily (6,6)
23 Sour spell (4)

24 Show contempt as chicken amateur finally beats retreat (4,1,5)
25 Apply layer of coolant, not evenly (4)
26 Misreading of Jude: priest is a joke! (3,7)

Down

1 Personal problem? Fine to show reserve (4) 2 Remove organs from pet after rising, shrill sounds (4) 3 Wilde's prison reportedly permitted recitals (7,5) 4 Communicated something using

mixed media about the French (7) 5 Hullabaloo about stub put out in receptacle (7) 7 Wealth taken from doddery OAP? I concur (10) 8 Operatic act avoiding bum note? It's kids' stuff (3,5,2) 11 They're seen in classrooms strewing kids around (7-5) 13 Calculating, cold: possibly I'm the replacement for Conservatives' leader (10) 14 'Select' prison: more spacious, by the sound of it, with pleasant place for lunch (6,4) 18 Infernal, horrible poetry, 'When Half Becomes One' (7) 19 Acknowledged North Korea originally involved in suspicious death (7) 21 In favour of vociferously delivering a number (4)

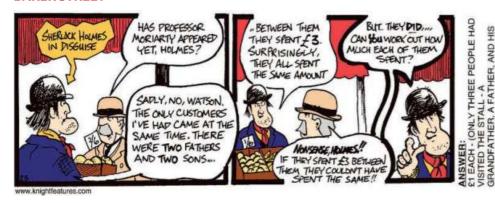
Solution No. 3058

22 Second outfit to offer little

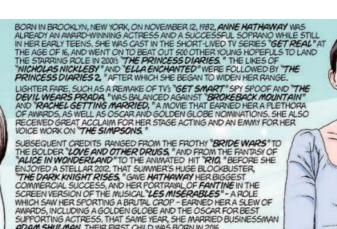
satirical observation (4)



BAKER STREET







SUPPORTING ACTRESS, THAT SAME YEAR, SHE MARRIED BUSINESSMAN ADAM SHULMAN, THEIR FIRST CHILD WAS BORN IN 2016.

FOLLOWING SUCH FILMS AS "THE INTERN" AND "INTERSTELLAR,"
THIS SUMMER HAS SEEN HER STAR IN TWO MAJOR MOVIES,
FOLLOWING UP "OCEAN'S B" - A SPIN-OFF OF THE STEVEN
SODERBERGH "OCEAN'S" TRILOGI - WITH "THE HUSTLE,"

Anne Hathaway

DELHI THE HINDU Magazine Sunday, August 4, 2019

Easy like Sunday morning

A hand came out of August/ And flicked his life away: Cecil Day-Lewis

BERTY ASHLEY

On August 4, 1693, it is said that a $oldsymbol{\mathrm{I}}$ French Benedictine monk who was the cellarer (supervisor of the monastery's cellar) for Hautvillers Abbey invented a certain drink. He looked after the vineyards and under him it flourished. He brought in a few rules to ensure high quality in the wines they produced. He also introduced the idea of blending grapes from multiple vineyards and was an advocate of making wine using only natural processes. All this led to his name being associated with a certain type of wine, which is usually used in celebrations, though it had been in the market before him. Who was this monk and what wine did he popularise and not invent?

2 Born on August 4, 1821, this gentleman was a French bag maker. At 37, he introduced his revolutionary stackable and waterproof rectangular shaped trunks and the world's first pick proof lock. In 1854, he started a fashion house that now has more than 450. stores worldwide. Who was this bag maker whose name you would spot in many high-end shops?

Q Born in 1834, John 'X' was an English Ologician and philosopher. His greatest work was his book The Logic of Chance which espoused the frequency theory of probability. In 1881, he developed a system that could show all possible logical relations between a collection of sets. These became known by his name. What is John's full name which you would have first heard in your high school Maths class?

Born on August 4, 1898, Ernesto A Born on August 4, 1000, Linear Maserati was an Italian automotive engineer and racer who, with his brothers, started the Luxury Vehicle manufacturing company Maserati. The logo of their company is based off a trident found in a huge fountain in Bologna, Italy. The trident is held by the Roman god of the sea, who represents strength and vigour. Who is this god after whom the current most distant planet is named?

Con August 4, 1901, this gentleman Dwas born in a poor family. His grandparents, who took care of him, had been slaves. He dropped out of school when he was 11 and discovered a love for playing the cornet. By the 1920s he became a virtuoso trumpet player and by the 1940s a legend in Jazz circles. In 1967, he performed a song which went on to become one of the most popular ballads ever written, thanks to its picturesque lyrics. Who was this musician, known as 'Satchmo', and what was the song that was even covered by

Hrithik Roshan in a movie?

Born on August 4, 1929, as 'Abhas', Othis gentleman was the youngest of four siblings. His eldest brother became an actor and Abhas was given a small role in a movie starring his brother. In 1948, he had a chance to sing a song. He had no formal training but S.D. Burman motivated him and soon Abhas became a popular singer and actor, even winning a Filmfare award in 1969. How was Abhas better known as?



7 On August 4, 1936, an American athlete won his second gold medal at the Berlin Olympics by beating crowd favourite German Luz Long in the long jump final. He even set an Olympic record and in the process was credited with 'single-handedly crushing Hitler's myth of Aryan supremacy'. Who was this legendary sprinter who once set three world records and tied another, all in less than an hour?

On August 4, 1956, Apsara started Soperating at Trombay in Mumbai. For over 50 years, Apsara was used for basic research, shielding experiments, neutron activation analysis, neutron radiography and the testing of neutron detectors. In 2009, Apsara was shut down, and in 2018 it was upgraded and re-commissioned. What was Apsara the very first of in India?

Born on August 4, 1961, this former attorney was born in Hawaii to a Kenyan economist and an American Anthropologist. His mother divorced his father and married an Indonesian geographer with whom he lived for four years in Indonesia. He returned to the U.S. and did a degree in political science and majored in law at Harvard Law School. Who was this gentleman whose birth details were debated on the global

The Republic of Upper Volta is a landlocked country in West Africa. On August 4, 1984, it was renamed by then-President Thomas Sankara (who is known as Africa's Che Guevara) with its present name. The name means 'land of the honest (incorruptible) men'. What is the name of this country whose citizens are known as Burkinabé and celebrate August 4 as National Day?

Paso nottiny 2. Louis Сһатравпе Pérignon

LightningThis legendary sprinter

'single-handedly crushed Hitler's myth of Arvan supremacy'.

> 10. Burkina Оряшя 9. Вагаск Reactor 8. Nuclear 7. Jesse Owens Kumar 6. Kishore World, wonderful ь тьАW, Armstrong, 5. Louis 4. Neptune 3. John Venn

LETTER FROM A CONCERNED READER

One quiet coffee, please

Respected Madam/Sir,

happening in the world? Every day morning I wake up and go to living room and definitely one thought is there in my brain. Guruvayoorappa, today at least let there be two-three good news type items in the esteemed newspaper.

And what is there every morning? Tragedy tragedy tragedy only. Whether any god is listening these days? Or they are also fed up and gone?

Have you seen news of coffee company owner? Business and all means success will be there and failure will be there. But suicide and all... I can't think of such topics, it is too bad. Too bad.

Ten or fifteen years back, first time I went to Coffee Day cafe. Let me tell the story. One day in the evening I went to Ganga Sweets. Did I go alone? Or did Mrs. Mathrubootham come with me? Or Mohammed Usman? Or maybe I went alone. Retirement life means time to forget all details.

Ok maybe I went alone. As soon as I entered Ganga Sweets, suddenly I realised one tragedy. No money in the purse. Not even one naya paisa. Immediately I did about turn and left. Ganga Sweets manager said, excuse me uncle, what nonsense is this, after decades and decades you are leaving without having even single ras malai. I said thambi, purse is kaali. I will go to bank and get money. He said one ATM is nearby, please go.

Madam/ sir, this is before the PayTM, UPI, Bhim, Boom, Om Kreem Kuttichaatha trend started. Money means money. ATM card means ATM card.

I went to one ATM, no money. I went to other ATM, too much line. So I walked and walked till I found one HDFC ATM. It is working. I thought it is ok, I will pay charge for using other bank ATM. After taking money, I came outside and on the right side, I saw one new restaurant. Near 6th Main Road maybe. No memory.

Oho. Bright colour. Nice furniture. Staff wearing good uniform. I thought whether to try this restaurant or not? What if it is some expensive international type place for NRI fellows? Then I thought, ok I have idea, I will go inside and sit down and ask for menu. If seeing it, water is coming from my eyes, I will say oh my god, I thought this is Ganga Sweets, sorry for confusion, thambi, please give direction.

India means old people can do

I went in. First of all, too much AC. Immediately urine feeling came. I sat down and one boy came running. I said one coffee please. He said what coffee you

want sir? I said what

coffee is there? He said many words. Not one word was coffee. I said what nonsense young man, wasting my time?

He said no, no uncle, this is little bit different coffees for youths. Shall I only choose and give? I said fine. He asked you like coconut? I said whether any people who don't like, don't ask stupid questions. He said please give two minutes.

Madam/ sir, I was very suspicious. But as soon as coffee is going into my mouth, it is like Meenakshi Seshadri disco dance on the tongue. I said young man, this is

superb coffee. Little bit

expensive but ok. Who

is the owner? He said some details. I said very good, all the best to Coffee Day Cafe.

After that, once in a while I used to go and try different coffee and sometimes samosa. Suddenly all over India branches are opening. Now every corner, it is there.

So when I saw the news, I am feeling very sad. But what to do. I hope the prayers and thoughts of happy customers will give him some happiness now. What else to

> Yours in condolence, J. Mathrubootham

A molecular biologist from Madurai, our quizmaster enjoys trivia and music, and is working on a rock ballad called Coffee is a Drink, Kaapi is an Emotion. @bertyashley 1. Dom

Answers