



1952-2019 Sushma Swaraj no more

Youngest Minister in 1977 to External Affairs in 2019, BJP's fighter-in-chief blended grit and grace

RAVISH TIWARI & MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AT 7:23 PM Tuesday, shortly after Lok Sabha cleared the government's decision to take away J&K's special status and bifurcate the state into two Union Territories, Sushma Swaraj posted a congratulatory mes-

sage on Twitter: "Thank you Prime Minister. Thank you very much. I was waiting to see this day in my lifetime."

Hours later, the former External Affairs Minister, one of India's most admired leaders, passed away. She was declared dead by doctors at the AIIMS in New Delhi. She was 67. She survived by husband Swaraj Kaushal and daughter Bansuri.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the nation in paying her tribute. "A glorious chapter in Indian politics comes to an end. India grieves the demise of a remarkable leader who devoted her life to public service and bettering lives of the poor. Sushma Swarajji was one of her kind, who was a source of inspiration for crores of people." BJP working president J P

Nadda said Swaraj's body will be kept at her home until 11 am Wednesday and will then be taken to the BJP headquarters on Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg. The last rites will be performed at the Lodhi crematorium.

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BILL ON J&K BIFURCATION SAILS THROUGH LOK SABHA

No talks with Hurriyat, only with people of J&K... will continue to claim PoK: Shah

J&K free from shackles of vested few, new dawn awaits its people, says PM

LIZ MATHEW & PRADEEP KAUSHAL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE GOVERNMENT decision to bury Article 370 and bifurcate Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh was ratified by Parliament Tuesday when Lok Sabha too gave its go-ahead, clearing the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019, with an overwhelming majority of 351-72 and a resolution taking away the special status.

Replying to a debate in Lok Sabha, a day after he secured Rajya Sabha's approval on the government decision, Union Home Minister Amit Shah ruled out any talks with the separatist Hurriyat Conference and declared that India will continue to claim the territories of Jammu and Kashmir in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Aksai Chin.

Hailing the passage of the Bill as a "momentous occasion in our Parliamentary democracy", Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who was present in Lok Sabha,

later tweeted: "I salute my sisters and brothers of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh for their courage and resilience. For years, vested interest groups who believed in emotional blackmail never cared for people's empowerment. J&K is now free from their shackles. A new dawn, better tomorrow awaits!"

Rejecting the Opposition charge that the bifurcation Bill was a violation of the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Shah told Lok Sabha: "Kashmir is an integral part of India, let there be no doubt about it. When I talk of Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Aksai Chin are included in it. Don't you consider PoK a part of Jammu and Kashmir?... I will give my life for it... We are ready to give our lives... As far as Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, the Parliament of this country has the full right to bring any law or programme for it. No one can

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Lok Sabha voted Tuesday to clear the J&K Reorganisation Bill and a resolution taking away the special status. LSTV

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By UNNY



For or against? Young leaders back Govt so CWC nuances stand

MANOJ CG
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

HOURS AFTER the BJP's government decision to render Article 370 ineffective and bifurcate Jammu and Kashmir was ratified by Parliament, the Congress Working Committee Tuesday nuanced the party's position in the wake of several leaders, most of them young, publicly backing the Government move.

The CWC issued a statement after a three-hour meeting that did not question the move but focused on the manner in which the change was brought.

Sources said leaders like Jyotiraditya Scindia, Jitin Prasada, Deepender Hooda and R P N Singh told the CWC meeting that public sentiment was in favour of abrogation of Article 370 and the party will have to factor in the mood of the nation. Scindia Tuesday and Hooda Monday



Slam means rather than end

CLEARLY, THE Congress has sensed that there isn't much public opposition outside J&K to the abrogation. On the back-foot on the nationalism issue during the election campaign, a wary leadership has therefore chosen to attack the means rather than the end.

tweeted their support to the move before the CWC meeting. Interestingly, most of the public comments in support of the

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China voices Ladakh concern, India says internal affair; Pak fears more attacks

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AS CHINA expressed "serious concern" at India's decision to revoke the special status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 and bifurcate the state into two Union Territories, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan voiced apprehension that Pulwama-like attacks could follow the Centre's move, which could even trigger a conventional war between Pakistan and India.

Responding to China's statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said that "India does not comment on the internal affairs of other countries and similarly expects other countries to do likewise". This comes ahead of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's visit to China on August 11.

China, with which India shares a contested border, said that "the parties concerned should exercise restraint and act with caution, especially to avoid actions that unilaterally change the status quo and exacerbate the tension".

On the day Lok Sabha passed The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019,

NO VISA YET FOR MANSAROVAR

CHINA IS yet to grant visas to a group of Indian pilgrims planning to undertake the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. While government sources said that the Chinese embassy has informed them that the visas are "under process", embassy sources clarified that any news of visas rejected was "rumour". Sources said 85 pilgrims are slated to travel Wednesday.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying, conveying China's opposition to India's move to create a separate Union Territory of Ladakh, said in Beijing that the issue is a legacy of history between India and Pakistan.

In a written response to queries on the exchange of fire along the Line of Control (LoC) and India's move to revoke Article 370, Hua said China's position on Kashmir was "clear and consistent". "We call on the two

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At Lal Chowk in Srinagar Tuesday. DeepTaman Tiwary

In silent Srinagar, the echo: Delhi wants Kashmir, not Kashmiris?

DEEPTAMAN TIWARY
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 6

DEPENDING ON which way New Delhi moved, there were generally two expressions on Kashmiri faces: anger or hope. But as the news of New Delhi's move to bury Article 370 and bifurcate Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories sunk in Tuesday, those faces bore an expression of defeat.

"What is the point of seeking our opinion anymore? Everything is finished," said Saeed Khan, 45, an electronics engineer living near Lal Chowk in Srinagar.

The Kashmir capital was a ghost town and Khan's sentiment is the refrain on the lips of many: a fruit seller at Batmaloo, a father who walked his son home through a deserted alley

near Eidgah and a policeman who stood guard near a concertina barricade at Rambagh.

Virtually on lockdown since Sunday, with communication lines and Internet suspended, prohibitory orders imposed across the Valley and a surge in troop deployment, Srinagar bore the look of a city under siege.

Markets and shops shut, schools and colleges suspended, roads barricaded and guarded by gun-toting security men and vehicle movement restricted only to emergency hospital services.

"After the 2016 upheaval, things had improved massively in the past year. Separatists were in jail. There were no strikes, hardly any stone pelting, schools were running, shops were open and tourist inflow had increased. Everyone was happy. Then, in one stroke they have antagonised

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Valley has seen many a lockdown but why this time it is so different

MUZAMIL JALEEL, BASHAARAT MASOOD & ADIL AKHZER
SRINAGAR, AUGUST 6

A QUESTION mark the size of the Kashmir Valley hangs over its residents who are under an unprecedented lockdown as security personnel patrol deserted streets, two former Chief Ministers are in detention, one is under house arrest and several activists of major mainstream parties are being rounded up.

So staggering is the sweep of the change scripted in New Delhi and passed by Parliament today, the amendments to Article 370, scrapping the special Constitutional position of



The J&K flag flies with the Tricolour at the Secretariat in Srinagar Tuesday. Under new law, it will go. Shuaib Masoodi

Jammu and Kashmir and its reduction to a Union Territory after bifurcation of the state that residents are stunned trying to wrap their heads around what these will translate into.

"It's a huge shock, the feeling is still sinking in," said a National Conference leader on the condition that he not be named. "There will be a reaction to this

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Feels like body being carved...hope you stand with us: Farooq, in tears

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

IN FIRST remarks on the government's decision to take away J&K's special status and bifurcate the state into the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh, National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah Tuesday said the government's move to split the state feels as if "your body is being carved".

Breaking down while speaking to NDTV at his home in Srinagar, Abdullah said "maine kabhi yeh Hindustan nahin dekha" ("I have never seen this



Says he has been under detention at his home. ANI

India) and urged the country to stand by Kashmir. "We have been with you through thick and thin. I hope you stand with us through thick and thin, and pray

for the return of democracy and secularism in the country."

He said he has been under detention at his home and "I feel sad that the Home Minister of India can lie like this". He was referring to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remark in Lok Sabha that Abdullah was neither under detention nor arrest and was at his home of his own will.

On the bifurcation of the state, Abdullah asked if the government will "divide our hearts too". "How do you think... one would feel when your body is being carved? The body that stood together in all odds, fought

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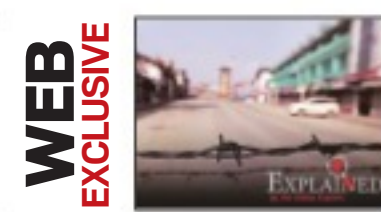
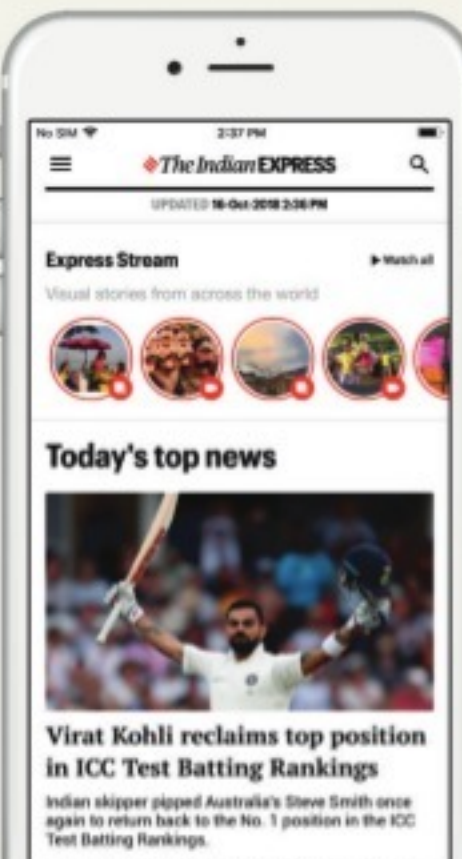
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VIDEO OF THE DAY

NO SPECIAL STATUS
What Changes In J&K?

EXPLAINED: UNSC RESOLUTION 47 ON KASHMIR

Pak Prime Minister Imran Khan referred to Resolution 47 of the UNSC that focuses on the complaint of the Government of India concerning the dispute over J&K, that India took to the Security Council in January 1948. What is the UN Security Council resolution 47 on Kashmir? The Indian Express explains

VIDEO OF THE DAY

WHAT CHANGES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR?

From property-related laws, criminal laws to RTI and education

FULL COVERAGE



FAROOQ ABDULLAH ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR

'It's like your body is being carved, will they divide our hearts too?'

EXPRESS AUDIO

Was the move to scrap J&K's special status unconstitutional?

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Dissecting the circumstances under which Article 370 was introduced in the Indian Constitution, whether the move to scrap special provisions is unconstitutional and what the fallout may be

Army warns Pak of strong action against ceasefire violations

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, AUGUST 6

THE INDIAN Army on Tuesday warned its Pakistani counterparts of a response that will be unaffordable for them in the wake of continued incidents of ceasefire violations and increased infiltration attempts from across the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.

"During the past few days, Pakistan had intensified its efforts at increasing the strength of terrorists in launch pads along the Line of Control, initiating ceasefire violations, pushing infiltrators across the LoC, calibrating terrorist actions in the hinterland and also exploiting social media to launch disinformation campaign in Jammu and Kashmir," said Northern Army Commander Lt General Ranbir Singh while chairing a meeting of the core group of intelligence and security agencies at Srinagar. The meeting was convened to review the operational readiness to meet any contingency that could adversely impact the security situation in the state.

According to Lt Colonel Abhinav Navneet, a defence ministry spokesperson at Udhampur Northern Command headquarters, it was highlighted at the meeting that the counter terrorism and law and order grids have been strengthened.

Meanwhile, a soldier was injured in Machail sector of Kashmir when the Army foiled an infiltration bid from across the LoC in the early hours of Tuesday. According to official sources, a group of five to six infiltrators sneaked 500 metres on the Indian side around 2.30 am. They were forced to retreat during exchange of fire with Army troops. The injured jawan has been taken to hospital.

MUZAFFARNAGAR

Now anyone can get married to a fair Kashmiri girl: BJP MLA

ASAD REHMAN
LUCKNOW, AUGUST 6

BJP MLA from Khatauli in Muzaaffarnagar Vikram Singh Saini sparked a row Tuesday after he said the party workers were "excited" because they will now be able to get married to "fair girls from Kashmir".

In a purported video that went viral, the MLA is seen speaking at an event to celebrate the scrapping of special status of J&K, in Khatauli area of Muzaaffarnagar. The MLA said, "The workers are very excited and those who are bachelors, they can get married there. There is no issue now. Earlier, there was lot of atrocities on women. If a woman from there [Kashmir] got married to a man from Uttar Pradesh, her citizenship should be revoked. There was different citizenship for India and Kashmir. And the Muslim workers should celebrate here. Get married there. To a fair Kashmiri girl. There should be celebrations. Everyone should celebrate... Be it Hindu or Muslims. This is something the entire country should be celebrating."

Asked about his remarks, the MLA said he had said nothing wrong. "Now anyone can get married to a Kashmiri girl without any issue. That is all I said and it is the truth. This is freedom for the people of Kashmir. That is why we organised the event. Now, Kashmiris have attained freedom," he told *The Indian Express*.

FROM PAGE ONE

In silent Srinagar

every Kashmiri who was with them. I don't know when and how we will come out of the aftermath of this decision," said Khan.

His neighbour and friend, who requested anonymity, blamed it on hubris. "They are so drunk on power that they are unable to see us as people. They won't have to bear the consequences of this, we will have to," he said.

A few kilometres away at Langate, Imtiaz Unwani, a first-year BA student, is worried and angry. "Kashmir is a volcano with a lid of politics. They have put Omar (Abdullah) and (Mehbooba) Mufti behind bars. They are planning to arrest our MLA Engineer Rashid, a man who always told us to stay away from stone-pelting. And now this. They have opened the lid."

It is a worry shared by the J&K Police too. "I am a government servant. I will follow orders. But what will I explain to my son? How will I convince him that the Indian state is thinking about him and that he must not join stone pelters. The youngsters are already saying that when a death wish has been imposed on us, what's the point of going to school," said a J&K Police constable.

In the past couple of days though there have been no major incidents of violence in Kashmir barring sporadic stone pelting episodes.

The collective anxiety was also reflected in the Tuesday flight to Srinagar from Delhi. It went almost empty with barely 30 passengers, but flew back to Delhi packed.

In the journey to Srinagar, the flight largely had worried Kashmiris rushing back home: a Jamia Millia Islamia university student, a retired government employee coming back from Malaysia to see his daughter and a businessman flying his family out of Kashmir - none of them willing to be identified.

"My older son is in the US and the younger one is in Malaysia. I was in Malaysia for two months and landed in Delhi yesterday when I got the shock. My older son was saying come to the US, but my daughter is in Srinagar, and I have not been able to speak to her for the past two days. So I am rushing. We don't know how we will reach home as we can't speak to anyone in Kashmir. We will reach Srinagar and figure it out," said the retired government servant.

The student from Jamia Millia Islamia, pursuing his M.Tech degree, was carrying a TV screenshot of the news announcing the scrapping of Article 370. "I live in Pulwama. I don't know if my parents even know what they have been hit with. The cable lines have also been cut. I am also worried about them. If I don't get a vehicle in Srinagar, I will walk to Pulwama," he said.

He was also worried about his future. "I had thought of completing my education and then joining a college in Kashmir as a professor. But with Article 370 gone, that opportunity is also lost. Already there are no jobs in Kashmir. They think this way they can win our hearts. It shows they just want Kashmir and not Kashmiris," he said.

The entrepreneur from Eidgah in Srinagar manufactures diapers and has been in Kolkata and Delhi for the past 12 days. He said he was going to get his family out of Srinagar, but said: "In one stroke, they have finished everything. Kashmir is gone from India's hands. They have opened the gates for Pakistan to enter. All that was earned in the past few years has been lost. They have completely discredited Omar and Mehbooba, who were actually their people. They have burned the bridge they had with

Kashmiris."

Lockdown

unilateral decision...this is the biggest act of disempowerment since the 1846 Treaty of Amritsar (between the British and Raja Gulab Singh) when Kashmiris were sold, along with their land, water and sky over their heads."

For a place where the weight of history is always heavy, rarely has the future seemed so uncertain.

The Valley's connection with the inside and the outside world has been cut - all internet connectivity, cellular, landline, and cable TV services have been snapped. Residents are not allowed outside their neighbourhoods. The administration hasn't issued curfew passes to even its own employees and security personnel don't accept government IDs as passes.

The press isn't welcome. Most of the TV crew that have flown in are parked in a 1-sq-km area of Zero Bridge in the city. There is some easing of security here, on the road to the airport and the Rajbagh-Jawaharnagar stretch - this is the one that visiting TV cameras film. Elsewhere, roads are barricaded with spools of concertina wire and regular checkpoints with police and armed paramilitary personnel on patrol. Most police personnel are equipped with lathis, not guns.

Across the river, at Jehangir Chowk, a journalist was roughed up by a police officer trying to film the curfew.

For the past two days, *The Indian Express* reporters have been holed up in their office from where they walk around to meet residents and then return. In the office building itself, dozens of policemen have moved in, the corridors their temporary shelter. For, space is short - most government buildings, schools, colleges, courts have been occupied by paramilitary forces flown from outside the state. On Tuesday, half a dozen busloads of Border Security Force personnel came from Rajasthan and they moved into an empty parking lot in the city centre.

The Indian Express spoke to several residents including government employees and policemen. Signalling deep distrust and anger, an overwhelming majority of them fear that the reorganisation of the state is aimed at "changing the demography of Jammu and Kashmir with an aim to reduce the share of Muslims in the population."

"We know what they are up to," said a 30-year-old man from Abi Guzar in Srinagar who didn't want to be identified. "This will first come in the name of investment."

While the chorus among separatists is "we-told-you-so," the entire pro-India political ecosystem is rattled.

"This government has undermined those Muslim voices here who not only disagreed with their own people and even shed their own blood because they believed in a secular India and wanted the state to be part of that secular India," a leader of the Peoples Democratic Party said. "There is nothing left for these (mainstream) parties now. From National Conference to new-comer Shah Faesal, they are all in the same boat". Many in the Valley say they are expecting mainstream politicians to stand up to this "challenge" and forge a unity for a "joint resistance."

Said a National Conference activist, whose father was killed by militants: "My father died for the idea of India and I joined mainstream politics for this idea. He took militant bullets because he thought Kashmir is safer with secular India. After this, I question his and my wisdom. If we (mainstream) don't stand up against this, I will have to decide about my political future." A senior PDP leader told *The*

No talks with Hurriyat, only with people of J&K

stop it from doing so."

Trying to allay apprehension among members, Shah ruled out talks with the Hurriyat Conference. "We don't want to talk to Hurriyat, but we ready to speak to the people of Kashmir." He said the Narendra Modi government will walk the extra mile for the people "who have suffered and lost lives for three decades in Kashmir".

He said over 41,500 people were killed in Jammu and Kashmir due to militancy since 1989 and blamed Articles 370 and 35A for the problem. Critical of what he called denial of democratic rights to refugees from Pakistan who had taken shelter in Jammu and Kashmir, he said two men - Inder Kumar Gujral and Manmohan Singh - who had

come to Punjab rose to become Prime Ministers of the country, while those who opted for Jammu and Kashmir could not become even members of municipal committees because of Article 370.

He said 20 lakh refugees in J&K will now get justice, and delimitation (of assembly constituencies) will soon be underway.

Shah said Article 370 was creating doubts over J&K's relations with India. "This is not a historical blunder but we are rectifying the historical blunder," he said, dismissing the Opposition charge that the government was committing a mistake. He rejected the suggestion that abrogation of Article 370 was a "communal agenda" and said the provision in the

Constitution was discriminatory and against minorities, women and welfare of the people.

There will be a special package, he said, for people of the region if required. As some Opposition leaders criticised the BJP for "reducing a mighty state into two municipalities with joint secretaries in charge", Shah said the government had no intention to let J&K and Ladakh remain as UTs. "When situation normalises, at an appropriate time, J&K will regain the state status," he said, adding that it would not "take 70 years".

He also said the government will not touch Article 371 that gives special status to many states, mostly those in the northeast region. On the issue of plebiscite in J&K, he said the issue ended the moment Pakistan

For or against? Many young leaders back Govt

Government move have come from the young brigade.

"Leaders spoke freely and frankly. We are a democratic party. We discussed every aspect. Not one but many interpretations and finally the distilled wisdom is reflected in the statement," a CWC member told *The Indian Express*. Many of the young leaders said they can understand the problems in Kashmir but argued the mood in the country is different. They said the party will have to factor in that sentiment and craft a response keeping that in mind.

Accordingly, the CWC statement said Article 370 "deserved to be honoured until it was amended, after consultation with all sections of the people, and strictly in accordance with the Constitution of India."

The CWC, the statement, said "deplores the unilateral, brazen and totally undemocratic manner in which Article 370...was abrogated and the State of Jammu and Kashmir was dismembered by misinterpreting the provisions of the Constitution. Every principle of Constitutional Law, States' rights, Parliamentary procedure and democratic governance was violated."

The statement said: "Article 370 was conceived and crafted by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and B R Ambedkar, assisted by N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar and V P Menon. Article 370 is the Constitutional recognition of the terms of the Instrument of Accession between the State of Jammu & Kashmir and India. It deserved to be honoured until it was amended, after consultation with all sections of the people, and strictly in accordance with the Constitution of India."

"What the BJP government accomplished yesterday in the Rajya Sabha and today in the Lok Sabha has grave implications going well beyond J&K and calls into question the very idea of Indian Express that leaders of four political parties had an informal meeting. Calling the move to reorganise the state a "Constitutional fraud," he said: "There is no sanctity of the Instrument of Accession. Our participation in elections will be signing our own death sentence. There is a growing feeling that the only way forward at this moment is to start a joint resistance."

India being a Union of States. Jammu & Kashmir acceded to India as one State and no government has the power to change its status or divide it or reduce any part of it to a Union Territory," it said.

Reflecting the muddle within party ranks, several Congress leaders since yesterday and through the day spoke out welcoming the Centre's decision to revoke special status to Jammu and Kashmir. "I support the move on Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh and its full integration into union of India. Would have been better if constitutional process had been followed. No questions could have been raised then. Nevertheless, this is in our country's interest and I support this," Scindia tweeted.

"The J&K gamble by the Central government has received popular national support and seems to be consistent with the national mood although history and future alone can attest to its wisdom," former Law Minister Ashwani Kumar told *The Indian Express*, signaling the deep division in the party.

"No doubt the people at large are perceiving revocation of Article 370 as a bold decision by the NDA govt not realising perhaps that the consequences could be fraught with danger. The future of J&K seems more uncertain today than ever before. Hope I'm wrong with 370 having gone. Hope the decision of the BJP govt to revoke Article 370 is meant for the well-being of the Kashmiri people & for everlasting peace in the Valley and not in view of the forthcoming Assembly elections in some states. Congress must sense the mood of the people...then take a stand. The people are totally with the govt on this issue. We opposed Mandal and lost UP and Bihar and should not risk now of losing India," Anil Shastri said. Shastri is the son of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur

Shastri.

Kuldeep Bishnoi, a special invitee to the Congress Working Committee, welcomed the "removal" of Article 370 calling it a "good decision."

"Nation First! Opposing for the heck of opposing is no virtue. Join in, congratulate the Government for taking a bold step towards integrating India," said Jyoti Mirdha.

Several others in the Congress in private admitted that the "public mood in the country" was in favour of abrogation of Article 370 and the party was caught off-guard. Rajya Sabha MP Pradeep Bhattacharya, for instance, said: "If it is only about Article 370, it is something different. It is not just Article 370...They have reduced the state into a Union Territory. Why we will accept that?"

"The resignation of Bhuvaneshwar Kalita (who was the Congress's chief whip in Rajya Sabha) should be seen as symptomatic as deeper divisions within the party regarding our response to the Government's decision," Ashwani Kumar said.

"The spectre of a party starting at leadership vacuum, unsure of itself and the support of its allies on key issues in these challenging times is indeed saddening. A 135-year-old party with a glorious history in the service of the nation is unable to find a leader or a set of leaders to give it direction," he added. Kalita's resignation yesterday came as a shock to the party as he had - minutes before resigning - signed a notice demanding a discussion in Rajya Sabha on the Kashmir situation. As the House met, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu announced Kalita has submitted his resignation.

The division within was underlined when Leader of the Opposition Ghulam Nabi Azad hit out at those in the party back-

territory in the western sector of the China-India boundary into its administrative jurisdiction. This firm and consistent position remains unchanged. Recently, India has continued to undermine China's territorial sovereignty by unilaterally changing its domestic law. Such practice is unacceptable..." she said.

Responding sharply, MEA official spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said: "The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019, introduced by the government in Parliament on August 5, which proposes the formation of a new Union Territory of Ladakh is an internal matter concerning the territory of India... India does not comment on the internal affairs of other countries and similarly expects other countries to do likewise."

"So far as the India-China boundary question is concerned, the two sides have agreed to a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question on the basis of the political parameters and guiding principles for the settlement of India-China boundary question. Pending such a settlement, both sides have agreed to maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas on the basis of the relevant agreements."

Meanwhile, addressing a joint sitting of Parliament in Islamabad to discuss Kashmir, Prime Minister Khan said the Centre's move could trigger a conventional war between India and Pakistan. "This will be a war that no one will win and the implications will be global," he said. Islamabad was also considering approaching the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). "We will fight it at every forum. We're thinking about how we can take it to International Court (of Justice)... to the United Nations Security Council," Khan said.

And Pakistan Army chief General Qamar Javed Bajwa said his troops were prepared to "go to any extent" to help Kashmiris. However, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) "took note" of India's decision and said it was mainly aimed at "reducing regional disparity and improving efficiency".

Turkey too expressed "concern" at the move, and said it was ready to "contribute to easing the tension in the region if the parties give consent" while the US said it was "closely following the events" in J&K and the UK supported calls for the situation to remain calm.

Farooq, in tears

every evil unitedly. Today, how do you think people feel, who have stood by this nation, as to how we have been betrayed..."

"Are they going to divide people's hearts also? I would think they are going to remove Hindus one side, Muslims one side, Buddhists one side. Is that what they want? Is this what India is? I thought my India was for all, everyone who believes in a secular nation, who believes in unity." "...for 70 years we fought the battle with the nation and today we are supposed to be the culprits. It was the guarantee given by the solid Government of India. Article 370, 35A guaranteeing the special status of the state was granted by Government of India."

Asked if he will approach the court, Abdullah said: "I think we will all, Inshallah sit together again and take it to the logical end that. We are not going to give in. I may die, because of my health, but I want to leave a message for the people of my state and the people of India. We have been with you through thick and thin. I hope you will be with us through thick and thin." Asked if he had met his son Omar Abdullah, he said: "I met him before he was taken to jail last night."

FULL REPORTS ON
www.indianexpress.com



**A True Son of the Soil,
who laid the Foundation
of Great Economic
and Social institutions
of New India.**



Shri O.P. Jindal

7th August 1930 - 31st March 2005

Founder and Visionary, O. P. Jindal Group



O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU)
is a non-profit university set-up by
Jindal Steel & Power Limited
as a tribute to its founder,
Shri O.P. Jindal.

#TributeToOPJ



Celebrating Ten Years of
Excellence in Institution Building

Remembering Shri O.P. Jindal on his 89th Birth Anniversary



O.P. Jindal Global University
A Private University Promoting Public Service

O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

IS RECOMMENDED FOR RECOGNITION AS AN

INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE

BY THE **UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION**

An initiative by



MAKING IN INDIA... MAKING A DIFFERENCE...





दिल्ली ने कर दिखाया

Every child deserves Early Childhood Care & Nutritious Food

Launch of
‘Early Childhood Care Curriculum’ for Children
&
Distribution of Smart Phones
to Anganwadi Workers and Supervisors

Wednesday, 7 August 2019 at 10:30 AM | Venue: Main Arena, Gymnastic Stadium, Indira Gandhi Sports Complex

Chief Guest
Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

Guest of Honour
Manish Sisodia
Dy. Chief Minister, Delhi

Early Childhood Care Curriculum for nurturing childhoods

- Social and Emotional Development
- Physical Development and Wellness
- Cognitive Development
- Creativity Development

Using Smart Phones Anganwadi workers and supervisors will be able to monitor real time

- Real time Monitoring of nutrition and health of beneficiaries
- Effective and timely delivery of services
- Enable Anganwadi workers to send daily photographs of the children receiving supplementary nutrition at Anganwadis

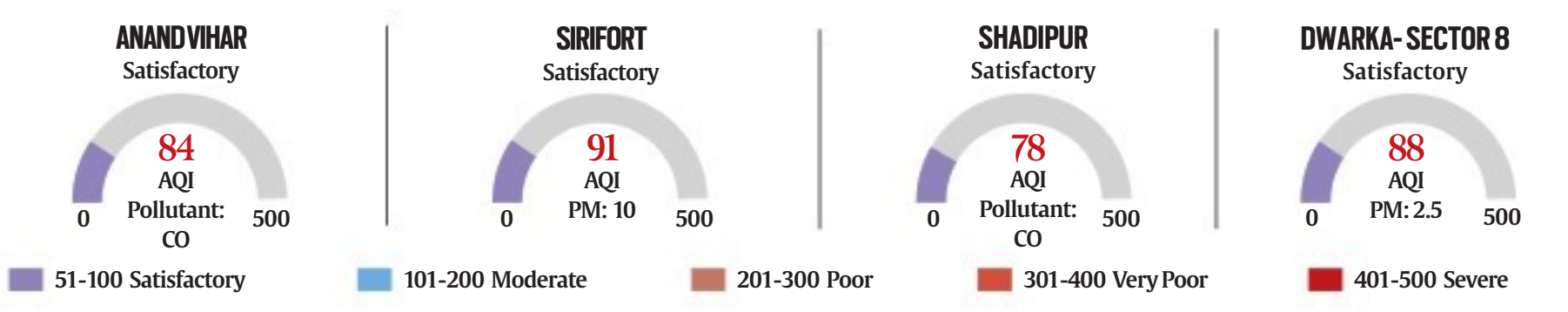
Delhi Government’s reforms in Anganwadis

	Delhi	Himachal Pradesh	Rajasthan	Punjab	Uttar Pradesh
Anganwadi Workers’ wages	10,178	6,250	7,000	7,500	6,000
Anganwadi Helpers’ wages	5,089	3,150	4,000	4,000	2,500



Dip/Shabdarth/D/0076/19-20

5 THE CITY



DELHI'S SOUTHERN RIDGE

Encroachment removal drive zeroes in on farmhouses

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6



CLOSE TO 22 acres of land in the Southern Ridge, belonging to the Delhi forest department, was cleared of encroachment — mostly farmhouses — over the past week in Jonapur. In the coming week, 30 more acres are expected to be unlocked in the Dera Mandi village area, officials said.

THE RIDGE

SDM (Mehrauli) Mitali Goel said the focus of the drive is on large farmhouses, so that larger areas of forest land are retrieved.

19,235 ACRES: AREA IN TOTAL

The Southern Ridge, spread over an area of 6,200 hectares, is ecologically sensitive and is the largest tract of land falling under the Delhi Ridge. The area has villages near the forest area, and is considered the least urbanised.

15,320 ACRES: AREA OF SOUTHERN RIDGE

Over the years, however, several encroachments— from farmhouses to JJ colonies— came up.

22 ACRES: Area freed from encroachment at Jonapur between July 20-31

During last week's anti-encroachment exercise, the Delhi government's revenue and forest department officials, aided by 100 Delhi Police officers and officials from the office of SDM (Mehrauli) demolished more than 10 farmhouses along with boundary walls and tin sheds, using eight excavation machines.

30 ACRES: Area expected to be freed in the coming week

"The vacated land was handed over to the forest department and pillars were installed..." a statement from the SDM's office said.

presence of several farmhouses. The order to clear Jonapur and Dera Mandi was passed by the NGT in 2015, with time given till 2016 to complete the drive. But action was taken only in the past two months.

While the NGT has ordered the removal of all encroachments from the Southern Ridge and demarcation of land, the issue has been a contentious one due to the

"In Jonapur, we cleared more than 10 farmhouses. At Dera Mandi, the process is on and action will be taken against five JJ colonies there. So far, notices have been issued to 6,000 households. In all, 13 villages in Southern Ridge have to be cleared..." said B M Mishra, South Delhi DM.

Woman inmate alleges rape by head constable on train, FIR filed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

DELHI POLICE has registered an FIR of rape against a head constable after a woman, lodged in Tihar jail, alleged he raped her in a moving train. She alleged the incident took place on August 3, when she was returning to Delhi from West Bengal after attending a court hearing. DCP (Railways) Dinesh Kumar Gupta said, "Based on her complaint, we've registered an FIR and further investigations are on."

sonnel — two women, two constables and the head constable, who was their in-charge — were present with her. The incident took place as they were returning to Delhi. Around 1.30 am, she claimed she asked them to take her to the washroom, but the women personnel were asleep. She said the head constable offered to take her, "a senior officer said."

The woman alleged she was in the washroom when the alleged head constable barged inside and raped her. "She said he threatened her not to inform anyone. She returned to Tihar Jail and informed the jail superintendent, who approached Hari Nagar police station. A zero FIR was lodged and a medical examination conducted," an officer said.

This is a public announcement for information purposes only and is not a prospectus announcement. This does not constitute an invitation or offer to acquire, purchase or subscribe for securities. Not for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly outside India.

STERLING & WILSON SOLAR PRIVATE LIMITED

Our Company was originally incorporated at Mumbai on March 9, 2017 as Rashmika Energy Private Limited, as a private limited company under the Companies Act, 2013, pursuant to a certificate of incorporation dated March 10, 2017 issued by the Registrar of Companies, Maharashtra at Mumbai ("RoC"). Subsequently, the Solar EPC Division of Sterling and Wilson Private Limited was demerged into our Company pursuant to the order dated March 28, 2018 of the National Company Law Tribunal, Mumbai Bench with the appointed date for the transfer of such Solar EPC Division being April 1, 2017. Thereafter, to reflect the association of our Company with the Sterling and Wilson group, the name of our Company was changed to Sterling and Wilson Solar Private Limited pursuant to the resolution passed by our Shareholders at their extra-ordinary general meeting held on March 29, 2018 and the certificate of incorporation pursuant to change of name was issued by the RoC on April 24, 2018. Subsequently, our Company was converted into a public limited company pursuant to the approval of our Shareholders at an extra-ordinary general meeting held on January 11, 2019. Consequently, the name of our Company was changed to Sterling and Wilson Solar Limited and a fresh certificate of incorporation consequent upon conversion from private company to a public company was issued by the RoC on January 25, 2019. For further details relating to changes in the registered office and name of our Company, see "History and Certain Corporate Matters" beginning on page 138 of the Red Herring Prospectus dated July 29, 2019 read with the corrigendum dated August 5, 2019 ("RHP" or "Red Herring Prospectus").

OUR PROMOTERS: SHAPOORJI PALLONJI AND COMPANY PRIVATE LIMITED AND KHURSHED YAZDI DARUVALA

INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF UP TO [x] EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹ 1 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF STERLING AND WILSON SOLAR LIMITED ("OUR COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹ [x] PER EQUITY SHARE ("OFFER PRICE") AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 31,250.00 MILLION, COMPRISING OF AN OFFER FOR SALE OF UP TO [x] EQUITY SHARES BY SHAPOORJI PALLONJI AND COMPANY PRIVATE LIMITED AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 20,833.33 MILLION AND UP TO [x] EQUITY SHARES BY KHURSHED YAZDI DARUVALA AGGREGATING UP TO ₹ 10,416.67 MILLION (TOGETHER, THE "PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDERS") AND SUCH EQUITY SHARES OFFERED BY THE PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDERS (THE "OFFERED SHARES") (THE "OFFER"). THE OFFER SHALL CONSTITUTE [x]% OF THE POST-OFFER PAID-UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY.

QIB Category: At least 75% of the Offer **Retail Category: Not more than 10% of the Offer** **Non Institutional Investor Category: Not more than 15% of the Offer**

Price Band: ₹ 775 to ₹ 780 per Equity Share of face value of ₹ 1 each.
The Floor Price is 775 times the face value of the Equity Shares and the Cap Price is 780 times the face value of the Equity Shares.
Bids can be made for a minimum of 19 Equity Shares and in multiples of 19 Equity Shares thereafter.

ASBA* Simple, Safe, Smart way of Application!!!
 *Applications Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA) is a better way of applying to issues by simply blocking the fund in the bank account. For details, check section on ASBA below.
Mandatory in public issues. No cheque will be accepted.

UPI UPI-Now mandatory in ASBA for Retail Investors applying through Registered Brokers, DPs & RTAs. Retail Investors also have the options to submit the application directly to the ASBA Bank (SCSBs) or to use the facility of linked online trading, demat and bank account.

ASBA has to be availed by all the investors except anchor investors. UPI may be availed by Retail Individual Investors. For details on the ASBA and UPI process, please refer to the details given in ASBA Form and abridged prospectus and also please refer to the section "Offer Procedure" beginning on page 459 of the Red Herring Prospectus. The process is also available on the website of AIB and Stock Exchanges in the General Information Document. ASBA Forms can be downloaded from the websites of BSE and NSE and can be obtained from the list of banks that is displayed on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in. List of banks supporting UPI is also available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in. ICICI Bank Limited has been appointed as Sponsor Bank for the Offer, in accordance with the requirements of the SEBI Circular dated November 1, 2018. For UPI related queries, investors can contact NPCI at the toll free number-18001201740 and Mail-ID-ipo.upi@npci.org.in. For the list of UPI Apps and Banks live on IPO, please refer to the link https://www.npci.org.in/upi-live-ipo.

Risks to Investors:

- The six Global Coordinators and Book Running Lead Managers and two Book Running Lead Managers associated with the Offer have handled 48 public issues in the past three years out of which 18 closed below the issue price on listing date.
- The Price/ Earnings ratio based on diluted EPS for Fiscal 2019 for the Issuer at the upper end of the Price Band is as high as 19.57.
- The average cost of acquisition per Equity Share for our Promoter Selling Shareholders is Nil per Equity Share.* The Offer Price at the upper end of the Price Band is ₹780.

*For details of build-up of Promoters' shareholding in our Company, please see "Capital Structure - Build-up of the Promoters' shareholding in our Company" on page 80 of the RHP

BID/OFFER OPEN

BID/OFFER CLOSES ON AUGUST 8, 2019

Investor should read the Red Herring Prospectus carefully, including the Risk Factors section on page 28 of the Red Herring Prospectus before making an investment decision.

LIABILITY OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR COMPANY: Limited by shares.
AMOUNT OF SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE: As on the date of the RHP, the authorised share capital of our Company is ₹ 500,000,000 divided into 500,000,000 Equity Shares of ₹ 1 and preference shares is ₹ 100,000,000 divided into 1,000,000 preference shares of ₹ 100 each, respectively. The issued, subscribed and paid-up share capital of our Company is ₹ 160,360,000 divided into 160,360,000 Equity Shares of ₹ 1 each. For details of the capital structure, see "Capital Structure" on page 75 of the RHP.
NAMES OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION OF OUR COMPANY AND THE NUMBER OF EQUITY SHARES SUBSCRIBED BY THEM: The signatories to the Memorandum of Association are Ravi Ananthkrishnan, Anirudha Choudhuri and Kalpathy Hantharan Parameswaran, who subscribed to 10 equity shares each respectively of our Company at ₹ 10 each as initial subscription. For details of the share capital and capital structure of the Company see "Capital Structure" on page 75 of the RHP.
LISTING: The Equity Shares offered through the Red Herring Prospectus are proposed to be listed on the Stock Exchanges. Our Company has received "in-principle" approvals from the BSE and the NSE for the listing of the Equity Shares pursuant to letters dated May 14, 2019 and May 23, 2019, respectively. For the purposes of the Offer, the Designated Stock Exchange shall be BSE Limited. A copy of the Red Herring Prospectus and the Prospectus shall be delivered for registration to the RoC in accordance with Section 26(4) of the Companies Act, 2013. For details of the material contracts and documents available for inspection from the date of the Red Herring Prospectus until the Bid/Offer Closing Date, see "Material Contracts and Documents for Inspection" beginning on page 509 of the RHP.
DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA ("SEBI"): SEBI only gives its observations on the offer documents and this does not constitute approval of either the Offer or the specified securities or the offer document. The investors are advised to refer to page 433 of the RHP for the full text of the Disclaimer Clause of SEBI.
DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF BSE (The Designated Stock Exchange): It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by BSE Limited should not in any way be deemed or construed that the Red Herring Prospectus has been cleared or approved by BSE Limited nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Red Herring Prospectus. The investor is advised to refer to the page 437 of the Red Herring Prospectus for the full text of the Disclaimer clause of the BSE Limited.
DISCLAIMER CLAUSE OF NSE: It is to be distinctly understood that the permission given by NSE should not in any way be deemed or construed that the Offer Document has been cleared or approved by NSE nor does it certify the correctness or completeness of any of the contents of the Offer Document. The investors are advised to refer to page 438 of the RHP for the full text of the "Disclaimer Clause of NSE".
GENERAL RISKS: Investments in equity and equity-related securities involve a degree of risk and investors should not invest any funds in the Offer unless they can afford to take the risk of losing their investment. Investors are advised to read the risk factors carefully before taking an investment decision in the Offer. For taking an investment decision, investors must rely on their own examination of our Company and the Offer, including the risks involved. The Equity Shares in the Offer have not been recommended or approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI"), nor does SEBI guarantee the accuracy or adequacy of the contents of the Red Herring Prospectus. Specific attention of the investors is invited to "Risk Factors" beginning on page 28 of the RHP.

GLOBAL CO-ORDINATORS AND BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS			
 ICICI Securities Limited ICICI Centre, H.T. Parekh Marg, Churchgate, Mumbai 400 020 Telephone no.: +91 22 2288 2460 E-mail: swsl ipo@icicisecurities.com Investor grievance e-mail: customercare@icicisecurities.com Website: www.icicisecurities.com Contact Person: Payal Kulkarni /Rishi Tiwari SEBI Registration No.: INM000011179	 Axis Capital Limited Axis House, Level 1 C-2 Wadia International Centre Pandurang Budhkar Marg, Worli Mumbai 400 025 Telephone no.: +91 22 4325 2183 E-mail: swsl ipo@axiscap.in Investor grievance e-mail: complaints@axiscap.in Website: www.axiscapital.co.in Contact Person: Mangesh Ghogole/Bhumika Gangar SEBI Registration No.: INM000012029	 Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited 9 th Floor, Ceejay House Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli Mumbai 400 018 Telephone no.: +91 22 6777 3885 E-mail: list.sterlingwilson@credit-suisse.com Investor grievance e-mail: list.icg@credit-suisse.com Website: www.credit-suisse.com Contact Person: Nipun Jain SEBI Registration No.: INM000011616	 Deutsche Equities India Private Limited The Capital, 14th floor C-70, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex Mumbai 400 051 Telephone no.: +91 22 7180 4444 E-mail: swsl.ipo@db.com Investor grievance e-mail: complaints.db@db.com Website: www.db.com/India Contact Person: Vireen Jain SEBI Registration No.: INM000010833
 IIFL Securities Limited 10 th Floor, IIFL Centre, Kamala City, Senapati Bapat Marg Lower Parel (West), Mumbai 400 013 Telephone no.: +91 22 4646 4600 E-mail: sterlingwilson.ipo@iiflcap.com Investor grievance e-mail: ig_ib@iiflcap.com Website: www.iiflcap.com Contact Person: Devendra Maydeo/ Aditya Agarwal SEBI Registration No.: INM000010940			

GLOBAL CO-ORDINATORS AND BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS	BOOK RUNNING LEAD MANAGERS	REGISTRAR TO THE OFFER	COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
 SBI Capital Markets Limited 202, Maker Tower 'E', Cuffe Parade Mumbai 400 005 Telephone no.: +91 22 2217 8300 E-mail: swsl.ipo@sbicaps.com Investor grievance e-mail: investor.relations@sbicaps.com Website: www.sbicaps.com Contact Person: Rahul Joshi SEBI Registration No.: INM000003531	 IndusInd Bank Limited 11th Floor, Tower 1, One Indiabulls Centre, 841, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road, Mumbai 400 013 Telephone no.: +91 22 7143 2208 E-mail: joshi.rahul@indusind.com Investor grievance e-mail: investmentbanking@indusind.com Website: www.indusind.com Contact person: Rahul Joshi SEBI Registration No.: INM000005031	 Link Intime India Private Limited C-101, 1 st Floor, 247 Park, L.B.S Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai 400 083 Telephone no.: +91 22 4918 6200 E-mail: sterlingwilson.ipo@linkintime.co.in Investor grievance e-mail: sterlingwilson.ipo@linkintime.co.in Website: www.linkintime.co.in Contact Person: Shanti Gopalkrishnan SEBI Registration No.: INR000004058	Jagannadha Rao Ch. V., STERLING AND WILSON SOLAR LIMITED 9 th Floor, Universal Majestic, P L Lokhande Marg, Chembur (West), Mumbai 400 043. Telephone no.: +91 22 2548 5300 E-mail: ir@sterlingwilson.com Website: www.sterlingandwilsonsolar.com Investors can contact the Company Secretary and Compliance Officer and/or the Registrar to the Offer, in case of any pre-Offer or post-Offer related problems, such as non-receipt of letters of Allotment, non-credit of Allotted Equity Shares in the respective beneficiary account, non-receipt of refund orders or non-receipt of funds by electronic mode.

*Pursuant to the transfer of merchant banker registration, issued under the SEBI (Merchant Bankers) Regulations, 1992, from IIFL Holdings Limited, as approved by SEBI vide its letter dated July 12, 2019, with continuance of registration number.

AVAILABILITY OF RHP: Investors are advised to refer to the RHP and the "Risk Factors" beginning on page 28 of the RHP before applying in the Offer. A copy of the RHP is available on the website of the SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, the websites of the GCBLRMs at www.icicisecurities.com, www.axiscapital.co.in, www.credit-suisse.com, www.db.com/India, www.iiflcap.com and www.sbicaps.com, the websites of the BRLMs at www.indusind.com and www.yesinvest.in and the Stock Exchanges at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com.

AVAILABILITY OF BID CUM APPLICATION FORM: Bid cum Application Form can be obtained from the Registered Office of Company, STERLING AND WILSON SOLAR LIMITED, Telephone no.: +91 22 2548 5300; GCBLRMs: ICICI Securities Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 2288 2460; Axis Capital Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 4325 2183; Credit Suisse Securities (India) Private Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 6777 3885; Deutsche Equities India Private Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 7180 4444; IIFL Securities Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 4646 4600 and SBI Capital Markets Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 2217 8300; BRLMs: IndusInd Bank Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 7143 2208; YES Securities (India) Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 3012 6776; Syndicate Member: SBICAP Securities Limited, Telephone no.: +91 22 4227 3300 and at selected locations of Sub-Syndicate Members (as given below), Registered Brokers, Designated RTA Locations and Designated CDP Locations for participating in the Offer. Bid cum Application Forms will also be available on the websites of the Stock Exchanges and at all the Designated Branches of SCSBs, the list of which is available on the websites of the Stock Exchanges and SEBI.

SUB-SYNDICATE MEMBERS: ICICI Securities Limited, Achivers Equities Limited, Ajeon Global Securities Limited, Almondz Global Securities Limited, Amrapali Capital & Finance Services Limited, Anand Rathi Share & Stock Brokers Limited, Anand Share Consultancy, Anil Dhulia, ANS Pvt Limited, Ashika Stock Broking Limited, Ashwani Dandia & Co, Axis Securities Limited, Bonanza Portfolio Limited, Centrum Broking Ltd, Choice Equity Broking Private Limited, Dalal & Broacha Stock Broking Pvt Limited, DB(International) Stock Brokers Ltd, Eureka Stock & Share Broking Services Limited, G Raj & Co. (Consultants) Limited, Inventure Growth & Securities Ltd., J M Financial Services Ltd, Javeri Securities, Jobanputra Fiscal Services Pvt Ltd, Kalpataru Multiplier Limited, Kamlesh D Joshi, Karvy Stock Broking Limited, Keynote Capitals Limited, KJMC Capital Market Services Limited, Kotak Securities Limited, LKP Securities Limited, Marwadi Shares & Finance, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Limited, Motilal Oswal Securities Ltd, MSM Enterprise, Mukesh D Joshi, Ohm Securities, Patel Wealth Advisors Pvt Limited, Prabhudas Liladhar Pvt Ltd, Pravin Ratilal Share & Stock Brokers Limited, PRL Stock & Share Brokers Pvt Limited, RR Equity Brokers Pvt Limited, Safal Capital (India) Limited, Sbiicap Securities Limited, Sharekhan Ltd, SMC Global Securities Limited, Tanna Financial Services, Trade Bulls Securities (P) Ltd, VCK Share & Stock Broking Services Limited, Way2wealth Brokers Pvt Limited and Zerodha Broking Limited.

ESCROW COLLECTION BANK (RESIDENT) AND SPONSOR BANK: ICICI Bank Limited | **ESCROW COLLECTION BANK (NON-RESIDENT):** Axis Bank Limited | **PUBLIC OFFER ACCOUNT BANK AND REFUND BANK:** YES Bank Limited.
UPI: Retail Individual Bidders can also bid through UPI mechanism.
All capitalised terms used herein and not specifically defined shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the RHP.

Place: Mumbai
 Date: August 6, 2019

STERLING AND WILSON SOLAR LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make an initial public offer of its Equity Shares and has filed a RHP with the Registrar of Companies, Mumbai. The RHP shall be available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, on the websites of the Stock Exchanges at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com and is available on the websites of the GCBLRMs at www.icicisecurities.com, www.axiscapital.co.in, www.credit-suisse.com, www.db.com/India, www.iiflcap.com and www.sbicaps.com and the websites of the BRLMs at www.indusind.com and www.yesinvest.in. Investors should note that investment in equity shares involves a high degree of risk and for details relating to the same, see the section titled "Risk Factors" on page 28 of the Red Herring Prospectus. Potential investors should not rely on the Draft Red Herring Prospectus filed with SEBI, for any investment decision. These materials are not for publication or distribution, directly or indirectly, in or into the United States. These materials are not an offer for the sale of the Equity Shares or other securities in the United States or elsewhere. The Equity Shares referred to herein have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended ("Securities Act") and may not be offered or sold within the United States, except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and applicable state securities laws. No public offering of the Equity Shares or other securities is being made in the United States.

For STERLING AND WILSON SOLAR LIMITED
 On behalf of the Board of Directors
 Sd/-
 Company Secretary & Compliance Officer

For and on behalf of the Applicant
Sunny Spintex Private Limited
 Sd/-
 Dalbir Singh
 Director
 DIN:-00858373

Place: New Delhi
 Date : 29.07.2019

BRIEFLY

Woman's body found

New Delhi: The body of an unidentified woman, aged between 25 and 30 years, was found stuffed in a gunny sack in an open ground in South West Delhi Tuesday. Police said there were strangulation marks on her neck.

Man held for attempted sexual assault

Gurgaon: A man has been arrested by Gurgaon Police for allegedly trying to sexually assault his daughter Monday, while his wife had gone out. Police said they received a complaint Monday from the girl, who alleged that she was at home with her younger sister when the accused tried to sexually assault her. ENS

Jewar airport: First tranche of land acquired

Noida: The Gautam Budh Nagar administration has acquired 80 hectares of farm land for the upcoming international airport in UP's Jewar. The land was handed over Tuesday to YEIDA, the implementing agency for the project.

Kapil Mishra moves HC

New Delhi: Rebel AAP leader Kapil Mishra moved Delhi HC Tuesday against his disqualification from the Legislative Assembly under the anti-defection law. PTI



WING AND A PRAYER

Jet Airways staff protest against non-payment of salaries at Jantar Mantar Tuesday. The airline grounded all flights in April after failing to secure funds. Tashi Tobgyal

Man, 4-year-old niece drown near Noida dumping ground

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NOIDA, AUGUST 6

A 22-YEAR-OLD man and his four-year-old niece drowned near a dumping ground in Noida Sector 121 Tuesday morning. The victims, Nancy and Ankur, had gone to play near a pond-like structure close to the Faridabad-Noida-Ghaziabad (FNG) Expressway, when they slipped and drowned.

"Around 11 am, we received information that two people had drowned in a swampy area. Ankur had taken Nancy to play in the water. While it was raining, it appears they slipped from a muddy bank of the pond and died. Both the bodies have been recovered," said Devendra Singh, SHO Phase 3.

The victims lived across the



The spot where the two drowned. Gajendra Yadav

road from where the incident took place. The accident spot is situated about 10 metres away from the houses, towards the dumping ground. Due to incessant rains, the area became waterlogged and the narrow path leading to the ponds had become marshy. The ponds were about 9-10 feet deep, rescue of-

ficials said. Police said due to the heavy rain, it is possible the two tried to get out of the muddy water but kept slipping.

Ankur delivered milk packets to houses in the locality.

His brother Sheru said, "I was at home when I received the call. Ankur had taken Nancy because the weather was good, and perhaps she wanted to play. I rushed to the spot and found my daughter's body floating in the muddy water. My heart sank further when I realised my brother also was no more."

Through the day, Sheru assisted police and NDRF with search operations. With the aid of an inflatable boat, police and local persons, the NDRF had recovered both the bodies by 7pm. In the initial hours, rain and the slippery paths also hindered the rescue operation, officials said.

RESIDENTS CLAIM AT LEAST 10 HOMES TARGETED

Spat of robberies by two men shakes Vasant Kunj

SOMYALAKHANI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AROUND 4am Tuesday, residents of Block C-3 in Vasant Kunj woke up to a rude shock—a broken lock of a house in the locality and an alleged theft. By Tuesday evening, footage from around four CCTVs showed two men walking with a crowbar, attempting to break into at least 10 homes, claimed RWA president Ashok Srivastava.

The block is located opposite Vasant Kunj (North) police station. DCP (South West) Devender Arya said, "One house was burgled and in the footage we can see two men. A case under sections 457 (lurking, house-trespass or house-breaking by night) and 380 (theft) of the IPC has been registered." Police denied claims



CCTV footage of the duo at Vasant Kunj

that the accused attempted to break into other homes.

Srivastava told *The Indian Express*, "The matter came to light when a resident who returned home around 4 am saw that the main door of the neighbour's house, who are not in town, was broken. She raised an alarm."

Residents of Block C-3 have



Anuj Bishnoi (44), a resident of the block, said that "CCTV footage shows the two men attempting to break open the lock using a crowbar... It's quite brazen." Residents claimed that in at least two cases, the accused allegedly rang the doorbells to check if there was anyone at home. Police said they are investigating the claim.

As per CCTV footage shared by residents, two men can be seen walking around the colony, peering into homes and attempting to break locks; while one footage shows the two men walking inside one house. A police officer said, "So far, it seems nothing is missing from the house they broke into." Residents said they have requested the SHO to ask a beat constable to patrol the colony, which has 198 homes, with a siren.

Downpour to reduce soon, mercury drops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE HEAVY downpour seen in parts of the capital Tuesday could peter out in the coming days with moderate to light rain forecast till Friday. Delhi recorded 51.1 mm of rainfall as of 8.30 am Tuesday, as per combined data from the India Meteorological Department (IMD) observatories in Safdarjung and Palam.

Moderate showers have been forecast for Wednesday, which would turn lighter as the week progresses. Wet weather could be interrupted over the weekend with strong surface winds fore-

cast Saturday and a possibility of light rain or thunderstorm Sunday.

The rain brought down the mercury Tuesday with Palam observatory recording a minimum temperature of 25 degrees Celsius and a maximum of 30 degrees Celsius. IMD forecasts that mercury could rise in the coming days, up to a minimum of 28 degrees Celsius till Saturday and a maximum of 35 degrees Celsius till Sunday.

Meanwhile, air quality improved in the capital Tuesday as a result of the heavy downpour. CPCB data showed that AQI was 76 Tuesday, the lowest it has been since the past eight days.

Overnight rain leads to Gurgaon waterlogging

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
GURGAON, AUGUST 6

FOLLOWING HEAVY rainfall overnight, several parts of Gurgaon were waterlogged on Tuesday morning, with a road also caving in near an underpass in Cyber City around noon, and a tree getting uprooted and toppling onto three cars parked below it in Palam Vihar.

According to officials, although only 2 mm of rain was experienced between 8 am and 5 pm Tuesday, heavier rainfall during the night left the city inundated. The affected areas included AIT Chowk, Signature Tower

junction, Sheetla Mata Mandir road, and the stretch between MG Road Metro station and IFFCO Chowk. "There was some congestion in the morning... but our personnel had been deployed to ensure least possible inconvenience to commuters," said Subhash Boken, PRO of Gurgaon Police.

GMDA officials said water was pumped out along most waterlogged stretches before noon. A tree near Rotary Public School in Sector 22 was among those that fell on Tuesday morning, damaging three cars.

A stretch of road just after the Shankar Chowk underpass caved in around 10 am, causing the structure to be closed to traffic.

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

MARTYRS OF 204 COBRA



CT/DVR KRISHNA PAL SINGH



CT/GD MUKUL CHANDRA BARMAN

Martyrs of 204 COBRA, CRPF made the supreme sacrifice during a counter-Maoist operation in the area of Vill- Basaguda, under PS- Basaguda, Distt- Bijapur (C.G) on 07th August, 2012 in a true act of valour. The brave soldiers will always be remembered for their patriotism and courage. To these brave martyrs we pledge that we shall always be guided by their immortal spirit and do their names proud.

IG & ALL RANKS OF COBRA

राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय, जयपुर
कार्यालय विश्वविद्यालय अभियंता

निविदा सूचना संख्या-14/2019-20

राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय, जयपुर में एक कार्य हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग के माध्यम से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ऑन लाइन निविदा उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदको, जो राजस्थान सरकार के सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, केन्द्र सरकार के लोक निर्माण विभाग, डाक एवं दूरसंचार विभाग, रेलवे एवं अन्य राज्य सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के समकक्ष हो, ई- प्रोक्वोरमेंट प्रक्रिया के तहत निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा में कुल कार्यों की संख्या 01 है जिनकी कुल अनुमानित लागत 293.49 लाख है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विवरण वेबसाइट <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, www.uniraj.ac.in एवं <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> पर देखा जा सकता है।

जिसका यू.बी.एन. नम्बर URA1920WSOB00072 है।

विश्वविद्यालय अभियंता

आवश्यक सूचना

जन साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि ग्राम पंचायत कुलियाका खंड सोहना जिला गुरुग्राम में नहर के निचे वाले जोहड़ को मछली पालन हेतु पाँच साल की अवधि के लिए दिनांक 22.08.2019 को प्रातः 11 बजे राजकीय प्राथमिकता पाठशाला कुलियाका पर पट्टे पर छोड़ा जाना है। पट्टे की शर्त मौके पर बताई जाएगी।

सरपंच
ग्राम पंचायत कुलियाका
ब्लॉक सोहना जिला, गुरुग्राम
हरियाणा

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Work Manager/Plant for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur and on behalf of President of India invites open tenders through on line (E-Tendering) for the following work:

S No. 1:- E-Tender Notice No & Name of the Work: IREPS Tender No.98-WoodenFlooring/RA Provision of wooden Flooring in 25 No's inspection coaches in mechanical workshop Gorakhpur. Estimated cost : ₹ 1833764.25, Earnest money : ₹ 36700/-. Cost of the Tender forms : ₹ 2,000/- Last date of tender Submission :- Upto 15.15 hrs Date 26.08.2019 Period of Contract : 24 Months. The details of above tender are also available on Indian Railway website www.ireps.gov.in

Chief Workshop Manager, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur
CPRO/Mech-91
About any passenger amenity complain SMS on Mobile No. 99794845955
"Never travel on roof and foot boards"

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Zonal Office, "Baroda House" V-23, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow

Tender Notice

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Vendor for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of UPS Systems and batteries Bank of Baroda invites sealed Tenders in Two Bid systems for Selection of Vendor for Supply, Installation & Commissioning of UPS Systems and batteries at its branches/offices in Lucknow Zone. Tender document can be downloaded from Bank's website from 07.08.2019 to 29.08.2019. The Tender with all supporting documents should be submitted in the office of The General Manager, Bank of Baroda, Lucknow Zone, 3rd Floor, Baroda House, V-23, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 on or before 29.08.2019 upto 03:00 p.m. For further details visit to our website: www.bankofbaroda.com/tenders.aspx General Manager

FEROZEPUR CANTONMENT BOARD

For and on behalf of Cantonment Board, Ferozpur, online application(s) is/are invited from the interested parties for participating in the e-auction, detail of which is as under:

Sl. No.	E-auction of Site(s)/Shop/Stall	Last Date of Submitting Documents
1.	Disposal of Advertising Rights on DBOM basis (Design, Built, Operate & Maintain Basis) in Ferozpur Cantonment at the locations listed in Annexure-1 for the period of two years.	20.08.2019 upto 04:00 PM
2.	Stall No 03 at Mutton Market, Ferozpur Cantt (Reserve for selling Mutton)	20.08.2019 upto 04:00 PM
3.	Octroi Post No 02, Ferozpur Cantt	20.08.2019 upto 04:00 PM
4.	One Parking Site at Bus Stand Ferozpur Cantt	20.08.2019 upto 04:00 PM

For detailed information, please visit us at www.cbfrz.org.

(Daman Singh, IDES)
Chief Executive Officer
Ferozpur Cantonment

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE

No. 7PUB/LEDDISPLAY/VIDEOWALL/2011 Dated : 06 August, 2019

The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work:

1. Name of work with its location	Work of Commercial Advertisement Rights through LED Screens Videowalls at Railway Stations over Delhi Division for a period of five years	No. of Video Wall
2. Details of railway station	E-tender Notice Number Stations	
Publicity Videowall 27-2019	Delhi-At east 'Booking Hall (1st entry side) (size 3 meter by 5 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 28-2019	Delhi- In Main Hall (Main entry- SPM Marg) (size 3 meter by 5 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 29-2019	Delhi Sarai Rohilla- In circulating area (size 5 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 30-2019	Rohtak- Circulating Area (Outside Exit gate 1st Entry no.1) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 31-2019	Rohtak- Circulating Area (Outside Exit gate 1st Entry no.2) (size 5 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 32-2019	Karnal- In Circulating area (On roof of Booking Office) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 33-2019	Panipat- In Circulating area (outside Enquiry office/ Waiting Room) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 34-2019	Delhi Shandara- In Circulating area (in front of Booking Hall) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 35-2019	Faridabad-On 2nd Entry (outside Booking Office) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 36-2019	Faridabad-On 1st Entry, (outside Booking Office) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 37-2019	Faridabad New Town- Circulating area (outside Booking Office) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 38-2019	Ballabgarh- Circulating area (outside Booking Office) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit
Publicity Videowall 39-2019	Palwal-Circulating area (towards Booking Office) (size 3 meter by 4 meter)	1 Unit

3. Date of Tender Opening	29.08.2019 up to 11:00 hrs.
4. Approximate cost of work	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
5. Cost of Tender document including 18% GST	As per NIT on ireps.gov.in
6. Earnest Money Deposit	www.ireps.gov.in
7. Website particulars where complete details of tender document can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

2537/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Mechanical Branch
OPEN TENDER

NIT Dtd. 02.08.2019 • E-TENDERING

The Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Diesel), West Central Railway, New Katni Junction, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work:-

NIT No.: NKJ/Dsl/Supply & Inst. of FRP Dr. Cab of AC Loco/T/19, dated 02.08.2019. Name of work with location: Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of Both Side FRP Driver's Cab for Electric Locomotive (WAG5/WAG7) of Diesel Shed NKJ. Approx. cost of the work: ₹ 20,31,219/-. Cost of Tender Form: ₹ 3,000/-. Earnest Money: ₹ 40,600/-. Completion Period: 6 Months. Last date & time for submission of tender (Upto 12.00 Hrs.): 26.08.2019. The complete information of the above E-Tender are available in website <http://ireps.gov.in>. Tenders other than in the form of e-bid shall not be accepted against above tenders.

रैल वाग्रा के दोहन निकालत हेतु 138 पर एवं चुका हेतु 182 पर संपर्क करें।

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer/Chg., Northern Railway, Delhi Division for and on behalf of President of India invites sealed e-tender on "SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM" for following work from experienced and capable tenders.

1. Name of work	Sealing of Rubber profile of Window Glasses of primary AC coaches with PU based Sealant at Coach Care Centers: NDLS, DLI, HNZM, ANVT, DEE & MTC for two years.
2. Work Place	All Depots DLI Division
3. Period of work	Two Years
4. Approximate cost of work	Rs. 16,46,260/- (including the provision of GST)
5. The earnest money	Rs. 32,900/-
6. The Tender document cost	Rs. 2,360/- (including GST @18%)
7. Date & time of availability of e-tender documents	From 02.08.2019 to 30.08.2019, upto 12:00 hrs
8. Date and time of Pre bid meeting	09.08.2019 at 15:00 hrs.
9. Date and time of e-tender box closing	30.08.2019 at 12:00 hrs.
10. Date and time of e-tender box opening	30.08.2019 after 12:00 hrs. If the date of opening happens to be a holiday the e-tender shall be opened on the next working day.
11. Place for opening of e-tender	Mechanical Department, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055

Note : If e-tender documents are downloaded from website, cost of e-tender documents shall have to be deposited separately along with the bid on IREPS, failing which the offer shall be liable to summarily rejected. No. 197-S/45/Seal-RWP/19/MC-IV Date: 03.08.2019

2522/2019

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Bihar School Examination Board

CORRIGENDUM TO TENDER NOTICE No.- PR 309/2019

With reference to tender notice No. PR 309/2019 issued in various newspapers on 24th July 2019 for "Selection of Agency for design, development & implementation of Automated Document Management System integrated with Examination record" should read as "Selection of Agency for design, development & implementation of Automated Document Management System integrated with Examination record and Database re-structuring". There are amendments in Eligibility Criteria. Updated document is uploaded on website eproc.bihar.gov.in. Secretary

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Public Notice

Shri Ravi Ranjan S/o Shri Sri Vishwanath Prasad Singh, Commercial Clerk/Karnal, whose last known address is Village Chiniya Bela, PO Sripalpur, PS-Punpun, Dist Patna (Bihar) 804453, is unauthorized absent from his duty w.e.f. December 2010. He was issued a major penalty charge sheet on 01.03.2018 which was pasted at your last working station and public notice was also issued in newspapers. Since Shri Ravi Ranjan did not attend the enquiry, inquiry officer conducted D&AR Inquiry exparte on the basis of evidence available on record. Copy of inquiry report was sent to him by speed post on 25.01.2019 for comments on inquiry report and issued a press notification published in the newspaper on 28.03.2019 but no response was received from him till date. Therefore, Shri Ravi Ranjan is hereby informed through this notice that the Competent Disciplinary Authority has taken decision vide orders dated 08.07.2019 for his "Removal from Service" with immediate effect. Under the provisions of D&AR Rules-1968 he may submit an appeal to Appellate Authority (i.e. Sr. DCM/C/Delhi) if so desired within 45 days from the date of publication of this notice.

2520/19

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

कार्यालय संचालक, शासकीय मुद्रण तथा लेखन सामग्री (इन्द्रावती भवन, विभागाध्यक्ष कार्यालय, ब्लॉक नं. 1, द्वितीय तल) नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर (छ.ग.)

दूरभाष क्रमांक:- 2331302 Email id:-govtprintingstationerydept@gmail.com

खुली निविदा सूचना

क्र.जी.बी.2/मुद्रण/(25)/रा.नि.आ./प्र.मु./19-20/992 दिनांक 03/08/2019

छ.ग. राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, रायपुर के उपयोग में आने वाले नगरीय निकाय आम निर्वाचन 2019 के कुल 13 प्रकार (12 लिफाफा एवं 1 शीट) एवं वि-स्तरीय पंचायत आम निर्वाचन 2019 के कुल 14 प्रकार (11 लिफाफा एवं 3 शीट) के लिफाफों के निर्माण हेतु दूरे (पेपर मुद्रण एवं लिफाफा तैयार करने सहित दूरे प्रति हजार, 80 जो.एस.एम. क्राफ्ट पेपर, गुलाबी एवं खाकी पेपर के लिए) आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा प्रपत्र राशि रुपये 500/- (रुपयें पांच सौ) मात्र नगद अथवा डिमांड ड्राफ्ट संचालक, मुद्रण तथा लेखन सामग्री, नवा रायपुर, अटल नगर के नाम से जमा करके प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

- निविदा विक्रय प्रारंभ करने की तिथि - दिनांक 05.08.2019
- निविदा जमा की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय - दिनांक 05.09.2019 समय 3:00 बजे तक
- निविदा खोले जाने की तिथि एवं समय- दिनांक 05.09.2019 समय 4:00 बजे तक

नोट:- नम्बों का अवलोकन कार्यालयीन समय में सुबह 10:00 से शाम 5:00 बजे तक किया जा सकता है।

निविदा प्रपत्र शासकीय वेबसाइट www.cgstate.gov.in से डाउनलोड करने की प्राप्ति की जा सकती है।

स्वा/-
संचालक,
मुद्रण तथा लेखन सामग्री
नवा रायपुर अटल नगर

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

Ref no. 877 Ranchi, Dated 06.08.2019

Expression of Interest P.R.No. 210179

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 existing nature of right's of tribal women in Jharkhand with reference to land-socio-economic-religious and property rights.

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 PM. 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 sealed envelope clearly written in BOLD "A TECHNICAL PROPOSAL FOR TOPIC: Study on existing nature of right's of tribal women in Jharkhand with reference to land-socio-economic-religious and property rights, on or before due date. (Please specify 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 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.triranchi.org 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 बाबाद मत करो पानी हूँ मैं।

Sd/-
Director
PR 213786 Welfare (19-20)_D

Court acquits man cops called most wanted

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

A DELHI court acquitted a man branded by Delhi Police as the "most wanted criminal of UP" after officers failed to prove he was a wanted criminal carrying a Rs 50,000 reward, which they claimed during his arrest.

As per court documents, in 2013, the crime branch got a tip-off from an informer that an offender, "Shadab Qureshi, who is the most wanted criminal of UP, carrying a reward of Rs 50,000 announced by UP Police, would come in his black Skoda car to meet his associate in Wazirpur".

A raiding party waited for the accused, who was spotted coming towards Kanhaiya Nagar Metro station. Police asked him to stop, following which the man shot at the party twice, it was alleged. Additional Sessions Judge Harish Kumar said, "No evidence was led by prosecution to prove that accused was wanted criminal in UP and that there was (reward) of Rs 50,000 on him."

"Since prosecution failed to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the accused was a wanted criminal... that he was waylaid and opened fire at police party, that he committed the offences he was tried for, hence, the ac-

cusd is acquitted of all charges under sections 186, 353, 307, 506 IPC and sections 25 and 27 of the Arms Act," the judge said.

The court also scrutinised testimonies of police that the incident took place in broad daylight on a road with heavy traffic movement: "It is in judicial notice that the road on which incident had allegedly taken place is a four-lane road" and "during day time, this road never remains empty".

"If four gunshots are fired spontaneously on or near such road after barricading the area, then chaotic situation will come up... it will become talk of the area, with local newspapers publishing the same..." it said.

When photos of the accused's car were shown to the court, it was noted that "the same shows the car lying unused for months... Police party remained at the spot till 10.15 pm but not a single photo was clicked at least of the parked car or of fallen empty shell of fired cartridges". The court said this "cast serious doubt about the prosecution story".

When the prosecution said two officers saved themselves by ducking or bending when the accused fired at them, the court said, "The fired shot must have landed anywhere. Which is this place?... nothing has been brought on record where the bullets landed."

3 kids among 4 dead in rain-related accidents

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, AUGUST 6

IN A span of 24 hours, four people, including three minors, died in two separate accidents allegedly due to heavy rain in Gautam Budh Nagar region.

In the first incident, a two-storey house in Rabupura's Dugli village collapsed after a storm in the area around 9 pm Monday. Cousins Sonia (11) and Prachi (9) died, while 10 other members of their family were injured.

The house belonged to Rishipal, a labourer. There were seven minors and five adults in the house at the time of the accident. "We received information around 9.30 pm that an entire house collapsed in the village. A police team was rushed to the spot and a rescue efforts were initiated with help from locals. It appears that the walls of the house were weakened due to the rain," said Rabupura SHO Vineet Kumar.

The house had four rooms each on the bottom and top floors and was built on a 900



2 kids died when a house collapsed in Rabupura, Monday night. Gajendra Yadav

square-foot plot. Neighbours claimed the roof collapsed before the rest of the structure gave way. A relative who survived the collapse, Rakhi, said: "All I remember was a huge crashing sound and screams. I hid under whatever I could and somehow escaped. My cousins were not so lucky. I am still in shock."

A few kilometres away in Greater Noida's Site 5 area, three people sought shelter under a roof after a bout of rain Tuesday morning. The roof collapsed due to the rain and two persons, Vinod (22) and Vishwakarma (7), died on the spot, police said.

New centre at IIT-Delhi to focus on sensor tech

New Delhi: IIT-Delhi inaugurated its Centre for Sensors, Instrumentation and Cyber Physical System Engineering (SeNSE), which will be an interdisciplinary centre. The mandate of the Centre is to develop cost-affordable sensortechology which will help in solving urban and rural issues, such as waterlogging.

Professor Sukant Kar, who will head the Centre, said, "We see that right now, when there is waterlogging in Delhi, somebody needs to call the authorities and inform them that a certain area is flooded. By developing these sensors, we are

hoping that they can be used for such problems, by automatically detecting the level of water."

The Centre has emerged from the erstwhile Instrument Design Development Centre.

Speaking at the inauguration, IIT Director V Ramgopal Rao, said, "A system-based approach, focussing on societal problems, is becoming a key requirement for research intensive institutions to remain relevant today. SeNSE will follow a multi-disciplinary approach with a strong industry connect and with prototype development as a focus." ENS

12 HOSPITALISED, MANY JUMPED TO ESCAPE THE BLAZE

Late night fire guts 4 floors, kills 6

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

SIX PEOPLE, including three children, died when a major fire broke out in a residential building in South East Delhi's Zakir Nagar in the early hours of Tuesday. Officers believe the fire broke out due to a short circuit in the electric meter. Twelve people were injured and rushed to Holy Family Hospital for treatment.

The dead have been identified as Nagma (30) and her two children Aamna (8) and Zikra (8); Soha Rafiq (34); Adyan Rabbani (6) and Waseem. According to Dr Mala, Head of the Emergency Department of Holy Family Hospital, "at least four people, including two children, died due to injuries they suffered after jumping from the building, and asphyxiation." Those who survived the jump suffered injuries to the chest, spine and head.

Chief Fire Officer Atul Garg said, "We received a call at 2.30 am and three fire tenders were dispatched. Four more were sent as it was a major fire. The lanes were so narrow, with multiple vehicles parked, that it was difficult for our fire tenders to enter."

The four-storey building has 13 flats, and has a stilt parking for vehicles. Garg said the fire broke out in the electricity meter in the parking lot and soon spread to the cars. From there, it travelled to the four floors above. "This is what we have seen in several cases of fire in residential buildings. The staircase is next to the parking, where the electric meter is also situated. One spark can take a dangerous turn and burn down vehicles. This is what happened in Zakir Nagar too. These buildings don't require a fire NOC because of the height clause," said Garg.

In the operation that lasted over two hours, at least four firefighters suffered smoke-related problems and were admitted to the hospital. Mathura Road station officer Tarachand (59), who too is admitted at the hospital, said, "Before we reached, some people had already jumped off the building. We pulled out a fully charred body from the third floor. We safely rescued 12 people, and 10 others who are injured."

The other three firemen — Ram Niwas, Dilbag Singh and Mohan Lal — also complained of breathlessness, said Dr Mala.



The fire broke out at the electricity meter in the parking lot of the Zakir Nagar building. Photos: Prem Nath Pandey



CM Kejriwal, AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan visit the injured at the hospital

Locals said most of the residents were asleep when the incident took place. Junaid Ahmed (32), who lives on the first floor of the same building, said, "I sensed smoke around 2 am inside my bedroom. I went outside my house and saw that the building was on fire. After alerting my family, we tried to take the stairs but the blaze had spread to the entire floor. The DFS rescued us through stairs erected near the balcony."

CM Arvind Kejriwal ordered an enquiry into the incident and announced relief of Rs 5 lakh each for the families of those who died and Rs 2 lakh each to the injured. L-G Anil Bajjal also visited the injured at the hospital.

Burnt staircase, locked terrace: What firemen had to get past

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

CRAMPED LANES, no access to the staircase and hundreds of locals outside the building in South East Delhi's Zakir Nagar that caught fire — these are some of the challenges that firefighters faced Tuesday morning. Six people, including three children, died in the fire that engulfed the four-storey building.

Mathura Road Fire station officer Tarachand (59) said, "The fire started from the electric meter on the ground floor, spread to the cars parked near the staircase and then to the floors. The stairs were inaccessible to us, they were burnt and filled with smoke."

Firefighters tried entering the building through the terrace but that too was locked. "We had to use the ladder to reach balconies but it wasn't high enough. So we put the ladders on top of the fire



The wall on the terrace of the adjacent house was broken to rescue people

tender and then rescued people," said Tarachand, who is one of the four firefighters admitted at Holy Family Hospital due to smoke-related problems.

Firefighters complained of vomiting and uneasiness after the operation ended. Tarachand said, "We didn't carry oxygen cylinders as they weigh 15 kg and aren't useful when people have to be rescued from a burning building. There's a lot of running

around and that can't be done with these cylinders. The heat and the smoke got to us finally."

Before firefighters reached, neighbours attempted to rescue the residents and douse the fire. Zeeshan Khan (31), an engineer, who lives next door, said, "Around 2 am, we heard people screaming from the other building. I called my neighbours and friends and we rushed to the terrace of my house and tried to break the wall with hammers. Firefighters came and helped us. More than four people were rescued."

Another neighbour Namaz Khan (45) said, "There is a small mattress shop at the end of the lane and we collected some mattresses from there, which were placed on the ground in front of the building. Since we couldn't stop people from jumping, we thought we could save their lives. But the people somehow fell on the road and were injured."

Victim's parents in Srinagar and no way to reach them, friend boards the morning flight

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE COMMUNICATION blackout in Kashmir played out at South East Delhi's Zakir Nagar Tuesday, where a fire in a four-storey residential building claimed six lives and left 12 injured. Soha Rafiq (34), one of the victims, and her husband Md Umar Rafiq (30), who is hospitalised, are both from Srinagar. And with practically no means to contact people in the Valley, their friends in Delhi and the police scrambled to find a way to reach their families back home and inform them of the tragedy.

Around 2.15 am, a spark in an



12 people have been hospitalised. Prem Nath Pandey

electric meter located on the ground floor of the building started a fire that engulfed vehicles parked there and spread to the four floors above.

On Tuesday afternoon, Soha and Umar's friend Khurshid Bhat, who lives next door in Jamia Nagar, sat outside the hospital. "I found out about the fire and

rushed here. Soha and Umar's parents live in Srinagar. We have not been able to talk to them over the phone and tell them about the incident. All phone lines are down, we tried a lot," he told *The Indian Express*.

Realising that the problem might not get resolved anytime soon, Bhat and the couple's other friends sent their friend Majid Khan (35) to Srinagar Tuesday. "We have no other way of informing their families, so we booked a flight and sent Khan there to bring them to Delhi," said Bhat. He said Khan took a 7.25 am Air India flight to Srinagar.

A senior Delhi Police officer said efforts were made to contact counterparts in Srinagar but

since their phone lines are down, too, they were unsuccessful.

"A person known to the victim left for Srinagar Tuesday morning and will arrive in Delhi Tuesday night. The body will be handed over to the family when they arrive; we are told that the last rites may happen in Srinagar," said the officer.

The couple moved to Delhi six years ago. While Umar runs a garment business in Jamia Nagar, Soha was a homemaker.

Bhat said the two were supposed to fly back to Srinagar for Eid on August 9: "Even after the Centre's announcement Monday, they wanted to be in Srinagar with their parents. Their flight tickets had also been booked."

Some waited in balcony for help, others climbed down using blanket

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

SHABANA RABBANI (32) and her husband sat huddled with their three children in the balcony of their third-floor apartment as a blaze crept through their building early Tuesday morning. Rabbani's last memory from the night is that of the family being rescued by firefighters.

"I woke up around 2 am when I heard people screaming from outside the house. Before I could understand the situation, my house was filled with smoke. I alerted my family and we sat in the balcony and waited for help even as smoke billowed out of our home," said Rabbani.

Lying in a ward of Holy Family hospital Tuesday afternoon, she did not know that Adyan (6), her youngest child, had died in the fire.

Her sister-in-law Nishat (48) said: "She can't bear the trauma. We haven't told her yet. We have told her that her children are in the paediatric ICU."

"She was very excited about Eid celebrations and had invited all of us for a family dinner," added Nishat.

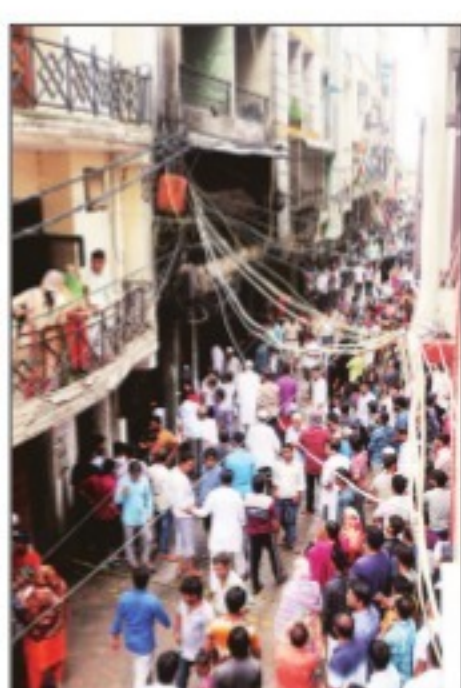
Adyan was among the six people who perished in the blaze.

Zulfikar Alam, (24) who lived on the fourth floor of the building, said that he and his family of 11 escaped the fire on their own by using a blanket as a rope.

"We live next to another residential building and decided to jump to the terrace. I made a jump and then helped all my family members, including two children, climb down the 'rope' and reach the terrace safely. Later, we escaped by climbing down the stairs of that building," said Alam.

Also among the dead was Nagma (30), who jumped from the third floor with her two children, Aamna (8) and Zikra (8). Her husband Athar (36) has been hospitalised after he complained of breathlessness.

Waseem, who lived on the third floor, was among the last to be found by police. He was charred to death and couldn't be identified initially because he lived alone.



Locals said most of the residents were asleep when the incident took place

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davp 15102/11/0004/1920

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Applications are invited for the post of Chairperson, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), New Delhi, which has a tenure of period 5 (five) years or up to 62 years of age, whichever is earlier.

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**Shri Abhay Garg
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Department of Financial Services
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davp 15102/11/0006/1920

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Inviting applications for the post of Whole-time Member (Law) in Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), New Delhi

Applications are invited for the post of Whole-time Member (Law), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), New Delhi, which has a tenure of period 5 (five) years or up to 62 years of age, whichever is earlier.

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**Shri Abhay Garg
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Department of Financial Services
2nd Floor Jeevan Deep Building,
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Tele No. 01123748760**

davp 15102/11/0005/1920

8 THE NEW J&K ORDER IN PARLIAMENT

J&K REORGANISATION BILL PASSED

Govt hails 'historic move', Oppn slams 'historic mistake'



Law minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and Congress leader Shashi Tharoor during the debate in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. LSTV



Future bright, says Ladakh MP, earns praise from PM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

BJP MEMBER from Ladakh Jamyang Tsering Namgyal earned the praise of Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his speech in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday on the motion to scrap special status given to Jammu and Kashmir and a Bill to bifurcate the state into two Union Territories.

Participating in the debate, Namgyal said the people of Ladakh had been fighting for UT status for seven decades. "Today is that day in Indian history when the mistakes made by the Congress under the leadership of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru are being rectified. In 1948, the president of the Ladakh Buddhist Association had requested Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to either bring Ladakh directly under central administration or make it a part of East Punjab, but under no condition keep Ladakh with Kashmir. But the government at the time didn't even listen to us. And because we are under Kashmir, till date Ladakh has not been developed," said Namgyal, adding that Ladakh has always wanted to be "an integral part of India".

The PM later tweeted, "My young friend, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal who is @MPLadakh delivered an outstanding speech in the Lok Sabha while discussing key bills on J&K. He coherently presents the aspirations of our sisters and brothers from Ladakh. It is a must hear."

Home Minister Amit Shah joined BJP MPs in applauding Namgyal during his speech by thumping desks and later mentioned it in his reply to the debate.

Taking a jibe at the Opposition, he said, "Many here are talking of what will be lost with the abrogation of Article 370. What will we lose? Only two political families of Kashmir will lose their bread and butter. The future of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are bright."

Namgyal also alleged that "two families" of J&K thought that the entire state was their private property.

He said he had won the election on the promise of a Union Territory of Ladakh and that he had won elections with large margins pre-



Ladakh BJP MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal in Lok Sabha. PTI

cisely because the aspiration of the people of Kargil was a separate UT and that this demand in Ladakh cut across religious lines. Namgyal also spoke of the "inequalities" meted out to Ladakhis by the J&K government. "If 10,000 jobs are created, then Jammu still fights for its share and gets it. Ladakh doesn't even get 10 jobs out of these. Kashmir got a central university, Jammu got a central university, and despite many protests and demands by us, we were never given a university." He alleged that Kashmir got a major share of development funds, leaving Ladakh with nothing.

Taking a dig at Ghulam Nabi Azad, he said, "Yesterday, the Congress leader in Rajya Sabha was screaming his lungs out saying what will happen to Ladakh, what will happen to Ladakh. I want to ask him, in 2008, when he was chief minister, his government created eight new districts in J&K. Four were for Kashmir and the people of Jammu fought for an equal number. But Ladakh got nothing. Is this your equality?"

Namgyal also alleged that Article 370 was used to kick Kashmiri Pandits out of their homes. "Is this your secularism? The number of Buddhists in Ladakh were more, now there are more Muslims. Article 370 is being used to eliminate Buddhism from Ladakh. Is this your secularism?"

He said the people of Ladakh "will proudly unfurl the Tricolour as the nation will now have a common flag".

'You imposed Emergency first, then told Cabinet'

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE BJP on Tuesday countered the Opposition's criticism of "hurrying up" the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill 2019 by reminding the Congress about the imposition of Emergency.

"I remember a very famous cartoon when Emergency was imposed. The honourable President was having a bath and he said 'at least spare me to take my bath, don't bring ordinance at this moment' (in the cartoon). We didn't do anything like that. You imposed Emergency first, then told the Cabinet," Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said, participating in the debate on removing Jammu and Kashmir's special status and bifurcation of the state.

"We will give a roadmap on how this step will be useful for Kashmir and how it can be used. But can we deny this fundamental fact that the abuse of Article 370 had become a vested interest?" he added.

Asserting that the BJP had the mandate to make this move, Prasad alleged that the families of the Abdullahs and Muftis were trying to prevent the Prevention of Corruption Bill in the state. According to the minister, 106 Bills that were implemented by the Centre could not be taken to J&K.

Parliament on Tuesday approved the resolution to scrap special status of J&K and a Bill for splitting the state into two Union Territories. The resolution was adopted by Lok Sabha and the Bill to create two UTs — Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh — was passed by 351 votes in favour, 72 against and one abstention.

Celebrating the scrapping of special status for J&K as an ideological victory, BJP leaders credited both Prime Minister Narendra

Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah for bringing to fruition a cause for which Bharatiya Jan Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee died in a J&K jail in 1953.

The BJP MPs blamed Jawaharlal Nehru for the situation in Kashmir, with Union Minister Jitendra Singh accusing Nehru of announcing unilateral ceasefire against Pakistan without taking his Cabinet into confidence. He accused him of violating the collective responsibility of the Cabinet by interfering in the functioning of his home minister Vallabh Patel, and asserted that there would have been no Pakistan-occupied Kashmir if there was no ceasefire. Singh said the then J&K chief minister Sheikh Abdullah had described the constitutional provision as a "stumbling block" in the state's development.

Jugal Kishore alleged that Nehru had "broken Kashmir". "PoK will be taken, it's our decision. Article 370 was imposed by Nehru on the demand of Sheikh Abdullah. Sardar Patel had opposed it," he said, adding that Article 370 provided only "poverty, unemployment and misery" to people of Kashmir.

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi argued that scrapping special status of J&K would correct a historic blunder while ensuring development of the region. He wanted the Congress to support the Bill so they could correct the blunders.

BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal said it was clearly written that Article 370 was a temporary provision, but the country "waited for years for this to happen and the entire credit goes to the elected government".

Meanwhile, outside Parliament House, Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said his ministry was working on a plan to develop educational and other basic infrastructure in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

'Dark day for democracy, travesty of Constitution'

LIZ MATHEW
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AFTER HAVING fiercely opposed the BJP government's move to scrap special status of Jammu and Kashmir in the Rajya Sabha, the main Opposition Congress saw its efforts against the Bill in the Lok Sabha falling flat as its leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury made remarks that were not in sync with the party's official stand on the Bill.

"You say it is an internal matter. But it is being monitored since 1948 by the UN. Is that an internal matter? We signed Shimla Agreement and Lahore Declaration. Was that an internal matter or bilateral?" asked Chowdhury, stunning his party MPs and even the BJP benches.

"You must clarify whether it is the Congress party stand that Kashmir can be monitored by the UN," Home Minister Amit Shah said.

When Chowdhury repeated the question seeking clarification, Union minister Ravi Shankar Prasad was heard asking "What are you saying?" Congress leaders, including Sonia Gandhi, were visibly upset over Chowdhury's intervention.

Manish Tewari, who initiated the debate from the Opposition, tried to salvage the situation by slamming the government for not taking the consent of the state Assembly. Citing Article 3 of the Constitution that deals with formation of a new state, Tewari said, "Before forming the state, changing the boundaries, you will have to take consensus of the local government."

"This is travesty of the Constitution," Tewari said. "This is not in the spirit of Parliament."

He asked the government to clarify on the fate of the constitution of Jammu and Kashmir. He also said it was due to Jawaharlal

Nehru that Jammu and Kashmir, Junagadh and Hyderabad became a part of India, to which BJP had raised objections.

Termining it a "dark day for India's democracy", Congress Shashi Tharoor said, "You have brought this Bill to this House without consultation with the local parties, with the state legislature out of session for more than six months..." Criticising the massive deployment of forces and arrests of political leaders in the Valley, Tharoor said, "This is a breathtaking betrayal of our democracy and nothing short of legislative authoritarianism."

Tharoor said the government has opened up space for undemocratic forces by locking up democratic parties and their leaders. "You claim that we were winning the battle against terrorism and perhaps we were. But now we are giving a fresh lease of life to the terrorists. I must say, we are facing a situation in which they can sight a new injustice for them to fight. You have made the mainstream pro-India parties irrelevant and powerless..."

He added, "In the name of unity, you are promoting division; and in the name of prosperity, you are promoting poverty in Kashmir. I feel this is a very sad situation."

The Congress MP wanted the government to clarify when normally would return in Kashmir. "When will Kashmiri parents be able to take their children to school? When will they be able to watch TV? When will they be able to go out and buy food? Then, we will talk."

Noting that the tradition of consultation and deliberation lies in shreds, he described the latest move as the "political equivalent of demonetisation". Tharoor emphasised that no one has to teach the Congress about nationalism as it is the original party of nationalism. "We are a large-hearted country... not be a petty (one)," he said.

Akhilesh questions development claim

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

SP MP Akhilesh Yadav on Tuesday asked the government that if scrapping special status of Jammu and Kashmir would bring development to the region, then had Uttar Pradesh had been cheated.

"I was told this (scrapping special status) will bring development to Kashmir. I am happy for that. But I want to know if Uttar Pradesh had been cheated despite the Prime Minister, President, Governor, you (Speaker) being from there, how can one say Kashmir will progress?" Akhilesh said in his speech in the Lok Sabha.

"You say nothing happened for Kashmir in the 70 years since independence, are you counting the 11 years that you (BJP) have been in power?" he added.

The Azamgarh MP asked the government to clarify which country Pakistan-occupied Kashmir belongs to. Like his colleagues in the Opposition, he also asked why the people of Jammu and Kashmir had been



'I want to know if UP has been cheated despite PM, President, Governor, you (Speaker) being from there, how can one say that Kashmir will progress?' PTI

kept out of the loop while taking a decision that affects them.

"Are there still 24 seats empty in the constituent assembly? Why have you not been able to fill them? If anyone in the country can give assurances, then it's the Home Minister of the country. You please give us the assurance that Pakistan-occupied Kashmir is a part of India and that you

will be able to fill the 24 empty seats in the constituent assembly," Akhilesh said.

"It is great that we are celebrating Kashmir's happiness. I want to know when we will celebrate the happiness of Nagaland, Sikkim and Mizoram. Has brute force not been used? We all know what forces have been sent to Kashmir. Why don't you show us pictures of the streets?"

BJP objects to NC MP's claim on Mookerjee

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

A CLAIM made by National Conference MP Hasnain Masoodi on Jan Sangh founder Syama Prasad Mookerjee's stand on Article 370 evoked strong objections from the BJP in the Lok Sabha, with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh asking him to either authenticate it or apologise to the House.

After an uproar by the treasury benches, Speaker Om Birla directed that Masoodi's remarks be expunged. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the member's statement was against historical facts and should be removed from Lok Sabha's records, while Home Minister Amit Shah called the remark "far from the truth".

Opposing the move to scrap special status, Masoodi called it a black day for the relationship between Jammu and Kashmir and the Union of India.

"Please have the courage to listen — that on August 15, 1947, Jammu and Kashmir was an independent nation. We were neither with Pakistan nor with Hindustan. When the Maharaja decided to accede, it was conditional. He accepted the governor general's proposal due to exigent circumstances, but had promised to consult the people of his kingdom. This was the governor general's communicate and not a love letter, when you went to the Security Council and said that you had made up your mind to conduct a referendum..." he said in Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

Speaking about the "self-protective nature of 370", Masoodi said that the government "cannot bring an amendment in 370 through a constitutional order".

"You (government) are behaving both as lawyer and judge. Why not consult the people of Jammu and Kashmir first?" he added.

Sule draws Nagaland parallel, asks Govt to clarify plan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

DRAWING A comparison between the special provisions for Nagaland and Jammu and Kashmir, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MP Supriya Sule asked the government to clarify its line on such issues.

Speaking during the debate in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, the MP from Baramati said, "One question which comes to my mind is about the Naga framework. The Prime Minister two years ago worked out the framework with NSCN and they said that the state is unique and has a different history. The same logic applies to Jammu and Kashmir. So, will there be a similar plan for both? Or what is the

plan? So, you may kindly throw some light on why there is a different rule or special provisions... So, what is really the government's line? What would it be for Naga framework? Why is there a big change? This is almost like a contrast. So, you kindly clarify on these issues pertaining to J&K."

She said the debate on scrapping the special status of Jammu and Kashmir will remain incomplete in the records of Parliament as well as history in the absence of former J&K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah. "I don't know what to say about the Bill. It is not funny, the kind of rush with which it has been brought. This is Parliament. Please remain calm. My seat is 462 and the seat next to me, number 461, is occupied by Farooq Abdullah, who has



'My seat is 462 and the seat next to me, number 461, is occupied by Farooq Abdullah... his voice is silent today'

been elected from Kashmir. His voice is silent today. If you ask me, then this shall remain an incomplete debate in history,"

she said.

Despite Home Minister Amit Shah's assurances that Abdullah had not been detained, Sule said that given the emotions the people of Kashmir have for their former CM, the debate should not have been conducted in his absence.

Speaking about the restrictions in Kashmir, Sule said she had failed to get in touch with Abdullah and other "family friends" despite repeated attempts. She spoke of development in Kashmir and the sense of security that the Abdullah government had managed to foster.

Sule said that Article 370 had in any case been diluted over the years. "When Bills are tabled that say 'Not for Jammu and Kashmir', these are few. Take GST for instance, it is implemented there, all income

tax and other rules are the same there. I will give you one more example of what the home minister replied yesterday. He said that the education infrastructure there will improve. Mehbooba Mufti was the Chief Minister there, who was your ally. That was your government. I want to know that if GST could be implemented, then why did you not think of Right to Education? The literacy rate of J&K is 76.75 per cent and that of women is 56 per cent. The literacy rate in Bihar is 71 per cent and that of women is 51 per cent. The male literacy rate in Rajasthan is 79 per cent and that of women is 52 per cent... So when you say that abrogating Article 370 will bring about a lot of changes, I am not convinced. If you can convince me how it is going to change, I am open to a good discussion," she said.

'Do you want Kashmiris to sacrifice themselves on Eid?'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AIMIM MEMBER Asaduddin Owaisi described the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill as the "third historic mistake", the first having been committed with the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah in 1953 and the second with the "rigging" of elections in 1987. "Transmuting a state into a Union Territory would make Gogia Pasha and Mandrake go green with envy. This Bill is a violation of Article 3. What does this do to the federal polity in India?"

He urged Home Minister Amit Shah to read the judgment of Justice Rohinton Nariman in the State Bank of India versus Santosh Gupta case as well as the judgment of the Supreme Court in the case of Zafarullah. He said the Supreme Court had said that Article 370 is not "temporary", it is a special status.

The AIMIM leader said Shah saw himself as a man with an "iron fist". "But I must remind him that the first Iron Man in the whole democratic and undemocratic world was Bismarck, the Iron Chancellor. Even Bismarck said that the iron fist must be used by a velvet glove and in this case the velvet was Article 370 and this government has made it hollow."

He warned the government against the issues which may surface in Jammu and Kashmir. "There will be issues between Dogras and Punjabis in Jammu. There will be issues with Dalits also... There will be demands from the Hindus of Jammu. They will ask, why should we live in Pir Panjal and Chenab Valley with Muslims? There will be migration — you mark my words — of Muslims from Kargil."



Owaisi: Your MPs are saying this is Diwali. Then why not let all Kashmiris come out and celebrate?

Owaisi said, "What will happen on Eid? Eid is on Monday. Are you assuming that Kashmiris instead of sacrificing a lamb should sacrifice themselves? If you want that, I am sure they will do that. They have been doing that."

"Your MPs are saying this is Diwali. Then why not let all Kashmiris come out and celebrate," he said in the Lok Sabha.

The AIMIM leader said it was "dishonourable" to create two Union Territories in the place of a full-fledged state. "Are you planning to settle people from outside in the Valley the way Israelis did (in West Bank)?" asked Owaisi.

RSP member N K Premachandran opposed the resolution and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill on four grounds. He said, one, these were "totally unconstitutional, illegal, void and are ultra vires the powers of the President". Two, "it violates the basic, federal character of the Constitution". Three, "it abrogates all the Parliamentary Procedures, Rules and conventions of this House." Fourth, "it is having an ulterior political motive".

9 THE NEW J&K ORDER

Phone lines down in Kashmir lockdown, people unable to contact kin in Valley

KARISHMA MEHROTRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

COMMUNICATION SERVICES in Kashmir continued to be blocked on Tuesday — with mobile internet suspended, and cellular network, landline and broadband connectivity down — leaving politicians unable to reach their party and family members and newsrooms unable to receive reports from journalists in the Valley.

There was no Kashmir dateline in Delhi newspapers on Tuesday morning, and Kashmiri news websites such as Greater Kashmir and Rising Kashmir had not updated their reports from the region since Monday morning. Kashmir Observer and Kashmir Reader did not have an e-paper edition on Tuesday morning.

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad said in Parliament: "Since last night and up till now... I have been trying to collect information. After many hours, I could establish contact with some districts. Out of 22 districts, 20 districts are under curfew or curfew-like situation... In some places even television is disrupted... internet, mobile services and landline telephones are not working in 10 districts in Kashmir. In the Valley, cars, bus, tempos and trucks are not plying..."

"In Jammu, six of 10 districts are under curfew while there is curfew-like situation in three districts. There also, telephone services are shut... In Udhampur and Katwa, where my Hindu brothers are in a majority, I could with much difficulty talk to one person, a former minister who told me that his wife is stranded in Jammu, he was in Udhampur and children are stranded in school and nobody could be contacted over phones."

PDP MP Nazir Ahmed Laway said: "This is the first time I haven't been able to reach my son and daughter. I have been calling for three days."

Kashmiri MPs' offices — such as those of NC's Farooq Abdullah and Congress' Ghulam Nabi Azad — said they were not able to contact any family or party members in the region. In Parliament on Tuesday, Home Minister Amit Shah called the restrictions



With much of Jammu and Kashmir under curfew, the streets of Srinagar wore a deserted look on Tuesday. Shuaib Masoodi

"precautionary".

Landline numbers for 30 government offices, five universities and two hospitals in Kashmir were not reachable from Delhi on Tuesday afternoon. Websites of the J&K fire and emergency services were not working.

However, BSNL spokesperson S K Sinha told *The Indian Express* that all BSNL services, except internet services, were working in Kashmir. When it was pointed out that no call to government establishments in the Valley went through on Tuesday, he said: "It is another matter if it is not working because of rain or something. Officially, BSNL landlines are not closed in Kashmir."

An executive from a private communication service provider operating in Kashmir told *The Indian Express* that they had received a government order on Monday morning to shut down mobile and voice data, landline and broadband, and cable TV in Kashmir.

The executive said that usually the govern-

ment only clamps down on mobile data services, and could not recall any other instance when voice data, landline and broadband and cable TV were shut down in Kashmir.

In another unusual move, satellite phones were distributed to civil administration officials. On Sunday, a directory with satellite numbers of administrative officials — deputy commissioners and senior police officers — appeared on social media.

During earlier communication shutdowns in Kashmir, BSNL landlines commonly starting with the number 2 were usually found to be spared. On Tuesday, *The Indian Express* called many of these numbers — starting with 2 and located in Srinagar, belonging to the Governor's office and residence, Central University of Kashmir, Government Medical College, Srinagar District Police, Department of Information and Public Relations, Home Department, General Administration Department, Civil Secretariat Exchange, Power

Development Department, Department of Food — and found that they were not active.

Just last month, mobile internet services were shut on the death anniversary of Hizbul Mujahideen militant Burhan Wani. In 2016, after Wani's killing, internet in Kashmir was shut for 133 days — the longest internet shutdown in India since 2012, according to Software Freedom Law Center (SFLC) India.

"Internet shutdowns are common in Kashmir," said SFLC legal director Prasanth Sugathan. "In most instances, mobile internet is shut down or the speed is slowed down while wired broadband (including WiFi) is left functional. This is the first instance where we are aware of disruption of cable, landline and voice connections."

SFLC has found 178 instances of government-ordered internet shutdowns in Jammu & Kashmir since 2012. This year alone, the region has seen 53 instances.

— INPUTS BY MANOJ CG

J&K move triggers fear in N-E, Nagaland Governor says no need to worry

ABHISHEK SAHA
GUWAHATI, AUGUST 6

SCRAPPING OF special status to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 has fuelled apprehension among many in the Northeast, where several states enjoy certain special privileges under various Sections of the Constitution.

Article 371(A), which lays out special provisions for Nagaland, states that no Act of Parliament — with respect to religious or social practices of the Nagas, their customary law and procedure, administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law, ownership and transfer of land and its resources — will apply to Nagaland unless the state Assembly, by a resolution, decides so.

Article 371G accords similar provisions for Mizoram. Article 371H lists two special provisions for Arunachal Pradesh, relating to the powers of the Governor and composition of the state Assembly.

Article 371B deals with special provision for Assam — it refers to the President's powers regarding areas under Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution — while Article 371C lays out special provisions for Manipur.

Soon after Home Minister Amit Shah brought J&K Reorganisation Bill in Rajya Sabha on Monday, former multiple-term Mizoram chief minister and senior Congress leader Lal Thanhawla pointed towards this supposed threat in a tweet: "RED ALERT to the people of NE. It has become a threat to states like Mizoram, Nagaland & Arunachal which are protected by the Constitution. If 35A and 370 are repealed, Article 371G, which safeguards the interests and existence of lesser tribals of Mizoram is under severe threat."

Several political parties and civil society groups in Nagaland have aired similar apprehensions. Opposition Naga People's Front's spokesperson Achumbemo Kikon told *The Indian Express*: "The Government of India could have taken people of J&K into confidence. A more democratic process could have been followed. Such a step can further alienate Kashmiris. I hope the Centre will not attempt any such step in Nagaland — and if in case it does, it will not go down well."

Even Nagaland's ruling Nationalist Democratic Progress Party, an NDA partner, voiced concerns. Party spokesperson Merentoshi Jamir told PTI, "We are apprehensive, but with the talks for settlement of the Naga political issue still on, we hope the Centre will not make any such move (to scrap Art 371A)."

Newly appointed Nagaland Governor R N Ravi, who is also the interlocutor of the Naga peace talks, however, "assured" people that there is no need to worry.

In a statement on Tuesday, Ravi said, "Some people have expressed apprehensions over the implications of development

in Jammu & Kashmir on Nagaland. I would like to categorically assure you all that you do not have to worry at all. Article 371(A) is a solemn commitment to people of Nagaland. It is a sacred commitment..."

Welcoming the Governor's statement, Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio said in a statement: "The state government assures every citizen that it will stand up for the rights and protection of our people under all circumstances."

Several Naga outfits, including NSCN (IM), are in peace talks with the Centre at present. On being contacted, members of NSCN (IM) said no statement has been issued yet.

Chuba Ozukum, president of Nagaland's apex tribal body, Naga Hoho, said, "We are apprehensive of the Central government behaving with the same yardstick with Nagas as it did with J&K. They have no right to do such a thing with the Naga people. If they try any such thing (here), instead of settlement of the Naga issues things will get far more worse."

Calling the decision to scrap special provisions for J&K a "unilateral approach" that is "very disturbing and we are worried", Nagaland Tribal Council's secretary Theja Theriah said, "When any agreement is reviewed, it should be bilateral. They (Central government) should have followed a democratic process and it should have been through the Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir. We are hopeful that the Centre will not disrespect our trust. We are negotiating, and we hope they respect that."

Besides sections of Article 371, the Sixth Schedule of Constitution lays out provisions and powers of autonomous districts and autonomous regions in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Assam-based activist Akhil Gogoi said people in the region "definitely" have apprehensions. "If they (the Centre) can scrap Article 370, then next they may target Article 371 A-G; Constitutional safeguards under Sixth Schedule might go away next," he said. "They may even target reservations for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

Meghalaya-based civil society group Thma U Rangli-Juki (TUR) stated: "The Indian union came into being by various agreements with different communities through special provisions and arrangements, including the 5th and 6th schedules... Abrogation of Article 370 points to the reality that a similar threat to the 5th and 6th schedule provisions exists."

Other activists also point out that provisions of the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act (BEFR), 1873, on which the system of the Inner Line Permit (ILP) is based could also be repealed next.

A feature unique to some states in the Northeast, ILP is a special permit required by "outsiders" from other regions of India to enter Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram.

Lawyer moves Supreme Court against Centre move on J&K

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AN ADVOCATE approached the Supreme Court on Tuesday challenging the government move to revoke the special status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under the Constitution.

The petition by Manohar Lal Sharma has sought the quashing of the notification amending Article 367 of Constitution by way of which a new proviso was added to the Article to state that the expression "Constituent Assembly" in Article 370 (3) would now mean "Legislative Assembly".

Clause (3) gives the President power to modify the special rights granted under Article 370 — under which special status was conferred to the state — subject to the condition that it has the consent of the Constituent Assembly of J&K. However, with the state's Constituent Assembly dissolved in January 1957, the Centre brought in an amendment on Monday to replace "Constituent Assembly" with "Legislative Assembly".

Since the state Assembly has been suspended, the concurrence of the Governor is deemed to be the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

The petition argues that Article 370 could not have been modified without the consent of the Constituent Assembly. It urges the court to quash the notification, saying it was "illegal, unconstitutional, void ab-initio and ultra-vires the Constitution".

The petition is likely to be mentioned before the court on Wednesday for urgent hearing.

Stepping off Srinagar flights, Kashmiris say satellite TVs only source of info

SUKRITA BARUAH
& ANANYA TIWARI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

INCOMPLETE INFORMATION, households stocking up on essentials and the frustration of not being able to communicate with family. This was the refrain from Kashmiris who have travelled to Delhi from Srinagar Tuesday, three days after the information lockdown in the Valley.

At the Delhi airport, Kashmiris told *The Indian Express* that they know little of the situation across the Valley, a day after the Centre moved to abrogate Article 370 and bifurcate Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories, even as communication and Internet services continue to remain suspended.

"Since late Sunday night, we have not had mobile, landline, broadband or cable connectivity. The only source of information has been satellite television, and because of that people are aware that we no longer have Article 370. At least one household in a locality must have a satellite dish, so I think most people in Srinagar, at least, must be aware that this has happened," said a 44-year-old Srinagar resident, who has travelled to Delhi for work.

Gauhar Hussain Wani (43), who runs a shawl business, said, "When we heard that the Amarnath pilgrims were being asked to leave, everybody knew that something was going to happen so we stocked up on rice, dal and other supplies..."

Others arriving in Delhi spoke of the rumours flying across the Valley.

"For the past 12-15 days, there were rumours that something is going to happen, but the government had assured that these were just 'rumours'. Now that there's no



Passengers from Srinagar arrive at IGI Airport, Delhi. PTI

communication and only resentment and word-of-mouth, I have heard another rumour that 10-12 people have died somewhere, which I do not think is trustworthy," said a businessman, in Delhi for a meeting.

People also spoke of heavy militarisation and subdued streets.

"We travelled from Baramulla to Srinagar airport this morning, and there was a 'crew' of security personnel every 50 metres..." said a 24-year-old woman, who works in Delhi.

She and her husband had travelled to their homes in Baramulla last week to get married. The night after the last ceremony, all communication channels snapped. Landing in Delhi to begin their life together, they are worried because they cannot tell their families that they have reached safely.

Among those arriving in Delhi were also

those who have left the state in search of greener pastures, such as Mudasar (32) who has left his job in Srinagar.

"I have come here with five other former colleagues. We have all lived in Srinagar since we were born and worked for a private company there. After yesterday's developments, we quit our jobs and came here because all business and life has come to a complete halt back home," he said.

A Delhi-based academic visiting Kashmir University for work spoke of a deserted campus. "I was sent to the airport in an ambulance because all other vehicles had been deployed in sending students from different parts of the state to their hometowns... On the way to the airport, I saw a couple of shops selling milk and roti which were open, everything else was shut," he said.

Parties, people should have been taken into confidence: Mamata

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, AUGUST 6

A DAY after the Centre revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal Chief Minister and TMC chief Mamata Banerjee said the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019, should have been discussed with all political parties and that the people should have been taken into confidence before its passage in Parliament.

"They (the Centre) should have discussed (the Bill) with all political parties. They should have discussed it with the people of Kashmir. They should have called a meeting. We have to take the people into confidence," said Banerjee.

"We are patriotic people and we love our motherland. I firmly believe that Kashmiri

people are our brothers and sisters. I do not agree with the procedural method through which the Bill has been passed. I am not talking about the merit of the Bill. We cannot support this (Bill) and we cannot vote for this (Bill) too," she said, arguing that constitutional and legal provisions were not adhered to when the Bill was tabled.

Banerjee also demanded the release of political leaders including Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti.

"They are Kashmiri people they should not feel isolated. They are political personalities. They are not terrorists. They should be immediately released," said Mamata.

"Nobody should feel isolated. They are Indian citizens. Let us build confidence among the people. They should not feel scared. We should not panic. We want peaceful negotiation and solution," said Mamata.

Maharashtra plans tourist resort in Ladakh

Mumbai: With the withdrawal of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, the Maharashtra government wants to set up a tourist resort in Ladakh.

Tourism Development Minister Jaykumar Rawal said the official decision regarding this will be taken soon.

"We would like to purchase land and set up an MTDC (Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation) resort in Ladakh. Sizable number of tourists visit Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir every year and with abrogation of Article 370, I think we can officially set up a resort," Rawal said. "The resort will be as modern as those developed by MTDC in Maharashtra. Official decision will be taken soon." PTI

JD(U) leader asks Nitish to revisit stand on Article 370

SANTOSH SINGH
PATNA, AUGUST 6

SENIOR JD(U) leader Ajay Alok has gone against his party's opposition of revoking provisions of Article 370, and expressed his support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the "historic" decision of putting an end to constitutional provisions giving a special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

Though the JD(U) is part of the BJP-led NDA, the Nitish Kumar-led party has maintained that it opposes any move to repeal or weaken Article 370. Alok is the first JD(U) leader to go public with his dissent to the party's stated stand.

On Monday, Alok said, "Article 370 could not have been abrogated without strong po-

Violence in Poonch, 3 cops injured

Jammu: Three policemen, including a Deputy Superintendent of Police, were injured as violence over the scrapping of Article 370 broke out in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district.

Sources said people came out on the road in curfew-hit Surankote and Buzilaz areas of the district while discussions on the Bill for the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir state and the resolution for scrapping Article 370 were in progress in the Lok Sabha.

At Surankote, police successfully persuaded protesters to disperse, but in Buzilaz, the protesters pelted stones at policemen. DySP (Operations) Poonch was among three policemen injured, and they were rushed to hospital, while police reinforcements were rushed to the spot to bring situation under control.

In the rest of Jammu province, there were no reports of any untoward incident.

Curfew was imposed in Kishtwar, Doda, Poonch, besides parts of Ramban and Rajouri districts, prohibitory orders banning assembly of four or more persons were in place in Reasi, Udhampur, Jammu, Samba and Kathua districts. ENS



Nirmal Singh removes the J&K flag

J&K Speaker removes state flag from his official car

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU, AUGUST 6

AS THE Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed the resolution abrogating Article 370, Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Speaker Nirmal Singh removed the state flag from his official car.

With this, Singh become the first Constitutional functionary to remove state flag from his official vehicle.

Singh, a senior BJP leader, said, "When we were in government (the PDP-BJP coalition government headed first by the late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, and later by his daughter Mehbooba Mufti), we had to fly the state flag with a heavy heart as it was our constitutional compulsion."

He said the passage of the Bills on Jammu and Kashmir in Parliament is the culmination of the "70-year-old dream of (BJP ideologue) Shyama Prasad Mookerjee and (Praja Parishad leader) Pt. Prem Nath Dogra", crediting Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the same.

He said, "Whenever the government notification in the matter comes, I have decided not to fly national flag on my official vehicle..."

Meanwhile, Government sources said that after the abrogation of Article 370, the state flag has become a "non-entity". However, it will only be removed from official vehicles after an official notification is issued in the matter.

10 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



MISSING MEMBER

THE ABSENCE of Farooq Abdullah, the Lok Sabha MP from Srinagar, from the House was disconcerting for some Opposition MPs. DMK's Dayanidhi Maran was seen going through rule-books and consulting RSP's N K Premachandran before raising a point of order. As Maran pointed out that the Speaker should have been informed about the MP being detained or arrested, both Home Minister Amit Shah and Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad went to the officer's box to consult them over the matter. While the government took a while in giving its response to Maran's point, some Congress MPs also got into action. Ernakulam MP Hibi Eden took a sheet of paper, wrote on it "Where is Farooq Abdullah? The Nation Wants to Know", and held it up. Congress member Shashi Tharoor and NCP's Supriya Sule also expressed their concern. When Sule said the debate could not be completed without Abdullah, Shah said: "He (Abdullah) is neither under detention nor under arrest. He is at his home of his own free will." As Sule said that he is not well, Shah quipped, "Doctors can treat him, I can't."

HOUSE AT HOME

VENKAIAH NAIDU loves to host people at his home. Finding the right opportunity on the penultimate day of the Budget Session, he announced in the House that he would like to invite all members for a lunch on Wednesday, the last day of the session. The invitation was met with cheerful thumps by those present, and Naidu, in his quintessential style, added, "It will be better if you clap after eating." The discussion on a Bill had just started before the announcement, and Naidu, who does not miss an opportunity for wordplay, added, "There is no bill for lunch. It is free."

CALL FOR COMMITTEES

BEFORE ADJOURNING Rajya Sabha on Tuesday, Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu gave a final call to all political parties to send names of their MPs from both Houses to constitute eight department-related standing committees that are under control of the Upper House. Parties that fail to send in names will not have their MPs on these committees, Naidu said. His direction assumes significance in the context of the Opposition's demand for referring Bills to standing committees for scrutiny. The government, it is learnt, may propose to send some Bills to the select committees of Rajya Sabha.

A TALL LEADER

THE DEBATE on J&K Reorganisation Bill presented an opportunity for the BJD to refresh the country's memory about the role party's founder Biju Patnaik played in the history of Kashmir. Party MP Pinaki Misra said that on October 27, 1947, when Pakistani invaders were marching towards Srinagar and the then Maharaja had left Srinagar, a flight under the command of Lt Gen Deewan Ranjit Roy with 17 soldiers of the First Sikh regiment on board went there and saved Srinagar and Kashmir. "The nation must know that the man who flew the plane was none other than Biju Patnaik... Not one sortie, Biju Patnaik that day flew several sorties and took several batches of soldiers into Srinagar airport," Misra said. The MPs who were not aware of this part of the history appeared surprised.

RS passes Consumer Protection Bill

Demands to send Bill to select committee rejected

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

PARLIAMENT ON Tuesday approved the Consumer Protection Bill, which seeks to establish the Central Consumer Protection Authority to protect and enforce consumer rights. The Bill, which was passed by the Lok Sabha on July 30, and cleared by the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday, has provisions with strict penalties, including jail term for adulteration and misleading advertisements by companies.

The Bill replaces the existing Consumer Protection Act, 1986, and aims to provide a mechanism for the redressal of consumer complaints regarding defects in goods and deficiency in services, right down to the level of districts. The Consumer Protection Bill, 2019, was passed by voice vote negating demands by some of the opposition parties, including the Trinamool Congress and the CPM, to refer the Bill to a select committee. Amendments moved by TMC's Derek O'Brien and CPM's K K Ragesh were rejected by the Upper House.

Replying to the debate, Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Ram Vilas Paswan said suggestions given by members would be included in the rules framed by the ministry under the legislation.

The minister said if a product is found faulty, instead of earlier individual examination, the entire batch would be examined. He said the new Bill seeks to take care of product liabilities and service, as well as action against



Ram Vilas Paswan

EXPLAINED E. Eyes on standing committees

THE GOVERNMENT'S reluctance to refer Bills to standing and select committees was at the heart of the tussle between the Opposition and Centre during the first session of the 17th Lok Sabha. The other being the Opposition's charge that the Centre was riding roughshod over federalism. With the session ending on Wednesday, all eyes are on the fate of some of the Bills, which are yet to get the nod of Parliament. With standing committees likely to be constituted soon, one cannot rule out some of them being referred to panels.

publishers and celebrities of misleading advertisements. Paswan said that media and

celebrities must only advertise what has been given in writing to them by manufacturers or else they will be responsible.

During the debate, members from the Left parties, DMK and TMC opposed certain provisions in the Bill, arguing it takes away indirectly the powers of the state governments.

"All the executive powers are being retained by the Centre but the financial burden, according to this Bill, is going to the states... The Centre makes rules for qualification, appointment as Members to the districts as well as the State Commissions," O'Brien said. "The states have to bear the cost of setting up these Commissions. And the federal power of the states, that is being taken away because of this Bill or certain clauses in the Bill. The states have not been consulted at all," he said.

CPI's Binoy Vishwam raised similar concerns. "In this Bill, the Central Consumer Protection Authority has become very strong. And, there are apprehensions expressed by various states that the powers of the states may be curtailed. The Central Consumer Protection Authority is the supreme body that will decide everything," he said.

Arguing that the Bill is yet another example of assault on federalism by the government, CPI(M) member K K Ragesh said powers of the states are being snatched away through various provisions.

DMK's Tiruchi Siva too argued that the Bill takes away powers of the states. "What is the reason for taking away the states' powers indirectly in every Bill?" he asked.

Upper House gives its nod for Eviction Bill

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE RAJYA Sabha on Tuesday passed a Bill for speedy eviction of unauthorised occupants from government residential accommodations, with Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri saying the legislation will have a deterrent effect.

The Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Amendment Bill, 2019, which has strict provisions to evict illegal occupants from government property allotted to members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and government officials, was passed by a voice vote. The Lok Sabha had passed it on July 31.

The Bill would enable the estate officer to apply summary proceedings for evicting the unauthorised occupants after a three-day notice.

Cutting across party lines, MPs supported the Bill, though some opposition members expressed apprehension about misuse of its provisions.

Replying to the debate, Puri said the Bill also has provisions for seeking damages on monthly basis from the occupants for holding the property during litigation period. He said that there are over



Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri

3,000 unauthorised occupants of government accommodations. "Many of them (cases) are pending in court," said Puri.

He said that this time 300 new MPs have been elected and several of them are waiting for their new accommodation.

The Centre has to evict unauthorised occupants from government accommodations under the provisions of the PPE Act, 1971. However, the eviction proceedings take unusually long time, thereby reducing the availability of government accommodations to new incumbents. Under the Bill, the estate officer will not be required to follow elaborate proceedings like serving notice, show cause, inquiry, rather he or she can initiate summary eviction proceedings.

Lok Sabha session adjourned sine die, most productive session since 1952, says Speaker

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE FIRST session of the 17th Lok Sabha was adjourned sine die on Tuesday, a day ahead of the scheduled conclusion. The almost two-months-long session, which saw the passage of a number of crucial legislations, has been the most productive session since 1952, said Speaker Om Birla.

The session, which began on June 17, was scheduled to conclude on July 26 but was extended till August 7. However, a day before the extended session was to come to an end, Parliamentary Affairs Minister

Pralhad Joshi requested the Speaker to adjourn the proceedings sine die as "99 per cent" of the government business had been completed.

During the session, 35 bills were passed, a total of 183 starred questions were orally answered, 1,066 issues of urgent importance were taken up, and 488 issues were taken up under rule 377, Birla said. In order to make it more productive, the Lower House sat for 75 hours late in the evening.

"There were a total of 37 sittings in which we worked for 280 hours," the Speaker said in his concluding remarks.

The first session of the 17th Lok Sabha in which the BJP has

clear majority on its own was distinct in many counts.

Unlike in the last two Lok Sabhas, which were marked by abrupt adjournments and uproarious scenes, this session did not have any abrupt adjournments.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi tried to make his party MPs more regular in attending Parliament, Speaker Birla brought in a number of measures to improve the order and decorum of the house. He has introduced ballot system for Zero Hour mentioning, and paid extra attention to see that every member gets time to put his or her views.

Birla's effort to make every

MP speak in the first session itself has been a huge success, most of the MPs got chance to speak at least once, said a BJP leader.

However, the Opposition parties complained that the treasury benches were trying to rush through Bills without giving the opposition time to study and debate. They have accused the BJP of steamrolling crucial bills which included amendments to the RTI and changes to the UAPA and NIA bills.

Speaker Birla has promised the opposition that he would see that the government follow the rule that calls for distribution of Bills at least two days in advance

so that the MPs can study and prepare for the debate.

Politically too, the first session was different. It began with a call for a united opposition, but by the end of the session, the opposition has been left a deeply divided house, with smaller parties re-aligning with the BJP.

The main opposition Congress, which had been the leading force in the Upper House and could stall a number of legislations despite the BJP's majority in the Lok Sabha, saw its strength weaken every day, with many of its MPs deserting the party. The Congress's ability to cobble up a united force against the ruling party also has been diminished.

Allow us to retain national party tag till after 2024 LS polls: TMC, CPI to EC

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

FACED WITH the risk of losing their national party status, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and Communist Party of India (CPI) have urged the Election Commission to put the review on hold till after the Lok Sabha elections in 2024, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

The poll panel had served showcause notices to Mamata Banerjee's TMC, CPI and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on July 18 seeking explanation on why their national party status should not be withdrawn after their rout in the Lok Sabha elections. The parties had time till August 5 to respond.

According to the criteria set by the poll panel, a national party needs to get at least 6 per cent votes each from minimum four states, or get 2 per cent of the total seats in Lok Sabha from at least three states, or it should be recognised as a state party in at least four states. The NCP, TMC, and CPI no longer fulfill any of the above conditions.

In its response to EC's notice, the TMC argued that it was awarded the national party tag only in 2016

The poll panel had served showcause notices to TMC, CPI and NCP on July 18, and the parties had time till August 5 to respond

and, hence, should be allowed to retain the same till Lok Sabha elections in 2024. After the 2014 parliamentary polls, the BSP, CPI and NCP stood to lose their national party status, but the EC at that time had agreed to take a lenient view and decided to review their status after two poll cycles. The TMC's argument is in light of the EC's decision to review status after two poll cycles instead of one.

The CPI, too, requested the poll panel to review its status till after 2024 and cited the party's history to defend its national character. "We are one of the oldest political parties of this country and have even participated in the freedom struggle. We also continue to have a national presence. We have submitted this reply to EC and they will now consider it," CPI general secretary D Raja told *The Indian Express*.

If they are derecognised, then the BJP, Congress, National People's Party, CPM and BSP will be the only political parties that will continue to enjoy the national tag.

Under the Symbols Order 1968, a party, on losing the national status, does not have the right to fight elections using a common symbol across the country. In other words, if the decision is implemented, the analogue clock symbol will not be reserved for all NCP candidates across the country. It can use it only in states where it is recognised as a state party.

FROM THE GALLERY

FROM THE CHAIR RAJYA SABHA

"On the so-called Zero Hour, next time I would like to take your suggestion. Zero is not looking positive to my mind. Some other name you can suggest."

VENKAIAH NAIDU, Chairman, at the start of the Zero Hour.

LOK SABHA

"Honourable member, you have a right to speak in the House. But whatever you say here, the entire country is listening."

OM BIRLA, Speaker, to NC MP Hasnain Masoodi.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Today one honourable member was asking what will Kashmir lose if Article 370 is removed. I would like to say that two families there will lose their daily bread. Kashmir will lose nothing."

JAMYANG TSERING NAMGYAL, Ladakh BJP MP

ROLL CALL

PRIME MINISTER: Present
SONIA GANDHI: Present
RAHUL GANDHI: Present

5 QUESTIONS



TRINAMOOL CONGRESS'S RAJYA SABHA MP ABIR RANJAN BISWAS SPOKE ABOUT THE POPULATION OF HILSA FISH COMING DOWN. HE SPOKE TO KRISHN KAUSHIK.

What issue did you raise? I spoke about the problem of dwindling population of the Hilsa. I have not seen a single big Hilsa in the market this season.

What is the importance of Hilsa in Bengali culture? It is extremely important in Bengali culture. Every Bengali person will have a story about the fish.

Why is its population going down? It is not supposed to be caught as a juvenile fish, but a lot of poor fisherfolk fish it even in the months when they are not supposed to. More Hilsa is being caught than it is being reproduced.

What can the Union government do? The Centre needs to impose the ban (on fishing) more strictly... You have to save the fish in its natural habitat, too.

How did Bangladesh check the dwindling population? ... In early 2000s, they (Bangladesh government) imposed strict bans. They also imposed bans on certain rivers and estuaries for fishing.

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI SMART CITY LTD
Tender Notice No: 210 /2019-20
The tenderers willing to submit tenders for Construction of Commercial Complex at Puthur Market in Tiruchirappalli Corporation valuing at the Estimated cost of **Rs.20.20 Crores**, to be executed under the Tiruchirappalli Smart City Mission are requested to submit tenders through E-Tendering procedure in <http://tntenders.gov.in> as well as through sealed hard copy on or before **3.00 p.m. of 12.09.2019**, which will be downloaded and opened at **04.00 p.m.** in the same day. If the date of receipt of tender happens to be holiday, then tenders will be received in the succeeding working day at the same time and venue.
Pre bid meeting in this regard will be held on **21.08.2019 at 11.00 am** at Commissioner's Conference Hall, Corporation Main office. Other details may be obtained in the Engineering section, Main office during office hours in working days.
Tender Conditions are available in the above said website.
Managing Director
Tiruchirappalli Smart City Ltd.

कार्यालय अधिकासी अभियन्ता, केन्द्रीय मण्डल, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, जल भवन, नई ब्लाक, नेहरू कॉलोनी, देहरादून
पत्रांक-460 / ई-निविदा / 2019-20
ई-निविदा सूचना
उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान की ओर से केन्द्रीय मण्डल, देहरादून द्वारा निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा, दू-बिड सिस्टम (लकनीकी बिड एवं कार्यालय बिड) आधार पर निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।
निविदा क्र. कार्य विवरण बतौर वनारिक्त ई-निविदा द्वारा निविदा खानकोड करने की तिथि एवं समय ठकनीकी बिड खोले जाने की तिथि एवं समय निविदा की शैला डि-बिड गीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
14 वार्षिक दर अनुबन्ध पर, ISI Marked G.I. Pipes conforming to IS: 1239 (Part-I)/2004 or its latest amendments (s) की आपूर्ति।
34,000,000.00 09.08.19 from 11:00 a.m. 30.08.19 upto 5:00 p.m. 31.08.19 at 11:00 a.m. 90 days 14.08.19 at 11:00 a.m.
अर्हता- Only manufacturers of ISI marked G.I. Pipes conforming to IS: 1239 (Part-I)/2004 or its latest amendment(s) who are registered in Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan, Jal Bhawan, 'B' Block, Nehru Colony, Dehradun before the publishing of this tender are allowed to take part in this tender.
15 वार्षिक दर अनुबन्ध पर, ISI Marked Plain Ended M.S. ERW Line Pipe conforming to IS: 1978/1982 Grade YST-210 (Replaced by BIS as IS/ISO 3183/2007 GRADE-L-210, PSL-1) की आपूर्ति।
3,20,000.00 09.08.19 from 11:00 a.m. 30.08.19 upto 5:00 p.m. 31.08.19 at 11:00 a.m. 90 days 14.08.19 at 11:00 a.m.
अर्हता- Only manufacturers of ISI Marked Plain Ended M.S. ERW Line Pipe having BIS license for IS: 1978/1982 Grade YST-210 (Replaced by BIS as IS/ISO 3183/2007 GRADE-L-210, PSL-1) who are registered in Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan, Jal Bhawan, 'B' Block, Nehru Colony, Dehradun before the publishing of this tender are allowed to take part in this tender.
16 वार्षिक दर अनुबन्ध पर, ISI Marked Plain Ended M.S. ERW Casing Pipe conforming to IS: 4270/2001 Grade FE-410 or its latest amendment(s) की आपूर्ति।
2,40,000.00 09.08.19 from 11:00 a.m. 30.08.19 upto 5:00 p.m. 31.08.19 at 11:00 a.m. 90 days 14.08.19 at 11:00 a.m.
अर्हता- Only manufacturers of ISI Marked M.S. ERW Casing Pipe having BIS license for IS: 4270/2001 Grade FE-410 who are registered in Uttarakhand Jal Sansthan, Jal Bhawan, 'B' Block, Nehru Colony, Dehradun before the publishing of this tender are allowed to take part in this tender.
ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त जानकारियां व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in एवं विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://uj.s.uk.gov.in> पर ऑन लाइन देखी / प्राप्त की जा सकती है।
अधिकासी अभियन्ता
DIPR/2708/Tender/2019

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Golden Opportunity for branding in Vande Bharat Express
The Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi division, New Delhi invites e-tender for the following work: **Name of work** : Commercial Advertisement rights through provision of Head Rest Covers, 18.5" LED TVs and Wi-Fi Hotspot Infotainment System in all coaches of Train no. 22435/22436 New Delhi-Varanasi Vande Bharat Express (T-18) for a period of five years. **2. E-tender Notice Number on IREPS** : PublicityVandeBharat02-2019 **3. Date of Tender Opening**: 19.08.2019 up to 1100 hrs **4. Approximate cost of work**: As per NIT on ireps.gov.in **5. Cost of Tender document including 18 % GST** : As per NIT on ireps.gov.in **6. Earnest Money Deposit**: As per NIT on ireps.gov.in **7. Website particulars where complete detail of tender document can be seen**: www.ireps.gov.in No. 7PUB/New Proposal/INPTN / QT/2018 Dated: 07.2019 2536/19
Serving Customers With A Smile

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT
TAMIL NADU ROAD SECTOR PROJECT II
BID NOTICE NO. TNRSP II/PPP01/2019-20/01, Dated. 07.08.2019
1. The Superintending Engineer (H), TNRSP II on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu invites bids for "Four Lining of Gobi - Erode Section of SH-15 ("The Project State Highway") from Km 123+000 to Km 153+600 in the State of Tamil Nadu under TNRSP-II to be executed on Design, Build, Finance, Operate, Maintain and Transfer (DBFOMT) on Modified Annuity Basis".
2. The bid document is available from **07.08.2019 at 15.00 hours** and should be submitted online in the website, www.tntenders.gov.in.
3. Kindly refer the Invitation For Bid (IFB) uploaded in www.tntenders.gov.in for details.
4. A non-refundable fee of Rs.10,000/- (inclusive of tax) is required to be paid (as defined in paragraph 1.2.1 of the RFP document) towards the cost of the RFP process.
5. Pre-bid meeting will be held on **27.08.2019 at 11.00 hours** at the office of the PROJECT DIRECTOR, TNRSP-II, CHENNAI.
6. Deadline for online submission of bids: **on or before 11.00 hours (IST) on 03.10.2019**.
7. Date of online Technical Bid opening: **at 11.30 hours (IST) on 03.10.2019**.
Superintending Engineer (H), (For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu) Tamil Nadu Road Sector Project II, Chennai-28. TNMB Building, 1st Floor, 171, South Kesavapuram Puram, Off Greenways Road, R.A.Puram, Chennai- 600 028. Tamil Nadu, India. Telephone No: +91 44 24951072 Fax :+91 44 24952414 Email: tnrsp1@gmail.com / Website: www.tnrspp.gov.in
DIPR/2708/Tender/2019

EXPRESS NETWORK

Foreign minister, most accessible

Minister who helped Indians in distress, played perfect foil to a visible PM

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

IN JUNE 2016, a Twitter user tweeted to then External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj that he had been sold a defective refrigerator that went kaput. She replied, on Twitter: "Brother I cannot help you in matters of a Refrigerator. I am very busy with human beings in distress."

That was Swaraj, who had by then earned a formidable reputation in helping overseas Indians in distress; the External Affairs Minister who brought a humane touch to the otherwise distant and officious Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Within months of taking charge, Swaraj made sure that the ministry was a responsive government institution. A system, thus, was put in place where she would respond to distress tweets from Indians stranded across the world.

"Indian Embassy is your home away from home. Whenever in trouble, please contact the Indian Embassy/Consulate. They will always help you," she told this to many — in person, and on Twitter.

During her five years as External Affairs Minister, Swaraj made sure that she left a legacy of being a responsive minister — she once responded to distress tweets at 3 am, which became a benchmark of sorts for Indian embassies worldwide.

Handpicked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to lead the MEA, Swaraj could have fretted and sulked since Modi made foreign policy his priority in his first term. But she was able to make her own space skillfully.

India has had a history of Prime Ministers with very strong foreign policy agenda. From Jawaharlal Nehru, who was his own foreign minister, Indira Gandhi, P V Narasimha Rao, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Manmohan Singh, to Narendra Modi, all these leaders ran the MEA through the PMO. But undeterred, Swaraj made a mark by using social media, and made South Block accessible.

From rescuing Heeta and speech-impaired Geeta from Pakistan to organising mass evacuation from Iraq, Yemen, Nepal, among other conflict-hit areas, and from pushing the Kulbhushan Jadhav case to getting Indian national Hamid Ansari back, Swaraj endeared herself to ordinary Indians.

While her people-friendly image was for Indians, she played the perfect foil for the visible Prime Minister — understated, subtle, not-in-your-face.

She always prepared the groundwork for Modi's high-level visits — from her visit to Pakistan in December 2015, which was followed by Modi's; her visit to China in 2018, setting the stage for the informal Wuhan summit; and effectively standing in for the United Nations General Assembly sessions every September-October to put across India's point of view.

Gifted with oratory skills, both in chaste Hindi and English, she made life easy for Indian diplomats prepping for visits. "Remembering our 2 AM session with #SushmaSwaraj in Abu Dhabi on March 1. She was to



With former US President Barack Obama. File



@narendramodiji - Thank you Prime Minister. Thank you very much. I was waiting to see this day in my lifetime.

HER LAST TWEET ON TUESDAY AT 7.23 PM (ON J&K)

speak the next morning as Guest of Honour at OIC Foreign Ministers' Conference. Arrived after midnight, plunged straight into work, got a bit of rest and delivered a truly memorable address," Indian envoy to the UAE, Navdeep Suri, tweeted.

While she kept a distance from the media during her stint as the External Affairs Minister, Swaraj hosted an annual winter lunch, with Indian cuisine and cultural performance on the lawns of Jawaharlal Nehru Bhavan, and during which she easily mingled with journalists, appreciating work of even those not very charitable to her.

Although she used Twitter to help people, she also had some moments where she faced criticism for handling of issues.

Once, when a doormat depicting the Indian flag sold by a third-party reseller in Canada caught her attention, she demanded a public apology from Amazon and threatened to rescind Indian visas for Amazon employees.

Even though she was embroiled in the Lalit Modi controversy, there was a point when one discovered how her relationships cut across party lines. In June-July 2015, she also got a lot of flak for helping fugitive Lalit Modi get travel documents. But while she got criticism from all across, Opposition leaders had such respect for her that in Parliament they stopped short of asking for her resignation.

At the French National Day in July 2015, asked why the Opposition was not seeking her resignation, one Opposition leader said, "She is one of our old socialist friends."

While she won over her rivals that day, over the last five years she possibly won the hearts of many she helped and came across as someone who was the "People's Foreign Minister".



(Clockwise from top) Sushma Swaraj; with BJP leader Murlimanohar Joshi; with L K Advani; and former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Express Archive

She suffered heart attack at home, was rushed to AIIMS

MALLICA JOSHI & AMIL BHATNAGAR
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

SENIOR BJP leader and former External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj died at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Tuesday night. She was 67.

Swaraj, who suffered a heart attack and collapsed at her home on Jantar Mantar Road, was brought to the hospital at 9.35 pm. According to the AIIMS statement, a team of doctors performed CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) for around 70-80 minutes. She

was declared dead at 10.50 pm.

Cutting across party lines, several senior leaders reached the hospital amid heavy security. Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, BJP working president J P Nadda, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal and Congress MP Ghulam Nabi Azad were among those present.

"I am in shock. We have lost a very tall leader," said Prasad, adding that he had spoken to her last week, after the triple talaq Bill was passed in Parliament. "She was an able leader, a brilliant administrator, a phenomenal ora-



tor and a wonderful teacher. I have no words," he said. Azad said he had shared a cordial relationship with Swaraj, despite their ideological and political differences. "She was a wonderful person and a good politician. I have lost a sister today," he said. "Sushmaji was always dedicated to the nation. She showed how to conduct oneself in politics while serving the nation to the fullest," said Nadda.

In 2016, Swaraj underwent a kidney transplant at AIIMS in a nearly six-hour-long surgery. She is survived by her husband Swaraj Kaushal and daughter Bansuri.



Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, Congress MP Ghulam Nabi Azad and BJP leader Shahnawaz Hussain outside AIIMS on Tuesday. Mallica Joshi

A glorious chapter in Indian politics comes to an end. India grieves the demise of a remarkable leader who devoted her life to public service and bettering lives of the poor. Sushma Swaraj ji was one of her kind, who was a source of inspiration for crores of people.

NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

She left an imprint in Indian politics as a fierce orator, a disciplined worker, popular representative and a sincere minister.

AMIT SHAH, HOME MINISTER & BJP PRESIDENT

She was a seasoned Parliamentarian and widely respected, cutting across party lines. Her demise is a monumental loss for us. Sushmaji rose through the ranks to become the External Affairs Minister... She introduced a new sensitivity and sensibility in the functioning of the MEA. She was known as the People's Minister... Her contribution to the nation and the party will always be remembered.

RAJNATH SINGH, DEFENCE MINISTER

Difficult to accept this news. The whole nation grieves, the Foreign Ministry even more so.

S JAISHANKAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

An extraordinary political leader, a gifted orator & an exceptional Parliamentarian, with friendships across party lines.

RAHUL GANDHI, CONGRESS

I knew her since the 1990s. Even though our ideologies differed, we shared many cordial times in Parliament. An outstanding politician, leader, good human being.

MAMATA BANERJEE, WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER

She served her party and the country with loyalty, devotion and distinction.

P CHIDAMBARAM, CONGRESS

An astute parliamentarian, an effective orator & an excellent humane leader... Hers was a story of hard work to heights.

PRANAB MUKHERJEE, FORMER PRESIDENT

'Stateswoman, contribution to Haryana won't be forgotten'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 6

POLITICAL LEADERS from across the political spectrum condoled the death of former Union minister Sushma Swaraj, with Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar describing her as an "astute stateswoman" whose "contributions for Haryana and India will never be forgotten".

Expressing shock and sadness at her death, Khattar tweeted, "My deepest condolences to her bereaved family members and May God give her eternal peace".

His Punjab counterpart Amarinder Singh tweeted, "...I will always remember her as a dynamic and sensitive leader with the ability to empathise with the common people..."

Former Haryana CM and senior Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda stated, "Tall leader, former Union minister and my sister Sushma Swaraj-ji's death has left me shocked. She always fulfilled relationships outside the domain of politics..."

Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal stated, "Today, India lost a great leader, the world lost an exemplary human being and I lost an elder sister. The void left by the passing of former external affairs minister Sushma Swaraj ji can never be filled."

Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, "Extremely shocked and deeply saddened at the sudden and untimely demise of our senior leader and former EAM, Smt Sushma Swaraj ji..."

K C Singh, former diplomat and strategic affairs expert, tweeted, "Terrible news. She was my junior at Law Department, Panjab University. We got along well during Vajpayee government but she never forgave me for lambasting her over Lalit Modi affair. Poor health and intrusive PMO kept her from shining as EAM but she became minister who cared for aam aadmi. RIP"

FROM PAGE ONE

Sushma Swaraj no more

Starting her political career under the Janata Party, Swaraj was elected to the Haryana assembly in 1977 and became a state minister at age 25. She was again elected to the assembly in 1987 when Devi Lal ousted the Congress from power that triggered an electoral cascade which eventually saw the Congress lose power at the Centre in the 1989 Lok Sabha elections.

She came into national limelight because of her ideologically fierce oratory in Lok Sabha, especially during the 1996 trust vote. Her political articulation, drawn from India's mythological traditions, endeared her to the common man who could grasp her arguments.

Her career was an inspiration for many a woman politician —

she graduated from student politics to state politics to national politics and became an icon. Her rise within the BJP, considered a party of conservatives, was testimony to her political acumen, courage and mass appeal.

At the end of a long innings, she opted out of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and was left out of the new Cabinet. She remained politically senior to every important position-holder in the current BJP government. She was part of Vajpayee's 13-day government in 1996.

A disciplined party worker, Swaraj was politically combative, never hesitating to wage a good battle for the sake of the party. She displayed this when the party deputed her to Delhi as its first woman Chief Minister



Outside AIIMS on Tuesday night. Tashi Tobgyal

just ahead of the 1998 assembly elections. The sky-rocketing onion prices, however, put paid to BJP hopes in the state as the Congress won the elections and Sheila Dikshit replaced her, only to continue for the next 15 years.

But Swaraj did not lose heart. She jumped into the electoral

fray against Congress president Sonia Gandhi, heading to Bellary in Karnataka during the 1999 Lok Sabha elections. She learnt a smattering of Kannada to connect with Bellary, forcing a keen contest. She lost narrowly, by a margin of less than 60,000 votes. Groomed by party patriarch

L K Advani as the next generation leader of the party, Swaraj worked under Prime Minister Vajpayee as Minister for Information and Broadcasting, and Health. Her crackdown against content being broadcast by FTV for the Indian audience created a flutter during her stint at the I&B. Though the move was frowned upon by a section of the industry, it burnished her image among the party's traditional support base across the country.

Before the BJP was cast aside in the 2004 elections — it was the start of a decade-long political wilderness — Swaraj had raised the political stakes by declaring she would shave her head if "Italy-bom" Sonia Gandhi was elected as Prime Minister. It defined her political contest with the Congress leadership.

With Advani forced out of the leadership position after the

party's crushing defeat in the 2009 Lok Sabha elections, the Sangh Parivar went for a recast of party's leadership. The next generation leaders were assigned crucial responsibilities — Nitin Gadkari as party president, Sushma Swaraj as Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Arun Jaitley as Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha.

In Lok Sabha, Swaraj led the BJP charge during an era which was described as one of policy paralysis with allegations of corruption hounding the Manmohan Singh government. In a verbal duel with the then Prime Minister over the 2G scandal, she told him: "Tu idhar udhar ki baat na kar/ yeh bata ki kafilay kyun luta/hamein rehna se gila nahin/teri rehbari ka sawaal hai."

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

Nirmohi Akhara seeks control of 2.77-acre disputed land

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

AS DAY to day hearings on appeals challenging the September 2010 ruling of the Allahabad High Court on the Ayodhya dispute began in the Supreme Court Tuesday, the Nirmohi Akhara, seeking control of the disputed 2.77 acres, stated that Muslims had stopped offering Namaz at the Ramjanmabhoomi-Babri Masjid complex in 1934, and only Hindus had been allowed to offer prayers there.

The SC had ordered day to day hearing as its efforts to find an amicable solution to the dispute through mediation had failed to make any headway. The day's proceedings began with the court rejecting a plea by former RSS ideologue K N Govindacharya to allow audio recording of the hearing or pre-

pare its transcripts.

Fourteen appeals have been filed in the apex court against the 2010 Allahabad High Court judgment, delivered in four civil suits, that the 2.77-acre land in Ayodhya be partitioned equally among the three parties — the Sunni Waqf Board, the Nirmohi Akhara and Ram Lalla.

Senior Advocate Sushil Jain, representing the Akhara which is seeking management and control of the area, told a five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi that there was no dispute regarding the outer courtyard until the Sunni Waqf Board filed a suit in 1961.

He said that the inner courtyard, as well as the Janmasthan, was always been in the possession of the Akhara. "We were in possession of inner courtyard and Ram Janmasthan for hundreds of years. Outer courtyard having 'Sita Rasoi', 'Chabutra',



'Bhandar Grah' were in our possession and it was never a part of dispute in any case," Jain told the bench.

He said that the absence of a provision for 'wuzu', where Muslims wash their hands and body before Namaz, at the disputed site was interpreted by the High Court to conclude that prayers were not being offered there since long and thus it had ceased to be a mosque.

Jain read from the September 31 order of the Allahabad High Court even as the bench also comprising Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan

and S A Nazeer questioned whether the Akhara had filed its original suit within the period of limitation.

The court wanted to know what was the final order from which the limitation period was counted.

Jain said there was no final order and the period was counted from the date on which the complex which had been in its exclusive possession was attached and possession handed over to the receiver.

He also recalled that the Akhara was a well-known one and had protected the Rani of Jhansi after the battle of Jhansi.

The bench also posed questions to the lawyer to understand the map of the complex and disputed area.

This happened after the CJ asked Jain to confine his arguments to the civil dispute and told him that he could skip reading what was not necessary. This prompted Dhavan to say that he hoped there would not be any curtailment of arguments.

The CJ replied that Dhavan would get his chance and asked him "do you have any doubt?" Dhavan answered that he was only answering the question put to him by the CJ.

CJ Gogoi then told him that he should remember that he was also an officer of the court and should keep the dignity of the court. "Then don't ask me such questions," said Dhavan.

The CJ told him "but there is a way to answer". An adamant Dhavan replied, "Well, this is my answer". The CJ went on to clarify that "all I want to say is that we won't curtail anyone." And Dhavan's response, "I hope so."

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, Satish Kumar S/o Mr. Bhagwan Dass Chawla R/o House No. 421/10, Near Durga Mandir, Chhattarpur, New Delhi-74, have changed my name to Satish Kumar Chawla for all purposes. 0040506391-3

I, Ashish S/o Sh. Vinod Kumar R/o H.No.10, Street No.1, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Ashish Rathore permanently. 0040506623-1

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS The Executive Engineer, Civil Division No.IX, I&FC Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Sector-15, Rohini, New Delhi-110085 invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate tender from approved and eligible contractor registered with Irrigation & Flood Control Department for the following works:

COURT RESERVES ORDER ON PLEA SEEKING DISCHARGE FROM CASE SC to Tejal: If nothing had happened, why apology? The argument seemingly failed to cut ice with the bench, which said, "How can she be disbelieved, and this is not the stage to consider all this."

Samajwadi Party MP quits Rajya Sabha, party says no impact

MAULSHREE SETH LUCKNOW, AUGUST 6 AMONG THE three resignations by Samajwadi Party (SP) MPs from Rajya Sabha over the last three weeks, the one by 58-year-old Sanjay Seth, who was also national treasurer of the party, is seen as the big surprise for the party leadership, even though it maintained that the development will not impact the party.

son Rajendra Chaudhary said there are various issues involved in these resignations, especially that of Seth's. "There are vested interest of individuals and then undue pressure from the BJP. However, it would not have an impact on us, as public support towards Akhilesh Yadav is still intact."

Many, though, are not sure about the short- or medium-term political future for the party, especially with the resignations of Seth and Nagar, who had three years of their Rajya Sabha tenure left.

Samajwadi Party spokesperson An SP leader said, "Leaders turning ambitious is not much of a surprise, but Seth's resignation is, because he enjoyed a good rapport with the family (Mulayam and Akhilesh Yadav). The party went out of its way for him in 2015 to send him to the Legislative Council, and then to Rajya Sabha along with leaders who had been with the party for years."

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE Name Manufacturing supply, fixing, testing and commissioning of SS Tray to prevent water entry into Switch Board Cabinet in LHB coaches over Delhi Division.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY, ALLAHABAD Tender Notice L. No. C/132/PUBLICITY/tender notice/OOH/19 Date: 05.08.2019 On behalf of The President of India, Divisional Railway Manager (Commercial) North Central Railway, Jhansi invites sealed open tenders for award of Rate Contract for work of designing, printing and installation of fare table, time table & other information boards and banners on the stations over Jhansi division for the period of three years under Single packet system as per following details

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, CUTTACK Date: 03.08.2019 email:- serw_ctc@yahoo.com e-Procurement NOTICE 1. Name of the work:- Construction of Road and Bridge works.

SITUATION VACANT MULTIPLE VACANCIES Requires: Instructors Electrician, Ref & AC Mech., Motor Mech., W/S Cal & Sc, Plumber and Cook on contract basis. Qualifications: NTC/Diploma/Degree in appropriate trade/experience in appropriate branch.

LOST & FOUND It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main, Secondary, Examination of Year 2019 and Roll No. 8725839 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of the candidate: Jatin S/o Mukesh, R/o E/65 A, Bhagwati Garden Extension, Uttam Nagar, N.D-110059 Contact- 9899891740

LOST & FOUND It is notified for the information that my original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main Secondary Examination of year 2017 Roll No. 5358515 & Senior Secondary Examination of year 2019 Roll No. 5856044 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of candidate Ayush Singh R/o A-107, Sector-55, Noida, UP, Contact 9871691391.

LOST & FOUND I Ashutosh Kumar Rai Have Lost My Original Marksheets And Pass Certificate Of 2013/2015 Roll No Matric Board-T/5197/201. HS-1641923 If Found Please Contact Me 9999963041 0050152879-1

PUBLIC NOTICE Sir/RAJEEV K. TEWARI (ADVOCATE) Ch. No. 394-395, CIVIL WING, TIS HAZARI COURTS DELHI-110054

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UNNAO RAPE CASE

Delhi court seeks status report on victim's security

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

A DELHI court on Tuesday sought a status report from the CBI on steps taken to ensure the security of the Unnao rape victim, her family, and witnesses. District Judge Dharmesh Sharma also sought a report on the boarding and lodging arrangements made for the family members accompanying the critically-injured woman, who was shifted to Delhi's AIIMS Trauma Centre on the orders of the Supreme Court.

The court then directed the secretary of the District Legal Service Authority (DLSA), Unnao, to ensure that all possible help be provided to the victim and her family in operating their bank account, if required. The court also asked the CBI to submit a report as to "what steps or measures have been taken for protection, safety of life, liberty of other witnesses in the present matter".

The court directed the CBI to get in touch with Uttar Pradesh's Director General of Police and file a report by Wednesday.

The court on Monday had directed the transfer of UP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar — a co-accused in the Unnao rape — from Sitapur prison to Tihar jail, Delhi. During the course of hearing, the judge asked the public prosecutor for CBI, Ashok Bhartendu, "What steps have been taken for witness protection?" Bhartendu said, "We don't have a mechanism of our own...we are a small organisation."

In response, the judge replied, "The CBI is not small organisation." The court was then apprised that the security of the victim was looked after by the CRPF. "However, the CBI is directed to file report to this court as to what steps or measures are being taken for ensuring boarding, lodging and daily allowance, if any, of the family persons attending the survivor. The report to this shall be filed in a sealed cover," the judge ordered.

The judge was also informed by counsel for the victim from Bachpan Bachao Andolan, Dharmender Kumar Mishra and Poonam Kaushik, that victim was paid Rs 25 lakh in compensation.

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The Mumbai-Nashik highway in Maharashtra's Kasara Ghat was reduced to a single-lane road after developing major cracks due to heavy rainfall. Meanwhile, heavy rain and flooding wreaked havoc in Sangli and Kolhapur districts, leading to the evacuation of around 56,000 people from affected areas, and the closure of the Mumbai-Bangalore highway between Sangli and Kolhapur. Deepak Joshi

Rain brings Goa to a standstill, supplies likely to be impacted

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANAJI, AUGUST 6

WITH RAINS wreaking havoc across Goa, traffic on the main supply roads connecting northern Karnataka to the state crawled to a stop on Tuesday. This is likely to severely impact the state as a majority of Goa's supplies come in from Karnataka.

With heavy flooding and rising water levels across the state, the Pramod Sawant government declared a holiday for all schools on Wednesday. Sawant said, "The situation will be reviewed again and a decision made. We have been informed that the rains will continue for three more days."

Goa and Karnataka are connected by three main supply routes. Two landslides were reported on the Chorla Ghats route, and though the route was opened by Tuesday evening, traffic was reduced to a crawl.

"On Monday night, we got an alert of few boulders falling on the Ghats. Currently entire machinery is monitoring the ghats to check any such repeat as there are many boulders and with the water pressure they could pose a problem. The police, and PWD department and Fire and Emergency Services have been pressed to action," said Ashok Menon, director of Goa's Fire and Emergency Services.

The second route, through the Anmod Ghats, has been inaccessible for heavy trucks due to the ongoing road widening project there. Miguel Braganza, the chairperson of the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry Committee on Agriculture, said, "We had Amod Ghats as an option earlier, but that too has been inaccessible for heavy trucks due to the road widening work for highway that is in full swing."

Traffic on the Amboli route, via Sawantwadi, Maharashtra, was also affected due to heavy waterlogging. The full impact of the traffic situation will be felt later this week as Goa gets most of its supplies — vegetables, fish and milk — from markets in Belgaum.

Meanwhile, areas across Goa reported flooding, with the fire department rescuing stranded families. "Earlier in the day, Ghadiwadi, Amona, was flooded... The fire personnel shifted the people and their belongings to safer places..." said Menon.

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Panel suggests NRC in Odisha's Kendrapara

SAMPAD PATNAIK
BHUBANESWAR, AUGUST 6

A COURT-ENDORSED committee comprising high-ranking Odisha government officials, which oversees wetland conservation and protection in the state, has suggested to the Home Department to initiate processes to implement the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in coastal Kendrapara district.

Documents accessed by *The Indian Express* indicate the suggestion for NRC was received from amicus curiae Mohit Agarwal, who is assisting the Odisha High Court on monitoring protection of Bhitarkanika and Chilika wetlands in the state.

The wording of the letter to the Home Department, written on August 3, indicates that the committee shares the view of the amicus, even though the officer who sent it denied making any suggestion about NRC.

In the letter, Director, Environment, and Special Secretary, Forest, K Murugesan wrote, "I am directed to intimate that as per the decision taken in the fourth meeting of the Committee... held on 24.06.2019 under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, F&E

Department, the Government of India may be kindly requested to grant permission for preparation of National Register of Indian Citizens in respect of Kendrapara District."

Murugesan told *The Indian Express* over the phone that the committee had merely received and forwarded a request. "This (NRC) was not the government's request. We conveyed the request of the amicus curiae to the Home Department," he said.

"The committee is concerned with protection of wetlands only. We are evicting encroachers, and this has nothing to do with Bangladeshi immigrants," Additional Chief Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, S C Mahapatra, said.

The issue of thousands of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in Odisha came to the fore after the Supreme Court's direction (M K Balakrishna vs Union of India) two years ago to the chief justices of high courts of 15 states to take up the issue of conservation of ecology of important wetlands of ecology of important wetlands through suo motu PILs.

The Orissa High Court had subsequently taken up the issue for restoration of ecology of Bhitarkanika National Park and Chilika Lake, and appointed Agarwal amicus in the matter.



Ecology threat from illegal immigrants

BHITARKANIKA'S WETLAND ecology is said to be under threat from illegal Bangladeshi immigrants, who are involved in prawn cultivation in protected areas without permission. Prawn is cultivated "by intensive culture by digging earthen ponds (and) filling them with salty water and using chemicals", HC-appointed amicus curiae Mohit Agarwal had submitted to the Additional Chief Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, in June.

Uttarakhand: 9 kids dead as van falls into gorge

New Tehri: Nine children died and eleven were injured when a van taking them to school fell into a 200-metre-deep gorge in Uttarakhand's Tehri Garhwal district on Tuesday. The accident occurred on Kangsali-Madannegi road in Pratap Nagar area, around 150 km from Dehradun, Tehri District Magistrate V Shanmugam said. PTI

Nalanda UNIVERSITY
Rajgir, Dist - Nalanda, Bihar-803116
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION
Nalanda University, an Avant-garde International University under Ministry of External Affairs, intends to undertake the "Construction of the 8.3 Kilometre long Boundary Wall and Other Associated Works through Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract. The detailed RFQ along with terms & conditions for application can be downloaded from the Nalanda University's official website: www.nalandauniv.edu.in
Last date of submission of duly filled application is 03:00 PM 30th August 2019 and the date of pre-bid meeting is 16th August 2019 11:00 AM onward.
Sd/- Registrar

HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION BAYS NO. 67-70, SECTOR-2, PANCHKULA-134154. (www.hssc.gov.in)

ANNOUNCEMENT
Notice to Candidates for Interview for the Post of Senior Scale Stenographer (Both Languages) for Various Boards/Corporations and Departments against Advt. No. 12/2015, Cat No. 08.

On the basis of Written Examination (Online Computer Based) and Scrutiny of Documents on 01.08.2019 and 05.08.2019 for the Post of Senior Scale Stenographer (Both Languages), against Advt. No. 12/2015, Cat. No. 08 for Various Boards/Corporations and Departments, the Candidates Bearing following Roll Nos. have been called for Interview/Viva-Voce Provisionally and further subject to the fulfillment of their eligibility conditions as per respective Advertisement and Service Rules. The marks secured by the last Short Listed Candidate have been given in bracket:-

Advt. No. 12/2015, Cat. No. 08, Senior Scale Stenographer (Both Languages) Total 55 Posts General (23 Posts)					
1215800049	1215800212	1215800229	1215800362	1215800386	1215800439
1215800445	1215800849	1215800878	1215801238	1215801282	1215801387
1215801397	1215801614	1215801663	1215801699	1215801981	1215802003
1215802023	1215802045	1215802185	1215802201	1215802250	1215802359
1215802401	1215802582	1215802690	1215802698	1215802709	1215802785
1215802839	1215802889	1215802891	1215802953	1215802991	1215803001
1215803035	1215803071	1215803093	1215803150	1215803232	1215803304
1215803322	1215803393	1215803407	1215803568	1215804233	1215804520
1215804726	1215804894	1215805004	1215805123		(104)

SC (10 Posts)					
1215800075	1215800280	1215800284	1215800287	1215800753	1215800941
1215801338	1215801832	1215801880	1215802171	1215802188	1215803205
1215803320	1215803428	1215803612	1215803940	1215804046	1215805053
1215805107	1215805129				(82)

BCA (05 Posts)					
1215800231	1215800562	1215800598	1215800648	1215800886	1215801355
1215801396	1215802177	1215802418	1215802739	1215803342	1215804864
					(108)

BCB (05 Posts)					
1215800081	1215801214	1215801900	1215802436	1215802567	1215803174
1215803309	1215803411	1215803418	1215803477	1215803509	
					(100)

EBPGC (08 Posts)					
1215800735	1215800831	1215800884	1215801674	1215801749	1215801786
1215802167	1215802223	1215802377	1215802480	1215802499	1215803169
1215803238	1215803427	1215804475	1215804729	1215805022	
					(96)

ESM GEN (02 Posts)					
1215800187	1215802442	1215802467	1215804626		(104)

ESM BCB (01 Post)
No Eligible Candidates available in this Category
OSP SC (01 Post)
No Eligible Candidates available in this Category

NOTE:- The Interview of the above Candidates will be held on 19.08.2019. The Candidates are advised to download the Admit Card for Interview from the website of the Commission on/after 16.08.2019 and Report at 09.00 A.M. in the Commission Office, Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula. They are also directed to bring all Original Documents, Set of Attested Copies of All Documents.
2. While every care has been taken in preparing and uploading the Result, possibility of Inadvertent/Technical errors cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves the right to rectify the same later on.
3. The Result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. www.hssc.gov.in.

Sd/- Secretary
Haryana Staff Selection Commission
Dated:- 05.08.2019
78073-HRY.

Victim's lawyer airlifted to Delhi

Lucknow: The lawyer for the Unnao rape victim was airlifted from Lucknow's King George Medical University (KGMU) trauma centre to Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) for treatment on Tuesday. He was shifted a day after the victim was airlifted to AIIMS by an air-ambulance on orders of the Supreme Court. The air-ambulance for the lawyer departed from Delhi at around 8.30 am and reached

Lucknow at around 9.25 am. The patient was taken to Lucknow airport by 10.20 am, after which the air-ambulance left for Delhi.

The victim and her lawyer were seriously injured in an accident last month in Rae Bareilly.

Meanwhile, KGMU trauma centre in-charge Sandeep Tiwari said that at the time the lawyer was airlifted for Delhi, he was in a deep coma and was on ventilator. Tiwari also said his condition was critical but stable. ENS

Kerala IAS officer granted bail

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, AUGUST 6

A MAGISTRATE court here on Tuesday granted bail to IAS officer Sriiram Venkitaraman who has been arrested and remanded in judicial custody on charges of killing a journalist in an incident of alleged drunk driving last week.

The prosecution failed to produce any scientific evidence before the court to show that

Venkitaraman was in an inebriated condition at the time of the accident which killed journalist KM Basheer.

The alleged deliberate delay on part of the police in registering the case against the IAS officer and subjecting him to medical examination has reportedly helped the accused.

While the accident took place in the early hours of Saturday, police did not initially name Venkitaraman as an accused in the FIR and his blood

samples were not collected for determination of alcohol presence. The police allowed the IAS officer to move to a private hospital and the blood samples were reportedly collected nine-and-a-half hours after the accident.

Venkitaraman was arrested after delay, but police allowed him to stay in the private hospital. When a magistrate court ordered that he be lodged in prison, the authorities took him to the government medical college hospital.

Officials: Law and order issues leading to drop in tiger numbers

DIPANKAR GHOSE
RAIPUR, AUGUST 6

Senior officials of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) that overlooked the tiger census in Chhattisgarh have said that they are not "surprised" at the drop in numbers of the big cats in the state's tiger reserves, and highlighted poor protection and the need for an improvement in habitat in the state.

Nationally, tiger numbers have increased to 2,967, as per the estimate report released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month. Chhattisgarh was one

state where the numbers dropped drastically — from 46 in 2014 to an estimated 19 tigers in 2018.

Officials said in at least one tiger reserve — Indravati — law and order in the form of Left-wing insurgency in Bijapur district of Bastar, where the reserve is located, was a big problem in habitat maintenance and data collection.

A senior NTCA official told *The Indian Express* that while there were some lacunae that could reasonably be identified, it was difficult to reach a categorical conclusion so far. "When population size is small, it is very difficult to make a comment on the trend in population...(or) ar-

rive at a permanent conclusion," the official said.

"If protection is improved in Chhattisgarh, and if herbivore population is made better, then tigers from neighbouring areas will come and colonise there without problems," the official added.

The ruling Congress in the state has, meanwhile, accused the previous BJP government of being lax in its focus on wildlife conservation and blamed the reduction in tiger numbers on the previous Raman Singh government.

FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com

GCSC/Admin/Recruitment/2019/01
GUJARAT COUNCIL ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Gujarat Council of Science City
Science City Road, Ahmedabad -380060 Phone: 91-79-29703122
E-mail: Scityahmedabad@gmail.com, Website: www.scity.gujarat.gov.in

Advertisement for the various posts
The Gujarat Council of Science City is a registered society, working under the aegis of the Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of Gujarat. The Government is creating a sprawling center at Ahmadabad which aims to provide a perfect blend of education and entertainment. It showcases contemporary and imaginative exhibits, minds on experiences, working models, virtual reality, activity corners, labs and live demonstrations to provide an understanding of science and technology to the common man. Science City is looking for the following position to be filled by direct recruitment.

Sr. No.	Name of The Post	No. Of Post
1	General Manager - Administration	01
2	General Manager - Phase - I	01
3	General Manager - Phase - II	02
4	Sr. Curator	02

The details of eligibility, age, qualification, experience, format of application and job profile, may be seen in the detailed advertisement available at the website of GCSC (www.scity.gujarat.gov.in). The last date for submitting the application on the above address is 6th September, 2019 at 18:00 hours through RPAD/Speed Post. The applications received after due date will not be considered under any circumstances. GCSC reserves the right to cancel the recruitment for all/any of the post without giving any reason.
Date: 7th August, 2019 Executive Director
Science City-(Connecting Community with Science)

Panchayat asks farmer who accidentally killed cow to make donations to temples

MILIND GHATAWI
BHOPAL, AUGUST 6

THE PANCHAYAT of Mamonikala village in Madhya Pradesh's Shivpuri district has asked a farmer to donate money to more than a dozen temples in and around the village, and organize Bhagwat Katha within the next week for accidentally killing a cow.

Last week, the farmer Bharat Lodhi, shooed away a cow that was destroying his crop. The cow fell in a nearby nullah and died, inviting the wrath of villagers. The farmer returned to the village on Monday after taking a dip in the Ganga at Prayagraj. The village panchayat asked him to donate cash in temples and also hold Bhagwat Katha.

When the farmer and his family pleaded that they did not have enough money, they were warned with boycott.

A senior police officer said nobody has approached the police with a complaint about the incident.

In-charge Block Development Officer (Karera) B.L. Tagore told *The Indian Express* that it was unfair for the panchayat to slap such a hefty punishment on a poor farmer. He said he was leaving for the village to collect more information about the episode and to persuade the villagers against enforcing such a diktat.

Congress MLA from Karera, Jasmant Jataw, said it was a common practice in the region for those charged with killing cow progeny to follow orders of the panchayat or face social boycott.

Singer India Limited
CIN: L52109DL1977PLC025405
Registered office: A-26/4, 2nd Floor, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate, New Delhi-110044, India
Website: www.singerindia.net; E-mail: mail@singerindia.net; Tel: +91-11-40617777

Statement of Unaudited Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter ended 30 June 2019
(Rupees in lakhs, except for the share data and if otherwise)

S. No.	Particulars	Standalone			Consolidated		
		Quarter ended		Year ended	Quarter ended		Year ended
		30 June 2019 (Unaudited)	30 June 2018 (Unaudited)	31 Mar. 2019 (Audited)	30 June 2019 (Unaudited)	30 June 2018 (Unaudited)	31 Mar. 2019 (Audited)
1.	Total income from Operations	12,415	11,078	48,469	12,419	11,081	48,490
2.	Net Profit for the period before tax	222	300	1,459	223	301	1,470
3.	Net Profit for the period after tax	142	192	926	143	193	939
4.	Total comprehensive income for the period / year (comprising profit for the period after tax and Other Comprehensive Income after tax)	140	191	918	141	192	931
5.	Paid-up equity share capital (face value of Rs. 2 each, fully paid)	1,074	1,074	1,074	1,074	1,074	1,074
6.	Reserves excluding revaluation reserve as per balance sheet	-	-	4,820	-	-	4,845
7.	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 2 each) (quarters not annualized):						
	a. Basic (Rs.)	0.26	0.36	1.72	0.27	0.36	1.75
	b. Diluted (Rs.)	0.26	0.36	1.72	0.27	0.36	1.75

Notes:
1. The Company doesn't have any exceptional and extraordinary item to report during the above periods.
2. The above audited financial results were reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company at the Meetings held on 6 August, 2019.
3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Standalone and Consolidated Financial Result for the quarter ended 30 June, 2019 filed with Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulation, 2015. The full format of the financial results are available on the stock exchange website, www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website, www.singerindia.net.

For Singer India Limited Sd/- (Rajeev Bajaj) Managing Director
Place: New Delhi Date: 6 August 2019



The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

Unity in unity

The current paradigm shift in J&K is in tune with the steady centralisation of the state since 2014



CHRISTOPHE JAFFRELOT

THE MANNER IN which the status of Jammu and Kashmir has been transformed is revealing of the political style of the Narendra Modi government, which does not try to build consensus but acts unilaterally in the name of efficacy — a method that had already been used at the time of demonetisation. The present episode offers a good illustration of India's journey towards an illiberal form of democracy as the government intends to amend the Constitution on the basis of a presidential order. But it has larger implications, as it may mark a turning point towards the making of an ethnic unitary state.

The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill 2019 is the first legislation substantially affecting the Constitution since the BJP's rise to power in 2014. So far, its majoritarian ideology had found expression in non-official moves, including campaigns against cow slaughter, "love jihad", conversion, etc. These campaigns, and the violence that accompanied them, including lynchings, had created a sentiment of vulnerability among minorities. The present move is qualitatively different because the state commits itself to the making of a majoritarian nation.

The Hindu nationalist movement never reconciled itself with this form of diversity. As early as 1950, the Praja Parishad, which represented the Dogra community (mostly made of Hindu landlords), and which was to represent the Bharatiya Jana Sangh in J&K after the party was formed in 1951, opposed Article 370. In 1952, it launched the agitation that the BJS president, S P Mookerjee, was to join in 1953 — during which he met a mysterious death. The RSS chief, M S Golwalkar, supported this Kashmir aandolan in the name of national integration.

His successor, Mohan Bhagwat, more than 60 years later, is thinking along the same lines. During his 2017 Vijaya Dashami speech, he said, referring to J&K: "Necessary constitutional amendments will have to be made and old provisions will have to be changed in that state. Only when the constitutional amendments are done can the residents of J&K be completely assimilated with the rest of Bharat and their equal cooperation and share will be possible in the national progress." This view of the nation calls to mind Mookerjee's trilogy during the Kashmir aandolan — "One country, one emblem and one Constitution"

— which had clear affinities with Savarkar's definition of Indian nationalism, "Hindustan, Hindi, Hindudom". One of the few BJP leaders who thought otherwise was A B Vajpayee, who believed in another trilogy, "Kashmiriyat, Jamhooriyat, Insaanayat".

For most Hindu nationalists, to give autonomy to Kashmiris prepared the ground for separatist demands, while Congress leaders, including Nehru and Patel, held that Article 370 would help contain separatism. For their liberal heirs, separatism developed because New Delhi betrayed its promises by not implementing Article 370 and by curtailing J&K's autonomy after 1954. The Hindu nationalists' views have been shared, gradually, by many sympathisers, including Jagmohan and Ajit Doval who once said about the Kashmiris: "Once you accepted... (that) they were different, you sowed the seeds of separatism".

For Hindu nationalists, cultural difference should not find any public expression and result in any official recognition: The identity of the nation has to be uniform and those who are different need to be assimilated. The integration process they long for is similar to those that European nation-states have pursued and which has generally implied coercion and violence — including recurring pogroms and forms of genocidal oppression, like in Vendée, a Catholic region of France which resisted the post-revolutionary regime from the late 18th century onwards. So far, India had opted for another model which, at least on paper, and therefore in the text of the Constitution, acknowledged and even valorised diversity — a model the late social scientist Ravinder Kumar called a "civilisation state".

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The Sangh Parivar is more favourably inclined towards a unitary state, where differences will be erased. Federalism, which has been enshrined in the Indian Constitution for accommodating territorial diversity, is viewed with suspicion by Hindu nationalists who define Akhand Bharat as a "punya bhoomi", a sacred land harking back to the Vedic era. They see federalism as potentially conducive to separatism. In the mid-1950s, the RSS opposed the redrawing of the administrative map of India according to linguistic criteria. On January 26, 1956, the Republic Day issue of *Organiser* demanded "the abolition of autonomous linguistic states with their emphasis on regionalism and their danger-

ous potential for secession". One may argue that, on the contrary, the creation of linguistic states diffused centrifugal forces and that Nehru, who was against this reform to begin with, understood its *raison d'être*, as a real visionary, in contrast to Ayub Khan who, following in the footsteps of Jinnah and the One Unit Scheme, fostered Bengali separatism by over-centralising the Pakistani state.

The Hindutva forces may make the same mistake today. While Union Territories have been transformed into states, the Modi government is not only abolishing the special status of J&K, but it is demoting it by transforming its two successor states into Union Territories. This paradigmatic shift is well in tune with the centralisation of the Indian state initiated by the Modi government since 2014.

Since then, the Centre has asserted its prerogative at the expense of the states. The centrally sponsored schemes that Narendra Modi used to criticise when he was chief minister have gained momentum. The terms of reference of the Finance Commission, for the first time, mention that the criteria presiding over this distribution of funds will now include the states' "achievements in implementation of flagship schemes of government of India." Similarly, the GST is monitored by a Council where the states have only two-thirds of the voting rights. Since any decision can only be made in the GST Council if it gets 75 per cent of the votes, the law gives a veto power to New Delhi, which can prevail if it gets the support of only 19 states.

The two trends — obliteration of cultural differences and state centralisation — that are well illustrated by the way J&K has been dealt with, may impact policies vis-à-vis other states and other domains. For instance, Hindi may be promoted at the expense of linguistic diversity more decisively. Reforms promoted in the name of development and national unity are not easy to fight for the Opposition. Who's prepared to look "anti-national"? But the efficacy of these changes remains to be seen. In the long run, uniformity may prevail. But in the meantime, tensions will probably increase because of identity clashes.

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UNLOCK THE VALLEY

J&K Reorganisation Bill is now law. The hard labour of politics must begin — with restoring people's basic rights in the Valley

WITH PARLIAMENT APPROVING the revocation of the Constitution's provision of special status to Jammu & Kashmir, and division of the state into two Union Territories, the Narendra Modi regime has its task cut out in the Valley. The hard labour of politics must now begin. So far, it has appeared to duck that challenge, first by taking a momentous decision that redraws the map of Jammu and Kashmir without wider consultations and then by announcing it as a virtual fait accompli in Parliament after imposing a severe clampdown in the Valley, cutting off phones and the internet, placing political leaders, including two former chief ministers, under house arrest and declaring a curfew. Right through his speech in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke of Article 370 as a historic blunder, creating a divide between Kashmir and the rest of India, benefiting a corrupt and entitled few and perpetuating deprivations for the majority. He spoke of their special status so far as a curse for the Kashmiri people, and of the Modi government's project as one of empowering them, delivering to them the rights that are available to their fellow citizens. On Monday, he told the Rajya Sabha, "I want to tell the youth of Kashmir Valley that have faith in the Narendra Modi government. Nothing negative will happen. All these (Opposition) people are telling you lies for their own politics. Don't listen to them". Whether they are convinced or comforted by Shah's words, however, is a question that can begin to be answered only when the people are allowed to come out of their homes, speak to each other, get their phone connections back.

As Day 2 of the restrictions segue into Day 3, the Centre must recognise that the need to engage the people of Kashmir is urgent and that that can ill afford to deepen the impression that it is imposing a decision that gravely impacts their lives, by force. It has demonstrated political support for its move, summoning the numbers not just in the Lok Sabha which it dominates, but also in the Upper House, where it still lacks a majority. It has caused cracks in the ranks of the Opposition, including within the Congress — more and more of its leaders are speaking in support of the Government's move. But there can be no room for triumphalism.

An ambitious political project such as the one in which the government apparently situates this decision on Kashmir demands arduous work. To win the trust of an alienated population kept in the dark needs an openness to all voices, including those of dissent. Security cannot be an alibi to muffle these voices. For starters, Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti and Sajjad Lone must be released, and access to communication and freedom of movement and expression in the Valley restored. That is the first step in the long way forward.

THE BATTLE CONTINUES

As China allows yuan to fall, US labels it a currency manipulator, lowering expectations of a resolution to the trade war

ON MONDAY, THE US formally labeled China a currency manipulator after Beijing allowed its currency to fall to an 11-year low — below the psychological mark of 7 per dollar. This comes after US president Donald Trump accused China of weakening its currency to create an unfair trade advantage. Though the decision to label China is largely symbolic — it will be followed up by consultations between the US Treasury and China — it marks an escalation in the ongoing trade war. These developments suggest a hardening of positions between the warring parties, belying expectations of a resolution.

To be labeled a currency manipulator, a country is measured, and seen to have failed, on three parameters — its current account surplus, trade surplus with the US, and interventions in the currency market. Despite the US Treasury's charge against China, the allegation of currency manipulation today is weak at best. As economists at the Peterson Institute For International Economics have pointed out: "China was by far the largest currency manipulator between 2003-12. It reversed that practice in 2015-16." In fact, in its External Sector Report released last month, even the International Monetary Fund noted that China's external assessment is moving from "moderately stronger to broadly in line". But though China has said that the "devaluation reflects pressure on the exchange rate stemming from the US decision" and that it has "refused to engage in competitive devaluation", other countries which compete with China might follow suit — weakening their currencies in order to maintain their competitiveness — triggering off a currency war.

In India, too, some have argued in favour of a weak currency — going by the RBI's real effective exchange rate (REER), the currency is overvalued. But at the current juncture it may be prudent to avoid getting caught in these wars. Instead, the focus should be on addressing the deeper structural issues that affect export competitiveness. Resolving issues regarding taxation and tax administration, reducing policy uncertainty, carrying out reforms to boost exports, especially of labour intensive sectors, and creating conditions for greater integration with global supply chains, should be the pressing concern of the government.

CITY STORIES

Delhi's oral history project will enable a richer representation of the city than allowed by official records, written documents

INDIA'S RICH HISTORIOGRAPHY comes up short when it comes to events after Independence. There are, of course, academic studies on landmark social, economic and political developments and our understanding of several episodes in the country after 1947 has been enriched by memoirs and chronicles. But the contemporary Indian history section of most libraries have few works that bear the imprint of the historian's craft. Much of the problem, historians argue, owes to the colonial-era Official Secrets Act, which keeps away a large number of documents from scholarly scrutiny. But history writing is not just about official records. It's also about people's lives — their reaction to momentous events, their family recipes, how they carry out their businesses or compose poetry, music and songs. On Tuesday, the Delhi government gave an impetus to such history writing by launching a programme that will collect more than 100 interviews, which will bring alive the changing nature of the capital city over seven decades.

The Delhi government's Oral History Programme, in partnership with Ambedkar University, actually revives a three-decade old project of the Delhi Archives. In the 1980s, the official repository of the city's records began an oral history programme that interviewed eminent personalities, including Gulzarilal Nanda, who served as the acting prime minister of the country twice, and Sushila Nayyar, a close aide of Mahatma Gandhi. But the project was stopped after 56 eminent people were interviewed. This time the ambit of the archives will be expanded to include ordinary people. This digitised repository of their lived experiences will help us gain insight into the relationship of people with their city.

Delhi is much more than the country's capital. It's the site of interesting experiments in entrepreneurship, pedagogy, gastronomy and architecture, a melting pot of cultures as well as a battleground for conflicts. Written works can capture only a fraction of these facets. The oral history project could be the harbinger of a richer representation of the city. Of course, those scanning these archives will have to remember that adage of oral history: People only choose to tell some stories, not all.



RITU MENON

I GOT UP this morning with the inexplicable apprehension that I had woken up in another country — unfamiliar, and somehow hostile. It was accompanied by a profoundly unsettling feeling of un-belonging, of being cast adrift. The country I was born in, in 1948, was a country torn asunder, but growing up in it I felt — even when very young, very immature — a sense of its difference from other countries. Was it that its own sense of its tryst with destiny spread to us through osmosis, or did we actually think that we had something unique to offer the world? An experiment that was bold and unattempted so far, an exercise in democracy and nation-building that was grounded in and built on principles that, politically speaking, were certainly new — non-violent co-existence, non-alignment, non-sectarian, non-communal, egalitarian, plural — in a semi-feudal society. That there was something we were aspiring to that was untested, but that it was a challenge we were equal to.

As a family, we had a particular connect with Kashmir. My maternal grandfather in Lahore was forest contractor to the sadr-i-riyasat, and spent long spells in the state. My mother and aunts spent every summer in Pahalgam or Gulmarg, as Kashmir and Murree were the favoured hill stations for pre-Partition Punjab. My parents, siblings, and I

UN-BELONGING

This India is unrecognisable from the one I grew up in

did the same, post-Partition till I left university. My father, a pilot, had helped evacuate several families into and out of the Valley in those terrible days of 1947 and 1948, and the waiters at Harry Nedou's hotel in Srinagar, where we stayed, never allowed him to forget what they owed him.

We are a Partition family and, like millions of others, our family history was prefixed and suffixed by "before-Partition" and "after-Partition". My grandmother walked out of her house in Lahore, carrying only one change of clothes and some cash and jewellery. She left the house keys with a neighbour, saying "I'll be back soon". She never returned. And never felt the country she was living in now, was home. Unsettled, was how she put it.

My parents, siblings, and I did the same, post-Partition till I left university. My father, a pilot, had helped evacuate several families into and out of the Valley in those terrible days of 1947 and 1948, and the waiters at Harry Nedou's hotel in Srinagar, where we stayed, never allowed him to forget what they owed him.

Much later, I spent 10 years trying to understand Partition, not how and why it happened, but how it played out in people's lives. What was nation? Country? Who belonged, who didn't? How did people define themselves? How do we? Which identity did we, and do we, claim? An aunt who had married a Muslim, pre-Partition, opted to live in Pakistan; she changed her name, but when she was asked whether she was Indian or Pakistani, she replied, "Either, neither, or both".

In Kashmir in 1974, we were taken aback when a couple of shopkeepers asked if we

were "from India". But then, people from the Northeast have been treated like outsiders for decades, so we shouldn't have felt discomfited by the question. On the other hand, in Jammu in 1992, we met many Sikh families who had migrated from Muzaffarabad in PoK in 1947, who told us that they visited Muzaffarabad frequently, and felt very much at home.

The country I woke up to this morning is unrecognisable as the one I was born in. It has such a diminished sense of itself that it has set the meanest limits to decide who belongs and who doesn't. Ill at ease with a capacious and confident embracing of difference, it demands compliance with cast-iron definitions of self and other. Fuelled by testosterone, it has flexed its muscles against someone less than half its size, adopting the shameful tactics of the bully. But it should know that you cannot bludgeon anyone into a sense of belonging.

I understand now why my grandmother felt she didn't quite belong — all the constants she had lived by had been dismantled, and her sense of who and where she was, had been wrenched out of recognition. I had much the same feeling when I woke up this morning. What a tragedy it would be if the country I will die in, were to become the kind of country I may not want to be born in.

The writer is with Women Unlimited, Delhi



AUGUST 7, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

CURB RSS SHAKHAS
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER Y B Chavan said in Delhi that he would be suggesting to the state governments that they should ban the holding of RSS "shakhas" (drills) in public places. Some states like Uttar Pradesh and Kerala had already prohibited these "shakhas" as these created apprehensions among minorities. Chavan said other states should also fall in line with UP and Kerala. Chavan, however, made it clear that the new government is not thinking in terms of clamping a ban on the RSS or other organisations like the Jamaat-e-Islami. He said banning such organisations would be counter-productive. "Banning the RSS or the

Jamaat-e-Islami is not on my agenda. I believe in isolating them and exposing their communal ideology."

NORMALCY IN KABUL
LIFE IN KABUL, the Afghan capital, returned to almost normal after loyal troops crushed an apparent rebellion in a city garrison, according to information reaching the Pakistani border city of Peshawar. But the Bala Hissar fort area, which was the scene of fierce fighting, continued to be sealed off by troops and tanks. Markets opened as usual this morning after the night-long curfew imposed after the fighting. A Pakistan-government spokesman dismissed as "absolutely false

and baseless" the Afghan government's accusation that "Iranian and Pakistani infiltrators" and their local agents and "reactionaries and counterrevolutionaries" were behind the fighting.

NEW VP
M Hidayatullah, former chief justice of the Supreme Court, will be the new Vice-President of India. His election to the office, unopposed, will be declared tomorrow as only his nomination paper out of the nominations filed by 11 candidates, fulfilled the requirements under the law. The scrutiny of nomination papers of all candidates would be done at 11 am tomorrow.

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"The special status Kashmir enjoyed since 1954 was basically a measure that guarded against any attempt at changing demography... Its abolition could mean an invasion of the Valley sponsored by the BJP." —DAWN

The state has its reasons

A soft solution to the Kashmir dispute has had no takers in India and Pakistan since 2014. The changing global environment may have influenced New Delhi to opt for a hard solution



SANJAYA BARU

FOR OVER SEVEN decades, the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir has been masked in ambiguity and deceit. Successive governments of both India and Pakistan had tried but failed to arrive at an amicable "final solution" because of the play of vested interests on both sides. These attempts over time shaped two potential routes to a resolution. One may be termed the "hard" option and the other the "soft" option. Pakistan tried the hard option of occupying territory as early as in 1947, when it sent troops into the erstwhile kingdom of Jammu and Kashmir and grabbed territory. It tried the hard option a second time, but failed, in 1998 when it crossed the Line of Control (LoC) at Kargil.

It was only after these attempts at a military solution on the part of Pakistan failed that the two countries began considering the "soft" options. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee took the first step in defining a final "soft" solution when he gave currency to the idea that the LoC could be defined as the "international border" (IB). Picking up the baton, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh pursued that option through the longest uninterrupted dialogue with a Pakistani head of state. The dialogue with President Pervez Musharraf conducted largely through a back channel yielded an outcome that came to define the "soft option". Singh's aide diplomat Satinder K Lambah offered a glimpse of that option in a lecture delivered in Srinagar on May 14, 2014, at the tail end of Singh's tenure.

The Manmohan-Musharraf formula was based on the premise that terrorism and cross-border attacks would cease, and the LoC would become the IB. In Kashmir, it would be a soft border that would enable Kashmiris on both sides to travel to and fro. It advocated free trade across the border, and "self-governance for internal management in all areas on the same basis on both sides of the LoC". Once such a benign environment was established, both sides would reduce to the bare minimum the presence of their respective militaries on their side of the border.

All those ideas belong to a distant past. First, Musharraf in Pakistan and then Singh in India lost whatever little support they may have had at home to pursue this "soft" solution. The Mumbai terror attack in November 2008 and the reaction at home to the joint statement that Singh penned along with his Pakistani counterpart Yousuf Raza Gillani at Sharm El Sheikh in July 2009, queered the pitch for the burial of the soft solution. It was, however, Pakistan's military and headline political leadership that fired the first salvo against the soft solution. In India, the BJP followed suit by rejecting the Manmohan-Musharraf formula.

Since 2014, there have been no takers for the soft solution both in India and Pakistan. On the contrary, attitudes began to harden on both sides. Consequences followed. Relations worsened. In a bizarre display of competitive immaturity, Imran Khan and Donald Trump brought up the issue of Kashmir in a manner that seemed com-



CR Sasikumar

pletely oblivious to the new reality of a "New India". The BJP has had a consistent stand on the future of Jammu and Kashmir and after its massive victory in May 2019, its views ought to have been taken seriously.

More to the point, no credible political leader in Pakistan or India seems interested any longer in turning the clock back to pursue the now abandoned soft solution. Faced with the prospect of a renewal of bonhomie between Rawalpindi and the Pentagon, the Pakistani political and military elite have sought to up the ante with sharpened rhetoric on Kashmir. The BJP leadership, buoyed by a landmark victory, was in no mood to indulge their pretence. As one perceptive BJP politician put it to me, India tried all options to resolve the Kashmir issue but nothing yielded a convincing result. The bull had to be taken by its horns and this was an opportune moment.

Critics of the government's action have said it was motivated by a desire to secure land rather than its inhabitants. Every state has to be as mindful of its territory as of its inhabitants. More wars have been fought between nations over land than only over the interests of its peoples. Even Abraham Lincoln did not wage a civil war only to define the rights of US citizens but to also define the territorial limits of the US state. A state that cannot define its borders and protect them has no reason to survive. Forget distant history, in the post-War

While the BJP may have had its own political reasons to take the steps it took this week, the Indian state too has its reasons. Having exhausted soft options, a hard solution has been opted for. It is significant that most political parties, including many senior leaders of the Congress, have backed the government's action. They are not necessarily defending the government but are defending the interests of the Indian state.

period we have seen states appear and disappear, acquire and lose territory. There are still those who imagine the Indian state will not be able to keep and defend all of the territory it possesses. Books have been written on the eventual balkanisation of India.

While the BJP may have had its own political reasons to take the steps it took this week, the Indian state too has its reasons. Having exhausted soft options, a hard solution has been opted for. It is significant that most political parties, including many senior leaders of the Congress, have backed the government's action. They are not necessarily defending the government but are defending the interests of the Indian state.

It is said India is an ancient civilisation but a new nation. The Republic of India has had all the anxieties of an adolescent nation. It has tried both soft and hard solutions to define its borders. The only remaining unresolved issues are with Pakistan and China. With China a negotiated settlement is still possible since its leadership has demonstrated greater maturity in dealing with India. Pakistan too could have secured a peaceful resolution by ceasing to make India more anxious about its security. In choosing not to do so it opened the door to BJP's hard solution.

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Equality at last

Triple Talaq Bill passage is a transformative point in India's socio-political context



RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

FINALLY PARLIAMENT HAS passed the Triple Talaq Bill after three attempts. The kind of jubilation it has caused across the country, barring conservative elements, indicates how it is a proud moment for India. Our country is transforming and the women of India feel empowered.

Triple talaq has never been sanctioned even in Islamic scriptures. During the debate in Parliament, I quoted a very authoritative book on Islamic laws from an eminent jurist, Amir Ali, wherein Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) has been quoted as disapproving of it in the strongest possible terms, and, forcing one of his disciples who had given triple talaq to his wife to accept her again. Despite disapproval from the highest quarters in Islam, and the fact that many Muslim countries following sharia laws also chose to reform it one way or another — including making it penal in many cases — it took more than 70 years in India to not only delegitimise this curse, but also provide for penal consequences. Regrettably, this shows the hold the communal and conservative elements continue to exercise over the country's polity.

However, the India of 2019 is different. India is now being led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who even in his first term had firmly declared that this tradition needs to be abolished. Today, I need to salute great women like Shayara Bano and Ishrat Jahan and many others who went to the Supreme Court in 2013 challenging this pernicious practice. When the NDA government came to power in 2014, the prime minister boldly directed me to stand firmly with these women and support their cause. After the Supreme Court judgment set aside triple talaq, many of us had thought that now this practice will come to an end. However, it continued unabated, even on the filmsiest of grounds. I had shared before Parliament a large number of cases that we could gather from the media and other reports, where it was revealed how helpless women (75 per cent of the victims are poor) were driven out by uttering "talaq-talaq-talaq", irrevocably annulling the marriage. When we framed the law we took on board some of the legitimate concerns, namely: The FIR must be filed by the victim/wife or her relations, by blood or marriage, to prevent abuse, and, it must be compoundable. The provision of bail was specifically added, but after hearing the wife. Besides, there are provisions for subsistence allowance and custody of minor children to the wife. It was a very simple and straight legal framework, and yet, the

Congress took a very regressive stand that it should not be made penal at all. Therefore, while formally opposing triple talaq Bill, the Congress was insisting upon a law whereby this curse could go unabated for want of any deterrence.

I must acknowledge that the Congress has played a very significant role in many of the transformative social legislations. The Hindu Marriage Act was enacted in 1955 wherein bigamy (wife or husband marrying during the currency of their spouse) can be punishable upto seven years, and a marriage below the age of 21 (husband) and 18 (wife) was punishable upto two years of imprisonment. The Dowry Prohibition Act was enacted in 1961 and it is religion neutral. In 1983, the Congress government added section 498A in the Indian Penal Code, which provided for punishment for subjecting the wife to cruelty. This was also religion neutral. All these provisions were non-bailable — the Dowry Prohibition Act was made non-bailable and non-compoundable in November, 1986. Surprisingly, despite such a satisfactory track record in correcting social wrongs, the Congress government meekly submitted — in spite of a 400-plus majority in 1986 — to undo a SC judgment giving few hundred rupees of maintenance to Shah Bano. The Congress still remains under the Shah Bano mindset in 2019.

Gender justice has been at the core of the governance priorities of the Modi government. Initiatives like Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao and Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, for instance, have created a sense of empowerment for Indian women. I can understand some of the regional parties for their own compulsions seeking to oppose it. But, for a party like Congress to repeat the Shah Bano model of 1986 in 2019, when the world has changed so much, shows the vice-like grip that the conservative and regressive elements of the Muslim society has over it.

Where are the liberals of India? These self-proclaimed guardians of the country's values who keep on articulating motivated grievances against the Modi government from time to time, just because they do not like him, have chosen not to speak a word on the plight of the many victims of triple talaq. Their hypocrisy stands exposed.

The India of 2019, under PM Modi, is set on a path of reform. The mantra of reform, perform and transform is not only for governance or economy, it extends even to the reforming of society without discrimination or without any reference to vote bank politics. It is this courage and firmness which has brought the Modi government to power again with a bigger majority. While I applaud the leadership of PM Modi who stood firmly behind the victims of triple talaq, it is a matter of personal satisfaction for me that as the law minister, I actively participated in this truly transformative moment for India.

The writer is Union Minister for Law & Justice, Communications, Electronics and IT



VIKRAM PATEL

Judgement day

Mental illness often stems from early-life trauma. It's happening in Kashmir

WHEN WE THINK of childhood adversity, we imagine the kind of truly horrible stuff which happened to the character of Bobby in the film *Judgementall Hai Kya*. While I found the film somewhat cringe-worthy, I thought there was at least one figment of a fact which was credible. The protagonist's mental illness was seeded by the trauma she had experienced in her childhood, her violent father and his extreme jealousy, her parents' marital strife and, ultimately, her tragic death. Indeed, adversities in childhood are the most important predictor of our mental health, not only in childhood but throughout our lives.

The most memorable line in William Wordsworth's *The Rainbow*, that the "child is the father of man", is a prescient reminder that each of us is the product of our childhood experiences. This was also the inference that Sigmund Freud made when he claimed, based on his assessments of patients with mental health problems, that the experiences in our childhood profoundly influenced our adult well-being. This scientific observation is — at par with Isaac Newton inferring gravity when the apple bounced on his head — amongst the most important in history. But Freud was wrong about actually how childhood adversity leads to mental health problems. This association is not, as he surmised, because of the monsters lurking in our unconscious but, as neuroscience is now showing us, because the brain is immensely malleable in response to the social

environment in the first two decades of life.

But childhood adversity isn't only about the kind of awful and terrifying experiences that marked Bobby's descent into mental illness. Unremitting fear is the most damaging of all emotional experiences. A vast body of science provides compelling proof of how fear seeps into the deepest recesses of the human brain and leads to profound disturbances in our mental health and, ultimately, in the way we respond to our environments. Its poisonous influence is greatest during childhood; indeed, scientists use the term "toxic stress" to describe the experience of strong, frequent, or prolonged fear on children's emotional development. What makes such stress particularly toxic is that its effects show up not only in the form of disturbed mental health in childhood but also through the full gamut of disturbed mental health in adulthood, including paranoia, self-harm, depression, addiction and aggression.

Perhaps we might take a moment, then, to consider how this science might apply to our fellow citizens who live in the beautiful, if benighted, region of Kashmir. Amidst the growing fear and uncertainty in Kashmir in recent days leading to an exodus of tourists and pilgrims and an influx of paramilitary forces, one particular group of the residents of the region deserve our special attention. A paper by Mohammad Altaf Paul and Waheeda Khan, published in the current issue of the journal *Community Mental Health* should alert us to their needs. They describe

the results of a survey assessing the mental health of a thousand children from 12 schools in Shopian district. They report an astonishing finding: One out of every three of these children had a clinically diagnosable mental disorder, most commonly in the form of mood, anxiety or behavioural disorders. And this study was conducted before the current troubles. Even as all those who have homes somewhere else flee Kashmir, spare a thought for the children who are trapped there, with nowhere to go.

Now, try a thought experiment to illustrate how being caught in a never-ending grindingly oppressive situation might make you feel. Imagine you are 10 years old. You are living in an environment suffused with constant fear of being hurt or humiliated, where the very guardians of your security are threatening and dangerous, and where your parents, who you always looked up to protect you from the worst, are despondent and hopeless. There is no escaping this pressure-cooker, day after day, month after month, year upon year. Imagine what this enduring fear, uncertainty and despair would do to you. Science teaches us that these are exactly the right ingredients to ferment a potent brew of hate, anger and violence in our minds.

Those of us who believe that the youth of Kashmir who line the streets pelting stones or who pursue martyrdom through terror attacks are simply misguided and falling prey to the propaganda of the enemies of India

should pause to think about the impact of the toxic environment in Kashmir on the mental health of her children. This mental health crisis, spawned by unrelenting fear of something terrible about to happen, stirred up with the daily stress of being humiliated, trapped and isolated by stringent security policies, will haunt the region for years. Security is, of course, of paramount importance, not least to the people of Kashmir. But security which suffocates minds through fear and uncertainty is worse than a horror, or just plain horrible, movie. At least you know the latter is fiction, one which will end at a definite time and, moreover, one you can walk out of.

We remember youth as the one period in which we were inspired by hope for our own future, and for our community. As a miasma of fear descends upon Kashmir, imagine the impact this would have on the minds of children and young people already damaged by two decades of conflict. This is no Bollywood film screening. The impact should already be plainly visible to the billion plus viewers in the rest of the country, but its pain and suffering will continue to fester, hidden until it ultimately explodes one day, in the minds of Kashmir's children. It will surely continue to breed more anger and violence. And, in the end, it will make any chance of winning their hearts and minds even more remote.

Patel is Pershing Square Professor of Global Health at Harvard Medical School

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEW REALITIES

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Rupture in history, stitching a future' (IE, August 6). The government's proposals on the Kashmir issue have two parts: The first is to bring necessary legal and constitutional changes and the second is to implement the changes on the ground both in letter and spirit. The first part of the solution seems easier. The political mainstream in the Valley will find it difficult to legitimise itself among the politically conscious masses, hence the national leadership across party lines will have to step in to instill confidence among the people. A new leadership has to come up from among the people of Jammu and Kashmir that accepts the new political reality and see this as an opportunity to forward the genuine aspirations of the people.

Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Rupture in history, stitching a future' (IE, August 6). The arrest of two former chief ministers and the subsequent scrapping of Article 370 is a violation of democratic norms. The administration has put the entire state under siege and muzzled the voices of mainstream political parties. The local people were not consulted before this landmark decision.

Anish Esteves, Mumbai

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Rupture in history, stitching a future' (IE, August 6). The government needs to be complimented for practicing what it preached. Articles 370 and 35 A are not be all and end all for Jammu and Kashmir. The advocates of these articles should explain how they had helped the common man of the state. Jammu and Kashmir is socially and psychologically excluded from the mainstream and is a hotbed for terrorism.

Deepak Singhal, Noida

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301. Letter writers should mention their postal address and phone number.

THE WINNER RECEIVES SELECT EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS

A STITCH IN TIME

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'In the shade of solar trees' (IE, August 5). Installing solar panels will require big investments. The government should trust the business community. The project should be started in time to double farmers' income by 2022.

Akshata Anil, Jaipur

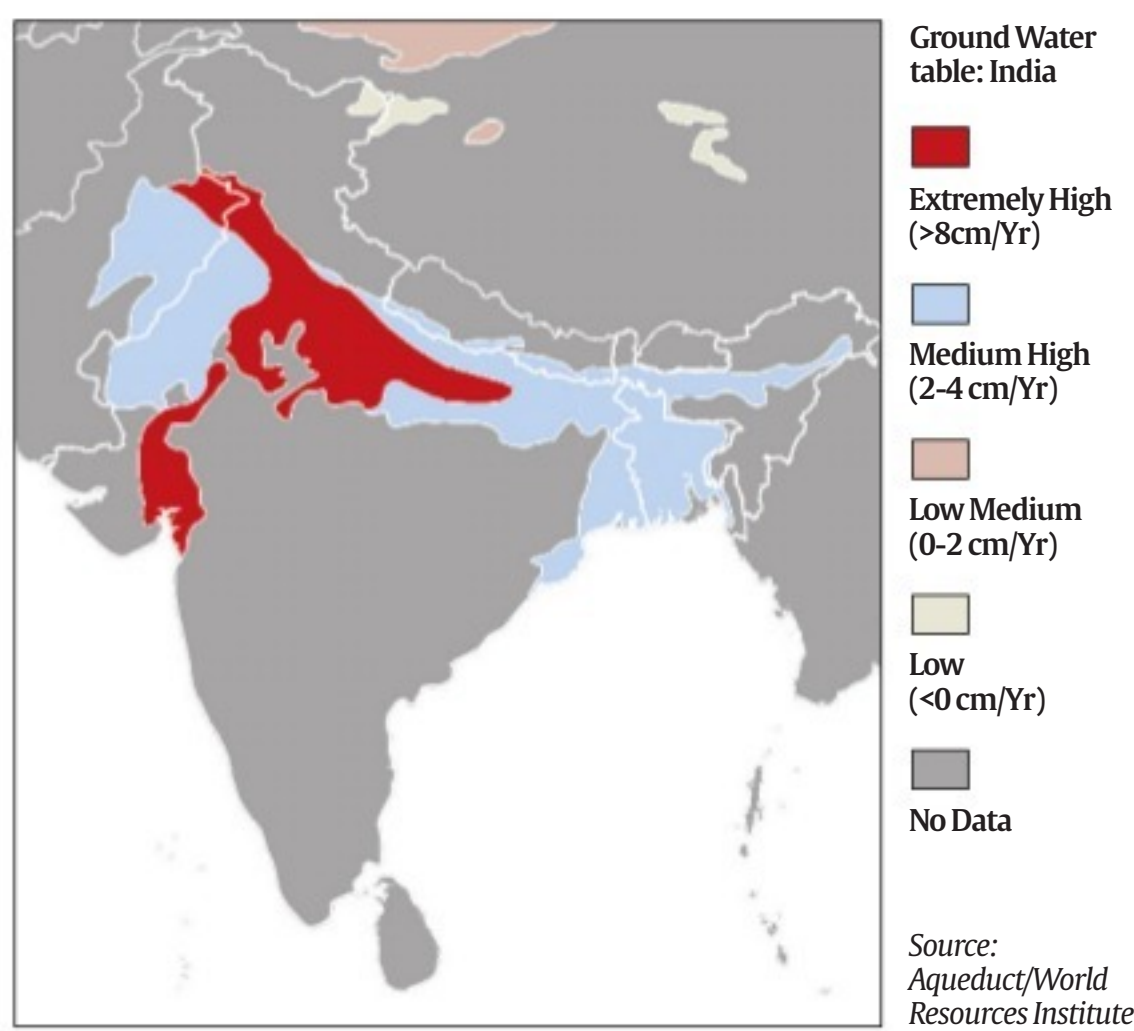
BREACH OF TRUST

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'We are just the beginning' (IE, August 6). The writer has expressed his apprehensions over the undoing of the republic's constitutional values. These were the foundation of the Union's compact with Kashmir. The breach of trust that the Centre's recent actions have caused will leave an indelible mark.

Ritwik Trivedi, Delhi

TELLING NUMBERS

1/4 of world's population faces huge water stress, bulk in India



ONE-QUARTER of the world's population faces "extremely high" levels of baseline water stress, which means that irrigated agriculture, industries, and municipalities withdraw more than 80% of their available supply on average every year, new data from the World Resources Institute (WRI) show.

EXTREMELY HIGH WATER STRESS

Rank	Country	Score
1	Qatar	4.97
2	Israel	4.82
3	Lebanon	4.82
4	Iran	4.57
5	Jordan	4.56
6	Libya	4.55
7	Kuwait	4.43
8	Saudi Arabia	4.35
9	Eritrea	4.33
10	UAE	4.26
11	San Marino	4.14
12	Bahrain	4.13
13	India	4.12
14	Pakistan	4.05
15	Turkmenistan	4.04
16	Oman	4.04
17	Botswana	4.02

India is 13th among these 17 countries. India has more than three times the population of the other 16 extremely highly stressed countries combined, the WRI noted. This implies that more than three-quarters of these populations facing extremely high water stress live in India.

India's water challenges extend beyond Chennai, which was recently reported to have "run out of water". The WRI noted that last year, NITI Aayog declared that the country is "suffering from the worst water crisis in its history, and millions of lives and livelihoods are under threat".

In addition to rivers, lakes and streams, India's groundwater resources are severely overdrawn, largely to provide water for irrigation. Groundwater tables in some northern aquifers declined at a rate of more than 8 cm per year between 1990 and 2014.

The WRI took note of steps India has taken to mitigate water stress, including setting up the Jal Shakti Ministry. Other solutions India could pursue, the WRI suggested, include more efficient irrigation; conserving and restoring lakes, floodplains, and groundwater recharge areas; and collecting and storing rainwater.

Globally, water withdrawals have more than doubled since the 1960s due to growing demand. Apart from the 17 countries facing withdrawals of 80% or more from available supply, 44 countries (home to one-third of the world) face "high" levels of stress, where on average more than 40% of available supply is withdrawn every year.

Twelve out of the 17 most water-stressed countries are in the Middle East and North Africa. The region is hot

and dry, so water supply is low to begin with, but growing demands have pushed countries further into extreme stress. The WRI said climate change is set to complicate matters further: The World Bank found that this region has the greatest expected economic losses from climate-related water scarcity, estimated at 6%-14% of GDP by 2050.

Even in countries with low overall water stress, communities may still be experiencing extremely stressed conditions. The WRI cited the examples of South Africa and the United States, which rank 48 and 71 on the list, respectively, yet the Western Cape (SA) and New Mexico (US) experience extremely high stress levels.

The Aqueduct tool used by the WRI ranks countries on the basis of "water risk scores", which are determined using 13 indicators of water risk.

Source: Aqueduct/WRI

SIMPLY PUT

J&K Assembly: like, unlike Delhi

J&K will be the third Union Territory after Delhi and Puducherry to have an elected Assembly. How does its govt's powers, as described in the Reorganisation Bill passed by Parliament, compare with Delhi's?

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE JAMMU and Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, 2019, just passed by Parliament, paves the way for formation of the Union Territory of J&K. It will join two other Union Territories — National Capital Territory of Delhi and Puducherry — which, through Article 239 A of the Constitution, have a Legislative Assembly to enact laws on certain subjects and a Council of Ministers headed by a Chief Minister to aid and advise the Lieutenant-Governor on subjects related to such legislation. For subjects outside the purview of the Assembly, the Lieutenant-Governor does not need the aid and advice of the Chief Minister.

Some key subjects where the model proposed for Jammu & Kashmir is similar to that of Delhi, and where there are variations between the two:

Extent of legislative power

Section 13 of the Bill states that the provisions contained in Article 239 A of the Constitution that are applicable to Union Territory of Puducherry shall also apply to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The UT Assembly has the power to enact laws on matters under the State List and the Concurrent List, barring subjects that are exclusively under the ambit of the Union Government.

The Seventh Schedule has 61 subjects in the State List — law & order, health, land, local government etc — and 52 in the Concurrent List such as forests, wildlife protection, social security, employment, etc.

In the J&K Bill, Section 32 proposes that the Assembly can make laws on any subjects in the State and Concurrent lists except on state subjects relating to "public order" and "police". Therefore, all laws on these two subjects will be directly under the Centre. This is the case in Delhi, too.

In Delhi, by insertion of Article 239AA and by virtue of the Sixty-ninth Constitutional

WHO LEGISLATES ON WHAT

Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly in Srinagar

LAND	ANTI-CORRUPTION BUREAU	SERVICES
Delhi: Under Centre J&K Bill: Land rights, land tenures, land improvement and transfer of agricultural land under ambit of Legislative Assembly	Delhi: Under Lieutenant-Governor, as per a Supreme Court ruling J&K Bill: Explicitly places ACB under L-G	Delhi: Matter referred to 3-judge SC Bench J&K Bill: Mentions a "competent authority" that can alter the posting of officers with J&K government

Amendment passed by Parliament, the Assembly cannot legislate on matters in entry 18 of the State List, which is land. In J&K, the Assembly can do so.

Anti-Corruption Bureau

Control of the ACB, which has the power to register FIRs on corruption cases and make arrests, was a contentious issue between Delhi's AAP government and the Centre. In February this year, a two-judge Supreme Court Bench held that the ACB will be under control of the L-G and the Delhi government has no police powers.

For the proposed UT of Jammu & Kashmir, the Bill is very clear. Section 53(2)(iii) states that the Lieutenant Governor shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in

his discretion, in matters related to "All India Services and Anti-Corruption Bureau". Therefore, all appointments and other administrative matters related to the ACB will be directly under the Lieutenant-Governor.

Services

In Delhi, another bone of contention has been services. A Bench of Justices A K Sikri and Ashok Bhushan differed on the issue of transfer of officers posted in Delhi, and referred the matter to a three-judge Bench.

For J&K, Part XIII and Section 88(4) of the Bill make it clear that the Lieutenant-Governor will have discretionary powers relating to composition, strength and allocation of officers of the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service and Indian

Forest Service. Section 92 deals with provisions relating to "other services". It states: "Every person who, immediately before the appointed day, is holding or discharging the duties of any post or office in connection with the affairs of the existing State of Jammu and Kashmir in any area which on that day falls within one of the successor Union Territory, shall continue to hold the same post or office in that successor Union Territory, and shall be deemed, on and from that day, to have been duly appointed to the post or office by the Government of, or other appropriate authority in, that successor Union Territory." It adds: "Provided that nothing in this section shall be deemed to prevent a competent authority, on and from the appointed day, from passing in relation to such person any order affecting the continuance in such post or office."

The "competent authority" mentioned, therefore, can alter the posting of an officer currently employed with the Jammu & Kashmir government. However, as in Delhi, it is unclear whether the transfer of officers will be under the exclusive domain of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Other matters

Section 55 of the J&K Bill states that the Lieutenant-Governor shall make rules on the advice of the Council of Ministers for the allocation of business to the ministers, for the more convenient transaction of business with the ministers including the procedure to be adopted in case of a difference of opinion between the Lieutenant Governor and the Council of Ministers or a minister. The same rule applies to NCT of Delhi.

Section 36(3) states that if a Bill which, if enacted and brought into operation, would involve "expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of Union Territory", it shall not be passed by the Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory "unless the Lieutenant Governor has recommended to the Assembly, the consideration of the Bill". The same rule applies to NCT of Delhi.

THIS WORD MEANS: ARTICLE 371

What is Article 371, what does it say?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

HOME MINISTER Amit Shah told Lok Sabha Tuesday that the government had no intention of removing Article 371 of the Constitution, which includes "special provisions" for 11 states, including six states of the Northeast.

His assurance came after Congress leaders expressed apprehension that having rendered Article 370 irrelevant, the government might unilaterally move to abrogate or modify Article 371.

Articles 369 through 392 (including some that have been removed) appear in Part XXI of the Constitution, titled 'Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions'. Article 370 deals with 'Temporary Provisions with respect to the State of Jammu and Kashmir'; Articles 371, 371A, 371B, 371C, 371D, 371E, 371F, 371G, 371H, and 371I define special provisions with regard to another state (or states).

Article 371I deals with Goa, but it does not include any provision that can be deemed 'special'.

Articles 370 and 371 were part of the Constitution at the time of its commencement on January 26, 1950; Articles 371A through

371J were incorporated subsequently.

Article 371, Maharashtra and Gujarat: Governor has "special responsibility" to establish "separate development boards" for "Vidarbha, Marathwada, and the rest of Maharashtra", and Saurashtra and Kutch in Gujarat; ensure "equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said areas", and "equitable arrangement providing adequate facilities for technical education and vocational training, and adequate opportunities for employment" under the state government.

Article 371A (13th Amendment Act, 1962), Nagaland: This provision was inserted after a 16-point agreement between the Centre and the Naga People's Convention in 1960, which led to the creation of Nagaland in 1963. Parliament cannot legislate in matters of Naga religion or social practices, Naga customary law and procedure, administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law, and ownership and transfer of land without concurrence of the state Assembly.

Article 371B (22nd Amendment Act, 1969), Assam: The President may provide for the constitution and functions of a committee of the Assembly consisting of members elected from the state's tribal areas.

Article 371C (27th Amendment Act, 1971), Manipur: The President may provide for the constitution of a committee of elected members from the Hill areas in the Assembly, and entrust "special responsibility" to the Governor to ensure its proper functioning.

Article 371D (32nd Amendment Act, 1973; substituted by The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014), Andhra Pradesh and Telangana: President must ensure "equitable opportunities and facilities" in "public employment and education to people from different parts of the state". He may require the state government to organise "any class or classes of posts in a civil service of, or any class or classes of civil posts under, the State into different local cadres for different parts of the State". He has similar powers vis-à-vis admissions in educational institutions.

Article 371E: Allows for the establishment of a university in Andhra Pradesh by a law of Parliament. But this is not a "special provision" in the sense of the others in this part.

Article 371F (36th Amendment Act, 1975), Sikkim: The members of the Legislative Assembly of Sikkim shall elect the representative of Sikkim in the House of the People. To protect the rights and interests of various sections of the population of Sikkim,

Parliament may provide for the number of seats in the Assembly, which may be filled only by candidates from those sections.

Article 371G (53rd Amendment Act, 1986), Mizoram: Parliament cannot make laws on "religious or social practices of the Mizos, Mizo customary law and procedure, administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Mizo customary law, ownership and transfer of land... unless the Assembly... so decides".

Article 371H (55th Amendment Act, 1986), Arunachal Pradesh: The Governor has a special responsibility with regard to law and order, and "he shall, after consulting the Council of Ministers, exercise his individual judgment as to the action to be taken".

Article 371J (98th Amendment Act, 2012), Karnataka: There is a provision for a separate development board for the Hyderabad-Karnataka region. There shall be "equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said region", and "equitable opportunities and facilities" for people of this region in government jobs and education. A proportion of seats in educational institutions and state government jobs in Hyderabad-Karnataka can be reserved for individuals from that region.

US says China manipulates yuan. What does that mean, how is it done?

UDIT MISRA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

ON MONDAY, the US Treasury Department declared that China is a currency manipulator. The move came after the People's Bank of China (PBOC), the central bank of China, allowed the yuan to suddenly depreciate (or lose value) relative to the dollar by 1.9 per cent — one of the biggest single-day falls. As a result, the yuan breached the 7-to-a-dollar-mark for the first time since 2008. In retaliation, the US announced that it would approach the International Monetary Fund "to eliminate the unfair competitive advantage created by China's latest actions". It signalled that the ongoing trade war between the world's two biggest economies was now turning into a currency war as well.

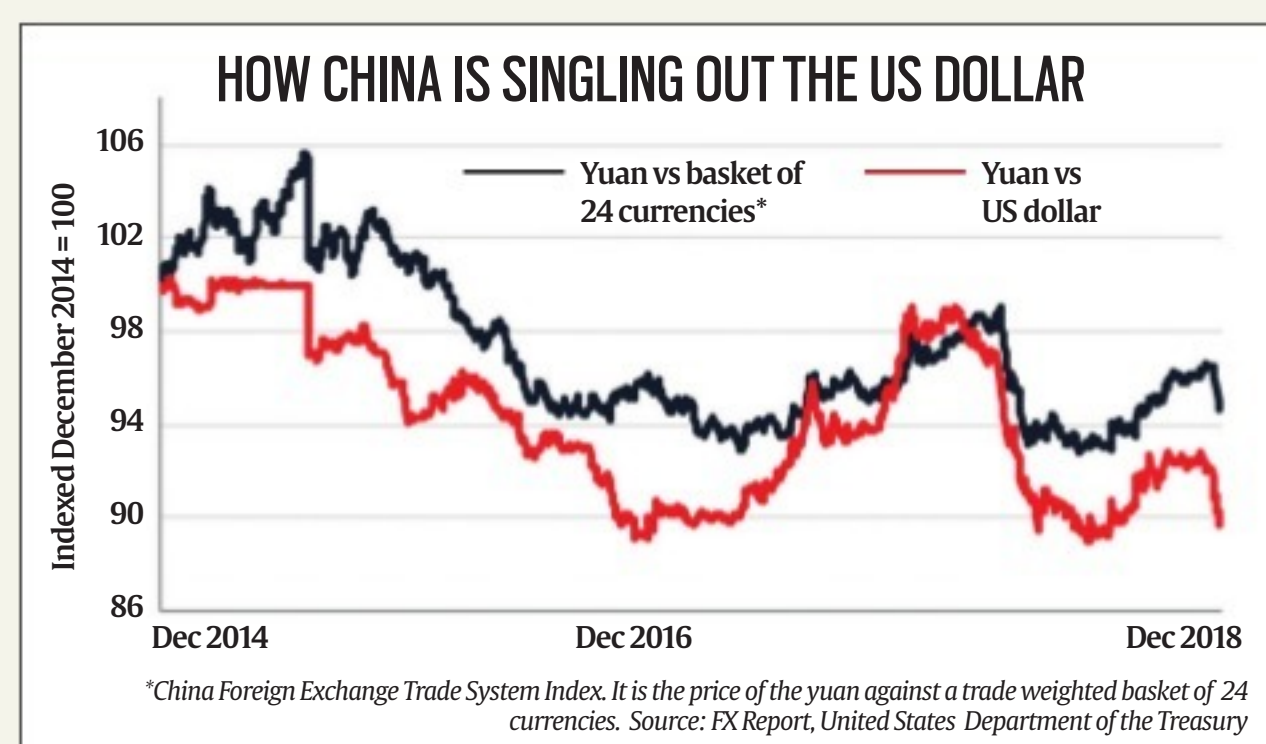
What is a currency's exchange rate? In many ways, the exchange rate of your currency is the fundamental price in the economy. If an Indian car is worth Rs 10 lakh, then that is all the information we need to conduct that transaction; we do not have to

wonder "what is the price of a rupee?". However, if we're trying to buy a car that was produced in, say the US, we would need more information than just its price (say, \$15,000 in the US). This is because buying the imported car involves two transactions: one, using your rupees to buy 15,000 dollars; two, using these dollars to buy the car.

In the globalised world economy, where different parts of each good (and service) are produced in different countries, exchange rates become all important. It often determines the affordability of buying or selling internationally. So, if the rupee is at 70 to a dollar, the car may be affordable, but not so at 100 to a dollar.

There is a flip side to this picture. While a stronger rupee (that is 70/\$, instead of 100/\$) is better for you as a consumer, it is worse for you if you were an Indian car manufacturer hoping to sell your car in the US. That's because the rupee's strength makes your car that much less affordable to US consumers.

How are exchange rates determined? In an ideal world, the exchange rate for any currency would be determined by the



*China Foreign Exchange Trade System Index. It is the price of the yuan against a trade weighted basket of 24 currencies. Source: FX Report, United States Department of the Treasury

interplay of its demand and supply. If more Indians want to buy US goods, there would be a higher demand for the dollar relative to the rupee. This, in turn, would mean the dollar would be "stronger" than the rupee — and gain in strength as the demand increases. If demand falls, the dollar would depreciate relative to the rupee (or the ru-

pee would appreciate relative to the dollar).

So, what is currency manipulation? The real world is far from ideal. Most governments and central banks are bothered about generating more growth and employment at home. A weaker domestic currency comes in very handy when governments are

trying to attract foreign demand and boost exports. China's economic growth has been essentially fuelled by exporting to the world.

Currency manipulation happens when governments try to artificially tweak the exchange rate to gain an "unfair" advantage in trade. In other words, if China's central bank buys dollars in the forex market, it can artificially weaken the yuan — and Chinese goods will then become more affordable (and competitive) in the international market.

Some amount of such "intervention" by central banks is allowed to reduce wild fluctuations in the exchange rate. But excessive and undisclosed interventions are not considered fair.

Consider: An American-made mobile phone could be in demand in India because it is a genuinely good phone. However, if a Chinese company can export a phone that is not only a close approximation of the American phone but also considerably "cheaper", it is quite likely that the more price-sensitive Indian consumer will prefer the Chinese phone. Forget the Indians, if the Chinese phone is cheap enough, it might lure US consumers as well.

The key question is: what makes the Chinese phone cheaper? If it is the case that China is more efficient at making the phone, then nobody can complain. But if China is artificially reducing the "price" of its currency — by devaluing the yuan relative to the dollar or the rupee — it will be accused of manipulating its currency.

How did the US conclude that China was manipulating the yuan?

In the so-called "FX report" released by the US Treasury Department in May, it found that the yuan's depreciation against the dollar was far more than its depreciation against a trade-weighted basket of 24 currencies (see chart left). It also found that the yuan depreciated more than what it should have, if the fall were due only to the known interventions by the Chinese central bank. The US accused the People's Bank of China of using China's state-owned enterprises to do its dirty work. The US has also found that Chinese authorities intervene more assiduously when the yuan starts appreciating against the dollar, but look the other way when the yuan starts weakening.

TOP OF THE WORLD



TURKEY
Erdogan: Trump won't allow ties to be held captive to S-400 row

Ankara: Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said on Tuesday that he believes US President Donald Trump will not allow ties between the two NATO allies to become captive to a dispute over Ankara's purchase of a Russian S-400 defence system. Ankara and Washington have been at loggerheads over Turkey's purchase of the S-400s systems, which the US says are not compatible with NATO defences and pose a threat to its F-35 stealth fighter jets. "Turkey made a business decision for its security and what pushed Turkey to do this was the uncompromising stance of its allies. Trump's statement at the G20 that Turkey was treated unfairly is the confirmation of this fact at the highest level," he added.

USA
30-yr sentence for man who sent explosives to Trump critics

A FLORIDA man who mailed pipes filled with explosives to prominent Democrats and critics of US President Donald Trump was sentenced to 20 years in prison Monday. Cesar Sayoc, 57, who pleaded guilty in March to using weapons of mass destruction and other crimes, began crying when US District Judge Jed Rakoff in Manhattan read the sentence. Prosecutors had asked Rakoff to sentence Sayoc to life in prison, while Sayoc's lawyers had sought a sentence of 10 years plus one month.

BURUNDI
1,800 dead as malaria 'epidemic' rages: UN

Nairobi: Malaria has killed more than 1,800 people in Burundi this year, the UN's humanitarian agency says, a death toll rivalling the Ebola outbreak in neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo. In its latest situation report, the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs said 5.7 million cases of malaria had been recorded in Burundi in 2019.

Taliban: Differences resolved on US troop withdrawal from Afghanistan

During Qatar talks, militants say they've given guarantees of cutting ties with other extremist groups

CARA ANNA & KATHY GANNON
KABUL, AUGUST 6

THE UNITED States and the Taliban have resolved differences in peace talks over US troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, as well as over insurgent guarantees on cutting ties with other extremist groups, a Taliban official said Tuesday.

The development came during US-Taliban talks over the past two days in the Gulf Arab state of Qatar, where the Taliban maintain a political office. The US side did not immediately confirm or provide details of what was resolved but the US envoy reported "excellent progress" in the talks. The Taliban official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to discuss details of the negotiations.

Technical teams from the two sides were continuing discussions on Tuesday in Doha. US peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who has been tasked



The US side did not immediately confirm or provide details of what was resolved, but the US envoy reported "excellent progress" in the talks being held in Doha. Reuters file

with finding a peaceful resolution to the nearly 18-year war, America's longest conflict, has made intra-Afghan talks and a permanent ceasefire among his priorities in the negotiations. Khalilzad, who later travelled to New Delhi, said in a Twitter post overnight that "we have made excellent progress" in the discussions. However, the talks in Qatar

have sidelined the government in Kabul. The Taliban refuse to talk directly with government representatives, accusing President Ashraf Ghani's government of being a puppet of the US. The Taliban have kept up a near-daily rate of deadly attacks, despite holding several rounds of peace talks with Khalilzad since his appointment as peace envoy almost a year ago. AP

Taliban denounce Afghan election, warn that rallies face attack

REUTERS
KABUL, AUGUST 6

THE TALIBAN on Tuesday denounced as a sham a presidential election due next month, saying their fighters would do everything they could to block it, while urging people to stay away from rallies that could be attacked.

Instead of the September 28 election, the Taliban said, the focus should be efforts to negotiate a deal with the United States that is expected to see a US commitment on the withdrawal of its troops in exchange for a Taliban promise the country will not be used to plot terrorist attacks. "This election process is nothing more than a ploy to de-

ceive the common people... for satisfying the ego of a limited number of sham politicians," the Taliban said in a statement.

President Ashraf Ghani is widely expected to win a second term and has insisted the vote must go ahead as scheduled. The US-trained former World Bank official came to power in 2014 after winning a bitterly disputed election marred by accusations of cheating.

The Taliban called for a boycott and said fighters would do all they could to block the vote. "To prevent losses... from being incurred by our fellow compatriots, they must stay away from gatherings and rallies that could become potential targets," the militants said.

Trump freezes all Venezuelan govt assets in bid to pressure Maduro

MATT SPETALNICK & ROBERTA RAMPTON
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 6

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump imposed a freeze on all Venezuelan government assets in the United States on Monday, sharply escalating an economic and diplomatic pressure campaign aimed at removing socialist President Nicolas Maduro from power.

The executive order signed by Trump goes well beyond the sanctions imposed in recent months against Venezuela's state-run oil company PDVSA and the country's financial sector, as well as measures against dozens of Venezuelan officials and entities.

Trump's action, the toughest yet against Maduro, not only bans US companies from dealings with the Venezuela government but also appears to open the door to possible sanctions against foreign firms or individuals that assist it.

"All property and interests in property of the Government of Venezuela that are in the United States... are blocked and may not be transferred, paid, exported, withdrawn, or otherwise dealt in," according to the executive order released by the White House.

Venezuela's Information Ministry did not respond immediately to a request to comment. The United States and most Western nations have called for Maduro to step down and have recognised Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido as the country's legitimate president.

EXPLAINED
Latest US attempt to unseat Maduro

THE LATEST sanctions imposed on Venezuela make any other government doing business with the country liable to be punished by the US. The move is likely aimed at China and Russia, who have been President Nicolas Maduro's biggest backers. The move comes months after the US and other major Western powers declared opposition leader Juan Guaido as the legitimate leader of Venezuela. However, despite previous US sanctions and protests in Venezuela, Guaido has been unable to oust Maduro. The US is now seeking to pressure the Maduro regime further with the new sanctions.

Trump said in a letter to Congress the freezing of assets was necessary "in light of the continued usurpation of power by the illegitimate Nicolas Maduro regime, as well as the regime's human rights abuses, arbitrary arrest and detention of Venezuelan citizens, curtailment of free press, and ongoing attempts to undermine Interim President Juan Guaido." REUTERS



DROUGHT REVEALS LOST TEMPLE

A family prays near the ruins of a headless Buddha statue, which has resurfaced in a dried-up dam due to drought, in Lopburi, Thailand. Thousands are flocking to see the Buddhist temple, exposed after drought drove water levels to record lows in a dam reservoir where it had been submerged. Wat Nong Bua Yai is a modern temple that was submerged during construction of the dam 20 years ago. Reuters

'We will make them pay': N Korea fires missiles, slams US-South drills

JOSH SMITH & JOYCE LEE
SEOUL, AUGUST 6

NORTH KOREA fired missiles into the sea off its east coast for the fourth time in less than two weeks, South Korea said on Tuesday, as Pyongyang warned that hostile moves against it "have reached the danger line".

The North, criticising the US-South Korean drills and their use of high-tech weapons, has fired a series of missiles and rockets since its leader Kim



People in Seoul watch news of the North Korean launch

Jong Un and US President Donald Trump agreed at a June 30 meeting to revive stalled de-

nuclearisation talks. North Korea has said it is committed to diplomacy and it will wait until the end of the year for the US to soften its policy of sanctions and political pressure over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons and missile programmes.

But if Washington and Seoul disregard North Korea's repeated warnings, "we will make them pay (a) heavy price," a North Korean government spokesman said in a statement. REUTERS



Police fire teargas during a demonstration at Tai Po residential area in Hong Kong on Monday. Reuters

China: Won't stand by idly if US deploys missiles in Asia

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING, AUGUST 6

CHINA SAID Tuesday that it "will not stand idly by" and will take countermeasures if the US deploys intermediate-range missiles in the Asia-Pacific region, which Washington has said it plans to do within months.

The statement from the director of the foreign ministry's Arms Control Department, Fu Cong, follows the US's withdrawal last week from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, a move Fu said would have a "direct negative impact on the global strategic stability" as well as security in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

Fu said China was particularly concerned about announced plans to develop and test a land-based intermediate-range missile in the Asia-Pacific "sooner rather than later," in the words of one US official.

"China will not stand idly by and be forced to take countermeasures should the US deploy intermediate-range ground-based missiles this part of the world," Fu told reporters at a specially called briefing.

He also advised other nations, particularly South Korea, Japan and Australia, to "exercise prudence" and not allow the US to deploy such weapons on their territory, saying that would "not serve the national security interests of these countries."

US Defence Secretary Mark Esper said in Asia over the weekend that he wanted to deploy midrange conventional missiles in the Asia-Pacific within months. Australian officials said Monday that the locations for the bases were not yet known but their country would not be one of them.

Beijing warns Hong Kong protesters not to play with fire

CATE CADELL
BEIJING, AUGUST 6

PROTESTERS IN Hong Kong must not "play with fire" and mistake Beijing's restraint for weakness, China said on Tuesday in its sharpest rebuke yet of the "criminals" behind demonstrations in the city whom it vowed to bring to justice.

Hong Kong has suffered weeks of sometimes violent protests that began with opposition to a now-suspended extradition law, which would have allowed suspects to be tried in mainland courts.

But the protests have swelled into a broader backlash against the government of the Asian financial hub, fuelled by many residents' fear of eroding freedoms under the increasingly tight control of the Communist Party in Beijing.

"I would like to warn all of the criminals: don't ever misjudge the situation and mistake our restraint for weakness," the Chinese government's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office said in a document issued during a briefing in Beijing. A small group of violent radicals were at the forefront of the protests, with "some kind-hearted citizens who have been misguided and coerced to join," according to the document attributed to two officials, Yang Guang and Xu Luying.

It said anti-China forces were the "behind-the-scenes masterminds". REUTERS

Mexico to open first terror probe of event on US soil

DANIEL TROTTA
EL PASO, AUGUST 6

MEXICO WILL investigate the mass shooting in El Paso, Texas, that killed 22 people, including eight Mexican citizens, as an act of terrorism and may request the suspected shooter be extradited to Mexico for trial, the country's foreign minister said on Monday.

Mexico's involvement in the criminal process against accused shooter Patrick Crusius comes at a time of high tension between Mexico City and Washington over

issues of immigration and trade.

Eight Mexicans were killed in Saturday's rampage at a Walmart store in the Texas border city, and six of the wounded Mexican nationals remained hospitalized on Monday. Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard told reporters at the Mexican consulate in El Paso.

He said he would ask US authorities to turn the bodies over to their Mexican families as soon as possible. Ebrard said he would meet with the Mexican attorney general on Tuesday to share results of the US investigation and build a terrorism case. REUTERS

THE NOBEL WINNER WAS THE AUTHOR OF CRITICAL AND COMMERCIAL SUCCESSSES SUCH AS 'BELOVED' AND 'SONG OF SOLOMON'

Toni Morrison, towering novelist of the black experience, dies at 88

MARGALIT FOX
NEW YORK, AUGUST 6

TONI MORRISON, the 1993 Nobel laureate in literature, whose work explored black identity in America and in particular the experience of black women, died Monday in New York City. She was 88.

Her death, at Montefiore Medical Centre, was announced by her publisher, Alfred A Knopf. A spokeswoman said the cause was complications of pneumonia. Morrison lived in Grand View-on-Hudson, New York.

The first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize in literature, Morrison was the author of 11 novels as well as children's books and essay collections. Among them were

celebrated works like *Song of Solomon*, which received the National Book Critics Circle Award in 1977, and *Beloved*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1988.

Morrison was one of the rare American authors whose books were both critical and commercial successes. A longtime faculty member at Princeton University, Morrison lectured widely and was seen often on television.

In awarding her the Nobel, the Swedish Academy cited her "novels characterised by visionary force and poetic import," through which she "gives life to an essential aspect of American reality."

In *Sula*, a woman blithely lets a train run over her leg for the insurance money it will give her family. In *Song of Solomon*, a baby girl is named Pilate by her father,



She was the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize in literature. AP

who "had thumbed through the Bible, and since he could not read a word, chose a group of letters that seemed to him strong and

handsome." In *Beloved*, the spectre of a murdered child takes up residence in the house of her murderer.

Throughout Morrison's work, elements like these coalesce around her abiding concern with slavery and its legacy. In her fiction, the past is often manifest in a harrowing present — a world of alcoholism, rape, incest and murder, recounted in unflinching detail.

Morrison's singular approach to narrative is evident in her first novel, *The Bluest Eye* (1970), written in stolen moments between her day job as a book editor and her life as the single mother of two young sons.

Reviewing the novel in *The New York Times*, John Leonard wrote: "The novel prefigures much of Ms Morrison's later

work in its preoccupation with history — often painful — as seen through lens of an individual life; with characters' quests, tragic or successful, for their place in the world; with the redemptive power of community; and with the role women play in the survival of such communities."

Song of Solomon (1977) was chosen as a main selection by the Book-of-the-Month Club, the first novel by a black author to be so honoured since Richard Wright's *Native Son* in 1940.

Morrison published *Beloved*, widely considered her masterpiece, in 1987. The first of her novels to have an overtly historical setting, the book — rooted in a real 19th-century tragedy — unfolds about a decade after the end of the Civil War.

Widely acclaimed by book

Morrison, an architect from Jamaica; they were divorced in 1964. After her divorce, Morrison moved with her sons to Syracuse, New York, where she took a job as an editor with a textbook division of Random House.

In the late 1960s, Morrison moved to New York City and took an editorial position with Random House's trade-book division.

Morrison is survived by her son Harold Ford Morrison and three grandchildren. Another son, Slade, with whom she collaborated on the texts of many books for children, died in 2010.

Her other laurels include the National Humanities Medal in 2000 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, presented in 2012 by US President Barack Obama. NYT

THE ARCTIC IS ABLAZE

Ice and fire

Peat fires in the Arctic are the latest symptom of climate change



More than a hundred wildfires are burning in the Arctic. Reuters

THE EASTERN Siberian landscape does not normally resemble hell. In winter it is blanketed in snow; in summer, its forests are lush and its wetlands soggy. This year, however, the region is on fire, as are large parts of the Arctic Circle.

Nothing on this scale has been observed since high-resolution satellite records of fires in the globe's far north began in 2003. A study in 2013 suggests that even the amount of burning seen in boreal regions in recent decades was outside the norm for the past 10,000 years. Researchers call this year's events "unprecedented". The data this summer are "insane", says Guillermo Rein, an expert in peat fires at Imperial College in London.

The fires began in June, spurred by an extremely hot and dry early summer. It was the hottest June on record, globally, according to America's National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. Temperature in-

creases owing to global warming are not evenly distributed, and the Arctic is warming twice as fast as the rest of the planet. In the regions that are burning, temperatures peaked at 8-10°C warmer than the average from 1981 to 2010. This has dried out the landscape, producing tinder for natural forest fires that were probably ignited by lightning.

So far, hundreds of above-ground fires have been recorded by satellites, covering hundreds of thousands of hectares in the Arctic and sub-Arctic, from Eastern Siberia to Alaska and Greenland. The European Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service estimates that fires within the Arctic Circle have produced more than 100m tonnes of carbon dioxide, or roughly what Belgium emits in a year. That is a lot. But burnt vegetation can regrow within a decade, and in doing so reabsorbs much of the released carbon dioxide.

It is what is happening below ground that

most worries ecologists and climate scientists. Many of the Siberian and Alaskan fires are burning carbon-dense peat soils, which would normally be waterlogged. Peat fires produce much more carbon dioxide and methane from the combustion of carbon that has been locked in the ground for hundreds or thousands of years. Burning soil therefore eliminates important carbon sinks that cannot be replaced on any useful timescale.

This in turn sets in motion positive feedback loops which are not accounted for in the climate projections of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

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Climate researchers do cite the possibility that global warming will thaw Arctic permafrost, releasing large amounts of stored greenhouse gases. But if fires in the region become more common, that could have even bigger consequences. The emissions from this year's fires make it more likely that the conditions will be met for peat to ignite again in coming summers, producing ever more emissions, and so on. Under these conditions, "I am convinced that it will actually be wildfires that will release much faster and bigger amounts of carbon," rather than melting permafrost, says Mr Rein. The fires also produce

a fine black soot known as black carbon which, if dropped on the Arctic sea ice by favourable winds, will darken its surface, making it more likely to absorb sunlight and melt. This decreases the reflectivity of the region as a whole (blue water absorbs more solar energy than white ice) and further increases Arctic warming.

The full scale of the Arctic fires' impact will not be known for months. The satellite data being used to estimate emissions from the wildfires cannot capture fires that are smouldering below the ground, which could double or triple the impact, according to Mr Rein.

Smog from the fires is blanketing much of Siberia, from Kazakhstan to the Bering Sea, with carbon monoxide and other nasties. On July 31st, after a petition to declare a state of emergency garnered more than 800,000 signatures, President Vladimir Putin ordered the army to help fight the fires. It is likely to be too little too late. Fighting fires that have grown to

such colossal sizes in remote regions with few roads is difficult or impossible.

The task is even harder for large peat fires. In South-East Asia, peat fires are caused by local environmental change, including drainage and deforestation to make way for crops. "What is scary about the Arctic fires is that they are driven by climate change, and as such there's very little you can do," says Thomas Smith, who studies wildfires at the London School of Economics. "You can't raise the water table for an area the scale of northern Alaska or Siberia." Few natural peat fires this big have ever been successfully managed, and then only by pumping billions of gallons of water over land. The only way to deal with the spread of these fires is to slow the rate of global warming, by stepping up work on cutting greenhouse-gas emissions. Don't hold your breath.

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GREECE'S NEW GOVERNMENT PROMISES TAX CUTS AND SPENDING INCREASES

Let the good times roll

But Brussels will not like it

OVER THE past decade Greece has been a tough place for politicians who like to be liked. The newly elected centre-right government is trying its best. In his first few weeks in office Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the prime minister, has announced tax breaks for ordinary Greeks and corporations. He has promised not to cut social benefits or fire any public-sector workers. Jobs are being created in areas that suffered deep cuts during the country's eight-year malaise. The health ministry is preparing to hire 2,400 hospital staff; another 1,500 police officers are being recruited.

Sadly, the good times are not guaranteed. The prime minister's policy choices could derail Greece's chances of hitting tough budget-surplus targets set by its creditors, the EU and the IMF. Economists fear that the relatively inexperienced Mr Mitsotakis — he held a fairly junior ministerial post from 2013 to 2015 — may be overestimating his government's capacity to shake up the country's sluggish bureaucracy and push through reforms.

So far the markets have smiled on Mr Mitsotakis and his New Democracy. On July 16th Greece issued its first seven-year bond since 2010. A modest target of €2.5bn (\$2.8bn) issued was hugely oversubscribed: offers exceeded €13bn, pushing down the yield on the new bond to 1.9%.

Winning over the EU and the IMF will be harder. Asked about the new Greek government at her annual summer press conference, Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, called the bond issue "very positive" but sounded a note of caution: "We will have to see how things evolve."

Mr Mitsotakis's eagerness to accelerate growth by cutting taxes as fast as possible is risky. In his first policy statement in parliament on July 21st, Mr Mitsotakis announced

an immediate 22% cut in "enflia", an unpopular annual property tax, and a cut of four percentage points in corporate tax to 24%. Both measures will take effect in September, four months earlier than originally expected. The income-tax rate for the lowest bracket will fall from 22% to 9%; value-added tax will drop by two percentage points. Further cuts will follow in 2020, Mr Mitsotakis says.

He has also made it clear that he will not broaden the tax base, a long-awaited reform that Syriza reneged on last year. Miranda Xafa, a former IMF economist, points out that seven out of ten Greeks pay less than €100 a year in income tax. Getting more people to pay tax "would help pay for the tax-rate cuts and make burden-sharing fairer", she says.

The prime minister nonetheless promises that Greece will stick to a harsh budget target this year and next. This target has already been agreed with its creditors: a primary surplus (before debt-servicing costs) of 3.5% of GDP. The Syriza government of Alexis Tsipras, Mr Mitsotakis's predecessor, exceeded this target last year by raising taxes and cutting the public-investment budget. Creditors were impressed by Syriza's rigour, but growth was subdued. This year's forecast is around 2%, well below the 3.5-4% needed to make up for the recession quickly. Greek GDP



Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis' policy choices could derail Greece's chances of hitting tough budget-surplus targets set by its creditors, the EU and the IMF. Reuters

is still about 25% below its pre-crisis peak.

The new government hopes that political stability (thanks to its majority in parliament) and business-friendly reforms (cutting red tape as well as taxes) will attract foreign investment. "Greece will be a totally new country for business," promises Adonis Georgiadis, the minister for development

and investment. As a sign of seriousness, he is leading a push to make sure the long-stalled privatisation of Hellinikon, a prime site that used to be Athens's airport, gets under way this year.

The government will present a draft budget in September. Although Greece is no longer in an official rescue programme, the

budget must be approved by the creditors under the terms of a post-bail-out "surveillance" agreement. He is betting on drastic cost-cutting at government ministries to offset immediate revenue reductions from tax cuts. Good luck with that.

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POLICY WATCH

CHANGE IN KASHMIR STATUS

Stock build-up: Sharp increase in foodgrain supply to J&K in April-June

ANIL SASI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

2.75 TIMES J&K'S MONTHLY NEED

SINCE APRIL, the government has been steadily ramping up foodgrain despatches to Jammu and Kashmir to levels much higher than the state's monthly requirements. This build-up in the food stock position in the state, which has resulted in the stock position of Jammu and Kashmir going up from 1.53 LMT (lakh metric tonnes) in May 2019 to 1.79 LMT as on July 15 — 2.75 times J&K's monthly requirement — is indicative of the preparedness for an extended shutdown.

■ The stock position of J&K went up from 1.53 LMT (lakh metric tonnes) in May 2019 to 1.79 LMT as on July 15 — 2.75 times J&K's monthly requirement

■ The official position is that the buildup is part of a "continuous effort" to step up the stocks of foodgrains in Jammu & Kashmir

■ A query sent to the office of the Secretary, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on the specific reasons for the move did not elicit a response

The monthly requirement of J&K is 62,590 MT. During April 2019 to June 2019, a quantity of 2.77 LMT was dispatched to the J&K region, with this build-up being in addition to the release of stocks under various government schemes.

The official position is that the buildup is part of a "continuous effort" to step up the stocks of foodgrains in Jammu & Kashmir. A query sent to the office of the Secretary, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on the specific reasons for the move did not elicit a response.

Food grain stocking norms are applicable on the level of stocks in the government's 'central pool' that is sufficient to meet the operational requirement of foodgrains and exigencies at any point of time.

Current stocking norms, fixed by the government in January 2015, comprise two parts — operational stocks for meeting monthly distributional requirement under the Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes, and the food security stocks for meeting shortfall in procurement. Stocking norms are applicable for a quarter and consist of operational stock for the three months and strategic reserve to take care of shortfall in production or natural calamities.

Officials indicated that "despite unfavourable circumstances, efforts have been

made to ensure that adequate foodgrain stocks are sent to J&K". The J&K government had implemented the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013 with effect from February 2016, consequent to which, an annual allocation of 4.77 LMT of foodgrain — comprising 1.41 LMT of wheat and 3.36 LMT of rice — was made to the state government. In addition, an annual tide-over allocation of 80,820 MT of wheat and 1.92 LMT of rice had also been made to protect average annual offtake of foodgrain of last three years before the NFSA came into effect.

The government's overall grain inventory too has built up due to record production and procurement in the last few years. The reserves currently with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) are about twice the required level of 411 LMT as on June 1.

According to government estimates, against total stocks of 741.41 LMT (as on June 1), the total storage capacity available with FCI, Central Warehousing Corporation and state agencies (both owned and hired capacity) is 862.45 LMT (as on May 31, 2019).

COMMITMENTS OF \$250 MN EACH IN MASTER FUND

NIF gets \$2-bn boost from Canadian, Australian funds

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

EXPLAINED

Fresh investments timely as ₹20 lakh crore needed for infra each year

THE NATIONAL Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIFF) on Tuesday said Australia's largest superannuation fund AustralianSuper and Canada's Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan have each signed agreements to invest up to \$1 billion with the NIIFF Master Fund. The agreements include commitments of \$250 million each in the Master Fund and co-investment rights of up to \$750 million each in future opportunities alongside the Fund, NIIFF said in a statement.

"This marks the third close of the NIIFF Master Fund. AustralianSuper and Ontario Teachers' will now join the Government of India (GOI), Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), Temasek, HDFC Group, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance and Axis Bank as investors in the Fund," it said.

The NIIFF invests in equity capital in the country's core infrastructure sectors with a focus on transportation, energy and urban infrastructure.

AustralianSuper and Ontario Teachers' will also become shareholders in National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Ltd, NIIFF's investment management company. Domestic investors HDFC Life and Kotak Mahindra Life

Insurance have further committed Rs 60 crore in the third round.

"With this, NIIFF Master Fund becomes the largest infrastructure fund in India with assets under management of over \$1.8 billion and a co-investment pool of \$2.5 billion, which will enable the Fund to invest at the scale required for the large infrastructure requirements in India," it said. The Master Fund has a tenure of 15 years and is denominated in the Indian rupees to provide long term funding in the infrastructure sector.

NIIFF Managing director and chief executive officer Sujoy Bose said, "AustralianSuper and Ontario Teachers' are among the most respected infrastructure investors in the world and bring considerable global perspective and value to NIIFF. Their significant investments demonstrate the international interest in Indian infrastructure and reconfirms the many strengths of NIIFF, which positions it as one of the primary

percent of which will be funded by the government at any given point of time. The remaining 51 percent of the corpus is to be raised from domestic and global investors, including international pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, multilateral/bilateral investors.

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Indian pooling vehicles for global capital."

Dale Burgess, senior managing director (infrastructure and natural resources) of Ontario Teachers' said, "NIIFF's investment strategy aligns with the long-term and partner-oriented investing approach, we have successfully used in other regions."

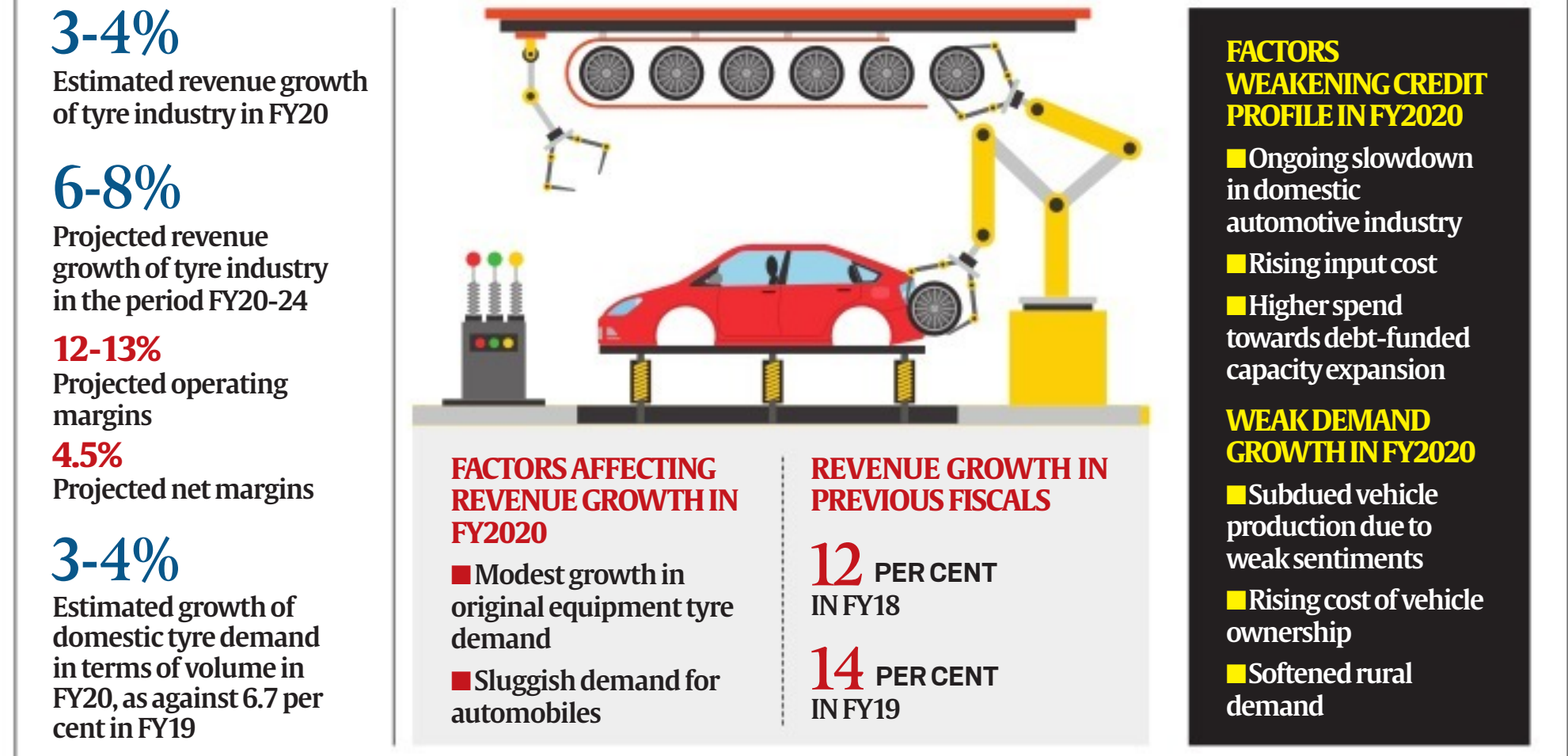
Mark Delaney, chief investment officer with AustralianSuper, said India's burgeoning infrastructure market is among the largest in Asia, which presents many opportunities for investment and a strong pipeline of investible projects.

NIIFF was registered with the Securities and Exchange Board of India as a Category II Alternate Investment Fund on December 28, 2015. The fund has been set up as a fund of funds structure with an aim to generate risk-adjusted returns for its investors alongside promoting infrastructure development.

Apart from the Master Fund, the Green Growth Equity Fund (CGEF) is the first investment of NIIFF's Fund of Funds. NIIFF and the UK Government have committed GBP 120 million each into the Fund. NIIFF also has investment in the ports, logistics and real estate sectors, among others. As per government estimates, India requires Rs 20 lakh crore worth of investments in the infrastructure sector each year.

'Demand slowdown to hit tyre industry growth'

According to ratings agency Icra, demand slowdown will curtail the tyre industry's revenue growth to 3-4 per cent in 2019-20, and margins are expected to decline



Despite lockdown, steady air passenger movement continues in and out of J&K

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

According to an Air India official, load factors for the airline's flights across three airports were high on Monday with even Delhi-Leh and Leh-Delhi flying with 95% bookings

NOTWITHSTANDING A lockdown in the Kashmir Valley and the situation in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir following the Centre's announcement of modifying Article 370 of the Constitution on Monday, air travel from Delhi to airports such as Srinagar, Jammu and Leh saw significant passenger loads during the day on the sectors both way.

While a senior executive at a private airline said that no discernible impact was witnessed on passenger loads, an Air India official said that its Delhi-Srinagar direct flight operated with around 65 per cent load factor on Monday. The return leg of the flight was 98 per cent full.

Following an advisory by the J&K government last week asking tourists to leave the Kashmir Valley region in light of intelligence inputs of a potential terror threat, air fares on the Srinagar-Delhi sector had skyrocketed. However, later the fares remained subdued as private airlines implemented a cap of Rs 10,000 on the sector. Flag-carrier Air India said it would hold maximum fare on the route at Rs 6,715 till August 15. For Wednesday's flights on the route, the cheapest one-way fare amounted to Rs 2,384.

The Air India official said that load factors for the airline's flights across three airports remained high on Monday with even Delhi-Leh and Leh-Delhi flying with 95 per cent bookings. An official at a low-cost airline said that more than half of bookings for its flights on Monday and Tuesday out of Srinagar happened on the spot at the airport as a communication blackout prevented passengers from booking online. One airline had to ferry airport staff from Delhi to keep its operations running given that a curfew prevented its local employees in Srinagar from turning up for work.

On Saturday, a day after the advisory was issued, over 6,000 passengers at Srinagar airport were flown out by the airlines through 29 scheduled flights as well as four Indian Air Force flights. On Wednesday, 30 flights are set to operate out of Srinagar.

DHFL proposes moratorium on repayment, says no haircut for banks

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 6

DHFL said its auditor Deloitte, Haskins & Sells LLP had resigned, citing irregularities in firm's financial statements for year ended March 2019

CASH-STARVED DEWAN Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) on Tuesday said its lenders would not have to take any haircuts on principal payments under its resolution plan and proposed a moratorium on repayments.

The company which has around Rs 1 lakh crore of debt is in the process of seeking lender approval on a restructuring to ride out a liquidity crunch and restart its lending business. DHFL shares soared 32 per cent to Rs 55.40 on the BSE on Tuesday.

In a separate exchange filing, DHFL said its auditor Deloitte, Haskins & Sells LLP had resigned, citing irregularities in DHFL's financial statements for the year ended March 2019. DHFL recently filed its long-delayed audited results for the quarter ended March 2019 and revealed a huge loss of Rs 2,223 crore and stated that its auditors had raised red flags.

The company on Tuesday said there's no principal haircuts to any creditors and proposed steps and measures towards addressing asset-liability mismatch and moratorium on repayments. It owes over Rs 35,000 crore to banks. The company said it's "seeking funding from banks and the National Housing Bank (NHB) for starting the retail funding activity". While moratorium involves temporary suspension or postponement of repayment to the lenders, haircut

means the percentage of reduction in the value of asset or principal loan. According to the exchange filing, the special committee for the resolution plan, which met on Tuesday, took on record the draft resolution plan formulated by the company in consultation with the committee and EY. The special committee has approved the submission of the resolution plan to the lenders.

On the auditor's resignation, DHFL said the Deloitte move is "in view of the matters stated in the Disclaimer of Opinion in the financial statements of the company for the year ended on March 2019 and its consequential effect on reporting under the Companies Act, 2013, their firm's policy on client acceptance and continuation does not permit them to continue as statutory auditors of the company". "The company is in discussion with leading reputed audit firms for appointment as statutory auditors subject to necessary approvals by the audit committee of the board and the shareholders," DHFL said. The company, in a statement issued on Monday, said it expects to "restart business in August 2019".

BP, RIL plan fuel retailing joint venture

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 6

TO ASSUME OWNERSHIP OF RIL'S FUEL RETAIL NETWORK

BRITISH MULTINATIONAL BP and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) have proposed to form a new joint venture that will include a retail service station network and aviation fuels business across India. RIL and BP's venture will incorporate and build on RIL's current fuel retailing network of over 1,400 sites across India, which the partners aim to grow rapidly to up to 5,500 sites over the next five years.

■ The partners have agreed to set up a new joint venture company, held 51% by Reliance Industries and 49% by BP, that will assume ownership of RIL's existing Indian fuel retail network and access its aviation fuel business

■ The venture will seek to expand its reach, broadening access through mobile fuelling units and providing packaged fuels to customers, including home-delivery, Reliance Industries said

The partners have agreed to set up a new joint venture company, held 51 per cent by RIL and 49 per cent by BP, that will assume ownership of RIL's existing Indian

fuel retail network and access its aviation fuel business. "It is anticipated that final agreements will be reached during 2019 and, subject to regulatory and other customary approvals, the transaction will be complete in the first half of

2020," RIL said in a statement.

Building on Reliance's existing Indian fuel retailing network and an aviation fuel business, the two firms have proposed to expand rapidly to help meet the country's fast-growing demand for energy

and mobility. RIL chairman Mukesh Ambani said: "Our robust partnership in developing gas resources in India has now expanded to fuel retailing and aviation fuels. This transformative partnership will deepen our engagement with the consumers in further enhancing the world-class services across the country." The venture will seek to expand its reach, broadening access through mobile fuelling units and providing packaged fuels to customers, including home-delivery, RIL said.

"... Together we will work to provide consumers across India the high-quality fuels, convenience retail and services they need, ..." said Bob Dudley, group chief executive of BP.

Affiliates of Singapore's GIC set to invest up to ₹4,400 cr in IRB Infra

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, AUGUST 6

AFFILIATES OF Singapore's sovereign wealth fund GIC will invest up to Rs 4,400 crore in road assets of IRB Infrastructure Development. Nine of IRB's build-operate-transfer (BOT) assets will be transferred to a private infrastructure investment trust (INVT) in which it will hold a 51 per cent controlling stake, the firm said in a press release.

core and on completion of construction, the enterprise value of the portfolio is estimated at Rs 22,500 crore, the release said.

The portfolio spans across around 1,200 km across Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Karnataka. Three of the nine projects are operational and the remaining six are at various stages of construction. Five of the assets under construction are four-to-six laning projects, where tolling as well as construction has already begun. FE

The net revenue of the portfolio in 2018-19 was around Rs 630

US DESIGNATES CHINA AS CURRENCY MANIPULATOR

Trump shrugs off trade war concerns; China warns of market chaos

REUTERS
WASHINGTON/BEIJING/
SHANGHAI, AUGUST 6

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Tuesday dismissed concerns over a protracted trade war with China, as Beijing warned that Washington's decision to label it a currency manipulator would lead to chaos in financial markets.

Trump, who announced last week he would slap a 10 per cent tariff on a further \$300 billion in Chinese imports starting September 1, said investment was pouring into the US economy. He also pledged to stand with American farmers in the face of

Chinese retaliation. China has halted US agricultural purchases and raised the specter of additional tariffs on US farm products.

While Trump played down the prospects of the trade dispute being drawn out, St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank President James Bullard said the US central bank may be stuck with a volatile global trade environment for years.

Ratcheting up the pressure on China, the US Treasury Department said on Monday it had determined for the first time since 1994 that Beijing was manipulating its currency. The move followed China's decision to let the yuan fall below the



A money exchange shop decorated with banknotes of different countries at Central, a business district in Hong Kong. AP

key seven-per-dollar level for the first time in more than a decade, rattling financial markets and dimming hopes for an end to a trade war that has dragged into a second

year. China's central bank said on Tuesday that Washington's currency move would "severely damage international financial order and cause chaos in financial mar-

kets," while preventing a global economic recovery. China "has not used and will not use the exchange rate as a tool to deal with trade disputes," the People's Bank of China (PBOC) said in the country's first official response to the latest US salvo.

"China advised the United States to rein in its horse before the precipice, and be aware of its errors, and turn back from the wrong path," it said. The Trump administration wants to continue trade talks with China and is still planning to host a Chinese delegation for further talks in September. Larry Kudlow, director of the White House National Economic Council, told CNBC on Tuesday.

'China warns India of reverse sanctions if Huawei is blocked'

SANJEEV MIGLANI & NEHA DASGUPTA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

CHINA HAS told India not to block its Huawei Technologies from doing business in the country, warning there could be consequences for Indian firms operating in China, sources with knowledge of the matter said.

India is due to hold trials for installing a next-generation 5G cellular network in the next few months, but has not yet taken a call on whether it would invite the Chinese telecoms equipment maker to take part, Telecom Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has

said. Huawei, the world's biggest maker of such gear, is at the centre of a geopolitical tug-of-war between China and the United States. US President Donald Trump's administration put the company on a blacklist in May, citing national security concerns. It has asked its allies not to use Huawei equipment, which it says China could exploit for spying.

Two sources privy to internal discussions in New Delhi said India's ambassador in Beijing, Vikram Misri, was called to the Chinese foreign ministry on July 10 to hear China's concerns about the US campaign to keep Huawei out of 5G mobile infrastructure worldwide. During the meeting,

Chinese officials said there could be "reverse sanctions" on Indian firms engaged in business in China should India block Huawei because of pressure from Washington, one of the sources said, citing a readout of the ambassador's meeting. The Indian foreign ministry did not respond to a request for comment. China's foreign ministry also did not respond to a Reuters request for comment on the matter.

Indian companies have a far smaller presence in China than other major economies. But firms including Infosys, TCS, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Reliance Industries and Mahindra & Mahindra have a foothold there. REUTERS

Aviation regulator tells airport operators to conduct periodic inspection of runway surface

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

IN THE wake of a series of runway excursion incidents across Indian airports that led to discovery of several shortcomings in runway maintenance, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Tuesday directed all airport operators to conduct periodic inspection of runway surface.

"Airport operators have been mandated to conduct periodic friction test and rubber removal to keep the runway in proper condition to enable proper braking action," a senior DGCA official said.

Friction test assesses the resistance of a runway, a key factor for effective braking of an aircraft at the time of landing.

The aviation regulator has prescribed that for busy airports that see an average of more than 210 aircraft movements on the runway every day, or annual aircraft weight for runway greater than 5,535 million kg — whichever is higher — friction measurement test should be conducted once every week.

A senior DGCA official said that airport operators have been mandated to conduct periodic friction test and rubber removal to keep the runway in proper condition to enable proper braking action

On the lower end, for airports with average number of aircraft movements on the runway less than 15 per day or annual aircraft weight for runway less than 447 million kg, the measurement test should be conducted once a year.

The surface condition of a runway has a major safety impact on aircraft operations in particular on aircraft landing performance. Low friction levels and contaminated runway surface can cause aircraft overruns and run-off incidents. The DGCA had in July sent notices to airports including Chennai, Ahmedabad and Calicut after an inspection found out that some critical areas were not being maintained as per safety standards.

In its letter to the Ahmedabad airport, the aviation safety regulator had noted that friction test reports considered for analysis from December 2018 to June 2019

showed a downward trend in friction values below maintenance planning level, and below the minimum level at few locations.

In addition to the prescribed frequencies of friction measurement tests, Tuesday's DGCA circular also told aerodrome operators that additional friction tests should be conducted whenever it is suspected that a runway has become slippery under other than normal wet conditions or due to unusual surface conditions. It also pointed out that rubber deposits in touch-down zone of runway are one of the primary cause of reduction of friction values when runways are wet.

"Aerodrome operators should keep a watch over rubber deposits and take necessary actions for its removal, whenever frictional values are nearing minimum friction values," the circular noted.

REPRESENTATIVES RAISED CONCERNS AT TUESDAY'S MEET

FM assures to look into delay in disbursement of loans to MSMEs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

LACK OF credit disbursement by banks even after sanctions and long delays in settlement of dues by the government departments and public sector undertakings (PSUs) have undermined the MSMEs' ability to sustain their business cycles, liquidity-starved micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) told Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Tuesday.

The minister's meeting with MSME representatives was part of a series of such sessions lined up by her with important stakeholders up to August 11 to devise plans for critical sectors amid fears that the economy might be slipping into a protracted slowdown.

She promised to study the issue of delay in release of dues by the government departments and promised remedial steps to alleviate the difficulties of MSMEs.

REVISION OF TURNOVER-RELATED DEFINITION

■ One demand was to revise the turnover/investment-related definition of MSMEs upwards. The definitions were brought in 2006 and have since become dated due to inflation

■ The Finance Minister's meeting with representatives of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) was part of a series of such sessions lined up by her with stakeholders up to August 11

"As against sanctioned, only 10 per cent is being disbursed by banks under 59-minute scheme," said Ashok Saigal, co-chair of CII MSME Committee. Under the scheme, MSMEs registered under the Goods and Services Tax are eligible for loan up to Rs 1 crore in just 59 minutes through the 'ps-bloansin59minutes.com' portal.

The MSMEs also complained that despite 70 per cent guarantee from the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), the firms have not been able to secure

loans from banks in many cases.

Another demand was to revise the turnover/investment-related definition of MSMEs upwards. The definitions were brought in 2006 and have since become dated due to inflation.

"Currently a firm with Rs 5 crore investment is classified as 'small' while investment over Rs 5 crore are 'medium'. But machine that cost Rs 5 lakh in 2006 is not valued at Rs 15 lakh," said Rajive Chawla, chairman Integrated Association of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of India (Iam SME of India). The

Finance Minister was positive and said she would look into the issue.

She asked all industry bodies to give in writing their suggestions to the MSME sector in three-four days to prepare an action plan.

Other issues raised by MSMEs included a demand for exemption from capital gains tax for the sector if gains are reinvested in business.

Among others, they also sought rationalisation of penalty for late filing on Ministry of Corporate Affairs as it is same for large and small companies. They also raised the issue of VAT refunds not being transferred to GST regime by states.

MSMEs are the backbone of the Indian economy, contributing nearly 30 per cent of the gross domestic product and 49 per cent of country's exports. MSMEs are also the largest employers, next only to agriculture. Over six crore such units provided employment to about 11 crore people (NSSO, 2016). **FE**

BRIEFLY

FY20: NCAER expects GDP to grow at 6.2%

New Delhi: India's GDP growth is likely to be 6.2 per cent during the current fiscal, down from 6.8 per cent in 2018-19, on account of flat growth in agriculture sector, economic think-tank National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) said Tuesday. The prospects for agricultural sector in 2019-20 depend largely on the south-west monsoon, it said.

'HDFC Bank reduces lending rates by 10 bps'

New Delhi: Private sector lender HDFC Bank Tuesday has cut its lending rates by 0.10 per cent across all tenors, effective Wednesday, sources said. The move comes a day ahead of the policy review by the Reserve Bank, which is reportedly peeved at lenders for not passing on its three consecutive rate cuts of 0.75 per cent to the borrowers.

Only long-term fund from overseas: Jalan

New Delhi: Former RBI Governor Bimal Jalan on Tuesday said the government should borrow only long-term fund from the overseas market, and the quantum should not exceed 1.5 per cent of GDP under any circumstances. "...if you (the government) are borrowing from abroad (then) borrow long-term and the total foreign borrowing should not exceed more than 1.5 per cent of GDP under any circumstances," he said at the launch of his book 'Resurgent India'.

Tata Steel arm snaps pact with HBIS Group

New Delhi: Global giant Tata Steel on Tuesday said its arm T S Global Holdings (TSGH) has terminated pact with HBIS Group to sell stake in South-East Asia business. Tata Steel's wholly owned subsidiary TSGH had in January signed definitive agreements with HBIS Group to divest majority stake in its South-East Asia business in Beijing, China.

EV push puts Benelli's India plans on hold

Mumbai: Italian superbike motorcycle-maker Benelli, which re-entered in the domestic market last August, has put on hold its plans to set up a full fledged manufacturing facility following the government's pursuit to go for electric vehicles. **PTI**

Regulators' nod to NSE, SGX for planned Nifty trading in GIFT City

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU MUMBAI, AUGUST 6

BRINGING AN end to the dispute over Nifty trading in Singapore, the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and the Singapore Exchange (SGX) have received approval from their respective regulators — Monetary Authority of Singapore and Sebi — for their international financial services centre (IFSC) for trading in Nifty products on the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City).

The proposed NSE IFSC-SGX Connect aims to bring together the trading of Nifty products in GIFT-City and create a larger pool of liquidity comprising international and home market participants, NSE said. Both exchanges are also working to discontinue related arbitration proceedings, NSE added.

NSE had earlier locked horns with SGX over an index derivative that the latter plans to launch in Singapore, which is similar to the NSE's Nifty index. The SGX move came after NSE terminated its licence agreement for the SGX Nifty traded in Singapore. Arbitration proceedings began in the matter after the court last May referred the dispute to an arbitrator. The arbitrator asked SGX to continue listing and trading SGX Nifty contracts beyond August, and barred it from offering its proposed new products until a final decision.

The Connect model, which is subject to further approvals from relevant local authorities, will enable SGX and NSE IFSC members to access Nifty products in GIFT

"This is a great opportunity to build vibrant markets in GIFT City. We are working on varied product offerings to make GIFT City the hub of activity for all India access products across asset classes for international investors and a gateway for home investors to access international markets"

VIKRAM LIMAYE MD & CEO, NSE

while managing their exposures through their respective clearing corporations.

"SGX and NSE will continue to work with all key stakeholders to make the NSE IFSC-SGX Connect operational before the end of 2020, subject to members' readiness and receiving all relevant approvals," NSE said.

Vikram Limaye, managing director and chief executive officer of NSE, said, "This is a great opportunity to build vibrant markets in GIFT City. We are working on varied product offerings to make GIFT City the hub of activity for all India access products across asset classes for international investors and a gateway for home investors to access international markets."

Loh Boon Chye, chief executive officer, SGX, said, "As Asia's most international and connected multi-asset exchange, we are committed to providing our global institutional clients with open, single-point access to Asia."

Sterling & Wilson IPO subscribed 9% on day 1 of bidding

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

THE INITIAL public offer of Sterling & Wilson Solar Ltd was subscribed 9 per cent on the first day of bidding on Tuesday.

The IPO through which the company plans to raise about Rs 3,125 crore received bids for 21,06,264 shares against the total issue size of 2,21,77,418 shares, as per NSE data.

The category for qualified institutional buyers (QIBs) was subscribed 6 per cent, non institutional investors 19 per cent and retail individual investors 6 per cent.

Its price range has been fixed at Rs 775-780 per share. The issue will close on August 8.

The offer comprises an offer for sale by promoters Shapoorji Pallonji and the company aggregating up to Rs 2,083.33 crore and Khurshed Yazdi Daruvala totalling Rs 1,041.67 crore.

ICICI Securities, Axis Capital, Credit Suisse Securities India, Deutsche Equities India, IIFL Securities, SBI Capital Markets, IndusInd Bank and YES Securities India are managing the offer.

Sterling and Wilson Solar on Monday raised Rs 1,406 crore from 27 anchor investors.

The portion of the net proceeds will be utilised towards funding full repayment of the loans, the firm had said.

Shares of Sterling and Wilson, a solar engineering, procurement and construction solutions provider, are proposed to be listed on the BSE and the National Stock Exchange.

INDIGO PROMOTERS' SPAT

Worried over IGE nominees getting advantage, Gangwal wants 7 board members instead of 10

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

A NEW twist has emerged in the ongoing fight between the co-promoters of IndiGo — Rahul Bhatia and Rakesh Gangwal — at a time when there was speculation that the two are close to reaching an agreement.

While the board had on July 20 decided to expand its membership from the current six to ten, Gangwal has now written a letter to the directors, with copies to Sebi and Ministry of Corporate Affairs, that the number of directors be raised to seven instead. This additional director should be an independent woman director, which is a regulatory requirement.

However, IndiGo chairman M Damodaran has rejected this demand by Gangwal.

Gangwal's main grouse regarding the expansion to ten is that if a position of an independent director falls vacant at any time, the size of the board will be in favour of Bhatia's InterGlobe Enterprises (IGE) which can dur-

In a letter to directors, IndiGo co-promoter Rakesh Gangwal has said that a 7-member board will be evenly balanced one while a 10-member one leaves a large loophole; however, IndiGo chairman M Damodaran has rejected the demand

ing the interim period force through its policies.

"Subsequent to the board meet and in finalising the language on the articles, all of us realised that the proposed board structure created a large loophole that gives the IGE Group additional powers they do not have today. Essentially, when there are less than four independent directors, it would allow the IGE Group to pass any company policy they want just on the basis of their board numbers being larger than all the other board members combined," Gangwal said in his letter.

The current six-member board of IndiGo has three IGE nominees, one Gangwal's appointee and two independent directors. Once the board is expanded to ten members, IGE's

nominees would go up to five, Gangwal's will remain at one, while four independent directors would be appointed, one of whom would be a woman.

IndiGo's annual general meeting is scheduled for August 27, where the board expansion needs the ratification of shareholders. Post this, the board will fill its vacancies and at a later date the policy relating to related-party transactions (RPTs) — which is the main bone of contention between Bhatia and Gangwal — will be taken up for changes. Gangwal has written that a seven-member board will be evenly balanced one while a ten-member one leaves a large loophole which can be used by IGE to further its agenda.

However, chairman of the board, Damodaran has rejected

Pesky calls: Telcos told to submit monthly reports

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

TRAI ON Tuesday asked telecom firms to submit status report over complaints regarding pesky calls, on monthly basis starting September, setting in motion a monitoring system for the new framework that aims to check unwarranted telemarketing calls and messages.

"... the Authority... hereby directs all access service providers

to submit... compliance reports, with effect from month ending September, 2019, on monthly basis, and within ten days from the end of each calendar month," telecom regulator Trai said in its latest directive.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has outlined the specific format in which the compliance reports need to be filled by the companies. Last year, the regulator moved to tighten the rules to curb pesky telemarketing calls and messages.

Govt seeks freezing a/cs of IL&FS auditors, 21 others

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

IN MORE troubles for the auditors of the crippled IL&FS, Deloitte and BSR, the Corporate Affairs Ministry Tuesday moved the NCLT seeking to freeze their bank accounts along with those of 21 others who are implicated in the main petition in the one of the largest fraud cases.

This comes even as the National Company Law Tribunal

(NCLT) is yet to pronounce its verdict on the ministry plea seeking to ban these auditors for their omissions and commissions in the case for five years.

MCA counsel Sanjay Shorey said he wants their accounts frozen as an interim measure till the tribunal delivers on its demand to ban these auditors for five years. Shorey said the tribunal can allow these individuals to withdraw a certain amount say Rs 1-2 lakh every month based on their requirement.

Apple, Goldman Sachs start issuing Apple Cards

STEPHEN NELLIS SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 6

APPLE INC and Goldman Sachs Group Inc rolled out a virtual credit card on Tuesday, which will help the iPhone maker diversify from device sales and also build out the Wall Street bank's new consumer business. With the card, Apple aims to draw in iPhone owners with 2 per cent cash back

on purchases with the Apple Pay service, no fees and an app to manage related finances.

For Goldman, the card will enhance the bank's focus on its Marcus consumer banking brand, which it started in 2015 to even out volatile results from businesses such as trading and investment banking.

Apple shares were up about 1 per cent at \$195.30 in trading before the bell. The company said a

limited number of the people who had expressed interest in Apple Card would start receiving sign-up invitations on Tuesday.

"The Apple Card doesn't play in the same league as premium rewards credit cards like the Chase Sapphire Reserve or AmEx Platinum," said Sara Rathner, an expert on credit cards at NerdWallet. "Those cards charge ultra-high fees, but in return you get some pretty sweet perks:

massive sign-up bonuses, annual statement credits, free Global Entry, and a higher point-earning rate for travel expenses."

Apple will offer an option for a physical card made of titanium, but with no visible number. Instead, the card's number is stored on a secure chip inside the iPhone, which will generate virtual numbers for online or over-the-phone purchases that require a number. **REUTERS**

Tax fraud case: HSBC agrees to €300 million settlement

Brussels: HSBC's Swiss private banking arm has agreed to pay nearly 300 million euros to settle a tax fraud case in Belgium, Belgian prosecutors said Tuesday, the latest blow for the Alpine state's banking sector from the EU.

CDEL 'aware of reports' on Siddhartha's signature

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

COFFEE DAY Enterprises Ltd on Tuesday said it is aware of reports questioning the authenticity of the signature on the purported letter written by late founder VG Siddhartha and is cooperating with regulatory authorities on this issue.

The purported letter, which is believed to be the final note by the late promoter and widely circulated on social media, contained statements alleging harassment

on VG Siddhartha by the Income Tax department.

In a reply to the clarification sought by the bourses on the issue, Coffee Day Enterprises said "the company is aware of the news report" and added that it is "co-operating with regulatory authorities in relation to the letter and related matter."

On July 30, BSE had sought clarification from Coffee Day Enterprises over reports that Siddhartha's signatures on the purported letter were not matching with his signature on other documents.

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd.
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Regd. Office: 43/46, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata 700 024

E-TENDER NOTICE FOR ONLINE BIDDING
NIT NO. CCS/OT/STORE OPERATION/E-129/ET-0784
DATED: 07.08.2019

SUB: "Biennial Rate Contract for Execution of Daily Store Operations including providing Materials Handling Equipment & Vehicles & Warehouse Space".

Due date: 21 days from date of publication

1. Details will be available in e-tendering portal <http://eprocuregrse.co.in> and websites: <http://www.grse.in/tenderhome.php> & <http://eprocure.gov.in/cppp/>

2. Any addendum/corrigendum to this tender enquiry will be published in above websites only.

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Fax : 0141-4593210 E - Mail : riico@riico.co.in Website : www.riico.co.in

E-TENDER NOTICE

RIICO invites tenders/bids costing more than Rs. 200 lacs through eproc.rajasthan.gov.in from registered, reputed and experienced contractors for under mentioned works. As such, this is to inform all the prospective bidders/contractors registered in appropriate class in any department or public undertaking of any state in India/GOI, that they may download & submit online tenders/bids for following works:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)
1	Sr. Regional Manager, North-Jaipur	
1.1	Levelling of land, Re-surfacing of existing Roads, Construction of missing link approach road from Mandla Phase-I and Boundary wall works at Industrial Area Mandla Phase-II Jaipur UBN-RDC1920WSOB00572	1471.67
2	Sr. Regional Manager, Rural-Jaipur	
2.1	Strengthening and recarpeting of road at Industrial area Bagru (Ext.) Ph-II, Jaipur UBN-RDC1920WSOB00567	279.50

For details information and instruction for online submission of tender/bid, please log on www.riico.co.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. For queries please contact: **Additional GM Ph: 0141-4593233**
Raj.Samaddar@riico.in

अनुसूचित जाति - तन्त्रय प्रकाश

NESCO UTILITY
Head Office: Janaganj, Balasore-756019
Email-purchase@nescoodisha.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender Notice No. NESCO Utility/Spot Billing/11/19-20/10318 Dt: 05.08.19

For and on behalf of NESCO Utility, sealed tenders are invited in duplicate in two part bidding system from eligible Agencies to undertake "Spot Billing" activities in NESCO Utility including Meter-reading, Bill generation & Bill distribution to the single phase consumers across 16 Electrical Distribution Divisions in Balasore, Bhadrak, Jaipur Road, Baripada & Keonjhar Electrical Circles.

Last date of submission of Tender : Dt 26.08.19 up to 3.00 PM, Date of opening of Tender: Dt.26.08.19 at 3.30 PM. For details please visit our website-www.nescoodisha.com. Corrigendum if any will be published in the website only.

Sd/- Asst. General Manager (C&P)

आईआरईएल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड
IREL (INDIA) LIMITED
(पूर्व में इंडिया रेअर अर्थ लिमिटेड
Formerly Indian Rare Earths Limited)

रेअर अर्थ प्रभाग Rare Earths Division, उद्योगमंडल Udyogamandal, कोची Kochi - 683 501 (ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 & OHSAS 18001:2007 Certified Company) Phones: +91 484 254062 - 65 Fax: +91 484 2545269

TENDER NOTICE

IREL, RED invites e-tenders for the following item / job descriptions using e-procurement portal of M/s MSTC Limited:

Item	Construction of Battery of RCC trenches at disposal Yard
E-Tender (Public) No.	IREL/Udyogamandal/19-20/ET/36
Transaction Fee to MSTC	Rs. 11,765/- (Inclusive of GST)
TDC to IREL	Rs. 1,120/- (Inclusive of taxes)
EMD to IREL	Rs. 1,99,400/-
Tender starting date & time	07/08/2019 - 10.00 hrs
Tender closing date & time	26/08/2019 - 17.00 hrs
Tender opening start date & time	27/08/2019 - 10.00 hrs
Minimum validity of tender	90

विवरण के लिए वेबसाइट देखें। For details, visit websites <http://www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocure/irel>, <https://eprocure.gov.in>, <http://irel.co.in>, परिसर / रुद्रि केवल वेबसाइट में होस्ट की जाएगी. Addendum/Corrigendum shall be hosted in the websites only. स्पष्टीकरण के लिए For clarification contact 0484 2545199, purchase-red@irel.co.in में संपर्क करें।

-हस्ता/-ह्रेड (आइईई)-Sd/- HEAD (RED).

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MSTC LIMITED
(एन सी ई ओ सी लिमिटेड)
CIN : L27320WB1964GOI026211

e-Auction of Various Materials

MSTC will hold e-Auction for various materials such as Iron Ore fines, Coke fines, Coke, Steam Coal, Mixed Coal and scrap on **28.08.2019**, lying at the plant site of Adhunik Metalliks Limited, Kuarmunda, Odisha. For more details log on to www.mstcecommerce.com or www.mstcindia.co.in. Email : arunkumar@mstcindia.co.in and rmaresh@mstcindia.co.in; Mob : 9830924222 & 8801281004. Any corrigenda/addenda/amendments/ time extensions / Clarifications, if any, to the e-auction will be hosted on MSTC's website only. Bidders should regularly visit above website to keep themselves updated.

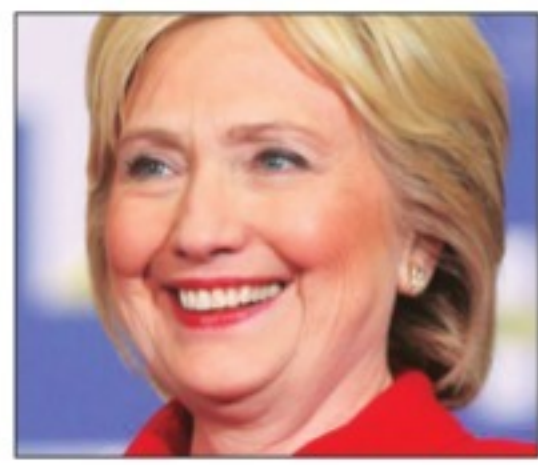
21 TALK ART, MUSIC, STYLE, FOOD

SNAP SHOTS



Lost and Found

STREAMING GIANT Amazon has roped in director Adam Wingard (pictured) to direct and produce the remake of the 1987 sci-fi film *Event Horizon*. The director is known for films such as *You're Next*, *Death Note* and *Blair Witch*. The 1987 film was directed by Paul WS Anderson. It follows a crew of astronauts on a rescue mission in space after a lost spaceship, *Event Horizon*, appears in an orbit around Neptune. At the time of release, the film bombed at the box office and was also panned by critics. Over the next two decades, though, it has amassed a cult following among the fans.



Turning the Page

FORMER US SECRETARY of State and presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton (pictured) and her daughter Chelsea Clinton have come together for *The Book of Gutsy Women*, which honours achievers, from scientist Marie Curie to climate activist Greta Thunberg. Published by Simon & Schuster, the book will hit the shelves on October 1. This is the first collaboration between the two. The book will include portraits of more than 100 women, including Saudi activist Manal al-Sharif and entertainer Ellen DeGeneres.



New Beginnings

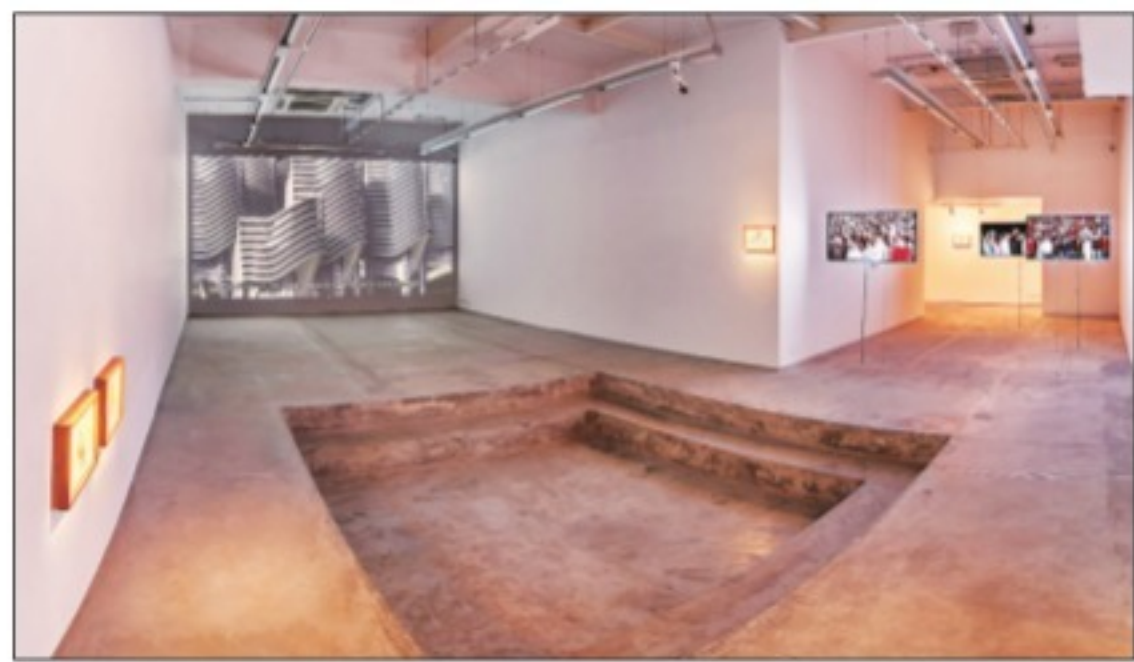
ANDY SERKIS (pictured) has been brought on board to direct the sequel of *Venom*. Serkis, who has been in talks with Sony for the film, took to Instagram to share the news. Tom Hardy will reprise his role as journalist Eddie Brock, who unites with an alien symbiote to form *Venom*. "It's actually happening. I can feel it, the symbiote has found a host in me, and I'm ready for the ride... Can't wait! Are you ready @tomhardy? #venom #venom2 #marvel," wrote Serkis. Serkis will direct the film from Kelly Marcel's script. The project is Serkis' third directorial venture. He helmed *Breathe* (2017) and *Mowgli: Legend of the Jungle* (2018).



Sohrab Hura's works at Experimentier; the gallery's new space at Ballygunge Place, Kolkata; Priyanka and Prateek Raja; Bani Abidi's works at the gallery

The Decade That Was

Ten years since inception, Experimentier has emerged as one of India's leading contemporary art galleries that has questioned existing curatorial practices



VANDANA KALRA

IN 2009, when two management graduates, Priyanka and Prateek Raja, established an art gallery in Kolkata, they had a singular vision — to focus on curatorial programming and showcase contemporary art that challenged existing notions. Within a decade, their brainchild, Experimentier, has become one of the foremost contemporary art galleries in India. The couple has often been lauded for their efforts and Experimentier was listed among "the most important young galleries in the world" by art portal *Artsy* earlier this year. "It feels wonderful to be acknowledged but at the same time it's also a responsibility," says Raja.

Over the years, the gallery has built a formidable roster of artists that they represent, comprising some of the best in the region — from RAQS Media Collective and CAMP from India, to Pakistan's Bani Abidi; Samson Young, a sound artist from Hong Kong; and Berlin-based artist Nadia Kaabi-Linke. One of the first artists they signed was Bangladesh's Naeem Mohaiemen, who was recently collected by Tate Modern and nominated for the Turner Prize last year. "We felt that the work of a lot of artists was not being shown in the right context and in the right kind of curatorial constructs. We were looking at a particular kind of artists who had a particular strength in the questions that they were raising, from politics to national identity. A lot of these artists were actually showing abroad in seminal exhibitions," says Prateek.

The couple will celebrate 10 years of the gallery with an exhibition by Mohaiemen that opens on August 23. Also lined up is an extensive programme, from August 23 to 25, that includes guided walks across Kolkata, a book reading of *Now Wander Together* on artist Prabhakar Pachpute and documentary photographer Soumya Sankar Bose's *Let's Sing An Old Song*, based



We were looking at artists who hold a mirror to society as it is today... On an average we follow any artist for at least two-three years before we begin to work with them
PRIYANKA RAJA

on a body of work by Jatra artists. A panel discussion will have vocalist TM Krishna and artists Amar Kanwar and Shuddhabrata Sengupta. The galaxy of artists represented by the gallery will also come together for a group exhibition titled "Searching for Stars Amongst the Crescents" that "seeks propositions of a future living". On display will be works of Praneet Soi, Ayesha Sultana, Sohrab Hura and Adip Dutta, among others. "The stars and crescents symbolise two different ideologies. The exhibition proposes this iterative process where artists imagine new possibilities, alliances and search for a retelling of our complex relationship with ourselves and what we see around us," adds Prateek.

This desire to offer an alternative is what led to the very inception of the gallery. At first, Prateek quit his corporate job in 2004 to join his family business of handloom tex-

tiles. Visiting art galleries led him to further explore the art market and its limitations. During his long conversations with artists, he realised that there was a need for platforms that hosted well-researched exhibitions and represented new wave of artists in South Asia. A year before Experimentier began, Priyanka, too, left her job at Procter & Gamble. The just-married couple travelled the world for six months, looking at exhibitions and meeting artists, concluding the trip with a course on South Asian Contemporary Art at Sotheby's, London.

Back in Kolkata, another six months were spent in setting up the gallery. The location they chose is a '30s building on Hindustan Road in Kolkata. "We had planned the exhibition calendar for 18 months in advance before we opened the gallery," reveals Prateek. The impressive line-up caught immediate attention. One of the earliest exhibitions was a three-person show "Freedom is Notional" comprising works of Abidi, Mohaiemen and Shilpa Gupta. In 2013, Experimentier hosted the Turner Prize-winning British art collective, Otolith Group. "We were looking at artists who hold a mirror to society as it is today. Everything that we have done since has been a very deliberate programme. On an average we follow any artist for at least two-three years before we begin to work with them. We try to understand the person, not just the practice," says Priyanka.

Efforts have also been made to encourage discussions around art. In 2012, the gallery launched the Curators' Hub, with an intention to discuss curatorial practices around the world. While the gallery publishes books and monographs, the Experimentier Learning Programme organises workshops, film screenings and outreach programmes. Experimentier Radio features a playlist of music chosen by artists and writers. "We are not a passive space for looking at work but an active space to learn and think," says Priyanka.



HELPING HAND

Actor Emma Watson has set up a legal advice helpline for women facing sexual harassment at work. It will be funded by donations from public. The hotline is backed by Time's Up UK's Justice and Equality Fund, and managed by Rosa, a UK-based charitable organisation.



FROM MY PANTRY
Chef MANU CHANDRA on his favourite technique
MAKING CHEESE

LIVING FOOD: My current favourite technique is that of making various kinds of cheese. And when I say cheese, I mean a product that is fairly complex. The seed for this was planted nearly two years ago, when I started to wonder if it was possible to create artisanal cheese in India. It all came down to sourcing the right kind of milk, equipment, culture, rennet and so on. You need a great deal of patience to make cheese, because it's a living thing. Even if you have done everything right, it will be months before you actually know how it has turned out. For example, I just tasted a brie, that we actually made four months ago. It's a constant process that is fascinating because the element of time completely transforms milk into all these different kinds of cheese.

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION: I was introduced to good quality cheese very early in life. My parents were exporters and they travelled extensively. Back then, as a vegetarian, my mother had a hard time finding the right kind of food to eat while she travelled abroad. All that she had was some bread and cheese. Inevitably, my parents would bring back different kinds of cheese. At any given time, we would have balls of edam, gouda, cheddar and so on in the house.

BIG CHEESE: The cheese that we make at Begum Victoria is inspired by Europe, but like



Kunal Chandra



with wine, the terroir plays a role in how the product finally tastes. We get the culture from abroad, but the milk is different, as is the cave in which we mature the cheese. What happens then is that the cheese, even if you're making what is technically brie or gouda, acquires different characteristics. Our brie, for example, is unique enough to be our proprietary cheese.

Manu Chandra is chef partner at Olive Group and Fromager, Begum Victoria Restaurants
POOJA PILLAI

Into the Wild

In her latest book, writer Nabanita Deshmukh weaves stories about the animal kingdom

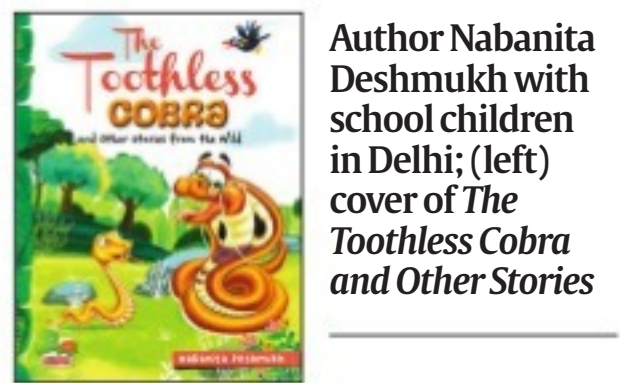
SURBHIGUPTA

IN AUTHOR Nabanita Deshmukh's latest book *The Toothless Cobra and Other Stories* (Rs 150, TERI Press), we learn about porcupines, honeybees, mynans and snakes. If in *Mithi the Moth*, the insect loves flying around the lights in Babul's room, who screams every time he sees Mithi flitting by, in another story, *The Rainbird*, Kumi, an adivasi girl, is on a lookout for the chataka bird or the Jacobin cuckoo to learn about the monsoons.

"Children should realise that we are not the only important species existing on this planet. We share our space with insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals and are dependent on one another for survival. To know how creatures live in the wild and why they are important, teaches children how to protect, love and nurture wildlife," says the Puducherry-based author, who has written over 800 stories for children's magazines. Her first book was *The Disappearing Beach and Other Nature Stories* (2017).

In Delhi recently, she visited schools to narrate these stories and discuss environmental issues and climate change with students. "Today's children are well informed about environmental issues and climate change thanks to the internet and media, but I strongly feel they need to get more involved in the 'real environment' and connect with the world outside in a more dynamic manner," says the author, who teaches geography at an alternate education school in Pudukcherry, and works with teachers from other states on "how to get stories into the classroom to make learning interactive and fun".

The author notes that she began writing stories on environmental issues such as garbage segregation, importance of recycling and river pollution, to make her



Author Nabanita Deshmukh with school children in Delhi; (left) cover of *The Toothless Cobra and Other Stories*

classes more interesting. "I feel children have a sense of wonder and curiosity about the environment that we adults lack or take for granted," she says, adding that children could be given hands-on activities such as cleaning the beaches, the school lawn and trying out composting and recycling at home, to generate environmental awareness in a concrete manner.

On the competency of school textbooks dealing with such issues, she feels that there is an improvement. "Unfortunately, in many textbooks, the language is heavy and the lessons are too long," she says. In her next book, Deshmukh plans to weave a story about an environmental disaster that took place in South India a few years ago and how the people of that small town rose in revolt and made the guilty pay for their negligence.

University Special

As a new batch enters Delhi University, here's a tour of north campus' popular food stops

SURBHIGUPTA

PUTTING HIGH cut offs and admission woes behind, a new batch of students has started classes at the many colleges at the crossing between Daulat Ram College and Ramjas College, it serves over 60 varieties of Maggi — from cheese butter, to oats vegetable, white sauce and Scheszwan. Tom Uncle is actually Ramesh Kataria, who first put up a stall in 1978, selling nimbu pani, lime soda, aloo tikki

and bread pakora. It was in 1995 that he introduced Maggi to the mix. "He was then known as Titu bhैया, but later students from Khalsa College thought Tom Uncle sounded better. That was the bonding he had with students," says his son Sandeep Kataria, who now runs the shop along with his brother Sunil. "These days people get bored pretty quickly and want something different, so we started innovating with different flavours to match different preferences," he says. The duo had started another branch in Hudson Lane.

Top of the Class

Opposite Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) near the gate of the Arts Faculty, Tara Chand has been selling chhola kulchas for the past four decades. He came from Bareilly to Delhi to earn a living and soon decided that feeding college students was his best bet. For the initial few years before he set up a stall, he would go around with a tub full of chhola kulcha. His stall is now managed by his son Suresh Kumar. His chhola is mixed with matar, which he flavours with garam masala, hand-beaten red chillies and homemade



(Clockwise from above) Tara Chand's chhola kulcha stall; Mohanlal selling bhel puri outside Hindu College; Sunil Sethi outside WUS Health Centre Amit Mehra

amchur ki chutney, topping it off with onion and vegetable pickle. And if you are health conscious, you can skip the maida kulcha and ask for a wheat one instead. One plate costs Rs 25.

Spice Route

Students who were on campus some 20 years ago still remember Sunil Sethi as the



man in a white kurta pajama selling bhel puri outside WUS Health Centre, facing one side of Miranda House. "The white kurta pyajama has become my recall factor," says Sethi, who is now 60, and has been setting up the stall for the last 35 years. He had chosen this location, back then, very strategically, for it was right beside the stop where students boarded the U-Special buses. Sethi tried his

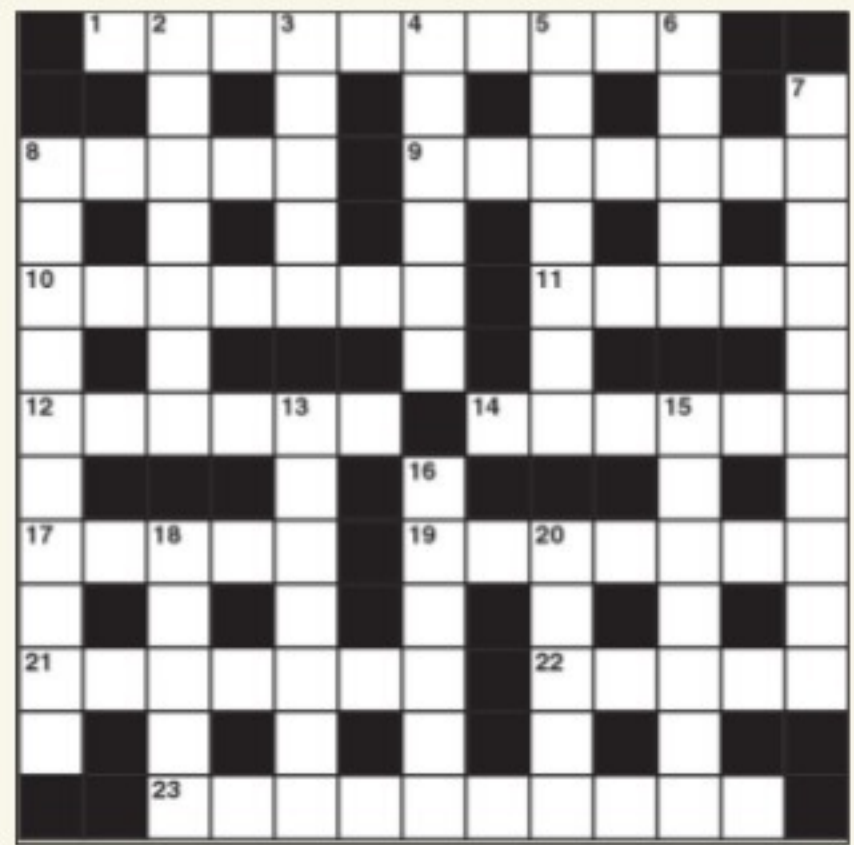
hand at various jobs in Chandni Chowk and Tilak Nagar, but nothing worked. He decided to follow in the footsteps of his brother, who had an aloo tikki stall, and his uncles who ran tea stalls, and decided to set up a bhel puri stall in the campus. "I make the chutneys at home and make regular trips to the market and mandi to procure namkeen and vegetables respectively," says Sethi. He sells one plate for Rs 40.

Not far from here, another bhel puri stall is quite popular. Mohanlal has been setting up his stall for the last three decades, and his story is not very different from Sethi's. He migrated from Bulandshahr in a bid to earn a living, and after selling ice creams for a while, he eventually settled on campus.

Chai Par Charcha

If you've studied in north campus, in all likelihood you've indulged in *chai pe charcha* at Delhi School of Economics's JP Tea Stall. Popular for its *garam-garam chai*, masala coke and now lemon iced tea, it is a popular hang-out in the campus. It is where many former students prefer having their reunion. Set up by Jaiprakash in 1969, it is now run by his sons, who are fondly called Deepu and Raju bhैया. "My grandfather used to work in the university, so it was easy for my father to find a spot here and start this," says Deepu. While one cup of chai sells for Rs 8, you can get lemon iced tea for Rs 18. You could complete the meal at D-School's equally popular canteen, best-known for its mutton dosa, mutton cutlet, and chicken rice.

CROSSWORD 3877



- ACROSS**
- On which people sit amongst the beds? (6,4)
 - He doesn't do much to earn his description (5)
 - Piercing noise cut an artist short (7)
 - A cry I'll reproduce in poetic vein (7)
 - Key man in making key adjustments (5)
 - Small number take off clothing and fall asleep (3,3)
 - Fights to protect one's property (6)
 - Stick in a sculptor as the answer (5)
 - Idealistic, upper class head Scot (7)
 - Teller - and where he may work (7)
 - Amounts of water coming from leaks (5)
 - Obligation paid to established customs (6,4)
- Down**
- Dull are attracted by variety (7)
 - Cord I twisted into a sort of column (5)
 - Christmas present 45 inches long (6)
 - Letter or note written by devout holy man to the French (7)
 - Giant gets it in brown (5)
 - Makes another gift - on one's behalf? (10)
 - Ethnological definition of the British Grand Prix? (6,4)
 - In fact a wild enthusiast (7)
 - A game little insect (7)
 - Insolence of the centre right is inviting disaster (6)
 - Put out what may be a plea for employment (5)
 - Do lie about being tipsy (5)

Solutions Crossword 3876: Across: 1 Arrive, 4 Domain, 9 Cobbler, 10 Shoes, 11 Senna, 12 Tenniel, 13 Out of breath, 18 Uncover, 20 Degas, 22 Inner, 23 New Year, 24 Elysee, 25 Adonis. Down: 1 Acrost, 2 Robin, 3 Volcano, 5 Orson, 6 Armorst, 7 Nestle, 8 Prouberant, 14 Uncanny, 15 Endowed, 16 Unclear, 17 Usurps, 19 Verse, 21 Glean

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

_____travels faster, but it don't stay put as long as _____ - Will Rogers (6...5)

EORRR **MMUUUU**

MOOTT **OOSTHM**

SOLUTION: ERROR, MOTOR, MOUNTAIN, SMOOTH. Answer: Mountain travels faster, but it don't stay put as long as error - Will Rogers

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 4s

INSTRUCTIONS
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

SUDOKU 3931

7	2	3	8					
	1				8			
7			5	2	9			
6	5	8					4	
4	6	9						
8				9				
			6	8	3	7		

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3930

SOLUTION SUDOKU 3930

2	8	3	6	4	7	9	1	5
7	9	5	1	8	2	4	3	6
4	6	1	9	5	3	2	7	8
8	5	6	2	7	1	3	4	9
3	1	7	4	6	9	5	8	2
9	4	2	8	3	5	1	6	7
1	3	8	5	2	6	7	9	4
6	2	9	7	1	4	8	5	3
5	7	4	3	9	8	6	2	1

DELHI URBAN SHELTER IMPROVEMENT BOARD

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (C-6)
1, Kilokri, Ring Road, New Delhi — 110 014

PRESS NOTICE
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer C-06 invites on behalf of DUSIB percentage rate e-tender in Two envelopes/two bid system for the following work :

NIT No. 12/EEC6/DUSIB/2019-20
E-tender No. 2019_DUSIB_177222_1
NOW: - MLA LAD FUND, SH Providing and fixing security gates in different blocks of Tigri.
Estimated cost:- Rs.41,46,115.00
Earnest Money:- Rs. 82,930.00
Tender Cost: Rs. 500.00
Date of Closing of Bid 16.08.2019 at 06.00 PM
NIT No. 14/EEC6/DUSIB/2019-20
E-tender No. 2019 DUSIB 177245 1
NOW: - MLA LAD FUND, SH Providing and laying cement concrete in lanes of JJ Colony, Madangir (F2 to L2) (F,G,H,I,J,K,L).
Estimated cost:- Rs.89,04,407.00
Earnest Money:- Rs. 1,78,090.00
Tender Cost: Rs. 1,000.00
Date of Closing of Bid 19.08.2019 at 06.00 PM
The bid form and other details can be obtained from the web site (<http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>)
Note: Any amendment/change/clarification (if any) will be uploaded only on <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>, therefore intending tenderer may inspect the website regularly.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer/C-6 DUSIB
DIP/Shabdarth/0486/19-20

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL MANAGER CTU & DIRECTOR TRANSPORT, UNION TERRITORY; CHANDIGARH.

Ref. No.SPA/CTU/2019/7025
Dated: 02-08-2019

e-TENDER NOTICE

The Chandigarh Transport Undertaking invites e-tenders in two bid system i.e. technical bid and financial bid which are to be submitted online separately from the firms/manufacturers/companies/authorized dealers/distributors/stockiest/suppliers for the purchase of AD Blue Liquid Urea AUS-32 (Air shield AEF 504323) for the use of buses of CTU, Chandigarh. (As per list as Annexure-'A' to the tender documents available on the website i.e. ctuchd@nic.in & <http://chandigarh.gov.in> The prospective bidders can also visit in the office of CTU during office hours on any working day by contacting General Manager, CTU-I (Mobile No. 07015765795), Asstt. Controller (F&A) (Mobile No. 9815552432), CTU-II/Works Manager-I (Mob No.7889090848)/ Store Purchase Assistant (Mobile No. 09417524603), or at Mail ID ctuchd@nic.in CTU Administrative Block, Plot No. 701, Industrial Area, Phase I, Chandigarh for any kind of information with regard to the items. The tenderers are required to quote their landed rates (including all taxes/GST) for a period of 1 (one) year for each tender as per BOQ to the tender documents on the website. The detailed terms and conditions of the tender can be downloaded from the website of Chandigarh Administration i.e., <http://chandigarh.gov.in>. Or website <http://etenders.chd.nic.in/nicgep/app>.

The important dates for submission of e-tender is as under:-

- Date and time of receiving the tender: **26-08-2019 upto 2.00 P.M.**
- Date and time of opening the tender (technical): **26-08-2019 at 3.00 P.M.**
- Pre-Bid Meeting: **16-08-2019 at 11.30 A.M.** in the office room of General Manager-I, CTU, Plot No.701, Industrial Area, Phase-I, Chandigarh.
- Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Bank Guarantee: **Rs.1,30,00,00/-** in the shape of Demand Draft/FDR/Bank

From any scheduled Bank in favour of Director Transport, UT, Chandigarh.

Sd/-
Divisional Manager CTU & Director Transport, U.T., Chandigarh.

RITES LTD.
A Govt. of India Enterprise (Ministry of Railways)
3A, Bharath Apartments, #441, Fair Field Layout, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-56
Ph: 080-2230200, 2232718
Fax: 080-22266057
e-mail: bangalore@rites.com

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

GM(C), RITES Ltd., Bengaluru invites on behalf of the Dept. of Collegiate Education, Bengaluru online percentage rate bids in Two Packet System for the following works:

- NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/37/2019** Date 06.08.2019, Construction of Govt First Grade College at Kadugodi and Additional Classroom for Govt First Grade College at HSR Layout in Bangalore Urban District for DCE 2018-19. Est. Cost is Rs. 382.59 Lakhs (Approx.). EMD Rs. 3.83 Lakhs. Period of completion 18 months. Last date and time of submission of bid 21.08.2019 upto 11.00 hrs.
- NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/38/2019** Date 06.08.2019, Construction of Additional Classroom for Govt First Grade College at Rajajinagar in Bangalore Urban District for DCE 2018-19. Est. Cost is Rs.393.72 Lakhs (Approx.). EMD Rs. 3.94 Lakhs. Period of completion 18 months. Last date and time of submission of bid 22.08.2019 upto 11.00 hrs.
- NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/39/2019** Date 06.08.2019, Construction of Govt First Grade College for Women at Vijayanagara, Kuvempu Nagar in Mysuru, Kushalanagara and Virajpete in Kodagu District for DCE 2018-19. Est. Cost is Rs.1434.67 Lakhs (Approx.). EMD Rs. 14.35 Lakhs. Period of completion 18 months. Last date and time of submission of bid 28.08.2019 upto 11.00 hrs.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>. Addendum / Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only.

Sd/- General Manager (C)
RITES LTD.
For and on behalf of DCE, Bengaluru.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

1. Name of work with its location : 1. Improvement of inward & outward shed of Delhi Main Station in the Section of DENW-2/DLI. 2. Painting of steel structure FOB, PF shelter etc at Delhi Main Station in the section of DENW-2/DLI. 3. Repair of down pipe, gutter, water both and improvement drainage of platform 1 to 16 at Delhi Main Station in the Section of DENW-2/DLI. 4. Improvement/Renovation of toilet block at Platform, Service Building, Running Room and TTE rest house at Delhi Main Station in the Section of DENW-2/DLI. 2. Approx. Cost of work: 1. Rs.7919021/- 2. Rs.8910233/- 3. Rs.14845421/- 4. Rs.14755551/- 3. Earnest Money: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note:- FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) 1.Rs.158400/- 2. Rs.178200/- 3. Rs.224200/- 4. Rs.223800/- 4. Cost of tender: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note:- FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) 1. Rs.5900.00 2. Rs.5900.00 3. Rs.5900.00 4. Rs.5900.00 5. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15.00 hrs on 10.09.2019 Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. On 10.09.2019 6. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.: Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in NIT 128-W/280/e-Tender Notice/NIT-15,16,17 & 18/2019-20/Works Dated : 06.08.2019 2532/19

Serving Customers With A Smile

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.
(A State Govt. Undertaking)
DETAILED NOTICE INVITING TENDER (e-tendering Mode only)

Online tenders are hereby invited on behalf of HPSEBL by the Superintending Engineer, Electrical (Design), UHL-III, HPSEBL, Sunder Nagar, Distt. Mandi (H.P.) - 175019 for "Procurement of 16 feet long Fibre Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Boat with seating capacity 10 persons fitted with 40HP Suzuki 2 Stroke Petrol Engine, obstruction marking Buoy, Life jackets, Ring Buoy, High beam LED Torch, Binocular, Handheld Digital Sonar for Tourism activities in Larji HEP (3X42 MW), Thalot, District, Mandi (H.P.)" from manufacturers or authorized dealers/suppliers who regularly manufacture/supply the equipment of the type specified and have adequate technical knowledge and experience in respect of all items covered under Scope of Supply and Services in Tender Specification No. HPSEBL/SE/EJ/DI/UHL-III/Boat&Buoy/Larji/2019-2 which is scheduled to be opened on 12.09.2019 as per the following schedule:

- Request for online tender documents: From 09.08.2019 (11.00Hrs.) to 31.08.2019 (17.00 Hrs.)
- Issue of online tender documents (bid sheets): From 09.08.2019 (11.00Hrs.) to 31.08.2019 (17.00 Hrs.)
- Date of pre bid meeting: 06.09.2019 (11.00Hrs.)
- Last date of submission of online tender: Up to 11.09.2019 (17.00 Hrs.)
- Date of opening of Tender : 12.09.2019 (11.00 Hrs.)
- Cost of Tender Specification Document : Rs.500/- +GST@12% = Rs.560/-
- Earnest Money Deposit : Rs.13,000/-

The detailed tender notification can be viewed/downloaded free of cost from website www.tenderwizard.com/HPSEBL and tender document can be had after making prescribed payment. Any clarification/ amendment shall be uploaded on the above web site. For other details on e-tendering, please contact on Mobile Nos.- 82619 22200, 82610 33300 and 96250 33300.

Sd/- (E. K S Sambyal)
Superintending Engineer, Electrical (Design), UHL-III, HPSEBL, Sundernagar-175019.

Save Energy for the Benefit of Self and National

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED PERSON

General public is hereby informed that this person namely Amresh Thakur S/o Shyam Dev Thakur R/o Gali No. 1, Babu Jag Jiwan Ram Colony, Bhorganh, Narela, Delhi Age : 49 years, Height : 5'2", Face : Round, Complexion : Shallow, Build : Strong, wearing white colour checkdar shirt, black colour pant and hawai chappal in feet, has been missing/kidnapped since 14.07.2019 from the area of P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 70-A dated 16.07.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped person may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO : P.S. Narela Industrial Area, Delhi
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Ph: 011-27787592, 27787593
Fax: 24368639, Ph: 011-27787592, 27787593
Tel.: 24368638/24368641

Container Corporation of India Ltd.
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
ICD, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-110020

TENDER NOTICE (E-Tendering Mode Only)

Online open tender in Two bid system are invited for "Conducting Valuation/ Re-Valuation of Unclaimed/Unreleased Cargo/Damaged Containers (ISO/D50) at Inland Container Depots & Domestic Container Terminals of Northern Region" only through e-tendering mode. The bid document can only be downloaded after paying Rs.1,000/- through online from the website (www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL).

Tender No.	CON/NRTC/Valuation/2019-20
Estimated Cost	₹ 20,83,251/- (for total period of contract)
Period of contract	2+1 years
Earnest Money Deposit	₹ 41,670/- through e-payment only.
Cost of Tender Document	₹ 1,000/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment
Tender Processing Fee (Non-refundable)	₹ 1,230/- inclusive of all taxes and duties through e-payment
Date & time of sale of Tender (Online)	From 07.08.2019(15:00 hrs) to 27.08.2019 (up to 16:00 hrs.)
Pre-bid meeting	On 16.08.2019 at 15:00 hrs
Issue of corrigendum, if any	On or after 20.08.2019 on www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL only
Date & time of tender submission	28.08.2019 (up to 15:00 hrs.)
Date & time of tender opening	On 29.08.2019 at 15:30 hrs

For eligibility criteria and other details please log onto www.concorindia.com or eprocure.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/CCIL. Bidders are requested to visit the websites regularly. CONCOR reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons therefor. **Executive Director/NR**

HARYANA STATE TECHNICAL EDUCATION SOCIETY (HSTES)
(Under Department of Technical Education, Govt. of Haryana)
"Takniki Shiksha Sadan" Bays No. 7-12, Sector-4, Panchkula, Haryana
website: www.hstes.org.in & www.techadmissionshry.gov.in

Public Notice for all Technical Educational Institutions/ Universities/ Polytechnics regarding cut-off date of admissions

It is for the information for all the Technical Educational Institutions/ Universities/ Polytechnics that in terms of the mandate of Judgment dated 13.12.2012 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in CA No. 9048 of 2012, the Admission guidelines issued by the AICTE (if any) and the State of Haryana (if any) the last cut-off date for admission in Technical Educational Institutions for the Session 2019-20 shall be 15.08.2019. Thus all admission in the courses have to be, in all circumstances and without any exception, completed upto 15.08.2019 and no admission is permissible after the said date in any circumstances whatsoever. Any admission taken/ made after the cut-off date shall be invalid and shall stand cancelled automatically.

Accordingly, all the Technical Educational Institutes/ Universities/ Polytechnics must not make/ allow any admission after the cut-off date so as to avoid any complications. Further, they are also directed to verify the eligibility of the each candidate at the time of reporting for admission. The Institutions making admission after the cut-off date shall be liable for appropriate penal action under the provisions of "The Haryana Private Technical Educational Institution (Regulation of Admission and Fee) Act, 2012 (Haryana Act No. 18 of 2012).

Note: All aspiring candidates, parents/ stakeholders are advised to take admissions in the Technical Course upto the last cut-off date of admissions i.e. 15.08.2019 for the Session 2019-20. The admission taken after the said cut-off date shall not be valid admission and such admission will stand cancelled automatically.

Sd/- Joint Director (HSTES), 78067/HRY.

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Little by little, you are regaining the initiative that you lost to partners some time ago. For the remainder of the week you will have things your own way, but see to it that friends share in your good fortune. You will soon have to make a break with a past tie or commitment, but time is still on your side.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

You must continue to focus on financial considerations, if only because you have responsibilities to fulfil and duties to complete. An intriguing relationship between Venus and Uranus will ensure an unusual result. And they will also bring an unexpected twist in a friendship.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

In spite of one or two difficulties, combined with opposition from some partners, events definitely seem to be moving in your direction. Keep your eye firmly on the long-term picture, and don't let short-term distractions push you off course, especially as you're in the right.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The Moon in one of the most potent regions of your chart definitely indicates busy times ahead, just when you were looking forward to a break. A great deal seems to be going on behind the scenes, so you'll have to look under a few stones to get to the truth.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Life may be demanding and hectic but never dull. Today's Lunar pattern brings classic indications that all your Leonine qualities - courage, generosity and creativity - will be allowed to flourish. People who mix with you will be fortunate indeed.

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)

There doesn't seem to be any way that you can get plans or projects off the ground without the full and unwavering support of partners and colleagues. People in positions of authority will be able to help but, for your part, you must be prepared to follow their advice.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Since Venus is in a delicate relationship with Uranus you may expect events to work out favourably, even if not in the way that you hoped. It's time to expect a pleasant surprise, although when, where, and how it is to come, is naturally to be a secret for now.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Venus will oblige you to be more sociable over the coming weeks. You will have to abandon an elitist attitude which has made it difficult to get on with people who may be of help in the future. You will be able to get in touch with somebody from whom you've been separated, next week, by the way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 23)

Stop making finances a bone of contention. Part of the trouble seems to be caused by your underlying lack of confidence in your economic security. Until this is dealt with, difficulties will continue. Think clearly, get the facts straight and you'll see just how close you are to success.

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

At certain times you must put your own interests behind those of other people, including those who are not exactly close friends. Such selflessness now will stand you in good stead in the future. There does seem to be a great deal to gain from a new friendship, but you might have to make the first move.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

You may be on the ball, but others still have the ability to make life awkward for you. Perhaps an apology from you for past offence you have given, however unintentionally, will clear the air. A cash crisis should dissolve before your eyes, but only if you stick to your course.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

Even though you are supposed to be even-tempered, you can be surprisingly tetchy when the mood takes you, or when things don't go your way. Don't come down hard on partners who are not to blame. They probably need your support more than your censure.

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Dipen Kubhag, S/o: Sh. Lakhani, R/o: Unknown, was found at Near Geeta Ghat Rainbasera, Civil Lines, Delhi.** In this regard DD No. 44-A, dated 19.07.2019 has been registered at P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi. Now he is kept in DMRC Childrens Home, Tis Hazari, Delhi. The description of found boy is as under:

Name: Dipen Kubhag, Age: 15 Years, Height: 4'10", Face: Long, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Medium, Wearing: Sky Blue colour T-shirt and Grey colour Jeans.

If anyone have any information about this found boy please inform P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi.

Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639 SHO
Police Station, Civil Lines, Delhi Ph: 011-23815444, 8750870127
DP/275/N/19

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely **Manju D/o Mulchand R/o H.No. B-38, Gali No.-7, Kalish Vihar Pansali, Delhi. Age-20 years, Height-5', Face-Round, Complexion-Sallow, Wearing-Grey Colour Top and Jeans Pant** has been missing/kidnapped since dated 18.07.2019, from the area of P.S. Begumpur, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 17-A dated 18.07.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Begumpur, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform undersigned.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in SHO
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Ph: 011-24368639 P.S. Begumpur, Delhi
Ph: 011-2759033, 2759030 8750870323
DP/3130/RD/19

SEARCH OF MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one lady (depicted in the photo), **Namely: Pooja @ Priti, D/o: Veer Singh, R/o: RZH-215, Nihal Vihar, Delhi. Aged: 28 years, has been missing from the area of P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi since 30.05.2019 vide DD No. 44-A, Dated 31.05.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi.** Her physical description is as under:

Complexion: Fair, Height: 5' Feet, Face: Round, Clothing: Red Kurta, Green Salwar and Black Sleeper in her Feet.

Any person is having any information/clue about this missing lady, may inform SHO, Nihal Vihar, Delhi at E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in or website : <http://cbi.nic.in> Tele No. : 11-24368638 or 24368641

S.H.O. P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi Ph. 011-25946700, 25946710
DP/2451/OD/19.

TV UMPIRES TO TAKE CALL ON FRONT FOOT NO-BALLS

The ICC will soon empower TV umpires to take a call on front foot no-balls on a trial basis, the world body's General Manager (Cricket Operations) Geoff Allardice told *Cricinfo.com*.

'Had said Kohli is the best, but Smith's tons at another level'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BIRMINGHAM, AUGUST 6

AUSTRALIA COACH Justin Langer feels Steve Smith is at par with Indian captain Virat Kohli as the world's best batsman after the comeback-man struck consecutive hundreds in the opening Ashes Test against England. Langer said it's credit to Smith that he began his career as a spinner and later transformed into the best batsman in the world.

"Let's face it; when he (Smith) first came in, leg-spinner, unorthodox... (everyone thought) 'I'm not sure this kid's going to make it'. Then he goes away (and decides) 'I don't want to be a leg-spinner; I want to be the best batsman in the world'. Then he transforms himself and he is the best batsman in the world with Virat. It's a great credit to him," Langer said.

"I said during the summer that Virat Kohli is the best player I have ever seen but that (Smith's knocks) is just another level," the coach said.

Kohli currently leads the ICC Test rankings, while Smith has moved up to third with his latest performance. Returning to international cricket after serving one-year ban for the infamous ball-tampering episode in South Africa, Smith struck twin centuries — 144 in first innings and 142 in second — to help his side register a thumping 251-run win against England on Monday.

Langer said Smith's knocks at Edgbaston showed his mental toughness and traits of a great player. "You have in different teams, different eras, great players but for someone like Smudge (Smith), who is averaging over 60 and the way he played in this innings with all the pressure and everything that is on him, it was not only great skill but enormous character, enormous courage, very brave, unbelievable concentration, unbelievable physical stamina, unbelievable mental stamina, all traits of great players," he said.

The former left-handed opener termed Smith a problem-solver of his team, someone who just loves batting for long hours.

"You throw to him in the nets and you literally feel like you can't get him out and there's no batsman like that and you just end up throwing a million balls and you are just lost for answers," Langer said. "I guess you would have to ask England how they feel about that and they had some interesting tactics for him. They had the really short point which I had never seen before, they obviously had a tactic they prepared. Trevor Bayliss has seen a lot of Steve Smith since he was a kid. They would have studied him closely but he just has a knack, well, he is the best problem-solver in the game," he added.

Langer also praised off-spinner Nathan Lyon, who claimed 6 for 49 in the second innings to seal the win for Australia.

"Like a few of our players, like Steve Smith, I didn't realise how good Nathan Lyon was until I took over coaching the cricket team," he said.

"You see him on telly, yeah Nathan Lyon, off-spin bowler, but the last 12 months or so I just can't believe how good a bowler he is. He's a brilliant bowler, such good control; he spins, he gets some bounce, great fielder, really good in the team, he's the song master, so that tells you something about his character."

"Let's face it; when he (Smith) first came in, leg-spinner, unorthodox... (everyone thought) 'I'm not sure this kid's going to make it'. Then he goes away (and decides) 'I don't want to be a leg-spinner; I want to be the best batsman in the world'. Then he transforms himself and he is the best batsman in the world with Virat. It's a great credit to him."

JUSTIN LANGER

Early warning of run rain

History shows that when Steve Smith starts a series with big knocks, he continues in the same vein and puts the opposition to sword

SANDIP G
AUGUST 6

DWELLING ON the idiosyncrasies of Steve Smith's batting technique has become passe. To eulogise his match-winning abilities has become repetitive. It's time we just marvelled at his batting genius and worry less about what makes him a batting colossus. For such has been his success, consistency, mastery of bowlers, surfaces and situations that he's the closest to batting perfection in contemporary cricket, closest to inhabiting the rarefied space of all-time greats.

He's already being talked up as the greatest Australian batsman since Donald Bradman, if not the most influential since him. The twin hundreds against England at Edgbaston only ratified such claims, though such temptations to compare and classify could be kept aside till he calls time on his career. But as of now, he is a notch above the other members of the holy quartet of contemporary cricket that includes Virat Kohli, Kane Williamson and Joe Root, as far as Test cricket is concerned.

He might be the least classical of them — he has made a business of non-classicism — but in the last five years, his methods have helped him net more runs, conquer more shores and fashion more wins than any of them. That he achieved all these by being different, by not being governed by convention, by taking residence on off-stump, by fidgeting and twitching at the crease, by hitting the ball to unorthodox places, is merely incidental.

Some of his numbers, though numbers aren't the most instructive tool to gauge the greatness of a batsman, have a transcendental value.

Like his average of 72.56 since December 2013. The corresponding numbers for his peers, Kohli, Williamson and Root read 57, 66 and 50 respectively. In the last five years, he has collected 1000-plus runs four times a year. The exception was last year, when he played only four Tests.

Likewise, it's difficult to find a hole in his remarkable body of work. To nit-pick, one could say that he averages 29 against Bangladesh, but that's as nit-picky as you could get of Smith. He has scored runs pretty much everywhere, against the swing and seam of James Anderson and Stuart Broad, the pace and fire of Dale Steyn and Morne Morkel, the spin and guile of Ravichandran Ashwin and Rangana Herath, conquered cricketing outposts from Lord's to Christchurch, Centurion to Colombo, Pune to Kingstons.

But among the superlatives showered on him, the most glittering, the most Bradmanesque of all is his ability to influence a series, to carry his form through a series, to dig a trench at the crease and bat in a bubble of invulnerability. This Ashes is shaping like one, as was the previous installment and a host of other series.

ENTER, THE RUN-SMITH

INDIA SERIES (2014-15): 769 RUNS AT 128.16 IN 8 INNINGS, 4 HUNDREDS, 2 FIFTIES

The first series that saw Smith transform from a resurgent batsman to a batting phenomenon. Prior to the four-Test rubber, he had scored just four hundreds from 42 innings. By the time the series ended, he had as many from just eight innings, each of them coming in the foundation-laying first innings— 162 not out in Adelaide, 133 in Brisbane, 192 in Melbourne and 117 in Sydney. The Indian bowlers, like several after them, were led into believing that the big, full inswinger would bargain his wicket, what with his exaggerated shuffle.

A folly, as Smith debunked the greatest batting myth about himself as well as the general scepticism of the method.

He began working the ball relentlessly, from on the stumps and even beyond, to the on-side, much like a subcontinental bats-



Steve Smith has this habit of making a good start count, not just in a match, but during an entire series. (Above) British papers shower high praise on Smith.

man. They waited for him to miss, hoping his freakish streak would end, but the sight of Smith flaying them on the leg-side became so familiar a sight that they completely gave up on this by the Boxing Day Test.

He would almost tease with his pads, the smart bowler would not take the bait, keeping a wider line. But then creeps in the thought that maybe, cunningly, one could be sneaked into his pads. So in it goes, and away it goes off his flashing blade.

As for the nagging corridor length, the fourth-stump line they thought would cramp him, he kept freeing up his arms and flaying it through the off-side too. It was thus a series that saw Smith jump into the pedestal of contemporary batting greats.

CONQUERING ENGLAND

ASHES (2015-16): 508 RUNS IN 56.44 IN NINE INNINGS, 2 HUNDREDS, ONE FIFTY

Eventually England won the series, but not after a transitioning Australia offered a stiff challenge in some of the most challenging conditions for batsmen. And Smith was at the heart of their revival bid.

Though his form tapered off midway through the series, after a spectacular double hundred at Lord's, he signed off the series with a terrific 143 at The Oval, quelling doubts that he was susceptible to spin bowling. Before that, during the 215 at Lord's, he dispelled doubts that the high-quality seam and swing bowling of Anderson and Broad

could harass him.

The outside-the-off-stump technique was masterful, the gauging of swing was exemplary, his assurance in leaving deliveries was a tutorial for aspiring batsmen.

Few other batsmen have ever read them as efficiently as him, forcing the curators to make green surfaces greener. They did manage to keep him quiet in Birmingham and Nottingham. But none of the dismissals suggested a definitive weakness in his technique. Rather, he blamed reckless stroke-making, which he would soon amend in his quest for perfection.

MASTERING THE SUBCONTINENT

INDIA SERIES (2016-17): 499 RUNS AT 71.28 IN 8 INNINGS, 3 HUNDREDS

The best way to stop Smith, the India think tank decided, was to roll out malicious turners, thinking Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja would unearth a weakness. Subsequently, three of the four surfaces turned out to be throw-back turners. In the end India managed to win the series 2-1, but not after Smith scoring three terrific hundreds.

The second-innings hundred on a deviously-cracking Pune strip was arguably the finest in this neck of the woods since Kevin Pietersen's in Mumbai. That no other batsmen from either side in the second innings managed a score more than 31 attested to the difficulties of the pitch. Smith used his feet beautifully, played with soft hands, deciphered the craft and variations of Ashwin, Jadeja and Jayant Yadav,

comprehended the whims of the pitch and strung together an innings of supreme mastery and mind-boggling restraint to cornerstone a victory. He backed it up with a sterling 178 in Ranchi on a spiteful surface and 111 in Dharamsala. Though Australia lost the series, Smith's batting stocks soared.

DEMOLITION MAN

ASHES (2017-18): 687 RUNS AT 137.40 IN 7 INNINGS, 137.40; THREE HUNDREDS, TWO FIFTIES.

Smith began with his slowest hundred in Brisbane — a precursor to his 144 in this ongoing duel — in an adverse situation. Broad and Anderson were breathing fire, the Gabba was offering lateral movement and Smith was losing partners. Smith wasn't at his fluent best, but laboured through and helped Australia eke out a slender lead and eventually set the tone for a hard-fought series, masked by a 4-0 scoreline.

The inswinger nailed him twice in the second Test in Adelaide, lulling the English bowlers to believe they had dug up a workable plan. Suddenly, debates around his diminishing hand-eye coordination surfaced and swirled — he had endured an uncharacteristically low-return series in Bangladesh before this — but Smith wristed away such half-baked speculations with a blazing 239 in Perth, the first hundred of those runs were the quickest of his series. Thereafter, he just imposed himself on the Englishmen.

With 286 runs already in his account, in just two innings this Ashes, don't count against him surpassing his own record.

But among the superlatives showered on him, the most glittering, the most Bradmanesque of all is his ability to influence a series, to carry his form through a series, to dig a trench at the crease and bat in a bubble of invulnerability.

England's woes continue: Anderson ruled out of 2nd Test, Archer faces key fitness test

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
LONDON, AUGUST 6

JAMES ANDERSON has been ruled out of the second Ashes Test, with England uncertain when he will be fit to return after injuring his right calf. England's record wicket-taker broke down after just four overs in the series opener at Edgbaston and did not bowl again as Australia romped to a 251-run victory.

Scans have confirmed he has no chance of taking part in next week's game at Lord's, the second of the five-match series, with assessment taking place "on an ongoing basis".

Anderson's absence is a huge blow for England, whose deflating defeat in Birmingham came just three weeks after they won the World Cup. After pulling up injured on the first morning in Birmingham, Anderson, 37, was restricted to two batting cameos at number 11.

The veteran, who has taken 575 Test wickets, had not played competitive cricket for a month leading into the match after injuring the same calf playing for Lancashire. "The MRI confirmed that Anderson has suf-

fered a calf injury," said a statement from the England and Wales Cricket Board on Tuesday. "As a result of the injury, he will commence a rehabilitation programme working with the England and Lancashire medical teams. Anderson will miss the second Test match, which starts at Lord's on Wednesday August 14. He will be reassessed on an ongoing basis."

Former England captain Michael Vaughan does not expect to see Anderson on duty again until the fourth Test at the earliest and warned his absence could have a big impact in both dressing rooms. "My concern is you don't underestimate the psychological effect of Jimmy Anderson has on the England team, but also the positive effect it sends through the Australia team," he said. "For them to arrive next week and the week after to know they won't be facing Jimmy... that is monstrous."

A debut for paceman Jofra Archer, one of the stars of England's World Cup campaign, could lessen the blow but he must first prove his own fitness for the five-day game. He was carrying a side strain throughout the tournament and has been sent to play for Sussex 2nd XI to get long spells with the red ball un-



England fast bowler James Anderson is out with an injured right calf.

der his belt. England captain Joe Root had no regrets about including Anderson for the Edgbaston game, saying he had passed every medical test. "It's one of those freak scenarios where he pulled up — because it's the same calf, we're not sure whether it's a slightly different injury," said Root.

"Jimmy in those conditions, if he bowls 15 overs, things could have been very different in the first innings in general," Root said picking Archer would not represent a gamble if he gets through the required workload this week. "With Jofra, we're in a slightly different situation where he'll have played a lot of cricket in between and we'll have a clearer idea of where he's at," he said. "We'll turn up to Lord's and make sure in the next few days we don't make any shotgun decisions." England's defeat at Edgbaston means they face an uphill battle to wrestle the Ashes back from Australia, who have not won a Test series in England since 2001. The home side have a number of issues to address aside from Anderson's absence, needing to shore up their batting and find a chink in the armour of Steve Smith, who made two centuries in the match.

Du Plessis confirmed as South Africa Test captain

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE
JOHANNESBURG, AUGUST 6

FAF DU Plessis will captain South Africa in the Test series against India in October but may not lead the side in all formats, Corrie van Zyl, Cricket South Africa's (CSA) new acting director of cricket said on Tuesday.

Van Zyl, who was appointed to the acting role following the weekend purge of head coach Otis Gibson and his coaching staff, said he would chair a selection meeting "in the next day-and-a-half" to discuss future strategy, which would include planning for the 2023 World Cup. "Faf will be the captain of the Test team," said Van Zyl. "But we need to look forward and we will talk about the white-ball strategy to 2023."

South Africa will play three Twenty20 internationals in India next month ahead of the Test series, their first in the new world Test championship, which starts on October 2.

At Tuesday's press conference, Thabang Moroe, the chief executive of CSA, said he hoped the appointments in a new structure for the national team would be made before England start a tour of South Africa in December. On Sunday, CSA said a football-

style team manager would be appointed, who would take charge of all aspects of the national team, including the appointment of a coaching staff, the captain or captains and medical and administrative personnel.

Moroe also suggested that policy would be directed from the top. "We want to see a more pro-active style of play with the team taking calculated risks and backing themselves," said Moroe who added that racial "representativity targets" (quotas) would remain in place with a target average of six black players in a team over the course of a season.

Moroe also confirmed a growing rift with the SA Cricketers' Association (SACA), saying he wanted more direct communication between CSA and the national team, effectively bypassing SACA. "There has been a bit of a disconnect between the players and the organisation (CSA)," he said. "We want to streamline the system so decisions can be made almost instantaneously."

SACA chief executive Tony Irish is on record as saying the relationship between CSA and the players' body was at an all-time low. SACA has consequently launched a high court application seeking a review of a CSA decision to restructure domestic cricket, made without any SACA consultation.

In Guyana, Chahars make it a family outing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AUGUST 6

IN OCTOBER 2017, Deepak Chahar had found himself at the receiving end of a BCCI howler. The Rajasthan medium pacer was named in the Board President's XI squad for the warm-up games against New Zealand, only for the cricket board to rectify the "inadvertent" error and replace him with his cousin Rahul, a leg-spinner.

Little did Deepak know then that two years down the line he would turn up for India in a match alongside his cousin, who made his international debut on Tuesday. Playing his maiden T20 International at Providence in Guyana, Rahul was a little nervous to start with. Deepak, on the other hand, was on fire. Together, they laid the foundation for India's seven-wicket win and a 3-0 sweep.

The medium pacer replaced left-arm quick Khaleel Ahmed for the dead rubber, a match that had a delayed start because of a wet outfield. Virat Kohli made a hat-trick of toss wins and opted to field. Deepak removed Sunil Narine in his first over, as West Indies' decision to use a tail-ender as a pinch-hitting opener backfired yet again.

Deepak is slower through the air compared to Hardik Pandya, but unlike the Indian team's first-choice all-rounder - rested for this series - he swings the ball both ways. An incoming delivery to the left-hander created doubts in Narine's mind. He tried to respond with a cross-batted heave. Deepak, though, had bowled full and was taking the ball away from the batsman. Narine mistimed the shot and Navdeep Saini took a good, diving catch.

Deepak accounted for Evin Lewis off the first ball of his next over. This time, the ball nipped back and hit Lewis on the front pad. The West Indies opener went for a review and lost it. Four deliveries hence, Deepak got rid of Shimron Hetmyer with another in-ducker bowled from close to the stumps.

After three overs in his first spell, Deepak had three wickets for four runs. He wasn't brought back for a second spell. The 26-year-old has made rapid improvements over the past couple of seasons, playing for Chennai Super Kings in the IPL under MS Dhoni. He had 22 scalps from 17 matches in this year's IPL and the majority of those wickets came in Powerplays.

"For the last three-four years, I had been struggling with fitness issues. For me, the most important thing was to stay fit. Dhoni bhai told me to work more on my fitness. I have been doing that. Now I'm playing without any injuries and it has helped me bowl in good rhythm and (also) add some extra pace," Deepak told this paper a couple of seasons ago.

Rahul came into bowl in the seventh over and troubled Nicholas Pooran with a delivery that straightened after pitching. The left-hander managed to thick-edge it to the third man boundary. In his next over, the young leggie ran into his Mumbai Indians teammate Kieron Pollard.

Rahul courageously tossed one up to Pollard. The 'big man' just stood and walloped it for a six. After three dot balls, he once again tried a flighted delivery and conceded another six, this time over long-off. Pollard's 45-ball 58 (six sixes) took the hosts to a fighting total, 146/6, on a greenish pitch.

His skipper had the confidence to bring Rahul back in the 18th over. Carlos Brathwaite was at the crease and when the West Indies captain started off with a huge six, it felt like Kohli's decision could backfire. Rahul, however, earned his maiden international scalp next ball, when Brathwaite mistimed his pull to Washington Sundar in the deep. The leg-spinner returned with 1/27 from three overs.

BRIEF SCORES: West Indies 146/6 in 20 overs (K Pollard 58, R Powell 32*, D Chahar 3/4, N Saina 2/34) lost to India 150/3 in 19.1 overs (R Pant 65 not out, V Kohli 59, O Thomas 2/29) by seven wickets.



DREAM SPELL

India pacer Deepak Chahar made his break count with figures of 3-1-4-3 in the third T20I against the West Indies in Guyana. BCCI

No thaw in dope stand-off

Sports ministry to give BCCI ultimatum to ensure cricketers are tested by National Anti-Doping Agency

MIHIR VASAVDA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 6

FIRMING ITS stand over the implementation of anti-doping laws in cricket, the sports ministry has categorically told the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) that neither will they enter into any agreement nor will any exemption be granted to the country's richest sporting body on this issue.

The BCCI has proposed that NADA can conduct dope tests on cricketers on a short-term trial basis. Depending on the outcome of that arrangement, they would decide if the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) would be given 'permanent access' to the players. However, a senior sports ministry official said the government will accept no such deal. "The BCCI has been told that there is no way the government will sign an agreement or any kind of Memorandum of Understanding with them," a sports ministry official said. "The law applies equally to everyone and there can't be any exceptions."

In an attempt to solve the impasse, BCCI chief executive Rahul Johri is likely to meet sports secretary Radheyshyam Julaniya here on Friday. Their meeting comes in the backdrop of a cold war of sorts between the two parties, with the ministry heavily criticising BCCI's anti-doping mechanisms, while the board accusing the government of not granting NOCs to South Africa's A and women's teams for their visas.

Johri and Julaniya had met a month ago but could not break the deadlock, which has been existing for almost a decade. It is learnt that BCCI offered to work with NADA for a period of six months. It is a proposal that has roots in a joint meeting between officials from BCCI, sports ministry, NADA, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and International Cricket Council (ICC) held last year. Following the meeting, BCCI drafted the terms in con-



The BCCI, at present, has outsourced its sample collection programme to Sweden-based International Doping Tests and Management (IDTM). File

sultation with ICC chairman Shashank Manohar, since the world body is a signatory to the WADA rules.

BCCI sources said they were prepared to allow NADA to test roughly 10 percent of the total samples collected from Indian cricketers annually. Further, they were ready to give access to only under-23 or junior players, while international and domestic cricketers will continue to be tested as per the current process.

The BCCI, at present, has outsourced its sample collection programme to Sweden-based International Doping Tests and Management (IDTM). The samples collected by IDTM are analysed at Delhi's National Dope Test Laboratory, thus keeping NADA out of the loop in the testing process. BCCI's anti-doping set-up has come under scrutiny following 19-year-old batsman Prithvi Shaw's failed dope test last month.

Johri is believed to have reiterated these

conditions in his meeting with sports ministry officials last month. However, they were unequivocally rejected. Johri, it is learnt, was sarcastically told that the only way BCCI can escape being tested by NADA officials if they can convince the government to withdraw from the agreement with WADA.

"Once the government signs a protocol, they are bound by it and are under obligation to implement it. The anti-doping rules clearly say that all athletes in the country are subject to testing by NADA," an official said.

Cricket is the only sport in India that is not in the ambit of NADA, which is mandated to keep sports dope free. The cricket board has cited flaws in the testing agency's procedures as one of the key reasons for not complying with their rules. It has also contended that since the BCCI is not a government-funded national federation, it is not subject to NADA's jurisdiction and has claimed to have a "robust mechanism to ensure Indian cricket is free from doping".

Conflict complaint against Kapil

Kolkata: A day after the Committee of Administrators (CoA) cleared the Kapil Dev-headed ad-hoc Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) to pick the next head coach of the Indian team, Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) member Sanjeev Gupta took the matter to the BCCI ethics officer Justice (Retd) DK Jain, filing a conflict-of-interest complaint against the former India captain.

Pointing to his official position in the players body, his cricketing business interest and his role as commentator, the complainant, Gupta, wrote in his email that Kapil's "holding multiple posts at a time in blatant violation to Rule 38(4) of the new BCCI constitution."

The BCCI constitution states: "When the individual holds two separate or distinct posts or positions under the BCCI, a Member, the IPL or the Franchise, the functions of which would require the one to be beholden to the other, or in opposition thereof..."

The MPCA member, who had earlier filed conflict-of-interest complaints against Sachin Tendulkar and VVS Laxman also claimed that the CoA could "neither appoint CAC nor any other cricket committee" and that the BCCI constitution didn't allow the appointment of "any ad-hoc" committee.

During the CoA meeting on Monday, the ad-hoc committee comprising Kapil, Anshuman Gaekwad and Shantha Rangaswamy was given the go-ahead to pick the Indian team head coach. **ENS**

SL group to visit Pakistan to find out feasibility of Test series

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KARACHI, AUGUST 6

A HIGH-LEVEL security delegation of Sri Lanka Cricket Board, led by its secretary Mohan de Silva, will reach Karachi on Tuesday to find out if it is safe to send its team for a Test series against Pakistan later this year.

The four-member delegation, which will also visit Lahore, will prepare a report on the basis of which the SLC will take a decision on whether to send its Test team to Pakistan in October. The other members of the delegation are Air Chief Marshal Roshan Goonetilleke, SLC's head of international cricket Chandima Mapatuna and assistant manager anti-corruption and security Mudiyansele Palitha Seneviratne.

They will be in Karachi till Wednesday and then proceed to Lahore on Thursday before flying back home on August 9. The delegation has been sent by SLC after the Pakistan Cricket Board requested them to play a two-match Test series of the ICC World Test Championship in Pakistan.

The delegation will visit the match venues, team hotels and also meet PCB officials and top security and police officers during their three-day visit. Sri Lanka was the last team to play a Test in Pakistan in March 2009 when it came under terrorist attack in Lahore which eventually led to top Test teams refusing to tour Pakistan because of security concerns.

Zakir Khan, who is the Director of International Cricket Operations in the PCB, said that Pakistan was confident that it would be able to host the two Tests in Karachi and Lahore. "But we can't say anything for certain until the SLC security delegation returns home and submits its report to their board," he said.

Khan said the fact that the Sri Lanka board was sending a high-powered delegation to Pakistan showed they were seriously considering PCB's request for the tour. The PCB is hoping that if Sri Lanka sends its team to Pakistan, it would become easier to convince the Bangladesh Cricket Board to also play Tests in Pakistan early next year.

The PCB is also eagerly awaiting a visit by top officials of Cricket Australia and England and Wales Cricket Board to Lahore sometime in October.

PSL-5 to be entirely in Pakistan

The fifth season of the Pakistan Super League is set to be played entirely in the country after the franchise owners agreed to such a plan of the cricket board. Javed Afridi, who owns the Peshawar Zalmi franchise, said the owners of the six teams have agreed during a meeting on Monday that the PSL-5 should be held entirely in Pakistan -- in Karachi, Lahore, Multan and Rawalpindi.

The owners of all the six franchises had a meeting with Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Ehsan Mani and Managing Director Wasim Khan during the PSL Governing Council in Lahore on Monday. "Yes, all the franchises have shown their willingness to back the PCB on having the entire PSL in Pakistan because it would also mean franchises being able to earn more and losses being reduced," Afridi said.

The PSL-5 is likely to be played in February-March next year. He said franchises lost money because more than half of the matches of the first four editions of the PSL were held in the UAE.

"Last edition earnings from one match in Karachi was around 170 million rupees and if the entire PSL is held in Pakistan, there is no doubt it will improve revenues of the PCB and for franchises," Afridi said on the GSports show on GNews channel.

[SPORTS BAR]



Saatwik-Chirag break into top-10 of rankings

Indian men's doubles pair of Saatwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty on Tuesday jumped seven places to enter the top 10 of the latest badminton world rankings, courtesy their historic win at last week's Thailand Open. Rankireddy and Shetty, who made history on Sunday by becoming the first Indian men's doubles pair to win a BWF Super 500 tournament, are placed ninth in the rankings issued on Tuesday. Rankireddy and Shetty stunned reigning world champions Li Junhui and Liu Yu Chen of China 21-19 21-21 18-21 in the Thailand Open final to achieve the feat. The other Indian men's doubles duo of Manu Attri and B Sumeeth Reddy remained in 25th spot. Meanwhile, Olympic medallists P V Sindhu and Saina Nehwal managed to hold on to their fifth and eighth spots respectively.

Three charged for 2006 World Cup fraud

Swiss prosecutors said on Tuesday they had charged three former German Football Association (DFB) officials, including ex-president Theo Zwanziger, with fraud relating to the 2006 World Cup. In a statement, the attorney general's office said the accused "are alleged to have fraudulently misled the members of a supervisory body of the DFB organising committee for the 2006 World Cup in Germany" in April 2005 about the true purpose of a payment of around €6.7 million. Hors Schmidt, former secretary of the German football federation, has also been charged with fraud -- along with the Swiss Urs Linsi, secretary general of FIFA from June 1999 to June 2007.

Arjun Tendulkar in Vizzy Trophy squad

Arjun Tendulkar, son of cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar, has been named in the 15-member Mumbai squad for the upcoming Vizzy Trophy, scheduled to be held in Andhra Pradesh from August 22. Arjun is a left-arm fast bowler and his name figures in the squad announced for the 50-over 'open' tournament on Tuesday. In the past, 19-year-old Arjun has played in the T20 Mumbai League after he was picked up for Rs 5 lakh. The Mumbai team has also bowled to the Indian team in the nets.



Derby County manager Phillip Cocu (left) shakes hands with former England captain Wayne Rooney after a press conference in Derby on Tuesday. PA via AP

Rooney to join Derby County as player-coach

Former England captain Wayne Rooney is to leave Washington-based DC United after agreeing a deal to become player-coach of English Championship side Derby County, the clubs announced on Tuesday. "Following the conclusion of the 2019 MLS season, star forward Wayne Rooney will be departing the club to continue his career in England in order to be closer to family," DC United said in a statement. "It was announced today that, with the consent of DC United, Rooney completed negotiations to become a player-coach for Derby County in the English Championship in 2020." Derby said in a statement the club were "delighted to announce that England's record goal-scorer Wayne Rooney will join the club from January 2020". Reports of Derby's interest in the former Manchester United star emerged shortly before the side, under new boss Phillip Cocu, opened their Championship campaign with a 2-1 victory at Huddersfield on Monday. Derby said the 33-year-old Rooney had signed an initial 18-month contract with the option of another year and would also work as a coach with the first team and academy.

Spikers in last 8 of u-23 Asian championship

India entered the quarterfinals of the men's under-23 Asian Volleyball Championship in Myanmar despite going down 2-3 to Thailand. India topped its group which helped it secure a berth in the final eight of the tournament. The Amit Gulia-led side had registered wins over China and New Zealand earlier. This will be India's maiden appearance in the last eight of the tournament. China was the other team from the group to progress to the top eight. India will now play two matches -- against Kazakhstan and Japan -- to determine first to eighth places before their quarterfinal fixture.



Arsenal's Koscielny joins France's Bordeaux

Arsenal skipper Laurent Koscielny will end his nine-year spell in north London and join French Ligue 1 side Girondins Bordeaux for an undisclosed fee, the Premier League club said on Tuesday. The 33-year-old French centre-back, who joined from Lorient, made more than 350 appearances for Arsenal and was part of their FA Cup-winning squads in 2014, 2015 and 2017. Financial details were not disclosed, but British media said Bordeaux would pay up to €5 million for Koscielny, who was also a target for Olympique Lyonnais. "Laurent Koscielny is leaving us to join... Bordeaux. We thank Laurent for his contribution to the club and wish him all the best for the future." Arsenal said in a brief statement on their website. Koscielny, who had a year left on his contract, refused to travel with the squad for their pre-season tour to the United States.

East Bengal slot 6 goals past Jamshedpur FC

Jaime Santos Colado and Vidyasagar Singh struck a brace each as East Bengal thrashed Jamshedpur FC 6-0 to brighten their semifinal hopes at the 129th Durand Cup in Kolkata on Tuesday. Colado doubled East Bengal's lead within one minute of scoring from a spotkick in the sixth minute, while substitute Singh netted a double with goals in the 75th and 77th minutes. East Bengal's recruit from rival Mohun Bagan, Pintu Mahata struck in the 31st minute, while Boithang Haokip (90+2) completed the rout in stoppage time to register their second successive victory in the tournament. East Bengal now have six points from two matches.

Sprint legend Lewis calls US president Trump a 'racist and misogynist'

REUTERS

LIMA, AUGUST 6

AMERICAN SPRINT great Carl Lewis offered enthusiastic support for the Pan Am Games on Monday, but the nine-time Olympic champion had none for Donald Trump, branding the U.S. president a "racist" and a "misogynist".

Lewis, who represented the United States at four Olympics and is widely regarded as one of the country's greatest athletes, arrived in the Peruvian capital ahead of the start of the athletics competition on Tuesday.

When asked for his thoughts on equality in sport, Lewis launched into a scathing at-

tack on Trump and his policies.

"In America we have a tremendous challenge, there are a lot of issues going on," the 58-year-old African-American told a packed news conference.

"We have a racist president, who is prejudiced, misogynistic, who doesn't value anyone outside of himself, so we have a major challenge in our country to deal with as well.

"That doesn't mean we can't fight for what is right for people, and look at others where they might not have the same opportunity, or may have been marginalized."

Lewis will be in Peru for six days as a guest of honor and will award medals for the 100 meters sprint and men's long jump.

While it is Lewis' first visit to Peru, his his-



"We have a racist president, who is prejudiced, misogynistic, who doesn't value anyone outside of himself, so we have a major challenge in our country to deal with as well."

— CARL LEWIS
NINE-TIME OLYMPIC CHAMP

tory with the Pan Am Games stretches back to his international debut for the United States at the 1979 edition in Puerto Rico, where he won a bronze medal in the long jump. Lewis also competed at the 1987 Games in Indianapolis, Indiana, winning

double gold in the long jump and 4x100m relay. "I turned 18 in Puerto Rico that year and it was a very important time for me," recalled Lewis.

"My mother actually competed at the very first Pan Am Games in Argentina, and she spoke about that and how it affected her life, and in turn because of that she really wanted us to travel as kids.

"If it wasn't for her and what she believed in, especially the empowerment of women, I would not have been in athletics, so that experience was big for our family and extremely big for me."

Lewis was joined on stage by another U.S. sprinter and former 100m world record holder Leroy Burrell, who agreed that multi-

sport events like the Pan Ams could be life changers for individual athletes and countries. Hosting the Pan Ams for the first time, Peru has already seen some of the rewards on the medal table as they enjoy their most successful Games ever with 23 medals.

But more important for Burrell was the legacy in the form of state-of-the-art facilities that will be left behind.

"We had an opportunity to go by the stadium today and the first thing I did was call back to the U.S. and say, 'Look at this, this is amazing, the facility is outstanding,'" said Burrell, who is now an athletics coach.

"To walk into that facility today I was amazed. That's the foundation that a champion or two will be built on."

A Formula One race in Saudi Arabia in 2021?

REUTERS

LONDON, AUGUST 6

SAUDI ARABIA and Formula One are discussing the possibility of holding a race in the country, and team bosses have been asked for an opinion, sources said on Tuesday. The Times newspaper reported that Formula One and the 10 teams would seek reassurance on issues including human rights, gender equality and media freedom before any race could happen.

Multiple informed sources confirmed to Reuters the substance of the report.

They added, however, that Formula One had discussions with many would-be hosts around the world which ultimately came to nothing. The Times suggested a Saudi race could become a reality as soon as 2021, with the schedule already expected to stretch to a record 22 races in 2020.

Formula One and the teams are discussing major sporting and technical rule changes from 2021 and Ferrari boss Mattia Binotto said in Hungary at the weekend that could see an expansion to 24 races.

A Formula One source said that was more to allow flexibility, replacing the existing rule that states teams must agree to expand the calendar beyond 21 races rather than being a target number.

The Middle East already hosts two races, at Sakhir in Bahrain and Abu Dhabi's Yas Marina, with lucrative long-term contracts in place. Bahrain was the first in 2004 but the race has proved controversial, with rights groups accusing the country's rulers of using it to 'whitewash' abuses and improve their image abroad.

Saudi Arabia has come under heightened international criticism over its human rights record after journalist Jamal Khashoggi was murdered and dismembered by Saudi operatives inside its Istanbul consulate last October.

The kingdom lifted a ban on women driving only last year.

Formula One published a commitment in 2015 to respect "internationally recognised human rights in its operations globally". Should the talks with Saudi Arabia move up a level, the kingdom would likely be looking at a third regional slot.

This year, Bahrain was the second round of the season after Australia, while Abu Dhabi will be the final round in early December.

Any Saudi race would likely need to be separated from the other two regional rivals to protect their investment and the uniqueness of the event. Formula One is broadcast live and free-to-air in the Middle East and North Africa region under a five-year deal struck last March with MBC Group, founded by Saudi businessman Waleed al-Abrahim.

The rights previously belonged to Qatar's BeIN media group, which blamed broadcast piracy of its pay TV feed as a reason for not renewing.

Ugly past comes back to haunt Chelsea

Premier League giants apologise after investigation finds Eddie Heath, a former youth coach, guilty of child abuse over a long period

AP/NYT

LONDON, AUGUST 6

ENGLISH PREMIER League club Chelsea has apologised for the "terrible past experiences" of some former youth players after an investigation into child sexual abuse.

Barrister Charles Geekie found that Eddie Heath, who coached Chelsea's youth teams from 1968-1979, was a "dangerous and prolific child abuser. His conduct was beyond reprehensible."

Geekie said the abuse by Heath, who died in 1983, "was able to occur unchallenged," and his report documented "the life-changing impact it had on those affected."

Former Crewe manager Dario Gradi, who was suspended by the Football Association in 2016 amid separate investigations, was criticized by Geekie for failing to stop Heath when working at Chelsea in the early 1970s.

"Mr. Gradi is the single example of a clear account of an adult in a position of responsibility at the club being informed about an allegation in relation to Mr. Heath at the very time of the events complained of," Geekie said.

"The consequence of my findings is that the complaint made about Mr. Heath was not referred to more senior members of the club and an opportunity to prevent Mr. Heath from going on to abuse others was lost. I consider it absolutely necessary in order to achieve the purpose of the review to name Mr. Gradi."

The 252-page report by Geekie details how Heath targeted vulnerable boys, earning their trust, abusing them and then using "fear to secure silence". Chelsea chairman Bruce Buck has met with 17 of the abuse survivors, with the club saying compensation will be paid.

"The board wishes to thank all the survivors and witnesses who came forward to assist the reviews and the club apologises unreservedly for the terrible past experiences of some of our former players," Chelsea said in a statement.

"It is evident that Heath was a dangerous and prolific child abuser. His conduct was beyond reprehensible. The report details how abuse was able to occur unchallenged, and the life-changing impact it had on those affected."

Gradi was appointed an assistant coach at Chelsea in January 1971, with the review unable to establish if he left in 1975 or 1976. Now 78, Gradi is accused of attempting to smooth over allegations of Heath assaulting a youth player during a

Geekie said the abuse by Heath, who died in 1983, "was able to occur unchallenged," and his report documented "the life-changing impact it had on those affected." Former Crewe manager Dario Gradi, who was suspended by the Football Association in 2016 amid separate investigations, was criticized by Geekie for failing to stop Heath when working at Chelsea in the early 1970s.

visit to the player and his father.

Gradi told Geekie's investigation team that the father of the boy did not want the complaint to "get Eddie Heath into trouble", insisting he informed club management of the allegations.

"The fact that he (the father) didn't want it to go any further, in other words, took the pressure off me as far as I was concerned," Gradi is quoted as saying in the Geekie report. "I think I probably would have tried to stand up for Eddie Heath a bit."

When asked if he offered an apology, Gradi told the Geekie report: "No. What could I apologize for?"

Top US equestrian coach Morris gets life ban

George H. Morris, the foremost trainer in equestrian competition and a former coach of the United States Olympic team, was barred for life from the United States Equestrian Federation on Monday as a result of an investigation into "sexual misconduct involving a minor," according to the published details of the suspension.

The permanent suspension, which appeared online on Monday, is the most severe meted out by the United States Center for SafeSport, an independent investigative body charged with examining sexual misconduct in Olympic sports, according to Dan Hill, a spokesman.

While SafeSport does not publicly announce its findings in order to protect victims, Mr. Hill said that the designation of a permanent suspension was "reserved for the most egregious cases."

In a bulk email sent to people who follow his clinics and master classes, Mr. Morris, 81, said he would appeal the decision, which he said stemmed from allegations about actions that took place over four decades ago.

"I am deeply troubled by the U.S. Center for SafeSport's findings regarding unsubstantiated charges for events that allegedly occurred between 1968 and 1972," Mr. Morris said in the statement.

"I contest these findings wholeheartedly and am in the process of disputing them."

He continued: "I have devoted my life to equestrian sport and the development of future riders, coaches and Olympians. Any allegations that suggest I have acted in ways that are harmful to any individual, the broader equestrian community, and sport that I love dearly are false and hurtful."

HALL OF SHAME



Illustration: Suvajit Dey

Barry Bennell

Former Crewe coach Barry Bennell was jailed for 31 years for 50 counts of child sexual abuse. The 64-year-old, described as the 'devil incarnate' by the judge, was convicted of abusing 12 boys aged eight to 15 between 1979 and 1991.

Frank Roper

Bennell also ran youth side Manchester Senrab with now-deceased Frank Roper, a former Blackpool scout, who abused former England star Paul Stewart.

Eddie Heath

Gary Johnson claimed his abuser, chief scout Eddie Heath, was also involved. "We didn't know about collaboration between the ringleaders at the time. Now it all makes sense," Johnson said in 2016. (in illustration)

ENS

The board wishes to thank all the survivors and witnesses who came forward to assist the reviews and the club apologises unreservedly for the terrible past experiences of some of our former players. It is evident that Heath was a dangerous and prolific child abuser... His conduct was beyond reprehensible. The report details how abuse was able to occur unchallenged, and the life-changing impact it had on those affected."

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IN A STATEMENT

THE TIMELINE

NOVEMBER 16, 2016: Former Crewe player Andy Woodward discusses child sexual abuse by former coach Barry Bennell.

NOVEMBER 23, 2016: Former England footballer Paul Stewart reveals he was abused by a coach, later named as Frank Roper, who has links to Blackpool FC.

NOVEMBER 23, 2016: NSPCC's hotline to help footballers who've experienced abuse receives 860 calls in the first week.

NOVEMBER 2016: Police investigation begins. FA and the Scottish Football Association also announce a reviews.

DECEMBER 2, 2016: Ex-Chelsea player Gary Johnson alleges the club paid him £50,000 to stay silent about allegations against former chief scout Eddie Heath.

JANUARY 11, 2017: The review makes its first call for evidence, writing to both amateur and professional football clubs in England and Wales for information about allegations between 1970 and 2005.

APRIL 10, 2017: Fresh allegations are leveled against Jim Torbett, the founder of Celtic Boys' Club, of sexually abusing three boys over an eight-year period.

FEBRUARY 19, 2018: Bennell is jailed for 31 years for 50 counts of child sexual abuse.

JULY 3, 2018: Youth coach George Ormond, who worked for Newcastle United in the 1990s, is convicted of a string of offences spanning 25 years.

JANUARY 7, 2019: Michael 'Kit' Carson denies charges of abuse related to 11 boys. Carson dies in a car crash on first day of his trial.

MARCH 12, 2019: Man City establishes a multi-million pound compensation scheme for victims of abuse carried out by former coaches at the club.

MAY 14, 2019: Jim McCafferty, coach for Celtic youth team, is given a further jail sentence after admitting to crimes.

MAY 23, 2019: Bob Higgins is found guilty of 45 charges. Majority of the victims were trainees at Southampton FC and Peterborough United.

EARLY SUNSET

Injury forces former Olympic hurdles champion Pearson to retire

REUTERS

SYDNEY, AUGUST 6

WORLD AND FORMER Olympic champion high hurdler Sally Pearson, the most successful Australian track athlete of her generation, gave up on her dream of a swansong at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and retired on Tuesday. The 32-year-old Queenslander, who won Olympic 100 metres hurdles gold at the 2012 London Games and the world title in 2011 and 2017, said she had been forced into the decision by a string of injuries.

"After 16 years of being on the Australian team it's time to hang up the spikes," Pearson told a news conference in Sydney.

"Every time I want to go fast the body doesn't want to. So I don't think I could take anymore injuries and I have huge doubts for the next year for me to be able to continue at the level that I expect of myself..."

"I'm proud of my career and what I've

achieved and hopefully inspired our next generation of athletes coming through..."

Pearson grew up on the Gold Coast and was initially an international prospect under her maiden name Sally McLellan in both the hurdles and the flat 100 metres sprint.

She got her big breakthrough with the hurdles silver medal at the 2008 Olympics and was named IAAF female athlete of the year after securing her first world title at Daegu in 2011.

She dominated the 100 metres hurdles in the year running up to the London Olympics and swept to victory in 12.37 seconds to firmly establish herself among the world's elite.

One of a trio of American challengers to her supremacy, Brianna Rollins, kept her to a silver at the 2013 worlds and a horrific injury sustained at the Rome Diamond League meeting in 2015 prevented her from competing to get it back.

After the fall in Rome, Pearson feared she might have to have her lower arm amputated with doctors describing the injury as a "bone

She got her big breakthrough with the hurdles silver medal at the 2008 Olympics and was named IAAF female athlete of the year after securing her first world title at Daegu in 2011.

explosion" in her wrist.

She battled back from that injury but was bedevilled by calf and Achilles problems and ultimately prevented from defending her Olympic title in Rio by a torn hamstring.

In a testimony to her mental toughness, she was back on the big stage at the 2017 world championships in London, where she reclaimed the hurdles title in 12.59 seconds.

"I would like to say that the Olympic Games in 2012 was my most favourite memory but I must say 2017 world championships for me

was something that I proved to myself that I could still do it," she added.

"Even through the hard slog that I went through, I was still able to come back and be the victor at a major world championships.

"For me, that was my most proudest moment, for me as an athlete and coach because I was coaching myself. The London Olympics, though will always take my heart."

More injuries followed, though, with an Achilles issue cruelly robbing her of the chance to race at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in her home city.

Another hamstring injury put in doubt her world title defence in Doha later this year and it was the return of the Achilles problem that finally convinced her to give up on her dream of running at the Tokyo Olympics next year. "I started hurdling again and the Achilles started to flare up and that was it," she added. "I just hit boiling point. Because of last year and 2018 I wasn't going through that pain again. That was too much to take."



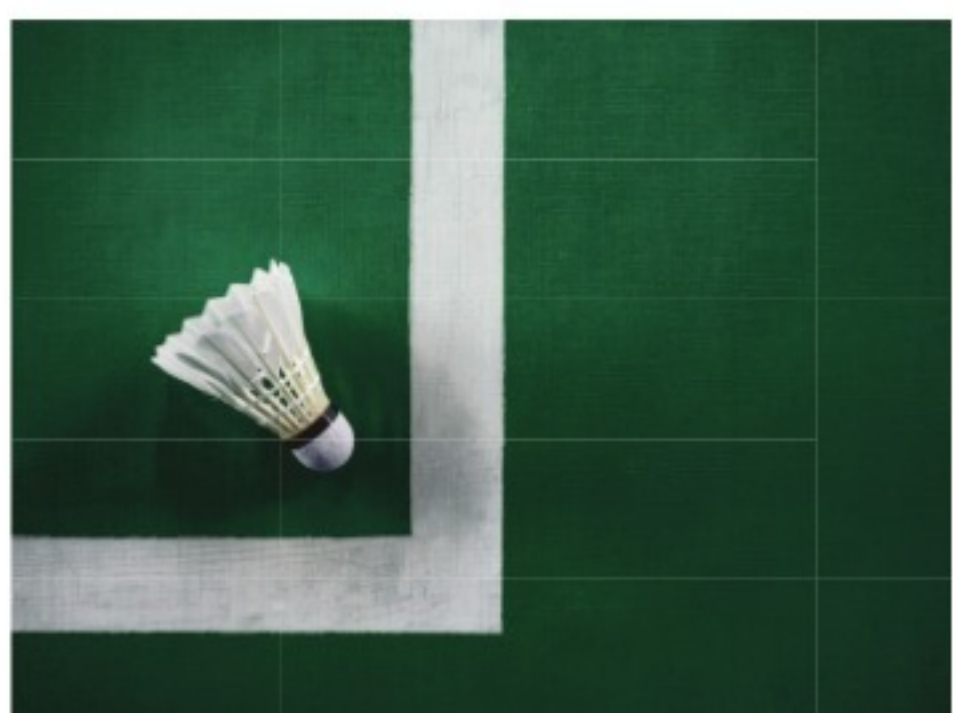
Sally Pearson will not defend title at the world championships. Reuters



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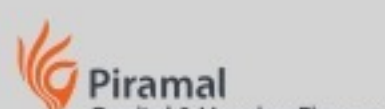
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